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contents

JANUARY 17-30, 2001

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20
Ten workouts to get you pumped up.

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FEATURES

20 Survival of the Fittest
Not getting the most out of your current exercise routine? We attacked 10 "alternative" workouts to find new ways to battle the bulk. BY EZRA DYER AND JULIE SHORT

27 Sex in Our City
We don't hear about AIDS as much as we once did. Swinging is regaining its '70s momentum. Modern women are encouraged to go out and get what they want in bed. So are we happy yet? BY ELLEN O'BRIEN
Plus: Porno flicks starring... you. BY RACHEL STRUTT

39 Fashion: Cabin Fever
Sexy, sultry winter duds for the great indoors. PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER

COLUMNS

8 Improper Speaking
The latest insider tidbits
BY ELLEN O'BRIEN

10 City Limits
Salamander satay; brewery tour showdown; a $10,000 phone call?
BY ERIN HAGEDORN AND JULIE SHORT

12 Boston Internet
B2B commerce will need a foundation of trust to succeed.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 Ezra
Resolutions to break
BY EZRA DYER

16 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

18 Soroff/On Dan Elias
The host of *Antiques Roadshow* on the stories behind the loot.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

46 Mopsy
Ecologically responsible furniture; the big pictures
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

88 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

48 Dining
Aquitaine's Chestnut Hill sequel
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

50 Dish
The Radius culinary Olympics
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

50 Wine
Matching wine with foods
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

51 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Boston Cooks!
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 52.

Frank Black and the Catholics • Boston Wine Expo • *Hedda Gabler* • **bell hooks'** *Salvation: Black People and Love* • **Maria Pagés** *Phantom of the Opera* • *The Boston Secession* Kitchen and Culinary Expo

ET CETERA

Letters 6
Improper Impersonals 82
Rockie Horoscope 82
Improperazzi 85
Improper Sightings 84
Classifieds 86

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letters

THE POWER OF MENTORS

The appearance of Susan Abbattista's piece titled "My Little Sister" in the Dec. 13 IMPROPER BOSTONIAN is wonderful. I opened to it immediately and read with great interest. The article speaks to the concerned few (or perhaps the spiritually disenfranchised many) who care about others around them. I have been mulling over the idea of becoming involved in a mentoring program. Reading about one person's experience—the highs and lows, the benefits enjoyed by both the mentor and the child, etc. helped me toward a decision. It is very easy to write a check to a charity benefiting neglected children, AIDS research, or the homeless. The difficult part is dedicating one's time to affect positive change in a person's life and future. I hope to see more articles such as this in the future.

—WAYNE MACEYKA
Boston

YEAH, SARCASM IS COOL

Putting a skinny model on the cover of "The Indulgence Issue" was a stroke of genius.

—MIKE FOURNIER
Allston

ANOTHER SEVERIN FAN

I just opened the last issue of the IMPROPER and there's a letter to the editor trashing Jay Severin. Thank God! I am a conservative person for the most part (very conservative minded for Mass.), but people like Jay, Dr. Laura, and Rush Limbaugh give we smart conservatives a bad name; they appeal to uneducated trash heaps that listen to the likes of 96.9FM (Minus Imus).

BUT: Unlike "former reader" Don Stevenson, I do think your rag was good to add some diversity by including Severin. Liberals tend to dislike the inclusion of anything different unless it is different *and* liberal. Severin sucks, but your piece only helped to reinforce that. I'm surprised Don was not pleased. Keep up the good work!

—BRIAN BRANDT
North End, Boston

YOU'LL LIKE OUR CURRENT COVER BETTER, WE HOPE

I just wanted to write to express my displeasure with the cover of the Nov. 29 issue of the IMPROPER. I couldn't get over the look of the woman on the cover—not only was she incredibly unattractive, but it looked like the cover of a porno magazine! Of all the attractive women you could choose from, I find it hard to understand why



READING ABOUT ONE PERSON'S EXPERIENCE—THE HIGHS AND LOWS, THE BENEFITS ENJOYED BY BOTH THE MENTOR AND THE CHILD, ETC., HELPED ME TOWARD A DECISION.

—WAYNE MACEYKA
BOSTON

you would have chosen her—she should be dancing at a strip club on Rt. 1. I would have expected more from the IMPROPER.

—ANN STANITSKI
Via e-mail

TO LIST, OR NOT TO LIST?

In my lifetime I have seen, heard and read lots of things. But, reading an ad placed in your magazine by the organization MIPP (Massachusetts Interfaith Prison Pilgrimage) under "Festivals, Event Expos and Benefits" really was the clincher. I'm not at all slamming you for printing this ad. It is our inalienable right to be able to uphold any cause and say what we feel in our society as we see fit. However, I take umbrage to an organization who worries more about the spiritual, psychological, emotional and physical suffering that incarcerated people endure, as opposed to the suffering of the victims who were raped, murdered, intimidated, compromised, robbed, beaten, and last, but certainly not the least, demoralized by these criminals.

I need (would like) a justification to the reasoning of this organization to want to take up such a cause. Of course, I can think of Christian doctrine which could possibly apply. But doctrine can apply to any situation to fit anyone's cause. In this case God, in his infinite wisdom, allows us to maintain the law and order we require for protection from these incarcerated and slightly overindulged criminals. These people are having to give back to society what they have forcibly taken. Where was their spirituality, emotional concern and understanding of their victim's suffering when they confronted them?

—KALMAN LE BOW
Boston

Editor's note: *The events listed in the Agenda section are not advertisements; they are free listings. And while we recognize that certain shows, activities or clubs may offend some readers, we try not to discriminate in making that information available to everyone.*

LIT BICS FOR BON JOVI

Ezra's article on the Bon Jovi show was great. I was there, and the same thing happened to me: Started out mocking, ended up rocking. I can officially say it was the greatest show of my life. And I didn't even listen to Jovi back in the day.

—DREW PORTER
Via e-mail

A friend gave me Ezra's Bon Jovi column, and I was happy to see that there's another soul out there who got some serious confused yearning for the old music. I've spent the better part of the past decade interviewing those bands and sifting through all the requisite bitterness, egoism and silver skull jewelery—whatever's left of the '80s era. Video chicks with a freshness date fast expiring. Split ends and frizz. Plus some killer riffage. Thanks for the article.

—JESSICA WILLIS
Western Mass.

CORRECTION

In the volunteerism guide in the Dec 13. issue, the phone number for Boston Cares was incorrect. The number is 617-263-CARE, and the Web site is www.bostoncares.org.

Tell Us What You Think

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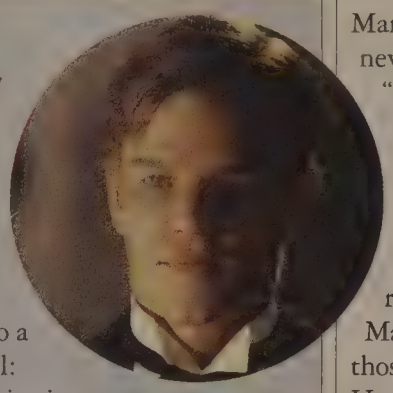
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IMPROPERSPEAKING

BY ELLEN O'BRIEN

DAMON STARS IN ADS OPPOSING DEATH PENALTY



At a time when Massachusetts Gov. **Paul Cellucci** favors the death penalty, and President-elect **George Bush** brings his support for the policy to the White House, the Massachusetts Citizens Against the Death Penalty has hitched its wagon to a star, a local kid with Hollywood appeal: **Matt Damon**. In his Academy-Award winning performance for *Good Will Hunting*, Damon was a guy who knew the streets, got in fist fights, drank hard, but was smart enough to know right from wrong. That makes him the perfect poster boy for these advertisements that show his handsome, solemn face beside statistics on the number of people shown not guilty after being executed. "Does that sound fair to you?" the actor asks passengers traveling on the MBTA, and watching television. The ads were plastered on trains as part of a T policy to give some advertising space each month to not-for-profit programs. Rumor has it the T folks are now worrying that there might be some sort of political payback from Cellucci types.

PARTY FAVORS

There was a palpable hangover cast across the city following the annual holiday party held by **George Regan, Bill Delahunt** and **Joe Cimino**. Say what you want about the slick (and slick-haired) Regan, or the congressman and the restaurateur, but you have to admit, they packed the house—**711 Boylston**—that night. Anyone who can get police commissioner **Paul Evans** and kabuki socialite **Marilyn Riseman** at the same party deserves a little pat on the back. Partygoers could eavesdrop on the all-knowing attorney, **Bob Popeo**, discussing who will likely end up owning the Red Sox; find out what Suffolk County district attorney **Ralph Martin** had to say about journalist **Sean Flynn**'s book about him and his office (of course, he loved it, since he's a heroic central figure); or have far too much to drink at the open bar. The crush around the bar was slightly uncivilized; it was Cimino's vote to have only one, and it's his restaurant.

Considering it took him nine years to get a recently acquired entertainment license, perhaps Cimino didn't want to push it.

CHET'S NEW GAME

Chet Curtis and his daughter, **Dawn**, were among those who attended Regan's bash. Of course, way back then, no one had reported that Curtis would be leaving his longtime post at the WCVB-Channel 5 anchor desk to work at New England Cable News. In case you were in Aspen over the holidays, Curtis is headed to NECN to co-host an hour-long evening show, "NewsNight" with **Margie Reedy**. "It's a bittersweet departure, but I am excited about it," says Curtis. He was unhappy about the low profile he had been handed following his divorce from longtime co-anchor and wife, **Natalie Jacobson**. Curtis says he and Jacobson would have continued to anchor together, but "It was the company's decision to split us up following the divorce." Curtis, who starts his new gig Mar. 5, has been anchoring the news in Boston since 1968.



Chet Curtis (right) and his daughter Dawn made an appearance at the Regan party.

"I wouldn't have written the last chapter this way, but I never counted on this job as a lifetime civil servant."

Now for sports: Channel 7's **George Smith** is being released as a free agent in March. Not enough punch, say those in the know, too low-key. Hey, this is TV folks; it's crueler than the real world.

EARLY VALENTINES

One of the revelations of the holiday season was the East Coast's newest power couple, Carribean-born and Boston-based **Colette Phillips** (right) of Colette Phillips Commun-ications and Miami-based media mogul **Ed Anson**. (Among other media outlets, he owns Channel 7.) The couple made their debut at a holiday party hosted by yet another powerful pair, **Diane** and **Deval Patrick** (he went from the Clinton administration to Texaco). The couple certainly outdid **Regan**'s bash when it came to color. Boston's black power block, including State Street's **Francis Moseley,** John Hancock general counsel **Wayne Budd** and ***Boston Globe*** Managing Editor **Gregory L. Moore** were among the guests.



WOOF WOOF WOOF

This month's **State of the City** address was a blast, if you consider how boring those things can get. This one had intrigue, hip-pop references and protestors, not to mention some of the best-looking guys in town—firefighters. Hundreds of them protested their current contract woes with the city and chanted "Who let the dogs out? Woof, woof, woof" following each supporter's speech. That meshes well with **Peggy Davis-Mullen**'s statement that, like dogs, you shouldn't mess where you live—or some other not-quite-right metaphor. She got her point across: The city is messing with the wrong guys.

YOUR TYPICAL JEW

It's not often in Boston you hear a couple of guys at a bar rattling off bookie names like **Jimmy Katz** and **Richie Weinstein**. Well, not all Jewish boys are nice ones, and Alan Lupo shares tales about Jewish wiseguys, Jewish plumbers, Jewish butchers and the strong, loving, typical Jewish families he has come across in his 40 years as a journalist in his new book, *The Messiah is Coming Tomorrow.*

"I wanted Jewish people, most of whom now grow up in the suburbs, except in New York maybe, to know that there *are* Jewish working stiffs," says Lupo, a ***Boston Globe*** City Weekly columnist and staff writer.

"There is one fairly recent column [in the book] about a butcher shop in Brookline, what it's like to stand there with a bunch of older Jewish people," says Lupo. "I'm not making fun of them. It's an experience." So, what does Lupo think of the newly named **Leonard (Lenny) Zakim Bunker Hill** bridge? (A bit of background: The new name



Globe **writer Alan Lupo's new book celebrates Jewish people of all sorts.**

came as a result of Governor **Paul Cellucci** folding to Cardinal **Bernard Law**. Law represented a group of Charlestownies who insisted the bridge be named after their beloved monument. Zakim, the former Anti-Defamation League head, died in December last year.) Lupo says it's an OK compromise, though he did add: "It's foolish to ponder whether there were any Jews at Bunker Hill, the same way it is to determine whether there were Italian-Americans or Irish-Americans. It's irrelevant." iB

Speaking of Boston

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to speaking@improper.com

DAYTIME DIVAS



The search is over. Finally, WRKO has come out of their "Two Chicks Dishing" era with another pairing bound to be even more successful, if you can judge a radio show by the wit and local knowledge the hosts have. It's the **Daytime Divas**, **Darlene McCarthy** (right) and **Doreen Iudica Vigue** on 680-AM from 9am to noon every morning. Vigue, a former ***Boston Globe*** reporter, surprised everyone by leaping to radio from the paper where she penned stories for 11 years. **McCarthy**, a Boston radio pro with a face for TV, lost her former on-air partner, **Lori Kramer**, to the Big Apple. (To be fair, this IMPROPER editor worked at WRKO for a short time and has hosted shows with Vigue and McCarthy.) So tune in for yourself! Here's the schtick: Vigue, an East Boston native and now a Franklin step-mom, is a diva wanna-be, tutored by the Dior-Chanel-Gucci-wearing city girl, McCarthy. "She's Prada boots; I'm Parade of Shoes," says Vigue. "She's Paparazzi; I'm Papa Gino's."

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BY ERIN HAGEDORN AND JULIE SHORT

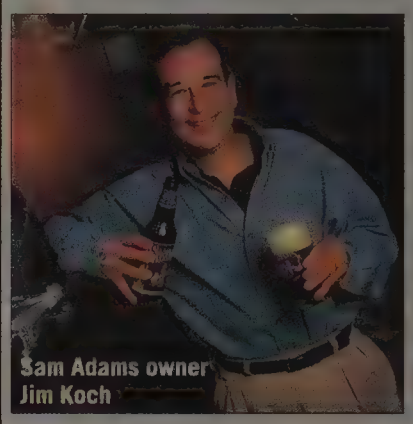


THIS JUST IN

A BEER BATTLE BREWS

Two local breweries are competing for the after-work crowd this winter. Boston Beer Company (maker of patriotic Samuel Adams) has a new 5:30pm Happy Hour Tour on Friday nights, and Harpoon Brewery is expanding its 5:30pm Club on Wednesday and Thursdays. We joined the Sam Adams kickoff tour last month, led by the founder himself, Jim Koch. The tour was lively and informative, especially the video about the company and the brewing process. But the best part (other than the free beer tasting) was the fan who'd had several Sam Adams too many. ("Dude, you're awesome!" he kept shouting to Koch.) We later found out the man had taken the tour 16 times already. You can't get a better endorsement than that.

Over at Harpoon, the brewery is expanding its visitor center and offering more tours throughout the week. Soon you'll be able to stand on a catwalk and watch the brewing process. The highlight, however, is the 5:30 Club, a mammoth cocktail hour, when you get an overview of how beer is made in the tap room and get free beer samples for 15 to 80 of your nearest and dearest. "Usually a big Harpoon fan invites all his co-workers to join him after work," says Liz Melby of Harpoon. *BBC (522-9080) or Harpoon (888-HARPOON).*



Sam Adams owner Jim Koch



Harpoon Brewery tour manager Jeff LaFleur

NEW IN TOWN

MOVIN' ON UP TO THE SOUTH SIDE

Only when the last of the late-night diners depart does Salamander chef/owner **Stan Frankenthaler** (above) really get to enjoy his new digs. "I go from seat to seat after-hours and try out the different views," he admits sheepishly. And what stunning views they are: The dining room overlooks Trinity Church and the John Hancock building—a vast improvement for a restaurant that was lost in the concrete jungle of East Cambridge's high-tech alley just a year ago. Yes, admits Frankenthaler, "the location was definitely the impetus behind the move." Named "Most Anticipated Restaurant Opening" in Boston this year by *Bon Apetit*, the Back Bay Salamander remains faithful to its experimental, Asian-inspired menu. The cozy new satay bar is the equivalent of a sushi bar for grilled meats and vegetables, where patrons can sip green plum martinis and watch as chefs prepare skewered lemongrass chicken with tangy coconut sambal—a scrumptious, finger-lickin' mess. But don't be embarrassed to tuck your napkin into your shirt: "It's a casual atmosphere for the after-work or pre- and post-Symphony crowd," ensures Frankenthaler. (Bonus: The grill stays open until midnight.)

In the more formal dining room—exquisitely decorated by designer Ray Kinoshita with silk Japanese lanterns, high-backed sofas, bamboo wood floors and antique cabinetry—waiters serve cuisine from the main kitchen, including lightly fried lobster with lemongrass and coconut milk, and a vegetarian Kashmiri wild-mushroom stew. For those who prefer to leave the decision-making to the guy in the white hat, there's the chef's table, situated in front of the huge bay window, with a lazy Susan in the middle for Frankenthaler's 12-course menu. *One Huntington Ave., Boston (451-2150).*

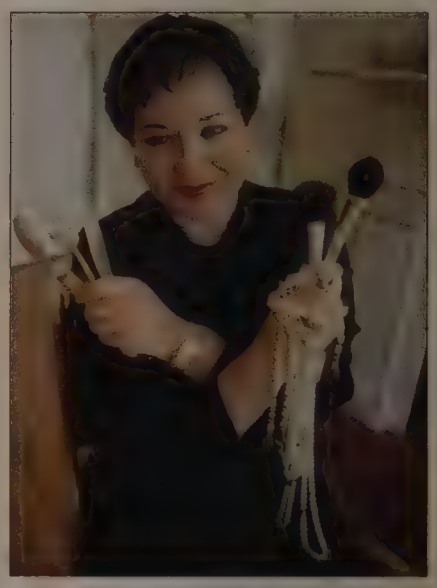
THE DISSED LIST

$10,000 PHONE CALL

We were immediately skeptical of a mass email titled "Telephone Scam Alert" sent to us by several alert PR people (always on the ball, those guys). The email states: "Please do not respond to emails, phone calls, faxes, pages or Web pages [that] tell you to call an 809 phone number to claim a prize or receive information about a family member that has been ill. This is a huge scam ... that can easily cost you $24,100 or more!" The scam-scare screamed "urban legend," so we decided to probe a bit further and—would you believe?—it's true, to a certain degree. The 809 area code is for the British Virgin Islands—to which a call costs $5.10 a minute. But 809 can be used, without notification, as a pay-per-call number, similar to 900 numbers in the U.S., according to AT&T. Details of the original e-alert (published in the *Internet ScamBusters* newsletter) have changed, however, since its first go-around five years ago—mainly the rates per call, which, with cyber-inflation, have increased from $25 per minute to $2,425 in urban legend lore.

ALL THE BUZZ

A TOUCH OF CLASS



Samantha Raynes Social Image Consultants, the self-described modern-day equivalent of a finishing school, is a new company geared toward grown-ups who are seeking to perfect their social skills. Since its inception in December, Raynes and her associates have made house calls to those in need of a self-esteem boost—teaching ballroom dancing, wardrobe consultation, personal shopping, makeup, etiquette, speech and diction. In many respects, the *My Fair Lady* connotations are accurate, as Ms. Raynes classes-up clients as a modern version of Henry Higgins, another prim instructor of style and grace. Of course, unlike Higgins, Raynes doesn't transform her clients pro-bono. A session with the Manhattan import costs about $65 an hour. So just who would want her help, anyway? "Someone who wanted to move up the corporate ladder hired me to get rid of her *Longilandism*," enunciates Raynes. "Word spread from there. Knowing what knife and fork to use, how to bake, proper etiquette and how to dance all have to do with perfecting one's social image." Surprisingly, about half of her clients are men. "Many men in technology come to me—people who were nerds in college and are suddenly successful, but they only learned how to interact with a computer. Now they have to go to banquets and fund-raisers and they're disasters." Raynes also teaches brides how to dance, daters how to dress and overeaters how to lose 10 pounds. "Some clients require a complete overhaul," she explains. You can opt for package deals too. Call 247-6122 a week in advance. But, "if it's an emergency, we'll be there."

FRANKENTHALER, RAYNES: WENDY MIMRAN; HARPOON: JOEL VEAK

I WOULD RATHER DIE OF THIRST THAN DRINK FROM THE CUP OF MEDIOCRITY.



IN FERMENTUM VERITAS

ANNO 1366

STELLA ARTOIS

LEUVEN BELGIUM

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Jiggling the Key to B2B

Local guru says old-fashioned trust, not technology, will make the difference

Most high-tech gurus, in my experience, are about as interesting as day-old bread. While most are perfectly willing to get all pumped up hyping the latest and greatest technology, few are willing to think about the difficult issues of how that technology will interact with living, breathing human beings. One major exception to this rule is Tom Koulopoulos, president and founder of the Delphi Group. Named one of the industry's six most influential consultants by *InformationWeek*, Koulopoulos is a recognized authority on all sorts of high-tech stuff, but especially in the ways that businesses are using, or are planning to use, the Internet. He appears regularly as an expert on CNN, ABC and National Public Radio, but he's not just a talking head. This guy knows what he's talking about.

I originally met Koulopoulos a little over 10 years ago, right after he founded the Delphi Group. At that time, the company consisted of himself, a brilliant young analyst named Carl Frappaolo, an administrative assistant, and not much more. By 1995, Delphi was growing so fast that it was named to *Inc.* magazine's list of the 100 fastest growing companies. Today, the Delphi Group is the premier "boutique" market-research organization in Boston, with over 10,000 clients worldwide, and has recently moved its headquarters to more expansive offices at Post Office Square.

Koulopoulos recently hosted a Delphi conference that covered a technology known as business-to-business (B2B). Currently one of the hot buzzwords in high tech, B2B consists of one business selling, via the Internet, a product or service to another business. B2B is similar to business-to-consumer (B2C) e-commerce, in which a business (like Amazon.com) sells a product to a retail customer. As with B2C, B2B transactions can be conducted remotely, even if the buyer and seller have never met or live in different parts of the world.

Most high-tech gurus believe that B2B has the potential to revolutionize the way that companies do business. By being on the Internet, companies can expand their market, forging business relationships with new companies. B2B also has the potential to make it cheaper to buy and sell business products. The classic example of this is Dell Computer Corp., which came out of nowhere a few years ago and which now sells 15 percent of all the PCs bought each year worldwide, in part because business customers can order right over the Web. B2B also made Dell one of the most profitable PC companies in the industry; each Dell employee "generates" over $750,000 in revenue, as opposed to the average of around $525,000 for the rest of the industry. Other companies in other industries believe that they, too, could become the next Dell—hence the heat surrounding the concept.

B2B HAS MADE DELL ONE OF THE MOST PROFITABLE PC COMPANIES IN THE INDUSTRY; EACH DELL EMPLOYEE "GENERATES" OVER $750,000 IN REVENUE, AS OPPOSED TO THE AVERAGE OF AROUND $525,000.

However, while there's probably an enormous potential payoff for adopting B2B, it's difficult to know exactly how quickly the technology will be adopted and how effective companies will be in attempting to use it. There are at least a dozen variables—the maturity of the technology, the complexity of the implementation, the willingness of companies to change business models and so forth—that will determine how quickly B2B becomes an essential part of the business world.



Delphi Group president and founder Tom Koulopoulos takes a realistic stance on the B2B future.

TRACY POWELL

And that's where the high-tech gurus come in. Whenever a new buzzword like "B2B" hits the street, the gurus publish papers, spawn new reports and generally build energy about the Next Big Thing du jour. Some of these fads, in retrospect, seem almost silly, like the "paperless office" that we've been promised for the past 30 years. The gurus are particularly quick to assign big numbers to how much B2B activity there will be in the future.

Estimates of B2B traffic in the United States range from $500 billion in 2004 (from a company called the META Group) to an astounding $4.59 trillion from a group of gurus known as Jupiter Media Metrix. Jupiter believes that in 2005 B2B revenues will exceed $6.3 trillion. Let me put this into perspective: that $6.3 trillion is larger than the entire Gross National Product (GNP) of the United States was in 1992.

Of course, nobody knows if these aggressive predictions will prove to be true, but there is one guru—Koulopoulos—who's not getting caught up in the mad rush to hype the B2B concept. Rather than predicting big numbers or treating B2B as the most important invention since the telephone, Koulopoulos is telling his clients that the most important element of success in B2B will not be technology, but an old-fashioned human virtue: trust.

You see, B2B is fundamentally different from B2C in that all B2B transactions tend to be what the executives call "mission-critical." In the B2C world, a failed transaction may mean that a customer doesn't get a Christmas present on time—regrettable, perhaps, but hardly earth-shaking. In the B2B world, by contrast, a failed transaction might cascade through an entire supply chain, with each business unable to deliver its products because it can't get the raw materials or components from its partners.

Because of this, Koulopoulos believes that trust will be the essential element that will turn B2B into a reality. If I understand him correctly, it will be the quality of human relationships—how CEOs perceive each other and how salespeople interact with purchasers—that will make or break the companies that try to transform B2B into a reality. That's an astounding insight, in my view, and one that's been entirely missed by the gurus who remain hypnotized by the gee-whiz side of the high-tech business. iB

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of numerous articles and books on high tech business. He is also the co-host of *Funny Business*, Boston's only all-comedy talk radio program, heard Saturdays 10pm to midnight on WRKO, AM 680.

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Ezra BY EZRA DYER



A Better Ezra

Retroactive resolutions are the wave of the future

Making New Year's resolutions is tough for me. I don't smoke; I don't *want* to quit drinking; and I'm not yet fat enough to make a resolution about that. So each year, instead of looking inward and identifying the deeper evils that I might exorcise to make myself a better person, I just say, "Hey, I don't smoke. Good for me!"

This year, I decided, would be different: 2001 would bring a new era of unprecedented happiness, productivity, and physical and mental well-being. In other words, I would take care of all that crap I've been meaning to do.

I'D OPENED A WORD FILE, TITLED IT "RESOLUTIONS," AND THEN STARTED WATCHING FOOTBALL.

Resolution No. 1: Write something nice about my roommates, Dave and Scott. They complain that when I mention them in this column, I tend to portray them as "buttheads." Well, I was going to do something about that, until the other day. I was in the bathroom, ahem...reading, when a girl called. Great. Lucky for me, Dave was there to answer the phone. Well, I figured, Dave will just say I'm in the shower. He of course knows that "taking a shower" is the proper euphemism for this situation. I will wait an appropriate length of time, and when I call her back, I will remark on how nice my shower was, maybe throwing in a comment about fluctuating water temperatures to attempt some element of veracity. Instead, I hear Dave stammer out, "He...uh...he's indisposed at the moment." What? Indisposed? What's that supposed to mean, I'm handcuffed to the radiator in my bedroom? I looked up "indisposed" in the dictionary, and found that one definition is "mildly ill." So I guess I actually was indisposed after Dave got done answering the phone for me.

Still, I was in a charitable mood until later, when I began working on this article. By "working on this article," I mean that I'd opened a Word file, titled it "Resolutions" and then started watching football. Such are the perils of trying to write at home. Anyway, a couple of hours later, I wandered back past the computer and was surprised to see text on the formerly blank screen. Under "Resolutions," it now read, "Try electrolysis on back hair." Since I am a bigger person than my roommates, I handled this jibe in a mature and dignified manner. I pushed all the cereal boxes way back on top of the kitchen cabinets so that I could reach them but they could not. I am a bigger person only in a literal sense, I'm afraid.

So it's looking like Resolution No. 1 is going to be toast.

My next resolution was to try to sleep more and drink less coffee, because I'd begun to worry that I have a problem. Is it possible to become addicted to a product derived from a simple plant predominantly grown in Colombia? I don't think so, but just the same I tried a little experiment the other day. I went without coffee. All day long I suffered. When I got home from work at 5:30pm, I decided to take a nap. The next thing I knew, it was 7am. Upon waking, I started to think about how many people Dave would have to tell I was "indisposed" if I slept almost 14 hours every day. Then I made some coffee.

At that point I decided resolutions are worthless if you can't keep them. So my new resolutions are all things that I've already done. From now on I'll have a 100 percent success rate. For instance, I resolve to be more domestic. To that end, I already bought a new comforter cover to replace the one I've had since seventh grade, which is emblazoned with a festive Southwestern motif and causes epileptic seizures. While I was at it, I bought another bed accessory that caught my eye. I told my brother about it, and he said "you bought a *skirt* for your *bed*?" The tone of his voice clearly implied "and did you buy a skirt for yourself while you were at it?" But that's OK. One of my other resolutions is to be comfortable enough with my masculinity to talk openly about my bed skirt (Dave and Scott insisted that it's called a "dust ruffle," so I gave them both friggin' noogies till they admitted it's a bed skirt).

I've also put stuff up on the walls of my bedroom so it looks less like a Chinese jail cell. And I haven't found myself without Christmas presents for people who got them for me (that was *last* year). Finally, I've done well with not watching *Malcolm in the Middle* just because I'm too lazy to get off the couch after *The Simpsons*.

If these resolutions are less tortured than you might have liked, I resolve that they'll be better next year. Got a light? iB

You think that's funny?

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The 17th annual A Company Christmas benefit concert for the BSO was held Dec 13. at Symphony Hall.

1. **David Sanborn**, art consultant for Pete Williams Museum Services, and **Ashley Rupert**, operations manager for the View Group.
2. **Heidi Findsen-Scire**, executive assistant at Exel Holdings, and her husband, **Alex Scire**, MRI technologist for North Shore MRI.
3. **Richard DeAgazio**, executive vice president for Boston Capital, and **Leslie King**, national events director for American Ireland Fund.
4. **Mark Kukulski**, general manager for Sheraton Hotel in Needham, and **MaryGrace McCaffrey**, director of marketing at Sheraton Boston.
5. **James Hardy** and **Megan Hess**, managing director and account manager, respectively, for Context Integration in Burlington, and **Andrew Hess**, associate at Silicon Valley Bank in Newton.
6. **James Barron**, attorney for Barron Associates, and his wife, **Marjorie Arons Barron**, president of Barron Associates Worldwide.


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The 14th annual Snow Ball, a benefit for Santa Clause Anonymous, was held Dec. 15 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel.

7. **T.J. Compagnone**, operations manager for Youth Enrichment Services, and **Jessica Aliberti**, management consultant for PricewaterhouseCoopers.
8. **George Morancy**, chief of staff for Boston City Councilor Michael Flaherty; **Joe Barone**, consultant for the Parson Group; and **Jim Gordon**, legislative assistant for Mickey Roach.
9. **Susan Bergeron**, corporate sales for Nextel in Bedford; **Greg Wilson**, trader for NECX; **Erin Holloway**, consultant for O'Quinn Group Associates in Lexington; and **Stephen Puzzo**, tax consultant for PricewaterhouseCoopers.
10. **Liz Munden** and **Kathleen McQuillan**, investment associate and private banker, respectively, for Boston Private Bank; and **Cathy Fergerson**, mergers and acquisitions for Ernst & Young.
11. **Donna Foster**, sales manager at BAC, and **Stephen MaCary**, chairman of the Snow Ball and accounting manager for AIB of Massachusetts.


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Soroff/On

Dan Elias

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Last year, contemporary art dealer Dan Elias took over as the host of PBS's phenomenally popular, *Antiques Roadshow*. The episodes hosted by Elias, which were taped last year, begin airing this month and promise to make him one of the most recognizable TV personalities in Boston. Born and raised in Cambridge, he attended the Commonwealth School, Cambridge High and Latin, and Newman Prep. A graduate of Tufts University, he received a bachelor of fine arts degree from the School of the Museum of Fine Arts with concentrations in sculpture and printmaking. For 12 years, he worked in different capacities for various arts organizations, serving as a consultant to the Institute of Contemporary Art and the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, guest curator at the Bernard Toale Gallery and sales manager/curator at the Barbara Krakow Gallery. Prior to opening Elias Fine Arts, the contemporary art gallery he operates in Allston, he worked for Artist-Book International/The New Editions Fair. He lives with his wife, Skinner Auctioneers President and CEO Karen Keane, and their two sons, in Lincoln.

Jonathan Soroff: *So how'd you land such a plum job?*

Dan Elias: The producers of the show let the appraisers know they were looking for a host, and my wife is an appraiser. She said, "Go on. You'd be great at it." I wasn't particularly interested until I realized that what I do here, at my gallery, is try to get people interested in the story behind a piece of art, and *Antiques Roadshow* is really about the stories. Even people who look at it as a game show or only care about the money remember the stories, so I thought, "They do a better job at it than me. Maybe I can pick their brains." So I went to see them. After about an hour and a half, I'd run out of questions, and they had big smiles on their faces. I thought, "Uh-oh, I've gotten myself into something much bigger than I bargained for."

JS: *How many people actually have Picassos or Rembrandts hiding up in the attic?*

DE: It's pretty amazing when you get out into places like Tulsa, Okla., to see what comes out of the woodwork. Being an East Coast snob myself, I would've assumed you wouldn't get a lot of great material, but actually that's completely untrue. It's remarkable what comes onto the floor.

JS: *What's the most amazing thing you've seen?*

DE: For me, there was the woman in St. Louis who had four carved heads of the Axis leaders in World War II, these sort of pumpkin-sized busts. They were this very bizarre sort of folk art. Then there are the great stories like the guy in Tulsa who brought in what he called his "TV stand," which was, in fact, a 1765 bureau made in Boston and worth about $150,000.

JS: *Anybody bring in things like velvet Elvis paintings, or dogs playing poker?*

DE: Oh, sure. Particularly in Las Vegas. Lots of Elvis-abilia.

JS: *How do you tactfully let someone know their treasure is actually crap?*

DE: Y'know, the amazing thing is that they're rarely disappointed. I talked to one guy who, over the years, has appraised maybe 2,000 items on the show, and only two people were disappointed by what he told them. So they've learned not to put their own expectations on people. Instead of saying, "I'm really sorry it's only worth $5," they say [in an upbeat tone], "This is worth $5." Ninety percent of the time, people are like, "That's great! I only paid 50 cents for it!"

JS: *Any vicious fights or family feuds started by the show?*

DE: Actually, a few disputes have been settled. My wife did an appraisal for a guy who came in with a chair and a photograph of a painting. He said, "This was my great-great-great grandfather, in a portrait painted around 1785." He thought the chair was the one in the painting, and Karen said, "No, it isn't, because the chair was made in about 1870, by the Shakers, and the form didn't exist before 1845." The guy said, "Thank you so much! We've been fighting about this for years, over who gets the chair and whether it should be with the portrait." So that was resolved.

JS: *Biggest oddity you've seen on the show?*

DE: Well, it wasn't an odd thing, but the story was. Someone brought in a coffee table from the 50s—a very bad, old-fashioned reproduction Victorian table. She said, "I know it's probably not worth anything, and I don't care. What I do is paint leopard spots all over everything, and I want to be sure I'm not destroying something valuable." The appraiser looked at it for a fraction of a second and said, "Paint away."

JS: *Ever get angry phone calls from people saying, "That was stolen from my house!"*

DE: I don't know the answer to that. I've only been on the show a short while. But we do have, occasionally, Native American things that come in, or things from South America, that were obviously taken illegally out of the places they were from—archaeological artifacts, or something along those lines—and we'll tell people, "Look. This would be a whole lot more valuable if you had documentation showing how and where you got it. Provenance makes it more valuable, and looted objects are problematic."

JS: *What would you never have on the show?*

DE: Hmmm... We don't have stated rules, but if something were too risqué, we probably wouldn't show it.

JS: *Like Catherine the Great's riding crop?*

DE: [Laughs] Perhaps.

JS: *So when you go over people's houses now, do you sort of lift up the corner of the Oriental rugs?*

DE: No, but I do ask about the stories. I've become very sensitized to the stories behind objects.

JS: *Do people ask you to appraise things for them?*

DE: They do, and I can't help them. I don't know anything about antiques. I'm just a serious onlooker.

JS: *Do you collect anything yourself?*

DE: I collect a certain amount of contemporary art. Together with my wife, we're also furnishing our house with mostly Victorian furniture, and some classic art deco and 20th century stuff.

JS: Antiques Roadshow *is essentially a glorified, televised show-and-tell. What's the coolest thing you ever brought to show-and-tell as a kid?*

DE: I can't remember. But my kids brought a hedgehog. That was a pretty big sensation.

JS: *You've gone from being low-key to a much more public profile. How has it changed your life?*

DE: Well, the episodes I've hosted haven't aired yet, so I have no idea what that's going to be like. I'm curious about it. But I have a hard time imagining it.

JS: *What's the dirty little secret that art and antiques dealers don't want us to know?*

DE: Well, it's not a secret, but what most people don't realize is that appraisals or values of works of art are extremely fluid and have to do with why you're asking the question. There's one value for an insurance appraisal and something completely different for selling it at auction, which is different from what it would cost to replace it right now. There are 15 or 20 different values for any given work of art.

JS: *If you could pick a sidekick for the show, would it be Vanna or Bob Barker's Beauties?*

DE: Gee, no. I think may be Ellen Barkin.

JS: *Good choice. You're on PBS, so when you're on the road, do you stay at some fleabag like a Motel 6?*

DE: Places somewhere in the range between that and the Four Seasons.

JS: *What, to you, is the most idiotic collectible—Beanie Babies? Pokemon cards? Anything from the Franklin Mint?*

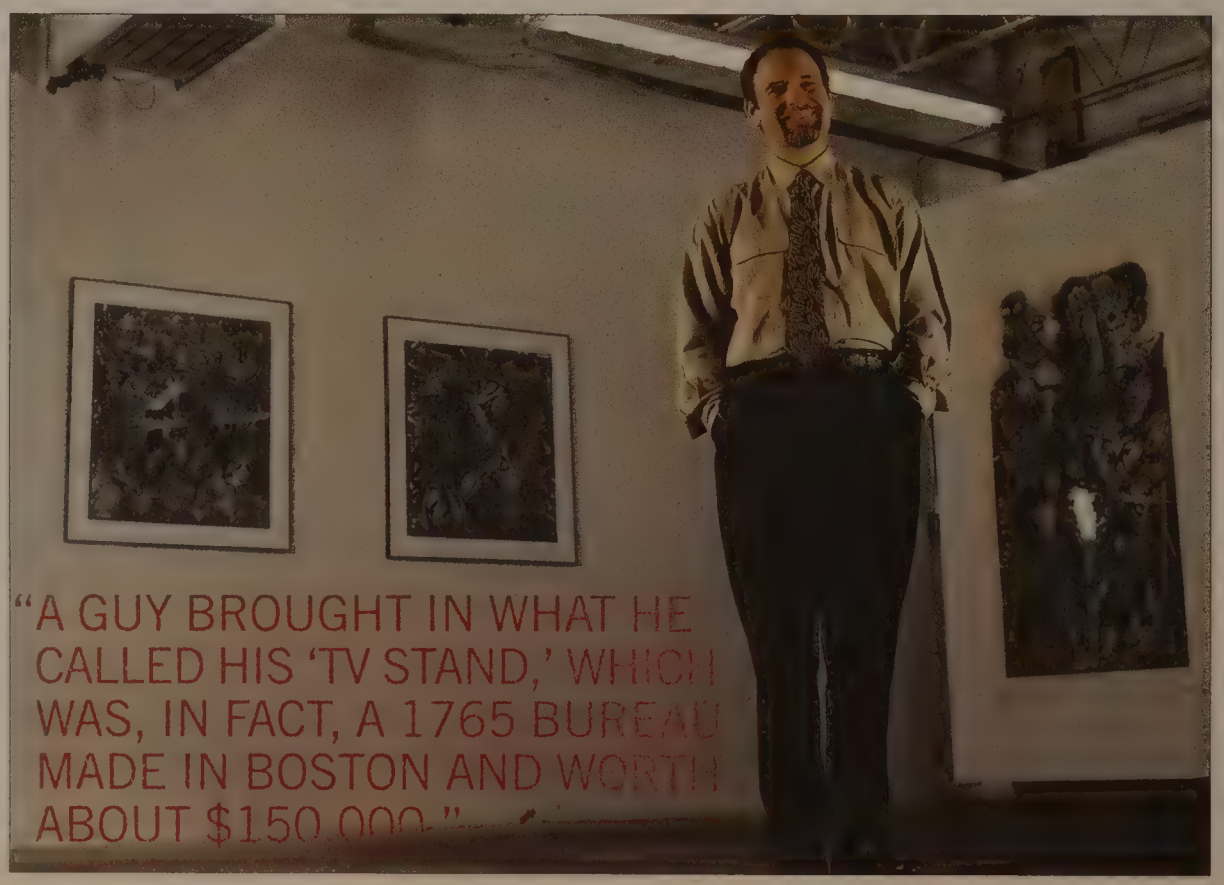
DE: I can't say that they're overvalued, but I saw a guy come in with old Atari games, and I thought, "Jeez. I threw those away, and they're collectible now!"

JS: *What's the most valuable thing you own?*

DE: My dog.

JS: *Last question: Will you do the show at my house and appraise everything I own?*

DE: For a price. iB



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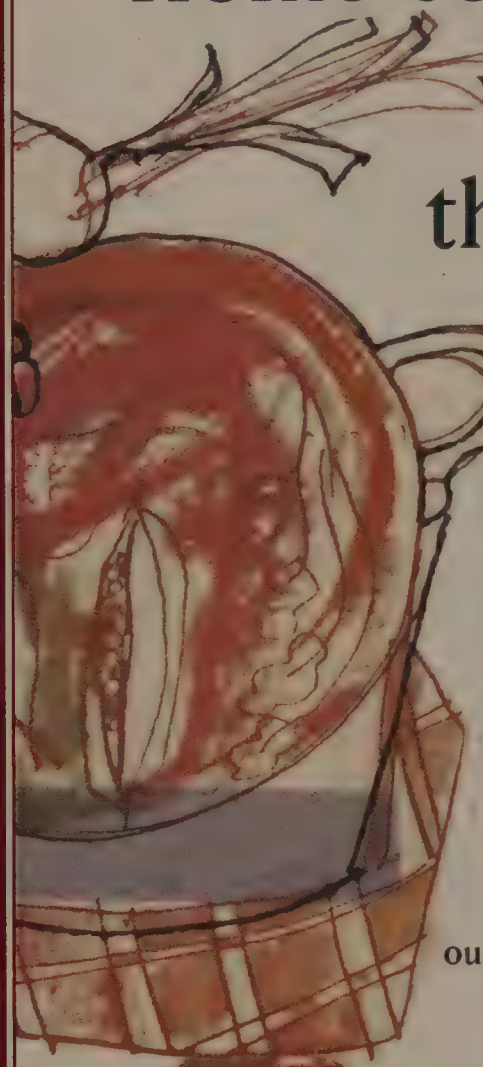
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SURVIVAL of the FITTEST

Tired of treadmills? Bored with biking? Try swords, trampolines and Pilates machines! We tested 10 ways to refresh your workout

BY EZRA DYER & JULIE SHORT

PHOTOGRAPH BY BERTA A. DANIELS

The holidays are over, and the taste of rich, naughty food is nothing but a sweet memory. The calories, however, are still with you—and it's time to do something about those extra pounds. So you drag yourself to the gym and dutifully complete your weightlifting and treadmill routine. But perhaps your tried-and-true fitness program isn't providing the necessary punishment for that holiday gluttony. Or perhaps it's become so boring, you'd rather burn calories scrubbing your bathroom grout.

If this scenario sounds familiar, try mixing up your tedious exercise regimen by finding new ways to work out—whether it's video dancing or Pilates. "We definitely recommend cross-training," says Boston Athletic Club's Michelle Donovan. "If you're doing the same exercise over and over again, your body isn't going to change after a certain point." Apart from the physical benefits of a varied workout, deviating from your norm also keeps you mentally stimulated, which in turn, helps keep you motivated. "I can't understand why you'd do any exercise that's so boring you'd want to watch TV while you're doing it," says Colleen Ford, a kung fu student at Boston Kung Fu Tai Chi Institute. "Here, at the end of class you've done something more than get your heart rate up."

To find creative ways to challenge your body and brain, we sent staffers Ezra Dyer and Julie Short to 10 fitness classes, ranging from centuries-old kung fu to currently popular fusion programs like NIA (neuromuscular integrative action). After replacing their usual weightlifting and running routines with swords and trampolines, Ezra and Julie returned with a consensus on these less-than-conventional workouts: thumbs up! Some of these workouts require practice, but each provides the novelty or new physical challenge needed to get over that workout plateau.





ezra

Kung Fu Fighting

There are many styles of kung fu (including dragon style, monkey style and drunken style—where the fighter mimics the exaggerated moves of a drunk), but Yao Li, the unfailingly cheerful owner of Boston Kung Fu Tai Chi Kickboxing, starts students out with Southern (China) style. "Southern style is the most fundamentally suitable for beginners," Li says. "It doesn't involve a lot of jumping around right away, and I like to work with people for a few months before they get into that."

So I put my Bruce Lee-level aspirations on hold and concentrate on slowing down my breathing. I inhale and exhale with each step forward, alternating my arm positions with the pace of my breathing and walk. Even doing this slowly—switching my defensive arm while coordinating the breathing and stepping—is surprisingly difficult. So I'm impressed when I watch a more advanced student, Travis Nesselrodt, bound around the classroom, dicing and slicing his way through a sword routine at full speed. After about a minute, he's panting for breath. "It's like doing a sprint," he says.

Another student, Colleen Ford, shows me a few basic moves with a straight sword, and I find that if I take it slowly I can swing the blade over the back of my shoulder and around to the front without decapitating myself or others. Ford, who has been taking classes here for three years, actually owns her own sword.

Li has been teaching kung fu since 1980, and his endless credentials include winning the 1978 national karate championship in the weapons division. But perhaps more important to his clientele, Li is as enthusiastic an instructor as a student could hope to find. Kung fu has been around for centuries, and Li feels that the original reasons for its development—self defense, physical health and the spiritual benefits of realizing your potential—are as relevant here and now as they were in ancient China. "I feel honored to be in this city and be able to share this stuff with people," he says. "It's not work to me."

We went to: *Boston Kung Fu Tai Chi Kickboxing, 361 Newbury St., 262-0600.*
Pro: *Requires so much concentration that it's impossible to become bored.*
Con: *You've got to have patience. Ninjas are not made in a day.* **>>**

Kung fu student Colleen Ford crosses swords with Boston Kung Fu Tai Chi Kickboxing owner/instructor Yao Li.



Jump around: Future Olympians kick it at the Urban Rebounding workout. Inset: Instructor Tracie Finan.

julie

On the Rebound

When I was in grade school, my father refused to sign a permission slip that would have allowed me to join my classmates for a lesson in trampoline tricks. His reasoning was fairly straightforward: "You'll break your neck." Despite all those recent news reports about backyard trampoline injuries, I still harbor resentment that I was denied the trampoline adventure my classmates shared.

So I arrive at a trampoline class, called Urban Rebounding, with giddy anticipation. First I heft a mini-trampoline across the floor at Healthworks Fitness Center (a Boston health club for women), and drop it behind instructor Tracie Finan—a two-time national aerobics champion. The benefit of this relatively rare form of group exercise is that you can work harder for a longer period of time. "The body's energy is not being used to absorb the shock and stress of a hard-surface workout," Finan explains.

She starts slowly, giving novices time to adapt to the trampoline's give. We begin with our legs spread apart, and then we jump, bringing our feet together in the air. Then things get tough.

"Jump forward, jump back, now a jumping jack, keep your knees high and run in place, try a karate kick...." The commands keep coming. Now I'm sweating.

"Rebounding is three times harder on your heart than ordinary exercises because the gravitational pull is greater as you land," says Finan, adding: "Nothing gives me such an intense workout." And she guarantees that "you will not be sore afterward."

Class ends, and I feel as winded as I do after a three-mile run along the Charles River. Urban Rebounding is a workout that really pushes me to the limit and is a blast—a far-out feeling. Says Finan, "Urban Rebounding attracts people who are discouraged with aerobics." That's me.

We went to: *Healthworks, 920 Commonwealth Ave., Brookline, 731-3030.* ***Pro:*** *Great aerobic workout without the impact.* ***Con:*** *Requires strong coordination skills and good sports bra.*

ezra

S'il Vous Pilates

Let me clear something up: Pilates has nothing to do with the ancient Greeks. OK, maybe I'm the only one who assumed that it did; but, for the record, the Pilates method was developed in the '20s by a guy named Joe Pilates. The story goes that JP spent some time in the hospital, where he kept himself busy by taking the springs off his hospital bed and using them as resistance contraptions in a complicated workout regimen. Since then, Pilates has been refined, and today the hospital bed has been replaced by more sophisticated machines.

Boston Body founder Zayna Gold begins my first Pilates workout on the Wall Springs. (Before I can even mention that I'm about as flexible as an anvil, Gold announces: "Your hamstrings are tight." Pilates, though, promises to cultivate more flexibility.) I sit on what looks like a weight bench, legs straight, and reach for a bar attached to two springs. I then lean back, pulling against the resistance those springs provide. Slowly returning to a sitting position, I fight against their pull. As with kung fu class, I am told to concentrate on my slow, steady breathing. After two reps, my ab muscles are quivering. "The shaking is good," Gold says encouragingly. "Ugnf," I reply.

Next we move onto another Pilates machine, the Reformer. The Reformer looks like a cross between a rowing machine and something you might find along with the Iron Maiden in a medieval dungeon. I thought the last machine was the height of challenge, but the Reformer re-forms that impression pretty quickly. With its various springs and foot stirrups, the machine allows you to isolate and strengthen practically any muscle. One shoulder exercise, in particular, destroys me. I can hardly do it, even with Gold's help. Well, dammit, if Pilates-believers Madonna and Uma can do this, then so can I!

Mr. Pilates claimed his method would give you "a new body" in 30 sessions, so I've got a way to go before the slim, well-defined Pilates shape is mine.

But what if I did complete those 30 sessions? Would me and my new body be "maxed out" on Pilates? "I've been doing this for 15 years," Gold says, "and it still leaves me sweating every time."

We went to: *Boston Body, 364 Boylston St., 262-3333.* ***Pro:*** *A quick route to a new body, with personal help to make sure you're doing it right.* ***Con:*** *Good thing group classes are available, because one-on-one workouts could get expensive pretty quickly.*

julie

Yoga Bear

As I step into the Baptiste Power Yoga Institute in Cambridge, I am nearly bowled over by the hot, moist air—heavy with the scent of incense. Immediately, I begin to sweat; the room temperature is intentionally set at a sweltering 90 degrees. Some 15 minutes later, every available inch of floor space is occupied by 50 or so men and women who spread their mats just inches apart.

Enter Baron Baptiste. The 5'11" Power Yoga guru advertises his classes as "the perfect blend of sweat and spirituality, transforming the body and uplifting the soul." His fans agree: "I feel taller afterward," says MIT graduate student and Baptiste devotee Genevieve Connors, "and I have a real sense of clarity." Baptiste himself puts it best: "Stress is the enemy and yoga's the enema."

Toss aside any images you have of touchy-feely, contemplate-your-navel yoga—this is a hard-core, 90-minute aerobic workout set to soft chanting music. Baptiste, whose training began in the ashrams of India at the age of 12, demystifies the Eastern disciplines and makes them accessible, incorporating traditional yoga moves into one flowing workout. I soon realize how unprepared I was for such a tough workout. Lying on my back, I put my hands palms-down on the mat behind my head, elbows up, and square my feet on the floor. At Baptiste's command, I arch my back, thrusting my stomach toward the ceiling, forming a bridge. My shoulders tremble under the weight of this backbend. I stare at the floor, willing Baptiste to count faster as he talks to us in soft, encouraging tones and walks around, helping his disciples perfect their form. In this class, a touch from Baptiste is considered a blessing. I was out of luck this time—but I'll be back.



Bostonians learn the basics of the New York City Ballet program. Inset: Student Sue Yoo.

We went to: *Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, 661-9642.* ***Pro:*** *An exhausting, total body workout.* ***Con:*** *Hot, sweaty and crowded.*

ezra

En Pointe

I arrive at the Boston Sports Club's New York City Ballet class 10 minutes late. In addition to feeling like a huge dork, this means I miss the opening warm-up, which I'm told includes a few moves from the NYC Ballet's signature "Serenade" performance.

So I grab a mat and slide right into the second phase: stretching. None of my tendons snap like Roger Clemens with a bat in his hand, so I consider this segment of the class successful. After loosening up, we roll into a crunch position and grunt out the obligatory ab work. As I roll onto my side for crunches, I notice that nobody in here is wearing a tutu. I'm relieved I didn't wear mine.

When we put the mats away, I become apprehensive. It's ballet time, and as usual my elusive friends Graceful and Coordinated are nowhere to be found. But instructor Meghan Umlauf starts out with a simple, single move. Heels together, toes out. Then feet wider, toes out. Then a kick to either side, and so on, until we've built up a sequence. Then everything speeds up. Although I may be improvising my own brand of non-New-York-City-Ballet-sanctioned spaz moves here and there, overall I'm able to follow the program, and at the end I'm a sweaty ballerina. In particular, my shoulders are burning, because most moves involve keeping your arms stretched, extended either over your head or to the side.

After class I "fondu" and "coupé" my way over to fellow student Sue Yoo, who seemed to have all the moves down pat. As it turns out, she's been taking the class since it came to Boston last summer, and she sympathizes with my complaint that I may not be able to wear deodorant for the next week due to an inability to lift my arms. "It doesn't look strenuous," she says, "but it's a lot harder than it looks, and I like that."

I leave having gotten a workout and executed a ballet routine, albeit a short and simple one.

"It's a feel-good class," says Umlauf, and I have to agree.

We went to: *Boston Sports Club, One Bullfinch Place, 624-9600.* ***Pro:*** *You don't need special shoes and awesome athletic ability to learn real New York City Ballet moves.* ***Con:*** *The focus is more on the workout than the ballet (hello, no bar?), which is probably only a con to hard-core dancers.* **>>**

WENDY MIMRAN (4)

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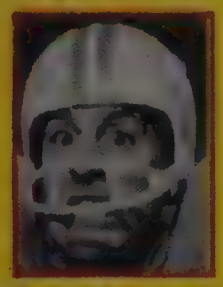
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julie

A New View

Anyone who walks, jogs and runs knows this: Time never passes so slowly as it does on a treadmill. Thus, I am not happy about the idea of Treading: a Boston Athletic Club workout conducted on—you guessed it—a treadmill. I head to South Boston anticipating 45 tedious minutes of clock-watching, or staring at the television overhead. As it turns out, I've got it all wrong. Time flies. Instructor Ellen Abbott makes running on a treadmill an enjoyable experience. Tuesday evening classes are so crowded that runners are booted off the treadmill after 30 minutes to give someone else a chance to train with her. Her workouts consist of sprints, on flat surfaces and hills, with short "recovery" periods. The twist to Abbott's classes is that she tailors the intensity of the workout differently to individual needs, depending on your fitness level. (Also, Abbott cheers for you while you run!) It's all about getting your heart rate to a range between 65 and 92 percent above the resting rate. Abbott's fans—a crew including novices and of some of the best runners in the state—have a team mentality, and they cheer us loudly from the sidelines. "These are folks who'd always refused to get on a treadmill," says Abbott, "and now they're hooked." Registered nurse Noreen O'Shea tells me her marathon time improved by 30 minutes as a result of Abbott's instruction. "Working out with a group really motivates me," says O'Shea. I'm pushing the limit, and my run is as enjoyable as it is when I am running on the river—minus the wind, rain and icy stretches of pavement.

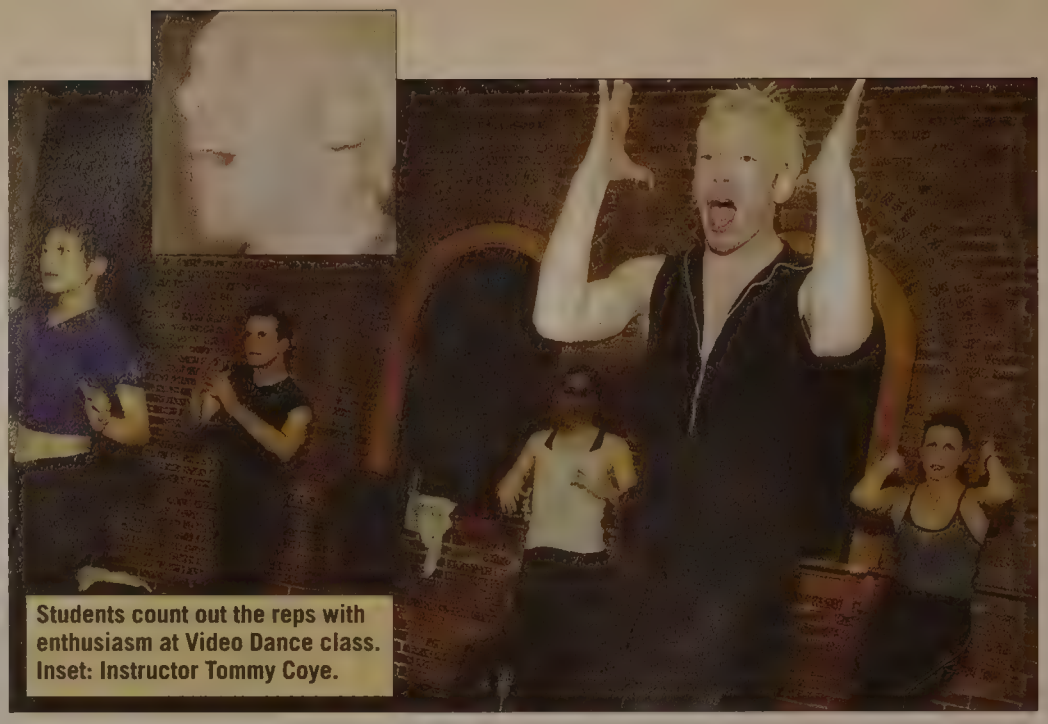
We went to: *Boston Athletic Club, 653 Summer St., 269-4300.* ***Pro:*** *Time flies.* ***Con:*** *Packed due to popularity.*

ezra

Water World

I consider 7am to be an ungodly hour to be awake, much less exercise, so I couldn't imagine who would show up at the Boston Athletic Club for the morning aqua aerobics class. As it turns out, the class consists of a 30-something guy named Dennis Holler and myself, and I would bet my Brut aftershave that Holler and I make up the only all-male aqua aerobics class in Boston on this particular morning. "The women don't like to take the class in the morning because it messes up their hair," explains instructor Karin Dumbaugh. The evening session, she says, usually attracts around 15 people, mostly women. So we weren't a typical class, but then she probably isn't your typical instructor, either. "I'm not 19 and from Southern California," says Dumbaugh, who heads over to Harvard to teach economics when she's done in the pool.

We get started by walking along a four-foot deep lane in the pool. Halfway to the end I start to swim, and Dumbaugh chastises me. "The idea is to create resistance," she says. "It's the opposite of swimming."



Students count out the reps with enthusiasm at Video Dance class. Inset: Instructor Tommy Coye.

As I jog through the water, Dumbaugh corrects me. "Back straighter. Knees higher. Pull in the abs." With the emphasis on the core abdominal area, some of this seems to have come straight from Pilates, and indeed, both Holler and Dumbaugh take Pilates classes as well.

After several more jogging exercises, we break out dumbbells. Styrofoam ones. "Look at these girly dumbells," I think, but as I struggle to push them down, my arms are burning after only eight underwater triceps extensions. "Not a life-saving device," reads the absurdly buoyant Dumbells of Torture. Well, no kidding. More of an ass-kicking device, actually.

Aqua aerobics may be gentle on your joints—my classmate recently hurt his knee playing soccer—but judging from the level of exertion required it's still a mean workout. "If I had wanted to, I would have made you sweat and feel pain in every part of your body," Dumbaugh tells me when we are done. It isn't until the next day that I realize she'd done just that.

We went to: *Boston Athletic Club, 653 Summer St., 269-4300.* ***Pro:*** *Low-impact, killer glute/hamstring workout.* ***Con:*** *Only two classes a week, and one of them is at 7am.*

julie

Body and Soul

It's pronounced "nee-ah," and it's the West Coast's answer to the no pain, no-gain, sweat-it-all-out aerobic workouts of the early '80s. NIA combines modern dance, yoga, martial arts and tai chi. It's slow-moving and free-flowing. Some 30 women of all shapes (at least two pregnant), ages and sizes are at the Autumn NIA Jam at the Wellbridge Fitness Center in Harvard Square. Held seasonally, these free gatherings feature NIA instructors from all over the Boston area.

The first of five instructors pops in her tape, and the class begins with a series of arm circles, lunges and cha-cha-chas set to tunes. It involves a lot of stretching, twirling and reaching to the sky. The steps are less regimented than a traditional aerobics workout. As NIA enthusiasts explain, you go where your body takes you. My NIA-mates are so friendly, offering advice and encouragement, that I don't feel self-conscious.

At the end of class, I am sweating only slightly, but I feel wonderfully peaceful. I mention this because I think that's the point of this class: mental health. There are some who disagree, however. Cathy Dander, group exercise director of the Beacon Hill Athletic Club, says that her NIA classes are hard-core aerobic workouts, leaving participants dripping with sweat. My class, however, was soothing and not heart-pumping; and the instructors were touchy-feely and not tough ("Hug the sky!" and "Think romantic love!" they called out). I am beginning to think I can achieve the goal stated by instructor Cassandra Horri: "Mental and physical health through movement."

We went to: *Wellbridge Fitness Center, 5 Bennett St., Cambridge, 441-0800;* ***Pro:*** *Makes you feel mentally and physically refreshed.* ***Con:*** *I wasn't exhausted after the workout (which could be a pro, or a con).*

ezra

Bust A Move

At Tommy Coye's Video Dance class at the Jeannette Neill Dance Studio, "Video Dance" is a bit of a misnomer, because there are no videos involved. Rather, you learn a dance routine that looks like something you'd see in a music video. This Out-'O-Sync Backwards Boy was definitely headed for trouble, because there are 98 Degrees of separation between me and good dancing. Lucky for me, Coye welcomes dance virgins, and there are several others present at his Tuesday night class. So I'm not the only one who looks confused as we follow Coye's lead, jumping, kicking and clapping in time to a throbbing beat. But after a few minutes I'm bumping into the floor-to-ceiling mirror only occasionally, and my groovin' moves are almost in time with the music. I'm dancing! I'm really dancing!

Then I hear Coye's voice: "Ezra, get away from the mirror. You keep running into it." Coye motions me over to the middle of the room, out in front. Great. Now I'm trying not to run into him while gyrating and dripping sweat on the floor like my name was Patrick Ewing. Then, abruptly, we assume the crunch position and start the "seven-minute abs" workout. I remember very little about that painful seven minutes as I manage to black out from the pain. When I come to I am doing push-ups. Our class doesn't count our push-ups loud enough. "Eight more push-ups, people, and this time I want to hear you!" Coye demands.

After the push-ups, there is still plenty of dancing left on Coye's agenda. By the end of the class Coye builds up a routine of 20 or so steps, and after several practice runs, most of the class looks ready to back that ass up on MTV. I successfully complete only the first three steps. But damn, those three steps look good. See you on stage, Britney.

We went to: *Jeannette Neill Dance Studio, 261 Friend St., 523-1355.* ***Pro:*** *Next time you get pushed into the middle of a circle of people at a dance club, you'll have something other than The Robot in your repertoire.* ***Con:*** *Rhythm and a good short-term memory are not optional.*

julie

Pro Plyometrics

Most seasoned athletes are already familiar with plyometrics—fast, explosive exercises intended to increase speed and strength. During a typical plyometric drill, an athlete jumps from a step platform, and then immediately performs a vertical jump from a standing position onto a higher plank. Soccer and football coaches regularly use these exercises to improve their players' endurance.

Let it be known: I am *not* a seasoned athlete. Thus, I am apprehensive. Luckily, Plyopower instructor Jed Needle understands that not everyone is out to kick the winning goal or to dodge heavily padded opponents to score a touchdown. Looking around, I see most of my classmates are in fairly good shape—and they say they are here for a hard-core workout. They'll get one. We begin with the tough jumps, and some laps around the gym. "The point is to keep the heart rate up the entire time," shouts Needle. "Even the rest periods maintain a moderate level of activity." I am huffing and puffing within the first few minutes. Now push-ups. My classmates seem to thrive on this. "It's the best class that I've taken here," confirms Boston College student Kristen Liebrock. Now we mirror the moves of speed skaters though we lunge instead of glide, crouching low to the ground. "These kind of moves can be applied to real-life this winter when you're downhill skiing," says Needle. I try to keep that in mind as we return to those strenuous jumping sets. "It's fairly aggressive on your body," admits Needle. And he's right. Later, my body aches. The class has a regular following—albeit small—but it's bound to get bigger as more people discover this brutal total-body workout.

We went to: *Boston Sports Club, 15 Gorham St., Allston; 731-4177.* ***Pro:*** *A physically exhausting, total-body workout.* ***Con:*** *You have to be in fairly good shape for this one.* IB

WENDY MIMRAN (2)



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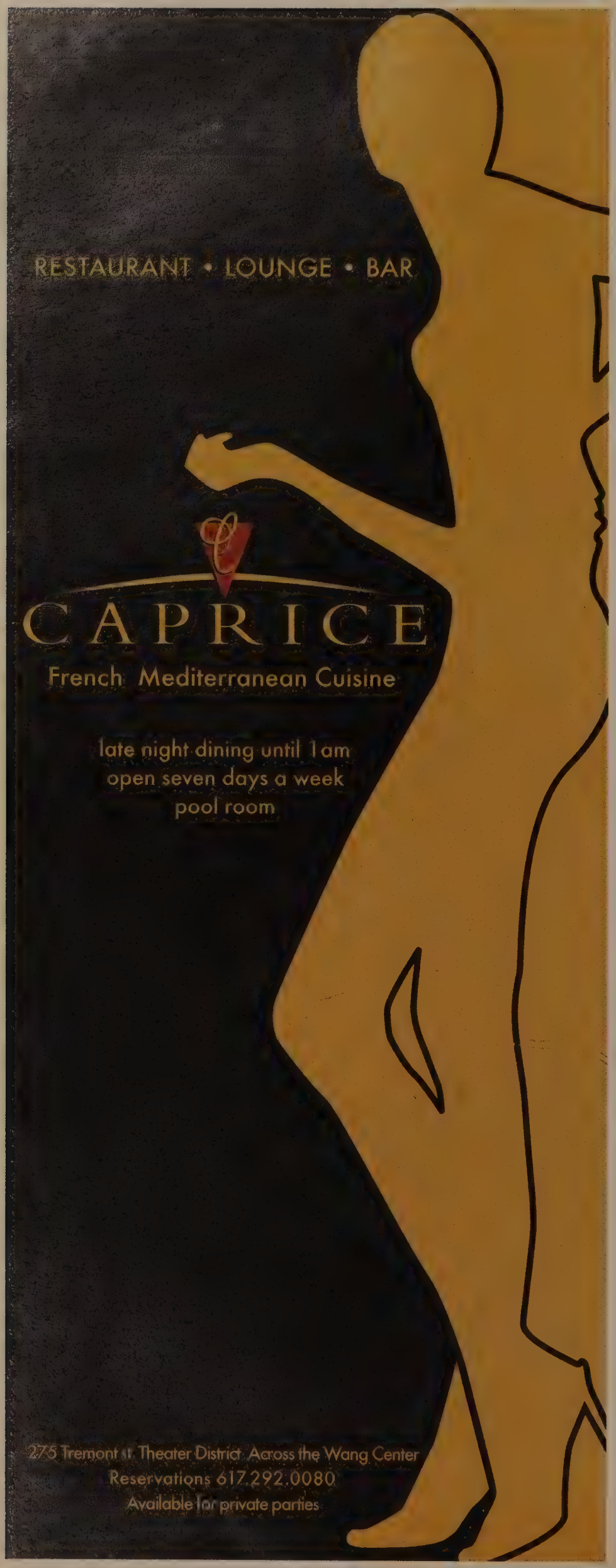
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FLASH'S

SEX in our city

BY ELLEN O'BRIEN

Elisabeth is the 25-year-old virgin. Katherine is the sexual tigress, aggressively handling the men who enter her Back Bay lair. Karen is the trusted-but-troubled adviser. She can guide everyone but herself to healthy relationships. Dana is coping with a lackluster romance, and her female roommate recently presented her with a whiz-bang sex toy, The Rabbit, an $85 vibrator. Together these women's stories evoke scenes from the Sunday-night HBO smash *Sex in the City*, set in New York and featuring the amorous misadventures of four bachelorettes.

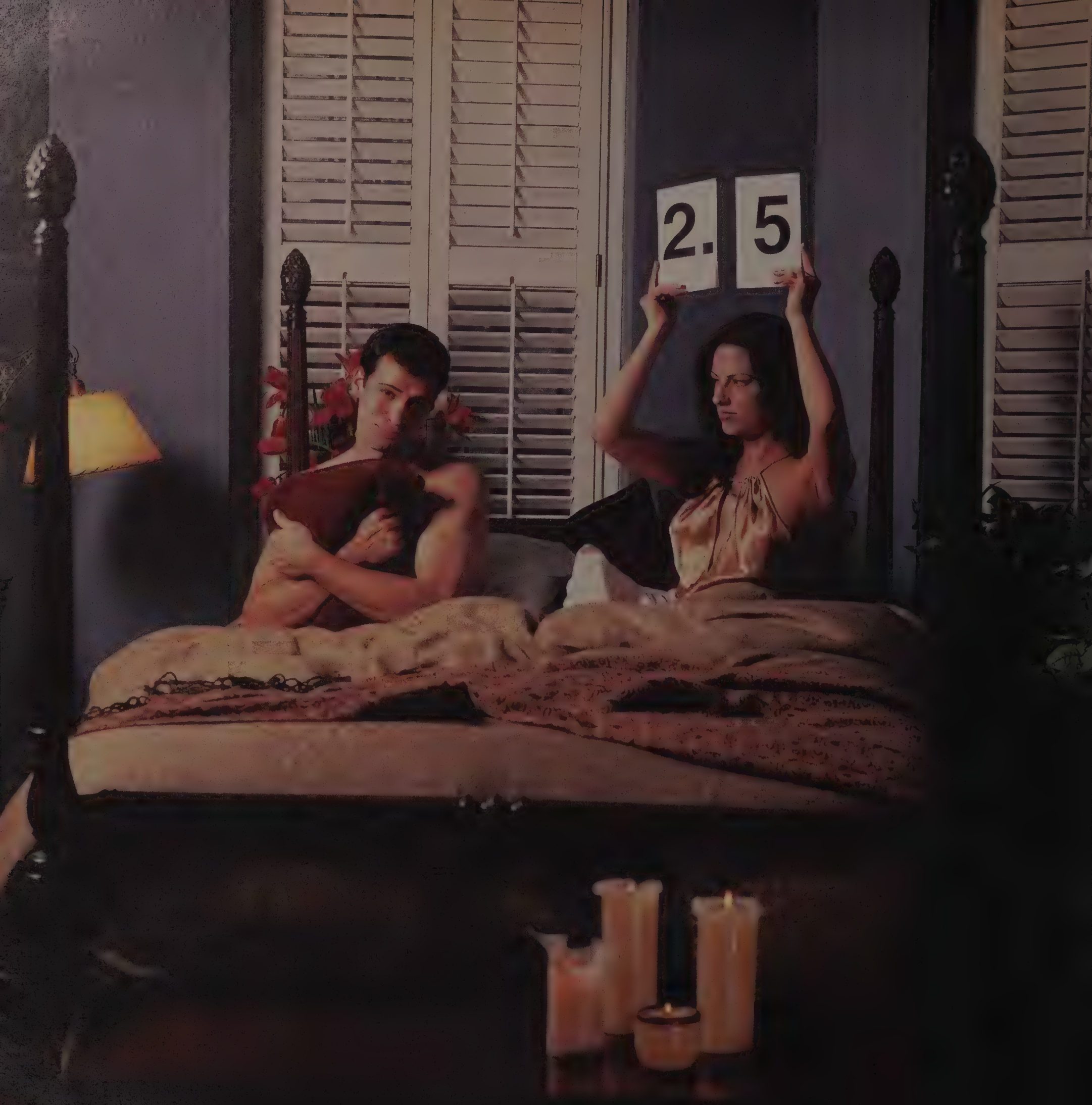
In fact, these stories are a sampling of single Boston women who enjoy, or endure, sex in this city. Sure, we all know the old rap about Boston; this is a city whose sex appeal is pretty much lost the moment a stranger says, "Boston? Which parish?" Spare us the city-to-city comparisons. New Orleans has mystery, we've got history; Las Vegas has the strip, we've got the Freedom Trail; New York, show us Liz Smith, and we'll give you...Doris Kearns Goodwin?

That's all wrong, say these Boston women. To hear them tell it, Boston has finally gone cosmopolitan when it comes to sex. An infusion of professional transplants, some from far more liberal locales; the years separating today's singles from the initial widespread HIV scare in the United States; and the feel-good-feel-me designer drug, Ecstasy, are helping to redesign the city's sexual landscape. Just like Miranda, Charlotte, Carrie and Samantha our Back Bay divas have conquests, contests ("How many times did you do it?") and camaraderie.

What a time to be a single woman. (Forget the dearth of single, straight, eligible men, a plight that national magazines have chronicled.) We're talking about sex! Sexual empowerment. Science. Technology. Even women too prudish to peruse the shelves at a sex boutique in Brookline can order The Rabbit via the Internet these days. Science is on our side, isn't it? Viagra is good for him but better for you, and birth-control pills help clear acne! Been thinking about leaning over and kissing that woman whose blush you just borrowed? Go for it! (Be sure you're wearing Gucci, though, when you do.) If that's too last year for you, you'll be glad to know that swinging is back—yet another tribute to the '70s à la *The Ice Storm*.

There's only one problem with this groovy new party scene: The chicks aren't having a great time. According to a nationwide survey released this fall, a whopping 40 percent of heterosexual women reported sexual dysfunction or dissatisfaction. It gets worse: they gave these really whiny reasons about intimacy, and caring men who cook for them and listen to their stories as requirements for their sexual satisfaction.

This is a SEX survey, ladies. Get with the program! Get some Rabbit ears! This isn't about Mr. Right. It's about Mr. Big! It turns out women still say those two are one and the same—even on our favorite TV show.



"A LOT OF MEN FEEL AS IF A SEXUALLY DEMANDING WOMAN EXPECTS SOMETHING THEY CANNOT PROVIDE." —DR. DANIEL POLLETS, SEX THERAPIST

Researchers who participated in October's three-day Boston University forum devoted to women's sexuality—the largest gathering of its kind—were not startled by the results of the Kinsey Institute study that left 40 percent of U.S., heterosexual women sexually unhappy. First off, women's sexuality has not been researched as an area of medicine the way men's sexuality has. An obvious result of this imbalance is that less knowledge, and fewer solutions, are available to women who might suffer from medical problems that contribute to sexual dysfunction, such as diabetes, spinal cord injuries, menopause, the side effects of commonly prescribed antidepressants and more. Now it's their turn.

"It's a very exciting time for women," says Lexington sex therapist and author of three self-help books Aline Zoldbrod. "Most of the research with Viagra has been on men," she says. "Yet we don't understand women's basic anatomy and physiology."

Meanwhile, no matter how new the data, healthy women who reported dissatisfaction with their sex lives gave age-old arguments. Their level of energy, or exhaustion (after a long day at work, perhaps) and the mood of her relationship with her partner (Honey? Did you paint the deck?) ranked as highest determinants of sexual happiness.

Indeed, the women rated these factors, along with the sexual satisfaction of partners, as more important than achieving orgasm. Zoldbrod explains that, for women who thought that they had to abide by the Masters & Johnson four-step model to achieve orgasm, and sexual happiness, this is all good news.

Now wait just a pre-plateau minute.

How can it be progress that women's sexual happiness is now, as it has always been, largely determined by how helpful, understanding and supportive men are outside the bedroom? After all, we've all heard about the guys who are terrific empathizers and listeners—only when they want sex. At other times, they tend not to focus on women with the same level of enthusiasm. "That's true a lot of the time," says Zoldbrod. A challenge exists, she says. "Women (heterosexual women) are still in charge of picking a man they love and asking men for what they want, and asking specifically for what they need sexually," she says.

Even the most sexually assertive women we interviewed for this story had not nailed down that elusive combination; of course, we only talked to single women without long-term partners.

All that can wait, anyway.

The first thing a woman has to do is what men have done forever: Figure out what works for them. Currently Zoldbrod is all worked up over the EROS-clitoral therapy device, a prescription product recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that can draw blood into the clitoris, allowing it to swell, aiding previously inorgasmic women to climax.

Zoldbrod is not recommending the pump as an alternative to sex with a partner but says it holds much promise for previously inorgasmic women: "Who could you really ask for 20 minutes of oral sex each day? I mean, without feeling like you had to do something for them?"

(It's a rhetorical question, but can be fun to consider.)

Zoldbrod, certified by the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists (AASECT), does not want to say anything that could intimidate men. See, as women become more sophisticated, more savvy, more likely to turn on a Rabbit, men are starting to feel the pressure. In this ugly Catch-22, men are less likely to want to worship us in bed. Or come to bed, for that matter.

"I love women, but I love men, too," says Zoldbrod. "Men are much more fragile. I am really worried about putting forth anything that makes men get hooked on Viagra or seek out penis enlargement" (another growing trend). Katherine, a 33-year-old office administrator and afore mentioned sexual tigress, doesn't have much patience for the intimidated man. (Like her Back Bay peers, she agreed to be interviewed for this article on the condition she be identified by her middle name only.) A regular customer at Eros Boutique in the South End, Katherine recently purchased the Rabbit for her friend Dana—after she watched *Sex in the City*'s Charlotte became so attached to hers that her friends staged an intervention.

"I have a problem with men not knowing anything about women's bodies," says Katherine. "I don't have any problem with showing, telling, teaching."

The problem, she says, (repeating a top complaint cited by Kinsey Institute respondents) is when men simply don't listen.

"I think there are certain things that all men should know," says Katherine. "Like women's clitorises cannot be physically touched until they are aroused, or it's usually painful," says Katherine. "Have I interrupted a guy and taken out my *Good Sex* book? You're damned right I have." Hearing Katherine talk, you can begin to understand why Zoldbrod is worried about men becoming intimidated. "I trained this one guy," Katherine recalls proudly. "He was a dynamo when I was done. I was so proud of him." So, does all this know-how make for a sexually satisfied woman? Not these days, admits Katherine.

"Actually, now that I'm older, I'm looking for one partner who can put up with me, and I can put up with, to explore life with," she says.

"I don't want to be married, but I don't want to be standing around with those club kids." Then, she admits: "I think a lot of men do get intimidated by me."

Dr. Daniel Pollets, a Wakefield sex therapist, adds: "A lot of men feel that a sexually demanding woman wants something they cannot provide." The same sort of double-edged sword that exists around this issue of knowledgeable women confounding men also exists in medicine, he says.

"The advances in medicine sometimes mislead men into thinking that a pill can make them good lovers," explains Pollets.

At McLean Hospital's renowned Human Sexuality Program, director Suki Hanfling says the burgeoning areas of work are low sexual desire (on behalf of men and women, stressed medically or otherwise) and the Internet: "Many more people are struggling with compulsive behavior, compulsive masturbation, getting caught up, and then addicted to the visual thing," says Hanfling.

Often, that sort of behavior actually leads to lower desire with a physical partner, she says. The Internet may make coffee-date connections more accessible, but it also provides endless opportunities to engage strangers in fantastical sex. "Many times, that compulsive behavior leads to a loss of desire with a real-life physical partner," Hanfling says. Terrific sex can only occur when partners trust one another enough to show their vulnerabilities and express their desires, she says. The Internet allows users to do all that anonymously, with-

When *Sex in the City*'s Charlotte got too attached to her new vibrator—the Rabbit—her friends were forced to stage an intervention.



Eros Boutique manager Taryn Bianchin displays the Rabbit, a vibrator that is revving up plenty of Boston women, judging by its popularity. The battery-operated sex accessory usually costs $85.

OPPOSITE PAGE: PHOTO BY DEB DILA; ASSISTANT: ERIC HESS; MODELS: KELLY NICKERSON/ GUSTAF MODEL; BRETT/ CLICK MODEL OF BOSTON; FLOWERS PROVIDED BY WINSTON FLOWERS; THIS PAGE: PHOTO BY TRACY POWELL

out risk, until they find themselves addicted to the fix—the guaranteed arousal and orgasm.

The young professionals Pollets sees may not be suffering from a serious addiction, though they may be struggling to understand why their formerly razzle-and-dazzle sex lives have dimmed.

"For really good sex, you need a sense of intimacy," says Pollets. "It's about commitment and sacrifice, and this is not easy to find among 20- and 30-something men and women on the fast track these days."

For really good sex, you might need intimacy, but you could also try some of the toys and tools offered at Grand Opening! sexuality boutique. At the Brookline shop, blow jobs are part of the curriculum. As is cunnilingus. Owner Kim Airs teaches classes to legions of men and women who don't know what they are doing down there.

With Airs to thank, small armies of newly educated heterosexual men, about 760 each year, march forward from her shop, determined to go where so many have gone before, only this time with new navigation skills.

She was among those sex specialists invited to the October conference in Boston, and she has mulled some statistics, like the one that says African-American women included in the survey were more likely to be happy. (Researchers caution reading too much into that statistic without further research.)

"No matter who they are, men and women, gay or straight, black or white, all my customers seem so much more savvy these days," says Airs. "I can't just get them the newest toy on the block. I have to make sure it's great."

So, it's not just a TV image. We are better informed than ever. Why aren't we happy yet?

"The access to the information is there but the line we have to draw is whether you want to accept personal responsibility for sexual happiness," says Airs.

"You have to take responsibility for changing your sex life. Is it because you are uncomfortable with your body? You don't like your partner? You need a larger penis? You'd rather have a vibrator?' "asks Airs. "There's a big chasm between what's available and what people are willing to learn."

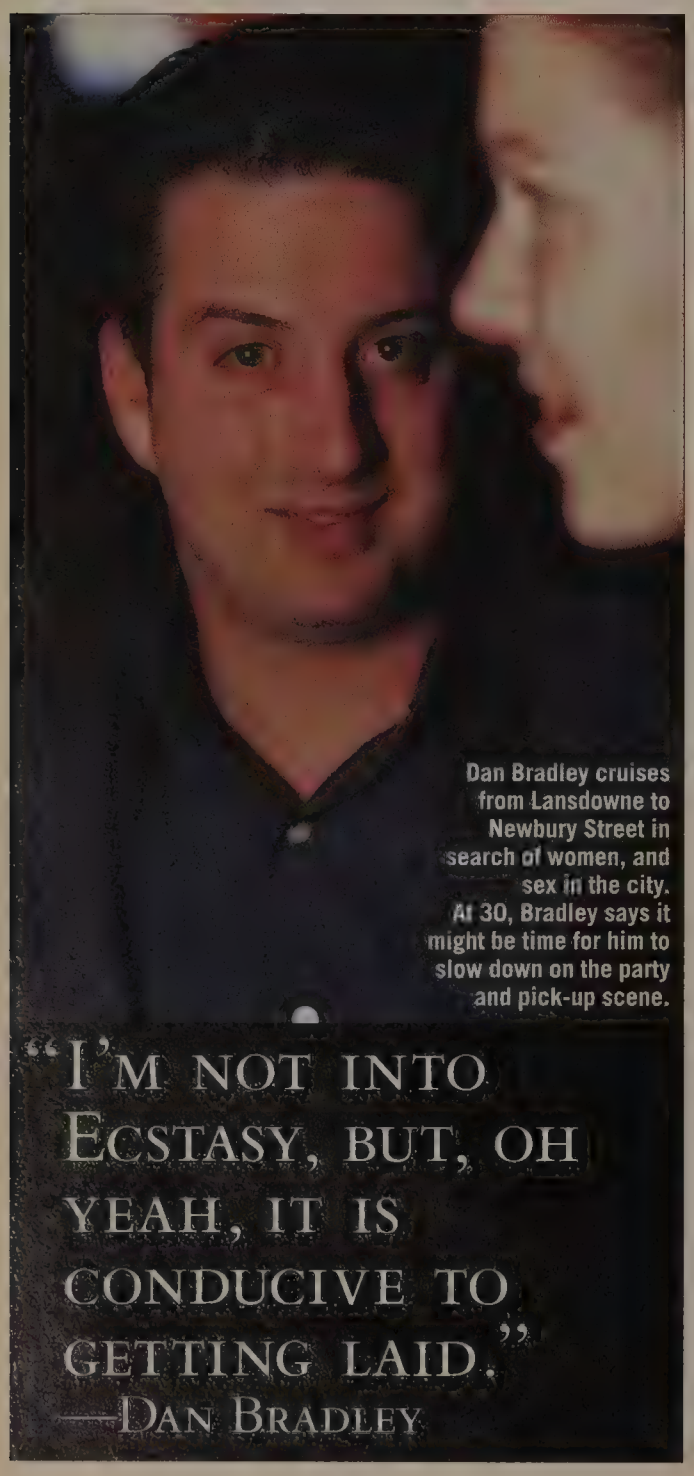
Young Will (a Boston consultant we found by asking several men to point to a friend) has a lot to learn, he knows. At 24, he has been around the block, as they say, but he feels as if he is still on training wheels sometimes. The idea of someone teaching cunnilingus classes is a terrific one, he says.

"I want... to be a star," says Will, referring to his future as a lover. With all the solemnity usually reserved for wedding vows, Will says: "I do. I think I'm OK now, but I want to keep getting better and better.

"I get the feeling, just from watching my parents over the years, that my father wasn't much of a star." Will is the only one among his group of male friends who likes to talk about sex, beyond confirming that it occurred.

"I love the detail. I'm very interested in the process. I like to ask questions like 'What happened? What did you do? Did she seem happy about it?' " Still, he acknowledges he is at a disadvantage.

"I don't have any friends who would be, um, considered experts, I don't think," he observes. Will initiated his current romance (he met her at the Rhino Bar) based not only chemistry, but commonalities, like an interest in Cuba.



Dan Bradley cruises from Lansdowne to Newbury Street in search of women, and sex in the city. At 30, Bradley says it might be time for him to slow down on the party and pick-up scene.

"I'M NOT INTO ECSTASY, BUT, OH YEAH, IT IS CONDUCIVE TO GETTING LAID."
—DAN BRADLEY

DRUGS AND (UN)SAFE SEX

If Will (who asked that his last name be withheld so that his father's reputation wouldn't be impugned) is representative of a new attitude among men who want to learn all they can about women's bodies (we can only hope), then he's also a standard bearer for a far less admirable cultural shift away from condom-only sex.

Safe sex, he says, is something he has felt guilty about in recent years. "All the time?" he says, repeating the question, stalling. "Well, if she wants me to wear a condom, I will definitely go with it," he says, obviously embarrassed about his lack of vigilance in this area. "There is this conversation that people have. They ask, 'Have you been tested?' " Will says that if both people say yes, that's usually the end of the discussion.

Will has never heard of human papillomavirus, (HPV) the most common sexually transmitted disease today, spread by men and women through touching and kissing (skin-to-skin contact).

There is no solid statistical data more current than 1995 that examines whether singles today take safe sex less seriously than they did 10 or 15 years ago. It is, say many specialists, just a vibe you get, in some young homosexual and heterosexual circles. "I think there are younger people who didn't see what happened with the AIDS crisis," says Tracy Swan, HIV/Hepatitis C outreach education coordinator for the Cambridge Health Alliance. "And they feel invincible. Nothing can stay a crisis in people's minds for 15 years."

A more visible change on the city's sexual landscape is the increasing number of people floating around on Ecstasy. Cheaper and more accessible than quality marijuana or cocaine, Ecstasy enhances tactile senses. Everything, from skin to silk, and your friend's hair, just plain feels better.

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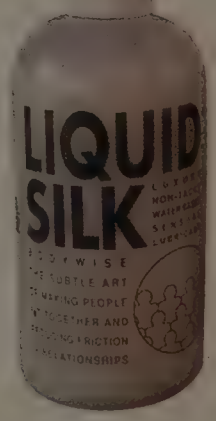


A handful of local sex boutiques are owned and managed by women who will counsel you and yours on the newest products. There are also erotic bookstores, Web sites and catalogs filled with enough information and technology to guide men and women to new frontiers.

Start by logging on to ***www.literotica.com***. This site is dedicated to the fine art of sexual arousal through the spoken word.

Then walk to the South End, where **Eros Boutique** caters to couples interested in role-playing. The store has a great selection of leather, latex and rubber. The Fantasy Kit is a great starter for those interested in fetish fun. It includes a blindfold, leather slapper, a cockring, feathers and directions. *581A Tremont St. 425-0345; www.erosboutique.com.*

Or, try **Grand Opening!** sexuality boutique in Brookline for how-to sex classes, the latest sex toys, the most recent sex-education books, erotic literature and gifts. Great for beginners and sexperts alike. *318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Coolidge Corner, Brookline; 731-2626; www.grandopening.com.*



There's also **Downtown Books** in Chinatown for a top-shelf collection of classy erotic videos—we're talking high class flicks here, with fabulous wardrobes and sets. Heterosexuals, check out Andrew Blake's *Paris Chic*. For gays, explore Kristen Bjorn's *Jungle Fever*. *697 Washington Street; 426-7644.*

Over in Cambridge, **Hubba Hubba** caters to cross-dressers and carries the largest selection of corsets in the area (so popular with the Goth crowd). *534 Massachusetts Ave.; 492-9082; www.hubbahubba.com.*



And finally, the national franchise, **Amazing**, carries sex toys ranging from the $31.99 Adonis Pouch, a latex testicle stimulator for him, to the Rabbit Pearl vibrator with tickling pink ears for her, which ranges from $85 to $100. *1258 Boylston St., 859-8911; 57 Stuart St., 338-1252; www.amazingexpress.com*

—Barbara Mattaliano

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"The proliferation of designer drugs throughout the scene has become quite an issue," says Roxy nightclub artistic director Lisa DesPres. "In fact, the whole nightclub industry has come together to figure out how to handle it," says DesPres. (So far, the only result seems to have been the policy of refusing free water, which is all the E crowd usually seems interested in drinking.)

"You'd suddenly start to notice that everywhere [you'd go] people had that 'glazed-over' expression, invariably accompanied by an extreme absence of inhibition," Des Pres continues. "Personal boundaries virtually disappeared. The whole phenomenon removed any opportunity for people to get to know each other under normal, healthy social circumstances."

The effects of Ecstasy on the city's current sexual culture should not be underestimated, according to Dan Bradley, 30. "I am not into E," explains Bradley. "But, oh, yeah, it is conducive to getting laid."

Consider yourself warned: Bradley talks about women as if they are wind-up toys. ("I liked her but I couldn't shut her up. It was like Fran Drescher. I had to get rid of that one.")

Bradley is not joking when he says he has satisfied plenty of Boston women.

"I'm told I should be making movies," says Bradley, referring to his alleged prowess in bed.

But don't make him out to be an asshole, he asks. All he's doing is playing the game. And women know the rules. "It's not even like I'm a big stud or anything," he says. "I'm not so great looking," he offers.

Bradley's on an even playing field, he swears.

"One woman actually said to me "We can be f--k friends," Bradley says. (Maybe she watched the *Sex in the City* episode dedicated to "f--k buddies," a term that excuses both parties of any responsibility, or commitment, such as taking your buddy home for Christmas. Bradley wishes American women would act more like the foreign women he met during a military stint. "French girls, Italian girls, they will guide you," he explains. "A German girl taught me how to kiss. She said 'No, no, like this.' American women don't do that," complains Bradley, turning the table on women who insist that most men do not chat enough before, during or after sex.

Bradley proved that he really does represent what's going on "out there" when he says that, on his recent birthday, he "was drinking Red Bull and Stoli at Whisky's" when he picked up a woman. (Trendy clubbers are drinking that jacked-up sugar-and-caffeine concoctions at all the popular nightclubs.) "Anyway, yeah, we had a couple of return trips," he says (alluding to repeated sexual encounters with the same partner). "The woman, says Bradley, was happy to be starring in his show. Then, one day, she wasn't.

"She started asking me about the future," he says, whispering the last two words so they are barely audible.

"Like, she wanted to go to Disney World," he says. "What is this? I don't know what I'm having for breakfast tomorrow."

He cannot figure out why women get upset with him, since he has been honest with them since the first time they met—most likely at last call. Typically his relationships stretch a few weeks before he is accused of being non-committal. "I tell people I am happily divorced. I have a 6-year-old, and aside from him and work, I am only out to have a good time." Is Bradley sexually satisfied? Definitely. Sort of. Turns out that Bradley's sexual rampage is one-part revenge, an angry reaction to his former wife having been unfaithful. (He acknowledges that he pretty much neglected the relationship while in the Army.) The Natick native is not alone, either. "In the city, all my friends are single and they are totally 'ripping it up' (enjoying sexual conquests). Maybe Bradley is headed for a lifestyle change, though: "Now that I'm 30, I gotta start kicking it down" (taking it easy).

SWING YOUR PARTNER

Bradley is among the people THE IMPROPER found who say they recently were invited to a "swingers" party. "It's wild, what's going on out there in the suburbs. Those people in the 'W' towns."

Of course, it's not just towns like Waltham and Weston. Several popular Web sites invite couples and singles who want to participate in threesomes, as a participant or observer, to log on and find others like them. Then, there are the house parties. No, it's not just a suburban legend, confirms Grand Opening's Airs, "Swinging is on the upswing," she says.

The IMPROPER spoke with one woman who several sources point to as the premier "swinging" party host. There's no pressure, says the woman. Some invitees stay clothed; others sit naked in the hot tub, sipping wine. Most people like to watch the woman who dresses in leather and masturbates in a dentist's chair. (No, we forgot to ask whether she brings the chair; the neighbors actually think it's a Pilates machine.) Alcohol and drugs are definitely discouraged, says the hostess. "I think it takes a lot of courage to do something like swinging," Airs says. You have to have a pretty good foundation in your relationship to let somebody else have sex with your partner."

In California and Florida, of course, there are registered clubs, venues for just this sort of thing. "Everything is just coming out of the closet in Boston," says the publisher of *Private Games*, a Boston paper advertising for adults only. "Bisexuality is out there. Fetishism is out there. Swinging is out there," he says. "We're going to look back on all this and say it was the start of another sexual revolution."

Not so fast, says 41-year-old Mary Ellen O'Reilly (interviewed by the IMPROPER after she was overheard saying *Sex in the City* was offering only a sampling of how sordid things had become). "There's still a lot of 'good-girl' and 'bad-girl' attitudes out there," says O'Reilly. She continues: "If you are single, then you have the right to abstain, or to date. At some point, those dating experiences may turn into sexual experiences. I don't think people are prepared to start thinking of women as sexual equals."

Elisabeth the Virgin (whose status was confirmed by all three of her roommates) is currently considering whether to tell her current flame she has not yet experienced intercourse. Elisabeth is a virgin with an asterisk, a modern-day virgin who has, as they say, done everything but. Recently she saw her television persona reflected in *Sex in the City's* Charlotte, who put off intercourse with her fiancé until the couple's wedding night only to find that he could not rise to the occasion. The episode was ominous for her.

"I was just telling my roommates I want to experience more than one person before I get married," she says.

"It's exciting. I tell my Mom: 'The wild times you had way back when are back.'

"Things are the same today—only different because we know more." Then, not so sure after all, she finishes: "At least I hope we do." IB

SEX BY THE NUMBERS

Information and communication add up to safe, great sex.

Sex can be a high-risk activity. Now that the initial AIDS scare in the United States is 15 years behind us, many health specialists worry that young men and women feel a false sense of security about sexually transmitted diseases now that the safe-sex message has kicked around so long.



Cambridge Health Alliance Outreach workers spread the word on safe sex. From left: Maria Ramos, Tracy Swan and Janel Monteiro

Consider these startling statistics: one-fifth of the U.S. population has an STD, according to the American Social Health Association, (ASHA). Less than half of U.S. adults ages 18-44 have been tested for an STD other than HIV. Currently the most common sexually transmitted disease (STD) is something called the human papillomavirus (HPV). Martha Kleinerman, GYN coordinator and nurse practitioner at Planned Parenthood in Brookline says there's an 80 percent risk of being exposed to HPV if you've had more than four partners. "The HPV virus is the most common viral STD," says Kleinerman. "It's highly contagious and spreads through skin-to-skin contact." Some carriers will never show any symptoms. Others will experience genital warts, and in women, the virus can lead to cervical cancer. "There is no cure for the disease; doctors are working on vaccines."

Tracy Swan, HIV/Hepatitis C outreach education coordinator for the Cambridge Health Alliance, specializes in Hepatitis C prevention (which is spread mostly through needles or blood transfusions received before 1992). Her goal is to educate men and women, straight and gay, about safe sex. "We're not trying to frighten people," says Swan, referring to her outreach team, pictured above. "We're telling them there are really smart, safe ways to have a healthy, wonderful sex life." For more info., call the Cambridge Health Alliance HIV line at 591-6767; or the Mass. Dept. of Health STD prevention line at 983-6940. Or visit one of the following sites:

http://safersex.org: Practical tips and links to plenty of information.

http://www.goodvibes.com: Shop online for water-based lubricants (latex and petroleum-based products are not a good mix).

http://www.io.com/~wwwomen/contraception: By women for women.

http://www.xandria.com: Smart answers to your embarrassing questions.

http://www.safedreams.com: Sexual novelty shop with great product selection.

—Barbara Mattaliano

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From artful to raunchy, from voyeurism to exhibitionism, the IMPROPER exposes Boston's world of amateur porn.



PORN FOR DUMMIES

BY RACHEL STRUTT • PHOTOGRAPH BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Pop in your average commercial skin flick and after a scant few minutes of foreplay, the zealous, slippery porn stars are fully engaged in sex, be it intercourse, sixty-nine, a *ménage à trois*, or any other sex act in the standard porn repertoire. It may be titillating for 10 minutes or so, but generally, such scenarios lose their luster with every pelvic thrust. When sex becomes rote and formulaic, it can become very dull, very fast.

"Porn is incredibly boring," says Lisa, former editor-in-chief for *Excitement* magazine, an adult-entertainment publication. "It's the same music, the same people. Knowing the industry as I do, [porn] does absolutely nothing for me." (Like most people interviewed for this article, Lisa prefers to go by first name only.) Matthew, an amateur porn buff who lives in an affluent North Shore town, concurs: "People are tired of glossy, slick, overproduced porn in stores—it wears thin as you get older. Amateur erotica is very different because it is unpredictable." Of course there are billions of people worldwide—predominantly men—who aren't bored with professional, superslick porn; and the Internet has only added fuel to the already-smoking porn film industry. But there are growing legions of people, including many Bostonians, who are bypassing professional porn films in favor of the amateur variety.

As Lisa explains: "There are two distinctly different markets for adult video: There are people who like the gloss, or the artsy look, and a narrative. Then there are people who like amateur porn; these are the people who like looking through someone else's keyhole." It's no surprise that a fair number of people enjoy peeping into the sex lives of others—especially when you consider America's current obsession with

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voyeuristic TV shows such as *Survivor*, MTV's *Real World* and the more recent *Temptation Island* on Fox—but this is only half of the amateur porn equation. There is also an eager group of Bostonians sampling the flip side of voyeurism: exhibitionism. A film, after all, needs a star—whether it's Candida Royale or your next-door neighbor.

Leading the homegrown porn movement on the local level is Kim Airs, owner of Grand Opening! sexuality boutique in Brookline, and curator of You Oughta Be in Pictures, a hugely successful film festival held at the Coolidge Corner Theatre, now in its second year, which features amateur erotic films. "Whenever I get inspired to teach class, or do an event," says Airs, "it's in response to demand. So many people were saying, 'I've always wanted to shoot a porno movie and show it on the big screen.' So I put out a call for videos, mostly at the store." Airs assures people the films won't be let out of her sight—in other words, those who bare their selves and souls won't become the next Tommy Lee and Pamela Anderson of the Web. As for content, Airs welcomes anything that people consider sensual or sexual as long as it doesn't include animals or children. People can show their faces or keep them concealed in the shadows.

ON THE BIG SCREEN

Last year, about eight videos were submitted, running the gamut from modest to shocking. Unlike professional porn with its "fluffers" and stunt genitalia, amateur stuff is closer to the real thing. "I threw in a bunch of my own, because I like to set an example. It doesn't have to be fancy; there's a beauty in something raw." Airs' work was not only raw—with its extended golden-shower segment, it was racy and explicit.

Another film at last year's festival showed a woman wearing a wig who stripped to a Nine Inch Nails song. "She was just dancing," says Airs. "For her, that was really sexy." A very short film, more about artsy abstraction than realism, featured close-ups of vulvas accompanied by a score of "Ave Maria." And one of the most remarkable—and to some, excruciating—films featured a man masturbating, the camera focusing on the lower half of his body. "He made this contraption," says Airs, "with clothespins and yarn. The clothespins were attached to his balls and connected to his toes with yarn. When he was about to come, he yanked his toes, which pulled the clothespins off his balls. It was this thing that he made for pleasure; he made it because he loves it. He was sharing an incredibly intimate moment."

The 2000 premier of You Oughta Be in Pictures was fraught with nervous tension and titillation, not only for the exhibitionists who proudly shared their celluloid sex stints, but for the viewers who were sitting among the evening's amateur porn stars. At the end of the screening, Airs asked the evening's film celebs to stand up if they wanted to take credit for their work; they all stood up to great applause. "The audience went nutso," says Airs. "These people were saying: 'I have no shame for what I've done, and that's pretty cool."

You Oughta Be in Pictures is the only amateur film festival of its kind. "There's not even something like it in San Francisco," Airs assures. Last March, the festival sold out the 600-seat Coolidge Corner Theatre; some people even tried to scalp tickets. This year, the one-night festival will be held March 13, and Airs is already getting calls about tickets although no tapes have yet been submitted. "Everybody wants to watch," says Airs, "but the percentage of people who want to participate is still very slim. Being a voyeur is a little dirty secret that all of us have—and a night like this at the Coolidge legitimizes it."

GEEKS ON FILM

Another local venue for amateur porn is Massachusetts Institute of Technology's increasingly famous, and now completely free, geekporn.com. The site, founded by recent MIT grad Anna Dirks, features sometimes beautiful, sometimes hilarious pornographic fodder created by MIT students. In addition to porn photos, erotic stories and recipes (illustrated by saucy, nude MIT students-*cum*-chefs), there are a few amateur porn films. Recently, the site included a film called *Personal Freak Show*, a work in which the male filmmaker zoned in on his body, offering abstract and surreal corporeal landscapes—like a forest of hair on his leg. But *Freak Show* is not only artsy, it's wonderfully absurd; one scene features a singing anus and another a bespectacled penis.

Another film recently featured on the site was *Vamπyre: When M.I.T. Girls Go Bad* (also called *Clam Stroker's Dracula*), a 1999 Anna Dirks project about a gaggle of nerdy MIT girls who go to a nightclub owned by vampires. One of the film's stars, geekporn model Andrea Wiles explains: "Anna was doing her senior thesis on lesbian erotica and porn and found that there wasn't any good porn featuring women, for women. So a group of six of us started to write and edit *Vamπyre*, our own erotica. It's not very explicit; it's mostly bondage and us wearing a lot of fetish gear. Dirks had learned through her research that it was the suggestion and the story that mattered for women, rather than overt sexuality and graphic imagery." Wiles reports there's talk of a *Vamπyre* sequel.

> "IT'S SOCIALLY MANDATED THAT PEOPLE CAN'T LOOK AT YOU HAVING SEX. IT'S TABOO—AND BREAKING THAT TABOO IS A HUGE TURN-ON FOR SOME PEOPLE." —LISA

Of course, amateur porn film stars willing to show their work on the big screen or the Web are not shy creatures. "It's socially mandated that people can't look at you having sex," says Lisa, the former *Excitement* editor. "It's taboo—and breaking this taboo is a huge turn-on for some people." Given America's fame-worshipping culture, it's also easy for people to equate being in a film or on the Web as a way to boost celeb status or one's self-worth. "In the professional porn industry," Lisa continues, "85 percent of the people have low self-esteem and are participating for the wrong reasons."

Filmmaker and critic Charlene Gilbert, a Bunting Fellow at Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study who has taught classes on gender and film, believes that whether it's amateur or professional porn, there are certain questions—relating to control and power—that need be asked if you're going to participate. For example, she says, "Who's in front of the camera and who's behind it? Is the person in front of it a consenting adult? There are sleazy guys out there who film women having sex with them, without their knowledge."

On gender, Gilbert says, "Women are definitely trained to be watched from a very young age. The media defines women as objects to be viewed—for men's pleasure." So it follows that women may find it easier than men to flaunt their flair for erotic drama. And on a local scale, it's not surprising that it's women like Kim Airs and the geekporn team who are basking in the amateur porn spotlight.

These women, it is readily clear, *are* in control and seem comfortable with their erotic filming projects—using amateur porn not simply for arousal, but as a vehicle for open sexual expression and a way to challenge society's social mores. "Geekporn was the perfect extension for my life," says Wiles. "Sex is not something that should be hidden." Lola, another geekporn model and actress in *Vamπyre*, adds: "I got involved with geekporn to show a different side of MIT. People tend to think of us holed up in rooms working on math problems. Geekporn infuses geekiness with pornography."

SAFE SWAPPING

Say you make a great home porno flick, something you're eager to share with other amateur aficionados, but you're looking for a scale less daunting than the big screen or the Web. Enter amateur porn buff Matthew, one of the stars of last year's You Oughta Be in Pictures film fest and founder of Swapscout.com. "The night after showing the film I made with my partner," says Matthew, "I was lying in bed thinking about how there are all these amateur porn fans who would like to be hooked up. But there's a risk factor."

So last June, Matthew launched Swapscout.com, a tape-swapping escrow service for those interested in exchanging erotic homemade videos. People send in videos to Matthew, who views everything to make sure they're "not bogus," and then sends them out as requested (the site profiles people so you can choose with whom you'd like to swap). Because everything is sent through Swapscout, the names and addresses of amateur pornographers remain anonymous. The service, Matthew explains, combines the joys of voyeurism and exhibitionism. "Many people who are voyeuristic are often exhibitionists too; it just hasn't come out of them. The Internet has opened the channels for exhibitionism and voyeurism like nothing else before—whether it's swapping videotapes or real-time conferencing. It creates a safe arena." Although the site has more than 1,700 members and is growing rapidly, Matthew reports, "I'm not really making any money in this, it's mostly a labor of lust."

Swapscout tapes are sent in from all over the country, about 85 percent are heterosexual in content and percent are homosexual. The videos are predominantly filmed using only a camera and a tripod, but a few are created using a cameraperson. Unlike most "real-life" TV, which is ludicrously contrived and hardly a microcosm of reality, amateur porn can indeed offer a semblance of gritty reality. For some viewers, such grit takes some getting used to. Swapscout videos feature a wide range of "stars," ranging in shape and in age—from nubile twentysomethings to impressive 70-year-olds. "It's nothing like the video store variety, which always show the same people," says Matthew.

One typical Swapscout video features a long-haired man and an attractive, giggly woman having oral sex on an old couch in a glamourless, paneled room (the woman spends so much time making love to the camera, it's a wonder her partner doesn't get jealous). "People's sexual behaviors are limited to what you'd guess," says Matthew. "There's a little bit of bondage and masturbation, lots of intercourse or oral sex, and sometimes sex toys. It's usually in a bedroom, on a bed." Trappings of everyday life are rampant; in many videos, the TV creates white noise in the background. "I saw one where a dog jumps up on the bed and starts hanging out with the couple," says Matthew, laughing. "It was hilarious."

Of course, for all those willing to share their erotic escapades with strangers, there are many more closet amateur porn buffs—those who prefer simply making and watching their own creations. "Watching your own film is like looking at a mirror with time warp in between," says Airs. "I encourage many couples to make videos. Pop it in the VCR later and I guarantee it will get you hot." IB

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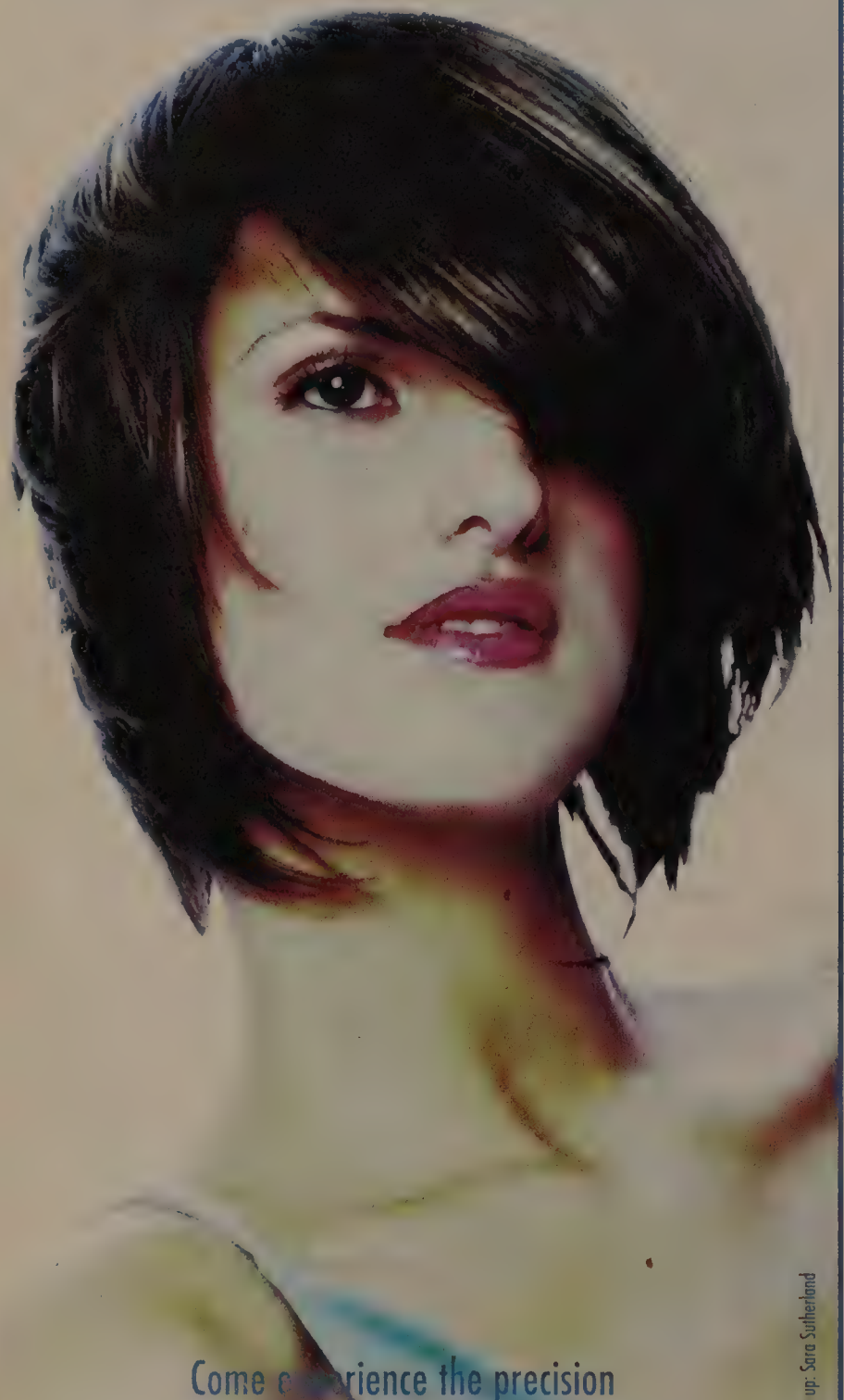
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This page: On her: shag sweater by Georgiou, $49.
On him: Hammond crew neck sweater in blue by Country Road, $78; Hockney pants in black by Country Road, $128.



On her: fringe sweater in eggshell by Georgiou, $100; black velvet hotpants, $48 by Georgiou. $29
On him: Martin colorcoach sweater in various colors by Country Knits, $30; brown corduroy pants by Country Knits, $30.

Gerri sling-back stiletto with ankle strap by Nine West, $69.

On her: pleather funnel neck zipped jacket by Georgiou, $199.
On him: Singleton wool/cashmere pant by Country Road, $ 148.

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Sonny Colazzo for Reinhard

Makeup: Don Rockicki, NYC
Location: Hill Home Forge,
Jim Thorpe, PA
www.hillhomeforge.com

Country Road Australia
140 Newbury
262-3820

Nine West
Copley Place
536-6378

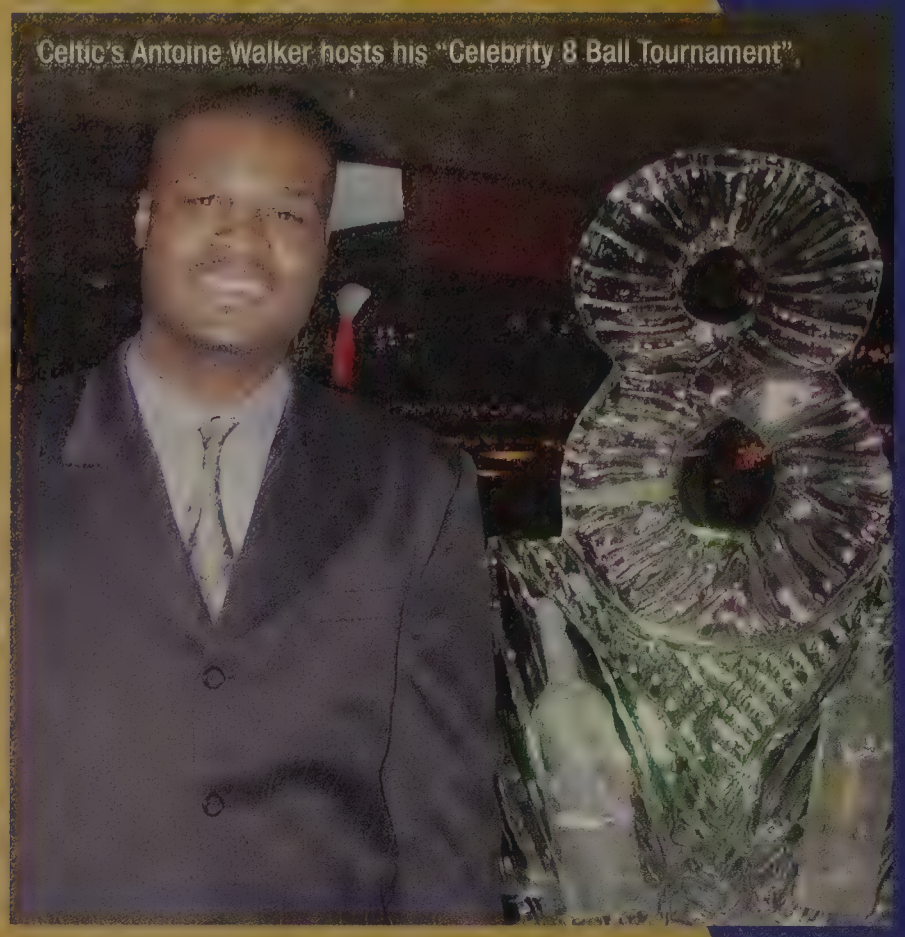
Georgiou
Faneuil Hall
723-7540

Boston's Best 1997 — The Improper Bostonian Magazine

Boston's Best 1998 — The Improper Bostonian Magazine

Boston's Best 1999 — The Improper Bostonian Magazine

Boston's Best 2000 — The Improper Bostonian Magazine



Celtic's Antoine Walker hosts his "Celebrity 8 Ball Tournament".



Amy Zolak with husband Scott.

THE

inside RACK

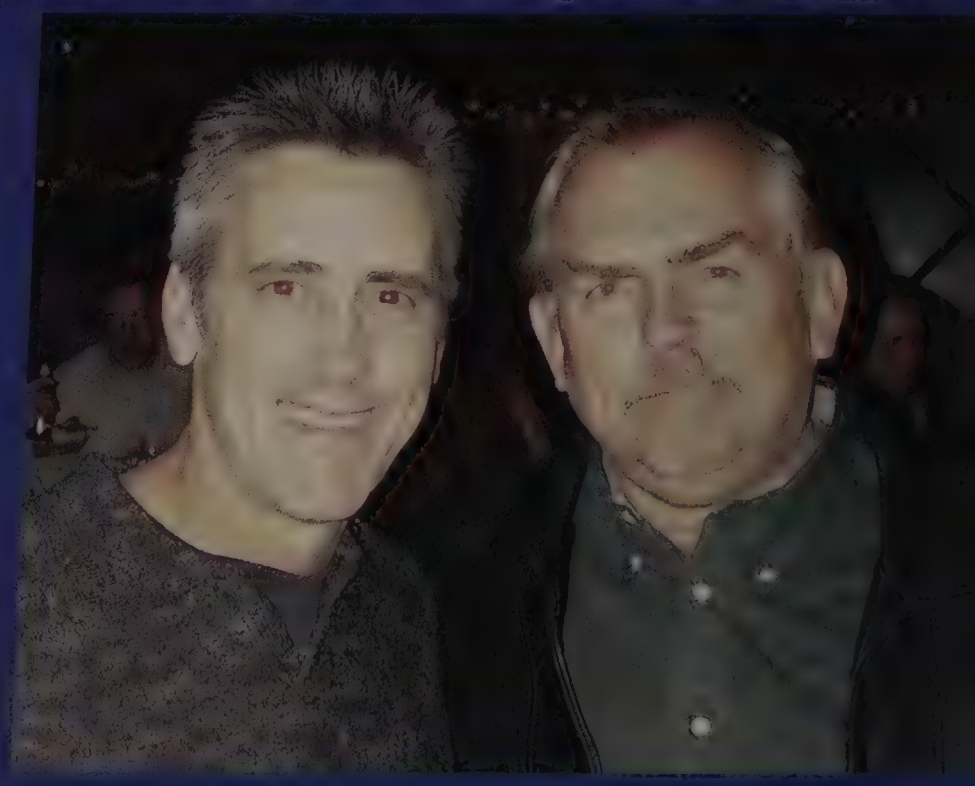
Every Monday — "Celebrity Night" hosted by Backbaybeat.com's S.J. Torres featuring DJ Mike Janedy. Reserve your free VIP pool table by sending an email to: RSVP@backbaybeat.com. Reserve your table now!

Every Friday — Start your weekend off on the right foot! Join Kiss 108's Billy Costa after work for food, fun, live bands and D.J's.

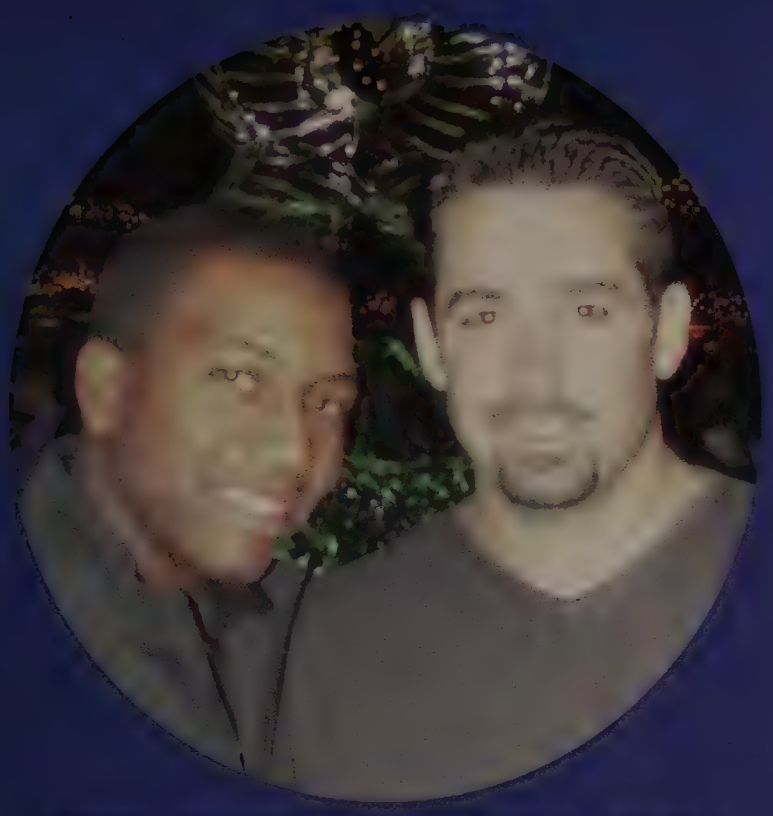
Tuesday, January 18th — Ice Party featuring Mark Morris and The Catunes! VIP Section, light buffet, and enter to win a trip for two to Las Vegas. Don't be left out in the cold! A party not to miss!

Sunday, February [illegible] — Superbowl Sunday Party hosted by Mix 98.5! Watch the Superbowl on our 7 T.V.'s and feast on a mouth-watering buffet! ... The place to be and be scene.

Kiss 108's Billy Costa with John Ratzenberger "Cheers" to a great year!



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NECN's reporter Chris Collins and Red Sox Lou Merloni



Patriot's Troy Brown, Terry Glenn and Bruce Armstrong

RACK



M.L. Carr and Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman.





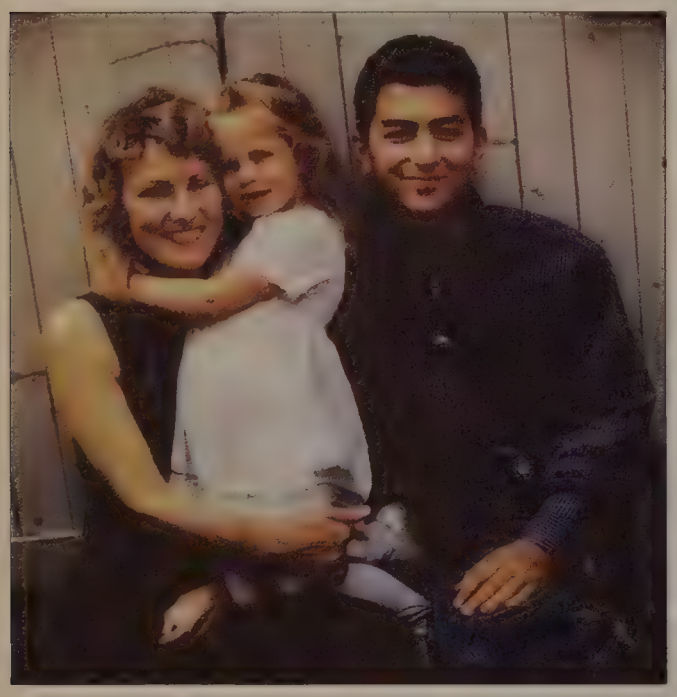
Patriot's Lawyer Milloy and Mrs. Massachusetts Oneta Bobbett

WATCH US LIVE ON WWW.LiveWave.COM!

Mopsy

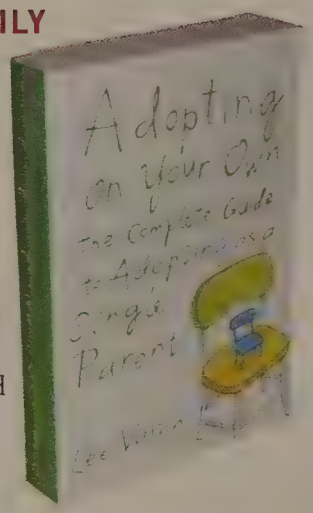
Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

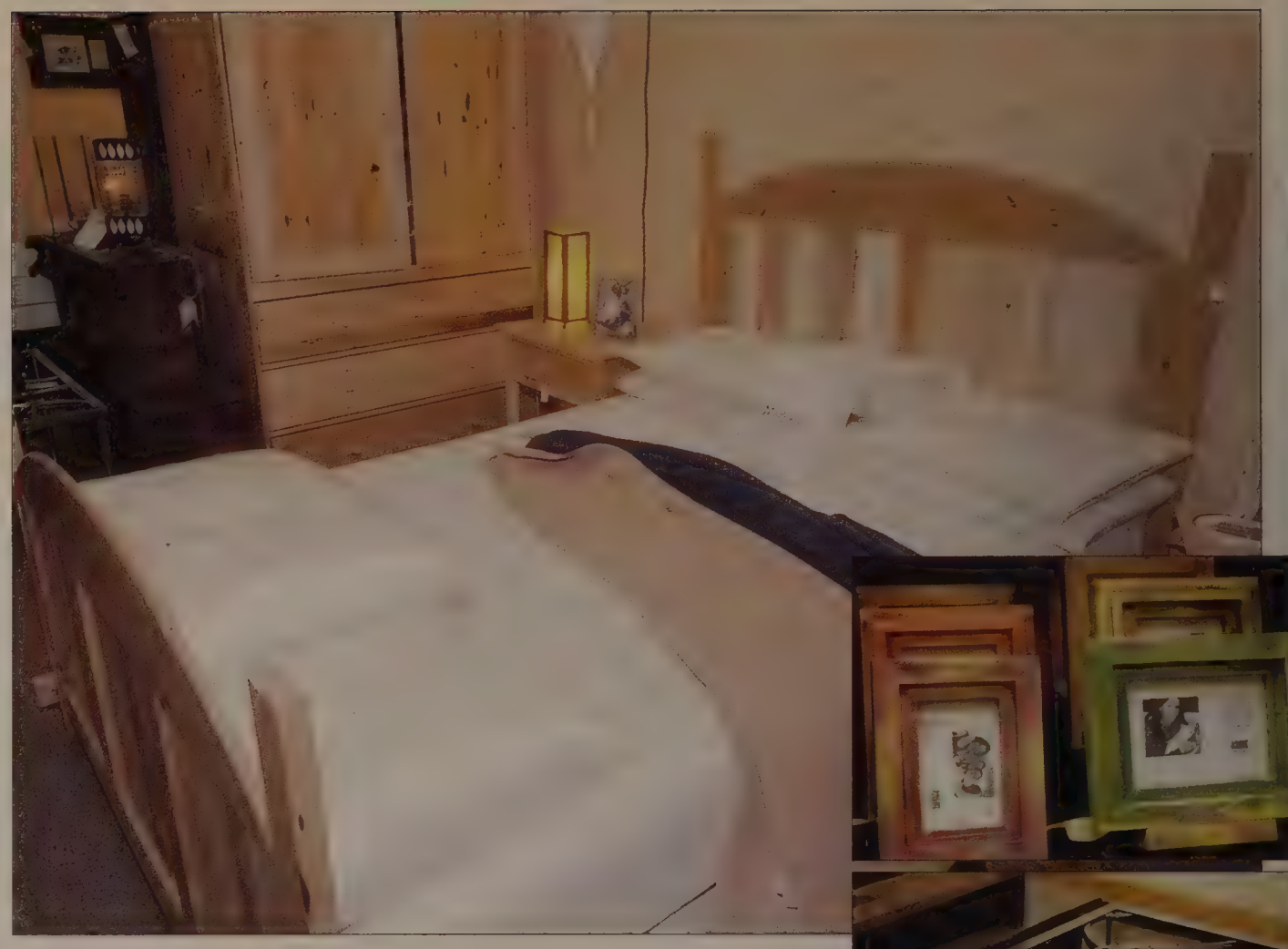


WE TWO MAKE A FAMILY

Adopting on Your Own, by therapist Lee Varon, helps single people with the many issues of solo adoption.



She's single, and she's successfully adopted two children—from El Salvador and Russia. And, as co-director of the Adoption Network, Lee Varon (pictured above with her two adopted children) has helped many single women and men think and work through the numerous emotional, practical and social issues involved in this especially courageous parental venture. Single-parent adoption, both domestic and international, is becoming more common among both gay and straight people. *Adopting on Your Own* covers the terrain of daily life for any family of adoption: recognizing a child's loss, building nurtured attachment and enduring the constant looks of "Hey, you don't look related" from strangers. It also answers the many burning questions that specifically relate to the brave solo parent. Varon offers thought-provoking exercises in self-exploration for potential parents to mull over. For instance: What would a racial difference between you and your child really mean to you personally, in your family and in the sometimes-cruel world? How, without lying, would you describe your true self in an interview with caseworkers? Issues of maternity leave, subsidies, insurance, the meaning of family and sensitivity to cultural differences are also thoroughly explored.



FREE RANGE FURNITURE

Eco Interiors, Environmentally Responsible Home Furnishings, at 694 Broadway in Somerville, 623-0907, brings "sustainable design" to furniture and other fixings.

While ecologically conscious people worry about recycling and planet-soothing, you may not know that this concept also extends to our most enduring household companions: furniture. Gail Bohan, the owner of this interesting store, enthusiastically attends to these principles, in, for instance, gorgeous, capacious beds, night tables, and armoires made of barn wood (whose particular features may be special-ordered; price includes shipping) and other furniture made from those wooden pallets used as beasts of burden by movers, crying out for reuse.Then there's the witty marriage of slope (old skis) and countryside (the laconic, laid-back Adirondack chair) with the former being made into the latter—shiny blue lawn chairs, slatted with skis! Bike gears, with their fascinating starry design, return as bookends and CD holders. Motherboards are transformed into Colonial-style lamps. Old Coke bottles gave up their lives for the store's fleece blankets. The glass pieces are, of course, recycled, and the cotton pieces—shirts, table runners—are organic (which can be good for those with allergies.) There's lots to buy, ingenious and wonderfully worthy, and a million ecological stories behind all the pieces.

BIG AS LIFE

Huge Polaroids by Elsa Dorfman capture individuals, friends, families, plus dog and props. Cost: $1,800 876-6416. Her Web site: *www.elsa.photo.net.*



Elsa Dorfman, for 20 years queen of the giant-sized Polaroid picture—they're 23 by 35 inches—brings together the astonishing "Wow!" of that format with a signature realness and hominess that she lures out of her subjects. Often Dorfman shoots group pictures; it could be to capture a friendship or to celebrate a big anniversary starring a few people or whole familial scads of them. Twenty-four has been her absolute max.

Her pictures of elementary school children casually reveal alliances and exclusions, through insider-snugglings and outsider-sulks. Somehow, subjects, via Web site and gallery acquaintance with her famous oeuvre, converge on the Dorfman style, which she calls "performance art." How posed and formal are they? Formally informal, and vice versa. Do the pictured people know what they're revealing? Partly, but character sort of oozes out sideways. Elsa loves quirks and imperfections and has chronicled some surprisingly joyful women, bald from chemotherapy, in her "No Hair Day" series that was also part of a Channel 2 documentary. Even though the people are often the sneakered affluent, a tinge of old lefty Cambridge is one distinct feature of her photographs, with that raffish black streak lurching across the top and bottom of each picture.

DOREMAN, ECO STORE: WENDY MIMRAN (4)

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INSIDE: Radius' Culinary Olympics; matching wine and food; Boston Cooks!



Diners Carolyn Rohlman and Cindy Wechter are served chocolate mousse by Aquitaine Bis waitress Edlira Joseph.

REVIEW

The Place to Bis

Aquitaine is successfully recreated in Chestnut Hill

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

In a reconnaissance maneuver, Seth Woods and his trusty French legionnaires have ventured from their South End redoubt and taken the suburbs by storm. In November of last year, just a month behind schedule, Aquitaine Bis opened its doors in Chestnut Hill at the site of the former Café Luna. Hoping to duplicate the success at the original Aquitaine on Tremont Street, Aquitaine Bis hit the ground running, with enthusiastic crowds flocking to this stylish new bistro almost from the day it opened its doors.

The style and feel of the original Aquitaine has been replicated in this small strip shopping center. Adorning the dining room: high ceilings with fans and recessed lighting; dark wood paneling; brass railings; a long, narrow mirror above handsome upholstered banquettes; track lighting illuminating framed French posters; and large globe hanging light fixtures. A wrought-iron stand with a vase of flowers marks the entrance, next to the captain's podium. Crisp, white tablecloths and napkins complete the décor. The replication of Aquitaine in its new suburban incarnation is a little too exact: The back of the bar is lined with high shelves containing numerous bottles of wine, all stored standing up and exposed to the light—a no-no for wine aficionados. We assume that turnover of this inventory is rapid enough that this method of storing and displaying the wine will have minimal effects on its quality.

Waiters smartly clad in black vests brought a plate of *amuses bouches* to hold our appetite at bay while we reviewed the menu. These fresh *gougeres*, small Burgundian puff pastries filled with Gruyère cheese, provided just the right touch. Aquitaine Bis' wine list contains a good selection of wines across a broad price range, including several from Southern France, a good source of reasonably priced, full bodied reds. The Pic St. Loup Nuance ($26) boasted a deep purple color and robust flavor. The Chateau la Voulte Gasparets, a 1995 Corbieres, was lighter, but with forward fruit and a good acidic backbone that nicely complemented the food.

Aquitaine Bis' menu follows the program of its South End sibling, with eight appetizers and nine entrees, supplemented by a different special each night of the week. Among the noteworthy appetizers, *vol au vent* of *escargots* and *cepes* ($10), was a lovely, flaky puff-pastry shell filled with delicately sautéed mushrooms and snails, in a sauce redolent of flowery olive oil and finished with a combination of cream and dry Riesling wine. An order of mussels cooked in Sancerre wine, shallots and fresh thyme ($8) yielded a dozen clean, sweet mussels in a heady broth. Finally, we enjoyed the moist and flavorful Gruyère tart with caramelized onion and country bacon ($7). The smoky saltiness of the bacon and the nutlike sweetness of the cheese made a particularly felicitous combination, presented in a tender, flaky pastry. One appetizer we did not sample was the fromage du jour, which we found surprising as an appetizer choice in a restaurant striving for Gallic authenticity.

On to the main courses: Despite its French aspirations, Aquitaine Bis insists on calling its main courses "entrees," an etymological and culinary misnomer. These included pan-roasted chicken with pomme puree and Pleurotte mushrooms ($16). This small but carefully prepared chicken quarter boasted succulent flesh and a warm, earthy mushroom accompaniment. Unfortunately, the chicken was served atop a mound of mashed potatoes in distinctively un-French fashion, the French preferring their presentations in two dimensions. Tuesday's special, cassoulet "Toulousain" with duck confit, garlic sausage and smoked bacon ($18), was pleasant as far as it went, with a small piece of tender, preserved duck, a large segment of hearty garlic sausage and classic white



Chef de cuisine Gabriel Frasca (l) and chef/owner Seth Woods with farm-raised Atlantic salmon. Below: Slow-roasted salmon served on bacon-braised cabbage and apple-rosemary purée with bordelaise sauce.

beans, with a crusty finish. Unfortunately the presentation—service on an ordinary flat plate—lacked the style and signature of the service featured at Aquitaine' s city location. We later learned that the restaurant' s cookware purveyors were delinquent in delivering promised cooking and service items, and we were assured that when they arrive, the presentation of the cassoulet would revert to its traditional copper casserole. We also trust that the flavor of the cassoulet will be "kicked up a notch," to quote Emeril, and that its blandness was not a conscious concession to the perceived timid palate of suburbanites.

One dish that has survived the suburban transfer in glorious fashion was the *filet au poivre* with *pomme gratin*, grilled young onions and cognac cream ($26), a marvelous slab of fork-tender beef infused with aromatic pepper and pan-grilled to a perfect medium-rare turn. The Lyonnaise potatoes, a layered stack of thin, buttered slices, were a superb accompaniment. Steak frites ($21) was a less tender but marvelously full-flavored cut of beef, which arrived rare as ordered, moistened in a piquant sauce flavored with seasoned vinegar. The French fries were impeccably hot and fresh. Finally, but certainly not least, was the bouillabaisse, Aquitaine Bis' Friday special. Served in a clear glass bowl, this casserole of fish and shellfish featured a spectacular broth redolent of the enticing, exotic flavor and aroma of saffron. Finished with crusty croutons slathered with garlic aoili, the Bouillabaisse magically transported us to the South of France.

Desserts included an excellent chocolate mousse ($6), served in a martini glass, accompanied by shortbread biscuits. Its rich, creamy, intensely chocolate flavor belied its pale color. Opting for something simpler and lighter one evening, we were delighted with a goblet of fresh, sweet raspberries, served *au naturel*.



Mr. Woods has successfully transported his popular South End bistro to Newton. The convenience of abundant parking alone will make it a popular dining choice for Newtonians hungry for good food and an inviting ambiance. As Aquitaine Bis receives its full complement of equipment, overcomes some initial tentativeness in seasoning and corrects some minor service lapses (on our first visit, the waiter forgot our appetizer; on our second, the mussels arrived without the traditional *poubelle de la table* to accommodate the shells), it is guaranteed to develop a strong and loyal following. Bon appetit! iB

Aquitaine Bis

11 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (734-8400)

HOURS 11:30am-3pm daily; Sun.-Thu., 5:30-10pm; Fri.-Sat., 5:30-11pm

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DISH

The Flame Games

Schlow & Myers' special culinary Olympics

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

It was an Olympics with all the suspense and none of the scandal. There were no drug tests. The Olympic flame was gas-powered. And if you couldn't stand the heat, you got out of the kitchen. Literally.

Probably the first event of its kind, this culinary competition was planned by **Radius** co-owners **Michael Schlow** and **Christopher Meyers** to celebrate the restaurant's second anniversary. Sixteen contestants—kitchen workers ready to put their spatulas to the test—warmed up at the starting line to face a series of hurdles. The qualifying heats ranged from palate-testing (distinguishing between parsley root and salsify purees, for example) to essential kitchen skills. For hours, as they were awarded points based on speed and technique, participants chopped carrots into *brunoise*; prepared steaks to a perfect medium-rareness; shucked and swallowed oysters; and raced to identify a series of oils infused with 10 different herbs and spices.

Finally, the panel of judges—Myers, Schlow, general manager **Esti Benson** and sous chefs **Jay Caputo** and **Luis Morales**—narrowed the field down to two finalists: cooks **Chad Burns** and **Eric Milley**. Taking a cue from *The Iron Chef*, they were charged with creating at least four dishes using Taylor Bay scallops. Burns, a traditionalist, presented the judges with an exquisitely prepared whole snapper with scallops and vegetables, the centerpiece of four perfectly executed dishes. Milley, wildly imaginative, came up with five dishes, including scallop ice cream with vanilla beans. However, his technique was deemed iffy; some items were overcooked, some undercooked.

The judges conferred. Torn between classicism and creativity, they deadlocked after 45 minutes. And then they announced a tiebreaker: OK, you two, take 20 minutes to make something with bacon.

Burns whipped up a partridge roulade in bacon. Milley served up a fluffy omelette with sage, tomatoes, and bacon...and won the grand prize, a trip to France. Burns' second-place finish earned him a trip to New York, including a cooking stint at **Mario Batali**'s **Babbo**.

Next year: uneven parallel bartenders.

Speaking of awards, **Lucien Robert**, owner of **Maison Robert**, is being awarded one of France's most prestigious honors: Officier del'Ordre Nationale du Merite. A French senator will present the ribboned medal to Robert on Jan. 17 at a gala reception at Maison Robert.



Sixteen Radius cooks faced off in a culinary Olympics to celebrate the restaurant's second anniversary. The victor was cook Eric Milley, whose tie-breaking omelette won him a trip to France.

Bravo—**Biba** is back! And **Stan Frankenthaler**'s **Salamander** has returned, on a grand scale indeed. His satay bar is the ideal setting for impromptu swanky grazing. Check out the minced pork and shrimp satay along with guava glazed pork rib—you'll want to order a bucket of these absolutely luscious ribs. You may also want a Wetnap, but don't expect buckets *or* Wetnaps here—your sticky hands will be soothed with moist towels fragrant with tangerine and anise, presented in a bamboo steamer. A quibble: some of the satays are too big and messy to nibble while maintaining an attractive personal appearance.

Pigalle has opened, quietly but with style aplenty, at 75 Charles Street South in the Theatre District. Chef/owner **Marc Orfaly** and general manager/owner **Kerri Foley** built a solid partnership in their previous positions at **No.9 Park** (Orfaly as sous chef and Foley as GM), and in Pigalle they seem poised to play a key role in the local dining scene. Orfaly's food is very French and very rich—steak *frites* with herbed butter and creamed spinach, cassoulet of duck confit, braised lamb and slab bacon—and the wine list is mostly French, too. Early word is that the *amuse bouche* of poached duck breast on brioche is incredible.

A trustworthy source tells us that **Jasper White** will definitely open another **Summer Shack** at Foxwood Casino. Fish and chips, anyone? iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

Golden Rules For Wine and Food?

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

I have the best job in the world. Here's what a recent day was like: Invite several dozen wine geeks to gather around a table with six radically different bottles and watch them go nuts tasting each one with bite-sized portions of nine different dishes. Observe the complete deterioration of manners and decorum as rabid excitement over the wine-and-food-matching brilliance sweeps through the room. In my line of work, this is called a seminar.

People come expecting the answer, the quick fix, the revealed word. I really enjoy informing them that everything they've learned to this point in their lives is incorrect and that they will leave the seminar changed forever. There are no instructions except to free one's mind and observe what happens in the moment with each new combination of gastronomic chemistry. The goal is to "know thyself" and to record what thyself experiences. Everyone's different, some more so than others, but nobody's wrong.

So at this point everyone registers shock and some people want to leave, which I encourage them to do. I'm supposed to be a Master of Wine and they're here to learn things, not to hear some relativistic crap about how all of our palates are equal and anything goes as long as it makes you happy. I always apologize profusely and confess that I am operating under a bizarre, antiquated theory that the point of wine and food is pleasure rather than adherence to dogma.

With that out of the way, we begin our journey. Tasted blind, it's agreed that Wine A and Wine B are both relatively full-bodied, fruity white wines, with the crucial distinction being that A has more of an oaky, toasty flavor, while B is more sharply acidic. Both in fact turn out to be chardonnays, A from California, B from New England. Which one is better? It depends on what you like. Half prefer one and half the other, but virtually everyone perceives them accurately with a little guidance. The instructions are to decide whether the way each transforms the food flavors is pleasurable or not. So we dive headlong into a poached turban of sole with a tart citrus sauce. I've asked the chef to make the sauces extreme in flavor. The major change is that Wine B seems to have less of a bite. It mellows right out. So does the dish. It's easier to taste the delicious fruit flavors in the sauce and in the wine. Almost everyone agrees. So sour and sour strike this group as a good combination.

The second dish is the same sole dressed with a spicy mango chutney that incorporates sweet, tangy and bitter elements. It overpowers both of the wines and it's hard for anyone to distinguish any reciprocal effect. But the third dish, the sole served with a wild mushroom and hazelnut butter sauce, with slightly bitter greens, is a different story. This accentuates the oakiness of the first chardonnay and it also pumps up the acidity of the second. Arguments break out over which is better and why. It's amazing how much people look around to see if anyone else agrees with them when I ask them to raise their hands and vote. People who don't like big, oaky flavors in their white wine find that the savoriness of the sauce intensifies this is in an unpleasant way, just as those who are turned off by sourness can't stomach it with the second wine. The lesson: These earthy, savory food flavors have an effect quite different from the sauce prepared with citric acidity because they make the wine's dominant flavors stronger rather than milder.

The red wines differ in that one is smooth and fruity, without much tannin (an easygoing Australian shiraz), while the other is high in alcohol and relatively robust (a California zinfandel). The second wine, darker and bolder in flavor, is the group favorite. Our major findings: This hearty zinfandel is a complete bust with a ferociously spicy poached chicken breast made with smoked jalapeño peppers. The combination sets off a chain reaction that everyone agrees is too hot for comfort, although the fruity shiraz is fine at moderating the dish. The chicken breast with a balsamic vinegar, tomato and red wine reduction works beautifully, virtually everyone says, with both wines, making each taste better for different reasons.

Everyone emerges happily two hours later, agreeing that they've learned that there is nothing to learn. I encourage them all to try this at home.

I am happy because once again I have gotten to test my theories out on somewhat willing human subjects. It's all in a day's work. iB

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Boston Wine Expo
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (877-946-3976). www.wine-expos.com. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Jan. 20-21, 1-5pm. $60, $70 at the door.* More than 450 international and domestic wineries from 18 countries pour more than 1,800 different wines. Seminars are held by world-renowned wine experts.

Boston Wine Festival 2000
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (888-660-WINE). www.bhh.com. *Jan. 15-April 6.* This annual three-month celebration of food and wine features more than 50 events, including dinners with wine makers from around the world and educational seminars. •Jan. 17: The Battle of the Cabernets. •Jan. 18: Domaine Chandon •Jan. 22: Chateauneuf-du-Pape •Jan. 23: Benziger Winery •Jan. 25: *Quarterly Review of Wines*: Best of the Best •Jan. 31: Wine & Ethnic Foods with Sandy Block and Chef Daniel Bruce.

Celebrity Chefs Culinary Program
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sat., 1-3pm. Through March 11. $46. The hotel has brought together nine chefs and cookbook authors, including Chris Douglass, E. Michael Reidt and Joanne Weir, for a nine-week program. Participants learn the secrets of master chefs as well as some of the basic techniques in cooking. •Jan. 20: **Stan Frankenthaler**, chef/owner of Salamander. •Jan. 27: **Joanne Weir**, author of *Weir Cooking in the Wine Country*.

An Exotic Blend of Brazil and France: Bomboa
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. Jan. 30, 6-9pm. $52. Chef **E. Michael Reidt** of Bomboa demonstrates the restaurant's most requested specialty dishes and shares professional tips, techniques and recipes.

The Fine Art of Cheese Tasting
5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Jan. 23, 6-9pm or Jan. 30, 6-9pm. $53. Move beyond gouda and brie with Formaggio Kitchen owner **Ihsan Gurdal**. Sample cheeses from around the world, accompanied by wine. Discover the differences between artisan cheeses and farmhouse cheeses and discuss *affinage* (cheese maturing).

Friends of Spinazzola Grand Benefit Dinner
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 15 Arlington St., Boston (781-344-4413). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Jan. 18. $500. This intimate wine dinner features celebrity chefs from around the nation.

Guest Chef Series at Radius
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (426-2526). Jan. 31, 6pm. $150. **Jean-Louis Palladin** and **Michael Ginor** of Hudson Valley Foie Gras join chef **Michael Schlow** for a seven-course dinner.

Oyster Tasting Menu
Rauxa, 70 Union Square, Somerville (623-9939). Jan. 22. $65. This five-course oyster tasting menu features oysters served five ways.

Robert Mondavi Winery
Stonehedge Inn, 160 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsboro (978-649-4400). Jan. 24, 7pm. $105. Robert Mondavi Winery's **Marcia Mondavi** (daughter of Robert) hosts this dinner and wine tasting.

Spinazzola Gala Festival of Food and Wine
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (781-344-4413). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Jan. 19, 7:30pm-12am. $175. This black-tie celebration of food and wine features 120 of Boston's best restaurants and 80 wine makers from around the world.

Wine Dinner Series
UpStairs at the Pudding, Cambridge (864-1933). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every other Wednesday at 7pm. $70. The Wine Dinner Series features flights of wines complemented by Chef **Deborah Hughes**' cuisine. •Jan. 23: West Coast warmth in January: California zinfandel.

Wine Tasting with Lorenzo
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tuesdays, 6 and 8pm. $25. Sommelier **Lorenzo Savona** hosts weekly wine tastings accompanied by hors d'oeuvres. •Jan. 23: Affordable Burgundy (France). •Jan. 30: Rhone reds (France).

TASTY TIDBIT

BOSTON COOKS!

Probably the last thing you want to think about after the carbo-laden holidays is more food, but the Boston Cooks! 10-day celebration of food, wine and cooking is one that will inspire you to diss the diet. The festival begins with the Kitchen & Culinary Expo at the World Trade Center Jan. 26. This three-day expo features more than 100 exhibitors, showcasing the most recent trends and innovations in the kitchen. Watch local and national celebrity chefs cook up their signature dishes, sample the newest foods on the market and buy the latest kitchen gadgets. On the evening of Jan. 29, attend the Boston Cooks! Opening Gala at Le Meridien with celebrity cookbook authors and some of Boston's own stellar chefs. From Jan. 26 through Feb. 4, Boston Cooks! has organized the Dine Around. More than 40 restaurants and cookbook authors combine their talents to create unique meals. Guest authors sign cookbooks and meet fans. *888-SEE-BOSTON or www.bostoncooks.com. —J.S.*



The Oak Room's Laurent Poulain sips wine with chef/author Louis Osteen at the Dine Around.





agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE	54
PERFORMING ARTS	56
ART	60
FILM	64
BOOKS & POETRY	70
EDUCATION	70
DANCE CLUBS	72
MUSIC	74
CLASSICAL MUSIC	76
GAY & LESBIAN	78
BODY & MIND	80
CHILDREN	80
SPORTS	80
AROUND TOWN	81
MARK YOUR DAYTIMER	81

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

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Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

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CityScope, Comedy,

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Film Capsules

improper picks

01•24

Music: Punk Rock City

After former Pixies frontman Frank Black (Black Francis) went solo after the punk band's unfortunate demise in '93, he has since come out with a barrage of rock music, including several albums with the Catholics, who play with Black at Lilli's Jan. 24. Black's self-titled '93 debut album was a foray into pop musings ranging from surf rock to heavy metal. His second, 1994's *Teenager of the Year*, was a diverse, alterna-crowd pleaser. After his third solo album, the harder *Cult of Ray* in '96, he shuffled through labels and recorded with his backing band, the Catholics (seen here). The tour is supporting the band's new release, *Dog in the Sand*, which comes out this month. Always changing and expanding his repertoire of sound, Black is on more of a melodic, linear pop-rock kick these days—although at times still hinting at the post-punk Pixies sound that his fans just won't let him forget. *Lilli's, 608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $10.*



01•13-20

Cityscope: Ice Queen

If you're keeping tabs on the U.S. Figure Skating Championships over at the FleetCenter this week, take note of up-and-comer **Jennifer Kirk**, the current Junior World Champ and hometown heroine from Newton. On Jan. 19 and 20, she'll compete against Olympic medalist and reigning U.S. champ Michelle Kwan in the senior ladies' division. This is only the sixth time that Boston has hosted the championships—and it's the first time in 40 years. Expect more than 300 novice-, junior- and championship-level figure skaters from around the country compete for 12 national titles in the ladies', men's and dance categories—among them world champs Michael Weiss, Sasha Cohen and Chatham native Todd Eldridge. The top three finishers in each category qualify to represent the U.S. in the World Figure Skating Championships in Vancouver in March. *FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Jan. 13-20.*

01•23

Books: All About Hooks

Acclaimed visionary, intellectual and feminist scholar bell hooks (that's right, she goes by lowercase letters only) is known for her advocacy of black female fortitude and outspoken social criticism and deconstructive analysis of race and gender. Hooks has whipped off more than 17 books, numerous essays and works of poetry. Scholars eagerly await her newest work, ***Salvation: Black People and Love***, which will be available in February. *Salvation* continues her passionate quest to explore issues of race, class and gender, and, like her bestselling *All About Love*, it also delves into the meaning of love in American culture. Hooks takes a break from teaching in the English department at City College in New York to promote her new book. She'll share her views at the *Boston Public Library Jan. 23, 6pm. Rabb Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*



01•26-28

Tastings: Lick It Up >>

Today, chefs are celebrities—attaining the superstar status once reserved for movie stars and musicians. Never is this more evident than at **Boston Cooks!**, a weeklong culinary extravaganza featuring a kitchen expo plus a dining festival that pairs national cookbook authors with Boston's best restaurants. Some 30,000 foodies come out of the woodwork to meet their favorite chefs (see Jasper White and Todd English on to the right), get autographs, watch cooking demos and taste gourmet cuisine at the **Kitchen & Culinary Expo** at the World Trade Center. In the evening, food sophisticates can head to one of more than 40 restaurants hosting renowned cookbook authors and order from specialty menus. Participating restaurants include Aura, UpStairs at the Pudding, Centro, Summer Shack, Rialto, Sandrine's, Kingfish Hall, Radius and Bricco. *For details, call 888-SEE-BOSTON or visit www.bostoncooks.com. World Trade Center,Jan. 26-28.*



01•17-02•11

Theater: Phan-tastic

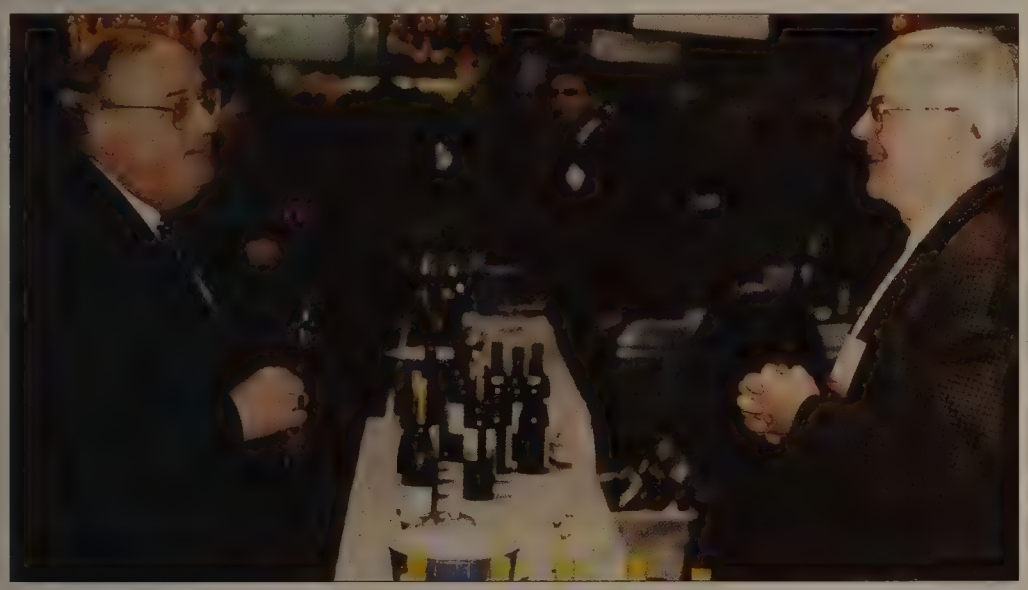
What's new to say about the ***Phantom of the Opera***? You've still got the 1,000-pound chandelier, Andrew Lloyd Webber-isms, the dazzling costumes that evoke five different eras and the tallest candelabra around (14 feet). But in this case old news is good news, and just because nearly everyone's seen it doesn't make the show any less triumphant. If it's your first *Phantom of the Opera* experience (do such people still exist?), it's the story of a masked tragic hero who lurks beneath the catacombs of the Paris Opera House, exercising a reign of terror. He falls madly in love with an innocent young soprano and devotes himself to creating a new star by employing all sorts of devious methods. Musical fans have ample time to see it—it's here for more than three weeks—and Phantom virgins probably should take the plunge.*The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun. 2 and 7:30pm. Jan. 17-Feb. 11. $16-$71.*



01•26&28

Dance: Wild and Swingin'

Few styles of dance capture emotion and passion quite like flamenco, the mournful Spanish gypsy dance. During a four-night stint at the Emerson Majestic, the Flamenco Festival features two of Spain's most celebrated dancers. Known for her flamenco part in Bill Whelan's Riverdance show, María Pagés (left) performs her modern work infused with jazz, pop and classical music with her company of nine dancers on Thursday, Jan. 25, 7pm, and on Saturday, Jan. 28, 8pm. Embodying a more traditional side of the art form is Farruquito, who stamps and claps with his famous Gypsy family. They demonstrate the high-spirited, customary form of flamenco on Friday, Jan. 26, 7pm and Sunday, Jan. 28 at 2pm. Emerson Majestic, 219 Tremont St., Boston (876-4275). $30-$40



01•20&21

Tastings: Winter Wine-derland

One of our favorite events of year, the **Boston Wine Expo**, can also be one of the least memorable—due to the numerous glasses of wine that aficionados consume throughout the course of the day. Yes, we've been told that we're not supposed to swallow every sip (hence, the conveniently conspicuous spittoons), but we're not quite that sophisticated. At this year's wine expo, held at the World Trade Center, 450 international and domestic wineries from 18 countries pour more than 1,800 different wines for tasters to imbibe. There are also plenty of seminars led by world-renowned wine experts for the viticulturist ilk, as well as celebrity chef demos and wine and food pairings. Bottoms up. *Jan. 20 and 21, 1-5pm. World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (877-946-3976). www.wine-expos.com. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. $60, $70 at the door.*

THROUGH 01•28•01

Theater: Ibsen Reborn

Word has it among theater insiders that Broadway has expressed interest in John Baitz's new version of Henrik Ibsen's ***Hedda Gabler***, which ran at the Williamstown Theatre last summer. It received rave reviews and is now playing at the Huntington Theatre. Hedda Gabler, the title character, was a true bitch in every sense of the word. Recently married to a scholar and newly returned from her honeymoon, Hedda is already bored with the confines of coupledom and social convention. She manipulates and ultimately destroys the lives of others as a means of amusement. It's not a happy story. When the show was first produced more than 100 years ago, it was not very popular with audiences due to its modern feminist themes and its unruly coquette as the leading character—but Baitz has "blown off the dust off the 19th-century trappings of the masterpiece while preserving its mysterious psychology," says director Nicholas Martin. *Through Jan. 28. Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun. 2 and 8pm. $12-$55.*

01•19

Education: Jazz Backlash

Documentary wonder-worker **Ken Burns**' *Jazz* has virtually become its own mini-industry—a 10-part film airing on PBS, an accompanying book and a five-CD *Ken Burns Jazz: The Story of America's Music* (Columbia/Legacy). The 22 individual "definitive artist" CDs have even infiltrated Starbucks, where they sit on extraordinarily tidy display shelves. Is nothing sacred? *Jazz* has received so much promotional hype that it has caused more than one weary music critic and jazz lover to cry "Foul!" A session at the BPL, held during the weeks that Jazz premieres on WGBH, addresses the question of whether commercial interests have led to the dumbing-down of jazz. The discussion will also touch upon topics like the place, form and future of jazz. Participating speakers are **Gary Burton**, jazz vibraphonist and executive vice president of Berklee College of Music, **George Russell**, legendary composer, band leader and teacher, and the great jazz vocalist **Carol Sloane**. **Eric Jackson**, host of WGBH's "Eric in the Evening" jazz program, leads the debate. And to keep it upbeat, the Milton Academy Jazz Combo perform before and afterward. *BPL, Boylston St., Boston (536-3886). 6pm. $100 including a reception. Reservation only.*

01•27

Film: Multidimensional Cinema

Judging by the audience's reaction at the Boston Secession's presentation of Wim Wenders' film, *Wings of Desire* with the live vocal accompaniment last year, film lovers should be ecstatic about this year's event. The **Boston Secession** continues the pairing of film and live music in a presentation of Laura Esquivel's sensuous *Like Water for Chocolate*. Jane Ring Frank is ringleader of the Boston Secession, which is dedicated to promoting a series of films set to live vocal scores. And, like *Wings of Desire*, the choice of the film is ideal—*Like Water for Chocolate* is an emotionally charged work, which musical accompaniment should only magnify. Set in turn-of-the-century Mexico, it is the magical story of star-crossed lovers Tita and Pedro, who are forbidden to marry. At times fiery and fast-paced, at other times slow and languid, the tale is set to the varied tempos of Carissimi's "Jepthe," Verdi's "Macbeth," Josquin's "Ave María," Villa-Lobos' "Bachianas Brasileiras," Schnittke's "Requiem," Mozart's "Requiem" and more. *Jan. 27, 3pm and 7pm Somerville Theatre, Davis Square, Somerville (931-2000). $15-$30.*

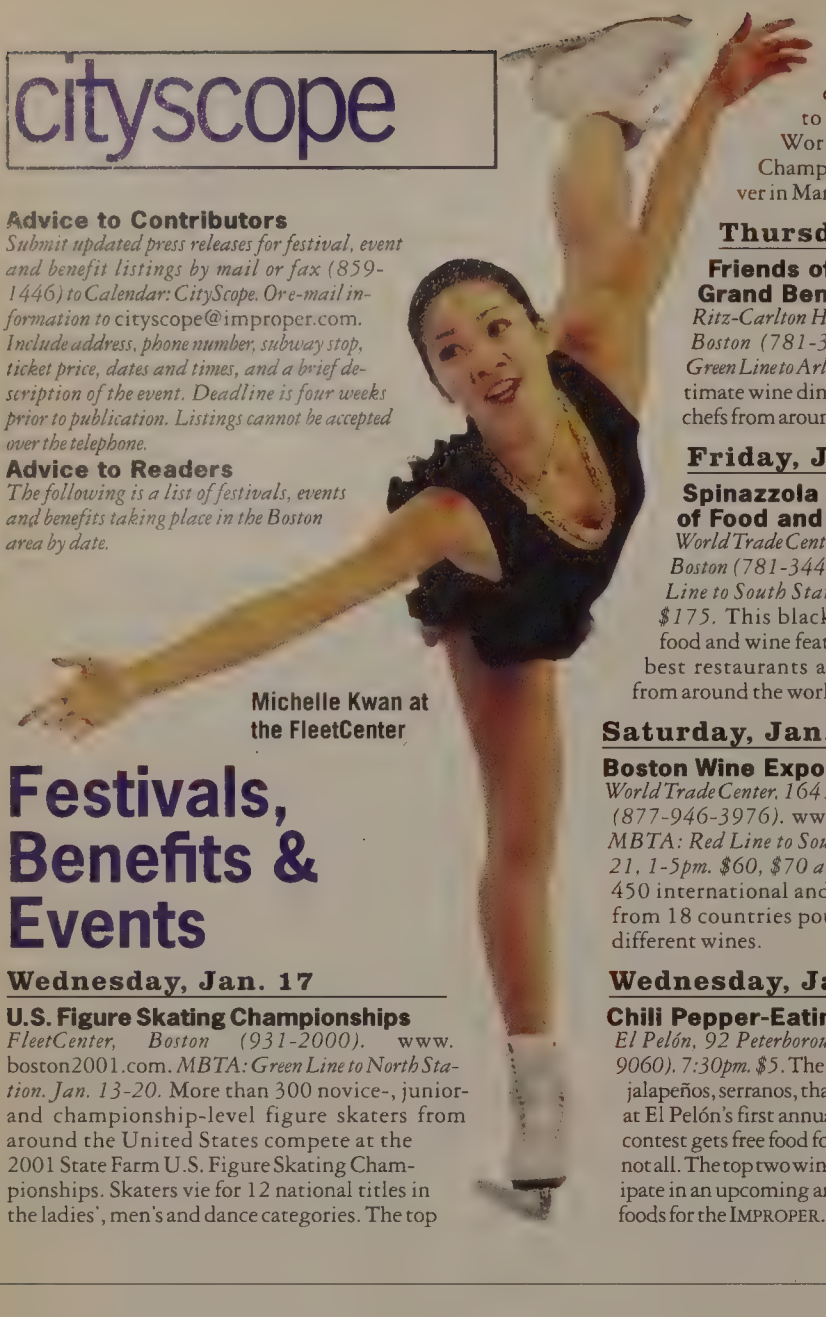
PHANTOM: JOAN MARCUS; WINE EXPO: FAY FOTO

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Advice to Readers

The following is a list of festivals, events and benefits taking place in the Boston area by date.



Michelle Kwan at the FleetCenter

Festivals, Benefits & Events

Wednesday, Jan. 17

U.S. Figure Skating Championships
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). www.boston2001.com. *MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Jan. 13-20.* More than 300 novice-, junior- and championship-level figure skaters from around the United States compete at the 2001 State Farm U.S. Figure Skating Championships. Skaters vie for 12 national titles in the ladies', men's and dance categories. The top three finishers in each category qualify to compete in the World Figure Skating Championships in Vancouver in March.

Thursday, Jan. 18

Friends of Spinazzola Grand Benefit Dinner
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, 15 Arlington St., Boston (781-344-4413). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. $500. This intimate wine dinner features celebrity chefs from around the nation.

Friday, Jan. 19

Spinazzola Gala Festival of Food and Wine
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (781-344-4413). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7:30pm-12am. $175. This black-tie celebration of food and wine features 120 of Boston's best restaurants and 80 winemakers from around the world.

Saturday, Jan. 20

Boston Wine Expo
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (877-946-3976). www.wine-expos.com. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Jan. 20-21, 1-5pm. $60, $70 at the door.* More than 450 international and domestic wineries from 18 countries pour more than 1,800 different wines.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Chili Pepper-Eating Contest
El Pelón, 92 Peterborough St., Boston (262-9060). 7:30pm. $5. The one who can brave the jalapeños, serranos, thai chilis and habaneros at El Pelón's first annual chili pepper-eating contest gets free food for a month. And that's not all. The top two winners will get to participate in an upcoming article on hot and spicy foods for the IMPROPER.



The Lyman Estate Greenhouses in Waltham are clad in a blizzard of camellia blossoms in January.

Saturday, Jan. 27

Kitchen & Culinary Expo
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (781-344-4413). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Jan. 26, 5-9pm; Jan. 27-28, 10am-6pm. $12. This three-day expo features more than 100 exhibitors, showcasing the most recent trends and innovations in the kitchen and culinary industries. Watch celeb chefs cook up their signature dishes. You can also sample food and buy the latest kitchen gadgets.

BAM: Black Arts Movements—An Arts Conference from Black Arts to Hip-Hop
CCAE, One Story Street, Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12:30-7:30pm. $15. The Blackout Arts Collective is a group of multicultural writers, performers, musicians and visual artists who address today's issues through creative social action. Attend workshops and then an evening performance jam.

Sunday, Jan. 28

Bud Bowl 2001
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 4pm. Celebrate Super Bowl Sunday with the Patriots' cheerleaders (on hand to do a half-time routine) and plenty of beer and grub.

Monday, Jan. 29

Boston Cooks Opening Night Culinary Gala
Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900, ext. 7062). 5:30-8pm. $55. This reception benefits the Anthony Spinazzola Foundation and the Greater Boston Food Bank. Boston's own celebrity chefs welcome nationally acclaimed cookbook authors to the city. Live music will entertain guests as they meet the chefs and authors, sample their cuisine and purchase autographed cookbooks.

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Advice to Contributors
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Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

The Complete History of America (Abridged)
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Feb. 3. $20-$26. Three men cover nearly 400 years of history in Act One and then race through the 20th century in Act Two, careening through the 1920s, '30s and '40s via a radio show that includes cowboys, Al Capone and Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Crossing Delancey
The Abbott Memorial Theater, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). Jan. 19-Feb. 3, 8pm. $12. The Hovey Players present Susan Sandler's charming romantic comedy.

The Family of Mann
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (353-5443). Jan. 25 and Feb. 1 and 8, 7pm; Jan. 26-27, 8pm; Feb. 2, 3, 9, 10, 8pm; Jan. 27 and Feb. 3 and 10, 2pm. $20. A young Ph.D. learns that comedy can be a grim business when she gets a job working on a TV sitcom. Her colleagues stand by their show, proclaiming it "all that is decent and fine on television," even as their world descends into whirling insanity.

Gonzo Night School
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (499-6991). Wed.-Sun., 8pm. Through Jan. 21. $15. Joe Smith's one-man show has lots of pieces. You put them together: a nihilistic mime with a drinking problem who teaches tae kwan do, interpretive dance inspired by Chinese food, compulsive chalkboard licking, a mute janitor named Zarko, a squeaky chair and lots of shards of broken glass.



Kate Burton stars as headstrong Hedda Gabler at the Huntington Theatre through Jan. 28.



Richard Strauss' lush music combines with Oscar Wilde's libretto in the Boston Lyric Opera's production of *Salome* at the Shubert Jan. 24-Feb. 4.

Hedda Gabler
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 8pm. Through Jan. 28. $12-$55. This powerful drama is about a proud and complex woman searching for passion and meaning in her life.

Henry Flamethrowa
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-456-0000). Tue., 7pm; Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through Feb. 4. $28-$40. This gripping drama is the story of a very unusual sister and brother. She lies in a coma, and people come from all over the country seeking her miraculous healing powers. Alone in his room, Henry loses himself in his books. If she is the instrument of the Virgin's divine mercy, will he become the instrument of God's terrible vengeance?

I Hate Hamlet
Ubiquity Stage, Tower Auditorium, Mass. College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (216-5764). MBTA: E Green Line to Longwood. Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Jan. 27. $15. Andrew Rally has it all: a bombshell girlfriend, a top Hollywood agent, a burgeoning acting career, a chance to play Hamlet in Central Park and a New York apartment with John Barrymore's ghost.

Neshama Carlebach
Jewish Theatre of New England, Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahanton St., Newton Centre (965-5226). Jan. 27, 8pm; Jan. 28, 2pm. $22. Neshama Carlebach follows the tradition of soul singing and storytelling established by her famous father, Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach.

The Phantom of the Opera
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Jan. 17-Feb. 11. $16-$71. A masked figure who lurks beneath the catacombs of the Paris Opera House exercises a reign of terror over all who inhabit it. He falls madly in love with an innocent young soprano and devotes himself to creating a new star by nurturing her extraordinary talents and employing all of the devious methods at his command.

Salome
Boston Lyric Opera at the Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (542-6772). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 24, 26, 30, 7:30pm; Feb. 2, 7:30pm; Jan. 28 and Feb. 4, 3pm. $27.50-$108. Richard Strauss' lush music combines with Oscar Wilde's libretto for a sensuous retelling of the Biblical scandal.

Sin
Boston Center for the Arts, The Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (695-0659). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Jan. 18-Feb. 11. A San Francisco air traffic reporter tries to keep herself above the messiness of life, and it takes an act of God for her to learn that sometimes you have to sin to survive.

The Weir
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton (332-1646). Wed., 7pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4:30pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Feb. 11. $27-$33. Three men gatherin a small, rural Irish pub and banter as they wait for Finbar, a dandy local who moved away and made good. When he arrives with a woman named Valerie in tow, they try to impress her with tales of fairies and ghosts.

NOW RUNNING

African-American Theater Festival
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (695-0659). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Jan. 20. A night of short plays written by professional playwrights and local young people. Works include *A Soldiers Play*, by Charles Fuller, and *A Night of New Works*, directed by Jacqui Parker.

Antigone
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through Jan. 21. $25-$59. Forces of redemption and reconciliation clash in Sophocles' timeless myth, as the human instinct for love struggles to overcome the human instinct for violence, enmity and revenge. When a civil war leaves rebels bloody and unburied on the battlefield, Antigone—daughter of the cursed house of Oedipus—must defy her uncle the king by burying her fallen brother, leader of the defeated faction.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $39-$49. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly the 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $25-$45. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

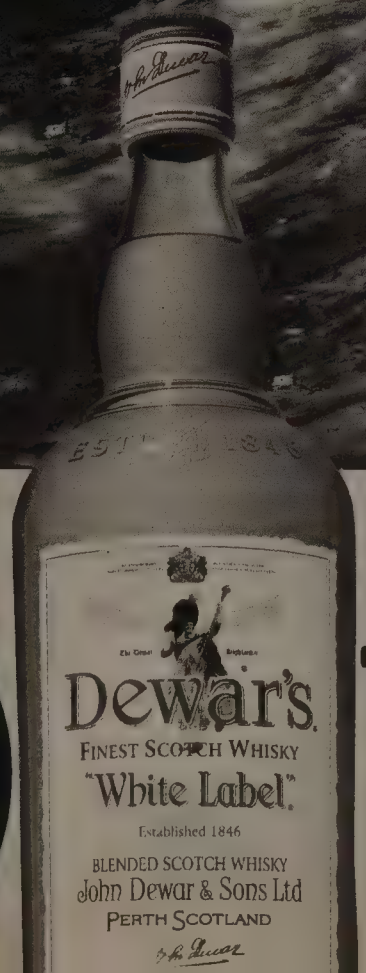
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Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

COMING SOON

Dame Edna
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Feb. 20-March 11. $25-$65.

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. April 11-May 6. $25-$75.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances or comedians. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston. com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Jan. 17: Don Gavin. •Jan. 18: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," 8:30pm, $12. •Jan 21: The Black Comedy Explosion, hosted by Jonathon Gates. •Jan.22: Amateur Showcase, hosted by Kevin Knox. •Jan. 23: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz. •Jan. 24: Don Gavin. •Jan. 25: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist," 8:30pm, $12. •Jan. 26: Bob Nelson, "The Football Starting Line-up." •Jan. 27: Bob Nelson. •Jan. 28: The Black Comedy Explosion, hosted by Jonathon Gates. •Jan. 29: Amateur Showcase, hosted by Kevin Knox. •Jan. 30: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz. •Jan. 31: Don Gavin.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Jan. 18: Tim McIntire referees Thursday Night Fights, a comedian debate/game show. Guests: Rich Gustus, John O'Brien, Kyria Abrahams, Sean Kelly, Sam Walter and Dan Newbower. •Jan. 19: Brendon & Larry with guests Ben Joplin, Lenny Hoffman, Amanda White, Ross Garmil, Brian Feller and Chris Foltz. •Jan. 20: John Keating with Lakshmi Balachandra, Lenny Hoffman and Pat O'Shea. •Jan. 21: Comics' Workout with Joe Carroll, Ben Murray, Chenga Li, Lea Antolini, Jesse Gersten and Arthur Januario. •Jan. 25: Tim McIntire stars with John Fisch, Steve Hoffman, Robert Lamb, Chris & Dave Walsh and James Patterson. •Jan. 26: Brendon & Larry. Also: Tony V., Tony Moschetto, TJ Griffin, Lady B, Jay Savage and Chris Tarauskas. •Jan. 27: Tony V. from *The Conan O'Brien Show*. Also, Brian & Mal, Katie Grady, Brent Sverdloff and Dov Fox. •Jan. 28: Comics' Workout with Brian & Mal, Steve Calechman, Gene Doucette, Stephanie Wishnick, Maggie McCraken and Mindy Fay.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Stand-up comedy.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. The talent here is not quite as big-name as the Comedy Connection, but the crowds are just as enthusiastic. Wednesdays: Open-mike at 8:30pm. • Jan 18, 8:30pm: John David, Jim Coliton and Joe Carroll. • Jan 19-20, 8:45pm: John David, Jim Coliton and Joe Carroll. • Jan. 25, 8:30pm: Robbie Printz, Tom Gilmore and John Joyce. • Jan. 26-27, 8:45pm: Robbie Printz, Tom Gilmore and John Joyce.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Saturday matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* Now playing on the main stage is the critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show—voted one of Boston's best improvisational comedy troupes. •Wednesdays, 8pm: The Improv Asylum Training Center graduate show, *Gary's Pocket*, followed by the Improv Asylum Touring Company. $10.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •***TheatreSports***: Fridays, 10:30pm. Witness two local improvisation troupes compete for bragging rights in this no-holds-barred, improvisational fight.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.



Kate Clinton proves that feminists can have a sense of humor, at the Sanders Theater Jan. 27.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Kate Clinton
Sanders Theater, Cambridge and Quincy streets, Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 27, 8pm. $21 and $25. Kate Clinton launches her 20th year in show business. As always, the lesbian performer who proved that feminists can be funny will have an opinion on just about every topic you can imagine—and surely about the post-Clinton administration.

Mystery Cafe
290 Congress St., Boston (781-320-0040). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 7pm. Ongoing. $36 (includes dinner and show). Murder on the Campaign Trail parodies Campaign 2000.

Mystery Cruise:
Ft. Independence, Long Wharf, Boston (781-320-0040). Cruise departs Saturdays, 8pm. $49/person, includes dinner and cruise. Gather clues during a harbor cruise, meet characters and interrogate suspects.

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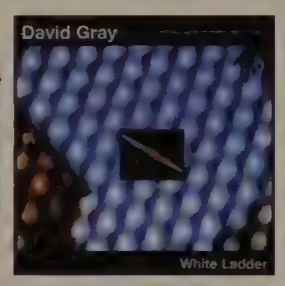
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Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.lesley.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*Mightier Than the Sword: Political Satire, Caricatures and Cartoons* features work by Jules Feiffer, Ed Sorel, Dan Wasserman and Robert Grossman. Through Jan. 21.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free to all on Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevruguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on exhibit is ancient Islamic and Asian art, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
900 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •*Drawings and Prints* by Harold Tovish - shows in the Wiggin Gallery through Jan. 28. •*Afro-American Artists Association Annual Exhibition* shows in the Boston Room through Jan. 26. •*Speak Truth to Power*, a photographic exhibit from the book *Speak Truth to Power: Human Rights Defenders Who Are Changing Our World,* by Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, includes photographs by Eddie Adams. Through Feb. 26.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College. 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde,* explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •*Photography in Boston: 1955 - 1985* shows Jan. 21. •Elsa Dorfman's *No Hair Day* is also on display through Jan. 21.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free to all on Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Philip Guston: A New Alphabet* focuses on a four-year period in the artist's life (1968-1972). Through Feb. 4. •*Franz Marc: Horses* shows through March 18. •*Sight-Seeing: Photography of the Middle East and Its Audiences, 1840-1940*, an exhibit that investigates the ways in which images of the Middle East were made available to the broad public, shows through March 18. •*The Blue-Rider Artists: Works form the Busch-Reisinger Museum and other Harvard Collections.* Through March 18.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
24 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of butterflies. Through March 4.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Olafur Eliasson transforms the ICA with a series of installations that use water, ice and light in *Olafur Eliasson: Your Only Real Thing Is Time.* The Scandinavian artist gained international attention for his photographs, sculptures and site-specific works that create poetic allusions to landscape and nature. Jan. 24-April 1. •Free guided walk-throughs take place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). www.boston.com/gardner. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided on Fridays, 2:30pm.*

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm, weekends, 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton*, and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: the Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, the mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT.* Special interactive activities take place 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •On the last Sunday of the month, explore oceanography, astronomy, the science of buildings and other mysteries of science, 2-4pm. Call 452-2827 for details.

Museum of Bad Art
580 High St., Dedham (325-8224). Mon.-Fri., 6:30-10pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-10pm. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. The one and only museum that boasts "art too bad to be ignored." A favorite is *Lady Chardonnay*, a piece illuminating a poodle-headed dancer.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm, Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-5:45pm. West Wing only, Thu.-Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*Dangerous Curves: Art of the Guitar* shows through Feb. 25. •An exhibition that presents the multifaceted work of Fred Holland Day is on display, titled *Art and The Camera: Photographs of F. Holland Day* and runs through March 25. •*Boston 1900*, an exhibit that looks at our artistic, literary and cultural city at the beginning of the 20th century, is on display through March 18. •*Color Field Painting* shows through Jan. 29.

Galleries
FINE ART

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allston-skirt.com. MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Pretty Funny*, a collection of paintings and photographs on humor by artists David Robbins and Scott Reeder, shows through Feb. 24.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Northern European Master Prints, 1905-1925. Through Feb. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Tom Paiement presents his *New Works* through Jan. 31.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. The gallery features original works from international artists.

Bakalar Gallery
MassArt, South Building, 623 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7333). Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Wonderland* features work by women artists that loosely references fairytales and folklore. Artists include: Ellen Berkenblit, Renee Cox, Anna Gaskell, Judy Haberl, Maria Marshall, Jennifer Nuss, Kristin Oppenheim and Kiki Smith. Jan. 17-Feb. 23.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •*Evidence*, portraits by Hannah Collins, Frank Egloff, Craigie Horsfield and Sa Schloff, display through Jan. 20. •Jim Stroud's *Linear Strategies* shows Jan. 27-March 7.


Rita Tavilla's *Poetry in Motion* shows through Jan. 21 at the Lyman-Eyer Gallery in West Newton.

Barton-Ryan Gallery
38 Newbury St., 4th floor, Boston (867-0662). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •Group Exhibition of gallery artists and invited guests. Through Feb. 17.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •Created with GRACE: Artists from Vermont's Grass-Roots Art and Community Effort. Through Feb. 24.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*David Leventhal: The XXX Series* shows through Jan. 27. •*Chris Komater: Harem* shows Jan. 31-Feb. 24.

Boston University Art Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •The 56 objects and 17 photographs in *Differences Preserved: Reconstructed Tombs from a Liao and a Song Tomb* come from tombs in northern China. •*Crafted Image* features the work of contemporary photographers and 19th-century processes. Through Feb. 25.

B.U.'s 808 Gallery
808 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0200). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. Tue.-Sun., 1pm-5pm. •An exhibition based on a book of photographs taken by Ulrich Mack of Pellworn Island off the coast of Germany, titled *Island People*, runs through Jan. 28.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Lynne Johnson's *Wall Surface Facade: Painted and Printed Structures* and Adrea Hoelscher's *Urban Memories* show through Jan. 27. •This exhibition features the work of Robin Cass in *A Slight Breach: New Work in Glass and Metal*, as well as Joyce Zavorskas' *Urn Series: A Suite of Layered Monoprints.* Jan. 31-Feb. 24.


Robot Cogs checks out Rodney Brooks, director of MIT's AI Lab exhibition, *Robots and Beyond*, now at the MIT Museum.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 am-11:30pm. •Find Heinz Tesar's *Fragments on Le Corbusier: Brush Drawings, Poems and Memorabilia from a Formative Experience.* Jan. 22-Feb. 16.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tues.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •On display are self-titled exhibits by *Naomi Shioya* and *Akihiro Isogai*. Through Jan. 20.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •George Gabin's *New Works* is on display through Jan. 30.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •*Figures and Interiors* will be showing on the main floor; downstairs in the print department, see *Josepeh Pennell and his unbelievable city*. In the alcove, *Asian Aesthetic in Western Work*. Through March 3.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. The gallery represents 30 regional artists. •Catlin Rockman's work, *Consuming Image,* and John Bisbee's *New Sculpture* are on display through Jan. 25.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment.* •Peter Inglis' *Cast Forms* is on display through Feb. 16.

Crystal Fine Art
93 Summer St., Suite 4L, Boston (728-9818). www.crystalfineart.com. *MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Tue.-Fri., 11am-6pm. (Through Jan., by appointment only.)* •*Crystal Whittemore Lovely's* work, oils on canvas.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford Street, Allston (783-2421). Sat., 2-4pm or by appointment. http://drawbridge.com/dvbgallery. •*Take Cover / Take Over* is a show by artists working with text, featuring the works of Kenneth Fitzgerald, Howard Johnson, Naomi E. Rubin, Kathleen Bitetti and William Tisdale. Also showing is an installation, *If These Walls Could Talk,* by Cynthia von Buhler and Xavier Dietrich II.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •On display is *The Street Scenes of Paris,* by artist Andre Renoux, and a collection of new European paintings. Through Jan. 31.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St., Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*New Oil Paintings,* by Paul Kerepka, shows through Jan. 31.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*One Hundred Pounds of Clay*, an installation by Charles Long. Through Feb. 24.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equator-gallery.com. *Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7pm.* A series of woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí and ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sasha Raiz. •Peruvian artist Benito Huillcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depict modern-day Cuzco. Ongoing.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Modern Masters*, a collection of etchings and lithographs, shows through Jan. 31.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). www.james hull.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., Wed. and Thu., 6-9pm.* •Henry Samelson and Hannah Barrett's works, a series of oil on canvas, display through Jan. 20.

Gallery Bershad
99 Dover St., Somerville (629-9400 ext. 3). www.bershad.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Fri., 9-6pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Schematically Inclined* includes fine art, architecture drawings, models and other schematically inclined works. Jan. 26-March 2.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallery naga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Peter Brooke's work, *Mylars*, Amy Devers'

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Gallery Seventy-Nine
79 Newbury St., Boston (262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 12-5pm. •On display is Patrick Lord's *Back Bay Churches*. Through Jan. 19. •Billie Wolf's show, *Painted Constructions*, shows through Jan. 19.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •Pat Keck's modern *New Sculptures* are made with all sorts of moving parts. Through Feb. 7.

Gibbs Gallery
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •*Winter Wonderland: The Frosty World of Snowdomes*, a collection of actual snowglobes and artists' interpretations of snowglobes, shows through Jan. 26.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. This gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. Find an assortment of 18th- and 19th-century antique engravings and lithographs on display. Ongoing.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (989-9985). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •See *Drawings* by Steven Muller, throughout January.

Harbor Gallery at UMass-Boston
McCormack Hall, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (287-7988). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Abstract Organic features the work of Jed Barnum, David Cronin, David Klee, Melanie Schlossberg, Mat Stone, Jeff Tepal and Janet Willard. Through Jan. 31.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. yezerski@ziplink.net. •On display is Mark Mennin's *Man Children*, marble sculptures, and *Simply Complex*, monochrome paintings from Los Angeles. Through Jan. 30.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (491-6888). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm. Thu., 12-7pm. and by appointment. Visitors are greeted with a variety of art and artifacts from six continents. •On exhibit is *Iridescent Glass from Antiquity*, a varied collection of ancient blown glass from the Roman period. Through Jan. 20.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. A selection of vintage posters is on display. Ongoing. •The seventh-annual holiday poster show is titled *Let It Snow*, and has vintage ski posters from New England. Through Jan. 31.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Braton (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Two masters of modern ceramics, Jun Kaneko and Irvin Tapper, show their works. Through Jan. 20.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newubry St., Boston (437-1518). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •Jason Berger's exhibition includes landscapes and interiors of France and surrounding regions. Through Jan. 30.

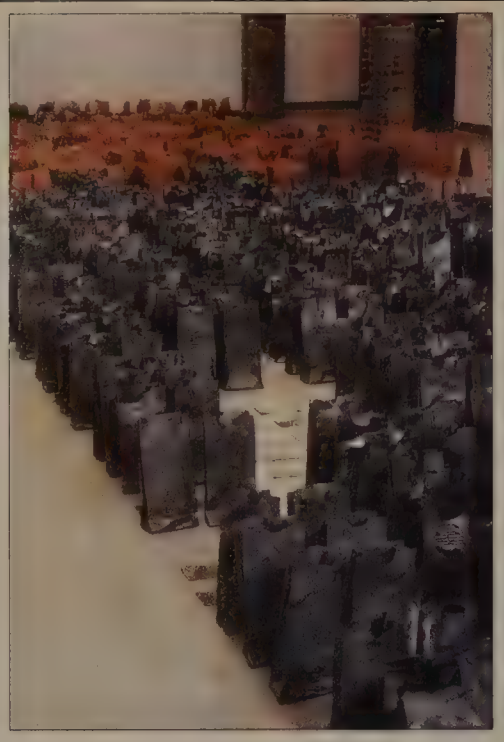
Kaji Aso Studios
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (247-1719). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue.-Sat., 1-5pm. •*Winter Festival of the Arts* is a presentation of art works, poetry and music composed around the theme of Night Wind. A reception Jan. 27, at 7pm, features compositions by Jonathan Lovenstein, Jeff Davidson, Jun Toguchi; poetry readings by the Boston Haiku Society; paintings, drawings and sculpture. •On Jan. 28, at 7pm, the gallery hosts The World Famous Octopus Party with a seafood banquet and a performance of *Tiger Hunt*, a play by Kaji Aso.

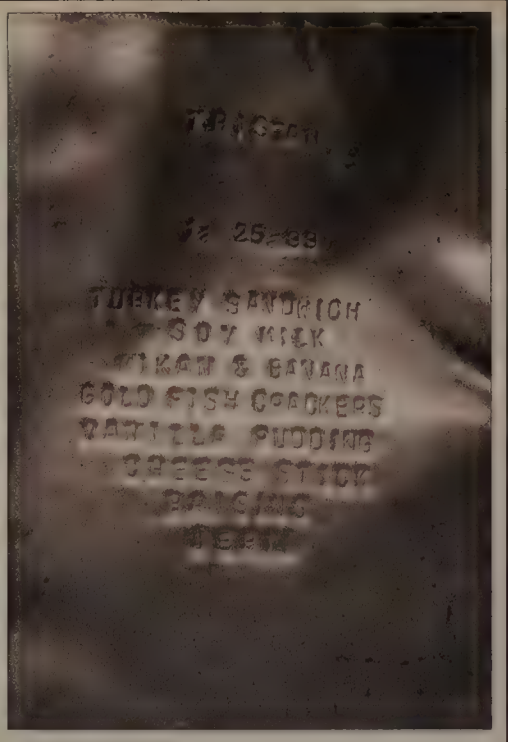
Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (423-4113). Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm. •Audrey Goldstein's sculpture, Diaphanometer, shows Jan. 17-Feb. 25.

Landau Gallery
Belmont Hill School. Park Ave., exit 58 off Rte. 2, Belmont (484-4410). Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm. •Exhibit by up-and-coming artist Abby Getman. Through Feb. 2.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm. •Deborah Barlow's *Exploring the Obscure* and Rita Tavilla's *Poetry in Motion* show through Jan. 21.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •Also on display is *New Paintings*, by Jon Marshall. Through Feb. 1.





Preview

Maternal Instincts

A new installation at the Mobius explores the meaning of motherhood

Monica Bock's *Maternal Exposure (don't forget the lunches)*, an installation about the routine of exposing one's children to public scrutiny, is a sedulous exploration of the many facets of motherhood. The art project consists of 418 lead sheet bags (lead is a metal that, according to some of the more literary alchemists, grows in the nurturing belly of Mother Earth ... you see the connection here). The bags are all covered with menus of the lunches Bock prepared for her two young children over the course of a year. The "lunch" bags are lined up in chronological rows, spreading across the floor in the order that the lunches were actually prepared. Spaced throughout are gloomy lead sheet plaques that symbolize days when lunches were not made (due to illness, snow days, holidays and the like). *Maternal Exposure* appeals to all the senses: Thrown in are some 400 cast glycerine soap bags, a series of maternally themed poems written on the wall by Zofia Burr and a recording of Burr reading the poems.

Block is an assistant professor of art history at the University of Connecticut in Storrs. She describes the exhibit's purpose as an exploration of "how the roles of the mother and the not-mother are part of the same impossible set of expectations for women who choose to be defined by both work and nurturing, how in regard to 'the maternal body' no woman gets to define herself completely outside the terms of good mother/bad mother." Burr is a writer and professor of English at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. The exhibit is their second collaboration, and they have created other works that contain similar themes of family, work, gender, the body and productivity. *The Black Room at Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. Through Feb. 3.*

Mills Gallery
539 Tremont St., Boston (426-8835). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. •*Making Ends Meet: An Installation in Six Parts* features work by Bruce Brosnan, Sharon Louden, Mick O'Shea, Linda Price-Sneddon, Daniel Stupar and Traci Wile. Through Jan. 21.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Maternal Exposure (don't forget the lunches)* is an installation by Monica Block and Zofia Burr. Through Feb. 3. •The installations *Le Phare* and *Ecole d'Aviation* show through Feb. 3.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •A national competition of work by emerging artists, *New Art 2001 @ MPG*, runs through Jan. 29.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Sungjoon Joh exhibits new still-life paintings that reflect his Korean heritage. A small exhibit of drawings with collage elements by sculptor Carol Keller is being shown at the same time. Jan. 20-Feb. 24.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. This gallery, owned and operated by several artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •A Holiday Show will feature arts and crafts by dozens of local artists. Through Jan. 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Eilene Gillespie: Drawings. Jan. 19-Feb. 20.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1pm-5pm. •Welsh potter Phil Rogers' work, *Tradition Renewed*, shows through Feb. 7.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardsonclarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •See the ongoing exhibition of American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.RobertKleinGallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •Night Light: Photographs of Heavenly Bodies, 1885-2000. Through March 10.

Sherman Gallery
775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Objects of My Affections* is a collection of Paul Gary Goldberg's prints. Through Jan. 21. •*Recent Paintings*, by Russell Roberts, runs Jan. 25-March 2.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm. •This installment came from the collaboration between Space 12 Gallery and Espacio 52 of Havana. *Cuba, Cuba* features five Cuban artists. Through Jan. 27.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current focus on cityscapes. Ongoing.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. This gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by famous painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin, C. Ferrer and striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-6200). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm. •Via's two-year anniversary show includes a group retrospective of gallery artists. Through Feb. 3.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A selection from their current inventory is on display. Ongoing.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •A group show of local photographers includes works by Mark Alcarez, Doug Baker, Tsar Fedorsky, Millicent Harvey, Margaret Lampert, Winslow Martin, Corrine Schippert and Beth Schneckenburger. Through Feb. 9. •Poet Robin Becker and photographer Debi Milligan join together in an evening of Portraiture. Jan. 18, 7:30pm.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •The gallery's newest space features *American Politics*, an exhibit that includes a wide variety of photographs dealing with the theme of politics in America. Through Jan. 20.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a collection of photographs from the series at the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17. •*Strange Attractor: In the Orbit of the Artist*, a show curated by Rosamond Purcell, displays through mid-March.



A print of Nasir al-din Shah in Iran is part of the Arthur M. Sackler Museum's current exhibition *Antoin Sevruguin and the Persian Image*.

TOP: MONICA BOCK (2), BOTTOM: ANTOIN SEVRUGUIN

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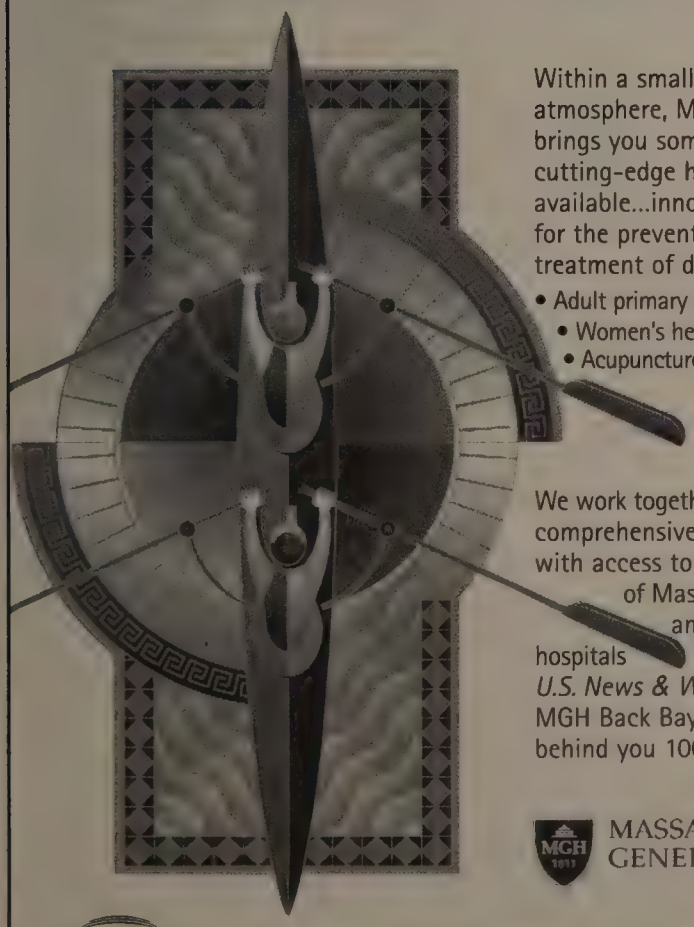
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LIGHT MY FIRE

Traffic fights the war on drugs. BY PAUL SHERMAN

The 1990s' independent film boom is long gone, but at least a healthy portion of the best Hollywood movies are now directed by those who inject a strong personal perspective, like Cameron Crowe (*Almost Famous*) and the Coen Brothers (*O Brother, Where Art Thou?*), or those who spent their early careers in indie film, like Gus Van Sant (*Finding Forrester*), David O. Russell (*Three Kings*)—and Steven Soderbergh. After running into a dead end in indie film (just watch *Schizopolis* for his ebb of creativity) the onetime *sex, lies and videotape* sensation stunningly reinvented himself in *Out of Sight* and *Erin Brockovich* as a director of commercial movies with both broad appeal and some of the quirks of films not made for the megaplex.



From left: Tomas Milian, Benicio del Toro, Michael Douglas and D.W. Moffit star in *Traffic*.

Soderbergh has done it again in *Traffic*, the title of which presumably refers to both the drugs dominating its story and the large number of characters parading around the drugs. Those characters include the new U.S. drug czar (Michael Douglas), a Mexican cop (Benicio del Toro), an accused drug lord's pampered suburban wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones), a teen addict (Erika Christensen) and a couple of Drug Enforcement Agency field agents (Don Cheadle, Luis Guzman). Primary locations include Washington, Tijuana, Cincinnati, San Diego and Mexico City, yet Soderbergh prevents *Traffic* from being a slick, glib, globe-trotting thriller by smudging it up a bit. While *Traffic* lacks the pure fun of *Out of Sight* or the emotional connections of *Erin Brockovich*, thanks to unconventional camera placement and the frequent use of handheld cameras by Soderbergh (who was his own cinematographer under the pseudonym Peter Andrews), you feel more as if you're visually eavesdropping on real events than you do in the average movie.

With this free-form style, the movie's events start off unfurling independently of each other. In San Diego, the DEA agents (Cheadle, Guzman) run a sting on a high-volume drug dealer (Miguel Ferrer) and get him to rat on his boss (Steven Bauer), who's then arrested, much to the dismay of his country-clubbing wife (Zeta-Jones), who thought he was a legit businessman. Meanwhile, in Tijuana, two cops (Benicio Del Toro, Jacob Vargas) get involved with a high-ranking military officer (Tomas Milian) who uses extreme methods to fight a drug cartel; and an Ohio judge (Douglas) heads to Washington to become the nation's new drug czar, unaware that his 16-year-old honor-roll daughter (Erika Christensen) is freebasing herself into oblivion most every day back home.

These plot threads converge in some places, with the U.S. drug czar and the Mexican general meeting at one point and with some overlap between the San Diego and Mexico action. But *Traffic*, adapted from a 1990s British TV miniseries, does not tidily bring all of its primary characters to the same climactic place. It does, however, move them together thematically. The script, by Stephen Gagan, who does much better work here than he did on last spring's cartoonish and dumb *Rules of Engagement*, is a broad repudiation of the war on drugs as we have known it for the past 15 years. As portrayed here, this war is misguided and ineffective because it's about politics and power, not people. That comes through most strongly in the events surrounding the drug czar, who devotes his efforts to stopping smuggled drugs and goes to visit customs stops in several border towns, all while his strung-out daughter runs away in search of drugs. But such a message does not come at the expense of drug-fighting characters like Cheadle's, Guzman's or Douglas', who are not belittled or villainized.

As in *Wonder Boys*, Douglas has again smartly taken on a character with some emotional vulnerability, after years of not doing so. The unaffected performance of Christensen, as his addict daughter, may be the standout, though, in a cast that also includes Dennis Quaid, Albert Finney, Amy Irving, Peter Riegert and Salma Hayek. iB

Traffic ★★★

Directed by Steven Soderbergh. Written by Stephen Gagan. With Michael Douglas, Benicio del Toro, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Don Cheadle, Luis Guzman and Erika Christensen. Rated R. USA Films.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

All the Pretty Horses ★★
Billy Bob Thornton's first film as a director, *Sling Blade*, was uncanny at putting us in the mind of its lead character. His more conventional latest, based on Cormac McCarthy's novel, isn't so adept. Thornton gets the Tex-Mex landscape down and draws strong performances from Matt Damon and Henry Thomas (in the *E.T.* star's best adult role by far) in this 1940s story of a couple of Texans in search of the cowboy life in Mexico. But the forbidden romance that becomes the movie's center, between Damon's cowpoke and the Mexican ranch owner's daughter, played by Penelope Cruz, never comes across as strongly as it should have, so all the hardship and violence that occurs as a consequence packs little punch.

Before Night Falls ★★½
Following *Basquiat*, Julian Schnabel directs another "artist who died too young in New York" drama. This time his subject is Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas, played here by Javier Bardem (from Almodovar's *Live Flesh*). There's definitely a compelling story here, starting with Arenas' country boyhood, when he left home to join Castro's revolutionaries, and moving onto his persecution for being both gay and a writer, his subsequent flight to New York and his fight with AIDS. But at many crucial junctures, the movie is also frustratingly vague, including its inability to give us a real sense of Arenas' writings. So the result is less memorable than it might have been. There are, however, amusing and effective cameos by Johnny Depp (as a drag queen) and Sean Penn (as a peasant).

Cast Away ★★
Robert Zemeckis used to make hilarious, unpretentious comedies like *I Wanna Hold Your Hand* and *Used Cars*. Now he makes long, overextended movies straining to be profound, like *Forrest Gump*, *Contact* and this story of a workaholic FedEx executive (Tom Hanks) who is the only survivor of a South Pacific plane crash. The bulk of the movie, in which the guy adjusts to being alone on a deserted island and to living a primitive life, is very involving. But Zemeckis and writer William Broyles Jr. trample any restraint once the guy returns home after being marooned for four years. Now his physical hardship is replaced by emotional hardship, as he must come to terms with his fiancée (the overexposed Helen Hunt) having married another man in the overstated final half hour. If only we thought he cared for her half as much as he did Wilson, his inanimate volleyball pal on the island.

Chocolat ★★
Despite all the sweets on screen, the major flavor here is bitter, overcooked quaintness. In this predictable, pat and utterly toothless tale set in 1959, Juliette Binoche plays a mysterious newcomer who opens a chocolate shop in a close-minded French village under the thumb of a domineering, aristocrat, mayor (Alfred Molina). This unwed mom's dispensing of "remedies" in the form of her chocolate and her honesty get the hypocritical locals all bent out of shape, except for the few desperate enough to see her charms. This is hopelessly middle-brow and apparently geared for people who thought *Pleasantville* was just too common.

The Claim ★★
In this ponderous, snowbound drama, Thomas Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge* has been transposed to mid-1800s Gold Rush California. There, the wealthy power behind a booming frontier town (Peter Mullan) reaps what he has sown when he's reunited with the wife (Nastassja Kinski) and daughter (Sarah Polley) he had traded away 18 years before for the gold claim that brought him his fortune. Reconnecting with the victims of his heartless deed brings him a string of bad luck, but any message about the evil of greedy men gets smothered by the slow pace and endless last third. Well-crafted, but an emotionally dull mish-mash of *McCabe & Mrs. Miller* and *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon ★★★½
What do you get when you combine a skilled dramatic director like Ang Lee (*Eat Drink Man Woman*), an innovative action choreographer like Yuen Wo-Ping (*The Matrix*) and stars like Chow Yun-Fat (*Hard-Boiled*) and Michelle Yeoh (*Supercop*)? A dynamo in which the scenes between the wild, high-flying fight face-offs are almost as potent as the "action." In this story, centering around a stolen sword, the battles unfurl not only between the characters—in beautifully choreographed exchanges—but also within those characters' souls. The leads all find themselves dealing with the struggle between their romantic desires and societal obligations, which gives the film a sorrowful undercurrent. To add to the eclectic feel, Yo-Yo Ma performs the score's cello solos.

An Everlasting Piece ★★
Just what we need, another cartoonish comedy set in Ireland. This premise-heavy, laugh-light one is set in

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1980s Northern Ireland and concerns two mental hospital barbers—one Catholic, one Protestant—who try to corner the Ulster toupee business. If the film were less of a caricature, its heroes might have mustered the endearing-underdog status of those in *The Commitments*. But it isn't, and they don't. *Piece* was directed by Barry (*Diner*) Levinson and bankrolled by two Hollywood studios. Go figure.

Finding Forrester ★★★
Gus Van Sant's latest melds *Scent of a Woman* with his own *Good Will Hunting*, and is a transparent but generally effective mentor-pupil drama. Newcomer Rob Brown is terrific as a Bronx teen who's a star basketball player but who keeps his literary talents and knowledge a secret. At about the same time that a standardized, MCAS-like test reveals his smarts (and lands him a scholarship at a tony Manhattan prep school), he befriends the neighborhood recluse (Sean Connery), who turns out to be a Pulitzer-winning author who hasn't published a book since his acclaimed debut 45 years ago. The writing lessons and life lessons imparted in the duo's scenes are a bit prefab, but fortunately this has more *Good Will Hunting* heart than *Scent of a Woman* hoo-ha. Matt Damon cameos.

O Brother, Where Art Thou? ★★★½
There's a whole lotta fun in this Coen-brothers-filtered blend of Homer's *The Odyssey*, on which it's loosely based, and Preston Sturges' 1941 road movie *Sullivan's Travels* (*O Brother...* is the name of the serious movie a comedy filmmaker yearns to direct in that story). George Clooney, John Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson are terrific as three chain-gang escapees who go through their own odyssey in the Depression-era South, encountering a Robert Johnson-like bluesman (Chris Thomas King), a one-eyed salesman (John Goodman), Baby Face Nelson (Michael Badalucco) and Clooney's character's ex-wife (Holly Hunter), who's about to remarry. This is all visually and emotionally askew in the best Coen Brothers tradition of *Blood Simple*, *Fargo* and *The Big Lebowski*, with great use of period music. The best American holiday release.

The Shadow of the Vampire★★½
This fictionalized look at the making of the classic silent vampire film, *Nosferatu*, has an interesting exploration of the extreme lengths some people will go to create art, some amusingly dark comedy and intense performances from John Malkovich and especially Willem Dafoe. But it also takes a ridiculous amount of creative license, its fiction offering the notion that German director F.W. Murnau (Malkovich) casts a real vampire (Dafoe) in the film, without telling anyone else. What did the great Murnau (who later made *Sunrise*, the most lyrical of all silent movies) do to deserve to be portrayed as a lunatic who might gladly put his cast and crew's lives in danger? (Why not just make a movie about the making of *Saving Private Ryan* in which Steven Spielberg forces his cast to use live ammunition?) The movie's execution is entertaining, its concept reckless and disturbing.

State and Main ★★★
David Mamet's making-of-a-movie comedy has an interesting twist, finding its absurdity in the movie's preproduction phase, before the camera even rolls. The cast and crew of a Hollywood production—including a self-centered director (William H. Macy), jailbait-chasing leading man (Alec Baldwin), flaky leading lady (Sarah Jessica Parker) and naive screenwriter (Philip Seymour Hoffman)—descend on a small Vermont town and proceed to almost derail the film over and over. The leading man can't keep it in his pants, the leading lady says she won't do her nude scene, the writer quits or gets fired about twice every day. Mamet keeps things moving and his dialogue zings, but he almost throws it all away in a weak ending that unconvincingly glosses over the crux of the plot—the screenwriter's moral dilemmas.

Thirteen Days ★★★
The 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis unfurls tensely, and with a few more wrinkles than most of us realized, in the reteaming of *No Way Out* director Roger Donaldson and star Kevin Costner. Costner plays Kenny O'Donnell, our window into the Kennedy Oval Office during the crisis. As this trusted adviser, Costner is in the background much of the time, which is perfectly fine, since Bruce Greenwood and Steven Culp are super as, respectively, Jack and Bobby Kennedy. Costner's overdone Bah-ston accent nearly spoils it all.

You Can Count on Me ★★★½
Playwright Kenneth Lonergan's debut as writer-director is a wonderfully ungimmicky comedy-drama about two grown siblings. Laura Linney and Mark Ruffalo are terrific as the rooted sister and the rootless brother who have an unusual effect on each other after they're reunited, when he makes an extended visit to her upstate New York home. With characters whose moral shading goes beyond black and white and emotions that are as lifelike as movies get, it's both fun and substantial. Why can't more movies be like this?

Alternatives & Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.*

Boston Public Library

James Cagney on Film: Part 2

•Jan. 22, 6pm **Yankee Doodle Dandy** *1942.* This is a musical portrait of singer, composer and dancer George M. Cohan, from his early days as a child Vaudeville star, to his final status as the composer of some of best-known show tunes in America.

•Jan. 29, 6pm **White Heat** *1949.* Packed with the kind of action best known to crime and film noir films, here the sadistic leader of a ruthless gang of thieves is almost killed by gang members.

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features.

Mondays: British New Wave

•Jan. 22, 7:15pm **Tom Jones** *1963.* In a wild journey through 18th-century British morals, a rebellious young man just can't stop loving life and women, no matter how much trouble it gets him into.

•Jan. 22, 5:15 and 9:40pm **The Entertainer** *1960.* Laurence Olivier's washed-up song-and-dance man Archie Rice symbolically represents England, finding solace only with daughter Joan Plowright.

•Jan. 29, 7:15pm **Darling** *1965.* Swinging supermodel Julie Christie recounts her own climb to the top in this comedic look at 1960s high society in England.

•Jan 29, 5:15 and 9:40pm **Saturday Night and Sunday Morning** *1960.* Karel Reisz directs the story of a hard-drinking and hard-playing renegade whose rebellious nature gets him all tied up in knots with women.

Tuesdays: Celluloid Passport

•Jan. 23, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45pm **Life Is to Whistle** *1999.* This Cuban film about three orphans living in Havana is a unique blend of visual flair, joyous music, absurdist humor and mystical realism set to music.

•Jan. 30, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45pm **Orefu** *1999.* The modern retelling of the story of Orpheus and Eurydice is set in Rio de Janeiro during Carnival.

Wednesdays: Recent Raves

•Jan. 17, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Human Resources** *1999.* A recent business-school grad returns to his French hometown to work in the same factory as his father. Director Laurent Cantet chronicles the rifts caused between workers and management as well as father and son.

•Jan. 24, 7:15pm **Place Vendome** *1998.* A jaded and alcoholic society wife rekindles passion for life when her diamond-dealing husband brings home five perfect stolen stones and then offs himself in a car crash.

•Jan. 24, 5:15 and 9:30 **Croupier** *1998.* A detached author finds his life in chaos when he takes a job running a roulette wheel at a casino and joins a robbery plot.

Thursdays: Special K's

•Jan. 18, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:30pm. **The Wind Will Carry Us** *1999.* This lyrical film from the great Iranian director Kiarostami (*Taste of Cherry*), films a group of researchers in a small Kurdish village who wait for an old woman to die so they can tape the funeral.

•Jan. 25, 4:45 and 8pm. **Underground** *1995.* Emir Kusturica directs an undisputed master of surreal dark comedy set during WWII in Yugoslavia.

Fridays and Saturdays: Special Engagements

•Jan. 20, 12:30 and 3pm **Vertigo** *1958.* One of Hitchcock's most masterful thrillers stars Jimmy Stewart as a San Francisco detective who becomes mired in all sorts of psychological problems.

•Jan. 21, 1:00 and 3:15 pm **DiabolIques** *1954.* A tyrannical schoolmaster is thought to be killed by his long-suffering wife and his worldly mistress, but they soon learn they have botched the job.

•Jan. 26 and 27, 7:45pm (Sat. matinee 3:45pm) **Trouble In Paradise** *1932.* Director Ernst Lubitsch's sophisticated comedy is the story of two jewel thieves who fall in love.

•Jan. 26, 5:30 and 9:30pm **To Be Or Not To Be** *1942.* This Lubitsch gem tells the hysterical tale of a troupe of actors trying to get by unscathed in German-occupied Poland during WWII.

•Jan. 27, 1:30, 5:30 and 9:30 **The Shop Around the Corner** *1940.* An misunderstanding ensues when a clerk in a modest Budapest store realizes that a difficult co-worker is the mystery woman he has been romancing.

Premiere Engagements

•Jan. 19-21, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Suzhou River** *2000.* This film explores one man's romantic escapades in dirty and chaotic Shanghai, drawing on the themes in Hitchcock's *Vertigo*.

Brattle Faves

•Jan. 28, 2 and 7pm **Chinatown** *1974.* Jack Nicholson is private eye J. J. (Jake) Gittes in Roman Polanski's pre-war Los Angeles film noir masterpiece.

•Jan. 28, 4:40 and 9:30pm **Midnight Cowboy** *1969.* This gritty tale from John Schlessinger is about a friendship formed between a Texan gigolo (Jon Voigt) and a con-man (Dustin Hoffman) in New York.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Humorous Hometown Documentaries

•Jan. 17, 7:30pm **Hairdo** *2000.* In this road movie, female students at a multicultural Medford beauty school take an exciting bus ride to New York City to compete in a hair-styling contest.

•Also Showing: **It's Only a Tattoo** *2000.* A filmmaker contemplates getting a tattoo, and he is put off by those who regret getting their tattoos.

Feature Engagements

•Jan. 19 **Live Nude Girls Unite** *2000.* Julia Query was an aspiring writer, lesbian activist and a stand-up comedian. When she strips at the Lusty Lady, she enlists filmmaker Vicky Funari's help and forays into the role of activist as well.

•Jan. 26 **Shadow of the Vampire** *2000.* What if legendary director F.W. Murnau had employed a real vampire as the leading man? Willem Dafoe is Max Schreck the Vampire and becomes the ill-humored blood-sucking villain, while John Malkovich rants and raves at his star for nearly ruining the film.

Midnight Movies

•Jan. 19-20, 12am **Butterfly and Sword** *1993.* Michael Mak directs this kung fu story about a brother and sister who must infiltrate and destroy insurgent groups of martial artists.

•Jan. 26 and 27, 12am **Holy Weapon** *1993.* Director Wong Jing crafts a comedic film about sword battles and secret weapons.

Harvard Film Archive

Close Encounters

•Jan. 30, 7pm **Close-Up** *1990.* A young man aboard a Tehran bus introduces himself as Mohsen Makhmalbaf. He gains entry into a woman's life under false pretenses but the con-man ultimately gets exposed.

Global Visions: Ten Years after the Gulf War

•Jan. 18, 7:30pm and Jan. 20, 9:30pm **Greetings from Iraq** *1994.* Following the lives of three families from varying religious and economic backgrounds, this film explores the war and post-war experience of Iraqi children and their families. Also showing: **Lessons of Darkness** *1992.* This film documents the postwar devastation inside Kuwait.

•Jan. 20, 7pm **The Law of Enclosures** *2000.* The Gulf War provides a subtle backdrop for Canadian director John Greyson's new adaptation of the novel by Dale Peck. The film is a twice-told tale of a marriage and its apparent failure, with narrative presence of the war.





***Marlene* (left), a portrait of the glamorous Marlene Dietrich, screens Jan. 18, 7:45pm. Lenhard Fritz Krawinkel comes to the MFA to talk about his film, *Sumo Bruno*, Jan. 19, 8pm.**

Preview

German Imports

A new series of foreign films screens at the MFA

Like Harvard Film Archive's Postwall Prospects: Recent Films from Germany last fall, a series of German cinematic imports is being presented, this time at the Museum of Fine Arts. But unlike the somewhat dark sentiments expressed in many of the HFA films, these six new cinematic achievements mix in a bit more whimsy, showcasing a diversity of styles from the new generation of German filmmakers. The highlight is Jan. 19, 8pm, when director Lenhard Fritz Krawinkel makes a personal appearance at the screening of his new film, *Sumo Bruno*. The film is about a 400-pound German man who sees a chance to make his dreams come true when the Sumo Wrestling Amateur Championships are held not in Japan but in Germany. The series is presented in cooperation with the Goethe-Institut, in association with the Export Union of German Cinema. All films are in German with English subtitles.

•Opening the series Jan. 18, 7:45pm is Marlene *2000*. Joseph (*The Harmonists*) Vilsmaier's portrait of this most fascinating, glamorous woman transports viewers to 1920s Berlin and Hollywood, where the legendary Marlene Dietrich meets director Josef von Sternberg.

•Jan. 20, 4pm Shampoo and Set *1999*. A portrait of Germany's diverse population, told through visits to four vastly different Berlin beauty salons.

•Jan. 25, 5:45pm Handful of Glass *2000*. This dramatic story from director Roland Richte centers on Kendal, a 10-year-old boy from a small village in Kurdistan who is sent to live with his uncle in Germany to earn money for his poverty-stricken family back home.

•Jan. 26, 7:45pm Legend of Rita *2000*. Based on events that tormented a divided Germany of the 1970s, this film sketches the story of Rita Vogt and her friends, members of the notorious Red Army Faction.

•Jan. 27, 3:45pm Gran Paradiso *2000*. Mark dreams of climbing the 12,000-foot-high Gran Paradiso in the Alps, despite the fact that he is confined to a wheelchair. Miguel Alexandre guides us through the picturesque landscape.

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Striped convicts make a break for it in the Coen brothers' latest, *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*

•Jan. 22, 7pm **Hidden Wars of Desert Storm** *2000.* This work uses little-seen media clips and documents to explore pressing questions about the "media war," Operation Desert Storm. Also showing: **Paying the Price: Killing the Children of Iraq** *2000.* This piece is based on the argument of journalist John Pilger, who says that the 10 years of sanctions against Iraq have killed more people than the atomic bombs dropped on Japan.
•Jan. 25, 7pm **The Mad Songs of Fernanda Hussein** *2001.* This film revisits the experience of the Gulf War, focusing on the war's reverberations in America.

Masters of Animation

•Jan. 31, 8pm **Surrealist Shots of Jan Lenica**. Lenica's graphic style characteristically favors thick outlines and heavily stylized design cutout figures and collage—all set to simply choreographed movement.

Peter Watkins Films

•Jan. 17 and 19, 7pm **Edvard Munch** *1976.* Here is an intensely personal biography of Norwegian painter Edvard Munch, who is seen as a young man in battle with a puritanical Norwegian society and family.
•Jan. 18, 8:30pm and Jan. 21, 8pm **The Journey** *1988.* Three chapters of this 19-chapter film portray director Watkins' extended conversations with families and non-governmental organizations about the arms race.
•Jan. 21, 6pm and Jan. 30, 9pm **Evening Land** *1977.* Watkins constructs the story of a strike in a Copenhagen shipyard with 192 nonprofessional actors. The result is a social documentary that examines the ways in which Denmark's social democracy might be affected by contemporary social ills.
•Jan. 24 and Jan. 29, 7pm **The Freethinker** *1994.* This is the collaboration of Watkins and 24 high school students. It examines the life and art of August Strindberg, a Swedish dramatist who flouted rules and went against convention.
•Jan. 26 and 27, 6pm **La Commune** *2000.* A group of 220 actors impersonate the social and political debates going on in March 1871—a time when civil war raged in Paris.

Pictures at an Exhibition

•Jan. 23, 7pm **A Selection of Images in Ghajar Dynasty** *1993.* Director Makhmalbaf examines the realm of visual arts from the dynasty. Also showing: **Salaam Cinema** *1995.* Makhmalbaf creates a compelling portrait of contemporary filmmaking.

Theater into Film

•Jan. 28, 7pm **Vanya on 42nd Street** *1994.* In what would be his final film, director Andre Gregory creates a wholly innovative, nontheatrical staging of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, set in a decrepit Times Square theater.

Museum of Fine Arts

Guitar and Films

•Jan. 18, 6:15pm **Jim Hall: A Life in Progress** *1998.* Rare archival footage of jazz guitarist Jim Hall performing with Chico Hamilton, Jimmy Giuffre, Sonny Rollins, Art Farmer and Bill Evans.
•Jan. 20, 10:45am **Righteous Babes** *1998.* With insight and candor, this powerful documentary demonstrates the vibrancy and relevance of feminism for women and young girls today. With Courtney Love, Chrissie Hynde, Gloria Steinem and more.
•Jan. 28, 12pm **The Ballad of Ramblin' Jack** *2000.* From his unlikely roots as the son of a Jewish doctor in Brooklyn to his wanderings as the last of the singing cowboys, Ramblin' Jack Elliott has packed so many adventures into his 68 years that he seems more myth than man.

Other Film Offerings

•Jan. 19, 6pm; Jan. 20, 2:15pm; Jan. 26 and 27, 6pm **Beautiful Mother** *1999.* An eccentric bunch of characters contribute to this madcap melee of misplaced passion.
•Jan. 20, 12pm **Under the Sun** *2000.* Set in the Swedish countryside, a woman mysteriously appears in a rural town and finds herself the object of everyone's desire.

Boston Film Artists Present

•Jan. 25, 8pm **Henry Hill** *1999.* A virtuoso violin player with a terrible case of stage fright is the title character in this David G. Kantar film.

•Jan. 28, 3:45pm **Beyond Killing Us Softly: The Strength to Resist** *2000.* Oscar-winning directors Margaret Lazarus and Renner Wunderlich (*Defending Our Lives*) have created another gem with this documentary about media's toxic and degrading messages.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
Trapelo Rd. (484-1706). Red Line to Harvard, transfer to the 73 bus.

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.
Nickelodeon
606 Comm. Ave. (424-1500). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford St.
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Sq. (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

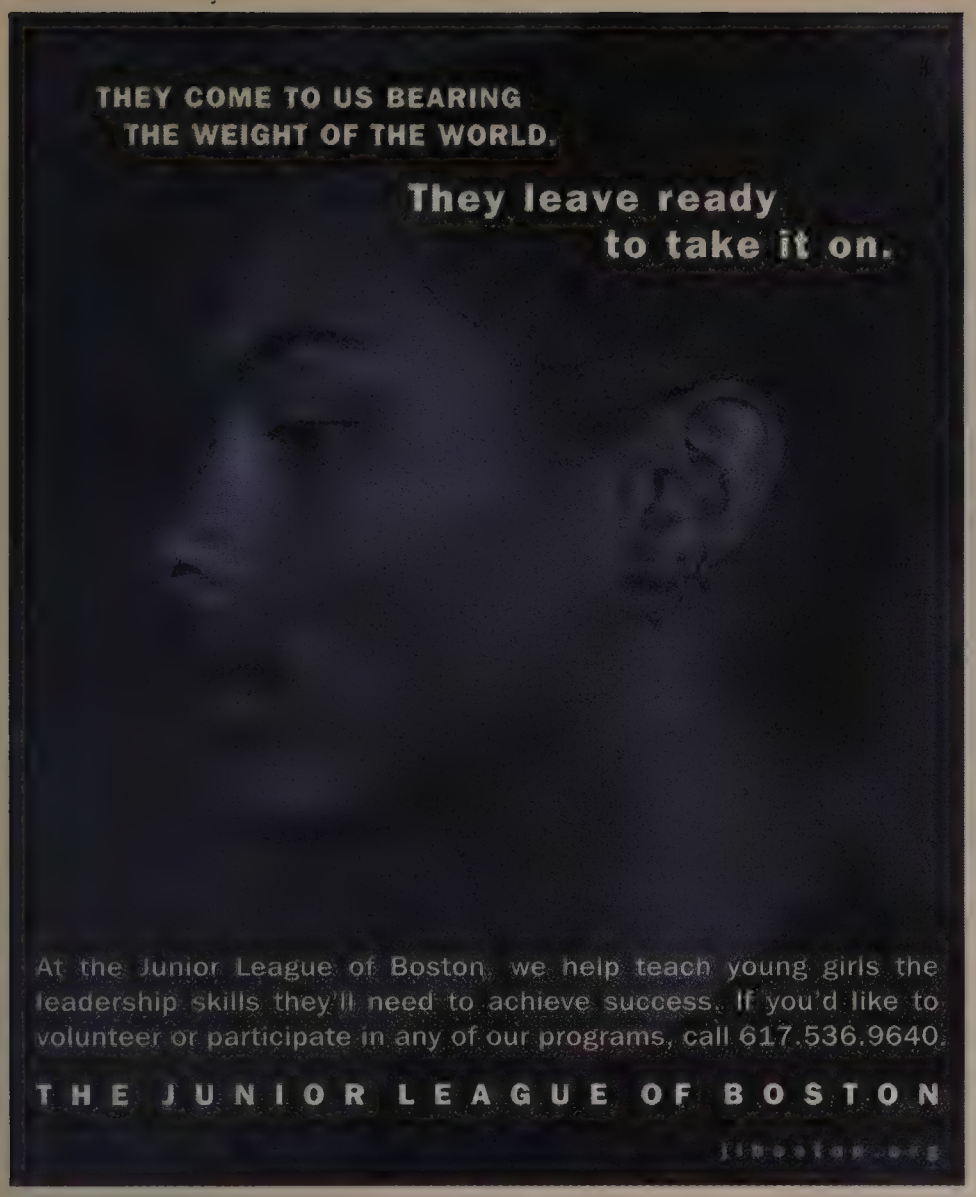
SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Sq.
Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). B Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

Wednesday, Jan. 17

Borders Bookshop
85 Worchester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. Author of *Life Work Transitions* and well-known career consultant **Deborah Knox** discusses her book—a how-to guide for finding a job through the Internet.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newton (244-619). 7:30pm. Authors **David** and **Tom Gardner** discuss their books, *The Motley Fool Investment Guide* and *The Motley Fool You Have More than You Think.* The duo are available to sign copies of the books after the reading.

Thursday, Jan. 18

An Evening with Lauren Slater
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. $23. **Lauren Slater** was one of the first beneficiaries of the Prozac revolution. She tells her story of battling depression and how her suicidal tendencies waned at age 26 when she tried Prozac, which she chronicles in her memoir, *Prozac Diary.* She'll also discuss her latest achievement, *Lying,* in this event sponsored by the Boston Center for Adult Education.

Arlington Center for the Arts Event
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). 7:30pm. Free. The Writers and Readers Series presents three writers tonight in an evening of readings. The speakers are **Judith Nase**, **April Ossmann** and **Julia Lisella**.

Borders Books and Music Author Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. With 20 years of experience as a public speaker, **Dr. Karen E. Peterson** is a licensed psychologist specializing in the treatment of procrastination, writer's block, writing anxiety and creative inhibition. A former university writing instructor, Dr. Peterson offers humorous self-help strategies in her book, *The Tomorrow Trap.*

A Celebration of the Muse
Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 12 Sedgwick St., Jamaica Plain (723-3716). 6:30pm. Free. The celebration features **Lainie Senechal** and **Harris Gardner**, authors of *Chalice of Eros.* There is also an open-mike session, and audience members are encouraged to bring poems.

Gallery One Poetry Event
New England School of Photography, 537 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (437-1868). 7:30pm. Poet **Robin Becker** teams up with photographer Debi Milligan in an evening of poetry and art.

Newton Free Library Author Series
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. **James Hirsch**, a former reporter for the *New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*, talks about Rubin "Hurricane" Carter and his new book, *Hurricane: The Miraculous Journey of Rubin Carter.*

Friday, Jan. 19

Naked Girls, A New Show from the Top Performers of the Amazon Slam
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789 ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 19, 8pm. $15. Naked Girls is a sexy three-woman show with **Zilla McCue**, **Yvette Leaphart** and **Ren Jender**. The trio are acclaimed poets in the Boston area and regular fixtures at the Amazon Slam.

Saturday, Jan. 20

Latasha Natasha Diggs with the Jeff Robinson Trio
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789, ext. 333). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $10. **Latasha Natasha Diggs** recites her poems and songs in Spanish, English and Japanese, creating a cabaret of singing, screaming, speaking and whispering. She'll address issues of race, culture, economics and female identity.

Monday, Jan. 22

New England Poetry Club
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (349-4040). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Hear several NEPC members read a selection of their poetry.

Newton Free Library Green Decade Coalition Speaker Series
330 Homer Sr., Newton (552-7145). 7pm. Free. Newton resident and author of *Reflections in Bullough's Pond*, **Diana Muir**, speaks on economic and environmental history in her lecture titled "Cities of Steam: Ecological Crisis and Response."

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Borders Books and Music Author Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. **Andrew Buckley** is a shellfisherman, historian, political consultant and writer. His ancestral ties to Cape Cod date back to the 1600s, which he put to use when writing a work of historical fiction—a mystery titled *The Bostoner.* It is the first in a planned trilogy.

Harvard Bookstore Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Acclaimed feminist author **bell hooks** reads from her new book, *Salvation: Black People and Love*, and touches upon subjects in two previous books, *All About Love* and *Where We Stand.* Audience members can ask her questions; a book signing will follow.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. **Nancy Shultz**, author of *Fire and Roses: The Burning of the Charlestown Convent 1834*, gives a breathtaking account the Catholic-Protestant hostilities that exploded in 1834 and burst into flames as a mob torched the Charlestown Ursuline Academy—a school that had once catered to the daughters of Boston's Protestant elite.

Wordsworth Books Author Event
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. Senator **George McGovern**, former Democratic candidate for president and current U.S. Ambassador to the UN Agencies on Food and Agriculture in Rome, discusses his new book, *The Third Freedom: Ending Hunger in Our Time.*

Thursday, Jan. 25

Borders Books and Music Author Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. **Karen S. Hinds**, formerly a sales representative for a travel company and coordinator of a financial services educational program, now runs her own company. Raised on the Caribbean island of St. Vincent, Hinds combines her knowledge of British style andCaribbean hospitality to *Get Along, Get Ahead,* a book about bringing the values of courtesy, respect, honor and dignity back to the workplace.

Borders Books and Music Author Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 6pm. **Lama Surya Das**, author of the best-selling *Awakening the Buddha Within,* has spent more than 30 years studying the spiritual masters of Asia, including the Dalai Lama, and is a leading spokesman for a new American Buddhism and contemporary spirituality. In his new book, *Awakening the Buddhist Heart,* he demonstrates how to integrate all life's experiences into a personal spiritual search.

Friday, Jan. 26

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newton (244-619). 7:30pm. **Mani Suri** reads from his highly acclaimed debut novel, *The Death of Vishnu.* Born in Bombay, Suri is a mathematics professor at the University of Maryland. An excerpt from the novel has been published in *The New Yorker.*

Saturday, Jan 27

Borders Books and Music Author Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 6pm. **Mary Rockwood Lane** is the cofounder and codirector of the Arts in Medicine Program at the University of Florida and is one of the world's experts on art and healing. Her book, *Spirit Body Healing,* emerged from a study in a university health care center.

Kaji Aso Studios Poetry Event
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (247-1719). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7pm. The gallery's *Winter Festival of the Arts* is a presentation of artwork, poetry and music composed around the theme of Night Wind. Tonight's reception features compositions by Jonathan Lovenstein, Jeff Davidson, Jun Toguchi; poetry readings by members of the **Boston Haiku Society**.



All About Love **author bell hooks reads from her new work, *Salvation*, Jan. 23 at the BPL.**

Monday, Jan. 29

Borders Books and Music Author Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. As part of the *How to Say It* series, **Dr. Phyllis Mindell** is releasing another installment on how women can improve communication skills and empower themselves to win attention and respect, in *How to Say It for Women.*

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Cambridge Forum
3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. Free. Acclaimed poet **Mark Doty** reads from his latest book, *Still Life with Oysters.* The book is about objects and intimacy.

Borders Bookshop
85 Worchester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. Author **Julia Markus** takes an insightful look at the culture and customs of an era long gone in her newest work, *Across an Untried Sea.*

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open mike and a slam.

Club Passim, Tuesdays
47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $5. All open-mike fanatics must experience this open-mike night—a training ground for up-and-coming poets. Sign up Tuesdays, 7:30pm.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night, Saturdays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $3. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers. • Jan. 22 with featured poet Deborah Priestly. • Jan. 29 with featured poet Andy Levesque.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Education. Or e-mail information to education@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

Wednesday, Jan. 17

African-American Architects: An Uncommon Heritage
Rabb Lecture Hall at Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston (951-1433, ext. 221). www.architects.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Free.* Florida architect, architectural historian and writer **Frank Dozier** surveys the contributions of African-American architects throughout the nation's history.

Can My Father's New Wife's Daughter Really Be My Sister?
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Boston (496-1462). www.radcliffe.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4pm. Free.* Sociology Radcliffe fellow **Constance Ahrons** discusses the anomalies of contemporary family life.

Traveling Alone for Women
The Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). 5:45pm. $45. Even though we know you're fearless, fabulous and certainly don't need any help with anything, it might be a good idea to learn how to enjoy life on your own in a foreign country. Just to be safe. **Julie Smith** gives tips on where to stay, how to get there and how to feel comfortable in a country where you don't know the language. Then you can brag about how incredibly independent you are—even in Egypt.

Thursday, Jan. 18

The Power and Peril of Genetic Testing
Brookline Adult and Community Education, Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). 7pm. $5. Biologist **David Hirsch** leads a lecture on the basics of genetic diseases and provides information on how genetic testing can be used to fight these illnesses.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Holocaust Survivor Edith Velmans
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7-8:30pm. $23. **Edith Velmans** shares her remarkable story of survival during the German occupation in World War II.

Trading at Your Terminal
The Technology Learning Center at the Museum of Science, Boston (267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Museum. 6-8pm. $34-$37.* **Maureen Igoe**, a personal financial adviser with American Express Financial Advisors, introduces online stock trading. Learn about the most user-friendly trading sites on the Web and how to buy, sell and track your stock's performance.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Children of the Atomic Bomb
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. Free. **Dr. James Yamazaki**, professor of pediatrics at UCLA's medical center, lectures as part of the millennial series about the effect of the atomic bomb on Japan's children and how the trauma still resonates in adulthood.

Thursday, Jan. 25

Serenity Now! Reducing Stress in a Stressed-Out Society
Brookline Adult and Community Education, Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). 7pm. $5. If those deep-breathing exercises just aren't working, clinical psychotherapist **Amy Wood** suggests you step back and take a look at your lifestyle.

Huck, Interrupted
Old South Meeting House, 510 Washington St., Boston (482-9621). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15pm. $5. This lecture examines the merits of *Huckleberry Finn*, which has been banned in many schools and by the NAACP for its offensive racial references.

Sunday, Jan. 28

How to Care for a Polar Bear
Meller-Danforth Education, Roger Williams Park Zoo, 1000 Elmwood Ave., Providence, RI (401-785-3510). 2pm. Free with the price of zoo admission. Lead zookeeper **Ron Martini** gives us an insider's look at what goes into caring for these animals in captivity.

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dance clubs

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Nights

Mondays

Ceremony
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Cabaret
Encore Lounge. Show tunes and Cabaret with Michael Larson and Dorthy Miller. 9pm-1am.

Language
Hibernia. This incredible drum-and-bass night is heated up with Cosmo. 8pm. 21+.

Monsta Monday
Bill's Bar. DJ Kaptain Krunch kicks off the week. 9pm, $5, 18+.

Sissy K's
The Financial District's hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers Hardhouse and UK Progressive. Plus a drag/strip event with Mizery. 10pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo. Caesar and Giorgio throw a chic party for those who never want to stop dancin'. Dress slick. 10pm. No cover.

Tuesdays

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar. This off-the-hook night features DJ Chaos scratching out hip-hop. 10pm. $12, 18+.

Flaunt
Aria. Hip-hop and R&B with guest DJs. 19+, $10.

The Forum
Lava Bar. Join Mission Control and support local DJs as home-grown talents share the floor. 10pm. 21+.

Got Milk?
Venu. If you're chic you'll be at Venu for Milk—a devilishly hip party with DJ Osheen. Dress is funky. 21+.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a relaxed night out on a Tuesday. 6pm.

Lot 36
The Modern/Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin House for a trendy crowd. 10pm. $10. 19+.

Showtunes
Encore Lounge. Bobby Femino plays the classic piano bar show tunes. 9pm-1am.

Sissy K's
The Financial District's hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Free Salsa lessons by Dan Marshall. 9-10pm, followed by dancing. 5pm-2am. No cover. 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange. Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble rocks along with a complimentary buffet. 8pm.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua. Join this weekly dance party/fund-raiser with local DJs Skinny B and Ray, hosted by *What's Up Magazine*. $5, 19+.

Wednesdays

Backstage
DJ Jonny C. spins top-40 dance. 10pm, no cover. 21+.

College Night
The Aquarium. Guest DJs spin all sorts of tunes at this relatively new venue at 10pm.

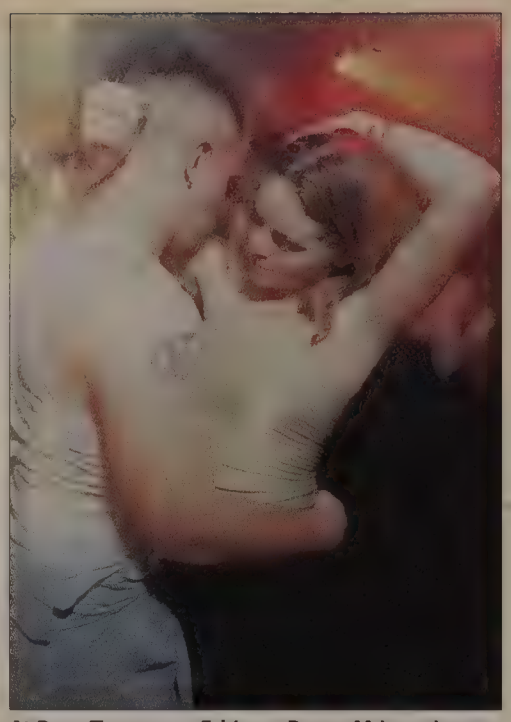
Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays blues and jazz at the piano bar. 9pm.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar. DJ Tim Collins spins live funk, soul and hip-hop. 9pm. $5, 18+.

Latin Night
Aquarium. This aquatic-themed club offers specialty drinks, loud music and dance lessons from 9-10pm.

Mason
Hibernia. Perfect Downtempo and house music, complete with funky breaks. 6pm.

New Music
The Druid. Mellow out with top U.S. and European acoustic acts. 9pm.



At Buzz/Europa on Fridays, Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs play house. 11pm.

Pravda 116
Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix. 21+.

Rockout
Emily's. Rock trivia game show and live local bands. 8pm. $5. 21+.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange. A night dedicated to those in the industry is hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White. 10-11pm is a champagne reception. 21+.

Sissy K's
The Financial District's hot spot has live music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40 and R&B upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor beginning at 9:30pm. DJ Eddy K spins best of international music on Sophia's second floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Thursdays

An Tua Nua
Top 40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul spun by DJ Ren Justice.

Aquarium
The Kiss 108 FM dance party. 10pm. $3.

Backstage
Tonight's adrenaline high features special-guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm, $5. 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans-themed nightspot has it all—even billiards. 9pm.

Charlie's Angels Night
Polly Esther's. Dance to '70s, '80s or '90s tunes. 8pm, $5.

Chrome
Axis. Resident DJs John Debo and Ali Ajami spin house and trance music. 10pm, $10. 19+. •Nov. 30 DJ Carl Cox.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern. DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar. 9pm-2am, 21+.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin Lounge. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays great American, blues and jazz at the piano bar. 9pm-1am.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion House
Aria. Fashion shows and DJ Roger spinning house. It's also Greek Night in the Angel Room. $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116. DJ Maric spins tunes to relax you.

Heaven
Comedy Connection Backstage. Music by DJs Johnny C and Freddie C. Proper dress. 10pm. No cover.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange. DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B. 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia Thursdays
DJ Jeremy spins loopy, trippy, trip-hop. 6pm.

Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals. 9pm. 21+.

International Thursday
Avalon. A mixed crowd fills this popular night spot as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro House. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy. You know it's time to get down when the Roxy breaks out its sexy Latin dance mixes. 10:30pm, 21+.

The Druid
Mr. Doug Nice plays trippy deep house. 10pm.

The Modern
International Thursdays features Progressive Euro House. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Sissy K's
The Financial District's hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm. DJ Eddy K spins best of Latin on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Speed
Karma. Resident DJs Bruno spin house to an edgy crowd. 10pm, $12. 19+.

Sugar Shack
The best music from three decades pounds through the festival atmosphere at Sugar Shack where every day is Mardi-Gras.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

The List
Lava Bar. *Lavabar.com*. Verse/D bring you soul and funk. 10pm. 21+.

Underground
Bill's Bar. DJ Mark Hamilton showcases up and coming acts and established bands. 9pm. Cover varies, 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spins to a huge college crowd. 19+.

Fridays

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hits and your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s.

Aquarium
DJ Lu spins today's hottest dance hits.

American Karma
Karma. All-star American top-40 remixes with DJ Tim Collins, live on STAR 93.7. 9pm, $8, 19+.

Avaland
Avalon. Everything about this place screams "Party!" With Ali Ajami and special-guest DJs. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40. 10pm, $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has some of the best mainstream DJs in town.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz. Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs pay homage to the house music gods. 11pm, $15. 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. John O'Neil and Jan Peters sing showtunes, great American songbook and cabaret. 9pm-1am.

Envy
This popular destination is filled with a mass of sweaty 'n' ready dancers. 9pm, $5 after 10pm. 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange. Brothers Tiziano and Maurizio deliver an onslaught of House upstairs. G-Squared spins hip-hop, reggae, and R&B in the Vault. 9pm.

Focus at Hibernia
Cocktails with Alan Strack at 6pm, and deep funky house by Shelter at 10pm, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy. International house featuring local, national and European DJs. 10:30pm. Proper dress and ID.

Life
Lava Bar. Dance to a different drummer with DJ Fran Englehardt's deeply rooted, soulful rhythms. 10pm.

Mondo Bar
Roxy. International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Friday
Bill's Bar. Get in on the action with Guest DJs' best live music and bands. 9pm, 18+.

NYC Jukebox
All the disco and rock you can handle. Casual but neat. 9pm. 21+.

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as J Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Revolution
The Modern. Find Latin and progressive Euro House here with DJ Eddie K. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Sissy K's
This new hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin band begins at 9:30pm on the first floor. DJ Mike C. from Puerto Rico plays Latin dance on second floor while DJ Zino spins Miami style Latin house in a basement lounge and dance floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis. Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. 10pm, $12. 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJs and specialty drinks, dancing 'til 2am.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Venu
The scene is elegant for this jacket-required international romp. Get on your Gucci as DJ Arsit spins. 21+.

Saturdays

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar. DJ Fran and Kris Kono unite with high-energy house and Latin beats. 10pm, 21+.

Aquarium
Saturday night dance party with DJs. 10pm. $5.

Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm. $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has live bands all weekend long. Does non-stop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.

Blues
Encore Lounge. Shake off your blues and listen to honky-tonk, classic and contemporary rock. Sit-ins welcome. 9:30pm-2am.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern. DJ Shiuan Lee puts out funky house for a mix of international students, local scenesters and, of course, Boston's A-list. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Boston's newest Latin Night starting at 10pm. Dress to impress. $10.

Club Nicole
The mob is thick for this exclusive trend-setting night. DJ Alex spins Eurohouse. Proper dress is a must and jackets are required for the guys. 21+.

Club Piteko
Fajitas & Ritas. DJ Piteko leads the party to "dance like no one is watching," specializing in Cape Verdean music, adding in a mix of samba, reggae, soukous, zouk, hip-hop and roots music. $7. 10:30pm. 21+.

Downtown
Avalon. Resident DJs Manolo and Mattie O. gyrate your arse with the latest hits. 10pm, $15. 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music. 9pm, $5.

Elements of Life
Karma. Guest DJs spin house while DJ Justin Hoffman spins hip-hop, funk and soul. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Rafii S. melts the tables upstairs with house and international tracks. In the vault, DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop, R&B and top-40 tunes.

Hibernia Saturdays
Steve Porter whips the crowd into a frenzy with progressive house. 10pm. 21+.

Indulgence
Aria. DJ Raffi spins house and club top-40. In the Angel Room, DJ Roger spins Latin and Eurohaus. $10, 21+.

Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's. Get a taste of Miami nightlife. 9:30pm (ladies free before 11pm), $10. 21+. Ladies, 19+.

Mischief
The Modern. Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica. 21+.

Mythos
Venu. It's Greek International night with DJ Yorgo Jr. spinning the hits from the famous party islands.

NYC Jukebox
Disco and rock hits of '80s and '90s. 9:30pm, casual but neat. 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario provides current dance jams.

Roxy Saturdays
High-energy house and dance by DJ Adilson. 9pm, proper dress. 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's. Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD. 8pm, $10. 21+.

Sissy K's
The hot spot has acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Smile
Bill's Bar. DJ Bruno takes over. 10pm. $12, 19+.

Sophia's
DJ Edwin Mathos spins Latin dance on second floor. Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm, DJ Mike C from Puerto Rico spins best of salsa and merengue in new basement lounge. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.
Who's on First?
Some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin is hosted by Li'l Mike, 10:30pm, $12. 18+.
X Night
Axis. Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and the hits from the '80s. 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sundays

Backstage
Urban Night. T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school. Doors open at 10pm, $10. 21+.
Common People
An Tua Nua. Brit-pop, new wave, indie and more with DJ Adrienne. 9pm, $3. 19+.
Curve
Hannah's. Three DJs, one vibe. Special guests every week alongside resident DJ Earthrok spinning house, breaks and techno. 10pm. $5. 21+.
Encore Lounge
Saddle up to the piano bar and listen to Michael Kreutz play showtunes and great American songbook.
Evening in the Velvet Lounge
Trio. Oscar's Sunday night has moved to this hot spot, where you can kick back and lounge. No cover, 10pm.
Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M. No cover, 21+.
Lava Bar
Pandora's Box (Club Courtesy). DJ Vinny and Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s Exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown. 10pm. 21+.
Living Room
Aria. DJ Raffi spins Eurohouse. In the Angel Room, DJ Franklin spins Latin. $10, 21+. Proper dress.
Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116. Party in the front bar that is transformed into a comfortable lounge. 10pm-2am.
Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar. DJ K-Don spins some of the best reggae around. 10pm. $10. 21+.
Salvation
An intimate night, courtesy of DJ Soul. $5.
Sex
The Exchange. Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.
Sissy's
U: DJ Dave Jordan plays Top 40 and Hip-Hop tunes. D: Martini Bros., 4-8pm; Gregg Luttrell, 9pm-1am.
The Druid
May the luck of the Irish be with you as you listen to a Seisiun with Shay Walker and friends. 5pm.
Venu
Carnival comes to Boston every Sunday as DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio to Venu. 21+.

JOIN IN AND DANCE

Club Joy
533 Washington Street, Boston (354-5780). Saturday nights. This Latin nightspot now offers classes: salsa, merengue, bachata and more.
Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Mass. Ave., Arlington (924-7276). Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults, $4 teens, children free. Join in the dancing to all types of music—even dance barefoot—in this family-friendly and smoke- and alcohol-free environment.
English Country Dance
Park Avenue Congregational Church, Park Avenue at Paul Revere Road, Arlington (781-662-6710). Wednesdays, 7:30-10:30pm. $6 adults, $5 members, $3 students. Enjoy country dancing with music provided by Bare Necessities.
Four on the Floor and Just Swing It
Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •*Saturdays, 9pm-1:30am, $12, $10 after 11:30pm.* Join in a variety of dance moves—here you'll find jazzy mambos, swing dancing, cheeky cha chas and sassy salsa numbers. •*Tuesdays, 10pm-1:30am. $6.* Featuring the Black Tie Affair Orchestra, this is a great night of swing dancing.
Israeli Dancing
Temple Israel of Boston, Longwood Avenue at Plymouth St., Boston (566-3960). MBTA: D Green line to Longwood. Dec. 17, 11am-12pm. $5. Learn the art of Isrraeli Dance under the instruction of Vladimir Foygelman. Great for beginners, but all levels are welcome.
Latin Night
Johnny D's, 17 Holland St., Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sundays, lessons at 9pm, dancing at 10pm. $8 lessons, $6 dancing. Lessons for salsa are packed at this Davis Square hangout. Stick around for live music by Gilberto Rivera and Rumba Na Ma.
New England Contras and Squares
VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave., Cambridge (354-1340). Thursdays, 8-11pm. $5. Learn to square dance to live music, then do-si-do your partner with confidence.
Salsa Night
Karoun Restaurant, 839 Washington St., Newtonville (964-3400). Thursdays, 9:30pm-1am. $10. Dance to the rhythm of salsa, merengue, mambo and more. Free dance class from 8:30-9:30pm.
Scottish Country Dance
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (484-0950). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mondays, 7:45-10:15pm. $6 adults, $5 students. Dance like a true Scot after some fine lessons. And don't forget your kilt.
Tango Rialto
Rialto, Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street, Cambridge (661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thursdays, 10:30pm-1:30am. $10. One of Boston's most popular restaurants, Rialto in Harvard Square, opens its doors to tango dancers of all levels and backgrounds. Expect a night full of mingling, light hors d'oeuvres and lots of dancing.
Why Choose One?
Dance Caliente, 170 Washington St., Arlington (781-646-1233). Mon. and Tue. $25 for one course, $55 for a five-week course. Learn it all at this multidance studio where you can learn or perfect your salsa, swing, tango and fox trot skills.

Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aquarium *65 Holland St., Somerville (623-3200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Comedy Connection *Faneuil Hall, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St. Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Fajitas & Ritas *25 West St., Boston (426-1222). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Oskar's *107 South St., Boston (542-6756). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*



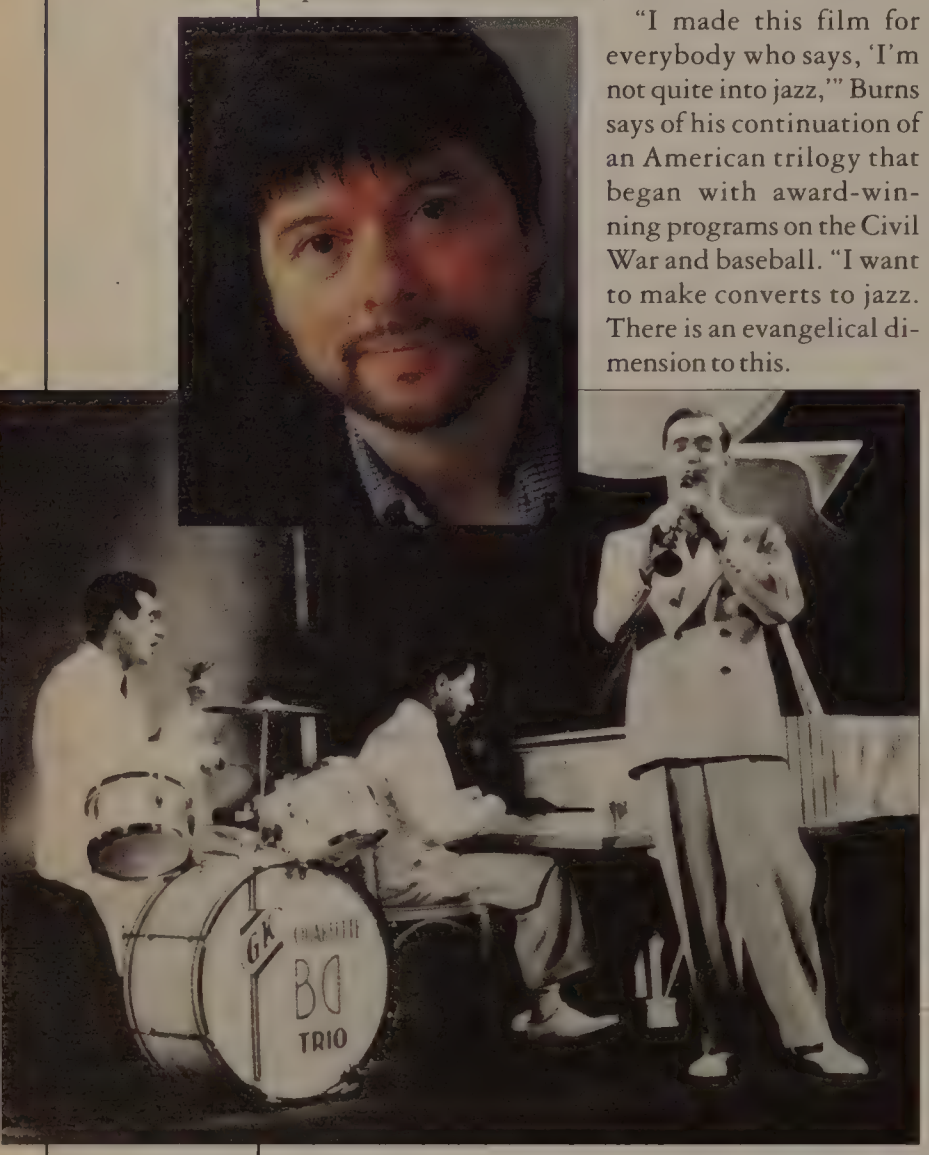


ENCYCLOPEDIA JAZZANICA

With a documentary, an accompanying book and 28 CDs, Ken Burns sits America down at jazz's table. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Jazz is starting its second century with an unusual jump-start from Ken Burns' 19-hour documentary *Jazz*, a blitz that kicked in last week with its first of 10 episodes on PBS.

This colossal work comes from a guy who admits he knew little about jazz going into the five-year project but now wants others to realize what they've been missing. And when you consider that jazz, which was once America's popular music, accounts for maybe 3 percent of recent CD sales, a lot has been missed.



Top: Ken Burns. Below: The Benny Goodman Trio, circa 1937.

"I made this film for everybody who says, 'I'm not quite into jazz,'" Burns says of his continuation of an American trilogy that began with award-winning programs on the Civil War and baseball. "I want to make converts to jazz. There is an evangelical dimension to this.

"I didn't do it to celebrate the music," he adds. "I did it to ask this question about America, and I think that jazz is this incredible mirror that reflects where we've been and who we are. But just as battlefield attendance skyrocketed after the Civil War series, I'd like to see people coming back to jazz music. It's so much more elegant and satisfying than the sort of junk that passes for pop music today."

"If you want something really nutritious," the newfound Louis Armstrong junkie says on the phone from his New Hampshire office, "you have to sit down at jazz's table."

If Burns has become the unlikely host for such a feast, he has made sure there's something on the table for all sizes of appetites, especially when it comes to product tie-ins. They include a hefty *Jazz* book (by film writer Geoffrey C. Ward), and 28 CDs through the rare, post-merger cooperation of various record labels, led by Verve and Columbia/Legacy.

While music is used to artful effect and emphasis in the film, from underscoring social celebration and upheaval to having Boston musician Matt Glaser mime loving analysis of Armstrong solos, it sets the stage for what's on record.

For newcomers who want a taste, there's *The Best of Ken Burns Jazz*, a single disc that hits many bases, from Jelly Roll Morton to John Coltrane (Duke Ellington gets two of the 20 tracks). For people who want a broader sampling, there's a five-CD box set. Since it's chronological, some artists come and go (tracks by Armstrong and Ellington pop up on every CD), but it's a better summation, until the final CD, which submits to an odd sprinkle of fusion from innovators Weather Report, smooth-jazz ace Grover Washington Jr., and Herbie Hancock, whose dance hit "Rockit" seals the mismatch. Add a '90s token in Cassandra Wilson's blues cover "Death Letter" and the Lincoln Center Orchestra's revival of Billy Strayhorn's Ellington favorite "Take the 'A' Train," and one gets the impression that the gist of *Jazz* is in the past.

That idea continues with 22 documentary-affiliated discs by individual artists, within which Hancock manages a nod over Weather Report or anything else that arrived in the past 25 years (including the film's frequent spokesman, Wynton Marsalis). It's much the same way in the film and book, which at least name-check some contemporary practitioners near the end of their final chapters. "I'm in the business of history," says Burns. "History is about stories that are over. The past 25 years is about stories that are still going on."

The individual CDs nonetheless tap the essential, too-often-unheard roots of jazz, from the great Armstrong (leaning on landmarks with his Hot Five and Hot Seven before latter pop hits "Hello, Dolly!" and "What a Wonderful World") and his exquisite soprano-sax contemporary Sidney Bechet to Charlie Parker, Thelonious Monk and Miles Davis. There's bandleader Fletcher Henderson, as well as Ellington and Benny Goodman; there are saxmen Lester Young, Coleman Hawkins and Ornette Coleman, in addition to Coltrane and Sonny Rollins. Plus the golden ladies, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan.

Yet for all the sensible selections and marketing chops (the five-CD box alone sold 15,000 copies the week before Christmas), *Ken Burns Jazz* discs still scratch the surface of what neophytes and confirmed fans can discover in jazz past and present.

Burns contends that people seem to think they "need some sort of advanced degree or esoteric knowledge [to enjoy jazz], and this film joyously screams in every cut 'No you don't!' Louis Armstrong said there ain't but two kinds of music in this world: good music and bad music. And good music you tap your foot to. I did not let go a single episode till the visitors to our editing room were not only paying rapt attention to the screen, but were tapping their feet. And I was watching their feet." iB

Ken Burns' *Jazz*

Airs through Jan. 31 on WGBH, Channels 2 and 44. Check local listings for specific nights and times.

music

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Top Billling

Richard Ashcroft
Jan. 27, Paradise
Gary Burton and Makoto Ozone
Jan. 20, Symphony Hall
Celia Cruz
Jan. 27, Orpheum Theatre
English Beat's Dave Wakeling
Jan. 21, Paradise
Thurston Moore, Nels Cline and Zeena Parkins
Jan. 24 , School of the Museum of Fine Arts' Anderson Auditorium
Aimee Mann
Jan. 19, Berklee Performance Center
Makoto Ozone
Jan. 20, Symphony Hall
Michael Penn
Jan. 19, Berklee Performance Center
Frank Black and the Catholics
Jan. 24, Lilli's

Rock, Jazz and Blues

Wednesday, Jan. 17

The Attic Cloud Art and Sona Nyl, 9pm, 21+.
The Barking Crab Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6:30-10pm.
Bill's Bar Funk & Groove with DJ Tim Collins and Noble Society, $7, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim The Loomers, Jim Infantino, Lori McKenna, Meghan Toohey, Sam Shaber, Anne Heaton, Linda Sharar, Rob Laurens, Nini Camps, Laura Higgins, Edie Carey and more, 7pm, $15.
Common Ground What a Way To Go-Go with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge T.W.'s Thang, no cover.
Good Life Downtown The Cranktones, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Mountain of Venus, 9:30pm, $3.
Hennessy's of Boston Johnny Bahama Night with Me & Julio, 9pm.
Hibernia Mason in the Lounge, 6pm.
House of Blues Kyler, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Huval Family Band, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Ad Frank, 9:30pm; Alex Maws, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Bluegrazer, Jess Sarin, and David Falk, $5.
Lilli's Electro Organic Sound System, Hvratski and Tube (a.k.a. Frank Weiss), 9pm, 21+.
Linwood Boston Unplugged Open-Mike Session, no cover.
Lizard Lounge The Ware River Club CD-release show with Stephen Kellog and the Ray Mason Band, 21+.
Middle East U: Tizzy and the Major Stars, $6, 18+. C: Belly Dancing, 10pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Hegarty, 8pm; Boston Folk and Traditional Singers Club, 9pm, cover varies.
Rack Code 51 and DJ Steve, no cover.
Sky Bar Jaded Salingers, Linus and Rabbit, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Times Phil Danaltelli, 10pm, no cover.
Toad 'Lil Memphis, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Roxie, Mary Prankster and Etherdrops, $4.
Les Zygomates John Thomas, 8pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Thursday, Jan. 18

Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton Labb, Something Ira and Jeremiah Freed, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase, 9pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers, 7:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Michael McDermott and Bob Hillman, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground Lounge Night, 10pm.

BURNS: STEPHANIE BERGER; GOODMAN: COURTESY OF THE FRANK DRIGGS COLLECTION

Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend.
Harpers Ferry Coby Brown Group with guests, 9:30pm, $5.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Dan McCarthy, 9pm.
House of Blues Joe Bonamassa, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Elijah Wald and Friends, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Frank Morey, 9pm; Amy Correia, 10pm; Liz DeBiase, 11pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Meaghan McLaughlin, Chris Mascara, Chilly Kurtz and Devon Irish, $5.
Lilli's Senor Happy and guests, $7.
Linwood Photo Flash, Burn Cycle and Banana Hands.
Lizard Lounge Club D'elf featuring bassist Micro Vard and special guests, 21+.
Middle East U: Helms, the Lapse and Denali, $7, 18+. D: Bad Box, the Curbys and Breaking the Mile, 8:30pm, $7, 18+. C: Board of Education, 10pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Rack Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10pm, no cover.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Bim Inc. and Sound Vibration.
Scullers Don Byron, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Sky Bar Schism, the Jumblies, little a and Incus, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The Weisstronauts Return, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Gwen Mars, Tunnel of Love and Purge D.I., $6.
Les Zygomates Ma[redacted]ti, 8pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar The G[redacted]geford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

Friday, Jan. 19

The Attic Bowman CD-release party with Lovescream and Jupiter's Daughter, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Johnny Wishbone with Gage and Angry Hill, $8.
Black Horse Tavern Riverside Train, 9pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Carol Noonan and Sloan Wainwright, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground The Pressure Cooker, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Mike Shea.
Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
Green Dragon Tavern Trax.
Harpers Ferry The Mud Hens with Allagash4, 9:30pm, $7.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
House of Blues Arlen Roth Band, 10pm, $12.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Will Provost, 9:30pm; Coby Brown Group, 10:30pm; XGuru, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Laffing Freemen, Dr. Nancy Mroczek PhD, Al Janik's Plastic Cheese, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's John Brown's Body, 9pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Chrissi Poland, Matt Chase Group and Kids with Monsters.
Lizard Lounge Tobin Bridge with Mary, Pierce and EJ, 21+.
Middle East U: Dragstrip Courage and Teen Beaters, $7, 18+. D: Chin Strap, $8, 18+. C: The Room Show, no cover.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Fogal, Tom Carrol and DJ Sean, 9:30pm, cover varies.
Porter's Bar and Girl Jack & Preseent Co. 9:30pm, no cover.
Regattabar The Rebecca Parris Quartet with George Mesterhazy, Peter Kontrimas, Matt Gordy, and Paul Williams, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Rhythm & Spice Danny Tucker.
Scullers Jimmy Scott, 8 & 10pm, $21/$54 for dinner and show.
Sky Bar Michigan Blacksnake and Sugarcoat, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Typhoon Ferri, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron, 9pm-1am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Euphonic Primrose Path, Crush and Ms. Pigeon, $7.
Les Zygomates Bill Lowe, 9pm, no cover.
Western Front Reggae by Anthem.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

Saturday, Jan. 20

Black Horse Tavern The Coots (Webcast on Radioboston.com), 9pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Mary Lou Lord, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground Superhoney, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend.
Good Life Downtown Patrice Willaimson.
Grand Canal Complaints.
Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter.
Harpers Ferry Merl Saunders & His Funky Friends, 9:30pm, $14.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm; DJ Dan McCarthy, 9pm.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Eric Fontana, 9:30pm; the Kickbacks, 10:30pm; the Scrimshanders, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Carla Pettullo, Lolita's Bliss, Clampetts, $5.
Lilli's Ski-Bunny-a-Go-Go! with Les Sans Coulottes, the Sugar Twins and the world-famous Pontani Sisters 9pm, $8, 21+.
Linwood The Hendersons, Fred's Bowling Ball and Porn.
Lizard Lounge CD-release party with Lemon Peeler and Slim Cessna's Auto Club, 21+.
Middle East U: Johnny Alien and Big Bad Bollocks, Colonel Johnny and the Lucky Diamonds, Angry Johnny and the Killbillies, $7, 18+. D: Hybrasil and Wax Poetic, $10, 18+. C: Bourbon Princess.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Fogal and DJ Brian, 9:30pm, cover varies.
Porter's Bar and Grill Empty Head, 9:30pm.
Rack Dance party with Vinny Perizzi, no cover.
Regattabar The Rebecca Parris Quartet, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Rhythm & Spice Kolors.
Scullers Jimmy Scott, 8 and 10pm, $21/or $54 for dinner and show.
Sky Bar WMBR presents Abunai!, Bright, the In/Out and Black Tara, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Times Bar and Restaurant Dirty Blonde, 10pm, no cover.
Toad Armadillos, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Maggie Galloway, 9pm-1am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jim's Big Ego, Ours and Honest Bob, $7.
Les Zygomates Nadine Chas, 6pm; Valerie Stephens, 10pm, no cover.
Western Front Reggae by Anthem.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

Sunday, Jan. 21

Bill's Bar Reggae Sunday with K-Don, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Chihiro Yamanaka Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Chanterelle, 7:30pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack with Phantom Power Supply, 9:30pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Dave Smith, 4pm; karaoke, 9pm.
House of Blues DJ Bruno, 9:30pm, $5, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam & Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 4:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Julie Dougherty, 9:30pm; Heather Waters, 10:30pm, $4.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; poetry with the Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Adam Stone, 21+.
Middle East U: Big D and the Kid's Table, Cooter and the $ellout$, $7, 18+. C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Balla Tounkara, 10 pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll 8pm.
Rack CL Band; Chad LaMarsh, 11pm, no cover.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast.
Toad Christian McNeill, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm-12 midnight.
T.T. the Bear's Place The debut of "Reverie"—a bi-monthly gathering featuring DJs spinning goth, industrial, darkwave and ethereal music.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Monday, Jan. 22

Bill's Bar Walls of Jericho and Hope Conspiracy, $8.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8pm; Clare Burson, 10pm.
Club Passim Feature Butch Ross, 8pm, $5.
Harpers Ferry Copper Tree, 9:30pm, $2.
House of Blues Mountain of Venus, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Johnny D's Hot Tamale Brass Band, 8pm.
Kendall Cafe Jenny Reynolds, 8:30pm; Deb Pasternak, 9:30pm; Faith Soloway, 10:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm; Kim and Josh open-mike comedy, 8pm, 21+.
Middle East U: New Music Night with Dead City Rockers, Fly Danny Click, Bi Janus and Barn, $6, 18+. D: Stone Soup Poets, 7:30pm, $3; Salt on the Toungue Dance Co., 10:30pm. C: The Out Side, 10pm, no cover.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8:30pm.
Les Zygomates The Control Group, 9pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Cantab Lounge Hickory Project, 9pm; Blue Grass Pickin' Party, 10pm.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 8pm, $5.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet, 9:30pm, $3.
Hennessy's of Boston Bluegrass with Nolan, 9pm.
House of Blues Murali Coryell Band with Kenwood Dennard, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Paul Rishell and Annie Raines, 8:30pm.
dall Cafe Tuesday Night Music Club, $6.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnleiter Jazz Quartet, no cover.
Lilli's Mars Music Lounge Residency with the Anti-Jazz Raygun and Naftule's Dream, 8pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Cambridge Music Center All-stars, 21+.
Middle East U: No Warning and Another Life, $6, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth 8pm.
Rack Stu Sinclair, 8pm, no cover.
Regattabar Dave Douglas: Charms of the Night Sky, 8pm and 10pm, $12.
Times Bar and Restaurant Joe Mac, 10pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; the Residency starring Kipper Tin and Mishima, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Love Scream, the Color Forms, Alchemilla and the Troubadours, $4.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

The Attic Distant Relatives and Hazie Maze, 9pm, 21+.
The Barking Crab Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6:30-10pm.
Bill's Bar Strange Habitat with Kano Supreme, Skitzophreniks and 7L & Esoteric, $12, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blue's Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Tracie Smart CD-release show, 8pm, $10.
Harpers Ferry Brother Chameleon with Joe Devoe Band, 9:30pm, $3.
Hennessy's of Boston Johnny Bahama Night with Me & Julio, 9pm.
House of Blues Leslie Helpert with Jeff Scott and the Mystery Mullet Circus, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Jeff Kauppi, 8:30pm; Melissa Morris, 9:30pm; Beth Boucher, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Evan Goodrow Band, Erin Brown and Adrianna Bellic, $5.
Lilli's Frank Black and the Catholics, 9pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Boston Unplugged Open-Mike Session, no cover.
Lizard Lounge The Ware River Club CD-release show with the Johnson Boys and Drunk Stuntmen, 21+.



Musicians participating in the upcoming Portrait of Mingus show at the House of Blues are: jazz legend Barry Reis; Berklee College of music's Jeff Galindo; tenor Timo Shanko; Dave Smallwood, the bassist from Mingus; Jamal Haynes, trombone player in the Mingus Big Band and James Merenda from Mingus 3. Merenda leads the group on alto. Jan 29, 9pm, $6.



Guitarist extraordinaire Hubert Sumlin plays at the House of Blues Jan. 26, 10pm, $15.

Preview

Raucous

Blues great Hubert Sumlin howls at HOB

Hubert Sumlin, the legendary guitarist who was Howlin' Wolf's protegee and bandstand mate for 25 years, is known for his signature lines that contributed to some of the greatest blues ever recorded. Sumlin started out picking twangy tunes on a broom wire nailed to the wall in West Memphis, before a brief stint playing with James Cotton. He then traveled to Chicago in the midst of the blues heyday, where he met the Wolf. The rest was history. His raw, stinging fills, distinct rhythmic approach and terse, scratchy solos added another dimension to Wolf's sound. For a year, he played in Muddy Waters' band, before returning to Wolf, and he stayed with him through the mid-'70s. Nowadays, Sumlin has let his vocal abilities shine on tour, all the while continuing to play his simple melodies. He's also worked on an album with Keith Richards and Eric Clapton that is set for a spring release. *House of Blues, 96 Winthrop St., Cambridge. Jan. 26, 10pm. —Erin Hagedorn*



Shuman, last year's winner of the Superbowl MC Battle, drops off-the-cuff science.

Preview

Freestyle Free-for-all

Local rappers and wannabes to duke it out (verbally) in MC stage battles

Historically, the route to becoming a rock star has been pretty rough—competing with other bands, trying to get noticed, lugging equipment, trying to score as many free-drink tickets as possible and so on. Becoming a rap star is difficult in different ways, but there's one way in which a budding MC can show off his or her talents in a format that's not open to rock bands: the freestyle battle. Dating back to rap's formative years, the tradition is simple: The contenders square off on stage, trading spontaneously composed rhymes, each trying to top the other. The final arbiter can be a judge or a panel, but is more often than not the audience itself. Some battles, like the fiery exchange between Busy Bee and Kool Moe Dee at the Apollo in 1986, have gone down in rap history—but in general, they're just great entertainment. It's like watching figure skating; you're gripped by the skill of the performance, but also on the edge of your seat waiting for the figure in the spotlight to slip up.

Within the next two weeks, local MCs will have not one but two opportunities to test their mike skills, with Metroconcepts and Biscuithead Records hosting (separate) third annual MC battle events. The Metroconcepts 3rd Annual Superbowl MC Battle (at the Middle East Jan. 28) was first held at the Western Front, then moved to the Middle East last year, and has entertained a sold-out crowd both times. It's essentially an invitation-only event for the performers—some of whom come from such far-off locales as Connecticut and New York—if you haven't been tapped to participate, you can e-mail *battle@metroconcepts.com* and plead your case. (There will also be a few slots left open on the bill for "unknowns.") And here's an interesting fact: the MCs will be backed by a live band. This means that they can't rely on the strength of an instrumental version of a familiar or popular hit to boost the crowd response. It's tricky! Plus, the $1,000 grand prize should inspire contestants to be at the top of their game.

Biscuithead Records' Third Annual Battle of the MCs is a slightly different story: It's taking place at Bill's Bar on Jan. 31 and features strictly local MCs. Tryouts are continuing at the Biscuithead Records shop on Jan. 20 and 27. So if you think you've got the skills, head down to the store to drop your science on the preliminary judges. But remember: This event, like the Superbowl Battle, is all about the freestyle, so be prepared to present extemporaneous excellence (or scribble some notes inside your calculator case like you did for all those biology exams). *—Andrew Graham*

Middle East U: Reflecting Skin, the Choice of Tragic Wives and A Kite Is a Victim, $6, 18+. D: Gregory Isaacs, $20, 18+. C: Belly Dancing, 10pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Hegarty, 8pm; Boston Folk and Traditonal Singers Club, 9pm, cover varies.
Rack Search Party and DJ Steve, no cover.
Times Jacob's Plea, 10pm, no cover.
Toad The Ken Clark Organ Trio, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Davinchi, Wingnut and Rosemary Crass, $4.
Les Zygomates Alan Rowe, 8pm ,no cover.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Thursday, Jan. 25

Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton, Darkbuster, Last Stand and Cops & Robbers, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Chris Canty Duo, 9pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers, 7:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Lowen and Navarro, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Lounge Night, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew.
Harpers Ferry Seth Yacovone Band and Sweet Fish, 9:30pm, $5.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Dan McCarthy, 9pm.
House of Blues Keller Williams, 10pm, $10.
Johnny D's Mahavishnu Project, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Meghan Cary, 8pm; Amelia White, 9pm; Deb Talan, 10pm; Aaron Shadwell, 10:45pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Meaghan McLaughlin, Chris Mascara, Chilly Kurtz, Devon Irish Kristian Montgomery and the Modifiers, $5.
Lilli's Girls Against Boys, White Hassle and the Ivory Coast, 9pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood No Michael No, Hello Dry and the Stephanie Reynolds Band.
Lizard Lounge Wide Iris, 21+.
Middle East U: Generic, Machinery Hall and Search Engine, $7, 18+. D: Fighting Gravity, Granian and Treehouse Union, 8:30pm, $10, 18+. C: Board of Education, 10pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm, cover varies.
Rack Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, no cover.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Bim Inc. and Sound Vibration.
Scullers Bill Charlap Trio, 8 and 10pm, $14.
Toad The Stumble, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tricycle, Cloud Art and Sand Machine, $6.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Grant Langeford Review, 9:30pm,.

Friday, Jan. 26

The Attic Babaloo and Violet Tide, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Mourning Widows, 7th Rail Crew and Tester, $10.
Bob the Chef's Frank Wilkins Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Rani Arbo and Daisy Mayhem, 8pm, $12.
Good Life Cambridge Nick G.
Good Life Downtown Weepin Willie.
Grand Canal Fat Tuesday.
Green Dragon Tavern Plaid Daddy.
Harpers Ferry Young Neal & the Vipers with the Stumble, 9:30pm, $6.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
House of Blues Hubert Sumlin, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Anson Funderberg and the Rockets featuring Sam Meyers, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Andrew Kerr, 9:30pm; John Haydon Band, 10:30pm; Bully Pulpit, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Segue, Pollock and the Big Spenders, BJ Snowden, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Count Zero CD-release party with Quick Fix, 9pm, 21+.
Linwood Lamont, Puny Human, 5 Horse Johnson and Bottle Neck Drag.
Lizard Lounge Lars Vegas and guests, 21+.
Middle East U: Russell Simins, Photon Torpedos and Medea Connection, $8, 18+. D: The Dismemberment Plan, Karate and Crack Torch, $8, 18+. C: Aaron Shadwell, no cover.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Fogal, Tom Carrol and DJ Sean, 9:30pm, cover varies.
Porter's Bar and Grill Laidback Jackson, 9:30pm, no cover.
Rack Central Basement, 6pm, no cover.
Rhythm & Spice Hot Like Fire.
Scullers Earl Klugh, 8 and 10pm, $26 or $59 for dinner and show.
Toad The Confidence Men, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Jim Cameron and Maggie Galloway, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Christina Rosenvinge, John Wolfington and Chris Lee (all with Two Dollar Guitar, featuring Steve Shelley of Sonic Youth), $7.
Les Zygomates Ron Savage, 9pm, no cover.
Western Front Reggae by Holy Smoke.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm.

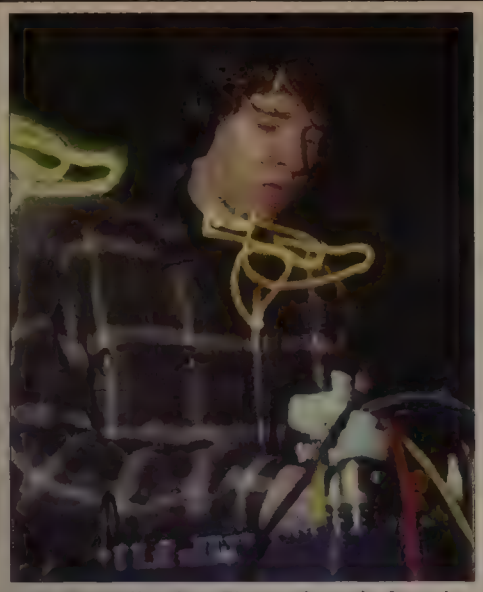
Saturday, Jan. 27

Black Horse Tavern Joe Deveau Band, 9pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Les Sampou, 8pm, $14.
Common Ground Stymie, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Grant Langford.
Good Life Downtown Charlie K. Quintet.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain.
Harpers Ferry Pressure Cooker, 9:30pm, $6.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm; DJ Dan McCarthy, 9pm.
House of Blues Ola Dixon, 10pm , $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Tom Hambridge, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Jenifer Jackson, 9:30pm; Carla Ryder Band, 10:30pm; the Quick Ones, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe The Royal Order of the Cantonian Historical Society presents Lyres, Classic Ruins and Kenne Highland Clan, $6.
Lilli's Babaloo and Chandler Travis Philharmonic, 9pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Stout, Boot Factor 5 and the Trybe.
Lizard Lounge The Groove Holmes Band, 21+.
Middle East U: Mary Timony and Starhustler, $8, 18+. D: The Wine Field, Missing Joe, Moodroom and Accidental Groove, 8:30pm , $8, 18+. C: Kelly Buchanan, no cover.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Fogal and DJ Brian, 9:30pm, cover varies.
Porter's Bar and Grill Shady Neighbors, 9:30pm, no cover.
Rack Dance Party with Vinny Perizzi, no cover.
Regattabar The Rebecca Parris Quartet with George Mesterhazy, Peter Kontrimas, Matt Gordy, and Paul Williams, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Rhythm & Spice Jah Spirit.
Scullers Earl Klugh, 8 and 10pm, $26 or $59 dinner and show.
Toad Amphibian, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Maggie Galloway, 9pm-1am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ours, Francine and Banjo Spiders, $7.
Les Zygomates Jacquiline, 6pm; Eula Lawrence, 10pm, no cover.
Western Front Reggae by Holy Smoke.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

Sunday, Jan. 28

Bill's Bar Reggae Sunday—a Bob Marley and Dennis Brown Tribute, $10.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Chihiro Yamanaka Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Dick's Last Resort Bud Bowl 2001, party begins at 4pm, meet Weei's Pepe and the Waterboys, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack with Silas, 9:30pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Dave Smith, 4pm; karaoke, 9pm.
House of Blues Super Dig 2001, a night of music sponsorted by *The Weekly Dig*, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 4:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Kristin Plater, 9:30pm; Heather Waters, 10:30pm, $4.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnleiter Jazz Quartet, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; poetry with the Jeff Robinson Trio and featured poet Omoizele Okoawo, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East D: Jan. 28 The 3rd Annual Superbowl MC Battle, $10 or $15 at the door, 18+. C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm, Balla Tounkara, 10pm, no cover.
Rack Chad LaMarsh Band, no cover.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast.
Toad Charlie Chesterman and friends, no cover.
Top of the Hub Consuelo Candelaria, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place My Beautiful X-Wife, $4.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experince, 9:30pm, 21+.

RYAN DAMIEN



Jake Trussell, a.k.a. Electro Organic Sound System, play Lilli's Jan. 17.

Preview

Glitchfest

Electronica hit Lilli's

On Wednesday, Jan. 17, three of the key players in Boston's electronic scene will converge at Lilli's for a performance that promises to be a memorable madcap fusion of laptops, turntables, mixers, guitar, drums and bass. On the bill is Electro Organic Sound System, a.k.a. Jake Trussell, a member of the famed local DJ pack, the Toneburst Collective. The recent EOSS release, *Roots Wreck Remix*, is a beautiful, cacophonous mix of dub grooves and cheeky electronica. Also playing is Tube, the twisted alter ego of Frank Heiss, and Hrvatski, one of the world's great electronica pioneers who will be touring this spring with Mouse on Mars. The three will showcase their sonic wares individually, and also jam together, layering guitar, drums and bass over electronica. Be prepared for anything from breakbeat and jungle to glitchy and ambient. This is a belated record release party for EOSS's *Roots*, to which both Hrvatski and Tube contributed. Sponsored by Other Music in Harvard Square and Newton-based Varunee Recording Group, the show is a must for electronica fans and strongly suggested for the electronica-curious. Lillis, Jan. 17, 9pm. $5. —*Rachel Strutt*

Monday, Jan. 29

Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8pm; Scott Stroot, 10pm.
House of Blues James Merenda's Portrait of Mingus, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Kendall Cafe David Falk, 9:30pm; the Reedlings, 10:30pm, $4.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm; Kim and Josh open-mike comedy, 8pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Schism and the Becky Chase Band $6, 18+. D: Stone Soup Poets, 7:30pm, $3. C: The Out Side.
Toad Shwang, 8pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Consuelo Candelaria, 8pm.
Les Zygomates Peter Parcek, 9pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Cantab Lounge John Lincoln Wright, 9pm; Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 10pm.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 8pm, $5.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet & Friends, 9:30pm, $3.
Hennessy's of Boston Bluegrass with Nolan.
Kendall Cafe Tuesday Night Music Club, $6.
Lilli's The Anti-Jazz Raygun, Naftule's Dream, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge Mical, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth 8pm.
Rack Stu Sinclair, 8pm, no cover.
Regattabar Dave Douglas, Charms of the Night Sky, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; Kipper Tin, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Limit, Euphone and the Lonesome Organist and Charlene, $8.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Tro, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

Music Venues

The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
The Barking Crab Restaurant *88 Sleeper St., Boston (646-1000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Porland St., Boston, (367-8370) MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Porter's Bar and Girl *173 Portland St., Boston, (742-7678) MBTA: Green Line to N. Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regatta Bar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grill *20 Sydney, Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Times Bar and Restaurant *112 Broad Stree, Boston (357-8463) MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled Classical by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Classical Music or e-mail to classical@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, telephone numbers Web site information and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to deadline. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.*

Wednesday, Jan. 17

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Soprano Amanda White performs.

Thursday, Jan. 18

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77.* Pianist Viktoria Postnikova performs Tchaikovsky's *Suite No. 3*, Scriabin's *Piano Concerto* and Prokofiev's *Scythian Suite.*

Friday, Jan. 19

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83.* Same program as Jan. 18.
Cantata Singers and Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (267-6502). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm. $15-$42, $5 discount students and seniors. Performances of Four Choruses include *The Eternal Road*, *La Création du monde*, *Psalm 130: De profundis* and *Le Roi David.*
Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944, ext. 311). MBTA: Green Line to Copley . 12:15-12:45pm. free. The series of performances by international organists features Ken Cowan of New York City.

Saturday, Jan. 20

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave.., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83.* Same program as Jan. 18.

Sunday, Jan. 21

Cantata Singers and Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (267-6502). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3pm. $15-42, $5 discount students and seniors. Same program as Jan. 19.
Celebrity Series of Boston
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (598-3212). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $30-$48. Violinist Midori is accompanied by pianist Robert McDonald.

Wednesday, Jan. 23

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83.* Same program as Jan. 18.
King's Chapel Recitals
King's Chapel, Corner of School and Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). 12:15pm. $2. George Worthley and Carol Clark perform on bagpipes, guitar, mandolins and a pennywhistle in a recital of music from Scotland.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Organists George Sergeant and Peter Sykes perform.

Thursday, Jan. 25

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77.* Pianist Radu Lupu performs Mozart's *Piano Concerto No. 27* in B-flat and Shostakovich's *Portrait of the Stalin years, Symphony No. 10.*
Piano Masters
Boston Conservatory, 8 The Fenway, Boston (536-6340). www.bostonconservatory.edu. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8pm. Free.* Michael Lewin performs works by Scarlatti, Prokofiev, Franck, Griffes and Liszt.

Friday, Jan. 26

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30pm. $25-$77.* Same program as Jan. 25.



Dr. Who look-alike Hankus Netsky is one of the featured performers in the NEC tribute.

Preview

Notes of Thanks

Dorothy Wallace tribute

An international group of musicians and friends present an evening of music and poetry to honor the memory of Dorothy Wallace. A longtime overseer of the New England Conservatory, Wallace also championed many worthy causes, including civil rights, environmental conservation and education. Performers honoring her work and her life include: NEC faculty member and oboist Hankus Netsky (director of the Klezmer Conservatory Band); Motown and ragtime singer/pianist John West; percussionist Takaaki Masuko; saxaphonist James Merenda; vocalist Luciana Souza; blues singer Maxine Major and singer Harriote Hurie. *New England Conservatory's Jordan Hall (585-1100). Jan. 17, 8pm. Free.*

Zimmerman's Coffeehouse
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (262-1815). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $26-$52. Enjoy works by Bach.

Saturday, Jan. 27

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30pm. $28-$83.* Same program as Jan. 25.
What Makes It Great?
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (598-3212). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $15. The Celebrity Series' Rob Kapilow leads the Mendelssohn String Quartet in Mozart's *String Quintet in G minor.*

Sunday, Jan. 28

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras Winter Concert
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3359). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. $7. Joel Bard conducts the Repertory Orchestra's Winter Concert.
Zimmerman's Coffeehouse
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (262-1815). 3pm. $26-$52. Same program as Jan. 26.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). 1:30pm. $25-$77. Same program as Jan. 25.
Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Green Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Baritone Eric Chalfant performs with Sheila Kibbe on piano.

Wednesday, Jan. 31

From DreyBlatt to Gamelan
Endicott World Music Room, N52, 265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). 7pm. A performance with instrument maker Arnold Dreyblatt, Professor Evan Ziporyn, Mark Stewart and Robert Black.

NETSKY: DIANE ASSEO GRILICHES

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax to (859-1446), mail or e-mail to gaylesbian@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted by phone.*

How to use this section
The following listings contain information that is subject to change. Contact the organization for changes in specific events.

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have been crankin' out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's well worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for all the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This trendy South End spot draws a mixed crowd that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). It's a dressy bunch that likes to mingle. No cover, 21+. •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. It's a great idea for bachelorette parties. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all of the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-10:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-10pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd of gays and straights, and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. are local band nights. Tues. through Sun., however, divas rule the stage. 10:30pm, $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Sundays host the Drag-on Showgirl Showcase featuring Diamond Dunhill, Destiny and special guest divettes with their new, expanded 90-minute show. Bachelorette parties welcome. 10:30pm, 21+.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes and classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am;. www.ramrod-boston.com/machine. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play the video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. www.ramrodboston.com. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance with DJ Joey Bermudez. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life with DJ Kal Muzak. Wed.: Twitch with DJ SGT Dennis. Thu.: Primal Dance with DJ James Hughes. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: With DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender boostore—books, video sales and rentals, magazines, music and more.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

The Boston Women's Rainbow Chorus
Central Congregational Church, 85 Seavems Ave., Jamaica Plain (424-8900). Jan. 19 and 20, 8pm. The chorus for lesbians, bisexual women and their allies, under the direction of Ellen Oak, will be performing its winter concert *We Just Lightning*. It will feature music by Holly Near, Libby Larson, David Maddux and Sheta Gold.

Comedian Kate Clinton
Sanders Theater, intersection of Cambridge and Quincy streets, Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 27, 8pm. $21 and $25. Kate Clinton launches her 20th year in show business. As always, the lesbian performer who proved that feminists are funny will have an opinion on just about every topic you can imagine—and surely about the new Bush presidency.



The Coolidge presents *Live Nude Girls Unite*, a documentary from lesbian activist Julia Query and filmmaker Vicky Funari.

Live Nude Girls Unite
Coolidge Corner Theatre 290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner Jan. 27. Julia Query was an aspiring writer, a lesbian activist and a stand-up comedian. When she begins stripping at the Lusty Lady, she enlists filmmaker Vicky Funari's help and forays into the role of activist, as well. Together, they document the unfair policy she and other strippers must endure, like a lack of sick days, no job security, an unsafe working environment and racial discrimination. The film is preceded by "Take It Off" stripping lessons on Jan. 19 and 20, sponsored by Grand Opening!

Naked Girls, A New Show from the Top Performers of the Amazon Slam
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 19, 8pm. $15. Naked Girls is a sexy three-woman show with Zilla McCue, Yvette Leaphart and Ren Jender. The trio are acclaimed poets in the Boston area and regular fixtures at the Amazon Slam.

The True Story of *Annie on My Mind*
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington, Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Jan. 18, 12:15pm. $5. Author **Nancy Garden** speaks about censorship and the recent attempt to ban her award-winning young adult novel, *Annie on My Mind* for allegedly "promoting" and "glorifying" homosexuality.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St. For gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all swing skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. For men who are bisexual or think they might be, this group meets the second Tuesday of every month. Free and confidential.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Daily 8-10pm. Support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Common Bond
(781-433-7023). A support group for gay/lesbian/bisexual current or former Jehovah's Witnesses.

Color Me Healthy/ Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss issues related to coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community. Meets Thursdays.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/community cosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians meets on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or go online at *http://members.tripod.com/~ecwc* or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). www.frontrunnersboston.org. Get in shape this winter, brave the freezing temperatures and have some fun with this running club geared toward the LGBT community. It meets on Saturdays.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Typically seven teams play on three courts. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). www.piac.net/users/latte/lcfd/. Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Hump Day
Skuppet Jacks in Acton. Every third Wednesday at 5:30pm, Boston's gay, lesbian and transgendered individulas come together to hang. For more information, contact *Tom.Evans@digital.com.*

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900 ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900 ext. 124).

Long Yang Club
(825-5677) www.longyangclub.org/boston. Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
(800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center for male survivors of adult sexual assault.

OOPS
Melting Pot Coffee House, 2 Belgrade Ave., Roslindale (323-4123). Out on the Parkways invites one and all to come on down for some dinner and coffee.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30-8:30pm.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues. The group is facilitated by a mental health professional.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A new program that started in October, this is a short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Tennis4all
Boston's gay and lesbian tennis club, with monthly tournaments and pizza socials. Call Ted at 779-7231.

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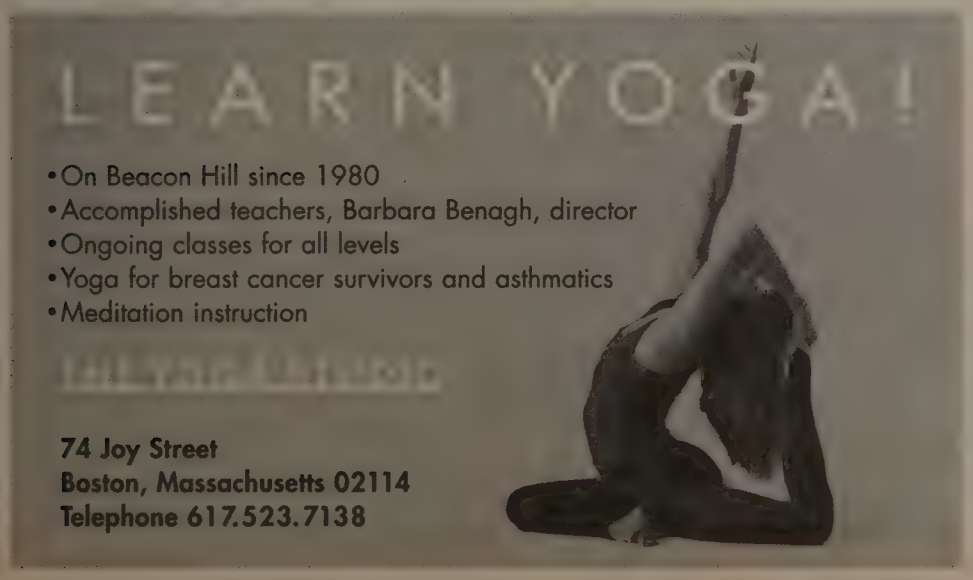
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The Chef's Palate Dinner Series at the Hampshire House

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Award-winning Chef Markus Ripperger and Cunard Line's Corporate Executive Chef Karl Muhlberger invite Bostonians to experience the distinct flavors of Italy, Morocco, Norway, India, Brazil and France all in one evening, at the Chef's Palate Dinner Series at the Hampshire House. This unique menu will be served in The Library, which will be decorated in a style reminiscent of a grand dining room aboard the Queen Elizabeth 2.

Chef's Palate Dinner Series

Captain's Cocktail Reception:
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Dining: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Cordials: 10:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
(offered for purchase)

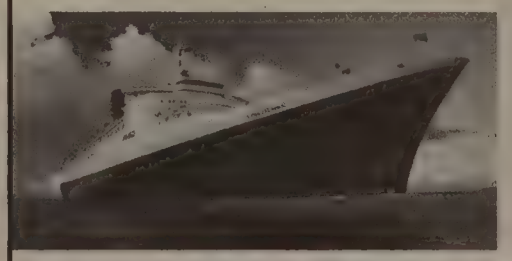
Available Dinner Dates:

- Wednesday, January 31
  Celebrity Chef – Karl Muhlberger
- Thursday, February 1
  Celebrity Chef – Karl Muhlberger
- Friday, February 2
- Friday, February 9
- Friday, February 16
- Saturday, March 3
- Friday, March 23

Price: $75 per person (captain's cocktail reception, tax and gratuity included).

For Reservations Call:
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Chef's Palate Dinner Menu

Amuse Bouche Port of Sorrento in Italy
Young Squid Stuffed with Scampi Mousseline, with Creamy Saffron Sauce with Celery

***

Port of Agadir in Morocco
Oriental Roasted Quail
on Minted Tabbouleh,
with Eggplant-Tahini Puree
and Oven-Dried Tomatoes
Wine Suggestion: California Zinfandel

***

Port of Oslo in Norway
North Light Salmon Broth, with
Ceta Caviar, Baked Cherry Tomatoes
and Leaf Spinach

***

Port of Mumbai in India
Curry Spiced Lamb Rack, with
Green Mango Chutney, Popadums,
Asparagus Spears and Cilantro Potatoes
Wine Suggestion: California or Washington State Gewürztraminer

***

Port of Rio de Janeiro in Brazil
Bitter Sweet Chocolate Truffle
on Fresh Basil Sabayon
Wine Suggestion: California Muscat or Late Harvest Riesling

***

Port of Bordeaux in France
Coffee, Hot Madeleine
and Chocolate Ice Pralines

Enter to win a Transatlantic Crossing for Two Aboard the Legendary Queen Elizabeth 2

Includes six-day crossing from New York to Southampton (or reverse) for two in an outside cabin, all meals (Caronia Restaurant) and one-way air transportation for two (port charges, airport taxes and transfers not included). Selected crossing is on a space available basis. Official contest rules available at the Hampshire House. Must be 21 years of age to enter. Entry forms available at the Hampshire House during the Chef's Palate Dinner dates listed above. No purchase necessary.

Sponsored by:

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THE BEACON HILL TIMES

GARBER TRAVEL

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least 4 weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (876-6883). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 19, 7:30-9:30pm. $6. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the spiritual traditions of the world.

An Evening with Lauren Slater
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Jan. 18, 7pm. $23. **Lauren Slater** was one of the first beneficiaries of the Prozac revolution. In her memoir, *Prozac Diary*, she tells her story of battling depression and how her suicidal tendencies went away at age 26 when she tried Prozac. She'll also discuss her latest work, *Lying*.

Taking Care of Ourselves: A Weekend Workshop for Women
Womanspirit Counseling, Newton (964-9644). Jan. 20-21. Are you a woman who takes better care of others than you do of yourself? This workshop can help you. In a safe, supportive circle of women, learn to honor and nourish your deepest self.

CLASSES

Get Healthy in 2001
The Marino Center for Progressive Health, 2500 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6225, ext. 240). www.marinocenter.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter.* The Marino Center offers the following classes: Kripalu yoga, Smoking Cessation, Weight Loss Program, Dietary Cleansing and an eight-week Progressive Stress Reduction Program.

Meditation and Chanting
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St., Boston (523-7138). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park. Jan. 28, 11am-1pm. $15. This class in mindfulness meditation with **Connie Harris** will focus on breathing and the serenity of being in the present moment. This exploration addresses the inner voice that is reflected in the chanting of ancient songs.

Develop a Successful Self-Image
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 27, 10am-3pm. $69. We all want our life to go in the right direction, but it doesn't always work out that way. Maybe the problem is how you look at life. Learn to change detrimental thinking patterns and capitalize on strengths.

Poses for Stiff Neck and Shoulders
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jan. 27, 2:30-5pm. $28.* Cure that pain in your neck and shoulders with a little yoga.

Total Body Cleanse
Brookline Adult and Community Education, Driscoll School, 64 Westborne Terrace, Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington St. Two Mondays beginning Jan. 22, 7-9pm. $46. This class will teach you why it's important to cleanse your body and soul and covers various methods of cleansing.

Yoga Weekend Workshop
Metropolitan Fitness, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (927-2274) www.bostonfitness.com *or* www.yogavermont.com. *January 19, 20-21. $150.* Join **Kathy McNames** of Yoga Vermont for an Astanga weekend. This workshop is designed for those already practicing yoga.

LECTURES

Homeopathy
The Marino Center for Progressive Health, 2500 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6225, ext. 240). www.marinocenter.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Jan. 25, 6-7pm.* **Dr. Anick** discusses homeopathy, a system for treating disease based on the administration of minute doses of a drug.

Relaxation Techniques for Children
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (738-1648). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $30. Jan 21, 7:15-9:15pm or Jan 27, 7-9pm. For parents and professionals. Discover how to introduce relaxation techniques to children in a fun and engaging way that makes sense to kids.

Bringing Meditation to Life
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (734-1498). www.shambhala.org/center/boston. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Wednesdays, 7pm. Free.* This series focuses on meditation practice, the insight arising out of it and ways this insight applies to contemporary life. Upcoming topics will be: •Jan. 17: The Four Noble Truths •Jan. 24: The Future of Buddhism in America •Jan. 31: Demystifying Tibetan Buddhism.



Lauren Slater discusses her memoir, *Prozac Diary*, at the First and Second Church Jan. 18.

Insight Meditation Introduction
Wellspace, Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *Jan. 26. 7:15-8:45pm. Free.* Meditation is useful for stress reduction and clarity. And Insight Meditation invites practitioners to see things just as they are and to apply their insights to their lives. The instructor, **Kate Wylie**, practices Buddhist meditation and performs psychotherapy.

The Power of Kabbalah
The Kabbalah Learning Center, Manor Inn, 32 Center St., Brookline (877-K-CLASSES). www.kabbalah.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Jan. 31, 6pm. Free.* Attend a seminar based on the ancient wisdom of Kabbalah, rooted in Judaism. Kabbalah presents a practical, spiritual method for removing chaos from and gaining more control over our lives.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (924-7276). www.dne.org. *MBTA: #57, 70 or 71 bus. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults, $4 teens, free for kids.* Dance any way you want to, even barefoot, to all kinds of music in this smoke-and alcohol-free environment.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm. Call to register. You'll be feeling so energetic and peaceful all day after some early morning yoga that you won't even need coffee. Beginners and experts are welcome.

Move Your Body
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). www.cambridge.zami.com/dancecomplex. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. $8-13.* Some folks may find yoga too sophisticated of an exercise but would still like to work on moving the body. Why not try one of the following drop-in classes at the Dance Complex? Stretching: Mondays, 6-7pm, and Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm. Tai Chi: Fridays, 9:30-11am.

Yoga/Back Bay
Johnson Paint Art Gallery, 355 Newbury Street, Boston (BOS-YOGA) www.bostonyoga.com. *Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. $15/class.* Fire up your body, mind and spirit in this invigorating yoga class surrounded by wondrous art. All levels welcome.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17/class. Join anytime or drop-in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar. Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork and family relaxation classes also available.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., Boston (522-7199). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential or Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/class. Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting. Increase flexibility, relieve stress, build strength, relax and enjoy yourself at any of these ongoing drop-in classes: Tuesdays at 7pm, Wednesdays at 12pm and Saturdays at 10am. Call ahead for reservations.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Sesame Street Live's When I Grow Up
Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (508-931-2000). Jan. 18, 7pm; Jan. 19, 10:30am and 7pm; Jan. 20, 10:30am, 2pm and 5:30pm; Jan. 21, 1pm and 4:30pm. $12-$18. Elmo, Big Bird, Grover, Cookie Monster and the rest of their Sesame Street pals are trying to decide what they want to be when they grow up.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. •Jan. 20-21, 1 and 3pm: ***Androcles and the Lion*** and ***The Golden Touch of Midas*** by Paul Vincent Davis. Androcles discovers the power of a small favor when he helps an injured lion and ends up saving the emperor's life. King Midas learns that gold is not the true path to happiness. •Jan. 27, 1 and 3pm: ***Will the Real Audrey Duck Please Stand Up?*** Who is Audrey? What is she? Ventriloquist Susan Linn and her puppets lead audiences on an interactive romp through an enchanting confusion of reality and make-believe.

THINGS TO DO

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June: Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm; Fri. until 9pm. $5, children and seniors $3. •Jan. 28: Chinese New Year. •Jan. 24: Go Figure: This interactive exhibit encourages children ages 2 through 7 to make the connection between math and everyday life.

The Harvard Coop: Children's Story Hour and Craft
The Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). Tuesdays, 11am. Free. Listen to a story read by a Coop staff member and then make a craft.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50, $5.50 seniors and children.* Enjoy 600 hands-on exhibits, including the *Theater of Electricity*, *Seeing Is Deceiving* and *Science in the Park*.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, to bus 51. April-Oct.: Wed.-Sun., 10am-5pm; Nov.-March: Wed.-Sun., 10am-4pm. $5, $3 seniors and students. •New: ***Kids on the Move*** exhibit examines the evolution of children's vehicles from the 1880s to the 1950s.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). www.neaq. org. *MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Early Sept.-June: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., Sun. and holidays, 9am-6pm. $12.50.* Boston's biggest fish bowl has much more than just goldfish. ***•Fun and Games with Sea Lions***: Offered twice each day for $50 (does not include aquarium admission). Participants engage in a variety of games and activities with sea lions.

Newton Free Library: The Snake Man
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Jan. 30, 3:30pm. Free. Fred Dodd introduces children to the world of live snakes.



See all your favorite *Sesame Street* friends live at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium Jan. 18-21.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 931-2000
Jan. 22: Florida, 7pm, NESN
Jan. 27: New Jersey, 7:30pm, NESN
Jan. 30, St. Louis, 7pm, NESN
Feb. 1, Montreal, 7pm, NESN

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: $10-$75. Call 228-6000
Jan. 23, Atlanta, 7pm, FSNE
Jan. 26, Phoenix, 7:30pm, FSNE
Jan. 29, Detroit, 7pm, FSNE

Events

Hyannis Port Challenge
Best Buddies, 132 Adams St., Suite 7, Newton (800-718-3536). Jan. 23. Best Buddies hosts this informational session on the 85-mile fund-raising cycling event (from Boston to Hyannis) May 19. Sessions provide info about ride logistics, including fund-raising techniques.

Roll a Kayak
Waltham YMCA, 725 Lexington St., Waltham (800-532-7483). Jan. 20-21 and Jan. 27-28, 7:30-9:30pm. $130. Learn how to roll a kayak in a heated swimming pool with Zoar Outdoor. The clinics are geared toward advanced beginner to intermediate kayakers.

Ski Events

Attitash Bear Peak: Founder's Day
Attitash Bear Peak, Bartlett, N.H. (603-374-2368). Jan. 26. The first 400 customers to purchase one-day lift tickets pay only $7.50.

Two-for-One Superbowl Sunday
Cannon Mountain, Franconia, N.H. (603-823-7771). Jan. 28. Two adults can ski or ride for the price of one ($42).

To Play

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball Club
(781-891-0621). Players ages 17-30 sought for 2001 season. Also need coaches and volunteers.

BASKETBALL

Basketball City
Adjacent to North Station and the FleetCenter (742-6700). Corporate, midday and weekend leagues.

Co-Ed Indoor Basketball
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070, ext. 224). Sun.-Thu. nights at various locations. All levels welcome. Leagues in Waltham, Dedham and Brookline. Co-ed teams now forming.

The Corporate League of Boston
(566-7808).

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). Practice and workout programs for all levels in Greater Boston.

South End Fitness Center League
(534-5823).

Women's Basketball League
(661-9622). Tuesdays 5:30-7pm and Sundays, 6-7:30pm.

BOXING

Boxing Workout
Vinny Greco's Powerhouse Gym, 125 Walnut St., Watertown (972-1711). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Enjoy the workout of a boxer—or become one yourself. Participate in one-on-one instruction in a supervised, safe environment with Boston Sport Boxing Club.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC, Indoor Sports Center in Revere (789-4070). Sundays.

SLATER: JOHN BLANDING

GOLF

CityGolf
38 Bromfield St., First Floor, Boston (357-GOLF). The new CityGolf has doubled the number of golf simulators and added 50 percent more hitting bays and a putting green and retail area.

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

HOCKEY

Co-ed Floor Hockey
BSSC (789-4070). Individuals and teams, co-eds, all levels in Newton. Co-ed teams now forming.

ICE SKATING

Learn to Skate
Lessons available at 16 MDC rinks in Greater Boston (781-890-8480). www.iceskatingclasses.com. On the occassion of the 2001 Figure Skating Championships arriving in Boston (Jan. 14-21), why not learn to skate?

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
(499-4835). Weekly runs year-round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

Boston Road Club Weekly Races
(781-646-8955). Sundays. Starts at Wells Ave. in Newton.

Fresh Pond Weekly Road Races
Fresh Pond Reservation. Saturdays, 10am. Choose between a 2.5- or 5-mile run.

Khoury's Thursday Night Runs
East Somerville. (351-5682). 4.13 miles. 7pm at Khoury's Bar.

Logan Post 5K
1194 Broadway, West Somerville (283-3292). Every Thursday at 7:10pm.

NikeTown Boston Running Club
200 Newbury St., Boston (267-3400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Three-to-five-mile loops. Starts at 6:30pm. Monthly mini-clinics as well.

SNOW SPORTS

Cross-Country Ski Lessons
Boston Ski & Sports Club at the Weston Ski Track (789-4070). Jan. 18 and Jan. 25, 7pm. $85. Learn to snow glide in this gradual introduction for beginners with little or no experience on skis.

Cross-Country Skiing on Mid-State Trail
Boston Ski & Sports Club in Central Massachusetts (789-4070). Jan. 20, 10am. $25. Enjoy a day of skiing in central Massachusetts.

Ski & Board Weekends
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). $55. The Boston Ski & Sports Club offers day and weekend trips throughout the winter. •Wednesdays, Saturdays or Sundays this winter. 5:30am/6am bus departures from Newton, Newburyport and Tewksbury. •Jan. 17: Mt. Snow •Jan. 20: Sugarbush •Jan. 21: Loon •Jan. 24: Sunday River •Jan. 27: Mt. Snow •Jan. 28: Okemo •Jan. 31: Loon.

Ski Market Trips
860 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (731-6100). $50. Ski-Market Underground offers trips with round-trip transportation, a lift ticket and dinner (on Wednesday and Thursday trips). •Jan. 17 and Jan. 18: Sunday River •Jan. 21: Killington •Jan. 24 and Jan. 25: Sunday River •Jan. 28: Killington •Jan. 31: Sunday River.

Snowmobile Weekend in Maine
Boston Ski & Sports Club in West Forks, Maine (789-4070). Jan. 19-21. $395. Spend Saturday on a guided snowmobile tour. At night, enjoy the comforts of a cozy inn.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams.

SWIMMING

Boston Athletic Club Swim Workouts
653 Summer St., Boston (269-4300). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon. and Wed. 6:15-7:15am.

The Charles River Park Club Morning Masters
Charles River Park, Boston (450-9810). Mon., Wed., Fri., 6:30-7:45am.

The Mason Masters Swim Program
The Mason Pool, 159 Norfolk Ave., Roxbury (236-4923 or 450-9810) Mon.-Fri., 7:30-8:30pm. An early morning masters swim program led by Alex Primilsky, coach of numerous world, national and Olympic champions.



Try the world's most popular martial art, tae kwon do, at the BCAE's Fitness Festival.

Preview

Get Fit!

BCAE's Health & Fitness Festival

If you're like the rest of us and your New Year's resolution is to get in shape, the Boston Center for Adult Education wants to help out. The folks there have put together a sampler program of single-session classes on everything from fencing and tae kwon do to Pilates. That way, you can find an activity that you really enjoy—and stick to it. Happy workouts!

•The Method of Pilates: This series of exercises focuses on core strength and builds flexibility, alignment and balance. This program introduces you to the basic principles of the Pilates method and improves posture to relieve joint pain and backaches. *Meet at Boston Body, 364 Boylston St., Boston. Jan. 27, 12:30-1:30pm and 1:30-2:30pm. $14.*

•The Body and Mind Workout: Learn the long-term benefits of aerobics, stretching and relaxation and focus on exercises and stretches to empower your mind and body. *Meet at the BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. Jan. 28, 1-2pm. $14.*

Coming soon...

•Feb. 3, 1-2pm: Yoga: Rejuvenation of the Body and Spirit

•Feb. 7, 6:30-7:30pm: Fencing—The Fast Action Sport

•Feb. 11, 10am-12pm: Tae Kwon Do: The World's Most Popular Martial Art

•March 4, 10am-12pm: Discover the Art of Chi Kung

***For more information, call the BCAE at 267-4430 or visit* www.bcae.org.**

TENNIS

Boston Tennis Club
Located next to North Station, Boston (742-6700). Adult and youth clinics, socials, open play and matching.

BSSC Tennis
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). $40. Play mixed doubles in Waltham on Saturday nights. Price includes 2.5 hours of play and appetizers.

VOLLEYBALL

Adult Co-ed Volleyball League
Waltham YMCA (781-894-5295). Monday nights, began Sept. 13. All levels welcome.

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. at various locations. Co-ed indoor 6-on-6 leagues. Four different levels of play. Clinics and tournaments also available. •Co-ed pickup games Tuesdays and Fridays at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

Co-ed Volleyball—Waltham
Waltham YMCA, 725 Lexington St, Waltham (781-894-5295). Monday nights.

WRESTLING

Men's Adult Wrestling
Boston Union, 48 Boylston St., Boston (482-1122). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mondays, 6:30-8:30pm; Saturdays 1-3:30pm. All skill levels. Coaching available.

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, children and seniors $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm (last film begins at 3:55pm). $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science and the Charles Hayden Planetarium
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50, $5.50 seniors and children.*

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Heart Association
(800-662-1701). Volunteers needed for Hearts in Bloom flower-selling campaign.

Best Buddies
(800-718-3536). Learn about the annual Hyannis Port Challenge, an 85-mile fund-raising cycling event held in May. •Jan. 23, 6:30pm, in Newton.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Be a friend to a young girl. Info sessions: Jan. 18, 6-7pm; Jan. 26, 12-1pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Volunteers are needed in the Cambridge public schools in kindergarten through grade 12 for two hours a week between 7:30am and 4pm.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters. Commit to two hours per week for six months.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun times with an isolated senior.

Junior Achievement
(367-6891). Teach kids about business.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for four hours per week for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders with such tasks as reading, shopping and basic home repairs.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Prison Book Program
(423-3298). Answer letters from inmates and fill requests for books on various topics.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program. Training begins in January.

United Services Organization (USO)
(720-4949). Welcome Navy ships, participate in hospital visits, coordinate receptions and assist with events.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

mark your daytimer

UPCOMING EVENTS

THEATER

Dame Edna
Feb. 20-March 11, Wilbur Theater

Les Miserables
April 11-May 6, Colonial Theatre

MUSIC

Ben Harper
Feb. 1, Orpheum Theatre

Stereophonics
Feb. 8, Paradise Rock Club

Buddy Guy
Feb. 8, Roxy

Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that e-mailed messages mean that we don't have to risk ruining our manicures by—ugh—typing) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com

Recent correspondence follows.

Man at Work
Fort Point area, Nov 25: To the construction worker who gave me directions and told me I was adorable, your compliment made my day, and I'd love to take you up on the offer of dinner, if it still stands. Email me.
—adorable1126@ hotmail.com

I Saw the Sign
I was sitting just across from you (not by chance!) at the Trident bookshop cafe, on Newbury Street on a Sunday afternoon. You and your friend (who had black hair and glasses, and a stud in her lip) seemed to be talking very quietly. Then I realized that you were communicating by sign language, and lip-reading. You were wearing a sleeveless white top, and had a tattoo on your upper right arm that looked like a half moon. I was the tall, dark guy at the next table who couldn't stop looking. Forgive me for staring, but I couldn't help myself. I'd love to have a chance to talk to you over a coffee/tequila!
—santiago02114@yahoo.com

Sexy Paparazzi Waiter
Dec. 1—Marshall's Downtown at 2:30pm... Asked me about the black pants you tried on. I was hoping that along with my fashion advice, you might have wanted my number as well. Not sure. But you did look really good in those pants. I liked being able to check you out—you're a great model. I'd like to get to know you better.
—razzibridge@hotmail.com

WARNING TO BOSTON STREET PARKERS
Just wanted to let you know that the city of Boston is trying to screw all of you with their street cleaning signs. Most street cleaning signs that I've seen say that the street cleaning takes place from April 1 to Nov. 30. BUT WATCH OUT! Not all of them say that! I parked on Washington Street on Dec. 4. My car was ticketed and towed early the next morning, all in an effort to make Washington Street sparkle and shine (too bad that didn't really happen). In order to keep the city looking beautiful, I had the honor of paying an exorbitant towing charge as well as the parking violation. Now, I'm not saying that I didn't park illegally (according to the shady sign) and I can appreciate the city's efforts to keep itself clean, but my punishment seems much too harsh for an honest mistake. So I just needed to vent and to let others know that they need to check all of these signs in an effort to stop subsidizing the city and the towing companies.
—A disgruntled parker

Happy New City Year!
SAF seeking blond, blue-eyed City Year type. Rode on the B inbound T, on at Brighton Ave., got off at Copley, before 8am on Monday, December 4th with two City Year females. Male was holding a brown paper bag, wearing (black?) backpack. About 5' 10", 150-5 lbs. SAF was seated against window, black hair, blond streaks, reading literature. Report to:
—RipeToast@aol.com

That Italian Bird
To the only Italian from Birmingham, Alabama: We met recently at a bar in Cambridge. You: Eating mussels while waiting for a friend. Me: Dark curly hair; looking stressed, you said. You: work for Oracle. Me: Italian, and we commented how you are too, and were one of the few Italians in Alabama. Your friend came, you introduced yourself as John, the two of you got caught up...my friends came and that was it. If you recall and are interested, email me.
—yellowlab21@yahoo.com

Clarendon Hill Bus 88
It was Thursday night, Dec. 7, when I saw you, Susan, on the 88 bus leaving Lechmere and going to Clarendon Hill. I was the one that sat next to you and I had flowers in my hand. You were reading a book called *Whiskey Island*. We started talking to each other, exchanged names, etc. I should have asked for your telephone number to see if you would like to have gone out, because I would like to go out with you. If you are interested email me.
—irishmike_02143@yahoo.com

A Mixed Message
To the person who returned my license, I am very grateful. To the person who kept my belongings, I hope the same thing happens to you someday. Why in the world would you at least not return the film in the camera and my make-up? Do you have no conscience that you would keep someone's purse, camera and ATM card? How sad I feel for you. You must not have had any morals in your house when you were growing up. Our world is how it is today because of dishonest people like you. I hope you enjoy carrying my purse and using my camera, and I hope it brings you a lot of bad luck as it obviously did for me.
—Faithless

Fully Annoying
You: Row F, seat 15 at the Dec. 14 performance of *Fully Committed* at the Wilbur Theater. Me: Row E, seat 13 (directly in front of you). On behalf of those seated around you, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the line-by-line rendition of the entire performance. Your recitation—offered up in such a distinctive nasal whine—was particularly welcomed by those of us who had difficulty hearing the dialogue due to your oh-so-salient, top-of-your-lungs descriptions of the action on stage ("ha ha ha—he's walking across the room!"—gosh, what would we have done without you?). Thank God you were there there! Otherwise, my $60 ticket would sure have gone to waste!
—A grateful theatergoer

Hey Wait!
Friday night, Dec. 15, the Burren. You were out with two female friends and watching the band in the back room. I was the guy standing in the green winter coat. Your friend "bumped" into me a few times to get my attention and you most certainly did. You were wearing a black t-shirt and have brown hair. I was either tongue-tied or just too darned quiet to say anything, so you gave up and went to the front room. I followed and saw you (you saw me too) then I got stuck in a conversation. When I turned around five minutes later you were gone. In the off chance you actually read this and remember me, drop me a line so we can have coffee sometime.
—scuba_02144@yahoo.com

Beer Garden Goddess
You were the vision of unique beauty standing at the corner of the bar at the Boston Beer Garden on Dec. 28 with a female friend. You: tall, long brown curly hair, beautiful eyes, wearing a tan-colored coat. Me: 6-0, brown hair, brown eyes, white shirt...I was sitting at a table nearby with four girls (just friends all) and couldn't stop noticing beautiful you. At one point, you noticed me noticing you. I wanted very much to say hi, and the girls I was with were egging me on to do so, but I let too much time pass and you left. The sight of you remains on my mind. I hope you'll send an e-mail my way...
—JettaGuyP26@aol.com

D
You are truly wretched. You will be a lonely, miserable spinster without the benefit of having a cat to keep you company. You really need to see a doctor about that PMS, and everyone is so tired of hearing you whine about how "unappreciated" you are (unappreciated is the code word for underpaid, right?)... Medication would do you good, or at least go back to counseling, please!
—Fesil

Rockie Horoscope



JANUARY 17 – 30, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Like your Sag friends, you'll enjoy brighter prospects and feel more creative once the Chinese New Year begins and your Saturn ruler starts to inch forward. Think beauty and wisdom, attributes the Snake brings to the table, when deciding what you will pursue this year. Remind yourself to stay away from militant groups or a bunch of macho maniacs who are set to explode during Super Bowl weekend. Hanging with them can wind up costing a small fortune and completely blow the "beauty, wisdom" thing out of the water.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
You can play your fey card, be the poet or the wizard when the sun meets imaginative Neptune in your sign on the 25th. Or you can emerge like the sensuous Snake at the Chinese New Year hawking images of beauty and wisdom. Be incredibly argumentative during the inauguration or bet that Bush never makes it through his first term by counting on the Jupiter-Saturn curse that befalls presidents elected (or proclaimed) during years that end in 0. Be careful on the 27th when fiery, impulsive Mars tests your Uranus ruler.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
Read for your Aquarian neighbor. What happens to him or her when the sun and your nebulous Neptune ruler align in Aquarius on the 25th can affect what happens to you. That entire week is not what it appears to be, mainly because self-sacrificing Venus in Pisces is attracting guys (Mars) set on running your life and manipulators (Pluto) who are silently pulling strings. Your domestic scene is in flux because Saturn and Jupiter, retrograde on the homefront, turn direct and promise there will be changes and, eventually, progress. A mixed bag of tricks.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Romance, and plenty of it, as your Mars ruler and affectionate Venus reach out to embrace each other. How long will it last? Until the first argument on Inauguration Day divides your cozy camp. Improve your luck, buy lottery tickets while the sun and jubilant Jupiter form a rewarding trine this weekend. Super Bowl weekend, when Mars is challenged by erratic Uranus, can be problematic. Be careful when around electricity, fire and sharp edges. Flying to a ski resort (airplanes and ankles are ruled by Uranus) is asking for trouble.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Blend affection and compatibility with a pinch of spice and your Venus ruler's connection to horny Mars and regenerative Pluto could produce the ultimate orgasmic experience. Wow! On the 24th retrograde Saturn in your sign turns direct, leaving you wiser and much more confident that you'll survive anything life strews on your path. Watch out for your partner, though; Mars in your marriage house can upset career plans and make a parent paranoid when it tests Uranus on the 27th.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
Right now some women are genuinely helpful, some jealous and manipulative; all of them can affect your career or have an impact on your love life. Note: most are in full martyr mode. Knowing that should keep you relatively out of harm's way until you've said your piece and blown your conciliatory cover. Air-friendly Aquarius is a good time for the Twins because your mind is free to roam through fertile fields of invention and inconsistency. Something productive follows from the new moon/Chinese New Year celebration on the 24th.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
The Moon Child should be happy to learn that the first new moon of the millennium is NOT eclipsed. Awake early on the 24th and welcome the Chinese Year of the Snake, 4699. Its attributes are beauty and wisdom, its element is fire, its season, summer. You might want to know that the first total solar eclipse of the year occurs as Cancer begins, that there's a partial lunar eclipse on July 5 and that neither one is visible in the Americas. As of today, sweet Venus in Pisces and sexy Mars in Scorpio are helping your love life flow smoothly. Don't make waves.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Happy days are here again because jovial Jupiter is about to reward your sun ruler. The 20th is one of the luckier days of the year, so the lottery could be calling your number; a selection committee, your name. The Aquarius new moon starts a cycle of partnership matters that'll carry you through Valentine's Day, perhaps through the entire Year of the Snake. Saturn turning direct in your career midheaven that day suggests that progress is coming and your reputation is improving. Just don't get too fanatical, spaced out or loaded when the sun joins dream-on Neptune on the 25th.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
What happens over the next two weeks regarding your job and health routine can come back to haunt you because your Mercury ruler will turn retrograde on Feb. 3 for three weeks. You might have to repeat or rethink your behavior, so try and do it right the first time. Anger and impulsive action is perfectly normal while Mercury is inflamed by fiery Mars on the 20th; eccentricity and independence on the 22nd when freedom-seeking Uranus comes out to play. Interesting offers to travel or teach after Jupiter turns direct on the 25th. Not a bad beginning.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Love, lust and assorted destinations in between. Since your Venus ruler starts off enamored with Mars this week, you're headed in the right direction. However, a persuasive link-up to secretive Pluto could turn into a semi-permanent detour. It all depends on how good the sex is, and how bad the boy (or girl). You're liable to make even more sacrifices after the new moon on the 24th starts another cycle of hoping and praying, drinking and drugging. Instead, take up a Neptunian water sport such as swimming. Going skiing the weekend of the 27th can be dangerous (ankle) and expensive.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Lust, lasciviousness, likeability, perhaps even love, are yours for the asking, or the taking, as magnetic Venus aligns with passionate Mars in your sign, and powerful Pluto, your co-ruling planets. As long as you basically behave yourself, you should avoid the dire consequences that are slated to befall you if you go over the edge and act outrageously during Super Bowl weekend. Going all out works for for wide receivers; they won't need their ankles until next season. Be careful in the kitchen, too.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
The good news is that your Jupiter ruler turns direct on the 25th after four months in retrograde; finally, progress on the work and health scene. Money comes once the Chinese New Year kicks in; make sure you turn your cash around at first sight of the crescent moon. Other rituals from other cultures will work as well. If you're in a betting mood, make your wager on the 20th, before Bush takes the oath of office. That's the day the Aquarius sun and Jupiter trine, as fortunate an aspect as you'll get all year.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com.* Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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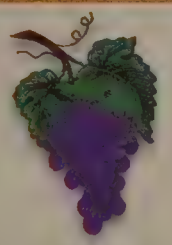
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Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



From left: Mark Barnes, Dom Visocchi, Bob Timperio and Anthony Sgro represent for Boston at a Braves/Red Sox game at Turner Field. Soon enough, it'll be time to whup the Braves once again.



Marsha Rubin (l) and Robin Taylor try their luck on the tasteful Family Feud slots at the MGM hotel in Vegas.



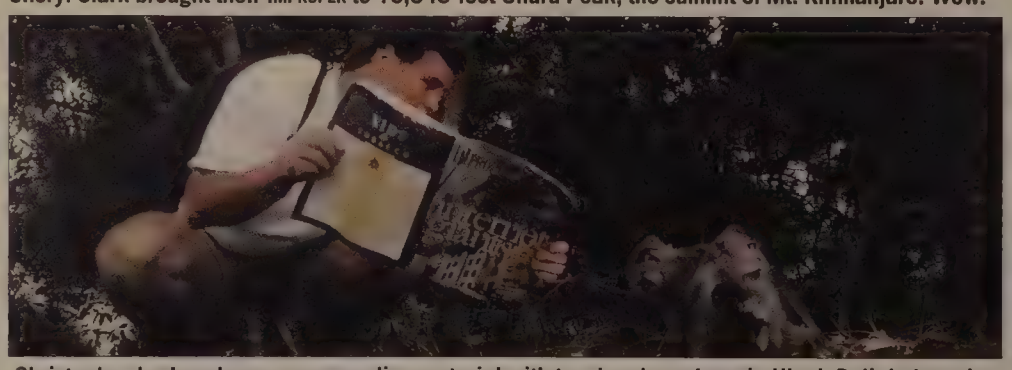
From left: Guides Emmanuel Shayo and Ng'Elata Vusindawa, and Bostonians Rob St. Laurent and Cheryl Clark brought their IMPROPER to 19,340-foot Uhuru Peak, the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro. Wow.



Newly elected congressman Rob Simmons (R-Conn.) says reading the IMPROPER helps beat out incumbents.



Patrick Paulick and Julie Rockett get IMPROPER at the Sweni River in Kruger National Park in South Africa, moments before getting trampled by elephants.



Christopher Jordan shares some reading material with two local monkeys in Ubud, Bali, Indonesia. They demonstrated their hearty enthusiasm by shrieking and throwing fecal matter. Jordan then put the monkeys in his backpack, returned to the States, and became an organ grinder.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Placing a trifecta wager on Bombproof, Mr. Grody and Screw Scarface at the 21st Annual Australia Day Cockroach Races, held Jan. 26 in Brisbane, Australia.

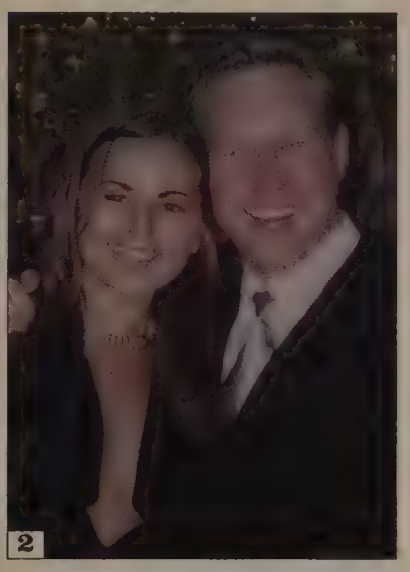
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S client-related promotions and events

Ed Kane, Arthur DeCarli and Greg Acerra hosted **Eat Well**'s annual holiday party celebrating "Twelve Years of Eat Well" on Dec. 11 at which took place at the **Avalon Ballroom**.







1. **Courtney Hill** of Kesler Financial, **Leslie Comrack** of the Hubble Group, and **Jenn Shea** of Children's Hospital.
2. **Ed Kane,** president of Eat Well, Inc., and Ed's girlfriend, **Noria Morales.**
3. Fire King General Manager **Sue Papi** with **Dan Lane**, the Fireking chef (Eat Well Employee of the Year) and **Brian Corcoran**, Fire King sous chef.



WZLX 100.7-FM and **Flynn PR Events** co-hosted the Rock with Jocks Party on Dec. 13 at **The Point**. About $5,000 was raised to benefit the **Franciscan Children's Hospital**.

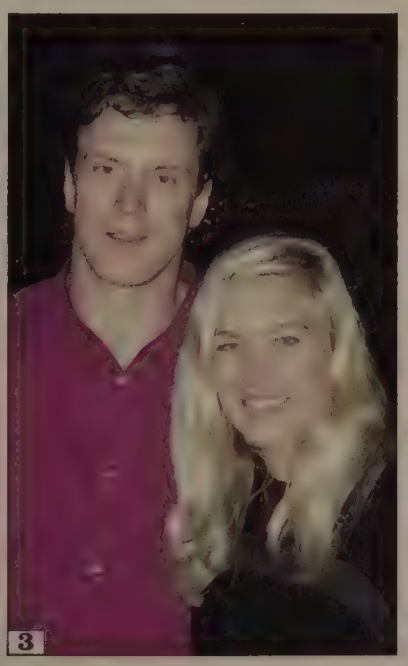




1. New England Patriot **Lawyer Malloy**, **Jayme Parker** of NESN, **Richie LaMontagne** and **Jeannie Flynn** of Flynn PR Events.
2. **Jennifer Touissant** of State Street Bank and **Tank**, sportscaster for WZLX-FM.
3. **Maryellen Rota**, VP of marketing and development for Franciscan Children's Hospital, with **Don Lowrey**, N.E. Patriots director of public relations.

The Rack and the Celtics' Antoine Walker hosted **The Celebrity 8 Ball Tournament,** which raised over $45,000 to provide positive life experiences and opportunities for inner-city youth.







1. Patriots' **Bobby Hamilton**, Celtics' **Paul Pierce, Jerry Smith**, and Patriots' **Terry Glenn** show their support for the Antoine Walker 8 Ball Foundation.
2. **Antoine Walker** poses near a decorative ice sculpture.
3. Patriots' quarterback **Drew Bledsoe** and The Rack's marketing director **Heather Michalowski** show their support for the 8 Ball Foundation.



On Dec. 7 **Johnny D's** held the Concert for a Landmine Free World, featuring **Emmylou Harris, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Steve Earle, Bruce Cockburn** and **Nanci Griffith**.





1. **Nanci Griffith, Steve Earle, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Bruce Cockburn** and **Emmylou Harris** on stage at Johnny D's.
2. **Bobby Muller**, founder of Vietman Veterans of Amerian Foundation; **Alec Ellsworth, Marianna Tu, Madeline Haas**, Shady Hill School students; **Marshall Carter**, Shady Hill School teacher, at a pre-concert dinner. The students at Shady Hill School raised $350 to benefit the Campaign for a Landmine Free World.
3. **Anton Mueller** and **Steve Earle.**

PHOTOS: EAT WELL, TOM DESANTES; THE POINT, MARY BURES; THE RACK, HEATHER MICHALOWSKI; JOHNNY D'S, RICHARD ELLIOT

BARS, CLUBS, RESTAURANTS & BRUNCH

The following are paid advertisements. Please check times and prices in advance. If you'd like to have your restaurant listed, please call The Improper Bostonian Advertising Dept. at 859-1400.

BARS

Billiards

Boston Billiards Club

126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL. Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack

24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051. Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

Beer Specialty Bars

Sunset Grill & Tap

130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331. Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

Brew Pubs

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co.

138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383. This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

Irish Bars

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern

77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656. Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal

57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112. Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston

25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121. Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon

11Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055. Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant

Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93. Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

General

BARCODE

955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818. Enjoy the intimate, windowed dining room or a signature cocktail in the lounge. BARCODE offers a creative martini selection, a balanced and affordable wine list and both bottled and draft beer. Drinks are available until 2 am daily, food served until 1 am.

Cactus Club

939 Boylston St., 236-0200. Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Harvard Gardens

316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727. A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge

279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699 A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar)

Roxy

279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699 We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe

3 Boylston Place, 351-2515. A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ's nightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and world class margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar

1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000. Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack

24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051. Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack

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245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700. The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

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199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244. Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap

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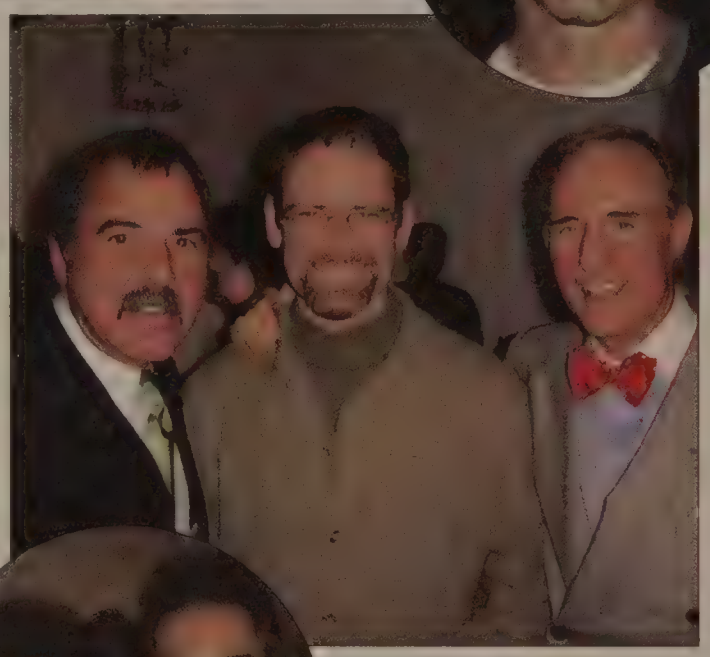
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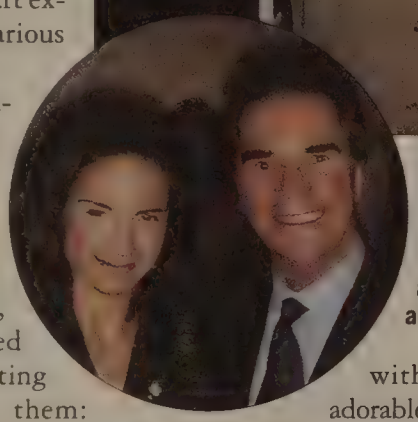
BY JONATHAN SOROFF



OH, MY COD!

The **Mass College of Art** became a fish market for the evening when it hosted the **Live Auction of the Cavalcade of Cod**. For anyone who might've spent the past six months in a coma, the fish in question are statues just over five feet long that have been decorated by artists and celebrities, and the dismantling and sale of the public art exhibit benefitted various local charities.





At the Cavalcade of Cod party, from top: Lisa Hughes and Joe Shortsleeve; a rare, pigtailed cod; Dave-O; Lee Bierly, Dan Elias and Chris Drake; June Georgagi and Herb Chambers.

Hosted by Channel 4 anchors **Joe Shortsleeve** and **Lisa Hughes** and conducted by Skinner Auctioneers' **Karen Keane**, the event attracted an odd and interesting crowd. Among them: philanthroposaurus rex **David Mugar** (the mastermind behind the whole project), car czar **Herb Chambers** (a major sponsor) and the exquisite **June Georgagi** (a florist in Charlestown), art dealer and freshly minted TV star **Dan Elias** (the new host of *Antiques Roadshow*), the exquisite **Anne Hawley** (director of the Gardner Museum), real estate scion **Tedd Saunders**, painter and raconteur **Bill Wainwright** (who created two of the cod), chat show chatelaine **Emily Rooney**, interior design avatars **Chris Drake** and **Lee Bierly**, the artist currently known as **Dave-O**, Brahmin boy-about-town **George Lewis III** and his mother, restaurateur **Debbie**, novelist **Robert B. Parker** and his prettier half, **Joan**, Harvard B-School honcha **Rosabeth Moss Kanter**, sportif TV personality **Bob Lobel** with his lovely wife, **Suzanne**, and adorable daughter, **Savannah**, ICA vixen **Chris McCarthy**, mondo-jewelers **Barbara** and **Sumner Dorfman**, and so on and so forth.

After months of passing them on the streets, seeing the cod indoors seemed odd, which prompted one guest to say, "They're like fish out of water!" In fact, the groan-inducing puns (for example: "In Cod We Trust") flew fast and furious, as students wearing yellow hats and rain slickers, like the Gorton's fisherman, carried the cod up to the block to be auctioned off.

There was at least as much entertainment to be had from eavesdropping, however, on people like the woman who was introduced to a well-known artist and exclaimed, "My daughter sat next to you at a dinner party and found you absolutely fascinating!"

"She's right," he said. "Very discerning of her."



'TWAS A FEW NIGHTS BEFORE CHRISTMAS....

It just wouldn't be the holidays without the bluebloods' annual black-tie hoedown, **The Winter Ball**. Held in the ballroom of the **Park Plaza** (which was appropriately tricked out in red, white and green), the elegant intergenerational affair attracted such members of the Old Guard and glitterati as organizer **Hope Baker Burley**, the soignée **Sylvia Pope** and her four children, Haitian party animal **Jean-Marc Nelson** and his gorgeous Mittel-European wife, **Kasha**, eminence grise **Michael Robbins** and his son-in-law, aristocratic Brit **Andrew McIlwraith**, and daughter, **Tish**, Olympic gold medal figure skater/pediatric surgeon **Tenley Albright** and her enchanting offspring, **Rhys** and **Elin**, the latter's hottie of a husband, **Steve Schran**, bachelor-about-town **Ian McLaughlin**, well-bred barbarian **Conan French** with the stunning blonde **Beth Storey**, incorrigible scamp **Brendan Monaghan** and his achingly lovely sister, **Imelda**, the statuesque **Amanda Bradford** and the hale and hearty **Erik Bullerjahn**, thoroughbred horse trader **Cynthia Frederick** and her son, **Richard "Skip" Dwight**, James Bond doppelgänger **John Phipps** (sporting a tan he got skiing in Iceland and Norway), the newly betrothed **Michael Brognac** and **Gwen Colfels**, Manhattan socialite **Olga-Louisa Mortimer**, and Paine-Webber bigwig **Clark Loth**, to name a few.



Summing up the evening, one guest said: "It's quintessentially Yankee: cash bar, free water and lots of plaid," and indeed, conversations did tend to be sprinkled with preppy non sequiturs like, "I'm taking his place in Key West Race Week on bow."

However, there was no shortage of wit, like the man who responded to the question "How do you like children?" by pondering for a moment and saying, "Poached. With a little bit of hollandaise sauce." iB







At The Winter Ball, from top: Elin Gardiner and Steve Schran; Ian McLaughlin; Tish Robbins and Andrew McIlwraith; and John Phipps.

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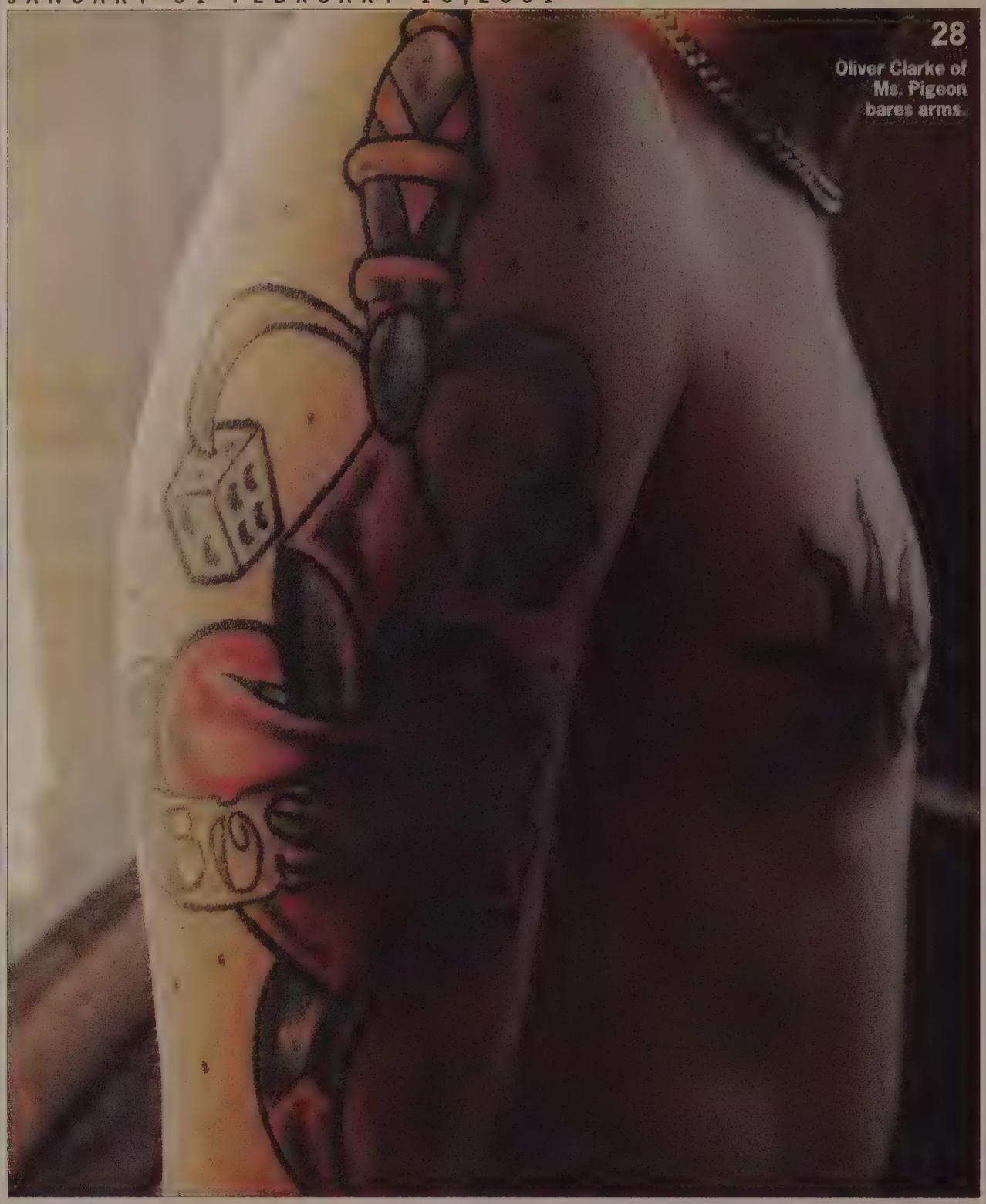
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contents

JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 13, 2001



28
Oliver Clarke of Ms. Pigeon bares arms.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

COLUMNS

8 **Improper Speaking**
The latest insider tidbits
BY ELLEN O'BRIEN

10 **City Limits**
The Kebab Factory; Absolutely Fabulous; step into the Matrix
BY ERIN HAGEDORN AND JULIE SHORT

12 **E-Boston**
The dot-com decline has placed stress on investors, but the real rude awakening is for the employees.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 **Ezra**
Boston messes with his head.
BY EZRA DYER

16 **Proper Bostonians**
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

40 **Mopsy**
Wild Women of the great outdoors; how to listen; *The Arbitrary Sword*
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

84 **Last Scene Here**
Our Man in London chronicles the aristocratic and the eccentric. As if there's a difference.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

44 **Dining**
Margo Bistro offers good value in a tough location.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

46 **Dish**
Oleana opens; the dirt on delayed debuts—and unfortunate closings
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

46 **Tastings**
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Sexy food.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 49.
Hal Hartley at the MFA • the Jimmy Fund Stair Climb • **Robert B. Reich** • tourmaline extravaganza • **Arthur Papazian** • Dangerous Waves: Art of Sound • **Penn & Teller**

ET CETERA

Letters 6
Improper Impersonals 78
Rockie Horoscope 78
Improperazzi 80
Improper Sightings 79
Classifieds 82

FEATURES

18 **Soroff/On Ming Tsai**
The multitalented master of East-meets-West cuisine comments on the rewards and perils of celebrity-chef status. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

21 **Boston Rocks**
Our annual roundup of 10 local bands making noise and making waves, along with sound bites from the groups profiled last year. PLUS: Boston bands invade Europe, and local recording studios get serious about laying down tracks. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU AND RACHEL STRUTT

28 **Permanent Records**
Boston rockers reveal their tats and the stories behind the ink.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRANK MULLIN

30 **Destination: Relaxation**
When the going gets tough, the tough get a facial. We took a beauty expert, assorted beauty heathens, and even a big meathead to check out assorted Boston spa offerings. BY AN ARRAY OF BEAUTIFUL IMPROPER STAFFERS

35 **Fashion: Prima Donnas**
We go behind-the-scenes with beauty queens; they still look good—even if they don't act it. PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHEN SHEFFIELD



18



21



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Michael Weber**

Stylist: **Ngina Bowen/Ennis**
Make-up: **Pamela Siegel**

Jesse: Cotton v-neck sweater by J. Crew; Levi's Red Tab jeans, available at Urban Outfitters; leather jacket by Andrew Marc, available at Milton's; shoes by GBX Xtreme, available at Milton's.
Jason: Single-breasted jacket by DKNY Essentials; cotton dress shirt by CK; slim pant by Kenneth Cole; Dimitrius silk tie; DKNY calf belt; boot by Sangiorgio. All items available at Milton's. For more information call 1-800-MILTONS.
Stacy: Denim jacket by Daryl K - 189, available at Urban Outfitters.
Sloan: Casablanca vintage leather jacket, available at Urban Outfitters; Levi's Red Tab jeans, available at Urban Outfitters; cotton vest by J. Crew; shoe by Bacco Bucci, available at Milton's.

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letters

TAKE A DEEP BREATH...

Come on, IMPROPER! How could yet another review of Boston's latest exercise trends omit the ingenious work of Heidi Tabias from Healthworks? (Back Bay and Cambridge locations.) Tabias has been helping folks reach far beyond their personal fitness expectations for the past 14 years at three different clubs in Boston.
A Plyometric workout? New York City Ballet class? Heidi has been offering athletic classes chock full of plyometric jumps and ballet with a killer cardio workout long before this "latest trend." As for weight training with step aerobics? That's old hat for her. Heidi was recently interviewed by Robin Young (co-host of WBUR's "Here and Now"). It's nice to know that someone in Boston is thinking outside the box. When you rest up from your Boston workout circuit, check her out.
Pro: You'll get a workout that will drive you to return time and time again.
Con: Heidi already has a cult following...but I guess we can make room for one more.

—KARMA PAOLETTI
Somerville

Thanks for the great article on the aqua aerobics class, which shattered all popular images of aqua aerobics as synchronized swimming. I do hope that the pain Ezra experienced was solely of the literary device kind.

—DR. KARIN A. DUMBAUGH
Boston

MISSILE MISSIVES

In your *Thirteen Days* film review, I would like to have seen a subjective comparison between this particular flick and its TV counterpart, *The Missiles of October.* I did see the TV movie, and will most likely also see this film. But I guess any professional reviewer should be taken with a carton of Morton's salt, anyway.

—DAVID DAUGMAN
Waltham



PLYOMETRIC WORKOUT? NEW YORK CITY BALLET? HEIDI HAS BEEN OFFERING CLASSES CHOCK FULL OF PLYOMETRIC JUMPS AND BALLET WITH A KILLER CARDIO WORKOUT LONG BEFORE THIS "LATEST TREND."

—KARMA PAOLETTI
SOMERVILLE

ONE MORE TAKE ON SEVERIN

I thought your interview with Jay Severin was a good look into the man. I am a loyal listener to Mr. Severin's show and although I don't always agree with him, he at the very least makes you think about politics and things that are going on in the world. I also thought he was very calm compared with his talk show on 96.9FM. People like Jay make you wake up and take a look around. Love your magazine. GO JAY!

—M. PETERS
Boston

Tell Us What You Think

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PAUL ROBICHEAU



The IMPROPER's resident music scribe since 1993 (pictured at right) also writes on occasion for *Rolling Stone* and SonicNet, opining in jazz and world music as well as rock. For 12 years ending last July, he was well known as a contributor to The *Boston Globe* (that is, until the paper demanded use of past and future freelance work for long-term Internet ventures without sharing a penny!). He has written pieces about the local music scene for *Boston Rock* and the *New York Times* as well, after living the reporter's life at other daily newspapers. Then there's his alter ego as a photographer. Paul has shot musicians not only for all of the above publications, but also for *Spin*, *Vanity Fair* and *Musician*. (Check out his photos—from Eminem to Radiohead—currently on display at the Middle East). Oh yeah, he also plays the drums when he gets the time. For this issue, Robicheau collaborated with the IMPROPER's Rachel Strutt to write "Boston Rocks" (page 21).

MICHAEL WEBER

This issue's cover was shot by Michael Weber, who has also gotten behind the lens for *The Boston Globe Magazine* and *Echos* magazine. Weber got interested in the field after taking a photography class to satisfy a requirement in college. He specializes in location fashion, which allows him to blend his enthusiasm for modern art and design with photography. "I love to use transportation centers—airports and subways and places like that. They make great backgrounds for fashion, because they tend to be pretty modern." We don't think he's seen the Boylston T stop...

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IMPROPERSPEAKING

BY ELLEN O'BRIEN



SPREAD THE WORD

With a name like O'Brien, when I heard the **Boston Archdiocese** was looking for a communications specialist to manage its newspaper, radio, television and public-relations departments, along with the essential *Catholic Directory*, I thought about a career move. I waited by the phone, prepared for potential interview questions: "Why is the day after Christmas named for St. Stephen?" or "Judith and Esther did what...?" In certain circles, it was well known that the Archdiocese was offering a salary of something like $125,000. Better than that, there are staff meetings with his eminence Cardinal **Bernard Law**. The woman who eventually got the call is **Donna Morrissey**, (pictured above), who enjoyed three divine years at **Regan Communications** as senior vice president. At 30, Morrissey is a former assignment editor at two local TV stations, and a graduate of Boston College. "I'm excited professionally, but also personally. I'm a Catholic, and I think it's a great honor," says Morrissey.

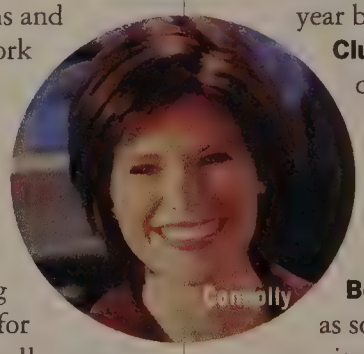
Now Morrissey must adjust from the Regan-required nightlife to Cardinal-inspired garden parties.

WAITING TO EXHALE

When ***Boston Herald*** TV columnist **Monica Collins** recently clicked onto WBZ and WHDH for a look at their new early morning anchorwomen, **Kerry Connolly** (Ch. 4) and **Amy Johnson** (Ch.7), the two Boston newcomers were prepared for the worst, knowing Collins can be tougher than any producer when issuing her brand of constructive criticism. (**THE IMPROPER'S** take on this constitutes meta-media, we know, when the media covers the media covering the media. Gross.) Still, these newcomers are interesting and, lucky for them, are no longer waiting to exhale, having been offered praise from Collins and others for their work during the dawn hours. Johnson, while filling in for **Kristy Kim**, will return to the weekend desk when her morning stint is done, but for now she and Connolly are operating on that schedule that requires going to bed at 7:30pm and rising about 3am (ugh.) Don't hate them because they're beautiful, by the way. If you want to hold a grudge, how about knowing Connolly is also a former All-American high school athlete and currently plays ice hockey in a local league. She might know Boston hockey, but Connolly lacks our traditional cynicism (she uses the word "darn," for example). So does Johnson, apparently. She was named volunteer of the year by the **Boys & Girls Clubs**' Milwaukee chapter, and she swears she isn't kidding when she says she wants to go on one of those **Boston Duck Tours** as soon as the weather permits. Coming from the West Coast, Johnson says she was warned how chilly Bostonians can be. "So far, I've been pleasantly surprised," says Johnson, 32. "Everyone has been great." Yes, they are both single and have followed their careers across the country. "Hartford was not exactly the dating capital of the world," says Connolly. "Unless you like insurance guys."



Johnson



Connolly



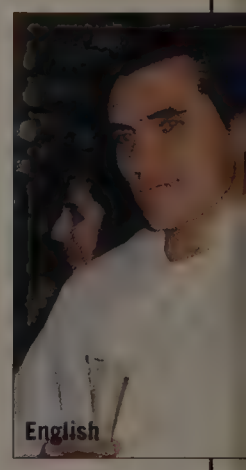
No anchor puns, please.

KEELING OVER

So, we were flipping through our copy of ***Zenda Express*** , that sailing magazine (after perusing our Sotheby's update) and we saw WCVB-TV Channel 5's **Anthony Everett**, his wife, **Lydia**, and her brother **Brett Hatton** smiling at us. Hatton is a champion sailor, and the Everetts helped him win the Western Michigan Regatta. Everett says his wife is the tactician, and he basically acts as the ballast (running from side to side to keep the boat from tipping over).

A CITY AND ITS STOMACH

Because we live in a glass house, we don't like to throw stones. Usually. Then ***Boston Globe*** columnist **Brian McGrory** told us last week that "a city (that's Boston) and its psyche" need...**Todd English**? That's kind of heavy praise for a chef. Isn't that the kind of stuff we reserve for, perhaps, **Jimmy Williams**?



English

We love the big leagues as much as anyone else, but our psyche is worn out from the English dynasty. Now he's in New York (where that fun-loving newspaper the ***New York Observer***, had the wherewithal to call hockey great **Cam Neeley** and let him vent his frustration about their former and failed restaurant venture Neeley stuck it to English, describing him as a megalomaniac who cares more about building an empire than roasting a duck. Remember when the chocolate souffle at **Olives** in Charlestown was a newly discovered treasure? Anyway, McGrory was writing from New York, and he is a self-acknowledged restaurant lover, so perhaps he was swayed by English's offerings at his new New York restaurant, also called **Olives**. Of course, all of this has us salivating over the March 1 opening of **Bonfire**, yet another new restaurant owned by English, and the scrutiny of local food critics. **iB**

THE DEVIL IS IN THE DETAILS



Irish playwright **Conor McPherson**'s play, ***The Weir***, was a first-rate success in the U.K., and now anyone who has seen the **New Repertory Theater**'s production in Newton knows why local critics are raving. As in London, Boston audiences pose a challenge for the set designer and costumer, assigned the tasks of fashioning a believable Irish pub and local characters for a crowd that can spot a poorly poured pint from the back row. As for dressing the country-folk characters, the wrong shoe could show as blantantly as a bright green clover clock on the wall. No worries. Set designer **Richard Chambers** (left) and costume designer **Eileen Bouvier** did their research right down to the wall switch onstage. (The cast members who hail from Ireland were a help here, though even they had to practice a new accent to properly portray the local characters in a rural pub on the West Coast, outside Sligo.) The photos on the wall, including the view of Kerrick, are as appropriate as the **Paddy's** whiskey (no import labels). Meanwhile, Bouvier shopped at local vintage stores, the **Garment District** and **Global Thrift**. The stove (that's real peat, folks) was actually something one of the Ireland-born cast members had in their garage. **Brendan** the bartender was a challenge, says Bouvier. "I wanted to make it believable without making it a cliche about what Irish people wear." The production runs through Feb. 11 in Newton, and then the whole crew will travel to the **Orpheum Foxborough** for shows Feb.16-25. McPherson was commissioned by the Royal Court Theatre to write ***The Weir***.

Speaking of Boston

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to speaking@improper.com

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BY ERIN HAGEDORN AND JULIE SHORT



Matrix bartenders Lynne LeClerc and Danny Franggos look forward to the club's opening.

THIS JUST IN

NYC JUKEBOX SPINS A NEW IDENTITY

As of Friday, Feb. 2, the Theater District's long-standing NYC Jukebox will become **Matrix**—a completely renovated space in the downstairs level of the RoxyPlex. In the vein of the '99 sci-fi thriller, this space of alternate reality is destined to fill up with dancers who can move to everything from house to '80s pop. Club regulars will be pleased to note the inclusion of the dynamic DJ Deja, who is popular around town.

This overhaul (long overdue, according to most) is thanks to the hard work of Kevin Durant, the unsung hero of nightclub renovation (his works include Embassy, Vertigo, M80, G-Lounge and Maksou, to name just a few), who spent the past six months transforming the '50s retro Jukebox into a fusion of *Austin Powers* and *The Matrix* (everything from cyber-like metallic draping to faux-fur soffits and a crazy color scheme). Check it out on opening night for a multidimensional party. KISS 108's Billy Costa is the celebrity MC, the club's "Matrix Gals" will heat up the dance floor and Nitelife Express is giving away a trip to Cancun. *275 Tremont Street, Boston (338-7699).*

ALL THE BUZZ

WHERE THE BOYS ARE

On one Thursday evening in January, we wandered across the street to the newly renovated upstairs of Grill 23 & Bar and were bowled over by the wave of testosterone that met us at the entrance to the upstairs lounge ... or maybe it was just the aftershave. There were handsome men garbed in power suits everywhere we looked. And according to assistant general manager Paul Dias, it's like that most days. "We get a good after-work crowd of traders and lawyers Tuesday through Friday," says Dias, who figures the male-to-female ratio to be about 70 percent to30 percent. We cruised the crowd of scotch- and martini-sippers looking for a feminine face (maybe they were obscured by the aromatic cloud of cigar smoke wafting through the room), but had no luck. It makes sense that men flock to this very masculine, posh room—with leather seats, dark wood, plenty of steak and no high-pitched chatter at all. But ladies, why haven't you caught on? (Hint, hint.) ***161 Berkeley St., Boston (542-2255).***

NEW IN TOWN

AB FAB



When one of our editors went out on the town in her new vintage coat, replete with patchwork faux fur and leather, she was met with an approving cry of "That coat is *absolutely fabulous*!" The compliment couldn't have been more right on. The coat was a recent purchase from Somerville's Absolutely Fabulous—a cozy antique store located on the edge of Inman Square that sells trendy vintage clothing, antiques, shoes, rugs, lamps, dinnerware and memorabilia, as well as hand-painted contemporary furniture, pottery and jewelry. The fashionable merchandise (and killer decor) is all hand-picked—a collaborative effort between co-owners Mara Kustra (right) and Collene Covey, who find many of their treasures at flea markets and estate sales around the country. As the enthusiastic pair led us on a tour of their store, they pointed out items they've wanted to keep for themselves. (They have a new rule—if they keep an item from the store, they must bring in another from home as a replacement.) Kustra and Covey met while working down the street at the 1369 Coffee Shop and later pooled their resources to open the boutique late last year. They're delighted with the response so far. Beacon Street commuters—lured through the doors by the colorful tables, clothes and lamps hanging from the ceiling—have been pleased with the selection and fair pricing. The busy pair are also working on a Web site and are happy to scour the vintage market to find custom-tailored requests. *108 Beacon St., Somerville (864-0656).*

AROUND TOWN

SOMERVILLE SKEWERS

The name is extremely misleading, we thought as we walked into the **Kebab Factory** last week. This was no mass-produced fast-food joint. In fact, it was anything but. Located just outside Inman Square (across from the much-loved Dalí), the Kebab Factory is an elegant new Indian bistro that serves up mouth-watering kebabs served with a variety of chutneys and sauces—from sweet and spicy to hot and fiery. A peek through the glass window into the kitchen reveals the source of all this savory goodness: a tandoori oven imported from India that slow-roasts the marinated chunks of lamb, fish, chicken and vegetables to tender, moist perfection. Run by the same folks that own Diva in Davis Square, Bukhara in Jamaica Plain and Kashmir downtown (among others), the Kebab Factory has a traditional side to the menu—with chicken tikka masala, meat samosas and naan—but the kebabs are what make this place worthy of note. That ... and the wonderfully exotic Indian pizza selections—we devoured the tandoori pizza made with whole-wheat naan and fresh vegetables. It makes our mouths water just thinking about it. *414 Washington St. at Beacon Street, Somerville (354-4996). Open for lunch and dinner.*



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Wethering the Storm

Why the dot-com decline has David Wetherell avoiding his neighbors

It must be difficult to be David Wetherell nowadays. In the five years ending in 1999, the stock for his company, Andover-based CMGI, returned nearly 5,000 percent, making it the best performing U.S. stock of the decade. About this time last year, CMGI stock was going for a hefty $163 a share; as of this writing, it's trading for a measly $5. Ouch.

I don't know Wetherell, but I do know one of his neighbors, who informed me that relations between Wetherell and the local gentry have noticeably cooled since the company's stock tanked. It seems that a number of his neighbors were stockholders who bought into CMGI near its peak, and now blame him for the radical shrinking of their nest eggs.

Despite the local rancor, Wetherell is not entirely to blame. Pundits and executives alike believed that the Internet had suspended the laws of economics—with predictably disastrous circumstances. Companies like CMGI (which lost $636 million on revenues of $336 million last quarter) acquired insanely high valuations simply because somebody thought they had a potential to be future market leaders.

I don't feel sorry for Wetherell, though. He's been in business long enough to have known—at least at some level—that CMGI's valuation was a house of cards. The people who I feel sorry for are the twentysomethings whose first job experience has been in a firm like CMGI during its recent glory days.

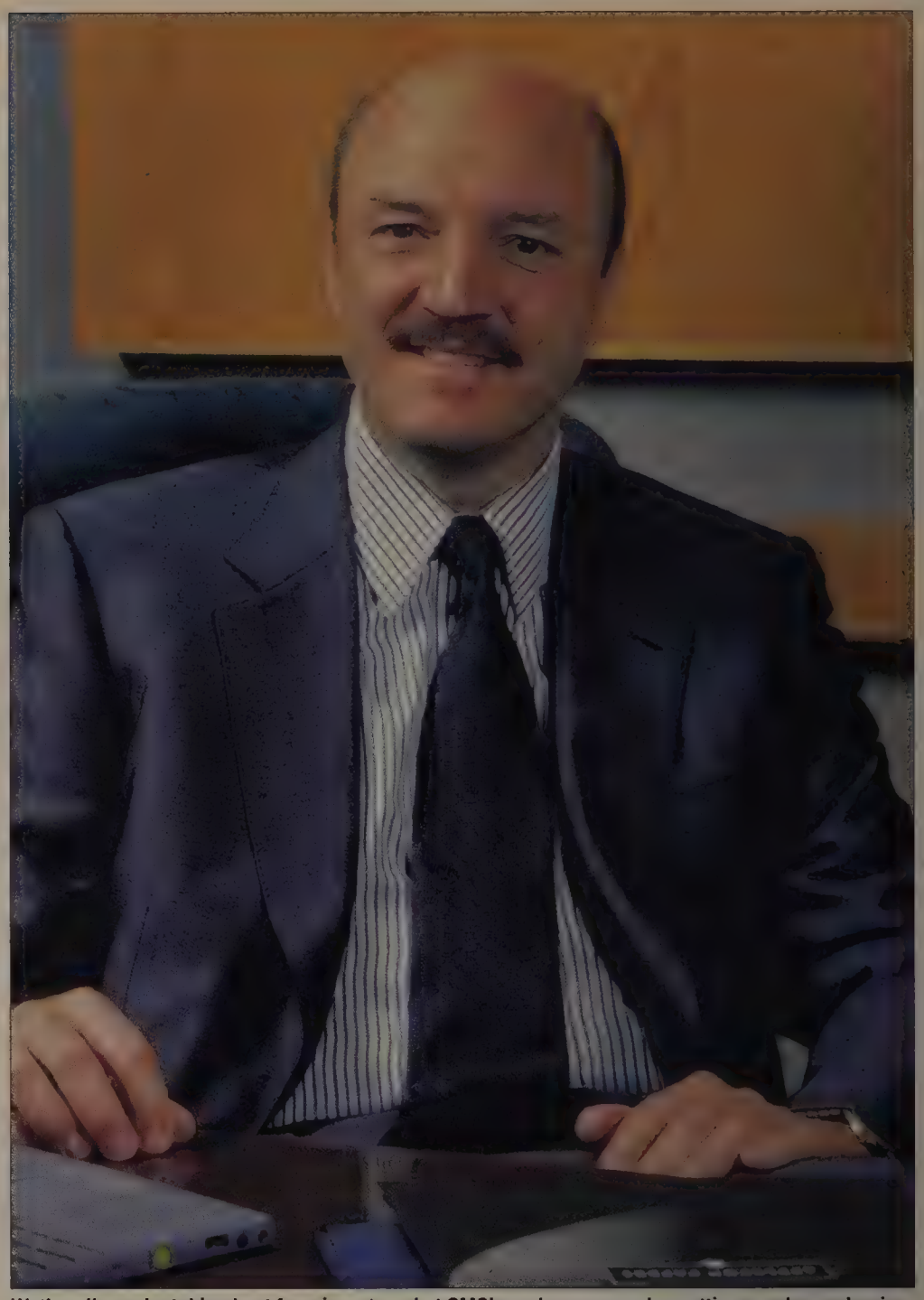
When the mania was at its strongest, dot-coms were throwing money away—spending big bucks on elaborate parties, lavish travel, employee perks and pricey advertising. That's going to be a hard act to follow when these poor souls finally get a real job. In other words, some people are in for a rude awakening.

Real high tech companies—the ones that sell real products and deliver real services—are quirky places in which to work. Engineers, the kind that wear pocket protectors, often hold the real power. Long hours of unpaid overtime are commonplace. Perks tend to be limited to sedate pleasures like free coffee and juice. Salaries tend to be low, although meager pay is sometimes offset by stock options, which may or may not prove to be valuable sometime in the far-distant future.

Management technique, such as it is, tends to be primitive. In recent years there's been a resurgence of the screamer—the kind of manager who thinks that an organization can be made more productive by making underlings feel like crap. As for social interaction, real world workplaces don't bear much resemblance to the typical party-'til-you-drop dot-com. If you've ever read the *Dilbert* cartoon strip, you've got a good idea what life is like in the typical high tech firm. I know a guy who's worked for six companies in the past 10 years and claims that he's failed to make a single friend.

NOTHING COULD BE MORE FOREIGN FROM THE REAL HIGH TECH FIRM, WHERE EVERY LINE OF AN EXPENSE ACCOUNT IS GIVEN THE SAME SCRUTINY AS A CIRCUIT BOARD DESTINED TO BE MOUNTED IN A NUCLEAR BOMB.

This isn't to say that people inside a high tech firm don't have fun—it's only that that their idea of fun is pretty distant from the wild ways of an Internet startup. At one computer manufacturer, for example, an enterprising engineer wrote a program to create the world's largest maze—a strip of paper six feet high and 100 feet long, filled with pathwayed cells a quarter of an inch high. He hung it on the longest hallway in the building and for the next 12 days, every male engineer in the building spent his lunch hour trying to trace the correct path from one end to the other.



Wetherell may be taking heat from investors, but CMGI employees are also getting a rude awakening.

I suspect that the dot-com crowd, fresh from a mixer at Sonsie, might find this amusement a trifle tame.

Dot-com firms tended to be abuzz with the political and sexual intrigue that's the inevitable result of spending too much money. Nothing could be more foreign from the real high tech firm, where every line of an expense account is given the same scrutiny as a circuit board destined to be mounted in a nuclear bomb.

Real high tech companies have their own brand of excitement, if that's the right word. For example, one software group received the unwelcome news that corporate headquarters had appointed a new general manager. This immediately created a morale problem among the programmers, who were afraid that the new manager might prove to be even more of a corporate weasel than the bonehead who was leaving. The chief programmer, who was responsible for seeing that the software was released on time, decided to take immediate action. On the day that the new manager arrived, accompanied by a spate of corporate types, the head programmer rented a gorilla suit, donned it in the men's room and proceeded to interrupt the introductory meeting by growling at the bigwigs while walking around the conference table. The other programmers, hearing of this, immediately returned to work.

Don't worry if that story didn't make any sense; it's the kind of thing that only an engineer could fully understand.

So it's going to be a brand new life experience for the twentysomethings who cut their teeth in the world of dot-coms. It may not be the same as flying to Paris for a marketing meeting, but it's the kind of work environment that a million engineers call home.

As for Wetherell, rumor has it that he's trying to inject some discipline into CMGI in the hope that it might recover some of its lost value. Maybe he should try wearing a gorilla suit; at least then his neighbors wouldn't recognize him. **iB**

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

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Freak City

This stuff don't happen in Maine

I need to get out of the city for a while. I come from Maine, a place where honest folks drive trucks to Sam's Club to buy 80-pound bags of dog food and toilet paper in bulk; a place where the air is as clear as a plastic jug of 5 O'Clock vodka; a place where furry animals frolic in the verdant forests, until they wander out into the road and get hit by honest folks driving trucks. Maine is a peaceful place; indeed it is "the way life should be." And the reason for that is because Maine has approximately the same population as Swampscott.

The more people there are in a given area, the higher the probability that some of those people are going to affect your life in an adverse way. This is called the People Sucking Factor. Recently I've had several experiences that have made me realize that I need to get back to a place with a lower PSF. Or at least find a summer home there.

Situation one: I am in the Government Center Stop 'N Shop, trying to find regular Tostitos. All I can see is Baked Tostitos and those disgusting lime-flavored ones, and this is bothering me. I've just concluded that the regular chips must be in a separate display when I hear glass hitting the floor down the aisle. "That's too bad," I think, "someone just dropped their groceries." But when I look, I see a guy wantonly swiping every glass jar he can find (mostly olives) onto the floor. For a split second, I contemplate trying to stop him, but then I decide that the glory level of rescuing Stop 'N Shop's olives isn't high enough to warrant interfering with a man who clearly has some issues to work out. So while Mr. Crazy busily relocates the shelves to the floor and other shoppers run by screaming "This never happens at Bread & Circus!" I find myself thinking, "Now I wonder where they put the *hot* salsa?" This is a definite sign that I need to get away.

Situation two: My parking permit is revoked. I gather the necessary documents and head to City Hall to find out why. They tell me that my car and I live in different zip codes. I show them my registration. I show them bills. I show them the tattoo on my ass (just because). But it's all to no avail, because an RMV screw-up rendered the address in their computer different from the address printed on my registration. So I do the logical thing: I give up. I call the RMV and pay $15 to have the address in the computer changed to what it says on the registration anyway. Back at City Hall, the parking clerk wench tells me not to let this happen again or I'll get my permit revoked for two years. I resist the urge to pull her out through the little hole in the window and acquaint her with the Death of a Thousand Paper Cuts from Unpaid Parking Tickets.

Situation three: I've just finished playing basketball at the Harvard Medical gym. I go to get my stuff out of my locker, which I left unlocked (on the theory that smart kids won't mess with my stuff). When I return, I find that I now *do* have a lock on my locker. I call campus police and explain the situation, and soon enough they arrive with a pair of boltcutters and remove the lock. Amazingly, my stuff is still there. So why would someone do this? I don't know because I am not an asshole. But I decide to ponder motivations later, because now I've got a new problem. I'd taken my driver's license out of my wallet the night before, so I have no picture ID. The cops start eyeing me suspiciously. In a fit of porcine logic, they conclude that I am masterminding an elaborate scheme to steal the stuff in the locker and refuse to let me leave. "Look," I say, pulling a shoe out of my bag. "The shoe fits. I'm Cinderella! And hey, I'm a psychic, too. Prepare to be astounded as I magically predict what will be in the pockets of these pants! Gaze in wonder as I tell you how long Ezra Dyer has been a AAA member before I even look at his card!" They are not amused, and so a bizarre standoff ensues until my roommate Scott goes and finds a copy of this magazine, which I use as my ID. On my way out, I glower suspiciously at everyone I pass. Now, I try not to draw broad conclusions based on isolated experiences, but I think it's fair to say that Harvard-educated doctors are, as a group, bad people. I hope I don't see any at Sam's Club. iB

I DECIDE THAT THE GLORY LEVEL OF RESCUING STOP 'N SHOP'S OLIVES ISN'T HIGH ENOUGH TO WARRANT INTERFERING WITH A MAN WHO CLEARLY HAS SOME ISSUES TO WORK OUT.

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The **STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN DRAW PARTY,** to determine skating order for the 2001 United States Figure Skating Championships, was held Jan. 13 at the Skywalk in the Prudential Center.

1. **Matthew Lind**, skater for novice men, **Jennifer Kirk**, Championships ladies, **Jennifer Don**, novice ladies and **Colette Irvings**, junior ladies.
2. **Courtney Day**, **Doug Zeghibe** and **Katie McManus**; project coordinator, executive director and director of promotions, respectively, for the Championships.
3. **Tom Hoffman**, partner at KAF Financial Advisors in Braintree, and his wife, **Debbie**, nurses' supervisor for New England Medical.
4. **Doug Williams**, bronze medalist and judge in The Championships and **Amanda Farkas**, six-time national competitor and skating professional.


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The **ANTHONY SPINAZZOLA FOUNDATION GALA,** a black tie celebration of food and wine was held Jan.19 at the World Trade Center. About 4,500 guests sampled specialty offerings from 124 of Boston's best restaurants and 90 international winemakers. More than $500,000 was raised, which will go directly to Feed Hungry Bodies and Minds, a non-profit organization for hunger relief, culinary education and job training for the homeless.

5. **Richard Goldberg** and his sister, **Stephanie**, both gemologists and co-owners of Marshall's of Milford, and **Kenny Young**, head doorman at the Ritz Carlton Hotel.
6. **Pei-Lee Szeto**, function manager at Olives in Charlestown, and **Todd English**, chef/owner of Olives and Figs.
7. **Dan Forrester** (l), partner at David Josef's and **David Josef**, designer and owner of David Josef's.
8. **John Berry**, vice president of ABN Amro Inc., and his wife, **Susan**, ad sales manager for Ziff Davis Media in Medford.
9. **Matteo Gallo**, owner of Gallo & Company Real Estate in the North End, and **Nicole Vellucci**, jeweler at Cambridge Jewelers.
10. **Tom Modica**, sales manager at Ruby Wines, his wife, **Donna**, and **Sara Edwards**, arts and entertainment reporter for Channel 7.


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Ming Tsai

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Restaurateur, celebrity chef, author and TV personality Ming Tsai was raised in Dayton, Ohio, where his family owned a restaurant and attendance at a traditional Chinese dinner every Friday night at his grandparents' house was mandatory. He graduated from Yale with a mechanical engineering degree (following in his father's footsteps), and having spent summers at the Cordon Bleu, he returned to France and trained at Fauchon and Natacha. He came back to the States to earn a master's degree in hotel administration and hospitality marketing from Cornell and then worked in Chicago and California before he and his wife, Polly, opened their hugely successful eatery, Blue Ginger, in Wellesley.

In 1998, James Beard nominated Blue Ginger Best New Restaurant, while *Esquire* named Tsai Chef of the Year. Having appeared on the Food Network, he launched his own program, *East Meets West*, that same year, earning an Emmy award. In 1999, he published his first cookbook, which is now in its fifth printing. In addition to the restaurant and his cooking show, his business interests include a popular Web site and another TV show, *Ming's Quest*, which airs on the Food Network. He also finds time to pursue his love of sports and the outdoors (he plays tennis competitively), but his top priority remains his family, specifically his wife, Polly, and his young children.

Jonathan Soroff: *Which nickname describes you better: Ming the Merciless or Ming the Magnificent?*
Ming Tsai: I guess Ming the Merciless. Some of my friends used to call me that from *Flash Gordon* days. I'm really not merciless at all, but I'm certainly more merciless than magnificent.
JS: *What's the silliest current food trend?*
MT: I think people try to do too much on the plate. If you're serving chicken, make sure it tastes like chicken.
JS: *If you were on death row, what would you request for your final meal?*
MT: Some wire clippers, since I'd probably be electrocuted. Besides that, give me a glass of champagne. Death is a celebration of life.
JS: *If you were on a deserted island, what one kitchen tool would you bring?*
MT: A frying pan. It's indispensable.
JS: *Do you own any Ronco products, like maybe a Veg-O-Matic?*
MT: Well, I have the equivalent: The Japanese Ben Riner turning slicers. They make spaghetti out of carrots and daikon and potatoes.
JS: *Am I wrong for loathing cilantro?*
MT: No. It's subjective. I've heard people say it tastes like soap or that it tastes like crap. I actually disliked it until age 12, when I was at a Chinese banquet. Every dish had cilantro on it, so it was either eat or die. Since then, I've acquired a taste for it. It's the most-used herb in the world, and it's crucial in Asian cooking.
JS: *Any guilty pleasures: Fluffernutter sandwiches, Spaghetti-O's...*
MT: I like instant noodles. Kung Fu noodles are a must.
JS: *How about the grossest thing you ever ate?*
MT: I made a really nasty tuna casserole once. My wife and I were in the Florida Keys, and it was a rainy day so we couldn't get out. The first mistake was I started with Tuna Helper. The second was that I used canned tuna. And then the third was that I seasoned it like I season everything, and Tuna Helper's so bloody salty already. We each took a bite, looked at each other and burst out laughing.
JS: *Biggest mistake most people make in the kitchen?*
MT: They don't taste as they go. They wait until it's on the table and then say, "Uch. It's not seasoned enough."
JS: *Ever give anyone food poisoning?*
MT: Intentionally, no. But after serving 300, 400 meals a day, I'm sure I have at some point. But we've had no fatalities. In fact, at Blue Ginger, we've had no confirmed incidents of food poisoning. You know, 98 percent of the time, when someone calls and says they got sick, they actually had the flu or a stomach virus. It's still unfortunate, and we're still sorry they got sick, but it wasn't us.
JS: *Ever had it yourself?*
MT: Yeah, once. It was the worst experience. My father and I were traveling in China, and I think it was some pork dumplings we ate. We were bedridden for 24 hours, but we had to go to a banquet because my Dad was the guest of honor, so we couldn't cancel. We sat through this 12-course meal, with everyone smoking and drinking. At the end, we were leaving, and my father was saying thank you to everyone, and he just pulled a Bush.
JS: *Nasty. So do you think Martha Stewart is the anti-Christ?*
MT: I've never met her. I'd love to, though. I completely respect her. She's the only person who's done what she's done.
JS: *You spent a lot of time in France. Are the French overrated in the kitchen?*
MT: Not at all. Like the Japanese, they're completely disciplined in the kitchen. Some of the training is a bit extreme, like having to do mashed potatoes for a year and a half before you can do anything else, but it does build character.
JS: *Favorite cookbook?*
MT: *Escoffier*. Even though I don't do classic French sauces, I borrow from it all the time. Another is *East Meets West Cuisine* by Ken Hom. He's known as the father of East Meets West cuisine, and he really gave me the confidence that this style of food was not just a trend or a fad. It inspired me.
JS: *Where do you keep your Emmy?*
MT: At Blue Ginger, right by the host stand. We had it on our mantel at home, and we loved it there. Both my wife and I were kind of against showing it off. But the CEO of the Food Network suggested we put it out because so few people have seen one up close.
JS: *Favorite exotic ingredient?*
MT: I like galangal a lot. It's a rhizome—an underground stem—and it's a cousin of ginger, with a very exotic, ginger-like flavor and almost a camphor spiciness. It's a key ingredient in lots of curry pastes and Southeast Asian food.
JS: *What do you think of the cult of celebrity chefs?*
MT: Well, one, I'm glad I made the train. For me, it was mostly luck and timing... with some perseverance. And the fact that I'm Asian certainly helped. But Americans aren't known for treating food with respect—with all the fast food and lack of families sitting down together for dinner—so the celebrity chefs, especially the ones on TV, are teaching people about food.
JS: *A friend of mine in the restaurant business likes to say that there are two types of restaurateurs: the ones losing money and the ones who know how much money they're losing. Which are you?*
MT: (Laughs.) Umm, I definitely know my financial situation. I'm very much a numbers guy. Fortunately, we're not losing money. So am I ready to retire? No. But Wellesley and Boston have been incredibly kind to Blue Ginger.
JS: *What's the weirdest thing about being a TV personality?*
MT: If I'm eating at a restaurant, people will interrupt or take pictures, but that comes with the territory. It's not like I'm Ricky Martin or George Clooney. I'm a cook. The most embarrassing thing, I guess, are the e-mails from guys saying they want to take me out to dinner. I blush a bit.
JS: *What food do you crave most often?*
MT: It's always something salty. I'm a salt fiend. For breakfast as a kid, I'd eat garlic salt and butter with parmesan on toast. I didn't have a lot of friends in grade school.
JS: *One thing you would never, ever eat or cook?*
MT: Probably a dog. Especially mine.
JS: *If you were a vegetable, what would it be and why?*
MT: Hmmm. How about a root? I guess ginger's too obvious...
JS: *It can be anything that grows.*
MT: Then I guess passion fruit, because I'm passionate about everything I do. And I'm not just sweet; I have a tart side.
JS: *So with all the glory, how do you keep your ego in check?*
MT: I married Polly. She keeps me in line. IB



"THE MOST EMBARRASSING THING, I GUESS, ARE THE E-MAILS FROM GUYS SAYING THAT THEY WANT TO TAKE ME OUT TO DINNER. I BLUSH A BIT."

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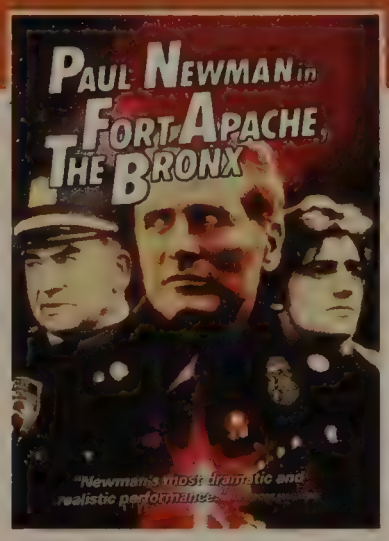
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Boston Rocks!

10 LOCAL BANDS MAKING NOISE

Written & edited by Paul Robicheau & Rachel Stroutt

Boston boasts a ridiculous number of bands and it was no easy feat coming up with a list of 10 worthy picks. To help us check the city's rock pulse, we informally polled local rock gurus (DJs, club bookers and scenesters), listened to countless CDs and went to gig after gig. Ultimately, we chose acts that present a broad cross-section of rock styles and attitudes, from the dark underground to the edge of commercial success.

Looking for drama along the line of VH-1's *Where Are They Now?*, we caught up with bands that we selected in last year's issue. We also spoke to local acts who are finding more success on the other side of the Atlantic and visited some of the city's top studios to find out who's expanding in which directions to give Boston bands a hand.

We offer you a lip-smacking smorgasbord of hometown rock. It's up to you to get out there and eat it up.



Heidi

Part punk, part rap and kick-ass spirit

Heidi are a difficult band to define: part punk, part rap, part hard rock—and when singer Jilly B. picks up her trumpet, there's even some mariachi flavor thrown into the mix. "The clubs don't know how to label us," says Jill. "We've played on punk, pop, metal and hard-core bills, anywhere from Tree to the Gravel Pit."

A particularly memorable bill for Heidi was last year's WBCN River Rave at Foxboro Stadium, when they shared the bill with big-name acts like the Stone Temple Pilots. "That was awesome," says Jill. "I was a rock star for a day." On a smaller scale, the tireless Heidi play out up to eight times per month around New England. Not surprisingly, these cheerleaders of rock, who recently released an adrenaline-charged EP titled *Can't Wait*, are developing a cultish following.

And it's not just the Lolita-like get-ups. "People don't tell us, 'Oh, you're good for a girl band,'" says Jill. "I don't feel like we're a girl band. We're just a rock band. We just want to write good songs and have fun. And we like not having boys in the band; there's no noodling in between songs." —*R.S.*

Visit heidirock.com for info. on upcoming shows

For another great local act, check out Club d'Elf. Turn to page 68.



The Gentlemen

Rock swagger and infectious fun

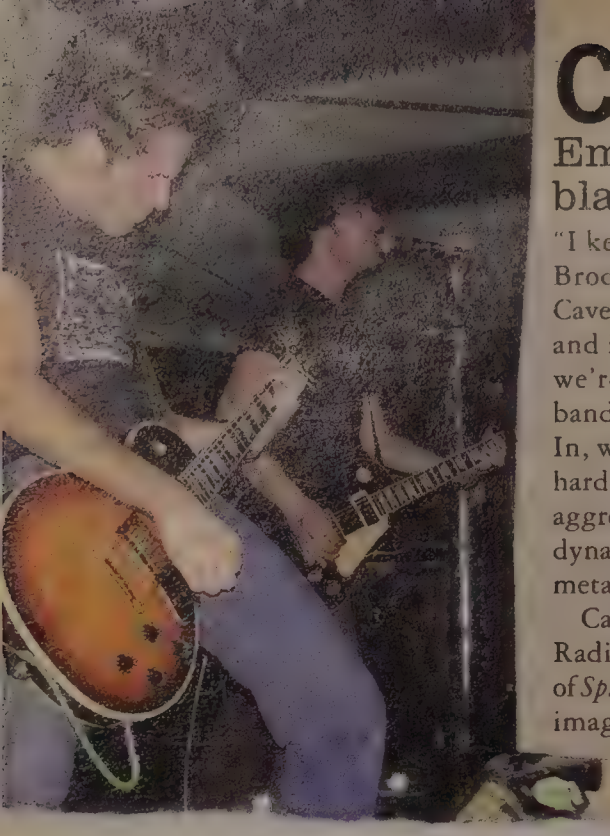
A few years back, three members of the local pop outfit The Gravel Pit teamed up with Mike Gent of the New-York based Figgs for a casual jam session at Toad. "People really liked it," says bassist Ed Valauskas, "and *we* really liked it." And so the Gentlemen were born, a serendipitous side project that has been churning out raw, spirited garage rock in the tradition of the Rolling Stones ever since. The collaboration of friends, Valauskas says, made perfect sense. "The three of us have played together for 10 years, and we've known Mike for that long, and have always been huge Figgs fans."

The band's rock swagger and high-octane live vibe is captured on last year's *Ladies and Gentlemen... The Gentlemen*. Produced live to 24-track in the studio with former Letters to Cleo's bassist Scott Riebling, the CD "sounds like a band playing live in a room, because it is," says Valauskas. A collection of "piss-off breakup songs," the CD is raucous and winning, with plenty of ripping guitars and hooky melodies punched up with Gent's powerful vocals.

Live or on CD, it's clear the Gentlemen are having fun—infectious fun. "We can go into any shithole bar, like in Toledo, and win people over. Even if a room's empty, it's still fun." Case in point: On a dismal rainy Wednesday at the Sky Bar last spring, the Gents managed to keep themselves and the sparsely populated club amply amused. "Lucky and Mike were standing on top of P.A. columns doing dueling guitar solos," Valauskus says. "So I played lying down—it was beyond stupid." It was also beyond entertaining. —*R.S.*

Visit qdivision.com for info. on upcoming show

LEFT: TRACY POWELL; RIGHT: BERTA A. DANIELS



Cave In

Emo-metal rockers blast off

"I keep my seat on the edge," Stephen Brodsky exclaims in the title track of Cave In's recent breakthrough CD, *Jupiter*, and it's a convincing concept. "I guess we're a little braver than your average band," the singer-guitarist says of Cave In, which teleported beyond its metal-hardcore roots to explore another side of aggression. "It's more just the volume and dynamics, and less of the sore throat and metal tinge to our sound."

Cave In has drawn some comparisons to Radiohead, as noted in the January issue of *Spin*. Yet Brodsky's sweeping voice and imagery, orbiting the group's unearthly tonalities and bombastic crunch, more closely evoke post-punk singer Joe Jackson—that is, if he were to arrange space-metal for the new millennium.

What makes Cave In even more astounding, however, is the age of its members. Brodsky, 21, formed the group with guitarist Adam McGrath and drummer J.R. Connors when they were high-school sophomores in Methuen (bassist Caleb Scofield joined two years ago). "We're all very moody people, and things happen that are moody and rollercoaster-like, yet that's what makes it fun and interesting," Brodsky says. "The music is constantly changing, and so are we." However, he adds, "We're a lot goofier in real life than shows in our music. We still chuckle when someone farts in the van." —*P.R.*

Cave In plays the Middle East Upstairs Feb. 2.



Francine

Smart, offbeat pop prevails

"We're definitely not full-on indie, like Matador [Records], but for pop labels, we're sort of left of center. We're sort of in purgatory," says the self-deprecating Clayton Scoble, songwriter and frontman for Francine. Melodic and hooky with enough grit and sonic shifts to keep the listener challenged, the genre-crossing Francine has won over enough critics and fans to make purgatory an enjoyable place to be.

The band's popularity notably surged last year when it released its first full-length CD, Forty on a Fall Day, a collection of beautifully crafted songs that alternately evokes old-school pop gods like the Beatles and '90s indie-popsters like Pavement. Local critics raved, and on Wednesday nights last fall, fans filed into the Lizard Lounge where the band held a two-month residency.

Beyond solid songwriting and superb musicianship, Francine offers refreshingly offbeat, Dada-like lyrics courtesy of Scoble. "Set of Dune" speaks of a courtship between a key grip and a sand stager. In the lovely "Want Ad King," Scoble delivers lyrics like "A dollar seven five can sing, say hello to the Want Ad king," with bursts of words punctuated by surprising, extended pauses. "Lately, I've veered away from classic pop-lyric writing," says Scoble. "I've been having fun being a little goofier, using micro-evocative groups of words. Of course, sometimes people ask me 'What the hell are you talking about?'" —R.S.

Francine play the Abbey Lounge Feb. 9th.

Karate

Distilled abstraction



Karate demands a certain discipline, for listeners as well as members of the 7-year-old band. "We're going more and more in an abstract direction, and I think we'll keep going that way," says Geoff Farina, whose near-spoken vocals roam the stark, jazz-stretched canvas of his crisply hung guitar, Jeff Goddard's sinuous bass and Gavin McCarthy's prodding drums. The effect suggests poetry suspended between stasis and ignition.

"I have an idiosyncratic voice, and I don't know how to do anything differently," says Farina, who phrases some dense wordplay (try "How much will the Leitmotiv sway to compensate for our fallow-yet-vigorous play on this century's take on the lived-but-yet-named") on *Unsolved*, Karate's fourth full disc. "The lyrics on *Unsolved* are very distilled," he says, explaining that they were culled from months of "free" writing. "Hundreds and hundreds of pages were combed over for that record."

Still, a Karate lesson isn't as dry as a metaphysics lecture, thanks to the hypnotic tone and tightly wound chops of Farina and his bandmates, who were trained in jazz, blues and classical music as well as punk. As one might guess, though, they're not gunning for popularity. Karate doesn't play out often, but will tour Europe again in March. "You want to be inspired," says Farina, "and you can't do that 24/7." —*P.R.*

Visit www.southern.com/southern/band/karat for info. on upcoming shows.



C60

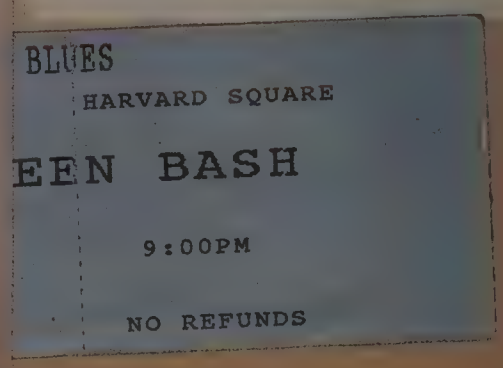
Ripping into modern-rock favor

When sleek hard-rockers C60 opened for Fuel and Disturbed at UNH's Whittemore Arena last November, singer Keith Smith took a wild dive into the crowd. He didn't realize how badly he had injured himself until C60 played the WBCN X-Mas Rave two nights later and, Smith now recalls, "I felt like I had gotten stabbed." Still recovering from a rip in his abdominal wall, he pipes, "You can't say I don't do my all for a show."

The same might be said about C60, which won the WBCN Rumble as Cobalt 60 in 1993, then broke up the following year. The band reunited for one show at Bill's Bar in 1999, and hasn't looked back. With ex-Sam Black Church guitarist JR Roach joining the original crew of Smith, guitarist Dan Mullen, bassist Andrew Padua and drummer Jay Potts, the group edited its name and cut an eponymous CD with producers Hugo Burnham (ex-Gang of Four) and Matthew Ellard, nailing modern-rock radio with "Crazy."

"Now it feels like a well-oiled machine, where the dynamics are a lot deeper and I'm not afraid of writing hooks," Smith says. "Stepping away gave it new vigor too. This time, it's fun." As long as he's ripping the music instead of the muscle. —*P.R.*

C60 plays Bill's Bar Feb. 8



CAVE IN, C60: PAUL ROBICHEAU; FRANCINE: LIZ LINDER; KARATE: BRYAN SHEFFIELD

The Fly Seville

Moody pop swells with melody and violin

For starters, the Fly Seville has one cool band name. But singer-guitarist Jesse Blatz, who was a creative- writing major in college, contends the name doesn't mean much: "I liked the consonants and vowels, the way it sounded."

But the best sound comes from the Fly Seville's dreamy folk-pop itself. Blatz's lyrics leave similarly enigmatic impressions as the group turns melancholy moods into uplifting crescendos. "If I can stick to the most basic shell of ideas, it's better," says the Cape Cod-bred guitarist, who leaves much of the band's sparse texturing to Minnesota native Stacy Joy, who alternates between keyboard and (bonus!) violin. "It makes me more relaxed to come up with better vocal melodies."

It's a sound that drew the attention of producer/Dambuilders guitarist Eric Masunaga, who lured the year-old band from Providence to Boston in 1998 to record the entrancing *Carousel* on his Sealed Fate label. The band then toured the West Coast with the Magnetic Fields. Bigger things are expected this spring with the completion of the Fly Seville's second disc, aided by the newfound drive of melodic bassist Jason Carlin and more rock-savvy drummer Jason Sloan, who closed a revolving door in the rhythm section. "Last year was rough, sorta like a test," Blatz says. "But things are really clicking right now." —*P.R.*

The Fly Seville plays the Kendall Cafe Feb. 6



The Raging Teens

Rockin' nostalgia

Whether you prefer metal, ska or indie pop, when the Raging Teens hit the stage, it's nearly impossible to resist the band's rollicking brand of '50s-style rock 'n' roll. "Yeah, we get the rockabilly fans," says lead singer Kevin Patey, "but they're standing next to the old guy, who's standing next the punk rocker. We can play anywhere— from weddings to car shows. "

From the nostalgic lyrics to the smokin' riffs of lead guitarist Amy Griffin and the thumping rhythm section, the Teens play a brand of early rock that conjures up the old Sun roster—including Elvis, Johnny Cash and Carl Perkins. "It's not just that I love this music, it's paying homage to it—all of it," says Patey. "I mean for every Elvis, there were a thousand other guys who didn't get a lot of exposure."

The band recently recorded their second disc, *Rock 'n' Roll Party*, in a vintage studio in California with Deke Dickerson. "Deke is one of the pioneer guys in the rockabilly revival," Patey explains. "It was a real honor to work with him." The Teens' CD release party promises to be an all-day rock 'n' roll party. "We're the soundtrack to a good time," Patey says matter-of-factly. "It's not the kind of show where you come and stare at your shoes." —*R.S.*

The Teens play the Middle East Downstairs Feb 17 with 13 other bands, 12pm-1am





REDNECK WARRIORS SCISSORFIGHT KEEP THE FAITH AND STORM MTV.

Where Are They Now?

The triumphs and trials of last year's top rockers

These were the bands in last year's list of "Boston Rocks" contenders—the local starlets who won our hearts with their rockin' tunes and stingin' riffs. Unfortunately, amid all the records and rumors the future is never certain in the ever-volatile world of rock 'n' roll. So who's still singing for their supper and who's gone down the familiar path of breakup and self-destruction? Break out your millennial nostalgia and let's check in with the class of 2000.

Star Ghost Dog

Still going strong, SGD is at work writing a follow-up album to *The Great Indoors*, which the group plans to record this summer. In the meantime, SGD is busy playing shows around the East Coast—its next gig is Feb. 9, when the band plays with Wheat downstairs at the Middle East.

Betwixt

One of the saddest breakups in recent memory, Betwixt split last August after playing together for three years. Life after Betwixt, according to guitarist Tom Devaney, is swell: "I'm hoping to record a solo CD with former members of the band sometime soon." Singer Leah Callahan is now fronting Butterfield 8, and cellist Gordon Withers is finishing a music program at Brandeis.

Wheat

This band is experiencing dizzying success—more so overseas than on the homefront, although it's still a college-radio staple. For their new CD (due this summer), the Wheat guys are sticking to what works—they recorded with Dave Auchenbach, with whom they did *Medeiros*, and they'll mix with Dave Fridmann, with whom they worked on *Hope and Adams*. Wheat headlines the Middle East Feb. 9.

Mr. Lif

Lif is still at the helm of the exploding local hip-hop scene. In the past year, he released a 12-inch single and an EP (which has sold almost 10,000 copies in three months), and has dropped guest verses on numerous albums and singles. Next up is another 12-inch single and a tour that will take him from South Carolina to Canada to Chicago.

Lockgroove

The beloved quintet is still churning out its dark, churning jams. The band has a 7-inch vinyl (Shark Attack Records) due out in March, a concept piece that the group is really excited about. Lockgroove has added temporary keyboard player Rob Laakso (Wicked Farleys and Swirlies) to the entourage, replacing Dan Finn.

The Shods

The stylish, punky combo broke up last fall, but its ex- members are still busy—guitarist Dave Aaronoff (who had exited the group in December of '99) has launched the poppy Dave Aaronoff & the Details with keyboardist Jay Buckley, while singer Kevin Stevenson is delving into a Stax-soul outfit.

Tugboat Annie

Tugboat Annie has released *The Space Around You*, its third album, which the band supported with a slew of shows, including a tour with Veruca Salt. Monster.com recently adopted Tugboat Annie's song "More" for its ad campaign. Right now, the group is on a short hiatus while bassist Jon Sulkow recuperates from a skiing accident.

The Sheila Divine

Last year, the trio celebrated its second birthday and the release of *New Parade* on Roadrunner Records. Enter the addition of guitarist Colin Decker (ex-Lincolnville) and a label change, and the band has come through the transition unscathed, poised to release its full-length *Where Have My Countrymen Gone* on March 20, on Co-Op Pop Records.

Hybrasil

Steadily building their fan base, Hybrasil has gone from playing at mostly small venues to having gigs downstairs at Middle East (Feb. 24). The boys recorded in Seattle in November and will release *The Kicker* around Easter. "We're doing it all ourselves—no management or label—and we're doing well," says singer Christian McNeill.

Scissorfight

Are these heavy hitters still misbehaving? You betcha. Last summer, WBCN added their "Ballad of Jacco Macacco" to regular rotation and the band is demoing 30 new tracks for the upcoming full-length *Mantrapping for Sport and Profit*. The big news: Scissorfight is scheduled to be on the MTV segment "You Hear it First" in March.

Baby Ray

Singer-guitarist Ken Lafler reports that band members took the summer off to "get their heads on straight." However, they're looking forward to performing regularly, and hope to put out a new record in the spring. So long to Paul Simonoff, who has left the group —the three remaining members have been playing with a roster of different bass players in his stead.

—*Erin Hagedorn*

THE FLY SEVILLE: MICHAEL WEBER; THE RAGING TEENS: JOEL VEAK

Bands on the Run

Increasing numbers of Boston acts are finding more success overseas than in their own hometown

"We're huge in Europe," says Matt Dillon's character of his struggling grunge band in the movie *Singles*. Lines like that are tempting for any band used to playing half-filled rooms on their home turf. But in Boston, there are numerous bands that can say they have a sizable fan base abroad—all joking aside.

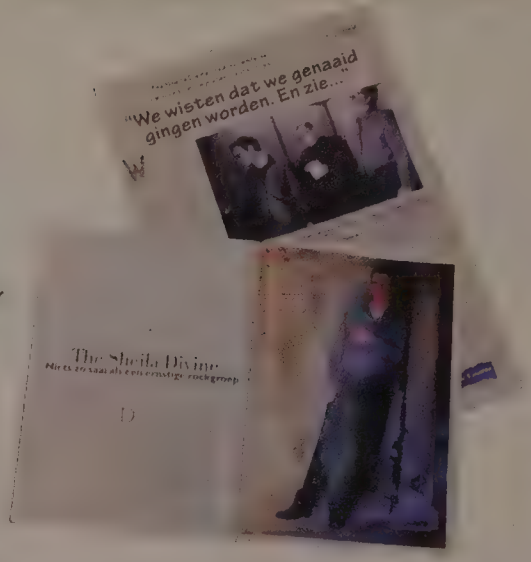
Just consider Boston bands that have found success touring Europe. Of the acts mentioned in these pages, **The In Out** toured Europe with Sebadoh in '99 and **The Raging Teens** tour Europe a few times each year. Similarly, the pop outfit **Jack Drag** toured Europe twice last year and is currently swinging through Holland, Belgium, France, Spain and the U.K. The blazing thrash-metal act **Converge** has toured Europe multiple times, playing to 600-plus-capacity venues each night. And the somber roots rock **Willard Grant Conspiracy** just finished its sixth European tour, playing 55 shows in 16 countries. The list of examples is surprisingly long.

When it comes to European CD sales, there are also far too many success stories to mention. But for starters, alt-country singer **Todd Thibaud**'s recent European release of *Squash* (on German label Blue Rose) sold 1,200 records in its first week of release last fall—huge numbers for an indie label. And the pop trio **Wheat** has sold 20,000 of its second CD, *Hope and Adams*, in the U.K.(on English label City Slang) compared with 8,000 stateside (on the Chicago-based SugarFree). On the harder front, **Botch** has sold close to 5,000 records in Europe, which, according to HydraHead record-label manager Mark Thompson, "is very respectable for an underground band on an independent label."

Although no Boston bands can claim to elicit Beatles-like hysteria abroad, **The Sheila Divine** can honestly say they're huge in Belgium. The band's catchy emo-hit "Like a Criminal" was the most requested song on Belgian national radio last summer ("Limp Bizkit was No. 2," notes singer-guitarist Aaron Perrino), and both "Criminal" and "Hum" became No. 1 hits in 2000. "They just have better taste over there," says Perrino jokingly. "I don't know why certain bands do well over there. I mean, why is David Hasselhof huge in Germany?"

Wheat has found a second home of sorts in England, which manager Scott Booker attributes to airplay. "In England, the main radio station, Radio 1, is paid for in large part by people's tax dollars. It's written law that they have to play a certain amount of eclectic music, things that haven't already sold millions of records. So the big radio stations have a palette more like college radio over here, but on a bigger scale." Booker adds, "They also have a great music festival circuit in Europe. There's nothing like that over here."

DIVINE FOREIGN PRESS FOR BOSTON'S OWN.



Ricky Brennan, guitarist and sometimes-singer for Wheat, offers yet another reason for his band's success overseas. "There's a different sensibility over there. I think people appreciate music that's a little more subtle." This is a concept not lost on his friend Brian Dunn, singer of ethereal newcomers the **Clairvoyants**, who have a CD coming out on local Kimchee Records. "We're [also] hoping to get picked up by a British label from the start," Dunn says. "I don't know how well we fit into the Boston scene."

Tim Catz of **Roadsaw**—a band known for its groovin' stoner rock—also believes Europeans have a different sensibility, not just for pop subtlety, but for straight-up rock as well. "Europe in general, and especially places like Sweden, have a real appreciation for rock. I think it's partly because hip-hop hasn't infiltrated over there."

Jetting to Europe has a good dose of glamour, but it's not necessarily a moneymaking proposition. The Sheila Divine have come home with about a couple thousand dollars per tour, but most other Boston bands just manage to break even, if that. But who's complaining? It's a free trip to Europe, great record promotion and often, a nice ego booster. Fondly recalling Roadsaw's recent European tour, Catz says, "We had a bus, a bus driver, a merchandise guy. We didn't go home with any money but we got to live like rock stars for six weeks, all expenses paid."

As a veteran of European touring, Robert Fisher, Willard Grant Conspiracy singer and co-lyricist, offers a level-headed view on the transatlantic touring phenomenon. Upon returning from a recent two-month European tour, he says, "It's a lot of hard work and sacrifice, but there are glamorous elements. Bands are treated really well over there. The people are great. The places are wonderful—especially when you get to visit places like Slovenia or make time to see the Paul Klee Museum in Switzerland." He continues, "We've reached a level of success in Europe much more so than here. So I feel pretty lucky. I'm poorer than I've ever been in my life, but I'm happier. The ultimate goal is to keep making music." *—Rachel Strutt*



The In Out

Pairing dark wit and an ominous sound

The In Out may nod to the past—specifically late '70s English bands like the Fall or Gang of Four—but its snarled sonic swirl of smart, angular art rock and grimy punk angst comes off sounding more avant-garde than retro. The In Out can also sound menacing, but singer Todd Nudelman contests, "What sounds like anger is really misdirected sexual energy. All of our best songs are about sex; that's why our band name is the way it is."

Back in '99, the band had the honor of touring Europe with Sebadoh, playing to enthusiastic audiences of 500 people per night. Although the rock quartet doesn't perform for such relatively giant crowds on a local scale, the In Out's recently released CD, *A Living Memorial in Deutschland*, has made the band darlings on local college radio stations like WMBR and WZBC.

Initially conceived as a rock opera, *A Living Memorial* was inspired by the band's recent visit to Germany. "There are plenty of [Holocaust] statues and memorials," says Nudelman, "but the Jews who survived are a living memorial." The opus isn't preachy, however. It leans more toward the surreal and humorous than somber. Take the CD's main character—the wryly named Übergrinder—an ominous sex villain who seduces German Fraüleins in the back of a van "filled with toxic fumes of their vibrations." Just like Übergrinder, the In Out is dark, twisted and irresistible. *—R.S.*

The In Out play Emily's Feb. 7th.

Darkbuster

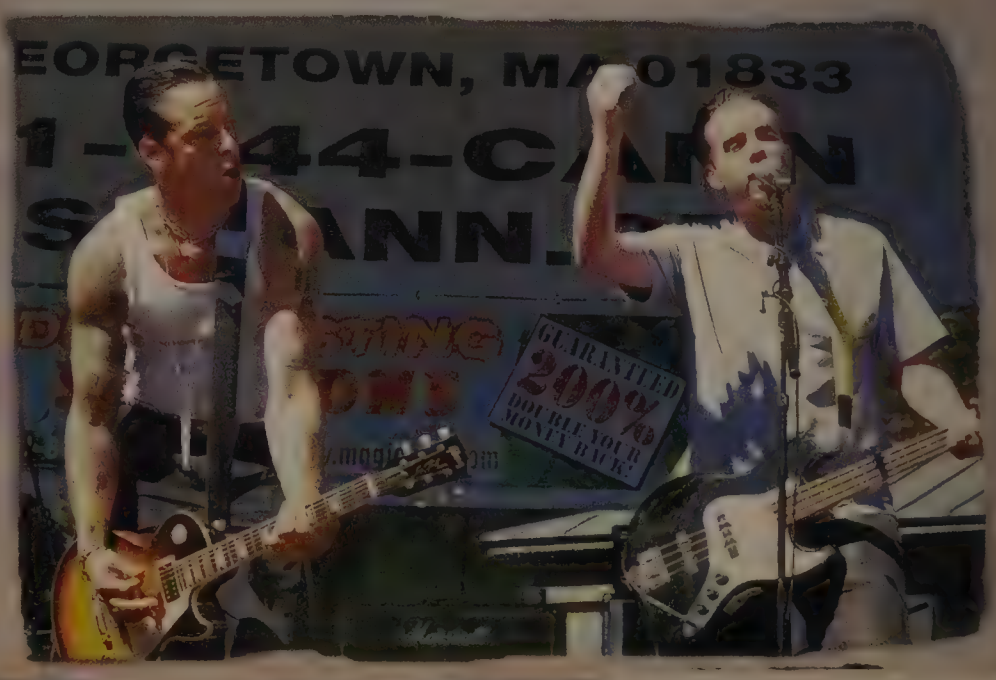
Rumbling from one dive to the next

Darkbuster has a reputation for shows with a free-for-all atmosphere. Take last year's WBCN Rock 'n' Roll Rumble Final, when singer-guitarist Lenny Lashley's brother crashed to the floor from a stage-dive, bringing the old-school punk band's set to an early halt. "That was definitely one of the weirder nights of my life," says Lashley, whose group won anyway. And at a show this past New Year's Eve, about 30 fans climbed onstage to sing along. "It was pretty chaotic," he says. "I couldn't move."

It was also perfect lore for a punk band, and one that was likely to take the Rumble without such an outrageous finale. "It's more the attitude than the songs," Lashley says of the punk pedigree of his 3-year-old South Shore group, which also dabbles in ska and Irish tunes.

Darkbuster's debut *22 Songs That You'll Never Want To Hear Again!* included a death-wish for one rival punk band ("The whole thing was to have fun" the singer assures) and several songs about drinking. "We spent a lot of time in pubs at the time," says Lashley, who launched the band with bassist Mike Gurley, and later added guitarist Paul Delano and new drummer Danny O'Halloran, the youngest brother of the guys from the Dogmatics (who once gave Lashley guitar tips). And if no labels want their next CD, recorded with Rumble-awarded studio time, he says, "We'll sell it out of the trunk." *—P.R.*

Darkbuster plays the Middle East Upstairs Feb. 9



THE IN OUT: FRANK MULLIN; DARKBUSTER: AMY ARCHER

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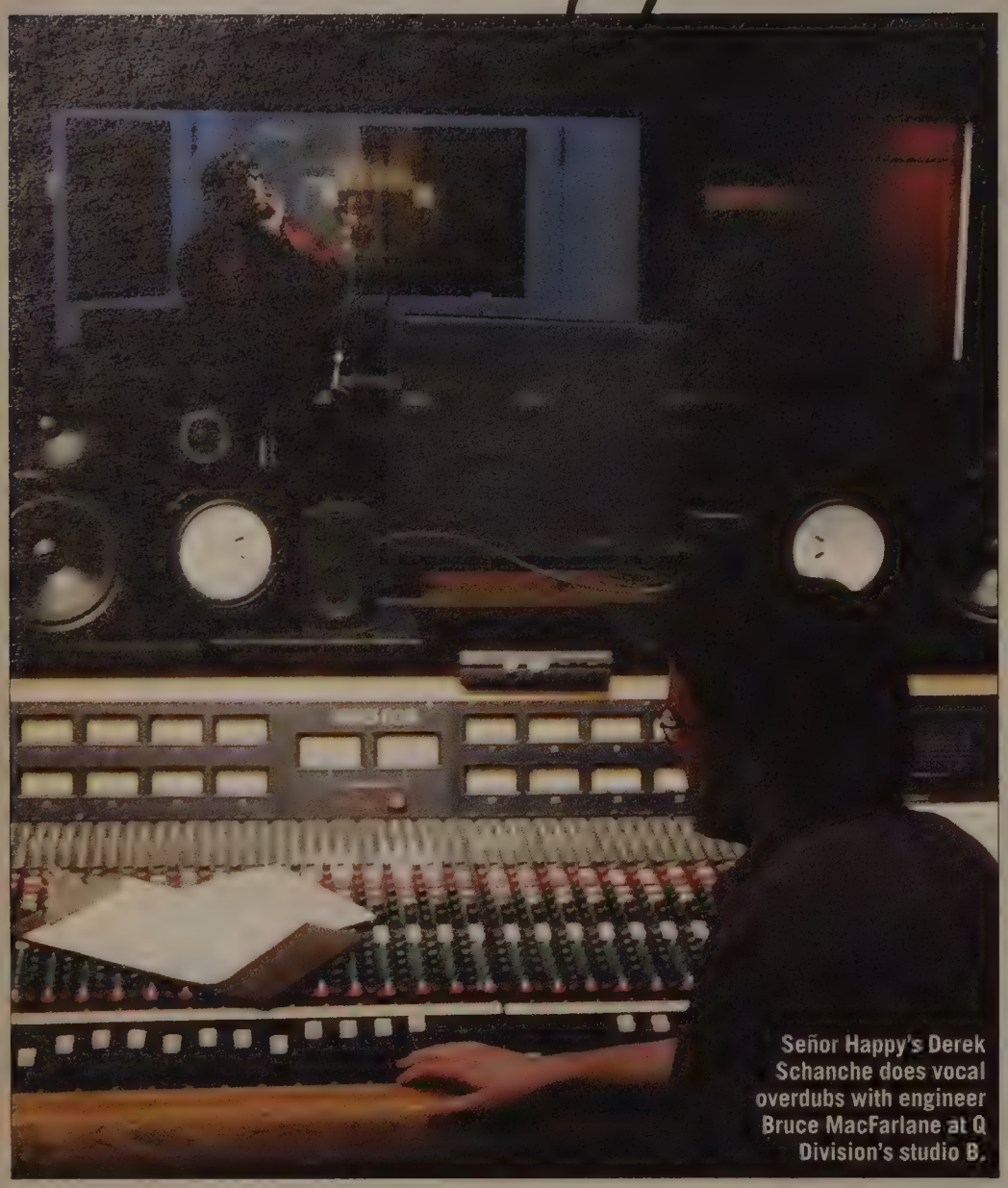
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Making Tracks

BY PAUL ROBICHEAU



Señor Happy's Derek Schanche does vocal overdubs with engineer Bruce MacFarlane at Q Division's studio B.

Local recording studios expand their visions with new space and equipment.

Just as this city's grassroots rockers have grown through the alternative boom, so have local recording studios. Still, it's not exactly the best of times. In the aftermath of major-label mergers and cutbacks, fewer bands are getting signed. But that hasn't stopped some rock studios from expanding, especially along the Cambridge-Somerville border.

"When the pendulum swings back our way, we'll be ready," says producer Mike Denneen, co-owner of Q Division Studios, which moved into a warehouse near Davis Square last year. Q Division's new quarters provide a second studio and lounge, much like now-nearby Fort Apache, a rival of sorts since they both opened in Boston in 1986.

"When we had a lot of national and major-label stuff, it started to have an impact on bands who were starting out," says Denneen, who produced CDs by Aimee Mann (including much of her *Magnolia* soundtrack), Guster and Letters to Cleo at Q's old South End space. Q partner Jon Lupfer picks up, "If we were working on a big project, we'd have to turn other people away."

That's not so much of a problem now. More than ever, local bands like Francine, the Gravel Pit and Señor Happy are the studio's bread and butter (though in those cases, acts are also on Q Division's own record label), though major-league Boston veterans have also been by to give the new studio a look. Members of hot R&B trio Destiny's Child even dropped by to record vocals for a project after playing the all-star Monster Jam at the FleetCenter last fall. "Jay-Z kept calling for them to go out and party with him," Denneen says with a grin.

In addition to its new digs, Q Division also hired engineer Matthew Ellard and has become headquarters for producer Paul Q. Kolderie, both former mainstays at Fort Apache in North Cambridge, where they still do some work. Denneen himself recorded the Sheila Divine there last summer, while engineer Scott Riebling mixed much of the new Gravel Pit CD at Fort Apache. "I think the rising tide lifts all boats," Denneen said of the new Q Division's impact on the Fort, whose owner Gary Smith was unavailable for comment.

"What you have now is just two good studios where there's a lot of overlap in terms of the personnel that works there, and bands," says Kolderie, who goes back to the Fort's tiny original Roxbury space. Between Fort spaces on both sides of the river, Kolderie produced breakthrough albums for the Mighty Mighty Bosstones, Morphine and Tracy Bonham, in addition to mixing his production of Radiohead's debut with associate, Sean Slade.

"It's a testimony to people's enthusiasm that we're still all here, doing it 10 to 15 years later," Kolderie says. "You have to make some progress. If I was in the same place where I started, I would be insane. You've got to fight for a little comfort and better equipment."

On the other hand, he says, "equipment has gotten cheaper, so a lot of people don't go to studios anymore, because they have recording gear in their houses." Along those lines, smaller studios have sprung up all over town.

"If a majority of work goes to Fort Apache and Q Division, that's fine," says Andrew Schneider, head engineer of the Fenway's midlevel New Alliance Studios, which has ridden a harder rock curve with Powerman 5000 and Godsmack (which made its major-label debut there for only $2,500), and plans renovations of a storage space into a Pro Tools computer-editing studio. "We're lucky. Boston has lots of great underground music."

What the bigger studios have to offer aspiring recording artists is professional assistance and more conducive space —and perhaps a "rock" vibe. "My experience [with studios] before was a white-walls experience like a nurse's office," says Schneider, who plays bass in the band Barbaro, speaking in New Alliance's dark, funky control room, decorated with kitschy hanging toys and owner Alvan Long's artwork. "You don't want to feel like you're getting a tooth extracted."

Denneen, who has played keyboards on many projects, says similar feelings led to the launch of Q Division and Fort Apache. "Recording studios sucked, because they were sterile and clinical," says Denneen, whose new Q has plenty of loft-like space, especially in the high-end Studio A (though it's not as cavernous as the Fort's checkerboard-floored counterpart, which has also been used for private concerts by David Bowie and Beck). "We thought they should be run by musicians and should be more comfortable."

On a similar note, consider the new Cambridge digs of M Works, the leading mastering studio for local rockers. "It's easier to get food in your home, but that doesn't make the cook," says chief engineer/president Jonathan Wyner, who tweaks his equalizers and compressors to ensure a CD sounds as good as possible and is ready for clean duplication—in one studio space.

"I love the moment of sitting down with a project and opening it up like a gift," Wyner says in M Works' main room, where he evaluates each CD through free-standing speakers, and like many producers, works with digital and analog equipment. "I love sound, and what it communicates, that it's so abstract and compelling. Everything around me completely vanishes. The room falls away."

Wyner, who was trained as a musician and composer before falling for studios, has mastered such discs as Nirvana's *Bleach* and Mickey Hart's *Planet Drum* ("I'm much happier changing gears on a regular basis," he says). But three-quarters of his work comes from local and independent artists and labels, a base that suits Wyner just fine.

"I don't think you have to leave Boston to get this level of quality," Wyner, who has also grown into DVD and Surround Sound work, says of artists who choose to record or master CDs elsewhere. "I like to fight the second-city complex."

It's a parochial concept shared by the recording studios, which appreciate it when artists like Aimee Mann, Powerman 5000 and the Bosstones move on to bigger things yet still work when they can at the places where they got their start.



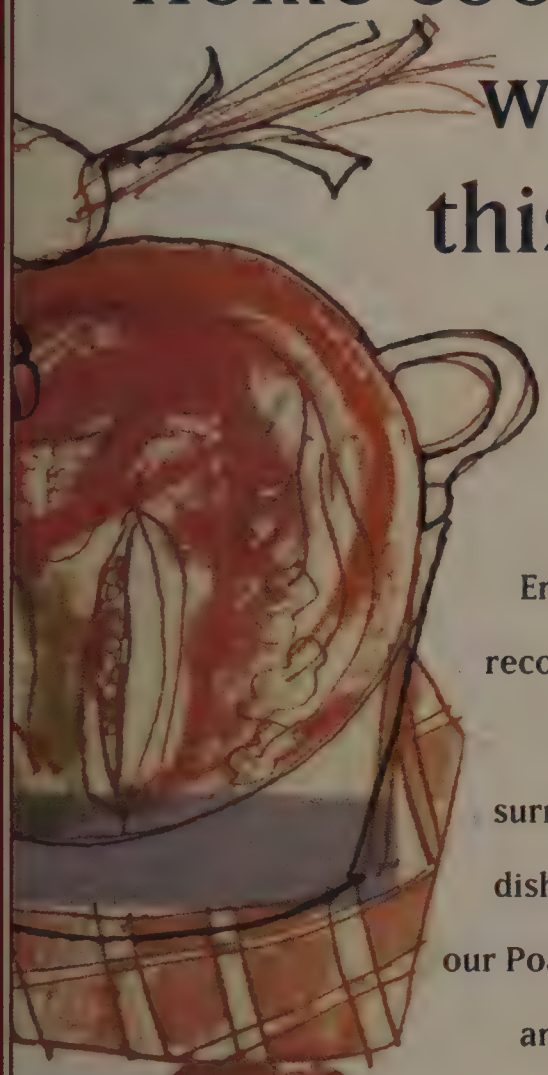
Paul Q. Kolderie works with Hector Becerra and new Ryko recording artist Shamsi Rune at Q.

"What we always aspire to in terms of the studio is that anyone who's making a major-label record would want to stay home and do it," says Denneen at Q Division. "People go to New York or LA to make records I wish they'd made here." iB

PAUL ROBICHEAU(2)

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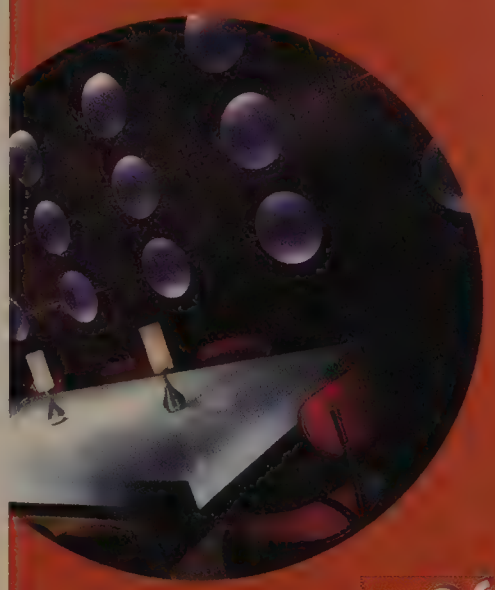
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PERMANENT RECORDS

Boston rockers reveal their celebrity skin • PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRANK MULLIN



Stephanie Dougherty • Janke
"I like the idea of the body being a photo album. You look at certain tattoos and remember why you got them. Like with my protection rune: I was getting into a lot of trouble back then, and I felt like I needed it."

Oliver Clarke • Ms. Pigeon
Play the Linwood Feb. 3
"My old girlfriend did this one. She always drew this type of woman—with distorted features. The honey pot just kind of evolved between her legs."





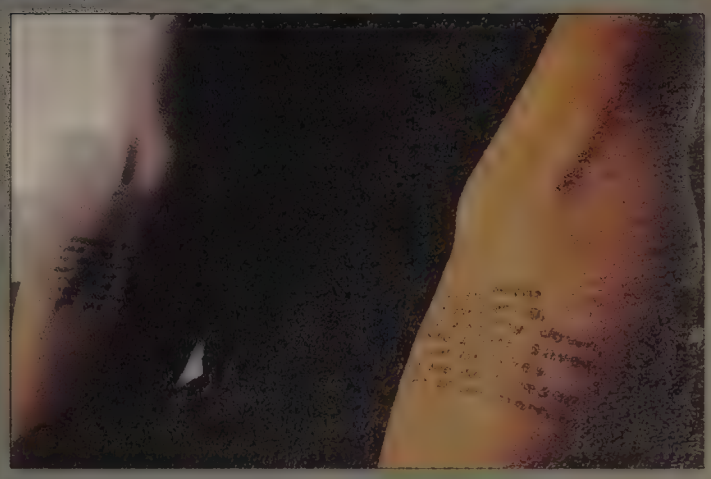
Tim Catz • Roadsaw, Bloodshot
"I'm covered in naked chicks. Everyone subscribes to all this deep meaning about tattoos. None of my stuff has any deep meaning."

Meaghan McLaughlin • **Barbaro**
Play Middle East Upstairs Feb. 2
"I like how tattoos accentuate certain body parts—it's fun using the body like a canvas. I think we were meant to be tattooed."





Mark Duchane • **Full Powered Halo**
Play TT the Bears Feb. 9
"I decided to use old English lettering, which is associated with hardcore tattoos. But I wanted to get 'love' to show the duality of my nature."



Elgin James • **The Jaded Salingers**
Play Bill's Bar Feb. 23
"These are taken from poems about St. Francis and St. Clare—one is by Arthur Rimbaud. They were totally in love with each other but couldn't be together. It's about love you can't act upon."

Destination: Relaxation



At Canyon Ranch, below, the mood is elegant, not glitzy. Unique body treatments help clients feel refreshed, rejuvenated and relaxed—all in a first-class setting.

The ever-diligent IMPROPER *staff samples spa treatments around town and offers two distinct viewpoints on each—one from resident beauty maven Samantha House, and another from our resident beauty heathens (those utterly new to wax jobs and body peels).*

Spa: Canyon Ranch **Treatment:** Three-day getaway	**Beauty maven says:** My initial image of a destination spa was filled with haughty people wearing plush bathrobes and sipping pina coladas (made with soy, of course). "I'm sure there are places like that, but we're not," says Cheryl Ann Beattie, Canyon Ranch spa coordinator. The well-planned meals, and the personable nutritionist who stops by your lunch table, were the biggest benefits for me. I reached for carrots instead of chocolates upon my return.	**Beauty heathen says:** My spa stereotype was also busted. Canyon Ranch is not glamorous. Instead it has an understated elegance. What I wanted was a wide range of outdoor workouts and a decadent spa treatment to reward myself. So, after cross-country skiing, I had a Parafango treatment, a hot paraffin-and-mud mixture. Wrapped in plastic, I melted into the moisturizing mix for 20 minutes, which refreshed and replenished my skin. This was my favorite treatment.
Spa: Daryl Christopher Day Spa **Treatment:** Cut and color	**Maven:** Colorist Melissa successfully matched my dark roots with the rest of my (bottled) blond hair and even gave me a clear wash for shine. Then Judey gave me a layered bob, with a sweep across the eye, to tuck behind my ear, sophisticated and adorable, without having to sacrifice any length. Now we all know finding the right hairstylist is like finding a soulmate; it's tough work and based on chemistry. Melissa and Judey were a great match-up for me.	**Heathen:** We chose Daryl Christopher since this is one of the few places that offers full spa services along with hair salon professionals. I am not, like many women, a seasoned cut-and-color customer. I'm a natural blond, with shoulder-length hair, who doesn't do much but let my Mom trim my split ends when I go home for a visit. I got a make-over with a quick-hit foil, a brightening and highlighting. Melissa chose a tri-color mix that top colorists favor. A great time and a great job.
Spa: Maksou **Treatment:** Facial and Body Treatment	**Maven:** I don't recall ever having had such a thorough treatment session as I did here. My total-body exfoliation and hydration could be a real treat for regular spa-goers because of the attention to detail. They treat your elbows as generously as they do your cheekbones.	**Heathen:** My first facial. I was apprehensive, and Kler did have to massage vigorously to clean my pores, which I found slightly uncomfortable. Then came the reward: an hour long neck and face massage. I was even comfortable during my first total-body treatment.
Spa: Safar **Treatment:** Facial	**Maven:** OK, I did get a chilly response from the receptionist, but she was balanced by Tanya, who shot me a genuine smile as I went under the mirror. The highlight here was Tanya's facial massage. Fluctuating from soft to deep, it stretched to my neck and shoulders. Every esthetician stands out for something, and relieving stress is Tanya's strong point.	**Heathen:** The greeting at Safar was a bit aloof, but once I reached Mariya, a warm woman with a thick Russian accent, I felt supremely at ease. While listening to the monastic groove of Enigma, I was treated to an enzyme mask and a facial steam bath . My face, which usually feels like the Sahara, felt wonderfully hydrated and silky soft for days.
Spa: Étant **Treatment:** Massage and eyebrow waxing	**Maven:** The service at Étant was the best I have received in Boston, thus far. I was greeted as if I were a regular, and wisked away to Bernadette who skillfully waxed my brows. She did a fabulous job, careful not to overdo it (a pet peeve). During my massage with John, I realized that this is a well-selected staff of exceptionally talented, unpretentious people who make you feel comfortable from the beginning to the end.	**Heathen:** Usually I feel like a clueless interloper in spas, but this unassuming place was so warm and friendly, they practically had to kick me out. The eyebrow waxing was a tad painful, but only instantaneously, and Bernadette skillfully shaped my uncooperative brows. After Scott gave me the first full-body massage of my life, I almost didn't care that my car had just been been booted.

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Photo: Melissa Mahoney Make up: Sara Sutherland

Spa: M **Treatment: Nails—Hands and Feet**	**Maven:** Pedicures and manicures are the most requested services at spas. The test of time is a good way to compare manicurists and how long your manicure holds up. For my pedicure, Tatyana at M spa soaked my feet and exfoliated as standard procedure, but went a few steps further by masking and scraping my feet. I was left with smooth, beautiful feet that seemed as though they had never been bothered by having gone barefoot (or forced into my three-inch stilettos).	**Heathen:** I can't believe I have a French manicure; my nails seemed far too brittle and neglected to be saved. I do not, as a rule, have my nails done, and I know how particular some of my friends are about theirs. Cleaning and conditioning cuticles with precision helped my nails look longer and the moisturizing did wonders for my hands. The maven and I agree on this point: my feet have never felt softer. I actually wanted to show off my feet, another first.
Spa: Giacomo and Rondi **Treatment: Full leg and bikini wax**	**Maven:** The thought of having body hair ripped off your skin with hot wax isn't appealing, I know. It turns out my leg waxing wasn't terribly painful. However, this is not a place that offers a light numbing cream, mandatory in European spas, and I found myself wishing they did. Bikini waxing requires confident professionals to inspire trust; that they had.	**Heathen:** Imagine the most tranquil of settings: warm light, a cushioned table, transcendental New Age music, the soothing trickle of a Chinese water sculpture. Now imagine hair being yanked out, in one wide swath, from the soft recesses of your inner thigh. Ouch! I took comfort in knowing that I was in capable hands: Esthetician Christine Perkins. Quite frankly, my very first leg and bikini wax hurt like Band-Aid-ripping hell. However, my legs were sensuous to the touch for weeks.





Manicurist Jeanne Lee brings tender loving care to the task of polishing and sculpting nails at the Boston salon, M. At right, Daryl Christopher colorist Melissa Braley uses foils to help beat the winter hair doldrums.

Where We Went, How Much We Spent

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Safar
235 Newbury St., Boston; 247-3933
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236 Clarendon St., Boston; 351-0020
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Étant Day Spa
251 Shawmut Ave., Boston; 423-5040
Massage: $35-$80; Eyebrow Waxing: $15

Giacomo and Rondi
539 Commonwealth Ave., Boston; 437-1313
Full Leg and Bikini Wax: $70

Spa Man Speaks

A MALE PERSPECTIVE ON GETTING PAMPERED

Wax On, Wax Off

When I told my father that I was going to get my back waxed, he said, "They'd hate to see me coming. When I go to the beach, anti-fur protestors throw red paint on me." But at Maksou, technician Kler says that my back-hair severity is a 1, on a scale of 1-to-10. I am flattered. This also means that I would pay $25, as opposed to the $40 (and up) typically charged for those who more closely resemble Koko the gorilla.

Kler dives right in, spreading wax and ripping the hairs out with a practiced snap. "You're not even flinching," she says, a trace of disappointment in her voice. But it's really not that painful, and the whole thing only takes about 10 minutes. As far as I can tell, the downsides are A) being made fun of by other guys, and B) the possibility that waxing can cause a breakout, and to me, "back-ne" is worse than back hair. But if you don't have sensitive skin and you keep your depilatory secrets to yourself, then hey, this will definitely make it easier to rub in the sunblock next summer.

Candlepower

If someone asks you if you've cleaned your ears with "candling," and you reply, "Sure, my Bimmer has great handling," then you're probably a good candidate for the treatment. Here's how it works: While you lie on your side, a hollow candle is stuck into your ear. Then it's lit. This creates a vacuum in your ear, which causes all the wax and dead bugs and sand (if you're a surfer dude) in your ear canal to flow into the candle. It doesn't feel like anything is happening, and yet when the candle is cut open afterwards, you find that you've just had enough wax removed to make your own statue of Jimmy Hoffa (who, incidentally, may have just been discovered). In addition to the fun of seeing all the gross stuff that's been hiding inside your ear, you can actually hear better, too.

Saving Face

My Étant facial came after a long weekend of snowmobiling (60mph windburn plus exhaust in the face), drinking (dries out your skin) and not bathing (because, really, why bother washing your face when you're capping off a day of snowmobiling with a night of guzzling coffee brandy?). So I looked like the Toxic Avenger before I was steamed, massaged, oiled and tweezed back into shape. Soon my skin was restored to my pre-weekend state of Noxema-model perfection. So it's totally manly to get a facial, never mind totally hip.

Jolly Ranchers

At Canyon Ranch I am dismayed to find that my hot stone massage is scheduled to take place at the same time as a golf lesson. Life can be so cruel sometimes. But as I'm having warm, oiled river stones kneaded against my body, I forget all about my goal of getting down to a 40 handicap. In fact, I might fall asleep were I not looking down through the tunnel vision-inducing padded face rest, pretending that I'm John Malkovich. I share this with my masseuse, who says, "Time to lie on your back." After more than an hour, I've been thoroughly de-knotted. I feel like I'm outside my body, a sensation I haven't enjoyed since I last went to Amsterdam. This might be the best possible way to spend $145.





At Étant, Ezra gets the Totally Manly Facial and the surprisingly painless candling treatment.

The Pedi-Cure

The unfortunate Canyon Ranch pedicurist has her work cut out for her: my feet are nasty, callused, size 13 hillbilly hooves. Meanwhile, I am again on the verge of falling asleep. This is mostly due to the pedicure chair, which is a huge, vibrating, heated-leather throne with a foot-jet bath at the base. So while I contemplate the relative merits of wave vs. pulse massage action, my unruly toenails are clipped and smoothed, my calluses buffed off and my arches massaged. At the end, my feet still do not look exactly beautiful, but they feel beautiful. And, after all, isn't that the real point? **iB**



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PRIMA DONNAS



Vying for the spotlight, beauty queens pout, preen, pull hair—and look positively marvelous.

Produced by Samantha House
Photographed by Stephen Sheffield



Preceding page: BCBG dress with mesh and embroidery, $108, available at Jasmine Sola. Andrew Steven gold and rhinestone sandals, $79, available at Jasmine Sola. This page: Guibole gathered top, $84, available at Leila. Large gold tiara with crystals and pearls, $325, available at The Altered Bride.

Wool blend skirt with mini-buttons and gathered side, $168, available at Emporio Armani. Cap-sleeve, scoop-neck blouse with mini-buttons, $248, available at Emporio Armani. Rhodium-plated tiara with topaz and black diamond crystals, $595, available at The Altered Bride.





You Statue of Liberty tee, $65, available at Jasmine Sola. Tan Lenny skirt, $104, available at Leila. Hand-beaded pearl and crystal tiara, $245, available at The Altered Bride.



Sheer silk one-sleeved blouse, $228, available at Emporio Armani. Updated Contemporary knee-length skirt, $74, available at Leila. Six Fourteen red fishtail gown, $246, available at Jasmine Sola. Pearl crown with rhinestone band, $275, available at The Altered Bride. Knee-length bias-cut dress with detailed front, $398, available at Emporio Armani.

Jasmine Sola
344 Newbury St.
867-4636

Leila
1337 Beacon St.
738-4448

Emporio Armani
210-214 Newbury St.
262-7300

The Altered Bride
129 Newbury St.
859-8289

Models: Tatiana Webb, Molly Dodge, Jen Cannty for Modelworks

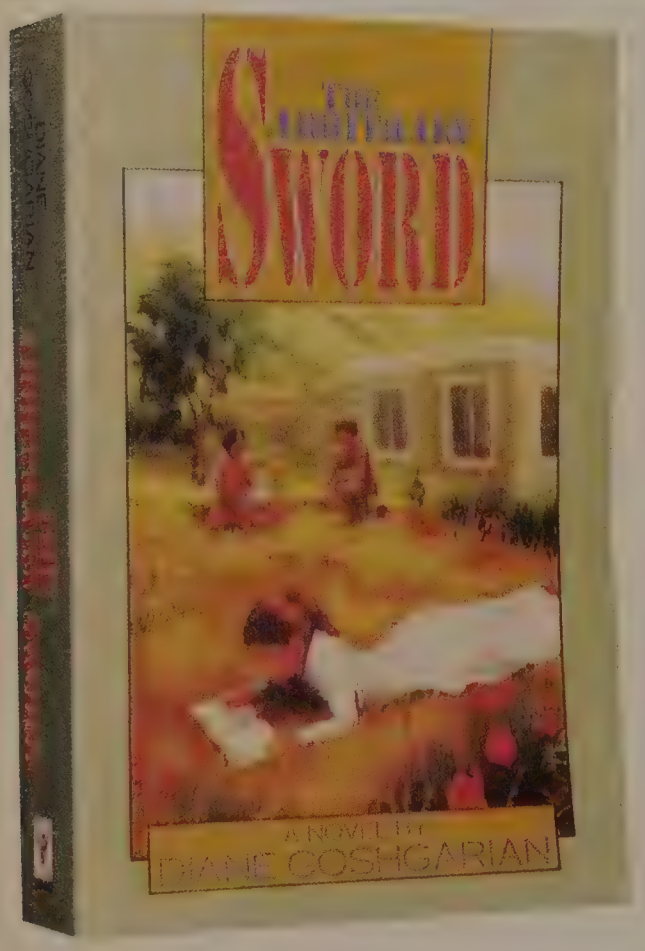
Makeup: Sara Sutherland

Fashion Assistant: Mary O'Malley

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



BEFORE THEY GOT TO WATERTOWN

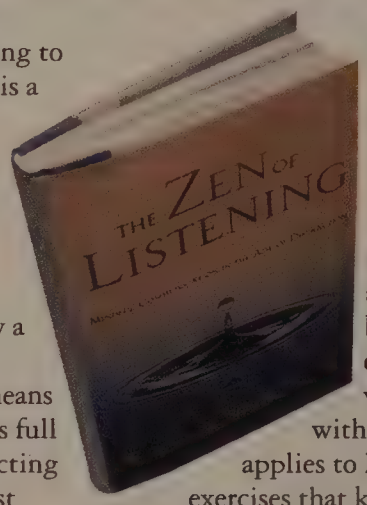
The Arbitrary Sword, by Diane Goshgarian, is a surprisingly absorbing tale of the Armenian genocide.

Remembering Kosovo, among other equivalent disasters, you might not imagine that a novel about the Armenian genocide could be anything but grim. And certainly, the tug of ultimate tragedy—the loss of life, land and family—marches across every page of *The Arbitrary Sword*. Yet somehow Diane Goshgarian manages to make this into a story in the old romantic tradition that conjures up the word "sweeping." The novel takes place from 1895 to 1919 in a small village in Ottoman, Turkey, and shows how one Armenian community struggles against the rampaging Turks. The young, idealistic Victoria longs to go to college (rather unusual for her time), but she is sidetracked from her intended path by the ethnic and political storms around her. A life that is pastoral and familial becomes riddled with treachery and fear; Victoria's politically involved, secretive husband goes to America, and she is left not with college but with raising her children, running a farm and witnessing massive destruction. To survive, she must live temporarily with a man from the enemy side. History is interspersed throughout, but love—storybook love—runs through the story like a sweet river.



THE DEEP, WIDE LAKE OF LISTENING

Rebecca Shafir offers courses at the Boston Center for Adult Education and is available for workshops in "The Zen Of Listening," which is also the title of her book. Web site: *www.mindfulcommunication.com*



"Listening is a very inexpensive way of giving to others," says Rebecca Shafir. By day, Shafir is a speech pathologist, but she also works at the other end of the spectrum: the art of listening. In seminars, courses, in her book *The Zen of Listening* and in her work she encourages people to use the pleasant, available skills of mindfulness to start communicating—ears first. Words are only a part of the process; Shafir also describes "getting into [someone's] movie," which means open-heartedly absorbing the other person's full reality, without resisting, protesting, projecting or using silence to gather judgments against them. Giving can also mean receiving, so this approach of stillness will help the listener pay attention to the leaves and pebbles dropping into his or her own "lake" of consciousness. In workshops that have arisen from her courses, Shafir has people "listen" to absorb and appreciate one thing in great detail: a beautiful glass of orange juice, for example, taking in what she calls "the whole message" (who's going to argue with orange juice?). The mindfulness she applies to listening is reinforced by short daily exercises that keep the ears, and the soul, fully receptive.

FLEECE, FUN, FEMINISM

Wild Women Outfitters is at 397 Mass. Avenue in Arlington, 781-641-5776.



Think of the ice-blue outdoors of *National Geographic* locales, bristling with vigorous sports like climbing, skiing, hiking and fishing. Now think Arlington Center. There, Wild Women Outfitters (owned by sisters Terry and Lisa Austin) equips women with appropriate clothing—not simply scaled-down versions of men's gear but clothes made especially for women of all sizes and shapes. The state-of-the-art, cozy apparel includes the following: microfleece pants protected with Windbloc and with long side zippers for ventilation and easy removal (gorgeous, by the way!); Potetorto Italian fleece, 100-weight, treated with Teflon; lots of fuzzy Patagonia jackets and others made of tightly-packed, pretty boiled wool. There's also a Gortex catsuit with a childhood-pajama dropseat! Even sleeping bags are made with hippier hips and narrower shoulders for the dozing woman, and kayak paddles come made for smaller female paddling paws. Sports bras here have converted some women to permanent wear, and the traction-providing shoes, mocs, clogs and other seriously gripping footwear have provided a solution for many women's pained, cramped feet. The cavernous acreage of the back room has tents, kayaks, sleeping bags, and it's here that seminars and demos are held for the outdoors-minded. "We also arrange tons of trips" says Lisa.

TOP: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; BOTTOM RIGHT: PAUL TANCREDI

Up Stairs at the Pudding



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INSIDE: Oleana; delayed openings; lamentable closings; sexy salmon and foxy fondue



The Margot Bistro dining room beckons.

REVIEW

Diamond in the Dig

The Margo Bistro rewards those diners determined enough to make the trip.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Almost under cover of night, the small Harborside Hotel opened its doors late last year. Located at the foot of State Street, hard by the most intensive construction activity of the Big Dig, the Harborside's location poses a challenge to even the most intrepid pilgrim in search of lodging in a city where hotel occupancy rates are at an all-time high. Once having found the place, tucked as it is behind the Custom House tower, lodgers might be tempted to stay to enjoy the hospitality of the hotel's restaurant, the Margo Bistro. That temptation would be well rewarded, since this unassuming eatery serves some quite pleasant food at reasonable prices in an ambiance of considerable charm.

Approaching the dining room from the hotel's lobby, one is confronted by an expansive wall of dark wood and square panes of glass etched with the Margo Bistro logo. Inside, a long, narrow mirror separates upholstered banquettes from an exposed brick wall hung with framed French silk-screened posters of a bygone era. The small, 50-seat dining room is bisected by a dark mahogany paneled divider, opposite which are tall, arched windows overlooking Central Street. Crisp, white tablecloths and napkins adorn the tables. Hardwood floors with scattered Oriental carpets and uniquely curved Turkish wooden chairs complete the appointments. The only annoyance, present on two evenings more than two weeks apart, was a flickering light bulb in one of the fixtures.

Margo starts out on the right foot with a basket of excellent bread, including fresh hard-crusted rolls and wonderful raisin-studded toast. Margo's wine list strives to make wine available to diners who aren't funded by expense accounts, with over half of its 31 choices priced below $30 a bottle—an extraordinary departure from the Boston norm. There are even three wines—one white, one red, one sparkling—for under $20. We enjoyed a full-bodied 1998 Echeverria cabernet sauvignon from Chile ($26), and subsequently, a bottle of Domaine Lenoir beaujolais, a good, fruity, down-to-earth quaffing wine from the much-maligned Gamay grape.

For appetizers, we found Margo's Melange à Trois ($19) delightful. This sauté of three varieties of mushrooms—chestnut, oyster and cremini—was tossed with an herbal gnocchi, grated lemon and pignoli. The mushrooms presented three different tastes and textures, complemented by the soothingly starchy pasta and flavorful breadcrumbs punctuated with pignoli nuts. A second appetizer, codfish cakes ($7), were sautéed in brown butter and accompanied by a slightly sweet slaw of cabbage and onion and a hearty mound of molasses-rich baked beans. The codfish cakes were moist and flavorful, and the ensemble was substantial enough to serve as a main course. The last of the appetizers we sampled, the duck spring roll ($7), was the least successful, since the soy-soaked cylinders stuffed with shredded duck took on a heavy aspect, only slightly alleviated by the waterchestnut and scallion garnish.

Of the seven main courses offered, we tried five, and but for the hapless Bell & Evans Half Chicken, all of the them were quite good. The exception, the chicken ($15), was advertised as having "crispy skin," but it turned out to be two rather listless, semi-stewed chicken quarters unceremoniously dumped onto a mound of egg noodles. While the lemon and thyme seasoned sauce was tasty, the uninspired presentation and soggy skin flawed the dish. Far better was the roast pork loin chop ($18). Served with baked apples, red cabbage and savory polenta crispelle (a polenta stuffed tortilla), this hearty, unusual combination was perhaps the harbinger of a new fusion cuisine: central Europe and Mexico. The grilled Black Angus "diamond" cut steak over whipped parsnips and potatoes



Chef Chris Isley. Below: Wood-grilled native lobster



(\$19) was a substantial wedge of beef, at once rare, tender and full-flavored. While the parsnip-potato combination would have been a substantial enhancement had it not been served under the steak, the heavy, beer-battered onion rings were not.

On the seafood side of the menu, the North Atlantic cod (\$17), a pan-roasted fillet, was as good as far as it went, but it did not go very far. Uncharacteristic for a town that seems to size its portions to suit the most voracious of stevedores, this piece of cod was disappointingly small. Its first-rate flavor and texture, and the toothsome accompaniment of a warm stew of clams, bacon and leeks redolent of olive oil left us wishing for more. Finally but not least, Margo's wood-grilled native lobster (\$21) arrived well-cracked for easy eating, with its sweet flesh both resilient and tender, and served with a delightful lemon butter sauce accented with green onions and tomatoes. Welcome as well was the garnish of the same herbal gnocchi that had accompanied the mushroom appetizer.

Desserts at Margo Bistro (all \$7) included a hefty cylinder of moist spice cake, aromatic with Asian spices and garnished with a scoop of mint cardamom ice cream and roasted pineapple. The French apple tart (\$7) featured carmelized Granny Smith apples baked in a puff pastry shell and served with crème fraîche. The apples were superb: firm, tart and flavorful, but the pastry was not fully cooked and we encountered a dense, doughy spot in the center that diminished the dish. Finally, Margo's chocolate cake, served with pistachio ice cream and bittersweet chocolate sauce, was as an intensely rich, warm pudding cake that was calculated to appeal to those of us who instinctively say, "If it ain't chocolate, it ain't dessert."

Thoroughly delighted by three visits to Margo's Bistro, we were dismayed by its lack of substantial patronage and wondered whether its difficult location might place its future in doubt. If it can hold on until the neighboring streets and sidewalks are liberated from the fences, barriers, excavations and other Big Dig trappings, we hope that the Harborside Hotel's Margo Bistro will not only survive but thrive. **iB**

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DISH

Out With the Old, In With the New

That Sortun something...Boston Cooks! Out in Limbo... BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Given the slowdown in our rip-roaring economy, is this any time to open a new restaurant? Well, if you're **Ana Sortun**, and you've found just the right spot in Cambridge after two years of intensive searching, the answer is yes.

"It's obviously the right fit, 'cause it worked out," says Sortun matter-of-factly of her move into the space formerly known as **Daddy-O's**, in Inman Square. **Oleana**, Sortun's eponymous venture into chef/ownership, is the culmination of Sortun's culinary experience as—most recently—executive chef at **Casablanca**, and the realization of a long-held ambition. Low-key in concept, with the focus firmly on the food, Oleana is poised to attract loyal fans of Sortun's French/Mediterranean fare, and her seasonal menu is designed to keep them coming back for more.



Ana Sortun and Dave Dubois celebrate the opening of Oleana in Inman Square.

Incoming: Early word is that the just-opened **Amelia's Trattoria** in Cambridge's Kendall Square is a charming spot, with an appealing, reasonably priced menu featuring Italian dishes native to the Abruzzo region. In Boston, opening downtown later than scheduled (big surprise there) are **Zita** and **Mantra**. Each anticipates a debut sometime in February or March. Opening much, *much* later than expected—in June instead of several months ago—is nearby **Limbo**, defined as "an upscale jazz bar" by chef **Charles Draghi**, formerly of **Marcuccio's**. Working with Limbo general manager/co-owner **Jean-Claude Jasa**, formerly of Boston's **St. Cloud**, Draghi is setting up the kitchen, hiring staff and, of course, designing the menu. All the dishes will be under $20 featuring, "large appetizer size, like tapas but larger, with protein, starch and vegetable on the plate," says Draghi, who also promises a world-class wine list.

Outgoing: two fixtures of elegant Boston dining. Receiving most of the farewell fanfare is **The Dining Room at The Ritz Carlton**, memorable not only for its history of distinguished guests and gleaming cobalt-blue glass, but for the blissful sensation one experienced dining there, which lingered even after slipping back into the Boston evening air: soothed, pampered, impervious to harsh winds. Closing its doors without official announcement was **Café Budapest**, for decades a haven of Old World dignity and old-fashioned Hungarian classics: rich goulyas, ethereal flaky strudel and traditional cold cherry soup. Less long-lived, yet no less appreciated, was **Rauxa**, chef/owner **Jim Becker**'s foray into Catalan cuisine and the ultimately ill-fated location of a cellar setting in Somerville's Union Square.

Ironic, isn't it? Mere weeks after you've made a New Year's resolution to lose a few pounds, Boston Cooks! sweeps into town in a frenzy of foie gras, famous chefs and fabulous cookbooks. It lasts for 10 days and untold millions of fat grams. For those of you who want to indulge, not bulge, here's a suggestion: Plan a vacation trip that combines fine culinary and gastronomic experiences with pleasurable exercise *and* a famous guest chef. Locally based Bike Riders Tours (*www.bikeriderstours.com*) offers, for example, a tour of Provence with **Aquitaine**'s **Seth Woods** and a sojourn in Umbria with **Michael Schlow** of **Radius**.

As for Valentine's Day, there's no law that requires you to empty your wallet and stuff yourself with a luxury-laden prix-fixe dinner.

If you cringe at the mere mention of truffle oil, take your Angel Fish to the Love Shack, aka **Jasper White's Summer Shack**, where the menu, like true love, is reliably the same, but with enough variety to hold your interest.

And finally: I call your attention to the Brazilian restaurant, Café Brazil, whose ongoing ad proudly proclaims that it specializes in "seafood, chicken, beef and vegetarians." Will that be free-range or tofu-fed? iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
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Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Barcode: French-Asian Fusion
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. Feb. 12, 6-9pm. $50. **George Leu**, executive chef of Barcode, shares recipes and techniques for the restaurant's most popular menu items. •Feb. 7: Wine Dinner at Barcode, 955 Boylston St., Boston (421-1818). $39. A three-course Mediterranean-inspired tasting menu complemented by the wines of Spain.

Boston Cooks! Dine Around
Through Feb. 4. (888-SEE-BOSTON). www.bostoncooks.com. Some 40 Greater Boston restaurants host cookbook authors for specialty menus. Call for reservations.

Butterfish Turns One
Butterfish, 5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge (497 5511). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 5, 6-9pm. $20. Chef/owner **Chris Bussell** celebrates one year of business with a benefit for the Pine Street Inn's Food Services Training Program.

Boston Wine Festival 2000
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (888-660-WINE). www.bhh.com. *Jan. 15-April 6.* This three-month celebration features dinners with wine makers and educational seminars. •Jan. 31: Wine & Ethnic Foods with **Sandy Block** and Chef **Daniel Bruce** •Feb. 1: A Taste of Chardonnays •Feb. 5: Caymus Vineyards •Feb. 6: Heitz Wine Cellars •Feb. 7: Chateau Montelena Winery •Feb. 8: Reichsgraf von Kesselstatt •Feb. 9: Valentine Champagne Dinner Dance •Feb. 11: Valentine Brunch •Feb. 12: Jordan Vineyard •Feb. 13: Meritage Madness.

Celebrity Chefs Culinary Program
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sat., 1-3pm. Through March 11. $40. The hotel has brought together nine chefs and cookbook authors for a nine-week program to teach basic techniques in cooking. •Feb. 3: **Kerry Downey Romaniello** of Westport Rivers Winery •Feb. 10: **E. Michael Reidt**, executive chef at Bomboa.

Chocolate Tour
Old Town Trolley Stop, Charles and Boylston streets, Boston (269-7150). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sat. and Sun., 11am and 12:30pm. Feb. 3-April 1. $50. This three-hour chocolate tour takes you from the Top of the Hub to the Hampshire House and Le Meridien's Chocolate Bar Buffet.

The Fine Art of Cheese Tasting
5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 13, 6-9pm. $53. Move beyond gouda and brie with Formaggio Kitchen owner **Ihsan Gurdal**.

Game Dinner
Sage Restaurant, 69 Prince St., Boston (248-8814). Feb. 6. $75. Chef/owner **Anthony Susi** of Sage invites two of his cousins to create a game dinner of unusual and rare meats.

Greater Table's Hunger Brunch
Various restaurants around Greater Boston (427–5200). www.gbfb.org. *Feb. 3-4.* Enjoy brunch at one of 47 participating restaurants while contributing to the Greater Boston Food Bank, Oxfam America and Share Our Strength.

Hotter Than Hell Night
East Coast Grill, 1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (491-6568). Feb. 5-7, 5:30pm. Chef **Eric Gburski** exorcises his culinary demons—an experience only recommended for diners that sneer at Tabasco sauce and eat jalapenos like olives.

Ma Soba Wine Dinner Series
Ma Soba, 156 Cambridge St., Boston (973-6680). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Feb. 6, 7pm. $55. This wine dinner showcases the latest vintages from Rosemount Estates (Australia) with a four-course Asian and East-West tasting menu.

New Orleans Chef at Brasserie Jo
120 Huntington Ave., Boston (425-3240). Feb. 2, 5-11pm. $39. Chef **Dominique Macquet** from New Orleans' French Quarter prepares his specialties.

Radius Cooking Classes
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (426-1234). Feb. 10. Radius owners **Christopher Myers** and Chef **Michael Schlow** host "Lusty Winter Dishes and Wines from Bordeaux and Burgundy" with Martine Cottin, co-owner of the wineries Dubos and Laboure-Roi of Burgundy.

TASTY TIDBIT

FOOD TO FAN LOVE'S FLAME

Just in time for Valentine's Day, Newton-native Lorraine Seymourian, author of *Sexy Food for Singles*, shows you how "to put the sizzle into your relationship" at Angelo's Ristorante Feb. 12. Seymourian says her book is "about how to serve aphrodisiacs to improve your love life." It's certainly not your standard cookbook—more like a self-help book that includes recipes for "sexy salmon with merlot sauce" (to be eaten with a soup spoon), "foxy fondues" and "succulent stuffings." Are you hot and bothered yet? The book is spicy, sharp and saucy, but not promiscuous. Says Seymourian, "Relationships have many similarities with food, particularly the prep work. A person has to be an appealing appetizer and then an exotic entree before becoming a delicious, daring dessert." *575 Boylston St., Boston (536-4045). Feb. 12, 5-7pm. Free.*



Chef Angelo with author Lorraine Seymourian

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CITYSCOPE 52

PERFORMING ARTS 54

ART 56

FILM 60

EDUCATION 64

BOOKS & POETRY 64

DANCE CLUBS 66

MUSIC 68

CLASSICAL MUSIC 72

GAY & LESBIAN 74

BODY & MIND 76

CHILDREN 76

SPORTS 76

AROUND TOWN 77

MARK YOUR DAYTIMER 77

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

CityScope, Comedy,

Education, Sports,

Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman

Film Capsules

improper picks



Martin Scorsese's *Bringing Out the Dead* plays Feb. 10 at the Brattle.

FEB. 9-10

Film: Death and Rebirth at the Brattle

There's no doubt that people seem more and more interested in finding out the experience and meaning of death. Just look at the astounding, multimedia success of Mitch Albom's *Tuesdays with Morrie*. This is the theme of the first annual Boston Faith and Film Festival, Feb. 9 and 10, which addresses how we handle death and dying, and our attempts to make sense of death within the context of religion. Sponsored by the Boston Theological Institute, a consortium of nine graduate theological schools in the Greater Boston area, the festival presents popular, classic and indie films that contain these themes and offers a discussion session facilitated by moderators immediately following each screening. Some of the cinematic highlights are the highly visual film about Zen Buddhism, *Why Did Bodhi-Dharma Leave for the East?* (Fri., 3pm); *Breaking the Waves* at 8pm; director John J. Michalczyk's screening and discussion of *Prelude to Kosovo* (Sat., 1pm). Also showing at 3:30pm is *Ordet*, the 1955 exploration of faith and religion set in the austere lands of Denmark. And at 8pm is Martin Scorsese's *Bringing Out the Dead. Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (527-4880). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $8, festival pass $30.*

FEB. 8

Cityscope: Climb On!

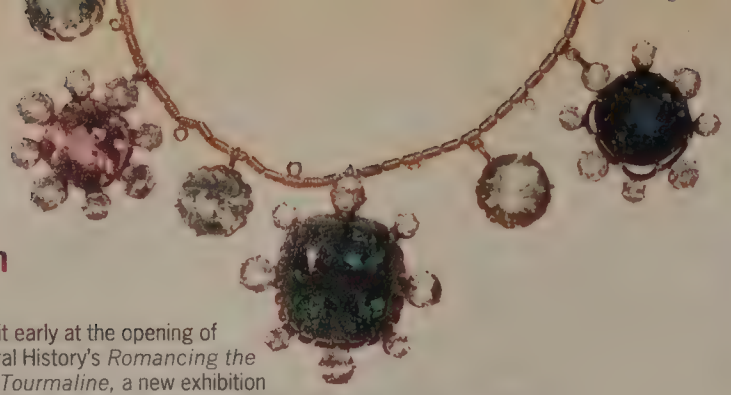
Instead of trudging to the gym and doing your repetitive routine on the Stairmaster, consider heading to 53 State St. for the Nextel Jimmy Fund Stair Climb Feb. 8. Bypass the oh-so-tempting elevators and hike up 38 flights of stairs. Then head to 60 State (33 floors) and 75 State (28 floors) and repeat. Actually, you can choose to do one, two or all three buildings. It'll cost you $75 to participate—and about 300 calories (which you can easily recoup at the victory party afterward). *Check in: Great Hall at Old Faneuil Hall, Boston; Climb: 53 State St., 60 State St. and 75 State St., Boston (632-3300). MBTA: Blue Line to State. 6pm. $75.*

FEB. 13

Education: The Future of Success

If you missed the boat on the dotcom, get-rich-quick tidal wave, you may be better off, according to former Secretary of Labor and political economist **Robert B. Reich**. In his new book, *The Future of Success*, Reich makes the argument that the new economy and e-commerce—while a boon to consumers—are wrecking havoc on our personal lives with long hours, job insecurity and loss of personal time. Reich tells us how we can create a more balanced society and enjoy more satisfying lives on Feb. 13 as part of the Ford Hall Forum's lecture series. *Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (373-5800). Feb. 13, 6:30pm.*

PHIL CARUSO



FEB 8

Cityscope: A Gem of an Evening

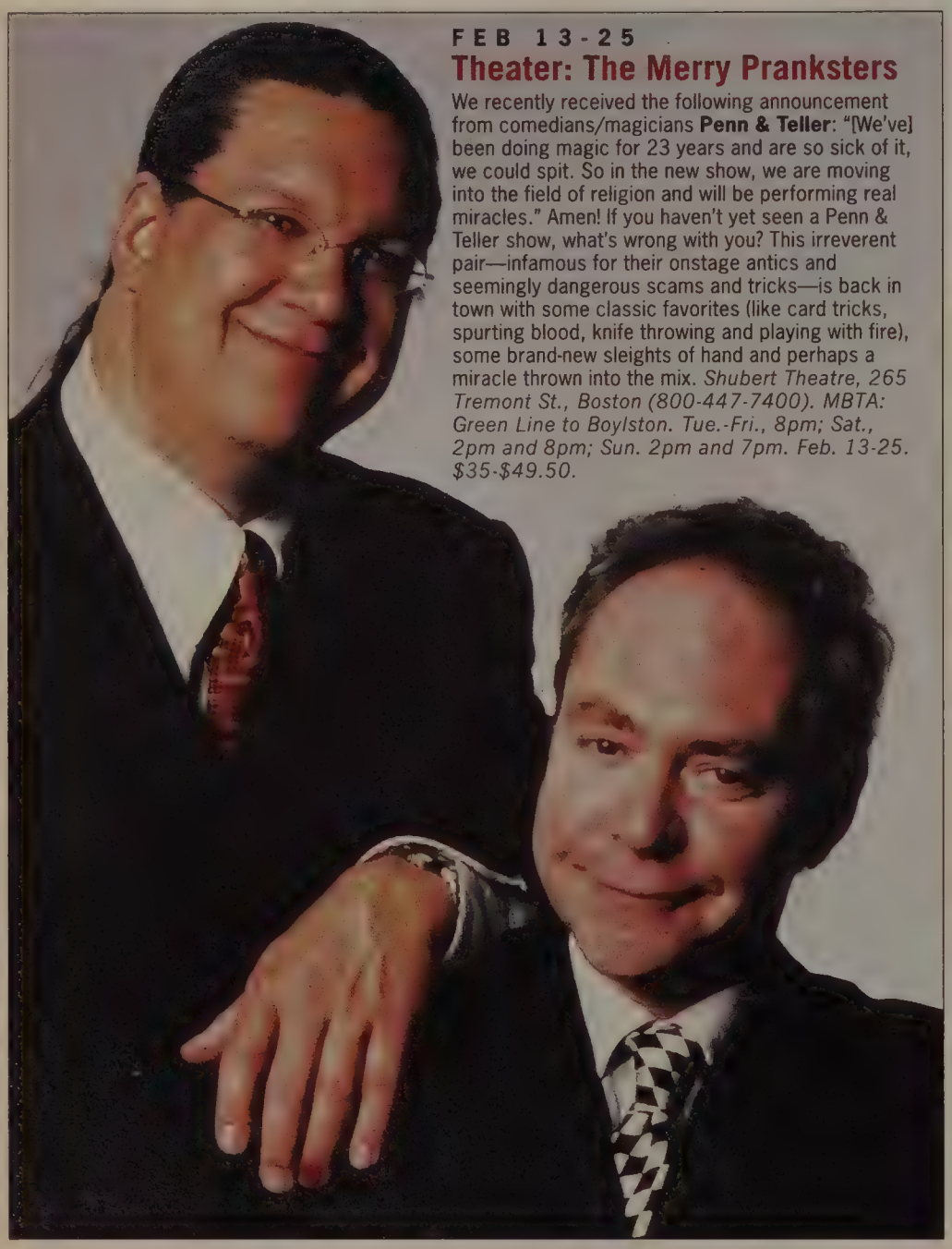
Celebrate Valentine's Day a bit early at the opening of the Harvard Museum of Natural History's *Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, a new exhibition exalting the geological merits of the October birthstone. The exhibition, which opens Feb. 10, displays Harvard's extensive collection of tourmalines, highlighting the versatile nature of this mineral family and showcasing exquisite examples of tourmaline, both in the rough and in fine jewelry. A gem of an evening starts at 7pm on Friday, Feb. 9, and there will be much merrimaking—fine wine, good company and plentiful hors d'oeuvres from local caterers and restaurants. Decadent deserts complement the romantic, indulgent theme. In addition to the sneak peek of the tourmalines and previewing the exhibition, guests can share the adventures of Patrick Anderson, a diamond hunter. Creative dress encouraged. *26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. $75.*



FEB 6—9 & 11

Cityscope: Juggling Act

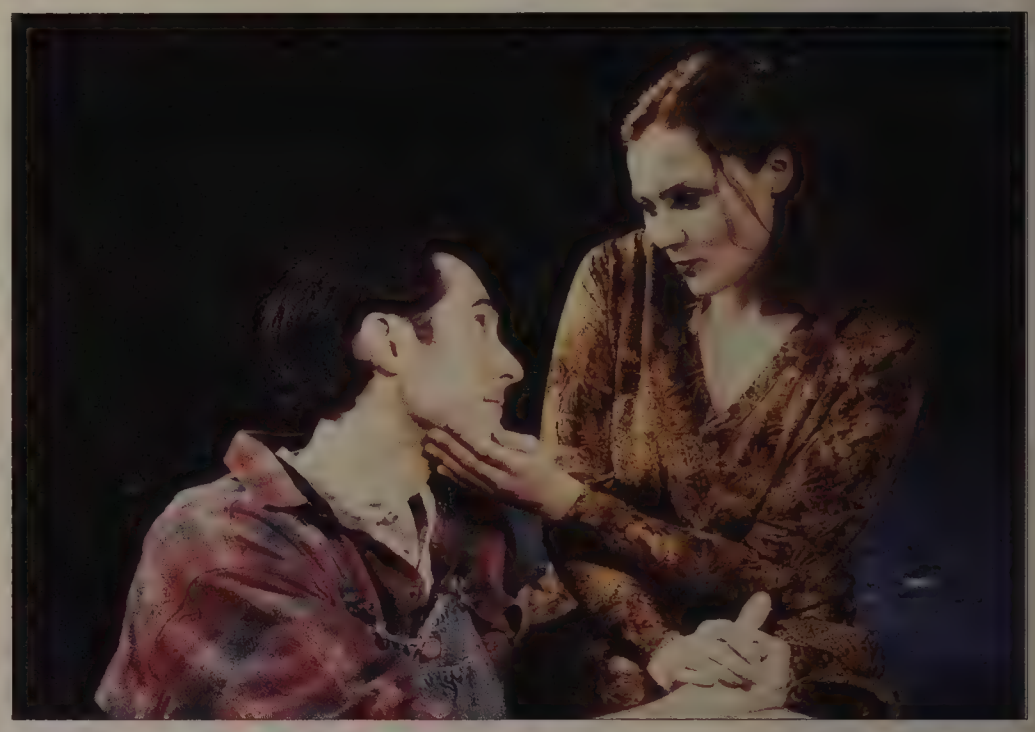
There are a lot of misconceptions out there about the **Flying Karamazov Brothers**. First, they're not brothers. Second they're not Russian (although three out of four have Russian ancestry). Third, they're not a trapeze act. Then who are they? They're a comedy/theater troupe that will amaze you with their juggling feats. In their new show, *L'Universe* (or, as they like to call it, Looneyverse), these world-class jugglers play on musical instruments as they toss balls, bowling pins and the occasional model planet into the air and philosophize about science. After nearly 30 years in the business (and a little technological assistance from MIT's Media Lab), this foursome has its routine down pat, bringing the tradition of vaudeville up to speed for the 21st century. *Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2000). Feb. 6-9, 8pm; Feb. 10, 2pm and 8pm; Feb. 11, 2pm and 7:30pm. $45, $50, $55.*



FEB 13-25

Theater: The Merry Pranksters

We recently received the following announcement from comedians/magicians **Penn & Teller**: "[We've] been doing magic for 23 years and are so sick of it, we could spit. So in the new show, we are moving into the field of religion and will be performing real miracles." Amen! If you haven't yet seen a Penn & Teller show, what's wrong with you? This irreverent pair—infamous for their onstage antics and seemingly dangerous scams and tricks—is back in town with some classic favorites (like card tricks, spurting blood, knife throwing and playing with fire), some brand-new sleights of hand and perhaps a miracle thrown into the mix. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun. 2pm and 7pm. Feb. 13-25. $35-$49.50.*



FEB 1—24

Theater: Before Baby Jessica

The premise for the Lyric Stage's new show, ***Floyd Collins***, sounds like one of those over-dramatic news stories you'd see on FOX News at 10: A skilled Kentucky caver is trapped for 13 days 200 feet underground while exploring a cave he hopes to turn into a tourist attraction. The nightmare is intensified by the media circus that ensues above him. Rumors spread thanks to overeager reporters stretching the truth—i.e., Floyd's fiancèe is heartbroken and his dog won't leave the mouth of the cave. Truth is: there was no fiancèe...or even a dog. The play—based on a true story from 1925—brings to light the way that media (ours truly, not included) can dehumanize a man's hardships and convert it into a feeding frenzy, says director Paul Daigneault. Oddly enough, it's a musical. And it's good. *Boston Center for the Arts, The Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Feb. 1-24. $22-$25.*

FEB 1

Film: Shooting for the Stars

Feb. 1 marks the annual **Redstone Film Festival**, a showcase for Boston University film students—and a chance for them to gain big-time recognition and a wad of cash. The competitive event is a much-coveted B.U. perennial, and past winners have been nominated for Academy Awards in the short film category. Past winners include directors Robert Patton-Spruill (*Squeeze*) and Gary Fleder (*Kiss the Girls*) and screenwriters Scott Rosenberg (*Con Air, Beautiful Girls*) and Steve Brill (*Mighty Ducks*). The films screened at the festival are selected the week prior by a panel of Boston-area film critics and curators. This year's judges are Bo Smith, head of the film program at the MFA; Joe Zina, executive director of the Coolidge Corner Theatre Foundation; and Joyce Kulhawik, arts and entertainment reporter for WBZ-TV. *Tsai Performance Center, B.U., 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-7740). 7pm. Free.*

THROUGH FEB 4

Art: Super Sonic Sculpture

Just when you thought the phrase *Dangerous Curves: the Art of the Guitar* had passed from the vocabulary of the local art scene, a similar namesake has emerged at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts: ***Dangerous Waves: the Art of Sound***. Like *Dangerous Curves*, this exhibit explores the correlation between sound and art and includes installations, and a series of lectures and performances by artists and composers and panel discussions on new sound experiments. But the highlights are the sound sculptures themselves, like Ron Kuivila's *Sparks on Paper, which* consists of dozens of steel wires coursing with 12,000 volts of electricity, that create a vibrating motion that causes the wires to "sing." There's also a "Sound Walk" made by students with nearly 20 sonic works of art placed throughout the school's public spaces. And don't miss the Sound Portrait Gallery consisting of "sonic snaphots," a series of conversation tidbits and atmospheric sounds juxtaposed with images. *The School of the MFA, 230 The Fenway, Boston (267-6100). Free.*

FEB 11

Music: Piano Perfection

One of the most exciting concerts of the season is sure to be **Arthur Papazian**'s piano recital at Longy on Feb. 11, which benefits St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School of Watertown. Mr. Papazia, an extraordinary pianist from Yerevan, was recognized as a child prodigy with his solo and orchestral performances. Since he was 6 years old, he's been perfecting his musical talents—first at a school for gifted children, then at Yerevan Gomidas Conservatory under George Saradjev, and finally in 1980 at Moscow Conservatory, under Yakov Milshtein. Since then, Papazian has continued to amaze audiences and critics alike with his seamless. imaginative style. Winner of several international competitions, Papazian has ventured into new territory in recent years, a departure from his more traditional prize-winning solo and orchestral performances. In '95 he played a history-making first at Carnegie Hall, playing in one sitting all 24 Etudes and 24 Preludes of Frédéric Chopin. In his Longy recital, he performs Chopin's 24 Preludes, Six Dances by Komitas and Claude Debussy's 12 Preludes from Book 1. *Pickman Hall at the Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (926-6979). $20, $15 students and seniors.*

KARAMAZOV: CHRIS BENNION; COLLINS: ERIC LEVENSON; JEWELRY: COURTESY OF PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Advice to Readers
The following is a list of festivals, events and benefits taking place in the Boston area by date.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

Friday, Feb. 2

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

Twelfth Annual Gospel Jubilee
United Parish Church, 210 Harvard St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7:30pm. $18. This celebration of Black History Month features contemporary gospel group Joy-Ful, Reverence Gospel Ensemble at Berklee College, Silver Leaf Gospel Singers, Brotherhood Chorus and Donna McElroy.

Saturday, Feb. 3

Beacon Hill Winter Dance
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (227-1922). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 9:30pm-1am. $75. Celebrate the 79th year of the nonprofit Beacon Hill Civic Association with dessert and dancing to the Soul of Boston.

Custom Motorcycle Show
Bayside Expo Center. 200 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester (904-252-3101). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Feb. 3, 11am-6pm; Feb. 4, 11am-5pm. $10. This bike show and swap meet is sure to be a spectacle—it's sponsored by the Hell's Angels, Harley Davidson and Budweiser. The Mill City Rockers perform.

Franciscan Children's Hospital Benefit
Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (779-1641). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8pm-12am. $30, $40 at the door. Mix 98.5 FM's Lynn Hoffman and Franciscan Children's Hospital Young Professionals Council host this benefit with hors d'oeuvres, dancing and a silent auction.

Great Gatsby Ball
The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (536-9640). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm-1am. $75. The Bill & Bo Winiker Orchestra performs at this fund-raiser for the Junior League of Boston. A silent auction kicks off the evening of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, dessert and dancing.



It's all about Harleys, hotties and Hells Angels at the Custom Motorcycle Show at the Bayside Expo Center Feb. 3-4.

Great Getaways & Other Good Stuff
Holiday Inn, Route 1 North, Peabody, Mass. (800-742-5306). 6pm. $10, $15 at the door. The North of Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau hosts this live auction with hors d'oeuvres and dessert.

North American Home Show
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester (800-225-1577). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Sat., 11am-9pm; Sun., 11am-7pm; Mon.-Fri., 1-9pm. Feb. 3-11. $7. A virtual superstore of products and services for your home. More than 500 companies display everything from hot tubs to kitchen cabinets.

We Take Your Health to Heart Gala
Westin Hotel, Copley Plaza, Boston (442-7400, ext. 282). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm-12am. $175. Roxbury Comprehensive Community Health Center's evening of food, dancing and live music features live and silent auctions, and California-based jazz and blues diva Barbara Morrison.

ZooMania!
William E. Reed Auditorium, 24 Washington St., Dorchester (442-6585). 6pm-12:30am. $50. This costume gala sponsored by the Friends of Franklin Park Zoo features dinner, dancing and live music by Serious Business.

Monday, Feb. 5

The Phantom of the Opera Benefit
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8pm. $16-$71. The Actors' Fund of America benefits from this special performance of *The Phantom of the Opera*.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Flying Karamazov Brothers: L'Universe
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2000). Feb. 6-9, 8pm; Feb. 10, 2pm and 8pm; Feb. 11, 2pm and 7:30pm. $45, $50, $55. Bring the tradition of vaudeville up to speed for the 21st century, the Flying Karamazov Brothers dazzle audiences with a madcap mixture of juggling, music, comedy a nd special effects. Their latest show is a technological caper called L'Universe cooked up with the help of friends from MIT's Media Lab.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Share Your Heart Fund-Raiser
The Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston (442-9322). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7-10pm. $50. Rosie's Place's annual fund-raiser is a feast of culinary, visual and musical arts and features an elaborate display of light fare and desserts provided by Boston restaurants and caterers. The Art from the Heart silent auction showcases more than 100 works of art by female artists.



You'll do good for yourself and others if you heft yourself up the stairs of three State Street buildings at the Jimmy Fund Stair Climb Feb. 8.

Social Networking Event
Sophia's Latin Club, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (312-5410). www.bostoneventguide.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6-9pm. $10.* Boston Event Guide sponsors this after-work social networking gathering for young professionals to view art, hear speakers, listen to music or take dance lessons.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Harvard's Hasty Pudding Club's Woman of the Year Parade
Harvard Square, Cambridge (495-1585). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Around 2pm. For those unfamiliar with this annual extravaganza, it's a parade of music, jugglers, dancers and the occasional llama that celebrates the crowning of the Woman of the Year by Harvard's Hasty Pudding Club. (No word yet on who she will be...)

Nextel Jimmy Fund Stair Climb
Check in: Great Hall at Old Faneuil Hall, Boston; Climb: 53 State St., 60 State St. and 75 State St., Boston (632-3300). MBTA: Blue Line to State. 6pm. $75. Participants in this fund-raiser for the Jimmy Fund can climb one, two or all three buildings and then enjoy the victory party afterward.

Friday, Feb. 9

Balloon Auction
Starbucks Coffee, 627 Tremont St., Boston (236-7879). 7-9pm. Starbucks South End celebrates its grand opening and its partnership with the AIDS Action Committee with this event featuring live music, pastry sampling, freshly brewed coffee and balloons containing prizes. Proceeds from the balloon sale benefit AAC.

Big Brother and Big Sisters Charity Gala
Locke Ober, One Winter Place, Boston (789-4070). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Feb. 9, 9pm-2am. $35, $40 at the door. This benefit for Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay and Big Sister Association of Greater Boston includes three floors of dancing, drinking and light appetizers.

Boston Golf Expo 2001
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester (978-777-4439). www.bostongolfshow.com. *MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Fri., 1-9pm; Sat., 10am-9pm; Sun., 10am-5pm. Feb. 9-11. $9.* Whether you're just thinking about playing golf or are a local club pro, you'll feel right at home at this golf expo with hundreds of exhibits from local retailers, manufacturers and golf destinations, as well as PGA and LPGA instructors. Featured daily clinics provide valuable insight on equipment, techniques and a bit of golf entertainment. This year's show features LPGA professional and tour player, Elaine Crosby. Daily lessons and clinics will be given by PGA professional Chris Costa and his staff.

Citizen Celebration
Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (695-2300, ext. 134). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. $15. The Citizen Celebration is an evening of food donated by local restaurants and smooth jazz by the Zeke Martin Quartet, hip Afro-pop by Balla Tounkara and Latin dance music by Bambule. Proceeds benefit the Citizen Schools non-profit afterschool program.

Gem of an Evening
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. $75. Celebrate Valentine's Day a bit early with fine wine, plentiful hors d'oeuvres from local caterers and Harvard Square restaurants and the opening of the new exhibition, *Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline.*

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

WinterFest 2001
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (973-6508). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Feb. 9-11. This festival kicks off with an ice-carving competition and blends indoor tropical exhibits with the outdoor New England weather.

Saturday, Feb. 10

The Museum Ball
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (369-3190). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 8:30pm. $100. Black-tie. Satisfy your palate with an array of delicious desserts and dance to the sounds of Soho. Guests will be issued a pasport to be stamped at each of several international destinations along their journey through the museum. The evening will also include a raffle drawing. All proceeds benefit the MFA.

Renewal House Benefit
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 10, 7pm. $25, $35 and $50. HBO comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer and Warner Bros. folk singer Ferron perform at a fund-raising event for the Renewal House, a shelter for women and their children.

Sunday, Feb. 11

Artisans' Fair at the Peabody School
44 Linnaean Street, Cambridge (547-1116). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 11am-5pm. $1 (mention this listing and it's free!). This annual benefit for the Peabody School's after-school program and the 8th grade scholarship fund features a variety of crafts, including jewelry, pottery, handmade musical instruments and chimes, glass blown beads and more. There will be food and children's craft activities as well.

Rail-a-Rama XXXII
Ramada Rolling Green, 311 Lowell St., Exit 43 off Route 93 North, Andover (361-4445). www.mysticvalleyrs.org. *10am-4pm. $3.* Enjoy more than 10,000 square feet of railway displays, vintage videos and operating modular model train layouts.

Second Sundays
Veronique Restaurant and Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (312-5410). www.bostoneventguide.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood. 2-5pm. $10.* Boston Event Guide sponsors its monthly wine sampling with live jazz and light hors d'oeuvres.

Toy Show
Holiday Inn, Route One, Exit 15A off Route 128/95, Dedham (508-379-9733). 9am-2:30pm. $4.50 (in the morning); $3.50 (after noon). Three halls full of rare toy collectibles and vintage toys. Die-cast cars that can no longer be found on store shelves, models, kits, trucks and planes share space with classic old, cast-iron banks, erector sets, dime-store lead soldiers and playsets. You'll also find G.I. Joes, Barbies and Star Wars action figures.

World Wrestling Federation
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 7pm. $40, $35, $30, $25 and $18. All your favorite superstars will be at the FleetCenter when the World Wrestling Federation returns to Boston.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Technologists with a Heart
The Castle at the Park Plaza Hotel, Columbus and Arlington streets, Boston (747-3981). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-11pm. $100. Join the Massachusetts Telecommunications Council, the Massachusetts Interactive Media Council, Massachusetts Software and Internet Council and the MIT Enterprise Forum of Cambridge for an evening of networking, dancing, auctions and merriment.



The New England Aquarium's WinterFest 2001 features an ice-carving competition Feb. 9-11.

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performing arts

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Submit updated press releases by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

The Adding Machine
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300, ext. 1). Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Feb. 4-24. $15. With an anti-hero named Zero and a cast of 12 actors who portray furniture and machines as well as people, the play puts a spotlight on today's mechanized society.

The Belle of Amherst
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (350-6000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue., 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1pm and 7pm. Feb. 6-11. $45-$65. Tony Award-winning actress Julie Harris depicts 19th-century poet Emily Dickinson as a vivacious and joyful woman who, despite being reclusive, used the language of poetry to "dwell in possibility."

Crossing Delancey
The Abbott Memorial Theater, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). Through Feb. 3, 8pm. $12. The Hovey Players present Susan Sandler's charming romantic comedy.



Actress Julie Harris portrays 19th-century poet Emily Dickinson in *The Belle of Amherst*, at the Shubert Theatre Feb. 6-11.

The Doctor's Dilemma
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through March 14. $25-$59. In the age of spiraling prescription costs, how does a doctor decide which of his patients most deserves treatment? This keen-eyed examination of medical malpractice is as provocative today as it was at its 1906 premiere, enriched with Shaw's wit and compassion for human weakness.

The Family of Mann
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (353-5443). Feb. 1 and 8, 7pm; Feb. 2, 3, 9, 10, 8pm; Feb. 3 and 10, 2pm. $20. A young Ph.D. learns that comedy can be a grim business when she gets a job working on a TV sitcom. Her colleagues stand by their show, proclaiming it "all that is decent and fine on television," even as their world descends into whirling insanity.

Floyd Collins
Boston Center for the Arts, The Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Feb. 1-24. $22-$25. Floyd Collins, a skilled Kentucky caver, became front-page news when he got trapped 200 feet underground while exploring a cave he'd hoped to turn into a tourist attraction. Alone except for limited contact with the outside world, Collins fought for his sanity and ultimately his life as efforts to free him were thwarted; his plight, meanwhile, attracted the country's first full-blown media circus.

Flying Karamazov Brothers: L'Universe
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2000). Feb. 6-9, 8pm; Feb. 10, 2pm and 8pm; Feb. 11, 2pm and 7:30pm. $45, $50, $55. Bring the tradition of vaudeville up to speed for the 21st century, the Flying Karamazov Brothers dazzle audiences with a madcap mixture of juggling, music, comedy and special effects. Their latest show is a technological caper called L'Universe, cooked up with the help of friends from MIT's Media Lab.

Follies
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Feb. 9-March 17. $21. A colorful, romantic reunion of ex-show girls and boys.

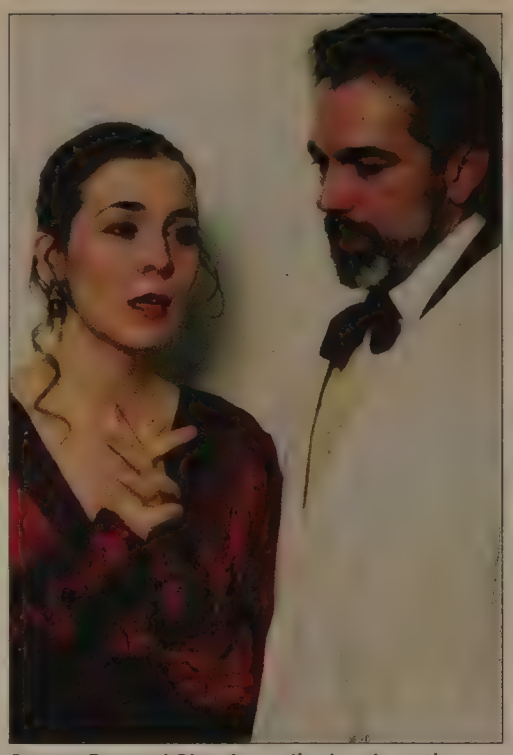
Mother Courage and Her Children
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Feb. 9-March 18. $25-$59. A lone woman, Anna Fierling, tries in vain both to make money and to keep her family alive during the nightmare of the Thirty Years War that raged in Europe during the 17th century. Bertolt Brecht tells her story with a dazzling blend of pathos and burlesque, mocking her foolhardiness while sympathizing with her wretched plight.

No Way to Treat a Lady
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Feb. 9-March 10. $20-$26. In this mystery-thriller musical, a bachelor detective pursues a publicity-obsessed serial killer who'll stop only when his name appears on the front page of *The New York Times*. The detective himself is pursued by a pretty, young socialite he meets during the investigation.

Penn & Teller
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun. 2pm and 7pm. Feb. 13-25. $35-$49.50. Penn & Teller bring their irreverent brand of comedy and magic to Boston.

The Piano Lesson
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-456-0000). Tue., 7pm; Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Feb. 2-March 11. $28-$40. Boy Willie, a farm hand from the South, arrives on his sister's doorstep to reclaim his share of the family legacy. Selling the hand-carved heirloom piano will enable him to buy land of his own. This universal Pulitzer Prize-winning story by August Wilson shows us a human dilemma: moving ahead to the promise of the future, or clinging to the past.

Prince and the Pauper
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (879-2147). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Feb. 2-25. $10, $15, $17. This adventure begins in the villainous courts of Tudor England, with a chance encounter between a poor beggar and a pampered prince who decide to change places.



George Bernard Shaw's medical malpractice drama, *The Doctor's Dilemma*, plays at the American Repertory Theatre through March 14.

Taming of the Shrew
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). www.bostontheatreworks.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Park. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Feb. 2-25. $20.* In this unique, all-female production, you'll travel from 1940s Italy, shattered with violence, into a theatrical dreamscape in which Kate and Petrucchio discover their true selves as their comedic circumstances unfold before them.

Twilight of the Golds
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Feb. 2-18. $25-$40. This is the stormy story of a warm and loving family torn apart by an ethical dilemma involving an adult daughter who is pregnant.

The Weir
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton (332-1646). Wed., 7pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4:30pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Feb. 11. $27-$33. Three men gather in a small, rural Irish pub and banter as they wait for Finbar, a dandy local who moved away and made good. When he arrives with a woman named Valerie in tow, they try to impress her with tales of fairies and ghosts.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $39-$49. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

The Complete History of America (Abridged)
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Feb. 3. $20-$26. Three men cover nearly 400 years of history in Act One and then race through the 20th century in Act Two, careening through the 1920s, '30s and '40s via a radio show that includes cowboys, Al Capone and Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Henry Flamethrowa
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-456-0000). Tue., 7pm; Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through Feb. 4. $28-$40. This gripping drama is the story of a very unusual sister and brother. She lies in a coma, and people come from all over the country seeking her miraculous healing powers. Alone in his room, Henry loses himself in his books. If she is the instrument of the Virgin's divine mercy, will he become the instrument of God's terrible vengeance?

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly the 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $25-$45. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

The Phantom of the Opera
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Feb. 24. $16-$71. A masked figure who lurks beneath the catacombs of the Paris Opera House exercises a reign of terror over all who inhabit it. He falls madly in love with an innocent young soprano and devotes himself to creating a new star by nurturing her extraordinary talent and employing all of the devious methods at his command.

Salome
Boston Lyric Opera at the Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (542-6772). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 2, 7:30pm; Feb. 4, 3pm. $27.50-$108. Richard Strauss' lush music combines with Oscar Wilde's libretto for a sensuous retelling of the Biblical scandal.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Sin
Boston Center for the Arts, The Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (695-0659). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Feb. 11. A San Francisco air traffic reporter tries to keep herself above the messiness of life, and it takes an act of God for her to learn that sometimes you have to sin to survive.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Cabaret
Stratton Student Center, Second Floor, 84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-6294). Feb. 2-3, 8pm; Feb. 4, 4pm; Feb. 8-10, 8pm. $9. Musical Theatre Guild produces this classic musical by Joe Masteroff.

The Misanthrope
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-3400). MBTA: Commuter rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Feb. 13-18. $10.50-$14.50. Martin Crimp's funny adaptation places the famed misanthrope, Alceste, in a world of film stars, agents and critics all displaying the hypocrisy that he abhors. In this wickedly comic commentary on the ills of society and the flaws of humankind, Alceste struggles with love and truth, ideals and emotions.

School for Scandal
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2908). Feb. 8-10, 8pm; Feb. 15-17, 8pm. $8. This is a drama shop production of Richard Brinsley Sheridan's 1777 comedy.

The Zoo
Walker Memorial, 142 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (253-0190). Feb. 2-4, 8pm. A production by the MIT Gilbert & Sullivan Players with libretto by B. Rowe.

COMING SOON

Dame Edna
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Feb. 20-March 11. $25-$65. She's wild, she's wicked and she's wonderful: She's the Australian international superstar Dame Edna, the self-appointed Queen of Broadway. The incredible creation and alter ego of comedian Barry Humphries, Dame Edna comes to Boston following a record-breaking, Tony Award-winning Broadway engagement.

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. April 11-May 6. $25-$75. Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, it is an epic saga that sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th-century France. It is also the story of one man, the fugitive Jean Valjean, who is pitted against the cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelong quest to evade capture.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet, consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain you with story, song and medieval antics.

LEFT: ED KRIEGER



The Complete History of America (Abridged) **unfolds at the Lyric Stage Company through Feb. 3.**

Dance

SHOWS AND EVENTS

Ballet Hispanico
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 2-3, 8pm, and Feb. 4, 3pm. $40-$45 A blend of ballet and ethnic dance establishes a vibrant image of contemporary Hispanic-American culture.

TAP 2!
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (482-6661). MBTA: Green Line to BU Central. Feb. 10, 11am and 2pm. $22-$18. This high-energy tap-dancing routine incorporates jazz, hip-hop and more.

Recent Dances
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (864-3191). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Feb. 2 and 3, 8pm. $12. Choreographers Carol Somers and Lisa Hicks present several dances set to classical and contemporary music.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances or comedians. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Jan. 31: Don Gavin •Feb. 1: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $12 •Feb. 2: Jim Breuer, $21 •Feb. 3: Jim Breuer, $23 •Feb . 5: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •Feb.6: Robbie Printz •Feb. 7: Don Gavin and John Joyce •Feb. 8: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $12 •Feb. 9: D.L. Hughley, UPN's "The Hughleys" •Feb. 10: D.L. Hughley •Feb. 11: D.L. Hughley, 8pm and 10pm •Feb. 12: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •Feb. 13: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Feb. 1: Tim McIntire stars with Nat Stahl, Tom Clark, Ben Joplin, Dan Sulman, Val Kappa and Tony Moschetto. •Feb. 2: Brendon & Larry, sketch and musical comedy. Guests: Marlene Welch, Pat O' Shea, Teresa Craggan, Troy Pernell, John Curtain and Lauren Soares. •Feb. 3: Deb Pfarrar Parkman, Ira Proctor, Teresa Craggan, Jan Davidson, Matt Jablow and Dan Sullivan. •Feb 4: Sketch comedy from Perfect Monster. Guests: Greg Rodrigues, Dave Greenbeerg, Ryan Stitcher, Tim Fahey, Emily Singer and Greg Simoneau. •Feb. 8: Tim McIntire with Tom Morello, Lea Antolini, Kyria Abrahams, Sean Kelley, Sam Walters and Dan Newbower. •Feb. 9: Boston's best audition for the Chicago Comedy Festival. •Feb. 10: Mike Baker, Sam Walters, Dan Mintz, Benari Pouten and Missy Whitford. •Feb 11: John Fisch, Eric Riley Moore, Adam Pearlman, John Lynch, Janet Cormier and Stephen Smith.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Stand-up comedy.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. The talent here is not quite as big-name as the Comedy Connection, but the crowds are just as enthusiastic. Wednesdays: Open-mike at 8:30pm. • Feb 1, 8:30pm: Jim McCue, Al Klenick and John Pizzi. • Feb 2-3, 8:45pm: Jim McCue, Al Klenick and John Pizzi. • Feb 8, 8:30pm: Paul Gilligan, Tom Clark and Mike Prior. • Feb 9-10, 8:45pm: Paul Gilligan Matt Blakeney and Mike Prior.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Saturday matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* Now playing on the main stage is the critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show—voted one of Boston's best improvisational comedy troupes. •Wednesdays, 8pm: The Improv Asylum Training Center graduate show, *Gary's Pocket*, followed by the Improv Asylum Touring Company. $10.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. • ***TheatreSports***: Fridays, 10:30pm. Witness two local improvisation troupes compete for bragging rights in this no-holds-barred, improvisational contest.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 127 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). Wednesdays, 8:40pm, and Saturdays, 9:30pm. See the Larry Lee Lewis Show and open-mic comedy.

Suzanne Westenhoefer Live
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 10, 7pm. $25, $35 and $50. HBO comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer joins folk singer Ferron for an evening of comedy and music with a lesbian theme. The event benefits the Renewal House, a shelter for abused women and their children.



BRUCE LAURANCE

***Ballet Hispanico* is at the Emerson Majestic Theater Feb. 2-3.**



art

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include opening and closing dates, nearest T stop, price of admission, if any, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.lesley.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*The Art Institute of Boston Faculty Exhibition* features work by some of Boston's top professional artists, including Robert Kaufmann, Jim Hood, Geoff Koetsch and Deborah Davidson. Feb. 3-March 18.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free to all on Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on exhibit: ancient Islamic and Asian art, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
900 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •*Speak Truth to Power*, a photographic exhibit from the book *Speak Truth to Power: Human Rights Defenders Who Are Changing Our World*, by Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, features photographs by Eddie Adams. Through Feb. 26.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •*Just The Thing!* Everyday objects acquire new perspectives, on display through June 10. •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to covey the artist's message. Feb. 3-May 28.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free to all on Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Philip Guston: A New Alphabet* focuses on a four-year period in the artist's life (1968-1972). Through Feb. 4. •*Franz Marc: Horses* shows through March 18. •*Sight-Seeing: Photography of the Middle East and Its Audiences, 1840-1940*, an exhibition that investigates the ways in which images of the Middle East were made available to the broad public, shows through March 18. •*The Blue-Rider Artists: Works From the Busch-Reisinger Museum and Other Harvard Collections.* Through March 18.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
24 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of butterflies. Through March 4. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit of the many qualities of this beautiful mineral. Feb. 10-Jan. 20, 2002. •*Gem of an Evening* is a Valentine's Day party opening up the gemstone exhibit, Feb. 9, 7pm.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Olafur Eliasson transforms the ICA with a series of installations that use water, ice and light in *Olafur Eliasson: Your Only Real Thing Is Time.* The Scandinavian artist gained international attention for his photographs, sculptures and site-specific works that create poetic allusions to landscape and nature. Through April 1. •Free guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). www.boston.com/gardner. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided on Fridays, 2:30pm.* •Isabella Stewart Gardner's collection of medieval and Renaissance crosses will be on display in *The Art of the Cross: Medieval and Renaissance Piety.* Feb. 7-April 29.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm, weekends, 12-5pm.



Richard Misrach's work shows in the photographic exhibition *Night Light*, at the Robert Klein Gallery.

$3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton*, and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: the Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, the mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT.* Special interactive activities take place 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •On the last Sunday of the month, explore oceanography, astronomy, the science of buildings and other mysteries of science, 2-4pm. Call 452-2827 for details.

Museum of Bad Art
580 High St., Dedham (325-8224). Mon.-Fri., 6:30-10pm, Sat., and Sun., 1-10pm. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. •The one and only museum that boasts "art too bad to be ignored." A favorite is *Lady Chardonnay*, a piece illuminating a poodle-headed dancer.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm, Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-5:45pm. West Wing only, Thu.-Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*Dangerous Curves: Art of the Guitar* shows through Feb. 25. •An exhibition that presents the multifaceted work of Fred Holland Day is on display, titled *Art and the Camera: Photographs of F. Holland Day* and runs through March 25. •*Boston 1900*, an exhibit that looks at our artistic, literary and cultural city at the beginning of the 20th century, is on display through March 18. •*Dangerous Waves: Art of Sound.* The School of the Museum of Fine Arts presents this unique audiovisual extravaganza. Through Feb. 4.

Galleries
FINE ART

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). Wed.-Sat. 12pm-5pm. •Artists Scott Reeder and David Robbins feature works that utilize humorous elements that allude to cartoons and stand-up comedians. Through Feb. 24.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •*Northern European Master Prints, 1905-1925.* Through Feb. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Anthony James presents his haunting and tumultuous works. Linda Lowe's mixed media encourages curiosity and ingenuity. Feb. 2-28.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. The gallery features original works from international artists. •*Sargadelos Ceramics* from Galicia, Spain, feature a collection of functional and sculptural ceramics. Throughout February.

Bakalar Gallery
MassArt, South Building, 623 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7333). Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Wonderland* features work by women artists that loosely references fairy tales and folklore Feb. 23. •Bulgarian poster designer Luba Lukova presents *Humanizing Design*, featuring more than 50 posters by this accomplished artist, through March 2.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •Jim Stroud's *Linear Strategies* show, through March 7.

Barton-Ryan Gallery
38 Newbury St., 4th floor, Boston (867-0662). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •Group Exhibition of gallery artists and invited guests. Through Feb. 17.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •Created with *GRACE: Artists from Vermont's Grass-Roots Art and Community Effort.* Through Feb. 24.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Chris Komater: Harem* shows through Feb. 24.

Boston Psychoanalytic Society
15 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (266-0953) MBTA: Arlington. Mon.-Wed. 10am-4pm; Thurs.-Fri. 11am-3pm. •Featuring works by Robert Goodnough. Through March 2.

Boston University Art Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Crafted Image* features the work of contemporary photographers and 19th-century processes. Through Feb. 25.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •This exhibition features the work of Robin Cass in *A Slight Breach: New Work in Glass and Metal*, as well as Joyce Zavorskas' *Urn Series: A Suite of Layered Monoprints*, showing through Feb. 24.

Cambridge Center Gallery
One Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Thurs. 9am-9pm, Fri. 9am-5pm, Sat. 9am-2pm. •Drawings by Julie Ann Klear create intricate patterns and shapes, through Feb 4. •Maria Termini presents her earthy works on fiber and paper. Through Feb. 15. •Photographer Craig Bailey shows his community-inspired photographs. Feb. 5-28.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 am-11:30pm. •Find Heinz Tesar's *Fragments on Le Corbusier: Brush Drawings, Poems and Memorabilia from a Formative Experience*, through Feb. 16. •*Extreme Connoisseurship* shows Feb. 3-April 29.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tues.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Contemporary glassworking artist Etsuko Nishi exhibits his work through Feb 17.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Francisco Benitez and Allen Whiting exhibit their paintings. Feb. 1-27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •*Figures and Interiors* will be showing on the main floor; downstairs in the print department, see Joespeh *Pennell and His Unbelievable City.* In the alcove, *Asian Aesthetic in Western Work.* Through March 3.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. The gallery represents 30 regional artists. •Donald Saaf's work *New Painting* and Julia Zanes' *Extraordinarily Large Miniatures* are on display. Through Feb. 22.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment.* •Peter Inglis' *Forms* is on display through Feb. 16.

Crystal Fine Art
93 Summer St., Suite 4L, Boston (728-9818). www. crystalfineart.com. *MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Tue.-Fri., 11am-6pm.* •One of Boston's best known impressionist painters, Candice Whittemore Lovely, presents her work. Through Feb. 15.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford Street, Allston (783-2421). Sat., 2-4pm or by appointment. http://drawbridge.com/dvbgallery. •*Take Cover / Take Over* is a show by artists working with text, featuring the works of Kenneth Fitzgerald, Howard Johnson, Naomi E. Rubin, Kathleen Bitetti and William Tisdale. Also showing is an installation, *If These Walls Could Talk*, by Cynthia von Buhler and Xavier Dietrich II. Through Feb. 10.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •A new collection of contemporary French impressionist painters shows throughout February •The paintings, lithographs and drawings of Alexandra Nechita show through Feb. 7.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm, Sat. 9am-6pm. Take a mini-vacation with these rich landscapes of Barbados by local artist Winston R. Breedy. Through Feb. 24.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*One Hundred Pounds of Clay*, an installation by Charles Long, displays through Feb. 24.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equator-gallery.com. *Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7pm.* •A series of woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí and ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sasha Raiz. •Peruvian artist Benito Huillcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depict modern-day Cuzco. Ongoing.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (266-4351). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.frenchlib.org. *Tues.-Thurs. 10am-8pm; Fri. and Sat. 10am-5pm.* •Artist Kurt Stier depicts Parisian scenes in his exhibit, *Paris: plus ca change, plus c'est la meme chose.* Through Feb. 17.

Fort Point Arts Community
300 Summer St., Boston (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line South Station. Mon.-Fri. 10am-3pm; Sat. 12pm-5pm. •*Between Lines* features work by Ahmed Abdalla, Hanna Zwart, Tim Bailey, Karyn Kirk, Josephine Pergola and Yuko Adachi. Through Feb. 9.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001) www.galerie-dorsay.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Plain-Air*, a collection by contemporary impressionistic artist Denise Burns. Throughout February.



***To Her Children*, by Sue Aygarn-Kowaiski, is part of *Environmental Injustices*, at the Gallery of Social and Political Art through March 4.**

dining out ✯ book club ✯ hiking ✯ jazz brunch ✯ movie night ✯ skiing ✯ symphony ✯ art

For the ambivalent...

Maybe I'll do something next year...

New to Boston...

Hate doing things alone...

Intellectually curious...

I'm not quite ready to join a dating service...

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Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). www.james hull.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., Wed. and Thu., 6-9pm.* •Ellen Driscoll and Nick Tobier present images taken from a quarter-mile radius in Jamaica Plain. Displayed using an oversized Viewmaster. Feb. 2-March 3.

Gallery Bershad
99 Dover St., Somerville (629-9400 ext. 3). www.bershad.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Fri., 9-6pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Schematically Inclined* includes fine art, architecture drawings, models and other schematically inclined works. Through March 2.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallery naga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Yizhak Elyashire's *New Prints* and Stuart Ober's *New Paintings* on display from Feb. 2-24.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •Pat Keck's modern *New Sculptures* are made with all sorts of moving parts. Through Feb. 7. •New York artists Peter Coe, Jhon Tremblay and Waren Isensee present *Persistent Painting.* Feb. 9-March 7.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •This gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •Find an assortment of 18th- and 19th-century antique engravings and lithographs on display. Ongoing.

Harbor Gallery at UMass-Boston
McCormack Hall, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (287-7988). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. Mon.-Fri. 12pm-5pm. •*Abstract Organic* features the work of Jed Barnum, David Cronin, David Klee, Melanie Schlossberg, Mat Stone, Jeff Tepal and Janet Willard. Through Jan. 31.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. yezerski@ziplink.net. •Various artists' works are featured in *Painting Photography.* Feb. 2-27.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Emerging Artist Show* exhibits some of Boston's most talented up-and-coming artists. Throughout February.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St. Loft #204, Boston (542-0644). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. Sat. 1-4pm. The gallery presents *Interior Exterior* through March 5.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (423-4113). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Audrey Goldstein's sculpture, *Diaphanometer*, shows through Feb. 25.

Landau Gallery
Belmont Hill School, Park Ave., exit 58 off Rte. 2, Belmont (484-4410). Mon.-Fri., 8am-5pm. •Exhibit by up-and-coming artist Abby Getman, *Mind in Motion.* Through Feb. 2. •*...One Is Silver the Other Is Golden.* Sculpture and photographs by Pam Golden and Tali Silver show Feb. 9-March 9.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm. •*Winter Showcase* is a collection of paintings by emerging artists Stuart Dunkel, Michael Korber, Lydia Martin, David Penna and Amy Jean Romero. Feb. 9-March 4.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum; Mon.-Fri. 11am-4pm; Sat. & Sun. 11am-6pm. •An exclusive exhibit of rarely seen art by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch presents pieces that typify the Northern European culture. Feb. 5-May 21.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •On display is *New Paintings*, by Jon Marshall. Through Feb. 1. •Artists Daniel Robinson presents his *New Work.* Feb. 3-29.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Maternal Exposure (Don't Forget the Lunches)* is an installation by Monica Block and Zofia Burr. Through Feb. 3. •The installations *Le Phare* and *Ecole d'Aviation* show through Feb. 3.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Paintings by Ethan Murrow and Jonathan Goode are presented in *The American Land.* Feb. 2-26.



Preview

Cross Art

The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum opens a new exhibition of crucifixes and more



The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum rarely has a new exhibition, and when it does, the local art scene stops and pays attention. *The Art of the Cross: Medieval and Renaissance Piety* is a collection of medieval and Renaissance crosses, including large-scale crucifixes as well as processional crosses. The crosses represent the lesser known works housed at the museum. As most of Isabella Stewart's energy went into collecting Italian Renaissance paintings and works by John Singer Sargent, her other artifacts are considered hidden treasures. Several of these lesser-known works—furniture, textiles and metalwork—are gathered, for the first time, in this collection. The crucifixes and crosses are remarkable for the variety and beauty of their design—the gold, silver, bronze and wooden objects display the skill of workshops in Italy, Spain and France. *The Art of the Cross* also explores how artists crafted precious objects that responded to the liturgy of the Middle Ages and Renaissance and investigates how objects such as these were collected in America at the turn of the century. *Feb. 7-April 29. Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). $10.*

Newton Library Gallery
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145) www.ci.newton.ma.us MBTA: Green Line D to Newton. Mon.-Thur. 9am-9pm; Friday 9am-6pm; Sat. 9am-5pm; Sun. 12pm-5pm. •Pencil portraits by Susan Avishai display. •Also showing are landscape portraits by Stephen Buckman, Feb. 3-27.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Sungjoon Joh exhibits new still-life paintings that reflect his Korean heritage. •A small exhibit of drawings with collage elements by sculptor Carol Keller is shown at the same time, through Feb. 24.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •This gallery, owned and operated by several artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •Forth Annual *Figurative Art Show*, featuring local artists. Feb. 1-March 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Eilene Gillespie: Drawings. Through Feb. 20.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1pm-5pm. •Welsh potter Phil Rogers' work, *Tradition Renewed*, shows through Feb. 7. •Romantic simplicity abounds in B.A. King's *Visual Poetry.* Feb. 10-March 8.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardsonclarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •See the ongoing exhibition of American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.Robert Klein-Gallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Night Light: Photographs of Heavenly Bodies, 1885-2000.* Through March 10.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliff Yard, Between Brattle and Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm. This exhibit, *Courage and Resiliency: Cambodian Women in America*, depicts female refugees from the PolPot regime in Cambodia. Feb. 1-April 30.

Sherman Gallery
775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Recent Paintings*, by Russell Roberts, runs through March 2.

Social and Political Art Gallery
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (244-5581). www.orsillo.com/gspa. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Fri. and Sat. 2-6pm, Sun 1:30-5pm. •In *Environmental Injustices*, artists engage in social protest through art. Feb. 2-March 4.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Thu., 10am-7pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •Finalists and grant-recipients present their award-wining artistic crafts. Through Feb. 25.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm. •Works by Mario Aryas, a Cuban artist, are showing in the United States for the first time. Through February.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorge-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style. Ongoing.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. This gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by famous painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin, C. Ferrer, along with striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. Elanor Elkin presents: *Creatures in Cloth and Clay.* Feb. 5-26.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-6200). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm. •Via's two-year anniversary show includes a group retrospective of Gallery artists. Through Feb. 3. •Christiane Wallace and Cecilia Lieder present recent artwork. Feb. 2-28.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A selection from their current inventory is on display. Ongoing.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •A group show of local photographers, through Feb. 9 •Photographer Anna Collette presents her work. Feb. 12-March 16.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •In celebration of Valentine's Day a new exhibit entitled *From the Heart: Images for Valentines*, opens Feb. 10. •Ernest Withers presents his collection of African American musicians in a large photo exhibit, through March 30.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a collection of photographs from the series at the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17. •*Strange Attractor: In the Orbit of the Artist*, a show curated by Rosamond Purcell, displays through March 15.

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FILM

I SEE DEAD PEOPLE

The thriller goes psychic in *The Gift*. BY PAUL SHERMAN

You're sitting across from a friend, loved one or maybe just an acquaintance. Something is hanging from their mouth or, worse yet, their nose. Do you embarrass them by saying something about it? That's the sort of dilemma we've all suffered at one time or another, and it's the sort that Annie Wilson, the "gifted" heroine of *The Gift*, seems to suffer almost all the time and to a much deeper degree. How Annie, who is played by Cate Blanchett (*Elizabeth*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley*), handles these problems is part of the intrigue in the seductive yet rather disappointing thriller directed by Sam (*Darkman*) Raimi and written by Billy Bob Thornton and Tom Epperson, who previously co-wrote the memorable *One False Move* and *A Family Thing*.

The burden of knowledge, and knowing what and when to share with others, is at the crux of the story of the widowed mother of three sons—a character loosely based on Thornton's own mother—who has psychic visions that let her see into other people's lives, and into the past and future. Despite the grumbling of some distrusting neighbors, Annie does card readings for locals, and the story builds a murder-mystery around her talents. It's a good thing for the movie that psychic phenomena have become such an accepted part of movie storytelling, because *The Gift* poorly establishes those talents. We primarily see two of her clients, a battered wife (Hilary Swank) and a manic-depressive auto mechanic (Giovanni Ribisi), and it doesn't take a psychic or any other specialist to see the first is getting regularly beaten by her redneck husband (Keanu Reeves)—something the script states—or that the second was molested as a child (something the script doesn't say).

So if the encounters with those folks are supposed to convince us of Annie's powers, they've failed. What makes up somewhat for this failure is the way in which, in her backwater Georgia town, Annie is more like a psychologist to these people than a fortuneteller. She dispenses advice to them, but warily, sometimes not letting on everything she sees in the cards if she doesn't think her client can handle it. Annie starts seeing more potent visions when she's introduced to her son's school principal (Greg Kinnear) and his young fiancée (Katie Holmes). The young woman's playful request to "look into our future" reveals a grisly vision, while Annie also sees the fiancée engaged in the act with another man in a local ladies' room. She doesn't disclose either of these sights.

When the young woman disappears and the police have no leads, they reluctantly come to Annie. She initially can't help, but she then has a dream showing her the woman's dead body in a pond that fits the description of a pond on the land of the battered wife's redneck husband. The body is found there, the redneck is put on trial and the evidence Annie finds helps put him behind bars. End of story. Or not, as Annie begins to get the nagging suspicion that there's more to the murder than she's seen.

The Gift then becomes, for its last third, a mildly involving whodunit with a vulnerable woman at its core. At least the woman here is an interesting one and well-played by affectation-free Blanchett—and despite the supernatural aspect, Annie is more realistic than most women in movies. Though surely preferable to its more bloated post-holiday film competition, *The Gift* would have benefited from being set in the 1960s or 1970s rather than the present day.

Even in small-town U.S.A., characters like the battered wife and the manic-depressive mechanic would be much more self-aware, thanks to daytime talk shows. They would know there are people out there to turn to besides Annie, and they'd certainly act less clueless. **iB**



Cate Blanchett confronts a scarily hairy Keanu Reeves in *The Gift*.

The Gift ★★½

Directed by Sam Raimi. Written by Billy Bob Thornton and Tom Epperson. With Cate Blanchett, Keanu Reeves, Greg Kinnear, Giovanni Ribisi, Hilary Swank, Gary Cole and Katie Holmes. Rated R. Paramount Classics.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

All the Pretty Horses ★★
Billy Bob Thornton's first film as a director, *Sling Blade*, was uncanny at putting us in the mind of its lead character. His more conventional latest, based on Cormac McCarthy's novel, isn't so adept. Thornton gets the Tex-Mex landscape down and draws strong performances from Matt Damon and Henry Thomas (in the *E.T.* star's best adult role by far) in this 1940s story of a couple of Texans in search of the cowboy life in Mexico. But the forbidden romance that becomes the movie's center, between Damon's cowpoke and the Mexican ranch owner's daughter, played by Penelope Cruz, never comes across as strongly as it should have, so all the hardship and violence that occurs as a consequence packs little punch.

Before Night Falls ★★½
Following *Basquiat*, Julian Schnabel directs another "artist who died too young in New York" drama. This time his subject is Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas, played here by Javier Bardem (from Almodovar's *Live Flesh*). There's definitely a compelling story here, starting with Arenas' country boyhood, when he left home to join Castro's revolutionaries, and moving onto his persecution for being both gay and a writer, his subsequent flight to New York and his fight with AIDS. But at many crucial junctures, the movie is also frustratingly vague, including its inability to give us a real sense of Arenas' writings. So the result is less memorable than it might have been. There are, however, amusing and effective cameos by Johnny Depp (as a drag queen) and Sean Penn (as a peasant).

Cast Away ★★
Robert Zemeckis used to make hilarious, unpretentious comedies like *I Wanna Hold Your Hand* and *Used Cars*. Now he makes long, overextended movies straining to be profound, like *Forrest Gump*, *Contact* and this story of a workaholic FedEx executive (Tom Hanks) who is the only survivor of a South Pacific plane crash. The bulk of the movie, in which the guy adjusts to being alone on a deserted island and to living a primitive life, is very involving. But Zemeckis and writer William Broyles Jr. trample any restraint once the guy returns home after being marooned for four years. Now his physical hardship is replaced by emotional hardship, as he must come to terms with his fiancée (the overexposed Helen Hunt) having married another man in the overstated final half hour. If only we thought he cared for her half as much as he did Wilson, his inanimate volleyball pal on the island.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon ★★★½
What do you get when you combine a skilled dramatic director like Ang Lee (*Eat Drink Man Woman*), an innovative action choreographer like Yuen Wo-Ping (*The Matrix*) and stars like Chow Yun-Fat (*Hard-Boiled*) and Michelle Yeoh (*Supercop*)? A dynamo in which the scenes between the wild, high-flying fight face-offs are almost as potent as the "action." In this story, centering around a stolen sword, the battles unfurl not only between the characters—in beautifully choreographed exchanges—but also within those characters' souls. The leads all find themselves dealing with the struggle between their romantic desires and societal obligations, which gives the film a sorrowful undercurrent. To add to the eclectic feel, Yo-Yo Ma performs the score's cello solos.

Finding Forrester ★★★
Gus Van Sant's latest melds *Scent of a Woman* with his own *Good Will Hunting*, and is a transparent but generally effective mentor-pupil drama. Newcomer Rob Brown is terrific as a Bronx teen who's a star basketball player but who keeps his literary talents and knowledge a secret. At about the same time that a standardized, MCAS-like test reveals his smarts (and lands him a scholarship at a tony Manhattan prep school), he befriends the neighborhood recluse (Sean Connery), who turns out to be a Pulitzer-winning author who hasn't published a book since his acclaimed debut 45 years earlier. The writing lessons and life lessons imparted in the duo's scenes are a bit prefab, but fortunately this has more *Good Will Hunting* heart than *Scent of a Woman* hoo-ha. Matt Damon cameos.

The Pledge ★★★
If you've seen Sean Penn's previous movies as a director—*The Indian Runner* and *The Crossing Guard*—you'll recognize his strengths and weaknesses in his latest, the story of an ex-cop (Jack Nicholson) obsessed with solving his last case. As usual, Penn is great at conveying an intense atmosphere and mature emotions, though he's sometimes a little clumsy in the storytelling details. Here, he keeps the detective's investigation into grisly child murders free of gimmickry and sensationalism, and he draws a genuine performance from Nicholson (who doesn't just trot out his "Jack" persona). The only lack of economy in the story is the years-long time span, which drags things out and doesn't seem necessary.

MELISSA MOSELEY/SMPSP

O Brother, Where Art Thou? ★★★½
There's a whole lotta fun in this Coen-brothers-filtered blend of Homer's *The Odyssey*, on which it's loosely based, and Preston Sturges' 1941 road movie *Sullivan's Travels* (*O Brother...* is the name of the serious movie a comedy filmmaker yearns to direct in that story). George Clooney, John Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson are terrific as three chain-gang escapees who go through their own odyssey in the Depression-era South, encountering a Robert Johnson-like bluesman (Chris Thomas King), a one-eyed salesman (John Goodman), Baby Face Nelson (Michael Badalucco) and Clooney's character's ex-wife (Holly Hunter), who's about to remarry. This is all visually and emotionally askew in the best Coen Brothers tradition of *Blood Simple*, *Fargo* and *The Big Lebowski*, with great use of period music. The best American holiday release.

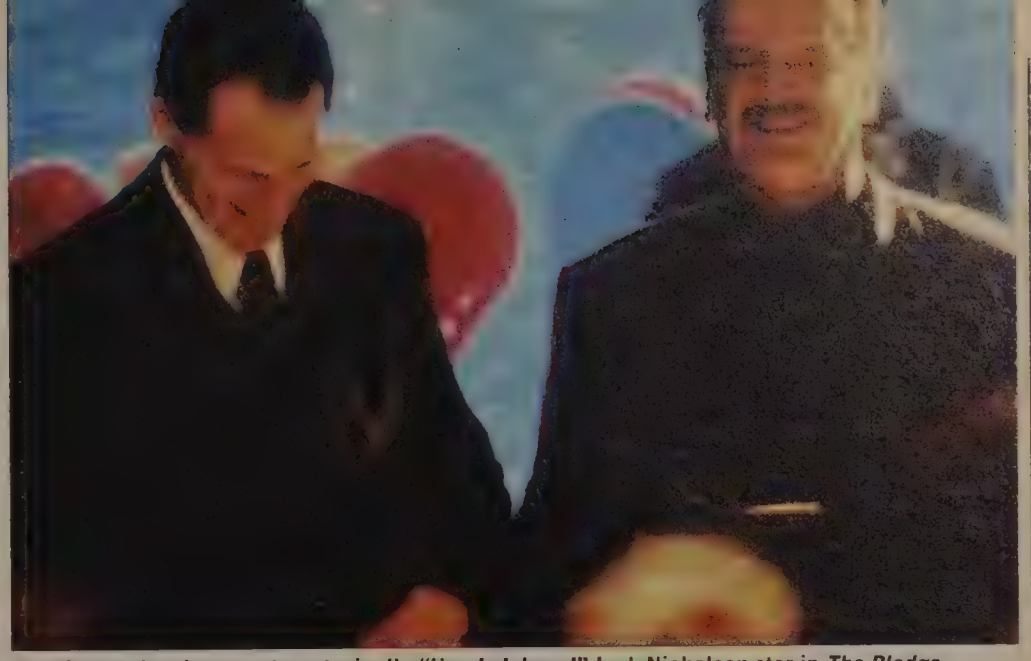
The Shadow of the Vampire ★★½
This fictionalized look at the making of the classic silent vampire film, *Nosferatu*, has an interesting exploration of the extreme lengths some people will go to create art, some amusingly dark comedy and intense performances from John Malkovich and especially Willem Dafoe. But it also takes a ridiculous amount of creative license, its fiction offering the notion that German director F.W. Murnau (Malkovich) casts a real vampire (Dafoe) in the film, without telling anyone else. What did the great Murnau (who later made *Sunrise*, the most lyrical of all silent movies) do to deserve to be portrayed as a lunatic who might gladly put his cast and crew's lives in danger? (Why not just make a movie about the making of *Saving Private Ryan* in which Steven Spielberg forces his cast to use live ammunition?) The movie's execution is entertaining, its concept reckless and disturbing.

Snatch ★½
Life is a whole lot cheaper than the price of your ticket in the latest from English writer-director Guy Ritchie. Like many other filmmakers, such as Ed Burns or Robert Rodriguez, Ritchie's second movie is just a bigger remake of his first. But *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, with its self-conscious glibness and smugly comic violence, wasn't very good to begin with. So *Snatch* is just a waste, as groups of criminal Cockneys, Blacks, Jews, Gypsies and Russians all scratch and claw each other in a story concerning a stolen diamond and unlicensed boxing matches. Like last fall's *The Way of the Gun*, this is like something out of 1995.

State and Main ★★★
David Mamet's making-of-a-movie comedy has an interesting twist, finding its absurdity in the movie's preproduction phase, before the camera even rolls. The cast and crew of a Hollywood production—including a self-centered director (William H. Macy), jailbait-chasing leading man (Alec Baldwin), flaky leading lady (Sarah Jessica Parker) and naive screenwriter (Philip Seymour Hoffman)—descend on a small Vermont town and proceed to almost derail the film over and over. The leading man can't keep it in his pants, the leading lady says she won't do her nude scene, the writer quits or gets fired about twice every day. Mamet keeps things moving and his dialogue zings, but he almost throws it all away in a weak ending that unconvincingly glosses over the crux of the plot—the screenwriter's moral dilemmas.

Thirteen Days ★★★
The 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis unfurls tensely, and with a few more wrinkles than most of us realized, in the reteaming of *No Way Out* director Roger Donaldson and star Kevin Costner. Costner plays Kenny O'Donnell, our window into the Kennedy Oval Office during the crisis. As this trusted adviser, Costner is in the background much of the time, which is perfectly fine, since Bruce Greenwood and Steven Culp are super as, respectively, Jack and Bobby Kennedy. Costner's overdone Bah-ston accent nearly spoils it all.

Traffic ★★★
Director Steven Soderbergh (*Out of Sight*, *Erin Brockovich*) gives us another accessible yet idiosyncratic movie. This one has a lot of characters, locations and drugs in it: the new U.S. drug czar (Michael Douglas), the teen daughter (Erika Christensen) he doesn't know is an addict, a Tijuana cop (Benicio Del Toro), two DEA field agents (Don Cheadle, Luis Guzman) and the suburban wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones) of a drug lord, just to name a few. Through their sometimes-overlapping stories, the movie offers an effective indictment of the war on drugs; as portrayed, it's more concerned about politics and power than people. The message works because of the movie's visual scruffiness and because it doesn't villify those fighting the war, freeing *Traffic* of most movies' cartoonishness.


Sam Shepard and a non-stereotypically-"Here's Johnny!" Jack Nicholson star in *The Pledge*.

Alternatives & Revivals

Boston Public Library
James Cagney on Film: Part 2
•Feb. 5, 6pm **Mister Roberts** *1955*. Cagney, captain of of World War II ship, and his crew must find their own amusement as they travel far from the action.
•Feb. 12, 6pm **Love Me or Leave Me** *1955*. An Chicago mobster manipulates a budding actress into performing in Broadway and Hollywood.

Brattle Theater
Most shows are $7, including double features.
Mondays: British New Wave
•Feb. 5, 7:30pm **Gregory Girl** *1966*. A simple girl is pursued by a voracious millionaire eager to make her his mistress. Directed by Bill Forsyth.
•Feb. 5, 5:15 and 9:30 **Alfie** *1966*. The lurid Don Juan, played by Michael Cane, recounts his exploits made while in London. Directed by Lewis Gilbert.
•Feb. 12, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45pm **Blow Up** *1966*. Set in the swinging '60s, a London photographer is convinced he's witnessed a murder.
Tuesdays: Celluloid Passport
•Feb. 6, 4:30 and 8pm **Johanna D'arc of Mongolia** *1989*. Women traveling in a train are abducted by a group of Mongolian horsewomen and enter a world of shamans, wild horses and Buddhist priests.
•Feb. 13, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45pm **Testamento** *1997*. The unexpected death of the richest man on an island opens up a can of worms as his bedroom affairs are exposed.
Wednesdays: Recent Raves
•Jan. 31, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:45pm **Riffifi** *1955*. Straight out of the jailhouse, Jean Servais takes part in a jewelry store heist.
•Feb. 7, 7:30pm **Barenaked in America** *1999*. Television heartthrob Jason Priestly dives behind the camera as he directs the documentary of this wild Canadian band.





Philip Seymour Hoffman, Rebecca Pidgeon and a familiar-looking train in *State and Main.*

•Feb. 7, 5:15 and 9:45pm **This Is Spinal Tap** *1984.* It's back again—the hilarious rock-mock-umentary "glorifying" the superstar British band on their last leg of an American tour.

Thursdays: Special K's

•Feb. 1, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:40pm **Red** *1994.* The final episode of director Kieslowski's tri-colored trilogy tells the story of how a beautiful model and a judge become involved with each other.

•Feb. 8, 4:30 and 8pm **Andrei Rublev** *1966.* The life of a 15th-century Russian monk and icon painter demonstrates the inherent conflicts between art and religion.

Fridays and Saturdays: Special Engagements

•Feb. 2 and 3, 5:30 and 7:30pm (1:30 and 3:30pm matinees) **The Seventh Seal** *1956.* When returning from the Crusades, a knight and his squire encounter the grim reaper, who challenges them to a game of chess. Directed by Ingmar Bergman. Also showing at 9:30pm: **Waiting for Guffman** *1997.* The citizens of Blaine, Missouri, decide to put on a musical to celebrate the town's 150th anniversary. A Christopher Guest classic.

Boston Film and Faith Festival

•Feb. 9, 3pm **Why Did Bodhi-Dharma Leave for the East?** *1989.* The highly visual film about Zen Buddhism incorporates stunning scenes and sparse meditative dialogue. Also showing at 8pm: **Breaking the Waves** *1996.* Director Lars von Trier's powerful film examines those who attempt to achieve purity of the soul through utter degradation.

•Feb. 10, 1 pm **Prelude to Kosovo** (with a dialogue session to follow). Also showing, 3:30pm: **Ordet** *1955.* The breathtaking exploration of faith and religion is set in the austere lands of Denmark. •Also showing, 8pm: **Bringing Out the Dead** *1999.* Martin Scorsese directs Nicolas Cage and Patricia Arquette in the story of a burnt-out ambulance driver and his spiritual search.

Brattle Faves

•Feb. 4, 3 and 7:30pm **Breakfast at Tiffany's** *1961.* Audrey Hepburn takes Manhattan by storm in this classic tale. Also showing, 1, 5:20 and 9:45pm: **Written on the Wind** *1956.* The lives of the super-rich draw to the edge because of a series of lies, alcohol and alienation.

•Feb. 11, 3:30 and 7:30pm **Lady from Shanghai** *1948.* Orson Welles' greatest film noir features femme fatale Rita Hayworth. Also showing, 1:30, 5:30 and 9:30pm: **The Third Man** *1949.* Carol Reed directs this story of an American pulp-fiction writer investigates the mysterious death of his old friend.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Bloodsucking Gore

Through Feb. 9 **Shadow of the Vampire** *2000.* An overzealous director (John Malkovich) casts a real vampire in his horror film that slowly continues his bloodsucking ways at the expense of the camera crew.

Eastern Romance

Now playing: **In the Mood for Love** *2000.* Two neighbors slowly fall in love with each other despite being married.

Peep Show!

Feb. 1 and Feb. 2, 7:30pm. Director Carol Queen presents how men confess sexual secrets to scantily clad women in little glass booths.

Sexy Chic: The Films of Radley Metzger

Feb. 9 and 10, 12am **Score** *1972.* Director Radley Metzger appears in person to show his film about a swinging married couple bent on seducing a pair of naive newlyweds.

Swordmasters of Hong Kong

•Feb. 2 and 3, 12am **The New Legend of Shaolin** *1994.* A wandering spearsman and his son protect a group of young Shaolin students who hold a map to a valuable temple treasure.

•Feb. 9 and 10, 12am **Swordsman 2** *1991.* Blademaster Jet Li sets out to fight a powerful transgendered sorcerer/ress and find the sacred scrolls.

Westerns Ho!

•Feb. 12, 7:30pm **Cat Ballou** *1965.* A schoolteacher seeks vengeance for her father's death.

Harvard Film Archive

Feb. 1, 7pm **Faithless** *2000.* Director Liv Ullman creates an autobiographical story of passion and infidelity that is a timeless meditation on relationships between women, men, art and love.

Close Encounters

•Feb. 22, 7 pm **The Tarnished Angels** *1958.* An adaptation of Faulkner's Pylon, Douglas Sirk delves into the intricate layers of interpersonal relationships.

Hal Hartley: The Last Auteur

•Feb. 2, 7pm **Trust** *1991.* Two unlikely characters, a ditzy Long Island high school student who is pregnant and a chain-smoking computer technician who lives with an obsessive-compulsive father, meet and fall in love. •Also showing 9pm **Amateur** *1994.* The illicit sex and drug underworld of lower Manhattan provides the backdrop for this poignant film.

•Feb. 3, 7pm **Alternative Works by Hal Hartley** Director Hal Hartley appears in person to screen and discuss several of his current films and to present his new ghost-story psychodrama, *Kimono.*

•Feb. 4, 7pm **Simple Men** *1992.* Two brothers set out to find their missing father. Their journey takes them through the quaint Long Island towns and across some very unlikely characters. •Also showing, 9pm: **Flirt** *1995.* Hartley tells the tale of misdirected love in three differing locations through separate characters.

Masters of Animation

•Jan. 31, 8pm **Surrealist Shots of Jan Lenica.** Lenica's graphic style characteristically favors thick outlines and heavily stylized design cutout figures and collage—all set to simply choreographed movement.

•Feb. 10, 7 pm **An Evening with Composer Normand Roger.** The Oscar-winning composer extols the artistic characteristic s of composing for animation.

The Boston Trilogy of Jan Engleson

•Feb. 8, 7pm **Billy in the Lowlands** *1979.* A classic tale of a young man's encounters with the law. After breaking out of reform school, a boy sets out to find his long lost father and to make a place for himself in the world.

•Feb. 9, 7pm **The Dark End of the Street** *1981.* A white teenage couple witness a black youth falling off a roof. This opens the door for debate about race and working-class concerns. •Also showing 9pm **The Tender Age** *1984.* The last film of Engleson's trilogy depicts Boston street kids.

Theater into Film

•Feb. 18, 7pm and Feb. 21, 9pm **Mournful Indifference** *1987.* An adaptation of Shaw's *Heartbreak House.* The film focuses on the senselessness of war and the consequences of individualistic ideology.

•Feb. 11, 7 pm **The Doctor's Dilemma** *1958.* A lung specialist must choose between saving the lives of a poor physician or an artist whose wife has stolen his heart.

Seance Screenings

•Feb. 5, 7pm and Feb. 7, 8pm **The Last Command** *1928* The story of a Czarist general who arrives in Hollywood after his defeat in the Russian revolution.

Film in the Third Reich

•Feb. 5, 9pm **Triumph of the Will** *1936.* The controversial film approved by Hitler proved to be a case study of cinema as propaganda.

•Feb. 6, 9 pm **The Blue Light** *1932.* A film that emphasizes the German mystical union with nature to such a degree that it encouraged Hitler to recruit the director as the official Nazi film director.

•Feb. 12, 7pm **Olympia Part 1** *1938.* The filming of the 1936 Berlin Olympics believed by some to promote the Nazi views of Aryan perfection. Also showing: 9pm **Olympia Part 2** *1938.* The second part of the Olympia series.

Frames of Mind

•Feb. 6, 7 pm **Hiroshima mon amour** *1959.* A French woman haunted by the her past and the War finds comfort with a Japanese man.

•Feb. 13, 7 pm **Berlin-Cinema** *1999.* The city of Berlin becomes the focus of the film, as an ongoing dialogue between architecture and cinema continues.

•Feb. 13, 9pm and Feb 14, 7 pm **A Trick of the Light** *1995.* Wim Wenders (*Wings of Desire*) captures the story of the pioneers of cinema.

Museum of Fine Arts

African Film Festival

•Feb. 2, 6:30pm **Four Shorts** *1992-1999.* Four different films deal with issues of sexuality, modernity and family life. Also showing: 8pm **Bye-Bye Africa** *1998.* A Chadian film director returns home to see how western film has reshaped the place he calls home.

•Feb. 3, 2pm **Barbecue-Pejo** *1999.* A destitute Beninoise taxi driver takes his broken jalopy, a 504 Peugot, and converts it into a flour mill, beginning his comic struggle. Also showing: 3:45pm **Aristotle's Plot** *1996.* A cinema-phile, sick of Western movies taking over African cinema, takes matters into his own hands.

•Feb. 9, 6pm **Chikin Biznis** *1998.* A South African man leaves the Johannesburg Stock Exchange to try his luck at raising chickens.



Buster Keaton's *Steamboat Bill Jr.* plays Feb. 4.

Preview

Scary Movie

The Alloy Orchestra scores *Nosferatu*

The Alloy Orchestra, silent-film accompanists extraordinaire, are at it again—on Feb. 4 they return to the Somerville Theatre to lend their vocal accompaniment to three silent films. At 7pm, the orchestra premieres its new score for F.W. Murneau's classic *Nosferatu—A Symphony of Horror* (1922), a super-creepy silent vampire film. Afterward, the group sets Jane Gillooly's new short film *Dragonflied, the Baby Cries* to life with melodies. And back by popular demand is a screening of last year's hit *Steamboat Bill Jr.*, which shows at 2pm. It's classic Buster Keaton—he is a whacky son of a steamboat captain who tries his best to make it through the day without a major mishap. *The Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (876-4275). $15.*

The Art of Film Titles

•Feb. 8, 8:15pm **Titles Then** *2000.* Twenty title scenes from movies such as *Dr. Strangelove, Vertigo* and *Barbarella* will be shown and their artistic qualities discussed.

•Feb. 9, 8pm **Titles Now** *2000.* This is the second part of the series, where modern film titles including *Seven, Malcom X* and *Casino* are featured and discussed.

Other Film Offerings

•Feb. 3, 12:15pm; Feb. 10, 3:30pm **Beautiful Mother** *1999.* An eccentric bunch of characters contribute to this madcap melee of misplaced passion.

•Feb. 10, 3:30pm **Under the Sun** *2000.* Set in the Swedish countryside, a woman mysteriously appears in a rural town.

Boston Film Artists Present

•Feb. 1, 6pm **Lowell Blues: the Words of Jack Kerouac** *2000.* A video poem recounting Kerouac's experience growing up in Lowell in the '30s. Also showing: 7:45pm **The Same Side of Rejection Street** *2000.* In the course of a day, two misfits meet and find comfort in each other's company.

•Feb. 3, 11am **Ennis' Gift: A Film About Learning Differences** *2000.* An inspirational documentary in memory of Ennis William Cosby that presents those who have overcome their learning difficulties.

•Feb. 10, 10:30am **Iditarod...A Far Distant Place** *2000.* An inspiring film about the limits of human and animal endurance in the arctic netherworld. Also showing: 2pm **Killing Us Softly III: Advertising's Image of Women** *2000.* Media critic Jean Kilborne presents and discusses her current film which extols the negative messages that modern media convey to women.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
Trapelo Rd. (484-1706). Red Line to Harvard.

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Nickelodeon
606 Comm. Ave. (424-1500). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford St.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Sq. (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Sq.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). B Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Barnes & Noble Events
180 Boylston St. (Rt. 9) Chestnut Hill (965-0995). 7pm. Local author **Dennis Lehane** (*Darkness, Take My Hand* and *Gone, Baby, Gone*) reads from his new psychological thriller, *Mystic River*.

Borders Bookshop Reading Series
The Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (630-1120). 7pm. Start the year off right by eliminating procrastination in your life. Psychologist **Karen Peterson** discusses the pitfalls of procrastination as she reads from her book, *The Tomorrow Trap*.

Borders Bookshop Reading Series
85 Worchester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. Enter the world of Victorian America through the eyes of author **Julia Markus**, as she reads from her book *Across an Untried Sea: Discovering Lives Hidden in the Shadow of Convention and Time*.

Boston Public Library Author Event
Jamaica Plain Branch Library, 12 Sedgwick St., Jamaica Plain (723-3716). 6pm. Chilean poet **Marjorie Agosin** reads from her bilingual book of poems, *Rain in the Desert*. Writers are encouraged to bring a poem-in-progress to read during the event.

Cambridge Forum Series
3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. Poet **Mark Doty** discusses *Still Life with Oysters and Lemon*, which examines the relationship humans have with objects.

Wordsworth Books Author Event
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. This psychological tale of abduction, humiliation and breakdown, set in Amsterdam, is brought to life in **Rupert Thomson**'s *The Book of Revelation*. He will sign copies of his book after the reading.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (739-6002). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. In *Time's Fool*, poet **Glyn Maxwell** revisits the dilemma of Wagner's *Flying Dutchman*—a man condemned to eternal youth while watching the world grow older. This time, the subject is trapped on a train in the body of a 17-year-old.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. Boston author **Wayne Wilson** reads from his novel, *Eddie & Bella*, a comedic tale of a couple falling in love while on the road.

Saturday, Feb. 3

Cambridge Poetry Awards Voting Event and Nominee Showcase, Part One
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789, ext. 9226). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $5. Previously nominated poets will read their poetry to the audience, who will vote to determine the finalists for a follow-up event as part of the CCAE Poetry Festival on March 11.

Sunday, Feb. 4

Cambridge Poetry Awards Voting Event and Nominee Showcase, Part Two
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789, ext. 9226). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3-5pm. $5. Previously nominated poets will continue to read their poetry.

Monday, Feb. 5

Annual Valentine's Reading
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (349-4040). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. In this open format event, participants are encouraged to bring their own love poems or choose an erotic favorite.

Wordsworth Books Author Event
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Gary Giddins** chronicles the life of an American icon in his book, *Bing Crosby: A Pocketful of Dreams, the Early Years, 1903-1940*.



Alexandra du Suze stops by the Cantab Lounge Feb. 6 to read from her novel, *Single What Female*.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7pm. Acclaimed author **Anita Shreve** reads from her latest novel, *Fortune's Rocks*. It's the story of a teenage daughter of a Boston Brahmin family who tests the limits of her cloistered 1890s world.

Cantab Lounge Literary Evening
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. **Alexandra du Suze** reads from her novel, *Single What Female*. The event is hosted by local authors Timothy Gager, John Bailey and Kristin Shoemaker.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. Join two Japanese-American authors as they read from their most recent novels. **Mako Yoshikawa** speaks about *One Hundred & One Ways* and **Kyoko Mori** takes us through her *Stone Field, True Arrow*.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (739-6002). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. With his masterful storytelling ability, **Lloyd Schwartz** reads poems about everything from the love for one's mother to the comedy of the English language. The poems come from his book, *Cairo Traffic*.

Cambridge Forum
3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. In *The American Dream and Public Schools*, **Dr. Jennifer Hochschild** looks at the role racism plays in our educational system. She'll discuss topics found in his book tonight.

Harvard Bookstore Author Series
Arthur M. Sackler Auditorium, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. In an intimate tour of the world around us, **James Elkins** brings both everyday and exotic objects into striking focus with his book, *How to Use Your Eyes*.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). 7:30pm. As part of the Writers and Poets Series, **Fred Marchant** and **Deborah DeNicola** are on hand to read and discuss their respective works.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. Discover the intricate history of the flu with *New Times* science reporter **Gina Kolata** as she reads from her non-fiction work, *Flu: The Story of the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918 and the Search for the Virus that Caused It*.

Monday, Feb. 12

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (739-6002). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Through two short stories, **Rick Moody** follows the narrator as he ruminates over his dead sister. His stories come from his latest book, *Demonology*.

Wordsworth Books Author Event
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Need a little romance in your life? Join author **Janice Levine** as she reads from her book, *Why Do Fools Fall in Love?: Experiencing the Magic, Mystery and Meaning of Successful Relationships*.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Harvard Bookstore Author Series
Harvard Info Center in the Holyoke Center., 1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. In *Cold War 3.0: Microsoft and Its Enemies*, author **Ken Auletta** documents the most important anti-trust trial in modern history.

Newton Free Library Poetry Reading
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7pm. This event showcases three acclaimed and diverse poets. Psychiatrist **Connie Donovan** reads from her book of poetry, *Icarus*. Local poet **Jeanette Winthrop** writes about growing up near the T in her poem, "Roxbury Crossing." Also speaking is poet **Francis Blessington**, who reads from *Wolf Howl*.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. In his latest novel, *Everyday People*, **Stewart O' Nan** explores the lives of several members of an African-American community in Pittsburgh during one fateful week in 1998.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open mike and a slam.

Club Passim, Tuesdays
47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $5. All open-mike fanatics must experience this open-mike night—a training ground for up-and-coming poets. Sign up Tuesdays, 7:30pm.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night, Saturdays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $3. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers.

Stone Soup Poets Workshop
Zeitgeist Gallery, 312 Broadway, Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Centarl. 6-8pm. $60. Ten people are invited to attend this four-week course (Fridays, Feb. 5, 12, 19 and 26) taught by an experienced staff. To sign up contact them via e-mail at *stonesouppoets@aol.com*.

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CLASSES/LECTURES

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Objects and Intimacy
Cambridge Forum at the First Parish, 3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). www.cambridgeforum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. Free.* Poet **Mark Doty** examines our relationship with ordinary objects. How do things become meaningful for human beings?

Thursday, Feb. 1

Remembering the Black Civil War Soldier
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). 7pm. Free. This evening salutes the Massachusetts 54th Regiment and African-American military service. Participants include Mass. state representative **Byron Rushing**; award-winning poet **Patricia Smith**; **David Blight**, author of *Race and Reunion: The Civil War and American Memory*; and **Carl Cruz**, descendant of Sgt. William H. Carney, the first African American to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Take the Test: What's Your Compatibility?
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Boston (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 7-8:30pm. $5. Personal coach **Susan Blake** gives you the tools to evaluate your relationship.

Friday, Feb. 2

Economics for Human Well-Being: Advancing a People's Agenda
Boston Research Center for the 21st Century, 396 Harvard St., Cambridge (491-1090). www.brc21.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 2-3. $15-$25.* This seminar's goal is to inform and inspire activists and scholars interested in re-envisioning a global justice movement post-Seattle. Participants include **Walden Bello**, **Jia Ching Chen**, **Tim Costello**, **Russ Davis**, **Charles Derber**, **Kim Freeman**, **Naomi Klein** and **Mike Prokosch**.

Ecopsychology: Health Care Theory and Practice in the Larger Context
The Center for Psychology and Social Change, Central Street Hospital, Somerville (497-1553). www.cpschange.org *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fridays, 2-5pm. Feb. 2-April 27. $550.* Doctors **Sarah** and **Lane Conn** examine our culture's disconnection from the natural world.

Globalization and China: Challenging Cultural Boundaries
Tufts University, 128 Professors Row, Medford (627-3314). www.tilip.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Feb. 2-4. Free.* This international symposium is presented by the Tufts Institute for Leadership and International Perspective in China 2001 in association with Chuang's Group Hong Kong. The program includes Migration and Globalization; Global Culture; Politicization of Culture; Values and Progress; and Continuities and Contradictions in Modern Chinese Culture.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Business Casual... What Does It Mean?
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). 6:30-8:30pm. $27-$29. Fashion writer **Tina Cassidy** discusses how to walk the fine line between casual and slovenly.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

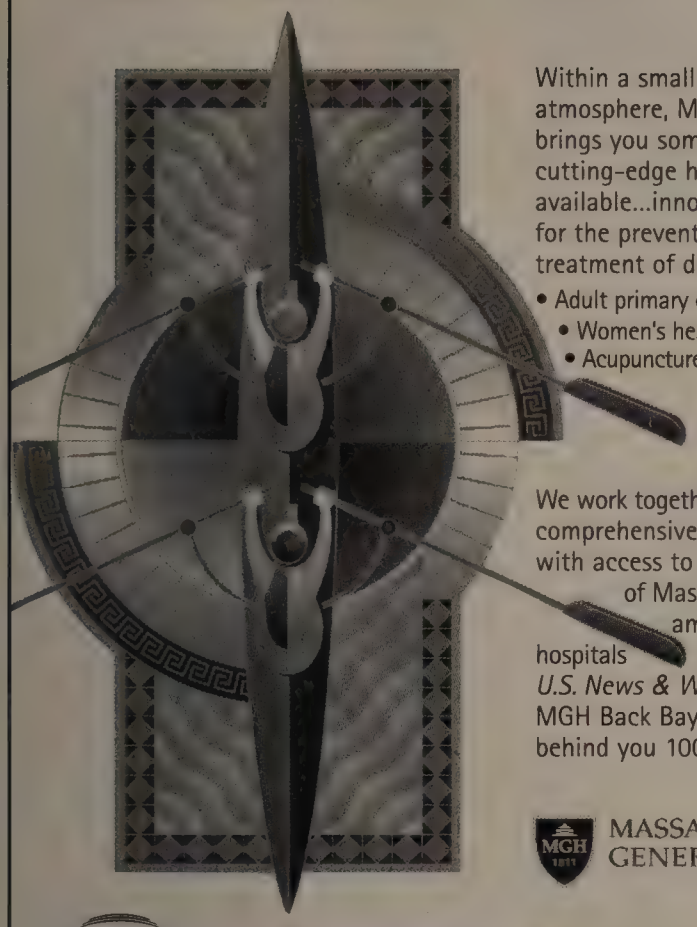
Baseball Town Meeting
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Boston (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 7:30pm. $5. Discuss the problems, pleasures and pitfalls of America's favorite pastime. The panel includes: **Bill Littlefield**, host of WBUR's *Only a Game* and author of *Champions: The Stories of 10 Remarkable Athletes*; **Tony Massarotti**, sports reporter for the *Boston Herald*; **Luke Salisbury**, author of *The Answer Is Baseball*; and **Glenn Stout**, author of *Red Sox Century: A Hundred Years of Red Sox Baseball*.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

The Future of Success
Ford Hall Forum, Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (373-5800). 6:30pm. Free. Former Secretary of Labor and political economist **Robert B. Reich** provides a compelling analysis of how the new economy and e-commerce are affecting our lives for better and for worse.

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dance clubs

Nights

Mondays

Ceremony
An Tua Nua. Pounding goth and industrial music shakes the house.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. Show tunes and Cabaret with Michael Larson and Dorthy Miller. 9pm-1am.

Language
Hibernia. This incredible drum-and-bass night is heated up with Cosmo. 8pm. 21+.

Monsta Monday
Bill's Bar. DJ Diecast kicks off the week. 9pm, $5. 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Irish pub offers best of hip-hop, jazz and reggae. 11pm, $2, 21+.

Sissy K's
The hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers hardhouse and U.K. progressive. Plus a drag/strip event with Mizery. 10pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo. Caesar and Giorgio throw a party for those who never want to stop dancin'. Dress slick. 10pm. No cover.

Tuesdays

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar. This off-the-hook night features DJ Chaos scratching out hip-hop. 10pm. $12, 18+.

Flaunt
Aria. Hip-hop and R&B with guest DJs. 19+, $10.

The Forum
Lava Bar. Join Mission Control and support local DJs as home-grown talents share the floor. 10pm. 21+.

Got Milk?
Venu. If you're chic you'll be at Venu for Milk—a devilishly hip party with DJ Osheen. Dress is funky. 21+.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a relaxed night out on a Tuesday. 6pm.

Lot 36
The Modern/Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin House for a trendy crowd. 10pm. $10. 19+.

Showtunes
Encore Lounge. Bobby Femino plays classic piano-bar show tunes. 9pm-1am.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Free Salsa lessons by Dan Marshall. 9-10pm, followed by dancing. 5pm-2am. No cover. 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange. Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble rocks along with a complimentary buffet. 8pm.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua. A weekly party/fund-raiser with DJs Skinny B and Ray, hosted by *What's Up Magazine*. $5, 19+.

Wednesdays

Backstage
DJ Jonny C. spins top-40 dance. 10pm, no cover. 21+.

College Night
The Aquarium. Guest DJs spin all sorts of tunes at this relatively new venue at 10pm.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays jazzy blues at the piano bar. 9pm.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar. DJ Tim Collins spins live funk, soul and hip-hop. •Feb 7: The New Deal with Plexus, presented by Maxx Haze. 9pm. $5, 18+.

Latin Night
Aquarium. This aquatic-themed club offers specialty drinks, loud music and dance lessons 9-10pm.

Mason
Hibernia. Mason in the Lounge , complete with funky breaks. 6pm.

New Music
The Druid. Mellow out with top U.S. and European acoustic acts. 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers a new mixture of guests spining everything from deep house to techno. 11pm. $5. 19+.

Pravda 116
Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix. 21+.

Rockout
Emily's. Rock trivia game show and live local bands. 8pm. $5. 21+.



Il panino turns into a social playground where young professionals can mingle and dance.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange. A night dedicated to those in the industry is hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White. 10-11pm is a champagne reception. 21+.

Sissy K's
The Financial District's hot spot has live music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40 and R&B upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Latin band on the first floor and. DJ Eddy K spins international music on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Wet U'R Wistle
The Kells. 94.5's Roy Barboza spins hip-hop. 10pm-2am, $5, 21+.

Thursdays

An Tua Nua
Top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul spun by DJ Ren Justice.

Aquarium
The Kiss 108 FM dance party. 10pm. $3.

Backstage
Tonight's adrenaline high features special-guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm, $5. 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans-themed nightspot has it all—even billiards. 9pm.

Charlie's Angels Night
Polly Esther's. Dance to '70s, '80s or '90s tunes. 8pm, $5.

Chrome
Axis. Resident DJs John Debo and Ali Ajami spin house and trance music. 10pm, $10. 19+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern. DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar. 9pm-2am, 21+.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin Lounge. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays great American, blues and jazz at the piano bar. 9pm-1am.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion House
Aria. Fashion shows and DJ Roger spinning house. It's also Greek Night in the Angel Room. $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116. DJ Maric spins tunes to relax you.

Heaven
Comedy Connection Backstage. Music by DJs Johnny C and Freddie C. Proper dress. 10pm. No cover.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange. DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B. 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia Thursdays
DJ Jeremy spins loopy, trippy, trip-hop. 6pm. •Food, downtempo, and jazzy beats. 9-10pm.

Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals. 9pm. 21+.

International Thursday
Avalon. A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy. You know it's time to get down when the Roxy breaks out its sexy Latin dance mixes. 10:30pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Located in the heart of groovy Central Square, this Irish pub presents drum 'n' bass night. 11pm. $5. 19+.

The Druid
Mr. Doug Nice plays trippy deep house. 10pm.

The Modern
International Thursdays features progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm. DJ Eddy K spins best of Latin on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10, 21+.

Speed
Karma. Resident DJs Bruno spin house to an edgy crowd. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Sugar Shack
Music from three decades pounds through the festival atmosphere here, where every day is Mardi-Gras.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

The List
Lava Bar. *Lavabar.com*. Verse/D bring you soul and funk. 10pm. 21+.

Underground
Bill's Bar. •Feb. 1: Virtuoso record release •Feb. 8: DJ Mark Hamilton showcases up-and-coming acts C60 and the Countess, 9pm, cover varies, 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spins to a huge college crowd. 19+.

Fridays

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hits and your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s.

Aquarium
DJ Lu spins today's hottest dance hits.

American Karma
Karma. All-star American top-40 remixes with DJ Tim Collins, live on STAR 93.7. 9pm, $8, 19+.

Avaland
Avalon. Everything about this place screams "Party!" With Ali Ajami. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40. 10pm, $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has some of the best mainstream DJs in town.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz. Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs pay homage to the house music gods. 11pm, $15. 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. John O'Neil and Jan Peters sing show-tunes, great American songbook and cabaret. 9pm.

Envy
This popular destination is filled with a mass of sweaty 'n' ready dancers. 9pm, $5 after 10pm. 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange. Brothers Tiziano and Maurizio deliver an onslaught of house upstairs. G-Squared spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B in the Vault. 9pm.

Focus at Hibernia
Cocktails with Alan Strack at 6pm and deep funky house by Shelter at 10pm, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy. International house featuring local, national and European DJs. 10:30pm. Proper dress and ID.

Hibernia
Alan Strack in the Lounge 6pm; disco, funk and deep house, DJ Doug Nice, 10pm.

Life
Lava Bar. Dance to a different drummer with DJ Fran Englehardt's deeply rooted, soulful rhythms. 10pm.

Mondo Bar
Roxy. International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Friday
Bill's Bar. Get in on the action with Guest DJs Flynn. 9pm, 18+.

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as J Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Revolution
The Modern. Find Latin and progressive Euro house here with DJ Eddie K. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Shake it up
Phoenix Landing. Shake what your mama gave you with DJ Ren Justice. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
This new hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor. DJ Mike C. plays Latin dance on second floor while DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge. 5pm. $10. 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis. Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. 10pm, $12. 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJs and specialty drinks, dancing 'til 2am.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Venu
The scene is elegant for this jacket-required international romp. Get on your Gucci as DJ Arsit spins. 21+.

Saturdays

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar. DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite with high-energy house and Latin beats. 10pm, 21+.

Aquarium
Saturday night dance party with DJs. •Feb. 3: Idiot Box performs. •Feb. 10: The Purge plays its tunes, 10pm, $5.

Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm. $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has live bands all weekend long. Does non-stop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.

Blues
Encore Lounge. Shake off your blues and listen to honky-tonk, classic and contemporary rock. Sit-ins welcome. 9:30pm-2am.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing. Disco fever hits Cambridge all night long with DJ Vinney. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern. DJ Shiuan Lee puts out funky house for a mix of international students, local scene setters and, of course, Boston's A-list. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Boston's newest Latin Night starting at 10pm. Dress to impress. $10.

Club Nicole
The mob is thick for this exclusive trend-setting night. DJ Alex spins Euro house. Proper dress. 21+.

Club Piteko
Fajitas & Ritas. DJ Piteko leads the party to "dance like no one is watching," specializing in Cape Verdean music. $7. 10:30pm. 21+.

Downtown
Avalon. Resident DJs Manolo and Mattie O. gyrate your arse with the latest hits. 10pm, $15. 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music. 9pm, $5.

Elements of Life
Karma. DJ Mario spins hard house while DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Rafii S. melts the tables upstairs with house and international tracks. In the vault, DJ G-Squared spins.

Hibernia Saturdays
Steve Porter whips the crowd into a frenzy with progressive house. 10pm. 21+.

Indulgence
Aria. DJ Raffi spins house and club top-40. In the Angel Room, DJ Roger spins Latin and Eurohaus. $10, 21+.

Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's. Get a taste of Miami nightlife. 9:30pm (ladies free before 11pm), $10. 21+. Ladies, 19+.

Mischief
The Modern. Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica. 21+.

Mythos
Venu. It's Greek International night with DJ Yorgo Jr. spinning the hits from the famous party islands.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario provides current dance jams.

Roxy Saturdays
High-energy house and dance by DJ Adilson. 9pm, proper dress. 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's. Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD. 8pm, $10. 21+.

Sissy K's
The hot spot has acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Smile
Bill's Bar. DJ Bruno takes over. 10pm. $12, 19+.

Sophia's
DJ Edwin Mathos spins Latin dance on second floor. Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm, DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Who's on First?
Some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin is hosted by Li'l Mike, 10:30pm, $12. 18+.

X Night
Axis. Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits. 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sundays

Backstage
Urban Night. T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school. Doors open at 10pm, $10. 21+.

Common People
An Tua Nua. Hear Brit-pop, new wave, indie and more with DJ Ren Justice. 9pm, $3. 19+.

Curve
Hannah's. Three DJs, one vibe. DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno. 10pm. $5. 21+.

Encore Lounge
Saddle up to the piano bar and listen to Michael Kreutz play showtunes and great American songbook.

Evening in the Velvet Lounge
Trio. Oscar's Sunday night has moved to this hot spot, where you can kick back and lounge. No cover, 10pm.

Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M. No cover, 21+.

Lava Bar
Pandora's Box (Club Courtesy). DJ Vinny and Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s Exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown. 10pm. 21+.

Living Room
Aria. DJ Raffi spins Euro-house. In the Angel Room, DJ Franklin spins Latin. $10, 21+. Proper dress.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116. Party in the front bar that is transformed into a comfortable lounge. 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar. DJ K-Don spins some of the best reggae around. 10pm. $10. 21+.

Salvation
An intimate night, courtesy of DJ Soul. $5.

Sex
The Exchange. Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.

Sissy's
U: DJ Dave Jordan plays top-40 and hip-hop tunes. D: Martini Bros., 4-8pm; Gregg Luttrell, 9pm-1am.

The Druid
May the luck of the Irish be with you as you listen to a Seisiun with Shay Walker and friends. 5pm.

Trance
Phoenix Landing. Get down with hip trance beats brought to you by DJ Blacksmith. 10:30pm. $5. 19+.

Venu
Carnival comes to Boston every Sunday as DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio to Venu. 21+.

JOIN IN AND DANCE

Club Joy
533 Washington Street, Boston (354-5780). Saturday nights. This Latin nightspot now offers classes: salsa, merengue, bachata and more.

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Mass. Ave., Arlington (924-7276). Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults, $4 teens. Join in the dancing to all types of music in this family-friendly and smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

English Country Dance
Park Avenue Congregational Church, Park Avenue at Paul Revere Road, Arlington (781-662-6710). Wednesdays, 7:30-10:30pm. $6 adults, $5 members, $3 students. Country dancing with the band Bare Necessities.

Four on the Floor and Just Swing It
Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •Saturdays, 9pm-1:30am, $12, $10 after 11:30pm. Here you'll find jazzy mambos, swing dancing, cheeky cha chas and sassy salsa numbers. *•Tuesdays, 10pm-1:30am. $6.* Salsa dancing featuring the Black Tie Affair Orchestra.

Israeli Dancing
Temple Israel of Boston, Longwood Avenue at Plymouth St., Boston (566-3960). MBTA: D Green line to Longwood. Dec. 17, 11am-12pm. $5. Learn the art of Israeli Dance under the instruction of Vladimir Foygelman.

Latin Night
Johnny D's, 17 Holland St., Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sundays, lessons 9pm, dancing 10pm. $8 lessons, $6 dancing. Stick around for live music by Gilberto Rivera and Rumba Na Ma after lessons.

New England Contras and Squares
VFW Hall, 688 Huron Ave., Cambridge (354-1340). Thursdays, 8-11pm. $5. Learn to square dance to live music, then do-si-do your partner with confidence.

Salsa Night
Karoun Restaurant, 839 Washington St., Newtonville (964-3400). Thursdays, 9:30pm-1am. $10. Dance to the rhythm of salsa, merengue, mambo and more. Free dance class from 8:30-9:30pm.

Scottish Country Dance
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (484-0950). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mondays, 7:45-10:15pm. $6 adults, $5 students. Dance like a true Scot after some fine lessons. And don't forget your kilt.

Singles Dance
Corner of Winslow and Prescott St., Arlington (781-721-1886). www.funfunfun.org. Feb 9, 8:30-12:30am. Singles in their 30's 40's and 50's welcome to this jam-packed event.

Tango Rialto
Rialto, Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street, Cambridge (661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thursdays, 10:30pm-1:30am. $10. One of Boston's most popular restaurants opens its doors to tango dancers of all levels and backgrounds.

Why Choose One?
Dance Caliente, 170 Washington St., Arlington (781-646-1233). Mon. and Tue. $25 for one course, $55 for a five-week course. Perfect your salsa, swing, tango and fox trot skills.

Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aquarium *65 Holland St., Somerville (623-3200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Comedy Connection *Faneuil Hall, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St. Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Fajitas & Ritas *25 West St., Boston (426-1222). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Oskar's *107 South St., Boston (542-6756). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (480-9489).*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*



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ELF POWER

Club d'Elf's revolving cast of genre-splicing virtuosos gets submolecular onstage and on disc. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Musicians gather in a circle around Mike Rivard's pulsing electric or acoustic bass. Erik Kerr lays down a wicked funk or jungle beat, drawing percussive contrasts from tabla ace Jerry Leake or Brahim Fribgane, who also plays the oud. Jere Faison floats disembodied voices from his sampling keyboard.

Guitar might be added by Reeves Gabrels, who long scorched the frets for David Bowie, or Mary Chapin Carpenter sideman Duke Levine. Other tantalizing sounds may enter the mix from electric violinist Mat Maneri, didjeridoo maverick Dr. Didg, jam-savvy colorist DJ Logic or groove-organ kingpin John Medeski. Often, the revolving cast is rounded out by horn players like Tom Hall or avant-garde patriarch Joe Maneri.

The best part is that a listener doesn't have to go to the experimental corners of Manhattan to catch such a communion. One needs only to visit the basement confines of Cambridge's Lizard Lounge, or listen to the new double CD *As Above*. That is where one enters the spellbinding world of Club d'Elf.



Mike Rivard (front) and Erik Kerr at the Lizard.

"This is the kind of thing I've been immersing myself into the last few years," says conductor Rivard, who composes dub/trance/world grooves in advance with drummer Kerr, but leaves plenty open to chance with improvising guests. "I listen to a lot of North African music, and try to delve into the mysteries of that, and listen to a lot of drum-and-bass and dub, and try to find the common elements."

"It's certainly more of a club than it is a band," says the session veteran, who made many virtuoso friends during his days with the Either/Orchestra, Natraj (a world-jazz group in which he still plays with Leake and Mat Maneri), Morphine side project the Hypnosonics, the Story and Paula Cole. "My main hope was that I could continue to play with all of the musicians who I really love playing with, and everybody's schedules are so crazy that I knew I could never really have a band that everyone could devote all their time to."

In early 1998, Rivard presented his concept to Lizard booker Billy Beard, and Club d'Elf was born, its name inspired by the ideas of neo-psychedelic author Terence McKenna. "It's more of a spirit or an energy," Rivard explains. "There is this elf thing, these little energy deities. When you get down to the submolecular level, they seem to be there grinning and spinning around and playing tricks with you."

As for his broad musical scope, Rivard cites his youth in Minnesota, when he tuned into everything from Led Zeppelin and the Grateful Dead to Return to Forever, Fela Kuti, James Brown, John Coltrane and the Art Ensemble of Chicago. Comedy is another inspiration, especially the writings of George Meyer, best known for his twisted jokes on *The Simpsons*.

"That's the beauty of comedy, where you're set up for one expectation, then suddenly, something else comes along, and it throws the brain into this momentary state of imbalance," Rivard says. "What we do with Club d'Elf is any one song can have a number of layers of rhythm. It can be interpreted one way or another. We might play an electronica-like Fatboy Slim kinda thing, and underneath it, there's this Moroccan 6/8 that's boiling and waiting to rise up. Suddenly it comes up, and I can only venture what it means for the listener."

Such percolating punchlines are shaped by Rivard's signals, often to isolate two musicians in simpatico dialogue around his anchoring bass (which he sometimes alters through loops or string-muting alligator clips). "I really think of myself more as a DJ than anything," he says. "I'm trying to listen to what each person's doing, and focus on different elements, like I'm playing with faders on a mixing console."

Rivard took that concept to another level on *As Above*, the sublime CD debut of Club d'Elf, recorded live at the Lizard over six nights, weaving 19 musicians in and out of the mix. From hypnotic ambient jams to rocking jazz-fusion that evokes '70s Miles Davis (taken up a notch when Gabrels and the Maneris cross flight-paths), the CDs dispense a heady earful usually reserved for those who descend into the lair of the Lizard.

"Having done this for three years now, I have a pretty good idea of what combinations of people work well together," says Rivard, who next convenes Club d'Elf Feb. 8 and 22 (the latter date with Medeski, Logic and the Maneris set to join in). "It's been like a laboratory. We have an audience that continues to come out, and grows with the music, and seems to enjoy us as far as we go and as many risks as we take." iB

Club d'Elf

Play the Lizard Lounge Feb. 8 and 22.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billling

Bo Diddley, the Debbie Hastings Band and Walk That Walk
Feb. 3, Harper's Ferry

Everlast and Dexter Freebish
Feb. 12, Avalon

Face to Face, H2O, No Motiv, Snapcase
Feb. 11, Avalon

Buddy Guy
Feb. 8, Roxy

Ben Harper
Feb. 1, Orpheum Theatre

Jennifer Knapp
Feb. 3, Hynes Convention Center

Kevin Mahogany
Feb. 8, Sculler's

Lunasa
Feb. 3, Somerville Theater

Point of Grace
Feb. 2, Hynes Convention Center

Jill Scott
Feb. 4, Avalon

Sno-Core Rock Tour featuring Fear Factory, Kittie, Slaves on Dope, Union Underground and Boy Hits Car
Feb. 9, the Palladium

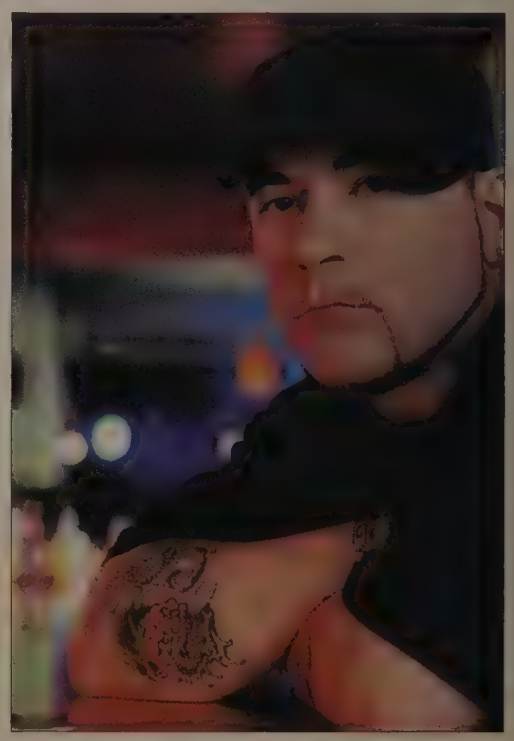
Super Diamond
Feb. 8, Axis

Stereophonics
Feb. 8, Paradise

Rock, Jazz and Blues

Wednesday, Jan. 31

The Attic View from Here and Nom de Plume, 8:30pm, 21+.
The Barking Crab Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6:30pm.
Bill's Bar Funk & Groove with DJ Tim Collins, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Jim Rader CD-release show with Jonathan Poiner and Nini Camps, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, 11pm.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm, no cover.
House of Blues The James Montgomery Band and special guests, 9pm.
Johnny D's Dreadnaught.
Kirkland Cafe After This, Babyface and Solomon. $5.
Linwood Boston Unplugged open-mike, no cover.



Everlast gives a show at Avalon Feb. 12.

CLUB D'ELF: PAUL ROBICHEAU

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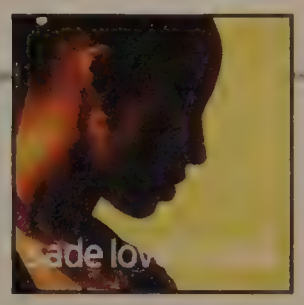
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HMV RECORD STORES
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Lilli's The High-Steppin' Nickel Kids and Bradshaw, $6.
Middle East U: Little Horse, the Breadman, $6, 18+. D: Open-call night for new talent. Bring in your demo to submit. Also featuring music by Blanket Party, Madhadda, 8pm, $8, 18+. C: Evan Harlan Trio, 7pm; Belly Dancing, 10pm, no cover.
Midway Cafe Antara and guests.
Milky Way Mercury Lounge: soul, funk and house, 9pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Hegarty, 8pm; Boston Folk and Traditional Singers Club, 9pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill McCarthy's Finger.
Rack Search Party, no cover.
Regattabar The Fringe with Mike Mainieri, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers The Either Orchestra 15th anniversary bash featuring Tom Halter, Colin Fisher, Jeremy Udden, Joel Yennior, Russ Gershon, Charlie Kohlhase, Greg Burk, Rick McLaughlin, Harvey Wirht and Vicente Lebron, 8 and 10pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille Newage, 5pm.
Sky Bar Madison, Laura Clapp and Katie B., 9pm, $5, 21+.
Times Bar and Restaurant Slo Burn Trio, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Raymond, the 520's and Zoux, $4.
Les Zygomates Jim Dower, 8pm, no cover.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Big Easy Bar Bob's Day Off CD-release party with Something Ira and Bi Janus.
Bill's Bar Virtuoso record release party with Vinnie Paz, K.T. and Army of the Pharoahs, 9pm, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Liam Maloney, 7pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Eric Andersen, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Lounge Night, 11pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort The Jennerators, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, no cover.
Green Street Grill Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry One Flew East with Colonel Mustard, 9:30pm, $5.
Johnny D's Ashley MacIsaac and Kilt, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Nimmer, Frank Barter, Ethan Daniel Davidson, Blue Tree Project, 8pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Offramp, Flyzone and Embollism, $5.
Lilli's 16 Horsepower, Wooden Leg and Jabe, 8:30pm, $12, 21+.
Middle East U: Inhale Mary (final show) and Say Hi to Lisa, $7, 18+. D: Black Moon, Afu-Ra and Apathy, 18+. C: Willie Bernstein, 7pm, no cover.
Milky Way Willie Alexander and the Persistance of Memory Orchestra with David Amram, 8pm, $4; Vic Firecracker, Vanity Press, Hourglass Lake and All the Time, 10pm, $7.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
The Rack Catunes, no cover.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Everlast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Scullers Phil Woods Quintet featuring Brian Lynch, Bill Charlap, Steve Gilmore and Bill Goodwin, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille Izzra Zoen, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Lake Boone (ex-members of Glenecho), Nemo Chrome and Lustre, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Chernetsky, Chizh and Raznye Lyudi, $25.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm, no cover.

Friday, Feb. 2

The Attic Rippopotamus with Rane, 21+.
Bill's Bar Mappari with Sol Patch CD-release show, 9pm, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Big Toe, 9pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Modern Man, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Lovewhip, 11pm.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm; Pour Boys, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Grant Langford, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Mike Shea, no cover.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry James Montgomery Band with Wolfman & Tink, 9:30pm, $7.
House of Blues Another Planet, 10pm, $10, 21+.



The Dubnicks, dubious experts in the field, release *How To Be Cool* at the Middle East Feb. 15.

Preview

Beautiful Losers

The dweeb pop of the Dubnicks

When auditions for *Revenge of the Nerds* were held back in the mid-'80s, Phil Dubnick was too young to try out. In fact, at the time, he probably hadn't even begun to blossom into the flower of geekiness that has become the distinguishing visual trademark of the Dubnicks. But the stories and subject matter found in his lyrics imply that Phil's adolescent life was undoubtedly that of a teenage nerd. My girl has left me. I like this girl but I can't tell her. I'm in love. I'm unhappy. I'm masturbating while I watch *90210*. You've heard all this stuff before (well, most of it). But rather than give it the shoegazing indie treatment or the posturing, macho loud-rock workout that's so common these days, the Dubnicks turn these themes from overused cliches into familiar feelings. With catchy, upbeat melodies and enough power to keep the tunes from getting too sugary, the trio strikes a happy, healthy balance between rock and pop. New Dubnicks drummer Jason O'Neill has proven to be a top-notch addition, and long-time fans of the group will be excited to hear that bassist Wes Wingate is finally learning to sing!

The Dubnicks will proudly release their new CD, *How To Be Cool*, at the Middle East on Feb. 15, where they'll be joined by like-minded pop-punk locals Mission 120 and Drexel, as well as Favorite Atomic Hero and Touch It. Plus, they'll be selling the CD for $5, and you can't beat that deal. —*Andrew Graham*

Johnny D's Edable Gray and Hyptonic, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Todd Thibaud, Will Hawkins and Clare Burson, 8pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Tootsie, Porn, South 16 and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's The Troubadours, the Mayflies USA and Colonel Mustard, 8pm, $8, 21+.
Linwood Front Roayle, Lot 6 and Stock 7.
Middle East U: Cave In, Barbero and hello attack!, $8, 18+. D: Splashdown, Freeze Pop, One Plus One and Butterfield 8, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Soulwerk, 10pm, $7.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm; DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill John Erickson Duo, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Rack Central Basement, no cover.
Regattabar The Chiara Civello Quartet with Alain Mallet, John Lockwood and Jamey Haddad, 8pm and 10:30pm, $12.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Jazz Orchestra featuring Bari Saxophonist Nick Brignola, 9pm, $12.
Scullers Phil Woods Quintet, 8pm and 10:30pm, $20, 21+.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott, 6pm.
Sky Bar The Mike Barry Project, the Chris Canty Band, Slackjaw and the Mockingbirds, 9pm, $5, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Queers, the Independents, Dynamite Boy and Drexel, $8.
Les Zygomates Thomas Herb, 9pm, no cover.

Saturday, Feb. 3

The Attic Jack Light Move with Dr. Awkward, 21+.
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno, 10pm, $12, 19+.
Black Horse Tavern Bowman, 9pm, no cover.
Bull Run Restaurant Mark Fisher and Rod MacDonald, 8pm, $10.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Mother's Hope benefit with Barbara Kessler, Jan Luby, Rachel Bissex and special guests. 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Los Diablos, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Hipsocket, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Patrice Williamson, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Ricks, no cover.
Green Street Grill Latin Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Johnny D's Manguioto (formerly Mango Blue), 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Hellcountry, $6.
Kirkland Cafe Electric Humus and Psychedelic Conspiracy, $5.
Lilli's Danielle Champoux and Rose Polenzani, 8:30pm, 21+.
Linwood Ms. Pigeon, Scissorfight and Throttle, 11pm.
Middle East U: The Red Telephone CD-release party, Longwave, Meghan Toohey, Fooled by April and Longwave, $7, 18+. D: The Squad, Ulu and Topaz, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae with Blackstar International, Powersurge and Hurricane Sound.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm; DJ Brian, 9:30pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill McCarthy's Finger, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Rack DJ Vinny, no cover.
Regattabar Sol y Canto, 7:30 and 10pm, $14.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Scullers The Persuasions, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille John Kordleski, 6pm.
Sky Bar Lemonpeeler, the Kickbacks, the Scrimshanders and Amelia White Band, 9pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rocketscience, Paula Kelley, Big Toe and the Buckners $7.
Les Zygomates Jim Bridges, 10pm, no cover.

Sunday, Feb. 4

Avalon Jill Scott, 7pm, $25.25. 18+.
Bill's Bar Peppa Tr3e, 11:30pm, $10, 21+.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne and Tony O'Riordan.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Richard Cambridge's Poet's Theater presents Lord Buckley meets Homer,. 7:30 and 9pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald Gospel Group, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm.
House of Blues Roger Steffens presents The Life of Bob Marley, 9pm, $10.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Rhumba Nama, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Matt Jablow and The Gladstones, $5.
Middle East U: Massdasssuv da Univerz, Bliss, Inshight, Graymatter, Jizzunik, Dagha, 8pm, $5, 18+. D: Angelic Upstarts, Oxblood, Street Troopers and the Spitzz and the Relix, 8pm, $10, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reverie—a twice monthly gathering with DJs spinning ethereal, goth, industrial and darkwave music.

Monday, Feb. 5

Bill's Bar Diecast with guests, 9pm. $5. 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open-mike session, 8pm.
Club Passim The Danny Fox Quintet, 8pm, $6.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Michael Tarbox Duo, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Far From Blue, 10pm, $3.
Kendall Cafe The Splendid Nobodies, Henry Elsesser, 8:30pm, $4.
Middle East U: New Music Night: Katie Barbato, Greyshine, $6, 18+.
D: Stone Soup Poets, 7:30pm, $3.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 8pm. $5.

LIZ LINDER



Singer/songwriter Howie Day is in the midst of a national college tour. He plays Feb. 5 at Wentworth Institute of Technology, Feb. 6 at Becker College in Worcester and Feb. 7 at Assumption College.

Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet & Friends, 9:30pm, $5.
Kendall Cafe Tuesday Night Music Club, $6,
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnleiter Jazz Quartet. No cover.
Middle East U: BWR Presents: Six Going on Seven, Moods for Moderns, Fletcher Pratt, Runner and Thermo Dynamics $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mary Mary's All-Star karaoke, 9pm, $3.
Newbury Comics Dropkick Murphys release their new album *Sing Loud, Sing Proud*.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 8pm.
The Rack Stu Sinclair, no cover.
Regattabar Crosscurrent, 8:30pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille Laura Allan Band.
Sky Bar Bald Walter, Gel, Evan Goodrow Band, 9pm, 21+, $5.
T.T. the Bear's Place Green House and Smokefield Crush, $4.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

The Attic Naked Sams and Coppertree. 21+.
The Barking Crab Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6:30pm.
Bill's Bar The New Deal with Plexus.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Club Passim Kevin So and Steve Rapson, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground Mod Night with DJ Vin. What a Way to Go-Go, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Blues Food, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Stuffis, 9:30pm, $4.
Johnny D's Pierre Bensusan, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Say Zuzu, Pierce Woodward, Michael Merenda, 8:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Jonathon Donaldson and Tiger Method, $5.
Lilli's The Tardy, Mishima, Thalia Zedek, Freeda Rome, Laurel Kirtz and Dominica K (baton twirlers), 8pm, $7.
Linwood Boston Unplugged open-mike session, no cover.
Middle East U: Capitol City and Cowgirl Hangover, $6, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury Lounge: soul, funk and house, 9pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Hegarty, 8pm; Boston Traditional Folk Singers Club, 9pm.
The Rack Eddy's Shoe, no cover.
Regattabar The Cercie Miller Quintet with Tiger Okoshi, 8:30pm. $10.
Sidney's Grille New Age.
Sky Bar The Jack McCoys, Melvern Taylor and Eric Fontana, 9pm, $5, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place A Benefit For the Lance Armstrong Foundation, $10.
Les Zygomates Mark Greel, 8pm, no cover.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Bill's Bar C60 with the Countess in a Benefit for Volition.
Black Horse Tavern Dan and Nick, 7pm.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Michael Kelley and the Hot Blue Q, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Rod MacDonald, 8pm, $12, member $10.
Common Ground Lounge Night, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort The Jennerators, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & the Special Blend, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones & the Jump Crew, no cover.
Green Street Grill Latin Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Johnny Winter, Bernie Worrell & the Woo Warriors featuring Jen Durian with Ominous Sea Pods, 9:30pm, $12.
Kendall Cafe North Dakota, Amy Correia, Katie Terrio, 9pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Dead City Rockers and Den of Thieves, $5.
Lilli's Sara Harmer, 8pm, $10.
Linwood Nikulydin, Bully Pulpit and Slacker Jack.
Middle East U: The New Amsterdams (featuring Matt Pryor of the Get Up Kids), Hot Rod Circuit, Stephen Brodsky, $8, 18+.
Milky Way The New Deal, 9pm, $10. 18+.
Paradise Stereophonics and Adam Masterson, 8pm, $12.50, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
The Rack Catunes, no cover.
Regattabar Grand Slam with Jim Hall, Joe Lovano, George Mraz and Lewis Nash, 8 and 10pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Everlast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Scullers Kevin Mahogany, 8 & 10pm. $18/$51 with dinner.
Sidney's Grille Izzra Zoen, 5:30pm
Sky Bar Song Hospital and Gimp Elixir, 9pm, 21+, $5.
T.T. the Bear's Place Of Montreal, Elekibass (from Tokyo), the Solar Saturday, Verona Downs $7.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm, no cover.

Friday, Feb. 9

The Attic Little Horse with Amusia, 21+.
Big Easy Bar Bob's Day Off, cover varies.
Bill's Bar Flynn with guests.
Black Horse Tavern Fluid, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Dave Foley and Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Paul Geremia, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground The Allstonians, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Hi-Fi Honey, no cover.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Entrain and Dacks, 9:30pm, $10.
Johnny D's Scheigho.
Kendall Cafe The Heygoods, Shiner Jones, Brian Chu, 9:15pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Debris, Classic Ruins, Local Jack and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Superhoney and Sugarcoat, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Decifunk and Ca$h.
Middle East U: Shelly's Birthday Bash, Darkbuster, Lost City Angels, Cops and Robbers, Tommy and the Terrors, the Speed Devils, $8, 18+. D: Wheat, Star Ghost Dog and Clairvoyants, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Euphonic, Hudson Debacle, Science Park and Torrez, 9pm, $7.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Laidback Jackson, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Grand Slam with Jim Hall, Joe Lovano, George Mraz and Lewis Nash, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice The Jah Spirit, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Scullers The Manhattans, featuring Gerald Alston and Blue Lovett, 9 and 10pm, $24.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott, 6pm.
Sky Bar Wolfman and Tink and the Stumble, 9pm, 21+, $5.
T.T. the Bear's Place Full Powered Halo, High Ceilings, Swiss Bomb and Melon Farmers, $6.
Les Zygomates Kabota Power Jazz Unit, 9pm, no cover.
Western Front Kolors, 9:30pm, $10.

Saturday, Feb. 10

Black Horse Tavern Kara Tondorf, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sunday's Well, Dave Foley and Dan Corcoran.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Fred Small 7 and 10pm. $15.
Common Ground DJ Paul Daly, 10pm.
Copperfield's Magnus.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzales Band, 7pm; Tiger Lily, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Hi-Fi Honey.
Green Street Grill Latin Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Entrain and Stir Fry, 9:30pm, $12.
House of Blues Kenny Neal, 10pm-2am.
Kendall Cafe Josh Lederman Y Los Diablos, High Lonesome Plains, Mark Duplass, 9:30pm, $5.
Lilli's The Meat Puppets and the Damnations, 8pm, $12.
Linwood Janke.
Middle East U: David Grubbs, the Shipping News, Hall of Fame, $8, 18+. D: The Addison Groove Project, Shake Senora and Averi, 8:30pm , $8, 18+.
O'Brien's Nancy S Mroczek, midnight.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal with DJ Brian, 9:30pm, cover varies.
Porter's Bar and Grill Savage Benjamin, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
The Rack DjVinny
Regattabar Grand Slam with Jim Hall, Joe Lovano, George Mraz and Lewis Nash, 8 and 10:30pm, $20.
Rhythm & Spice Danny Tucker. 10:30pm-1am, $8, 21+.
Scullers Early Valentine's Weekend with The Manhattans, featuring Gerald Alston and Blue Lovett. 9 and 10pm. $24.
Sidney's Grille John Kordleski, 6pm.
Sky Bar Hazie Maze, Boy Joys and Lifestyle, 9pm, 21+, $5.
Western Front Kolors, 9:30pm. $10.

Sunday, Feb. 11

Avalon Face to Face, H20 and Snapcase, 6pm, $17.25.
Black Rose Sunday's Well, John Corcoran.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with NAt Simpkins, B3 Jazz Trio, 11am-3:30pm.
Club Passim Tribute to the Paul Butterfield Blues Band w/ Mark Naftalin & 2120 South Michigan Ave., 7:30pm. $10.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald Gospel Group, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rhumba NaMa, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Divya Kumar, Anand Nayak and Allyn Casey, 8pm, $5.
Middle East U: The Boils and Dead Empty, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae with Don't Sleep Productions and DJ Ren Justice.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, no cover.
Soulful Sundown Sol y Canto, 5:30pm. $6.
T.T. the Bear's Place Roshambo, Lolita's Bliss and Lime Green, $4.

Monday, Feb. 12

Avalon Everlast, Dexter Freebish, 9pm, $17.75, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Club Passim Open-mike session with Steve Tannen, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Michael Tarbox Duo, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Evan Goodrow Band, 9:30pm, $3.
Kendall Cafe The Splendid Nobodies, 9:30pm, $4.
Middle East U: New music night with My Beautiful Ex-Wife and Color Forms, $6, 18+. D: Stone Soup Poets, 7:30pm, $3.
Milky Way Rockabilly Bowl (bowling with dinner), cover varies.

Tuesday, Feb. 13

Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, 9:30pm, $5.
Johnny D's Aoife Clancy, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Tuesday Night Music Club, $6.
Milky Way Valentine's Day event with Mary Mary's all star karaoke specialty-themed Prom Night karaoke, 9pm, $3.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 8pm.
The Rack Stu Sinclair, no cover.
Regattabar Dave Douglas: Charms of the Night Sky, 8pm and 10pm, $12.
Sidney's Grille Laura Allan Band, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Jordan's Wake, Fly Danny Glick and Now is Now, 9pm, 21+, $5.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm-12pm, no cover.



Lunasa delivers their pop-tinged contemporary Celtic music Feb. 3 at the Somerville Theatre.



Hard-rock punksters the Meat Puppets come to Lilli's to play with Damnations, 8pm, $12.

Music Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Bull Run Restaurant *Rt 2A, Shirley (978-425-4311). www.bullrunrestaurant.com*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogans Bluff *173 Milk Street., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Avenue, Boston (734-9000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Jacob Wirth's *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boyslton.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Cafe *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038).* www.midwaycafe.com *MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Milky Way Lounge and Lanes *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
The Playhouse Lounge *74 Warrenton St., Boston (482-2227). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Regatta Bar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grill *20 Sydney, Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boston.*
Tir na nÓg *366A Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Palladium *261 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled Classical by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Classical Music or e-mail to classical@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, telephone numbers, Web site information and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to deadline. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.*

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Contemporary Music at MIT
Endicott World Music Room, 265 Mass Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 7pm. Free. Performance for enhanced instrumentation with Arnold Dreyblatt, new composers and surprise artists.

Longy Chamber Winds
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden Street, Cambridge (876-0956, ext. 500). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. The Longy Chamber Winds present their first full-length concert.

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826, ext.1103). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2 suggested donation. Eric Chalfant, baritone, performs with Sheila Kibbe, piano.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the American Boy Choir perform Mahler's *Symphony No. 3*.

MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 12pm. Free. Takae Ohnishi performs the works of Bach.

Friday, Feb. 2

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30pm.* Same program as Feb. 1.

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944, ext. 311). MBTA: Green Line to Copley . 12:25-12:45pm. Free. Performances by organist Gretchen Longwell.

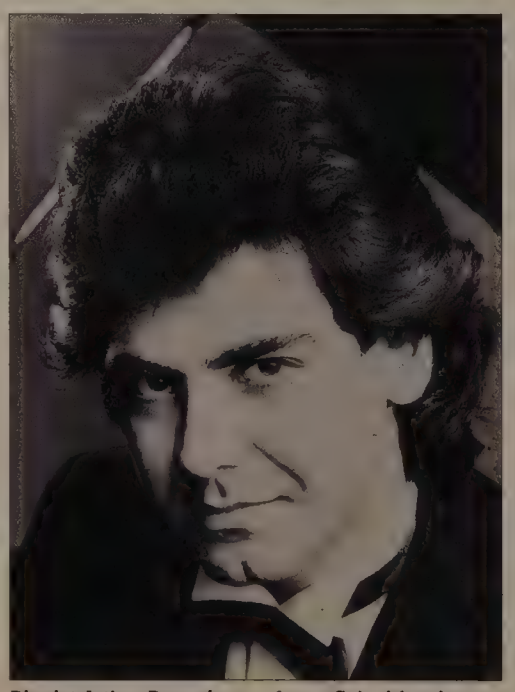
Saturday, Feb. 3

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm.* Same program as Feb. 1.

Brandeis University Performs
Slosberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-3400). 8pm. $15, $8 students/seniors. The Lydian String Quartet performs with Jane Bryden, soprano.

Sunday, Feb. 4

Alumni Concert
All Newton Music School, 321 Chestnut St., West Newton (527-4553). 4pm. $20. Assistant concertmaster of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops, Nurit Bar-Josef, performs a program of sonatas.



Pianist Arthur Papazian performs Feb. 11 at Longy.

Celebrity Series of Boston
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (267-6502). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3pm. $35-$45. Pianist Garrick Ohlsson performs Handel, Haydn, Beethoven, Helps and Chopin.

Dinosaur Annex Music Ensemble
First and Second Church of Boston, 66 Marlborough St. Boston (482-3852). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8pm. $15. $10 students and seniors. Dinosaur Annex Music Ensemble and Tenor Paul Sperry perform.

Newton Free Library Concerts
330 Homer St., Newton (522-7145). Noted soprano Carla Chrisfield presents a variety of songs.

Monday, Feb. 5

Birthday Celebration
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3359). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Boston University toasts legendary violinist Roman Totenberg with a special concert.

Tuesday, Feb. 6

King's Chapel Recital Series
King's Chapel, Corner of School and Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). 12:15pm. $2 suggested donation. NEC Honors Brass Ensemble performs.

Wednesday, Feb. 7

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Longy Showcase Recital.

Thursday, Feb. 8

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$47.* This is the U.S. premiere of *Golijov's Passion According to St. Mark.* Also on the program: J.S. Bach's piano concerto in D minor. Featuring Reynaldo Ramon Gonzales Fernandez and Lucianna Souza.

MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 12pm. Free Ensemble Amicarum performs a program of composers including Scarlatti, Handel and Haydn.

Piano Masters
Boston Conservatory, 8 The Fenway, Boston (536-6340). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8pm. Free. This concert features members of the New York Philharmonic, San Francisco and American symphony orchestras.

Friday, Feb. 9

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $47-$28.* Same program as Feb. 8.

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944 ext. 311). MBTA: Green Line to Copley . 12:25-12:45pm. Free. Performances by international organists, with the spotlight on local organist Brian Jones.

Russian Romanticism
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (262-1815). MBTA: E Green Line toSymphony. 7:30pm. $18-$42. Takemitsu's *Oboe Quintet*, Schumann's *Piano Trio* and *Opus 80*, Glazunov's *String Quintet in A Major* and *Opus 39*.

Saturday, Feb. 10

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$47.* Same program as Feb. 8.

Celebrity Series of Boston
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (267-6502). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3pm. $35-$38. Guitar virtuoso Sharon Isbin performs Latin-American works.

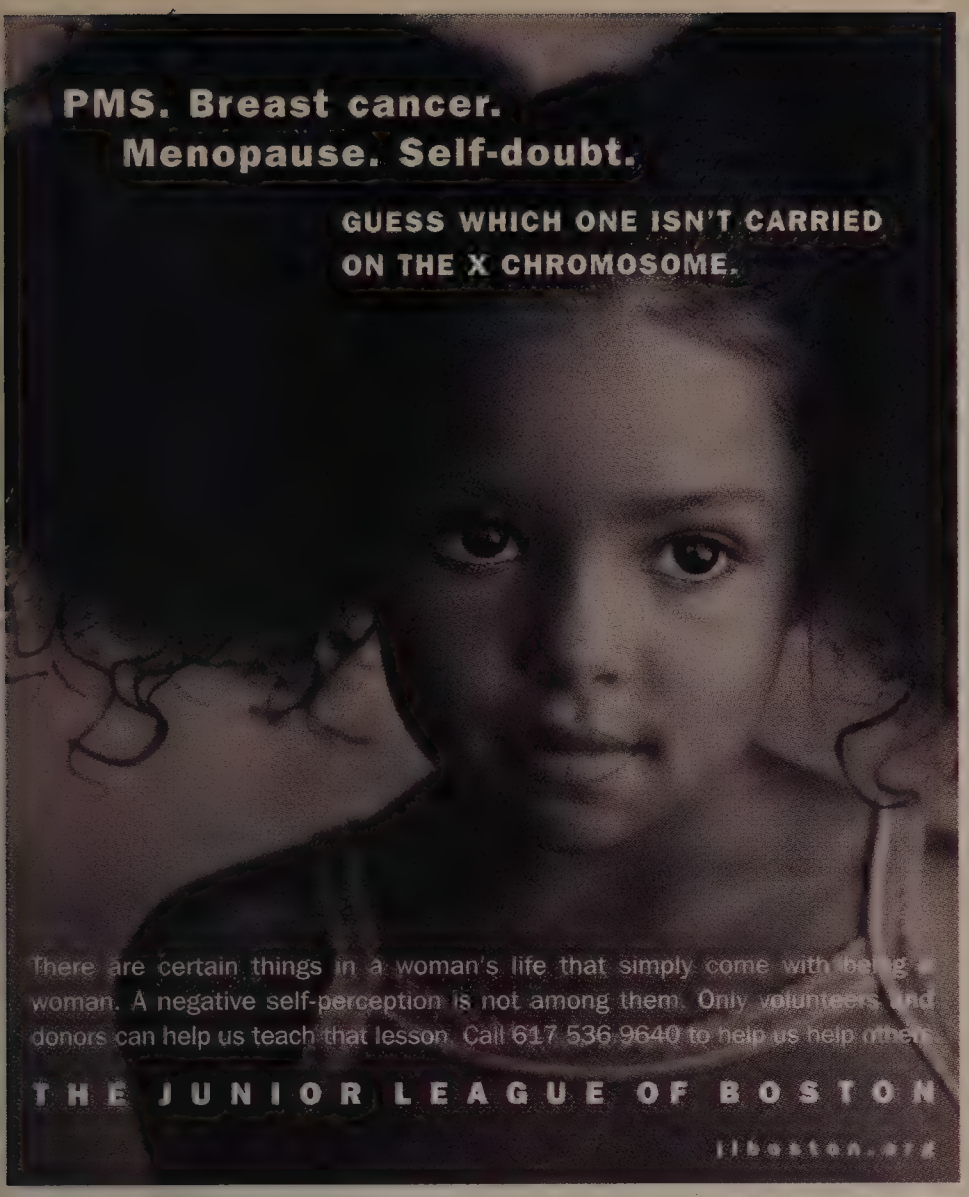
Music for Robin
First Baptist Church, 1580 Mass. Ave., Lexington (781-862-7837). 8pm. $15. Robin Huw Bowen demonstrates his ability to play the Welsh triple harp.

Sunday, Feb. 11

Coro Allegro
29 Stanhope St., Boston (449-4868). 3pm. $25-$15. This winter concert features choral pieces *The Voice of the Tenth Muse, Solemn Mass* and *Psalms* 67 and 90.

Arthur Papazian Performance
Pickman Hall at the Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (926-6979). $20, $15 students and seniors. Pianist Arthur Papazian gives a piano recital to benefit St. Stephen's Armenian Elementary School of Watertown. Winner of several international competitions, Papazian made an impressive American debut at Carnegie Hall in the Keyboard Virtuoso Series in '85. In his Longy recital, Mr. Papazian performs *Chopin's 24 Preludes, Six Dances* by Komitas, and Claude Debussy's *12 Preludes from Book 1*.

TOP: JOSEPH CULTICE; BOTTOM: CHRISTIAN STEINER



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Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax to (859-1446), mail or e-mail to gaylesbian@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted by phone.*

How to use this section
The following listings contain information that is subject to change. Contact the organization for changes in specific events.

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have been crankin' out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's well worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for all the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This trendy South End spot draws a mixed crowd that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). It's a dressy bunch that likes to mingle. No cover, 21+. •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. It's a great idea for bachelorette parties. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all of the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-10:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-10pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd of gays and straights, and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. are local band nights. Tues. through Sun., however, divas rule the stage. 10:30pm, $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Sundays host the Drag-on Showgirl Showcase featuring Diamond Dunhill, Destiny and special-guest divettes with their new, expanded 90-minute show. Bachelorette parties welcome. 10:30pm, 21+.



HBO comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer joins folk singer Ferron at the Berklee Performance Center Feb. 10.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes and classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am;. www.ramrod-boston.com/machine. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play the video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. www.ramrodboston.com. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance with DJ Joey Bermudez. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life with DJ Kal Muzak. Wed.: Twitch with DJ SGT Dennis. Thu.: Primal Dance with DJ James Hughes. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: With DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender bookstore—books, videos, magazines, music and more.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Fever! Valentine's Party
Sons of Italy Ballroom, Winchester (781-648-0722). Feb. 10, 8pm. $10. Join hundreds of local women and get down at this hot dance party. Highlights include swing dance lessons, guest DJs and many surprises throughout the night. Be sure to wear something red or valentine-inspired.

Suzanne Westenhoefer
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Feb. 10, 7pm. $25, $35 and $50. HBO comedian Suzanne Westenhoefer joins folk singer Ferron for an evening of comedy and music with a lesbian theme. The event benefits the Renewal House, a shelter for abused women and their children.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St. For gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all swing skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. For men who are bisexual or think they might be, this group meets on the second Tuesday of every month. Free and confidential.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Daily 8-10pm. Support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Common Bond
(781-433-7023). A support group for gay/lesbian/bisexual current or former Jehovah's Witnesses.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss issues related to coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians meets on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or go online at *http://members.tripod.com/~ecwc* or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). www.frontrunnersboston.org. Get in shape this winter, brave the freezing temperatures and have some fun with this running club geared toward the LGBT community. It meets on Saturdays.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life stage issues.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Typically seven teams play on three courts. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). www.piac.net/users/latte/lcfd/. Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Groups for Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6200). Offers both a 10-week introductory group and an ongoing therapy group. Each teaches techniques to reduce compulsive sexual behavior.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Hump Day
Skupper Jacks in Acton. Third Wednesdays, 5:30pm. Boston's gay, lesbian and transgendered individulas come together to hang. Contact *Tom.Evans@digital.com.*

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900 ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900 ext. 124).

Long Yang Club
(825-5677) www.longyangclub.org/boston. Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center for male survivors of adult sexual assault.

OOPS
Melting Pot Coffee House, 2 Belgrade Ave., Roslindale (323-4123). Out On the Parkways invites one and all to come on down for some dinner and coffee.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30-8:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass Ave, Cambridge; info@project10east.org; 864-GLBT. www.project10east.org. GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues. The group is facilitated by a mental health professional.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A new program that started in October, this is a short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Survivors of Domestic Violence
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6250 or 800-834-3242). A free 12-week group for GLBT survivors of domestic violence.

Support and Conseling Group for Lesbians Considering Parenting.
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6243) or lcoolidge@fenway.org. Held quarterly. Sliding scale fee available.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6231). Meets the first three Tuesdays of the month. Discuss strategies for managing risk, communication with sexual partners and the latest safe sex tactics. Pre-registration required.

Support Group for Lesbians with Cancer
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6243). For those who want to discuss the impact of this disease and its treatments on their lives. Meets twic every month.

Tennis4all
Boston's gay and lesbian tennis club hosts monthly tennis tournaments and pizza socials. Call Ted at 779-7231.

Workshops for Newly Diagnosed HIV-Positive Individuals
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (262-3456). 7-9pm. First three Mondays of the month. New groups begin each month. A place to get informed, connected and comforted.

A Better Place to Play

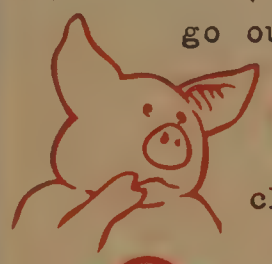
BOSTON BILLIARD CLUB®

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617-536-POOL
www.bostonbilliardclub.com

PIG. OUT.

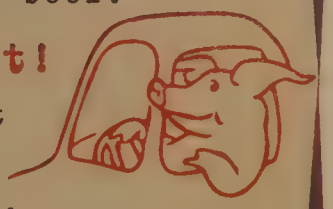


1. **Call 617-421-1400**
Our pitmaster will take your order (and have it ready to go out the door in minutes!).



2. **Make Up Your Mind**
Hard to do, given the choice of mouth watering ribs, chicken, and beef.

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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (876-6883). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 2, 7:30-9:30pm. $6. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the spiritual traditions of the world. Everyone welcome. All dances are accompanied by live music.

Lakota Journey
Nipmuc Rod and Gun Club, 88 Fiske Mill Road, Upton, Mass. (Contact Rose at Tao of Books at 508-533-4440). Feb. 11, 11am–3pm. $40. **Dave Swallow Jr.** is a member of the Teton Lakota Nation, the band of Crazy Horse. **Nyla Helper** is descendent in a long line of medicine people from the Hunkpapa Lakota band of Chief Sitting Bull. Swallow was taught the ancient ways by his grandparents and is recognized by his people as a spiritual leader and Sundance intercessor. Nyla Helper was raised in the old traditional ways and teaches the feminine perspective of Lakota culture and spirituality. A light lunch will be served.

Meet the Practitioners
The Marino Center for Progressive Health, 2500 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (661-6225). www.marinocenter.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. Feb. 8, 5:30-7:30pm.* This reception at the Marino Center offers an opportunity for the public to learn more about integrative medicine and to meet the staff. Panels include question-and-answer sessions and one-on-one discussions. If that's not exciting enough, refreshments and catering provided by Ristorante Marino should provide an added boost.

Shiatsu School Open House
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *Feb. 4, 12-3pm. Free.* Tour the school, watch Tai Chi demonstrations, enjoy refreshments, meet faculty and staff and get a free mini-shiatsu session.

CLASSES

Ayurveda: India's Medical Tradition
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). Feb. 10, 9:30am-3:30pm. $45. Ayurvedic medicine is one of the oldest and most comprehensive health care systems. It recognizes people's differences based on the unique constellation of elements (air, earth, fire and water) within their physical and emotional being. Once this is understood, an appropriate diet and specific meditation and yoga postures can be formulated to encourage inner balance. Learn to assess your body type through digestion, sleep, emotions and other conditions that affect health. Rehabilitation specialist **Loretta Levitz** will determine your individual diet and exercise needs.

Get Healthy in 2001
The Marino Center for Progressive Health, 2500 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6225, ext. 240). www. marinocenter.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter.* The Marino Center offers the following classes: Kripalu yoga, Smoking Cessation, Weight Loss Program, Dietary Cleansing and an eight-week Progressive Stress Reduction Program.

Making Sacred Space: The Mandala as Daily Practice
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 1 Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 3, 10am-4pm. $69.* Traditional mandalas are circular meditative designs that embody cultural or religious teachings. This one-day workshop will explore the mandala and introduce a version using a circle and a variety of playful artistic approaches (such as drawing, collage, painting, sound and movement). For those seeking a daily meditation practice that celebrates creativity, the mandala might be for you.

Nirvana Wellness Workshop
New Directions for Yoga, Health and Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (738-1648). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Feb. 11, 1:30-5:30pm. $55. We're all familiar with stress—both external and self-generated. We are working harder, longer and more intensely than ever. Yoga can be the remedy. Learn more about yoga, meditation and massage for reducing stress.



Dave Swallow Jr. of the Lakota Nation speaks about his tribe's culture and spirituality Feb. 11.

LECTURES

Philosophy
The Philosophy Foundation, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (800-423-4553 or 565-5823) www.philosophyfoundation.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Thursdays, starting Feb. 22, 7–9:30pm. $75.* Systematic knowledge and simple practice can change one's life for the better. This foundation offers evening courses and discussions that explore philosophical ancient wisdom and how we can apply it to our daily lives.

Living in Well-Being: Understanding Life from the Inside Out
Wellspace, Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *Feb. 9, 7:15-8:45pm. Free.* An understanding of three simple principles can allow for peace of mind in the face of chaos and connect us to our innate potential for wise, creative and satisfying living. This lecture is for anyone who wants contentment for themselves or others.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (924-7276). www.dne.org. *MBTA: #57, 70 or 71 bus. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults, $4 teens, free for kids.* Dance any way you want to, even barefoot, to all kinds of music in this smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm. Call to register. Early morning yoga will bring so much clarity and energy to your day that you may not even need that second cup of coffee.

Move Your Body
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). www.cambridge.zami.com/dancecomplex. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. $8-13.* Some folks may find yoga too sophisticated of an exercise but would still like to work on moving the body. Why not try one of the following drop-in classes at the Dance Complex? Stretching: Mondays, 6-7pm, and Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30pm. Tai Chi: Fridays, 9:30-11am.

Yoga/Back Bay
Johnson Paint Art Gallery, 355 Newbury Street, Boston (BOS-YOGA) www.bostonyoga.com. *Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. $15/class.* Fire up your body, mind and spirit in this invigorating yoga class surrounded by wondrous art. All levels welcome.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay. $18/session. Drop in any class. Yoga wake-up: weekdays, 8-9am. Hatha yoga: Mondays/Wednesdays, 6-7pm, and Tuesdays/Thursdays, 7:30-8:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17/class. Join anytime or drop-in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar. Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork and family relaxation classes also available.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., Boston (522-7199). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential or Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/class. Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting. Increase flexibility, relieve stress, build strength, relax and enjoy yourself at any of these ongoing drop-in classes: Tuesdays at 7pm, Wednesdays at 12pm and Saturdays at 10am.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

The House at Pooh Corner
Boston Children's Theatre at C. Walsh Theatre, 55 Temple St., Boston (424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Park. Feb. 10-11, 17-18 and 21-25, 2pm. $10-$16.* Playwright Bettye Knapp has adapted this show from A. A. Milne's well-loved tale.

Prince and the Pauper
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (879-2147). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Feb. 2-25. $10, $15, $17. This adventure begins in the villainous courts of Tudor England, with a chance encounter between a poor beggar and a pampered prince who decide to change places.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. •Feb. 3-4, 1 and 3pm: ***The Chicken Show*** by Liz Joyce and A Coupla Puppets. If poor Henrietta cannot lay an egg by tomorrow, the farmer will make her his dinner! This singing chicken learns to believe in herself. •Feb. 10-11, 1 and 3pm: ***The Dinosaur Show*** by the Poobley Greegy Puppet Theatre. An educational story about dinosaurs.

THINGS TO DO

Arts & Crafts
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Feb. 9 and Feb. 16. $35 (for adult with child). Explore the art of clay.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June: Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm; Fri. until 9pm. $5, children and seniors $3. Messy Sensory Fun: Different activities daily feature specific learning objectives hidden behind messy, fun play. Aprons are provided.

Children's Story Hour and Craft
The Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). Tuesdays, 11am. Free. Listen to a story read by a Coop staff member and then make a craft.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50, $5.50 seniors and children.* Enjoy 600 hands-on exhibits, including the *Theater of Electricity*, *Seeing Is Deceiving* and *Science in the Park*.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, to bus 51. April-Oct.: Wed.-Sun., 10am-5pm; Nov.-March: Wed.-Sun., 10am-4pm. $5, $3 seniors and students. •New: ***Kids on the Move*** exhibit examines the evolution of children's vehicles from the 1880s to the 1950s.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). www.neaq.org. *MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Early Sept.-June: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., Sun. and holidays, 9am-6pm. $12.50.* Boston's biggest fish bowl has much more than just goldfish. ***•Fun and Games with Sea Lions***: Offered twice each day for $50 (does not include aquarium admission). Participants engage in a variety of games and activities with sea lions.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •Feb. 12, 10:30am, ages 3 and older: Valentine-Making Workshop. •Feb. 13, 3:30pm, ages 5 and older: World Cultures Program. Children learn about the way people in Uruguay and Argentina celebrate the festival of Carnival.

Saturday Scholars
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-2341). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $30. •Feb. 3, 9-11am, pre-school: Colors, Shapes and Animals. Explore the colors and shapes animals use to survive in nature. •Feb. 3, 9am-12pm, grades K-1: Crazy for Coconuts. Through gallery exploration, music, crafts and storytelling, gain a deeper appreciation for life in the Pacific. •Feb. 10, 9am-12pm, grades 2-3: Dig into Dinosaurs. Explore the lives of these creatures. •Feb. 10, 9am-12pm, grades 4-5: Shake Hands with a Snake. Snakes and turtles and lizards, oh my!

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 931-2000
Feb. 1: Montreal, 7pm, NESN
Feb.6: Philadelphia, 7pm, NESN
Feb. 10, Tampa Bay, 7pm, NESN

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: $10-$75. Call 228-6000
Feb. 4, Cleveland, 6pm, FSNE
Feb. 7, Milwaukee, 7pm, FSNE

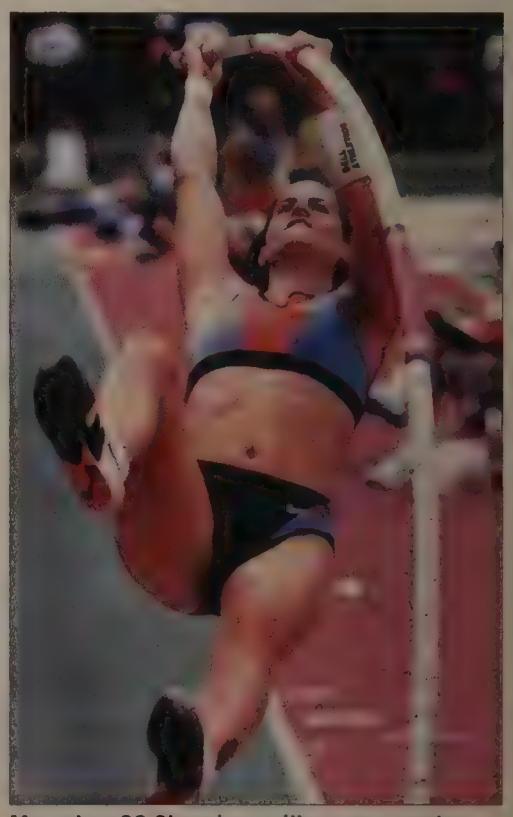
Events

Beanpot
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Feb. 5 and 12. $30, $25 and $20. The annual Beanpot tournament is Boston's collegiate hockey event of the year as teams compete for the coveted silver bowl. •Feb. 5, 5pm: Boston College vs. Harvard. •Feb. 5, 8pm: Northeastern vs. Boston University. •Feb. 12, 5pm: Consolation Game. •Feb. 12, 8pm: Championship Game.

ESPN Winter X Games
Mount Snow, Route 100, West Dover, Vermont (800-245-SNOW). Feb. 1-4. The Winter X Games feature the talents of more than 350 athletes competing in winter alternative sports, including snowboarding, snowmobile snow-cross and skiing.

Boston Golf Expo 2001
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester (978-777-4439). www.bostongolfshow.com. *MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Fri., 1-9pm; Sat., 10am - 9pm; Sun., 10am - 5pm. Feb. 9-11. $9.* Whether you're just thinking about playing golf or a local club pro, you'll feel right at home at this golf expo with hundreds of exhibits from local retailers, manufacturers and golf destinations, as well as PGA and LPGA instructors. Featured daily clinics provide valuable insight on equipment, techniques and a bit of golf entertainment. This year's show features LPGA professional and tour player Elaine Crosby. Daily lessons and clinics will be given by PGA professional Chris Costa and his staff.

Golf Performance Enhancement
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $5. Physical therapists Susan DiRocco and Chris Cesario demonstrate exercises and stretches for golfers to improve swing and prevent injury.



More than 30 Olympians will compete at the New Balance Track & Field Invitational Feb. 4.

Hyannis Port Challenge
Best Buddies at Back Bay Bikes, 336 Newbury St., Boston (800-718-3536). Feb. 6-7, 6:30pm. Best Buddies hosts this informational session on the 85-mile fund-raising cycling event (from Boston to Hyannis) May 19. Sessions provide information about ride logistics, including fund-raising techniques.

New Balance Track & Field Invitational
Reggie Lewis Center, 1350 Tremont St., Roxbury (536-9363). MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. Feb. 4, 3-5:30pm. $10. Free parking. More than 30 Olympians compete at this track and field invitational.

Roll a Kayak
Waltham YMCA, 725 Lexington St., Waltham (800-532-7483). Feb. 3-4 or Feb. 10-11, 7:30-9:30pm. $130. Learn how to roll a kayak in a heated swimming pool with Zoar Outdoor. The clinics are geared toward advanced-beginner to intermediate kayakers.

Winter Fun Day
Boston Ski & Sports Club at Borderland State Park in Easton/Sharon (789-4070). Feb. 4, 11am-3pm. $15. Enjoy a day of ice skating, snowshoeing, nordic skiing or dog walking. Afterward warm up with a barbecue by the fireplace in the stone lodge.

World Wrestling Federation
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Feb. 11, 7pm. $40, $35, $30, $25 and $18. All your favorite superstars will be at the FleetCenter when the World Wrestling Federation returns to Boston.

To Play

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball Club
(781-891-0621). Players ages 17-30 sought for 2001 season. Also need coaches and volunteers.

BASKETBALL

Basketball City
Adjacent to North Station and the FleetCenter (742-6700). Corporate, midday and weekend leagues.

Co-Ed Indoor Basketball
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070, ext. 224). Sun.-Thu. nights at various locations. All levels welcome. Leagues in Waltham, Dedham and Brookline. Co-ed teams now forming.

The Corporate League of Boston
(566-7808).

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). Practice and workout programs for all levels in Greater Boston.

South End Fitness Center League
(534-5823).

Women's Basketball League
(661-9622). Tuesdays 5:30-7pm and Sundays, 6-7:30pm.

BOXING

Boxing Workout
Vinny Greco's Powerhouse Gym, 125 Walnut St., Watertown (972-1711). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Enjoy the workout of a boxer—or become one yourself. Participate in one-on-one instruction in a supervised, safe environment with Boston Sport Boxing Club.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC, Indoor Sports Center in Revere (789-4070). Sundays.

FENCING

Introduction to Fencing
Tennis and Racquet Club, 939 Boylston St., Boston (267-4430). Feb. 7, 6:30-7:30pm. $14. One of Russia's most honored instructors teaches an epée fencing workshop.

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

HOCKEY

Co-ed Floor Hockey
BSSC (789-4070). Individuals and teams, co-eds, all levels in Newton. Co-ed teams now forming.

ICE SKATING

Learn to Skate
Lessons available at 16 MDC rinks in Greater Boston (781-890-8480). www.iceskatingclasses.com. Classes for beginning or advanced skaters. Become the next Michelle Kwon (or, better yet, Dorothy Hamill!)



ESPN Winter X Games are at Mt. Snow Feb. 1-4.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
(499-4835). Weekly runs year-round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

Boston Road Club Weekly Races
(781-646-8955). Sundays. Starts at Wells Ave. in Newton.

Fresh Pond Weekly Road Races
Fresh Pond Reservation. Saturdays, 10am. Choose between a 2.5- or 5-mile run.

Khoury's Thursday Night Runs
East Somerville. (351-5682). 4.13 miles. 7pm at Khoury's Bar.

Logan Post 5K
1194 Broadway, West Somerville (283-3292). Every Thursday at 7:10pm.

NikeTown Boston Running Club
200 Newbury St., Boston (267-3400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Three-to-five-mile loops. Starts at 6:30pm. Monthly mini-clinics as well.

SNOW SPORTS

Cross-Country Ski Lessons
Boston Ski & Sports Club at the Weston Ski Track (789-4070). Feb. 1 and 8, 7pm. $85. Learn to snow glide in this gradual introduction for beginners with little or no experience on skis.

Cross-Country Skiing Outing
Boston Ski & Sports Club at Great Brook Farm (789-4070). Feb. 3, 9:30am. $23. Meet for breakfast in the lodge and then hit the 10 miles of groomed trails.

Ski & Board Weekends
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). $55. The Boston Ski & Sports Club offers day and weekend trips throughout the winter. •Wednesdays, Saturdays or Sundays this winter. 5:30am/6am bus departures from Newton, Newburyport and Tewksbury. •Feb. 2-4: Montreal & Jay Peak. Weekend trip: $269. •Feb. 3: Sunday River •Feb. 4: Stowe and Mt. Snow •Feb. 7: Killington •Feb. 9: Sunday River •Feb. 9-11: Sugarloaf. Weekend trip: $310. •Feb. 10: Sugarbush •Feb. 11: Okemo •Feb. 14: Sunapee.

Ski Market Trips
860 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (731-6100). $50. Ski-Market Underground offers trips with round-trip transportation, a lift ticket and dinner (on Wednesday and Thursday trips). •Jan. 31: Sunday River •Feb. 4: Killington •Feb. 7: Sunday River •Feb. 11: Killington •Feb. 14: Sunday River.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams.

SWIMMING

Boston Athletic Club Swim Workouts
653 Summer St., Boston (269-4300). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon. and Wed., 6:15-7:15am.

The Charles River Park Club Morning Masters
Charles River Park, Boston (450-9810). Mon., Wed., Fri., 6:30-7:45am.

The Mason Masters Swim Program
The Mason Pool, 159 Norfolk Ave., Roxbury (236-4923 or 450-9810) Mon.-Fri., 7:30-8:30pm. An early morning masters swim program led by Alex Primilsky, coach of numerous world, national and Olympic champions.

TAE KWON DO

Introduction to Tae Kwon Do
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 11, 10am-12pm. $14. This workshop gives an overview of all aspects of modern tae kwon do.

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, children and seniors $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm (last film begins at 3:55pm). $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science and the Charles Hayden Planetarium
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50, $5.50 seniors and children.*

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3. February is free of charge to Mass. residents.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

Alliance for Children
(781-431-7148). Adopt a child from abroad. Info session: Feb. 10, 7-9pm.

American Cancer Society
(800-ACS-2345). Help sell, pack, sort or deliver daffodils during the week of March 26.

American Heart Association
(800-662-1701, ext. 3129). Be a company coordinator for the Hearts in Bloom workplace flower-selling campaign.

Best Buddies
(800-718-3536). Learn about the Hyannis Port Challenge, an 85-mile fund-raising cycling event. •Feb. 6-7, 6:30pm at Back Bay Bikes, 336 Newbury St., Boston.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Volunteers are needed in the Cambridge public schools.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters. Commit to two hours per week for six months.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun times with an isolated senior.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Prison Book Program
(423-3298). Answer letters from inmates and fill requests for books on various topics.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

mark your daytimer

UPCOMING EVENTS

THEATER

Dame Edna
Feb. 20-March 11, Wilbur Theater

Les Miserables
April 11-May 6, Colonial Theatre

MUSIC

Outkast
March 11, Orpheum Theatre

P.J. Harvey
June 5, FleetCenter

U2
June 5, 6 and 8, FleetCenter

Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that e-mailed messages mean that we don't have to risk ruining our manicures by—ugh—typing) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Brazilian Beauty on the T
You were sitting behind me, and I couldn't keep my eyes off of you. That night, you entered my life and changed it forever. These past few years with you have been so amazing, and the adventures we'll share in the future will continue to excite your mind, imagination, senses, and heart in so many new and wonderful ways. Thank you for coming into my life. You are so beautiful and I love you more and more each day.
—J

Jeff Stethoscope
You found my heart. I love you. You are a good man.
—Michelle

Redheaded Guy, Reading Chomsky
Ran into you outside Revolution books and again at the Harvard Bookstore. I said, "Hi." You said, "Wanna go on a date?" I giggled stupidly and...you walked away after delighting and surprising me. I'd love to talk to you somewhere other than a sidewalk.
—debbie@deliveryman.com

To Mr. Red Line/ South Station
Sat. eve 12/30 on Redline: You asked for the time, and when I saw how cute/sexy you were I could barely reply. I was further enchanted by that mischievous gleam in your eye...Once at S. Station you kindly helped clueless Bostonians find their way to the Amtrak terminal—I would have asked you if you were single (although such a kind soul as yourself probably isn't—big sigh). The view from behind in the elevator was VERY nice (proud of self for resisting urge to touch the merchandise—tee hee). PLEASE—If anyone out there thinks they know an academic-looking, tall, cute, possibly Cambridge-dwelling (UK?) type who was traveling from South Station on Dec. 30, could you please give him this message? THANKS.
—Smitten girl@katneedsadate@excite.com

Mr. 2am Special
I give you two years of my life to have you lie, cheat and dog me out?! Who do you think you are? Why don't you take your eight-ball and all of your sleazy bookie friends and shove them where the sun doesn't shine. I know it doesn't shine there because you're so big and fat! So, I'm going to do the noble thing, leave you right where I found you, on AOL acting like a politician picking up tall girls with dark hair. Pretending to want something more than sex. Don't think that you're so impenetrable, because anyone with half a brain can see right through you. You have no education, no life, fake teeth and you're full of sleaze. You reek of it! Take that one to the bank, Mr. 2am Special.
—Jonny Tie Tie

Desperetely Seeking Americo
Otherwise known as Rich. He was a guitar player in the band Badmotherseed. His real name is Americo and he is of Native American descent. I last saw him right before his grandmother passed away, and our friendship somehow slipped away. I've been thinking about him for years and miss having him in my life. If anyone has any information as to his whereabouts, please contact me.
—dangermouse@onebox.com.

At the Paradise
New Year's Eve: Maybe we were both drunk on latent millennium fever. Maybe it was all that Sheila Divine and Bud in bottles. Either way, I woke up the next morning wondering why I didn't grab onto you with both hands and hang on until my knuckles were raw. We were backstage. I had purple eyeshadow, sparkly pants (that I'll never wear again) and a Polaroid. You were in shades of gray and listened while I made my list of favorite Jews. There was a dispute over the camera. You ended up sucking my fingers. (I warned you that I'd fall in love with you but you wouldn't listen.) And when you left that night you kissed me with enough passion, heat and straight-up sexual energy that my thighs went right up in flames, scorching my sparkly pants that cost too much and weren't that great anyway. Why didn't I ask your name? Why didn't I pull you back down to me and kick everyone else out of the dressing room? Do you kiss like that all the time?
—wherethehellsmyring @hotmail.com

Central Square Harvest
Jan. 6, 12:30pm-ish. What began as a mundane check-out process became filled with potential... You asked me about my parsnips, then lamented about your beets. I regretted not continuing the conversation from the moment I stepped away from you. Is there a second chance for the introvert in both of us? If so, write me... or I'll meet you at Harvest again some Saturday, same time.
—morethan@mac.com

Strobes and Smoke
At Rise on MLK weekend (Sunday night). Superman tatt on your left shoulder and a Chinese character at the base of your neck. Everyone was shirtless but you stood out. You might remember me...I was wearing a shirt!
—riseguy2001@yahoo.com

To Laurie from N.H. and all Other Would-be Mrs.Robinsons Out There...
A little advice—if you've got the looks and the guts to go after a younger guy, that's all well and good; variety is the spice of life, and guys really don't mind women throwing themselves at them and talking dirty to them. But please don't do it when you're so sauced that you have trouble remembering you just introduced yourself twice already; as hot to trot as your target might be, he's not too crazy about the idea of getting puked on just as things get hot.
—The Topeka Destroyer

NEC Concert, Jan. 18
Williams Hall piano recital. You are a pilot/pianist. We sat in the front left and had a good chat waiting for the chairs to be set on the stage. We walked out but I failed to suggest coffee and some more conversation. I would like to meet again.
—merc5761@yahoo.com

The Tao of E
Late November 2000, Somerville Theater: As you were leaving *The Tao of Steve*, I asked you to throw away my empty popcorn container since I couldn't reach the garbage can. You did, then came back and sat down with me. We had a delightful conversation, filled with repartee and giddiness, then went for tea to continue our talk. You told me about a work in progress I'd really like to read; I told you I was writing a mystery, too. You walked me to a cab stand and took my phone number. I got the feeling you fully intended to call me. But here comes the Murphy's Law part of this drama: at the time I had RCN phone service, which was acting up (meaning, it refused to let me retrieve my messages). I've subsequently switched back to Verizon, but my previous messages have been irretrievably lost. I strongly suspect yours was one of them. Now, I have absolutely no hope that you'll see this, but I've got my fingers crossed that some of your friends and well-wishers will come across this note and tease you about it. If you had as much fun talking to me as I did with you, I'd like to hear from you again. With any luck, you still have my (unlisted) number. If not, e-mail me.
—felecia104@netzero.net

Rockie Horoscope

JANUARY 31 – FEBRUARY 13, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



AQUARIUS JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
People are poking and prodding, doing whatever it takes to get a charge out of you. Not all the action directed your way is that provocative, but interest in your reaction is what's motivating the Scorpios and Aries in your crowd. Are they also picking your brain for career advice? Equally insistent Leos prefer to mix your canny sense of what's coming up next with their creative imagination. Since you're the center of attention on so many fronts, you'd better relinquish all hope of spending your birthday in a private pursuit of happiness. A ravenous public awaits.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
This is one of the more poetic and prolific periods of the year for Pisces. Even if divine inspiration passes through the lips of a colleague whose loyalty you question, it wouldn't hurt to listen. Nothing is simple and straightforward when art and spirituality are involved, or when Mercury is retrograde. You may notice that your social life is easing up after Venus, Miss Congeniality, leaves your sign, but that gives you more time to hang with Thalia, Erato and their clique.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Acting on impulse usually spurs the Ram to great heights; however, this week, that kind of behavior will probably land you in a ditch. While your Mars ruler is being tested by unpredictable Uranus, it's better to take that moment to think things through. When accidents occur during a challenging square aspect, the results are more drastic. You may have to to face personal demons or confront moldy figs while Saturn opposes Mars on the 3rd. Not to worry: Lovable Venus moves into Aries on the 2nd for four months of passion and popularity.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Issues that may change the course of your life arise this week while the Aquarius sun in your career midheaven illuminates your future. Feelings that you're being overwhelmed by responsibilities or are in a tug-of-war with your partner should peak, then pass, as your Venus ruler moves out of sacrificial Pisces into gutsy Aries on the 2nd. Now you can dare to be different when choosing a career move or family lifestyle. Seriously consider the road less traveled; the more exciting, exploratory and artistically promising alternative.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
Cuspy Twins currently under Jupiter's protective wing could be jumping for joy. Did you win the lottery? What about the Super Bowl? Stash enough away for the rainy days that may come when your Mercury ruler changes direction, i.e., retrograde on Feb. 3. Take ailing vehicles to the mechanic before then; repair appliances and expensive electronic equipment so they don' t have to be fixed more than once; reach out to folks before your connections go haywire. Oh, and sign papers ASAP or postpone until well after Feb. 25 when Mercury turns direct. Your next epiphany: Feb. 12. Rejoice.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
Not for nothing are the wealthiest folks in the world Moon Children! (Bill Gates is a Scorpio, a related water sign.) You folks instinctively know things the rest of us miss, such as the time to examine your assets is during the Leo full moon on the 7th when it illuminates your house of personal values. Or when retrograde Mercury re-evaluates joint financial ventures the week of the 12th. As for romance and recreation, a friendship could stand in the way, somehow blocking the flow of desire and derring-do. What to do? You'll know.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
During Aquarius, it's rarely about you. More often it's about the person you feel close to, and that attachment can vary day by day. No, you're not being fickle, it's simply the movement of your sun ruler through your house of marriage and other partnerships, making contact with spiritually sympatico soulmates as well as the other kind, the wild ones. It's the other kind who'll ring your bell while you swing from the chandelier the weekend of the 9th. News on the 12th, e.g., the ex is coming, might affect Valentine's Day plans.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
The pleasure you're deriving from being with sociably savvy, talented or soulful people may fade once magnetic Venus leaves empathetic, artistic Pisces for rough-and-tumble Aries. Sweet gives way to spicy, and that might not be quite as nice. However, while your Mercury ruler is retracing its steps through your house of work and health, be on the alert for news about your job description or your sense of well-being. The two really are related. Red-letter dates: Feb. 3, 12 and 25.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Home continues to be a semi-strange place, where sacrifices are made, music is played and innuendo reigns supreme. However, you can drop the spiritual and artistic trappings once your Venus ruler leaves Pisces for the rambunctious fields of the Ram on the 2nd. The change will not only do you good, it'll focus on what you truly desire in a working and living relationship. No fooling. Moments of borderline brilliance from, of all things, Mercury retrograde in your house of romance and creative risk-taking. Will you; won't you?

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
You could stumble across a rough patch while impetuous, adventurous Mars in your sign goes off half-cocked after the Super Bowl. For a cautious Scorpio who considers all the angles, such a spontaneous moment might be considered madness. You'll know if you did the right thing if you run into opposition from the powers that be, the Saturnian (or Satanic) forces of tradition and experience, control and crystallization. They've been exerting influence over partners matters, but not for much longer.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
Dream on. Conjuring up visions of what you want to possess is as good a means of obtaining them as any other. The Aquarius sun is so susceptible to the power of suggestion that wishful thinking would work, too. But hold off on mental images of electronics or vehicles while Mercury is retrograde in your house of communications and commuting, from Feb. 3-25. Instead, let your mind wander through areas of thought, fields of study you don't know much about. In the coming weeks, one will call out to you, and you just may "find your calling."

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
The element of surprise serves your purposes right now, even your more pedestrian and practical goals, like getting an oil change. You don't know where or when you'll be enlightened, but chances are February is the month for it. If your romantic life has been fairly routine, a not-so-gentle nudge from a friend could spark renewed interest; the same goes for a sport or recreational activity that has lost its edge. Just remember that while Mercury is retrograde, you tend to learn from the past and the people who once played a big part in it.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com.* Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

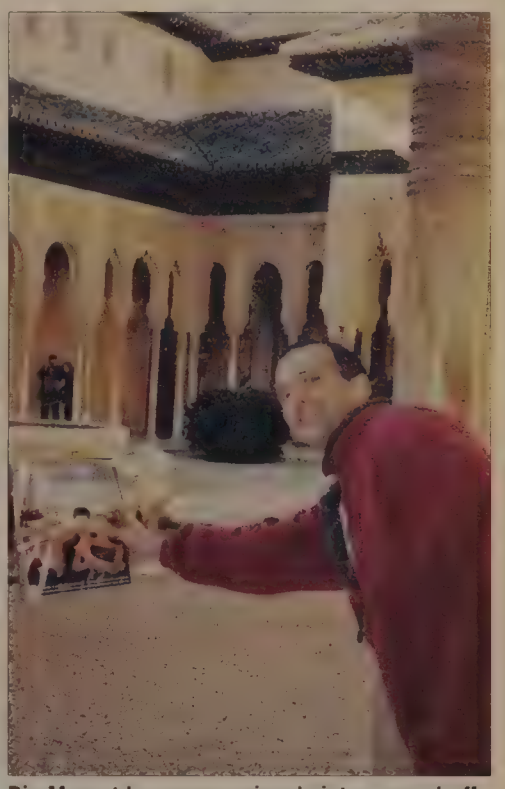
Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



When Bobbie met Southie: Ed Jones of South Boston at Windsor Castle in England.



Monika Qoshja gets ready to tone her "core area" abdominal muscles at the "Pilates in Paradise" festival in Key West, Fla. Oh wait. That's "Pirates in Paradise." That would explain all the pirates.



Ric Morant leans precariously into a roped-off area of the Alhambra in Granada, Spain.



Liesl Koenig (l), and Jennifer Crowley at Absolut headquarters in Sweden.



Beth Kaminkow-Angelo of the South End and her sister, Julie Kaminkow, took us to Washington, D.C., to use for reading, photo opportunities and protection from the sun during the Million Mom March.



In Istanbul, it is customary to terrify infants with city magazines. Taci Guven demonstrates.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Breaking the snow-shovel downhill speed record of 61mph at the World Snow Shovel Race Championships, held Feb. 2 through 4 in Angel Fire, N.M.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

i m p r o p e r a z z i

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN at the Presidential Inauguration of George W. Bush

On Sat. January 20, the **Republican Governor's Assoc.** held a reception at the **Ritz-Carlton** in Washington, D.C. honoring Gov. Paul Cellucci. Also that night was a **Presidential Inaugural Ball** at the **D.C. Amory** attended by many notable Bostonians.


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1. **Governor Paul Cellucci** and **Mark Harmon** of Avaya, Inc.
2. **Richard Egan,** chairman of E.M.C. Corp and his wife **Maureen**.
3. MDC Commissioner **Dave Balfour** with **Karen Yetten.**
4. **Yolanda** and **Dan Cellucci** of Yolanda's Fashion Salon.
5. **Beth DiVirigilio** of Adaptive Optics, **Joe Trolla**, V.P. of Fafard Real Estate Development, **Lynne Melilli** of the Marriott Corporation, **Paul Potenza**, manager of Ryan Development, **Robert Walker**, President of East Coast Electrical Contracting and his wife.
6. **Jeff Wilmot**, Chief of staff to Republican House Leader with **Matt Amorello**, Director of Mass Highway and his wife.
7. Bristol county Sheriff **Tom Hodgeson** and his wife **Joanne**.
8. Superintendent of State Office Buildings **Dennis Smith** and his wife **June**.
9. **Rita Kechijian**, Republican State Committee Woman and her husband **Dr. Nishan Kechijian**.

PHOTOS: BOB SEMONIAN

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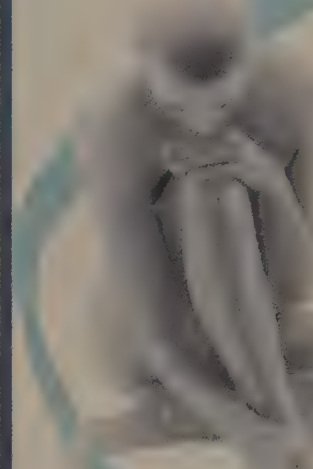
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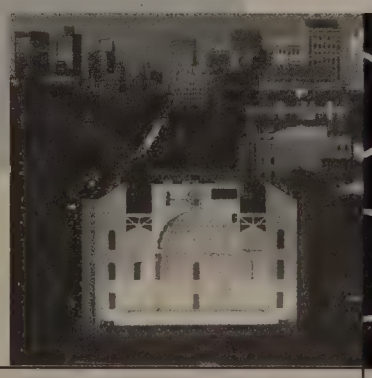
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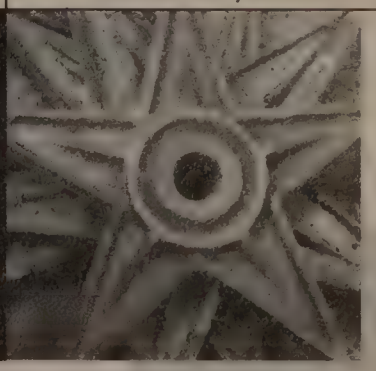


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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* BARCODE offers creative food and drink with a truly unique, casual style and atmosphere. Simple yet exotic and flavorful, Executive Chef George Leu's menu features a variety of French bistro fare touched with Asian influences. Dinner served daily 5 pm - 1 am, bar open daily 4:30pm - 2:00am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11:30 am - 2 am.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Market-place Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice at this comfortably sophisticated Back Bay restaurant and bar. With an eclectic style highlighted by rich, vibrant colors and rustic antiques, Vox Populi offers a hip, sleek and intimate atmosphere. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room. (Outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

Watch City Brewing Co. *256 Moody St. Waltham 781-647-4000 Top* Ten Reasons To Visit Watch City:
10. At the top of Waltham's restaurant row 9. Easy access from Rt.128 & Masspike 8. Free parking 7. The Embassy Cinema next door 6. Award winning chef & brewers 5. www. watchcitybrew.com 4. Live music Wed & Thurs. nights 3. Great grilled seafood, steaks & burgers 2. Only female owned brew pub in USA 1. Great beers, great food, always a great time.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiards Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Dgest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

IRISH BARS

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Enjoy the intimate, windowed dining room or a signature cocktail in the lounge. BARCODE offers a creative martini selection, a balanced and affordable wine list and both bottled and draft beer. Drinks are available until 2 am daily, food served until 1 am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar)

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Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ's nightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and world class margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice at this comfortably sophisticated Back Bay restaurant and bar. With an eclectic style highlighted by rich, vibrant colors and rustic antiques, Vox Populi offers a hip, sleek and intimate atmosphere. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room, (Outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest

names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a co-worker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a creative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favorites as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Powers of Nature, October 6-March 4. Enjoy Sunday brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at noon, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Wild California at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Located at 199 Clarendon St. at Copley Square. Indulge yourself with our delicious Smoked Salmon and Caviar Tasting served on a warm corn blini, or our Fresh Crab Pie made with eggs and jack cheese. Do not forget to sample our award-winning clam chowder. Validated parking available. Reservations accepted. Call 617-536-3500.

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The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St.; Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

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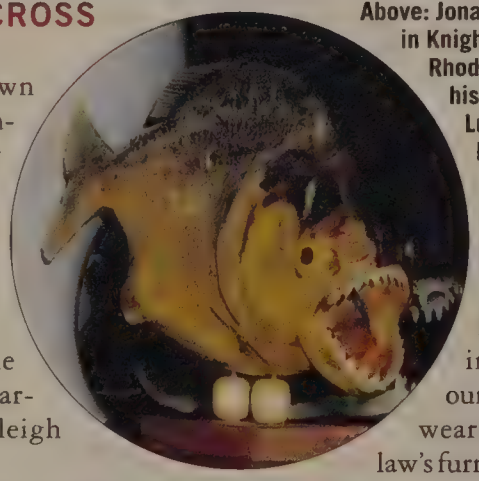
BY JONATHAN SOROFF







NOTES FROM ACROSS THE POND...



Above: Jonathan Soroff shopping in Knightsbridge; the honorable Rhodri Phillipps with one of his dead things; the lovely Lucy Appleton-Barraclough. Left: More dead things.

In an effort to skip town and avoid Boston on amateur night (a.k.a. New Year's Eve), some friends and I traveled to London, home of the blasé attitude, partly-to-mostly cloudy skies and people with absurd double-barreled names like Chesleigh Finch-Felcher.

What follows are some observations, in no particular order and of no particular relevance:

Any pub called the Rat and Parrot should be avoided at all costs.

Joking about mad cow disease at the butcher shop is most unwelcome.

The five-hour time difference makes it easy to annoy friends at home with early-morning phone calls on New Year's Day.

If enough booze is consumed at a dinner party, the mouse-shaped platter that the cheese course is served on can be the source of much madcap hilarity.

Clafoutis, which is the name of a dessert, is a stupid name for anything.

The English and Americans can agree on at least one thing: that the French are an astronomical pain in the ass but should be forgiven because they invented champagne.

If you are French and call a friend in London to wish them a happy New Year, don't leave a message saying "'appy millenarium!" unless you want to be made fun of mercilessly.

Queer As Folk ceased to be an interesting topic of conversation in London some time ago.

Passports should be required for walking down the Portobello Road on a Saturday afternoon.

Englishwomen of a certain class tend to pronounce India as "In-juh," and when they say things like, "I always wanted my husband to take me up the Khindu Pass," giggling is not an appropriate response.

Englishmen of a certain class like to refer to Harrod's as "That grotty Egyptian corner shop in Knightsbridge."

The Spice Girls are still inexplicably popular over here, especially the tarty one who married a football star, which should make Americans feel less guilty about unleashing Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera on the world.

Getting a massage at the day spa where Princess Diana had her facials is likely to yield fascinating scintillas of gossip—like the fact that the mother of a university student named Lucinda has run off to Thailand with some painter, while her flat in London is renting for 500 pounds a week.

Going to see a friend who's appearing in a play in the West End is guaranteed to make you feel sophisticated, even if the play is an adaptation of *The Hobbit* and the average age in the audience hovers somewhere between 8 and 10.

The amount of cigarette smoke one absorbs by simply sitting in a trendy bar in Soho is approximately equal to five packs a day for 40 years.

After perusing an exhibit of Turner watercolors at the Royal Academy of Art, it becomes inescapably clear that if you've seen one lake or mountain in Switzerland, you've seen 'em all.

If you go to the country to visit a lunatic aristocrat whose house is decorated with stuffed dead things and who mixes martinis in a coffee press, don't be surprised if you leave with a life-threatening hangover.

Of course, none of this is remotely helpful for anyone planning a trip to London, but to invoke a favorite British-ism, "I can't be asked."

Happy New Year, and may the best of the past be the worst of the future. IB



From top: Champagne is possibly the only good reason to forgive the French; everything's more fun with the cheese platter; his lordship and martinis; are we drunk yet?



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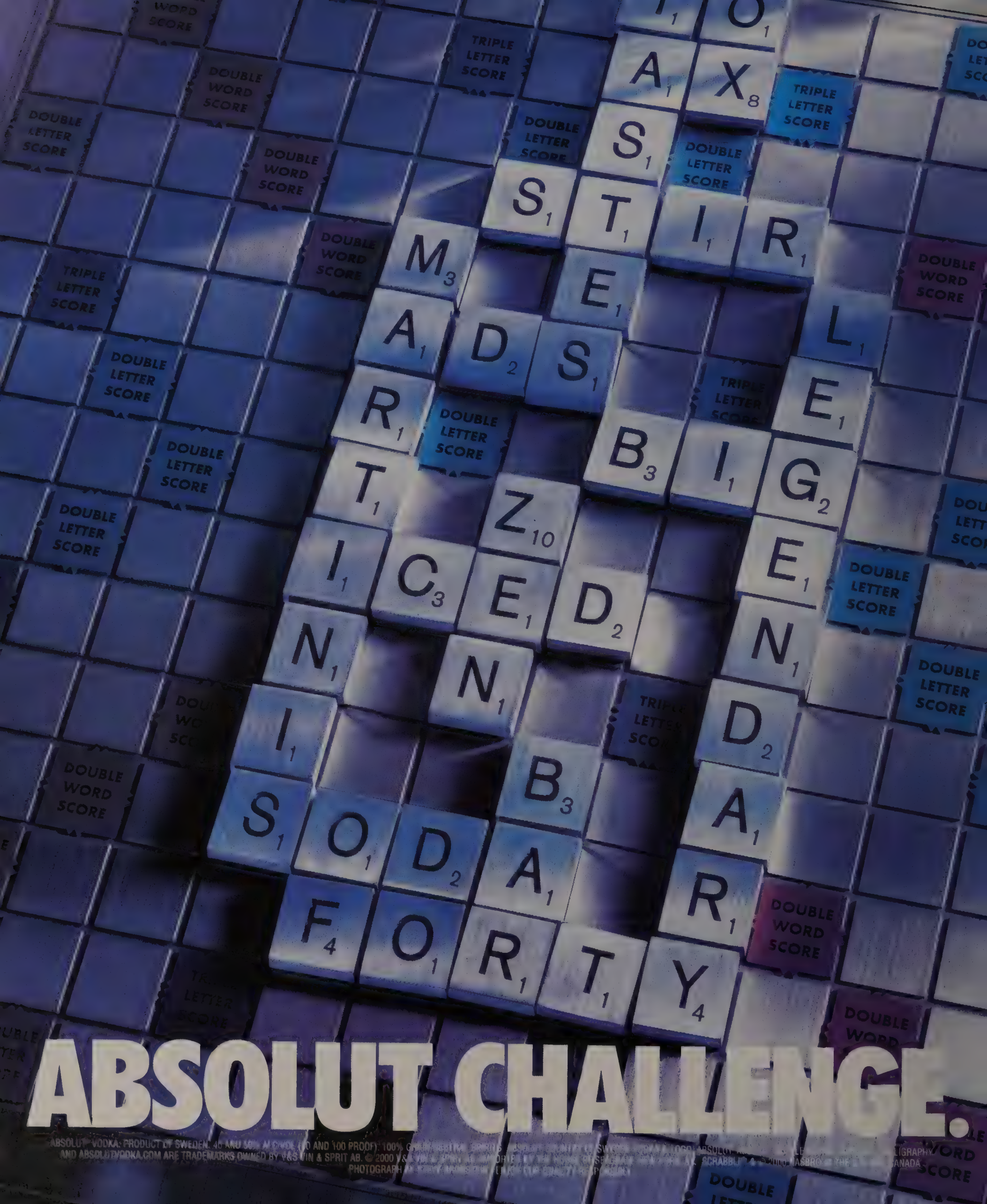
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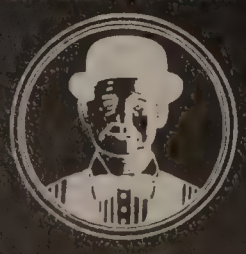
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contents

FEBRUARY 14-27, 2001



30
Stairway to cake heaven. Below: Unique nuptials; Huricane Floyd blows down a tent and other unexpected wedding disasters.



On the Cover:
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FEATURES

18 Soroff/On Dame Edna
Many Americans probably wonder what the story is with Dame Edna. Before "she" hits Boston, Jonathan Soroff gets an earful on the loutish Barry Humphries, the problems with sex and the wonders of Julio Iglesias.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

21 The Improper Wedding Guide
Does the idea of a traditional wedding bore you? Whether it be traveling to exotic locations or planting actors at your reception, there are ways to ensure both you and your guests will have a memorable experience. BY JULIE SHORT
PLUS: Mouth-watering cakes, the scoop on wedding bloopers, and how to plan your bachelor or bachelorette party.

32 Fashion: Reflections of White
Wedding gowns to live up to your dreams.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DANA HELLER



21



24

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

COLUMNS

8 The Word
Coolidge Corner closings; Greenberg says "Scoozi"; Sundance and the Brattle; a wine around town
BY ERIN HAGEDORN AND JULIE SHORT

12 Boston Internet
Enjoyed any Spam lately? Even with a bogus e-mail address, once the Spam finds you, it's hard to make it stop.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 Ezra
He's a gamblin' man. Even if he shouldn't be.
BY EZRA DYER

16 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

38 Mopsy
Galileo lives; reservation reading; wooden toys
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

84 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

40 Dining
McCormick and Schmick's brings another seafood option to Park Plaza.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

44 Dish
Spinazzola dishola; Barcode shakes things up; Hannibal arrives
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

44 Wine
An intro to Douro
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

45 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Valentine's Day meals
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 45.
Disney on Ice's *Jungle Adventures* • **Wendy Liebman** • *A Boston Cinderella* • **Jamaica Kincaid** • *The Worst of Eric Bogosian* • Mardi Gras mayhem • The Bugs Bunny Film Festival • The Women On Top Festival

ET CETERA

Letters	6
Improper Impersonals	78
Rockie Horoscope	78
Improperazzi	79
Improper Sightings	80
Classifieds	82

Do Your Civic Duty

Vote early! Vote often! Get out the vote for your favorite Boston bartender, to be featured in the IMPROPER's annual Beloved Bartenders issue (April 25). Fill out the ballot on page 19 and mail it in today! All hanging chads *will* be honored.

TOP: TRACY POWELL; ABOVE RIGHT: RON STERN; BOTTOM RIGHT: KERRY BRETT HURLEY

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letters



SEXUAL RESPONSE

I began reading the "Sex in Our City" article, but abruptly stopped when I got to the third paragraph and read Ellen O'Brien's glib remark that essentially condoned the use of Ecstasy, the "feel good, feel me designer drug." It's unthinking remarks like that by too many loud-mouthed writers that perpetuate the idea that "It's OK—everybody's doing it." It's not OK. Ecstasy sucks your happiness. It's not worth it. Don't do it. Sure, have fun, live free...wear cotton-candy pink nail polish and matching thong panties, but stay healthy and don't do drugs.

—CHRISTINE MAHER
South Boston

I understand that as a Christian and a political and social conservative, I often disagree with the majority on many issues. However, I cannot say how much I oppose Brookline sex shop owner Kim Airs' view of swinging in Ellen O'Brien's article "Sex in Our City." Airs says "it takes a lot of courage to do something like swinging. You have to have a pretty good foundation in your relationship to let somebody else have sex with your partner."

Opinions like these are what is driving our society into moral decline. In a relationship with a "good foundation," individuals love one person and one person only, and commit themselves to their respective partner. Allowing your partner to swing, and vice-versa, communicates less than a full commitment to the other person.

Unfortunately, we are taught to believe that we can seek our romantic, physical and sexual desires from multiple partners. The evidence for this is overwhelming when one considers the number of divorces, popularity of dating and escort services, and the amount of unfaithful couples living together. And as long as Airs and others continue to espouse swinging and other immoral views, our society will continue to place diminished value on relationships with true "good foundations."

—ADAM PARKEN
Brookline

"OPINIONS LIKE THESE ARE WHAT IS DRIVING OUR SOCIETY INTO MORAL DECLINE. IN A RELATIONSHIP WITH A 'GOOD FOUNDATION,' INDIVIDUALS LOVE ONE PERSON AND ONE PERSON ONLY, AND COMMIT THEMSELVES.

—*ADAM PARKEN*
BROOKLINE

I greatly enjoyed Ellen O'Brien's "Sex in Our City" article. While it may be highly improper of me to mention something from another city, your readers may be interested in a resource that could have been listed in Barbara Mattaliano's "Sex by the Numbers" sidebar: San Francisco Sex Information (SFSI). SFSI operates a telephone switchboard that will answer *any* question on sex or sexuality, from safer sex and STDs to whips and chains. The volunteers are knowledgeable and friendly, and despite its name, it's not just for San Franciscans. Give them a call at 415-989-SFSI, or check out their Web site at *www.sfsi.org*.

—PHIL LAPSLEY
Newton (formerly San Francisco)

FIRE IN THE (EAR) HOLE

Your article "Spa Man Speaks" (Jan. 31) was very informative for me. I recently moved here from Australia and your magazine helps me find my things to do.

I have a question regarding the article. The article talked about candling treatment but did not state which spas offer this service. As a hayfever sufferer, I find it necessary to have this treatment regularly. Can you let me know who can provide this service?

—CATHERINE HAYDOCK
Via e-mail

Editor's Note: *That was our goof. For anyone else wondering about this, listen up: The candling was done at Étant in the South End (423-5040).*

CURRYING FAVOUR

Finally, an American-written article about England that is only mildly superior-sounding. Jonathan Soroff's piece was fairly amusing and, as an Englishman, I even found myself chuckling at his unimpeded moderation. Until the end, that is. If he is to invoke a "British-ism," indeed, to make it his favorite, he should get it right. The phrase is "I can't be arsed" (as in bum, bottom, buttocks, ass, etc.) not "asked" as the erroniously presented punch-line to his gentle teasings.

—SAM FARRELL
Roslindale

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After studying art history and photography at Syracuse University, Dana began working in both Boston and New York shooting advertising and editorial assignments. She's been at it for the past 10 years, and her work spans everything from luxury jewelry catalogs and corporate portraits to finance, business and fashion shoots for *HomeArts*, *Boston Magazine*, *Woman's Day* and *Platinum*. Her decisive eye unites her advertising and editorial sensibilities, and her *modus operandi*—"have camera, will travel"—fosters her spontaneity and inspiration.

Her latest challenge was tackling the bridal theme, and her work appears on this issue's cover, as well as in the fashion section, beginning on page 32.

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

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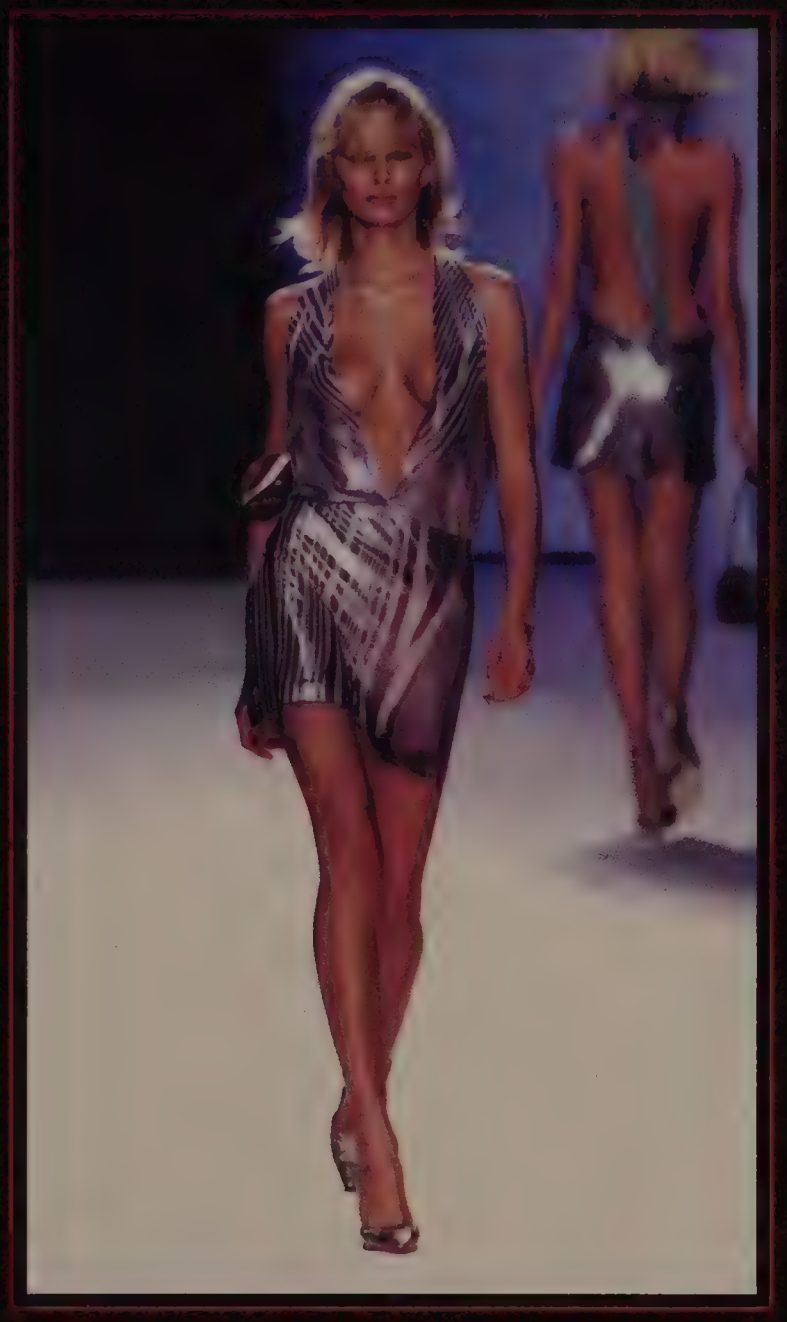
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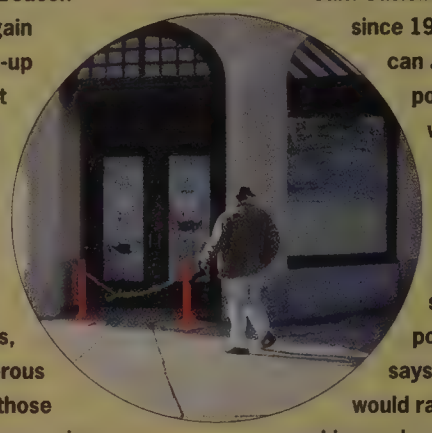




CITYSCAPE by erin hagedorn & julie short

CORNER OF DOOM?

The revolving door known as Coolidge Corner has developed a reputation for luring in unsuspecting businesses with its tempting and well-trafficked Brookline location—at the corner of Harvard and Beacon streets—and then churning them out again within a year or two. There are boarded-up shops everywhere you look. And it's not just the mom-and-pop stores that have fallen prey to skyrocketing rents and an oversaturated retail and restaurant market.



The most recent is Brooks Pharmacy, which follows in the footsteps of Cherry & Webb, Hit or Miss, Videosmith and Champs, among numerous others. The general sentiment among those giving up and getting out is articulated on a sign plastered on the door of recently closed, The Wrap: "We were no longer able to afford the cost of Coolidge Corner."

Actually, "astronomical" is the adjective used by one of the stalwarts, Ramzi Darwish, owner of Boston Daily Bread, to describe Coolidge Corner's unyeilding rent inflation. As a seven-year tenant of the Beacon Street bakery, he's an old-timer. "It's not a good place to have a business," he says worriedly. "Only big chains can survive." In the last 10 years, the price per square foot has doubled, to a range of $50-$65, says Lynne Cohen, a broker who has worked in Brookline for 13 years with the Triad Group. Certain blocks along Newbury Street go for significantly less than that. The profit margin for the little guys is slim-to-none. "I don't know how the local folks are going to make it," says Cohen.

Sam Casiello, who's owned the Harvard Fruit store since 1961, agrees: "A place like Starbucks can *afford* to lose money here." It makes us ponder the fate of places like Tealuxe, which opened last year, and Vici, a gourmet pizza place, which just replaced Au Bon Pain.

So is it simply the ridiculous rents that are causing the mass exodus? No, says Cohen. "A younger, more diverse population has moved into Brookline" says Casiello. He thinks youngsters today would rather drive to the mall, which offers parking and an abundance of stores under one roof, to buy clothing and the like (bye-bye retail stores). And they're more likely to eat out (bye, bye grocers), enticing more restaurants to enter what everyone we talked to agrees is an already oversaturated market. The Wrap, for example, was in competition with Fresh City Wraps across the street and three burrito joints within a quarter-mile. The Wrap's owner, John Pepper, offers a final word to greedy landlords: "If you want to take the character out of the area, keep putting in more Sprint PCS stores."

ALL THE BUZZ

SPECS FOR LESS

It's billed as eyeware for fashion-conscious, not-so-big spenders. And boy does the concept appeal to trendy cheapskates like us. A look around the **See** eyeware store, which is smack in the midst of the most fashion-conscious street in the city (the company waited two years to secure this prime Newbury location so it could go head-to-head with designer stores), reveals shelf upon shelf of upscale frames—from hip, bright-yellow, gem-studded horn-rimmed glasses to classy, understated titanium frames. Founded by husband-and-wife team Richard and Shelley Golden, the pair scours European stores selling fashion frames made by top designers and order "sister frames" from the same manufacturers. This means specs that are just as stylish as the brand-name variety but go for a fraction of the cost—under $200 (including lenses), as opposed to the typical $700 price tag you see attached to big-name brands. The ninth in the See chain, which started in Michigan in '98, Boston's new boutique is decidedly un-gimmicky, despite its selling strategy. Unpretentious sales people are excited about the product, and they offer you free fruit while you flip through the frames, trying on as many as you like. The doctor is in on Saturdays and gives eye exams for $45. *125 Newbury St., Boston (236-0105). Mon.-Sat., 11am-6pm; Thu.-Sun., 12-5pm. —E.H. & J.S.*



Manager Tim Parks shows off See's sophisticated specs.

FACES

FREEDOM TRAIL

Unless you live under a rock, you've probably heard that a federal FBI report released in January suggested that Joe Salvati was wrongly convicted in the 1965 mob hit of Edward Deegan. Although Salvati was released from prison back in 1997 (when former Gov. Weld commuted his sentence), until a few weeks ago, Salvati was watched with hawk-like scrutiny by the Mass. Parole Board and wasn't allowed to step foot out of the state. Now that he's truly a free man, the notorious North Ender tells the IMPROPER he's already bought plane tickets: Soon enough, the accused crim-turned-celeb will be lolling on a tropical isle for a long-overdue vacation. We're talking Mai Tais on the beach rather than his usual Belvedere on-the-rocks at the Florentine Café. "Freedom is a beautiful thing," says Salvati simply.

He continues: "I was a gentleman before I went to prison and I'm a gentleman now. Prisons don't change people; you are what you are." We couldn't say it any better.

Coincidentally, new light has also been shed on another local '60s murder. Until recently it was believed that Albert deSalvo, a.k.a. the Boston Strangler, killed Mary Sullivan in 1964. That was until WBZ-TV 4 six-o'clock news producer Casey Sherman, the nephew of Sullivan, uncovered some startling facts regarding the case about eight months ago. Apparently there was never any physical evidence connecting deSalvo with the murder, only a confession; and when Sherman compared the confession with his aunt's autopsy, they didn't match up at all. "To me, this was the smoking gun in the case," says Sherman. "It exonerated deSalvo of my aunt's murder." The news producer's detective work provided the impetus for a *48 Hours* documentary on the Boston Strangler, which will air for the first time Feb. 15 at 10pm on Channel 4. Of course, Sherman's sleuthing was highly personal in nature as well as professional. "When working on a story, you try to be as objective as you can," says Sherman. "But in this case, it's family and it hits a chord." Although he has been featured in many national stories on the Boston Strangler, Sherman has not yet seen himself in the *48 Hours* piece and will watch for the first time when it airs nationally. The moral of these two forensic tales? *Don't* let sleeping dogs lie.

—Rachel Strutt

PAUL TANCREDI (4)

I WOULD RATHER DIE OF THIRST THAN DRINK FROM THE CUP OF MEDIOCRITY.



IN FERMENTUM VERITAS

ANNO STELLA ARTOIS 1366

LEUVEN BELGIUM



From left, producer Jeff Sharp, actors Kerry Washington, Hilary Swank and Chad Lowe, and co-director DeMane Davis at the *Lift* screening at Sundance

FILM

STAR POWER



In order to find out how our buzz-worthy Bostonians were faring in Park City, Utah, at the 17th **Sundance Film Festival**, local producer Katie Albert attended the festivities Jan. 18-28 and reported back with a who's who of the celluloid schmooze fest. She reveals that, as usual, many of Boston's hottest filmmakers rubbed shoulders with celebs such as **'N Sync**, **Denis Leary**, **Mick Jagger**, **Hilary Swank** and a slew of MTV's *Real World* cast members. Boston natives **DeMane Davis** and **Khari Streeter** received standing ovations at the world premiere of their second feature film, *Lift*, an irreverant caper film shot entirely on location in Boston. The pair, who co-wrote *and* co-directed the film, were joined by cast and crew, including its star, **Kerry Washington**, who appears opposite Julia Stiles in the current box office bonanza, *Save the Last Dance*. Also on the scene were **Bestor Cram** and **Mike Majoros**, directors of the documentary *An Unfinished Symphony*, which depicts a three-day march protesting the Vietnam War that took place in Lexington in '71, and Cambridge director **Errol Morris**, who gave a speech reviewing the highlights of his career.

In other cinema news, the Brattle Theatre's change of ownership marks the end of an era. **Marianne Lampke** and **Connie White**, co-owners of Running Arts at the Brattle, recently announced that they won't be renewing the lease to the theater. The pair took over the theater in '86 and brought it from a state of bankruptcy to a financially stable, leading moviehouse—one of the highest grossing single screens in the country—and their programming has received more than 40 awards from the Boston Society of Film Critics. Now, the building owners, Brattle Square Associates, join them in ushering in the Brattle Film Foundation, a newly formed group that will operate and program the Brattle. The Foundation is headed by **Ned Hinkle** and **Ivy Moylan**, who have worked for Lampke and White at sister companies, Running Arts and the Beacon Cinema Group. Interestingly enough, before Lampke and White took over the Brattle 15 years ago, they too were employees of the theater. The transition takes place March 2, following the Bugs Bunny Film Festival. We join film fans citywide in wishing the dynamic duo farewell, and we hope the new owners are up to the challenge of filling these sizable shoes. *—E.H. & J.S.*

IMPROPER CONSUMER

PRICING PICCINI



We all know restaurants mark up wine, but you might be surprised to know by how much. We called restaurants around town and asked the price of a bottle of Piccini chianti (1999), a tasty red table wine, and found a surprising variation. Keep in mind, the bottle costs $6 at Charles Street Liquors on Beacon Hill.
Giacomo's in the South End: $12
Davio's in the Back Bay: $19
Ristorante Saraceno in the North End: $28.50 ***—E.H. & J.S.***

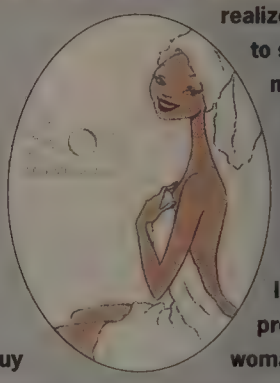
MEDIA

AFRAID OF THE JAW?

Hayley Kaufman has done such a bang-up job wooing young whippersnappers to read the ***Boston Globe*** with her weekday "Go!" column, the paper has tapped her to do a Sunday column, which has been dubbed "Jaw." (Kaufman will now share "Go!" duties with Christopher Muther.) As faithful "Go!" devotees can attest, Kaufman is a clever wordsmith who yaks stylishly about this or that before highlighting several events taking place that evening—rockabilly shows, poetry soirées, deejayed dance fests, you name it. In Jaw, Kaufman writes longer, first-hand accounts of social and cultural goings-on (will MTV-happy readers be able to pay attention for that long?). We sincerely salute Kaufman for promoting the arts and the nocturnal scene in general, but she uses one literary gimmick we find a bit disconcerting—referring to herself either as "Go!" or "Jaw." Here's just one example from her Feb. 11 Sunday column debut: "In Jaw's opinion, the scene reached its sweaty critical mass." Hmmm. Does this journalistic quirk spill over into real life? Might she one day saunter up to the bar in one of the trendy watering holes she so often mentions and say: "Jaw would like a cosmopolitan. And hey, who's spinning tonight? Jaw loves Jungle." *—R.S.*

SAM SAYS

OH SOY!



I'm getting a little tired of all the earthy-crunchy skin care products being shoved in my face (literally). So when I walked into Fresh, the ultra-trendy, sleek beauty boutique on Newbury Street and came upon yet another line of vitamin-enriched "natural" products called Soy Formula, I was skeptical. But once I spent a few weeks trying out the line—from soap to shower foam to moisturizer—I realized the Fresh folks are on to something big: My skin now feels smoother and less reptilian than it has in months. Here's the deal: Just as some doctors say that eating more soy, which is loaded with plant-based protein, can be good for a woman's well-being, soy-based beauty products do wonders for nourishing and moisturizing the skin. And the entire Fresh line is wondrous indeed. I'm pretty stingy with my raves, so take note!
—Samantha House

THIS JUST IN

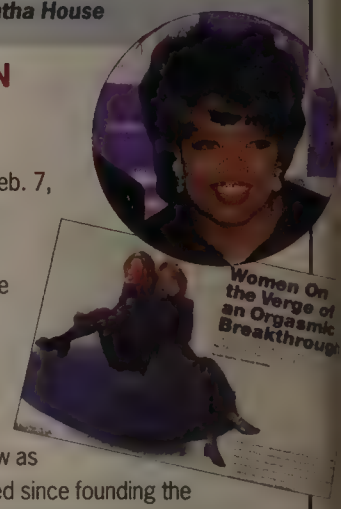
THE HIGH LIFE, NOW AVAILABLE IN SLICES



OK, so it's not quite as chic as Mistral or as trendy as Aria (the Euro-fabulous restaurant and nightclub, respectively). Nor is it as grandiose as a planned hotel in South Beach (a project that's still in the planning stages). Nevertheless, super-smoothie Seth Greenberg (inset) has launched a new venture, which opened in late January, without all the fanfare and folderol that usually accompany his every move. Together with salon owner Serge Safar, the nightlife impresario quietly opened Scoozi—a cute little pizzeria and sandwich bar at the corner of Newbury and Fairfield streets. Prices at the 24-seat eatery are low (at least in contrast to Greenberg's other boîtes): $6.75 will buy you a sandwich, and $10.50 will get you a pizza. When the weather warms up, they plan to have an outdoor cafe that will accommodate up to 50... at which point, no doubt, the Porsches and Ferraris will already be double-parked at the curb. ***—Jonathan Soroff***

SHAMELESS SELF-PROMOTION

OPRAH LIKES IT!



For those of us working stiffs who missed **Oprah** on Feb. 7, the talk show maven had doctors **Laura** and **Jennifer Berman** on the show, chatting about women's sexual health and (dis)satisfaction. Back on Jan. 13, 1999, the IMPROPER put these native Bostonians on the cover and ran an article titled "Women on the Verge of an Orgasmic Breakthough," which discussed the use of Viagra for women. And as luck would have it, the opening spread of this article was featured on her show as an example of the media exposure the pair has received since founding the Women's Sexual Health Clinic at Boston University Medical Center. Thanks Oprah! The sisters recently relocated their practice to a medical center at the University of California in Los Angeles. *—R.S.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

TOP LEFT: ANNA JANE DOBKIN; LEARY, GREENBERG: JONATHAN SOROFF; SCOOZI: RACHEL BROMBERG; OPRAH: GEORGE DESOTA/NEWSMAKERS

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The Great Spam Saga

In the age of Spam, truly tasty e-mails are getting to be few and far between

I still remember the first Spam I ever received, a solicitation for a cable descrambler described in the e-mail message (several times) as "*perfectly legal*." Annoyed that some bozo had somehow managed to get my e-mail address, I forwarded the message to the security mailbox of America Online. This was so long ago that I actually received a hand-entered message from an AOL employee, telling me that "unsolicited e-mails were beginning to be a problem," and that AOL intended to fix the problem "shortly." Yeah, right.

Five years later, Spam is a bigger problem than ever. Companies like AOL have struggled with Spammers, using a number of mechanisms such as blocking access from Internet Service Providers that support Spam-sending users. Congress has also batted around some laws to deal with the problem, but today there's been absolutely no sign Spam is less prevalent.

The reason is simple economics. Regular junk mail costs money to send, making it more cost effective to target mailings to people who might actually want to buy the item advertised. However, because it costs about the same amount of money to e-mail 10 million people as it does to e-mail a single customer, would-be entrepreneurs figure that they'll get more nibbles if they send out as many messages as possible. As a general rule, reputable companies don't use Spam, because the potential business that the mailing might generate is outweighed by the negative impact on the company's brand image. Smaller businesses, like the guy who wanted to sell me a cable descrambler, basically figure: "what the hell, I've got no brand image any way." And so the Spam continues.

In any case, I came up with what I thought was a brilliant plan to limit the Spam in my mailbox. Using AOL's multiple screen name feature, I set up a special e-mail account just for all the Spam. (Anyone who wants to use this technique can do so using free e-mail accounts from Hotmail or Yahoo.) Whenever I was asked to enter an e-mail address as part of an Internet form, I always gave the e-mail address of my Spam repository. I only gave my real e-mail address to friends, family and actual business associates.

It worked beautifully for about two years. Then I made the mistake of giving my real e-mail address to a Boston-based company called Press Access. I thought I was signing up for a service that would send me updates on editor employment, telling me which editor had moved to what publication—useful information if you're a freelancer. However, I made it perfectly clear that I didn't want the company to share my e-mail address with anybody else and, most important, that I didn't want to receive any Spam.

Within two weeks after signing up, I was surprised to find a press release in my private e-mail box. Then another, and then another. Curious, I contacted one of these Spammers and asked where she got my e-mail address. "Uh, Press Access," was the response. I then called Press Access, telling the receptionist that I was a reporter who wanted to write a story about Press Access. The receptionist put me through to Rochelle Nemrow, the company's vice president of product strategy, a very charming and intelligent woman who was clearly delighted at the prospect of some free publicity.

Nemrow explained to me that the purpose of Press Access is "to create solutions for PR professionals that give them the best information about the media." In other words, the business of Press Access is to sell lists of journalist e-mail addresses to people who e-mail press releases. Feigning innocence, I asked about Spam. She admitted that there are "lots of cases where journalists don't want to receive data," and that Press Access tells their clients not to send press releases to the journalists who opt out. "We don't want to be in the business of pay and spray," she explained.

MY E-MAIL ADDRESS SLOWLY STARTED SPREADING ELSEWHERE. WITHIN A FEW MONTHS, I WATCHED THE GRADUAL DEGENERATION OF THE QUALITY OF UNWANTED MESSAGES IN MY BOX.

It was at that point that I informed Nemrow that I was one of those aforementioned journalists and that I was pretty irritated that I was now receiving enough press releases to choke a horse. "Uh... you aren't going to write about this, are you?" she asked, and then apologized and promised to have my e-mail removed from the company's system.

The damage was already done, though. One of Press Access's clients apparently bootlegged its e-mail address list, and I soon started receiving press releases from companies that weren't Press Access clients. Then my e-mail address slowly started spreading elsewhere. Within a few months, I watched the gradual degeneration of the quality of Spam in my box. My unsolicited e-mail went from press releases about high-tech companies, to press releases about low-tech companies, to solicitation of investment opportunities, to multilevel marketing schemes, to religious appeals for money, to advertisements for adult Web sites, and finally, an e-mail promising to send me a "*perfectly legal*" cable de-scrambler. It was, as far as I can tell, the same Spam that I had received about five years ago.

Sigh. iB

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.



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Ezra BY EZRA DYER

A Crack Dealer

If you can't beat the house, join it

I'm not a gambler. This is not because I'm afraid of taking risks—I've been known to cross the street against the light every now and then—but because with me, there is no risk involved. I'm guaranteed to lose. I am the Washington Generals to gambling's Globetrotters. If casinos employed people to sneak up behind you and pull down your pants after you lose all your chips, the analogy would be complete.

This is why my strategy is simply to play the slot machines and cadge as many free drinks as possible, thus helping me rationalize the money that I inevitably lose. Hey, I didn't just waste $30, I merely enjoyed an unusually expensive vodka-and-tonic! I play the slots because I prefer to lose in easy, 25-cent installments. Everyone says that the odds are much better at the card tables, but the odds are definitely not better if, like me, you think "double down" is probably some type of really warm coat. And don't even get me started on those outrageous $5 minimum bets.



My luck isn't any better in other types of wagers, either. Last summer I went to Saratoga in the hopes that I would make it onto the positive side of the gambling ledger at the track. But while the cigar-chomping types around me discussed factors like track surface, prior race performance and the drag coefficients of the jockeys' heads, I picked a horse with a funny name. Needless to say, Milwaukee Brew did not win. In fact, Milwaukee Brew appeared to be trotting under a yellow caution flag for the duration of the race. I would feel bad that Milwaukee Brew is probably now Milwaukee Glue, but I lost $10. Stupid horse.

Well, recently I got the chance to get my gambling revenge. Mohegan Sun called and offered to show me how to be a blackjack dealer at the fabulously swanky Snow Ball charity event, where there would be gambling galore. Giddy images of swiping away chips and taunting losers danced through my mind. Quite possibly I would catch someone trying to scam the house, and I would push a concealed button that would summon the leg-breakers out for a little re-education session. Posh women would be seduced by my rakish charm, and affluent men would hand over their Rolexes in desperate bids to begin reclaiming their lost life savings. So what if this was really just play money, with "winnings" going to charity. I'd finally be a player.

Unfortunately, I wouldn't be sporting a Mohegan Sun uniform. Apparently the Mohegan Sun people read a few of my columns and had visions of me wearing their Native American-patterned duds and saying things like "What was the last thing to go through Custer's mind before he died? An arrow!" I would never do that. I was planning on saying "It's only a game but...you lose!" and "How you like me now, beeyatch?" a lot, however, so maybe they were smart to make sure nobody actually thought I was a real employee.

When the time came to deal for real, dreams of smack-talking were immediately put to rest. This is because it's hard to gloat when the people on the other side of the table are telling you when to take their chips, or what to do if they want to split or double down, or—my personal nightmare—do both. Two legit dealers, Scott and Leah, had given me a crash-course in blackjack-ology, but this consisted mainly of me asking questions like, "So even if I have 26 and they only have 20, I still lose?" as they sighed forlornly. My main problem was that I tended to forget that the basic assumption at a casino is that people are going to try to cheat, so you've got to be very obvious about your every move. I was admonished every time I put my hands under the table or took my left hand off of the "shoe," the plastic box that the cards slide out of. Basically, if I was a true dealer, the players and the casino would have had to fight over who got to rough me up.

But eventually I got into it, and after a while I was cruising along without too much assistance. I was starting to deal the cards faster and violate fewer rules of etiquette with every hand. And, if I'm not mistaken, for the first time ever I was winning more than losing.

And then, all too suddenly, it was time for the real dealer to take over. I was invited to join in as a civilian, but I declined. In fact, I'm never going to play again. That way, the next time I suck down my well drink and plunge my last quarter into a slot machine, I can be secure in the knowledge that, at least in one game, I'm not a loser. **iB**

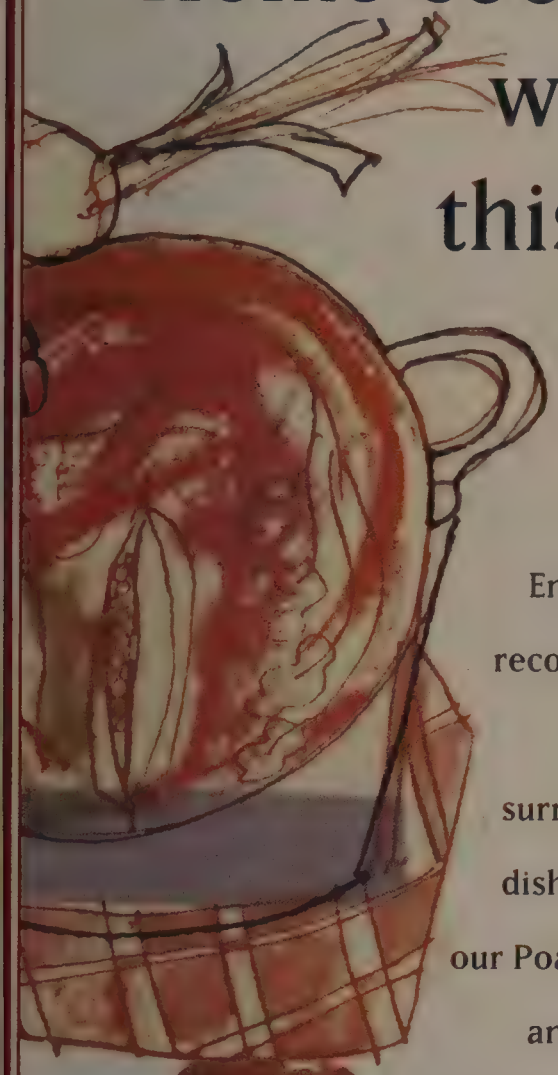
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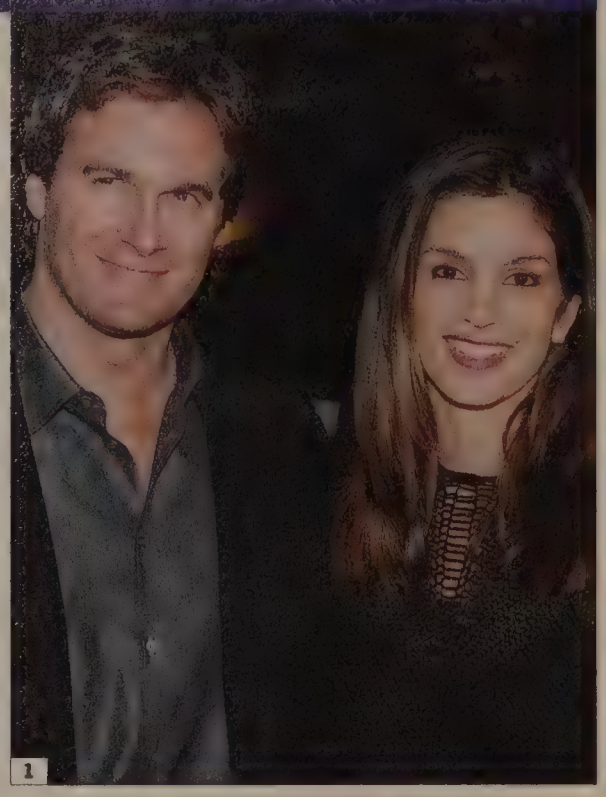
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FLASH'S COCKTAILS

Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The opening party for Whiskey Park was held Jan. 24 at Whiskey Park in the Park Plaza Hotel.

1. **Rande Gerber** and **Cindy Crawford**.
2. **Kathy Sheehan**, senior catering sales manager for the Park Plaza Hotel; **Richard Merrill**, senior vice president of the Merrill Corporation; and **Jill Goldwietz**, director of special events for the Boys and Girls Club.
3. **Christopher Fiumara**, real estate developer; **Melissa Lackey**, resident at Mass General; **Laura Stephens**, account manager of ATG in Cambridge; and **John Kelly**, senior trust specialist for Mellon Financial.
4. **Bob Palmer** (l), CEO and Partner of Columbia Electric in Brockton and Taunton, and **Ted Stamas**, president and CEO of Trick Entertainment Inc.
5. **Mario Russo** (l), owner of Salon Mario Russo, and **Rick Garofalo**, owner of Repertoire.
6. Back row, from left: **Angela Wooldridge**, sales representative for Landspeed Records; **Shawna Strachan**, manager and buyer for Eye of the Needle; **Abbey Wooldridge** and **Nina Jung**, executive assistant and director of event services, respectively, for Rafanelli Events; and **Kate Nixon**, event manager for Hopple Popple, in Newton.
7. **Paulina Neely** (l) and **Christine DiCarlo**, event planner for Front Row.


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The Big Sister Association of Greater Boston's 50th Anniversary Reunion was held Jan. 25 at the Skywalk in the Prudential Tower. Highlights included the rejoining of former and current Big and Little Sisters who were first matched more than 30 and 40 years ago.

8. **Jean Teillon**, director of product development for Co-nect Inc. in Cambridge, and **Kelly Burke**, social worker for Big Sister.
9. **Carrie Holowecki**, case aide for Big Sister, and her sister, **Jennifer**, accountant for Partners Financial in Charlestown.
10. **Eileen Moran**, market researcher for Applied Marketing Science in Waltham, and **Amy Cooper**, director of volunteer programs for MSPCC.
11. **Wendy Roberts** and **Danny T. Levy**, both senior managers for FleetBoston; **Karen Sackowitz**, president and CEO of KRS Associates in Haverill, and **Susan Ifill**, director of employee banking at FleetBoston.


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Dame Edna

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Dame Edna—an Australian housewife turned international superstar—is the invention/alter ego of actor, comedian and accomplished landscape painter Barry Humphries. After graduating from the University of Melbourne, Humphries joined the Melbourne Theater Company, where he created the character Mrs. Everage, who later evolved into Dame Edna.

After appearing as Estragon in Australia's first staging of *Waiting for Godot*, he hightailed it to Europe, eventually landing in London, where he appeared in numerous West End productions (including *Oliver*, alongside a young Phil Collins). In the early 70s, he collaborated with old friend Bruce Beresford (now an Academy Award-winning director) and honed his one-(wo)man show, which he presented at London's Apollo Theater. Dame Edna was a hit, snowballing into numerous TV specials, theatrical runs, a chat show and worldwide fame. Among the awards and accolades that have been heaped on either the tart-tongued hoyden or her creator are the Order of Australia in 1982, a British Academy Award and, last year, a Special Tony for *Dame Edna, The Royal Tour*, which is playing at the Wilbur Theatre from Feb. 20 to March 11. While Humphries has penned his autobiography (*More, Please*) and been the subject of two biographies, Dame Edna has authored several books (*My Gorgeous Life* and *Dame Edna's Bedside Companion* among them).

The founder of Friends of the Prostate, she collects Tiffany windows and Tamara de Lempicka paintings and counsels the royal family during her downtime. Humphries, on the other hand, is married to Lizzie Spender (daughter of British poet Sir Stephen Spender) and the couple has four children. Meanwhile, Dame Edna, a widowed mother of three, visits world leaders and jet-sets between homes in Malibu, London, Australia, Switzerland and Martha's Vineyard. We caught up with her in Florida.

Jonathan Soroff: *You look fabulous. How do you maintain that girlish figure?*

Dame Edna: Well, by constantly prowling about the stage in front of thousands of cheering people. Nothing hones the figure to perfection like regular standing ovations.

JS: *Any beauty secrets?*

DE: Yes. Avoid cosmetic surgery; it paralyzes the face. I always know when a woman's had it, because she can't laugh.

JS: *You're probably Australia's biggest export, aside from Nicole Kidman, Elle MacPherson...*

DE: ...Kylie Minogue, Olivia Newton-John, Germaine Greer, Dame Joan Sutherland...

JS: *So what is it about the Land Down Under?*

DE: A lot of us come from convict stock. They sent the scallywags to Australia and the Puritans to America...and doesn't it show?

JS: *Yes, indeed. So is Barry Humphries as much of a pain in the ass as I've heard?*

DE: Yes, well, I wouldn't use that expression, but there's always a little tension between a star and a comparatively lazy person who takes a percentage of her income. Barry helped me early on, I have to admit. He put me in one of his shows and I became popular while he sank into obscurity, but not before he got me to sign a piece of paper that to this day is legally binding.

JS: *How about the rumors I've heard that Prince Charles is thinking of leaving Camilla for you?*

DE: They're false. You mustn't listen to them. He adores me, of course, but then so does Camilla. In fact, I've been giving her a makeover. I suggested a little mauve in her hair, some lovely rhinestone glasses, and my son Kenny can't wait to design frocks for her.

JS: *I also heard you had a torrid affair with a bricklayer in Old Toongabby.*

DE: Where'd you hear that?!

JS: *Oh, read it somewhere...*

DE: Well, I'm a little bit removed from that kind of activity. I've always thought, Jonathan, that sex is overrated and is promoted pretty much solely by *Cosmopolitan* magazine. They've given young women a smorgasbord of anxieties.

JS: *Does that mean there's no one in your life?*

DE: Well, I have to be careful. I'm a rich woman, and there are lots of gigolos out there. But I have hoped that perhaps on this tour I might meet Mr. Right. Maybe even in Boston.

JS: *I hope so. So what do you think of men who make a living by dressing up as women—RuPaul, for instance, or Janet Reno?*

DE: I don't have any moral view of it. Y'know, I've been begged by the Royal Shakespeare Company to play Hamlet, and that would be a kind of drag, wouldn't it?

JS: *Probably. Any naked pictures of you circulating on the Internet?*

DE: No, I'm happy to say there's no scandal attaching to my name. I never posed naked. My husband never saw me naked. Nor did he ever express the least desire to.

JS: *Smart man. Anyway, since I assume that you received one, what did the invitations to Madonna's wedding look like?*

DE: A bit overdone. A lot of Versace-like swirls. A little bit—dare I say—nouveau riche? Pardon my snobbery.

JS: *That's OK. Who do you think will get divorced first—Posh Spice and David Beckham or Imran Khan and Jemima Goldsmith?*



DE: Kahn and Goldsmith. His roving eyes are just...Look, between you and me, he's made a very definite proposition to me, and, y'know, I couldn't hurt Jemima. That's what I said. She's adorable. As for the others, it's very hard to summon up any interest in Posh Spice, isn't it? Goodness knows why people are so fascinated. You know, Barry Humphries was in that movie with her...

JS: *The Spice Girls' movie?! How could he stoop so low?*

DE: Oh, I think he does anything for money.

JS: *Have you and Elton John ever fought over the same pair of glasses?*

DE: I knew Elton when he was just little Reg, and I said, "Whatever you wear, no matter how much it costs, it's going to look awful." It's his body! But his talent is fabulous. So I said, "You need a distinguishing feature, something on your face. Otherwise it looks a bit like a pudding." So I was the one who put him into face furniture.

JS: *Who's the most fascinating person you've ever interviewed?*

DE: I found hidden depths in Charlton Heston. He was lovely and had a wonderful sense of humor. Julio Iglesias I love, particularly when I discovered his father is a gynecologist. In fact, he's now my gynecologist. He's Spanish. And he's got a very bad shake... but that's not always a disadvantage...

JS: *My, my, my. So does anyone intimidate you?*

DE: Yes. Margaret Thatcher. She based her whole look on me, of course, but there's something otherworldly about her, something a little bit extraterrestrial. It's just possible, in fact, I think it's quite likely, that she was deposited by a saucer.

JS: *Any new dish on the royal family?*

DE: Well, they're always asking me for advice, and Prince William is a darling. Y'know, I felt very guilty for a while because I introduced Diana to Charles. I never thought it would work out, did you? And I adore Camilla.

JS: *What's your favorite thing about America?*

DE: People genuinely admire achievement. In England, it's a disgrace to be successful.

JS: *One last question: Your pet charity, Friends of the Prostate? How can we all pitch in and help?*

DE: By coming to see my show! Every ticket sold helps the prostate. I just want to extend the bounds of the prostate as far as possible. What could be nicer?

JS: *Very humanitarian of you.*

DE: I know. Well, lots of love, and I'll see you in Boston! iB

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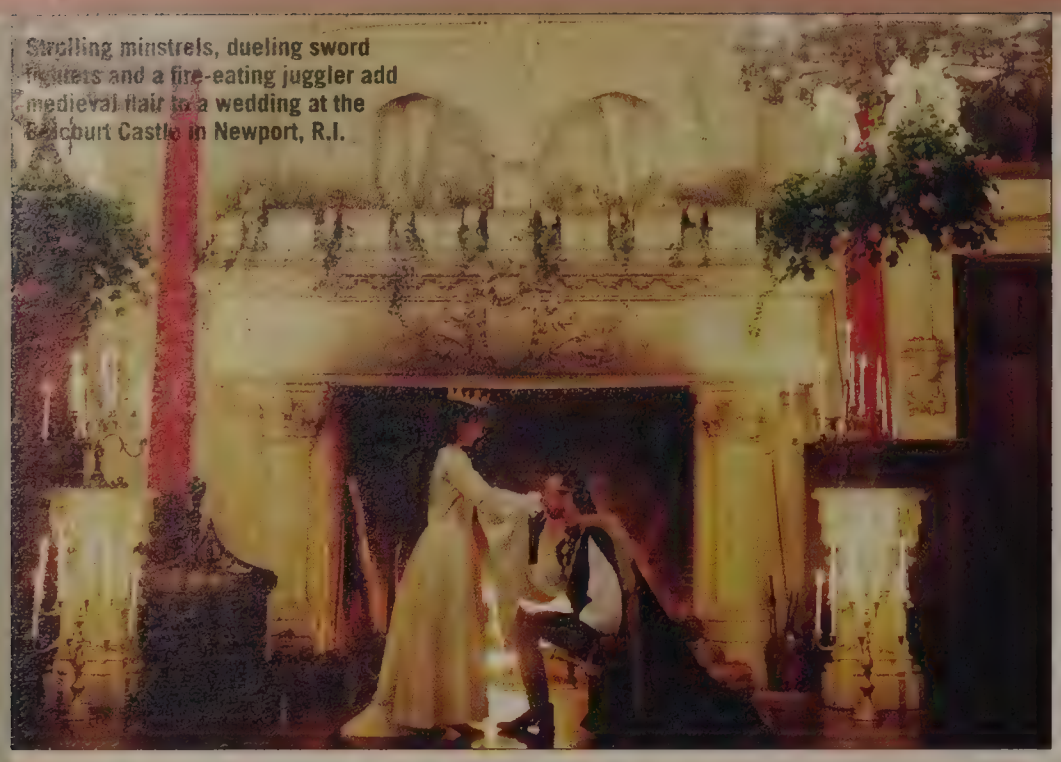
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The Improper Wedding Guide

PHOTOGRAPHER: TRACY POWELL; HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY LEAH SAN SOUCI/ENNIS—BRIDAL INQUIRIES, *LEAHSANSOUCI@AOL.COM*; MODELS: LONNA AND BUSTER BOTH OF FORD MODEL MANAGEMENT; ENTIRE BRIDAL OUTFIT PROVIDED BY YOLANDA'S, GOWN BY ATELIER AIMEE MONTENAPOLEONE—*WWW.YOLANDAS.COM*; TUXEDO PROVIDED BY MR. TUX/SQUIRE TUX, *WWW.MRTUX.COM*. THREE-TIERED WEDDING CAKE CREATED FOR THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN BY URSULA ART OF THE CAKE, 437-1155. CUSTOM DOLLS COURTESY REENI ARAGON, *WWW.GEOCITIES.COM/SUGARBABYNY11231/INDEX.HTML*



Strolling minstrels, dueling sword fighters and a fire-eating juggler add medieval flair to a wedding at the Beaucourt Castle in Newport, R.I.



Hoop dreams: Robyn and Shawn Sullivan host a courtside wedding reception at the FleetCenter.

It's a nice day for a... Wild Wedding

Boston brides and grooms eschew the traditional in favor of choose-your-own-adventures.

BY JULIE SHORT

The thinly veiled tension between a young couple who attended Nancy and Brett Curtis' wedding rehearsal dinner was difficult to ignore. As the couple became more agitated, guests nervously fiddled with their napkins and feigned interest in their overcooked salmon. After what seemed like an eternity, the feuding twosome began to roll around on the floor between the tables, now punching and kicking each other. At this point, most people would have declared the evening a complete disaster—but not Nancy and Brett. The pair, notorious practical jokers, just stood back and laughed at the reaction of their guests, who were unaware that the dueling duo were actors hired by the future bride and groom to liven up a predictable night of tired toasts and forced conversation.

This daring display of theatrics was one couple's way of making their wedding memorable—for everyone involved. Granted, most people don't go to such extremes, but more and more, brides and grooms want their weddings to reflect their distinct personalities—not just another sign-on-the-dotted-line package deal at a fancy hotel. "Today's professionals spend enough time at hotels for business meeting or conventions," says wedding consultant Melanie Bibbo of Blissful Beginnings, a wedding planning and coordination company based in Deerfield, N.H. "They don't want to have their wedding at one."

As men and women postpone marriage until they're well into their 30s and 40s, the number of weddings that break from tradition is on the rise. "These folks have been to enough weddings to know what they do—and don't—want at their own," says Maria Nardella at Baker's Best Catering in Newton—more so than a 22 year old who's heavily influenced by the whims of Mom and Dad (especially if they're the ones footing the bill). Conformity is out, and individualism is in.

For some, that means hosting their wedding on a cruise ship—for others it's much more extreme: a rustic camp without heat or lavatories on an island in the middle of Lake Winnipesaukee. Or maybe it's a medieval-themed wedding in a castle, or a country-Western barbecue on a ranch. No problem, say some wedding planners. It can be done. We talked with industry insiders, as well as a handful of newly married couples, and asked them to share their tales of weddings that broke the mold.

Field of Dreams

When it comes to weddings in the Great Outdoors, the trend is definitely barnyard, not backyard. At Charlotte and Chris Jeffreys' wedding at the Merk Farm in Rupert, Vt., for example, casually clad guests settled comfortably on bales of hay instead of pews, and the bride and groom arrived not in a stretch limo, but a horse-drawn carriage. Instead of dramatic swells of organ music, they opted for the simple strains of a lone fiddle. Add two cows chewing their cud in the adjoining field, and you've got a scene straight out of *The Sound of Music*.

TOP: RON STERN; BOTTOM: GEORGE MARTELL

"We knew we didn't want a big to-do in a church," says Charlotte Jeffreys. For this nature-loving couple, an outdoor wedding made sense. But that's not true of every bride and groom, cautions Bibbo of Blissful Beginnings. In other words, city people who consider a stroll through the Boston Common their way of communing with nature should think twice before booking a day at the farm. "If the affair doesn't fit your personality, guests will walk away at the end wondering why you had your wedding in a barn."

With memories of campfire gatherings, roasted marshmallows and midnight swims in Lake Winnipesaukee still fresh in their minds, it was an easy decision for Jen and Ari Adler to host their wedding at the YMCA camp where they had both worked as college students. Some 120 guests took the ferry to Sandy Island and camped out in cabins without lavatories or heat. "Unfortunately, it was a really cold weekend in early June. We had to buy hand warmers for the older people and the children," Adler recalls. It didn't spoil the fun, though. "My mom said the weekend made her feel like she was 8 years old again and back at camp." Guests played softball, barbecued and huddled around a campfire at night. Her only hesitation: "It was a lot of work logistically to get all the supplies and people out to the island."

Ingrid and Mark Renzi, who hosted their wedding on Cabbage Island in Boothbay Harbor, Maine, agreed. "Some of the bands we interviewed were reluctant to go out to an island," says Ingrid Renzi. Determined to have a seaside wedding, the couple persevered, and eventually they found a band and a caterer, Cabbage Island Clambakes. All the guests got into the spirit of the adventure, donning plastic bibs and sitting on picnic benches as they cracked open their lobsters and spooned up clam chowder. "It was a real Maine experience, ending with a starlit ferry ride back to the mainland," Renzi says.

Contacts: *Merk Farm (802-394-7836); Blissful Beginnings (877-BLISSFUL); Baker's Best Catering (617-332-4588); Cabbage Island Clambakes (800-628-6872); Sandy Island Camp (617-927-8032).*

Theme of the Evening

How often do you attend a wedding where guests are encouraged to grab a hunk of roast chicken with their bare hands, cheer on dueling sword fighters clad in armor and dance to the music of strolling minstrels? Not often enough, judging from the tales of David Stickney, owner of Pastimes in Revere, whose hobby is planning medieval-themed weddings. One of his most recent affairs, at Belcourt Castle in Newport, R.I., included a full medieval banquet, with tables set around a center stage. Some 20 performers—including a Merlin look-alike, a fire-eating juggler and the Celtic band Pendragon—entertained the lively crowd (made even more enthusiastic by copious glasses of mead). "The guests really got into the spirit of the evening," says Stickney. "Almost all were dressed up—from the bride, who wore a Renaissance-style gown, to the best man, who was garbed in flexible armor." Why the medieval theme? "We wanted to have the perfect fairytale wedding," says the bride, Louise DePuy, who professes a passion for all things Renaissance. The chosen setting was perfect: the Newport castle was built in the style of Louis XIII.

The theme doesn't have to be so outrageous. Kim Frankian, an administrative assistant for Asset Alternatives publishing company in Wellesley, had always dreamed about getting married at Disney World. When she realized it wasn't financially possible, she planned her wedding based on her favorite childhood movie, *Cinderella*. "I wanted to be princess for the day," Frankian admits. She wore glass slippers (actually clear plastic shoes), introduced her wedding party—complete with tiaras and gold crowns—as her Royal Court, and danced to the *Cinderella* theme song "This Is Love." Her centerpieces were pumpkins painted gold with wheels attached, and her cake was topped with a pair of glass slippers. At the end of the night, she and her Prince Charming, Dave, waltzed off into the night.

Almost anything goes—but when it comes to themed weddings, it's important that the bride and groom know their audience, cautions Betty Parise, a consultant at Weddings by Domenica in Wilmington. "If many of your guests are more sedate and conventional, weddings with a crazy theme will not be appreciated," she says. Parise helped plan a successful country-Western-themed wedding at a ranch on the South Shore—in fact, the only thing missing at the hoe-down was Roy Rogers and his trusty horse Trigger. "The couple wanted to do something totally out of the ordinary," says Parise. Guests swaggered into the fenced-in corral sporting jeans and denim shirts and brightly colored kerchiefs around their necks. The bride herself sidled up to the altar in a Dolly Parton-esque white suit with fringe and knee-high cowgirl boots. In between dancing to country-Western music and getting their fill of steak and ribs, guests rode horses around the property. Everyone had a blast, says Parise, "but again, you've got to ask yourself, 'Is your grandmother going to feel comfortable in blue jeans and a denim shirt?' It's something to keep in mind."

Cindy and Steve Fierstein took the Western-themed wedding one step further when they hosted a country Halloween party last October. Most of the guests who arrived at their Stamford, Conn., home—decked out in cowboy hats, boots and jeans—had no idea that the party was a wedding in disguise. "We did tell a dozen people prior to the event, including immediate family—to avoid heart attacks and to ensure the guest list was complete—and a couple of people who would not have come from far away for a Halloween party," says Steve. At the appointed hour, a hired magician made a wedding ring appear out of thin air. Steve announced to a roomful of stunned guests that he and Cindy would be getting "hitched" that very afternoon.

Surprise weddings occur more frequently than one might think, says Brian Walkley, president of Willow Productions, an entertainment company based in Boston specializing in wedding bands and DJs. "If a couple wants to have an unstructured party celebrating their marriage with very few formalities, it's a great way to do it," he says.

One groom's dream was "to 'buzz' his wedding à la Tom Cruise in Top Gun." *Communicating with one of his ushers by cell phone, this wanna-be Maverick surprised his wedding guests by landing his seaplane on the water nearby..."*

Looking for an unconventional site for your wedding? The beach is just one example. Others take it a step further with a clambake picnic, sunrise ceremony or boardwalk procession.





Dancing in the streets: Bride Liz Zadel Foley leads a Dixie Land band parade through the Back Bay.

LEFT: KATHLEEN KYLE

Wedding Hells

Those in-the-know share their tales of woe. BY ERIN HAGEDORN

Forget whether grandma should be seated next to goth cousin Curtis. When it comes to weddings, potential blow-ups are never predictable. We turned to a number of seasoned wedding-goers to get their tales of big day bloopers. Their advice on avoiding nuptial nightmares? Keep a sense of humor. So your-six tiered cake is drenched by a flash thunderstorm, your flowers are supposed to be alive and the groom isn't supposed to be so damn drunk? No worries. Remember: Wedlock doesn't have to be a strictly solemn business, and blunders are what make every wedding unique.

The Clergy

Dr. Milton P. Ryder, a minister at the First Baptist Church in the Back Bay, has no shortage of ridiculous stories. "Sometimes the most sacred events are the settings where the most ridiculous things happen," he says matter-of-factly. Describing one of the many Chinese-American weddings he performs, Ryder says, "Since the audience was mostly Chinese, I encouraged the couple to have a translator. But I wasn't used to everyone taking turns speaking—I got really confused. I would say vows, the translator would repeat them and then the groom, then I think it was my turn. Soon I lost track of who was speaking to who—In the end, I think I married the groom to the translator."

And though he's a man of the cloth, Ryder is not always compassionate when it comes to irksome co-workers. "Next to limo drivers, photographers are the worst part of weddings. For them, every flash is a dollar sign. We tell them no photography during the ceremony, but they flash away, which means I'm blinded while I'm trying to read their vows—there are all these pauses in the ceremony. The clods come in with big cameras and scare kids half to death as they're coming down the aisle so they freeze. They're the bane of any wedding."
Moral: Unilingual marriage ceremonies tend to go more smoothly. And keep the clergy away from the photographer.

Event Managers

One hotel wedding specialist (several professional insiders wish to tell tales anonymously) says that most foibles can be averted by tossing back fewer drinks the night before. "I encourage people to never, ever have the bachelor party the night before the wedding," she says, referring to incoherent best men and the disturbingly large number of grooms who pass out mid-ceremony. She recalls, "During one best man's toast, the best man capped off the toast with a 'Here's to Dick and Marianne.' Which would have been fine, but Marianne was the name of Dick's former fiancée. The bride was horrified. It just got more embarrassing, because the more he tried to explain himself, the worse it got."

Diamond's Edge Restaurant off the coast of Portland, Maine hosts up to six weddings a week in the summer, giving them plenty of opportunity to see many a mishap. While working there for the summer, Michael Howard witnessed a bride physically attack the event coordinator after her CD player didn't work. Another unfortunate instance involved a bride who, in full dress, "took a full, nose-diving digger from a moving golf cart that was taking her to the ceremony."
Moral: Incapacitating hangovers can and will occur—even on the Big Day.

The Band

One wedding DJ agrees that the majority of pitfalls are alcohol-induced. "I was playing some sort of sexy song and a couple in their sixties, I think it was the bride's aunt and uncle, started to strip—they thought it was a strip tease. Once I saw them, I played the real stripping song and they went crazy and took it all off." He warns, however, that some accidents are unavoidable, "Sure—sometimes the electricity will go out or you'll pop a breaker and the music stops. How do you explain that to 400 drunk people? But we make sure it works out somehow. Like once, the cake delivery man came in all distraught, and told me it he got into a car accident and smashed the cake. I took some record sleeves, we propped it up with my records and my assistant ran to buy frosting. Then we blended the frosting into the white record sleeves with our fingers." Another musician recalls when a bride "was so drunk she came up to us and flashed the band. And she wasn't wearing underwear. All of the inlaws left."
Moral: Ask guests (and bride) to wear proper attire—and to keep it on.

The Photographer

Then there's natural disasters. Photographer Kerry Brett-Hurley was working at an outdoor tent wedding at the Hingham Yacht Club when hurricane Floyd made an appearance. "It was a direct hit. Their friends were all flying in but Logan was closed so half of the guests were stuck. The tent collapsed, they had to cancel seven piece band because there was no where to put them. They lost power. The caterers couldn't cook, all the vendors had to leave. They lost all the money because they had to pay up-front. There was a very long cocktail hour. Finally they just said. 'Forget it,' knocked back a few, and had a great time."

Leo Gozbekian, a Newton-based wedding photographer, has seen it all during his 25 years in the biz. He recalls a story that sounds almost too horrifically cliché to be true. "During a reception, the groom's ex-girlfriend showed up, all dressed up, and everyone's in shock. A little while later, nobody can find the groom. Finally they find locked door and the father of bride breaks it down. There they are, going at it." Ouch.
Moral: Make sure you talk about monogamy before you get married.



A wedding cake meets with an unfortunate demise due to an inebriated caterer's fumble.



With the USS *Constitution* silhouetted against the sunset in the background, a young couple gets married aboard a cruise ship in the Boston Harbor.

Melanie Bibbo of Blissful Beginnings remembers a couple who arranged for their guests to meet them at the Mansion at Turner Hill in Ipswich. Instead of going inside, however, the group boarded a bus that took them to an old-fashioned movie theater in Exeter, N.H. The couple's names were illuminated outside on the marquis, and a giant movie poster plastered on the door featured a glamorous photo of the duo. With popcorn and soda in hand, guests sat down for a 40-minute movie, *Let's Get Married*, about the couple's courtship. "The groom's hobby was making movies, so it was the perfect venue for them," says Bibbo. When the house lights came back on, the couple got married on stage, and then everyone was bussed back to Turner Hill for the reception.

Contacts: *Pastimes (781-853 0583); Weddings by Domenica (781-438-2424); Willow Productions (421-9336); Belcourt Castle (401-846-0669); Mansion at Turner Hill (978-356-7070).*

Bridal Jerseys and Sporty Tuxedos

It was day of hoop dreams when Robyn and Shawn Sullivan, both avid Celtics fans, boarded a Duck Tour boat after their wedding ceremony and headed to the FleetCenter for their reception two years ago. While the guests had cocktails in the Legends Sports Bar, the wedding party gathered in the Celtics locker room, where each bridesmaid and groomsman had a locker with his or her name above it. The Sullivans gave out wedding favors—blue and black Converse sneakers to match the dresses and tuxedos—and then rejoined the dinner-dance down on the arena floor. As guests found their way to their tables using FleetCenter ticket stubs, a video of the bride and groom's childhood played overhead on the Jumbotron. The two bars on either end of the parquet floor were framed by basketball nets. "We'd thought about having a wedding on the water at the Cape," says Robyn. "But the FleetCenter really fit our personalities—it's perfect for sports fanatics."

Unfortunately Red Sox fans can't get married on Fenway's home plate—but they can book the park's Diamond Club for as many as 300 people. After guests finish their ballpark franks or barbecued chicken, they can head to seats in the Grandstand on game days (there's no view from the Diamond Club). Another option for the competitively inclined (if you're very persuasive with your bride-to-be) is F1 Boston's go-kart racetrack in Braintree. It can accommodate up to 500 people and offers full-service catering, beverage service, custom linens, flowers, music and plenty of heart-stoppin' entertainment. "We've hosted a bunch of bachelor parties, engagement parties and rehearsal dinners, and we've had a few inquiries about weddings," says Karen Quast, director of sales and marketing at F1.

Up north, in Ski Country, Kim Jackson of Killington Resort in Vermont says,

TOP: KERRY BRETT HURLEY; BOTTOM: COURTESY OF BOSTON YACHT CHARTERS

KIM CASE PHOTOGRAPHY



617 424 6630

"We see one or two weddings a year on the mountain." Most are couples who share a love of skiing. Not Joe Peters. He'd never skied a day in his life when he married his wife, Nancy, an avid skier, at Killington's peak last January. His wily bride-to-be convinced him that it would be fun. So he put on skis long enough to ride up the chair lift and say "I do" under an arch made out of ski poles. The bride wore a bright yellow ski parka with a flowing yellow veil, and her flower girls were on snowboards. Afterward, Joe snow-plowed his way back down the mountain. He hasn't been on skis since. "It was very inexpensive for everyone involved—simply the cost of a ski weekend," says Charlotte Wolter, one of the guests.

Contacts: *FleetCenter (624-1050); The Diamond Club at Fenway (375-0932); F1 Boston (781-848-2300); Killington Ski Resort (802-422-6200).*

Floating Nuptials

One of Amanda Holmes' favorite memories of her wedding reception aboard the *Winnipesaukee Belle* was the sight of a friend sporting the captain's hat as she maneuvered the 65-foot paddle steamboat around a peninsula. "I saw that everyone else was having just as much fun as I was," she says. For three hours, the *Belle* sailed Lake Winnipesaukee's 283 miles of shoreline, while guests danced to the tunes of a DJ, feasted on a generous buffet and sipped cocktails on deck.

It was the quintessential autumn day in New England, recalls Holmes, with trees along the shoreline aglow with fiery red-and-gold foliage against a cloudless blue sky. For someone who spent every summer of her childhood frolicking in Lake Winnipesaukee, the setting was particularly significant. "My husband and I both share a love of the water," Holmes says, "so it made sense that we had our wedding on a boat."

The bonus is that a cruise ship wedding can actually be cheaper than the equivalent party on land. "You can get away with spending less on food and decorations because the scenery is so amazing," says Ann Hessenius, an event arranger with Boston Yacht Charters. It's also very romantic. After the Holmes' reception, a little cruiser boat picked up the couple, and they sped off into the sunset as the guests waved goodbye from the dock.

There are a few downsides, warns Hessenius. First, a cruise is not for people who want a sit-down meal. A buffet is the only way to feed hundreds of people with limited kitchen space. Second, out-of-town guests might miss the boat. "I tell my brides to lie on the invitation and make the departure time a half-hour earlier to account for those who are perpetually late," she says. Finally, you're at the whim of Mother Nature. But Hessenius says, "I've only had to reschedule three events in 10 years."

Contacts: *In New Hampshire, the* Winnipesaukee Belle *(603-569-3016). In Boston, companies to contact include Boston Harbor Cruises (277-4321), Bay State Cruise Co. (748-1428),* Spirit of Boston *(748-1450), Princess Yacht Charters (951-2460) and Boston Yacht Charters (242-7837).*

Odds 'n Ends

It's not necessary to have a castle full of medieval revelry or a field of grazing cows to make your wedding memorable. Sometimes all it takes is one unique detail. One bride, for example, knew her female friends would never agree to the bouquet-catching ritual. So she announced that $100 in scratch tickets were attached to the bouquet. Needless to say, the ruse worked, and a mad scramble ensued. Another couple made a donation in the name of each guest to the Oceanographic Institute in Woods Hole in place of wedding favors. And yet another couple had their dog walk down the aisle as their ring-bearer.

Did we mention that limos are passé? One groom's lifelong dream was "to 'buzz' his wedding *a la* Tom Cruise in *Top Gun*." Communicating with one of his ushers by cell phone, this wanna-be Maverick surprised his wedding guests by landing his seaplane on the water nearby. A footnote: "An entrance such as this can only be accomplished with the permission of a very cool and very understanding bride," emphasizes the groom's best man, Edward Peselman.

Boston resident Liz Zadel Foley secured a parade permit from the city and had motorcycle cops stopping traffic for her Dixie Land band parade from the church in Bay Village to the Algonquin Club on Commonwealth Avenue. "People on the street stopped and took photos—some even joined us," not realizing that it was a wedding procession, says Foley with a laugh.

Others have been escorted away in golf carts, fire trucks, trolleys and antique cars—even sailboats. (Caution: If the photographer accompanies you on the boat, make sure he or she doesn't suffer from motion sickness, warns Marblehead bride Laura Wolff, who learned this lesson the hard way.) Olive Chase of the Casual Gourmet in Centerville, Mass., watched a bride and groom cycle out of their wedding tent on a mountain bike built for two. "She was still in her wedding gown," recalls Chase.

But it's hard to top the exit strategy of a couple that booked a magician for the last hour of their reception. He put them in a box, waved his hands a few times, and with a puff of smoke, they "disappeared" and were never seen, nor heard from, again ... that is, until a postcard from the Caribbean arrived in the next week's mail.

Contacts: *Algonquin Club (266-2400); Casual Gourmet (508-775-4946).* iB



Reel Affair: These movie buffs took their wedding party to an old-fashioned theater in Exeter, N.H., and were married on stage.

When the bride announced that $100 in scratch tickets were attached to the bouquet, a mad scramble ensued...



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BY EZRA DYER & BARBARA MATTALIANO



Service at the Jewel of Newbury's private dining rooms means constant pampering and attention...



...while at the Locke-Ober's private dining rooms, service means being allowed to celebrate your pending matrimony in whatever way you deem appropriate.

Pepperell Skydiving Center's Paula Philbrook hears this common explanation for bachelor parties: "My wife's not gonna let me once we're married."

OK, let's establish something here: We realize that, in compiling suggestions for male or female–only bachelor/bachelorette parties, we're reinforcing sexist stereotypes. Well, the more enlightened among you can plan Jack-and-Jill parties, or alternately, simply read about the bachelorette plans if you're a man and vice-versa if you're a woman. Voilà. You are now liberated. When you get right down to it, the principles of a bachelor or bachelorette party are the same, anyway. You want to bond with friends who've seen you through your single days, and you want to start planning for it four to six weeks before the wedding. The biggest questions are how much you want to spend and how (or if) you want to remember the party. So whether you want a quiet party at home or a night of chauffeured shenanigans, here are five suggestions for your final night out.

NICE PACKAGE

Gentlemen: OK, so it's not exactly a ready-made package deal, but when a strip club is 20 minutes from a country club, it doesn't take much organization to put together a fun trip. So call the Atlantic Country Club in Plymouth and set up your own tournament. Call it the Monogamy Open. Then, when you've completed 18 holes and/or beers, head to Zachary's, just down the road in Mashpee. There you'll find many friendly ladies eager to help you forget you just shot a 150. As a Zachary's employee who referred to himself only as "Michael" told us, "Golf, bachelor parties and strip clubs go hand in hand." Sounds like a complete package to us. *Atlantic Country Club, 508-759-6644; Zachary's, 508-477-1900.*

Ladies: For career women out there too busy (or lazy) to plan a bachelorette party, check out the deal offered by the Charles Hotel. The day goes something like this: Start by coddling yourself at the Le Pli Day Spa with a manicure, pedicure and blow-dry. Once you're feeling fresh and flirty, head to the Tini Bar for a round of "Flirtinis" (Stoli Razberi Vodka and Grand Marnier). Then it's off to the Regattabar for a night of jazz, before retiring to your plush suite. Your morning includes breakfast in bed and privileges at the Wellbridge Fitness Center. *800-882-1818; $250 per person, all inclusive.*

AN ULTIMATE RIDE

Gentlemen: If you're going to tie the knot, you may as well go out in style. And transportation doesn't get much more extravagant than a Navigator limo, which will seat you and 13 friends/entertainers. We recommend downplaying the whole bachelor-party angle with the folks at Arborway Limousine—they said something about bachelor parties being inordinately drunken/rowdy/destructive, so just say you're taking the Navigator out to a day at the ballpark. Soon enough, Fenway will be open, and on select days in April, May, June and Sept., you can book 40-person groups in the bleachers for $10 a ticket. If you want to continue livin' large, tickets to the 600 Club are $125 a pop. But we'd probably go for the bleachers and spend the difference on Coors Light. *Arborway Limousine, 1-800-767-3030. Rex Sox tickets, 267-1700.*

Ladies: If you're looking for a set of wheels with a uniquely Boston theme, call Old Town Trolley, which will let you decorate your trolley with ■ bride-to-be sign and balloons. Whether shopping for a blow-up doll or items for a scavenger hunt, log on to *www.bachelorettepartyshop.com* and *www.bachelorpartytips.com* so you can bring some bachelorette pranks and party games for the ride. Traditional brides-to-be will wear a white dress and veil—or why not a tiara and wand too! Before you board, give the driver a map with your favorite hot spots in the city and leave it up to him to get you there. There's bound to be plenty of embarrassing moments that you won't want to forget, so bring your video camera. *269-7150; $699 for five hours.*

HOME COOKIN'

Gentlemen: If you want to have your party at home (or, preferably, at somebody else's home), you'll need food. And what could be more appropriate at a bachelor party than cooking up a huge pile of meat? Lucky for you, Redbones in Somerville will bring a big-ass grill and a cook to your doorstep. That'll take care of up to 75 people, but they can go bigger if you happen to be particularly popular. And remember: Martha Stewart sez to mind your manners and keep some veggie-burgers on hand, in case any of the strippers are vegetarians. *628-2200, $900.*

Ladies: If your bride-to-be pal is a foodie who enjoys cooking as much as eating, call private chef Terence Janericco, the author of a dozen cookbooks and a cooking instructor for over 30 years. He will lead a three-hour cooking class, which includes the cooking and eating of the selected menu (be it Asian, Northern Italian or purely a chocolate feast) accompanied with a wine tasting. Cook at his house or your own for an unforgettable evening of gluttony and revelry. *426-7458. $75 per person.*

LEAP OF FAITH

Gentlemen: You know that once you're married you're never going to be able to do anything fun, right? Ha ha, just kidding. Sort of. Paula Philbrook, vice-president of the Pepperell Skydiving Center, hears this common explanation for bachelor parties: "My wife's not gonna let me do this once we're married." We could discuss the metaphorical implications of leaping out of a plane at 10,000 feet before you make that other leap, but let's just say this is a unique way to kick off your bachelor party and leave it at that. *978-433-9222, $215 per person.*

Ladies: For the woman who regularly reads her horoscope, consider inviting a psychic to your party to perform a tarot reading, handwriting analysis or astrology. Or opt to venture out for a palm, aura or runes reading. This is a good time to get some positivity going, and although we're not disparaging the talents of the psychics, what fortune-teller would be foolish enough to forecast anything but promising wishes for the bride-to-be? *Psychic New Age Entertainment, 781-641-2100; $30 per person. The Original Tremont Tea Room, 338-8100; $15 per 10 minutes per person.*

GO TO YOUR ROOM

Gentlemen: Here's the problem with going out on the town for your big night: You want to have the best time possible, but half of the ideas you have in mind would probably get you arrested anywhere this side of Bangkok. Time to head to a private dining room at Locke-Ober. There are 12 rooms, to fit differing group sizes, budgets and levels of debauchery. General manager Geoffrey Sullivan describes the place as a throwback to a bygone era when the customer was king: "The guests are allowed to be themselves, and do it in grand style. Privacy is the thing. It's your room, and the strippers and drinking and smoking—none of that is discouraged here." *542-1340, price varies.*

Ladies: For an elegant bachelorette fête, look no further than the Jewel of Newbury—a unique boutique hotel and Mediterranean restaurant. (The exotic-yet-tasteful decor helps create a romantic ambiance. The building, a 19th century brownstone, is filled with Victorian antiques, treasured artifacts and rugs from Northern Africa and Persia.) The subtle flavors of the food, the unique wine selection and the exceptional service surpass your wildest fantasies. Fans rave that you will not find another dining experience like this in Boston—and they're right. Call Mouldi Sayeh, owner of the Jewel of Newbury, to reserve the Jewel's dining room. There you'll find a private marble bathroom, bar and wine cellar. The meal includes a seven-course dinner—don't miss the Moroccan salad, roasted eggplant, Lamb Tagine or the sumptuous seafood platter—and a champagne toast. *536-5523; $150 per person, 10-person minimum.* ■

LEFT: TRACY POWELL; RIGHT: BERTA A. DANIELS

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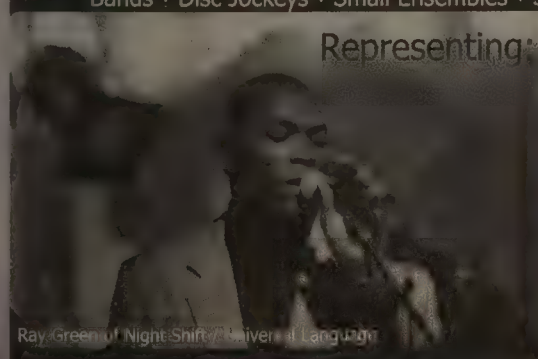


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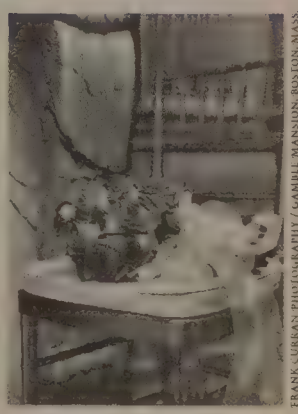
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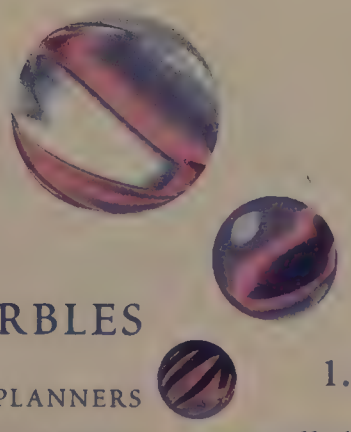


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EDITED BY ERIN HAGEDORN

Reflections of White

Wedding gowns that live up to your dreams

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DANA HELFER
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

Opposite page: Pearl-hued silk-tissue taffeta gown with lace-up back and billowing train by Justina McCaffrey, $4,025, available at Yolanda Bridal Salon. Carved ivory mirror, available at Charles River Antiques.

This page: Off-the-shoulder satin gown with braid beaded crystal bodice by Reem Acora, $8,000, available at La Reine. Tiara available at La Reine. Candelabra from Charles River Antiques.





Organza strapless gown with duchess satin blue asymmetric inset on skirt, $3,999, available at Saks Fifth Ave. Faux pearl and diamond necklace, $305. Available at Erwin Pearl.

Floral embroidered tulle gown with sweeping train by Tatiana of Boston, $5,200. Girl's floral green organza dress by Suzanne La Montagne. Gilded suede ottoman, available at Charles River Antiques. Tiara from La Reine. Faux pear-shaped diamond ring, $615, available at Erwin Pearl.



Spaghetti-strap ivory organza gown with lattice lace applique by Vera Wang, $7,990, available at Saks Fifth Ave. Topaz-colored necklace, $615, faux diamond ring, $695; both available at Erwin Pearl.

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Saks Fifth Avenue
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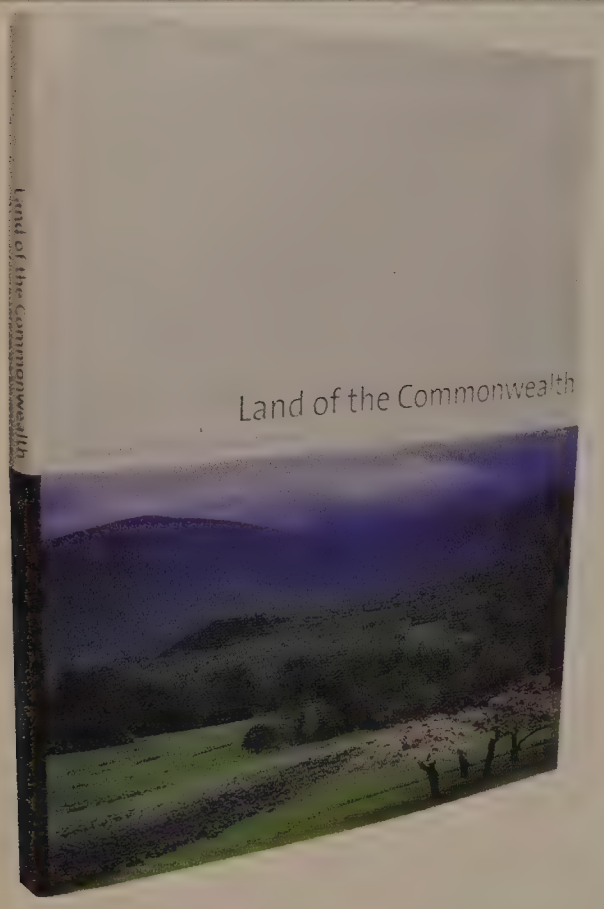
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BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



GREENING, EVERLASTING

One hundred nine years ago, the Trustees of Reservations had the foresight to preserve beautiful land in Massachusetts. You can join the group (978-921-1944)or buy the book *Land of the Commonwealth*. All proceeds will go the organization.

Though Massachusetts is the sixth-smallest state in the nation, a heartening 1.1 million acres—a hefty one-fifth of the state—are protected by the Trustees of Reservations. One place to see these luscious wild places is in *Land of the Commonwealth*. After gazing at the landscapes, you may be inspired to travel via modern ugly highway for a firsthand experience of these historic houses, eternal rivers, lush green expanses, magnificent quarries, and bird-populated marshes and fields. Starting right here, you can walk along the Riverway's Muddy River, part of Olmsted's Emerald Necklace, displayed in this book in a golden-autumnal two-page spread. Photographer Richard Cheek says that his camera is in love with nature. There are gorgeous gorges in Chesterfield, and miniature stone bridges carved out of the bedrock by the swirling waters of Falls Brook in Royalston. Looking at these landscapes and buildings, knowing that they always have been, and always will be, exactly this pure and beautiful, brings on a delicious sigh of peace. No malls in paradise, ever! Cheek's crisp images present the abundance of Massachusetts' riches—trees topped in gold and scarlet, snow-blanketed vistas, and cranberry fields forever.

THE SKY ABOVE, THE GUY BELOW

Galileo's Odyssey is a 45-minute multimedia show at the Hayden Planetarium that features an overhead slide show and an appearance by Galileo himself. Daily through April 12. Call 723-7200.

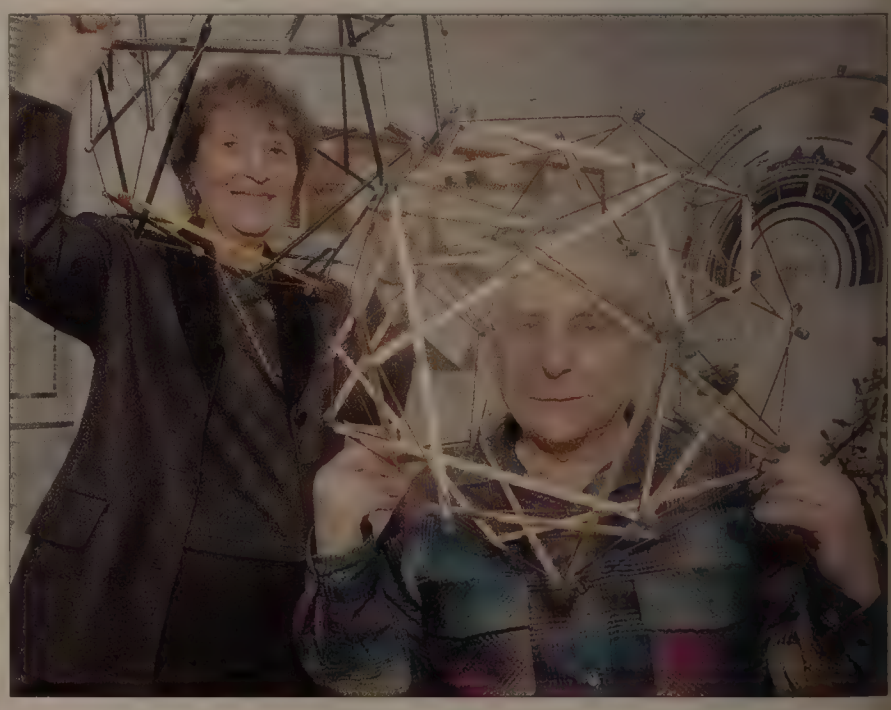
Into the Hayden Planetarium strides the mathematician Galileo, dressed in purple velvet. He's commanding, curious, generous, witty. Overhead, the indoor sky becomes a star-and-planet-spangled night sky with Jupiter and its moons taking center stage. With one foot in the year 1610, this Galileo expounds, points a long, stately finger toward the heavens and asks questions of his mostly young audience. His other foot is firmly set in 2001, as he makes contemporary, often amusing, comments about Copernicus, Isaac Newton and Cosimo Di Medici (Galileo's patron, whom he calls "the Bill Gates of his time, only much better looking"). He easily wins over his young, rapt audience. (Indeed, one of these improvisational and frisky Galileos is THE IMPROPER's own production guru Jeff Gill.)

Surrounded by a mural of Italian landscapes, Galileo casts himself in the role of Jupiter, and then chooses four audience members to represent the moons revolving around the planet. Through this exercise in "experiential learning," Galileo smoothly tucks in an important lesson: Hey, the planets orbit the sun, not the Earth. Afterwards, the heavens take over, and exciting pictures are projected of bulging Jupiter, and its varied moons—with their wild winds, red sands and volatile volcanoes, heavenly details delivered from Galileo's namesake spacecraft back in 1989.



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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: LEAH FASTEN, WENDY MIMRAN, PAUL TANCREDI

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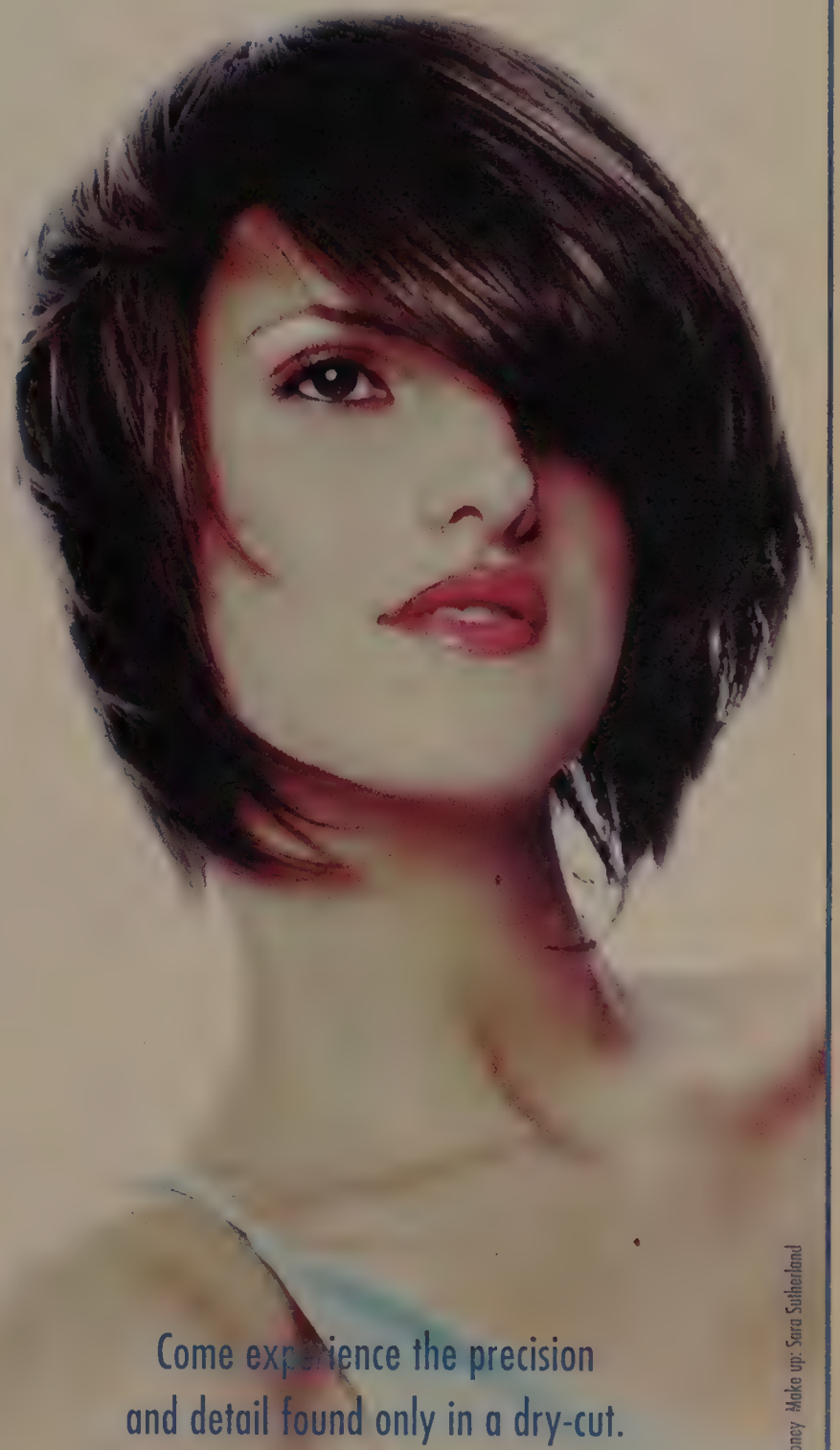
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Photo: Melissa Mahoney Make up: Sara Sutherland

INSIDE: Spinazzola dish; Barcode scans in new chefs; Hannibal to enjoy a nice chianti Upstairs

REVIEW

The Contender



Ocean-themed decor (with the exception of the stuffed pheasants) and dark wood dominates the dining room. Right: Shrimp scampi.

McCormick & Schmick's is a seafood heavyweight in Park Plaza

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Adding to the critical mass of restaurants in and around Park Square, McCormick & Schmick's looks more like a refined supper club or an upscale steak house than the newest link added to a chain of seafood restaurants. Occupying the bilevel space in the Park Plaza Hotel that was formerly the home of Legal Seafood, its appointments run to dark wood paneling and polished brass and mirrors. A long display cabinet of sailing ship models separates the oyster bar from the lobby, while mounted fish and stuffed pheasants (a curious departure from the seafaring motif) populate various nooks and crannies throughout the restaurant. Oversized booths have heavy, dark-green velvet draperies that can be closed to seal off an important business meeting or a romantic engagement. Inside the spacious booths, fresh flowers adorn the tables, framed fish and sea-themed prints cover the walls, and amber leaded-glass sconces and large half-globe chandeliers provide soothing illumination. There are even coat hooks on which to hang winter outer garments, a charming touch of convenience. Only tacky paper placemats tarnish the ambiance inside the booths, while tables are more stylishly dressed with white cloth tablecloths in the dining room proper.

A hallmark of McCormick & Schmick's is the presentation of a new menu daily, listing at its top the fresh seafood ingredients that will go into its extensive offerings. These include a dozen and a half varieties of oysters and clams. In addition to the extensive choices listed below these fresh ingredients, the menu states that "most items may be grilled simply with lemon butter."

The reverse side of McCormick & Schmick's menu is an ample wine list, the whites outnumbering the reds, with prices ranging from a low of $23 to Dom Perignon champagne at $150. Wine by the glass is priced from $4.75 to $9.50. Among the lower-priced whites, we found the pinot blanc from Domaine Schlumberger of France's Alsace ($25) a splendid accompaniment for seafood, crisp and spritely, with a flowery bouquet, forward fruit and a strong acidic backbone. For our red, the Melini Sangiovese, from Tuscany ($25), boasted a pleasant bouquet, mouth-filling flavor and a dry but not austere finish.

Good hard-crusted loaves of fresh, mildly flavored sourdough bread, baked on the premises daily, made an excellent vehicle for soaking up some of the flavorful sauces and broths produced by the McCormick & Schmick's kitchen. From the list of more than a dozen appetizers (not counting the raw bar, soup and salad offerings) we started with the bruschetta with Roma tomatoes and basil ($4.95). The meaty chunks of tomato and herbs were terrific, but the "grilled" bread slices on which they were served were soggy. Far better were the steamed mussels with tomato-garlic broth ($7.65), a generous bowl of clean, sweet mussels in an intriguing sauce, rose in color (from the tomatoes) and in which the minty zest of the basil was not overpowered by the garlic. Without being asked, our waiter brought a bowl in which to deposit the spent shells. Another excellent appetizer, the scotch-cured salmon Gravlax with buttered brioche and dill cream ($9.95) consisted of several thin slices of succulent, mellow cured salmon, with marvelous slices of slightly sweet, brioche toast and a mild dill cream. Finally among the appetizers was an excellent spinach salad ($5.10) of tender spinach leaves, virtually stemless, with a tangy dressing highlighted by smoky bacon shards. The spinach had likely been blanched to produce its tender, velvety texture. The only disappointment in the dish was a rather perfunctory single crouton with only a smudge of goat cheese.

Following our enjoyment of the remarkably good appetizers, a seemingly interminable interval ensued as we awaited the main courses. Our waiter finally arrived to confess that the plate containing the steak that had been ordered by one of our company had slipped out of his hand and onto the floor, and that they were preparing a new one. I was reminded by one of our companions that she had predicted, when the non-seafood oriented member of our party had placed her order, that they "probably don't know how to handle steak," and we all had a good laugh about the literal accuracy of her prediction as we waited another 10 minutes for a new steak to be prepared and our main courses to be served. Surprisingly, the steak



Executive chef Mark Maurantonis introduces Mr. Fish to Mr. Flame.

was quite good, but we wondered whether the quality of the other dishes suffered from the wait. The Chilean sea bass ($23.90), which had been marinated in sake and served with a red miso butter sauce, was pleasant in flavor and texture, but it and its accompaniments were alternately hot and cold, as if some of them had been out of the range in the heat lamp that held them while the replacement steak was being grilled. Of these accompaniments, two large hockey puck-sized rice cakes were dense and undistinguished, but the stir-fry of snap peas, carrots, onions, mushrooms and ginger was good but for its temperature.

The Point Judith skate wing ($18.65) was superb. Pan seared in butter to an inviting golden brown turn, the flesh was delightfully firm, and the capers and crab garnish a real treat. Nantucket Bay Scallops ($24.80) were sautéed with artichoke hearts, mushrooms and bacon and served in a gondola-shaped ramekin. Bay scallops are much more difficult to handle than their larger, sea scallop cousins, but the kitchen did a credible job at maintaining their tender texture and sweet, nutlike flavor. A thick filet of Cape May bluefish ($13.90), wrapped in applewood bacon and grilled, was excellent, although we were dismayed to see its price increase by $3 from the first time we saw it on the menu a week earlier. Apparently, McCormick & Schmick's pricing is as fresh as its fish! Accompaniments to some of the main courses included huge scoops of decent mashed potatoes. Green beans and julienne carrots were on the raw side of al dente one evening, better the next.

Portions were huge, leaving us little room for dessert. Still, journalistically impelled, we trudged onward. A flashy tray of desserts included the obligatory crème brulee ($5.50), with a thick layer of carmelized sugar covering a somewhat thin-textured interior. The upside-down apple pie ($6.75) with firm, tangy apples and crunchy walnuts, with a dark, almost burned, crust was splendid. Berry cobbler ($5.50), served in a small round baking dish, was excellent once we penetrated beneath the oversized pie crust cap and reached the luscious, sweet-tart raspberries, blackberries and blueberries.

McCormick & Schmick's is a large restaurant, seating about 300 patrons. On our first visit, service was extremely solicitous in the beginning, but as large parties outside of our booth began to clamor for attention, our waiter was hard to find, even after he returned from his prolonged absence caused by the dropped steak. Getting the bill proved to be quite a chore. On a subsequent visit, service was more attentive but brusque and hurried.

All things considered, this is a substantial, formidable entry in the Boston restaurant sweepstakes. Taking on the local favorite, Legal Seafood, in its own neighborhood, McCormick & Schmick's is an excellent addition to the dining resources within easy walking distance to the theater district and Back Bay shopping. Like other out-of-towners that have been drawn by Boston's superheated economy in recent years—Brasserie Joe, Maggiano's and Flemings—McCormick & Schmick's arrival will give competition and quality in our city a welcome boost. iB

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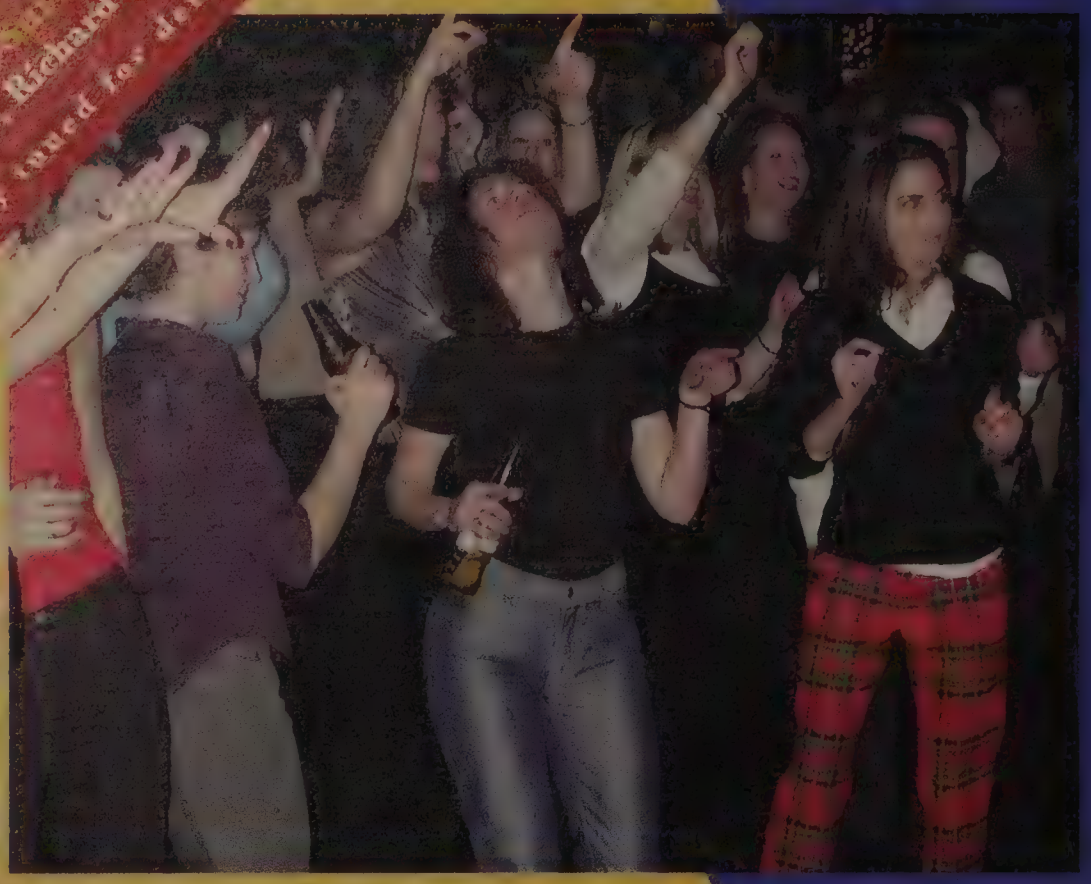
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& meet Survivor winner Richard Hatch. Stay tuned for details.



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Godsmack's lead singer, Sully, proves it's tough being a Rock Star!

inside RACK

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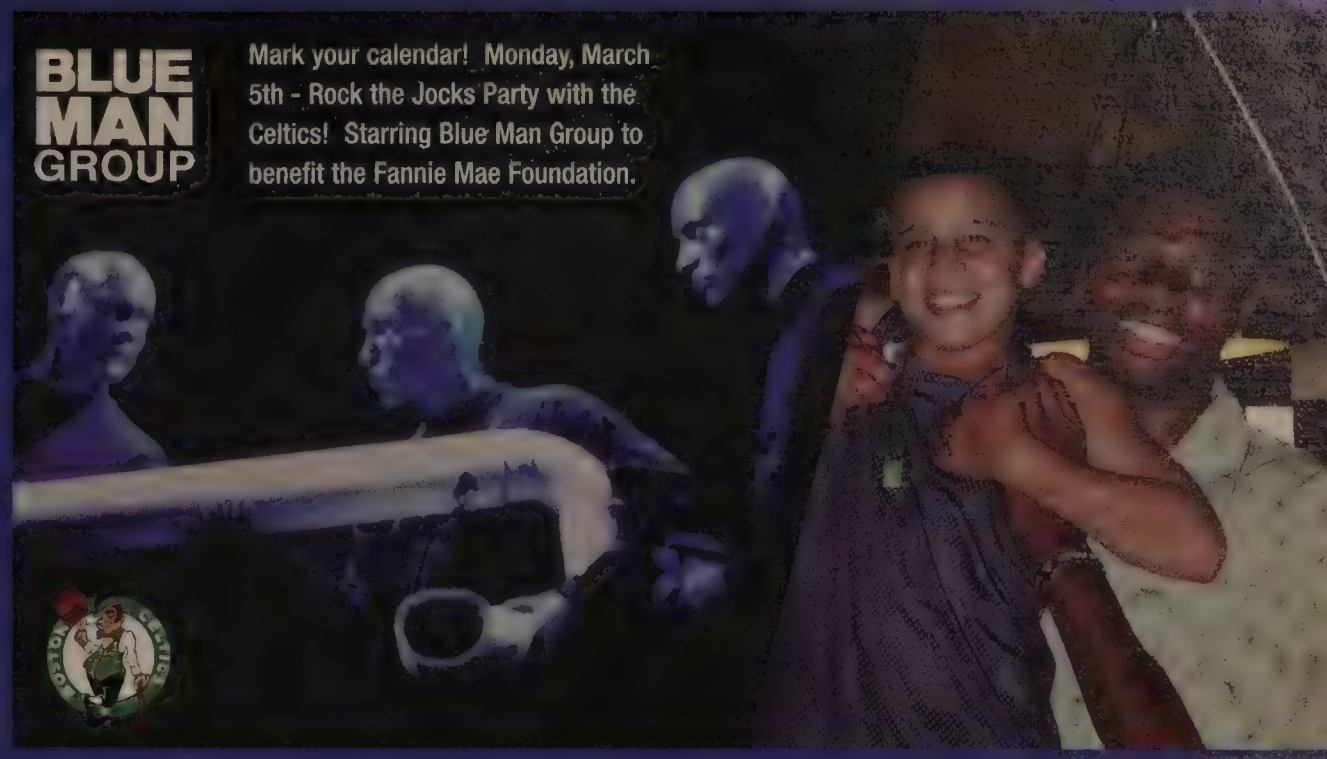
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DISH

Everybody's a Star

Checklist, please...Got Ming?

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Chef Kerry Romaniello of Westport River Vineyard and Winery holds a Reisling wine at the pot luck lunch for chefs at Stars on Huntington, held Jan. 30 as part of the Boston Cooks! events.

So, what's left to say about the **Spinazzola Gala**, 16 years into its status as the jumbo jewel-in-the-crown of Boston's food-and-wine-related festive fund-raising scene? Here's one observation: This year's attendees seemed intently engaged in hitting the hot spots on the lists they brought to the event, then comparing itineraries.

"I've done **Biba**, **Rialto** and **Sel de la Terre**." Check. Never mind trusting in serendipity—stargrazing was the activity of choice. Standing in long lines, those results-oriented folks missed out on some of the quieter delights of the event. It's at Spinazzola that you can find yourself reminded, for example, that **Paul O'Connell** of **Chez Henri** has an especially gifted touch with duck (a delicious duck hash with plantain chips), or that low-profile **Markus Ripperger** of **The Hampshire House** is as whimsical as he is accomplished (he created a "lobster cone" filled with the taste of sweet lobster, mango and fennel).

Yet celebrity rules. Consider **Ming Tsai**'s *www.ming.com*, promoting all manner of Ming-abilia. Log on to buy a "Pantry I Sushi Starter with Autographed Book" kit, a wooden chopping block, a ceramic grater. Browse the FAQs to learn what Ming eats for breakfast (coffee, sesame bagel and soy milk). Register as a ming.com "member," and be eligible for giveaways and contests! Is a wokkin', talkin' Ming action figure in our future?

Barcode coda: Executive chef **George Leu** has left the Back Bay's Barcode to work alongside his longtime buddy **Paul Booras**, chef/owner of **Fava** in Needham.

"Basically, I'll be like a sous chef," says Leu, "doing some hard-core Mediterranean cooking," instead of the French-Asian bistro fare he offered at Barcode. Leu describes the move as "the beginning of my next step," as he scouts out suburban locations for his own restaurant sometime in the future. His time at Barcode, he says, was "a great experience, but I'm happy to leave and pursue my own dreams."

Meanwhile, Barcode's owners have decided to change its menu to Mediterranean, and hired two new notable chefs. **Mark Huber**, executive head chef, was formerly chef de cuisine at **Il Capriccio** in Waltham. Huber's resume includes stints at the **French Laundry** in California and, closer to home, at the **Blue Room** in Cambridge. **Matthew Murphy**, new chef de cuisine, most recently worked at **L'Espalier**, and previously trained at **Le Cirque 2000** in Manhattan.

Elsewhere in the suburbs, the aforementioned Ming Tsai has promoted **Budi Kazali** to the position of chef de cuisine at **Blue Ginger** in Wellesley. Kazali, formerly sous chef at **Ambrosia** on Huntington, has worked with Ming since Blue Ginger opened almost three years ago. We await notification of Budi.com.

If you like to sleep late, shop through the traditional noontime lunch hour, then feel faint with hunger around midafternoon, help is on the way. **Red Clay** in the Atrium Mall in Chestnut Hill now offers a late-afternoon lunch menu—soups, salads, sandwiches—to ease the symptoms of "temporary slug syndrome."

Expect a fresh spring breeze in March: **Zephyr on the Charles** will open inside the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge. Executive chef **Brad Ozerdem** plans a menu featuring "small plates," such as miniature osso bucco with soft polenta and root vegetables, and wood-grilled dishes, including shrimp on a sugarcane skewer with panang curry sauce and chicken in banana leaf.

Culinary coincidence? Or the guest chef dinner of your nightmares? For the first time in its nearly 20-year tenure in Harvard Square, **UpStairs at the Pudding** will be open for business during the presentation of the Man of the Year Award from Harvard's Hasty Pudding Club. This year's winner: **Anthony Hopkins**, aka Hannibal Lecter. Now seating the Donner party...iB

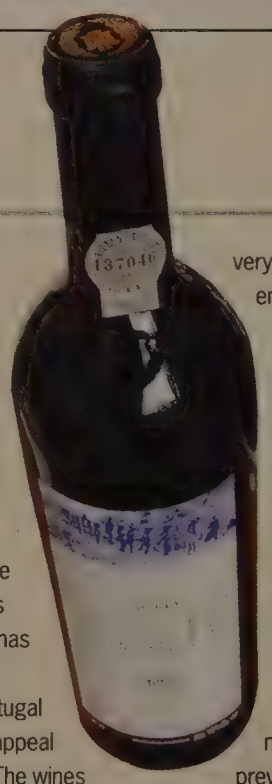
Serving Dish

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WINE

Douro 101

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW



Boston's big wine show took place earlier than usual this year, the third week of January, and it brought just the needed lift to a dreary, snowy weekend. The Wine Expo has become an international event, with vintners and expert speakers arriving from all around the globe, and it would take more than a little bit of the white stuff to throw a damper on the proceedings. I had a blast again this year. Not because I actually drank any wine during the three-day (including Spinazzola) extravaganza, but because it's a rush just to talk to so many consumers who are as jazzed about wine as I am. Everyone's present because they share this same strong interest and, except for an infinitesimal minority who can't control themselves, a feel-good atmosphere pervaded the World Trade Center all weekend.

So anecdotally I would say that the state of winedom is quite healthy. The numbers bear this out. In 1999 Americans spent 13 percent more on wine overall than the year before. At the upper price levels, bottles selling for more than $25 are estimated to have grown in sales at an astounding rate of more than 50 percent. And much of the wine-drinking public appears to share a newfound, almost insatiable craving for some form of relevant education. The classes I teach at Boston University, as well as those conducted by others elsewhere, are perennially over-enrolled with a diverse range of people. Overall consumption is heaviest among people 50 to 59 years old, who are now drinking wine at two times the rate of those in their 20s.

The fully attended seminar I conducted at the Expo, "Red Wines of the Douro," confirmed some of these trends. Red wines of the Douro? Not exactly the world's hottest topic. In fact, when I queried the 65 participants on how many people had ever tried a red wine from Douro, which is the name of the region in northern Portugal where port is produced, four raised their hands. One was a fellow master of wine who was visiting from the West Coast and had shown up, I think, primarily to heckle me, and the other three were importers of some of the products we were tasting. Everyone else had paid their money and taken an hour away from the chance to taste dozens of wines from more familiar regions because they wanted to learn.

I ranted a bit rhapsodically about the wines because I happen to really like them, but also because this winding river valley where they originate is one of the most beautiful places I have ever visited, with dramatic vistas from the steeply terraced vineyards rising up above the water at 45-degree angles. The wines aren't bad, either. In fact, my opinion has long been that the Douro has greater potential than any other region in Portugal to produce red wine with immediate appeal to the mainstream American palate. The wines verge from dark ruby in color to opaque, the flavors tend to the bold spicy blackberry side of the spectrum, and most of the examples we tasted were very full-bodied, with deep concentrated fruit sensations lingering well into the finish. With few exceptions, the diverse group of tasters sniffed, swirled and spat appreciatively, sitting in what looked like rapt attention, and I felt very proud of the local community's enthusiasm and seriousness, as well as amazed at how much things had changed in such a short time.

A seminar like this couldn't have been done 10 years ago, not only because nobody would have come, but also because there were virtually no dry red table wines of quality from the Douro back then. Almost all the top grapes went into port production. That's changed, as many of the port shippers are making dry wines of quality now, and many of the small farms that previously sold their entire production are now bottling their own ports as well as estate table wines. There are even some companies producing wine from single grape varieties, one of which we tasted, Touriga Francesa. Someone asked, "Can you describe the characteristics of Touriga Francesa?" and I remember thinking how wonderful it was that people were taking notes as I told them what I knew about it. iB

TOP: WENDY MIMRAN

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

ABCs of Scotch
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 22, 8-9:30pm. $49. Learn to distinguish the difference between blended and single malts as you sample six varieties.

Asian Market Tour/Cooking Class
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 20 and Feb. 27, 6:30-9:30pm. $62. Chef **Julia Shanks** guides you through the 88 Supermarket and then helps you prepare familiar Asian dishes.

Jacques Pepin: The Duck Party
Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-9852). Feb. 27, 6-9pm. $80. Master chef **Jacques Pepin** shows how to transform a duck into a casserole, pate, soup or entree.

Rauxa: Journey to Spain
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. Feb. 26, 6-9pm. $52. **Jim Baker**, owner and chef at Rauxa restaurant, shares Spanish recipes.

Rialto Cooking Class
Rialto, One Bennett St., Cambridge (661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 24. $75. Chef **Jody Adams** teaches you how to prepare New England shellfish.

Stan Frankenthaler Cooking Demo
Boston University, 808 Comm. Ave., Room 117, Boston (353-9852). Feb. 21, 6:30-9:30pm. $40. Chef **Stan Frankenthaler** of Salamander Restaurant cooks his Asian-inspired cuisine.

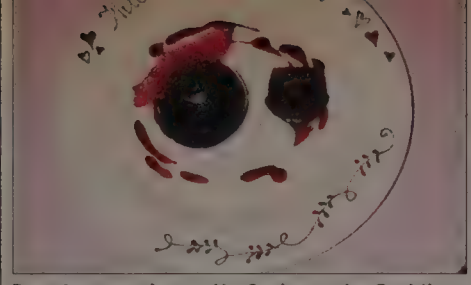
Three Cooks—Three Courses
B Side Lounge, 92 Hampshire St., Cambridge (354-0766). Feb. 20. $40. Chef **Tomas Garcia** hosts two chefs, **Josh Foley** of Harvest and **Gerard Lopez** of the Elephant Walk for a night of French cuisine.

Boston Wine Festival 2000
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (888-660-WINE). www.bhh.com. *Jan. 15-April 6.* This three-month celebration features dinners with wine makers and educational seminars. •Feb. 15: **Vine Cliff Winery** •Feb. 20: **Justin Winery and Vineyard** •Feb. 22-25: **WGBH Wine and Food Weekend**: four days of sipping, tasting and feasting with expert chefs and wine purveyors •Feb. 27: **A Tour of Piedmont**.

Celebrity Chefs Culinary Program
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sat., 1-3pm. Through March 11. $40. The hotel has brought together nine chefs and cookbook authors for a nine-week program to teach basic techniques in cooking. •Feb. 17: **Mary Ann Esposito**, host of *Ciao Italia* and author of *Mangia Pasta*. •Feb. 24: **Steve Raichlen**, author of *The Barbecue Bible*.

Williams Sonoma Cooking Demo
Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (262-3080). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Feb. 17: **Gordon Hamersley** of Hamersley's Bistro. •Feb. 24: **Stan Frankenthaler** of Salamander.

Ma Soba Wine Dinner Series
Ma Soba, 156 Cambridge St., Boston (973-6680). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Feb. 27, 7pm. $55. This wine dinner showcases the latest vintages from the Robert Mondavi Winery with a four-course Asian and East-West tasting menu.



Pop the question at Up Stairs at the Pudding on Valentine's Day and get this dessert.

TASTY TIDBIT

LOVE ME TENDER

Wondering what to do on Valentine's Day? You have plenty of options. We've compiled a list of some of the more interesting places to take your honey—from a chocolate tour of Boston to a Love Menu at Bricco. *All prices are per person unless otherwise noted.*

Bomboa
35 Stanhope St., Boston (236-6363). Feb. 14. Choose between Maine lobster ($32) or grilled beef tenderloin ($34).

Bricco
241 Hanover St., Boston (248-6800). Feb. 14. $70. The "Love Menu: A Recipe for Love" is a four-course meal with wine and chocolates.

Butterfish
5 Craigie Place, Cambridge (497-5511). $100 (per couple). A three-course meal includes squab, grilled veal chop or pan-seared shrimp.

Chocolate Tour
Old Town Trolley Stop (269-7150). Sat. and Sun., 11am and 12:30pm. Through April 1. $50. This three-hour chocolate tour takes you from the Top of the Hub to the Hampshire House and Le Meridien's Chocolate Bar Buffet. **Clery's on Columbus**
331 Columbus Ave., Boston (262-9874). Feb. 14. $50 (includes bottle of wine). Partake in a special Aphrodisiac Menu.

Finale
One Columbus Ave., Boston (423-3184). Feb. 14. A chocolate tasting plate is designed for two (chocolate) lovers.

Ipswich Shellfish Market
(978-356-6941). $165 per couple (includes shipping). Enjoy a three-course indulgence.

Le Meridien
250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). Feb. 14. $120 (Julien) or $59 (Cafe Fleuri). Prices include a rose and gourmet chocolates. Julien presents a four-course dinner with live music. Cafe Fleuri's set menu features live music and dancing.

Les Zygomates
129 South St., Boston (542-5108). Feb. 14. $55. Three-course menu includes pan-seared striped bass and roast filet mignon.

Pho Republique
1415 Washington St., Boston (262-0005). Feb. 14. $16. Try a Lovers' Scorpion Bowl.

Radius
8 High St., Boston (426-1234). Feb. 14. $75. A four-course meal with such choices as seared diver scallop and oyster veloute.

Up Stairs at the Pudding
10 Holyoke St., Cambridge (864-1933). Feb. 14. $75. The four-course meal includes duck, risotto and baked stuffed lobster.



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Created by: Chris Schlesinger, chef/owner - East Coast Grille, Cambridge

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agenda



Erin, Julie & their dashing Valentines

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CITYSCOPE 50

PERFORMING ARTS 52

ART 54

FILM 58

BOOKS & POETRY 62

EDUCATION 62

DANCE CLUBS 64

MUSIC 66

CLASSICAL MUSIC 70

GAY & LESBIAN 72

BODY & MIND 74

CHILDREN 74

SPORTS 74

AROUND TOWN 76

MARK YOUR DAYTIMER 76

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

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JULIE SHORT

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Paul Sherman Film Capsules

improper picks



Disney on Ice's *Jungle Adventures* will swing into the FleetCenter.

W E D . / F E B . 1 4

CityScope: Valentine's Day

Wondering what to do on that most sugary sweet of all days? Here are a few options:
For the kid in you: Disney on Ice's *Jungle Adventures* at the FleetCenter features three of your favorite tales performed by world-class skaters. (See CityScope.)
For the brand-new relationship: Penn and Teller bring their irreverent brand of comedy and magic to the Shubert Theatre. (See Theater.)
For singles: Dick's Last Resort throws its annual bash for singles—complete with a "Big Kiss" dating game. (See CityScope.)
For the proposal: Up Stairs at the Pudding will pop the question for you with a swirl of sugar glaze on a dessert plate—and they'll throw in a box made of chocolate for the ring. (See Tastings.)
For a laugh: Comedian Wendy Liebman takes the stage at the Comedy Connection. (See Comedy.)
For the cynic in you: TT the Bear's Place throws the Anti-Valentine's Day Show with Chimpira, Cho Experiment and Pivot. (See Music.)
For a mellow evening: Jazz vocalist Donna Byrne performs during Sculler's Valentine's Evening. (See Music.)
For the chocoholic: A *three*-hour Chocolate Trolley Tour takes you from the Top of the Hub to the Hampshire House and Le Meridien's Chocolate Bar. It's a dream for chocolate lovers! (See Tastings.)

S U N . / F E B . 1 8

Dance: A Boston Cinderella

Sure, it's probably intended for the kiddies, but that doesn't mean the rest of us can't appreciate Boston Musica Viva's ***A Boston Cinderella*** at the Tsai Performance Center Feb. 18. In this ballet, an inner-city girl goes to the Red Sox Celebration Ball in a white stretch limo and meets her baseball hero Nomar Garciaparra. True to the original tale, she misses her midnight curfew and ends up taking the T back home. Bernard Hoffer's ballet features dancers from the Northeast Youth Ballet, and Fox News anchor Steve Aveson narrates the piece. *Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (354-6910). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University Central. Feb. 18, 3pm. $20, $10 children.*

T H U . / F E B . 2 2

Books: Jamaica Kincaid

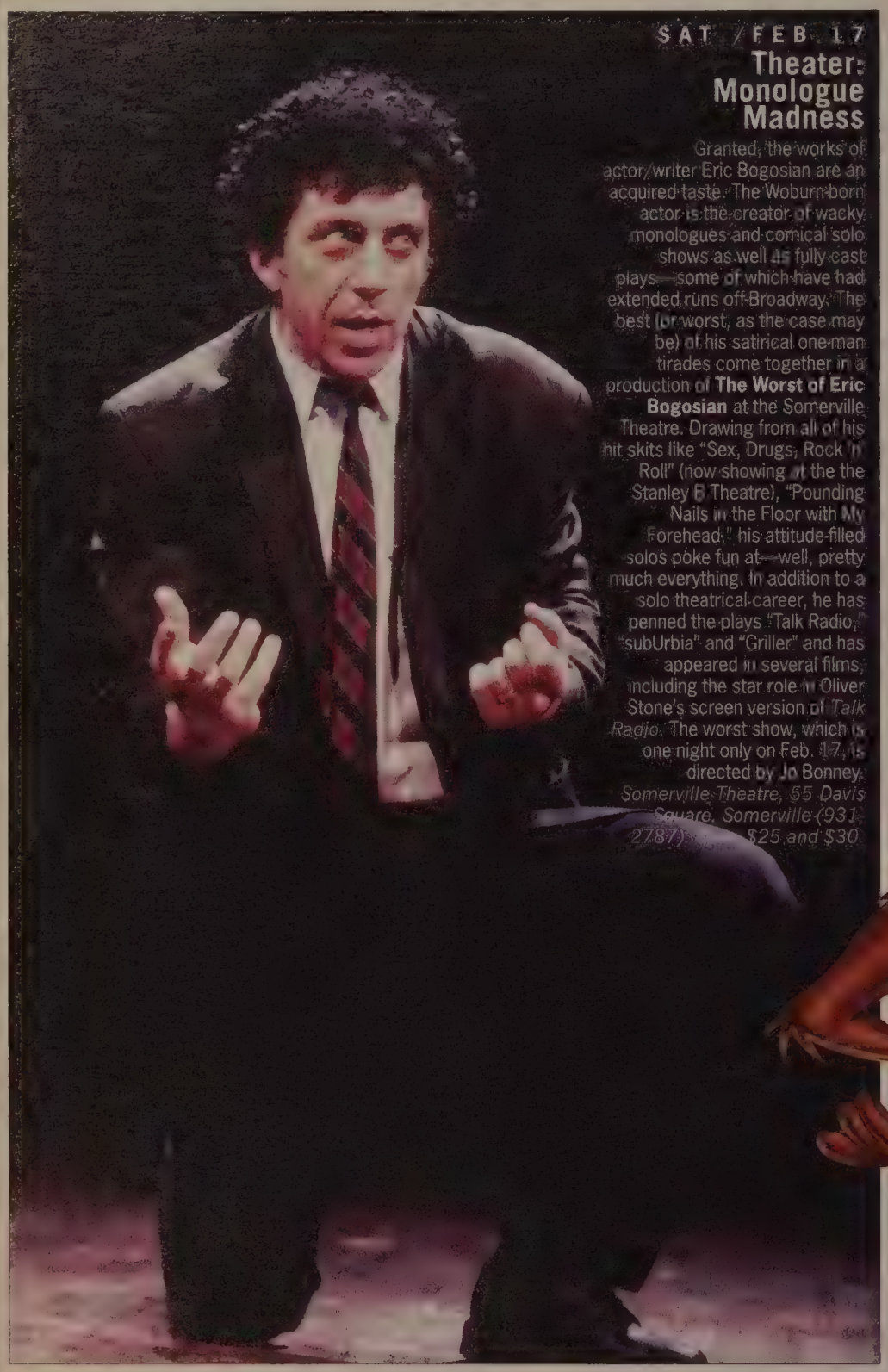
Between 1978 and 1983, Jamaica Kincaid enthralled readers of *The New Yorker*'s "Talk of the Town" column with her clear, detailed and subtle prose about subjects as varied as a conference of Harlequin romance writers to a knitting shop in Connecticut. On Feb. 22, she'll talk about growing up on the West Indian island of Antigua and will discuss how her life experiences have shaped her work in the collection of poetic short stories, *At the Bottom of the River*, and her latest, *Talk Stories*, a collection of 77 essays she wrote for *The New Yorker*. *Arthur M. Sackler Auditorium, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 22, 6pm.*

THU./FEB.24 & FRI./FEB.25

Cityscope: Mardi Gras Mayhem>>

Mardi Gras—a time for religious youth to search their souls in preparation for the 40-day period of self-denial and abstinence known as Lent. Yeah, right. Feathered masks, boas, beads and bare chests—we all know it's an unabashed festival of hedonism, and we love it. But if you can't make it to Rio or New Orleans, there are plenty of local places to celebrate the multicolored spirit of Mardi Gras. **Dick's Last Resort** always throws an enthusiastic bash—this year, party-goers can swing (and drunkenly sway) to the sounds of Soul City (right), with "big-boned beauties" (read: female impersonators). Dick's is taking "Fat Tuesday" literally, with an an all-you-can-eat crawfish special and a crawfish eating contest. Or bring your Mardi madness to **Rounder Records**' 30th anniversary Mardi Gras Ball on the 24th. The party features Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys, Geno Delafose and French Rockin' Boogie and Charivari, and there will be lots of Cajun and Creole cuisine. Also, at the **The French Library and Cultural Center**, laissons les bons temps roulet at this costume gala with a Cajun buffet, DJ and cash bar. *Dick's Last Resort: 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). 7pm, no cover. Rounder Records Bash, Pawtuxet Ballroom, 60 Rhodes Place, Cranston, RI (401-783-3926). 7:30pm, $25. French Library, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (912-0400). 7pm. $35.*





SAT./FEB.17

Theater: Monologue Madness

Granted, the works of actor/writer Eric Bogosian are an acquired taste. The Woburn-born actor is the creator of wacky monologues and comical solo shows as well as fully cast plays—some of which have had extended runs off-Broadway. The best (or worst, as the case may be) of his satirical one-man tirades come together in a production of **The Worst of Eric Bogosian** at the Somerville Theatre. Drawing from all of his hit skits like "Sex, Drugs, Rock 'n' Roll" (now showing at the the Stanley B Theatre), "Pounding Nails in the Floor with My Forehead," his attitude-filled solos poke fun at—well, pretty much everything. In addition to a solo theatrical career, he has penned the plays "Talk Radio," "subUrbia" and "Griller" and has appeared in several films, including the star role in Oliver Stone's screen version of *Talk Radio*. The worst show, which is one night only on Feb. 17, is directed by Jo Bonney. *Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (931-2787). $25 and $30*

SUN./FEB.18

Film: Bad Girls from Outer Space

We don't know who can stomach two back-to-back science fiction films, let alone a solid day of that genre. But tickets fly out of the Coolidge Corner Theatre's box office faster than the Millennium Falcon for its annual **Science Fiction Marathon**. This year's theme is Bad Girls from Outer Space—which means 24 hours of classic '50s schlock. The line-up includes: ***Capt Video*** (a vintage '40s flick); ***Outer Space Jitters*** (a Three Stooges in a space short); ***Godzilla 2000*** (the giant lizard-creature is back); ***Battlefield Earth*** (by all accounts scary for more than Scientology reasons); ***Titan AE*** (animation from Don Bluth); ***Trekkies*** (a documentary on sci-fi fanatics); ***Galaxy Quest*** (a fun saga of "Star Trek" types); ***Mad Max*** (the only copy in the U.S. of the original Australian version); ***Species*** (she's from space, she's horny, she's got attitude); ***The Hidden*** (she's from space); ***Galaxina*** (she's a robot from space); ***Barbarella*** (she's scantily clad and from space—seen on right); ***Tank Girl*** (she's weird and from Earth); ***Missile to the Moon*** (they're space maidens with questionable morals). Plus, there are games, contests and plenty of round-the-clock fun. *Starting at 12pm, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2500). $45-$50.*





FRI./FEB.16—THU./FEB. 22

Film: I'm Watching Wabbits

For the sixth year, the Brattle hosts the **Bugs Bunny Film Festival**, a two-part animated favorite featuring the best of the wise-cracking, long-eared rodent. First, an all-Bugs program features some of the classic cartoons, from "What's Up Doc" to the "Rabbit of Seville." And of course, there's the *Casablanca*-inspired "Carrotblanca." That's *Fri., Sat., Mon.* and *Wed., at 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45 and 10pm.* Then, during the second part of the bonanza, Bugs get some Looney friends. This series, which runs *Sun., Tue., Thu., at 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45* and *10pm*. The 1928 Warner Brothers' musical cartoons feature crazy characters like Elmer Fudd, Sylvester and Tweety, Porky Pig and Pepe Le Pew. This 12-cartoon program includes work by director Chuck Jones, including the Academy Award-winning "For Sentimental Reasons" starring Pepe Le Pew and Roadrunner cartoon "Fast and Furry-ous." A bit of Bugs trivia: Mel Blanc (the voice of Bugs), was allegedly allergic to carrots.

THU./FEB.22—SUN./MAR.18

Theater: Women On Top

Other than focusing on the lives of women, there's no way to generalize about the works presented by local female playwrights and performers at the annual **Women On Top Festival** Feb. 22-March 18. Here's a sampling: In Deborah Lubar's *Naming the Days*, three different women are thrown into close quarters by war. In Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro's *Sailing Down the Amazon*, an 80-year-old actress reacts to the bad news she has received from her doctor by taking a trip down the Amazon. And *Relative Strangers*, by Sheri Wilner, features a young airline passenger who decides that the woman seated beside her could be the mother she never had. See what we mean? Plan to see at least one of the five main-stage events, the late-night comedy show or a staged readings in the next month. You won't be disappointed. *Boston Playwright's Theater, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (536-5981). Feb. 22-March 18.*

THU./FEB.22

Music: Simple Songs

The **White Stripes'** relative overnight success (the band formed in '97) is unsurprising. Their simple, spare songs—usually just guitar, voice and drums—merge to form a substantial, pared-down and powerful sound. Their blues-influenced music is set against vocals that range from a soft lull to full-on shouts. Meg White (drums, tambourine) and Jack White (vocals, guitar, piano), create an accessible, straightforward type of rock that has made them long-time darlings of college radio and has earned heaps of critical acclaim, including a write-up in last month's *Rolling Stone*. The brother and sister team from Southwest Detriot have released two albums and several singles, and their most recent tour brings them to the Middle East Feb. 22, when they share a billing with the Knoxville Girls and the Gossip. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-EAST). 9pm, $9, 18+.*

THROUGH SAT./MAR.10

Theater: No Way to Treat a Lady

The Lyric Stage Company's new musical is an unusual one. Based on the novel by William Goldman (who wrote *The Princess Bride*, among numerous others) it is best remembered as the 1968 Rod Steiger film. It devilishly blends humor, romance and murder in the tale of a rumpled Jewish detective pursuing a publicity-obsessed serial killer who'll stop only when his name appears on the front page of *The New York Times*. (That's nothin'. Today's serial killers want their 35,000-word manifestos in print.) Add to the mix two meddling mothers and a pretty Manhattan socialite, and a chilling tale of cat-and-mouse ensues that'll have you sitting on the edge of your seat. *Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through March 10. $20-$26.*

BOGOSIAN: JOAN MARCUS



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Advice to Contributors
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Advice to Readers
The following is a list of festivals, events and benefits taking place in the Boston area by date.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Disney on Ice
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Feb. 14-15, 7pm; Feb. 21-22, 4:30pm. $42, $24, $20 and $14. Disney's *Jungle Adventures on Ice* will showcase three of Disney's most popular animated hits—*The Jungle Book*, *Tarzan* and *The Lion King*—by pairing world-class figure skating with crowd-pleasing musical numbers.

Valentine's Day Party
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 5pm. Dick's will be a veritable wonderland of tacky red hearts and chocolate-y candy kisses. The Rob Gonzalez Band will play as you mingle with other single guys and gals. Play Dick's "Big Kiss" dating game.

Cupid Dance at the Manse
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430, ext. 705). 7-11pm. $75. Dance to live music in the elegant Gamble Mansion. There'll be plenty of hors d'oeuvres, decadent desserts, champagne, wine and beer. Proceeds benefit the BCAE.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Spend the Night with a Shrew
Aria, 246 Tremont St., Boston (728-4321). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6-8pm. Celebrate the opening of Boston Theatre Works' third season (with *The Taming of the Shrew*) at this party with complimentary food, dancing and a cash bar.

Friday, Feb. 16

The Ellie Fund Dance
Veronique Ballroom, 20 Chapel St, Brookline (266-2258). www.elliefund.org. *MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood. 8pm. $12.* This event, hosted by Super Shag Productions, is the beginning of a weekly dance night. The kick-off event will feature a salsa/swing dance lesson, dance performances by top Boston-area dance schools and light hors d'oeuvres.



New England Home Show offers creative ideas for the home and garden Feb. 24-March 4.



Cheer on North America's most competitive monster trucks at the USHRA Monster Jam Feb. 18.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

NEWD (New England Web Design) Awards
Avalon, 13 Lansdowne St., Boston (535-4580). www.newdawards.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6-10pm. $25.* Aquent hosts this celebration to recognize the region's best interactive design talent. Winners were selected from more than 700 entries in seven categories. More than 1,000 people are expected at this event featuring food, drinks and a multimedia show.

USHRA Monster Jam
Worcester's Centrum Centre, 50 Foster St., Worcester (228-6000). Feb. 16, 8pm; Feb. 17, 2pm and 8pm; Feb. 18, 2pm. $25, $20 and $10. North America's most competitive monster trucks return to Worcester with exciting wheel-to-wheel racing and thrill acts. The world's best trucks compete on the Monster Jam circuit, including such legends as Grave Digger, Bearfoot, Bulldozer and Carolina Crusher.

Saturday, Feb. 17

The AIDS Quilt Songbook Benefit Performance
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (236-1012, ext. 234). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30pm. This performance is composed of poems about or by people living with HIV/AIDS, set to music by 18 American composers.

Boston Ballet Benefit
Grand Studio, 19 Clarendon St., Boston (695-6955). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Feb. 17, 7:30pm. $125. Boston Ballet dancers present Beyond Boundaries, an evening of new works to benefit the Dancers' Resource Fund. The evening includes a cocktail reception, performance, silent auction, dancing and dessert.

Boston Single Professionals Valentine's Cocktail Party and Dance
The View at the Seaport (across from the Seaport Hotel), 150 Northern Ave., Boston (781-446-0234). Feb. 17, 8pm-1am. $15. Jacket and tie required. This party for single professionals ages 35 to 50 features complimentary hors d'oeuvres, live music and decadent desserts at midnight.

New England Boat Show
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester (800-225-1577). www.naexpo.com. *MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Sat., 11am-9pm; Sun., 11am-7pm; Mon., 11am-8pm; Tue.-Fri., 1-8pm. Feb. 17-25. $8.* This is a nine-day, 450-exhibit exposition of boats and different types of marine accessories.

Sunday, Feb. 18

Presidential Affair Party
SW1, 48 Winter St., Boston (423-6767). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 8pm-1am. $15. Leave your political views at home and party with the J Connection (a social club for Jewish professionals in their 20s and 30s). Larry the Musical Dynamo will DJ.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

The Glenlivet Office Putting Championship
Westin Copley Place Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston. www.officeputting.com. *6-9pm. Free.* Boston's most unique golf tournament tees off with the excitement of real championship golf: hazards, sharp doglegs, pressure-packed shots and prizes. More than 2,500 office workers in 128 companies will send their top player to this championship course, which consists of five holes down hallways, around cubicles and in boardrooms.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

The Eight-Minute Speed Dating Event
Atlantic 101, 101 Atlantic Ave., Boston. www.8minutedating.com. *7-9pm. $28. Ages 25-35.* You'll be matched with eight professional singles for one-on-one, eight-minute conversations. Talk with others during intermission. If you find someone you'd like to meet, they'll send you his/her contact information.

Thursday, Feb. 22

Aria's Third Anniversary Party
246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). 11:30pm. $10. One of Boston's most fashionable nightclubs turns 3 years old. The party begins with a fashion show at midnight presented by Saks Fifth Avenue and showcasing Dolce & Gabbana, Jean Paul Gaultier, Missoni, Prada and Issey Miyake.

Friday, Feb. 23

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

Paradise Night to Benefit Breast Cancer
The Paradise, 969 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (423-NEXT). elliefund.org. *6-10pm. $15.* The bands Who's the Fat Guy and One Flew East will perform at this after-work social reception with hors d'oeuvres; proceeds will benefit the Ellie Fund.

Saturday, Feb. 24

Run for Research Mardi Gras Auction
Dakota's, 34 Summer Street, Boston (781-821-3000). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 7pm-1am. $26, $30 at the door. Members of the American Liver Foundation 2001 Boston Marathon Team host their first annual benefit for the American Liver Foundation. The Mardi-Gras-themed affair features DJ and dancing, door prizes, a silent auction, light appetizers, open bar from 7-9pm and a chance to bid on a date with one of 15 men and women.

Mardi Gras Ball
The Pawtuxet Ballroom, 60 Rhodes Place, Cranston (401-783-3926). 7:30pm-12am. $25, $30 at the door. The official Rounder Records 30th anniversary event features Steve Riley & the Mamou Playboys, Geno Delafose & French Rockin' Boogie and Charivari. Enjoy one of the only authentic Louisiana Mardi Gras celebrations in southern New England. Costumes optional. Authentic Cajun and Creole cuisine will be for sale.

Mardi Gras
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (912-0400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7-11pm. $35. Laissons les bons temps roulet! Let the good times roll at this costume gala with a Cajun buffet, light refreshments, DJ and cash bar.

New England Home Show
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (800-849-0990). www.newenglandhomeshows.com. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 10am-10pm; Sun., 10am-7pm; Mon.-Fri., 2-10pm. Feb. 24-March 4. $8.50.* This show features the most up-to-date information, products and creative ideas for both the home and garden, with more than 700 exhibits.

Party with a Purpose! Benefit Gala
The Tremont Boston Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (781-395-4999). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8pm-12am. $65. Beat the midwinter blues by kicking up your heels with live music performed by Second Story. Enjoy dancing, drinks, creative cuisine and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit Outdoor Explorations, an organization that brings together people with and without disabilities for outdoor adventures.

Regional Entertainment Production and Administration Job Expo
Hynes Conven tion Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (747-2236). www.stagesource.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 10am-4pm. Free.* This expo is designed to help employers in the entertainment industry reach candidates to fill job openings in design, technical production, consulting and administration.

Sunday, Feb. 25

World Indoor Rowing Championships
Reggie Lewis Athletic Center, Roxbury Community College, Boston (541-3535). www.concept2.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing.* Championship indoor rowers compete at this event.

Music Career Expo and Job Fair 2001
Hynes Conven tion Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (747-2236). www.berklee.edu. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.* Panels will include "The Impact of Technology on Music," "Marketing Yourself" and "Artist and Record Relationship/Deals." Workshops include "How to Prepare and Submit Your Demo," "How to Get a Job at a Record Label/Distribution Company," and "Music Publishing: The ABCs of the Contract." This year's expo will feature a student and alumni music showcase.

Monday, Feb. 26

Black History Month Celebration
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (973-6508). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 11am-12pm. Ibrahima Camara of West Africa (Senegal) performs a special African drum performance.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Mardi Gras Madness
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 7pm. Confetti will fly and strings of multicolored beads will be flung (does that mean women will bare their breasts?) as Boston celebrates Mardi Gras. Revelers will party hearty to the swingin' sounds of Soul City. Plus, there'll be a surprise show of snazzy female impersonators.

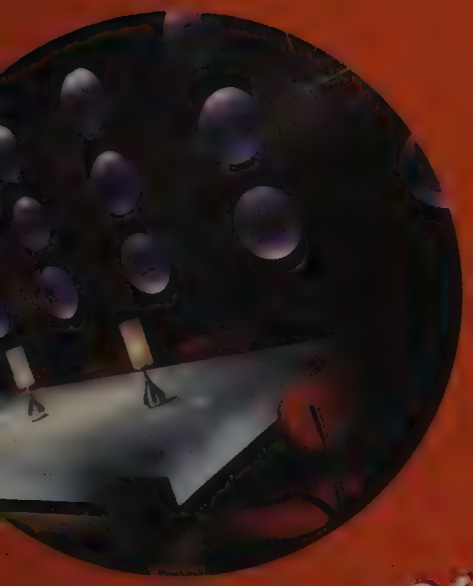


Charivari plays at the Mardi Gras Ball at the Pawtuxet Ballroom Feb. 24.

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Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Big, the Musical
The Footlight Club, Eliot Hall, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (524-3200). Feb. 16-17, 8pm. $15. This humorous musical focuses on a frustrated adolescent who wishes he were "big" and wakes up the next morning a 30-year-old man. He discovers that being an adult is much more complicated than he imagined.

Dame Edna
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Feb. 20-March 11. $25-$65. She's wild, she's wicked and she's wonderful: She's the Australian international superstar Dame Edna, the self-appointed Queen of Broadway. The incredible creation and alter ego of comedian Barry Humphries, Dame Edna comes to Boston following a record-breaking, Tony Award-winning Broadway engagement.

Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning, Juliet)
Threshold Theatre, Piano Craft Building, 791 Tremont St., Boston (781-736-9694). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3pm and 8pm. Through March 3. $16. What if *Othello* and *Romeo & Juliet* were meant to be comedies? That's what Constance Ledbelly, a drab and dusty academic in Ann-Marie MacDonald's campy sets out to prove. Who knew tragedies could be this much fun?

Mother Courage and Her Children
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through March 18. $25-$59. A lone woman, Anna Fierling, tries in vain both to make money and to keep her family alive during the nightmare of the Thirty Years War that raged in Europe during the 17th century. Bertolt Brecht tells her story with a dazzling blend of pathos and burlesque, mocking her foolhardiness while sympathizing with her wretched plight.

No Way to Treat a Lady
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through March 10. $20-$26. In this mystery-thriller musical, a bachelor detective pursues a publicity-obsessed serial killer who'll stop only when his name appears on the front page of the *New York Times*. The detective himself is pursued by a pretty, young socialite he meets during the investigation.

Sex, Drugs, Rock & Roll
Boston Center for the Arts, Leland Center, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Feb. 15-18. $20. Against the fog of America's economic success comes this slice-of-life play that forces viewers to re-examine their lifestyles. Writer Eric Bogosian refers to his production as "provocation in the guise of a good time."

This Lime Tree Bower
Boston Center for the Arts, The Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Feb. 15-March 10. $18 and $23. Three young men from a Dublin seaside town tell their overlapping recollections of one fateful night. Together, their alternating, unabashed monologues relay a small-town coming-of-age story.

The Vagina Monologues
Blackman Auditorium, Northeastern University, Boston (373-2247). Feb. 14, 5pm. This show performed by Northeastern students dives into the mystery, humor, pain, power, wisdom, outrage and excitement buried in women's experiences. Based on interviews with a diverse group of women—from a Long Island antiques dealer to a Bosnian refugee—the Obie Award-winning play brazenly explores the questions often pondered but seldom asked: Do women like their vaginas? What do women call their vaginas? What can you tell about a woman by the way she moans when she is aroused?

The Weir
The Orpheum Foxborough, Foxboro (508-543-ARTS). Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Feb. 16-25. $26. Three men gather in a small, rural Irish pub and banter as they wait for Finbar, a dandy local who moved away and made good. When he arrives with a woman named Valerie in tow, they try to impress her with tales of fairies and ghosts.

Wit
Firehouse Center for the Arts, Newburyport, Mass. (978-462-7336). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Feb. 18. $17-$20. Vivian Bearing, Ph.D., a renowned professor of the Holy Sonnets of John Donne, has been diagnosed with terminal ovarian cancer. As a prize patient undergoing chemotherapy in a major teaching hospital, she comes to reassess her life with a profundity and humor that is transformative for both her and the audience.

The Women in My Soul
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). www.bostontheatreworks.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Park. Fri.-Sat., 10:30pm and Sun., 7pm. Through Feb. 24. $15 ($3 discount with ticket to Taming of the Shrew).* Michael David Brown's performance is no drag show: It is an exploration of five distinct personalities residing in one man's commodious soul—from a homesteading lesbian in Maine to a former Playboy Bunny turned art dealer. The women in his soul carve riotous and poignant niches.



The Women on Top Theater Festival is at the Boston Playwrights' Theater Feb. 22-March 18.



A woman reassesses her life as she undergoes chemotherapy in *Wit*, playing through Feb. 18.

Women on Top Theater Festival
Boston Playwrights' Theater, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (536-5981). Feb. 22-March 18. This festival celebrates local female playwrights and performers with five main stage events, a late-night comedy show and three staged readings.

NOW RUNNING

The Adding Machine
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300, ext. 1). Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Through Feb. 24. $15. With an anti-hero named Zero and a cast of 12 actors who portray furniture and machines as well as people, the play puts a spotlight on today's mechanized society.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

The Doctor's Dilemma
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through March 14. $25-$59. In the age of spiraling prescription costs, how does a doctor decide which of his patients most deserves treatment? This keen-eyed examination of medical malpractice is as provocative today as it was at its 1906 premiere, enriched with George Bernard Shaw's wit and compassion for human weakness.

Floyd Collins
Boston Center for the Arts, The Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Feb. 24. $22-$25. A skilled Kentucky caver, became front-page news when he got trapped 200 feet underground while exploring a cave he'd hoped to turn into a tourist attraction. Alone except for limited contact with the outside world, Floyd Collins fought for his sanity and ultimately his life as efforts to free him were thwarted; his plight, meanwhile, attracted the country's first full-blown media circus.

Follies
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through March 17. $21. A colorful, romantic reunion of ex-show girls and boys.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly the 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $25-$45. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Penn & Teller
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through Feb. 25. $35-$49.50. Penn & Teller bring their irreverent brand of comedy and magic to Boston.

The Phantom of the Opera
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Feb. 24. $16-$71. A masked figure who lurks beneath the catacombs of the Paris Opera House exercises a reign of terror over all who inhabit it. He falls madly in love with an innocent young soprano and devotes himself to creating a new star by nurturing her extraordinary talent and employing all of the devious methods at his command.

The Piano Lesson
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-456-0000). Tue., 7pm; Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through March 11. $28-$40. Boy Willie, a farm hand from the South, arrives on his sister's doorstep to reclaim his share of the family legacy. Selling the hand-carved heirloom piano will enable him to buy land of his own. This universal Pulitzer Prize-winning story by August Wilson shows us a human dilemma: moving ahead to the promise of the future, or clinging to the past.

Prince and the Pauper
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (879-2147), Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Through Feb. 25. $10, $15, $17. This adventure begins in the villainous courts of Tudor England, with a chance encounter between a poor beggar and a pampered prince who decide to change places.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Taming of the Shrew
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). www.bostontheatreworks.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Park. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Feb. 25. $20.* In this unique, all-female production, you'll travel from 1940s Italy, shattered with violence, into a theatrical dreamscape in which Kate and Petruchio discover their true selves as their comedic circumstances unfold before them.

Twilight of the Golds
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Through Feb. 18. $25-$40. This is the stormy story of a warm and loving family torn apart by an ethical dilemma involving an adult daughter who is pregnant.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

The Bartered Bride
Dunster House Opera Society, Harvard Univerity, 945 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 15-17 and Feb. 22-24, 8:30pm. $8. Bedrich Smentana's opera is the tale of a small town turned upside down by two lovers who just want to get married. An inept marriage broker, drunken villagers and a traveling circus round out the comedy.

The Cripple of Inishmaan
Boston University Theatre, Studio 210, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Feb. 21-24, 8pm. $10. A play by Martin McDonagh.

Metamorphosis
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2908). Feb. 27, 8pm. The Charlestown Working Theater presents this show.

The Misanthrope
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-3400). MBTA: Commuter rail to Brandeis/Roberts. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Feb. 13-18. $10.50-$14.50. Martin Crimp's funny adaptation places the famed misanthrope, Alceste, in a world of film stars, agents and critics all displaying the hypocrisy that he abhors. In this wickedly comic commentary on the ills of society and the flaws of humankind, Alceste struggles with love and truth, ideals and emotions.

Play It Again, Sam
Suffolk University Studio Theatre, 55 Temple St., Boston (573-8680). Feb. 16, 8pm; Feb. 17, 4pm and 8pm; Feb. 18-19, 8pm. Free. The ghost of Humphrey Bogart imparts his cosmic, comic wisdom about love and honor in Woody Allen's play.

School for Scandal
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2908). Feb. 15-17, 8pm. $8. This is a drama shop production of Richard Brinsley Sheridan's 1777 comedy.

Six Characters in Search of an Author
Boston University Theatre Mainstage, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Feb. 21-24, 8pm; Feb. 25, 2pm. $10. A play by Luigi Pirandello.

Infinity's House
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Feb. 15-17, 8pm. $12-$18. The quest for control and its destructive force is the theme that resonates through three overlapping stories of 1850s western-bound pioneers, 1860s immigrant railroad workers and scientists on the eve of the test of the atomic bomb.

WIT: NIKAS/HIDY; WOMEN ON TOP: KIM NEWMAN

COMING SOON

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. April 11-May 6. $25-$75. Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, this epic saga sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th-century France. It is also the story of one man, the fugitive Jean Valjean, who is pitted against the cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelong quest to evade capture.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet, consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain you with story, song and medieval antics.

Dance

SHOWS AND EVENTS

A Boston Cinderella
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (354-6910). MBTA: Green Line to BU Central. Feb. 18, 3pm. $20, $18 seniors, $10 children. Boston Musica Viva presents the world premiere of Bernard Hoffer's ballet for young dancers choreographed by Denise Cecere and narrated by Fox news anchor Steve Aveson. Cinderella goes to the Red Sox Celebration Ball and meets baseball hero Nomar Garciaparra.

Boston Ballet: Beyond Boundaries
Grand Studio, 19 Clarendon St., Boston (695-6955). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Feb. 16 and 17, 7:30pm. $20, $125 (Saturday evening benefit gala). Boston Ballet dancers present Beyond Boundaries, an evening of new works to benefit the Dancers' Resource Fund.

Emerson Dance
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Feb. 21-24, 8pm, and Feb. 24-25, 2pm, $10: Emerson College students and faculty members showcase the best of their original choreography, featuring Marlena Yannetti and Tommy Neblett. •Feb. 22, 7pm, Feb. 23-24, 8pm, and Feb. 25, 2pm, $35, $40 and $45: Dance Umbrella presents the acclaimed Parsons Dance Company in Boston for the first time, performing recent collaborations and the signature piece *Caught*.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances or comedians. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Feb. 14, pm: Wendy Liebman, $17.50 •Feb. 15, 7pm: Wendy Liebman, $17.50; 9pm: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $12 •Feb. 16: Wendy Liebman, $18 •Feb. 17: Wendy Liebman, $20 •Feb. 19: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •Feb. 20: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz •Feb. 21: Don Gavin and John Fisch •Feb. 22: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $12 •Feb. 23: Dom Irrera, CBS's "The King of Queens," $20 •Feb. 24: Dom Irrera, $22.50 •Feb. 26: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •Feb. 27: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Feb. 15: The Tim McIntire Show with Lakshmi Balachandra, Greg Buchanan, Eric Riley Moore, Chris Walsh, David Walsh and James Patterson •Feb. 16: The Brendon & Larry Show with John Fisch, Mike Dorval, Katie Grady, Greg Johnson, Walter Driscoll and Sandy Asai •Feb. 17: Katie Grady, Laura Kolling, Steve Calechman and Ben Joplin. •Feb 18: Greg Rodrigues, Thomas Mitchell, Dan Newboweer, Colin Cohen, Noreen Kirkwood and William McNeill •Feb. 22: The Tim McIntire Pagent starring Val Kappa, Tony Moschetto, Dan Sulman, Ben Joplin, Joe Carroll and Ross Garmil •Feb. 23: The Brendon & Larry Special with guest stars Ira Proctor, John Keating, Dalsh, Brian Feller, Andrew O'Fish and Sean Lilly •Feb. 24: Rich Gustus from Comedy Central, with Kyria Abrahams, John Keating, Amanda White and sketch comedy from "The Circus Pigs" •Feb 25: Deb Farrar-Parkman, Pat O'Shea, Brian & Mal, Jan Davidson, Dan Savage and Nina Tamburello.



***The Adding Machine* tallies mechanization's impact at the Theatre Co-op through Feb. 24.**

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Stand-up comedy.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. The talent here is not quite as big-name as the Comedy Connection, but the crowds are just as enthusiastic. Wednesdays: Open mike at 8:30pm. • Feb 15, 8:30pm: Brad Mastrangelo, John David and PJ Walsh. • Feb 16-17, 8:45pm: Joe Yannetty, PJ Walsh and Stacey Yanetty • Feb 22, 8:30pm: Paul Nardizzi, Joe Carroll and John Fish. • Feb 23-24, 8:45pm: Paul Nardizzi, Joe Carroll and John Fish.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Saturday matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* Now playing on the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show—voted one of Boston's best comedy troupes. • Wednesdays, 8pm: The Improv Asylum Training Center graduate show, *Gary's Pocket*, followed by the Improv Asylum Touring Company. $10.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. • ***TheatreSports***: Fridays, 10:30pm. Witness two local troupes compete for bragging rights in this no-holds-barred, improvisational contest.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 127 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). Wednesdays, 8:40pm, and Saturdays, 9:30pm. See the Larry Lee Lewis Show and open-mike comedy.

Comedy Cabaret
Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahanton St. Newton Centre (965-5226). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Feb. 24, 8pm. $20. A showcase of Boston's most talented comics.



art

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include opening and closing dates, nearest T stop, price of admission, if any, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.lesley.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*The Art Institute of Boston Faculty Exhibition* features work by some of Boston's top professional artists, including Robert Kaufmann, Jim Hood, Geoff Koetsch and Deborah Davidson. Through March 18.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat.. 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat. 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
900 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •*Speak Truth to Power*, a photographic exhibit from the book *Speak Truth to Power: Human Rights Defenders Who Are Changing Our World*, by Kerry Kennedy Cuomo, features photographs by Eddie Adams. Through Feb. 26. •*The Brinks Job Exhibit* in the Wiggin Gallery features photographs from the BPL Print Department's *Herald Traveler* photo morgue of Boston's crime of the century; it includes courtroom sketches of the trial, crime scene photos, mug shots and the like. Through March 30.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •In *Just the Thing!* everyday objects acquire new perspectives. Through June 10. •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to convey the artist's message. Through May 28.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Franz Marc: Horses* shows through March 18. •*Sight-Seeing: Photography of the Middle East and Its Audiences, 1840-1940*, an exhibition that investigates the ways in which images of the Middle East were made available to the broad public, shows through March 18. •*The Blue-Rider Artists: Works from the Busch-Reisinger Museum and Other Harvard Collections.* Through March 18. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice.* Feb. 17-July 22.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. Free Sun., 9am-12pm; Wed., 3-pm, Sept.-May.* •The museum presents, *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of butterflies. Through Sept. 3. •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral. Through Jan. 20, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Olafur Eliasson transforms the ICA with a series of installations that use water, ice and light in *Olafur Eliasson: Your Only Real Thing Is Time.* The Scandinavian artist gained international attention for his photographs, sculptures and site-specific works that create poetic allusions to landscape and nature. Through April 1. •Free guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

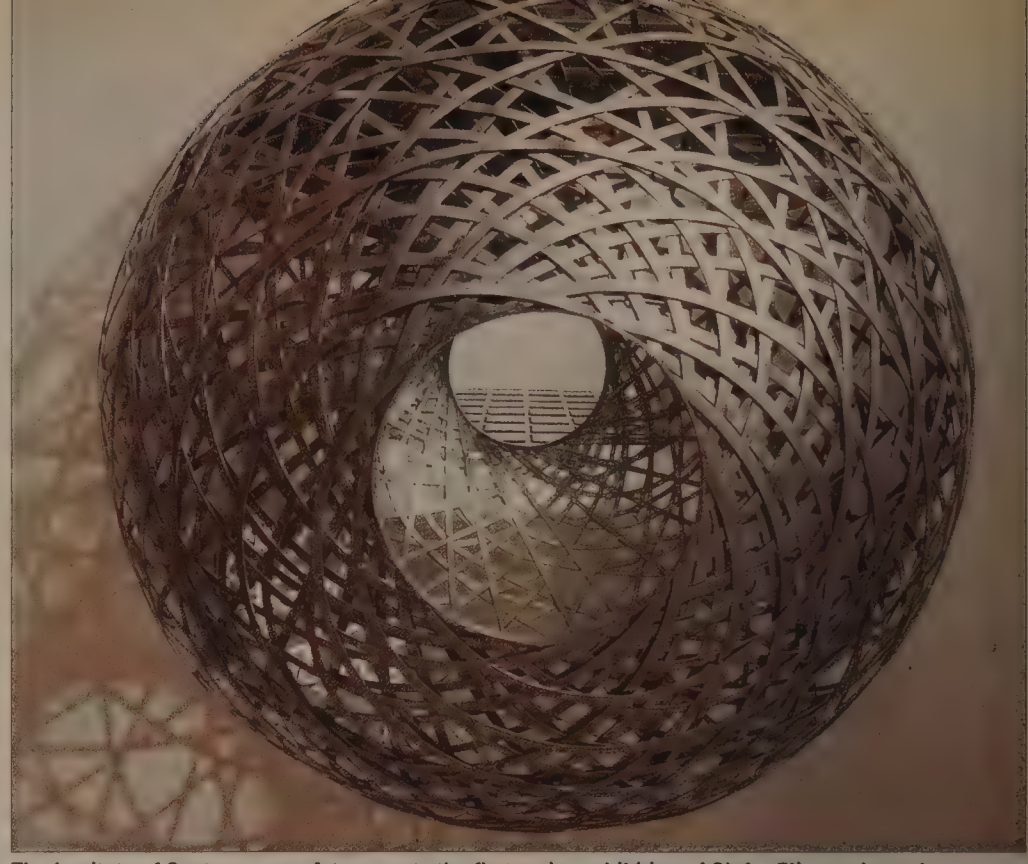
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). www.boston.com/gardner. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* •*The Art of the Cross: Medieval and Renaissance Piety* is a collection of lesser-known works—arts-furniture, textiles and metal-works, including large-scale crucifixes as well as processional crosses. Through April 29.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm, weekends, 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton*, and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: the Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive activities take place 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •On the last Sunday of the month, explore oceanography, astronomy, the science of buildings and other mysteries of science, 2-4pm. Call 452-2827 for details. •MIT Visual Arts Center *Weisner Building 20 Ames St. (253-4680). Tue.-Sun., 12-6pm.* •An exhibit that explores the ways in which architecture give structure to our lives shows through April 8.

Museum of Bad Art
580 High St., Dedham (325-8224). Mon.-Fri., 6:30-10pm, Sat., and Sun., 1-10pm. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. •The one and only museum that boasts "art too bad to be ignored." A favorite is *Lady Chardonnay*, a piece illuminating a poodle-headed dancer.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm, Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-5:45pm. West Wing only. Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*Dangerous Curves: Art of the Guitar* shows through Feb. 25. •An exhibition that presents the multifaceted work of Fred Holland Day is on display, titled *Art and the Camera: Photographs of F. Holland Day* and runs through March 25. •*Boston 1900*, an exhibit that looks at our artistic, literary and cultural city at the beginning of the 20th century, is on display through March 18.

Revolving Museum
288-300 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tues.-Fri. 12-6pm. •The museum is dedicated to creating space for art and the community and regularly displays a variety of exhibits.



The Institute of Contemporary Art presents the first major exhibition of Olafur Eliasson's work. Eliasson is known for his installations exploring human perception. His series of works that use water and light come together in *Olafur Eliasson: Your Only Real Thing Is Time*, on view through April 1.

Galleries
FINE ART

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). Wed.-Sat. 12pm-5pm. •Scott Reeder and David Robbins feature works that utilize humorous elements that allude to cartoons and stand-up comedians. Through Feb. 24.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •*Katherina Chapuis: New Paintings.* Through March 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Anthony James presents his haunting works. Also, Linda Lowe's mixed-media works show through Feb. 28.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. The gallery features original works from international artists. •From Galicia, Spain, *Sargadelos Ceramics* is a collection of functional and sculptural ceramics. Throughout February.

Artists Foundation
516 East Second St. 1st Floor, South Boston (464-3561). Sat. 12-5pm and by appointment. •*Too Close to Call*, work by Nina Fletcher, *Cozy Installation*, an installation by Kate Cleary and *Want to Go Fur a Ride?*, a video by Ben Jones, show through Feb. 17.

Bakalar Gallery
MassArt, South Building, 623 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7333). Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Wonderland* features work by female artists that reference fairy tales and folklore. Feb. 23. •Bulgarian poster designer Luba Lukova presents *Humanizing Design*, featuring more than 50 posters. Through March 2.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •Jim Stroud's *Linear Strategies* shows through March 7.

Barton-Ryan Gallery
38 Newbury St., 4th floor, Boston (867-0662). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •A group show of gallery artists and invited guests' work is on display through Feb. 17.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •Works created with *GRACE: Artists from Vermont's Grass-Roots Art and Community Effort* shows through Feb. 24.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Chris Komater: Harem* shows through Feb. 24.

Boston Psychoanalytic Society
15 Comm. Ave., Boston (266-0953) MBTA: Arlington. Mon.-Wed., 10am-4pm; Thu. and Fri., 11am-3pm. •Featuring works by Robert Goodnough. Through March 2.

Boston University Art Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Boston Printmakers Biennial Exhibition.* Feb. 18-April 8. •*Crafted Image* features the work of contemporary photographers and 19th-century processes. Through Feb. 25. •*Russell Roberts: Recent Paintings.* Through March 2.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •This exhibition features the work of Robin Cass in *A Slight Breach: New Work in Glass and Metal*, as well as Joyce Zavorskas' *Urn Series: A Suite of Layered Monoprints.* Through Feb. 24.

Cambridge Center Gallery
One Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Thurs. 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-2pm. •Maria Termini presents her works on fiber and paper, through Feb. 15. •Photographer Craig Bailey exhibits his community inspired photographs. Through Feb. 28.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 am-11:30pm. •Find Heinz Tesar's *Fragments on Le Corbusier: Brush Drawings, Poems and Memorabilia from a Formative Experience.* Through Feb. 16. •*Extreme Connoisseurship* shows through April 29.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Contemporary glass-working artist Etsuko Nishi exhibits his work through Feb. 17.



Ethan Murrow's *North Carolina Land I* is part of the *American Land*, landscape and still life by Murrow and Jonathan Goods. The exhibition is on display at the MPG gallery through Feb. 26.



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B.A. King's *Magic Oak II* shows in a collection of his work, *Visual Poetry*, at the Pucker Gallery through March 10.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Francisco Benitez and Allen Whiting exhibit their paintings through Feb. 27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •*Figures and Interiors* shows on the main floor. Downstairs in the print department is *Joseph Pennell and His Unbelievable City*. In the alcove, *Asian Aesthetic in Western Work* displays. Through March 3.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. The gallery represents 30 regional artists. •Donald Saaf's work *New Painting* and Julia Zanes' *Extraordinarily Large Miniatures* display through Feb. 22.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •Cambridge-based artist Cheryl Sorg presents her first solo exhibition, a photographic exploration of beauty and identity. Through Feb. 24.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm. Sat., 9am-1pm. or by appointment.* •Peter Inglis' *Forms* is on display through Feb. 16.

Crystal Fine Art
93 Summer St., Suite 4L, Boston (728-9818). www.crystalfineart.com. *MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Tue.-Fri., 11am-6pm.* •One of Boston's best known impressionist painters, Candice Whittemore Lovely, presents her work. Through Feb. 15.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •A new collection of contemporary French impressionist painters shows throughout February.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm, Sat. 9am-6pm. Take a mini-vacation with these rich landscapes of Barbados by local artist Winston R. Breedy. Through Feb. 24.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*One Hundred Pounds of Clay*, an installation by Charles Long, shows through Feb. 24.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7pm.* •A series of woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí and ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sasha Raiz. •Peruvian artist Benito Huillcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depict modern-day Cuzco. Ongoing.

Francesca Anderson Fine Art
56 Adams St., Lexington (862-0660). Wed.-Sat. 10am-5pm; Wed. until 8pm, Sun., 2-5pm by appointment. •Several artists present their works in *For the Love of Snow* show. Artists include Loring W. Coleman, Don Stone and Joseph Reboli. Through March 10.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (266-4351). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.frenchlib.org. *Tue.-Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri. and Sat. 10am-5pm.* •Kurt Stier captures the essence of Paris in his exhibit, *Paris: Plus ca Change, Plus c'est la Meme Chose*. Through Feb. 17.

Fort Point Arts Community
300 Summer St., Boston (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12pm-5pm. •*Redeeming the Abandoned*, an exhibition of steel and sculptures by Jason Karakanian and Alys Myers, shows Feb. 16-March 23.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galeriedorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Plain-Air*, a collection by contemporary impressionistic artist Denise Burns. Throughout Feb.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). www.james hull.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., Wed. and Thu., 6-9pm.* •Ellen Driscoll and Nick Tobier present images taken from a quarter mile radius in Jamaica Plain. Displayed using an oversized Viewmaster. Through March 3.

Gallery Bershad
99 Dover St., Somerville (629-9400 ext. 3). www.bershad.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Fri., 9-6pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Schematically Inclined* includes fine art, architecture drawings, models and other schematically inclined works. Through March 2.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallery naga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Yizhak Elyashire's *New Prints* and Stuart Ober's *New Paintings* display through Feb. 24.

Gallery Seventy-Nine
79 Newbury St. Boston (262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington, Tue.-Fri., 9:30am-6pm; Sat., 12-5pm. •*Imaginary Landscapes* by Jörg Ingo Fraske is on display this month.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •New York artists Peter Coe, John Tremblay and Warren Isensee present *Persistent Painting*. Through March 7.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •This gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings. •*Above and Below: Boston's Big Dig* includes paintings and photographs by T. Kelly Wilson and Peter Stempel. Through Feb. 25.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •Find an assortment of 18th- and 19th-century antique engravings and lithographs on display. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. yezerski@ziplink.net. •Various artists' works are featured in *Painting Photography*. Through Feb. 27.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •A selection of vintage posters is on display. Ongoing.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley: Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Emerging Artist Show* exhibits some of Boston's most talented up-and-coming artists. Through February.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Art
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Santiago Hernandez presents his second solo exhibition, consisting of panel paintings and abstract forms that combine mid-century modernism with the contemporary landscape. Throughout Februrary.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St. Loft #204, Boston (542-0644). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. Sat., 1-4pm. •*Interior Exterior* shows through March 5.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (423-4113). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Audrey Goldstein's sculpture, *Diaphanometer*, shows through Feb. 25.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm. •*Winter Showcase*, paintings by emerging artists Stuart Dunkel, Michael Korber, Lydia Martin, David Penna and Amy Jean Romero, show through March 4.

Mass Art President's Gallery
11th floor, Tower Building, 621 Huntingon Ave., Boston (879-7657). •*Humanizing Design: Poster Works by Luba Lukova* features more than 50 posters by internationally renowned Bulgarian poster designer Lukova.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-6pm.* •An exclusive exhibit of rarely seen art by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, this exhibit presents his pieces that typify the Northern European sensibility. Through May 21.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •Daniel Robinson presents *New Work*. Through Feb. 29.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Straight from the Source: Youth Perspectives* are videos by the mirror project video youth producers. Feb. 16 and 17, 8pm, $6. •*Kibbles & Bits* are videos curated by Jeff Warmouth. Feb. 20, 7pm, $5. •*Neovoxer: Art Is the New God* is a work-in-progress film with live music. Feb. 23 and 24, 8pm, $15, $12 students and seniors.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Paintings by Ethan Murrow and Jonathan Goode comprise *The American Land*. Through Feb. 26.

Newton Library Gallery
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). www.ci.newton.ma.us. *Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun. 12pm-5pm.* •Pencil portraits by Susan Avishai of the Newton area show with landscape portraits by Stephen Buckman. Through Feb. 27.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Sungjoon Joh exhibits new still life paintings that reflect his Korean heritage. Also, a small exhibit of drawings with collage elements by sculptor Carol Keller is shown through Feb. 24.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •This gallery, owned and operated by several artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •The forth annual *Figurative Art Show* features works by local artists. Through March 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •*Eilene Gillespie: Drawings.* Through Feb. 20.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Romantic simplicity abounds in B.A. King's *Visual Poetry*. Through March 8.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardsonclarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •See the ongoing exhibition of American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.Robert KleinGallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Night Light: Photographs of Heavenly Bodies, 1885-2000.* Through March 10.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, Between Brattle and Garden St., Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Female refuges from the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia are depicted in *Courage and Resiliency: Cambodian Women in America.* Through April 30.

Sherman Gallery
775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Recent Paintings* by Russell Roberts runs through March 2..

Social and Political Art Gallery
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (244-5581). www.orsillo.com/gspa. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Fri. and Sat., 2-6pm; Sun., 1:30-5pm.* •In *Environmental Injustices*, artist create social protest through art. Through March 4.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Thu., 10am-7pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •Finalist and grant recipients present their award-wining artistic crafts. Through Feb. 25.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm. •Mario Aryas, a Cuban artist whose work shows in the States for the first time, is spotlighted throughout February.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style. Ongoing.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. This gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by famous painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin, C. Ferrer and striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. •Elanor Elkin presents *Creatures in Cloth and Clay*. Through Feb. 26.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •Christiane Wallace and Cecilia Lieder present recent artwork. Through Feb. 28.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A selection from their current inventory is on display. Ongoing.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

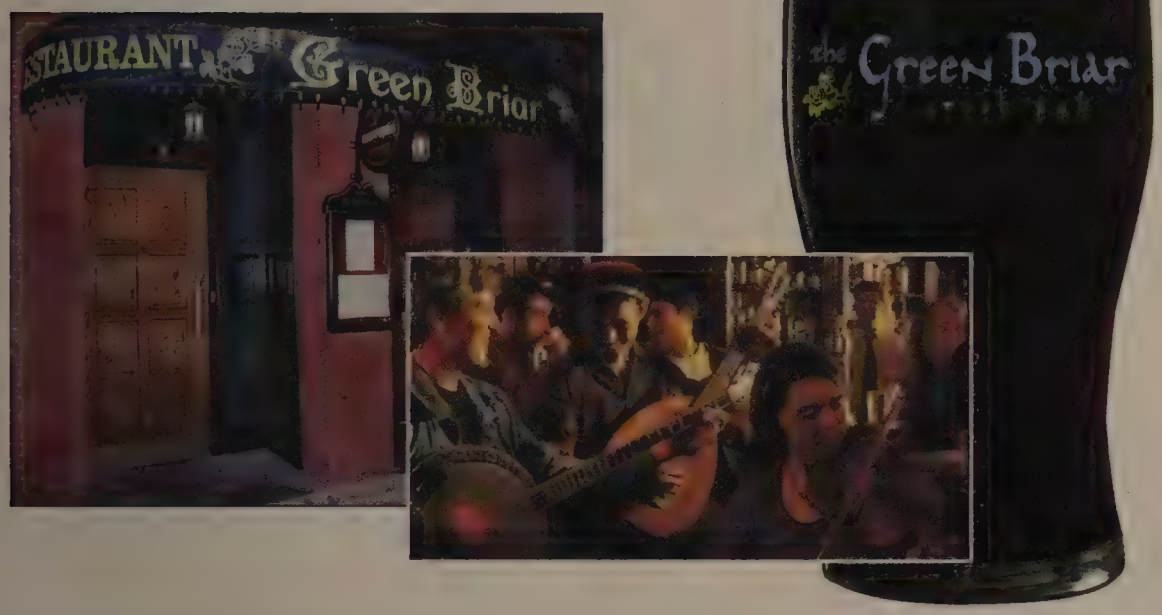
PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •Photographer Anna Collette presents her work. Through March 16.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •Ernest Withers presents his collection of African-American musicians in a large photo exhibit. Through March 30.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a collection of photographs from the series at the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17. •*Strange Attractor: In the Orbit of the Artist*, a show curated by Rosamond Purcell, displays through March 15.

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Film

A & E BIOGRAPHY

Ed Harris' Jackson Pollock movie is spotty. BY PAUL SHERMAN

There's a lot of art and a little bit of entertainment on screen in *Pollock*, the movie biography of painter Jackson Pollock, but they don't add up to very much. Ed Harris makes his directorial debut in this pet project that he's been trying to get together for years, and the movie's ultimate failure is that you can't see what made Harris so passionate about it in the first place. Unfortunately, the whole thing comes off as a very standard-issue tortured-artist story.

The script by Barbara Turner and Susan J. Emshwiller, which is based on the book *Jackson Pollock: An American Saga*, picks up Pollock's life in late 1941, whens he's a struggling abstract painter living in Greenwich Village with his brother (Robert Knott) and sister-in-law (Molly Regan). The first time we see Pollock, he's drunk. That won't be the last time we see him that way. Just as the relatives he's bunking with decide to move out of the city, Pollock meets Lee Krassner (Marcia Gay Harden), another painter who, with a forwardness that contrasts with Pollock's shyness (when sober), expresses interest in both his work and his life.



Ed Harris splatters his way to stardom in *Pollock*.

As the movie portrays it, Pollock's success as a painter was a direct result of his relationship with Krassner. She not only understood his work and was supportive, but she also diverted his attentions from the bottle. Pollock makes some steady career progress, getting his first one-man show in 1943, and securing a commission from influential curator Peggy Guggenheim (Amy Madigan) to do a mural. He also marries Krassner and moves out to Long Island (in scenes that were filmed at the real Pollock-Krassner house).

But Pollock's toil as a relatively conventional abstract painter in the European mold still didn't translate into notoriety or a decent living, thanks to Europeans like Picasso getting all the attention. It's only when Pollock mistakenly drips some paint on the floor and gets inspired to start working in the style that made him famous—painting in drips and drabs without ever actually touching the canvas with the brush—that success and fame come his way. Pollock's creative breakthrough prompts many to take note of American abstract painting. It also draws the attention of *Life* magazine and a documentary filmmaker.

By this point, *Pollock* is already suffering from an undernourished portrayal of the artist. While the guy has plenty of quirks—like drinking, being excluded from World War II military service for being "too neurotic" and coming off as something of a mama's boy who dotes on his mother, played by Sada Thompson—the movie fails to bring such wrinkles out in dramatic ways that could enlighten his personality. Some flashbacks might have helped flesh out this guy, but there are none.

So when Pollock goes from being "the next big thing" to being "the last big thing," and starts reverting to the benders and outbursts of his earlier days, there's little drama. And when his relapses threaten his painting, his marriage and eventually his life, all you can think is "the guy was a jerk from the beginning, so what's the surprise?" That's because the movie fails to give Pollock the sort of creative charisma that makes friends and admirers overlook boorishness.

If Pollock the disgruntled-artist character comes off as rather generic, he's not the only part of the movie that does. The critic played by Jeffrey Tambor is a typically effete, tweed-clad aficionado, and Pollock's artist pals, including a very shiny looking Val Kilmer as fellow painter Willem DeKoonig, serve little purpose. Although *Pollock* hopes to gives us a story of *Raging Bull*-like personal turmoil, the result is like a bland cable movie offering an occasionally interesting glimpse into the past, rather than a bold character study. For a movie that had several years of gestation, it's surprisingly pointless. iB

Pollock★★

Directed by Ed Harris. Written by Barbara Turner and Susan J. Emshwiller. With Harris, Marcia Gay Harden, Amy Madigan, Jeffrey Tambor and Sada Thompson. Rated R. Sony Pictures Classics.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Before Night Falls ★★½
Following *Basquiat*, Julian Schnabel directs another "artist who died too young in New York" drama. This time his subject is Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas, played here by Javier Bardem (from Almodovar's *Live Flesh*). There's definitely a compelling story here, starting with Arenas' country boyhood, when he left home to join Castro's revolutionaries, and moving onto his persecution for being both gay and a writer, his subsequent flight to New York and his fight with AIDS. But at many crucial junctures, the movie is also frustratingly vague, including its inability to give us a real sense of Arenas' writings. So the result is less memorable than it might have been. There are, however, amusing and effective cameos by Johnny Depp (as a drag queen) and Sean Penn (as a peasant).

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon ★★★½
What do you get when you combine a skilled dramatic director like Ang Lee (*Eat Drink Man Woman*), an innovative action choreographer like Yuen Wo-Ping (*The Matrix*) and stars like Chow Yun-Fat (*Hard-Boiled*) and Michelle Yeoh (*Supercop*)? A dynamo in which the scenes between the wild, high-flying fight face-offs are almost as potent as the "action." In this story, centering around a stolen sword, the battles unfurl not only between the characters—in beautifully choreographed exchanges—but also within those characters' souls. The leads all find themselves dealing with the struggle between their romantic desires and societal obligations, which gives the film a sorrowful undercurrent. To add to the eclectic feel, Yo-Yo Ma performs the score's cello solos.

The Gift ★★½
The burden of knowledge is the theme running through Sam Raimi's character-driven mystery, written by Billy Bob Thornton and Tom Epperson. As a character loosely based on Thornton's own mom, Cate Blanchett plays a psychic in a small Southern town who's almost like a shrink to the customers she does readings for—spending much of her time deciding which truths those clients can and cannot handle. The bulk of the story finds her enlisted in the investigation of a local murder, and discovering that her visions don't always show the full picture. Although set in the present day, the movie suffers from having abused and battered characters who are simply too clueless about such things to be living in the age of repressed memory and Jerry Springer. Consequently, credibility suffers, though this is more interesting than most.

In the Mood for Love ★★½
After turning away from the stylized storytelling that first got him noticed, Hong Kong director Wong Kar-wai returns to the stylization of his great early film *Days of Being Wild* with this story set in 1962. Wong regulars Tony Leung and Maggie Cheung reteam in this story of newcomers to a packed apartment building. Both have neglectful spouses who are having an affair with each other. The two dance around the idea of having an affair themselves, and Wong's ability to visually build sexual tension is the movie's great strength—the way he photographs Cheung in her clingy, high-necked dresses is the sexiest thing in movies in ages. But the movie is also very sluggish. Sometimes you just want to yell "Do something already!" at the two would-be lovers.

The Invisible Circus ★★
This is an emotionally ambitious yet totally underwhelming indie production about an 18-year-old teen (Jordana Brewster) who sets off to Europe in 1976 to investigate the 1971 suicide of her beloved sister (Cameron Diaz, seen in many flashbacks). The flashbacks portray the dead flower child without cliché, but the movie doesn't even try to bring period detail to the 1976 action, so you don't really feel how dull that era seemed next to the vibrant late 1960s. That's too bad, because the need to recaputure the excitement of that time is one of the things that sends the teen on her quest. This is a potentially interesting story, but dull as rendered here.

O Brother, Where Art Thou? ★★★½
There's a whole lotta fun in this Coen-brothers-filtered blend of Homer's *The Odyssey*, on which it's loosely based, and Preston Sturges' 1941 road movie *Sullivan's Travels* (*O Brother...* is the name of the serious movie a comedy filmmaker yearns to direct in that story). George Clooney, John Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson are terrific as three chain-gang escapees who go through their own odyssey in the Depression-era South, encountering a Robert Johnson-like blues man (Chris Thomas King), a one-eyed salesman (John Goodman), Baby Face Nelson (Michael Badalucco) and Clooney's character's ex-wife (Holly Hunter), who's about to remarry. This is all visually and emotionally askew in the best Coen Brothers tradition of *Blood Simple*, *Fargo* and *The Big Lebowski*, with great use of period music.

DEMMIE TODD

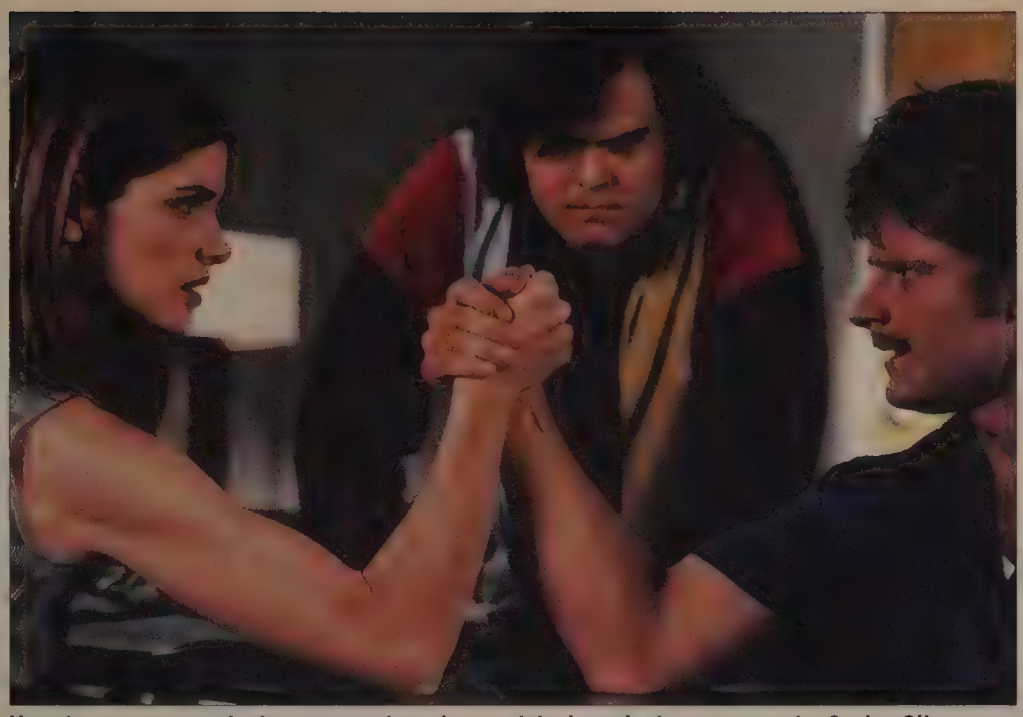
The Pledge ★★★
If you've seen Sean Penn's previous movies as a director—*The Indian Runner* and *The Crossing Guard*—you'll recognize his strengths and weaknesses in his latest, the story of an ex-cop (Jack Nicholson) obsessed with solving his last case. As usual, Penn is great at conveying an intense atmosphere and mature emotions, though he's sometimes a little clumsy in the storytelling details. Here, he keeps the detective's investigation into grisly child murders free of gimmickry and sensationalism, and he draws a genuine performance from Nicholson (who doesn't just trot out his "Jack" persona). The only lack of economy in the story is the years-long time span, which drags things out and doesn't seem necessary.

Saving Silverman ★★★
This comedy about two buddies (Jack Black, Steve Zahn) who try to stop a third buddy (Jason Biggs) from marrying a domineering woman (Amanda Peet) falls flat on its face from time to time, but it hits a pleasing balance between the extreme comedy of *There's Something About Mary* and the goofy charm of *The Wedding Singer*. Black and Zahn are both very funny here, and the story gets unexpected boosts from R. Lee Ermey as a gonzo father figure and Neil Diamond, the poofy-haired singer the buds idolize, who's enlisted in the campaign to stop the wedding.

Snatch ★½
Life is a whole lot cheaper than the price of your ticket in the latest from English writer-director Guy Ritchie. Like many other filmmakers, such as Ed Burns or Robert Rodriguez, Ritchie's second movie is just a bigger remake of his first. But *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*, with its self-conscious glibness and smugly comic violence, wasn't very good to begin with. So *Snatch* is just a waste, as groups of criminal Cockneys, Blacks, Jews, Gypsies and Russians all scratch and claw each other in a story concerning a stolen diamond and unlicensed boxing matches. Like last fall's *The Way of the Gun*, this is like something out of 1995.

Thirteen Days ★★★
The 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis unfurls tensely, and with a few more wrinkles than most of us realized, in the reteaming of *No Way Out* director Roger Donaldson and star Kevin Costner. Costner plays Kenny O'Donnell, our window into the Kennedy Oval Office during the crisis. As this trusted adviser, Costner is in the background much of the time, which is perfectly fine, since Bruce Greenwood and Steven Culp are super as, respectively, Jack and Bobby Kennedy. Costner's overdone Bah-ston accent nearly spoils it all.

JOSEPH LEDERER



You always arm wrestle the ones you love. Lovers duke it out in the new comedy, *Saving Silverman*.

Traffic ★★★
Director Steven Soderbergh (*Out of Sight*, *Erin Brockovich*) gives us another accessible yet idiosyncratic movie. This one has a lot of characters, locations and drugs in it: the new U.S. drug czar (Michael Douglas), the teen daughter (Erika Christensen) he doesn't know is an addict, a Tijuana cop (Benicio Del Toro), two DEA field agents (Don Cheadle, Luis Guzman) and the suburban wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones) of a drug lord, just to name a few. Through their sometimes-overlapping stories, the movie offers an effective indictment of the war on drugs; as portrayed, it's more concerned about politics and power than people. The message works because of the movie's visual scruffiness and because it doesn't villify those fighting the war, freeing *Traffic* of most movies' cartoonishness.

The Wedding Planner ★★
It's a credit to Jennifer Lopez's ability that, even after her overexposure and tabloidization of the past two years, she still convincingly plays this girl-meets-boy story's heroine—a workaholic who finally meets Mr. Right (Matthew McConaughey), only to learn he's the groom in the latest wedding she's arranging. Lopez is just fine, and so is McConaughey, it's the movie's soppy reworking of screwball-comedy elements that's annoying. Rather than being smart and sexy, as a screwball romantic comedy should be, this one is all sticky and slow. It feels as if a half-dozen "date movie" focus groups took any spark out of it, though it's doubtful it ever had any.

Alternatives & Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.*

Boston Public Library

James Cagney on Film
•Feb. 26, 6pm **Tribute to a Bad Man** *1956*. Cagney steals the show in this Western, playing a fiendish land baron who will do anything to retain his vast possessions.

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features
•Feb. 14, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Casablanca** *1942*. This must-see romantic classic is set in the famous Rick's cafe during the Nazi occupation.
•Feb. 15, 4:30 and 8pm **Barry Lyndon** *1975*. Stanley Kubrick's period piece stars Ryan O'Neal as an 18th-century Irish rebel who finds success but lets it go to his head.

Bugs Bunny Film Festival
•Feb. 16-22, 1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45 and 10pm **Bugs, All Bugs and Nothing But the Bugs**. Experience the sixth annual festival and watch the adventures of Bugs Bunny featured in your favorite cartoons such as "What's up Doc," "Rabbit Hood," and "Ballet Box Bunny."

Tales of Rohmer
•Feb. 23 and 24, 7:30pm **Claire's Knee** *1970*. Eric Rohmer directs the romantic tale about an engaged man's obsession with a young girl. •Also showing: 5:15 and 9:45pm **My Night at Maud's** *1969*. A conversation with an intriguing female divorcee prompts a young man's journey for love.
•Feb. 25, 1:30, 5:30 and 9:30pm **La Collectionneuse** *1967*. Set in a villa on the Mediterranean, this is the tale a man's consuming passions.
•Feb. 25, 3:30 and 7:30pm; Feb. 26, 7:15pm **Chloe in the Afternoon** *1972*. A married man's friendship with his friend's ex-mistress transforms into a much stronger emotion.



•Feb. 26, 5:30 and 9:15pm **Bakery Girl of Monceau** *1963.* Torn between two equally alluring women, a young man endures dates with both of them on the same day. • Also showing: **Suzanne's Career** *1963.* A young man discovers the effect his friend has over his life's decisions after falling for the friend's former fling.
•Feb. 27, 3:30 and 7:30pm **The Aviator's Wife** *1980.* This is Rohmer's portrayal of the interesting dialogue between several romantically involved characters.
•Feb.27, 5:30 and 9:30pm **Le Beau Marriage** *1982.* A woman seeks marriage not for love, but for the act of marriage itself.

Coolidge Corner Theater

"Balagan" Experimental Film Series

The Spring season of Balagan, Coolidge's Thursday night program of film, video and live performance, includes some intriguing local and international filmmakers who challenge traditional approaches to their medium. •Feb. 15, 8pm **Local Masters II** Take a look at three of New England's acclaimed experimental filmmakers who also teach in the area: Abraham Ravett, Abigail Child and Mark LaPore.

Midnight Movies

•Feb. 16 and 17, 12am **Ashes of Time** *1994.* This award-winning film, directed by Wong Kar-wai, experiments with conventional linear modes of plot. Featured are Leslie Cheung Tony Leung, Brigitte Lin and Tony Leung.
•Feb. 23 and24, 12am **Zu: Warriors from the Magic Mountain** *1983.* Director Tsui Hark creates a fantastical depiction during China's civil war of 1740s, with impressive special effects.

Sexy Chic: Films of Radley Metzger

•Feb. 16 and 17,12am **Licorice Quartet** *1970.* The fantasies of a man, his wife and her son are all fulfilled as they are entangled in a labyrinth of truth, play and illusion.
•Feb. 23 and 24,12am **Little Mother** *1971.* This is the story of Eva Pero, the power-hungry seductress who maneuvers her way to the top.

Special Events

•Feb.18, 12pm **26th Annual Science Fiction Marathon**. The Science Fiction festival returns to Coolidge Corner, celebrating 24 hours of classic science fiction films. The theme of the year is "Bad Girls from Outer Space." Tickets cost $45-$50 and can be purchased at the Coolidge box office.
Feb. 21, 7:30pm **Directors Cut**. The program's called "Experimenting Women," featuring recently produced shorts by female filmmakers.
•Feb. 24 and 25, 7:30pm **Chlotrudis Awards**. At the Seventh Annual Chlotrudis Awards Ceremony, Boston presents the Chlotrudis Award to the "Best Short Film." In celebration of these innovative, artistic films, a screening of the nominations will be presented, and you, the audience, can cast your vote.

Godard on Video

•Feb. 16, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Ici Et Ailleurs** (*Here and Elsewhere*) *1970/76.* This work, directed by French New Wave auteur Jean-Luc Godard, records history as he juxtaposes a French family with the media's perception of Palestine following the defeat of the Palestine army in the Six Day War. Jean-Pierre Gorin and Anne-Marie Mieville appear in the film.
•Feb. 17, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Numero Deux** *1976.* Godard splits the action in this experimental video/film between two television screens. A young, working-class couple living in a high-rise apartment complex struggle with their married life.
•Feb. 18, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Comment Ca Va? How Is It Going?** *1976.* This picture is a film within a film as Godard takes a look at the process of making media. Odette is worker at a communist newspaper who has innovative ideas about what constitutes the filmmaking process.

Western Adventure

•Feb. 26, 7:30pm **The Wild Bunch** *1969.* Directed by Sam Peckinpah, this action-packed film caused an uproar when first released due to its violence. It's a story about a group of outlaws in a Western adventure.

Harvard Film Archive

Chinese Cinema in Transformation

•Feb. 16, 7pm **Postman** *1995.* A mailman who cannot resist the urge to open other people's mail gets involved with the lives of two gay gay junkies.
•Feb. 16, 9pm **Raincloud over Wushan/In Expectation** *1996.* Three Chinese middle-aged characters search for love and friendship, and in the midst of their disheartened journies, they find love.
•Feb. 17, 7pm **Xia Wu** *1997.* A pickpocket protagonist wanders through small-town China encountering difficulties dealing with family, friendship and love.
•Feb. 17, 9pm **Sons** 1996. Zhang Yuan directs a film about the difficult lives of a family dealing with issues of alcoholism and insanity.

Preview

Guitars and Film

Tom Verlaine: Music for Film



One last multimedia event planned to coincide with the the MFA's *Dangerous Curves: Art of the Guitar* features acclaimed guitarist Tom Verlaine (right) who performs new original scores to accompany short films. Verlaine, best known for his work as singer and guitarist for New York '70s punk band Television, has spent decades expanding his repertoire with an incredible solo career based on his complex, improvisational guitar compositions. Verlaine, who tours very infrequently, teams up with guitarist Jimmy Ripp to perform richly textured soundscapes set to ■ selection of rare, early avant-garde short films. This isn't new territory for Verlaine, as he previously scored the independent film *Love and a .45* 1994 and performed live to several avant-garde films in recent years. The short films include the following: •*Fall of the House of Usher* 1928. An expressionist retelling of the famous Edgar Allan Poe story. •*The Life and Death of 9413* 1927. A satire of Hollywood and one of the first American films inspired by German Expressionism, created entirely with miniatures in a kitchen. •*Emak Bakia* 1928. Man Ray's surrealist film is structured around a car-ride theme. •*Star of the Sea* 1928. A depiction of love, Surrealist-style. •*Autumn Mist* 1928. A poetic sequence focusing on a woman's face. •*Ballet Mechanique* 1924. The only film made by Fernand Leger is a fragmented, mechanized ballet. •*They Caught the Ferry* 1943. In the hands of the incredible director Carl Theodor Dreyer, the traffic-safety film becomes an impressionist meditation on mortality. *Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston 465 Huntington Ave., Boston, (369-3770). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $15. Feb. 16, 8pm.*

•Feb. 23, 7pm **Call Me** *2000.* Directed by Ah Nian, the two protagonists make a living in China by delivering flowers and selling blood.
•Feb. 23, 9pm **On the Beat** *1995.* This award-winning film is a look at urban, modern China. Director Minjing Gushi focuses on the difficulties of individuals attempting to fit in with contemporary society.
•Feb. 24, 7pm **Mr. Zhao** *1998.* In Lu Yee's touching film, two Chinese women fall in love with the same man, bringing about trouble.
•Feb. 25, 7pm **The Making Of Steel** *1998.* A young rebellious man forms a nostalgia for the revolution.
•Feb. 25, 9:30pm **So Close To Paradise** *1998.* Two migrant laborers from the countryside come to Wuhan. They kidnap a Vietnamese nightclub singer, and unexpectedly fall in love with her.
•Feb. 27, 8pm **A Beautiful New World** *1999.* An ordinary Chinese peasant wins an apartment through the lottery but finds that materialism does not lead to happiness.

Masters of Animation

•Feb. 14, 9pm **History Is Made at Night** *1993.* Frank Brozage's film depicts a beautiful romance and renders it realistically.
•Feb. 26, 7pm **The Talk of The Town** *1942.* Directed by George Stevens, this film revolves around small-town Leopold Dilg (Cary Grant) who has been framed and sentenced to death. His journey unfolds into a mystery and a romance.

Topics in Film

•Feb. 13 and 14, 9pm **A Trick of the Light** *1995.* Directed by Wim Wenders, *A Trick of the Light* documents the Lumiere brothers' experience as the pioneers of the "first" motion picture.
•Feb. 21, 7pm **Germany Year Zero** *1947.* Roberto Rossellini attempts to discover the real reasons that drove the Germans to act as they did in this documentary. It follows the character Edmund in his adventures througout the streets of Berlin, looking for explanations.
•Feb. 20, 8:30pm **The Wonderful Horrible Life of Leni Riefenstahl** *1993.* Leni Riefenstahl directs this award-winning documentary about the controversial woman known as Hitler's filmmaker and photographer of the Nuba tribe of East Africa.

Theater into Film

•Feb. 18, 7pm and Feb. 21, 9pm **Mournful Indifference** *1987.* This cinematic adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's *Heartbreak House* film focuses on the senselessness of war and the importance of an individual's ideology.

Museum of Fine Arts

Guitars and Film

•Feb. 15, 6pm **Total Balalaika Show** *1993.* Aki Kaurismaki captures the Russian Red Army Chorus's performance with the rock 'n' roll band, the Leningrad Cowboys.
•Feb. 15, 7:30pm **My Generation** *2000.* Two-time Academy Award-winning director Barbara Kopple will introduce and discuss her new film, *My Generation,* in which she gives her perspective on Woodstock of 1994 and 1999.
•Feb. 16, 8pm **Tom Verlaine: Music for Film**. Guitarist (from '70s band Television) and composer Verlaine presents his love for improvisational music as he explores the boundaries of film.
•Feb. 22, 6pm **Don't Look Back** *1967.* This portrait of an artist as a young man, made during Bob Dylan's '65 concert tour of England, shows off his wilder, younger side.

Films by Patrice Leconte

•Feb. 23, 8pm **The Widow of St. Pierre** *2000.* Set in 1850, in the French island of St. Pierre, this is a love story between a prisoner condemned for murder (Emir Kustrica) and an army captain's wife (Juliette Binoche). As the plot unravels, she falls for the wrongly accused prisoner, and struggles to reverse his death sentence.

Other Film Offerings

•Feb. 24,10:30am **Under the Sun** *1999.* When two old friends in the countryside of rural Sweden fall in love with the beautiful, mysterious Elena Bergstrom, there is friction between them. They must come to terms with their own inadequacies and insatiable desires to love and be loved.

Boston Film Artists Present

•Feb. 24, 1pm **Lowell Blues: The Words of Jack Kerouac** *2000.* Director Henry Ferrini traces the experience of one of the most influential writers in our history. This is a poetic depiction of Jack Keroac's road to fame.
•Feb. 17, 3:45pm **The Same Side of Rejection Street** *2000.* Two outcasts, a narcoleptic philosopher and a telemarketer, find friendship as they journey through the modern world. Also showing: 12pm **Ennis' Gift: A Film About Learning Differences** *2000.* Directed by Joshua Seftel, this is a moving story that showcases some of the most successful stars and leaders of our time who have succeeded despite their learning differences. Some of these appearances include Danny Glover, James Earl Jones and Henry Winkler. Made in the memory of Ennis William Cosby, who received a Master's degree in education in spite of dyslexia.
•Feb. 24, 2pm **Iditarod...A Far Distant Past** *2000.* This is a spiritual, inspirational journey of three courageous characters who undergo a test of will as they compete in the Iditarod Sled Dog Race in Alaska.

Special Events

The Color of Film

•Feb. 14, 6pm **Sankofa** *1999.* Emerson College professor Andrew Millington discusses themes found in *Sankofka*, a film directed by Haile Gerima. The movie powerfully portrays some of the struggles of African Americans.
•Feb. 21, 6pm **Black and Independent Visions**. Kwesi Johnson, student filmaker at Massachussetts College of Art, takes a look at the history of independent black films; in particular, the modern filmmakers of today. *Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $5.*

Cinema Venue

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
Trapelo Rd. (484-1706). Red Line to Harvard, transfer to the 73 bus.

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.
Nickelodeon
606 Comm. Ave. (424-1500). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford St.
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St.(495-8647).MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Sq. (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Sq.
Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). B Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (536-3886). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. In *Constantine's Sword: The Church and the Jews, A History,* novelist and cultural critic **James Carroll** examines the rocky 2,000-year history between the Catholic Church and their views on Judaism.

Radcliffe Fellows
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4pm. **Purnima Mankekar** discusses *India Travels: Transnational Public Cultures, Gender and the Reconfiguration of Belonging.*

Thursday, Feb. 15

"Alphablitz" Author Talk
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (536-3886). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. An illustrated talk on the art and history of writing is given by **Margaret Shepherd**, author of the new *Learn Calligraphy*. A book signing follows the discussion.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (739-6002). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Susan Orlean**'s *The Bullfighter Checks Her Make-Up: My Encounters with Extraordinary People* is a compilation of profiles that she published in *The New Yorker.* Orlean includes a story about a New York City cab driver who is also an African king and a profile of the first female Spanish matador.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Arthur M. Sackler Auditorium, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Eugene R. Gaddis** tells the true story of a young museum director who became the moving force behind the introduction of modernism to America.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street Newton (244-6619). Esquire writer-at-large **Charlie Pierce** reads from his book, *Sports Guy*, a collection of his most witty, opinionated sports pieces to date.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle Street, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Political author **Dana Milbank** discusses *Smashmouth: Two Years in the Gutter with Al Gore and George W. Bush,* an analysis of dirty tricks on the campaign trail.

Saturday, Feb. 17

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7pm. **Lynn Robinson**, author of *The Complete Idiot's Guide to Being Psychic* and an "intuition consultant," presents her new book, *Divine Intuition: Your Guide to Creating a Life You Love.* During the talk, she discusses intuition as a source of wisdom.

Out of the Blue Poetry Event
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red-line to Central. 8pm. This open mike-poetry and music event is hosted by Deb Priestley.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. Borders hosts the **Myers Outstanding Book Awards**, which are presented each year by the Myers Center for the Study of Human Rights and Bigotry to the 12 books published in the previous year deemed most exemplary in their approach to human rights issues.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $2. In his *True History of the Kelly Gang*, Brooker Prize winner **Peter Carey** (*Oscar and Lucinda*) immortalizes Australian outlaw Ned Kelly in a series of journal entries allegedly written by the outlaw to his unborn daughter.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street Newton (244-6619). **Joanna Hershon**'s debut novel, *Swimming,* is the story of the turn of events that befall one family after a tragic summer weekend in New Hampshire.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (536-3886). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. In this newly revised version of his book on the architectural history of the city, *Built in Boston: City and Suburb 1800-2000*, **Douglas Shand-Tucci** adds four new chapters about architectural developments.

Kate's Mystery Bookstore
2211 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Davis. 7pm. Author **Leslie Glass** joins the reading group for a discussion of her collection of novels featuring her character, New York City policewoman April Woo. Her latest, which is available for signing, is *Tracking Time.*

Radcliffe Fellows Reading Series
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4pm. Scholar **Martha Buskirk** discusses *The Contingent Object of Contemporary Art.*

Thursday, Feb. 22

Brandeis University Women's Studies Program Event
Epstein Building, Women's Studies Research Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-3097). 12:30pm. **Ellen Rosen** discusses how free trade has affected women in apparel production, as well as subjects found in her forthcoming book, *Making Sweatshops: The Globalization of the Apparel Industry.*

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Arthur M. Sackler Auditorium, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Jamaica Kincaid** discusses *Talk Stories* and *At the Bottom of the River*, two collections of stories—some of which she wrote for *The New Yorker* during her first years in the United States.

Newtonville Books & the Yellow Brick Road
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). **Shelby Hearon's** *Emma in Bloom* is about the struggles of a poor, Southern single mom who finds love after the tragic death of her favored older sister.

Friday, Feb. 23

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Arthur M. Sackler Auditorium, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **A.S. Byatt** discusses her new novel about love and literary sleuthing, *The Biographer's Tale,* as well as her book, *A.S. Byatt on Histories and Stories.*

Out of the Blue Gallery Event
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. The Tongue In Cheek Storytellers host an improvisational open-mike storytelling night.

Saturday, Feb. 24

Out of the Blue Gallery Event
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. An improvisational open-mike night of storytelling, hosted by the Tongue In Cheek Storytellers.

Sunday, Feb. 25

An Afternoon of Bilingual Russian/English Music and Poetry
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer Street, Newton (552-7145). Local poet and translator **Anatol Zukerman** reads English translations of lyrics by several Russian writers, including Pushkin, Maikov, Tiutchev and Balmont. He accompanies soprano Galina Nikonovskaya and pianist Rosalia Shifrin as they perform songs by Russian composers Rachmaninoff, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov and others.

Monday, Feb. 26

Kate's Mystery Bookstore Series
2211 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (491-2660). MBTA: Red line to Porter or Davis. 6pm. Mystery-thriller writer **Dennis Lehane** (*A Drink Before the War*) signs copies of his latest achievement, *Mystic River.*

The William Belden Noble Lectures
The Memorial Church at Harvard University, Cambridge (495-5508). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. **Kathleen Norris**, author of *Amazing Grace* and *The Cloister Walk,* presents the 2001 William Belden Noble Lectures.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Kate's Mystery Bookstore Series
2211 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Davis. 6pm. **Cynthia Peale** signs copies of *Murder at Bertram's Bower*. The brutal deaths of two young women raise questions about saints, sinners and the power of prejudice in her second mystery, set in Victorian Boston.


Mystery writer Leslie Glass reads Feb. 21.

The William Belden Noble Lectures
The Memorial Church at Harvard University, Harvard Yard. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. (495-5508). Same program as Feb. 26.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Fiction aficionados will love Cantab's all new Tuesday night open-mike event featuring short stories, novel exerts and long prose.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open mike and a slam.

Club Passim, Tuesdays
47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $5. All open-mike fanatics must experience this open-mike night—a training ground for up-and-coming poets. Sign up Tuesdays, 7:30pm.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night, Saturdays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers. •Feb. 19 "**Alonso**" (Paul Dobson) reads with dance performance to follow.

Stone Soup Poets Workshop
Zeitgeist Gallery, 312 Broadway, Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Centarl. 6-8pm. $60. Ten people are invited to attend this four week course (Fridays Feb. 19 and 26) taught by an experienced staff. To sign up contact them via e-mail at *stonesoup-poets@aol.com.*

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

Thursday, Feb. 15

A Middle Aged Mountaineer Visits Nepal
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). www.ci.newton.ma.us. *7:30pm. Free.* Newton resident **Chris Dame** talks about his amazing adventure climbing 21,000-foot Mt. Parcharmo in Nepal.

A Primer for Entrepreneurs
Newton Marriott Hotel, 2345 Commonwealth Ave., Newton (437-0600). www.msicouncil.org. 8-11pm. Free. Experts advise new entrepreneurs on the key to financial success. Moderated by Richard Lucash of Lucash Gesmer & Upgrove, the panel will discuss ways to attract investors and successfully negotiate a deal.

Saturday, Feb. 17

The Art of Florence and Venice 1420-1520
Sackler Lecture Hall, Harvard University Art Museums, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495 2397). www.artmuseums.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9:30am-5pm. Free.* Scholars share new research on the Renaissance art of Florence and Venice.

A Digital Media Symposium
Apple Market Center, 28 State St., Boston (621-1155). www.fmctraining. *MBTA: Blue Line to State Street. 9:30am-1:30pm or 2:30-6:30pm. $179.* These sessions will provide background Web design, covering the use of graphics, animation, video and interactivity.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Web Business Models That Are Working
One Main St., First Floor, Cambridge (227-2822). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6:30-8:30pm. Free. Panelists discuss how to make your Web business work.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Health & Weight: Nature or Nurture?
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). MBTA: Red Line to. Harvard Square 7:30pm. Free. Author **Neal Bernard** addresses the question of whether weight problems are genetic.

An Inside Look at the Big Dig
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (261-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7-9pm. $29. **Dan McNichol**, former deputy director of public relations for the Big Dig, discusses logistics, budgets, politics and management of the project.

Preserving Humanity's Monuments
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (951-1433). www.architects.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. $29.* World Monument Fund leader **Laurie Beckelman** discusses the need to preserve the world's cultural monuments.

Women and Public Policy Program
Kennedy School of Government, 79 JFK Street, Cambridge (496-8246). MBTA: Red Line to Cambridge. Feb. 21, 2:30-4pm. Free. JFK School of Government professor **Jendayi Frazer**, the former director of African affairs at the National Security Council, speaks at this weekly lecture.

Saturday, Feb. 24

Making Your Living from the Stock Market
5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (254-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Part I: 9am-12pm. Part II: 12:30-3:30pm. $38. Learn how to make the stock market work for you. Expert broker **Tom Linzmeier** shares tips.

Monday, Feb. 26

Action and Advocacy at the Green Decade
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). Free. State senator **Cynthia Creem** and state reps **Ruth B. Balser**, **Kay Khan** and **Peter Koutoujian** discuss environmental policies in action.

A History of Marriage and the Nation
Schlesinger Library, Brattle and Garden streets, Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30-6pm. Author Nancy Cott discusses marriage in America.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

Removing the Barriers to 3-D on the Web
28 State St., Boston (227-2822). 6:30-8:30pm. Free. **Rich Silton** and **Joshua Smith** of Kaon Interactive discuss the company's formula for developing photorealistic 3-D content into Web designs.

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Nights

Mondays

Ceremony
An Tua Nua. Pounding goth and industrial music shakes the house, 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. Show tunes and Cabaret with Michael Larson and Dorothy Miller. 9pm-1am.

Language
Hibernia. This incredible drum-and-bass night is heated up with Cosmo. 8pm. 21+.

Monsta Monday
Bill's Bar. It's time to jam with Trust Fall and Colepitz. DJ Diecast also kicks off the week. 9pm, $5. 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Irish pub offers best of hip-hop, jazz and reggae. 11pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma. DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae, and house. 10pm, $10. 21+. Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
Celebrity night will get you going as DJ and Mike Janedy spices it up. 9pm.

Sissy K's
The hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers hardhouse and U.K. progressive. Plus a drag/strip event with Mizery. 10pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo. Caesar and Giorgio throw a party for those who never want to stop dancin'. Dress slick. 10pm. No cover.

Tuesdays

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar. This off-the-hook night features DJ Chaos scratching out hip-hop. 10pm. $12, 18+.

Flaunt
Aria. Hip-hop and R&B with guest DJs. 19+, $10.

The Forum
Lava Bar. Join Mission Control and support local DJs as home-grown talents share the floor. 10pm. 21+.

Got Milk?
Venu. If you're chic you'll be at Venu for Milk—a devilishly hip party with DJ Osheen. Dress is funky. 21+.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a relaxed night out on a Tuesday. 6pm.

Lot 36
The Modern/Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin House for a trendy crowd. 10pm. $10. 19+.

The Rack
Tuesday nights feature Stu Sinclair, 8-12pm.

Showtunes
Encore Lounge. Bobby Femino plays classic piano-bar show tunes. 9pm-1am.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Free Salsa lessons by Dan Marshall. 9-10pm, followed by dancing. 5pm-2am. No cover. 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange. Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble rocks; a complimentary buffet is served. 8pm.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua. Get ready for some Tuesday hip-hop dancing. 19+.

Wednesdays

Backstage
DJ Jonny C. spins top-40 dance. 10pm, no cover. 21+.

College Night
The Aquarium. Guest DJs spin all sorts of tunes at this relatively new venue at 10pm.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays jazzy blues at the piano bar. 9pm.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar. DJ Tim Collins spins funk and groove. •Feb 14: The Royal Family with Grooveline. •Feb. 21: *Underground hip-hop.com* anniversary party. 9pm. $5, 18+.

Hibernia
Wednesday night tunes and cocktails in the lounge make for a mellow evening. 6pm.

Latin Night
Aquarium. This aquatic-themed club offers specialty drinks, loud music and dance lessons, 9-10pm.

New Music
The Druid. Mellow out with top U.S. and European acoustic acts. 9pm.



Jen Gaffuey, Gary Mackudo, Courtney Bernard, Wayne Eddy and Jody Johnson strike a pose at Sissy K's.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers a new mixture of guests spinning everything from deep house to techno. 11pm. $5. 19+.

Pravda 116
Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix. 21+.

The Rack
It's time to get moving when Riverside Train rocks the house. 6pm. When the sun goes down, DJ Steve spins it up. 10pm. •Feb 14: DJ Steve spins some tunes for a very special Valentine's Day party. 6pm.

Rockout
Emily's. Rock trivia game show and live local bands. 8pm. $5. 21+.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange. A night dedicated to those in the industry is hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White. At 10pm, there is a champagne reception. 21+.

Sissy K's
The Financial District's hot spot features live musical acts downstairs and DJs spinning top-40 and R&B upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Latin band on the first floor and. DJ Eddy K spins international music on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Wet U'R Wistle
The Kells. 94.5's Roy Barboza spins hip-hop. 10pm-2am, $5, 21+.

Thursdays

An Tua Nua
Top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul spun by DJ Ren Justice, 19+.

Aquarium
The Kiss 108 FM dance party. 10pm. $3.

Backstage
Tonight's adrenaline high features special-guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm, $5. 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans-themed nightspot has it all—even billiards. 9pm.

Charlie's Angels Night
Polly Esther's. Dance to '70s, '80s or '90s tunes. 8pm, $5.

Chrome
Axis. Resident DJs John Debo and Ali Ajami spin house and trance music. 10pm, $10. 19+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern. DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar. 9pm-2am, 21+.

The Druid
Mr. Doug Nice plays trippy deep house. 10pm.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin Lounge. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays great American blues and jazz at the piano bar. 9pm-1am.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion House
Aria. Fashion shows and DJ Roger spinning house. It's also Greek Night in the Angel Room. $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116. DJ Maric spins tunes to relax you.

Heaven
Comedy Connection Backstage. Music by DJs Johnny C and Freddie C. Proper dress. 10pm. No cover.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange. DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B. 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia Thursdays
DJ Jeremy spins loopy, trippy, trip-hop. 6pm. •Feb 22: Clutch Gabwell rocks it with T-House of the Almighty CD-release show and Virgil Cain. 9pm. $7. 18+.

Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals. 9pm. 21+.

International Thursday
Avalon. A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy. You know it's time to get down when the Roxy breaks out its sexy Latin dance mixes. 10:30pm, 21+.

Lava Bar
Join the Original Lounge Lizard Brother Cleve and Friends for Funky beats and Tasty treats at the Bootyque. 10pm. 21+.

The Modern
International Thursdays features progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Located in the heart of groovy Central Square, this Irish pub presents drum 'n' bass night. 11pm. $5. 19+.

The Rack
Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, no cover.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm. DJ Eddy K spins best of Latin on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10, 21+.

Speed
Karma. Resident DJ Bruno spins house to an edgy crowd. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Sugar Shack
Music from three decades pounds through the festival atmosphere here, where every day is Mardi Gras.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

The List
Lava Bar. *Lavabar.com*. Verse/D bring you soul and funk. 10pm. 21+.

Roxy Plex
Get ready to dance with salsa, merengue and Latin grooves upstairs. 10:30pm. DJ Adison bounces progressive house and trance underground. 10pm. 18+.

Underground
Bill's Bar. •Feb 15: DJ Mark Hamilton showcases up-and-coming acts the Slackers with Venice Shoreline Chris, Black Market Medallions and Black Ice, 9pm. $10. 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spins to a huge college crowd. 19+.

Fridays

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hits and your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s.

Aquarium
DJ Lu spins today's hottest dance hits.

American Karma
Karma. All-star American top-40 remixes with DJ Tim Collins, live on Star 93.7. 9pm, $8. 19+.

Avaland
Avalon. Everything about this place screams "Party!" With Ali Ajami. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40. 10pm, $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has some of the best mainstream DJs in town.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz. Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs pay homage to the house music gods. 11pm, $15. 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. John O'Neil and Jan Peters sing show-tunes, great American songbook and cabaret. 9pm.

Envy
This popular destination is filled with a mass of sweaty 'n' ready dancers. 9pm, $5 after 10pm. 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange. Brothers Tiziano and Maurizio deliver an onslaught of house upstairs. G-Squared spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B in the Vault. 9pm.

Focus at Hibernia
Cocktails with Alan Strack at 6pm and deep funky house by Shelter at 10pm, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy. International house featuring local, national and European DJs. 10:30pm.

Hibernia
Alan Strack in the lounge, 6pm; disco, funk and deep house, DJ Doug Nice, 10pm.

Life
Lava Bar. Dance to a different drummer with DJ Fran Englehardt's deeply rooted, soulful rhythms. 10pm. 21+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy. International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Friday
Bill's Bar. Get in on the action with DJ Mark Hamilton and live bands. 9pm, 18+. •Feb 16: The Gravel Pit with Control Group and Ms. Pigeon. •Feb 23: Missing Joe with Rane and Jaded Salingers. $8.

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as J Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Rack
Central Basement rocks it out for some Friday fun, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm.

Revolution
The Modern. Find Latin and progressive Euro house here with DJ Eddie K. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Shake It up
Phoenix Landing. Shake what your mama gave you with DJ Ren Justice. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
This new hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor. DJ Mike C. plays Latin dance on second floor while DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge. 5pm. $10. 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis. Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. 10pm, $12. 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJs and specialty drinks, dancing 'til 2am.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Venu
The scene is elegant for this jacket-required international romp. Get on your Gucci as DJ Arsit spins. 21+.

Saturdays

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar. DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite with high-energy house and Latin beats. 10pm, 21+.

Aquarium
Saturday night dance party with DJs. •Feb. 17: Plaid Daddy. •Feb. 24: Cape Fear. 10pm, $5.

Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm. $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has live bands all weekend long. Does non-stop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.

Blues
Encore Lounge. Shake off your blues and listen to honky-tonk, classic and contemporary rock. Sit-ins welcome. 9:30pm-2am.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing. Disco fever hits Cambridge all night long with DJ Vinney. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern. DJ Shiuan Lee puts out funky house for a mix of international students, local scene setters and, of course, Boston's A-list. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Boston's newest Latin Night starting at 10pm. Dress to impress. $10.

Club Nicole
The mob is thick for this exclusive trend-setting night. DJ Alex spins Euro house. Proper dress. 21+.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Club Piteko
Fajitas & Ritas. DJ Piteko leads the party to "dance like no one is watching," specializing in Cape Verdean music. $7. 10:30pm. 21+.

Downtown
Avalon. Feb 17: Chill out with Cold Play, the Brit-rock band that instantly sold out at the Paradise. 7pm. $15, 18+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music. 9pm, $5.

Elements of Life
Karma. DJ Mario spins hard house while DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Rafii S. melts the tables upstairs with house and international tracks. In the vault, DJ G-Squared spins.

Hibernia Saturdays
Luis Diaz and Resident Twilo, NYC grooves up a storm this Saturday night. 10pm. 21+.

Indulgence
Aria. DJ Raffi spins house and club top-40. In the Angel Room, DJ Roger spins Latin and Eurohaus. $10, 21+.

Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's. Get a taste of Miami nightlife. 9:30pm (ladies free before 11pm), $10. 21+. Ladies, 19+.

Mischief
The Modern. Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica. 21+.

Mythos
Venu. It's Greek International night with DJ Yorgo Jr. spinning the hits from the famous party islands.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario provides current dance jams.

The Rack
Join Vinny Peruzzi for the ultimate dance party.

Roxy Saturdays
High-energy house and dance by DJ Adilson. 9pm, proper dress. 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's. Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD. 8pm, $10. 21+.

Sissy K's
The hot spot has acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Smile
Bill's Bar. DJ Bruno takes over. 10pm. $12, 19+.

Sophia's
DJ Edwin Mathos spins Latin dance on second floor. Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm, DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Who's on First?
Some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin is hosted by Li'l Mike, 10:30pm, $12. 18+.

X Night
Axis. Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits. 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sundays

Backstage
Urban Night. T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school. Doors open at 10pm, $10. 21+.

Common People
An Tua Nua. Hear Brit-pop, new wave, indie and more with DJ Ren Justice. 9pm, $3. 19+.

Curve
Hannah's. Three DJs, one vibe. DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno. 10pm. $5. 21+.

The Druid
May the luck of the Irish be with you as you listen to a Seisiun with Shay Walker and friends. 5pm.

Druid Sundays
Seisiun jams with Shay Walker and Noel Scott. 5pm.

Encore Lounge
Saddle up to the piano bar and listen to Michael Kreutz play show tunes and great American songbook. 9pm.

Evening in the Velvet Lounge
Trio. Oscar's Sunday night has moved to this hot spot, where you can kick back and lounge. No cover, 10pm.

Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M. No cover, 21+.

Sunday Night Karma
Sunday night heat hosts hot 97's DJ Chuck Dog, featuring DJ Statik Selektah spinning the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B. $10, 10pm. 21+.

Lava Bar
Pandora's Box (Club Courtesy). DJ Vinny and Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown. 10pm. 21+.

Living Room
Aria. DJ Raffi spins Euro-house. In the Angel Room, DJ Franklin spins Latin. $10, 21+. Proper dress.

Rack
Chad LaMarsh Band, 9pm.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116. Party in the front bar that is transformed into a comfortable lounge. 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar. DJ K-Don spins some of the best reggae around with Holy Smoke and special guests. 10pm. $10. 21+.

Salvation
An intimate night, courtesy of DJ Soul. $5.

Sex
The Exchange. Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.

Sissy's
U: DJ Dave Jordan plays top-40 and hip-hop tunes. D: Martini Bros., 4-8pm; Gregg Luttrell, 9pm-1am.

Trance
Phoenix Landing. Get down with some hip trance beats brought to you by DJ Blacksmith. 10:30pm. $5. 19+.

Venu
Carnival comes to Boston every Sunday as DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio to Venu. 21+.

Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aquarium *65 Holland St., Somerville (623-3200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Comedy Connection *Faneuil Hall, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Fajitas & Ritas *25 West St., Boston (426-1222). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Oskar's *107 South St., Boston (542-6756). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (480-9489).*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*



Music

RENAISSANCE MAN

Paolo Conte raises the bar with his nostalgic visions of human adventure and cinematic cabaret. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Paolo Conte packs his songs with cinematic breadth and a lightness of being. "The idea is to tell a story in a very short time, so to get to the point, you've got to be very dynamic and very quick," says the Italian singer-songwriter. Although he has been a star in Europe for decades, he launches what is only his second U.S. tour at the Orpheum Theatre Feb. 22.

His gruff, world-weary wordplay may account for comparisons to Leonard Cohen and Tom Waits. But Conte weaves nostalgia, romance and comedy into a style all his own—one that's immediately enchanting and accessible, even though he sings primarily in Italian. When he does slip in a bit of French or English, it's often a lighthearted chorus such as "It's wonderful, it's wonderful. I dream of you. Chips, chips."

Potato chips? Poker chips? The reality is whatever you want it to be. "It hasn't got special meaning," the 64-year-old Conte says of that exclamation in "Via con Me (Come Away with Me)," one of 20 songs on his only U.S. release, 1998's *The Best of Paolo Conte*. "It can mean everything. It's just a sound, a fill-in sound."



Italian lawyer-turned-singer Paolo Conte launches his second U.S. tour in Boston Feb. 22.

There's a lot to go around, as Conte fills his music with the sounds of honky-tonk piano and Dixieland horns, tango rhythms and cabaret soul, and even the occasional kazoo solo. Conte is touring America with an eight-piece band that includes accordion virtuoso Massimo Pitzianti.

"I got my inspiration from different musical forms all around the world, from Spanish music, from jazz, from Neopolitan music—the peak forms of those musics," says Conte, who tuned into Louis Armstrong, Sidney Bechet and Jelly Roll Morton long before the Ken Burns documentary brought those jazz pioneers into America's living room. "I reinterpreted these forms of music according to my inspiration and feeling."

"Of art in general, cubism had a certain importance, and futurism, the literal movement that was very important in Italy," adds Conte, speaking through an interpreter on the phone from Rome, concluding, "The cinema definitely had a very great importance on me and my music. I actually use a cinematic technique in telling my stories when I write music. And the cinema I prefer is classical cinema, the great black-and-white."

Indeed, the ghosts of Fellini and Rossellini would be proud of the visual imagery in a song like "Boogie," wound with poetic (translated) lyrics like "The song went on, sinking deeper and deeper into the air, and those two went on. Her pungent odor beckoned him like an old-fashioned grocery."

Perhaps the most unusual source for Conte's stories came from his former profession as a country lawyer. "It was an obstacle, and hurdle, from a certain point of view, because of course I had two jobs to do," says Conte, who didn't even launch his professional career as a singer until 1974, when he was nearing age 40. "On the other hand, it was some kind of inspiration from those [legal] jobs, as far as certain human stories, human adventures, that I write about."

"I started writing music and playing music more than writing lyrics," reveals Conte, who worked as a vibraphonist before settling on the piano, and whose earlier songs were covered by other Italian artists in the late '60s. "At the time, it didn't even come to my mind to possibly become a singer."

Conte still nods to such offhand beginnings with his casual, cavalier approach to scat-singing, and by playing the kazoo. "I started playing the kazoo at the beginning because I used to be a one-man show, so it gave me the illusion that I had a little orchestra, because I played the piano and at the same time, I could play the kazoo," he says. "Then I became what I do now with an orchestra, but [the kazoo] is a calling card for my being an amateur, not a professional."

Of course Conte is modest about his artistic status, given that his latest project is *Razmataz*, a DVD being prepared for European release. An ambitious multimedia piece set in 1920s Paris that explores the meeting of old European and young black music, *Razmataz* employs animation using 1,800 of Conte's own drawings, as well as his story line and music, expanding his visionary prowess. "I used more sophisticated things in a way," he allows. "But mainly, it was different instruments, accompanying instruments. I used a symphony orchestra, and different singing, American singers as well."

The cosmopolitan, international reach of his accomplishments is certainly far removed from his wine-producing hometown of Asti, where Conte still resides in northern Italy. "I like living in a small place," he says, "and dreaming to escape." IB

Paolo Conte

Performs at the Orpheum Theatre Feb. 22.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billling

Trey Anastasio
Feb. 21, Orpheum Theatre

Erykah Badu
Feb. 17, Orpheum Theatre

Kalman Balogh, Aladar Csiszar and Agnes Herczku
Feb. 25, Somerville Theatre

Dave Brubeck Quartet
Feb. 25, Sanders Theatre

Aaron Carter
Feb. 20, Avalon

Ibrahima Camara, Sol y Canto and special guests
Feb. 16, Avalon

Les Claypool's Frog Brigade
Feb. 14, Avalon

Coldplay
Feb. 17, Avalon

Paolo Conte
Feb. 22, Orpheum Theatre

Doves
Feb. 26, Paradise

Festival of Gypsy and Hungarian Music with the Okros Ensemble
Feb. 25, Somerville Theatre

Fisher and David Mead
Feb. 14, Paradise

Hearts Afire
Feb. 16, Museum of Our National Heritage

Eric Johnson and Alien Love Child & the Derek Trucks Band
Feb. 23, Avalon

Levellers and Todd Thibaud
Feb. 22, Paradise

Low and Pedro the Lion
Feb. 14, Somerville Theater

Kate and Anna McGarrigle
Feb. 16, Sanders Theatre

Jose Luis Perales
Feb. 24, Orpheum Theatre

The Residents
Feb. 17, Berklee Performance Center

Rock, Jazz and Blues

Wednesday, Feb. 14

The Barking Crab Restaurant Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6:30pm.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go (Mod Night with DJ Vin), 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Valentine's Party with the Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Hennessey's of Boston "Johnny Bahama" and Me and Julio.
House of Blues Jimmy McGriff Quartet with Fathead Newman, 9:30pm, $15, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Six Days Away, Dana Mier, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Pete Weiss and the Weisstronauts, Felonoius Fonk and Feilet of Soul, $5.
Lilli's Mojave 3 and the Sid Hillman Quartet, 8pm, $15, 21+.
Linwood The Shelley Winters Project, 9pm; the Sugar Twins, 11pm.
Lizard Lounge Valentine's Day show with Laurie Sargent and band (featuring Billy Conway, Dana Colley and Evan Harriman of Orchestra Morphine), with her special guests.
Milky Way Mercury Lounge with soul, funk and house, 9pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Dwayne Peters and the Hunns, Forced Reality and Dimestore Halos, $8, 18+. D: Server, Psychotic Larry, Song Hospital, Glutton, 8:30pm, $7, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Hegarty, Boston Traditional Folk and Dingers Club, 8pm.
Paradise Fisher and David Mead, 8pm, $10, 18+.

GUIDO HARARI





Harpoon's St. Patrick's Festival

Friday, March 2nd, 5:30 - 11:00 pm
Saturday, March 3rd, 2:00 - 11:00 pm
Entrance closes by 9:30 pm each night

Love Beer. Love Life. Harpoon

At the Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston. Kick off the St. Patrick's Day season with live Irish music, local rock bands, and plenty of fresh Harpoon, UFO, and Catamount beer. Admission: $10 per person; includes one beer token and a souvenir cup. Cash bar. Free shuttle from South Station. Parking available. MUST BE 21 YEARS OR OLDER WITH PROPER ID. LIMITED CAPACITY, SO COME EARLY. TICKETS NOT SOLD IN ADVANCE. For more information, call 888-HARPOON, ext. 3, or visit www.harpoonbrewery.com.











Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Valentine's Day party with DJ Steve, 6pm.
Regattabar Jazz Valentine with Rebecca Parris, 8 and 10pm, $14.
Scullers Valentine's evening with Donna Byrne, Jim Gwinn, Tim Rey and Marshall Wood, 8 and 10pm, $16.
Sky Bar Ruby Lashes, the Operators and Roxie, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Finbarr and Band.
Toad The Burning Sensations, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Anti-Valentine's Day Show with Chimpira, Cho Experiment and Pivot, $6.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates John Thomas, 8pm.

Thursday, Feb. 15

Abbey Lounge The Coots and Friends, $6.
Black Horse Tavern Ottie (from Nom de Plume), 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Nat Simpkins, B3 Jazz Trio, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs; Phil Pemberton Band downstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Rockwell Church, Ashley Filip opens, 8pm. $10.
Common Ground Lounge Night, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Lonely Gus and the One Night Stand, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend Band, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Latin Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Slipknot, 9:30, $6.
Hennessey's of Boston DJ Dan McCarthy.
House of Blues Larry Goldings Trio, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's DJ John Tringali, 9pm, $3.
Kendall Cafe Tom Glynn Duo, The MacVitties, Jeb Loy Nichols, 8pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Tokyo Tramps, Somerville Bottle Openers and Dumb It Down, $5.
Lilli's The Dangerous Brothers (Christian McNeil, Jimmy Ryan, Duke Levine), Bo Thayer and the Euphorians, Dana Colley.
Lizard Lounge An evening of queer gal smut for the night with Dawn Dougherty, Amie M. Evans, Jaclyn Friedman, Amatul Hannan, Jean Powers and MC Mal Malme. Plus an appearance by the Princesses of Porn.
Middle East U: Drexel, Dubnicks, Mission 120, Favorite Atomic Hero and Touch It, $7, 18+. D: Headshot, Medicine 4 Tim, We're All Gonna Die, Breedinground, Ichabod, 8:30pm, $7, 18+. C: Board of Education, 10pm.
Milky Way The Real Kids, the Beatings, Authentic Pop Wonder and Kitty in the Tree, 9pm, $10.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, no cover.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast, 21+.
Scullers Adam Sherman and the Seeds, 8 and 10pm, $10.
Sky Bar The Audiants, the Crush and Baby Strange, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Rust Farm.
Toad The Family Jewels and the Dave Samarco Band, 7-9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Elysium, Asciento and Hospital, $6.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Joel Larue Smith, 8pm.

Friday, Feb. 16

Abbey Lounge Stinkin' Lincolns, $6.
The Attic Sunflower with North Street, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Joe Bargar, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose D: Eugene Byrne, U: Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs; Phil Pemberton Band downstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Cafe Science Park CD-release party, 8pm.
Club Passim Dave Mallett, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Who's the Fat Guy, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Bald Water.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mike Shea, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet, no cover.
Grand Canal Fat Tuesday.
Green Dragon Tavern Me and Julio.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.



Melancholy indie rockers Low play at the Somerville Theatre Feb. 14 with Pedro the Lion.

Preview

A Low Roar

For Low and Pedro the Lion, less is more

Somber, lush and leisurely, the resolutely down-tempo Low is not a band that rocks in the traditional sense. Yet that's not to say that this trio from Duluth, MN, lack intensity—it's quite the opposite. A recent example of Low's subtle but hypnotic power is its latest CD, *Things We Lost in the Fire*, which opens with the elegiac "Sunflower." From start to finish, *Things We Lost* slowly but surely envelops listeners by layering wistful vocals over slow, chugging rhythms, mournful strings and a fair amount of fuzz and distortion. The sound is quite simple yet expansive and spiritual—much like the abstract paintings of Mark Rothko, an artist Low vocalist and guitarist Alan Sparhawk once cited as a musical influence.

When Low comes to the Somerville Theatre on Feb. 14, the trio will be joined by an equally melancholy act: Seattle's spare and splendid Pedro the Lion. It's not exactly the perfect Valentine's Day bill for the lovelorn, but for fans of slow, melancholy indie rock, it's a lovely match-up. Somerville Theater, Feb. 14, 8pm. $15; tickets available at the Middle East Box office or through Ticketmaster. *—Rachel Strutt*

Harpers Ferry Two Ton Shoe with special guests Coby Brown Group, 9:30pm, $8.
Hennessey's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; DJ Bri 9pm.
House of Blues Jimmy Smith Quartet, 10pm, $25, 21+.
Johnny D's Holmes Brothers, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Off the Wall, $5.
Kendall Cafe DB Leonard, Naked Poets, Kelly Buchanan, 9:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Surf Music Festival: Big Ray and the Futuras, Gein and the Graverobbers, 9th Wave, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $6.
Lilli's The Jazz Mandolin Project, $13, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge CD-release party with Fire In the Boat House, the Franc Graham Band and Gribstake.
Middle East U: Labradford, Pan American and Hrvatski, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Nancy S. Mroczek PhD, the Shelley Winters Project, Dave Aaronoff & the Details and Loveless, 9pm, $8, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Pig Pen.
Rack Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee and Divercity, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom, 9pm, $9, 21+.
Scullers Abbey Lincoln, 8 and 10:30pm, $24.
Sky Bar Reverse, Confidence Men and Billy Boardman, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Christian MacNeil.
Toad Amphibian, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jack Drag, Aaron Perrino of the Sheila Divine, AdFrank and the Fast Easy Women, $8.
Western Front Ark Band, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ron Savage, 9pm.

Saturday, Feb. 17

Abbey Lounge Garage Dogs, Red Zone Cuba, Dead City Rockers, $6.
The Attic Marie's Children pajama party, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Sky Blues.
Black Horse Tavern Sky Blues, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne, Sunday's Well and Kevin Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs; Phil Pemberton Band downstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim The Jim Kweskin Band with Samoa Wilson, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Stymie, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Blue Soul, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend.
Grand Canal The Return.
Green Dragon Tavern Off the Wall.
Green Street Grill Latin Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Matt "Guitar" Murphy with special guests Vykki Vox, 9:30pm, $12.
Hennessey's of Boston Irish Sessuin 4-7pm; DJ Dan McCarthy 9pm-close.
House of Blues Jimmy Smith Quartet, 10pm, $25, 21+.
Johnny D's Babaloo, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Syndicate, $5.
Kendall Cafe Brendan O'Donnell, Howard Fishman Quartet, Michael Fracasso, 9:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Funk 'n Soul Review: Flat 5, J-Walkers, Eighteen Abbey, $5.
Lilli's Miracle Orchestra and Anti-Jazz Raygun, $10, 8pm, 18+.
Lizard Lounge CD-release party for Lucky 57 and Scrimshander and the Kickbacks.
Middle East U: Heroin Sheiks (of the Cows), $7, 18+. D: Raging Teens CD-release show with Deke Dickerson and the Ecco-fonics, the Racketeers, the Bourbonaires, Kings of Nuthin', the Starline Rhythm Boys, the Colonel and His Lucky Diamonds, the Konks, 13 Ghosts, King Memphis, the Jimmy Nations Combo, the Bombastics and Sean Mencher (High Noon), $15, 18+. C: Matt Jensen and Acid Reggae, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll, DJ Brian, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown.
Rack Vinny Peruzzi Dance Party, 8pm.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 8 and 10:30 pm, $24.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire (reggae).
Scullers Verve recording artist Abbey Lincoln. 8pm and 10:30pm, $26.
Sky Bar Playing for Audrey, Pure Fiction CD-release show and Typhoon Ferri, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan and Friends.
Toad Say Zulu, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Wide Iris CD-release show, the Naked Sams, Garagedogs and Meat Depressed, $7.
Western Front Ark Band, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ron Murphy, 10pm.

Sunday, Feb. 18

Bill's Bar Holy Smoke and Dub Station and special guests.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne and Kevin Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Paulo Danay Quartet, 11am-3:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Kerri Powers and Stephan Fearling, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel Brunch with Silver Lining, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm.
Hennessey's of Boston Martini Brothers, 5-8pm, Karaoke, 9-1am.
House of Blues Stevie Ray Vaughan tribute, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm, then salsa dancing with Rumba Nama, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Charlie Chesterman, Frank Morey, Eric Royer, 8pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm.
Middle East D: Benefit for the Rainbow Coalition with music and poetry, featuring Jimmy Tingle, 4-7pm, $15, 18+. C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, 10pm, $5.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Mike Barret, 8pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Live acoustic with James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack Chad LaMarsh Band, 9pm.
Scullers Verve recording artist Abbey Lincoln. 7pm and 9pm, $24.
Tír na nÓg Irish Seisiun, 6pm.
Toad The Resophonics, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place "Reverie," a twice monthly gathering with DJs spinning ethereal, goth, industrial and darkwave music.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Monday, Feb. 19

Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Open mike folk music, hosted by Geoff Bartley, 8pm.
Club Passim Arabesque, 7:30pm, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Michael Tarbox Duo, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Distant Relatives, 9:39pm, $3.
House of Blues Uncle Trouble, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Kendall Cafe The Splendid Nobodies, Zoubek and Bryant, 8:30pm, $4.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe.
Middle East U: New Music Night: Last Man Standing, International Allies, Soul Rock Baptist, $6, 18+. D: 7:30pm Stone Soup Poets, $3 donation. C: The Out Side, 10pm.
Purple Shamrock Live acoustic with Scott Damgaard, 10pm.

DANIEL CORRIGAN



Sol y Canto come to Avalon Feb. 16. Also playing are Ibrahima Camara and guests.

Rack Celebrity Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 9pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear Acoustic Series: Piglet, Jon McGarry of Woody and Dave Riccobono, $3.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Violet Tide, 9pm.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

An Tua Nua What's Up Night, 9pm, $5, 19+.
Avalon Aaron Carter, 7pm, $20.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass hosted by Geoff Bartley.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet & Friends, 9:30, $5.
Hennessey's of Boston Music with John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Umphrey's McGee, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Felicia Brady, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Colin Decker (the Sheila Divine), 9pm, Mark Mulcahy (Miracle Legion) 10pm, Jed Parish (the Gravel Pit), 11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnleiter Jazz Quartet, free.
Lizard Lounge Naftule's Dream and Anti Jazz Ray Gun, $6.
Middle East U: The New Pornographers featuring Neko Case, $8, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack Stu Sinclair, 8-12pm.
Regattabar Dave Douglas: Charms of the Night Sky, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan and Friends.
Toad Michael Tarbox 7pm; Todd Thibaud, no cover.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Abbey Lounge Acoustic Night hosted by Daniel Jacobs, featuring Carl Cacho, Mieka Pauley, Ryan Kipp.
The Barking Crab Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6:30pm.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim James O'Brien and Karaugh Brown, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go (Mod Night with DJ Vin), 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Jenerators, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Hennessey's of Boston "Johnny Bahama" and Me and Julio.
House of Blues The Jinx Motive plus Steplight, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's C.J. Chenier, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Blue Pearl Reunion with Professor Steve Heck and special guests, 9pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Jazz and Afro Pop, Blue Jazz Trio, Jama Jigi, Jinx Motive, $5.
Lizard Lounge Todd Spahr (of the Gravy), 9pm; Laurie Sargent, 10pm; Dennis Brennan, 11pm.
Middle East U: The Lot Six, Mr. B with DJ Nike Mike, Random Acts of Violence, Kaiju Big Battle, $7, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Hegarty, Boston Traditional Folk and Singers Club, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Riverside Train, 6pm; DJ Steve, 10pm.
Scullers Alon Yavnai Sextet with special guest George Garzone, Dino Gavoni, Avishi Cohen, Massimo Biolcati, Take Toriyama and Michal Cohen 8pm and 10pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Easy Marks.
Toad Barn, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Town and Country, $7.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Jim Dower, 8pm.

Thursday, Feb. 22

Abbey Lounge Davis James Motorcycle and Bluegrazer, $6.
Black Horse Tavern Dan and Nick (from Apartment Three), 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, Bill the DJ downstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim IndieGrrl Showcase with Chris & Meredith Thompson, Melissa Morris, Rachel McCartney, Lis Harvey, Amanda Garrigues, and Stephanie Fix, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground Lounge Night, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Mission of Blues, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Latin Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Fox Trot Zulu, 9:30pm.
Hennessey's of Boston DJ Dan McCarthy.
House of Blues An Evening with Actual Proof, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Charivari, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's Me & Julio, 9pm, $3.
Kendall Cafe Darby Jones, Jim Rader, Duncan Watt, 9pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Country Music and Roots Rock Revue: Honky Tonk Heroes, Lorraine Della Rocca, Becky Waren Band, $5.
Lilli's Rocket Science, Pennywheel and Tricycle, $7, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge CD-release show for Club D'Elf with John Modeski, DJ Logic and the Maneri's.
Middle East U: Chris Collingwood of Fountains of Wayne, $10, 18+. D: White Stripes, Knoxville Girls and the Gossip, 18+. C: Board of Education, 10pm.
Milky Way Anglo Manudo, Shelterbelt and Janke, 9pm, $7.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Paradise Levellers, 7:30 pm, $10, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm-close.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm.
Scullers Lazslo Gardony Group featuring John Lockwood and Jamey Haddad, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg John Shain.
Toad The Family Jewels and Grubstake, 7-9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Arab on Radar, Dropdead and Oleyville Sound System, $7.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Massimo Bricotti, 8pm.

Friday, Feb. 23

Abbey Lounge The Decals, Downbeat 5, Kenne Highland Clan, $6.
The Attic The Mudhens with Immoral Fibres, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Nom de Plume, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose D: Sunday's Well, U: Curragh's Fancy.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, Bill the DJ downstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Freddy Johnston, Mark Erelli opens, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Soulwork, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Block Head.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm; Classic Trax, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Weepin Willie.
Good Life Downtown Freelance Bishops.
Grand Canal Idiot Box.
Green Dragon Tavern Trax.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson with special guests, 9:30, $9.
Hennessey's of Boston Me and Julio 5-7:30pm, DJ Bri, 9pm.
House of Blues Larry McCray, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's The Return, 9pm, $5.
Kendall Cafe Simon, Sam Hooper, Jonathan Stark, 9:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Shawn & Suzie's Annual Mardi Gras Ball: Voodoo Krewe Allstar Revue, Valerie Fegione, Jelly Rollers, $7.
Lilli's Mary Lou Lord, Kevin So, Kyler, $10, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Garage E'tois!, the Weistronaits, John Haydon, Ten Worlds and Charlie Chesterman.
Middle East U: Death Cab For Cutie, the Jealous Sound (x-Knapsack), the And/Ors) $8, 18+. C: 10pm, Roger Nicholson.
Milky Way Pressure Cooker CD-release party, 9pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Brougue.
O'Briens Frigate.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Rack Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Eddie, 10pm.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 10:30pm.
Scullers New York Voices, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Tír na nÓg Christian MacNeil.
Toad Armadillos, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Town and Country, Ducky Boys, Last Stand, Kicked in the Head and Lost City Angels, $8.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Skip Smith, 9pm.

Saturday, Feb. 24

Abbey Lounge Rock Bottom, Schnockered, Emily Grogan, $6.
Berklee Performance Center Dave Brubeck Quartet, 8pm, $29.
Black Horse Tavern Blues Food, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sunday's Well, Curragh's Fancy and Bob Fowkes.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, Bill the DJ downstairs, 9:30pm.
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center Pablo Ablanedo, 8pm, $10.
Club Passim Geoff Bartley, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Rippopotamus, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Novakane.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Booty, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Patrice Williamson, no cover.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
Green Dragon Tavern Plaid Daddy.
Green Street Grill Latin Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Johnny Winter with special guests Grady Champion, 9:30pm, $25.
Hennessey's of Boston Irish Sessuin 4-7pm, DJ Dan McCarthy, 9pm.
House of Blues Milo-Z, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's Sam Lay, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Central Basement, $5. DJ Dennis McCarthy upstairs, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Hamilton, Nobody, Jackie O'Brien of Illustrious Day, 9:30, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Fred's Bowling Ball, Mount D'Assembly, $5.
Lilli's Division Street, Pretty Cool Chair, Treehouse Union, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Lars Vegas.
Middle East U: Hybrasil, Laurie Sargent, Heidi Saperstein, $8, 18+. D: Yonder Mountain String Band, Gordon Stone Band, $10, 18+. C: Tom Bianchi, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Brougue.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, DJ Brian, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Thomas Park.
Rack Vinny Peruzzi Dance Party, 8pm.
Regattabar The Rebecca Parris Quartet with George Mesterhazy, Peter Kontrimas, Matt Gordy, and Paul Williams, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Rhythm & Spice Kolors, 10:30pm.
Scullers New York Voices, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Tír na nÓg The Benders.
Toad Lemonpeeler, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Meghan Toohey, Emm Gryner and Miss Fortune, $7.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Valerie Stephens, 10pm.

Sunday, Feb. 25

Bill's Bar Various artists showcase.
Black Rose Sunday's Well and Kevin Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkins, B3 Jazz Trio, 11am - 3:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Billy Novick and Guy Van Duser—30th Anniversary Show, 7:30pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel Brunch with New Revelation, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm.
Hennessey's of Boston Martini Brothers 5-8pm, Karaoke, 9-1am.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8;30pm, and then Salsa dancing with Rumba Nama 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Renata, Clay Frogs, 9:30, $5.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Jam with the Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm.
Middle East U: Gel, 7th House, $6, 18+. D: House of Blues Presents: Skatalites, Babaloo, $15, 18+. C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm, no cover.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, Hurricane Sound, Power Surge and Blackstar International, 9pm, ladies free before 10:30pm, $5.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Mike Barret, 8pm, cover varies.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Live acoustic with James McKenna, 10pm.



The Holmes Brothers take their modern, electric blues and R&B to Johnny D's Feb. 16.

TOP LEFT: SUSAN WILSON; BOTTOM RIGHT: STEFAN FALKE



The White Stripes are at the Middle East Feb. 22.

Rack Chad LaMarsh Band, 9pm.
Tír na nÓg Irish Seisiun, 6pm.
Toad Onus B. Johnson, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clairvoyance, Departure Lounge, Canyon and Purple Ivy Shadows, $7.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Monday, Feb. 26

Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Cantab Lounge Open-mike folk music hosted by Geoff Bartley, 8pm.
Club Passim Open-mike session with Jim Ethan, 9pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Brock Park, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Michael Tarbox Duo, 10pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry 4 Band Showcase, 9:30pm, free.
House of Blues First Night, an Evening of Jazz and Spoken Word, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Splendid Nobodies, 9:30pm, $4.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe.
Middle East U: New Music Night: Local Radio, Voganz, Jennifer Mathews, $6, 18+. D: Stone Soup Poets, 7:30pm, $3. C: The Out Side, 10pm.
Purple Shamrock Live acoustic with Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack Celebrity Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 9pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear Acoustic Series with Ad Frank and friends, $3.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Corin Pills and friends, 9pm.

Tuesday, Feb. 27

An Tua Nua What's Up Night, 9pm, $5, 19+.
Black Rose McTaggarts.
Cantab Lounge Blue grass hosted by Geoff Bartley.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Mardi Gras Bash with Soul City, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet & Friends, 9:30pm, $5.
Hennessey's of Boston John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Boogaloo Swamis, Mardi Gras Party, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Spider John Koerner and Alastair Moock, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Tuesday Night Music Club, featuring Drew Doherty (Ivory Coast), 9pm, Steven Brodsky (Cave In), 10pm, Mary Lou Lord, 11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnleiter Jazz Quartet, free.
Lilli's Jeff Tweedy, $20.
Lizard Lounge Naftule's Dream and Anti-Jazz Raygun, $6.
Middle East U: Team Espo Presents: River City High, Lawerence Arms, Junction 18, Rocking Horse Winner, 18+ $7.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack Stu Sinclair, 8pm.
Regattabar Dave Douglas: Charms of the Night Sky, 8pm and 10pm, $12.
Scullers Al Di Meola Band with Gumbi Ortiz, Gilad and Mario Parmisano, 8pm and 10pm, $24.
Tír na nÓg Sunburnt Hand of the Band.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; Todd Thibaudm, 10pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Clumsy, After This and Dumb It Down, $4.
Wonder Bar House band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

ORGAN GRINDER WEEK!
HOUSE of BLUES 96 Winthrop St. – Harvard Square
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Wednesday February 14
Spend Valentine's Day with Legendary B-3 Organist
JIMMY McGRIFF QUARTET
feat. DAVID "FATHEAD" NEWMAN
6:30pm 3-Course Dinner Show &
9:30pm Concert Show with Scott Shetler Trio

Thursday February 15 10pm 21+
One of Today's Premier Jazz Organists & Composers
LARRY GOLDINGS TRIO





The World's Greatest Blues/Jazz Organist
JIMMY SMITH
Friday February 16 10pm 21+
Saturday February 17 10pm 21+

Music Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Barking Crab *88 Sleeper Street (426-2722)*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanueil Hall Marketplace, Boston. (227-2038). MBTA: Green Line to Govt. Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Cafe *209 Columbus Ave, Boston. (524-4614). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St, Harvard Square (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogans Bluff *173 Milk Street., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston. (338-5656). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St, Boston (367-8370).*
The Playhouse Lounge *74 Warrenton St., Boston (482-2227). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Regatta Bar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grill *20 Sydney, Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boston.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled Classical by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Classical Music or e-mail to classical@ improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, telephone numbers Web site information and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to deadline. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.*

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $14.50. This open rehearsal features Seiji Ozawa, Barbara Bonney, Angelika Kirchschlager, John Mark Ainsley, Thomas Quasthoff and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Harpsichordist Frances Conover Fitch performs works of J. S. Bach, C.P. E. Bach, Buxterhude and Froberger.

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2 suggested donation. Highlighting Paul Murray on the organ.

Thursday, Feb . 15

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77.* J.S Bach's Mass in B Minor, performed by Barbara Bonney, Angelika Kirchschlager, John Mark Ainsley, Thomas Quasthoff and the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, conducted by Seiji Ozawa.

Boston University Wind Ensemble
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3359). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. David Marins conducts Shostakovich, Schuller, Holst, Lannaccone and Ticheli.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
CCAE, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $8. Reception and celebration for the new Pro Arte Conductor Isaiah Jackson, including a talk by Jackson on his life and career.

Contemporary Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (267-6502). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm. Free. The New England Conservatory Wind Ensemble presents Charles Peltz directing Mozart, Oliver Knussen, Jonathan Dove, Michael Tippett and Gustav Holst.

Friday, Feb. 16

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30pm. $25-$77.* Same program as Feb. 15.

BU Chamber Chorus
Boston University Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave, Boston (353-3348). 8pm. Free. Ann Howard Jones conducts the BU Chamber Chorus.

Extension Works
First and Second Church of Boston, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (497-8693). 8pm. $10, $5 students and seniors. Violinist Katie Lansdale presents works by three Extension Works composers.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (489-1848). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Fidelio Chamber Orchestra performs.

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:25-12:45pm. Free. Organ concert featuring Peter Conte from Philadelphia.

Saturday, Feb. 17

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83.* Same program as Feb. 15.

Chameleon Arts Ensemble
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (427-8200). www.chameleonarts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8pm. $14-$28.* Chamber music by Schubert, Crumb, Berio and Hindemith, featuring guests Virginia Eskin on piano.

Contemporary Music at MIT
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Boston (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8pm. Free. The recent music of Peter Child.



Pianist Virginia Eskin plays chamber music at the First and Second Church Feb. 17, 8pm.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (566-5218). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Robert Taub performs on piano.

Young Artists Showcase Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston (734-1359). $4-$17. 1:30pm. Chamber Music from the New World Symphony, directed by Scott Nickrenz.

Sunday, Feb. 18

Boston Musica Viva
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (354-6910). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 3pm. $20, $18 seniors, $12 students. The 9th Annual Family Concert features the world premiere of Bernard Hoffer's setting of *Angelina Ballerina*. It also presents young artists from the Massachusetts Youth Ballet and a performance of Babar the Elephant.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Pianist Linda Cutting, with Robert Honeysucker, Jayne West, Jane Struss, Brent Reno and guest pianist Ken Noda.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra of Boston
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. $18-$42. Pro Arte welcomes its new music director Isaiah Jackson in a mostly Mozart concert.

Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston (734-1359). $4-$17. 1:30pm. Seymour Lipkin, piano, presents the Complete Major Piano Works of Franz Schubert, Part II.

Monday, Feb. 19

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Artist diploma candidate Polina Sedukh performs on violin.

Tuesday, Feb. 20

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77.* Same program as Feb. 15.

King's Chapel Recital Series
King's Chapel, Corner of School and Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). 12:15pm. $2. Balla Brass Quintet performs the works of Bach, Calvert and Plog.

Romantic Violins
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3359). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Violinists Yuri and Dana Mazurkevich perform with Pianist Horia Mihail. The Program includes works by Chausson, Brahms, Paganini, Sarasate, Leclair and Moskowsei.

Wednesday, Feb. 21

Faculty Concert
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave.. Boston (353-3359). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Konstantinos Papadakis performs Brahms, Poulenc and Bartók.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. The Peter Cassino Trio performs compositions of new music and jazz selections.

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Spotlighting Laurence Carson on organ.

MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12pm. Free. Organist Jan Overduin plays pieces from Bach's Art of Fugue.

Thursday, Feb. 22

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Williams' Cello Concerto and the world premiere of Dun's *The Map*, a multimedia concerto for cello and orchestra, performed by Yo-Yo Ma and conducted by Seiji Ozawa.

Friday, Feb. 23

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30pm. $25-$77. Same program as Feb. 22.

Contemporary Music at MIT
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Boston (253-2826). 8pm. Free. Bayla Keyes, Marcus Thompson, Michael Reynolds and David Deveau perform Haydn's *Piano Trio in E*, Edward Cohen's *Piano Quartet* and Beethoven's *String Trio in C Minor, Op. 9 No. 3.*

Saturday, Feb. 24

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83.* Same program as Feb. 22.

From the Top
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (267-6502). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2pm. From the Top is a one-hour program with performances by soloists or ensembles whose members range in age from 9 to 18, combined with preproduced segments and interviews.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (325-5444). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. The Auros Group for New Music performs.

New England Philharmonic
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-8725). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. $18. $13 seniors and students. New England's premiere of Stacy Garrop's *Thunderwalker* features NEP concertmaster Danielle Maddon in Alban Berg's *Violin Concerto*, the Simmons College Chorale and the Women of the Boston Conservatory Chorus.

Young Artists Showcase Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston (734-1359). $4-$17. 1:30pm. The concert spotlights Paavali Jumppanen on piano, the first prize winner of the Young Concert Artists International Auditions.

Sunday, Feb. 25

Contemporary Music at MIT
Killian Hall 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Boston (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 3pm. Free. The 60th birthday concert for senior lecturer Edward Cohen features many artists' works.

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra Spring Concert
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3348). 3pm. $7. Robert Lehmann conducts the Junior Repertory Orchestra and Bonnie Black conducts the Preparatory String Orchestra.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7 pm. Free. Music by Allen Shawn, featuring Helena Bugallo, Amy Williams and Elizabeth Canterbury.

Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston (734-1359). $17-$4. 1:30pm. The Gardner Chamber Orchestra plays works by Mozart.

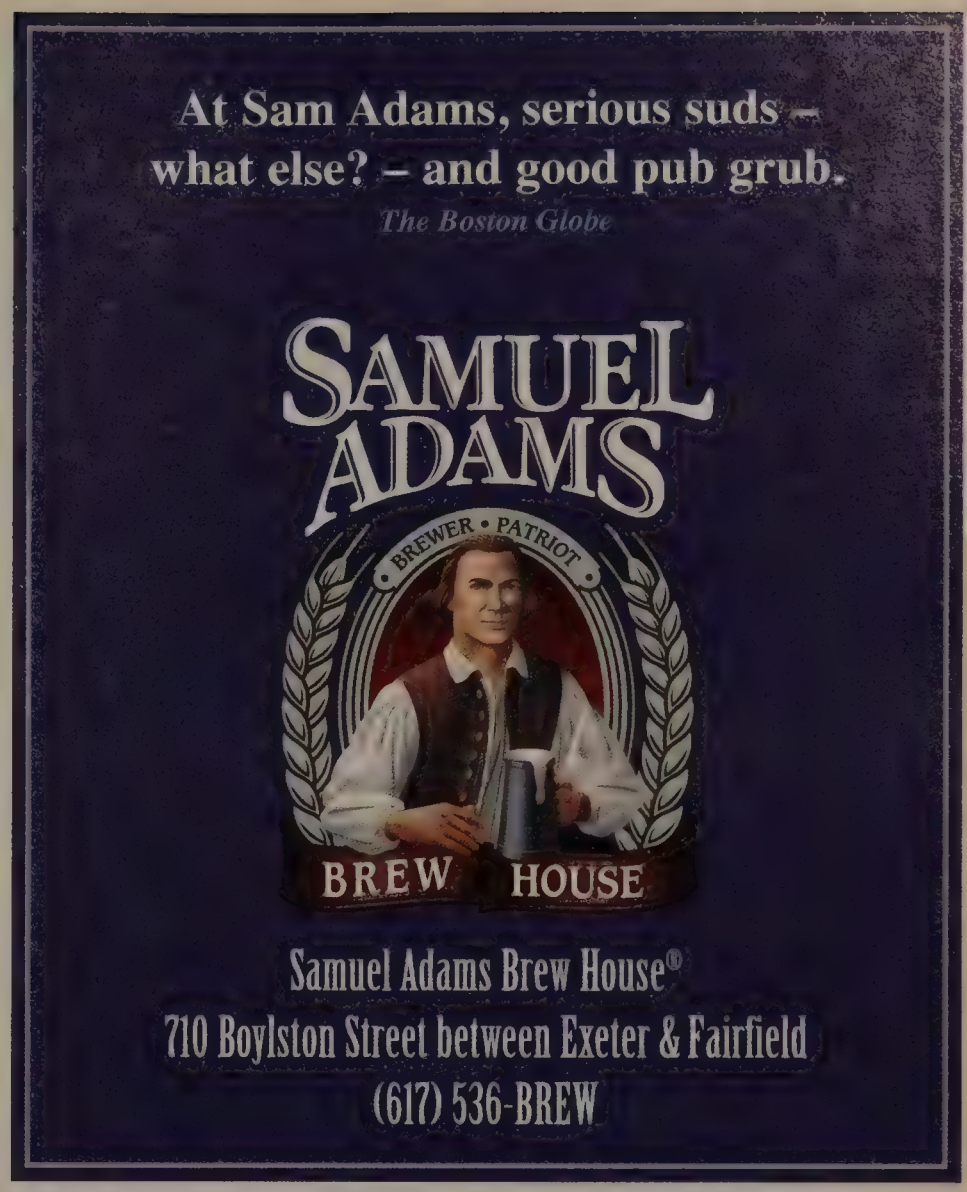
Winter Serenade
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (267-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 3pm, $15, $10 seniors and students. The orchestra presents Winter Serenade under the direction of Maestra Brenda Lynne Leach.

Tuesday Feb. 27

BU Chamber Orchestra Concert
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3359). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Richard Cornell conducts works by students of the SFA Composition Department.

King's Chapel Recital Series
King's Chapel, Corner of School and Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). 12:15pm. $2 suggested donation. The organ recital features the works of Guilmant, Daquin, Bach and Purcell. John Dillistone from the U.K. plays the C.B. Fisk.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956).. 8pm. Free. Longy's New Music Ensemble, Longitude, performs music by Peter Lieberson, Jeffrey Goldberg and Henry Brant.





gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax to (859-1446), mail or e-mail to gaylesbian@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted by phone.*

How to use this section
The following listings contain information that is subject to change. Contact the organization for changes in specific events.

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This trendy South End spot draws a mixed crowd that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). It's a dressy bunch that likes to mingle. No cover, 21+. •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Divalicious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. It's a great idea for bachelorette parties. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
178 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-10:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-10pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full service restaurant, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd of gays and straights, and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. are local band nights. Tue.-Sun., however, divas rule the stage. 10:30pm, $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Sundays host the Drag-on Showgirl Showcase featuring hostess Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, Destiny, Ivory and Sum Yung Ho. 10pm, 21+.



The Princesses of Porn and pals take part in the Lizard Lounge's "Are You Pussy Whipped?" post-Valentine's day festivities Feb. 15, 9:30pm.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes and classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am;. www.ramrod-boston.com/machine. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play the video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. www.ramrodboston.com. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance with DJ Joey Bermudez. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life with DJ Kal Muzak. Wed.: Twitch with DJ SGT Dennis. Thu.: Primal Dance with DJ James Hughes. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: with DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgender individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge. (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. New England's oldest womens' bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

The AIDS Quilt Songbook
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (236-1012, ext. 234). Feb. 17, 7:30pm. $15. The AIDS Quilt Songbook, a benefit performance for the Boston Living Center, includes performers Aaron Engebreth, ZTom Meglioranza, Matthew Murphy and David Sisco, baritones and Jill Brunelle, piano. The AIDS Quilt Songbook had its world premiere in '92, and this marks its first public work in Boston since '93.

"Are You Pussy Whipped?"
The Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Feb. 15, 9:30pm, $6, 21+. An evening of queer gal smut for the night after Valentine's Day features the charming Mal Malme as MC and erotic readings by Dawn Dougherty, Amie M. Evans, Jaclyn Friedman, Amatul Hannan and Jean Powers. There's also "High Femme Drag: the Princesses of Porn" as well as door prizes and fun treats.

The Women in My Soul
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). www.bostontheatreworks.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Park. Fri.-Sat., 10:30pm and Sun., 7pm. Through Feb. 24. $15 ($3 discount with ticket to Taming of the Shrew).* Michael David Brown's performance is no drag show: It is an exploration of five distinct personalities residing in one man's commodious soul—from a homesteading lesbian in Maine to a former Playboy Bunny turned art dealer.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St. For gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all swing skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. For men who are bisexual or think they might be, this group meets on the second Tuesday of every month. Free and confidential.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Daily 8-10pm. Support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Common Bond
(781-433-7023). A support group for gay/lesbian/bisexual current or former Jehovah's Witnesses.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). *6pm.* This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss issues related to coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians meets on the first Friday of each month, 7:30pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or go online at *http://members.tripod.com/~ecwc* or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). www.frontrunnersboston.org. Get in shape this winter, brave the freezing temperatures and have some fun with this running club geared toward the LGBT community. It meets on Saturdays.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life stage issues.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This nationwide line provides information, referral and support services to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
Boston Room, Lindemann Center, 25 Staniford St., Boston (742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. *MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Feb. 27, 7:30pm.* All welcome.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Typically seven teams play on three courts. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). www.piac.net/users/latte/lcfd/. Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Gay Compulsive Sexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6200). Offers both a 10-week introductory group and an ongoing therapy group. Each teach techniques to reduce compulsive sexual behavior.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900 ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900 ext. 124).

Long Yang Club
(825-5677) www.longyangclub.org/boston. Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center for male survivors of adult sexual assault.

Peer Listening Line
1-617-267-2535 or 1-800-399-PEER. Mon.-Fri. 4pm-10pm. A toll-free nation-wide line that provides information, referral and support to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning youth.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30-8:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass Ave, Cambridge; info@project10east.org; 864-GLBT. www.project10east.org. GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues. The group is facilitated by a mental health professional.

Sabor a Mi
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). *Wednesdays, 6-8pm.* A group for Latinos. Meets once a month, pre-registration required.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Eduction offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Survivors of Domestic Violence
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6250 or 800-834-3242). A free 12-week group for GLBT survivors of domestic violence.

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243) or lcoolidge@fenway.org. Held quarterly. Sliding scale fee available.

Support Group for HIV-Negative Gay and Bisexual Men
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6231). Meets the first three Tuesdays of the month. Discuss strategies for managing risk, communication with sexual partners safe sex tactics.

Workshops for Newly Diagnosed HIV-Positive Individuals
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (262-3456). 7-9pm. First three Mondays of the month. New groups begin each month. A place to get informed, connected and comforted.

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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 16, 7:30-9:30pm. $6. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the spiritual traditions of the world.

CLASSES

Creative Acupuncture
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). Feb. 23. $5. **Kellie Kirkpatrick**, teacher from the New England School of Acupuncture, shares her unique techniques combining acupuncture, water immersion, music and pranic healing.

Imagining the Death Experience
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 26, 6:30-9:30pm. $34. Join **Patricia Bertucci**, holistic practitioner and registered nurse, for a guided visualization and meditation.

LECTURES

Greek Myths and Modern Metaphors
New Acropolis Organization, 3 Church St., Cambridge (591-9959). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 16, 7:30pm. $5. This organization provides the insight of ancient philosophy for regular folks in today's world. Come hear Part One of the series: Exploring the Mythic Imagination, which discusses Prometheus, Cupid and Psyche, The 12 Tasks of Hercules, Apollo and Dionysus, and The Myth of the Labyrinth.

How Your Beliefs Create Your Experience
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org *Feb. 28, 7-9pm. $15.* **Trish Whynot** discusses how beliefs formed in childhood may now be destructive to your adult life.

Hypnosis for Health and Wellness
Wellspace, Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *Feb. 23, 7:15-8:45pm. $5.* Experience the trance state and learn self-hypnosis techniques with hypnotherapist **Devorah Steinberg**.

Philosophy
The Philosophy Foundation, 66 Marlborough St., Boston. (565-5823 or 800-423-4553) www.philosophyfoundation.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Thursdays, starting Feb. 22, 7–9:30pm. $75.* This foundation offers evening courses and discussions exploring philosophical ancient wisdom and utilizing it for fulfillment.

The G-Spot
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Suite 32, Brookline (731-2626). www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Feb. 25. $20.* Owner **Kim Airs** will discuss the myth vs. reality of this "mysterious spot." You'll be fascinated by the female's amazing anatomy.

ONGOING

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wed., 6:30-7:30pm. Early morning yoga will bring so much clarity and energy to your day that you may not even need that second cup of coffee.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* This yoga center offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles.

Yoga/Back Bay
Johnson Paint Art Gallery, 355 Newbury Street, Boston (BOS-YOGA) www.bostonyoga.com. *Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. $15/class.* Fire up your body, mind and spirit in this invigorating yoga class surrounded by wondrous art. All levels welcome.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $18/session. Drop in on any class. Yoga wake-up: weekdays, 8-9am. Hatha yoga: Mon. and Wed., 6-7pm, and Tue. and Thu., 7:30-8:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17/class.* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar. Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork and family relaxation classes also available.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., Boston (522-7199). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential or Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/class. Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting. Increase flexibility, relieve stress, build strength, relax and enjoy yourself at any of these ongoing drop-in classes: Tuesdays at 7pm, Wednesdays at 12pm and Saturdays at 10am.

RETREATS

Alignment and the Asymmetric Body
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (497-0218). www.yoganow.net *or* www.abmp.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Feb. 23, 6-8:30pm, $40. Feb. 24, 1-5pm, $55. Feb. 25, 1-5pm, $55. Entire weekend: $125.* **Karin Stephan** and **Randy Payne** host this workshop that combines the works of BKS Iyengar, founder of Iyengar yoga, and Paul St. John, developer of neuromuscular therapy. The ultimate purpose of both is to balance the outer body with the subtle energies of the inner body to enhance physical harmony.

Yoga and Mindfulness Retreat
Shakti Yoga, 11 School St., Chelmsford (978-251-1001). Feb. 18, 9:30am-4:30pm. $75. This retreat is for anyone who enjoys yoga with deep meditation. Complimentary practices in mindfulness will be shared.



The Arlington Street Church plays host to a series of lectures on holistic healing.

Preview

Omega in Boston

Inspirational lessons

Omega Institute of New York State is one of the nation's largest holistic learning centers. Its lecturers and teachers travel to Omega programs hosted in other cities, including our own. The Boston programs are held in the grand, lovely and peaceful Arlington Street Church.

Here's a list of the upcoming winter programs: •Feb.24: Bernie Siegel offers his inspirational lessons for a joyful life. •Mar. 2-3: John Perkins and shaman Lyn Roberts-Herrick teach you how to dream your imagination into reality and become more connected to our world. •March 24: Iyanla Vanzant, a frequent guest on *Oprah*, aids you in soul discovery. •March 31: Work it out with Loretta LaRoche, one of the nation's experts in using humor to reduce stress. •Apr. 7: Rick Jarow's anti-career workshop helps you find your calling instead of an average job. •Last but not least, on May 12 you can join the avatar of American erotica, Susie Bright, for a workshop that will explore your own erotic expression. *Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (424-6625). www.eomega.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. —Laurel Kirtz*

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Children's Hour at the JFK Museum
JFK Library & Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (929-4500). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Free. •Feb. 17, 10:30am: The Enchanted Circle Theater integrates music, dance and puppetry. •Feb. 19, 10:30am: The Bamidele Dancers and Drummers take the audience to Brazil, the Caribbean and Africa with celebratory dances and songs. •Feb. 21, 10:30am: Hiawatha. This play performed by puppets and accompanied by Native American flutes and drums is based on the life of the great Iroquois hero.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (278-5147). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Feb. 24, 10am-12pm. $20 (parent and child). Spend the morning combing the galleries for beasts made of stone, wood and metal and then make one of your own out of clay.

The House at Pooh Corner
Boston Children's Theatre at C. Walsh Theatre, 55 Temple St., Boston (424-6634). www.bostonchildrenstheatre.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Park. Feb. 17-18 and 21-25, 2pm. $10-$16.* Playwright Bettye Knapp has adapted this show from A. A. Milne's well-loved tale.

Noah's Ark
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Feb. 17-18, 11am. $7. Once Upon a Time children's theater company presents this musical tale with song, dance and audience participation.

Prince and the Pauper
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (879-2147). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Through Feb. 25. $10, $15, $17. This adventure begins in the villainous courts of Tudor England, with a chance encounter between a poor beggar and a pampered prince who decide to change places.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. •Feb. 17-21, 10am, 1 and 3pm: Puss 'n Boots. •Feb. 22-25, 1 and 3pm: Rumpelstiltskin.

THINGS TO DO

Carnival!
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Feb. 19-23. $145-$410 per week. Full-day and half-day art vacation camp for children.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, to bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children. •Feb. 19: Make your own refrigerator car magnet. •Feb. 20: Construct a movable car out of clothespins and buttons. •Feb. 21: Put together your own mini car. •Feb. 22: Create your own car-themed collage. •Feb. 23: Design a lapel pin shaped like a car. •Feb. 24: Make your own airplane.

New England Aquarium: Camp
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5206). www.neaq.org. *MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. Early Sept.-June: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., Sun. and holidays, 9am-6pm. $12.50. Feb. 20-21 and Feb. 22-23.* Break-Away School Vacation Camps: Students in grades 4 through 7 enjoy a two-day aquatic adventure.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •Feb. 21, 2:30pm: Costumed performers bring the Renaissance to life with armor and weaponry. •Feb. 23, 2pm: Meet Harriet Tubman. •Feb. 27, 3:30pm: Discover the world of birds of prey.

Winter Scavenger Hunt
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-2341). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $30. Feb. 18-24, 9am-5pm. Search for clues in the museum to decode a secret message while you learn about the ways people and animals survive the snowy season.

Zoom Day
Burlington Mall, 75 Middlesex Turnpike, Burlington (300-1623). Feb. 23, 1-3pm. Free. Kids can try science experiments, build things and do arts and crafts like the kids on WGBH's *Zoom*.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 931-2000
Feb.27: Phoenix, 7pm, NESN

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: $10-$75. Call 228-6000
Feb.26, Seattle, 7pm, FSNE

Events

The Glenlivet Office Putting Championship
Westin Copley Place Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston. www.officeputting.com. *Feb. 20, 6-9pm. Free.* Boston's most unique golf tournament tees off with the excitement of real championship golf: hazards, sharp doglegs, pressure-packed shots and prizes. More than 2,500 office workers in 128 companies will send their top player to this championship course, which consists of five holes down hallways, around cubicles and in boardrooms.

New England Boat Show
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester (800-225-1577). www.naexpo.com. *MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Sat., 11am-9pm; Sun., 11am-7pm; Mon., 11am-8pm; Tue.-Fri., 1-8pm. Feb. 17-25. $8.* A nine-day, 450-exhibit exposition of boats and different types of marine accessories.

USHRA Monster Jam
Worcester's Centrum Centre, 50 Foster St., Worcester (228-6000). Feb. 16, 8pm; Feb. 17, 2pm and 8pm; Feb. 18, 2pm. $25, $20 and $10. North America's most competitive monster trucks return to Worcester with exciting wheel-to-wheel racing and thrill acts. The world's best trucks compete on the Monster Jam circuit, including such legends as Grave Digger, Bearfoot, Bulldozer and Carolina Crusher.

World Indoor Rowing Championships
Reggie Lewis Athletic Center & Indoor Track, Roxbury Community College, Boston (541-3535). www.concept2.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. Feb. 25.* The championship indoor rowers compete at this event.

To Play

BASKETBALL

Basketball City
Adjacent to North Station and the FleetCenter (742-6700). Corporate, midday and weekend leagues.

Co-Ed Indoor Basketball
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070, ext. 224). Sun.-Thu. nights at various locations. All levels welcome. Leagues in Waltham, Dedham and Brookline. Co-ed teams now forming.

The Corporate League of Boston
(566-7808).

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). Practice and workout programs for all levels in Greater Boston.

South End Fitness Center League
(534-5823).

Women's Basketball League
(661-9622). Tuesdays 5:30-7pm and Sundays, 6-7:30pm.

BOXING

Boxing Workout
Vinny Greco's Powerhouse Gym, 125 Walnut St., Watertown (972-1711). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Enjoy the workout of a boxer with one-on-one instruction in a supervised environment with Boston Sport Boxing Club.

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

HOCKEY

Co-ed Floor Hockey
BSSC (789-4070). Individuals and teams, co-eds, all levels in Newton. Co-ed teams now forming.

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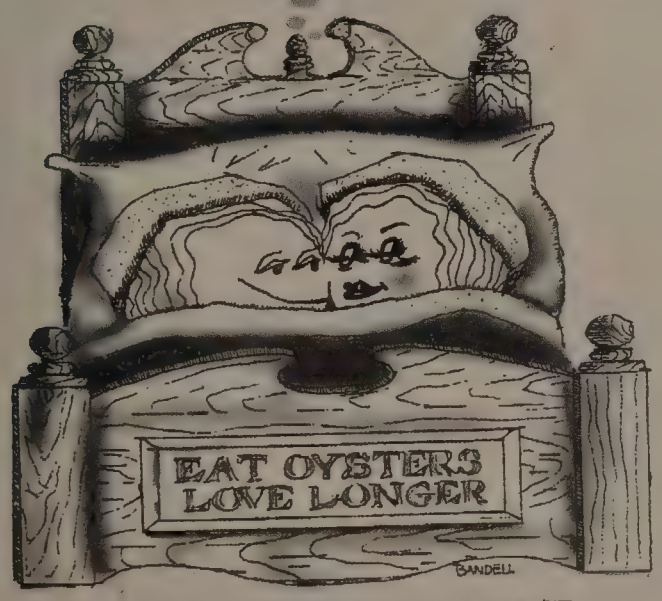
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INDOOR CLIMBING

Rock Climbing
Boston Ski & Sports Club in Woburn (789-4070). Feb. 17, 9am. $75. Includes three hours of instruction for beginners, all equipment and a free day-pass (with gear rental) for another visit to the Rock Gym.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
(499-4835). Weekly runs year-round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

Boston Road Club Weekly Races
(781-646-8955). Sundays. Starts at Wells Ave. in Newton.

Fresh Pond Weekly Road Races
Fresh Pond Reservation. Saturdays, 10am. Choose between a 2.5- or 5-mile run.

Khoury's Thursday Night Runs
East Somerville. (351-5682). 4.13 miles. 7pm at Khoury's Bar.

Logan Post 5K
1194 Broadway, West Somerville (283-3292). Every Thursday at 7:10pm.

NikeTown Boston Running Club
200 Newbury St., Boston (267-3400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Three-to-five-mile loops. Starts at 6:30pm. Monthly mini-clinics as well.

SNOW SPORTS

Cross-Country Skiing Under the Stars
Boston Ski & Sports Club at the Weston Ski Track (789-4070). Feb. 16. $30 (trail only); $40 (with rental). Cross-country ski on groomed, lighted trails.

Ice Climbing
Boston Ski & Sports Club in central Mass. (789-4070). Feb. 24, 8am-4pm. $90. Learn how to safely climb vertical ice flows and frozen waterfalls. Intermediate ice climbers further their skills.

Ski & Board Weekends
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). $55. The Boston Ski & Sports Club offers day and weekend trips throughout the winter. •Wednesdays, Saturdays or Sundays this winter. 5:30am/6am bus departures from Newton, Newburyport and Tewksbury. •Feb. 14: Sunapee •Feb. 17: Okemo •Feb. 18: Sunday River •Feb. 19: Wildcat •Feb. 21: Sunday River •Feb. 24: Sunday River •Feb. 25: Okemo •Feb. 28: Mt. Snow.

Ski Market Trips
860 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (731-6100). $50 (day trips), $169 (weekend). SkiMarket Underground offers trips with round-trip transportation, a lift ticket, dinner (on Wednesday and Thursday trips) and a stop at the Red Hook Brewery. •Feb. 14: Sunday River •Feb. 17-18: Mt. Snow•Feb. 18: Killington •Feb. 21: Sunday River •Feb. 24-25: Mt. Snow •Feb. 25: Killington •Feb. 28: Sunday River.

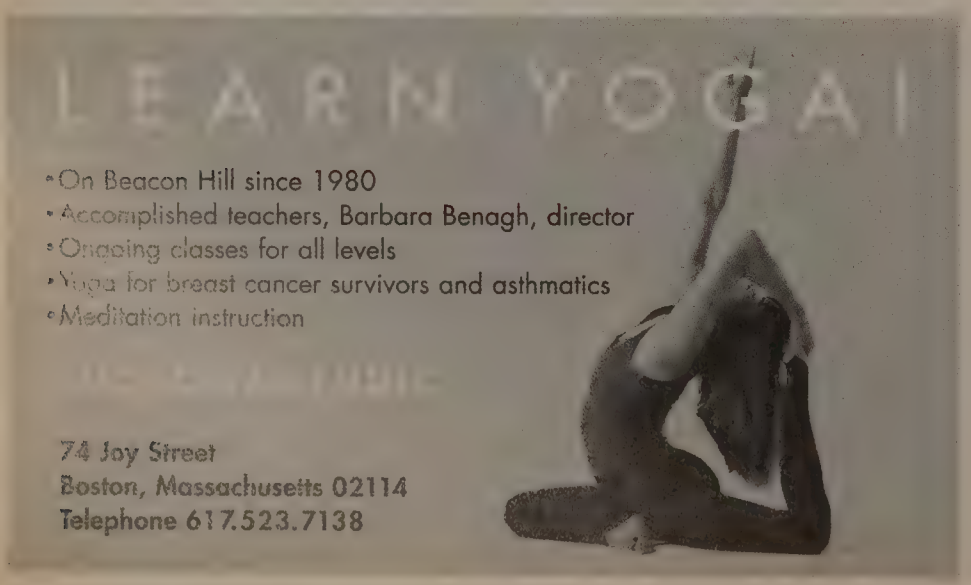
WRESTLING

Men's Adult Wrestling
Boston Union, 48 Boylston St., Boston (482-1122). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mon. and Wed., 6:30-8:30pm; Sat., 1-4pm. All skill levels. Coaching available.



Hard-core rowers compete at the World Indoor Rowing Championships in Roxbury Feb. 25.





around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, children and seniors $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm (last film begins at 3:55pm). $8. •Feb. 19: Free admission.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science and the Charles Hayden Planetarium
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50, $5.50 seniors and children.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, to bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3. February is free of charge to Mass. residents.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Help sell, pack, sort or deliver daffodils during the week of March 26. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments between 9am and 5pm.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. •Feb. 27, 6-7pm: Information session at 161 Mass. Ave., Boston:

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
(577-1400, ext. 13). Seeking volunteers for the Youth Arts and Media program, Arts ACCESS program and the Arts and Dialogue on Race Series.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Volunteers are needed in the Cambridge public schools.

Citizen Diplomats
(542-8995). Provide a home-stay for visiting entrepreneurs from Russia.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters. Commit to two hours per week for six months.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun times with an isolated senior.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Prison Book Program
(423-3298). Answer letters from inmates and fill requests for books on various topics.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

mark your daytimer

UPCOMING EVENTS

THEATER

Les Miserables
April 11-May 6, Colonial Theater

Curse of the Bambino
April 2-May 19, Lyric Stage

MUSIC

Outkast
March 11, Orpheum Theatre

P.J. Harvey
June 5, FleetCenter

U2
June 5-6, 8-9, FleetCenter

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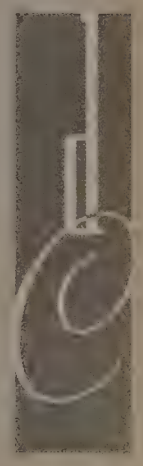
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Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that e-mailed messages mean that we don't have to risk ruining our manicures by—ugh—typing) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Fear of Flying
You were in a Logan bar (Terminal A) dreading your flight to Florida, downing the biggest beer I've ever seen. I lent you my Bobby Darin to ease your ride. Hope it worked. Now give it back before my friend finds out.
—*K*

Bella Sante
Early afternoon, Nov. 16, on Newbury St. I was paying, getting ready to leave, you had just come in to buy a gift certificate. While you, about 5'11" with brown hair, very cute, looked at a list of the spa services I, strawberry blonde, 5'4" wearing windpants and a sweatshirt, suggested you get "her" what I just had because it was wonderful. I noticed you didn't have on a wedding band, but assumed the gift certificate was for your girlfriend (but hoped it was for your mom). We each went about our business and left at the same time, taking the elevator together and chatting as we walked outside. I asked what you had decided to get her and you said you took my recommendation. You said if she liked it you would take all the credit, but if she didn't like it you would blame me—after all, you said you knew my name, you heard them say it as I paid. If it turns out you bought it for your mom, sister or a good friend, or if perhaps she is no longer your girlfriend, maybe we could meet for a drink sometime. Email me.
—*lovespadays@yahoo.com*

My Chalupa at Taco Bell
We said hello briefly while you were on your way out. Looking as handsome as ever. The last time I saw you was in the summer when you were working as a camp counselor. To make a long story short, I just wanted to know if there is any chance that we could hook up? I have to confess that I've had this huge crush on you since the first time I saw you. I guess seeing you the other night just made me realize how incredibly sexy you are and I don't want to wait anymore. I hope we can make this possible, and trust me, you will not be dissapointed. You know where to find me.
—*Laura*

Angela:
Thank God you are finally out of my apartment. We had to have that room professionally cleaned because the smell of your rotting corpse was so entrenched. You're such a loser you need an Internet bank because no real bank will touch you. God, you are a piece of human garbage. You acted as if you were better than me and when in actuality you were jealous of me because I essentially have everything you don't: a car, a job where I'm not some piece of shit receptionist, and a guy who's an amazing lay. You said that I am a pathetic unfuckable; at least men want to have sex with me more than once. You say that I need the emotional assurance that someone can stand to touch me. Look at yourself: just because you had 30 one-night-stands in a year doesn't make you attractive. That just means you are a whore with no self-respect. If I'm a dirtybutt why is it that you didn't do laundry for two months? You even had to burn incense because the stench was even getting to you. Someone should tear you down and build a human being in your place.
—*geri8418@aol.com*

Jonny Tie Tie
I'll take my friends over you and your boring crew any day. If I were you (and thank God I'm not), I'd be careful whose appearance I mocked. Take a good, long look around you at all the fine, young ones... then take a good look in the mirror. Put some more orange crap in your nasty mop, girl, I think you missed a spot. Me doggin you starts to make some sense, eh? And PLEASE DO leave me alone on AOL where you found me, if you can. I know it is hard to stay away, but I am trying to salvage my friendship with the tall, dark girl. So if you can handle the fact that I do indeed want more than sex from her, you'll back way off. See, my friends understand support and kindness. You only understand control. Funny, though, how you mentioned you could see right through me. I guess that makes you a self-declared halfwit, because anyone with a brain could see that I was in fact the one in control from day one. Oh, and thanks for all the 2am visits! Mighty convenient.
—*Mr. 2am Special*

Doug in the House
Happy Valentine's Day! It's our one year anniversary of making fun of people on the T! Thank you for making me laugh, and of course, for initiating our friendship. You've been a source of comic relief and great advice. Hope to see you soon.
—*Miss Rainbow galoshes*

Rachel L.
You're the most interesting woman I've met in years, but I've sensed that maybe you're not as available as I'd like you to be. I'm not someone that can be deciphered in one meeting. Call me and we'll do it again when you're ready.
—*J.D.*

CitySide
You opened my eyes at CitySide on Beacon St. You caught my attention the moment you walked into the bar and sat by the door with several of your friends. It was Monday Night Football, and although I was happy that the Bucs beat the Rams, I would have been much happier had I talked with you. I imagine you or they finished your exams at B.C. and were out celebrating. You, a beautiful brunette, curly/spiral hair with light streaks, wore a blue sweater with a camel-hair colored jacket and jeans. I was the tall, brown hair/brown eyes guy in a navy-blue thermal shirt. We caught each other staring, but never looked away. Our line of sight was partially obstructed by the taps, but that didn't stop me from noticing you, and your friends could see that I was captivated by you. As the game ended, you were joined by a couple of other friends and it seemed as if it would be too uncomfortable to walk over and create a scene. Anyway, I've been kicking myself ever since, and I can't get you out of my head. I hope you or one of your friends sees this and we can get in touch.
—*tooshyatcityside@yahoo.com*

At The Regatta Bar
It was Feb. 3. You were four women in your late 20s dancing in the aisle to the music of Sol y Canto at the 10pm show: One of you was in grey and black, one in a burgundy frock, one in white, and one—the kind-faced brunette I wanted to meet but couldn't—in a dark floral print blouse with black pants. Could one of the four of you please ask my beautiful brunette to write to me, so that I may introduce myself? Take a chance. I promise she won't be disappointed to learn about the man I am.
—*RegattaBar@hotmail.com*

Austin
You say you feel passion within my kiss. You ask me if I have feelings for you. Perhaps...love? My answer...no. You never say what, if any, feelings you have for me. And I do not ask. It all started with a "flash." It was to be just a touch. Just a kiss. Just sex. But you say it is no longer just sex with us. Then what is it? Oh yeah, friends with benefits. You say we should end this affair. So do I. We both know that this will end some day, for we both love someone else. But for this short moment let us drink it up and breath it in. Let us savor our stolen moments, for that is exactly what they are.
Stolen.
—*Martha*

Rockie Horoscope

FEBRUARY 14 – 27, 2000
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



AQUARIUS JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
You're still the one, the star of the dynamic Aquarian one-man show, the performer with a high Q-rating and dazzling smile. The past two years have been good for Water Bearers, so don't bitch if this Valentine's Day experience isn't as lovey-dovey as you anticipate. It's your mind, not your heart, that receives special attention this week. So when you get one of your more brilliant ideas, be sure to follow through and, most importantly, trust your intuition if you sense something is amiss.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
Pisces is beginning earlier each year, so Fish born around the 18th might feel they have to do something noteworthy to mark the occasion. Don't bother; an appropriate event will find you, if not shortly after the 12th, then sometime during the long President's Day weekend when you're psyched about a proposal that's intelligent, daring and too good to last, or even to come to fruition. Lots of challenges, none of them geared toward romantic conquest, so be grateful for the bird in the hand and the few good friends.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
A bona fide adventure, perhaps the first in two years, begins as soon as your passionate Mars ruler enters high-spirited Sagittarius on Valentine's Day. Suddenly there'll be new places to go and people to see, forays into subjects that'll excite you, plus a chance to make a lot of cabbage without expending much effort in the garden. An entrepreneurial opportunity based on comings, goings and the well-written word could pop up mid-month. Meanwhile Venus, like the Venus fly-trap, is attracting life forms that'll nurture you through Spring.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Odd or unexpected occurrences shouldn't be summarily dismissed, especially if they happen to cross your career path instead of that long and winding road that leads back home. At this juncture in your life, you can use as many signs to back up intuitive hits as your guardian angel will send. Although Mercury is retrograde, it certainly isn't silent; listen for clues coming through the mouths and memos of colleagues and members of a group you're allied with. This Valentine's Day is primarily about a significant other, not about you. This is a good thing?

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
Play to your strength. Even though your Mercury ruler is currently moving backwards, you don't have to abandon a goal you've recently set for yourself. No matter how tricky it might be finessing a co-worker or dealing with powers behind the throne, continue with your game plan, and try hard to show up where and when you're expected. Because they don't have your flexibility, the competition can get stuck in a strategy that no longer works. Retrograde is a good time to gather information about your next trip, but don't finalize plans until after the 25th.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
Remember, 'tis the season to get your finances in order. Because Mercury is retrograde in your house of 1099s, stock certificates and pawnbroker receipts, this is an excellent time to organize the paperwork and file your tax return. But don't put the forms (or the check) in the mail until Mercury moves forward again on the 25th, and then, be sure to send in your return when the moon is void-of-course. This Valentine's Day is not particularly romantic; be sweet to a co-worker or client instead.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Fight the urge to shock the rest of us while your sun ruler is picking up electrifying Uranian energy; this is where "a bolt from the blue" comes from. However, the words you've been waiting to hear won't come down from above until the sun and Mercury, retrograde in your Aquarius house of partners, meet around Valentine's Day. Even if you think you've learned the "truth," it would be safer not to act on it until Mercury has run its retro course and you've had a chance to experience "harsh reality" this weekend followed next weekend by "joy."

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Glean a bit of practical advice by reading the other signs' forecasts because the main thread is what's happening to each of them while your Mercury ruler is retrograde for (almost) the rest of the month. This way you'll have a better idea of the sort of adjustments that need to be made, the kind of attention that should be paid. How does this impact on your love life? Not until Pisces begins will there be enough action to make a noticeable difference. Nonetheless, you'll probably get a big, fat, juicy clue just in time for Valentine's Day.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
By June you may claim, "Enough is enough!" but for now, your Venus ruler should bring pure pleasure. How much more can you dote on the person sitting across the table? How much more attractive, charming and talented will he or she turn out to be? These next few months are key for developing a relationship according to the criteria you've always said you wanted. (And for finding the attorney of your dreams.) While the goddess of love travels back and forth in your marriage house, you'll have your fill of whatever you currently desire.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
It'll be a cinch to cut yourself off from the world at large, retreat into your bit of heaven on earth and spend a month or two concentrating on you, your values, your family, maybe some form of recreation or an entertaining romance. That's it. If you do encounter resistance from your mate or a business partner, it won't last past President's Day. Because Mercury is retrograde in your fourth house of "womb and tomb," this would be a good time to check out geneaology sites on the Web, search for treasures in the attic and clean out the garage.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
Every now and then the outside world may beckon, but basically you're locked into a subjective mind-set until your Jupiter ruler starts demanding you pay attention to Gemini partnership matters, sometime around April or May. What is it about your appearance, your holdings, your educational interests, your residence, your hobbies and your health that needs your complete attention? Now, while Mars and Pluto, the planets of action and redemption, are in your sign, is the time to devote yourself to the self.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Money and values, and the way they fluctuate, could demand a lot of your attention while Mercury is retrograde. But even after the planet that rules the small print turns direct on the 25th, you'll still have to keep an eye on the red and the black columns in your ledger for another couple of weeks. How Dickensian! But unlike his heroes, the pressure placed on your shoulders comes primarily from fun stuff, high-priced toys you're deadly serious about. Parents might incur unexpected expenses simply to keep their young on track.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com.* Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

improperazzi

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's client-related promotions and events

On Wed., Jan. 24, **Clery's on Columbus,** a new bistro, celebrated its opening. Guests enjoyed mini gourmet pizzas prepared by the new head chef Andrew Watson.


1


2

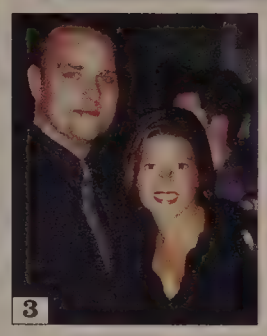

3

1. **Kate Marshall, Peter Huntinton, Greg Mattera, Kelly Glynn** and **Summer Harrington.**
2. Mural arists **Kate Krug, Heidi Ostroff** and **Maia Corduan.**
3. **Alan Eisner,** CEO of Regan Communications and **Michael Glynn** of the Glynn Group.


1

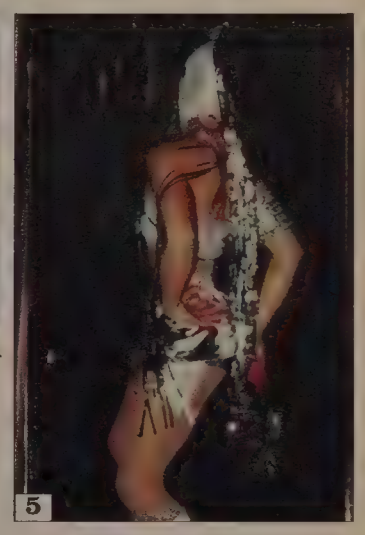

2

Matrix held its grand opening party on Fri., Feb. 2. Highlights were **DJDeja**, look-alikes of Trinity, Morpheus and Neo, and Matrix dancers garbed in silver to match the decor.


3


4

1. Matrix actors: Trinity–**Kristen Long**, Morpheus–**Dane**, Neo–**Jason Brill**.
2. **Paul Allaire,** Matrix Mastermind and **Lisa Des Pres,** Artistic Director of Roxy Plex.
3. Matrix manager **Brian Flowers** with friend **Jody.**
4. Party-goers **Shauna Corliss, Cheynne Corliss, Patrice Kelly** and **Melissa Byron.**
5. Matrix dancer.


5

PHOTOS: CLERY'S ON COLUMBUS, RAQUEL JOSE; MATRIX, NICHOLAS KLENIATIS

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Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



From left: Hopkinton residents Jared and Don Jordan, and Arizonian Bob Jordan find out the origin of the word "dude" on a 200-mile cattle drive in Wyoming. It was rainy in Wyoming, as you can see from Jared and Don's slickers. Does that make them *city* slickers, then?



Jeremy, Bobbie, Dan and Jessica Suratt did not bring shoes to Myanmar.



Kiki Kamanu gets indulgent in front of the Lagos Lagoon and Victoria Island in Lagos, Nigeria, where it is warm. Unlike here.



Paula Magnelli, Shernán Orgueira and Anabel Pacheco have no idea why people keep yelling "Oye, Yanni!" in Sevilla, Spain.



Logan Smith took an icebreaker to get his Improper to Neko Harbor, Antarctica. His brother, LaGuardia, took the picture.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Filming the next *Girls Gone Absolutely Berserk* video and shouting "Show us your...magazine!" at Mardi Gras, Feb. 21-27 in The Big Easy, New Orleans.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of The Improper Bostonian Magazine and will not be returned.

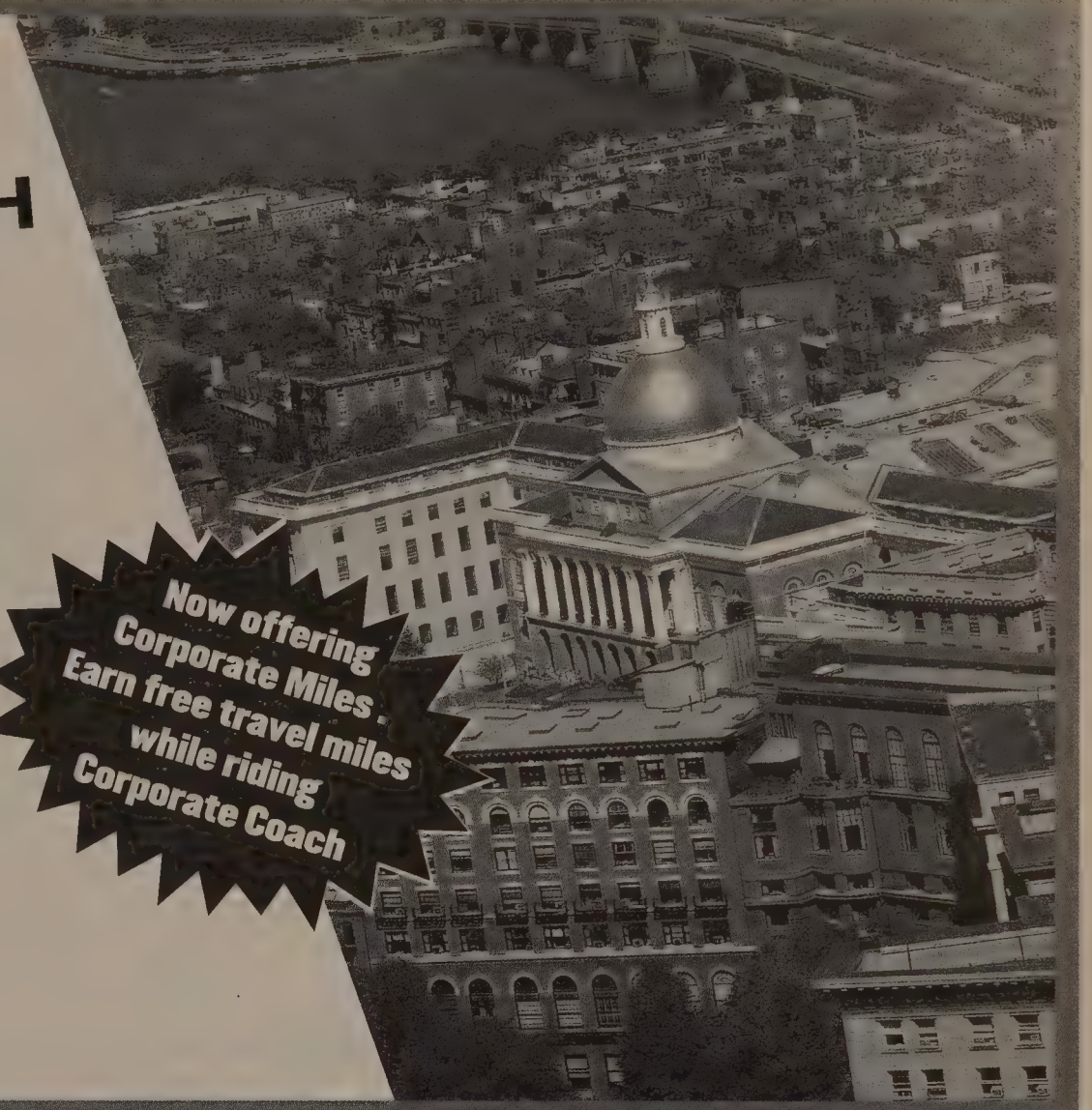
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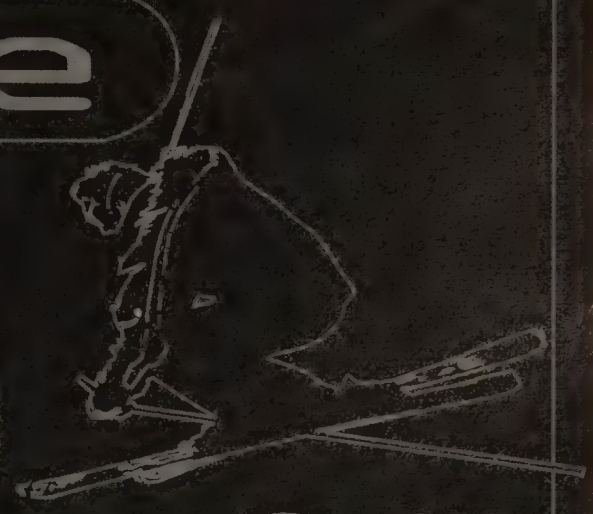
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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

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BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* BARCODE offers creative food and drink with a truly unique, casual style and atmosphere. Simple yet exotic and flavorful, Executive Chef George Leu's menu features a variety of French bistro fare touched with Asian influences. Dinner served daily 5 pm - 1 am, bar open daily 4:30pm - 2:00am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

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Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

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Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice at this comfortably sophisticated Back Bay restaurant and bar. With an eclectic style highlighted by rich, vibrant colors and rustic antiques, Vox Populi offers a hip, sleek and intimate atmosphere. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room. (Outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

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The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

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The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

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Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

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BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Enjoy the intimate, windowed dining room or a signature cocktail in the lounge. BARCODE offers a creative martini selection, a balanced and affordable wine list and both bottled and draft beer. Drinks are available until 2 am daily, food served until 1 am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

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brunch

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Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Powers of Nature, October 6-March 4. Enjoy Sunday brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at noon, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

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Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice on Sunday afternoons at the best brunch in the Back Bay. With an eclectic style all it's own, Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for the comfortably sophisticated lounger in everyone. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room (outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF



At the Opera Magic Gala, from left: Joanne and Charles Dickinson; Alan Rouleau and Kristen Forsberg; Carl Karandjeff, Caroline Collings and Peter Wender.

MEOW...

There was a disappointing shortage of fat ladies at the **Boston Lyric Opera's Opera Magic Gala**, where guests were invited to appear as their favorite character from the current season. Nonetheless, a plethora of swanlike socialites were there, along with every card-carrying opera buff in the greater Boston area. Among them:

Lionel and **Vivian Spiro** (dressed as the Queen of the Night), **Charles** and **Joanne Dickinson** (dolled up as the Daughter of the Regiment), **Cassandra** and **Hod Irvine** (looking like they just stepped out of a production of *Don Giovanni*), **Alan Rouleau** and **Kristen Forsberg** (ditto), **Rick** and **Nonnie Burnes** (dead-ringers for Herod and Salome), and so on and so forth.

Also spotted dining and dancing in the ballroom of the Copley Plaza: party pair **Caroline** and **Bob Collings**, blue-blooded investment sage **Tony Pell**, rocket scientist and BLO board member **Peter Wender**, baritone **John Whittlesey** and his other half, **Rudy Woodard**, and one woman whose costume provoked the following bitchy comment from another guest: "I didn't recognize her.... She's never looked so good."

PAGING JENNY CRAIG...

A dieter's worst nightmare—the **16th annual Spinazzola Foundation Gala**—took place at the **World Trade Center**, with chefs from 124 restaurants slinging delicious tidbits (and 80 vineyards offering wines to wash 'em down with) to a horde of hungry people in formalwear.

Present and accounted for: fashionista **David Josef** and mischievous muchacho **Dan Forrester**, the ubiquitous **Hat Sisters**, cutie foodie **Linda Schwabe**, the newly blonde **Chris Brisette**, talk radio chatelaine **Marjorie Clapprood** and her husband, **Chris Spinazzola** (the charity's chairman), Goldman Sachs equities trader **Ken Nacar**, food scribbler **Annie Copps**, and countless others who grazed and guzzled like pirates on shore leave.

The evening's most amusing remark: "Just open your mouth and swallow....I know that's not the first time you've heard that."

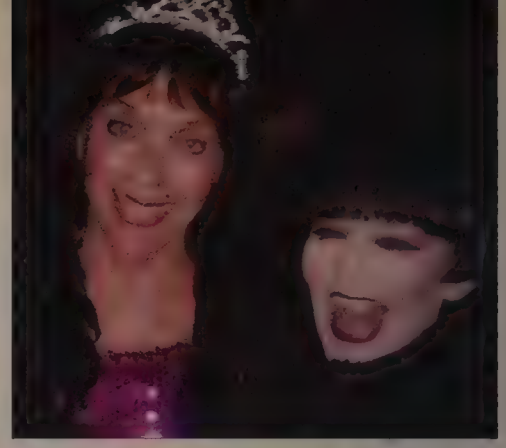
GOD SAVE THOSE QUEENS...

The **Theater Offensive** took over the **Boston Ballet** building for an evening of cocktails and finger food (the knishes were delicious), a silent auction, a retrospective of past productions and late-night disco cha-cha'ing.

Spotted among the throng: art dealer **Bernie Toale** and arts activist **Joe Zina**, Southern belle **Jane Denis**, ballet bad boy **Don Sturdy**, the lovable **David Latham**, improbably tall performance artist **Tom Cole**, jurist and hot tamale **Maria Lopez**, Boston Foundation honcha **Anna Faith Jones** (who was honored at the event), gubernatorial hopeful **Steve Grossman** and his Tufts professor wife, **Barbara**, restaurateur **Gordon Hamersley**, and one woman who suggested singing "You're a grand old fag" to honor the group's flamboyant founder, **Abe Rybeck**.

As guests ascended the stairs to the party, a woman handed out plastic, rhinestone-encrusted tiaras (a Rybeck trademark), which prompted someone to respond, "No, thanks. I'm trying to cut down."

"Take one for later, then," the woman said. "You never know when a tiara will come in handy."





At the Theater Offensive party, from top: Joan Parker and Marilyn Riseman; Maria Lopez; Abe Rybeck; Kay Hanley.

BEANTOWN GLAM QUOTIENT UP THREE POINTS...

Boston's chronic inferiority complex toward New York received some potent psychotherapy with the opening of **Whiskey Park**, the latest offering from Manhattan impresario **Rande Gerber** (a.k.a. Mr. **Cindy Crawford**).

He was on hand for the standing-room-only VIP festivities. So was his supermodel wife (who looks luscious in person and who disclosed, during a brief conversation, such startling personal tidbits as the fact that her Chinese zodiac sign is the Horse), along with numerous recognizable locals, like über-chef **Todd English**, nightlife czar **Patrick Lyons**, Kiss 108's a.m. bigmouth **Matty Siegel**, and NBA shooting stars **Antoine Walker** and **Walter McCarty**.

Overheard in the crowd: Channel 7 entertainmentatrix **Sara Edwards**, cameraman in tow, excused herself from a conversation by saying, "I'm sorry I can't talk; I'm trying to get the Celtics."

Completely deadpan, the woman she was talking to said, "So am I."

I KNEW THE BOSTON GARDEN, AND YOU'RE NO BOSTON GARDEN...

How does the **FleetCenter** suck? Let me count the ways.

At the Opening Night of the **U.S. Figure Skating Championships**, attendees paid upward of 200 bucks for seats in the nosebleed section (it would've come as no surprise if oxygen masks had dropped from the ceiling). One woman, who brought along a video camera, was told by Gestapo-like security to stop filming—as if she was planning to sell bootleg cassettes to all those ice-skating junkies who don't know how to press "Record" on a VCR.

Even worse, it was literally a captive audience; ticketholders were told by surly employees (presumably, off-duty prison guards) that they couldn't leave the building during the hour-long stretch between events. That left anyone who was hungry with grim prospects, since the only available nourishment (despite the tantalizing ad for McDonald's above the ice) was as appetizing as ptomaine poisoning. The pizza stand, for instance, serves up cold slabs of undercooked dough smothered in tin-flavored tomato sauce and unmelted cheese, at extortionate prices.

The FleetCenter seems to have the same amount of regard and respect for the people who fill its coffers as the Kafka-esque financial behemoth it's named after. About the best that can be said for it is that they don't conduct strip searches at the door. **iB**



At the Spinazzola Foundation party, from left: The Hat Sisters flank David Josef, Glynn Kalil and Dan Forrester; Lisa Newton O'Neill; Alvin Crawford; Evan Kuschner and Bethany Cantin.

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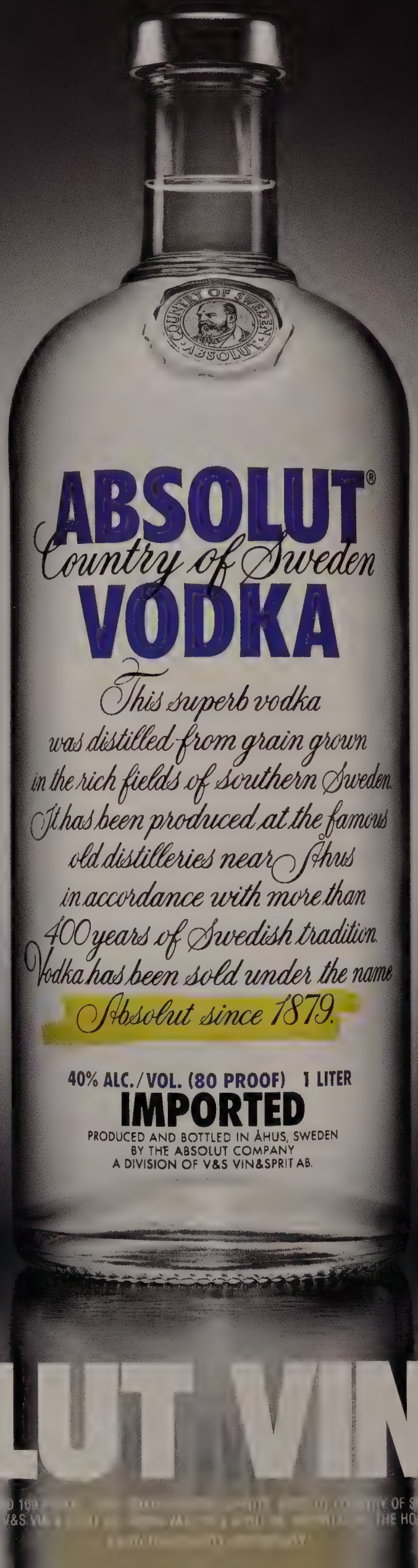
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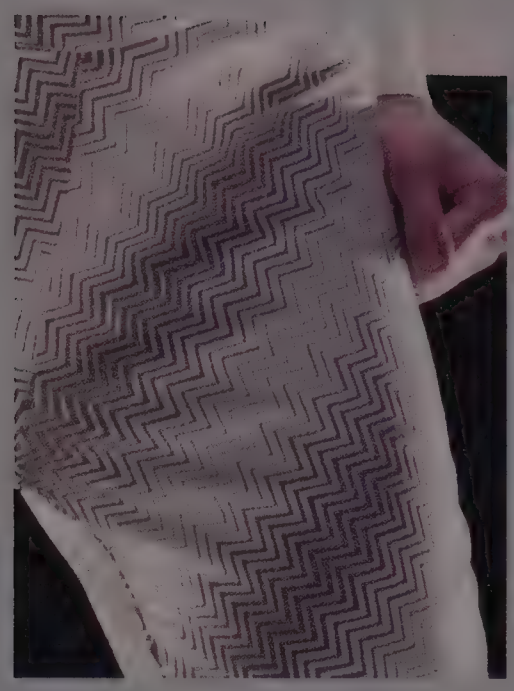
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Contents

FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 13, 2001



21
Spring Fashion
Below: Debbie Matenopoulos; The Turkish Film Festival

18

48

FEATURES

18 Soroff/On Debbie Matenopoulos
The former co-host of *The View* talks about the superficiality of the television business, her idolization of Madonna and life after 24.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

21 Spring Fashion
When the air gets humid and heavy, dresses turn light, simple, and sexy.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER
PLUS:
In the Pink: The color makes us happy, so bring on the pink accessories.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW SWAINE
Face to Face: Spring beauty products for men and women.
PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN SHEFFIELD

32 Double Duty
A surprising number of Bostonians manage to cram in second careers beyond the 9-to-5 world.
BY MATTHEW ROBINSON AND RACHEL STRUTT



On the Cover:
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COLUMNS

8 The Word
Energy-drink comparison; Master Bow Sim Mark; Lucky's; Golijov scores a hit

12 E-Boston
It seems that sometimes it pays to be nasty.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 Ezra
On dressing to impress
BY EZRA DYER

16 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

38 Mopsy
A book on one of the few absolute truths; condos in Cambridge; Exerstriders don't look *that* geeky
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

84 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

40 Dining
Pigalle adds a French bistro to the Theater District.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

44 Dish
A pocket guide to Boston eateries; new kids on the block.
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

44 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Apulian chefs sit in.
BY JULIE SHORT

58 Film
The Tailor of Panama casts Geoffrey Rush as a lying tailor and Pierce Brosnan as—imagine!—a spy.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

66 Music
It'll be a Playa Ball at the Orpheum when OutKast comes to town.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 47.
OutKast • Harpoon's St. Patrick's Day festival • Peace Corps Anniversary • Boston Ballet's *Celebration of Dance* • **Arthur Furst** • Cambridge Center for Adult Education's poetry festival • **Henry Rollins** • *Beyond Blaxploitation* film festival at the Brattle Theatre• The Old 97's • The Turkish Film Festival at the MFA

ET CETERA

Letters	6
Improper Impersonals	78
Rockie Horoscope	78
Improperazzi	79
Improper Sightings	80
Classifieds	82

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letters

MATTER=MADDER

Ten bands that matter? First and foremost, I would like to point out how ridiculous the title of this article was (in the Jan. 31 issue). It's great that you recognize a couple of Boston bands, but to imply that this is all that the local music scene has to offer is alarmingly inaccurate. There's an underground circuit of local bands that tear up this city, keeping clubs like The Middle East, The Linwood and The Sky Bar jumping. I mean, what about artists that are selling out these local clubs like The High Ceilings, Rustic Overtones, Hip Tanaka, or Three Day Threshold, who, in fact, were just voted "Best Live Band" in The Maxies, the real-deal version of the local music awards, held at The Kirkland Cafe? Not only did that night at The Kirkland set an attendance record for the club, but everyone got to kick it with Gary Cherone, TMax of the Boston Rock Opera and Countess Cynthia Von Buhler of the Castle Von Buhler Label, just to name a few. These are dope folks who know what's what.

Apparently, the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN doesn't.

—MIKE SPARDA
Brighton

LETTER ON A LETTER

Everyone is entitled to their opinion, so, here's mine. I am very disappointed in you for printing an "opinion" that publicly slams the woman on the cover of the Nov. 29 issue. I find it in extremely poor taste. To that reader: Although I don't know you, I think you are despicable for writing something so mean about someone you don't even know, and even more pathetic for worrying about who is on the cover. Why do you care? If you took the time to *read* the cover and look inside, you would see that "A Fashion Musical" was simply light-hearted fun for the holidays. Did you even proofread what you wrote? Frankly, you sound self-righteous and judgmental with no sense of humor, and that's *really* unattractive. That's just *my* opinion.

—CHRISTIN ROSSI
Via e-mail



TO IMPLY THAT THIS IS ALL THAT THE LOCAL MUSIC SCENE HAS TO OFFER IS ALARMINGLY INACCURATE. THERE'S AN UNDERGROUND CIRCUIT OF LOCAL BANDS THAT TEAR UP THIS CITY...

—MIKE SPARDA
BRIGHTON

MAN OF FEW WORDS

I liked the sex issue a lot. Keep up the good work, guys!

Actually, that's pretty much it.

—PHIL MONCY
Allston

FREAKS GALORE

Ezra's recent "Freak City" column struck a chord. I just returned to the city after a six-year hiatus in the boonies (almost Maine) and while much of what you say is true, you may be clouded by a bit of nostalgia. You still have the wacky people knocking olives off the shelf, although up north it might just well be the head selectman or the head of the school committee. In Rochester, N.H., last year, the mayor painted his face, dressed up in drag, locked himself in a city park and read the Constitution to passers-by (that may not have been exactly what he did; but it was darn close). It caused a minor ripple, but people just shrugged and got over it in a day or two.

The parking problem? Not so much a big deal. But the ladies at the town hall do know where your car is at all times, who is with you, how many miles are on it, what you had for dinner last night, and—you get the picture.

I solved the Boston parking problem by getting rid of my vehicles when I moved back—both my big possum-squashing 4x4 truck and my 11-year-old "beater." Now I rely totally on ZipCar. It's kind of an earth-shoes and granola concept, but with off-street parking I've cut my parking tickets dramatically.

As far as the incident at Harvard Medical, what the hell are you doing hanging around with those people? They think at Harvard—and that has been the ruin of many a budding young columnist. Hang out at Northeastern. They don't think so much, and they have pretty good parties.

—SKIP VOGT
Allston

CORRECTION

In last issue's bridal fashion section, we failed to credit the little girl on page 35. She's Kaylin from ModelClub Inc. Her dress was from La Ciu Couture, 842-7119.

Tell Us What You Think

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Bill Streicher is based in New York, but he's an international man of mystery. A professional photographer for the last 10 years, Bill's work has been featured in such high-profile publications as *Cosmopolitan*, *Marie Claire*, *Bazaar* and, of course, THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. On the advertising front, he's worked for Trump Taj Mahal Casino, Molson Beer and Deutz Jeans, among others.

Fashion shoots, for both editorial and advertising, are his specialty, and he's responsible for this issue's DKNY spread. Bill is best known for infusing his photographs with personality, sexiness and a certain *joie de vivre* that is often lacking in the high-stakes, glamorous-yet-disillusioning world of professional fashion photography.

Bill lists Bruce Weber, Peter Lindberg and U2's Bono as his biggest influences.

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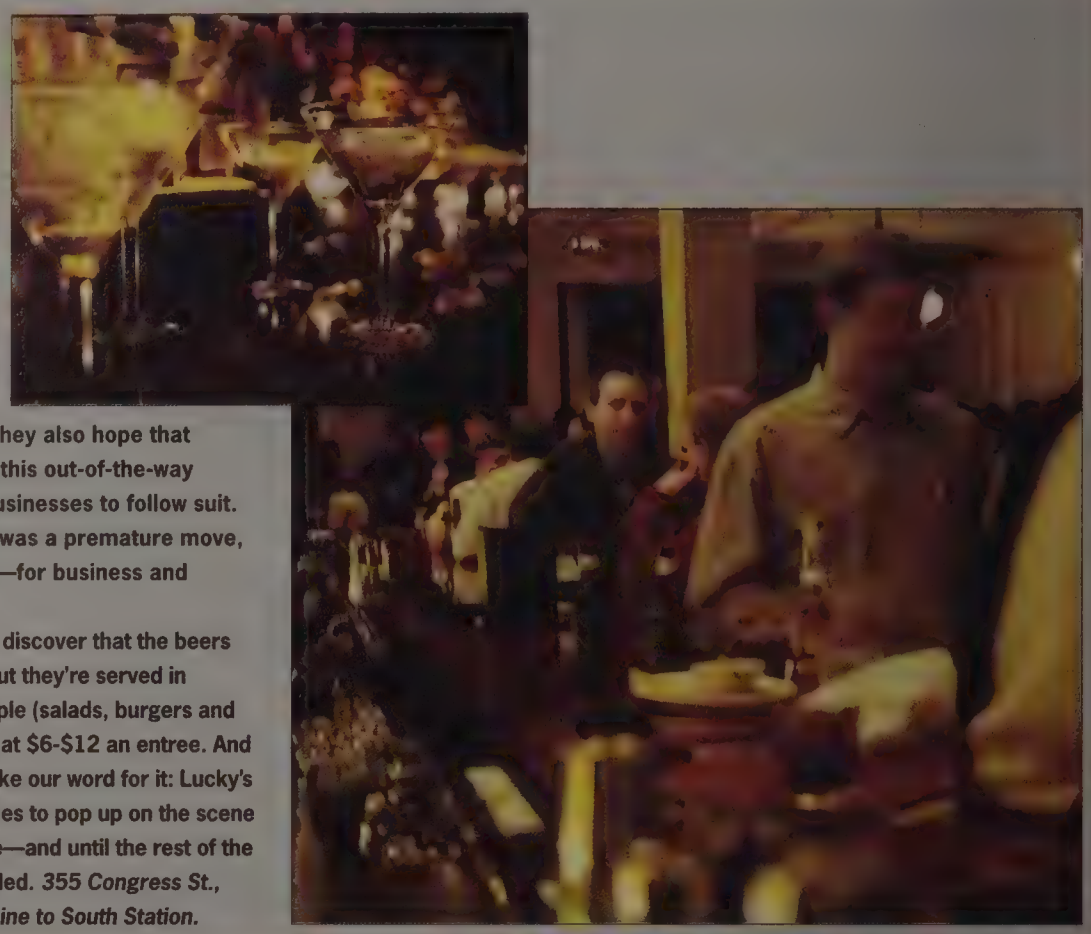
NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

STROKE OF LUCK

If you can actually find Fort Point Channel's new bar, Lucky's, you're ahead of the game. It took us several tries walking up and down Congress and A streets—an area devoid of big-name bars and restaurants—before we located the subterranean joint. There's no sign out front—and managing partner Eric Aulenback isn't sure whether there will ever be one. But it won't matter. If nightclub impresario Patrick Lyons (of Lansdowne Street and the Alley fame) built it, they will come.

It's hard to resist the appeal of a place that's so determined to be unpretentious. In fact, if you wandered in from the street without knowing anything about Lucky's, you'd never guess that it opened just last month. It has that warm, worn feel of a bar that's seen a few decades' worth of customers. The giveaway is the noticeable lack of crusty regulars parked at the bar. But, hey, give it time. The linoleum tile floors, leather booths, hand-blown bulls-eye windows and antique tin walls are all leftovers from the venue's original occupant, Stuart's. With the fake fireplace in the corner, red-hued '70s lamps and schmaltzy, back-lit photos of New England landscapes, the lounge looks as though it were straight out of your grandparents' living room. And that's just how Lyons and Aulenback wanted it.

"We restored everything back to the original character and feel of Stuart's," says Aulenback of the bar/cafeteria affectionately known as the "Ar" bar as a result of ■ missing letter on the sign out front. The Ar Bar closed two and a half years ago, leaving a void in the after-5 social scene for the slew of local artists and businesspeople. The owners hope Lucky's will fill that void. They also hope that taking a risk and opening up at this out-of-the-way location will encourage other businesses to follow suit. Aulenback says, "Some think it was a premature move, but we think it's up-and-coming—for business and residential ventures."



Once you find the place, you'll discover that the beers aren't as cheap as the Ar Bar's, but they're served in frosted mugs; and the fare is simple (salads, burgers and steak tips) but reasonably priced at $6-$12 an entree. And on weekends, there's live jazz. Take our word for it: Lucky's is one of the most welcomed places to pop up on the scene since Cambridge's B-Side Lounge—and until the rest of the city discovers it, much less crowded. *355 Congress St., Boston (357-5825). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

ALL THE BUZZ

SWORD PLAY

Admit that you felt a twinge of martial arts-envy after watching **Michelle Yeoh** do a quadruple backflip while wielding her sword in *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. Sure, she was attached to a rope, but it still makes us wish we could be so agile—and so skilled with a weapon. It's not impossible. Unbeknownst to most Bostonians, there's a master sword expert living in our midst. No, you won't find **Master Bow Sim Mark** flying over rooftops in the dark of the night (that only happens in the movies, kids). But this "Kung Fu Artist of the Year" (*Black Belt* magazine) spends her days teaching wushu, the "proper" term for kung fu, at the Chinese Wushu Research Institute in Boston. She, like many local martial arts studios, has seen interest in her craft skyrocket as result of this film and other revivals (notably the Swordsman of Hong Kong midnight movie series at the Coolidge Corner Theatre). An added incentive: "Wushu keeps people young and beautiful," Master Mark says. *130 Lincoln St., Boston (426-0958). —E.H. & J.S.*



Master Bow Sim Mark demonstrates her sword-wielding prowess.

MORSELS

TRUSSED AND READY

Who would've guessed that a stint writing the "Dish" column for the IMPROPER would lead to marriage to one of Boston's up-and-coming chefs—and co-ownership of a hot new restaurant in Jamaica Plain? Not Nini Diana, the recipient of such a fortuitous turn of events. The loquacious foodie, who wrote for the IMPROPER from April '97 to June '98, met now-husband Tim Partridge when he was behind the counter at the East Coast Grill in Cambridge. "I went to talk with him about an event he was hosting," she says. "The attraction was immediate."

Two and a half years later, the twosome have opened Perdix, a cozy, eight-table bistro on Centre Street that has locals clamoring for reservations. The tireless restaurateur manages to balance a full-time job at Houghton Mifflin with several late nights a week overseeing operations at the restaurant—pouring wine, making desserts, manning the door and schmoozing. So has Diana's "Dish" experience helped her in the restaurant biz? Yup. "I understand customers better—who's there just to eat, and who's there for the entire experience," she says. *597 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-5995). —E.H. & J.S.*



Perdix co-owners Tim Partridge and Nini Diana

LUCKY'S: TRACY POWELL (2); MASTER BOW: PAUL TANCREDI; PERDIX: JOEL VEAK



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Taste: Super-sweet, almost like bubble gum



2. Anheuser-Busch's 180
Concept: Vitamin-fortified energy
Package: 8 oz.
Calories: 120
Cost: $2.29
Taste: Tart and tangy, lightly carbonated



3. Pepsi's SoBe Adrenaline Rush
Concept: Get it up. Keep it up.
Package: 8.3 oz.
Calories: 140
Cost: $1.99
Taste: Citrus-y soda with a kick; our fave



4. Coke's KMX
Concept: Be ready for what's out there.
Package: 8.4 oz.
Calories: 120
Cost: $2.04
Taste: Orange cough syrup with herbal flavors



5. Hansen's Sparkling Energy Drink
Concept: "Jump-start" your day.
Package: 8.3 oz.
Calories: 120
Cost: $2.04
Taste: Carbonated bathroom cleaner



6. Met-Rx
Concept: Reinforcement Formula
Package: 8.3 oz.
Calories: 120
Cost: $2.04
Taste: Raspberry Pez-esque, helluva aftertaste

SAM SAYS

SWEDISH INVASION

Lines make their way down the street outside H&M men and women's clothing store in New York. No one can resist H&M's stylin' duds at bargain prices. The good news is that the Swedish chain will open its second store, in Kingston, Mass., this month. Those who dutifully made the 4-1/2-hour pilgrimage to Manhattan can rejoice. A word to H&M virgins: Prepare for mayhem. It's a scene reminiscent of Filene's Basement—only civilized. And if that's not enough incentive to break out the ABBA and shop, Ikea also plans to set up shop locally this summer. *—Samantha House*



Stockholm's H&M will open a branch in Kingston.

FILM

FOR BETTER AND FOR WORSE

If enthusiasm and an infectious sense of fun were all it took to succeed in the film business, **Zack Stratis** would be running a studio in Hollywood. The Everett-bred, Cambridge-based filmmaker somehow finagled his family into starring (and singing and dancing) in *Could Be Worse*, a hilarious musical "mockumentary" about his Greek-American clan and his relationships with them as a gay man. The film, which has received the support and involvement of such industry bigwigs as Broadway and film producers **Fred Zollo** and **Nick Paleologos** and local indie queen **Laura Bernieri**, is now screening every Monday night at the Stuart Street Playhouse, preceded by a live stage show that ups the camp factor exponentially. A word of warning, though: Anyone who can't laugh at bad singing and schmaltzy lyrics should steer clear. *—Jonathan Soroff*



FACES

HEIRLOOM ART

You never know what you'll find in the attic. Just ask avuncular Channel 5 personality Frank Avruch, the original Bozo and longtime host of the TV classic film series *The Great Entertainment*. He went to tidy up the storage space in his Newton home a year ago and came upon three big cartons containing more than 2,000 works of art by his late mother-in-law, Rose deSmith Greenman. A self-taught painter whose work Avruch describes as "outsider art," Greenman lived in Newton and died 16 years ago, at age 83, of Alzheimer's disease. Her work passed on to her daughter, Betty, who always intended to do something with it. After rediscovering the treasure trove, the Avruches contacted a friend who collects folk art. Amazed by what she saw, the friend referred them to people in the field, and the result is a posthumous one-woman show that opens March 1 at the Berenberg Gallery on Clarendon Street. "It's really interesting," says Avruch. "You can actually trace what was going on in her life through the work." On March 10, MFA curator Gilian Shallcross will give a gallery talk, and on March 15, the gallery will host a benefit for Alzheimer's research and treatment. The show closes April 14, at which point Greenman will have joined the ranks of painters (like van Gogh) who didn't receive the recognition they deserved until after they weren't around to appreciate it. —*Jonathan Soroff*



Pastry chef Jean-Paul LaPierre creates extraordinary cakes at Billings & Stover Apothecary.

NEW IN TOWN

ALL-PURPOSE PASTRY

In an ideal world, a store as venerable as Billings & Stover Apothecary, a Harvard Square landmark since 1854, would be impervious to cut-throat competition from big drugstore chains like CVS and Walgreen's. Sadly, that isn't the case. Thus, the former apothecary is phasing out its pharmaceutical goods and replacing prescriptions with delectable bakery items and gourmet food.

This tale is upbeat, however, and traditionalists should fear not—there's still the old soda fountain and a slew of quality, old-fashioned goodies. (The $165 Mason Pearson brushes are still there, as are the giant bottles of 47-11 cologne.) And Bob Landers, who's been working there as a pharmacist and accountant for the past 59 years (with never a sick day), is still standing behind the counter.

But Landers—and the store's European-style eclectic offerings, which range from kitschy lunch boxes and postcards to focaccia, homemade fudge, soups and Beano—aren't the biggest draw as of late. Recently, pastry chef extraordinaire Jean-Paul LaPierre joined forces with owner Phyllis Madanian when he heard about her dreams to incorporate fine pastry into the store's already delectable menu. LaPierre, who resembles Willy Wonka with a top hat, is determined to do things the proper way—namely, making gorgeous European-style specialty cakes with the finest ingredients. "If I can't make it the way it was traditionally prepared, I won't do it," he says. His impressive background includes stints as the pastry chef at Tremont 647, the corporate pastry chef at Davio's and the MFA's executive pastry chef.

LaPierre's unique combination of strict standards and heartfelt energy go into making each dessert. The whoopie pies, for example, are made with fresh cream rather than icing, and there are more than 70 different types of buttercream toppings alone for cakes. Together, LaPierre and Madanian plan on making all of the food in-house until business gets to be overwhelming—and from the looks of it, that time is not too far off. *41 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-0502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. —E.H. & J.S.*

NOTE WORTHY

GOLIJOV'S PASSION

Bach is a hard act to follow. Nevertheless, a composer from Newton (of all places) has proved that the 18th century has no monopoly on musical genius. At a recent Thursday night Symphony Hall concert, the first half of the program consisted of a Bach piano concerto. After the intermission, **Robert Spano** conducted the U.S. premiere of *The Passion According to Saint Mark*, by Osvaldo Golijov. Of Eastern European, Jewish ancestry, Golijov was born and raised in Argentina and now lives in the 'burbs. He was commissioned to write the piece to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the death of J.S. Bach, and it had its world premiere last summer in Stuttgart. "The public shouted, cried...The success of this premiere was unheard of," enthused a critic, and no less of a curmudgeon than the impossible-to-please **Richard Dyer** of the *Boston Globe* called it "a work of genius." Clearly, the audience concurred, as Golijov's curtain call generated a thunderous standing ovation—a sight rarely seen at Symphony Hall. Now Boston has something else to be proud of, and all those people who left at intermission have something to kick themselves for. *—Jonathan Soroff*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to *theword@improper.com*.

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Wanted: SOB for CEO

Mean is often proportionate to green, and Boston's CEOs are too damn nice.

Bob Davis, the former CEO of Lycos, has been a leading high tech figure in the Boston area for several years now. The company Davis founded, Lycos, was so popular as an Internet portal that it rivaled America Online, Microsoft and Yahoo. Davis was widely seen as Boston's answer to someone like Bill Gates or Steve Case—the kind of local big shot whom the governor could, for example, tap to lend credibility to a state task force on the Internet.

It seemed like a loss to the Boston area when Lycos was gobbled up by Spanish telecom giant Telefónica to form a new company, Terra Lycos Inc. Sure, Davis agreed to stay on as CEO of the new company, but the new company name—which relegated "Lycos" to second place—signaled that Davis was no longer in control. As if to confirm this, Davis began unloading his 3.5 million shares in the combined company at the beginning of January and at end of that month stepped down as CEO.

It's a common-enough story in the Boston area. Local high-tech firms, even when they prove successful, don't seem to survive for very long as independent entities. Over the past 15 years, we've seen Digital, Wang, Data General, Apollo and Lotus either be acquired or dwindle into relative insignificance. Why can't Boston high-tech companies ever manage to go it alone?

It's my theory that the problem lies in Boston's management culture. Despite the city's reputation for hard-headed rudeness, there's a gentlemanly tradition among the region's executives that's different from elsewhere in the country. It's no accident that it was in the Boston area that a CEO kept his workers on the payroll while his fabric mill was being rebuilt after a disastrous fire. Similarly, many of the region's high-tech execs seem to have an innate sense of gentility and culture.

A good example is Mitchell Kertzman, who used to be CEO of Powersoft, a local database-tools company that was bought by the California firm Sybase in 1995. When I interviewed Kertzman many years ago, he defined his job in a way that was charmingly self-effacing: "I'm the reverse of the Peter Principle in the sense that I've finally risen to my level of competence, which is that I don't do anything very well, and now what I do extremely well is nothing." Similarly, Digital's Ken Olsen used to drive a Ford Pinto to work and often spent his weekends gardening in his backyard—hardly the arrogance that one usually associates with the high and mighty.

APPLE, ORACLE AND MICROSOFT ARE ALL FAMOUS FOR HAVING CORPORATE CULTURES WHERE INTERNAL COMPETITION AND EMPLOYEE BURNOUT ARE RAMPANT. YET THOSE COMPANIES STILL MANAGE TO STAY ON TOP OF THEIR GAME.

In fact, the only local CEO that I've interviewed over the years who struck me as overbearing was former Lotus CEO Jim Manzi, and even he seemed about one tenth as bad as the typical West Coast CEO. The sad truth is that high-tech CEOs—at least the ones on the West Coast—are mostly four-star bastards. There are exceptions, like Cisco's John Chambers, but the typical West Coast CEO is legendary as the boss from hell.

Take, for example, Steven Jobs, the co-founder and current CEO of Apple Computer. Like Bill Gates, Jobs is notorious for exploding and mercilessly yelling and screaming at underlings if they don't measure up to his preconceived notions. Jobs is particularly famous for pulling one of the meanest pranks in the industry. When Jobs was only "acting" CEO of Apple, one fanatical user kept e-mailing him, asking to be considered as a candidate for the CEO position. Jobs could have ignored him, but instead e-mailed the helpless dweeb to tell him that he could have the job. To make matters worse, Jobs convinced Oracle CEO Larry Ellison to send a note of congratulations, thereby adding credibility to the original offer. When the would-be CEO followed up, he was told he'd be arrested if he set foot on the Apple campus.



Maybe Bob Davis (left) could stand to take a page out of Steve Jobs' Powerbook.

I once wrote an entire book espousing the theory that executives who treated employees like valued human beings would be more likely to build companies that prevailed in the market. Since then, however, I've noticed that enlightened managers and the companies they run tend to fall by the wayside. Kertzman, for example, wasn't particularly successful when he took over as CEO of Sybase, and it's hard to think of any local CEO who's managed do much better when he or she hit the big time.

Alan Deutschman, the author of *The Second Coming of Steve Jobs* (Broadway Books, 2000) believes that the West Coast management style, dysfunctional as it is, drives companies into a frenzy of nervous competitiveness. "There's a particular kind of employee that gets drawn to an abusive boss," he explains. Apple, Oracle and Microsoft are all famous for having corporate cultures where internal competition and employee burnout are rampant. Yet those companies still manage to stay on the top of their game.

I've never interviewed Bob Davis and have no idea what kind of manager he was at Lycos, but if he's anything like the rest of the local talent, his ultimate problem may have been that he was too damn nice for his own good. Whether or not that was the case, it's clear that Terra Lycos is in pretty deep trouble. A year ago, the company's stock was flying high at $145 a share, but as of this writing it is trading in the single digits. The company lost nearly $350 million in 2000 on revenues of a little more than half a billion dollars and, to make matters worse, the company has been slammed with a massive $6.7 billion lawsuit from telecommunications firm IDT Corp.

Whatever happens to the erstwhile Lycos, it could be that the real reason that our local high-tech firms don't survive is that our homegrown CEOs simply aren't mean enough. After all, everyone knows what happens to the nice guys. They finish last. iB

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.


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Code Breaker

Dressing inappropriately is fun

There are two kinds of dress codes. The first is the kind that is dictated by a business, as in, "Sir, the sign says no flip-flops." The second is the kind that is dictated by societal mores, as in, "Sir, those flip-flops show disrespect for the deceased." I recently spent a couple nights violating both of these types of codes, with mixed results.

My dress-code experimentation started when I was invited to a Playboy-themed party. The guys were supposed to dress up in Hefner-esque attire, while the women were to embrace the Playboy Bunny look. I suspected from the outset that the theme-adherance level at this event would probably be fairly low, but still I ventured out donned in my finest plush red bathrobe, furry leopard-print boxers and flip-flops. When I arrived at the party, I found very few Hefners, and even worse, no naked ladies. I immediately resolved to address this discrepancy by drinking a lot. In short order, then, I cared very little that my Ship of Fun had dropped anchor at Key Lame, but I was still determined to leave. So I headed out to meet some friends at Emily's on Winter Street.

I STARTED THINKING, HEY, WHY BOTHER CHANGING CLOTHES WHEN I COULD WEAR THIS SWEET BATHROBE?

Now, in anticipation of the Playboy party's possible lack of fun, I'd brought along a change of clothes. But sometime after a flurry of beers and Jell-O shots, I started thinking, Hey, why bother changing clothes when I could wear this sweet bathrobe? However, when I got to the club I ran into a bit of trouble, as the bouncer was not a big fan of my eveningwear. I contended that bathrobes were not specifically forbidden by the Emily's dress code, but he would have none of it. Eventually my argument that I was conducting a scientific behavioral experiment for the greater journalistic good won his reluctant support, and I was allowed in—with the caveat that someone else inside would probably kick me out within about five minutes. But Emily's management proved to have a good sense of humor, and I spent the remainder of the evening groovin' with the robe.

Now, on a given night in a given club, girls typically pay about as much attention to me as they do to the PAC 10 standings. But the bathrobe is a great icebreaker. Everyone wants to know why you're wearing the bathrobe. To maintain my air of mystery, I refused to answer that one, although the second most popular question, "What's underneath the bathrobe?" was answered decisively on numerous occasions. All in all, my Playboy alter-ego was a hit.

My next experiment took place the night that I was a blackjack dealer for Mohegan Sun. Pop quiz: What was I wearing that night? Huh? HUH? If you answered "I don't know, I missed the last issue," go wet your fingers, grab a fork and head for the nearest electrical outlet. If you said "A tuxedo," then kiss the nearest person immediately. I guarantee they'll like it, because you are obviously cultured, brilliant and extremely good-looking. If you said "Fruit Roll-Up edible tighty-whities," then give me a call. You know the number.

Anyway, after I left the black-tie Snow Ball, I found myself all dressed up with no place to go. So I did the logical thing and went to the Beacon Hill Pub, partly because I was curious to see how people would react to the tux, and partly because any time is a good time for $1.55 drafts.

As far as I know, there is no written BHP dress code. Despite that, the crowd consistently maintains a look that I'd call "calculated casual." J. Crew and Gap apparel is acceptable, but anyone stepping to the Banana Republic level is an object of suspicion. Hence, when I strolled in wearing my Pierre Cardin three-button tux, I instantly became the center of attention, both positive and negative. Guys hated me, and as I made my way to the bar I heard a derisive "You sexy bastard" and "What the hell?" tossed my way. But while I waited for my semi-carbonated pint of Bud, two girls sitting at the bar started molesting me. OK, maybe they just kissed me on the cheek, and maybe they both could have been cover girls for *Drunken Hootchie Magazine*, but since that's never happened before or since, I have to give credit to the tux. *Bien fait*, Pierre.

In the final analysis, guys thought the bathrobe was funny, and they thought I was a dick for wearing the tux. And, also in the final analysis, who cares what the guys thought? Girls seemed to like them both, and when you've got less game than a box of Chutes 'N Ladders, that's what counts. The problem is, I own the bathrobe. Now how can I get Mohegan Sun to rent me another tux? iB

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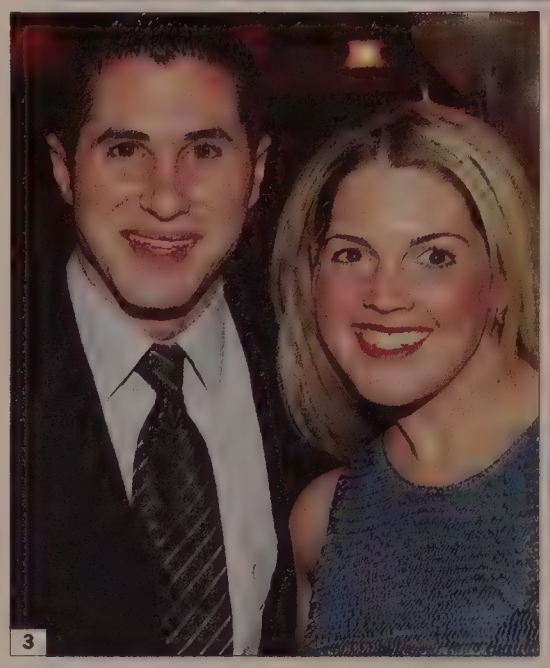
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

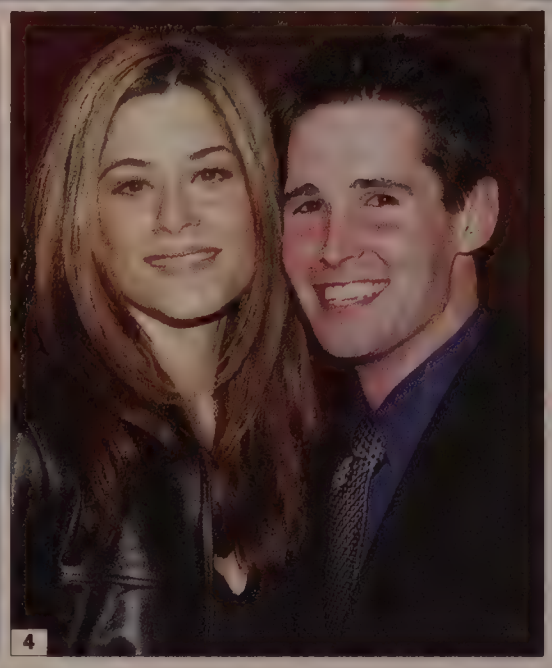
The Winter Wonderland Gala, to benefit the Franciscan Children's Hospital, was held Feb. 3 at the Children's Museum on Congress Street. The Young Professionals Council sponsored an evening of hors d'oeuvres, dancing and a live auction. Attendees included celebrity guest and local Mix 98.5 radio personality Lynn Hoffman and 200 other friends of the hospital. About $8,000 was raised. All proceeds will go directly to the Franciscan Children's Hospital & Rehabilitation Center.

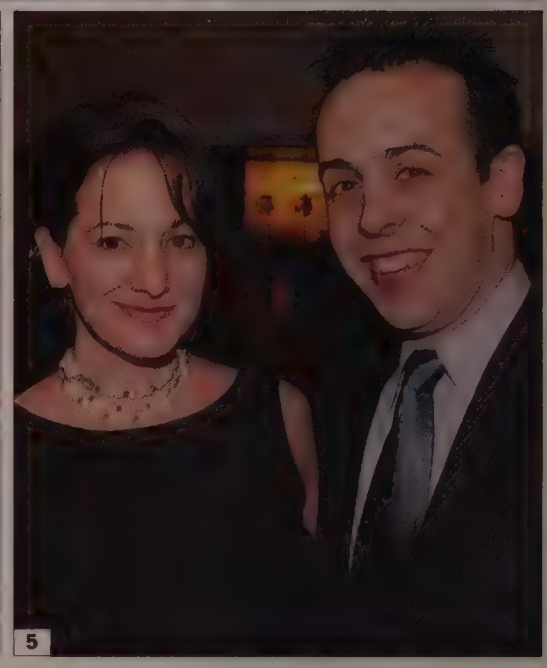
1. From left: **Cariann Harsh** and **Mary Bures**, special events manager and director of community relations, respectively, for Franciscan Children's Hospital and **Lorainne Cenedella**, account manager for Jupiter Media Metrix.
2. **Paul DellaRocco**, CEO of Franciscan Children's Hospital, and his wife, **Selena**, director of development for Franciscan Children's Hospital.
3. **Anthony Abbatiello**, human performance consultant for Accenture, and **Susanne Higgins**, account executive for Harvard Net, in Medford.
4. **Lynn Hoffman**, radio personality for mix 98.5, and **Bryan Higgins**, sales representative for Johnson and Johnson.
5. **Jeanne Flynn**, owner of Jeannie Flynn PR Events, and **Chris Santarpio**, consultant for Accenture.


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The 11th Annual Inner-City Scholarship Fund Celebration was held Feb.15 in the Grand Ballroom at the Boston Marriott Copley Place. More than 900 business and community leaders attended the reception. About $4.1 million was raised for scholarships for academic year 2001-2002.

6. **Joanie McCormick**, manager of business travel for the Ritz Carlton; **Greg Saunders**, institutional sales for JP Morgan and his wife, **Kate**, vice president of learning and communications for Fidelity Investments.
7. **Brian Hanson**, analyst for Fidelity Investments and his wife, **Armanda**, surgical nurse for Brigham & Women's Hospital.
8. From left: **John Buckley**, executive vice president of the Red Sox; **Jack Driscoll**, partner at Nutter, McClennen & Fish; and **Peter Lynch**, vice chairman of Fidelity Management & Research Company.
9. **Natalie Jacobson**, news anchor, WCVB—TV 5.
10. From left: **Lou Casagrande**, president of the Children's Museum, **Bob Mahoney**, vice chairman of Citizen's Financial Group, and **Kenneth Condon** treasurer and CEO of Boston University.
11. **Jane Holt**, co-president of the National Pancreas Foundation and her husband, **Tom**, partner of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart.


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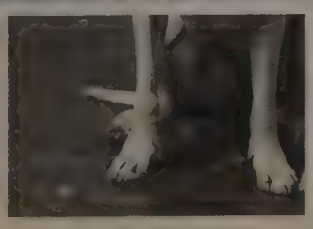
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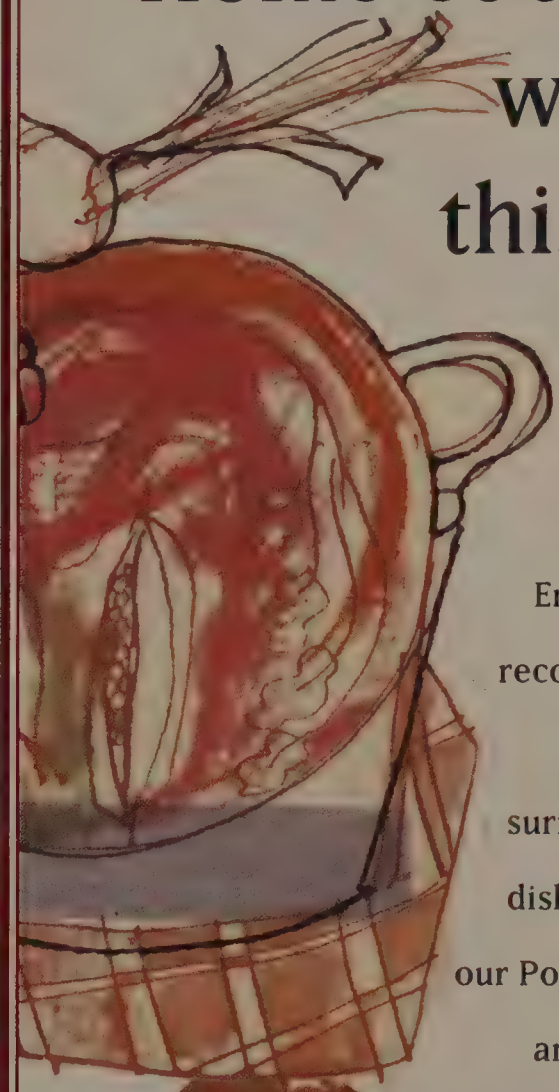




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Debbie Matenopoulos

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Currently hosting the TV Guide Channel and providing the voice for her claymation likeness on MTV's *Celebrity Deathmatch*, television personality Debbie Matenopoulos is best known for her two-year stint at—and very public dismissal from—the ABC morning talk show *The View*, where she cohosted alongside Barbara Walters, Star Jones, Joy Behar and Meredith Vieira. The daughter of Greek immigrants (her mother is a beautician and her father is a furniture maker), Matenopoulos was born and raised in Richmond, Va., and began her career in journalism as a columnist for her high school newspaper. At Virginia Commonwealth University, she became a disc jockey and program director for the radio station, and after transferring to NYU, she parlayed an internship at MTV into a full-time job as a production assistant, eventually becoming a story coordinator for *Unfiltered*. During her senior year in college, she received the major career break of cohosting *The View*, but after two years of dutifully serving as "the young one," she was unceremoniously fired and found herself, at the age of 24, a punching bag for the media and a punchline of cruel jokes. Now she's back, sharing on-air duties with Katie Wagner on the TV Guide Channel, which broadcasts its annual awards ceremony March 7 on Fox.

Jonathan Soroff: *What's the first word that comes to mind when I say "Barbara Walters?"*
DM: [Chuckles] How about....legend?
JS: *Not prima donna?*
DM: No. The first word that comes to mind is "legend"...Of course, the ones that follow....
JS: *Did you ever make fun of her speech impediment to her face?*
DM: Oh, yeah. We all kinda teased her. I mean, she's aware of it. She's the first person to say "Who would've thought a skinny little girl who couldn't speak properly would be in the position I am?"
JS: *Do you still have her home phone number?*
DM: As a matter of fact, I do.
JS: *Any hard feelings?*
DM: Y'know, if it wasn't for that show, I wouldn't be doing this interview. Yeah, it was the most tumultuous experience in my life, but also the most incredible. I was 22 years old. I still hadn't graduated from college, and I'd never done television. All of a sudden, it was "Three, two, one, smile at the camera, read from the teleprompter." They threw me in the water and said, "Sink or swim."
JS: *So does Star Jones hide Twinkies in her dressing room?*
DM: [Laughs] She stole mine!
JS: *And is it true that Meredith Vieira doesn't wear underwear?*
DM: Oh, yeah, that's true. She, by the way, has more integrity than anyone I've ever met.
JS: *Are you a natural blonde?*
DM: Are you kidding? I'm Greek, and I grew up in a beauty salon. I'm a number seven, if you know what that means. Dirty blonde.
JS: *During your days at MTV, what rock stars did you sleep with?*
DM: It's hard to remember, really—there were so many—it's all a blur. No, seriously, there's one I could have...I was obsessed with Robert Plant, and I went backstage at his concert. I couldn't speak, and he was coming on to me like nobody's business. Meanwhile, I was a babbling fool. I left kicking myself.
JS: *Anyone else who completely awed you?*
DM: Madonna. She's probably beginning to think I'm a little slow. But when I was a kid, I completely idolized her. I'd dress like her and say to my Mom, "Why can't I go to school like this?" "Umm, because you look like a hooker." One time, there was a Madonna lookalike contest at the mall, and I stole my mother's black slip and strappy sandals—I'm like 10 years old—and I made my brother take me. I thought I was the deal. I was sure I was gonna win, but then I saw that a lot of the girls were far better endowed than I was. By the way, Madonna knows this story, thanks to Rosie O'Donnell, who told it to her while I was sitting right there. I was like, "Thank you very little. I had a tiny bit of cool left, and you just took it away."
JS: *What was the worst part about getting canned from* The View*?*
DM: Well, there was a period when I never wanted to leave my house. Going out was ridiculous. There were reporters camped out in front of my door.
JS: *So you were 24 years old, and within a matter of weeks, you lost your job, you found out your boyfriend was cheating on you...*
DM: Yup, and I broke my nose at a nightclub, in front of 200 people. It was maybe two or three weeks after I got fired. I arrive at Moomba, and people are whispering, "There's Debbie Matenopoulos," as if I can't hear them. My friend drops her keys. I bend down to pick them up, and she slams me in the face. So there I am, with blood gushing out—the girl who just got canned from TV. It was not pretty.
JS: *What did you do in a previous life to deserve all that?*
DM: That's what I wondered. I must've been some sort of dictator, slaying people.
JS: *You also had Sara Michelle Gellar, Clare Danes and Cameron Diaz making fun of you on* Saturday Night Live.
DM: That's right. But then I went on and played myself. I was the surprise guest on their spoof of *The View*. I walked on, acting like the idiot that they portrayed me to be, clueless that I'd been fired. The audience went nuts. And that gave me so much strength. So in the skit, when they told me I was fired, I suddenly snapped from complete airhead to Rhodes scholar, saying things like, "I willingly played your bête noire...I've been the sacrificial lamb...but those little pecadilloes you so abhor in my character were the mucilage that binds this loose confederation of personalities into poignant television. And to quote Louis XIV, '*Aprez moi, le deluge.*'" I have to say, that was my finest hour.
JS: *You're writing a book called* Nothing Else Matters As Long As Your Hair Looks Good*?*
DM: Correct, and I really believe that. [Laughing] The title is really taking the piss out of the entertainment industry, because it doesn't matter what I say or do. In my job, if my hair looks crappy, that's what people remember. I could be saving all the starving children in the world, and all people would notice are the fabulous shoes I had on.
JS: *OK, so is the TV Guide Channel really necessary?*
DM: Yes, and I'll tell you why. Because they pay me a lot of money. Just kidding. Seriously, there are a lot of people, especially Gen X-ers, who don't get the magazine and won't look at a printed listing. So as long as the information is there (on the bottom half of the screen), why not entertain them a little with the top half? I think it's great.
JS: *Celebrity Death Match: You and Katie Wagner...*
DM: Oooh, that's a tough one. I think we'd fight until we were both dead.
JS: *OK, you, Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera in a Jell-O wrestling match...*
DM: Hey, this is sounding interesting.
JS: *If I could put it together, would you do it?*
DM: Sign me up!
JS: *Last question: Give me one good reason why I should watch the TV Guide awards?*
DM: Because Katie Wagner and I are on it, and you need to see what we're wearing. iB



PHOTOGRAPHER: TRACY POWELL; SHOT ON LOCATION AT LOUIS, BOSTON; SPECIAL THANKS TO STEPHANIE SEELEY/STYLING; SHIRT BY VIKTOR & ROLF; LISA DECOBERT/MAKEUP; HAIR BY GARY CROTEAU

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Spring



Sexy and spare dresses to jump-start the new season

PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

Previous page: beaded crinkle georgette dress $248. Available at DKNY

This page: double-layer silk georgette top, $128. Luggage leather skirt, $295. Both available at DKNY

Luggage, available
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Available at DKNY

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Yellow graphic crewneck, $178
Yellow graphic skirt, $148
Both available at DKNY

Dawn Pinstripe
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In the Pink

Traditional pink goes a little wild when paired up with the must-have accessories of the season.

What better way to celebrate March's lion-and-lamb demeanor than with the split personality of pink? The beauty of this blushing hue is that it can be either sweet or sexy, playful or pouty. Though pink usually conjures up memories of Barbie dolls and tea parties, it has grown up and gotten a whole lot sexier, while still maintaining a good measure of Lolita-like appeal.

This year, designers have played up the femininity of their warm-weather designs, making generous use of pretty pastels, eye-catching touches and flowing fabrics. Accessories, meanwhile, are following suit. Like sprightly pink tulips that poke up through the dirt and rear their flirtatious little heads, flashes of pink—puckered pink lips on handbags and pink-rhinestone-studded shoes—can be found just about everywhere. Lucky for all of us, there are enough variations to accommodate anyone's skin tone, personality and mood. Even those who are decidedly anti-pink can't help but have a change of heart when choosing from a range of shades, from silver-frosted, to cotton candy, to electric neon.

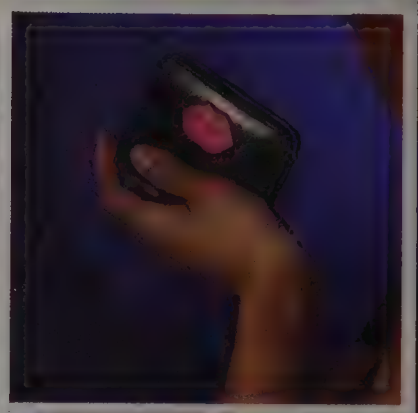
To make sure your accessories checklist is complete, make sure you have an assortment of pieces that you can use liberally as the days grow longer: belts, bags, pumps, hose, sunglasses, jewelry, scarves, and anything else that's fun, flirty and a little over-the-top. But no matter what you choose, the rule this spring is a no-holds-barred sensibility. Just as people layered on the leather and lace back in the '80s, overdoing it is back. If you're typically an accessory-shy person, now is the time to experiment. We encourage you to take the leap, and say goodbye to the winter blahs. **iB**

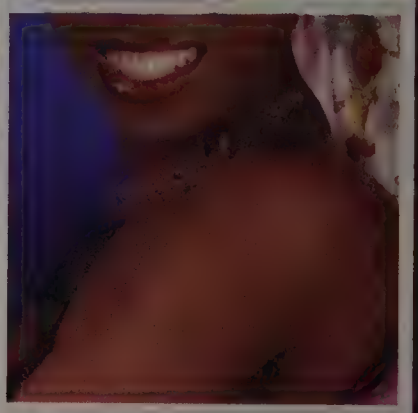


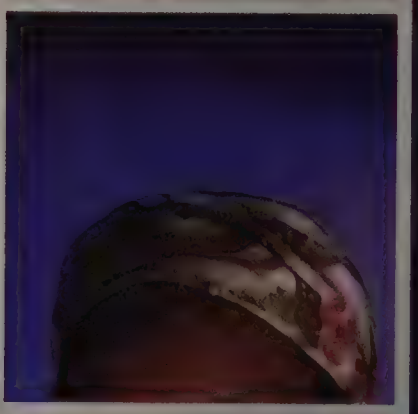




PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW SWAINE









Cut-out handle leather clutch, $175, available at DKNY.

Pink aviator sunglasses, $169 including single vision lens, available at See.

Earrings of Precious and Pink Tourmaline set in platinum with 1.77 karats of diamonds, $18,300, available at Shreve, Crump & Lowe.

Lamb leather wallet with fuchsia lining and lips embossed in fuchsia leather, $180, available at Sonia Rykiel.

Glass-beaded necklace, $42, available at Leila.

Little Princess scarf, pink, $250, available at Hermes of Paris.

Ring of intense rubellite mounted in 18K yellow gold and surrounded by 1.01 karats of diamonds, $6,600, available at Shreve, Crump & Lowe.

Beaded and bangled pink bracelets, $12-$20, available at Express.

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Face to Face

Spring's best beauty finds for men and women. PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN SHEFFIELD



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Clinique M lotion
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MAC eyeshadow
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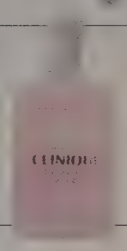




Nars cream blush in Mauritius
$20.00



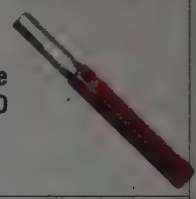
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An investment banker-spin instructor. A plumber-poet. A litigator-blues trumpeter. There's a surprising number of Bostonians who manage to squeeze in second careers beyond the 9-to-5 world.

BY MATTHEW ROBINSON AND RACHEL STRUTT



Tony Casserta says cycling is actually a lot like investment banking: They're both highly competitive, adrenaline-charged businesses.

DOUBLE DUTY

A day-in-the-life story about a lawyer is likely to elicit a big yawn. But in the case of trial lawyer Dan Rabinovitz, a glimpse into a typical 24-hour period reveals quite a complete change of persona and career—not unlike Clark Kent stepping into a phone booth and dashing out as Superman. Whereas Kent's metamorphosis involved a Lycra bodysuit and red cape, Rabinovitz's transformation involves a trumpet. But before entering the world of smoky bars and music, we'll take you where it all starts.

It's 5:30 on a cold February morning, and Rabinovitz jumps out of bed. After having breakfast with his wife, Holly, and two young sons, he leaves his Needham home for work at the downtown law firm Dwyer & Collora. By 8:30am, the 36-year-old lawyer is at his desk, already engrossed in his latest case: helping a local business protect its moniker, which happens to include the word "Harvard." Needless to say, the opponent in this case is a prestigious university with fierce financial muscle. But Rabinovitz isn't daunted. "They're pickin' on the wrong company with this one," says the confident litigator with a smile. Later in the day, Rabinovitz runs off to Middlesex Superior Court, where he successfully argues another client's case.

After this typically hectic day, Rabinovitz heads home. Now things start to get interesting. "This is when I trade in my wing tips for red python boots," says Rabinovitz of his sartorial switcheroo. Within an hour, the litigator is in his car, with his trumpet in the backseat, racing off to Johnny D's in Davis Square, where the lawyer-turned-trumpeter will accompany Luther "Guitar Junior" Johnson, the former band leader of Muddy Waters.

The club is smoky and packed. Onstage, Rabinovitz is delivering full-force blues with Luther and the Magic Rockers as if it were his full-time gig. Within the course of a few hours, the businessman has morphed into a blues musician. Not a bad act. And it's one Rabinovitz does about twice a month—whenever musician friends are swinging through town and are in need of a trumpeter. "I used to play a lot more often," says Rabinovitz. "Now that I have children, my priorities have shifted. But I will never put down my horn."

Rabinovitz isn't the only one who leads a double life. There's a surprising number of Bostonians who manage to squeeze in secondary careers beyond the limitations of the 9-to-5 world, people who leave one job to go to the next, doing something that fulfills them in a completely different way. For example, Sarah Pemberton Strong is a plumber who also writes novels and poetry. Then there's Stefan Shcherby, a Web technician at Forrester Research who is a regular stand-up comic at the Comedy Studio in Harvard Square and at the Chops Lounge on Boylston Street. Patty Lenz Bovie, management supervisor of new business at Arnold Worldwide, is an aspiring writer of children's books who is currently working on a creative project she began at Emerson College while finishing up her master's degree in fiction writing for children. The list goes on and on. These energetic Bostonians are not merely nighttime hobbyists but people who have achieved—or are looking to achieve—true recognition for their "extracurricular" activities.

Rabinovitz is clearly someone who has *already* achieved critical acclaim. From his early days as the youngest member of the orchestra at Newton's Beethoven School, he has gone on to share stages—and tour extensively—with the musicians like blues legend Son Seals, soul maestro Solomon Burke and rockabilly king Sleepy LaBeef. "Playing on the road with Sleepy was the best music education I could ever have gotten," says Rabinovitz. "I learned so much from LaBeef," Rabinovitz continues. "He knows thousands of songs, and he forced me to learn hundreds of them. I'd play by ear and have to do solos while performing live." He continues with a laugh: "I would take a 12-bar solo and absolutely butcher the thing. I feel pretty sorry for those audiences in the early days."

Rabinovitz is now preparing to accompany long-time hero Solomon Burke (writer of '60s hits like "Everybody Needs Somebody to Love" and "Cry to Me") when he's inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame March 19. Other pop icons ike Aerosmith, Queen, Paul Simon and Michael Jackson are also being inducted this year, so Burke and Rabinovitz will have a star-studded audience. "I can't believe he called me for such an occasion," says the confident litigator who seems modest when speaking about his music.

Pipes and pedals

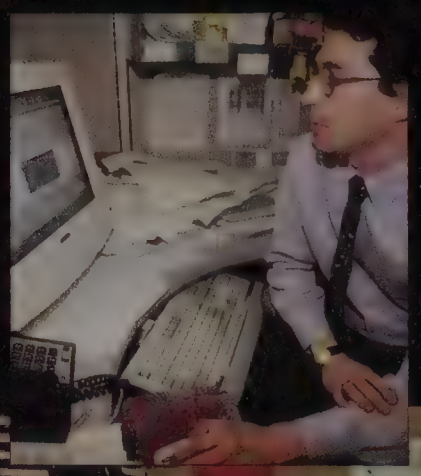
Some dual careerists are simply unwilling to let go of lifelong passions like music, poetry or athletics—activities that pay the bills only for a lucky few. For Rabinovitz, it wasn't so much a money issue, but the on-the-road lifestyle, that wasn't fit for a family man.

For Somerville-based Sarah Pemberton Strong, money—or rather, the lack of it—has always prevented her from solely pursuing writing, her primary passion. Not

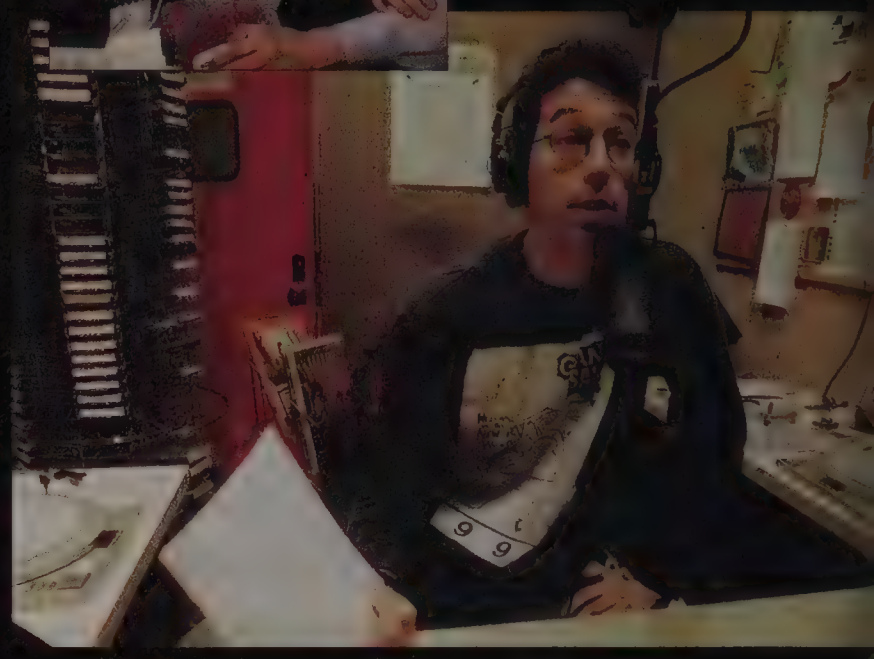
CHRIS BEAUDOIN



By day, a buttoned-up Dan Rabinovitz (inset) practices law. After dark, he plays alongside flamboyant Solomon Burke.



Jon Bernhardt (left) crunches numbers for an insurance company during daylight hours. He also works as a DJ for the *Breakfast of Champions* show at WBMR in Cambridge and plays the theremin with two different bands at night.



"I used to play a lot more often. Now that I have children, my priorities have shifted. But I will never put down my horn."

willing to accept a 40-hour-a-week job (as if such a thing still existed), Strong has always taken odd, part-time jobs that have allowed her to focus on literary pursuits. Currently, she pays the rent as a service-and-repair plumber.

Strong, who fixes leaky faucets and combats clogged drains an average of four days a week, says, "It's overwhelming to work so much and then write on top of that. Ideally, I'd like to only work 15 hours a week as a plumber." But, she adds, "I do like the balance of doing two very different things. Plumbing doesn't impinge on the literary part of my brain, and I enjoy it—although I don't feel it's what I was put on this earth to do."

Strong's double-duty lifestyle has paid off. Having recently found a publisher for her first book, *Burning the Sea*, a literary novel set in the Dominican Republic (due in January 2002 by Alyson), the plumber-novelist is sanguine about her literary career. In fact, she's already hard at work on her next novel, *The Fainting Room*. "The novel is the all-consuming beast," says the 33-year-old writer. "But if I don't have time to do what I love, it's like I haven't had enough to eat.... I *need* to do this."

Tony Casserta, a gifted amateur athlete who works days as an investment banker and senior vice president at Boston-based Leerink Swan & Co., is another local example of someone who squeezes a secondary career into an already busy day. These days, his passion for sports may have taken a back burner to banking—but this doesn't mean Casserta has abandoned the sports he's played all his life. Actually, quite the opposite is true.

In high school, Casserta was a starter on the football and hockey teams. And at Villanova, he was a stand-out on the baseball team. He was so good, in fact, that in 1981 Casserta tried out for the Yankees; unfortunately, he didn't make the cut. "After college, I got heavily into cycling," recalls Casserta, who competed in the 1984 Olympic cycling road race. "I began to find individual sports more rewarding than team sports because they depended on my own resolve," says Casserta, who is also an avid swimmer.

Although Casserta made a few attempts to pursue sports professionally, it wasn't in the cards. As he explains, "Less than one-tenth, or 1 percent, of cyclists are actually making a living. It's virtually impossible to do—Lance Armstrong is the exception." And so Casserta turned to something else that came naturally to him: the stock market.

"I started at Oppenheimer in New York and quickly learned that, like cycling, being an investor is also highly competitive. It's the same with my present job. I'm paid on commission and therefore I'm gauged by my performance." And like bicycle racing, working as an investment banker is an adrenaline-charged business, especially given the recent rumblings of the stock market. Such a job would wipe most people out, but not Casserta. Several times a week, either before or after work, Casserta switches gear from corporate to jock mode, teaching several different spinning classes around town.

"Exercise cycling [spinning] is a great way to finish off your day and clear your head," says the tireless Casserta. "It also utilizes my 20-plus years of experience in bicycle racing and invigorates me to come home to my wife, Laura, and my newborn son, Luke. I like to be upbeat when I'm with my family."

Whether it's spinning in the gym or long rides on the open road, Casserta always peddles for a cause. "I give the money I make from teaching spinning at four gyms in town to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute," says the 43-year-old veteran of many fund-raising rides, including the Pan-Mass Challenge for the Jimmy Fund and a cross-country ride for Multiple Sclerosis. "It allows me to pursue my personal athletic and fitness goals while helping people at the same time."

Lights, camera, action

Corporate headhunter Lisa Schiller is another Boston professional who carves out time to do charity work. Schiller, a board member of the Starlight Children's Foundation, helps with the organization's efforts to grant wishes to critically ill children. "I have always done charity work," she explains. This is especially remarkable when you consider that she has not one, but two, other careers that she juggles throughout the day.

"I wear three hats all day long," Schiller explains. First and foremost, she runs her own headhunting business. For more than a decade, she has recruited high-level executives for Internet companies and advertising agencies all around the world. This helps pay the bills and gives her the freedom to pursue her true passion: independent filmmaking.

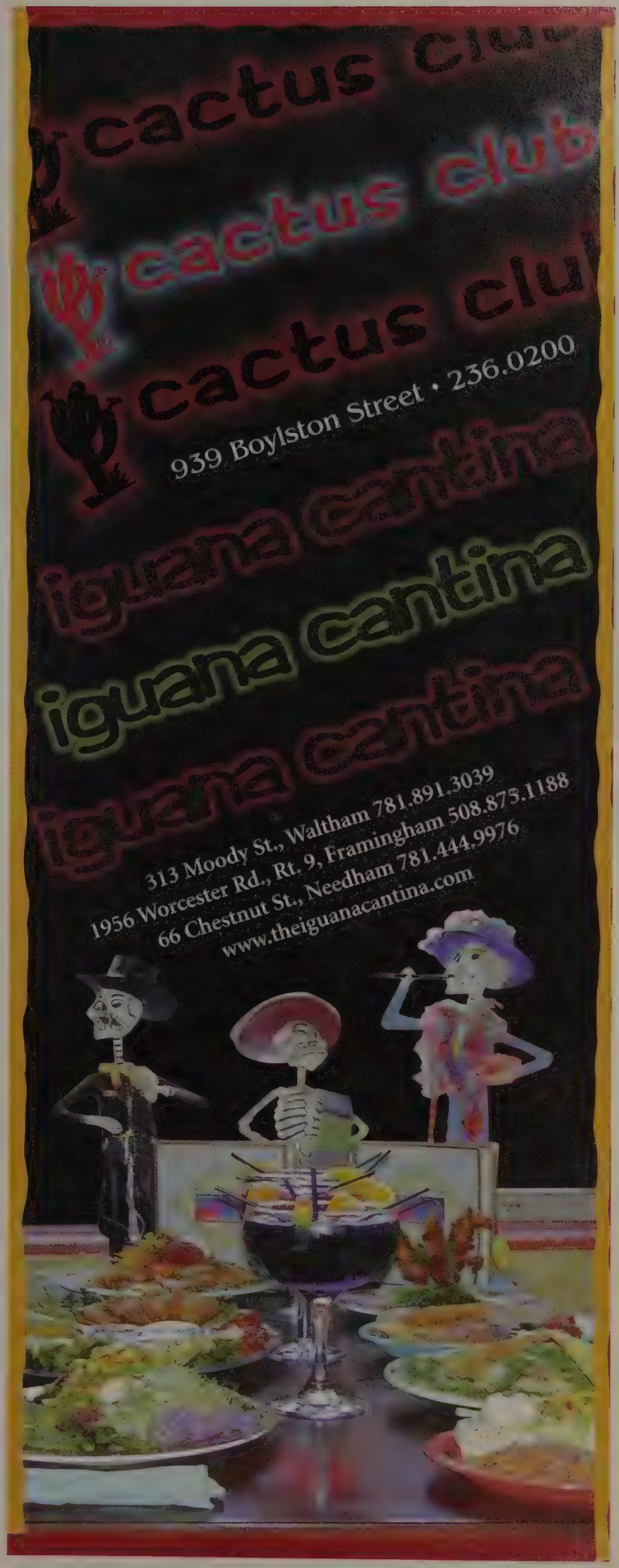
Before recently launching her own film production company, Schiller was executive producer of *Autumn Hearts*, a film about a family ripped apart by divorce that finds its way back together after 20 years. It played at Sundance and won the audience award for best feature film at the 1999 Nantucket Film Festival.

"When I did executive producing, I focused on general troubleshooting and raising capital," Schiller explains. Now she works as a producer for her new company, ChowdaHead Films, which she started with comedy writer Bill Robertson. "As a film producer, I develop projects and scripts, hire a director, do primary casting and engage in every other aspect of making a film, from concept to distribution." Life is busy at ChowdaHead. "We're currently working on three feature films—two comedies and a historical drama." The independent film company is run right out of her two-bedroom apartment in the North End, right beside the recruitment business.

Though they involve vastly different industries, Schiller says that headhunting, fund-raising and filmmaking share

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Lisa Schiller loves to produce films. And when she's not doing that, she's scouting top talent for her executive placement agency and acting as a board member of the charitable Starlight Foundation.

"I wear three hats all day long," says Lisa Schiller of her interwoven pursuits.

many of the same skills: networking, scouting the best possible talent and engaging in creative problem solving.

Other professionals, meanwhile, do something completely different in their after-hours pursuits. For example, take Jon Bernhardt, who works from 9 to 5 as an actuary for an insurance company based in Boston. "We're the guys who do the math for insurance companies," says Bernhardt. "It's not the most glamorous job, but it's varied enough to keep me interested."

Bernhardt may be an assiduous number cruncher by day, but in his free time, the actuary dedicates countless hours to music—both showcasing it and creating it. For the past 16 years, Bernhardt has been a DJ at WMBR, the radio station of his alma mater, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Every Friday morning from 8 to 10, this independent-rock connoisseur hosts the show called *Breakfast of Champions*, which features an eclectic mix of pop, psychedelic, punk and experimental music. Bernhardt's show features anything from The Green Pajamas to the Bevis Frond.

Bernhardt also plays the theremin—an electronic musical instrument that is best known for its special-effects qualities but can also be played as a concert instrument—in two local bands. He's co-founder of the Lothars, a band that features a whopping four theremin players and either a guitar or violin. The band has played gigs locally and as far afield as Seattle and London, and has recently released a CD titled *Oscillate My Metallic Sonatas*. While working at WMBR, Bernhardt learned of a band called the Pee Wee Fist. "They had a few songs they thought would go well with theremin," Bernhardt explains, "so I began to play with them. A few months later, I was in the band."

"I took this actuary job because the company was willing to let me come in late once a week," explains 37-year-old Bernhardt. "As long as I get my work done, they're OK. I have these different parts of my personality," says the New York transplant, "and the fact that I can be math guy during the day and music guy at night has allowed me to express both of them while staying sane."

Make it a double

What separates moonlighters from the rest of us who work an eight- or nine-hour day and then head home to make dinner, shuttle the kids to ball practice, do laundry or simply plop down on the couch to relax? An incredible reservoir of energy, a sense of accountability and a full-fledged commitment to fulfill dreams even when they aren't necessarily a 9-to-5 effort.

"Music is always inside of me. It's like breathing," says 33-year-old Michael Carreras, another moonlighter musician. "I am lucky that I have a talent to pull the work side, but the music still drives my spirit. Even if I could make hundreds of millions of dollars, like some of the people I work with, I can't say that I'd dedicate my whole life to the job."

As an inside sales global training manager who runs new recruits through his own "boot camp" at Artist Technology Group, Carreras has found a tribe of like-minded creative types. "I work for a company that very much encourages people like myself," Carreras says. "Our founders realized that some of the most amazing minds are those of the creative people—the artists. I think it has been this creativity that has allowed us to be as successful as we have."

Creativity. Drive. Devotion. These things make up the people who make up this multifaceted minority. "It takes a very special kind of person to do two things successfully," Carreras suggests. "It has to be part of who you are." iB



Dr. Craig Costanza has an active life beyond the dentist's chair.

Cavities and Curtain Calls

In his spare time, Revere dentist wrote a musical bound for Broadway

For a dentist, there's nothing quite like the satisfaction of filling a cavity. The buzz of the drill, the smell of burning tooth. And then there's root canal. But when those sublime pleasures grow stale, then what does a dentist do? One dentist faced with such a quandary was left with only one choice: Write a Broadway-bound musical about the life of King David of Bethlehem. *David—The Musical* is the brainchild of Dr. Craig Costanza of Revere, who was inspired back in 1981 to start working on the musical life of King David.

Unable to forgo the delights—and financial security—associated with the drill, Costanza was determined to do it all. "It meant waking up at 5 in the morning, working for a couple of hours before I went to the office, then again from 9 to 11 at night," says Costanza. He also used all his weekend mornings—but luckily, the script was completed before his first child was born, which was a good thing both for *David* and the family. "Family has always been priority No. 1," the doctor states emphatically. "I always said to my wife that if the play dissolved because of that, then it would just dissolve."

Costanza is no stranger to switching focus; at Boston University, he switched his major back and forth between biology and music many times. In addition, he played in a professional show band during and after college, which undoubtedly taught him a lot about how to divide his time between music and "the real world." During that period, he befriended Rich Mutkoski and Tim Murner, both of whom would later join the creative team of *David* as additional scriptwriter/lyricist and composer, respectively.

Costanza is modest when it comes to his dual professions: "I have a very, very understanding wife. Without her support, none of this would have happened. And it was great to get involved creatively with my college buddies again."

Friendship, a supportive marriage, fatherhood and, of course, dentistry—now that's an act of biblical proportions. David—The Musical *will play March 8-11 at the Emerson Majestic Theatre (824-8000). —Andrew Graham*

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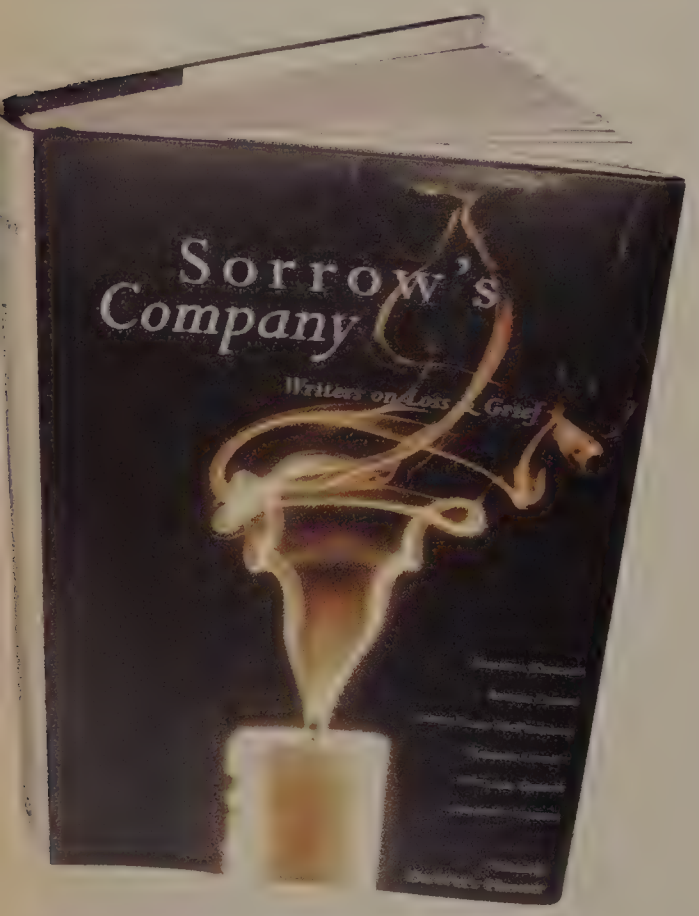
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Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



ILLUMINATING THOUGHTS ON DEATH

Sorrow's Company: Writers on Loss and Grief, edited by De Witt Henry, has 15 essays on death, by Margot Livesey, James Alan McPherson, Mary Doty, Ann Hood and Andre Dubus, among others.

If there's one thing that is absolutely universal, it is death: everyone else's, and our own. De Witt Henry, writing teacher at Emerson College and founder of *Ploughshares* literary magazine, has brought together essays on the great inevitable. Though they all contain elements of the heavy, grueling aspects of dying, the counterweight is that they are wonderfully literary, which is a fine poultice indeed. The fierce soul battles within the failing body—evident when Ann Hood's father enthusiastically urges her to go find some curative "miracle dirt" in Mexico. Meanwhile, with anger at her brother and awareness of the persistence of the AIDS virus that afflicts him, Jamaica Kincaid comments: "On one side, there is life, and the thin shadow of death hovers over it; and on the other, there is death with a small patch of life attached to it." The claustrophobia some experience at the end of life brings out many surprisingly beautiful intimacies. But no one is more fun—yes, fun—than the exuberant Anatole Broyard, who celebrates death's surprising carnival: "All your life you think you have to hold back your craziness, but when you're sick you can let it out in all its garish colors."



From left: Kendall Luce, developer Stephen Najarian and Kitty Vickery at The Village at Broadway.

NEW DIGS MAINTAIN THE GRACE OF THE OLD

Now known as The Village at Broadway, a series of architecturally historic buildings in Cambridge have been renovated into condominiums and townhouses. At DeWolfe call Kitty Vickery 864-8566 (ext. 279) or Kendall Luce (ext. 290)

Next door, therapists ply their peaceful trade. Just across the way, meditators and holistic types ply an even more peaceful one. Spaciously located in the middle are two brotherly condominium units made of renovated Cambridge houses that still look blessedly like houses. The "shoulder to the road" building, built in 1846 by one George Wyatt, is Greek Revival. The other one is a many-angled, gabled Italianate Mansard-style house that sprouts a wonderful tower suggesting a place where happy families might live in a children's book. Connecting them in the back are a series of townhouses; although they resemble the older buildings, they're in fact newly constructed.The interior of all five units is airy and spacious, full of twists and turns, high ceilings with medallions that make you want to look up, period moldings, a bow front, beautifully paneled windows and (gas) fireplaces. They all are on two stories.The building on the left has windows upstairs, not quite floor to ceiling, that cozily fill the space.

In front, rather than presenting a den of ugly garages, there's a streetscape of walkways and grass, which helps "the village" maintain a gracious, historic look.

POLES TO QUICKEN THE PULSE

Exerstriders are simple poles that exercise your upper body along with the lower part. For more information, call Creative Walking at 800-762-9255 to order. Instructive video included. About $50.

In the never-ending search for satisfying cardiovascular exercise, here's something that combines The Fitness-Seeking Organism (you) with the sparest kind of equipment: The Exerstrider. Exerstriders are the newest invention of former skier and runner Tom Rutlin. They work much like ski poles, but they're designed for the snowless sidewalks of everyday life. Unlike the ethic of extreme sports, which usually involve a lot of huffing and sweating and, really, abusing the body, Exerstriders follow the natural striding quality of a brisk walk while adding significant upper-body exercise, so walking around becomes a total-body workout. Add in resistance against the poles, and you bring nearly every muscle of the body into play—increasing the demand for oxygen, and burning 25 percent more calories than walking. And best of all, with the muscles in your upper body bearing some of weight, the load's off those suffering beasts of burden: legs, hips and knees. The video demonstrates that the right action is a fairly restrained one, which lessens the weirdo effect of roaming the boulevards. The equipment doesn't look like it's doing much. But after striding around and feeling your heart pump, it's clear: It is!



CONDOMINIUMS: WENDY MIMRAN; BOOK: RACHEL BROMBERG

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INSIDE: Magazine maestro changes tunes; a pocket-sized restaurant guide; a future star

REVIEW

Je m'appelle Pigalle

The Theatre District's new French eatery does justice to its Gallic namesake.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Place Pigalle is in Paris, just up the Boulevarde de Clichy from the famed Moulin Rouge and down the hill from the Basilica of Sacre-Coeur. While few neighborhoods in Paris are safe from gentrification, this quarter, wedged in between the 18th and 9th Arrondissements, retains just enough of its sexy flavor to stand as a symbol for the saucy, slightly risqué ambiance that "Mighty" Joe Young and Sam Lewis had in mind when they wrote "How do you keep them down on the farm, after they have seen Paree?" In naming their restaurant after Place Pigalle, Marc Orfaly and Kerri Foley are sure to strike a responsive note in the heart of Francophiles. After tasting the imaginatively conceived and carefully executed food of Orfaly and experiencing the gracious, meticulous service overseen by Foley, even non-Francophiles will become converts to the Gallic cause.

The inside of this small bistro is charmingly understated. The low ceiling includes a vaulted section, supported by a thicket of black columns. Striped café curtains cozily shield patrons from the dinginess of South Charles Street. Teardrop lighting fixtures over the bar and wrought-iron sconces with beaded shades, somewhere between Victorian and art deco, provide the illumination, and there is a large, framed mirror at one end of the small dining room. Crisp white nappery adorned with a simple votive candle and oversized wine glasses set the tables. Recorded French music (such as Edith Piaf) completes the ambiance.



Chef/co-owner Marc Orfaly executes a short but satisfying menu.

Pigalle has a credible wine list, predominantly French, with a sprinkling of bottles for under $30. However, Pigalle also has an enlightened corkage policy—$10—which enables one to bring distinguished wines at a very reasonable net cost. Accordingly, I availed myself the expertise of Marc Sachs, one of Boston's premiere wine experts, and procured a delightful Collioure that he promised would be just the thing to accompany cassoulet. Not only was he right, but the gracious waitstaff at Pigalle steamed the label off the bottle for us for future reference.

Pigalle has a limited menu, offering five appetizers, two salads, two fish and four meat main courses, and one or two specials every evening. Pigalle's abbreviated menu deserves applause, not censure, since it recognizes the inherent limitations with which a conscientious chef, working out of a small kitchen in a 50-seat restaurant, must cope, in order to ensure that ingredients are fresh, and that all of his offerings meet exacting standards.

Besides, limited as they are, Pigalle's menu choices have something for almost everyone. Terrine of confit goose, with black truffles, fois gras and Armagnac-soaked prunes ($18), was pricey but impressive. Rich, mellow fois gras alternating with layers of shredded conserved goose, accompanied by luscious drunken prunes, was at once assertive, subtle, sweet, salty and tangy. Even better was the tuna Nicoise ($11). Although listed among the salads, as in "salade Nicoise," it was closer to sashimi. Superb slices of peppercorn-encrusted, slightly seared tuna were artfully presented with slender green beans, artichoke hearts, sliced fingerling potatoes, tiny olives, sliced egg, fennel puree and extra virgin olive oil.

On another evening, we enjoyed the leek and peppered goat cheese tart ($10). The sweetness of the onions coexisted felicitously with the savory goat cheese and an accompaniment of pleasantly sharp greens. Finally, but certainly not least among the appetizers, was the warm vichyssoise soup with oysters, crème fraiche and caviar ($7). Skeptical of warm vichyssoise, we were thrilled with the result: Flavorful potatoes and leeks were punctuated by three or four voluptuous poached oysters, bringing a salty, oceanic kiss to this creamy nectar.



For a $10 corkage fee, diners at Pigalle can bring their own bottle. Left: Cassoulet of duck confit, braised lamb and slab bacon.



Main courses included cassoulet of duck confit, braised lamb and slab bacon ($19). I once spent a week scouring Paris in search of the "ultimate" cassoulet—a peasant dish that originates from the French town of Castelnaudary but is served all around the French capital at outposts established by cooks from France's Southwest. I have seldom encountered a better cassoulet than that offered at Pigalle. Served in a hot earthenware casserole, its preserved duck, lamb and slab bacon are simmered to the fall-off-the-fork tenderness along with white beans, tomato and assertive herbs. Also excellent was the steak frites of rib eye, herbed butter and creamed spinach ($19.50), a cut of grilled beef served on the bone, rare as ordered, tender yet resilient, and accompanied by rich, buttery creamed spinach and shoe-string potatoes. Crispy duck, sautéed spinach and potatoes *boulangere* ($23), featured thick slices of duck breast, covered with fat fried crisp. The fat, while a little chewy, intensified and concentrated the pleasantly gamey flavor of the duck. The potato boulangere turned out to be hefty cylinder of sliced potatoes layered with crème fraîche on a base of shredded, preserved duck, topped with bacon bits and allspice. Finally among the main courses, poached cod, Hollandaise gratin, glazed salsify and whole-grain mustard ($21) produced a decent piece of firm, white-fleshed fish, which is grilled after being painted with Hollandaise. Alongside the assertive flavors of other Pigalle offerings—the terrine, cassoulet, goat cheese tart—the cod seemed absolutely tame.

So enjoyable were Pigalle's appetizers and main courses that we found the desserts (all $7) a little bit of a letdown. While the crème brulee was one of the better exemplars of this Boston restaurant staple, the lemon tart arrived in a tough, doughy crust that did not do justice to the delightfully sweet/tart lemon filling, whole raspberries and raspberry coulis, and accompanying scoop of rich vanilla ice cream. Chocolate "falling cake" seemed dry until we reached the warm, gooey center. A little more generous hand on the crème anglaise would have gone far to ameliorate the dryness.

Service at Pigalle was impeccable. After one of us tipped over a wine glass, someone was at our table almost instantaneously with a clean white napkin to cover the spill. Waitresses were not only efficient and gracious, they were knowledgeable as well, able and willing to speak about the food, its ingredients and preparation, with polite authority. Plates arrived from the kitchen hot. On one evening, when a kitchen miscue resulted in an extended delay in the serving of our appetizers, the waitress appeared with an *amuse bouche* of steak tartar on tiny rounds of brioche and an honest explanation.

Seldom do food, ambiance and service—not to mention great value for the money—converge as they do at Pigalle. It has the whole package. Vive la France. **iB**

Pigalle

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96.9 FM Talk's Jay Severin, producers Shannon Cooper, Jimmy Carter and Amy Brooks of WBOS are caught on tape for *Chronicle* on WCVB, Channel 5.

inside RACK

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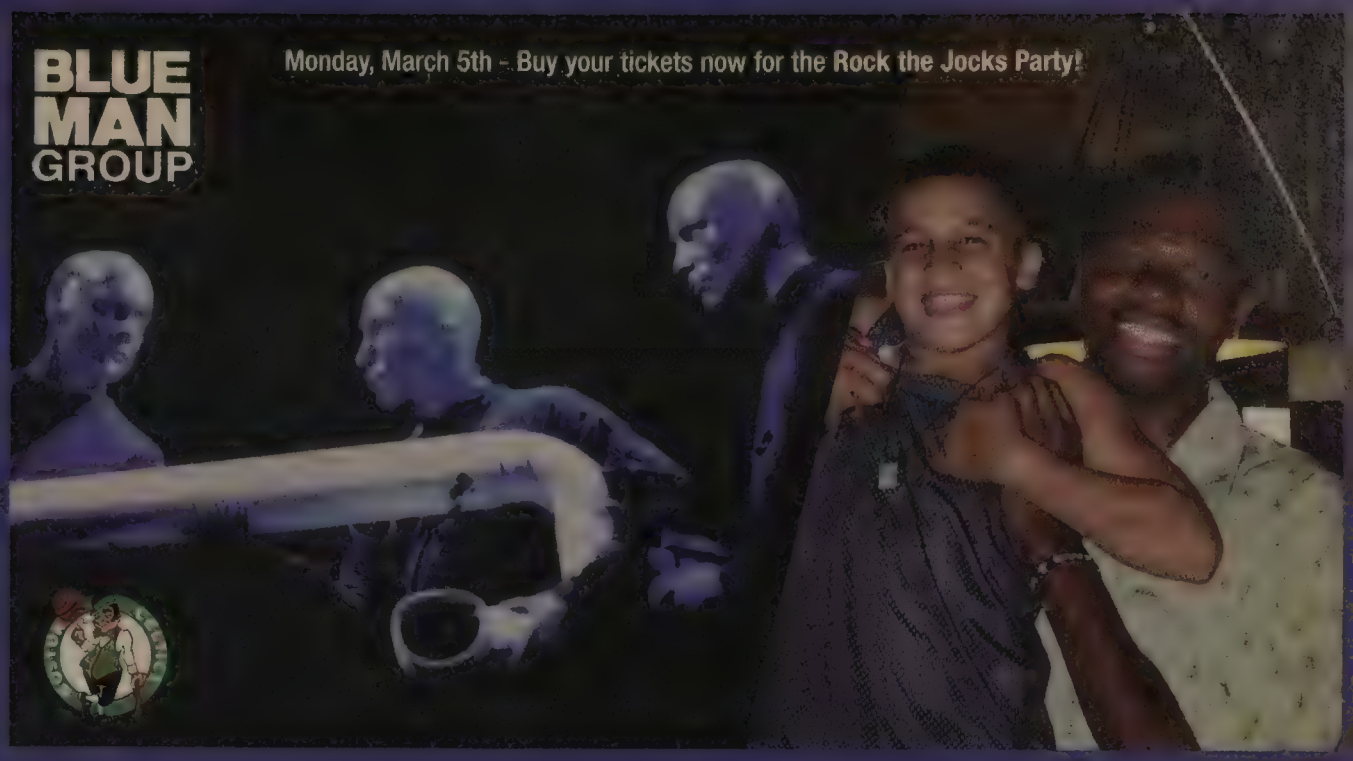
Wednesday, March 7th – Rock the Jocks Party with the Celtics! Starring Blue Man Group to benefit The Fannie Mae Foundation. Buy your tickets now before they sell out!



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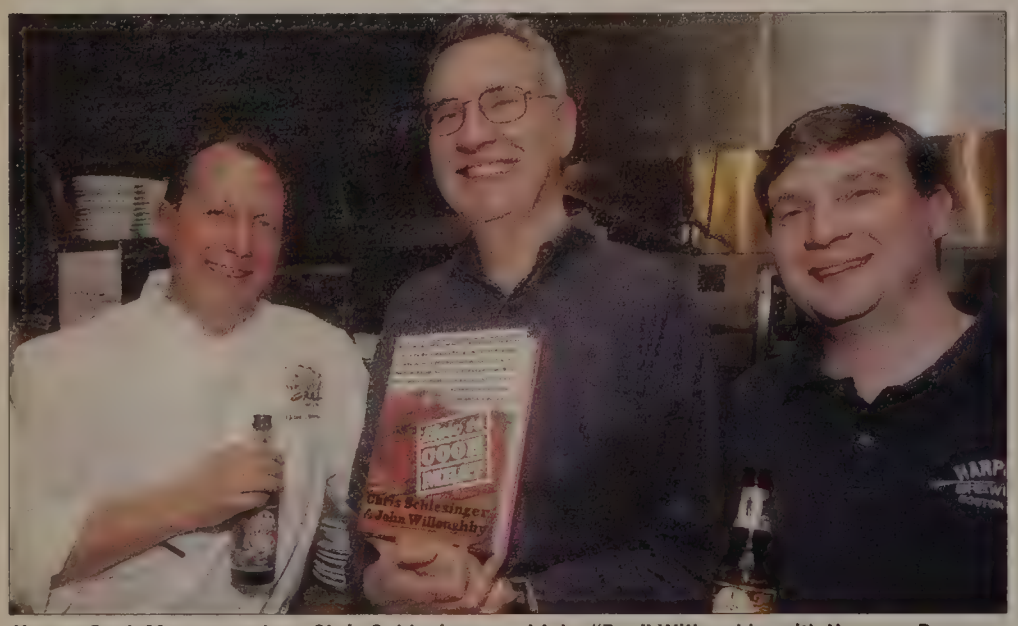


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DISH

What's up, Doc?

Wordsmith Willoughby goes *Gourmet*... St. Boltoph's is back. BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



How to Cook Meat **co-authors Chris Schlesinger and John "Doc" Willoughby with Harpoon Brewery honcho Al Marzi at The East Coast Grill before Willoughby left for his new job at *Gourmet*.**

So, what's happening at *Cook's Illustrated* magazine after the departure of senior editor **John "Doc" Willoughby**? A flurry of activity in preparation for the launch of a new Boston restaurant guide (yes, another restaurant guide). Expected to make its appearance in late April or early May, "The Cook's Guide: Boston Restaurants 2001-2002" will list the top 200 restaurants in the greater Boston area, along with ratings and comments drawn from a survey of Boston-area Cook's readers.

How will it compare to the Zagat Survey? Well, besides its intentionally limited scope, it will be genuinely pocket-sized, fastidiously designed with a round-cornered leather-textured cover and printed on high-quality paper. Don't look for it at your local bookstore—Cook's plans to sell the guide exclusively through the *Cook's Illustrated* Web site and Amazon.com.

If ever a restaurant site needed a feng shui guide, it's the former **St. Botolph's** /formerly **Harvey's**/formerly **The Good Life Uptown** in the South End. This is a great location—West Newton Street at St. Botolph—and a charming building. Now it's called St. Botolph's again, and executive chef Brian Hill, formerly of **Figs**, is heading up a kitchen that's turning out tasty fare at reasonable prices. You won't feel like a gastronomic wimp if you opt for the crisp roasted chicken with toasted almond sauce, broccoli rabe and plump grappa-spiked raisins. Best bargain: A generously portioned half-order of cannelloni verde, handmade herb pasta around roast chicken, richly sauced with bechamella and basil oil, is just $9.

Prediction department: What makes chef de cuisine **Gabriel Frasca**, of **Aquitaine Bis** in Chestnut Hill, a likely future star? His good looks? Undeniable culinary skills? A genial personality that gracefully accommodates the notoriously demanding nature of the local clientele? All of the above, plus his ability to recognize and utilize talent whenever it turns up. Turns out my appetizer of salmon tartare, sparkling with clean flavors of citrus, cucumber and mint, was actually prepared by a Brazilian dishwasher whose potential Frasca noticed and then put to good use.

Meanwhile, Frasca's girlfriend, former **Truc** chef **Amanda Lydon**, has signed on as executive chef for **Metro**, a French brasserie slated to open in May at the site of the former **Cottonwood Café** in Porter Square.

Attention, starving artists of Fort Point Channel! Check out the newly opened **Lucky's** on Congress Street for lunch, lounging and dining in a retro-funky setting. **Sonsie** executive chef **Bill Poirier** created the menu with new sous chef **Bella Peruso**. Expect fare that's homey and hearty, ranging from housemade soups, pastas and pizzas to burgers and chicken quesadillas to "Bella's Meatloaf wrapped in bacon."

If you've finished your Valentine's chocolates, then it's time to visit this year's version of **Le Meridien**'s Saturday afternoon Chocolate Bar in the **Café Fleuri**. Pastry chef **Christophe Heyt** has put his own stamp on the featured confections, with treats such as a Basque-influenced chocolate cherry tart. This latest edition of The Chocolate Bar is even allergy-sensitive: Chef Heyt says he's focused more on fruit than nuts, and items are labeled, so you can sample sans anxiety. **iB**

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Bomboa Carnival
35 Stanhope St., Boston (236-6363). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 6, 6pm ($45 for three courses) and 8pm ($60 for four courses). Dancing at 11pm. Celebrate Carnivale with cuisine from chefs **Marc Orfaly** of Pigalle, **Anthony Susi** of Sage and **Pino Mafeo** of New York's AZ restaurant.

Boston Wine Festival 2000
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (888-660-WINE). www.bhh.com. *Through April 6.* This three-month celebration features dinners with wine makers, along with educational seminars. •March 1: Hess Collection Winery •March 2: Wines of Bordeaux •March 6: Chalone Vineyard •March 7: Simi Winery •March 8: Marimar Torres Estate •March 12: Robert Pecota Winery •March 13: Rudd Winery.

Brewery Dinner
Cambridge Brewing Company, One Kendall Square, Cambridge (494-1994). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. March 10, 6-10pm. $35. Enjoy five courses paired with five beers. Brewers will be present for questions.

Celebrity Chefs Culinary Program
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James St., Boston (267-4430). Sat., 1-3pm. $40. Learn basic cooking techniques. •March 3: **Laurent Poulain**, executive chef at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel •March 10: **Hiroko Shimbo**, author of *The Japanese Kitchen*.

Celebrity Guest Chef Dinner
Bomboa, 35 Stanhope St., Boston (236-6363). www.bomboa.com *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Feb. 28, 6pm.* This dinner features the culinary styling of Natalie Jacobson (WCVB-Channel 5), Susan Wornick (WCVB-Channel 5) and Joyce Kulhawik (WBZ-Channel 4) as well as Bomboa's **E. Michael Reidt** and Third World Productions' **Felino Samson**.

Latin Dinner Series
Chez Henri, One Shepard St., Cambridge (354-8980). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. First two weeks of March. $36. Chef **Paul O'Connell** prepares a three-course Latin dinner.

Meet the Master: Jacques Pepin
Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-9852). •Feb. 28, 6-9pm, $80: **Jacques Pepin** prepares a festive meal, paired with wines. *•March 1, 6:30pm, $125:* Dine at Julien at Le Meridien with Jacques Pepin. Chef **Mark Sapienza** will replicate the entire meal that Pepin demonstrated the night before.

Radius' Cooking Class
8 High St., Boston (426-1234). March 10, 11am-2pm. $125. **Christopher Myers** joins chef **Michael Schlow** for the three-course cooking class, "Perfect Pastas and Righteous Risotto with Wines from Italy."

Rialto's Cooking Class
One Bennett Street, Cambridge (661-5050). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 10, 11am. $75. Chef **Jody Adams** teaches a cooking class entitled "Early Spring Green Relief."

Tuscan Wine Dinner
Angelo's Ristorante, 575 Boylston St., Boston (536-4045). March 6, 6:30pm. $75. **Randy Sheahan**, executive editor of *The Quarterly Review of Wines*, hosts a five-course dinner, prepared by chef **Angelo Caruso**, featuring select wines from the Antinori Vineyard in Florence, Italy.

Williams Sonoma Cooking Demo
Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (262-3080). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •March 3 and 10, 12-2pm: Cookbook author **Nancy Harmon Jenkins** and chef **Domenico Maggi** prepare food from the Puglia region of Italy. •March 11, 10:30am-12pm. Take a cooking class with Jenkins and Maggi.

Wine and Chinese Food
Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-9852). March 5, 6pm. $50. **Mat Schaffer**, food critic from the *Boston Herald*, and **Howie Rubin** of Bauer Wines pair different wines with a Chinese banquet at King Fung Garden in Chinatown.

Wine Tasting Dinner
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. March 1, 6:45pm. $85. The MFA's Fine Arts Restaurant and California's Zaca Mesa Winery present a four-course wine-tasting dinner.

Wine 202
Wine Experiences Inc., 20-A Dartmouth St., Boston (859-7170). $45 per session. Wine educator **Dellie Rex** teaches these classes for wine aficionados who already know the basics. •March 8: white wine •March 15: red wine.

TASTY TIDBIT

ITALIAN TO BOOT



Chef Domenico Maggi

The heel of Italy is coming to Boston. As appetizing as that may sound, we reassure you that when the chefs from Puglia arrive with their wine and food on March 3-11, you'll want to book a reservation. "Puglia is relatively untouched by tourism," says Annie Bonney of Oldways Preservation and Exchange Trust, which sponsors the visit. "It's known for its peasant-style food, featuring an abundance of fresh vegetables, legumes, whole grains and seafood." Puglia also produces two-thirds of Italy's olive oil. Throughout the week, No. 9 Park, Mamma Maria and Southend Galleria will feature an Apulian menu prepared by a guest chef from Puglia. Italian chefs will be at venues around town hosting cooking demos, tastings and cooking classes with cookbook author Nancy Harmon Jenkins (*Flavors of Puglia*). Wine tastings will be held at Gordon's Fine Wines in Waltham, DeLuca's Market Wine Cellar on Beacon Hill, and Hi Rise in Cambridge. Visit *www.oldwayspt.org* or call 896-4868 for more information. *Mamma Maria, 3 North Square, Boston (523-0077); No. 9 Park, 9 Park St., Boston (742-9991); Southend Galleria, 480A Columbus Ave., Boston (236-5252).*

TOP LEFT: WENDY MIMRAN

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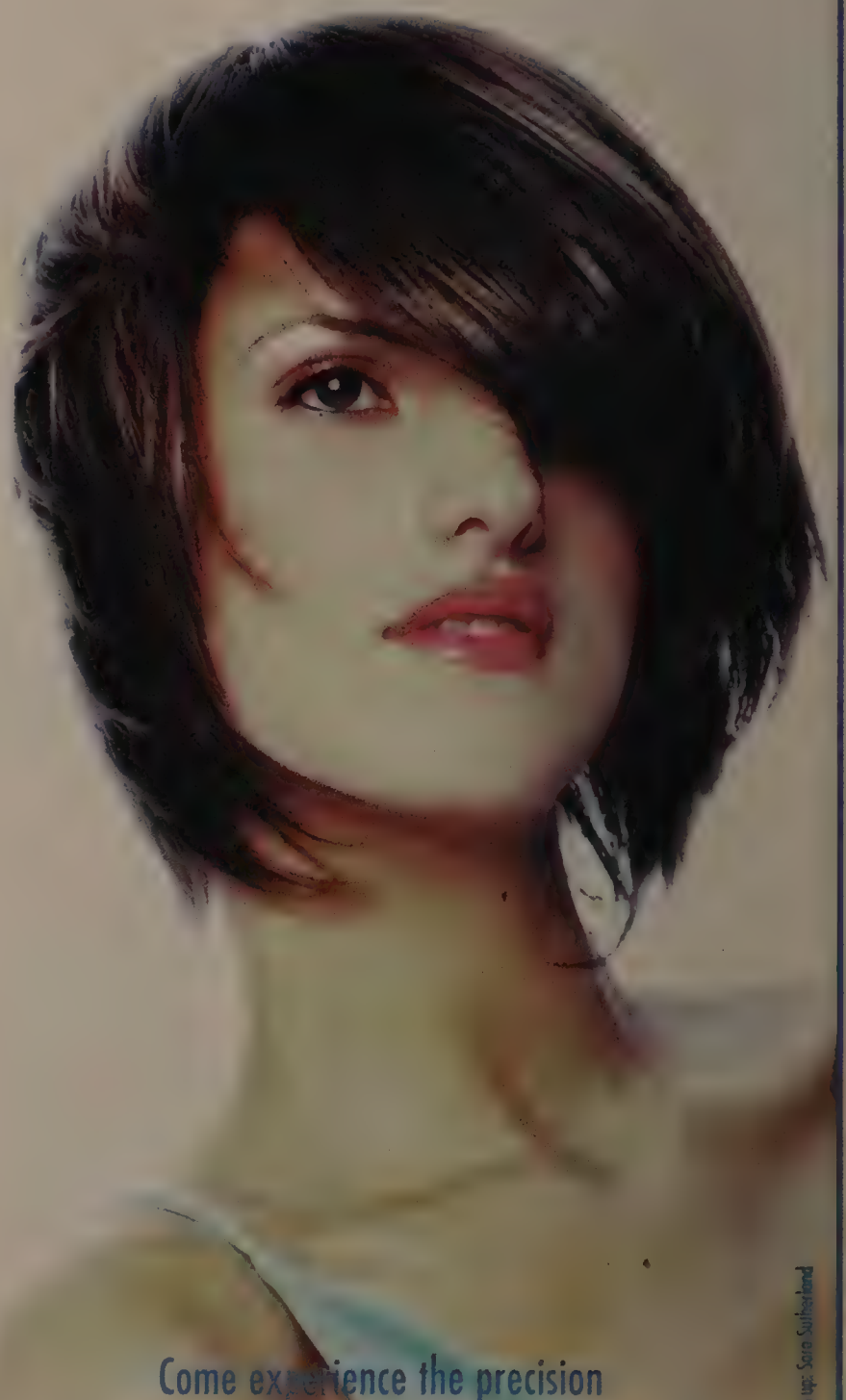
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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 50

PERFORMING ARTS 52

ART 54

FILM 58

BOOKS & POETRY 62

EDUCATION 63

DANCE CLUBS 64

MUSIC 66

CLASSICAL MUSIC 72

GAY & LESBIAN 74

BODY & MIND 76

CHILDREN 76

SPORTS 76

AROUND TOWN 77

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

CityScope, Comedy,

Education, Sports,

Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

improper picks



TUE./MARCH 13

Music: Henry Rollins

Tattooed tough guy and alt-rocker Henry Rollins has been very busy. In addition to churning out one rock album after another, he's been around the world touring with the band, in the studio working on the next band album, on the set of three different movies and making guest appearances on TV. Not to mention writing books and poetry, performing spoken-word tours and writing a magazine column. Now, the multimedia muscle man has just come out with the spoken-word *A Rollins in the Wry* (Feb. 20 on Quarterstick Records), which was recorded from his series of weekly shows at the Cafe Luna club in Los Angeles. Still as self-deprecating as ever (he's got a track titled *Death to Poets*), the comedic album tackles subjects as far reaching as Rite-Aid customers to his own attempts using pick-up lines. Rollins performs at Avalon March 13. *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*

FRI./MARCH 2 - SAT./MARCH 3

CityScope: Harpoon St. Patrick's Festival

Why celebrate St. Paddy's Day once when you can toast the patron saint of Ireland twice in one month? Harpoon Brewery kicks off shamrock season a bit early with plenty of beer and traditional Irish music and rock 'n' roll by Big Bad Bollocks, Rippopotamus and Dennis Sullivan March 2-3. Lest Guinness fans be disappointed by their beloved beer's absence from the tap, Harpoon brewers recommend their seasonal Hibernian Ale, an Irish-style, medium- to full-bodied red ale with a slightly fruity taste. More than 4,000 people are expected to dance a jig and dig into some corned beef and cabbage from South Boston's Farragut House Restaurant. *Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-HAR-POON). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Shuttle to brewery. March 2, 5:30-11pm; March 3, 2-11pm. $10 (includes one beer).*

MON./MARCH 12 - TUE./MARCH 13

Books: Scene of the Rhyme

The Cambridge Center for Adult Education's two-day poetry festival—a verse-filled collaboration between bards and minstrels—starts on Saturday with an slew of short performances by an array of local poets. The afternoon is filled with events—lots of workshops and readings by Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Yusef Komunyakaa, Kevin Bowen, Olga Broumas, Yvette Leaphart, Zilla McCue and Li-Min Mo. Also, performance poet Sekou Sundiata demonstrates her word-play expertise along with Elena Georgiou. Afterwards, the spoken-word party gets plugged in at the Lizard Lounge as hip-hop roof-raiser Mr. Lif takes the mike. The next day, Jimmy Tingle hosts the Cambridge Poetry Awards, which honor creative contributors to the poetry community. *56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6778). March 12, 10:30am-evening; March 13, 2-4pm. $25.*

MICHAEL CHILDERS



TUE./FEB. 27 - SUN./MARCH 4

Art: MIT Museum's Hall of Hacks Exhibition

The witty pranksters at MIT have carried out an unbelievable array of hacks over the years—among them, exploding a weather balloon on the playing field of the 1982 Harvard-Yale football game, and dismantling a police car and then reconstructing it on top of the Great Dome, complete with flashing lights, a lifelike police woman and a half-eaten box of donuts. Hacks at MIT are a longstanding tradition. As of March 4, the MIT Museum's Hall of Hacks, an exhibition of some of the more ingenious and outrageous pranks, will close for good (after 10 years running). You can cast your vote for the best MIT hack and submit suggestions about where on campus to enshrine the famous police car hack during Ultimate Hack Week, Feb. 27-March 4. We're rooting for the snow-maker placed in a dormitory. *MIT Museum, 265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. $5.*



THU./MARCH 8

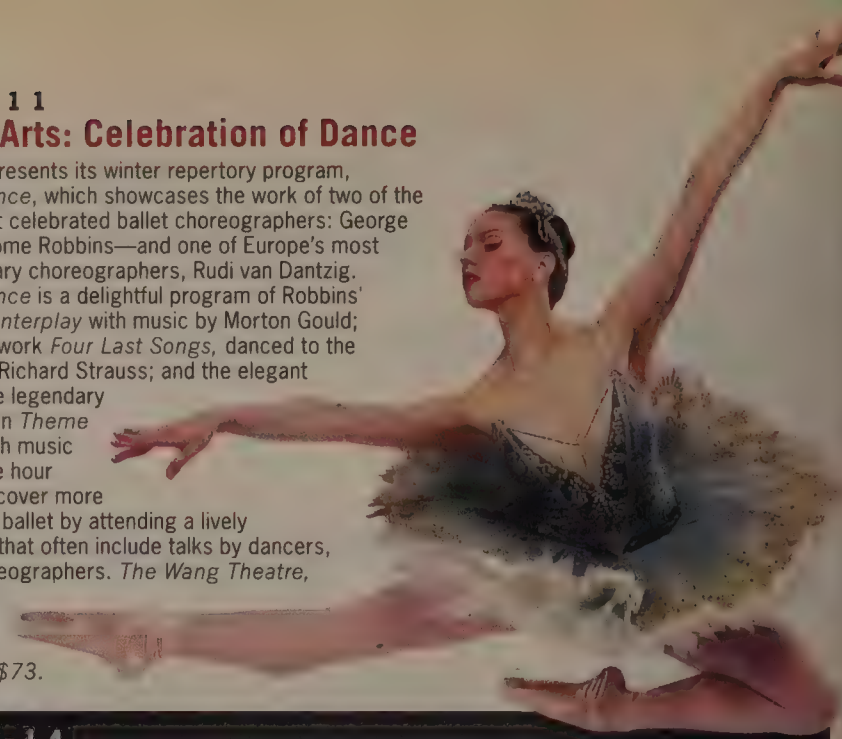
Spring Fashion Show

Relying upon a groundhog to tell you how long winter will be seems a bit haphazard, doesn't it? Just a tad. The real way to figure out that spring is just around the corner is the presence of the IMPROPER's Spring Fashion issue on the stands. We're inviting the public to celebrate the blooming of crocuses and daffodils at the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN Spring Fashion Event at the Roxy March 8. Some 1,000 people are expected to revel in the spring fashions of DKNY at this exclusive Boston showing, produced by IMPROPER fashion editor Samantha House and the Roxy's Lisa DesPres. There'll be live music, hip-hop dancers and complimentary hors d'oeuvres from 6-7pm. The fashion show starts at 8pm sharp. Proceeds benefit the Leslie's Links Ewings Sarcoma Fund at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. *The Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6-10pm. $10 donation.*

MARCH 1-11

Performing Arts: Celebration of Dance

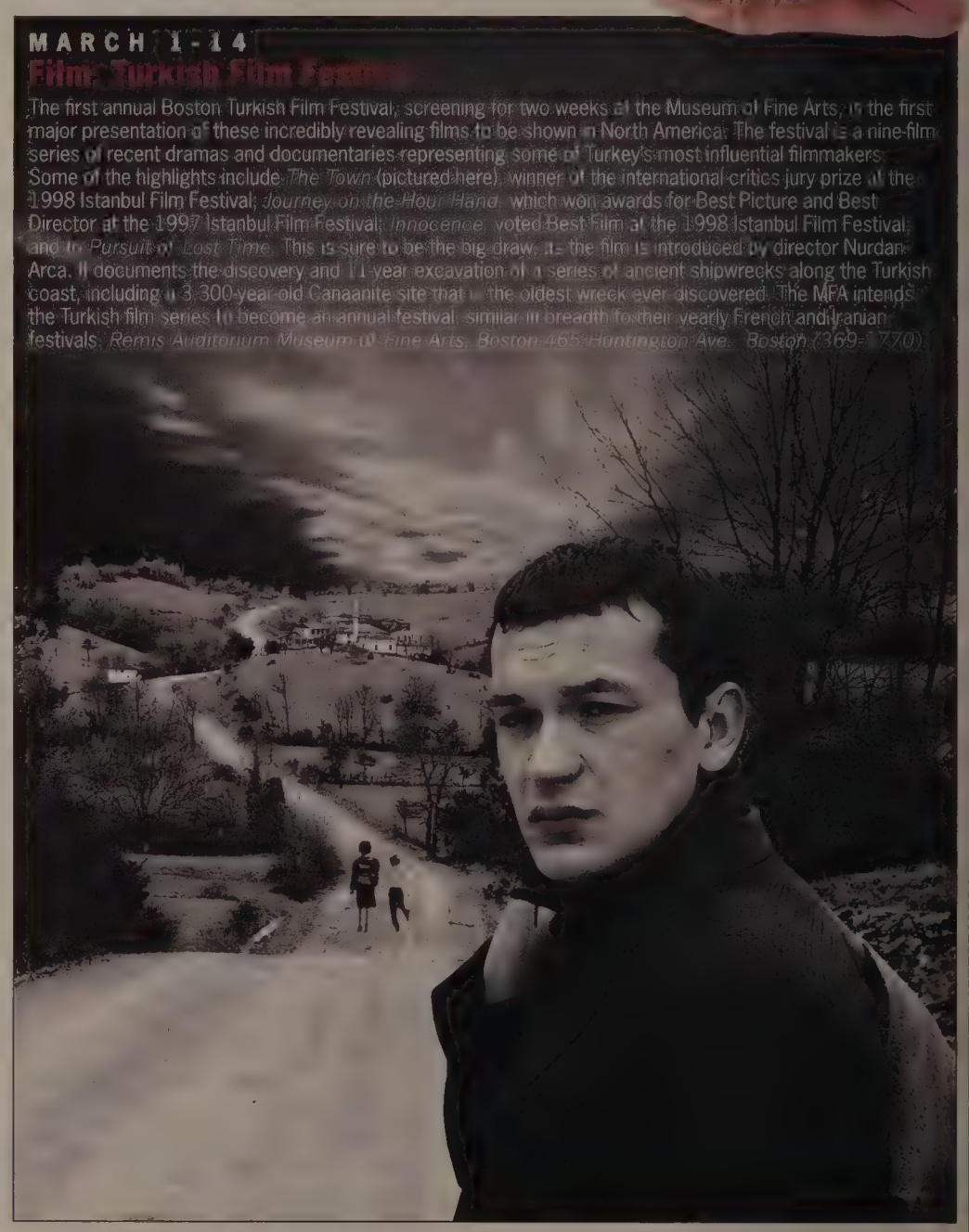
The Boston Ballet presents its winter repertory program, *Celebration of Dance*, which showcases the work of two of the 20th century's most celebrated ballet choreographers: George Balanchine and Jerome Robbins—and one of Europe's most notable contemporary choreographers, Rudi van Dantzig. *Celebration of Dance* is a delightful program of Robbins' lighthearted, jazzy *Interplay* with music by Morton Gould; Dantzig's dramatic work *Four Last Songs*, danced to the evocative songs of Richard Strauss; and the elegant choreography of the legendary George Balanchine in *Theme and Variations*, with music by Tchaikovsky. One hour prior to curtain, discover more about the art of the ballet by attending a lively discussion session that often include talks by dancers, musicians and choreographers. *The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont Street, Boston (800-447-7400). March 1-11. $23-$73.*



MARCH 1-14

Film: Turkish Film Festival

The first annual Boston Turkish Film Festival, screening for two weeks at the Museum of Fine Arts, is the first major presentation of these incredibly revealing films to be shown in North America. The festival is a nine-film series of recent dramas and documentaries representing some of Turkey's most influential filmmakers. Some of the highlights include *The Town* (pictured here), winner of the international critics jury prize at the 1998 Istanbul Film Festival; *Journey on the Hour Hand*, which won awards for Best Picture and Best Director at the 1997 Istanbul Film Festival; *Innocence*, voted Best Film at the 1998 Istanbul Film Festival; and *In Pursuit of Lost Time*. This is sure to be the big draw, as the film is introduced by director Nurdan Arca. It documents the discovery and 11 year excavation of a series of ancient shipwrecks along the Turkish coast, including a 3,300-year-old Canaanite site that is the oldest wreck ever discovered. The MFA intends the Turkish film series to become an annual festival, similar in breadth to their yearly French and Iranian festivals. *Remis Auditorium Museum of Fine Arts, Boston 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (369-7770).*



THROUGH MARCH 11

Theater: Beyond Therapy

You either love the work of playwright Christopher Durang—or you hate it. The latter leave the theater shaking their heads, wondering what the hell everyone found so funny. "You definitely have to be in the mood for his humor," says the Delvena Theatre Company's managing director, Sean David Bennet.The rest of us wipe tears from our cheeks and giggle all the way home. This writer of such comedies as *The Marriage of Bette and Boo* and *Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All to You* has a devoted following. "His plays are addictive," says Bennet, who's producing Durang's *Beyond Therapy* at the Boston Center for the Arts through March 11. "Durang will do anything, absolutely anything, for a laugh. Pity the poor critic or audience member who comes to a Durang play expecting it to make sense...It simply cannot, any more than a Keystone Kop can stay dry throughout a two-reeler." So don't expect any political correctness during this show featuring five of Boston's leading comedians in a therapist-loves-girl-loves-boy-loves-boy-needs-therapist plot line of multiple love/hate triangles. *539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through March 11. $18.*

SAT./MARCH 3

CityScope: Peace Corps Anniversary

On Oct. 14, 1960, presidential candidate John F. Kennedy stood on the steps of the University of Michigan's student union and challenged the 10,000 students present to volunteer their skills overseas. Less than five months later, the Peace Corps was created, and the first volunteers, including recent graduate Alan Guskin, left for Africa that August. Almost 40 years later to the day that Kennedy signed the executive order creating the Peace Corps, Guskin, the president emeritus of Antioch College, will join other Peace Corps alums to celebrate the organization's anniversary at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum. The public forum on March 3 will discuss the impact of the Peace Corps on emerging nations in Africa, Southeast Asia and Latin America. Massachusetts-native Mark Gearan, Peace Corps director under former President Bill Clinton, will speak. *John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Smith Hall, Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. March 3, 2:30-4:30pm.*

THURS./MARCH 8

Books: Furst Look at Anne Sexton

Anne Sexton: the Last Summer is a collection of never-before-seen photographs and writings by Anne Sexton. On a photo assignment from Houghton Mifflin, Arthur Furst first met the alluring, defiant poet in April 1974, just two months after she was revived (against her wishes) from a suicide attempt. Taken during the last summer of her life, before her suicide in October 1974, Sexton entrusted Furst to capture her image in her home in Weston, Mass., and Furst believes that she intended those photographs to become part of her legacy. He writes that for years he refused offers of publication, but last year, he felt that "the time has come for these portraits of Anne to be seen. They provide a different and intense look at Anne's beauty and her personality. I truly feel this would delight her." Furst has been a photographer for 40 years and has worked with several other poets, including Allen Ginsberg and Denise Levertov. Furst comes to Newtonville Books to gives a slide show of the images, followed by a poetry reading from Sexton's work. *296 Walnut St. Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm.*

TOP LEFT: DONNA COVENEY/MIT; TOP RIGHT: FARNSWORTH/BLALOCK

Up Stairs at the Pudding



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Advice to Readers
The following is a list of festivals, events and benefits taking place in the Boston area by date.

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

Cigar Rolling Event
Churchill's Lounge, Regal Bostonian Hotel, 40 North St., Boston (305-266-9907). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 3-8pm. This event, sponsored by award-winning manufacturer Tabacalera Perdomo, features master cigar roller Senora Teresa Sosa. She'll demonstrate the delicate art of crafting handmade cigars.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

JFF Muscle Dream Team Bash
Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (508-875-8887). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 7:30pm. $200. The Dream Team was formed in 1996 by friends and NFL teammates to support football player Paul Frase's son, Joshua, who was born with myotubular myopathy. This night features celebrity guests and live and silent auctions.

New England Home Show
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (800-849-0990). www.newenglandhomeshows.com. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sat., 10am-10pm; Sun., 10am-7pm; Mon.-Fri., 2-10pm. Through March 4. $8.50.* With more than 700 exhibits, this show features the most up-to-date information, products and creative ideas for both the home and garden.

Second Step Benefit
Christina's Restaurant, 2 Washington St., Foxboro (965-3999). 6pm. $125. The Second Step, a transitional program for survivors of domestic violence and their children, honors broadcast personalities Susan Wornick and Marjorie Clapprood.

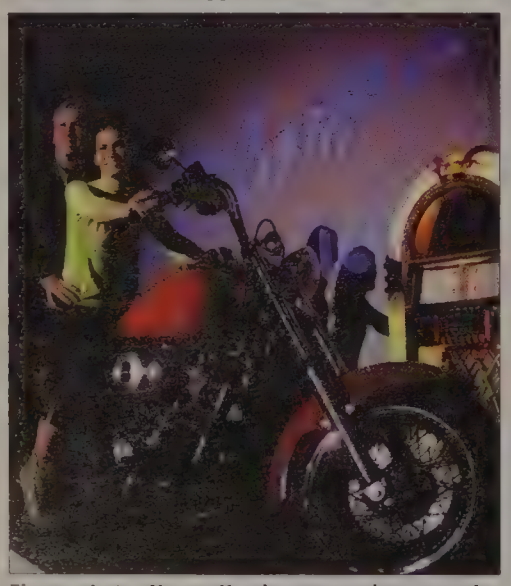


Figure skater Nancy Kerrigan roars into town for the People of Vision Celebrity Billiards Challenge at the Boston Billiards Club March 12.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Arts & Crafts Show
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 2, 6-9pm, and March 3, 9am-3pm. The teachers at BCAE will show and sell their works of art.

Decorative Arts and Antiques Show
The Castle at the Park Plaza Hotel, 130 Columbus Ave., Boston (994-4703). March 2-3, 11am-8pm; March 4, 11am-5pm. $12. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston host this show featuring antiques, fine and folk art, paintings, jewelry and decorative collectibles.



Bomboa chef E. Michael Reidt just can't wait to hit the dance floor at his Carnivale party March 6.

Preview

Boston Carnivale

Bomboa does its best to bring the shimmy and shake of Carnivale to Boston on March 6 with a special late-night dance party following a gourmet dinner prepared by Marc Orfaly of Pigalle, Anthony Susi of Sage and Pino Mafeo of New York's AZ restaurant. The menu is hush-hush, but word on the street is that it will feature roast suckling pig. The real fun starts at 11pm, when Bomboa chef E. Michael Reidt (see above) lets his hair down and gets into the spirit of the holiday as he and others dance to the music of DJ Richie Rich. *35 Stanhope St., Boston (236-6363). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 6, 6pm ($45 for three courses) and 8pm ($60 for four courses). Dancing at 11pm.*

Harpoon St. Patrick's Festival 2001
Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-HARPOON). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Shuttle to brewery. March 2, 5:30-11pm; March 3, 2-11pm. $10 (includes one beer). More than 4,000 people are expected to toast the patron saint of Ireland with a wide selection of Harpoon. Dance a jig and enjoy live traditional music by Big Bad Bollocks, Finbar Doyle and Dennis Sullivan.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

Boston Heart Ball 2001: Under the Sea
Boston Copley Marriott Hotel, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (800-662-1701). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm-12am. $250. The night's activities include dinner and dancing, live and silent auctions, and a raffle drawing. The evening, emceed by WBZ-TV4's Liz Walker, will honor *NY Daily News* columnist and TV commentator Mike Barnicle and his wife, Anne Finucane, executive vice president of FleetBoston.

Joie de Vivre Gala
Locke Ober (Yvonne's Dance Club), 3 Winter Place, Boston (624-0183). email: March3Gala@yahoo.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Park. $20, $25 at the door.* This benefit for the Massachusetts Leukemia and Lymphoma Society supports Team in Training's marathon runners. All three floors will be open for dancing, drinking and celebration.

Model Railroad Open House
760 South St., Roslindale (327-4341). March 3-4, 10am-4pm. $3. See three big railroad layouts featuring standard and narrow gauge, steam and diesel, passenger and freights, and trolleys and inter-urbans.

Peace Corps Anniversary
John F. Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 2:30-4:30pm. Celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Peace Corps.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

Crispus Attucks Parade
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (442-4535). 1pm. Parade route: Congress Street to State Street to Court Street to Tremont Street, stopping at Grand Burial Ground for a wreath hanging. The parade then continues along Tremont Street to enter Boston Common near Temple Place.

MONDAY, MARCH 5

Boston Massacre Reenactment
State and Washington streets, Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 7:45pm. The Massachusetts Council of Minutemen and Militia re-enact one of the key events leading to the American Revolution.

A Roast to Toast: Marvin Eugene Gilmore Jr.
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (989-3222). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 5:30pm. $150. This benefit for the Whittier Street Health Center is a toast and roast for Marvin Eugene Gilmore Jr., owner of long-standing jazz club the Western Front. Among the celeb guests will be *E! Entertainment*'s Tanya Hart, Senator Edward Kennedy, Mayor Thomas Menino and jazz great Webster Lewis. Dinner will be provided by Mistral, Sandrine's and East Coast Grill.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Costume Parade
Congregation Dorshei Tzedek, 1326 Washington Ave., West Newton (965-0330). MBTA: D Green Line to Riverside. 7pm. Free. All ages are encouraged to dress up and join in a costume prize. There will be larger than life First Night puppets, music and dancing, plus a megillah reading and purim davening.

Spring Fashion Show
The Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 6-10pm. $10. This charity event for Musicians with a Mission celebrates the IMPROPER's Spring Fashion issue with a fashion show of DKNY men's and women's spring collections.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Rocky Horror Recreation
Hollywood Hits Theater, Intersection 1 and 114, Danvers, Mass. www.teseracte.tripod.com. *March 9, 12am.* The Teseracte Players of Boston, a roving *Rocky Horror* recreation cast, announce the beginning of their spring 2001 "Strangers with Candy" tour. The audience is encouraged to dress in costume. This is an interactive show and audience participation is expected (if not required).

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

Target Stars on Ice
Worcester's Centrum Centre, 50 Foster St., Worcester (228-6000). 7:30pm. $60, $48 and $35. America's premier figure-skating championship enters its 15th touring season with Olympic champs Tara Lipinski, Kristi Yamaguchi, Ilia Kulik, Ekaterina Gordeeva, four-time world champion Canadian Kurt Browning and three-time U.S. national pairs champions Jenni Meno and Todd Sand.

Vision Awards Gala Dinner
Park Plaza Castle, 130 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-1540). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30pm. $125. Celebrate New England's independent film and video community with some of the region's most prominent independent film and video artists and local industry professionals.

MONDAY, MARCH 12

People of Vision Celebrity Billiards Challenge 2001
Boston Billiards Club, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston (781-433-9900). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6:30-10pm. Prevent Blindness Massachusetts honors Nancy Kerrigan at this cocktail party and billiards celebration. Guests can shoot pool with the honorees and celebrity guests. Earl Strickland, world 9-Ball champion, will perform a "trick shot" exhibition throughout the evening.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Monica's Sixth Anniversary
Monica's, 143 Richmond St., Boston (277-0311). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6pm. $15. Monica's Restaurant celebrates its sixth anniversary with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at a gathering to benefit Children's Hospital.



Target Stars on Ice: Ilia Kulik, Kurt Browning, Tara Lipinski, Scott Hamilton and Kristi Yamaguchi.

CARNIVALE: JENNY LOLLEY; STARS ON ICE: JIM PURDUM

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Submit updated press releases by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

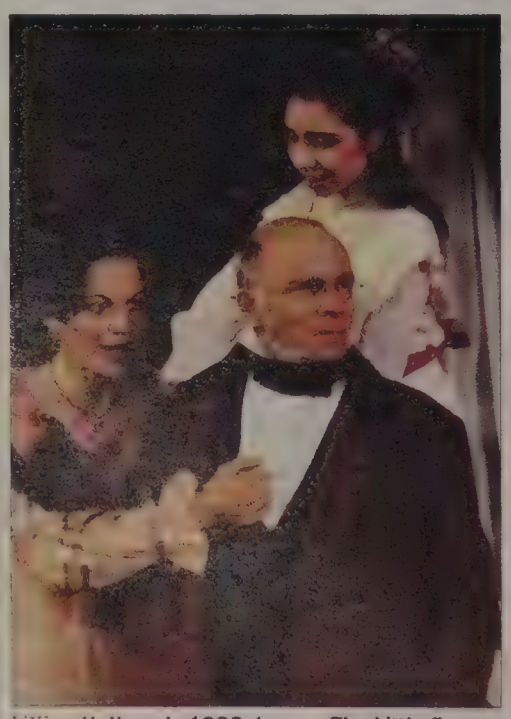
Theater
JUST OPENED

Amphitryon
Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. March 9-April 8. $12-$55. Jupiter, the King of the Gods, is in love again—this time with the beautiful and faithful Alcmena, wife of Amphitryon, general of the Thebans. As the victorious general is on his way home from battle, Jupiter disguises himself as Amphitryon so he can win Alcmena's favors. Moliere's high comedy and slapstick antics unlock a Pandora's box of ideas about love, marriage and power.

Beyond Therapy
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through March 11. $18. Delvena Theatre Company presents five of Boston's leading comedians in this new production by Christopher Durang. Therapist-loves-girl-loves-boy-loves-boy-needs-therapist is the basic plot line of multiple love/hate triangles.

Central Park West
Boston Director's Lab, Threshold Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (469-9339). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. March 8-10, March 1-17, 8pm; March 11 and March 18, 2 and 8pm. $15. Woody Allen's calamitous, frenetic comedy is about marriage, infidelity and friendship in Manhattan at the end of the 20th century.

Conduct of Life
Harriet Tubman House, 566 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-8000). March 11, 7pm. $10. Boston Theatre Works presents a series of stories of survival in various cultures. This one is by Maria Irene Fornes.



Lillian Hellman's 1900 drama, *The Little Foxes*, plays at the Lyric West Theatre March 2-18.

My Hands Remember
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (879-2147). Thu.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 3 and 7:30pm; Sun., 3pm. March 1-11. $20. This play, inspired by the life of a deaf Jewish woman who lived in Nazi-occupied Europe, is presented in American Sign Language and spoken English. Rose relates the events of her life, from her early childhood in Poland (when she becomes deaf) to her adulthood during the late 1930s and early 1940s in Berlin, Paris and the States.

Illicit Conversations
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). March 1-4. $12. Out of the Box Players perform three one-act plays, *Avoidance*, *Lisbon* and *Skin*, all written and directed by Weylin Symes.

The Little Foxes
Lyric West Theatre, Massachusetts Bay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley (288-7889). Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 2pm. March 2-18. $10-$29. Set in 1900, this drama written by Lillian Hellman examines the ruthless ambition of the powerful Hubbard family in the Deep South. The show revolves around the Hubbard's scheme to increase their wealth and power in a new deal with a Northern business partner.

Oklahoma City
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Feb. 28-March 17. $19-$24. With friends like John and Mary, who needs terrorists? In this new play from cutting-edge artist Tom Cole, two queer guerrilla performers form their own dysfunctional family of choice. Are the dynamic duo's assaults on mainstream America harmless, or do they have something more sinister up their sleeves?

The Performance Cult
Back Alley Theater, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (781-891-1188). MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 11 and 25. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short, original vignettes. You'll see character work, dance, monologues, movement, singing and sound work.

Signs
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. March 3-4, 8pm. $10. Aaron is a 17-year-old receiver of revelations: He sees signs everywhere—on advertisements, license plates and pastries in cafe windows. One of these revelations leads him to a sign shop which advertises "endless possibilities" in vinyl. There he meets up with the cynical owner and her mysterious apprentice, Jean-Marie, who spends her days making up words (the ones she finds in the dictionary just aren't expressive enough).

Women on Top Theater Festival
Boston Playwrights' Theater, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (536-5981). Through March 18. This festival celebrates local female playwrights and performers with five main stage events, a late-night comedy show and three staged readings. • ***Mexico City*** and ***Sailing Down the Amazon*** by Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro. *March 4, 7pm; March 5, 8, 9, 10, 7:30pm; March 11, 2 and 7pm.* • ***Chopping*** by Magdalena Gomez and ***Traveling Naked*** by Deborah Lake Fortson. *March 1-3, 7:30pm; March 4, 2 and 7pm.* • ***The Arkansas Tornado*** by Kathleen Rogers. *March 8-10, 7:30pm; March 11, 2 and 7pm.* • ***A Night of Quickies*** by Sheri Wilner, Susanna Ralli, Janet Kenney and Lois Roach. *March 1-3, 7:30pm; March 4, 2pm.* • ***The Mrs. Potato Head Show*** by Margaret Ann Brady, Dorothy Dwyer and Lucy Holstedt. *March 2-3, 10:15pm; March 9-10, 10:15pm.*

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

The Doctor's Dilemma
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through March 14. $25-$59. In the age of spiraling prescription costs, how does a doctor decide which of his patients most deserves treatment? This keen-eyed examination of medical malpractice is as provocative today as it was at its 1906 premiere, enriched by George Bernard Shaw's wit and compassion for human weakness.

Dame Edna
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Through March 11. $25-$65. She's wild, she's wicked and she's wonderful: She's the Australian international superstar Dame Edna, the self-appointed Queen of Broadway. The alter ego of comedian Barry Humphries, Dame Edna comes to Boston following a record-breaking, Tony Award-winning Broadway engagement.



Brigid O'Connor (center) plays a woman who travels back to the Shakespearean era to counsel Desdemona and Juliet in the farcical comedy ***Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning, Juliet).***

Preview

A Bold New Bard

Shakespeare it's not ... but it's fun nonetheless

Canadian playwright Ann-Marie MacDonald has her way with Shakespeare in the Threshold Theater's production of *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning, Juliet)*. In this goofy comedy, Constance Ledbelly, an assistant professor who's dealing with her own case of star-crossed love, ponders the question: What if *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet* were actually written by an unknown playwright and then recast (by the Bard himself) as tragedies? Before she's able to prove her thesis, she falls into a garbage can and travels back in time to become a character in both of the plays.

Sound a little off-the-wall? Yes. But it works. MacDonald parodies two of Shakespeare's greatest tragedies, adding modern spins on old ideas of romance, taking liberties with verse and rethinking familiar characters. "It's an interesting use of Shakespeare in a very wacky sort of way," says artistic director Brigid O'Connor, who doubles as the lead character. After saving both Desdemona and Juliet's lives, Constance befriends the heroines and learns a thing or two about herself and the inner workings of true love.

Goodnight Desdemona stretches both the versatility of its cast and the imagination of its audience. "People who know the plays well really get it on different levels," O'Connor explains. She assures audiences, however, that the play appeals to more than just Bard buffs. "Everyone will get a kick out of MacDonald's slapstick humor." *Piano Craft Building, 791 Tremont St., Boston (781-736-9694). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3pm and 8pm. Through March 3. $16. —Caroline Wolter*

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly the 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $25-$45. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Mother Courage and Her Children
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through March 18. $25-$59. Bertolt Brecht tells the story of a lone woman, Anna Fierling, who tries in vain both to make money and to keep her family alive during the nightmare of the Thirty Years War that raged in Europe during the 17th century.

No Way to Treat a Lady
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through March 10. $20-$26. In this mystery-thriller musical, a bachelor detective pursues a publicity-obsessed serial killer who'll stop only when his name appears on the front page of the *New York Times*.

The Piano Lesson
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-456-0000). Tue., 7pm; Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through March 11. $28-$40. In August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize-winning story, a farm hand from the South arrives on his sister's doorstep to reclaim his share of the family legacy. Selling the hand-carved heirloom piano will enable him to buy land of his own.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

This Lime Tree Bower
Boston Center for the Arts, The Black Box Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through March 10. $18 and $23. Three young men from a Dublin seaside town tell their overlapping recollections of one fateful night. Together, their alternating, unabashed monologues relay a small-town coming-of-age story.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Harvard University's Agassiz Theatre
10 Garden St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. • ***Ghungroo:*** *March 1-2, 7:30pm; March 3, 2 and 8pm. $9.* This performance includes artistic traditions of South Asian song, dance, music and performance. • ***A Raisin in the Sun:*** *March 8-9, 8pm; March 10, 2 and 8pm. $6.* What happens to a dream deferred? A family on Chicago's South Side explores this question as it is raised through the trials of daily life.

CABARET

Cabaret Series
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 3, 8pm. $12. Will McMillan, Barbara Baig and Valerie Sneade offer cabaret songs by contemporary songwriters.

PERFORMANCE ART

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. • ***Open Faucet: raDopü:*** *March 8-10, 8pm. $7.* This show will feature a wide mix of material, including an old-time radio script similar to "Dragnet," featured solo sections, fake commer-

TOP: K. CAFFREY

cials and film previews, up-to-date sociopolitical satire and a handful of songs. • ***Theatre Vigoda: Hanged Man's Lover***: *March 2-3, 8pm. $10.* Based on poems by the Polish outlaw writer Rafal Wojaczek, this performance of song explores gender roles and the kindness of cruelty.

COMING SOON

Aeros
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (482-6661). March 15-17. $40-$45.

Beauty and the Beast
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). March 14-25. $16-$65.

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). April 11-May 6. $25-$75.

Dance

SHOWS AND EVENTS

Boston Ballet: Celebration of Dance
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (695-6950). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 1-11. $23-$73. The joy of movement is expressed in this repertory program featuring works by Jerome Robbins, Rudi van Dantzig and George Balanchine. Robbins' popular "Interplay" (1945) opens the show. Following is Balanchine's 1947 work, "Theme and Variations," intended as a rousing tribute to the Russian Imperial style of classical ballet. The show ends with van Dantzig's poignant and lovely "Four Last Songs," choreographed to some of the last musical pieces written by the late Richard Strauss.

Mass Choreographers
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 2, 7pm; March 3, 8pm. This show celebrates the vitality of cutting-edge modern dance in Massachusetts with world-premier works by Prometheus Dance, Christine Bennett Dance and Spencer/Colton Dance, three of the state's leading dance companies. Using a unique blend of fusionist theater and highly charged movement, Blue Man Group performer Randall Jaynes and guest artist Edisa Weeks present a contemporary retelling of Nijinsky's last public performance, caputuring the great dancer's passion, humor and lyric beauty.



Mass Choreographers **celebrates the vitality of cutting-edge modern dance in Massachusetts at the Emerson Majestic Theatre March 2-3.**

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances or comedians. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. • March 1: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist" • March 2: John Valby "Dr. Dirty," $19 • March 3: Boston Headliners • March 5: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox • March 6: Robbie Printz • March 7: Don Gavin and George Hamm • March 8: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist • March 9: Bobby Collins, $19 • Bobby Collins, $22 and $18 • March 11: The Black Comedy Explosion, hosted by Johnathon Gates, $12 and $15 • March 12: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox • Mar 13: Robbie Printz.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. • March 1: Tim McIntire's Thursday Night with special guests Dan Newbower, Sam Walters, Sean Kelly, Kyria Abrahams and Tom Clark. • March 2: Comedy Team Brendon and Larry with guests the legendary DJ Hazard, Teresa Craggan, Chris Walsh, Stephanie Wishnick, Scott Carney and Jesse Gersten. • March 3: DJ Hazard headlines with host Brent Sverdloff and guests Troy Pernell, Ben Boime, Chris Foltz and Andy Austin. • March 4: Comics Workout featuring Tom Morello, Tony Moschetto, TJ Griffin, Ben Murray, Chenda Li and David Thompson. • March 8: The Tim McIntire Show, with guests Bob Lararus, John Fisch, Adam Zimmerman and the Comics from WAKKA. • March 9: Brendon Small hosts Jen Trainor, Sam Walter, Matt Jablow, Dan Mintz, Brian Melvin, Dan Sulman and Stacey Yanetti. • March 10: Katie Grady headlines with Brian Appille, Mike Dorval, Malene Welch and Joe List. • March 11: Comics Workout starring Louis Wynz, John Fisch, Ira Proctor, Dave Greenberg, John Curtain, Harrison Stebbins and Eric Davis.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour, the Theater District's long-running improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. The talent here is not quite as big-name as the Comedy Connection, but the crowds are just as enthusiastic. Wednesdays: Open-mike at 8:30pm. • March 1, 8:30pm: Joe Yannetty, Mark Scalia and Stacey Yannetty • March 2-3, 8:45pm: Joe Yannetty, Mark Scalia and Stacey Yannetty • March 8, 8:30pm: Jim Lauletta, Tom Hayes and George DeMartino • March 9, 8:45pm: Jim Lauletta, Tom Hayes and George DeMartino • March 10, 8:45pm: Jim Lauletta, Brad Mastrangelo and George DeMartino.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Saturday matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* Playing on the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show—voted one of Boston's best improvisational comedy troupes. • Wednesdays, 8pm: The Improv Asylum Training Center graduate show, *Gary's Pocket*, followed by the Improv Asylum Touring Company. $10.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. • ***TheatreSports***: Fridays, 10:30pm.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 127 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). Wednesdays, 8:40pm. See the Larry Lee Lewis Show and open-mike comedy.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

The Mrs. Potato Head Show
Boston Playwrights' Theater, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (536-5981). March 2-3 and 9-10, 10:15pm. South Park meets *The Golden Girls* (Margaret Ann Brady, Dorothy Dwyer and Lucy Holstedt) in this tasteless, outrageous and hilarious Boston staple, premiering for the first time at the Women on Top Festival.



art

Advice to Contributors
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Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.lesley.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*The Art Institute of Boston Faculty Exhibition* features work by some of Boston's top professional artists, including Robert Kaufmann, Jim Hood, Geoff Koetsch and Deborah Davidson. Through March 18.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat. 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
900 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •The *Brinks Job* exhibit in the Wiggin Gallery features photographs from the BPL Print Department's Herald Traveler photo morgue of Boston's crime of the century; it includes courtroom sketches of the trial, crime scene photos, mug shots and the like. Through March 30. •*Places of the Spirit: Photographs by Emily Corbat*, shows March 3-30. •*Vilna Shul*, a photographic exhibit of the restoration of the unique Jewish presence on Beacon Hill. March 3-30.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •In *Just the Thing!* everyday objects acquire new perspectives. Through June 10. •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to convey the artist's message. Through May 28.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Franz Marc: Horses* shows through March 18. •*Sight-Seeing: Photography of the Middle East and Its Audiences, 1840-1940*, an exhibition that investigates the ways in which images of the Middle East were made available to the broad public, shows through March 18. •*The Blue-Rider Artists: Works from the Busch-Reisinger Museum and Other Harvard Collections* displays through March 18. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows March 3-Nov. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. Free Sun., 9am-12pm; Wed., 3-pm, Sept.-May.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of butterflies. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Olafur Eliasson transforms the ICA with a series of installations that use water, ice and light in *Olafur Eliasson: Your Only Real Thing Is Time*. The Scandinavian artist gained international attention for his photographs, sculptures and site-specific works that create poetic allusions to landscape and nature. Through April 1. •Free guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). www.boston.com/gardner. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* •*The Art of the Cross: Medieval and Renaissance Piety* is a collection of lesser-known works—arts-furniture, textiles and metalworks, including large-scale crucifixes as well as processional crosses. Through April 29. •A lecture by Academy Award-winning filmmaker Jessica Yu includes excerpts from her latest documentary on artist Henry Darger. March 8, 6:30pm.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends, 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton*, and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: the Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive activities take place 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •On the last Sunday of the month, explore oceanography, astronomy, the science of buildings and other mysteries of science, 2-4pm. Call 452-2827 for details.

The MIT Visual Arts Center
Weisner Building, 20 Ames St. (253-4680), shows *Inside Space: Experiments in Redefining Rooms*, an exhibit that explores the ways in which architecture gives structure to our lives. Through April 8. •*Circa 1999*, Marco Breuer's solo exhibition of photographs made with non-photographic means shows through April 8.

Museum of Bad Art
580 High St., Dedham (325-8224). Mon.-Fri., 6:30-10pm, Sat., and Sun., 1-10pm. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. •The one and only museum that boasts "art too bad to be ignored." A favorite is *Lady Chardonnay*, a piece illuminating a poodle-headed dancer.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-5:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*Art and the Camera: Photographs of F. Holland Day*, an exhibition that presents the multifaceted work of Fred Holland Day, is on display through March 25. •*Boston 1900*, an exhibit that looks at our city's artistic, literary and cultural achievements at the beginning of the 20th century, shows through March 18.

Revolving Museum
288-300 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tues.-Fri. 12-6pm. •The museum is dedicated to creating space for art and the community and regularly displays a variety of exhibits.



The serigraph *The Book of Life I (The Book)* and the mixed-media work *The Scroll and the Altar* show in a collection of Shagra Weil's work at the Pucker Gallery, March 10-April 18.

Preview

Memories & Dreams

Traditional secular works by Shraga Weil

For the fifth time since 1969, the Pucker Gallery features the works of Shraga Weil, an artist whose vibrant paintings explore Jewish secular culture and tradition. Often inspired by the ancient landscape and culture of Israel, his colorful, textured works depict Jewish folklore, mythology and biblical stories, as well as Sampson and Delilah, white doves, *Book of Life* images and interpretations of Ecclesiastic themes.

Born in Nitra, Czechoslovakia, in 1918, Weil studied with a local sculptor and then attended the Prague School of Art. After the war, during which he spent time as a prisoner, Weil set out for Israel on an illegal immigrant ship. Once there, he became a member of Kibbutz Haogen. Weil's works have been exhibited worldwide, and in 1959, Weil was awarded Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Art Prize. The show, *Memories & Dreams*, draws on collections from around the world, as well as three local institutions that house his works—the Boston Public Library, Brandeis University's Rose Art Museum and Harvard University's Fogg Museum. *March 10-April 18. 171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*

Galleries
FINE ART

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •*Katherina Chapuis: New Paintings.* Through March 7. •Aaron Fink's *Works on Paper* shows March 10-April 4.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Anthony James presents his haunting works through Feb. 28. • Anne Packard presents oil on canvas works of New England's coastline, as well as works depicting Ireland and Greece. March 2-31.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. The gallery features original works from international artists. A new rotating exhibition opens in April.

Artists Foundation
516 East Second St. 1st Floor. South Boston (464-3561). Sat. 12-5pm and by appointment. •The works of Terence Hammonds show through April 1.

Bakalar Gallery
MassArt, South Building, 623 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7333). Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •Bulgarian poster designer Luba Lukova presents *Humanizing Design*, featuring more than 50 posters. Through March 2.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •Jim Stroud's *Linear Strategies* shows through March 7. •Works by Michael Ashkin, Jan Henle and Paul Seanwright display March 10-April 18.

Barton-Ryan Gallery
38 Newbury St., 4th floor, Boston (867-0662). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •*Pastels: The Medium* shows through March 24.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Memories Lost and Found: the Drawings of Rose deSmith Greenman* is the premiere exhibition of her works, which were rediscovered 16 years after her death. Through April 14.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Works by Larimer Richards show throughout March.

Boston Psychoanalytic Society
15 Comm. Ave., Boston (266-0953) MBTA: Arlington. Mon.-Wed., 10am-4pm; Thu. and Fri,. 11am-3pm. •Featuring works by Robert Goodnough. Through March 2.

Boston University 808 Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Boston Printmakers Biennial Exhibition* shows through April 8. •*Russell Roberts: Recent Paintings* is on display through March 2.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Gallery I features Laurie Alpert's *Reinventing the Layers; Monoprints with Xerox Transfer.* •Gallery II shows Leyla Yildiz's *Wind Water Pebbles Sand: Etchings.* Feb. 28- March 24.

Cambridge Center Gallery
One Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Thurs. 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-2pm. •In *Sign Language*, Ayisha Knight presents photographs and text that capture her experiences as an African-American of Native American ancestry who is also deaf. March 1-28.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •*Extreme Connoisseurship* shows through April 29. •The spring visiting faculty includes works by Jim Dow, Lorraine Ferguson, Alexis Rockman, Joel Shapiro, Wendy Tilby and Carrie Mae Weems. Through March 23. •Tadashi Kawamata's *Boston Project, Part I*, shows March 1-April 30.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Etsuko Nishi presents her new techniques in Pate de Verre. Through March 10.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Steven Coyle presents his works of scenes from his home in South Boston. March 7-April 2.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •*Figures and Interiors* shows on the main floor. Downstairs in the print department is *Joseph Pennell and His Unbelievable City*. In the alcove, *Asian Aesthetic in Western Work* is on display. Through March 3.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. www.clarkgallery.com. The gallery represents 30 regional artists. •*Content: Glass Invitational*, work by eight nationally known artists, shows through March 22.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •The gallery's *Annual Student Show* displays March 1-17.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment.* •Anne Gilson Haney presents *Home Cooking*, opening March 13.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon. -Sat. 9am-6pm. Contemporary works by Norman Crump, Dan McCole, Robert Fields and Brian Roach with Irish themes are presented. Works include original oils, watercolors and reproductions of Boston scenes and harbor views

Crystal Fine Art
93 Summer St., Suite 4L, Boston (728-9818). www.crystalfineart.com. *MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Tue.-Fri., 11am-6pm.* •Pieces by Candace Whittemore Lovely, David C. Leonard and Scott Mathew Crystal display through March 1.



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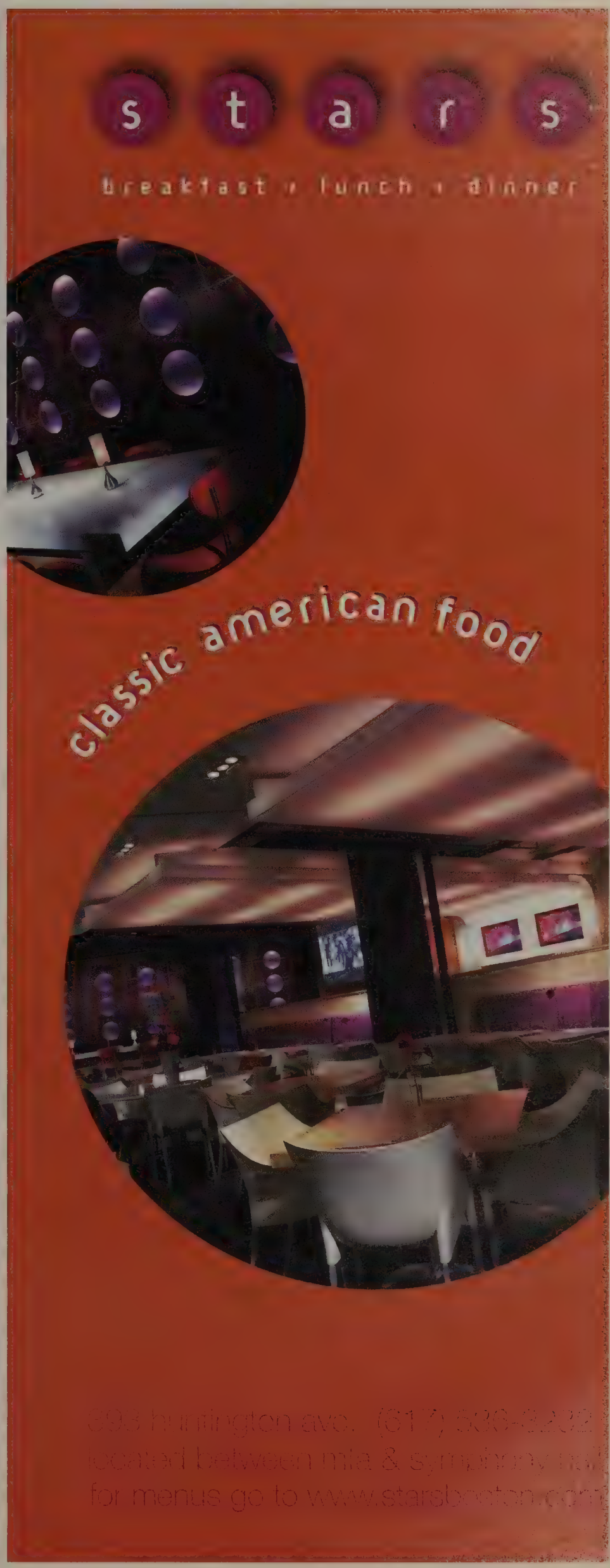
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Emporio Armani boutique displays a traveling photography show, including Michele Asselin's *Crossing Fourth.*

The Dean's Art Gallery
50 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (253-9455). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. mitsloan.mit.edu/deansgallery. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm.* •Katha Seidman presents *Lost Refuge* through March 14.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •A new collection of contemporary French impressionist painters shows throughout February.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd Floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm; Sat. 9am-6pm. •Darlene Devita's *Black and White Photography: A Unique Perspective* shows through March 31.

Emporio Armani Boutique
210 Newbury St., Boston (262-7300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. March 1, 7-9pm. •Gen Art and Giorgio Armani present a traveling photography exhibition, *Perspectives*, which features the works of Michele Asselin, Michael Jensen and Matthew Tischler.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7pm.* •A series of woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí and ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sasha Raiz. •Peruvian artist Benito Huillcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depict modern-day Cuzco. Ongoing.

Francesca Anderson Fine Art
56 Adams St., Lexington (862-0660). Wed.-Sat. 10am-5pm; Wed. until 8pm; Sun., 2-5pm by appointment. •Several artists present their works in *For the Love of Snow*. Artists include Loring W. Coleman, Don Stone and Joseph Reboli. Through March 10.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (266-4351). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.frenchlib.org. *Tue.-Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri. and Sat., 10am-5pm. Free.* •French artist Valérie Belmokhtar presents *Diary*, her recent works in acrylics and gouache on canvas or paper. Through March 10.

Fort Point Arts Community
300 Summer St., Boston (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12pm-5pm. •*Redeeming the Abandoned*, an exhibition of steel and sculptures by Jason Karakanian and Alys Myers, shows through March 23.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galeriedorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •Mark Chagall exhibits graphic retrospective works this month.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). www.jameshull.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., Wed. and Thu., 12-9pm.* •Ellen Driscoll and Nick Tobier present images taken from a quarter-mile radius in Jamaica Plain. Displayed using an oversized Viewmaster. Through March 3.

Gallery Bershad
99 Dover St., Somerville (629-9400 ext. 3). www.bershad.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Fri., 9-6pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Schematically Inclined* includes fine art, architecture drawings, models and other schematically inclined works. Through March 2. •The gallery displays a new rotating exhibit in April.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallery naga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Esther Solondz's *A Perfect State* and Ed Stitt's *Daily Views* show March 2-24.

Gallery Seventy-Nine
79 Newbury St., Boston (262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington, Tue.-Fri., 9:30am-6pm; Sat., 12-5pm. •Jörg Ingo Fraske presents *Imaginary Landscapes* through March 9.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •New York artists Peter Coe, John Tremblay and Warren Isensee present *Persistent Painting*. Through March 7.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. An exhibition of high school students' art shows March 5-April 4.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •This gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings. •The gallery is continuing to show select contemporary artists' works through May.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •Find an assortment of 18th- and 19th-century antique engravings and lithographs on display. Ongoing.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. yezerski@ziplink.net. •Paul Shakespear presents paintings and Dante Marioni shows works in glass. March 2-27.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •A selection of vintage posters is on display. Ongoing.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard St., Brookline (739-5769). MBTA C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10-8pm; Sun., 10-6pm. Steven Burt's paintings and drawings are presented in *Unsettling Myths*. Through March 2.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •Christina Keating presents her paintings in *A Room with a View*. Feb. 28-March 15.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St. Loft #204, Boston (542-0644). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. Sat., 1-4pm. •*Interior Exterior* shows through March 5.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm. •*Winter Showcase*, paintings by emerging artists Stuart Dunkel, Michael Korber, Lydia Martin, David Penna and Amy Jean Romero, show through March 4. •*Existence Sprang Forth*, the recent work of Hilda Green Demsky, shows March 6-18.

Mass Art President's Gallery
11th Floor, Tower Building, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7657). •*Humanizing Design: Poster Works by Luba Lukova* features more than 50 posters by internationally renowned Bulgarian poster designer Lukova. Throughout March.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-6pm.* •An exclusive exhibit of rarely seen art by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, this exhibit presents his pieces that typify the Northern European sensibility. Through May 21.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •Daniel Robinson presents *New Work*. Through March 2. •*Adolph Gottlieb: Paintings and Drawings from 1923-1941*. March 10-May 2.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Translating: Denmark to Boston*, a new installation by Line Bruntse and Andy Mauery, includes collaborative as well as individual pieces. March 7-31. •*Radio Pü: Neo-Dada Radio* Theater takes the old-time radio theater concept to a modern level—a slew of music, comedy, satire and performance art with several musicians and artists. The show is infused with jazz, noise, funk, movie spoofs, dragnet, porn olympics and more. March 9 and 10; 16 and 17, 8pm, $7, $5 students and seniors.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Body Parts* is a series of nude paintings by Maggi Brown and sculpture by Brenda Starr. March 2-April 2.

Newton Library Gallery
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). www.ci.newton.ma.us. *Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun. 12pm-5pm.,* •The Monotype Guild of New England presents its Sixteenth Anniversary *Open Exhibition*, a show composed of monotypes and monoprints. March 2-29.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Laurel Hughes' *Landscapes and Chicken Paintings* shows March 3-31.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •This gallery, owned and operated by several artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •The fourth annual *Figurative Art Show* features works by local artists. Through March 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •*Marja Lianko: New Paintings* shows through March 27. •*Andrew Nixon: New Work* displays March 30-May 1.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Romantic simplicity abounds in B.A. King's *Visual Poetry*. Through March 8. •*Memories and Dreams*, an exhibition of solo works by Shraga Weil, showcases his mixed-media on board works inspired by his Jewish heritage. March 10-April 18.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardsonclarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •See the ongoing exhibition of American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.RobertKleinGallery.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •On display is *Night Light: Photographs of Heavenly Bodies, 1885-2000.* Through March 10.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, Between Brattle and Garden St., Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Female refuges from the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia are depicted in *Courage and Resiliency: Cambodian Women in America*. Through April 30.

Sherman Gallery
775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Recent Paintings* by Russell Roberts runs through March 2. •Pat Steir's *Prints* display March 15-April 22.

Social and Political Art Gallery
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (244-5581). www.orsillo.com/gspa. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Fri. and Sat., 2-6pm; Sun., 1:30-5pm.* •In *Environmental Injustices*, artists create social protest through art. Through March 4.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Thu., 10am-7pm: Sun., 12-5pm.* •Craft Artists Symposium, a day of workshops geared for students and craft artists at Mass College of Art, March 3. •The Society honors Lino Tagliapietra, Italian glass maestro, with a retrospective of Lino's work.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm. •Tom Moran's *Rescue*, a series of paintings reflecting his impressions of firefighting, displays March 7-April 14.

SPNEA
Harrison Gray Otis House, 141 Cambridge St., Boston (227-3957 ext. 256) MBTA: Green Line to Gov't. Center $8, $6 members. March 3, 1pm-3pm. The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities presents *Ladies of the House*, a special tour of the Otis House, focusing on Sally Otis, her daughters and female servants. Registration required.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style. Ongoing.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. This gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by famous painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin, C. Ferrer and striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. •*Altered Fields*, multimedia works by Samantha Fields, Ted Hinman, Lee Leonard and Elizabeth Sheenhan, shows March 5-29.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •Christiane Wallace and Cecilia Lieder present recent artwork. Through Feb. 28. •Peter and Christel Worfel present an exhibit of *Representational Watercolors*, March 2-17.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A selection from their current inventory is on display. Ongoing.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •Photographer Anna Collette presents her work. Through March 16.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •Ernest Withers presents his collection of African-American musicians in a large photo exhibit. Through March 30.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a collection of photographs from the series at the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17. •*Strange Attractor: In the Orbit of the Artist*, a show curated by Rosamond Purcell, displays through March 15.

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Film

LIE ME A RIVER

The Tailor of Panama offers misadventures in the spy trade. BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Tailor of Panama is the perfect movie for our Misinformation Age, in which gossip gets gorged upon like candy, marketing hype gets served to us as "insider news" and manufactured "reality TV" threatens to boot us off the island of sanity. Based on the novel by John Le Carre, director John Boorman's movie is a dark, funny expose of what happens when no one questions the truth because they're all too busy being seduced by lies.

Boorman and Le Carre co-wrote the screenplay with Andrew Davies, and, right off, the movie's lively scenes fittingly play out on two levels: what's being said and what's true. That's fitting, because the movie turns out to be about the credibility gap between those two things.



Pierce Brosnan's spy laps up Geoffrey Rush's tailor-made lies.

Geoffrey Rush, dispelling some of the stink from his recent *Quills*, is very well-cast as the title character, an English ex-con with tailoring skills who phonily and successfully set himself up during the Noriega era as an outpost of a posh London haberdasher. Being foreign and providing a service that nearly all those in power or seeking power use, the tailor has long been a neutral outsider privy to what's on the minds of the elite, while also being a friend to those in opposition. He's Switzerland in custom-tailored suits.

That's exactly why a suave English spy (Pierce Brosnan), who's in town to make sure the strategic Panama Canal is still safe and secure, buttonholes the tailor. The man with the tape measure around his neck has access to the people who know, his American wife (Jamie Lee Curtis) works in the canal administration and the guy's so bad at collecting debts that he needs the money that the spy's offering.

So the tailor, who could also use the money to pay off the past-due mortgage on a farm he bought, starts hinting at rumblings of political unrest. The rebels who fought against Noriega, he says, have now become a super-secret "silent opposition," ready to strike when they get the resources. In reality, one former rebel (Brendan Gleeson of Boorman's *The General*) is now a drunk the tailor is trying to get back into shape, and the other is his own receptionist (Leonor Varela). The president of Panama, he also says, told him at a suit fitting that there's a secret deal to sell the canal to some foreign governments; in reality, the tailor can't get him to reveal anything about the canal.

When the spy's bosses get all excited by this vague information, the tailor tells him more. As the financial stakes rocket, so do the scope of the lies. If the "silent opposition" get $10 million, they can launch their liberation attack, the tailor tells the spy. If he can get $15 million, the spy tells London, he can topple the government before the canal gets sold. If they can get $20 million, British intelligence tells the trigger-happy generals at the Pentagon, they can lay the groundwork for an American invasion of Panama that will save the canal. It's a riot.

Though *The Tailor* turns cartoonish at times, especially in the (nonetheless amusing) Pentagon scenes, it's very clever in a *Wag the Dog* fashion, and lets its two leading men really score. Brosnan essentially spoofs his Bond roles, stripping the Bond coyness away from the shag-happy spy's incessant come-ons. Wright's trademark hyperactivity is also put to good use with the tailor, who's physically and emotionally spread himself too thin (there's actually a good side to all his maneuvering, in trying to help the former rebels get their lives together). As in *The General*, Boorman neatly offers lots of moral grey areas for his characters to swim around in, rather than less interesting "good guys" and "bad guys." Only Curtis seems out of her depth, rendering her skeptical character flat and making you long for the talents of Judy Davis or Frances McDormand. IB

The Tailor of Panama ★★★

Directed by John Boorman. Written by Andrew Davies, John Le Carre and Boorman. Based on Le Carre's novel. With Geoffrey Rush, Pierce Brosnan, Jamie Lee Curtis, Catherine McCormack and Brendan Gleeson. Rated R. Columbia Pictures.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Before Night Falls ★★½
Following *Basquiat*, Julian Schnabel directs another "artist who died too young in New York" drama. This time his subject is Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas, played here by Javier Bardem (from Almodovar's *Live Flesh*). There's definitely a compelling story here, starting with Arenas' country boyhood, when he left home to join Castro's revolutionaries, and moving onto his persecution for being both gay and a writer, his subsequent flight to New York and his fight with AIDS. But at many crucial junctures, the movie is also frustratingly vague, including its inability to give us a real sense of Arenas' writings. So the result is less memorable than it might have been. There are, however, amusing and effective cameos by Johnny Depp (as a drag queen) and Sean Penn (as a peasant).

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon ★★★½
What do you get when you combine a skilled dramatic director like Ang Lee (*Eat Drink Man Woman*), an innovative action choreographer like Yuen Wo-Ping (*The Matrix*) and stars like Chow Yun-Fat (*Hard-Boiled*) and Michelle Yeoh (*Supercop*)? A dynamo in which the scenes between the wild, high-flying fight face-offs are almost as potent as the "action." In this story, centering around a stolen sword, the battles unfurl not only between the characters—in beautifully choreographed exchanges—but also within those characters' souls. The leads all find themselves dealing with the struggle between their romantic desires and societal obligations, which gives the film a sorrowful undercurrent. To add to the eclectic feel, Yo-Yo Ma performs the score's cello solos.

Hannibal ★★
Since the movies featuring Hannibal "the Cannibal" Lecter have been full of food references, let's just say that what was a tasty side dish in *Manhunter* and *Silence of the Lambs* isn't such an appealing entree. Instead of the menacing genius psychopath who held an eerie sway over FBI-agent protagonists in the previous films, he's now the main focus of the search by agent Clarice Starling (Julianne Moore, replacing Jodie Foster). Except now Lecter (Anthony Hopkins) just does little more than the gourmand-cannibal schtick he sometimes launched into in *Lambs*. The story also indulges in default sequel ploys like using a proliferation of antagonists, with Gary Oldman and Ray Liotta as two of those. The action picks up once Lecter and Clarice are finally on the same continent, but that's nearly 90 minutes into the movie.

In the Mood for Love ★★½
After turning away from the stylized storytelling that first got him noticed, Hong Kong director Wong Kar-wai returns to the stylization of his great early film *Days of Being Wild* with this story set in 1962. Wong regulars Tony Leung and Maggie Cheung reteam in this story of newcomers to a packed apartment building. Both have neglectful spouses who are having an affair with each other. The two dance around the idea of having an affair themselves, and Wong's ability to visually build sexual tension is the movie's great strength—the way he photographs Cheung in her clingy, high-necked dresses is the sexiest thing in movies in ages. But the movie is also very sluggish. Sometimes you just want to yell "Do something already!" at the two would-be lovers.

Monkeybone ★★
It's astonishing for a movie to be so imaginative in one area and so unimaginative in another. But that's *Monkeybone*, in which *Nightmare Before Christmas* director Henry Selick combines a dull live-action romantic comedy (written by Sam Hamm) and stunning stop-motion and computer-generated animation. In a role rehashing others he's already done, Brendan Fraser plays a timid animator who finds his life being taken over by Monkeybone, the character he's created. When the animator becomes comatose after a car crash, he enters an animated purgatory called Downtown, and Monkeybone even inhabits his body and starts wooing Bridget Fonda. The animator must work his way back into his body and her heart, and the banal plot drags down the eye-popping animation.

The Pledge ★★★
If you've seen Sean Penn's previous movies as a director—*The Indian Runner* and *The Crossing Guard*—you'll recognize his strengths and weaknesses in his latest, the story of an ex-cop (Jack Nicholson) obsessed with solving his last case. As usual, Penn is great at conveying an intense atmosphere and mature emotions, though he's sometimes a little clumsy in the storytelling details. Here, he keeps the detective's investigation into grisly child murders free of gimmickry and sensationalism, and he draws a genuine performance from Nicholson (who doesn't just trot out his "Jack" persona). The only lack of economy in the story is the years-long time span, which drags things out and doesn't seem necessary.

JONATHAN HESSION

Pollock ★★
Ed Harris' pet-project bio of splatter-happy painter Jackson Pollock isn't the first "don't drink and drive" movie. But it is the first "don't drink and paint" movie. With Harris directing and playing Pollock, the movie supplies a garden-variety troubled-artist story. At first, Pollock is a shy and struggling abstract painter prone to benders; then he sobers up and (perhaps consequently) hits upon the notion of dripping paint on the canvas rather than applying it with brushes, making him the sensation of late-1940s modern American art. When his star inevitably starts to fade, he crawls into a bottle again and becomes a miserable wreck who dies in a drunken car crash. But there's little insight into Pollock's demons and little with which to empathize in his story.

Saving Silverman ★★★
This comedy about two buddies (Jack Black, Steve Zahn) who try to stop a third buddy (Jason Biggs) from marrying a domineering woman (Amanda Peet) falls flat on its face from time to time, but it hits a pleasing balance between the extreme comedy of *There's Something About Mary* and the goofy charm of *The Wedding Singer*. Black and Zahn are both very funny here, and the story gets unexpected boosts from R. Lee Ermey as a gonzo father figure and Neil Diamond, the poofy-haired singer the buds idolize, who's enlisted in the campaign to stop the wedding.

Tigerland ★★★
Wow, there hasn't been a good film from set designer turned director Joel (St. Elmo's Fire, Batman and Robin) Schumacher since *D.C. Cab*. But this boot-camp story set in 1971 has a documentary style that generally steers clear of Schumacher's visual excesses, along with a knockout performance by newcomer Colin Farrell as a troublemaking draftee who helps some of his platoon-mates get discharged and knows just how and when to piss off the officers. The movie interestingly portrays its inductees as being well aware of the tragic absurdity behind the Vietnam War, and kicking and screaming like the devil to avoid it.

Traffic ★★★
Director Steven Soderbergh (*Out of Sight*, *Erin Brockovich*) gives us another accessible yet idiosyncratic movie. This one has a lot of characters, locations and drugs in it: the new U.S. drug czar (Michael Douglas), the teen daughter (Erika Christensen) he doesn't know is an addict, a Tijuana cop (Benicio Del Toro), two DEA field agents (Don Cheadle, Luis Guzman) and the suburban wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones) of a drug lord, just to name a few. Through their sometimes-overlapping stories, the movie offers an effective indictment of the war on drugs; as portrayed, it's more concerned about politics and power than people. The message works because of the movie's visual scruffiness and because it doesn't vilify those fighting the war, freeing *Traffic* of most movies' cartoonishness.

The Wedding Planner ★★
It's a credit to Jennifer Lopez's ability that, even after her overexposure and tabloidization of the past two years, she still convincingly plays this girl-meets-boy story's heroine—a workaholic who finally meets Mr. Right (Matthew McConaughey), only to learn he's the groom in the latest wedding she's arranging. Lopez is just fine, and so is McConaughey; it's the movie's soppy reworking of screwball-comedy elements that's annoying. Rather than being smart and sexy, as a screwball romantic comedy should be, this one is sticky and slow. It feels as if a half-dozen "date movie" focus groups took any spark out of it, though it's doubtful it ever had any.



The Harvard Film Archive presents films by Andrzej Wajda, including *The Wedding*, March 6.

Alternatives & Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the phone.*

Boston Public Library
James Cagney on Film
•March 5, 6pm **Man of a Thousand Faces** *1957*. The Boston Public Library continues its tribute to the Immortal James Cagney, showcasing the Cagney film that also stars Lon Chaney.
•March 12, 9pm **Shake Hands with the Devil** *1959*. Featuring Don Murray, Glynis Johns and Michael Redgrave, this Cagney classic portrays a college professor who is secretly involved with the IRA in Dublin.

Brattle Theater
Most shows are $7, including double features.
Mondays: Crime Wave
•March 12 **Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels** *1998*. Four London working-class stiffs have a week to come up with half a million pounds after a high-stakes card game goes wrong in Guy Ritchie's shoot-'em-up movie. •Also showing is **Three Kings** *1999*. One of last year's most acclaimed films, *Three Kings* follows four soldiers in the Gulf War who set out to steal treasures but find more than they bargained for.
Wednesdays: Recent Raves
•March 14 **Requiem for a Dream** *2000*. Not for the squeamish, Darren Aronofsky's disturbing effort exposes the emotional side of drug culture.
Thursdays: Janus Film Festival
•March 15 **Orpheus** *1949*. Jean Cocteau's eccentric retelling of the Greek myth in which a musician ventures into the underworld to reclaim his dead wife takes place in modern-day Paris. Also playing is **Black Orpheus** *1959*, Marcel Camus' version of the same myth set during the Carnival at Rio de Janeiro.
Special Engagements:
•March 2-8 **The Mystery of Picasso** *1956*. Henri-Georges Clouzot's documentary shows the legendary painter demonstrating his creative process for the camera.
•March 9-11 **The Times of Harvey Milk** *1984*. Robert Epstein's documentary about San Francisco's first elected gay councilor depicts his successful career and ultimate assassination. •Also playing: Rob Reiner's fantasy tale **The Princess Bride** *1987*. The timeless tale of the beautiful princesses, romantic perils and unusually large rodents comes to life in the screen adaptation.

Coolidge Corner Theater
Balagan Experimental Film Series
•March 1, 8pm **Experimenting Women**. Balagan provides a unique look at the local filmmakers and artists who have challenged approaches to their mediums. Explored in this series are topics about local female film and video makers.
Midnight Movies
•March 2 and 3, 12am **Therese and Isabelle** *1967*. This erotic lesbian cult classic tells of two young girls who explore their blossoming sexuality amid the rigid environment of a French boarding school.

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•March9 and 10, 12am **Carmen, Baby** *1966*. In an erotic update of Bizet's classic opera, a police officer falls in love with an unattainable temptress and enters a world of jealousy and passion.

Now Playing

•**Pollock** *2000*. Ed Harris' powerful biographical film looks at abstract expressionist painter Jackson Pollock's short and miserable life, examining both his dysfunction and his genius.

General Cinema Fenway

Midnight Movies

•March 2 and 3, 12am **The Godfather** *1972*. The quintessential mobster movie, Francis Ford Coppola's classic film follows a Mafia boss' son, who reluctantly takes over the business when his father is critically wounded in a mob hit.

•March 9 and 10, 12am **Godfather II** *1974*. The Corleone family saga gets more complex as they try to expand the business into Las Vegas, Hollywood and Cuba. Winner of six Oscars, including Best Picture.

Harvard Film Archive

Monday Night American Treasures

•Feb. 28-March 13, 7:30pm **American Treasures**. This series allows viewers a peek into the film archive, showcasing a different archive or group of archives each Monday night.

Poland Through the Prism of Andrzej Wajda

This series is co-sponsored by the National Center for Jewish Film at Brandeis University, which will host a separate series of screenings in the Sachar Center.

•March 2, 7pm **Kanal** *1957*. Wadja's second work focuses on the impact of World War II, following three groups of Home Army fighters who traverse the city sewers to link forces.

•March 2, 9pm **Siberian Lady Macbeth** *1962*. One of Wadja's most psychologically challenging works, this is the screen adaptation of Nikolay Leskov's Russian reworking of the Shakespearian tragedy.

•March 3, 7pm **Man of Marble** *1977*. Janda, a young female filmmaker, documents the life of a worker during the Stalinist era.

•March 4, 2pm **Man of Iron** *1981*. This film is a sequel to *Man of Marble*. Combining history and fiction, reality and art, Wajda captures an interpretation the political events at the Lenin Shipyards in Gdansk.

•March 6, 9pm **The Wedding** (*Wesele*) *1973*. Wadja presents an adaptation of Stanislaw Wyspianski's turn-of-the-century play, inspired by the wedding of a poet and a farmer's daughter.

•March 9, 7pm **Promised Land** *1975*. An impoverished Polish nobleman acts on capitalist ambitions and starts up a factory. Though the film was nominated for an Academy Award, Wajda was subject to much criticism from both the censors and the liberal media.

•March 10, 7pm **A Love in Germany** *1983*. When a passionate affair develops between a Polish prisoner of war and a German shopkeeper, tensions arise between the small-town worker and fascist authorities.

•March 10, 9pm **Pan Tadeusz** *1999*. Set in the early part of the 19th century in a Polish-speaking region of Lithuania, this is a tale about the love story between two characters caught in the midst of a family feud.

Global Visions

•March 9, 8pm **Program 1: Seen on the Body**. The first program in the Canadian Experimental Video series explores the effect of history and the passage of time on the body through five short works.

Topics in Film

•March 5, 9pm **Hitler Youth Quex** *1933*. Directed by Hans Steinhoff, this is the adaptation of a novel based on the real-life murder of a 12-year-old Hitler schoolboy by Communists in Berlin.

•March 6, 7pm **Stromboli** *1949*. Ingrid Bergman stars in Roberto Rossellini's film as a spoiled wartime refugee who marries a poor fisherman. He soon learns that he lives on the slope of an active volcano.

•March 7, 7pm **The Eclipse** *(L'Eclisse) 1962*. Director Michelangelo Antonioni depicts a middle-class couple in crises.

•March 12, 7pm **Lolita** *1962*. Stanley Kubrick's adaptation of Vladimir Nabokov's controversial novel portrays a middle-aged man's obsession with a young girl.

•March 12, 9pm **The Emperor of California** *1936*. A European revolutionary who flees to America in 1834 becomes the leader of an immigrant community. Later, he gains power as a senator and army general.

•March 13, 7pm **Rear Window** *1954*. This Hitchcock film stars James Stewart as an injured photographer who witnesses a murder through his apartment window.

Theater into Film

•March 4, 7pm **Galileo** *1973*. A 17th-century Italian astronomer's theories clash with the edicts of the Catholic Church. Directed by Joseph Losey.

•March 11, 7pm **Woyzeck** *1994*. Set in Budapest, the protagonist, a railway signalman, is forced to cope with a cruel boss and the discovery of his wife's infidelity.



Carl Franklin's film *Devil in a Blue Dress* plays at the Brattle Theatre on March 27.

Preview

The Color of Film

Beyond Blaxploitation film series and lecture

It's Black History Month, and several lectures and programs are taking place throughout the city in its honor. On Feb. 28, 6pm, cultural critic and Berkeley College of music professor Lawrence Watson comes to the Cambridge Center for Adult Education to discuss the enormous impact of Spike Lee has had on filmmaking. The talk will cover influential films like *She's Gotta Have It, Malcolm X, The Original Kings of Comedy* and *Bamboozled*. This talk comes right before the Brattle Theatre's month-long Tuesday night Beyond Blaxploitation series, an incredible retrospective of "blacksploitation" films.

•March 13, 5pm, 7:30 and 10pm *Bamboozled* 2000. Lee's thoughtful and sometimes controversial movies' biting satire of the television industry's portrayal of black America is a a deliberately offensive plot—featuring black actors in blackface.

•March 20, 7:15, *Daughters of the Dust* 1991. Set in 1902, Julie Dash's film looks at the Gullah culture of the sea islands off the coast of South Carolina where African folk traditions were maintained into the 20th century. Also playing, 5:15 and 9:30pm, is *The Leraning Tree* 1969. Gordon Parks' film follows two 15-year-old black brothers during early 20th-century Kansas.

•March 27, 7:30pm *Cotton Comes to Harlem* 1970. With this film, adapted from Chester Himes' novel, Ossie Davis was credited with the first blacksploitation film. It follows two detectives, Coffin Ed and Gravedigger Jones. Also playing, 5:30 and 9:30pm *Devil in a Blue Dress* 1995. In Carl Franklin's film, an Afro-American private detective is hired to find a woman and gets mixed up in a murderous political scandal.

•April 3, 5 and 8pm *Watermelon Woman* 1996. Cheryl Dunye's quirky indie film is about a lesbian filmmaker who tries to track down a fictional actress known as the Watermellon Woman. It plays with *Tongues Untied* 1991, 6:45 and 9:45pm. The humorous documentary by Marlon Riggs is about an African-American gay man's experience.

Also coming up in April are *To Sleep With Anger, Body and Soul*, and *The Watermelon Man*. *CCAE, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). $5. Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St, Cambridge (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*

Museum of Fine Arts

Boston Turkish Film Festival

•March 1, 6pm; March 11, 11am **The Town** *1997*. Director Nuri Bilge Ceylan presents a black-and-white depiction of a Turkish family.

•March 1, 7:45pm and March 10, 3:45pm **Clouds of May** *2000*. Ceylan's acclaimed second feature film talks about **The Town**, combining fact and fiction to recount the story about how the movie was made.

•March 2, 5:45pm **Losers of the Dark City** *1999*. Korhan Oguz directs this controversial story about a young couple who moves into a run-down apartment and encounters a disturbed young man.

•March 2, 8pm and March 3, 1:30pm **Journey on the Hour Hand** *1997*. This mysterious adventure, made by veteran director Omer Kavur, won awards for Best Picture and Best Director at the 1997 Istanbul Film Festival.

•March 3, 3:45pm **After the Fall** *1999*. The 1980 coup d'etat had an extraordinary impact for the young boy and protagonist of Atif Yilmaz's film.

•March 8, 8pm and March 14, 6pm **Innocence** *1997*. Voted Best Film at the 1998 Istanbul Film Festival, this film captures the difficulties in the lives of Turkey's lower class. After 10 years in prison, Yusuf tries to find a new identity amid the changing politics of his society.

•March 9, 8pm **Third Page** *1999*. A tender relationship develops between a suicidal TV soap extra and a neighbor with an abusive husband in director Zeki Demirkubuz's second film.

•March 10, 2pm **Thirty Years of Friendship** *2000*. This documentary, to be introduced by visiting director Nurdan Arca, explores one of Turkey's most prominent theatres, the Dostar Theatre. •**In Pursuit of Lost Time** *1999*. This historical film documents the discovery of several ancient shipwrecks along the Turkish coast.

Nureyev on Film

•March 11, 3:30pm **Romeo and Juliet** *1966*. Nureyev dances with Margot Fonteyn in a performance of Prokofiev's ballet version of Shakespeare's tragedy. Though the production includes none of the original text, director Paul Czinner includes a spoken introduction to each of the three acts.

Other Film Offerings

•March 9, 6pm and March 10, 12pm **12 Storeys** *1997*. Filmmaker Erik Khoo takes a humorous look at the darker side of life in Singapore, focusing on three unrelated stories chronicling life in an apartment block.

•March 11, 1pm Richard Brown: **Flirting with Oscar**. Richard Brown interviews stars and provides a behind-the-scenes look at the Oscar selections.

Schlesinger Library Series

Girls Professional Baseball League

•March 7, 6pm **A League of Their Own** *1992*. In celebration of women's baseball, the heartwarming comedy by Penny Marshall is featured, followed by commentary by Mary Pratt, pitcher for the Rockford Peaches.

Special Events

Blockbuster Release Party

•Feb. 28, 5pm **Autumn Heart**. Independent filmmaker Davidlee Wilson discusses behind-the-scenes action of a locally produced movie starring Ally Sheedy and Tyne Daily. Wilson will autograph movie posters and other prize give-aways. *Blockbuster Video, 545 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (713-4440). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*

Jessica Yu Lecture: Documenting the Life and Art of Henry Darger

•March 8, 6:30pm **Henry Darger**. Academy Award-winning filmmaker Jessica Yu shows clips from her new, unfinished documentary of the artist. Yu illustrates the struggles Darger went through to depict an elaborate fantasy world through the use of watercolors, drawings and collages. *Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $7.*

Cinema Venue

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Nickelodeon
606 Comm. Ave. (424-1500). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford St.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Sq. (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Sq.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

BCAE Author Events
5 Commerce Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •*6:30-8:30pm. $23.* **Mary Stevenson** and **Barry Bluestone** discuss *The Boston Renaissance: Race, Space and Economic Change in American Metropolis.* •*6-9pm. $36.* **Sam Horn** talks about *What's Holding You Back?* The book gives advice on how to bounce back from pitfalls and how to be confident in various circumstances.

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7pm. **Liz Eiditz**, author of *Revising, Rewriting and Editing: The Guts of Writing*, leads a writing workshop in conjunction with the Boston West Center for Writing and Photography.

Cambridge Artists' Cooperative Reading Series
59A Church Street, Cambridge (868-4434). 5:30-7:30pm. The Cambridge Artists' Cooperative presents its fourth biennial book show, Book Arts: Images & Words. The show features collections in contemporary and traditional formats, and all kinds of techniques for those interested learning about the art of collecting. The event takes place throughout March.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (536-3886). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.



Poet Elena Georgiou reads as part of the Cambridge Center's poetry festival March 10.

6pm. **Douglas Shand-Tucci**'s book, *Built in Boston: City and Suburb 1800-2000*, celebrates the architectural history of Boston.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newton (244-6619). One of Canada's most distinguished writers, **Alistair MacLeod**, reads from his collection, *Island: The Complete Stories.* MacLeod is also a professor of English at University of Windsor, Ontario.

William Beldon Noble Lectures
The Memorial Church at Harvard University, Cambridge (495-5508). 8pm. Author **Kathleen Norris** talks about her books, *Amazing Grace* and *The Cloister Walk*. The two works explore how to incorporate religion, spirituality and meaning into a chaotic lifestyle.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Writer Adam Gopnik discusses his recent book, **Paris to the Moon**, a collection of journal entries musing on the contrasts within Parisian society written while on assignment for *The New Yorker*.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Arlington Center for the Arts Event
41 Foster St., Arlington (648-6220). 7:30pm. Hear readings by poets from the Literary Committee of the Arlington Center for the Arts, **Jean Flanagan**, **Steve Ratiner** and **Marilyn Zuckerman**.

BCAE Event
5 Commerce Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-9pm. $36. How can you prevent the daily "What should I have said" syndrome? Author **Sam Horn** addresses this question when he talks about her book, *Tongue Fu! How to Deflect, Disarm and Defuse Conflict.*

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (739-6002). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. **Amy Tan** discusses *The Bonsetter's Daughter*, followed by a book signing at Brookline Booksmith. Tan received critical acclaim for *The Joy Luck Club* (1989).

Kate's Mystery Books Series
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6-7:30pm. **SJ Rozan** reads from her latest Lydia Chin/Bill Smith book, *Reflecting the Sky*. It is a tale about a Chinese-American private investigator who is sent to Hong Kong to deliver a family heirloom to a young boy. When the boy is kidnapped, the seemingly innocent journey quickly transforms into a dangerous adventure.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Marilyn Yalom** discusses the religious, legal and social practices that led up to the conception of a wife as a husband's property and as a homemaker as explored in her book, *A History of the Wife*.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Kate's Mystery Books Series
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6-7pm. **Katherine Hall Page** signs copies of her latest in the Faith Fairchild series, *The Body in the Moonlight*.

MONDAY, MARCH 5

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6778). 8:15pm, $3. **Mick Cochrane** and **Jessica Treadway** share a platform. Cochrane is the author of the novel *Sport*, the story of a boy's search for order and belonging in the late '60s. Treadway is the author of *And Give You Peace*, which tells of a family trying to recover from a tragedy.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (556-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Join **Thomas Connolly** as he discusses his book *George Jean Nathan and the Making of Modern American Drama Criticism.*

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard Street., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. Best-selling author **Nuala O'Faolain** discusses her novel, *My Dream Of You*, followed by a book signing at Brookline Booksmith.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Author **Larry Ferazani** reads from his novel, *The Maltese Cross.*

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. As part of the bookstore's program, "Become a Better Reader, Become a Better Writer," **Douglas Bauer** discusses his latest book, *The Stuff on Fiction: Advice on Craft.* The author and faculty member at the MFA program at Bennington College unveils the essential elements of fiction writing.

WordsWorth Books Author Events
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. At the age of 70, **William MacLeish**, the youngest son of poet, lawyer and statesman Archibald MacLeish, has written a touching memoir that recalls his father as a brilliant, talented and lucky man making his way, on his own terms, as an artist. Tonight, he talks about his book, *Uphill with Archie: A Son's Journey.*

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

BCAE Author Event
Arlington Street Church, 122 Arlington St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7-9pm. $29. **Dan McNichol** tells the truth about the most expensive public relations works project in the U.S.: The Big Dig. McNichol is the author of *The Big Dig*, and former deputy director of public relations for the project.

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Road, Framingham (508-875-2321). 7pm. Best-selling author **Nuala O'Faolain** discusses her new novel, *My Dream of You.* The book, set during the Irish Potato Famine, recalls the story about a 50-year-old woman who rediscovers love in her life as she returns to Ireland.

Radcliffe Fellows Reading Event
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4pm. Two acclaimed authors share their views on prison: **Christina Rathbone**, a nonfiction author of *Framingham*, and **Regina Kunzul**, author of *Outlaw Desire: The Problem of Prison Sexual Culture in Mid-Century America.*

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle Street, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. National Book Award finalist **Allegra Goodman** reads from her latest work, *Paradise Park*, an inspiring tale about one woman's spiritual journey. The book depicts the protagonist's challenges and spiritual quests.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (739-6002). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Joseph Torra**, novelist, poet and author of several reviews and essays, discusses his book, *My Ground.*

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (536-3886). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. **Julian Barnes**' book, *Love, Etc.* delves into the tragicomic elements of human frailties and desires.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. In *Anne Sexton: The Last Summer*, **Arthur Furst** juxtaposes his exclusive photos of the poet with her letters and unpublished drafts of her poems written during the last months of her life. Tonight, Furst gives a slide show, followed by a poetry reading from Sexton's work.

WordsWorth Books Author Events
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Patrick McCabe**, author of *The Butcher Boy* and *Breakfast on Pluto*, reads from his latest work, *The Emerald Germs of Ireland.*

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Join **Morgan Llywelyn**, author of *Pride of the Lions* as she discusses her new book, *1921: A Book of the Irish Century.* In it, Llywelyn focuses on Celtic Irish studies and tells the history of Ireland.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

Cambridge Center Poetry Festival
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6778). 10:30am-late evening. $25. This collaboration between poets and musicians starts on Saturday with an opening Olio with short performances by poets. The afternoon is filled with events—workshops and a reading from Pulitzer Prize-winning poet **Yusef Komunyakaa**, as well as performances by **Kevin Bowen**, **Olga Broumas**, **Yvette Leaphart**, **Zilla McCue** and **Li-Min Mo**. Performance poet **Sekou Sundiata** is presented that evening with **Elena Georgiou**. Afterwards, the party continues at the Lizard Lounge with hip-hop star **Mr. Lif**.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **David Amram**, one of the most acclaimed composers of this generation, talks about his 1968 autobiography, *Vibrations: The Adventures and Musical Times of David Amram, A Memoir.*

MONDAY, MARCH 12

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6778). 8:15pm, $3. Known for his informal, conversational type of poetry, **Mark Halliday** reads from several of his works, including *Little Star, Selfwolf* and *Tasker Street.*

Cambridge Center Poetry Festival
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6778). 2-4pm. $25. **Jimmy Tingle** hosts the Cambridge Poetry Awards, which honor creative contributors to the local poetry community. The price of admission includes yesterday's events, excluding performances by Sekou, Elena and Mr. Lif.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Author **Richard Sobel** discusses *The Impact of Public Opinion on U.S. Foreign Policy Since Vietnam.*

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street Newton (244-6619). **Andre Dubus III**, finalist of the 1999 National Book award for *The House of Sand & Fog*, reads from his latest, *Bluesman.* **Dubus**, a professor at Tufts University, has won several awards for his literary works.



LISA ROSS

Woodberry Poetry Room Series
Lamont Library, Level 5, Harvard University, Cambridge (495-2454). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30pm. Join **Jennifer Barber**, author of *Vendaval* and editor of the literary journal, *Salamander*. Her poetry has appeared in *Orion*, *Poetry*, *The Partisan Review* and *The Massachusetts Review*.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Fiction aficionados will love Cantab's all new Tuesday night open-mike event featuring short stories, novel exerts and long prose. •March 6, 10pm: **Nick Zaino**, freelance comedy writer and creator of *Smart Ass Magazine*, is featured after the regular open-mike event.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open mike and a slam.

Club Passim, Tuesdays
47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $5. All open-mike fanatics must experience this open-mike night—a training ground for up-and-coming poets. Sign up Tuesdays, 7:30pm.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night, Saturdays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers.



On March 1, Amy Tan discusses *The Bonsetter's Daughter* at the Coolidge Corner Theatre.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

Character & Civility: A Community Dialogue
Lincoln School Auditorium, 19 Kennard Road, Brookline (730-2700). 7-9pm. $5. Author **Michael Sandel** hosts a panel discussion that will attempt to see beyond the distorted meanings of character and civility, to their role in urban renewal.

Choosing Excellence
Gutman Conference Center, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge (495-0740). MBTA: Red Line to Cambridge. 6pm. Free. **John Merrow** from PBS and NPR discusses his book, *Choosing Excellence: "Good Enough" Schools Are Not Good Enough* and shows excerpts from the PBS series, which served as the book's basis.

Tracking "Religion"
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). MBTA: Red Line to Cambridge. 4pm. Free. An examination of how the construct of religion shapes and misshapes ideas of ethnicity, sexuality, Christianity, Judaism and more.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Murder Most Foul: The Case of Lizzie Borden
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). 7-8:30pm. $5. MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. Was Lizzie Borden a cold-blooded murderess or a victim of mass hysteria? This lecture will reconstruct the crime scene and will take a closer look at the suspects.

Tongue Fu!
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6pm-9pm. $36. **Sam Horn**, author of *Tongue Fu! How to Deflect, Disarm and Defuse Conflict*, will hold a workshop to help people gain confidence for public speaking in daunting social situations.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

Architects and the Peace Corps
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (951-1433 ext.221). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. To celebrate the 40th anniversary of the creation of the Peace Corps, the Boston Society of Architects is co-sponsoring a presentation by Boston-area design specialists who have served in the Peace Corps.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

Homecoming: The Story of African-American Farmers
Raytheon Amphitheater, Egan Center, Northeastern University, Boston (373-5800). MBTA: E Green Line to Northeastern. 6:30pm. Free. A special screening of the hour-long documentary, *Homecoming*, will be followed by a discussion with filmmaker **Charlene Gilbert**.

America's Mounting Energy Crisis
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church Street, Cambridge (495-2727). 7:30pm. Free. Consumer costs for power in New England have gone up astronomically because of power plant shutdowns. This forum seeks to answer the question: How do we keep consumers from footing the bill for questionable regulatory pricing policies?

Prison: Two Perspectives
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). MBTA: Red Line to Cambridge. 4pm. Free. An examination of the American prison system by **Cristina Rathbone**, author of *Framingham*, and **Regina Kunzel**, author of *Outlaw Desire: The Problem of Prison Sexual Culture in Mid-Century America*.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

From Welfare to Work—A Model Program
Allison Dining Room, Kennedy School of Government, 79 JFK Street, Cambridge (496-8246). MBTA: Red Line to Cambridge. 2:30-4pm. Free. A panel discussion with women who have made the transition from welfare to work.



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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

Ceremony
An Tua Nua. Pounding goth and industrial music shakes the house, 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. Show tunes and Cabaret with Michael Larson and Dorothy Miller. 9pm-1am.

Language
Hibernia. This incredible drum-and-bass night is heated up with Cosmo. 8pm. 21+.

Monsta Monday
Bill's Bar. It's time to jam with Trust Fall and Colepitz. DJ Diecast also kicks off the week. 9pm, $5. 18+.

Phoenix Landing
This Irish pub offers best of hip-hop, jazz and reggae. 11pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma. DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and house. 10pm, $10. 21+. Ladies get in free before 11pm. •March 5: Rally on at Eve's record-release party.

The Rack
•March 5: The Jocks Party with the Celtics starring Blue Man Group.

Sissy K's
The hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and U.K. progressive. Plus a drag/strip event with Mizery. 10pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo. Caesar and Giorgio throw a party for those who never want to stop dancin'. Dress slick. 10pm. No cover.

TUESDAYS

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar. This off-the-hook night features DJ Chaos scratching out hip-hop. 10pm. $12, 18+.

Flaunt
Aria. Hip-hop and R&B with guest DJs. 19+, $10.

The Forum
Lava Bar. Join Mission Control and support local DJs as home-grown talents share the floor. 10pm. 21+.

Got Milk?
Venu. If you're chic you'll be at Venu for Milk—a devilishly hip party with DJ Osheen. Dress is funky. 21+.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a relaxed night out on a Tuesday. 6pm.

Lot 36
The Modern/Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin House for a trendy crowd. 10pm. $10. 19+.

The Rack
Tuesday nights feature Stu Sinclair, 8-12pm.

Showtunes
Encore Lounge. Bobby Femino plays classic piano-bar show tunes. 9pm-1am.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Free Salsa lessons by Dan Marshall. 9-10pm, followed by dancing. 5pm-2am. No cover. 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange. Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble rocks; a complimentary buffet is served. 8pm.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua. Get ready for some Tuesday hip-hop dancing. 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

Backstage
DJ Jonny C. spins top-40 dance. 10pm, no cover. 21+.

College Night
The Aquarium. Guest DJs spin all sorts of tunes at this relatively new venue at 10pm.

Drum and Bass Live
Karma. Syndrome jams it up with Schism and Dummy Plug Conspiracy.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays jazzy blues at the piano bar. 9pm.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar. DJ Tim Collins spins funk and groove. •Feb. 28, Syndrome with Schism and Dummy Plug Conspiracy grooves to some live drum and bass.

Hibernia
Wednesday night tunes and cocktails in the lounge make for a mellow evening. 6pm.

Latin Night
Aquarium. This aquatic-themed club offers specialty drinks, loud music and dance lessons, 9-10pm.

New Music
The Druid. Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts. 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers a new mixture of guests spinning everything from deep house to techno. 11pm. $5. 19+.

Pravda 116
Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix. 21+.

The Rack
•March 7: Richard Hatch and DJ Steve Anderson. 10pm.

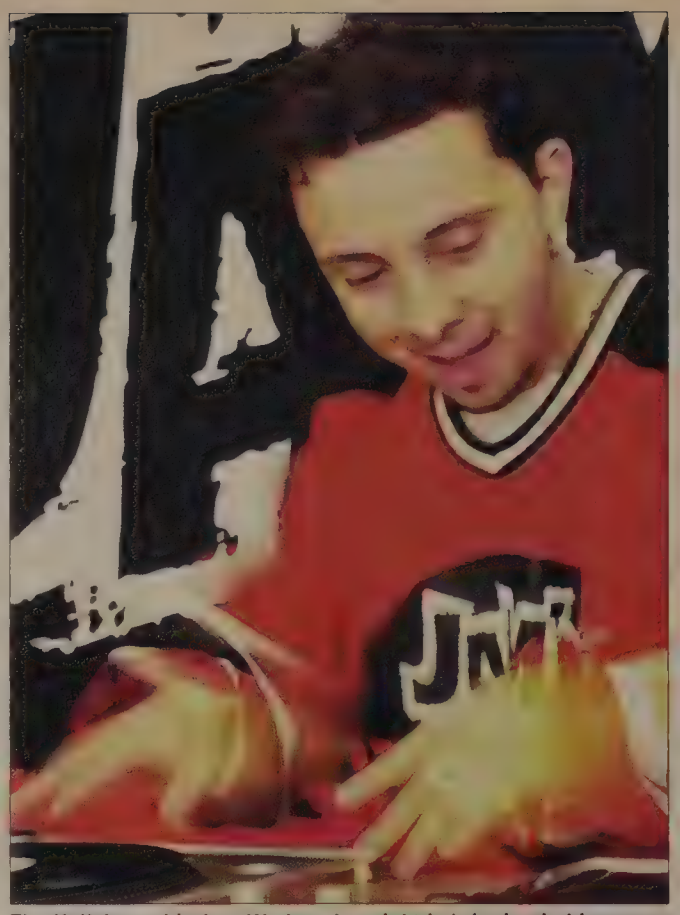
Rockout
Emily's. Tonight features a rock trivia game show and live local bands. 8pm. $5. 21+.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange. A night dedicated to those in the industry is hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White. At 10pm, there is a champagne reception. 21+.

Sissy K's
The Financial District's hot spot features live musical acts downstairs and DJs spinning top-40 and R&B upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Latin band on the first floor and DJ Eddy K spins international music on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Wet U'R Whistle Wednesdays
The Kells. 94.5's Roy Barboza spins hip-hop upstairs, while DJs spin house downstairs. 10pm-2am, $5, 21+.



The Kells' new hip-hop Wednesday night is bringing in big-name DJs, including Roy Barboza (above), 7L and DJ Mastermillions.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul spun by DJ Ren Justice, 19+.

Aquarium
The Kiss 108 FM dance party. 10pm. $3.

Backstage
Tonight's adrenaline high features special-guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm, $5. 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans-themed nightspot has it all—even billiards. 9pm.

Charlie's Angels Night
Polly Esther's. Dance to '70s, '80s or '90s tunes. 8pm, $5.

Chrome
Axis. Resident DJs John Debo and Ali Ajami spin house and trance music. 10pm, $10. 19+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern. DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar. 9pm-2am, 21+.

The Druid
Mr. Doug Nice plays trippy deep house. 10pm.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin Lounge. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays great American blues and jazz at the piano bar. 9pm-1am.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion House
Aria. Fashion shows and DJ Roger spinning house. It's also Greek Night in the Angel Room. $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116. DJ Maric spins tunes to relax you.

Heaven
Comedy Connection Backstage. Music by DJs Johnny C and Freddie C. Proper dress. 10pm. No cover.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange. DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B. 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia Thursdays
DJ Jeremy spins loopy, trippy, trip-hop. 6pm.

Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals. 9pm. 21+.

International Thursday
Avalon. A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy. You know it's time to get down when the Roxy breaks out its sexy Latin dance mixes. 10:30pm, 21+.

Lava Bar
Join the Original Lounge Lizard Brother Cleve and Friends for Funky beats and Tasty treats at the Bootyque. 10pm. 21+.

The Modern
International Thursdays features progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Located in the heart of groovy Central Square, this Irish pub presents drum 'n' bass night. 11pm. $5. 19+.

The Rack
Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, no cover.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm. DJ Eddy K spins best of Latin on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10, 21+.

Speed
Karma. Resident DJ Bruno spins house to an edgy crowd. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Sugar Shack
Music from three decades pounds through the festival atmosphere here, where every day is Mardi Gras.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

The List
Lava Bar. *Lavabar.com*. Verse/D bring you soul and funk. 10pm. 21+.

Roxy Plex
Get ready to dance with salsa, merengue and Latin grooves playing upstairs. 10:30pm. DJ Adison bounces progressive house and trance beats underground. 10pm. 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spins to a huge college crowd. 19+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hits and your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s.

Aquarium
DJ Lu spins today's hottest dance hits.

American Karma
Karma. All-star American top-40 remixes with DJ Tim Collins, live on Star 93.7. 9pm, $8. 19+.

Avaland
Avalon. Everything about this place screams "Party!" With Ali Ajami. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40. 10pm, $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has some of the best mainstream DJs in town.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz. Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs pay homage to the house music gods. 11pm, $15. 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. John O'Neil and Jan Peters sing show-tunes, great American songbook and cabaret. 9pm.

Envy
This popular destination is filled with a mass of sweaty 'n' ready dancers. 9pm, $5 after 10pm. 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange. Brothers Tiziano and Maurizio deliver an onslaught of house upstairs. G-Squared spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B in the Vault. 9pm.

Focus at Hibernia
Cocktails with Alan Strack at 6pm and deep funky house by Shelter at 10pm, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy. International house featuring local, national and European DJs. 10:30pm.

Hibernia
Alan Strack in the lounge, 6pm; disco, funk and deep house, DJ Doug Nice, 10pm.

Life
Lava Bar. Dance to a different drummer with DJ Fran Englehardt's deeply rooted, soulful rhythms. 10pm. 21+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy. International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Friday
Bill's Bar. Get in on the action with DJ Mark Hamilton and live bands. 9pm, 18+.

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as J Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Rack
•March 2: KISS 108 Dance Party with Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm.

Revolution
The Modern. Find Latin and progressive Euro house here with DJ Eddie K. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Shake It up
Phoenix Landing. Shake what your mama gave you with DJ Ren Justice. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
This new hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor. DJ Mike C. plays Latin dance on second floor while DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge. 5pm. $10. 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis. Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. 10pm, $12. 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJs and specialty drinks, dancing 'til 2am.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Venu
The scene is elegant for this jacket-required international romp. Get on your Gucci as DJ Arsit spins. 21+.

West Street Jam
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance. 10:30pm. No cover. 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar. DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite with high-energy house and Latin beats. 10pm, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm. $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has live bands all weekend long. Does non-stop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.

Blues
Encore Lounge. Shake off your blues and listen to honky-tonk, classic and contemporary rock. Sit-ins welcome. 9:30pm-2am.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing. Disco fever hits Cambridge all night long with DJ Vinney. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern. DJ Shiuan Lee puts out funky house for a mix of international students, local scene setters and, of course, Boston's A-list. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Boston's newest Latin Night starting at 10pm. Dress to impress. $10.

Club Nicole
The mob is thick for this exclusive trend-setting night. DJ Alex spins Euro house. Proper dress. 21+.

Club Piteko
Fajitas & Ritas. DJ Piteko leads the party to "dance like no one is watching," specializing in Cape Verdean music. $7. 10:30pm. 21+.

Downtown
Avalon. Feb 17: Chill out with Cold Play, the Brit-rock band that instantly sold out at the Paradise. 7pm. $15, 18+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music. 9pm, $5.

Elements of Life
Karma. DJ Mario spins hard house while DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJs melt the tables upstairs with house and international tracks. In the vault, DJ GSquared spins.

Hibernia Saturdays
Luis Diaz and Resident Twilo, NYC grooves up a storm this Saturday night. 10pm. 21+.

Indulgence
Aria. DJs spin the latest in house and club top-40. In the Angel Room, DJ Roger spins Latin and Euro-haus. $10, 21+.

Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's. Get a taste of Miami nightlife. 9:30pm (ladies free before 11pm), $10. 21+. Ladies, 19+.

Mischief
The Modern. Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica. 21+.

Mythos
Venu. It's Greek International night with DJ Yorgo Jr. spinning the hits from the famous party islands.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario provides current dance jams.

The Rack
Join Vinny Peruzzi for the ultimate dance party.

Roxy Saturdays
High-energy house and dance by DJ Adilson. 9pm, proper dress. 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's. Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD. 8pm, $10. 21+.

Shake at Club Paradise
DJ Goodfella brings the best Old School Hip-Hop and Classic Funk & Soul at the new Jump Off party, Shake. 10pm. $10. 19+.

Sissy K's
The hot spot has acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Smile
Bill's Bar. DJ Bruno takes over. 10pm. $12, 19+.

Sophia's
DJ Edwin Mathos spins Latin dance on second floor. Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm, DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Who's on First?
Check out some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin, all hosted by Li'l Mike. 10:30pm, $12. 18+.

X Night
Axis. Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits. 10pm, $10. 21+.

West Street Jam
Three floors of Cocktails and dancing as DJ Gabe spins the hottest house, funk and dance. 10:30pm. no cover. 21+.

SUNDAYS

Backstage
Urban Night. T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school. Doors open at 10pm, $10. 21+.

Common People
An Tua Nua. Hear Brit-pop, new wave, indie and more with DJ Ren Justice. 9pm, $3. 19+.

Curve
Hannah's. Three DJs, one vibe. DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno. 10pm. $5. 21+.

The Druid
May the luck of the Irish be with you as you listen to a Seisiun with Shay Walker and friends. 5pm.

Druid Sundays
Seisiun jams with Shay Walker and Noel Scott. 5pm.

Encore Lounge
Saddle up to the piano bar and listen to Michael Kreutz play show tunes and great American songbook. 9pm.

Evening in the Velvet Lounge
Trio. Oscar's Sunday night has moved to this hot spot, where you can kick back and lounge. No cover, 10pm.

Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M. No cover, 21+.

Sunday Night Karma
Sunday night heat hosts hot 97's DJ Chuck Dog, featuring DJ Statik Selektah spinning the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B. $10, 10pm. 21+.

Lava Bar
Pandora's Box (Club Courtesy). DJ Vinny and Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown. 10pm. 21+.

Living Room
Aria. DJ Raffi spins Euro-house. In the Angel Room, DJ Franklin spins Latin. $10, 21+. Proper dress.

Rack
•March 4: DJ Transit, 10pm-2am.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116. Party in the front bar that is transformed into a comfortable lounge. 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar. DJ K-Don spins some of the best reggae around with Holy Smoke and special guests. 10pm. $10. 21+.

Salvation
An intimate night, courtesy of DJ Soul. $5.

Sex
The Exchange. Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.

Sissy's
U: DJ Dave Jordan plays top-40 and hip-hop tunes. D: Martini Bros., 4-8pm; Gregg Luttrell, 9pm-1am.

Trance
Phoenix Landing. Get down with some hip trance beats brought to you by DJ Blacksmith. 10:30pm. $5. 19+.

Venu
Carnival comes to Boston every Sunday as DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio to Venu. 21+.

Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aquarium *65 Holland St., Somerville (623-3200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Comedy Connection *Faneuil Hall, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Fajitas & Ritas *25 West St., Boston (426-1222). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Oskar's *107 South St., Boston (542-6756). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (480-9489).*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*

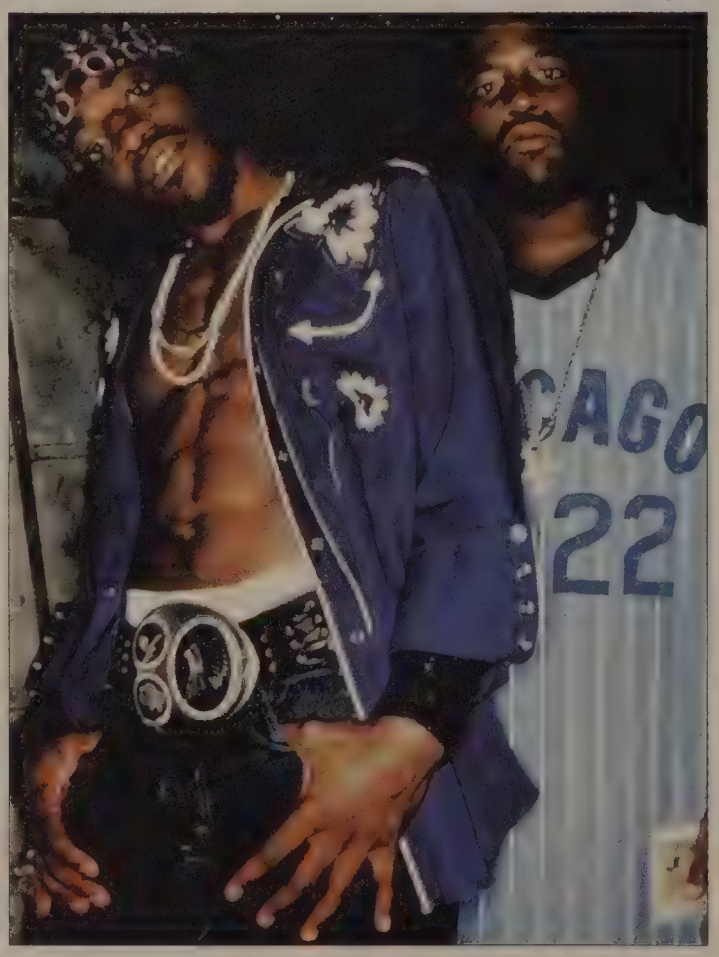


FUNKUTOPIA

OutKast breaks down the walls of hip-hop with a volatile cocktail of stylistic innovation. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Welcome to Stankonia, the place from which all funky things come," intones a voice at the start of OutKast's fourth CD. But that doesn't prepare the listener for the broad terrain of *Stankonia*, just voted the top album of 2000 in *The Village Voice*'s annual poll of national music critics.

How broad? Consider the spread of *Stankonia* hits "Ms. Jackson" and "B.O.B.," which placed first and third, respectively, on that same poll's singles list. "Ms. Jackson" is an old-school funk ballad where a father professes parental responsibility to his ex's mother. "B.O.B. (Bombs Over Baghdad)" is a genre-splicing blitzkrieg of rapid-fire rapping over jungle beats, rock guitar and turntable scratches, driven home by a gospel choir.



Andre "Dre" Benjamin (l) and Antwan "Big Boi" Patton started making music together in high-school freestyle rhyming sessions.

"We just use all kinds of music like tools," says rapper-singer-guitarist Andre "Dre" Benjamin, who rolls into the Worcester Palladium March 5 and Boston's Orpheum Theatre March 11 with his OutKast partner Antwan "Big Boi" Patton and their touring crew. "The more we learn, like the more words we use, the more we can expand our musical language."

That language has come a long way since 1992, when Patton and Benjamin met as high-school classmates in Atlanta and engaged in cafeteria rhyme battles. They would hang out at the Dungeon, the basement studio of Organized Noize producer Rico Wade, and before LaFace Records signed the pair at age 17, they were plotting drug deals to finance their projects.

"We had plans to do all that, but the music came along and kinda saved us," says Benjamin, now 25. "Actually, instead of going to school, I started going to the Dungeon and just writing all the time. So I didn't graduate at the time." He earned his G.E.D. after OutKast dropped its first two CDs, then grew beyond the conventions of streetwise hip-hop on 1998's *Aquemini* and the largely self-produced *Stankonia*.

"Hip-hop has turned to a certain mode, a formula that you know is going to work," says Benjamin, who skewed Y2K hype by adopting the name Andre 3000 on *Stankonia*. "You get a regular hip-hop beat, you get a noise, you get a rhyme and then you put a hook in it. We're just trying to crush all those walls, to make it universal and just music, not put labels on it. We grew up listening to all types of music."

The eccentricity of OutKast's music—drawing on influences from Parliament-Funkadelic, Prince and Sly Stone to Billy Ocean, the Delfonics and Kate Bush—is also echoed in the duo's sense of style. While Patton prefers sports jerseys and sweats, Benjamin flaunts everything from brimmed hats and head scarfs to marching-band jackets and floral skirts.

"Growing up, I was the cleanest prep, like the mama's boy," Benjamin says on a cell phone from Las Vegas, where he was laying groundwork for an OutKast clothing line. "When I got older, I just kinda snapped... You start feeling, 'I want to do what I want to do.' You start learning from greats, and seeing how it was done. The people who I was digging, like Prince or P-Funk or Sly or Sun Ra, they had their own thing going on, and that's the type of artist I want to be."

Not that OutKast is pushing extremes purely for the sake of outrageousness. In addition to layered productions like the techno-fused "B.O.B.," the Latin-syncopated "Humble Mumble" (featuring Erykah Badu) or the dub-soul waltz "Stankonia (Stanklove)," the duo gets both satirical and serious with help from rap peers like Atlanta's Goodie Mob. "Red Velvet" warns against materialistic machismo. "Toilet Tisha" mulls the tragedy of a pregnant teenager. And "Ms. Jackson" may hit closest to home: Patton and Benjamin have both fathered children out of wedlock, the latter by ex-girlfriend Badu.

"You have to put real-life situations in, 'cause that's what affects us, that's what makes the music," says Benjamin. "We like to keep our eye to the sky and our ears to the street. Nobody [cares] what's going on in space if they don't know what's going on in their neighborhood. But at the same time, you don't want to stay in that neighborhood all day long. Nobody wants to stay in the same situation. Sometimes you want to get away, so the music has to take you there."

That getaway has become *Stankonia*, which is also the name of OutKast's recording studio/meeting place. "Sometimes we have a party, catch a vibe and come back and crank it up [in the studio]," he says, and the duo aspires to the same kind of spontaneous spirit on tour, backed by two guitarists, three singers, a DJ and dancers. "It's like we're hosting a party, and everyone's invited. We're bringing people to Stankonia." iB

OutKast

Plays the Worcester Palladium March 5 and Boston's Orpheum Theatre March 11.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billing

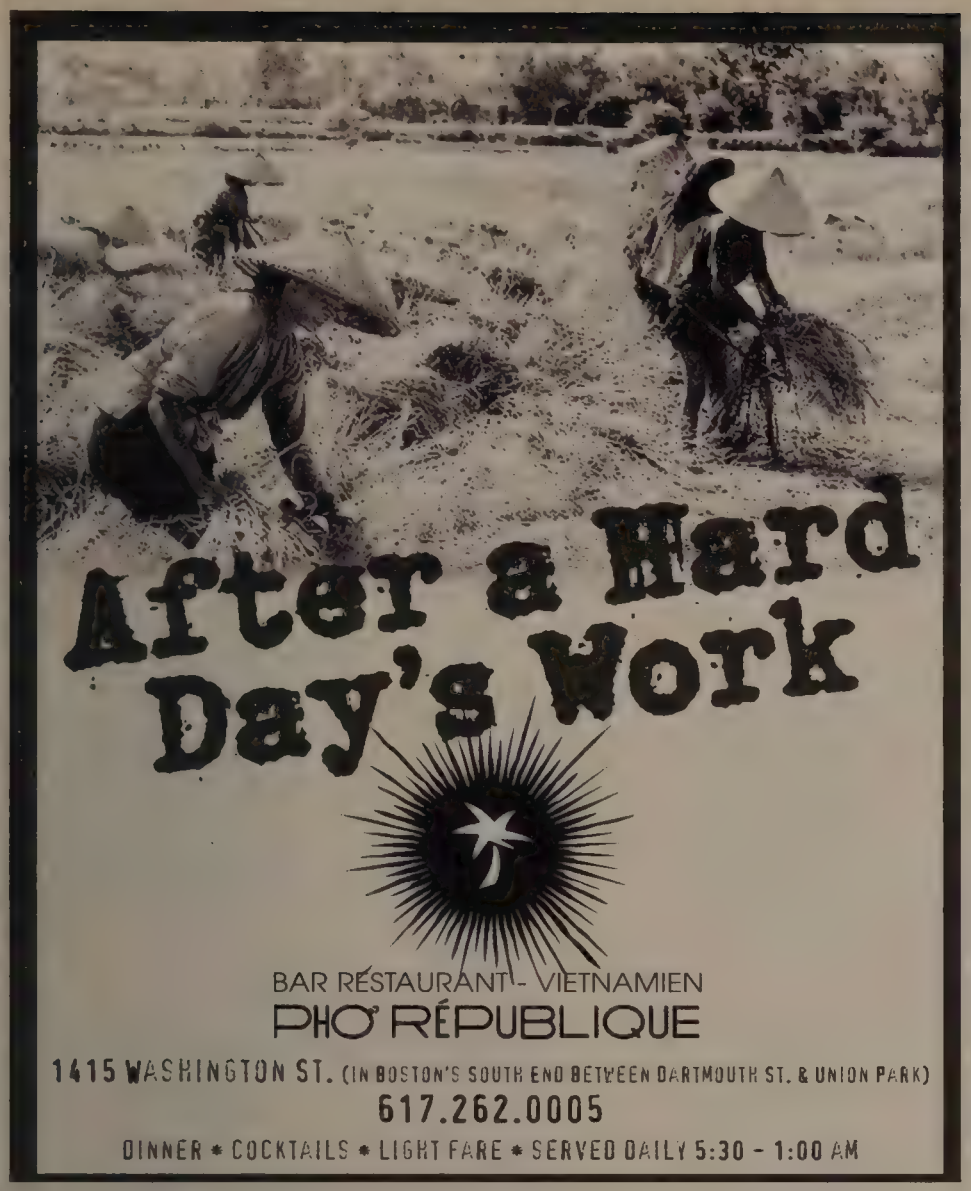
Beausoleil
March 10, Paradise
Blake Babies
March 10, Sanders Theatre
Olu Dara
March 8, Paradise
Alice Deejay
March 8, Axis
Karl Denson's Tiny Universe
March 8, Paradise
The Figgs
March 1, Paradise
Godsmack
March 2, Worcester Centrum
Insane Clown Posse
March 11, Avalon
Insolence
March 11, Avalon
Keb' Mo'
March 1, International Place
Kodo
March 11, Symphony Hall
Ladysmith Black Mambazo
March 4, Sanders Theatre
Lisa Lisa
March 10, Roxy
Ludacris
March 11, Orpheum Theatre
Marz
March 11, Avalon
Masters of Persian Music
March 4, Sanders Theatre
Moe
March 3, Orpheum Theatre
The Monkees
March 9, Lowell Memorial Auditorium
Nullset
March 9, Axis
Orgy
March 3, Worcester Palladium
O-Town
March 12, Avalon
Outkast
March 11, Orpheum Theatre
A Perfect Circle
March 6 and 8, Brandeis University Gosman Center
Gibson House Museum Benefit with Jacqueline Schwab, Mary Lea and Earl Gaddis
March 11, Four Seasons Hotel
Henry Rollins
March 13, Avalon
Saw Doctors
March 13, Paradise
Simon Shaheen and the Near Eastern Music Emsemble
March 4, Longy School of Music
Tha Liks
March 8, Avalon
Vox Pop
March 2, the Junction
Weezer
March 4, Lowell Memorial Auditorium
Write of Spring, with Berklee Faculty Members
Feb. 28, Berklee Performance Center
Xzibit
March 8, Avalon

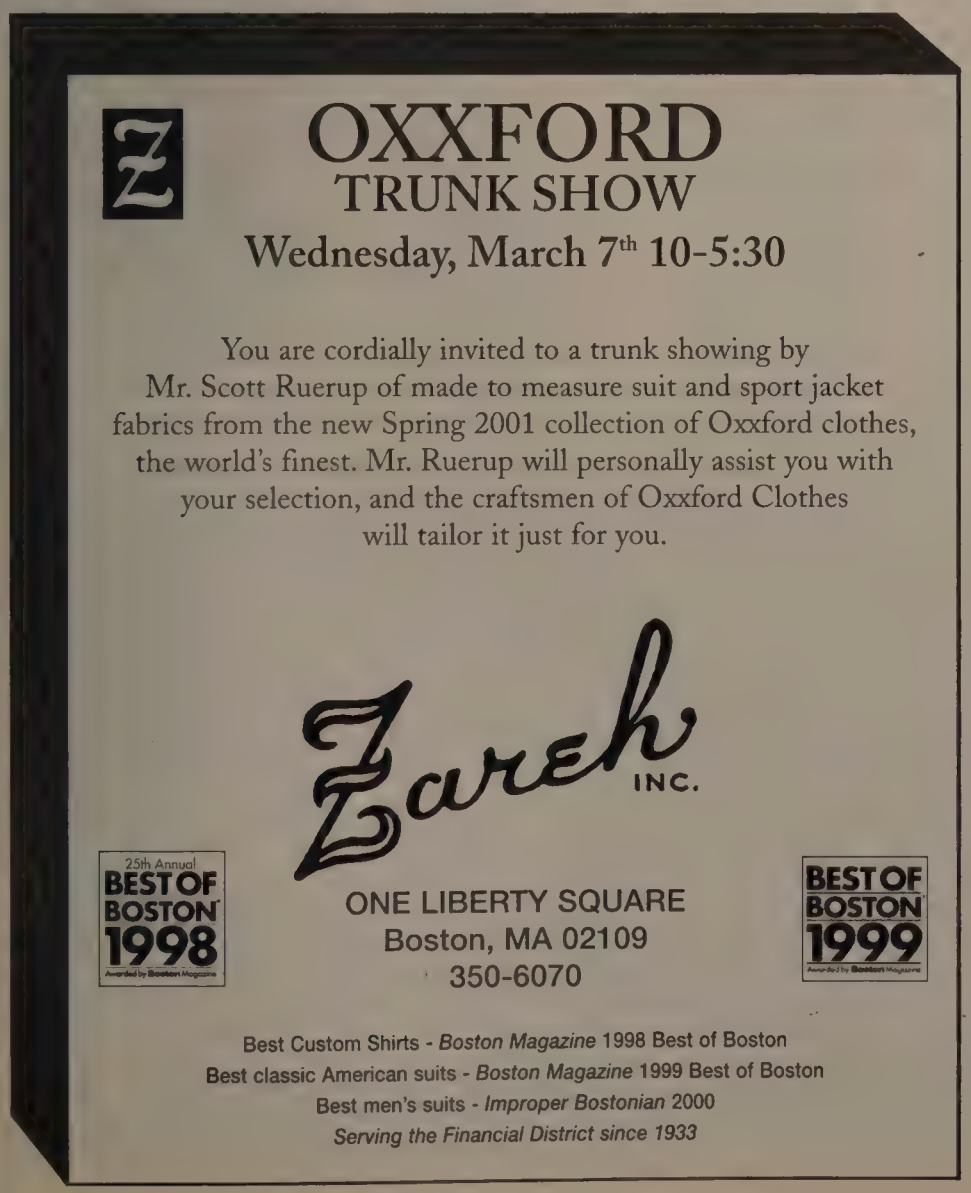
Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

The Attic Wedding Band Showcase (Hip Pocket Orchestra), 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Barking Crab Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6:30pm.
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Black Rose McTaggarts.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Liz Nickrenz, Rachael Sage and Trina Hamlin, 7pm, $7.

MICHAEL LAVINE


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The Prodigals celebrate the release of their new album at the House of Blues March 10.

Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, (Mod Night with DJ Vin), 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Jennerators, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Ray Gun, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Stymie and Sugar Coat, 9:30pm, $4.
House of Blues Colleen Power, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Alastair Mook's "Pastures of Plenty," 8:30pm, $8.
The Kells Wet U'r Whistle Wednesdays with 94.5's Roy Barboza.
Kendall Cafe Science Park, 9:30pm; Fooled by April, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Current, Honey Deluxe and No, Michael, No, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Douglas Fir, 9pm; Laurie Sargent, 10pm; Meghan Toohey, 11pm.
Manray Daniel Myer, Cleaner and Newt, 9pm, $5.
Middle East Evan Harlan Trio, 7pm. U: Fit For Abuse, Close Call, Cops and Robbers and Shark Attack, $7, 18+. D: "Lyrical Sound Bombing" show, $10, 18+. C: Belly Dancing, 10pm.
Milky Way Mercury Lounge with soul, funk and house, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Hegarty, 8pm.
Rack Search Party, 6pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, no cover.
Regattabar Greg Piccolo and Heavy Juice, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazzanova Project, 9:30pm.
Scullers Al Di Meola Band with Gumbi Ortiz, Gilad, Mario Parmisano and Al Di Meola CD-release show, 8 and 10pm, $24.
Sky Bar Major Major, Army of Jasons and Tracy Husky, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer and the Euphorians.
Toad The Cranktones, no cover.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Superdrag, $8.
Les Zygomates Philippe Critien, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

An Tua Nua DJ Ren Justice, 19+.
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton, 9pm, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Joe Deveau, 7pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm, $4.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Kyle Shiver, Simon and Rob Gonzalez, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground DJ Cadillac.
Costello's Tavern Open Blues Jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Lonely Gus and the One Night Stand, 7:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, 21+, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend Band, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Brother Chameleon with Zyrah's Orange, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Mori Stylez, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Geno Delafose.
Kendall Cafe The Gladstones, $5.
Kirkland Cafe South 16, Flutopia and Duncan Reese Lioncort, $5.
Lilli's Sugar Daddy and Buck 50, $6.
Middle East U: Cerberus Shoal, Rose of Sharon, Panoply Academy Legionares and the National Blue, $7, 18+. D: March Mayhem with the Gravel Pit, Babaloo and Kal-El.
Old South Meeting House Folk Music with Scott Alarik, 12:15 pm, $5.
The Phoenix Landing Elements with DJ Crook, Lenore and DJ Rando, $5, 19+.
Porters Bar and Grill Kaluha Promo, 9pm, no cover.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Tommy Flanagan Trio with Peter Washington and Tootie Heath, 8:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Gertz, Bergonzi and Cervenka, 8:30pm, $10.
Scullers The Jessica Williams Trio featuring Victor Lewis and Ray Drummond, 8pm, $30; 10pm, $18.
Sky Bar Madison, Generic, Words for Snow and Vessel, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Colleen Power.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Hillbilly Voodo featuring Barrance Whitfield, 10pm, no cover.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Nancy S Mroczek PhD, 10:30pm.
Les Zygomates Steve Lagone, 8pm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

An Tua Nua DJ Vinney, disco and top-40, 21+.
The Attic Todd Thibaud with the Chris Canty Band, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern tk.
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton and live bands, 9pm, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Zack Koerper, 9pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm, $4.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Barbara Kessler, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Little Horse, 10pm.
Copperfield's 47 Seconds, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Bar Band, 7pm; Tigar Lily, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Ricks Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Issi Rosen Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Peter Prince with Shake Senora, $6, 21+.
House of Blues Shemekia Copeland CD-release show, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Swinging Steaks and Mark Stuart.
The Junction Vox Pop, 8pm, $7.
Kendall Cafe Jesse Perkins, 9:30pm; Melvern Taylor, 10:30pm; the Irresponsibles CD-release show, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Dawn's Bawdy birthday bash featuring the Kenne Highland Clan, Inner Pink, Plastic Cheese and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Old 97's early short set, 7pm, $10; Vic Firecracker, Fly Seville and Head Set, 9:30pm, $7.
Middle East U: Quintaine Americana, Give, Colepitz, Heavy Stud and Dave Tree. D: Tree, Curbfeeler, Superkollider and Duncan Wilder Johnson, $10, 21+.
The Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice, $3, 21+.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Tommy Flanagan Trio with Peter Washington and Tootie Heath, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Jamm Down, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Tony Lada Group with Maggie Scott, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Clark Terry Quintet featuring Silvia Quenca, David Glasser, Don Friedman and Marcus McLaurine, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar I'm Thirsty, 3 Percent and Jiggiwatica, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Coots, no cover.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron, 9pm, no cover.
Western Front Danny Tucker, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Mark Greel, 9pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

An Tua Nua DJ Ren Justice, 21+.
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Black Horse Tavern The Becky Chase Band, 9pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Sam Shaber and Lynn Miles, 8pm, $14.
Common Ground Soul Work, 10pm.
Copperfield's Itchy Fish (Pearl Jam tribute band), 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge The Grant Langford Quintet, featuring Patrice Williamson, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown El Eco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Michigan Blacksnake with Mother's Favorite Child, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Duke Robillard, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Love Dogs.
Kendall Cafe Hellcountry, $7.
Kirkland Cafe Danielle Champeaux, $5.
Lilli's Mike Clark's "Prescription Renewal," featuring Charlie Hunter, DJ Logic, Robert Walter, Skerik and Anti-Jazz Raygun, $20.
Middle East U: Milligram, Cokedealer, the Alcohol Stuntmen, Gil Mantera's Party Dream and 4 Way Anal Touchfight, $7, 18+. D: Uncle Sammy, Foxtrot Zulu and DeciFunk, $10, 18+.
The Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney, New Wave and One Hit Wonders, $3, 21+.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Tommy Flanagan Trio with Peter Washington and Tootie Heath, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Hot Like Fire, 10:30, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Edu Tancredi y el Bandon 33, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Clark Terry Quintet featuring Silvia Quenca, David Glasser, Don Friedman and Marcus McLaurine, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Sky Bar Greenhouse and Groove Selector, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Mayone Thing, no cover.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Maggie Galloway, 9pm, no cover.
Western Front Danny Tucker, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar The Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30-11pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Lance Martin, 6pm; Patrice Williamson, 10pm.

SUNDAY, MARCH 4

An Tua Nua DJ Ren Justice, 21+.
Bill's Bar Reggae with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkins and the B3 Jazz Trio, 11am, no cover.
The Burren Patrick Street, 7:30pm, $20.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Martin Carthy, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald Gospel Group, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack and Guests.
House of Blues Judy Henske, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Kendall Cafe Antara and Delilah, 8:30pm; Mario Lucca, 9:30pm, $4.
Lilli's The Raging Teens and the Colonel, 6pm, $5.
Middle East U: the Varukers, the Unseen and Maltov Cocktail, $7, 18+.
Northeast Brewing Co. The Rusty Scott Quartet Jazz Brunch, 11am, no cover.
The Phoenix Landing Samoa Wilson and the Gin House Heros, 5pm, no cover.
Rack DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Top of The Hub Jazz Piano Trio, 8pm, no cover.

MONDAY, MARCH 5

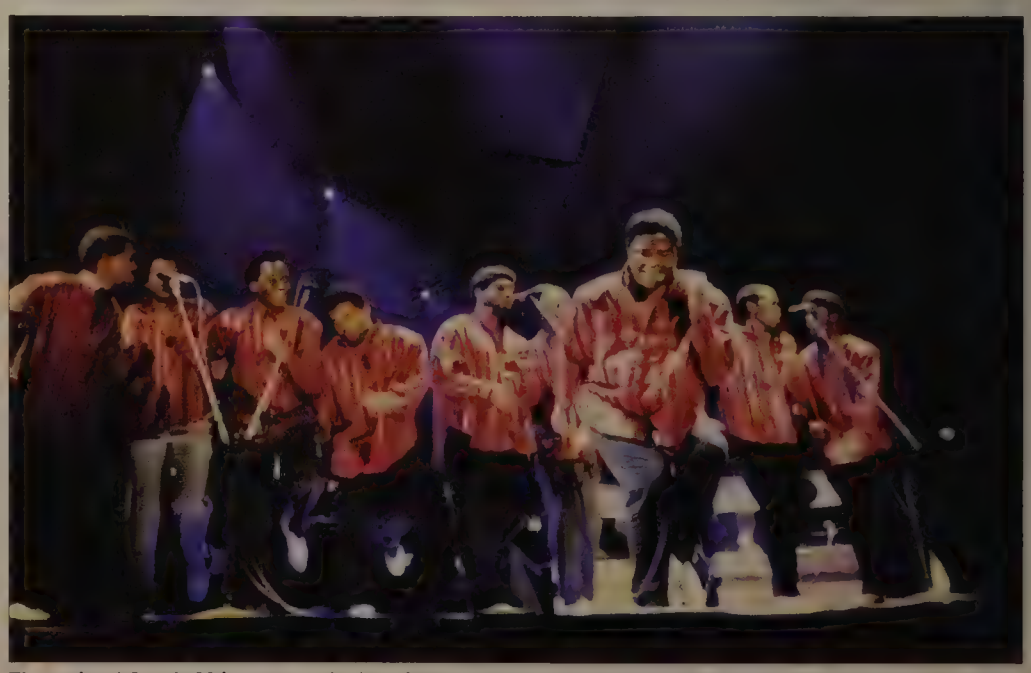
An Tua Nua Ceremony Gothe Night, 19+.
Bill's Bar DJ Kaptain Krunch and Eve CD-release party, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Open-mike folk session hosted by Geoff Bartley, 8pm.
Club Passim Greg Klyma, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Nom De Plume, $2, 21+.
House of Blues Judy Henske, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Beat Research with DJ Flack, DJ C and Cozmopolis.
Kendall Cafe Fred Gillen Jr., 8pm; Stephanie Corby, 8:30pm; Ashley Cox, 9:30pm and Eric Schwartz, 10:30pm, $5.
Rack Rock With the Jocks party with the Celtics, starring the Blue Man Group, 21+.
Top of The Hub Jazz Piano Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Starhustler, 9pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

An Tua Nua What's Up Night, 19+.
Bill's Bar DJ Chaos, $15, 19+.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass hosted by Geoff Bartley.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Bar Band, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, 18+.
Johnny D's Peter Keane and Carl Cacho.
Kendall Cafe Kristen Barry (Star Ghost Dog), 9pm, Kay Hanley, 10pm; Tracy Bonham, 11pm, $6.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnleiter Jazz Quartet, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Naftule's Dream, 9pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East U: the Woggles, the Brett Rosenberg Problem and the Starla Dear, $7, 18+.
Rack Search Party, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Kendra Shank Quartet, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Kaoruko CD-release show, 8:30pm, $7.
Sky Bar Buxton and the Fairplan, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim New Faces with Peter Neuendorffer, Blue Goddess and Kieran Ridge, 8pm, $7.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go (Mod Night with DJ Vin) 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Ciro Stein Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no-cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Gel, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Dennis Brennan and Mark Erelli.
Kendall Cafe Steven Jackson, 8:30pm; Laughing Freemen, 9:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Jay Wightman's Hootenanny, $5.
Middle East U: Lane Meyer, Jerhico, Honor System and Boxing Water, $7, 18+.
MIT Tres Vidas, 8pm., no cover.
The Phoenix Landing DJ Shannon Shalako, DJ Chuck Caseroc and DJ Dave Skye, $5, 19+.



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Rack Welcome to Boston, Richard Hatch and DJ Steve Anderson, 21+.
Regattabar John Scofield with Jesse Murphy, Seamus Blake and Bill Stewart, 8:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazzanova Project, 9:30pm.
Scullers Jazz Club Pianist Geoffrey Gee and percussionist Russ Gold, 8pm, $10.
Sky Bar My Beautiful Ex-Wife, Ghosts of Blake and Deportivo, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Bill Lowe, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

An Tua Nua DJ Ren Justice, 19+.
Avalon Xzibit, 7pm, $17.75, 18+.
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton, 9pm, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Palabra, 7pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm, $4.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Rebecca Martin and Christopher Williams, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground DJ Cadillac.
Costello's Tavern Open Blues Jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort The Jennerators, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Steady Earnest and Friends, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Danu.
Kendall Cafe The Gladstones, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Cautions, Executrix and the Complaints, $5.
Lilli's Syndrome X, Schism and Dummy Plug Conspiracy, 9pm, $7.
Middle East U: Barbero, Victory at Sea, 27 and Liquor Tricks, $7, 18+.
Old South Meeting House Folk Music with Cliff Eberhardt, 12:15pm, $5.
Rack Mix 98.5 Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar John Scofield with Jesse Murphy, Seamus Blake and Bill Stewart, 8:30pm, $15.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Jazz Orchestra with Frank Vardaros, 8:30pm, $7.
Sky Bar Coppertree, View from Here, Fly Danny Glick and the Kevin MacDonald Band, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sona Nyl CD-release party with Auto Interior and Gay Potatoes, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Les Zygomates Steve Lagone, 8pm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

An Tua Nua DJ Vinney, 21+.
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton, 9pm, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern No Michael No, 9pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm, $4.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Jim's Big Ego, 7 and 10pm, $15.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10pm.
Copperfield's Riot Act, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Stan Strickland and the Ascension, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Nick Goumas Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Jeff Pitchell and Texas Flood with the Seth Yacovone Band, $8, 21+.
House of Blues James Cotton Band, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Beatlejuice.
Kendall Cafe Maribeth Swan, 9:30pm; Mind the Gap, 10:30pm; Dragstrip Courage, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Downbeat 5, Porn, Chris Ware Band and the Mickey Bliss and Organ Combo, $5.
Middle East U: Angry Hill, Canine and Stuffis, $7, 18+. D: Ground Control Tour, featuring Ed O.G., Rasco, Masterminds and Aceyolons, $16, 18+.
Milky Way Babaloo.
The Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice, $3, 21+.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa, Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar John Scofield with Jesse Murphy, Seamus Blake and Bill Stewart, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Danny Tucker, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Tribute to Tito Puente, featuring Eguie Castrillo, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Ray Barretto and New World Spirit with James Moody, 8 and 10:30pm, $24.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Dr. Awkward and SpookieDaly Pride, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron, 9pm, no cover.
Western Front Concscious Band, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Valerie Stephens, 6pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

An Tua Nua DJ Ren Justice, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Alan and the Alligators, 9pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers upstairs, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Bernice Lewis and Cosy Sheridan, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Beat Soup, 10pm.
Copperfield's Open, 10pm.
Cracker's Lonely Gus and the One Night Stand, 9pm, cover varies.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Booty, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge El Eco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Vykki Vox, $7, 21+.
House of Blues The Prodigals CD-release party, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Beatlejuice.
Kendall Cafe Patty Keough, 9:30pm; Honest Bob, 10:30pm; Adam Brodsky, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Belltones, $5.
Lilli's The Kings of Nuthin', the Lost City Angels and Kevin Stevenson (of the Shods), $7.
Middle East U: Tugboat Annie, AM Stereo, Calendar Girl and the Decals, $8, 18+. D: Rustic Overtones and Gruvis Malt, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Babaloo.
The Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney; New Wave and One Hit Wonders, $3, 21+.
Rack Dance Party with Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar John Scofield with Jesse Murphy, Seamus Blake and Bill Stewart, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Ray Barretto and New World Spirit with James Moody, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Sky Bar Stymie, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio with vocalist Maggie Galloway, 9pm, no cover.
Western Front Conscious Band, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar The Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30-11pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Manisha and Eula Lawrence, 10pm.



The high-flying Old 97's new album, *Satellite Rides*, just might rocket them into orbit.

Preview

Rock of the Old 97's

The alt-country rockers land at Lilli's March 2

So I sidled up beside her, settled down and shouted "Hi there/My name's Stewart Ransom Miller, I'm a serial lady killer"/She said "I'm already dead," that's exactly what she said.

And so two lovesick barflies meet in "Barrier Reef," one of the Old 97's many songs that salute the dissolute. The Old 97's play "modern," "alternative," "new-school" and/or "insurgent" country music, depending on who you ask. Their songs update and rejuvenate some aspects of the country-music ethos, while rigorously adhering to others. For example, in the classic country tradition, some of their best songs are simply tales of morose drinkers. "Cryin' Drunk," "W.I.F.E." and "Four-Leaf Clover" (a brilliant, high-intensity duet with Exene Cervenka) are some shining examples. Their subject matter, on the whole, can be summed up concisely: love, home, the road and the gutter—lather (in beer suds), rinse (in tears and cold, cold rain) and repeat.

What sets the 97's apart from the crowd (besides singer Rhett Miller's distinctive, expressive voice and Murry Hammond's sweet harmony vocals) is the wit and charm of their lyrics. Grammar fiends may want to remove the apostrophe from the band's name (or ask "the Old 97's *what*?") but that would be seeing the trees and missing the forest. Take, for example, "Niteclub," a song about a musician's age-old struggle between playing music and, well, everything else:

Eighteen-hundred miles from Manhattan/The nightclub yawns and opens up its doors.../This old nightclub stole my youth/And this old nightclub stole my true love/It follows me around from town to town/I just might get drunk tonight and burn the nightclub down.

Or love, Texas-style:

This is the story of Victoria's heart/You might think it's stupid, but I still think it's art/She lost her lover to an accident at sea/She pushed him overboard and ended up with me.

These are lines to chill the red pen of the strictest English teacher, and warm enough to melt her heart as well. The Old 97's fifth full-length, *Satellite Rides*, is due for release on March 20. The band performs at Lilli's on March 2, at 7pm, playing a very short set after a listening party that debuts their new album. —*Andrew Graham*

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

Anago The Rusty Scott Quartet Jazz Brunch, 11:30am, no cover.
An Tua Nua DJ Ren Justice, 21+.
Bill's Bar Reggae with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Michael Kelly and the Hot Blue Q, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim Tim Mason, Geoff Bartley, Friedman, James O'Brien and Raelinda Woad, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Eveleyn McDonald Gospel Group, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack and Guests.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Kendall Cafe Funderdome, $5.
Middle East U: Counterfit, Selby Tigers and Tsunami Bomb, $7, 18+. D: Danielson Famille and Scientific, 8:30pm, $8, 18+.
The Phoenix Landing Samoa Wilson and the Gin House Heroes, 5pm, no cover.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, MARCH 12

An Tua Nua Ceremony Gothe Night, 19+.
Bill's Bar DJ Kaptain Krunch, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Open-mike folk session hosted by Geoff Bartley.
Club Passim Danny Fox Quintet, 7:30pm, $6.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Hazie Maze with Something Ira, $5, 18+.
House of Blues Kara Tondorf, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Beat Research with DJ Flack, DJ Cand Cozmopolis.
Kendall Cafe Russell Wolff, 8pm; Carl Cacho, 8:30pm; Ashley Cox, 9:30pm; Hewitt Huntwork, 10:30pm, $5.
Middle East U: Jim Adkins, Totally Travis and Kofax, $8, 18+.
Top of The Hub Jazz Piano Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Creme Brulee, 9pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 13

An Tua Nua What's Up Night, 19+.
Bill's Bar DJ Choas, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Cantab Lounge Blue grass hosted by Geoff Bartley.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Bar Band, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Fascination Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, 18+.
Johnny D's Tanglefoot.
Kendall Cafe The Jack McCoys, 9pm; the Naked Sams, 10pm; the Shelly Winters Project, 11pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnleiter Jazz Quartet, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Naftule's Dream, 9pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East U: The Modifiers, Mary Lou Lord, Denice Radeky, Josh Metcalf, Meghan McLaughlin and Nikki Shapiro, $8, 18+. D: the Donnas, Bratmobile and Mooney Suzuki, 8pm, $10, 18+.
Rack Search Party, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Jinga Trio with Alon Yavnai, Fernando Huergo and Steve Langone, 8:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Ben Adams featuring George Garzone, 8:30pm, $8.
Sky Bar Scrim, Flutopia and Tunnelvision, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of The Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Trio, 8pm.

Music Venues

Anago at the Lenox Hotel *65 Exeter St., Boston (266-6222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place. Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*

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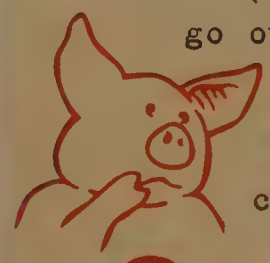
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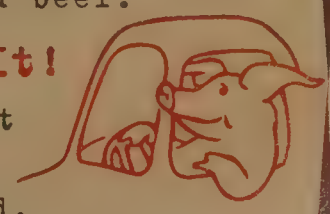


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The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogans Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Costello's Tavern *723 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (522-9263). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Avenue, Boston (734-9000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Four Seasons Hotel *200 Boylston St., Boston (267-6338). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Gosman Center at Brandeis *415 South St., Waltham (781-736-8525). MBTA: Fitchburg Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
International Place *Courtyard, Boston (740-0929). MBTA: Blue Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Jacob Wirth's *31-37 Stuart St., Boston (338-8586). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*



Sona Nyl throw a CD-release party with Auto Interior and Gay Potatoes at T.T.'s March 8.

Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Allston (782-9082). MBTA: Green Line.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Longy School of Music *33 Garden St., Cambridge (888-457-7800). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way Lounge and Lanes *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
MIT *Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., 14W-111, Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall Square.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Griggs St.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Old South Meeting House *310 Washington St, Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Playhouse Lounge *74 Warrenton St., Boston (482-2227). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Regatta Bar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grill *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tir na nÓg *366A Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*



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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 28

Berklee Concert Recitals
Berklee Performance Center, 1140 Boylston St., Boston (747-8820). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 4pm and 7pm. Free. A performance featuring original compositions and the music of Herbie Hancock and Steve Swallow is performed under the direction of pianist Mamiko Watanabe and bassist Tiago Coimbra. Also, guitarist Francesco Guaiana plays.

Boston Philharmonic
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-1200). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $15-$60. Benjamin Zander conducts the Philharmonic, joined by Chorus Pro Musica and Music Director Jeffrey Rink in this performance of Elgar's *The Dream of Gerontius*. Michelle DeYoung, mezzo-soprano, Anthony Rolfe Johnson, tenor, and John Relyea, bass-baritone, are featured performers.

Emmanuel Music Evening Concert Series
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8pm. $15-$100. Two of Bach's Cantatas are played, featuring mezzo-soprano Lorraine Hunt Lieberson and conductor Craig Smith.

Joseph Silverstein's Master Class
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0957). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11am. $45. Conductor of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and violinist Joseph Silverstein performs this morning.

Muir String Quartet
Tsai Performance Center at Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Musicians perform works by Mozart, Bartok and Schumann.

Write of Spring
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8:15pm. $4. Under the direction of faculty members Jackson Schultz and Ken Pullig, this concert features the works of faculty members from the Jazz Composition Department performed with instrumentation from a 10-piece group to larger ensembes.

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

Artist Diploma Recital
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0957). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11am. $45. Flutist Sarah Brady performs an a flute recital with pianist Alejandro Barranon.

BSO: Williams Cello Concert
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. This is a multimedia concerto for cello and orchestra, commissioned by the BSO. David Robertson conducts, with Cho-Liang Lin on piano.

Midday Organ Recitals
Adolphus Busch Hall, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (266-0800). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. Enjoy performances on the Flentrop organ.

NEC Symphony Orchestra Concert
NEC Keller Room, 30 Gainsborough St., 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (585-1142). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. Join NEC Orchestra and Chorus with music director Richard Hoenich and conductor F. John Adams.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2

Early Evenings with the Borromeo String Quartet
NEC Keller Room, 30 Gainsborough St., 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (585-1142). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 6pm. Free. The quartet performs a variety of music.

BSO: Williams Cello Concert
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30pm. $28-$83. Same program as March 1.

Fleet Celebrity Series
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, Huntington Ave., Boston (482-2595). MBTA E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $15. WGBH and FleetBoston Celebrity Series welcome violinist Andrew Kohji Taylor, pianist Max Levinson and composer Rob Kapilow.

Fridays at Trinity Series
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:25-12:45pm. Free. John Dillistone from Cambridgeshire, England performs.

Huelgas Ensemble
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (661-1812). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8pm. $18-$42. Direc-

or Paul Van Nevel leads the Huelgas Ensemble in a erformace of works by Bach and Guillaume Dufay.

IIT Guest Artist Series
Tresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Boston (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8pm. The Artis String Quartet brings compelling new dimensions to the elgant Viennese string quartet tradition.

Iusic at the Meeting House
ld South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston 300-1623). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 2:15pm. Free. WGBH and the New England Conseratory present performances by graduates and stuents of the NEC's Artist Diploma program. Joanna urkowicz is featured on violin.

ATURDAY, MARCH 3

SO: Williams Cello Concert
ymphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). ww.bso.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. :30pm. $28-$83. Same program as March 1.

ontemporary Music at MIT
Tresge Auditorium, 48 Mass Ave., Boston (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8pm. $2. The MIT Festival azz Ensemble presents the music of composer and onductor Guillermo Klein.

rving Fine Memorial Concert
losberg Recital Hall, Brandeis University, Waltham 269-7171). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/ oberts. 8pm. Free. Performers include D'Anna Fortuato, Sally Pinkas, Irving Fine and Gabriel Fauré.

rgan Workshop Series
ld West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston (739-340). 10am. $15, $10 members, $5 students. Organist nd choir director of St. Stephen's Church in Provience James Busby performs with members of the chola Cantorum.

oung Artists Showcase Series
sabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, oston (734-1359). $4-$17. 1:30pm. The Doron ichard Johnson Trio performs.

UNDAY, MARCH 4

unday Concert Series
sabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, oston (734-1359). $4-$17. 1:30pm. Christopheren omura, baritone, and Eric Malson, piano, perform ngs by Argento, Schubert and Copland.



Pianist and composer Marcus Roberts and his trio perform at Merrimack College March 9.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77.* Same program as March 1.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (566-5218). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Violist Ellen Francisco performs with pianist Sarah Chen.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7

Contemporary Music at MIT
Killian Hall 14W-111, 160 Memorial Dr., Boston (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8pm. The ensemble performs chamber music based on the lives of three Latin American women.

Dominique Eade Performance
Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8pm. Free. NEC faculty member Dominique Eade performs her new compositions with Mick Goodrick on guitar and John Lockwood on bass.

Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Longy showcase recital.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8

Cliff Eberhardt Concert
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12:15-1pm. $5. Hear works by Cliff Eberhardt, whose music has been recorded by artists such as Ritchie Havens, Shawn Colvin and Buffy St. Marie.

Midday Organ Recitals
Adolphus Busch Hall, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (266-0800). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. Same program as March 1.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9

Bach at the Back Bay
Sanders Theater, Cambridge (730-7430). www.backbaychorale.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $17-$30.* The Back Bay Chorale returns with J.S. Bach's *Mass in B Minor*, considered to be his most important choral work.

Frederica von Stade Concert
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $35-$48.* Mezzo-soprano Frederica von Stade is joined by Chanticleer, a male vocal ensemble.

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:25-12:45pm. Free. Gary Garletts performs.

Marcus Roberts Trio at Merrimack
Roger Center for the Arts, Merrimack College, North Andover (978-837-5355). 8pm. $20. Pianist and composer Marcus Roberts and his trio perform their original compositions, ranging from jazz to classic American standards.

Music at the Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington Street, Boston (300-1623). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:15pm. Free. WGBH and the New England Conservatory present performances by graduates and students of the NEC's Artist Diploma program. Internationally acclaimed Venetian pianist Roberto Poli performs chamber music.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10

Longwood Symphony Orchestra
30 Gainsborough St., Jordan Hall, Boston (713-4130). 8pm. $15. This concert benefits the Dimock Community Health Center. Music selections include Ellington's Suite from *The River*, Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 1* and Ives' *Symphony No. 2*.

Young Artists Showcase Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston (734-1359). $4-$17. 1:30pm. Baritone Stephan Loges, winner of the 1998 Young Concert Artists International Auditions, performs with Alexander Schmalcz on piano.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11

A Choral Odyssey
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy Street, Cambridge (971-9383). www.masterworkschorale.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $5-$31.* Allen Lannom conducts 120 voices on a journey through five centuries of choral music. Selections include Gregorian Chant; Renaissance-era motets of Palestrina and Vittoria; Gabrielie's *In Ecclesiis*; Schütz's *Psalm 150*; a Brahms motet; Mendelssohn's *Heilig*; Bruckner's *Ave Maria*; John Rutter's *Gloria* and Daniel Pinkham's *Fanfares*.

Guarneri String Quartet at NEC
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (482-6661). www.celebrity. org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $38.* The FleetBoston Celebrity Series presents the longest-running collaboration of any string quartet in the world, the Guarneri String Quartet.

Kodo Drummers One Earth Tour
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). www.bso.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $25-$45.* Sado Island's Kodo Drummers perform traditional Japanese drumming at Symphony Hall.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (566-5218). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. The Longy Chamber Singers, led by Lorna Cooke deVaron, perform.

Masterworks Chorale
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (781-235-6210). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $16-$31. The Masterworks Chorale and brass ensemble, conducted by Allen Lannom, performs A Choral Odyssey, with music from the Renaissance to the present day.

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How to use this section
The following listings contain information that is subject to change. Contact the organization for changes in specific events.

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full service restaurant, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. Tue.-Sun., divas rule. 10:30pm, $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Sundays have a Drag-on Showgirl Showcase with Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, Destiny, Ivory and Sum Yung Ho. 10pm, 21+.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.



Jaques shows off regulars Miss Kris Knieval, Belinda Davenport, Diamond Dunhill and Mizery.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes and classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play the video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Balance: the Men's Event 2001
Westin Hotel, Old Copley Place, Boston (267-8862). March 10. $125. This evening of dinner, dancing and awards benefits the Fenway Community Health Center.

BiHealth Educator Training
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6032). March 3, 10am-4:30pm. Free. This training opportunity to learn how to educate others about bisexuality and HIV prevention is open to all.

Essence of a Woman
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6134). March 2, 6-8pm. Free. A sex rap for lesbian and bisexual women. Come together to talk about sex and how it affects your life.

Oklahoma City
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Feb. 28-March 17. $19-$24. In the Theatre Offensive's new play, two queer guerrila performers make up their own wonderfully, dysfunctional family.

Positive Prevention
AIDS Action Committee, Holiday Inn, 500 Lincoln St., Boston (508-852-4000). Feb. 28, 8:30am-4:30pm. A networking day offers an opportunity to learn more about how people with HIV can protect themselves and others while having healthy sexual lives.

SASSIE
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6134). March 7. Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education presents an two-month program that focuses on HIV/STD prevention education for women of color who have sex with women.

Six Degrees of Sassifaction
Moonshine at Club Cafe, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (480-3190). $10, $7 students. March 10, 7pm. 21+. This one "woman" drag cabaret show stars Sassy as she travels through her body, mind and "soles."

Women's Ski Trip
Sunday River, Bethel, Maine (666-1922). Laffan@aol.com. *March 8-11.* This trip includes slopeside condo accommodations for 24 women.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington St. Swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Daily 8-10pm. Support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). *6pm.* This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or go online at *http://members.tripod.com/~ecwc* or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). www.frontrunnersboston.org. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club geared toward the LGBT community. It meets on Saturdays.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). *Fridays, 12pm.* An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This nationwide line provides information, referral and support services to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning callers.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
Boston Room, Lindemann Center, 25 Staniford St., Boston (742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. *MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Feb. 27, 7:30pm.* All welcome.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Typically seven teams play on three courts. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). www.piac.net/users/latte/lcfd/. Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Kristen Porter's Dyke Night
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (542-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. $5, 10pm, 21+. Every Thursdays this Best of Boston Lesbian Bar has rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900 ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900 ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243) or lcoolidge@fenway.org. Held quarterly. Sliding scale fee available.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677) www.longyangclub.org/boston. Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Peer Listening Line
1-617-267-2535 or 1-800-399-PEER. Mon.-Fri. 4pm-10pm. A toll-free nation-wide line that provides information, referral and support to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning youth.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30-8:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass Ave, Cambridge (864-GLBT). www.project10east.org. GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Eduction offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Survivors of Domestic Violence
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6250). A free 12-week group for GLBT survivors of domestic violence.

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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Feb. 16, 7:30-9:30pm. $6. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor spiritual traditions from all around the world.

Earth Drum Council Event & Workshop
First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). •March 1 ($15): Drumming Together is an evening of drumming inspired by Eastern, Western, African and Native American cultures. •March 2-4: **Reinhard** and **Cornelia Flatischler** lead a three-day workshop on Ta Ke Ti Na, a musical process that dissolves behavior patterns that inhibit our lives and our relationships. Reinhard founded the Ta Ke Ti Na Rhythmwork process in 1970.

Psychic Medium John Holland
The Ninth House, 89 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-1817). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 14, 7-9pm. $45. John will show you how to tap into your own natural psychic abilities through exercises that are easy and enjoyable. He will demonstrate his own powers by giving psychic readings.

Shape-Shifting into Peace and Compassion
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (424-6625). www.eomega.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 2-3, 9am-5pm. $165.* **John Perkins** and shaman **Lyn Roberts-Herrick** teach you how to dream your imagination into reality and become more connected to our world. Assisted by the elements--, along with plants, music, video, sacred fire, huaca stones, ecstatic journeys, spirit and star guides, and Tibetan deities and dakinis-- we discover how to transport ourselves into the realm of the shape shifter so we can understand this unique approach to changing ourselves and the world we live in.

CLASSES

Shakti & Shiva: In Worship and in You
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *March 2, 7-9pm. $15.* The primordial god/goddess of Shaivite tradition dwells within each of us as our own unbounded spiritual potential. **Gita Beth Bryant** will teach mantras, chants, rituals and meditations to invoke and access the divine within us.

Shamanic Journeying: An Introductory Workshop
The Ninth House, 89 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-1817). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. March 3, 10am-5pm. $85. In this workshop, learn how to journey to non-ordinary reality with the aid of drumming so you can discover your own spiritual teachers. You will journey to both upper and lower worlds and learn how to use this for personal problem-solving.

T'ai Chi for Beginners
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 4, 10am-4:30pm. $72.* T'ai chi is a method of exercise with slow, fluid movements based on the Chinese principle of yin and yang.

Yoga & Improvisation Workshop
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (781-395-9428). http://cambridge.zami.com/dancecomplex. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 3, 1:30-5:30pm.* Join **Patrick Crowley** for a class that's fun, healthy and different every time.

Women's Yoga
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991 or 524-3484). www newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. March 11, 1:30-5:30pm. $55.* Learn yoga poses that detoxify the body and enhance the function of its internal systems.

LECTURES

Making Friends with Death
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (734-1498). March 9, 7:30pm. $15. **Judith Lief**, author of *Making Friends with Death: A Buddhist Guide to Mortality*, discusses death and dying.



Get limber with yoga guru Ana Forrest March 2-4.

Naturopathic Approach to Anxiety and Depression
Wellspace, Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *March 9, 7:15-8:45pm. Free.* Are you taking medications that cause unwanted side effects or simply aren't working? Learn the metabolic cause of your depression and/or anxiety and explore safe and effective natural treatments.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (924-7276). www.dne.org. *MBTA: #57, 70 or 71 bus. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7adults, $4 teens, free for kids.* Dance any way you want to, even barefoot, to all kinds of music in this smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Martial Arts
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http:// dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *Free.* Does martial arts intrigue you? Check these classes out. •Tai Chi lunch hour: Mon./Fri., 12:30-1:30pm •Buddhist Chi Kung: Tue, 7-8pm •Tai Chi Self Defense: Tue., 8-9pm.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are open to and appropriate for anyone seeking a personal spiritual path.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* If you've wanted to try yoga or work some into your schedule, then visit the attractive, peaceful and inviting environment of this yoga center. They offer mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay. $18/session. Drop in any class. •Yoga wake-up: weekdays, 8-9am •Hatha yoga: Mon./Wed., 6-7pm, and Tue./Thu., 7:30-8:30pm. Call ahead.

RETREATS

Day of Meditation Instruction and Practice
Shambhala Meditation Center, 646 Brookline Ave., Brookline (734-1498). www.shambhala.org/center/boston. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. March 3, 9am-4pm. $45.* Meditation helps to calm the mind's roller-coaster of hope and fear. This workshop features the presentation, "The View of Meditation," taught by **Sakyong Mipham Rinpoche**. It's excellent for newcomers and those interested in re-exploring meditation.

Jin Shin Jyutsu Self-Help Techniques
Wellspace, Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *March 3, 1:30-6:30pm. $85 (includes text and materials).* The ancient energy-harmonizing art of Jin Shin Jyutsu reduces stress and promotes healthy well-being. By placing your hands in particular sequences and spots on the body, an individual can begin to experience the opening of blocked energy pathways. A free introductory lecture takes place the day before from 7:15-8:45pm.

Yoga Weekend Workshop
Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Mass Ave., Cambridge (BOS-YOGA). www.baronbaptiste.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 8-11am, 1-4pm. March 2-4. $160. Mail check to: Bapiste Power Yoga Institute, PO Box 400279, Cambridge, MA 02140 and indicate your wish to register for this workshop.* Internationally acclaimed yoga master **Ana Forrest** is known for her strong and beautiful yoga—yet more important for her ability to touch students at a core spiritual level.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Animal Crackers
Orpheum Foxborough, One School St., Foxborough, Mass. (508-543-2787). $7-$12. March 2-3. This show of large puppet antics, accompanied by the music of Mozart, Strauss and Rossini, will feature a circus lion and tiger (made of cardboard boxes), Anansi the spider on the shadow screen, and a barnyard opera performed by rod puppets.

Beauty and the Beast
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (736-4201). March 4 and 11, 1pm and 3pm. $9, $7 children. The National Marionette Theatre presents a performance for adult and family audiences.

Japanese Puppet Theater
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (426-6500). www.bostonkids.org. *March 4. $30 adults/$15 children.* The Children's Museum of Boston co-sponsors Awaji Japanese Puppet Theater with the Japan Society of Boston.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. •March 3-4, 1 and 3pm: ***The Little Stone Mason & Other Tales*** by Palm of the Hand Stories. •March 10-11, 1 and 3pm: ***Shadows 'n Light***. Innovative shadow puppeteer Jim Napolitano presents *Shadows and Light*, with a special evening performance for adults March 10.

Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston. (589-0454) MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Through May. $7.50, $5.50 children and seniors. This Mugar Omni Theater production tells the story of Sir Ernest Shackleton's ill-fated 1914-1916 expedition. After being trapped by ice floes, the crew of the *Endurance* escaped to Elephant Island, where they lived for five months before Shackleton trekked 800 miles to South Georgia Island and returned 21 months later to rescue his men.

THINGS TO DO

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (648-6220). 6:30-8:30pm. $25. •March 2: **A Day of Watercolors** lets kids work in pastels and watercolor/gouache.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd. (Route 2A), Lexington, (781 861-6559) MBTA: Red Line to Alewife Station. Change to bus #62 or #76 to the museum. •March 3, 2pm. $6/child; $8/adult The Longy School of Music presents "Tubby the Tuba" in this fun family concert. *•March 10, 11am. $5/$3 for Friends.* PuppetTrio performs a fun and interactive show of folk tales from around the world, for all ages.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, transfer to bus #51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children. Microcars from many countries are on exhibit in *Microcars! The Little Car That Could.* •March 3: Saturday Family Program presents Car Pins. •March 10: Saturday Family Program: Transportation Coloring Book.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. $13, $7 children. •March 10: **Turtle-Palooza**. This day is dedicated to sea turtles and their land-based cousins. Play games, see critters face-to-face, get a temporary tattoo and take home some goodies.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). March 7 and 14, 7pm. For 3rd to 5th graders. As part of the Book Club, do projects and write book reviews and stories for a kid-run literary journal on new books and old favorites.

Saturday Scholars
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge. (495-2341). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *•March 3, 9am-6pm:* Children can search for minerals in the dig box or learn how to become rockhounds and start their own mineral collections. *•March 10, 9am-11am:* For preschool: **Animals and Art: An African Safari**. On this journey through the world of African arts and animals, kids will track lions, leopards and giraffes—both real *and* captured in beads, fabric and wood by centuries of African artists. •Grades K and 1: **Critter Café** invites kids to learn how animals like sharks and tigers survive in nature.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 931-2000
March 1: Tampa Bay, 7pm, NESN
March 3: San Jose, 1pm, NESN
March 6: Buffalo, 7pm, NESN
March 8: Ottawa, 7pm, NESN
March 10: Atlanta, 12pm, NESN

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: $10-$75. Call 228-6000
March 2: Utah, 7:30pm, FSNE
March 4: Charlotte, 3pm, FSNE.
March 7: Milwaukee, 7pm, FSNE
March 9: Washington, 7:30pm, FSNE
March 11: Philadelphia, 12:30, NBC

Events

Target Stars on Ice
Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill, 356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton (566-1880). www.roggies.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. March 10, 10pm; March 11, 9pm and 11pm.* Watch Ireland FA Cup (championship soccer) with fellow footie fans.

JFF Muscle Dream Team Bash
Cyclorama at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (508-875-8887). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. March 1, 7:30pm. $200. The Dream Team was formed in 1996 by friends and NFL teammates to support football player Paul Frase's son, Joshua, who was born with myotubular myopathy. This night features celebrity guests and live and silent auctions.

Target Stars on Ice
Worcester's Centrum Centre, 50 Foster St., Worcester (228-6000). March 10, 7:30pm. $60, $48 and $35. America's premier figure skating championship enters its 15th season with Olympic champs Tara Lipinski, Kristi Yamaguchi, Ilia Kulik, Ekaterina Gordeeva, four-time world champion Kurt Browning and three-time u.s National pairs champions Jenni Meno and Todd Sand.

To Play

BASKETBALL

Basketball City
Adjacent to North Station and the FleetCenter (742-6700). Corporate, midday and weekend leagues.

Co-Ed Indoor Basketball
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070, ext. 224). Sun.-Thu. nights at various locations. All levels welcome. Leagues in Waltham, Dedham and Brookline. Co-ed teams now forming.

The Corporate League of Boston
(566-7808).

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). Practice and workout programs for all levels in Greater Boston.

South End Fitness Center League
(534-5823).

Women's Basketball League
(661-9622). Tuesdays 5:30-7pm and Sundays, 6-7:30pm.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC, Indoor Sports Center in Revere (789-4070). Sundays.

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

HOCKEY

Co-ed Floor Hockey
BSSC (789-4070). Individuals and teams, co-eds, all levels in Newton. Co-ed teams now forming.

MARTIAL ARTS

Discover the Art of Chi Kung
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 4, 10am-12pm. $14. T'ai chi is chi kung done as slow martial-arts form. T'ai chi promotes mental, emotional and physical healing by combining movement, meditation, relaxation and self-defense. Work with breathing, meditation and stationary routines.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players welcome.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
(499-4835). Weekly runs year-round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

Boston Road Club Weekly Races
(781-646-8955). Sundays. Starts at Wells Ave. in Newton.

Fresh Pond Weekly Road Races
Fresh Pond Reservation. Saturdays, 10am. Choose between a 2.5- or 5-mile run.

Khoury's Thursday Night Runs
East Somerville. (351-5682). 4.13 miles. 7pm at Khoury's Bar.

Logan Post 5K
1194 Broadway, West Somerville (283-3292). Every Thursday at 7:10pm.

NikeTown Boston Running Club
200 Newbury St., Boston (267-3400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Three-to-five-mile loops. Starts at 6:30pm. Monthly mini-clinics as well.

SNOW SPORTS

Ski & Board Weekends
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). $55. The Boston Ski & Sports Club offers day and weekend trips throughout the winter. •Wednesdays, Saturdays or Sundays this winter. 5:30am/6am bus departures from Newton, Newburyport and Tewksbury. •Feb. 28: Mt. Snow •March 2: Wildcat •March 2-4: Sugarloaf •March 3: Mt. Snow •March 4: Stowe •March 7: Stratton •March 9-11: Montreal/Jay Peak •March 10: Okemo •March 11: Sugarbush •March 14: Wildcat.

Ski Market Trips
860 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (731-6100). $50 (day trips), $169 (weekend). SkiMarket Underground offers trips with round-trip transportation, a lift ticket, dinner (on Wednesday and Thursday trips) and a stop at the Red Hook Brewery. •Feb. 28: Sunday River •March 4: Killington •March 7: Sunday River •March 11: Killington •March 14: Sunday River.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams.

SOFTBALL

Amateur Softball Association
(781-665-9745). Interested in becoming an umpire? Free clinics will be held in the Newton area on March 5 and 12 at 7pm and on March 18 at 1:30pm.

WRESTLING

Men's Adult Wrestling
Boston Union, 48 Boylston St., Boston (482-1122). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mon. and Wed., 6:30-8:30pm; Sat., 1-4pm. All skill levels. Coaching available.



Tim Manning teaches the art of Chi Kung at the Boston Center for Adult Education March 4.

around town



The Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum.

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, children and seniors $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, to bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Help sell, pack, sort or deliver daffodils during the week of March 26. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments between 9am and 5pm.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Information sessions held regularly.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(781-893-0324). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 offering leadership development through community service. •March 7: information/general meeting.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Volunteers are needed inthe Cambridge public schools.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun times with an isolated senior.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Prison Book Program
(423-3298). Answer letters from inmates and fill requests for books on various topics.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

Look, no TAN LINES!
All you need is 25 minutes
COME IN AND TRY OUT THE ONLY HIGH PRESSURE TURBO TANNING BED IN THE CITY
THREE SESSIONS ONLY
$69
Come try our new Ultrasun Turbo! One tanning session is equal to 8-10 regular tanning sessions. Already dark? Get much darker in one session. Only 2-4 tanning sessions a month will maintain a deep dark bronzed tan. There is practically no burning ray. The bed stays open as you lie on a padded massaging mattress. Save time and money and reserve a session now!

TanningEtc.
suntanning center
485 Commonwealth Ave.
(on the Green line at Kenmore)
617-267-7744

Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that e-mailed messages mean that we don't have to risk ruining our manicures by—ugh—typing) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Boom
You spotted me on the dance floor of the Boom Boom Room dancing with my friend's lesbian sister. You called me over and gave me a kiss on the cheek. You asked me to dance to "Butterfly" by Crazytown, and I promised to come back but had to leave. I hope you understand and will give me another chance. I would love for you to "come and dance with me."
—moonbeam@ihateclowns.com

Tall Guy at 1200 Washington
We rode the elevator up together on Feb. 3. I looked deep into your eyes and didn't want to stop. You said you live on the fifth floor with the high ceilings; my friend lives on the fourth! Sound familiar, I hope? I didn't see a ring, I hope you're not gay and don't mind dating beautiful black women because I wouldn't mind dating you. If the memory rings a bell, I want you to ring mine.
—ctyson7575@aol.com

Andy
So I've woken up in the middle of the night dripping with sweat because I dreamt we were in some passionate exchange. But I guess I'll have to settle for walking by your office to get my daily dose of eye candy. Has anyone ever told you that you are the hottest guy on the planet? In case you want to stop by for something other than a Girl Scout cookie, gum or a candy bar; I'm readily available for consultation. I won't tell if you won't tell—and that's a promise.
—Try Some Umph

Pay It Forward...by Check
To Adam from Portsmouth: You found my check at Lechmere and mailed it back to me. THANK YOU SO MUCH! Your honesty and kindness is much appreciated (I thought I had lost it and was out of my mind!) Your Karma is glowing... may you receive the same thoughtfulness tenfold! You are a good soul, and it pleases me that there are people like you out there. Thank you again.
—standleigh@hotmail.com

Finding Fernando
We met at Pravda on Jan. 27. You are from Asturias, Spain, and had been traveling around the world for the past year. You were with your cousin from Springfield, her boyfriend (also from Spain) and another couple. I told you how I lived in Mallorca for a year and you complimented my Spanish. We hung out the whole night, but then you had to leave. You asked me to go with you, but I didn't. Why didn't I get your number? You were staying in Cambridge that night, at the apartment of your cousin's boyfriend. I am sure you're back in Spain now, but I can't get you out of my mind. If anyone reading this knows who I am talking about, please e-mail me!
—pravda0127@hotmail.com

The One
From the first moment that I saw you coming out of that bookstore in Brookline in October, I was hooked. I knew I was in trouble. I tried to take things slowly but it was so much fun to jump off the deep end with you, holding your hand. I couldn't believe that we had to break it off because of work. I know how busy you are and how important your job is to you. I am trying so hard to just be your friend because that is what you need right now. I am trying not to become a pest but at the same time to always keep pushing my way into your mind. I am in love with you. And I think you are in love with me and time apart will not make those feelings go away; they will just lie dormant until awakened. And I do have hope, although you don't want me to, I have to because hope is all there is and without it I would not want to go on. I just what to be a part of your life and share my life with you. I would give anything to have another chance to be with you and make you happy because you send me to the moon every time the tiniest thought of you enters my mind. So I hope that you read this and I hope you feel the same and I hope to get that chance with you again.
—RB

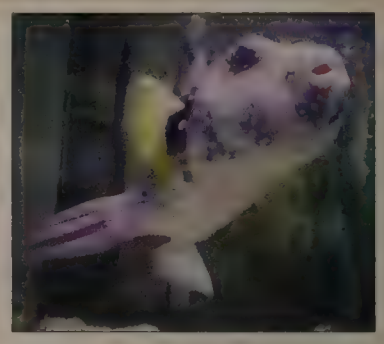
Harj
I understand that in India women are treated as property, but you are in America now, where we treat our women with respect and dignity. Even after we spoke about the sexual harassment I was receiving at YOUR place of business (if you can call it that), you remained nonchalant. And for you, Gus—no woman wants to yell out "Constantino" while in bed with you, especially not myself. If any woman could witness the way your eyes roll back in your fat, bald, ugly head when you lean in to kiss them, they would run in the opposite direction. You are one repulsive individual. You look like a bulldog and are closer to my parents' age than my own. I regret the day I applied to work at your restaurant. Even my parents' attempts to penetrate your ignorance were ignored, so now we have filed two complaints—one with the Better Business Bureau, and one with the Mass. Commission Against Discrimination. I wouldn't recommend your restaurant to my dog.
—anonymous

Attention, Late Night Shoppers...
You were grocery shopping at the perfectly acceptable hour of about 10pm on Monday, Feb. 12, at the Porter Square Star Market. You were a cool-looking white girl with short, dark, almost-liké-dredlocks twisty hair, beautiful face, killer legs... I was smitten. I had a white sweater and a brown leather jacket, and was probably obviously checking you out. My social life has been stagnant, and I decided that if I didn't ask you out, I was going to die a jerkfaced loser. We were in the pasta aisle, and I was just working up the nerve to ask you how, exactly, to make pasta sauce, if it was easy enough that I should not pay for the jarred garbage, and hey, since we're talking food, what say you and I go get some Italian some night, or—what's that? You prefer sushi? Perfect—I LOVE sushi, let's do that! That's sort of how it might have went. But hey, I didn't have the nerve, didn't feel strong that night. So, since I don't want to die a jerkfaced loser, I'd hope to get another chance to talk with you. If you remember this otherwise forgettable jaunt to the market, drop me a note and I'll work up a whole new pitch for you. Thanks for your help.
—Bully111@aol.com

Ariela B. (drinking cup equals hairbrush holder)
The other day I was starting to pack some things, as we will be moving out of the apartment soon. I came across several items that you left behind. It really is too bad for you that you failed to pay the rent you said you would, as I can pretty much guarantee that these items have enormous sentimental (as well as monetary) value to you. Now that they are ours, and we will likely throw them away with the rest of the trash. In addition, you really should have ensured that all your mail was being forwarded to you. Your friend in Ireland sent a lovely letter! And a certain government agency tried in vain to get in touch with you as well (I won't mention which one—why spoil all our fun?) Of course, there were other things that have come for you that you definitely would have wanted/needed. Too bad we didn't forward any of it...Looking forward to running into you sometime around. It surely will be a fun reunion (for us, anyway!!)
—You know who

Rockie Horoscope

FEBRUARY 28 – MARCH 13, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



PISCES FEBRUARY 19 - MARCH 19
You'd rather not make waves, but a Fish can only try to redirect the tension generated by the Pisces sun when it squares feisty Mars and manipulative Pluto in Sagittarius. Who's the Archer taking aim at you and what impulsive, somewhat dangerous, activity is he or she encouraging? Birthdays are stressful enough, you probably don't need to let your thoughts run wild, looking for adventure and whatever comes your way. While you're making wishes, try a trip on for size. Now is an excellent time to investigate and explore.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Right now, you can do no wrong. While artistic, affectionate Venus is traveling through Aries (it heads backward from March 8 to April 19), utilize every opportunity to show off your talent, to be the belle of this ball. During retrograde you'll find the time to perfect your work and smooth out kinks in old and new relationships. No matter how promising he or she makes it sound, avoid getting sucked into a friend's scheme. Because your pal will probably bail, you could spend all of spring and summer extricating yourself from risky business.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Although Mercury is turning direct on Sunday, after three weeks of piddling problems and postponements, it shouldn't interrupt the easy flow of affection that is about to be generated between you and a loved one—or a casual friend. Did I hit a nerve? For the next 10 days, Mercury will be on hand to help you express yourself, so take to your keyboard and pour on the sentiment. Where was all this grace, wit and fire on Valentine's Day? Never mind, Mardi Gras is the time to pull out the lingerie and come on like gangbusters.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
Since the Twins usually feel the effects of Mercury's change of direction a few days before it happens, those petty annoyances should no longer be getting to you. Instead, you may be ticked off because the sun is aggravating militant Mars in your Sag house of co-workers and partners. What is making your mate so angry and why are you in the line of fire? Someone has to give up something that no longer works, maybe even give up the gig entirely. Be patient, there's no quick resolution; Mars is in Sagittarius through Labor Day.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
It's still about money. One would have thought by now that the emphasis had shifted to some other area of interest, but no, interest rates, joint income and other financial fluctuations continue to dominate your waking thoughts. Athletes who haven't received huge signing bonuses could be angry because money and recreation are inexorably tied together by an aggressive sun-Mars square. A similar affliction applies to Crabby enthusiasts in general. Consider giving up something special for Lent, e.g., the thrills and chills of March Madness?

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
It takes a few days for things to get back on an even keel after Mercury, in your Aquarius house of partnerships, flips. Give significant people plenty of time to return your calls, come to a decision and remember where they were and what they were doing before retrograde started. It's not as if life came to a screeching halt in February., but truthfully, how much progress have you made? Clearing your desk, reorganizing drawers and shelves is pure retro action, not a bold leap forward. That comes soon enough.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
The company you are keeping figures largely in what happens both at work and at home. Be careful when you combine the separate casts of characters. A feisty neighbor might be eager, even obnoxious about prying into the details of your job; a talented co-worker could offer to fix something in the house that obviously needs repair. Because your Mercury ruler has recently changed direction, take things slowly until you feel you're back on track, and don't try to make up for the time you feel you lost while Mercury was retrograde.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
You're especially literate right now thanks to the attention communicative Mercury is paying to your Venus ruler; writers should take advantage and press for publication. The fact that Venus is in impulsive, courageous Aries makes it easier to approach people who can really help put words in print. But if your medium of self-expression lies in another field, by all means talk up your talent to folks who can be counted on to spread good gossip and drop your name. Entertaining them, before Venus turns retrograde on the 8th, wouldn't hurt, either.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Drastic change, the kind that's done when you're under the knife, might seem like an expedient alternative to gradual improvement simply because the Pisces sun is challenging both your Mars and Pluto co-ruling planets. Don't do anything rash. When it's under this much stress, Mars may become caustic and turn into a source of irritation. Pluto tends to throw the baby out with the bathwater anyway, so you can't be sure it has your best long-term interest at heart, but you can wait and see.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
Read for Scorpio. Because Mars and Pluto are currently in Sagittarius, the pressure the Pisces sun is exerting on them might make you act on impulse and with more bravado than usual. Who is making you see red? A neighbor, sibling or the landlord? Or is that a secret passion you're harboring for the girl/guy next door? Fiery emotions and a Plutonic sense of "do or die" is fine for spectator sports, but don't let them send you spinning out of control. As soon as impressionable Pisces is over, the motivation will disappear and the vendetta will seem pointless.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Find a Moon Child to commiserate with. Both of you are tightly wrapped up in money matters right now, one of which might be contingent on a friend's involvement, another on politics and social issues. Where's the party? Seriously, because Mars is stirring up action behind the scenes—and will continue to do so for months on end—you can provide services or do favors for people you seldom see, but with whom you identify. Charitable impulses, perhaps, but once compassionate Pisces has passed, so will those feelings.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Stop, start. Awkward and abrupt as Aquarians may sometimes be, nothing disturbs your internal rhythm quite as much as having mobile Mercury flipping in your sign as it did on the 25th. It takes days for Mercury to build up steam and move forward, so be patient with yourself, your twisted tongue and general goofiness. If you can skirt a troublesome issue at work or dance around an irate boss, do it. If not, plead, "I wasn't thinking," or "Retrograde Mercury, what could I do?" Be thankful that your imagination hasn't suffered.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

improperazzi

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's client-related promotions and events

On Mon., Feb. 12, **Porter's Bar and Grill** hosted 96.9 FM Talk's *Extreme Games* show, featuring Jay Severin. Broadcasting live, Jay and Porter's Bar prepared the crowd for the **12th Annual Beanpot** at the **FleetCenter**.


1


2


3

1. Porter's co-owner **Matt Sullivan** with 96.9 FM Talk's **Jay Severin**.
2. 96.9 FM Talk's Street Team **Liz Kravitz, Mary Ann Bagnoli** and **Karen Coltin.**
3. **Donna St. Pierre**, Porter's bartender and **Michael Heath**, Chef de Cuisine at 75 Chestnut.



On Sat., Feb. 3, **Seagram's** hosted an event at **Abe & Louie's** that honored the local winner of the Seagram's V.O. Gold "Have a Drink with Arthur" sweepstakes, Louis Sartori of Boston.

Arthur Peterson, Seagram's Master Blender of V.O. Gold, and local winner **Louis Sartori**.

PHOTOS: PORTER'S, KAREN DANA; SEAGRAM'S, ASA PHOTOGRAPHIC

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The Original Sports Saloon

Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



From left: Jessica Ross, Anna Jane Dobkin and Amy Risley demonstrate the perils of mixing fruity alcoholic beverages, Budweiser and hot tubs at the Sundance Film Festival. The photo was taken by a hot new actor they met at the festival, a guy by the name of "Diggler."



Katie O'Dair went to the Conch Republic. Everybody throw your conchs in the air like you just don't care.



Laurie Donaldson took her Improper to Jaipur, India, where roving bands of hippies vandalize elephants.



Meredith Lutz (left, with gun) says "Raise the roof or die!" to Elizabeth Dolan and an Untouchables Chicago Mob Sites tour guide.



William Mello made friends with "Pat" and "Linda" and "tequila" in Cancun. He awoke the next morning with only this picture, a broken heart and a hat that says "Pancho."



New Mexico Governor Gary Johnson is about to find out if Central Square is too hot to stay cool.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Harnessing a scrappy team of Weimaraners, basset hounds and Border collies at the Iditarod sled dog race, which starts March 3 in Anchorage, Ala.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of The Improper Bostonian Magazine and will not be returned.

Our donor egg program is looking for women with something special...

A generous heart.

You have the opportunity to give the gift of childbirth to an infertile couple. Boston IVF is looking for egg donations from healthy women between the ages of 21 and 34. Donors will be required to take medication and undergo a minor surgical procedure. Donors will be compensated for their time and effort. Participation is completely confidential.

For more information, call us at (781) 434-6500 M-F, 9-5 p.m.
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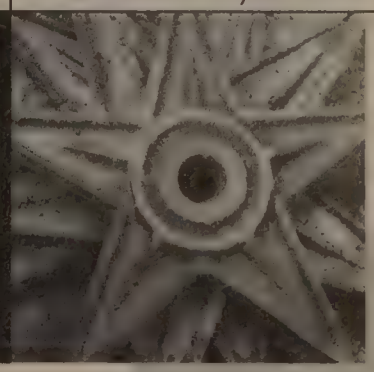


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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* BARCODE offers creative food and drink with a truly unique, casual style and atmosphere. Simple yet exotic and flavorful, Executive Chef George Leu's menu features a variety of French bistro fare touched with Asian influences. Dinner served daily 5 pm - 1 am, bar open daily 4:30pm - 2:00am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11:30 am - 2 am.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice at this comfortably sophisticated Back Bay restaurant and bar. With an eclectic style highlighted by rich, vibrant colors and rustic antiques, Vox Populi offers a hip, sleek and intimate atmosphere. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room. (Outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

Watch City Brewing Co. *256 Moody St. Waltham 781-647-4000 Top* Ten Reasons To Visit Watch City: 10. At the top of Waltham's restaurant row 9. Easy access from Rt.128 & Masspike 8. Free parking 7. The Embassy Cinema next door 6. Award winning chef & brewers 5. www. watchcitybrew.com 4. Live music Wed & Thurs. nights 3. Great grilled seafood, steaks & burgers 2. Only female owned brew pub in USA 1. Great beers, great food, always a great time.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

IRISH BARS

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

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COMEDY

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brunch

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Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Powers of Nature, October 6-March 4. Enjoy Sunday brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at noon, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday-Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Located at 199 Clarendon St. at Copley Square. Indulge yourself with our delicious Smoked Salmon and Caviar Tasting served on a warm corn blini, or our Fresh Crab Pie made with eggs and jack cheese. Do not forget to sample our award-winning clam chowder. Validated parking available. Reservations accepted. Call 617-536-3500.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF







At the Gatsby Ball, top: Brooke Richter. Left: Whitney Finch-Weinberg and Rachel Kelly. Right: Courtney Macdonald and Sarah Harvey. Bottom: Victoria Wolf and Beth and Jennifer Storey.

THE DEPARTMENT OF BRUTAL HONESTY...

The flappers were out in full force for the **Great Gatsby Ball**, hosted by the **Junior League** at the **Copley Plaza**, which was transformed into a den of debauchery that would've done F. Scott Fitzgerald proud.

Spotted amid the well-bred do-gooders: co-chairs **Whitney Finch Weinberg** and **Rachel Kelley**, committee stalwarts **Brooke Richter**, **Courtney Macdonald**, **Sarah Jane Harvey**, **Shari Stade** and **Michelle Laborde**, the ravishing **Storey** sisters, **Beth** and **Jennifer**, with the statuesque **Victoria Wolf**, tan man **Jamie Thomas** (fresh back from Florida), lots of women who looked like they were ripped from the pages of *Town and Country*, and enough men in black ties to give the penguins at the New England Aquarium a run for their money.

Lest you think the Junior League is strictly for the pearls-and-twin-sets set, the following exchange was overheard:

"Do I look like a hooker with this boa?"

"Yes. But you look like a hooker without it, too."

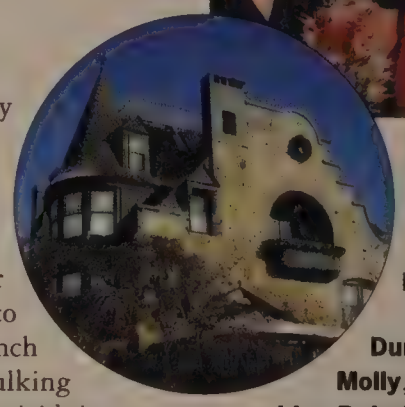
WITH APOLOGIES TO THE THE TIN MAN...

Guests arriving at **RoxComp's 15th Annual Gala—We Take Your Health to Heart**—were handed etched glass hearts on red ribbons before being ushered into the ballroom of the **Westin**, where a silent auction, cocktails, finger food and dancing to legendary jazz chanteuse **Barbara Morrison** awaited them.

Present and accounted for: Gombassador and Robert DeNiro wannabe **Paul Cellucci** and the enchanting **Jan** (an honorary cochair of the event), Mayor McCheese **Tom Menino** and his lovely other half, **Angela** (another co-chair), the evening's honorees—Harvard honcho **Skip Gates**, RoxComp founder **Betty Wornum** and social activist/real estate mogul **John Rosenthal**—exquisite TV talking head **Karen Holmes Ward**, the super-suave **Ron Walker**, banking behemoth **John Hamill**, ubiquitous hipster **Darryl Settles**, event planner **Kelli Tatum-Wright** and the exquisite **Lisa Martin**, power pair **Bud** and **Frances Moseley**, force of nature **Michelle Courton-Brown** and countless (equally sparkly) others.







At the Norumbega murder-mystery weekend, from top: Jack Madigan and Molly Dunne; Lisa Rebello, Toni Senecal and Cheryl Richards; the manse itself.

As for the party favors, they prompted the following exchange:

"Did you get one?"

"One what?"

"A heart."

"Yeah....Now if I only had a brain."

WHO INVITED THE STIFF?

What better antidote for the winter doldrums than to travel to Maine with a bunch of lunatics and stay in a hulking Gothic mansion where homicide is on the list of planned activities? Every January, South End interior designer **Kent Hammond Keatinge** invites a motley crew to **Norumbega**, his inn in Camden, for a murder-mystery weekend that's equal parts cocktails and Agatha Christie.

Among the usual suspects: babe-alicious TV personality **Toni Senecal**, drink slinger **Peter Cipriani** (M.D., Ph.D. in mixology), Internet entrepreneur **Tara Fredericks**, hyperactive tractor heir **Stephens Wyman Dunne** and his prettier half, **Molly**, big-haired femme fatale **Lisa Rebello**, doctor and dancing fool **Elizabeth Hartley Johnson** and her cardiologist husband, **Dan**, pregnant PR princess **Kate Shamon** and her S.O., **Andy Rushford**, dashing developer **Ron Luccio**, lovable shutterbug **Cheryl Richards**, ink-stained wretches **David Jacobs** and **Jen Treacy** (publishers of the *Back Bay Courant*), silver-haired fox and John Hancock executive **David King**, twinkle-toed technology lobbyist **Jack Madigan**, debonair Englishman **Simon Ringham** and several others who will remain nameless in the interests of intrigue.

The period whodunnit (set in the 1920s) involved a house party hosted by a rich, nasty woman whom everyone had a reason to hate (can you say "motive"?), and who turned up dead on the living room floor shortly after dinner on Friday evening. The remainder of the weekend was devoted to solving the crime, violating Prohibition, dancing and other (mostly unprintable) shenanigans.

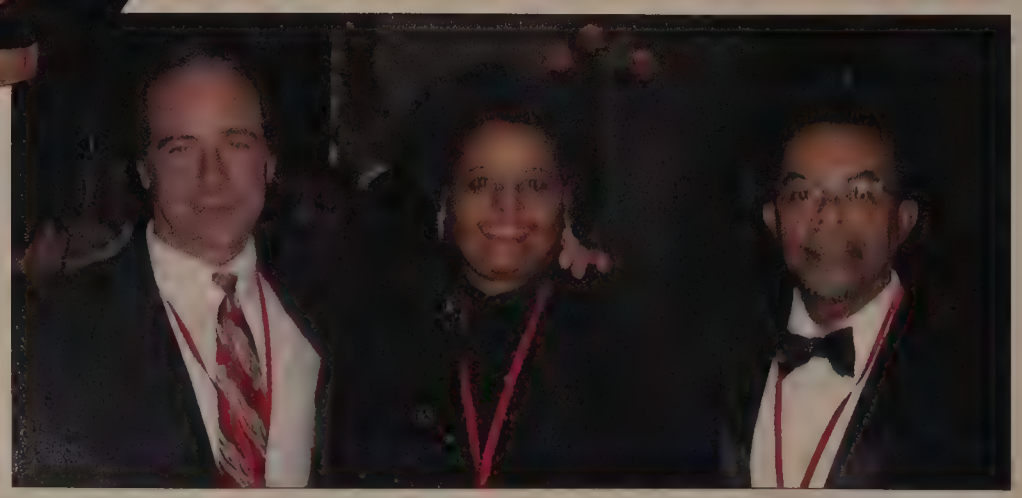
As is so often the case, the culprit turned out to be the mother-in-law, and deducing that fact earned Levi's marketing chick **Cindy Herbst** a free weekend at the inn. Perhaps a similar incentive might reveal the whereabouts of Whitey Bulger.

Looking ahead, on March 9 and 10, **Andy Husbands** of Sister Sorel and Tremont 647 will serve as guest chef at the inn. Reservations are still available by calling 877-363-4646. The Norumbega hosts murder mystery weekends on request. IB









At RoxComp's 15th Annual We Take Your Health to Heart Gala at the Westin, top row: Carol Fulp; Karen Holmes Ward and Ron Walker; John Hamill and Governor Paul Cellucci. Bottom row: Kelli Tatum-Wright and Lisa Martin; John Rosenthal, Betty Wornum and Skip Gates.

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Contents

MARCH 14-27, 2001



6

Carmen Electra at Avalon's Avaland anniversary party. Below: The East Coast Grill's Hotter Than Hell Nights brought out the demon in chefs. Aeros flips

FEATURES

16 Soroff/On Yo-Yo Ma
One of the world's premier cellists talks about *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, shopping and getting rap star Yo-Yo's mail.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

19 Some Like It Hot
While Boston has more places to get a cup of chowder than you can shake a pack of crackers at, this city is not known for offering a wide selection of fiery foods. So we sent heat-seeking hot-food experts Leslie Case and Clark Schierle in search of Boston's atomic hot spots.
BY ERIN HAGEDORN

26 The Final Four
Boston's architecture has been mired in mediocrity for the past few decades. But with the Institute of Contemporary Art's Fan Pier museum in the works, and a quartet of daring and dazzling architectural firms competing for the job, help is on the way.
BY RACHEL STRUTT

31 Fashion: Earth Angel
Earthtoned garb hits heavenly heights.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JESSICA PURSLEY



19



45



On the Cover:
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COLUMNS

6 The Word
Vici; Savanna Hard Cider; club news; Red Sox speculation

10 E-Boston
The problems with Napster
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
...And you are?
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

36 Mopsy
The Chrysler P.T. Cruiser.stays hot; going Home; Sue Miller's *While I Was Gone*
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

58 Film
15 Minutes arrives about 10 years too late.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

66 Music
Sex Mob brings innovative covers to four Wednesday nights at Lilli's.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

84 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

38 Dining
St. Botolph's austere, minimalist decor starkly contrasts its ambitious, satisfying cuisine.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

40 Dish
Events to tantalize those with a sweet tooth; veggies on the way
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

40 Wine
Sometimes beating Boston's wine taboos means looking to what people drink in other cities.
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

41 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Bangers for breakfast
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 45.
The Vagina Monologues • **The Harlem Globetrotters** • St. Patrick's Day Festivities • New England Film/Video Festival • Aeros • **Ween** • Boston Ballet's *Dance of Light*

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	78
Rockie Horoscope	78
Improperazzi	80
Improper Sightings	79
Classifieds	82

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TOP TO BOTTOM: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; TRACY POWELL; ANGELO REDAELLI

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letters

WHAT A GIRL WANTS

After reading Ezra's article this week, I just had to add my 2 cents' worth. Regarding your assessment of the whole clothing situation, I can tell you as both a female and a fashion designer that you don't need another tux to make women take note. In fact, in this time of sad wardrobes and Abercrombie drones, the sight of a guy in anything other than jeans, fleece and a baseball cap is frequently enough to turn many a gal's head. Now, I myself own plenty of jeans, khakis and plaid items, and I even have a guilty pleasure at Abercrombie—that Woods cologne smells too good. But there are reasons to take it beyond that level. If a guy shows up wearing something with a little style, a little taste, even just a little starch in the collar, the message he sends is, I have given at least a nanosecond of thought to my appearance, and therefore to the message I am communicating to you—and there are the two magic words: "thought" and "communication." See, women have fretted over what our appearance says about us since we first wedged Barbie's toes into that tiny stiletto. And that's why we like to see a man looking sharp. Or at least intriguing. It suggests intelligence or thought of some kind. And that's interesting. Now the trick is to take that with you outside the gambling gigs and costume parties. And even though I've never met Ezra, I am guessing based on previous columns that he's probably a jeans and T-shirt kinda guy. Hey, why not try a cool vintage suit coat or just get a really nice shirt in an interesting color? It would be a start...

—April Furr
Via e-mail



WOMEN HAVE FRETTED OVER WHAT OUR APPEARANCE SAYS ABOUT US SINCE WE FIRST WEDGED BARBIE'S TOES INTO THAT TINY STILETTO. AND THAT'S WHY WE LIKE TO SEE A MAN LOOKING SHARP.

—APRIL FURR
VIA E-MAIL

BATHROBE 1, TUX 0

I would have considered seducing Ezra had he chosen the bathrobe for the Beacon Hill Pub on a Thirsty Thursday night.

I wouldn't have noticed him in the tux as a blackjack dealer for Mohegan Sun.

—Olga Eriksson
Via e-mail

MISSED SPOKE

I enjoyed reading your Feb. 28 edition of the Improper Bostonian. However, in the "Double Duty" article, I found the item referring to Tony Caserta as a member of the 1984 Olympic CyclingTeam disturbing. Unless he was a member of some other country's Olympic team, he was certainly not a member of the United States team.

I know this because I am a nine-time national cycling champion, member of the 1980 and 1984 Olympic Cycling Teams, a Pan Am gold medalist and a 1984 Olympic cycling bronze Medalist. Mr. Caserta was not a member of my Olympic cycling team.

I do applaud Mr. Caserta, however, for donating money made while cycling to nonprofit organizations like the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Jimmy Fund. If the love of a sport allows someone to raise money for a worthy cause or organization, then that is time well spent.

—Andrew Weaver
Belmont

Editor's Note: *We goofed. First of all, Tony Caserta's name is spelled with one "s." Second, he participated in the 1984 Olympic* trials, *not the Olympics. Last, his wife's name is Lauren, not Laura. Our apologies to the Casertas for the errors.*

Tell Us What You Think

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CONTRIBUTORS

JESSICA PURSLEY



Photographer Jessica Pursley informs us that when she isn't busy shooting for incredibly cool magazines like The Improper Bostonian and working on advertising campaigns for national clothing and cosmetic companies, she renovates her historic home in Philadelphia and plays with her dogs and cats. She also enjoys visiting the tropical island of Puerto Rico and would love to shoot a fashion editorial spread there. Um, is that a hint?

Check out page 31 for Pursley's "Earth Angel" fashion photographs.

STEVE MARSEL

Steve Marsel is a freelance photographer based in Cambridge. His work has appeared in magazines ranging from music-oriented publications like *Rolling Stone*, *Spin* and *Musician* to *Fortune*, *Time* and *The New York Times Sunday Magazine*.

Marsel is also no stranger to the advertising world, and he's done shoots for American Express, Bose, The Boston Beer Company, Dunkin' Donuts and Fidelity Investments.

The mantle at Marsel's home is adorned with more than 100 awards for creative excellence in photography, including Clio Awards, Andy Awards from the Advertising Club of New York, Best of Show at the Hatch Awards from the Advertising Club of Boston, and an array of awards from various photography and graphic arts magazines.

The newest addition to his portfolio? This issue's smokin' cover.

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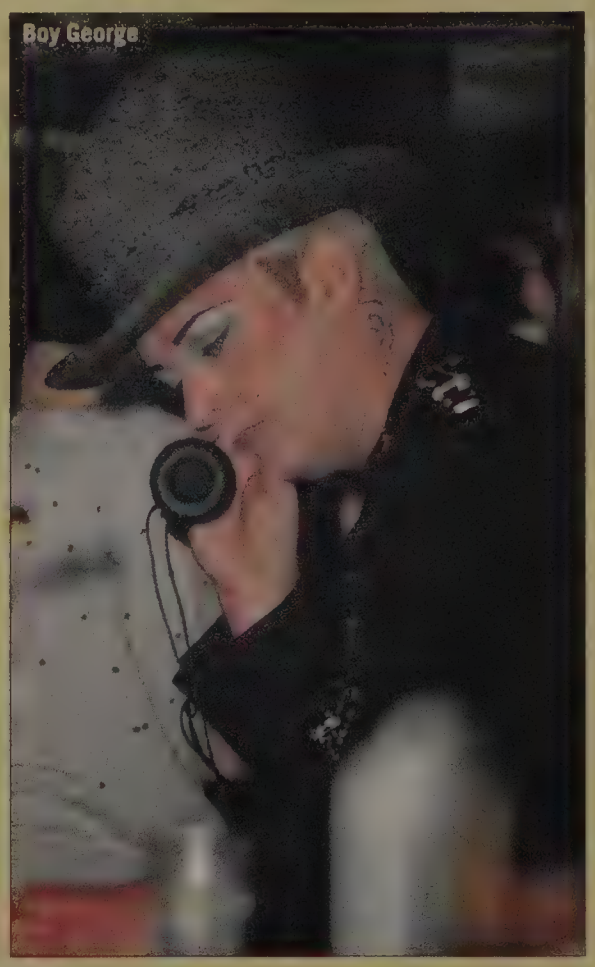
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NIGHT VISION by erin hagedorn & julie short

OUT ON THE TOWN





•Rumor has it that Aria's management wants to expand the popular nightspot into the neighboring Wilbur Theatre this fall. It makes sense, considering how the lines of stage-worthy dancers snake out the door on Saturday nights.

•'80s rocker-turned-DJ Boy George was behind the scenes spinning soul-rockin' tunes for a crowd of 2,500 at Avalon on Feb. 24 for the Avaland third-anniversary extravaganza. Among the celeb guests—though far removed from the sweaty masses—was hostess Carmen Electra, sporting braids and a cowboy hat up on the VIP balcony. About an hour into his session, the lights came on and Boy George gave a playful tongue-flickering salute to the ecstatic crowd.

•All of the sports celebs that gather en masse at places like Clarke's, Daisy Buchanan's, Backstage and the Rack post-game will soon have another "place" to hang out—*The Place*, that is. Owners Barry Melrose, Steve Levy and Billy Fairweather of ESPN and S.J. Torres of Backbaybeat.com, among others, are about to convert the former Traders on Broad Street into a high-tech sports bar at the end of March. What's with the name? "When the sports crowd travels to competitions, they all try to figure out 'the place' to meet up after games," says S.J. Torres. "This is 'the place' in Boston."

•Joe Quattrochi and Brian Lesser, owners of Vox Populi and Barcode, will open a French brasserie called Metro in the space formerly occupied by Cottonwood Cafe in Porter Square this spring. The coup d' etat: former Truc chef, Amanda Lydon, will be executive chef.

STORM HYPE

SHOVELING A LOT OF IT

Does any of the following sound familiar?

1) On the morning of an expected *huge* March nor'easter, we drive to work on a precipitation-free morning March 5 to find an unprecedented number of available parking spots. **2)** At the office, we hear on the radio that police are knocking on businesses' doors telling them they *must* go home at 12pm before the storm of the century hits. **3)** We take a break to get some lunch. All banks are closed. All stores and restaurants are closed. **4)** As of 3pm: Some freezing rain mixed with snow begins to blow. Lots of melting; no sticking. **5)** One of our cars gets towed. Good ol' Fries Towing is always on the job—rain, sleet or snow. **6)**On the way home, we head to Star Market for emergency rations. Complete chaos. No bread, milk or water, not to mention yogurt, Tater-Tots, Quaker Oats and Ben & Jerrys. "Emergency shipments" were to arrive soon, tired store workers said.**7)** Off to Blockbuster, another scene of pandemonium. We wait in 20+ person line to rent one of the only movies available, *Return to the Blue Lagoon*. **8)** Home to blizzard-phobic roommates who are glued to *The Weather Channel*. **Bottom line**: Total accumulation in Boston is about 10 inches, about a day later than expected. So much for the return of the Blizzard of '78.—*J.S. and E.H.*

KICKING UP DUST

RED SOX MANIA

Is it our imagination,or are the **Red Sox** making national news more than in years past? Baseball fans seem to have more than enough reason to be enthusiastic this year, with **Manny Ramirez**, **Carl Everett** and **Nomar Garciaparra** striking poses for the covers of *ESPN The Magazine*, *Baseball Weekly* and *Sports Illustrated*, respectively. In fact, in the Feb 28. issue of *Baseball Weekly*, even injured Sox players got big press, as their "20 Body Parts to Watch This Year" list includes **Bret Saberhagen**'s shoulder and **John Valentin**'s knee, alongside such influential joints as **Mark McGuire**'s knees and **Albert Belle**'s hip (we won't talk about Nomar's wrist). Impressive company.



Great publications think alike: Garciaparra today and on our 1999 Boston's Best cover.

So is all the attention this year being stirred because the team is expected to be sold by season's end, or is it a consequence of Ramirez's new spot in the 2001 lineup? "I don't think there's much awareness on a national level that the team is for sale," says ***Boston Globe*** sportswriter **Dan Shaughnessy**. "It seems there isn't even that much local awareness lately. But I think it's possible that they signed Manny with the idea that the team was going to be for sale. Manny puts [Sox CEO] Harrington that much closer to getting a World Series on his resume before the team is sold."

So let's take things a step beyond Manny Mania and hope that the early buzz culminates this fall in a world championship for the Yawkey legacy—and the approval of a brand new Fenway Park.



CORNER OFFICE

WORKING GIRL MAKES GOOD

In 1982, just after graduating from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, Karen Kaplan applied for a job as receptionist at Boston-based Hill, Holliday ad agency. She was 22 years old, held a degree in French literature and had every intention of going to law school. But something about this ordinary entry-level position seemed unusually compelling: More than 40 candidates had been interviewed--and rejected—by choosy company chairman Jack Connors. "I'm competitive by nature," Kaplan explains. "So when I heard about the number of other candidates, it really got my interest."

Apparently. After logging in 19 years at the same firm, Kaplan was recently named executive vice president and managing director. She is now one of the highest-ranking executives at Hill, Holliday. "I am as surprised as anybody that I stayed the whole time," says Kaplan. "I was lucky to find the right place where I could grow." Today, among her other duties, Kaplan oversees the campaigns for two huge clients: FleetBoston and John Hancock Financial Services. —*Susan Abbattista*

TOP LEFT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN (2); BOTTOM: WENDY MIMRAN

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LIBATIONS

BUBBLING OVER



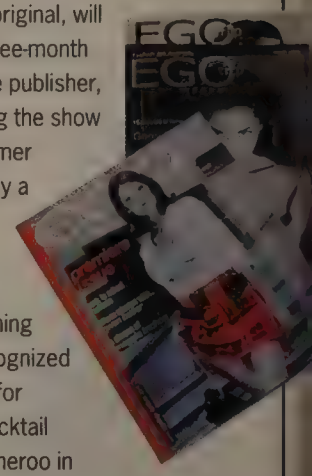
Massachusetts boasts the most drinkers of hard cider per capita in the nation, according to beverage-industry data. Who would have thunk? Not us—that is, until the importers of Savanna, a South African dry cider, paid us a visit last week to kick off its product launch in the States. Savanna's all the rage in Cape Town and is quickly catching on in Europe, where trendy drinkers slide a wedge of lemon into the neck of the duckpin-shaped bottle. After a few swigs of our Savannas, we knew why. It's pleasantly much less sweet than most hard ciders. How will it go over with Bostonians? It's too early to tell, but our bet is that you'll be seeing quite a bit of Savanna this spring.

Also new to Boston this month are Magners Irish Cider (better known as Bulmers Cider in Ireland) and Smirnoff Ice, a new citrusy, lightly carbonated malt beverage from Guinness and Smirnoff—a favorite among London's club kids.

Speaking of the national libation of Ireland....Based on census data, Boston boasts an Irish-American population of about 22 percent. According to Guinness, about 178,181 pints are expected be poured over the course of St. Patrick's Day weekend in Boston. So, after exercising our own form of "fuzzy math," we calculate an average of about two and a half pints per Irish person in Boston. *—J.S. and E.H.*

MEDIA

A LONG, STRANGE TRIP



The nano-sized 'zine, ***Ego Trip***, a spinoff of the Miami original, will be relaunched in a few short weeks after going on a three-month hiatus to "re-evaluate its staff." The mag's old associate publisher, **Robert Birnbaum** (who came to *Ego Trip* after running the show at *Stuff*), has been replaced by a young hipster and former model named **Ramos**. The rest of the staff is apparently a team of young, energetic people who, in the words of Ramos, know how to "get shit done." Ramos also reports that the stylish mini-mag will now be bi-montly rather than monthly and will cover restaurants and clothing stores, in addition to clubs. Whereas Birnbaum is a recognized name in publishing circles (these days he's freelancing for *Boston Magazine*), Ramos is a recognized name in cocktail circles—from South Beach to Boston. So will the switcheroo in leadership work? Stay tuned for an interesting trip. *—Rachel Strutt*

SAM SAYS

CANNED TAN

Every ad around this time of year features a perfect model looking tanner than I will ever be without a considerable amount of medical research. For all of us pasty people who do not wish to get large chunks of skin removed due to skin cancer, there is really only one option: self-tanner. Sure, it has turned each and every one of us to a lovely shade of tangerine at some point in our lives, but those days are gone. There have been major improvements in the world of self-tanning.

I did some seasonal research and came up with the secrets to the perfect self-tan. In the drugstore-variety realm, the very best I found was Neutrogena spray. It coats evenly and dries quickly. It leaves you with a really natural looking, light golden tan. My other favorite was Bain de Soleil tinted self-tanning cream. The tint—a rich olive brown—takes all the guess work out of application because you can see where you put it. These products are available in different shades for those with fair or dark complexions.

So, bust out your bathing suit and try not to get snow in your flip-flops. *—Samantha House*

NEW IN TOWN

PIZZA PIZZAZZ

If you're hankering for a hearty slice of gooey cheese pizza that's dripping with oil, you won't find it at **Vici**, the new gourmet pizzeria in Coolidge Corner. If, on the other hand, you're seeking an alternative pizza experience—thin-crusted, Neopolitan-style pies topped with unusually tasty ingredients (fire-roasted fennel, julienne leeks, prosciutto di Parma and goat cheese), then you should make it a point to visit Vici's.

Vici's pizza chef, **Dave Parr**, strives to offer an out-of-the-ordinary pie-eating experience. "I approach pizza from a culinary perspective," he explains. Parr has been expanding his culinary repertoire in Boston for the past 18 years, most recently at Legal Seafood and Skipjack's. He found himself at Vici after local entrepreneur Lenny Adelson approached him with the request "to make the best pizza in America." The dedicated chef immediately headed south to do some research. He landed on the doorstep of what is considered the birthplace of pizza in America: Pepe's, in New Haven, Conn., to determine what makes its pizza so popular with celebrities and past presidents.

Parr's delicious creations are especially unique because the thin, crispy crust is made with semolina flour, which adds more flavor. There's no sugar or honey in this dough or in the tomato sauce—an addition that most pizzerias use to appeal to American tastes. The tomatoes are fresh-packed, and the toppings are all locally grown. After just a bite, you too will see that Vici, which is Latin

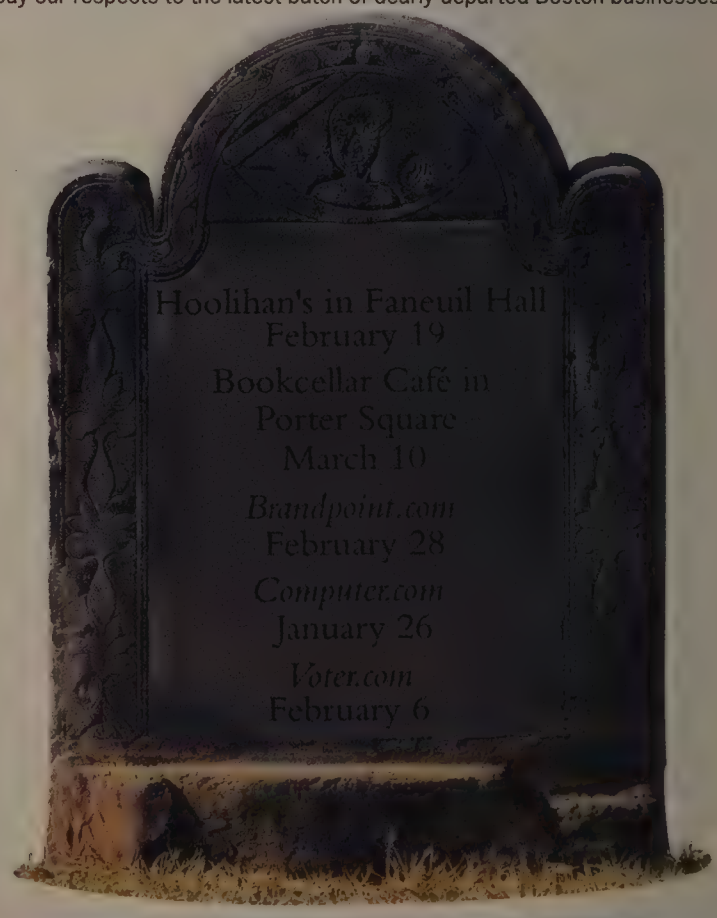


for "I conquered," certainly lives up to its name. *286 Harvard St., Brookline (724-4900). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. —J.S. and E.H.*

R.I.P.

A FOND FAREWELL

We pay our respects to the latest batch of dearly departed Boston businesses.



BREW-HA-HA

HEAD STAYS FOAMY

Some beer drinkers around town were disappointed to hear that Jim Koch, venerable head of Boston Beer Co., was planning to step down as the CEO of the brewery that makes Sam Adams. It would be difficult to find a replacement for the happy-go-lucky founder. Even as President Martin Roper is being promoted to CEO, Koch will retain his titles of chairman and brewer. "Jim still tastes every batch of beer that we brew," says spokeswoman Michelle Sullivan. Koch's happy about the arrangement. "Jim's been wearing so many hats for so long; this will free him up to do what he's good at"—making great beer. We'll toast to that. *—J.S. and E.H.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; VICI'S: WENDY MIMRAN

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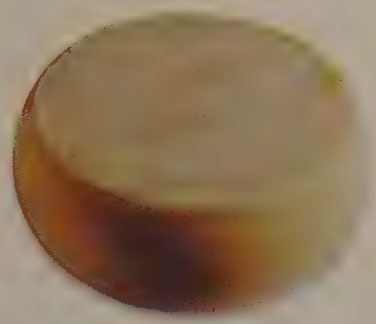
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Photos: Tino Gerbaldo, from *Italian Cheese*

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Cheeselandia
Event for children (7-12) about artisan food

10:00am - 1:00pm
Cooking course: Sicilian Sweets
Fiocchi de Neve, Cannoli ($75)

SUNDAY, MARCH 25TH
The World of Sicily
I Piaceri Della Vita - *"The pleasures of life"*

9:00am - 4:00pm
Sicilian Market Hall and Photo Exhibit

9:00am - 4:00pm
Cheeselandia
Event for children (7-12) about artisan food

10:00am - 1:00pm
Cooking course: Sicilian Cooking
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E-Boston BY GEOFFREY JAMES

Dirt Napster

There are plenty of good reasons why even techies should reject this technology

Once again I find myself at odds with most of my friends. Last time it was about the dot-coms. Almost everyone I knew was working for, or looking to work for, a dot-com. I remember thinking that I was a first-class chump for sticking with this writing gig when I could have been taking an express-ticket ride to overnight-millionaire land. Now I don't feel so dumb, of course.

This time the difference between my friends and me is Napster, which as of this writing recently lost a critical judgement that could force it to shut down. My friends are bemoaning the impending demise of the online music copying site, but I'm grimly satisfied. The way my friends see it, my spoil-sport attitude is the equivalent of submitting to the Dark Side of the Force. They've been pelting me with arguments about why Napster should continue, arguments that I've seen echoed everywhere from AOL chat boards to the pages of national news magazines.



I'm not convinced, though. Here's why:

Argument: *Most of the money from CD sales goes to the filthy rich media companies, so why not?*

Why is Brittney Spears so popular? It's certainly not her singing ability—the girl can barely carry a tune. Brittney Spears is popular because of a nearly perfect marketing campaign, the result of the efforts of hundreds of image consultants, market researchers, song arrangers, choreographers, advertising people, photographers, videographers and so forth. These marketing people, and the companies that employ them, deserve to get paid for their work.

Argument: *Copying music off the Web is just like recording a song off the radio.*

When a radio station plays a song, it pays a fee to the music publisher, which then sends a fee to the media company and the recording artist. This fee takes into account the notion that some listeners may tape a song off the air. That is not the case with Internet copying. More important, digital copying creates a version that is indistinguishable from the original and that can, in turn, be used to produce millions of identical copies. Copying a song off the radio more than once is useless.

Argument: *Copying music is no different than copying software, which I do all the time.*

Software piracy, in fact, is a very serious crime, especially when conducted across the Internet. Under the 1997 federal statute known as the No Electronic Theft (NET) Act, a person who makes software available for copying across the Web can receive up to 10 years in prison and a fine of up to $250,000, even though he or she does not receive any profit from the activity.

Argument: *Internet copying helps recording artists promote their concerts.*

It's nice to want recording artists to have successful, profitable tours. However, all things considered, the recording artists would probably prefer to decide for themselves what songs they'd like to offer on the Web as a free promotion.

Argument: *The technology makes it possible, so—oh well—there's nothing that we can do about it.*

If somebody invented a transporter like in Star Trek, does that mean that it would be O.K. for me to beam into your living room and steal all your stuff?

Argument: *I wouldn't have bought that CD anyway, so it isn't stealing when I download a song.*

Gee, I guess that means it's OK for me to steal your Mercedes because I wouldn't have bought one anyway.

Argument: *It's not hurting anybody.*

Shipments of CD singles sank by 39 percent last year, according to the Recording Industry Association of America. Many smaller music stores are going out of business and a number of second-tier recording companies have already gone under, taking their recording artists down with them.

I don't expect my friends to change their opinions. Ultimately, using Napster isn't about what's right and what's wrong, it's about money. Everyone's integrity has a price. For some people, that price is $14.95. But that's not the kind of thing that I like to say to my friends. At least not to their faces. iB

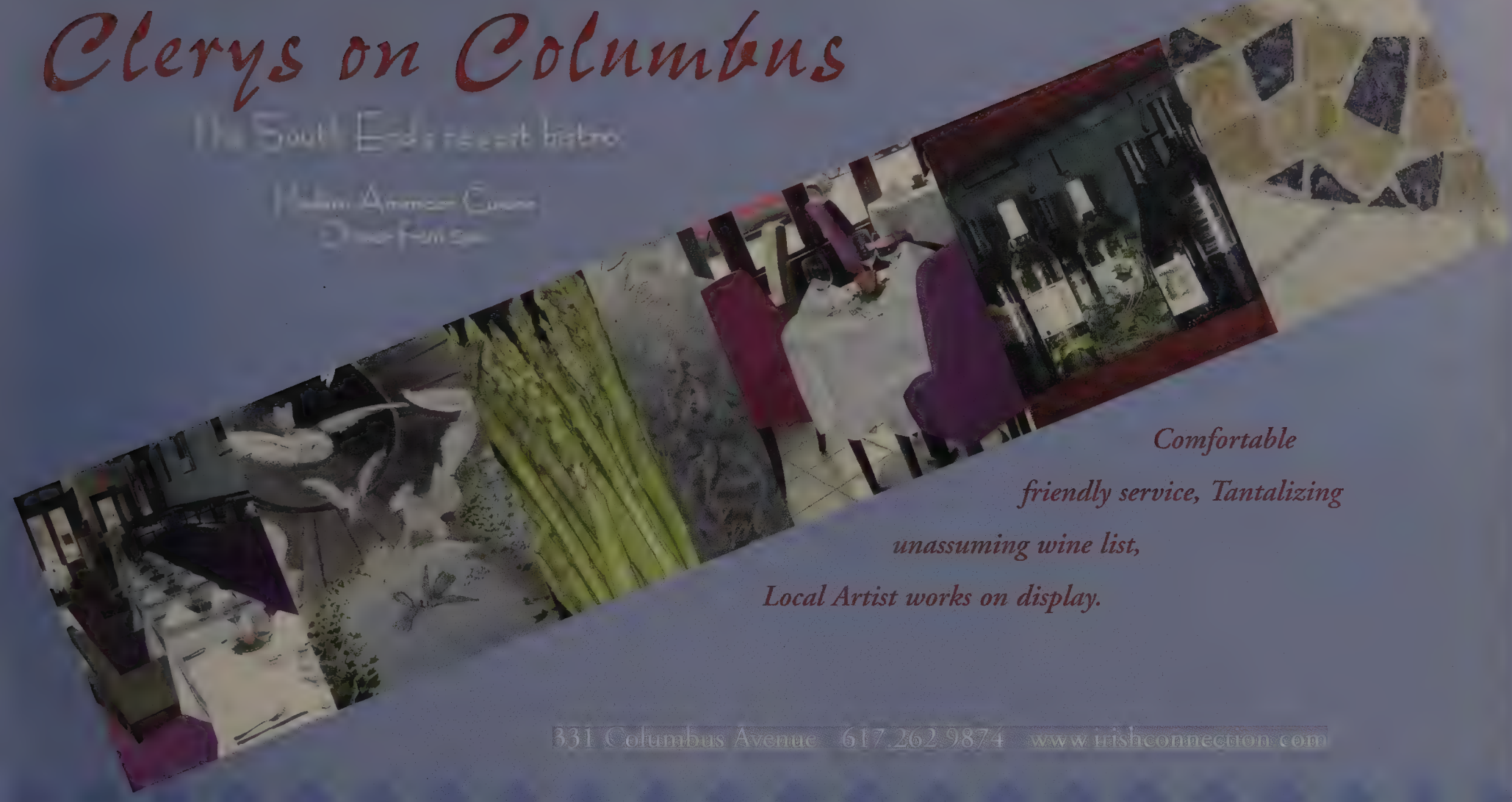
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Ezra BY EZRA DYER



Nom de Doom

I don't know your name, but check this: "Rollin', in my 5.0..."

Let's talk about names. OK, me first. Yes, Ezra is a Hebrew name. No, I'm not Jewish. My parents are just hippies. My brother is named Graham, and I grew up on a farm with a pony (Ms. Piggy), pigs (Lenore and Bernice) and a duck (Apesma). So there's no religious reason to it; I could have been named Moonbeam or Moses. In fact, I've seen the name book my parents used, and thank God they only made it to the "E" section. Otherwise you might right now be reading "Festus."

My parents currently have a dog named George. I guess, as at least one ex-president can attest, you just run out of inspiration after a while.

So that's my name, but I'd like to apologize right now for the fact that I can't remember yours. It doesn't matter if you have a weird name like mine. It doesn't matter who you are; my name-forgetting disability does not discriminate based on age, race or attractiveness. I don't know the reason for it. Perhaps it's because, if I've just met you, it's more likely that I'm devoting my limited mental energy to forming complete sentences and not spilling my drink on you. Or perhaps it's because my long-term memory is already filled with important information, such as the lyrics to "Ice, Ice, Baby."

All right, stop, collaborate and listen: I know there are tricks for remembering names, because I've met plenty of individuals who can be introduced to 20 new people and get all their names right on the first try. Beware of these people. You might think, "Hey, I must be really important to this guy. I met him two hours ago and he remembered my name right away." But you're not important. That guy is just doing one of those name-association exercises, and he's really looking at you and thinking "Chicken gizzard: Laura."

Beware also of car dealers, who hear your name once and then never let you forget that they know it. Because they are your friend. "Well, Ezra, you're not going to find a deal like this, Ezra, because *nobody* trades in a vehicle like this, Ezra, especially when those blood stains are just about out of the upholstery, Ezra."

My affliction extends to faces, too. The first manifestation of my face-nonrecognition syndrome is that I don't remember if I've introduced myself. I know others share this problem, because I got an e-mail from my friend Braxton the other day detailing a recent experience with double-introducing himself to a cute new coworker: "She gave me a little smile only to prevent me from doing the obvious next thing, which would be to bang my head into her computer monitor and cut my neck forcefully on the shards," he said. I sympathize, for I have been on the business end of many such little smiles. They say, "I remember your name, and not only do you not know mine, you do not even remember meeting me. You are clearly either disgustingly self-centered, of low intelligence, or some combination of the two."

MY NAME-FORGETTING DISABILITY DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE BASED ON AGE, RACE OR ATTRACTIVENESS.

The second consequence of being bad with faces is that if I see someone I know out of context, I am extremely wary of saying Hi, because I've been burned too many times. My most extreme case of face misrecognition came a few months ago at The Big Easy. I saw a girl on the all-girl stage who appeared to be pointing at me. Immediately, my brain concluded that this girl must be my friend Kara, whom I've known for 10 years. So I moseyed on over to the stage and offered my hand, and she pulled me up. We exchanged pleasantries, and then she said something I couldn't quite hear. On the second try, however, I understood her terrible question: "What's your name?" I took a step back and to my horror realized that this person was either a complete stranger or Kara had grown about three inches, dyed her hair and developed amnesia. I'd just committed catastrophic face misrecognition, and now in all likelihood I was going to have to try to learn her name, too. A double-whammy. But I played it off smooth.

"Ezra," I answered.

"What?"

"My name's Ezra."

"Yeah, *right*." She then turned and stormed away. I'm still not sure what prompted that reaction. Did she think I was making up a fake name? Who knows. For whatever reason, though, my name had saved me from the imminent embarrassment of forgetting hers. And for that, I suppose I can thank my parents. Whasstheirnames.iB

You think that's funny?

E-mail, um, wait, I know this—ezra@improper.com.

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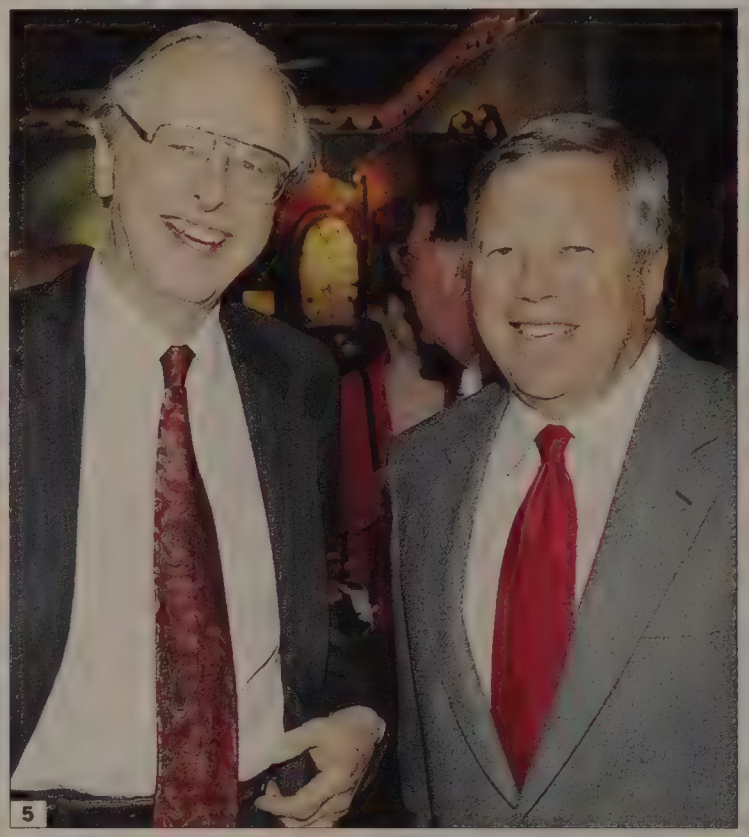
The Boys & Girls Clubs of Boston Decorative Arts and Antiques Show was held March 1 at the The Castle at Park Plaza. More than 600 designers, antiques buyers and friends of the Boys & Girls Clubs gathered at the highly anticipated fund-raiser. About $150,000 in charity was raised.

1. From left: **Sarah Faucett** and **Peter Webster**, sales associate and vice president, respectively, of Webster & Company; **Ducan Gilkey**, president of the Boston Design Center; and **Emily Webster**, special coordinator for the Children's Trust Fund.
2. **Lori Etringer**, development intern for the Boys & Girls Clubs and her husband, **Tony Cheng**, customer relations for Tufts Health Plan in Watertown.
3. **Myra Kraft** (l) and **Linda Whitlock**, chairman of the board and CEO, respectively, of Boys & Girls Clubs.
4. **Darlene Jordan**, executive director of the Gerald Jordan Foundation, and **Jerry Steimel**, vice president of operations for Boys & Girls Clubs.
5. **Ned Johnson III**, chairman of Fidelity Investments, and **Bob Kraft**, CEO of the New England Patriots.
6. **Elena Farrar**, Interior Designer for Homeworks in Wellesley, and **Mathew Laughlin**, consultant for Micromed International.
7. **Anthony Catalfano**, owner of Catalfano Interiors; **John Spooner** (r), writer, and his wife, **Susan.**


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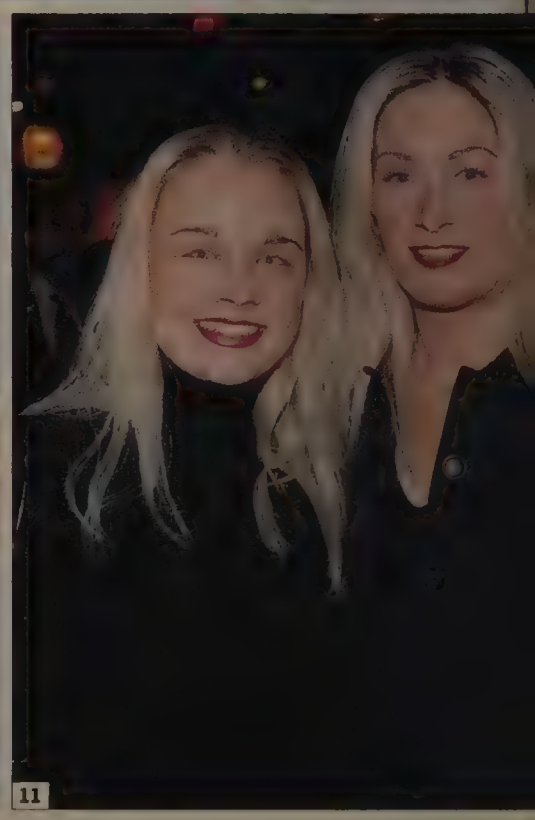
The 4th Annual Joshua Frase Foundation Muscle Dream Team Bash was held March 1 at The Cyclorama. NFL players, sports fans and friends of the Frase family gathered to help raise funds to benefit Children's Hospital in hopes of finding the cure for all congenital myopathies.

8. **Don McPherson** (l), ESPN analyst and Heisman Trophy runner-up, and **Gene Lavanchy**, 7 News sports director/anchor and host of *7 Sports Extra*.
9. **Paul Frase**, former Green Bay Packer; his wife, **Alison;** and New England Patriot, **Max Lane**.
10. **Linda White**, fitness instructor for Mass Muscle & Fitness in Marlboro; **Lyndon Byers**, former Boston Bruin and morning personality for WAAF 107.3, and **Sue Viegas**, hairstylist for Pro Filo Day Spa in Westboro.
11. **Kristen Josefek** (l), attorney for Sullivan & Worchester, and **Lisa Shoemaker**, radio sales for Interep Radio.


8


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11

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Yo-Yo Ma

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

World-renowned cellist Yo-Yo Ma was born in 1955 to Chinese parents living in Paris. He began studying cello, with his father, at the age of four and spent most of his childhood in New York, where the family emigrated. Later, his principal teacher was Leonard Rose at Juilliard, but Ma also received a liberal arts education, graduating from Harvard in 1976. Since then, his stellar career has balanced appearances as a soloist with orchestras throughout the world and at recitals and chamber music concerts. He has collaborated with everyone from classical giants Isaac Stern and Daniel Barenboim to jazz performer Bobby McFerrin and choreographer Mark Morris. His discography of nearly 50 albums includes 13 Grammy winners, and he is one of the best-selling artists in classical music, with numerous recordings topping the Billboard charts. He and his wife, Jill, live in Cambridge with their two children, Nicholas and Emily.

Jonathan Soroff: *{Chuckling} So exactly what instrument is it that you play?*

Yo-Yo Ma: [Laughs.] It's an old-fangled four-stringed thing you can pluck or use horse hair to make squeaky sounds.

JS: *I see. Seriously, you have a Stradavarius and another 18th-century Venetian cello. Do you have nicknames for either of them?*

YM: The Strad already has a name [the 1712 Davidoff], so I can't rename it, but my Venetian instrument has a great nickname—Petunia. A high school student named Brittany in Salt Lake City asked what I called my cello, and I said, "Nothing. But if I play something for you and you can think of a good name, maybe I'll adopt it."

JS: *What else do you play with any level of competence?*

YM: My CD player, my DVD... Seriously, I love the piano but I'm horrible on it. I can't get both hands to work at once. I do play the thumb piano relatively well. It's an African instrument that sounds very beautiful. I'm dying to use it in some way. And I'm just learning to play the Mongolian horse-head fiddle. It's a two-stringed instrument with a horse head on the scroll.

JS: *So how much grief did you get about your name as a kid?*

YM: Hey, what do you think?

JS: *Probably a ton.*

YM: Of course. [Pauses.] What does Sylvester Stallone call his mother?

JS: *What?*

YM: Yo, Ma-ma!

JS: *That's too funny.*

YM: Y'know, there's a rap star named Yo-Yo, and I get her mail sometimes—I'm not sure how—but I got one letter that said, "Dear Yo-Yo, I love your new hair and what you do for women." I was actually flattered for a second, until I realized it wasn't meant for me.

JS: *Do you actually own a yo-yo?*

YM: My son has a whole collection. I guess he thinks of his father as a plastic toy.

JS: *Can you do any tricks, like Walk the Dog or Around the World?*

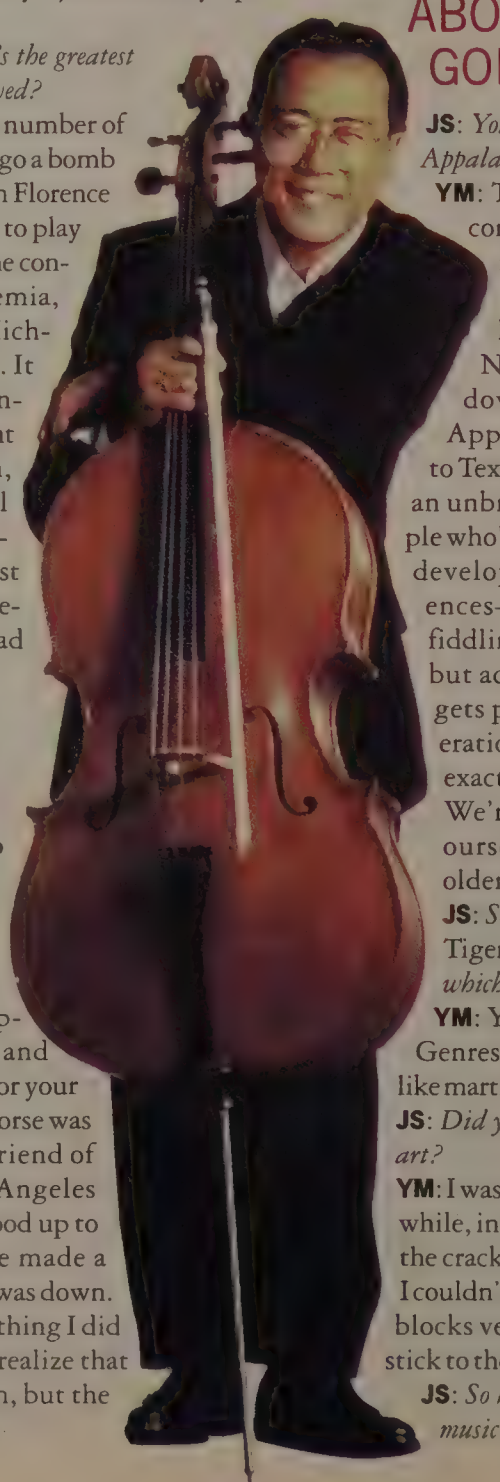
YM: Sure. But mostly I just have my ups and downs.

JS: *{Laughs} What's the greatest venue you've ever played?*

YM: I can think of a number of places, but a while ago a bomb damaged a church in Florence that I was supposed to play in, so they moved the concert to the Accademia, which is where Michelangelo's *David* is. It was a 5 o'clock concert, and the sunlight was streaming in, and I could see all these incredible statues....It was the most amazing visual experience I've ever had while performing.

JS: *How about your most embarrassing moment on stage?*

YM: There are so many, you'd have to publish a special edition to print them all. Sometimes you forget what you're supposed to be doing and you draw a blank...or your fly is down. Even worse was one time, with a friend of mine in the Los Angeles Philharmonic: I stood up to take a bow, and he made a gesture as if my fly was down. Of course, the first thing I did was check, only to realize that my fly wasn't down, but the damage was done.



JS: *Is it like a dentist's drill when your kids listen to bad pop, like 'N Sync, or Christina Aguilera?*

YM: Ooh, careful what you say. Christina Aguilera is distantly related to our former babysitter! I sort of follow what all those pop stars are doing. Y'know what I love most about music and teenagers? Every generation has to discover something for themselves. So I'm interested in seeing who's doing what, and I do it without judgment. The only thing that worries me is when kids spend literally in the upper hundreds of dollars for a concert ticket, 'cause that's a lot of money. My jaw sort of drops.

JS: *What do you listen to?*

YM: It depends. I get sent a lot of CDs, which I listen to, or I'll listen to what my daughter listens to, so it could be anything from Dido, to the Beatles, to Brahms.

"I'M INTIMIDATED BY EVERYTHING. I ALWAYS THINK THE PEOPLE I WORK WITH KNOW MUCH MORE THAN I DO ABOUT WHAT'S GOING ON."

JS: *Your fascination with Appalachian music: Why?*

YM: The fiddling tradition comes partly from Scandinavia and certainly from Scotland and Ireland. It goes through Nova Scotia and goes down the East Coast to Appalachia, to Tennessee, to Texas, and you have kind of an unbroken tradition of people who've migrated and slowly developed stylistic differences—for instance, Texas fiddling is more up-tempo—but actually, the music that gets passed down from generation to generation is fairly exact, and that's fascinating. We're constantly renewing ourselves and reinventing older forms.

JS: *Sort of like* Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, *which you played the music for?*

YM: Yes, also the same thing. Genres that have been around, like martial arts, are reinterpreted.

JS: *Did you ever study a martial art?*

YM: I was interested in karate for a while, in the philosophy part and the cracking cement blocks part. I couldn't do the cracking cement blocks very well, so I decided to stick to the philosophical.

JS: *So how did playing the music for that movie work?*

YM: It was interesting. It's a much larger process than I'm usually involved in, and I had to serve two masters—the director and the composer. They were both in the studio and both had to be pleased.

JS: *You're known for interpreting Bach....*

YM: I am? Can I have that in writing?

JS: *Do you have a favorite composer?*

YM: Not specifically. I think of composers as people who have a tremendous amount going on inside and a compulsion to tell you about it through sound. If I can figure out what they want to communicate, if I can somehow find my way in, that composer becomes a favorite.

JS: *Least favorite part of your job?*

YM: Cancelled flights with no explanation.

JS: *What's the best perk?*

YM: The unbelievable education, through travel and access to talented people. I sometimes have to pinch myself and say, "I can't believe I'm experiencing this."

JS: *If you weren't a musician, what do you think you'd do?*

YM: [Laughing] Maybe I'd be a travel agent with a sign saying "Please Go Away."

JS: *Anyone from history you'd love to play for?*

YM: I'm not sure. I think that some people are like stars: a new star, a super-nova, a black hole. You get too close to certain people, you can actually get completely swallowed up in their orbit, so some people are best appreciated somewhat at a distance. Not because they're bad people, but because their personal magnetic field is so powerful, it's overwhelming. I imagine that might be true with Bach, or Beethoven.

JS: *Anyone you've played with who intimidated you?*

YM: Constantly. I'm intimidated by everything. I always think the people I work with know much more than I do about what's going on. But it's a positive thing, because I approach it as an opportunity to learn.

JS: *So how do you spend your free time?*

YM: I like to go food shopping. Y'know, being on the road, you're constantly at the mercy of others with your food intake, your sleep schedule, your transportation. You have no control. When I'm home, I can actually go and make something to eat. That sort of thing anchors me. A car wash is a fabulous thing. I like to do normal things.

JS: *Is there a fashion designer whose clothes you tend to wear at performances?*

YM: I always get in a very bad mood when I go clothes shopping. My wife has a trick. She hands me a sandwich so I can't complain about being hungry. Then I'm blindfolded and taken to various stores where she's alerted them that a man who loathes shopping is on his way. It's true. Ask her.

JS: *Last question: I have a friend who says she'll marry the first guy she meets if you'll play at her wedding.*

YM: Oh, my God! Is that true?!

JS: *Yes.*

YM: Well, I believe in flattery, but isn't she getting her priorities reversed? I think we should talk again when she finds someone she actually wants to marry. iB

TIMOTHY WHITE

It's not name dropping.

Just a bit of bragging.



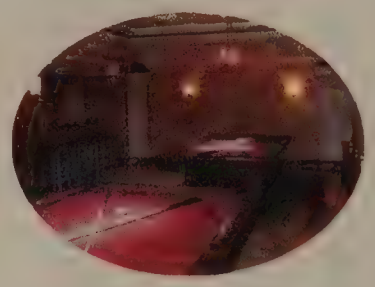
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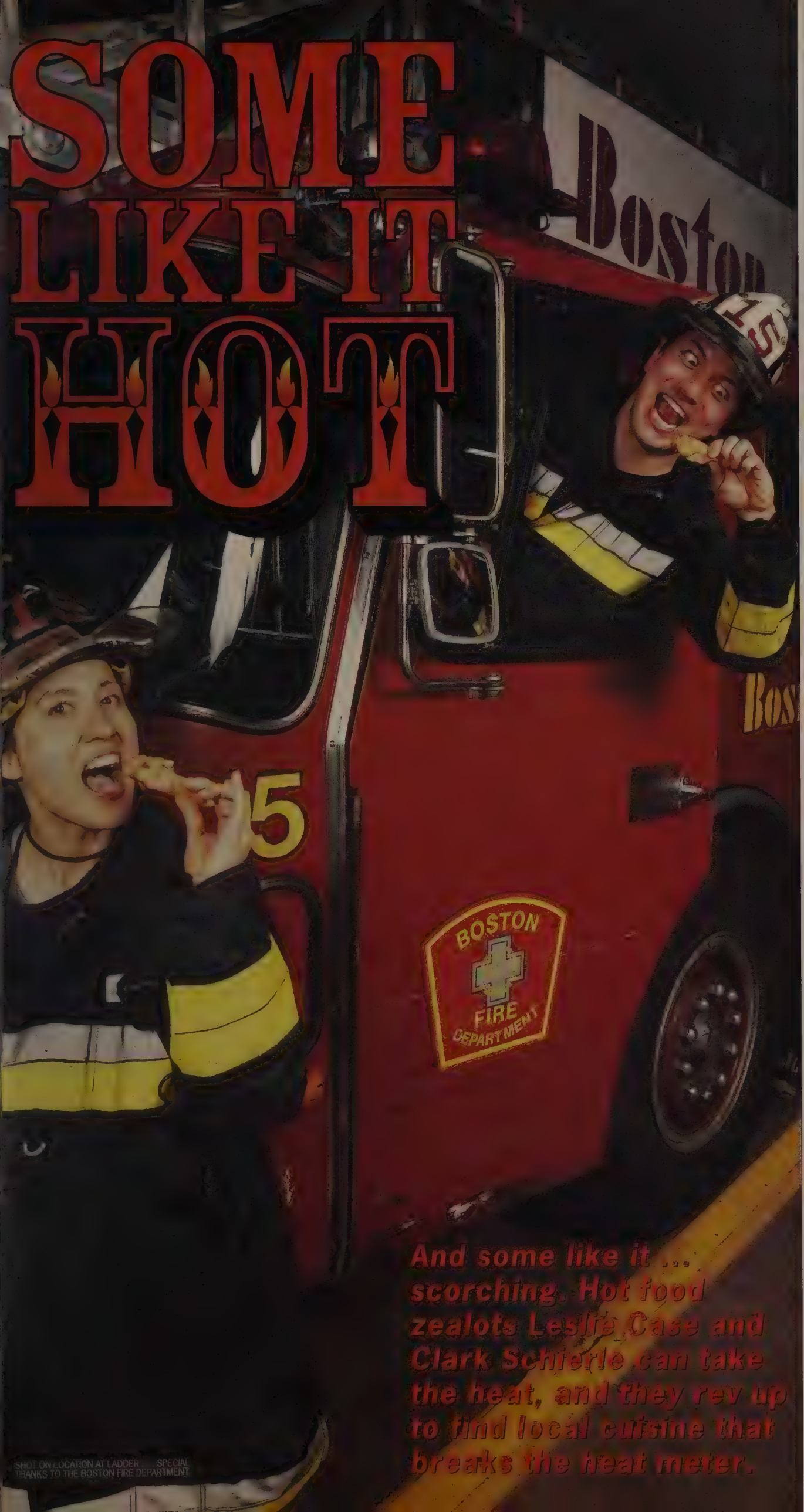
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SOME LIKE IT HOT



And some like it ... scorching. Hot food zealots Leslie Case and Clark Schierle can take the heat, and they rev up to find local cuisine that breaks the heat meter.

BY ERIN HAGEDORN

PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRACY POWELL

There's no denying that New England has a reputation for being the Land of Bland. In fact, if you had to pick one of the world's least exciting culinary regions, we'd be a good contender (you can't get much farther from Central America's chile-pepper belt). Sure we've got our signature dishes like chowder and apple pie—comfort foods that are innocuous enough for a 2-year-old. What we're not known for is turning up the heat. When it comes to fiery fare, Boston doesn't hold a candle to the Tex-Mex chile belt or Cajun cuisine—and let's not even talk about how we rate on an international hot-and-spicy scale.

But just because spicy fare isn't native to these parts doesn't mean it's not available. In fact, regional cuisine has been heating up steadily over the past few years. Cafe of India's Haemant Chowdry says, "Five years ago, when we asked diners 'Do you want it hot, medium or mild?' 5 percent said 'hot.' Now, every third person wants it 'really hot.'" Trader Joe's long-time staffer Kevin Venti reports a similar pattern. "The way the trend is going, we'll be bringing in even more kick-in-the-pants sauces. In the last few months, we've brought in lots of wasabi (pungent green Oriental horseradish) products, like florescent-green wasabi caviar." Commenting on products like Hell's Kitchen brand jalapeno sausage, Venti adds, "Lots of senior citizens are buying them and returning them because they're too spicy."

Regardless of the growing number of hot options around town, there's a growing number of people who still aren't satisfied. These tongue-searing fanatics, known as Chileheads, are connoisseurs of products like Sudden Death Sauce, Satan's Revenge and Spontaneous Combustion salsa. "There is actually a big Chilehead constituency in Boston," says Lisa Lamme, owner of Le Saucier, a hugely popular hot-sauce shop formerly in Faneuil Hall and now at *www.drhot.net*. "And it's getting bigger. So is the market in general. A few years ago you couldn't find a jalapeno in Boston: Now they're in almost every grocery store. Chinese places now have super-hot sauce on every table, every local chef sells a hot sauce, places are serving hot martinis, nuclear wings and chile-pepper beer. It's here to stay." And, like many heat fans, Lamme is...well... a bit fanatical about hot food. "There's always a bottle of hot sauce by my nightstand, and I always carry one in my purse."

Is there such a thing as too hot? Absolutely. Most of the time, dishes that are overwhelmingly hot overpower the food's flavor. Take El Pelón Taquería's first annual red-hot chile-pepper-eating contest, where 25 determined pepper eaters weren't looking for flavor—just straight-up pain. Macho, steel-stomached souls turned up in droves to test their willpower—and to win the prize of free food for a month. Contenders popped peppers like candy. Soon, bright-red bodies flailed about the room as contestants ripped off their sweaty shirts. Midway through the event, the taqueria was full of grown men crying like babies, shrieking in pain and moaning for Maalox. Three vomiting instances disqualified a few contenders, and one squealing man even lunged out the door, mouth first, into a snowbank.

Why this masochism? It's all for the rush. Apparently, with pain comes pleasure: When you eat a >>

chile, the active ingredient called capsaicin binds to sensory neurons, which also respond to high temperatures. (This is why the sensation is mistaken by your brain for heat.) When your body's nerves "feel the pain," they immediately start to transmit pain messages to your brain. Your brain responds by releasing endorphins, the body's natural painkillers. When these babies kick in, you get a temporary feeling of euphoria—a purely natural high. That's why you get a loopy sort of buzz after a giant Indian feast. That's also why Chileheads are eternally jonesin' for the latest smoldering pepper in existence.

To help these determined fans of fire find the hottest fare in town, we asked an array of Boston chefs to send over their mouth-searing dishes to see how they'd rate on the thermal Richter scale. For judges, we invited two of the most daring, most iron-stomached humans in town. Meet **Leslie** "Nothing in America Is Hot Enough for Me" Case, a copy editor who has tried to satisfy her yearn to burn by traversing the globe, tasting many a fiery dish in India and Thailand. The world traveler laments, "In this country, every time I go to a restaurant I ask them to make it the hottest they can. But I'm always disappointed. It's the story of my life." We met our second taste-tester, **Clark** Schierle, at El Pelón Taquería's recent red-hot chile-pepper-eating contest. At the end of three unbelievably intense rounds, Clark choked down 30-something peppers, including a staggering nine habaneros. "I would have kept going, but my arms became numb, and I started having trouble breathing, so I thought I'd better stop."

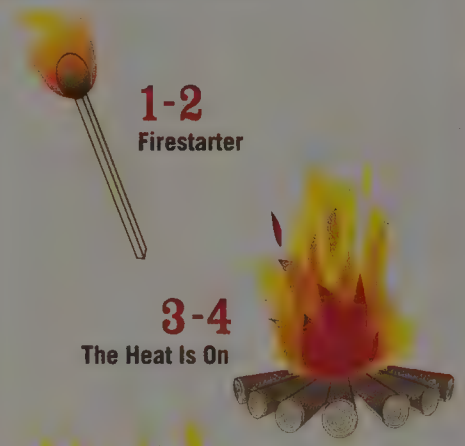
With our giddy champs at the table, and several boxes of Kleenex on hand, a memorable hot-food frenzy ensued. As there was no way for us to use a scientific method of ranking a dish's heat (a pepper's punch is officially measured in Scoville Heat Units), we opted for the ol' 1-10 method: 1 being utterly bland, and 10 causing a third-degree burn.



East Coast Grill staffers get demonic on Hell Night.

OUR RATING SYSTEM DECODED:

It's not scientific. It's the IMPROPER's method of ranking heat-infused cuisine.

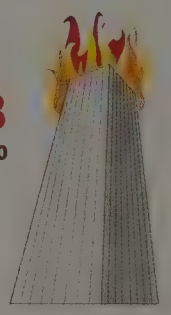


1-2
Firestarter

3-4
The Heat Is On



5-6
Burnin' Down the House



7-8
The Towering Inferno



9-10
Danger! Explosive!

"Nothing in America is hot enough for me. Every time I go to a restaurant I ask them to make it the hottest they can. But I'm always disappointed." —LESLIE CASE

EL PELÓN TAQUERÍA

92 Peterborough St., Boston (262-9090)

Thankfully, El Pelón Taquería didn't send over plates of their infamous peppers for our taste-off. Instead, we got super spicy salsas laced with the fiery habaneros. Although not authentically Mexican (it's more of a Tex-Mex tradition than a Mexican one), the tortilla chip and salsa combo shows that fiery zest isn't always reserved for main dishes. "We're trying to cater to the people who want it really, really hot," says cook/owner Nate Walker when discussing the Arbol chile sauce, El Pelón's standard house salsa. The heat of the sauce, according to Walker, "depends on how old it is. The arbol chiles are marinated in vinegar; the longer they marinate, the hotter the sauce. The end of the batch is pretty hot." Although the Arbol chile sauce certainly packs a punch, it's the habanero-heavy Señor John Delisle salsa (named for the incredible winner of the pepper-eating contest) that's the killer.



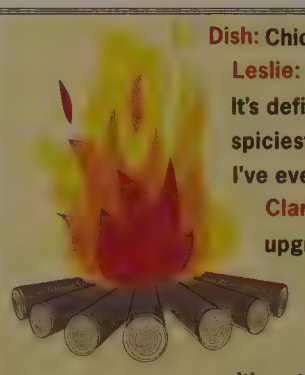
The dish: The Señor John Delisle Salsa
Leslie: (9) "Wow." After she recovers a bit, she admiringly declares, "This is the hottest salsa I've ever had. I'd say you only want to use a few tablespoons of this."
Clark: (8) "Yeah," Clark agrees, exhaling a smoldering breath. "A few tablespoons would be enough for me. But, of course it would depend what's on the line. Is free food for a month involved?"
Antidote: Homemade tortilla chips

CAFE OF INDIA

52 Brattle St., Cambridge (661-0683)

Over at Cafe of India, we found succulent dishes that have just enough heat to make it challenging, but not so much that you can't taste how good it is. The chicken tikka masala in particular was met with a shriek of delight from Leslie. "Wow, it really sneaks up on you." The Cafe's Haemant Chowdry explains that "it's the freshness of spices that make the difference. We grind them in house, so they don't lose their luster. We love to use cumin, tumeric, green chiles and dried red chiles." He warns: Beware the green-chile naan (bread). It's not on the menu for a reason. (Customers can order it, though.) The lamb vindaloo, although traditionally the restaurant's hottest dish, was met with a lukewarm reception from the pair. The tikka masala, however, got an eye-popping response.

Another place that serves up Indian food with an extra kick is New Mother India in Waltham. All too happy to prepare scorching dishes for daring customers, chef/owner Sham Sahni says, "I love to make it hot like it is in India! The trick is to make it hot, but not make you sick after you've eaten it. A lot of the time, when you're not an experienced cook, you make it hot by using tons of red pepper. But the better chefs can make it just as hot and make it tasty, too." With a chuckle, he adds, "But a little bit of jalapeno doesn't hurt that much." Sahni's signature dish is madras chicken.

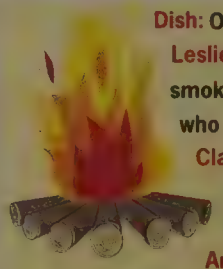


Dish: Chicken tikka masala
Leslie: (4) "Delicious. It's definitely the spiciest Tikka Masala I've ever had."
Clark: (4) "I'm upgrading from a 3 to a 4 because of the slow, surprising burn. It's got this nice unified hotness, and the spices are infused throughout. And the green-chile naan is nice because it's like its own antidote."
Antidote: Yogurt, rice, chutney, chile-free naan

GREEN STREET GRILL

280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655)

Sometimes concocting bold, full flavors is a labor of love. "I cook our oven-roasted and grilled spare ribs for about eight hours before soaking them in sauce," says the French/Caribbean restaurant's chef John Levins of the ribs, a Southern fave. "At first, my heat was a lot more raw. I finally have it down so that nothing gets too overpowering... But I do keep a big bucket of mixed chile peppers to throw in so when someone asks for it extra hot, I really give it to them." Our pros snarf down the savory, sweet ribs, and despite the 15-chile-pepper sauce, find them just a touch hot.



Dish: Oven-roasted and grilled spare ribs
Leslie: (3) "It doesn't register off the Richter scale—more flavorful than hot. It's very smoky and full, and I'd say more delicious than spicy. Certainly tolerable for those who can't take heat."
Clark: (3) "Mmmm, tasty. And tangy. Heat wise, it's not too much, not too little—a great slow heat that envelops your whole mouth and warms you, rather than being sharp and painful."
Antidote: Mashed potatoes and mixed vegetables

DIXIE KITCHEN

182 Mass. Ave., Boston (536-3068)

Picture the menu of a typical restaurant in New Orleans—spicy Creole and Cajun dishes galore—and you've got Dixie Kitchen. "We're a little tamed for all you Yankee boys and girls. You guys are so bland! All that Irish food!" cries Texan owner Peter Housos good-naturedly. "Although there are certainly people in Boston who are willing to try new things, on the whole, Southern food is much better. Down there we really spice up everything."

Housos sent over the spiciest dish, the blackened catfish, made with a spicy Creole sauce, lots of cayenne and black pepper, garlic, plus Tabasco or habanero sauce. Clark was a big fan. "I like how the heat is so well incorporated into the flavors. It's not always like that. One of my pet peeves is when you have a perfectly good dish and then they throw on hot sauce and it's clearly a disparate flavor from the rest of the food. It's like they're screaming, 'Bam! We're gonna mess you up.'"

Dish: Blackened catfish with Creole sauce

Leslie: (1) Although she doesn't find it particularly hot, she oohs and aahs over how delicious the pan-seared catfish is, "Very complex and flavorful, and just a touch spicy."

Clark: (2) "If I were describing this to one of my non-fireproof-mouthed friends, I would say it's got some kick."

Antidote: Black-eyed peas, collard greens and rice

SPICE THAI CUISINE

24 Holyoke St., Cambridge (868-9560)

When Leslie and Clark saw the steaming plate of hot basil with chicken from Harvard Square's Spice Thai Cuisine, their eyes lit up. But after sampling, it was all waterworks. This one was certainly a challenge. "We don't usually put too much spice in the dishes; Americans can't handle it," says owner Panja Lymswam. "And this chicken basil is even too spicy for me." The hot basil is made with crushed chiles, garlic chile and stir-fried vegetables, all in a Thai basil sauce. What makes it really pack a punch is the deceptively innocent-looking Thai chile. "It's really teeny, but it's really spicy!" he says. A Spice staffer tell us, "most Americans stick with two stars [the hottest rating they give], but I did have one customer ask for a dish with 20 stars. I don't know what happened to him."



Dish: Hot basil with chicken

Leslie: (7) "One of the best and one of the hottest. It's like a meal I used to get on the streets in Thailand. My mom (who is from the Philippines) wouldn't be able to eat it."

Clark: (6/7) "A garlic lover's delight. It definitely builds, getting hotter and hotter. Nice sharp heat."

Antidote: Pad Thai

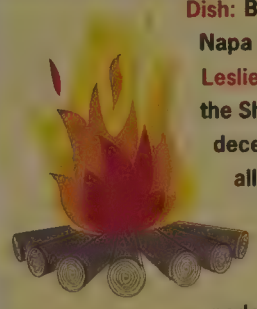


The East Coast Grill's Cold Fusion Martinis are made with habanero-infused vodka. Ouch!

SICHUAN GARDEN

295 Washington St., Brookline (734-1870)

Chinese food is a great escape from the dull dining doldrums—but according to our tasters, Leslie and Clark, Chinese is usually standardly bland as well. But this doesn't always have to be the case, says Sichuan Garden manager Michael Duan. "People who looking for something spicy come to our restaurant. The braised beef and Napa cabbage and chiles is the most requested spicy dish." Beyond the flavor, Duan mentions the medicinal and therapeutic value of the red chile-pepper seeds and pepper paste he uses in the dish, "It's really healthy, and people are figuring that out more."



Dish: Braised beef and Napa cabbage and chiles

Leslie: (5) She finds that the Shui Zhu beef looks deceptively benign. "But all around pretty standard—but I think most Chinese food is pretty pedestrian. It tastes like they used a lot of chile oil and red pepper. It's definitely hotter than what I usually get in Chinese restaurants." The breaded dry spicy chicken, which came with whole chiles on top, gets an indifferent shrug and a 4 rating.

Clark: (4) "The beef has good heat and tasty chile sauce, but not a whole lot of other flavors," says Clark, who is half-Chinese. "I order in Chinese, and I tell them that I really do like it hot. It goes to a totally different level."

Antidote: White rice

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Kashmir Foods and Spices
Owner Mandeet Kaur says that the store's hottest item is, by far, its blend of chile powder. Some of its other exotic spices are cumin powder, coriander and garam masala. Kashmir also sells fresh ginger, garlic and fresh vegetables. *234 Harvard St., Brookline, (734-7153).*

Le Saucier
Lisa Lamme's Faneuil Hall shop (the first hot-sauce store in the country) recently closed, much to the chagrin of hot-condiment fanatics nationwide. She now sells her eye-watering hot sauces and salsas from the United States and 37 other countries on-line. She says, "I grew up in the Caribbean, and I always sucked my thumb. Someone told my mother, 'If you put hot sauce on her thumb, she'll stop fast.' But I ended up liking it. The business grew from there." *www.drhot.net*

Madras Masala
With a clientele of mostly Indian customers, owner Kares Grish relays that "Masala powder is the very hottest thing we carry. It's nice because you can use it in most Indian dishes." *191 Harvard St., Brookline (566-9943).*

Formaggio Kitchen Inc.
With a slew of Turkish spices and dried peppers, this shop's hottest items are canned chipotle peppers, which are smoked jalapenos in an adobo sauce, and a chipotle salsa, which packs a walloping punch. Owner Valerie Gurdal likes the marash sauce from Turkey. "It has a clean, bright berry flavor, but with lots of heat." *268 Shawmut Ave., Boston (350-6996).*

Shalimar India Foods and Spices
Owner Amrik Pabla, who also runs Kashmir Indian restaurant, says that their hottest products, fresh green chiles and red hot chiles, are especially tasty in the Garam masala. *571 Mass. Ave.,Cambridge (868-8311).*

Cardullo's Gourmet Shoppe
Cardullo's carries dry spices and sauces from around the world—and the owners profess to have quite a few of the hottest sauces around. Namely, they're referring to 'Da Bomb, a fiery sauce that is actually kept at the register because it's so dangerous. *6 Brattle St., Cambridge (491-8888).*

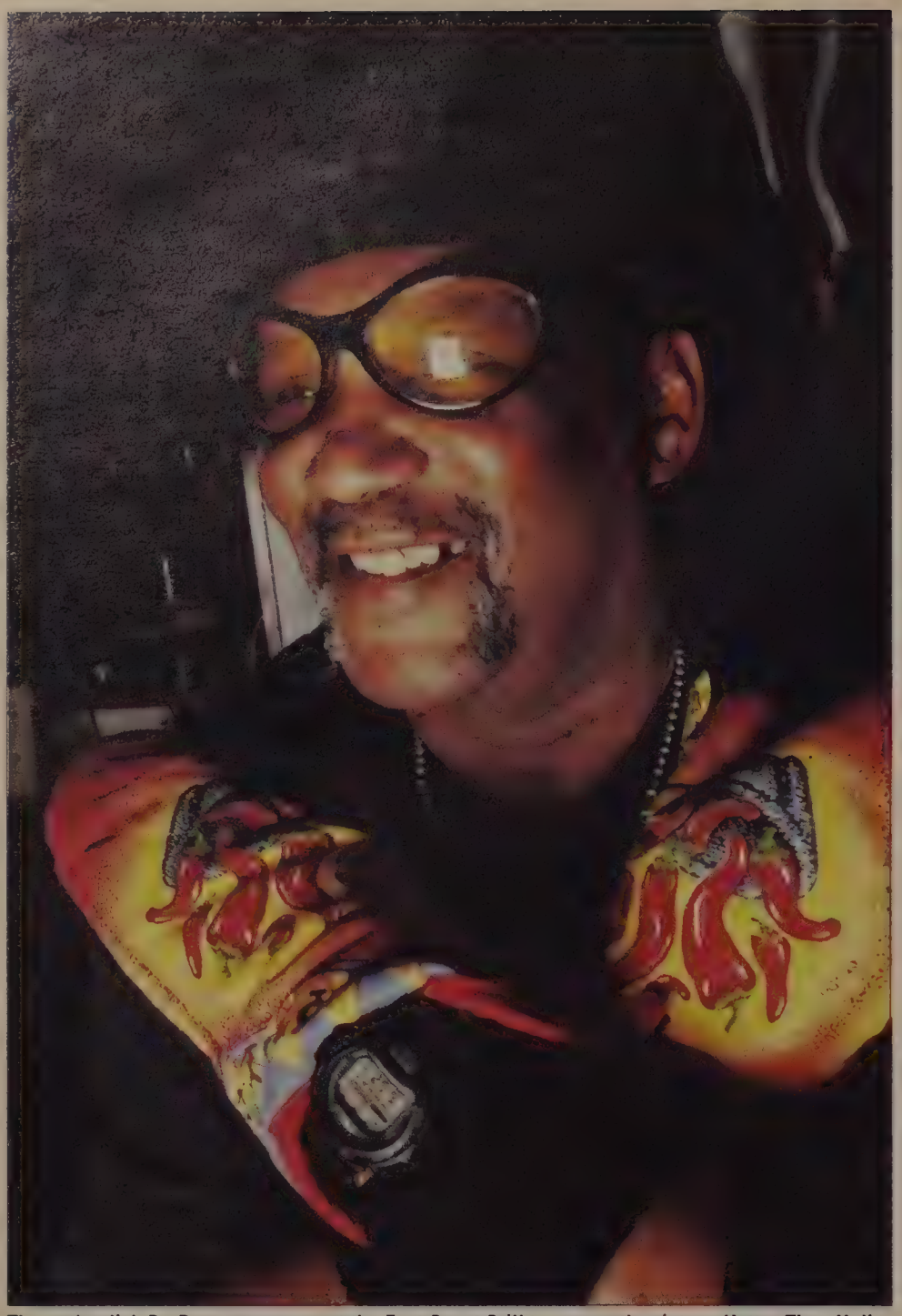
Syrian Grocery
This is the place to go for a mix of Middle Eastern, Indian and North African sauces and spices. Maurice Mansour, who has run the shop since 1966, says that Syrian's best seller is harissa (mashed up chiles with salt and oil) from Morocco. The Balsamic Pepper Sauce from Italy is also quite popular. *270 Shawmut Avenue, Boston (426-1458).*

88 Supermarket
Specializing in all types of Asian food, this authentic Asian shop carries heaps of hot foods and bottled sauces. Check out its super-spicy Chile Beef and its Vietnamese red pepper-infused chile sauce, Sambulik. There's also the scorching Chau Chau Chile Sauce. *50 Herald St., Boston (423-1688).*

JUST HOW HOT IS HOT?

The amount of capsaicin (the hot stuff) in a pepper is measured in Scoville Heat Units. A bell pepper has zero SHU, and a habanero can measure up to 300,000. A rule of thumb: The smaller the pepper, the more it burns.

Cherry Hot Pepper 100-500 SHU	Poblano 500-1,000 SHU	Jalapeno 2,500-5,000 SHU
		
Serrano 5,000-15,000 SHU	**Yellow Caribe Chile 5,000-15,000 SHU**	**Habanero 100,000-300,000 SHU**
		



The outlandish Dr. Pepper appears at the East Coast Grill to emcee the riotous Hotter Than Hell Nights. If he hears a bragging customer, he "reports to the kitchen and they take it up a notch."

RHYTHM & SPICE

315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-0977)

By the time we got to the jerked pork and ribs, our tasters were a feeling bit singed and, as Clark put it, were "getting to the point where we were pretty useless." But jerked dishes can be some of most vicious victuals out there—and Leslie and Clark were determined to give it a go. Rhythm & Spice's Dee Thomas tells us, "by being doused in a seasoning chock full of Scotch bonnet pepper (a family member of the habanero), marinated for a day and smoked before being roasted or grilled." And if that's not hot enough, "We always serve extra-spicy Matouk's hot sauce from Trinidad on the side."



Dish: Jerked pork and jerked ribs
Leslie: (2) "The ribs would be a comfortable level of spice for the regular folk, and it's nice that it doesn't push you over your pain threshold. The pork is very tender, but not a lot of heat."
Clark: (2) Clark finds it unchallenging, although he likes its smokiness. "The pork has a slow, sort of understated heat. A black pepper kind of heat, so it's more spicy than fiery."
Antidote: Bread

Editor's note: It is important to note that at this time, the taste-off's emcee, perplexed by yet another lukewarm reception of supposedly fiery food from the champions, popped a piece into her own mouth. As her mouth caught flame and smoke shot out her ears, she shrieked "Are you guys crazy?!"

DELI HAUS

476 Comm. Ave., Boston (247-9712)

Just a whiff of the Deli Haus' Atomic hot wings is enough to make you recoil in a chile fume stupor. But as the smoke cleared, Leslie and Clark dove right in, hands dripping in Scotch Bonnet pepper sauce, sniffling the whole time. Deli Haus owner and chef Adam Shuman boasts, "I guarantee that these are the hottest wings in the city. We've been selling them for seven years—people never finish them, but they always take them home." So just how hot is an atomic wing? "We have a motto: 'If you have to ask if it's too hot, then you probably shouldn't order it.'" Wimpier diners can try the slightly less painful Voodoo soup with four kinds of chiles in it, dubbed 'The Manhattan Project Chowder,' or the explosive Death Valley chicken. No matter which one you choose, though, Deli Haus staffers stress the importance of atomic wing eaters washing their hands before going to the bathroom.



Dish: Atomic hot wings
Leslie: (9) "It's laced with habaneros, so you can't really taste the chicken. I'm glad we had it last, because I wouldn't be able to taste anything after this."
Clark: (9) "The first time I ate Atomic Wings I felt like I was tripping. It's intense—an immediate and lingering burn. The sauce is like trying to get on the turnpike. There's this sudden acceleration, then you get up to speed and stay at speed. Zoom! "
Antidote: Celery and blue cheese dressing... but even those things probably won't work.

"I ate something like 35 peppers. I would have kept going, but my arms became numb, and I started having trouble breathing. So I thought I'd better stop." —CLARK SCHIERLE AT THE RED-HOT CHILE-PEPPER-EATING CONTEST

The agony of defeat. This pained participant at El Pelón Taquería's red-hot chile-pepper-eating contest tries his best to choke down another habanero. Alas, the unfortunate soul can't take the heat.

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EAST COAST GRILL

1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (491-6568)

For our final tasting, we took Leslie and Clark to the East Coast Grill, where they rose to the challenge at the grill's Hotter Than Hell Night. When it comes to fiery food, the East Coast Grill puts most to shame, especially for a few days every February and September when it hosts its Hell Night, a riotous heat fest that draws adventurous diners from near and far. Hot-food aficionados have the grill's fun-loving celeb chef Chris Schlesinger to thank. Known for his intensely flavored fare, he's filled six cookbooks with recipes that call for big, bold flavors, inspired by his travels in countries with warmer weather—and much warmer food. "When I was traveling, I was always more interested in what the El Salvador dish washers' wives preparing at home than what the cooks were making." Schlesinger has always served spicy dishes, but couldn't help upping the ante. "I was baited into a culinary dare by a small, sick sect of the dining public whose taunts of 'that really wasn't hot enough' finally got the better of me and my formal dining training. I could not resist the burning desire to silence at least a few." Word spread among the fire-eaters, and the ritual Hotter Than Hell Night torture has been going for close to a decade. "The brave and the super freaks came in droves to feed their strange and weird addiction." Each year's Hell Nights try to outdo the those that came before, and this year marked the first triple-header—three full nights of blistering options.

The atmosphere—not to mention the food—was anything but tame. As AC/DC and Black Sabbath blasted through the pepper-decorated restaurant, dog-collared staff looked for inferno-inflicted customers who cried out for an EMT (extinguish my tongue). When someone did, whistles went off and the masked guest chef, a.k.a. Dr. Pepper, joined staffers at the stricken diner's table, chanting "Wimp! Wimp! Wimp!"

But Leslie and Clark weren't intimidated—until Dr. Pepper delivered the Cold Fusion Martini from Hell (made with laced vodka) and the famous Pasta From Hell, a dish that swims in Schlesinger's Inner Beauty Hot Sauce and requires diners to sign a "hold harmless" waiver.



Dish: Cold Fusion Martini and Pasta from Hell

Leslie: (10) "It's hard to tell whether the tears in her eyes were from the searing pain or from happiness. "After drinking this martini, I can say for the first time at a restaurant in this country when I've thought 'Ah, this is hot enough. I've been outdone, and I bow respectfully."

Clark: (10) "After polishing off the Pasta from Hell (thus winning a free T-shirt), he solemnly declares, "This makes every other hot thing I've ever eaten a .5 by comparison. Ouch."

Antidote: The EMT is a creamsicle



The habanero-laced Pasta From Hell is Chris Schlesinger's signature Hotter Than Hell dish.

the QUEST for ZEST

Hot Flashes with the editor of Chile Pepper *magazine*

So you think you're a hot-food devotee. But do you rate peppery food on things like the length of the burn or the aftertaste? Do you travel around the globe in search of the hottest pepper? Chileheads do. A group of like-minded heat freaks (think Trekkies), they share an overwhelming passion for chile peppers. And they take it seriously. Most official Chileheads (some are card-carrying members of groups like the Transcendental Capsaicinophilic Society) are recovering from the annual National Fiery Foods & Barbecue Show in Albuquerque, which took place March 2-4. Most likely, they'll also be pouring over *Chile Pepper* magazine. We asked the zesty Fort Worth magazine's Texan Publisher/Editor-in-Chief Joel Gregory about all this flourish of flavorful activity.

Why is there such a deep love of chiles nowadays?

One thing pushing the movement are the taste buds of aging baby boomers. As boomers climb toward 60, they can't taste the food as much, so they want it hotter. It's sweeping the country. To meet the demand, we launched *www.chilepepper.com* March 1. It has a 24-7 chile chat room, and every Saturday there's a chat hosted by a celebrity chef so people can get the hot recipes and cook them together.

Are there many fanatical New Englanders?

Some of our most passionate subscribers are actually from New England. They feel like they're in an outpost or something.

Is the Chilehead constituency going strong?

There are so many passionate enthusiasts—it's just a huge subculture with so many niches. There are groups that get together for trade shows and salsa contests or to exchange recipes on the Ring of Fire Web sites. Some collect thousands of hot sauce bottles, others participate in the National Fiery Food Challenge and regularly eat things like Hiney Hurting Sauce, chile chocolate and the fiery soft drink Loco.

Is it a guy thing?

It's like a Joe camel, six-pack kind of macho thing. There are sauces like Da Bomb that are pure olio resin of capsaicin—synthesized by a chemist. It's almost dangerous to eat. People turn purple, pass out, regurgitate.

Is it addicting?

I prefer the words "habit forming."

What are some of the chile-pepper myths? We've heard the rumor the Caribbean tale of balding men rubbing it on their scalp to grow hair. Then there's the supposed Southeastern tradition of using red chiles to cure hemorrhoids...

(Chuckles.) Well, chiles do have many purposes. The Aztecs used them in battle. They filled catapults with crushed chiles—it was very effective. Chile peppers are demonstrated to have health benefits, and not just when you eat them. They have a cardiovascular effect when you rub them on areas with poor circulation, and they help burns. Oh, and campers use the powder as a bear repellent too.

What's the hottest, most pungent pepper?

There are always new claims. The latest one is from India—research scientists working for the Defense Research Laboratories of India in Tezpur announced



that they'd discovered the hottest cultivated pepper in the world: the Tezpur chile. They say it ranks in at 855,000 Scoville Heat Units—whereas the Mexican 'Red Savina' habanero [the previous top ranker] can only go up to 600,000 SHU. With the Red Savina, even the tiniest amount can burn you. Either one of them will blow your mouth off.

What should you take after something like that?

I like Pepcid Complete.

To find out more, check out* Chilepper.com *or find* Chile Pepper *magazine at Barnes and Noble or Borders.

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the final FOUR

by rachel strutt









A sampler of styles: buildings and projects designed by the four architectural firms the ICA is considering for its new museum. Clockwise from top left: Studio Granda's art museum in Reykjavík, Iceland; Office dA's Interfaith Chapel at Northeastern University; Peter Zumthor's art museum in Bregenz, Switzerland; and Diller+ Scofidio's Brasserie Restaurant in N.Y.C.

TOP LEFT: DENNIS GILBERT; ALL COURTESY OF THE ICA

The Institute of Contemporary Art is caught up in its own March madness: selecting an architectural firm to build a new harborside museum from its daring short list of four. Along with other local buildings in the works—think Frank Gehry at MIT and Renzo Piano at Harvard for starters—the new ICA is destined to put our city on the architectural world map for the first time in decades.

Thanks to the Big Dig, downtown Boston has been consumed by chaos. Roads resemble minefields. Massive trucks, cranes and drills assault the earth. It's an ongoing coup d'etat of civil engineering—frightening and thrilling all at once—with hard-hat-wearing construction workers rather than fatigue-wearing guerrillas leading the charge. But let's skip ahead to when all the digging, drilling, earth-freezing, heaving, hauling and paving is complete and the Central Artery is tucked tidily away underground. Of course, the I-93 commute will be only slightly less sluggish—we'll just be bumper-to-bumper 20 feet below ground. But that's not really the point. The true potential of putting the Central Artery underground is that it will reunite Boston with its seaport, reinvigorating the area and creating tremendous architectural opportunity.

The most exciting case in point: Over the next few years, the Institute of Contemporary Art will erect a new museum on Fan Pier, between the Federal Courthouse and the World Trade Center. The site, which boasts a killer view of the harbor, is owned by the Chicago-based Pritzker family, who annually award the Pritzker Prize, architecture's most prestigious honor—essentially the Nobel prize of buildings.

The new museum building will be Boston's first in over 100 years, and the ICA is fully aware of the significance of this project, as are architects around the world. Just days after the ICA won the right to build on the Fan Pier back in the fall of '99, architect Richard Meier, of Los Angeles' Getty Museum fame, sent in his portfolio for consideration. As the architectural cliché goes, building a museum is the modern-day equivalent to building a cathedral.

Since winning the right to build, the ICA's architectural selection committee, chaired by Nicholas Pritzker, has poured over countless portfolios, visited numerous museums around the world—including, of course, Frank Gehry's buzz-worthy Guggenheim museum in Bilbao, Spain—and has crystallized its mission. "We're looking for important, meaningful architecture—a successful building experience from the perspective of the visitor, the artists and the staff," says ICA director Jill Medvedow, who is also on the selection committee. "We're interested in progressive architects because we think it best reflects the artistic mission of our museum."

The Players

Last December, the ICA announced its short list of contenders for the $35 million, 60,000-square-foot project: There's the Swiss Peter Zumthor, New York-based Diller+Scofidio, the Icelandic Studio Granda and the locally based Office dA. On March 24, the quartet will make presentations to the public (see box on page 28 for details), describing their design philosophies and showing past works. By late April, the selection committee will whittle down the list from four to one.

It's quite a line-up. All four firms are innovative and have stellar work to showcase. And rather than churn out trademark, cookie-cutter-like projects, these firms approach each commission as a fresh intellectual and artistic challenge. In the case of the ICA job, the variables include questions of lighting and temperature controls, essential for preserving art. Given the setting, selecting materials to withstand the seaport's elements will also be particularly crucial, as will capitalizing on the view.



Yachting meets modern art: An artist's rendering of the Fan Pier development where the ICA will sit nestled in the marina.

Of the four, Peter Zumthor is the oldest and has the most impressive track record. Working predominantly in Switzerland and Austria, Zumthor has done minimalist and majestic buildings including an art museum in Bregenz, Austria. Studio Granda has also designed a museum—the Reykjavík Art Museum, a serene structure seamlessly integrated with the landscape—along with several buildings in their native country including the Supreme Court of Iceland. The boutique firm Diller+Scofidio is a husband-wife team best known for their provocative design of the Brasserie Restaurant in Mies van der Rohe's Seagram building in New York City. The couple is also known for their impeccable drawings and museum installations.

Office dA is the youngest of the architectural players. They have designed the spectacular Interfaith Chapel at Northeastern University and are currently working on the Witte Arts Building in Green Bay, Wis., among other projects. The South End-based firm comprises Venezuelan native Mónica Ponce de Leon and Nader Tehrani, who hails from Iran; the duo met while studying at Harvard's Graduate School of Design. Tehrani says, "The accessibility of the museum will be very important, not just to the international cultural elite, but particularly to adjoining neighborhoods. This is a huge opportunity for Boston to get a marquee building, and one that serves its people."

"We've been part of other short lists, and this one is the best," continues Tehrani. "To be on this list is an honor in and of itself. When you're [considered] for a public institution of this prominence, you're not only part of an ambitious cultural enterprise, but an important public service project. It's an opportunity to serve the city, it's architectural and urban life, and its diverse community."

"I'm delighted with the selections," says Alex Krieger, author of last year's book *Mapping Boston*, and principal of Chan Krieger and Associates, an architecture and urban design firm. "I give the ICA particular credit because they're not selecting the tried-and-true. They're creating an opportunity to find the next architectural voice."

The Renaissance

Conversely, other local institutions have recently commissioned tried-and-true "starchitects," if you will. Gehry is working on MIT's Strata Center, which promises to be wonderful and wacky. Other big-name, Pritzker prize winners in town include Renzo Piano, who's working on a new museum for Harvard, and Lord Foster, who's overseeing a new wing at the Museum of Fine Arts. Other auspicious projects include Rafael Viñoly's convention center—with all its current funding drama—and Christian Mann's elegant suspension bridge, not far from the clunky Tobin. Following a decades-long dark age of safe, bland architecture, the city's architectural horizon is actually brightening.

Back in the '50s and '60s, some of the most progressive architects in the world were working in Boston: Le Corbusier was at Harvard, and Eero Sarineen and Alvar Aalto were designing buildings at MIT. But despite the architectural innovation and successes of the period, there were also some unfortunate demolitions of historical areas. For example, the charming Sculley Square was replaced with several bland government buildings, including the monolithic, graceless City Hall, and the dismal concrete plaza in what was one of our city's most embarrassing architectural blunders ever.



Nader Tehrani and Mónica Ponce de Leon lead the local firm in the running, Office dA.

"Modern architecture became associated with demolition and brute insensitivity to local history," Krieger explains. "And for the last couple of decades, the city reacted against this. The result has been lots of pitched roofs, dormers, red brick and marble detailing. What was erased was any interest in real architectural endeavors. We already have plenty of buildings that look like they were designed in the 19th century. You get tired with kitschy representations of the past."

"Everything has pendulum swings, not just the fashion industry," concludes Krieger. "With the new ICA, Foster at the MFA and Renzo Piano at Harvard, the local architectural pendulum seems to be swinging back—toward making Boston a world-class city again."

TOP: COURTESY OF SPAULDING & SLYE



Plots with a view: A panoramic photomontage of the Fan Pier site. Below: An artist's bird's-eye rendering.

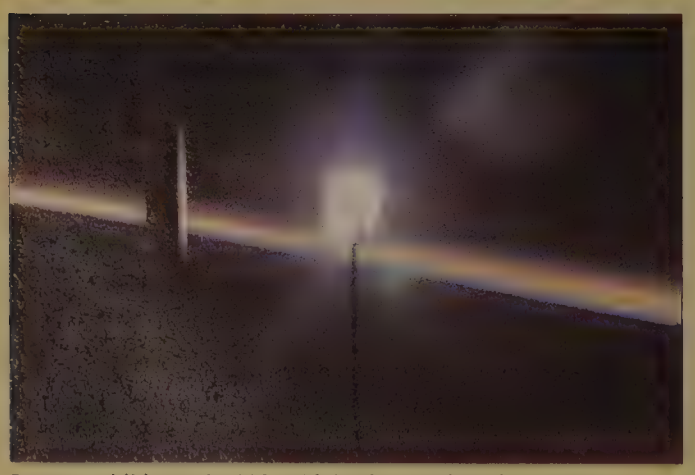


"It certainly will be an advantage for the ICA to be down there," says Krieger. "The idea is that a new kind of public institution would help redefine and reinvent an exhausted part of town. It's like Cleveland's effort to reinvigorate the lakefront with I.M. Pei's Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame—cities around the world are trying to duplicate Cleveland's success. The ICA will try to duplicate it—and, of course, Bilbao."



ICA director and architecture selection committee member Jill Medvedow (right) says the goal of building the new ICA museum is to balance the art with the architecture. "I think we can create a powerful presence on the waterfront without sacrificing viewing inside."





Recent exhibits at the ICA, which will remain at its Boylston St. location until the new museum is built in 2004. In its new harborside location, the ICA's exhibition space will triple.

The Necklace

The new ICA will be only one part of the massive Fan Pier project, which also will include residential units, luxury hotels and office spaces, as well as acres of parks and a public marina. The hope is that the ICA—along with the Children's Museum, the Aquarium, the USS *Constitution* and new developments such as a botanical garden—will help form a cultural loop, much like the Freedom Trail. "I think we'll be the jewel in the seaport development," says Medvedow, "in what we're starting to call the sapphire necklace—a constellation of natural and cultural resources."

If the ICA is going to sparkle within the sapphire necklace, it will do so with aesthetic nuance rather than size. As Ponce de Leon of Office dA sees it, "The fabric of the Fan Pier behind [the future museum] will be very different. The building will appear like a nestled jewel that sits in front of a huge metropolis. It will be like Audrey Hepburn, a small person who has a particular grace, someone who stands out at a party. It cannot set the tone; it must be the exception."

"It certainly will be an advantage for the ICA to be down there," says Krieger. "The idea is that a new kind of public institution would help redefine and reinvent an exhausted part of town. It's like Cleveland's effort to reinvigorate the lakefront with I.M. Pei's Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame—cities around the world are trying to duplicate Cleveland's success. The ICA will try to duplicate it—and, of course, Bilbao."

It will be exciting watching this building and others close by take shape. Given the ICA's short list, the future museum most likely will be an architectural gem, and this raises the bar for the institution. There is the risk that the architecture could overshadow what's hanging on the walls—even though that obviously isn't the intent. You don't, after all, hear art pilgrims coming back from the Bilbao raving about the paintings—it's the bizarre and absurdly brilliant building people gush about.

No doubt sensing this might be an issue, the ICA will begin building a permanent collection—something it sorely lacks—once it's established in its new home. "The focus will be 21st-century art," says Medvedow enthusiastically. "And we'll be buying much of the work from what has been included in our own exhibitions. It's a very focused and, we think, innovative approach to collecting."

Building a collection, on top of building a museum, will not only take hard work but money. Although there are skeptics who point out that the museum doesn't have a strong fund-raising record, Medvedow reports that the museum is well on its way to achieving its $50million capital campaign. To give the ICA director her due: Since joining the ICA in 1998, Medvedow has made great strides toward revving up the once-quiet institution. The museum's attendance has quadrupled over the past two years , and there's no underestimating the Fan Pier coup, in which Medvedow played a crucial role. And no doubt, the current architectural selection process is serving as good publicity, which will translate into funding. "I'm guessing they don't have all the money in the bank yet," says Krieger. "These days, architectural competitions are used as promotional endeavors to help fund-raising drives. It's also a great way to show how prideful they are."

Medvedow, on the other hand, reports, "We're doing this because we want to elevate the level of discourse about contemporary architecture. It has been a profoundly inspiring, thrilling opportunity to hear from these architects, and we want to share that experience."

We Americans tend to be not only apathetic, but oblivious when it comes to contemporary architecture, especially compared with Europeans. So good for the ICA stirring things up with its architectural March madness. Watching the final four make their presentations will be fascinating—as will watching the new ICA take shape over the next decade. Now if the museum helps give Boston a reputation for contemporary art—not just architecture—that would truly be a slam dunk. IB

The Institute of Contemporary Art presents *Building a Vision: Four Architects' Views*, featuring presentations by the four architectural finalists for the design of the new ICA, on Saturday, March 24, 10am-3pm. Copley Theater, 225 Clarenden St. For advance reservations, call 927-6603. Free.

TOP: TRACY POWELL (3) ; DRAWING: COURTESY OF SPAULDING & SLYE; ICA: PAUL TANCREDI (2); MEDVEDOW: CHERYL RICHARDS

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PHOTOGRAPHS BY JESSICA PURSLEY
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE



Buckle evening gown by Jaames Nelson, $1,100. Givenchy fishnet stockings, $15. Both available at Nieman Marcus.

This page: Cut-out white gown by Chris Kole, $1,415, available at Suki Rosen. Fishnet stockings, $20, available at DKNY. Fendi chain heels, $720, available at Nieman Marcus.

Opposite page: Moschino satin skirt, $310; Kay Unger Corset, $190; Fendi slingbacks, $580; Dolce and Gabbana cap, $100; all available at Nieman Marcus. Leopard-print stockings, $14, available at Express.



This page: Jeweled camel head wrap, $120, available at Leila. Carmen Mark Velvo beaded tank, $130, available at Nieman Marcus. Iridescent stockings, $14, available at Express. Anna Sui beaded cross, vintage, available at AnnaSui.com.

Opposite page: Peplum gold blouse, $240, available at Barney's NY. Peplum bronze skirt, $175, available at Barney's NY. Prada gold stilettos, $370, available at Nieman Marcus. Fishnet stockings, $20, available at DKNY.



Hair and Makeup:
Robin Warriner
Stylist:
Anthony Tambourrino
Model:
Deborah Pershing
for Ford NY

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536-3660

Barney's
The Mall at Chestnut Hill
969-5354

Leila
1337 Beacon St.
738-4448

Express
80-86 Newbury St.
437-1377



Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THE SWAY OF BURIED SECRETS

Now in paperback, Sue Miller's *While I Was Gone* chronicles leftover secrets from the '60s and their effects on a marriage.

With the questions that this book raises about the nature of marital intimacy and the power of exploded secrets that set partners spinning instead of setting them free, it's no surprise that it became a favorite of Oprah's. *While I Was Away* is a gracefully smooth novel by Sue Miller (*The Good Mother*), one that lets its weighty matters evolve slowly, without needing to resolve them with the sharp guillotine of plot, even to the very end. Heroine Jo (an elusive character who reveals herself slowly) once lived in a Cambridge '60s commune where one of the women, Dana, had been murdered. The mystery was unsolved for 30 years. By now Jo is a veterinarian, married to a minister, with three nearly grown children. Through her work, Jo rediscovers Eli, a former housemate who brings his dog in to be put to sleep. A subtle attraction ensues, arrested by Eli's shocking confession: He was actually Dana's murderer. In her quiet, finely textured way, Miller conveys the pain and tension that these alarming specters from the past visit on a decent, loving couple. Following their inner and outer settlings and unsettlings, Miller shows that the bonds of long-term love finally prevail. But not easily.



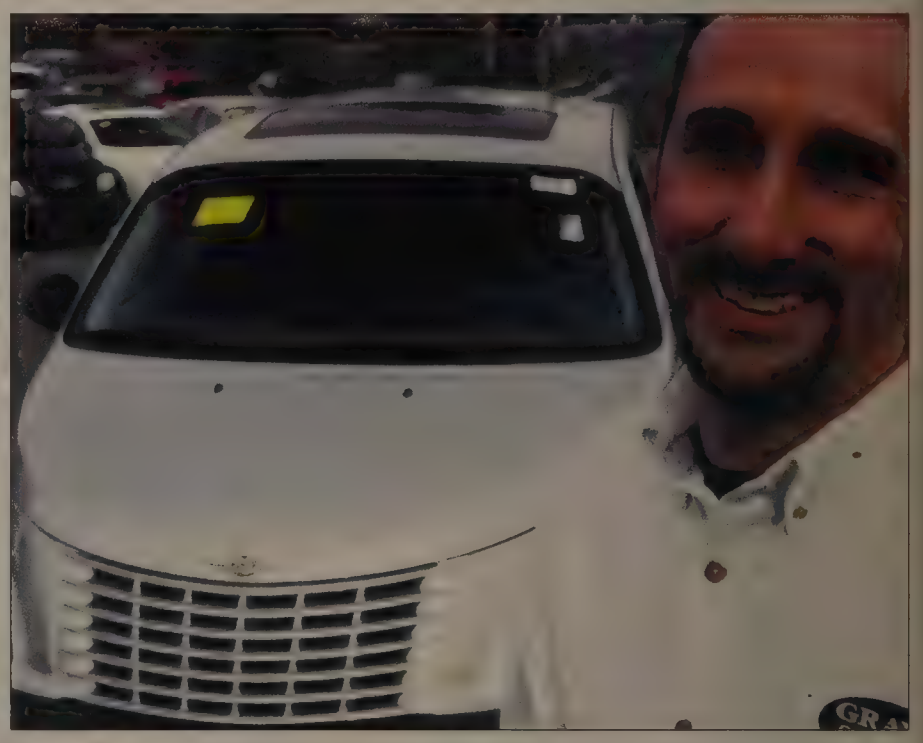
UNDER THE YELLOW TIN CEILING

Home, at 353 Beacon Street in Somerville, is a little beacon of home, with cozy, funky antiques. Call 864-4072.

With its giant shutter out front spelling out the simple, comforting word "Home," this is a city store that emanates the funky side of country with antique, vintage and new wares. Plain, honest wooden things waiting for apartment recycling include a chest of drawers from a past life on a farm, with drawers labeled (and who'd be foolish enough to remove them?) "harness snaps," "horse nozzles," "pulleys" and "clothespins." And the pleasingly named "jelly cabinet," made of salvaged boards and painted an appealing melancholy green, dates back centuries before the birth of Martha Stewart. Simple yet versatile are the many metal and wire things: tin pails, wire chandeliers, charming little dollhouse chairs, a child's iron bed. Equipment originally industrial or medical (back when a spirit of workmanship and aesthetics inhabited such things)—carts, screens, drawers for dentists' doodads—could find a new use and would certainly banish blandness from urban apartments. It's the found-object sleuthing and surprise of discovery that make Home so lovable. So, not surprisingly, delighted customers call to say "The red metal cart/rattan rhino table/rolling shuttered cabinet looks great in my house." Home, along with nearby Cafe Rustica and Record Hog, comprise a tiny village of meandering pleasure.

CUTE, SUBVERSIVE, RETRO: THE CHRYSLER PT CRUISER

The PT Cruiser, the most distinctive road-pleaser since the VW Bug, is priced from $17,500 (but due to short supply and high demand, don't expect to pay less than list). Call Carl at Grava Chrysler-Jeep in Medford, 781-391-8950.



You see one of these cars sneaking around corners with its determined little shape, and instantly the hairs on the back of your neck rise mysteriously. Then comes a sneaky smile. The hunched, foggy quality of the Chrysler Cruiser makes it seem as if the car must be bent on some secretive, sinister errand of which you are privy. Though only in existence since last March, the Cruiser's archetypal tug goes way back—to a certain 1937 Ford Wagon, to the car of English bobbies, and to Al Capone. And already this baby is the Motor Trend Car of the Year. It comes in four-speed automatic or five-speed stick. The Cruiser's 2.4-liter, 16-valve four-cylinder engine delivers 150 horsepower. Fifties-esque pieces of the dash echo the exterior in color and material. In what may be a backlash against arrogantly large SUVs, it's tidy-sized—but not so small that a pack of 17 couldn't be prankishly stuffed into the back of one. Where would they fit? you might wonder. The pop-up liftgate has a multiple personality. It can be flattened entirely, lifted to reveal hooks for hanging bags, or proferred as a shelf for a tailgating picnic.

TOP: WENDY MIMRAN (2), BOTTOM: LEAH FASTEN



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INSIDE: Sugar freaks get ready for structurally sound sweets and pastries; Chocolate Fool's Day



The dining room looks out on the South End. Inset: Maine Crab salad with kohlrabi, candy-striped beets, chestnut flower honey and curry oil.

REVIEW

Street Value

St. Botolph's offers quality food in spare surroundings.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

To paraphrase one of my college roommates, "You can't eat the ambiance." I was reminded of his comment—his actual words were rather more colorful—by my recent experience at St. Botolph's restaurant in the South End. The brick townhouse that is home to the restaurant, as it was to Good Times Café and Harvey's before it, is handsome and imposing. Inside, however, its appointments and feel can best be described as minimalist. The entire downstairs is furnished with high, bare black tables and bar stools, and the focal point is a bar dominated by a large-screen television. It is curiously incongruous, then, when one discovers that the food coming out of St. Botolph's kitchen is first-rate, imaginatively conceived and deftly prepared—a far cry from the "bar food" one would expect. More conventional seating is available in a 50-seat dining room upstairs, but it is open only Thursday through Saturday, and its décor is as spartan as that of the lower level.

Ambiance aside, in a clear indication that one is in store for food of serious dimensions, St. Botolph's serves a basket of superb loaves of Italian peasant bread, the crunch of its hard crust evoking the hill towns of Tuscany. The wine list is a bit of a disappointment, considering its dearth of reasonably priced offerings. At the same time, markups are not excessive, and we were able to enjoy an excellent J. Lohr Seven Oaks Cabernet Sauvignon from California's Central Coast. This 1997 vintage boasted good structure and balance, with forward fruit, softened tannins and a fine bouquet.

Consistent with its Tuscan bread, St. Botolph's cuisine is essentially Italian, with the menu divided into first, second and third courses in the Italian format. The second courses, its pastas, are exemplary. Linguini with "both sauces" ($9) brought good, firm-textured fresh pasta with a sauce of Mahogany clams, garlic and broad-leafed Italian parsley, augmented by an intensely flavorful, spicy tomato reduction containing nuggets of braised clams. Spaghettini with pesto bianco and black pepper ($9) was a cross between an Alfredo sauce and conventional pesto, rich with Pecorino cheese, aromatic with garlic and rosemary, with the delightful crunch of pine nuts. For our party of three, the kitchen graciously accommodated our request to split the two appetizer-sized pasta orders into three portions and serve them together, side by side.

Main courses at St. Botolph's included skewers of succulent, sweet sea scallops ($20) served with a oyster mushroom hash, cider braised shallots, and celery root salad. The scallops were cooked perfectly, tender yet resilient. The velvety oyster mushrooms and starchy sweet cubes of potatoes, the mellow braised shallots, and crunchy celery root slaw punctuated by capers were fine accompaniments. A second main course offering, "crisp roasted chicken with toasted almond sauce, broccoli rabe and grappa-spiked raisins" ($17) was delicious, if considerably different from its menu description. Crisp it was not, and if there were toasted almonds in the sauce, they were wholly obscured and overwhelmed by the garlicky broccoli and the plump, drunken yellow raisins. Finally, the special one evening, a hanger steak ($18), was rare as promised, robust and full-flavored, coarse yet reasonably tender, and accompanied by toothsome slices of fried bliss potatoes and onions, a sprightly salad of juicy pear slices, blue cheese and greens, and a warm, exotically spicy side dish of crunchy red cabbage. In describing the hanger steak, our waitress said that it would be served on top of red cabbage. Given our aversion to the layering of food, we requested that it be served on the side, a request cheerfully obliged.



Chef Brian Hill has the chops to oversee St. Botolph's mostly Italian menu.

St. Botolph's finishes with four "after" selections, all $7. Lemon tart with shortbread crust and raspberry glaze was quite pleasant. The description "glaze" did not do justice to the intensely flavorful, voluptuous raspberry coulee that accompanied this desert. The Hazelnut semifreddo brulee with blood oranges was a total triumph: a cross between ice cream and crème brulee. Rich mascarpone cheese, nutty, crunchy hazelnuts, and sweet but tangy blood oranges combined to make it both refreshing and satisfying.

Service at St. Botolph's, while inexperienced, was gracious, attentive and friendly. While we were dismayed at the wet wine glass our waitress brought with our wine, when we called it to her attention she quickly removed it and brought back a sparkling replacement. Her enthusiasm for the food—well merited in view of its quality—was contagious, and she was not afraid to volunteer information and preferences upon request. The total value received in view of the quality of the food makes St. Botolph's a winner in terms of price-quality rapport.

At the same time, the incongruity of Chef Brian Hill's first-rate, skillfully rendered cuisine's being served in such a bare-boned setting left us ambivalent. One of my colleagues had warned me that a dinner at St. Botolph's left her with the overall sense that the whole is somehow less than the sum of its parts. Normal-height tables covered with white tablecloths might help, as would a scattering of flowers to supplement the simple votive candles that adorn the tables. A few carpets on the hardwood floor might also help. We would not, however, welcome such enhancements if they came at the cost of substantially heightened prices or decreased food quality. As observed above, while gracious ambiance can enhance a dining experience, it cannot substitute for quality food. And quality food is what St. Botolph's is about and what it should sustain. **iB**

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DISH

Food Court

Valhrona of the dolls...Slow food on the fast track

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



From left: Lala Rohk's Azita Bina, Panificio's Chris Spagnuolo, Torch's Evan Duluty, and Hampshire House's James Lambert and Marcus Ripperger will be on hand for The Taste of Beacon Hill bash.

What does it take to be a judge at a chocolate or pastry competition? First, the willingness to sample an inordinate variety of sweets, ranging in quality from exquisite to mediocre. Also required is the expertise to discern and describe the nuances of flavor, texture, preparation and presentation. Highly desirable is the willingness not to assign too much significance to the process. This is, after all, about cakes and cookies.

Most important—the catalyst in this byzantine, secretive world—is the summons to serve: the invitation that bestows the honor.

For this year's Annual Architectural Masters of Pastry event on March 22, organizers tapped a panel with impressive credentials, including best-selling cookbook author **Lora Brody** (*Basic Baking*); **Alison Bowers**, editor of *Chocolatier* magazine; and nationally renowned structural/consulting engineer **David M. Berg**, whose work includes Foxboro Stadium and Rich Stadium in Buffalo (full disclosure: He's my father).

The judges' mission: to choose the entry that most brilliantly showcases the basic elements of good design—balance, structure, texture, color and figurative good taste—shared by both architects and pastry professionals. Brody can draw from her own experience to identify with the contestants. Nearly 20 years ago, she won the Edible Arts competition sponsored by The Art Institute of Boston with a tasty trompe l'oeil: "a tablecloth made out of gingerbread, embossed with a floral pattern, all scrunched up and draped over the edge of a table, with a molded chocolate bowl on top full of meringue mushrooms," she recalls. As for the architectural details, Brody quips: "I know nothing about architecture, but I know what I like."

Know this: Over 20 restaurants, hotels, shops and caterers are creating a lot to like from ingredients such as gelatin, spun sugar, gum paste, chocolate, shortbread and fondant. Entries are expected from **Top of the Hub**, **Ambrosia on Huntington**, **Burdick Chocolates**, **Icarus**, **L'Espalier**, **Maison Robert**, **Sonsie**, **Sweet Endings** and **Le Meridien**. Notwithstanding Mies van der Rohe's declaration that "less is more," the price of your ticket entitles you to unlimited pastry samples, plus wine, cheese and fruit.

Now in its 12th year, Chocolate Fools Day celebrates its eponymous ingredient on March 18 for the benefit of the nonprofit Cambridge Performance Project (provides scholarships to low-income kids so they can attend after-school dance and theater classes). For the event's judges, a key benefit is the camaraderie of fellow food writers, says Boston-based writer **Victoria Abbott Riccardi**, a veteran Chocolate Fools judge. Not to mention the sheer punchiness that results from sampling chocolate in its infinite variety from such entrants as **Tea Tray in the Sky**, **Bricco**, **Butterfish**, **Taranta**, **Legal Seafoods**, **Maison Robert**, **The Charles Hotel** and **Christina's Ice Cream**. Insulin, anyone?

Slow going: We live in a world so culturally debased that McDonald's golden arches are almost more widely recognized than the Christian cross. Clearly, the proponents of the international Slow Food movement, which boasts 60,000 members, have their work cut out for them as they seek to realize a manifesto based in large part on rejection of "the degrading effects of Fast Food" and a rediscovery of true regional flavors. Rising to this challenge on behalf of Slow Food's Greater Boston branch are newly appointed food writer **Rob McKeown**, formerly of *Stuff@Night*, and co-leader **Erin Hunt**, who until recently led the group with founder and cheese expert **Matthew Rubiner**. Rubiner is moving to western Massachusetts to head up Slow Food in the Berkshires.

Finally...You don't have to be the recipient of an eccentric farmer's bequest to grow your own heirloom tomatoes. **Verrill Farm** in Concord is nurturing tender seedlings that will be ready for pickup in late May. Choose from over 30 varieties, including the optimistically named Mortgage Lifter and the Elberta Peach (yes, it's fuzzy, sort of like a nutritious Chia Pet). For an order form, call 978-369-4494. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

Bostonians: Dare to be Different

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

From a quality standpoint, the single most important red Italian grape variety grown in California is Sangiovese. If you went to the West Coast any time in the past five years, you'd hear the same story: people raving about their Sangiovese. I didn't pay much attention either, but I became a believer after about the fifth time I was served a glass alongside some of that gutsy Mediterranean-inspired cooking that you find all over the North Coast. Then, like a lot of other converts, I tried to bring the message back home, but guess what I was told: It doesn't sell in Boston. Who cares if the people who own vineyards and have to make bets on what's going to happen to popular taste in the future are planting more and more of this vine in Napa, Sonoma, the Central Coast and all over the Sierra Foothills? We New Englanders know better. By the way, this is the grape that, when made into wine called Chianti Classico or Brunello di Montalcino in Tuscany, the people around here cannot seem to get enough of. Yet when California wineries bottle it up with the grape name "Sangiovese," it suddenly doesn't sell.

You could say I think we are in the midst of a very conservative area where the prevailing thought process is that people don't trust anything until it's been proven, and then reproven somewhere else. If we New Englanders are going to try something, we want confirmation beforehand that it's going to be good, for godsakes. Because...what if we don't like it? No, somebody's got to authenticate new stuff before we make a fool out of ourselves by spending money on it. That's the proper Bostonian way.

Besides California Sangiovese, there are a lot of other examples of wines that you see folks excited about when you travel, but are almost invisible locally. Take sweet wines, for example. Sugar, by the way, is the flavor that most people naturally relate to best. So why won't they drink a sweet wine when anyone's looking? Because we've told them that it's not sophisticated. It's a complete myth that wines with some sugar in them will ruin your dinner. In fact, I enjoy them with all kinds of food. I hope I'm wrong, but when's the last time a waiter or sommelier recommended a slightly sweet wine to you, unless you specifically asked for something to go with dessert? I can tell you that my last time was never.

You know what else we're afraid to drink around here because we think it's not cool? Rosé. You go to other major cities, and that's what people drink during the summertime if they want something cold that has a hint of red wine flavor. I know that a handful of places in Boston are on to this, and more power to them, but by and large trying to buy a dry rosé from the Rhone Valley, Loire Valley, Spain, Portugal or California around here during the dog days will be an exercise in frustration. Or how about Fino sherry? This is a little bit more prevalent, but half the time when you find one of these bottles, it's going to have been languishing around too long on somebody's shelf, and the flavors will be stale and oxidized. The vicious cycle continues: People try it, find it disappointing and then never understand that the real thing actually tastes better than the deteriorated swill they've been served.

Light, fruity reds in general are almost invisible locally other than as novelty items like Beaujolais Nouveau. But where are the wonderful Loire Valley Cabernet Francs (Chinon, Bourgeuil, Saumur-Champigny) or the unoaked Spanish Tempranillo's? Prejudice again: The wines aren't opaque, they're not full of bracing tannins, therefore we decide they aren't worth anything and they're only for unsophisticated dorks who don't have the smarts to read the *Wine Spectator* or some other publication that tells you exactly what you should be drinking if you want to be cool.

OK, it's not all that bad. There are some intrepid people in the business who not only have a spirit of adventure but also the passion to communicate what they really like and the patience to tell you why. Find them and talk to them. "What have you got that's new and unusual?" If you've found the right person, you'll see a huge smile break out across their face, and then you're likely to hear a short story about what is so thrilling about some obscure wine no one's ever heard of before. Take a chance; it'll probably cost you short money, and it may set you on a road of discovery that will lead you to who-knows-where. Perhaps even to California Sangiovese. iB

COURTESY OF THE BEACON HILL TIMES

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Architectural Masters of Pastry
Skywalk, Prudential Tower, 780 Boylston St., Boston (423-9100). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March 22, 6-9pm. $30, $40 in advance. Architectural elements of texture, balance, color and structure are represented in pastry kitchen materials like gelatin, spun sugar, gum paste, chocolate and shortbread at this benefit for the Professional Pastry Guild of New England. More than 20 chefs participate.

Beyond Basic Wine Tasting
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Three sessions on Tuesdays, 6-7:30pm, beginning March 27. $77. **John Hafferty** of M.S. Walker Inc. takes you beyond the marketing and myths of what makes a wine more or less desirable. Learn to compare wines based on their merits.

Boston Wine Festival 2000
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (888-660-WINE). www.bhh.com. *Through April 6.* This three-month celebration features dinners with wine makers, along with educational seminars. •March 14: Ruffino •March 15: Rioja •March 20: Barossa Valley Estate •March 22: Iron Horse Vineyards •March 23: Wine Seminars with **Bill Nesto**, Master of Wine. $500. This course for wine lovers will discuss wine selection and the stocking and building of a wine cellar. •March 27: Joao Portugal Ramos.

The Cheese and Wines of Sicily
Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-9852). March 23, 6-8pm. $30. A cheese maker, wine producer, pastry chef and an oenologist will show slides and photographs, talk about the history of Sicily. Then you'll taste Sicilian red wines, cheeses and marzipan sweets.

Chocolate Fools Day
Hyatt Regency, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (661-6384). March 18, 12:30-3pm. $30, $35 at the door. More than 20 of the region's leading pastry chefs and chocolatiers offer a sampling of delights. The event features live music, a coffee/milk bar and a silent auction to benefit Cambridge Performance Project.

Equal Exchange Coffee Tasting
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 19, 6-8pm. $31. Following a brief introduction to coffee history and a behind-the-scenes look at the industry, participants learn the basics of deriving the most pleasure from a cup of coffee.

Ma Soba Wine Dinner Series
Ma Soba, 156 Cambridge St., Boston (973-6680). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. March 20, 7pm. $65. Each course of this East-West tasting dinner will be paired with a different wine from Penfolds winery in Australia.

Midnight Brunch
Bomboa, 35 Stanhope St., Boston (236-6363). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 14, 10pm-2am Dance to the slammin' sounds of DJ Richie Rich and enjoy chef **E. Michael Reidt**'s midnight munchies.

Rambling Gourmet
Museum of Transportation, 15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). March 15, 6-8pm. $30. The evening features a selection of fine wines and gourmet hors d'oeuvres—plus a private tour of the museum's exhibitions.



The Purple Shamrock does breakfast right.

TASTY TIDBIT

BREAKFAST BANGERS

Where does one get the traditional Irish breakfast on St. Paddy's Day? We're not just talking about a plate of eggs with sausage and a slice of buttered toast. No, we want our eggs with brown soda bread, Irish sausages (bangers), black-and-white pudding, grilled tomato and rashers (Irish bacon). And then wash it all down with a pint of Guinness. Among the pubs serving these "delicacies" are the Black Rose, The Purple Shamrock and Clerys. ***Black Rose, 160 State St., Boston (742-2286); The Purple Shamrock, One Union St., Boston (227-2060); Clerys, 113 Dartmouth St., Boston (262-9874). March 17, 9am-12pm.***

Sicilian Cooking Classes
Cambridge School of Culinary Arts, 2020 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2020). March 24-25, 10am-1pm. $75 per day. Two classes are taught by renowned Sicilian chefs.

Slow Food Dinner
Bricco, 241 Hanover St., Boston (248-6800). March 25, 6pm. $75. Bricco chef **Bill Bradley**, chef **Enzo Scorfani** of La Pergola and chef **Ciccio Sultano** of Il Duomo will orchestrate a four-course dinner in the Sicilian tradition.

Williams-Sonoma Cooking Demos
Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (262-3080). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •March 17, 12-2pm: **Pamela Hori** of Dancing Deer Baking Company •March 24, 12-2pm: **Joan MacIsaac** of Ruby Chard Catering.

Wine Dinner Series at the Pudding
Up Stairs at the Pudding, 10 Holyoke St., Cambridge (864-1933). $75. These dinners, presided over by Up Stairs at the Pudding wine director **David Weitzenhoffer**, emphasize wine education. •March 20: Napa Valley.

Wine of Bordeaux
Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-9852). March 14, 6-9pm. $60. Wine expert **Clive Coates** leads this class in the tasting of the wines of Bordeaux.

Wine 202
Wine Experiences Inc., 20-A Dartmouth St., Boston (859-7170). $45 per session. Wine educator **Dellie Rex** teaches these classes for wine aficionados who already know the basics. •March 15: red wine.

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March 29-
April 8

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Philip Feeney

CHOREOGRAPHED
AND DIRECTED BY
Michael Pink

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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 48

PERFORMING ARTS 50

ART 54

FILM 58

BOOKS & POETRY 62

EDUCATION 63

DANCE CLUBS 64

MUSIC 66

CLASSICAL MUSIC 73

GAY & LESBIAN 74

BODY & MIND 76

CHILDREN 76

SPORTS 76

AROUND TOWN 77

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

CityScope, Comedy,

Education, Sports,

Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

improper picks



THU./MARCH 15 - FRI./MARCH 17

Performing Arts: Aeros

On the heels of the smashing success of *Stomp* comes a unique fusion of art and raw athleticism called *Aeros*. Performed by 15 championship gymnasts (hand-selected from the elite members of the Romanian Gymnastics Federation by choreographers Daniel Ezralow, David Parsons and Moses Pendleton), the show comprises a series of connected pieces that explore the gymnasts' explosive athletic powers and their apparent ability to defy gravity on trampolines, parallel bars or simply up in the air. Back in 1998, Italian producer Antonio Gnecchi approached the trio of choreographers with the idea of bringing gymnasts into the creative world of performing arts. The resulting production, *Aeros*, is performed in full costume with a live musical score. *Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-6661). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 15-17, 8pm. $40-$45.*

FRI./MARCH 16

Performing Arts: Electric Ballet

Finally—ballet for those of us with a short attention span. The Boston Ballet has recently teamed up with Laser Fantasy International to create the **Dance of Light**, a laser light show that combines ballet's most recognizable tunes with lights that literally dance through the air. The show's world premiere takes place at Museum of Science's Charles Hayden Planetarium March 16, and it will run through April 29. Featuring ballet's most recognizable scores, Dance of Light combines music by Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Stravinsky and Copland with electrifying laser light effects. Music for the project was selected and edited by Boston Ballet music director Jonathan McPhee and programmed by the artistic team at LFI, which is headed by art director Jay Heck. After the world premiere of Dance of Light here in Boston, the program will travel to LFI's host museums, as well as schools across the country. *Charles Hayden Planetarium, Science Park, Boston (723-2500). Fri., Sat. and Sun., 5:30pm. $7.50.*

THU./MARCH 22

Tastings: Architectural Masters of Pastry

If your baking expertise is anything like ours, and you think that "homemade" dessert comes in a box ("just add water"), then you too will be awed by the **Architectural Masters of Pastry** competition March 22 at the Prudential's Skywalk. You can bet these folks—some of Greater Boston's top pastry chefs—aren't chummy with our pal Duncan Hines. At this competition, extraordinary textures, colors and structures are achieved using pastry materials, like gelatin, spun sugar, gum paste, chocolate and shortbread. Last year's creations included New York's Guggenheim Museum made of white frosted cake, a Cape Hatteras lighthouse in fondant, a sponge-cake Stonehenge and a clipper ship of gingerbread. This year's theme is "towers," which is fitting considering its location in Boston's second-tallest building. We can't wait to see what they'll come up with next. *Skywalk, Prudential Tower, 780 Boylston St., Boston (423-9100). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. March 22, 6-9pm. $30, $40 in advance.*

»

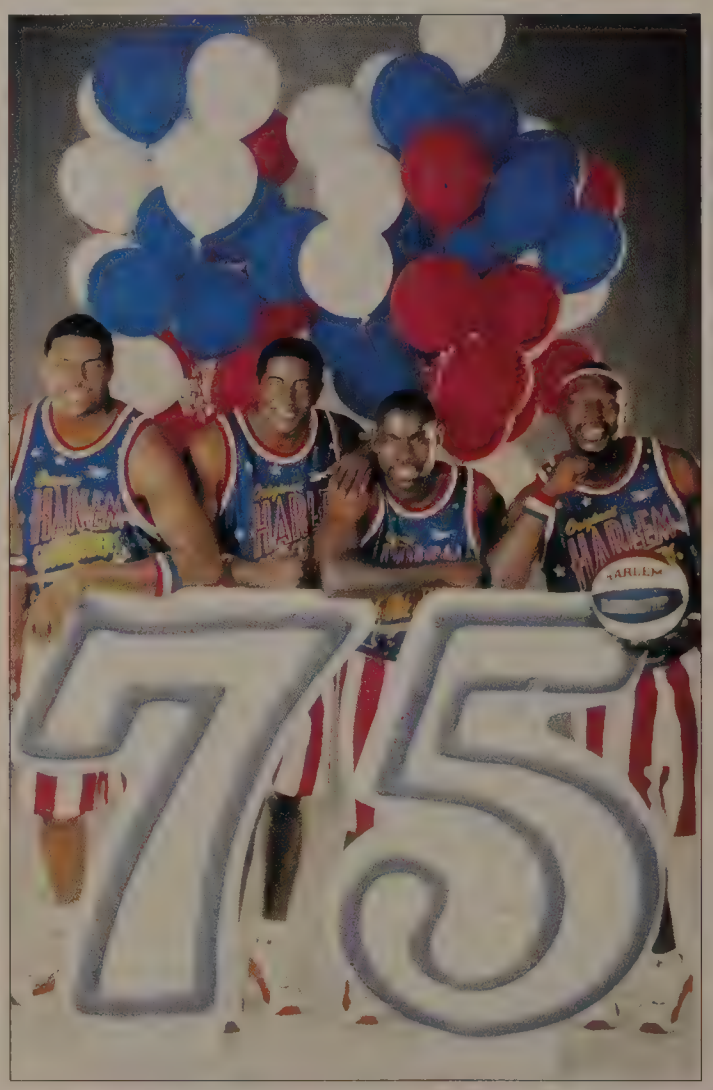
ANGELO REDAELLI



MARCH 23

Sports: Harlem Globetrotters

Seventy-five years ago, Abe Saperstein organized a new basketball team called the Savoy Big Five. Games were played in Chicago's Savoy Ballroom to encourage people to dance afterward. Unfortunately, basketball didn't do much for the Savoy's business, and the idea was eventually dropped. But the team continued to tour under the name Savoy Big Five—later to become the team we all know and love: the **Harlem Globetrotters**. This year marks the 75th-anniversary season, and the magicians of basketball will make their annual visit accompanied, of course, by their theme song "Sweet Georgia Brown." Count on seeing some acrobatic slam-dunks and comical skits. *FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 7pm. $15-$75.*



TUE./MARCH 27

<<Music: Silly Songs

Ween is a pair of no-good deadbeat kids from suburban Pennsylvania. The two came together in '84, when Dean and Gene of **Ween** met in middle school and started making completely ridiculous music together. Their first gig was at Trenton, N.J.'s now-legendary City Gardens, opening for the Butthole Surfers. Their first album, *God Ween Satan: The Oneness*, was released the year after they graduated college, on the semi-legendary Twin-Tone label. A combination of drum machines, synthesizers, live punk rock and absurdly goofy lyrics, the music sounded like something in between the Shaggs and Steve Albini's truly legendary Big Black. It was recorded by destined-to-be-legendary Rollins Band bassist Andrew Weiss and featured such memorable tracks as "Never Squeal On the Pusher," and "I Gots a Weasel." The songs that were songs were good. The "songs" that were interminably drawn-out, deranged stoner jams were not so hot. But Ween had proved themselves to be a marketable commodity to indie kids, stoners and drunks alike. After the duo released their second album, *The Pod*, on Shimmy-Disc, Ween caught the attention of major-label bigwigs, and their next album, *Pure Guava*, was released on Elektra. Ween's career since then has veered toward prog-rock, country and funk—without losing any of their signature quirkiness. *Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. March 27.*



WED./MARCH 14

Art: The Art of Accessorizing

Whoever said that looking good wasn't an art form? The MFA's Department of Textile and Fashion Arts has accrued an impressive collection of primping accessories and apparel over the years. A good portion of them are now presented in a temporary exhibition, ***From Head to Toe: Selections from the Costume Collection.*** The show features all sorts of objects worn or carried (from hats to shoes) and is divided into sections representing different cultures and eras. It ranges from elegant accessories like embroidered gloves, purses and fans to garments like an Indian sari and chador (veil), Chinese robes, an Indonesian sarong and Central Asoan ikat robes, as well as three centuries worth of Japanese kimonos. All of the items are compared with four centuries of fashionable Western dress, including waistcoats, muffs, fans, crowns—and, of course, a slew of shoes. *March 14-Nov., 12, Rabb Gallery, MFA, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300).*

MARCH 20-APRIL 3

Performing Arts: The Vagina Monologues

Even *we* felt a bit awkward requesting a photo of the Wilbur Theatre's upcoming ***The Vagina Monologues***. Would it arrive in a plain brown wrapper? More important, would we be able to use the photo? (Yes, even this publication has its limits.) Turns out we had nothing to worry about. No vaginas were to be found. But the show itself definitely focuses on the female body part. In her Obie Award-winning show, the play's creator and originator, Eve Ensler, gives voice to a chorus of lusty, outrageous, poignant, highly original and thoroughly human stories. Says Ensler: "I was worried about vaginas. I was worried about what we think about vaginas, and even more worried that we don't think about them...So I decided to talk to women about their vaginas." Based on interviews with a diverse group of women—from a Long Island antiques dealer to a Bosnian refugee—the play explores the humor, power, pain, wisdom, outrage, mystery and excitement hidden in vaginas. *Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Through March 18. $35-$55.*



SAT./MARCH 17

Cityscope: St. Paddy's Day Festivities

Wondering how to celebrate the St. Patrick's Day holiday...er, excuse us, *Evacuation* Day? Here are some suggestions:

•Enjoy a night of Irish music, dance and storytelling—straight from Dublin—at ***Jury's Cabaret*** at the John Hancock Hall. See Performing Arts.

•For big-name Irish entertainment, head to the Orpheum Foxboro for the traditional and contemporary Celtic music of **Anam**. Other options include **Sharon Shannon** and **Karan Casey**, two musicians direct from Ireland, performing at the Somerville Theatre; the **Dropkick Murphys** at Avalon; and **Ronan Tynan**, one of the three Irish Tenors, at the North Shore Music Theatre. See Music.

•City Hall hosts its annual Irish celebration, featuring complimentary food, music and dancing, along with the fifth annual Best Irish Coffee competition. See CityScope.

•Of course, you could always hit one of the more than 75 Irish pubs in Greater Boston—just prepare yourself for serious crowds. See our music section for a list of bands scheduled to play.

•Granted, it's not on St. Paddy's Day, but the 100th anniversary of the **St. Patrick's Day Parade** on March 18 offers yet another opportunity to spend the day downing pints of Guinness. Marching bands from throughout North American parade along the streets of South Boston.

MON./MARCH 26 - THU./MARCH 29

Film: New England Film Fest

In celebration of its 25 years working with local independent film and video makers, the New England Film and Video Foundation is hosting two major events. On March 26, the BF/VF presents the 26th annual **New England Film/Video Festival**, a week showcasing the works of Boston's remarkable independent film and video makers. This year, the Coolidge Corner Theatre is able to show more cinematic works than ever before—33 over six days. The Museum of Fine Arts also screens some films, as well hosts panel discussions between the audience and filmmakers. Some of the most highly anticipated films are the Boston premiere of Natatcha Estebanez and Jan Egleson's *The Blue Diner*, which has been winning awards at festivals all over the world, and Nina Davenport's documentary *Always a Bridesmaid*. Also look for Lisa Kors' feature, *Dinner and a Movie*, and Josh Seftel's documentary, *Ennis' Gift*. For the second year, the BF/VF and Filmmakers Collaborative team up to present a **Filmmakers Open Studio**. On March 18, more than 24 filmmakers and companies from all over Greater Boston open up their work spaces to the public for a day of networking. Many of them will screen past productions and provide a tour of the facilities. *March 26-29. Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (647-1102).*

SAT./MARCH 24

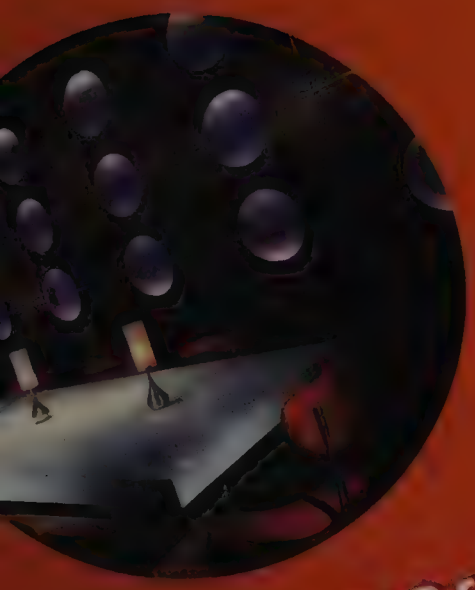
Music: Musical Manipulations

The four-person Montreal-based **Fly Pan Am** is one of several side projects of the theatrical, experimental rock group **Godspeed You Black Emperor!** The Fly Pan Am offshoot is headed up by GSYBE guitarist Roger Tellier-Craig, and the quartet creates a melancholy sound very similar to that of GSYBE—intense, emotional instrumental pieces. They're a bit more minimalist and simpler in scope than GSYBE, due to the fewer number of musicians, but Fly Pan Am's soothing orchestral sounds are just as meditative and hypnotic. The group's split 7-inch with Godspeed You Black Emperor!, *L'Espace Au Sol Est Redessine Par Des Immenses Panneaux Bleus/Sunshine + Gasoline*, preceded its '99 self-titled full-length debut, released on Constellation Records. The next effort, an EP titled *Sedatif en Frequences et Sillons*, was issued in the fall of last year. Tickets for their incredible live performances always sell out fast—and their early show upstairs at the Middle East is a rare opportunity to see them in close quarters. *March 24, 7pm. 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-EAST). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $7, 18+.*

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cityscope

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Festivals, Benefits & Events

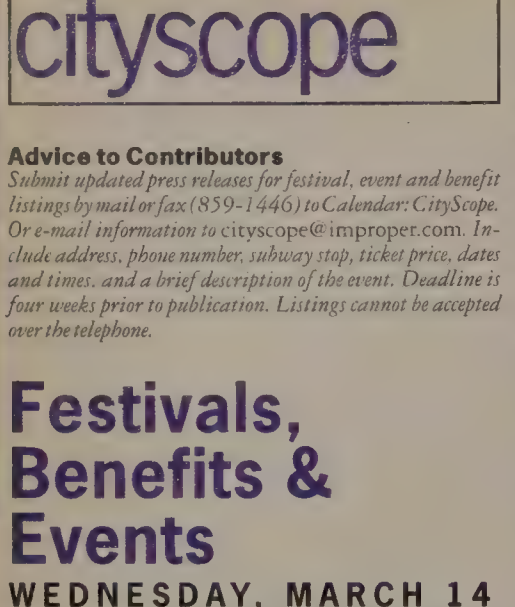
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

After-Work Social Networking Event
Sophia's Latin Club, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (312-5410). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6-9pm. $10 ($5 if RSVP to bostoneventguide@email.com. This event features different opportunities for young professionals to view art, hear speakers, listen to music, take dance lessons and more.

Jose McIntyre's Fund-Raiser
Jose McIntyre's, 160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). 8pm-12am. $5. Sunday's Well plays live music downstairs to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Massachusetts Telecommunications Council Awards Dinner
Boston Marriott, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (781-684-0880). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.masstel.org. *6-9pm.* The Mass. Telecommunications Council honors companies that stand out in the field. Radio personality Christopher Lydon will be master of ceremonies.

Midnight Brunch
Bomboa, 35 Stanhope St., Boston (236-6363). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10pm-2am Dance to the slammin' sounds of DJ Richie Rich and enjoy Chef E. Michael Reidt's midnight munchies.



Rid yourself of the winter doldrums at the New England Spring Flower Show March 17-25.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Big Dreams Start Small Fashion Show
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (965-5262). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6pm. $75. After dinner and a silent auction, emcee Liz Brunner of WCVB TV Channel 5 introduces the 2001 spring/summer collection of designer Denise Hajjar. Proceeds benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Irish Famine Memorial Candlelight Vigil
Washington and School streets, Boston (781-849-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 5:30-6:30pm. Wesley College of Dublin brings its acclaimed international choir to the third annual candlelight vigil. Liz O' Donnell, Ireland's minister of state for overseas development assistance and human rights, will speak. The vigil commemorates the 19th-century Irish Famine that killed 1 million people.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

Paradise East Arts Festival
Royal Plaza Trade Center, Route 495 to exit 24B, Marlborough, Mass. (413-527-8994). Fri., 12-8pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 10am-5pm. March 16-18. $8. See the best new work of established craft designers, painters and sculptors, as well as that of emerging talent. The 175 exhibitors participating in the show were selected from nearly 1,000 applicants from all over America.

St. Patrick's Day Dance
St. Patrick's Church, 218 Main St., Watertown (926-6130). $12. The Black Velvet Band plays at this night of Irish music, sing-alongs and dancing.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

St. Patrick's Day: Five Pints of Interest
Black Rose, 160 State St., Boston (742-2286); The Purple Shamrock, One Union St., Boston (227-2060); Coogan's Bluff, 173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415); Clerys, 113 Dartmouth St., Boston (262-9874); Jose McIntyre's, 160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). Live entertainment by Eugene Byrne and Sunday's Well begins at 1pm at the Black Rose. The Purple Shamrock features music by Joe Moriarty at 3pm. At Coogan's Bluff, Finian's Sons perform at 7pm. Jose McIntyre's opens at 11am for food and drink. And finally, the band Shannon's Side (straight from Ireland) will play throughout the day.

Dick's St. Patrick's Day Party
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Dick's all-day-long party celebrates the blarney in an unrestrained style. Booty takes the stage at 2pm, followed by the Rob Gonzalez Band at 7pm and Brick Park at 10pm.

The Great Somers Pub Crawl
Mr. Dooley's Tavern, 77 Broad St., Boston (338-5656); The Green Dragon, 11 Marshall St., Boston (367-5500); The Grand Canal, 57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112); Hennessy's of Boston, 25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). 11am-2am. John J. Somers, the self-proclaimed "dean of Irish pubs" has imported Irish music, traditional sessions and pop for a St. Paddy's Day party that's so big it's under four roofs. Bands include the Irish Travelers, Gallway Rovers (direct from Ireland), Patsy Whelan & Tony O'Riordan and Mo O'Conner.

130th New England Spring Flower Show
Bayside Expo Center, exit 15 off I-95, Boston (536-9280). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Sun.-Mon., 10am-5:30pm; Tue.-Sat., 10am-9:30pm. March 17-25. $16 weekdays, $18 weekends. The New England Spring Flower Show, the third-largest in the world, showcases the region's most talented gardeners, designers and horticulturalists for nine days of exhibits, competitions and educational seminars.

St. Patrick's Festivities at City Hall
City Hall Plaza, Boston (635-4000). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12-4pm. City Hall hosts its annual Irish celebration featuring complimentary food, music and dancing and the fifth annual "Best Irish Coffee" competition among local Irish pubs.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

BeautyAIDS Cut-a-Thon
Salons around Greater Boston (450-1522). 12-5pm. Salons open their doors to cut hair for a $20 donation. All proceeds benefit the AIDS Action Committee.

Casino Night
Club Cafe, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (236-1012). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-11pm. $5. Enjoy an evening of gambling with blackjack and roulette, a silent auction and a raffle. This benefit supports the 50 programs offered by the Boston Living Center.

Haman's Hoedown
Embassy, 36 Lansdowne St., Boston (888-633-5326). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 8pm. $15, $20 at the door. This gigantic party, organized by the mastermind behind the Matzo Ball event, celebrates the Purim holiday with music and hors d'oeuvres.

St. Patrick's Day Parade
Parade heads down Broadway at the corner of Dorchester Avenue toward Old Colony Boulevard, South Boston (268-7955). 1-4pm. Join parade watchers along Broadway in South Boston as the city celebrates its Irish heritage. This year's the 100th anniversary of the annual parade. Marching bands from throughout North America participate, as well as numerous regional marching bands, pipe bands and floats.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

***What's Up* Night**
An Tua Nua, 835 Beacon St., Boston (267-1575). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9pm-1am. $5 donation. This fundraiser raises money to support *What's Up* magazine and functions as an outlet for local DJs, hip hop acts, musicians, dancers and other talent.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Inspire Benefit
Pravda 116, 116 Boylston St., Boston (572-3077). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 9pm (open bar from 9-10:30pm). $20, $25 at the door. Support Inspire, a nonprofit consulting group that provides strategic consulting services to youth development and educational organizations.

Reebok Human Rights Awards Ceremony
Northeastern University, Blackman Theatre, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston (781-401-7790). 10am. U.S. Open and Wimbledon champion Venus Williams and musical artist Peter Gabriel will present awards to young human-rights crusaders.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Apres-Work "Wish I Were Spring Skiing" Party
Marche, 800 Boylston St., Boston (542-1399). 6pm-12am. $38, $50 or $100. Some 250 Boston professionals will dine, dance and dream of the slopes at this party to benefit the First Night Neighborhood Network. Enjoy a choice of dinner from Marche followed by dancing and a cash bar.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Benefit for Political Prisoners
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). 7pm. Donations requested. Marc and Rhoda Berenson, parents of journalist Lori Berenson, who's imprisoned in Peru, will be present at this benefit concert for American political prisoners. Former Chilean political prisoner Sergio Reyes will perform liberation and revolutionary songs of Latin America.

Harlem Globetrotters
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 7pm. $15-$75. The magicians of basketball will make their annual visit to Boston for a night of comedy and non-stop entertainment on the parquet in celebration of their 75th anniversary.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

Over the River and Through the Woods Benefit Performance
Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm. $15. See the Lyric Stage's newest production for half price. All proceeds will benefit the Boston Center for Adult Education.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

ArtRages 2001: A Space Artyssey
Mobius, 205 A St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 8pm-1am. $15, $20 at the door. Mobius' annual fund-raising art bash features the far-out sounds of DJ C and DJ Flack, Jane Wang with Liz Roncka, and the Balkan surf music of .Wav, with installations by D. Franklin, Milan Kohout, Luna Theater and David Miller.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

Academy Awards Party
The General Cinema, 201 Brookline Ave., Boston (781-444-7771). 6:30pm. $60, $75 at the door. Black-tie. This benefit for the Ellie Fund includes an hors d'oeuvres reception, live acts, celebrities and the 73rd showing of the Academy Awards on the Silver Screen.

World Wrestling Federation: Come Get Some!
Worcester's Centrum Centre, 50 Foster St., Worcester (228-6000). 2pm. $17-$40. The superstars of the WWF turn up the heat.

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

Pine Street Inn Benefit
Westin Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (521-7177). 5:30pm. $150. This benefit dinner for the Women's Inn at Pine Street honors Anna Faith Jones, president of the Boston Foundation. Jazz vocalist Donna Byrne performs, and Karen Holmes Ward of WCVB-TV is emcee.



Jodi Smith (left) and Ginger Burr remind you to sit up straight and keep your elbows off the table.

Preview

Mind Your Manners

When lunching with a client, do you hesitate awkwardly as you try to decide which utensil to use for each course? If so, a session with the etiquette consultants at the Women's Decorum Forum may be in order. "Most of the people who come to us already know the basics—they're not chewing with their mouths open or sitting with their legs apart," says Jodi Smith, owner of Mannersmith Etiquette Consulting, a sponsor of the forum on March 24. "They're just looking for a little enhancement." A bit of "professional polish" can make the difference in getting a promotion, or even a bonus, she says.

Smith and seminar partner Ginger Burr, owner of Total Image Consultants, offer this three-part workshop for those wishing to tweak their "image." Start with the Fashion Secrets Seminar at 9am, which will help you update your image and identify what it means to "dress for success." A formal, four-course meal will be served at 11am as part of the Gracious Dining Seminar. Learn how to sit in your chair, transport food (i.e., not on your head), use utensils, identify your place-setting and properly place your napkin (for heaven's sake, don't tuck it into your collar). And finally, the Safety First workshop discusses basic self-defense techniques. If you can figure out how to maintain decorum as you offer someone a swift kick to the groin, let us know. F.Y.I.: Good manners come at a price: $173.89 for the day-long session. *Double Tree Hotel, 550 Winter St., Waltham (978-579-7928).* www.mannersmith.com. *March 24, 9am.*

TOP: JENNY LOLLEY

Up Stairs at the Pudding



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Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Beauty and the Beast
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 1 and 6:30pm. March 14-25. $16-$65. Disney's Tony Award-winning Broadway musical tells the story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped in a spell placed by an evil enchantress. Enjoy the animated film's Academy Award-winning score, with music by Alan Menken and lyrics by the late Howard Ashman.

The Boys Next Door
Black Box Theatre, North Quincy High School, Hancock Street, Quincy (769-0232). March 15-17, 8pm. $10. The play is a humorous yet touching story about the daily ups and downs of four mentally handicapped adults.

Dealer's Choice
Abbot Memorial Theater, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). March 16-31. $12. It is Sunday evening. The restaurant is winding up. Mugsy and Frankie are eagerly awaiting their weekly poker game. Sweeney, the cook, is not so anxious to play. Stephen, the restaurant owner, has concerns of his own, one being his son, Carl, who is worried about a rather large debt he owes the suave professional gambler, Ash.

Figurations
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. March 15-24. $16. The Bridge Theatre Company presents Boston playwright Ted Richer's mysterious and powerful cycle of short plays. Voice recordings from the work have been broadcast on the BBC, but the sequence—nearly a decade in the making—has never before been brought to stage. The first-ever stage performances feature an ensemble cast that moves through the memories and encounters that have shaped one character's vision of life, love and death.

Jury's Cabaret
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (508-747-6381). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 17, 3 and 8pm. $26. A night of Irish music, dance and storytelling—straight from Dublin.

The Lion in the Winter
The Tower Auditorium, Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (470-5329). Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. $15. It's Christmas, 1183, and King Henry II is in a frenzy to name an heir to his kingdom before civil war erupts. Attempting to thwart his every move is his opponent and mortal enemy, the crafty Eleanor of Aquitaine, richest woman in the land and... his wife.

Manifest
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. March 23-April 14. $15. See box at right for more detailed information.

The Number 14
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 14-16. $9-$17.50. Presented by Suskind Young at Arts, this "life in transit" comedy showcases six actors wearing extraordinary masks who transform themselves into 60 characters, all lively and witty reminders of the people we tend to meet on the bus.

Over the River and Through the Woods
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm., Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. March 16-April 14. $25-$36. "...to grandmother's house we go." New York's longest running comedy is about a visit with the grandparents of a 30-year-old marketing executive in comfortable Hoboken, N.J. During one weekly visit, he announces that he's accepted a promotion that requires a move to Seattle. Eager to keep their grandson in town, they conspire to find a reason for him to stay.

The Performance Cult
Back Alley Theater, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (781-891-1188). MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 25. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short, original vignettes. You'll see character work, dance, monologues, movement, singing and sound work.

Shadowlands
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. March 23-April 8. $25-$40. It's the 50th anniversary of the publication of our fave, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe.* This quiet elegy tells the true story of the later years of Oxford professor and novelist C.S. Lewis.

Theater of Illusion
Orpheum Foxborough, One School St., Foxborough, Mass. (508-543-ARTS). March 24-25. Kevin and Cindy Spencer have proven they are as popular with audiences as Houdini, Henning, Blackstone or Copperfield. Combining theatrical elements with music, magic, humor, audience participation and cutting-edge illusions, the Spencers deliver a suspense-filled show.

Triptych
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. March 15-31. $18. Samuel Beckett, the great minimalist master and winner of the 1969 Nobel Prize for Literature, has produced some of his most widely praised work in the form of the shorter play. Company One hosts an evening of shorter plays by Beckett, including *Krapp's Last Tape*, *Ohio Impromptu* and *Footfalls*.

The Vagina Monologues
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Through March 18. $25-$55. Eve Ensler gives voice to a chorus of lusty, outrageous, poignant, brave, highly original and thoroughly human stories. Based on interviews with a diverse group of women—from a Long Island antique dealer to a Bosnian refugee—the play brazenly explores the humor, power, pain, wisdom, outrage, mystery and excitement hidden in vaginas.

Visiting Mr. Green
Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahanton St., Newton (965-5226). Thu., 2pm and 7pm; Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. March 15-April 1. $25. A moving comedy about an unlikely pair: a corporate executive and an elderly retired dry cleaner brought together by fate.

A Weekend of Opera
Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (445-7669). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Opera unMet, Boston's innovative opera company, presents a three-day gala performance with seven performances. • March 16, 1 and 4pm; March 17, 3pm; $5, $3 children: ***Hansel and Gretel***. • March 16, 8pm; March 18, 7pm; $15: ***Elegant Contradictions from Puccini to Porter***. A lively musical review combining the best of two worlds: Broadway and opera. • March 18, 3pm, $20: ***Piaf: The Little Sparrow***. This one-woman show by Kate Sullivan is based on the life of Parisian-born street waif Edith Piaf, who sang her way into the hearts of people all over the world.



Company One's *Triptych* is an evening of shorter plays by minimalist master Samuel Beckett at the Boston Center for the Arts March 15-31.

NOW RUNNING

Amphitryon
Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through April 8. $12-$55. See box on next page for more information.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

Central Park West
Boston Director's Lab, Threshold Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (469-9339). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. March 15-17, 8pm; March 18, 2 and 8pm. $15. Woody Allen's calamitous, frenetic comedy is about marriage, infidelity and friendship in Manhattan at the end of the 20th century.

The Doctor's Dilemma
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through March 14. $25-$59. In the age of spiraling prescription costs, how does a doctor decide which of his patients most deserves treatment? This keen-eyed examination of medical malpractice is as provocative today as it was at its 1906 premiere, enriched by George Bernard Shaw's wit and compassion for human weakness.

Dame Edna
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Through March 18. $25-$65. She's wild, she's wicked and she's wonderful: She's the Australian international superstar Dame Edna, the self-appointed Queen of Broadway. The alter ego of comedian Barry Humphries, Dame Edna comes to Boston following a record-breaking, Tony Award-winning Broadway engagement.

Follies
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through March 18. $21. A colorful, romantic reunion of ex-show girls and boys.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly the 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

The Little Foxes
Lyric West Theatre, Massachusetts Bay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley (288-7889). Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Through March 18. $10-$29. Set in 1900, this drama written by Lillian Hellman examines the ruthless ambition of the powerful Hubbard family in the Deep South. The show revolves around the Hubbard's scheme to increase their wealth and power in a new deal with a Northern business partner.

Mother Courage and Her Children
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through March 20. $25-$59. Bertolt Brecht tells the story of a woman who tries in vain both to make money and to keep her family alive during the nightmare of the Thirty Years War that raged in Europe during the 17th century.

Oklahoma City
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through March 17. $19-$24. With friends like John and Mary, who needs terrorists? In



Nicole Shalhoub and Shelley Bolman star in Brian Silberman's *Manifest* at the Theatre Cooperative.

Preview

Defying Destiny

Manifest sheds new light on the Holocaust

Director Lesley Chapman's first reaction when she read playwright (and fellow New Englander) Brian Silberman's play, *Manifest*, was "Oh, my God, I have to do this." The work seeks to debunk the myth that Jews timidly accepted their fate in the Holocaust, focusing on the real-life stories of those who resisted. Engrossing tales include the story of a couple that fell in love behind the camp's walls and later planned a daring escape—and the women who smuggled dynamite out of the munitions factory to blow up the crematorium at Auschwitz. It's heavy drama interspersed with klezmer music, vaudeville humor and stand-up comedy. "The play demonstrates our ability to remain human even in the most inhumane of circumstances," says Chapman. *The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. March 23-April 14. $15.*

TRIPTYCH: STEPHAN DIRADO; MANIFEST: BRENDAN HUGHES



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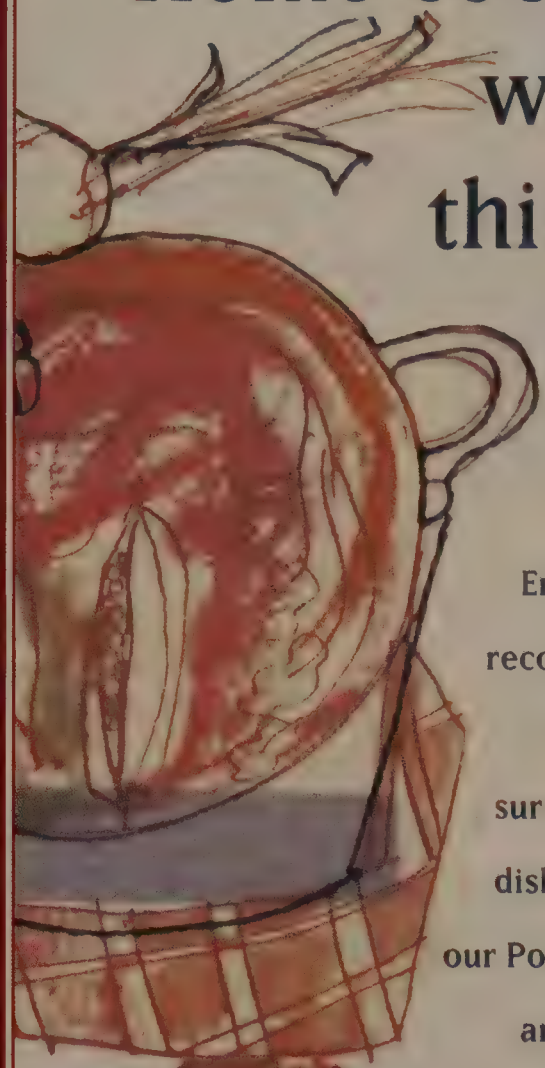
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The Huntington Theatre's production of *Amphitryon* features actors Ryan Shively and Rita Pietropinto through April 8.

Preview

Molière's Roman Tale

Slapstick antics abound in *Amphitryon*

Word on the street is that the Huntington Theatre's smashingly successful production *Hedda Gabler* is Broadway-bound. If that's an indication of the caliber of plays selected by artistic director Nicholas Martin and managing director Michael Maso, book tickets now for the latest, *Amphitryon*. Confusion abounds in this whimsical tale by prolific playwright Molière (generally considered one of the greatest writers of French comedy). In this one, Molière turns his pen away from 17th-century France to tell a mythical story set in ancient Rome. Jupiter, the King of the Gods, is in love again—this time with the beautiful and faithful Alcmena, wife of Amphitryon, general of the Thebans. As the victorious general is on his way home from battle, Jupiter disguises himself as Amphitryon so he can win Alcmena's favors. Molière's spirited comedy and slapstick antics unfold against a stunning set with actors garbed in elaborate costumes. "It's our most playful show this season," says Dina Croce of the Huntington. *264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through April 8. $12-$55.*

this new play from cutting-edge artist Tom Cole, two queer guerrilla performers form their own dysfunctional family of choice. Are the dynamic duo's assaults on mainstream America harmless, or do they have something more sinister up their sleeves?

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Women on Top Theater Festival
Boston Playwrights' Theater, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (536-5981). Through March 18. This festival celebrates local female playwrights and performers with five main stage events, a late-night comedy show and three staged readings. •***Naming the Days*** by Deborah Lubar. *March 15-17, 7:30pm; March 18, 2pm.* •***A Night of Quickies***, an evening of short plays by four female playwrights: Sheri Wilner, Susanna Ralli, Janet Kenney and Lois Roach. *March 15-17, 7:30pm; March 18, 2pm.* •***The Mrs. Potato Head Show*** by Margaret Ann Brady, Dorothy Dwyer and Lucy Holstedt. *March 16-17, 10:15pm.*

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Professional Skepticism
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-4201). March 27-April 1. This graduate student play takes us behind the scenes of a high-powered accounting firm, where the jockeying for position, power and money among the employees is both hysterically funny and frighteningly dramatic. Pencils turn into daggers as Paul, the hero, barely manages to survive in a cutthroat world.

PERFORMANCE ART

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. •***Open Faucet: raDopū****: March 15-17, 8pm. $7.* This show includes an old-time radio script similar to *Dragnet*, featured solo sections, fake commercials and film previews, up-to-date sociopolitical satire and a handful of songs.

COMING SOON

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. April 11-May 6. $25-$75. Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, this epic saga sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th-century France. It is also the story of the fugitive Jean Valjean, who is pitted against the cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelong quest to evade capture.

AUDITION

Prelude to a Kiss
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St. Arlington Center (781-646-5922). March 15, 7:30-10:30pm; March 17, 1-3pm. A romantic fantasy by Craig Lucas.

Dance

SHOWS AND EVENTS

Aeros
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-6661). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 15-17, 8pm. $40-$45. Three world-renowned choreographers team up with 15 world-champion Romanian gymnasts. The result, developed in collaboration with the creators of *Stomp*, is a fusion of athletics and art.

Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 21-25. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm, 8pm; Sun, 2pm. $40-$51. Bill T. Jones presents his brilliant new work, *You Walk*, which explores the act of walking and its implied physical and metaphorical possibilities.

Dance Complex Choreographers
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 15-16, 8pm for part I and March 24, 8pm for part II. The Shared Choreographers Concert Emerging choreographers present their work during this semi-annual performance. In *Wide*, dancer Danny McCusker and composer Chris Eastburn showcase a work in progress.

Dancers' Viewpointe
Rieman Center for the Performing Arts, Agassiz House, Radcliffe Yard, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (495-8683). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 16, 17, 2pm and 8pm. Elizabeth Bergmann directs the Harvard Dance Program's spring performance, which includes three works by professional choreographers alongside five student choreographers.

Flamenco en Boston
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 23, 8pm. $15, $12, students and seniors. La Chika and her new company, Corazon Flamenco, perform to music by Kai Narezo and Company. Chica Mori's students warm up the room with an opening performance.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances or comedians. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •March 15: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist" •March 16: Brian Regan •March 17: Brian Regan in "What's Wrong with the Regan Boy?" •March 19: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •March 20: Robbie Printz •March 21: Don Gavin and John Fisch •March 22: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist" •March 23: Dave Chappelle •March 24: Boston Headliner, Dave Chappelle •March 25: Dave Chappelle •March 26: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •March 27: Robbie Printz.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •March 15: Tim McIntire hosts the comics of WAKKA, John Keating and Eric Riley Moore. •March 16: Brendon Small hosts Patric Borelli and Mike Birbiglia, Jan Davidson, Steve Calechman, John Lynch, Max Pelkey, Laura Hoffma and Mike Arlington. •March 17: the Rick Jenkins Show with Alan Devich, Pat O'Shea, Pat and Mike, Steve Calechman and William McNeill. •March 18: Comics Workout starring Lakshmi Balachandra, Shelby Siems, Dan Levy, Ben Joplin, John Keating, Colin Cohen and Paul Shea. •March 22: Tim McIntire Show with stand-up guests Lady B, Adam Pearlman, Lenny Hoffman and the comics of WAKKA. •March 23: PS Absurdo starring Brendon Small with guests Laura Kolling, Teresa Craggan, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Greg Rodrigues, Rich Gustus, Thomas Mitchell and Robert Hagearty. •March 24: Greg Rodrigues, Rich Gustus, Kelly Fattman, Dan Newbower, David Walsh and Clark Elefterdias (from Boston Body). •March 25: Comics Workout: Brian and Mal, Ira Proctor, Lea Antolini, Jay Savage, Stephanie Wishnick, Tim Golden and the Cazz.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour, the Theater District's long-running improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. The talent here is not quite as big-name as the Comedy Connection, but the crowds are just as enthusiastic. Wednesdays: Open-mike at 8:30pm. •March 15, 8:30pm: Jim Lauletta, Matt Blake and Cal Verducci •March 16-17, 8:45pm: Kevin Knox, Matt Blake and Cal Verducci •March 22, 8:30pm: Brad Mastrangelo, Stephanie Peters and Ira Proctor •March 23-24, 8:45pm: Brad Mastrangeolo, Stephanie Peters and Ira Proctor.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Saturday matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* Playing on the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show—voted one of Boston's best improvisational comedy troupes. •Wednesdays, 8pm: The Improv Asylum Training Center graduate show, *Gary's Pocket*, followed by the Improv Asylum Touring Company. $10.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •TheatreSports: Friday, 10:30pm •ImprovBoston: Saturday, 8pm and 10:30pm •Micetro: Wednesday, 8pm and alternate Sundays •Secret Society: Friday, 8pm. $12.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage. • March 21, 9pm: Fourth Anniversary Show, featuring Jon Stetson, Mike Bent, Steve Kradolfer, David Oliver and Alexander, and Marcelo Contento.

COMEDY SHOWS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 127 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). Wednesdays, 8:40pm. See the Larry Lee Lewis Show and open-mike comedy.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Musical! The Musical!
The Works Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (624-7278). Fri.-Sat., 8pm. March 23-April 14. $15. Each performance of *Musical! The Musical* kicks off with an audience suggestion of a famous story from a book, play, or movie that has never been made into a musical. The troupe then develops a full-length, Broadway-style musical.



Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company presents *You Walk* at the Emerson Majestic March 21-25.

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Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.lesley.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*The Art Institute of Boston Faculty Exhibition* features work by some of Boston's top professional artists, including Robert Kaufmann, Jim Hood, Geoff Koetsch and Deborah Davidson. Through March 18.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat. 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
900 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •The *Brinks Job* exhibit in the Wiggin Gallery features photographs from the BPL Print Department's Herald Traveler photo morgue of Boston's crime of the century; it includes courtroom sketches of the trial, crime scene photos, mug shots and the like. Through March 30. •*Places of the Spirit: Photographs by Emily Corbat*, shows through March 30. •*Vilna Shul*, a photographic exhibit of the restoration of the unique Jewish presence on Beacon Hill, shows through March 30. •In *All That Jazz: Adults and Adolescents in Relationships*, students present art that reflects their understanding of independence, trust, freedom and responsibility. Throughout March.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •In *Just the Thing!* everyday objects acquire new perspectives. Through June 10. •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to convey the artist's message. Through May 28.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Franz Marc: Horses* shows through March 18. •*Sight-Seeing: Photography of the Middle East and Its Audiences, 1840-1940*, an exhibition that investigates the ways in which images of the Middle East were made available to the broad public, shows through March 18. •*The Blue-Rider Artists: Works from the Busch-Reisinger Museum and Other Harvard Collections* displays through March 18. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. Free Sun., 9am-12pm; Wed., 3-pm, Sept.-May.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of butterflies. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Olafur Eliasson transforms the ICA with a series of installations that use water, ice and light in *Olafur Eliasson: Your Only Real Thing Is Time.* The Scandinavian artist gained international attention for his photographs, sculptures and site-specific works that create poetic allusions to landscape and nature. Through April 1. •Free guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.



Shellee Graham's photographs of Route 66 are at the center of the Museum of Our National Heritage's current exhibition. This '93 image is ***Dog on Route 66, Between Miami and Afton, OK.***

Preview

Return to Route 66

The Museum of Our National Heritage goes retro

Long after most of the winding two-lane Route 66 was replaced by modern speedways, nostalgic pop-culture enthusiasts have looked back to its heyday as a riotous time of unabashed roadside kitsch. Route 66 has assumed mythical proportions in American lore throughout the years, thanks to the literary works of John Steinbeck and Jack Kerouac, the countless songs ("Get Your Kicks on Route 66")—not to mention the wave of '50s nostalgia that swept the '70s (*American Graffiti, Grease*). America's identification with the road has progressed from there. In the '80s, Route 66 fan clubs and preservation societies popped up—and today people are still clamoring for retro Route 66 artifacts. Hence we now have the Museum of Our National Heritage's new *Return to Route 66*, an exhibition full of Burma-shave signs, diners, motels and drive-in movie theaters.

Beyond the kitsch factor, this quintessential American road has witnessed significant historical trends. Built during the '20s during the pre-Depression boom, the road saw the best of America's car craze, and in the '30s, it became the route for Dust Bowl families seeking a better life in California. During World War II, it was a convoy route, and afterward, it carried countless young families headed west to discover opportunities.

In this exhibition, historical artifacts, photographic images, ephemera, audio and video clips reveal the impact of the legendary highway on our culture and art. The highlight is a collection of 66 photographs by Shellee Graham, images that capture the winding road from Chicago to Los Angeles. The show also features a number of interactive components, including video loops of '60s TV shows, audio recordings by Woodie Guthrie and Bobby Troup. *Through Sept. 9. 33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free.*

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). www.boston.com/gardner. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* •*The Art of the Cross: Medieval and Renaissance Piety* is a collection of lesser-known works—arts-furniture, textiles and metal works, including large-scale crucifixes and processional crosses. Through April 29.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames Street Building E15, Atrium Level, Cambridge (253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm; Fri., 12-8pm. •*Inside Space: Experiments in Redefining Rooms* comprises six installations by artists and artist teams who critically engage the language of architecture. Through April 8. •*Marco Breuer: Circa 1999* is a collection of photographs made by non-photographic means. The process involves subjecting photographic paper to belt sanders, razor blades, red-hot heater coils and mold. Through April 8.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends, 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton*, and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: the Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive events take place 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •On the last Sunday of the month, explore oceanography, astronomy, the science of buildings and other mysteries of science, 2-4pm. Call 452-2827 for details.

Museum of Bad Art
580 High St., Dedham (325-8224). Mon.-Fri., 6:30-10pm, Sat., and Sun., 1-10pm. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. •The one and only museum that boasts "art too bad to be ignored." A favorite is *Lady Chardonnay*, a piece illuminating a poodle-headed dancer.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-5:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*Art and the Camera: Photographs of F. Holland Day*, an exhibition that presents the multifaceted work of Fred Holland Day, is on display through March 25. •*Boston 1900*, an exhibit that looks at our city's artistic, literary and cultural achievements at the beginning of the 20th century, shows through March 18. •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing , including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese kimonos and Western dress. March 14-July 29.

Revolving Museum
288-300 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tues.-Fri. 12-6pm. •The Little White Box Gallery presents *Labels: Within Walls* by Heloisa Escudero. Through April 20.

Galleries

FINE ART.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allston-skirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Works by Sharon Kaitz and B. Wurtz are on view through April 28.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Aaron Fink's *Works on Paper* shows through April 4.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Anne Packard presents oil on canvas works depicting New England's coastline, as well as paintings of Ireland and Greece. Through March 31.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Tufts Street Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781 648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •*Visions and Views* explores young people's motivation to become artists. Artworks in a variety of media are be presented, from oils to photographs and woodcuts. Through April 4.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. The gallery features original works from international artists. A new rotating exhibition opens in April.

Artists Foundation
516 East Second St. 1st Floor, South Boston (464-3561). Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •The works of Terence Hammonds show through April 1. •*Miss Red*, new work by Karyn Kirk, *Eclectic Works* by Luke Adams and *The Song that Makes You Cry*, videos by Suara Welitoff, display through April 7.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* Works by Michael Ashkin, Jan Henle and Paul Seawright display through April 18.

Barton-Ryan Gallery
38 Newbury St., 4th floor, Boston (867-0662). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •*Pastels: The Medium* shows through March 24.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Memories Lost and Found: The Drawings of Rose deSmith Greenman* is the premiere exhibition of her works, which were rediscovered 16 years after her death. Through April 14.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*New Sculpture, Photography and Video* by Larimer Richards shows throughout March.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. www.bcaonline.org. Guest curator Laurie Beth Kalb presents *Signs of the Market*, a private collection of hand-painted shop signs from Cambodia. Also showing is photography by Bill Burke, which focuses on advertising in Cambodia. Through April 28.

Boston University 808 Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Boston Printmakers Biennial Exhibition* features more than 150 artists' works. Through April 8.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Gallery I features Laurie Alpert's *Reinventing the Layers; Monoprints with Xerox Transfer* and *Collage and Painting* by Don Smith. •Gallery II has Leyla Yildiz's *Wind Water Pebbles Sand: Etchings*. Through March 24. Also, Beth Duerr's collection of paintings, *Spaces in Time*, shows March 28-April 21.

Cambridge Center Gallery
One Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm. •In *Sign Language*, Ayisha Knight presents photographs and text that capture her experiences as an African-American of Native American ancestry who is also deaf. Through March 28. •*Boston Afro-American Artists*, the oldest collective organization of African-American artists in Boston, display an exhibition of paintings, photography, drawings and crafts. March 29-April 25.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30 am-11:30pm. •*Extreme Connoisseurship* shows through April 29. •The spring visiting faculty show includes works by Jim Dow, Lorraine Ferguson, Alexis Rockman, Joel Shapiro, Wendy Tilby and Carrie Mae Weems. Through March 23. •Tadashi Kawamata's *Boston Project, Part I*, shows through April 30.

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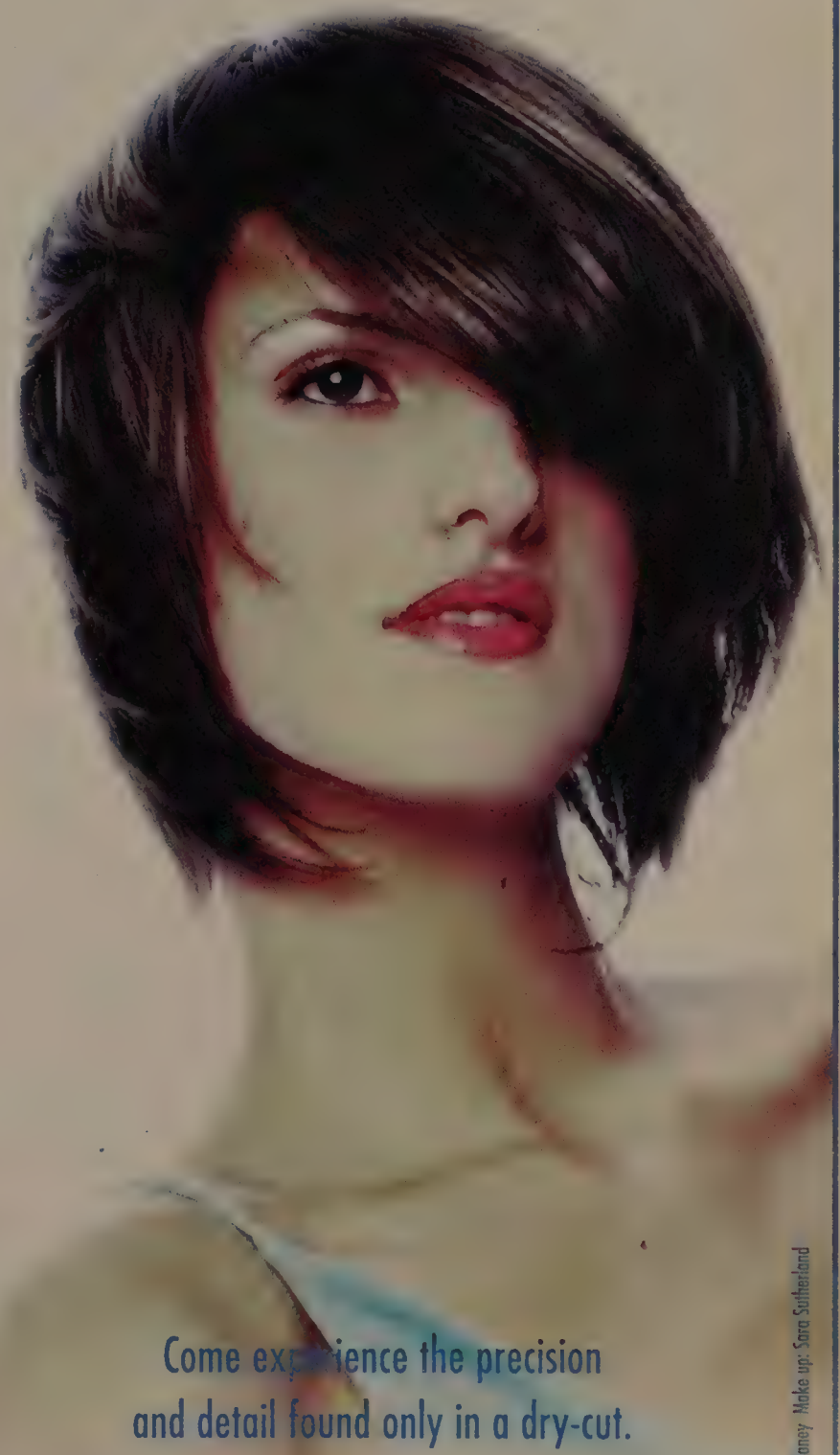
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Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Northern Lights II*, an exhibition of work from the Sheridan College Glass Studio, displays through April 7.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. Steven Coyle presents his works, which depict scenes from his home in South Boston. Through April 2.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •Three series are displayed concurrently: paintings and watercolors by Molly Luce, watercolors by Sally Michel, and a collective *Visual Dictionary of Fine Print Techniques.* Through May 5.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. www.clarkgallery.com. •The gallery represents eight regional artists' works in *Content: Glass Invitational*. Through March 22.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •The *Annual Student Show* displays through March 17. •*Patrons' Choice* features work by several artists. March 22-April 14.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment.* •Anne Gilson Haney presents *Home Cooking*, through April 15.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat. 9am-6pm. •Contemporary works by Norman Crump, Dan McCole, Robert Fields and Brian Roach depict Irish themes. The works include original oils, watercolors and reproductions of Boston scenes and harbor views. Throughout March.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston. http://drawbridge.com/dvb-gallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •*LUNG* and other works by Ean White, display through April 14.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •Contemporary French paitings by leading French artists show throughout March.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd Floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm; Sat. 9am-6pm. •Darlene Devita's *Black and White Photography: A Unique Perspective* shows through March 31.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Chuck Holtzman presents *Five Years of Drawing*. Through April 28.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equator-gallery.com. *Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7pm.* •A series of woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí shows with ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sasha Raiz. Also on display is Peruvian artist Benito Huillcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depicting modern-day Cuzco. Ongoing.

Fort Point Arts Community
300 Summer St., Boston (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12pm-5pm. •*Redeeming the Abandoned*, an exhibition of steel sculptures by Jason Karakehian and Alys Myers, shows through March 23.

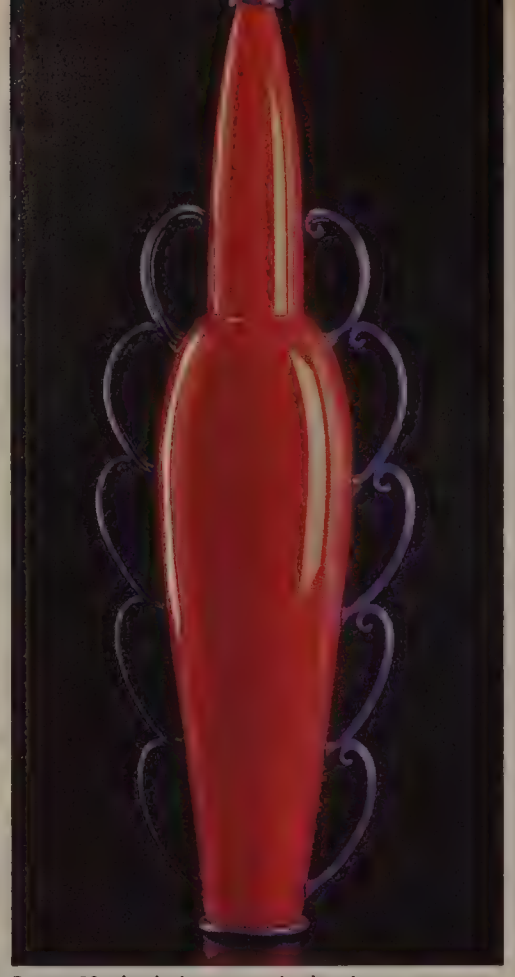
Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •Mark Chagall exhibits graphic retrospective works this month.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). www.jameshull.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., Wed. and Thu., 12-9pm.* •Works by Masako Kamiya, Michael Lee and Susan Rogers display March 16-April 14.

Gallery Bershad
99 Dover St., Somerville (629-9400 ext. 3). www.bershad.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Fri., 9-6pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm.* •David Levine and Antonio Adriano Puleo exhibit their paintings. Also, Karen Dow and Laurel Sparks display contemporary painting. Through April 13.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallery naga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Esther Solondz's *A Perfect State* and Ed Stitt's *Daily Views* show through March 24.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •*Afterimage*, new paintings by Kelly Spalding, shows through April 4.



Dante Marioni shows works in glass at Howard Yezerski Gallery through March 27.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •*Modules* shows through March 23. •An exhibition of high school students' art shows through April 4.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •The gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings. •The gallery is continuing to show select contemporary artists' works through May.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. An ongoing display of an assortment of 18th- and 19th-century antique engravings and lithographs.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. www.yezerski@zi-plink.net. •Paul Shakespear presents paintings, and Dante Marioni shows works in glass. Through March 27. •Dante Marioni presents *Glass* through March 27.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •An ongoing display features selected vintage posters.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard St., Brookline (739-5769). MBTA C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10-8pm; Sun., 10-6pm. •Alexander Gassel's paintings and Katya Apekina's ceramics are on display through March 22.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Julia Jacquette presents her recent paintings that use 1950s magazine advertising imagery as a point of departure in *Virtues and Vices*. Through March 31.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •Christina Keating presents her paintings in *A Room with a View*. Through March 15.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •Majestic waterfalls, exploding geysers, ancient volcanoes and planetary solarscapes depict the forces of nature in *Existence Sprang Forth*, by Hilda Green Demsky. Through March 18.

Mass Art President's Gallery
11th Floor, Tower Building, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7657). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. •*Humanizing Design: Poster Works by Luba Lukova* features more than 50 posters by Bulgarian poster designer Lukova. Throughout March.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-6pm.* •An exclusive exhibit of rarely seen art by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, this exhibit presents his pieces that typify the Northern European sensibility. Through May 21.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Adolph Gottlieb: Paintings and Drawings from 1923-1941* shows through May 2.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Artrages 2001: A Space Artyssey* is Mobius' annual benefit bash, with a far-out night of art-filled, sound saturated dancing and mountains of food and drink. March 24, 8pm-1am. •*Radio Pü: Neo-Dada Radio* takes the old-time radio theater concept to a modern level in a slew of music, comedy, satire and performance art with several musicians and artists. March 16 and 17, 8pm, $7. •*Translating: Denmark to Boston*, an installation by Line Brunts and Andy Mauery, includes collaborative works and individual pieces. Through March 31. •Shannon Flattery's *Touchable Stories* shows March 19, 7pm. •*Relative Distance*, a video screening curated by Jacqueline Goss, is shown March 20 at 7pm.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Body Parts* is a series of paintings by Maggi Brown and sculpture by Brenda Starr. Through April 2.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Laurel Hughes' *A Bird and Her Song* shows through March 31. •Jake Berthot and Harvey Quaytman present their work. Through March 31.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •This gallery, owned and operated by several local artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •The fourth annual *Figurative Art Show* features works by local artists. Through March 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). www.pepper-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Marja Lianko: New Paintings* shows through March 27. •*Andrew Nixon: New Work* displays March 30-May 1.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Memories and Dreams*, an exhibition of solo works by Shraga Weil, showcases mixed-media works inspired by his Jewish heritage. Through April 18.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •The first authentic teahouse in Boston is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse also specializes in antique Tixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardsonclarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •See the ongoing exhibition of American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.Robert KleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Caverns and Grottos*, an exhibition of new photography by Sally Gall, explores nature's sensuous forms.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, between Brattle St. and Garden St., Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Female refuges from the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia are depicted in *Courage and Resiliency: Cambodian Women in America.* The photographs are by Marcus Halevi. Through April 30.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •Pat Steir's *Prints* display through April 22.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (266-1810). www.society-ofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Thu., 10am-7pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •The gallery honors Lino Tagliapietra, Italian glass maestro, with a retrospective of Lino's work. There is a glassblowing demonstration March 24, 10:30am-12:30pm.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm. •Tom Moran's *Rescue*, a series of paintings reflecting his impressions of firefighting, displays through April 14.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorge-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style. Ongoing.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., Boston (423-SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm. •*Push*, an exhibition of paitings by Boston native and Bay Area artist Brian Blanchard, displays through March 31.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by famous painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin, C. Ferrer and striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. •*Altered Fields*, multimedia works by Samantha Fields, Ted Hinman, Lee Leonard and Elizabeth Sheenhan, shows through March 29.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •Peter and Christel Worfel present *Watercolor Landscapes and Waterprints*. Through March 17. •*Landscapes and Still Lifes* is an exhibit of photographs by Linda Mahoney. March 23-April 21.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •An ongoing display features selected works of the gallery's current inventory.

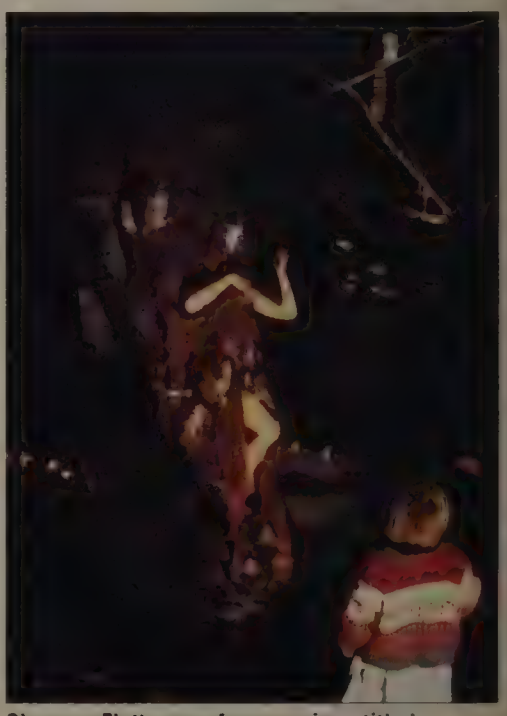
Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •Photographer Anna Collette presents her work. Through March 16.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •Ernest Withers captures African-American musicians in a large photography exhibit. Through March 30.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a collection of photographs from the series at the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17. •*Strange Attractor*, curated by Rosamond Purcell, displays through March 15.



Shannon Flattery performs a piece titled *Touchable Stories* at Mobius March 19, 7pm.

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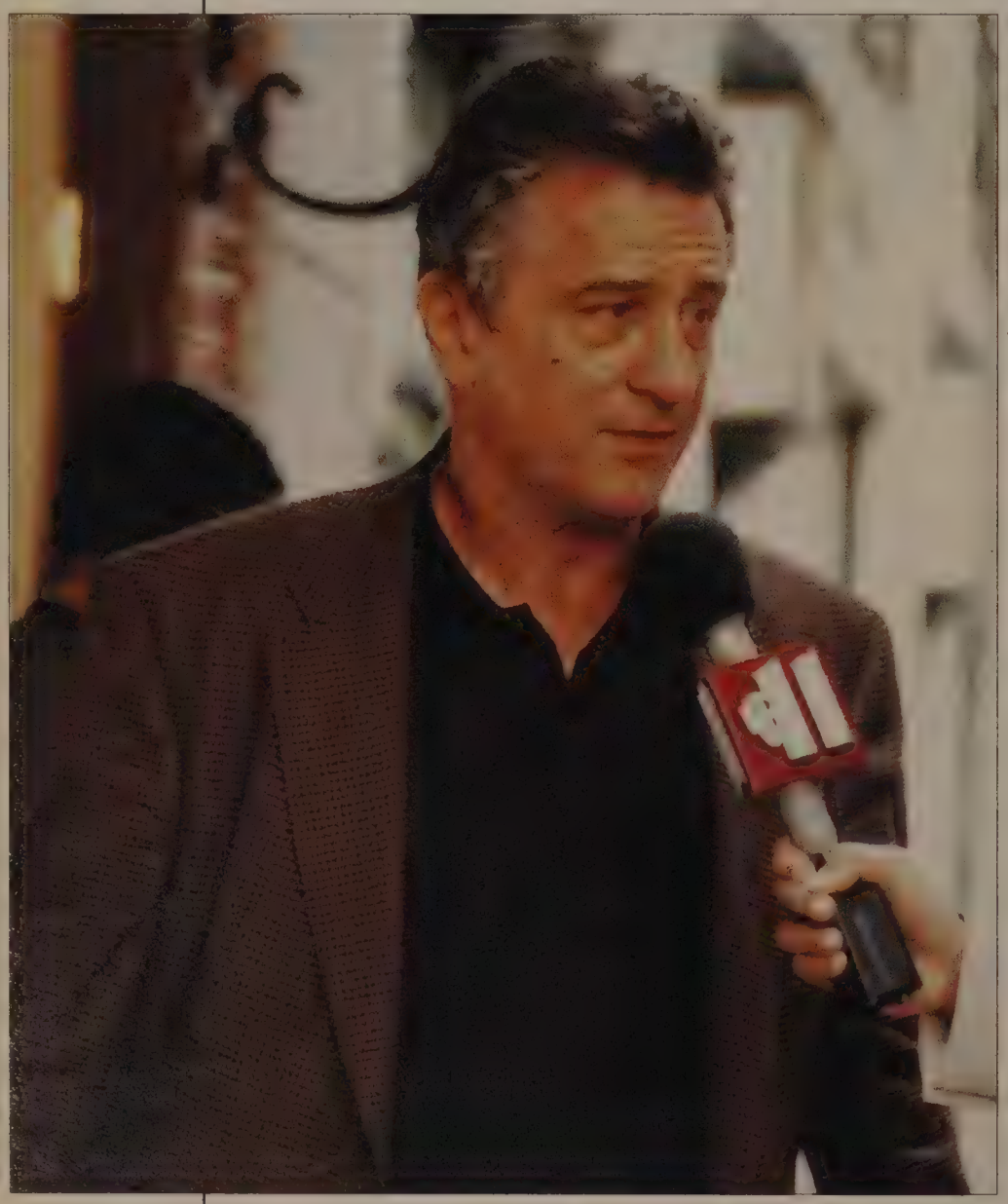
A NOT SO CURRENT AFFAIR

15 Minutes has more messages than thrills. BY PAUL SHERMAN

15 Minutes is ripped from the headlines, but they're not today's headlines. This urban crime-thriller seeks to expose and indict the commingling of violence, the media and fame in our society, but writer-director John (*2 Days in the Valley*) Herzfeld's heavy-handed message mongering smothers his uncompelling story.

That New York story is about a famous Gotham homicide detective (Robert DeNiro) and a younger, rank-and-file fire department arson investigator (Edward Burns) who team to help find and stop a pair of Eastern European murderers. Conveniently, *15 Minutes* finds its media demon in a tabloid TV show that feeds the killers' megalomania by paying to broadcast a video of one of their gruesome killings. But shouldn't this movie have been made in 1991, not 2001?

Since Hollywood never did make an outspoken movie about the sensationalism wrought by tabloid TV a decade ago or the more recent explosion in exhibitionist daytime talk shows, *15 Minutes* could have had something to say. Of course, if it wanted to make a statement about the media today it might have addressed the expansion of media coverage about media coverage, and the proliferation of gum-flapping pundits—and, of course, it would've been called *Bring Me the Head of Doris Kearns Goodwin*.



Robert DeNiro works the media in *15 Minutes*.

But to communicate any sort of statement about anything, *15 Minutes* would first of all have to be a decently told story, and it's not. The best thing it has going for it, though, is the comfortable chemistry between DeNiro and Burns. The former's character gets turned on by appearing on magazine covers and by being shadowed by the tabloid series *Top Story* (which features an opportunistic host played by Kelsey Grammer). DeNiro manages to give the guy a self-confidence that never drifts into smugness and a savvy that never becomes arrogance. Burns, whose onscreen ease has dwarfed his career as a writer-director (*The Brothers McMullin*), offers the same sort of levelheaded character he played in *Saving Private Ryan*.

When the killers, a Russian (Karel Roden) and a Czech (Oleg Taktarov) who've just entered the country, torch the building where they've killed their first victims, the detective and the fire cop both descend on the scene. They start working together, skeptically at first, then more willingly as they feel each other out.

The Russian and the Czech have a certain playful chemistry, too, but their cartoonishness doesn't really help matters. The Czech, who loves American movies and likes to tell people his name is Frank Capra, steals a camcorder once they arrive and uses it to document their every move, especially their crimes. The two Eastern Europeans quickly see how crime pays in the United States, and, after settling a score with the couple from the old country, hatch an elaborate scheme. Their plan is to commit killings that will make them famous, get acquitted by pleading temporary insanity, quickly "heal" and then live off their fame.

Most of the time, the movie works well within individual scenes, but it simply can't put two and two together. It establishes the media's thirst for violence in its courting of DeNiro's crime fighter, and it also establishes the relationship between fame and crime. But *15 Minutes* still toothlessly covers the same territory that such movies as *Network*, *The King of Comedy*, *Dog Day Afternoon* and *Peeping Tom* handled more subtly and entertainingly.

For instance, the movie wants to show us how the media and the world of crime are in bed together by making the detective and a star news reporter (Melina Kanakaredes) a romantic couple. But their scenes together are so fleeting and unconvincing, they make the flimsy romance between Tom Hanks and Helen Hunt in *Cast Away* seem rock solid by comparison. Just as dubious is the self-righteous grandstanding Herzfeld shovels on in the over-the-top climax. iB

15 Minutes ★★

Written and directed by John Herzfeld. With Robert DeNiro, Edward Burns, Karel Roden, Oleg Taktarov, Vera Farmiga, Melina Kanakaredes and Kelsey Grammer. Rated R. New Line Cinema.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN



Colin Farrell (right) plays a draftee in *Tigerland*.

Before Night Falls ★★½
Following *Basquiat*, Julian Schnabel directs another "artist who died too young in New York" drama. This time his subject is Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas, played here by Javier Bardem (from Almodovar's *Live Flesh*). There's definitely a compelling story here, starting with Arenas' country boyhood, when he left home to join Castro's revolutionaries, and moving onto his persecution for being both gay and a writer, his subsequent flight to New York and his fight with AIDS. But at many crucial junctures, the movie is also frustratingly vague, including its inability to give us a real sense of Arenas' writings. So the result is less memorable than it might have been. There are, however, amusing and effective cameos by Johnny Depp (as a drag queen) and Sean Penn (as a peasant).

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon ★★★½
What do you get when you combine a skilled dramatic director like Ang Lee (*Eat Drink Man Woman*), an innovative action choreographer like Yuen Wo-Ping (*The Matrix*) and stars like Chow Yun-Fat (*Hard-Boiled*) and Michelle Yeoh (*Supercop*)? A dynamo in which the scenes between the wild, high-flying fight face-offs are almost as potent as the "action." In this story, centering around a stolen sword, the battles unfurl not only between the characters—in beautifully choreographed exchanges—but also within those characters' souls. The leads all find themselves dealing with the struggle between their romantic desires and societal obligations, which gives the film a sorrowful undercurrent. To add to the eclectic feel, Yo-Yo Ma performs the score's cello solos.

Down to Earth ★★
This remake of *Heaven Can Wait* is the first movie tailored for Chris Rock since he became a star. Rock plays a stand-up comic who dies, but then is informed by angel Chazz Palminteri that it was a mistake and is returned in the body of a rich white man. That plot lets the movie, co-written by Rock and directed by Paul and Chris Weitz (*American Pie*), make some amusing light of racial and class divisions. But the race change—we see Rock, but the other characters in the movie see a 53-year-old white businessman—also makes this very gimmicky, and the romantic subplot (featuring Regina King) is not all that convincing.

Hannibal ★★★½
Since the movies featuring Hannibal "the Cannibal" Lecter have been full of food references, let's just say that what was a tasty side dish in *Manhunter* and *Silence of the Lambs* isn't such an appealing entree. Instead of the menacing genius psychopath who held an eerie sway over FBI-agent protagonists in the previous films, he's now the main focus of the search by agent Clarice Starling (Julianne Moore, replacing Jodie Foster). Except now Lecter (Anthony Hopkins) just does little more than the gourmand-cannibal schtick he sometimes launched into in *Lambs*. The story also indulges in default sequel ploys like using a proliferation of antagonists, with Gary Oldman and Ray Liotta as two of those. The action picks up once Lecter and Clarice are finally on the same continent, but that's nearly 90 minutes into the movie.

In the Mood for Love ★★½
After turning away from the stylized storytelling that first got him noticed, Hong Kong director Wong Kar-wai returns to the stylization of his great early film, *Days of Being Wild*, with this story set in 1962. Wong regulars Tony Leung and Maggie Cheung reteam in this story of newcomers to a packed apartment building. Both have neglectful spouses who are having an affair with each other. The two dance around the idea of having an affair themselves, and Wong's ability to visually build sexual tension is the movie's great strength—the way he photographs Cheung in her clingy, high-necked dresses is the sexiest thing captured in movies in ages. But the movie is also very sluggish. Sometimes you just want to yell "Do something already!" at the two would-be lovers.

P.V. CARUSO/NEW LINE. TIGERLAND: GENE PAGE

Pollock ★★
Ed Harris' pet-project bio of splatter-happy painter Jackson Pollock isn't the first "don't drink and drive" movie. But it is the first "don't drink and paint" movie. With Harris directing and playing Pollock, the movie supplies a garden-variety troubled-artist story. At first, Pollock is a shy and struggling abstract painter prone to benders; then he sobers up and (perhaps consequently) hits upon the notion of dripping paint on the canvas rather than applying it with brushes, a technique that made him the sensation of late-1940s modern American art. When his star starts to inevitably fade, he crawls into a bottle again and becomes a miserable wreck who dies in a drunken car crash. But there's little insight into Pollock's demons (some flashbacks might've helped) and little with which to empathize in his story.

Series 7★★
There are a lot of laughs at the beginning of this reality-TV parody in which a half-dozen "contenders" are given guns and the last one alive wins. As the rage-filled, pregnant defending champion, Brooke Smith also brings much more dimension to her role than you'd expect. But this is practically a parody of a parody—was *Temptation Island* any less outrageous?—and real network TV is much more cheesy. So, at only 85 minutes, this still seems overextended. It would've been much better off as a one-hour *Comedy Central* special.

The Caveman's Valentine ★★
Director Kasi (*Eve's Bayou*) Lemmons' second film is a blend of character study and murder-mystery that peters out after an involving first half. Samuel L. Jackson brings his usual depth to the role of a homeless New Yorker, a former Juilliard pianist who's let a case of performance anxiety snowball for 25 years into a delusional perspective on the world around him. Among other things, he believes he's being persecuted by an unseen rich man living in the Chrysler Building. His delusions dovetail with a murder near the makeshift cave where he sleeps, and he goes on a personal quest to solve it. But aside from his cop daughter (Aunjanue Ellis), no other character here is worth caring about, and the mystery comes to a contrived climax aboard a subway train.

The Mexican★★
Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts don't have much screen time together in this road movie, which adds equal parts crime-thriller and romantic comedy. Roberts plays a reader of self-help books who dumps her boyfriend, a selfish screw-up played by Pitt, because he has to go to Mexico to retrieve a valuable antique pistol for his gangster boss, and she doesn't want him to do it. While Pitt is in Mexico, she's abducted by a hit man (James Gandolfini of *The Sopranos*) hired to nab her to ensure Pitt does the job. The Roberts-Gandolfini scenes are what's likable, as the two characters develop an unexpected bond; but the Mexican action isn't half as entertaining. Blame part of that on Pitt—he acts as if he's auditioning for the role of the wacky neighbor in a really bad sitcom.

The Price of Milk ★
This New Zealand romantic comedy about a dairy-farm couple is supposed to enchant with its fairytale plot and serendipitous events. Start to finish, it fails.

Tigerland ★★★
Wow, there hasn't been a good film from set designer-turned-director Joel (*St. Elmo's Fire*, *Batman and Robin*) Schumacher since *D.C. Cab*. But this boot-camp story set in 1971 has a documentary style that generally steers clear of Schumacher's visual excesses, and a knockout performance by newcomer Colin Farrell as a trouble-making draftee who helps some of his platoon mates get discharged and knows just how and when to piss off the officers. The movie portrays its inductees as being well aware of the tragic absurdity behind the Vietnam War, and how they kick and scream like the devil to avoid it.

Traffic ★★★
Director Steven Soderbergh (*Out of Sight*, *Erin Brockovich*) gives us another accessible yet idiosyncratic movie. This one has a lot of characters, locations and drugs in it: the new U.S. drug czar (Michael Douglas), the teen daughter (Erika Christensen) he doesn't know is an addict, a Tijuana cop (Benicio Del Toro), two DEA field agents (Don Cheadle, Luis Guzman) and the suburban wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones) of a drug lord, just to name a few. Through their sometimes overlapping stories, the movie offers an effective indictment of the war on drugs; as portrayed, it's more concerned about politics and power than people. The message works because of the movie's visual scruffiness and because it doesn't vilify those fighting the war, freeing *Traffic* of most movies' cartoonishness.

3000 Miles to Graceland ★★½
To say this poor heist picture is brain rot trying to masquerade as something cool is granting it too much respect. It's not worth getting that worked up about. There's no conviction or purpose to this would-be crime thriller about a band of thieves who all dress as The King and rob a Vegas casino during an Elvis impersonators convention. That sounds a lot cooler than it comes off in this movie where the body count is high, but you never care about anything or anybody. Also failing to excite are Kevin Costner and Kurt Russell as the two baddies fighting over the millions stolen, with a seductive Courteney Cox in the middle.

Alternatives & Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

James Cagney on Film
•March 19, 6pm **The Gallant Hours** *1960*. The docudrama depicts five weeks in the life of an admiral—from commanding the U.S. naval operations in the South Pacific to the Allied victory.
•March 26, 6pm **One, Two, Three** *1961*. Billy Wilder's comedy stars Cagney as a Coca-Cola's man in West Berlin who may be fired if he can't keep his American boss' daughter from marrying a Communist.

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features.

Mondays: Crime Wave
•March 19, 7:30pm **Thief** *1981*. Directed by Michael Mann, James Caan stars as a professional thief who wants to take part in his last big scam and then retire, but it never works out quite that easily. •Also playing: **Le Doulos** *1962*. This is a complex thriller about the fatalistic relationship between a crook just out of prison and a man who may be an informer.
•March 26, 7:15pm **How to Steal a Million** *1966*. In this hilarious film, a playboy thief is forced to help a forger's daughter steal from a Paris museum. •Also playing: **Topkapi** *1964*. Directed by Jules Dassin, an international cast plays a group of jewel thieves whose target is a priceless jeweled dagger in a Turkish museum.



Kurt Russell and Kevin Costner play bad Elvises in a bad movie, *3000 Miles to Graceland.*

ALAN MARKFIELD



Tuesdays: Beyond Exploitation

•March 20, 7:15 **Daughters of the Dust** *1991*. In an island off the southern coast of the United States in 1902, a family unites for one day to rediscover tradition and family values. •Also playing: **The Learning Tree** *1969*. Written, directed and produced by Gordon Parks, this is his personal vision about the coming-of-age of a black man in Kansas in 1920.

•March 27, 7:30pm **Cotton Comes to Harlem** *1970*. This action-comedy, directed by Ossie Davis, centers on two Harlem detectives who must solve a mystery involving a suspicious minister and a random bale of cotton. •Also playing: **Devil in a Blue Dress** *1995*. Denzel Washington turns up the heat as an L.A. private eye in this mystery from director Carl Franklin.

Wednesdays: Recent Raves

•March 14, 7:30 and 9:30 pm **Requiem for a Dream** *2000*. Director Darren Aronsky delves into the heart of addiction in the realistic depiction of a speed addicted, game-show-obsessed mother and her wayward son. The performance of star actress Ellen Burstyn won her a Best Actress nomination.

•March 21, 7:45pm **Nowhere To Hide** *1999*. In Lee Myung-Se's inventive comedy/action/chase film, a crafty master of disguise dodges the cops.

Thursdays: Janus Films

•March 15, 7:15pm **Orpheus** *1949*. Jean Cocteau directs this unique reworking of the Orpheus myth. The cinematic allegory is set in modern times as poet Marais encounters the Princess of Death.

•March 22, 4:15 and 7:45pm **Ashes and Diamonds** *1958*. The portrayal of a young resistance fighter in Poland at the end of WWII is one of Andrezei Wajda's most highly acclaimed films.

Special Engagements

•March 16-18, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 1:30 and 3:30pm) **Five Films By Jay Rosenblatt**. The films include **Human Remains**, **King of the Jews**, **Restricted**, **Short of Breath** and **The Smell of Burning Ants**. Rosenblatt's uses his careers in psychotherapy and filmmaking in his experimental documentary.

•March 23 and 24, 5:30, 7:45 and 10pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 1 and 3:15pm) **If...** *1968*. Lindsay Anderson directs this unsettling and anarchic allegory about an armed uprising at a British boarding school.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Balagan Experimental Film Series

•March 15, 8pm **Mexico Dreams**. Curated by local artist and Mexican native Alberto Roblest, this is a remarkable experimental film/video work.

•March 22, 8pm **Hello Ojos**. This is a nonfiction visual exploration of the exotic lands and cultures of Central America and India.

Midnight Movies

Mar 16 and 17, 12am **The Lost Boys** *1987*. Joel Schumacher's vampire is the terrifying tale of rebel teenage vampires. Troubled teen Michael (Jason Patric) moves to Santa Clara, Calif., along with his younger bother (Corey Haim) and his divorced mother. Plus, a gang of undead is led by creepy Kiefer Sutherland.

•Mar 23-24, 12am **Real Genius** *1985*. In the classic '80s college comedy, 15-year-old science star Mitch Taylor is one of the youngest students ever accepted at Pacific Tech. He ends up rooming with slacker legend Chris Knight (Val Kilmer). When their high-powered laser is used as a military weapon, they get smart.

New England Film and Video Festival

•March 26-29. The 26th annual Film Festival showcases Boston's remarkable independent film and video makers, and includes panel discussions between the audience and artists. This year, the Coolidge is able to show more works than ever before—33 new works over six days. Be sure to catch the Boston premiere of Natatcha Estebanez and Jan Egleson's **The Blue Diner**, which has been winning awards at festivals all over the world. Also showing is Nina Davenport's documentary, **Always A Bridesmaid**, Lisa Kors' feature **Dinner and a Movie** and Josh Seftel's documentary, **Ennis' Gift**.

BF/VF Filmmakers' Open Studio Event

On March 18, filmmakers from all over Greater Boston open their studios to the public for the second annual Filmmakers Open Studios. This is your chance to meet acclaimed filmmakers in person from over 24 studios. For more information, call (647-1102).

Rocker's Revolution

•March 23 **Driver 23** *1999*. Wanna-be rock star Dan Cleveland finds solutions to every problem he faces—from his basement recording studio to wild success. Just when his heavy-metal band lands a gig, his wife leaves him and he retreats further into the dark.

•March 24 **The Blank Generation** *1976*. Amos Poe and Ivan Kral's documentary offers insight into the birth of a new wave by chronicling the scene at New York's legendary dive, CBGBs. Look out for vintage footage of Blondie, the Talking Heads and Patti Smith.

•March 25 **Rockers** *1979*. Telling the story of Leroy "Horsemouth" Wallace, this reggae classic follows Horsemouth on a search for his stolen motorcycle.



Gary Hardwick's *The Brothers* screens as part of the Harvard Film Archive's Black Arts Film series.

Preview

Black Arts Festival

A salute to African-American filmmakers

This year's Black Arts Film Festival at the Harvard Film Archive has a slew of happenings planned to coincide with the screenings of award-winning independent films and blockbuster Hollywood premieres. It includes a production of *Street People*, by award-winning Kenyan playwright Ben Ateku; a movement workshop with internationally acclaimed dancer, choreographer and instructor Arthur Taylor; a performing arts show, *Celebration of the Spirit: Reflections of the Global Black Experience*; and a jazz brunch.

The weekend salute to black filmmaking kicks off Friday, March 16 with the Boston premieres of John Berry's *Boesman and Lena* (starring Danny Glover and Angela Bassett) and *The Visit* with a talk by director Jordan Walker-Pearlman. The Festival continues on Saturday March 17 with The Showtime Network's *Salute to Independent Black Filmmaking*, a presentation that features five short films from aspiring African-American filmmakers. There is also a *Soul Food* reception with a special guest appearance by Rockmond Dunbar, star of the hit series *Soul Food*. Saturday evening concludes the festivities with the premiere of Sundance Film Festival 2000 Official Selection *Punks* and a discussion with its director Patrik-Ian Polk and actor Rockmond Dunbar. An advanced screening of Gary Hardwick's *The Brothers will* conclude the weekend's events. *Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*

Now Playing

•March 18, 7:30 **Oscar's Shorts** *2000*. See films selected by the Academy as finalists in the Live Action Short, Animated Short and Documentary Short categories.

General Cinema Fenway

Midnight Movies

•March 23 and 24, 12am **Enter the Dragon** *1973*. Bruce Lee is on a mission to avenge his sister's death, as the kung-fu expert teams up with ex-army buddies to infiltrate the island fortress of a drug lord.

Harvard Film Archive

Five Films by Ömer Kavur

•March 24, 7pm **Night Journey** *1987*. A director lands in a ghost town where the magical world of his imagination and his past becomes his reality.

•March 25, 7pm **The Secret Face** *1991*. Directed by Zuhal Omer Kavur, this Turkish film is a modern version of the Orhan Pamuk's *The Secret Face*. A young man leaves his home in an attempt to find the grail.

•March 26, 7pm **Yusef and Kenan** *1979*. Two brothers traverse the city in search of a missing relative. Kavur addresses one of Istanbul's pressing social problems: The thousands of homeless children who walk the streets in hope of finding a family.

Making Strange, Making Familiar

•March 27, 8pm **Five Experimental Shorts**. These films showcase works by video makers who explore the boundaries of surrealism, transforming mundane objects or activities into cinematic spectacles.

Frames of Mind

•March 18, 7pm **The Tragic Diary of Zero the Fool** *1970*. Three characters find themselves in the midst of movie making madness, as they are trapped inside their own movie creation. By Canadian director Morley Markson.

•Also playing, 9pm **Breathing Together: Revolution of the Electric Family** *1971*. A documentary about the counterculture of the late '60s, this film reveals the conflict between the old American counterculture and the values of a new emerging society.

•March 20, 7pm **The Earrings of Madame de...** *1953*. The story follows the movement of a pair of diamond earrings that a debt-laden society woman (Danielle Darrieux) sells back to the jeweler who made them.

•March 21, 7pm **The Smiling Madame Beudet** *1922*. Director Germaine Dulac uses techniques of early French Impressionists to depict a woman's dream of freedom from her insensitive husband. •Also playing: **Meshes of the Afternoon** *1943*. Maya Deren directs this tale about a suicidal young woman (played by Deren).

•Also playing: **Saute Ma Ville** *1968*. Chantal Akerman was only 18 years old when she directed this comical story about a woman who locks herself in a kitchen, eats pasta, shines her shoes, then blows up the town.

Film and the Third Reich

•March 19, 9pm **La Habeñera** *1937*. A Scandinavian woman has an affair with a Latin lover in an exotic landscape. Her fantasy turns into nightmare as she is captured as a hostage of a tyrant who torments her.

Literature and Film

•March 19, 7pm **Stranger than Paradise** *1984*. Director Jim Jarmusch's low-budget film depicts a 16-year-old girl from Hungary who livens up the spirits of her cousin Willie and his friend Eddie.

Museum of Fine Arts

Boston Turkish Film Festival

•March 14, 6pm **Innocence** *1997*. Voted Best Film at the 1998 Istanbul Film Festival, this film captures the difficulties of people in Turkey's lower class.

•March 14, 8pm **Third Page** *1999*. A tender relationship develops between a suicidal TV soap extra and a neighbor with an abusive husband in director Zeki Demirkubuz's second film.

Nureyev on Film

•March 15, 6pm and March 17, 2pm **Don Quixote** *1972*. Directed by Paul Czinner, this is the original performance of Prokofiev's ballet version of *Romeo and Juliet*, as presented at the Royal Opera House.

•March 16, 6pm and March 24, 12:15pm **I Am a Dancer** *1972*. This feature-length documentary, directed by Bryan Forbes and Pierre Jourdan, takes a look at the hard work that dedicated dancers must go through.

•March 17, 12:15pm and March 24, 10:30am **This Is Rudolf Nureyev** *1965*. Universal-MCA bought the rights to this film but never released it. It contains footage of Nureyev with the Royal Ballet, and the film climaxes with a performance of Nureyev dancing *Raymonda*.

New Films from China

•March 16, 8pm and March 17, 10:30am **Seventeen Years** *1999*. For several years, Zhang Yuan's works were banned from China's official studio system, but he has finally received the credit due to him.

•March 17, 4pm **Xiao Wu** *1998*. Directed by Jia Zhang Ke, this film follows the pickpocket protagonist, Xiao Wu, through the streets and familiar setting of his hometown in western China.

•March 22, 5:40pm **Scenery** *1999*. A small-time lawyer confronts his own demons when he finds himself strangely attracted to a case involving a female taxi driver who may be a rape victim and a young hairdresser. Directed by Zhao Jisong.

•March 23, 5:45pm **City Paradise** *1999*. Juxtaposing the city's illusionary dreams of happiness with the old country lifestyle, director Tang Danian portrays the conflicting relationship between old and new.

•March 24, 2pm **Rainclouds over Wushan** *1995*. A mystery unfolds when a shy lighthouse keeper, the receptionist at a small hotel and a young cop about to be married are involved in the investigation of a rape.

Cinema Venue

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Nickelodeon
606 Comm. Ave. (424-1500). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford St.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Sq. (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Sq.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

BCAE Author Events
Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-8pm. $23. **Eric Schultz** and **Michael Tougias**, authors of *King Philip's War: The History* and *Legacy of America's Forgotten Conflict*, respectively, look back at the history of the war. They read from their own analysis, as well as excerpts from first-hand fighters' works.

Cambridge Artists' Cooperative Reading Series
59A Church St., Cambridge (868-4434). 5:30-7:30pm. The Cambridge Artists' Cooperative presents its fourth biennial book show, *Book Arts: Images & Words.* The show features collections in contemporary and traditional formats, as well all kinds of techniques for those interested in learning about the art of collecting. The event takes place at various times and locations throughout March. Call for a schedule.

City of Poets: 18 Boston Voices
Somerville West Branch Library, 40 College Ave., Somerville (628-2313). 7pm. Hear poets from an exciting new anthology released by the *Ibbetson Street Press* of Somerville. Poets who share their work tonight include *Spare Change* poetry editor **Don DiVecchio** and **Askia Tore**, American Book Award winner.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30pm. **James Carroll**, author of *Constantine's Sword: The Church & The Jews*, addresses some of the Catholic attitudes toward Jews.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

Books of Hope Event
Starbucks Coffee, 254 Elm St., Davis Square (625-6600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Teens involved in the Books of Hope project read from their work. The program creates opportunities for teens enabling them to express themselves through creative writing.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Arthur M. Sackler Auditorium, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (536-3886). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Join **Nell Casey**, **Lauren Slater**, **Susanna Kaysen** and **David Karp** in a discussion of *Unholy Ghost: Writers on Depression*. Slater reads from her collection of essays, deriving from her own experience as a pregnant woman on antidepressants. Kaysen, author of *Girl Interrupted*, shares her views about the overemphasis on depression in our culture. Styron reads an excerpt from her husband's work, *Darkness Visible*, and Casey discusses her essay about her sister's depression.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Gabe Galambos** discusses *Stealing Pike's Peak*, a mystery/suspense novel about the kidnapping of the star quarterback of the New York Jets.

MIT Poetry Program
77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-7894). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 7pm. 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-7894). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 7pm. **Michael Palmer** reads from *The Promises of Glass, New Directions 2000*. He is a chancellor of the Academy of American Poets and his work has appeared in *New Directions*.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Lisa McGirr** discusses *Suburban Warriors: The Origin of the New American Right (Politics & Society in Twentieth Century America)*. The book grapples with the sociopolitical movements of the '60s, particularly dealing with the historians who were preoccupied with the Left during that time.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

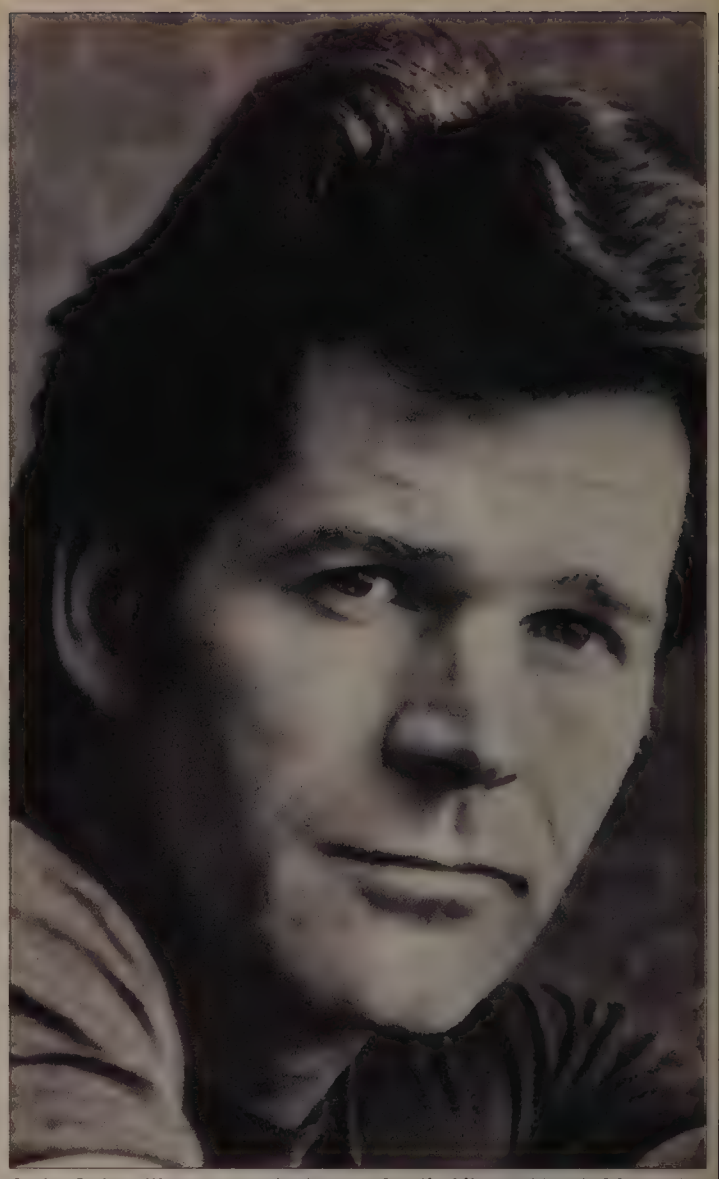
Harvard Book Store Author Series
Arthur M. Sackler Auditorium, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (536-3886). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. The Friday Forus Series presents **Vera John Steiner** as he talk about his book, *Creative Collaboration*. Dr. Steiner is the presidential professor of Linguistics and Education, Language, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies at the University of Mexico.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 4pm. Join **Christina Shea** as she reads from her debut novel, *Moira's Crossing*. Then, stick around for some St. Patrick's Day cocktails with her. Shea received her BA from Kenyon College and her MFA from the University of Michigan.

MONDAY, MARCH 19

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6778). 8:15pm. $3. Join **Robin Behn** as she reads from *The Paper Bird*, a compilation of memories, stories and poetry. Also, **Bruce Smith**, author of *Mercy Street* and *The Other Lover*, talks about his work. Smith is a professor of creative writing and was a poetry finalist for the National Book Award.



Andre Dubus III comes to the Boston Public Library March 20 to talk about his new novel, *Bluesman*.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Spiritual teacher and author **Andrew Cohen** discusses *Embracing Heaven and Earth: The Liberation Teachings of Andrew Cohen*. He examines the importance of striving for liberation through meditation. According to Cohen, the ultimate goal is to never stray from our true nature.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle Street, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. A mother's grief for her son's illness and her attempts to cure him are the subjects of **Dennis McFarland**'s novel, *Singing Boy*. McFarland shares excerpts from his book.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Road, Framingham (508-875-2321). 8:30pm. **Budd Titlow** teaches listeners how to discover individual creativity and turn potential into actuality. He talks about his book, *The Creative Edge*.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (739-6002). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **John Banville** discusses *Eclipse*, a family story about an actor who returns to his hometown to rediscover his past.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St., Boston (536-3886). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. On his national tour, **Andre Dubus III** discuss his new book, *Bluesman*, a coming-of-age story that captures the painful love between parents and children. Dubus' *The House of Sand and Fog* was a finalist for the 1999 National Book Award for Fiction. Dubus teaches at Tufts University and Emerson College.

Grolier Poetry Show
Adams House, Entry C, Lower Common Room, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. The Grolier Poetry Book Shop presents **Dara Wier** and **Michael Burkard**. Wier is the author of *Voyages in English*. Her work has been lauded by the Guggenheim Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Burkard reads selections from his eighth and ninth collections, *Unsleeping* and *Pennsylvania Collection Agency*.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Kenn Harper** comes to Wordsworth to discuss his critically acclaimed historical novel, *Give Me My Father's Body: The Life of Minik, the New York Eskimo*. The story is a tragic true tale of looted skeletons and cultural misunderstandings—from the Arctic frontier to the American Museum of Natural History.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Road, Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. **Tom Grassia** discusses his book, *Campfires*, the story of Boston attorney Jim Perone and his family ties. Grassia himself is a Boston-area attorney, specializing in business and sports matters.

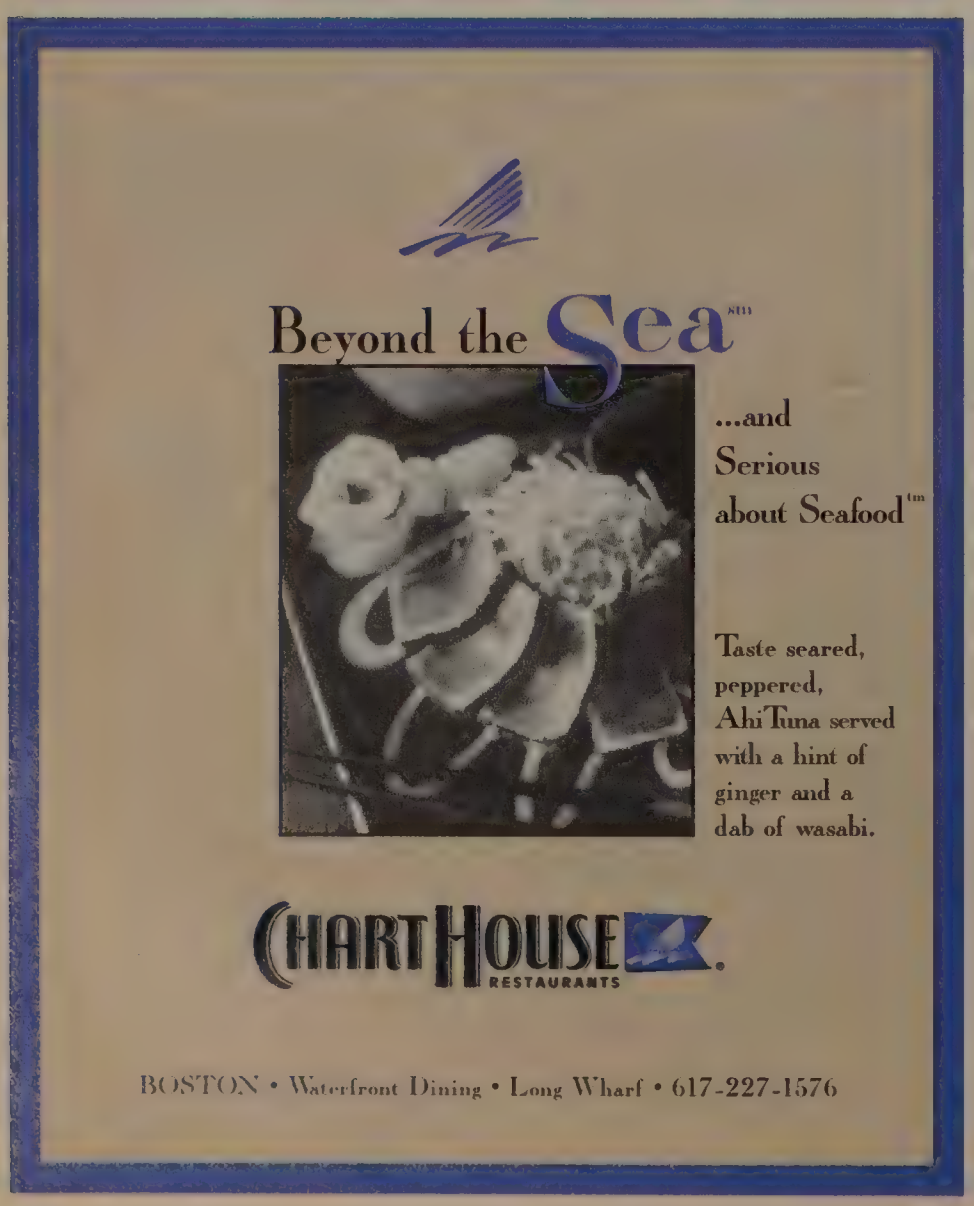
THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Arlington Center for the Arts Event
41 Foster St., Arlington (648-6220). 7:30pm. **Jeff Friedman**, **Gary Miller** and **Judson Evans** each share from their works. Friedman published several volumes of poetry, including *The Record-Breaking Heat Wave* and *Scattering the Ashes*. He has won Editor's Prize from the Missouri Review. Miller has published poems and articles in publications like *The Boston Globe* and the *Tab*. He holds an MFA degree from Vermont College. Evans is a poet who has concentrated in the Japanese forms of haiku and haibun. He is a member of the Boston Haiku Society, and his work has most recently been published in the new journal, *American Haibun and Haiga*. He has been chair of Liberal Arts at the Boston Conservatory for the past 10 years.

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Road, Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. Author and *Boston Globe* staff writer **Maureen Dezell** discusses her book, *Irish America: Coming Into Clover*. Dezell seeks to discover the truth about Irish American culture. She weaves history, pop-culture and journalism into one enlightening account.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Arthur Miller Forum
Harvard Graduate School of Education, Longfellow Hall, Appian Way, Cambridge (495-0740). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Arthur Miller**, professor of history and philosophy of science at the University College of London, discusses his latest book, *Einstein, Picasso*. He speaks with professor of cognition and education **Howard Gardner**. Miller's book takes a look at two extraordinary breakthrough thinkers and their parallel periods of intellectual development.



MARION ETTLINGER

Grolier Poetry Show
Arthur Sackler Museum (corner of Quincy and Broadway), Cambridge (547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $5. **Frank Bidart**, **Peter Davison**, **Jorie Graham** and **Peter Sacks** honor the remarkable James Merrill, with readings from *The Collected Poems of James Merrill*. The work contains 50 years of Merrill's poetry, from *The Black Swan and Other Poems* collection, to *A Scattering of Salts*.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

New Words Bookstore Author Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 3pm. Queer theorists **Esther Newton**, author of *Margaret Mead Made Me Gay*, and **Amber Hollibaugh**, author of *My Dangerous Desires*, get personal about politics and political about their personal lives.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

New Words Bookstore Author Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 3pm. **Julia Markus** reads from her book, *Across an Untried Sea: Discovering Lives Hidden in the Shadow of Convention and Time*, a study of two extraordinary Victorian women. The event is co-sponsored by The History Project Documenting Lesbian and Gay Boston.

MONDAY, MARCH 26

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6778). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. **Rafael Campo**, author of *The Desire to Heal: A Doctor's Education in Empathy, Identity and Poetry*, speaks. He is on the faculty at Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconness Medical Center, where his medical practice serves Latinos and AIDS patients. **Jennifer Rose** also reads from her book, *The Old Direction of Heaven*, a novel that explores her view of the meaning of life.

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

Harvard Museum of Natural History Author Event
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Join **John Loring**, Tiffany & Co. design director. Loring retraces the progression of Tiffany's from a small New York "fancy goods" store to one of the most well-known sources of diamonds and jewelry. Loring presents some of the designer jewels created by Edward C. Moore, Paulding Farnham and Louis Comfort Tiffany.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Fiction aficionados will love Cantab's all-new Tuesday night open-mike event featuring short stories, novel exerts and long prose.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open mike and a slam.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night, Saturdays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Poetry, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers. *Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

AIDS and Women
Cambridge Forum, First Parish Unitarian Universalist, 3 Church Street, Cambridge (495-2727). 7:30pm. Free. **Dr. Kathy Anastos** discusses her health-care program for women and children in the South Bronx and explores the impact of AIDS and HIV on women.

World Travel on the Cheap
BCAE, Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). 7:30-9:30pm. $29. **Steve Lantos**, editor of *Travel Unlimited*, presents tips on saving money while traveling abroad.

The African-American Professional in Boston
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789 ext. 1). March 14, 21, 28, 8pm. $8/evening. **George Greenidge Jr.**, founder of the State of Young Black Boston, and **Benaree Wiley**, president of Partnership Inc., examine critical issues for African-American professionals in Boston.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

Adoption and Indenture in the 19th Century
Brandeis University, Epstein Building, Waltham (736-8104). 12:30pm. Free. Women's studies scholar **Susan Porter** discusses her ongoing research on the changing attitudes toward adoption during the 19th century.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

So You Want to Be an Innkeeper?
Lion's Head Inn, West Harwich, Mass. (267-4430). March 16-18. $240/single or $195/double. Spend St. Patrick's Day on the Cape learning how to start your own B&B. The intensive weekend workshop explores the innkeeping industry.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Sunday Speaker Forum: Peace in Ireland
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 11 am. Free. "The Ongoing Search for Peace with Justice," is presented by the members of Peacewatch Ireland.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

Moving Pictures: Framing Coexistence
Brandeis University, Pollack Auditorium, Waltham (736-5001). 4:45 pm. Free. A panel discusses *Prelude to Kosovo: War and Peace in Bosnia and Croatia* and excerpts from *Out of the Ashes: Northern Ireland's Fragile Peace*; *South Africa: From Apartheid to Democracy*; and *Jerusalem*.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Boston's Waterfront: The 100-Year Plan
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (951-1433). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Free. **Linda Haare** examines the planning of the new South Boston Seaport District.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Actual Innocence: When Justice Goes Wrong and How to Make It Right
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (373-5800). 6:30pm. Free. **Peter Neufeld** discusses how DNA evidence affects the death penalty debate.

Partnership Economics
Boston Research Center, 396 Harvard St., Cambridge (491-1090). 5:30pm. $10. This program with **Riane Eisler** is designed to inspire activists interested in re-envisioning a global justice movement.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

The Politics of Art
CCAE, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789, ext. 1). 9am-6pm. This conference helps artists, cultural organizations and media reps work together in covering or presenting the arts.

MONDAY, MARCH 26

Messing with Mother Nature
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7pm. Free. GreenCAP presents **Sheldon Krimsky**, author of *Hormonal Chaos*, who will speak about the consequences of polluting the environment.

featuring... jera's juice

The Wrap
& SMOOTHIE BAR



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TAKE OUT / CATERING

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COOLIDGE CORNER 278 Harvard St., Brookline
BACK BAY 137 Mass. Ave. Boston
CLEVELAND CIRCLE 1940 Beacon St., Brookline
FINANCIAL DISTRICT 82 Water St. (Liberty Sq.)
HARVARD SQUARE 71 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge
CATERING & SPECIAL FUNCTIONS 1-877-4-THE WRAP

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FINANCIAL DISTRICT 75-101 Federal St. Boston

Visit our website www.thewrap.com

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

Ceremony
An Tua Nua. Pounding goth and industrial music shakes the house, 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. Show tunes and Cabaret with Michael Larson and Dorothy Miller. 9pm-1am.

Language
Hibernia. This incredible drum-and-bass night is heated up with Cosmo. 8pm. 21+.

Monsta Monday
Bill's Bar. It's time to jam with Trust Fall and Colepitz. DJ Diecast also kicks off the week. 9pm, $5, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
This Irish pub offers best of hip-hop, jazz and reggae. 11pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma. DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and house. 10pm, $10. 21+. Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
In the Biz Night is hosted by *Backbaybeat.com*.

Sissy K's
The hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and U.K. progressive. Plus a drag/strip event with Mizery. 10pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo. Caesar and Giorgio throw a party for those who never want to stop dancin'. Dress slick. 10pm. No cover.

TUESDAYS

Avenue
DJ mike M. from New York hosts Allson's old-school hip-hop funk night. 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar. This off-the-hook night features DJ Chaos scratching out hip-hop. 10pm. $12, 18+.

Flaunt
Aria. Hip-hop and R&B with guest DJs. 19+, $10.

The Forum
Lava Bar. Join Mission Control and support local DJs as home-grown talents share the floor. 10pm. 21+.

Got Milk?
Venu. If you're chic you'll be at Venu for Milk—a devilishly hip party with DJ Osheen. Dress is funky. 21+.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a relaxed night out on a Tuesday. 6pm.

Lot 36
The Modern/Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin House for a trendy crowd. 10pm. $10. 19+.

The Rack
Tuesday nights feature Search Party, 8-12pm.

Showtunes
Encore Lounge. Bobby Femino plays classic piano-bar show tunes. 9pm-1am.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Free Salsa lessons by Dan Marshall. 9-10pm, followed by dancing. 5pm-2am. No cover. 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange. Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble rocks; a complimentary buffet is served. 8pm.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua. *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night and fund-raiser. •March 20: Live hip-hop with Shuman. •March 27: A night of turntablism featuring DJ Lazy Boy. $5, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

Backstage
DJ Jonny C. spins top-40 dance. 10pm, no cover. 21+.

College Night
The Aquarium. Guest DJs spin all sorts of tunes at this relatively new venue at 10pm.

Drum and Bass Live
Karma. Syndrome jams it up with Schism and Dummy Plug Conspiracy.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays jazzy blues at the piano bar. 9pm.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar. DJ Tim Collins spins funk and groove.

Hibernia
Wednesday night tunes and cocktails in the lounge make for a mellow evening. 6pm.



On Wednesdays, An Tua Nua hosts What's Up Night: March 20 has hip-hop with Shuman and March 27 is turntablism with DJ Lazy Boy.

Knowledge
Avenue. Every Wednesday night DJ Shugewhite and Eric Santangelo spin hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B.

Latin Night
Aquarium. This aquatic-themed club offers specialty drinks, loud music and dance lessons, 9-10pm.

New Music
The Druid. Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts. 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers a new mixture of guests spinning everything from deep house to techno. 11pm. $5. 19+. •March 21: DJ Assault and Detroit Grand Pubahs.

Pravda 116
Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix. 21+.

The Rack
Search Party, 6pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm-2am.

Rockout
Emily's. Tonight features a rock trivia game show and live local bands. 8pm. $5. 21+.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange. A night dedicated to those in the industry is hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White. At 10pm, there is a champagne reception. 21+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot features live music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40 and R&B upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Latin band on the first floor and DJ Eddy K spins international music on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Wet U'R Whistle Wednesdays
The Kells. 94.5's Roy Barboza spins hip-hop upstairs, while DJs spin house downstairs. 10pm-2am, $5, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul spun by DJ Ren Justice, 19+.

Aquarium
The Kiss 108 FM dance party. 10pm. $3.

Avenue Lounge Nights
DJ Jason spins house and techno. 21+.

Backstage
Tonight's adrenaline high features special-guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm, $5. 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans-themed nightspot has it all—even billiards. 9pm.

Chrome
Axis. Resident DJs John Debo and Ali Ajami spin house and trance music. 10pm, $10. 19+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern. DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar. 9pm-2am, 21+.

The Druid
Mr. Doug Nice plays trippy deep house. 10pm.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin Lounge. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays great American blues and jazz at the piano bar. 9pm-1am.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion House
Aria. Fashion shows and DJ Roger spinning house. It's also Greek Night in the Angel Room. $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116. DJ Maric spins tunes to relax you.

Heaven
Comedy Connection Backstage. Music by DJs Johnny C and Freddie C. Proper dress. 10pm. No cover.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange. DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B. 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia Thursdays
DJ Jeremy spins loopy, trippy trip-hop. 6pm.

Hip-hop Night
Polly Esther's. Dance to three floors of hip-hop and R&B.

Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals. 9pm. 21+.

International Thursday
Avalon. A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy. You know it's time to get down when the Roxy breaks out its sexy Latin dance mixes. 10:30pm, 21+.

Lava Bar
Join the Original Lounge Lizard Brother Cleve and Friends for Funky beats and Tasty treats at the Bootyque. 10pm. 21+.

The Modern
International Thursdays features progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Located in the heart of groovy Central Square, this Irish pub presents drum 'n' bass night. 11pm. $5. 19+.

The Rack
Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm. DJ Eddy K spins best of Latin on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10, 21+.

Speed
Karma. Resident DJ Bruno spins house to an edgy crowd. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Sugar Shack
Music from three decades pounds through the festival atmosphere here, where every day is Mardi Gras.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

The List
Lava Bar. *Lavabar.com*. Verse/D bring you soul and funk. 10pm. 21+.

Roxy Plex
Get ready to dance with salsa, merengue and Latin grooves playing upstairs. 10:30pm. DJ Adison bounces progressive house and trance beats underground. 10pm. 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spins to a huge college crowd. 19+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hits and your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s.

American Karma
Karma. All-star American top-40 remixes with DJ Tim Collins, live on Star 93.7. 9pm, $8. 19+.

Aquarium
DJ Lu spins today's hottest dance hits.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top 40 dance. Great music, no attitude. 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon. Everything about this place screams "Party!" With Ali Ajami. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights. 21+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40. 10pm, $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has some of the best mainstream DJs in town.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz. Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs pay homage to the house music gods. 11pm, $15. 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. John O'Neil and Jan Peters sing show-tunes, great American songbook and cabaret. 9pm.

Envy
This popular destination is filled with a mass of sweaty 'n' ready dancers. 9pm, $5 after 10pm. 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange. Brothers Tiziano and Maurizio deliver an onslaught of house upstairs. G-Squared spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B in the Vault. 9pm.

Focus at Hibernia
Cocktails with Alan Strack at 6pm and deep funky house by Shelter at 10pm, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy. International house featuring local, national and European DJs. 10:30pm.

Hibernia
Alan Strack in the lounge, 6pm; disco, funk and deep house, DJ Doug Nice, 10pm.

Life
Lava Bar. Dance to a different drummer with DJ Fran Englehardt's deeply rooted, soulful rhythms. 10pm. 21+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy. International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Friday
Bill's Bar. Get in on the action with DJ Mark Hamilton and live bands. 9pm, 18+.

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as J Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Rack
KISS 108 Dance Party with Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm.

Revolution
The Modern. Find Latin and progressive Euro house here with DJ Eddie K. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Shake It up
Phoenix Landing. Shake what your mama gave you with DJ Ren Justice. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor. DJ Mike C. plays Latin dance on second floor while DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge. 5pm. $10. 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis. Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. •March 16: Ultra Records party. •March 23: Nuggets. 10pm, $12. 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJs and specialty drinks, dancing 'til 2am.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Venu
The scene is elegant for this jacket-required international romp. Get on your Gucci as DJ Arsit spins. 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance. 10:30pm. No cover. 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar. DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite with high-energy house and Latin beats. 10pm, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance tunes. Great music, no attitude. 10:30pm-2am. 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno. 21+.

Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm. $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has live bands all weekend long. Does non-stop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.

Blues
Encore Lounge. Shake off your blues and listen to honky-tonk, classic and contemporary rock. Sit-ins welcome. 9:30pm-2am.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing. Disco fever hits Cambridge all night long with DJ Vinney. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern. DJ Shiuan Lee puts out funky house for a mix of international students, local scene setters and, of course, Boston's A-list. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Boston's newest Latin Night starting at 10pm. Dress to impress. $10.

Club Nicole
The mob is thick for this exclusive trend-setting night. DJ Alex spins Euro house. Proper dress. 21+.

Club Piteko
Fajitas & Ritas. DJ Piteko leads the party to "dance like no one is watching," specializing in Cape Verdean music. $7. 10:30pm. 21+.

Downtown
Avalon. Resident DJs gyrante your arse with the latest hits. 10pm, $15, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music. 9pm, $5.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Elements of Life
Karma. DJ Mario spins hard house while DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJs melt the tables upstairs with house and international tracks. In the vault, DJ GSquared spins.

Hibernia Saturdays
Luis Diaz and Resident Twilo, groove up a storm this Saturday night. 10pm. 21+.

Indulgence
Aria. DJs spin the latest in house and club top-40. In the Angel Room, DJ Roger spins Latin and Eurohaus. $10, 21+.

Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's. Get a taste of Miami nightlife. 9:30pm (ladies free before 11pm), $10. 21+. Ladies, 19+.

Mischief
The Modern. Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica. 21+.

Mythos
Venu. It's Greek International night with DJ Yorgo Jr. spinning the hits from the famous party islands.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario provides current dance jams.

The Rack
Join 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi for the ultimate dance party.

Roxy Saturdays
High-energy house and dance by DJ Adilson. 9pm, proper dress. 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's. Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD. 8pm, $10. 21+.

Shake at Club Paradise
DJ Goodfella brings the best old school hip-hop and Classic Funk & Soul at the new Jump Off party, Shake. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot has acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. $5.

Smile
Bill's Bar. DJ Bruno takes over. 10pm. $12, 19+.

Sophia's
DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor. Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm, DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Who's on First?
Check out some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin, all hosted by Li'l Mike. 10:30pm, $12. 18+.

X Night
Axis. Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits. 10pm, $10. 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing as DJ Gabe spins the hottest house, funk and dance. 10:30pm. no cover. 21+.

SUNDAYS

Backstage
Urban Night. T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school. Doors open at 10pm, $10. 21+.

Common People
An Tua Nua. Hear Brit-pop, new wave, indie and more with DJ Ren Justice. 9pm, $3. 19+.

Curve
Hannah's. Three DJs, one vibe. DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno. 10pm. $5. 21+.

The Druid
May the luck of the Irish be with you as you listen to a Seisiun with Shay Walker and friends. 5pm.

Druid Sundays
Seisiun jams with Shay Walker and Noel Scott. 5pm.

Encore Lounge
Saddle up to the piano bar and listen to Michael Kreutz play show tunes and great American songbook. 9pm.

Evening in the Velvet Lounge
Trio. Oscar's Sunday night has moved to this hot spot, where you can kick back and lounge. No cover, 10pm.

Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M. No cover, 21+.

Sunday Night Karma
Sunday night heat hosts hot 97's DJ Chuck Dog, featuring DJ Statik Selektah spinning the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B. $10, 10pm. 21+.

Lava Bar
Pandora's Box (Club Courtesy). DJ Vinny and Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown. 10pm. 21+.

Living Room
Aria. DJ Raffi spins Euro-house. In the Angel Room, DJ Franklin spins Latin. $10, 21+. Proper dress.

Rack
•The Chad LaMarsh band, 9:30pm-1:30am.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116. Party in the front bar that is transformed into a comfortable lounge. 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar. DJ K-Don spins some of the best reggae around with Holy Smoke and special guests. 10pm. $10. 21+.

Salvation
An intimate night, courtesy of DJ Soul. $5.

Sex
The Exchange. Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.

Sissy's
U: DJ Dave Jordan plays top-40 and hip-hop tunes. D: Martini Bros., 4-8pm; Gregg Luttrell, 9pm-1am.

Trance
Phoenix Landing. Get down with some hip trance beats brought to you by DJ Blacksmith. 10:30pm. $5. 19+.

Venu
Carnival comes to Boston every Sunday as DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio to Venu. 21+.

Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aquarium *65 Holland St., Somerville (623-3200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Comedy Connection *Faneuil Hall, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Fajitas & Ritas *25 West St., Boston (426-1222). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (480-9489).*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Oskar's *107 South St., Boston (542-6756). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*



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COVER CRAZE

Sex Mob hits Lilli's for a wild and wooly ride through far-flung rock and jazz classics. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

James Bond, Nirvana, Duke Ellington, Abba and the Rolling Stones could become unlikely bed-mates when Sex Mob rolls into town for a musical orgy. That's just a sampling of the diverse territory covered by the brash New York combo, which begins a four-week Wednesday night residency at Lilli's March 14.

"I just want to affect people on a musical level, and if it's a novelty to them, that's good I guess—if they come to the gig," says slide trumpeter/arranger Steven Bernstein, who remembers the first night he segued into a transcription from a Bond soundtrack with Mob associates Briggan Krauss (alto sax), Tony Scherr (acoustic bass) and Kenny Wollesen (drums). "When we hit the James Bond theme, everyone in the bar started screaming. It got a reaction. I started to add more covers, and realized that if I play a song that people know, I could play it exactly like I'd play an original."

Sex Mob indeed blurs the lines between originals and covers on its two CDs, recasting Abba's "Fernando" (like a woozy mariachi band), Nirvana's "About a Girl" (with a Kansas City twist), and "Ruby Tuesday," which Bernstein never realized was a Stones song until he bought some secondhand records. "Oh, that's that song I always heard as a kid," he recalls thinking of that tune, which works as a New Orleans jazz dirge. "It made me start to think about how many great melodies there are out there, but I didn't even know what they were."



Steven Bernstein's instrument of choice, the slide trumpet, actually predates the valve trumpet.

The 45-year-old trumpeter, whose instrument of choice could be traced to his father's admiration for Louis Armstrong, says he hopes to make instrumental music popular again.

"Jazz musicians always played standards," Bernstein says, citing John Coltrane as one example. "He would play a 40-minute version of "Inchworm" or "My Favorite Things," and everyone knew these songs, but he was playing them in the style of the moment, and that's what we're trying to do."

Bernstein, who has worked with Lou Reed and They Might Be Giants, swings to both jazz and rock, however, evoking rock in attitude and favoring concise arrangements. "I like to use dynamics and tempo changes, and that's just reacting to people [in the audience]," he says. "If it feels like people need to rock out, we'll rock out. If they want to sit and listen, we'll play something for them to listen to. I come from the entertainment school. We're here for them."

Growing up in Berkeley, Calif., Bernstein caught jazz greats like Dexter Gordon and the Art Ensemble of Chicago, then moved to New York in 1979, and enjoyed avant-funk-jazz outfits like Defunkt and Ornette Coleman's Prime Time. "In Berkeley, no one was playing avant-garde [jazz] and rock and funk," he says. "Then I saw Defunkt and they were mixing it together. I was 'Yeah, this is like Reese's peanut butter cups, man—two great flavors that taste great together.'"

Bernstein went on to play with John Zorn, Hal Willner, Tricky and Medeski Martin & Wood. He became the musical director for both John Lurie's Lounge Lizards and the Kansas City all-star band that toured in conjunction with Robert Altman's 1996 film *Kansas City*.

His impetus to start Sex Mob was to have a group where he could exclusively play slide trumpet. "No one's really ever played this instrument, but there are pictures of it going back to the 1920s and before, and the original prototype was actually around before the valve trumpet," says Bernstein, on the phone from his home in Nyack, N.Y. "I'm a real record hound. And I went through all these 78s, and all this old music, saying, 'God, somewhere there's got to be some stuff from the '20s on slide trumpet,' but no."

"The way the air moves and the lips work is like a trumpet, but the way the slide moves is its own beast," Bernstein says, noting the instrument is harder to control than the larger trombone. "In a sense, it's like playing a slide guitar or a violin. Every point along the slide has overtones."

In 1995, he put together a house band for a Manhattan club residency, ending up with Wollesen (who also drums for Bill Frisell), Krauss ("I just never heard sounds like his coming out of a saxophone, which you often hear with avant-garde players, but it was controlled") and Scherr ("his approach to the bass was he just manhandled it, and was so relaxed.")

Bernstein also invites other musicians to sit in during Sex Mob's second sets at Lilli's. "But it's not like a jam," the Mob boss warns of the "instant arrangement" style he employs with his group. "I don't rehearse. I just yell at people." iB

Sex Mob

Plays four Wednesdays at Lilli's starting March 14.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Anam
March 16 and 17, Orpheum Foxboro

Jeff Beck and Willy Porter
March 20, Orpheum Theatre

Wayne Brady and Friends
March 24, Orpheum Theatre

Sarah Brightman
March 27, FleetCenter

Chapter In Verse and Zoux
March 24, Paradise

Dropkick Murphys, Living End, Swinging Utters, Lars Frederickson and the Bastards and Reach the Sky
March 17, Avalon

Eve 6 and Vast
March 23, Avalon

Taraf De Haidouks
March 19, Sanders Theatre

John Gorka
March 23, Sanders Theatre

Jazz Is Dead and Max Creek
March 20, Roxy

Jess Klein and Meghan Toohey
March 23, Paradise

Lagwagon, the Ataris and Deminer
March 25, Axis

Paco de Lucia and Septet
March 25, Orpheum Theatre

Mogwai
March 27, Somerville Theatre

Original P and Deep Banana Blackout
March 23, Orpheum Theatre

Pantera
March 15, Tsongas Arena

Saw Doctors
March 14, Paradise

Roni Size and Reprazent
March 15, Roxy

Richard Shindell
March 15, Paradise

Sharon Shannon and Karan Casey
March 24, Somerville Theatre

The Soft Boys with Robyn Hitchcock
March 26, Paradise

Ronan Tynan
March 17 and 18, North Shore Music Theatre

The Waterboys
March 24, Avalon

Ween
March 27, Avalon

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Funk and Groove with DJ Tim Collins, Uncle Trouble with MC Kabir, $7, 18+.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Hottest from the Campfire with Adrianne and Nini Camps, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff James McKenna, 8pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Jennerators, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Ken Clark Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Psychedelic Breakfast, 9:30pm, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Johnny Bahama with Me and Julio.
House of Blues Guy Davis, 7:30pm, $10, 18+; Rebirth Brass Band, 9:30pm, $15, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Bluegrazer, 9:30pm; Kevin Griffen, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Stonecutters, Eric Fontanna and Bluegrazer, $5.

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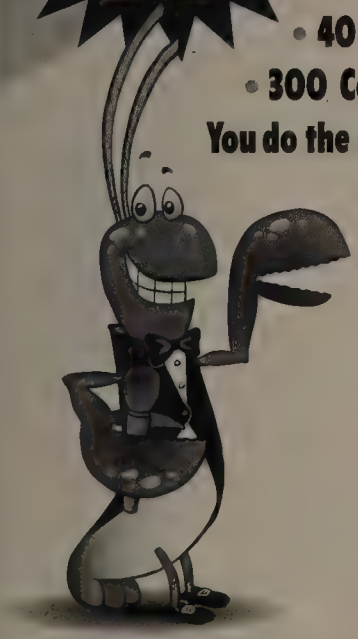
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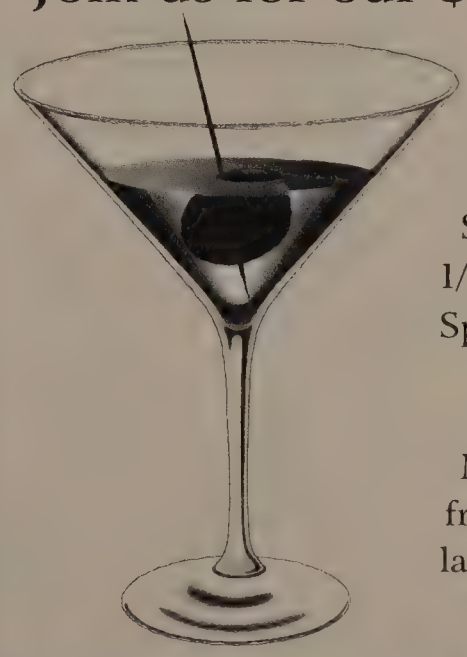
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Linwood Boston Unplugged.
Lizard Lounge The Pee Wee Fist featuring Thalia and Chris from Come and Cho Cho LaRouge, 21+.
Middle East U: Schedule 2, the Ben Rogers Band and the Ramblers, 9pm, $6, 18+; C: Evan Harlan Trio, 7pm, no cover, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Mo O'Connor.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Search Party, 6pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Natraj's 14th anniversary with special guests African master drummer Abubakari Lunna and David Locke, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazzanova Project, 9:30pm.
Scullers Andre Ward, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Sky Bar The William Academy, Color Forms and the Hudson Debacle, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times The Cobblestones.
Tír na nÓg The Dangerous Brothers featuring Jimmy Ryan, 10pm.
Toad Fooled by April.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Center of Earth, Fire Engine Red, the Potomac Accord and the Beatings, $4.
Les Zygomates Phillipe Critien, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Vigilantes with Jaya the Cat and Fastlane, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Ottie from Nom de Plume, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne and Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm, $4.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge Weepin' Willie, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim David Roth and Lui Collins, 8pm, $14.
Common Ground March Madness, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Los Diablos, 10pm.
Costello's Tavern Blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Live jazz, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Swinging Johnsons.
Harpers Ferry Apartment 3 with Millis Pride, 9:30pm, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Tom.
House of Blues Deep Blues Summit featuring Willie King and Jerry Ricks, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Do John Tringali, 9pm; D: Me and Julio, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Gladstones, the Mike Plume Band and the Kickbacks, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Meaghan McLaughlin, Ad Frank, Chris Mascara, Chilly Kurtz and Devon Irish, Kitty Kill and Christian Montgomery, $5.
Lilli's Seven Nations and the Humming, $8.
Linwood Goodbye and Euonym.
Lizard Lounge Pamela Means, Deb Talan and Anne Heaton, 21+.
McGann's The Eddie Dillon Band.
Middle East U: Ruins, Ron Anderson's Pak and Cul De Sac, $8, 18+. D: Jedi Mind Tricks, Akrobatik, Apathy, Breez Evahflowin' and Poison Pen, 8pm, $12, 18+. C: Gianna and Pedro Viscardi, 7pm, no cover, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Mo O'Connor.
Old South Meeting House Hart-Rouge, 12:15pm, $5.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Aaron Goldberg Trio, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club U: Temporada Latina; D: Berklee Tower of Power Ensemble and Berklee Back Bay Brass, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Warren Hill and Jeff Golub, 8 and 10pm, $24.
Sky Bar Tobin Bridge, Uprise and the Tiger Method, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times The Cobblestones, 8pm.
Tír na nÓg Rust Farm, 10pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Clare Burson, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place South Catherine Street Jug Band, Three Day Threshold and Pony, $6.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Duo, 9pm, no cover.
Attic K-Floor with Borderland Allstars, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Gage with Gargantua Soul and Simple, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Professor Harp, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Happy hour with Kevin Byrne; Eugene Byrne and Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm, $4.



Natraj celebrates its 14th year as a jazzy world-music outfit. They play at the Regattabar March 14.

Preview

Masters of the Drum

Natraj gets its groove on with special guests Abubakari Lunna and David Locke

In honor of Natraj's 14th anniversary, the jazz and world music ensemble showcases two special guests, African master drummer Abubakari Lunna and David Locke. Lunna has toured extensively throughout Europe, Asia and the Americas with the Ghana National Folkloric Company. He performs highly charged contemporary adaptations of traditional Ghanian music on instruments including the hourglass-shaped talking drum. His playing exemplifies his rich cultural heritage as a member of the Dagbamba people of northern Ghana. According to Natraj soprano saxophonist Phil Scarff, "Abubakari really is a master of the talking drum. The drum literally speaks." The program also showcases David Locke, chair of the Department of Music at Tufts University, who performs his folkloric polyrhythms from West Africa.

Together, the guest drummers and the core members of Natraj produce an incredibly unique sound, blending contemporary melodies with traditional rhythmic beats. The ensemble features Phil Scarff on soprano saxophone, violist Mat Maneri, Michael Rivard on bass, percussionist Jerry Leake and high-energy drummer Bertram Lehman. Whether it's the jazzy tunes, the Indian melodies or the intense African beats that grab you, the music is sure to get you going. *The Regattabar, Charles Hotel, Cambridge (876-7777). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 14, 8:30pm. $10. —Sara Weiss*

Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Club Passim Joel Mabus and Whose Muddy Shoes, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground DJ RenJustice, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; Thomas Park, 10pm.
Copperfield's God Fearing Man, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Bar Band, 7pm; East Groove Orchestra, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Stan Strickland and the Ascension, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Ricks Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Ireland's Happy Millionaires.
Green Dragon Tavern Me and Julio, 9pm.
Harpers Ferry Ants Marching with Colonel Mustard, 9:30pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm; DJ Bri, 9pm-close.
House of Blues Jonathan Fixler, 12:30pm, no cover; Watercress; Deep Blues Summit featuring Willie King and Jerry Ricks, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's Mark Hummel.
Jose McIntyre's The Old Brigade, 5pm; DJ Remix, 9pm; The Return.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Blue Horizon, 9:30pm; Roseshel Doyle Band, 10:30pm; Mike Plume Band, 11:30pm, $6.
Kirkland Cafe Wheelers and Dealers, Short Life of Trouble, Louvin Spoonful and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Jiggle and Cartman's Pig, $10.
Linwood Hero, Naked Sams, Something Ira and the Buckners.
Lizard Lounge Paula Kelly, the Weisstronauts, Charlie Chesterman and the Lengendary Motorbikes.
Middle East U: Full Powered Halo and Cart Blanch, $7, 18+. D: Stocklan and Injustice, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Thaddeus Hogarth's CD-release party.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Walter Robinson Gospel Emsemble: Look, What a Wonder; 8 and 10:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club D: John Stein Group CD-release, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Warren Hill and Jeff Golub, 8 and 10:30pm, $24.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott Quartet, 6:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Curtain Society, Sayhitolisa, High Ceilings and Driftwood, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times The Cobblestones, 4pm.
Tír na nÓg Christian MacNeil, 10pm.
Toad Amphibian.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with vocalist Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron on sax, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Grant Hart, Ours, Cash and Jennifer Tefft, $8.
Les Zygomates Ron Savage, 9pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern Almost Speechless, 9pm.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne and Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, $5.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Weepin' Willie, 9pm; D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys Shannon's Side.
Club Passim Swinging for the First Time and other Burning Guitar Issues with Joel Mabus, 10am, $18; Grey Eye Glances, 7 and 10pm, $18.
Common Ground Donegal Cords, 12pm; the Swinging Johnsons, 9pm.
Coogan's Bluff Finnian and Sons, 7pm; DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm.
Dick's Last Resort Booty, 2pm; the Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Brick Park, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Mike Shea Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Chiara Civello and Friends, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Ireland's Happy Millionaires.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet, 9:30pm, $7.
Hennessy's of Boston The Irish Travelers, 2-9pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
House of Blues Ruby Horse and Watercress, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's James Montgomery Band.
Jose McIntyre's Pig Pen, 6:30pm; DJ Dennis McCarthy, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Mike Plume Band, Todd Thibaud and Tony Espy, $6.
Kirkland Cafe Bedlam.
Lilli's Michigan Blacksnake, the Freelance Bishops and the Lyres, 8pm, $7.
Linwood Curb Feeler, Stone Soup and Mood Room.
Lizard Lounge Dennis Brennan and His Unbelievable Band with Catharine David.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: Troubadours, Pretty Cool Chair and Shady Groove, $8, 18+. D: Who's the Fat Guy, Fat Head, the Groove Holmes Band and Hubbinger Street, 8:30pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan; bands from Ireland, all day.
Purple Shamrock Live Irish music with Joe Moriarty, 3pm.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Donal Fox: Bach and Monk, 8 and 10:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club D: John Payne Battle of the Student Bands, 11am.
Sky Bar The 520's, Labb and Linus, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times The Cobblestones, 4:30pm; Nova Kane, 9:30pm.
Tigerlily Escape and DJ Brian Luciani, 10pm.
Tír na nÓg St. Patrick's Day celebration.
Toad Trailer Park, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with vocalist Maggie Galloway, 9pm.
Western Front Reggae with Tribe of Djembe, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Carolyn Wilkins Trio, 6pm; Jim Bridges, 10pm.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

Bill's Bar DJ K-Don and Sunbeam, $10, 21+.
Black Rose Happy hour with Kevin Byrne; Eugene Byrne and Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Nat Simpkins and the B3 Jazz Trio, 11am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Hart Rouge, 7:30pm, $12.
Costello's Tavern Lawrence Watson's performers showcase, 8pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with Silver Lining, 10am; Rob Gonzalez band, 7pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack and Guests, 9:30pm, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5-8pm; Karaoke, 9-1am.
House of Blues Elio Schiavo, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and with Rumba NaMa.
Kendall Cafe Jason Gardiner, 8pm; Danielle Miraglia, 8:45pm; Sarah Woolf, 9:30pm; Tom Bianchi, 10:15pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio featuring poet Bassey; poetry slam, 7pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East D: Rainier Maria, Helms and Elizabeth Elmore (x-Sarge), 8pm, $8, 18+; C: Alabama Fraank and the Not-From-Dixie Band, 4pm; Insoma, 7pm, no cover, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Live acoustic with James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am.
Scullers Joe Sample and Lalah Hathaway, 7 and 9pm, $33.
Tír na nÓg Irish Seisiun, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jazz Piano Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reverie with goth industrial darkwave ethereal music.

MONDAY, MARCH 19

Bill's Bar Immolition with Goatwhore, Killswitch Engage and the Year of Our Lord, $10, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.

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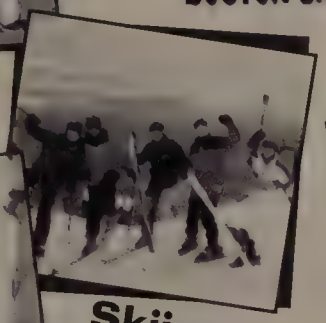
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On the second leg of her *La Luna* tour, Sarah Brightman comes to the FleetCenter March 27.

Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8pm; Sam Shaber, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm.
House of Blues Mystic Vibes, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Johnny D's DJ Flack, DJ C and DJ Cozmopolis.
Kendall Cafe No Michael No, 8pm; Licha Sky, 8:30pm; Ashley Cox, 9:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe.
Middle East C: Masashi Harada Group, 7pm, no cover, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Live acoustic with Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In the Biz Night, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Jazz Piano Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bear Acoustic Series.
Les Zygomates The Control Group, 9pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; True Life Bluegrass, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Bar Band, 7pm.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, 9:30pm, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Music with John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Flying Neutrinos, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Akiko Yano.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Naked Sams, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnlieter Jazz Quartet.
Lizard Lounge Naftule's Dream and Anti-Jazz Raygun, cover varies.
Middle East U: Benchwarmer, Teamwe, TW Walsh and Dan Blakslee, $6, 18+. D: Clutch and Roadsaw, 7:30pm, $15, 18+. C: The Haygoods, 7pm; Portrait of Mingus featuring James Merenda, 10pm, no cover, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack Search Party, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar The John Jarvis Trio, 8:30pm, $10.
Sky Bar Rabadango, Myshkin and Xerotonin, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Tír na nÓg Roseshel Doyle Band, 10pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; the Confidence Men, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Current, Synaesthesia, Kitty Monkey, Mike Brown and the Sneakys, $4.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Funk and Groove with DJ Tim Collins, DJ Overseer with Deci Funk, $7, 18+.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Josh Ritter, Dave Carter and Tracy Grammer, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Good Life Downtown Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Dreadnaught with Vogonz, 9:30pm, $4/$7, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston "Johnny Bahama" with Me and Julio.
House of Blues The Fins, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's HillBilly Voodoo with Barrence Whitfield, Mike Dinallo and Steve Sadler.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Sam Wahl, 9:30pm; Aaron Lippert, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Licia Sky, Esther, Janet Feld and Ksonia Mack, $5.
Lilli's Sex Mob residency, $7.
Linwood Boston Unplugged; open mike, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The Pee Wee Fist with special guests Green 4 and Ash Bowie.
Middle East C: The Allston Mutts featuring Benny Upton of Toxic Narcotic, 7pm, no cover, 18+.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Search Party, 6pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Aardvark Jazz Orchestra, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazzanova Project, 9:30pm.
Scullers Bombay Jim and the Swinging Saphires CD-release show, Not Just Visiting, 8 and 10pm, $15.
Sky Bar Rabbit, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times 2 Up.
Tír na nÓg The Dangerous Brothers featuring Jimmy Ryan, 10pm.
Toad Lil' Memphis.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Greyshine, the Getaway, Photoflash and Mary Prankster, $4.
Les Zygomates John Thomas, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Tantric with Brand New Immortals and Jeremiah Freed, $5, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Kara Tondorf, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Weepin' Willie, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Carl Cacho, Darden Smith, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Love Night with DJ Brian, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke with Dana Z, 7pm.
Dick's Last Resort Michigan Black Snake, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Chiara Civello and Friends, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Live jazz, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Swinging Johnsons.
Harpers Ferry Entrain with Schleigho Benefit, 9:30pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Tom.
House of Blues Bernard Allison, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's King Chango.
Jose McIntyre's DJ Do John Tringali, 9pm, upstairs; Me and Julio, 9pm, downstairs.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Gladstones and the Irresponsibles, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Meaghan McLaughlin, Chris Mascara, Modifiers, Jason Celat, Bo Barringer and Kristian Montgomery, $5.
Lilli's The Buck Dewey Big Band, the Shelley Winters Project and Hyptonic, $7.
Linwood Drawing Flies, Beatin Down Witness and We're All Gonna Die.
Lizard Lounge Dub Trance and Groove with Club D'elf, featuring bassist Micro Vard.
McGann's The Eddie Dillon Band.
Middle East C: Cactus Highway, 7pm, no cover, 18+.
Old South Meeting House Lori McKenna, 12:15pm, $5.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The David Azarian Trio, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club U: Temporada Latina; D: Giant Steps featuring Artie Barbato and Benny Schrone with Latin Jazz, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Deborah Henson Conant, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Sky Bar One Big Mess, PDsaintS and Woody, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Karaoke competition.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 10pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Honky Tonk Heroes featuring Stan Martin, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Brett Rosenberg Problem, Ours, 71 Sunbeam, $7.
Les Zygomates Massimo Briocotti, 8pm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Duo, 9pm, no cover.
Attic The Red Telephone, the Banjo Spiders and Bowman, 9pm, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Brother Chameleon, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sunday's Well and Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm, $4.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Jose Ramos, 9pm; D: the Phil Pemberton Band, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Christine Havrilla and Tish Hinojosa, 7 and 10pm, $17.
Common Ground March Madness, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Pig Pen, 10pm.
Copperfield's Risk, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Bar Band, 7pm; Hipsocket, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Fascinatin Rythmn, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Fat Tuesday.
Green Dragon Tavern Classic Trax, 9pm.
Harpers Ferry The Pressure Cooker with Seks Bomba, 9:30pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm; DJ Bri, 9pm-close.
House of Blues Mark Brine, 12:30pm, no cover.
Johnny D's The Old Blind Dogs, Naimh Parsons and Liz Carroll, 9:30pm.
Jose McIntyre's Off The Wall; DJ Remix, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe O'Leary and Lalli, 9:30pm; Dave Dersham, 10:30pm; Boris McCutcheon, 11:30pm.
Kirkland Cafe Nancy Mroczek Ph.D., Kelly Reilly, the Helena Gay Band and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Count Zero, Mistle Thrush and All the Queen's Men, $10.
Lizard Lounge The Devil Gods with Bound 4 Venus and Treehouse Union, Sick Little Monkey.
Middle East U: Fuzzy, Heavy Stud and Greg Allen's, $7, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Mo O'Connor.
Purple Shamrock Marcel's.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Roomful of Blues, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Ryles Jazz Club D: K.D. Bell with lively blues, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Deborah Henson Conant, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott Quartet, 6:30pm.
Sky Bar Violet Tide, South 16 and Katie Terrio, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times J Place Band.
Toad Jabe, the Amelia White Band and Lovepie.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with vocalist Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron on sax, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Six Going on Seven, Garrison, Lot Six, and the Cancer Conspiracy, $8.
Western Front Shaka Black with the Heights Crew Band, 9:30pm, $10.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

Attic Uncle Sammy and Mule Crossing, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar High school battle of the bands, all ages.
Black Horse Tavern Halley de Vestern, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Sunday's Well and Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, $5.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Jose Ramos, 9pm; D: The Phil Pemberton Band, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Linda Sharar and Sonia of Disappear fear, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground DJ Paul Daly, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; Central Basement, 10pm.
Copperfield's Quartertin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Blue Soul, 10pm, no cover.
Gallery Bershad The Colbourn Mancini Project, Stephen Brodsky, Tiffany Anders and special guest DJ Mark Ibold (of Pavement), 7pm, $5.
Good Life Downtown Chiara Civello and Friends, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain, 9pm.
Harpers Ferry Two Ton Shoes, 9:30pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Session, 4-7pm; DJ Bill, 9pm-close.
House of Blues Babaloo, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Chuck Rainey.
Jose McIntyre's Syndicate; DJ Dennis McCarthy, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Puzzlebusters, 9:30pm; Hospital, 10:30pm; Fooled by April, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Jo Jo Starr and the Rhythm Makers, Uprise and Synergy, $5.
Lilli's The Lyres and Rock Bottom, $7.
Linwood Big Wig, Tracy Husky and Saturated.
Lizard Lounge Carla Ryder.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: Mice Parade, Fly Pan Am, 7pm, $7, 18+; Les Savy Fav, Love as Laughter and the Lot Six, 10pm, $8, 18+. D: John Brown's Body, Shake Senora and Strictly Sound System, $10, 18+.
Paradise Zoux, 6:30pm, $12, 18+.
Purple Shamrock The Return.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar El Eco, Guillermo Nojechowicz, Claudio Roditi, Helio Alves, Kim Nazarian, 8 and 10:30pm.
Ryles Jazz Club D: Johnny Hoy and Bluefish, 9pm, $8.
Sky Bar Winterboy CD-release party, Volition, Chris Mascara and Chilly Kurtz, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times DJ Party Time.
Tígerlily Escape and DJ Brian Luciani, 10pm.
Tír na nÓg The Benders, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with vocalist Maggie Galloway, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place C60, Sinners and Saints, Trustfall and Purge d.i, $7.
Western Front Shaka Black with the Heights Crew Band, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Carolyn Wilkins, 6pm.

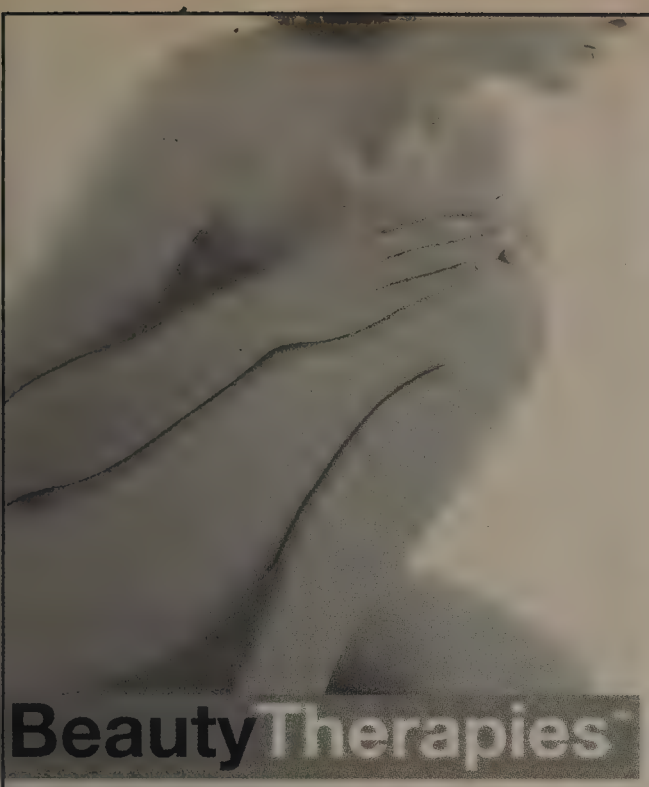
SUNDAY, MARCH 25

Bill's Bar High school Battle of the Bands; Reggae with DJ K-Don and Errol Strength, $10, 18+.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with the Paulo Danay Quartet, 11am, no cover.



The Softboys (1980 lineup wtih Hitchcock, Rew, Windsor and Seligman) play at the Paradise March 26.

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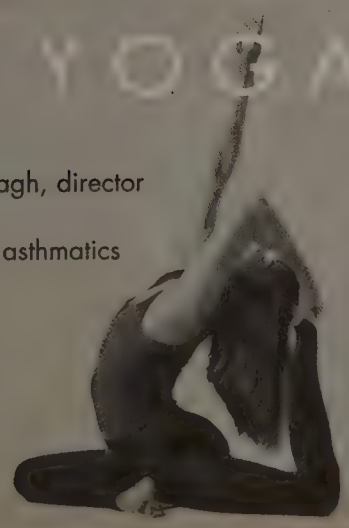
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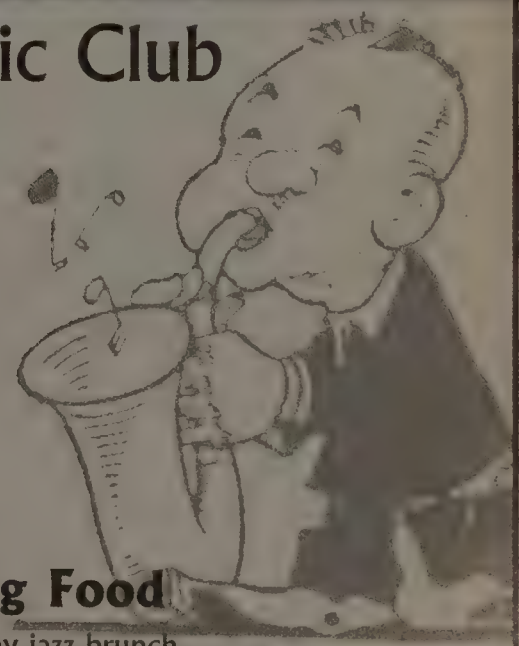


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Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim All Stars with Bill Staines, Mason Daring, Jeanie Stahl, Guy Van Duser, Billy Novick and Stuart Schulman, 7:30pm, $15.
Costello's Tavern The James Merenda jazz jam featuring the Mingus Three, 8:30pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with New Revelation, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack and Guests, 9:30pm, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5-8pm; Karaoke, 9-1am.
House of Blues Elements of hip-hop, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Kendall Cafe Funderdome; Boston comics battle musicians in a live game show, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio featuring poet Joyce Cunha; poetry slam, 7pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: The DKV Trio featuring Hamid Drake, Kent Kessler and Ken Vandermark, $10, 18+. D: Eyehategod, Isis, Keelhaul and 5ive, 8pm, $10, 18+. C: The Tony Marino Quartet and jam session, 4pm; Fikus, 7pm, no cover, 18+.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Rhythm & Muse G.T. Arpe, 2pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am.
Tír na nÓg Irish Seisiun, 10pm.
Toad The Benders.
Top of the Hub Jazz Piano Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Fuck (final tour), the Minders and Virginia Dare, $7.

MONDAY, MARCH 26

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch; Shadows Fall with Amen, $8, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open-mike night, 8pm; James O'Brien, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open-mike and 2-Song night featuring Stephen Kellogg, 8pm, $5.
Common Ground Worst Evening Ever, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm.
Harpers Ferry Live Wire, 9:30pm, $2/$5, 18+.



David Azarian plays at the Regattabar March 22.

House of Blues Paul Barrere and Fred Tackett, 10pm, $15, 18+.
Johnny D's DJ Flack, DJ C and DJ Cozmopolis.
Kendall Cafe Lisa Nezmo, 8pm; E.L.K., 8:30pm; Ashley Cox, 9:30pm; Kevin So, 10:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe.
Middle East U: Texas Terri and the Stiff Ones, $6, 18+. C; the Union Square Screw Machine, 7pm, no cover, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Live acoustic with Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In the Biz Night, hosted by *backbaybeat.com*.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Jabe, 10pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Jazz Piano Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bear Acoustic Series with Adfrank, Rockets Burst from the Streetlamps, Butterfield 8 and Chilly Kurtz, $3.
Les Zygomates Peter Parcek, 9pm.

TUESDAY, MARCH 27

Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; Jim Hurst and Missy Raines, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Bar Band, 7pm.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Rythmn, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, 9:30pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Music with John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Damon Johnson and Mike Harris, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Kendall Cafe The Naked Sams, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnlieter Jazz Quartet.
Lizard Lounge Naftule's Dream and Anti-Jazz Raygun.
Middle East U: Johnny Dowd, $7, 18+; D: Idlewild and Brassy, 8pm, $8, 18+; C: Kara Ton Dorff and friends, 8pm, no cover, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly.
Rack Search Party, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar Panorama: Calypso and Soca Ensemble; 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club D: Steve Langone Group CD release party, 8:30pm, $7.
Sky Bar Offramp and Wicked Automatic, 9pm, $5.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Tír na nÓg Freddie White, 10pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; the Confidence Men with Sarah Borges of Kipper Tin, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ultrablue, Dizzy, Ben Phillips Band and the Reedlings, $4.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

Music Venues

Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanueil Hall Marketplace, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogans Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Avenue, Boston (734-9000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
International Place *Courtyard, Boston (740-0929). MBTA: Blue Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Griggs St.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Regatta Bar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366A Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*



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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 14

Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Paul Murray performs on the organ.

Shakespeare in Music
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8pm. Free. The NEC Wind ensemble, directed by Charles Peltz, performs Bennettt's *Masque*, Woolfenden's *Blow, Blow*, William Matthias's *Final Dance*, Mark Anthony Turnage's *Ophelia's Lament* and Knussen's *Ophelia Dances, Book I*.

THURSDAY, MARCH 15

MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. *MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 12pm. Free.* Several 18th-century and contemporary works are performed by John Tyson and Miyuki Tsurutani.

Shakespeare in Music
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8pm. Free. In The Fortunes of Love, the NEC Honors Orchestra performs Korngold's *Much Ado About Nothing*, excerpts from Prokofiev's *Romeo and Juliet Suite* and the world premiere of Alan Fletcher's *King Lear*.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (353-3348). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83. The program includes works by Martinu, Mozart and Dvorak.

Contemporary Music at MIT
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). http://web.mit.edu/arts. *MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Pre-concert lecture, 7pm; concert, 8pm. $2.* The John Corley tribute concert features the MIT Wind Ensemble and the MIT Chamber Chorus.

An Evening with Henry Brant
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (496-2263). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $5. The Harvard Wind Ensemble performs several major works by Henry Brant from the past 50 years.

Master Class Concert
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 9am. Free. The Longy School of Music presents distinguished pianist Marvin Blickenstaff.

Musica Viva Concert
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (354-6910). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 7pm. $12-$20. A special all-British program features the world premiere of Andy Vores' *Air Baby*, Judith Weir's 12th-century pieces, David Horne's *Spike* and Thomas Ades' *Catch*. With Elizabeth Keusch, soprano.

SATURDAY, MARCH 17

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (353-3348). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83. Same program as March 16.

Contemporary Music at MIT
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 8pm. Free. New songs by MIT faculty composers.

From the Top
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). www.fromthetop.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 2pm. $5.* Christopher O'Riley works with soloists and ensembles aged 9-18 in this program.

SUNDAY, MARCH 18

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $29-$38. The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra performs, conducted by Osmo Vänskä, with piano soloist Stephen Hough.

Emmanuel Music Series
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10am. Free. The orchestra and chorus of Emmanuel Music perform a Bach Cantata.



Soprano Elizabeth Keusch partakes in Musica Viva's all-British program on March 16.

Musicians from Marlboro
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). 1:30pm. $4-$17. Stephanie Houtzeel, is joined by Demarre McGill on flute, Catherine Cho on violin and Brian Chen on viola.

Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (661-7067). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. $35-$125. Celebrate Gunther Schuller's 75th birthday.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (353-3348). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Bernard Haitink conducts a program including Stravinsky's *Pulcinella Suite* and Martinu's *Symphony No. 6*.

Longy School of Music Faculty Series
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. The program features pieces by Bartok, Chopin and Brahms.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Laurence Carson performs on the organ.

THURSDAY, MARCH 22

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (353-3348). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. The program includes Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* and Ravel's complete *Daphnis et Chloé*.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Boston Chamber Music Society
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (713-4130). 7:30pm. $18-$42. The BCMS presents a program of Russian romanticism. Performance includes works by Beethoven, Ravel and Tchaikovsky.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (353-3348). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 1:30pm. $25-$77. Same program as March 22.

Handel & Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (262-1815). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $19-$52. Artistic director Christopher Hogwood leads the H&H orchestra, chorus and soloists in the performance of Bach's *Friendship Cantata*.

SATURDAY, MARCH 24

The Boston Cecilia
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). 8pm. $11-$60. The season finale features an all-Brahms program.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (353-3348). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83. Same program as March 22.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25

Boston Chamber Music Society
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (713-4130). 7:30pm. $18-$42. Same program as March 23.

The Luxury of a Limo,
The Affordability of a Cab

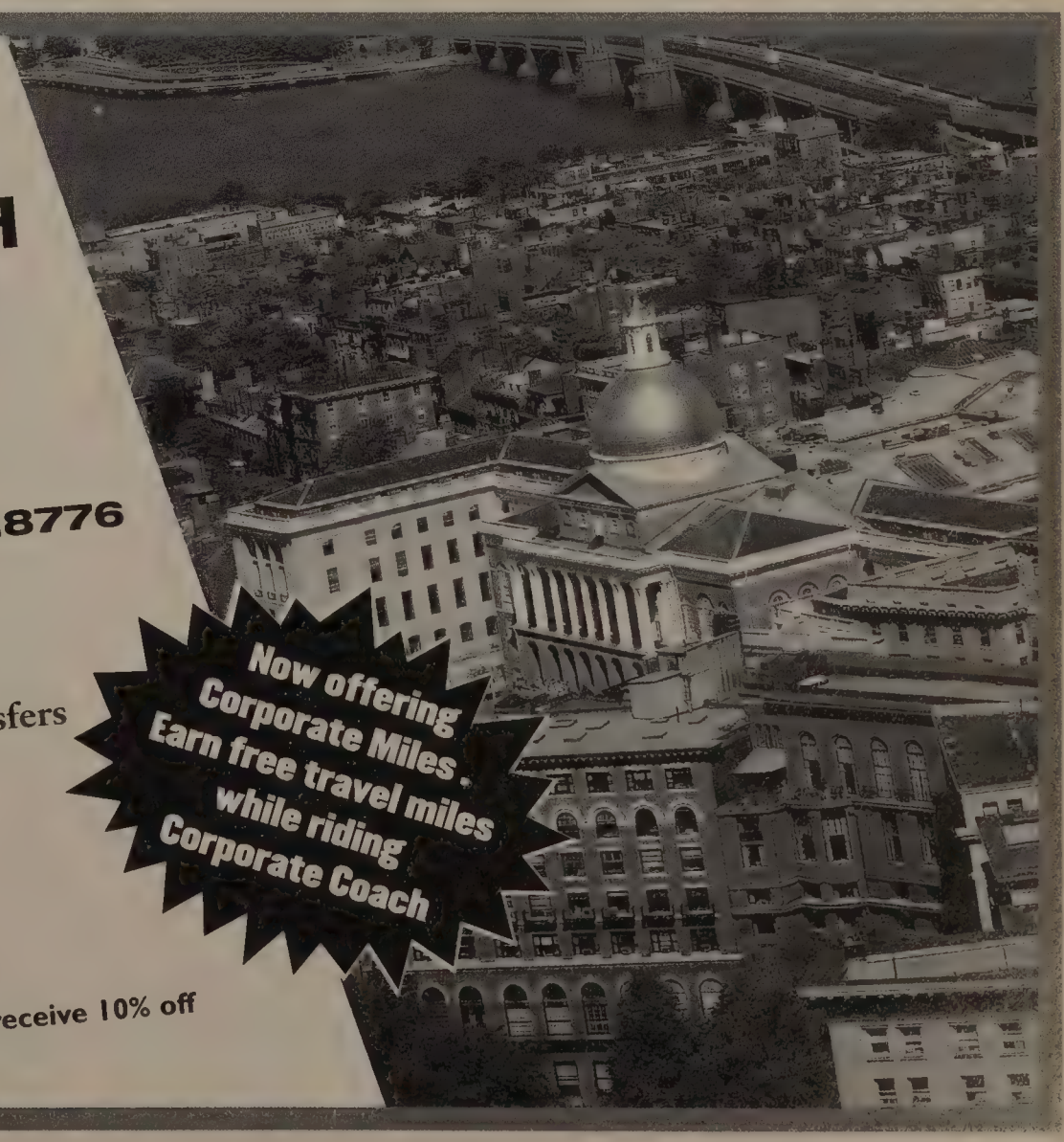
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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full service restaurant, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. Tue.-Sun., divas rule. 10:30pm, $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Sundays have a Drag-on Showgirl Showcase with Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, Destiny, Ivory, Sassy, Sum Yung Ho, and special guset "divettes." 10pm, $5 21+.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes and classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm: Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play the video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. March 24, 3pm. New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. • Queer theorists Esther Newton, author of *Margaret Mead Made Me Gay* speaks. Also, Amber Hollibaugh, author of *My Dangerous Desires,* get personal about politics and political about their personal lives. •March 25th, 3pm. Julia Markus reads from her book, *Across an Untried Sea: Discovering Lives Hidden in the Shadow of Convention and Time*, a study of two extraordinary Victorian women.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Alternative Insemination Orientation
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6243). Pre-registration required. $50 per couple. March 21. 6:30-9:30pm. An introduction to AI in general and to Fenway's AI program.

Oklahoma City
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through March 17. $19-$24. In the Theatre Offensive's new play, two queer guerrila performers make up their own wonderfully, dysfunctional family.

Punks
Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 17, 7pm. Director Patrik-Ian Polk and actor Rockmond Dunbar come in person to preent *Punks* (2000). With Seth Gilliam, Rockmond Dunbar, Vanessa Williams, the film is the first-time director Patrik-Ian Polk's over-the-top romantic comedy. It has won accolades for its exploration of the inside vibe of the African-American gay male community. Polk's insightful film follows the lives of four 20-something friends struggling to find love and happiness in contemporary West Hollywood.



The Theatre Offensive's smokin' new play, *Oklahoma City*, is at the BCAE through March 17.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). First Tuesday of each month. 6:30pm. Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Daily 8-10pm. Support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305) Third Saturday of each month, 3:30pm. A social group for mature gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This nationwide line provides information, referral and support services.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
Boston Room, Lindemann Center, 25 Staniford St., Boston (742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. *MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Feb. 27, 7:30pm.* All welcome.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Typically seven teams play on three courts. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Kristen Porter's Dyke Night
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (542-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. $5, 10pm, 21+. Every Thursdays this Best of Boston Lesbian Bar has rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900 ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900 ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243) or lcoolidge@fenway.org. Held quarterly. Sliding scale fee available.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). www.outtoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Peer Listening Line
1-617-267-2535 or 1-800-399-PEER. Mon.-Fri. 4pm-10pm. A toll-free nation-wide line that provides information, referral and support to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning youth.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30-8:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Eduction offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons 8-9pm, followed by a DJ playing danceable tunes in a smoke and alcohol free environment.

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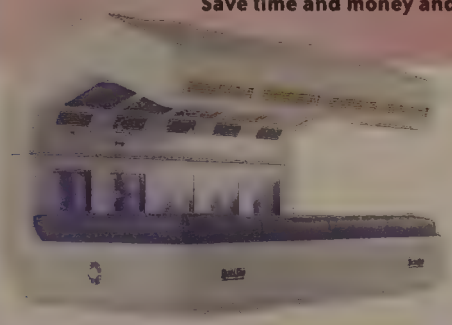
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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 16, 7:30-9:30pm. $6. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor spiritual traditions from all around the world.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Eagle Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March. 17, 8-11:30pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, your clapping hands, your drums, spoons and tambourines. Whether you're a dancing queen or just a curious dabbler, you won't stop moving once you're in the door.

What Is Enlightenment?
Impersonal Enlightenment Fellowship Boston, 38 Cameron Ave., Cambridge (492-2848). www.andrewcohen.org/boston. *March 18, 4pm.* Investigate the nature of enlightenment and the liberating potential of spiritual inquiry with author and spiritual teacher **Andrew Cohen**. He will also give a talk and book signing at the Coop in Harvard Square on March 19 at 7 pm.

The Journey Back to Self: A Process of Soul Discovery
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (424-6625). www.eomega.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Friday evening and Saturday, 9am-5pm. March 2-3. $145.* How much of yourself are you missing because you give away energy to unworthy causes? Through lecture, dialogue, prayer, meditation and activities you'll explore core beliefs about self-image to find those missing pieces. **Iyanla Vanzant**, acclaimed author, ordained minister, lawyer and frequent guest on *Oprah*, will host the journey back to your core being to pursue conscious wholeness.

CLASSES

Breathe Naturally
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. March 29, 6-9pm. $41.* Learn to harness the power of breathing. Breathing awareness helps train the body to take in more oxygen and enhance mental clarity.

The Enneagram and Improving Your Relationships
Wellspace, Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *March 16, 7:15-8:45pm. Free.* The Enneagram is a system of nine different personality types. Each type experiences the world uniquely. This knowledge aids you in understanding yourself, the filters others use to see the world, and how to improve your communications with others.

Image-Based Movement
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363 or 783-4614). http://cambridge.zami.com/dancecomplex. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon., 6:30-8pm. March 19-May 7. $80 for all eight classes or $12 per class.* This class uses various exercises, from Japanese Butoh-based movement and Shintaido, to develop stillness and creative conflict skills. The practice will challenge your concept of what is dance, beauty, nature and our relationship to nature.

Kripalu Danskinetics
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (974-7606). www.bethdance.com. *March 15, 7:30-8:45pm. $10.* Everyone can do it. Danskinetics is an energy-generating combination of yoga and improvisational dance. Fun stuff that brings peace of mind.

Love, Sex and Spirituality
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *March 16, 7-9pm. $15.* This fascinating workshop is for men and women, attached or not, who want to learn to use the powerful energies of emotion, sex and spirit to find and create a loving, passionate relationship.

Meet Your Spirit Guides
Center for Balance, 857 Washington St., Newton (527-0247). MBTA: Bus # 553, 554, 556. www.centerforbalance.org. *March 21, 6:30-9pm. $40.* Meet your spirit guides using meditation and learn about yourself from a more objective perspective.



Psychic medium John Holland interprets signals from the spirit world at the BCAE March 22.

What Diet Is Right for Me?
The Ninth House, 89 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-1817). March 15, 7-9pm. $35. Nutritionist **Joy Bicknell** will help you sort through many of the popular diets so you can choose, or to design, one that's right for your metabolism and lifestyle.

You Are Psychic: An Evening with Psychic Medium John Holland
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 22, 6:30-8:30pm. $29. Discover the power of your intuitive abilities and learn how to interpret signals from the spirit world. The last event was sold out.

LECTURES

Chinese Medicine
The Marino Center for Progressive Health, 2500 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6225). MBTA: Red Line to Porter Square. March 22, 6-7pm. Free. This class on Chinese medicine with acupuncturist and herbalist practitioner **Carol Green** can help you to understand the basics of Chinese healing.

Introductory Lectures on Chinese Health Systems
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *March 17 and 25. Free.* Find out what traditional Chinese medicine is all about on March 17, or learn about Feng Shui on March 25.

Reincarnation, the Evolution of the Soul
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *March 23, 7-9pm. $15.* Author **Shira Block** helps you understand the basic principles of reincarnation, soul age and karma and determine where you are in the process. Whether you believe in rebirth or not, the concepts can help you understand and forgive yourself and others.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (924-7276). www.dne.org. *MBTA: #57, 70 or 71 bus. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults, $4 teens, free for kids.* Dance any way you want to, even barefoot, to all kinds of music in this smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are open to and appropriate for anyone seeking a personal spiritual path.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* If you've wanted to try yoga or work some into your schedule, then visit this peaceful environment. The center offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on evenings and weekends. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay. $18/session. Drop in any class. •Yoga wake-up: weekdays, 8-9am •Hatha yoga: Mon./Wed., 6-7pm, and Tue./Thu., 7:30-8:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. $10-$17 per session. Join anytime or drop in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar. Other classes include Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork and family relaxation classes. Get centered!

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

The Adventures of Zak
The Copley Theatre, 501 Boylston St., Boston (800-542-4001). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. March 15, 5:30pm; March 16-17, 10:30am and 5:30pm. $35. This Broadway-style musical of imagination and fantasy teaches children to believe in themselves and to face their struggles. All proceeds benefit the National Kidney Foundation.

Beauty and the Beast
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 1 and 6:30pm. March 14-25. $16-$65. Disney's Tony Award-winning Broadway musical tells the story of Belle, a young woman in a provincial town, and the Beast, who is really a young prince trapped in a spell placed by an evil enchantress.

The Folk Tale Adventures of Nigel Pepper
Theatre 1, 713 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). March 17, 24, 31, 3pm. $8 adults, $5 children. Nigel Pepper, an antiques dealer with a magic globe that can transport him to any place he chooses, visits various locales and becomes the main character in some of the area's favorite folk tales.

Lenten Narnia Nights
Trinity Episcopal Church, 81 Elm St., Concord (978-369-3715). Wed., 6-8pm. Through April 4. $1 donation. Have a simple supper and then watch a video presentation of the animated version of *The Voyage of the Dawn Treader*, part of C.S. Lewis' *Narnia Chronicles*.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 and 3pm. •March 17-18: ***Tales for the Telling*** by All Hand Productions. •March 24-25: ***Peter Rabbit Tales*** by Tucker's Tales..

Sleeping Beauty
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sat.-Sun., 11am. $7. Once Upon a Time children's theater company invites children to come up on stage, don costumes and participate in telling these classic stories.

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books Children's Events
151 Andover St., Peabody (978-538-3003). •March 17, 11am: **Two of a Kind**. David and Jenny Heitler-Klevans are a nationally touring duo from Philadelphia that specialize in music for children. •Thursdays, 3:30pm, throughout March: **Activities for Kids of All Ages**. Crafts and stories.

Cheeselandia
Cambridge School of Culinary Arts, 2020 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2020). March 24, 9-10:30am, 11am-12:30pm, 1-2:30pm. Children will get to try several cheeses with both jam and chocolate and then learn about the cheese-making process.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
John F. Kennedy Library & Museum, Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. March 24, 10:30am. Free. The Brother Grinn are a traveling troupe of troubadours that create original stories and songs with the help of the audience.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children. •March 17: Saturday Family Program presents **Button Buggy**. Make cars out of buttons and clothespins. •March 24: **Scavenger Hunts and Car Puzzles**.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). •March 20, 3:30pm. Ages 5 and older. **World Cultures Program: Holi**. Learn about this Indian festival of color with a story, craft and edible treat. •March 24, 2pm. Ages 5 and older. **Meet Mother Goose**. Marcia Estabrook, in full costume, will recount the real Mother Goose's history and recite nursery rhymes.

Saturday Scholars
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge. (495-2341). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. March 17, 9am-12pm. •**From Head to Toe**. For grades 2 and 3. Explore cool fashions that people use to clothe themselves around the world. •**Mineral Madness**. For grades 4 and 5. Learn how crystals grow, where geodes form and how to identify minerals.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 931-2000
March 15: Vancouver Canucks, 7pm, NESN
March 22: Montreal Canadiens, 7pm, NESN
March 24: Colorado Avalanche, 1pm, ABC

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: $10-$75. Call 228-6000
March 21: San Antonio Spurs, 7pm
March 25: Chicago Bulls, 3pm

Events

Apres-Work "Wish I Were Spring Skiing" Party
Marche, 800 Boylston St., Boston (542-1399). March 22, 6pm-12am. $38, $50 or $100. Some 250 Boston professionals will dine, dance and dream of the slopes at this party to benefit the First Night Neighborhood Network. Enjoy your choice of dinners from Marche, followed by dancing and a cash bar.

Harlem Globetrotters
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. March 23, 7pm. $15-$75. The magicians of basketball make their annual visit to Boston for a night of comedy and nonstop entertainment on the parquet in celebration of their 75th anniversary.

International Soccer
Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill, 356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton (566-1880). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. Watch the World Cup qualifiers with fellow footie fans. •March 24, 10am: England vs. Finland.

World Wrestling Federation: Come Get Some!
Worcester's Centrum Centre, 50 Foster St., Worcester (228-6000). March 25, 2pm. $17-$40. The superstars of the WWF turn up the heat for a show full of raw power and attitude.



The World Wrestling Federation offers a show full of raw power and plenty of 'tude March 25.

To Play
BASKETBALL

Basketball City
Adjacent to North Station and the FleetCenter (742-6700). Corporate, midday and weekend leagues.

Co-Ed Indoor Basketball
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070, ext. 224). Sun.-Thu. nights at various locations. All levels. Leagues in Belmont, Brookline, Dedham and Watertown.

The Corporate League of Boston
(566-7808).

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). Practice and workout programs for all levels in Greater Boston.

South End Fitness Center League
(534-5823).

Women's Basketball League
(661-9622). Tue. 5:30-7pm and Sun., 6-7:30pm. Long-legged beauties shoot some hoops.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

HOCKEY

Co-ed Floor Hockey
BSSC (789-4070). Individuals and teams, co-eds, all levels in Newton and Brighton.

MARTIAL ARTS

What Is Capoeira Angola?
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). Seven Thursdays, beginning March 15, 7:15-8:15pm. $82. Is Afro-Brazilian *capoeira angola* a martial art or a dance? Find out how this 500-year-old art form helped in the physical and spiritual freeing of Brazilian slaves.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for play in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
(499-4835). Weekly runs year-round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

Boston Road Club Weekly Races
(781-646-8955). Sundays. Starts at Wells Ave. in Newton.

Fresh Pond Weekly Road Races
Fresh Pond Reservation. Saturdays, 10am. Choose between a 2.5- or 5-mile run.

Khoury's Thursday Night Runs
East Somerville (351-5682). 4.13 miles. 7pm at Khoury's.

Logan Post 5K
1194 Broadway, West Somerville (283-3292). Every Thursday at 7:10pm.

NikeTown Boston Running Club
200 Newbury St., Boston (267-3400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Three-to-five-mile loops. Starts at 6:30pm. Monthly mini-clinics as well.

SNOW SPORTS

Ski & Board Weekends
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). $55. The Boston Ski & Sports Club offers day and weekend trips throughout the winter. •Wednesdays, Saturdays or Sundays this winter. 5:30am/6am bus departures from Newton, Newburyport and Tewksbury. •March 14: Wildcat •March 16-18: Sugarbush Corporate Classic •March 17: Sunday River •March 23-25: Stowe •March 24: Stowe •March 25: Wildcat •March 28: Stowe •March 31: Killington.

Ski Market Trips
860 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (731-6100). $50 (day trips), $169 (weekend). SkiMarket Underground offers trips with round-trip transportation, a lift ticket, dinner (on Wednesday and Thursday trips) and a stop at the Red Hook Brewery. •March 14: Sunday River •March 18: Killington and Stratton (U.S. Open) •March 25: Killington.

Snowshoe Day Hike
Boston Ski & Sports Club at Mt. Pisgah in southern New Hampshire (789-4070). March 17. $45. Hike the Mt. Pisgah area of southern New Hampshire. Price includes snowshoes, Vermont cheese and crackers, and a hot beverage.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams.

SOFTBALL

Amateur Softball Association
(781-665-9745). Interested in becoming an umpire? Free clinics will be held March 18 at 1:30pm.

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in Greater Boston.

WRESTLING

Men's Adult Wrestling
Boston Union, 48 Boylston St., Boston (482-1122). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mon. and Wed., 6:30-8:30pm; Sat., 1-4pm. All skill levels. Coaching available.

around town



Museum of Afro-American History

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8. Old Town Trolley Tours and the Boston Tea Party Museum are offering free admission to all Mass. residents during the month of March. Call 269-7150 for more info.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, children and seniors $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, to bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS. Info. session: March 21, 6-8:30pm.

Alliance for Children
(781-431-7148). Adopt a child from abroad. Info. meeting will be held March 16, 7-9pm.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Help sell, pack, sort or deliver daffodils during the week of March 26. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments between 9am and 5pm.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Information sessions held regularly. •Info. session: March 22 and March 27, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(781-893-0324). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40 offering leadership development through community service.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a progream assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun times with an isolated senior.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

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PAUL TANCREDI

Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that e-mailed messages mean that we don't have to risk ruining our manicures by—ugh—typing) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Big Brown Eyes
You: MBTA mechanic. On Feb 22, the Rockport-to-Boston train broke down in Salem. You walked past us to fix it. Me: Blonde with blue eyes, wearing a pink skirt with a white blouse. My friend was a brunette with green eyes and a navy-blue dress. Our eyes met and you put me in a trance. I didn't notice a wedding band. Can a hunk like you really be available? My friend told me to go for it, but you got off the train before North Station. I'd love to chat. Hope we find each other.
—Government Center Girls

Jason at Discdiggers
I've come in about 3 times in the last week (most recently Feb. 13) You know my name but I'm too scared to mention it, in the hope that I can someday pretend I never wrote this. While I definitely think you're attractive, more than that I find you intriguing. You helped me pick out some jazz for my friend, but now I want to talk to you further, (most simply because I've discovered having random conversations with people one doesn't know is always interesting) So yeah, if you do remember who I am/might be, would you want to go to a laser show at the Museum of Science some time? (I've always wanted to). E-mail me and let me know either way...
—laser7897@hotmail.com

Please, date my mother
This is not a cry for help...it is a call to action. I am on a mission to help my mother, how shall I say, meet new people. She is: Beautiful, professional, creative, a great cook, a world traveler and she has a ridiculous French accent. You are: Between 50 and 60, professional, refined, intelligent, sense of humor (and table manners are a must!) If you are up to the challenge, or you have a single father, or know someone who would be a good candidate, please send a brief e-mail and recent photo to
—datemymother@yahoo.com

Brenda
I saw you at the Johnson (if you lived here, you'd run away from home) apartments on Erie St. in Cambridge, the day before Valentine's Day. We spoke briefly. Too bad we didn't have the time for more of an introduction. I hope you see this and we can hook up soon.
—Mike, Jaf1205@aol.com

Valentine's Day at Pravda
You asked if I was trying to cut in front of you to order a drink, and so began the zaniest adventure in my book. You guessed the all-girl school that I go to, which is the size of a pea pod, and you are probably the only guy who actually eats sea urchin who's not Asian. At the end of the night, I, after having one too many shots of Red Death, somehow propositioned you to drive my Jetta and take me and my friends home...I owe you a big thank you, and I can't believe I didn't get your e-mail or your number. I just remember you telling me you work for a dot-com company and you live in Quincy...and that you drive an Accord. So please e-mail if you catch sight of this.
—Nutella109@aol.com

Cargill, Star, Garlic & Cocoa Puffs
The location was Star Market at the Prudential Center. Your grocery list consisted of powdered garlic, cherry pie filling, prepackaged tomatoes (three-pack), pasta and other miscellaneous items. I was scanning your outfit as the cashier scanned my fresh rosemary. It consisted of black knee-high leather boots, a heather gray tweed skirt, a Cargill Company issued messenger bag, and a black pea coat. Long blond hair and ice-blue angelic eyes completed the package. Your payment selection was an American Express Corporate Card. As you were grabbing your bags, I stated, "Just don't touch my Cocoa Puffs." We must be neighbors. When I cook for you, I'll use real garlic. When I bargain over the price of the Roma tomatoes, you'll be standing next to me at Haymarket. When we're at the liquor store buying wine, we'll tell the salesperson how we met, and he'll tell us we make a great couple.
—shimspace@yahoo.com

London, UK, Feb. 18
The Tube: Piccadilly Line from Leicester Square to Gloucester Road on our last night in London...Us: Two redheads from Watertown. You: Four guys from Somerville who obviously enjoy the *Sound of Music* (especially the locals' rendition) as we compared them to the musicians at Park Street. After taking the lift, you switched lines and we never got your names and numbers! Shall we try to meet somewhere on the T instead of the Tube this time? Cheers!
—mindingthegap2001 @yahoo.com

To a beauty named Dee
We met oddly enough at the N'Sync concert this summer at Foxboro, me the good uncle taking my neices, you with your adventurous friends. We were all out of place but the parking lot was fun. You were hooked up at the time of our meeting, but a recent picture in this mag tells me you told him bye-bye-bye. So if you need a Godsmack in the right direction, contact me.
—unguentine@hotmail.com

Mr. Stuck on Stupid
You continually ask me out. Continually! My answer is always NO! I don't want to hurt your feelings but this has been going on for months and the answer is always the same. NO! NO! NO! NO! NO! I could sing it for you if you like. You're not going to wear me down. Forget it! I don't like athletes, especially the professional kind, and I don't like you! And while you're dishing in the locker room with your retarded teammates who always gawk, ask them how to define "NOT INTERESTED!"
—Christine

Feb. 23. 3AM-ish. East Ocean City, Chinatown.
I was with a group of my friends, as were you. I was tired from being out all night and munching on General Gau's chicken for the past half-hour. And then I saw you. Your friends seemed to have given up on all the food sprawled out in front of them. Not you. You continued to eat as your friends were slouching in their seats, resting their heads on the palm of their hands. I have never seen a girl look so damn cute while she was eating. I must've been staring at you like an idiot for 10 minutes or so. I think I was hoping you would notice but the food had your undivided attention. Why didn't you look? I had yet another chance outside the eatery as I was smoking my after-meal cigarette. You came out with one friend and the two of you pulled out cigarettes. Your friend even came up to me and asked me for a light. This was probably my best chance to say something to you. But I didn't. I was afraid I wouldn't be as appetizing to you as a platter at EOC. I guess there's only one way to find out. You, me. EOC another night.
—hunger4u2001@yahoo.com

Juice guy or Juice man?
TScott, Scotty, Smithers, Tommy: If you are still single, you should join *dripcafe.com*. My friend did and she is dying to meet you. Look for a very tall, fun, athletic, green-eyed gal, and that's her. You never responded to her e-mail when you were bachelor of the month, so you should really do this. She thinks you're the berries. Be a man, take a chance. Meet a really great woman.
—The Encourager

Rockie Horoscope

MARCH 14 – 27, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



PISCES FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
The pressure to accomplish something memorable (let's hope it's meaningful as well) before your birthday next year is building. So is your energy and determination to pull it off. Whether you're pushing yourself or are being egged on by the powers that be doesn't make a whole lot of difference. As long as courageous, truth-seeking Mars in your Sagittarius midheaven paces back and forth, you'll be on some sort of crusade, slashing and burning, but also healing and rehabilitating, as you go. By the time Mars gets to Pisces for Christmas, it'll be a fait accompli.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Don't you love having magnetic Venus in your sign? How does it feel to be the toast of the town or, now that Venus has turned retrograde, are you only attracting ex- and wannabe lovers? Fire, desire and the ability to acquire are the gifts on loan from the goddess through June. You'll really give thanks on the 19th when she favors your passionate Mars ruler, who is on the verge of exploding anyway. Just avoid taking part in a violent outburst around St. Patrick's Day and stay clear of an impressive world traveler who is dedicated to the violent overthrow of whatever...

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Friendship is the key to getting through the unexpected ups and downs at work with a smile. No matter how disoriented you might feel, you probably can navigate the "what ifs" by soliciting an intuitive colleague's take on the situation. Collaborating with a talented peer on a creative project is a good idea now, too. One of those "star-crossed" encounters you see on TV is gathering momentum, becoming more of a possibility the closer you get to St. Patrick's Day. Talk about luck of the Irish!

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
There's a distinct possibility that a person you currently think of as a partner (soon to become an enemy?) is about to implode. Like a Vegas hotel that has outlived its popularity, this relationship is slated for destruction or, at the very least, a major overhaul. If your mate seems destined for rehab one of these days, that day may be closer than either one of you think, say, before the month is out. Meanwhile, you get a helping hand from an attractive acquaintance you're not that tight with... yet.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
Since the Pisces sun is visiting your house of travel and higher education, now is a good time to explore foreign cultures and native dishes or to sign up for a course that will advance your career. This is just in case you need something to keep your mind occupied while all hell breaks loose at work. A project that develops major problems, a co-worker who dominates others, a scandal that can linger through the summer—potential hassles the Crab should try to stay clear of. Then there's that growing fascination with Dante Bichette.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Pay more attention to the people who manage your money, at least until you receive a tax refund, a dividend check, or some sort of return on your investment. However, if patience is the key to heaven, start polishing your halo while you wait for the market to rebound. But angelic behavior is definitely not the way to go when it comes to romance. Spectacular sex is about to rear its naughty rear end as loving Venus in Aries attracts horny Mars and passionate Pluto in Sag, and, together they trine lucky Lions born around Aug. 6. A grand fire trine is devilishy hot stuff.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Once you've recovered from the Virgo full moon and gone another round, wondering "What was that about?", try to move on with all due speed. Right now, understanding why people do what they do is not your strong suit, and asking for answers may widen the gulf between you. A sibling, fellow student or neighbor can be teetering close to the edge and a straightforward manner or rational line of questioning will do nothing to calm that savage beast. Turn to a psychic Pisces if you want to help.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Everybody loves lovable Libra anyway, but while your Venus ruler is retrograde in your marriage house—it goes direct on April 19—folks from your past could come rushing out of the closet. Especially when Venus connects to the macho "Master of the Universe" Mars-Pluto conjunction around St. Paddy's Day. Money will pass hands, but you can also ask for your heart's desire. Whether you'll still want it after you've had the experience is what desire and gratification is all about, isn't it?

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Finally, after two years of horsing around (9/99 was their last conjunction) your Mars co-ruler joins your Pluto co-ruler in freedom-loving Sagittarius. What ties that bind are going to be cut this time? Happily for all concerned, support from lovable Venus can make the experience quite pleasant, possibly even a thing of beauty. Be aware that there's a strong undercurrent of passion that may blow up in your face simply because Mars is going retrograde in May. When it turns direct in July, it'll be back where it is now. You, too?

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
Read for Scorpio. The connection between the two signs isn't limited to Archers born in November. Sooner or later every Sag will get a taste of what it's like to deal big-time with issues of power and control. Although that's hardly your area of interest, let alone expertise, while Pluto in Sag (another seven years) and Mars (another seven months) are generating heat, pushing buttons and cutting dead wood, you will become fucking passionate about something. And, in the next few weeks, someone.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Goats are notorious hermits, almost as bad as Crabs about making an appearance only when and if it suits them. So you know how annoying and frustrating it can be for those of us who are trying to reach you. However, having delicious Venus hunkering down in your home base, making everything there so much more appealing than it is out here, is a fine excuse. Wait a few days and you can also claim that you're playing it safe by avoiding a hot-head who's making threatening noises.

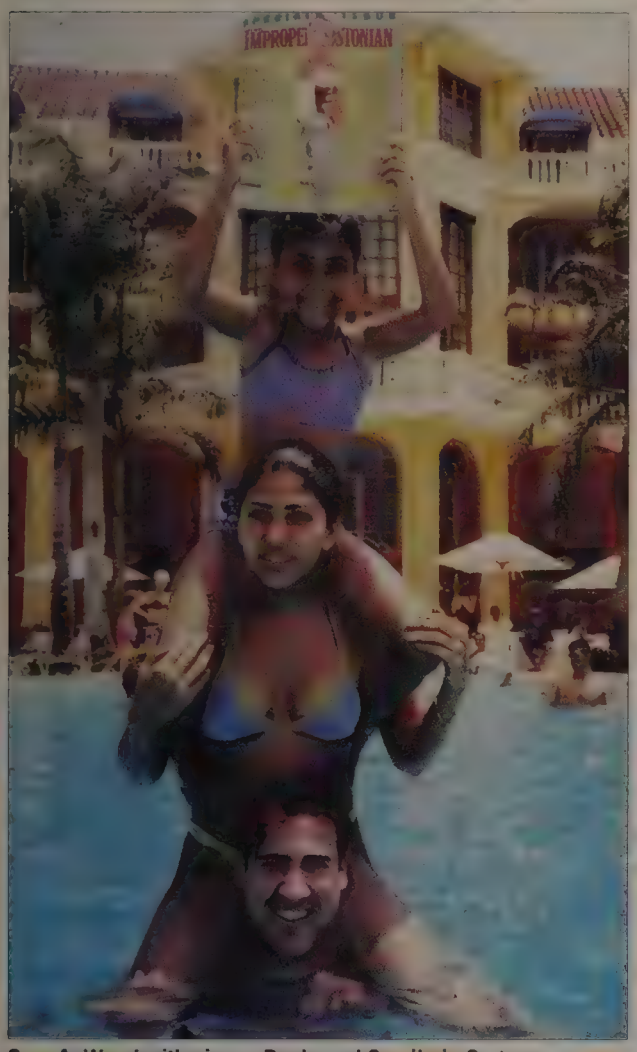
AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Buy it. While the Pisces sun cruises through your money house you might as well fulfill a fantasy and get what you want. Deep down you know that Piscean pleasures, except for the drugs and booze, won't hurt you. How much damage can music, art and snorkeling do? Once you figure out that one, let gracious, sociable Venus improve your communication skills so that you can build a bridge to whomever is no longer speaking to you. Diplomatic Venus can also help you deal with a volatile client, an overbearing boss or a parent at a crossroads. Where's the love? Try a neighbor.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



Gary A. Wood with nieces Paula and Camila in Cartagena, Colombia. Not pictured: the tiny man on top of the magazine.



Paul Johnson and Valerie Occhi take a break from terrorizing cross-country skiers at Mont Grand Fonts ski area in Quebec.



"Huskies are amazingly trainable," say Scott and Mary Carson. "We just taught Rex about f-stops last week, and this photo came out great."



Jim Morris recruited Nomar for Georgia Tech and later coached the University of Miami baseball team to a U.S. championship.



Nantucket peeps Justin Flynn, Ethan Cash and Jay Russo ask Andrew McClaskey if *his* gray T-shirt is in the wash or what.



Carrie Justason and Dylan DePeter were just kicked off Orient Nude Beach in St. Maarten by a nude security guy.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Marching (or merely dropping trou) in the parade alongside the eight-foot wooden penis at the Tagata Fertility Festival, March 15 in Komaki, Aichi Prefecture, Japan.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

improperazzi

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN's client-related promotions and events

The Moet Champagne was flowing at **Aria** on Thurs., Feb. 22, as the **Improper Bostonian** sponsored The Modernists Spring 2001 Collection, featuring **Dolce Gabbana, Prada, Missoni, Jean Paul Gaultier** and **Issey Miyake**. The party celebrated the third Anniversary held by Seth Greenberg and **Saks Fifth Avenue**.The event was produced by Rick Russo of Modelworks, with styling by **Safar**.

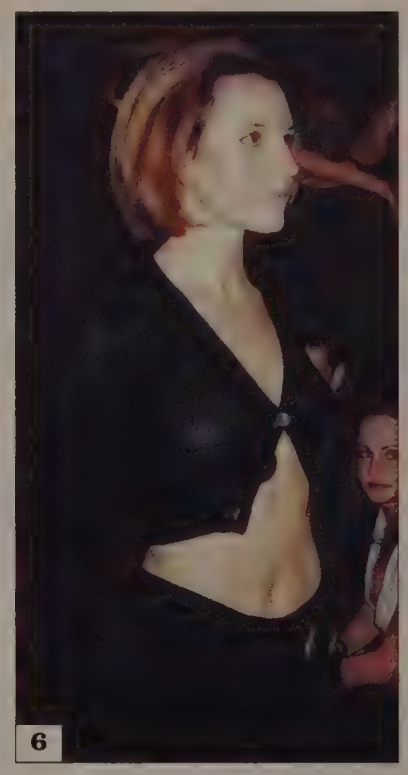

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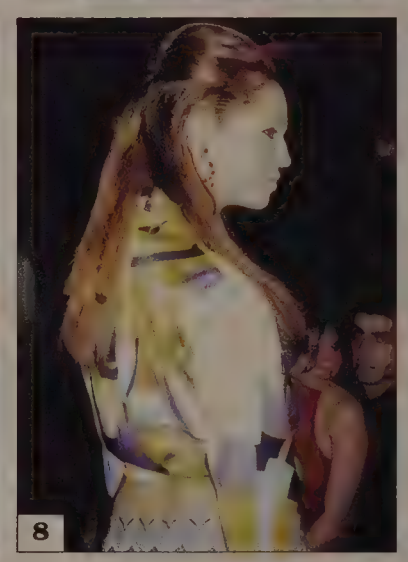

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1. **Carin Willis** of Hunt & Gather Web Development, with **Gregg Nourjian** of Millennium Events and **Kristine Irving** of Koo de Kir.
2. **Erin O'Donnell** of Aria.
3. **Serge Safar** of Safar, with **Seth Greenberg** of Aria.
4. **George Lewis** and State Representative **James Valley.**

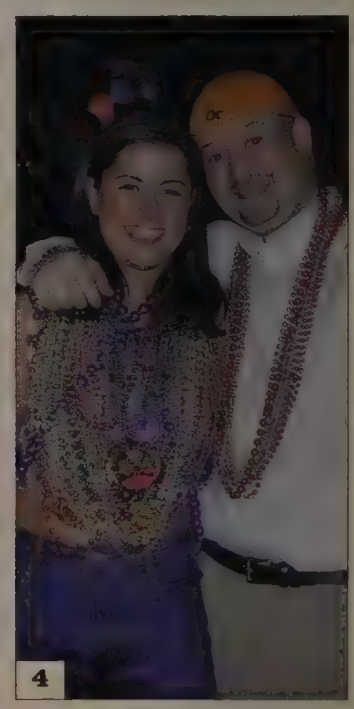
5-8 Modelworks models.

It was all about the beads on Tues., Feb. 27, as **Rattlesnake Bar and Grill** celebrated Mardi Gras in grand style. **WZLX 100.7 Classic Rock** helped rally the crowd by giving away a trip to New Orleans!


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1. **Tim Gill, Laura Richards, Mark Mousseau, Ryan Murawski, Rachel Schlossberg** and **Ethan Binns**, foreign trade operation analysts for Fidelity Investments.
2. **Samantha Biggs** and **Melinda Rodriguez**, Rattlesnake waitresses.
3. **Cheryl Gramolini** and **Kim Fournier**, Rattlesnake bartenders.
4. **Jenn Foley** and **Scott McWilliams**, fund accountants for IBT.

ARIA, WENDY SEMONIAN; RATTLESNAKE, KAREN DANA

The Improper Bostonian at the National Governors Conference

On Feb., 24-27, the IMPROPER was in Washington to participate in the National Governors Conference at the JW Marriott, the Republican Governors Association Gala at the National Museum building and the Democratic Governors dinner in Union Station.

1. **Joseph Colebut,** Director of State Governmental Affairs for Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation and **Governor John Rowland** of Connecticut.
2. **Linda Kowalski** of Kowalski Group, **Sidney Holbrook**, Chief of Staff for **Governor John Rowland** of Connecticut, and Cheryl Russo of Johnson Controls.
3. **David DePetrillo**, Rhode Island Director of Tourism, **John Palumbo**, President & Publisher of *Rhode Island Monthly* magazine, **Lynne Lombardi** of R.I. U.S. Senator Jack Reed's office, **Scott Avedisian**, Mayor of Warwick, R.I., **Barbara Cottam**, Senior Vice President of Citizens Bank, **Richard Dragon**, C.P.A, **Major Mark Habershaw**, Army National Guard.
4. **Governor Jesse Ventura** of Minnesota and **Andrew McLeod**, Director of State Government Finance Trust for public land, Boston.
5. **Alexander Ellis III,** of Rockport Partners and **Rosemary Chiavetta**, Esq. legal counsel, Kingwood Consulting Group.
6. Former NH Governor **Stephen Merrill**, President of Bingham Consulting Group, Boston with **Judy Black** of Hallmark and **Charlie Black**, President & CEO of B.K.S.H. & Associates.
7. **James Walter**, State Government Affairs Manager of Toyota Motor Sales, USA, **Governor Paul Cellucci** and **Katrina Iserman**, Northeast regional manager of Wyeth-Ayerst Laboratories, Boston.
8. **Kevin Reardon**, Government Relations Director for General Electric and wife **Cindy** with **Navtej Sarna,** Counsellor (Press, Information & Culture), Embassy of India in Washington, DC.
9. **William Gildea,** Executive Director of New England Governors Conference and his wife, **Catherine**.
10. **Rollie Heath** and **Josie Heath** former US Senate candidate of Colorado and former Kennedy Institute of Politics Fellow.


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PHOTOS BY BOB SEMONIAN



Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* BARCODE offers creative food and drink with a truly unique, casual style and atmosphere. Simple yet exotic and flavorful, Executive Chef George Leu's menu features a variety of French bistro fare touched with Asian influences. Dinner served daily 5 pm - 1 am, bar open daily 4:30pm - 2:00am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11:30 am - 2 am.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy
O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice at this comfortably sophisticated Back Bay restaurant and bar. With an eclectic style highlighted by rich, vibrant colors and rustic antiques, Vox Populi offers a hip, sleek and intimate atmosphere. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room. (Outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

Watch City Brewing Co. *256 Moody St. Waltham 781-647-4000 Top* Ten Reasons To Visit Watch City:
10. At the top of Waltham's restaurant row 9. Easy access from Rt.128 & Masspike 8. Free parking 7. The Embassy Cinema next door 6. Award winning chef & brewers 5. www. watchcitybrew.com 4. Live music Wed & Thurs. nights 3. Great grilled seafood, steaks & burgers 2. Only female owned brew pub in USA 1. Great beers, great food, always a great time.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy
O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Enjoy the intimate, windowed dining room or a signature cocktail in the lounge. BARCODE offers a creative martini selection, a balanced and affordable wine list and both bottled and draft beer. Drinks are available until 2 am daily, food served until 1 am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am - 2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm - 1am (til 2am on

Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar)

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Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ'snightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and world
class margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

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COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a co-worker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample
favorites as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Powers of Nature, October 6-March 4. Enjoy Sunday brunch in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River at noon, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's: New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Located at 199 Clarendon St. at Copley Square. Indulge yourself with our delicious Smoked Salmon and Caviar Tasting served on a warm corn blini, or our Fresh Crab Pie made with eggs and jack cheese. Do not forget to sample our award-winning clam chowder. Validated parking available. Reservations accepted. Call 617-536-3500.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice on Sunday afternoons at the best brunch in the Back Bay. With an eclectic style all it's own, Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for the comfortably sophisticated lounger in everyone. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room (outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

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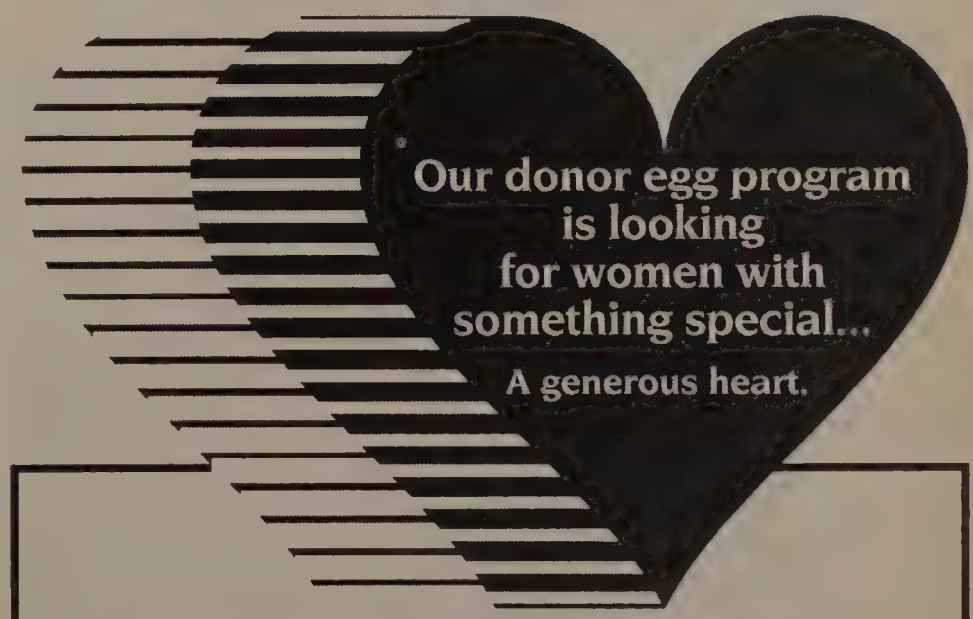
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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF

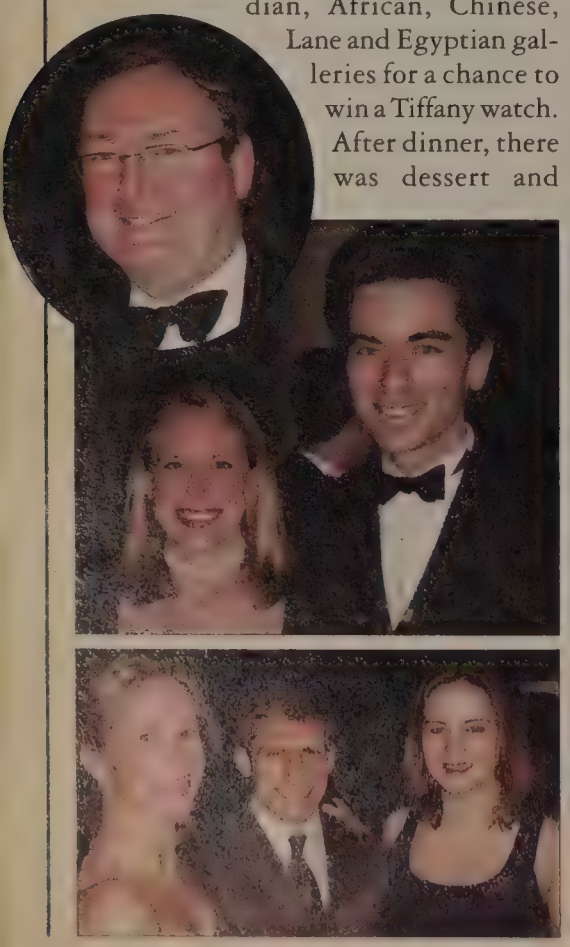


At the MFA ball, clockwise from top: Shawn Carraher and Lawler Kang; George Shackelford; Lynn Dale. Below: Malcolm Rogers; Tess and Sam Atkinson; Lisa Mastrianni, Seth Shulaner and Annaliese Marchand.

WHERE'S PHINEAS FOGG WHEN YOU NEED HIM?

It was a helluva lot cheaper than a round-the-world-cruise, less annoying than trying to catch a flight out of Logan and, best of all, there was no jet lag involved at **The Museum of Fine Arts**' annual ball—**Many Worlds, One Museum**—which featured a globe-trotting theme.

Arriving guests were issued passports, which they could get stamped in the Indian, African, Chinese, Lane and Egyptian galleries for a chance to win a Tiffany watch. After dinner, there was dessert and dancing, as guests swanned around the galleries in formalwear.



Present and accounted for: museum director **Malcolm Rogers**, ball chairs **Robin** and **Pierre Chung**, vice-chairs **Page deGregorio** and **Jamie Harmon**, gubernatorial hopeful **Steve Grossman** and his wife, **Barbara**, museum trustees **Jean** and **Fred Sharf**, well-bred barbarian **Conan French**, Channel 2 chat-show chatelaine **Emily Rooney**, debonair curator **George Shackelford**, MCA record minx **Lisa Mastrianni**, New York interior designer **Seth Shulaner**, Beacon Hillions **Tess** and **Sam Atkinson**, Scient whiz kid **Lawler Kang** and his stunning spouse, **Shawn Carraher**, and so on and so forth, down the list of art-loving do-gooders who like to don black tie.

All in all, it was a perfectly lovely evening, except for one small detail: Judging by my hangover the next morning, they should've called it Around the World in Eighty Cocktails.

SWF SEEKS MEMBER OF AUSTERE PENNSYLVANIAN RELIGIOUS SECT...

Diamonds may be a girl's best friend, but semi precious stones are worthwhile acquaintances, too.

Just ask anyone who attended **A Gem of an Evening**, a gala to benefit the **Harvard Museum of Natural History** and celebrate the opening of its new exhibit on tourmalines.

In addition to cocktails and delicious little nibblies, there was a soprano serenading guests with opera arias, a live auction of all sorts of nifty stuff, a lecture by diamond hunter **Patrick Anderson** and an odd and eclectic assortment of interesting people.

Among them: the museum's director, **Joshua Basseches**, ubiquitous hipster **Drew Martin**, French-fried management consultant **Annaliese Marchand**, naturally carbonated PR practitioner **Doris Yaffe**, the exquisite **Hannah Lefkowitz** of the Charles Hotel, Tiffany's VP **Cathy Hagan**, dashing plastic surgeon **Dan Delvecchio** and his attorney sister, **Diane**, weekend anchor babe **Janet Wu** of Channel 7, pixieish real estate broker **Amber Sonit**, Queen of Harvard Square **Robin Lapidus**, the valium-voiced **Ray Brown** of WCRB, jewelry expert **Gloria Lieberman** of Skinner Auctioneers, and one woman who left on the early side, saying, "I've seen enough fossils for one evening."

The most unintentionally amusing comment, however, came from a woman who complained, "I got stood up for Saturday night by this Amish guy I've been dating."

It's probably just as well, since it's a bitch to find parking for a horse and buggy in Boston on the weekend.

TAKE MY WIFE, PLEASE...

Despite the hassle of having to get your visa renewed to cross the river into Cambridge, it's always worth the trouble for a party at the **Charles Hotel**. Take the opening of the **Regattabar's 2001 Jazz Festival**, which featured a private performance by legendary chanteuse and two-time Grammy nominee **Irma Thomas**.

In addition to a buffet worthy of Henry VIII, there were waiters pouring superior plonk and high-end brews, martini bars, a pool table and, best of all, (Harvard Square falling within the jurisdiction of the Pleasure Police) a cigar room, where guests could actually smoke without feeling like they were committing an unpardonable crime.

Prominent among the throng: the hotel's peripatetic owner, **Dick Friedman**, playwright/ornithologist **David Mamet** and his actress wife, **Rebecca Pidgeon**, jazz publicist **Sue Auclair**, Fox News cutie **Alisyn Camerota**, fashion model and blonde bombshell **Hollis Colby**, avuncular TV host **Frank Avruch**, singer-songwriter and booking agent **Paul Kahn**, musical hipster **Chris Colbourne** of Buffalo Tom, financial wunderkind **Michael Forrester** and his swanlike other half, **Courtney**, professional divinationist (a fancy term for psychic) **Simon Carl** of the Tremont Tea Room, and one man who complained bitterly about the gorgeous blonde he was schmoozing, saying, "It's an outrage! She went and got engaged to another man!"

To which his friend helpfully pointed out: "That's OK. You're married."



At the Regattabar Jazz Festival, from top: Dick Friedman, David Mamet and Rebecca Pidgeon; Hollis Colby; Paul Kahn and Irma Thomas.

PORN 101...

To commemorate Valentine's Day, **PEN New England** hosted **The Erotic Pen**—a reading of sexually charged fiction and poetry by such local authors as **Maria Flook**, **Michael Lowenthal**, **Askold Melynczuk** and **Mary Sullivan**, among others—at the **Playwright's Theater**.

During the wine-and-chocolate break, the following exchange was overheard:

"Thanks for coming. I know you're a busy man."

"Nonsense. There's always time for erotica."

However, another attendee seemed to disagree with the very premise of the evening, saying, "When it comes to erotica, I've always felt that a picture's worth a thousand words." iB



At the Gem of an Evening party, clockwise from top: Robin Lapidus and Janet Wu; Dan Delvecchio; Elizabeth Turner, Ray Brown and Gloria Lieberman; Drew Martin and Diane Delvecchio.

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Contents

MARCH 28-APRIL 10, 2001



19
Three interior self-expressions. Below: Liz Walker; Fashion: Carried away by ocean breezes

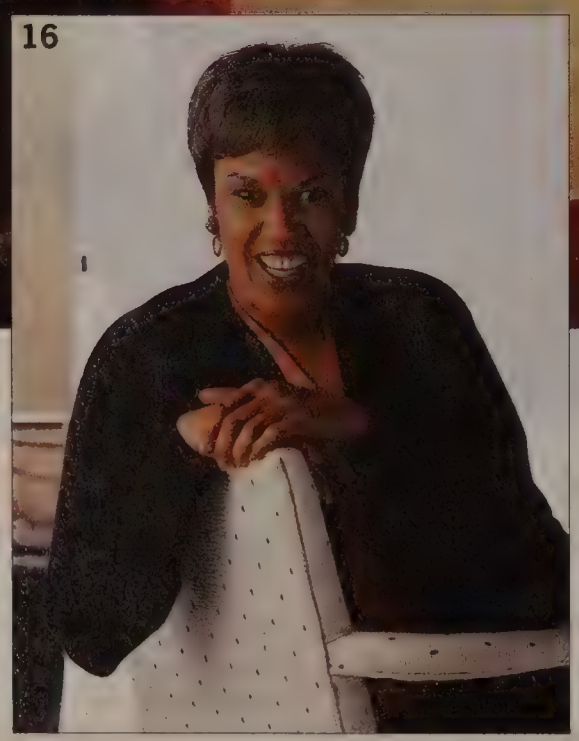
FEATURES

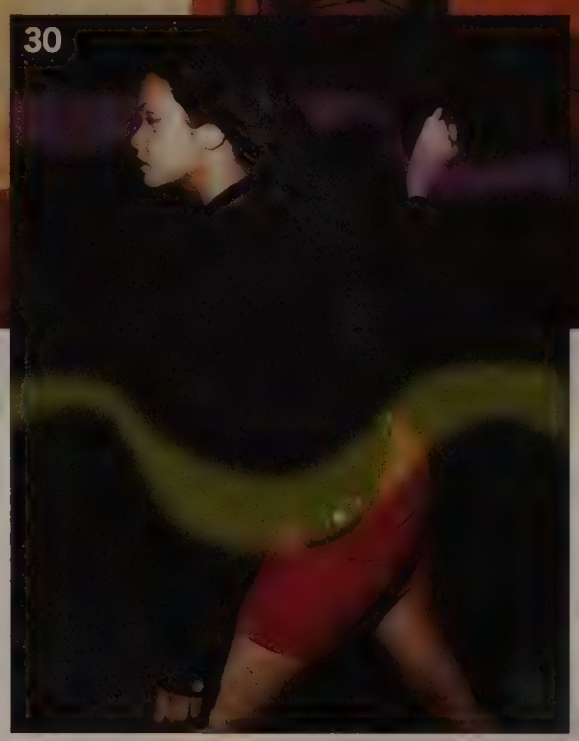
16 Soroff/On Liz Walker
Liz Walker has scaled back her work schedule and is concentrating on developing her spiritual life and watching her son grow up. She talks about the transition, the future and the role of snowstorms in the local TV news. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

19 Interiors
Three young designers take us inside their own homes and explain how their domains exemplify their personal design philosophies.
PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
EDITED BY RACHEL STRUTT

26 SWF Seeks...
We send a thirtysomething single female to three different Boston dating venues on a manhunt.
BY SUSAN ABBATTISTA

30 Fashion: Night Moves
These pseudo-casual, playful-yet-erudite duds are fit for a frolicsome evening on the town—or a rambunctious romp to the waves.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER


16


30



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Jonas Kahn**

MDF Jill sofa, MDF Lim table, Ligne Roset vase, Palucco Abat jour floor lamp; All available at **Adesso, 451-2212.**

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COLUMNS

6 The Word
A new Moroccan art store; local cuisine blasts off; area code woes; MIT senior has major game

10 E-Boston
Telemarketers calling your cell phone? Get ready: The lack of Internet privacy is about to get worse.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
How to develop great eye-hand coordination while going bankrupt and becoming a social misfit.
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

36 Mopsy
The science behind love; foot-friendly gear; this old mansion
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

56 Film
Panic isn't exactly a high point in William H. Macy's career.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

64 Music
Sweet Honey in the Rock brings 28 years of a cappella experience to Symphony Hall.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

84 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

38 Dining
Le Bistro brings French flavor to culinarily diverse Inman Square.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

40 Dish
Boston takes over Beard's; valets, valets, everywhere; the tax-time lunch returns
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

40 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Table for Ten
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 45.
Boston International Comedy Festival • Big Apple Circus • **Dave Egger** • *Rent* • Boston Antique Show • Taste of Beacon Hill • Boston Theater Marathon • **Andrea Bocelli**

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	78
Rockie Horoscope	78
Improperazzi	80
Improper Sightings	79
Classifieds	82

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

TOP: STEPHEN SHEFFIELD; INSET LEFT: TRACY POWELL; INSET RIGHT: BILL STREICHER



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letters



TRY ASKING A DENTIST TO WORK FOR "EXPOSURE." IN MY YEARS OF EXPRIENCE, I LONG AGO LEARNED THAT THE WORD "EXPOSURE" ONLY MEANS THAT YOU ARE NOT GETTING PAID.

—CORIN ASHLEY
VIA E-MAIL

FILE-SHARING FEUD

I recently read Geoffrey James' article regarding Napster and its infinite legal problems. I want to congratulate him on being wise enough to take an unpopular stand on this issue. As an artist on an indie label, I can assure you that Napster has done nothing more than widen the gulf of viability between indie labels and majors with deep, deep pockets. In the past, it was possible (through a lot of hard work) for an indie label to get a little commercial regional airplay, some good press and maybe sell 10,000 CDs, thus making enough money to put its next project in the studio. These days it doesn't matter how hard you work, because you just cannot sell CDs anymore. The way young fans express their appreciation of bands these days is to steal from them. You are correct: Smaller retail outlets are dying. It's similar to what happened in the photo industry. There used to be lots of mom-and-pop photo-developing places until drugstore chains figured that by developing photos as a loss leader, they had more chances for customers to pick up a few things up at the drugstore. Soon the only place to buy a CD will be Wal-Mart, Best Buy and other huge chains that have a history of censoring what they will sell. Napster is a tool we are using to take away our own freedom of choice. It's nice for people to get paid for their work. Try asking a dentist to work for "exposure." In my years of experience, I long ago learned that the word "exposure" only means that you are not getting paid. Thank you so much for standing up and saying the truth.

—CORIN ASHLEY
Via e-mail

I'm a serious fan and collector of heavy metal. I'm sure that Napster would be a veritable cornucopia for me—if I ever visited the site, which I have not. I do go to various record-label Web sites and download singles, which they have placed there for promotional purposes so that I can decide whether or not to buy the CD. Whether I buy or not, the MP3 gets deleted once I've made the decision. I think too many people made the mistake of thinking that Metallica was upset over lost revenue. For them, as for me, I believe the issue was really one of control over artistic property remaining with the artist. Why people find that so hard to get their heads around is beyond me, especially in a city so replete with artists. Or "artists." Thanks for being a clear head in a world of muddy reasoning.

—TIM EMSWILER
Brighton

I disagree with Geoffrey James on the Napster issue and feel he misses the point on almost all of his arguments. To cut to the chase, though, I find it strange that the recording industry only releases the CD sales figures when discussing Napster, not the total income generated by an artists via tours, merchandising and other promotional tools (can you say "halftime show?" I knew you could). Don't believe the hype. The recording industry has been, is, and always will be "in the black," regardless of how much pity they attempt to generate with their latest press releases.

—CHUCK MEMBRINO
Arlington

The vast majority of the music I download off Napster is rare psychedelic music and power pop that was released many years ago ('60s and '70s) and has yet to see the light of day on CD. If I could purchase these records, I would in a moment—the artists that recorded them deserve reimbursement for their hard work. Unfortunately, because of the way the major labels are set up, the nature of many indie labels, and the limited market for these records, the only way I can get them is by downloading them off Napster.

—CHELSEA SPEAR
Boston

THROWING THE BOOK

I thought Mopsy's review of Sue Miller's book *While I Was Gone* was awful. Did she really write that article, or was this the work of an intern? First, she notes the book's title as being *While I Was Away*, and then she gives away the ending! What was the best part of the book? Why? Also, this book has been out in paperback for months, so it's not a new review. Do more research, or just stop writing book reviews.

—CLAIRE ROBERTS
Cambridge

TO THE POINT

I love the IMPROPER. It's the only magazine I read cover-to-cover.

—AMY HOLLAND
Via fax

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JONAS KAHN

Jonas Kahn specializes in architectural photography of interiors and exteriors, and dabbles in rock 'n' roll as well. A Boston native, Jonas began taking pictures at age 4. By day you can catch him around Boston shooting photos; by night you can see him play screaming guitar at various clubs around town. He shot this issue's cover and the Interiors feature, beginning on page 19.



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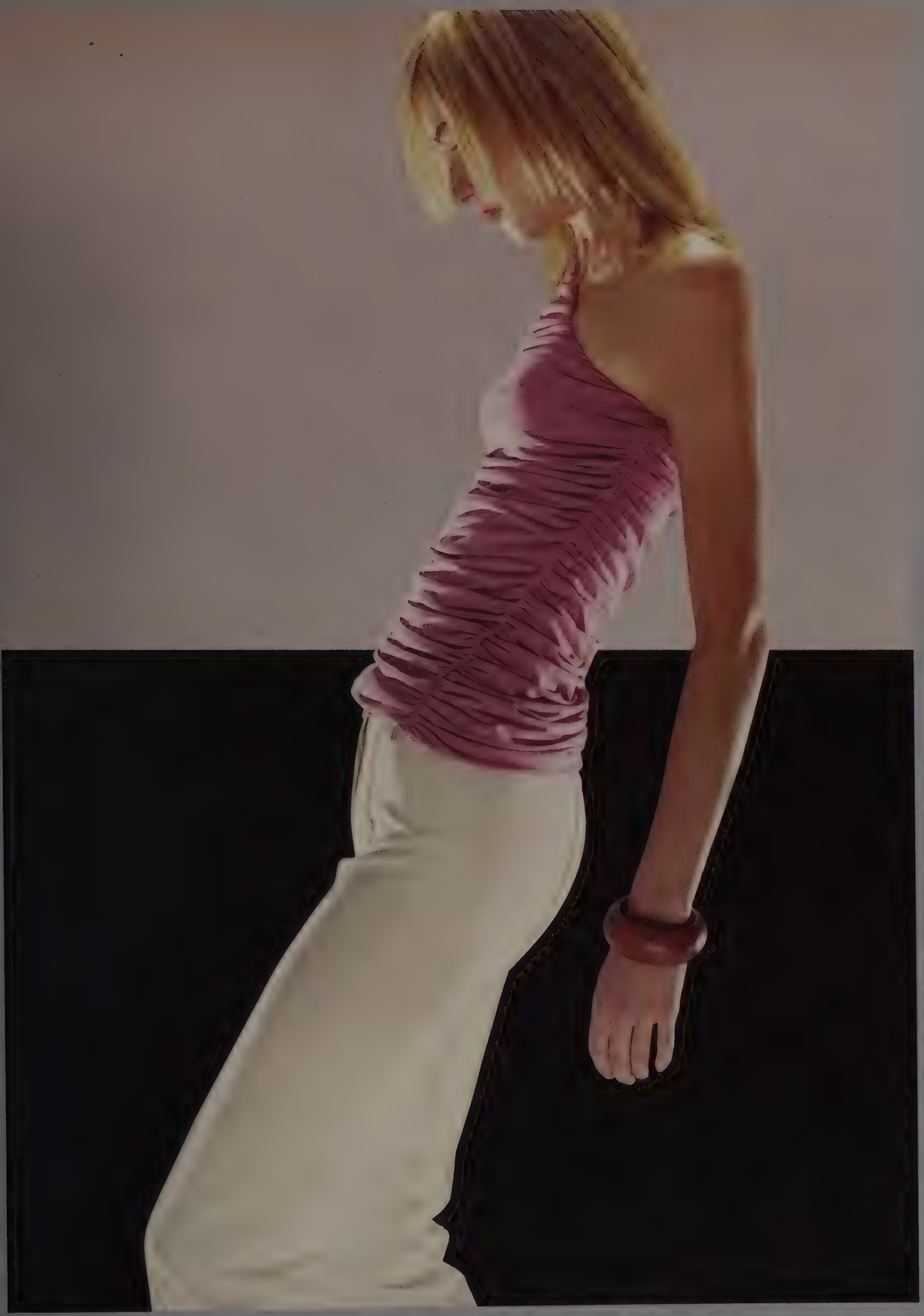
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NEW IN TOWN

MARRAKESH EXPRESS

To step into La Mamounia, Back Bay's new shop for fine furnishings, jewelry and art, is to enter a mini Morocco. With Arabic music and some Mozart playing softly, owner/design-director **Naima Oubala** invites customers to have a seat on the couch to sip Moroccan tea and nibble on pastries. "All of our furnishings, jewelry, pottery—they're all handcrafted in Morocco," gushes the Casablanca native. Then more gravely, she adds, "I would rather die than have this fail."



The prospects for success are good, as Bostonians seem to be catching on to a global trend: People are going ga-ga for all things Moroccan. "The trend is huge in Europe, especially Germany," says Oubala. "And it's just starting to catch on here." Locally, we've already got Marrakesh restaurant in East Cambridge, Cafe Baraka in Cambridgeport and the Jewel of Newbury in Back Bay. The Moroccan Bazaar on Mass. Ave. in Cambridge, which opened in June of '99, sells all kinds of furnishings and trinkets—and of course, there's Mohr and McPherson with its wide array of Moroccan crafts and furniture. Add to that the highly anticipated opening of Tangierino, a high-end Moroccan/French restaurant (to be decorated with La Mamounia furnishings) in Charlestown in mid-May, and Boston starts to look downright exotic.



Oubala's banking on the fact that Bostonians will be drawn in by the earthy, exotic decorations, wrought-iron frames, Berber rugs and *thuya* wood furniture, which is roasted 40 days in an oven and five years in the sun. Prices are surprisingly reasonable—an exquisite wire-work candle is $40, and custom-made couches and chairs are under $2,000. If you go, don't knock over the $20,000 Lampadaire Royal, a rare lamp of brass, bone and semi-precious stones, just like the one owned by sultan of Brunei. *352 Boylston St., Boston (262-1271). —Erin Hagedorn*

MUSIC

AUSTIN POWERS



Local singer-songwriter Jess Klein played to a packed house at this year's SXSW festival.

Each March, thousands of musicians, music industry mavens and music junkies descend upon Austin, Texas, for the South by Southwest (SXSW) music festival and conference to soak up beer, barbecue and rock—and about every other type of music under the sun, from Finnish surf sounds to raucous rockabilly. This massive music love-in—the Sundance of the music industry—teems with hipsters from all over the world, including many a Bostonian. The revelers at this year's SXSW included local music scribes like Brett Milano and Tom Kielty, and industry locals including Dave Sakowski, studio manager of Q Division Records (seen dancing to "Lucky Star" at 5am at an after-hours party), Jen Malone of Black and White publicity (seen yapping with *Revolver* editors while jamming to the Cult) and George Howard of Ryko Disc Records, who, while on a panel discussing independent labels, noted: "I'll drop any band that doesn't work as hard as I do." (Slacker bands take note.)

Of course the stars of the 15-year-old, five-day festival are the bands—and this year, 1,000 bands appeared on 50 stages. Of this staggering lineup, Boston's 10 representatives included the In Out (one of the IMPROPER's top 10 picks in the recent rock issue), the Willard Grant Conspiracy, Jess Klein, the Tarbox Ramblers and the Blake Babies (featuring Juliana Hatfield).

Initially, SXSW provided a chance for fledgling bands to get noticed—and signed. But these days, the event is more about exposure for already-signed bands. As Jim Horan, product manager for Cambridge-based Rounder Records, reports, "SXSW is a great way for us to present established and developing artists to the industry. A ton of press people are down here, and we're able to showcase several of our acts in one night to writers from all around the country." Highlights for Rounder included a Starbucks in-store gig packed with 250 people featuring Sarah Harmer (the coffee chain is quite "buzzed" over this Canadian indie-folkstress and has put one of her songs on a compilation it sells). Another way to gauge how hot you are in Austin? When the Blake Babies hit the stage at Momo's, a fire marshall ran in, requesting that 75 people leave the overflowing club immediately.

Closer to home, notorious nocturnal rabble-rouser Peter Wolf and members of Boston ("Oh What a Feeling...") graced the stage at the Rack recently, proving, along with their peers Aerosmith—who were just inducted into the Rock and Hall of Fame—that veteran Boston rockers are still alive and kicking. —*Rachel Strutt*

POLITICS

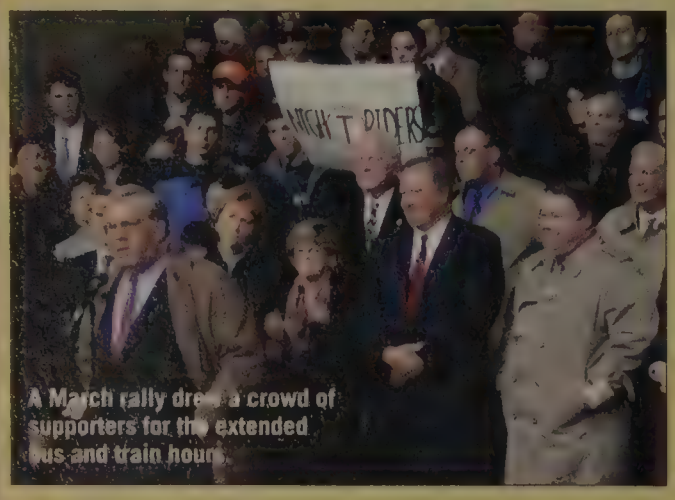
"T" TIME

Should we give credit to Boston City Councilor Mike Ross for his recent successful push to extend the hours of the MBTA bus service until 2:30am on weekends beginning in September? Or was the effort merely good timing on his part? Sounds like a bit of both. "It's a plan that's been on the back burner for years," says MBTA spokeswoman Lydia Rivera. "It's simply coincidence that the pilot plan was approved on the day of the rally [held at City Hall on March 15]. An extensive amount of research has gone into fine-tuning the program. We didn't put it out there simply to placate the legislature," she says.

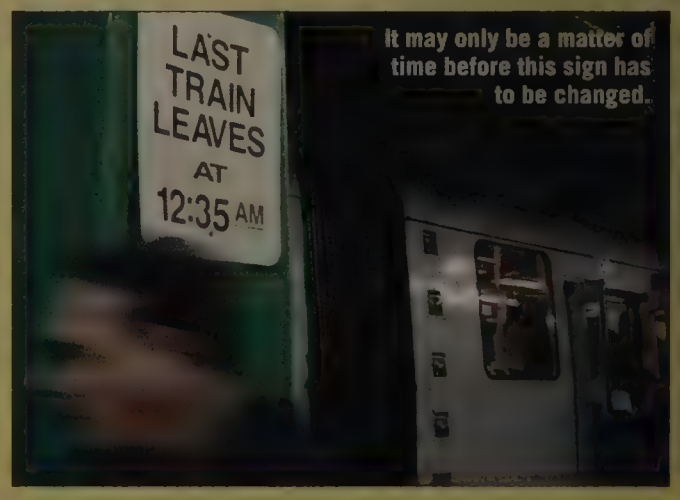
The proposal to extend the subway's hours was initially brought up by state Senator Robert Havern more than two years ago. "Yeah, it was my hare-brained idea," says Havern with a chuckle. "At the time, the question was whether it would involve rails or rubber." The sticking point: Subway maintenance takes place from 1 to 5am every morning. If hours were extended, that service time would be significantly shortened, and every station would have to be staffed with security and toll collectors. It's much more cost-effective to hire a bus driver. Unfortunately, the MBTA late-night plan was put on hold until about a year ago, when the MBTA began to seriously address the proposal.

When Ross readdressed the issue last month, the MBTA was ready and waiting. In just two weeks—on the day of the rally, as a matter of fact (a curious coincidence)—the proposal for extending bus hours was accepted. It probably didn't hurt that Ross and fellow city Councilor Paul Scapicchio were backed by a bunch of "heavies" that included Mayor Tom Menino, MBTA union President Jim Lydon, president of the Greater Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau Patrick Moscaritolo and representatives from the Massachusetts Restaurant Association, Mothers Against Drunk Driving and local universities, among others. This time, their message was slightly different than it had been in the past: MBTA hours should be extended to accommodate those who work late-night shifts—hospital workers, waiters, bakers, security guards and so forth. (In other words, it's not a party bus for drunken revelers on their way home from bars.) "It's an economic issue as well as a convenience," says Havern. "Restaurants could stay open later if workers had an inexpensive means of getting home."

No matter whom we have to thank, the pilot program is a definite step in the right direction. Let's hope that it doesn't take further studies and years of delays to get those late-night wheels rolling. —*Julie Short*



A March rally drew a crowd of supporters for the extended bus and train hours.



It may only be a matter of time before this sign has to be changed.

TOP LEFT: RACHEL BROMBERG (2); TOP RIGHT: FRANK MULLIN; BOTTOM LEFT: SARA WEISS; BOTTOM RIGHT:JENNY LOLLEY

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NIGHT VISION

VALETS, TRIO AND JAZZ



•For as long as there's been a bar scene along Brighton Ave. in Allston, those with wheels have been reluctant to partake—the parking hassles just aren't worth it. But now there's **Allston Village VIP**, a new valet parking program serving seven Allston Village restaurants and bars. From Thursday through Saturday, 6pm to 2am, patrons can drop off cars at the corner of Brighton and Harvard avenues. It's only $6 with validation from Big City, Carlo's Cucina Italiana, the Kells, Harper's Ferry, Pho Pasteur, Rangoli and Sunset Grill & Tap.

•Over cocktails on a recent Sunday night at the new restaurant Trio, we've felt a bit of deja vu. Weren't these the same beautiful faces we used to see at Oskar's on Sunday nights? Indeed, it turns out that Trio's partner **Michael Caesar** used to be the promoter for Oskar's Sunday night Velvet Lounge a year and a half ago, along with **Michael Dwyer** and **Jamie Georgio**. Now the three have applied their killer promoting skills to Trio's Vibe night to make it *the* Sunday night spot for scenesters.

•Many parts of they city are being jazzed up—and not with fancy makeovers. Live jazz music is heating things up at the **Rattlesnake**, which just got its entertainment license and is set to bring in the tunes at the end of March (7-11pm). And a few months back, **711** brought in live jazz (Thursdays, 8pm-12am). Other joints that recently became jazz-friendly are the Fort Point Channel's new **Lucky's** (Tue.-Sat., 9pm-closing) and the Leather District's **Trio** (Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm). *—Erin Hagedorn & Julie Short*

FACES

LAMBS IN SPACE





Last summer, chef Hugo Benjumea of John Harvard's Brew House received the ultimate compliment from a diner, who just happened to work nearby as a food technologist at the U.S. Army Soldier System Center in Natick: She asked if he'd submit his lamb recipe for consideration as a ready-to-eat meal on NASA space missions. Benjumea was happy to oblige. "She told me the chances of it getting approved were slim, but that she would push for it since she liked it so much," he says. "Apparently, there's never been lamb in space before." Fast forward to December when Benjumea's Tandoori lamb was approved for space travel. By now, some 250 lamb packages have been made and will soon be launched on Space Shuttle missions. "I'm proud to have astronauts enjoying my Tandoori," says Benjumea. *—Julie Short*

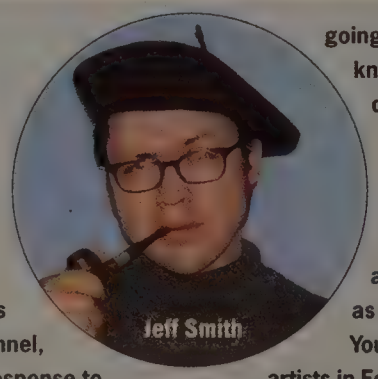
THIS JUST IN

RADIO ROYALTY

When talk radio-personality **Don Imus** was preparing to bring his show to Boston for his annual St. Patty's day breakfast broadcast with **Mike Barnicle** (live from the Four Seasons), his handlers called Massport to request a police escort from Logan. Massport denied the request, so Imus & Co. did an end run around them, arranging for the motorcade through other channels (presumably at the State House or City Hall). Massport officials were hopping mad. File under Friends in High Places. *—Jonathan Soroff*

SAM SAYS

BERET DAY



With so many high-tech companies, you'd think that Boston would protect what few artists it has left. Skyrocketing rental prices and Big Dig takeovers are making our creative inhabitants an endangered species. Even New England's largest artist community, Fort Point Channel, is under pressure to close its doors. In response to the economic pressures to evacuate, the members of Fort Point are planning a day of demonstration called Beret Day. On March 28 all of the artists in the area are going to wear black berets to "let people know that Fort Point is a distinct cultural district," says artist/spokesperson Jeff Smith. "Most people have no idea how many of us are being affected by these changes". What do they expect to accomplish? "To heighten people's awareness about the erosion of Boston as a unique American city," Smith says. You can see the works of some of the artists in Fort Point on March 30, from 9pm to 1am as they present an installation called Industrial Accident at the studios. Call 423-4299 for more information. *—Samantha House*

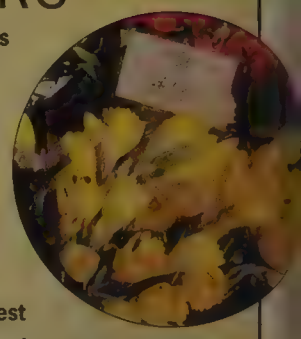
TECH TALK

BOY TOYS

The past year has been unkind to tech companies of all sizes, but Ethermoon Communications has soldiered on. It hasn't made any money, and in fact, its only product has yet to be released. But company co-founder and MIT senior **Tom Cadwell** is busy making sure that when the time is right, Ethermoon will provide thousands worldwide with an essential commodity: fun. Cadwell, a computer science major, is the lead designer of Strifeshadow, Ethermoon's Web-based real-time video game. The game is still in beta form but already has throngs of fans and several Web sites. It involves a "Skeletal Slasher" that rises from the dead—and it's more complex than Frogger. Cadwell's had his hands full finishing up his studies at MIT while developing the game, but says that, contrary to its reputation, "MIT doesn't try to kill you. They give you plenty of free time, but I use that time to work on this." *—Ezra Dyer*

IMPROPER REPORTS

SPRING FOR FLOWERS



We priced a single bunch of daffodils at local flower shops (can you tell we're eager for spring to arrive?):
Winston Flowers (Newbury Street)...$10
Boston Rose (Newbury Street)...$4
Kabloom! (Newbury Street)...$3.69
Brattle Square Florist (Cambridge)...$2.50
Star Market (Allston)...$1.99
Flower cart (Downtown Crossing)...$1.00
Of course, one of the American Cancer Society's biggest fund-raising drives depends on the sale of daffodils—so be sure to buy from that organization too. Call 556-7400.

THE DISSED LIST

PLEASE WHINE AT THE BEEP

By now you've probably heard about the new area-code changes that will be kicking in like a belated April Fools' joke on April 2. In the Greater Boston area (that means you, Cambridge!) we've earned a new area code (857). Actually, it's called an "overlay" and will co-exist with the old 617 area code—but it still means three extra numbers to dial for *every single local call*. So make sure that your "local" friends haven't gone long distance overnight. Annoyed? Well, you could complain to the phone company. But if you do so via e-mail, fax or cell phone, you might as well complain to yourself, because you're part of the reason we've been dealt this nasty handful of new numbers. According to Verizon, the change is due to so many customers using phones, fax machines, beepers, cell phones and computer modems. So instead of whining, thank your lucky stars that in this era of technological triumph, you can call your sweetie from your SUV to say you're just pulling into the driveway.
—Andrew Graham



AROUND TOWN

BOXED IN

News boxes have been disappearing like socks in the dryer—you put them in and suddenly they've disappeared without a trace. Sure, all of the city's freebies and newspapers are our competitors, but when it comes to solving the Case of the Disappearing News Boxes, we're all on the same side. It turns out that the Public Works yard on Frontage Road in South Boston has a slew of them. Boxes that violate the ever-growing list of city ordinances (graffiti is a no-no, and so is placing more than five boxes in a row) are dumped in the news-box graveyard, which is the resting place for tons of expired IMPROPER, *Globe*, *Herald* and *Phoenix* news boxes alike.

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Susette Sundaes Feb. 28
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Pillar House e.t.d. June 29



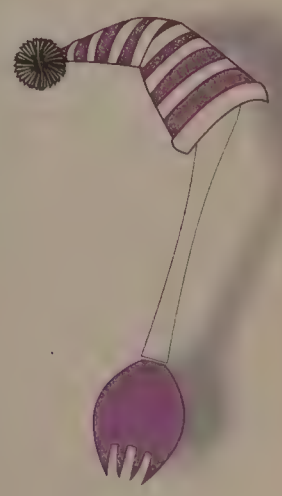
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Where's Spork?



Big Brother Is Watching

Total privacy doesn't exist on the Internet.

If the recent news that hackers broke into the databases at Amazon.com doesn't worry you, you've got to be crazy. According to Reuters, hackers wormed their way into Bibliofind.com, the subsidiary of Amazon.com Inc. that sells rare books, and obtained credit-card numbers for some 98,000 customers. The security breach remained undetected for four months. That means those credit cards could have been used to run up extra charges—creating a nightmare for the cards' actual owners. The sad truth is that the connectivity of the Web has a downside to it—never before has so much information been compiled about customers, information that could accidentally (or intentionally) get into unauthorized hands.

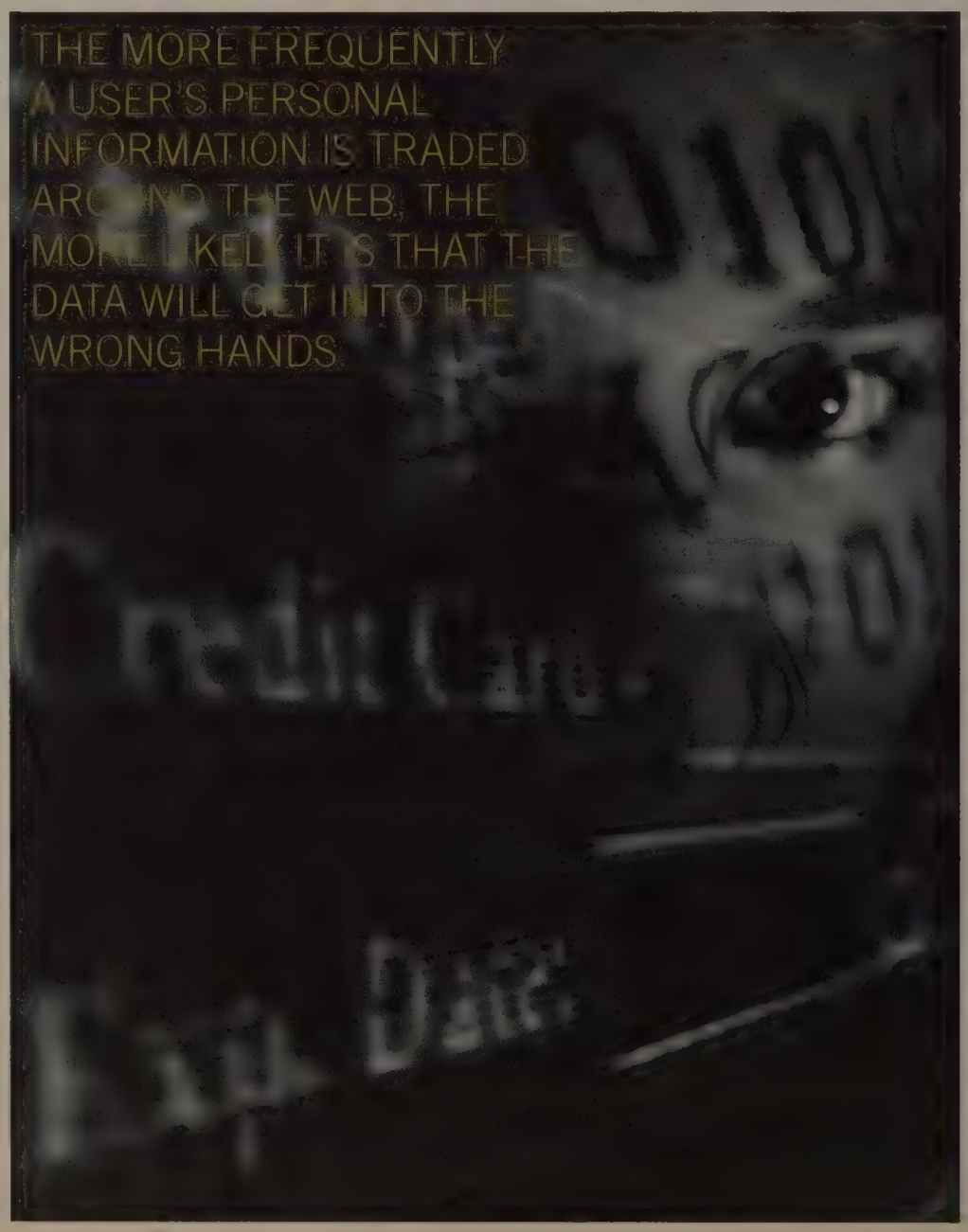
The problem stems from the fact that nearly every Web site gathers information about its users. When the Federal Trade Commission examined the practices of major Web sites, it discovered that about nine out of 10 sites were gathering at least one type of identifying information (name, e-mail address, postal address), and almost six out of 10 were collecting demographic information, such as gender, purchasing preferences and so forth. That's a lot of data, and it doesn't even include the use of "profiling"—a technology that tracks a person's Web browsing and adapts the advertisements to the type of sites that the user has been visiting.

Sites are hungry for information because the data is as good as cash in the bank. Web sites can sell that information to other sites, not to mention companies that do direct marketing, junk mail and telephone solicitation. And it's not just the little sites that are selling the information. The world's biggest independent service provider, America Online, regularly shares information about its users with other companies who hope to make a buck selling to AOL's customer base. The goal of these firms is to conduct targeted marketing. The more a company knows about the types of Internet users that will be prospective customers, the more it can tailor its marketing to result in more sales.

It's the same kind of marketing that results in the barrage of dinner-time phone calls that plague most home owners. It's also the kind of marketing that is about to become even more pervasive, as it moves into the wireless world of the cell phone. That's right. Unless congress passes restrictive legislation, you could be receiving telephone solicitations on your cell phone and getting Spam on your e-mail enabled pager. This new kind of direct marketing is supposed to be more effective because it will "location based." In other words, if your profile says that you're the type of person who spends a lot on clothes, your cell phone might ring while you're walking down Newbury Street to notify you that Armani is having a sale on suits.

When this happens, you can kiss the sorry-ass vestiges of your privacy goodbye. In order for their "partners" to undertake location-based marketing, the wireless companies are planning to sell the advertisers information about where you are and where you've been. Because wireless telephone companies track caller locations for billing purposes, they can keep track of every move you make as long as your cell phone is on, even only on standby. This means that the telephone companies ("Can you say 'Big Brother,' boys and girls?") will be tracking and monitoring your every move, sharing that information essentially with anyone who's willing to pay.

The frightening part of all of this is that the more frequently that a user's personal information is traded around on the Web, the more likely it is that the data will get into the wrong hands, according to privacy advocate Evan Hendricks, who runs the Web site *www.privacytimes.com*. "Losing control of your personal information has enormous implications," says Hendricks, citing the growing problem of identity theft—where one person on the Web pretends to be another—as one possible negative outcome. Not surprisingly, informed consumers are scared witless about what's happening. Market research firm Jupiter Communications recently conducted a study of 2,015 consumers revealing that more than three-fourths are concerned about the security of their credit-card information on the Web. Nearly two-thirds are worried about Web sites selling personal information to other companies.



Despite the almost universal consumer fears about privacy on the Web, there's been little action by the U.S. government to regulate the gathering and sharing of information across the Web. Senator John McCain, who chairs the Senate committee that oversees such matters, is more interested in campaign reform than in protecting the privacy of American citizens. And many of the other senators are already kowtowing to the computer industry, which is promoting a bogus "opt-out" model that puts the burden on consumers to find out how to stop the big eye in the sky from tracking their every move. And as for hacker attacks, there's not even been a hint of legislation that would require companies to have a certain level of Web security in order operate as an online business.

In short, we're stuck with a situation where our personal information, including everything from our credit-card data to the fact that we stopped off at the neighborhood strip club on the way home from work last night, is increasingly becoming almost public knowledge. You can fight back, however, on two levels.

On the citizen level, you can write your congressman and senators and demand legislation enforcing an "opt-in" model of Internet privacy. This would force Web sites to ask you first if you want your information to be shared, rather than assume that they can share it if you don't say otherwise. You might also want to mention that the government should consider mandating a certain level of computer security for any firm operating on the Web.

On the personal level, you should always look for the "opt-out" button whenever you share data with a Web site. Even then, always give the Web site bogus data when you feel that it's asking more than it needs to know. If a site demands demographic data, use your imagination. For years I've been telling nosy sites that I'm a 3-year-old girl with a Ph.D .and a yearly income of$1 million. As for your cell phone: Never leave it on unless you're actually expecting a call. Why give the telephone company free data?

As for your credit cards, try to limit the number of online stores that you use. Each time you leave your credit-card number on a different site, you're raising the likelihood that hackers will steal your data. If you're really smart, you'll make a point to change your credit-card number at least once a year, so merchants don't have live data hanging around for hackers to steal. iB

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

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My Virtual Life

At least I don't play Dungeons and Dragons ... yet

It's been my goal for quite some time now to have a productive weekend—one where I would just chill out, go to the gym; do some laundry and clean up my bedroom. On this hypothetical weekend, I would learn how to cook something new, catch up on my sleep and try to get ahead on work that I've been putting off. Perhaps I would read a book. Come Monday, I would feel refreshed and invigorated because I did not go out, get drunk, spend too much money, and return home to eat two Celeste cheese pizzas and fall asleep on the couch at 4am watching *Confessions of a Lapdancer* on Skinemax. Again.

Unfortunately, there's now a rather large obstacle between me and my productive weekend, and it goes by the name of PlayStation 2. Like every other American male between the ages of 5 and 50, I have wanted a PlayStation 2 since it first came out last fall. The problem was, Sony's entire initial U.S. production run was delivered by a guy on a moped, and those first consoles sold out faster than Pokemon cards at a NAMBLA convention. I had to buy a Snickers, because Sony didn't satisfy.

That all changed last weekend. It was Sunday, and words of optimistic plans for becoming a productive human being were fresh on my lips. I picked up the Sunday paper, prepared to spend a couple of hours expanding my knowledge of world affairs, arts and the amazingly unfunny-yet-still-strangely-appealing *Family Circus* when roommate Scott made a discovery. "Woah," he said with Keanu-like, dumbstruck gravity. I was prepared for bad news, as Scott hadn't said "woah" like that even when he found out about the earthquake in his hometown of Seattle, or when the Mariners let A-Rod go to the Rangers. This was serious. But he was reading not the front page, nor even the sports section. Before him was the ubiquitous Best Buy flyer. He slid it over to me and pointed to one sentence: "We've got 'em."

Fast-forward a half hour. Scott and I are in line at Best Buy, waiting to purchase the next-to-last PS2. I'm doing a little bit of soul-searching, because spending $300 on a machine that is going to cause me to waste more time, become more antisocial, and very likely drink more beer definitely flies in the face of my productivity goals. After all, I already have a PlayStation 1, which is a bad enough motivation-stealer. In addition, the other people in line are either 8-year-old kids or guys who look like they were in the running for the Biggest Loser in the World award, but lost. And since I'm not an 8-year-old, that would make me...

Poor. I am definitely poor. As it turns out, for $300 you get the console, one controller and a punch in the nuts. After adding an extra controller, a memory card, an extended service plan and two games, the total damage came to, um, $534. WHAT? OK, it was $534, which happens to be exactly 53.4 percent of the total purchase price of at least one car that I've owned.

THE PS2 IS MORE FUN THAN A BOTTLE OF VIAGRA-LACED TEQUILA, A CAMCORDER AND A ROUND-TRIP TICKET TO AMSTERDAM.

Let's not think about how much money $534 would become in 20 years if it were invested in an IRA instead of flushed down the PlayStation 2 toilet of mental and physical worthlessness. Let's not think about how screwed-up your ambitions are if your daily "to-do" list includes "completing trick book in *SSX Snowboarding*." Let's also not think about time spent at work e-mailing one's roommates to discuss which fighting game should be purchased—one that uses real boxers or one where, to quote Scott, "Ez can end Dave's life by sticking a metal spike up his ass and out his nose."

Let's not worry about any of that, because there's a bigger question at hand: Is this expensive, 75 million-polygon-per-second, ridiculously sought-after machine any more entertaining than the original PlayStation? Or an Atari 2600 and a Donkey Kong cartridge? Or playing catch in the park, or reading a good book, for that matter?

Absolutely. It is more fun than a bottle of Viagra-laced tequila, a Camcorder and a round-trip ticket to Amsterdam. That's what I'm telling myself, so that's what I'm telling you, too. It is not overrated. It was completely worth the money. And I am not a geek. In fact, PS2 has even helped me move toward my goal of a more productive weekend. I've already started exercising more. As it turns out, the old PlayStation 1 is the perfect weight for doing curls. **iB**

You think that's funny?

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P.T. SULLIVAN

ARIA



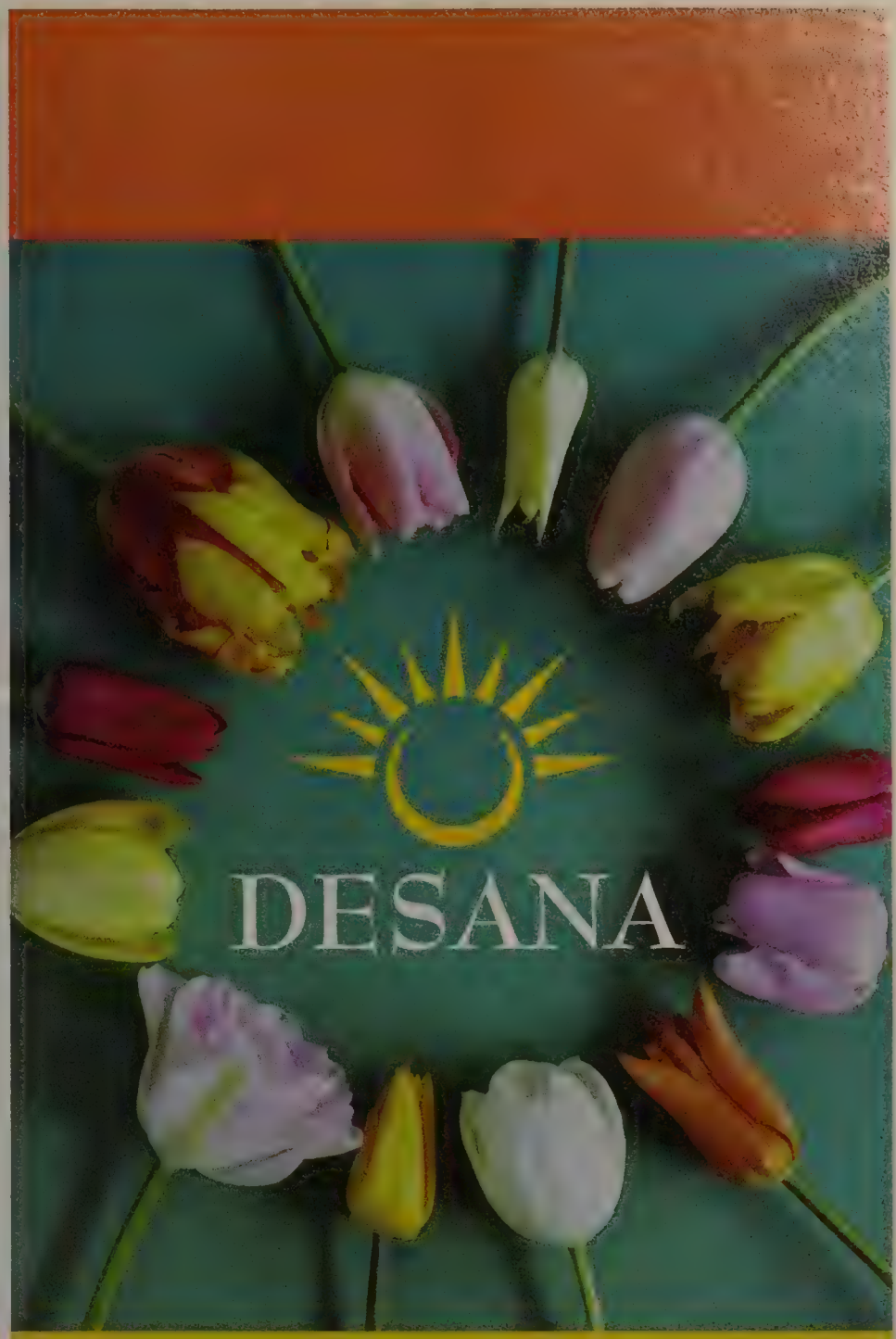
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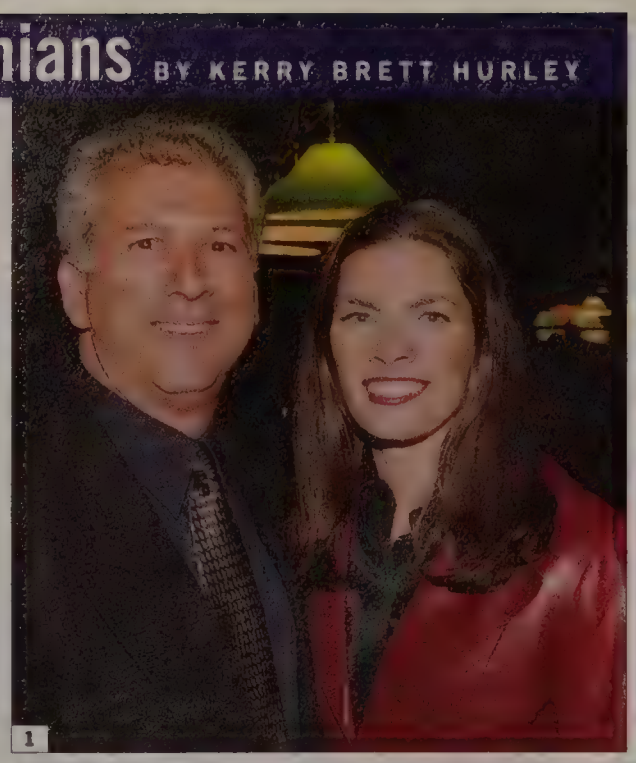
Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

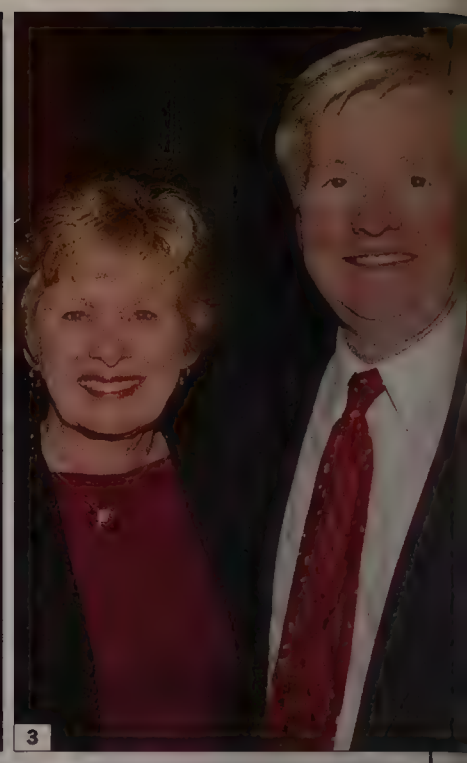
The 2001 People of Vision Celebrity Billiards Challenge was held March 12 at the Boston Billiard Club. More than three hundred people gathered together to to benefit the charity.

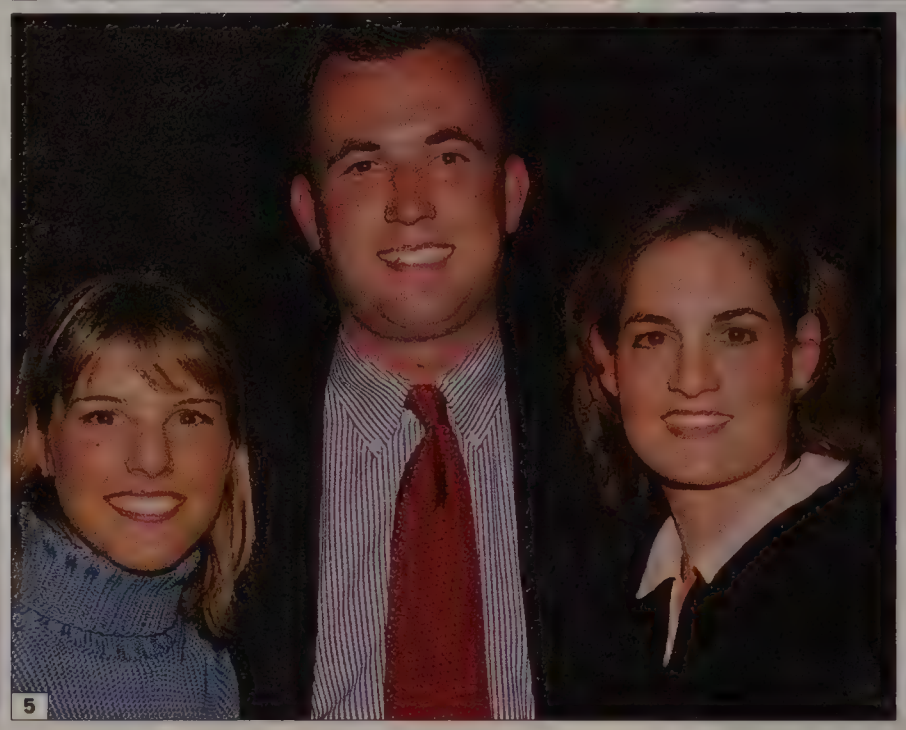
1. **Jerry Solomon**, president and CEO of StarGames and the agent for his wife, skater **Nancy Kerrigan**.
2. **Kurt Mathias**, director of operations for Boston Billiards Club, and musician **Huey Lewis**.
3. **Brenda**, Nancy Kerrigan's mother, and **Dan Rea**, reporter for WBZ-TV.
4. **Earl Strickland**, World 9-Ball Champion and **Carol Rogal**, sales manager for the Boston Billiards Club.
5. **Amy Crean**, pharmaceutical sales for Ortho Bio Tech; **Garrett Trierweiler**, lobbyist for Mass Bay Associates; and **Karen Foley**, market researcher for Sunlight Financial.
6. **Steve Cerrone**, screenplay writer, (co-writer of *Galilee*); **June Knight**, morning show personality for Oldies 103.3 FM; and **Mike Cerrone**, screenplay writer (co-writer for *Me Myself & Irene*).




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The Irish American Partnership's Irish Business Breakfast, in celebration of St. Patrick's Day, was held March 16 at the Park Plaza Hotel. More than 200 community and business leaders gathered at the annual Irish celebration.

7. **Joe Leary**, president of the Irish American Partnership; **John McSorley**, former first vice president for Paine Webber; and **Kevin Leary**, owner of Valet Park of New England.
8. **John McPhee** (l) and **John Garrity**, senior vice president of investment services and senior vice president of institutional sales, respectively, for Leerink Swann.
9. **Grace Cotter Regan** and **Jack Moynihan**, executive director and senior associate director, respectively, for BC Alumni, and **Carol McDermott**, chief of staff for the City of Boston Inspectional Services Department.
10. **Sean Curran** (l), senior director of GPC O'Neill & Associates, and Senator **Steven Tolman**.
11. **Jeanne Holland** and **Julianna Trementozzi** special events coordinator and development coordinator, respectively, for Big Brothers of Mass Bay, and **Jessie Cousins**, director of the Annual Fund for Big Brothers of Mass Bay.


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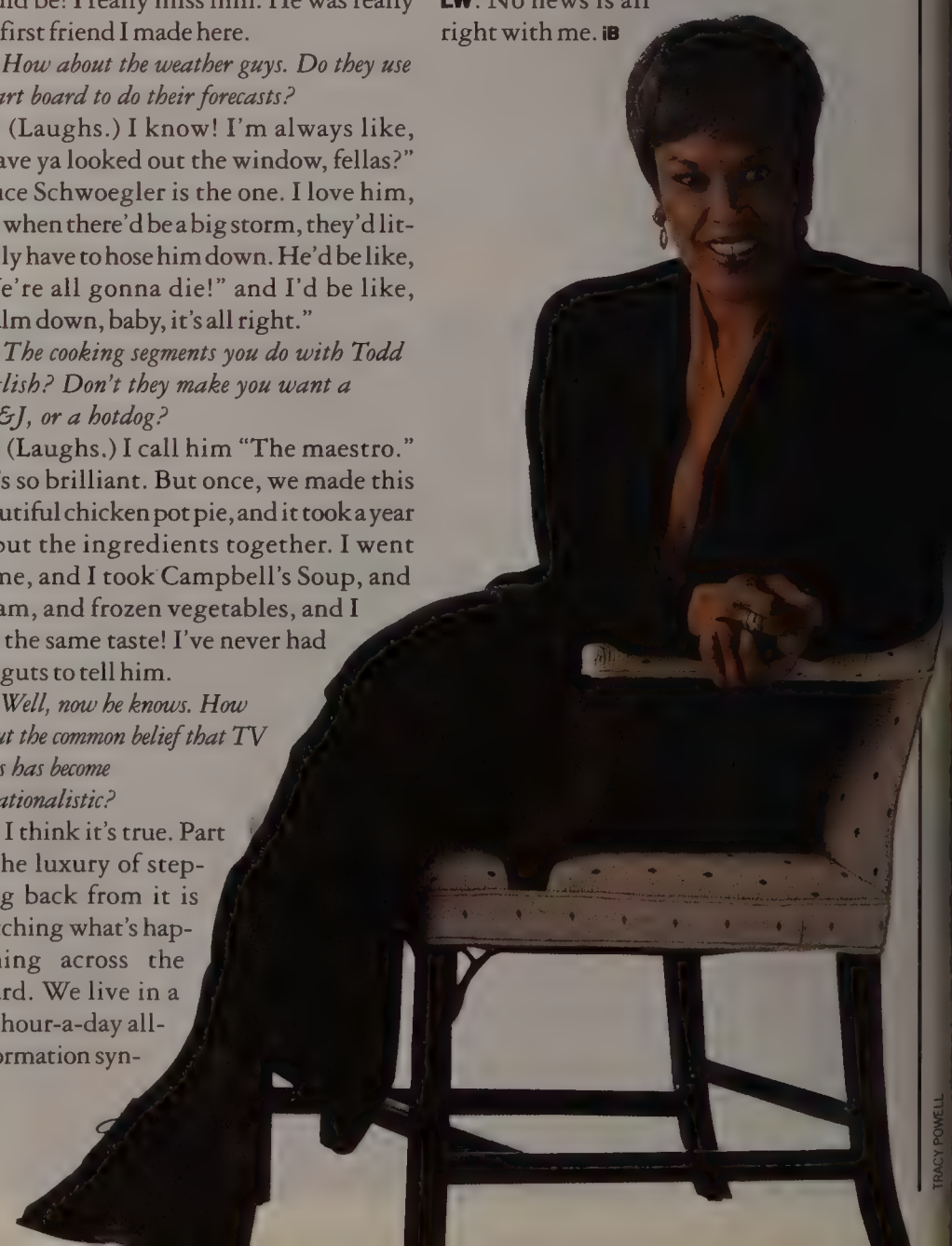
Liz Walker

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Veteran anchor Liz Walker, 49, stunned media circles last June by announcing that she was scaling back her duties to the noon broadcast after almost 20 years of doing the evening news on WBZ Channel 4. Born and raised in Little Rock, Ark., she graduated from Olivet College in Michigan and began her TV career in Little Rock, moving to Denver and San Francisco before coming to Boston in April, 1980. Active in numerous charitable causes, among them breast cancer and domestic violence prevention, she serves on the board of the Big Sister Association, the Urban League of Mass. and the Pediatric AIDS Charitable Trust. A member of the National Association of Black Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi and American Women in Radio and Television, she is the recipient of numerous honorary degrees and professional accolades, including the 1997 Governor's Award from the New England branch of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. She and her son, Nick, live in Brookline.

"HOW YOU BECOME A MOTHER IS SO SECONDARY TO ACTUALLY BEING A MOTHER AND TRYING TO BE A GOOD ONE."

Jonathan Soroff: *Now that you're taking time to smell the roses, how do they smell?*
Liz Walker: Wonderful. I wish I'd done it before, but everything happens in its own time. My son is 13 and growing and changing so quickly. It's good to be able to watch that so closely.
JS: *You're sort of the archetype of the woman who did it all—balancing a career, personal life, parenthood—and now you've decided to scale back on your work commitments. So can you really have it all?*
LW: I think you can, but not all at once. And I don't think you'd want it all at the same time. If you look at life as phases, this is the right phase for me now.
JS: *Well, as a member of the generation of women who tried to have it all at the same time, do you think that's unrealistic?*
LW: I think the struggle was so intense. I spent most of my life in the mode of overdrive, and you miss things, but I think the role of women in society is still evolving and changing. For me, the struggle part of my life is over, and I deserve that.
JS: *What's this I hear about you applying to Harvard Divinity School?*
LW: Well, I've been on a spiritual journey since my son was born. It's a gradual process, and I find myself wanting to learn more about religions....
JS: *So will there be a Church of Liz?*
LW: (Laughs.) I don't know if I want to be a minister. Can you imagine? I don't know yet, but I definitely feel pulled toward a higher calling.
JS: *You've always declined to identify your son's father...*
LW: Publicly, yeah. It's not an issue. My son knows who his father is.
JS: *What's behind that decision?*
LW: Well, it's nobody's business.
JS: *Do you still get grief for being a single mother?*
LW: Not really. I mean, I may, but not to my face. How you become a mother is so secondary to actually being a mother and trying to be a good one.
JS: *Funniest thing that ever happened to you on air?*
LW: Well, just a few minutes ago, I got a story on the noon show—new information about Whitey Bulger. It said he's wanted for murder in Oklahoma, that he's been seen around gay and nudist colonies, with a female companion, *and*, he has bad breath. I said, "In all my 28 years...I'm not gonna say that!"
JS: *How about an embarrassment you didn't avoid?*
LW: Well, when Reagan was president, he came to Boston and had a beer at the Erie Pub. It made all the headlines. The very next day, I'd been invited to the White House, with a group of 50 or 60 reporters. So I stand up to ask my question, and I say, "Mr. President, first of all, I bring you greetings from the Erie Pub." And there was absolutely no response. So I said, "Yesterday? You were in Boston? Erie Pub?" He went, "Huh?" And the sweat's breaking out all over me, tryin' to be Miss Cool. It was not cool. I practically melted through the floor. He had no clue, and it was so mortifying, in front of all those other reporters.
JS: *How about a word that you always seem to mispronounce when you see it on the teleprompter?*
LW: I always had trouble with Dennis Eckersley. That always got me. Then there are lots of the Middle Eastern countries I absolutely hate trying to pronounce.
JS: *At the supermarket or dry cleaners, do people come up to you and expect you to know everything about everything, like why the street light on the corner isn't working?*
LW: It happens. That, and people who expect you to remember everything. I had a horrible situation once, when this young kid said, "Liz Walker! You did a story on my Mom!" I said, "Oh, how is she?" He said, "Don't you remember? She was murdered." So I'll never try to bluff again.
JS: *You're from Little Rock, home of Central High and the National Guard coming in to enforce desegregation...*
LW: Oh, yeah. I remember when I was in the first grade, it was 1957, and my school was all black, as was the neighborhood. I remember white kids, in cars, driving around and throwing rocks. I remember the teacher coming in and closing the window shades. To this day, I remember the fear. It was like living in an armed camp.
JS: *Is Boston a racist city?*
LW: I don't think it can afford to be. Have you looked around? Boston is the United Nations. There are so many different kinds of people that if Boston is racist, it's got big problems.
JS: *Bob Lobel. Is he actually a muppet?*
LW: (Laughs.) I've never...No comment! Could be! I really miss him. He was really the first friend I made here.
JS: *How about the weather guys. Do they use a dart board to do their forecasts?*
LW: (Laughs.) I know! I'm always like, "Have ya looked out the window, fellas?" Bruce Schwoegler is the one. I love him, but when there'd be a big storm, they'd literally have to hose him down. He'd be like, "We're all gonna die!" and I'd be like, "Calm down, baby, it's all right."
JS: *The cooking segments you do with Todd English? Don't they make you want a PB&J, or a hotdog?*
LW: (Laughs.) I call him "The maestro." He's so brilliant. But once, we made this beautiful chicken pot pie, and it took a year to put the ingredients together. I went home, and I took Campbell's Soup, and cream, and frozen vegetables, and I got the same taste! I've never had the guts to tell him.
JS: *Well, now he knows. How about the common belief that TV news has become sensationalistic?*
LW: I think it's true. Part of the luxury of stepping back from it is watching what's happening across the board. We live in a 24-hour-a-day all-information syndrome, so we've started anticipating things—like snowstorms—rather than reporting on them after they've happened.
JS: *Biggest non-story you ever covered?*
LW: Well, the big snowstorms. I mean, it's winter, and it snows! Hello!
JS: *People feel like they know you. Do they ever just sit down at your table in a restaurant or follow you into the bathroom?*
LW: Oh, sure. That's no problem. You just sit in your stall and talk. Not a big deal.
JS: *How tall are you?*
LW: Six-one. But I'm getting shorter the older I get.
JS: *What three adjectives do you think people use to describe you?*
LW: Tall. Tall. And tall.
JS: *What three adjectives do you wish they'd use?*
LW: Caring. Happy. And at peace.
JS: *Dan Rather or Peter Jennings?*
LW: Whooo! I have to say Dan Rather, because he's CBS. He's amazing. He never stops. He's 150 years old, but you'd never know it.
JS: *One thing the public would be shocked to know about you?*
LW: Probably that I pray a lot. I'm on my knees, praying, a lot.
JS: *Biggest personal indulgence?*
LW: Ice cream. It used to be wine. I'm not sure which is better.
JS: *Last question: Finish this sentence: No news is....*
LW: No news is all right with me. **iB**



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In Dave O's South End loft, eclecticism rules. In the living room, old furniture coexists with photos accented by Dave O.'s trademark glitter frames. Along another wall (inset), Dave O.'s tribal-inspired, painted wood sculpture °looms above the bar. The "Elvis bathroom" is fit for a king with gold tiles.

Cheeky Charm

Dave O. loves parties. He also loves to play music with friends and to organize all kinds of gatherings. His dedication to socializing is reflected in his work—both in the stylish restaurants he's designed and in his own South End loft, where he's got a bar, a small bandstand and room to mingle.

Dave grew up in California and developed the knack for interior design by creating art for restaurants and re-creating period sets for films and music videos in Hollywood. (Wesley Snipes once told him, "No white boy has ever designed a Caribbean theme so authentically.")

It was 1997 when Dave came out East, to Cambridge, to design and build the first Pho Republique for Jack Bardy. Sadly, the restaurant burned down after only a few short months of operation—but Bardy was impressed with Dave's work and invited him to design and build the South End Pho, now the popular hipster hangout on Washington Street. Dave designed a unique, exotic watering hole. For inspiration, he studied photos of Buddhist temples and designed an overall aged, distressed look with weathered walls, a fabulous 110-year-old bar and the pièce de résistance: a Buddha-headed column from the original Pho. He also designed another local restaurant, Kapow, which he refers to as "a smokin' little bad boy of a place." Indeed—it's futuristic and fun. There's a red glitter bar with red vinyl seats, and a hostess station made from 1,500 resin tiles. Beyond restaurants, Dave's real passion is designing individual pieces for clients, whether they be small paintings or major sculptures.

When it comes to his own digs, Dave's South End loft is multipurpose: It serves as his wood shop and loading dock. The loft also accommodates a bar shaped from doors found in the neighborhood, a practice space fixed with a drum kit and guitars, along with a piano that sits in an adjacent bedroom, and a gallery space for his original artwork.

His apartment also includes a raised loft area, "the tree house", and an "Elvis bathroom" replete with gold tiles. He installed lighting designs to add color and drama to specific areas of the loft. There's also lots of open area for guests and four cats.

Last call may soon be coming to his loft, though. Like many lofts, his residence will soon be demolished to make way for yet another faux loft complex. He's looking for a place to live. The criteria? "It's got to be raw and big enough so the neighbors don't kill me for making music."—*Joseph King*

Back to Basics



Interior designer Kristine Irving's aesthetic is seen in all she does—from the objects she chooses for Koo de Kir, her contemporary home-furnishings shop on Beacon Hill, to her professional interior-design work, to the way she decorates her own home. "Good design means creating a living environment that is comfortable and self-expressive. I'm really busy, so I want my home to be comfortable, and that's the whole Koo de Kir philosophy." This is also her ethos for the classic modern home—urban, comfortably elegant and just a tad quirky. Not surprisingly, most of the furnishings of Irving's Beacon Hill apartment come directly from the store, which houses an eclectic mix of modern designs from both local and international artists. Like the inside of Koo de Kir, her small one-bedroom apartment has a clean look—there are no frills or flowery patterns. "My house is so tiny, so it's important that it be functional. You can't have anything extraneous."

The understated-yet-elegant furnishings don't fit neatly into one category. Fanciful knickknacks sit next to designer chairs, and an antique desk contrasts with a giant steel K in the fireplace. This is where Irving's sense of humor shines. Instead of sticking with one genre, she believes in free association. For example, a hint of orange in her 16th-century Italian paintings inspired the purchase of modern orange-seated chairs. "My place changes about every three months. My friends come over and say, 'What happened to your couch?' Of course, most people can't swap their furniture all the time. They commit to it and have to build their personality around it."

Working with about four clients at a time, in addition to running the store, Irving is quite busy. But she's used to it. Back when she was a 19-year-old student at MassArt, Irving opened a South End art gallery with a friend. The gallery later evolved into ArtSmart, a fine-arts gift store. Then, in 1996, Irving launched Koo de Kir. But her affinity for design presented itself long ago. "It started when I was 9 years old, when I colored my wall from floor to ceiling in magic marker. I can't draw worth a damn, but I've always loved 3-D space. Interior of a space is sort of like a stage set. I can't stand overdone interiors, and you don't want it to look cold. It's about finding that balance."—*Erin Hagedorn*



Kristine Irving can't help but decorate her apartment with furnishings from her store, Koo de Kir. From an antique desk to paintings by local artists and a giant steel K in her fireplace, she designs her home with an urban style that is comfortably elegant and just a tad quirky.

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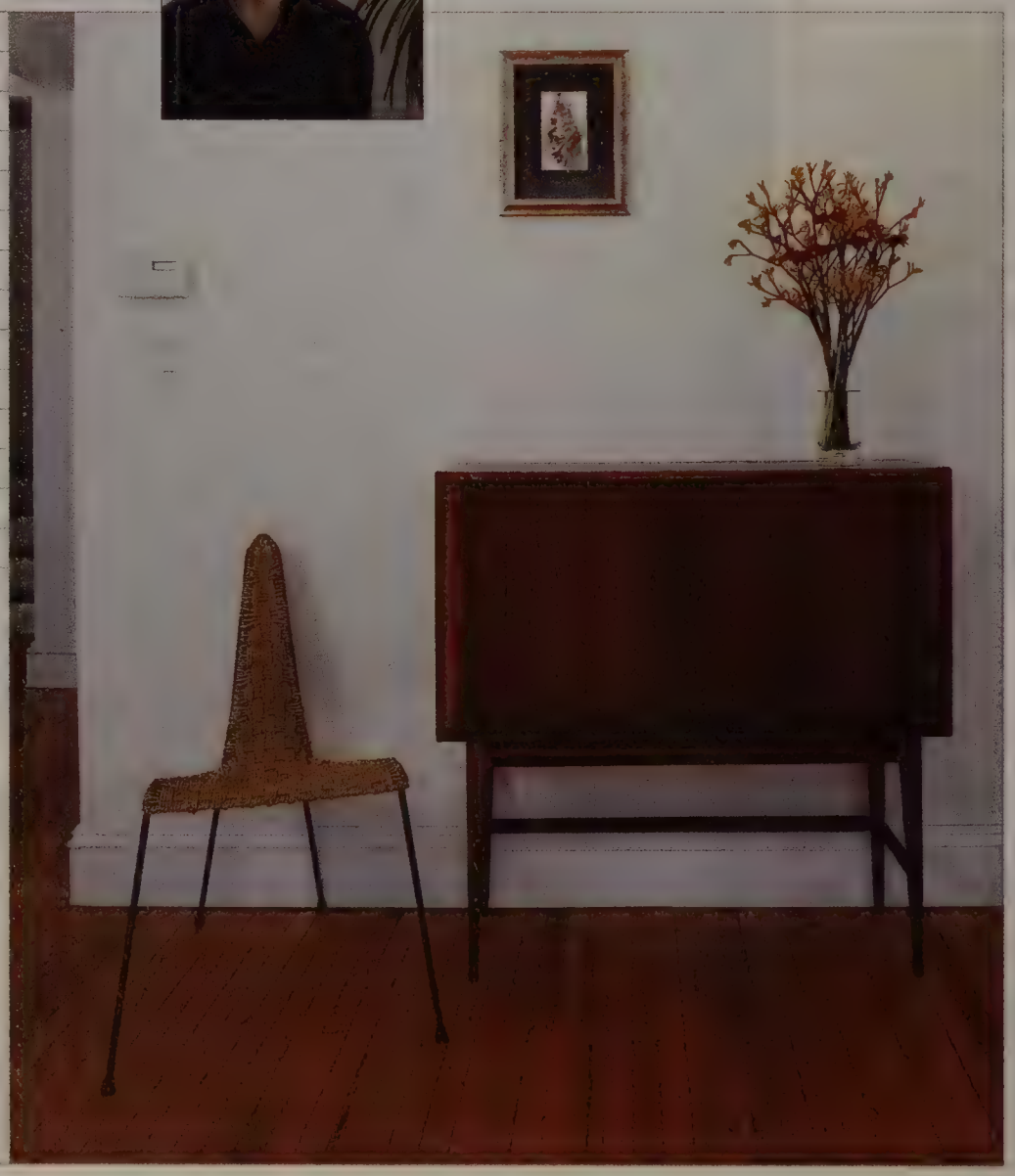


Chair Man





In Adam Simha's living room (above), two of his streamlined Five Minute Chairs (named for the short time it took to create the prototype) and matching stacked end tables contrast with the intricate design of the Moroccan carpet. The rectangular coffee table and decorative aluminum cubes are also Simha originals. The sofa, however, was designed by one of Simha's idols, Danish artisan Poul Kjaerholm. The Valentine's Chair (right) sits next to a '50s Danish teak sideboard, which serves as a stylish liquor cabinet.



After finishing up at MIT, designer Adam Simha never thought he'd have a direct use for his physics degree. Yet these days, Simha, who's an audio editor at Soup 2 Nuts Productions in Watertown by day, finds himself relying on the laws of physics quite often when building furniture. "Yeah, I'm actually using my degree," he says with a laugh. "Physics has been both an inspiration and a help—in terms of understanding materials and design." But instinct also plays a role, Simha explains. "There's an inherent rightness to proportions. I just keep playing around with a piece until it feels right."

After taking a course at MassArt in welding on a whim six years ago, Simha became hooked on molding and melding metal, and he has been fashioning furniture ever since. Some of his pieces are simple, streamlined and decidedly mod; others are more more organic and rustic. Many of the chairs and cleverly stacked end tables are made with stainless steel or clear acrylic, but Simha also elevates everyday, simple materials like rope and re-bar (metal rods used in construction) to elegant ends. Take the winsome and curiously shaped "Valentine's Chair," a gift that he created for his wife, Mollie, two years ago. "I just happened to have this material around—rope and re-bar," he says matter-of-factly. For inspiration, Simha cites Charles and Ray Eames, famous for their iconic '40s chairs, and architects like Alvar Aalto (who designed the Baker House dorm at MIT) and Eero Saarinen (who designed the MIT Chapel where Simha was married).

These days, the young furniture maker is ramping up his production process with a run of 25 Valentine's Chairs, to be sold on a special-order basis. He's also busy creating new chair prototypes and minimalist aluminum coasters, trivets and stainless-steel cubes—small-scale versions of Donald Judd sculptures. Although starting off small, Simha is a designer with the hopes of making it big—and he's well on his way, at least locally. He's designed the chairs and tables for two Toscanini ice cream spots in Cambridge. And Sedia, a high-end furniture boutique in the South end, is now selling his chairs and coffee tables.

Simha's North Cambridge apartment, which he shares with his wife and 1-year-old son, Ovadia, is light-filled and gallery-esque with its white walls—the perfect backdrop for his medley of furniture. But Simha admits that the place isn't always as spare and uncluttered. "It's not always like this," he says smiling at his son, "With a 1-year-old around, it's a constant battle." IB

—Rachel Strutt

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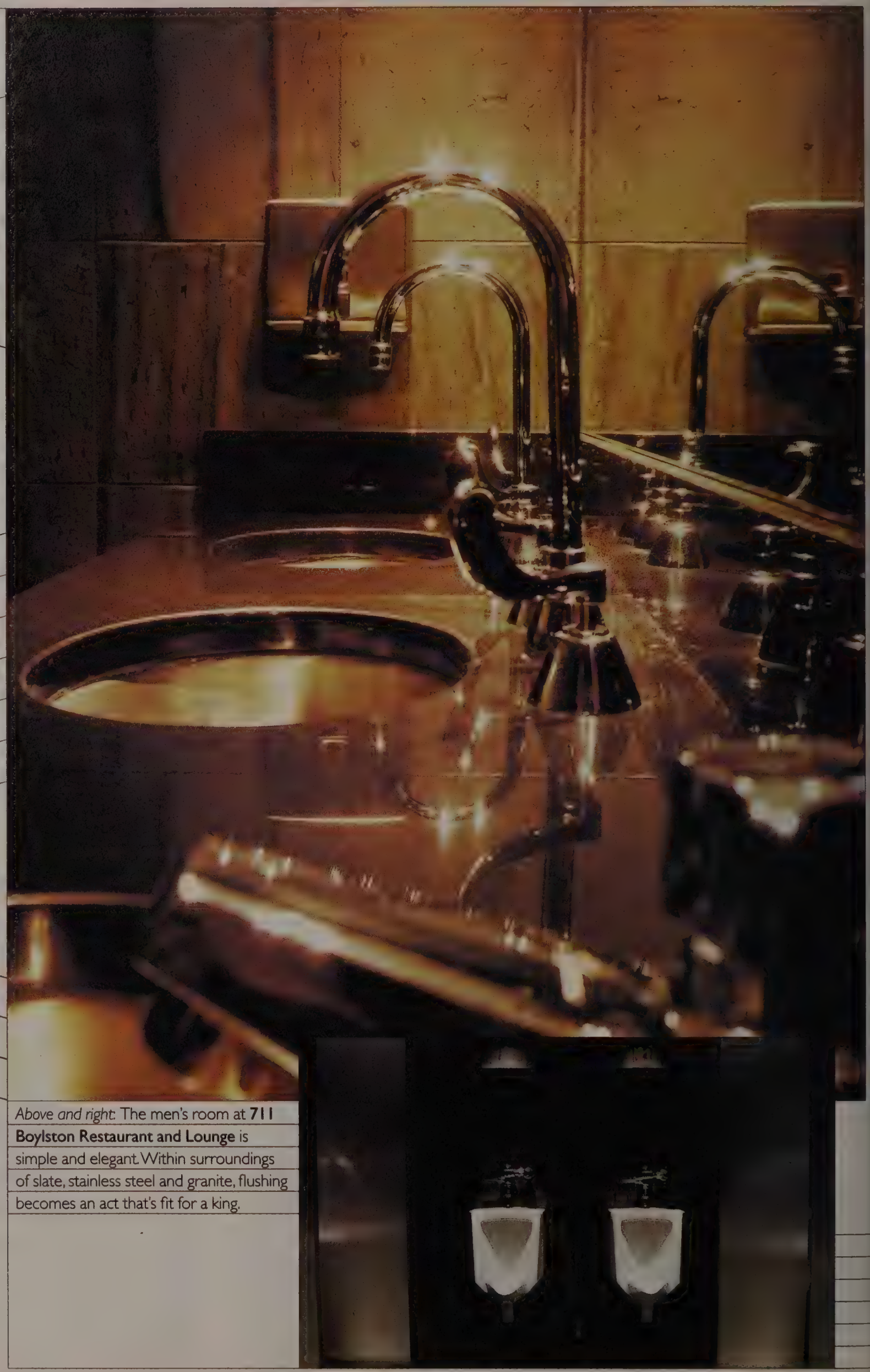
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STALLS OF FAME

From lavish latrines with fancy fixtures to the most rustic of restrooms, local commodes certainly have character.

EDITED BY
SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY
STEPHEN SHEFFIELD



Above and right: The men's room at **711 Boylston Restaurant and Lounge** is simple and elegant. Within surroundings of slate, stainless steel and granite, flushing becomes an act that's fit for a king.

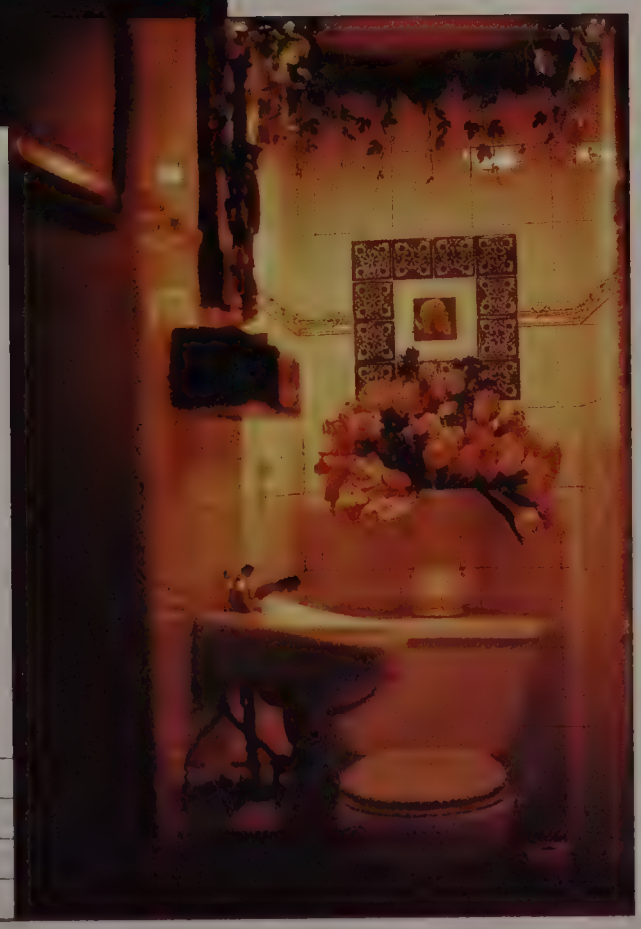


Above: The women's restroom at Landsdowne Street's **Avalon** was intended to be unisex (think *Ally McBeal*) but Boston didn't exactly embrace the idea.



At right: A bathroom inside the Federalist Hotel is well-stocked with plush cotton towels and an assortment of sensual sundries and pampering potions.





Above and right: The men's and women's rooms, respectively, at **Dali** restaurant in Cambridge.



SWF Seeks...

BY SUSAN ABBATTISTA

PHOTOGRAPH BY STEPHEN SHEFFIELD

This thirtysomething, single writer tries to find that rare species—the eligible bachelor

I have a confession to make.

A few months ago, in the lonely dead of winter, I almost fell in love with my plumber. My heat was busted. I'd shivered all night long in old flannel pajamas and my wool hat with the little pom-pom on top. In the morning, I opened the Yellow Pages and called a plumber. Turns out, the guy was cute. He wore tight jeans and a black cap. He looked like a cross between a burglar and an underwear model. I watched as he fiddled with the inner workings of the furnace. His muscles tensed under a dingy thermal shirt. So lost was I in thought that I barely heard him utter one of the few meaningful things he ever said to me: "Ma'am, your circulator is shot."

OK, let's face it. There are times when it really sucks to be single. Shining a flashlight at a cold furnace in the middle of the night is one of them. The truth is, I have been lucky to have had some relatively successful relationships. But for the better part of the past year, while watching most of my friends escape into that floating bubble of coupledom, I've been purely and completely alone.

During my last long stretch of singlehood, which began around 1997, I became one of those mature, thirtysomething people who enthusiastically jumped aboard the Internet-dating bandwagon. I engaged in thoughtful, almost mesmerizing dialogues with four different men, each of whom I later met in person. These men, who seemed completely appealing to me online, revealed themselves to be: 1) a sex-starved poet who whimpered like a dog; 2) a beer guzzler who resembled a frog; 3) an arrogant intellectual who looked like a goat; and 4) a good-natured dwarf who wore a cape and practiced witchcraft. In each case, what seemed magical by modem was glaringly disappointing in the plain light of day.

I have friends who swear by online personals, but take it from me: There is no way to know who is lurking behind those text messages. You can be anyone you want online: successful, hot and full of divine grace. But online there are no fleeting looks, no subtle gestures, no pheromones. You can't see the way a person walks, butters their bread or scratches their nose. That is why this winter, after my sudden desire for the unsuspecting plumber, I was determined to meet someone in real time.

So I tried three relatively affordable means of putting yourself "out there": the classy MFA Fridays, the venerable LunchDates and the no-nonsense 8-minute-date. What follows are three snapshots of my attempts to meet eligible bachelors face-to-face.

Of Tweed and Silk

At the threshold of the long and narrow Koch Gallery, I stood there and thought, Man, this is far from my usual haunts in the smoky recesses of rock clubs like Lilli's and the Middle East. On this night in early March, at least 300 attendees of MFA Fridays gathered beneath gold-framed, early European paintings. I stood nervously near the door and surveyed the scene. Most men were dressed in tweed jackets, pressed shirts and wool vests, and most women wore conservative outfits—blouses with slacks or skirts—with understated earrings, dark hose and sensible shoes. The average age seemed to be around 40. There was a certain vibe—maturity mixed with sheepishness—that reminded me of a high-school dance attended only by students who did very well on their SATs.

Despite an air of refinement, I was nearly bowled over by the noise. Maybe this was due to the acoustics provided by the high, domed ceilings. Maybe I was really hearing the strains of estrogen and testosterone surging beneath people's well-tailored clothes. Within the dense crowd, men and women talked animatedly, most in small groups, as the two small bars served drinks at a steady clip. Then I noticed something interesting: Many of the women were talking to other women, and many of the men were talking to other men.

I purchased a drink ticket and made small talk with a woman standing in front of me. She seemed to be about 50 years old and was dressed elegantly in a cream-colored suit and purple silk blouse. I told her it was my first time there. "Don't be disappointed if you don't meet someone," she said, eager to move back into the fray. "The men will blatantly check you out, but they don't really come up to you." I smiled and downed my weak screwdriver.

Soon I approached two well-dressed, Middle Eastern men in their late 20s and asked if they were having a good time. "I've been here for two hours," one of the polite gentlemen said to me, "and the same groups of people are still talking to each other." "Yes," his friend agreed, "I think there are many closed circles of people. The women don't really come up to you."

I learned that a lot of these people were "repeaters," after-work minglers who attend MFA Fridays on a regular basis. Lots of the conversations were among people who had arrived together or who had met there on prior evenings. I wondered how much brand-new mingling was going on among total strangers, and whether anyone would introduce himself to me.

I positioned myself under a painting from the late 1400s called *The Dead Christ with Angels*, by Giovanni Battista di Jacopo. I stared up at the naked vestige of Jesus, lying in the comforting arms of winged women wearing nightgowns. I waited for something to happen. After just a few minutes, a tall, ruddy, jovial-looking fellow came and stood beside me. "It's not conducive to lust, all these crucifixes hanging over you," he said, spraying me with saliva. I tried to smile and we introduced ourselves. His name was Leonard.

Leonard soon admitted that he actually had a girlfriend. Then he pressed his mouth to my ear: "Let me let you in on a little secret: Some of the people here aren't even single—they're just lonely as hell." Even though he was drunk, and chronically pessimistic, Leonard made me laugh. "New Englanders are very cold, just like the weather," he told me. "I'm here with my buddy, and you know, if we were down in Georgia, he'd be seduced by now."

I did end up with a couple of phone numbers that night, but they belonged to men who seemed to emit subtle clues—almost like the faint scent of mothballs—that indicated they were from a slightly different social planet. I do think that I would attend MFA Fridays again, but only if a bunch of friends came with me. Maybe I could meet someone there—an adventuresome sort with a keen sense of irony, someone who also wouldn't mind catching a band or two afterward.

Coffee, Tea or...?

When I arrived at the Brighton office of LunchDates one afternoon in February, I thought I had stumbled into the wrong place. Let's just say that the '70s-era furniture and beat-up carpeting made a cold February afternoon just that much more dreary. In any case, I tried not to judge a book by its cover. I was curious about how the venerable dating service worked, and whether co-owner Steve Penner had a match in mind for me.

Penner gave me a quick run-down on LunchDates. The 19-year-old company has five offices and about 20,000 members. The typical LunchDates client falls into two groups of people: "those who've been devoted to their career and now want balance, and divorced people." The median age is mid- to late-30s; about 90 percent of those people are college-educated; and most are "bright and energetic people who don't enjoy the bar scene."

Here's how it works: After contacting LunchDates, you answer a set of questions: height, weight, age, town, education, marital history, number of children and whether you smoke. (Heavy smokers and those who are very overweight are not overly encouraged to join.) Next, you go to a LunchDates office and do the full-length interview. If you decide to join, a relationship counselor arranges each date—drinks, coffee, brunch or lunch—at a public restaurant. The date only knows your first name; it's up to you to share any additional information. Based on the feedback you give your counselor about each date, you are supposed to be matched with dates who increasingly come closer to your ideal.

Penner took me through the paces of the interview. He learned that I have never been married, take yoga, practice Buddhist meditation and enjoy reading short stories. I told him that I wanted a match to be 32 to 42 years old, liberal, artsy and funny. Looks were not as important as personality (short was OK, as was a lack of hair), but I definitely didn't like mustaches. As Penner took detailed notes, he mentioned that men tend to rate a woman's looks as their No. 1 priority; women, meanwhile, put sense of humor on top of their "must-have" list.

At the end of the interview, Penner made his assessment. Although he was glad that I was flexible about a man's height and general appearance, we hit a snag on the subject of age. "I have to be honest," he said. "Most men want to date a younger woman. Any woman who joins in her late 30s has to be patient. What you're looking for—liberal, progressive men within that age range—are very much in demand. If you're willing to go up to age 45, we could do a good job for you. If you want to date men who are younger than you, I would probably advise you not to join."

Soon I was paired with my personal counselor, a nice woman named Mel. After a week, Mel matched me with a 46-year-old man named Jack (his name has been changed to protect his privacy), who drove in from a Western suburb. I met Jack at a designated spot in the Charles Hotel after 10 minutes of squirming in my coat and trying to look relaxed. Thankfully, Jack greeted me with confidence. He had warm, brown eyes and no facial hair. I looked at him, sensed a certain optimism in his walk, and immediately thought "Maybe."

We went for cappuccino at Peet's. As we talked, I pictured what I looked like there with a complete stranger, smiling and nodding. I felt like a goon. When Jack told me how much he loved jazz, my hopes suddenly wilted. (Jazz drives me crazy.) But Jack was cool. He was upbeat and charming. And, like me, he even followed Buddhist philosophies. However, when all was said and done, I think that the spark, that elusive "zing," was missing.

After our date, I received one e-mail message from Jack. Even though I liked him, I'm not sure if I liked him enough. So I am reluctant to respond. In this case, being friendly could lead him on. And I definitely don't want to do that.

I didn't have the chance to see whether LunchDates would improve the quality of matches based on my feedback, but what I learned from Jack (who's had nine dates so far) is that each date is its own entity. And a relationship counselor's success in predicting the chemistry between two strangers is probably no more reliable than a handicapper's ability to peg the outcome of a horse race.

You're Blocking the Brie

After registering for a speed-dating event on *8minutedating.com*, I arrived at the Atlantic 101 restaurant in the North End and congregated with about 80 other professionals in the 30-to-40 age range. Glasses of wine were expensive ($7); there were complimentary snacks. I signed in and was assigned a code name. I put on a name tag that said "Hello My Name Is Susan36." Then I parked myself next to the cheese platter.

All around me, people joked and mingled. While stuffing myself with Brie, I struck up a number of friendly conversations with men and women alike. Quite a few people had attended other speed-dating events and told me that it was no big deal. Others, like me, stood around and nervously scratched at their collars. This crowd seemed a bit more youthful and rowdy than the one at MFA Fridays. The attire for both sexes was carefully dressed-down. I learned that these events "sell out early" for women, and eligible bachelors are recruited up till the very last minute.

Soon the event commenced. Organization was a little rough, but maybe that was because the fledgling 8minutedating company has only been hosting events since February. After some confusion, everyone finally made their way to an assigned table. Then the dating began: The men played a game of musical chairs (the emcee announcing, "OK, now skip ahead five seats") while the women sat still and waited for their next date to settle in. In the course of the evening, I met eight men: Ron35, Stuart17, Bob34, Phil31, Patrick25, Joe19, Don11 and Fred12. Every one of them was a computer programmer. (The woman seated next to me got six programmers and two lawyers.) Interestingly, my dates had traveled from as far afield as North Andover and Nashua, N.H., to be there.

After each "date," people jotted down their notes on a yellow "scorecard." Next to Ron35's name, I wrote "square jaw, schoolteacher-ish" and next to Stuart17, I wrote "yawn; Q-and-A support." Next to Joe19, I simply wrote "mustache." Don11 was "still wearing his high-school ring." Patrick25 had "sarcastic (scary?) wit." Surprisingly, I found eight minutes to be more than enough time to decide whether a person had that special something. Under the column headed "Would you like another date?" I only checked Yes for my first visitor, Ron35.

At the end of the event, we were told to log on to the Web site within 48 hours to enter the code names of the people we liked. If I entered the name of someone who also entered my name, then I automatically would be sent contact information for that person over e-mail. I toyed with the idea of entering all the men's names, just to see who entered my name, but in the interest of fairness, I decided against it.

Even though I thought 8minute dating felt too much like an 8minutejobinterview, I had a pretty good time. The laid-back atmosphere was just right, even if my face did get sore from smiling through all that polite banter. More important, I recently received an e-mail telling me how to reach Ron35.

When all is said and done, I have to say that participating in singles-related activities can be hard. Actually, much harder than I had imagined. It feels kind of like accidentally appearing naked at one's own birthday party. I tip my hat to the many single folks out there who take risks and consistently put their egos on the line. And though you can't force love to happen—as the old saying goes, you usually find love when you're not even looking for it—I do think you can increase your chances of meeting someone special by placing yourself in as many socially fertile situations as possible. In a few days, I'll have coffee with Ron35. I mean, *Ron*. And I suppose that never would have been arranged if I'd stayed home watching *ER* on the couch.

And finally, as difficult as it is to meet people, I think I will stick with face-to-face introductions. What I've learned from seconds of eye contact has been much more potent, and accurate, than any crafted text message I have ever received. Of course, I still wouldn't mind getting a nice, juicy e-mail from that plumber. IB

If You Go...

An at-a-glance look at three ways to meet other singles in the flesh

MFA Fridays

Pros: People seem more polite than those you tend to meet at the corner bar; during the summer, the event is held in the romantic Calderwood Courtyard

Cons: When the event is held inside, the noise level can be oppressive; hours are on the early side (5:30 to 9:30pm., and the bar closes at 9pm.)

Smart move: Go with a friend or two, after you've had a few drinks somewhere else

Cost: $10

LunchDates

Pros: Safe; confidential; personalized assistance from a counselor who really gets to know you

Cons: You have to be patient and flexible about what you want; pricey compared with the other events listed here

Smart move: Know thyself

Cost: Three months (at least five dates) is $525; six months (at least 10 dates) is $675; one year (at least 20 dates) is $875

8-Minute Dating

Pros: The format is great for people who are normally very bashful; you only have to spend eight minutes with someone you don't like

Cons: Being polite and enthusiastic all night long can be exhausting, like being drained by a job interview

Smart move: Arrive early and mingle near the appetizers; for women, sign up as soon as event is announced to avoid being wait-listed

Cost: $28, not including drinks

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NIGHT MOVES

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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER



Previous page: White tank top by Theory, $90. Denim skirt by Buffalo Jeans, $64. Both available at Jasmine Sola.

This page: Green leather jacket by Laundry, $428. Available at Jasmine Sola



Black and white dress
y Sharagano, $190.
Available at Leila

Black Theory cutout top with studs, $145. Khaki eyelit skirt by BCBG, $185. Both available at Jasmine Sola.

Models: Yamada and Swaynee for Irene Marie

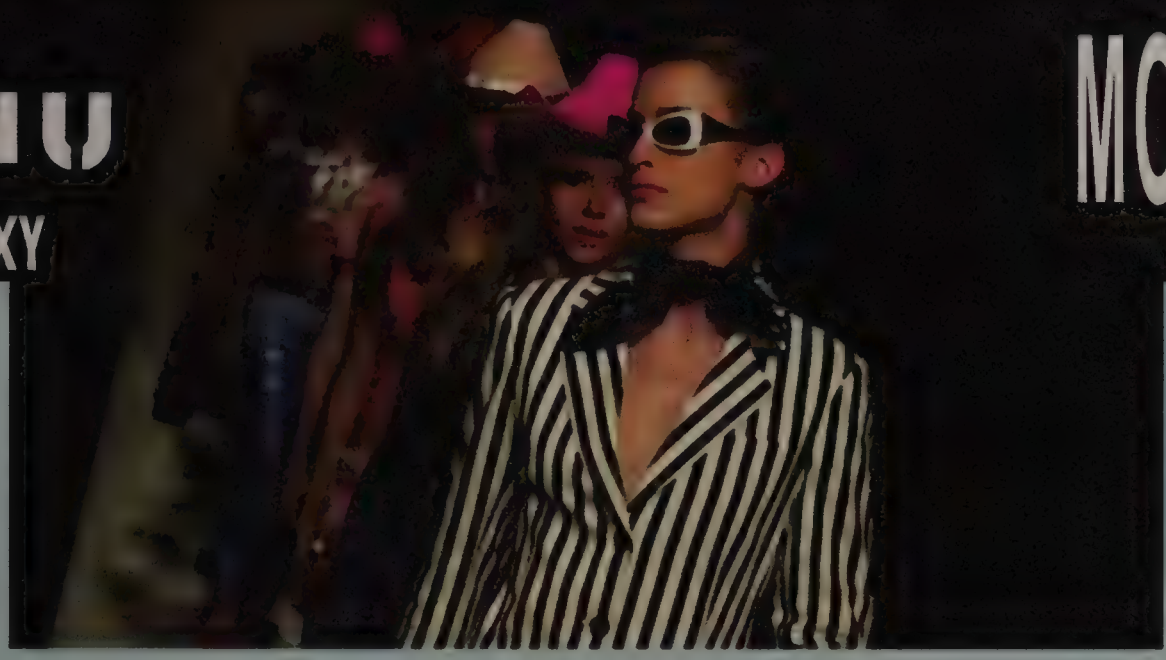
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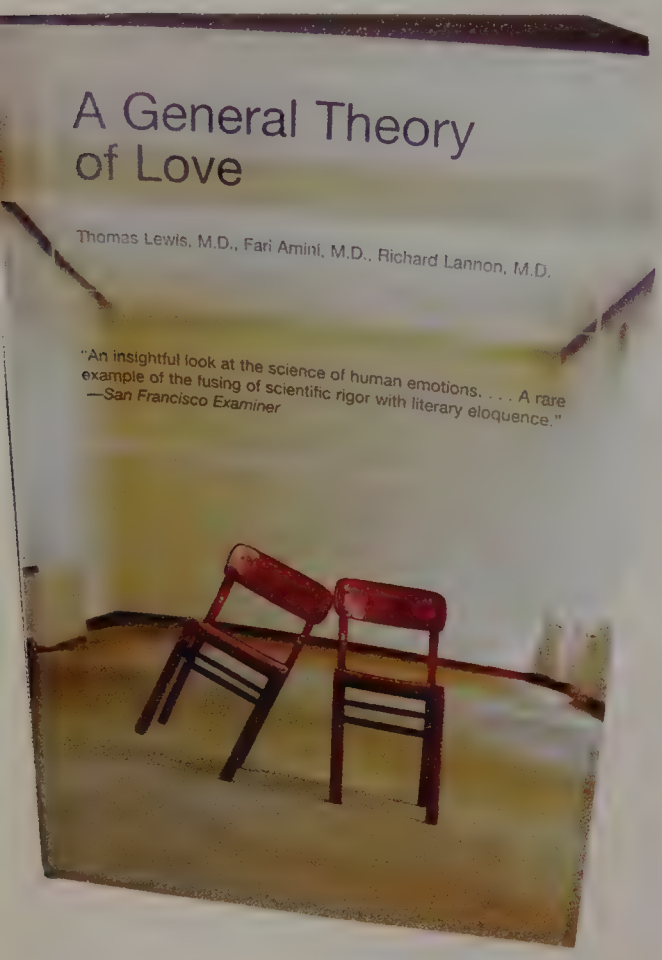
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Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



NO MAMMAL IS AN ISLAND

Three psychiatrists—Thomas Lewis, Fari Amini and Richard Lannon—find the science in love, and vice versa, in *A General Theory of Love*.

That area called the limbic brain, which "drapes itself around the reptilian part of the brain with languid ease," as these psychiatrists put it, is the part of our gray matter that throbs with our proclivity toward human connection. In *A General Theory of Love*, these writers passionately explore the neurological story behind love. Obviously, love brings us together, but this book goes farther. Using non-dry science and dashes of poetry, it illustrates how our neural networks are actually harmonized, and virtually rewired, by loving relations. Think of the heartbeat-to-heartbeat contact between a nursing mother and baby, or the closely listening attunement and receptivity that a sensitive therapist has for a patient. What they call "attractors" condense bits of our neural networks into patterns and tendencies that form the grooves we pour our emotions into—for children, mates, animals, work. All kinds of intimacy blend our particular ingredients in what the authors call "limbic resonance"—a symphony of mutual exchange and internal adaptation whereby two mammals become attuned to each other's inner states.



WHO WEARS THE PANTS IN THIS GRAND MANSE?

House tours of the Victorian-era Gibson House , at 137 Beacon Street in Boston, are held May 1-Oct. 1, Wed.-Sun; Nov.-April 30, Sat. and Sun. at 1, 2 and 3pm. $5, 267-6338.

Gay blade Charles Hammond Gibson, the last of the three generations of Gibsons who lived in this five-story Victorian abode, occupied what can rightly be called a manse all the way to 1954. Before that, almost a century of Victorian living was imprinted on these rooms that feel both like Masterpiece Theatre and like a more reserved Boston of today. Edward Clarke Cabot designed the Italian Renaissance house in 1859, and it displays leather-like wallpaper, a faux birds-eye maple bed, swooning velvet curtains and some lacy white dresses once worn here. Five roomy floors accommodated the family, including their seven servants who scurried way upstairs to quarters distinctly downgraded to linoleum, then downstairs to the bottom floor where cooking, and the three-day ritual of the laundry was performed. The family eight-course meal was served at 2pm, one floor up, and the beautiful service abides on the formal table. Horses delivered food, milk, ice and coal to the back shed, and spent ashes were later removed. The plangent song of the rag-and-bottle man was heard in the alley, and the traveling scissor grinder wheeled in his round stone. Have a nice Victorian day!

CODDLE YOUR DOGS

FootSmart is a catalog directed at "lower body health"—your aching feet. 800-870-7149; products are also available at The Good Feet Store, 809 Washington Street, Newton, 244-1930.



The Good Feet Store proprieter Dmitri Zigrino

It only takes one errant toenail crunching into the side of a tight shoe or a throbbing arch to remind you that feet are major beasts of burden. Both the FootSmart catalog and The Good Feet Store aim to release your "dogs" from their "doghouse." An ingenious array of silicone or polymer-gel products will cushion the feet from the floor, or to separate the clamoring quintuplets of corn-inflicted toes. A big, old wooden foot-shaped gadget will stretch your shoes and bring needed space for crunched toes. FootSmart sells lots of shoes by Teva, Ecco, Romika, along with ergonomic Euroshoes by Arcopedico. Ornate-looking insoles redistribute foot pressure, and you can pass those benefits on up your legs, knees and back. Sensitive (or diabetic) legs need non-constricting socks, while others actually provide "graduated compression" to improve circulation. Other creams, insoles and solutions attack smelly feet, icky fungus, varicose veins and scars.Troubled knees and ankles, athletic or aging, can get support by anything from a neoprene brace that resembles a chunk of Darth Vader's garb to a simple band that braces the knee tendon. Products let you pedal or "walk" on spongy things at your desk to stimulate circulation, or do stair-steps on hydraulic "running" cylinders.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: WENDY MIMRAN; PAUL TANCREDI; RACHEL BROMBERG

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INSIDE: Becker hits Taranta; valet proliferation; Cambodian New Year; Table for Ten





Chef Rachid Rouzky with a pot for mussels. Above: Chilean sea bass.

REVIEW

A Pocketful of Paris

Le Bistro represents France in Inman Square's United Nations of eateries

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

The area around Inman Square in Cambridge is thickly settled with restaurants. One can tour the world gastronomically just by walking up Cambridge Street, as one ethnic eatery after another beckons hungry patrons. Cuisine from America's South coexists with Portuguese, Chinese, Indian, Brazilian, Mexican and Moroccan, to mention the more prominent, and most of them are ensconced in modest storefronts where the overhead keeps prices in line and value high. Le Bistro, an unassuming French eatery, is a relatively new addition to this rich mix.

The restaurant's interior is smartly appointed in light wooden paneling hung with polished brass sconces and a wood-framed mirror painted with a classic bistro storefront. The paneling is carried over to a coffered ceiling. Small inlaid marble-topped tables are set with large, white cloth napkins and simple votive candles. Of course, there is recorded music, featuring Paris' "little sparrow," Edith Piaf, who is becoming ubiquitous in the local French bistro scene.

Things started out on a high note, with a decent, reasonably priced wine list. We chose a Syrah from Languedoc, 1998 le Fontonelle ($22), a reliable, full-bodied red with a peppery finish. Warm, crisp crusted French rolls were delightful, as was the classy touch of sliced lemon in the water. The foil-wrapped butter pats, however, brought us back down to basic bistro level.

We started dinner with a bowl of "classic French onion soup" ($4.50). Its dark, beef enriched stock and abundant onions garnished with a Gruyère-coated crouton rendered it sweet and satisfying, but unfortunately it arrived at the table lukewarm, served in a big, shallow white bowl instead of gratineed in a crock. Crostini ($7.95) yielded a trio of oversized slices of grilled bread, topped with blue cheese, mushrooms, tapanade and chunks of herbed tomatoes, with a refreshing mixed green salad on the side. Prince Edward Island mussels ($7.97 a half order) were fresh and grit-free, swimming in a peppery "Sauce Poulette" of shallots, bacon, white wine, parsley and cream. The sizable half order of 18 plump mollusks left us speculating how large a full order might be. Alternative sauces for the mussels were offered as well, including Provençale, Mariniere, Basquaise and Brettonne.

Main courses—why must a restaurant billing itself as French call its main courses "entrees"?—included an excellent roasted half chicken ($13.95). Its herb-encrusted skin roasted to a crisp golden turn, the chicken was succulent and flavorful, accompanied by a medley of vegetables including zucchini, carrots and red peppers. Unfortunately, the chicken was served atop a giant mound of mashed potatoes, a far cry from how any self-respecting French bistro would present it. A pair of grilled quail ($19.95) were first-rate, garnished by the same vegetables that accompanied the chicken, along with chunks of roasted potatoes, mushrooms, shallots, juicy berries and raisins, in a rich, dark sauce, heady with balsamic vinegar.

Steak frites ($21.95), a bistro staple, was remarkably and pleasantly un-bistro like.



Mussels Provençale are tasty and plentiful.

A huge, thick Black Angus New York sirloin, it was the equal of any pricey steakhouse offering. The accompanying French fries were soggy, but broccoli flowerets, zucchini and carrot slices, and sautéed onions were exemplary. Our only disappointment among Le Bistro's main courses was the grilled salmon ($16.95), which the menu described as served with béarnaise sauce. When the plate arrived, it contained a sad-looking wedge of salmon perched atop a mound of starch and vegetables, obscured by the thin, rose-colored sauce in which they were inundated. When we queried the waitress about the sorry-looking sauce, she inquired in the kitchen and returned with the chef, who reported that we "do our béarnaise differently." Unsatisfied by the response, we accepted the invitation to remove the plate from the table and the salmon from our bill. Fortunately, the portions of the other main courses were more than ample to share among the four of us.

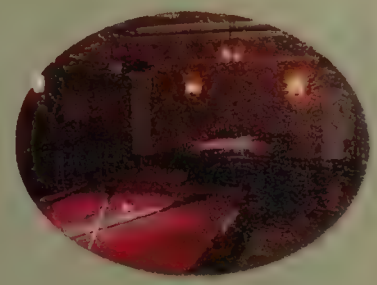
Except for the salmon, Le Bistro's appetizers and the main courses were more than respectable. The desserts (all $6), on the other hand, were substandard. The crème brulee was simply awful—a lumpy pudding hiding beneath a thick, caramelized sugar shell. Crème caramel was decent, but it was swimming in a sweet bath of whipped cream and caramel sauce. The chocolate mousse, served in a wine goblet, was overly sweet, but it turned out to be the best of our three dessert choices.

Le Bistro's oversized plates vied for space on undersized tables. While this made the task of serving our foursome a challenge, our earnest, accommodating waitress tried hard to please. The sauces for the most part were well put together—particularly those accompanying the chicken and the quail—but they were excessive in quantity, overwhelming the food they were meant to accompany. The simple adjustment of reducing the sauces further and serving them underneath or on the side would be a major improvement. Beyond that, Le Bistro should eschew the all-too-common Boston practice of stacking meat and fish atop a foundation of starch and vegetables. Authentic French bistros opt for two-dimensional presentation, a tradition worth emulating, since the "tall food" nostrums of many American restaurants tend to confuse tastes and degrade textures. But these quibbles are relatively minor. With all its shortcomings, Le Bistro is a pleasant neighborhood restaurant, offering significant value in an engaging, friendly environment. iB

Le Bistro

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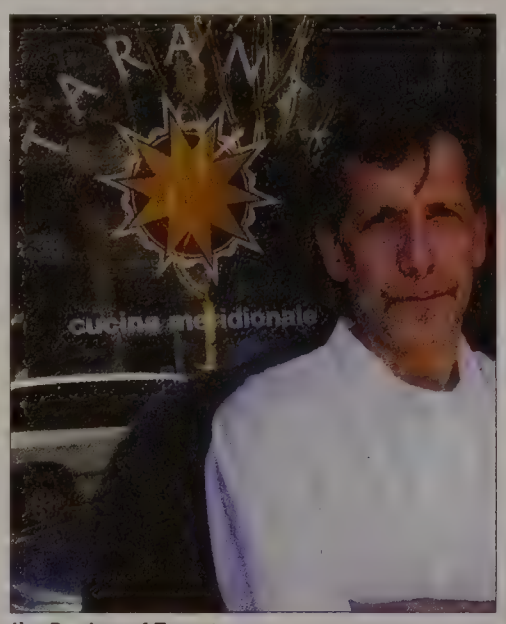
DISH

Star Matchups

Becker takes on Taranta...Eggplant takes on chocolate...Boston takes over Beard

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Is the third time really the charm? For **Mario Nocera**, chef/co-owner of the well-regarded **Terramia** and **Antico Forno**, taking on the additional position of executive chef at **Taranta** apparently piled too much onto his professional plate. Yet when he left to devote more time to his pair of North End restaurants, the chef who took his place was himself stepping into his third major restaurant project. The difference: Jim Becker, former chef/owner of the Catalan-themed **Rauxa** in Somerville and past chef at **Rustica** in Belmont, had left his first two gigs behind.



Jim Becker of Taranta

"It's a nice segue for me," says Becker, noting "the parallels between Sardinian food and Catalan food. A whole section of Sardinia is Catalan-speaking, and there's that whole Arab influence: raisins and pine-nuts."

As for the menu at Taranta, Becker says he's "still working mostly with Mario's menu," though change is afoot. When Becker fulfilled Taranta's commitment to participate in a recent chocolate competition, he prepared Nocera's signature dessert of chocolate eggplant topped with orange compote. I like eggplant, and I love chocolate, but this is one marriage of flavors that never should have made it past the one-night-stand stage. When asked his opinion of the judges' unanimous choice for dead last, even Becker couldn't seem to work up any personal enthusiasm for it. Note to Becker: Start changing menu *here*.

Once a luxurious amenity, valet parking has become a virtual necessity in most of Boston and Cambridge. Now, valet service, in co-op form, is available in non-luxurious but equally parking-challenged Allston Village Thursday through Saturday nights. Just drop off your car at one of the two valet zones on Brighton Ave. at Harvard Ave., pay $6, and get validated at a participating eatery: **Big City**, **Carlo's Cucina Italia**, **The Kells**, **Pho Pasteur**, **Rangoli**, **Sunset Grill & Tap** or **Harper's Ferry**.

REASONS TO BE CHEERFUL, PART THREE

It's time for the annual $10.40 tax-time lunch at **Café Fleuri** at **Le Meridien**. This year, appropriately enough, the event takes place on Friday the 13th. Reservations are a must; call 956-8751.

Not your mother's Manischewitz: **Michael Levine**, sous chef at **The Vault**, **Howie Rubin** of Bauer Wines, and **Susan Fortuna**, owner of both businesses, will host a kosher-style food and wine pre-Passover dinner at The Vault on Monday, April 2. (Nobody can outdo my mother when it comes to brisket, but then again, she doesn't serve hers with a ragout of brussel sprouts, baby carrots and salsify.) Plus, Rubin's selections from kosher vintners are sure to be worth checking out.

There's not one, not two, but three days—April 13, 14 and 15—to celebrate the Cambodian New Year at **The Elephant Walk** in Boston and Cambridge and sister restaurant **Carambola** in Waltham. In addition to a traditional shrine of Buddha surrounded by symbols of material life, each restaurant will offer special menu items such as fresh bamboo soup with catfish, spinach and coconut milk; sticky rice bundles stuffed with pork and mung beans and wrapped in banana leaves; and a salad of cubed raw tuna, avocado and fresh Khmer herbs tossed with a lemongrass galangal dressing.

Congrats to the local contingent of this year's James Beard Foundation award nominees. Four out of the five candidates for "American Express Best Chef: Northeast" are Boston-based: **Barbara Lynch** of **No. 9 Park**, **Frank McClelland** of **L'Espalier**, **Ken Oringer** of **Clio** and **Steve Johnson** of **The Blue Room** (OK, that's Cambridge-based). **Amanda Lydon**, formerly of **Truc**, is a strong contender for Grey Poupon Rising Star Chef of the Year. And if there were an office pool, we'd place our bets on **Jasper White's Summer Shack** to reel in the Best New Restaurant Award. **iB**

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Boston Wine Festival 2000
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (888-660-WINE). www.bhh.com. •March 30: Join American Institute of Wine & Food founder **Julia Child** for an intimate dinner with some of her favorite wines from California. •April 6: Grand Finale Reception.

Cotes du Rhone Wine Dinner
Cafe Fleuri, 250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). March 28, 6:30pm. $45. This three-course dinner features the wines of Gabriel Meffre of France's Cotes du Rhone region.

Festival of Holi
Saffron Restaurant & Bar, 279A Newbury St., Boston (247-4112). March 31, 11am-4pm. Free. Holi is the most colorful and ancient of the Indian festivals. Celebrate with entertainment and a complimentary buffet on the patio.

Fine Art of Cheese Tasting
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). April 10, 6-9pm. $53. Sample cheeses with Formaggio Kitchen owner **Ihsan Gurdal**.

Great Chefs Cooking for a Cure
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (632-3021). April 5, 7-10pm. $50, $60 at the door. More than 30 chefs from such restaurants as Maison Robert, Elephant Walk, Artu and No. 9 Park offer tastings to benefit the Gillette Center for Women's Cancers at Dana-Farber.

LifeSavor
Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (445-7777). www.servings.org. *March 29, 5:30pm. Tables of 10 priced at $2,500, $5,000 and $10,000.* Eighty Boston restaurants host 80 intimate dinners throughout Greater Boston. The evening kicks off with a cocktail reception and auction at Le Meridien. Then a fleet of trolleys whisks guests away to dinner, followed by champagne and dancing late at a private club.

Ma Soba Wine Dinner Series
Ma Soba, 156 Cambridge St., Boston (973-6680). April 4, 7pm. $55. Each course of this East-West tasting dinner will be paired with a different wine from St. Francis winery in Sonoma Valley.

Mediterranean Cuisine
Le Bistro, 1287 Cambridge St., Cambridge (868-1247). Celebrate the diversity of Mediterranean cuisine. •April 6-7: Italian.

Party for a Plate
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (552-1884). April 5, 6-10pm. $25 (or $40 for two). This annual fund-raiser for the Greater Boston Food Bank features a number of Boston's restaurants serving taste-size portions. Restaurants include Brew Moon, Coyote Grill, Legal Seafood, Redbones and the Wrap.

Pre-Passover Food and Wine Dinner
The Vault, 105 Water St., Boston (292-9966). April 2, 6:30pm. $50. Enjoy a kosher-style food and wine pre-Passover dinner.

Regional Italian Dinner Series
Marcuccio's, 125 Salem St., Boston (723-1807). April 2-4, 7pm. A five-course menu highlights traditional dishes and wine from the region of Liguria, Italy.

Sandrine's Bistro Cooking Demo
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). April 2, 6-9pm. $57. Chef **Carlos Valente** demonstrates some of this award-winning restaurant's favorite dishes.

South Pacific Night
Jake & Earl's Dixie Roadhouse, 220 Moody St., Waltham (781-894-4227). April 10, 6-10pm. The xecutive chef of the East Coast Grill, **Eric Gburski**, will prepare a special menu.

Taste of the Back Bay
Prudential Tower Skywalk, 800 Boylston St., Boston (859-RSVP). April 6, 6:30-10pm. $60, $75 at the door. The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay presents this tasting of food and drink from Back Bay restaurants, brew houses and wineries.

Taste of Beacon Hill
Holiday Inn, 5 Blossom St., Boston (854-7667). March 29, 6:30-9:30pm. $35, $45 at the door. Taste food from 17 Beacon Hill restaurants, including No. 9 Park, The Federalist, Lala Rokh, Ma Soba, Panificio, 75 Chestnut and Torch.

Taste of Boston
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (787-2637). March 29, 6-9pm. $175. Ten Boston restaurants, including Flour Bakery, Hammersley's Bistro, Icarus, L'Espalier, Rialto and Truc, present a cocktail buffet at the opening gala for the Boston Antiques Show.

Vintner's Menu
Aura, One Seaport Lane, Boston (385-4300). Through April 2. $59. Chef **Ed Doyle**'s three-course meal highlights selections from Sakonnet Vineyards.

Water Tasting
142 Berkeley St., Boston (859-1400). April 1, 12:01pm. $5 per taste. Water is defined as "a clear, colorless, odorless and tasteless liquid." But is it really? This swish-and-spit event determines, once and for all, which Greater Boston town has the best-tasting drinking water.

TASTY TIDBIT

TABLE FOR TEN

On April 3, gather nine of your closest (and hungriest) friends and head to one of 18 restaurants around town for the second annual Table for Ten fund-raiser for Neurofibromatosis Inc. Participating restaurants, including Anago, Brasserie Jo, Lala Rokh, Top of the Hub, The Vault and Grill 23, will host a three-course dinner in a festive setting. After dinner, join up with other do-gooders at a dessert reception at the Rack with live music and a silent auction. *(781-272-9936). April 3, 6:30-10pm. $100 per person.*


Chef Michael Foley of The Vault

TOP: RACHEL BROMBERG; BOTTOM: PAUL TANCREDI



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Boston Celtics guard Chris Carr, forward Walter McCarty, captain Antoine Walker and center Vitaly Potapenko celebrating Chris' 27th birthday.

inside RACK

THE

Every Monday 8pm – "In The Biz" Pool Challenge by BackBayBeat.com. No entry fee and complimentary buffet. Registration: 10pm Monday nights.

Every Thursday Night 9pm – "RADIO-ACTIVE" Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman or Party-Time Gregg Daniels! A night you will never forget...or may not be able to remember!

Every Friday Night 6pm – Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Wednesday, April 18th – Legendary guitarist NOEL REDDING FROM THE JIMI HENDRIX EXPERIENCE, Eric Shankman formerly of The Spin Doctors, and Corky Laing from Mountain host their exclusive CD release party! Definitely a party not to miss! 6pm.

Saturday, March 31st – Get Naked and welcome Survivor's winner Richard Hatch to Boston! Star 93.7 will keep you dancing all night long!

Every Sunday 4pm – Join us for our after work Jazz party.



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Utah Jazz player Quincy Lewis, (left) and NBA veteran Danny Manning, (right).



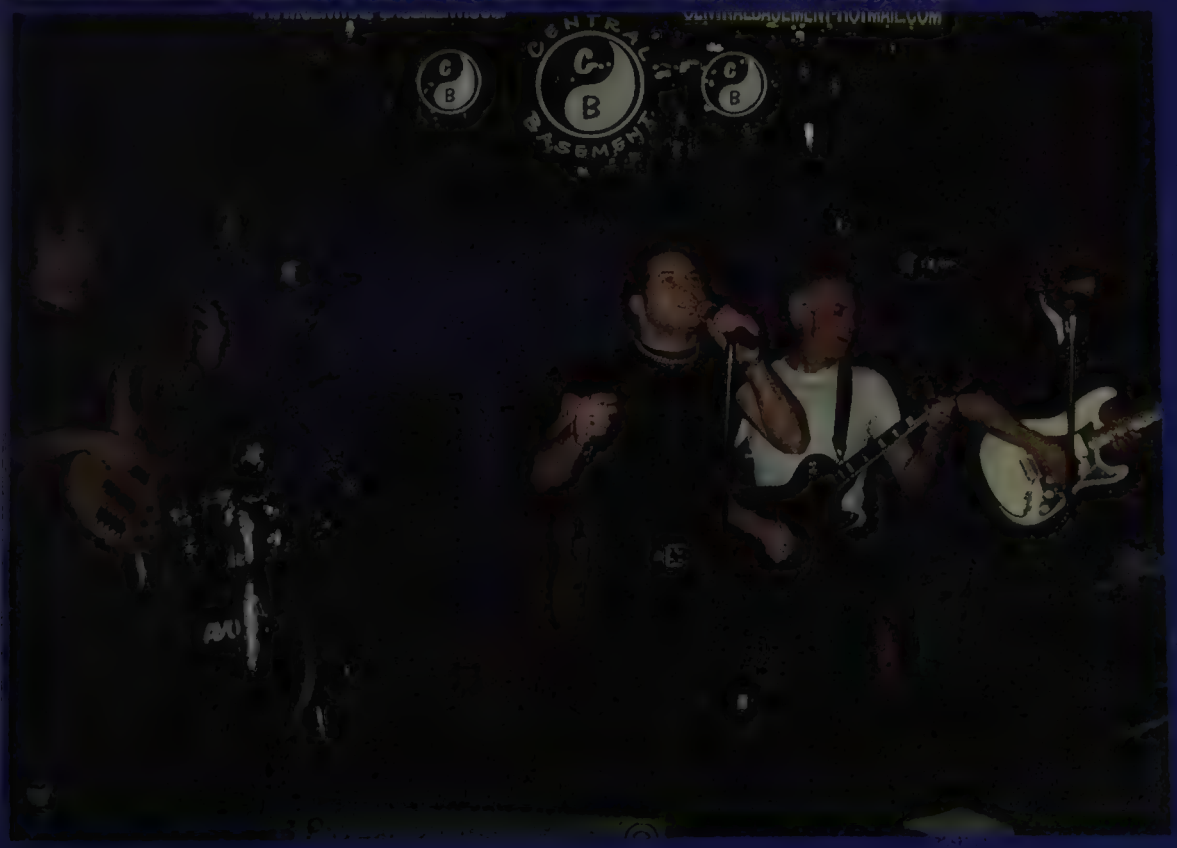
WWF Superstar Prince Albert with Monica and Wendy.

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Central Basement and Kiss 108's Billy Costa rock the house every Friday night!



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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 48

PERFORMING ARTS 50

ART 52

FILM 56

BOOKS & POETRY 60

EDUCATION 61

DANCE CLUBS 62

MUSIC 64

CLASSICAL MUSIC 70

GAY & LESBIAN 72

BODY & MIND 74

CHILDREN 74

SPORTS 74

AROUND TOWN 76

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

CityScope, Comedy,

Education, Sports,

Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

improper picks



BERTRAND GUAY

SAT./APRIL 7 — SUN./MAY 13

CityScope: Clowning Around

The Big Apple Circus' claim to fame is that the audience is never more than 50 feet away from the ring (they're so proud of it that they've even trademarked the clause). Having experienced the thrill ourselves in years past (and suffered through nose-bleed seats for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus), we can authoritatively say that it makes all the difference in the world to be right near the action. This year's show is loosely inspired by the tale of the city mouse and the country mouse: Two clowns embark on a journey through the Big City and meet acrobats, flying trapeze artists, Hulahoop dancers, magicians, hand-balancers, jugglers, rambunctious dogs and magnificent horses. ***Fan Pier, Boston (931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. April 7-May 13. $13-$43.***

THU./MAR. 29 & FRI./APR. 6

Tastings: Battle of the Tastes

Taste of ____ (fill in the blank with your neighborhood of choice). This month, Boston restaurants are dishing up tastes all over the city at a number of events designed to raise money for charity as well as to give people a chance to try out a plethora of restaurants all under one roof. On March 29, there are two, so you'll have to decide which has more appeal: **Taste of Beacon Hill** at the Holiday Inn will feature food from 17 local restaurants, including No. 9 Park, The Federalist, Lala Rokh, Ma Soba, Panificio, 75 Chestnut and Torch. The other, **Taste of Boston**, features Flour Bakery, Hammersley's Bistro, Icarus, L'Espalier, Rialto and Truc at the opening gala for the Boston Antiques Show. A week later, **Taste of Back Bay** hosts 75 Chestnut, Ambrosia on Huntington, Barcode, Davio's, Vox Populi, Bob the Chef's and Mantra, among others, at the Prudential Tower April 6. Choose one...or really pig out, and attend all three. *See the Tasting section on page 40 for venues, prices and times.*

SUNDAY /APRIL 1

Music: Hip-hop Spectacular

So many artists who have an agenda allow their message to dilute their art. Not so with **KRS-ONE**. One of hip-hop's living legends, KRS-ONE's career has been remarkable because his music has always complemented his message and has never overshadowed it. In his early days as co-founder of Boogie Down Productions (along with the late **DJ Scott LaRock**), he pioneered the "conscious rap" movement, challenging the black community to uplift itself. Beneath the social commentary and storytelling, BDP also featured rough, grimy beats that were years ahead of their time. At the moment, right in between a career retrospective compilation album (that's "Greatest Hits" to you) and a brand-new full-length to be released in late April, KRS-ONE is firmly entrenched in rap's past, present and future. He's joined by **The Formula**, and by local legends **Mr. Lif** and **Akrobatik**, and that's an opening set to arrive on time for. On their own, Lif and Ak are both talented MCs who can set a stage on fire. When they team up, though, they burn down the house. Catch the show at the Orpheum at 7pm on April 1, or come a few hours later to view the smoking remains *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green Line to Park*



THU./MAR. 29, FRI./APR. 6 & TUE./APR. 10

<<CityScope: Art for Sale

Art collectors should rejoice at this month's cornucopia of auctions and antique shows. The first, and most prestigious, is the 21st annual **Boston Antiques Show** at the Boston Center for the Arts March 29-April 1. The show features 45 exhibitors presenting fine and country furniture, decorative arts, folk art and modernism. The diverse works range from ancient Egyptian artifacts to art deco and 20th-century design. Up the street, Massachusetts College of Art hosts the annual **MassArt Benefit Art Auction**, with more than 200 contemporary works by artists both famous and undiscovered April 6. Purchase paintings, drawings, photographs, ceramics, sculpture and prints by big-name artists Sonja Blomdahl, Ambreen Butt, Abelardo Morrell and William Wegman. Finally, the Photographic Resource Center at Boston University teams up with Christie'sAuction House to present an auction of more than 150 photographs by such renown photographers as Berenice Abbott, Robert Capa, Thomas Eakings, O. Winston Link and Aaron Siskind April 10. *See the CityScope section on page 48 for venues, prices and times.*





FRI./APRIL 6

Music: Riot Act ^

Local raucous rockers **Helicopter Helicopter** are making their way to T.T. the Bear's Place April 6. The impressive foursome celebrate the release of *By Starlight*, their third CD for Lunch Records (the label run by Orbit members) in four years. Formed in '98 by guitarist/vocalists Julie Chadwick and Chris Zerby, the group, with drummer Ned Gallacher, were released on the Boston rock scene and haven't slowed down since. After releasing their debut, *Squids and Other Fishes*, and relentless touring, they came out with the power punk *Analog and Electrical Fields*. Last year, they went on a nationwide tour that brought them out to L.A. and back, and they are now in the running for a Boston Music Award. This latest album, which they made at Q Division with producer Matthew Ellard (Juliana Hatfield) and added bassist Shawn Setaro, delivers 10 infectious pop songs—and with Julie's more mature voice and Chris' mysterious lyrics, they've never sounded better. *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*



SAT./MAR 31 — SUN./APR 8

<< Comedy: International Comedy Festival

An oppressively long and dreary winter can wear down even the heartiest New Englanders, so the kick-off to the nine-day **International Comedy Festival** March 31 brings a much welcomed change of pace—a chance to laugh ourselves silly with some of the nation's top comedians. For nine straight days, Bostonians will giggle and guffaw, chuckle and cheer on such big-name performers as **Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling** from the *Howard Stern Show (left)*, Frank Santorelli, Julie Barr and Bob Marley. The festival kicks off with three gala shows at the Emerson Majestic Theater, including the April Fools' Gala on April 1, hosted by Kiss 108 DJ Matt Siegel with Boston favorite Tony V and local comedians Ken Rogerson, Patrice O'Neil, DJ Hazzard and Kevin Knox. The rest of the week, there'll be stand-up comedy, local talent showcases, sketch groups, improv groups and theme shows at nine clubs in and around Boston every night through April 8. For a schedule, visit *www.bostoncomedyfestival.com* or call 824-8000 for tickets.

MON./APRIL 9

Film: Orchestrated Silent French Film ^

The Harvard Film Archive presents the internationally renowned ensemble **l'Octour de France** at Sanders Theatre April 9. Under the direction of Canadian composer Gabriel Thibaudeau, the group provides orchestral accompaniment to the silent black-and-white ***Au Bonheur des Dames*** (1930) by Julien Duvivier. Making some 65 films made over his 50-year career, Duvivier is one of the most acclaimed directors of French poetic realism. *Au Bonheur des Dames* (*The Ladies' Paradise*), the story of an orphaned girl who goes to work for her family's rival department store, is one of the last great works of silent cinema. L' Octuor de France was formed in '79 and comprises artists who want to promote music from the 18th century to the present day. For this film, the lively score exemplifies the '30s—with the Charleston, ragtime and French tunes, all mixed together to form the sound of Paris at the time. This isn't the first pairing of the exceptional film and orchestra—the first event was in May of '98 at the Cannes Film Festival. Since then, audiences have been clamoring for the screening/concert. *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (876-4275). 8pm.*

THU./APRIL 5

Music: Too Tough to Die

Fast, energetic, raw punk rock made the Ramones the quintessential rock band—punk pioneers with only the bare essentials: four chords, a catchy melody and simplistic, crazed lyrics. Drummer **Marky Ramone** teams up with local rock artist **Duncan Wilder** for a multimedia spoken-word event at MassArt April 5. Wilder is the opening act—and he's sure to go off on a signature tirade about life, pop culture and heavy metal music. Then, Marky Ramone renders the incredible story of how four kids from Queens turned the rock world upside down—from the time the Ramones first hit the New York clubs in '75 to their breakup in '96—all with concert footage, a question-and-answer session, an autograph signing and (hopefully) a Ramones tune or two. *Massachusetts College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 651 Huntington Ave., Boston (290-5783). 8pm.*

MON./APRIL 9

Books: Man of Letters

Rarely has a memoir created such a uniform outpouring of praise. Readers and critics agree that **Dave Eggers**' *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* more than lives up to its lofty title. While on his national book tour, the literary sensation discusses the paperback edition of his memoir, which includes an entirely new appendix updating the story. The memoir relays how, at the age of 22, Eggers became both an orphan and a surrogate mother when his parents died, and how he struggled to be the guardian of his 8-year-old brother. Throughout it all, he is as self-conscious as he is witty, reflecting on the media-soaked culture he grew up in and is now very much a part of. Nowadays, Eggers edits a quarterly journal and Web site called *McSweeney's*, whose biting pieces decry the prevalence of bland, mainstream journalism. *Wordsworth Books, Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30pm.*

TUES./APR. 10 — SUN./APR. 15

Theater: Tickets for Rent

Haven't seen **Rent** yet? Why the hell not? It's the opposite of everything you've always hated about sappy, contrived Broadway musicals—and it's got a rockin' score to boot. (Editor's note: My parents hated it—you can't get a much better recommendation than that.) This Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning musical (back in town after two years) hits home with its tale of a community of struggling artists and squatters and their attempts to realize their hopes and dreams. Inspired by Puccini's *La Boheme*—only this time around the setting's New York's East Village and the plague is AIDS—*Rent* captures the spirit of our generation. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1pm and 7pm. April 10-15. $35-$65.*

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Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

North of Boston CVB Annual Dinner
Mansion on Turner Hill, 251 Topsfield Road, Ipswich, Mass. (978-977-7760). $50. The North of Boston Convention and Visitors Bureau hosts keynote speaker Rabbi Harold Kushner, author of *When Bad Things Happen to Good People.*

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

April Fools' Soiree
Atlantic 101, 101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (739-6903). $10. Enjoy munchies and dancing with G&J Productions.

Disney On Ice's Beauty & the Beast
Worcester's Centrum Centre, 50 Foster St., Worcester (228-6000). March 29-30, 7pm; March 31, 11am, 3:30pm and 6pm; April 1, 1pm. $15. This production of song, dance, comedy and romance showcases figure skating excellence as it tells the story of a young girl who finds that true beauty lies within.

LifeSavor
Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (445-7777). www.servings.org. *5:30pm. Tables of 10 priced at $2,500, $5,000 and $10,000.* Eighty of Boston's finest restaurants will join forces with 80 of the city's most illustrious community leaders to host 80 intimate dinners throughout Greater Boston. The evening kicks off with a cocktail reception and auction hosted by Le Meridien. Then a fleet of trolleys will whisk guests away to their private dinner, followed by champagne and dancing late into the evening at a private club.

21st Annual Boston Antiques Show
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (787-2637). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. March 29, 6-9pm (Gala Preview with Taste of the South End); March 30-31, 11am-8pm; April 1, 11am-6pm. $10. The show will feature 45 exhibitors presenting fine and country furniture, decorative arts, folk art and modernism.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

Orchid Sale
Lyman Estate Greenhouses, 185 Lyman St., Waltham (781-891-4882, ext. 244). March 30-31, 10am-4pm. Enjoy the peak blooming period of hundreds of orchid plants.

Passport to France
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (912-0400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Gala Reception: March 30, 6-9pm. $55. Travel Fair Expo: March 31, 10am-5pm. $10. This evening is devoted to tourism: Discover hidden places in France, Quebec and the French West Indies. Some 20 representatives from France, Quebec and Martinique will offer advice on travel abroad during the evening event and the next day at the travel expo.

Seven-Minute Dating
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge (623-7571). http://jjproductions.net. MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 6:30pm-1am. Ages 28-48. Enjoy hors d'oeuvres and the music of the a cappella group, Starving Artists. At 8pm, the seven-minute dating event begins. Afterward, dance to swing, salsa and top-40 music.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

An April Fools' '70s Party
The International, 184 High St., Boston (542-4747). MBTA: Blue Line to State. 8pm. $10 (for costumed guests). $20. This '70s party for young Jewish professionals features dancing, hors d'oeuvres and door prizes.



Former Big Dig spokesman Dan McNichol leads bicycle tours of construction sites around town.

Preview

Bike the Big Dig

There's no better way to see what's really going on down in the shadowy depths of the Big Dig than by taking a tour led by former Big Dig spokesman Dan McNichol, author of *The Big Dig*. Considered the foremost expert on the history of the nation's largest public works project, McNichol and 30 others will hop on their bikes at the end of March for a series of three-hour bicycle tours of the major construction sites—from the Charles River to South Station to South Boston and the North End.

"The perfect way to see the Big Dig is on a bike," affirms McNichol. With eight miles of construction, walking "would take much too long. On a bike, we can go to places where cars and buses can't," he adds. The tour starts at the Gamble Mansion, where you'll get an overview of the project with maps and photographs. Then it heads under the new cable bridge for a discussion of what the skyline will look like after the elevated highway is torn down. Then, on to the North End. You'll ride away with a better understanding of the scope of the project. For true Big Dig fanatics, McNichol also offers a nighttime tour, which features the Big Dig lit up at night. With workers on the job 24 hours a day, "you never know where construction will be," says McNichol. "The night tour is much more spontaneous. We simply bike to where the work is taking place."
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). March 31, 10am-1pm and 2-5pm; April 1, 10am-1pm; April 5, 7-10pm. $46.

Baby Faire
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Boston (877-959-BABY). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. March 31, 9am-5pm; April 1, 10am-5pm. $8. This event offers expectant parents and young families more than 200 exhibits showcasing the latest in child care, parenting information, products and services. There will be live entertainment for children throughout the weekend.

Boston International Comedy Festival
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). www.bostoncomedyfestival.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 31-April 8.* Top comedians from all over North America and the United Kingdom perform every night at venues around town during this nine-day festival. Performers include Frank Santorelli, Bob Marley, Julie Barr and Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling from the Howard Stern show. See stand-ups from all over the country, local talent showcases, sketch groups, improv groups and theme shows.

Second Helping Gala
600 Club, Fenway Park, Yawkey Way, Boston (427-5200). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $100. The Boston College Alumni Association sponsors this evening of food, a live and silent auction, open bar and entertainment to benefit the Greater Boston Food Bank's Second Helping perishable-food rescue program.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Boston Duck Tours Parade
Boylston Street, Boston (723-DUCK). 12pm. The Boston Duck Tours amphibious vehicles emerge from winter hibernation with a parade down Boylston Street to make a splash into the Charles River.

MS Walkathon
Hatch Shell, Boston (800-493-9255). www.msnewengland.org. *12pm. $25 donation.* Choose to walk either a 3-mile or 6.2-mile route to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Very Fancy Benefit Party
142 Berkeley St., Boston (859-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 12:01pm. $575. Black tie. The majority of the proceeds of this very fancy party will go toward paying the hotel, caterer and the band. Once the organizers figure out how much is left, they'll give it to some obscure charity of their choice.

MONDAY, APRIL 2

A Bash for *Bash* at Flash's
312 Stuart St., Boston (574-8888). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7-10pm. $25. This benefit party for the Coyote Theatre's new production, *Bash*, includes a silent auction, raffle and cash bar.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

Eight-Minute Dating
Elephant & Castle, 161 Devonshire St., Boston. www.8minutedating.com. *6:45pm. $28.* You'll be matched with eight professional singles, ages 25-35, for one-on-one, eight-minute conversations. If two people feel that "connection," each will be sent the other's contact information. Pre-registration required.

Table for Ten
Eighteen restaurants around Greater Boston (781-272-9936). 6:30-10pm. $100 per person. Each restaurants will host a three-course dinner to benefit Neurofibromatosis Inc. Restaurants include Anago, Brasserie Jo, Lala Rokh, Top of the Hub, Turner Fisheries and The Vault. After dinner, there'll be a dessert reception at The Rack with live music and a silent auction.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

A Roast to Toast Marvin Eugene Gilmore
The Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (267-2524). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 5:30pm. $150. E! Entertainment reporter Tanya Hart hosts this night of food, fashion, jazz and celebrity guests honoring Marvin Eugene Gilmore Jr., president and CEO of Community Development Corp. of Boston and owner and manager of the Western Front. Performers include David and Marque Gilmore, Vivian Male and Frank Wilkins.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Meet Supermodel Emme
Filene's, Third Floor, Boston (800-438-3682). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 12pm. Emme, host of E! Fashion Emergency, presents her new spring/summer 2001 fashion collection.

Party for a Plate
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (552-1884). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.partyforaplate.com. *6-10pm. $25 (or $40 for two).* This annual fund-raiser for the Greater Boston Food Bank features a number of Boston's best restaurants serving taste-size portions. Restaurants include Brew Moon, Coyote Grill, Legal Seafood, Redbones and The Wrap, plus beer from Wachusett Ale and Harpoon Brewery.

Trish McEvoy Personal Appearance
Gretta Cole, Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (964-8799). 11am-5pm. Meet makeup artist Trish McEvoy. Mention this listing and get a complimentary gift.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

Ice Chips 2001: The World on Ice
Matthews Arena, Northeastern University, Huntinton Avenue, Boston (782-5900). April 6, 7:30pm; April 7, 1pm; April 8, 2pm. $20. Ice Chips features a host of world-renown guest skaters, including Alexei Yagudin, Caren Kadavy, Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev, Jennifer Kirk and Angela Nikodinov. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

Mass. College of Art's Benefit Auction
Bakalar and Huntington Galleries, Massachusetts College of Art, 623 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7025). Previews: April 3, 10am-8pm and April 4, 10am-4pm. Reception: April 6, 6:30pm. Auction: April 6, 7:30pm. $50. This auction features more than 200 contemporary artworks by artists both famous and undiscovered. Works to be auctioned include paintings, drawings, photographs, ceramics, sculpture, prints and glass.

Taste of the Back Bay
Prudential Tower Skywalk, 50th Floor, 800 Boylston St., Boston (859-RSVP). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 6:30-10pm. $60, $75 at the door. The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay presents this tasting of food and drink from Back Bay's leading restaurants.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Big Apple Circus: Clown Around Town
Fan Pier, Boston (931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. *Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. April 7-May 13. $13-$43.* This all-new show features a cast of circus acts from around the world, including award-winning acrobats, hand balancers, jugglers, trapeze artists, dogs, horses and, of course, clowns.

Fund-Raiser for Crohn's & Colitis Foundation
Winchester Elks, 35 Cambridge St., Winchester (978-902-2048). 7pm-12am. $15, $20 at the door. Enjoy dancing and a silent auction to benefit the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Seconds Sunday
Veronique, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (312-5410). MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood. 2-5pm. $10. Enjoy live jazz, wine samplings and hors d'oeuvres as you mix and mingle with other young professionals.

MONDAY, APRIL 9

World Wrestling Federation: Raw is War
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 7:45pm. $20-$45. The superstars of the WWF return for another high-voltage show.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Benefit Auction
Photographic Resource Center at Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-1662). 5pm. $50. More than 150 photographs by 130 photographers will be auctioned off by Christie's renown photography guru Rick Wester to support the non-profit center. Light hors d'oeuvres and refreshments will be served.

Emmy Nominations Party
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 7pm. The New England chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences throws its annual Emmy Nominations Party.

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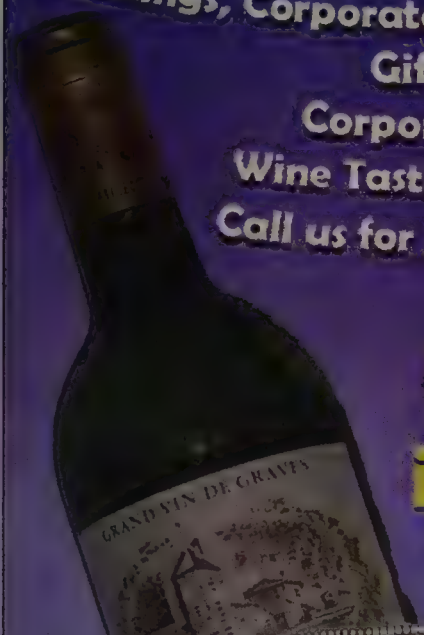
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Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

Animals and Plants
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. March 30-April 15. $25-$59. Two men are snowbound in a cheap motel room in Boone, N.C. On a pickup errand for their drug-dealing boss, 10-year partners Burris and Dantly await the arrival of the enigmatic "Burning Man." Talk of beef jerky, Pocahontas and the various uses of Right Guard fill the night, but the men's conversation is interrupted by a series of increasingly mysterious phone calls. Under a comic facade of buddies bonding in a blizzard, young playwright Adam Rapp examines a friendship threatened by betrayal.

Blizzard of 2001
Boston Theatre, 142 Berkeley St., Boston (859-1400). MBTA: Sporadic, at best. April 1, 12:01pm. $thousands in lost revenue. A New England city prepares for an enormous dumping of white stuff by closing offices and schools, cleaning out local supermarkets and video stores, and mobilizing an army envoy of snow plows. But the joke's on the town: no snow.

Boston Theater Marathon
Boston Playwrights' Theater, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (536-5981). April 8, 12-10pm. $20, $25 at the door. See box (above).

The Daughter of the Regiment
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (542-6772). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 28 and 30, April 3 and 6, 7:30pm; April 1 and 8, 3pm. $27.50-$108. In this sprightly comic opera, the adopted daughter of the 21st Regiment revels in military life, surrounded by her lovable, doting fathers, until a handsome young peasant arrives at the camp and changes everything.

Dealer's Choice
Abbot Memorial Theater, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). Through March 31. $12. It is Sunday evening. The restaurant is winding up. Mugsy and Frankie are eagerly awaiting their weekly poker game. Sweeney, the cook, is not so anxious to play. Stephen, the restaurant owner, has concerns of his own, one being his son, Carl, who is worried about a rather large debt he owes the suave professional gambler, Ash.

The Dumb Waiter
The Threshold Theater, 791 Tremont St., Boston (508-579-5686). Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. March 28-April 21. $16. A mix of comedy and suspense, this show brings us to a dilapidated boarding house where two hit men anxiously await their unknown prey.

Edward II
Tremont Theater, 276 Tremont St., Boston (642-1456). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. April 5-29. $20. Christopher Marlowe recounts the troublesome reign of England's King Edward II, whose passionate relationships with Piers Gaveston and Hugh DeSpencer would drive his country into rebellion. The final dramatic work by Shakespeare's most celebrated contemporary explores themes of power, obsession and sexuality.

Preview

Boston Theater Marathon

Get out your running shoes...

If you've been meaning to attend a theater production this year and just haven't gotten around to buying tickets, here's the perfect opportunity to make up for it: The Boston Theater Marathon features 40 new 10-minute plays by 43 Boston playwrights performed by more than 40 theater companies from noon to 10pm April 8.

Phew...it sounds exhausting. Performed back-to-back, the 40 plays take audiences on a magic carpet ride from Iowa to Africa, from Biblical times to the peace lovin' '60s and high-tech '90s. "The variety is astonishing," says managing director (and playwright himself) Dan Hunter. "The fun part is that if you don't like a play, you know that it's going to be over in eight minutes. But if you do like it, you can make a point to see more of that playwright's work in the future." Chances are you'll want to—judging from the impressive roster of playwrights involved, which includes Robert Brustein, Leslie Epstein and Theresa Rebeck, along with their lesser-known, but no less talented, compatriots.

Before the marathon begins, Hunter asks audience members if they're in shape. After all, 10 hours is a long time to sit. But don't worry: You're not expected to stay the entire time, says Hunter (although a select few do). Each ticket offers a discount at local eateries and free coffee at the Store 24 next door. "We realize that not every one can run all 26 miles of a marathon," acknowledges Hunter with a smile. *Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (536-5981). April 8, 12-10pm. $20, $25 at the door. —Julie Short*



Playwright Leslie Epstein's *Yellow Bus* was a hit in the first annual Boston Theater Marathon.

Emerald City
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. March 30-April 14. John Kuntz's twisted and modern take on the Wizard of Oz is a psychotic joy ride down the yellow brick road with a menacing transvestite, a one-handed ex-child star, an epileptic hustler with Tourette Syndrome and a quirky homeless waitress whose halluinatory trances take them on a comic journey to Oz.

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. April 6-May 6. $10-$17. Lilly's sparkles with witty and eccentric characters.

New Engand Sonata
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through April 15. $28-$42. In their old New England farmhouse, Wallace and Clara live simply, devoted to their writing and to each other. Their resolve soon faces the ultimate test, threatened by illness, a visiting mother-in-law and a chance encounter with a curious young man. Even in the face of death, the most important question is how we choose to live.

The Performance Cult
Back Alley Theater, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (781-891-1188). MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 8. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short, original vignettes. You'll see character work, dance, monologues, movement, singing and sound work.

Rent
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1pm and 7pm. April 10-15. $35-$65. Inspired by Puccini's *La Boheme*, this Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning musical celebrates a community of artists as they struggle with the soaring hopes and tough realities of today's world.

Shadowlands
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through April 8. $25-$40. It's the 50th anniversary of the publication of our fave, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*. This quiet elegy tells the true story of the later years of Oxford professor and novelist C.S. Lewis.

Snakebit
SpeakEasy Stage at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through April 14. $22. Set in Los Angeles, this play focuses on three 30-somethings, each struggling to come to terms with his or her own life.

State High School Drama Festival
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (978-256-3101). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 29-31. $7. Fifteen troupes of young performers selected from high schools across Massachusetts will perform one-act plays and excerpts in this theater showcase.

The Tempest
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. April 4. The Underground Railway Theater and the Boston Symphony Orchestra present a version of Shakespeare's last play, with music and giant color shadow-puppets.

A Tribute to Burlesque
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton, Boston (971-1781). March 28, 8pm. $5. Local artists/producers Trista Beard, Sarah Lafferty and Amy Harmon bring you an evening of performance featuring Burlesque and vaudeville acts. There will be striptease numbers, song and dance acts, a puppet show, baton-twirling, a dance troupe performance, a tango piece and comedy.

Wives
Boston Playwrights' Theater, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (536-5981). March 26-31, 8pm. $15. This ironic, imaginative and hilarious series of vignettes on the stages of matrimony take you from the romantic fantasies of youth to the friendships found in old age.

NOW RUNNING

Amphitryon
Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through April 8. $12-$55. Jupiter, the King of the Gods, is in love again—this time with the beautiful and faithful Alcmena, wife of Amphitryon, general of the Thebans. As the victorious general is on his way home from battle, Jupiter disguises himself as Amphitryon so he can win Alcmena's favors. Moliere's high comedy and slapstick antics unlock a Pandora's box of ideas about love, marriage and power.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly the 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

The Lion in the Winter
The Tower Auditorium, Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (470-5329). Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through March 31. $15. It's Christmas, 1183, and King Henry II is in a frenzy to name an heir to his kingdom before civil war erupts. Attempting to thwart his every move is his opponent and mortal enemy, the crafty Eleanor of Aquitaine, richest woman in the land and... his wife.

Manifest
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Through April 14. $15. Manifest seeks to debunk the myth that Jews timidly accepted their fate in the Holocaust, focusing on the real-life stories of those who resisted. Engrossing tales include the story of a couple that fell in love behind the camp's walls and later planned a daring escape—and the women who smuggled dynamite out of the munitions factory to blow up the crematorium at Auschwitz. It's heavy drama interspersed with klezmer music, vaudeville humor and stand-up comedy.

Over the River and Through the Woods
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm., Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through April 14. $25-$36. "...to grandmother's house we go." New York's longest running comedy is about a visit with the grandparents of a 30-year-old marketing executive in comfortable Hoboken, N.J. During one weekly visit, he announces that he's accepted a promotion that requires a move to Seattle. Eager to keep their grandson in town, they conspire to find a reason for him to stay.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Triptych
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through March 31. $18. Samuel Beckett, the great minimalist master and winner of the 1969 Nobel Prize for Literature, has produced some of his most widely praised work in the form of the shorter play. Company One hosts an evening of shorter plays by Beckett, including *Krapp's Last Tape*, *Ohio Impromptu* and *Footfalls*.

The Vagina Monologues
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Through April 1. $25-$55. Eve Ensler gives voice to a chorus of lusty, outrageous, poignant, brave, highly original and thoroughly human stories. Based on interviews with a diverse group of women—from a Long Island antique dealer to a Bosnian refugee—the play brazenly explores the humor, power, pain, wisdom, outrage, mystery and excitement hidden in vaginas.

Visiting Mr. Green
Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahanton St., Newton (965-5226). Thu., 2pm and 7pm; Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through April 1. $25. This is a moving comedy about an unlikely pair: a corporate executive and an elderly retired dry cleaner brought together by fate.

COMING SOON

Hamlet
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2pm and 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. April 11-22. $25-$75.

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. April 11-May 6. $25-$75.

Dance
SHOWS AND EVENTS

Boston Ballet:
The Hunchback of Notre Dame
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (695-6950). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 29-April 8. $23-$73. The epic, tragic tale by Victor Hugo is retold as a dance-drama choreographed and directed by Michael Pink. *Hunchback* is set to an original music score composed by Philip Feeney and performed by the Boston Ballet Orchestra.

Celebratin' Swing: Music and Dance of the Swing Era
Orpheum Foxborough, One School St., Foxborough (508 543-ARTS) March 30-April 8. $13-$26. Celebratin' Swing blends nostalgia with the energy of the '30s and '40s. Krisanthi Pappas is joined on stage by a five-piece ensemble and swing/tap dancers.

BOSTON UNIVERSITY PHOTO SERVICES

Dance Complex Choreographers
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. •March 30-31, 8pm: Classical Indian dance presented by Aparna Sindhoor. • April 6-8, 8pm: Donna Miceli performs.

Dance of Light
Museum of Science's Charles Hayden Planetarium, Science Park, Boston (723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Fri., Sat. and Sun., through April 29. $7.50. Boston Ballet and Laser Fantasy International present a laser light show that combines the most recognizable music from famous ballets with lights that literally dance through the air.

Farewell to Arms and Legs
Green Street Studios, 185 Green Street, Cambridge (864-3191). March 29-April 1, $15. The Marcus Schulkind Dance Company presents its final concert at Green Street, which will feature two world premieres and four pieces from the company's repertoire.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances or comedians. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •March 28: Don Gavin •March 29: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist" •March 30-31: Kevin James, star of CBS' *The King of Queens* •April 1, 7pm: Boston Comedy Festival •April 2-3, 8pm: Boston Comedy Festival •April 5: Boston Comedy Festival, 7pm. Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," 9:15pm, $12. •April 6, 8pm and 10:15pm: Rich Jeni from HBO's "A Good Catholic Boy," $26. •April 7, 8pm and 10:15pm: Rich Jeni from HBO's "A Good Catholic Boy," $26. 6pm and 12am: Boston Comedy Festival. •April 8: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •April 10, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $12.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •March 29: Tim McIntire with guests Dan Levy, Dan Savage and Laura Hoffma. •March 30: Brendon & Larry with guests Alana Devich, Mike Baker, Andrew Ginsburg, Chris Walsh, Ross Garmil, Amanda White and Michelle Pierce. •March 31: The Rich Jenkins Showcase with Dot Dwyer, Kyria Abrahams, Todd Lee, Myq Kaplan, Steve Walsh and Joe Dinkin. •April 1: April Fool's Show with Brent Sverdloff, Mike Dunphy, Sean Lily, Brian Feller, Teresa Craggan, TJ Griffin, Joe Carrol and Brian Giles. •April 2-7: Boston Comedy Festival. •April 5: The return of Thursday Night Fights starring Tim McIntire and featuring "The Comics of WAKKA." •April 6: Cutting Edge Comedy Showcase produced by Tony V and Eugene Mirman. •April 7: Professional Comedy Writing. Panel discussion with comedy writers from NBC, ABC, UPN and more. •April 8: The Comedy Studio's fifth anniversary show.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour, the Theater District's long-running improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. The talent here is not quite as big-name as what you'll find at the Comedy Connection, but the crowds are just as enthusiastic. Wednesdays: Open-mike at 8:30pm. •March 29, 8:30pm: Kevin Knox, Mike Coleman and Eric Handler •March 30-31, 8:45pm: Larry Miles, Mike Coleman and Eric Handler •April 4-8: Boston Comedy Festival.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Saturday matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* Playing on the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show—voted one of Boston's best improvisational comedy troupes. •Wednesdays, 8pm: The Improv Asylum Training Center graduate show, *Gary's Pocket*, followed by the Improv Asylum Touring Company. $10.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •TheatreSports: Friday, 10:30pm •ImprovBoston: Saturday, 8pm and 10:30pm •Micetro: Wednesday, 8pm and alternate Sundays •Secret Society: Friday, 8pm. $12.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Boston International Comedy Festival
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). www.bostoncomedyfestival.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. March 31-April 8.* Top comedians from all over North America and the United Kingdom perform every night at venues around town during this nine-day festival.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Musical! The Musical!
The Works Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (624-7278). Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through April 14. $15. Each performance of *Musical! The Musical* kicks off with an audience suggestion of a famous story from a book, play or movie that has never been made into a musical. The troupe then develops a full-length, Broadway-style musical.

Open Mike Night at the Lizard Lounge
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mondays, 7-10pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

The Sopranos Last Supper
The Kowloon Restaurant, Route 1, Saugus (781-233-0077). •March 31, 7pm. $35: **The Sopranos Last Supper**. This interactive dinner theater show is based on HBO's *The Sopranos*.



***Wives* presents a series of vignettes on the stages of matrimony at the Boston Playwrights' Theater.**



art

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include opening and closing dates, nearest T stop, price of admission, if any, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.aiboston.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •Amy Guip shows her new work. Through May 6.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •The *Brinks Job* exhibit in the Wiggin Gallery features photographs from the BPL Print Department's Herald Traveler photo morgue of Boston's crime of the century; it includes courtroom sketches of the trial, crime scene photos, mug shots and the like. Through March 30. •*Places of the Spirit: Photographs by Emily Corbat* shows through March 30. •*Vilna Shul*, a photographic exhibit of the restoration of the unique Jewish presence on Beacon Hill, shows through March 30. •In *All That Jazz: Adults and Adolescents in Relationships,* students present art that reflects their understanding of independence, trust, freedom and responsibility. Throughout March. •*Virginia Woolf, the Evolving Word*, a presentation of letters, books, magazines and prints, shows throughout April. •*Aprons: A Mini History* is a history of household aprons from the 20th century, including photographs, drawings and poetry. April 3-27.



Robert McCann's collection of silver gelatin prints show at the New England School of Photography.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde,* explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •In *Just the Thing!* everyday objects acquire new perspectives. Through June 10. •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to convey the artist's message. Through May 28. •In *Flights of Fantasy*, four artists present an outdoor computerized installation of shared media and memories. April 7-May 28.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4.



Therese Zemlin's work is on display at the Jewett Art Center at Wellesley College through April 1.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. Free Sun., 9am-12pm; Wed., 3-5pm, Sept.-May.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of butterflies. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Olafur Eliasson transforms the ICA with a series of installations that use water, ice and light in *Olafur Eliasson: Your Only Real Thing Is Time*. The Scandinavian artist gained international attention for his photographs, sculptures and site-specific works that create poetic allusions to landscape and nature. Through April 1. •*The Next exhibit opens April 18.* •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am -5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. •*The Art of the Cross: Medieval and Renaissance Piety* is a collection of lesser-known works including arts-furniture, textiles and metalworks, large-scale crucifixes as well as processional crosses. Through April 29.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames Street, Building E15, Atrium Level, Cambridge (253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm; Fri., 12-8pm. •*Inside Space: Experiments in Redefining Rooms* comprises six installations by artists and artist teams who critically engage the language of architecture. Through April 8. •*Marco Bruer: Circa 1999* is a collection of photographs made by non-photographic means. The process involves subjecting photographic paper to belt sanders, razor blades, red-hot heater coils and mold. Through April 8.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive activities take place 2-4pm daily. Ongoing.

Museum of Bad Art
580 High St., Dedham (325-8224). Mon.-Fri., 6:30-10pm, Sat., and Sun., 1-10pm. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. •The one and only museum that boasts "art too bad to be ignored." A favorite is *Lady Chardonnay*, a piece illuminating a poodle-headed dancer.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45 pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. April 8-Aug. 5. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings, including his etchings in the Prisons series. April 7-Sept. 9.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look back at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Revolving Museum
288-300 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue.-Fri. 12-6pm. •The Little White Box Gallery presents *Labels: Within Walls* by Heloisa Escudero. Through April 20.

Galleries
FINE ART

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allston-skirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Works by Sharon Kaitz and B. Wurtz are on view through April 28.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Aaron Fink presents *Works on Paper.* Through April 4. •Gideon Bok's *New Paintings* shows April 7-May 2.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Anne Packard presents oil-on-canvas works depicting New England's coastline, as well as paintings of Ireland and Greece. Through March 31. •Judith Brassard Brown presents her show of oil paints and oil stick on canvas in landscapes, *Into the Yellow*. April 2-29.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Tufts Street Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •*Visions and Views* explores young people's motivation to become artists. Artworks in a variety of media are presented, from oils to photography and woodcuts. Through April 4. •*Heart of the Arts,* work by students taking classes at the Arlington Center for the Arts, shows April 16-May 18.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. The gallery features original works from international artists. •Kel Ito presents a show of contemporary handbags. April 1-15.

Artists Foundation
516 East Second St., 1st Floor, South Boston (464-3561). Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •The works of Terence Hammonds show through April 1. •*Miss Red*, new work by Karyn Kirk, *Eclectic Works* by Luke Adams and *The Song that Makes You Cry*, videos by Suara Welitoff, display through April 7.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Works by Michael Ashkin, Jan Henle and Paul Seawright display through April 17.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Memories Lost and Found: The Drawings of Rose deSmith Greenman* is the premiere exhibition of her works, which were rediscovered 16 years after her death. Through April 14.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*New Sculpture, Photography and Video* by Larimer Richards shows throughout March. •Marian Roth's *Photography* is on display April 4-28. •*Band-Aid Paintings* by Lucy White shows April 4-28.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. www.bcaonline.org. •Guest curator Laurie Beth Kalb presents *Signs of the Market*, a private collection of hand-painted shop signs from Cambodia. Also showing is photography by Bill Burke, which focuses on advertising in Cambodia. Through April 28.

Boston University 808 Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*Boston Printmakers Biennial Exhibition* features more than 150 artists' works. Through April 8.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Gallery I features Laurie Alpert's *Reinventing the Layers; Monoprints with Xerox Transfer* and *Collage and Painting* by Don Smith. •Gallery II shows Beth Duerr's paintings, *Spaces in Time.* Through April 21.

Cambridge Center Gallery
One Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm. •*Boston Afro-American Artists*, the oldest collective organization of African-American artists in Boston, display an exhibition of paintings, photographs, drawings and crafts. Through April 25.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •*Extreme Connoisseurship* shows through April 29. •Tadashi Kawamata's *Boston Project, Part I*, shows through April 30. •*When We Liked Looking for Postwar America* is on display in the Lobby Gallery, April 2-April 29.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Northern Lights II*, an exhibition of work from the Sheridan College Glass Studio, displays through April 7.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Steven Coyle presents his works depicting scenes from his home in South Boston. Through April 2. •Cynthia Packard's *New Paintings* shows April 4-30

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •Three series are displayed concurrently: paintings and watercolors by Molly Luce, watercolors by Sally Michel and a collective *Visual Dictionary of Fine Print Techniques.* Through May 5.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. www.clarkgallery.com. •Peri Schwartz presents *New Paintings.* Through April 19.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. 3rd Floor, Boston (695-0255). Wed.-Sat. 11am-5:30pm. •Nuno de Campos presents new drawings in *Lap and Beyond*, in which the artist uses culturally loaded objects to examine gender identity and development. April4-28.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •In *Patrons' Choice*, 15 renowned artists return to the place where many got their start. Through April 14.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment.* •Anne Gilson Haney presents *Home Cooking*. Through April 15.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat. 9am-6pm. •Contemporary works by Norman Crump, Dan McCole, Robert Fields and Brian Roach contain Irish themes. The works include original oils, watercolors and reproductions of Boston scenes and harbor views. Throughout April.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston. http://drawbridge.com/dvb-gallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •*LUNG* and other works by Ean White display through April 14.

Dyansen Gallery
132a Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •Contemporary French paintings by leading French artists show throughout April.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd Floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm; Sat. 9am-6pm. •Darlene Devita's *Black and White Photography: A Unique Perspective* shows through March 31. •Richard Perry presents *New Works*, bas relief and reverse bas relief sculpture April 3-28.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Chuck Holtzman presents *Five Years of Drawing.* Through April 28.

TOP: THERESE ZEMLIN, BOTTOM: ROBERT MCCANN



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These computer-generated images are created by rTMark, media pranksters who perform at the Zeitgeist Gallery March 30 at 8pm.

Preview

Merry Pranksters

The Zeitgeist Gallery's electronic music series ends with a show from anti-establishment artists

On March 30, the Zeitgeist Gallery presents its final installment of its electronica experimental series, the latest in the gallery's changing Friday night Playground New Music Series. It is hosted by the record label Intransitive, which produces works by artists working in experimental electronic and electro-acoustic music. The series has featured mostly music so far (with some electronic art and performances thrown in), after opening in late January with a performance by Wayne Rogers and Kate Biggar, proprietors of the Cambridge-based record store Twisted Village. The program concludes with a bang—a multimedia presentation by media pranksters rTMark, a group that creates public art that aims to subvert corporate culture. How? They thwart "The Man" by playing pranks and by funding sabotage projects. Describing itself, the group says, "rTMark is a corporation—one that sponsors the sabotage of corporate products. Like any corporation, our bottom line is profit—in our case, not financial profit, but cultural. We want to improve not our pocketbooks, but culture, society, life."

For nearly five years, rTMark has been funding acts of benign sabotage with activist or aesthetic aims. Until recently, the core of rTMark was online, and this is its first Boston presentation. Its upcoming performance will most likely combine film presentations and a talk about its art—but since its members are purposefully vague, it is hard to say. Expect to hear about its recent projects like the Barbie Liberation Organization, and attacks on mass-productions of mega-corporations. As organizers put it, "It is an attempt to give our thoughts and desires a vehicle to make [our mission] felt in the mechanical world around us." *312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central 8pm, $8.*

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equator-gallery.com. *Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7pm.* •A series of woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí shows with ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sasha Raiz. •Also on display is Peruvian artist Benito Huillcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depicting modern-day Cuzco. Ongoing.

Fort Point Cultural Coalition
330 Congress St., (423-4299 ext. 3). www.savey-ourstudios.org. •*Discreet Objects: Marking a Path Through the Fort Point* features a series of small, hidden sculptures made from china fragments and cement to engage viewers in a game of hide-and-seek through the neighborhood. Beginning March 30, on Congress, Summer, Melcher and A streets. •*Exodus*, a giant rat trap focuses on the similarites between artists and rats. Begins March 30.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Chagall, A Graphic Retrospective* shows throughout April.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). www.jameshull.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., Wed. and Thu., 12-9pm.* •Works by Masako Kamiya, Michael Lee and Susan Rogers display through April 14.

Gallery Bershad
99 Dover St., Somerville (629-9400 ext. 3). www.bershad.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Fri., 9-6pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm.* •David Levine and Antonio Adriano Puleo exhibit their paintings. Also, Karen Dow and Laurel Sparks display contemporary paintings. Through April 13. This could very well be the last show at the gallery, as it is most likely closing in April.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Joseph Barbieri's *Here and There: New Paintings* shows March 30-April 28.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •*Afterimage*, new paintings by Kelly Spalding, is featured. Through April 4. •Tom Duncan's recent works show through May 1.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781 648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •An exhibition of high school students' art shows through April 4. •*Inside/Out*, work in a variety of media by faculty, staff and board artists, shows April 2-May 11.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •The gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings. •The gallery is continuing to show select contemporary artists' works through May.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •An ongoing display of 18th- and 19th-century antique engravings and lithographs. Throughout April.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. www.yezerski@ziplink.net. •Robert Seintuch and Alan Rath present new works through April 30.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •An ongoing display features selected vintage posters.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard St., Brookline (739-5769). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10-8pm; Sun., 10-6pm. •Pen drawings by Alexander Valdman show through April 3. •Watercolors by Alexei Neiman and ceramics by Sonya Simun display April 4-18.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Julia Jacquette presents her recent paintings that use 1950s magazine advertising imagery as a point of departure in *Virtues and Vices*. Through March 31. •*Neo-Baroque*, works by Maura Bendett, Alex Blau, Dough Bosch, Sheila Gallagher, Frank Jackson and Giles Lyons, shows April 4-28.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Geometry*, new works by George Anderson, shows April 3-29.

Lillian Immig Gallery
Emmanuel College, Cardinal Cushing Library, 2nd Floor, 400 The Fenway, Boston (735-9992). www.emmanuel edu. *Mon.-Thu., 11am-4pm.* •Sarah Walker presents *Descending Order: New Paintings*. Through April 5.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •C. J. Lori presents *Unearthed: the Personal Effects of Nature*, an exhibition of fantastic landscapes. April 20-May 13.

Lumpkin Gallery
142 Berkeley St., Boston (859-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 1, 1pm-1:15pm. Mon.-Fri. 9am-5pm. •An exhibition of goose-related drawings made entirely by three-armed babies shows in this special one-time exhibit, *Honk!* The opening reception features several of the infant artists as well as their goose subjects. Paté will be served.

Mass Art President's Gallery
11th Floor, Tower Building, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7657). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. •*Humanizing Design: Poster Works by Luba Lukova* features more than 50 posters by Bulgarian poster designer Lukova. Throughout March. •The annual senior photography exhibit, *Pony Show*, exhibits works by 23 young artists. April 5-16.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-6pm.* •An exclusive exhibit of rarely seen art by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, this exhibit presents his pieces that typify the Northern European sensibility. Through May 21.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Adolph Gottlieb: Paintings and Drawings from 1923-1941* shows through May 2.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Translating: Denmark to Boston*, an installation by Line Brunts and Andy Mauery, includes collaborative works and individual pieces. Through March 31. •*Student Works* is a weekend of performance works by students from Mass. College of Art, the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and others. March 30 and 31, 8pm, $6. •Edythe F. Wright presents *Domestic Archaeology: site/insite*. April 4-21. •*Peregrinations 2.0*, a performance by Tom Plesk and Marjorie Morgan, takes place April 6 and 7, 8pm. $10.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Body Parts* is a series of nude paintings by Maggi Brown and sculpture by Brenda Starr. Through April 2. •*Evening Light*, paintings by Dmitri Cavendar, shows April 6-May 6.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Laurel Hughes' *A Bird and Her Song* shows through March 31. •Jake Berthot and Harvey Quaytman present their work through March 31. •Jane Smaldone presents *Heroines and Saints*, April 7-May 5.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •This gallery, owned and operated by several local artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on throughout April. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •The fourth annual *Figurative Art Show* features pieces by several local artists. Through March 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). www.pepper-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Andrew Nixon: New Work* displays Through May 1.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Memories and Dreams*, an exhibition of solo works by Shraga Weil, showcases mixed-media on board works inspired by his Jewish heritage. Through April 18.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •The first authentic teahouse in Boston is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse also specializes in antique Tixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •See the ongoing exhibition of American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings throughout April.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.Robert KleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Caverns and Grottos*, an exhibition of new photography by Sally Gall, explores nature's sensuous forms. Through April 21.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, between Brattle St. and Garden St., Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Female refuges from the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia are depicted in *Courage and Resiliency: Cambodian Women in America*. The photographs are by Marcus Halevi. Through April 30.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •Pat Steir's *Prints* display through April 22.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm. •Tom Moran's *Rescue*, a series of paintings reflecting his impressions of firefighting, displays through April 14.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorge-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style. Ongoing.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., Boston (423-SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm. •*Push*, an exhibition of paintings by Boston native and Bay Area artist Brian Blanchard, displays through March 31.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin, C. Ferrer and striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Trustman Art Gallery
Simmons College, 4th Floor Main College Building, 300 The Fenway, Boston (521-2268). Mon. -Fri., 10am - 4:30pm. •Vaughn Sills presents *One Family: An Extended Portrait*, through April 20.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. •*Altered Fields*, multimedia works by Samantha Fields, Ted Hinman, Lee Leonard and Elizabeth Sheenhan, shows through March 29. •*The Symphony of Light*, an exhibition of landscape oil paintings by Ellen Granter and pastels by Changhuei Yang, shows April 4-26.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •*Landscapes and Still Lifes* is an exhibit of photographs by Linda Mahoney. Through April 21.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A display features selected works of the gallery's current inventory throughout April.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •Robert McCann presents *Leaves and Grass*, a collection of his silver gelatin prints of nature. Through April 21.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •Ernest Withers presents his collection of African-American musicians in a large photography exhibit. Through March 30. •*Floral Photographs*, X-ray photographs by Dr. Dain L. Tasker and botanical studies by Michael Cooper. April 13-June 1.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a collection of photographs from the series at the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17.

Up Stairs at the Pudding



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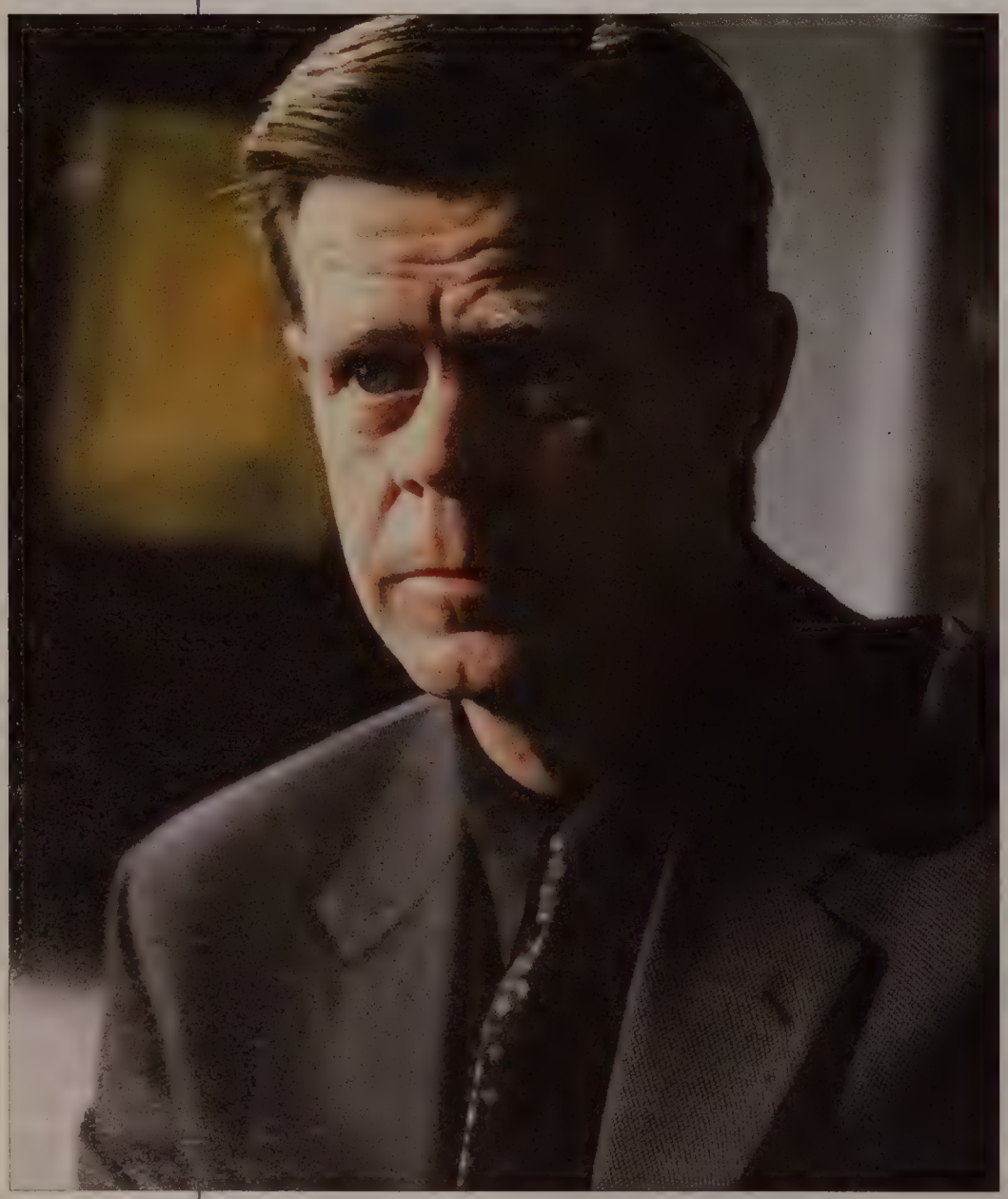
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MACY'S DAZED PARADE

Panic's black comedy is hit or miss. BY PAUL SHERMAN

William H. Macy is movie's poster child for mid-life crisis. As a weaselly car dealer in *Fargo*, a lonely, former "quiz kid" in *Magnolia*, a secretly gay lawman in *Happy, Texas* and now a tense hit man in *Panic*, the actor seems to uncannily express such fortysomething characters' creeping realization that life might not get any better than it is. In fact, it'll probably only get worse—unless desperate measures are taken, either emotionally or criminally. Macy's brow furrows regularly from such realizations during *Panic*, first-time writer-director Henry Bromell's sometimes rich, sometimes flat indie film in which the hit man's second thoughts about his vocation cut much deeper than the average Joe's gripes about money, job security or the promotion that never came.

The stressed-out mobster reluctantly ends up in the office of a psychologist (John Ritter). But this isn't *The Sopranos*, in which the hit man's guilt over what he does is eating away at the him—though, like Sopranos creator David Chase, Bromell coincidentally worked on TV's *Northern Exposure*. Macy's hit man has a special problem. He wants to quit his violent job, but his boss is his domineering father (Donald Sutherland), and killing is the family business. The mobster doesn't just want out of the job, he wants out of the family.



William H. Macy plays a hit man who wants out in *Panic*.

The shrink sessions actually aren't as central to the action in *Panic* as the scenes in the shrink's waiting room, where the hit man meets the young hairdresser (and fellow patient) played by Neve Campbell. He is immediately smitten by her or more precisely, her youthful openness. But both the hit man and the hairdresser are too aware of how clichéd it would be for them to have an affair, so *Panic* has them do a more original, movie-long dance of stops and starts.

The story instead concentrates on everyday activities. The hit man has never been able to tell his wife (Tracey Ullman) about his "other job"—she thinks the mail-order business they run out of their home is all he does for work—so he can't even tell her what's ailing him. But he has carved out a relationship with his 6-year-old son (David Dorfman) that we gradually realize is as comfortable as his relationship with his own father is strained.

Perfectly cast as son and father, Macy and Sutherland both talk precisely (it's no wonder both have done commercial voice-over work), but in Macy such exactitude comes off as skittishness and in Sutherland it's part of a sometimes menacing self-confidence. Although the static numbness the movie strives for translates into a stodgy pace, the action definitely picks up when the hit man is shocked to see his father using familiar tactics to initiate the 6-year-old into the ways of the world, including taking him out for his first animal kill. While the father-son conflict works, the husband-wife relationship is much less fruitful, partially because it's hard to see the wife beyond Ullman's typically overdone American accent.

Panic arrives as a sort of critics' cause célèbre, having been summarily sold off to cable after one unfavorable test screening by indie distributor Artisan Entertainment (the folks who brought us *Blair Witch*). But smaller, San Francisco-based distributor Roxie Releasing has rescued it for a small theatrical release. While I'm all for Roxie's efforts, I can't get all that excited about the actual movie, which, for all its genre-meshing creativity, is generally slow and occasionally overwritten, for example, when a gun dealer seen for all of two minutes goes on an anti-HMO rant that might have worked if it had come from a core character. *Panic* tries for the same sort of detail-filled domestic comedy-drama as *You Can Count on Me*, but it never quite gels as powerfully, humorously or emotionally as that more affecting movie does. **iB**

Panic★★

Written and directed by Henry Bromell. With William H. Macy, Neve Campbell, Donald Sutherland, Tracey Ullman, John Ritter and David Dorfman. Rated R. Roxie Releasing.



Stuart Townsend and Kate Hudson in *About Adam*.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

About Adam★½
All About Eve meets *Teorema* in this tiresome comedy about a manipulative outsider (Stuart Townsend) who sexually works his way through the grown siblings of a Dublin family. First, there's the singing waitress baby sister (Kate Hudson), then the shy bookworm (Frances O'Connor), the married oldest sister (Charlotte Bradley) and even the baby brother (Alan Maher). The story's charms are limited to begin with, and it really tries to shove Hudson down our throats. Writer-director Gerard Stembridge's movie is also structured so that it replays the same events from each sibling's perspective, but once was plenty. Hudson made this before *Almost Famous*, a film in which she's much, much better.

Blow Dry★½
The blue-collar-Brits-triumphing-over-adversity plot gets a very clichéd treatment in this story loosely based on an earlier script by *Full Monty* writer Simon Beaufoy. This time Alan Rickman and Natasha Richardson play long-divorced hairdressers who decide to reunite when the British hairdressing championships come to their podunk Yorkshire town. It's purely by-the-numbers stuff and, as in *About Adam*, Miramax Films has managed to cram Americans into the cast of a British story, with Josh Hartnett and Rachael Leigh Cook feeling out of place here.

The Caveman's Valentine★★
Director Kasi (*Eve's Bayou*) Lemmons' second film is a blend of character study and murder-mystery that peters out after an involving first half. Samuel L. Jackson brings his usual depth to the role of a homeless New Yorker, a former Juilliard pianist who's let a case of performance anxiety snowball for 25 years into a delusional perspective on the world around him. Among other things, he believes he's being persecuted by an unseen rich man living in the Chrysler Building. His delusions dovetail with a murder near the makeshift cave where he sleeps, and he goes on a personal quest to solve it. But aside from his cop daughter (Aunjanue Ellis), no other character here is worth caring about, and the mystery comes to a contrived climax aboard a subway train.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon ★★★½
What do you get when you combine a skilled dramatic director like Ang Lee (*Eat Drink Man Woman*), an innovative action choreographer like Yuen Wo-Ping (*The Matrix*) and stars like Chow Yun-Fat (*Hard-Boiled*) and Michelle Yeoh (*Supercop*)? A dynamo in which the scenes between the wild, high-flying fight face-offs are almost as potent as the "action." In this story, centering around a stolen sword, the battles unfurl not only between the characters—in beautifully choreographed exchanges—but also within those characters' souls. The leads all find themselves dealing with the struggle between their romantic desires and societal obligations, which gives the film a sorrowful undercurrent. To add to the eclectic feel, Yo-Yo Ma performs the score's cello solos.

15 Minutes ★★
Robert DeNiro and Ed Burns make an appealing team as a celebrity homicide cop and a fire department marshal who team to stop a pair of killers. But the movie they're in is less interested in them than it is in making a point about the relationship between violence and

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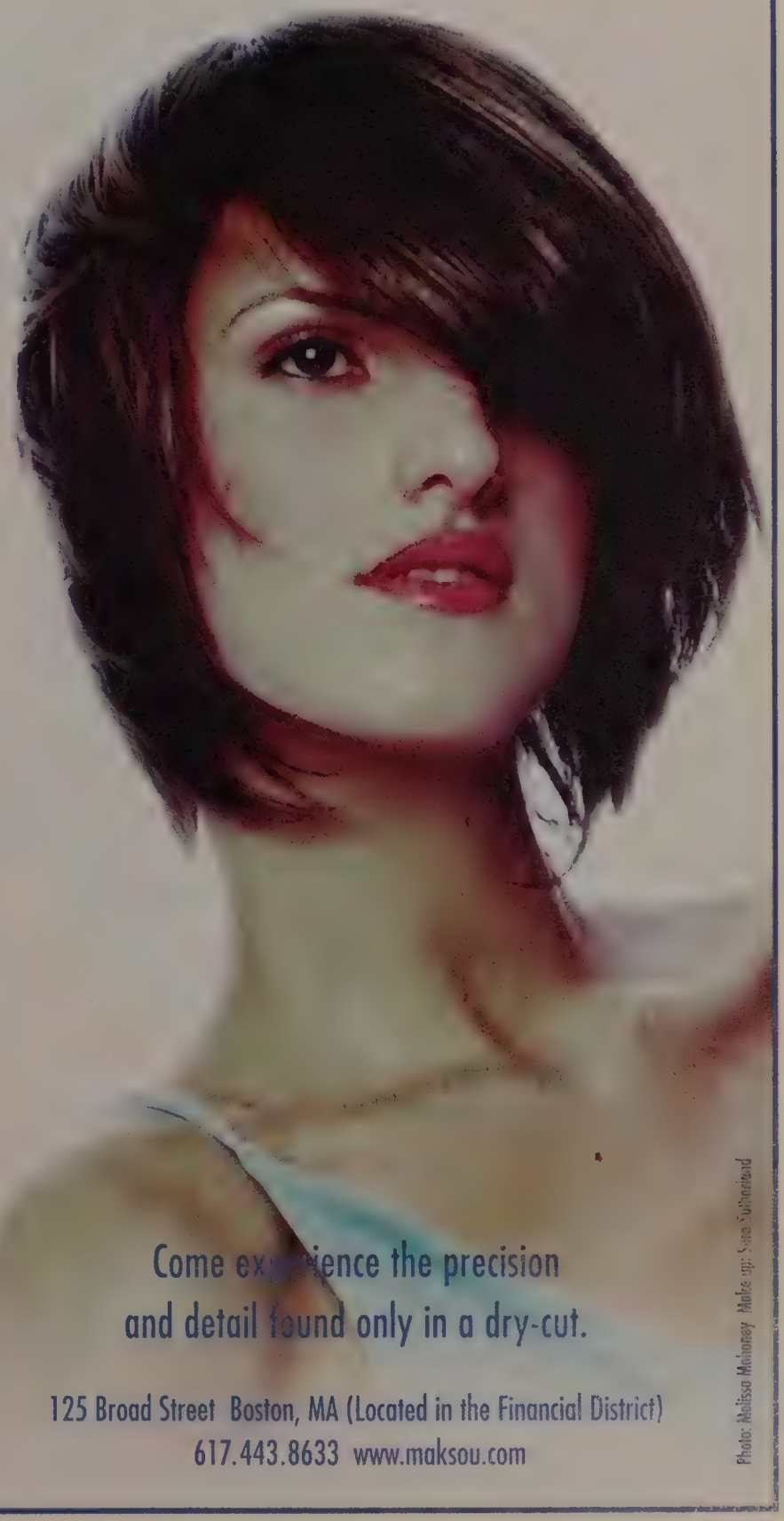
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the media. From its heavy-handed messages to its grandstanding climax, this murder-mystery with a point is very clumsy, and it finds its demon in tabloid TV. How 1991 is that? It also has a romance (between DeNiro's cop and Melina Kanakaredes' TV reporter) that's actually less convincing than the feeble one in *Cast Away* between Tom Hanks and Helen Hunt. It's great that someone made a movie that actually cares about the influence of the media on violence; it's too bad this is that movie.

Hannibal ★★★½
Since the movies featuring Hannibal "the Cannibal" Lecter have been full of food references, let's just say that what was a tasty side dish in *Manhunter* and *Silence of the Lambs* isn't such an appealing entree. Instead of the menacing genius psychopath who held an eerie sway over FBI-agent protagonists in the previous films, he's now the main focus of the search by agent Clarice Starling (Julianne Moore, replacing Jodie Foster). Except now Lecter (Anthony Hopkins) just does little more than the gourmand-cannibal schtick he sometimes launched into in *Lambs*. The story also indulges in default sequel ploys like using a proliferation of antagonists, with Gary Oldman and Ray Liotta as two of those. The action picks up once Lecter and Clarice are finally on the same continent, but that's nearly 90 minutes into the movie.

The Mexican★★
Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts don't have much screen time together in this road movie, which adds equal parts crime-thriller and romantic comedy. Roberts plays a reader of self-help books who dumps her boyfriend, a selfish screw-up played by Pitt. She's mad because he has to go to Mexico to retrieve an antique pistol for his gangster boss, and she doesn't want him to do it. While Pitt is in Mexico, she's abducted by a hit man (James Gandolfini of *The Sopranos*) hired to nab her to ensure Pitt does the job. The Roberts-Gandolfini scenes are what's likable, as the two characters develop an unexpected bond; but the Mexican action isn't half as entertaining. Blame part of that on Pitt—he acts as if he's auditioning for the role of the wacky neighbor in a really bad sitcom.

Pollock ★★
Ed Harris' pet-project bio of splatter-happy painter Jackson Pollock isn't the first "don't drink and drive" movie. But it is the first "don't drink and paint" movie. With Harris directing and playing Pollock, the movie supplies a garden-variety troubled-artist story. At first, Pollock is a shy and struggling abstract painter prone to benders; then he sobers up and (perhaps consequently) hits upon the notion of dripping paint on the canvas rather than applying it with brushes, a technique that made him the sensation of late-1940s modern American art. When his star starts to inevitably fade, he crawls into a bottle again and becomes a miserable wreck who dies in a drunken car crash. But there's little insight into Pollock's demons (some flashbacks might've helped) and little with which to empathize in his story.

Series 7★★
There are a lot of laughs at the beginning of this reality-TV parody in which a half-dozen "contenders" are given guns, and the last one alive wins. As the rage-filled, pregnant defending champion, Brooke Smith also brings much more dimension to her role than you'd expect. But this is practically a parody of a parody—was *Temptation Island* any less outrageous?—and real network TV is much more cheesy. So, at only 85 minutes, this still seems overextended. It would've been much better off as a one-hour *Comedy Central* special.

The Tailor of Panama ★★★
John Boorman's adaptation of John Le Carre's novel is one of the few movies released in the past month that's actually worth sitting through. It's the perfect film for our Misinformation Age, with Geoffrey Rush as a phony Panama City tailor who suddenly finds new-spy-in-town Pierce Brosnan flashing money at him in exchange for information about political instability there. So the tailor concocts stories for the spy, the spy concocts more stories for his British intelligence bosses, and the Brits concoct more stories for the Pentagon. Quick moving and with a meaty streak of black comedy, it's smart and entertaining, at a time of the year when both qualities are always hard to find at the multiplex.

Traffic ★★★
Director Steven Soderbergh (*Out of Sight*, *Erin Brockovich*) gives us another accessible yet idiosyncratic movie. This one has a lot of characters, locations and drugs in it: the new U.S. drug czar (Michael Douglas), the teen daughter (Erika Christensen) he doesn't know is an addict, a Tijuana cop (Benicio Del Toro), two DEA field agents (Don Cheadle, Luis Guzman) and the suburban wife (Catherine Zeta-Jones) of a drug lord, just to name a few. Through their sometimes overlapping stories, the movie offers an effective indictment of the war on drugs; as portrayed, it's more concerned about politics and power than people. The message works because of the movie's visual scruffiness and because it doesn't vilify those fighting the war, freeing *Traffic* of most movies' cartoonishness.

Alternatives & Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

Brattle Theater
Most shows are $7, including double features.

Mondays: Crime Wave
•April 2, 7:30pm **Thief** *1964*. Peter Sellers plays Inspector Clouseau, the hysterically clumsy French detective who bumbles his way through his first movie—a cross between a bedroom farce, a detective story and a caper film. Directed by Blake Edwards. •Also playing, 5:30 and 9:30pm: **The Italian Job** *1969*. Michael Caine and Noel Coward team up to steal $4 million in gold by causing "history's biggest traffic jam" in the streets of Turin. An over-the-top caper madness ensues.
•April 9, 7:30 and 9:45pm **The Thomas Crown Affair** *1968*. Steve McQueen plays a thrill-seeking high-class crook who undertakes an intricate bank robbery. Faye Dunaway is the insurance investigator brought in to bring him down.

Tuesdays: Beyond Blaxploitation
•April 3, 5 and 8pm **The Watermelon Woman** *1996*. Cheryl Dunye portrays herself as an aspiring lesbian filmmaker trying to make a film about an obscure 1930's black actress known only as "the Watermelon Woman." •Also playing, 6:45 and 9:45pm: **Tongues Untied** *1991*. Director Marlon Riggs uses rap, performance, poetry and personal testimony to document the reality of black gay men's experience.
•April 10, 7:15pm **To Sleep with Anger** *1990*. Directed by Charles Burnett, experienced chronicler of everyday lives in black communities, this film tells the story of a mischievous family friend who imposes himself into the lives of a troubled Los Angeles family. •Also playing, 5:30 and 9:30pm: **Body and Soul** *1925*. Paul Robeson plays a drinking and womanizing thief posing as a pastor in a Southern town. Directed by Oscar Micheaux.

Wednesdays: Recent Raves
•March 28, 7:30pm **State and Main** *2000*. In David Mamet's satirical jab that lampoons Tinseltown stereotypes and rural America, a director and his production crew have only days to secure new locations for their period drama. •Also playing, 5:45 and 9:30pm: **Best in Show** *2000*. Director Christopher Guest (*Waiting for Guffman*) is back with another mock-umentary following a host of pampered pooches and their neurotic owners as they converge on a national dog competition.
•April 4, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Dark Days** *2000*. Director Mark Singer delivers a hard-hitting documentary about homeless society living in the unused spaces and subway tunnels beneath the streets of New York.

Thursdays: Janus Films Festival
•March 29, 4 and 7:30pm **Ivan the Terrible, Part 1** *1945*. Sergei Eisenstein directs this lavish telling of the ascension of Ivan IV, the first Tsar of all the Russias. With an original score by Sergei Prokofiev. Also Playing, 5:45 and 9:15pm: **Ivan the Terrible, Part 2** *1946*. Banned by Stalin for its depiction of Ivan's secret police, the second film recounts the end of Ivan's reign.

Special Engagements
•March 30, 31 and April 1, 5:30 and 7:45pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 1 and 3:15pm) **The Personals** *2000*. Chinese director Chen Kuo-fu recounts the amazing array of losers and misfits who come out of the woodwork when a lonely woman places a personals ad seeking a husband. Also Playing, 10pm: **Big Time** *1988*. Directed by Chris Blum, performer Tom Waits is at his finest in this concert film/performance piece.
•April 6 and 7, 4:15 and 7pm (Sat. matinee at 1:30pm) **All the President's Men** *1976*. Dustin Hoffman and Robert Redford play *Post* reporters Woodward and Bernstein in this detailed account of their investigation of the Watergate break-in. (April 7 is the 25th anniversary of the film's release.) Also Playing, 9:45pm: **Dick** *1999*. Kirsten Dunst and Michelle Williams play flaky teens who are responsible for the undoing of President Nixon. The secret of Deep Throat is revealed, and Woodward and Bernstein appear as a couple of incompetent whiners.
•April 8, 3:45, 7:30pm **The Manchurian Candidate** *1962*. An instant cult hit at its 1987 reissue, Frank Sinatra stars as a Korean War vet who unravels a bizarre plot to assassinate the president. Also Playing, 1:30, 5:15 and 10pm: **The Parallax View** *1974*. Director Alan J Pakula's political thriller has Warren Beatty as a third-rate journalist checking into an enigmatic therapy institute, in order to unravel the truth behind a senator's assassination.


Alan Rickman, Natasha Richardson, Richard Griffiths and Josh Hartnett star in ***Blow Dry.***

Coolidge Corner Theater

New England Film and Video Festival
•March 28, 7pm **Always a Bridesmaid**. Terrified of ending up alone and turning 30, filmmaker Nina Davenport has become obsessed with the institution of marriage and its promises of fulfillment. •Also showing is **Lopsided Game**, Shawn Hainsworth's portrait of the lives of three students from Oakland High School in California. In addition to being filmed, each of the students was given a video camera and asked to record themselves.
•March 28, 9pm **Guilty or Not.** In Cambridge director Azeem Robinson's work, time is running out for a young man whose world spins out of control when he is caught between a homicide detective's frenzied pursuit and his own inner battle with being responsible and truthful.
•March 29, 7pm **Rites of Spring**. Goblins, bears, Vikings and saints are all entwined in the spring ritual, "Valborg" in Sweden. This stunning, ancient bonfire tradition is set to the music and pagan theme of the notorious 1913 Stravinsky-Roerich-Nijinsky ballet. •Also showing is **Ennis' Gift**. Arlington's Joshua Seftel created this film, in which you'll meet actors, scientists and business leaders who have one thing in common: They all have learning differences and refused to be limited by them. The film was made in memory of Ennis William Cosby, a young man who became a passionate educator.
•March 29, 9pm **Turned Out**. The 20-minute film follows three victims of prison rape: a hulking ex-Marine, a mother of two turned political activist, and a man who contracted HIV after being raped by 21 men.
•April 1, 4:27am **Aliens' Coming Out Party** *1935*. This newly discovered fictional footage was just confirmed by the government to be the only extraterrestrial auteur film in existence.

Dance on Screen
•March 31 3pm, 9pm **Standing at the Edge, We Dance!** A 40-minute documentary celebrating the 40th anniversary of Philadanco and the woman who founded the company. •Also playing: **Mitchel Rose's Modern Daydreams**, a work featuring four short dances. •5pm **Bomba: Dancing the Drum.** The Cepeda family and their love of the dance form Bomba is chronicled in this film. •7pm **Check Your Body at the Door**. A rough-cut documentary about the underground club scene in New York.
•April 6, 6pm April 7, 7:30pm. **Jacob's Pillow: Program 1** features **Collaborations: A Video Journal** *2001*, in which choreographers, composers and collaborators featured in Jacob's Pillow's 2000 season discuss their teamwork. Also showing: **From the Horse's Mouth** *1999*. Excerpts from a dance by James Cunningham and Tina Croll, featuring dancers from 40 to 70.
•April 6, 7:30pm, April 7, 9pm **Jacob's Pillow: Program 2** featuring **A Very Dangerous Pastime** *2000*. This short film explores the "why" and "what is it" of dance. •Also playing: **Jacob's Pillow** *1963*. This is the original telecast that hasn't been seen in almost 40 years. •April 6, 9pm, April 7 6pm **Jacob's Pillow: Program 3** featuring **Ballet Mécanique** *1924*. This short film explores the idea that mechanical movement and ordinary objects can be "ballet." •Also playing: **Limon: A Life Beyond Words** *2001*. A study of the life and work of Mexican-American dancer-choreographer José Limòn.

Midnight Movies: Teen Theme
•March 30 and 31, 12am **Legend of Billie Jean** *1985*. poor white trash Texas girl Billie Jean Davy (Helen Slater) and her brother Binx (Christian Slater) are constantly being harassed by local rich-boy bully Hubie. Suddenly they are the criminals, and they go on the lam. All to Pat Benetar's rocking hit song "Invincible" (the theme from *The Legend of Billie Jean*).

General Cinema Fenway

Midnight Movies
•March 30, 31, April 6 and 7 **Fight Club** *1999*. Brad Pitt and Ed Norton star in this darkly comic exploration of middle-class men's dissatisfaction with the mediocrity of their lives. When their pranks start to get out of hand, the narrator (Norton) realizes that Tyler Durden (Pitt) must be stopped at any cost.

Harvard Film Archive

Films by Ömer Kavur
•March 30, 9:15pm **The Secret Face** *1991*. Directed by Omer Kavur, this Turkish film is a modern version of the Orhan Pamuk's *The Secret Face*. A young man leaves his home in an attempt to find the Holy Grail.

Premieres
•March 29 and 31, 7pm **Werckmeister Harmonies** *2000*. The latest from Béla Tarr, the acclaimed chronicler of post-communist Eastern European life, this film is set in a remote Hungarian town whose quiet desolation is disturbed by an uncannily insightful outsider.

Film and the Third Reich
•April 9, 9pm **Münchausen** *1943*. This film by Josef von Baky was a propaganda effort by Nazi leaders seeking to reanimate a nation paralyzed after the German defeat in Stalingrad.

Literature and Film
•April 2, 7pm **The Trial** (*Le Procès*) *1962*. The only film besides *Citizen Kane* over which director Orson Welles exercised complete creative control, this is a rendition of Franz Kafka's nightmarish story of a man arrested for a crime that is never explained.

Kurosawa!
•April 10 **Rashomon** *1950*. Directed by Akira Kurosawa, this was one of the first Japanese films to receive worldwide acclaim.

Museum of Fine Arts

Arab Cinema
•April 4, 6pm; April 7, 3:45pm and April 8, 12pm **Closed Doors** *2000*. A drama set during the Gulf War, this film follows a teenager named Mohammed as he tries to decide between his own sexual curiosity and the Islamic Fundamentalist notion that sex is impure.

Boston Asian American Film Festival
•April 5, 8pm **Life Tastes Good** *1999*. Philip Gotanda's work is part romance, comedy and film noir detective mystery. The story follows a mobster who finds love in the darkest days of his life.
•April 6, 8pm **Short Films**. •*Turbans* by Erika Surat Andersen is based on the memoirs of the filmmaker's grandmother, and the film explores the struggles of an Indian immigrant family to gain acceptance while maintaining its culture in 1918 Oregon. •*The Shangri-La Cafe* by Lily Mariye is set in 1959 Las Vegas, where blacks are not allowed to eat in "whites only" restaurants. •*Not Black or White* by Anna Kang is an irreverent documentary about the traditional ways women are portrayed in the media. •*The Uncertainty Principle* by Ted Kim is a dark comedy featuring checabana shirts, two lovers looking for a sign and one dying man seeking redemption, all centering around Heisenberg's Uncertainty Principle.
•April 7, 1:45pm **Of Civil Wrongs and Rights: The Fred Korematsu Story** *1999*. Eric Paul Fourier relays the untold story of American civil rights hero Fred Korematsu, who made the bold decision to resist the forced internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Boston Film Artists Present
•April 7, 10:30am **Iditarod...A Far Distant Place** *1999*. Three sled dog racers travel 1,000 miles, braving arctic temperatures, exhaustion and rough terrain. The film focuses on the small details of the race and the contenders' motivations.
•April 7, 12:15pm **Short Films by Susanna Fogel**. Festival veteran Susanna Fogel presents her films, *For Real*, screened in Toronto and Berlin, as well as *Words of Wisdom* and *Bright*, which stars Eric Stoltz.

Dance on Camera
•April 8, 2pm **Program One**. •*Rest in Peace.* In this short film, four kids realize that they had some big secrets. •*A Very Dangerous Pastime.* The collage of dance footage contains interviews and vintage images. •*Erik Bruhn—I Am the Same, Only More.* A personal portrait is of a complex and brilliant perfectionist. •*Duet Variations for the Convalescence of a Choreographer*. This is a portrayal of a relationship that endures in spite of itself. Also showing,

LAURIE SPARHAM



Buster Keaton's *Spite Marriage* is set to live piano music at the HFA April 1 and 4.

Preview

Silent Lucidity

Chaplin and Keaton films get live music

The Harvard Film Archive brings in composer/pianist Yakov Gubanov to perform live piano accompaniment to two great silent classics. Charlie Chaplin made *The Bond* (1918) for the Liberty Bond Committee at the height of World War I and it was distributed free throughout the country. Rarely screened apart from the HFA vaults, the short film features Chaplin, Edna Purviance, Syd Chaplin and friends conveying that while bonds of friendship and love are inspiring, the most important bonds of all are Liberty Bonds for the war.

It shows with *Spite Marriage* (1929), Buster Keaton's undeservedly underrated final silent film that contains comedy sequences that rival his work in *The General*. Keaton wanted the film to be a full talkie, but MGM released it with only a musical score and sound effects. In it, he plays Elmer, a pants presser in love with prima donna actress Trilby Drew, who in turn loves leading man Lionel Benmore. When Lionel double-crosses Trilby, she lashes out by marrying the first available and seemingly rich man she can find, who turns out to be none other than Elmer in borrowed clothing. Doubtless Keaton's final masterpiece, *Spite Marriage* was directed by Edward Sedgwick and Buster Keaton, and stars Dorothy Sebastian and Edward Earle. *April 1, 7pm and April 4, 9pm. 24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*

4pm: **Program Two**. •*Swing, Bop and Hand Dance* is a documentary on the history of swing as part of the African-American tradition. •*Bomba: Dancing the Drum* focuses on Puerto Rican dance traditions.

Friends of Film Sneak Preview

•April 1, 7:15pm **The Day I Became a Woman** *2000*. The Iranian film tells the story of three brave women overcoming oppression.

New England Film and Video Festival

•March 30, 6pm **Experimental Film Program**. •*So to Speak* is the story of a girl and her teacher. •*Going Back Home* is a quick film about the meaning of home. •*Ebbing* features modern dance using sound and light. •*Communicating Communitas* is a portrait of the Wayuu community in the desert in Colombia. •*Stop* is a six-minute exploration of obsessive behavior. •*The Tower of Industrial Life* is a montage of images on a war-torn planet.

•March 30, 8pm **An Unfinished Symphony**. This documentary explores Memorial Day weekend 1971 in Lexington, Mass., during a rally against the Vietnam War.

•March 31, 11am **Teen Media**. This work was produced from Boston area teens in the Reel Eyes group. •Also showing, 1pm: **Mad Songs of Fernanda Hussein** *2000*. This film tells three stories in three different American cities to resurrect the memory of the Persian Gulf War.

•March 31, 4:30pm **Panel Discussion**. Panelists including directors, past festival winners, critics and programmers discuss New England film and video culture.

•March 31, 7:30 **Awards Program**. The announcement of the winning films, selected during festival week. Favorite winning shorts and excerpts from longer works are screened.

New Films from China

•March 29, 8:20pm **Men Men Women Women** *1999*. A rare, sympathetic look at homosexuality in China follows the stories of a shy young man in Beijing and a flamboyant radio talk-show host.

Nureyev on Film

•March 28, 7:45pm **Romeo and Juliet** *1966*. This is the original performance of Prokofiev's ballet version of Romeo and Juliet at the Royal Opera House, starring Nureyev and Margot Fonteyn.

Visiting Film Artists

•April 4, 12:30pm **Craig Baldwin** discusses his career in the Remis Auditorium. •At 8:15pm, he presents **Spectres of the Spectrum** *1999*. The experimental sci-fi tale follows a father and daughter trying to discover why the world has become a toxic cesspool. The film is constructed out of '50s TV clips and new footage.

•April 5, 6pm **Press Play to Agitate: Pirates, Parodists and the Prank Documentary**. Excerpts of new media have been put together to show latter-day guerrilla provocateurs.

•April 6, 6pm **Sonic Outlaws** *1995*. The comic documentary looks at American's changing attitudes toward multimedia plagiarism.

Other Film Offerings

•March 28, 5:30pm and March 29, 6pm **Sarraounia** *1986*. This African historical epic tells the story of legendary 19th-century Queen Sarraounia of Azna.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas *214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*

BELMONT

Studio Cinema *376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).*

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation *1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Boston Public Library *666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Cheri *50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Copley Place (Loews/Sony) *100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Fenway Theatre General Cinema *201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.*
Museum of Fine Arts *465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.*
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater *Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.*
Wang Center *270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas *399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.*
Coolidge Corner *290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.*

CAMBRIDGE

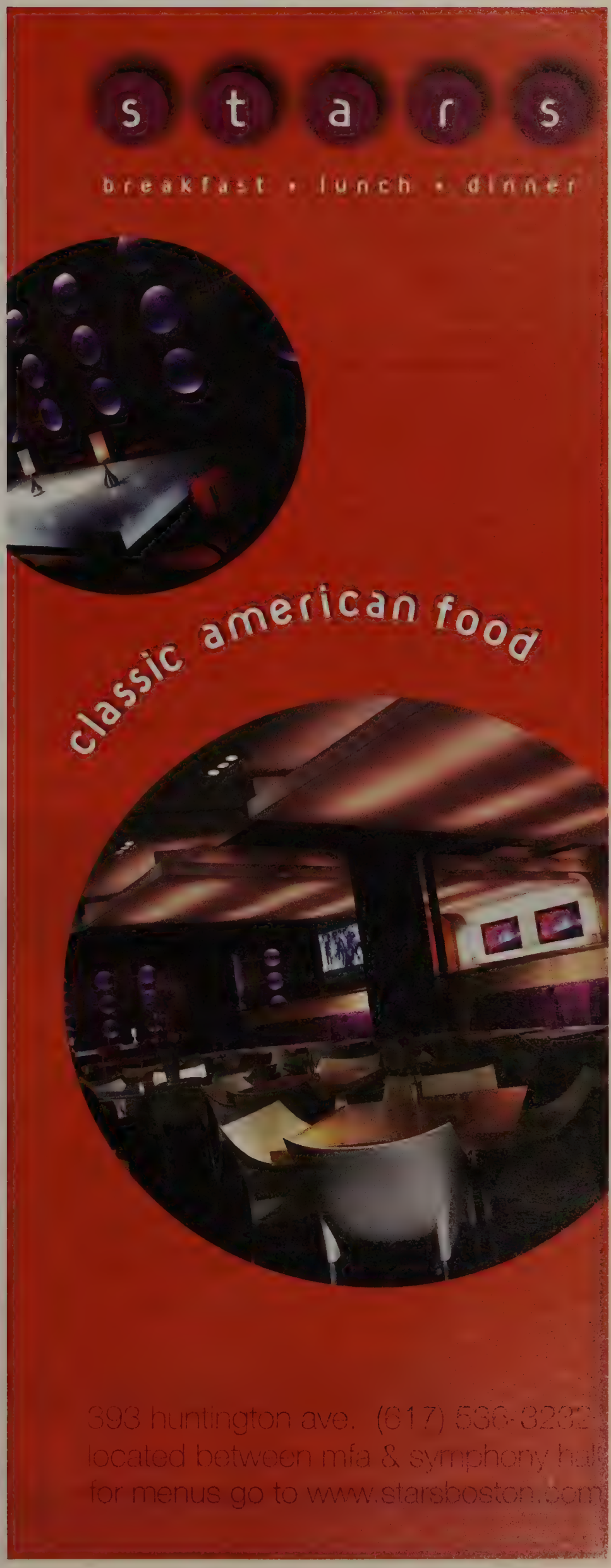
Brattle Theater *40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Harvard Film Archive *24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Schlesinger Library *10 Garden St.(495-8647).MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Kendall Square Cinema *One Kendall Sq. (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.*
Loews/Sony Theater *10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony *35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Sq.*
Somerville Theater *55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema *27 Boylston St. (277-2500). Green Line to Chestnut Hill.*
West Newton Cinema *1296 Washington St. (964-6060).*



books& poetry

Advice to Contributors
Submit information by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Books. Or e-mail to books@improper.com. *Include details of dates, times, prices, nearest T stop and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Barnes and Noble Author Series
Boston University, 660 Beacon St., (236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. **David Ferry** reads excerpts from his book, *Of No Country I Know: New and Selected Poems and Translations*. One of the great American poetic voices of the 20th century, Ferry brings together his poems and translations, collected here for the first time.

BCAE Author Events
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-8:30pm. $29. **Bill Nowlin**, author of *Fenway Saved*, captures the nostalgia and mystique of one of Boston's favorite landmarks. Through interviews, essays and photos, Nowlin paints a loving portrait of the famous ballpark.

Brandeis University Author Event
Schiffman Building, Room 219, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-2130). MBTA: Commuter Rail to Brandeis/Roberts. 5pm. **Jill McCorckle**, novelist, short story writer and writer-in-residence at Brandeis, reads from her new work, *Creatures of Habit*, a collection of short stories.

Brown Bag Seminar at the BPL
Boston Public Library, Mezzanine Conference Room, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12pm. **Phyllis Mindell**, a scholar on professional communications, shows women how to transform themselves by changing their language in *How to Say It for Women*. She demonstrates how women can shed weak words, phrases and gestures, empower themselves to win attention and respect and get their ideas across with confidence.

Radcliffe Fellows Event Series
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (496-1462). 4pm. In *The Luxury Arts in the Renaissance*, **Marina Belozerskaya** re-evaluates the hierarchy of arts in Renaissance Europe, emphasizing the roles of gem-studded gold work, richly embellished armor, splendid tapestries and embroideries and ephemeral multimedia spectacles. Belozerskaya earned her Ph.D. in art history from the University of Chicago.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Brandeis University Resident Author Reading Series
Women's Studies Research Center, Epstein Building at Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-8104). 12:30pm. **Marsha Mirkin**, Ph.D., clinical psychologist and women's studies scholar at Brandeis University, discusses a chapter from her forthcoming book, *She Is a Tree of Life: Learning About Our Relationships from our Biblical Foremothers*. The work explores the psychological and spiritual background of Torah stories and connects her experiences to the struggles women have today.

Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Author Series
Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Yard between Brattle and Garden streets, Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5pm. **Sharon Hartman Strom** celebrates the publication of her biography, *Political Woman: Florence Luscomb and the Legacy of Radical Reform (Critical Perspectives on the Past)*.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Andre Dubus III**, finalist of the 1999 National Book Award for *The House of Sand and Fog*, reads from his first novel, *Bluesman*, a coming-of-age story set during the Vietnam War. Dubus, a professor at Tufts University, has won several awards for his literary works.



Even furry and feathered creatures love Dave Eggers. Hear him read April 9 at Wordsworth.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. South End poet, critic and memoirist **William Corbett** reads from his new chapbook of poems, *Back and Forth*, published by Pressed Wafer.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

Kate's Mystery Books Series
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (491-2660). MBTA: Red line to Davis. 3pm. **Tim Cockey** signs copies of the second novel in his suspenseful Hitchcock Sewell series, *Hearse of a Different Color*.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Who's a FemBot and Who's Not?
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston (859-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 2:17am. As we all know, there is a huge constituency of female robots living among us in the guise of humans. Just who are these FemBots and how do they get away with it? Hear **Britney Spheres** talk about her highly emotional, autobiographical coming-out tale, *I'm A FemBot and I'm Okay!* Her work is tour-de-force that details how humans can spot these android creatures and how they, too, are deserving of love.

MONDAY, APRIL 2

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Kim Todd** delivers a cautionary tale in *Tinkering with Eden: A Natural History of Exotics in America*. In the work, she shows that exotic plant and animal species are an increasingly common feature of the North American landscape. But they are growing at an alarming rate, to the detriment of native species that are being crowded out.

Cambridge Public Library Author Event
Sakey Lecture Hall, Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (349-4040). 7pm. Poets **Tom Sleigh**, **John Peck** and **Julia Thacker**, all of Cambridge, and Yale University lecturer **Halyna Hryn**, read from their work as part of *Agni* Magazine's celebration of its new issue, *Agni 53*. The publication, due out the same day, includes new fiction by Joyce Carol Oats, Chitra Divakaruni, Lynne Sharon Schwartz and new poems by Agha Shahid Ali, Martha Collins, James Tate and Randall Jarrell.

Radcliffe Fellows Event Series
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (496-1462). 4pm. Poet **Natasha Trethewey**, an assistant professor of English at Auburn University, reads from *Bellocq's Ophelia*. In it, she continues work on her manuscript of epistolary and diary poems that draw upon images from E.J. Bellocq's *Storyville Portraits*, photographs of prostitutes in the New Orleans red-light district in 1921. Also reading is **Brenda Shaughnessy**, from her *Untitled Works*. She mixes classical and innovative forms of poetry while incorporating elements of psychoanalysis, feminism and post-structuralist theory.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Road, Framingham (508-875-2321). 7pm. **Jodi Picoult**, author of *Harvesting the Heart* and *Plain Truth*, discusses her new novel that comes out this month, *Salem Falls*.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Suffolk University professor **Thomas F. Connolly** reads from his definitive biography of the great drama critic: *George Jean Nathan and the Making of Modern American Drama Criticism*.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. Montana born, Brooklyn-based author **Jaime Clarke** reads from his debut novel, *We're So Famous*. The book focuses on an all-girl band in Los Angeles and touches upon everything from music to murder.

Poetry Double Header
Cantab Lounge, 738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-11 pm; sign-ups at 7pm. $3. This open-mike event, hosted by **Timothy Gager** and **John Bailey**, features two speakers: **Ty Waterman**, author of *The Year the Red Sox Won the Series: A Chronicle of the 1918 Championship Season*, and **Nick Zaino III**, the creator of *Smart Ass Magazine*.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Mark Epstein** discusses his recent book, *Going on Being*, a memoir of his personal exploration of Buddhism and psychology. Epstein finds similarities between meditation and psychotherapy as he recounts his quest for nexus.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Borders Bookshop Author Series
85 Worchester Road, Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. **Maria Felcher** discusses her novel, *It's No Accident*, about the lack of safety measures taken by those who make products geared toward infants.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Robert Cohen** discusses *Inspired Sleep*, a novel about a struggling grad student and mother suffering from insomnia and an emotionally confused young researcher working in a sleeping laboratory.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Author **David Walley** (*No Commercial Potential: The Saga of Frank Zappa*) discusses his book, *Teenage Nervous Breakdown: Music and Politics in the Post-Elvis Age*. His work explores the phenomenon of Elvis Presley and provides an evaluation of the post-World War II American commercial music.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Paul Lussier**'s historical novel, about *Last Refuge of Scoundrels*, which raises questions about how this country was founded and how our history has been written.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. **Richard Flanagan**, born and educated in his native Tasmania and then at Oxford as a Rhodes scholar, reads from his novel, *The Death of a River Guide*. After the reading and signing, the Newtonville Times across the street hosts the author and patrons for free appetizers.

Radcliffe Fellows Event Series
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (496-1462). 4pm. The development of complex organs such as the heart and the kidney form the foundation of **Kelly McLaughlin**'s research interests. In combination with her research, McLaughlin teaches developmental biology at the Harvard Extension School and is a postdoctoral fellow in the Department of Cellular Biology at Harvard Medical School. Today, she discusses her work, *The Biology of Becoming, Developmental Decisions*.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Barnes and Noble Author Series
Boston University, 660 Beacon St., (236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. **Bill Littlefield** discusses his new book, *Prospect*.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Alice Hoffman** reads from *Aquamarine*, a story about two 12-year-old girls who become best friends, and then have to deal with being separated at the summer's end.

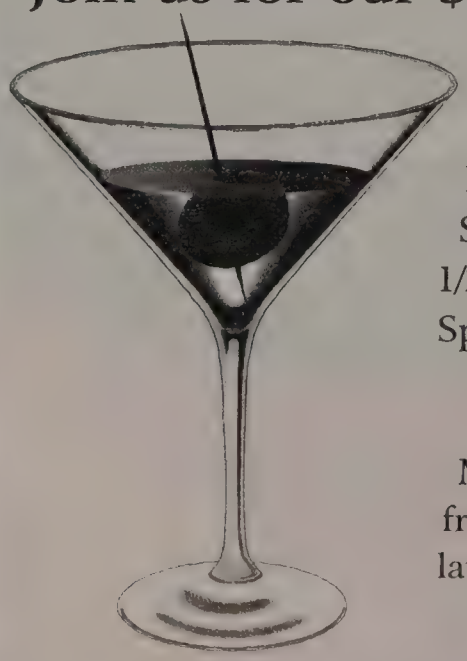
City of Poets: 18 Boston Voices
Rhythm & Muse Bookstore, 403a Centre St., Jamaica Plain (522-3407). 8pm. A slew of local scribes come together to read from Ibbetson Street Press' new anthology. Featured readers include **Jack Powers**, **Don DiVecchio**, **Foug Holder**, **Joanne Holdrigo**, **Askia Toure** and **Harris Gardner**.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Harvard Info Center, Holyoke Center, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Stephen Greenblatt** reads from *Hamlet in Purgatory*. In it, he sets out to explain his longtime fascination with the ghost of Hamlet's father, and it yields an extraordinary account of the rise and fall of purgatory as both a belief and a lucrative institution.

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Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. **Janice Levine** reads from her new book, *Why Do Fools Fall in Love?* Levine is a clinical instructor in psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and the author of *The Couples Health Program.* She has hosted her own Parent Education Series on television and lectures throughout the country on various aspects of couples' relationships.

Ramones Around the World
Mass. College of Art, Tower Auditorium, 651 Huntington Ave., Boston (290-5783). 8pm. This multimedia spoken-word event features **Marky Ramone**, who renders the incredible story of the band that made punk rock history. He delivers the tale of how four kids from Queens turned the rock world upside-down—all with concert footage, question and answer sessions and autographs. Also, **Duncan Wilder** is the opening act—and he's sure to rattle off his signature wacky, sharp truths about life, pop culture and heavy metal music.

MONDAY, APRIL 9

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (876-6837). MBTA: Red line to Harvard. 5:30pm. While on his national book tour, **Dave Eggers**, author of the literary sensation *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*, discusses the paperback edition of his memoir, which includes an entirely new appendix updating the story.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Anita Shreve** talks about her novel, *The Last Time They Met.* The story follows a man and a woman who sustain a life-long passionate relationship even though they have been together only three times.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Alan Wolfe**, Director of the Boisi Center for Religion and American Public Life at Boston College and author of the best-selling *One Nation After All*, discusses his most recent publication, *Moral Freedom.* In his work, he determines that Americans are increasingly defining what leading a good or moral life entails.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Fiction aficionados will love Cantab's all new Tuesday night open-mike event featuring short stories, novel exerts and long prose.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night, Saturdays
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have regularly served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Mending the Middle East
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). 7:30pm. **Allegra Pacheco**, a peace fellow at the Bunting-Radcliffe Institute/Harvard, discusses her forthcoming book about the Middle East peace process. Pacheco has gained experience as an American-Israeli lawyer representing Palestinians in the West Bank.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Communication Skills for the Culturally Diverse Workplace
The Lenox Hotel, 710 Boylston St., Boston (422-1855). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. $43. Boston Women Communicators sponsors this lecture by Dr. Marlene Fine, who examines how our cultural background influences our perceptions, behaviors and communication in the workplace.

Reconciliation Efforts in Bosnia and Israel
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:15pm. Psychiatrist **Dr. John Woodall** discusses his grassroots involvement in Bosnia and Israel and his attempts to bring about reconciliation between the two opposing sides.

Ten Films That Changed the Movies
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 7-8:30pm. Film critic **Daniel M. Kimmel** picks 10 films that changed the way movies were made.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

The Immigrant's Quest for a New Life
Lowell Lecture Series, Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (861-6559). 2pm. Free. Discover Boston's rich immigration history with **Westy Egmonet**, executive director of the International Institute of Boston and the Dreams of Freedom Museum.

An Important Man Speaks
142 Berkeley St., Boston (859-1400). 12:01pm. A very important man who sits on the boards of several *Fortune* 500 companies will discuss his by-the-bootstraps climb to success—from his years at Andover and Harvard to his position as CEO of an important corporation.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

Economic Justice Lecture Series
Boston Research Center for the 21st Century, 396 Harvard St., Cambridge (491-1090). 5:30pm. $10. Join Nobel Laureate **Amartya Sen** for a lecture about her book, *Development as Freedom: A Conversation with Amartya Sen.*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Women Future WAPPP Weekly
JFK School of Government, Cambridge (495-8756). 2:30-4pm. Take part in a global conversation about business leaders and their impact on the world. Female CEOs and high-level women from a variety of business ventures are featured in this panel format lecture.

Archaeological Treasures of the Big Dig
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). 7-9pm. $29. Join **Dan McNichol**, former Big Dig spokesman, for a late-night tour of the Big Dig.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Investment Conference
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston. www.msicouncil.org. *7:30am-3pm.* This conference will feature 48 innovative software and Internet companies that are looking for investors.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

Women Future WAPPP Weekly
JFK School of Government, Cambridge (495-8756). 2:30-4pm. **Sheila Burke** of the Smithsonian Institute gives a talk. She is the former executive dean of the JFK School of Government and former chief of staff to Senator Bob Dole.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

Ceremony
An Tua Nua. Pounding goth and industrial music shakes the house, 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. Show tunes and Cabaret with Michael Larson and Dorothy Miller. 9pm-1am.

Language
Hibernia. This incredible drum-and-bass night is heated up with Cosmo. 8pm. 21+.

Monsta Monday
Bill's Bar. It's time to jam with Trust Fall and Colepitz. DJ Diecast also kicks off the week. 9pm, $5, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
This Irish pub offers best of hip-hop, jazz and reggae. 11pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma. DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and house. 10pm, $10. 21+. Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
•April 2: In the Biz Night is hosted by *Backbaybeat.com*, 21+. •April 9: Celebrity night with Gordy Klusack, party to benefit rCystic Fybrosis research, 21+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. No cover. $21+.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and U.K. progressive. Plus a drag/strip event with Mizery. 10pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo. Caesar and Giorgio throw a party for those who never want to stop dancin'. Dress slick. 10pm. No cover.

TUESDAYS

Avenue
DJ mike M. from New York hosts Allson's old-school hip-hop funk night. 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar. This off-the-hook night features DJ Chaos scratching out hip-hop. 10pm. $12, 18+.

Flaunt
Aria. Hip-hop and R&B with guest DJs. 19+, $10.

The Forum
Lava Bar. Join Mission Control and support local DJs as home-grown talents share the floor. 10pm. 21+.

Got Milk?
Venu. If you're chic you'll be at Venu for Milk—a devilishly hip party with DJ Osheen. Dress is funky. 21+.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a relaxed night out on a Tuesday. 6pm. 21+.

Lot 36
The Modern/Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin House for a trendy crowd. 10pm. $10. 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Alex, Heather, Igor, Diego, Jason and Gonzaga host Euro house international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress coat required. $15.

The Rack
Tuesday nights feature an after work jazz band, 7:30pm, 21+. •April 10: 2001 N.A.T.A.S. Emmy nomination party, 6pm, 21+.

Showtunes
Encore Lounge. Bobby Femino plays classic piano-bar show tunes. 9pm-1am.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. No cover. 21+.

Sophia's
Free Salsa lessons by Dan Marshall. 9-10pm, followed by dancing. 5pm-2am. No cover. 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange. Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble rocks; a complimentary buffet is served. 8pm.

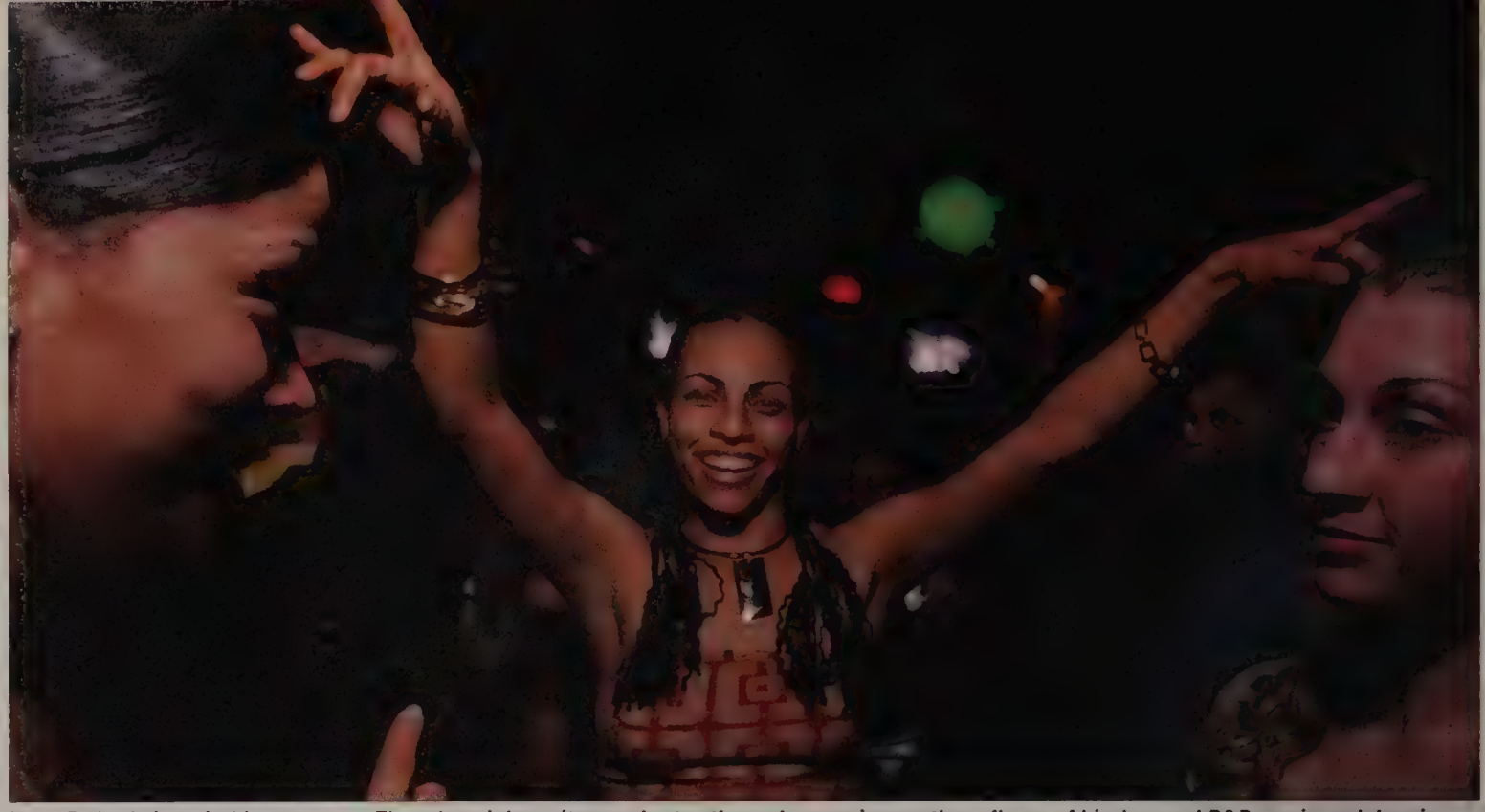
What's Up Night
An Tua Nua. *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night and fund-raiser.

WEDNESDAYS

Backstage
DJ Jonny C. spins top-40 dance. 10pm, no cover. 21+.

College Night
The Aquarium. Guest DJs spin all sorts of tunes at this relatively new venue at 10pm.

Drum and Bass Live
Karma. Syndrome jams it up with Schism and Dummy Plug Conspiracy.



Polly Esther's is switching gears on Thursday nights—its usual retro-themed scene is now three floors of hip-hop and R&B music and dancing.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays jazzy blues at the piano bar. 9pm.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar. DJ Tim Collins spins funk and groove.

Hibernia
Wednesday night tunes and cocktails in the lounge make for a mellow evening. 6pm. 21+.

Knowledge
Avenue. Every Wednesday night DJ Shugewhite and Eric Santangelo spin hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B.

Latin Night
Aquarium. This aquatic-themed club offers specialty drinks, loud music and dance lessons, 9-10pm.

New Music
The Druid. Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts. 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers a new mixture of guests spinning everything from deep house to techno. 11pm. $5. 19+.

Pravda 116
Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix. 21+.

The Rack
•March 28: Welcome Richard Hatch to Boston party featuring DJ Steve Anderson, 6pm, 21+. •April 4: Complaints, 6pm, 21+.

Release
Vertigo. Proper house and progressive tunes with resident DJ's Jason Carr and JDustin Kincaid. 10pm. $7. 21+.

Rockout
Emily's. Tonight features a rock trivia game show and live local bands. 8pm. $5. 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong. An evening of psy-trance and drum-n-space with resident DJ's David West, Kris Defixio and Dino. 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange. A night dedicated to those in the industry is hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White. At 10pm, there is a champagne reception. 21+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot features live music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40 and R&B upstairs. No cover. 21+.

Sophia's
Latin band on the first floor and DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Wet U'R Whistle Wednesdays
The Kells. 94.5's Roy Barboza spins hip-hop upstairs, while DJs spin house downstairs. 10pm-2am, $5, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul spun by DJ Ren Justice, 19+.

Aquarium
The Kiss 108 FM dance party. 10pm. $3.

Avenue Lounge Nights
DJ Jason spins house and techno. 21+.

Backstage
Tonight's adrenaline high features special-guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm, $5. 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans-themed nightspot has it all—even billiards. 9pm.

Chrome
Axis. Resident DJs John Debo and Ali Ajami spin house and trance music. 10pm, $10. 19+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern. DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar. 9pm-2am, 21+.

The Druid
Mr. Doug Nice plays trippy deep house. 10pm.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin Lounge. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays great American blues and jazz at the piano bar. 9pm-1am.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion House
Aria. Fashion shows and DJ Roger spinning house. It's also Greek Night in the Angel Room. $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116. DJ Maric spins tunes to relax you.

Heaven
Comedy Connection Backstage. Music by DJs Johnny C and Freddie C. Proper dress. 10pm. No cover.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange. DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B. 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia Thursdays
After work party. DJ Jeremy spins loopy, trippy trip-hop. 6pm. 21+

Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals. 9pm. 21+.

International Thursday
Avalon. A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy. You know it's time to get down when the Roxy breaks out its sexy Latin dance mixes. 10:30pm, 21+.

Lava Bar
Join the Original Lounge Lizard Brother Cleve and Friends for funky beats at the Bootyque. 10pm. 21+.

The Modern
International Thursdays features progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Located in the heart of groovy Central Square, this Irish pub presents drum 'n' bass night. 11pm. $5. 19+.

The Rack
•March 29: Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+. •April 5: Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. Free before 10pm. 21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm. DJ Eddy K spins best of Latin on second floor. 5pm-2am. $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's. Dance to three floors of hip-hop and R&B on this brand new club night. With DJ Reggie Beas and Chubbie Chubb, 9pm.

Speed
Karma. DJ Bruno spins house. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Sugar Shack
Music from three decades pounds through the festival atmosphere here, where every day is Mardi Gras.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

The List
Lava Bar. *Lavabar.com*. Verse/D bring you soul and funk. 10pm. 21+.

Roxy Plex
Dance with salsa, merengue and Latin grooves playing upstairs. 10:30pm. DJ Adison bounces progressive house and trance beats underground. 10pm. 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz and DJ Tasty spin to a huge college crowd in the main room while DJ Prophet and Da Mongoloid play classics from the 70s, 80s and 90s. 19+. $15.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hits and your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s.

American Karma
Karma. All-star American top-40 remixes with DJ Tim Collins, live on Star 93.7. 9pm, $8. 19+.

Aquarium
DJ Lu spins today's hottest dance hits.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top 40 dance. Great music, no attitude. 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon. Everything about this place screams "Party!" With Ali Ajami. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights. 21+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40. 10pm, $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has some of the best mainstream DJs in town.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz. Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs pay homage to the house music gods. 11pm, $15. 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. John O'Neil and Jan Peters sing show-tunes, great American songbook and cabaret. 9pm.

Envy
This popular destination is filled with a mass of sweaty 'n' ready dancers. 9pm, $5 after 10pm. 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange. Tiziano and Maurizio deliver house. G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B in the Vault. 9pm.

Focus at Hibernia
Cocktails with Alan Strack at 6pm and deep funky house by Shelter at 10pm, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy. International house featuring local, national and European DJs. 10:30pm.

Hibernia
Alan Strack in the lounge, 6pm; disco, funk and deep house, DJ Doug Nice, 10pm. 21+.

Life
Lava Bar. Dance to DJ Fran Englehardt's deeply rooted, soulful rhythms. 10pm. 21+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy. International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Friday
Bill's Bar. Get in on the action with DJ Mark Hamilton and live bands. 9pm, 18+.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as J Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.

Revolution
The Modern. Find Latin and progressive Euro house here with DJ Eddie K. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Shake it up
Phoenix Landing. Shake what your mama gave you with DJ Ren Justice. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning high energy, popular R&B and dance upstairs. No cover before 10pm. 21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor. DJ Mike C. plays Latin dance on second floor while DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge. 5pm.$10. 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis. Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James.

Sugar Shack
DJs and specialty drinks, dancing 'til 2am.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Venu
The scene is elegant for this jacket-required international romp. Get on your Gucci as DJ Arsit spins. Dress coat required, 21+. $15.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance. 10:30pm. No cover. 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar. DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite with high-energy house and Latin beats. 10pm, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance tunes. Great music, no attitude. 10:30pm-2am. 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno. 21+.

Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm. $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has live bands all weekend long. Does non-stop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.

Blues
Encore Lounge. Shake off your blues and listen to honky-tonk, classic and contemporary rock. Sit-ins welcome. 9:30pm-2am.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing. Disco fever hits Cambridge all night long with DJ Vinney. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern. DJ Shiuan Lee puts out funky house for a mix of international students, local scene setters and, of course, Boston's A-list. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Boston's newest Latin Night starting at 10pm. Dress to impress. $10.

Club Nicole
The mob is thick for this exclusive trend-setting night. DJ Alex spins Euro house. Proper dress. 21+.

Club Piteko
Fajitas & Ritas. DJ Piteko leads the party to "dance like no one is watching," specializing in Cape Verdean music. $7. 10:30pm. 21+.

Downtown
Avalon. Resident DJs gyrante your arse with the latest hits. 10pm, $15, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music. 9pm, $5.

Elements of Life
Karma. DJ Mario spins hard house while DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul tunes. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily. Deep house and dance classics with DJ A.J. Deep. 10pm. No cover. 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJs melt the tables upstairs with house and international tracks. In the vault, DJ GSquared spins.

Hibernia Saturdays
Luis Diaz and Resident Twilo, groove up a storm this Saturday night. 10pm. 21+.

Indulgence
Aria. DJs spin the latest in house and club top-40. In the Angel Room, DJ Roger spins Latin and Euro-haus. $10, 21+.

Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's. Get a taste of Miami nightlife. 9:30pm (ladies free before 11pm), $10. 21+. Ladies, 19+.

Mischief
The Modern. Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica. 21+.

Must
Venu. It's Greek International night with DJ Yorgo Jr. spinning the hits from the famous party islands. Dress coat required, $10.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario provides current dance jams.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.

Roxy Saturdays
High-energy house and dance by DJ Adilson. 9pm, proper dress. 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's. Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD. 8pm, $10. 21+.

Shake at Club Paradise
DJ Goodfella brings the best old school hip-hop and Classic Funk & Soul at the new Jump Off party, Shake. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot has acoustic music downstairs from 4pm and DJs spinning popular dance upstairs. No cover before 10pm. 21+.

Smile
Bill's Bar. DJ Bruno takes over. 10pm. $12, 19+.

Sophia's
DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor. Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm, DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Who's on First?
Check out some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin, all hosted by Li'l Mike. 10:30pm, $12. 18+.

X Night
Axis. Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits. 10pm, $10. 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing as DJ Gabe spins the hottest house, funk and dance. 10:30pm. no cover. 21+.

SUNDAYS

Backstage
Urban Night. T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school. Doors open at 10pm, $10. 21+.

Common People
An Tua Nua. Hear Brit-pop, new wave, indie and more with DJ Ren Justice. 9pm, $3. 19+.

Curve
Hannah's. Three DJs, one vibe. DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno. 10pm. $5. 21+.

The Druid
May the luck of the Irish be with you as you listen to a Seisiun with Shay Walker and friends. 5pm.

Druid Sundays
Seisiun jams with Shay Walker and Noel Scott. 5pm.

Encore Lounge
Saddle up to the piano bar and listen to Michael Kreutz play show tunes and great American songbook. 9pm.

Evening in the Velvet Lounge
Trio. Oscar's Sunday night has moved to this hot spot, where you can kick back and lounge. No cover, 10pm.

Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M. No cover, 21+.

Sunday Night Karma
Sunday night heat hosts hot 97's DJ Chuck Dog, featuring DJ Statik Selektah spinning the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B. $10, 10pm. 21+.

Lava Bar
Pandora's Box (Club Courtesy). DJ Vinny and Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown. 10pm. 21+.

Living Room
Aria. DJ Raffi spins Euro-house. In the Angel Room, DJ Franklin spins Latin. $10, 21+. Proper dress.

Rack
The Chad LaMarsh band, 9:30pm-1:30am, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116. Party in the front bar that is transformed into a comfortable lounge. 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar. DJ K-Don spins great reggae with Holy Smoke and special guests. 10pm. $10. 21+.

Salvation
An intimate night, courtesy of DJ Soul. $5.

Sex
The Exchange. Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan plays top-40 and hip-hop tunes. D: Martini Bros., 4-8pm; Gregg Luttrell, 9pm-1am.

Trance
Phoenix Landing. Get down with some hip trance beats brought to you by DJ Blacksmith. 10:30pm. $5. 19+.

Venu
Carnival comes to Boston as DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio to Venu. Dress coat required, 21+. $10.

Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aquarium *65 Holland St., Somerville (623-3200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Comedy Connection *Faneuil Hall, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Fajitas & Ritas *25 West St., Boston (426-1222). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (480-9489).*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Oskar's *107 South St., Boston (542-6756). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000 x3333). MBTA: Blue line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*



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LIKE A ROCK

After 28 years, the voices of Sweet Honey hold true to harmony, history and purpose. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Sweet Honey in the Rock continues to flow. The a cappella female ensemble just came off a Grammy nomination for its Rounder children's album *Still the Same Me*, a follow-up to 1998's *...twenty-five...*, a resonant Rykodisc release that fittingly celebrated Sweet Honey's quarter-century mark.

But each of those recordings was a one-shot deal for the group, which draws its success and satisfaction from the spirit of its live performances, not the record industry.

"You wonder if it's even worth it in this day and age," member Aisha Kahlil says of dealing with record labels. "We've been independent for so long, these contracts are kind of repulsive, like we're back in the slavery days or something. We're a group that gets very little airplay, if any, so we're definitely underground in terms of that."

In terms of its concerts, though, Sweet Honey is far above the underground. On April 7, the group returns to Symphony Hall with its trademark blend of spirituals, gospel, blues, jazz, doo-wop, reggae and African music, all fueled by social consciousness. "We definitely have a strong female following," Kahlil says. "They find a voice in Sweet Honey and what it expresses. Sometimes it's in the music, and sometimes it's just in the sense of black women who have had a group for so many years. It's like a role model."



A cappella ensemble Sweet Honey mixes gospel, blues, jazz, doo-wop, reggae and African music.

Not that one has to be young, gifted or black to be drawn to Sweet Honey, which taps the original instrument, the human voice. "That's why people are impressed with the way they [feel] at our concerts," she adds. "It's just the very basic-ness of the vocals in their raw state... And the type of songs we sing as well. It goes right through you."

To that end, historical purpose and trance-like harmonies come together in Sweet Honey's repertoire. The group moves from African chants and rearrangements of "Motherless Child" and Bob Marley's "Redemption Song" to originals like founder Bernice Johnson Reagon's sermonette "Greed," and Kahlil's dreamy, polyphonic "Forever Love" and "Fulani Chant."

There are demands to singing a cappella, Kahlil says. "You have to be there working in all kinds of ways, from the very top of your range to the very bottom. You have to adjust how much power you're going to put out in terms of the blend, and stay within the context of the group, so the group is like one voice."

When she auditioned for Sweet Honey in 1981, Kahlil already had a cappella experience, going back to her schoolgirl days in Buffalo, N.Y. "We had a semi-professional choir that rehearsed every day at 7:30 in the morning," she says. "We had performances with the Buffalo Philharmonic and at Carnegie Hall." She went on to study theater at Northeastern University, just down the street from Symphony Hall, then tackled jazz at New England Conservatory. But joining Sweet Honey was a vocal education unto itself.

"I changed my sound to fit into the blend of the group," says Kahlil, who likewise influenced Sweet Honey with her background in improvisation and dance. "When I got there, they were all sitting in chairs. Now it's to the point where everyone is moving quite a bit, with cordless mikes. We have the chairs, but there is a lot of movement going on."

For 12 years, there hasn't been any movement in the ranks, however, although 22 women have passed through Sweet Honey since Reagon formed the group in 1973 as an offshoot of the [Washington] D.C. Black Repertory Company. The ensemble took its name from a parable about a land where honey would flow from the rocks when they were cracked open.

In addition to original members Reagon and Carol Maillard, the group features Kahlil, Ysaye M. Barnwell and Nitanju Bolade Casel, along with sign language interpreter Shirley Childress Sexton. And if the group sounds like a sisterhood, that idea takes on added meaning for Kahlil: she and Casel are sisters. They even roomed together at Northeastern, before taking separate paths after college. Kahlil moved to California and New York. Casel spent four years studying and performing in Senegal, then was urged by her sister to audition for a 1985 opening in Sweet Honey. "She didn't know if she wanted to be in the group," Kahlil says. "But she auditioned anyway, and she's been here ever since."

The ensemble allows time for outside projects (Kahlil is readying a New Age/jazz/world solo CD, and acted in the film *Beloved* with other members), though Sweet Honey's schedule limits doing open theatrical runs. "I realized early on," she says, "the only way I was going to do anything else was if I was the director or whatever, and I called the shots." iB

Sweet Honey

Performs at Symphony Hall April 7.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Bryan Adams March 29, Lowell Auditorium
Altan March 30, Sanders Theatre
Big Dumb Face, featuring Wes Frank Black April 9, Paradise
Andrea Bocelli April 1, FleetCenter
Boorland of Limp Bizkit and El Grecco April 10, Axis
Eliza Carthy April 1, Paradise
Cowboy Mouth and Southern Culture on the Skids April 5, Avalon
Dark Star Orchestra April 7, Worcester Palladium
Ani Difranco March 28, Tsongas Arena
Dean Fraser and the Firehouse Crew March 29, Avalon
Nelly Furtado April 7, Paradise
Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill April 6, Somerville Theatre
International Folk Festival March 29, Berklee Performance Center
The Ivory Coast March 29, Paradise
Kendra Jade April 7, Avalon
Luciano, Junior Kelly, Mikey General, Preservation Hall Jazz Band April 6, Symphony Hall
Virginia Rodrigues April 1, Somerville Theatre
Sheila Divine March 29 and 30, Paradise
Sick of It All, Boy Sets Fire, Death by Stereo and American Nightmare April 1, Axis
O.C. Supertones April 6, Worcester Palladium
Semisonic and Pete Yorn April 10, Paradise
Telsa April 5, Orpheum Theatre
Women's Extreme Wrestling, featuring Midtown April 7, Worcester Palladium

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar D-Tensions CD release party with 7Land Esoteric, El the Sensei, Massholes, Micranots, Old Dominion and Original Vibe Monsters, $12, 18+.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Sam Shaber and Josh Ritter, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff James McKenna, 8pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
House of Blues Princes of Babylon, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Paradox Trio, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Tom Feldman, 8:30pm; Abi Tapia, 9:30pm; the Color Forms, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Daft Samuel; No Warning; Atomic Voodoo, $5.
Lilli's Sex Bomb Residency with the Ben Swift Band and Anti-Jazz Raygun, $7.
Lizard Lounge The Pee Wee Fist, featuring Stringbuilder and 27, 21+.
Middle East U: Enemymine, the Rapture and Burning Brides, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Welcome Richard Hatch to Boston party featuring DJ Steve Anderson, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar Either Orchestra, 8;30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club D: Jazzanova Project, 9:30pm.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Bluegrazer, Barn and the Mulligans, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Party Time DJ.

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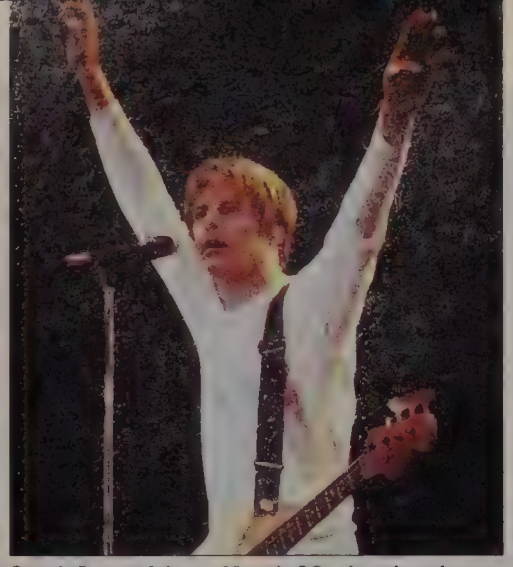
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Catch Bryan Adams March 29 when he plays at Lowell Memorial Auditorium.

Tír na nÓg The Coots, 10pm.
Toad The Cranktones, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tracy Shedd; Mark Robinson; One AM Radio, $6.
Les Zygomates John Koradalewski, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Jigawattica and Earthdog, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton; Injustice with Dropkick Jesus and Curb Feeler, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Matt Chase, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Grace Griffith, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Almost Speechless with the Chris Canty Band, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke with Dana Z, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Missing Jo with Bob's Day Off and Labb, 9:30pm, $9, 18+.
House of Blues Nighthawks, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Jennifer Jackson, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Do John Tringali, 9pm; D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Gladstones; Bo Thayer and the Euphorians; Jabe, $5.
Kirkland Cafe John Surette, Kitty Kill, Chilly Kurtz, Devon Irish, Chris Mascara, Kristian Montgomery and Meaghan McLaughlin, $5.
Lilli's Entrain, $10.
Linwood Jim James Band, Carla Patullo and Swivel.
Lizard Lounge Amelia White's Grand New Opry featuring Dave Wildman, Boris McCutcheon, Laura Wood and Amelia White, 21+.
Middle East U: The Frogs, Cutthroats 9, Double Dong and Sky Rocket, $9, 18+; D: Culture, Pressure Cooker and Agitators, 8pm, $15, 18+.
Old South Meeting House Millie Rahn and Betsy Siggins Schmidt, 12:15pm, $5.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Bobby Hutcherson Quartet with George Cables, Rufus Reid, Victor Lewis, 8:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club U: Temporada Latina; D: Jazz with Cervenka, Tomassi, Odgren and Santoro, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Kendrick Oliver and the New Life Jazz Orchestra, 8 and 10pm, $15.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Edable Gray and the Sound of the Headnod, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Karaoke competition.
Tir na nÓg Rust Farm, 10pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Sticky, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place MsPigeon with Bloodshot, $7.
Les Zygomates Mark Greel, 8pm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Heidi, Give and the Jaded Salingers, $8.
Black Horse Tavern Juniper's Daughter, 9pm.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and Curragh's Fancy.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia Ted Casher, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill. U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Trina Hamlin, Colleen Sexton, 8pm.
Common Ground The Jones Brothers, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; Bald Water, 10pm.
Copperfield's Central Basement and 16 Wade, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Beantown Bar Band, 7pm; Classic Trax, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Issi Rosen Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Idiot Box.
Green Dragon Tavern Days at Dawn, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry The Mudhens with Equitone, 9:30pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
House of Blues Swinging Steaks, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Treat Her Right, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Remix, 9pm; D: Purge.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Daniel Jacobs, 9:30pm; Shiner Jones, 10:30pm; Kelly Riley, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Kenne Highland Clan, Heavy Stud, Doom Buggies and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Wax Poetic, Topaz and Masters of Groove featuring Bernard Purdie, Ruben Wilson and Grant Green Jr., $12.
Linwood Tokyo Tramps and Red Planet.
Lizard Lounge The Electric Logs, 21+.
McGann's DJ Static.
Middle East U: Speed Devils, Kings of Nuthin', the Konks and Triple Thick, $8, 18+; D: Amphibian featuring Tom Marshall, Mark Mulcahey, Dana Colley and Nash Satterfield, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Thaddeus Hogarth's CD-release party.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy Courtney, Alan Loughnane.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Live music, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Bobby Hutcherson Quartet, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Muse Clairvoyance with Patrick Emswiler, 9pm, $5.
Rhythm and Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Scullers Walter Beasley, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Marie's Children, the Faith Soloway Band and the Mike Brown Project, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times DJ Yin Yang.
Tír na nÓg Christian MacNeil, 10pm.
Toad John Haydon and Ten Worlds and Fire in the Boathouse, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with vocalist Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron on sax, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Slobberbone, Charlie Chesterman and the Lengendary Motorbikes, Say Zuzu and the Booda Velvets, $8.
Western Front Reggae with Addis and Reign 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Skip Smith, 9pm.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Sugarcoat with Hazie Maze, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern The Coots, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Celtic Clan; Curragh's Fancy.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Andrew Kerr and Vance Gilbert, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Pressure Cooker, 10pm.
Copperfield's Magnus and Chair 13, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Van Go Carts, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Karin Parker and Her Band, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal The Return.
Green Dragon Tavern Classic Trax, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Slipknot with Stirfried, 9:30pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
House of Blues Milo-Z, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's Conehead Buddha, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Dennis McCarthy, 9pm; D: Blockhead.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Chappy, 9:30pm; Six Days Away, 10:30pm; Sacred Raisin Cakes, 11:30pm, $5.
Lilli's Super Zero, Chinstrap and Strawhorse, $7.
Linwood Every Second, Devour, Buddha and Dissonance.
Lizard Lounge Lars Vegas and King Memphis.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: Stephen Malkmus and the Jicks, and Kingsbury Manx, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy Courtney, Alan Loughnane.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Velvet Jones, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Bobby Hutcherson Quartet, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm and Spice Jamm Down, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club D: Megawatt Blues Crushers, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Walter Beasley, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Hurricane Jane, Amusia and Alchemilla, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times God Fearing Men.
Tigerlily Escape and DJ Brian Luciani, 10pm.
Tír na nÓg Jabe, 10pm.
Toad Jennifer Mathews Band, no cover.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with vocalist Maggie Galloway, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Wildfire Willie and the Ramblers, the Raging Teens and Colonel and His Lucky Diamonds, $10.
Western Front Reggae with Addis and Reign 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates George Russel, 10pm.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

Bill's Bar DJ K-Don; Skiffy, $10, 21+.
Black Rose Frank Ryan and Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with the Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Denice franke and Carrie Newcomer, 7:30pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald gospel brunch, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm.
House of Blues Angus, 9pm, $6.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Reverend Rich Mackim, 8pm; Frank Morey, 9pm; Preacher Jack, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 7:30pm.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Consuelo Candelaria Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reverie.

MONDAY, APRIL 2

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch; Die Cast with Shutdown, Cannae and God Forbid, $10, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley, 8pm; Andrew McKnight, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Be Good Tanyas, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Schedule 2 with Baby Strange, 9:30pm, $5, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Pierce Woodward Trio, $5.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In the Biz Night, hosted by *backbaybeat.com*, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Steve Schwartz, 7pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Consuelo Candelaria Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Katie Barbato, $3.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; Dave Foley, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet, 9:30pm, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.



The Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash play April 8 at the House of Blues.

Johnny D's Denise Frank and Kieth Lewis, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Jeff Kauppi, 8:30pm; David Falk, 9:30pm; Chris Laterzo, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnlieter Jazz Quartet, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Beaver Nelson, Melvern Taylor, 21+.
McGann's Traditional Irish with Slainte.
Middle East U: Honkey, Lamont and the Glory Stompers, $7, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
Plough and Stars Jennifer Matthews Band, 10pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack After work jazz band, 7:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Greg Hopkins Jazz Orchestra, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Bartlett Trio, 9pm, $7.
Sidney's Grille The Laura Allen Trio, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Smokefield Crush, Swaypole and International Allies, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; the Residency featuring Say Zuzu, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Fightin Dogs, Emery Vesch, Suspect Device and Jimmy Jack Stark, $4.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Bill's Bar Funk and Groove with DJ Tim Collins; Stymie with Hazie Maze, $7, 18+.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ashley Cox and the Sara Wheeler Band, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go.
Coogan's Bluff James McKenna, 8pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.

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Harpers Ferry Littlehorse and Sam "the Breadman" Bigelow, 9:30pm, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
House of Blues John Hammond, 9pm.
Johnny D's Equation, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Shanan, 8:30pm; Emm Gryner, 9:30pm; Matt Nathanson, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Jay Wightman's Hootenanny, $5.
Lilli's Sex Mob Residency with guests and Anti-Jazz Raygun, $7.
Lizard Lounge Dragstrip Courage with special guests the Liver Pool and Reverse, 21+.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Complaints, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Michael Williams Quintet, 8:30 and 10pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Clark Organ Trio, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Poncho Sanchez, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Elysium, Teiou and Sekkai, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times City Pete.
Toad Lucky Stereo.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place 3 Song Circus with Jian Ghomeshi, Erin Mckeown and Andy Stochansky, $12.
Les Zygomates John Thomas, 8pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic The Duoastics and the Mike Brown Project, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar El Camino with David James Motorcycle, $7.
Black Horse Tavern Ottie from Nom de Plume, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Don Conoscenti, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground The Allstonians, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke with Dana Z, 7pm.
Dick's Last Resort Lonely Gus and the One Night Stand, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Addison Groove Project, 9:30pm, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Tom.
Johnny D's Scott McGill, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ John Tringali, 9pm; D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Local Jack, 9pm; Kendra Flowers, 10pm; Edith, 11pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Somerville Bottleopeners, Com'on Man and Felonius Fonk, $5.
Linwood 4-H8Sake and Marty from New York.
Lizard Lounge Dub Trance and Groove with Club D'Elf featuring bassist Micro Vard, 21+.
Middle East U: The Sadies, $8, 18+; D: J Mascis and the Fog, 8:30pm, $12, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Ron Gill Sextet, 8:30pm, $12.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Patricia Adams, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Poncho Sanchez, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Carry the Zero, the Halogens and the Pincushions, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Karaoke competition.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Drawn Butter, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Hilken Mancini; Paula Kelly; Leah Blessoff; the Knee Hi's, $6.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Lemonpeeler, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Who's the Fat Guy, 9pm.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne; Tony and Patsy.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Silverleaf Gospel Singers, 8pm, $12.



Let's get down and dirty: On April 6, the Smut Peddlers play at the Middle East.

Preview

Peddle Pushers

The High & Mighty and Cage pedal into the Middle East Downstairs

Returning this week to the Middle East after packing the joint last year, the Smut Peddlers have a lot going for them: a slew of singles on Rawkus, critical acclaim for their recently released debut album, *Porn Again*, and a built-in audience from both of their alter egos. The Peddlers are a trio, but two-thirds of them are better known as the High & Mighty, the partnership of DJ/producer Mighty Mi and MC Mr. Eon. This pair gained a name for themselves in the mid-to-late '90s by putting out a series of 12-inch singles on their Philadelphia-based label Eastern Conference Records. Largely focusing on the ever-popular themes of sports, weed and sex, one of those records featured an up-and-coming MC named Cage. At the time, Cage was best-known for his contention (supported by many in the underground hip-hop world) that Eminem had ripped off a lot of his sound and style, but Cage has since proven to be an MC worthy of attention on his own merits. His first single, "Agent Orange," was produced by the NYC underground's notorious Necro, but it was on Cage's single "54," produced by Mighty Mi, that the Smut Peddlers' potential for greatness was realized. Included on *Porn Again*, it's one of the record's strongest tracks, with its sinister funk backdrop and Cage's collection of freeze-framed verbal images of life in the gutter.

The High & Mighty are no strangers to Boston-area hip-hop: Mighty Mi went to school here at B.U., and the duo have been on singles by local artists Akrobatik and Rip Shop. In addition, Eastern Conference's compilation album, *The Eastern Conference All-Stars*, is distributed by Quincy's own Landspeed Records. The Middle East show will be a Homecoming event of sorts, and a lot of cheerleaders are expected. They are joined by M.O.P., a criminal-minded crew who's been making noise for a little while now. Straight outta Brooklyn, the Mashed Out Posse will bring thugged-out rhymes and grimy beats to the stage. Their album, *First Family 4 Life*, is out on Loud Records, the same label that brought you the Wu-Tang Clan. *April 6, Middle East downstairs, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). $20. 18+. —Andrew Graham*

Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; Thomas Park, 10pm.
Copperfield's Stout and Off Track, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Ricks Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Me and Julio, 9pm.
Green Dragon Tavern The Return, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry The Boston Horns with the Thaddeus Hogarth Group, 9:30pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
House of Blues Love Dogs, 10pm, $10.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Remix, 9pm; D: 2nd Story.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Brian Seymour, 8:30pm; Ed Fingerling, 9:30pm; Violet Tide, 10:30pm; Den of Thieves, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Downbeat 5 and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's The Amazing Crowns, $10.
Linwood Opening Day, Straw Horse and T-House of the Almighty.
Lizard Lounge Peter Mulvey with special guest Anita Suhanin, 21+.
McGann's DJ Static.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Sundays Well, 9pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Velvet Jones, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Pig Pen.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar Los Hombres Calientes with Irvin Mayfield and Bill Summers, 8 and 10:30pm, $14.
Rhythm and Muse Pianist Liz DeBiase, 9pm.
Rhythm and Spice Hot Like Fire, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Moksha, 9pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm.
Sky Bar Ghost 24; Janke; the Cautions, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times DJ Party Time.
Toad D.B. Leonard.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Helicopter Helicopter CD-release party, Star Ghost Dog, Kitty in the Tree, $8.
Les Zygomates "Moxie" the women of the Manhattan Transfer, 7 and 10pm, $25.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Dr. Awkward with Kobie, 21+.
Bill's Bar MU330 with Big D and the Kids Table, Lawrence Arms and 5 Bucks, 1pm, $10.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, Eugene Byrne and Tony and Patsy.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Adam Brodsky and Kevin So, 7 and 10pm, $12.
Common Ground Buck Dewey Big Band, 10pm.
Copperfield's Itchy Fish, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Pig Pen, 9pm.
Green Dragon Tavern Dog House, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry The Pink Floyd tribute band with Another Brick in the Wall, 9:30pm, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Dennis McCarthy, 9pm; D: Off the Wall.
Kendall Cafe The Mary Janes and Alex Dezen, $5.
Lilli's Amy Ray, the Butchies and Tami Hart.
Linwood Mount the Assen; Porn.
Lizard Lounge The Feathermerchants with the Humming, 21+.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: The New Year, 7pm, $8, 18+; Andrew Bird's Bowl of Fire, Jim and Jennie and the Pinetops, 10pm, $10, 18+; D: Bim Skala Bim, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Sundays Well, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill John Erikson Duo, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Bunker Hill.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Los Hombres Calientes with Irvin Mayfield and Bill Summers, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Rippopatamus, 9pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Euonym; Full Powered Halo; Juniper's Daughter; Synaesthesia, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tigerlily Escape and DJ Brian Luciani, 10pm.
Toad Paved Country, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Calendar Girl CD-release party with Seventeen, the Decals and Frigate, $8.
Les Zygomates "Moxie," the women of the Manhattan Transfer, 7 and 10pm, $25.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Black Rose Happy hour with Tony O'Riordan; Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Nat Simpkins and the B3 Jazz Trio, 11am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kevin So, 8pm, $12.
Costello's Tavern The James Merenda jazz jam featuring the Mingus Three, 8:30pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald gospel brunch, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Funderdome with Boston comics; Mo Matching Drapes, $5.
Lilli's Sinners and Saints Residency.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Chris Bower with poetry slam, 7:30pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: Alkaline Trio, Sweep the Leg Johnny and the Ivory Coast, $9, 18+. D: Eyehategod, Isis, Keelhaul and 5ive, 8pm, $10, 18+; C: The Tony Marino Quartet and jam session, 4pm; Fikus, 7pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Rhythm and Muse Adam Ezra, 9pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am.
Toad Colleen Sexton.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tim Easton and the Kickbacks, $8.
Les Zygomates "Moxie" the women of the Manhattan Transfer, 7 and 10pm, $25.

MONDAY, APRIL 9

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch, $8.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open-mike, 8pm.
Club Passim Open-mike featuring Laura Higgins, 9pm, $5.
Common Ground Worst Evening Ever and the Simpsons Trivia Night, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.

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Harpers Ferry AVA, 9:30pm, $5, 18+.
House of Blues Jeb Loy Nichols, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Pierce Woodward Trio, $5.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; the Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack Celebrity night with Gordy Klusack, party for cystic fybrosis, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Toad Shwang, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Chicks on Speed, $10.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; the Bagboys, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
Good Life Cambridge Fascinatin Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet, 9:30pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Swap, 8:30pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Massi and DJ Remix.
Kendall Cafe Laurie Geltman, 8:30pm; Tom Glynn Duo, 9:30pm; Janet Robin, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnlieter Jazz Quartet.
Lizard Lounge The Tardy and Mark Robinson.
McGann's Traditional Irish with Slainte.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
Plough and Stars Jennifer Matthews Band, 10pm.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly.
Rack 2001 Emmy nomination party, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar Michelle Wilson and the Evil Gal Festival Orchestra; 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club James Dower Trio, 8:30pm, $7.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Cactus Highway; Now Is Now, 9pm, $5.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; the Residency featuring Say Zuzu, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Hazzard County, Rabandango, Leaning on Sill and Rainshine, $4.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

Music Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanueil Hall, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogans Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*



Sensuous vocalist Virginia Rodrigues performs at the Somerville Theatre April 1.

Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Griggs St.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. The Honors Woodwind Quintet plays classic works as well as the winning piece of the NEC Student Composition Competition.
Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (482-4826). MBTA: Red or Green line to Park. 12:25pm. $2 suggested donation. Soprano Jennifer Ashe.

THURSDAY, MARCH 29

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Conductor Ingo Metzmacher leads violinist Joshua Bell in works by Weber, Mendlessohn, Henze and Strauss.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 1:30pm. $25-$77. Same program as March 29.
FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (482-6661). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8pm. $35-$45. The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center performs tonight with soprano Heidi Grant Purphy.
Music at the Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (300-1623). 12:15pm. Free. Soprano Elizabeth Keusch performs.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31

Boston Early Music Festival
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (661-1812). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8pm. $18 - $42. Harry Christophers directs The Sixteen, a vocal ensmeble, in The Mystery of the Cross, a program featuring Tomas Luis de Victoria's Lamentations for Maundy Thursday.
Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $28-$83. Same program as March 29.
Young Artists Showcase Concert
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: Green Line E to MFA. 1:30pm. $4-$17. Viviane Hagner, winner of last year's Young Concert Artists International Auditions, plays violin, accompanied by Avner Arad on piano.

SUNDAY, APRIL 1

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $35-$58. Celebrated violinist Isaac Stern joins pianist Yefim Bronfman and the Emerson String Quartet for a program featuring works by Beethoven and Mendelsson.
Newton Symphony Orchestra
Rashi School Auditorium, 15 Walnut Park, Newton Corner (965-2555). 2pm. $10. The Newton Symphony and the Charness Family Quintet perform pieces by Bach, Beethoven, Mendelssohn, Accolay, Popper and 14-year-old Julia Scott Carey.
Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (661-7067). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $9-$39. Gunther Schuller leads pianist Judith Gordon in a jazzy classical program with a rarely-heard Hindemith concerto.
Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (734-1359). 1:30pm. $4-$17. The Piffaroe Renaissance Band performs in honor of the 500th anniversary of the first printed piece of music.

MONDAY, APRIL 2

Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. 280 The Fenway, Boston (734-1359). 1:30pm. $4-$17. Jeremy Denk performs Partita No. 6 on piano.

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

B.U. Chorus and Chamber Orchestra
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Ann Howard Jones conducts baritone Mark Aliapoulios in Mendelssohn's Elijah.
NEC Honors Improvisation Ensembles
NEC Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. The improvisatory ensembles, "Ensemble Sauvage," and "Chance," perform world music and the original compositions of Wayne Shorter, George Harrison, Stevie Wonder and Charlie Parker.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

NEC Jazz Ensemble
NEC Brown Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (585-1122). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. First and second yeawr undergraduate jazz majors perform in small jazz ensembles.

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Brahms Festival
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Performances of "Regenlied," "Nachlang," various violin sonatas and other pieces.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6

Brahms Festival
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Performances of four songs for women's voices, two horns and harp, as well as vocal quartets and a horn trio.
Handel & Haydn Society
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $26-$52. Guest conductor Rinaldo Alessandrini leads a Palm Sunday program of sacred Baroque music including Vivaldi's Gloria and works by Nononcini.



The Charness Family Quintet perform April 1.

SATURDAY, APRIL 7

The Funk Project
Boston Conservatory Theatre, 31 Hemingway St., Boston (552-5732). 8pm. Free. The funk project utilizes both musicians from the Boston Conservatory Percussion Ensemble and Freelance jazz players from the Boston area to perform music that has both classical, and jazz or rock elements.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8

Andover Chamber Music Series
Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover (978-837-5355). 4pm. $14-$22. An all-star cast of musicians perform wind chamber music from around the world, including works by Mozart, Poulenc and Janacek.
Boston Chamber Orchestra
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough Street, Boston (267-6730). 3pm. $15, $10 students and seniors. Brenda Lynne Leach conducts the music of Mozart.
FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (482-6661). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $35-$42. Pianist Andreas Haefliger performs works by Schumann and Mussorgsky.
Handel & Haydn Society
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (266-3605). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $26-$52. Guest conductor Rinaldo Alessandrini leads a Palm Sunday program of sacred Baroque music including Vivaldi's Gloria and works by Nononcini.
Harvard University Choir
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Robert Lehmann conducts the Harvard University Choir and the Mozart Society Orchestra in Haydn's The Creation.
The Funk Project
The First Church of Jamaica Plain, 6 Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (552-5732). 7pm. Free. See April 7.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10

Muir String Quartet
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Guest pianist Keith Lockhart performs works by Haydn, Cornell and Dvorak.
NEC Jazz Masters Residency Program
NEC Keller Room, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (585-1122). 2-4pm. Free. Lewis Nash, a leading jazz drummer, holds a masterclass with student jazz ensembles.

TOP LEFT: JOSH KESSLER; RIGHT: GAIL SAMUELSON

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The Boston Globe

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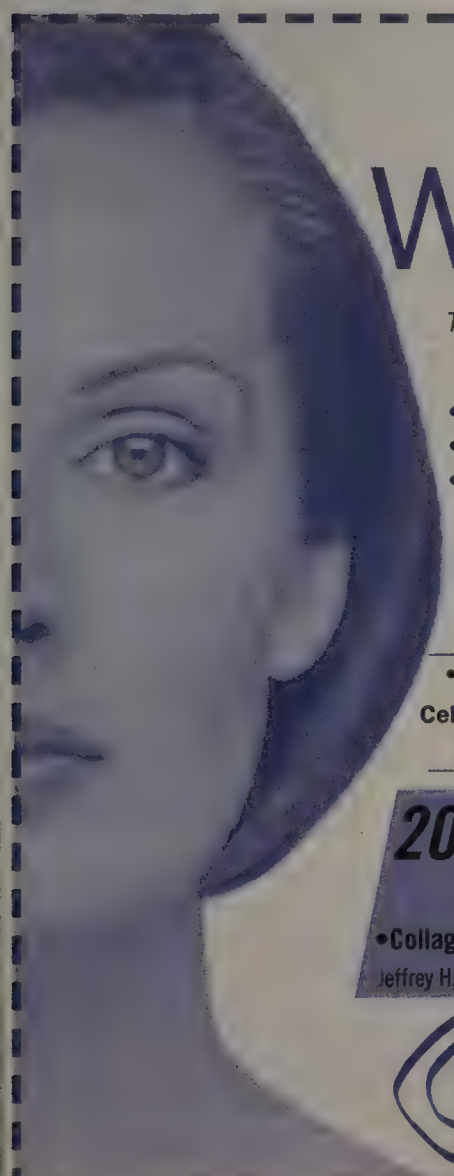
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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm: Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. Tue.-Sun., divas rule. 10:30pm, $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Sundays have a Drag-on Showgirl Showcase with Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, Destiny, Ivory, Sassy, Sum Yung Ho, and special guest "divettes." 10pm, $5 21+.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.



On March 31 at Symphony Hall, the Boston Gay Men's Chorus performs a gala concert with special guests the New York City Gay Men's chorus and the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington D.C.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes and classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play the video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. •Jean Trounstine reads and discusses her book *Shakespeare Behind Bars: The Power of Drama in a Women's Prison.* March 29, 6pm. •My Favorite Poem 2. Prominent artists and activists share their favorite poems by women to celebrate National Poetry Month. Also featuring an open mike. April 5, 6pm.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Jazz Sunday Brunch
Club Cafe, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 8 and 15, 11:30am-2:30pm. $15. Jazz pianist Joe Della Penna performs at the Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday brunches.

Spring Fever!
Sons of Italy Ballroom, Winchester (781-648-0722). www.djdee.com. *March 31, 9pm. $10.* This dance party for women features the fabulous DJ Dee Greenberg spinning dance music all night long. You can also learn the hot El Paso partner dance beforehand at 8pm.

Tiffany After Dark
Ramada Inn, 15 Middlesex Canal Park Rd., Woburn (781-891-9325). March 31, 7:30pm-1:30am. $20. The Tiffany Club, a gender education and support group serving the transgendered Community holds a fund-raising event with open-mike, karaoke, lip synching and comedy. All guests are invited to show off their talents, so bring your exhibitionist friends.

With Voices Raised
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-8900). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. March 31, 3pm. $12-$35. The Boston Gay Men's Chorus performs with special guests New York City Gay Men's chorus and Gay Men's Chorus of Washington DC. This will be the largest gay music event in Boston history.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). First Tuesday of each month. 6:30pm. Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Daily 8-10pm. Support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305) Third Saturday of each month, 3:30pm. A social group for mature gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). *6pm.* This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Essence of a Woman
(927-6026) March 30, 6-8pm. A monthly sex rap series for lesbian and bisexual women to discuss sex.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). *Fridays, 12pm.* An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This nationwide line provides information, referral and support services.

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston
Boston Room, Lindemann Center, 25 Staniford St., Boston (742-7897). www.gayfathersboston.org. *MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. Feb. 27, 7:30pm.* All welcome.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Kristen Porter's Dyke Night
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (542-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. $5, 10pm, 21+. Every Thursdays this Best of Boston Lesbian Bar has rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900 ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900 ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243) or lcoolidge@fenway.org. Held quarterly. Sliding scale fee available.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

Peer Listening Line
1-617-267-2535 or 1-800-399-PEER. Mon.-Fri. 4pm-10pm. A toll-free nationwide line that provides information, referral and support to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning youth.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons 8-9pm, followed by a DJ playing danceable tunes in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.



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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 6, 7:30-9:30pm. $6. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor spiritual traditions from all around the world.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Eagle Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 7, 8-11:30pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, your clapping hands, your drums, spoons and tambourines. Whether you're a dancing queen or just a curious dabbler, you won't stop moving once you're in the door.

Telekinesis Forum: Putting Your Powers to Work
142 Berkeley St., Third Floor, Boston (859-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 1, 12:01pm. This gathering of people with telekinetic powers will attempt to levitate the Prudential using their collective extrasensory powers.

Life Is Not a Stress Rehearsal, But You Can Make It a Stress Reversal
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St. (424-6625). www.eomega.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. March 31, 9am-5pm. $145.* One obstacle to living a joyful, fulfilling life is that we take our problems and ourselves much too seriously. Author and stress-reduction expert **Loretta LaRoche** can teach you to lighten up by re-examining your life, celebrating your existence and learning healthy habits to help you get through each day.

Yoga Workshop with Peter Sterios
Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (BOS-YOGA). www.baronbaptiste.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. April 6-8. $150.* International yoga instructor **Peter Sterios** has studied with yoga geniuses B.K.S. Iyengar and Shandor Remete. Share his knowledge at this class. Mail a check to Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, c/o Rolf Gates, P.O. Box 400279, Cambridge, MA 02140, or call the power yoga line.

CLASSES

Deep Tao Healing and Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. April 5 and 12, 2-5pm. Free.* Deep Tao practices in this workshop are aimed at reconnecting ourselves to nature, to our internal nature, and to a natural state of good health. Come to one of these drop-in sessions to ask questions and get a sense of what Deep Tao is.

Dance Your Sacred Journey Movement Workshop
Dance Complex, 536 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (522-9797). www.cambridge.zami.com/dancecomplex. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 7, 2:30-6pm, and April 8, 1:30-5pm.* **Margaux Skalecki** holds this unique workshop to help you connect with your "essential self" through dance.

Introduction to Reiki: Healing Naturally
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 9, 5:45-7:45pm. $29. You may have heard a lot about reiki, yet you still have no clue what it is. Find out how reiki works and why this is such a popular healing method for pain and stress.

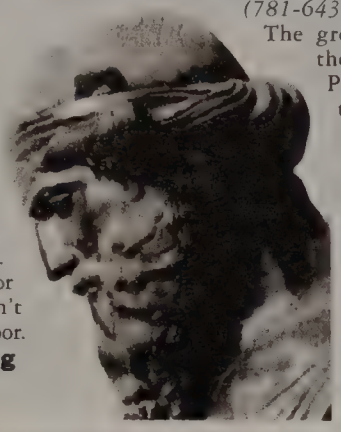
LuMarian Healing
Unicorn Books, 1210 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *April 6, 7-9pm. $15.* This experiential presentation introduces an energy healing technique that unblocks your chakras. Afterward, you'll connect more easily with your essential self.

Yoga for Pained Hands and Arms
New Directions for Yoga, Health and Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (738-1648 or 524-3484). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village and C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. April 8, 1:30-5pm. $55. Maybe you spend lots of time typing on a keyboard, playing an instrument or cutting hair. But overusing fingers, wrists and hands can hurt. Learn how to balance activities with restorative yoga poses and exercise techniques.

Weight Loss Through Self-Hypnosis
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 11, 5:45-7:15pm. $25.* Self-hypnosis is a safe, simple and powerful tool for creating the will to eat more healthfully. This class can help you set realistic and healthy goals.

LECTURES

Dialogues of Plato: Phaedrus
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-643-3369). March 30, 7:30-9:30pm. $5. The great philosopher Plato once had a thought-provoking conversation with Phaedrus. They took a walk in the country and talked about how love is related to identity, the soul, desire and the longing for ultimate beauty. Find out more if you attend.


The Boston Theosophical Society discusses Plato March 30.

RETREATS

Refresh Yourself for Springtime
Louise Dery-Wells in Middleborough, Massachusetts (508-947-1930) www.pathfinding.com. April 7, 1-5pm. $40. Come out to the country for a guided experience using art, symbolic materials, poetry and dreams that will clear the cobwebs and help you discover what's new and interesting about yourself.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (924-7276). www.dne.org. *MBTA: #57, 70 or 71 bus. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults, $4 teens, free for kids.* Dance any way you want to, even barefoot, to all kinds of music in this smoke-and alcohol-free environment.

Martial Arts
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http:// dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *Free.* Does martial arts intrigue you? Check these classes out. •Tai Chi lunch hour: Mondays/Fridays, 12:30-1:30pm •Buddhist Chi Kung: Tuesdays, 7-8pm •Tai Chi Self Defense: Tuesdays, 8-9pm.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mondays, 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are appropriate for anyone seeking a personal spiritual path. Give it a go.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* If you've wanted to try yoga or work some into your schedule, then visit this peaceful environment. The center offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on evenings and weekends. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St. Boston. (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay/South End. $15/session. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga & meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
Peace Power Yoga, Church of Our Savior, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. $10 per class.* Drop in for a powerfully peaceful time. Classes are scheduled: •Tuesdays, 7:30am and 7:30pm •Wednesdays, 11:30am •Thursdays, 6pm •Saturdays, 9:30am.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., (522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. *MBTA: Green Line to Prudential or Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/session.* Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting. Increase flexibility, relieve stress, build strength, relax and enjoy yourself at any of these ongoing drop-in classes: Tuesdays at 7pm and Saturdays at 10 am. Call before coming.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Baby Faire
Bayside Expo Center, 200 Mt. Vernon St., Boston (877-959-BABY). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. March 31, 9am-5pm; April 1, 10am-5pm. $8. This event offers expectant parents and young families more than 200 exhibits showcasing the latest in child care, parenting information, products and services.

Big Apple Circus: Clown Around Town
FanPier, Boston (931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. *Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. April 7-May 13. $13-$43.* This all-new show features a cast of circus acts from around the world, including award-winning acrobats, hand balancers, jugglers, trapeze artists, dogs, horses and clowns.

Disney On Ice's Beauty & the Beast
Worcester's Centrum Centre, 50 Foster St., Worcester (228-6000). March 29-30, 7pm; March 31, 11am, 3:30pm and 6pm; April 1, 1pm. $15. This production of song, dance, comedy and romance showcases figure skating excellence as it tells the story of a young girl who finds that true beauty lies within.

Children's Theater
Theatre 1, 713 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). $8 adults, $5 children. •March 31, 3pm: ***The Folktale Adventures of Nigel Pepper in China***. Nigel Pepper, an antiques dealer with a magic globe that can transport him to any place he chooses, visits various locales and becomes the main character in some of the area's favorite folk tales. •April 7, 3pm: ***Building Tales Together***. Pocket Full of Tales Theatre Company turns audience suggestions into a wild musical.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 and 3pm. •March 31 and April 1: ***Jack and the Beanstalk*** by Spring Valley Puppets. •April 7-8: ***The Monkey's Heart and Other Tales*** by Palm of the Hand Stories.

Wizard of Oz
Boston Children's Theatre, Media Arts Center, Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave., Boston (424-6634). MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. April 7-9, 17-22, 28-29, 2pm. $10-$16. Children in grades 4 through 12 perform all the roles in this stage adaptation of the movie musical.

THINGS TO DO

College Prep for Babies
Wee Ones College Preparatory School, 142 Berkeley St., Boston (859-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 1, 12:01pm. Want to make sure your little one gets into the right college? You have to start early. This rigorous class teaches your baby the basics—from algebra, world history and current events to English literature and earth science.

Kids in the Kitchen: Finger Foods and Desserts
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). April 7, 10am-1pm. $48. Parents and children learn to create simple-to-make child-pleasers.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children. •March 31: Saturday Family Program presents **Car Collage**. •April 7: **Automotive Refrigerator Magnets**.

Peanut Butter and Jelly Dance Company
Church of Our Saviour, Monmouth and Carlton streets, Brookline (738-PNUT). Mon., Tue., Thu., 3-5pm, beginning April 2. Eight-week sessions. $75. For 3- to 9-year-olds. Classes begin with dance warmup exercises, followed by a combination of improvisational challenges and fun dances that explore a different movement theme each week.

Saturday Scholars
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge. (495-2341). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. •April 7, 9am-11am, preschool: **Animal Babies**. Meet animal babies of all shapes, sizes and colors. •April 7, 9am-12pm, grades K and 1: **Inside Eggs**. See eggs smaller than a pinhead and some as big as a watermelon.

ZOOMday
The Arsenal Mall, 485 Arsenal St., Watertown (300-1623). March 31, 1-3pm. Free. Enjoy an afternoon of free Zoom activities, experiments, arts and crafts.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 931-2000
March 31: New York Islanders, 7pm
April 2: Montreal Canadiens, 7pm
April 7: New York Islanders, 7pm

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: $10-$75. Call 228-6000
March 30: Indiana, 7:30pm
April 6: L.A. Lakers, 7:30pm

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
April 6, 1:05pm: Tampa Bay Devil Rays
April 7, 6:05pm: Tampa Bay Devil Rays
April 8, 1:05pm: Tampa Bay Devil Rays
April 10, 6:05pm: Baltimore Ravens

Events

Ice Chips 2001: The World on Ice
Matthews Arena, Northeastern University, Huntington Avenue, Boston (782-5900). April 6, 7:30pm; April 7, 1pm; April 8, 2pm. $20. Ice Chips features an ensemble of skating members of the Skating Club of Boston, students at the Club's skating school and a host of world-renowned guest skaters, including Alexei Yagudin, Caren Kadavy, Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev, Jennifer Kirk and Angela Nikodinov. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

International Soccer
Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill, 356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton (566-1880). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. Watch the World Cup qualifiers with fellow footie fans. •March 28, 2pm: England vs. Albania; 8:30pm: Honduras vs. USA. •April 8: The F.A. Cup Semifinals.

MS Walkathon
Hatch Shell, Boston (800-493-9255). www.msnewengland.org. *April 1, 12pm. $25 donation.* Choose to walk either a 3-mile or 6.2-mile route to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

World Wrestling Federation: Raw Is War
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. April 9, 7:45pm. $20-$45. The superstars of the WWF return for a high-voltage show.

To Play

BASKETBALL

Basketball City
Adjacent to North Station and the FleetCenter (742-6700). Corporate, midday and weekend leagues.

Co-Ed Indoor Basketball
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070, ext. 224). Sun.-Thu. nights at various locations. All levels. Leagues in Belmont, Brookline, Dedham and Watertown.

The Corporate League of Boston
(566-7808).

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). Practice and workout programs for all levels in Greater Boston.

South End Fitness Center League
(534-5823).

Women's Basketball League
(661-9622). Tue. 5:30-7pm and Sun., 6-7:30pm. Long-legged beauties shoot some hoops.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

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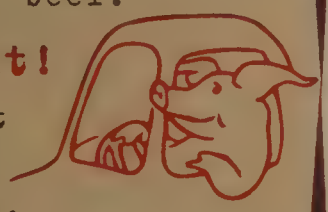


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You think your aerobics instructor is a drill sergeant? Wait until you meet Pavel Tsatsouline, a former trainer for the Soviet Special Forces, who heads to Boston March 30-31 to teach Russian strength training secrets at the Boston Center for Adult Education. Pavel is nationally ranked in the Russian sport of kettle-bell lifting and the author of the newly released *Power to the People: Russian Strength Training Secrets for Every American.* •March 30, 6-8pm: Power Stretching; •March 31, 10am-12pm: Beyond Crunches: Hard Science, Hard Abs; 1-3pm: Power to the People: Russian Strength Training Secrets; 3:15-5:15pm: Relax! That's an Order! Russian Commando Techniques for Peak Performance. *BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). All classes are $29.*

HOCKEY

Co-ed Floor Hockey
BSSC (789-4070). Individuals and teams, co-eds, all levels in Newton and Brighton.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for play in Brookline and Cambridge.

SNOW SPORTS

Ski & Board Weekends
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). $55 for weekdays. The Boston Ski & Sports Club offers day and weekend trips throughout the winter. •Wednesdays, Saturdays or Sundays this winter. 5:30am/6am bus departures from Newton, Newburyport and Tewksbury. •March 30-April 1: Jay Peak Weekend •March 31: Killington •April 1: Sugarbush •April 4: Okemo •April 6-8: Sugarbush Reggae Weekend •April 7: Killington.

Ski Market Trips
860 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (731-6100). $50 (day trips), $169 (weekend). SkiMarket Underground offers trips with round-trip transportation, a lift ticket, dinner (on Wednesday and Thursday trips) and a stop at the Red Hook Brewery. •April 1: Sunday River •April 8: Killington.

SOCCER

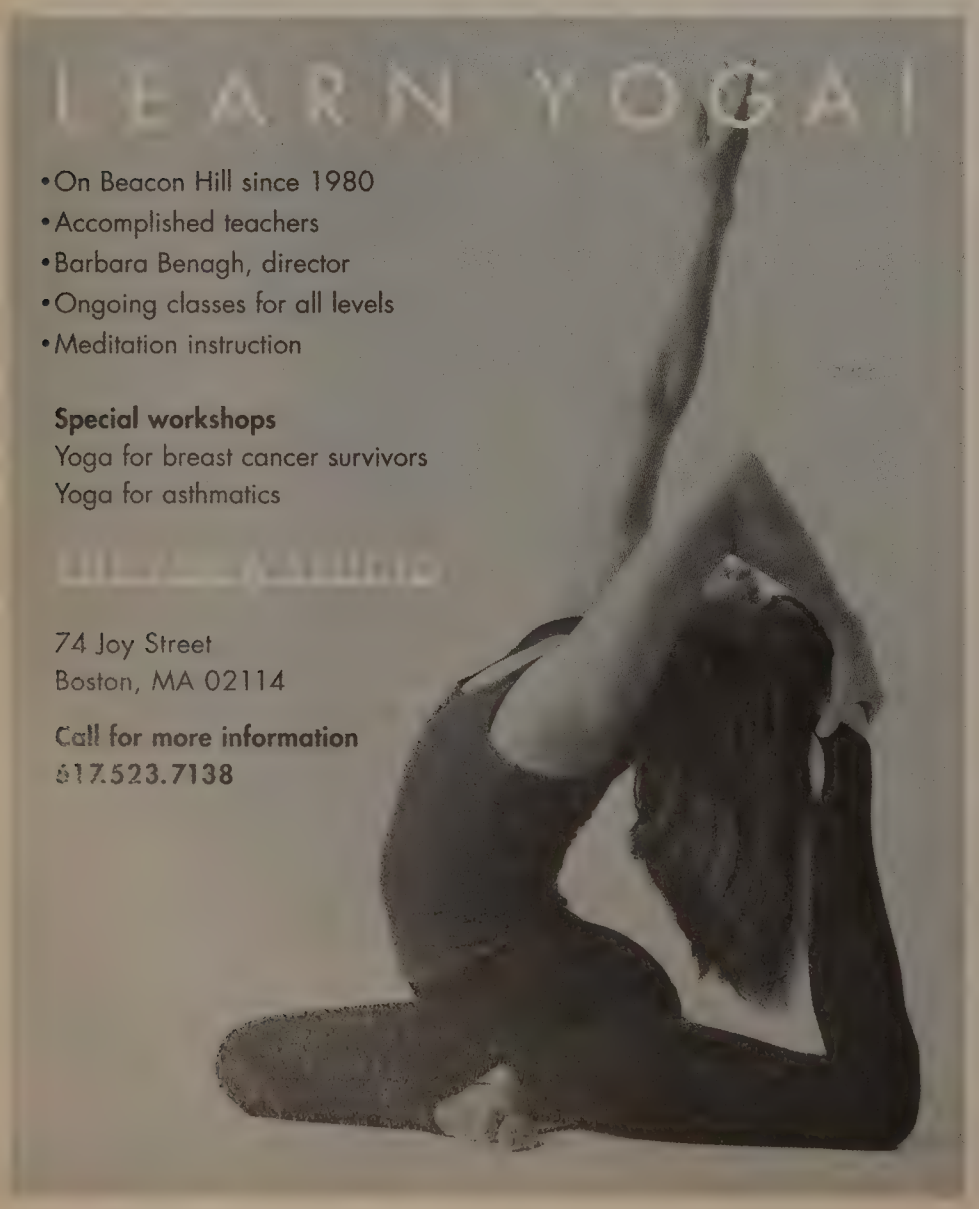
BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in Greater Boston.

WRESTLING

Men's Adult Wrestling
Boston Union, 48 Boylston St., Boston (482-1122). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mon. and Wed., 6:30-8:30pm; Sat., 1-4pm. All skill levels. Coaching available.



around town



The Children's Museum at Museum Wharf

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8. Old Town Trolley Tours and the Boston Tea Party Museum are offering free admission to all Mass. residents during the month of March. Call 269-7150 for more info.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS. Info. session: April 5, 6-8:30pm.

Alliance for Children
(781-431-7148). Adopt a child from abroad. Info. meeting will be held March 16, 7-9pm.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Help sell, pack, sort or deliver daffodils during the week of March 26. Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Information sessions held regularly.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(781-893-0324). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40. •Next meeting: April 4 at the Elephant & Castle, 161 Devonshire St., Boston.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a programeassistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun times with an isolated senior.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

MSPCA Canine Blood Donor Drive
(522-7282, ext. 5367). March 31, 8am-5pm. Interested dog owners must pre-register.

National Alcohol Screening Day
New England Medical Center, 750 Washington St., Boston (636-0200). April 5, 11am-5pm. Free. Anonymous screenings for alcohol problems.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

TOP RIGHT: PAUL TANCRED!

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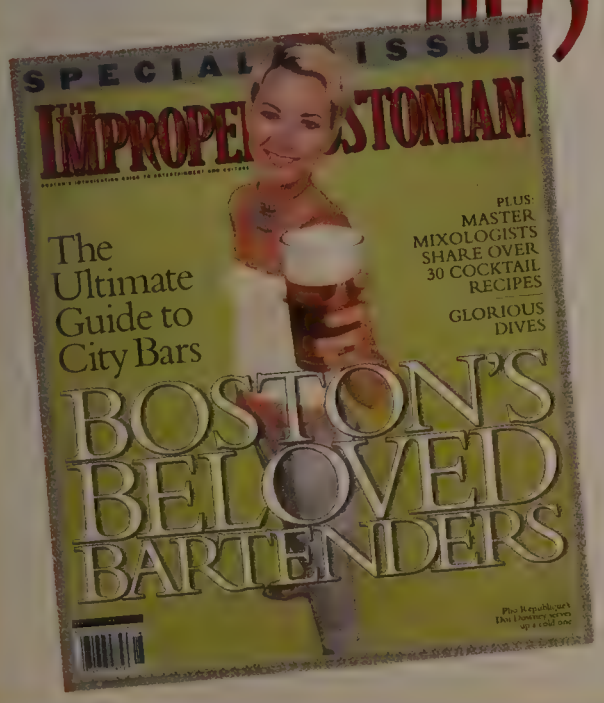
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Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see. Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that e-mailed messages mean that we don't have to risk ruining our manicures by—ugh—typing) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Now Boarding
I was lost in Ashmont Station, waiting for the high-speed trolley to Mattapan to go snowboarding (like I said, I was lost). It was about noon and sunny, on Feb. 12. You had curly brown hair, sideburns and green pants. You crossed to the inbound platform before I had a chance to say anything, and I couldn't run around with all my equipment. Anyway, you looked very nice over on that platform, especially with those green pants. So, please either keep wearing them until I find you again in the city or just write, which might be easier in the long run.
—chausnic@aol.com

Leather Jacket Dude
We sat really close on the Orange Line on Feb. 22. You got on at Downtown Crossing with a poster. I was reading a book and after a few stops, signaled my interest. You responded in kind. I turned to look at you and realized how cute you were with your trim white hair and beard and asked you for a pen. That's where I messed up. I was so flustered I left out part of my email address. You were already gone and I'm kicking myself. If you made an attempt to contact, please try again.
—timothyb82@hotmail.com

Sexy Goth on Red Line
The date was Feb. 27. I was with my friend on the train out of Harvard Square that afternoon when we saw you, the most beautiful thing I've ever seen in my life. You had on all black attire and the sexiest calf-high boots, and an earring dangling from your right ear. My friend asked you for a picture while I shyly stood in the background. I was wearing a gray Chesterfield coat and I have brown hair that was in a ponytail. I know we never got to meet or anything (you got off at Park St., the stop before me), but you're just so incredibly beautiful... if any of this is ringing a bell, e-mail me.
—lokisgal@yahoo.com

It was ten years ago.
I said hi to you on the T. You worked in the Park Square Building. I followed you in, only to buy coffee. We talked briefly at a convenience store on Highland Ave., Somerville. You were smart and beautiful. If you're still available, drop me a line.
—brettw721@iwon.com

Carmen
Do you know when I open the dictionary to look up the word "beautiful" I will never, ever see your picture in this lifetime! Get out of the mirror you gutless woman. You think you're sooooo perfect and wonderful? I know junkies with more integrity. By the way, if and when the mirror does finally answer you back, I'm sure she'll reiterate my sentiments.
—Coffee, No Sugar

Why Not
Verizon Hottie(s)—good morning, guys! Hey Dave—you are hot. Tall guys with slightly balding gray/black hair are very sexy. My morning coffee is all the better when I see you and your partner on your way to breakfast at the Why Not. Are you sure you want toget married?
—An Admirer



Rockie Horoscope

MARCH 28 – APRIL 10, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



ARIES MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Now is a good time to put your best foot forward, take credit where credit is due and make an effort to win the admiration of the crowd. Although magnetic Venus is retrograde in your sign, it won't allow you to hide your light under the proverbial bushel basket. You'll continue to be the center of attention, the winner of popularity contests, especially while the Aries sun and Venus meet on the 29th (give or take a few days). So, what award are you up for, and whose approval are you seeking?

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Bulls can be just as irresistible as Rams right now, because it is your Venus ruler's merger with the Aries sun that is intensifying your appeal. Casual friends and colleagues are especially vulnerable to your charms; they'll bend over backwards to please you, so word your requests—as opposed to demands—carefully. You don't want to abuse your position of privilege, or do you? Venus continues to enchant the groups you're allied with for another two months; after that, you're on your own.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
How badly did you/will you behave? What tales will they tell? A challenging square between your Mercury ruler and dig-up-more-dirt Pluto can unearth gossip about your partner, boss, spaced-out parent or a prominent Pisces who, by making waves, is making you nervous. Although it would be nice to know that it'll work out okay, until there is a confrontation and harsh words are actually exchanged at the end of the month, it won't. But since you're getting luckier day-by-day, what someone else does might not make much of a difference.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
Once spring has sprung, Crabs skeedaddle out of their cozy hideouts and take a fresh look at what the world is offering them this season. Art, beauty and a rekindled friendship are high on the list, as well as a way you can incorporate them into your present gig. You'll be inspired, and the pretty people will be pleased that you're paying attention to them. Now is also a good time to check out where you're going next, how you're getting there and who's coming with you.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
You can accomplish quite a lot now simply by looking far and wide instead of restricting yourself to familiar turf. You don't have to travel to a particular place as long as you're willing to expand your horizon, let your imagination loose and show faith in a co-worker or partner. Pleasurable things happen not to Lions lying in wait, but to adventurous souls with an eye for beauty and a desire to acquire more of it. Take that route and you'll be passionate about someone or something before the next full moon.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Relying on the other guy? Right now, the ins and outs of partnership matters hold a peculiar fascination, but think twice if you want help finding out what's up and who's who. While your Mercury ruler winds its way through imaginative Pisces, you tend to be more impressionable and idealistic than usual, especially where young folks are concerned. When dealing with domestic issues, try not to become incensed by any little thing that goes wrong at home. Nobody's fault, just a another version of March madness.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
If you were reliving your love life, this would be the time to get together with your ex. What weird configuration in the sky could account for such madness? The merger of the sun and your retrograde Venus ruler in, of all places, your Aries marriage house! How your history is being replayed while the goddess of love and beauty takes a trip down memory lane is different for each person. However, every Libran will spend time with or think about someone from your past with whom you shared some terrific moments. Enjoy.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
If your thoughts last week were equally divided between love (or sex) and money, this week love can matter more than money. However, getting enough of either shouldn't be too much of a problem, especially when affectionate Venus mergers with the sun in your Aries house of romance and risk. What you should avoid is contact with a family member who is dying to dig up dirt, if not on you specifically, then on someone near or dear to you. Needless to say, a furious round of family feud follows.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
As long as you're enjoying this extraordinary infusion of "get out there and do something" energy from militant Mars in your sign, you'd better follow orders. Otherwise there'll be hell to pay when Mars turns around to see what you've done with the motivation and courage he's provided so far. Although it may not be absolutely necessary yet, consider surgery while the planet ruling cuts and burns is in Sag through Labor Day. Otherwise, it'll be 2003 before he's back. Incidentally, you should steer clear of a prying relative's eyes, too.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Remember that old friend or lover who came for a short visit and stayed for, what seemed, quite a while? Everyone has one lodged in their past. Well, memories of yours can affect your present quest for domestic bliss, or perhaps that person will check in in person. Another result of the impulsive Aries sun-retrograde Venus marriage could involve adventures in redecorating or resuscitating a relationship. Although at first you probably won't want to be bothered, the time and effort will be worth your while.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Instead of the usual, "Money in unusual ways," the forecast for Aquarians reads, "Money in straightforward, probably sudden ways." Don't knock it. You'll be quite thrilled with what turns up, you may even reevaluate some of the possessions you already have. Most things that cost you something, either fiscally or emotionally, are likely to bring you pleasure again simply because artistic, appreciative Venus is revisting your money house. Her trip is a rare treat, a prelude to the inspiration and lofty aspirations that are coming.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
Career concerns may push you into acting prematurely. Don't. While impulsive Mars is at the top of your chart (all spring and summer) it'll be hard to keep your cool when a client, your boss or parent is behaving badly. If you attempt blackmail, by doing research or outright spying, you'd best be prepared to see the tables turn. Instead, why not work on making yourself more charming and a bit friendlier? Venus, by moving backward through the recent past, is providing a second chance to attain harmony while still asserting your independence. Not bad.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

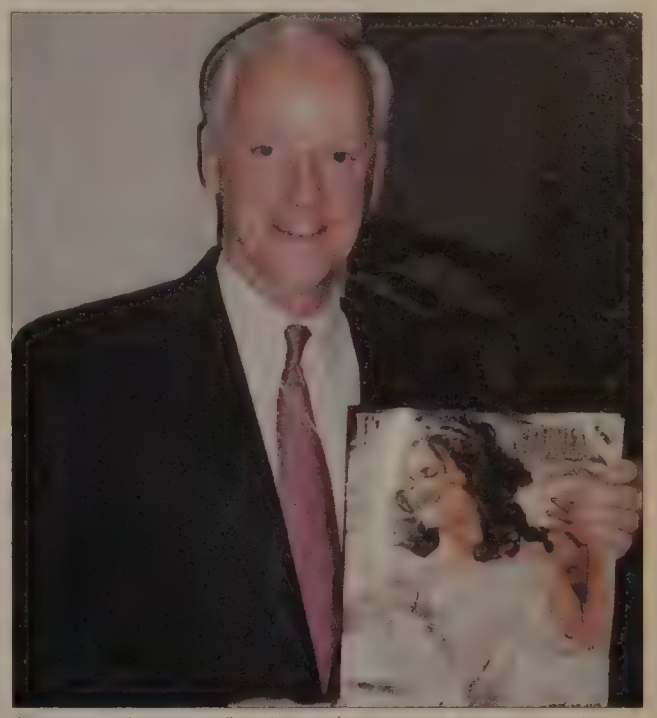
Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



Johanna (l) and Andrea Babb threaten to whitewash Jake and Evan Wickenden if they don't read us in Gryon, Switzerland.



Jon (l) and Marc Raphel knock back a few at a rest stop in Cozumel, Mexico, before stocking up on hammocks and black coral.



Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating always makes sure he reads his Improper *Sooner* rather than later.



Doris Yaffe (left, with sunglasses) shares an Improper with a fellow commuter on the Arusha-Nairobi line of the Maasai Transit System.



Sarah (left) and Kathy van Patten dodge traffic in Copenhagen, Denmark, where Sarah is a dancer with The Royal Danish Ballet.



Charlestown resident Matt Downs poses in front of the mountains of Monterrey, Mexico. Sure, they look pretty now, he writes, but wait till nightfall, when all the evil trolls, gnomes and flying monkeys come out.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:

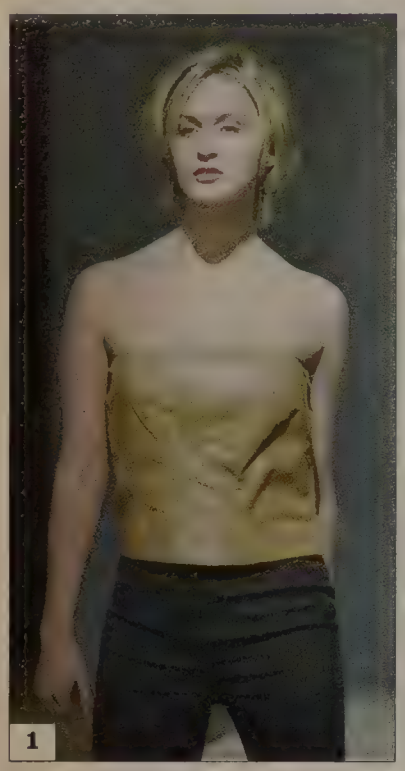
Be aggressive—b-e a-g-g-r-e-s-s-i-v-e!—at, like, at the National College Cheerleading Championships, like, April 4-8 in Daytona Beach, Fla. Like, rah rah.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of The Improper Bostonian Magazine and will not be returned.

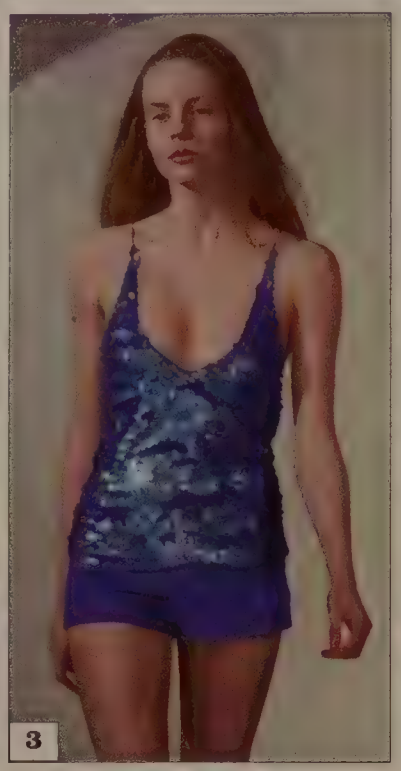
improperazzi

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

As the snow was melting, and the heat began to rise, **The Improper Bostonian** celebrated its Spring Fashion issue by hosting a fashion show at the **Roxy** on Thurs., Feb. 22. The event featured the **DKNY** Spring Line. Improper's fashion editor, Samantha House, produced the show with models for **Ford, Click** and the **Models Group**, styling by **Maksou** and make-up by **M.A.C.** Special-guest **WBZ 4** news anchor Sara Underwood emceed the event. Thanks to our sponsors: **Jameson, Stella Artois** and **Pho Republique** and contributors: **Wish, Boston Athletic Club, HMV, Jasmine Sola, Koo de Kir** and **Flat of the Hill**, hip-hop dance troup **Rainbow Tribe** and **Hot 97.7 FM**. Donations benefited the **Leslie's Links Ewings Sarcoma Fund at The Dana Farber Cancer Institute**.


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1-5. DKNY models.

6. News anchor **Sara Underwood** for WBZ 4 News.
7. **Maksou** hair stylists.
8. **Alan Eisner,** CEO of Regan Communications Group, **Joe Russo,** Niagra Mohawk, **Elaine Driscoll,** VP of Regan Communications Group, with **George Regan,** president of Regan Communications Group.
9. **Dana D'Alfonso** of WGBH, with **Christina Thirkell** of Giga Information Group.
10. **Dawn Ohanian,** school teacher, with **Heather Festa,** Cambridge Technology Partners.
11. **Richard Lewis** of Brown-Forman, **Dugan Dugan** of the Roxy, with **Glenn Lawler** of Horizon Beverage Company.
12. **Carol Francolini** of Stella Artois/Labatt USA, with **Paul Canavan** of United Liquors.
13. **Lisa DePres** of the Roxy and **Brian Malloy** owner of Studio One Photography.
14. **Kimberly Isaacson,** a consultant with **Brian Lesser** of Vox, Barcode and Metro, with **Jessica Brand** of Alan Bilzerian.
15. **Steve Levy** of ESPN, with Backbaybeat's **SJ Torres** and **Errol Apostolopoulos**, all owners of The Place.

PHOTOS: 1-7,13, RICHARD BERTONE PHOTOGRAPHY; DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

BOSTON ARCHITECTURAL CENTER

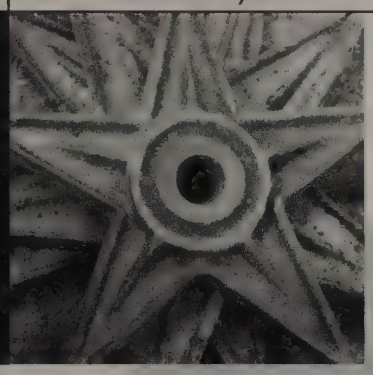


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AT&T Broadband and Comedy Central present:

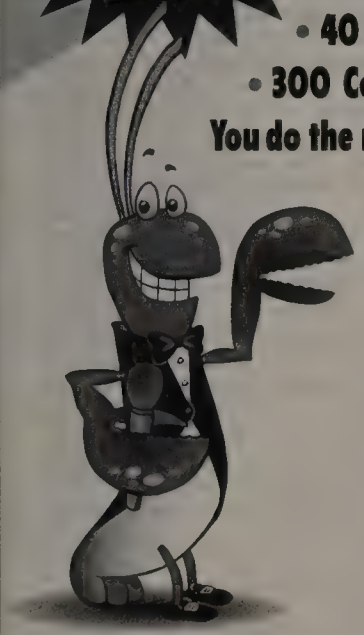
Get AT&T Road Runner now and get a live, streaming Webcast of the Boston Comedy Festival- Saturday March 31st.
www.GetRoadRunner.com

BOSTON COMEDY FESTIVAL

- 9 Nights
- 10 Venues
- 40 Shows
- 300 Comedians

You do the math!

March 31st to April 8th



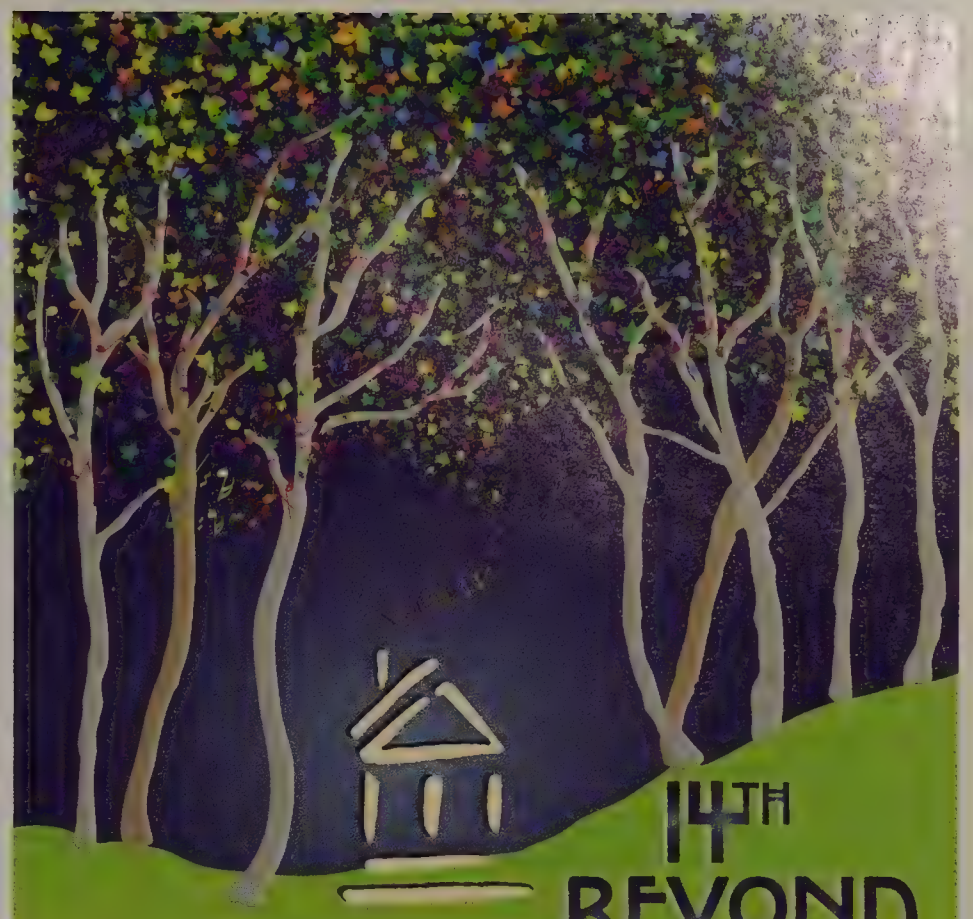
- The ULTIMATE COMEDY CONTEST with $10,000 in prize money!
- Opening Weekend: Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling from the Howard Stern Show!
- Celebrity hosts: Richard Hatch and Matt Siegel!

For Tickets Call: **1-617-824-8000**

Full show schedule available at:
www.bostoncomedyfestival.com

Portion of ticket proceeds will benefit MAKE-A-WISH.

AT&T BROADBAND | COMEDY CENTRAL | Boston Herald | Bass Ale | Atlantic Entertainment



14TH BEYOND SHELTER

Friends of Boston's Homeless Annual Benefit Event

Wednesday - April 18, 2001 - beginning 6pm

Avalon Ballroom - 15 Lansdowne Street - Boston

CATERED BY

Alden Merrell	Amarin	anago
Bob the Chef's	Chau Chow City	Dakota's
Espresso Express	Flour Bakery & Café	Fleming's Prime Steakhouse
Gargoyles On The Square	Hamersley's Bistro	Harvard Gardens
House of Blues	Icarus	Iggy's Bread of the World
Laurel Grill & Bar	Legal Sea Foods	Oso Foods Inc.
Rancatore's Ice Cream	Rattlesnake Bar & Grill	Redbone's
Salamander	Serving Ourselves	Sidney's Grille
Sonsie	Strip-T's	Truc
Veronique	White Star Tavern	

MUSIC by The Infractions featuring the Happenin' Horns

AUCTION & RAFFLE hosted by Jonathan Soroff of The Improper Bostonian

EVENT TICKETS - $50 at door or $20 after 8pm (music & dancing only)

FOR TICKETS or MORE INFO - Call 617-534-2526 x 383/385

100% of the proceeds to benefit Friends of Boston's Homeless working in partnership with Homeless Services of the Boston Public Health Commission.

Mellon

UPN 38 WSBK BOSTON | THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN | The Rhythm of Boston STAR 93.7



Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* BARCODE offers creative food and drink with a truly unique, casual style and atmosphere. Simple yet exotic and flavorful, Executive Chef George Leu's menu features a variety of French bistro fare touched with Asian influences. Dinner served daily 5 pm - 1 am, bar open daily 4:30pm - 2:00am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am -1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11:30 am - 2 am.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy
O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice at this comfortably sophisticated Back Bay restaurant and bar. With an eclectic style highlighted by rich, vibrant colors and rustic antiques, Vox Populi offers a hip, sleek and intimate atmosphere. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room. (Outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

Watch City Brewing Co. *256 Moody St. Waltham 781-647-4000 Top* Ten Reasons To Visit Watch City:
10. At the top of Waltham's restaurant row 9. Easy access from Rt. 128 & Masspike 8. Free parking 7. The Embassy Cinema next door 6. Award winning chef & brewers 5. www. watchcitybrew.com 4. Live music Wed & Thurs. nights 3. Great grilled seafood, steaks & burgers 2. Only female owned brew pub in USA 1. Great beers, great food, always a great time.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy
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GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Enjoy the intimate, windowed dining room or a signature cocktail in the lounge. BARCODE offers a creative martini selection, a balanced and affordable wine list and both bottled and draft beer. Drinks are available until 2 am daily, food served until 1 am.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on

Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar)

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ'snightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and world
class margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

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Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Speak your voice at this comfortably sophisticated Back Bay restaurant and bar. With an eclectic style highlighted by rich, vibrant colors and rustic antiques, Vox Populi offers a hip, sleek and intimate atmosphere. Enjoy the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston St., or the elegant second floor dining room, (Outdoor patio dining available sesonally). One of Back Bay's most prominent establishments, Vox Populi truly speaks the popular voice.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a co-worker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample
favorites as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's: New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Located at 199 Clarendon St. at Copley Square. Indulge yourself with our delicious Smoked Salmon and Caviar Tasting served on a warm corn blini, or our Fresh Crab Pie made with eggs and jack cheese. Do not forget to sample our award-winning clam chowder. Validated parking available. Reservations accepted. Call 617-536-3500.

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The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF



At the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's Pets in Painting party, clockwise from left: Kim Smedvig and James Taylor; David Mugar; Cokie Perry.

WOOF!

Trustees and benefactors of the **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum** gathered under a tent on the Fenway for a white-tie fund-raiser to celebrate the opening of its newest exhibit, **Household Pets in Painting**.

The centerpiece of the show—John Singer Sargent's famous portrait of Mrs. Gardner's schnauzer, Giotto, winning at whist—is often credited with sparking the Canines Playing Cards School of American painting and was recently restored and returned to permanent display in the Music Room.

At the opening: board chairman and great-nephew of Mrs. Jack, **John L. Gardner**, the museum's enchanting head, **Anne Hawley**, newlyweds **James Taylor** and the BSO's **Kim Smedvig**, Back Bay doyenne **Rosalie Cohen**, Cambridge architect **Graham Gund**, Nashville-born thoroughbred **Trevania Henderson** and her husband, **John**, arts patrons **Joanne** and **Charles Dickinson**, **Cokie** and **Lee Perry** and **Susan** and **Bill Poduska**. Assorted low-profile gazillionaires also attended, among them: **Amos Hostetter**, **Ray Stata**, **David Mugar**, and the entire Fidelity Investments clan—**Ned**, **Lilly**, **Abby**, **Ed** and **Beth Johnson**, with their respective spouses.

Following a cocktail hour awash in superior bubbly and exquisite hors d'oeuvres, guests sat down to a four-course dinner served in dog dishes by waiters dressed like Snoopy. The raffle prize—a 19th-century still-life of bulldogs enjoying a poker game—went to MFA director **Malcolm Rogers**, who celebrated by pulling **Anne Gund** onto the dance floor and shakin' his moneymaker as soon as the DJ played "Who Let the Dogs Out?"

SO MANY WORTHY CAUSES, SO LITTLE TIME...

Tinseltown met Beantown when **Young Friends of Save Planet Hollywood** hosted a black-tie gala at the **Algonquin Club**.

Raising money to save the endangered chain of theme restaurants was a high-wattage celebrity guest list, including local-boys-gone-supernova **Matt Damon** and **Ben Affleck**, the latter's Oscar-worthy brother, **Casey**, fellow film stars **Gwyneth Paltrow**, **Joaquin Phoenix** and **Jeff Bridges** (who received a lifetime achievement award), Aerosmith frontman **Steven Tyler**, governor-in-waiting **Jane Swift**, newly unemployed radio personality **Christopher Lydon**, nightlife kingpins **Patrick Lyons**, **Seth Greenberg** and **Russell Robbatt**, the Mass Film Office's **Robin Dawson**, celebrity chef **Todd English**, and one woman who said, "I wasn't going to come this evening, but then I thought, 'What if the Hard Rock was the only place that catered to tourists in polyester pantsuits?' It's too depressing to contemplate."

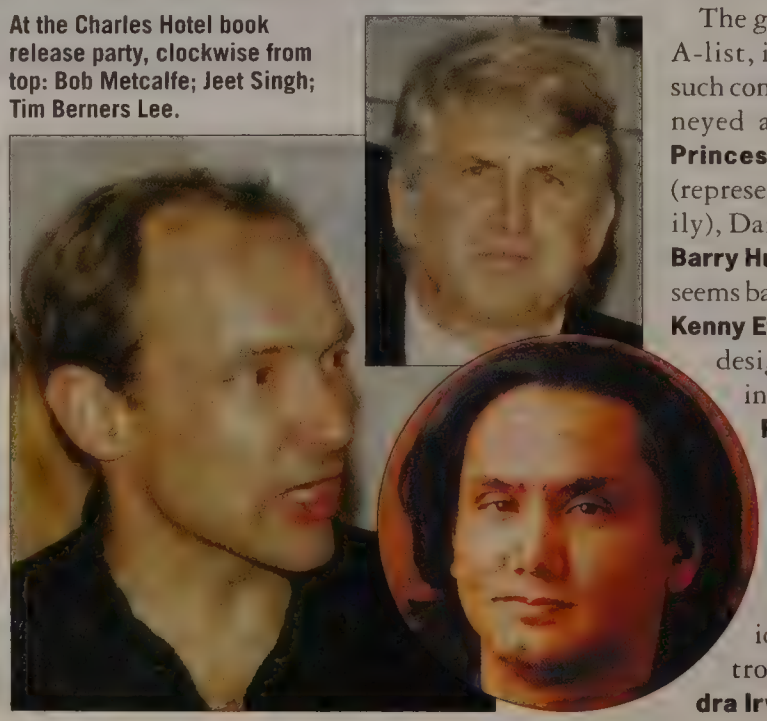


At the Young Friends of Save Planet Hollywood benefit, clockwise from top: Gwyneth Paltrow, Casey Affleck and Joaquin Phoenix; Steven Tyler; Matt Damon and Ben Affleck; Jeff Bridges.

THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS FREE PARKING...

Harvard Law School honcho **Jonathan Zittrain** (co-director of the Berkman Center for the Internet and Society) teamed up with Cambridge real estate developer **Dick Friedman** to host a party at the **Charles Hotel** for *Downsizing in the New Economy: From Billions to Chump-Change* by **Dr. Ira Ergenbaum** (author of last year's bestseller, *I.P.O.: You're P.O.'d*).

The evening was a benefit for **Crash Victims of the Nasdaq Nosedive**—which offers counseling to MBA candidates who have suddenly realized that they're going to have to work for a living. In addition to wine and cheese, there was a silent auction of luxury items that no one can afford anymore, and a lecture by Ergenbaum on such timely topics as living without a corporate jet, what to do about the Foozball table and on-staff masseuse when the company goes belly-up, and tax advice for idiots who exercised their stock options.



At the Charles Hotel book release party, clockwise from top: Bob Metcalfe; Jeet Singh; Tim Berners Lee.

Listening intently were such dot-comocrats and high-tech success stories as Sycamore Network's **Desh Deshpande**, **Dave Wetherell** of CMGI, Art Technology Group's **Jeet Singh**, Ethernet inventor **Bob Metcalfe**, EMC chairman and ambassadorial appointee **Richard Egan**, MIT Web wizard **Tim Berners-Lee**, venture capitalists **Ted Dintersmith** and **Dan Nova**, and one man who raised his hand during the Q&A to ask if he could get parking validation for his soon-to-be-repossessed Jaguar.

"No," said Ergenbaum, "but might I suggest that you go home and practice saying, 'Would you like fries with that?'"

BEND OVER AND SAY AAAH....

Fresh from her smash-hit run at the Wilbur Theater, **Dame Edna Everage** threw a low-key little fund-raiser for her pet charity, **Friends of the Prostate**, in the private dining room of **UpStairs at the Pudding**.

The guest list was strictly A-list, including, as it did, such continent-hopping moneyed and titled types as **Princess Michael of Kent** (representing the royal family), Dame Edna's manager, **Barry Humphries** (whom she seems barely able to tolerate), **Kenny Everage** (her fashion-designer son), Broadway in Boston honcho **John Platt**, theater stalwart **Sam Adler**, avuncular TV personality and original Bozo **Frank Avruch** and his wife, **Betty**, gay icon **Keith Orr**, arts patrons **Hod** and **Cassandra Irvine**, British actress **Clafoutis Cockfosters** (best known as Rula Lenska's understudy in the Tony-nominated *Sausage Parade*), her significant other, **Armitage Shanks** (heir to the huge British plumbing fortune) and flamboyant pop star **Elton John** (sans current boyfriend Marshall Mathers but sporting rhinestone-encrusted glasses almost identical to Dame Edna's).

Guests ate, drank and made very merry, while noted urologist **Dr. David Staskin** offered free prostate exams to male partygoers.

"Maybe later," said one. "When I've had a bit more to drink."

Oh, by the way...April Fools'. IB



At the Friends of the Prostate party, clockwise from left: Dame Edna; Princess Michael of Kent, Frank Avruch.

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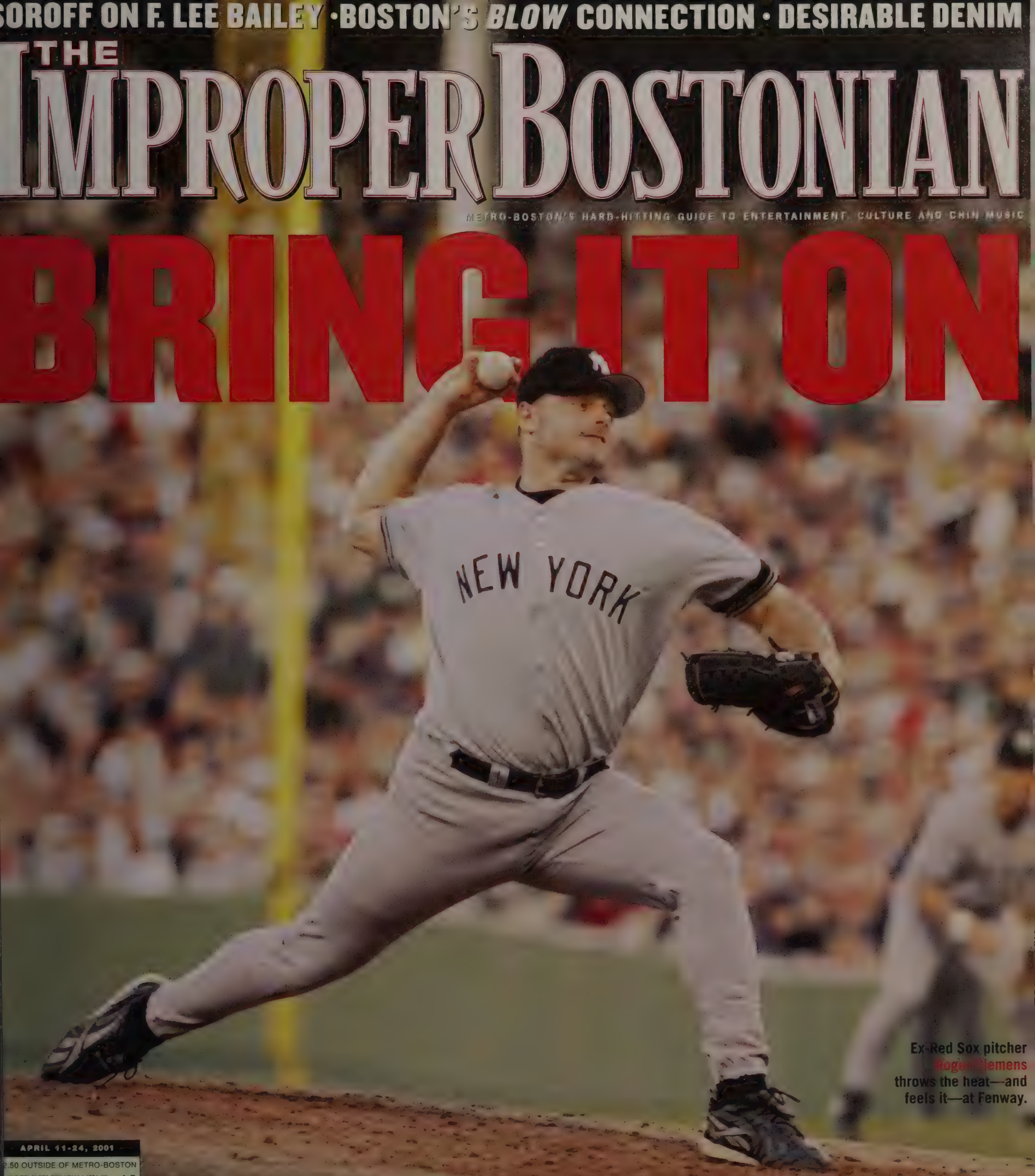

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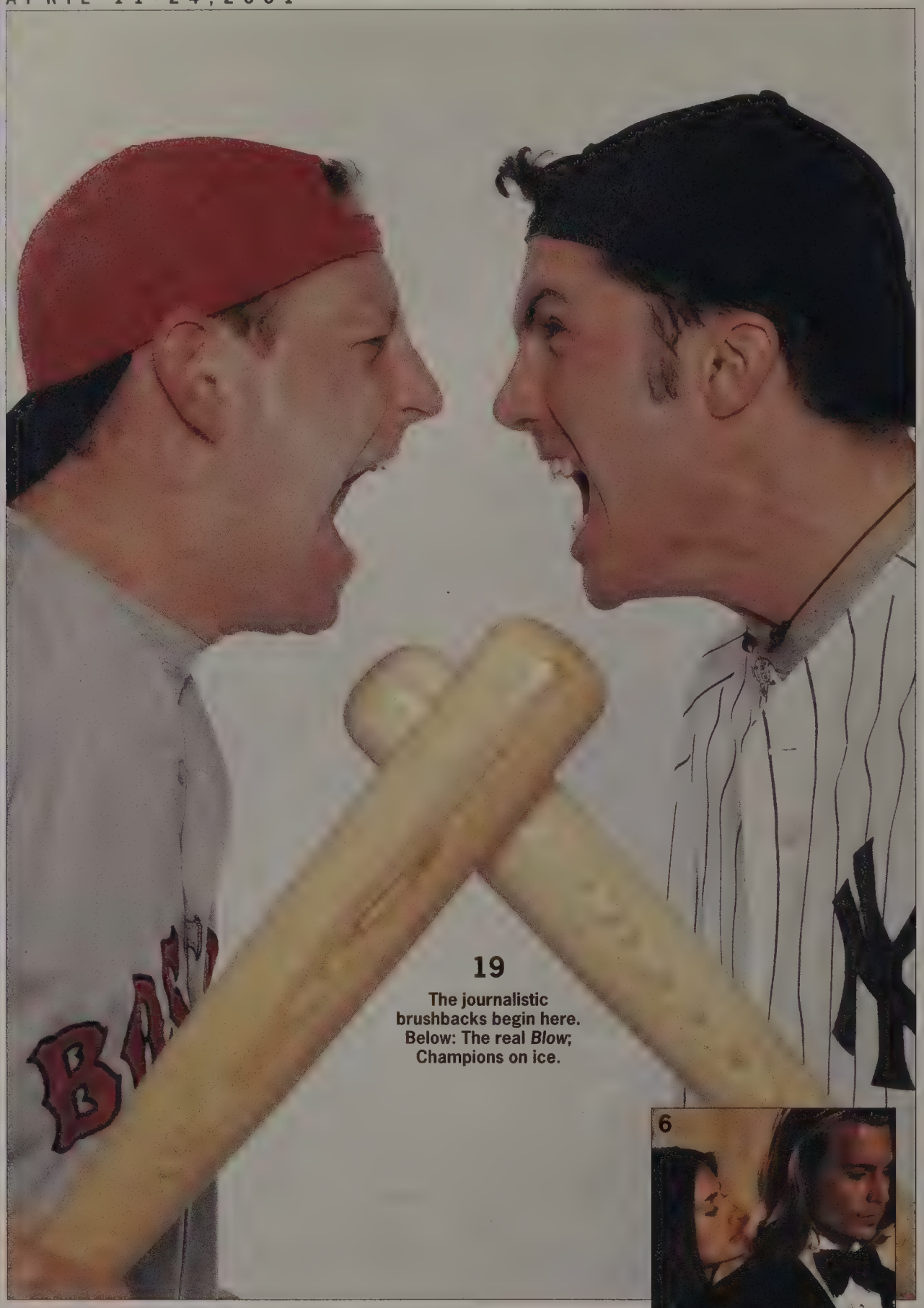
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Contents

APRIL 11-24, 2001



19

The journalistic brushbacks begin here. Below: The real *Blow*; Champions on ice.



FEATURES

16 Soroff/On F. Lee Bailey
He's represented everyone from Patty Hearst to O.J. Simpson. F. Lee Bailey talks about the U.S. justice system, his famous cases and the tribulations of being a celebrity lawyer. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

19 Foul Brawl
It's time once again for the Yankees and the Red Sox to duke it out. So we pitched the same assignment to staffer Ezra Dyer and New York writer Richard Torres: Represent your city's teams in a duel of words. Who will get the W? BY EZRA DYER AND RICHARD TORRES

29 Fashion: Blue Jean Lady
If you're going to violate a "no jeans" dress code, do it right.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER



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COLUMNS

6 The Word
Market Theater opens in Harvard Square; pet massage; Boston's *Blow* connection

10 E-Boston
How to solve the customer service conundrum.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
The phrase "snowball's chance" comes to mind.
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

34 Mopsy
Digging for discs; stop putting off your procrastination problem; words on "the Man upstairs"
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

54 Film
The Dish shoots for the moon.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

64 Music
The Disco Biscuits and the New Deal fuse the jam-band and electronica genres.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

84 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

36 Dining
Visit the South End Galleria armed with knowledge of the menu.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

38 Dish
Local chefs do New York and Cuba; Macondo on the way
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

38 Wine
The Australian Invasion is here.
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

39 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Food and film
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 41.
The Wang's Classic Film Series • NEMO Music Conference and Showcase • The Chocolate Madness Festival • Beyond Shelter event at Avalon• the Boston Marathon

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	78
Rockie Horoscope	78
Improperazzi	80
Improper Sightings	79
Classifieds	82

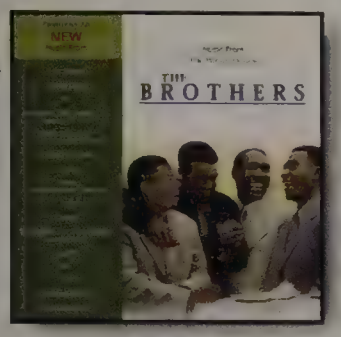
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letters

EZRA'S NAME GAME

You people make me sick. I am offended by every last one of you who feel it necessary to qualify your name with the line "but I am not Jewish." I have heard this very line countless times, and only with the Jewish religion. I have *never* heard anyone say, "My name is Maria, but I'm not Catholic." So, Ezra is a Hebrew name; leave it at that. For some reason, those of you whose parents elected to bestow upon you a Hebrew moniker feel compelled to disassociate yourselves with this particular religion. I don't know if it irks me because, of all the religions in the world, you want to make it clear to people that you meet that they should not assume that you are Jewish, or because you do not know the difference between a religion and a people (there are African Jews, Hindu Israelis, and so on). Nor can I tolerate the idea that your parents must "be" something to have the audacity to name you Ezra. My parents named me what they liked and what was meaningful to them, and I am proud of it—and you should be too. So please, unless people ask (and if they do, they're not worth knowing anyway), keep your prejudices to yourself.

—Amy Saltzman Burns
Via e-mail

I think the reason we forget girls' names is because many women of our generation have names like Jen, Kristen, Kate and Ashley. Every other woman we know has one of those names, so we rack our brains trying to remember which nondescript name has been given to the woman in front of us. She, on the other hand, has never before met an Ezra or an Oliver. She feels superior for no good reason, because she's been given an out, while your mind is playing eenie-meenie-miney-moe with Kara and Hillary. It's not gender specific, though, lest you misconstrue me. We just happen to have unusual names. I'm sure every Scott, Mike, Dave and John (especially John!) has received his share of blank stares from women playing the internal name game at some Irish pub. Those guys are busy racking their brains, too, though—just like us. But they are on an even playing field. We have no such luxury. Oh, and the anger sparked by the very mention of your unusual name? That's jealousy: We spent our elementary school years suffering for our parents' originality, only to have our names sound cool when we offer our hand in a bar, years later. Jennashllary spent her formative years using the normality of her moniker to rule her school. Now that she is trying to stand out in a more thoughtful, creative crowd, her name differentiates her from nothing and nobody. Just another note: The line "My parents were just hippies" connotes that one would have to be a hippie to give a non-Jewish child a Jewish name. One more note: That article was hilarious.

—Oliver Griswold
Via e-mail

> "I AM OFFENDED BY EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU WHO FEEL IT NECESSARY TO QUALIFY YOUR NAME WITH THE LINE 'BUT I AM NOT JEWISH.'"
>
> —*AMY SALTZMAN BURNS*
> VIA E-MAIL

I think my parents got my name from the "What you shouldn't name your child" book of super-strange words. Pro: I like feeling like I'm important enough for people to remember my name. Con: Constantly getting asked if I've ever been called "Batman Mercadildo" before.

—Atman Mercadillo
Gloucester

MORE BILE-SWAPPING

It is unfortunate that Geoffrey James could not properly reference the simplest statistics about the effect of Napster on CD sales. Here is a refresher for him from an actual newspaper:

"CD sales nationwide are up about 3 percent, according to the Recording Industry Association of America. However, sales of CD singles plunged 39 percent in 2000. When both figures are included, total CD sales dropped 1.8 percent to $14.3 billion last year, according to the RIAA. Vinyl records and cassettes combined account for only about 6 percent of sales."

May I suggest that when Geoffrey is not too busy pouting about free music, he actually read the articles where he gets his "facts"? It took me about 10 seconds to find this, and it's not even my job.

—Kathryn Field
Newton

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CONTRIBUTORS

KERRY BRETT HURLEY

Long-time Improper photographer Kerry Brett Hurley has been reeling in the awards lately, so we think it's time to give her a shout-out.

At the Photographers of Massachusetts annual photo competition, Hurley took home the Court of Honor Award for best in show in the portrait category, the Art Leather Award for Wedding Album of the Year and the 2001 Kodak Gallery Award.

The Court of Honor winner, a shot of a 2-year-old boy playing in a puddle during a cloudy day at Hingham Harbor, also received the Judge's Choice Award for the judges' favorite portrait of all entries.

The 2001 Kodak Gallery Award went to "Litigators Landslide," an image of Boston attorneys Tom Hoopes, Frank Libby and Michael Kelly that appeared in the 2000 Boston's Best edition of the Improper. While we're at it, last year Hurley also took home the 2000 Fuji Masterpiece Award for "King Fist," a photograph of Chelsea heavyweight champion Johnny Ruiz.

Brett has been the Improper staff photographer for the past six years, and she was a freelance photographer for the *Boston Globe* for the past five years. She is the owner of Brett Photography.

So who does she trust to take her picture? Credit the shot at right to *Globe* photographer Bill Brett, who Hurley also calls "Dad."



BILL BRETT

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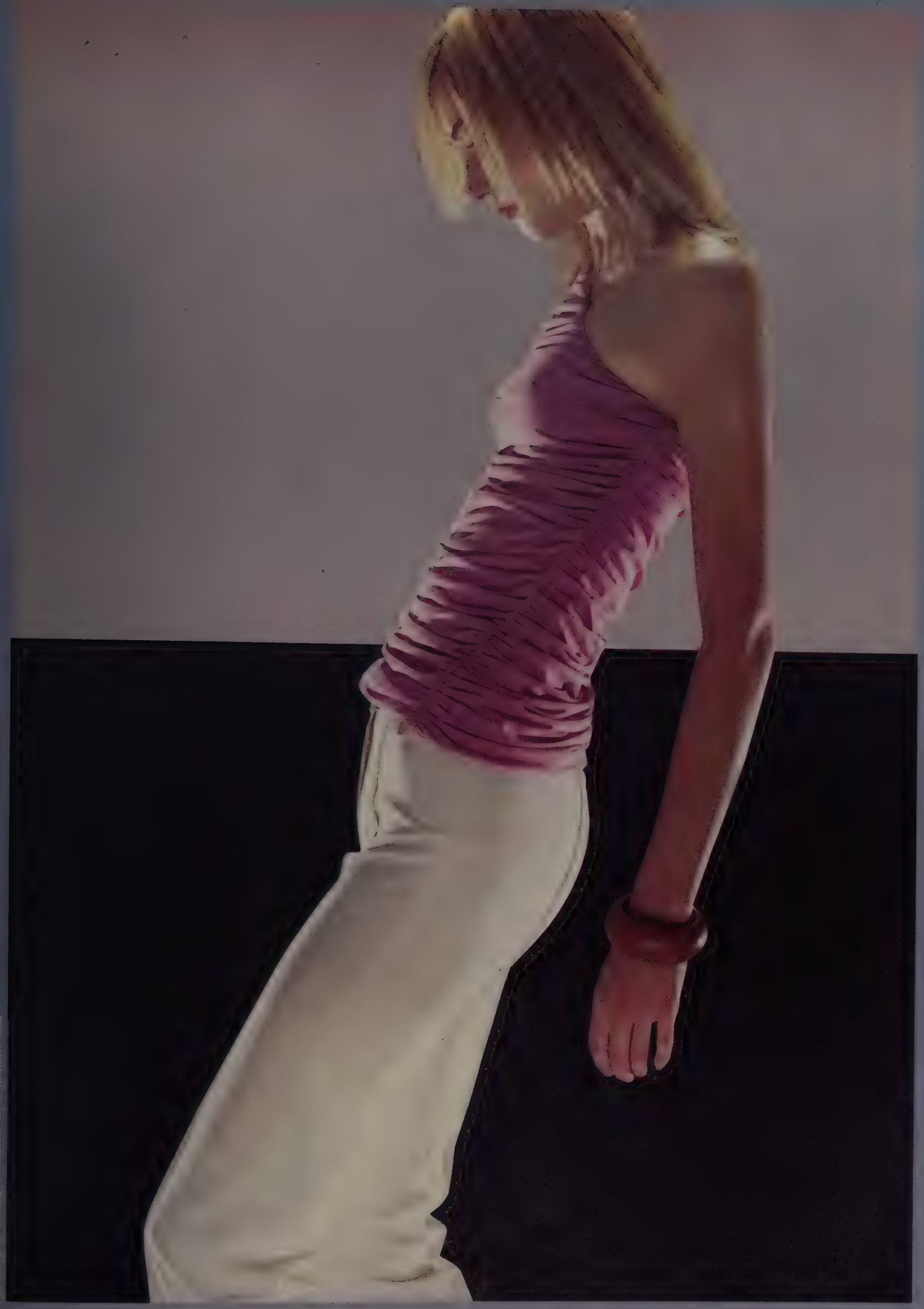
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Johnny Depp as George Jung (left) and Paul Rubens—a.k.a. Pee Wee Herman—as Jung's California dealer in the drug-trafficking epic *Blow*.

FACES

BOSTON'S *BLOW* CONNECTION

Mountains of coke. Beautiful women. Fast cars. Colombian druglords. Cliché as the scenario may sound, this was literally the life of George Jung, an intrepid drug trafficker from Massachusetts and the focus of Ted Demme's recently released movie, *Blow*. The film stars Johnny Depp, who captures Jung's dangerous but charming personality beautifully—and accurately. At least according to Lynn resident Dennis Verisotsky.

And he should know. Verisotsky did time with Jung, first at the Concord State Prison in '83; and later, in '84, both prisoners were transferred to Norfolk Federal Prison, also in Mass. (Here, Verisotsky says, he hooked up Jung with a connection for cigarettes and coffee.) "He was a very witty guy, the kind of guy who would make you laugh if you were feeling down," says Verisotsky. "He'd just make fun of a TV commercial or something—and he was so funny, you'd have to laugh."

Beyond capturing Jung's personality, Verisotsky—who's so mild-mannered, it's hard to believe he's an ex-con—maintains that other aspects of the movie aren't so accurate. He questions the chronology of events. And perhaps most interestingly, he wonders why the Boston angle was played down in the film's concluding scenes, when Jung was shown getting busted for a mega coke deal—a staggering 660 pounds—in 1985.

Turns out Verisotsky was in Ft. Lauderdale with Jung when he got busted (the Federal indictment papers prove it). Why? Because Jung owed a bigtime Boston pot dealer named Paulie $35,000 and a kilo of coke (apparently Paulie was looking to start dealing cocaine and saw Jung as the ultimate source). Verisotsky had brokered the deal and was eager to see it through—it was a matter of life and death, as he tells it. So there's Verisotsky in Florida, with Jung—and unknowingly, two drug enforcement agents who ultimately busted them and the several others involved.

Another key detail omitted from the movie: Jung was released from his jail sentence for testifying against his former partner, the notorious Columbian coke kingpin Carlos Lehder. What's more, the screw-up that eventually landed Jung back in jail was a pot bust on Cape Cod. Apparently that's not as dramatic as a coke bust in Florida, because the movie glosses over this fact. Still, the film, which is based on the book by Bruce Porter, manages to capture the essence of Jung's character.

"George was a seller of dreams," concludes Verisotsky. "Some of his dreams panned out, but others turned into nightmares." *—Rachel Strutt*



Lynn resident Dennis Verisotsky was arrested along with George Jung in the Ft. Lauderdale cocaine heist in 1985.

CELEBS

High-power women storm Boston...Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton will be at Wellesley College on April 20-21 to celebrate her alma mater's 125th anniversary. Rodham Clinton, a class of '69er, will be joined by former U.S. Secretary of State Madeline Albright ('59), producer Nora Ephron ('62), Michelle Caruso-Cabrera ('91) of CNBC, Linda Wertheimer ('65) of NPR and comedian Wendy Liebman ('83).

Hollywood invades Boston...Be on the lookout for Dustin Hoffman and Susan Sarandon, as they're coming to undisclosed towns on the North Shore at the end of the month to film Touchstone Pictures' upcoming *Baby's in Black*.

NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

CAMBRIDGE THEATER

Upstairs from Harvard Square's beloved Grendel's Den, a cozy alternative theater has appeared—one that totally eschews the norm. There will be no season subscriptions, no in-house troupe of actors and no formal board overseeing productions.

So what is the **Market Theater** all about? "We want it to be the kind of place where people never know what to expect," says director Tom Cole, who previously worked at the American Repertory Theatre. If the Market's premiere season line-up is any indication, audiences may indeed be surprised.



Actor Greg Carr (l) and director Tom Cole

The season includes plays by new writers, along with more established works from outside the mainstream, including a double-billing of one-act debuts by playwrights Robert Auletta (*Amazons*) and Charles Mee (*The Imperialists at the Club Cave Canem*), opening April 18. Within this production, music and performance art will be provided by Neptune, a band that uses instruments made entirely of steel; noise artist Jessica Rylan Can't; and filmmaker Luther Price. "It's gonna be a real trip," says Cole, who likens the performance to "Tom Waits on speed."

At a time when theater and performing arts companies are struggling to find rehearsal and performing space, it's quite a coup for the Market Theater to have a place of its own—small though it may be, with only about 100 seats. Following a $2 million renovation, the theater is warm and intimate, with fireplaces, gilded chandeliers and Roman marble relief fragments. "We're just hoping to get an audience," says Cole, who recognizes that the playwrights in his line-up won't have the instant name recognition of the Neil Simons of the thespian world. *One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*



BLOW: L. SEBASTIAN/NEW LINE; VERISOTSKY: RACHEL BROMBERG; THEATER: JENNY LOLLEY (2)



Spork?

www.GonnaEat.com



Tucker the springer spaniel gets a massage from his owner, Ray Duprey.

ALL THE BUZZ

HEAD-TO-TAIL MASSAGE

As any attentive dog lover knows, four-legged friends can get stressed out too. What to do when your pooch feels the pressure? Get him a massage, of course. Last month, Arnold Katz, a masseuse for the past 17 years, extended his Creating Touch Massage Therapy business to include pet massage (mostly dogs, but there are some cats, rabbits—and the occasional donkey). According to Katz, pet massage is very popular in California—and there is a pet massage studio in Rhode Island that does horses—but Katz may be the first to set up shop in the Boston area. "It started when I was working in an office and I met Charlie, a beautiful golden retriever from down the hall. When I would pet him, I'd naturally start massaging him. Charlie just became a lump of clay—he was so relaxed he was almost comatose. Then I realized I could apply massaging skills to dogs."

There is, indeed, a big difference between petting and massaging. "I get the dogs relaxed, rub around their head and work down to the tail. Petting is moving along the surface of the fur—which is loving and calming—but this is more focused, and I knead the muscles." Like massages for people, pet massage has many benefits: stress reduction, improved circulation and an increase in joint mobility. "It's very therapeutic," continues Katz. "I massaged a 12-year-old blind diabetic schnauzer—he loved it." Recently, Katz combined forces with The Pet Shop Girls, a local store in the South End, for pet massages Mondays, 12-7pm (262-PETS, $30). He also does house calls in the Back Bay area Tue.-Fri. (262-7866, $50 for a half hour). Better still—get a combo pet-and-owner house call deal for $150. You can also e-mail him at *arnold@creatingtouchmassage.com*. —*E.H.*

DISSED LIST

NOT TOO HOT



We recently received a letter from a concerned citizen who shared a telling tale:

"After hearing one too many disturbing stories about rapes and other crimes against women (and having to park my car in a satellite lot at work), I decided to invest in pepper spray," says 30-year-old **Rochelle Bloom** (right) of Natick. So Bloom called the local police department and discovered that in Massachusetts (and New York), residents may only purchase defense sprays from licensed firearms dealers. But first, she'd have to fill out a permit application, fill it out and then bring it back on Thursday, the only day of the week they accept applications in Natick (8:30am-3pm).

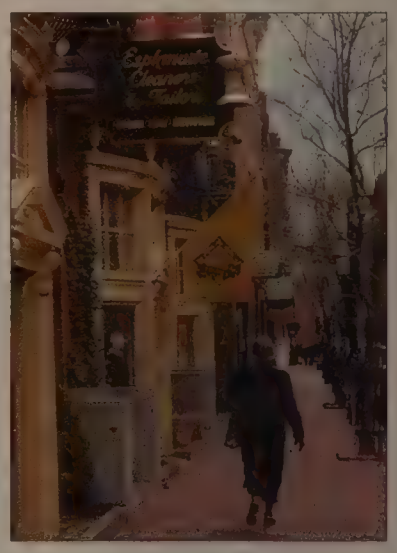
"It seemed simple enough," she said, until she reviewed the paperwork and discovered that "basically I was required to provide all the same documents as someone looking to carry a firearm—minus the certificate of having taken a course on firing a gun." She was asked to supply the original copy of her birth certificate ("which took my parents two weeks to locate"), her driver's license with the correct address ("I had to pay $15 to update it"), and two bills with her name on it. When she turned in the form and paid the $30 processing fee, she was fingerprinted and photographed, and then finally received an official pink card. If Bloom had not been so determined to do things legally, she may have easily given up or purchased the product on the Internet, thereby bypassing such red tape. Coincidentally, Bloom's mother came to visit recently and brought her some pepper spray. "She just went out and bought it at a local car wash in Philadelphia." *To get a license in Boston, go to police headquarters (One Schroeder Plaza off Tremont Street) with a driver's license and a utility bill as proof of address, pay a $25 fee and wait 4-5 weeks. Call the Public Service Counter at 343-4425 for more information. —J.S.*

IMPROPER REPORTS

TAKEN TO THE CLEANERS

As the battle to close the male-female salary gap continues, we found something else to factor into the equation: Women pay more—much more—at the dry cleaners.

Dependable Cleaners
110 Newbury St.
Woman's cotton blouse: **$6.35**
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Men's cotton shirt: **$1.50**
Back Bay Dry Cleaners
145 Dartmouth St.
Woman's cotton blouse: **$3.50**
Men's cotton shirt: **$1.39**
•Honorable Mention goes to **Esplanade Cleaners** (right) on Charles St. Prices are steep, but at least they're even at **$4.50** for a blouse or men's shirt.



SAM SAYS

LIGHTEN UP!



Even though the weather is hardly balmy this time of year, try to remember that it is, in fact, springtime. So what if you haven't put away all your sweaters just yet; you can get a jump start on summer when it comes to make-up. My advice: a little spring color is all you need! Get rid of all of those wintry browns and replace them with brighter hues—especially pinks, plums and corals. For eyes, keep it simple. Try a cream shadow like Calvin Klein's Eye Color Wash in Red Sea ($14) or brush on a light shimmer like Maksou's shimmery eye dust in #31 ($12). For cheeks, we're seeing a lot more cream blushes like Stila's Petunia ($28); or for a more natural look, try one of the new gel blushes by Clinique ($14.50). Lips are sheer and natural with a bit of moist shine. Try Fresh's lip shine in Claret ($16.50) or MAC's lip glass in Lychee Lux ($12.50). So put a little pink on your face, turn up the heat in your apartment to, say, 98 degrees, grab a margarita, and pretend like you're already at the beach. —*Samantha House*



TRY SPELLCHECK?



RIP

A FOND FAREWELL...

The Aquarium, Somerville—closed since Feb. 20 due to licensing issues. May rise from the ashes soon.
Grafton Street Pub, Cambridge—closes April 15 (will re-open at the end of the summer at the site of the former Bow & Arrow)
***Beacon Hill/Back Bay Chronicle*, Boston—April 11**

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

MASSAGE, DRY CLEANING: RACHEL BROMBERG; BOTTOM LEFT: LEAH FASTEN; SIGN: PAUL TANCREDI

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Please Stay on the Line...

If you know which buttons to push, you too can get top-notch customer service

There was a time when pundits said that computers would make companies more responsive to their customers. They expected a customer service revolution that would use the power of data processing to make it easier for customers to obtain information, order products and resolve problems. The picture was "better living through technology," and it all seemed really great...until things didn't quite turn out that way.

Today, it's not unusual for companies to demand that you practically reprogram a voice-mail system before you can talk to a human being. Sometimes they don't even give you the option to talk to an operator, as with the toll-free Sprint service number for the Northwest frequent flier program. Some companies, in order to shave a few bucks off support costs, are moving their customer service function to India and (so you won't suspect as much) are training Indian employees to sound as if they grew up in Iowa. But even if you do get through to a living, breathing person, it's likely that you'll end up on hold anyway, especially if your request is something that isn't easily handled on the service rep's computer screen. To make matters worse, many companies now profile their customers so that big spenders get better treatment than the rest of us hoi polloi.

That's the way it's been for the past 10 years or so, but it's starting to change for the better, according to Boston-based technology guru and best-selling author Patricia Seybold. She's been a major source of high-tech wisdom for well over a decade and has just written a new book, *The Customer Revolution*, which identifies the fundamental source of value in the new economy: customers. In other words, businesses are finally getting the obvious message that if they treat customers poorly, the customers will go elsewhere.

Seybold believes that the first generation of customer service computing left a lot to be desired, but that things are getting better. Internet shopping is a case in point. Two years ago, missed deliveries and lost orders were depressingly common. Today, however, the companies that can't get their act together are either going out of business or seeing their online business move elsewhere. She cites Amazon.com and Lands' End as two companies that have become benchmarks for Internet customer service. "They've set the bar and all the others are scrambling to meet it," she explains.

She's also noted that many companies are retreating from the more negative aspects of customer profiling, where customers who don't buy very much are shunted off to a no man's land of voice-mail menus and being left on hold. That always seemed stupid to me, because today's small-time customers could easily end up being tomorrow's big-time customers. Seybold claims that companies are getting this message and are now trying to offer a strong basic level of customer service to everyone, while offering additional perks to the very valuable ones. "Companies are becoming more refined and subtle, with more attention to customer experiences," she says.

One way that companies become more responsive is by considering which service options should be on the automated voice menu or support Web site. In the past, the main point of such automated systems was to reduce the number of calls that got through to real humans, because those calls cost the company more money. Today, however, companies are discovering which items are best handled automatically, like checking bank account balances or halting newspaper delivery, both of which could take more time to process in a human-to-human situation than across a voice-mail or Internet link.

Seybold claims that companies and executives around the world are "waking up." However, the notion that things will be getting better soon isn't always a big consolation when you've been put on hold for half an hour when you call with a simple service request or when your fifth e-mail to customer service seems to have disappeared into the black hole of cyberspace.



In *The Customer Revolution*, Patricia Seybold affirms that the customer is still king (or queen).

I told Seybold how I handle those situations and she suggested that I share my techniques with the IMPROPER readership, so that all of us "can help companies get better," as she puts it. That has a much more generous spin than the rant that goes on in my own brain, but if Seybold thinks that it's altruistic, hey, who am I to argue?

So here's my advice for what to do when you get lousy customer service.

Step one: Get the address of the company's headquarters and the name of the company's CEO or president. If you can't get that information from the customer service rep, look on the company's Web site. If you can't find it there, check *www.hoovers.com* (use the "search company" feature and hit the "capsule" button).

Step two: Write a letter (on paper) to the CEO describing your problem. Make it polite and clear. Explain the problem that you had with the company's service department. And suggest what you want to be done about it. Be sure to hand-address the envelope so that they know that you're a real person and not just a computer sending junk mail.

Step three: Send the letter, by certified snail mail, to corporate headquarters, marked "ATTN: (CEO name), PERSONAL" at the bottom of the envelope. Certified costs a bit more than regular mail, but it's definitely worth the extra money because it makes the letter look like it contains really serious stuff.

Here's what will happen. The letter, when delivered, will land immediately on the CEO's desk. Because the letter deals with customer service, the CEO will forward it to the executive in charge of customer service, attaching a "Please take care of this, you bozo" Post-it. That executive will figure that if your problem doesn't get fixed quickly, you're going to send another letter to the CEO. The last thing that the supervisor wants is for the CEO to find out that customer service truly stinks, so your problem will get top priority.

Using this method, over the last three months, I've received 15,000 frequent flier miles because of a slip-up on an e-ticket, had $100 credited back to my credit card due to flawed gift delivery, and received a free $60 fruit basket in the way of an apology, all with promises from the companies in question that they'll try to do better next time.

Here's the best part. Suppose everyone follows my advice and starts writing to the CEOs of companies that have lousy customer service? Then the CEOs will finally fire the idiots who run bad service departments and hire others who'll set up systems that make customers happy, if only to stop the deluge of complaints.

Who says that you have to wait for fancy new technology in order to make the world a better place? iB

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of numerous articles and books on high tech business and technology.

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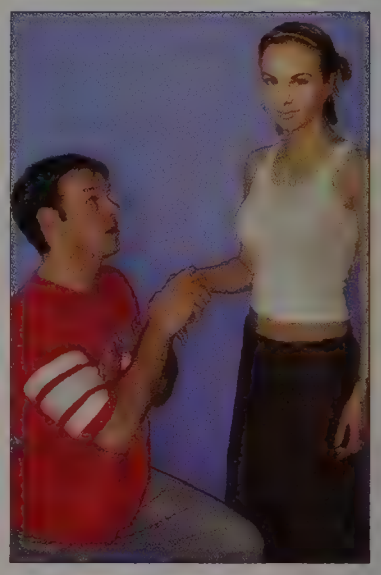
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We Will Survive

Don't vote me off your island of love

Elisabeth Filarski, will you go out with me? I'm not crazy or a stalker or anything like that, despite what the people in my office say. They're always like, "Ez, take down all those pictures of Elisabeth" or "cut it with composing Shakespearean sonnets to Elisabeth" or "quit calling every house in Newton asking for Elisabeth." But I don't hear them, because my '80s pop is too loud. It's your favorite type of music. And now it's mine, too.



I've been looking at your profile on the *Survivor* Web site, and it's amazing how much else we have in common. For instance, you're a footwear designer. That's so funny—I love to wear shoes! Maybe we could go to Niketown sometime and spend a few hours evaluating shoelace grommets. To be honest, I don't know much about shoelace grommets (I wear Velcro shoes), but I'd love for you to teach me all about them.

Your favorite actor is Kevin Spacey and your favorite actress is Meg Ryan. Want to come over to my place and have an *American Beauty*/*When Harry Met Sally* double feature? I have a DVD player. I also have your favorite movie overall, *The Shawshank Redemption*. I can give you a little "inside scoop" about that one, because I've actually been to jail! But enough about me.

I see you're also a big fan of breakfast. You like scrambled eggs, your favorite smell is "breakfast smells" and your favorite dinner is... "breakfast." Whoa, girl, I think you may have some kind of weird obsession going on! Maybe you should see a therapist about that. Can I make you breakfast sometime?

Your favorite game is Pickup Sticks. That's stupid. Damn! I'm sorry! I can be so insensitive sometimes. What I meant to say was, I would play Pickup Sticks or Lincoln Logs or even Jenga with you any day of the week. We could play Pickup Sticks and listen to Duran Duran (your favorite band) and eat Sour Patch Kids (your favorite candy) and maybe drink some Stoli Vanilla (your favorite frou-frou drink). Pickup Sticks rule, is what I meant to say.

Elsewhere in your background information it says that you played softball in college. That's surprising. You don't appear to have a mustache. Is it possible that the CBS people might have mistakenly taken this bit of information from someone else's bio? Like maybe Mad Dog's? I'd look into getting that corrected.

There's one other thing I'd get corrected, too. According to *www.elisabethfilarski.net*, you're dating Boston College quarterback Tim Hasselbeck. There are a couple of things wrong with that. First of all, dating the quarterback? Please. That's so cliché. That's so high-school. You're in the big-time now, baby, and you need a man who can help you handle your newfound fame. This Tim guy, he's probably been on TV a couple of times, but his stock has peaked. Next stop for him: The XFL, wearing a She Hate Me jersey. I, on the other hand, know a thing or two about fame. Why, just eight months ago someone recognized me on the T. I know we'd be a high-profile couple, but I think you're ready for that. Dump Tim Hasselbeck and go out with me. It just makes sense.

In the meantime, I'll be rooting for you on the show. As I write this, you haven't been voted off yet. Don't worry, kiddo, I have confidence in you. All the ugly people get voted off first, then all the annoying people. And if cute and unannoying grew on trees, you'd be an orchard unto yourself. As long as you don't fall into a fire like Michael or get eaten by a crocodile, I see you being in a primo position to take this whole thing. And then, you and me are gonna be rich! Why, if we moved somewhere with a favorable exchange rate, we could probably retire on your winnings! Barring that, I could spend a couple of years sipping piña coladas on a beach somewhere—with you, of course. Or maybe I, I mean *we*, could just keep our jobs, but finally buy that Bentley Azure we've been wanting. The possibilities are endless.

But what if you don't win? What if there's a challenge that even pluck and great abs cannot surmount, and then an alliance forms against you at the very end? That looks pretty likely, now that I think about it, and then where are my piña coladas going to come from?

So Colby, you're a car customizer. That's so funny—I have a car.... iB

You think that's funny?

If you like Jerri, don't e-mail ezra@improper.com .

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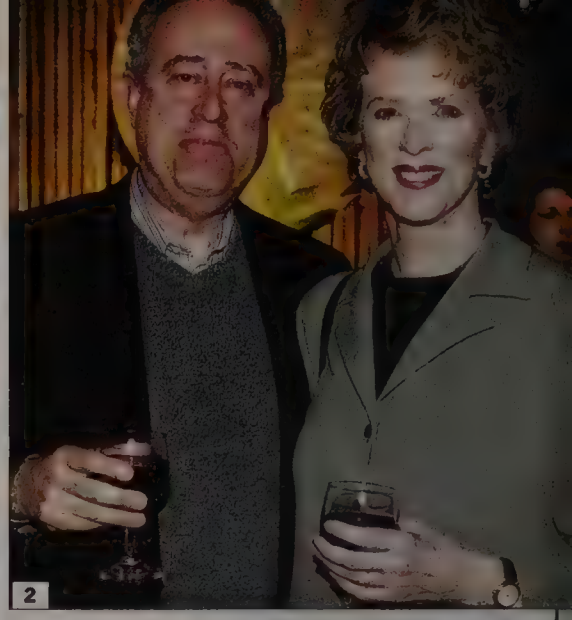
Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

"The Inspired Garden" New England Spring Flower Show preview party was held March 16 at the Bayside Expo Center. More than 1,000 members, exhibitors, judges and gardening enthusiasts (both veteran and budding) attended the 130th annual New England Spring Flower Show. The 5.5 acre event featured 40 major gardens on exhibit, making it the third-largest flower show in the world and the biggest indoor event in New England. Tickets were $150 and all proceeds benefited the educational programs of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

1. **Michele Macadaeg** and **Rafael Jaen**, costume technician and costume designer, respectively, at Emerson College.
2. **Arnie Reisman**, CEO of Video 911; and **Paula Lyons**, consumer editor for WBZ-TV.
3. **Ted Winston**, co-owner of Winston Flowers, and his wife, **Simone**.
4. **Matthew Rudy** and **Ashley Nease**, both students at Emerson College.
5. **Lynn Evans Shotkus** and her husband, **Stan Shotkus**, co-owners of Potpourri Designs.
6. From left: **Cecily Foster**, of special events and tourism for the mayor's office; Mayor **Thomas Menino**; **Beatrice Flammia**, director of special events and community affairs at the Ritz; and **Paul Foster**, vice president of Reebok.


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The Vagina Monologues Post-Performance Party, benefiting the Massachusetts National Organization for Women (NOW) Foundation was held March 20 at Aria. More than 400 feminists, activists and theater goers attended the high-energy soiree. Playwright Eve Ensler was in attendance after performing her first show in Boston. The sale of tickets raised $30,000, which was matched by the V-Day initiative, the non-profit organization affiliated with the Vagina Monologues, for a total of $60,000.

7. **Jon Platt**, independent producer, and **Eve Ensler**, playwright.
8. From left: **Donna Santagati**, research assistant at Boston Medical; **Omi Rajpal**, director of advertising at *Art New England* magazine in Brighton; and **Debbie Porthouse**, human resources manager for A Place To Grow.
9. From left: **Debbie Lingos**, president of the Best Western in Cambridge; **David Huckins**, emergency room physician for Newton Wellesley Hospital; and **Denise Girard**, secretary of Massachusetts Chapter of NOW.
10. From left: **Ellen Zucker**, attorney at Dwyer & Collora; **Patricia Ireland**, national president of NOW; and **Andrea Lee**, president of the greater Boston chapter of NOW.
11. **Steve Frumin**, president of Universal Promotions, and **Caryn Freedman**, theater manager of the Wilbur Theater.


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Soroff/On

F. Lee Bailey

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Legal icon F. Lee Bailey was born and raised in Waltham and went to school in New Hampshire before attending Harvard. His undergraduate career was interrupted by a stint as a fighter pilot in the Marine Corps, but after graduating from Harvard in 1957, he attended B.U. Law School and was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1960. His spectacular legal career has included such headline-making cases as Ohio v. Sheppard (the inspiration for the TV and film series *The Fugitive*), the Boston Strangler, Patty Hearst and O.J. Simpson. As an author, his books have included accounts of his criminal cases, like *The Defense Never Rests* and *For the Defense*, numerous professional publications, and a novel entitled *Secrets*. As a television personality, he has hosted an interview program for ABC and served as *Good Morning America*'s expert on legal affairs. He lives primarily in Florida, although he maintains a home and office in Boston.

Jonathan Soroff: *First of all, what does the "F" stand for?*

F. Lee Bailey: Francis. I'm a junior, but for the sake of clarity, my mother decreed that I would be called Lee.

JS: *Last good lawyer joke you heard?*

FLB: A lawyer pilot was flying a Jewish jeweler and an Arab rug merchant when the engine quit. He landed with great expertise on a small plot of land, and a farmer came to say he could feed them and put them up for the night. Two could sleep in the house, but the third had to go to a bunk in the barn. The Arab volunteered, but very shortly knocked at the door and said, "I'm sorry, but there's a cow out there, and I can't sleep in the barn. My religion won't permit it." The Jew said, "No problem. I'll go." In a short time, he knocked on the door, saying, "There's a pig in the barn, and I'm just not allowed to sleep in the same building as a pig." So the lawyer said, "Don't worry. I'll go sleep in the barn." Five minutes later, there was a knock on the door. It was the pig and the cow.

JS: *Most important case of your career?*

FLB: I've debated that in my own mind. In some respects, I'd say it was Dr. Sam Sheppard, but in others, the defense of Captain Ernest Medina in the My Lai Massacre, probably because of the awful realization that the stories we told about the Germans and Japanese in WWII—how brutal they were, and how honorable we were—suddenly went up in smoke when we killed a bunch of women and children with machine guns.

JS: *How about the professional accomplishment you're most proud of?*

FLB: Frankly, at this point in my life it's keeping my head above water against the onslaught of government.

JS: *Any case you regret?*

FLB: "Regret" isn't the word. The worst case, in terms of being impossible and frustrating, was Patty Hearst, because we were fighting things the public knew nothing about. The judge reversed himself midstream, which put us in a terrible position, and I felt that she should've been acquitted. I'm glad to see that President Clinton pardoned her.

JS: *Ever play golf with O.J.?*

FLB: I don't play golf with anybody, but I'm friendly with him and see him from time to time, now that he's in Florida.

JS: *Biggest miscarriage of justice you've witnessed?*

FLB: Sheppard was a totally unnecessary one from the get-go, and eventually the DNA demonstrated it. The Hearst case was a miscarriage. Murderers walked out of the courtroom because the government felt they had to punish her or be suspected of catering to the rich. And as an adjunct, I think the press treatment of the Simpson case was a miscarriage. Here's a fellow who had a thumping and got a very quick jury verdict from a jury that was neither stupid nor racially motivated nor any of the things the press wound up calling them. But the press persisted in saying he was guilty, and the outrage from people who had access to nothing but press opinions is very discouraging.

JS: *So you believe he's innocent?*

FLB: I'm absolutely satisfied of it, and who should know better? If he were guilty, I certainly wouldn't have anything to do with him afterwards, and I never have with anybody in that category.

JS: *What's the biggest flaw in the American justice system?*

FLB: In my view, the imbalance between prosecution and defense, created mostly by Congress and legislators panicking over the drug situation. They still don't seem to understand, even with Prohibition to learn from, that they can't diminish the flow of drugs into the United States by being harsh. Somebody's got to wake up and get more reasonable. The idea that we'll give you 20 years in prison for having two grams of crack cocaine has done nothing but produce a lot of prisoners.

JS: *One case from history you'd most like to try?*

FLB: Well, since I started trying murder cases at age 27 in Boston, in 1961, there haven't been a whole lot that I wanted to be in on and wasn't. But I was told by a U.S. marshall that I almost got called in on Lee Harvey Oswald before he got assassinated. If he'd been better represented at the Warren Commission, we might've learned a lot more about Kennedy's assassination than we did, because there's a lot to know that hasn't surfaced. Not to say that he didn't have a good lawyer, but Oswald didn't kill John F. Kennedy by himself. He wasn't that good a shot, and I don't know anybody who is, particularly with a rifle that cost $9.95.

JS: *Like Perry Mason, your name is synonymous with shrewd lawyering. How does that feel?*

FLB: Yeah, it crops up in plays, TV, movies, books, and it always reminds me of America's predilection for the Hollywood lawyer performing magic tricks. I'm painfully aware that the public sees only the tip of the iceberg, and not the seven-eighths below the surface, in what I do.

JS: *Ever wish you were a lawyer in England so you could wear a wig?*

FLB: Actually, I tried to be one, but I would've had to give up my U.S. citizenship. I've always admired the British barrister as being the best quality of lawyer and the most honest. They train to try cases, and that really doesn't happen here.

JS: *If you were going to commit a murder, how would you do it?*

FLB: Well, the cleverest way I've ever heard, and I'm not advocating anybody do it, is stabbing someone to death with an icicle.

JS: *One thing people would be amazed to learn about you?*

FLB: The misconception is that I enter the scene with guns blazing and sabres rattling. That's simply not true. For the most part, I've found, as my mother always told me, that you catch more flies with honey than with vinegar.

JS: *Are there too many lawyers in America?*

FLB: There's always too many lawyers but never enough good ones. That's why the English system is superior. When you've reached the state of barrister, you hit a threshold level of competence. I've been pumping for a divided bar here since I was a stripling, and I haven't quit yet.

JS: *OK. Fill in the blank: "First thing we do, let's _____ all the lawyers."*

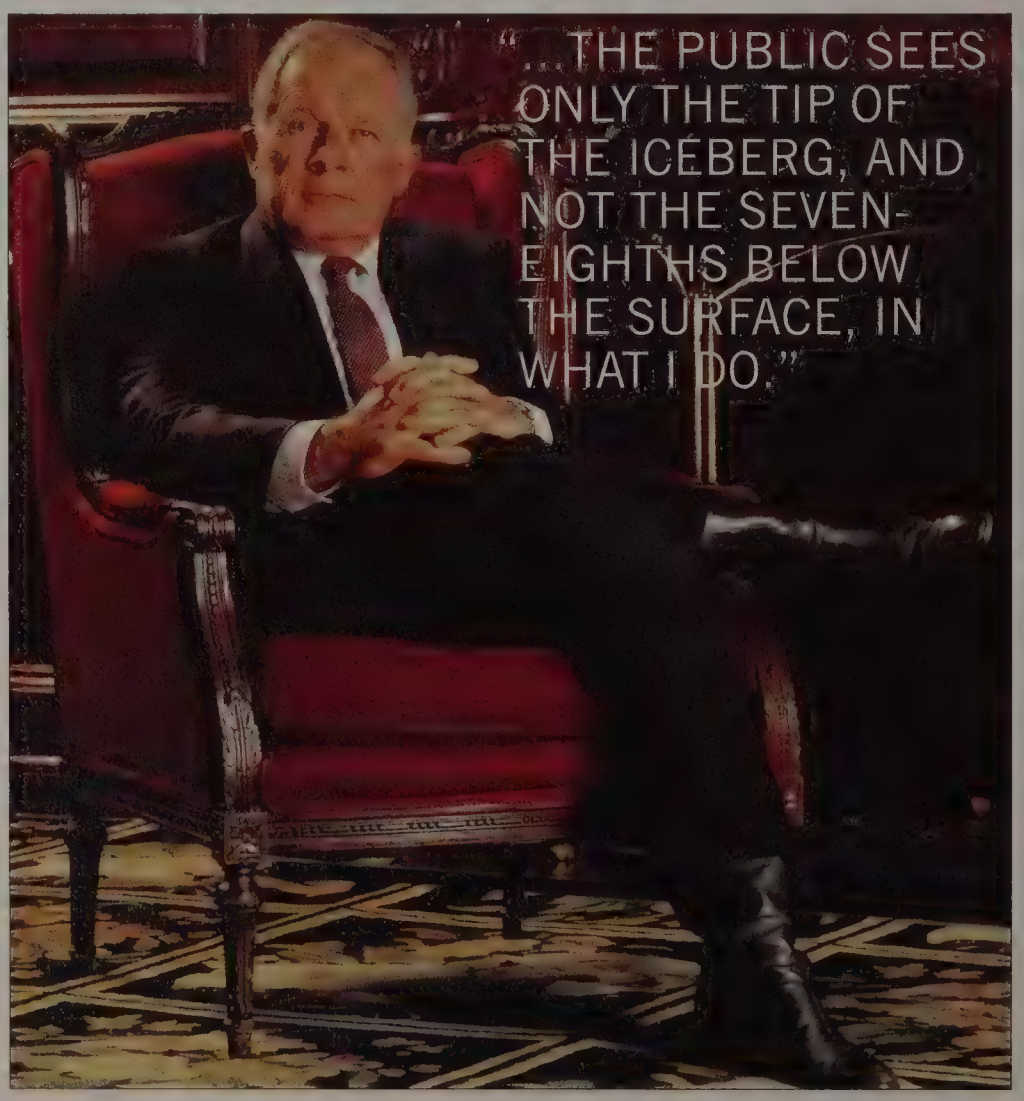
FLB: People quote that line from Shakespeare—"Let's kill all the lawyers"—without understanding the context. It's a plan for creating anarchy and taking over the country. Certainly, history has taught us that the two biggest foes of despots are attorneys and a free press.

JS: *So you'd say, "Let's hug all the lawyers?"*

FLB: No. Cause a lot of 'em aren't very huggable. But I'd say preserve their independence and don't do what we're doing now, which is to beat them down to the point that they want out of controversial or thankless situations where people really need representation.

JS: *I just robbed a bank. What should I do?*

FLB: Keep your mouth shut. Don't move any of the evidence anywhere. And don't bring me any of the money. **iB**



rush hour chicago

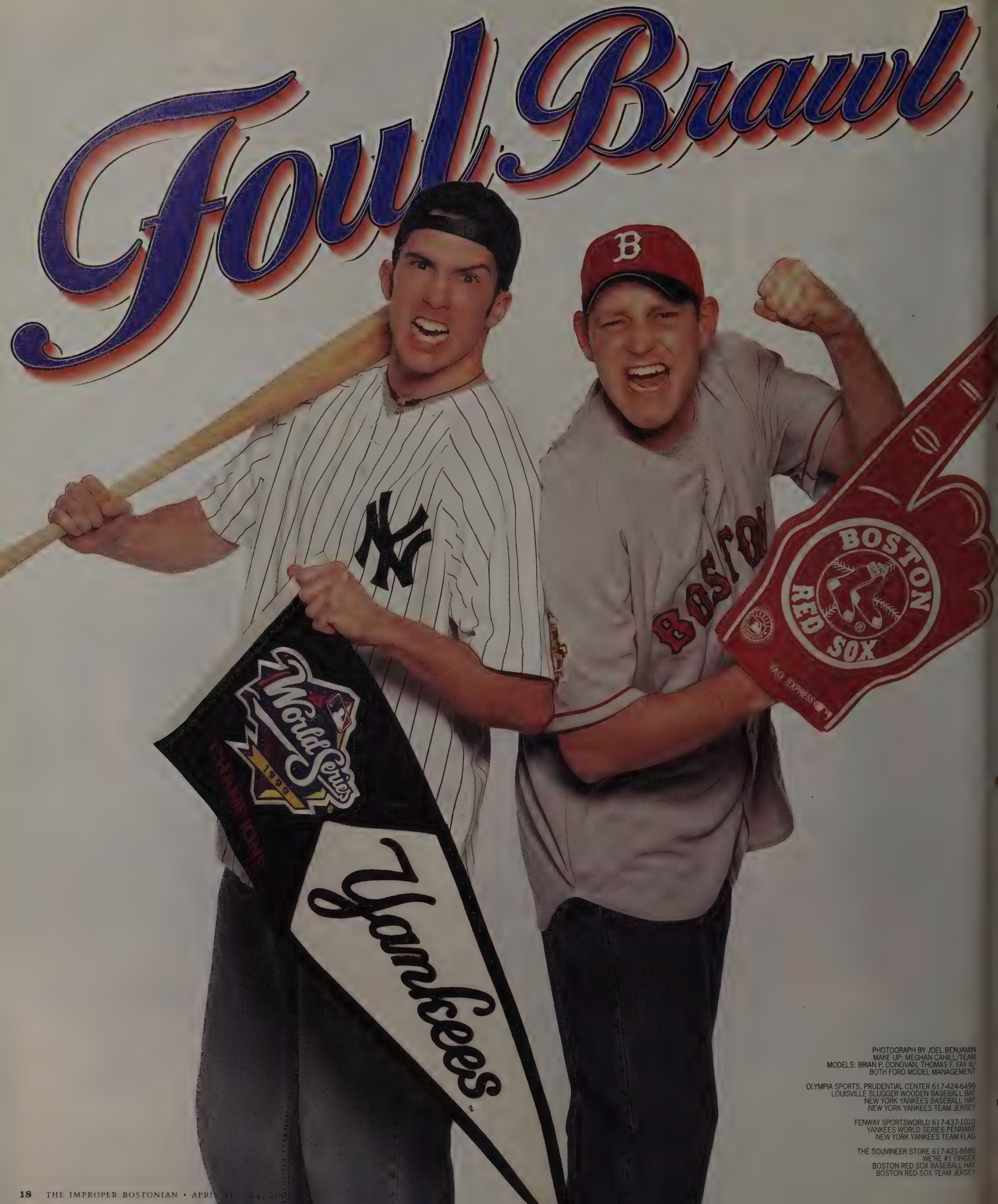
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Foul Brawl



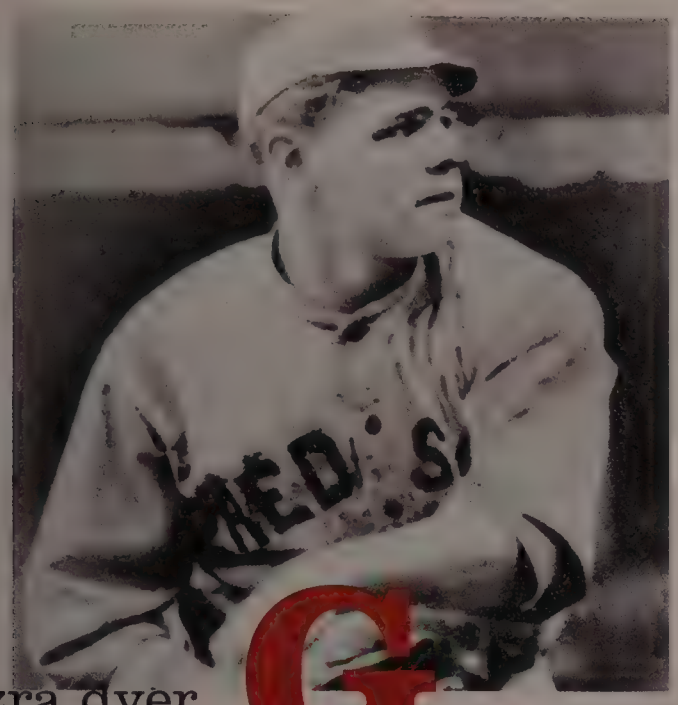
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It's time once again for the Red Sox–Yankees battle to resume. We pitted **Ezra Dyer** against New York writer **Richard Torres** to take it to the printed page.



by ezra dyer

God needs Satan. Yin needs yang. Eminem needs Everlast, his mom, his ex-wife, Christina Aguilera, gay people....Where was I? Oh yes, opposition. Tension. It gives us a reason to care. Without The Joker et al, Batman would have just sat in his cave applying Turtle Wax to the Batmobile and sending Robin out to Jo-Ann Fabrics for cape material. And so, I suppose, Boston should appreciate the Yankees on some level. They represent a universal object of scorn that we can rally against, which unites us as a community. That is what is good about the New York Yankees. Unfortunately, that's all that is good about the New York Yankees.

The reason we focus our resentment on the Yankees is because they are champions many times over. No other New York team comes close. The Knicks see the Yankees' success and try to buy a championship for themselves, but it never works. They were smart enough to get rid of Patrick Ewing, a man so decrepit that if he were a building he would be condemned. But his legacy lives on, and their roster is still loaded with overrated stars. For the Boston sports fan, this is very satisfying.

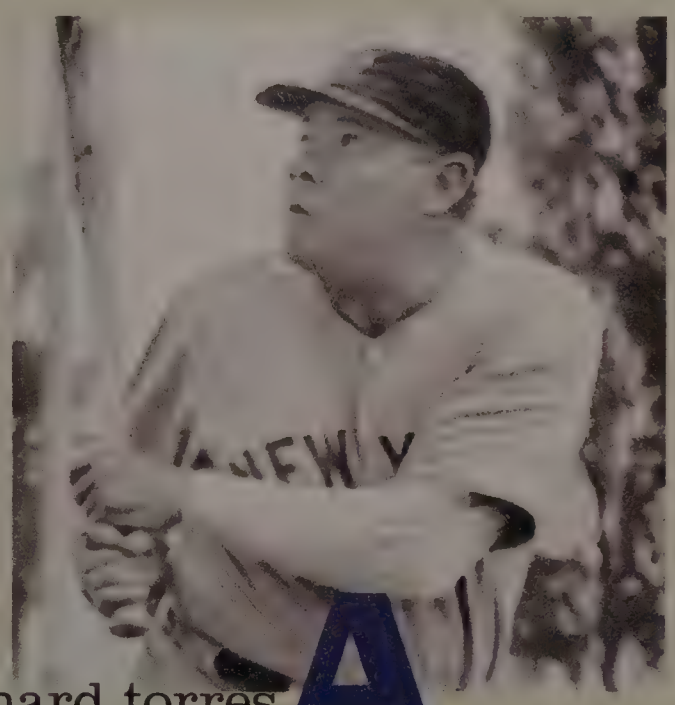
The Rangers take a different tack. They like to put guys on the ice who used to be great but are now more worried about osteoporosis than hat tricks. Hello, Mark Messier: Be careful with those hips out there!

The Giants improbably made it to the Super Bowl last year. Fortunately, when they met Baltimore, they got paddled harder than the Charles River during the Regatta. Again, very satisfying. The Islanders? Enough said. The Jets? They seem to be cursed like the Sox, which brings us to the most bitter enforcers of The Curse: the Mets.

Sox fans have a strange attitude toward the Mets. Any Sox fans who remember that ground ball dribbling between Bill Buckner's legs in the 1986 World Series will have a dark spot in their hearts reserved for New York's National League franchise. On the other hand, both Sox and Mets fans are united in their disdain for the Yankees. Last year I was forwarded an e-mail from an anonymous Mets fan detailing his hatred for the Yankees, and those sentiments could easily have come from a disgruntled Bostonian. For instance, this passage: "If I watched some guy walk into my house from off the street and rob my grandmother, I'd still hate him less than I hate Jorge Posada. And I think that might mean that I have a problem." I hear you, Mets fan, even though I dislike your team only slightly less. The Sox-Mets relationship is analogous to the United States and Russia during World War II. We didn't like the Communists,

continued on page 20 >>

AP/WORLDWIDE (2)



by richard torres

Americans love competition. Just think about how we love to break down our political stories into clear-cut opposing camps. Republican vs. Democrat. George "Dubya" Bush against Al "Chuckles" Gore. The vast right-wing conspiracy vs. the underhanded Clinton clan. The "us vs. them" philosophy is simply an integral component of our national spirit. (It also explains why we continually reward simplistic good vs. evil films such as *Gladiator*.)

Without a doubt, the sports equivalent of these political contests are the teams from New York City against their Boston counterparts. That is, if the cities were equal. But as any sane sports fan will tell you, Beantown teams merely exist to highlight the Big Apple's utter superiority. Particularly when it comes to the great national pastime: baseball.

New York vs. Boston? Ha-ha-ha. Ho-ho-ho. Hee-hee-hee. And, oh yes, hardy-har-har. A childish outburst? Absolutely. But, for a New Yorker, it's tough not to laugh, not to gloat, not to snicker over the Boston faithful. After all, there's so much historical ammunition to use against you.

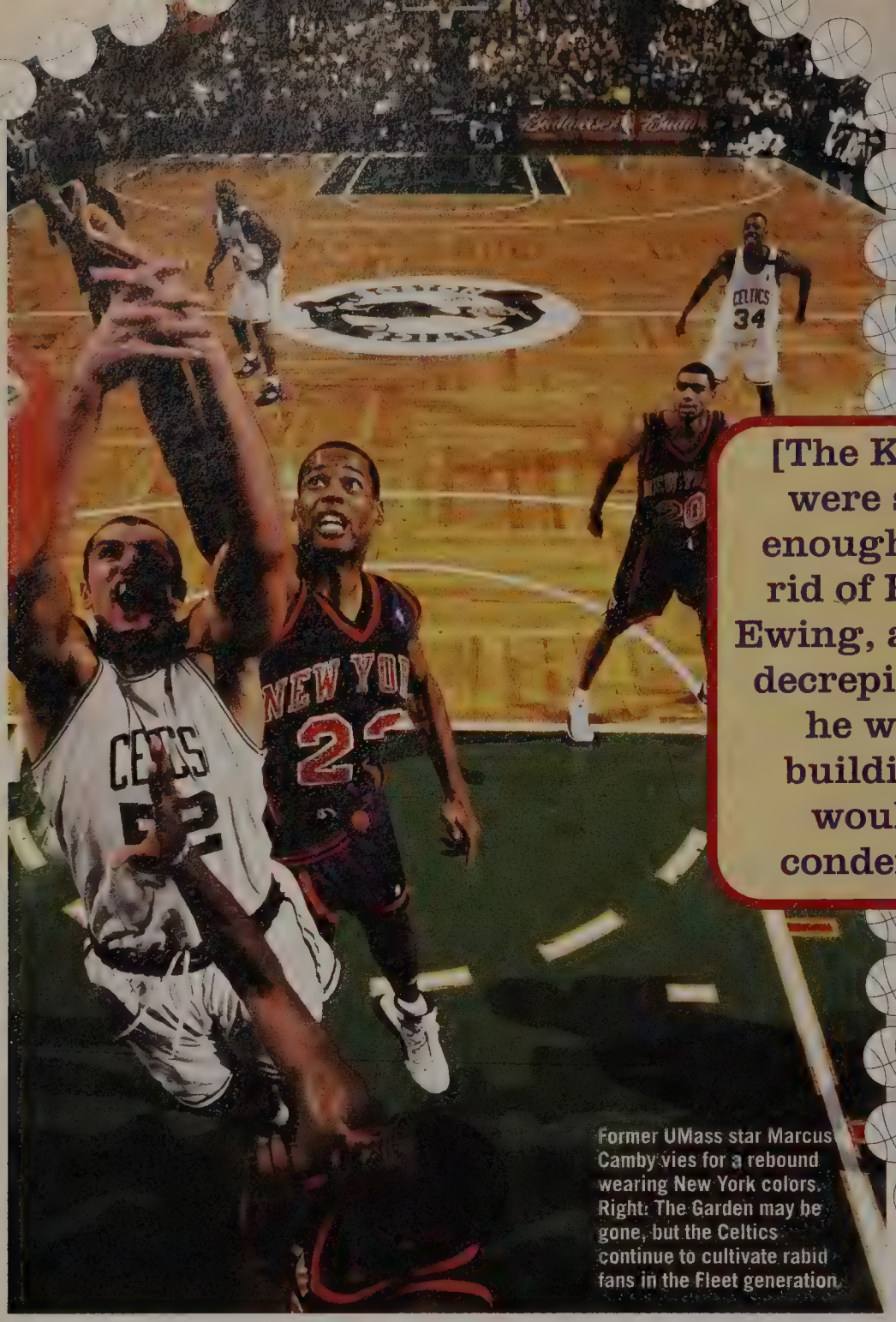
Let's start with the three biggest disasters in Boston Red Sox history. Oh, you know the litany. There's the famed Curse of the Bambino. You know, the hex that began on January 5, 1920, with the worst sports-related trade of all-time: The team's owner, theatrical producer Harry Frazee, dealt the greatest slugger ever, Babe Ruth, to the New York Yankees for $125,000 and a $300,000 loan.

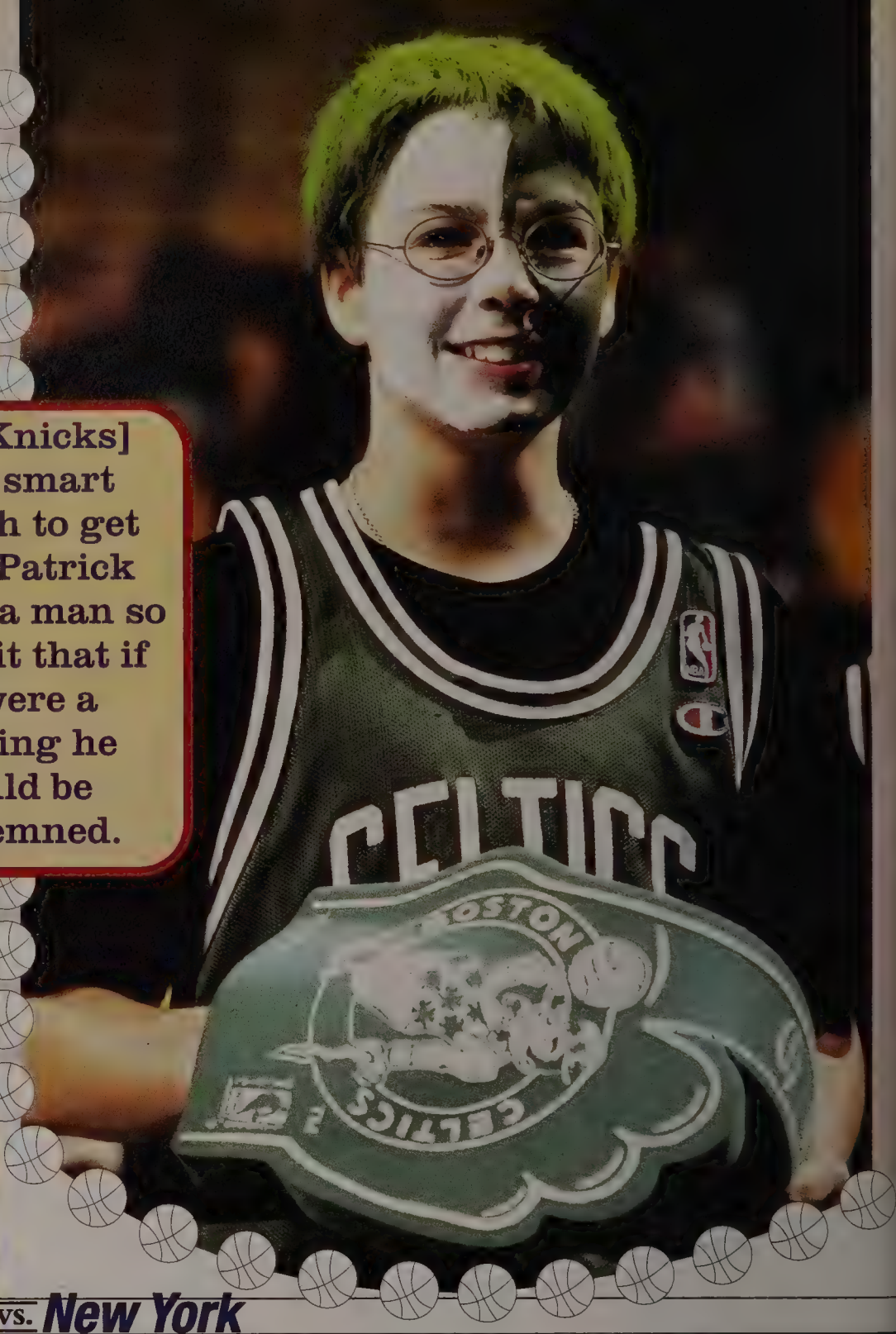
Before the trade, the Sox had been victorious in five World Series. Afterwards, nada, nothing, bupkis, zip. Meanwhile, Ruth directed his new pinstriped brethren down the road of numerous world championships—26 coming into this season; Frazee—who was quoted on the day of the Ruth transaction saying "I believe the sale of Babe Ruth will ultimately strengthen the team"—merely led his club into the hell of eternal heartbreak.

(By the way, while Ruth proceeded to single-handedly outhomer the complete Boston team in 10 out of the next 12 seasons, Frazee did manage during that time to produce the classic musical *No No Nanette*. Baseball dynasty or summer-stock perennial? You make the call.)

Want more painful proof? Of course, there's Bucky Dent's home run in the one-game playoff in 1978. (It barely cleared Fenway Park's famed Green Monster, if memory serves me well. And, don't get me started on the estimable grace Bill (Buckshot) Buckner showed in his futile attempt to field the New York Mets' Mookie Wilson's multihop

continued on page 24 >>





[The Knicks] were smart enough to get rid of Patrick Ewing, a man so decrepit that if he were a building he would be condemned.

Former UMass star Marcus Camby vies for a rebound wearing New York colors. Right: The Garden may be gone, but the Celtics continue to cultivate rabid fans in the Fleet generation.

BOSTON vs. New York

>>continued from page 19

but we *really* didn't like the Nazis, so, hey, the Communists weren't so bad.

Another reason that the Mets draw less ire from Bostonians is that they don't seem to have the same kind of fair-weather fans that the Yankees do. I don't despise Yankees fans who live in New York, or even New Jersey. They have geographic license to root for the Yankees, just as they have geographic license to chew with their mouths open, steal your parking space and say "I'm goin' down the shore this weekend." The people who bother me are the ones from random places around the country who have a curious passion for the Yankees. Why do you like the Yankees? you ask these people. "Derek Jeter is awesome," they say, or some such rote drivel. They never admit the real reason that they ally themselves with baseball's Evil Empire: They like to root for the winner. I'll bet 90 percent of the non-New York–New Jersey Yankees fans just recently got their Chicago Bulls tattoos lasered off. I guess I shouldn't be too hard on those folks; after all, they were probably Celtics fans back in the '80s. And in the age of microwaved meals, e-mail overload and cell-phone teleconferences, who has time to waste on a team that *doesn't* win the World Series every year?

Red Sox fans, that's who. Good, salt-of-the-earth people. Emotional as we may be, we do not shy away from the harsh glare of reality. Rather, we embrace it, thrive on it, wave a giant foam finger in its ugly face. Because at some point, everyone has let something go that they've regretted later, and that seems to be the story of the Red Sox for the entirety of their existence. "If only I hadn't sold Babe Ruth" has a Dumb Move Rating right up there with "If only I hadn't dumped all that Microsoft stock in 1986." This spring, *Baseball Weekly* did a what-if story hypothesizing what major-league teams would look like if they still had players that they'd developed but traded away or released. According to their calculations, the Red Sox would have the best record in the American League and would face the Dodgers (who, admittedly, would now have Pedro Martinez) in the World Series. Of course, we don't remember the good moves (ahem, Heathcliff Slocum for Derek Lowe and Jason Varitek), only the bad ones. That's the Red Sox way.

Take our obsession with Roger Clemens, for instance. Clemens is like the ex you dumped who lost 20 pounds, got a nose job and ended up on the "50 Most Beautiful People" list. In his final year with the Sox, Clemens was so fat, the groundskeepers at Fenway stopped mowing and just let him graze. Then, guess what? We kick him to the curb as an overpaid Texas pork rind, he gets back into shape and earns the Cy Young for Toronto. Twice. That's frustrating. But on the plus side, we now occasionally get the treat of watching Pedro take Clemens to school, and that rivalry-within-a-rivalry is emblematic of the Sox-Yankees relationship as a whole. Sure, we may have lost the war thus far, but we've won many a battle. Think Carlton Fisk's home run in Game Six of the 1975 World Series. It may not have won the Sox a championship, but it certainly elevated Fisk's alpha status in his rivalry with Yankees catcher Thurman Munson. That's something. So even if I haven't seen a big picture this depressing since *The Green Mile*, maybe what we need to do to get over this spring's fatalistic attitude is forget the big picture and cherish the little things.

OK, so we've got the Pedro-Clemens matchup. What else can we look forward to this year? It appears Garciaparra-Jeter is going to have to wait a while. How about Chuck Knoblauch and Carl Everett? Despite visiting a sports psychologist, Chuckie had to be moved into the outfield because the Yankees were afraid they'd be sued for criminal negligence if they left him at second base and an errant throw to first killed a fan in the right-field upper deck. Guys like Chuck Knoblauch ruined lawn darts for the rest of us. As psychosis goes, however, Knoblauch is still in the minors compared to our own Carl Everett, who doesn't believe anyone's ever walked on the moon and is about as stable as a one-legged horse standing in a dinghy during a hurricane. But as long as he's not suspended, what's wrong with that? From Bill "Spaceman" Lee to "Psycho" Steve Lyons, the Sox have a history of employing players with more issues than the archives of *Life* maga-

LEFT: NBA/NOREN TROTMAN; RIGHT: NBA/FERNANDO MEDINA

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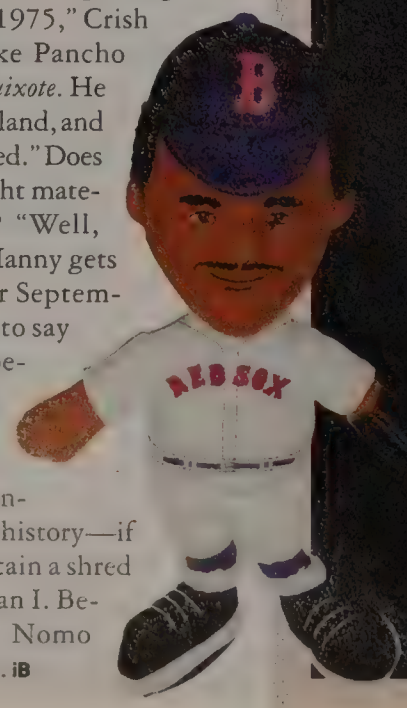
zine. Embrace Carl Everett, I say. Just don't ask him to sign your moon rock.

And how about Joe Torre–Rod Beck? This rivalry wins for scariness. Torre's scariness stems from the fact that he looks like he should be selling fake Movados out of a windowless van, but only Randy Johnson rivals Beck for unadulterated, mullet-wearing fearsomeness. If there's ever a *Dukes of Hazzard* feature film, I hereby nominate Rod Beck for the part of "Bad Guy from Out of Town #1."

Or what about the Rich Garces–Don Zimmer battle for the lowest specific gravity in the majors? Or the average-age contest between the Paul O'Neill–Tino Martinez–Clemens triad and the Longwood Senior Living Development?

Anything that will keep us interested is acceptable. All I want is a little drama, a little surprise. Perhaps the Yankees will win the World Series again. That's as predictable as Dwight Gooden failing a random drug test. And that's OK. The longer the drought, the bigger the party will be when it finally rains. And when the time comes for the majority of Boston's baseball fans to finally win a World Series, it's going to be a melee to make Mardi Gras look like bingo night at the Elks Lodge. There should be a provision in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Constitution that when the Sox win it all, the following week shall be a designated state of emergency. All non-essential workers will be required to get drunk and run around in the streets exorcising the specter of Babe Ruth in whatever manner they see fit.

Tony Crish is one Sox fan who has been waiting for that day for, oh, 81 years now. He was born on July 19, 1919—the year after the Sox last won the World Series. One might expect him to be a bitter man, but he's amazingly calm about the Sox. I guess it's best to be detached after so many years, lest be driven mad. "What bothered me was when Tom Yawkey was so close to getting a championship in 1975," Crish says. "He was like Pancho Sanchez in *Don Quixote*. He was promised an island, and it never materialized." Does Crish think it might materialize this year? "Well, what if Pedro or Manny gets hurt in August or September? I don't want to say forget about it, because you never know who might get hot...."



That's right, Yankees. History, scmhistory—if Tony Crish can retain a shred of optimism, so can I. Because you never Nomo who might get hot. iB

☆Babe Swings Again☆

The Lyric Stage's new musical, The Curse of the Bambino, *takes a lighthearted look at Ruth's legacy.*

BY JULIE SHORT

The year was 1920: Red Sox owner Harry Frazee, a theatrical producer, desperately needed money to stage a new play called *No, No, Nanette*. So he did what most cash-strapped businessmen would have done in his position: He made a sale. And so the Sox' star left-handed pitcher, Babe Ruth, went to the New York Yankees.

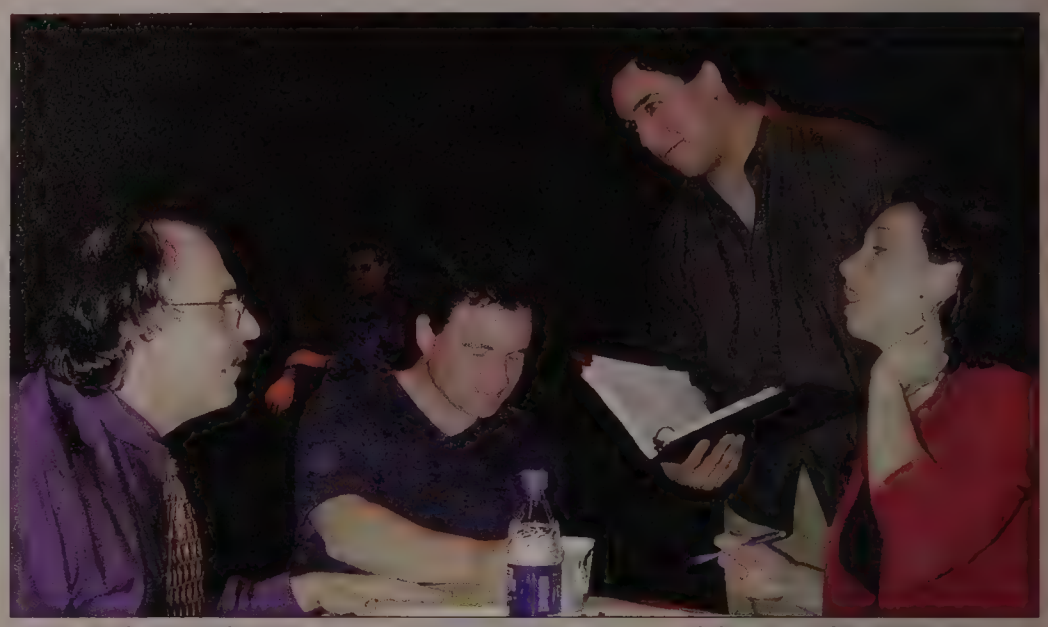
Some 81 years later, Bostonians are still reeling from the loss.

Since that fateful day, the Red Sox—winners of five of the first 15 World Series—have yet to capture another championship. It seems that the Curse of the Bambino, as it came to be known, is still a force to be reckoned with.

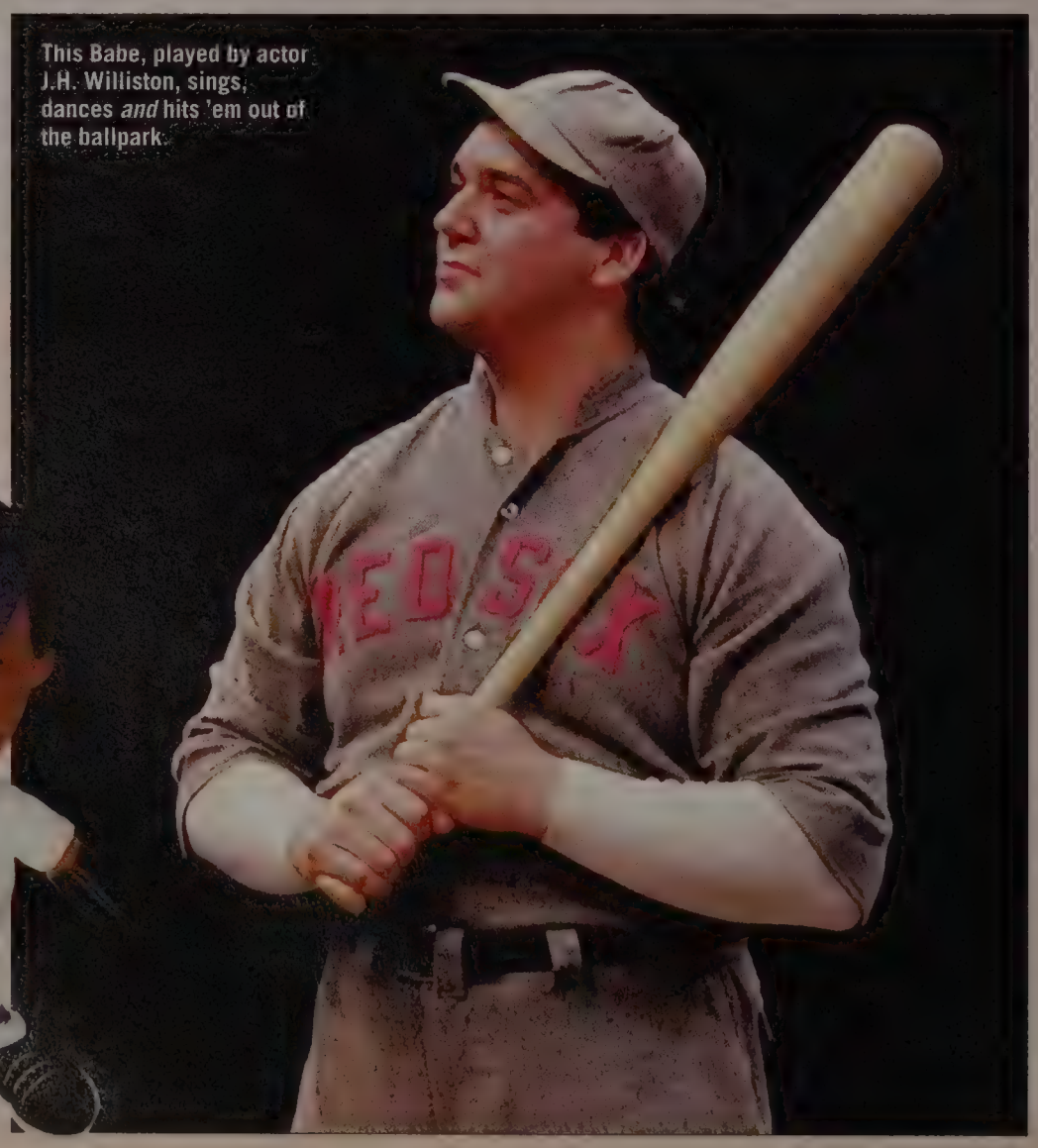
The "Curse" is so pervasive in Boston lore that it should come as no surprise that a couple of locals have made the story into a theatrical production, opening April 20 at the Lyric Stage. But don't expect a dramatic piece fraught with disappointment and despair. *The Curse of the Bambino* is an upbeat musical, complete with a singing and dancing Babe Ruth.

Break out the peanuts and Cracker Jacks!

Written by David Kruh and set to music by composer Steven Bergman, the show takes a lighthearted look at the years of futility that began in 1920, spanning the decades to the unforgettable 1986 World Series. The story is told through the eyes of two fictional characters, Steve Waterman, the business manager for the Sox, and his assistant, Betty Danvers. "We weren't looking to offer deep, introspective reasons behind the sale of the team, or even an in-depth look at the mentality of Red Sox fans," Bergman says. "First and foremost, we wanted to entertain."



From left, director Spiro Veloudos and actors Derek Stearns, J.H. Williston and Eileen Nugent rehearse the Lyric Stage's new musical, *The Curse of the Bambino*, playing April 20-May 19.



This Babe, played by actor J.H. Williston, sings, dances *and* hits 'em out of the ballpark.

And entertaining it is. When four avid fans wearing raccoon coats and waving Red Sox pennants (based on actual people) appear in five short intermezzos to sing about ways the curse has manifested itself throughout the years, it's hard not to be amused. Their songs describe Johnny Pesky's delay in relaying the ball to home plate during a 1946 World Series game and Maurice Aparicio's fall while rounding third base in 1972, among others.

"It's a story I've wanted to tell since the '86 World Series," says playwright Kruh, who is also a marketing director at Analog Devices. "It was only in the last couple years that I thought to set the play to music." He wrote a loose outline and then teamed up with Bergman to create *The Curse of the Bambino*, with music that ranges from ragtime to disco. The process took three years.

"There was always this worry in the back of my mind that if the Red Sox won, we wouldn't have a show. But all my friends reassured me: 'Relax, this is the Red Sox we're talking about.' That kind of mentality fascinates me," says Kruh. "Deep down, everyone thinks that something will happen to prevent a win."

There's always the hope, though. "The theme of the show is, 'Wait 'til next year,' " says Bergman. And Kruh himself has just written a yet-to-be-published novel called *Be Careful What You Wish For*. "It's about a man whose life is irrevocably altered when the Red Sox win the pennant," he says. Bostonians can only hope!

Curse of the Bambino plays at the Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). www.bambinomusical.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm.; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. April 20-May 19. $20-$36.

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good food, good times

>>continued from page 19

groundball to first base in Game Six of the 1986 World Series. (It was rather like watching Godzilla stomping his way through Swan Lake.)

From the purchase of Ruth to the present, these are the incidents that have crystallized the antipathy between New York and Boston. Incidents when we New Yorkers have always come out on top. (Usually after raising your hopes and crushing them.) But it's such a foolish anger. After all, we can't help it that the scales tip so favorably in our direction.

Oh, sure. You've had your moments, mainly during the down eras of the Yankees. Let's take your last three World Series appearances. There was the "impossible dream" season of 1967, when the combination of left-fielder Carl Yastrzemski's triple-crown season and Cy Young award winner Jim Lonborg's clutch pitching propelled you guys into the World Series.

But still—you lost. In seven games. This time to Bob Gibson and the St. Louis Cardinals. Then, Lonborg broke his leg skiing in the off-season—never to be the same again—and a potential dynasty was lost. (Or, at least, that's what the powerful Boston Red Sox propaganda machine—an agglomeration of magazine journalists, broadcasters, literary authors and public television commentators—would have you believe.)

Then there was the great Reds vs. Red Sox World Series of 1975. Remember that American League pennant-winning team? Boston had two of the best outfielders in the game and borderline Hall-of-Famers in Fred Lynn and Jim Rice. There was a fine pitching staff led by the wily Luis Tiant and the Spaceman, Bill Lee. Not to mention a solid bench featuring Bernie Carbo. And, in an exciting replay that showed him exhorting and waving his flyball fair for a game-winning Game 6 home run, who will ever forget the jubilation of catcher Carlton Fisk?

But, ahem, who ended up winning the whole shebang? In seven games? Yep. The Cincinnati Reds. The Big Red Machine had turned the Sox into common millinery.

And let us return to the terrific 1986 run. Throughout the regular season, in game after game, the Sox rallied to come from behind and emerge as winners. They even managed to snatch an improbable victory from certain defeat in the league championship series against the California Angels—the one team even more snakebit than they are—by rallying in the ninth and 10th innings of the deciding game. And let's not forget (Lord knows their apologists won't) the several times they were only one strike away from beating the Mets in Game 6 of the World Series.

But we all know how that turned out, don't we? (In yet another seven-game set to boot.)

Now, I'm not going to rehash all the painful details of all of these famed failures. Nor am I going to bring up your typical Yankees–Red Sox comparison, like who was a better catcher: Thurman Muson or Carlton Fisk (although the former won two world championships to the latter's zero). That's like arguing who was a better shortstop: Bucky Dent or Rick Burleson? (Although the former did hit one of the most clutch home runs in baseball history.) That's apples-and-oranges talk. (Or, in this case, big-apples-and-baked-beans chatter.)

No, what I want to bring up is even more insidious. It's the dirty, little, self-masochistic secret that each and every Boston fan doesn't ever want aired in public. It's the following: Deep down, in your heart of hearts, you really want to be us.

Oh, I know you think we're just smug ruffians—uncaring, crass, rogue offenders of the restrained New England sensibilities. And you'd be right.

Because we don't care about stuff like that. Not while we're winning. In fact, we don't even have the same hate toward you that you have toward us. (See, we New Yorkers dislike everyone while you guys are so specific in your anger.) Why would we? It's not like we're the ones consistently losing to your teams. That's your cross to bear. And that's why you want to be us. Why you are so obsessed by us.

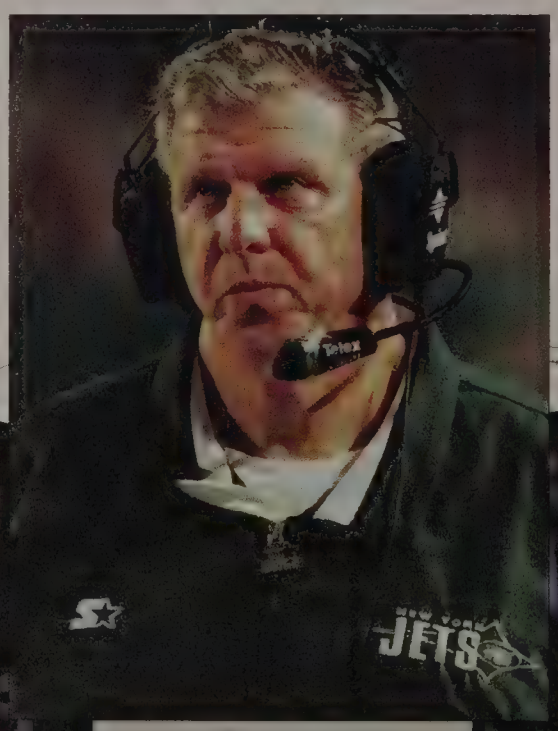
Think about it. You judge yourself against what New York teams do. It's not like you lose sleep if the Devil Rays are doing better than the Sox or if the Colts are beating the Patriots. But pit the Yankees, the Mets, the Jets, the Giants, the Rangers (or the Islanders or Devils) or the Knicks against any Boston team, and you guys go bonkers.

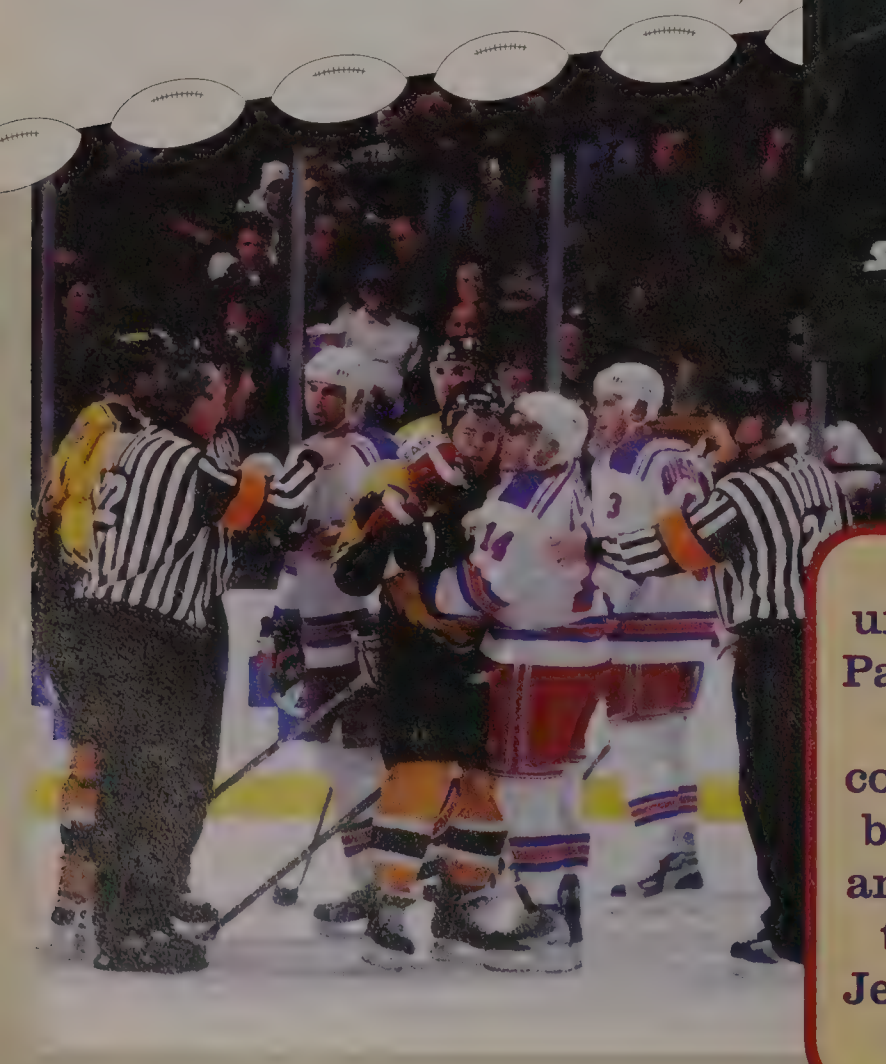
Why? Because you know we've got the superior product (in hip-hop terminology, New York's got the bling bling). That's why a top star like Roger Clemens from one of your most beloved franchises has to come to one of our teams to win the big one. And why you continually hire New York–affiliated players and coaches. In other words, you've got a thing for our cast-offs.

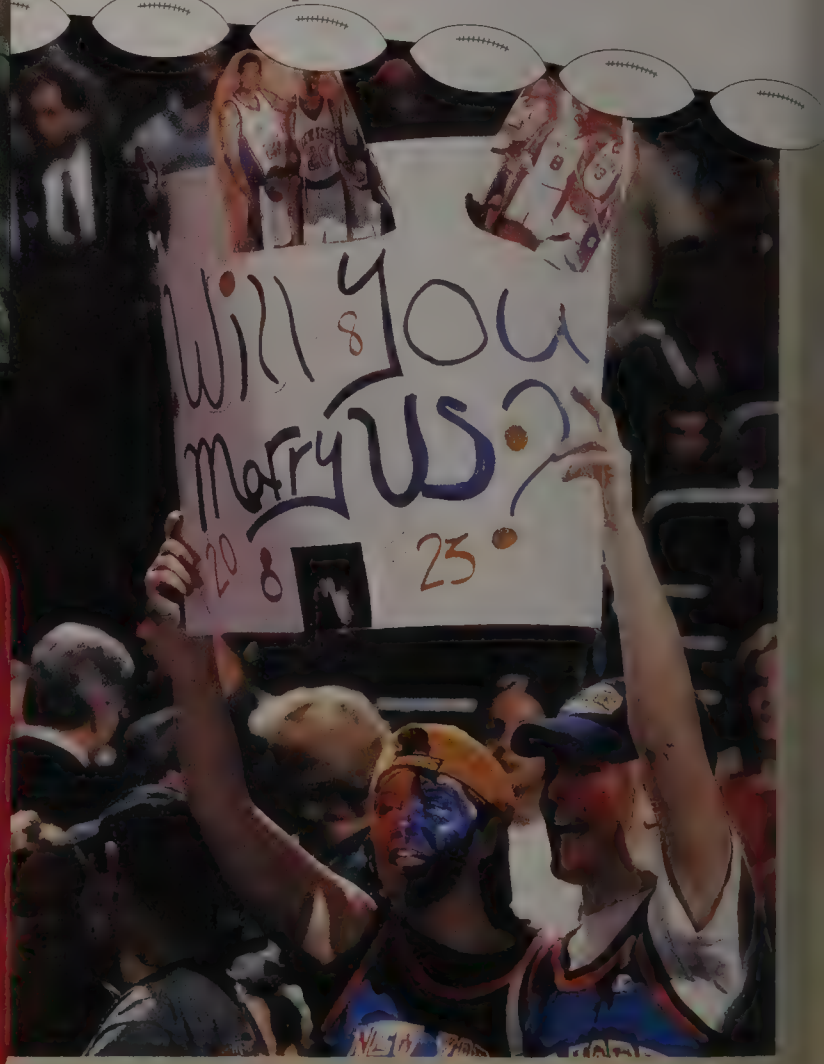
I mean, just look at the Patriots. This is a team with an owner, Robert Kraft, who keeps employing Giant and Jets retreads. Everyone can understand the Bill Parcells hiring—the Tuna's a proven, consistent winner—but then they feud and Parcells goes to the division rival Jets and turns them into contenders. (And, oh yes, he snags the great running back Curtis Martin—ruining the Patriots' ground game—away from Kraft's clutches as well.)

So, whom does Kraft hire next? Pete "Nice Guy" Carroll! A guy the late, reclusive owner of the Jets, Leon Hess, fired (in favor of Rich Kotite, no less)! When asked at a press conference why he dismissed Carroll, Hess stated: "I'm 80; I want to win now." This was a worthy successor to Parcells?

Eventually, Carroll coached the Patriots down to his true potential by turning a perennial playoff contender into division also-rans in the space of three years. So, naturaly, Kraft replaces him with another New York name: former Browns coach Bill "Chuckles" Bellicheck. (Finally, a Bosotn sportsman more hated in Cleveland than







From left: "I love you, man!" A rare Bruins-Rangers hug; the Tuna also made the Boston–New York switch; Knicks fans who aren't Spike Lee.

Everyone can understand the Bill Parcells hiring—the Tuna's a proven, consistent winner—but then they feud and Parcells goes to the division rival Jets and turns them into contenders.

PARCELLS: NEWSMAKERS; BRUINS: STEVE BABINEAU; KNICKS FANS: NBA/NATHANIEL S. BUTLER

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Pedro Martinez.) A superb defensive coordinator for both the Giants and Jets, Bellicheck is perhaps best known for being Jets-coach-for-a-day. I am, of course, referring to his notorious coronation and abdication of the Jets head-coaching position within a matter of hours. This sort of mercurial instability made him irresistible to Kraft, a man who once willingly wanted to relocate his team to Hartford, Conn.! (A curious choice that almost makes Yankees owner Geroge Steinbrenner's periodic threats to shuttle over to New Jersey almost appear reasonable.)

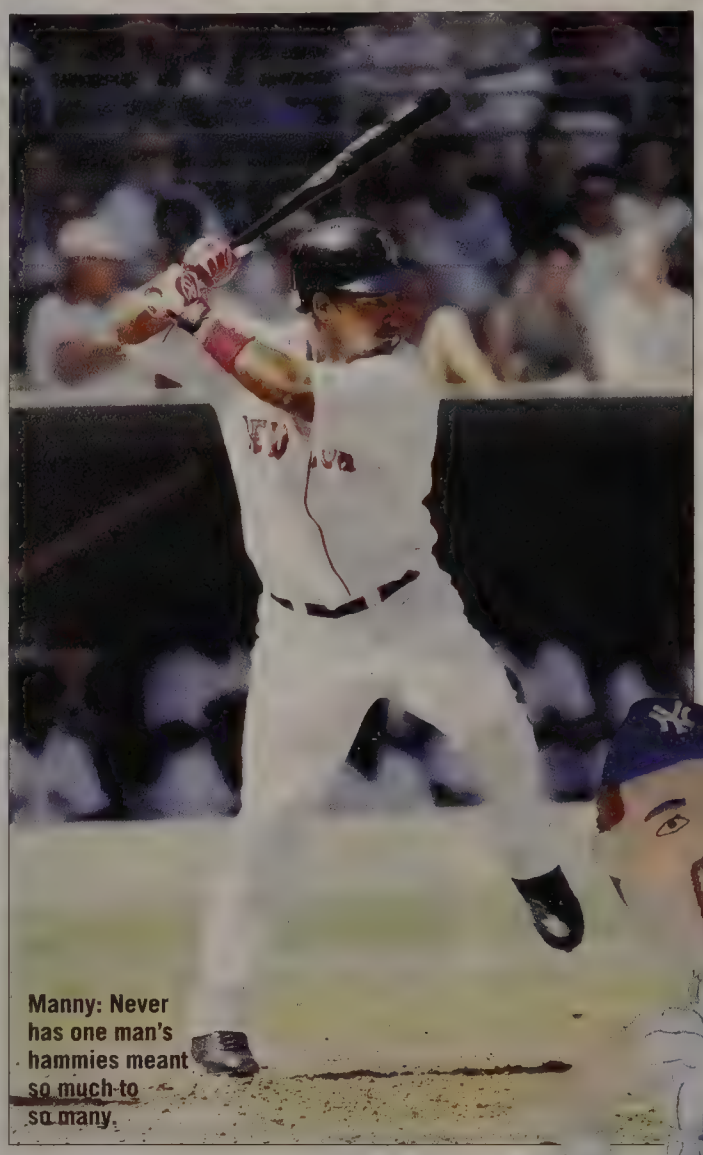
New York–wannabe fever has infected your other sports teams as well. Let's not forget that former Celtic major-domo Rick Pitino made his professional name by coaching the Knicks (although he began his career at Boston University).

As for you hockey fans, allow me to point out that the Devils, the Islanders and the Rangers—that's right, the Rangers!—have won a Stanley Cup since the Bruins' last championship. Perhaps that's why management has resorted to yet another former New York coach—the ever-charming Mike Keenan—to alleviate that sad situation.

And you continue the same pattern in baseball as well. Forget about debating who is better: Derek Jeter or Nomar Garciaparra? They are both great shortstops. (Although the former has four—count 'em, four—World Series rings to the latter's none.) Ask yourself why you now have David Cone while we have Roger Clemens. Clemens—the proud possessor of two World Series rings now—can still throw nasty 90mph-plus heat. (Accent on the nasty....just ask the Mets' Mike Piazza.) Unfortunately, the great warrior and clutch performer Cone has a bad arm—and, by the way, so does Nomar—and is coming off his worst season ever as a pro. Can you say "uh-oh"?

And then there's the Carl Everett situation. Everett—a Mets and Yankees castoff—has what baseball scouts call five-tool talent. Well, six, if you count the temperament of the X-Men's Wolverine. (Better watch out for those retractable claws, Jimy Williams.) Face it, the ferocity of Everett's outbursts last season made even the normally cantankerous Albert Belle seem as tame as Cliff Claven from Cheers.

And now, in their centennial anniversary, the Red Sox turn to another former New Yorker, Washington Heights' Manny Ramirez, to lead them to the playoff promised land. Ramirez—the $160 million man—is a superb hitter. He hits for average, with power, with runners in scoring position and in the clutch. He could drive in over 150 runs this season alone. He is also an adventure in the outfield. (We're talkin' Steven Spielberg–James Cameron kind of adventure here.) Just imagine Ramirez in left field mastering the nuances of the Green Monster. And when you're done screaming, picture Manny in right-field running full-tilt towards Pesky's Pole. Let's put it this way: With Ramirez in the outfield, Pedro's gonna need all of his vaunted control.



Manny: Never has one man's hammies meant so much to so many.

But the rivalry goes on in the baseball cathedrals we know as Fenway Park, Yankee Stadium and—thanks to interleague play—Shea Stadium. And we New Yorkers will remind you Bostonians about trading Sparky Lyle to the Yankees for Danny Cater; about ex-Met and ex-Yank Mike Torrez giving up that fateful dinger to Bucky Dent; about ex-Met Calvin Schraldi's failure to hold down the Mets in both Game 6 and Game 7 of the 1986 World Series; or how Darryl Strawberry answered your "Dar-ryl" taunts with a monstrous home run. And you Sox fans will proudly wear your battered B logo caps, quote Updike, praise Gammons, brag about Williams, Yaz Pesky and other great warriors, and pronounce that this is indeed the year when the Sox will overtake the Yankees. And you know what? After four championships in five years, it just might happen. Maybe then the rest of the pitching staff will click behind the brilliant Pedro, and Ramirez, Garciaparra and Everett will have terrific years and will lead the Red Sox—the thinking fan's baseball team—to the American League championship in their centennial year. Wouldn't that be wonderful?

Yes, it would. And we all know what will happen. The Sox will lose. In seven games. See ya in the park. iB



☆Crowding the Plate☆

If you really want to show the world your love for the Yankees, only a vanity plate will do. BY GALEN MOORE

Some people are willing to risk verbal abuse and vandalism just to let everyone know what kind of fan they are. Take George Shapiro, who commutes from Marblehead to South Boston in a new Volvo bearing the vanity plate YANKS1.

He's had the plate since 1972, and since then tollbooth collectors have threatened to charge him double and Boston police officers have rolled up and told him that he can't go when the light turns green.

The worst that ever happened, Shapiro says, was when the plates got stolen while he was a student at University of Dayton in Ohio. According to Shapiro, he had to live with the inferior YANKS7 vanity plate until Massachusetts changed the color of its license plates. (You Red Sox fans will be excused if you don't reach for your handkerchiefs.) These days, the plate is protected with special theft-proof bolts made by Volvo.

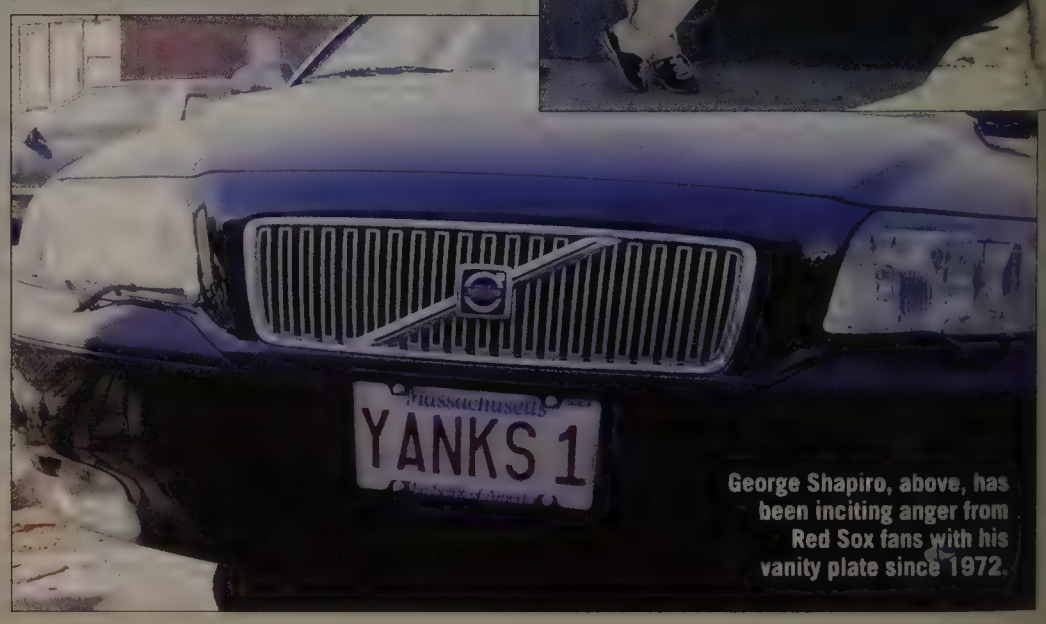
Apparently, Ohio's Yankee haters are among the nation's angriest. But here, "good-natured ribbing" is the typical Bostonian reaction, Shapiro says. Ugly encounters with disgruntled Red Sox fans have been few and far between. "I get a lot of razzes and thumbs-downs," says the Swampscott native.

Boston fans have been less kind to Richard Nolan, whose black Cherokee bears the plate NYYANX. Nolan was born in New York, and said he's been a Yankees fan ever since his first trip to Yankee Stadium in the Bronx. "It was Yankee Stadium that made me a Yankees fan for life," he says. Since he's had the plate, Nolan's had an encounter or two with young Red Sox fans "who want to show their age," as he delicately puts it.

He attributes this behavior to problems fundamental in the Sox fan mind-set. "Way down deep, they don't expect Boston to win anything," he says. Still, Nolan admits, "My experiences have been more on the positive than on the negative side."

The enthusiasm apparently runs in the family. Nolan's plates were a birthday gift from his wife, and his daughter, who has a provocative plate of her own: NYYNKS.

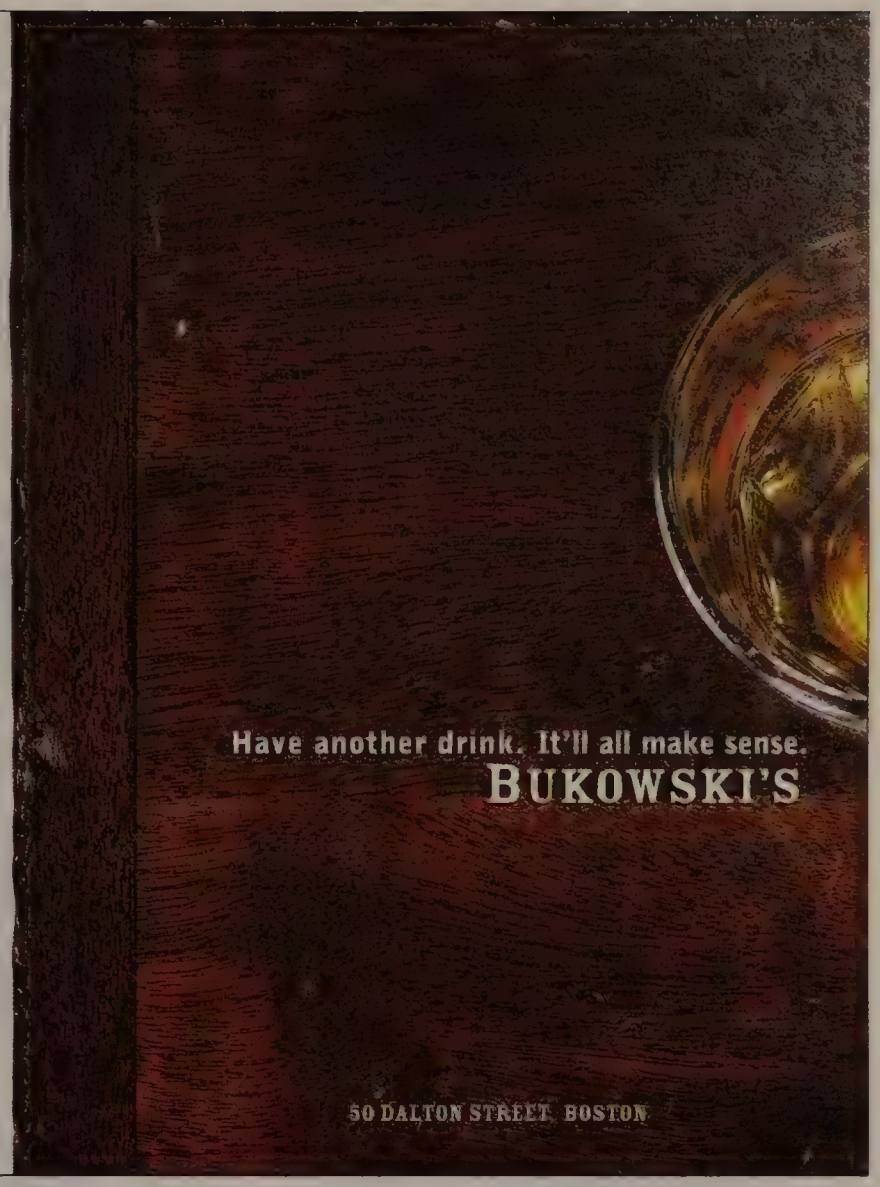




George Shapiro, above, has been inciting anger from Red Sox fans with his vanity plate since 1972.

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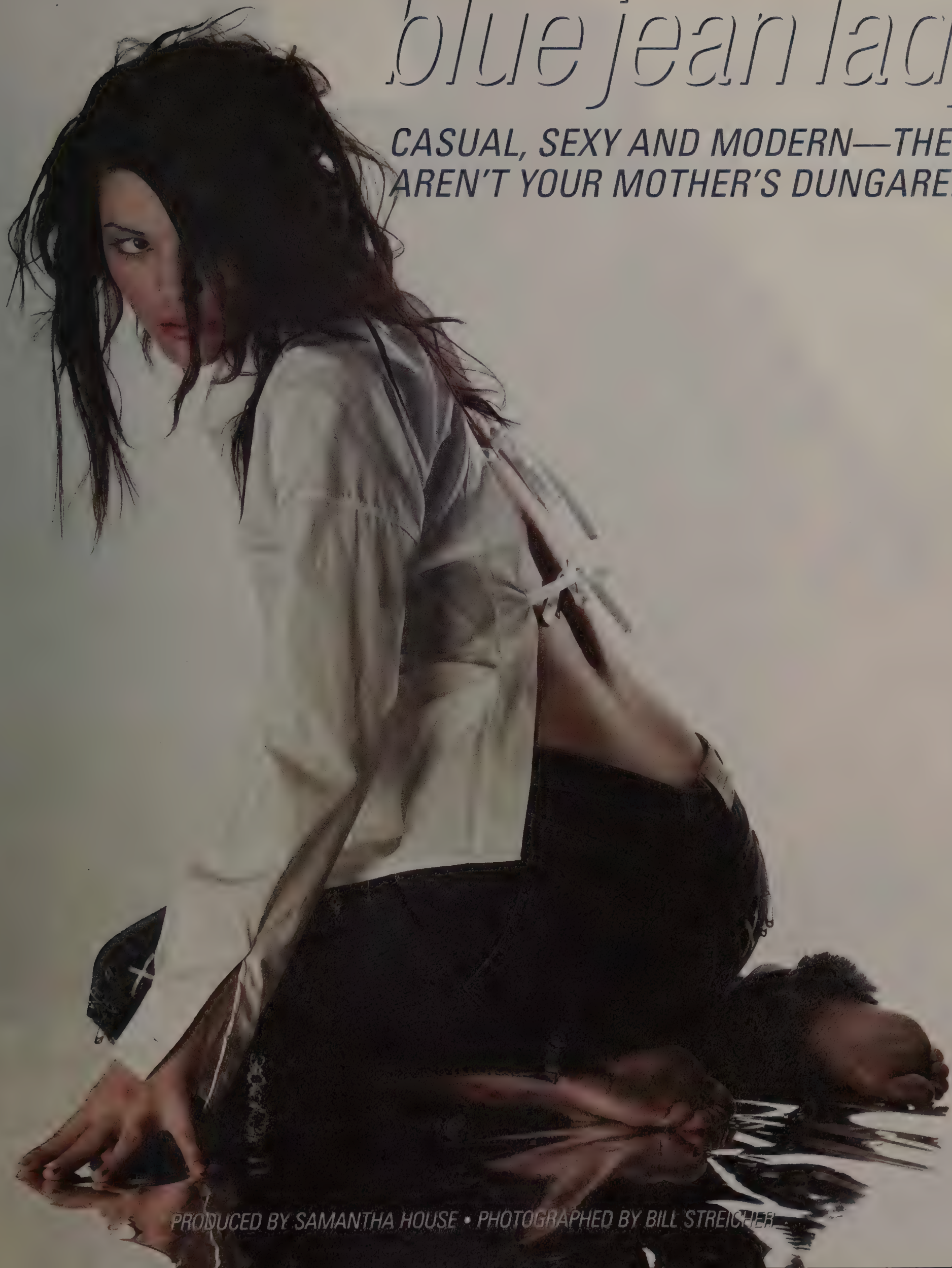
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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE • PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER



Previous page: Backless Jean Paul Gaultier oxford, $355. Allen B safety-pin- and rhinestone-embellished jeans, $198. Both available at Saks 5th Avenue.

This page: Dolce & Gabbana denim dress, $500. Available at Saks 5th Avenue.



Marc Jacob black denim skirt, $555, and black denim jacket, $1,100. Both available at Saks 5th Avenue.

White Issey Miyake layered top, $1,060. Available at Saks 5th Avenue.



Donna Karan denim pants, $225, and denim jacket, $350. Dolce & Gabbana black and lucite slides, $435. All available at Saks 5th Avenue.

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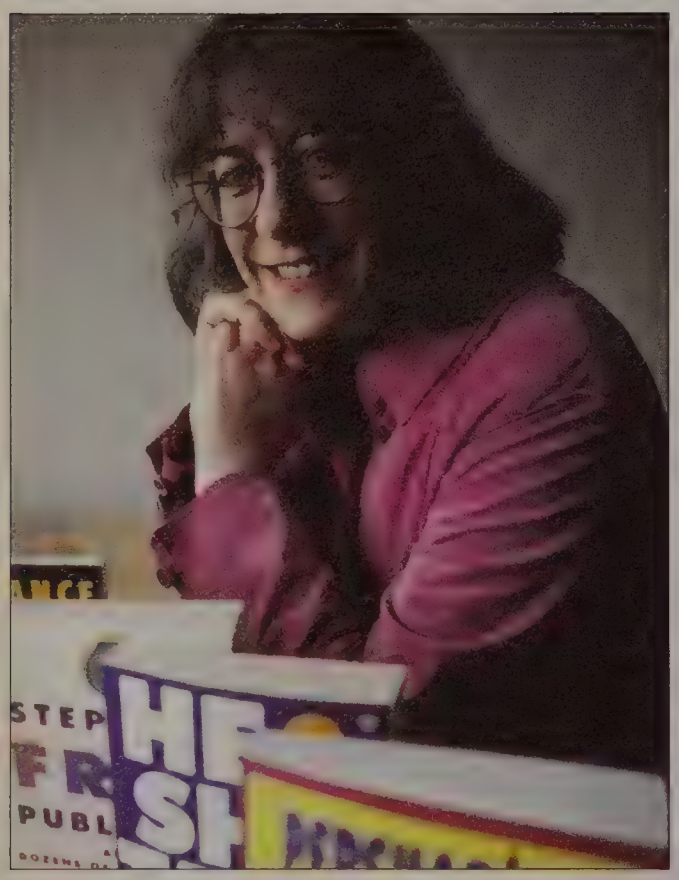
Models:
Charlotte and Alana
for Major Model
Management

Stylist:
Tommy Watson
for Saks

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



DON'T PUT OFF TILL TOMORROW...

Marcia Yudkin is a writing teacher, marketing consultant and self-help guru. Through her company, Creative Ways, she offers the *Procrastination: Creative Solutions* audio tape and Procrastinator's Penpal, via postcard or e-mail. Go to *www.yudkin.com* or call 266-1613.

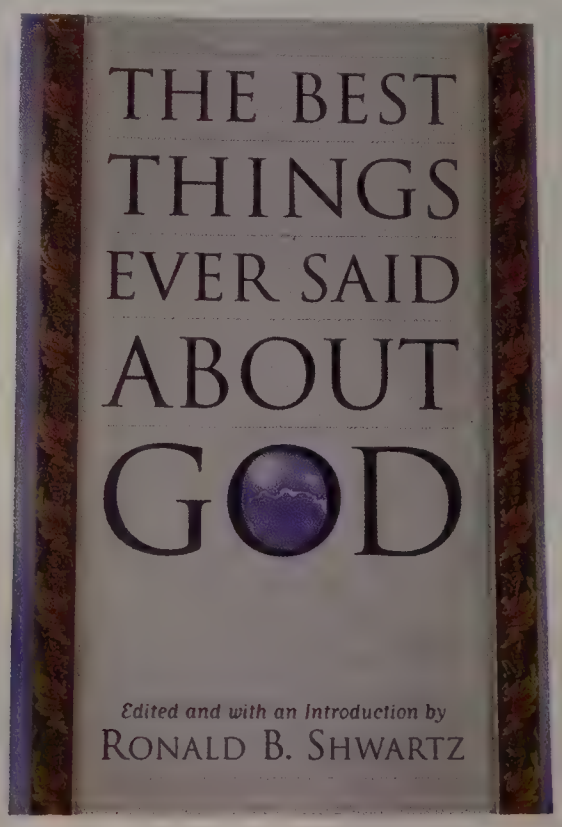
One of Marcia Yudkin's customers played her tape, *Procrastination: Creative Solutions*, sat down (that's half the battle!) and completed her taxes just listening to Yudkin's calm, reasonable, encouraging voice. This audiotape helps slowpokes and avoidance experts explore, through imagery and reflection, their own personal meanings and "reasons" for putting things off. Yudkin often manages to transform a client's lament into a virtue: Sure you can't work alone, but you do work well in groups. It's not that you can't concentrate, it's just that your golden time lasts just half an hour—so grab that energetically. The newly self-employed, slouching bosslessly, are encouraged to invent deadlines and momentum-makers to replicate office boundaries; pay for the seminar room in advance—that'll motivate you to organize the seminar! Pretend you're someone else, and do your task as if you were Ghandi or Madonna. Do exercises in which procrastinators whip up zesty solutions to their own weary excuses with talk and backtalk, Gestalt-style. Yudkin's postcard seminar, with its Big! Yellow! Flashcards!, arrive for 10 weeks, with reminders to "Incubate" (e.g. invite the incidental, mostly unconscious, ruminating dimension of working on tasks while not actively doing so) to cultivate optimal, wonderful work sessions.



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Disc Diggers, at 401 Highland Ave., Somerville (776-7560) carries used and discounted CDs and cassettes. Open 11am-7pm, seven days.

Without being an overwhelming swamp of sounds, Disc Diggers offers an impressive selection of used and discounted CDs and cassettes—some 7,000 to 8,000 titles. And there's tons of down-home, still-in-the-'60s atmosphere accompanied by the clickety-click of CD cases being avidly flipped. Older hippies-for-life and their younger equivalents prowl the bins, buying, trading and selling (for 35 cents on the dollar). Jim Morrison gazes sexily from an electrical switch, and old Zappa posters sit among a richly flavorful wall of rock and concert fliers, many local. What a trip to get a CD for no more than $9.95 plus tax (some sealed and never used). Discount-bin CDs, at 99 cents, are priced to move. There's rock, R&B, bluegrass, folk, country, jazz, jazz-pop vocals, African, gospel and even some classical. Some section markers, like the one for Tex-Mex, are affectionately hand-lettered. There's a large section for modern artists, but Disc Diggers also specializes in out-of-print, esoteric, reissued music and boxed sets of remastered works. Tom Waits is here—but not for long. The storekeepers, gorgeously dreadlocked, nose-ringed and multicolored-hatted are marvels of scholarly devotion, helpfulness and plain old groove.



GOD—YES, NO AND MAYBE SO

The Best Things Ever Said About God, edited and with an introduction by Ronald B. Shwartz, covers the spectrum from St. Augustine to Frank Zappa.

Who better to assemble quotes about God than someone who is neither a true believer nor a staunch atheist? Alongside his varied quotes, Ronald B. Shwartz swings in that particular hammock, and the writers, theologians and comedians quoted range from the serious, bemused and philosophical all the way over to the wildly irreverent. It's quite a stroll from Henry W. Beecher's admonitory "It is not well for a man to pray cream and live skim milk" to the frisky query of one Anonymous: "Q: What's the only thing wrong with being an atheist? A: Nobody to talk to during an orgasm." God has some tough, head-scratching students, like Emily Dickinson, who wrote: "They say that God is everywhere, and yet we always think of him as a recluse." Giving the theological thumbs-up is Louis Nizer: "The best reply to an atheist is to give a good dinner and ask if he believes there is a cook." Alternatively, Thomas Szasz declares bluntly: "If you talk to God, you are praying; if God talks to you, you have schizophrenia." Then, beautifully, E.B. White states: "I am always humbled by the infinite ingenuity of the Lord, who can make a red barn cast a blue shadow."

TOP LEFT: LEAH FASTEN; TOP RIGHT: RACHEL BROMBERG



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INSIDE: Paul O'Connell back from Cuba; Judy Mattera does dessert demo in Gotham



The decor of South End Galleria is carried over from La Bettola, the location's previous incarnation. Inset: Pork tenderloin medallions wrapped in prosciutto, dried fruit and nut potato mash.

REVIEW

Encore!

South End Galleria serves up some hits, some misses

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

After a brief but spirited run as the slightly upscale La Bettola, Rita D'Angelo and Marisa Ivcco have attempted to reinvent, rename and reposition their South End spot as a reasonably priced neighborhood *osteria*. Like its downtown sibling, Galleria Italiana, South End Galleria—or SEG, as it styles itself—aspires to casual atmosphere, hearty, authentic Abruzzese food, friendly service and reasonable prices. The relaxed atmosphere has been achieved simply by leaving La Bettola's interior intact—a look of contrived decay, with the mottled plaster/stucco of the walls partially peeled away to expose bare bricks. The food is often hearty, but its "authenticity" is shaky in view of the large number of offerings that come accompanied by a "mash" of potatoes or other starches in combinations and presentations not likely of Abruzzese origins. The "friendly" service can be that, but occasionally it declines into a nonchalance that borders on disengaged and inattentive. Prices are "reasonable" only in comparison with the bloated tariffs that have become prevalent in Boston.

SEG starts out on the right foot, with crusty loaves of Tuscan bread and fine foccacia, both made at the mother ship on Tremont Street, although occasionally only the focaccia is offered. The bread is served with fruity, aromatic extra virgin olive oil. As befits an eatery seeking to be pocketbook friendly, SEG has a wine list that includes a few reasonably priced bottles, including a few in the low $20s and even lower. A remarkable value is the "house wine," Vigna del Melograno, a robust Southern Italian red from Puglia ($17). For only slightly more on another night ($20), we enjoyed the Norrante Sangiovese, a full-bodied, aromatic varietal.

SEG's menu is a muddled affair. It would seem that a neighborhood trattoria would be strong on straightforward starters and simple pastas. Not here. Of the three antipasti we sampled, none was straightforward, and while one was rather good, the other two were disappointing in the extreme. The good one was the "Cozzi 3 modi," mussels three ways ($8), consisting of mussels lightly battered and fried, stuffed and baked, and steamed or poached, accompanied by a salad of pleasantly bitter arugula and meaty chunks of ripe tomatoes. In all three of their incarnations, the mussels were tender, sweet and grit-free, and their presentation exemplary. A second appetizer, the "soufflé" of wild mushrooms ($8), was kind neither to the eye nor to the palate. A perfect cylinder, exhibiting on its top the indentations of the vessel in which it was baked—a strategically placed parsley sprig would have been nice—it looked for all the world like an unmolded can of cat food. While its flavor was interesting, if muted, it was so dry that more than a few forkfuls drove us to the shaved artichoke accompaniment for relief from its tedious texture.

Our third starter, three lopsided veal meatballs ($8), were dense, dry and undistinguished, and the accompanying sautéed peppers, oily. A far better strategy is to skip over the starters to the pizzetta of the day, which one evening, at least, was superb ($8). Although barely six inches across, it was loaded with sweet, soft white onions and ripe, luscious cherry tomatoes, balanced between sweet and tangy, covered with a generous layer of melted and slightly browned mozzarella cheese. An ice-cold pint of Papst Blue Ribbon Beer ($2.50), brought a touch of nostalgia in name and price that fit the pizza perfectly.

Instead of simple pastas, those turned out by SEG tended to be overwrought. One night, we opted for the gnocchi with sea scallops and pancetta ($18). While the three large sea scallops were voluptuously sweet, nicely browned and resilient yet tender, and the elongated gnocchi were firm to the bite, the dish was marred by pancetta, which was overcooked—indeed burnt. Not much better was the capellini all' uovo ($17), ultra-thin pasta with a ragout of tomatoes and chanterelle and porcini mushrooms. While the flavor of the ragout was good, we found it, like the sautéed peppers that accompanied the meatballs, too oily, and the pasta was overdone.

Having struck out twice on the pasta front, I was delighted on a subsequent evening by the special pasta of the day: arugula fettuccini with lobster bisque, stuffed squid, Swiss chard and ground tuna balls. While I have a general aversion to overly complex and multifaceted preparations—perhaps it stems from my inability to process taste and texture from a myriad of disparate ingredients at one time—I found this offering delightful, even though the dish arrived from the kitchen lukewarm and even cold in spots. The rich, green pasta was carefully cooked


Maria Ivcco, chef/owner of South End Galleria.

to a firm, al dente turn. The Swiss chard was surprisingly mild and mellow in flavor; the lobster sauce, robust and mouth filling; the tuna balls, far better than they sounded. The two plump cornets of tender squid, stuffed with potatoes, herbs and chopped squid were delicious. Even better than the fettuccini—probably because of its classic simplicity—was the risotto with shrimp and asparagus ($10 for a half order). Excellent both in texture and taste, the rice was creamy yet al dente, and the shrimp and asparagus crunchy and full flavored.

Two of SEG's main courses were abysmal. The bistecca di vitello ($24), a veal chop, arrived propped against a catastrophic mound of mashed polenta laced with goat cheese that struck us as rank. The chop itself was an underwhelming, somewhat anemic piece of meat, and not at all what we had expected given its price, within a couple of dollars of the huge, carnivore-friendly veal chops purveyed at downtown steakhouses. Fortunately, when we complained about the veal and its accompaniment, our waiter removed them from the table and from our bill. Unfortunately, the noccete di miarele, pork tenderloin wrapped in prosciutto ($20), with which we replaced the veal, was not substantially better. Sodden and greasy under its dry, congealed prosciutto wrap, the pork had a slightly peculiar flavor, with a faint echo of the rankness in the goat cheese/polenta melange that had appeared without warning under the veal chop. Menu descriptions at SEG turned out to be a hit-or-miss affair, and the preparations and ingredients were sometimes quite different from what was described. Diners with allergies, beware.

Among the main courses we tried, only the brodetto di pesce ($20) was successful. A rich seafood stew in a tomato and pepper broth, it was garnished by a crouton of chickpea bread and served in a rustic, earthenware crock. The seafood was firm and varied—a couple of large sea scallops along with two or three fish, some lean, some rich.

After a roller-coaster ride through the antipasti, pasta and main courses that had more dips than rises, we reached a high point at dessert. Piccola apple pie ($7.50) was a substantial, tangy deep dish pie with flaky, buttery crust. The famous Galleria bread pudding ($7) was glorious, sweet but not cloying, with a fine caramel sauce and a fruit garnish. Gelato of the day with biscotti ($7) consisted of excellent wild-blueberry ice cream and mango sorbet, both made on the premises.

Our first two trips to South End Galleria were most unsatisfactory, mitigated only by the first-rate mussels and risotto. Had I quit there, this would be a quite different review. However, the pizza and the fettuccini on my third visit almost redeemed the entire enterprise. The whole adventure reminded me of a wonderful story, set in Italy, where the people are as passionate about opera as they are about food. A young tenor was making his operatic debut at the Teatro di San Carlo in Naples. He had just finished singing the aria Vesti la Giubba, from Pagliacci. The audience of fanatical Neapolitan opera fans burst out spontaneously, "Encore! Encore!"

The tenor obliged, throwing himself into the aria once again. Again the crowd shouted, "Encore! Encore!" and again the tenor repeated the famous aria. And again. Finally, after he had sung it for a fourth time and once more the cry "Encore!" rang out, the young tenor walked to the front of the stage, put his hands up to quiet the audience, and made a plea:

"Ladies and gentlemen, I thank you for your enthusiasm. Never in the history of this opera house has a tenor been asked to sing this aria four or five times. Not Gigli, not Bjorling, not Pavarotti, not even the great Caruso himself. Please, I am most gratified, but we must move on to finish the opera."

As the tenor quietly walked upstage, a loud, insistent voice rang out from the gallery:

"You'll sing it 'til you get it right." iB

South End Galleria

480 Columbus Ave., 236-5252
HOURS Sun.-Thu., 5:30-10pm; Fri.-Sat., 5:30-11pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major except Discover
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING valet
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

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Sake & Sushi Tasting

May 7th, 2001
White Wines from the Loire Valley

May 21st, 2001
White Wines from Germany

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DISH

A Taste of Cuba

Plus: Dessert demo in N.Y.

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

It was far and away the most memorable dish encountered by **Paul O'Connell** on his recent trip to Cuba, but the chef/owner of **Chez Henri** has no plans to feature "fish cordon bleu" on the menu at his Cambridge bistro.

"Awesome" and "so weird" best describe the fried grouper stuffed with pressed ham and "yellow Kraft-type cheese," a specialty of the house at a Cuban restaurant that seemed to exist in a time warp of '50's Americana kitsch, says O'Connell. Which makes sense, given that after Fidel Castro assumed power, culinary innovation screeched to a halt as the refined Spanish/African cuisine of the Cuban bourgeoisie gave way to rice and beans for everyone.

And Cuban sandwiches? When O'Connell sought out a change of pace from hotel food, he found something akin to airline fare: "a pressed ham-type product, like mortadella, but not mortadella... and cheese similar to American cheese, but never melted," he recalls.

Yet restaurant dining wasn't the point. "I didn't go down there with the highest expectations of the food," says O'Connell, noting that the loss of Soviet subsidies in the '90s resulted in less food everywhere in Cuba. O'Connell visited the two types of Cuban restaurants: pricey government-run establishments with access to the best ingredients, and *paladares*, which are family-run, home-based eateries that pay a fee to the state for the privilege of setting up a maximum of eight tables.

Best of all, O'Connell enjoyed cooking his own dishes with native ingredients such as snapper, lobster, chicken, pork and farm-fresh produce such as plantains, beets, daikon radishes and eggplant. "We followed the food from the farm to the table," he says, shopping at farm collectives, little roadside organic farms, and the state-run farmers' markets, where "prices were higher, but the food was better." Note: There is no truth to the rumor that O'Connell is re-naming his restaurant Che Henri.

On the opposite end of the spectrum from rice and beans, **The Federalist**'s pastry chef, **Judy Mattera**, has been tapped to participate in the prestigious Chef Demonstration Program at The French Culinary Institute in New York. By the time you read this, she will have created her strawberry-rhubarb napoleon with lavender ice cream in front of an audience of culinary students at the International Culinary Theater. Mattera says she was thrilled by the spontaneous invitation she received last November, after the assistant director of the Theater was impressed by her demonstration at New York's Chocolate Show.

So, why not demo a chocolate dessert? Come springtime, Mattera likes to focus on fruit, she says. Right now at The Fed, a hot seller is her white-chocolate mousse with blood orange curd and orange Grand Marnier cake. And the soufflés she whips up for the weekly Thursday night tasting menu are fruity, too—the latest offering is an orange pistachio souffle with blueberry sauce and orange sorbet.



Judy Mattera, pastry chef at The Federalist on Beacon St., shows off one of her many delectable dessert creations, a strawberry-rhubarb Napoleon.

Also on the hotel restaurant front: **Zephyr on the Charles** has opened quietly at the Hyatt Regency in Cambridge. Chef **Brad Ozerdem** is serving up an eclectic range of "small plates" and wood-grilled items.

Paul Sussman, formerly of **DaddyO's**, will open **Macondo** at the site of the former **Rauxa** in late spring or early summer. Featuring a regularly changing, "Pan-Latin" menu, moderate prices, a full liquor license and 20, count 'em 20, parking spaces, Macondo may be a better fit for the funky Somerville setting than its Catalan-themed predecessor.

Over in Brighton, the landmark **El Phoenix** room will re-open in June as a yet-to-be-named restaurant featuring moderately-priced American food and degrimed décor with lots of exposed brick and big windows opening onto the street.

As for the much-delayed **Mantra** and **Zita**, let's just keep in mind that April is Stress Awareness Month *and* National Humor Month. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

G'day, Grape

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

The first time somebody brought me an Australian wine to taste my response was, "You've got to be kidding." Australia? Fifteen years ago the country didn't have a bad reputation for wine; it had none whatsoever. Australians themselves consumed 99 percent of the wines they produced. The problem was that the wines were so good and so cheap that once Australians decided they wanted to export, the wines made a quick inroads into the American palate.

Today it's remarkable to think that wines from Down Under will soon represent the second largest category of imports to the United States. Aussie shiraz, cabernet, chardonnay and increasingly merlot are everywhere. The story of how Australia aggressively thrust itself forward while many traditional wines from the classic European districts declined is fascinating, but the bottom line is that they were easy to buy and easy to drink. The wine producers were not bound by anything other than an intense desire to sell, so they were free to adjust the style of their wines to the evolving taste of the market. What does this mean? If oaky chardonnays were in, that's what they provided, and at prices that were impossible to ignore. If suddenly the market tired of that rich, tropical, vanillin-accented flavor and wanted fresher, cleaner white wines, voila: the Aussies did an about-face and provided them in the very next vintage.

It helped to have a flagship wine, shiraz (the name used Down Under for the French grape syrah) to differentiate the brands and make them stand out. Shiraz has become so ubiquitous that it's almost mandatory now as a wine by the glass in many restaurants. Its brilliant berry fruit, soft textures and undertones of peppery spice make it suitable for all kinds of assertively flavored food. For a long time the value aspect was emphasized and retailers complained that anything over $10 would rot on their shelves, but those days are long gone. In fact, there is a cult-like glamour attached to some of the more exotic, limited production Australian reds that is not unlike the foolishness surrounding some of our limited-release cabernet and meritage blends from California. Check out some of the hipper wine lists around town and you'll likely see at least one shiraz in the $75-and-up range.



I have a problem with some, although not all, of these wines. The great attraction of Australia as a category is that it delivers a ton of fruit flavor in each smooth, supple mouthful. Some winemakers seem to think that the bigger the wines, the better. It's not everyone's idea of taste perfection, though, and certainly not mine. While I hate to throw around the "c" word, some of the exalted trophy wines this country is doling out are overladen with vanilla oak accents, and while they may be incredibly rich in pure berry extract, to my taste they lack flavor, interest or complexity. There are none of the intriguing, elusive earth-derived scents that make each taste of a great burgundy or Rhone syrah, for instance, such an exciting revelation to the palate.

I have, on the other hand, tasted some really exciting Australian wines originating in cooler climate zones within the country. Western Australia, and in particular Margaret River, is fertile ground for nuanced, elegant wines. Other areas that also indicate grape origins in cooler climates are McLaren Vale in South Australia and the Yarra Valley in Victoria.

Australia has experienced a dramatic shift toward red wine production, largely in keeping with increased demand worldwide for moderately priced quality red wine. Shiraz has now surpassed chardonnay as the country's most widely grown grape. It's not uncommon to find more than one variety listed on the label, with shiraz/cabernet sauvignon a widely encountered and often delicious blend that combines spiciness, ripe fruit and vigorous flavors ideal with barbecued meats. And if my recent tastings are any indication, Australian merlot will be a force to be reckoned with as soon as the country's wineries can pump out enough volume to constitute a presence on retail shelves. iB

TOP: BETHANY VERSOY

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Beyond Shelter
Avalon Ballroom, 15 Landsdowne St., Boston (534-2526, ext. 383). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. April 18, 6-11pm. $50 (dinner), $20 (music only). More than 25 of Boston's award-winning restaurants, including Hamersley's Bistro, Salamander, Icarus, Anago, Truc, Bob the Chef's, Redbones, Sidney's Grille and Laurel, offer tastings at this IMPROPER-sponsored event. Dance to swing, bossa nova, Latin and reggae tunes by the Happenin' Horns at 8pm. Proceeds benefit Friends of Boston's Homeless.

Brewery Dinner Series
Cambridge Brewing Company, One Kendall Square, Cambridge (494-1994). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. April 14. $45. Brewers **Phil Bannatyne** and **Will Meyers** host this meal of five courses paired with five beers.

Cambodian New Year
The Elephant Walk in Boston (247-1500) and Cambridge (492-6900) and Carambola (781-899-2244) in Waltham. April 13-15. Each restaurant will offer a special menu to celebrate the Cambodian New Year.

Chocolate Madness Festival
Veronique Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (556-8800, ext. 15). MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood. April 23, 7-9pm. $35, $40 at the door. Enjoy unlimited chocolate desserts by local restaurants and pastry chefs and live music at this benefit for Mass NARAL pro-choice organization.

Dining Out for Life
Participating restaurants (437-6200). www.aac.org. *April 19.* A selection of Boston-area restaurants, including Olives, Bella Luna Restaurant, Duckworth Lane, Johnny D's, Kashmir, Ole Mexican Grill, Temple Bar, Parish Cafe and Gargoyles on the Square, will donate 20 percent of proceeds to the fight against AIDS.

Finale Guest Chef Series
Finale, One Columbus Ave., Boston (338-3095). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 11, 6-11pm. Nationally acclaimed pastry chef Martha Crawford offers a menu of her award-winning creations.

Introduction to the Wines of California and France
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Four sessions, beginning April 11, 7:30-9pm. $97. Wine educator **Steve Hoffman** discusses the similarities between regions (including Napa, Bordeaux, Sonoma and Burgundy) and grape varieties (including Cabernet Sauvignon, Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc).

Little Known Wine Gems of Italy
Cafe Louis, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (266-4680). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 23, 6:30pm. Partake in a five-course wine dinner.

A Little Slice of Hefe
Pho Republique, 468 Mass. Ave., Boston (262-0005). April 24, 5:30pm. $35. Chef **Patrick DeBoever** offers a three-course dinner paired with different hefeweizen beers (including Tucher and Harpoon).

Share Our Strength Benefit
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (266-4600, ext. 10). April 23. $125. Chef Andy Husbands hosts this dinner with six courses prepared by acclaimed chefs from Boston and Providence.



Female chefs unite for the International Festival of Women's Cinema closing gala.

TASTY TIDBIT

FOOD AND FILM

It's only fitting that the closing gala for the Boston International Festival of Women's Cinema would end with a tasting of dishes made by some of Boston's most acclaimed female chefs. On April 22, Samantha Overton Bussell of Butterfish, Andre Robert of Maison Robert and Deborah Hughes of Up Stairs at the Pudding (pictured above, top row); Mary-Catherine Deibel of the Pudding and Corinna Mozo of Truc (middle row); and Gwen Trost of Sandrine's and Lee Napoli of Grill 23 (bottom row), among others, will offer samplings at the closing gala reception at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. Guests will also enjoy a sneak preview of *My First Mister*, actress/director Christine Lahti's directorial debut that stars Albert Brooks, Leelee Sobieski, John Goodman and Carol Kane. *290 Harvard St., Brookline (824-8000). April 22, 6:30pm. $50.*

Slow Food Boston Dinner
St. Botolph's Restaurant, 99 St. Botolph St., Boston (266-3030). April 24, 7pm. $60. Inspired by his recent trip to Southeast Asia, chef **Rene Michelena** will cook a five-course meal and present entertaining stories from his travels.

$10.40 Tax-Time Lunch
Cafe Fleuri, 250 Franklin St., Boston (956-8751). April 13. In honor of tax day and Form 1040, Cafe Fleuri offers lunch for only $10.40.

Williams-Sonoma Cooking Demos
Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (262-3080). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. • April 14: **Gerard Tice** of Parker's Restaurant • April 21: Joanne Chang of Flour • April 22: Chef **David Kinkead** fires up specialties from Todd English's KingFish Hall.

Wine Classes
Wine Experiences Inc., 20-A Dartmouth St., Boston (859-7170). Wine educator **Dellie Rex** teaches the following classes: • April 12, $35: The Worldly Sauvignon Blanc. • April 16, $65: California's Great Cabernets and Meritage Reds.

Wine Dinner Series at the Pudding
Up Stairs at the Pudding, 10 Holyoke St., Cambridge (864-1933). April 17. $75. • Northern Italy's Piedmont region.

Wine Seminar
1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520). April 24, 7-9pm. $50. Sommelier **Jeannie Rogers** explores spring and summer wines.




Why Irish Eyes are Smiling!
April 12, 13, 19, 26 - D.J. Lou
April 14, 15 - Bob's Day Off
April 20, 21 - The Zoo
April 27 - Greengenes
April 28 - Catunes
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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 46

PERFORMING ARTS 48

ART 50

FILM 54

BOOKS & POETRY 58

EDUCATION 59

DANCE CLUBS 60

MUSIC 64

CLASSICAL MUSIC 72

GAY & LESBIAN 74

BODY & MIND 76

CHILDREN 76

SPORTS 76

AROUND TOWN 77

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

CityScope, Comedy,

Education, Sports,

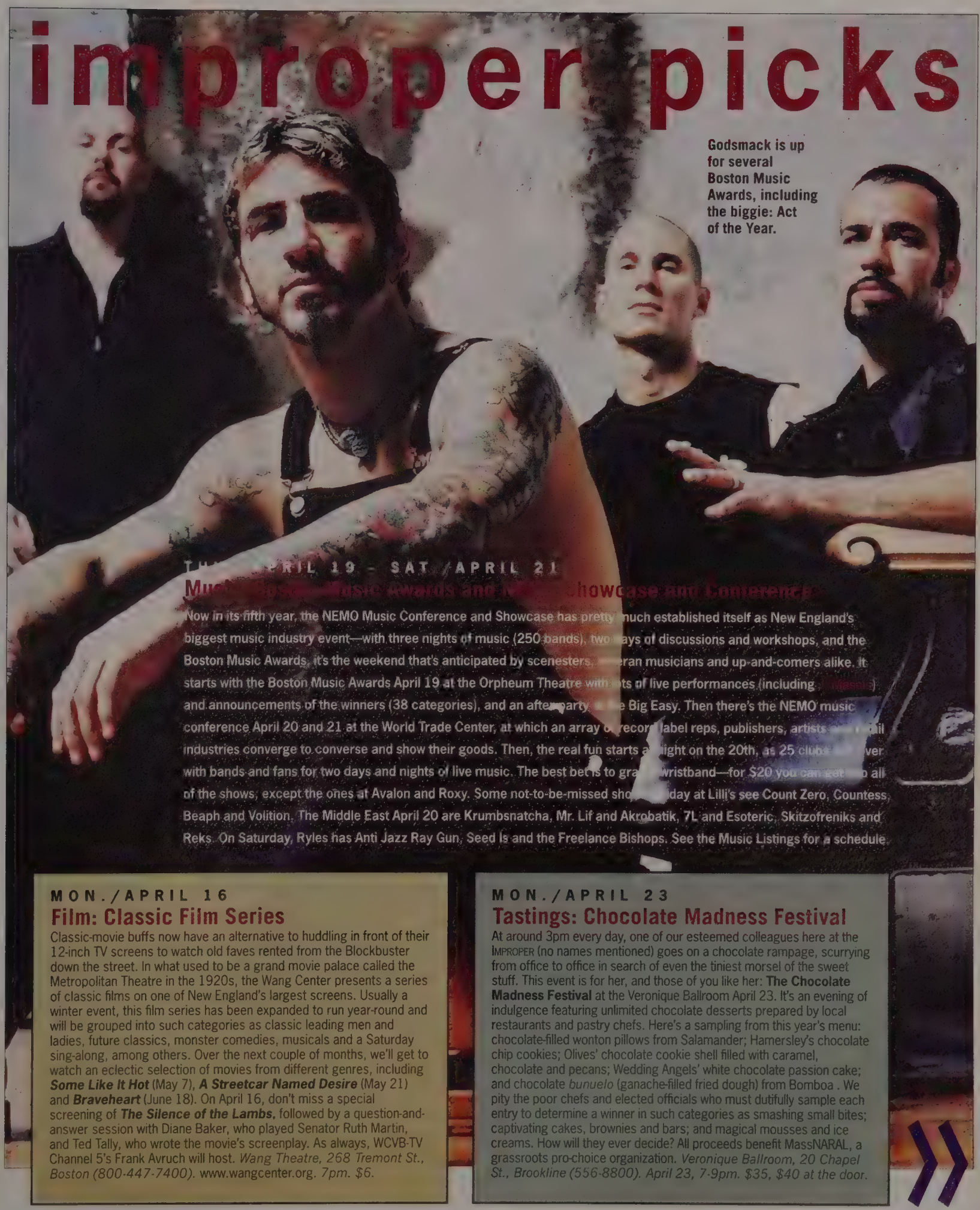
Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

improper picks



Godsmack is up for several Boston Music Awards, including the biggie: Act of the Year.

THU./APRIL 19 – SAT./APRIL 21

Mus[illegible]sic Awards and N[illegible] Showcase and Conference

Now in its fifth year, the NEMO Music Conference and Showcase has pretty much established itself as New England's biggest music industry event—with three nights of music (250 bands), two days of discussions and workshops, and the Boston Music Awards, it's the weekend that's anticipated by scenesters, veteran musicians and up-and-comers alike. It starts with the Boston Music Awards April 19 at the Orpheum Theatre with lots of live performances (including Tiesco) and announcements of the winners (38 categories), and an after-party at the Big Easy. Then there's the NEMO music conference April 20 and 21 at the World Trade Center, at which an array of record label reps, publishers, artists and retail industries converge to converse and show their goods. Then, the real fun starts at night on the 20th, as 25 clubs [illegible]ver with bands and fans for two days and nights of live music. The best bet is to gra[illegible] wristband—for $20 you can get [illegible]o all of the shows, except the ones at Avalon and Roxy. Some not-to-be-missed sho[illegible]day at Lilli's see Count Zero, Countess, Beaph and Volition. The Middle East April 20 are Krumbsnatcha, Mr. Lif and Akrobatik, 7L and Esoteric, Skitzofreniks and Reks. On Saturday, Ryles has Anti Jazz Ray Gun, Seed Is and the Freelance Bishops. See the Music Listings for a schedule.

MON./APRIL 16

Film: Classic Film Series

Classic-movie buffs now have an alternative to huddling in front of their 12-inch TV screens to watch old faves rented from the Blockbuster down the street. In what used to be a grand movie palace called the Metropolitan Theatre in the 1920s, the Wang Center presents a series of classic films on one of New England's largest screens. Usually a winter event, this film series has been expanded to run year-round and will be grouped into such categories as classic leading men and ladies, future classics, monster comedies, musicals and a Saturday sing-along, among others. Over the next couple of months, we'll get to watch an eclectic selection of movies from different genres, including ***Some Like It Hot*** (May 7), ***A Streetcar Named Desire*** (May 21) and ***Braveheart*** (June 18). On April 16, don't miss a special screening of ***The Silence of the Lambs***, followed by a question-and-answer session with Diane Baker, who played Senator Ruth Martin, and Ted Tally, who wrote the movie's screenplay. As always, WCVB-TV Channel 5's Frank Avruch will host. *Wang Theatre, 268 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400).* www.wangcenter.org. *7pm. $6.*

MON./APRIL 23

Tastings: Chocolate Madness Festival

At around 3pm every day, one of our esteemed colleagues here at the IMPROPER (no names mentioned) goes on a chocolate rampage, scurrying from office to office in search of even the tiniest morsel of the sweet stuff. This event is for her, and those of you like her: **The Chocolate Madness Festival** at the Veronique Ballroom April 23. It's an evening of indulgence featuring unlimited chocolate desserts prepared by local restaurants and pastry chefs. Here's a sampling from this year's menu: chocolate-filled wonton pillows from Salamander; Hamersley's chocolate chip cookies; Olives' chocolate cookie shell filled with caramel, chocolate and pecans; Wedding Angels' white chocolate passion cake; and chocolate *bunuelo* (ganache-filled fried dough) from Bomboa . We pity the poor chefs and elected officials who must dutifully sample each entry to determine a winner in such categories as smashing small bites; captivating cakes, brownies and bars; and magical mousses and ice creams. How will they ever decide? All proceeds benefit MassNARAL, a grassroots pro-choice organization. *Veronique Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (556-8800). April 23, 7-9pm. $35, $40 at the door.*

CLAY PATRICK MCBRIDE



NOEL REDDING

from

THE JIMI HENDRIX EXPERIENCE

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 18



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Pat Badger from Extreme; Brad Delp from the band Boston; Steve Ferlazzo, keyboardist for Mark Morris and the Catunes; Sib Hashian, former drummer for Boston; Barry Goudreau, former guitarist for Boston.

inside RACK

THE

Every Monday Night – "In The Biz" Pool Challenge by BackBayBeat.com. No entry fee and complimentary buffet. Registration: 10pm Monday nights.

Every Thursday Night 6pm – "RADIO-ACTIVE" Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman or Party-Time Gregg Daniels! A night you will never forget...or may not be able to remember!

Every Friday Night 6pm – Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Every Saturday Night – Star 93.7 Dance Party with Vinnie Peruzzi broadcasting live!

Monday, April 9th – Kevin's Corner Pocket 4th Annual Celebrity Billiard Tournament hosted by Gordy Klusack and The Bruins to benefit the Joey Fund and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Tuesday, April 10th – Legendary guitarist NOEL REDDING FROM THE JIMI HENDRIX EXPERIENCE, Eric Shankman formerly of The Spin Doctors, and Corky Laing from Mountain host their exclusive CD release party! Definitely a party not to miss! 6pm.

Saturday, April 14th – Nomar Garciaparra hosts an "After Bash" to benefit the Nomar 5 Fund. Dance all night with Nomar and other celebrities to raise money for inner-city kids and BHA Youth Centers.



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Star 93.7's morning team: Charlie Wilde, Karen Blake, Richard Hatch and Heather Gersten



Peter Wolf from the J. Giel's Band, Brian Mase and the lead singer from the band Boston, Brad Delp rock The Rack

RACK



Mark Morris & The Catunes every Thursday!

Central Basement and Kiss 108's Billy Costa rock the house every Friday night!

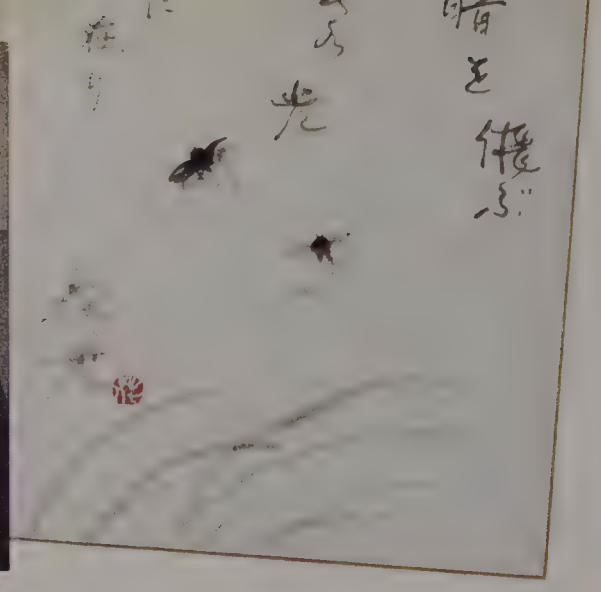


"In The Biz" Pool Challenge every Monday hosted by BackBayBeat.com while DJ Mike Janedy spins all night



WATCH US LIVE ON WWW. LiveWave .COM!





SAT./APRIL 21

Books: Literati Library ^^

In honor of National Poetry Month, a slew of local scribes will come together for the very first Poetry Marathon. Taking place at the Boston Public Library, the event will be a solid day of poetry readings from more than 50 major and emerging bards and lyricists. Throughout the day, each of the featured poets will present a 25-minute reading from their work. Authors include **Frank Bidart**, a recent recipient of the Wallace Stevens $150,000 prize; **Michael Brown**, professor at Mt. Ida College and performance poet; **Peter Davison**, poetry editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*; **Diana Der Hovenessian**, president of the New England Poetry Club; **Stephan Dobyns**, author of 10 collections of poetry and 20 novels; **Rhina Espaillat**, this year's recipient of the Richard Wilbur prize; **Emily Hiestand**, poetry editor of *Orion Magazine* ; **Doug Holder**, publisher/editor of Ibbetson Street Press; **Andy Levesque**, "the Poet of Walden Pond"; **Richard Moore**, author of 13 works of poetry; **Jack Powers**, founder of the 31-year-old Stone Soup Poets; **Diana Saenz**, poet and dramatist; and **Lloyd Schwartz**, who has published eight books, and received the Pulitzer in music criticism in 1994. The extravagant poetry event is hosted by **Harris Gardner**, founder of Tapestry of Voices, and **Kaji Aso** (above), the incredibly multitalented artist, poet, painter, opera singer, dramatist and owner of the nonprofit art gallery Kaji Aso Studio. They will read from their work as well. *Sat. and Sun.10am-5pm; reception on Fri., 6:30-8pm. Free. 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400).*



FRI./APRIL 13

Sports: Champions on Ice ^^

If you're one of those people who makes sure you're parked in front of the television set during the Olympic telecast of ice skating—laughing, crying and holding your breath during each performance—you'll want to head to the FleetCenter for **Champions on Ice**. All the big names in skating will be there, both world and national champions like Michelle Kwan, Brian Boitano, Victor Petrenko, Surya Bonaly, Philippe Candeloro, Elvis Stojko, Todd Eldredge, Rudy Galindo and Jennifer Kirk. This time around, the skaters can be more playful with their moves as they join together for one performance of spectacular artistry. *FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. April 13, 7:30pm. $35-$65.*

SAT./APRIL 21

Art: Cyber Art vv

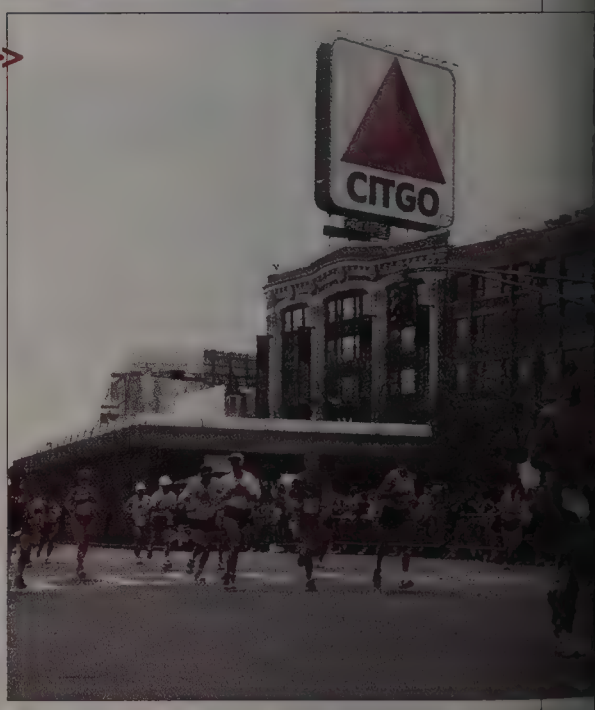
Contrary to its cyber connotations, the second annual Boston CyberArts Festival is not just an online art festival. Rather, all of the exhibitions, talks, performances and films share a common thread—they use computer technology as an integral part of their work. Luckily we can go online to get the schedules of the hundreds of visual and performing arts events that take place April 21-May 6 at various galleries, museums and theaters, as well as online at *bostoncyberarts.org*. Among the highlights: •*Augmented Realities*, four multimedia interactive and installations including virtual reality, video, computer animation and interactive sculpture at CyberArtCentral, the festival headquarters at the **Boston Architectural Center**. •The **DeCordova Museum** has *Flights of Fantasy,* a computerized installation made by storytellers and researchers at the **MIT Media Laboratory**. •The **Art Institute of Boston** hosts the exhibition *Digital Identity, Better Living through Bits*, which explores the effects of digital technology on personal identities. •The **Institute of Contemporary Art** presents two evenings of live music by computer music pioneer Charles Dodge, Richard Lerman, Ron Kuivila and Neil Leonard with his cyber-jazz ensemble. •The **Coolidge Corner Theatre** hosts more than 100 artists and musicians during a weekend of abstract and non-narrative electronic motion shows April 27-29. Also, be sure to check out the virtual art gallery, *HyperArtSpace. For a full schedule of events, see the Web site or call the Boston Architectural Center at 524-8495.*



MON./APRIL 16

CityScope: Marathon Monday >>

Where will you watch the **Boston Marathon** April 16? At a beer-soaked bar at the finish line on Boylston? Or with the spirited gals over at Wellesley early on in the race? If you're actually interested in seeing the runners, you're better off avoiding the crowds and heading out to the town centers at the beginning of the race. An estimated 1 million people will line the course, the majority of which will park themselves from Cleveland Circle (22.2 miles) to the finish line at the Boston Public Library (as many as five people deep). It should be an exciting race. Defending champs Elijah Lagat and Catherine Ndereba, both Kenyans, will be back, along with two Olympic gold medalists, Gezahegne Abera and Fatuma Roba, both Ethiopians. It'll be the battle of the Africas. If you're not running but don't want to feel like a total slob, there's the **John Hancock Sports & Fitness Expo**, one of the largest marathon/fitness expos in the country, featuring well-known exhibitors in the industries of sports, health and nutrition at the World Trade Center. *Marathon: April 16, 11:45am (wheelchairs begin), 12pm (everyone else).* www.bostonmarathon.org. *Expo: World Trade Center (439-7700). April 14-15, 9am-6pm.*



FRI./APRIL 13

Music: Folks Celebrating Folk

Folk epicenter **Club Passim** has been a Harvard Square institution since 1958, and countless musicians got their start playing in this tiny, subterranean space. Over the years, the club has consistently drawn top-notch performers before (and even after) they became famous—from Joan Baez, Tom Rush, Jackie Washington and Peter Wolf to Taj Mahal and Suzanne Vega. Now, Club Passim celebrates its 42nd anniversary April 13 with a giant concert that's too big to fit into its cozy confines. The club will gather artists from every facet of its history for a giant show at the Somerville Theatre: **Bill Morrissey**, **Catie Curtis**, the **Silverleaf Gospel Singers**, the **Jim Kweskin Band** with Samoa, the **Burns Sisters** and **Live from New York**, featuring Edie Carey, Teddy Goldstein, Sam Shaber, Andrew Kerr and Anne O'Meara Heaton. As a non-profit organization, all of the proceeds will go the club's four nonprofit programs. Now, if only Bob Dylan would return to Club Passim to play again. *55 Davis Square (931-2000). $18-$27.50; $100 priority seats with after-show reception at Gallery Bershad.*

THU./APRIL 19 - SUN./APRIL 22

Film: Women on Top

Over its nine year history, the **Boston Festival of Women's Cinema** has blossomed into a bona fide, internationally recognized showcase for commercial and independent works by and about women. This year's compelling crop of films promises to carry on the tradition. The festival's attendance usually rings in at an impressive 3,000, but this year 5,000 attendees are expected, as the festival expands to the Coolidge Corner Theatre as well as its usual Brattle Theatre location. The festival, which showcases a slew of premieres, sneak previews, special programs and appearances by filmmakers, was founded in 1993, at the initiative of Brattle Theatre co-directors Marianne Lampke and Connie White. This year's schedule includes a sneak peak at **Sally Potter**'s *The Man Who Cried*, starring **Christina Ricci** and **Johnny Depp**; director **Catherine Crouch** and producer **Yvonne Welbon** introduce their work-in-progress, *Stray Dogs*; and a panel discussion titled Roles For Women with **Christine Lahti** (director, *My First Mister*), **DeMane Davis** (director, *Lift*), Adrienne Shelly (director/actress, *I'll Take You There*) and moderated by **Yvonne Welbon** (director of last year's *Living with Pride: Ruth Ellis at 100*. See the schedules in the Film section for complete listings of the films and addresses.

WED./APRIL 18

CityScope: Beyond Shelter

It's your opportunity to sample food from more than 25 of Boston's award-winning restaurants, including Hamersley's Bistro, Salamander, Icarus, Anago, Truc, Bob the Chef's, Redbones, Sidney's Grille and Laurel, while benefiting a worthy cause: Friends of Boston's Homeless. The IMPROPER-sponsored Beyond Shelter event at Avalon April 18 will be emceed by our very own social columnist, **Jonathan Soroff**. After you've overindulged on food and fun, dance the night away to to swing, bossa nova, Latin and reggae tunes by the Happenin' Horns. Don't miss the ice cream by Rancatore's in Belmont for dessert—it's some of the area's best. *Avalon Ballroom, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (534-2526, ext.383). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. April 18, 6-11pm. $50 (dinner), $20 (music only).*

TOP RIGHT: ELFIE SEMOTIN; BOTTOM RIGHT: FAY FOTO

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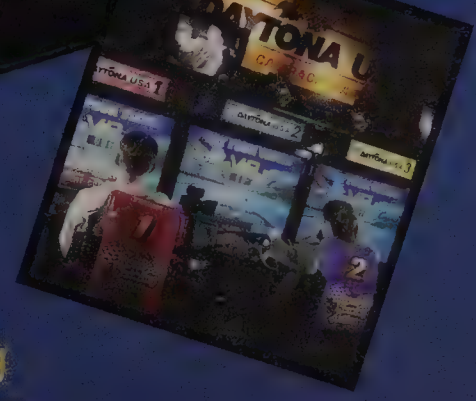
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Advice to Contributors

Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

After-Work Social Networking

Sophia's Latin Club, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (312-5410). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway. www.bostoneventguide.com. *6-9pm. $5 (with RSVP to* bostoneventguide@email.com*). $10 at the door.* Professionals: View art, hear speakers, listen to music, take dance lessons and, above all, get your social networking done.

Cirque du Square

Holyoke Arcade, Cambridge (491-3434). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8-10pm. $10. Enjoy a mini-circus with costumed dancers, conga lines, a kissing booth, magicians, ballroom dancing and champagne toasts to celebrate the Harvard Square Business Association's 90th anniversary.

Eight-Minute Dating

Atlantic 101 Restaurant, 101 Atlantic Ave., Boston. www.8minutedating.com. *$28.* You'll be matched with eight professional singles, ages 30-40, for one-on-one, eight-minute conversations. If two people feel that "connection," each will be sent the other's contact information. Pre-registration is required.

Boston Harbor Association Auction

Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (482-1722). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5-9pm. $100. The Boston Harbor Association's annual auction includes a dinner prepared by Legal Sea Foods and unique harbor-related items. Proceeds benefit BHA advocacy and education programs.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Women's Cancers Benefit Luncheon & AKRIS Fashion Presentation

Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (632-5091). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay. 11am. $300. Neiman Marcus hosts this benefit for the Women's Cancer Program at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. It includes lunch and a special presentation of the AKRIS collection for fall 2001.

Sing-a-Long Sound of Music

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 209 Harvard St., Brookline (931-2000). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. April 12-26, 7:30pm; April 14, 15, 17-21, 2pm; no performances April 22. $22.50 (Fri-Sat evenings). Boo the Nazis! Hiss the Baroness! Join in earnest choruses of "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" for this sing-along screening of the classic family film.

Spring for Hunger

Vertigo Nightclub, 126 State St., Boston (422-4783). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center or Orange Line to Haymarket. 6:30-10:30pm. $10. DJ, dancing, door prizes and food are the main attractions at downtown Boston's Vertigo in this benefit for Sports for Hunger.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Scavenger Hünt II

Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *April 13 and 14, 6pm; April 15, 3pm. $7/$5.* Instructions in hand, audiences will comb the eclectic Fort Point neighborhood for off-beat clues in this scavenger hunt, and then meet back at the Mobius gallery for prizes and music.

Big Apple Circus: Clown Around Town

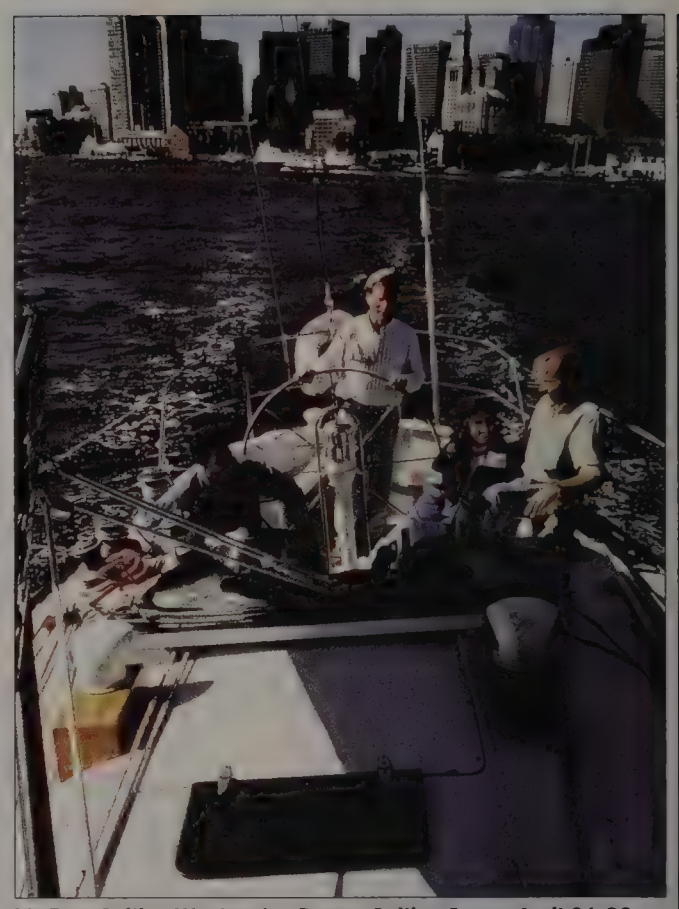
Fan Pier, Boston (931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. *Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. April 7-May 13. $13-$43.* This all-new show features a cast of circus acts from around the world, including award-winning acrobats, hand balancers, jugglers, trapeze artists, dogs, horses and, of course, clowns.

Champions on Ice

FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. 7:30pm. $35-$65. Olympic, world and national champions join together in one performance of spectacular artistry. Skaters include Michelle Kwan, Brian Boitano, Victor Petrenko, Surya Bonaly, Philippe Candeloro, Elvis Stojko, Todd Eldredge, Rudy Galindo and Jennifer Kirk.

MFA Fridays

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.



It's Free-Sailing Weekend at Boston Sailing Center April 21-22.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

John Hancock Sports & Fitness Expo

World Trade Center, Boston (439-7700). April 14-15, 9am-6pm. One of the largest marathon/fitness expos in the country features well-known exhibitors in the industries of sports, health and nutrition.

MONDAY, APRIL 16

Could Be Worse!

Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mondays, 7pm. $15. Every Monday, the theater screens the locally produced film *Could Be Worse* by Zack Stratis. Beforehand, enjoy Vaudeville-style entertainment by local dancers, singers and comedians (including Clark Elefteriadis of Boston Body, who doubles as a fitness instructor/comedian).

104th Running of the Boston Marathon

From Hopkinton, Mass., to the Boston Public Library, Boston (236-1652). www.bostonmarathon.org. *April 16, 11:45am (wheelchairs begin), 12pm (everyone else).* Pick your favorite bar along Boylston Street and cheer on the runners as they enter the home stretch.

Open Chess Tournament

MIT Stratton Student Center, Third Floor, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (349-6794). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 9:30am. The Cambridge School Volunteers sponsor this open chess tournament. Bring sets and clocks.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Beyond Shelter

Avalon Ballroom, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (534-2526, ext. 383). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6-11pm. $50 (dinner), $20 (music only). More than 25 of Boston's award-winning restaurants, including Hamersley's Bistro, Salamander, Icarus, Anago, Truc, Bob the Chef's, Redbones, Sidney's Grille and Laurel, offer tastings at this IMPROPER-sponsored event. Dance to swing, bossa nova, Latin and reggae tunes by the Happenin' Horns at 8pm. Proceeds benefit the Friends of Boston's Homeless.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Glam Jam 2001

Filene's, Downtown Crossing, Boston (438-3682). MBTA: Orange or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 11am. Free. Filene's cosmetics and accessory bonanza includes prizes and pointers aplenty for spring's fashion-conscious females.

Eighth Annual Harvard Law School Public Interest Auction

Austin Hall, 1515 Mass Ave., Cambridge (620-8030). http://record.law.harvard.edu/auction. *5:30pm (silent auction), 7pm (live auction). Free.* This student-run auction provides stipends for law students who offer legal community service . Items for every budget will be up for bidding.

Dining Out for Life

Participating restaurants (437-6200). www.aac.org. Participating Boston-area restaurants, including Olives, Bella Luna Restaurant, Duckworth Lane, Johnny D's, Kashmir, Ole Mexican Grill, Temple Bar, Parish Cafe and Gargoyles on the Square, will donate 20 percent of receipts to the fight against AIDS.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Earth Day Celebration

Garden in the Woods Botanical Garden, 180 Hemenway Rd., Framingham (508-877-6574). www.newfs.org. *9am-5pm. Free.* Bring the kids for this spring day of nature appreciation, including early spring wildflowers, family entertainment and garden events.

Bead Affaire

Armenian Cultural Center, 47 Nichols Ave., Watertown (781-893-2463). MBTA: #71 Bus from Harvard Square. 10am-5pm. $5. Load up on beading materials from more than 65 vendors, plus attend workshops on such mysteries as bead crochet and the peyote stitch.

Prudential Spirit of Community Awards Reception

The Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 2-4pm. Free. This celebration will honor 105 Massachusetts students for community service.

Free-Sailing Weekend

Boston Sailing Center, Lewis Wharf, Boston (227-4198). April 21-22, 11am-4pm. Free. Seasoned skippers and landlubbers alike are invited to sail in the harbor in boats ranging in length from 23 to 40 feet.

Fenway Dinner Party

Marriott Copley Place, 110 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8862). www.fenwayhealth.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30pm (reception), 8pm (dinner and program), 9:30pm (dancing). $125.* Fenway Community Health's largest annual fund-raiser will include dinner, musical entertainment, a silent auction, dancing and an awards presentation. Proceeds go to the Women's Care Fund of Fenway Community Health.

Spring Singles Dance

Knights of Columbus Hall, 15 Winslow St., Arlington (261-9600). MBTA: #77 bus to Arlington Center. 8:30pm. $12. A top-40 DJ will play tunes for singles ages 21-65 at this smoke-free event until 12:30am.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

Nomar 5 Fund Benefit

Town Line, 665 Broadway, Malden (572-7115). 5pm. Sports and Hollywood celebs go bowling to benefit the Nomar 5 Fund. Outside in the parking lot, you'll find a carnival-like atmosphere with DJs from KISS 108. Catch a glimpse of members of the Red Sox, Celtics, Bruins and the Revolution. Afterward, the whole gang heads to The Rack for a private party.

Share Our Strength Benefit

Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (266-4600, ext. 10). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. $125. Chef Andy Husbands hosts this benefit dinner with six courses prepared by acclaimed chefs from Boston and Providence, including Michael Leviton of Lumiere, Ken Oringer of Clio and Nicole Coady of Finale.



Audience members dress up as characters from the *Sound of Music* and enthusiastically sing along with Maria and the Von Trapp family at the Coolidge Corner Theatre April 12-26.

Preview

Group Sing-Along

Audiences let loose during this *Sound of Music*

Now you can finally indulge your uncontrollable urge to sing along with the songs of America's favorite singing family. No, this is not a Partridge Family reunion tour; it is *The Sing-Along Sound of Music*, showing this week at the Coolidge Corner Theatre.

The show invites audiences to follow the bouncing ball and harmonize with the Von Trapps and friends—even to dress up like characters or objects in the movie. In London, where the show is in its second year, it has drawn capacity crowds clad in outlandish Alpine costumes, wimples and all.

To top the hilarious with the unusual, it turns out the idea originated in a nursing home in northern Scotland, according to the show's North America producer, Tom Lightburn. A therapist there passed out song sheets and held a weekly sing-along as she screened Hollywood musicals. A stage producer from London paid his grandmother a visit during the showing of *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*. "The rest is history," says Lightburn.

Lightburn explained that the audience participation is the biggest draw. "When you watch movies, you often want to say things back to the screen," he said. "Here's an event where talking back to the screen is encouraged." *Coolidge Corner Theatre, 209 Harvard St., Brookline (931-2000). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. April 12-26, 7:30pm; April 14, 15, 17-21, 2pm; no performances April 22. $22.50 (Fri.-Sat. evenings). —Galen Moore*

LEFT: SEAN HERNON; TOP RIGHT: COURTESY OF THE BOSTON SAILING CENTER

bitter ale
pale ale
mild ale
brown ale
scotch ale
barley wine
porter
stout
belgian ale
trappist ale
altbier
kolsch
berliner weiss
weizen
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Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

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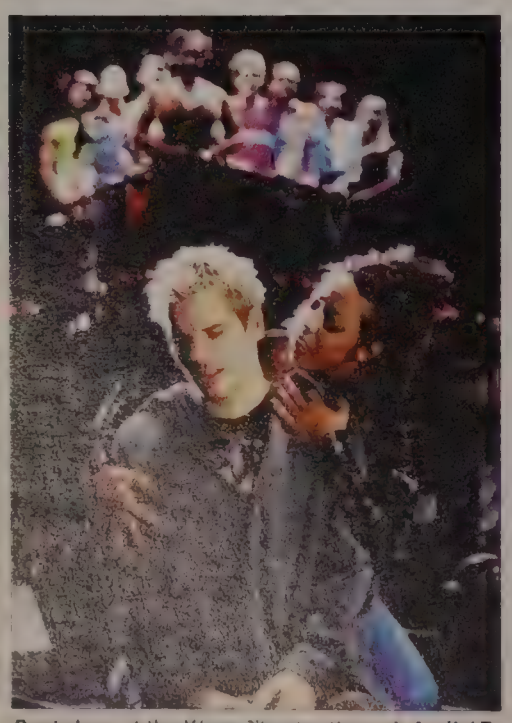
Amazons/The Imperialists at the Club Cave Canem
The Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 18-May 6. $30. This double-bill of one-act premieres features *Amazons* by Robert Auletta and *The Imperialists at the Club Cave Canem* by Charles L. Mee.

Bibble III
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. April 20-21, 8pm. $10. A cross between *Star Wars* and *Henry V*, *Bibble III* is the newest of Joe Mazza's creations. The play features giant puppets, wacky sound effects and an original language with which to explore the human psyche and our hunger for power in its various forms.

Cider House Rules (Part I)
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). April 13-June 17. $28-$42. Raised in a tiny Maine orphanage by a humble but dedicated doctor, Homer journeys into the world and grows from a boy of remarkable insight to a vigorous and committed young physician.

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)
Orpheum Theatre Foxborough, One School St., Foxborough, Mass. (508-543-4434). April 21-22. $26. The Reduced Shakespeare Company is known for its fast, funny and physical condensations of serious matters.

The Curse of the Bambino
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm.; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. April 20-May 19. $20-$36. This musical by author David Kruh takes a lighthearted look at the years of futility that began in 1920, when Boston Red Sox owner Harry Frazee sold Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees.



Rent plays at the Wang Theatre through April 15.

Hamlet
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2pm and 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. April 11-22. $25-$75. See box for more information.

Knock Knock
Lyric West Theatre, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley (288-7889). Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Through April 22. $10-$29. A pair of elderly recluses, Abe and Cohn, are visited by Joan of Arc, who was Cinderella in another life. She hopes to recruit Abe and Cohn to help her collect two of every species for a spaceship trip to heaven.

Leader of the Pack: The Hit Singles of Ellie Greenwich
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 1 and 7pm. $45-$65. Rock and roll to some of the most famous tunes in pop-music history. Mary Wilson of the Supremes performs in this song-and-dance celebration featuring such hits as "Be My Baby," "Hanky Panky," and "Chapel of Love."

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. April 11-June 3. $25-$75. Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, this epic saga sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th-century France. It is also the story of the fugitive Jean Valjean, who is pitted against the cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelong quest to evade capture.

The Marriage of Figaro
Blackman Auditorium, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston (536-2412). April 19-21, 7:30pm; April 22, 2:30pm. $12. The New England Conservatory Opera Theater presents this classic tale of romantic entanglements and mistaken identity.

The Performance Cult
Back Alley Theater, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (781-891-1188). MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 22. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short, original vignettes. You'll see character work, dance, monologues, movement, singing and sound work.

Prisoners
Volpe Center, 55 Broadway, Cambridge (522-6045). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. April 20-21, 8pm. $10. Theater Ludicrum performs this ancient Roman comedy by Plautus.

Trust
Sugan Theatre Company, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). www.sugan.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. April 19-May 5. $18-$23.* In this thriller by award-winning Belfast playwright Gary Mitchell, Geordie is the district commander of a Protestant paramilitary group in Belfast. As the guardian of the community, he does everything he can to protect it. But he forgets what is most important of all: his family.

Un Ballo in Maschera
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). April 20, 8pm; April, 2pm; April 24, 8pm. $18-$65. Set in a turbulent Colonial Boston, Verdi's genius shimmers in this tragic masterpiece of murder, seduction and betrayal.

The Will Rogers Follies: A Life in Review
Arlington Friends Drama Theatre, 22 Academy St., Arlington Center (781-646-5922). Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. April 13-29. $18. This musical comedy is based on the life of Will Rogers and his success with the Ziegfield Follies.

The Woolgatherer
Harvard Experimental Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 19-21, 7:30pm; April 21, 2:30pm. Rose, a naive five-and-dime worker, invites a trucker named Cliff to her apartment. What transpires between them fills the evening with exploration, insight and human tenderness.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

Animals and Plants
American Repertory Theatre, Loeb Stage, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (495-2668). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7pm. Through April 15. $25-$59. Under a comic facade of buddies bonding in a blizzard, playwright Adam Rapp examines a friendship threatened by betrayal.



British actor Simon Russell Beale appears in the title role in *Hamlet*—a performance that critics have hailed as one of the great Shakespearean interpretations of our time.

Preview

A Hamlet to Die For

The Royal National Theatre comes to Boston

Maybe you read *Hamlet* in high school. Maybe you even saw Kenneth Branagh's adaptation for the Silver Screen back in 1996. But you've never seen a production of Shakespeare's first and best-known tragedy quite like this. British actor Simon Russell Beale's interpretation of the young Danish prince is being hailed by critics as "the Hamlet of a lifetime" and has earned him the *Evening Standard* award for best actor. Bostonians will have a chance to be the first in America to see Beale's haunting rendition when Broadway in Boston presents the U.S. premiere of The Royal National Theatre's acclaimed production of *Hamlet* April 11-22.

"Beale speaks the Shakespearean language with such absolute clarity and simplicity that you understand everything," says Bill Conner, president of SFX Theatrical Group, one of three theatrical organizations responsible for the U.S. tour. According to Conner, Beale is known among theater circles as the greatest living English-speaking actor, "the new [Lawrence] Olivier," he says. The National Theatre's production debuted last year in London and has already played to rave reviews around Europe, including performances at Kronberg Castle in northern Denmark, where the events of the story take place. The play, which features lavish Elizabethan costumes and late Italian Renaissance sets, was shortened to a a manageable three hours by director John Caird. It emphasizes the family drama at the play's center and highlights its surprising dark humor. "It's probably the most accessible production of *Hamlet* I've ever seen," says Conner. *Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2pm and 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. April 11-22. $25-$75. —Caroline Wolter*

The Dumb Waiter
Threshold Theater, 791 Tremont St., Boston (508-579-5686). Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through April 21. $16. This mix of comedy and suspense brings us to a dilapidated boarding house where two hit men anxiously await their unknown prey.

Edward II
Tremont Theater, 276 Tremont St., Boston (642-1456). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Through April 29. $20. Playwright Christopher Marlowe recounts the troublesome reign of England's King Edward II, whose passionate relationships with Piers Gaveston and Hugh DeSpencer would drive his country into rebellion. The final dramatic work by Shakespeare's most celebrated contemporary explores themes of power, obsession and sexuality.

Emerald City
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through April 14. $20. John Kuntz's twisted and modern take on the Wizard of Oz is a psychotic joy ride down the yellow brick road with a menacing transvestite, a one-handed ex-child star, an epileptic hustler with Tourette Syndrome and a quirky homeless waitress whose hallucinatory trances take them on a comic journey to Oz.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. April 6-May 6. $10-$17. Lilly's sparkles with witty and eccentric characters.

Manifest
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Through April 14. $15. Manifest seeks to debunk the myth that Jews timidly accepted their fate in the Holocaust, focusing on the real-life stories of those who resisted. It's heavy drama interspersed with klezmer music, vaudeville humor and stand-up comedy.

New England Sonata
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through April 15. $28-$42. In their old New England farmhouse, Wallace and Clara live simply, devoted to their writing and to each other. Their resolve soon faces the ultimate test, threatened by illness, a visiting mother-in-law and a chance encounter with a curious young man.

Over the River and Through the Woods
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm., Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through April 14. $25-$36. "...to grandmother's house we go." New York's longest running comedy is about a visit with the grandparents of a 30-year-old marketing executive in comfortable Hoboken, N.J. During one weekly visit, he announces that he's accepted a promotion that requires a move to Seattle. Eager to keep their grandson in town, they conspire to find a reason for him to stay.

Rent
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1pm and 7pm. Through April

RENT: JOAN MARCUS

15. $35-$65. Inspired by Puccini's *La Boheme*, this Pulitzer Prize- and Tony Award-winning musical celebrates a community of artists as they struggle with the soaring hopes and tough realities of today's world.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Snakebit
SpeakEasy Stage at the Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through April 14. $22. Set in Los Angeles, this play focuses on three 30-somethings, each struggling to come to terms with his or her own life.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Buried Child
Suffolk Student Theatre, C. Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University, 55 Temple St., Boston (573-8680). April 18-21, 8pm; April 21, 3pm. $10. Sam Shepard's Pulitzer Prize-winning tragi-comedy.

Children of Eden
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). April 11-13, 8pm; April 14, 2 and 8pm. $12-$15. A retelling of the stories of Adam and Eve and their descendants, the children of Eden.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-4201). April 17-29. $14.50-$18.50. The lives of mere mortals become hopelessly entangled in the fantastical and mischievous world of the fairies.

Utopia, Ltd.
Agassiz Theatre, Harvard University, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (496-2222). April 12-14, 8pm; April 14, 2pm. $3-$10. One of Gilbert and Sullivan's last and most satirical operettas.

CABARET

Ghetto Tango
Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahanton St., Newton (965-5226). April 21, 8pm; April 22, 2pm. $25. Internationally acclaimed artists Adrienne Cooper and Zalmen Mlotek perform an electrifying theatrical cabaret of the unknown song repertoire of WWII Jewish theater.

AUDITION

Harvey
North Quincy Alumni Theatre, North Quincy High School, 316 Hancock St., Quincy (328-7159). MBTA: Red Line to North Quincy. April 11, 7pm. (Performance dates are June 7-16). Audition for six female and six male roles.

Dance

SHOWS AND EVENTS

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater
Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (695-6950). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 17-22. $20-$55. FleetBoston Celebrity Series presents the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, which has been entertaining audiences for more than 30 years. The theater's repertoire combines classics, cutting-edge choreography and dance traditions.

Hush Little Baby
Green Street Studios, 185 Green Street, Cambridge (864-3191). April 21, 8pm, $12-$18. Providence's professional contemporary ballet company, Cadence Dance Project, presents the Boston area premiere of Colleen Cavanaugh's new ballet. *Hush Little Baby* explores the emotional landscape of teen pregnancy. It's set to an original mix of live and recorded voices and music and features spoken-word excerpts by teens and music by Bartok, Debussy and Muczynski.

Mobius Movement Works-in-Progress
Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. April 20-21. 8pm. $6. Mobius presents works-in-progress by Nicole Bindler, Royal Jelly, Sue Murad, Madeline McNeely, Snappy Dance Theater, Cabaret All-Stars Noraw Stephens, Liz Heichelbech and Matt Keene.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances or comedians. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •April 12: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist" •April 13: John Witherspoon •April 14, 8pm: Joe Yannetty and George Demartino. 10:30pm: John Witherspoon •April 15, 9:15pm: John Witherspoon •April 16: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •April 17: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •April 18: Johnny K. •April 19: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist" •April 20-21: Joe Rogan from Newsradio •April22, 7pm: Comics 4A Cause benefit •April 23: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •April 24: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •April 12: Tim McIntire Show, with the comics from WAKKA (sketch comedy), Katie Grady and Mike Dorval. •April 13: Brendon and Larry, with guests Arthur Januario, Dan Newbower, Ben Joplin, Pat O'Shea and Ben Murray. •April 14: Rich Gustus, Sam Walters, Tom Morello, Tammy Two-Tone and Paul Shea. •April 19: Tim McIntire with Kelly McFarland, sketch comedy of WAKKA and John Curtain. •April 20: Brendon Small and Larry Murphy with John Keating, Ira Proctor, Lakshmi Balachandra and Laurie Hoffman. •April 21: Greg Rodrigues with Eric Riley Moore, Dan Sulman, Bill Ford and Ira Proctor. •April 22: Deb Farrar-Parkman, Steve Calechman, Benari Poulten, Sandy Asai, Steven Prince and Tom Caswell.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour, the Theater District's long-running improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. The talent here is not quite as big-name as what you'll find at the Comedy Connection, but the crowds are just as enthusiastic. Wednesdays: Open-mike at 8:30pm. •April 15, 8:30pm: Jim Lauletta, Matt Blake and Cal Verducci. •April 16-17, 8:45pm: Kevin Knox, Matt Blake and Cal Verducci. •April 22, 8:30pm: Brad Mastrangelo, Stephanie Peters and Ira Proctor. • April 23-24, 8:45pm: Brad Mastrangelo, Stephanie Peters and Ira Proctor.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Saturday matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* Playing on the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show—voted one of Boston's best improvisational comedy troupes. •Wednesdays, 8pm: The Improv Asylum Training Center graduate show, *Gary's Pocket*, followed by the Improv Asylum Touring Company. $10.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Blue Screen: Friday, 10:30pm •ImprovBoston: Saturday, 8pm and 10:30pm, $12 •Micetro: Thursdays, 7pm •Theatresports: Friday, 8pm. $12.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Musical! The Musical!
The Works Theater, 255 Elm St., Somerville (624-7278). Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through April 14. $15. Each performance of *Musical! The Musical* kicks off with an audience suggestion of a famous story from a book, play or movie that has never been made into a musical. The troupe then develops a full-length, Broadway-style musical.

Open Mike Night at the Lizard Lounge
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mondays, 7-10pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.



art

Advice to Contributors
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Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.aiboston.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •Amy Guip shows her new work through May 6.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Virginia Woolf, the Evolving Word, a presentation of letters, books, magazines and prints shows throughout April. •*Aprons: A Mini History* examines household aprons from the 20th-century, including photographs, drawings and poetry. Through April 27.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •In *Just the Thing!* everyday objects acquire new perspectives. Through June 10. •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to convey the artist's message. Through May 28.• In *Flights of Fantasy*, four artists present an outdoor computerized installation of shared media and memories. Through May 28.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice is on display through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. Free Sun., 9am-12pm; Wed., 3-5pm; Sept.-May. •Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these winged beauties. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Dutch artists Rineke Dijkstra presents the first U.S. survey of her photographs in *Portraits*, a collection of two series of her work, *Beaches* and *New Mothers*. April 18-July 1.•South African artist Marlene Dumas explores relationships in 100 *Models and Endless Rejects*, a one-room installation of 100 ink-wash drawings of faces, and drawings. April 18-July 1.•*Laylah Ali: 2000 ICA Artist Prize* showcases a collection of the artist's cartoon-like drawings of ambiguous violence and degradation. April 18-July 1. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. •The Art of the Cross: Medieval and Renaissance Piety is a collection of lesser-known works including arts-furniture, textiles, metalworks and large-scale crucifixes and processional crosses. Through April 29.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames Street Building E15, Atrium Level, Cambridge (253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm; Fri., 12-8pm. •Isaac Julien presents a film installation in epic Western style: *The Long Road to Mazatlán* and a double-projection video featuring modern dance, *Vagabondia*. April 26-July 1. •*The Long Count (I Shook Up the World)* by Paul Pfeiffer is the first of three works in which the artist has depicted Muhammed Ali in order to explore racial identity. April 26-July 1. •Johan Grimonprez shows *Inflight*, an airline magazine-inspired piece. April 26-July 1. •*Race in Digital Space* features more than 30 artists who use film, new media and the Web. April 26-July 1.

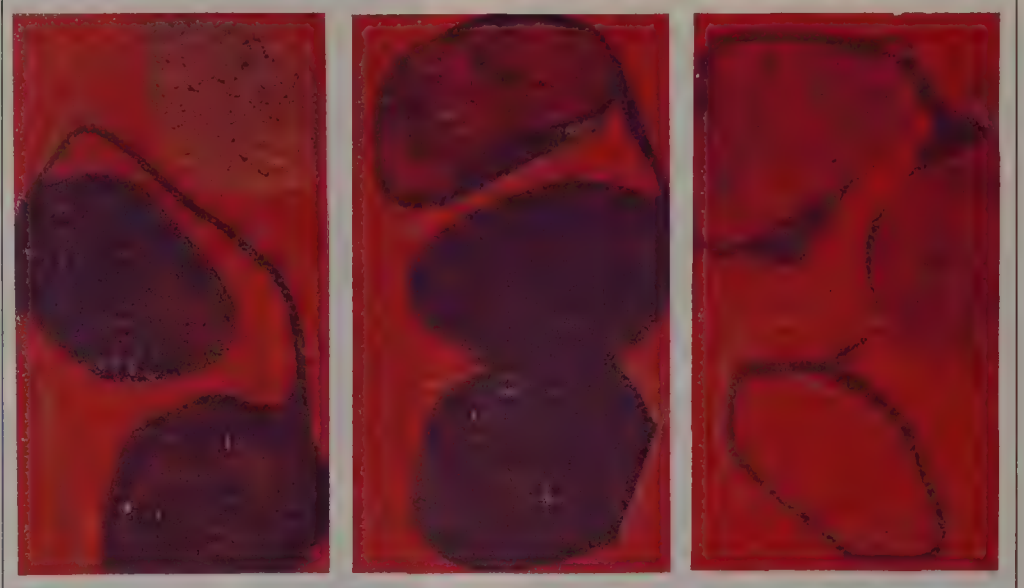
MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive activities take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing.

Museum of Bad Art
580 High St., Dedham (325-8224). Mon.-Fri., 6:30-10pm, Sat., and Sun., 1-10pm. MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. •The one and only museum that boasts "art too bad to be ignored." A favorite is *Lady Chardonnay*, a piece illuminating a poodle-headed dancer.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45 pm. $12, students and seniors $10. •From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings, including his etchings in the Prisons series. Through Sept. 9. •*Japan at the Dawn of the Modern Age: Meiji Prints from Jean S. and Frederic A. Sharf Collection* is a collection of 600 Japanese full-color woodblock prints from 1868-1912. April 25-July 15.•*Made in Japan* by Takashi Murakami is a collection of his recent work and his reinterpretation of *nihon-ga*, a traditional Japanese painting style. April 25-July 15. •The 25th annual *Art in Bloom* event is a three-day spectacular—filled with heaps of gorgeous flower arrangements, black-tie dinners, jazz brunches and more. April 27-30.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route* 66. Through Sept. 9.

Revolving Museum
288-300 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue.-Fri. 12-6pm. •Labels: Within Walls by Heloisa Escudero displays through April 20. •*Honey Apparatus: Digital Photographic Assemblage* by Mark Snyder shows April 24-May 6.



Media Gallery: the South End's new hot spot

Restaurateur Christine Didiuk (of South End's The Dish) has teamed up with artist Kenn Gray to create Media Gallery, a new South End forum for local and international artists. The gallery is currently showing *Impressions of Humanity*, featuring works by New York artist Suzanne Kammin, including this painting titled *Triptych*. Also showing are pieces by Eileen Wagner and Sarah Beth Wiley. *31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729).*

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.- Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun. 12-5pm. •Mentors in Glass, an exhibition of Boston glass artists, showcases the works of three prominent local artists. Through April 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allston-skirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Works by Sharon Kaitz and B. Wurtz are on view through April 28.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Gideon Bok's *New Paintings* shows through May 2.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Judith Brassard Brown presents her landscapes in *Into the Yellow*. Through April 29.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Tufts Street Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •Heart of the Arts, work by students taking classes at the Arlington Center for the Arts, shows April 16-May 18.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. •Kel Ito presents a show of contemporary handbags. Through April 15. •Porcelain vessels by Sophie Cook display April 15-30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Works by Michael Ashkin, Jan Henle and Paul Seawright display through April 17. •Annette Lemieux presents *'Scapes Continued* and *Print Publisher's Spotlight: Universal Limited Art Editions*. April 21-May 30.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •Memories Lost and Found: The Drawings of Rose deSmith Greenman is the premiere exhibition of her works, which were rediscovered 16 years after her death. Through April 14. •*Country Folk*, a collection of paintings, sculptures and functional objects by several artists, shows April 18-June 2.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Marian Roth's *Photography* is on display through April 28. •*Band-Aid Paintings* by Lucy White shows through April 28.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. www.bcaonline.org. •Guest curator Laurie Beth Kalb presents *Signs of the Market*, a private collection of hand-painted shop signs from Cambodia. Also showing is photography by Bill Burke, which focuses on advertising in Cambodia. Through April 28.

Boston University Art Gallery
865 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •The MFA graphic design exhibition shows through April 22. •A series of the MFA's sculptures is on display April 27-May 6.

Boston University 808 Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •MFA Painting Exhibition shows April 20-May 6.

Brickbottom Gallery
One Fitchburg Place, Somerville (776-4310). Thu.-Fri., 4-8pm, Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. •*7/11* is an exhibit of seven works by 11 artists who have roots in Boston. Through April 29.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Gallery I features Laurie Alpert's *Reinventing the Layers: Monoprints with Xerox Transfer* and *Collage and Painting* by Don Smith. •Gallery II shows Beth Duerr's collection of paintings, *Spaces in Time*. Through April 21.

Cambridge Center Gallery
One Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm. •Boston Afro-American Artists, the oldest collective organization of African-American artists in Boston, displays an exhibition of paintings, photography, drawings and crafts. Through April 25. •Selma Bromberg's Print Studio presents *Students Work*, monotype, drypoint, collograph and woodcut prints. April 20-May 10.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •Extreme Connoisseurship shows through April 29. •Tadashi Kawamata's *Boston Project, Part I*, shows through April 30. •*When We Liked Ike: Looking for Postwar America* shows in the Lobby Gallery, through April 29. •Peit Mondrian shows *The Transatlantic Paintings*. April 28-July 22.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Mary Shaffer's solo exhibition, *Current Work*, shows April 11-May 12.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. . •Cynthia Packard's *New Paintings* is on display through April 30.

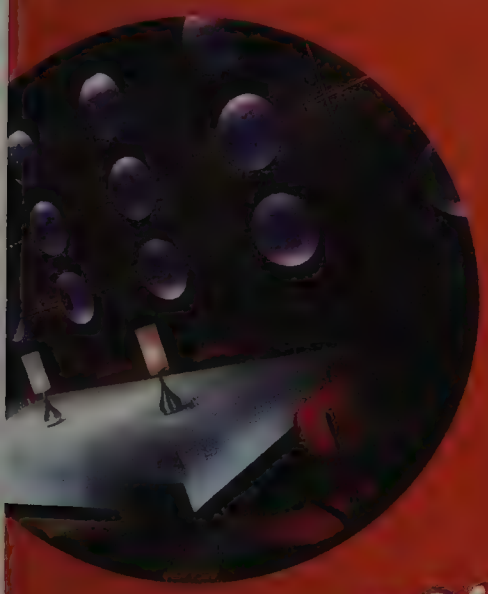
Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •Three series are displayed concurrently: paint-



The Museum of Fine Arts' *Art in Bloom* pops up April 27-30.

s t a r s

breakfast • lunch • dinner



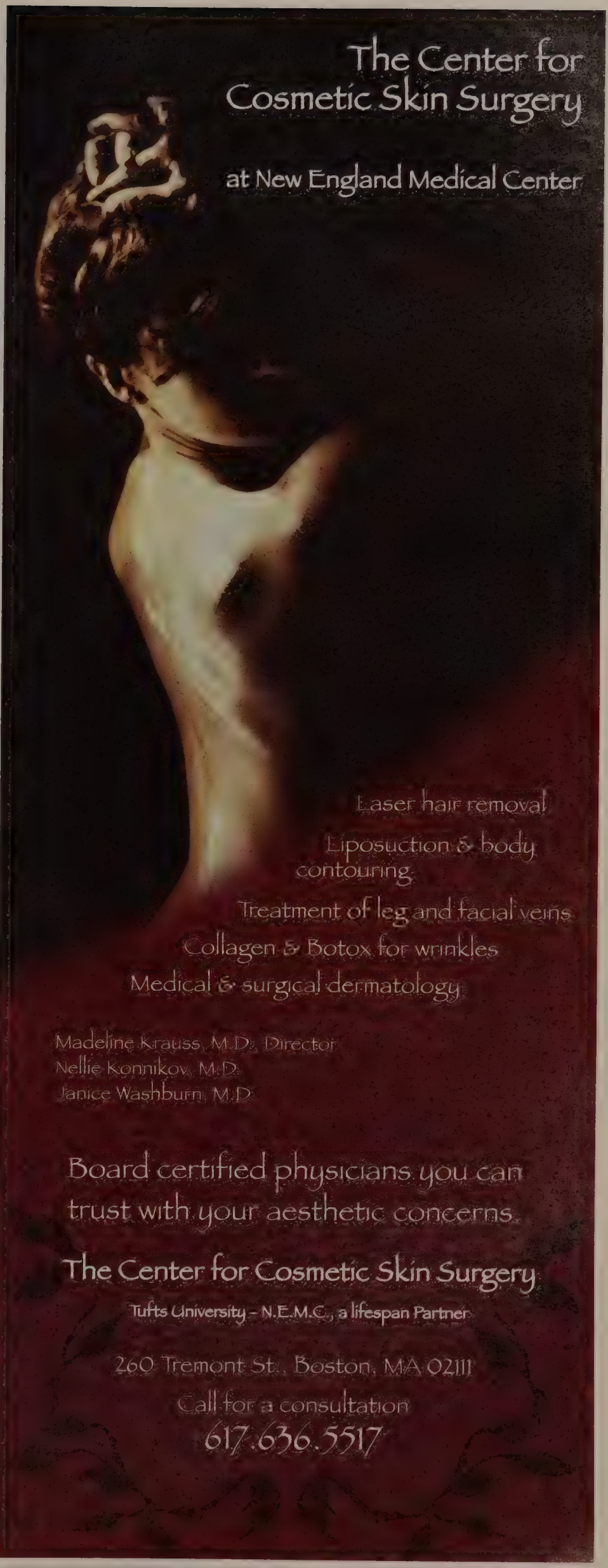
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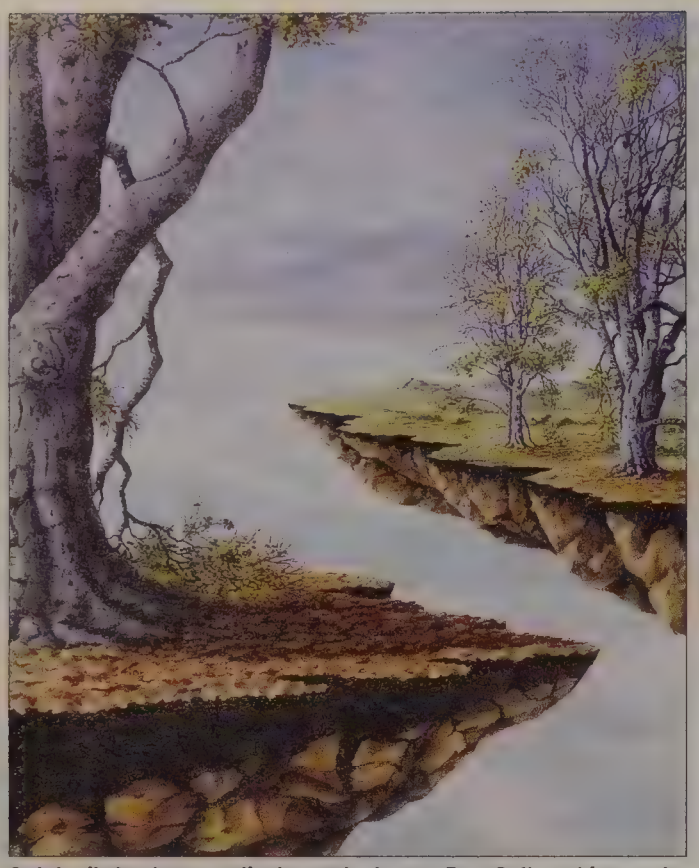
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C. J. Lori's landscapes display at the Lyman-Eyer Gallery this month.

ings and watercolors by Molly Luce, watercolors by Sally Michel and a collective *Visual Dictionary of Fine Print Techniques*. Through May 5.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. www.clarkgallery.com. •Peri Schwartz presents *New Paintings*. Through April 19. •*New Work* by Gregory Grenon shows April 24-May 17.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (695-0255). Wed.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Nuno de Campos presents new drawings in *Lap and Beyond*, in which the artist uses culturally loaded objects to examine gender identity and development. Through April 28.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat.10:30am-5:30pm. •*Patrons' Choice* presents works by 15 Copley Society artists who have gone on to achieve success elsewhere. Through April 14. •Penelope Manzella presents *An Invitational Exhibition*. April 18-May12. •*Three Visions West*, art by Eugene Epstein, Edwin Esleeck and Susan Sedgewick, shows April 19-May 12.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment.* •Anne Gilson Haney presents *Home Cooking* through April 15. •William Reimann shows *Sand-Carved Stone Reliefs*. May 1-June 8.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Contemporary works by Norman Crump, Dan McCole, Robert Fields and Brian Roach contain Irish themes. The works include original oils, watercolors and reproductions of Boston scenes and harbor views. Throughout April.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston (783-2421). http://drawbridge.com/dvbgallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •*Lung* and other works by Ean White display through April 14.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •Contemporary French paintings by leading French artists show throughout April.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd Floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm; Sat. 9am-6pm. •Richard Perry presents *New Works*, bas relief and reverse bas relief sculpture through April 28.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Chuck Holtzman displays his *Five Years of Drawing*. Through April 28.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Thu . 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7pm.* •A series of woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí shows with ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sasha Raiz. •Also on display is Peruvian artist Benito Huilcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depicting modern-day Cuzco. Ongoing.

Fort Point Cultural Coalition
330 Congress St., (423-4299 ext. 3). •*Lite Show*, an international festival of cutting-edge Web based art and animation shows as part of the CyberArts Festival, April 21-May 19.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Chagall, A Graphic Retrospective* shows throughout April.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., Wed. and Thu., 12-9pm. •Works by Masako Kamiya, Michael Lee and Susan Rogers show through April 14. •*Pressure*, a site-specific digital video, sound and interactive installation by SMFA students and visiting faculty shows as part of the Cyberarts Festival. April 20-May 19.

Gallery Bershad
99 Dover St., Somerville (629-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Mon.-Fri., 9-6pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm. •David Levine and Antonio Adriano Puleo exhibit their paintings. Also, Karen Dow and Laurel Sparks display contemporary paintings. Through April 13.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Joseph Barbieri's *Here and There: New Paintings* shows through April 28.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •Tom Duncan's *recent works* show through May 1.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781 648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •*Inside/Out*, work in a variety of media by faculty, staff and board artists, shows through May 11.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •The gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings. •The gallery is continuing to show select contemporary artists' works throughout May.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •An ongoing display of an assortment of 18th- and 19th-century antique engravings and lithographs. Throughout April.

Hall Space
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (989-9985). Fri.-Sat., 12pm-5pm. •Rose Olson presents *Color Edge* through May 12.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Robert Feintuch and Alan Rath each present their new works through April 30.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •An ongoing display features selected vintage posters.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard St., Brookline (739-5769). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10-8pm; Sun., 10-6pm. •Watercolors by Alexei Neiman and ceramics by Sonya Simun display through April 18.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Neo-Baroque*: works by Maura Bendett, Alex Blau, Dough Bosch, Sheila Gallagher, Frank Jackson and Giles Lyons, shows through April 28.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Geometry*, new works by George Anderson, displays through April 29.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •C. J. Lori presents *Unearthed: The Personal Effects of Nature*, an exhibition of landscapes. April 20-May 13.

Mass Art President's Gallery
11th Floor, Tower Building, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (879-7657). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. •The annual senior photography exhibit, *Pony Show*, features works by 23 young artists. Through April 16.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-6pm.* •An exclusive exhibit of rarely seen art by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, this exhibit presents his pieces that typify the Northern European sensibility. Through May 21.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Adolph Gottlieb: Paintings and Drawings from 1923-1941* shows through May 2.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Edythe F. Wright presents *Domestic Archeology: Site/Insite*. Through April 21. •Open Faucet presents Scavenger Hünt II, April 13-15. $7. •The Boston Cyberarts Festival presents *iEAR@mobius*, an installation/performance by the R.P.I. Integrated Electronic Arts Program. April 27 and 28, 8pm. $5. •*Art Colonies in the Balkans* is a slide and video presentation about the good and bad parts of attending an art colony in Macedonia or Croatia. April 16, 7pm. Free.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Evening Light*, paintings by Dmitri Cavendar, shows through May 6.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Jane Smaldone presents *Heroines and Saints*, through May 5.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •This gallery, owned and operated by several local artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on throughout April. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). www.peppergallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Andrew Nixon: New Work*, a collection of landscapes inspired by northern France, displays through May 1.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Memories and Dreams*, an exhibition of solo works by Shraga Weil, showcases mixed-media on board works inspired by his Jewish heritage. Through April 18.



As part of the CyberArts Festival, *Symphony of a City* by Elizabeth Canner and John Ewing will be projected on the walls of City Hall, for four consecutive Fridays beginning April 27.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse also specializes in antique Tixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •See the ongoing exhibition of American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings throughout April.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.Robert KleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Caverns and Grottos*, an exhibition of new photography by Sally Gall, explores nature's sensuous forms. Through April 21.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, between Brattle St. and Garden St., Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Female refuges from the Pol Pot regime in Cambodia are depicted in *Courage and Resiliency: Cambodian Women in America*. The photographs are by Marcus Halevi. Through April 30.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •Pat Steir's *Prints* display through April 22.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). www.space12gallery.com *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* •Tom Moran's *Rescue*, a series of paintings reflecting his impressions of firefighting, displays through April 14. •Contemporary paintings from Havana, by Mario Ayras show in his first solo exhibition in the United States. Throughout April, May and June.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style. Ongoing. •*Recent Works* by William St. George explores representational images with brilliant color.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., Boston (423-SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm. •*In Reverse*, a multimedia installation by Venezuelan arist Gisela Romera, shows April 20-May 20.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin and C. Ferrer, along with striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Trustman Art Gallery
Simmons College, 4th Floor Main College Building, 300 The Fenway, Boston (521-2268). Mon.-Fri., 10am-4:30pm. •Vaughn Sills presents *One Family: An Extended portrait*. Through April 20.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. •*The Symphony of Light*, an exhibition of landscape oil paintings by Ellen Granter and pastels by Changhuei Yang, shows through April 26.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •*Landscapes and Still Lifes* is an exhibition of photographs by Linda Mahoney. Through April 21.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A display of selected works of the gallery's current inventory shows throughout April.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •Robert McCann presents *Leaves and Grass*, a collection of his silver gelatin prints of nature. Through April 21.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Floral Photographs*, X-ray photographs by Dr. Dain L. Tasker and botanical studies by Michael Cooper. April 13-June 1.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a collection of photographs from the series at the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17. •*Rocks and Trees* is the fourth and last exhibition of the *Nature of Things* program. This exhibition reflects on the subtheme of rethinking the landscape.

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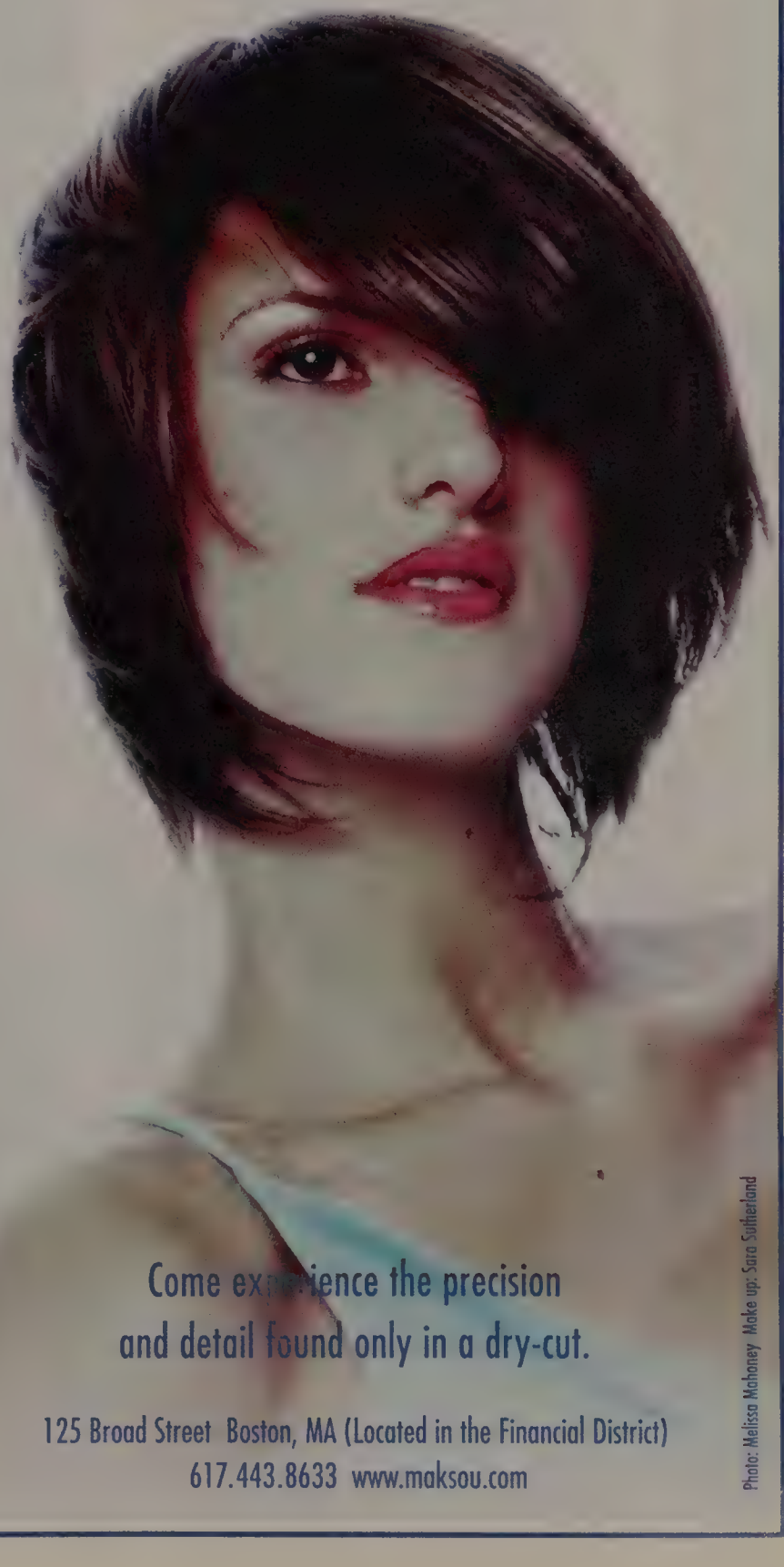
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Film

SATELLITE OF LOVE

The Dish blasts all the way back to 1969. BY PAUL SHERMAN

The ties that bind are the focus of the movies made by Working Dog, the Australian comedy group that made its movie debut by writing, producing and directing (but not appearing in) the very funny *The Castle* three years ago. That comedy offered a family of oddballs fighting the demolition of their rundown home, and was the rare sort of movie where you laughed at the characters for the first half but then laughed with them during the second. *The Castle* was a small film—and so is *The Dish*, by Hollywood standards—but it's also a decidedly less quirky, more mainstream story.

The Dish stems from a real 1969 incident, when NASA enlisted the giant satellite dish in Parkes, Australia to receive the television images of the Apollo 11 moon walk so they could be broadcast worldwide. For the folks who gave us *The Castle*, the story offers another chance to mix eccentricity and affection. These Aussies did the same tasks in both movies—Rob Sitch, Santo Cilauro, Jane Kennedy and Tom Gleisner wrote the script, Sitch directed, Kennedy worked on casting and Michael Hirsch was executive producer.

Much like Australia itself, the sleepy town of Parkes, where the largest satellite dish in the southern hemisphere sits amid a sheep pasture, suddenly finds itself the center of some attention. The story addresses this situation on two fronts: At the dish itself, where a NASA engineer (Patrick Warburton, *Seinfeld*'s Puddy) has joined the local staff (Sam Neill, Kevin Harrington and Tom Long); and in City Hall, where the affably bumbling mayor (Roy Billings) anxiously prepares to host both the prime minister (Bille Brown) and the American ambassador (John McMartin).

What's most enjoyable about *The Dish* is its ability to put an everyday spin on a larger-than-life event. The movie stands in absolute awe of those who made the moon walk possible, and it will make you feel the same way, but it also pushes low-key comedy in front of that backdrop. The men manning the dish are given tics that affect their interaction, like the melancholy of head man Neill (whose wife recently died), the shyness of the youngest played by Long and the bitterness of Harrington, (who resents the NASA man looking over their shoulder). The American is also given the wrinkle of seeming cold at first but later turns out to be very supportive of the Australians with whom he's working.

The story gives this crew some adversities, like a power outage and a windstorm, and one assumes some creative license has been used by the moviemakers in such plot workings. It's the more serene moments, when two or three of the dishmen head up onto the dish to survey things, hang out or play cricket, that the movie seems most at home. The same goes for the scenes with the politicians, the best of which happen in people's homes, often crowded around a TV set watching the coverage.

What often rubs against the comfortable informality of *The Dish* are its more "Hollywood" touches. In an annoying Spielbergian touch, the film has a story frame starting and ending with an old, present-day Neill, like the most useless, cloying moments of *Schindler's List* and *Saving Private Ryan*. And like a lot of bad Hollywood films, it's musically overscored, with a seemingly incessant John Williams wannabe orchestral score by Edmund Choi and such an overdose of late '60s top-40 hits that they cease to be effective punctuation to the action.

Still, as with *The Castle*, it's hard not to be moved by the characters and their deeds in *The Dish*. Without ever indulging in the self-importance of films like *Remember the Titans* or *The Patriot*, by the time Neil Armstrong walks on the moon, *The Dish* really makes you feel the shared effort of the people onscreen, and makes you feel closer to them than you would with the characters in most movies. **iB**



From left: Sam Neill, Kevin Harrington and Tom Long play Aussie technicians in *The Dish*.

The Dish★★★

Directed by Rob Sitch. Written by Sitch, Santo Cilauro, Tom Gleisner and Jane Kennedy. With Sam Neill, Patrick Warburton, Kevin Harrington, Tom Long and Roy Billing. Rated PG-13. Warner Bros.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Blow★★★
In director Ted Demme's intense rise and fall drama that's based on a true story, Johnny Depp gives another powerhouse *Donnie Brasco*-like performance. This story of a Weymouth-born working-class guy who finds his fortune—and his personal downfall—in drugs doesn't recall the recent *Traffic* so much as *Boogie Nights*. As in that movie, the hero's drug smuggling starts out as a family-like enterprise run by friends, and it escalates into something much more excessive, both personally and professionally, as he ends up being the guy pumping cocaine into America in the 1970s. The story unfurls in several complex strands, from drug deals to the smuggler's relationship with his parents and his problematic personal life. A killer supporting cast includes Franka Potente, Paul Reubens, Ray Liotta and Rachel Griffiths.

The Brothers ★★
Writer-director Gary Hardwick's movie is hopelessly caught between trying to be entertaining while presenting a story in which four 30-ish buddies (Morris Chestnut, D.L. Hughley, Bill Bellamy and Shemar Moore) face up to their troubles with women. In his desire to do the first, he gives nearly every subplot a happy ending that rewards the characters; in his desire to do the second, he puts a lot of romantic roadblocks in the four black professionals' way. The result is slick but shallow, and often relies on clichèd situations, like three of the pals trying to convince the fourth not to go through with his wedding.

The Claim ★★
In this ponderous, snowbound drama, Thomas Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge* has been transposed to mid-1800s Gold Rush California. There, the wealthy power behind a booming frontier town (Peter Mullan) reaps what he has sown when he's reunited with the wife (Nastassja Kinski) and daughter (Sarah Polley) he had traded away 18 years before for the gold claim that brought him his fortune. Reconnecting with the victims of his heartless deed brings him a string of bad luck, but any message about the evil of greedy men gets smothered by the slow pace and endless last third of the movie. Although well-crafted, this is still an emotionally dull mish-mash of *McCabe & Mrs. Miller* and *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*.

15 Minutes ★★
Robert DeNiro and Ed Burns make an appealing team as a celebrity homicide cop and a fire department marshal who team to stop a pair of killers. But the movie seems less concerned with them than it is with making a point about the relationship between violence and the media. From its heavy-handed messages to its grandstanding climax, this murder-mystery with a point is very clumsy, and it finds its demon in tabloid TV. How 1991 is that? It's great that someone made a movie that actually cares about the influence of the media on violence; it's too bad this is that movie.

Gaea Girls ★★★
In their fascinating documentaries *Dream Girls* and *Shinjuku Boys*, English filmmakers Kim Longinotto and Jano Williams have already focused on gender-bending Japanese women. They've done it again in this look at Japanese female pro wrestlers, specifically the young recruits trying to brave the brutal, boot-camp-like training it takes to get into Chigusa Nagayo's Gaea organization. While the movie neglects to mention the interesting course of Japanese female wrestling over the past 15 years (going from entertainment for teen girls to something much more athletic for a broader audience) and Nagayo's role in it, the filmmakers' fly-on-the-wall approach powerfully captures the physical and mental sacrifices the recruits endure, as well as the sometimes harrowing "tough love" Nagayo gives them.

Kingdom Come ★★½
Director Doug McHenry's movie rises slightly above predictable family-gathering soap opera. The family gathering is that of Whoopi Goldberg, and the occasion is her disliked husband's funeral. The comedy that injects itself into the fringes of the plot and the strong performances are what make this more respectable than most similar emotional-baggage-laden movies. Standouts include Anthony Anderson and LL Cool J as Goldberg's competitive sons; Jada Pinkett-Smith as Anderson's drama queen of a wife; and Goldberg herself, who's rarely so subdued.

Memento ★★★
Self-deception is at the center of this imaginative noir drama about a man with no short-term memory (Guy Pearce of *L.A. Confidential*) who is trying to avenge the rape and murder of his wife. The mostly successful gimmick is that the movie arrives in backward chunks of about five minutes each—we'll see one event, then another that took place before it and so on. Eventually, we come to see what the guy thinks is true and what's really true, especially regarding the two people aiding in his quest—an apparent hustler (Joe Pantoliano) and a barmaid (Carrie-Anne Moss). Once the novelty of the jigsaw structure fades, the midsection drags. But things

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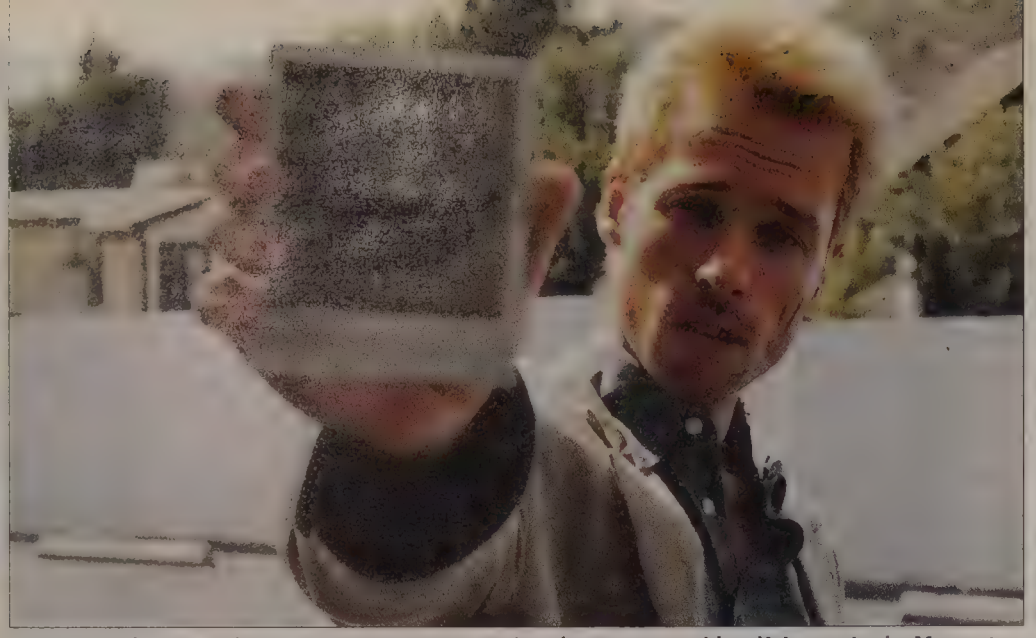
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Guy Pearce is a guy with no short-term memory who tries to avenge his wife's murder in *Memento*.

pick up again in the strong ending, which retains some ambiguity while revealing that there's more to the hero's "condition" (as he's always calling it) than we thought.

The Mexican ★★

Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts don't have much screen time together in this road movie, which adds equal parts crime-thriller and romantic comedy. Roberts plays a reader of self-help books who dumps her boyfriend, a selfish screw-up played by Pitt. She's mad because he has to go to Mexico to retrieve an antique pistol for his gangster boss, and she doesn't want him to do it. While Pitt is in Mexico, she's abducted by a hit man (James Gandolfini of *The Sopranos*) hired to nab her to ensure Pitt does the job. The Roberts-Gandolfini scenes are what's likable, as the two characters develop an unexpected bond; but the Mexican action isn't half as entertaining. Blame part of that on Pitt—he acts as if he's auditioning for the role of the wacky neighbor in a really bad sitcom.

Me You Them ★½

The supposed charm is oddly absent from this Brazilian female-empowerment tale about a woman (Regina Case) who ends up living under the same roof with her three lovers. Unlike the celebration of the non-nuclear family it's meant to be, it's more like a public service announcement for birth control, as the woman has a child with one man, gets married to another, then has children with two other lovers—and shows no signs of stopping.

Say It Isn't So ★½

Peter and Bobby Farrelly's first film as producers only, not writer-directors, has a big similarity to their past movies (like *There's Something About Mary* and *Me, Myself & Irene*) and a big dissimilarity. The similarity is physical comedy involving a hero desperately trying to get back the woman he loves. The dissimilarity is a near absence of laughs. Chris Klein plays a Midwestern dog catcher who finds the love of his life in Heather Graham, only to lose her when they find out they're siblings, and then have to win her back after discovering that's not true. Outside of Orlando Jones as a weirdo bush pilot who repeatedly helps Klein, there's little to smile about. It just seems like a bad Farrelly imitation, not at all like the real thing.

Someone Like You ★½

This romantic comedy that's neither romantic nor funny lands with a big thug. Very few moments in this story of the love life of a talk-show producer (Ashley Judd) feel the least bit convincing, from her relationships with two men (Greg Kinnear, Hugh Jackman) to her belief in a theory that men's sexual behavior is just the same as that of lower animals. Though Judd tries hard—perhaps too hard for a romantic comedy—most everything comes across halfheartedly. Perfectly emblematic of the movie is a Christmas party scene in which an extra pretends to play the piano in the background, yet no one thought to add the piano music for us to actually hear.

The Tailor of Panama ★★★

This is one of the few movies released in the past month that's actually worth sitting through. It's the perfect film for our Misinformation Age, with Geoffrey Rush as a phony Panama City tailor who suddenly finds new-spy-in-town Pierce Brosnan flashing money at him in exchange for information about political instability there. The tailor concocts stories for the spy, the spy concocts stories for his British bosses, and the Brits concoct more stories for the Pentagon. Quick moving and with a streak of black comedy, it's smart and entertaining at a time of the year when both qualities are hard to find.

Tomcats ★

See the horny dudes. See the horny dudes run after babes with implants. See the horny dudes sweet talk the babes with implants. See the babes with implants give it up for the horny dudes. See the horny dudes run away from the babes with implants, and after the next set of babes with implants. See your $9 vanish.

Alternatives & Revivals

Boston Public Library

Audrey Hepburn on Film

• April 23, 6pm **Funny Face** *1957*. In order to meet with the founder of "empathicalism," Jo (Hepburn) goes to Paris as a high-fashion model. Once there, the brainy librarian does more than fulfill her scholastic aspirations—she finds love.

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features.

Mondays: Crime Wave

• April 16, 4:30 and 8:30pm **Crime Wave** *1954*. This documentary-style film noir stars Gene Nelson as an ex-con trying to stay straight when he gets pulled back into a life of crime, under the watchful eye of a ruthless cop played by Sterling Hayden. • Also showing, 2:30, 6 and 9:30pm **Kansas City Confidential** *1953*. After being set up for a bank robbery he didn't commit by a bitter ex-cop, the now jobless ex-con (John Payne) heads south to track down the men who set him up.

Tuesdays: Beyond Blaxploitation

• April 17, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Watermelon Man** *1970*. What happens when a bigoted white man wakes up one day and discovers that he is black? This dark, satirical comedy explores the role race plays in society.

Wednesdays: Recent Raves

• April 11, 7:15pm **Pola X** *1999*. Leo is happy living with his mother and dating the girl he loves. Then a stranger comes to town and they have an affair, even though she may be his sister. • Also playing, 5:15 and 9:45pm **Mauvais Sang** *1986*. A man (Denis Lavant) becomes involved in the theft of a newly isolated virus that only kills people who have sex without love. • April 18, 5, 7:30pm and 10pm **The Pledge** *2000*. This film, starring Jack Nicholson and directed by Sean Penn, follows a Nevada policeman obsessed with the rape and murder of a 7-year-old girl.

Thursdays: Janus Films Festival

• April 12, 7:45pm **Grand Illusion** *1937*. This is a classic anti-war film about French soldiers trying to escape from their German captors during the first World War. Directed by Jean Renoir. • Also playing, 5:30 and 10pm **Rules of the Game** *1939*. Just before World War II, a group of French aristocrats get together for a weekend of decadence and self-indulgence. Renoir's metaphor for human folly under siege has become a classic around the globe.

9th Annual Boston International Festival of Women's Cinema

• April 19, 7:30pm; April 20, 3:30pm **The Luzhin Defence**. The festival opens with this Academy Award-winning film, slated for release this spring. Based on Nabokov's book, this is a tragic tale of love and madness, starring Emily Watson and John Turturro. The director, Marleen Gorris, is expected to introduce the film.

• April 21, 1pm **Stray Dogs**. This will be a special screening of this work-in-progress of the film, which stars Guinevere Turner. • Also showing, 3:45pm **Compensation**. This film from British filmmaker Zeinabu Irene Davis tells the parallel tales of African-American couples living in Chicago, one at the turn of the century and one currently living there. • Also showing, 5:45pm **I'll Take You There**. An offbeat comedy about love and redemption, it stars Ally Sheedy and is directed by Adrienne Shelley. • Also showing, 8pm **The Man Who Cried**. This sneak peak at Sally Potter's historical epic set between the two world wars stars Christina Ricci and Johnny Depp.

• April 19, 5:15pm, April 22, 6pm **Songcatcher**. A period drama directed by Maggie Greenwald, the story follows a music scholar who travels to Appalachia to discover Scotch-Irish ballads and the community that sings them. • Also showing, 10pm and April 22, 3:45pm **Shadow Magic**. Based on a true story, Ann Hu's film brings to life the emergence of motion pictures in China in the early 1900s.

• April 20, 5:30pm and April 21, 10pm **The Girl**. A collaboration between French novelist Monique Witting and U.S. independent filmmaker Sande Zeig, this is a neo-noir lesbian thriller set in Paris. • Also showing, 7:50pm and April 22, 8pm **Suspicious River**. Director Lynne Stopkewich's daring look at compulsion and desire is based on a novel of the same name. • Also showing, 10pm **Girls Can't Swim**. Anne-Sophie Birot's debut is the story of two French girls who have trouble fitting in.

• April 22, 2pm **The Gleaners and I**. Agnes Varda's French film is a sociopolitical documentary about scavengers from all walks of life. • Also showing, 10pm **Gaea Girls**. The film is an examination of Japan of Japanese Women's Pro wrestling.

The World of Agnes Varda

• April 23 and 24, 7:30pm **Cleo from 5 to 7** *1962*. A contemporary of Truffaut and Godard, Agnes Varda was one of the Left Bank faction of the French New Wave of cinema. This romantic film follows Cleo around Paris in the '60s. • Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30pm **Le Bonheur** *1965*. A happily married man tries to love both his wife and his mistress equally. It turns out disastrously.

Library of Congress Selections

• April 13, 4 and 7pm **Sherman's March** *1986*. This modern documentary classic flashes back and forth between the South during the Civil War and filmmaker Ross McElwee's own life. • Also playing, 10pm **Five Easy Pieces** *1970*. Based on the novel, this is the classic Jack Nicholson movie about a pianist who doesn't want to be tied down.

• April 14, 2 and 7pm **Goodfellas** *1990*. Scorsese's star-filled mafia family movie is the most recent entry in to the Film Registry. • Also playing, 5 and 10pm **Shaft** *1971*. The first blaxploitation film to enter the registry, this is the story of private eye John Shaft and his quest to keep the Mafia out of Harlem and rescue an innocent girl.

• April 15, 1 and 6:30pm **A Star Is Born** *1954*. In Judy Garland's comeback musical, a rising star is married to an actor whose alcoholism has put his career on the decline. • Also playing, 4:30 and 9:45pm **Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?** *1957*. An adaptation of the Broadway play, this film looks at the comical side of advertising and TV in the 1950s. Starring Jayne Mansfield and Tony Randall.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Balagan Experimental Film Series

• April 12 **Animation II**. The second round of incredible local animation pieces is curated by Jeff Sias, local filmmaker and animator.

Dance on Screen

• April 11, 6pm **Jacob's Pillow: Program 1** features **Collaborations: A Video Journal** *2001*. Choreographers, composers and collaborators featured in Jacob's Pillow's 2000 season discuss their work. • Also showing, 7:30pm and April 18, 6pm **Jacob's Pillow: Program 2** featuring **A Very Dangerous Pastime** *2000*. This short film explores the "why" and "what is it" of dance.

• April 14, 6, 9pm **Four Choreographers in Person** includes Debra Bluth, Jennifer Hicks, Eric 3D Cruz and Kate Digby. At 7:30pm, dancer **Nicola Hawkins** comes to talk about her career.

• April 16, 7:30pm **Prometheus Dance in Person**. Diane Arvanites-Noya and Tommy Neblett's work deals with social issues and psychology.

• April 17, 6 and 7:30pm **Paul Thrussell in Person**. The Boston Ballet's principal dancer explores his life of dance through video clips.

• April 23, 6 and 7:30pm **Seth Curran**'s dance company has an eclectic repertory including group works and solos. Tonight, he speaks about the troupe.

9th Annual Boston International Festival of Women's Cinema

• April 20, 5:30pm and April 21, 1pm **Early Projections**. The collection of short films by female filmmakers includes works by Lynn Ramsay and Lisa Cholod. • Also showing, 7:30pm and April 21, 9pm **Waiting at the Royal**. The Australian story is about four very different women who share a room in a maternity ward.

• Also showing, 9:45pm and April 22, 3pm **A Boy Named Sue**. The documentary is a transsexual's chronicle of one person's journey from being a woman to becoming a man.

• April 21, 3pm **Backroads**. This film paints a portrait of a Canadian women living on a reserve in 1976. • Also showing, 5pm **On Hostile Ground**. This film profiles three abortion providers and the risks they face, both personally and professionally.

• April 22, 1pm **Russia's Wonder Children**. A cinematic portrait of the passions of prodigies and their love for music. • Also showing, 2:30pm **The Man Who Cried**. Sally Potter's historical epic is set between the two World Wars. It stars Christina Ricci and Johnny Depp. • Also showing, 6:30pm **My First Mister**. The festival closes with this film, Christine Lahti's directoral debut. It is the story of an unlikely friendship between a goth teen and a middle-aged clothing store owner. Lahti is expected to introduce the film.



Wes Bentley and Sarah Polley experience California's mid-1800s Gold Rush in *The Claim*.

TOP: DANNY ROTHENBERG. BOTTOM: PETER MOUNTAIN

•Also showing, 9:15pm **The Monkey's Mask**. This film, based on the novel by Dorothy Parker, follows a lesbian private detective (Susie Porter) and the femme fatale (Kelly McGillis) who seduces her.

Midnight Movies: Teen Theme

•April 13 and 14, 12am **Purple Rain** *1984*. Prince stars as a young man who dreams of a life as a rock star. Prince also wrote the soundtrack.
•April 20 and 21, 12am **Pump Up the Volume** *1990*. Christian Slater is a renegade pirate DJ who causes trouble in a small town by speaking his mind.

Harvard Film Archive

Frames of Mind

•April 11, 7pm **Rashomon** *1950*. Kurosawa's film about 12th-century Japan explores the nature of truth. When one man is murdered, four different, irreconcilable versions of how it happened emerge. •Also playing, 8:30pm **Gattaca** *1997*. Are human beings born or made? This question is the central premise of the movie with Ethan Hawke and Uma Thurman.
•April 12, 7pm **Flowers of Shanghai** *1998*. In this most recent work, modern cinema master Hou Hsiao-hsien focuses on the world of late 19th-century Shanghai.
•April 17, 7pm **Bed and Sofa** *1927*. This silent film is accompanied by piano. The story follows a relationship triangle that becomes complicated when the woman turns out to be pregnant.
•April 18, 7pm **Run Lola Run** *1998*. Small-time gang courier Manni has misplaced a sack of money and has 20 minutes to find it. His girlfriend Lola comes to his rescue, racing through the streets of Berlin as split-second decisions become life-altering.
•April 24, 7pm **A Walk Through H** *1978*. This eccentric film is based on an ornithological treatise by director Peter Greenway's fictive alter-ego, Tulse Luper.

Film and the Third Reich

•April 16, 9pm **Mrs. Miniver** *1942*. The tale of an average British family and its struggle to maintain normal life during wartime conveys the determination exhibited by the British in the face of Nazi expansion.
•April 23, 9:30pm **Rambo: First Blood, Part II** *1985*. The testosterone-laden fairy tale of one man's fight to save another man features Sylvester Stallone.

Literature and Film

•April 16, 7pm **The Mirror** *1976*. Directed by Andrei Tarkovsky, this is the poetic depiction of the unconscious and conscious reminiscences of a character temporarily confined to his bed by illness.
•April 23, 6:30pm **The Unbearable Lightness of Being** *1988*. Based on the novel by Milan Kundera, this film explores the highly secretive love life of a charming surgeon in the spring of 1968. Starring Daniel Day-Lewis, Juliette Binoche and Lena Olin.

Museum of Fine Arts

Arab Cinema

•April 11, 6pm and April 15, 4pm **Summer in La Goulette** *1996*. In Ferid Boughedir's beautiful and sensual film, we meet three teen-aged virgins whose lust for the wrong men threatens to disturb the fabric of their Tunisian neighborhood.
•April 14, 1:45pm and April 21, 12:15pm **Living In Paradise** *1997*. Director Bourlem Guerdjou shows a family suffering in poverty while struggling to find their own bit of paradise in a shantytown in Nanterre, France.

Boston Asian American Film Festival

•April 12, 8pm **Bugaboo and Uljhan** *1999*. In *Bugaboo*, former NASA research scientist Sujit Saraf takes a look at the life of Indian emigre engineers in Silicon Valley.
•April 13, 6pm **True and Lady Jane** *1999*. *True* is a romantic comedy by Jay Koh about the lives of three Asian Americans and their search for identity.
•April 14, 3:45pm **Comrades and When You're Smiling** *1999*. Edward Wong's film follows Yook Wong as he joins the Communist Revolution that swept through China in 1949, and Alex Hing, who founded a similar group a generation later in San Francisco.

Bulgarian Cinema

•April 19, 7:45pm **A Chronicle of Stated Treason and The Redeemed** *1999*. Milena Milatinova's *Chronicle* examines how identity changes in the face of political ideology, portraying the forced "Macedonization" in Yugoslavia during World War II.
•April 20, 6pm **Glass Marbles** *2000*. Ivan Cherkelov's seemingly trivial story follows two friends who spend the night in an empty apartment. The story reflects on childhood, love, death and the need for a spiritual life.
•Also showing, 8pm **Wagner** *1998*. Andrei Slabakov's tragi-comedy portrays the absurdity of daily life in Bulgaria under Communist rule. Elena wins an apartment in a housing lottery, and begins a search for a piece of bread that proves to be the final word on Communism.
•April 21, 2:15pm **A Winter's Tale and Hour Glass** *1999*. As guns thunder from Kosovo, Nikolai Volev's rural characters discuss the eternal theme of love with great comedy and warmth in *A Winter's Tale*. •Also showing, 4pm **Goat Horn** *1995*. Nikolai Volev's second film centers on the 500-year conflict between Christian Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire.

New England Film and Video Festival

•April 12, 6pm **Black Maria Film-Video Festival**. The animated *Animal*, by Miguel Diez Prez, investigates the implications of technology. •In *Ghost Trip*, Bill Morrison traverses the American roadscape in a Cadillac hearse. •Director Jay Rosenblatt comes to terms with his own conflict over Christianity's treatment of the Jews in *King of the Jews*. •Hiroshi Mori's *Chair* centers on a lone figure struggling to keep it together. •Naomi Uman's *Private Movie* is purely visualistic. •*Backsteps* by Leighton Pierce features the director's children at play. •A master and his aging dog discuss funeral plans in *Final Exit* by Joe Gibbons. •*Shaded Bandwiths* by Anney Bonney and Liz Phillips examines the parent-child conflicts.

Boston Film Artists Present

•April 14, 15 and 21, 10:30am **Iditarod...A Far Distant Place** *1999*. Alice Bouvrie focuses on the small details of the Iditarod Sled Dog Race across Alaska.
•Also showing, 12:25pm **Miyah: The Life of a Javanese Woman** *1999*. This documentary by Laurie Rothstein follows a female servant and cook for a prominent family in Jakarta, Indonesia.
•April 19, 6pm **Conversation for a Dollar** *2001*. By underground director Jason Fisher, this video consists of a series of conversations between a street performer and a diverse group of characters.

Special Events

Underground Film Revolution

•April 24, 8pm **Independent Exposure**. This indie film/video series presents short, feature-length and animation films produced by filmmakers from around the world as part of the Zeitgeist Gallery's new monthly film and video series. The series features several works by members of Boston's own Underground Film Revolution, including *The Lonliest Boy*. Call the gallery for a full schedule of films and their screening times at 876-2182.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas *214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*

BELMONT

Studio Cinema *376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).*

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation *1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Boston Public Library *666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Cheri *50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Copley Place (Loews/Sony) *100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Fenway Theatre General Cinema *201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.*
Museum of Fine Arts *465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.*
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater *Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.*
Wang Center *270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas *399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.*
Coolidge Corner *290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.*

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater *40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Harvard Film Archive *24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Kendall Square Cinema *One Kendall Sq. (621-1202). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.*
Loews/Sony Theater *10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony *35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Sq.*
Somerville Theater *55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema *27 Boylston St. (277-2500). Green Line to Chestnut Hill.*
West Newton Cinema *1296 Washington St. (964-6060).*



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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Barnes and Noble Author Series
1 Worcester Road, Framingham (508-628-5567). 7:30pm. The Curator of the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University, **Bill Kovach**, visits Barnes and Noble to discuss *The Elements of Journalism: What Newspeople Should Know and the Public Should Expect*. Kovach was a bureau chief for the *New York Times* and editor for the *Atlanta Journal and Constitution*.

Radcliffe Fellows Event Series
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (496-1462). 4pm. **Susanne Freidberg** discusses food scares and the fresh-food commodity chains between Africa and Europe. She draws from her work, *Feeding on Fear: Africa's Food Trades in an Anxious Age*. Assistant professor of Geography at Darmouth, Freidberg spent a year abroad studying food consumption in France, England, Burkana Fasa and Zambia.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Anita Shreve**, bestselling author of *The Pilot's Wife*, reads from her newest novel, *Last Time They Met*, which explores themes of love and paths not followed.



Jamaica Kincaid comes to Babson College April 19 to discuss her short stories and novel *Annie John*.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). 7:30pm. $5. A night of Arlington's Favorite Poems, inspired by Robert Pinsky's Favorite Poetry Readings series, features educators, government and community officials and business leaders reciting their favorite poems. Special guest readers include **Kathleen Donovan**, superintendent of Arlington Public Schools; **Pauline Finberg**, art teacher at Arlington High School; **Louise Ruma Ivers**, realtor; **Mary Jo Sargent**, owner of Flora Restaurant; **Les Masterson**, editor of the *Arlington Advocate;* **Mary Ellen Loud**, director of Robbins Library; **Bob Sprague**, communications officer at Arlington Public Schools; and **Marc Widershein** of *New Renaissance Magazine*.

Barnes and Noble Author Series
1 Worcester Road, Framingham (508-628-5567). 7:30pm. Local author and creator of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* **Christopher Golden** joins us to discuss, read and sign his new books, *Prowlers* and *Straight on 'til Morning*.

Borders Bookshop Author Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:30pm. **Don Zimmer**, one of baseball's most eccentric characters and storytellers, chronicles his life in the sports industry in his new book, *Zim*. Then, at 6:30pm, A Tapestry of Voices celebrates National Poetry Month with an open-mike event featuring **X. J. Kennedy**, **Stephen Dobyns**, **Wendy Mnookin** and **Jennifer Rose**.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Harvard Info. Center, Holyoke Center, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Bill Kovach** and **Tom Rosenstiel** read from their book, *Elements of Journalism*. The authors address the principles and responsibilities that govern journalism, both for those who create and those who consume the news. The research draws from dozens of surveys of readers, listeners, viewers, editors, journalists and editors.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **John A. Farrell** discusses *Tip O'Neill and the Democratic Century*. The biography follows Thomas Philip Tip O'Neill, the postwar Speaker of the House, from the New Deal to Newt Gingrich.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. **Anita Diamant** comes to Newtonville to read from her revised book, *The New Jewish Wedding*. Diamant is the author of several nonfiction books on Jewish life, as well as national bestseller *The Red Tent*.

New Words Bookstore
186 New Hampshire St., Boston (876-5310). 6pm. Free. **Marcie Hershman** reads from and discusses her new book, *Speak to Me: Grief, Love and What Endures*, a memoir of Hershman's brother Robert, whom she lost to AIDS, and her discovery of what lives on when a loved one dies.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle Street., #1, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Rachel Remen,** author of *My Grandfather's Blessing*, discusses recognizing and receiving the blessings we are offered each day, and how to bless others through our service.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Barnes and Noble Author Series
1 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-628-5567). 7:30pm. This is a *Survivor* tell-all and book signing with **Peter Lance**, whose book, *Stingray: the Lethal Tactics of the Sole Survivor* claims to have the inside story of how the castaways were controlled on the island and beyond. Supposedly, he has found evidence that might indicate that CBS manipulated the outcome of *Survivor*.

MONDAY, APRIL 16

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Mark Winegardener** talks about his new book, *Crooked River Burning*. Also, and **Anthony Giardina** discusses his work, *A Recent History*.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Don Lee** reads from his collection of short stories, *Yellow*, about Asian Americans in coastal California who face not only fears of being ethnically yellow but also the universal terrors of love, failure, and abandonment.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. Join **Karen Chase** as she reads from her surreal, fairy-tale-like collection of poetry, *Kazimierz Square*. Local poet and writer **Emily Hiestand** joins her to read from her book, *Angela the Upside-Down Girl and Other Stories*.

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Victoria McMains** discusses her work, *The Readers' Choice: 200 Book Club Favorites*. This handy guide for book lovers contains fiction and nonfiction, classics, regional writers and some bestsellers.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: Green Line C to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Peggy Rambach** discusses her book, *Fighting Gravity*, which looks at the dynamics of love between an older man and a younger woman while also confronting the question of religious faith in the face of sudden misfortune.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education
56 Brattle Street, Cambridge (547-6789). 8pm., $6. **Susan Kouguell**, professor at Tufts University, **Susan Welsh**, vice president of Robbins Entertainment, and **Debbie Danielpour-Chapel**, novelist and screenwriter, discuss the challenges of making the transition from prose writing to screenwriting.

Radcliffe Fellows Event Series
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (496-1462). 4pm. **Ann Skoczenski**, an expert in cognitive sciences, reads from her book, *Windows into the Infant Mind: Studies of Sensory and Perceptual Development*.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Babson College Author Event
Richard Knight Auditorium, Wellesley (781-239-4623). 7:30pm. **Jamaica Kincaid** reads from *At the Bottom of the River,* her first collection of short stories about childhood in the Caribbean, and *Annie John*, her novel about a young girl growing up in Antigua.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: Green Line C to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Catch **Marcie Hershman** appears again as she reads from her new book, *Speak to Me*, a memoir of her brother Robert who died of AIDS.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Jeff Cutler** discusses his book, *Mountain Bike America-Boston*. Featuring more than 25 of the regions greatest mountain bike rides, this guide provides a look into the variety of off-road riding opportunities available to those in the Greater Boston Area.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 5:30pm-7:30pm. **Ted Devane** signs copies of *Uncommon Justice*, his newest legal thriller about the difference between justice and the law.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Grolier Poetry Show
Arthur M. Sackler Auditorium, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $2-$5. Former Oxford professor of poetry **James Fenton** reads from his original prose and poetry.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. In her second Boston appearance this week, **Peggy Rambach** drops in to read from her book, *Fighting Gravity,* a novel based on her marriage to writer Andre Dubus. She has published short stories in the *North American Review* and the *Indiana Review*, and has twice received the Individual Artist Grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Boston National Poetry Month Festival
Boston Public Library, Boston 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10am-5pm Sat. and Sun. and a reception on Friday evening, 6:30-8pm. Free. **Harris Gardner**, executive director and founder of Tapestry of Voices, is organizing Boston's first National Poetry Month Festival, in conjunction with the Kaji Aso Studio. Heading the program is accomplished poet, painter, book illustrator, opera singer and dramatist **Kaji Aso**. Fifty-two other poets each present 25-minute readings from their works. Authors include **Frank Bidart**, a recent recipient of the Wallace Stevens $150,000 prize; professor at Mt. Ida College and performance poet **Michael Brown**; **Peter Davison**, poetry editor of *The Atlantic Monthly*; **Diana Der Hovenessian**, president of the New England Poetry Club; **Stephan Dobyns**, author of 10 collections of poetry and 20 novels; **Rhina Espaillat**, this year's recipient of the Richard Wilbur prize; **Emily Hiestand**, poetry editor of *Orion Magazine;* **Doug Holder**, publisher/editor of *Ibbetson Street Press*; **Andy Levesque**, referred to as the Poet of Walden Pond; **Jack Powers**, founder of Stone Soup Poetry; **Diana Saenz**, poet and dramatist; and acclaimed critic/poet **Lloyd Schwartz**.

Grolier Poetry Show
Fogg Art Museum, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $8. Poet **Gail Mazur** recites from her collection, *They Can't Take That Away from Me*.

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Memorial Church at Harvard University
The Memorial Church, Harvard Yard, Cambridge (495-5508). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 10:30am. Novelist, poet, dramatist and essayist **Reynolds Price** delivers the 2001 Francis Greenwood Peabody lecture.

Museum of Fine Arts Author Event
Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (369-3448). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $10-$13, 7:30pm. **Mark Doty**, winner of the T. S. Eliot Prize, poet and memoirist, reads from his latest book, *Still Life with Oysters and Lemon.*

MONDAY, APRIL 23

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Boston (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. **Peter Balakian** shares excerpts from his books *Black Dog of Fate* and *June-Tree: New and Selected Poems, 1974-2000.*

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Harvard Info. Center, Holyoke Center, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6:30pm. The HBS Literary Salon Series presents a reading by **Marcie Hershman**, who talks about her novel *Speak to Me: Grief, Love and What Endures.* The book traces a woman's attempt to come to terms with the death of her brother.

New Words Bookstore Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Join seven of the contributing artists from *The World in Us: Lesbian and Gay Poetry of the Next Wave*, from **Olga Broumas** to emerging writers **Letta Neely** and **Melanie Hope** for an afternoon of poetry, performance and provocative conversation.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. **Rim Parrish** reads from *Red Stick Men* and **Brad Watson** reads from *Last Days of the Dog-Men.* Parish's novel renders stories about the blue-collar workers living along the Mississippi, as the ups and downs of the oil industry affect their lives.

MONDAY, APRIL 24

Grolier Poetry Series
Adams House, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $2-$5. **Martin Espada** reads from his sixth collection of poems, *A Mayan Astronomer in Hell's Kitchen.*

Wordsworth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle Street., #1, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **John Farrell**, author of: *Tip O'Neill and the Democratic Century*, discusses a time when politics was fun and politicians were large and colorful. If you missed him April 12, see him now.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-11pm. $3. Fiction afficionados will love Cantab's first Tuesday of the month open-mike event featuring short stories, novel exerts and prose.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. 9pm. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Africa's Food Trades
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). 4pm. Free. **Susanna Freidberg** addresses "Africa's food trades in an anxious age."

An Evening with Sam Weisman
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). 7-9pm. $27. The director of *The Out-of-Towners* and *George of the Jungle* speaks about the film industry.

The Legacy of Brown v. Board of Education
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (929-4571). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 5:30-7pm. Professors **James T. Patterson** and **Charles Willie** discuss the groundbreaking case and its consequences for our country.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

A History of Shopping Downtown
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). 12:15-1pm. **Albert Rex** from the Boston Preservation Alliance looks at the heart of Boston's shopping district on Washington Street.

Breakfast with Politician Steve Grossman
Brookline Chamber of Commerce, Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline (739-1330). 7:30-9am. $15. Politician Steve Grossman speaks.

The Destruction of Privacy in America
Congregation Kehillath Israel, 384 Harvard St., Brookline (730-2700). 7pm. $12. **Jeffrey Rosen**, author of *The Unwanted Gaze*, discusses privacy issues in America.

New England Sprawl
JFK School of Government, Taubman A, Cambridge (495-8756). 12-1:30pm. **Rebecca Barnes** speaks on "moving past sprawl" in New England.

Sex Trafficking of Women and Girls
115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). 7-8:30pm. $5. More than 4 million women around the world are victims of the international sex trade.

What's a Penguin to Eat?
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (573-0742). 7pm. Free. **Wayne Trivelpiece** of the Southwest Fisheries Science Center discusses how global warming is changing the Antarctic food web.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

The Perfect Storm, Revisited
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (573-0742). 10am-12pm. A panel of five weather experts discusses the "perfect storm" of 1991.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Rome & Boston: Water-Shaped Cities
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (951-1433). 6pm. Urban historian **Katherine Rinne** describes how water and our use of it shapes our city.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

President Bush's Tax Plan
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:15pm. Boston Globe columnist **Robert Kuttner** speaks on Democratic opposition to President Bush's tax plan.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Bruce Babbitt Speaks
Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (496-6972). 4pm. Former secretary of the Interior **Bruce Babbitt** discusses attempts made to balance economic demands placed on natural resources.

The New Economy
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (929-4571). 1-2:30pm. Secretary of Labor **Robert B. Reich** and syndicated columnist **Robert Kuttner** discuss the ramifications of the new economy.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

Holocaust Controversies
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. Professor **Dr. Jack Porter** speaks on issues relating to the Holocaust.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

Ceremony
An Tua Nua. Pounding goth and industrial music shake the house. Ceremony performs with DJ Mothra. 19+, front bar 21+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. Show tunes and Cabaret with Michael Larson and Dorothy Miller. 9pm-1am.

Language
Hibernia. This incredible drum-and-bass night is heated up with Cosmo. 8pm. 21+.

Monsta Monday
Bill's Bar. Jam with DJ Kapt Krunch. •April 16: Drowning Man is joined by Haste, Pictures of Gabriel and In Pieces. 9pm, $8. 18+.

Phoenix Landing
This Irish pub offers best of hip-hop, jazz and reggae. 11pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma. DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and house. 10pm, $10. 21+. Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
•April 16: Post-Boston Marathon party, 6pm. •April 23: Nomar 5 Fund party hosted by Nomar Garciaparra, 6pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. No cover. $21+.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and U.K. progressive. Plus a drag/strip event with Mizery. 10pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo. Caesar and Giorgio throw a party for those who never want to stop dancin'. Dress slick. 10pm. No cover.

TUESDAYS

Avenue
DJ mike M. from New York hosts Allson's old-school hip-hop funk night. 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar. This off-the-hook night features DJ Chaos scratching out hip-hop. 10pm. $12, 18+.

Flaunt
Aria. Hip-hop and R&B with guest DJs. 19+, $10.

The Forum
Lava Bar. Join Mission Control and support local DJs as home-grown talents share the floor. 10pm. 21+.

Got Milk?
Venu. If you're chic you'll be at Venu for Milk—a devilishly hip party with DJ Osheen. Dress is funky. 21+.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a relaxed night out on a Tuesday. 6pm. 21+.

Lot 36
The Modern/Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin House for a trendy crowd. 10pm. $10. 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Alex, Heather, Igor, Diego, Jason and Gonzaga host Euro house international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress coat required. $15.

The Rack
•April 17: Big City Beat, 8pm, 21+. •April 24: Search Party, 8pm, 21+.

Showtunes
Encore Lounge. Bobby Femino plays classic piano-bar show tunes. 9pm-1am.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. No cover. 21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall. 9-10pm, followed by dancing. 5pm-2am. No cover. 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange. Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble rocks; a complimentary buffet is served. 8pm.

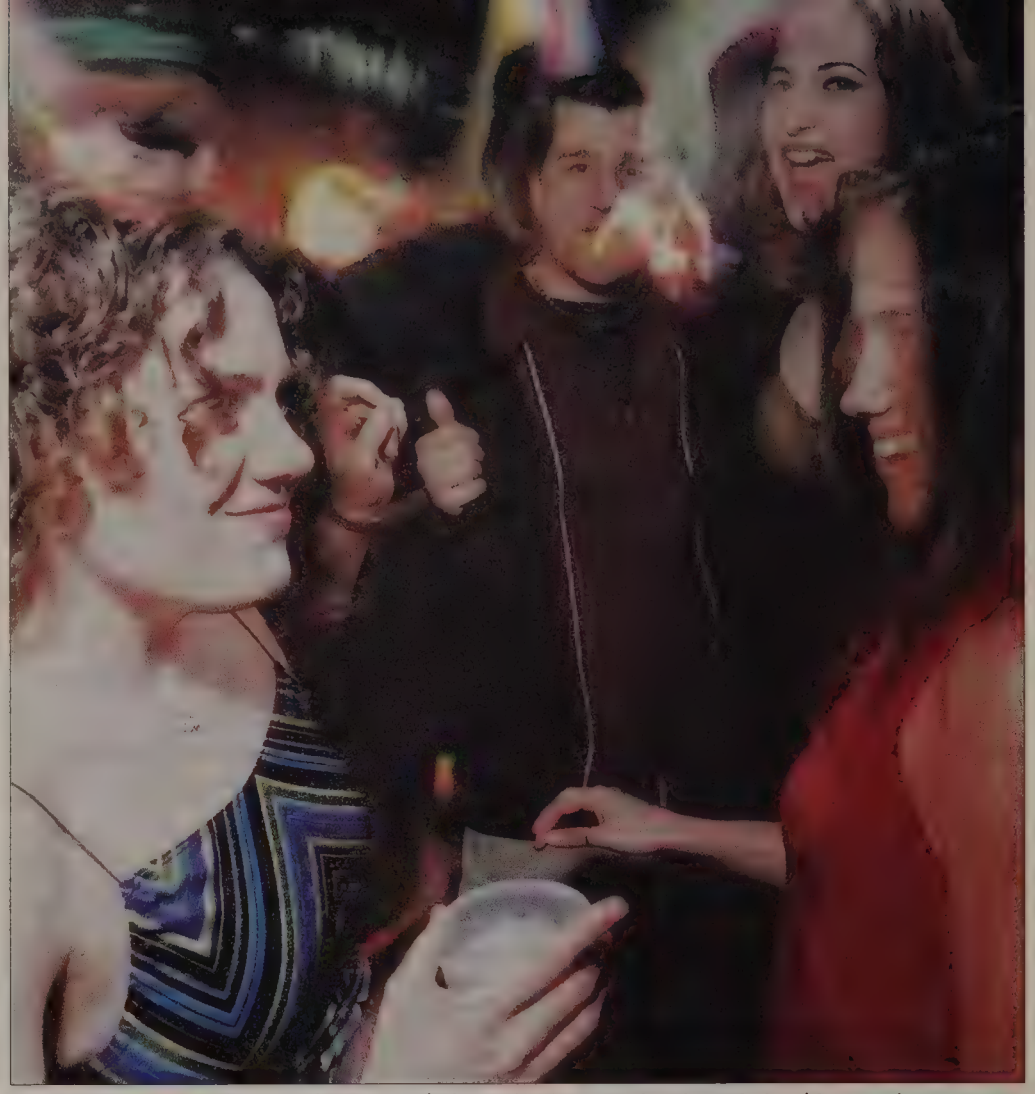
What's Up Night
An Tua Nua. *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night and fund-raiser.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ken Justice spins reggae and soul at the front bar, while the back bar features different hip-hop artists.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C. spins top-40 dance. 10pm, no cover. 21+.

Drum and Bass Live
Karma. Syndrome jams it up with Schism and Dummy Plug Conspiracy.



Roxy regulars love their new neighbor, Marix (above), where weekends explode with great dance tunes.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays jazzy blues at the piano bar. 9pm.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar. •April 11: Greenhouse joins Grooveline. •April 18: Three Percent with Thus. 9pm, $7. 18+.

Hibernia
Wednesday night tunes and cocktails in the lounge make for a mellow evening. 6pm. 21+.

Knowledge
Avenue. Every Wednesday night DJ Shugewhite and Eric Santangelo spin hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B.

New Music
The Druid. Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts. 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers a new mixture of guests spinning everything from deep house to techno. 11pm. $5. 19+.

Pravda 116
Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix. 21+.

The Rack
April 11: Mac & Jamie, 6-10pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm-2am. •April 18: CD-release party for Noel Redding.

Release
Vertigo. House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and JDustin Kincaid. 10pm. $7. 21+.

Rockout
Emily's. Tonight features a rock trivia game show and live local bands. 8pm. $5. 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong. An evening of psy-trance and drum-and-space with resident DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino. 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange. A night dedicated to those in the industry is hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White. At 10pm, there is a champagne reception. 21+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot features live music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40 and R&B upstairs. No cover. 21+.

Sophia's
Latin band on the first floor and DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Wet U'R Whistle Wednesdays
The Kells. 94.5's Roy Barboza spins hip-hop upstairs, while DJs spin house downstairs. 10pm-2am, $5, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul spun by DJ Ren Justice, 19+.

Avenue Lounge Nights
DJ Jason spins house and techno. 21+.

Backstage
Tonight's adrenaline high features special-guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm, $5. 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans-themed nightspot has it all—even billiards. 9pm.

Bill's Bar
Get in on the action with DJ Mark Hamilton and live bands. •April 12: Random Road Mother is joined by Rock City Crimewave and Superkollider. •April 19: Loveless play with Skyrockets. 9pm, $7. 18+.

Chrome
Axis. Resident DJs John Debo and Ali Ajami spin house and trance music. 10pm, $10. 19+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern. DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar. 9pm-2am, 21+.

The Druid
Mr. Doug Nice plays trippy deep house. 10pm.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin Lounge. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays great American blues and jazz at the piano bar. 9pm-1am.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion House
Aria. Fashion shows and DJ Roger spinning house. It's also Greek Night in the Angel Room. $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116. DJ Maric spins tunes to relax you.

Heaven
Comedy Connection Backstage. Music by DJs Johnny C. and Freddie C. Proper dress. 10pm. No cover.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange. DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B. 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia Thursdays
After-work party. DJ Jeremy spins loopy, trippy trip-hop. 6pm. 21+

Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals. 9pm. 21+.

International Thursday
Avalon. A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Latin Quarter
Roxy. You know it's time to get down when Roxy breaks out its sexy Latin dance mixes. 10:30pm, 21+.

Lava Bar
Join the Original Lounge Lizard Brother Cleve and Friends for funky beats at the Bootyque. 10pm. 21+.

The Modern
International Thursdays features progressive Euro house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Located in the heart of groovy Central Square, this Irish pub presents drum 'n' bass night. 11pm. $5. 19+.

The Rack
•April 12: Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+. •April 19: Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
Live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance upstairs. Free before 10pm. 21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm. DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor. 5pm-2am. $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's. Dance to three floors of hip-hop and R&B on this new club night. With DJ Reggie Beas and Chubbie Chubb, 9pm.

Speed
Karma. DJ Bruno spins house. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Sugar Shack
Music from three decades pounds through the festival atmosphere here, where every day is Mardi Gras.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

The List
Lava Bar. *Lavabar.com*. Verse/D bring you soul and funk. 10pm. 21+.

Roxy Plex
Dance with salsa, merengue and Latin grooves playing upstairs. 10:30pm. DJ Adison bounces progressive house and trance beats underground. 10pm. 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz and DJ Tasty spin to a huge college crowd in the main room while DJ Prophet and Da Mongoloid play classics from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 19+. $15.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hits and your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s.

American Karma
Karma. All-star American top-40 remixes with DJ Tim Collins, live on Star 93.7. 9pm, $8. 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top 40 dance. Great music, no attitude. 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon. Everything about this place screams "Party!" With Ali Ajami. 10pm, $15. 19+.

Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights. 21+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40. 10pm, $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has some of the best mainstream DJs in town.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz. Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs pay homage to the house music gods. 11pm, $15. 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge. John O'Neil and Jan Peters sing showtunes, great American songbook and cabaret. 9pm.

Envy
This popular destination is filled with a mass of sweaty 'n' ready dancers. 9pm, $5 after 10pm. 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange. Tiziano and Maurizio deliver house. G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B in the Vault. 9pm.

Focus at Hibernia
Cocktails with Alan Strack at 6pm and deep funky house by Shelter at 10pm, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy. International house featuring local, national and European DJs. 10:30pm.

Hibernia
Alan Strack in the lounge, 6pm; disco, funk and deep house, DJ Doug Nice, 10pm. 21+.

Life
Lava Bar. Dance to DJ Fran Englehardt's deeply rooted, soulful rhythms. 10pm. 21+.

Matrix
Two rooms feature high-energy dance music or disco and rock 'n' roll from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 9pm, $5. 21+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy. International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Friday
Bill's Bar. •April 13: Check out Gruvis Malt with The Royal Family and Grand Buffet. 9pm, $8. 18+. •NEMO Showcase features Johnny Wishbone, Moke, C60, UXB and Quick Fix. 8pm, $8. 18+.

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as J. Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.

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Revolution
The Modern. Find Latin and progressive Euro house here with DJ Eddie K. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Shake It up
Phoenix Landing. Shake what your mama gave you with DJ Ren Justice. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot has live acoustic music downstairs and DJs spinning high energy, popular R&B and dance upstairs. No cover before 10pm. 21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor. DJ Mike C. plays Latin dance on second floor while DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge. 5pm. $10. 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis. Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James.

Sugar Shack
DJs and specialty drinks, dancing 'til 2am.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Venu
The scene is elegant for this jacket-required international romp. Get on your Gucci as DJ Arsit spins. Dress coat required, 21+. $15.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance. 10:30pm. No cover. 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar. DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite with high-energy house and Latin beats. 10pm, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance tunes. Great music, no attitude. 10:30pm-2am. 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno. 21+.

Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics. 10pm. $5. Proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed nightspot has live bands all weekend long. Does non-stop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.

Blues
Encore Lounge. Shake off your blues and listen to honky-tonk, classic and contemporary rock. 9:30pm.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing. Disco fever hits Cambridge all night long with DJ Vinney. 11pm, $3, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern. DJ Shiuan Lee spins house for a students, scene setters and the A-list. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Boston's newest Latin Night starting at 10pm. Dress to impress. $10.

Club Nicole
The mob is thick for this exclusive trend-setting night. DJ Alex spins Euro house. Proper dress. 21+.

Club Piteko
Fajitas & Ritas. DJ Piteko leads the party to "dance like no one is watching," specializing in Cape Verdean music. $7. 10:30pm. 21+.

Downtown
Avalon. Resident DJs gyrante your arse with the latest hits. 10pm, $15, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music. 9pm, $5.

Elements of Life
Karma. DJ Mario spins hard house while DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul tunes. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily. Deep house and dance classics with DJ A.J. Deep and Brian "Soul" Luciani. 10pm. $10. 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJs melt the tables upstairs with house and international tracks. In the vault, DJ GSquared spins.

Hibernia Saturdays
Luis Diaz and Resident Twilo groove up a storm this Saturday night. 10pm. 21+.

Indulgence
Aria. Get the latest in house and top-40. In the Angel Room, DJ Roger spins Latin and Eurohaus. $10, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats. 10pm, $7.

Matrix
Two rooms featuring high-energy dance music or disco and rock 'n' roll from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 9pm, $8. 21+.

Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's. Get a taste of Miami nightlife. 9:30pm (ladies free before 11pm), $10. 21+. Ladies, 19+.

Mischief
The Modern. Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica. 21+.

Must
Venu. It's Greek International night with DJ Yorgo Jr. spinning the hits from the famous party islands. Dress coat required, $10.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario provides current dance jams.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.

Roxy Saturdays
Vinny Peruzzi dance party. 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's. Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD. 8pm, $10. 21+.

Shake at Club Paradise
DJ Goodfella brings the best old-school hip-hop and Classic Funk & Soul at the new Jump Off party, Shake. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Sissy K's
This hot spot has acoustic music downstairs from 4pm and DJs spinning popular dance upstairs. No cover before 10pm. 21+.

Smile
Bill's Bar. •April 21: NEMO Showcase with Darkbuster and more. 8pm. $8, 18+.

Sophia's
DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor. Live Latin band on the first floor at 9:30pm, DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge. 5pm-2am. $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Who's on First?
Check out some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin, all hosted by Li'l Mike. 10:30pm, $12. 18+.

X Night
Axis. Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits. 10pm, $10. 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing as DJ Gabe spins the hottest house, funk and dance. 10:30pm. no cover. 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians. 8pm.

Backstage
Urban Night. T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school. Doors open at 10pm, $10. 21+.

Curve
Hannah's. Three DJs, one vibe. DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno. 10pm. $5. 21+.

The Druid
May the luck of the Irish be with you as you listen to a Seisiun with Shay Walker and friends. 5pm.

Druid Sundays
Seisiun jams with Shay Walker and Noel Scott. 5pm.

Encore Lounge
Saddle up to the piano bar and listen to Michael Kreutz play show tunes and great American songbook. 9pm.

Evening in the Velvet Lounge
Trio. Oscar's Sunday night has moved to this hot spot, where you can kick back and lounge. No cover, 10pm.

Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M. No cover, 21+.

Sunday Night Karma
Sunday night heat hosts hot 97's DJ Chuck Dog, featuring DJ Statik Selektah spinning the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B. $10, 10pm. 21+.

Lava Bar
Pandora's Box (Club Courtesy). DJ Vinny and Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown. 10pm. 21+.

Living Room
Aria. DJ Raffi spins Euro-house. In the Angel Room, DJ Franklin spins Latin. $10, 21+. Proper dress.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way. Groove to great reggae sounds with DJs Larry and Dale, DJ Magnum, DJs Lisa and Robin. Doors at 9pm, $3 after 10pm.

Rack
•The Chad LaMarsh band, 9:30pm-1:30am, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116. Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge. 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar. •April 15: Peppa Tree. •April 22: Jem 1. 10pm. $10. 21+.

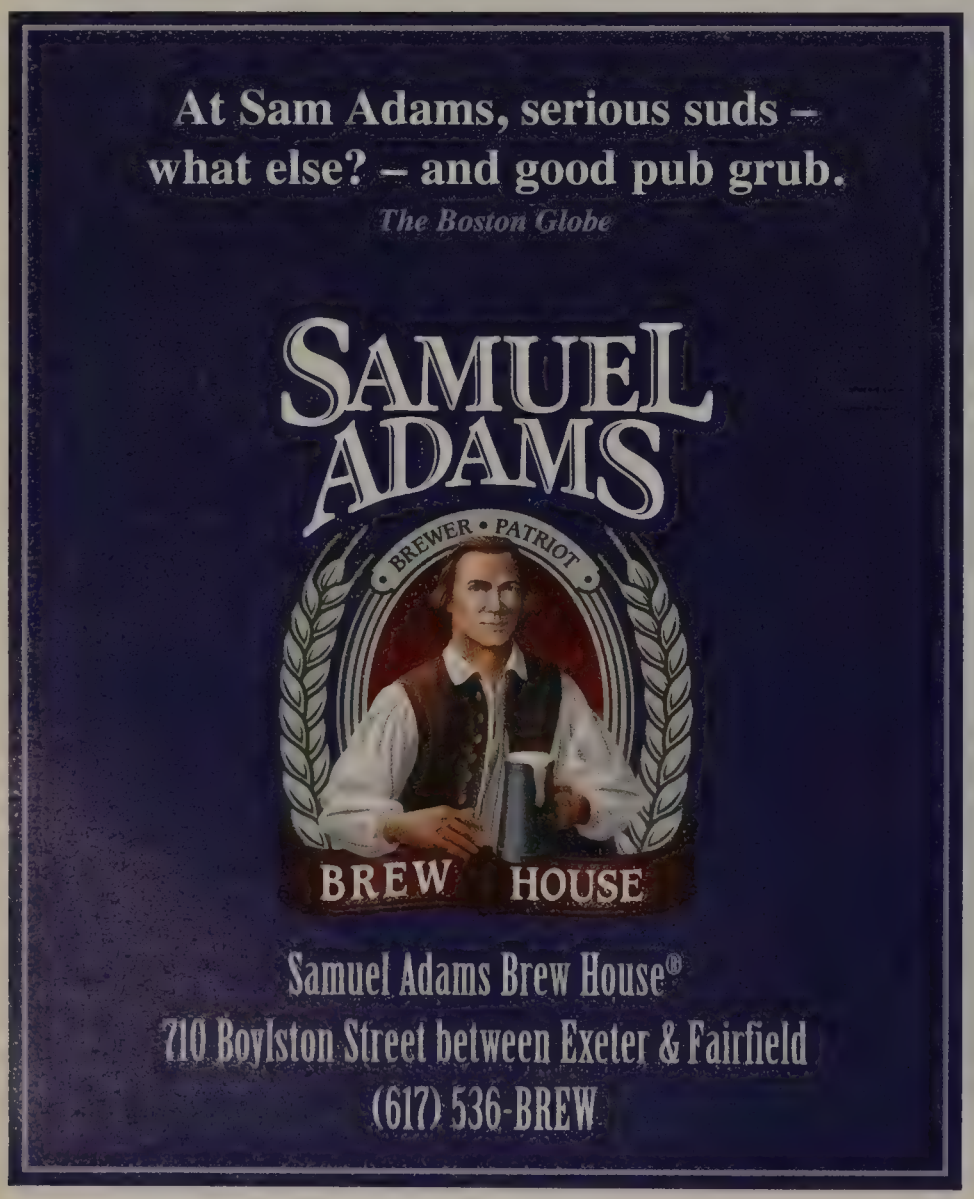
Salvation
An intimate night, courtesy of DJ Soul. $5.

Sex
The Exchange. Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan plays top-40 and hip-hop tunes. D: Martini Bros., 4-8pm; Gregg Luttrell, 9pm-1am.

Trance
Phoenix Landing. Get down with some hip trance beats brought to you by DJ Blacksmith. 10:30pm. $5. 19+.

Venu
Carnival comes to Boston as DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio to Venu. Dress coat required, 21+. $10.



Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Comedy Connection *Faneuil Hall, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Fajitas & Ritas *25 West St., Boston (426-1222). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (480-9489).*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook Station.*
Oskar's *107 South St., Boston (542-6756). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000 x3333). MBTA: Blue line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*

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UPLOADING NEW JAMS

The Disco Biscuits and the New Deal cross the chemistries of two alternative scenes. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Jam bands and DJs may share a love for improvising rhythmic soundscapes before scene-savvy audiences. But both domains seem far removed from the world of Britney Spears and the Backstreet Boys. Well, maybe not that far. Consider the case of the New Deal, a Canadian disco-house keyboard trio that's working on its first studio CD for Jive Electro, a subsidiary of the label that's home to Britney and the boy bands.

"It doesn't jive with their regular way of doing business, which is to create an icon and an image, and build up songs or whatever around that person," says New Deal bassist Dan Kurtz, whose band transposes its rave vibe from clubs to the Somerville Theatre April 20. "From a corporate perspective, [Jive Electro] was probably created to help Jive get out of the last big wave of music, which is the pop stars they produced so unbelievably well, and into the next wave of music, which is dance, electronica, blah, blah, blah."

No one should expect top-40 hits from the New Deal, which mimics the trance-like flow of a DJ. "It blows me away that an American, almost-major label can sign a band from Canada that has no songs and jams live with no vocals," Kurtz says. But bands like the New Deal and the Philadelphia-bred Disco Biscuits are bridging the jam and dance scenes with a beat-driven hybrid that's drawing in a post-Phish audience.

The Disco Biscuits, which bring their "trance fusion" to the Lowell Memorial Auditorium April 13, were launched as a more straightforward jam band in 1994. But in 1997, the Biscuits had an epiphany of sorts, spurred by a new synthesizer that nudged the group into exploring dub, Goa and jungle rhythms.

"We try to get a three-dimensional thing where the keyboard can be just as in-your-face as the guitar can, the guitar can also vanish, and it frees up the bass," says guitarist-singer Jon Gutwillig, who weaves lines against Aron Magner's keyboards and Marc Brownstein's bass to forge their concert repertoire of revolving, mutating songs. "Three people can be out front at any point in time. The way that we do that is by not moving so quickly. You can have all four members of the band changing slightly at the same time, instead of one person changing and the others playing catch-up."

Of late, the Biscuits have even thrown some classical covers (including a chunk of Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*) into its counterpoint-rich mix. "We're going for Mozart more than the Grateful Dead," Gutwillig says. "All his stuff was so fluid, like two hands moving together, like he was conducting right there in front of you. So we were going for that, and our drummer Sam [Altman] was listening to a lot of cool techno music...."

For new CD *They Missed the Perfume*, the quartet tackled another challenge: layering its jams in a computer (over beats that Altman programmed in lieu of his usual live drums) to construct songs.

"It's really just a bunch of little audio bits snipped and pasted together, which is something that would have taken a lot of tape and alignment in Pink Floyd's day," Gutwillig says in a phone call from the Biscuits' new home in Santa Cruz, Calif. "In our day, it just takes a computer. It does all the taping. And you actually have to rearrange all of it."

The 2-year-old New Deal is also using a computer for its studio debut, but the source material is coming from live recordings. "The whole studio scenario wouldn't yield what is needed for our record, which is some hint of the energy we have live," Kurtz says by phone from his Toronto home. Kurtz, jazz-steeped keyboardist Jamie Shields and breakbeat-tight drummer Darren Shearer have previously self-released three CDs from their shows, which are 95 percent improvised.

Both the New Deal and the Biscuits, after all, have built a house on the foundation of the evolving live experience, and created a fresh audience in the process. "I don't think we ever considered consciously developing two separate markets where, in one case, we'll all wear black and have lights on our heads, and in the other one, we'll try and look a little more granola," Kurtz says.

"The pinnacle of a really great New Deal show is a union of those two scenes. The one thing that's really important about the jam-band scene that I haven't seen yet in the dance-music scene is a loyalty to the music and the musicians. DJs can evaporate overnight. They fall out of favor or whatever. That doesn't happen with bands who have evidently put in the legwork." iB



From left: Jon Gutwillig, Aron Magner, Marc Brownstein and Sam Altman, who create the "trance fusion" sound of the Disco Biscuits.

The Disco Biscuits and the New Deal

The Disco Biscuits play the Lowell Memorial Auditorium April 13; the New Deal plays the Somerville Theatre April 20.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billing

Club Passim Benefit with Catie Curtis April 13, Somerville Theatre (625-5700)
Howie Day and Bleu April 21, Paradise (562-8800)
Dimmu Borgir April 13, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
The Disco Biscuits April 13, Lowell Memorial Auditorium (931-2000)
Melissa Ferrick and Love Pie April 13, Paradise (562-8800)
G Love and Special Sauce April 24, Avalon (262-2424)
St. Germain April 14, Paradise (562-8800)
Gwenmars April 20, Paradise (562-8800)
Dan Hicks and the Hot Licks April 22, Paradise (562-8800)
The Joshua Redman Quartet April 14, Berklee Performance Center (876-7777)
Mark Knopfler April 23, Orpheum Theatre (228-6000)
Patty Larkin April 15, Sanders Theatre (931-2000)
Lost City Angels April 11, Paradise (562-8800)
Moe April 21, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
Mourning Widows April 11, Axis (262-2437)
The New Deal with Ulu April 20, Somerville Theater (931-2000) April 20, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
New England Metal and Hardcore Fest April 13 and 14, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
Newfound Glory April 20, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
98 Degrees April 12, Worcester Centrum (228-6000)
Gary Numan April 20, Paradise (562-8800)
The Orb April 19, Avalon (262-2424)
Papa Roach, Snapcase and Alien Ant Farm April 13, Orpheum Theatre (228-6000)
Roomful of Blues April 19, Orpheum Theatre (228-6000)
The Slip April 15, Avalon (262-2424)
Richard Thompson April 21, Orpheum Theatre (228-6000)
Toots and the Maytals and the Wailers April 22, Roxy (338-7699)
Sinners and Saints, the Living End and Sonic Youth April 23, Roxy (931-2000)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Funk and groove with DJ Tim Collins, Grooveline with Greenhouse, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ferron, 8pm, $22.50.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff James McKenna, 8pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Emily's Terry Kitchen, 8:30pm; Joel Cage, 9:30pm; Esther, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Good Life Cambridge Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Laffing Freeman with The Anonymous Richard, 9:30pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
Hibernia DJ Lounge, 21+.
House of Blues Miracle Orchestra and Schleigho, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Empty Stage.
Johnny D's Japan's Akiko Yano, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.

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The Kells Wet U'r Whistle with DJ Dragg spinning hip-hop and dance, 9pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Seth Horan with Ed Toth of Vertical Horizon, 9:30pm; Lustre, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Consider This, Offramp and Limegreen, $5.
Lilli's Sex Bomb Residency, 8pm, $7, 21+.
Linwood Boston Unplugged and open mike, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Dragstrip Courage, Caroline Shirley and Vic Firecracker, 21+.
Lucky's Rick Costa Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Slackjaw, Photoflash and Nimmer, $6, 18+; D: Arab Strap, Mia Doi Todd, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Lounge Mercury Lounge with downtempo, soul, house and funk, no cover.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Mac and Jamie, 6pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Sergio Brandão: New Colors from Rio to Istanbul, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Kaoruko CD release party, 8:30pm, $7.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Element 47, the Jumbles and December Sundays, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Howard Kirkpatrick.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan, 10pm.
Toad The Cranktones.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rabbit, Mumble and Peg, Bipolar Coaster and My Beautiful X-Wife, $5.
Les Zygomates Matthew Quinn, 8pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Uprise and Laffing Freeman, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; Random Road Mother with Rock City Crime Wave and Superkollider, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Liam Maloney, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge U: The Phil Pemberton Band, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ferron, 8pm, $22.50.
Common Ground The Double Deckers, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke, 7pm.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Webster Young Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Pluxus; DJs Benny B and Justin Bailey; special guest Schism, 9:30pm, $10/$13, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Return.
Hibernia After work party.
House of Blues Miracle Orchestra and Club d'Elf, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Troubadors.
Johnny D's Dr. Dan, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Do John Tringali, 9pm; D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Dance party with DJ Edgar, 9:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Sharff Brothers, 8pm; Blue Tree Project, 9pm; Sunshine Boy, 10pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue with Chris Mascara, Karin Hansen, Chilly Kurtz, Kate McLaughlin, Kier Brynes, Paul Hough and Matt York, $5.
Lilli's David J; Nina Hynes; Kristen Barry, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Abunai, Three-4-Tens, Weisstronauts and Color Forms.
Lizard Lounge Michelle Malone, Pamela Means and Nini Camps, 21+.
Lucky's Adam Birnbaum Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Crooked Fingers, Azure Ray and TW Walsh, $8, 18+; D: Fingerbomb, Rumble, Prevalence, Millhouse and Beyond Repair, 8:30pm, $8, 18+; C: Board of Education, 10pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
Rack Mix 98.5 and Hit Squad, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Jackie McLean Cedar Walton Quartet, 8:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club U: Temporada Latina; D: Big Band music with the Ryles Jazz Orchestra and trumpeter Frank Vardaros, 8:30pm, $7.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Das Booty and Boatyard Resin, 9pm, $5, 21+.



The Mighty Mighty Bosstones are nominated for the Boston Music Awards' Outstanding Rock Band of the Year award. Find out the winner April 19 at the Orpheum Theatre's awards presentation extravaganza.

The Times Karaoke.
Tír na nÓg Rust Farm, 10pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; David Johnston, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Alarm 2000 with Mike Peters, Stiff Little Fingers and Jesus Loves Jezebel, Last Stand and Starla Dear, $12.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Shecky CD release party with special guest Todd Thibaud and Barb Kessler, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Gruvis Malt with the Royal Family, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern The Becky Chase Band, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and Sundays Well.
Bob the Chef's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia Greg Abate, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge The Phil Pemberton Band, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Trina Hamlin and Colleen Sexton CD release party, 8pm, $12.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; 2nd Story, 10pm.
Copperfield's Figure Four, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm; Classic Trax, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Nick Goumas Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Cape Fear.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Mountain's Leslie West, 9:30pm, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
Hibernia DJs and musicians unite, 21+.
House of Blues Phillip Walker, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub DJ Cadillac.
Johnny D's Local jam with Slipknot, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Remix, 9pm; D: Pig Pen.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Dragg; D: Dance party with Cire DJ, 9:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Goh, 8:30pm; Rose Gerber, 9:30pm; Will Provost, 10:30pm; Tobin Bridge, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Tootsie, Classic Ruins, Local Jack and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's The Gentlemen; Dave Aaronoff and the Details; Tyler Keith and the Preacher's Kids, 8pm, $8, 21+.
Linwood Boot Factor 5, Kodachrome CD release party and Charcoal Lavage.
Lizard Lounge The Futuras, Big Lazy and Big Ray, 21+.
McGann's DJ Static.
Middle East U: Nada Surf and Ashtray Babyhead, $8, 18+; D: Oteil and the Peacemakers, the Squad and Averi, 8:30pm, $15, 18+; C: Dan Blakeslee, 10pm.
Midway Cafe Hurricane Jane and the Burning Sensations, 9pm, 21+.
Milky Way Thaddeus Hogarth's CD-release party.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan, 9pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Live music, 9:30pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Samba Show, 10pm, $10.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Jackie McLean Cedar Walton Quartet, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice Tropical Fire, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club U: Brazilian dance party; D: Jazz and funk with Herman Johnson, 9pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott Quartet, 6:00pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Rocketscience, Bully Pulpit, the Irresponsibles and the Churchills, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Plunketts Head.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 10pm.
Toad Amphibian.
Top of the Hub John Allmark and the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Robbie Fulks, the Schrimshanders and the Heygoods, $8.
Western Front Reggae with Reincarnation 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Ron Savage, 9pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Kelly Buchanan, Hawthorne and Unprovoked Moose Attack, 9pm, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Adam Ainsley Band, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Celtic Clan; Sunday's Well.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge The Phil Pemberton Band, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Deb Talan and Jennifer Kimball, 7pm and 10pm, $15.
Common Ground DJ PD, 10pm.
Copperfield's Quartertin, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; the Return, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Fat Tuesday.
Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Clutch Grabwell, 9:30pm, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
Hibernia Steve Porter progressive house, 10pm, 21+.
House of Blues Wolfman and Tink, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub DJ Static.
Johnny D's Reggae with Pressure Cooker, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Dennis McCarthy, 9pm; D: Thomas Park.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Chaos; D: Dance party with DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Chris Roussin, 9:30pm; John Powers, 10:30pm; Dan and Kev, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Rootin Tootin Country Music Jamboree with the Honkeytonk Heroes, Lorraine Della Rocca and Melvern Taylor, $5.
Lilli's Fighting Gravity; Division Street; Granian, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Chelsea on Fire, Douglas Leader and Jane Speed.
Lizard Lounge Paula Kelly, Calendar Girl and Delicious, 21+.
Lucky's The Truman Group, 9pm, no cover.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: AM Stereo, Say Hi to Lisa, 707 and Pure Fiction, $7, 18+; D: Big Wu and the All Mighty Senators, $10, 18+; C: Ross Robinson, 10pm.
Midway Cafe Asa Brebner and the Weeds, 9pm, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Savage Benjamin, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Marcels.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Jackie McLean Cedar Walton Quartet, 8:30 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm and Spice Jack Lee and Divercity, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club D: Toni Lynn Washington, 9pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar 84 West, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Jack and Present Company.
Tíger Lily Escape, DJ Brian Luciani and AJ Deep, 10pm.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan, 10pm.
Toad Josh Lederman Y Los Diablos.
Top of the Hub Vocalist Steve Marvin and the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mappari, the Shelley Winters Project CD release, Jaded Salingers and Roxie, $7.
Western Front Reggae with Reincarnation 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Richard Johnson, 6pm.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Bill's Bar Reggae Sunday with DJ K-Don; Peppa Tree, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Easter Sunday jazz brunch with the Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 10am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Common Ground Agassiz Village Spring Fling, 10pm.
Costello's Tavern Lawrence Watson's performers showcase, 8pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald gospel brunch, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Felix Brown Band, battle of the bands; VIP party, 8pm; dance party, 11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Eric Saulnier, 8pm; Pete Fitzpatrick, 9pm; Susan Levine, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Kelly McNally; poetry slam, 7:30pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: Swearing at Motorists, Rabbit and the Rainy Day Regatta, $6, 18+; D: Rocket from the Crypt, the Explosion, International Noise Conspiracy, 8pm, $12, 18+; C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm.
Midway Cafe Li'L Memphis, 21+.
Milky Way Lounge Mystic Reggae with DJ Junior Rodigan PowerSurge, ladies free before 10pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Quartet, 11am, no cover.

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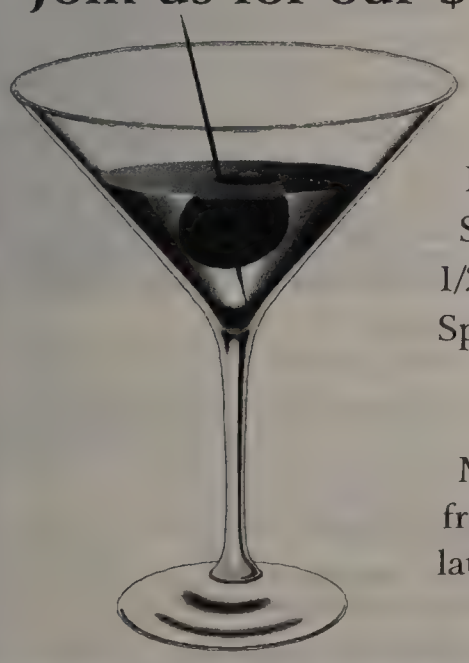
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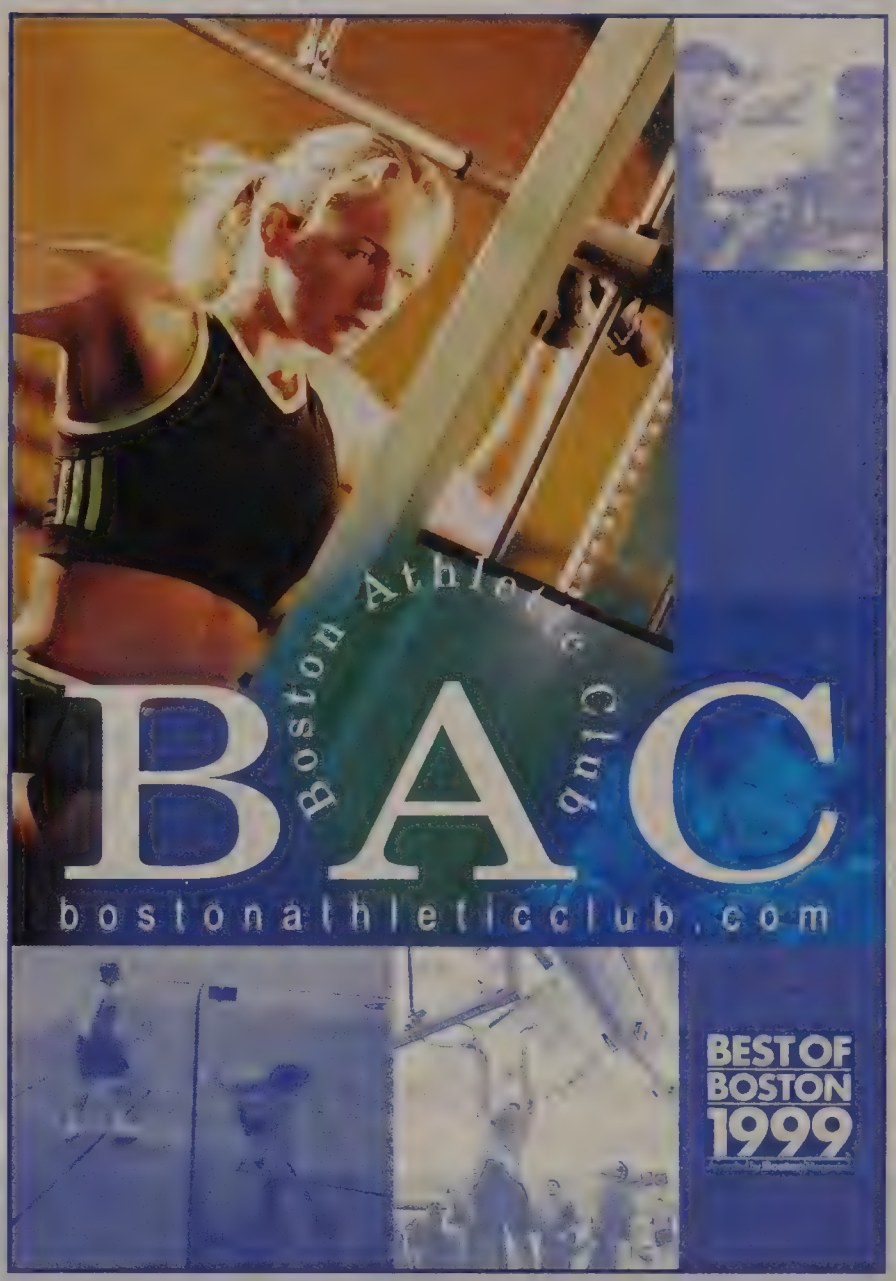
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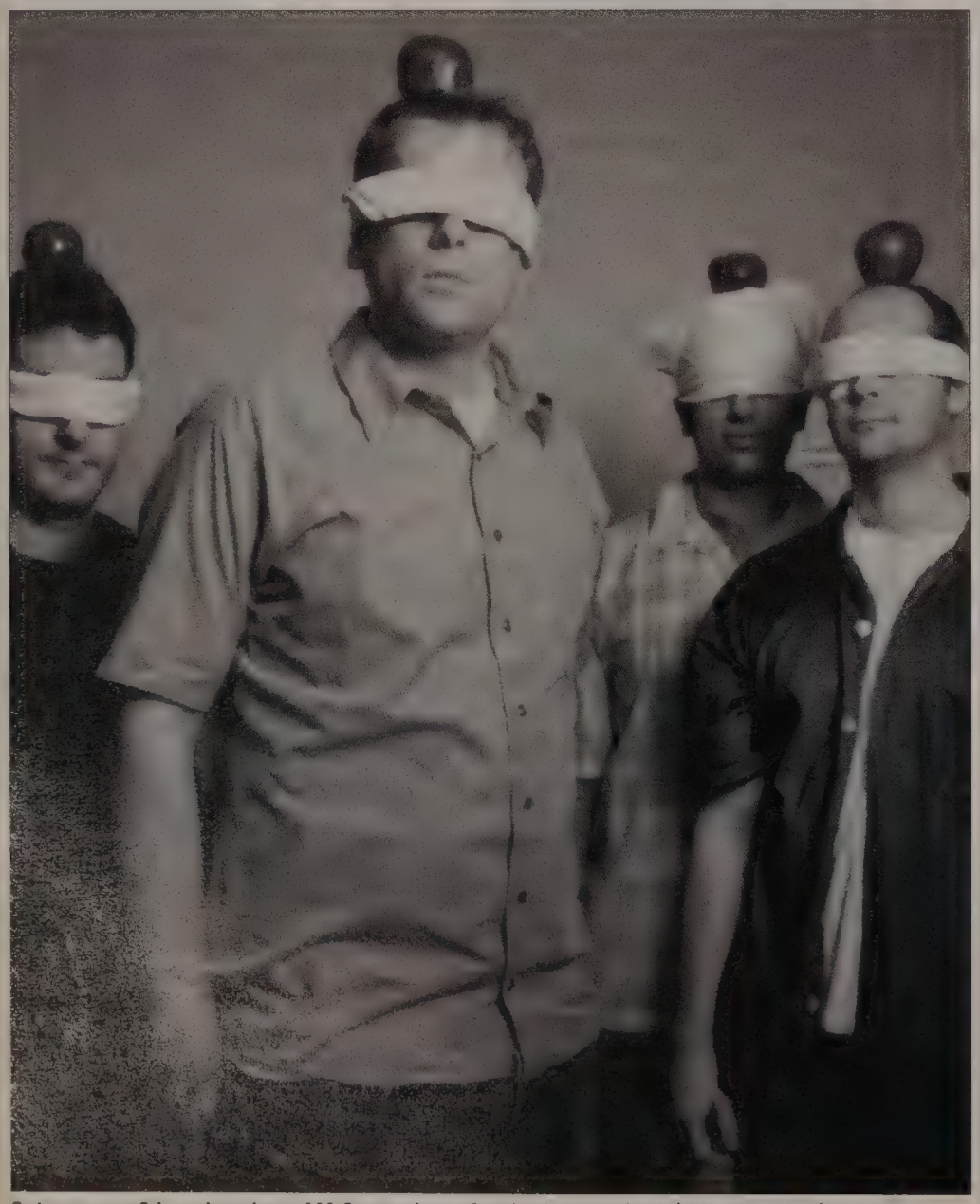
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am.
Tír na nÓg Irish Seisiun, 6pm.
Top of the Hub John Wilkins Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reverie.

MONDAY, APRIL 16

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch: Drowning Man with Haste; Pictures of Gabriel; In Pieces, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Booty, 2pm; Marathon Bash with the Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Divercity, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Jambone Lewis; Carla Patullo Band, 9:30pm, $2/$5, 18+.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
House of Blues Rick Russell blues jam, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Juke Box.
Johnny D's Beat research with DJ Flack, DJ C and Cozmopolis, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; the Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
The Kells Deaf Nite dance party, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Meghan Toohey, 8pm; Duncan Watt, 9pm; the Amazing Desserts, 10pm, $5.
Middle East U: Flutopia, Elevation, 74, Katie Barbato and Greyshine, $6, 18+; D: Stone Soup Poetry, 7:30pm; C: Tom Bianchi and Jason Gardner, 10pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack Boston Marathon Afterbash, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Jabe, 10pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub John Wilkins Trio, 8pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sundays Well.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; Adam Dewey and Crazy Creek, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Fascinatin' Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet, 9:30pm, $5/$8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
House of Blues Eric Gales, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Hanneke Cassel, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Open mike with Tom Bianchi, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Bo Barringer of Make Lisa Rich, 9pm; Matt York of Wide Iris and Paul Hough of Garage Dogs, 10pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnlieter Jazz Quartet, no cover.
Lilli's The Cash Brothers CD release party, 8pm, 21+.
Linwood DJ Vinny; rock and roll night.
Lizard Lounge Slamhound, featuring Randy Roos and special guest Meshuge, 21+.
Lucky's The Denson Trio, 9pm, no cover.
McGann's Slainte.
Middle East U: Raymond, Carry the Zero and Fire Engine Red, $6, 18+.
Milky Way Lounge Mary Mary's All Star Karaoke, 9pm, $3.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal; DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
Plough and Stars Jennifer Matthews Band, 10pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack Big City Beat, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar Bill Novick and Guy Van Duser, 8:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Gertz group, featuring guitarist John Abercrombie, saxophonist Jerry Bergonzi and drummer Adam Nussbaum, 8:30pm, $17.50.
Sidney's Grille The Laura Allen Trio, 5:30pm, no cover.



Got an arrow? Local rockers AM Stereo hope for the best at the Middle East April 14.

Sky Bar Keitel, Lincoln Conspiracy and Local Radio, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Tír na nÓg Easy Marks, 10pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; the Residency, featuring Say Zuzu, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dead City Rockers, Suran Song In Stag, Green Inside and Fooled By April, 4.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Funk and Groove with DJ Tim Collins; Three Percent with Thus, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Black Rose Sundays Well.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ashley Filip and Mieka Pauley 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff James McKenna, 8pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Emily's Kelly Riley, 8:30pm; Christie Leigh, 9:30pm; Kendra Flowers, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Good Life Cambridge Inner Orchestra, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Dr. Didge with Hazie Maze, 9:30pm, $5/$8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
Hibernia DJ Lounge, 21+.
House of Blues Fisher CD release party; Duncan Shiek, 7 and 10pm, $17.50, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Mark of Machinery Hall.
Johnny D's Full Metal Revolutionary Jazz Ensemble, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Wet U'r Whistle with DJ Dragg spinning hip-hop and dance, 9pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Disclaimer and Kevin Griffen, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Hurricane Jane, Marlene Tholl and Mystic Highway, $5.
Lilli's The Living Daylights; Michael Wolff and Impure Thoughts, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Boston unplugged; open-mike night; Mr. Cocktail presents local rock stars unplugged, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge Dragstrip Courage with special guests Maggie, Pierce, EJ Chris Colburn and Hilken Mancini, 21+.
Lucky's Rick Costa Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Middle East U: The Lapse, Fashion Colt, Action Slacks and California Stadium, $7, 18+; D: Mekons, 8:30pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Lounge Mercury Lounge with downtempo, soul, house and funk, no cover.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Cork's Noel Redding, the legendary bassist from Jimi Hendrix, the Spin Doctors' Eric Shankman and Mountain's Corky Lang CD release party, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Pierre Hurel Trio, 8:30, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Natraj, 8:30pm, $9.
Scullers Lavay Smith and Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Words for Snow, the Subject and Bird Gets the Smile, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times DJ Party Time.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan, 10pm.
Toad The Ken Clark Organ Trio.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
Les Zygomates John Kordalewski, 8pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Atlantic 101 Jazz-athon with the Louis Christo Quartet, the Steve Evans Quartet, the Evolution Quartet, Querubin, Two Sided Triangle and the Nial Dju Trio, 8pm, $10.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; the unofficial Boston Music Awards after party; Loveless with Señor Happy and Skyrockets, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Kristy Kruger, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sundays Well.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Café Italia Charlie Harris, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Erica Wheeler, $10.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke, 7pm.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Al Arena and the Watch City Band, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge East West, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown José Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Agents of Good Roots with the Coby Brown Group; Almost Speechless, 9:30pm, $5/$8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Tom.
Hibernia After work party, 21+.
House of Blues Another Planet, 10pm, $8, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Troubadors.
Johnny D's Bertrand Laurence's Jelly Rollers CD release party, 9pm; Jack and Present Company, 9:30pm, $5.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ John Tringali, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Dance party with DJ Edgar, 9:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Mary McGuire, 9pm; Gooselove and Antara, 10pm; Slacker Jack, 11pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue with Chris Mascara, Karin Hansen, Chilly Kurtz, Katie McLaughlin, Kier Brynes, $5.
Lilli's Robert Walter's 20th Congress; the Freelance Bishops, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood The Dead.
Lizard Lounge Dub Trance and Groove with Club D'Elf, featuring bassist Micro Vard, 21+.
Lucky's Adam Birnbaum Trio, 9pm, no cover.
McGann's Sweet Libo.
Middle East U: 16 Years of Grace, Stocklan, $7, 18+; D: Babaloo and Cabaret Di Osa, 9pm, $10, 18+; C: Board of Education, 10pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Cuba's Issac Delgado, 8pm and 10:30pm, $22.50 and $27.50.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 8:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Saxophone legend Dave Liebman, 8:30pm, $15.
Scullers Acoustic pianist Brad Mehldau, 8 and 10pm, $14.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Tokyo Tramps and Spookie Daly Pride, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Karaoke.
Tír na nÓg The Coots, 10pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; the Armadillos, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Brian Gottesman CD release; Sugar Twins, $6.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar NEMO; Johnny Wishbone; MOKE; C60; UXB; Quick Fix, 8pm, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern The Chris Canty Band, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sundays Well and Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia Arnie Krakowsky, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim NEMO showcase with Christopher Williams, Deb Talan, Sam Shaber, Anne O'Meara Heaton, Meg Hutchinson, the Waifs, Steve Tannen and Colleen Sexton, 7pm, $15.
Common Ground NEMO showcase, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; Pig Pen, 10pm.
Copperfield's NEMO showcase, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Fascinatin' Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Ricks Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal The Return.
Green Dragon Tavern Me and Julio, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.

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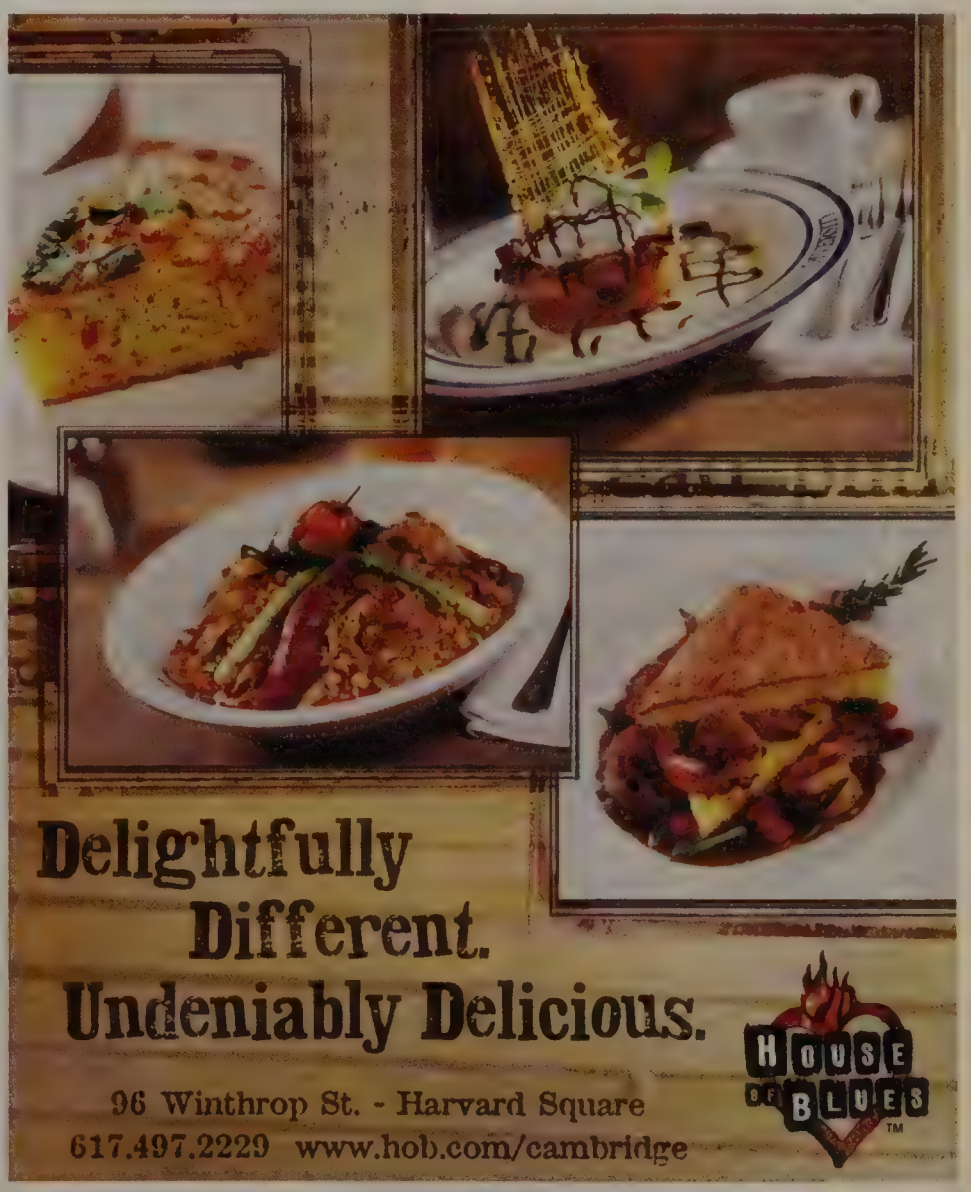
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Harpers Ferry NEMO showcase with Superhoney, Bumpus, Boston Horns, Apartment Three and Sugarcoat, 9:30pm, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
Hibernia DJ's and musicians unite, 21+.
House of Blues NEMO showcase, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Freeze Pop.
Johnny D's Swinging Steaks with Jason Ringenberg, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Remix, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Dragg; D: Dance party with Cire DJ, 9:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe NEMO showcase with Amelia White, 8:45pm; Jo Davidson, 9:30pm; Kyler, 10:15pm; the Saras, 11pm, Film, 11:45pm; Barbara Kessler, 12:30pm, $7.
Kirkland Cafe Slam Jam with Debris, Mic Heavy and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's NEMO presents Count Zero, Countess, Beaph and Volition, 8pm, $8, 21+.
Linwood NEMO showcase with Milligram, Quintaine Americana, Grumpy, Barbaro and Lamont.
Lizard Lounge NEMO showcase with Daniel Barrett, Scott Gibson, the Pat Burtis Band, Bellweather and Jabe, 21+.
McGann's DJ Static.
Middle East U: NEMO showcase with Pennywheel, the Churchills, Ms. Pigeon, Griffen and Schedule 2, $8, 18+; D: NEMO showcase with Krumbsnatcha, Mr. Lif and Akrobatik, 7L and Esoteric, Skitzofreniks and Reks, 8:30pm, $10, 18+; C: Tom Bianchi and Jason Gardner, 10pm.
Midway Cafe Spike E and the Lady Killers, Fireking and Sugarbomb, 21+.
MIT: Kresge Auditorium Chamber chorus, 8pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Tommy Courtney and Alan Loughnane, 9pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Live music, 9:30pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Los Iracundos, 8pm; Los Angeles Negros, 10pm.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Muse Mister Curt Trio and Random Access Memory, 9pm, $5.
Rhythm and Spice Jamm Down, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club NEMO showcase featuring the Mike Valeras Group, Joseph Diamond, Afromantra, Anatholi Bulkin and Trio, 9pm.
Scullers Acoustic pianist Brad Mehldau, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Averi, Sand Machine and Prime Rib, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Sweet Willie D and the Continental Walk.
Tír na nÓg Finbarr the Saddler, 10pm.
Toad NEMO showcase with the Griffens, Big Cow, Joe Brack, John Harrington and Lee Totten.
Top of the Hub Vocalist Debbie Larkin featured with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place NEMO showcase with Rocketscience, Swingin Lovehammers, Dragstrip Courage, Bastards of Melody and the Naked Sams, $8.
Western Front Reggae with Mentos and the New Horizon, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates George Russel, 9pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Plank 63 CD release party with Crash Alchemist, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar NEMO showcase with Darkbuster, Mixtwitch, Jaya the Cat, Susie and the Black Market Medallions, 1pm, $10, all ages; NEMO showcase with Coppertree, the Ben Phillips Band, Flynn, 54-40 and Toyboat, 8pm, $8, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Blues Food, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Sundays Well; Celtic Clan.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim NEMO showcase with Robert Secret Group, Edie Carey, Teddy Goldstein, Laurie Geltman, Phil Cody, Leni Stern, Andrew Kerr and Love Pie, 7pm $15.
Common Ground NEMO showcase, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; Van Go Carts, 10pm.
Copperfield's NEMO showcase, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Tiger Lily, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Plaid Daddy, 9pm.
Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry NEMO showcase with Cork's Noel Redding, the legendary Jimi Hendrix bassist; Mountain's Corky Lang; Spin Doctor's Eric Shenkman; the Seth Yacovone Band; Brother; Clutch Grabwell; Rane; 9:30pm, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
Hibernia Steve Porter progressive house, 21+.
House of Blues NEMO showcase, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Boston Music Awards.
Johnny D's Blues/rock with Jimmy Thackery, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Dennis McCarthy, 9pm; D: the Return.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Chaos; D: Dance party with DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe NEMO showcase with Rob Gonzales, 8:45pm; Juniper Lane, 9:30pm; House of Red, 10:15pm; Poor Law Union, 11pm, the Incredible Moses Leroy, 11:45pm; Sunbather; 12:30pm, $7.
Kirkland Cafe Laffing Freeman, North Street and Brother Mosley, $5.
Lilli's NEMO presents Seventeen, Mr. Fistar, Reverse and Chauncey, 8pm, $8, 21+.
Linwood NEMO showcase with 7th Rail Crew, NOK, Boiler Room, 6Gig and Trustfall.
Lizard Lounge NEMO showcase with the Pierce Woodward Trio, the Robert Secret Group, Reverend Glasseye and his Wooden Legs, Buck Tooth Johnson, Eric Marcos and Normal Noises, 21+.
Lucky's The Truman Group, 9pm, no cover.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: NEMO showcase with Missing Joe, Don Dilgeo, Miss Fortune, Mudcat Jones and Bowman, $8, 18+; D: NEMO showcase with Jiggle, Uncle Sammy and Treehouse Union, 8:30pm, $10, 18+; C: Ross Robinson, 10pm.
Midway Cafe Swivel Chair, Mount Blew and Jim Jetsetter Gaddis, 21+.
MIT: Killian Hall Pianists DeChellis and Rohr, 8pm, $10.
MIT: Kresge Auditorium Music of Bali, 2pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Tommy Courtney and Alan Loughnane, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Jack and Present Company, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Ahmad Jamal, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm and Spice Jah Spirit, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club NEMO showcase featuring the Inner Orchestra, Anti Jazz Ray Gun, Seed Is and the Freelance Bishops, 9pm.
Scullers Acoustic pianist Brad Mehldau, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Asciento, Mappari and Baby Strange, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tiger Lily Escape, DJ Brian Luciani and AJ Deep, 10pm.
Tír na nÓg Christian MacNeil, 10pm.
Toad NEMO showcase with Josh Lederman Y Los Diablos, Jeff Witzeman and the Jealous Housewives, the Rivergods, Newcomers Home and the Dave Samarco Band.
Top of the Hub Teddy Casher performs with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place NEMO showcase with Meghan Toohey, Scout, the Red Telephone, Envelope and Delta Clutch, $8.



The Tarbox Ramblers play April 13 and 20 at the Green Street Grill.

Western Front Reggae with Mentos and the New Horizon, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Eula Lawrence, 10pm.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Anago at the Lenox Hotel Rusty Scott Quartet, 11:30am, no cover.
Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Bill's Bar Reggae Sunday with DJ K-Don; Jem-1, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Sundays Well.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with the Nat Simpkins Jazz Quartet 11am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Family Folk Choral, 2 and 4pm, $5; John Renbourn, 7:30pm, $15.
Costello's Tavern The James Merenda jazz jam featuring the Mingus Three, 8:30pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort New Revelation gospel brunch, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
House of Blues Radiators, 10pm, $25, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Brazilian night, 9pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Funderdome with Boston comics; team radioboston.com, $5.
Lilli's Sinners and Saints Residency.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poets Alisha Knight and Gary Hicks; poetry slam, 7:30pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: Jeep, Swag and Spouse, $7, 18+; D: The Vibrators, 8pm, $8, 18+; C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm, 18+.
Milky Way Lounge Mystic Reggae with DJ Junior Rodigan PowerSurge, ladies free before 10pm, $10.
Midway Cafe Li'L Memphis, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Azul Azul, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am.
Tír na nÓg Irish Seisiun, 6pm.
Toad Charlie Chesterman and the Legendary Motorbikes with special guest Cindy Kamelnson.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Ramblers, Renata and the Rebecca Hart Band, $4.

MONDAY, APRIL 23

Bill's Bar Jimi V's going away party and art opening, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open-mike, 8pm; Lori McKenna; 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Danny Fox Group, 7:30pm, $6.
Common Ground Worst Evening Ever, the Simpsons Trivia Night, 10pm.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Lonely Gus and the One Night Stands; Far From Blue, 9:30pm, $2/$5, 18+.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
House of Blues Radiators, 10pm, $25, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Juke Box.
Johnny D's Beat research with DJ Flack, DJ C and Cozmopolis, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Tyler Gibbons, 8pm; Clare Burson, 9pm; Pierce Woodward Trio, $5.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; the Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East C: Tom Bianchi and Jason Gardner, 10pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack Nomar 5 Fund Afterbash hosted by Nomar Garciaparra, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan, 10pm.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; True Life Bluegrass, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Ball in the House, 7:30pm, 18+; Jazz Mandolin Project, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin' Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet, 9:30pm, $5/$8, 18+.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
Johnny D's Riders in the Sky, 8:30pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Massi and DJ Remix.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Open mike with Tom Bianchi, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Allete Brooks, 8pm; Meredith Levande, 9pm; Griff, 10pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Zahnlieter Jazz Quartet, no cover.
Linwood DJ Vinny.
Lucky's The Denson Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Atombombpocketknife, the Pennies and the Effword, 8:30pm, $6, 18+; D: Melvins, the Folk Implosion and the Takers, 8pm, $13, 18+.
Milky Way Lounge Mary Mary's All Star Karaoke, 9pm, $3.
McGann's Slainte.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
Plough and Stars Jennifer Matthews Band, 10pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack Search Party, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Charlie Kohlhase Quintet, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Mike Vax Big Band featuring Alumni of Stan Kenton, 9pm, $17.50.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Buxton, the Fairplan and National Blue, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Tír na nÓg Freddie White, 10pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; the Residency, featuring Say Zuzu, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Califone, Chris Mills and Jesse Perkins, $7.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

Music Venues

Anago at the Lenox Hotel *65 Exeter St., Boston (266-6222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-5101). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*

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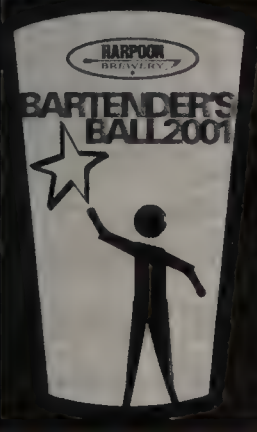
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Nomination Committee Includes:
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Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue line to Government Center or Aquarium.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Café Italia *144 Meridan St., East Boston (569-1800). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogans Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Coolidge Corner Theater *290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2501). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge.*
Costello's Tavern *723 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (522-9263). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Avenue, Boston (734-9000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Four Seasons Hotel *200 Boylston St., Boston (267-6338). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or North Station.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333) MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
International Place *Courtyard, Boston (740-0929). MBTA: Blue Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (742-6618). MBTA: Orange Line to North Station.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Longy School of Music *33 Garden St., Cambridge (888-457-7800). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299) MBTA: Lowell Commuter Rail to Lowell.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way Lounge and Lanes *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
MIT *Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., 14W-111, Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall Square.*
MIT *Kresge Auditorium, 148 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Griggs St.*
North Shore Music Theatre *62 Dunham Rd., Beverly, (978-232-7200).*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Foxboro *One School St., Foxboro (508-543-2787).*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*



Jam-oriented guitar band Moe give a show at the Worcester Palladium on April 21.

The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Plaza Garibaldi *1141 Revere Beach Parkway, Revere (781-284-6005).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366A Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *261 Main St., Worcester (800-477-6849).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30pm. $25-$77. Antonio Pappano conducts works by Brahams, Sibelius and Walton, featuring Yefim Brofman on piano.

THURSDAY, APRIL 12

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). 1:30pm. $25-$77. Same program as April 11.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). 1:30pm. $25-$77. Same program as April 11.

SATURDAY, APRIL 14

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). 8pm. $28-$83. Same program as April 11.

Young Artists Showcase
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (734-1359). MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. $4-$17. 1:30pm. Catrin Finch, winner of the 2000 Young Concert Artists International Auditions for the harp, preforms today.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15

Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (734-1359). MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1:30pm. $4-$17. Pianist Seymour Lipkin performs the complete major piano works of Franz Schubert.

TUESDAY, APRIL 17

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Seiji Ozawa conducts an all-Beethoven program. Featuring pianist Alfred Brendel.

Piano Masters Series
Seully Hall, Boston Conservatory, 8 The Fenway, Boston (536-6340). MBTA: E Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8pm. Free. Clifton Matthews performs works by Stravinsky, Schubert, Frazelle and Bartók.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18

Konstantinos Papadakis
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Pianist Konstantinos Papadakis performs works by Ravel, Schumann, Bach and Bartók.

Lecture-Recital
Jewett Auditorium, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (283-2028). 12:30pm. Free. This piano, violin and cello recital features music by Shostakovich.

THURSDAY, APRIL 19

Berlioz: Beatrice and Benedict
Boston University Theater, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $5-$15. The Boston University Opera Institute and Chamber Orchestra present works based on Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Same program as April 17.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20

Berlioz: Beatrice and Benedict
Boston University Theater, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $5-$15. Same program as April 19.

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston (423-3883). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8pm. $2-$42. Oboe player Robert Sheena performs *Oboe d'Amour*, works by Stravinsky, Bach and Mozart.

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green line to Copley. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. George Davey performs.

Handel & Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3605). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $19-$52. Christopher Hogwood closes the season by conducting his final concert as artistic director. The performance features Handel and Haydn's last works.



Christopher Hogwood, artistic director of the Handel & Haydn Society, closes the season at Symphony Hall with a concert on April 20.

Musica Viva
Longy School of Music, One Follen St., Cambridge (354-6910). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. New music by Henry Brant, Steven Mackey and Ruth Crawford Seeger are performed in *Imaginary Landscapes*.

SATURDAY, APRIL 21

Berlioz: Beatrice and Benedict
Boston University Theater, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $5-$15. Same program as April 19.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Seiji Ozawa conducts an all-Beethoven program. Featuring pianist Alfred Brendel.

Distinguished Artist Series
Boston University Concert Hall, 855 Comm. Ave., (353-2095). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. 3pm. Free. Eugene Izotov, on oboe, is featured.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (482-6661). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 8pm. $35-$45. Soprano Dawn Upshaw and pianist Richard Goode perform together.

From the Top
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2pm. $5. The Boston-produced public radio program is recorded in front of a live audience.

Merrimack College's Spring Concert
Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover (978-837-5355). 4pm. Directed by Joe Gorey, this concert showcases the student choir.

Sinfonietta Exchange Concert
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. 1:30pm. $4-$17. The Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra performs with the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras.

SUNDAY, APRIL 22

Berlioz: Beatrice and Benedict
Boston University Theater, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $5-$15. Same program as April 19.

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston (423-3883). 2pm. $2-$42. Same program as April 20.

From the Top
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2pm. $5. Same program as April 21.

Handel & Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., (266-3605). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $19-$52. Same program as April 20.

Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 The Fenway, Boston (734-1359). 1:30pm. $4-$17. The Eroica Trio performs works by Brahms, Villa-Lobos and Turina.

TUESDAY, APRIL 24

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Same program as April 21.

Faculty Concert
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. The B.U. Chamber Orchestra performs a tribute to Gaspar Cassado. It's conducted by Theodore Antoniou and features guest speaker Benjamin Zander.

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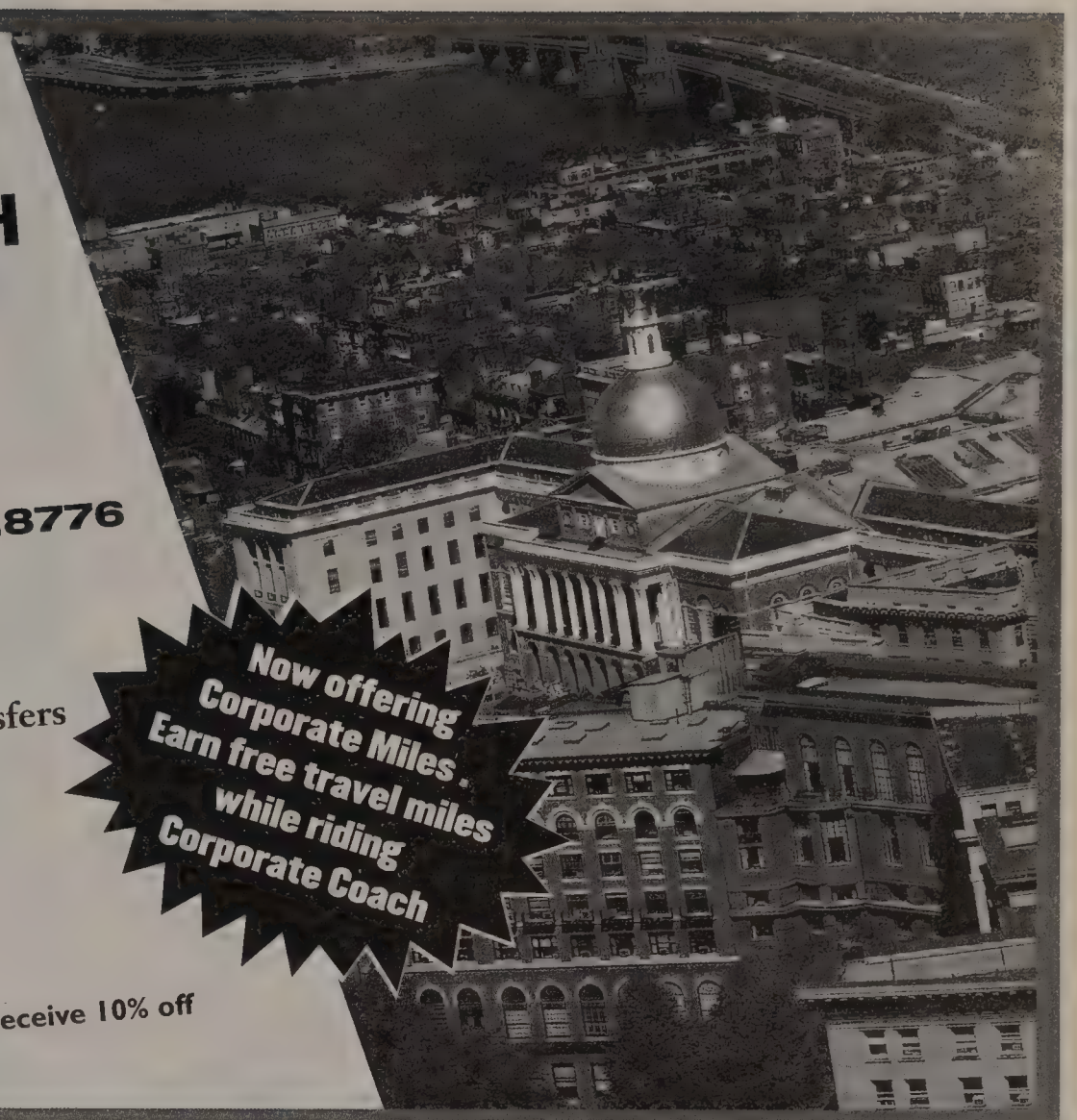
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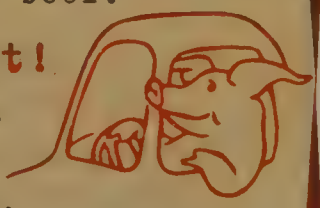


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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+ • April 15: Joe Della Penna performs on Easter Sunday for the Jazz Sunday Brunch, 11:30am-2:30pm, $15.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Grand Opening
Coolidge Corner, Brookline (731-2626). www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.* •April 11: Big, Big Love with Hanne Blank. • April 17: Turning Erotic Fantasy into Reality with Cecelia Tan •April 20-22: Fetish Diva Midori's Sensual Magic Weekend for Women. Join Midori for a special women's weekend of intensive instruction and fun. Experience an in-depth program on how to bring the joys of sensual power play to your relationship. With a series of personalized classes, discussions and demonstrations. $450 for the entire weekend (food and room is additional). Women only. Register by April 16.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., theme shows produced by Diamond Dunhill.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. •April 12, 6pm: **Marcie Hershman** reads from and discusses her new book, *Speak to Me: Grief, Love and What Endures.* It is a memoir of Hershman's brother Robert, whom she lost to AIDS, and her discovery of what endures when a loved one dies. •April 23, 6pm: Join seven of the contributing artists from *The World in Us: Lesbian and Gay Poetry of the Next Wave*, from **Olga Broumas** to emerging writers **Letta Neely** and **Melanie Hope** for an afternoon of poetry, performance and provocative conversation that you're not likely to soon forget.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Childbirth Class for Lesbians
(927-6243) or lcoolidge@fenwayhealth.org. *$125. Pre-registration required.* This class is taught by a certified childbirth educator, for pregnant women and their partners or friends.



***Edward II* is at the Tremont Theatre April 5-29.**

Edward II
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (642-1456). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. April 5-29. $20. Christopher Marlowe recounts the troublesome reign of England's King Edward II, whose passionate relationships with Piers Gaveston and Hugh DeSpencer would drive his country into rebellion. The final dramatic work by Shakespeare's most celebrated contemporary explores themes of power, obsession and sexuality.

Fenway Dinner Party
Marriott Hotel-Copley Plaza, Boston (267-8862). April 21, 6:30pm. $125. Join over 1,000 women for this night of dancing and dining. The fund-raising event benefits the Women's Care Fund at the Fenway Community Health Center. The evening's highlight is the presentation of the Dr. Susan M. Love award.

It Came from Brian and Mal
Theatre 1, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. April 5-28. $10-$15. A sketch comedy with a gay sensibility, though suitable for all audiences, stars Brian Jewell and Karen "Mal" Malme, directed by Renee Farster.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for mature gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Essence of a Woman
(927-6026) March 30, 6-8pm. A monthly sex rap series for lesbian and bisexual women to discuss sex.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872) GAYMES is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card "gaymes" and "parlor gaymes."

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This nationwide line provides information, referral and support services.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Kristen Porter's Dyke Night
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (542-9038). $5, 10pm, 21+. Every Thursdays this Lesbian Bar has rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing 'till 2am.

Lanes
MIT (423-6881). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900 ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900 ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). Held quarterly. Sliding scale.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons 8-9pm. It's followed by a DJ set. All smoke- and alcohol-free.

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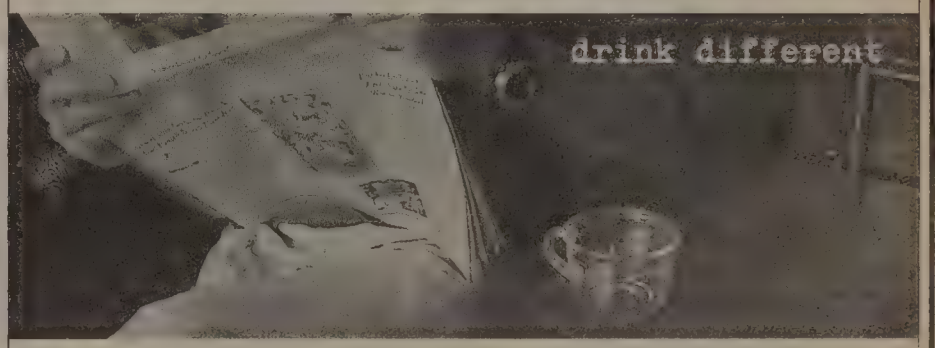
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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 20, 7:30-9:30pm. $6. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor spiritual traditions from all around the world.

Dr. Geeta S. Iyengar
Harvard Epworth Church, 1555 Massachusetts Ave. (666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 16, 7-9pm. $15.* The Iyengar yoga community of Greater Boston is excited to host this event honoring their teacher, **Dr. Geeta S. Iyengar**.

CLASSES

Chinese Herbal Medicine
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). April 21. Learn more about how to heal yourself naturally at this introductory workshop.

Develop Your Intuition
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *April 20, 9am-5pm. $15.* We're all born with intuition, but as the old saying goes, if you don't use it, you lose it. This workshop with author and teacher **Shira Block** focuses on exercising your ability to "know" something—to call upon intuition at will.

Feedback Yoga and the Art of Receiving
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 21, 12:30-5:30pm. $62.* Stretch your muscles by doing safe, simple, assisted yoga exercises. Working with others allows you to focus on your body's needs and can help you practice the art of giving and receiving.

Insight Meditation
Wellspace, Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *April 13, 7:15-8:45pm. Free.* The practice of mindfulness is the basis of all Buddhist traditions. Practitioners are invited to see things just as they are and to apply their insights to their lives. Regular meditation benefits the body, emotions and mind while reducing stress and conflict.

Kabbalah and Astrology
The Kabbalah Centre, 2001 Beacon Street, Brighton (492-9267 or 877-525-2773). www.kabbalah.com. *April 23. $25.* Celebrate the first day of the lunar month. Attend an illuminating lecture and meditation session designed to inject positive energy into your life. Dinner will also be served.

What's New in Nutrition
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 19, 5:30-7:30pm. $27. With all the news out there about diet and nutrition, it's hard to weed out what's really important. This class will provide the most helpful food and supplement information.

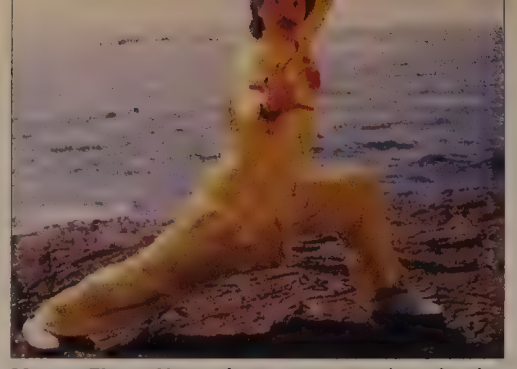
Yoga Workshop
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (781-395-9428). http://cambridge.zami.com/dancecomplex. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 21, 1:30-5:30pm.* Join **Patrick Crowley** for a fun class at this movement-friendly venue.

Workshop with Master Zhang Yuanming
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.charlesrivershiatsu.com. *April 14-15, 9-5pm. $180, $220 at the door.* Master **Zhang Yuanming** of China teaches Taoist tai chi.

LECTURES

Discover the Self: Learn About Qualities, Relating and Being Yourself
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-0101). April 21-22, 9am-5pm. $150. Register by April 17 with a deposit of $30. This is a dynamic and colorful workshop based on **Alice Bailey**'s science of Seven Rays, which helps you to understand profound insights about your individuality. The more you learn about yourself, the easier relating to others will be.

Idealism and Reality
New Acropolis Organization, First Parish Unitarian Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (591-9959). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 22, 7-8pm. Infused with the teachings of ancient philosophy, this presentation and discussion will focus on the real possibility of living your dreams.



Master Zhang Yuanming teaches Taoist tai chi at the Charles River School of Shiatsu April 14.

RETREATS

Kriya Yoga
Yoga for Life Center, 50 Beharrel St., West Concord (978-486-0091). www.babaji.ca. *April 20-22.* Kriya yoga brings about an integrated transformation of the individual in all five planes of existence: physical, vital, mental, intellectual and spiritual. Everyone can practice it and thus find happiness and peace.

Sensual Magic Weekend for Women
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, Boston. www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge. April 20-22, 21 hours total. $450. Register by April 15 with a non-refundable deposit of $200. Women only.* Join fetish diva **Ms. Midori**'s intensive session on how to bring the joys of sensual power play to your relationship. Learn creative negotiation, scene setting, special equipment, play techniques and exploring the emotional and psychological issues of loving S&M in a healthy relationship.

Shake and Wake
Earth Drum Council, Western Mass (978-371-2503). www.ecstaticspirit.com. *April 20-22, 8-11:30pm. Sliding scale: $210-$235.* Join **Karen Berggren**, author of *Circle of Shaman*, and **Morwen Two Feathers**, the co-founder of Earth Drum Council, for this unique retreat. This weekend intensive focuses on drumming and drum circle dynamics, as well as ecstatic dance and visionary experience.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington. (876-3050). MBTA: bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St. Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Martial Arts
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). Free. Intrigued by martial arts? Check these classes out. •Tai Chi lunch hour: Mondays/Fridays, 12:30-1:30pm •Buddhist Chi Kung: Tuesdays, 7-8pm •Tai Chi Self Defense: Tuesdays, 8-9pm.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mondays, 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are appropriate for anyone seeking a personal spiritual path. Give it a go.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is relaxing, stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St. Boston. (536-5954). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga & meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
Peace Power Yoga, Church of Our Savior, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. $10 per class.* Drop in for a powerfully peaceful time. Classes are scheduled: •Tuesdays, 7:30am and 7:30pm •Wednesdays, 11:30am •Thursdays, 6pm •Saturdays, 9:30am.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., (522-7199). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/session. Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Big Apple Circus: Clown Around Town
Fan Pier, Boston (931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. April 7-May 13. $13-$43.* This all-new show features a cast of circus acts from around the world, including award-winning acrobats, hand balancers, jugglers, trapeze artists, dogs, horses and clowns.

Children's Theater
Theatre 1, 713 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). $8 adults, $5 children. •April 14 and 21, 3pm: ***Building Tales Together***. Pocket Full of Tales Theatre Company turns audience suggestions into a wild musical.

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. April 6-May 6. $10-$17. Lilly's sparkles with witty and eccentric characters.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 and 3pm. •April 14-15: ***Bingo the Circus Dog*** by Paul Vincent Davis. •April 18-19: ***St. George and the Dragon*** by Pumpernickel Puppets. •April 20-22: **Raccoon Tales** by Paul Vincent Davis.

Wizard of Oz
Boston Children's Theatre, Media Arts Center, Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave., Boston (424-6634). MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. April 17-22, 28-29, 2pm. $10-$16. Children in grades 4 through 12 perform all the roles in this stage adaptation of the movie musical.

THINGS TO DO

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). •April 16-20 (half- or full-day): April Vacation Arts Camp.

Boston Park Rangers Programs
(635-7383). •April 17, 1-3pm: Franklin Park Tennis Courts, across from Shattuck Hospital. Spend the afternoon playing games in Olmsted Park. •April 22, 12-3pm: Boston Common Ranger Station, behind the Visitor Center. Kids' activities to celebrate Earth Day.

Children's Swim Clinic
Dorchester YMCA, 776 Washington St., Boston. April 18, 4-5:15pm. Two-time gold medal-winning swimmer Gary Hall Jr. will teach basic swim skills.

The Harvard Coop: Story Hour
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. •April 14, 11am: *Rechenka's Eggs* by Patricia Polacco. Enjoy an egg hunt. •April 21, 11am: *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle. Plant a seed to grow at home.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge. (495-2341). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 14. Participate in the Saturday Scholars program. •9am-12pm, grades 2-3: What are the things that go bump in the night? •9am-12pm, grades 4-5: Use hand-lenses, microscopes and micro-video cameras.

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children. •April 14: Paper Airplane Making. •April 21: 3-D Paper Cars.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). •April 13-22: *Lady Grace* appearance. See the boat made famous by the movie *The Perfect Storm*. •April 14-22: School Vacation Week. Family activities are included with admission. •April 17-18 and 19-20: School Vacation Camps. Students in grades 4-7 enjoy intense two-day aquatic adventures. •April 20: Cruise aboard the *Voyager III*.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). •April 11, 4:30pm: Meet the mouse heroine of *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*. •April 17, 3pm: Earth Day Celebration. •April 19, 3pm: Hampstead Players present *Robin Hood*. •April 24, 3 and 4pm: Meet sea creatures from the New England Aquarium. •April 13 and 20, 10:30am: Pre-school films.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). $3, $2.50 children. Ages 6 and older. •April 16-20, 2pm: The Story of a City Block. •April 16, 18 and 20, 11:30am: Meeting House Hung. •April 17 and 19, 11:30am: Colonial Clothing.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: $10-$75. Call 228-6000
April 11: Miami, 7pm
April 15: New Jersey, 12:30pm
April 18: Charlotte, 7pm

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
April 11, 6:05pm: Baltimore Orioles
April 12, 6:05pm: Baltimore Orioles,
April 13, 6:05pm: New York Yankees
April 14, 1:05pm: New York Yankees
April 15, 1:05pm: New York Yankees
April 16, 11:05am: New York Yankees
April 24, 7:05pm: Minnesota Twins

New England Revolution
•Foxoboro Stadium. Tickets: 931-2222
April 14, 7:30pm: Miami Fusion

Events

Champions on Ice
FleetCenter, Boston (931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. April 13, 7:30pm. $35-$65. Olympic, world and national champions join together in one performance of spectacular artistry. Skaters include Michelle Kwan, Brian Boitano, Victor Petrenko, Surya Bonaly, Philippe Candeloro, Elvis Stojko, Todd Eldredge, Rudy Galindo and Jennifer Kirk.

Free-Sailing Weekend
Boston Sailing Center, Lewis Wharf, Boston (227-4198). April 21-22, 11am-4pm. Free. Seasoned skippers and landlubbers alike are invited to sail in the harbor in boats ranging in length from 23 to 40 feet.

John Hancock Sports & Fitness Expo
World Trade Center, Boston (439-7700). April 14-15, 9am-6pm. One of the largest marathon/fitness expos in the country features well-known exhibitors in the industries of sports, health and nutrition.

Michellie Jones, Olympic Triathlete
Wild Women Outfitters, 397 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-641-5776). •April 14, 1-2pm; run at 2:15pm. World champion triathlete Michellie Johnes has 86 victories under her belt. Meet her and ask her how she does it. •April 19, 7pm: K2 Mountaineering Slide Show & Discussion with Jen Jordan. Find out what it's really like to scale the deadliest mountain in the world.

104th Running of the Boston Marathon
From Hopkinton, Mass. to the Boston Public Library, Boston (236-1652). www.bostonmarathon.org. *April 16, 11:45am (wheelchairs begin), 12pm (everyone else).* Pick your favorite bar along Boylston Street and cheer on the runners.



It's your last chance to ski this season: Boston Ski & Sports Club goes to Sugarloaf April 13-15.

To Play

BASEBALL

Henry's Baseball Club
(781-891-0621). Ages 17-30. Seeking players for the 2001 baseball season.

SKIING: COURTESY OF MT. SUNAPEE

BASKETBALL

Basketball City
Adjacent to North Station and the FleetCenter (742-6700). Corporate, midday and weekend leagues.

Co-Ed Indoor Basketball
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070, ext. 224). Sun.-Thu. nights at various locations. All levels. Leagues in Belmont, Brookline, Dedham and Watertown.

The Corporate League of Boston
(566-7808).

Never Too Late Basketball
(781-488-3333). Practice and workout programs for all levels in Greater Boston.

South End Fitness Center League
(534-5823).

Women's Basketball League
(661-9622). Tue. 5:30-7pm and Sun., 6-7:30pm. Long-legged beauties shoot some hoops.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

Skip and Walk Tall
Pine Banks Park, 1087 Main St., Malden (781-397-7408). Sun., 11am. After skipping and walking, the group will meet at Bruegger's Bagels for a social hour.

HOCKEY

Co-ed Floor Hockey
BSSC (789-4070). Individuals and teams, co-eds, all levels in Newton and Brighton.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

SNOW SPORTS

Ski & Board Weekends
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). The Boston Ski & Sports Club offers the last trip of the season. •April 13-15, $239: Sugarloaf.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in Greater Boston.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(789-4070).

Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance
(928-0882). www.buda.org.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. at various locations. Coed indoor 6 on 6 leagues. Four different levels of play. •Co-ed pickup games Tuesdays and Fridays at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

Why Watch Volleyball League
Watertown High School, 50 Columbia St., Watertown (825-7723). www.whywatch.com. *Thu., 7-9pm.* Six-on-six co-ed volleyball league with three different levels.

WRESTLING

Men's Adult Wrestling
Boston Union, 48 Boylston St., Boston (482-1122). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mon. and Wed., 6:30-8:30pm; Sat., 1-4pm. All skill levels. Coaching available.

around town



The Museum of Transportation in Brookline houses a stellar collection of antique cars.

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

Garden in the Woods
180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-6574). April 15-June 15: daily, 9am-5pm. June 16-Oct. 31: Tue.-Sun., 9am-7pm.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays. 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10. $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4. $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

AIDSRide
(800-825-1000). July 19-22. Be a crew volunteer for the four-day, 350-mile ride from New York to Boston.

Alliance for Children
(781-431-7148). Adopt a child from abroad. Info. meeting will be held April 11, 7-9pm.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(956-0281). www.bbmb.org. Be a friend to one child. Info. sessions: Tue. and Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Information sessions held regularly.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a programm assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun times with an isolated senior.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.



Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Master Tom
Happy fifty-something birthday. I bet if you shaved off your mustache, you would look younger.
—Your dog, Hunter

Depot Dude
To the New Bedford guy in the Somerville Home Depot: It's probably three months ago now that we both stood waiting at the customer service desk. You were getting a blow-in insulation machine; I was getting a truck. You're tall, with dark curly hair, wire-framed glasses and good shoes. You were with a guy named John, who I hope is not your father-in-law. You tried to catch my eye but I was being standoffish because I had a boyfriend. But he's history now, and I've occasionally regretted not speaking to you. If you're single and you see this, write.
—Depotgrl@aol.com

Heaven Sent
We were waiting for the D train in Brookline Village. You had a Barbie notepad and were reading the Bible! We made small talk about how unfair it was for D-Line riders to pay an extra 25 cents. You had a beautiful smile. Plump and sexy. I wanted to get off with you at Boylston but was running late to work. You've been on my mind since. I haven't seen you on the train... were you just an angel? If you are earthly, please e-mail me!
—a_rod329@hotmail.com

Lost Saab
March 26 at the Copley Plaza FairmontET seminar, the doorman took forever to find your car, but not long enough for me to formulate a presentation. The content is key and simply put, you're incredibly attractive and have a wonderful smile! When you returned my glance and smiled, it felt as if I was on a warm, sandy beach. I was in the blue shirt/tie and brown leather jacket. This ad only presents a two-dimensional text message, so you'll have to imagine the incredible smile on my face at the thought of hearing back from you. Please don't take as long as the doorman did to find your car!
—Dcarfrmmi@mediaone.net

Peaches
Thank you for the best six months of my life! You have completely rocked my little world and I am loving every minute of it. Who knew domestication could be so much fun? Needless to say, I love you.
—Clue-tip

Encouraging Smiles
You: Light brown hair, wearing a sweater and jeans, carrying a backpack and laptop case. Me: blond, hazel-eyed, wearing a black skirt, black coat and carrying flowers. We were on the C Line March 27 with a crazy radical trying to stop the arms race. Neither of us signed his petition. When you got off at Washington Square you smiled and told me to have a good night. I'm sorry I didn't get your name or talk to you more, but I'd love to see you again.
—jenk1202@hotmail.com

To My Beautiful Sailor in Charlestown
Thank you for these incredible few weeks. You have helped me to believe in love again and for that I am eternally grateful. From the Ritz to your boat in Charlestown, I have enough memories to last me a lifetime. Think of me as you cross that big, wide ocean to Europe and always remember there is a woman that loves you back in home port.
—Baby girl...

MFA, March 31.
You: Green shirt, cargo pants, blue backpack. Me: Lavender shirt, jeans, gray coat. I wish I'd said Hi in the Egyptian Room.
—aggies457@hotmail.com.

To the Booking Agents...
...and the music promoters, and the "talent buyers" of our local music scene: I hold you responsible for the misery our city must live in. What was once a powerhouse of music clubs has been reduced to far too many little holes playing horrible music to the same aging people over and over again. Long live The Middle East for even existing at all. Why have the clubs closed? You know what fills clubs and makes for great nights out? Good listenable music. Boston is a city filled with colleges, and seniors are 21-plus. Where do they go? To The Kells, Copperfield's and other places where cover bands thrive. Because at least it's not noise. The saddest example is the Milky Way. It's evident why karaoke night is the most popular event of the week. Folks, it's not your playhouse. It's not about your misfit friends feeling cool. Or booking your buddy's band. It's common sense. Remember The Rat? Mama Kin's? Local 186? Who's next? Local music DJs play in their own bands, booking people manage their own bands, local music writers, critics and so on play in their own bands. Sadly, like everything else in Boston, from the Celtics to the banks, the music scene is controlled by a small, tight and stupid circle trying to seem important yet letting things die. Linwood Grill, The Milky Way, TT's, Bill's Bar, fire these people! If you disagree you probably think Scissorfight and Heidi are good bands. You and 40 other people.
—Prof. Harold Hill

Horse-Face in the North End
I'm so glad to not have you as my downstairs neighbor anymore. No longer will I have to put up with your hysterical complaints. My personal favorite was when you called up crying because of the infernal noise I was making (vacuuming my hardwood floors at 5:30pm on a Thursday). By the way, maybe you should hit that gym you're supposedly a member of instead of baking all the time. You would be able to fit into your current tacky clothes instead of ordering new ones every day from some catalog. I'm sure you'll miss me.... Lord knows you haven't had a man on top of you in years.
—Anonymous

T'd Off
I wonder why men stare at you. Maybe its those dumb short skirts you wear in the middle of winter at 8am every morning going into Boston.You are older, maybe late 40s and wear way too much makeup. Every day I see your total disregard for others, like the way you muscle your way into a seat and don't care what or who you bump into to get there. Then the cell phone comes out and while everyone else is enjoying their paper or last few moments of peace before work, you have inane conversations and talk too loudly. Can you say "rude?" Is there such a thing as T rage? Thanks, IMPROPER, for letting me vent.
—Franklin Man

Run-By
Near noon on March 24, we were running on Beacon toward Kenmore Square when you passed me, looking like you knew what you were doing, wearing an obviously well-worn white T-shirt and sporting a "Colby Cross-Country" hat—an irresistible combination. I, wearing a blue zip-neck pullover, going (maybe) farther and (definitely) slower, wanted to make a pleasantry about the run and the weather but didn't. Buzz me for a run sometime; I'll try to keep up.
—bosrun39@yahoo.com

Catherine the Paralegal
I am sure you you remember; we met on the last Orange Line train the night of March 23. We counseled a pair of young ladies from Olympia not to take a cab home with their new drunken friends. I got off at Sullivan Station and we agreed that I would place this ad. I sure would love to hear back from you. You can reach me at
—that_guy_i_met_on_the_t@yahoo.com.

Rockie Horoscope

APRIL 11 – APRIL 24, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



ARIES MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Grab a friend for support, take that leap of faith into your future and don't let fear (of Friday the 13th?) hold you back. Right now you have more energy, determination and a sharper focus than you've had in years; you could achieve your objectives by the sheer force of your concentration and, lest you forget, charm. You also have a way with words now, a "here today, gone tomorrow" gift that you can't count on after Mercury leaves your sign. Clarity of thought plus an Arian sense of adventure—who could resist?

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Congratulations are in order. You've survived the trials and tribulations of having restrictive Saturn in your sign for two and a half years. You've assumed responsibilities that have slowly, step-by-step, pushed you into the arms of adulthood and Home Depot. So, once Taurus begins and Saturn switches its load onto Gemini's shoulders, what are you going to do for structure? Will you go wild when barrier-breaking Uranus in your career midheaven tests the foundations of your (relatively) newfound stability? Probably not.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
Do you remember what happened and how you felt when stern Saturn was in Gemini in early autumn last year, or did you block out the experience entirely? Either way, after the planet ruling contraction and solidification lumbers into your sign mid-month, you'll slow your pace, face responsibilities head-on and, for a Gemini, show a tremendous amount of patience until Saturn's lesson plan is fully incorporated into your future. If you're currently flying high, look for a safe spot to land in case Saturn shoots you down when you're past the point of no return.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
One of the joys of spring is the attention paid by transiting planets to the arc of your career. You only get this kind of direct action during Aries and Taurus, which is probably when you'd rather be in the garden. Sorry, but now is the time to rise to whatever occasion presents itself, no matter how weird, challenging or boring the job. Why you, why now? Because in mid-July magnanimous Jupiter showers a year's worth of good luck and happy times on all Moon children whether they deserve it or not.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
A gutsy, glorious adventure lies in wait. Your sun ruler, in energetic Aries, is providing more daring and physical stamina than a mighty Lion needs, unless you're the kitty who's been sleepwalking through the past year. If so, wake up, stretch out and watch the sparks fly. A rare Grand Fire Trine, from Aries to Mars in Sagittarius and, by reflection, to your natal Leo planets, ignites your curiosity and feeds your lust for life. Spirits soar, passions ignite and, once again, you feel like your old self.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Another opportunity to be witty and wise, to dig for dirt and come up with gold. This is the time to charm the pants off your audience. Mercurial verbal skills and brainwaves are in excellent shape; all systems are go and, for a change, nothing weird or obstructive is in the way. But until Taurus begins, there's little holding you to earthly concerns such as gross or disposable income. I assume you had the foresight to do your taxes ages ago when money issues mattered more than they do now. And you had more of it.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Like a Virgin, you currently have the wit and smarts to pull off whatever acts of verbal derring-do you please, without forfeiting any of your characteristic style and grace. The public is so receptive to your every word that there's little chance they'll take offense, no matter how abrasive or dead-on accurate you are. Forget about nuance, innuendo and other subtleties of the Libran stock in trade. While crusading Aries rules, getting to the heart of the matter and extracting the truth is more important than making friends and influencing people.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
This time of year your innermost thoughts turn to affairs of the heart, not to affairs of state. It's your personal life and the pursuit of pleasure that take precedence over world events. You're not hiding your head in the sand, you're simply responding to the path of the planets and right now, they're concentrated in subjective subjects, the intimate areas of your life that you keep to yourself. Once Taurus and Gemini energy kicks in, you'll spread out and show those significant others that you care.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
You're even more into yourself and what you've got vested than Scorpio, and we all know how close to the vest they play their cards. Secretive stuff is hardly your bag, but even with fiery Aries planets stoking Mars in your sign, you still might not be ready to expose your hand. Archers know that they've got the impetus and the energy behind them and now all they need is the right confluence of forces, (a.k.a. The Force) to propel them onto the next level of—what do you want to call it?

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Nothing moves fast enough to change the temper, tenor, tempo of the times. For the cautious Goat, locked into family or real estate matters, these are the days of whine and supposes. Trying to wrestle yourself free of so much domesticity is an honorable goal, but not the one that will increase your stature in the community. To succeed on your own terms, you need to face each of these niggling problems and file them away until you figure out what in the long run works to your advantage.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
We hate to bring up financial matters to an Aquarian whose spirit usually soars much higher than the bottom line, but hey, sometimes, like when there's this much planetary action in your money house, it is a necessary evil. We're not convinced that you should put your faith or funds into whatever your buddies are promoting. Still, if you were going to surprise your immediate circle, the spiritual brothers and sisters you love so much, now would be the time. Once Aries is over and the Mercury-Venus connection is broken, the opportunity to wax euphonic will pass.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
A fascinating combination of instinct and intelligence is at work right now. How you decide whether to concentrate on your personal life, which is what the Aries planets would insist on, or to focus on world issues, which is what the Aquarian new age energy would prefer, is pretty much up to you. No matter which way you go, you can count on having a silver tongue and enough insights to carry you across whatever minuscule obstacles you may encounter. The point of the next few weeks is: easy come, easy go.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

RACHEL BROMBERG

Improper Sightings

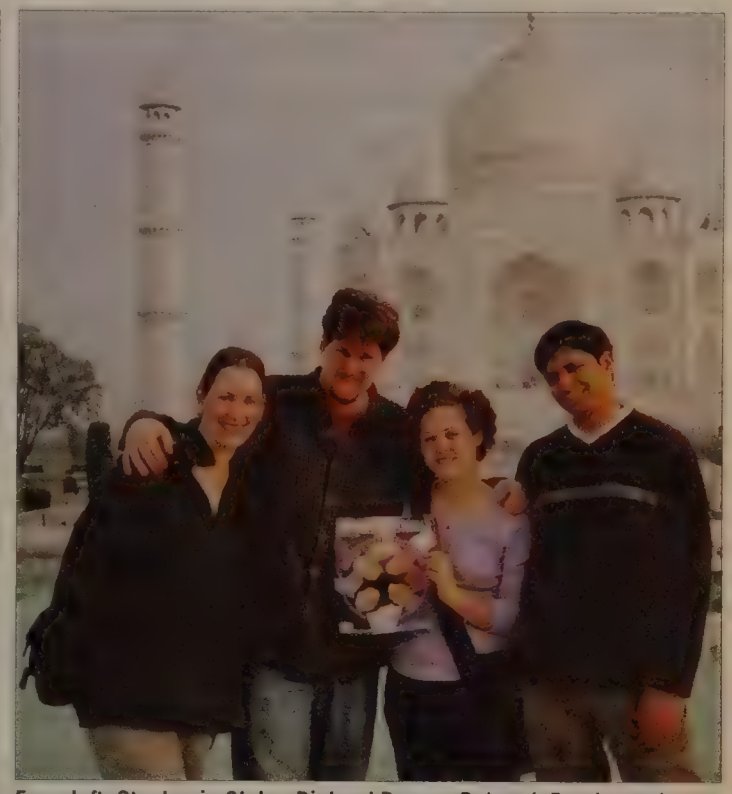
Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



From left: Maryanne Keeney, Scott Tarpley and expatriate Priscilla Skarada visit the Fab Four at Madame Tussaud's in London.



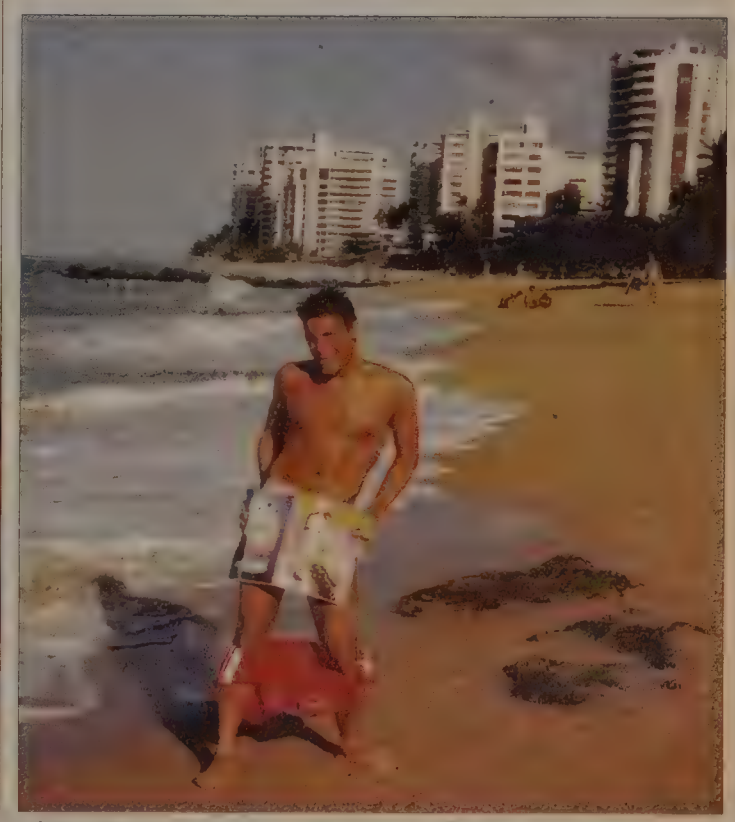


From left: Stephanie Sluka, Richard Brauer, Deborah Bander and Hiteshu Balwada overcome their Agraphobia at the Taj Mahal.



Montana Governor and member of the '64 US Olympic speed skating team Judy Martz is reasonable and prudent on the road, if not in the rink.

From left: Lori Rezek and Elizabeth and Meagan Zwanziger pose in front of some tower somewhere.



Michael Moeller finds that an IMPROPER (SPF 45) makes fine beachwear at Condado Beach in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:

Breaking the world-record meadow muffin toss of 182 feet, 3 inches at the World Cow Chip Throwing Championship, April 14-21, in Beaver, Okla.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

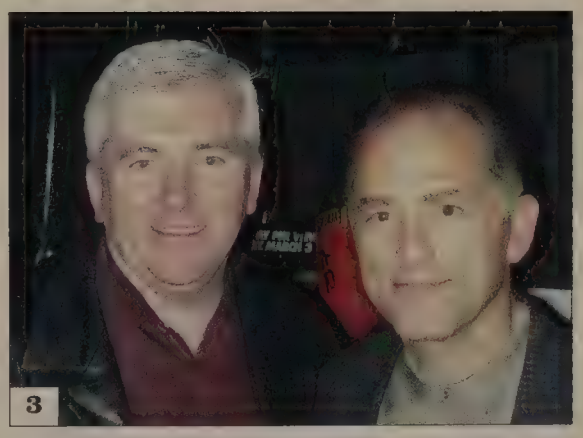
improperazzi

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Tuesday, March 20, **The Rack** and the **Boston Celtics** hosted the 7th annual *Rock with the Jocks* party. All proceeds benefited Boston's Home Team, a partnership between the **Fannie Mae Foundation** and the Boston Celtics to help revitalize Boston's inner-city neighborhoods. The crowd was treated to an impromptu jam by the band **Boston**, along with Peter Wolf of the **J. Giels Band**.


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1. The Rack's marketing director **Heather Michalowski,** with Boston Celtic player **Paul Pierce.**
2. Boston Celtics captain **Antoine Walker.**
3. The Rack owner **Paul Barclay,** with Boston Celtic head coach **Jim O'Brien.**
4. **Lynn Hoffman**, Mix 98.5's morning DJ, with **Gregg Daniels**, Mix 98.5's afternoon DJ.
5. **Jamie Walsh**, a student at UMass-Boston, and **Nicole Bonavita** from the Department of Youth Services.
6. **Paul Sternburg** with the Massachusetts State Lottery, **Peter Wolf** of the J. Giels Band and songwriter **Jeff Myaero.**
7. **Brad Delp**, lead singer for the band Boston, **Barry Goudreau**, formerly of Boston, and **Pat Badger**, former base player of Extreme and now with Tribe of Judah.

On Saturday, March 24, **Mobius** threw its annual benefit. This year's fête, Artrages 2001: A Space Artyssey, offered a rich medley of art, music and other acts—including the Srijan India Dancers and a theremin ensemble. Proceeds went to artist-run Mobius, which supports experimental works in all media.


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1. A member of the Huckleberrys, a performance art group.
2. **Le Juano Varnell** of Fleet Development Ventures, and **Amy Chan**, Campus Director at Citizen Schools.
3. Two Mobius performance artists strike a pose with **Veronica Skurat**, speech-language pathologist; **David Wildman**, *Boston Globe* writer and musician; and **John Bernhardt**, actuary, WMBR DJ and musician.
4. Sean Wortis, musician and **Anne Weeks**, *Weekly Dig* art editor.
5. **Mare Freed** of MIT Press; **Todd Bleckley**, public school teacher, artist and musician; **Tracy Baumbardner**, video editor; and **Alice Markowitz**, filmmaker.

PHOTOS: WENDY SEMONIAN, RACK; MOBIUS, RACHEL STRUTT

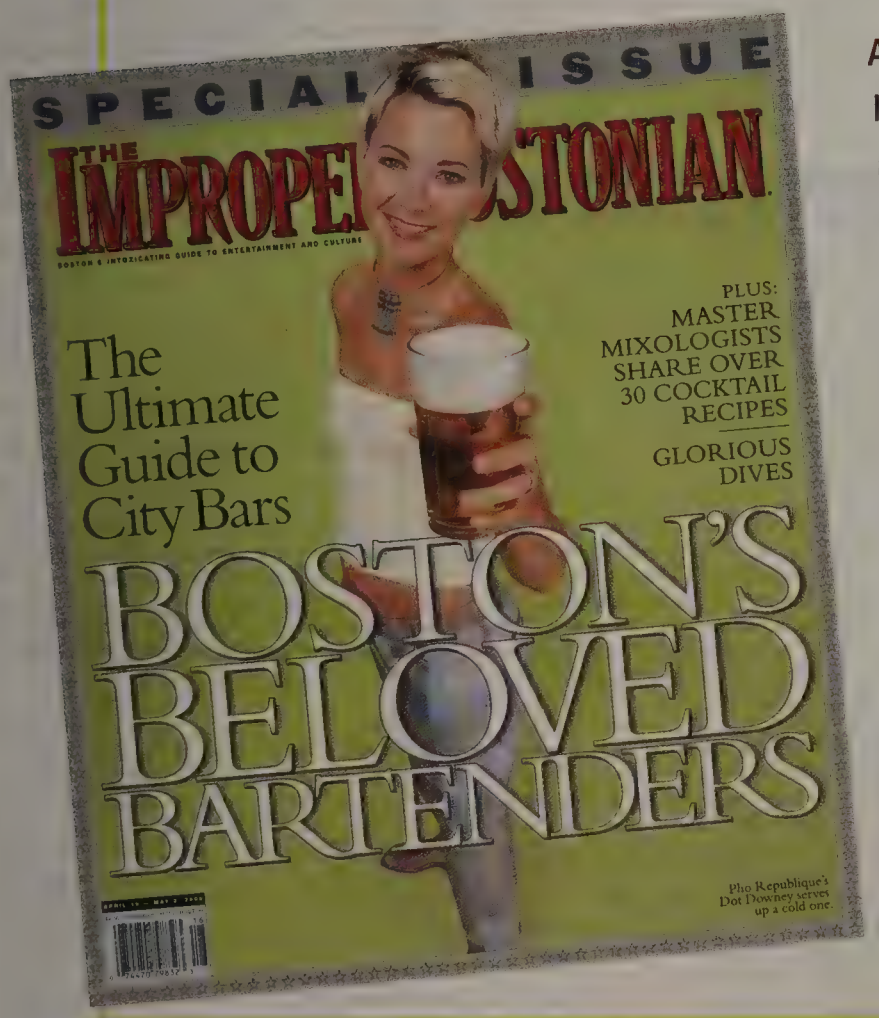
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

proudly presents

OUR 7th ANNUAL

BOSTON'S BELOVED BARTENDERS

ISSUE



After many a night listening to the details of their patrons' lives, Boston's favorite drink-slingers will tell you a little about themselves and share their professionally perfected recipes. Throughout these pages, Boston's hippest restaurants, bars, clubs and beverage companies also get a shot at sharing the limelight.

- *The Improper Bostonian* is distributed to over 250 restaurants, bars and clubs.
- Reaching over 257,000 readers every two weeks.
- Our readers frequent local bars and restaurants more than 16 times a month!

The Beloved Bartenders issue is traditionally one of our most popular — here's your chance to introduce yourself to our readers and stay in front of them all year long.

ISSUE DATE: APRIL 25, 2001 / DEADLINE FOR SPACE AND MATERIALS: APRIL 11, 2001

CALL TO RESERVE SPACE TODAY!

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11:30 am - 2 am.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy
O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

Watch City Brewing Co. *256 Moody St. Waltham 781-647-4000 Top* Ten Reasons To Visit Watch City:
10. At the top of Waltham's restaurant row 9. Easy access from Rt. 128 & Masspike 8. Free parking 7. The Embassy Cinema next door 6. Award winning chef & brewers 5. www. watchcitybrew.com 4. Live music Wed & Thurs. nights 3. Great grilled seafood, steaks & burgers 2. Only female owned brew pub in USA 1. Great beers, great food, always a great time.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy
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Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: Bobby Femino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar)

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ'snightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and world
class margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a co-worker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample
favorites as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Located at 199 Clarendon St. at Copley Square. Indulge yourself with our delicious Smoked Salmon and Caviar Tasting served on a warm corn blini, or our Fresh Crab Pie made with eggs and jack cheese. Do not forget to sample our award-winning clam chowder. Validated parking available. Reservations accepted. Call 617-536-3500.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

CLASSIFIEDS

GENERAL CLASSIFIEDS

TAKE A TOUR

Stop just thinking about owning your own business! Take your first step & tour our Boston office! Prime territories are still avail. in Boston suburbs. Call to learn about an industry that's growing 20% annually,
617-742-8787, ext.225

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LEADERS WANTED

National marketing group expanding in the Boston area. Seeking someone who has owned or operated a business, or has experience in marketing, teaching or public speaking. Call 617-747-4452.

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IRS, DOR, DET, Income, Payroll, Sales, Meals, Etc. John H. Kelleher, CPA, Attorney (617) 451-9720.

DATING

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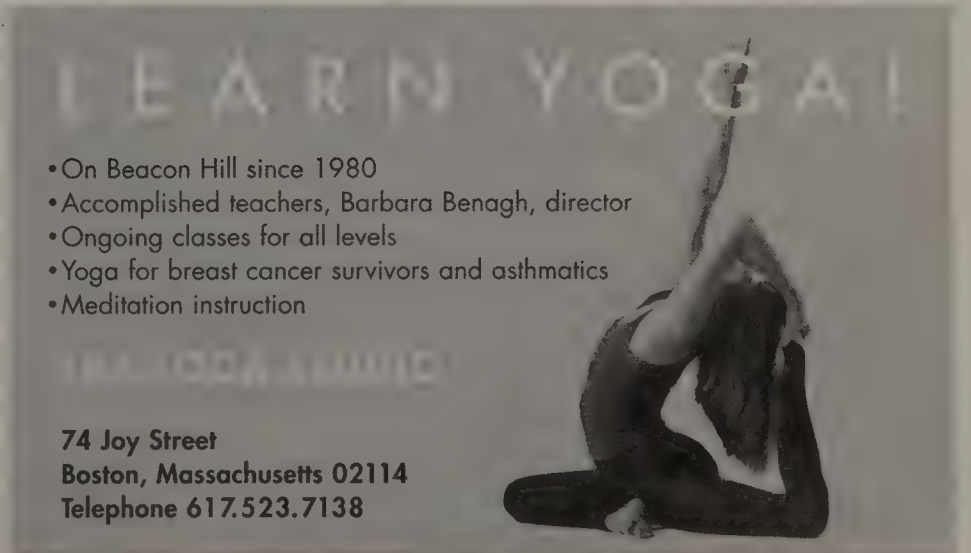


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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF



The Men's Event, from top: Heather Cameron, Bob Briellard, David Brown and Steve Ridini; Mitchell Anderson; Gerry Studds and Gary Burton; Steve Grossman and Richard Gordon; David Chick.

OY, GEVALT...

The **Men's Event** probably isn't what the *Flintstones* theme song meant when it said, "We'll have a gay old time," but the description certainly applied to the **Fenway Community Health Center**'s annual benefit at the **Westin Copley Place**.

Adding to the visual appeal of an otherwise hideous hotel ballroom were several thousand tuxedo-clad gay men, a few women in evening gowns, a few men in evening gowns, and a sprinkling of heterosexuals in who had a vested interest in being there.

After a pleasantly elongated cocktail hour, everyone sat down for dinner and the presentation of the annual **Gerry Studds** Visibility Award. The former U.S. representative (the first openly gay member of Congress) was front and center, as was the evening's honoree, legendary jazz vibraphonist **Gary Burton**, and Hollywood eye candy/activist **Mitchell Anderson** (who plays a teacher on the WB's bubble-gum dramedy *Popular* but is better known as the gay violin teacher from *Party of Five*). Also present and accounted for: co-chairs **Skip Hughes** and **Douglas Spencer**, former honoree and Boston's unofficial fairy godfather **Harry Collings**, Mayor McCheese **Tom Menino** and State House-hungry gubernatorial candidate **Steve Grossman**, Texas wild man and incorrigible scamp **Ty Burks**, weathermonger-studmuffin **David Brown** of Channel 5, the startlingly sparkly **Stewart Clifford**, hot straight politician **Mike Ross**, hot gay politician **Jarret Barrios**, hotblooded Latin painter **Raphael Jaimes-Branger**, hotblooded Asian painter **Paul Nagano**, purveyor of fabulosity **David Chick** (who had the retro-cajones to wear a powder-blue tuxedo with a ruffled shirt), and more interior designers than you could shake a stick at (although you could've started with **Bill Ralph** and **Michael Carter**).

In short, it was a colorful cast of characters. (Memo to all P.C. types who might be tempted to write outraged letters to the editor: A large group of gay men, by definition, is a colorful cast of characters.) Needless to say, the witty persiflage flew fast and furious. However, the funniest part of the evening was pure coincidence: An Orthodox Jewish parochial school in Brookline was holding a fund-raiser in the ballroom on the floor below, which forced two startled-looking women to direct a continuous stream of gay men up the escalator, prompting the observation: "Solomon Schechter downstairs. Sodom and Gomorrah upstairs."

GET A LOAD O' THOSE MAMMARY GLANDS!

There was no shortage of arresting visuals at **Big Dreams Start Small**, a gala dinner featuring a live auction and a celebrity fashion show to benefit **St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital** at the **Park Plaza Hotel**.

To begin with, there was the odd couple of **Sen. John Kerry** and mattress giant **Eliot Tatelman** of Jordan's Furniture, who looked like Mutt and Jeff as they auctioned off a $1,500 gift certificate.

Backstage, Celtics legend **JoJo White** looked like he'd been scuba diving in the Fountain of Youth, as he schmoozed with the likes of morning-show bigmouth **Matt Siegel** of Kiss 108, while celebrity chefs **Tony Ambrose** and **Michael Schlow** traded recipes in the corner.

Nearby, Channel 4 glamazon **Liz Walker** caught up with her curvaceous blonde opposite number at Channel 5, **Susan Wornick**, until they were joined by the former's ex-coworker and the latter's ex-husband, sports anchor **Bob Lobel**, and the three of them had a few laughs.

Fashion designer **Denise Hajjar** managed to stay surprisingly cool while looking after both First Lady **Angela Menino** and the mayor's political nemesis, **Peggy Davis-Mullen**.

Most entertaining of all, however, was PR coordinator and former TV reporter **Debbie Enblom** giving everybody an eyeful as she organized things backstage while breast-feeding her newborn, **Hannah**. This prompted some maternal cooing from ketchup gazillionairess **Teresa Heinz** and a few double takes from the men, which is perfectly understandable, since you might expect to see some breasts backstage at a fashion show, but you probably don't expect them to be lactating. **iB**



At Big Dreams Start Small, from top: Senator John Kerry and Eliot Tatelman; Liz Walker and Bob Lobel; models doing their thing; a St. Jude's model and Jonathan Soroff; Jojo White and Susan Wornick.

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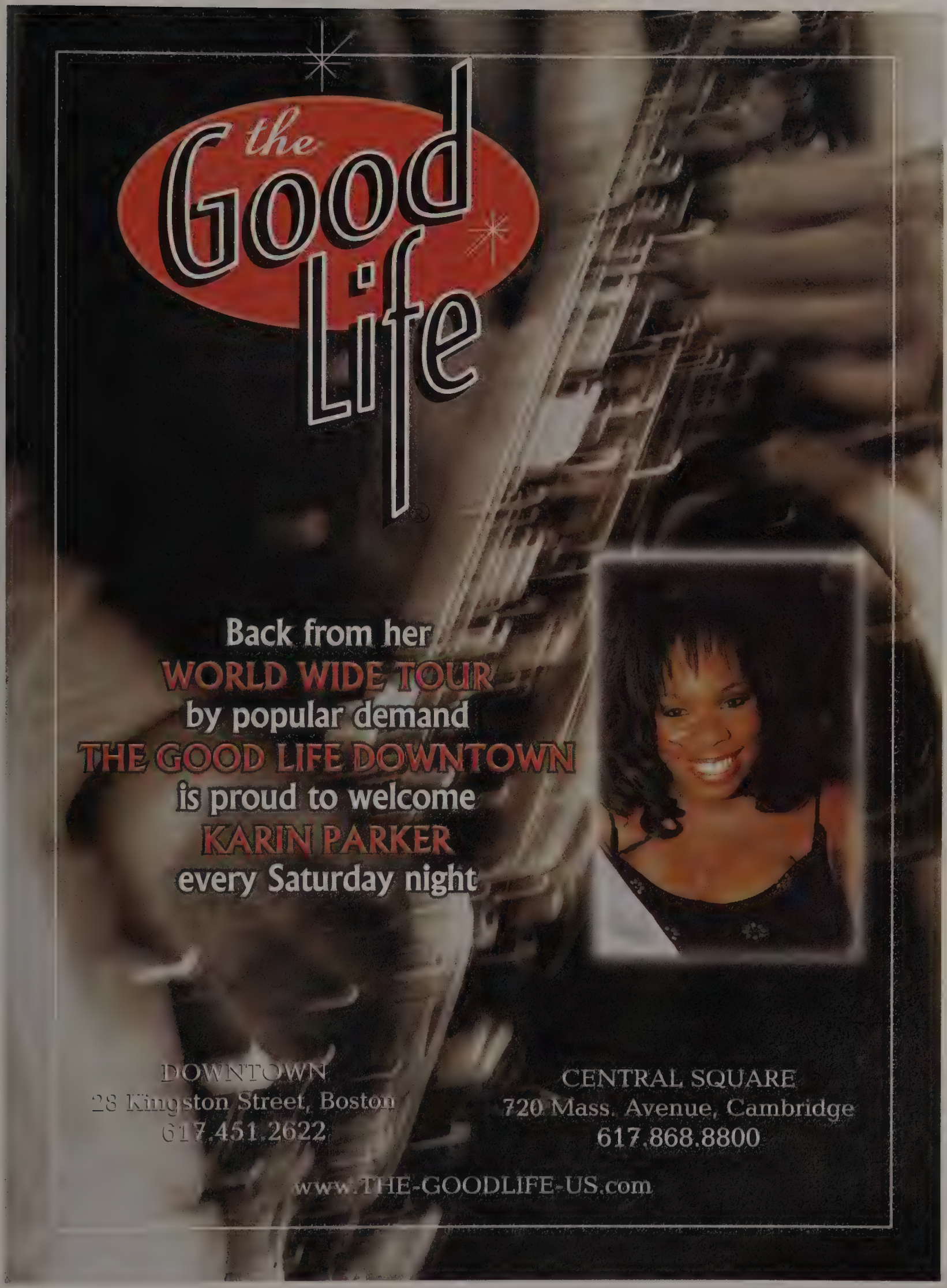
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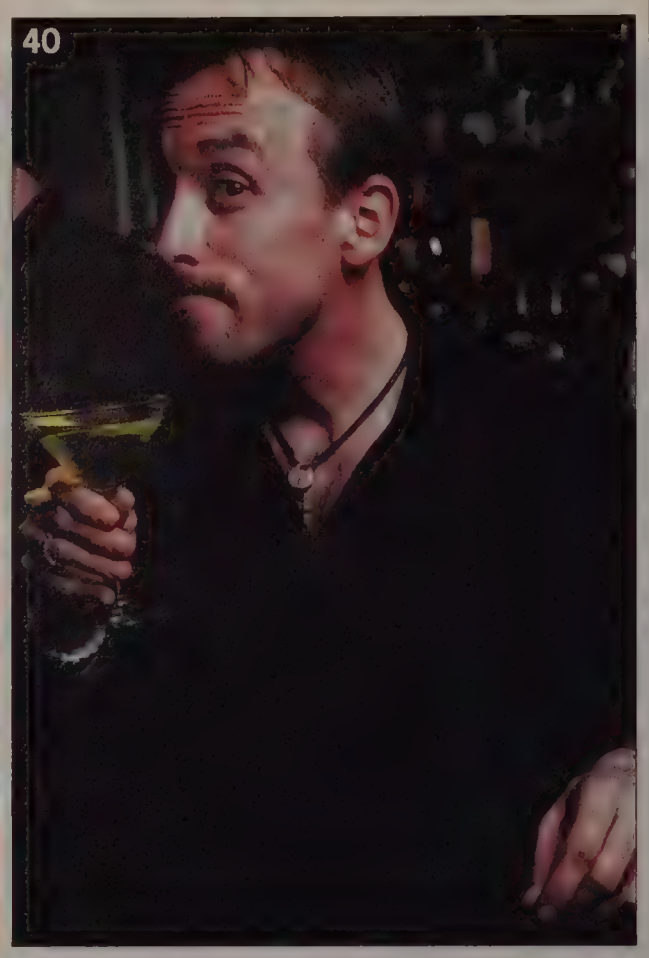
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Contents

APRIL 25-MAY 8, 2001









Clockwise from upper-left: Hall of Famers; Soroff is in the mix; Glass Appeal; Astrid Merget of the freshman class

FEATURES

18 **Soroff/On Toni Senecal**
Entertainment reporter Toni Senecal dishes the dirt on the vagaries and vapidity of Hollywood life.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

20 **Boston's Beloved Bartenders**
It's time once again to recognize the city's outstanding drink slingers. From the Freshman Class to the Hall of Famers, these are the men and women who can mix up those colorful concoctions with a flair that makes us thirsty for more. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

40 PLUS: In the Mix: Our man on the scene spends a night learning speedy cocktail creation at 29 Newbury alongside Hall of Famer Peter Cipriani.

42 **Fashion: Field Maneuvers**
Swimwear to make the cadets stand at attention. PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES WARRICK

COLUMNS

8 **The Word**
United Against Massport; SW1 goes members-only; Zuzu; Boston Breakers; pricing ice cream

12 **E-Boston**
Sleaze is the name of the game for many high-tech companies.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 **Ezra**
Some things we could learn from the French that don't involve soap.
BY EZRA DYER

16 **Proper Bostonians**
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

48 **Mopsy**
Tobacco plus atmosphere; writers take on depression; Coleman's comedic compilation
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

74 **Film**
Bridget Jones' Diary won't totally make your arse fall asleep, but it's no page-turner, either.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

86 **Music**
Birdsongs of the Mesozoic fuses classical underpinnings with modern technology.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

112 **Last Scene Here**
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

50 **Dining**
Mistral's food holds up to the high standards set by the restaurant's social reputation.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

52 **Dish**
Barcode's anniversary bash; UpStairs at the Pudding's matrimonial recaps
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

52 **Tastings**
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: A tour of Italy.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 55.
MFA Gay and Lesbian Film Festival • Mikey D. Rally • Hatch Shell summer concerts • **Ray Romano** • Spring Fashion Weekend • AC/DC • **Nicholson Baker**

ET CETERA

Letters	6
Improper Impersonals	104
Rockie Horoscope	104
Improperazzi	108
Improper Sightings	106
Classifieds	110



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letters

THE BRAWL CONTINUES

Ouch!!

I can't even look at the cover with that fat pig staring me in the face. I really have to hold my breath in order to get by the cover to read my favorite publication. There are only two things as good as a win for the Red Sox: A loss for the Yankees and a loss for Clemens.

—MIKE STEINBERG
Salem

How can anyone think that putting Roger Clemens in a Yankees uniform on the front cover was a good idea? Either the editors are totally out of touch with Bostonians, or they must be from New York. Has anyone at the IMPROPER heard of a guy named Pedro?!

—KEVIN JOHNSON
Boston

I'm a Red Sox fan. Imagine my thrill at the "feature" entitled "Foul Brawl," billed as NYC and Boston duking it out textually. Was that the best Ezra could do? Once again, a New Yorker whooped our butts. Well, Ezra, better luck next year...

—AMY CARMUSIN
Winchester

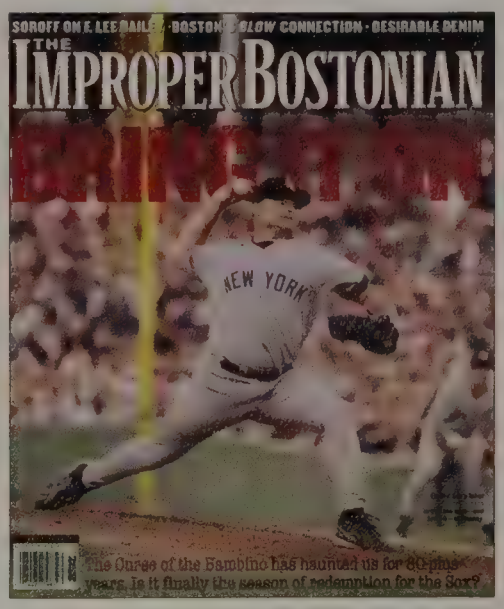
I *loved* your photo of the Rocket. However, I would have used a photo of him at home in the Bronx...in pinstripes. That would really get to the Red Sox fans, and their angst is a big part of the enjoyment of being a Yankees fan here in Red Sox Nation. Don't Red Sox fans realize that they make it so much fun for us? I wear my Yankees cap just to hear them admonish me for it. And it's truly laughable to hear them whine "Yankees suck." Yeah, right. Twenty-six world championships... count 'em!

—GERI SPANEK
Beacon Hill

LATE HOURS WOULD STRETCH THE T TOO THIN

I just read Julie Short's March 28 article on the extended T hours. In theory, extending Mass Transit's hours of service would indeed be one wheel's revolution in the right direction. However, it is important to weigh the pros and cons in deciding whether this is the right move for our city.

I agree that extending bus service to 2:30am is an appropriate, adequately generous gesture, although it should apply all week long (as opposed to being in effect only on the weekend), so its benefits could really make an impact. I do not agree, however, with extending the hours of the subway system. With the added labor costs of more toll-collectors, drivers and security, it is it not cost-effective. Worse, it is simply not safe.



I REALLY HAVE TO HOLD MY BREATH IN ORDER TO GET BY THE COVER TO READ MY FAVORITE PUBLICATION. THERE ARE ONLY TWO THINGS AS GOOD AS A WIN FOR THE RED SOX: A LOSS FOR THE YANKEES AND A LOSS FOR CLEMENS.

—MIKE STEINBERG
SALEM

Most MBTA patrons take for granted the necessary maintenance that is performed each day by the MBTA between the hours of 1am and 5am. A mere four hours of maintenance is not robbing restaurants or other establishments of commerce, as Ms. Short contended in her article.

Four hours of maintenance ensures 20 hours of safety for all MBTA riders, regardless of what shift they work. A highly complex underground subway system requires a much greater degree of upkeep than several bus routes do. These precautionary measures are easily overlooked by most MBTA patrons who don't understand the rigorous guidelines and safety standards that the MBTA executes each day. These standards are met between 1am and 5am.

A bus service extension is where our transit gap is best bridged. A small percentage of work shifts end later than 2:30am and the few that do so do not validate the complete revamping of the subway system.

If the nonsensical economic factors of extended subway hours don't sway the public, perhaps the safety issues will. Train safety is *not* a given. It requires a constant effort that should not be downsized for the wishes of such a small percentage of riders. The MBTA is not a private taxi service. It is a public transit system that is liable for the safety of all its patrons. As I nod off to sleep on the Orange Line, somewhere between downtown and North Station, I take comfort in knowing that my only concern is if I'll miss my stop. Although I seldom think about it (and most T patrons don't), I'm glad the MBTA is doing the driving—ensuring not just my safety but the safety of all.

—J. KELLY
Charlestown

CORRECTION

In last issue's Contributor section, Paul Kelly (one of the attorneys in Kerry Brett Hurley's Litigator's Landslide *portrait) was incorrectly identified as Michael Kelly. We regret not telling the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth.*

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Photographer Jörg Meyer emigrated to Boston from Munich five and a half years ago. He began his career on this side of the pond working with advertising photographers, but later started his own studio for both advertising and editorial photography. Meyer, who still lives in Boston with his wife and daughter, took the photo that's featured on this issue's Boston's Beloved Bartenders cover.

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NEW IN TOWN by rachel strutt

ZUZU

Sandwiched between the two sides of the Middle East—that well-worn, smoke-filled, glorious house of rock—a new, airy, smoke-free restaurant has quietly opened its doors. Named Zuzu, this interloper of restaurants is a new venture for Middle East owners, the ever gracious Nabil and Josef Sater. Charlie Halal, who, like the Sater brothers, hails from Lebanon, will manage this new addition to the burgeoning Central Square dining scene. (It was Peter Wolf, the oddly ubiquitous rocker from the J. Geils band, who introduced Halal to the Saters.)

Zuzu's menu is upscale Middle Eastern with flavors that are refreshingly foreign—cumin, mint and pomegranate molasses. Entrees include a Middle Eastern bouillabaisse and lamb-rack moussaka. There's also a reasonably priced and extensive mazza (the equivalent of Spanish tapas) menu that includes sumac-spiced rock shrimp sauteed with falafel cakes and grilled quail with ginger-spiced grape sauce. As restaurant designer Robert Guerente says: "It's as if there were a great French chef in Beirut who wanted to open up a restaurant but couldn't get back to France. So he just opened a French restaurant in Beirut, using Middle Eastern ingredients." (Not surprisingly, Guerente is Lebanese, as is able chef Josef Halaby.) We oohed and ahhed over our sumptuous spread of mazza, barely saving enough room for our decadent chocolate dessert—a Middle Eastern version of fried dough that's served with a chocolate dipping sauce.

As for ambiance, the restaurant radiates the warmth of the Mediterranean with its yellow and orange walls and large-scale seaside landscapes. There are plans to add a small lounge area with Moroccan chairs and cushions, ideal for late-night chatting and grazing. "We'll figure it out as we go along," says Halal. Right now, there's no sign hanging out front. But nobody at Zuzu seems particularly worried. "We're all from Lebanon," jokes Halal. "Nobody's in a hurry to do anything."

Sign or no sign, this place is destined to bustle with Central Square beatniks and Back Bay yupsters alike. Just as the Saters cast an aura of relaxed hospitality at the Middle East, they'll undoubtedly do the same at Zuzu—along with their all-star Lebanese team.

474 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (492-9181); 6-12pm.



Zuzu restaurant manager Charlie Halal sits in between owners Nabil (left) and Josef Sater.



The chic and sleek bar at SW1 is tucked below Emily's.

CLUBBING

MEMBERS ONLY

The latest trend in bars seems to be to make 'em hard to find (see 711 and Lucky's for prime examples). SW1, a new members-only nightclub that opens April 28 on Winter Street, is no exception. It's located in the subterranean depths below Emily's, but there's no signage as of yet. That's part of its mystique, we gather. "Our members know where we are," says marketing director J.P. Faiella.

Don't be scared off by the membership requirement. Anyone can join—and it's free. Sign up the first time you go (or fill out an application at *www.bostonviplist.com*), and you'll get a card that gives you entry into the club (plus line-skipping privileges at Emily's) and discounts at Jingo's Playhouse, 411 Nightguide, West Street Grill and Satellite Records, among other places.

Nightly entertainment will change as members e-mail their suggestions. "We wanted to design a club based entirely on what club-goers want in terms of theme nights, music and entertainment," says Faiella. "I want people to feel like they're walking into someone's living room. Lansdowne is so intimidating at times. SW1 will have a more comfortable feel." When it opens, SW1 will offer an after-work lounge from 5-8pm on Thursdays and Fridays, with cocktails, cigar service and complimentary hors d'oeuvres to the tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin. Late-night themes include Latin sounds and hip-hop on Thursdays, disco house funk on Fridays and scantily clad Saturdays hosted by Jingo's Playhouse. *48 Winter St., Boston (423-6767).*

As for other club news, on May 4, Avalon will host a fund-raiser, Banned in Boston, to benefit the Urban Improv drama program for Boston high-school students. This year, the musical-comedy review will include a range of politicians, media personalities, artists and diplomats, such as Mayor Menino, Joe Moakley, Natalie Jacobson and Aerosmith's Tom Hamilton. *—Julie Short and Barbara Mattaliano*

URBAN LANDSCAPE

OPERATION TRAFFIC JAM



Is a new runway at Logan in our future?

If United Against Massport, a fledgling Web-based organization, has its way on April 27, Logan Airport will be a very messy place from 4-8pm. The group has organized Pick Up a Friend at the Airport Day to protest the increase in air traffic and noise pollution that will come from a controversial new runway in progress. Here's how it works. The group's Web site, *unitedagainst massport.org*, states: "We will all drive to a designated terminal at Logan to pick up a friend (real or imaginary). Our friend, presumably, will not be there when we arrive. Since the parking lot is full, we'll just take a spin around and come back, and we will repeat the operation at will." The logistical nightmare of what could be hundreds of vehicles circling Logan is exactly what United Against Massport hopes to create.

"This is the Boston community's response to Massport's arrogance—not only that they plan to expand without regard to the effects on the population, but also that when we try to complain, they ignore us," says organizer Jacques Weissgerber, who became frustrated by the lack of response to his letter-writing campaign. The proposed runway will almost quadruple air traffic over the city, he says. But it will also lessen flight delays, say the runway's proponents—and anyone who's flown in or out of Logan will readily attest to the airport's discouraging record on this front.

Two days before Pick Up a Friend Day, the Massachusetts Environmental Protection Agency will hold a public hearing with Massport to allow people to voice their concerns about the proposed runway. Weissgerber will be there handing out fliers for his event, but he doesn't hold very much hope for progress. "I think people are more likely to leave frustrated than anything else."

Weissgerber has no idea how many cars will show up on April 27, especially because the word was only spread by e-mail and on the Web. "It may not work the first time, but we will repeat it regularly," he says. "And when we get enough of a showing, Massport will have to respond to our complaints." Stay tuned for an interesting ride. *—Julie Short*

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: SAM WRIGHT, RACHEL BROMBERG, LEAH FASTE

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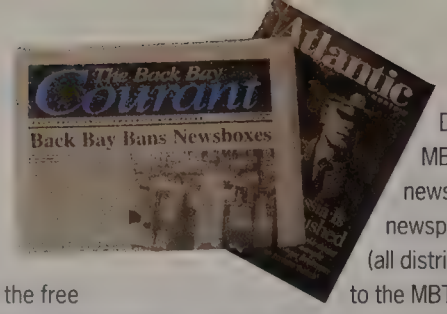
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MEDIA

ON THE ROAD



It's been a bumpy couple of months for local publishers—both for print publications and their online counterparts. The saddest change by far is the death of the free biweekly ***Beacon Hill/Back Bay Chronicle***, which officially closed its doors April 11. And much has been made of the ***Boston Tab***'s change in format: Pat Purcell, owner of the Community Newspaper Co., recently dumped all of the *Boston Tab*'s news columns, converting the publication into an all arts-and-entertainment guide. The sister papers, the *Newton Tab* and *Allston-Brighton Tab*, will retain their community newsweekly identities.

Then there's the disastrous dot-com marketplace, has put online versions of print publications on shaky ground: In February, ***Inc.*** magazine's Web site, *Inc.com*, slashed its online staff from 53 to a mere 16. Yet, on a brighter note, ***The Atlantic Monthly*** seems to be getting the online model right; The Atlantic Online is in the running for Best Interactive Design at the National Magazine Awards, being held May 2 in New York. Instead of simply mirroring its print counterpart, The Atlantic Online provides more extensive content in a multimedia forum. For example, its Soundings section allows you to hear poets reading their work aloud.

Now moving from gloss to newsprint: Despite initial resistance from the MBTA, Boston may have a new free daily newspaper in its future. ***Metro***, a 5-year-old newspaper currently available in 13 countries (all distributed on public transit), recently turned to the MBTA for its next venture after launching a successful campaign in Philadelphia. But in February, MBTA officials rejected the plan.

The paper could conceivably still be distributed in Boston using existing newsstands and vending boxes—but considering recent action on that front, it's doubtful. Amid fierce debate, the **Back Bay Architectural Commission** unanimously approved a proposal to ban the "unsightly bins" from its sidewalks April 11. The proposal, which awaits processing by the city's law department, will ban all newspaper boxes in the Back Bay on the grounds that they are an eyesore. Naturally, this is upsetting for the press. WBZ radio personality **David Brudnoy**, who has been the outspoken leader of the Freedom of the Press=Freedom of the Newsboxes cause, says it best: "Some people have zeroed in on the newsboxes as a symbolic target for all that they dislike about the unaesthetic elements of the modern age....In a very real sense this is dangerous to our liberties."

—Erin Hagedorn

IMPROPER REPORTS

WE SCREAM



How the cost of a cone stack up around town

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Christina's, Cambridge
Small, 1 scoop: **$1.95**

Friendly Ice Cream, Arlington
Small, 1 scoop: **$1.56**

J P Licks, Boston
Small, 1 scoop: **$2.65**

Frosty Truck, Boston
Small, soft serve: **$2.50**

Herrell's Ice Cream, Cambridge
Small, 1 scoop: **$2.90**

Toscanini's Ice Cream, Cambridge
Small, 1 scoop: **$2.75**

TECH TALK

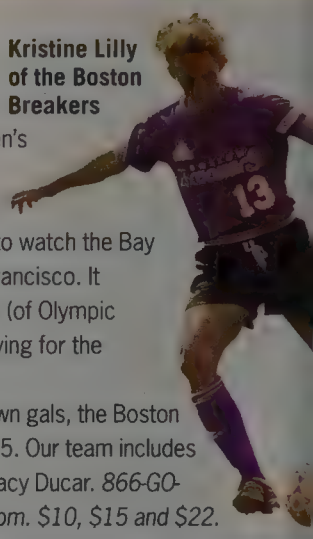
TOMORROW'S TOYS



It's been a hard year for many high-tech companies, especially the dot-coms. Yet the mood was decidedly upbeat at the 2001 Investment Conference for Private Companies at the World Trade Center April 5, where 48 tech companies pitched product ideas to potential investors sporting deep pockets. Alexander Kesler, president of zTrace Inc. in Chestnut Hill, presented his company's gizmo, the equivalent of LoJack for laptops—preinstalled software that's invisible on the computer and can be traced and located by the company's retired police detectives. Chameleon Network Inc. presented its project-in-the-works: a digital wallet immune to theft and fraud, making Visas, ATM cards and even a driver's license, obsolete. And Vert Inc. of Somerville presented its taxi display advertisements, which rotate according to a cab's location (above). Most of these companies are in the first round of funding, so don't expect to see their products in the next six months. —*Julie Short*

SPORTS

BREAKING AWAY



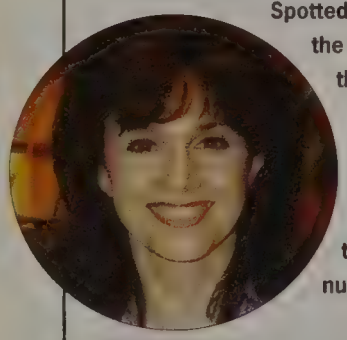
Kristine Lilly of the Boston Breakers

If organizers were worried that a professional women's soccer league wouldn't draw enough spectators, their worries were put to rest two weeks ago in San Francisco. Some 35,000 fans packed the stadium to watch the Bay Area CyberRays play Washington Freedom in San Francisco. It probably didn't hurt their cause that Brandi Chastain (of Olympic sports-bra fame) was pitted against Mia Hamm, playing for the Freedom, who eeked out a win with a score of 1-0.

Bostonians will get their chance to cheer on our own gals, the Boston Breakers, at Boston University's Nickerson Field May 5. Our team includes World Cup champs Kristine Lilly, Kate Sobrero and Tracy Ducar. *866-GO-BREAKERS.* www.bostonbreakers.com. *May 5, 7:30pm. $10, $15 and $22.*

FACES

THE HILLS ARE ALIVE



Spotted at the Gala Benefit Premiere of the Sing-A-Long Sound of Music at the Coolidge Corner Theater: WBZ entertainment reporter Joyce Kulhawik, who introduced honored guest Charmian Carr, who played Liesl von Trapp in the film. There were also any number of people in costume, including guitar-toting Maria's, nuns, girls in white dresses with blue-satin sashes, and a woman who risked her neck by going up on stage wearing a disturbingly real-looking deer-head. However, first prize deservedly went to a large-breasted woman who earned the nickname "Alps" from host Bradford Scobie, and who looked perfectly normal (if a bit immodest) in a scoop-necked blouse, until you noticed that she'd written in mascara across her ample bosom: "The hills are alive!" *—Jonathan Soroff*

CELEBS

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION

FleetBank recently teamed up with Brighton-based Element Productions to produce an online banking commercial; the shoot was April 14 at the North End's Café Vittoria. The director, Rudi Schwab, worked with Element productions in a frenzy of preparation; they set up in just four hours—transforming the café into an an ultra-hip, Internet café with computer monitors and sleek modern desks. Appearing in the commercial were two major sports stars—the Red Sox's Nomar Garciaparra and New York Yankees' Derek Jeter—and New York comedian Jim Gaffigan. The production team used Café Vittoria owner Gennaro Riccio's penthouse as a fitting room for the celebs. Three different versions of the commercial will begin airing May 7.



Nomar hits the North End's Café Vittoria

Boston-based Picture Park Productions is also busy filming. On April 17, it shot two scenes over at Lilli's in Somerville for the independent film, *West of Here*, starring Mary Stuart Masterson, Norbet Butz and Josh Hamilton. Picture Park producer Mark Hankey reports, "Lilli's was very supportive." Supportive indeed: The late-night club maven Lilli Dennison showed up bleary-eyed at the 5am shoot. The crew is heading to Gloucester to continue shooting. *—Barbara Mattaliano*

SAM SAYS

BIG GIRLS DON'T CRY



There's a growing trend (so to speak) in the fashion industry—clothing stores are carrying bigger sizes to accommodate larger women. The clothing companies have finally caught on that we are not all a svelte Size 3. In fact, the average size of women in the United States is a Size 12/14. (You would be surprised how good a Size 14 can look!) Even Marilyn Monroe, said to be the sexiest woman ever, was known to wear a Size 16.

If that's not enough to make you proud to shop at Marina Rinaldi or Lane Bryant, pick up a fashion magazine and you'll soon see that the models are looking more voluptuous—and just as alluring. They have breasts. They have hips. Also note that the amount of plus magazines and plus-size stores have skyrocketed in the past five years.

As a result, we should be more secure with our bodies and we should show it. So, don't cry if you can't wear a cropped top. Leave that to the waifs. We are real women, and there's plenty we can wear, including body-hugging pants and cleavage-boasting blouses. *—Samantha House*

EVENTS

LAUGH IN

Does your co-worker have the world's most obnoxious laugh? She may be eligible for the World Laugh Day contest at Saffron Restaurant May 6. Local celebs will judge the laughing match, which coincides with World Laughter Day—a holiday that originated in India (thus the event's venue). The event benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Greater Boston. *279A Newbury St., Boston (247-4112). May 6, 2-4pm.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

LILLY: COURTESY OF ALLSPORT USA; GARCIAPARRA: COURTESY OF THE BOSTON RED SOX; ICE CREAM: RACHEL BROMB

BOSTON POPS

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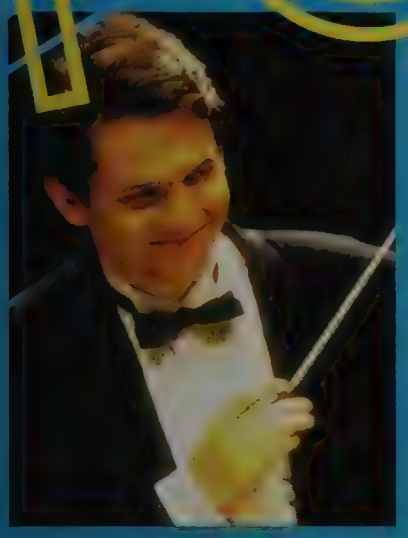


Photo: Michael Lutch

KEITH LOCKHART
CONDUCTOR

JOHN WILLIAMS
LAUREATE CONDUCTOR

AT SYMPHONY HALL

May 8 – July 15

May 8 Tuesday 8pm concert, 6:30pm reception
Opening Night At Pops
Keith Lockhart, conductor
John Lithgow, special guest
An unforgettable evening at the Pops celebrates 100 years in Symphony Hall and pays tribute to the legends of American entertainment.

Tickets $80–$175

Opening Night at Pops is sponsored by Fidelity Investments

May 9 Wednesday 8pm
Keith Lockhart, conductor
American classics, Broadway hits, and light orchestral music by your favorite composers

May 10 Thursday 8pm
May 11 Friday 8pm
John Williams, conductor
A tribute to the film music of Harry Warren: an array of hits from the silver screen and classics by your favorite composers

May 12 Saturday 8pm SOLD OUT
John Williams, conductor
Harry Connick, Jr., special guest
A tribute to Harry Warren, composer of the music that accompanied Busby Berkeley's entertaining films

May 13 Sunday 3pm
A Tribute to Mom/Best of Broadway
Bruce Hangen, conductor
Boston Conservatory Musical Theater Division, special guests
Show your appreciation and love while you both enjoy music from the best of Broadway and a special performance by members of the Boston Conservatory Musical Theater Division. A pre-concert brunch, sold separately, begins at 1pm.

May 14 Monday 7:30pm (TV) SOLD OUT
John Williams, conductor
Harry Connick, Jr., special guest
A tribute to Harry Warren, composer of the music that accompanied Busby Berkeley's entertaining films

May 15 Tuesday 8pm
John Williams, conductor
A tribute to the film music of Harry Warren, an array of hits from the silver screen, and classics by your favorite composers

May 16 Wednesday 8pm
Keith Lockhart, conductor
A tribute to the music of Richard Rodgers and the world premiere of Chris Brubeck's "Convergence, A Concerto for Pops Orchestra"

May 20 Sunday 7:30pm SOLD OUT
Best of Broadway
Bruce Hangen, conductor
Boston Conservatory Musical Theater Division, special guests
The Boston Pops, along with members of the Boston Conservatory's Musical Theater Division, bring to life the enduring music of Rodgers and Hammerstein, Lerner and Loewe, and more.

May 21 Monday 7:30pm (TV) SOLD OUT
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Martin Short, special guest
Keith Lockhart leads the Pops, with comedian, actor and Tony Award-winner Martin Short, in an array of American classics, Broadway hits, and light orchestral music.

May 22 Tuesday 8pm
Keith Lockhart, conductor
A special tribute to the Symphony Hall centennial and a tribute to Richard Rodgers, one of Broadway's greatest composers.

May 23 Wednesday 8pm
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Chick Corea, special guest
Keith Lockhart leads the Pops, with jazz pianist, composer, and Boston native Chick Corea.

May 24 Thursday 8pm
Keith Lockhart, conductor
A celebration of the music of Boston-born songwriter Jimmy McHugh, and tributes to Richard Rodgers and Leroy Anderson.

May 25 Friday 8pm (TV) SOLD OUT
Born in Boston
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Chick Corea, special guest
Keith Lockhart leads the Pops, with jazz pianist, composer, and Boston native Chick Corea, in a tribute to the songs of another Bostonian, Jimmy McHugh.

May 26 Saturday 8pm
Keith Lockhart, conductor
A tribute to Richard Rodgers, one of Broadway's greatest composers, and Chris Brubeck's new piece "Convergence, A Concerto for Pops Orchestra"

May 27 Sunday 7:30pm
A Salute To Our American Heroes
Bruce Hangen, conductor
Carol Sloane, vocalist
Pay tribute to America's veterans at this special Memorial Day concert with selections from Richard Rodgers' "Victory At Sea," Copland's "Lincoln Portrait," patriotic marches, a special Armed Forces salute, plus favorite songs of George Gershwin and Duke Ellington.

May 29 Tuesday 8pm
May 30 Wednesday 8pm (TV)
Keith Lockhart, conductor
Paul Winter and his Earth Band, special guests
Keith Lockhart leads the Pops, along with special guests Paul Winter and his Earth Band, in a celebration of the cultures, communities, creatures, and wilderness of the whole earth and the community of life.

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(TV) You can be in the audience for the television taping of a program for "Evening at Pops," one of the longest-running and most popular series on PBS. Experience the lights, camera, and action at Symphony Hall, not to mention the great music and guest stars.

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High-Tech Hooliganism

Many technology companies aren't above using cutthroat business tactics

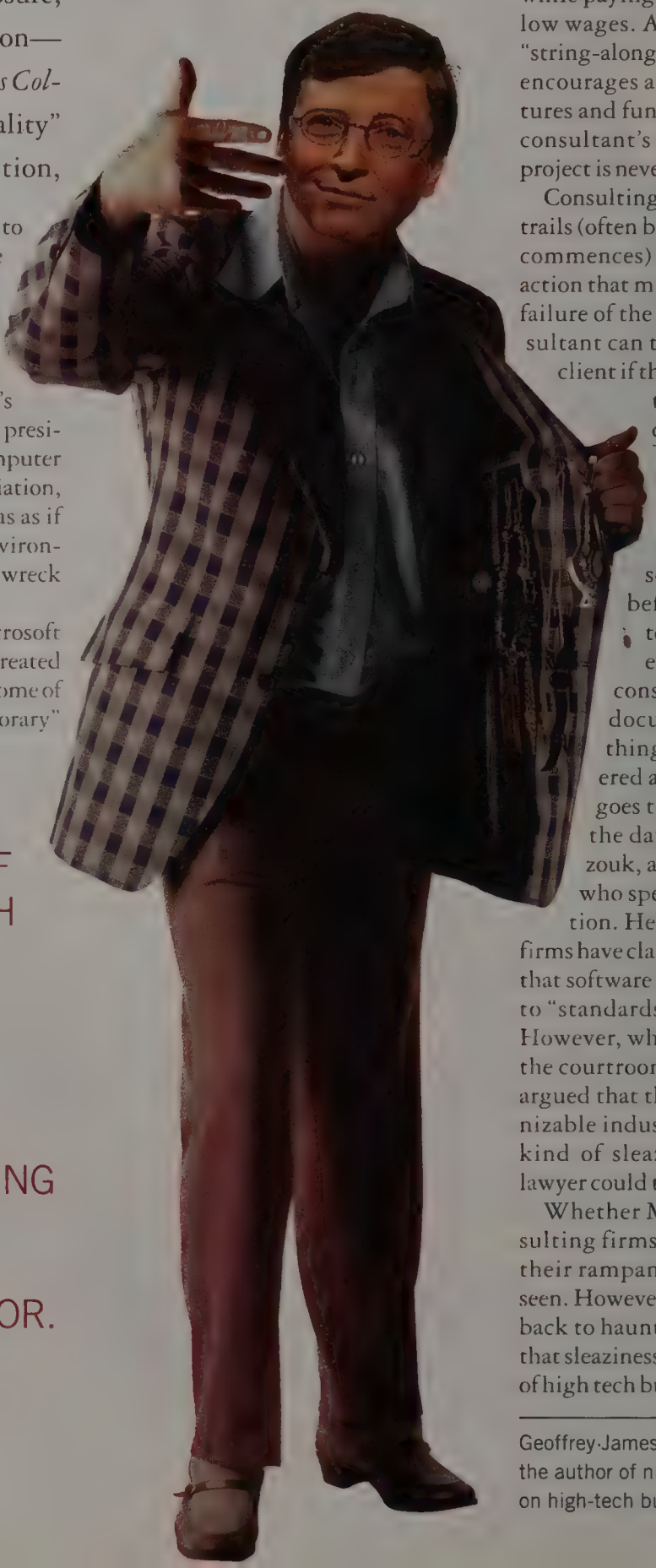
We live in an era of sleaze. In today's world of media overexposure, everything that happens to an individual—or a corporation—immediately becomes public knowledge. *Merriam Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* defines "sleazy" as "marked by low character or quality" and gives the synonyms "squalid" and "dilapidated." That definition, however, seems to be a little out of date. Today, something is only considered sleazy if there's a big delta between good intentions and bad behavior. Companies that call employees "valuable resources" and then treat them like crap, or put on a respectable corporate image while cutting back-room deals are public-relations disasters waiting to happen.

One company that always seems to be learning this the hard way is Microsoft. Until very recently, Microsoft executives seemed unable to understand how the public image of a company that wants to change the world was at odds with the growing public perception that it might be a predatory monopoly. Microsoft's first big mistake was picking on the little guy—something that always turns a corporation into a villain. Microsoft's mask began to slip when the company was caught stealing compression algorithms from Stac Electronics (an act that resulted in a $120 million judgment against Microsoft) as well as the removal of the feature from Microsoft's then-current operating system. By the mid-'90s, Microsoft had established itself as a company with whom it was dangerous to partner. It's a reputation that remains with the company, according to one executive from a large Internet incubator. "We always use a long spoon whenever we sup with Microsoft," he says.

Like a lounge lizard who doesn't seem to know when he's had enough to drink, Microsoft has lurched from tawdry incident to tawdry incident, its executives seeming to do just about everything possible to alienate the public. This tendency was thrust into the limelight when the company was caught doctoring videotape that was intended to be used as evidence at the anti-trust trial. It was a monumental blunder whose significance became exaggerated when Microsoft encouraged former Washington Senator Slade Gorton to propose cutting the budget of the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice. "That was so beyond the pale that it was universally condemned around Washington, even by Microsoft's friends," says Jason M. Mahler, vice president and general counsel of the Computer & Communications Industry Association, a nonprofit industry group. "It was as if Exxon had tried to de-fund the Environmental Protection Agency after the wreck of the Valdez."

A long-standing example of Microsoft sleaze was the way the company has treated its so-called "temporary" workers, some of whom had been classified as "temporary" for more than a decade. Some of the employees in question filed lawsuits, which finally resulted in Microsoft paying a $97 million settlement. But Microsoft isn't the only company that's been screwing with employees, according to David Foote, managing partner and research director at Foote Partners LLC, which studies IT hiring practices. He believes that the current hiring of foreign technical personnel under the H1-B visa program is simply a way for companies to get well-trained labor at a lower-than-market cost. "The idea that there aren't plenty of well-trained, older technical employees ready to work for a reasonable wage is patently absurd," he says. "The actual shortage is in trained employees who are willing to work for low wages and who can't job-hop without losing their residency status."

BY THE MID-'90s, MICROSOFT HAD ESTABLISHED ITSELF AS A COMPANY WITH WHOM IT WAS DANGEROUS TO PARTNER. IT'S A REPUTATION THAT REMAINS WITH THE COMPANY, ACCORDING TO ONE EXECUTIVE FROM A LARGE INTERNET INCUBATOR. "WE ALWAYS USE A LONG SPOON WHEN WE SUP WITH MICROSOFT."



When it comes to sleaze, however, Microsoft can't hold a candle to the big consulting firms like PriceWaterhouseCoopers, KPMG, Ernst & Young and Andersen Consulting (now called Accenture). These companies have a brand image cache that's based upon their CPA practices—despite the fact that the consulting practices are separate organizations with different business models. Underneath the veneer of respectability, however, are some of the sleaziest behaviors in the computer industry. One particularly distasteful tactic is the "bait and switch," where the consulting firm sends high-powered partners to make the sale but staffs the final project with inexperienced MBAs fresh out of college. The consulting firm charges hefty hourly fees to the client, while paying its employees ridiculously low wages. Another sleazy tactic is the "string-along," where the consulting firm encourages a client to keep adding features and functions—and dollars to the consultant's bottom line—so that the project is never completed.

Consulting firms regularly build paper trails (often beginning before the project commences) documenting every client action that might conceivably lead to the failure of the project. That way the consultant can turn around and blame the client if the project goes south, even if the failure is the fault of the consulting firm. Some consulting firms even get low-level client employees to sign documents saying that a particular piece of software is up and running before it's been adequately tested. That way, if the client ever sues the consultant, the consultant can produce a legal document saying that everything in the contract was delivered and installed. Even if a case goes to court, sleaziness may win the day, according to Toby Marzouk, a Washington, D.C., lawyer who specializes in software litigation. He says that many consulting firms have clauses in their contract saying that software will be delivered according to "standards general in the industry." However, when push comes to shove in the courtroom, at least one big firm has argued that there are, in fact, "no recognizable industry standards." That's the kind of sleaze that only a high-tech lawyer could think up.

Whether Microsoft and the big consulting firms will ever pay the price for their rampant sleaziness remains to be seen. However, until a lot more sins come back to haunt them, there's little doubt that sleaziness will remain part and parcel of high tech business. **iB**

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

PHOTODISC

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Watch It, Bub

The FCC happens to think you're not very funny

America, on the whole, has a fine culture. Sure, we've got the Jerry Springer, I-Was-My-Cousin's-Concubine-to-Keep-the-Camaro-from-Getting-Repossessed contingent (sometimes called "the South"), but other than that I think we're doing pretty well for ourselves. However, there's one aspect of American culture that I hope never catches on elsewhere: our ability to get offended. I know that we have more freedom of speech than many, many other countries, but I'm not looking on the bright side here. I'm looking at France.

I TOOK HOME AN APPRECIATION FOR THE LAID-BACK ATTITUDE OF FRENCH CULTURE.

When I was 11, I spent a month in France. As one might expect, I have vivid memories of seeing the Alps, eating exotic cuisine and decimating French kids at *Mike Tyson's Punch-Out* on Nintendo. But one moment that really stands out is watching my first French soap commercial. It was like many a U.S. soap commercial, up to a point: People hiking through the jungle get all hot and sweaty and come to a beautiful waterfall. Then, le commercial de soap took an abrupt departure from its U.S. counterparts in that the soap was applied directly to naked breasts. I remember thinking, "Do I have to go home? *Vive la France!*" Before I did go home, I also scored my first champagne drunk and my first kiss, which was, of course, French, but you can read all about that in my upcoming memoir, *How I Partied Like a Rock Star When I Was Eleven*. For now, it'll have to suffice to say that I took home an appreciation for the laid-back attitude of French culture. I also took home a staphylococci bacterial infection from not bathing for a month, but I'm not suggesting that we adopt every facet of Frenchness, here.

I was compelled to consider my formative experiences abroad when I read an article on Boston.com detailing the Federal Communications Commission's stringent new guidelines on what's considered "patently offensive." New FCC chair Michael Powell has laid down the law, and aims to make his mark in the world by ridding the airwaves of off-color shenanigans. This joins fake-ID stings near the top of my list of useless public crusades.

If the FCC wants to address radio-related problems, I've got a much more pressing issue for them: People who drive around in crappy cars with their systems turned up. I used to do this myself. I'd ride around in my rusty Cherokee with the windows down and the 69 Boyz cranked up loud enough to trigger mud slides in North Dakota. It took an intervention of sorts to get me to stop. Someone just told me, flat out, that I looked like a total butthead when I did that. But, as you may have noticed, there are many stereo-blasting drivers in Boston who are still painfully unaware of what they're doing. This is where the FCC could help. Agents would roam the streets, listening for offenders. When they found one, they would confront the driver: "Sir, we are very impressed with your expensive stereo. But we suggest you turn it down, thus minimizing the attention drawn to your Ford Aspire. In fact, we suggest that you sell your $3,000 stereo and *aspire* to get yourself a better car. And take off those gold Pep Boys wheel covers. They're not fooling anybody."

Maybe I find eradicating potty talk to be a particularly banal pursuit because I don't personally know anyone who would call the FCC over something they heard on the radio. I know my mother wouldn't, for instance. The one time I was on the radio (on Geoffrey James' and Larry Jacobs' *Funny Business* show), my mom called in. I forget exactly what she was saying, but it prompted me to tell her to put down the vodka and go to bed. "Shit, you got me," she replied, as James and Jacobs frantically motioned to the engineer to bleep her out. At the next commercial break, they informed me that my mother was the first person they had to bleep for swearing in two years of doing the show. I take pride in that.

Luckily, I've recently discovered a refuge from this incessant petty nannying, and it goes by the name of HBO. HBO got me hooked a couple of months ago, when they offered a free weekend. *The Sopranos* got me started, but now I'm into *Arliss* and *Sex in the City*, too. On HBO, *people actually act the way they do in real life*. They swear. They get in vicious fights. They get naked. They talk about sex and go to The Bada Bing. And nobody can complain about it, because if you're watching, you paid for it. It's great, and it takes me back to the good old days, when I was 11. HBO: it's like going to France, without the staph infection. iB

You think that's funny?

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The Freedom Trail Foundation Gala was held April 9 at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel. Patriotic partygoers helped kick off the opening of the 2001 Boston tourism season.

1. From left: **Nick Walton** and **Sarah Leaf-Herrmann**, account executive and president, respectively, of the Idea Company in Brookline, and **Paul Scapicchio**, Boston City Councilor.
2. From left: **Patrick Moscraitolo** and **Paul Griffin**, CEO and convention services manager, respectively, for the GBCVB and **Les Goldberg**, vice president of American Express.
3. **Tom Kershaw**, owner of the Bull & Finch Pub, The Hampshire House and 75 Chestnut, and his girlfriend, **Constance Hughes**.
4. **Linda McConchie**, executive director of the Freedom Trail, and **William O. Taylor**, former publisher of the *Boston Globe* and chairman of the board of directors for the Freedom Trail.
5. **Maxence Compagnon** and **Kai Hoffmeister**, food and beverage director and front office manager, respectively, for Le Meridien.
6. From left: **William Foster**, commander of the USS *Constitution*; **Mimi LaCamera**, director of visitor marketing for the GBCVB; and **Steven Ayres**, vicar of the Old North Church.


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The Boston Harbor Association's Harbor Auction was held April 11 at the Boston Harbor Hotel. More than 350 friends of the harbor attended the live auction, which was hosted by Boston's biggest auctioneer, Paul Saperstein.

7. **Holly Pilotte** and **Travis Noyes**, corporate account manager and marketing manager, respectively, for the Odyssey.
8. From left: **Jim Sheehan** and **Marisa Brennan**, general manager and property administrator, respectively, for Equity Office Properties, and **Larry Lannan**, owner of Lannan Ship Model Gallery.
9. **Garrett Trierweiler**, lobbyist for Mass Bay Associates, and **Karen Foley**, market researcher for Sunlife Financial in Wellesley.
10. **Paul Levy**, executive dean of administration for Harvard Medical School, and **Geri Denterlein**, president of Denterlein Worldwide.
11. From left: **Paul Saperstein**, auctioneer, and his wife, **Arlene**; and **Wendy Gelman**, and her husband, **Richard**, publisher of the *Boston Globe*.


7


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11

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Soroff/On

Toni Senecal

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

TV entertainment reporter Toni Senecal was born and raised in Brookline, where she spent 10 years acting with the Boston Children's Theater and graduated from Brookline High School. After studying Italian in Florence, she received a bachelor's degree from NYU and began her television career as a lifestyle correspondent on The *Joan Rivers Show*.

She has since worked as a correspondent for *American Journal*, *Family Challenge* and *The Betty White House*, as a financial reporter for *Stock Talk Live*, and as a style and fashion reporter for the *Oprah Winfrey Show*, *Mike and Maty*, *Inside Edition* and *Live in America*. She was the host of *Cafe Cosmopolitan*, *Real Life* and *Fox On the Run*, a spin-off of *America's Most Wanted*, for which she traveled the country in disguise and was hunted down by viewers, who received $10,000 for finding her. Last year, she served as the sidekick on *The Ainsley Harriott Show* and launched two Internet sites: *DebbieGuide.com* and *StylePass.com*. She was recently named entertainment correspondent for the WB's *News at 10* in New York. She divides her time between New York and Boston.

Jonathan Soroff: *Most entertaining thing about being an entertainment reporter?*

Toni Senecal: Besides all the glamorous parties and fabulous events? Ummm...it's not so entertaining. It's a pain in the ass. It's hard work. Everyone thinks it's all hairdos and ball gowns. It's not.

JS: *Most embarrassing thing that ever happened while working?*

TS: Well, the worst experience was at the Golden Globes. We arrived three hours late and got the worst seats, so I jumped over the press line. I was wearing a Galliano gown, and it ripped all the way up to my ass in the back. That was bad.

JS: *Biggest faux pas you ever made?*

TS: The worst one I ever witnessed was when Ainsley Harriott called Cokie Roberts "Cookie" three times. I was so embarrassed for him.

JS: *Best swag you ever got as part of the Free Shrimp Circuit?*

TS: A Palm VII, but I never used it. A free trip to a spa...[*Laughing.*] Free colonics.

JS: *Worst celebrity asshole?*

TS: [*Chuckling.*] They're all so nice! What are you talking about? We've all become close friends....I go over their houses.

JS: *Be real.*

TS: OK. Suzanne Somers was pretty freaky. She was in the makeup room, screaming, because the makeup artist wanted to blend in her contour. She looked like she was wearing war paint, and she was howling, "My contour! Don't touch my fucking contour!" It's always in the makeup room that people's true bizarre colors come out.

JS: *So that's where you get the real 411 on the stars?*

TS: Oh, yeah. When I was doing *The Joan Rivers Show*, I walked in on Cher in the makeup room. She's always been all about her hair, and at the time, she was doing those infomercials for Lori Davis hair care products, but her hair was like a quarter-inch long. Those were all wigs; it wasn't her hair!

JS: *Well, it was hers. I mean, she paid for it.*

TS: Exactly. Another good one was Dolly Parton. She used to hide her microphone pack in her wig. It gave the hair a little lift.

JS: *Do you realize how many gay men you've just disillusioned?*

TS: I don't know, baby, I'm just tellin' you what I saw in the dressing room. Cher was practically bald. I'm just a reporter. I'm here to tell the truth.

JS: *OK, gimme an Oprah story.*

TS: Umm. She takes a while to warm up to you, but once she does, she's cool. I can't say anything bad about Oprah.

JS: *Because she's too powerful.*

TS: I didn't say that.

JS: *Oh, what—she's just such a lamb?*

TS: [*Laughs.*] She's like a cuddly little lamb doll.

JS: *All right. Worst assignment?*

TS: In terms of being physically uncomfortable, probably *Fox on the Run*. It was sorta like faux fur—faux fugitive—traveling around the country, wearing disguises. I had so many hooker wigs and bad-ass costumes. I had hidden cameras all over me, dressed as a man, workin' the donut shop on Pier 39.

JS: *You were being hunted down by trailer trash?*

TS: Basically, yeah. The big rule was: Don't touch the fox, because I think they had this vision of me in a burlap bag in someone's trunk.

JS: *I assume that was a show that did well in places like rural West Virginia, cause nobody I know ever watched it.*

TS: We had like 11 million viewers a night.

JS: *OK. Celebrity death match—John Tesh vs. Leeza Gibbons?*

TS: Oh, Leeza Gibbons, no doubt. John Tesh's head is too big. It's too easy a target.

JS: *So what's the dirty little secret about the entertainment industry that nobody in your profession is supposed to admit?*

TS: I guess that there's actually a line between the gossip thing and entertainment reporting.

JS: *What's the line?*

TS: Making it up, as opposed to actually conducting interviews.



JS: *A lot of gossip isn't made up.*

TS: Yeah, I know, but that's creepy stuff. Going to cocktail parties and nibbling at the buffet line, eavesdropping.

JS: *What's the difference between that and what you do?*

TS: The people I interview actually know they're talking to me. They're promoting their shit. That's probably the difference. With entertainment reporting, celebrities are promoting something, whereas gossip is getting dirt.

JS: *Biggest professional screw-up?*

TS: When I was at E!, I got a phone call to reprimand me for misquoting something. I was at my desk. The phone rang, and this voice said, "Hey, it's George Clooney." I said, "Ha ha ha, yeah, right." I thought it was my ex-boyfriend playing a joke. But he told me how inaccurate something I'd done was. He had been criticizing the press, and to be a wise-ass, I'd covered the National Paparazzi Association's press conference and misquoted him, so he was all pissed off. But the next time I saw him, he was laughing and asked me out on a date. He told me he'd tried to get me fired, but he was joking, I think. I was like, "Go be a movie star! What are you doing sitting at home watching E!?"

JS: *Favorite part of your job?*

TS: [*Laughing*] The pretty outfits.

JS: *That makes you sound so deep.*

TS: I'm kidding. I dunno. There's never a dull moment in Hollywood. It's like a new job every day.

JS: *What's it like to watch yourself on television?*

TS: You don't look or sound the same. I'm always like, "Why didn't I realize I look like a big stuffed sausage?"

JS: *Beauty secrets?*

TS: Concealer, concealer, concealer.

JS: *Worst fashion trend in recent memory?*

TS: I'm very anti the shrug. Those sweaters that only have sleeves connected by a strip of cloth. Also, the return of the culotte.

JS: *Worst thing about covering fashion or celebrities?*

TS: All the little skinny models. And the egos. But the worst part is all the handlers—the manager, the agent, the press person, the umbrella carriers. Seriously, I remember some awards show, maybe the Grammys, and it wasn't really raining, but all the stars, even if they were six-foot-two, had these little people running after them with umbrellas. What—you're so important you can't hold an umbrella? What's that about?

JS: *Well, the reason they think they're so important is that people like you report every time they go to the bathroom.*

TS: I don't cover bowel movements.

JS: *But you're contributing to this whole psychotic culture of celebrity.*

TS: I'm supplying a demand. If people weren't watching it, I wouldn't be covering it.

JS: *So I should stop buying* People *magazine and watching* Entertainment Tonight *and put people like you out of business?*

TS: Sure. But only if you don't want me buying you drinks again. IB

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BOSTON'S beloved bartenders 2001

by Jonathan Soroff

A wise man once said, "Everybody should believe in something. I believe I'll have another drink." In that spirit, we raise our glasses to toast our annual roster of Boston's Most Beloved Bartenders. These are not your ordinary drink slingers. Rather, they're masters of their craft. Scintillating conversationalists. Dazzling humorists. Deft mixers of perfectly proportioned and artfully presented libations. Able to recall names and faces and who prefers olives or a twist. Infectiously upbeat. Endlessly patient with drunks. Tactful when saying "Sorry,. I'm not single" or "Sorry, a driver's license from Smolensk isn't a valid form of identification." And, in the immortal words of Billy Joel, they're also "quick with a joke or to light up your smoke." In short, our picks are the local Nobel laureates of mixology.

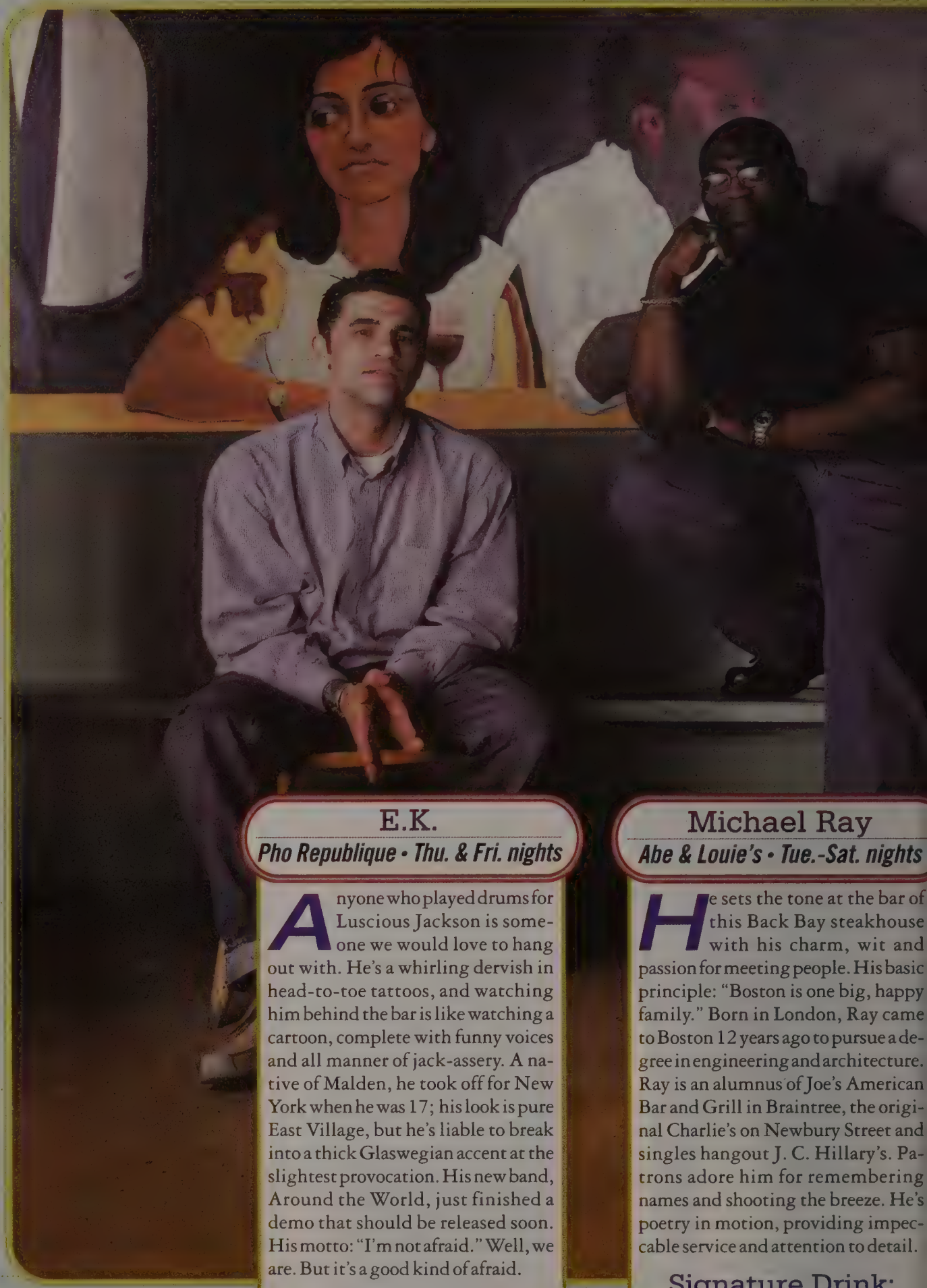
So how do we assemble such an all-star lineup, short of calling in sick to work every day with a monstrous hangover? Our approach was a bit more democratic and level-headed. The more observant of you will have noticed the ballots we published in several recent issues. The more helpful of you will have torn them out, voted for your favorite bartender and mailed them back. The more devious of you will have tried to stuff the ballot box.

In any case, we took your suggestions to heart—including those that were clearly underhanded, figuring that if you cared enough to be sneaky about it, we might as well take note. (Besides, if such behavior is good enough for the White House, then it's good enough for us.) Then we drew from our own deep and impressive knowledge of local haunts and watering holes. And with the legwork of assistant editor Barbara Mattaliano and a sprightly elf (although he prefers the term "intern") named Galen Moore, we cobbled together our definitive list. The Freshman Class, or those who are appearing in these pages for the first time, are listed below. Bartenders who've been given the nod in past issues receive special honors in the Hall of Fame (see page 36).

So here it is—our 2001 Guide to Boston's Most Beloved Bartenders.

The next round's on us.

The Freshman



E.K.

Pho Republique • Thu. & Fri. nights

Anyone who played drums for Luscious Jackson is someone we would love to hang out with. He's a whirling dervish in head-to-toe tattoos, and watching him behind the bar is like watching a cartoon, complete with funny voices and all manner of jack-assery. A native of Malden, he took off for New York when he was 17; his look is pure East Village, but he's liable to break into a thick Glaswegian accent at the slightest provocation. His new band, Around the World, just finished a demo that should be released soon. His motto: "I'm not afraid." Well, we are. But it's a good kind of afraid.

Signature Drink: Sake-Tini

Two ounces Kaori sake and half a jigger of dry vermouth. Stir on ice and serve straight up, with a lemon twist.

Michael Ray

Abe & Louie's • Tue.-Sat. nights

He sets the tone at the bar of this Back Bay steakhouse with his charm, wit and passion for meeting people. His basic principle: "Boston is one big, happy family." Born in London, Ray came to Boston 12 years ago to pursue a degree in engineering and architecture. Ray is an alumnus of Joe's American Bar and Grill in Braintree, the original Charlie's on Newbury Street and singles hangout J. C. Hillary's. Patrons adore him for remembering names and shooting the breeze. He's poetry in motion, providing impeccable service and attention to detail.

Signature Drink: Apple Martini

Equal parts Apple Pucker and Absolut Citron vodka, a touch of sour mix. Shake well, strain and garnish with green apple slices.

Class

Up-and-coming mixologists making waves

PHOTOGRAPH BY TRACY POWELL



Luis Morales

Trio • Fri.-Sun., Wed. nights

Can you say "nutcase"? When Morales was a child traveling on an airplane, the engine blew, and all he was worried about was the spill on his tailored shirt. A Malden native, he 's worked at Jae's, Aria and the Federalist before ending up at this hot spot. Known for garnishing drinks with gummy bears or Tic Tacs, he's an amateur flamenco dancer who clinks bottles together, yells, "Listen up, people!" and dances behind the bar like he's got ants in his pants.

Signature Drink: The Virgin Slut

One and a half ounces of Stoli Vanilla and a half-ounce of Chambord. Shake on ice and serve in a glass half-rimmed with Sugar and Chambord. Garnish with three currants or grapes on a wooden skewer.

Lisa Kennedy

Mistral • Sun.-Tue., Fri. nights

Radiating graciousness, Kennedy thrives on making people feel welcome. A Brit who's been in Boston for 12 years, she says, "I was told that America was bigger and better, so I came here." She worked at the House of Blues for three years and Les Zygomates for one. "When I'm behind the bar, people always ask me: 'Where are you from?' 'Do you like it here?' and 'How long have you been here?' By the end of the night, I'm telling them I'm from Pakistan." She's sure to say it with a wicked grin.

Signature Drink: An Absolutely Fabulous Gimlet

Five counts of premium Vodka (customer's preference), one count of Rose's lime juice and two counts of freshly squeezed lime juice. Chill and serve straight up. Garnish with lime.

Bobby Carroll

The Rattlesnake • Mon.-Fri. days

A 20-year veteran of bartending, this Jamaica Plain native lived in Los Angeles for 13 years, where he tended bar in Malibu and other beach communities. He's been back in town since 1993, mixing potent potables at the Back Bay Tex-Mex joint. "I work lunchtimes," he says, "so I get to keep banker's hours." The young suits mix with construction workers at his bar, where he shares his knowledge about a smattering of subjects. "I'm a wealth of trivia," he says. Spending lunch with Carroll takes some of the sting out of going back to work.

Signature Drink: Raspberry Fields

Equal parts Stoli Raspberry and Bailey's, with a splash of Chambord. Chill and serve straight up, with no garnish.

Catherine Ferrante

Christopher's • Fri. & Sun. nights

An American military brat who grew up in England, Ferrante has an accent that can charm even the crankiest customer. Her duties at this funky eatery started as a college job but she can't seem to give it up, despite a budding career as an engineer at a recording studio. When the Somerville bars close at 1am, Ferrante is inundated with an eclectic crowd looking to party. She's just what the doctor ordered, admitting, "I won't hesitate to throw something at one of my regulars—usually an ice cube—if they need it."

Signature Drink: Old Fashioned

In a glass, use a spoon to crush an orange slice and a maraschino cherry. Add ice, two ounces of bourbon, a dash of sugar and one or two dashes of Angostura bitters. Mix well.



Astrid Merget

The Big Easy • Fri. & Sat. nights

Va-va-va-voomalicious is perhaps the best way to describe this Spanish beauty, a native of Barcelona, where (we need not point out) people start hanging around bars while they're still in diapers. She came to Boston to earn a degree in broadcast journalism at Emerson and now works as a reporter and assistant producer, covering sports and public affairs, for Univision. So far, two people have recognized her from TV while she's been tending bar at this hot spot for the young and the restless. Needless to say, guys ask for her phone number five or six times a night, but she's equally popular with female patrons (the Big Easy hosts two or three bachelorette parties on an average weekend night). Her assessment of the Boston nightlife scene overall: "What it has is wonderful, but it needs more." We wouldn't mind a few more like her.

Signature Drink: Orange Martini

Two ounces Stoli Ohranj, the juice of half an orange, and a splash of Sprite, sour mix and Grand Marnier. Serve straight up, in a glass with a sugared rim. Garnish with an orange slice.



Chuck Smith

The Rack • Thurs., Fri., Sun. nights

When the owners of Faneuil Hall's most happening billiards parlor were building it, this former electrician with no previous experience asked for a bartending job. Figuring that even if he couldn't mix drinks, they'd still have someone around to fix things, they agreed. Lo and behold, Smith has become one of the Rack's best and most popular bartenders, especially among the industry types who tend to congregate there on Sunday nights. Low-key and self-effacing, he's an efficient and friendly Speedy Gonzalez who can mix about 500 drinks an hour and knows that more alcohol doesn't necessarily make a drink better. Charming and accommodating to a fault, he's a true natural.

Signature Drink: Something Sweet

Equal parts Malibu Rum, Amaretto, Blue Curacao and pineapple juice. Shake on ice and serve either straight up or on the rocks. Garnish with a maraschino cherry.



Lorraine Walsh

Jose McIntyre's • Thu.-Sat. nights; Coogan's Bluff • Tue. & Wed. days

Jose McIntyre's is packed with a hundred people from all walks of life, and Lorraine Walsh has a smile, a drink and a moment's attention for every one of them. Having tended bar for 10 years, she knows how to be friendly and businesslike at the same time. That means she can pour a good drink and make you feel welcome (she calls her customers "darling"), but she can also tell the college students hunkered in the corner that she's not going to serve them another round of shots. Walsh, who hails from Birmingham, England, and whose parents are Irish, says the most important thing about bartending downtown is to have a broad outlook. You get all kinds of people, she says, and sometimes you have to "take a deep breath and think positively." It's just as simple as "giving people the time of day," as she puts it.

Signature Drink: Downtown Delight

Equal parts Chambourd, Peach Schnapps and OJ with a dash of pineapple juice shaken over ice and strained into an ice cold martini glass—the perfect summer drink.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN (2); SAM WH

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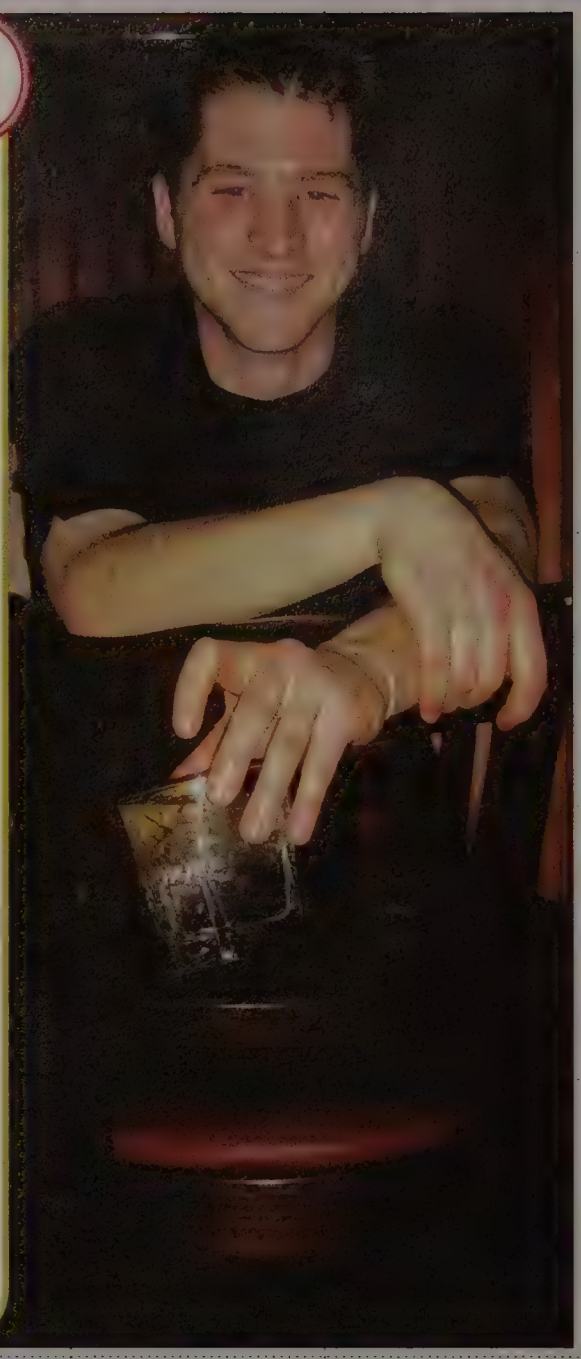
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Blair Dreyfus

Lucky's • Wed.-Sat. night



He's now 22, and he's been bartending since he was 17. But because he's from New Orleans, Dreyfus been drinking in bars since he was 5. "It's part of the party culture where I'm from," says this veteran of The Good Life and House of Blues, who also books the jazz and blues bands that play at Fort Point's newest hot spot. The crowd rages from college kids to senior citizens and from artists to business professionals, and his joker persona keeps everyone entertained. Although he's very flirtatious with the ladies, he rarely dates his female customers. But that didn't stop him from inventing a drink that elicited an excited groan from the first woman he made it for. "I named it the Blairgasm," he says, "but to your mother you can call it the Raspberry Dream. It's a layered martini."

Signature Drink: The Blairgasm

In a martini glass, pour two splashes of Chambourd. In a shaker, mix Stoli Razberi, a splash of White Creme de Coacoa and two parts Godiva White Liqueur. Shake, strain and float the white mixture on top of the purple.

Buddy Sheehan

The Sevens • Mon., Wed., Thurs. nights, Sat. day & night



Adding a touch of the Irish to this cozy pub on Beacon Hill, this Canton native frequently wears a scally cap and can dish the blarney like nobody's business. For 12 years, he's poured 'em and racked 'em up for the regulars, who are mostly young professionals and colorful characters from the neighborhood. Whether he's listening to customers' problems or joking around with them, his goal is always to make them smile. "Buddy's really the reason I go to the Sevens," says one fan. "Otherwise, there's any number of bars on Beacon Hill." With praise like that, it's no wonder that Sheehan's a big part of this small bar's considerable appeal.

Signature Drink: Black Velvet

Fill a pint glass halfway with Ciderjack. Use the back of a spoon to fill the rest of the glass with Guinness, carefully keeping the dark and light liquids separated.



Amanda Dorr

The Exchange • Sat. nights

During the week, Dorr works in the securities processing field, but when Saturday comes, she turns into a whirling temptress, mixing drinks like a gunslinger from the Old West at this Financial District speakeasy. Typically, she's moving so fast that her limbs are a blur, but that doesn't stop her clientele from appreciating her intriguing tattoos: One on her lower back is of a butterfly, while the one on her left shoulder is an Asian symbol that means "be different." She's gregarious as all get-out and has landed jobs, such as working as a paralegal, that she got through contacts she made while bartending. That explains why she still works behind the bar. It's also a testament to how highly regarded she is in the eyes of her loyal customers.

Signature Drink: Something Different

Equal parts Amaretto and Peach Schnapps, with a splash of cranberry juice and a slightly larger splash of pineapple juice. Shake on ice and serve as a shot or on the rocks; garnish with a maraschino cherry.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: RACHEL BROMBERG; DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; SAM WOLF



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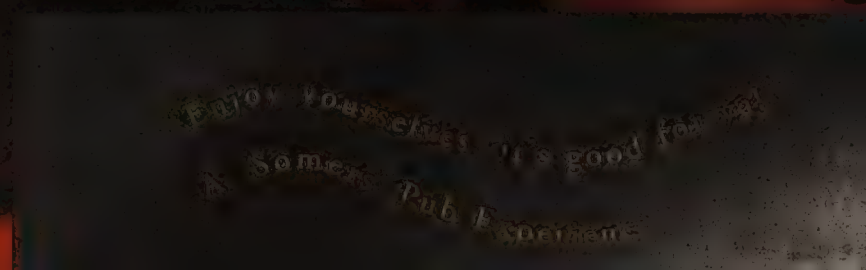
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Frank Reardon

The Summer Shack • Four days & one night, rotating

This affable, old-school cocktail jockey—a Lexington native and graduate of Curry College—is as friendly as they come and able to relate to just about anyone. An alumnus of Tremont 647, No. 9 Park and Il Panino, Reardon's been manning the bar at Jasper White's house of good eats in Fresh Pond since it opened last summer. One indication of his regulars' loyalty is that they'll seek him out at the restaurant's smoking or nonsmoking bars, depending upon where he's been deployed and not based on whether they smoke or not. An admitted golf nut who belongs to Oakley Country Club, he's an all-around sports fan and a closet foodie who can hold up his end of a conversation on almost any topic. "I'll talk to anyone about anything," Reardon says, and more likely than not, he'll do it while mixing up one of the festive and colorful Caribbean cocktails that he and Jasper White are so fond of.

Signature Drink: Great House Rum Punch

Two ounces Mount Gay rum, two tablespoons fresh lime juice, one teaspoon honey and a squirt of Grenadine. Shake and pour over crushed ice. Garnish with fresh nutmeg and a lime wedge.





Srdjan Vajas

The Federalist • Wed.-Sat. nights

Born in Croatia and raised in Germany, Vajas managed two top German bars, one in Stuttgart and the other in Munich, before coming to the States to "take my chance and learn some new things." After managing the bar at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs—a resort hotel that boasts 40 consecutive years with a five-star/five-diamond rating—Vajas came east to oversee the beverage program at Boston's most elegant boutique hotel. He is currently developing the bar's menu of 80 to 100 cocktails, which range from classic martinis, Manhattans and sidecars to trendy concoctions like the apple martini or martinis garnished with olives stuffed with bleu cheese. The secret to his success? "Always listen to customers. Give them extra time and extra attention." Not an easy feat in today's harried world.

Signature Drink: Espresso Martini

Two ounces Absolut, one ounce Bailey's and Kahlua, a shot of espresso and half an ounce of Frangelico. Shake on ice and serve straight up, in a martini glass. Garnish with powdered chocolate.

Anneka Jasmin

The White Horse Tavern • Thu.-Sat. nights

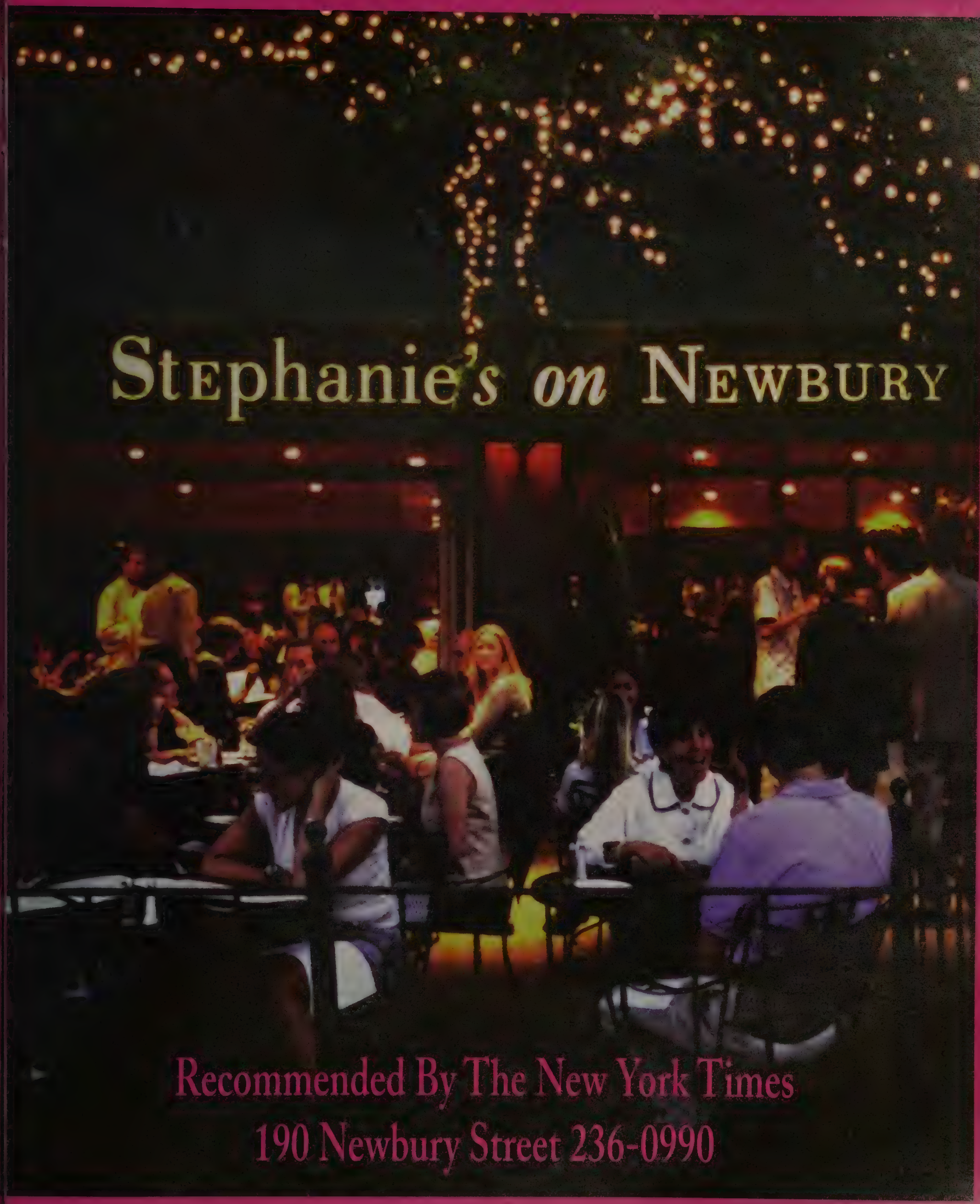
Sweet and gentle doesn't do justice or begin to describe this 26-year-old native of Livermore Falls, Maine. Jasmin moved to Boston four years ago but has been tending bar on and off for seven years. An ear to anyone who needs one, she patiently ministers the unpretentious, down-to-earth crowd at this cozy hangout for the Boston University, Boston College and Brighton neighborhood crowd. One of her habits is playing cupid—"I'll say, 'She's cute. Buy her a drink.'" But still, she's wary of meddling in her regulars' lives. "I'll give them advice, but I'm not sure I'd follow it," she jokes. Sisterly and welcoming, she points out, "You can get a drink anywhere. It's the feeling of camaraderie you get from a bartender who smiles at you that makes you choose one place over the other."

Signature Drink: The Bikini Martini

One and a half ounces Stoli Razberi, a splash of Malibu Rum and Grand Marnier and cranberry juice to fill. Shake on ice and serve straight up, garnished with a maraschino cherry.



TOP TO BOTTOM: WENDY MIMRAN; DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; WENDY MIMR


Stephanie's on Newbury
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Anthony White

Caprice • Thu., Fri. & Sun. evenings

The cash and the people. According to Anthony White, these are the two most important things about bartending. And luckily, White does well with both, thanks to a good memory and a few skills he has picked up playing poker. The East Boston native has tended bar for six years in gin joints coast-to-coast, beginning with the ultra-swank Martini Lounge in Los Angeles. After moving back to the Hub of the Universe, he worked at the Club at Il Panino, Tia's, and then came to Caprice a month after it opened, in 1999.

"Bartending is a lot like poker," says White. "In both pursuits, you have to stay on your toes, know people and know what they want." For example, White explains, Caprice draws a theatre-going crowd early and a Euro club crowd later on. The theatre crowd usually wants to chat, but the Euro crowd prefers a bartender to know only their names and what they like to drink. Accommodating each crowd's wonts is no problem for White, who's a charming chameleon and an unnerving whiz at remembering people's names. What's more, he adores his devoted crowd of regulars, remarking wryly, "They bankroll my poker game!"

Signature Drink: Orange Tart

Combine equal parts Stoli Ohranj, Campari and OJ. Serve on the rocks or straight up.

Glass Appeal

BY BARBARA MATTALIANO

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DARISA CLARKE



10 oz. Luminarc Octagon Highball

Café Louis

In a word, classic. With its artful octagon shape, this glass captures the light with sparkling brilliance. And according to bar manager Matthew Duggan, this is the only glass the bar hasn't changed since it opened three years ago. This versatile highball is suitable for water, juice, iced tea or soft drinks.

Perfect for: A Red Flower Lavender Mint Iced Tea



4 oz. Spiegalau Riesling Tulip Glass

Radius

This distinctive handblown stemware flaunts an elegant cut and polished rim. The tapered bowl focuses the wine's aroma. Crystal, long-stemmed and boasting a flirty, flared shape, this tulip glass is the epitome of grace.

Perfect for: 1996 Trimbach Pinot Gris Hommage a Geogette Trimbach



2 oz. Epicure Luminarc Martini Tasting Glasses

No. 9 Park

Toast the coming of spring with these delicate, handblown stemmed cocktail glasses. These 4-inch-tall little numbers are perfect for anyone who enjoys tastings—and style.

Perfect for: The house specialties (left to right): the Palmyra martini, the Cosmopolitan and the pear martini



6 oz. Riedel Sommelier Sauternes Glass

The Federalist

The shape of this glass—which curves up, back and inwards—focuses the aromas of a wine into the nose. Since this glass is suited for Sauternes, the Fed is the perfect place to go if you're a fan. Its wine cellar includes 31 vintages of chateau d´ Yquem alone, with a total of 50 different vintages of Sauternes.

Perfect for: 1876 Chateau d´ Yquem

TOP: SAM WRIGH



Jody Jacques

The Franklin Cafe • Thu.-Sat. nights

One step ahead of everyone, Jacques knows what her regulars drink and has it ready and waiting for them before their butts are parked. The de facto headquarters for South End hipsters, this neighborhood boîte attracts an eclectic crowd that cuts across barriers of age, ethnicity and sexual preference. As Jacques puts it: "People come in for Bud longnecks, and people come in for Cosmos." Because the restaurant doesn't serve desserts, she often has chocolate, cookies or some other sweet to offer. Lightning fast, with an infectious smile, she's a veteran of such hot spots as the Kinsale and St. Botolph's, and she's positively magic with a cocktail shaker.

Signature Drink: Chocolate-Covered Cherry

Equal parts Ketel One vodka, Amaretto and Dark Creme de Coacoa, with a splash of Kahlua and Grenadine. Chill and serve straight up. Garnish with a cherry.

Stylish stemware, elegant snifters, marvy martini glasses—we did some hands-on research and present you with the crème de la crème.



25 oz. Beer Mug

Parish Cafe

These handsome, no-nonsense beer mugs are offered to any Parish-goers who belong to the Original Mug Club—which dates back to 1992, when the Parish Cafe opened. Once you've sampled each of the 150-plus bottled beers and 14 draft beers, a personalized mug is yours.

Perfect for: Stella Artois



18 oz. Spiegalau Bordeaux Glass

Les Zygomates

According to Les Zygomates co-owner and wine maven Lorenzo Savona, the large width and height of this crystal glass allows the wine to open up, which enhances flavors remarkably. (For more viticultural insight, Savona offers wine tastings Tuesday evenings at 6pm and 8pm for $25.)

Perfect for: 1998 Chat. Petit Clos Figeac Saint Emilion Grand cru Cabernet.



14 oz. Judel Tear Drop Stemless Snifter

Vox Populi

Form meets function: This snifter is handblown, durable and well-proportioned. Its attractive oversized shape isn't purely for aesthetics—as you cradle the footless snifter, your hands slowly warm up the cognac.

Perfect for: Martell Cordon Bleu or the Kelt XO



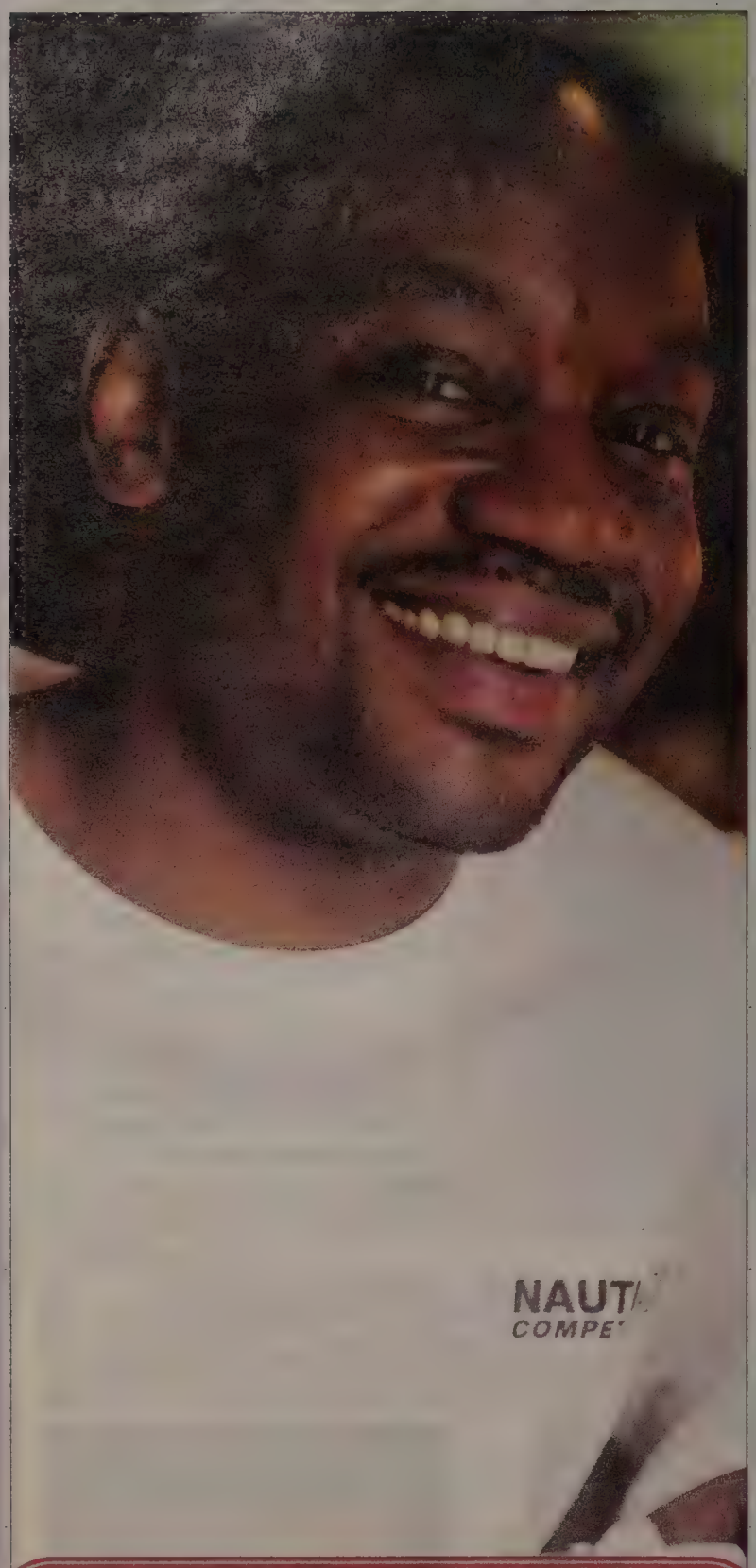
10 oz. Libbey Gibraltor Rocks Glass

The Rack

Blending simplicity and utility, this classic, no-nonsense glass sports an extra-thick base for durability and a rounded rim for comfort. Pleasantly weighty, the rocks glass is satisfying to hold.

Perfect for: Absolut Citron, Blue Curacao, Midori and sour mix—a great spring drink

WENDY MIMRAN



Aaron Poindexter

Wally's • Tue.-Thu. and occasional Fri. or Sun. shifts

This landmark hole-in-the-wall on Mass. Ave. has been offering up sizzling jazz, blues and R&B for ages, and this aspiring graphic designer—a nephew of the owner—adds to the relaxed good-time vibe. A Southern gentleman, Poindexter is an artist behind the bar as well, popping a beer bottle with a magician's spin of the opener, moving to the rhythm of the music and generally putting on such a show that customers sometimes can't decide whether to watch him or the featured musicians. "My regulars are the people who make Wally's what it is," he says. "They're like my family." With finesse, speed, grace and showmanship, Poindexter makes a great bar even better.

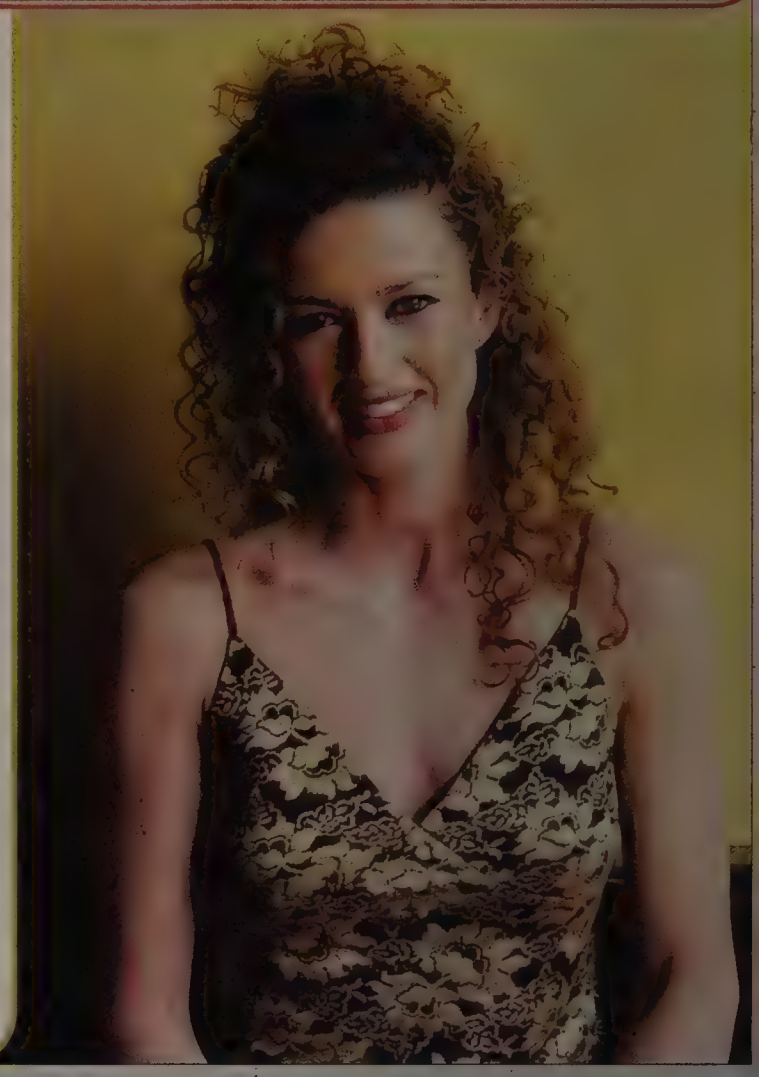
Signature Drink: The Fog

Layer Chambord, Blue Curacao, Bombay Sapphire, ginger ale and a splash of sour mix. Top with pineapple juice and serve either straight up or on the rocks in a Collins glass. Garnish with a cherry and a lemon twist.

Ally Lawrence

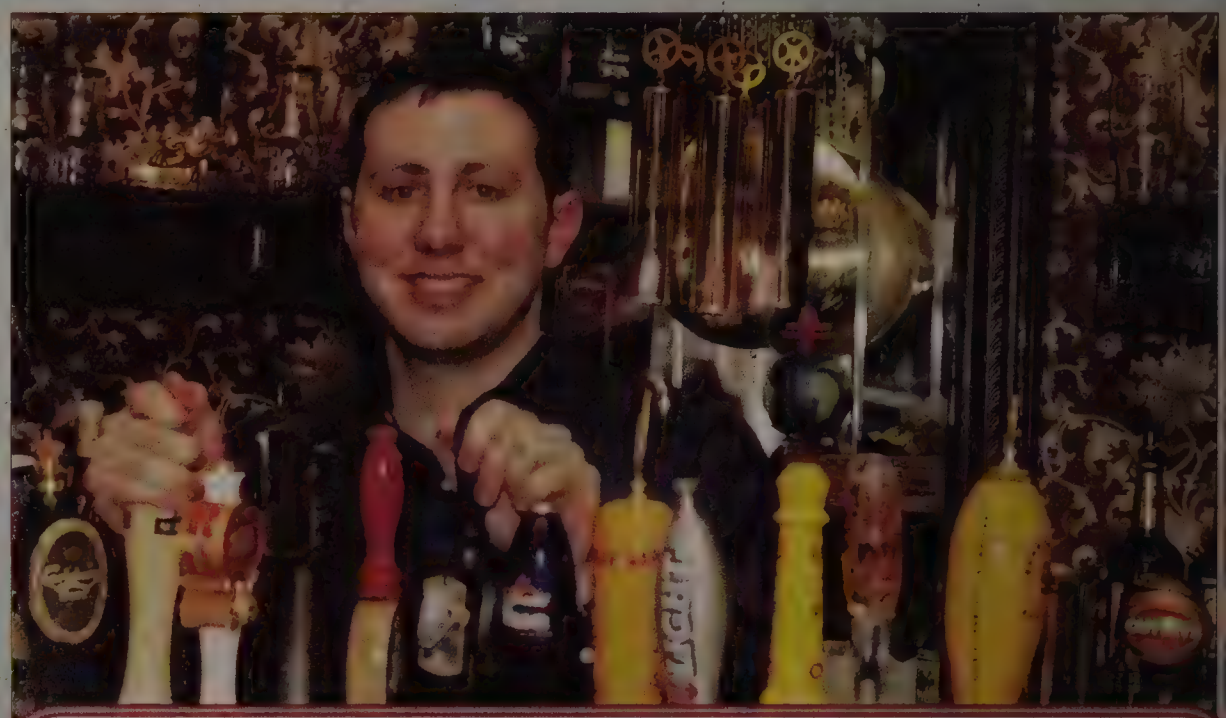
The Playwright • Mon. night, Tue. day, Wed. night, Thu. day, Fri. & Sat. night

It's a little more sophisticated than your average Southie bar, a little funkier than your average pub, and this aspiring model/actress from Quincy is like a little ray of sunshine—always upbeat and adorable. "I wouldn't be a bartender if it weren't for my customers," she enthuses. "They're fantastic." Judging by her relationships with her customers, so is she. One regular who came in with a date stopped by on her way to the ladies' room to get Lawrence's approval. She got it, along with a round of drinks. Known for her specialty shots, she earns bonus points for keeping the guys who come in for lunch acting like gentlemen instead of chuckleheads.



Signature Drink: The Lorenzo

This one is named after Lawrence's brother. Mix one and a half ounces of Midori, a half-ounce of Absolut Mandrin, fill with pineapple juice and color with a splash of cranberry juice. Shake on ice and serve on the rocks in a highball glass with a maraschino cherry and an orange slice.



Kevin Tinsley

Grand Canal • Mon. - Fri. days; Fri. & Sat. nights

A self-described "clumsy joker," Tinsley nevertheless handles the young professionals, and state and federal employees who work in the neighborhood, with good humor and aplomb. On weekends, this North Station watering hole draws a large crowd from the FleetCenter. "I'm here to celebrate or listen to their problems," he says, although he's not beyond some good-natured (if juvenile) fun, like the time he conducted a survey of women to see if they enjoyed being spanked. Someday he hopes to own his own bar. Until then, we'll keep visiting him here.

Signature Drink: The Grand Martini

Two ounces Grey Goose Vodka, the juice of half a lime, a dash of sour mix and Sprite. Shake on ice until subzero cold and serve straight up with a lemon twist.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: WENDY MIMRAN; SCOTT OLDHAM; WENDY MIMR

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Taniya Nayak

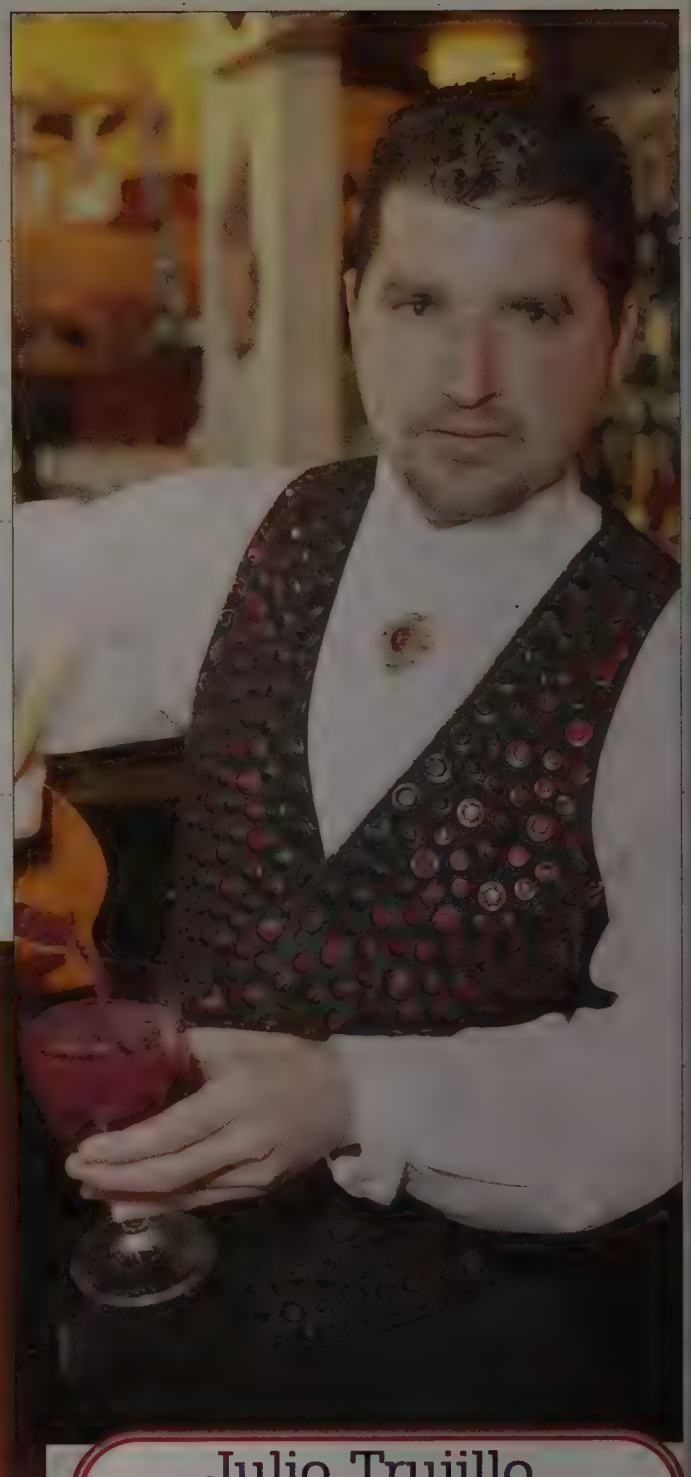
Pravda • Wed. & Sat.; Venu • Tue. & Fri.

Born in India and raised in Weymouth, this show-stopper can party like Ganesh and mixes drinks as if she has the arms of Shiva. By day, she does nightlife marketing and event planning, but when the sun goes down, she's just warming up. Nayak's regulars—hard-partying types who are out every night of the week—follow her from place to place. Known for wearing a diamond or colorful bindi—the traditional adornment typically worn on the foreheads of Indian women—she's as personable as they come, which explains the friendships she's developed with many of her customers. Best of all, she's not above getting up on the bar and dancing like there's no tomorrow. A ladylike party girl, she strikes the perfect balance between craziness and decorum.

Signature Drink: Asian Sunset

Equal parts Absolut Citron and Triple Sec with a splash of sour mix. Shake on ice and pour into martini or shot glass. Slowly add a splash of Chambourd so that it settles at the bottom.





Maryann Hodey

Olives • Mon., Wed., every other Tue.

As the Church of Todd English has grown, eating at Olives has taken on a certain intimidation factor, especially for first-timers, but one way that Charlestown's house of good eats remains welcoming is this shoot-from-the-hip barmistress, known to friends simply as "Hooley." A native townie (although she defected to Dorchester), she's a genius at putting everyone at ease, whether it's making a less worldly patron feel more sophisticated, or helping a stressed-out bigshot decompress. It comes partly from being in the business for nearly 20 years, at places like the dearly departed St. Cloud, and partly from being naturally down-to-earth and unpretentious.

Signature Drink: Sauza Comemorativo Margarita

Two ounces Sauza Comemorativo tequila, two parts fresh lemon juice, one part each of Simple Syrup and Cointreau and the juice of half a lime. Shake on ice and serve straight up in a glass rimmed with kosher salt. Garnish with a lime wedge.

Julio Trujillo

Dalí • every night except Thu.

Although he works at the most hopping Spanish restaurant in town, Trujillo hails from Colombia, not Spain. But who cares; he's got a beguiling Spanish accent, devilish charm and dark good looks—making him the perfect man to preside over Dalí's bar alongside his Latino brethren. He's been at it for almost a decade, pouring wine, beer, cordials and, of course, sangria—a fruity libation that is by far the most popular beverage at Dalí. While uncorking and pouring, Trujillo keeps customers in high spirits not only with sangria and Rioja, but with spontaneous outbursts, jokes and even an occasional dance. And no matter how absurdly packed the place gets, Trujillo is unflappable—always the sign of a master mixologist.

Signature Drink: Sangria

Mix two bottles young Spanish red wine (medium to dry) with one-third cup Triple Sec, one-third cup brandy and one-third gallon orange juice. Serve with fresh fruit, a pinch of sugar and ice.

FROM LEFT: WENDY MIMRAN; SAM WRIGHT; DEREK KOUYOUMJ

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Erin O'Donnell

Aria • Tues., Thu., Fri. & some Sat. nights

She's only been bartending a few months at this disco inferno for trust-funders and well-heeled foreigners, but already the poised and exquisite O'Donnell has become one of the primary reasons for visiting Aria. A Lowell native who has modeled for Click for the past four years, she always smiles and makes eye contact with her customers and never looks frazzled or rushed, no matter how busy her bar becomes. Not surprisingly, she constantly has to fend off advances from male patrons, but she always does so gently and politely. Currently in the process of signing a contract with Warner Brothers records, she's moving to New York in August to become a hip-hop star—"sort of like Britney Spears meets Eminem." Until then, you can find her holding court at Aria. After that, look for her on MTV.

Signature Drink: Red Death

Equal parts Belvedere vodka, Triple Sec, lime juice, Amaretto, Southern Comfort, sloe gin and a splash of orange juice and/or sour mix. Shake on ice and serve as a shot or on the rocks in a tall glass.

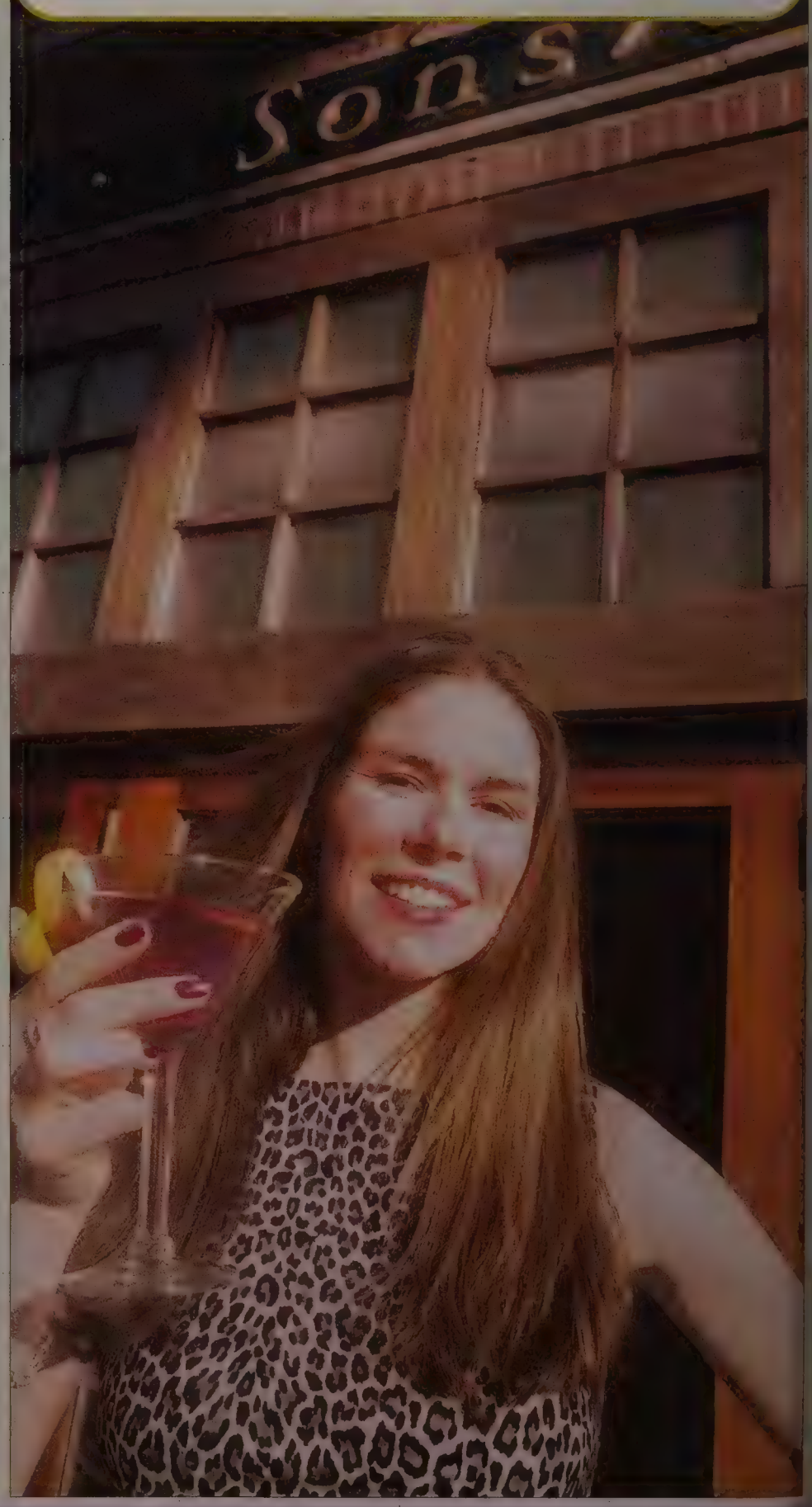
Jen O'Brien

Sonsie • Wed. & Thu. nights

By day, she manages a dental practice. By night, she ministers to the in-patients at this still-popular Back Bay breeder bar. "I do it because I enjoy it," O'Brien says, "and it's a fun place. My regulars are definitely a unique crew, a broad array of eccentrics. I have some who are there faithfully. They threaten that if I leave, they'll chase me." After six years at Sonsie (and six more at other bars) she knows how to talk sports and current events, or tell jokes. Then there are those regulars who are penciled in for therapy and should be paying her the going rate for psychiatric care. To her, it's all good.

Signature Drink: Tropical Martini

Equal parts Absolut Courant, Absolut Citron and Parrot Bay Rum, with a splash of Peach Schnapps. Shake on ice and serve straight up, in a martini glass. Garnish with an orange slice.



FROM LEFT: SAM WRIGHT; WENDY M



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Adam Herzlich

eat • Mon.-Sat. nights

The tough-lookin', sweet-talkin' and occasionally wise-crackin' Herzlich is still mixing it up at eat—but since January, he's been doing it in an enlarged bar area toward the front of the restaurant (fret not, the bar still feels like it's in someone's living room). This way, patrons are instantly calmed and charmed by Herzlich's no-nonsense hospitality before they even have a chance to grab a bar stool and order a Sky High, Herzlich's signature drink.



Ted Kennedy

Lucca • Wed., Fri. nights

A co-owner of this elegant new North End eatery, he's a veteran of high-end watering holes such as Ambrosia and Armani Cafe. Many of his regulars feel he missed his calling and should've been a late-night talk-show host. Others think that's exactly what he is right now. The new digs, which combine Back Bay tone with Old World charm, are the perfect venue for his brand of shenanigans.



Jacinta Moyles

The Parish Cafe • Mon. & Sat. nights, Wed.-Fri. days

When everyone in the hospitality industry seems to flock to one place, you have to wonder why. One reason is this red-headed dynamo with the disarmingly charming Irish accent. A true free spirit, she came to Boston for the summer seven years ago and never left. If there's a better description of the ideal person to sit with while tossing back a few, we don't know what that would be.

The Hall of Fame

You've read about them in previous bartender issues—the perennial favorites who truly raise the bar



Peter Cipriani

29 Newbury St. • Mon. days, Tue.-Fri. nights

The thinking man's barkeep, Cipriani has a searing intellect, an outrageous sense of humor and a healthy appreciation of the absurd. You can add to that an unfailingly courteous, upbeat disposition and an athlete's speed and grace in ministering to the colorful crowd that collects at this Back Bay hangout. No wonder he's one in a million.



Paul Christie

Gargoyle's • Wed.-Sun.

A jazz aficionado who once tried his hand at stand-up comedy, Christie presides over the goings-on at this ultra-hip hide-out in Davis Square like the host of a perpetual cocktail party. Fans praise his ability to mix people and pleasantries almost effortlessly while also mixing drinks. In addition, like most patrons, he lives nearby and therefore knows and cares about what goes on in the neighborhood.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN, WENDY MIMRAN, RACHEL BROMBERG, DARISA CLARKE, TRACY POWE

BOSTONS beloved bartenders 2001



Fred Mullins

Les Zygomates • Mon.-Sat. nights

Super cute, super friendly and super handy with a cocktail shaker, this Florida native is one great reason—along with great jazz and delicious food—to visit this French bistro in the Leather District.



Vernon Williams

Tim's Tavern • Mon., Wed., Fri. nights

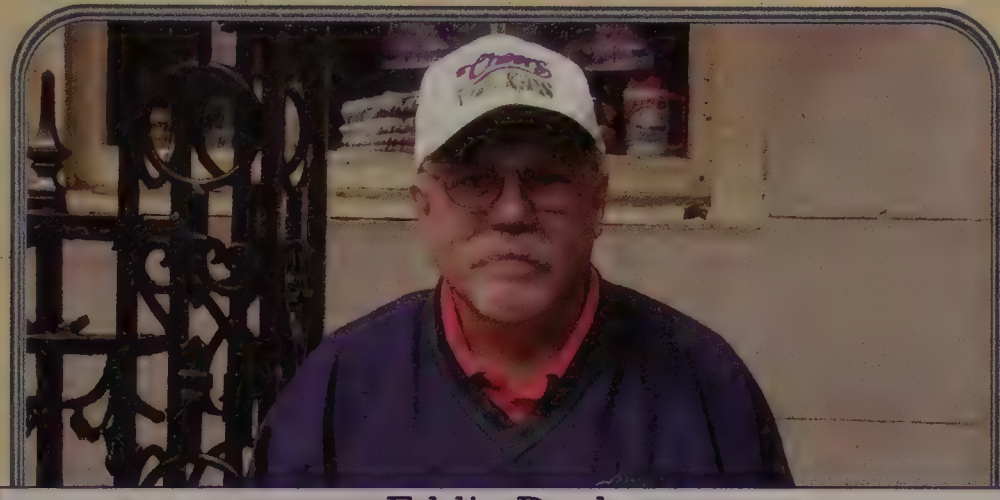
A Cambridge native, the good-natured and patient Williams has become a popular fixture at the South End's comfiest dive. Someday he plans to own his own bar, and when he does, we hope to have a stool with our name on it.



Miss Kris Knievil

Avalon • Sun. nights; Machine • Fri. nights

A voluptuous vixen in Ann-Margret drag, this uproariously funny, unfailingly upbeat love bunny slings drinks and basks in adulation at Lansdowne Street's Sunday night disco inferno and the Fenway's most sizzling gay dance club.



Eddie Doyle

The Bull & Finch Pub • Tues., Thu., days

Long before it was the bar that launched a thousand sitcoms, the ensuing T-shirt and tourist trade and the cheesy replica bars in airports across America, there was this pub, and this bartender, who helped make it the sort of place where everybody knows your name. Serving drinks is only one of his many good deeds. He devotes an equal amount of time and energy to charity. Imagine Santa Claus posing as a gruff but lovable bartender, and you get the picture.



Carlos Villalobos

The Ritz-Carlton • Tue.-Sat. nights

For over a quarter of a century, this courtly Chilean has presided over the grande dame of hotel bars with flawless manners and finesse (putting several kids through college in the process). A local treasure, Villalobos is known for making the small distinctions that set the Ritz apart, whether it's insisting that a martini be stirred "12 times—not 11, and not 13" or carefully crafting a Ritz Fizz, he's charming, discreet and everything else a great bartender should be.



Joe McGuirk

The B-Side Lounge • Mon., Wed.-Fri. nights

In his trademark bowties, this veteran of such Cambridge hot spots as Redbones, Toad, Christopher's, Salamander and Chez Henri rules over the bar at Kendall Square's most swinging outpost of cocktail nation. If the Rat Pack were still around, he'd be their man.



Cara McLaughlin

Upstairs at Vox Populi • Wed., Thu. nights; Barcode • Fri. nights

A laugh riot and a class act, this veteran of Boston's bar wars is as famous for her witty repartee as her flawless classic cocktails. If she worked on the moon, her devoted following would join the space program just to hang with her.



Chris Obermeyer

Sophia's • Thu., Fri. nights; Barcode • Sat.

He's a one-man rave who can party like a rock star. He surfs. He slings a mean drink. And by day, he designs bars and nightclubs. At night, he adds to the salsa-licious atmosphere of the three-story fun house in the Fenway and the joie de vivre at Back Bay's only bar in a former police station.



Lolly Mason

Machine • Fri., Sat.; Ramrod • Sun.

The Fenway's hottest gay dance club boasts one of Boston's most celebrated drink slingers, known for her whimsical outfits and wacky dangling earrings. In addition, she hosts *Lolly's Remedies*, a cable show devoted to the art of the cocktail, which airs in Boston, Cambridge and New York. (Locally, you can catch it at 11:30 on Friday night or 10:30 on Thursday mornings.) Her Web site, *www.lollyland.com*, is also worth checking out.



Rob Mannke

Bomboa • Tues., Fri., nights; 29 Newbury St. • Mon., Sat.; Avalon • Sun.

Affectionately known as "Robbio," this veteran mixologist has a wise-ass remark for every contingency and makes stepping up to the bar at any of the places he works an exercise in quick-wittedness. Don't tell him we said so, but underneath that ironic exterior is a very sweet guy.



Will Bissonette

Silvertone • Thu. nights

He looks like a cross between Burl Ives and a beatnik, and he's one of the many reasons why the cocktail cognoscenti congregate at this super-groovy Ladder District watering hole. A scintillating conversationalist, he can (and does) hold forth on a wide range of topics, but he's also an excellent listener.

Hot Drinks

Fashion martinis and flavored vodkas are all the rage, and red wines like Shiraz and Rioja are fast flowing.

BY BARBARA MATTALIANO



A lineup of the flavored vodkas that have recently captivated Boston bar-goers.

Just like the fickle and fast-moving fashion industry, the world of mixology is driven by trends. So what are the cocktail fashionistas drinking this spring? Our IMPROPER lot hit the bars, interviewed bartenders and industry insiders to discern what's hot and what's not. Here you have it.

The biggest trend driving the market right now is flavored vodka. Al Rand, business manager of Allied Domecq, the second largest spirits and wine company in the world, says, "There are numerous brands of vodka, but only the major brands are fueling the flavored vodka craze." Of the numerous varieties around town—from vanilla- to olive-flavored vodkas—our thorough (but admittedly unscientific) survey shows that some of today's favorites are Absolut Mandrin, Stoli Razberi, Ketel One Citroen and Finlandia Arctic Cranberry.

Bar-goers are pairing these flavored vodkas with a medley of mixers. The past year's hottest concoctions included the hyper-caffeinated Red Bull energy drink mixed with Absolut Mandrin (called the Bio on Bomboa's drink menu); Stoli Razberi with Sprite, cranberry juice and fresh lime; and Absolut Mandrin or Stoli Ohranj served with tonic and a splash of orange juice.

While these flavored vodka drinks are decidedly modern, the tried-and-true martini is also still very popular—along with its many modern spin-offs. Often referred to as fashion martinis, these popular libations are loosely based on the classic recipe but also include any number of other ingredients, from fruit juices to chocolate syrup. Several delectable variations worth trying include Vox Populi's cranberry martini, Masa's Citroen martini, Abe & Louie's apple martini, Whiskey Park's chocolate martini, Pho Republique's mango martini, Sonsie's watermelon martini and Florentine Cafe's raspberry martini. If you're looking for a dim sum of martinis, head to the Tini Bar, Barcode or the Blue Cat Cafe, all of which offer martini menus.

The Cosmopolitan, made with vodka, Cointreau, lime juice and a splash of cranberry juice, started the whole fashion martini trend and is undisputedly the most popular martini in town—still! According to Denice Goguen, bar manager at Le Meridien Hotel's Julien Lounge, "Our bar menu includes 101 martini selections, and the Cosmopolitan is our No. 1 seller."

Beyond vodka, tequila is about to make a big splash this year. Whereas in the past, we've enjoyed tequila as a shooter or in a margarita, some of the new, high-end tequilas hitting the market are definitely meant to be sipped and savored, much like a cognac. Sauza, Patrón and Don Eduardo are favorites for sipping in snifters. Tequila neophytes should check out the Oak Room's tequila selection, which is included on its dessert menu.

On the beer and wine front: Microbrews are waning a bit in popularity, but beers like Harpoon IPA, Heineken, Amstel Light, and especially Stella Artois, are local faves. Citywide, wine sales are soaring. What's more, we're getting more knowledgeable in our viticultural pursuits as restaurant and bar owners are seeking more refined wines. Mamma Maria's in the North End, for example, has added a special reserve list that includes about 40 rare wines from California and Italy. Lorenzo Savona, co-owner of Les Zygomates says, "Young white wines, such as the 1996 Alsace Willm Reisling and the 1999 Ca Montini Pinot Grigot, have made their mark over buttery California Chardonnays. As for reds, Shiraz and Rioja rule supreme.

Some drinking trends stand the test of time; others don't. Cocktails mixed with Red Bull, for example, will most likely fall out of fashion. On the other hand, the mighty Cosmopolitan is, no doubt, a classic cocktail in the making.

MASON: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; MANNKE, BISSONETTE: JENNY LOLLEY; BOTTLES: RACHEL BROMBERG

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The IMPROPER's Jonathan Soroff plays bartender-in-training with Hall of Fame mixologist Peter Cipriani for one glorious and grueling evening at 29 Newbury

In the Mix

Jonathan Soroff signs up for Bartending 101.

BOSTONS beloved bartenders 2001

I've logged a fair number of hours in bars. In fact, if they gave out frequent flier miles, I'd be drinking free for the rest of my life. However, I've never worked at a bar, or even tended bar, except at parties, where people invariably accused me of trying to put them into a coma.

That's not to say that the idea of bartending never occurred to me. Of the three noble professions, teaching and medicine never held any appeal (since they require more patience than I have and offer only blood, guts and stupid questions in return). Bartending, meanwhile, always seemed like a way to benefit one's fellow man while having a good time, being the center of attention and making unreported tips.

To test this theory, I prevailed upon my friend Peter Cipriani to let me guest bartend with him one Thursday night at 29 Newbury St. "It'll be like Bring Your Child to Work Day," I told him, although, in the end, "Bring Your Exceptionally Slow and Clumsy Child to Work Day" might've been more like it.

On the designated evening, I arrived at 5:30 to help set up, and by 6, we were on. I won't go into the quotidian details—slicing lemons, stacking glasses, rinsing shakers, counting cash, retrieving bottles from a basement straight out of a horror movie, or learning the hard way that it's best to serve a martini by putting the glass down in front of the customer and then pouring it. Mixing drinks was the easy part. The hard part was maintaining my suavity while conducting cash and credit card transactions on an unfamiliar computer system, with dozens of people asking me for something, some of them quite rudely.

"Bartending is like running a marathon while trying to perform an aria," says a friend of mine, and she's right. It's both physically and mentally demanding, but it's also fun. Anthropologically interesting, too.

The social dynamic of bartending presents an odd dichotomy. In its essentials, the transaction between bartender and customer is the same as between a drug dealer and an addict. You're providing them with their fix, so they need you and can't afford to alienate you. As a result, people walk in the door with a certain amount of cool in their pockets, and you can either take it away or give them more, depending upon how you treat them. On the other hand, you're working for tips, waiting on people, so the ignorant or insecure among your clientele are liable to treat you like dirt.

In a way, it's similar to being the most popular kid in high school—there's a minus for every plus. You rule...but only within a proscribed little fiefdom that you can't really escape, except maybe to go to the bathroom. And, yes, everyone wants to be your friend, but you have to pretend to like people you don't like and keep smiling when they annoy you.

As it turns out, there are two aspects of the job that came as a total surprise to me. The first is that obnoxious or condescending, overly familiar or even obliviously drunk customers aren't that hard to handle. They can usually be silenced with a comment like, "Employees must wash their hands before returning to work...but do they?" The second is that people will drink anything: Cocktails that look like Sani-Flush and taste like melted lollipops; liqueurs that taste like ear wax and guarantee a lethal hangover; even cheap champagne.

But it's this openness to experimentation that provides my favorite part of bartending: the creativity. No afternoon that I spent as a kid, trying to conjure an explosion out of my chemistry set, was ever more gratifying. And as if I didn't already have enough to show for it, my evening working with Peter was all that much more worthwhile because we invented two cocktails. Their recipes are as follows:

The Chester A. Arthur

Two ounces Stoli Orange, a dash of soda and midori, and the juice of half a lemon. Chill and serve in a martini glass. Garnish with a twist.

The Merkin

Equal parts Malibu rum and Peach Schnappes, a dash of milk and a small squirt of club soda. Chill and serve in a martini glass. Garnish with shaved chocolate.

As for their names, the first is a long-overdue tribute to an obscure and overlooked American president, while the latter is named for something you'll either have to look up in a weighty, unabridged dictionary or ask one of your more sophisticatedly perverted friends to explain.

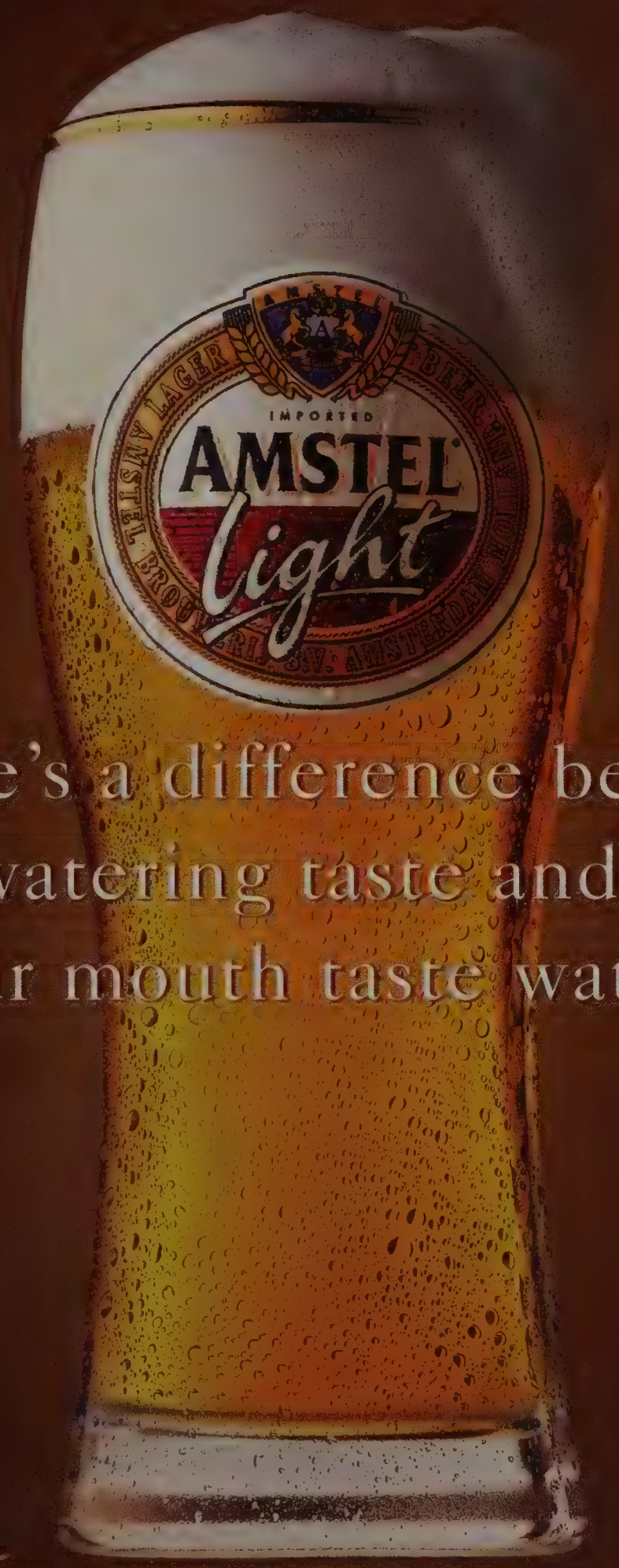
At any rate, by the time last call finally arrived, my feet hurt, my hands were sticky, my jaws were tired from jabbering and if one more person asked me for a Cosmo, I would've done something actionable with a swizzle stick. To return to the power thing for just a minute—there's nothing more sadistically fun than telling a lingering bunch of barflies to hit the pavement while you stay behind with all the booze.

After we'd kicked everyone out, there was a smoky, Sinatra-like, after-hours vibe to closing up—wiping everything down, cashing out and putting the stools on top of the bar. And then my one night of glory came to an end.

In retrospect, I'm not sure I'd ever make a truly great bartender, since disgust seems to be my default response to most vexing situations, and I'm not nearly magnanimous or self-controlled enough to get everyone around me drunk while I'm abstaining. Talk about torture.

There are at least two things I can brag about from my night of bartending, though. I didn't break anything. And I made some mean Merkins. iB

TRACY POWELL



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Previous page: Gold lame bang bikini, $172, and gold lame stilettos, $455, by Ralph Lauren. Both available at Saks Fifth Avenue.

This page: Army bandpiece by Marie Guerin, $260, available at Heart Games. Vintage top, $12, found at The Garment District. Bermuda, $80, available at The Gap.



Tan two-piece Calvin Klein swimsuit with gold buckles, $92. Available at Macy's



Sailor striped mod
necked cropp
sweater, $61
available at Saks Fi
Avenue. Bottoms, $
available at The Ga

Plum one-piece halter suit by Ralph Lauren, $90. Available at Saks Fifth Avenue.

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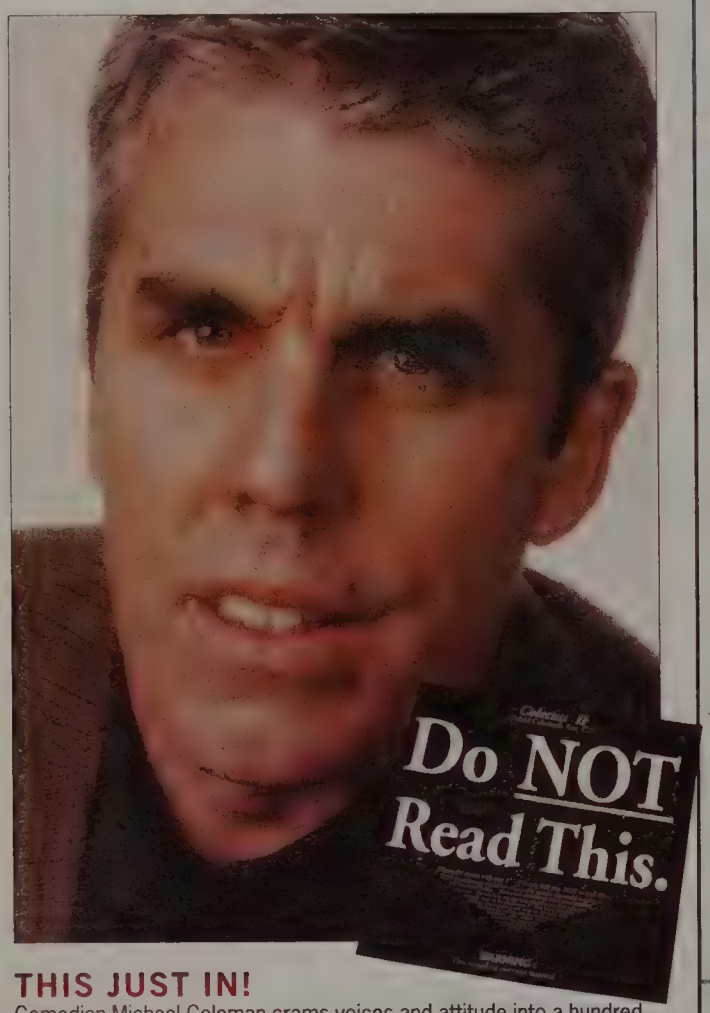
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Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THIS JUST IN!

Comedian Michael Coleman crams voices and attitude into a hundred pithy,witty bits, just as he does on the radio (which he roundly mocks). The CD *Do Not Read This* is at Newbury Comics and Tower Records.

If you ever heard Michael Coleman's speedy comedy bits on WZLX and WBCN's *Big Mattress* and wanted to hear them again, here's your chance. Local comedian Michael Of ManyVoices finds humor in the flotsam-popcorn of pop culture. For example, rapidly overlapping voices, late-night TV–style, promise a once-in-a-lifetime offer: For the first time ever, friendly operators are standing by—with no product in sight. And a deep voice knowingly intones eternal truths while worrying in incidental blips about a stripper he may have impregnated. Then a fruity-toned Southern voice turns out to be Transvestite Theater's production of *A Streetcar Named RuPaul*.

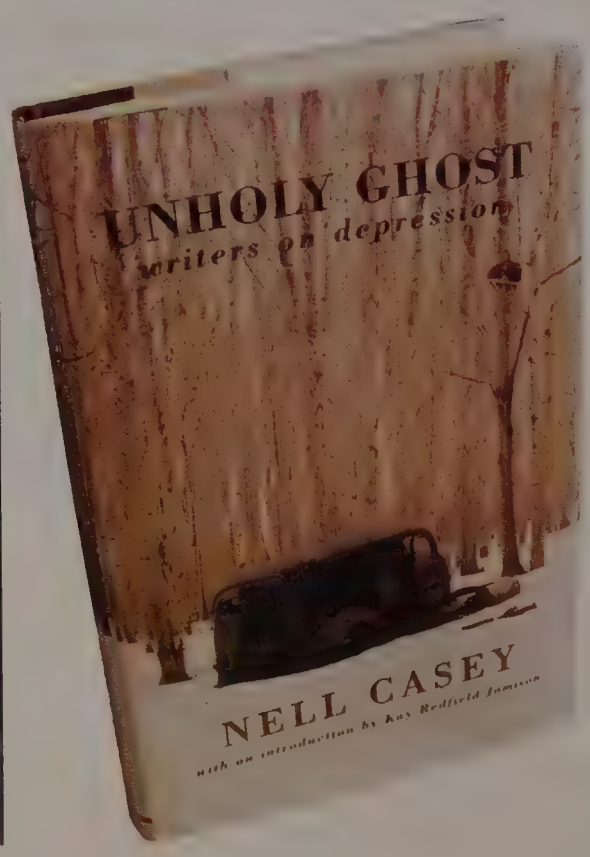
Euphemisms, political correctness, redundancy and suggestive answering-machine messages all get the Coleman treatment, and some frankly hysterical juvenile bathroom humor will make you wish that fourth grade had never ended. Coleman does music parodies, including The Classic Rock Car Alarm that wails like Janis Joplin. At the Hotline for Attention Deficit Disorder, the counselor is one harried fruitcake, who is hardly anyone to give advice.



THE TOBACCO STORE, AND THEN SOME

Leavitt & Peirce, with its wooden Indian over the door, has presided over Harvard Square since 1883. 1883 Mass. Avenue, Cambridge, 617-547-0576. Its brother store is David P. Ehrlich at 32 Tremont Street, Boston, 617-227-1720.

If you're a cigar aficionado, or someone who appreciates tobacco's aromatic rhapsody, Leavitt & Peirce is the perfect old-fashioned store for you. The door's handle is shaped like a giant metal pipe; one giant wooden Indian figurehead floats above the entrance, and another one stands eternal vigil inside. On long, leisurely counters, big glass canisters hold the company's own custom pipe tobacco, as well as cigarette-rolling tobacco that they weigh out and blend, in a spirit of high customer-service. They also offer smoking accessories of the more elegant ilk (banish the phrase "head shop"). Upstairs, inside a tiny balcony, "gentleman smokers" and their ladylike counterparts can smoke discreetly, protected from the loitering-hobo indignities of curbside smokers. Or, for a small fee, one can play chess amid pictures of Harvard sports teams of the 1800s. From there, overlook the beauties of the store—its gold and red Ehrlich Pipe sign, fancy men's toiletries, picture of Bette Midler lounging lasciviously on poker chips, and cases of pen-knives, games, cigarette cases and colorful tin wind-up toys. A line of extraordinary huge metal Italian pens by Officino have an easy-to-grasp, scored grip and fantastic writing flow. Their smoothness is rather like the smoke coming from those exquisite cigars.



THE DARK DAYS OF DEPRESSION

Unholy Ghost, Writers on Depression, edited by Nell Casey, includes such literary melancholics as Donald Hall, Kay Redfield Jamison, Larry McMurtry.

There's more color and variety than you might think in depression, at least coming from the pens of writers. Novelist William Styron, victim of a deeply leaden depressive episode, would rather call the condition a "brainstorm" due to its kinetic energy. The writers in this anthology of first-person pieces include literary sufferers Kay Redfield Jamison and Martha Manning (both of whom are also therapists), Ann Beattie and Edward Hoagland. Locally, Susanna Kaysen pours some sharp psychic rain on the whole matter, making a paradoxically enlivening case for the virtues of depression. Lauren Slater, on Prozac during her pregnancy, slaloms poetically through the moods, questions and feelings it entails. Three writers—Nell Casey, Donald Hall and Rose Styron—write from the caretaking perspective. As spouse or sister to the depressed, they're helpful, helpless, horrified, steadfast, fully as important as doctors and pills, human medicine themselves, up against the impossible tornado. Nell Casey talks about the "dire rapture" she felt in describing sister Maud's sudden slide, and the long pathway from hospitalization to the moment her mood improved, seeming suddenly "dipped in honey." No grimly reductive, objective psychology textbook comes close to the compelling human throb of these heartfelt writings.

TOP: WENDY MIMRAN



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DIFFERENT. IN A GOOD WAY.

INSIDE: Barcode's big birthday bash; all-points bulletin for Pudding brides; tour of Italy

REVIEW

The Total Package

Mistral's fine food and service make it more than just an "in" place to be

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Mistral's dining room is flanked by a bar with two dozen seats. Opposite page: Chef Jamie Mammano; tuna tartar.

When Mistral first opened its doors some four years ago, it vaulted to the front ranks of Boston restaurants. Immediately it became a hot spot, the place to see, be seen and be part of the scene. I admit that I refrained from visiting and reviewing Mistral because I perceived its instant fame with some skepticism. But the hype has now died down, and persistent reports of high-quality food and exemplary service make it senseless to spite my palate any longer. Two recent visits to Mistral have confirmed those reports: This is a superb restaurant, one of the best in the city, with handsome, even elegant appointments, polished service and exquisite food.

Ensconced in an imposing building on Columbus Avenue between Berkeley and Clarendon, Mistral's long, stylish dining room features 20-foot-high ceilings, six massive white stucco columns, high arched windows dressed by taupe draperies and sheer panels, and black wrought-iron chandeliers with gracefully curved arms that resemble exotic flora, each terminating in slightly tapered eggshell-colored shades. A long bar runs along one wall, illuminated by hanging amber-shaded lamps that give its denizens a mellow glow.

Guests are seated at tweed banquettes and upholstered chairs. Crisp, white tablecloths adorn the tables, with mustard-colored napkins and striking setting plates. The only jarring note consisted of the clunky wine glasses in which our wine was served. Noticing the presence of Riedel crystal at other tables, we asked for the same, a request promptly obliged.

Mistral's wine list contains many selections with price and pedigree to merit automatically being served in the Riedel crystal, but the 1999 Domaine de la Gautiere Provencal red ($30) was apparently not one of them. Sipped from Riedel or not, however, it was delicious, fruity and full-bodied, with the signature peppery nuances of the southern Rhone. The Gautiere was the second lowest-priced red on the list, which contained very few choices in the $30s and no U.S. red for under $40. Wines by the glass, however, included the reasonably priced 1998 Mas St. Berthe Coteaux d'Aix "les Baux" ($7), a first-rate dry rosé, the perfect accompaniment for robustly flavored seafood dishes.

Mistral's bread, crunchy mild sour dough boules served with butter and a dollop of mellow, flavorful chickpea and garlic spread, comes from Hi-Rise Bakery in Cambridge. Among the starters, the grilled portobello mushroom "Carpaccio" ($9) was imaginatively conceived and deftly prepared. Four thin slices of portobello mushrooms shared a sizable plat with roasted red and yellow peppers, yellow raisins, Parmesan shavings and gossamer slices of toast. The confit of duck an





fois gras in brioche with tart dried cherries, a signature Mistral dish, bore a hefty price ($19), but the cost was fully merited by its substantial content and lovely presentation. A hollowed-out brioche was brimming with tender, moist duck confit laced with dried cherries, along with a generous *tranche* of sautéed fois gras. The tartness of the cherries complemented the luscious, sweet succulence of the fois gras and the salty richness of the confit.

A special appetizer ordered as a main course one evening, soupe de poissons ($16), was exceptional. Firm-fleshed halibut, Chilean sea bass, tender, silky ringlets of squid, resilient prawns and tiny mussels graced an intensely flavorful broth thick with meaty tomatoes, onions, garlic and the heady perfume of saffron. Two grilled croutons of peasant bread lathered with saffron aioli protruded from the top of the tall, narrow bowl. The savors of the South of France almost leapt from the bowl, as if to ask why I was in dreary, drizzly Boston instead of sunny Marseilles.

Among Mistral's main courses, the boneless short ribs of beef with red wine and roasted garlic mashed potatoes ($28), was a standout. Almost as if taking its clue from a recent *New York Times* "Dining" article about short ribs (which are currently in vogue in Big Apple restaurants), Mistral has seized the medium and conquered it. The coarse-textured, robustly flavorful beef, enhanced with the sweet, earthy warmth of carrots, reminded us of *daube*, a Provençal specialty. The garlic-laced potatoes were excellent, but why must even Mistral, presumably immune from silly fads, serve the potatoes under the meat?

Roasted Cornish game hen ($22) was one of the less expensive main courses on Mistral's menu, where higher priced offerings soar to $42. This small bird, with crisp, golden brown skin, was served spread-eagled alongside an onion and watercress salad (watercress pleasantly tender; onions a tad assertive) and toothsome fingerling roast potatoes. The chicken was served with a delicate reduction of its cooking juices, enriched with applewood bacon and accented with lemon.

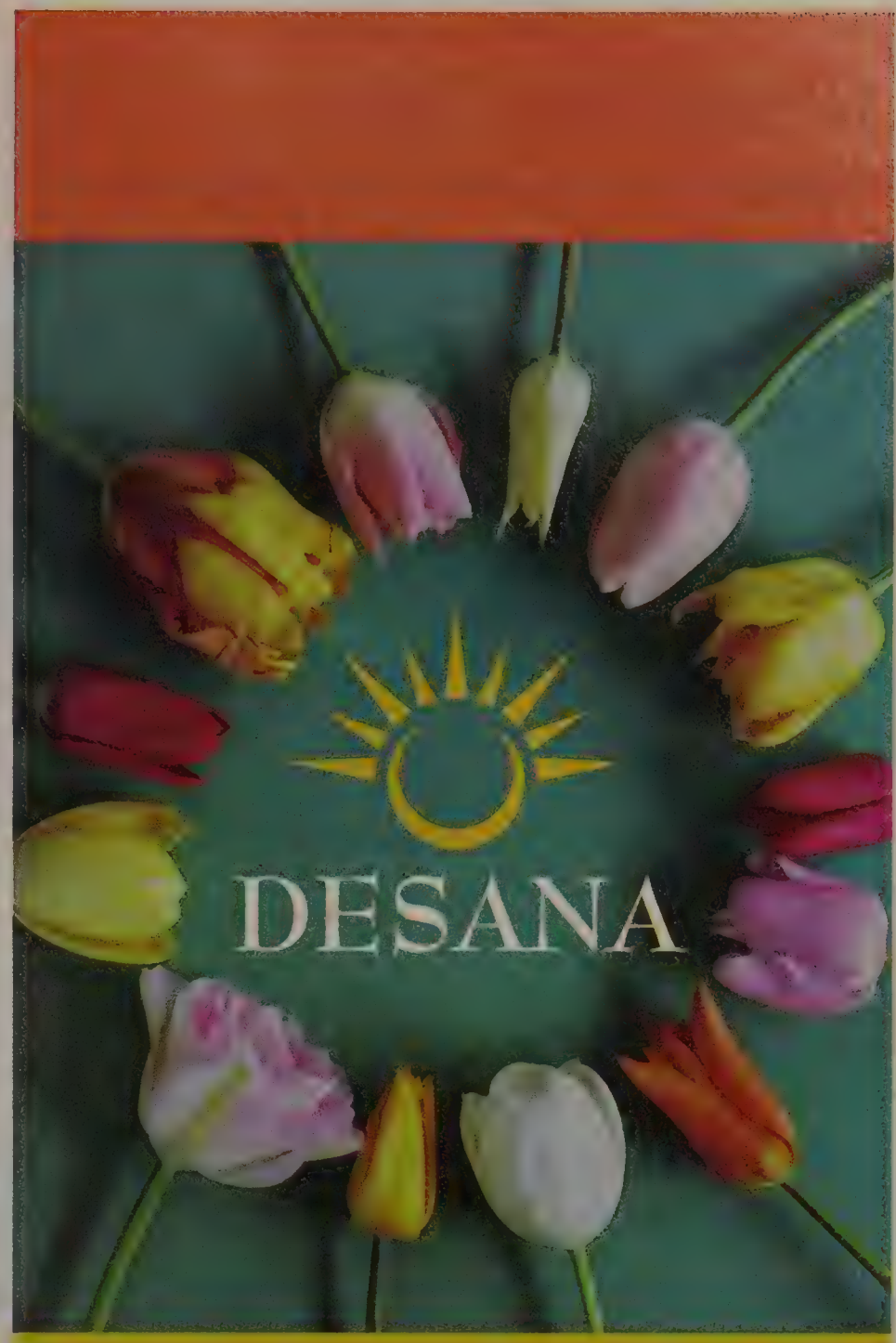
Mistral's desserts kept up the high standards of what preceded them. The warm chocolate torte ($8) was a shallow cylinder of cake with warm, viscous chocolate inside, accompanied by a delicious vanilla sauce. The apple tart ($8), a small, round pastry with buttery crust, featured tangy, perfectly textured apples, topped by a scoop of butterfat-laden ice cream. Luscious caramel sauce swirls completed the picture.

In addition to world-class cuisine and beautiful surroundings, Mistral is supported by a major-league waitstaff. A couple of things stood out. First, upon entering the restaurant early one evening, we were immediately shown to an excellent table, a corner banquette where we could sit side-by-side for easy conversation. Too many restaurants seat early arrivals at the less desirable tables. Second, our young waiter suggested that he bring the two appetizers we had ordered one after the other rather than simultaneously, since we had remarked that we were looking forward to sharing both of them. A crew smartly attired in black attended to filling water glasses and replenishing and clearing plates efficiently and unobtrusively. Eschewing the all-too-common service gaffe of removing a plate from one diner before others in the party have finished the course—which says, in effect that one of you is eating too fast and the others too slowly—Mistral's waitstaff cleared dishes simultaneously. Good service is, after all, just good, common sense to make patrons comfortable and enhancing their enjoyment of the food.

Mistral is the total package: ambiance, food and service—all at a very high level. Our entire experience has caused me to reassess my perennial skepticism about the "in" scene. Mistral offers the substance to live up to its first-class billing. **iB**

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DISH

Celebrations

Happy birthday, Barcode...Attention former Pudding brides! BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Barcode's chef, Matthew Murphy, with owners Brian Lesser and Joe Quattrocchi (far right).

Most 1-year-olds don't make birthday plans that involve a ménage à trois in a back room. But **Barcode** isn't just any 1-year-old; it's one in a still-growing series of successful restaurants owned by **Joe Quattrocchi**, who's as business-oriented and media-savvy as any celebrity chef, although he concedes that he just can't cook. Good thing he attracts star-quality talent to his kitchen.

His latest catch is **Amanda Lydon**, formerly of **Truc**, soon to take the reins of the forthcoming **Metro** after a brief trip to France to stock up on inspiration...and perhaps a half-dozen antique oyster plates. Meanwhile, back at the Barcode bash, the aforementioned ménage à trois was actually the work of three chefs—Lydon, Barcode's **Matthew Murphy** and **Michael Burgess** of **Vox Populi**—who combined their professional passion to present a festive birthday dinner for party guests. As for the back room, well, it was really the sultry-yet-civilized dining room tucked behind the bustling bar at Barcode.

We arrived with high expectations for the courses prepared by Lydon (enormous, tender asparagus simply dressed with sauce gribiche and dotted with cubes of beef tongue) and Burgess (seared veal loin with pinot noir sauce and a fava mint puree), but the revelation of the evening was the work of Matthew Murphy, a newcomer sure to make a name for himself.

According to his resume, Murphy is ridiculously young and has maybe five years of culinary experience (most recently at **L'Espalier**), but he shows finesse beyond his years and an impressive range of skills, from fish to dessert.

When Metro opens in Cambridge's Porter Square in the former **Cottonwood Café**, we'll fill you in on Lydon's menu as soon as possible.

SECOND COURSE

Remember your wedding? The dress? The stress? If your happy day took place at **UpStairs at the Pudding** anytime during the past 20 years, you now have the incredible good fortune of reliving all the fun of the reception...without going through all the tortured logistical planning (guest lists! family seating charts!) that made it possible the first time around.

Here's why: On May 24, Pudding co-owner **Mary-Catherine Deibel** and co-owner/ executive chef **Deborah Hughes** are hosting a reunion complete with elegant dining, champagne toast, music and perhaps dancing, if there's enough room. After all, Deibel says she expects to invite over 200 couples for "cocktails in the garden, a classic wedding dinner (salmon or beef tenderloin) and our famous coconut wedding cake." Wedding finery, says Deibel, is encouraged but not mandatory.

Good timing: It opened in virtual silence about six months ago, but **The Newtonville Times**, owned by **Frank** and **Jocelyn McLaughlin** (who also own Waltham's **Watch City Brewing Co.**) is hitting its stride with a news-themed menu and a chef with a familiar name.

"We've been keeping busy," says Frank McLaughlin, who says the opening was deliberately kept quiet "to work out the kinks before reviewers get in." Chef **Leonardo Savona**, who previously worked at his brother Lorenzo's **Les Zygomates**, oversees a menu that features dishes such as London Times fish and chips, Costa Rican Times tilapia...you get the idea. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Boston Chefs and Local Farmers: A Conversation
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (373-5800). May 8, 6:30pm. Free. **Steve Johnson**, chef and co-owner of The Blue Room, and other chefs discuss how our increased awareness of nutrition is changing the way we eat.

Cambridge School of Culinary Arts Open House
2020 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2020). May 5, 9-11am. Become a chef, open a restaurant, write a cookbook, be a food stylist or teach culinary arts. Find out more at this event.

Celebrity Cook-Off
Brasserie Jo, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (779-1641). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. April 28, 5pm, reception; 6pm, show. $75; $40 (show only). Watch teams of celebrity athletes scurry to meet chefs' demands as they race against the clock to create a recipe using pre-set ingredients. Chefs include Tony Ambrose, Bill Bradley, Tanya Holland; their athlete sous-chefs include Tim Wakefield, Jason Allison and Hal Gill. Proceeds from this Iron Chef-style competition benefit the Franciscan Children's Hospital.

Chocolate Extravaganza
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. April 26, 6-9pm. $52. Indulge your passion for chocolate while learning to appreciate its delicacy and versatility. Le Meridien pastry chef **Christophe Feyt** shows you how to create fondant, creme brulee, fondue and more.

Cooking with Pho Lemongrass
115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). May 2, 6-9pm. $52. Chef **Anthony Duong** of Brookline's newest Vietnamese restaurant demonstrates the preparation of several dishes.

Eat Like a Critic Dinner
Eclipse, 42 Province St., Boston (426-3333). May 8, 6:30pm. $65. Chef **Rob LaGrassa** hosts food writer and wine expert **Al Stankus** of *The Tab* and the IMPROPER's own food columnist **Carolyn Faye Fox** for a four-course dinner. Stankus and Fox will teach you how a critic might evaluate the meal.

Ma Soba Wine Dinner Series
Ma Soba, 156 Cambridge St., Boston (973-6680). May 1, 7pm. $65. Each course of this East-West tasting dinner will be paired with a different wine from France's Louis Jadot winery.

Master Chef Series
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). May 2, 6-9pm. $60. Eighteen-year-old chef **Wil Gilson** of the Herb Lyceum in Groton uses fresh herbs and locally grown produce in this demonstration.

A Salute to Jean-Louis Palladin
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (426-1234). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. May 6, 6-10pm. Radius owners **Christopher Myers** and chef **Michael Schlow** invite **Todd English** of Olives, **Gordon Hamersley** of Hamersley's Bistro, **Frank McClelland** of L'Espalier, **Ken Oringer** of Clio, **Susan Regis** and **Lydia Shire** of Biba, **Ming Tsai** of Blue Ginger and **Jasper White** of Summer Shack to prepare a multicourse dinner to benefit the medical fund for chef Jean-Louis Palladin.

A Taste of Allston Village
DoubleTree Guest Suites, 400 Soldiers Field Road, Allston (787-2370). May 6, 5:30-7:30pm. $25. Sample food from Big City, Grasshopper, The Kells, Rangoli, Seoul Bakery, Pho Pasteur and Sunset Grill, among others. All leftover food will be donated to the Greater Boston Food Bank.

Taste of the North End
The New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (742-4336). May 4, 7:30-11pm. $65. Stroll through the aquarium and enjoy samplings from 30 North End restaurants. Afterward, dance in the tent outside. Proceeds benefit the Casa Monte Cassino.

New England Real Ale Exhibition
Dilboy VFW Hall, 371 Summer St., Somerville (628-2200). May 2-6, 6-10:30pm. $6 per session. This ale exhibition matches samplings of the English brew with Redbones cuisine. Proceeds benefit homeless veterans.

Wine Dinner Series at the Pudding
Up Stairs at the Pudding, 10 Holyoke St., Cambridge (864-1933). May 1. $75. •Southern Italian Wine Extravaganza.

TASTY TIDBIT

TASTE OF ITALY

Why dine at one North End restaurant when you can try three in one night? If you answer "because that's way too much food for one person to consume," you're right. But hold on—we're talking about a progressive dinner tour. That means one dish at each restaurant, under the guidance of North End food expert Michele Topor. On May 7, 14 and 21, the procession will start at Sage on Prince Street and, as the night unfolds, will leisurely travel to Bricco and Taranta on Hanover. The three-course regional dinner will include Sage chef Anthony Susi's grilled lamb Spiedini with roasted red pepper and pickled eggplant, along with calamari and conch salad from the central Abruzzi region; Bill Bradley's roasted monkfish and capelletti pasta stuffed with salt cod from the northern Il Veneto region at Bricco; and Jim Becker's trio of desserts from the southern region of Sardinia. All dishes will be paired with wine. ***Call 781-659-4165, ext. 673. 6:30pm. $100.***



Taranta owner Jose Duarte, tour leader Michele Topor, Sage chef Anthony Susi and Bricco chef Bill Bradley

TOP LEFT: WENDY MIMRAN

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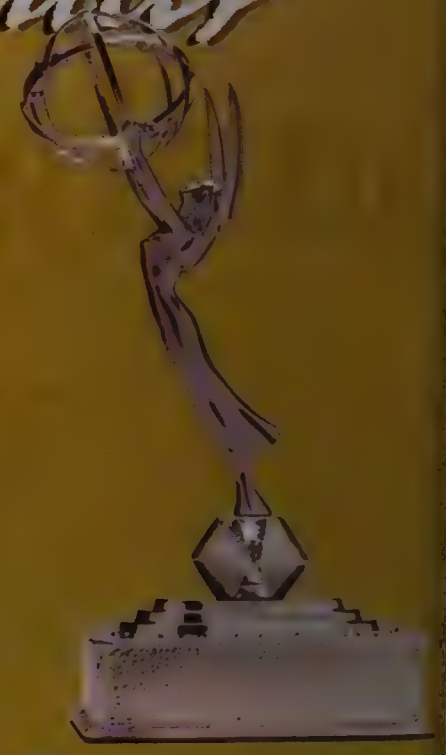
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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 58

PERFORMING ARTS 62

ART 68

FILM 74

BOOKS & POETRY 80

EDUCATION 80

DANCE CLUBS 82

MUSIC 86

CLASSICAL MUSIC 96

GAY & LESBIAN 98

BODY & MIND 100

CHILDREN 100

SPORTS 100

ROUND TOWN 102

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Round Town, Children,

CityScope, Comedy,

Education, Sports,

Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

improper picks



SAT./APRIL 28

Music: Open for Business

The Hatch Shell kicks off its summer music season April 28 when WBOS Earth Fest presents a day of heavy hitters. The eighth annual festival brings in Blues Traveler, Joan Osborne (left), Cowboy Junkies and Double Trouble, along with a few surprise guests. With music, food and a bit of environmental awareness thrown in, it is the largest event of its kind in the Northeast. In addition to seven hours of live music, there will be exhibits and interactive displays from about 100 environmental groups and agencies. The Hatch Shell has a big summer lineup, with WODS Saturday concerts starting June 9, the *Boston Globe* Jazz Festival starting Wednesday, June 24, Boston Pops concerts beginning July 2 and more. The best incentive to battle the crowds and dodge the Rollerbladers? It's all completely free. And don't forget that on April 29, folks gather at the Hatch Shell, the starting point for the March of Dimes walk, at 8am. ***11am-6pm, MDC Memorial Hatch Shell. MBTA: Red Line to the Charles/MGH.***

THU./APRIL 26—SAT./MAY 12

Comedy: Laugh Track

In need of a hearty guffaw? You're in luck. A bevy of comedians make their way to Boston this month. Sitcom-er **Ray Romano** will be at Lowell Memorial Auditorium April 26-27 in a rare stand-up appearance about his middle-class upbringing in Queens, N.Y. Then, over at the Comedy Connection, **Robert Schimmel**, voted 1999's best male stand-up comic, performs April 27-28, and **David Cross** from *Just Shoot Me* will be on stage May 4-5. Fans of the comedy *Grace Under Fire* will be psyched to see star **Brett Butler** perform at the Comics 4a Cause event at Berklee Performance Center May 5. Proceeds benefit the Nelson Foundation, Jane Doe and Deanna's Fund. And finally, **Jackie Mason** has an armada of new material for his latest show, *Much Ado About Everything*, at the Shubert Theatre May 8-12. Whew—that's a lot of laughing. Better bring a box of tissues. See the Comedy section on page 62 for more information.

WED./APRIL 25

Books: Cyber Scribes

The Boston T1 Party: Electronic Literature in Performance, part of the **Boston CyberArts Festival**, is a presentation of electronic literature—written work that can be projected in the same way that film or video can. Scott Rettberg, one of the founders of the festival, explains: "Since electronic literature is a relatively new art form, one that most people don't really understand conceptually, many of us working in the field have found that these types of live events are a great way to bring out the idea of interactivity via audience participation." Much of this reading is, in fact, interactive. For example, readers use conceptual links (underlined words in the text that lead to related material), rather than turn pages. An audience member shouts out a link, the presenters follow it, switch scenes and another reader takes over. Some of the other works are more oriented to a visual kind of cinematic experience. *April 25, 6:30-8:30pm. Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400).*

SAT./APRIL 28, THU./MAY 3, FRI./MAY 4, SUN./MAY 6

Tastings: Stuff Yourself Silly>>

Just about everyone has jumped on the bandwagon to offer a "taste of the town." Last month, we had the Tastes of Back Back, Beacon Hill and the South End. This month, we've got **A Taste of Allston Village** (May 6) and **Taste of the North End** (May 4). You're pretty much guaranteed to roll out of each event stuffed to the gills with tasty samplings of cuisine from more than 20 different restaurants. The North End event distinguishes itself by its venue: at the New England Aquarium. And with 15 wine and beer purveyors liberally pouring libations, by the end of the night, guests may be beer-goggling the penguins. Speaking of beer, over in Somerville, Redbones is sponsoring the **New England Real Ale Exhibition** (right) May 2-6. An acquired taste for some, the traditional English brew "is similar to raw milk cheese," explains beer writer Lauren Clark, "in that there is a unique nature to each and both evolve over time." Attendees can sample real ales from British and local breweries, along with barbecue from Redbones at the Dilboy VFW Hall in Davis Square. And finally, there's the Iron Chef–style **Celebrity Cook-Off** at Brasserie Jo April 28, where teams of celebrity athletes scurry to meet chefs' demands as they race against a clock to re-create a recipe.

See the Tastings section on page 52 for more information.



An enthusiastic crowd at the New England Real Ale Exhibition



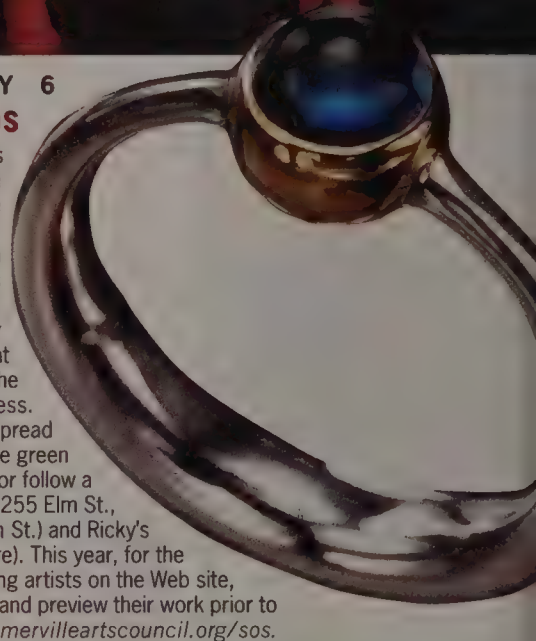
THU./MAY 3—SUN./MAY 6

CityScope: Fashion Weekend

We'll probably always live in the shadow of our neighbor to the south, New York, when it comes to cutting-edge fashion. But a select group is doing its best to put Boston on the fashion map by hosting the Spring Fashion Weekend May 3-6. Every night offers a choice of fun fashion events, like Trish McEvoy's appearance at Giuliano Day Spa or Mass. College of Art's presentation of senior collections at the Cyclorama both on May 3. Some other faves of the weekend include an open-air group fashion show featuring Alfred Fiandaca, Denise Hajjar and Ted Saluto in the recently renovated courtyard of the Boston Public Library, the Knock Out Autism fashion benefit at Embassy on Lansdowne, both May 5, and the Model May Fair in Harvard Square May 6. *Various salons and venues, Boston (451-9443) www.fashionweek.org*

SAT./MAY 5—SUN./MAY 6

Art: Somerville Open Studios



Somerville's vibrant art community reveals its efforts of the past year during the third annual **Somerville Open Studios**, which takes place Saturday, May 5 and Sunday, May 6, 12-5pm. Artists participating in the showcase—both midcareer and emerging artists working in all sorts of fine art styles and media—from painting, photography, printmaking and sculpture to jewelry and ceramics. As in the past years, this is a great opportunity to tour artists' working spaces, meet the artists and view finished art and works-in-progress. This year's event features more than 120 artists spread across 45 sites throughout Somerville. Follow the green balloons to the exhibition sites during the event—or follow a map, which you can pick up at McIntyre & Moore (255 Elm St., Davis Square), Panini Bakery (406 Washington St.) and Ricky's Flower Market (238 Washington St., Union Square). This year, for the first time, you can use a directory of participating artists on the Web site, where you may browse through the artists' page and preview their work prior to the event. *Call 623-5590 or go to www.somervilleartscouncil.org/sos.*



MON./APRIL 30, TUES./ MAY 8—SUN./MAY 20

Theater: Vagina Monologues and Penis Dialogues

A slew of Hollywood celebs will be in town to talk about their vaginas this month for the encore production of Eve Ensler's *The Vagina Monologues* May 8-20. Three women will share the stage at every production. The list of women scheduled to appear hasn't been confirmed yet, but among the possibilities are **Teri Hatcher**, **Erica Jong**, **Swoosie Kurtz**, **Ricki Lake**, **Ali MacGraw**, **Julianna Margulies**, **Rosie Perez**, **Annabella Sciorra**, **Marlo Thomas** and **Marisa Tomei**. On the other end of the "spectrum," local comedian **Anne Jenness** (left) will present *The Penis Dialogues* at the Comedy Connection April 30. Like Ensler in her sold-out engagement of *The Vagina Monologues*, Jenness will don a full-length black evening gown for the satire and will perch on a stool as she discusses such randomness as celebrities, Shakespeare, musicals, political campaigns, fashion, top-40 songs and movies. The Vagina Monologues*: Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. May 8-20. $25-$65.* The Penis Dialogues*: The Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (248-9700). April 30, 8pm. $10.*

FRI./APRIL 27—MON./APRIL 30

Art: Museum in Bloom

Is it spring yet? This pseudo-Southern belle (does Maryland count?) has yet to shed her wool coat and scarf. But a sure sign that it's on its way is the opening of the annual Art in Bloom at the **Museum of Fine Arts** April 27-30. This year, in celebration of the event's 25th anniversary, the museum is planning a whole weekend of activities, beginning with Friday night's black-tie gala featuring singing, dancing and a fashion show, and the opening of a display of 72 flower arrangements designed by local garden clubs that interpret selected works of art from the museum. Throughout the rest of weekend, visitors will have a chance to take guided tours of the arrangements (don't miss this—some of them will amaze you), partake in a jazz brunch, listen to lectures and watch floral demonstrations. On Saturday evening, there'll be a Mediterranean food sampler with wine, music and a special lecture on American Folk Art. *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (369-3306). www.mfa.org. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. April 27-30. Opening gala $200; prices of events vary.*

SAT./APRIL 28

Music: Animal Attraction

As far as groups that combine hip-hop with "regular music" go—be it rock, jazz, country or heavy metal—the offerings have been all over the board. Guru's Jazzmatazz series has been praised by fans and critics alike, as has Beck's experimentations and mutations—on the other side of the fence, there's the Kid Rock/Korn/Limp Bizkit approach, and the kindest analysis of that ruckus is simply to say that the jury is still out. **Bullfrog**, coming to Lilli's April 28, is another part of this steadily growing genre; in this sextet's sets, hip-hop meets the jam band. Described as "funk-fusion" and hailing from the notoriously soulful nation of Canada, the group meld funk, jazz, rock and, with the help of their most famous member, **Kid Koala**, turntablized scratchadelica. Although they've been together since 1994, the group has precious little in the way of recorded material. Earlier releases include a couple of seven-inch vinyl singles (both now impossible to find, naturally) and a couple of compilation tracks—but with their recent EP on Ninja Tune (the label which also gave us Kid Koala's debut album, *Carpal Tunnel Syndrome*), the group is taking a step toward wider recognition. (It's a small step, though—the CD is only three inches wide.) *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $13, 8pm, 21+.*

MON./APRIL 30

Books: Book Dumping

Nicholson Baker discusses new book, *Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper*, appropriately enough, at the Boston Public Library. For this work, the bestselling novelist (*The Fermata*, *The Mezzanine*) switches gears from fiction to nonfiction, as he presents expos of 20th-century library policies that have resulted in the destruction of large parts of the printed past. Baker focuses on libraries' clearing of the shelves—the conversion of newspaper collections from their bulky original formats to technologically efficient microform. Baker sides with those who believe that the medium is just as important as the message, and he takes library managers to task for exaggerating the destruction wrought by acid paper in their switch to space-saving measures.
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm.

FASHION: TRACY AIGLE



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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Big Apple Circus: Clown Around Town
Fan Pier, Boston (931-2787). Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. Through May 13. www.bigapplecircus.org. *$13-$43.* This all-new show features a cast of circus acts from around the world, including award-winning acrobats, hand balancers, jugglers, trapeze artists, dogs, horses and, of course, clowns.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

A Night Against Violence
The Big Easy, 1 Boylston St., Boston (521-0125). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 8pm. $20. 2001 Boston Music Award nominee Entrain performs at this event to benefit Casa Myrna Vazquez Inc., Massachusetts' largest provider of services to battered women and their children.

Arts Festival
Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Chestnut Hill (552-ARTS). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. 12-10pm. April 26-27. Free (except Oklahoma!*). $10.* Artists from three dozen campus groups celebrate B.C.'s rich artistic tradition with theater, music, dance and film events. Peek at *www.bc.edu/arts* for a complete schedule.

Cathedral High School's Adopt-a-Student Foundation Dinner & Auction
Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (859-4254). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5:30pm. $1,000. Cathedral High School's Adopt-a-Student Foundation will honor Herald Media president Pat Purcell at this year's annual fund-raising dinner. The foundation provides tuition assistance for Boston area youth.

Glam Jam 2001
Filene's, Downtown Crossing, Boston (438-3682). MBTA: Orange or Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 11am. Free. Filene's cosmetics and accessory bonanza includes prizes and pointers aplenty for spring's fashion-conscious females.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

Cocktails Courtside
Boston Tennis and Racquet Club, 939 Boylston St., Boston (227-1922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 7pm-12am. $35, $40 at door. Enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with the Young Friends of Beacon Hill to benefit the Beacon Hill Community Service scholarship fund. Enter the raffle to win prizes donated by local businesses, and play squash free of charge with advance notice.

James Joyce Ramble
Endicott Estate, Dedham. www.ramble.org. *Race: April 29, 11am. Registration: April 27, 12-8pm, at Bill Rodgers Running Center, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston; April 28, 12-6pm: Dedham Mall. $15.* See box (above) for event description.

Preview

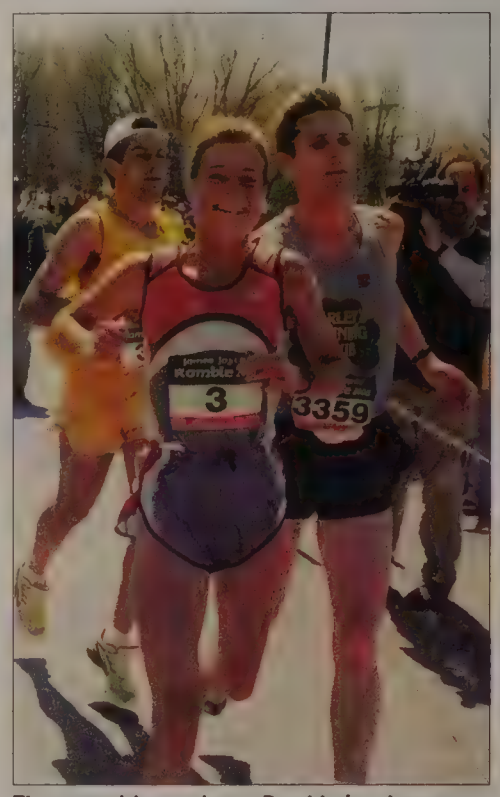
James Joyce Ramble

Theatrical road race draws bookworms, athletes

The Boston Marathon is not for everyone. Some don't thrill at the prospect of pounding pavement for 26 or so miles. Others find the spectacle of a bunch of people running less than enthralling.

For those, there's the James Joyce Ramble in Dedham. Although this 10-kilometer road race is sanctioned by USA Track & Field and draws serious runners from around the world, most people just go to have a good time and hear a little Joyce.

The famous Joyce passages are delivered by actors in period costumes who are stationed at six different places along the course of the race. Runners, walkers and observers get the chance to watch Stephen Dedalus discover new aesthetics in *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man*. Gabriel Conroy's pre-dinner speech in *The Dead* inspires dog-tired runners to make it across the finish line to the after-race party for plates of pasta from Vinny Testa's and a few pints of Harpoon. Other literary highlights include readings from *Ulysses*, *Finnegan's Wake*, *Exiles* and *Dubliners*.



The annual James Joyce Ramble is a breeze for former Boston Marathon winner Uta Pippig.

Founder Martin Hanley, a professional actor, says the event draws all types—from runners to bookworms. He expects 4,000 runners this year and thousands more spectators. "It's the only stage show where the audience is on the move and the performers stay put," says Hanley, who dreamed up the idea 18 years ago with friends over a few pints in a Dedham pub. *For more information, visit* www.ramble.org. *Race: Endicott Estate, Dedham, Mass. April 29, 11am. Registration: April 27, 12-8pm: Bill Rodgers Running Center, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston; April 28, 12-6pm: Dedham Mall. $15. —Galen Moore*

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

Antique Glassware Show and Sale
JFK Junior High School, Lexington Street, Waltham (387-0017). Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 11am-4pm. April 28-29. $4. This antique glassware extravaganza brings nationally prominent dealers together for its 23rd show, featuring glassware from all periods.

BUPD Children's Fair
Harry Agganis Way, Boston (353-1843). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. www.bu.edu/police. *10am-3pm. Free.* The theme at the Boston University Police Department's second street fair for kids is child safety. In addition, the fair features face painting and other amusements for children.

Celebrity Cook-Off
Brasserie Jo, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (779-1641). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 5pm, reception; 6pm, show. $75; $40 (show only). Watch teams of celebrity athletes scurry to meet chefs' demands as they race against the clock to create a recipe using pre-set ingredients. Chefs include Tony Ambrose, Bill Bradley, Tanya Holland; their athlete sous-chefs include Tim Wakefield, Jason Allison and Hal Gill. Proceeds from this Iron Chef-style competition will benefit the Franciscan Children's Hospital.

Music Fest 2001
Bentley College, Lindsay Hall, 175 Forest St., Waltham (781-647-6443). www.teagan.com. *7:30pm. $20.* The Canadian Voices, a group of singers from Canada that includes blues artist Georgette Fry, and a host of fiddlers, including Joe Cormier and Gerry Robichaud, perform at this benefit for the Deaconess-Waltham Hospital.

EarthFest
The Hatch Shell, Boston (740-0929). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.earthfest.com. *11:30am-6:30pm. Free.* Hosted by Boston radio station WBOS, this free Earth Day concert on the Hatch Shell features performances by Blues Traveler, Joan Osborne, Fisher, Double Trouble and the Cowboy Junkies, plus more than 100 exhibits from environmental groups. Bring a blanket.

Freedom March
Boston Common Fountain to Old South Meeting House, Boston (426-8161). 10:15am. The American Anti-Slavery Group marches in recognition of people enslaved around the world. The march begins and concludes with speeches and ceremonies.

Sheepshearing Festival
Gore Place, 52 Gore St., Waltham (781-894-2798). MBTA: #70 or #70A bus to Waltham. 10am-4pm. $7. The 14th Annual Sheepshearing Festival, featuring demonstrations of sheepshearing, dog herding, spinning, weaving, dyeing and more, takes place on a 45-acre Federalist-era estate.

Street Performers Auditions
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (523-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Gov't Center. April 28 11am-6pm; April 29 12-5pm. Free. Come watch more than 50 street performers from all over New England and beyond audition for celebrity judges, to be part of the 16th Annual Street Performer's Festival, a 4 day celebration Memorial Day weekend.


The women of the Vincent Club perform their annual musical fund-raiser, *Raise the Roof!*, May 4.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Dogswalk Against Cancer
Boston Common (556-7400). 12-3pm. $20 pledge. Hundreds of local dog owners and their pets take part in the American Cancer Society's noncompetitive dog walk-a-thon to raise money for the fight against human and animal cancers. Also look for a silent auction and raffle, canine and human contests and live performances.

From the Lower East Side to Blue Hill Avenue
1860 Washington St., Newton (566-6281). 2-5pm. $15. This cultural festival and concert celebrates Jewish-American immigrant heritage. It features Klezmer music and a re-creation of an old Boston Jewish neighborhood, complete with a deli, children's school that teaches Yiddish and a garment workers union hall.

March of Dimes Walk
(781-762-4747). www.modimes.org. *12pm.* Walk 6.2 miles to support the March of Dimes.

Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Races
(508-698-6810). 8:30am-4:30pm. Free admission, race entry $30-$300. Stake out a spot by Bemis Dam on the Newton/Watertown line, where the Charles approaches Class I rapids, to watch as professionals maneuver around the fast water and amateurs end up in the drink. To see these moguls of upper-body strength behave like fish out of water, check out the Moody Street Dam in Waltham, where professionals competing in the 26-mile race actually get out of the water and run, boats in tow, about half a mile before relaunching. The less sadistic can watch from the Finish Line Festival at MDC Herter Park in Allston to win prizes, enjoy refreshments and catch boats starting and finishing throughout the afternoon.

Sunday Singles & Social Dance
The View at the Seaport Grille, 150 Northern Ave., Boston (357-8121). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5-9pm. $15. Brian Milligan provides music at this event featuring hors d'oeuvres and door prizes.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Could Be Worse!
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mondays, 7pm. $15. Every Monday, the theater screens the locally produced film *Could Be Worse* by Zack Stratis. Beforehand, enjoy Vaudeville-style entertainment by local dancers, singers and comedians.

Spring Gala 2001
The Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (266-7900, ext. 2536). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.huntingtontheatre.org. *6:30pm, cocktail reception and silent auction; 7:30pm, dinner. $350.* Broadway cast members from *The Full Monty* perform at this reception and dinner to celebrate Nicholas Martin's first season as artistic director for the Huntington Theatre Company. Proceeds go to the company's education and outreach programs.

TUESDAY, MAY 1

Boston Ski & Sports Club Happy Hour
Jose McIntyre's, Milk Street, Boston (789-4070). 6-8pm. Enjoy refreshments and socializing with the members of New England's largest athletic and social club.

May Day Live at Fort Apache
Fort Apache Studios, 18 Edmund St., Cambridge (492-1918, ext. 221). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. www.fortapache.net. *7pm. $15 (only in advance).* To commemo-


Georgette Fry sings at Music Fest 2001 April 28

TOP: KEVIN LEARY; BOTTOM RIGHT: MICHAEL PARKIN

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Arts in Progress 20th Anniversary
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (427-9312). 6-8:30pm. $35. Enjoy a light supper and a fund-raising auction of work by local artists.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

Baskin-Robbins Free Scoop Night
Participating Baskin-Robbins. Free. Baskin-Robbins gives up free scoops to all visitors from 6-10pm.

Museum-Goers Month Kick-Off
South Station Center Court, Boston. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 11am-2pm. Free. The Museums of Boston organization kicks off Museum-Goers Month with a public event featuring booths from more than 20 museums, including two boats from the Hull Life Saving Museum, and living history visits with Louisa May Alcott, Phyllis Wheatley and more. Musicians from the New England Conservatory provide live music.

THURSDAY, MAY 3

Arts First 2001
Various venues around Harvard Square, Cambridge (491-3434). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 3-6. Free. www.harvardsquare.com. Harvard's ninth annual arts celebration is a four-day weekend festival celebrating students and faculty in the arts. The opening features actor John Lithgow.

Spring Fashion Weekend
Various salons and venues, Boston (451-9443). www.fashionweek.org. *May 3-6.* This long weekend of glamour and high fashion features a makeup clinic with Trish McEvoy, fashion-related art, benefits and fashion shows.

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Literary Luncheon Benefit to Fight Breast Cancer
The Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (499-5099). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12-2:30pm. $75. Alice Hoffman hosts this literary luncheon, which includes readings, a reception and a book signing, as well as appearances by other local authors, including Maxine Kumin, Jill McCorkle and Jayne Anne Philips. Proceeds benefit the Breast Center at Mt. Auburn Hospital.

Raise the Roof!
Copley Theatre, 225 Clarendon St., Boston (523-6587). May 4, 6pm (opening night gala); May 5, 2 and 8pm. Members of the Vincent Club perform this original musical to raise money for the Vincent Memorial Hospital, the Women's Care Division of Massachusetts General Hospital. The story follows a group of women trying to save the old Palace Theatre from demolition and how they find a way to raise money. The opening night gala features an awards presentation, cocktails and dinner.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

Art of the Margarita Contest
The Rattlesnake Bar and Grille, 384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 5-8pm. Free. The Rattlesnake unveils the winners of its margarita painting contest at its Cinco de Mayo party.

BMC Celebrates 5th Anniversary
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.bmc.org/gala. *6:30pm. $225.* This gala celebration to benefit the Boston Medical Center honors Congressman Joe Moakley with a cocktail reception, dinner, and live and silent auctions.

Decorators' Show House and Tours
Beale Estate, 181 Adams St., Quincy (422-1907). MBTA: Red Line to Quincy Center. www.jlboston.org. *$20, $25 at the door.* The Junior League of Boston's largest annual fund-raiser transforms the classic colonial Beale Estate into a decorators' show house, featuring several of the area's most gifted interior designers.

Lower Roxbury/South End Jazz Festival
Mass Ave. and Columbus Ave. to Douglas Park, Boston (232-9616). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass Ave. 12-6pm. Free. This street festival showcases the talents and flavors of the South End and Lower Roxbury with street vendors, arts and crafts and live jazz on two stages, including the Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, Stan Strickland, Billy Pierce and the Jose Ramos Latin Band.

School of Fashion Design Annual Fashion Show
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Copley Square, Boston (536-9343). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 1pm, luncheon; 2:30pm, fashion show. $40. Students of Boston's School of Fashion Design showcase their work in this luncheon and fashion show to benefit the school.

Victims of Violence Benefit Concert
Joshua Tree Bar and Grill, 256 Elm St., Somerville (591-6360). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 8:30pm. $10. Local rock/folk singers Meg Toohey, Amelia White, Deb Talan and special guests raise money to end the cycle of domestic violence.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Boston/New England Emmy Awards
The Seaport Hotel, 1 Seaport Lane, Boston (800-732-7678). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 5pm, reception; 6pm, dinner; 7:30pm, awards ceremony. $85. Recognizing excellence in television broadcasting and broadcast production in New England, Billy Costa of Kiss108FM hosts the 2001 awards. At this year's event, sponsored by the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, WBZ-TV's Jack Williams receives the 2001 Governor's Award.

Irish Hunger Strike 20th Anniversary
Irish American Club, 177 West St., Malden (781-324-5130). 6pm. $10. Join the families of the hunger strikers who sacrificed their lives for Ireland in 1981 at this commemorative evening, featuring music by the Kevin Barry Pipers and other local Irish bands.

May Fair
Harvard Square, Cambridge (491-3434). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.harvardsquare.com. *12-6pm. Free.* Celebrating the arrival of spring and the eclectic atmosphere of Harvard Square, this street fair, now in its 18th year, features entertainment, live music, children's rides, face painters, balloon twisters and more.

Walk for Hunger
Boston Common (723-5000). www.projectbread.org. *9am. Free.* Project Bread's Walk for Hunger provides funds for nearly 400 food pantries, soup kitchens, food banks and food salvage programs. Snacks and entertainment are provided along the route.

MONDAY, MAY 7

Return of the Swans Parade
Parade: Public Garden, Boston (635-4505). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.cityofboston.com/parks. *11am. Free. Luncheon and fashion show: Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (357-1818). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:15pm. $250, fashion show and luncheon; $35, children's tea.* See box at right.



Releasing of the Swans

Mayor Thomas Menino presides over last year's releasing of the swans onto the pond at the Public Garden. This year, the event takes place May 7. Chanel tk is hosting the event, decking out the swan carts in lilies and providing Victorian-era costumes for clowns and jugglers. Chanel will also present a fashion show and luncheon as a benefit for Boston Parks and Recreation Department. *See May 7 entry for more information.*

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Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

A Piece of My Heart
Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (524-4029). April 27-28, 8pm; April 29 and May 6, 2 and 8pm; May 4-5, 8pm. $15. This show is based on the stories of six courageous American women who served in Vietnam.

Bash
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through May 5. $20-$23. Told from the perspectives of three middle Americans who have committed heinous acts of violence, *Bash* forces us to confront our own capacity to perpetrate a violent act.

BTW Unbound 2001: A Festival of New Plays
Threshold Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (728-4321). April 26-28, 8pm; April 29, 12pm, 12:45pm, 3pm, 5pm and 7:30pm. $5 (one evening), $10 for festival pass. This festival consists of four readings of new plays by emerging playwrights from around the country (selected from a pool of 200 scripts), along with a workshop of Olga Humprey's dark, surreal comedy *Paranoia*. The final four are *Hope 'n Mercy* by Kent R. Brown, *Hotel Splendid* by Lavonne Mueler, *Slave Shack* by Michael T. Folie and *Waving Goodbye* by Jamie Pachino.

Desperately Aloof
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., #2, Boston (470-5329). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. May 3-5, 7-8, 11-12, 8pm. $10. Craig Houk takes a candid look at gay life, focusing on six characters—both male and female—who present their individual stories.

Foreign Mind
The Strand Theatre, 543 Columbia Road, Dorchester (282-8000). April 29, 7pm. $25, $30 at the door. This dramatic comedy examines the particulars and consequences of a Caribbean and American love triangle.

I Kissed Dash Riprock
Charlestown Working Theater, 442 Bunkerhill St., Charlestown (628-4750). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. $15. Cyndi Freeman presents a one-woman comedy about love, sex and movie stars.

Largo Desolato
Leverett Old Library Theatre, Plympton and Mill streets, Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. $12. Vaclav Havel's play, translated from the Czech by Tom Stoppard, presents a disturbing yet humorous portrait of an artist dehumanized by the oppression of a totalitarian state.

The Performance Cult
Back Alley Theater, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (781-891-1188). MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 6, 7:30pm. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present short, original vignettes. The show features character work, dance, monologues, movement, singing and sound work.

Porgy & Bess
Roxbury Community College's Media Arts Auditorium, 1234 Columbus Ave., Boston (541-5380). MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. April 27-29, 8pm. See the box for more information.

Raise the Roof!
Copley Theatre, 225 Clarendon St., Boston (523-6587). May 4, 6pm (opening night gala); May 5, 2 and 8pm. This original musical is performed by members of the Vincent Club, which raises money for the Vincent Memorial Hospital, the Women's Care Division of Massachusetts General Hospital. The story is about a group of women trying to save the old Palace Theatre from being torn down and how they find a way to save it.

1776
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. April 27-June 3. $21. Our new nation is struggling to be born in this humorous musical.

Smokey Joe's Cafe
Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299). April 25, 8pm. This 1950s song and dance extravaganza stars Gladys Knight.

Spring Revels
Emerson Majestic Theater, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). May 4, 8pm; May 5, 3 and 8pm; May 6, 1pm. $16-$28. On their last night at sea, immigrants gather on deck to sing, dance and make music to celebrate their arrival in Boston Harbor and, for many, a newfound freedom in America.

Summer of Aviya
Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill (931-2000). May 1, 7:30pm. The Consulate General of Israel presents his play starring well-known Israeli actress Gila Almagor. It tells the story of the memories of a 10-year-old girl, the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, and how her life is shaped by her relationship with her mother.

The Vagina Monologues
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. May 8-20. $25-$65. Following Eve Ensler's sold-out engagement in March, three famous women (yet to be disclosed) will come to Boston to share the stage at every performance. The play brazenly explores the humor, power, pain, wisdom, outrage, mystery and excitement hidden in women's bodies.

The Will Rogers Follies: A Life in Review
Arlington Friends Drama Theatre, 22 Academy St., Arlington Center (781-646-5922). Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through April 29. $18. This musical comedy is based on the life of Will Rogers and his success with the Ziegfield Follies.



Cynthia Miles Gray (left) plays Bess in Opera unMet's production of *Porgy & Bess* at Roxbury Community College. At right, artistic director Marshall Hughes.

Preview

Opera for the Masses

Opera unMet presents Gershwin's *Porgy & Bess*

Remember the scene in *Pretty Woman* when the Julia Roberts character goes to the opera for the first time and she's so moved by the drama that she cries?

Come on—does that really happen? Or do most of us leave the theater befuddled by the Italian lyrics, our ears still ringing from the shrill cries? Perhaps. If you're one of the latter, then you'll appreciate Opera unMet's narrated concert version of *Porgy & Bess* at Roxbury Community College April 27-29. Founder and artistic director Marshall Hughes wants to make opera accessible to all audiences—"not just the highbrow," he says. He's streamlined Gershwin's original three-hour production to a more manageable hour and a half. Roxbury Community College's president, Dr. Grace Brown, will provide narration for the racially integrated and multigenerational chorus, which includes soloists Arthur Thompson (of the New York Met), Cynthia Miles Gray and Andrea Bradford.

Hughes, who started Opera unMet 15 years ago, offers an unconventional approach to opera. He sends his players down the aisles to sing and dance with audience members, "absorbing them into the scene to make it a more real experience for them," he says. "We want to educate the audience about opera and inspire people to see more." And the price is right at $15—as compared with $55 at The Met. *Roxbury Community College's Media Arts Auditorium, 1234 Columbus Ave., Boston (541-5380). MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. April 27-29, 8pm.*

NOW RUNNING

Amazons/The Imperialists at the Club Cave Canem
The Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through May 6. $30. This double bill of one-act premieres features *Amazons* by Robert Auletta and *The Imperialists at the Club Cave Canem* by Charles L. Mee.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

Cider House Rules (Parts I and II)
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through June 17. $28-$42. Raised in a tiny Maine orphanage by a humble but dedicated doctor, Homer journeys into the world and grows from a boy of remarkable insight to a vigorous and committed young physician.

The Curse of the Bambino
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm.; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through May 19. $20-$36. This musical takes a lighthearted look at the years of futility that began in 1920, when Boston Red Sox owner Harry Frazee sold Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees.

Edward II
Tremont Theater, 276 Tremont St., Boston (642-1456). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Through April 29. $20. Playwright Christopher Marlowe recounts the troublesome reign of England's King Edward II, whose passionate relationships with Piers Gaveston and Hugh DeSpencer would drive his country into rebellion.

Hamlet
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2pm and 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. April 11-29. $25-$75. British actor Simon Russell Beale's interpretation of the Danish prince is bein hailed by critics as "the Hamlet of a lifetime" and ha earned him the *Evening Standard* award for best acto

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 20 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Lin to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everythin you've secretly thought about dating, romance, mar riage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but wer afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilari ous musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Leader of the Pack: The Hit Singles of Ellie Greenwich
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 an 8pm; Sun., 1 and 7pm. Through April 29. $45-$65. Roc and roll to some of the most famous tunes in pop-musi history. Mary Wilson of the Supremes performs in thi song-and-dance celebration featuring such hits as "B My Baby," "Hanky Panky" and "Chapel of Love."

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. Through Jun 3. $25-$75. Based on Victor Hugo's classic nove this epic saga sweeps through three turbulen decades of 19th-century France. It is also the story c the fugitive Jean Valjean, who is pitted against th cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelon quest to evade capture.

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (734 4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Through May 6. $10 $17. Lilly's sparkles with witty and eccentric characters.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426 6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongo ing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a uni sex hair salon. The production holds the record as th longest-running play in the history of Boston theate

Trust
Sugan Theatre Company, Boston Center for the Arts, 53 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). www.sugan.org *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through May 5. $18-$23.* I this thriller by award-winning Belfast playwright Gar Mitchell, Geordie is the district commander of a Protes tant paramilitary group in Belfast. As the guardian o the community, he does everything he can to protect it But he forgets what is most important of all: his family

UNIVERSITY THEATER

As You Like It
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Bosto (266-0800). May 2-6. $8. Shakespeare's classic.

The Grand Duke
Stratton Student Center, 84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253 0190). May 3-4, 8pm; May 5, 2 and 8pm; May 6, 2pm $9. MIT's Gilbert & Sullivan Players present th 100th anniversary of the show's U.S. premiere.

Into the Woods
Boston University Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Bosto (266-0800). May 1-6. $8. Joe Cabral directs this sho by Stephen Sondheim and James Lapine.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltha (781-736-4201). April 26, 10am; April 27-28, 8pm April 29, 2pm. $14.50-$18.50. The lives of mere mor tals become hopelessly entangled in the fantastic and mischievous world of the fairies.

Not So...
MIT, 84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-0190). MBTA Red Line to Kendall. May 4-6, 8pm. A workshop pro duction of physics senior Aaron Santos' play.

CABARET

Something's Coming
NOMTI, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (547-6789 MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 26, 8pm, $10-$1 Boston's New Opera and Musical Theatre Initiative blooming. The NOMTI Showcase of Musical Theatr Works in Progress is a series of staged readings o works-in-progress performed by some of the best a tors and vocalists in the Boston area.

Dance
SHOWS AND EVENTS

Dance Complex Events
536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (461-6436). MBTA: Red Line to Central. April 28-29, 8pm., $15. Karen Murphy presents her company of dancers in an evening-length presentation of modern work set to Irish folk music On May 6 is an open house event, 12pm-6pm, which is open to the public.

GRAY: GAIL ROTHENBERG; HUGHES: JENNY LOU

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www.ariaboston.com



Dance Month

The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sat. May 5, 8pm. Free. Mayor Anthony Galluccio and dancer Rozann Kraus host the official kick-off party for Dance Month, Cambridge's month-long, city wide celebration of the movement arts.

I Hate Modern Dance

Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. April 26 and 28, 7pm. $25. With their usual brilliance and humor, Goldhuber and Latsky play with contradictions and limitations about modern dance.

Sean Curran Company

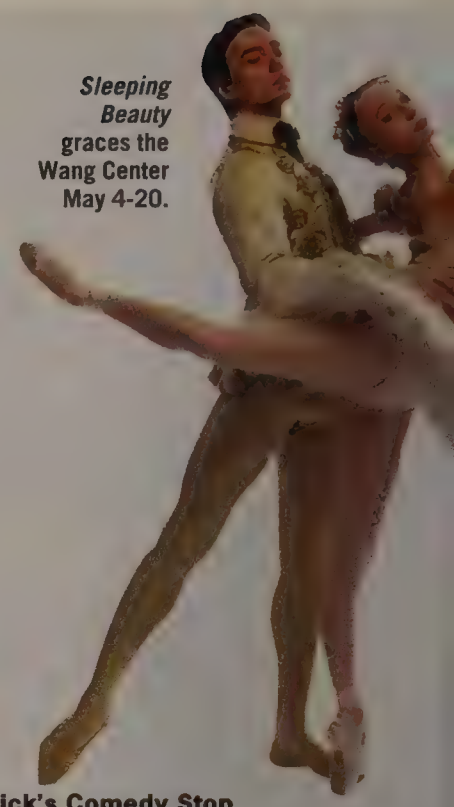
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (824-8000). April 27 and 29, 2pm. $25. The **Sean Curran Company** dances to several musical scores, ranging from traditional Irish "mouth music" to contemporary composers Sheila Chandra and Seamous Egan.

Sleeping Beauty

Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue., 8pm; Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri. 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun. 2pm. May 4-20. $23-$73. The Boston Ballet presents the timeless tale of a spellbound princess who sleeps for 100 years and is awakened by the kiss of her own Prince Charming, set to music composed by Tchaikovsky.

Tuesdays @ Noon

Odd Fellows Hall, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 1 and 8. $12. Every Tuesday in May, enjoy a dance concert with your lunch. Performances are usually less than an hour, with a light meal from Carberry's to follow. May 1 features the Nicola Hawkins Dance Company, and May 8 is the Out of Towners: The Commonwealth Ballet Company and the Cape Codders.



Sleeping Beauty graces the Wang Center May 4-20.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances or comedians. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •April 25: Don Gavin and George DeMartino •April 26, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $12 •April 27: Robert Schimmel, "1999's Best Male Stand-Up Comic," $20 •April 28, 6:30pm ($18) and 8pm and 10:45pm ($23): Robert Schimmel •April 29, 7pm and 9:15pm: Jim Breuer, $20 •April 30: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •May 1, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10 •May 2, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •May 3, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the "R-Rated Hypnotist," $12 •May 4- 5, 8pm ($19) and 10:15pm ($22): David Cross from *Just Shoot Me* •May 6, 8pm ($20) and 10pm ($15): Joe Torry, "Def Comedy Jam" •May 7, 8pm: Amateur Showcase, hosted by Kevin Knox, $10. •May 8, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10.

The Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •April 26: The Tim McIntire Special: Colin Cohen, Jan Davidson and the comedy troupe WAKKA. •April 27: Brendon and Larry with Tesea Craggan, Malene Welch, Dan Levy, Jesse Gersten, Stephanie Wishnick and Harrison Stebbins. • April 28: Alana Devich, Rich Gustus, Malene Welch, Tarun Sheddy and Ira Proctor. •April 29: Comic's Workout with Brian and Mal, Walter Dixon, Pat O'Shea, Joey Carroll, Scott Carney, Andrew O'Fish and Todd Bairstow. •May 3: The TimMcIntire Special with Tom Clark, Thomas Mitchell and the comics of WAKKA. •May 4: Brendon and Larry Show with Greg Rodrigues, John Lynch, Brian Fast and special guest DJ Hazard. •May 5: DJ Hazard Show with John Fisch, Joe Dinkin, Ross Garmil, Chris Walsh and William McNeill. •May 6: Comics Workout: Sketch comedy from Perfect Monster. Stand-up by Greg Bogis, Kyria Abrahams, Amanda White and Adam Pearlman.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour, the Theater District's long-running improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Gre Line to Boylston. $10-$22. The talent here is not quite big-name as what you'll find at the Comedy Conne tion, but the crowds are just as enthusiastic. Wedne days: Open-mike at 8:30pm. •April 26, 8:30p Kevin Knox, Mike Moto and Johnny K. •April 27-2 8:45pm: Mike Moto, Mark Riley and Johnny K. •M 3, 8:30pm; May 4-5, 8:45pm: Chance Langton, Da Russo, Chuck Grover.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.impr asylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Th 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6p Main Stage: $10-$15.* Playing on the main stage i critically acclaimed improvisational and sket comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBT Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running i provisational comedy troupe makes things up as goes along. •Wednesdays, 8pm: Micetro. • Friday 8pm: Secret Society. 10:30pm: Theatre Sports. •Sa urdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston. •Su days, 7pm: Micetro. • April 29, 7pm: Sgt. Culpepp Memorial Jamboree. A knee-slamming, gut-bustin family-style improvisational hootenanny.

Magicians & Spirits

Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (87 1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesd at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner).

COMEDY SHOWS

An Evening With Brett Butler

The Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (54 2265). May 5, 8pm. $20-$100. Best known as TV *Grace Under Fire* star, Brett Butler's fast-paced comet style provides an evening of laughter to benefit t Nelson Foundation, Jane Doe and Deana's Fund.

Jackie Mason—Much Ado About Everything

Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-44 7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 8-12, 8p May 13, 2 and 8pm. $38.50-$52.50. Jackie Mas comes to town armed with new material.

Ray Romano Live At Lowell Auditorium

50 Merrimack St., Lowell (978-937-8688). April 2 7:30pm. $45.50 and $38.50. Ray Romano, star of t hit TV sitcom *Everybody Loves Raymond,* offers a ra stand-up performance.

Open Mike Night at the Lizard Lounge

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (54 0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mondays, 7-10p Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an ope mike for the area's best creative talent.

Penis Dialogues

The Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall Marketpla Boston (248-9700). April 30, 8pm. $10. Anne Jenu offers this spoof of *The Vagina Monologues.*

The Secret Formula

First Unitarian Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (48 9332). www.perfectmonster.com *MBTA: Red Line Harvard. May 4, 5, 11, 12, 8pm, $10.* Perfect Monste sketch comedy troupe from Boston, presents its fi full-length show. See an evening of original sketch ridiculous characters and sketch comedy.


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LEUVEN BELGIUM



Ex-Survivor cast member, Jenna Lewis shows no hard feelings toward Survivor winner, millionaire Richard Hatch

Boston's Best 1997 — The Improper Bostonian Magazine

Boston's Best 1998 — The Improper Bostonian Magazine

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Boston's Best 20— The Improper Bosto—



Samantha, Celtics' captain Antoine Walker and Jodi.

inside RACK

THE

Every Monday Night – "In The Biz Night" hosted by BackBayBeat.com while DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dancing, shoot pool and complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Thursday Night 6pm – "RADIO-ACTIVE" Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman or Party Time Gregg Daniels!

Every Friday Night 6pm – Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Every Saturday Night – Star 93.7 Dance Party with Vinnie Peruzzi broadcasting live!

Monday, April 23rd – Nomar Garciaparra hosts an "After Bash" to benefit the Nomar 5 Fund. Dance all night with Nomar and other celebrities to raise money for inner-city kids and BHA Youth Centers.

Sunday, April 29th 6pm – The Rack goes Wireless! Touchpak comes to Boston hosted by Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Mix 98.5's Party Time Gregg Daniels! Join us for the party of the century with Central Basement and DJ Todd! Look out for our surprise CELEBRITY appearance!

Tuesday, May 1st – Survivor party hosted by Star 93.7's Michael Knight and Charlie Wilde from the "Wilde Thing" morning show. Music by Mark Morris & The Catunes and DJ Ricky!

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include opening and closing dates, nearest T stop, price of admission, if any, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.aiboston.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •Amy Guip shows her new work through May 6. •More than 20 top chefs prepare culinary tributes to their favorite artists for the 8th annual *Edible Art*. May 5, 7:30pm.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •*Virginia Woolf, the Evolving Word*, a presentation of letters, books, magazines and prints shows throughout April. •*Aprons: A Mini History* examines household aprons from the 20th century, including photographs, drawings and poetry. Through April 27. •*Proof in Print: A Community of Printmaking Studios* includes prints by 76 artists from four different studios that reflect an important sampling of Boston printmaking over the past two decades. Through May 27.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •In *Just the Thing!* everyday objects acquire new meaning. Through June 10. •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to convey the artist's message. Through May 28. • In *Flights of Fantasy*, four artists present an outdoor computerized installation of shared media and memories. Through May 28.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. Free Sun., 9am-12pm; Wed., 3-5pm; Sept.-May.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these winged beauties. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Dutch artists Rineke Dijkstra presents the first U.S. survey of her photographs in *Portraits*, a collection of two series of her work, *Beaches* and *New Mothers*. Through July 1. •South African artist Marlene Dumas explores relationships in *100 Models and Endless Rejects*, a one-room installation of 100 ink-wash drawings of faces, and drawings. Through July 1. •*Laylah Ali: 2000 ICA Artist Prize* showcases a collection of the artist's cartoon-like drawings of ambiguous violence and degradation. Through July 1. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. May 31-Sept. 16.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames Street Building E15, Atrium Level, Cambridge (253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm; Fri., 12-8pm. •Isaac Julien presents a film installation in epic Western style: *The Long Road to Mazatlán* and a double-projection video featuring modern dance, *Vagabondia*. April 26-July 1. •*The Long Count (I Shook Up the World)* by Paul Pfeiffer is the first of three works in which the artist has depicted Muhammed Ali in order to explore racial identity. April 26-July 1. •Johan Grimonprez shows *Inflight*, an airline magazine-inspired piece. Through July 1. •*Race in Digital Space* features more than 30 artists who use film, new media and the Web. Through July 1.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive activities take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45 pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings, including his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 9. •*Japan at the Dawn of the Modern Age: Meiji Prints from Jean S. and Frederic A. Sharf Collection* is a collection of 600 Japanese full-color woodblock prints from 1868-1912. April 25-July 15. •*Made in Japan* by Takashi Murakami showcases his reinterpretation of *nihon-ga*, a traditional Japanese painting style. April 25-July 15. •The 25th annual *Art in Bloom* event is a three-day spectacular—filled with heaps of gorgeous flower arrangements, black-tie dinners, jazz brunches and more. April 27-30.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Revolving Museum
288-300 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue.-Fri. 12-6pm. •*Honey Apparatus: Digital Photographic Assemblage*, by Mark Snyder, shows through May 6.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Mentors in Glass*, an exhibition of glass works, showcases the works of three prominent local artists. Through April 30. •*Sheets of Glass* features a collection of artists exploring the use of fused and laminated sheet glass. May 5-June 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Works by Sharon Kaitz and B. Wurtz are on view through April 28. •Laura Chasman and Kirsten Stoltmann show their work through the end of June.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Gideon Bok's *New Paintings* shows through May 2. •Suzanne Vincent's *New Paintings* runs May 5-30.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Judith Brassard Brown presents her landscapes in *Into the Yellow*. Through April 29. •Kathleen Holmes' *New Works* include paintings and sculptures that combine crocheted lace and textiles, found metals and oil paints. May 2-30.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Tufts Street Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •*Heart of the Arts*, work by students taking classes at the Arlington Center for the Arts, shows through May 18. •*Heart of the Arts Festival 2001: An Arts Oddessy* includes community art, student artwork, classes, children's activities, readings and prizes. May 5, 12pm-5pm.



Two works in the groundbreaking Latin American Abstraction exhibit at Harvard's Fogg Art Museum: Alfredo Hilto's *Chromatic Rhythms* (left) and Mira Schendel's *Slag*.



Preview

Geometric Abstraction

The quiet dimension of Latin American art

Latin American art has become increasingly popular over the past decade, but even so, most North American art lovers aren't quick to pair abstraction with art hailing from the continent due south. But explore the current exhibition of Latin American abstraction at Harvard's Fogg Art Museum—which includes more than 60 paintings, drawings and sculptures from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection—and the answer becomes readily apparent: Latin America has a rich tradition of abstract art.

Geometric Abstraction is skillfully curated, capturing the development of artists who set out to explore new visual perceptions during the 1940s and 1950s. Drawing from scientific principles of physics and geometry as well as the teachings of 20th-century abstract and constructivist art pioneers, many artists from Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and Venezuela, along with their European counterparts, responded enthusiastically to earlier developments in abstract art. "The extraordinary scope and depth of the Cisneros Collection offers the North American audience a previously unseen view of the artists who propelled the emergence of geometric abstraction in South America," says guest curator Mary Schneider Enriquez. "Although various exhibitions in the United States have highlighted the figurative art of Latin America, little emphasis has been given the compelling abstract tradition that surged within the region." ***Through Nov. 4. 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (496-5573).***

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. •Porcelain vessels by Sophie Cook display through April 30. •Local jeweler Sarah Nehama shows her work May 1-15.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Annette Lemieux presents *'Scapes Continued* and *Print Publisher's Spotlight: Universal Limited Art Editions*. Through May 30.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Memories Lost and Found: The Drawings of Rose deSmith Greenman* is the premiere exhibition of her works, which were rediscovered 16 years after her death. Through April 14. •*Country Folk*, a collection of paintings, sculptures and functional objects by several artists, shows through June 2.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Marian Roth's *Photography* is on display through April 28. •*Band-Aid Paintings*, by Lucy White, shows through April 28. •Ayae Takahashi presents *Snow White: Enciphered* May 2-June 2.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. www.bcaonline.org. •Guest curator Laurie Beth Kalb presents *Signs of the Market*, a private collection of hand-painted shop signs from Cambodia. Also showing: photographs of Cambodia by Bill Burke. Through April 28. •*Hybrid IDs*, guest curated by Robin Reisenfeld, is an exhibition exploring contemporary issues of identity. May 11-June 30.

Boston University Art Gallery
865 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •A series of the MFA's sculptures is on display April 27-May 6.

Boston University 808 Gallery
855 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*MFA Painting Exhibition* shows through May 6.

Brickbottom Gallery
One Fitchburg Place, Somerville (776-3410). Thu.-Fri. 4-8pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*7/11* is an exhibit of seven works by 11 artists who have roots in Boston. Through April 29.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Plantings*, a cyber installation and performance by Adam Sherman, shows April 25-May 19. A related multimedia performance is at the Institute of Contemporary Art Theater, April 30, 8pm.

Cambridge Center Gallery
One Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri. 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm. •*Boston Afro-American Artists* displays an exhibition of paintings, photography, drawings and crafts. Through April 25. •Selma Bromberg's Print Studio presents *Students' Work*, monotype, drypoint, collograph and woodcut prints. Through May 10.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •*Extreme Connoisseurship* shows through April 29. •Tadashi Kawamata's *Boston Project, Part I*, shows through April 30

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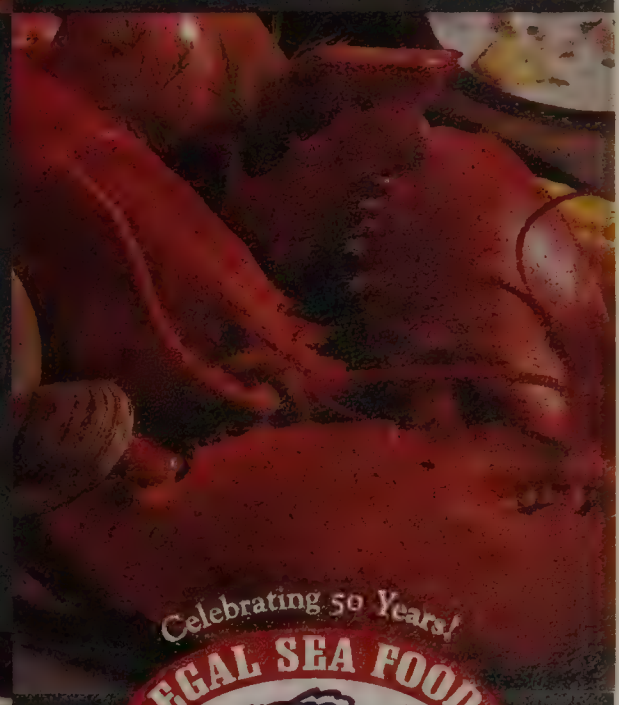
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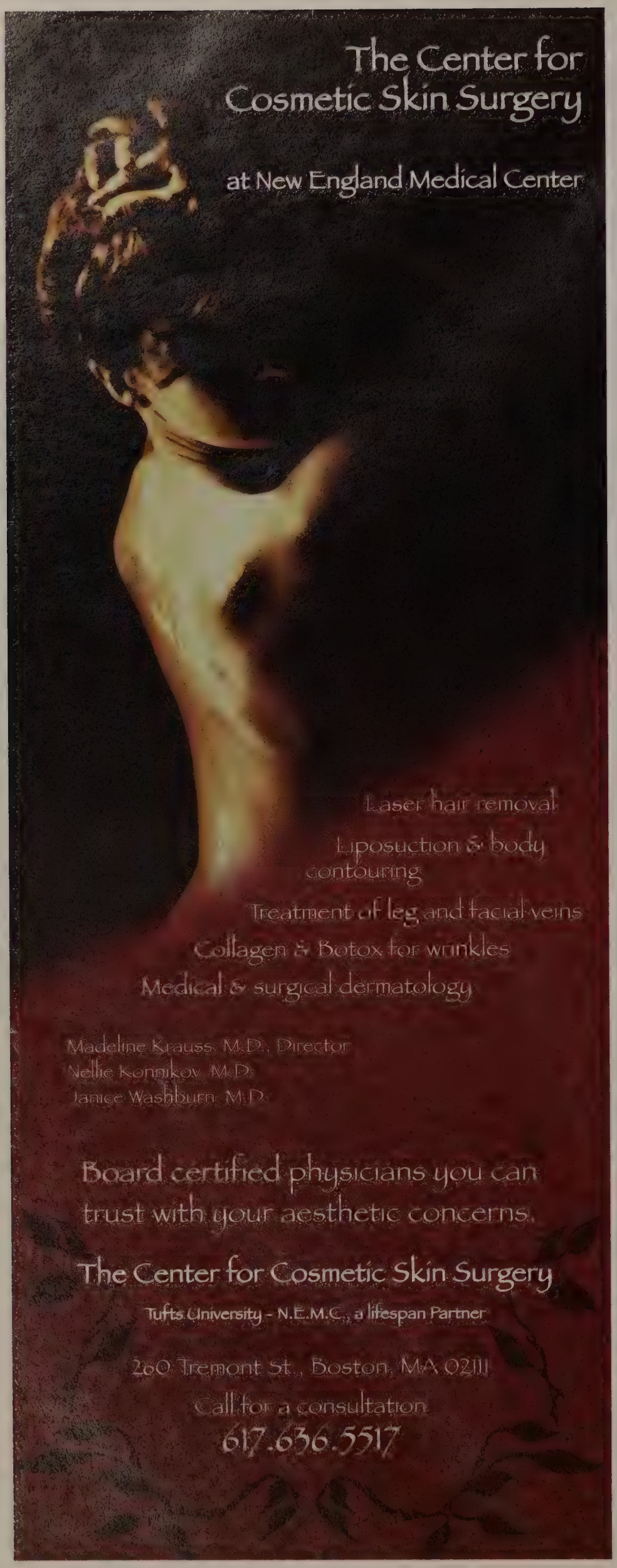
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•*When We Liked Ike: Looking for Postwar America* is in the Lobby Gallery through April 29. •Peit Mondrian exhibits *The Transatlantic Paintings*. April 28-July22.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Mary Shaffer's solo exhibition of glass, *Current Work*, shows through May 12.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Cynthia Packard's exhibit, *New Paintings,* is on display through April 30. •*New Paintings* by Michael Zigmond, a collection of almost photorealistic paintings, will be displayed May 2-28.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •Three series are displayed concurrently: paintings and watercolors by Molly Luce, watercolors by Sally Michel and a collective *Visual Dictionary of Fine Print Techniques.* Through May 5.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. www.clarkgallery.com. •Peri Schwartz presents *New Paintings.* Through April 19. •*New Work* by Gregory Grenon shows through May 17.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (695-0255). Wed.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Nuno de Campos presents *Lap and Beyond*, in which the artist uses culturally loaded objects to examine gender identity and development. Through April 28. •Steve DeFrank tapped into his upbringing to show how toys relate to America's socio/sexual issues in *Real Little People*, May 2-26.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •Penelope Manzella presents *An Invitational Exhibition.* Through May 12. •*Three Visions West*, art by Eugene Epstein, Edwin Esleeck and Susan Sedgewick, shows through May 12.

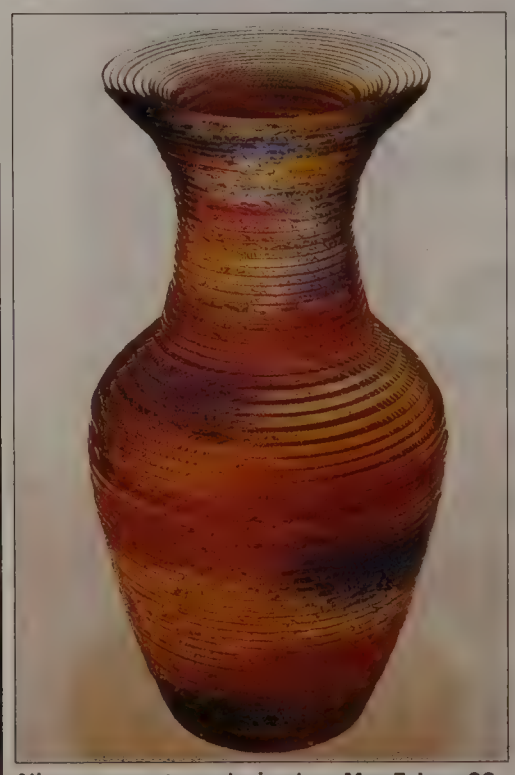
Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment. •William Reimann shows *Sand-Carved Stone Reliefs.* May 1-June 8.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Contemporary works by Norman Crump, Dan McCole, Robert Fields and Brian Roach. Throughout May.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston (783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. http://drawbridge.com/dvbgallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •*Promises*, new works by Pia Schachter, is an installation with photography. May 4-June 9.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •A new exhibition of contemporary French paintings by leading French artists show throughout May.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd Floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm; Sat. 9am-6pm. •Richard Perry presents *New Works*, bas relief and reverse bas relief sculpture through April 28. •*New Photography* by Matthew Fee Zirakian shows May 1-26.


Alianza presents works in glass May 5-June 30.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Gre Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Chuc Holtzman displays *Five Years of Drawing.* Throug April 28. •*Next Wave Prints* is an exhibition of rece developments in printmaking. May 3-June 21.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equato gallery.com. *Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7p* •Woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí shov with ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sas Raiz. •Also on display is Peruvian artist Beni Huillcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depicting mo ern-day Cuzco.

Fort Point Cultural Coalition
330 Congress St., (423-4299 ext. 3). •*Lite Show*, an i ternational festival of cutting-edge Web-based a and animation shows as part of the CyberArts Festiva Through May 19.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-do say.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sa 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Chagall, A Graphic Retrosp tive* shows throughout April. •New England arti Robert Caulfield shows work May 5-July 14.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: 0 ange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., We and Thu., 12-9pm. •*Pressure*, a site-specific digit video, sound and interactive installation by SM students and visiting faculty, shows as part of the C berArts Festival. Through May 19.

Gallery at the Piano Factory
791 Tremont St., Boston (437-9365). Fri., 6-8pm; Sa 12-5pm. •Traditional and modern photograph wood and copper sculpture by Leslie Clark and Ju Tremblay shows through April 30.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green L to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10a 5:30pm.* •Joseph Barbieri's *Here and There: New Pai ings* shows through April 28. •*Le Bain* is studio furn ture for the bath by 21 furniture makers. May 4-June

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30a 5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Cent •Tom Duncan's *Recent Works* show through May •Calvin Brown's *Horizon* is on display May 4-29.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlingt (781 648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •*Inside/Ou* work in a variety of media by faculty, staff and boa artists, shows through May 11.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6p •The gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- early-20th-century etchings, engravings and dra ings. •The gallery continues to show select contemp rary artists' works throughout May.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green L to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. • ongoing display of an assortment of 18th- and 19t century antique engravings and lithograph Throughout April. •*New England Sunlight*, works J.J. Enneking, opens May 18.

Hall Space
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (989-9985). MBTA: Oran Line to Mass Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12pm-5pm. •Rose Olson p sents *Color Edge* through May 12.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Gre Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Robe Feintuch and Alan Rath each present their n works through April 30.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Gre Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. • ongoing display features selected vintage posters.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard S Brookline (739-5769). MBTA: C Green Line to Cooli Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10-8pm; Sun., 10-6pm. •Leningr and St. Petersburg book illustrator Joseph Latink Through May 6.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Lin Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Neo-Baroq* works by Maura Bendett, Alex Blau, Dough Bos Sheila Gallagher, Frank Jackson and Giles Lyo Through April 28. • New abstract paintings and wo on paper by Betsy Kaufman show May 2-26.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Gr Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6p •*Geometry*, new works by George Anderson, displ through April 29. •José Gonçalves shows work at t gallery May 1-29.

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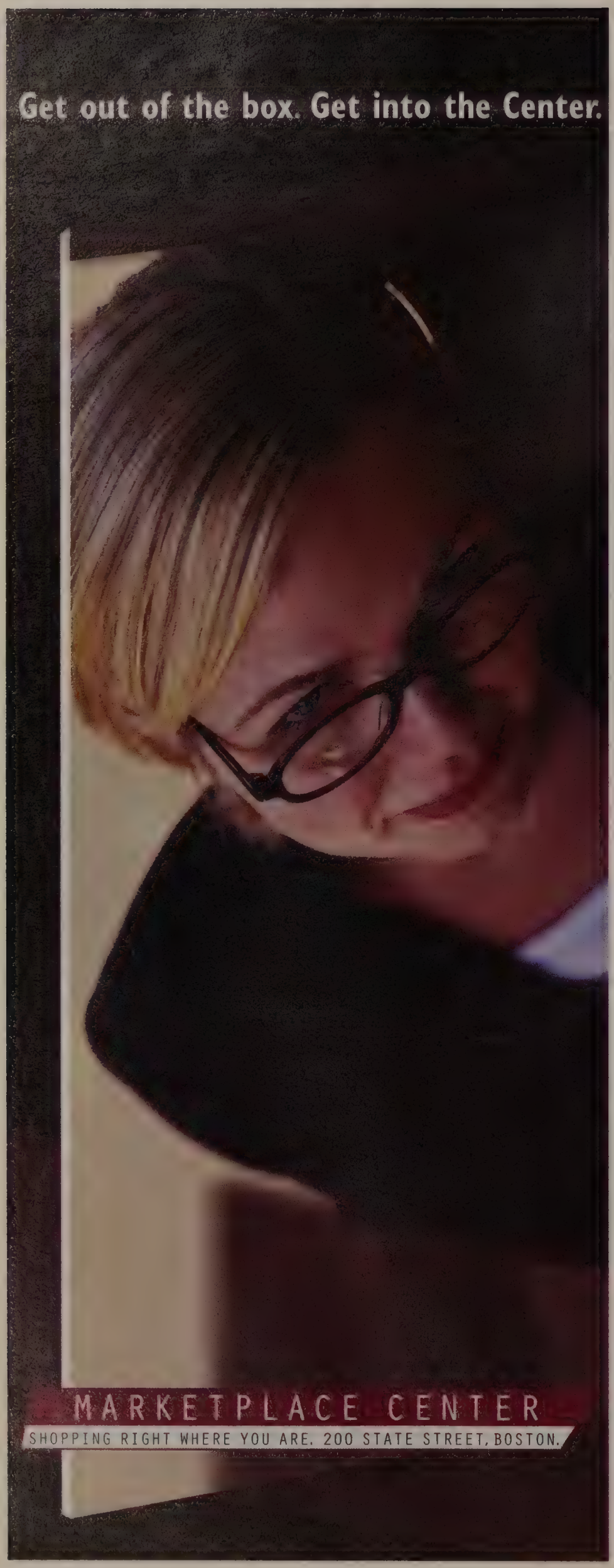
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The Pucker showcases paintings by Joe Ablow.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •C. J. Lori presents *Unearthed: The Personal Effects of Nature*, an exhibition of landscapes. Through May 13.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-6pm.* •An exclusive exhibit of rarely seen art by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, this exhibit presents his pieces that typify the Northern European sensibility. Through May 21.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729). Mon.-Fri by appointment, Sat.-Sun. 11am-3pm. •Impressions of Humanity features Suzanne Kammin. Also showing: Works by Eileen Wagner and Kara Rooney. Through May 15.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Adolph Gottlieb: Paintings and Drawings from 1923-1941* shows through May 2. •Hank Virgona's *New Work* shows May 12-June 5.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •The Boston CyberArts Festival presents *iEAR@mobius,* an installation/performance by the R.P.I. Integrated Electronic Arts Program. April 27 and 28, 8pm. $5. •In *The Third Room,* Larry Johnson and Landon Rose create sound and video installations using the Internet. May 4 and 5, 8pm. $10.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Evening Light*, paintings by Dmitri Cavendar, shows through May 6.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Jane Smaldone presents *Heroines and Saints,* through May 5. Also, a survey of Gregory Gillespie's work displays through May 5.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. May features Luther Gray and others. •The gallery's *Fourth Anniversary Show* features works by dozens of local artists. Through May 5.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). www.peppergallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Andrew Nixon: New Work,* landscapes inspired by northern France, displays through May 1. •*Nancy Friese: New Work* shows May 4- June 5.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Joe Ablow's *Recent Paintings* shows through May 23.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse also specializes in antique Tixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •See the ongoing exhibition of American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings throughout April. •*Cape Ann Artists*, an exhibition of work from 1870-1950, shows May 1-June 5.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Photographs from in Your Dreams & Hunter Green*, Terri Weifenbach's collection of new works, shows April 27-May 26.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, between Brattle St. and Garden St., Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. • *Nuestra Comida/Our Food* is a collection of photographs by Mayan photographers from Chiapas organized by sister Carlota Duarte. May 16-June 29.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •The Undergraduate Student Exhibition displays May 11-September.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org *Mon.-Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 12-5pm.* •Cybèle Young and Peter Madden present an exhibition of mixed media and works on paper. May 5-June30.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). www.space12gallery.com *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* •Contemporary paintings from Havana by Mario Ayras show in his first solo exhibition in the United States. Throughout June.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •The painting exhibition shows William St. George's stylistic progressions. Ongoing. •*Recent Works* by William St. George explores representational images with brilliant color.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., Boston (423 SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm. •*In Reverse*, a multimedia installation by Venezuelan artist Gisela Romera, shows through May 20.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin and C. Ferrer, along with striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Trustman Art Gallery
Simmons College, 4th Floor Main College Building, 300 The Fenway, Boston (521-2268). Mon.-Fri., 10am -4:30pm. •*Unconditional Silence: Pattern in Membrane*, recent sculptures by Therese Zemlin, shows through June 1.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Fri,. 8:30am-5pm ; Sat. 8:30am-1pm. •*The Symphony of Light,* landscape oils by Ellen Granter and pastels by Changhuei Yang. Through April 26. •Paintings by Gay Von Henneberg and ceramics by Margarita Solovieva Esimova rae displayed May 3-26.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •*Celebration of Life—the Artwork of Lyn Hovey* shows drawings, paintings, prints and stained-glass works. May 1-26.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •Selected works of the gallery's current inventory shows throughout April. •*Wind and Dazzle: The Art of Charles Hopkins (1869-1962)*, a collection of more than 70 oils and watercolors, on view May 4-July10.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

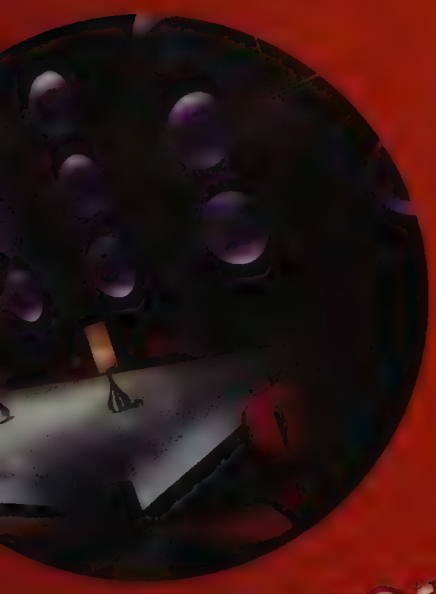
Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •Jackie Beckett's photography show, *An East Coast Palette*, displays through May 25.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Floral Photographs*, X-ray photographs by Dr. Dain L. show with botanical studies by Michael Cooper. Through June 1.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a series of photographs from the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17. •*Rocks and Trees* is the fourth and last exhibition in the *Nature of Things* program. This exhibition reflects on the subtheme of rethinking the landscape. Through May 27.

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LONDON'S BRIDGET, FALLING DOWN

Bridget Jones' Diary is no page-turner. BY PAUL SHERMAN

At one point in *Bridget Jones' Diary*, the midlevel media professional whose journal gives the movie its name is preparing for a date. Pondering whether to wear flimsy underwear or a larger pair with perhaps overgenerous coverage of her nether regions, she opts for the latter. Unfortunately, though, the makers of this movie version of Helen Fielding's best-selling novel have definitely taken the more flimsy route. Although I have not read the book it's based on, my first thought when this underwhelming romantic comedy faded to black and rolled the credits was, "Is the book that flimsy, too?"

With 32-year-old single Londoner Bridget (Renee Zellweger) battling her self-doubt, weight and overly developed English sense of embarrassment, *Bridget Jones' Diary* hopes to make bittersweet light of meaty topics like self-esteem, loneliness and the pursuit of happiness. After a rather disastrous holiday dinner at her parents' (Jim Broadbent, Gemma Jones)—at which the folks try to fix her up with a dull family friend (Colin Firth)—this publicist at a London publishing firm kicks off the new year by vowing to start writing in her freshly purchased diary. She also vows to stop smoking, find love, start losing weight and stop falling for slick hunks like her boss (Hugh Grant).

But resolutions are not Bridget's strong suit, and after some office flirting, she and her jet-setting boss start a fling. Because this is one of the few movies in which Grant comes across as self-assured and not bumbling—and because that's so much more enjoyable than his tired schtick of fumbling for words—this early action is actually quite enjoyable. But, as Bridget keeps bumping into the family friend from her mom's Christmas dinner, who starts seeming less and less dull, and as the boss's emotional commitment to her starts seeming more and more transparent, the movie just turns into one of those romantic triangles in which the person in the center is torn between an exciting partner that he or she knows is bad for her and a more stable partner with less thrilling charms.

That plot has been done a thousand times. It was just played out in the teen comedy *Get Over It*, and it's also at the heart of cable's similar, and better, *Sex and the City*. Even if *Bridget Jones' Diary* doesn't have an original plot, the book obviously touched a nerve in a lot of people, so the movie might have made itself distinctive in capturing whatever special way it told its story. But I'll be damned if I could detect any special perspective. How generic a romantic comedy is this? Why, it prominently features the third-tier Van Morrison song "Someone Like You" at a few junctures in the story, the same song that's also featured in (and provides the name for) the recent Ashley Judd romantic comedy. *Bridget Jones' Diary* isn't as bad as that film, but it isn't that much better, either.

Author Fielding adapted the book for the screenplay, with veteran screenwriters Richard Curtis (*Four Weddings and a Funeral*; *Notting Hill*; *Bean*) and Andrew Davies (*The Tailor of Panama*) apparently doing polishes on it (all three share the writing credit). Curtis' hand may be evident in Bridget's *Four Weddings*-like group of best friends, though the three come off as one-dimensional and are never really seen individually, only in a clump, a sort of three-headed confidant. Oddly enough, the script fails to develop any special emotional relationship between Jones and her diary.

Much was made in England of Texan Zellweger being cast as the quintessentially English heroine. Although it's ludicrous to think that even a plumped-up Zellweger looks like your Average Jane, she's just fine, bringing a passable accent and her usual energy to the role. The film is still very British, though, perhaps even too British for its own good in the middle-brow stiffness that permeates it. After all, when Hugh Grant is the most relaxed person in your movie, you're in deep trouble. iB



Hugh Grant is finally not playing a bumbling British guy in *Bridget Jones' Diary*. But Rene Zellweger picks up the slack.

Bridget Jones' Diary ★★

Directed by Sharon Maguire. Based on the novel by Helen Fielding. Written by Fielding, Andrew Davies and Richard Curtis. With Renee Zellweger, Hugh Grant, Colin Firth and Jim Broadbent. Rated R. Miramax Films.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Blow★★★
In director Ted Demme's intense rise and fall dram that's based on a true story, Johnny Depp gives anoth powerhouse *Donnie Brasco*-like performance. This sto of a Weymouth-born working-class guy who finds h fortune—and his personal downfall—in drugs doesn recall the recent *Traffic* so much as *Boogie Nights*. As i that movie, the hero's drug smuggling starts out as family-like enterprise run by friends, and it escalat into something much more excessive, both personall and professionally, as he ends up being the guy pumpin cocaine into America in the 1970s. The story unfurls i several complex strands, from drug deals to the smug gler's relationship with his parents and his problemat personal life. A killer supporting cast includes Frank Potente, Paul Reubens, Ray Liotta and Rachel Griffith

The Children of Chabannes ★★★
Wayland native Lisa Gossels co-directed (with Dea Weatherell) this fascinating and touching documenta about the village in central France that took in 400 Jew ish refugee children during World War II. Among thos who found sanctuary there were Gossels' father an uncle, and through interviews with the now-elderl children and even some of the surviving townspeople— like the incredible Paillassou sisters, two of the chi dren's teachers—the movie creates a vivid portrait of heroic deed and of life during wartime in Chabannes. I manages to be uplifting without overlooking th tragedies of the Holocaust.

The Claim ★★
In this ponderous, snowbound drama, Thoma Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge* has been transpose to mid-1800s Gold Rush California. There, th wealthy power behind a booming frontier town (Pete Mullan) reaps what he has sown when he's reunite with the wife (Nastassja Kinski) and daughter (Sara Polley) he had traded away 18 years before for the gol claim that brought him his fortune. Reconnectin with the victims of his heartless deed brings him string of bad luck, but any message about the evil greedy men gets smothered by the slow pace and end less last third of the movie. Although well-crafted this is still an emotionally dull mish-mash of *McCab & Mrs. Miller* and *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*.

The Dish ★★★
Australia's Working Dog comedy group—who'v done a slew of Aussie TV series but don't appear in th movies they make—move from the arthouse to th multiplex in their follow-up to 1999's hilarious *Th Castle*. This time, they've taken on a less quirky sub ject: the goings-on at the huge Australian satellit dish that received the television images from Apoll 11 in 1969. But despite the big backdrop, the movi generates laughs from the everyday details at the dis (where Sam Neill and the local crew are joined b Patrick Warburton as a NASA rep) and in the town Parkes (where mayor Roy Billings is an endearin bumbler). Although some of the touches play like ba Hollywood, including a present-day story frame wit an aged Neill and an overblown music score, the warm comedy ultimately wins you over.

Just Visiting ★★
Thanks to the folks at Disney for their great scientifi experiment: You can indeed make a mediocre high concept Hollywood comedy out of a mediocre high concept French comedy. Class dismissed.

Kingdom Come ★★½
Director Doug McHenry's movie rises slightly abov predictable family-gathering soap opera. The famil gathering is that of Whoopi Goldberg, and the occasio is her disliked husband's funeral. The comedy that in jects itself into the fringes of the plot and the strong pe formances are what make this more respectable tha most similar emotional-baggage-laden movies. Stand outs include Anthony Anderson and LL Cool J as Gold berg's competitive sons; Jada Pinkett-Smith as Ande son's drama queen of a wife; and Goldberg herself, who rarely so subdued.

The Luzhin Defence ★½
There's little to director Marleen Gorris' adaptation Vladimir Nabokov's story beyond its *Masterpiece Th atre*-style gloss. Set at a posh Italian resort in the lat '20s, this drama is about the relationship between a unkempt, scatterbrained chess master (John Tu turro) and the expatriate Russian aristocrat (Emil Watson) he falls for—and who, unconvincingly, fal for him, too. The relationship is never quite believ able. The female character is insufficiently develope and the movie's vague sense of details strains credibi ity, too (why does it never tell us how these well-to-d Russians escaped the Revolution?). Although th isn't as insufferable as Gorris' last movie, *Mrs. Da loway*, this too feels like a film in which every stor telling choice has automatically fallen to some gener "costume drama" default setting.

ALEX BA

Up Stairs at the Pudding



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Jewish refugee children are the subject of the excellent new documentary *The Children of Chabannes*

Memento ★★★
Self-deception is at the center of this imaginative noir drama about a man with no short-term memory (Guy Pearce of *L.A. Confidential*) who is trying to avenge the rape and murder of his wife. The mostly successful gimmick is that the movie arrives in backward chunks of about five minutes each—we'll see one event, then another that took place before it and so on. Eventually, we come to see what the guy thinks is true and what's really true, especially regarding the two people aiding in his quest—an apparent hustler (Joe Pantoliano) and a barmaid (Carrie-Anne Moss). Once the novelty of the jigsaw structure fades, the midsection drags. But things pick up again in the strong ending, which retains some ambiguity while revealing that there's more to the hero's "condition" (as he's always calling it) than we thought.

The Mexican★★
Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts don't have much screen time together in this road movie, which adds equal parts crime-thriller and romantic comedy. Roberts plays a reader of self-help books who dumps her boyfriend, a selfish screw-up played by Pitt. She's mad because he has to go to Mexico to retrieve an antique pistol for his gangster boss, and she doesn't want him to do it. While Pitt is in Mexico, she's abducted by a hit man (James Gandolfini of *The Sopranos*) hired to nab her to ensure Pitt does the job. The Roberts-Gandolfini scenes are what's likable, as the two characters develop an unexpected bond; but the Mexican action isn't half as entertaining. Blame part of that on Pitt—he acts as if he's auditioning for the role of the wacky neighbor in a really bad sitcom.

Me You Them ★½
The supposed charm is oddly absent from this Brazilian female-empowerment tale about a woman (Regina Case) who ends up living under the same roof with her three lovers. Unlike the celebration of the non-nuclear family it's meant to be, it's more like a public service announcement for birth control, as the woman has a child with one man, gets married to another, then has children with two other lovers—and shows no signs of stopping.

The Price of Milk ★
This New Zealand romantic comedy about a dairy-farm couple is supposed to enchant with its fairytale plot and serendipitous events. Start to finish, it fails.

Someone Like You ★½
This romantic comedy that's neither romantic nor funny lands with a big thud. Very few moments in this story of the love life of a talk-show producer (Ashley Judd) feel the least bit convincing, from her relationships with two men (Greg Kinnear, Hugh Jackman) to her belief in a theory that men's sexual behavior is just the same as that of lower animals. Though Judd tries hard—perhaps too hard for a romantic comedy—most everything comes across halfheartedly. Perfectly emblematic of the movie is a Christmas party scene in which an extra pretends to play the piano in the background, yet no one thought to add the piano music for us to actually hear.

The Tailor of Panama ★★★
This is one of the few movies released in the past month that's actually worth sitting through. It's the perfect film for our Misinformation Age, with Geoffrey Rush as a phony Panama City tailor who suddenly finds new-spy-in-town Pierce Brosnan flashing money at him in exchange for information about political instability there. The tailor concocts stories for the spy, the spy concocts stories for his British bosses, and the Brits concoct more stories for the Pentagon. Quick moving and with a streak of black comedy, it's smart and entertaining at a time of the year when both qualities are hard to find.

Alternatives & Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail
Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com
Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

Boston Public Library

A Touch of Class: Audrey Hepburn Film Series
•April 30, 6pm **The Nun's Story** *1959*. Hepburn play a nun whose faith is continuously tested, first by bri liant and handsome Dr. Fortunati, with whom sh works at a missionary hospital in the Belgian Cong and then in France during World War II when she mus put aside her personal beliefs in favor of her religion.

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features.
•May 4-10 **The Legend of Rita** *2001*. This is the sto of how one woman, whose sense of justice is marked b the spirit of anarchy and rebellion, is seduced into th terrorist movement.

The World of Agnes Varda
•April 25, 7:15pm **Jacques de Nantes** *1991*. As tribute to her late husband, director Jacques Dem Varda recreates his youth in the 1940s with intimat interviews and clips from his films. •Also showing 5:30 and 9:30pm **The Umbrellas of Cherbourg** *1964* Jacques Demy directs Catherine Deneuve in this co orful and music-filled story of love lost and love found and of the sudden awakenings of the heart.
•April 26, 7:30pm **Vagabond** *1985*. When a drifter found dead at the side of a road, the story of the fiercely in dependent life that led to her lonely death unfolds. •Als showing, 5:30 and 9:30pm **Kung-Fu Master** *1987*. A older woman falls for a much younger man who spend his time playing a video game called Kung-Fu Maste and boasting about fictional sexual conquests.
•April 27-May 3, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm (weeken matinees, 1:30 and 3:30pm) **The Gleaners and I** *2000* Varda plucks missed moments with the lens of he camera and strings them together. In this wandering road documentary, Varda creates a poetic study of th act of gleaning and then explores history of gleaners a she makes her way across the French countryside.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Balagan Experimental Film Series
•April 26, **Fresh Perspectives**. A look at new works b Boston's up-and-coming film and video makers fro SMFA, Mass Art and others.
•May 3, **Director's Eye: Abraham Ravett**. Distin guished experimental filmmaker and local residen Abraham Ravett is on hand for a retrospective look a his work. Using photographs, family films, archiva footage and animation, Ravett blends personal explo rations of significant historical subjects, creatin thought-provoking films. •Also showing: **Director' Eye: Abigail Child**. Filmmaker Abigail Child is pre sent for a screening of her work.

Boston CyberArts Festival
•April 27, 8pm **Not Still Art 1**. Among the 17 pieces fea tured in this first screening of abstract and electroni motion are Muriel Magenta's virtual subway excursion *Token City* and *Shape Shifter*, with music by Paulin Oliveros. •Also showing, 10pm **Not Still Art 2**. *Liqui Metal* by master electronic musician Maggi Payne an



Grab a Miller Lite. It's Miller time.

Hanah from Rio de Janeiro are included among the 19 pieces that make up this second screening.
•April 28, 2pm **Not Still Art 3**. More than 20 pieces comprise the third portion of the festival, including Carol Goss' *Out of Control* with music by Jaco Pastorius and Pat Metheny, and a reverie on Lewis Carol titled *Pleasance* by Jason Huddy. •Also showing, 4pm: **Not Still Art 4**. Andrej Velikanov's *Some Like It Without Sugar* from Moscow and John Knecht's *The Wobble Dobble Series* are among the 21 pieces in the festival. •Also playing, 8pm and April 29, 2pm: **Not Still Art 2001**. Formed from the international call for entries, this is the debut of several long and short films of electronic motion imaging with music. Artists are in attendance to discuss their work.
•April 30, 8pm **.ORG**. This show, co-curated by a group of Milanese and local artists, focuses on the concept of the Internet community. It features works by video and digital artists from both cultures that speak to the concept of community and communication in our digital culture.
•May 4, 7pm **U and I Dot Com and Other Strange Sights**. Video artist and experimental documentarian Branda Miller presents her work. •Also showing, 9pm: **Periscope**. This strings together images from around the world.
•May 5, 7pm **rTMark.com**. The corporate clearing house for anti-corporate activism, this corporation presents its recent cinematic initiatives. •Also showing, 9pm: **DJ I Robot**. Using a PC, several microcontrollers and a motion-control system, DJ I Robot automatically mixes, scratches and searches three vinyl records on robotic phonographs.

Dance on Screen
•April 25, 6pm **Ballet Macanique** *1924*. Fernand Leger's work explores the idea that ordinary objects and mechanical movement can be viewed as ballet. •Also showing, **Limon: A Life Beyond Words** *2001*. This study of the life and work of celebrated Mexican-American dancer and choreographer Jose Limon features his best-known work, *The Moor's Pavane*, which is one of the most widely performed modern dances of the 20th century.
•April 25, 7:30pm **Collaborations: A Video Journal** *2001*. In this first edition of Jacob's Pillow's video journal, choreographers, composers and collaborators featured in Pillow's 2000 season discuss their artistic teamwork. •Also showing, **From the Horse's Mouth** *1999*. These excerpts from a dance by James Cunningham and Tina Croll show their working process and feature stellar choreographers and dancers aged 40 to 70.

Sing-A-Long Sound of Music
•Through April 26. Watch the original 1965 film in glorious full-screen technicolor with subtitled musical numbers allowing the audience to sing along. Audience participation is a must, and guests are invited to join in the costume competition.

Now Playing
•Opening April 27 **The Rat** *2000*. In director Steve Barron's Kafkaesque Irish satire, a man awakens to find himself transformed into a rat. His life goes on relatively unchanged, as his family and friends decide on what they should do with this latest addition to the family.

Harvard Film Archive

Film and the Third Reich
•April 29, 9pm **Schindler's List** *1993*. Stephen Spielberg directs this indelible story of devastation, genocide, and the triumph of human faith based on the true story of a German businessman who overcame unbelievable odds to protect and rescue more than 1,100 Jews during WWII.

Frames of Mind
•April 25, 7pm **The Matrix** *1999*. Andy and Larry Wachowski's *The Matrix* set a new precedent in special effects. Blending classic science fiction story lines with Chinese martial arts, Japanese animation and American comic art, the Wachowskis created an unparalleled vision of the future.

Harvard Short Film Festival
•May 6, 2pm **Tax Day**. Harvard alum Laura Colella presents her debut feature, *Tax Day*, a languid story of two roommates wandering around Providence, R.I. •Also showing, 7pm **Southern Comfort**. Alum Kate Davis presents her acclaimed documentary about a transgendered Southern couple; it also screens May 5 at the MFA.

Ousmane Sembene—the Father
•May 2, 9pm and May 8, 9:15pm **Borom Sarret** *1964*. Chronicling a day in-the-life of a cart driver in Dakar, this film combines simple means and complex observations to make a powerful social statement. Director Ousmane Sembene appears live for the film screening. •May 2, 9pm and May 8, 9:15pm **Black Girl** *1965*. Regarded as the first major film in the evolution of African cinema, *Black Girl* is the bitter, unambiguous story of the exile and despair of a Senegalese maid taken to the Riviera by her employers. In French with English subtitles.
•May 3, 7pm and May 7, 9:15pm **Mandabi** *1968*. This one is a slew of firsts: Sembene's first comedy, his first film in color and the first film in Wolof, the language spoken by most of the population of Senegal. Sembene appears in person for screening.
•May 3, 9pm **Xala** *1974*. The savage and funny satire zeros in on the myth of African independence and the black-facing of white colonial policies by African leaders. Sembene presents the screening.
•May 4, 7pm **Ceddo** *1977*. Sembene uses the story of the kidnapping of a beautiful princess to examine the confrontation between opposing forces in the face of Muslim expansion. Sembene also presents this screening.
•May 5, 7pm and May 7, 7pm **Faat-Kine** *2000*. Sembene presents his latest release—a warm, funny story of a single mother, her two children, two ex-husbands, an aged mother and assorted friends, exlporing what feminism means in 21st century Africa.
•May 8, 7pm **Guelwaar** *1993*. This film revolves around the mysterious disappearance of a political activist, philandering patriarch and pillar of the local Christian community.

Museum of Fine Arts

Boston Gay and Lesbian Film Festival
•May 2, 7:30pm **Julie Johnson** *2001*. Julie Johnson (Lili Taylor) enrolls in a night class even though her domineering husband strongly disapproves. She throws him out and her best friend (Courtney Love) moves in, but bigger issues threaten to tear them apart.
•May 3, 8pm **All Over the Guy** *2001*. The MFA presents the world premiere of this romantic comedy, directed by Julie Davis and starring Lisa Kudrow and Christina Ricci. It centers on the unlikely pair who are thrown together by their friends. After doing everything to avoid falling in love, they overcome their past and surrender to each other.
•May 4, 6:30pm **Lesbian Short Film Program** *2000*. These shorts hail from all over the world, including Australia and Norway, and all feature lesbians from various walks of life. Butch and her guest show us how to seduce with dessert in *Baking with Butch*, and Annie comes out to her family while mom is preparing the Christmas turkey in *Home for Christmas*. •Also showing, 8pm **Love/Juice** *2000*. The passionate film is about female friendships in contemporary Tokyo. An intimate bond between two roommates is ultimately threatened by its own intensity.
•May 5, 2pm **Southern Comfort** *2000*. Visiting director and Harvard alum Kate Davis presents her critically acclaimed documentary about a transgendered Southern couple.
•May 6, 6pm **Boys to Men** *2000*. A collection of four short films includes **Crush** by Philip Bartell, in which a couple bonds over their favorite TV show. Duncan Tucker's **The Mountain King** depicts a relationship between a persuasive hustler and a quietly closeted young man at the beach. Dan Castle's **...lost** was made in response to a growing complacency about the continuing threat of AIDS and captures a day in the life of a man floundering in a world of drugs. **The Confessio** by Carl Pfirman is a moving exploration of love, faith and commitment. •Also showing, 7:45pm **Big Ede** *2000*. A New York artist returns home to Big Sk country to care for his grandfather. Upon arrival, he i united with his first love. Matters are then compli cated by a sexy new owner of the town's general store.

Special Screenings
•April 26 and 27, 6pm; May 5, 4:15pm **Museum School Film Annual**. This juried program offers chance to see the films and videos produced by student of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts during th past year, including film, video and animation.

Visiting Artists
•April 26 and 27, 8pm **Secrets of Silicon Valley** *2001* The moving expose uncovers the dark side of Ameri cans' love affair with technology. Visiting director Alan Snitow and Deborah Kaufman are in attendance

The Wang Center

Classic Film Series
•May 7, 7pm **Some Like It Hot** *1959*. When two mu sicians witness a mob hit, they disguise themselves a women and flee the state in an all-female band. Thi legendary comedy is directed by Billy Wilder an stars screen legends Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis a comic cross-dressers and Marilyn Monroe as the se pot Sugar Kane.



Above: In *Heal Hitler!*, Achternbusch plays a Nazi who is fast-forwarded to 1986 Munich. Right: *The Comanche* stars Achternbusch as a delusional mental patient who prefers his own version of reality.

Preview

Surreal Cinema

Harvard Film Archive salutes Achternbusch

The Harvard Film Archive and the Goethe-Institut Boston are teaming up to present a series of cinematic works from the severely underappreciated Bavarian filmmaker Herbert Achternbusch. The retrospective, titled *Stories from Another Realm*, merely hints at the incredible body of work that Achternbusch produced; he was not only an anarchist filmmaker but a prolific novelist, poet, dramatist and painter. Despite the 27 feature films he has made to date (as director, editor, producer, cinematographer, writer, actor and special effects designer), he remains the least known director of the New German Cinema genre, the movement that brought to light the work of Fassbinder, Wenders and Herzog. His surrealistic films take place in a no-man's land somewhere between dreams and reality. The prodigious author of some 30 books, 18 plays and numerous radio dramas, Achternbusch claims that he took up filmmaking because it hurt to sit down after writing so much. This week, the Harvard Film Archive presents:

•April 27, 7pm: *The Andechs Feeling*, 1974. In Achternbusch's first feature, the director plays an anxious teacher confronting a life of failure. In his world, longing remains stronger than fulfillment. •Also showing, 9pm: *The Comanche*, 1979. In Achternbusch's tragic comedy, he plays a comatose mental patient who prefers his own dreams to life's sad realities and who refuses to wake up to what he sees as a loveless world.

•April 28, 7pm: *The Olympic Winning Lady*, 1983. In this semiautobiographical film, Achternbusch depicts the pervasive inner state of the country where he grew up and whose destruction he experienced as a child. •Also showing, 9pm: *I Know the Way to the Hofbrauhaus*, 1982. Shot without a script—and initially intended to be a silent film—the film stars Achternbusch as a man who, unable to meet the demands of the working world, wanders alone through Munich. As in many of his films, he enters a sort of intermediate realm—here, the dead interact with the living; he falls in love with a mummy and wanders about the inner regions of the hereafter.

•April 29, 7pm: *The Last Hole*, 1981. A flycatcher, beer drinker and private detective from the Bavarian forest is haunted by the historic guilt of Germany. He desperately tries to find redemption, and the only thing that drives him forward is the search for the love of his life.

•April 30, 7pm: *Heal Hitler!*, 1986. A German (Achternbusch) is struck down in Stalingrad, only to reappear 40 years later in front of the Army Museum in Munich. But the German believes he is still in Stalingrad. *Heal Hitler!*, although comic, casts a critical eye on those who dismiss National Socialism as an insignificant part of German history.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Lin to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.bpl.org

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line t Fenway or Kenmore.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org/film

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Gree Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. www.coolidge.org/

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.harvardfilmarchive.org

Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (621-1202). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). Green Line to Chestnut Hill

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Boston CyberArts Festival Event
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30pm. This electronic literature event features award-winning authors **Shelley Jackson**, **William Gillespie**, **Adam Cadre**, who read from their recent electronic work. The program is part of the Boston CyberArts Festival.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Harvard Law School (661-0372). MBTA Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Joshua Rubenstein** is the author of *Stalin's Secret Pogrom: the Postwar Inquisition of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee.* In it, he examines the historical and political context of Stalin's anti-Semitic campaign during the spring and summer of 1952.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. This poetry reading features **Tim Murnane**, who reads from his book *The Blue Masked Forest*, which explores human nature through such poems as "The Myth of Sophia," "Autumn Moment" and "Walden Pond."

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Louise Erdrich** is the author of *Last Report on the Miracles at Little No Horse : A Novel.* She captures the spirit of a woman who felt compelled to serve her people as a priest. Nearing the end of her life "the Father" dreads the discovery of her true physical identity, for she is a woman who has lived as a man.

A Writer's Life Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Boston (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $6. Three writers come together to shed light on the paperwork behind publication—pesky things like proposals, inquiries, queries and invoices. **Judith Nies** is an author/essayist whose writing has been widely published. She is also a former speechwriter for the U.S. Congress. **Jim Kates** is a poet, translator and poetry editor of the *Nantucket Review*. He is now co-director of Zephyr Press. Finally, **Steve Almond**'s short story collection *My Life in Heavy Metal* is slated to be published next year. He teaches creative writing at Boston College.

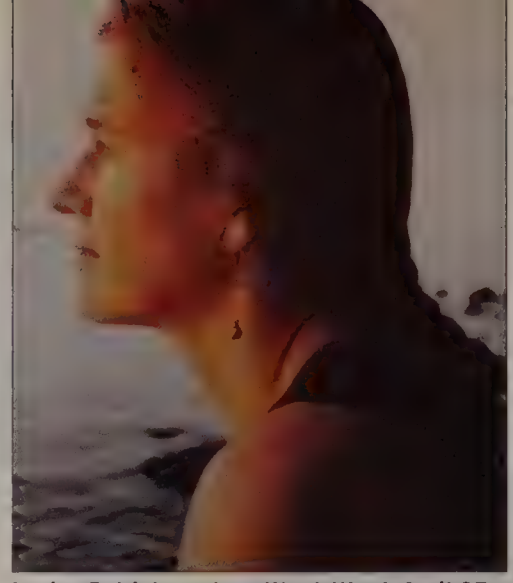
THURSDAY, APRIL 26

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Kathleen Norris** shares from her new memoir, *The Virgin of Bennington.* After spending her sheltered high-school years in Hawaii, Norris was unprepared for Bennington College in the 1960s. It was at Bennington that she discovered poetry, which brought her to New York at a time when a new generation of poets was emerging.

Competitive Advantage Breakfast Series
Regatta Room at the Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA Red Line to Harvard. 7am. $90. Former Secretary of Labor **Robert Reich**, author of *The Future of Success,* passionately delineates what success means in our time. He also suggests how we might create a more balanced society and more satisfying lives.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Vernin Frazer** reads from *Relic's Reunions,* a story about a high-school outcast who later becomes a performance poet. When he gets a phone call from his unrequited high-school sweetheart asking if he will attend the upcoming 25th reunion, he takes a trip down memory lane.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. Field Guide author **Gwendolen Gross** reads from her debut novel about a young American graduate student who abandons her research in the Australian rain forest to investigate her professor's mysterious disappearance.


Louise Erdrich reads at WordsWorth April 25.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Ron Hansen** talks about *Stay Against Confusion: Essays on Faith and Fiction.* The work explores the role that religious belief and literature play in one writer's life.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

Cambridge Center for Adult Education Author Event
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm, workshop; 8pm, performance. $15 for show only, $25, workshop or $35 for both. **Patricia Smith**, four-time champion of the wildly popular National Poetry Slam, gives a passionate performance of two works-in-progress. During a workshop beforehand, she gives guidance on developing poetry and prose that lends itself to musical interpretation. Everyone's work is then compiled into a single piece that is performed at 8pm.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. **Emily Bernard**, assistant professor of African-American studies at Smith College, has written *Remember Me to Harlem: The Letters of Langston Hughes and Carl Van Vechten, 1925-1964.* The book paints an intimate portrait of two of the influential figures of the Harlem Renaissance.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Call Harvard Book Store for location (661-1515). 4pm. **Benjamin Zucker** reads from *Blue,* his fictional work that was inspired by the Talmud. *Blue* has photographs on each page, and commentary by famous historical figures like Bob Dylan, Proust and Kafka in the margins to echo the words of the Talmud.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Boston (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. Poets **Ann Lauterbach**, author of *Before Recollection, On a Stair* and *If In Tune,* and **Vincent Katz**, author of *Boulevard Transportation, Cabal of Zealots* and *Pearl,* will both read.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Amy Fusselman** discusses her novel, *The Pharmacist's Mate*, which is about to be published.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. **Nicholson Baker** talks about his new book, *Double Fold: Libraries and the Assault on Paper.* The bestselling novelist presents an exposé of 20th-century library policies that have resulted in the destruction of large parts of the printed past.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. **Brad Leithauser** reads from his latest book, *A Few Corrections.* He is the author of five previous novels and four volumes of poetry. He and his wife, poet Mary Jo Slater, are the Emily Dickinson lecturers at Mount Holyoke College.

TUESDAY, MAY 1

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Brad Leithauser**'s *A Few Corrections* opens with a newspaper obituary—the deceased is an unexceptional Midwestern businessman. The narrator then sets out to uncover the obituary's errors, discovering that the deceptively simple family man had a complex character.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Arthur M. Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambr (536-5400). 6pm. **Daniel Schacter**, chairman of H vard University's Psychology Department and a le ing expert on memory, has developed the first fra work that describes the basic memory miscues we encounter. He discusses *The Seven Sins of Memory: Hou Mind Forgets and Remembers.*

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Line to Harvard. 7pm. Historian **Thomas Fleming** cusses *The New Dealers' War: FDR and the War Wi World War II.* Controversial and revisionist, it is a examination of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's h dling—and mishandling—of World War II.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Line to Harvard. 7pm. Eminent sociologist and pub intellectual **Alan Wolfe** discusses *Moral Freedom, Impossible Idea That Defines the Way We Live Now.* To termine how we really think about morality too Wolfe asked Americans around the country questi like What is the difference between right and wro How binding is the marriage vow?

WEDNESDAY, MAY

Boston Public Library Author Event
700 Boylston St., Boston (439-5533). MBTA: G Line to Boylston. 6pm. **Alain de Botton** discusses his recent nonfiction works, *Consolations of Philosophy How Proust Can Change Your Life.* The first is an exp ration of philosophers from Socrates to Nietzsche. second provides a biographical portrait Proust, as as a breakdown of the methods of self-improvemen Botton has culled from Proust's work.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. At age 16, **M garet Cho** dropped out of school and began tour as a stand-up comedian. By 23 she was the star of own sitcom, "All-American Girl," the show feat ing television's first Asian-American family. the road to fame wasn't smooth. Cho tells her ast ishing tale of dieting, drinking and then rising fr the ashes in her smash-hit one-woman show, *I'm One That I Want.*

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red L to Harvard. 7pm. A practicing pediatrician, acclain author of fiction and nonfiction, **Perri Klass** come Cambridge to read from her short stories. She has w five O. Henry Awards for her stories—three of wh are from her latest work, *Love and Modern Medicine.*

THURSDAY, MAY 3

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Carol Polsgrove** discusses *vided Minds: Intellectuals and the Civil Rights Mo ment.* The book explores the curious nature of int lectual responses to the Civil Rights moveme like why certain voices were sought out while m radical voices were ignored.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
The Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambr (349-4040). 6pm. From the acclaimed author of *V Nights in Kathmandu* comes an intriguing new bo that deciphers the cultural ramifications of globali tion as **Pico Iyer** reads from *Global Soul: Jet Lag, Shopp Malls, and the Search for Home.* At 7pm, **Tad Willia** talks about his science fiction and fantasy works, m notably *Otherland, Sea of Silver Light.*

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Harvard Book Store Author Series
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-1515). MBT Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. **Judith Jarvis Thomson**, p fessor of philosophy at MIT, has just published *Go ness and Advice,* which addresses questions like H should we live? What do we owe other people? H book explores how we should answer such fundam tal questions.

MONDAY, MAY 7

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle Boston (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harva 8:15pm. $3. Poet **Cleopatra Mathis** (*Guarduan, Center for Cold Weather*), reads from her new collecti *What to Tip the Boatman.* Joining her is poet **Ste Cramer**, author of *The Eye That Desires to Look Upwa The World Book* and *Dialogue for the Left and Right Ha*

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C G Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. In *Le Divorce,* **Diane Johns** American heroine ventured into French culture. In follow-up, *Le Marriage*, American expatriates French high-society types continue to form all sort interesting, complex relationships with one another.

Consider the vastness of the universe.

Contemplate life on other planets.

Park for free.

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arvard Book Store Author Event
arvard Information Center in the Holyoke Center, 1350 ass. Ave., Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to arvard. 6:30pm. **Askold Melnyczuk** is the author of *mbassador of the Dead*, a passionate tale about friend-ip, family and the other side of the American immi-ant's dream. The story jumps between '90s New ngland, Eastern Europe before WWII and New Jer-y during the '70s.

ordsWorth Books Author Series
Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red ne to Harvard. 7pm. **Tim Flannery** discusses *The Eter-l Frontier: An Ecological History of North America and Peoples*. One of the world's foremost paleontolo-sts, Flannery has undertaken the task of compiling istory of the formation of North America as we ow it today. Starting with an asteroid strike 65 mil-n years ago, it goes through the enormous impact frontier settlement and the development of the in-strial might of the United States.

UESDAY, MAY 8

rookline Booksmith Author Series
9 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C reen Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Askold Melny-uk**'s *Ambassador of the Dead* is a harrowing tale out friendship and love, America and the immi-ant's dream. The novel is a study of ambitions ne awry and appetites too easily gratified, an un-nching meditation on exile and assimilation and e price of love.

arvard Book Store Author Series
ll Harvard Bookstore for venue information (661-15). 6pm. **Melinda Given Guttman** reads from *The igma of Anna O: A Biography of Bertha Pappenheim.* r. Guttman examines the life of 20th-century so-al worker and feminist Bertha Pappenheim 859-1937), creator of the "talking cure," the basis psychoanalysis.

ordsWorth Books Author Series
e Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cam-idge (349-4040). 6pm. In **Christina Chiu**'s *Trouble-aker and Other Saints*, East and West, old and young llide in a struggle to advance and to belong. Chiu's but illustrates that just as there is a bit of trouble-aker in each of us, there is something beautiful and demptive.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-11pm. $3. sign-ups at 7pm. Fiction aficionados will love Cantab's all new Tuesday night open-mike event featuring short stories, novel exerts and long prose.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Radcliffe Fellows Event Series
Cronkite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). 4pm. Free. What's at stake for women in the "wired" workplace?

The Folklore of Violence
3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). 7:30pm. Harvard professor of psychology **David Ingle** and noted African-American singer **Sparky Rucker** discuss the history of the glorification of the outlaw in songs and music.

The Race for Competitive Advantage
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Boston (235-7025). April 25-27. This conference addresses topics such as CRM technology, online brokerage trends, e-financial services, wireless payments and alternative platforms.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

America in Search of Stories
Kehillath Israel, 384 Harvard St., Brookline (730-2700). 8:15pm. $12. Why does our culture thrive on a growing fascination with scandal and sensationalism?

Is the Government Strangling the New Economy?
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (373-5800). 6:30pm. Free. Economics writer **James K. Glassman** lectures about U.S. economics today.

FRIDAY APRIL 27

A Livable New England
Northeastern University, Huntington Avenue, Boston (951-1433). April 27-29. $50. Boston's architectural and environmental agencies generate a vision for the region's future transportation, housing and ecosystems.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

Bike Boston's Big Dig
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). 10am-1pm; 2-5pm. $46. Join Big Dig expert **Dan McNichol** for a tour of the largest public works project in the nation.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

The One in the Many
Blackman Auditorium, Northeastern University, Boston (373-5800). 6:30pm, Free. Objectivist philosopher **Leonard Peikoff** argues that the decline of the modern world is caused by cultural disintegration.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Stories from Red Sox History
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). 6:30-8:30pm, $27-$29. Lecturer **Glenn Stout** says that some well-known incidents in Red Sox history happened differently than you might think.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

An Evening with Christopher Bing
Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). 7-9pm, $5. Political illustrator **Christopher Bing** speaks.

Divided Minds
Cambridge Forum, The First Parish in Cambridge, 3 Church St., Cambridge (495-2727). Author **Carol Polsgrove** provides a portrait of some of our nation's most prominent intellectuals as ambivalent and surprisingly hesitant about supporting the Civil Rights Movement.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

The Legacy of the Vietnam War
Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). 2pm. Free. Veterans **Stephan Sossaman** with the 9th Division artillery and **Peggy Perri**, an evacuation nurse, share their memories.

TUESDAY, MAY 8

JFK and the Call to Service
JFK Library, Columbia Point, Boston (929-4571). 5:30pm-7pm. Free. **Sargent Shriver**, the first director of the Peace Corps, is honored.



dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs with DJ Mothra, front bar, 10pm, 19+.

Cabaret
Encore Lounge Show tunes and cabaret with Michael Larson and Dorothy Miller, 9pm-1am.

Language
Hibernia This incredible drum-and-bass night is heated up with Cosmo, 8pm, 21+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Jam with DJ Kapt Krunch • April 30: E Town, Concrete with Unearth, Most Precious Blood and Purity's Failure, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
This Irish pub offers best of hip-hop, jazz and reggae, 11pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and house, 10pm, $10, 21+; ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
• April 30 and May 7: In-the-biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Janedy, 6pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive; drag/strip event with Mizery, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo Caesar and Giorgio throw a party for those who never want to stop dancin', dress slick, 10pm, no cover.

TUESDAYS

An Tua Nua
What's Up Magazine night with hip-hop, house, funk and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Avenue
New York DJ Mike M hosts Allston's old-school hip-hop funk night, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar Off-the-hook night with DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Flaunt
Aria Hip-hop and R&B with guest DJs, $10, 19+.

The Forum
Lava Bar Join Mission Control and support local DJs as home-grown talents share the floor, 10pm, 21+.

Got Milk?
Venu If you're chic you'll be at Venu for Milk—a devilishly hip party with DJ Osheen; dress is funky, 21+.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a laid-back night, 6pm, 21+.

Lot 36
The Modern/Embassy DJ JC spins Latin house for a trendy crowd, 10pm, $10, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu Alex, Heather, Igor, Diego, Jason and Gonzaga host Euro house international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson, dress coat required, $15.

The Rack
• May 1: Search Party, 8pm, 21+.

Showtunes
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino plays classic piano-bar show tunes, 9pm-1am.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night and fund-raiser.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul at the front bar, while the back bar features different hip-hop artists, 10pm, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover. 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey, 9pm, 21+.



At Avenue, guests can relax at the expansive bar and listen to a lively mix of house, techno, funk and soul. What are you waiting for?

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays jazzy blues at the piano bar, 9pm.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar Hip-hop live • April 25: Skitzofreniks CD release party with Kreators, MSC and Chan, 9pm, $12. 18+. • May 2: Mikey Dee Benefit with Mr. Lif, Uncle Trouble, Kabir, D-Tension, Stymie, Josh Metcalf and Delwin G, 9pm, $15, 18+.

Hibernia
DJ Jeremy in the lounge, 6pm, 21+.

Knowledge
Avenue DJ Shugewhite and Eric Santangelo spin hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers a new mixture of guests spinning everything from deep house to techno, 11pm, $5, 19+.

Pravda 116
Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 21+.

The Rack
• April 25: Mac and Jamie, 6-10pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm-2am.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong An evening of psy-trance and drum-and-space with resident DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange Industry night with a champagne reception hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band on the first floor; DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Wet U'R Whistle Wednesdays
The Kells 94.5's Roy Barboza spins hip-hop upstairs while DJs spin house downstairs, 9pm, $5, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
Top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul spun by DJ Ren Justice, 10pm, 19+.

Avenue Lounge Nights
DJ Jason spins house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
Tonight's adrenaline high features special guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton • April 26: The Freeze with Toxic Narcotic and Dead Pedestrian, 9pm, $8, 18+. • May 3: Mikey Dee Benefit with Heidi, C-60 and Nullset, 9pm, $10, 18+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Jeff Knor, 9pm, 21+.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJs John Debo and Ali Ajami spin house and trance music, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar spinning tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar, 9pm-2am, 21+.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin Lounge, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Encore Lounge
Michelle Curie plays great American blues and jazz at the piano bar, 9pm-1am.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion House
Aria Fashion shows and DJ Roger spinning house; Greek Night in the Angel Room, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Maric spins tunes to relax you.

Heaven
Comedy Connection Backstage Music by DJs Johnny C and Freddie C, proper dress, 10pm, no cover.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia
After-work party with DJ Mike, 6pm, 21+.

Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, 9pm, 21+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro house, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Bootyque
Lava Bar Join the Original Lizard Lounge Brother Cleve and Friends for funky beats, 10pm, 21+.

Matrix
Zion Progressive house and trance with DJ Adison. 10pm, 18+.

The Modern
International Thursdays features progressive Euro house, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Located in the heart of groovy Central Square, this Irish pub presents drum 'n' bass night, 11pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
• April 26: Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+. • May 3: Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Roxy Plex
Dance with salsa, merengue and Latin grooves playing upstairs, 10:30pm; DJ Adison bounces progressive house and trance beats underground, 10pm, 18+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin band on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop and R&B on this new club night with DJ Reggie Beas and Chubbie Chubb, 9pm.

Speed
Karma DJ Master Millions spins hip-hop and house; proper dress required, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Sugar Shack
Music from three decades pounds through the festiva atmosphere here, where every day is Mardi Gras.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

Venu
DJ Nailz and DJ Tasty spin to a huge college crowd i the main room, $15, 19+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hit and your favorites from the '70s, '80s, '90s and one-hi wonders, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma All-star American top-40 remixes with D Tim Collins and DJ G-Squared spinning hip-hop reggae and R&B in the Cheetah Lounge, proper dres required, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance with great music and no atti tude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon Everything about this place screams "Party 10pm, $15, 19+.

Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed night spot has some of th best mainstream DJs in town.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJ pay homage to the house music gods, 11pm, $15, 19+

Cabaret
Encore Lounge John O'Neil and Jan Peters sing showtunes, great American songbook and cabaret 9pm-1:30am.

Dance Party
The Kells U: Dance with DJ Dragg; D: Dance with DJ Cire, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and danc music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange Tiziano and Maurizio deliver house an G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B in the vault, 9pm

Global Fridays
Roxy International house featuring local, national an European DJs, 10:30pm.

Hibernia
DJs and musicians unite, 21+.

Life
Lava Bar Dance to DJ Fran Englehardt's deep rooted soulful rhythms, 10pm, 21+.

Matrix
Two rooms feature high-energy dance music o disco and rock 'n' roll from the '70s, '80s and '90 9pm, $5, 21+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy International and house music with residen DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+

DEREK KOLVOORD







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Nocturnal Fridays
Bill's Bar • April 27: Controlled Aggression with Drink Fist, 9pm, $8, 18+. • May 4: Machinery Hall with 707.

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as DJ Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Rack
• April 27 and May 4: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.

Revolution
The Modern Find Latin and progressive Euro house here with DJ Eddie K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing Shake what your mama gave you with DJ Ren Justice, disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning high-energy and dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James.

Sugar Shack
DJs, specialty drinks and dancing 'til 2am.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Venu
• April 27: 2nd Anniversary Celebration with DJ's Arsit and Roger M, jackets preferred, 10pm, 21+. The scene is elegant for this international romp. Get on your Gucci as DJ Arsit spins Euro house, $15, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, 19+.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite with high-energy house and Latin beats, 10pm, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, proper dress, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed night spot has live bands all weekend long. Does nonstop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Blues
Encore Lounge Shake off your blues and listen to honky-tonk, classic and contemporary rock, 9:30pm.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing Disco fever hits Cambridge all night long with DJ Vinney, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern DJ Shiuan Lee spins house for students, scene setters and the A-list, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Boston's newest Latin night; dress to impress, 10pm, $10.

Club Nicole
The mob is thick for this exclusive trend-setting night. DJ Alex spins Euro house, proper dress, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: Dance with DJ Chaos; D: Dance with DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
Avalon Resident DJs spin the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins hard house while DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul tunes, proper dress required, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily Deep house and dance classics with DJ AJ Deep and Brian "Soul" Luciani, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJs melt the tables upstairs with house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins in the vault.

Hibernia
Steve Porter grooves up a storm with progressive house, 10pm, 21+.

Indulgence
Aria Get the latest in house and top-40. DJ Roger spins Latin and Eurohaus in the Angel Room, $10, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

Matrix
Two rooms featuring high-energy dance music, disco and rock 'n' roll from the '70s, '80s and '90s, 9pm, $8, 21+.

Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's Get a taste of Miami nightlife, 9:30pm, $10, 21+, ladies free before 11pm, 19+.

Mischief
The Modern Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica, 21+.

Must
Venu It's Greek International night with DJ Nicholas and DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning the hits from the famous party islands; dress coat required, $10.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario provides current dance jams.

The Rack
• April 28 and May 5: Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Shake at Club Paradise
DJ Goodfella brings the best old-school hip-hop and classic funk, Saturdays, 10pm-2am, $15, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spinning dance, 8pm-2am; D: Matt Brown, 4pm-8pm; Kevin Kirrane, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Smile Saturdays
Bill's Bar • DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, 10pm, $15, 19+. May 5: Mikey Dee Benefit with the Amazing Crowns and Lost City Angels, 9pm, $10, 18+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge, 5pm-2am; live Latin band on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor, $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Who's on First?
Check out some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin, all hosted by Li'l Mike, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing as DJ Gabe spins the hottest tunes, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians, 8pm, 19+.

Backstage
Urban Night T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Encore Lounge
Saddle up to the bar and listen to Michael Kreutz play show tunes and great American songbook, 9pm-1am.

Velvet Lounge
Trio Oscar's Sunday night has moved to this hot spot, where you can kick back and lounge, no cover, 10pm.

Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M, no cover, 21+.

Karma
Sunday night heat hosts hot 97's DJ Chuck Dog, featuring DJ Statik Selektah spinning the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Lava Bar
Pandora's Box (Club Courtesy) DJ Vinny and Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown, 10pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Raffi spins Euro-house; DJ Franklin spins Latin in the Angel Room, proper dress, $10, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way Groove to great reggae with DJs Larry and Dale, DJ Magnum, DJs Lisa and Robin, 9pm, $5.

Rack
• April 29 and May 6: The Chad LaMarsh band, 9:30pm-1:30am, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar • April 29 and May 6: Reggae with DJ K-Don and Paul Wayne, 10pm, $10. 21+. • May 6: Catch 22, Reach the Sky, Kicked in the Head, the Movie Life and Shark Attack, all ages.

Sex
The Exchange Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan plays top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm-1am, no cover, 21+.

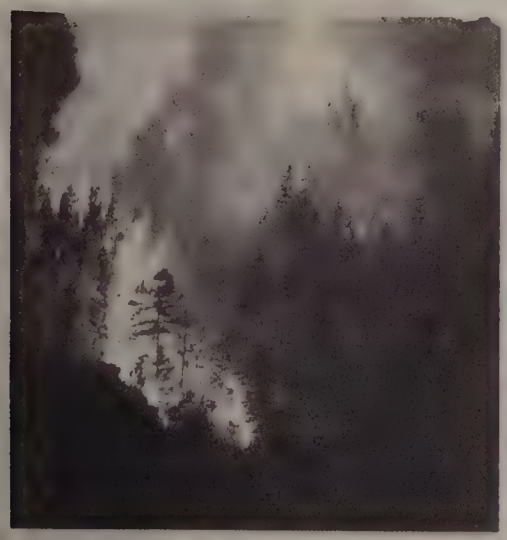
Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Venu
Carnival comes to Boston as DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio to Venu; dress coat required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Café *94 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Heinz Convention Center.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (800-575-9082).*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook Station.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000 x3333). MBTA: Blue line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*





MEDDLING MOM – *McCLOUD, CA* – A 60-year-old McCloud woman admitted to setting 11 fires in the Shasta Trinity National Forest, so her son (a firefighter) could get paid more. She apparently did so without her son's knowledge, assuming she was helping him. She now faces 20 years in prison. Her son was forced to resign.

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THE MESOZOIC ERA

Birdsongs' anniversary retrospective combines chamber-style genres with modern technology. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Unusual things can happen over two decades. Consider the evolution of Birdsongs of the Mesozoic, which grew from a side project of Boston post-punk heroes Mission of Burma into a distinct modern-music species, poised to celebrate its 20th anniversary at the Somerville Theatre May 5.

"We're definitely not the same group as we were when we started, but the basic premise has continued," co-founding pianist and primary composer Erik Lindgren says of the quartet's cutting-edge designs. "We're not really doing it for commercial purposes, and I think we've stayed true to our artistic vision without compromising one iota."

Defining that vision beyond a broad compositional palette is the hard part. As co-founding keyboardist Rick Scott puts it, "We didn't have a lot of preconceived notions of where it was going to fit in the overall landscape. Basically, it was an opportunity for like-minded people to combine their efforts." Birdsongs is a composers' collective that throws elements of rock, jazz and classical music into the blender, combining both minimalist precision and rough-hewn urgency.

"The thing that distinguishes it from a lot of popular music is that the music is all tightly arranged, and all written out," says Ken Field, who lends different colors with his alto/soprano saxes and flute, while introducing himself to realms beyond the R&B/funk fields he tended before joining Birdsongs in 1988. "There's not a lot of improvisation, though there is some," says Field, who has explored that side of his playing on recent solo CDs, including one that he recorded in Japan with musicians whom he had just met.



Composers collective Birdsongs of the Mesozoic work closely together.

Apart from woodwinds, the most evident development for Birdsongs has been along high-tech lines. Michael Bierylo, who joined the band in 1991, teaches in the Music Synthesis Department at Berklee College of Music. "Everything I do is kinda on the computer," Bierylo says. "That has been an interesting transition from being a guitar player, a rock guitar player with compositional interests, to getting everything on the desktop. For me, the group is an interesting place to mediate those two things."

Indeed, apart from more advanced synthesis (notably in the area of rhythm programming), last year's *Petrophonics* may stand the test of time as one of Birdsongs' most defining CDs, offering matured soundscapes without losing the band's raw aesthetics. "We were up to our ears in technology, but it doesn't sound like it," Bierylo says during a full-group interview in a Berklee rehearsal room. "That's really the goal, to make it so it's a transparent part of what we do."

At the other end of the spectrum from new-millennial sound designs, Lindgren has also spent the better part of the past 20 years releasing music by obscure psychedelic and garage-rock bands from the '60s on his Arf Arf label, even if his compositional style most closely resembles chamber music.

"We grew up with the first generation of garage rock and psychedelic rock and Kraut-rock, all that stuff, and we're products of that civilization," says Lindgren, who runs his own recording studio, as does Bierylo. "But I don't perform rock. We're rock-influenced. We're not a rock band."

Coming off the experience of reinterpreting Birdsongs pieces with an acoustic chamber group, he adds, "This ensemble is more electrifying and more of a vision, but contrapuntally and harmonically, I see little difference in the music that we're creating and, say, the mind-set in creating a Bartok or Beethoven string quartet, or a piece by Stravinsky."

Birdsongs once recorded Stravinsky's "The Rite of Spring," as well as Brian Eno's "Sombre Reptiles" and the theme music from both "Rocky and Bullwinkle" and "The Simpsons," underscoring the group's close-knit balance between the cacophonous and the ambient, the serious and the playful. "The people who scored those original cartoons were all serious composers," Bierylo says of the latter two covers, due to be resurrected at the retrospective May 5 concert (one of many shows that week that will benefit scenester Mikey Dee; see page 88). "We don't make that distinction between serious composition and fun. It's all fun."

"The only reason we've been doing this for 20 years is because it's fun," pipes Field, and Birdsongs will spread that fun around the Somerville Theatre with cameos from DJ Flack on turntables, Derek VanBeever on acoustic bass and the three members of Alloy Orchestra, a pioneer in performing live soundtracks to films. Percussionists Ken Winokur and Terry Donohue both played on *Petrophonics*, while keyboardist Roger Miller co-founded Birdsongs opposite his guitar gig in Mission of Burma, then left the group in 1987.

"Birdsongs has certainly changed, but I'm glad the band is still functioning," says Miller, who is celebrating his own new release with piano/drums duo the Binary System at the Middle East May 30. "It's still pretty unique." iB

Birdsongs of the Mesozoic

Play at the Somerville Theatre May 5.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

AC/DC May 4, FleetCenter (931-2000)
Aterciopelados April 29, Paradise (562-8800)
Badly Drawn Boy April 30, Avalon (423-6398)
Birdsongs of the Mesozoic May 5, Somerville Theatre (931-2787)
Blink 182 May 5, Worcestor Palladium (800-477-6849)
The Bobs April 27, Somerville Theatre (931-2000)
David Broza May 5, Temple Israel (566-3960)
Cibo Matto, Freezepop and Intelevision May 3, Somerville Theatre (931-2000)
Clutch, VOD, In Flames, Murphy's Law and Tree April 27, Worcestor Palladium (800-477-6849)
Drowning Pool May 5, Axis (262-2437)
Finger Eleven, Boy Hits Car and Grandaddy and Virgil Cain April 25, Paradise (562-8800)
David Gray April 28, Orpheum Theatre (228-6000)
Greece: The Golden Age of Rembetika Agathonas Iakovidis and Kompania April 28, Berklee Performance Center (931-2787)
Guided by Voices and Spoon May 1, Paradise (562-8800)
Hed May 1, Axis (262-2437)
Hothouse Flowers and Eddie Reader May 3, Paradise (562-8800)
Jacques Chanier Trio Jazz Concert April 26, French Library and Cultural Center (912-0400)
Kip Winger May 2, Paradise (562-8800)
Lower Roxbury and South End Jazz Festival May 5, Mass Ave. and Columbus Ave. to Douglas Park (232-9616)
Maggie, Pierce and EJ April 29, Endicott Estate (781-686-1500)
Erin McKeown, Kris Delmhorst and Jabe May 4, Paradise (931-2000)
Music Fest 2001 with Joe Cormier, Gerry Robichaud, Matt Leavenworth and Marion Linton April 28, Bentley College (781-647-6443)
Nevermore, Angel Dust, Opeth and God Forbid May 4, Worcestor Palladium (800-477-6849)
Ocean Colour Scene May 5, Paradise (562-8800)
Our Lady Peace with American Hi-Fi May 1, Avalon (423-6398)
Reach the Sky, Kicked in the Head and the Movie Life and Shark Attack May 6, Bill's Bar (421-9678)
The Sonic Circuits VIII International Electronic Music Festival April 27 and 28, Institute of Contemporary Art (247-2238)
Soulive and The Squad April 26 and 27, Paradise (562-8800)
The Toadies May 10, Paradise (562-8800)
Van Morrison April 30, Tsongas Arena (228-6000)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Skitzofreniks CD-release party with Kreators, MSC and Chan, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm. U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Maria Muldaur, 8pm, $20.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Emily's Patti Keough, Vanessa Trien, Tom Bianchi and Jason Gardner, 8pm, $5, 21+.

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APRIL 29TH

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Jim Breuer

MAY 4-5

David Cross

MAY 6TH

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Joe Torry

MAY 11-13

Pauly Shore

MAY 18TH

Amazing Johnathan

MAY 25TH

Caroline Rhea

JUNE 8TH

Arsenio Hall

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Good Life Cambridge Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Inner Orchestra, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Decifunk with Ca$h, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
House of Blues Tommy Castro, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Empty Stage.
Johnny D's Canadian voices Rick Fines, Georgette Fry and Vinnick Sheppard Harte, 8:30pm, $8.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Wet U'R Whistle with DJ Dragg spinning hip-hop and dance, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Ethan Bessey, 9pm; the Mulligans, 10pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe GT Arpe, Elysum and Live Wire, $5.
Lilli's Vinyl, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Boston Unplugged and open mike, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Dragstrip Courage, 21+.
Middle East U: DI, Street Walking Cheetahs and M-80, $8, 18+; D: Pee Wee Ellis' Gospel Assembly featuring Fred Wesley, 8pm, $15, 18+; C: Evan Harlan Trio, 7pm, 18+.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Mac and Jamie, 6pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Issi Rosen Quartet, 8:30pm, $10.
Scullers Kenny Garrett Quartet, 8pm and 10pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar The William Academy, the Getaway and Ellison, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times DJ YinYang.
Toad The Cranktones.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
Les Zygomates Philippe Critien, 8pm.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Radiokill, Almost Speechless and Griffen, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; The Freeze with Toxic Narcotic and Dead Pedestrian, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Zach Koerper, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 7:30pm.
711 Boylston Live jazz, 8pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Stephen Kellogg and Mark Erelli, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground Love Night with DJ Brian, 10pm.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Cole Broderick Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Conehead Buddha with One Flew East, 9:30pm, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Chris Fitz Band, 10pm, $7, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Troubadors.
Johnny D's Chris Adroin, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ Do John Tringali, 9pm; D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Dance party with DJ Edgar, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Adam Ezra, 9pm; Beth Boucher, 10pm; Kristin Plater, 11pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Chris Mascara, Chilly Kurtz, Katie McLaughlin, and Tips Fourteens, $5.
Lilli's The Real Kids; The Decals, 8pm, 21+.
Linwood Flutopia, Steak Haus and The Lincoln Conspiracy, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge Jennifer Tefft, Chasing Gray and The Coby Brown Group, 21+.


Stop! Cibo Matto come to the Somerville Theatre May 3.

Middle East U: Bloodshot, Heavy Stud, Supercol lider and The Humanoids, $10, 18+; D: Count Zero Lockgroove and Pat Emsmiler, 8:30pm, $10, 18+; C Jorrit Dykstra Quartet, 7pm and Board of Educatio 10pm, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mik Flanagan, 10pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Spain's Querubin, 8pm Venezuela's La Timba Loca, 10:30pm.
Rack Mix 98.5 and Mark Morris and the Catune 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Rusty Scott Quartet with Bi Pierce, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Saxophonist Sonny Fortune 8:30pm, $16.
Scullers Kenny Garrett Quartet, 8pm and 10pm $18.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm no cover.
Sky Bar Indie Fest featuring Ruby Lashes, the An chormen All-Star Karaoke, Tardy, Kipper Tin and th Kitty Kill, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; David Johnston 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hun and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Control Group, Hi Tanaka CD-release party, Three Day Threshold an Tracy Husky, $6.
Les Zygomates Teresa Iness Trio, 9pm.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

ÆR Alan Strack and Company, 21+.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Sea ger Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Zoux with the Chris Canty Band, 10pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Controlled Aggression with Drink Fis 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Typhoon Ferri, 9pm, n cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne and Curraghs Fancy.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davi Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia Ted Casher with the Al Vega Trio, 9pm
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and th Thrillers, 9pm; D: DJ Joey Demers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rachel Bissex, Linda Sharar, Chri Rosser and Tom Prasada, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground Beat Soup, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; Bal Water, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Cole Broderick Quarte 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Quartet, 9pm no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Idiot Box.
Green Dragon Tavern Shoot the Moon, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Entrain, 9:30pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; D Bri, 9pm.
House of Blues John Mayall, 10pm, $22, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Mike Barry Band.
Johnny D's Michigan Blacksnake and Mother's Fa vorite Child, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Joe Aberbach, 9:30pm; Adrian Balic, 10:30pm; Mannix, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe J-Walkers, Uprise4, Jo Jo Starr and the Rhythm Makers and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5
Lilli's The Mudhens; Edible Gray, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Linwood Stout, 8pm.

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Lizard Lounge Garage A'Trois; The Weisstronauts with the Thompson Brothers, 21+.
Middle East U: The Wicked Farleys, $8, 18+; D: Canine, Johnny Wishbone, Purge DI and Three, $10, 18+; C: Roger Nicholson, 10pm.
Midway Cafe Picture Perfect Rockabilly with The Cranktones, 9pm, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Jolly Tinkers.
Porter's Bar and Grill Jim Devlin Trio, 9:30pm.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Dominique Eade and Fred Hersch, 8 and 10:30pm, $12.
Rhythm and Spice Danny Tucker, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Saxophonist Sonny Fortune, 8pm and 10:30pm, $17.
Scullers Michel Camilo, 8pm and 10:30pm, $20.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott Quartet, 6:00pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Vic Morrows, the Buckners, Big Toe and Where's Holden, 9pm, $5, 21+.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Slo Burn.
Toad Amphibian, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Jeff Stout, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Francine; AdFrank CD-release party; The Douglas Fir; Jupiter Project, $7.
Western Front Reggae with Conscious Band, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Skip Smith, 9pm.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

ÆR Steve Porter, 21+.
Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern Kelly Buchanan Band, 9pm, no cover.
Black Rose Happy hour with Kevin Byrne; Eugene Byrne and Curragh's Fancy.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm; D: DJ Joey Demers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Debra Cowen and Kate Campbell, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Rippopotamus, 10pm.
Copperfield's Magnus; God Fearing Man.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild, 9pm; Off the Wall, 10pm.
Good Life Cambridge Henry Cook Band, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Guy Smiley.
Green Dragon Tavern 4 On the Floor, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Max Creek, 9:30pm, $10, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
House of Blues Earthfest Gala.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Best of San Francisco Showcase with Caroleen Beatty, Noe Venable, Etienne de Rocher, Ian Brennan, Chuck Prophet and Bonfire Madigan, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Duncan Rhys Lioncort and special guests, $5.
Lilli's Bullfrog, featuring Kid Koala and Blue Rum 13; David Rodwin, 8pm, $13, 21+.
Linwood Kings of Nothin, Mourning Side, Blind Pharohs NY and Closer than Kin, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge Lars Vegas with the McCarthys, 21+.
Middle East U: Fleshtones, the Bell Rays, Mr. Airplane Man, $8, 18+; D: Johnny A, Jinx Motive and Alotia, $12, 18+; C: Splendid Nobodies, 10pm.
Midway Cafe The Maggie Salzberg Band, 9pm; Dyke Night, 10:30pm, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Celtic Clan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Teresa Ines Quintet, 8pm and 10:30pm, $12.
Rhythm and Spice Kolors, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Saxophonist Ed Calle CD-release party, 9pm, $15.
Scullers Michel Camilo, 8pm and 10:30pm, $20.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Elsewhere, Buck 50, Kodachchrome and Silver Son, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times J Place.
Toad Josh Lederman Y Los Diablos.
Top of the Hub Andy Baer with The Chris Taylo Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Army of Jasons; Edith, $7
Western Front Reggae with Conscious Band 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, n cover.
Les Zygomates Jim Bridges, 10pm.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Black Rose Happy hour with Kevin Byrne; Eu gene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with the Paulo Dana Jazz Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm 21+.
Club Passim Regie Gibson and Richie Havens 6pm and 9pm, $30.
Costello's Tavern Lawrence Watson's perform ers showcase, 8pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald gospe brunch, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Dunwell's Hang-Over Sunday brunch hosted b local DJs spinning mellow grooves and chill beats 12pm-8pm.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack 9:30pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers 5pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
House of Blues Massmania, 5pm, $9, all ages Eek-A-Mouse, 10pm, $18, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; salsa dancing wit Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Brazilian Night, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Rachel Taylor, 7:30pm; Nico 8:30pm; Ten Shekel Shirt, 9:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio perform with poet Michael Brown; poetry slam, 7pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: Mary Timony, the Fly Seville and Bright Juliet, $8, 18+; C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm Martin Finke, 4pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm.
Midway Cafe Tarbox Ramblers, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Quartet 11am, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, no cover 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Neville Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Idiot Toaster, Alchemill the Color Forms and the Holy Childhood, $4.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch; ETown Concrete wit Unearth, Most Precious Blood and Purity's Failur 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open mik 8pm, Kevin So, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim School of music showcase, 8pm, $5
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Diversi Caribbean and reggae, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Tim Reynolds, $15, 18+.
House of Blues Second Comings, 9pm, $6, 18+
Johnny D's Beat research with DJ Flack, DJ Can Cozmopolis, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; Th Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Otis Read, 8pm; Jerald Harsche 9pm; Pierce Woodward Trio, 10pm, $5.
Middle East U: Stephen Brodsky, Red Anim War and Daryl, 8:30pm, $6, 18+; D: Stone Soup Po etry, 7:30pm; C: The Lune, 7pm; Tom Bianchi an Jason Gardner, 10pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.co* with DJ Janedy, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7p no cover, 21+.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Ti Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Neville Trio, 8pm.

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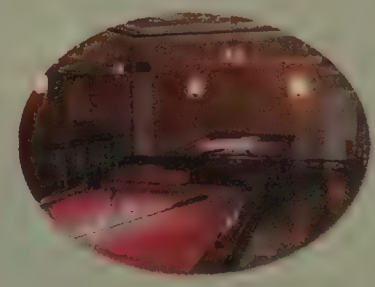
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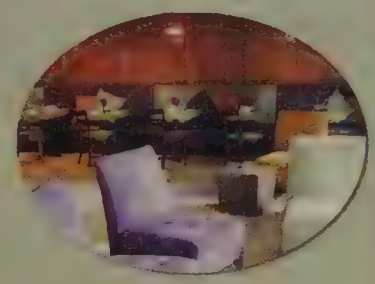
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T.T. the Bear's Place Chapter inVerse's Brenda White; Julie Wilson; Meghan Cary, 9pm, $3, 18+.

TUESDAY, MAY 1

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
House of Blues An Evening with Chad, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Irresponsibles, $5.
Middle East D: Pharcyde and Ugly Ducklings, 8:30pm, $20, 18+.
Plough and Stars Jennifer Matthews Band, 10pm, no cover.
Rack Search Party, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar Sugar Ray and the Bluetones, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Saxophone legend Dewey Redman, 8:30pm, $18.50.
Sidney's Grille The Laura Allen Trio, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Tír na nÓg Easy Marks, 10pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; The Residency, featuring Say Zuzu, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio, 8:30pm.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Wedding Band Showcase with The Hip Pocket Orchestra, 10pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Mr. Lif, Uncle Trouble, Kabir, D-Tension, Stymie, Josh Metcalf and Delwin G, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rob Siegel and Rural Electrification, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
House of Blues WERS presents Emm Gryner, Silverpoint and Chapter in Verse, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Mark of Machinery Hall.
Johnny D's Ben Miller, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Wet U'r Whistle with DJ Dragg spinning hip-hop and dance, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Offramp, 10pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Mikey Dee Benefit with Ad Frank, Chilly Kurtz, Meghan McLaughlin, Chris Mascara, Christian Montgomery, Aaron Tap, Paula Kelly, Shaun Wolf Wortis, Bo Barringer and Winter Boy, $6.
Linwood Boston Unplugged; Open-mike night, 8pm.
Milky Way Lounge Mercury Lounge with downtempo, soul, house and funk, no cover.
Rack Mac and Jamie, 6pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Joey Calderazzo Trio with John Patitucci and Jeff Watts, 8:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Saxophone legend Dewey Redman, 8:30pm, $18.50.
Scullers The Jacky Terrasson Trio, 8 and 10pm, $14.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Summer Shack Reggae with the I-Land Rokkerz in the Shack lounge, 7pm, no cover.
The Times Zach Koerper.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan and guests, 10pm.
Toad The Ken Clark Organ Trio.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Peaches and Gonzales, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Les Zygomates The Sonny Watson Group, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 3

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic The Everything Bagels and Synaesthesia, 10pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Heidi, C-60 and Nullset, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.

Preview

Dee-lightful

Noisemakers band together to help local music champion Mikey Dee


Mishima is at the Sky Bar May 3.

Talk about killer lineups. The Gentlemen, Dave Aronoff & the Details, Heavy Stud and Cheerleadr play T.T. the Bear's Place May 3. Or perhaps you prefer the hard stuff? Then wait until May 5, when Quintaine Americana, Rock City Crimewave, Quitter and Ghetto Thunder storm the Middle East. These two shows are just a small part of the massive For the Benefit of Mr. Dee, a five-day music extravaganza in which Boston musicians band together to help raise money for Mikey Dee—radio host, writer and tireless champion of local noise—who is in the Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital after suffering a brain stem stroke last February. Many of the city's biggest and brightest stars will participate in this benefit, which will run from May 2 through May 6 at venues all over town, from the gloriously dive-y Abbey Lounge to the big-time rock boîtes like the Paradise and the Middle East.

On May 2, Mr. Lif heads up what promises to be a raucous hip-hop night over at Bill's Bar. On May 3, the fabulous pop duo Mishima play the Sky Bar along with Little A and lounge maestros Seks Bomba. Also on May 3, just down the road at Lilli's, the Boston Rock Opera will present a special performance of *Abbey Road*. On May 5, there's a eclectic mix at the Linwood featuring the pop punk Dubnicks, sex-obsessed rockers Quickfixx, edgy popsters Say Hi to Lisa and the irrisistible, Beatle-esque Dragstrip Courage. For a complete lineup, visit *www.mikeydee.com*. —*Rachel Strutt*

Club Passim Pierce Pettis, 8pm $12.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Uncle Sammy, Entrain and Apartment Three, $10, 18+; $7, 21+.
House of Blues Sax Gordan Band featuring Duke Robillard, 10pm, $8, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Troubadors.
Johnny D's Mikey Dee Benefit with Merrie Amsterberg, Barbara Kessler, Thaddeus Hogarth, Laurie Geltman and Deb Pasternak, 9pm, $9, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's U: DJ John Tringali, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Bill Bowman, 10pm; Grits, 11pm; Eric Saulnier, $7.
Kirkland Cafe Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring the Shelly Winters Project, Ray Mason and Vic Morrows, $6.
Lilli's Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring the Boston Rock Opera with Chris Mascara, Gary Cherone, Peter Moore, Mick Maldonado, Linda Viens, Corin Ashley, Lynette Estes, Brian Gottesman, T Max and Valerie Forgione, 8:30pm and 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Linwood Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Superzero, Sona Nyl, the Modifiers and Tricycle, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring the Devil Gods, Fire in the Hole and Lake Boone, 21+.
Middle East U: Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Helicopter Helicopter, Raging Teens, Ms. Pigeon and Control Group, 9pm, $8, 18+; D: Howie Day, Missing Joe, Hybrasil and Something Ira, 9pm, $12, 18+.
O'Briens Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring There, Steel Head and All Parallels, $6, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Joey Calderazzo Trio with John Patitucci and Jeff Watts, 8:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Scullers The Jacky Terrasson Trio, 8 and 10pm, $14.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Seks Bomba, Mishima and Little A, 9pm, $6, 21+.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey, 10pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; The Armadillos, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mikey Dee Benefit, with-The Gentlemen; Dave Aronoff and the Details; Heavy Stud; Cheerleadr, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Les Zygomates Teresa Ines, 8pm.

FRIDAY, MAY 4

ÆR Alan Strack and Company, 21+.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Marie's Children, 10pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Machinery Hall CD release party with 707, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kate Wallace and Cliff Eberhardt, 8pm, $14.
Common Ground Who's the Fat Guy, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 10pm.
Embassy Latin, progressive and Euro house, 10pm, 19+.
Good Life Cambridge East West, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Rythmn, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm.
House of Blues Hubert Sumlin, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Soulwork; Lovewhip, 9:45pm, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Dragg; D: Dance party with Cire DJ, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Brandan Sweeney, 9:30pm; Mike Barry, 10:30pm; Flynn, 11:30pm, $7, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Mikey Dee Benefit with Big Ray and the Futuras, Darlings, Buckners and The Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $6.
Lilli's Mikey Dee Benefit with the Boston Rock Opera, featuring Robert Fisher, Willard Grant Conspiracy, Meeghan Tooey, Blake Hazard and Jack Drag, 8:30pm and 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Linwood Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Miligram, Stocklan, Volition and Pivot, $7, 21+.
Middle East U: Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Crown Victoria, the Pills and Jason Hatfield, 9pm, $8, 18+; D: Angry Salad, O Positive Reunion, Miss Fortune and Chasing Grey, 9pm, $12, 18+.
O'Briens Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Random Road Mother, Element 47, the Swallows and Trash DJ, $6, 21+.
Porter's Bar and Grill Live music, 9:30pm.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basemen 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Mike Stern Quartet with Bo Malach, Lincoln Goines and Dennis Chambers, 8p and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Muse Paved Country, 9pm, $7.
Rhythm and Spice Addis and Reign, 10:30pm $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Trumpet legend Herb Pomero and saxophonist Arnie Krakowsky, 9pm, $12.
Scullers Pianist Shirley Horn, 8pm and 10:30pm $28.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm, cover.
Sky Bar Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Major Majo High Ceilings, Bradshaw and Hip Tanaka, 9pm, $ 21+.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Open.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Bill Lowe and Salim Washingto perform with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mikey Dee Benefit wit Tugboat Annie; Star Ghost Dog; Bleu; Super G, 9p $10, 18+.
Western Front Reggae with Danny Tucke 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Chuck Langford, 9pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

ÆR Steve Porter, 21+.
Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedo of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Plank 63 CD release party with Crash A chemist, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Amazi Crowns and Lost City Angels, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spi ning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cove 21+.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30p no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little J Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Willy Porter, 7pm and 10pm, $14
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknown 7pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Embassy DJ Eddie K spinning classic Euro hous 10pm, 19+.
Good Life Cambridge The Grant Langfo Show, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parke 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancar Buscaglia, 11pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm; D Bill, 9pm.
Hibernia Steve Porter progressive house, 21+.
House of Blues Mighty Sam McClain, 10p $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Luther Guitar Junior Johnso 9:45pm, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Chaos; D: Dan party with DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Ago Hardison, 9:30pm; Settie, 10:30pm; Jess Kle 11:30, $8, 21+.
Linwood Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring Dragst Courage, The Dubnicks, Quickfixx and Say Hi Lisa, $7, 21+.
Middle East U: Mikey Dee Benefit, featurin Quintaine Americana, RC Crimewave, Quitter an Ghetto Thunder, 9pm, $8, 18+; D: The Promise Rin and Camden, 9pm, $10, 18+.
O'Briens Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring The Nake Sams, Bound For Venus and Nook, $6, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditiona singers club, 9pm.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzz 21+.
Regattabar The Mike Stern Quartet with Bo Malach, Lincoln Goines and Dennis Chambers, 8p and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm and Spice Hot Like Fire, 10:30pm, $ 21+.
Scullers Pianist Shirley Horn, 8pm and 10:30pm $28.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Tri 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Mikey Dee Benefit, featuring the Bud Dewey Band and Labb, 9pm, $6, 21+.
The Times Sweet Willie D and the Continent Walk.
Tír na nÓg Tom Halter, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Bill Lowe, Salim Washingtonian Henrietta Robinson with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm

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T.T. the Bear's Place Mikey Dee Benefit with Ruby Horse; Red Telephone; The Humming, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Western Front Reggae with Danny Tucker, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 7pm; Semenya McCord, 10pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Anago at the Lenox Hotel Rusty Scott Quartet, 11:30am, no cover.
Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Costello's Tavern The James Merenda jazz jam, featuring the Mingus Three, 8:30pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald gospel brunch, 10am; The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
Dunwell's Hang-Over Sunday brunch hosted by local DJs, 12-8pm.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
House of Blues Smokin' Grass with Short Life of Trouble, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Karaugh Brown, 9pm; Broja Duno, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poets Alisha Knight and Gary Hicks; poetry slam, 7:30pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East WBCN Rock'n'Roll Rumble, featuring Junction 18, Lamont, Flynn and Pennywheel, 8:30pm, $7, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Rhythm and Muse The Lune, 2pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am.
Tír na nÓg Seisiun, 7pm.
Toad Charlie Chesterman and the Legendary Motorbikes with special guest Cindy Kamelson.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Couch, Jr. Corduroy and Charlene, 9pm, $7, 18+.



Boston-based alt-rockers American Hi-Fi play with Our Lady Peace at Avalon May 1.

MONDAY, MAY 7

Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm, 21+.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Emm Gryner, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; the Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: WBCN Rock'n'Roll Rumble featuring Kitty Kill, Slater, Reach the Sky and Bleu, 8:30pm, $7, 18+; D: Autechre, Matmos, Rob Hall and Russell Haswell, 8pm, $12, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbayheat.com* with DJ Janedy, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Rust Farm, 10pm.
Toad Shwang, featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm.

TUESDAY, MAY 8

Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet, 9:30pm, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Tonic and special guests, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Adrian Legg and Tommy Emmanuel, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Irresponsibles, $5.
Middle East WBCN's Rock 'n' Roll Rumble, fe turing Diecast, Banjo Spiders, Jericho and Freezepo 8:30pm, $7, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and D Wayne, 9:30pm.
Plough and Stars Jennifer Matthews Ban 10pm, no cover.
Rack Big City Beat, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar The John Payne Saxophone Cho 8:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Vocalist Tierney Sutto 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Wesla Whitfield, $20.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Tír na nÓg Ed Jurdi, 10pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; The Residency, featu ing Say Zuzu, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

Music Venues

Anago at the Lenox Hotel *65 Exeter St., Bost (266-6222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-212 MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-510 MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Bos (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Cente*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: Green Line to Newton Center.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBT Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (22 2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hyn Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue line t Government Center or Aquarium.*

ZOREN C



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To Benefit the Franciscan Children's Hospital & Rehabilitation Center

Join Boston's Top Chefs & Celebrity Athletes at the Colonnade Hotel, Boston on April 29 between 6 and 10pm

(VIP Reception 5-6pm)

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Tanya Holland - Host of the Food Network's "Melting Pot"
Bill Bradley - Bricco
Anthony Susi - Sage
Jim Becker - Taranta
Antoine Camin - Brasserie Jo
Chris Bussell - Butterfish

VIP Tickets: $75

A private reception at Salon Prive, 5-6pm, Brasserie Jo in the Colonnade Hotel which includes an open bar, appetizers and VIP seating for the show.
Event produced by Jeanie Flynn PR Events. For tickets & R.S.V.P. call 617.779.1641

General Admission: $40

Includes a cash bar, tasting stations, appetizers and admission to the show, 6-10pm.
To Benefit the Franciscan Children's Hospital & Rehabilitation Center

Celebrities & Judges

Jason & Christine Allison
Brian Dunseth
Hall & Ann Gill
Tim Wakefield
Rich LaMontagne
Byron & Kim Dafoe
Frank Mallicoat
Karen Marinella
Gary Gillis
Steve Burton
Jim Dunn
John Harkes
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711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (437-0002). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Café Italia *144 Meridan St., East Boston (569-1800). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Coolidge Corner Theater *290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2501). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge.*
Costello's Tavern *723 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (522-9263). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Dunwell's *1271 Boylston St., Boston (424-1441). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.*
Embassy *30 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*



One of the best hard rockers of the '70s, AC/DC, is still kickin'. See the group play May 4.

FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Avenue, Boston (734-9000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Four Seasons Hotel *200 Boylston St., Boston (267-6338). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or North Station.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
The Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Longy School of Music *33 Garden St., Cambridge (888-457-7800). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299) MBTA: Lowell Commuter Rail to Lowell.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Griggs St.*
North Shore Music Theatre *62 Dunham Rd., Beverly, (978-232-7200).*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Foxboro *One School St., Foxboro (508-543-2787).*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Plaza Garibaldi *1141 Revere Beach Parkway at the junctions of Route 1 and Route 16 West, Revere (781-284-6005).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366A Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *At 261 Main St., Worcester (800-477-6849).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

All-Newton Music School
321 Chestnut St., West Newton (527-4 553). 11am followed by lunch. $18. Laura Sanders, soprano, and Edwin Light, piano, perform *Das Marienleben* by Paul Hindemith, the story of Mary, mother of Jesus.

Boston Early Music Festival Concerts
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (661-1812). 8pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. $18-$42. In *Gods and Mortals*, a capella groups Anonymous 4 and Lionheart perform the music of Lassus, Monteverdi, Arcadelt, Willaert and more.

Boston Chamber Music Society
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30pm. $18-$42. The 2000-01 season's focus on Russian Romanticism continues with performances of Janácek, Arensky and Beethoven.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Seiji Ozawa, conductor, and Alfred Brendel, pianist, perform an all-Beethoven program, including *Symphony No. 8* and *Piano Concerto No. 5.*

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944, ext. 311). MBTA: Green line to Copley. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. Performance by Edwin Starner.

Arbor Day Jubilee
South Station, Boston (776-0378). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7am-9am and 4:30pm-6:30pm. Free. Yanni Bateau puts together a celebration with live opera singers and piano accompaniment, featuring a living statue of the the spring goddess Flora, to celebrate Arbor Day.

Wellesley College Concert
Houghton Memorial Chapel, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781 283-2028). 12:30pm. Free. A Rare Collaboration features music for organ and strings, performed by five musicians, including Dvorák, Pinkham and Piston.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

ALEA III
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 7pm. $50. Theodore Antoniou conducts this fund-raising event for ALEA III, which will include works by Leonard Bernstein, Kurt Weill and Manos Hadjidakis.

Boston Philharmonic
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. The philharmonic will perform Mussorgsky, Stravinsky and Rimsky-Korsakov.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Same program as April 27.

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

Boston Chamber Music Society
Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (661-7067). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. $18-$42. Same program as April 27.

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (661-7067). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Same program as April 28.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3605). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $55-$30. Pianist Murray Perahia performs Mozart, Schubert and Chopin.

Longy School
Longy School of Music, One Follen St., Cambridge (354-6910). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Pianist and Longy faculty member Sally Pinkas performs music including Mozart's *Sonata in A Minor.*

Sunday Concert Series
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, 280 the Fenway, Boston (734-1359). MBTA: E Green Line to MFA. $4- $17. 1:30pm. The James Lawrence Memorial Concert features Edgar Meyer on bass and Amy Dorfman on piano, performing works by Bach, Bloch, Sasate and Meyer.

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Charlotte Church
Wang Theater, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Backed by an area symphony, Charlotte Church, the 15-year-old Welsh soprano, sings 10 songs from her repertoire.



Special guest John Lithgow attends the Boston Pops opening night May 8 at Symphony Hall.

TUESDAY, MAY 1

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Seiji Ozawa, conductor, and Thomas Hampson, baritone perform Mahler and Shostakovich.

Boston University Symphony Orchestra
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3349). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. Central. 8pm. Free. Winners of the Concerto-Aria Competition perform under David Hoose, conductor.

Longy School of Music
One Follen St., Cambridge (354-6910). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Longy's new music ensemble performs.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

Longy School of Music
One Follen St., Cambridge (354-6910). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Artists diploma candidate Dimitar Petkov performs Stravinsky and Bach on violin.

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Boston Baroque
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (482-6661). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 8pm. $19-$53. Boston Baroque performs Beethoven's Symphony No. 3, "Eroica," and Stephanie Chase solos on violin.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-7575). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $25-$77. Same program as May 1.

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944, ext. 311). MBTA: Green line to Copley. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. Stuart Forster performs.

SATURDAY, MAY 5

From the Top
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2pm. $5. Boston produced radio show *From the Top* records a one hour program featuring performances by five soloists or ensembles ages 9-18.

Wellesley College
Jewett Auditorium, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781 283-2028). 8pm. Free. Neal Hampton conducts Wellesley College Orchestra in the concerto competition.

SUNDAY, MAY 6

From the Top
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (536-2412). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2pm. $5. Same program as May 5.

Opera Aperta
Harvard Club of Boston, Boston (781 899-3112, www.opera-aperta.org. 3pm. $60. This is a sneak preview of Opera Aperta's upcoming performance of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville.*

Wellesley College
Jewett Auditorium, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781 283-2028). 8pm. Free. Nancy Cirillo, Isabelle Plaster and Suzanne Stumpf direct the chamber music society.

TUESDAY, MAY 8

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. The seventh season at the Boston Pops starts off with special guest John Lithgow at the opening night. As part of the Symphony Hall Centennial celebration, the opening night program features music performed in Symphony Hall in May 1901, and a short film on the Pops, called *Evening at the Pops.*

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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. 10pm, $5.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am: Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. • Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. • Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. • Sun., theme shows produced by Diamond Dunhill.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.



You'll find a mellow but sociable crowd any day of the week at the Eagle on Tremont Street.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. Fri.: DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop. •May 10, 6pm: **Anne Fausto-Sterling** reads from *Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality.*

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Desperately Aloof
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., #2, Boston (470-5329). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. May 3-5, 7-8, 11-12, 8pm. $10. Craig Houk takes a candid look at gay life, focussing on six unique characters.

Edward II
Tremont Theater, 276 Tremont St., Boston (642-1456). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Through April 29. $20. This retelling of the reign of England's King Edward II explores themes of power, obsession and sexuality

Fourth Annual Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health Research Forum
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6306). May 4, 9am-6pm. Pre-registration required. This year's focus is on the sampling methodology involved in conducting research with lesbian women.

Legal and Financial Issues for Gays and Lesbians
BACE, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. April 28, $36. This seminar addresses key legal and financial tools needed to protect your assests and rights.

MFA Gay and Lesbian Film Festival
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. May 2-20. $7-$8, members, seniors and students. See "Film" for complete details.

It Came From Brian and Mal
Theatre 1, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thurs.-Sat., 8pm. Through April 28. $10-$15. A sketch comedy with a gay sensibility, starring Brian Jewell and Karen "Mal" Malme, directed by Renee Farster.

TCNE Prom 2001
Randolph Country Club, 44 Mazzeo Dr., Randolph (781-891-9345). www.tcne.org. *April 27. $20.* The Tiffany Club of New England hosts its annual prom with slews of hot food, a cash bar, dancing and a door prize.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for mature gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A gay club with hiking, biking, camping and skiing.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

"Gaymes" Group
(662-7872). GAYMES is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This nationwide line provides information, referral and support services.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm. $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up .

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Kristen Porter's Dyke Night
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (542-9038). $5, 10pm, 21+. Every Thursdays this Lesbian Bar has rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900, ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900, ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). Held quarterly. Sliding scale.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

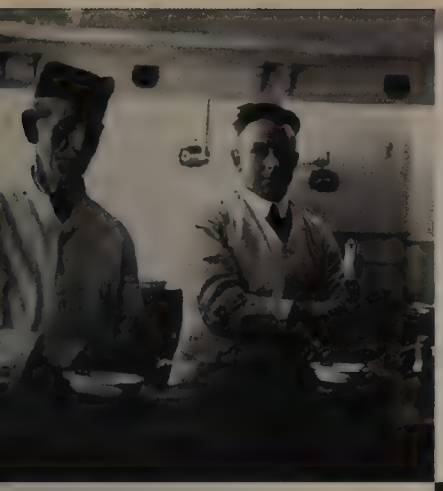
Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). Offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Road, Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons, 8-9pm.

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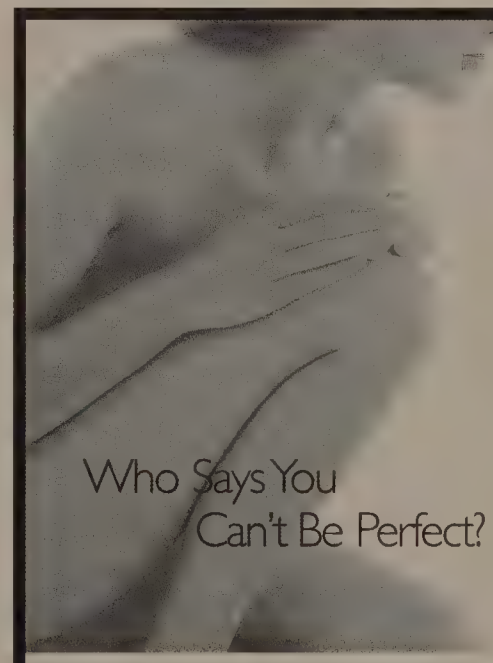
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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*



Take a tour of transcendentalist thinker Ralph Waldo Emerson's former home in Concord May 5.

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 4, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-10 donation. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor spiritual traditions from all around the world.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Eagle Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 5, 8-11:30pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, your clapping hands, your drums, spoons and tambourines. Whether you're a dancing queen or just a curious dabbler, you won't stop moving once you step inside.

Karate Club Grand Reopening
Boston Karate Club, 17 Station St., Brookline (267-8155). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. April 28. Developers forced this martial arts club to move from its Kenmore location. Come visit the new studio and find out why you can't keep a good karate club down.

Ralph Waldo Emerson Appreciation
The Philosophy Foundation, Concord Museum, 200 Lexington Road, Concord (800-423-4553). www.philosophyfoundation.org. *May 5, 3pm. $50.* British author and philosopher **David Stollar** will speak on his newly published book about Emerson, a thinker of transcendentalism. This event includes a tour of Emerson's house, walking through the woods of Walden and a wine-and-cheese reception.

Spiritual Art
The Swedenborgian Chapel, 50 Quincy St., Cambridge (864-4552). April 28, 7-9:30pm. $5-$10, sliding scale. This inspirational evening presents mystical art, poetry, stories and songs by local spiritual artists.

CLASSES

Emotional Intelligence and How to Make the Most of Yours
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. April 27, 12:30-1:30pm. $26. We often sabotage our desires because our anger, sadness and fears take over. But if understood and managed, you can use the power of these emotions for positive results. Learn what you can do with your E.Q.

Healing Touch
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. April 28, 9:30am-6:30pm. $88.* Healing touch was created by holistic nurses who understood its importance. Learn about chakras, chi, auras and how to heal yourself and others with touch and energy vibration.

The Self-Help Healing Art of Jin Shin Jyutsu
Center for Balance, 857 Washington St., Newton (527-0247). MBTA: Bus lines #553, 554 and 556. www.centerforbalance.org. *April 28, 9am-4pm. $75.* Learn valuable jin shin jyustu techniques. They are used to harmonize and recharge your whole self as well as improve health.

The Martial Art of Bagua
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). April 28-29, 9am-5pm, $185-$220. This weekend workshop is focused on Bagua, which is based on the Tao's *Book of Changes*. These exercises are fluid movements said to revitalize the body and create a nearly impenetrable defense.

Meditation
Brookline Adult and Community Education, Brookline High, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. May 5, 9am-12:30pm. $36. Meditation is beneficial, but you may find it difficult to do. If you'd like to revitalize your personal meditation practice (or try it for the first time), this class will do the trick.

Spice Up Your Sex Life!
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, Boston (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. May 2, 7:30-9:30pm. $25.* Bored in bed? **Kim Airs** will teach this fun and spicy class for boys and girls who want to try something a little different for a change.

Spirit Music Gathering
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *April 29, 1:30-4:30pm. $20-35, sliding scale.* Join musician/song-leader **Steve Cummings** for a joyful and eclectic afternoon of singing, chanting and deep listening. Discover how song can heal the body, calm the mind and renew spirit.

LECTURE

Death and Initiation
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). April 27, 7:30pm. $5. The concept of death as a process of initiation to the spiritual path will be explored and discussed.

Depression: The Blues or Something Else?
Faulkner Hospital, 1153 Centre St., Atrium Conference Room #2, Jamaica Plain (781-648-0101). May 8, 6-7:30pm. **Dr. Ed Liston**, director of Behavorial Health Services, will discuss how to recognize the signs and symptoms of depression.

Zen Insight for Daily Living
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Auburn St., Cambridge (576-3229). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.cambridgezen.com. *April 26, 7:30pm.* Zen master **Soeng Hyang** will give a special dharma talk sponsored by the Ruah Spiritual Institute. The topic will be on mysticism and daily life.

RETREATS

Intuition Tune-Up
Briarwood Retreat Center, Cape Cod, Mass. (508-654-6943). www.heartofintuition.com. *April 28-29. $200.* This retreat will focus on energy systems and discovering how to open up your intuition. The center is located in a beautiful environment to help get you back to your natural self.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington. (876-3050). MBTA: bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St. Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily. Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mondays, 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are appropriate for anyone seeking a personal spiritual path.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is relaxing, stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston. (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga & meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
Peace Power Yoga, Church of Our Savior, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. $10 per class.* Drop in for a powerfully peaceful time. Classes are scheduled: •Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm •Wed., 11:30am •Thu., 6pm •Sat., 9:30am.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Aesop's Fables
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. April 28-29, 11am. $7. Once Upon a Time children's theater company invites children to come up on stage, don costumes and participate in telling these classic stories.

Big Apple Circus: Clown Around Town
Fan Pier, Boston (931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. April 7-May 13. $13-$43.* This all-new show features a cast of circus acts from around the world, including award-winning acrobats, hand balancers, jugglers, trapeze artists, dogs, horses and clowns.

Children's Theater
Theatre 1, 713 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). $8 adults, $5 children. •April 28, 3pm: ***Building Tales Together***. Pocket Full of Tales Theatre Company turns audience suggestions into a wild musical. •May 5, 3pm: **Silly Sketches**. *Saturday Night Live* for kids.

KidsFest
Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (542-5867). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. April 28, 10am-4pm. Free. More than 2,000 children will explore the wonderful world of books with such activities as book-making, bubble blowing and climbing on big blocks.

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse
Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston (734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Through May 6. $10-$17. Lilly's sparkles with witty and eccentric characters.

The Magic Flute
April 26, 9:45 and 11:45am: Strand Theater, 543 Columbia Road, Dorchester; April 29, 2:30pm: John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (542-4912, ext. 239). $15, $10 children. The Boston Lyric Opera presents this one-hour, fully staged version of the popular opera sung in English.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 and 3pm. •April 28-29: ***Bathtub Pirates*** by Grey Seal Puppets. •May 5-6: ***Hansel and Gretel*** by Judy O'Hare of You and Me Puppets.

Red Grammer in Concert
JFK Library & Museum, Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-1250). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. April 28, 10:30am. Free. This award-winning singer and songwriter offers songs, games and fingerplay for children, addressing such topics as diversity, self-esteem and cooperation.

Wizard of Oz
Boston Children's Theatre, Media Arts Center, Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave., Boston (424-6634). MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. April 28-29, 2pm. $10-$16. Children in grades 4 through 12 perform all the roles in this stage adaptation of the movie musical.

THINGS TO DO

BUPD Children's Fair
Harry Agganis Way, Boston (353-1843). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. www.bu.edu/police. *April 28, 10am-3pm. Free.* The theme at the Boston University Police Department's second street fair for kids is child safety. Various agencies will demonstrate and educate children on safety issues, including a child safety seat checkpoint. In addition, the fair will feature face painting and other amusements for children.

The Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. The Coop offers children's story hours and crafts every Saturday. •April 28, 11am: Coop Kids Reader of the Month Choice. Create a pasta necklace and hear the Kid of the Month read a few favorite stories. •May 5, 11am: *Charlie the Caterpillar* by Dom Deluise. Make a butterfly clip magnet.

Museum of Transportation: Family Program
15 Newton St. (in Larz Anderson Park), Brookline (522-6547). Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3 children. •April 28: Balloon-powered go-carts.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Boston University's Nickerson Field. Tickets: 866-462-7325
May 5, 7:30pm: Atlanta Beat

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
April 25, 7:05pm: Minnesota Twins
April 26, 7:05pm: Minnesota Twins
April 27, 7:05pm: Kansas City Royals
April 28, 7:05pm: Kansas City Royals
April 29, 1:05pm: Kansas City Royals
May 1, 7:05pm: Seattle Mariners
May 2, 10:05pm: Seattle Mariners
May 3, 10:05pm: Seattle Mariners
May 4, 10:05pm: Oakland Athletics
May 5, 4:05pm: Oakland Athletics
May 6, 4:05pm: Oakland Athletics
May 8, 7:05pm: Seattle Mariners

New England Revolution
•Foxoboro Stadium. Tickets: 931-2222
May 12, 7:30pm: Chicago Fire



Wild Women Outfitters in Arlington presents an outdoorsy Spring Fashion Brunch April 28.

Events

Dogswalk Against Cancer
Boston Common (556-7400). April 29, 12-3pm. $20 pledge. Hundreds of local dog owners and their pets will take part in the American Cancer Society's non-competitive dog-walk-a-thon to raise money for the fight against human and animal cancers.

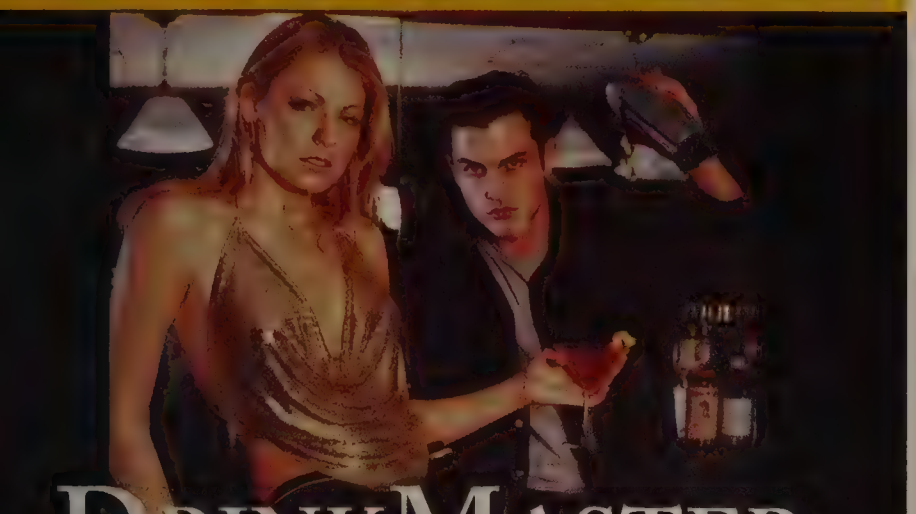
Golf Scramble
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). April 28. $100 (includes lunch and a sleeve of balls). Advanced beginner through "scratch" golfers will be challenged by the New England Country Club, designed by Hale Irwin.

James Joyce Ramble
Endicott Estate, Dedham, Mass. www.ramble.org. *Race: April 29, 11am. Registration: April 27, 12-8pm, at Bill Rodgers Running Center in Boston at Faneuil Hall Marketplace. April 28, 12-6pm: Dedham Mall. $15.* Along each mile of this 10-kilometer race/walk, there will be readings from six selected Joycean works performed by actors dressed in period costumes.

March of Dimes Walk
(781-762-4747). www.modimes.org. *April 29, 12pm.* Walk 6.2 miles to support the March of Dimes.

Run of the Charles Canoe and Kayak Races
(508-698-6810). April 29, 8:30am - 4:30pm. Stake out a spot by Bemis Dam on the Newton/Watertown line, where the Charles approaches Class I rapids, to

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O'Leary's Brookline; May 5; 9:30pm
Borders Braintree; May 6; 2pm
Borders Framingham; May 11; 8pm

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All entries must be typed, or we won't read them
All Entries must include:
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Must be 21 to enter.
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ENTRY FORM

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I hereby agree and sign that I understand that entries become the property of Bukowski Tavern and that the judges decisions are final. Must be 21 to enter.

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Signature

watch as professionals maneuver around the fast water and amateurs end up in the drink. To see these moguls of upper-body strength behave like fish out of water, check out the Moody Street Dam in Waltham, where professionals competing in the 26-mile race actually get out of the water and run, boats in tow, about half a mile before relaunching. The less sadistic can watch from the finish line festival at MDC Herter Park in Allston to win prizes, enjoy refreshments and watch boats finishing throughout the afternoon.

Spring Fashion Brunch
Wild Women Outfitters, 397 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-641-5776). April 28, 11am-1pm. Forget the pouty models and show-it-all gowns. Take a walk on the wild side of fashion as we show off our spring line. You'll get a peek at the latest tech wear, travel clothing, casual attire and the gear that goes with it.

Walk for Hunger
Boston Common (723-5000). www.projectbread.org. *May 6, 9am.* Project Bread's Walk for Hunger provides funds for nearly 400 food pantries, soup kitchens, food banks and food salvage programs. There will be snacks and entertainment provided along the route.

To Play

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

Boston Ski & Sports Club Bike Rides
(789-4070). •April 29, $15: Metro West Ride. This 30-mile scenic ride stops at Walden Pond. •May 5, $30: Harvard Square Bike Tour. This professionally led 10-mile ride starts in the Back Bay.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

Boston Ski & Sports Club Hikes
(789-4070). May 6. $15. Head to the White Mountains for an intermediate/advanced 8-mile hike up North Twin Mountain.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.hwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for play in Brookline and Cambridge.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer. Begins May 20.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in Greater Boston.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(789-4070).

Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance
(928-0882). www.buda.org.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5. •Spiking clinic: April 29. $25-$35.

Why Watch Volleyball League
Watertown High School, 50 Columbia St., Watertown (825-7723). www.whywatch.com. *Thu., 7-9pm.* Six- on-six co-ed volleyball league with three different levels.



around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily. 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.



Eat and shop at Faneuil Hall Marketplace.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

AIDSRide
(800-825-1000). www.aidsride.org. Crew volunteers are needed for the 350-mile ride from New York to Boston July 19-22.

Alliance for Children
(781-431-7148). Adopt a child from abroad.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu. 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Information sessions held regularly.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Tutor at Cambridge public schools.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters. Training session: May 5, 9:30am-4:30pm.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun time with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). www.medainc.org. Volunteers are needed for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events. Drop-in group: May 5, 10am.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elderly.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks in East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Trident

I was in line with my friend to sit down for dinner and I saw you buying a book. What can I say? I am a firm believer of not judging a book by its cover but I never see men like you. You looked normal (I never meet normal guys—it's very frustrating), cute, like you have it all together. Exactly the kind of guy I want to meet in a bookstore! You had a faded navy-blue jacket and short blond hair; I was wearing a black leather coat and have brown hair and brown eyes. I didn't pay much attention to your glances because I thought you were with someone but I kicked myself when I watched you walk out by yourself. Too bad I was with my friend; I'd rather make you dinner than eat the perpetual breakfast. It's a shame because I was instantly attracted to you and I'll probably never see you again. If you do see this and you are intelligent and are willing to tango, email me. But if you aren't, just let me remember you as perfect.
—Glynnismissedyouat trident@yahoo.com

Berklee Babe

It was March 28 in the Ear Training Department in Berklee College of Music. You had long brown hair and a cute face. I thought you were the cutest girl I had ever seen. I am a slightly overweight guy I had a blue jacket on and I was wearing sunglasses. As I was walking out I smiled at your pretty face and you smiled back. If you read this, email me.
—Brassmaster01@aol.com

Dog Walking Delight

As I hustle from one job site to the next, I've seen you bounding along the Charles, running across the Common, playing fetch on the Green. You have your dark hair pulled back, your hands full of leashes, your furry little friends with happy tails wagging like crazy. You always seem to have a smile on your face. It brightens my day. You are definitely living life the right way...wanna take me for a walk sometime? I don't have fleas and I'm housebroken.
—IamScoobyDu@msn.com

Twin Towers

There we were, side by side at the NorthWest Airlines baggage carousel on April 4, waiting for our bags from Detroit. You: The tallest, most beautiful woman I'd ever seen. Me: Looking for a clever way to strike up a conversation. Didn't know if a six-foot three-inch beauty—with the self confidence to wear three inch heels!—would cotton to a six-foot three-inch guy with curly brown hair and a beard. Well, you made my day when you engaged in semi-flirtatious banter about head bumping (and the other perks of our height), but then I blew it when I failed to get your name and number. Do you even live near Boston, or were you coming here on business, only to return to Michigan and never see this missive? Hope springs eternal. If you're ready to pick on somebody your own size (unless you always wear those heels!), let me know.
—tallfriends@hotmail.com

To the blond female race driver by the Northgate Mall

If you play as hard as you drive, I want you in my sandbox. I don't normally pursue, but I didn't want to always wonder what might have been. I caught your wave. When I came back around the corner and saw you waiting there in your car, I thought we had something. When you pulled over a block ahead, I thought you wanted to say Hi. Why did you blow me off? Was I too forward? You don't seem like the shy type. Admit it, you were waiting for me. Did I misinterpret your wave? Or did something change between the wave and the offer for coffee. I'm not good at the pickup, but everyone who knows me loves me. Is there something about me that screams "loser"? If so, tell me so I don't have to spend the rest of my life as the dork who never scores. Maybe we should have left it as a fantasy, but if you're having second thoughts, I'm still interested.
—getback29@hotmail.com

Should I have returned the gloves?

I was riding the commuter rail (Framingham line) early train to Boston. As usual, I was buried in my work. You sat down next to me somewhere between West Newton and Newtonville, and offered me the sports section. In a complete brain malfunction, I responded, "No thanks, I don't follow sports." You then offered me any other section, and I kicked the brain into gear and accepted the business section. We chatted briefly; you got up to leave at Back Bay. Noticing that you left your gloves on the seat, I caught up to you in the vestibule and returned them. After exchanging waves from inside the train to the platform, I thought to myself, "Did I just goof a wonderful opportunity to meet a beautiful, personable woman?" I truly hope not.
—welleseleycommuter@yahoo.com

Taken?

We met at Venue, an unlikely place for us both. We danced, and talked and kissed. Somehow through the course of the night, you lost one of your socks! I thought we were having a good time; you verified that we were, until told me that you have a girlfriend! You told me that you were on the rocks, though it was hard to tell how "rocky" things are. Your friends didn't try to stop you; in fact they encouraged you... they seem to think things are pretty rocky! I am not a home wrecker, so please don't think of this message as looking to ruin a good relationship (we know those are hard to find). If your status has changed, please write. I would like to get to know you.
—pinkpants11@hotmail.com

A Second Chance

Keri is so very... pretty. We were in the same class at the BCAE April 6. I questioned you on punctuality. After class I made the mistake of asking how "you guys" liked the class. I really just wanted to talk to you. Please give me a second chance to make a first impression.
—kerisearch2001@yahoo.com

Green Line Boy

I got on the Green Line on Beacon St. on April 1 around 5:30pm. We saw each other before I'd even used my T-pass, but looked away. Me: Baseball hat, sweater, leather backpack. You: Short brown hair, brown shirt, leather gloves. I sat across from you and we kept averting our eyes. I wanted to say Hi but I was too nervous (you were too) and I got off at Copley hoping you'd follow me. You looked disappointed but stayed on the train. I wish I had too. Hope you see this and respond.
—gpnwales@yahoo.com

Skinny Boy for the Skinny Tie Girl

I saw you at Orbit; I was as skinny as your tie. We were both alone but I couldn't talk to you. I was at TT's a week later for the Pills and still couldn't talk to you. Email me so we can go shopping for matching V-neck sweaters, ties and plastic glasses, or maybe I'll just see you at the next Ms. Pigeon show; I know how much you love that sexy singer. If you're looking for a chic geek and not a snotty mod, email me.
—apower14@aol.com

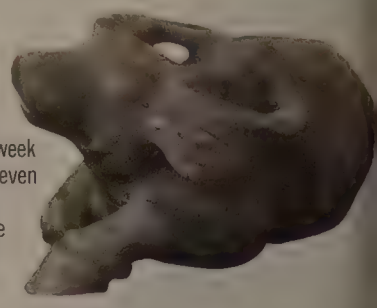
Wow

Every time I see you at the gym I can't help but stare. You always wear the same type outfit, close fitting white T-shirt and black running pants with the white stripes down the side. You are very good looking. Clean-cut, dark hair, good skin and very fit. Too good looking and masculine, so you must be straight. My loss. Why are all the good-looking guys straight? I'll try not to stare too much.
—Hans

Rockie Horoscope

APRIL 25 – MAY 9, 2001

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



TAURUS APRIL 20-MAY 20

Happy Birthday. Bulls born in April are blessed with brains—you all have balls! May birthdates tend to be more artistic and business-oriented. This week Mercury—the lower mind, mind you—meets the Taurus sun and becomes even more of a dominant force in your day-to-day life. You'll have telling insights and an ease of expression, plus when Mercury and fantasy-friendly Neptune align this weekend, you could write your first screenplay or produce a poem you'd be willing to read aloud. Performance anxiety be damned; this is the time to shine or, if the lighting is right, to glow in the dark.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

People get ready, a trainwreck's a-coming. Your normally fast-moving Mercury ruler (it whips through Taurus in 14 days) won't enter your sign until Cinco de Mayo. However, it'll remain in Gemini a long time, from May 5 until July 12, in retrograde from June 4-28. This schedule should give you enough time to make use of the information and insights you received when the down-to-earth Taurus sun and Mercury met on Earth Day. Or, in keeping with the flexible Gemini credo, you could choose, literally and figuratively, to take it one day at a time.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

The Taurus new moon on the 23rd heralds the start of a supportive lunar cycle, both career-and family-wise, for the Moon Child. And, as a mother, may I say, it's about time! Earthy, sensual Taurus offers tender-hearted Cancerians relief from the challenges imposed on them by blood-and-guts Aries. Only Venus is still in fiery Aries, continuing to devise situations that test your attachment to a woman or an artist and the goodies they offer. And only until May 6. Hang in there, kid!

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Taurus, your season of striving, has just begun. Don't be surprised if you're offered more challenging opportunities than you've seen in many moons. Planetary activity in your career midheaven triggers reactions from co-workers and partners that reflect on and include you. Something glamorous, somewhat nebulous, maybe music or movie-related, could pop up when your sun ruler and visionary Neptune square on the 28th. Remember: A square aspect is often a good thing; without them, nothing happens.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Check out the Gemini forecast for the dates when your Mercury ruler will next be retrograde, when you can expect delays and hassles if you're traveling and more than the usual miscommunication with clients, your boss or Dad. This way you'll have a rough idea when to schedule a summer vacation, when to avoid family reunions. But for now, feel free to let your imagination loose. Put your vision into words and pictures while Mercury is being inspired by Neptunian idealism. Next week, a healthy infusion of Saturnian practicality.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

Patience, please. Although your Venus ruler has been moving forward since the 19th, it'll take a while before it picks up enough speed to impress upon you that the changes you're experiencing are permanent. While this could be a scary thought, remember that Venus doesn't turn retrograde every year. Nor does it usually provide such valid reasons to re-evaluate your relationship or whatever else has come under review since February 2, which is when Venus first entered Aries. Is the picture getting any clearer?

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

Once again you're on the verge, but of what, only you know. Within a week or so, your Pluto co-ruler will have another growth spurt when it opposes expansive Jupiter. This polarity was in effect last autumn, so think back to what barrier you broke, what change was made, because something similar is coming up. If you have Scorpio rising, chances are the matter concerns money or other assets you share with someone who is or has been quite significant. Until then, keep an eye on the artists and alcoholics in the family because Neptune's net is hitting close to home.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

What really matters? Difficult questions, such as this one, receive complicated, multilayered answers while regenerative Pluto in Sagittarius is opposed by your Jupiter ruler. Read Scorpio for the timing, but also be aware that after these planets faceoff on May 6, you will have learned the lesson and will have come up with a solution that works. This is especially true if you were born around December 6. Jupiter, the planet of prosperity, keeps you enthusiastic about partnership matters until it leaves Gemini in July. Then you're done.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

Like your Cancerian brethren, Caps should be breathing easier now that earthy, sensuous Taurean energy has replaced Aries' fire and brimstone. Well, there still could be a pushy broad (or an artist) who is challenging your sense of fair play and aesthetic preferences. As long as Venus remains in Aries, until June 6, you'll have reasons to deal with matters and people ruled by Venus. This includes your family, where you live and attractive people who'll join you for dinner.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

Now is a good time to make your presence known in the neighborhood, with local shopkeepers and on bulletin boards that'll be glad to advertise your wares. Apropos of Earth Day, this is also when the environment has more of an impact than at other times. However, while you may be willing to suspend disbelief (impressionable Neptune in your sign is under attack), you shouldn't let people play you for a spaced-out idealist. A die-hard romantic, an inspirational visionary, is something else altogether.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Once again, Pisces and Aquarius are on parallel tracks, reacting to challenges issued to your Neptune ruler by planets (and people) who are bullish. Plus, Fish might have associates who are harboring delusions of grandeur and including you in "the big picture." What their actions will cost you is yet to be determined. However, by the weekend, you should know what they envision, where you fit in and, if you are so inclined, at what point you can make your escape.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

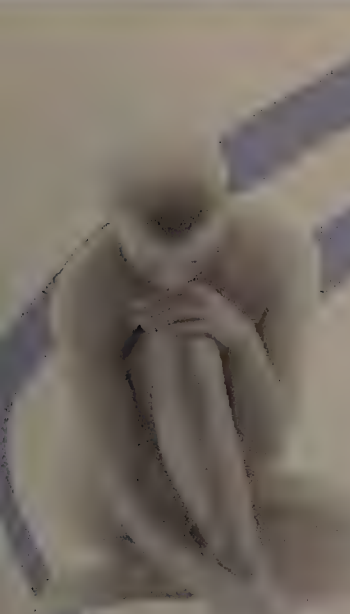
If you focus on what you really need, not what you currently desire, you could acquire the items on your list in a relatively short time. Visualize what's missing, then direct the Taurus new moon energy to fill in the blanks. Why now? First, because earthy Taurus governs your money house; second, because Venus, the planet that rules Taurus, your finances and feelings, is in Aries. Plus, your Mars ruler is in friendly, fiery Sagittarius at the top of your chart, where it's rewarding the qualities that make the Ram the leader of the (zodiacal) pack.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com.* Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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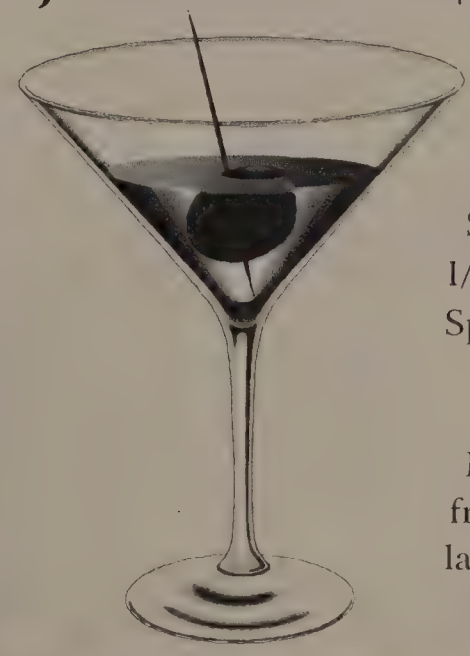
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Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



Scott Avedisian, mayor of Warwick, R.I. holds up a nuptial-themed Improper.



Laura Medice and Jessica Lantos brought their swimwear to icy Iceland, which apparently has at least one warm, misty lagoon. Either that or the water is in need of some major filtering.



Brenda George and John DeRose continue our fabulous Swimsuit Sightings as they pose on a dive boat off the Great Barrier Reef in Australia.



Christopher Talanian and Tyler Drinkwater discover right off the bat that on the Columbus Isle, as in most worthwhile destinations, ladies sure do love a man who knows how to read.



Lauren Gebhardt, Robin Watlington and Julie Johnson look happy to have finally washed ashore in the Dominican Republic after their boat, originally destined for Gloucester, got blown a bit off course.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Calling One-Eyed Zeke's bluff to take the pot at the World Series of Poker, April 21-May 18 at Binion's Horseshoe Hotel in—where else?—Las Vegas, Nev.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of The Improper Bostonian Magazine and will not be returned.

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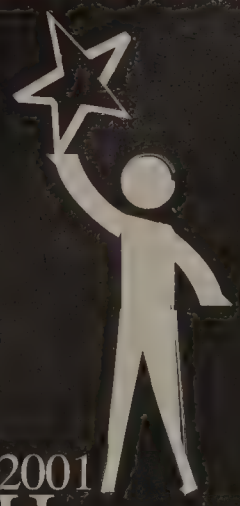
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Bartenders NOMINATE

bartenders for the Harpoon Good Neighbor Award



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the Bartenders Ball June 10, 2001

NOMINATE:
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DETAILS:
At the Second Annual Harpoon Bartenders Ball on June 10th a Boston area bartender will receive the Harpoon Good Neighbor Award for their outstanding contribution to the community or a charity. Harpoon will donate $5,000 to the winning bartender's charity.

NOMINATION COMMITEE INCLUDES:
Joe Mc Guirk of *B-Side Lounge*
Bobby Page of *Middle East*
Angie Martinson of *The Rack*
Kevin Power of *Bukowsk*

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improperazzi

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, April 4, **Barcode** celebrated its First Anniversary with a private party hosted by the jovial staff. The exclusive event was held to thank VIP patrons who've supported the hip restaurant/night spot for the past year.


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1. Barcode, Vox and Metro marketing director **Liz Dejong** with owner **Joe Quattrocchi.**
2. Barcode, Vox and Metro owner **Brian Lesser** with **Erica Frene** of The Sports Club/LA Boston and **Mark Spence**, general manager of Barcode.
3. **Liza Meneades** of WBCN; **Dr. Mark Pernokis**, a dentist in Woburn; **Simon O'Leary** of Atlas Water Systems; and **Cindy Blackwell** of WBCN.
4. **Doug Irwin** of Advent Software with his wife, **Jen Storey-Irwin,** of Storey PR.
5. **Al Rand** of Allied Domecq Spirits with **Janet Livingston**, Barcode bartender.
6. **David Sardella** of Maker's Mark Distillery with **Aimee Stashak**, manager of Barcode.

On Thursday, April 5, **Gucci** held an event at its Copley Place location to display the new spring line and to celebrate the recent *City Guide* supplement in **Elle** magazine. The *City Guide* profiled five chic cities, including Boston. *Elle*'s chosen quintessential city woman for Boston, interior designer Maureen Balsbaugh, was in attendance. Guests at the event enjoyed festive beverages and delicious hors d'oeuvres gracefully presented by **Mistral**.


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1. **Seth Greenberg** of Aria and Mistral; **Susan Brubacher** special events planner for Gucci; and **Doug McCullough** Gucci's VP of retail.
2. Radio mogul **Richard Balsbaugh** and his wife, **Maureen**, *Elle*'s City Woman of Boston.
3. **Fraser Conlon**, director of public relations for Gucci, and **Alyson Day** Gucci's Media Planner.
4. **Juan Belmonte,** a student from Venezuala, and **Carolina Hernandez** from Louis Vuitton.
5. **Charlie Nitaplalis** from Boston Real Estate Group; **Kathleen Friel,** a stylist at Man on the Moon Hair Salon; **Robin Perry,** manager at the Boston Real Estate Group; **Susan Shapiro** of Fletcher Spaght; and **Jay Jacoby** of Elkus Manfredi.
6. **Lisa Peterson** of Pyramid Media, **Helen Bates** of Holland Mark Advertising, and **Jeannine Roy** from Medford.

PHOTOS: WENDY SEMONIAN, BARCODE; GUCCI, JIM KE

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11:30 am - 2 am.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

Watch City Brewing Co. *256 Moody St. Waltham 781-647-4000 Top* Ten Reasons To Visit Watch City:
10. At the top of Waltham's restaurant row 9. Easy access from Rt. 128 & Masspike 8. Free parking 7. The Embassy Cinema next door 6. Award winning chef & brewers 5. www. watchcitybrew.com 4. Live music Wed & Thurs. nights 3. Great grilled seafood, steaks & burgers 2. Only female owned brew pub in USA 1. Great beers, great food, always a great time.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District, Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers, this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 1 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and im ported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment ever Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimm O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily fo lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer wit free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "N Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in th downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

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GENERAL

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Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-860* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Coppe fields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for priva parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & po Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraise graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthday Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursd Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate ba and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Ente tainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *346 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar)

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Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF



At the Boston Public Library, clockwise from top: Barbara Senecal and Glenn and Linda Loury; Geoff, Rosalee and David McCullough; Anita Desai; and Bernie Margolis.

READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?

While Hollywood was vapidly congratulating itself on Oscar night, the **Associates of the Boston Public Library** held an awards ceremony with a higher I.Q. factor and none of the histrionic foolishness at the **Park Plaza Hotel**.

This year's **Literary Lights Dinner**, which honors a handful of New England authors, raised money to establish a permanent endowment for conservation. There was much talk of the rare and first editions, irreplaceable personal papers and other treasures that are mouldering away in the library's attic. That gave guests something to act indignant about, along with providing a sense of worthy purpose, while the guest list included enough intellectual heavyweights to lend the proceedings a certain gravitas.

Among the honorees: Cambridge novelist **Anita Desai**, trenchant social commentators **Glenn Loury** and **Howard Zinn**, literary electron miscroscope **Nicholson Baker**, **Dr. Jerome Groopman**, Nantucket whaling chronicler **Nathaniel Philbrick** and historian and PBS personality **David McCullough**, who delivered the after-dinner speech and was accompanied by his charming wife, **Rosalee**, sons **Geoff** and **Bill**, and daughter-in-law **Cissy**.

In the audience were assorted bibliophiles, like Associates chair **Vivian Spiro** and her dapper other half, **Lionel**, event co-chairs **Anita Lincoln** and **Teresa Spillane**, Speaker of the House **Tom Finneran**, the swanlike socialite trio of **Joan Kennedy**, **Stephanie Warburg** and **Ann Gund**, best friends since Mt. Holyoke **Kathy Capra** and **Barbara Senecal**, culture vultures **Steve** and **Lois Kunian**, art dealer **Karen Rotenberg**, mega-philanthropist **Paul Buttenweiser**, Brahmin archetype **John Sears**, and library chief **Bernie Margolis**, who reassured the gathering that there are still more public libraries than McDonald's joints in the United States.

Before leaving, guests dismantled the centerpieces—Liberace-like candelabras entwined in ivy and piled with books by the honorees—and departed feeling like they'd done something substantial with their evening. Lest the whole affair seem relentlessly high-minded, however, there was one woman who responded to a compliment on her dress by explaining that it had been originally fitted for a friend and she'd had to take the bust in, adding: "But at least my tits are real."

AND THE WINNER IS...

Meanwhile, across the street, the **Tenth Annual Academy Awards Gala Benefit** at the **Four Seasons** had the deflated air of a losing candidate's campaign headquarters on election night.

There was a smattering of demi-celebrities, like boxer/model/actor **Richie LaMontagne**, TV actor **Michael Badalucco** of *The Practice*, and *Lottery Live* hostess **Dawn Hayes**, and the place was certainly decked out for a celebration, with red carpet and gold balloons, but the whole thing never really gelled, and everyone left early, including stalwarts like **Tim Grafft** of the Mass Film Office, former talent-agent **Anne Woolf** and Radius co-owner **Christopher Myers**.

One theory that explains the lukewarm vibe: There's something assinine about getting dressed up to watch TV, so unless you're actually going to the Oscars, why bother?

However, a rival party to benefit **The Ellie Fund** (a charity that combats breast cancer) managed to make the Oscars palatable by having it at the swanky new **Fenway General Cinema**. Not only did the concession stand serve decent popcorn and alcohol (above), but the stadium seating allowed guests to kibbitz with their neighbors while ignoring the digital broadcast of the ungodly spectacle as it unfolded in L.A.



The Fenway General Cinema concession stand

Present and accounted for: the organization's founder, **Jeff Popkin**, drool-worthy disembodied voice **Lynn Hoffman** of Mix 98.5 and her laconic colleague, **Gregg Daniels**, restaurateur **Darryl Settles** of Bob the Chef's, North End real estate magnate and fashion plate **Matteo Gallo** and numerous others, who made amusingly snarky comments about the stars' outfits, hairdos and acceptance speeches.

In fact, the party's only downside was being subjected to the sight of Bob Dole and Britney Spears within the same 30-second commercial, on a gigantic movie screen. And for that, I'd like to blame the Academy.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER?

Community Serving's annual fund-raiser, **Life Savor**, is a bit like the hypothetical question If you could invite anyone to dinner, who would it be?

The charity, which delivers meals to home-bound AIDS patients and raised over $440,000 that evening, throws a glittery cocktail party at the **Meridien**, after which guests go off to various restaurants for dinners hosted by someone noteworthy, like B-52s front man **Fred Schneider**, best-selling novelists **Robin Cook** and **Robert B. Parker**, Bruins great **Cam Neely**, political cartoonist **Paul Szep**, Antiques Roadshow host **Dan Elias** and his wife, Skinner Auctioneers head **Karen Keane**, folk singer **Livingston Taylor**, WBCN program director **Oedipus** or Channel 7 anchor stud **Randy Price**.

While perhaps not on a par with the King of Sweden's annual dinner for Nobel Prize winners, it's an impressive gathering nonetheless, also boasting the likes of tropical blossom **Colette Phillips**, talk-radio wit **Marjorie Clapprood**, Channel 7 cutie **Janet Wu** and the station's creative services director, **Steve Donald**, afternoon news anchor **Kasey Kaufman** and husband **Michael Horowitz**, *Chronicle* producer **Lisa Pierpont** and husband **Alex**, real estate mogul **Dan Mullin**, mattress peddlers **Barry** and **Eliot Tatelman**, and so on and so forth.

Overheard on the way to the coatroom: A guest stopped Schneider to mention "Can I just tell you? I was you for Halloween one year!"

"That's funny," Schneider said, "because I was you." iB



Esti Benson and Chris Myers



Dawn Hayes







At Life Savor, from top: Paulina Neely; Steve Donald and Janet Wu; Karen Keane and Dan Elias; Fred Schneider; Cynthia von Bueller and Oedipus.

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BY RACHEL STRUTT

—PLUS—

An acupuncture clinic helps pinpoint pain

BY JULIE SHORT

Can RICHARD HATCH Survive Boston?

AN INTERVIEW BY JONATHAN SOROFF

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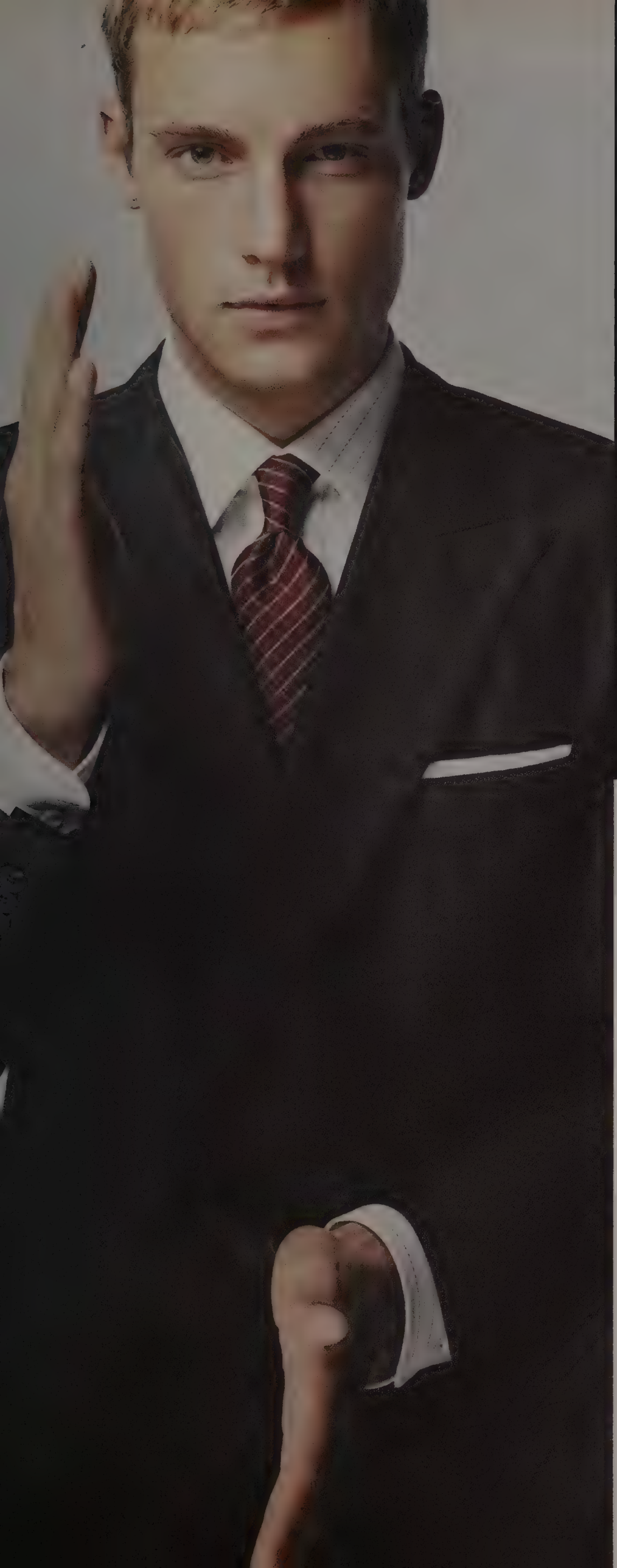
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Contents

MAY 9-22, 2001



18

Minimalist art at Marfa. Below: The Avalon 15th Anniversary party, and Richard Hatch, who hopes to develop a following in Boston.

6



16

FEATURES

16 Soroff On/Richard Hatch

If original *Survivor* winner Richard Hatch seems to be maxing out his 15 minutes of fame, you shouldn't be too surprised. He might be off the island, but he's still calculating—how to leverage his fame into a heftier bank balance, that is. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 Mysteries of Marfa

Deep in Texas, sci-fi kitsch and a world-class contemporary art collection coexist in the small town of Marfa.

BY RACHEL STRUTT

24 The Pain Reliever

The words "needles" and "AIDS" used together may have negative connotations, but an acupuncture clinic in Boston is aiming to change that by helping HIV-positive patients. BY JULIE SHORT

28 Fashion: American Woman

These fashions rock.

PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER

COLUMNS

6 The Word
Cocoon hatches downtown; Giuliano Day Spa doubles size; Mother's Day brunches; play hooky with lunchtime excursions

10 E-Boston
Some online personals are aimed at the "sucker" demographic.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
He needs a remedy.
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

34 Mopsy
Premium clothes for kids; a long history for the Artery; paper trails
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

56 Film
A Knight's Tale can make for a long night at the movies.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

68 Music
Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys bring Cajun spice to Boston.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

92 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

36 Dining
At Dolce Vita the food doesn't exactly come for a song, but it might come with one.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

38 Dish
Chefs and athletes team up for benefit.
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

38 Wine
Wine and food matching basics.
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

39 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Baking for breast cancer.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 41.
Algonquin Literary Tour • **Tortoise** • New film series at the Milky Way • Taste of the Nation • Boston's Beloved Bartenders party at The Rack • Vaudeville at the Middle East • **Psychedelic Furs**

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	84
Rockie Horoscope	84
Improperazzi	88
Improper Sightings	86
Classifieds	90



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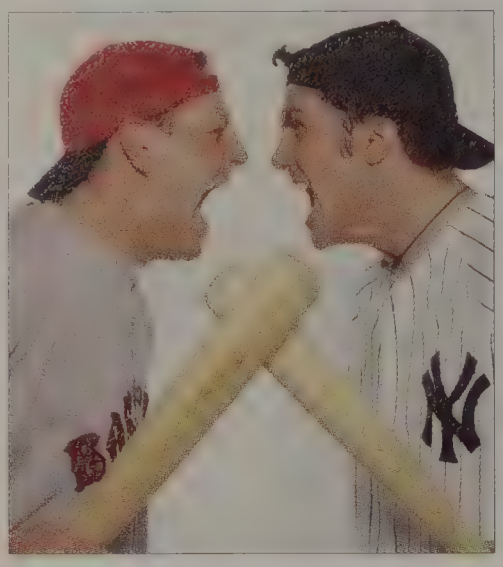
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—*SUSANNAH JABAILY*
BRAINTREE

THE FOUL BRAWL GOES ON

Before I begin, I would like to make it known that the New York Yankees are talented ball club, and I admire passionate players like Paul O'Neill, Bernie Williams and Derek Jeter. But...oh yes, there is a "but." Like most Boston baseball enthusiasts, I possess the dominant "Yankees Suck" gene. I am unable to control this inherent repugnance for the New York organization, especially when I am tugging at the cushions on my couch as Derek Lowe gives up two home runs in extra innings. When I am sitting in the bleachers at Fenway Park, however, I am forced to suppress my emotions. How am I supposed to cheer wildly for the clutch hits of Shea Hillenbrand, the punchados of Pedro Martinez, the madness of Carl Everett and the mullet madness of Rod Beck when I am drowning in a sea of overzealous Yankees fans armed with brimming beer cups? New Yorkers have invaded Fenway Park to the point where I forget that the Sox are playing a home game. As a city, we must reclaim Fenway Park from the opposition, and I too will try to overcome my passivity when I attend the Red Sox–Yankees game on Memorial Day.

—SUSANNAH JABAILY
Braintree

SHERMAN LACKS ESTROGEN

I have two recommendations for future movie reviews. One: Do not ever send men to review movies based on women's neurotic views of single life. Two: For the love of God, have them read the book if they're going to criticize the screen adaptation so they do not end up sounding like total morons. Paul Sherman was right; *The Diary of Bridget Jones* did touch something with its readers. It verbalized the crazy thoughts every woman has ever had about dating, her body and her relationship with her mother in a way that made everyone laugh out loud. The point of the book was to talk about Bridget's life, not her diary, a fact that seemed to confuse poor Paul to no end but that would have been amply explained had he bothered to pick up the book. The movie adapted it amazingly well, and as for shallow character development, how does one manage to represent several hundred pages on screen? I saw the film with a group of 10 women, ages 22-39, some of whom had read the book and some of whom hadn't. They all loved it, not because the plot was original, but because they could see themselves in Bridget's character. Not to be a raging feminist, but a guy just wouldn't get it.

And by the way, Renee Zellweger did a bloody fantastic British accent.

—ELIZABETH RAKOCY
Boston

WHAT'S BINARY FOR "DIS"?

Thank you Geoffbert, evil PR director, for your insightful column entitled "High-Tech Hooliganism." Did you consider consulting any sources that weren't printed in full-color, multi pane format? THE IMPROPER's E-Boston column reminds me of the auto page in the *Boston Globe*, which always reads like it was written by the last staffer to buy a mini-van rather than by an industry expert. I'll take issue with James' assessment of the consulting industry as that is where my knowledge best lies, but I can only guess that the rest of his article is equally unbalanced. I've worked, in my past, for one of the Big Six (Five...whatever), tech consulting firms. I've since moved on and am part of the management team at my own high-tech venture, but I still hold my ex-company in high regard. To take one example, James outlines his riveting "bait and switch" tactic, where execs make the sale but put inexperienced employees on the projects. Inexperienced? Or less experienced? I don't know too many industries where the gray-hairs sell the work and then roll up their sleeves to code the system—it's a different set of skills. I wouldn't quite call that practice "sleazy." For lack of space I won't address each of James' points in turn, but know that I would have expected a more realistic perspective from a guy who has "over 20 years of experience working with and for high-tech companies" (this according to *geoffreyjames.com*).

—ADAM B. HOCHERMAN
Boston

DANGEROUS CURVES

I enjoy your magazine thoroughly, and I appreciate your inclusion of Samantha House's teeny weeny feature entitled "Big Girls Don't Cry" (April 25). Why doesn't the IMPROPER adopt this sudden love for the big-boned ladies in its own frequent fashion segments, or better yet, include some advertising with curvaceous figures instead of the sticks I see on pages 7, 43-47, 61, 63, 91, and 101 of this issue alone. Of course, I understand that not all of your own or your advertisers' models are going to tip the scales at a whopping 130, but a round bum or two never hurt anyone.

—AMELIA CATONE
Brookline

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the Word

trends
tittle tattle
people
panache

NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

EXOTICA FOR THE HOME



Word has it that this summer's drink of choice is the Brazilian *kaipirinh*—a drink made with liquor distilled from sugar cane (called *cachaca*), mixed with freshly squeezed lime juice and a spoonful of sugar, served on the rocks in a glass tumbler. "The Brazilians drink it like water during the summer," says Debra Szidon, co-owner of Cocoon, a new store specializing in contemporary Brazilian furniture and antiquities as well as Asian and European antiquities.

We mention the Brazilian beverage because we found a rare *kaipirinh* drink-making kit at Cocoon's grand opening at the end of April. It was quite by accident that we stumbled upon this extremely inviting, high-end homeware store after deciding, on a whim, to follow a trail of people toting giant palm fronds through the Common. Tucked between the new Ritz-Carlton towers and the Tremont Tower condos, Cocoon sells an eclectic mix of imported items—from candles, frames and potpourri to jewelry, cheese boards and drinking glasses. And on its opening day, Szidon and her mother-in-law/co-owner Natalia gave away Brazilian chocolates and palm fronds. The store is full of greenery. Both Szidons have a background in horticulture, so in addition to furniture and accessories, the pair sells colorful, exotic flower arrangements.



Everything in the store is unique to the Northeast, says Debra, who travels to South America on buying trips with Argentine-born Natalia. "We have exclusive agreements with our suppliers." The larger items, like a chaise lounge made of vinhatico wood, obviously sell for more ($1,900), but you can pick up a colorful vase for a mere $5. There are also antiques from Asia, including a wedding cabinet from the Qing Dynasty. *170 Tremont St., Boston (728-9898).*

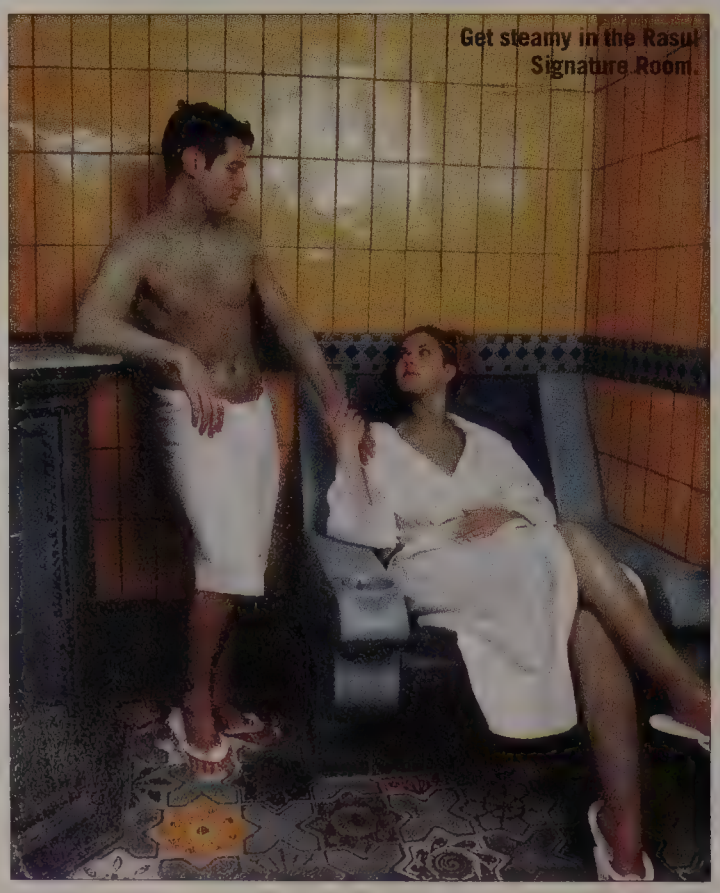
THIS JUST IN

DOUBLE THE PLEASURE

One of the best day spas in the city just got better. Newbury Street's **Giuliano Day Spa**, which has been a haven for those in search of exotic spa treatments, indulgence, beauty and wellness since 1993, just has completed a massive expansion, adding an entirely new floor and a slew of exclusive services. Doubling the size of the spa, CEO Joyce Hampers has added Pilates, a yoga studio, juice bar, healthy eating classes, a hydro-kinetic Vichy Shower, personal trainer services, the Chic Unique Boutique retail shop and a men's spa.

But what's got most people all hot and bothered is the new **Rasul Signature Room**. Based on a concept that dates back to the ancient bathing rituals of royalty, the Rasul Room is a cozy chamber that seats two so you can bring a partner in with you. Here you can get rubbed in medicinal muds, receive warm steam infusion and gentle massage while looking up at the Arabic dome with star-filled fiber-optic sky, down at the intricately hand-painted ceramic floor—or even into a special someone's eyes. This spa-for-two idea is a brand-new concept in Boston—and Giuliano now has lots of it.

Companion suites have sliding doors so you can get a rub-down with a friend. The spa is celebrating its make-over, so to speak, with a series of activities. May 17 is the Gala Spring Benefit Reception and May 20 is the Giuliano Ultimate Tea Party. At both events, you can sign up for special package deals. *338 Newbury St., Boston (262-2220). —Erin Hagedorn*



Get steamy in the Rasul Signature Room.

IMPROPER REPORTS

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

Remember the cookies your mom used to bake when you were little? Well, now it's time to show your appreciation. We offer you vittles for all budgets (per person):

- **Four Seasons, Boston (338-4400): $74**
- **Top of the Hub, Boston (536-1775): $59**
- **Spinnaker Italia at the Hyatt (492-1234): $39.95**
- **Bob the Chef's, Boston (536-6204): $21.95**
- **Dick's Last Resort, Boston (267-8080): $15.99**
- **White Horse Tavern, Boston (254-6633): $10.54**

CELEBS

JOCK STOPS

In case you missed the mayhem, the World Wrestling Federation put on the Raw Is War show at the FleetCenter April 9. Kurt Angle, Stone Cold Steve Austin, the Dudley Boys, Undertaker and Triple H were just some of the biggies in the ring. And we hear, whenever these heavyweights are in town, they flex their muscles at the World Gym (at the Boston/Logan location). According to World Gym's manager, Sal DeMartinis, "The Rock, Kane and Al Snow started the trend here about two years ago. And now the rest of the WWF has caught on." *—Barbara Mattaliano*

NIGHTSPOTTING

CLUB NEWS

Many of Boston's after-hours hot spots have just become a year older—within just weeks of each other. Avalon turned 15 (right) April 26 and Venu turned two April 27. Also, Pravda 116 celebrated the one year mark of its hit International Night April 11. Coming up, on May 19, Roxy celebrates its 15th anniversary. In other club news, people are lining up to get in Brookine's Golden Temple restaurant—but not just to eat lo mein. Tucked away in a back room is the E Room (and no, this is not a drug reference!), which starts hopping at midnight when the dance ditties kick in. Eric Hornfeldt, manager of the Golden Temple reports, "The E Room has evolved into a hip, thirtysomething hangout, with a crowd that enjoys the food, the variety of martinis and the dancing at this Washington Square spot." DJ



Joey Testa spins top-40 on Friday nights from 10pm-2am. DJ Johan Vancaubwenberghe spins tunes on Wed., Thu. and Sun. 10pm-1am and Sat., 10pm-2am. —B.M.

COCOON: WENDY MIMRAN (2), AVALON: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

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Look, Mom, no wet mittens, soggy boots and frostbitten cheeks!

TOYS

SLIP SLIDING AWAY

Now that the scooter craze has pretty much plateaued, there may be a new must-have oddball toy to try this summer. It's called a summer sled. Like a big plastic skateboard on wheels, you can either sit or lie on the gizmo as you zoom down a grassy hill. "SummerSled gives you all the exhilaration of snow sledding without the hassles of wet mittens, soggy boots and frosbitten cheeks," says Matt Walker, the marketing director of St. Louis-based Mental Engineering. It's currently being test-marketed in California Toys R' Us stores—but you can order it online, so perhaps we'll be seeing adults in suits scooting down Beacon Hill in the near future. *Visit* www.summersled.com *or call 877-493-SLED. —E.H. and J.S.*

ALL THE BUZZ

YUPPIE RECYCLING

How does the "Me Generation" contribute to the greater good? There are plenty of possibilities.

•Starbucks will give you coffee grounds for composting in your garden. Just call a day in advance and ask them to put some grinds aside for you to take home and feed to the compost pile. Any store will be glad to give grounds away. *Call the Cambridge Galleria store at 621-9507.*

•The Donate a Phone campaign puts your old wireless phone equipment to good use. Your donated phone will provide victims of domestic violence with phones and airtime in case of an emergency. *For a list of local collection points, visit www.donateaphone.com or call 202-785-0081.*

•NikeTown takes old sneakers—anything with a rubber soul, no matter what brand—and sends them to a recycling plant to be made into new sneakers. Bring old shoes to the third-floor customer-service counter at NikeTown. *200 Newbury St., Boston (267-3400).*

•The Back to MAC program allows you to bring six empty makeup containers to any MAC counter and get a free lipstick.

•Positive Impressions Inc. is a nonprofit group that provides interview-appropriate clothing for low-income women in transition. They'll take that old Prada suit off your hands. *(266-2356). —E.H. and J.S.*

SAM SAYS

MAYBE THEY'RE BORN WITH IT

While the rest of us struggle during our awkward prepubescent years with metal braces on our teeth, Hollywood types flaunt a set of teeth that would make a game-show host jealous. Ahh, the magic of modern vanity. Well, let me unravel at least one of these miracles: How to get bright white teeth. There are a couple of options. The first, and least appealing, is crowning. This process is the longest-lasting and the most expensive. It's also the most painful. The teeth are ground down to small nubs and molds are set for new teeth to be made. When the teeth arrive, the dentist fits and bonds them to your nubs, and all is perfect forever (below). This will set you back about $1,000 for each tooth. Of course, you could opt for porcelain veneers if you want something less pricey. With this process, the teeth are ground down only a little bit, and a thin layer of porcelain is set over each tooth. A beautiful effect, but a bit time consuming. Other downsides are that it only lasts for a few years, and coffee or tea can easily stain teeth. Veneers will run you about $500 for each tooth. There's also laser whitening, which is a cheap, effective way of whitening (although not all dentist offices offer this). You sit back in a chair with your mouth held open for about 25 or 30 minutes as your dentist places a laser machine up to your mouth and...voila`! This costs about $500 for your whole mouth. Last, but not least, there's tray whitening. A mold of your teeth is made, and in a few days you can pick up a special mouth guard and whitening cream, which is then placed in your mouth for 20-minute intervals. Your teeth rapidly become bright white (in about one week). This costs $150 for top and bottom trays, and it will last you about eight months. *—Samantha House*



ADVERTISING

DA DA DA

Remember when Volkswagen came out with that smelly-armchair commercial that made you sing Trio's "Da Da Da" all day long in your head? Well, the company that created the ad, Boston-based Arnold Worldwide, has launched a new Internet radio station where you can hear "Da Da Da," along with a variety of other catchy songs perfect for dancing or driving around. The station, *www.radiovw.com*, features songs from such longtime heavyweights as Chuck Berry and Charles Mingus. It also showcases more obscure artists like English folk rocker Nick Drake (who overdosed in 1974), whose song "Pink Moon" was once used in a VW commercial. If you like what you hear, you may also click on links to purchase music from each artist.

Meanwhile, Lance Jensen, who was the creative force behind Arnold's "Da Da Da" spot before launching his own local company, Modernista, early last year with longtime friend Gary Koepke, has already hit the fast lane. After landing huge accounts such as the Gap and General Motors last fall, Modernista has also dreamed up those MTV print ads you've seen on T platforms and on the sides of buses. The ads, which read like public health announcements ("Talk to your partner about MTV"), are expected to make their way to television by June. What's next for the ultrahip ad maestros? Stay tuned for their campaign to spotlight GM's new Hummer, the H2, early in 2002. It promises to be contagious. *—Susan Abbattista*

MORSELS

EDIBLE ART

Every year, the Edible Art show (this year it was held May 5 at Shreve, Crump & Low), gets more extravagant and the chefs more creative. This year, Felino Samson of Third World Productions and Bomboa restaurant revealed his edible, wearable creation—fruit leathers. The deliciously elaborate clothing, inspired by Claude Montana and made as a tribute to the '80s, was made from solidified jam and Jell-O. *—E.H.*



INDUSTRY NEWS

BRIGHT IDEA

A class-action lawsuit is being brought against NStar Corp., alleging that the company has placed many customers who move within its territory on more expensive default service instead of the standard service (the rate given to people who were customers before deregulation in March of 1998). NStar spokesman Mike Durand calls the lawsuit "ridiculous" and says that "there is no reason for us not to try to get people on the right plan. The rules are quite explicit about who should pay what, but sometimes—for instance, if a husband and wife move, and the bill is put in the other spouse's name—mistakes are made."

Regardless of what happens with the lawsuit, the publicity it's drawn has at least prompted some Bostonians to closely examine their utility bills. The next thing you know, we'll be calling the phone company and canceling the *69 service that we never use. Then we'll contact the cable company to get rid of the Cinemax that was free with the *first* month of service. Then maybe all the former BankBoston customers who were assigned a "Fleet Classic" checking account (with its attendant $2,000 minimum balance) will decide that it's time to embrace the "Self Service Checking" account.

Such scrutiny would be OK with NStar's Durand. "If the lawsuit prompts people to examine their bills a little closer, then that's good for us, because that's how we hear from people—when they call in." *—Ezra Dyer*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

RIGHT: WENDY MMRAN

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For a Good Time, Call...

Bogus Boston personals beef up pornographers' bottom lines

It used to be that the only place to check the dating personal ads in Boston was in the pages of a paper where they were filed not far from the massage and escort ads. The Internet, however, has changed all of that. It's now possible for single (and not-so-single) men and women to scan thousands of online advertisements in order to find a potential companion. In Boston, one of the most popular online dating services is Digital City Boston (a site owned by America Online).

While many of the personal ads on the site are from real people, a number are fake entries from online pornographers who are attempting to attract lonely-but-not-too-bright guys to girly photo Web sites. What's amusing about the bogus ads is that they're so patently phony that it's incredible that anyone would ever fall for them.

For example, an ad entitled "Seeking A Wild Night Out" describes its owner as a "Medical Secretary" with a height of 5'7" and a weight of 133 pounds. Now, the weight alone should be enough to clue the reader that something's off kilter, because real personal ads from real women tend not to speak in such specifics, either leaving the field blank or using more general descriptions like "curvy," "cuddly," "voluptuous," "plush" or even "thick." This "medical secretary" (we learn) is "32 year old (and) currently seperated and pending divorce (and) just needs a night out on the town and if we hit it off possibly breakfast in the morning." The reader of the ad, of course, is supposed to get the picture of a desperate, beautiful woman just waiting to have sex with some stranger—the kind of creature that only exists in the fantasy world of a man who is totally clueless about women. At the end of the ad is a pointer to *www.realmatch.com*, a pay-per-view site masquerading as a dating site.

Many of the fake ads try to explain why the ad writer is acting contrary to every written and unwritten law of dating and every behavioral pattern of the human female. For example, an ad from a "36 year old, married 15 years" claims to be "seeking discrete massage" because her husband "travels extensively and is seldom home)." This lonely wife would like to "get together one or two afternoons a week to share a sensual massage," which she thinks "could be fun for both of us." The ad ends with a heartfelt: "please reply" to an e-mail address that only an idiot would think is real: brenda7@getnakedmail.com.

With some fakes you can almost see the cigar-chomping pornographer in the background, busily trying to write something that will drum up a few clicks. A good example is the ad entitled "Young Gal looking for love." The last time that anybody under 55 used the word "Gal" in Boston was in 1956 but, despite this, the "swf, 21 (is) very open sexually, and loves to explore." Like most young women, she definitely wants to date somebody who is age appropriate so, "if your under the age of 60, and interested, please e-mail me." Not surprisingly, she also has a Web site, which contains a few pictures of some fetching young model and which also solicits admission, for a fee, to an adult Web site.

YOU'D THINK THAT NOBODY WOULD BE STUPID ENOUGH TO FALL FOR THESE PATENTLY FAKE ADS. YOU'D BE WRONG, THOUGH. COME-ON ADS OF THIS TYPE OFTEN ATTRACT HUNDREDS OF RESPONSES.



One particularly elaborate fake personal is entitled "sexy executive woman." According to the ad, she is "confident but not conceited (and) a very attractive, well grounded woman (who will) try anything once and enjoys dinning out." This would-be inamorata is picky about her men because "it's hard to form an attraction to someone who's chest is smaller than mine." We also learn that the writer is "very real" and feels that "genuine romance realy is wonderfull." In order to respond, the reader is directed to a Web site and asked to pay a non-refundable $24.95-a-month membership fee. To make matters worse, the fee is automatically renewed, which means that if a guy signs up, his credit card will receive a new charge every month, unless he can somehow discover how to cancel the subscription. Not to worry, though, a year-long membership at $99.95 is available at "only $7.95 per month; our best deal!"

You'd think that nobody would be stupid enough to fall for these patently fake ads. You'd be wrong, though. A neighbor of mine who runs a large pornographic Web site says that come-on ads of this type often attract "hundreds" of responses and since personal ads cost next to nothing to place (Digital City Boston personals, for example, are free), bogus ads are one of the most effective ways that Internet pornographers acquire new customers.

According to my friend, the conversion rate for this form of advertising approaches an astounding one in seven, which means that for every seven pinheads who follow the link to the paid site, at least one is stupid enough to believe that he's actually latched onto something hot.

That explains why the Internet pornographers place bogus ads, but why does Digital City allow them in the first place? Despite repeated requests for an interview, Digital City isn't talking. However, since Digital City's personals are offered as a free service, there's probably little financial incentive to filter out the spurious come-ons. However, Digital City does offer a reader complaint function, which eventually results in the removal of the offending ad. Despite this, the same ads keep popping up, week after week, as tribute to the wisdom of P.T. Barnum (or was it W.C. Fields?) who said: "There's a sucker born every minute." IB

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

PHOTODISC

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Ezra BY EZRA DYER



Disorderly

I am a veritable festival of mental problems (VFOMP)

I just read a *Boston Globe* article about the latest unexplained mental disorder, called Sensory Integration Dysfunction (SID). I thought my crazy life was attributed to the fact that I have both Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) and Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). Bad weather makes me cry, but not for very long. Now I hear about SID, and I've got a whole new set of problems.

SID can make you either hypersensitive to sensory input, or inordinately insensitive to it, and thus clumsy. THAT'S ME, IN BOTH CASES. I capitalized that so it would get through to those of you who need a more intense sensory stimulus. If you are overly sensitive and it caused you to freak out, I'm sorry. Scientists aren't sure how to handle this, and neither am I.

But I know I have SID. According to the article, SID can make taking a shower feel like needles going into your head. I get that exact feeling when I listen to Creed, a band that is now officially more ubiquitous than the hydrogen atom. They're everywhere: "Thanks for listening to the Christian Freestyle Rap Gospel Hour. Now, our No. 1 song, for the 34th consecutive week, Creed, "With Arms Wide Open." I hereby propose that we send Creed on a flight to China and "accidentally" crash-land their jet in Tiananmen Square. Then, when the Chinese demand an apology, we'll say, "We spit on your apology, as does our band Creed. They will sing their glorious songs of Tibetan revolution regardless of whether or not you take away their instruments and lock them in small cages indefinitely!"

Other signs of this ultrasensory perception are "excess irritation caused by clothing like a tag in the back of a shirt or a toe seam in your sock." Again, that's me. Last week, I had the sensation of violently injuring my toe, almost as if I'd kicked the door because the Sox had blown yet another ninth-inning lead. But I guess it was just my irritating sock seam, because I am a victim of SID.

I'd also like to suggest that this disorder can be bipolar, because I can see where I've been hyper-*in*sensitive. When I was around 5 years old, my brother and I used to play a game that involved crawling head-first into a sleeping bag, then taking turns pushing each other off the top bunk of our beds. What fun, not knowing when the floor would hit! We also played Pirate Ship, which involved throwing each other out of the treehouse. You know you must be bored when gravity is your favorite toy. But back then, our parents were just glad that we weren't welding our Matchboxes with sparklers or digging six-foot pits in the woods, covering them with sticks and trying to trick our neighbors into falling into them (a plan that, sadly, never worked). These days, I'm reasonably certain that my brother and I would be much calmer, because Mom would be lacing our Sloppy Joes with 500 milligrams of Ritalin.

I now diagnose SID in other people, too. For instance, the other day I was on the phone with my friend Kara, and I could hear a noisy pile driver outside her office. I asked if she'd ever considered a career as a pile-driver operator, and she replied, "Riding mowers make me itch all over. A pile driver would probably make me want to pull my skin off. And running makes my knees itch." I didn't ask, but I'll bet Kara wears seamless socks.

THESE DAYS, MOM WOULD BE LACING OUR SLOPPY JOES WITH 500 MILLIGRAMS OF RITALIN.

As for me, I've got bigger issues. I'm petitioning my health-care provider to help me get over the effects of the latest malady, Ezra Dyer Disorder (EDD). As far as I know, I am the only person who has been diagnosed with this debilitating condition, which includes the aforementioned disorders *plus* these symptoms: male-pattern baldness; a tendency to find Aflac supplemental-insurance ads disproportionately hilarious; borrowing other people's cell phones because you refuse to get your own; telling people you're six feet tall when you're not; compulsively quoting the movie *Fletch*—"Mooooon Riiivveerrrr"; and saving calories by ordering a Diet Coke with fast food value meals that are so lard-laden that they come with a complimentary angioplasty balloon.

EDD, like SID, is not yet widely understood, so Blue Cross has been denying me the treatment that my, um, doctor recommended. I'm pretty sure that a case of Sauza Hornitos and a theraputic three-month trip to Paradise Island in the Bahamas would cure me, but do I get that? No. The health-care system in this country is so messed up. But that's another subject that I intend to write about, just as soon as I get over this carpal tunnel syndrome. **iB**

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HMV
RECORD STORES
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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The John Joseph Moakley Charitable Foundation Dinner was held April 18 at the Hynes Convention Center. More than 2,000 people attended a reception and dinner, which raised $2.5 million to provide scholarships and grants.

1. **Fred Clark**, **Karin Walser** and **Kevin Ryan**, district director, press secretary and chief of staff, respectively, for Congressman Joe Moakley.
2. **Max Kennedy** and his wife, **Vicki**.
3. **Emmet Hayes**, transportation consultant, and his wife, **Shannon O'Brien**, state treasurer.
4. **William Bulger**, president of UMass; and **Fr. Donald Monan**, chancellor of Boston College.
5. **Senator John Kerry** (l) and **Jim Smith**, partner at Smith, Segel & Sowalsky.
6. **Michael Flaherty**, Boston City Councilor; **Arthur Fritch**, convention services coordinator at the Hynes Convention Center; and **Stephen Crawford**, vice president of Corrigan Communications in Newton.
7. **Chad Gifford** (l) and **Jim Doherty**, president and senior vice president, respectively, of FleetBoston.


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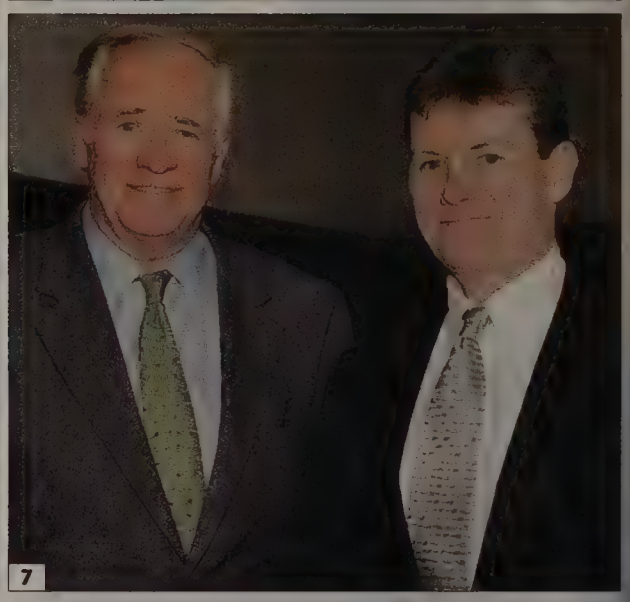

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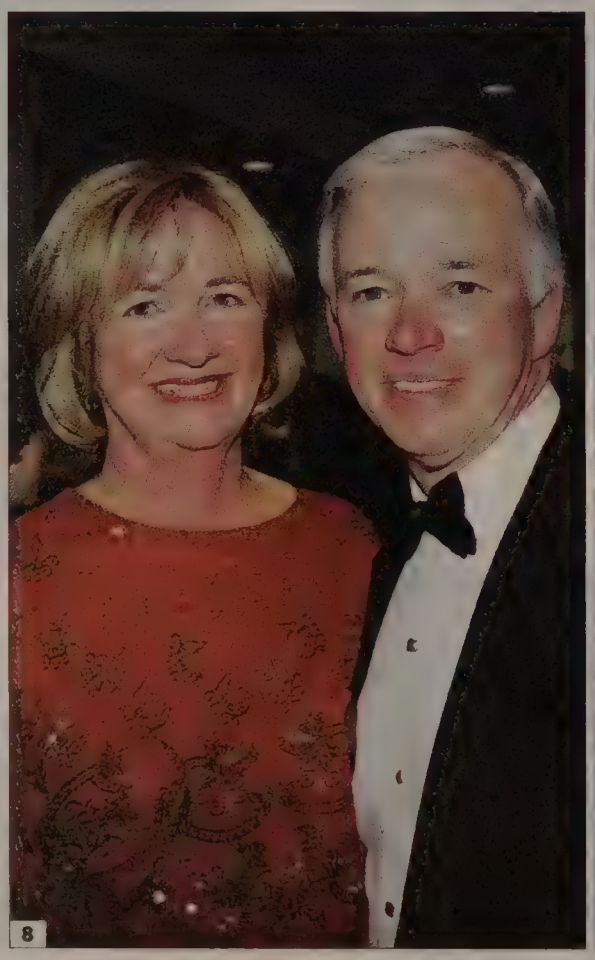

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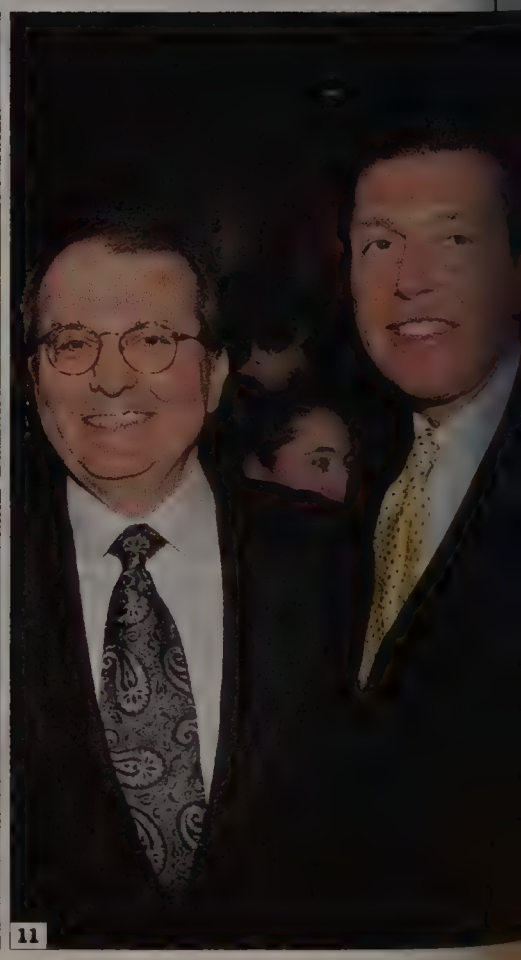
The 2nd annual Dinner for the Adopt-a-Student Foundation was held April 26 at the Seaport Hotel. More than 600 business and community leaders gathered at the dinner and silent action to honor Patrick Purcell, president of Herald Media Inc. James Curvey, Adopt-a-Student founder and Hill Holliday's Jack Connors Jr., co-chaired the gala. The master of ceremonies was Peter Meade of Blue Cross Blue Shield. The benefit raised $1 million to endow scholarships at Cathedral High School.

8. **Patrick Purcell**, president of Herald Media Inc., and his wife, **Maureen**.
9. From left: **Lauren Jalette**, **Mark Berube** and **Kristin Murphy**, trading assistant,trader and trading assistant, respectively, at Bear Sterns.
10. **Joan Vennochi** (l) and **Eileen McNamara**, Business columnist and Metro columnist, respectively, for the *Boston Globe*.
11. **John Remondi**, vice president of Fidelity Investments and president of Adopt-a-Student, and **George Regan**, president of Regan Communications.


8


9


10


11

IF YOU EVER FIND A WOMAN

who eases the pain from a hangover like Bloody Mary, marry her.

Join us for brunch in the Secret Garden at

B A R C O D E

Garden brunch starts 5/20	955 Boylston St.	Eat, drink and be seen.
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She's seen you naked, done your laundry and never once asked where the relationship is going. The least you can do is take her out for Mother's Day.

Mother's Day Brunch
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Soroff/On

Richard Hatch

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Richard Hatch imprinted himself on the nation's consciousness a year ago, by becoming the first million-dollar winner in the first season of the CBS cultural phenomenon known as *Survivor*. A native of Newport, R.I., he has worked as a corporate trainer and consultant, conducting seminars on team building, conflict management and practical negotiation. Since returning from his stint on the island, he has published a book, *101 Survivor Secrets: How to Make $1,000,000, Lose 100 Pounds and Just Plain Live Happily*, and he recently returned from London, where he taped a pilot for the American version of the BBC game show called *The Weakest Link*. In addition to serving as a commentator on the *CBS Early Show* and penning a column for *US Weekly*, he co-hosts the radio talk show *Wild Thing* with Charlie Wild on Boston's 93.7 Star FM.

Jonathan Soroff: *Essentially, you're famous for being devious...*

Richard Hatch: Yeah, I love that.

JS: *No problem learning to live with it?*

RH: No! Are you kidding? I have a theory about it. I believe it's people's inability to have grasped what was going on on the show and their wanting to vote for the underdog. They saw me pulling ahead more and more the whole time, and they said, "Well, screw him, look what he's doin' to her." Meanwhile, by the time it was over, they got it. Once I won, they said, "Oh, he was playin' the game!"

JS: *The Andy Warhol saying about everyone being famous for 15 minutes? Aren't you at about 14 minutes and 30 seconds?*

RH: Y'know, fame wasn't a goal. When I say I wanted to go on the island for reasons other than money, although the money was a part of it, the fame was absolutely not part of it. It's not anything I need. It's not anything I care about. I'm lucky. I got really well grounded long before I landed on the island, and all this crap, if it were gone tomorrow, the external stuff—autographs, photographs—great. Fine by me.

JS: *Would you like your anonymity back?*

RH: I don't care about that, either. I don't care either way. That's what I mean by being comfortable with myself and who I am. It's not an issue. I understand where it comes from now. I appreciate that it's part of what I've chosen to do, in all these things—the radio station, the new game show or whatever I do that's in the public eye—but I don't need it.

JS: *So can you sympathize with somebody like Madonna?*

RH: I can, I think, although what I've experienced is probably nothing like the scale of what she encounters.

JS: *A million bucks doesn't go as far as it used to—it's not really so much money. Was it really worth it?*

RH: Oh, every minute. I would've done it without a million-dollar prize.

JS: *So you expect me to believe that the money didn't motivate you?*

RH: Oh, sure it was the money, but I still would've done it. That kind of thing—the whole outdoor adventure, struggle, people, social dynamics—is what I do anyway. I spent a month in the mountains north of Anchorage, Alaska, with eight people doin' the same thing. I spent a month in Maine, Canada. It's something I do cause I love doin' it. This all started when my Mom saw an ad on CBS and called me, saying, "They're doing a show just for you." But don't get me wrong. I love the money part of it.

JS: *What'd you do with it?*

RH: Bank. I've invested. Some in the stock market. Plus, I've made more than I won since then, so I'm doing quite well.

JS: *What's a million bucks after taxes?*

RH: I don't know. But my accountant assures me that I'm going to have a helluva bill.

JS: *What part of this whole thing is strangest, or the thing you weren't prepared for?*

RH: I haven't been hit like that. I feel brighter than that, more aware of our world, realistically, so I'm not shocked by any of it. I find a lot of it stupid. The fact that this fat queer went camping for 39 days and was caught on camera and is now a celebrity is beyond assinine. Don't get me wrong. I think I'm an admirable guy. I think there's a lot about me that's valuable, and that people should want to emulate. But the fact that I'm a celebrity for the reasons I'm a celebrity is moronic.

JS: *It's sort of like Monica Lewinsky syndrome. You're not an artist, you didn't create anything...*

RH: Actually, I would argue that I did create something, and I certainly wasn't caught sucking the president's....I think it's a bit better than that.

JS: *So your route to stardom was more worthy than giving head to the president?*

RH: Oh, I don't know. I guess there's something to say for that, too.

JS: *So what are the reasons to admire you?*

RH: I've written about them in my book

JS: *Like that you lost 100 pounds?*

RH: One hundred forty: 100 before the island; 35 on the island and maybe another five since then. But it wasn't about wanting to lose weight. It was about figuring out what was wrong and why I was a fat pig. So just having gotten it together, that's admirable, I think.

JS: *Certainly something to be proud of.*

RH: What I'm proud of and what happened is that people saw me playing that game as honestly and ethically as I could. I was straightforward. I was true to myself the entire time. I wasn't what they perceived—a jerk...

JS: *You weren't underhanded?*

RH: I was ruthless, but not underhanded. I played the game. I played by the rules. There was nothing mean-spirited. I didn't take advantage of people in a hateful way. What I've seen happen on the second show is a lot of unnecessary emotional venom. I wasn't emotionally involved. I was enjoying playing a game.

JS: *What's the one thing about you that people would be shocked to learn?*

RH: I doubt there's much left. I have no secrets. I think secrets are imprisoning, and there's nothing I've hidden.

JS: *How about the abuse charges by your adopted son and your fight with the Department of Social Services?*

RH: Oh, I love this. The absurdity of it and how I am in a position now, ironically enough, to change the system. They threw me in jail three days after I came back from the island. They thought I was just some jerk that they could abuse.

JS: *What were the charges?*

RH: Felony child abuse. My son, whom I adopted almost four years ago, had had a hellacious childhood. He told some people at school that I'd pounded his face into the pavement, dragged him down the road, kicked him, beat him, I forget what else, but a long list of things that were obviously not true. There were no cuts or bruises, or anything. They know that. He's made these accusations 15 times before, with other families he's been with. But the school is required by law to call Rhode Island's Department of Children, Youth and Families, so they did the right thing. After that, it was handled totally inappropriately. They threw me in jail!

JS: *Which is worse—Boston traffic or the deprivations of being on* Survivor*?*

RH: I don't see much traffic. I come in too early in the morning and leave before rush hour, so I miss it.

JS: *So you're in the market for a house in Boston?*



TRACY POWELL

RH: Well, I'll always live in Newport, but I would like to find a place up here to spend weeknights if I have to. I do love it here.
JS: *If you were on Gilligan's Island, who would you sleep with?*
RH: The professor.
JS: *Not Mr. Howell?*
RH: No, I'd skip that one.
JS: *What's your tropical erotic fantasy thing?*
RH: What kind of question is that?
JS: *Just what it sounds like.*
RH: Wrestling on a beach with anybody I'm interested in.
JS: *So if you were Robinson Crusoe, out of anyone in the world, who would you choose as your Man Friday?*
RH: Ed Norton.
JS: *There was no nooky on the island, right?*
RH: Well, I had plenty of nooky myself ...with myself.
JS: *Who on the island did you have the hots for?*
RH: Greg really did it for me, and Sean, I guess, because he was on my team.
JS: *As a kid, were you a boyscout?*
RH: No, a WEBLOS [WE'll Be LOyal Scouts].
JS: *What's your single most useful survival skill?*
RH: Intelligence.
JS: *How about a physical skill?*
RH: I know how to build a fire, spear fish, build a shelter. And I'm physically strong.
JS: *In* Cast Away, *what did Tom Hanks do wrong?*
RH: Well, it was a movie, so it was more dramatic than it really would be.
JS: *No Wilson if it were you?*
RH: No. I don't picture myself going wacky.
JS: *Were you bored a lot of the time on your island?*
RH: No. I spent hours a day spearfishing and exploring the reefs.
JS: *Dirty little secrets about the show that CBS doesn't want us to know?*
RH: I wish there were some, to write about or to sell. What people saw is what happened.
JS: *How could it be? The show is an edited version, and it has to be presented in a dramatic way.*
RH: True, but I was shocked when I watched it, to see that it depicted reality in a way that blew me away. They captured the essence of everything that went on, in little tidbits, certainly shorter than real time, but they captured it accurately.
JS: *So now pretty much everybody in America has seen you naked, with a little digital blurring of your privates. Doesn't that make you feel slightly overexposed?*
RH: Nah. I couldn't care less. I didn't get naked for any reason other than that it was hot and I was in the water a lot.
JS: *What's the deal with all the cameras that film the contestants?*
RH: There's always at least one pair around—a camera and a sound person—but they're truly non-impacting. We didn't talk to them, and they didn't talk to us. Then there were remote ones, but we didn't know where they were. They were hidden in trees, or disguised. The crew would wire the place when we were all off doing something. I did find a couple, but you'd never know where all of them were.
JS: *Is there any real danger for the contestants?*
RH: Sure, and that's why you sign all sorts of waivers. I mean, the snakes are poisonous, and there are lionfish and sharks in the water, or crocodiles in the outback, and accidents can happen. It's not set up.
JS: *Most pristine place you've ever been?*
RH: I'm a scubadiver so I love the Great Barrier Reef. Belize. Bonaire, an island off Venezuela that's one-third nature preserve.
JS: *Who do you keep in touch with from the show?*
RH: Several of the folks—Sean I see quite frequently, Gretchen I talk to quite a bit. I see a lot of them at shoots or events.
JS: *Any of them whose life has been damaged?*
RH: I don't know of any negative consequences from the show. A lot of them are trying to stay in the business. They've all had opportunities and are happy with what happened to them, although Stacy's a moron. Who knows what happened to her life.
JS: *You don't sound like you care.*
RH: No. I think she's awful, and it's sad that she's so delusional about herself. She thinks of herself as shy. I can't imagine that there's anyone—even her family—who likes her. I don't know why anyone would.
JS: *Have you always been so candid?*
RH: Not always, but for many years. I think it's a useful skill, and it comes from knowing who you are.
JS: *Stupidest thing you've read about yourself since you became famous?*
RH: "Hatch Survives Rape," or something like that, talking about the sexual abuse I experienced when I was young.
JS: *Don Imus or Howard Stern?*
RH: I've never met Imus, but I like Howard very much.
JS: *Who had the worst breath on the island?*
RH: I don't know, because you don't notice. Even without toothbrushes or toothpaste, there isn't the foulness you'd expect, and I notice breath. It was very natural.
JS: *How about body odor?*
RH: Umm, Greg stunk. I mean, God, he's really attractive, but he stunk. He stinks off the island, too. He doesn't shower or use shampoo or deodorant.
JS: *Anything you really can't handle going without?*
RH: Nothing except what I need to stay alive. Water, I guess. I can certainly go a good long time without food. I don't give a shit about the other stuff, like shampoo or toothpaste. I mean, I use it, but who cares? **iB**

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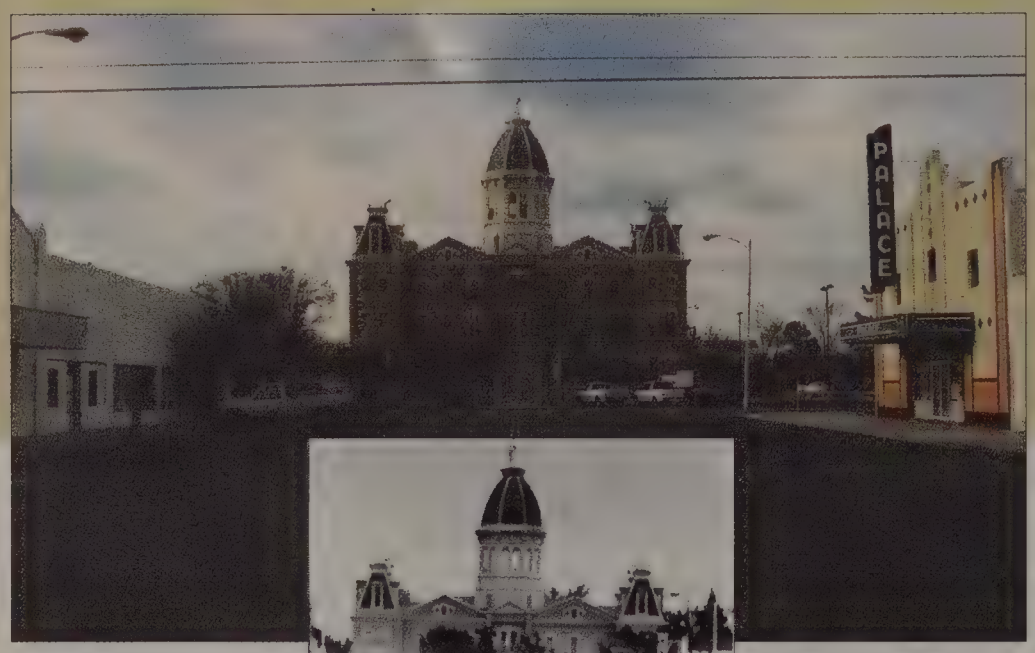
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In the dusty high plains of western Texas sits an old cattle town —one that boasts a world-class collection of contemporary art and strange lights that dance on the night horizon

The Mysteries of MARFA

BY RACHEL STRUTT • PHOTOGRAPHS BY FRANK MULLIN

the IMPROPER explorer





Downtown Marfa is usually quite desolate—even at high noon. Unless, of course, there's a longhorn cattle drive. The one pictured here (inset) was held in the early 1990s.

There were only two motels listed for Marfa in our guidebook. We quickly settled on the Capri because, according to the listing, it had a trading post in the lobby. Perfect, I thought. We were, after all, heading to the Wild West—perhaps a pelt or two, a tomahawk or some chaps might come in handy.

And so, from the very beginning, Marfa promised intrigue, adventure and a healthy dose of the bizarre. The trading post, as it turned out, was a bust, filled with touristy T-shirts, a decrepit vacuum cleaner and a small, humorous collection of wrinkled secondhand clothing and handbags. But everything else about Marfa, including the Capri, with its retro neon sign and weathered sixties chic, exceeded expectation—which is pretty impressive considering how much I'd romanticized the town before ever setting foot there.

Marfa is romantic for many reasons—especially to an Eastern urbanite. It's a vestige of the Old West, where truck-driving cowboys clad in Wranglers, boots and spurs still dominate the landscape. It's where the epic Western *Giant*, starring James Dean, Rock Hudson and Elizabeth Taylor, was filmed. But what really sets Marfa apart from other sleepy Texas towns is artist Donald Judd's Chinati Foundation, an army base–turned–contemporary art museum that attracts art pilgrims from around the globe. The foundation, named after the nearby Chinati Mountains, was founded by Judd in 1976. Surprising as it may seem, Chinati houses one of the world's largest permanent installations of contemporary art, and art critics are hailing it as one of the great museums built in the 20th century.

But Chinati is not the only attraction that puts Marfa on the map. The town is also known—albeit in completely different, less highbrow circles—for its infamous "mystery lights," strange little flickering lights that dance along the desert horizon at night. These lights, never sufficiently explained by scientists (or so say the believers), have turned Marfa into a popular stop-off point for *X Files*–happy types on their way to Roswell, N.M., the famed site of weird, extraterrestrial happenings.

For me, the attraction of Marfa was Chinati; the lights were a pleasant bonus. I first learned about Judd's minimalist Mecca when studying art history in grad school. A friend ventured down to Chinati to do research for her thesis and came back raving. A year or so later, I was leafing through *Martha Stewart Living* magazine and saw, to my horror, that the "hostess with the mostest" had been to Marfa and had thrown a stylish soiree at the Chinati Foundation. Martha in Marfa? This seemed blasphemous; I had to get there fast, before it was further tainted by mainstream America. Fast, as it turned out, was several years later.

Wide open spaces

Deep in western Texas, about 60 miles from the Mexican border, Marfa isn't easy to get to from any direction; the closest airports are El Paso, which is 200 miles to the northwest, and Odessa, which is 200 miles to the northeast. My friend Frank and I, however, were driving from Austin, some 400 miles to the east. It would be a long haul, and we had planned it that way. The idea of a pilgrimage, after all, is that the journey—whether you're trekking to Graceland, Lourdes or Marfa—offers time for reflection. It sets the mood. It builds expectation. The drive out to Marfa on Route 90 did all that. It also offered us an open road virtually untraversed by other cars, which allowed us to zoom along at a steady clip of 85 miles per hour. The few cops we did encounter were far more concerned with border control than they were with speeding tourists.

We left Austin in the early evening, heading south to San Antonio, before getting on Route 90 for the long haul to Marfa. We quickly came to Hondo, where a sign greeted us with: "Welcome to Hondo. This is God's Country. Don't drive like hell through it." Too late, we reckoned. We proceeded to zip along a deserted road through a landscape that went from rural to downright desolate. When we arrived in warm, windy Del Rio, a town just across the border from Mexico, we stopped to spend the night. The next day, it was more of the same. The scenery spread out before us set the tone for Judd's Chinati perfectly. It was vast, spare and unforgiving. But also beautiful.

Arriving in Marfa close to dusk proved a challenge for us, in our road-weary and hungry state. We drove around, noting tangles of tumbleweed blowing across empty roads and counting up to 100 boxcars on a train that stopped us at a crossing. Even Main Street was oddly desolate. Marfa's silence and sense of timelessness was only accentuated by the surrounding landscape—sullen desert plains—and an awesome, endless pale blue sky that was shifting to pink. We settled on a simple

INSET COURTESY OF *THE BIG BEND SENTINEL*

At the Chinati Foundation, Donald Judd's 100 stainless steel and aluminum boxes are on permanent display in converted artillery sheds; below, a museum visitor explores another permanent installation, Dan Flavin's magnificent *Untitled*

Moving through these strange, beautiful spaces, it seemed like we were part of the installation—as our bodies created dark, shifting silhouettes against the bright blocks of color.



TOP: DONALD JUDD, 100 UNTITLED WORKS IN MILL ALUMINUM, 1982-1986, DETAIL, PERMANENT COLLECTION

burrito place (it was open), ate heartily and headed to the comfy Capri.

The next morning, it was off to Chinati, where we had made reservations for a 10am group tour. There were about 10 art pilgrims all told, including us, and one tour guide, a timid but charming high school intern named Ruben.

With little introductory fanfare, we set out to explore the 32-building museum. Upon entering the first of two massive old artillery sheds, we were confronted with Judd's streamlined, obsessive, but utterly majestic aluminum boxes. There are 100 boxes in all: 52 in the first artillery shed, 48 in the second. All the boxes, arranged in a rigid grid in each building, measure 41 by 51 by 72 inches, and feature subtle variations inside—some are divided horizontally, for example, others diagonally. Upon inspection, it's clear that the negative space inside each box, what's *not* there, is of equal importance to what *is* there. This play of matter and void, and the reflection of light on the metal, make Judd's boxes surprisingly dynamic. Outside the large windows, which Judd installed during renovations, there's another Judd series set in the billowing desert grass: 15 somewhat larger boxes made out of concrete. Beyond, there's a dusty desertscape punctuated by sagebrush and a few distant mountains.

When Judd first drove through western Texas, while on a bus in the army, this lonely landscape made a lasting impression. Judd returned in the '70s, bought the defunct Fort Russel (with funds from the Dia Art Foundation in New York), and began building Chinati—the foundation was opened to the public in 1986. The intent was to create large-scale permanent installations, featuring only a few artists. (Judd had great disdain for American museums, which he felt were overcrowded and inhospitable.) Today Judd's "anti-museum" includes works by large-scale sculptor Claes Oldenburg, pop artist John Wesley and conceptual artist Carl Andre.

One of minimalism's biggest names, Judd was not only an artist, but an art critic, an art collector, a furniture designer and an architect. Tall, handsome, and often clad in jeans, cowboy boots and tartan sports jackets, Judd created quite a stir in Marfa. For years, when renovating Chinati, he was the town's biggest employer. Judd was known for being mild-mannered but rugged and strong willed—to which his Chinati Foundation is a testament. Beyond its stark beauty, Chinati conveys a certain machismo: Man comes to desert, buys old army base and makes an indelible stamp on the land—and in the art history books—with his ambitious, large-scale artistic opus.

The convoy

In the second old artillery shed, we were confronted with round two of Judd's aluminum boxes. The boxes' dimensions were the same, and so was the arrangement—repetition is clearly a theme at Chinati. We stared. We struggled. There were no text labels that usually accompany art in a museum, and Ruben apologetically explained that he couldn't tell us much. I liked this. It forced you to think, to find your own meaning. Contemplating one of Judd's boxes is at the opposite end of the spectrum of staring at a portrait of a smiling girl by Renoir; the meaning is elusive and open to multiple interpretations.

Judd demands that you consider what is not there: empty space. And this brings us back to Chinati's apt landscape: wide-open spaces that encourage contemplation. Ultimately, it's this symbiotic relationship between Chinati's art and its setting that makes the museum so spectacular. Judd's cubes could never be translated to a large room in, say, Boston's Museum of Fine Arts. Minus the grid-like old artillery shed, the ample, natural light and the spare desert landscape, Judd's boxes would become sterile and cold. From this viewpoint, Judd's minimalist outpost in Marfa offers an experience not unlike going to Rome and viewing Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel frescoes, which were created on a large scale for a very specific architectural setting—just like Judd's boxes.

Having woven through the two old artillery sheds, we then visited some of the smaller buildings at Chinati; each one showcasing the work of just one artist. A highlight was the installation by Russian conceptual artist Ilya Kabakov, a former barrack transformed into a forlorn, disheveled Soviet classroom. In this case, the surrounding Texas landscape lent a surreal, humorous backdrop. After Kabakov, Ruben announced it was time for a lunch break. And so we marched back to the parking lot, jumped into our various cars, and headed back to town—with Ruben leading the convoy in his Mach 5 orange muscle car.

Marfa's attractive but hardly bustling main drag, Highland Street, terminates with a stately looking town hall. The street is lined with small shops and businesses, all that you'd expect from a small Texas town. Chinati's influence, however, is quickly apparent. There's a rather highbrow bookstore, complete with a swank coffee bar, and a stylish boutique called Evan Hughes Furniture Design, apparently a satellite of the main Brooklyn outlet. Frank and I lunched at a no-nonsense joint called Mike's, with a couple from our tour group. While discussing Judd's boxes, some friendly cowboy types hollered over to us, "So how do you like Marfa? Have you seen the lights yet?" As far as these locals were concerned, it was clear that the lights, not Chinati, were Marfa's main attraction.

Back at camp Judd, we spent the rest of the day touring the Dan Flavin exhibit, one that's earned Chinati a new round of media raves by the likes of the *New York Times* and *The New Yorker* ever since it opened last summer. The permanent installation comprises 360 colored fluorescent lights in six U-shaped former army barracks. We walked into the first barrack, through a spare, dimly lighted room, toward two parallelograms of colored light. Each block of color, it turned out, lead into tilted hallways, which terminated with fluorescent tubes against a wall of complementary color. The tubes emitted an eerie buzz, and as I walked down one of the hallways to inspect them more closely, I felt dizzy from the leaning walls.

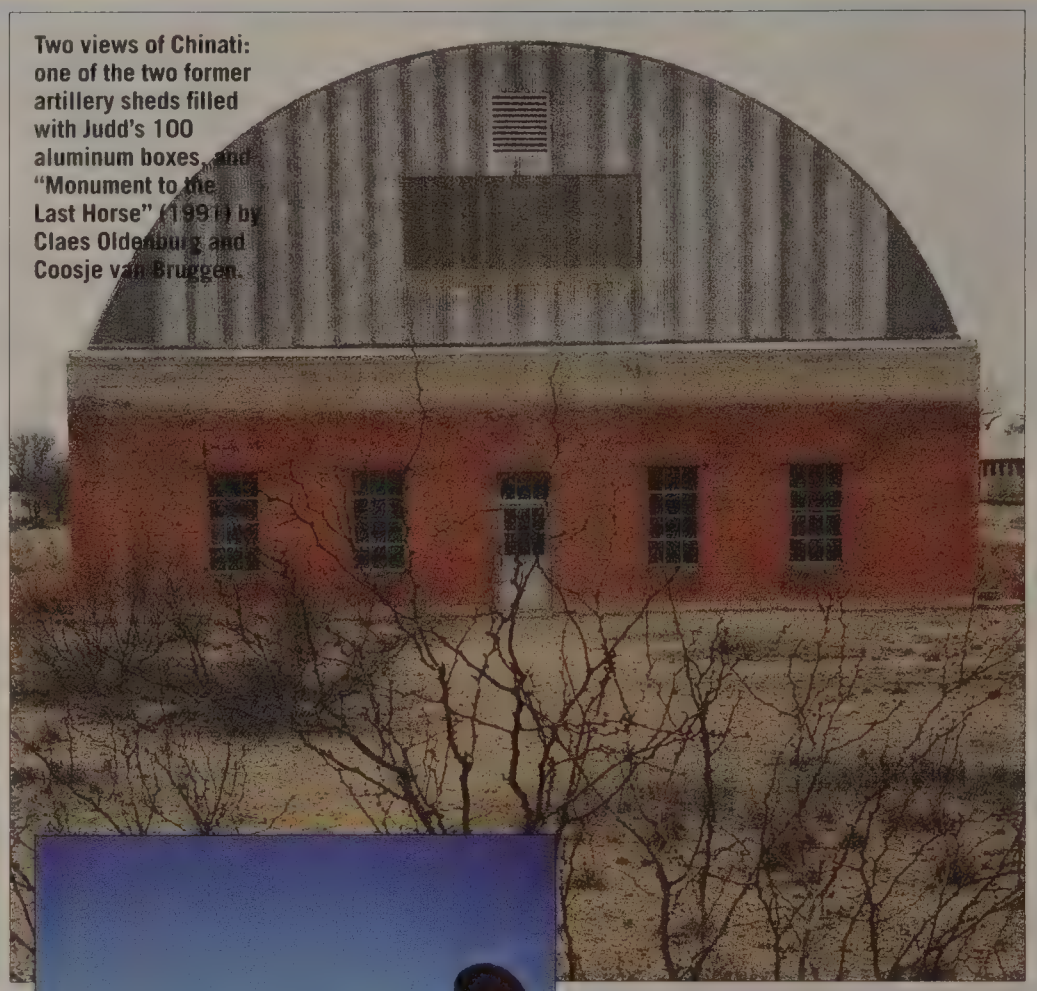
After exiting this space, we proceeded to the other side of the U-shaped barrack (each building is blocked off in the middle, creating two "L" shapes), to inspect the reverse side of the same light display. Then it was onto the next barrack, and the next, as Flavin offered more of the same, only with different color combinations. Like Judd, who was a close friend and minimalist ally, Flavin was a fan of repetition.

And like Judd's boxes, we were able to explore the installation at our own pace, and from many different vantage points. Moving through these strange, beautiful spaces, it seemed like we were part of the installation—as our bodies created dark, shifting silhouettes against the bright blocks of color.

The unexplained

Before leaving Chinati, Frank and I chatted with Steffen Boddeker, the museum's publicist. Boddeker told us that a third of Chinati's visitors come from Texas, another third come from within the United States, and another third come from abroad. "Some people really respond to it, and others don't," Boddeker told us. "Many people have studied Judd's work. It's a pilgrimage for people like that, and it blows them away." Before leaving, I couldn't resist asking Boddeker if he'd ever seen the Marfa lights. He laughed and said dismissively, "No, I've never checked them out. They're probably just headlights in the distance, nothing more."

Boddeker might not have been curious, but we were. That night, we drove out of town and headed east for nine miles until we reached the official Marfa Lights view-





Two views of Chinati: one of the two former artillery sheds filled with Judd's 100 aluminum boxes, and "Monument to the Last Horse" (1991) by Claes Oldenburg and Coosje van Bruggen.

That night, we drove out of town and headed east until we reached the official Marfa Lights viewing site. . . . Sure enough, we saw them—and, at first, it was a disappointment. But within a minute, the tiny specks of light broke into a most captivating routine.

BOTTOM: CLAES OLDENBURG AND COOSE VAN BRUGGEN, MONUMENT TO THE LAST HORSE, 1991. PERMANENT COLLECTION THE CHINATI FOUNDATION, MARFA TEXAS. © TODD EBERLE

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ing site, a small parking lot on the side of the road. We found a spot between the many RVs, got out of the car and began to comb the clear night sky, a dazzling arc of twinkling stars. We located the Big Dipper and Orion's Belt, before noticing some blinking red lights low on the horizon. Were these the famed Marfa mystery lights? We were at a loss—until a voice piped up in the darkness.

"The red light," said the friendly voice, "is a radio tower. It's the low white lights to the left and right that are the Marfa lights." Sure enough, we saw them—and, at first, it was a disappointment. But within a minute, the tiny specks of light broke into a most captivating routine. One light would fade, being quickly replaced by a line of three vertically aligned lights. Then it would morph into two horizontally aligned lights, then four.

"Look over there, see that green one? Watch it dance," said our newfound friend, who introduced himself as John, a building contractor from nearby Alpine. Sure enough, there were two lights over on the left that did dance. The brighter light dipped and hopped, and teased us by coming closer, before receding, only to begin the tango again moments later. The lights seemed far off, perhaps 15 miles away, and their movements were minimal. But we were mesmerized.

"There's nothing out there," John told us. "My father works for Caterpillar, and I've gone out on that ranch and helped him service tractors, so I know. People think they're cars coming from Presidio. But these lights jump up and down; they can't be anything man-made. We'd come out in high school, get drunk and try to chase them," John continued. "Now I've come out and watched them, every now and then, for over 11 years. People try and figure 'em out, but you can't. You have to accept that you can't explain it."

Now I am a cynical soul, but I had to agree with John: It was hard to believe these were headlights, given the dynamic, multicolored performance we had just witnessed. Apart from the headlight theory, some believe the lights are emitted from uranium deposits; others suggest phosphorescent jack rabbits. To me, the most reasonable explanation is that the lights are created from phosphorescent gases released from subtle tectonic shifts. But again, I had to agree with John: I liked *not* knowing. Just like Judd's cubes, there were no easy answers out on the dark high plains—just plenty of mystery.

On our way out of town the next day, we made a sweep through the Marfa Presidio County Museum. We learned about the arrival of the Southern Pacific Railroad, which came to Presidio in 1882. A year later, in 1883, 16-year-old Robert Ellison purportedly first observed the Marfa lights. As for major 20th-century events, Camp Marfa (later known as Fort D.A. Russel and now the Chinati Foundation) was founded in 1913, and the Highland Hereford Breeders Association was active from 1918 until 1933. Of course, more recently, the Chinati Foundation has shaped Marfa enormously, but this had yet to be chronicled by the charming County museum.

On our way out, we asked museum keeper Aedwyn Darroll, a transplant from Wales, what he thought of Chinati and Marfa. "I came here to paint," he said simply. "The sky is so great here, so expansive—it conveys cosmic time, not human time." Although a fan of Judd's museum, it was clear Darroll didn't want Marfa to become *too* popular. "If it does get any busier," he told us good-naturedly, "I'm heading further south, across the border." And then, not able to resist, I asked the town resident what he thought of Marfa's kitschy sci-fi attraction. To our delight, he responded enthusiastically.

"I had friends here at Christmas, and we went way out in the fields to view them, off a back road. These orange lights started moving around us. It was very exhilarating," he said, beaming. "I was a non-believer when I first arrived, but not anymore."

After bidding Darroll farewell, we made our way out of town. The pilgrimage was over, and it was time to drive like hell again. **iB**

For more information about the Chinati Foundation, visit www.chinati.org.



Don't mess with Marfa: The town promises wild old West nostalgia—and delivers.



At Mass MoCA, visitors are greeted with *Tree Logic* (1999), a work by Natalie Jeremijenko.

Closer to Home

Mass MoCA is a fabulous museum with many parallels to the Chinati Foundation—and it's just a few hours away

If Texas isn't in your future, there's a museum right here in Massachusetts that features large-scale exhibits and, like Chinati, is off the beaten art track. The Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art, better known as Mass MoCA, is situated in North Adams, a sleepy industrial town in the northeast corner of our state. Like Chinati, Mass MoCA occupies buildings that were intended for a very different use: The museum is spread out in a massive old factory complex that offers enormous unobstructed indoor spaces, irregular courtyards, elevated walkways and towers. Because of its many large galleries, Mass MoCA is able to exhibit pieces that could not be shown elsewhere. *Lightning with Stag in Its Glare*, a large-scale work by German artist Joseph Beuys, is one such example. The main element of the work is a giant wedge of bronze, standing some 22 feet tall, and weighing close to a ton, that hangs from the ceiling.

Unlike Chinati, Mass MoCA is not a collecting institution, but rather draws its works from other museums and collectors as long-term loans. But the museum does occasionally commission works that take advantage of the unique site. For example, Tim Hawkinson's *Überorgan*, a huge sculpture of bus-size inflated bags connected by pipes, was designed specifically for the arena-like Building Five Gallery. Visitors are able to walk through the sculpture, as the billowing forms inflate and deflate and the pipes make foghorn-like groans. Mike Glier's massive mural depicting North Adam's Hoosic River, *Full Moon on the Hoosic*, was also designed specifically for Mass MoCA.

A new exhibit at the museum is *Domestic Disturbance*, featuring the works of Mona Hatoum. With pieces such as *La Grande Broyeuse*, a giant culinary slicer that's so big it could chop up a person, Hatoum explores the threatening aspects of ordinary domestic items. And on May 27, *Game Show* opens. This exhibit will showcase the works of artists who use games or game theories as a metaphor and will include a giant word puzzle by Kay Rosen. Mass MoCA also showcases the performing arts, new media, film and sound art. For more information, call 413-664-4481 or visit *www.massmoca.org* —R.S.

RIGHT: NICHOLAS WHITMAN

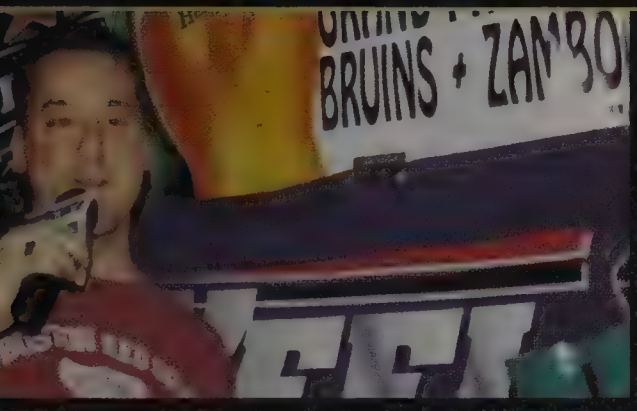






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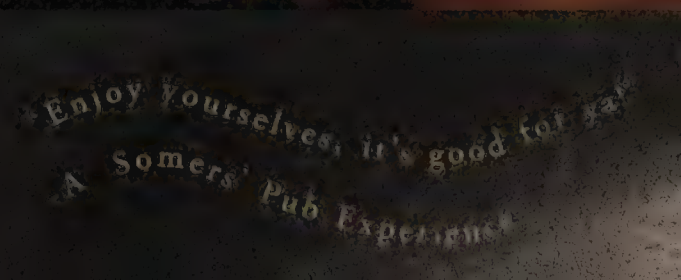


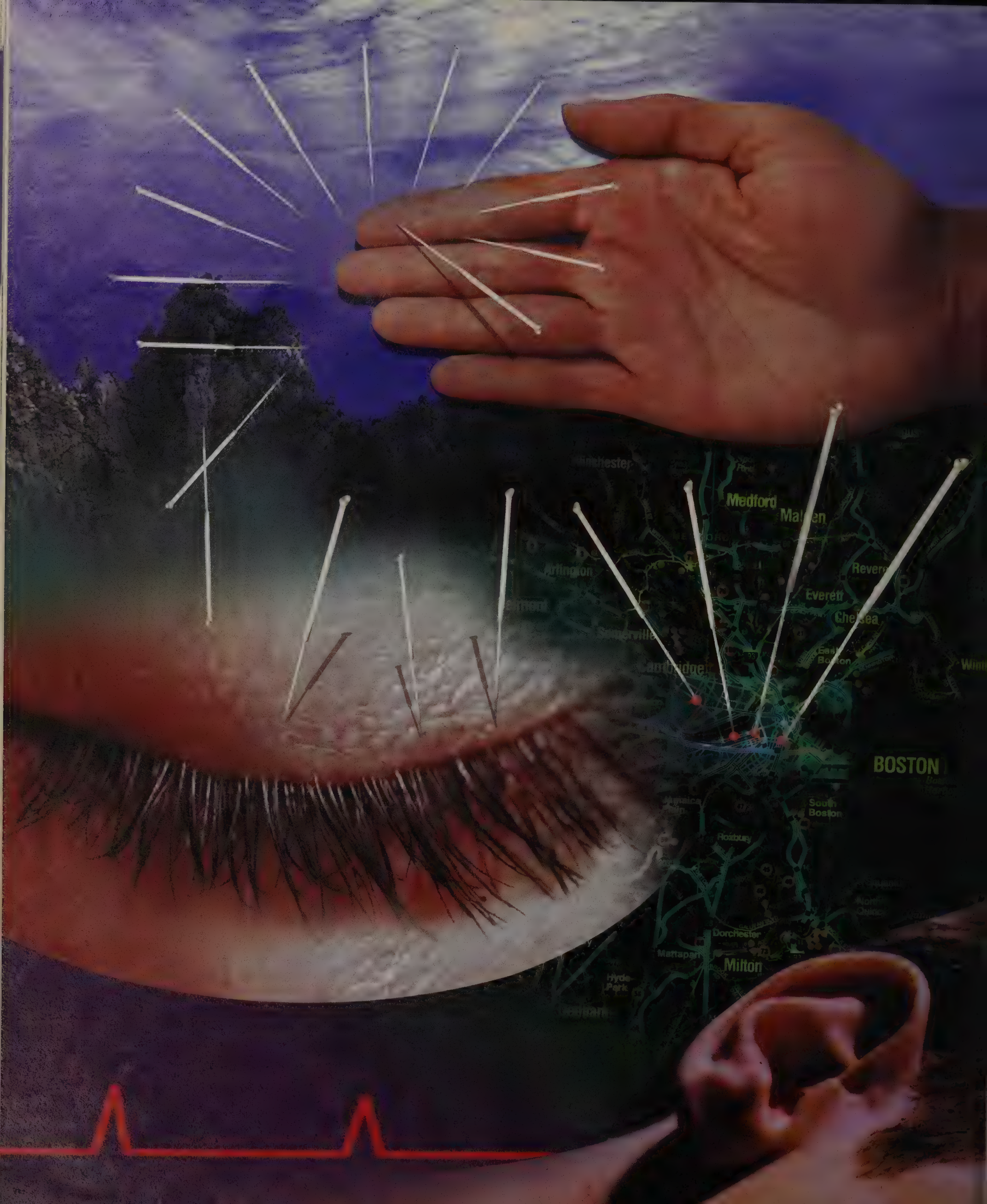
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the pain reliever

Boston is home to the nation's largest acupuncture clinic for people with HIV/AIDS

BY JULIE SHORT • ILLUSTRATION BY DONNA LAVALLE

Mark Hockman, 48, dressed casually in a tracksuit and sneakers, sits on an examining table and discusses his health with Terry Connell, who scribbles notes into his patient's chart.

"How's your appetite?" asks Connell.

"Tremendous," says Hockman.

"How's your energy level?"

"Great."

"How are you sleeping?"

"Erratically."

"What's keeping you awake?"

"Dreams—a lot about death."

"How are you feeling emotionally?"

There's a pause as Hockman carefully words his response. "I try to be upbeat," he says finally. But Connell is persistent.

"Tell me what's bothering you," he says, encouraging Hockman to share his feelings with him.

In some ways, the dialogue between these men is typical of what one might expect between a health-care provider and a patient. In other ways, it reveals a level of trust that one might find in a relationship with a family member or good friend. Connell, who is not a medical doctor but a licensed acupuncturist, begins every session by gauging his client's emotional well-being.

Physical pain, in Connell's eyes, is inextricable from emotional pain; you can't treat one without treating the other. His mission is to track what the Chinese call "Qi"—the flow of the spiritual, emotional, mental and physical energy in his patients. If one of these is unbalanced, the others are affected. To help explain the concept, Connell will often use the analogy of a mother of three who has one overactive child. "The mother can't pay attention to the other children if she's focusing all her energy on the one who's misbehaving," he says. "The same thing happens within the body."

In Hockman's case, the overwhelming factor is the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). His liver and kidneys are metabolizing 26 different pills per day and, at the same time, fighting infections. This week, Hockman's symptoms are sinus pain, headaches and occasional night sweats. His ankles and feet are grossly swollen from fluid retention. All are complications of HIV. And, of course, all these physical symptoms affect Hockman's Qi.

handled with care

Terry Connell is one of the acupuncturists at the nation's largest provider of acupuncture and Eastern medicine for people with HIV/AIDS, located here in downtown Boston. Each week, some 250 to 400 patients come to the Pathways to Complementary Medicine/AIDS Care Project, which is tucked away on the sixth floor of the YWCA building on the edge of the South End (there are also 11 satellite sites throughout Massachusetts). At this Boston location, clients receive acupuncture, Chinese herbs and chiropractic care.

Despite the clinic's size, it is not all that well-known outside of its client base. Yet Pathways has seen extraordinary results, especially within the area of side-effect management. "When a patient is taking up to 40 medications a day to fight HIV over an extended period of time, you can expect some unpleasant side effects from the drugs," including nausea, fatigue, neuropathy and diarrhea, says Margie St. Paul, executive director of Pathways. Studies have shown that when clients are able to tolerate these side effects, they'll adhere to medication regimes more faithfully.

That's where acupuncture comes in—easing the headaches, gastrointestinal disorders, night sweats, depression and stress, among other symptoms. "It's not a replacement treatment. We work in adjunct care with the patients' primary health plans," says St. Paul.

Hockman found his way to Pathways two years ago as a last resort for chronic back pain. "My doctor had given up on me," he says during one of his regular sessions with Connell. "He said I might as well try it, since nothing else seemed to work." He's been hooked ever since, visiting the clinic two or three times per week. "It doesn't replace doctor visits or medication, but it *can* ease the pains, and it gives me hope," says Hockman. "That's what people with HIV need—something to hope for. Even if it takes away just one pain, it's worth it."

In this session, Connell turns on ethereal music and asks Hockman to lie down on the table. He feels for pulse quality (noting the strength and speed of beats) and looks at his tongue to determine how well Hockman is digesting food. Then he palpates his stomach. From a medical cart that looks similar to one found in a doctor's office—with the exception of a box of dried mugwort, or moxa, labeled with Chinese script—Connell takes a cotton swab doused with alcohol and dabs it onto a constellation of points along Hockman's body. Then he takes a flexible needle that's as thin as a strand of hair and pushes it gently into the cartilage of Hockman's ear—a point that helps the patient relax. Hockman doesn't flinch. "Sometimes I don't even feel the needle go in," he says.

"I compare the feeling to a mosquito bite," adds Connell, who proceeds to place 15 more needles into Hockman's face, arms, abdomen and lower legs. He "listens" to his pulse again. "At first it was thin and rapid, reflecting some kind of imbalance." Now, it has slowed and is more forceful. "The body is no longer working as hard to get the blood flowing." He relates acupuncture to clearing up a traffic jam in the body: According to Chinese principles, Qi travels through the body along meridians, or specific pathways. When those pathways are obstructed, the body is thrown off balance and is more susceptible to illness. Acupuncture is the application of needles at the points where these pathways come to the surface of the skin in order to break up the blockages. "The goal is to restore balance within the body," says Connell.

Halfway through the procedure, Hockman emits a soft snore, which further demonstrates how painless and relaxing the process is. Connell will insert more needles into Hockman's back in a few minutes. But for now, he lets him rest. "If I know my client doesn't have any appointments to go to, I'll let him sleep for a short while. His body needs it."

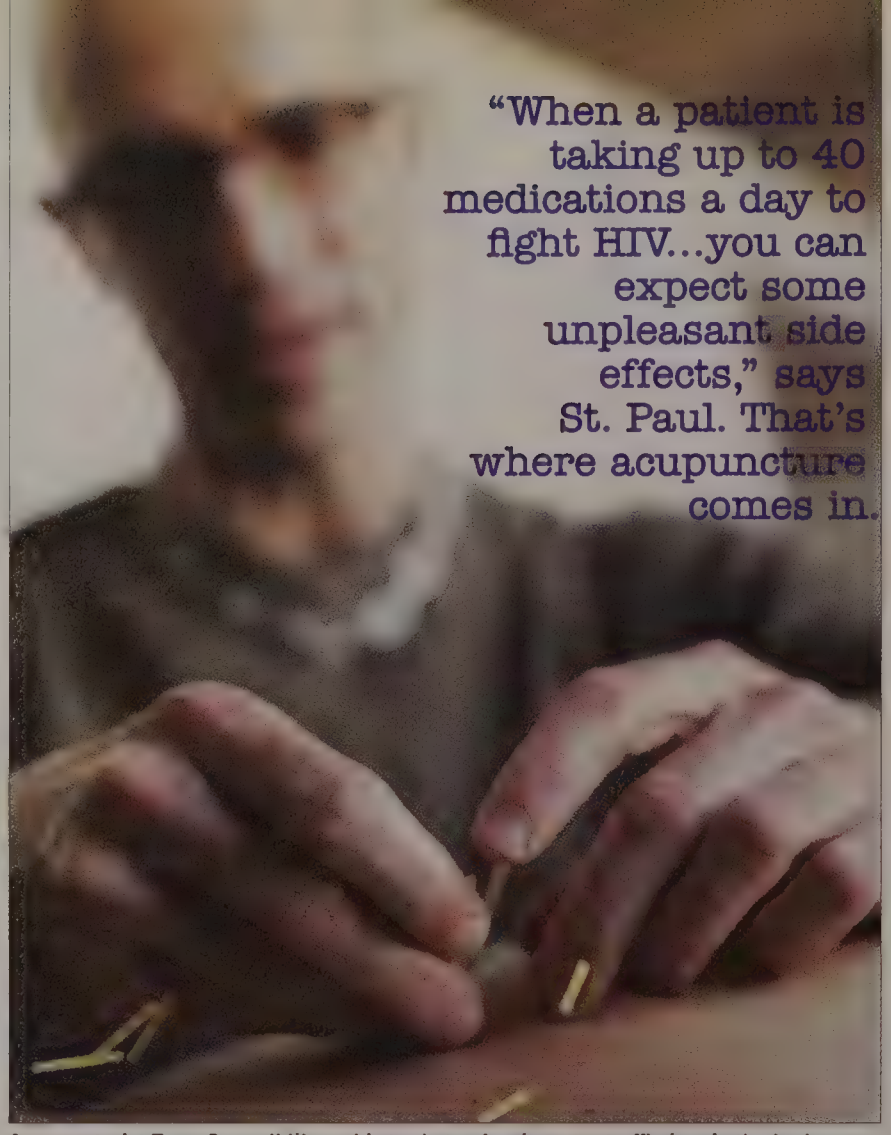
Pathways owes much of its success to the compassion demonstrated by Connell and its 20 other acupuncturists. "They actually care about their clients," says Hockman after his session with Connell. For men and women who are used to dealing with the more sterile environment of Western medicine, the clinic offers a more personal interaction. "It's a safe haven far away from the stresses of daily life," adds Hockman. The care with which employees treat clients is laudable. "We bring our heart to our work," says Connell.

a blood-borne virus

As is well known, HIV is transmitted through direct blood contact, which can include drug syringes, blood transfusions and accidents in health care settings. Which leads us to wonder how likely it is to contract HIV through the acupuncture needles. According to executive director Margie St. Paul, it's a non-issue. "There's no risk to the client," she says. Even the risk of transmission from client to practitioner is minuscule. According to Connell, "There's never been a documented case of transmission from acupuncture." Still, he recognizes that it's an issue that should be discussed.

Upon closer examination of the procedure, it's easier to understand why the risk is so low. Acupuncturists use flexible needles that have a solid core, as opposed to the needles used in a doctor's office, which are hollow and more invasive. Thus, the procedure rarely draws blood. When the acupuncturist removes a needle, he or she uses a long Q-tip placed at the point of entry to soak up any excess fluids. Individually wrapped needles are counted before and after each procedure and disposed of immediately into biohazard bins. "We take universal precautions," says St. Paul. "We automatically assume that every person who enters this door has HIV." Clinical director Kristen Porter, who co-wrote the clinic's standards of care policy, says the greater worry among clinicians nowadays is not HIV but Hepatitis C, which can live outside the body for up to two weeks.

The truth is, Pathway's sterile procedure rooms look a lot like those you'd find in any doctor's office. The major difference here is that acupuncturists do not wear gloves. "Our clients have enough interaction with people wearing masks and gloves," says St. Paul. "We want them to know that they can be touched by caring hands."



Acupuncturist Terry Connell likens his trade to clearing up a traffic jam in the body.

medical acceptance

It seems that Western medical community is finally catching on to the benefits of acupuncture. The AIDS Care Project now has satellite offices in Boston Medical Hospital, Mass General and Cambridge Health Alliance, among others, and physician referrals to the clinic have increased significantly in the past two years. "Doctors are starting to realize that acupuncture cuts down on the use of meds and lessens the frequency of emergency room and office visits," says St. Paul.

One vocal advocate of acupuncture in the medical community is Dr. Margaret Frank, a doctor trained in public health and preventive medicine who worked at the clinic for nearly two years. After practicing medicine in Santa Cruz, Calif., Frank headed east in 1996 to attend the New England School of Acupuncture. "I reached a point where I felt that I didn't have the tools in my box that were needed to treat the health care problems I was confronting," she says of her years in California. "There was so much associated with chronic diseases that Western medicine didn't deal with."

She now has her own private acupuncture practice in Waltham, treating a variety of ailments. But she continues to support the use of acupuncture on HIV/AIDS patients: "It improves a person's sense of well-being, helps treat side effects from medication and deals with day-to-day problems like headaches," Frank says. "My clients at Pathways swore by it."

Dr. Nesli Basgoz, director of HIV Clinical Services at Mass General Hospital, agrees with Frank. "Studies have shown that acupuncture can be very useful for the treatment of some of the symptoms of HIV."

Now the trick is to get insurance companies to help pay for treatment. Toward this goal, Pathways is currently participating in a three-year cost-effectiveness study with Cambridge Health Alliance and Medicaid, tracking clients' hospitalizations and prescription costs and comparing them with those of patients who do not receive acupuncture. The clinic has also been privately recording treatment efficacy of acupuncture (through patient self-evaluation) for the past five years and has found significant improvements in many of the patients' symptoms and their overall quality of life. Some 250 clients are participating in the study.

A national study of trends in the use of alternative medicines featured in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* suggested that the total number of annual visits to alternative practitioners (for any number of reasons) exceeded those to primary care physicians in 1997. The survey estimated that the total out-of-pocket cost of unconventional therapies (including acupuncture, chiropractic methods, therapeutic massage and hypnosis) was $27 billion in 1997—comparable to out-of-pocket expenditures for visits to physicians. With numbers like that, it's clear that the alternative-medicine sector represents a potential boon for not only patients but the health-care industry. Once the insurance companies catch on, we may all be in luck, says St. Paul. "They'll view acupuncture as another way to make money, which will benefit all of us in the end."

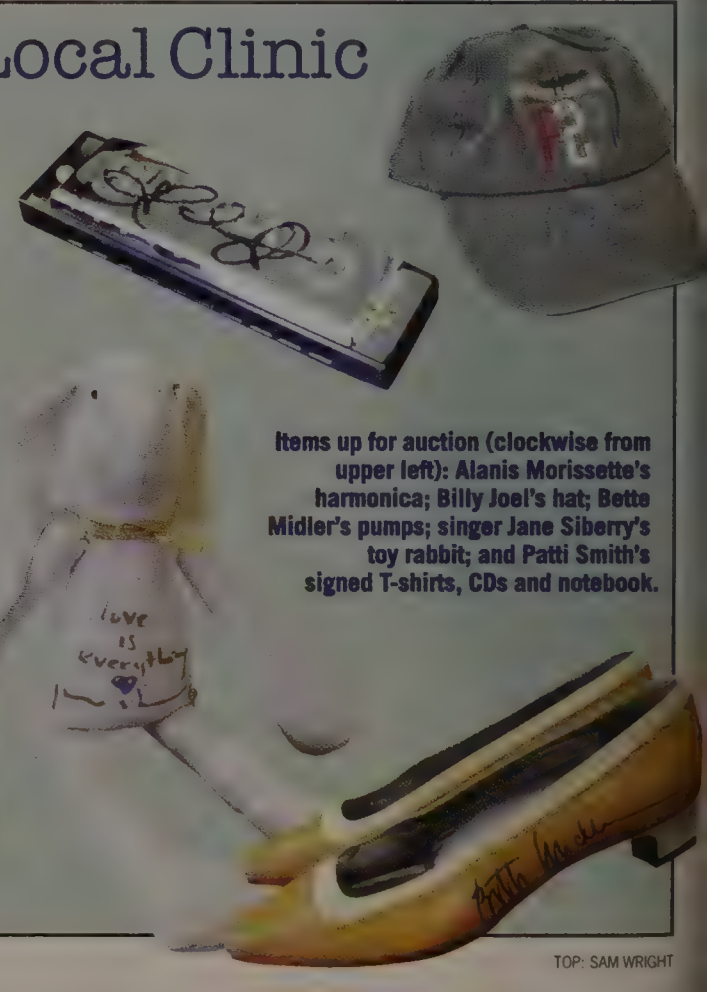
a secret revealed

After two years of client surveys, board meetings and countless hours of discussion, Pathways to Complementary Medicine opened up to all people needing care—not just those with HIV or AIDS—last fall. "Our clients said that when they walked through our door, they might as well have a big sign on their forehead that said 'AIDS,'" Connell says. That was the primary reason for the expansion. "But we also hope that this will generate more revenue to provide services to clients who wouldn't ordinarily be able to afford care," adds St. Paul. The majority of the clients now pay on a sliding scale. Connell hopes to attract a wide range of clientele—including some of the clinic's wealthier South End neighbors—to partake in the acupuncture services as well as its new chiropractic methods and its booming herbal medicine consultation business.

From June 4-9, Pathways will host an open house. "We're one of the best-kept secrets in Boston," says St. Paul. Now it's time for the rest of the community to discover our wide-ranging benefits. **iB**

Pop Stars Support Local Clinic

On May 14-19, the AIDS Care Project will host Celebrity Auction 2001 on *eBay.com* to raise money for the Boston-based acupuncture and Chinese herbal clinic. The collection of donated items is impressive, including pairs of shoes from Grace Jones and Bette Midler, gowns from Patti LaBelle and Whitney Houston, a signed lithograph from Sarah McLachlan and a signed harmonica from Alanis Morissette. Other contributing celebrities include Patti Smith, Tina Turner, Mick Jagger and Madonna. Connell's latest coup is the donation of four passes to MTV's *Total Request Live*. To get your kicks with Carson Daly, log on to *www.ebay.com/charity* and make a bid to support acupuncture for people living with HIV/AIDS. *Call 859-3036, ext. 29, for more information.*



Items up for auction (clockwise from upper left): Alanis Morissette's harmonica; Billy Joel's hat; Bette Midler's pumps; singer Jane Siberry's toy rabbit; and Patti Smith's signed T-shirts, CDs and notebook.

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woman

They Came to Boston
(Mighty Mighty Bosstones)
I was here before they came
I'll be here long after.
Don't wanna share, but it seems clear
That I'm gonna have to...

Black athletic lace-up top by Riley, $58. Green sequined miniskirt by to the max!, $32. Both available at Jasmine Sola. Red belt, model's own.

The Devil Went Down to Georgia

(Charlie Daniels Band)

Johnny rosin up your bow
And play that fiddle hard
'Cause all hell's broke loose in Georgia
And the devil deals the cards
And if you win you get this shiny fiddle made of gold
But if you lose the devil gets your soul

White-collared shirt with ruffles by Sharagano, $120. Wide white belt, $42. Both available at Jasmine Sola. Fringed blue jeans, "Dazed" by Diesel, $130. Available at Diesel.

Jersey Girl
(Tom Waits)

So don't bother me
'cause I got no time,
I'm on my way to see
that girl of mine,
Nothin' else matters in
this whole wide world,
When you're in love with
a Jersey girl,
Sing sha la la la la la la.

Black dress with ostrich-feather hem by Laundry, $350. Available at Jasmine Sola.

Detroit Rock City
(KISS)

Movin' fast, doin' 95.
Hit top speed but I'm still
movin' much too slow.
I feel so good, I'm so alive.
I hear my song playin' on
the radio.

Black and white top by Casting, $84. Print pants by Laundry, $178. Purple striped belt, $48. All available at Jasmine Sola.



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Makeup:
Derek Warrburtin

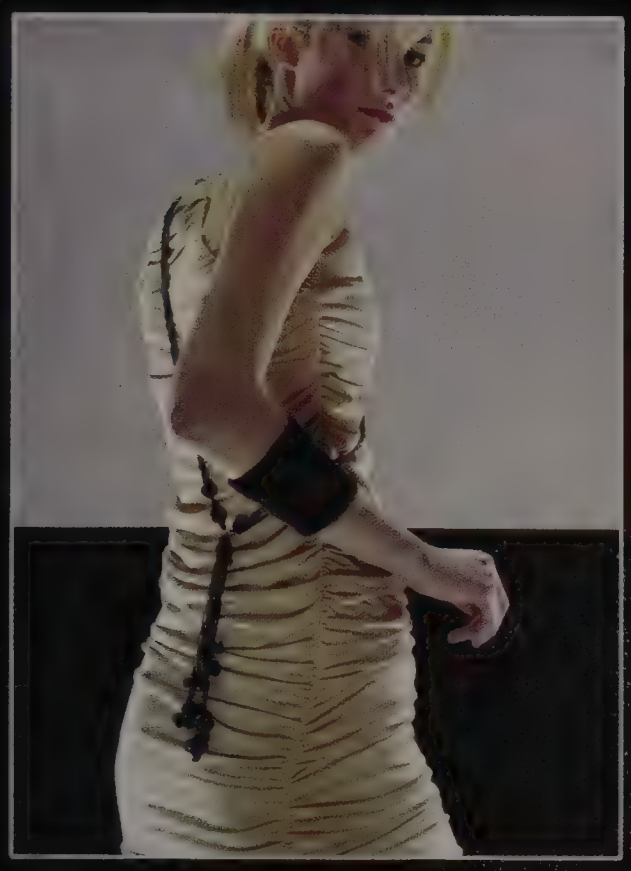
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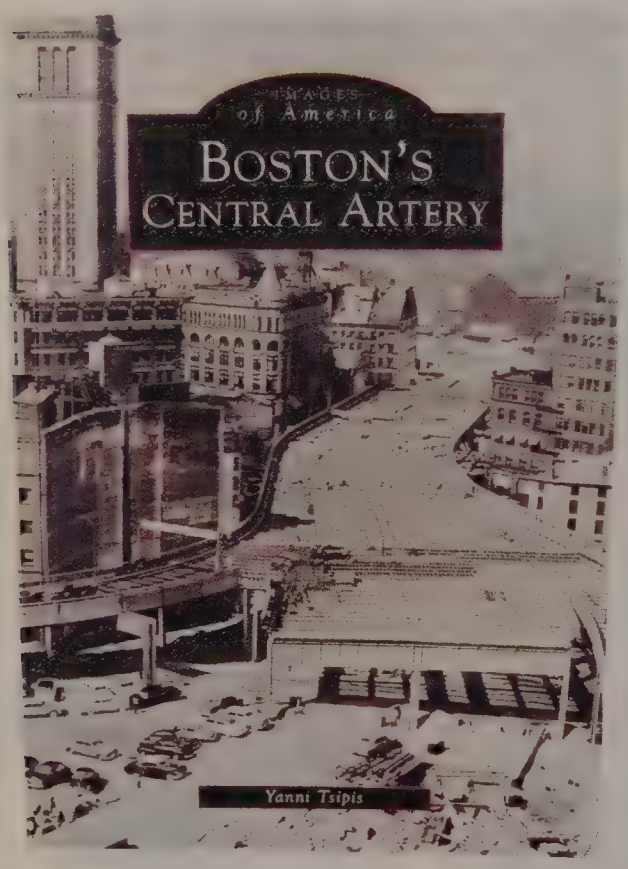
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Photo: Melissa Mahoney Make up: Sara Sutherland

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



THE BIG LIFT TO THE BIG DIG

The Central Artery project (finished in 1959) is described and photographed by Yanni Tsipis in *Boston's Central Artery*. Today's Big Dig can be visited in a streetside tour, given by Boston by Foot, May 27 at 2pm beginning at South Station. For information: 617-367-2345.

The super-gigantic restlessness of urban spaces is truly amazing, wherein the city seems to be tossing in its sleep. What began in 1948 as the construction of the Central Artery, designed to disperse traffic into downtown Boston, brought with it the concomitant evisceration of parts of the North End. As MIT's Yanni Tsipis comments in his book, *Boston's Central Artery*: "A cloud of impending disaster wafted gradually over the city's oldest and most cohesive residential neighborhood." Black-and-white photographs detail the traumatic city-gutting construction of the Artery. Giant swathes of earth are edged by sadly small-looking, soon-to-be demolished stores. Engineers stride across the carless steel girders in 1954, which, at the time, look almost man-on-the-moon weird. The much shorter cityscape is punctuated by the Custom House Tower. However, sundered parts of the city will finally get to be reunited, post–Big Dig, and 27 acres of free space will be created. Progress toward that end can be observed on a Big Dig tour with Boston by Foot. Along with this special May tour, its Boston Underground tours (Sundays through October), illuminate Boston's engineering, from disappearing hills to underwater tunnels and the subway.



PAPER THAT'S ALMOST FABRIC

Paper Source, at 1810 Mass. Avenue in Cambridge, offers beautiful papers and classes devoted to using them beautifully. 617-497-1077.

Remember paper? The beautiful skin of trees? Paper Source honors its great variety with handmade papers from all over the world, for wrapping, making invitations, and even for lining the walls as an alternative to painting. Fold-over cards come in a huge array of colors and textures, with names like speckletone, oatmeal, fuse green, factory green and the plain "paper bag." Sheets of "petal papers" from India, Egypt, Japan and Europe have flowers or other texture-creating inclusions—bark, fiber or string—and cry out for an occasion they can celebrate. Indeed, Paper Source offers an invitation service, and the results look professional yet personal. Alternately, you can assemble them yourself from the tempting proliferations here and then take them to a printer. Wonderful announcements on display include a gay couple moving to new jobs, reassuring friends "No, we're not breaking up." Ornate and original wrapping paper, a gift in itself, includes a sort of troubled Rorshach design, a bright-red Chinese design and a million-dollar-bill pattern. Hung on the wall in interesting overlapping layers, these papers work as a kind of art. Courses in book art, papermaking, lampshade-ornamenting, decoupage and more will justify a bonanza of paperific shopping.



CLOTHES FOR THEIR LITTLE HIGHNESSES

Bon Point, at 18 Arlington Street, Boston, outfits lucky little children lavishly and expensively in French clothes. 617-267-1717.

Take one small, beautiful princess and dress her royally. Because, indeed, both literal and figurative princesses are shopped for here at Bon Point, the highest-end French clothing store for babies, girls up to 14 years old and boys up to about age 10. Each pure, mostly pale, exquisitely made dress floats in its own nimbus of perfection. Bon Point's clothing features simple shapes, and many of the little sleeveless dresses suggest an almost mini-Jackie-O look. Some are reversible. Their classy simplicity brings out the beauty of the fabric (which only rarely has a print), and the few exceptional bright-orange, frilly skirts and bathing suits are a dramatic contrast to Bon Point's more usual serene colors. Tiny beads, embroidered pansies that look as if they could be picked right off the dress, or a removable *gilet* dotted all over with delicate fabric flowers provide the decoration. Floaty organza party dresses, sheer white linen Christening dresses, and balletic, flower-girl net-and-silk dresses evoke two spirits: Europe and the past. Adorable sweaters in cotton, wool and cashmere (not a synthetic in sight) come folded, crunchy with tissue paper. Newborn treasures include the most refined, tiny blankets made on ancient looms.

ABOVE RIGHT: RACHEL BROMBERG (2); BOTTOM: OLIVIA HANLEY



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REVIEW

How Sweet It Is

Dolce Vita might get hectic on the weekend, but how many places can boast a singing owner?

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

I've heard that people in the restaurant business call Saturday evening "amateur night." Presumably the phrase is meant to apply to diners who choose to frequent restaurants at their busiest time, and not to suggest that restaurateurs leave their establishments in the care of amateurs on such nights (although occasionally I have wondered). It may well be that Saturday night patrons, competing for tables on the most popular night of the week, lack discrimination and are willing to accept mediocre performance from restaurants pushed beyond their capacity by the crowd. My recent wildly divergent experiences at Dolce Vita lead me to believe that no matter what the cause, Saturday night may not be the best time to experience a restaurant's most golden moments.

Dolce Vita is housed in a newly renovated space on Hanover Street in the North End, into which owner Franco Graceffa has moved his more modest establishment from next door. The 60-seat dining room features a high, gray metal ceiling with fans and exposed ducts; mustard-hued walls hung with colorful oil paintings, including a large, bold rendering of two black-hatted Carbinieri; two slender gray pillars; and a lively bar.

On a Thursday night visit, recorded Italian songs and opera were delightful, but on a crowded Saturday night the noise level was such that recorded music was lost in the babble, and the tentative live rendering of Andrea Boccelli songs accompanied by guitar and violin was not much more successful. Only when the enthusiastic Franco launched into a hearty rendition of "Volare," encouraging audience participation, was he able to overcome the din.

My first impression of Dolce Vita, following the favorable impression made by its earnest, friendly, enthusiastic owner, was predominantly positive. The waiter brought a delightful plate of assorted olives for nibbling while perusing the menu—plump Calamatas, and tangy green and savory black olives mixed among them.

The soft-crusted bread was disappointing, especially considering Boston's many good bakeries—Iggy's, Clear Flour and Hi-Rise, to name a few. The wine list was predictable, and while we were temporarily charmed to see one of our favorite domestic cabernets, Beaulieu Vineyards Rutherford, listed at a very reasonable price, our delight turned to dismay when our request for that estimable wine yielded two similar but not nearly as good products with confusingly similar names. Franco apologized for the wine list's lack of precision, and we settled on the 1998 Regaleali, Tosca d'Almerita, a full-bodied Sicilian red ($22), robust yet fruity. Dolce Vita also offers a selection of draft beers at the reasonable price of $3.50 for imports and $3 for domestic, including Sam Adams among the latter. Wine by the glass, on the other hand, is not exactly a bargain, with a skimpy glass fetching $5.

Dolce Vita

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Our very first choice from the menu was a resounding success. Tortellini a la boscaiola ($10.95), was a soup bowl brimming with large, tender, white and green tortellini. Soft, almost silky in texture, they were swimming in a splendid cream sauce filled with marvelous ingredients—sweet peas, succulent hunks of ham, large mushroom slices and Italian parsley. The delicate but full-flavored sauce was rose colored from a hint of tomato, and the entire dish, complete with a generous dusting of grated cheese, was superb. Not so successful was the spaghetti alla carbonara ($9.95), which we tried on Saturday evening, but we suspect that its hurried and substandard preparation—the bacon was undercooked, and the pasta erred on the other side—was a casualty of a hard-pressed kitchen on a hectic Saturday.

Antipasti included a satisfactory pomodoro e mozzarella ($6.95), with six thick slices of mozzarella and decent if not



Dolce Vita occupies a newly renovated space on Hanover St. Opposite page: Chef/owner Franco Graceffa (left) and chef Paolo De Gori get chummy with the seafood; desserts, cheeses and a bit of bubbly to wash it all down.



memorable tomatoes (late March is not exactly tomato season in Boston) in an olive oil dressing. Prosciutto e melone ($6.95) arrived as four large wedges of honeydew melon, reasonably ripe and juicy, accompanied by slices of lean, smoky-salty prosciutto.

Main courses varied radically in quality. The pollo al verdicchio, chicken in white wine from Italy's Marches province ($13.95), was excellent. As is the case with some of the other Dolce Vita dishes, the menu does not tell the whole story. Far more than the simple "chicken sautéed in wine with artichokes" described on the menu, this huge, whole, succulent boneless chicken breast was accompanied by a veritable garden of vegetables, including artichoke hearts, red peppers, flat green beans, thick carrots, cooked celery, large mushroom slices, hefty rings of zucchini and olives. We had expressed some concern to Franco that boneless chicken breasts are often dry and tough. He assured us that his would be different, and he was right.

None of the other main courses we tried at Dolce Vita came close to rivaling the chicken. We're not sure whether this was because of the "Saturday night syndrome" or because chicken is something Franco does particularly well. The Gamberi Scampi ($16.95), sautéed with garlic and lemon, was satisfactory—five giant shrimp of decent texture served on a bed of linguini. Unfortunately, a heavy hand on the lemon pre-empted the other flavors.

On the meat side of the ledger, we ordered the bistecca alla Fiorentina ($16.95), requesting it rare to medium-rare. It arrived medium-well, and while its flavor was decent, the cut was underwhelming and not what we expected of a Fiorentina. The least successful of Dolce Vita's main courses was the vitello alla



Milanese ($11.95). Two large cutlets, with an indifferent brown breading, had a texture that bordered on mealy, and reminded us more of something one might find in the supermarket freezer than the well-breaded, fresh-fried scallopini we had been expecting. Again, the gap between anticipation and actuality may have been the casualty of the Saturday night crush. Garnishes for both the steak and the veal included well-prepared zucchini, carrots and celery, together with the ubiquitous french fries and a small salad of greens.

Main courses at Dolce Vita were accompanied by a side of pasta, but unfortunately, it was tired and perfunctory, dressed with a thin tomato sauce. Desserts, on the other hand, included a very credible crème alla caramella ($4.25) and a first-rate tiramisu. And in a charming gesture, rare in a town where nothing is given away for free, a handful of fresh, crunchy Jordan almonds accompanied the bill.

It is difficult not to like Dolce Vita, even after its spotty performance on Saturday night. The exuberance of its owner, its proven ability to produce mouth-watering dishes at a less hectic time, and the good value reflected in its restrained prices make this a restaurant well worth adding to anyone's North End list. iB



DISH

Iron Chefs Meet Buns of Steel

Jocks and Toques form an all-star lineup

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

You can learn a few valuable lessons during an evening in which five teams of chef/athlete duos compete in a mishap-plagued cook-off.

First, you don't have to be a star athlete to be a good sport: When Red Sox pitcher **Tim Wakefield** couldn't make it to the Colonnade Hotel last week for the Franciscan Children's Hospital benefit, Channel 56 anchor **Karen Marinella**—who was slated to be a judge—cheerfully took on the role of utility player, a.k.a. sous chef, to **Chris Bussell** of **Butterfish**.

Second, you don't have to be a celebrity chef to help make a first-rate dinner. Patriots star **Lawyer Milloy** glowed with pride when **Bricco**'s **Bill Bradley** presented their joint effort—trout stuffed with seafood on a bed of braised fennel—with a nod to "Lawyer Milloy's famous garlic butter sauce." In an inspired artistic flourish, Milloy had tucked a fresh green pea into the trout's eye.

As for the mishaps: Wakefield, half of last year's winning team with **Tony Ambrose** of **Ambrosia on Huntington**, was a last-minute scratch. Also unable to attend were two chefs: **Anthony Susi** of **Sage** and **Antoine Camin** of **Brasserie Jo**. And because of limited electrical power, the microphones for the emcee, judging panel, and musicians had to be shut off so the cooking stations could be fired up.

Nonetheless, everybody stayed loose and happy. The Patriots' **Max Lane** playfully tossed green peas into the air. Boxer **Rich LaMontagne** described his signature dish to everyone within earshot: "chicken cutlet with mashed potatoes....I make the *best* mashed potatoes," he boasted. This time, his muscle was put to work chopping vegetables for **Taranta**'s **Jim Becker**.

Post-game stats: Tony Ambrose, winner for the second consecutive year, was ably assisted by **John Harkes** of the Revolution. The event raised about $20,000 for the hospital, a truly worthwhile cause.

Where are they now?: Event participant **Tanya Holland**, formerly of the South End's **Delux Café**, is living in New York, where she's chef at **The Victory Kitchen** in Brooklyn and co-host of the "Soul Food Day" segment of a five-part TV Food Network series called *The Melting Pot*.



Bricco's Bill Bradley teamed up with the Patriots' Lawyer Milloy to tackle trout stuffed with seafood on a bed of braised fennel. The dish was served with "Lawyer Milloy's famous garlic butter sauce."

Around Cambridge: The old **Young and Yee** Chinese restaurant in Harvard Square (do you know *anyone* who's eaten there?) will close and reopen as another **Miracle of Science**. Let's all be grateful it's not going to be a fast-food chain. Farther down the road in Central Square, **Centro** is now serving lunch Monday through Friday. Antipasti, panini and pastas are all under $10. And the **Green Street Grill**'s new spring menu sounds fantastic: "Island conch stew in a scotch bonnet, green papaya, Blue Mountain Jamaican curry, lime and thyme coconut milk rum sauce garnished with fried sweet plantains" is just one example of funky, spicy dishes perfect for the upcoming warm nights.

Forget the Consumer Confidence Index, and other boring alleged indicators of the state of the economy. Bullish? Bearish? Bewildered? Whatever. Bostonians bewitched by Bacchus are reserving seats at the astonishing price of $1,295 per person for an equally astonishing wine dinner at the private Wine Cellar at **The Federalist** on May 11. Befitting the hefty price tag, the bottles of Bordeaux are all hefty magnum-size beauties, ranging from a 1975 Chateau Petrus to a 1986 Chateau d'Yquem.

Finally, congratulations to **Ken Oringer** of **Clio**, winner of this year's American Express Best Chef—Northeast honors from the James Beard Foundation. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

Playing Matchmaker

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

One of life's magic little surprises for me occurs on those rare occasions when everything's right, and the wine in my glass suddenly begins to make some sweet music with the food I'm eating. Why doesn't this happen very often? Because it depends on a convergence of several different factors that are almost impossible to plan. First, many of the flavor and texture variables in the dining equation are either unknown or difficult to control. Even if you're the one doing the cooking, does the dish taste precisely the same every time? The availability and freshness of the central ingredients, the exact degree of seasoning and the humidity of the kitchen or dining room are just a few of the key influences. How about what your side dishes impart to the overall plate, the sweetness of the carrots or corn, the savoriness of the mushrooms? And these are only some of the food variables. Wines change, sometimes dramatically, in a very short period of time, so the bottle you think you know may taste radically different since you last tried it. If the flavors are by their very nature a moving target, there are also plenty of external factors that make an impact. Change the temperature of the wine or the room, the shape of the glass, the company at the table, the stress in your life at that very moment, and you'll notice that the wine tastes different. It may be the same vintage, but the flavors are in a constant state of flux. (For instance, when I was a sommelier I noted that whenever the stock market tanked, more people would complain about flaws, namely harsh acidity, in the wines I poured them.) Like the mad scientist, you're combining unknown compounds together, and who knows whether you'll create a wonderful elixir or an explosion. It's enough to make some people throw up their hands and ask: If you can't know anyway, then why bother?

But my research, much of which has been done with a roomful of students, shows that we really don't have to start from scratch each time. Although preferences are individual, there are some general patterns you observe if you do enough experimenting. Understanding them won't guarantee perfection, but at least it gives you a leg up on where to start.

Very tart food flavors (lemon, vinaigrettes, mustards, green tomatoes, even yogurt sauces) tend to make most wines taste mellower and to bring out some of the latent fruit in the wine. It may violate common sense, but in general—except for people who absolutely hate sour flavors altogether—these foods blend beautifully with any kind of wine. Therefore, a good trick to heighten the compatibility potential of wine and food is to use slightly tart condiments on whatever dish you're eating, unless the wine is very mild to begin with (like most pinot grigio), in which case this may remove any remaining traces of flavor. Another good idea is to use wines that have elevated acidity levels (such as cool-climate chardonnays, sauvignon blancs, many Trebbiano-based Italian white wines, Sangiovese, Barbera and pinot noir) as their tart flavors also complement a wide variety of dishes.

Salty flavors generally have a similar effect. Cured meats or olives (which are sour and salty) also mellow wines out, evoking shy fruit flavors and reducing harshness. It follows that seasoning with salt, although not excessively, softens the flavors of most wines and is a particularly good strategy when matching a wine that is too strong in some characteristic to your palate. An example might be a slightly sweet German riesling.

Accents of sweetness in a dish (from caramelized vegetables, yams or even honey or maple syrup in a sauce) tend to react differently, making many wines taste stronger, and in particular elevating our perception of oak and alcohol. Bitter flavors, such as those we encounter in some green vegetables, or spices, make wines taste rougher, increasing traces of bitterness that are present in coarse-textured, tannic red wines (like barolo, many cabernet sauvignons and syrahs) or in oak-aged chardonnays. They might be just the ticket, on the other hand, to perk up some blander wines.

This is only a rough guide, and it's not what happens in the overall context of a meal anyway, but it's important to begin somewhere. So even if you know that there are too many variables to control them all, start by choosing wines for their general overall compatibility potential, and you'll get a satisfying match more often than not. iB

WENDY MIMRAN

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Afternoon Tea
Boston Harbor Hotel, Rowes Wharf, Boston (439-7000). Daily, 2:30-4pm. The hotel is now offering Harbor Tea ($23.50), High Tea ($14.50) and Tea and Scones ($6.50).

Asparagus Festival
Top of the Hub, Prudential Tower, 800 Boylston St., Boston (536-1775). Through the end of May. Chef **DeanA. Moore** adds five special asparagus dishes to the menu.

Brewery Dinner Series
Cambridge Brewing Company, One Kendall Square, Cambridge (494-1994). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. May 12, 6pm or 8pm. $45. Brewers **Phil Bannatyne** and **Will Meyers** host this meal of five courses paired with five beers.

Butterfish's International Menu
Butterfish, 5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge (497-5511). May 10. $60. Chef **Chris Bussell** offers a five-course menu that represents cuisine from Turkey, China, India, Japan, the Bahamas, Italy, Thailand, Mexico and Spain.

Flight Night
Atara Bistro & Wine Bar, 1418 Comm. Ave., Brighton (566-5670). Wednesdays. $40. Indulge in a three-course tasting menu with five wines.

Friday Night Wine Tastings
The Wine Bottega, 341 Hanover St., Boston (227-6607). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Wine expert **Peter Nelson** offers tastes of Bordeaux (May 11) and spicy wines (May 18).

Inflation-Deflation Appetizers
Backstage at Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (726-1110). Beginning May 13, 4-7pm. Enjoy all-you-can-eat wings for only 5 cents every night. On Tuesdays, get all-you-can-eat tacos for 25 cents, spareribs for 25 cents on Wednesdays, and chicken kabobs for $25 on Thursdays.

Maine Lobster Menu
Caliterra, 89 Broad St., Boston (664-1234). Through May 15. Chef **Damiano de Nicolo** offers a seasonal menu featuring Maine lobster.

Sardinian Regional Wine Dinner
Taranta, 210 Hanover St., Boston (520-0052). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. May 15. $45. This six-course Italian meal highlights food and wines from Sardinia.

Showcase Luncheons
Beale Estate, 181 Adams St., Quincy (422-1907). 12-2pm. $55. Enjoy a luncheon at the Decorator's Show House 2001. • May 9: Chef **Daniel Bruce** of the Boston Harbor Hotel discusses the art of food preparation. • May 23: Chef **John Delpha**, formerly of Mistral and Harvest.

Slow Food Cocktail Party
No. 9 Park, 9 Park St., Beacon Hill (877-SLOW-FOOD). May 21, 6:30pm. $25. Chef Barbara Lynch hosts this cocktail party for the Slow Food organization, offering historically important pre- and post-prohibition cocktails.

Taste of the Nation
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (800-955-TASTE). www.strength.org. *May 17, 6:30pm. $65, $75 at the door.* Some 75 Boston chefs from such restaurants as Aura, Blue Ginger, Icarus, Maison Robert, Olives, Sage, Taranta and Tremont 647 will serve their signature dishes at this food and wine tasting.

Texas Tribute
Magnolia's, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1971). Through June 2. Magnolia's pays tribute to the Lone Star State with Texas cuisine.

A Walking Tour of Chinatown
The Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-9852). May 19, 10am-2pm. $65. Author **Nina Simonds** takes the group to markets and herbal stores. You'll meet with Dr. Chun-Han Zhu, who will read your yin and yang. Then feast on dim sum for lunch.

Wine and Pizza
Clery's Bistro, 331 Columbus Ave., Boston (262-9874). May 17, 5pm. $25. Enjoy a white wine and gourmet pizza dinner.

Wine Dinner Series
Up Stairs at the Pudding, 10 Holyoke St., Cambridge (864-1933). $75. Wine director **David Weitzenhoffer** presides over these informative dinners. • May 15: Tuscan Wine Dinner.

Wine Tasting with Lorenzo
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (542-5108). Tuesdays, 6 and 8pm. $25. General manager **Lorenzo Savona** offers samples of four to five wines, accompanied by hors d'oeuvres. • May 15: Laurus Wines, Rhone Valley France • May 22: South African white wines.

TASTY TIDBIT

BAKING FOR A CAUSE



Why run—or even walk—10 miles to support breast cancer research when you can simply sit back and indluge in a decadent, gooey dessert and contribute to the cause at the same time? May 7-13, just in time for Mother's Day, you can take part in the second annual Boston Bakes for Breast Cancer week. More than 70 local chefs will create their own distinctive dessert—with all proceeds benefiting the Eva Brownman Breast Cancer Fund. Led by Chef Lee Napoli of Grill 23, this year's fund-raiser includes creations by chefs from Ambrosia on Huntington, Centro, The Federaist, Finale, Olives, Taranta, Tremont 647 and Salamander. *781-433-7196. For more information, log on to* www.bostonbakesforbreastcancer.org. *May 7-13.*

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May 7th, 2001
White Wines from the Loire Valley

May 21st, 2001
White Wines from Germany

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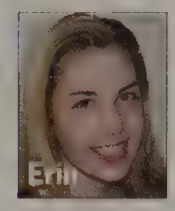


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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 44

PERFORMING ARTS 48

ART 52

FILM 56

BOOKS & POETRY 62

EDUCATION 63

DANCE CLUBS 64

MUSIC 68

CLASSICAL MUSIC 76

GAY & LESBIAN 78

BODY & MIND 80

CHILDREN 80

SPORTS 80

AROUND TOWN 82

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

CityScope, Comedy,

Education, Sports,

Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules



improper picks

TUE./MAY 15

Music: Tortoise

Experimental-rock outfit Tortoise made a name for itself in the early '90s with a sound and instrumental prowess all their own. Combining Kraut rock, classical minimalism, ambient grooves and space music, the group has a sound that isn't quite as slow and laggard as its name implies. One of the most prestigious names in the post-rock/electronica scene for years, Tortoise always offers an element of surprise in its live shows—the group, which can be as large as a septet and can have as many as two vibes players, mix up their sometimes low and languid, and sometimes harder sound. But they always retain their signature crisp, intellectual instrumentation. The band was created largely from the vision of drummer and master producer John McEntire; most of the other members are participants in Chicago's rock community. Over the years, Tortoise have veered into more studio engineering, changed the lineup and sound, but are still at the forefront of the electronica scene. The Middle East show presented show at the Somerville Theatre promises to be a captivating one. They share a bill with Thrill Jockey mates Nobukazu Takemura, Prefuse 73 and the always outstanding hip-hop master Mr. Lif. *55 Davis Square, Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 8pm. $16.*

SAT./MAY 19

A Walking Tour of Chinatown

If your experience with Chinese cuisine is limited to goopy sweet-and-sour pork (or something that vaguely resembles pork, that is) floating in neon-orange sauce with chunks of canned pineapple, you're the perfect candidate for a tour of Chinatown, led by Nina Simonds, Asian food expert and author of eight cookbooks. She'll introduce you to the **Chinese Solution to a Healthy Life** May 19. "I want to show people that Chinese food can be really delicious but also healthy," said Simonds, en route from New York, where she just received a James Beard Award for her one-hour television special called *A Spoonful of Ginger*.

Between visits to her favorite markets, bakeries and herbal stores, Simonds will introduce the group to Dr. Chun-Han Zhu, a physician and noted lecturer on Chinese traditional medicine. He'll read people's internal yin and yang, which determines what they should be eating. (yin should eat yang, and vice versa, in order to "keep the body in balance, prevent diseases and promote a long life," Simonds explains). Chef C.K. Sau at New Shanghai will serve a dim sum lunch and discuss the health benefits of such ingredients as black shiitake mushrooms and Chinese bok choy (both strengthen the immune system), ginger (aids digestion and kills germs) and rock sugar (lubricates the body). "The Chinese believe that food is a friend, and that eating is therapeutic, soothing and health-giving," Simonds says. *The Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (353-9852). May 19, 10am-2pm. $65.*

WED./MAY 16

People Scavenger Hunt

If you haven't heard of "speed dating" yet, then you're obviously not single. The basic premise is that it's possible to figure out whether someone is "date worthy" after a brief conversation. Social entrepreneur Jeff Popkin thinks it takes a bit more than that to connect with someone. So he's come up with his own dating game, called the **People Scavenger Hunt**. It's much more free-form than speed dating. Participants are given a list of 10 questions, and they must find someone of the opposite sex to answer each one. Last month's event at Sophia's was a whirl of activity as men approached women, tentatively asking, "Do you have a belly button ring?" or boldly proposing that they belt out a Britney Spears song. Women scrambled to find a guy with a $100 bill in his wallet or one who had more than four siblings.

At the end of the hour-long game, participants submitted a list of people that interested them. If their names matched, Popkin swapped contact information. About a third of the crowd of 75 matched up. Popkin expects an even greater turnout this month (April's event had to compete with the Red Sox game down the street). "The scavenger hunt makes it easy for you to drop your guard and talk to people you wouldn't ordinarily approach," says Popkin. "You can meet hundreds of people in one night, rather than being forced to sit down and follow the rules." Sounds like a great idea—and if you can find a guy who doesn't leave the toilet seat up or a woman whom your mother would like, you're definitely one step closer to finding Mr. or Ms. Right. *Sophia's Nightclub, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (312-5410). May 16, 6:30-9:30pm. $20, $15 in advance.*



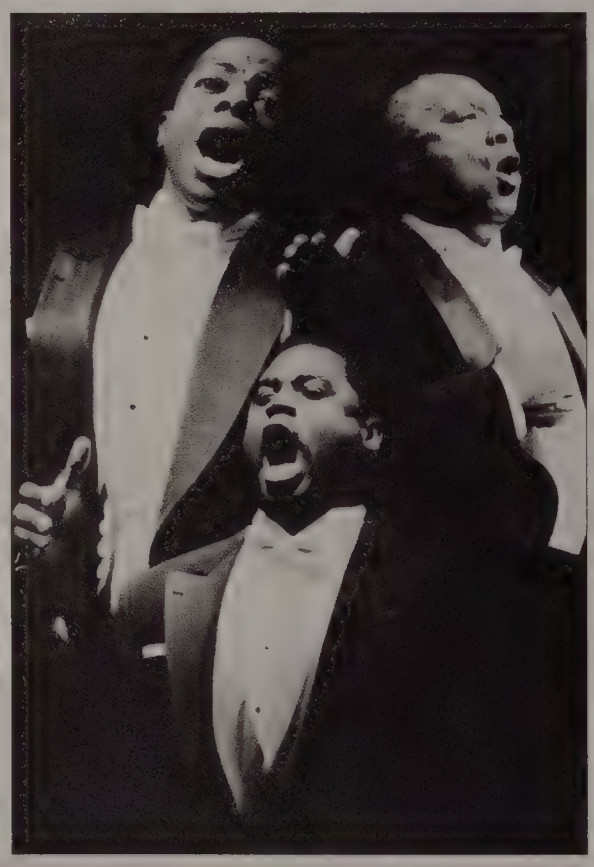
THU./MAY 17

Tastings: Taste of the Nation

Only a building as large as the Hynes Convention Center could house the mother of all tasting events. It's called the **Taste of the Nation**, but it's really more of a taste of Greater Boston. Chefs from restaurants such as Aura, Blue Ginger, Bob the Chef's, Bomboa, Clio, Butterfish, Icarus, Taranta, Salamander, Pho Republique, Hamersley's Bistro and Tremont 647 will offer samplings of their signature dishes. And that's not even the half of them. More than 75 restaurants, 30 vintners and brewers, and a live band will participate in this culinary benefit—the nation's largest, taking place in 80 cities—dedicated to anti-hunger efforts. *Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (800-955-TASTE).* www.strength.org. *May 17, 6:30pm. $65, $75 at the door.*

FRI./MAY 18 & SAT./MAY 19

Music: Three Mo' Tenors



What is being hailed as a musical phenomenon is coming to the Emerson Majestic Theatre. Three versatile African-American operatic tenors are the backbone of the theatrically staged family concert, blending opera, spirituals, jazz and Broadway music. This is the premiere of what is going to be a fantastic four-city tour. Under the guidance of noted Broadway director Marion J. Caffey, Three Mo' Tenors is going to be one of the most buzz-worthy concerts of the summer. Inspired by The Three Tenors concerts, Caffrey designed this program so that it will showcase a number of different African-American tenors. This show features the tremendous talents of **Victor Trent Cook**, **Roderick Dixon** and **Thomas Young**, all of whom have numerous credits to their names. Cook was nominated for a Tony Award for his performance in *Smokey Joe's Cafe* on Broadway and has sung for the Pope. Dixon's mastery has earned him several dramatic roles, including a role in on Broadway. Young has performed in more than 20 countries, and his recordings include the Grammy-nominated *X: The Life and Times of Malcom X*. After the tour, the group takes to the stage in New York for a special presentation on PBS. *May 18 and 19. $23-$43 (824-8000).*

WED./MAY 16

Books: Traveling Literatti



The Algonquin Reading Series, a five-city tour designed to showcase small publishers' recent talent, comes to town May 16. In keeping with the spirit of the tour, the event is mobile—it starts at Newtonville Books and, after a stop at the Newtonville Times Restaurant, continues at Brookline Booksmith. In each major city the tour's lineup changes, but the panel discussion always includes several authors, the owner or manager of the bookstore, folks from local media and an Algonquin representative. Even though the members change, the idea stays the same: After the authors read for 10 minutes, the audience asks questions about anything pertaining to writing and publishing. The Boston event's featured writers are celebrated Indian author **Anita Rau Badami** (*The Hero's Walk*); Harvard University English teacher **Suzanne Berne** (*A Perfect Arrangement*) and teacher of creative nonfiction as the Harvard Extension School **David Gessner** (*Return of the Osprey*). *Newtonville Books 296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619) and Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). 5:30-9pm.*

THROUGH SEPT. 3

Art: Made in Japan

Japanese modern artist **Takashi Murakami** (born in 1962) has already earned heaps of accolades for his irreverent style and bold creations—from paintings to sculpture and drawings. *Takashi Murakami: Made In Japan* at the Museum of Fine Arts is Murakami's first solo exhibition at a major museum in the United States. Although formally trained in traditional Japanese painting (he has a Ph.D. in *nihon-ga*, a style of painting dating back to the 19th century), the young artist's energetic work reflects the extremes of Japanese pop culture—rendered with a striking individual flair. His work also reflects his passion for Japanese *anime* (animation) and *manga* (cartoon), whose cult-like fans have a subculture all their own. The elements come together to form a colorful, detailed, playful style—teetering on the line between popular and fine art. For a sense of context, the MFA has also incorporated several pieces of traditional Japanese art into the exhibit. Showing with Murakami's work are paintings by **Soga Shohaku** (a profound inspiration for Murakami). Concurrent with *Made in Japan* is another Japanese exhibition, *Japan at the Dawn of the Modern Age*. This collection of Japanese full-color woodblock prints from the Meiji era (1868-1912) is on display through July 15. *Made in Japan* shows through Sept. 3. *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-3302).*

STARTING MAY 14

Film: Out-of-This-World Celluloid

Milky Way Lounge and Lanes' karaoke Tuesday nights have been the place to be seen—and heard, for that matter—for months. Now there's a whole new reason to head to the Jamaica Plain hot spot, in addition to the great live music and the be-a-rocker-for-a-night offerings. Beginning May 14, and continuing each second Monday of the month, the Milky Way will host an independent film shorts screening. Curated by Ian Kennedy and Napoleon Palmer, co-founders of Partner Works, the 90-minute to two-hour screenings will feature the works of local filmmakers. "With the digital age upon us, accessibility to filmmaking resources is greater than it's ever been," says the Milky Way's BJ Ray. "More and more, aspiring filmmakers are finding a voice in the digital world. By providing a forum to show these films, where the artists, their peers and an audience can interact, we will create a network for this burgeoning scene. With the increasing ubiquity of filmmaking resources (final cut and iMac desktop editing, digital format film obviating any expensive processing fees, and WebTV as a medium to show these films) we're sort of on the forefront of a larger revolution." Music fans fear not—there is also live music, either in the form of a DJ or live performers, to accompany the film shorts. *$5, 8:30pm.*

WED./MAY 16 & SUN./MAY 20

Music: Vaudevillian Romps

Wacky performances are in store for Bostonians. First, as part of the The Living End series, in which a team of local artists/producers present a follow-up to their March 28 Burlesque show with **A Night of Burlesque and Vaudeville** on May 16. The evening is filled with performances by local Burlesque and vaudeville acts—their last show in March drew 200 eager watchers. The performance will feature Burleycue dancers, comedy courtesy of Emcee Penny Pinnette, a show from Jake the Puppetmaster, plus singers, impersonators and other vaudevillians. In total there's 21 acts on the bill—for a mere $5.On May 20, **Vaudeville** comes to the Middle East with a show featuring a slew of musicians and performance artists like Boogie Nights, a newly formed break-dancing crew; hip-hop outfit Rock City Dance Crew; and a Venezuelan Flamenco dancer performing with a Spanish guitar player. Hecheilbech, an ex-ballerina turned performance artist, and Jason Sanford of Neptune, the rock band with homemade instruments welded together from scrap metal, will also be in the house. *A Night of Burlesque, 85 West Newton, Boston (927-1781). 8pm, $5. Middle East, 472-480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-EAST). 8pm, $7.*

TUE./MAY 15

Cityscope: Boston's Beloved Bartenders

It's not quite a Golden Coathanger award, but for the 25 drink slingers honored in this year's Boston's Beloved Bartenders issue, it's quite an honor to be named among the area's finest. Among your favorites (and ours) are Luis Morales from Trio, Lisa Kennedy from Mistral, Bobby Carroll at the Rattlesnake, Astrid Merget from the Big Easy, Erin O'Donnell at Aria and Jen O'Brien from Sonsie. The Improper Bostonian's **Beloved Bartenders Party** at The Rack on May 15 will celebrate the winners with an awards ceremony (presented by the Improper's own social columnist Jonathan Soroff and Mix 98.5's morning DJ Lynn Hoffman) and dancing to the tunes of Mark Morris & the Catunes and DJ Steve Anderson. You can be assured there'll be tasty drinks and good times. *The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. May 15, 6pm.*

TOP RIGHT: SESHU BADRINATH



ANNO 1366

LEUVEN BELGIUM

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

After-Work Social Networking
Sophia's Latin Club, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (312-5410). www.bostoneventguide.com. *6-9pm. $15.* BostonEventGuide.com sponsors this event, which brings together young professionals to view art, hear speakers, listen to music, take dance lessons and more.

Big Apple Circus: Clown Around Town
Fan Pier, Boston (931-2787). Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. Through May 13. www.bigapplecircus.org. *$13-$43.* This all-new show features a cast of circus acts from around the world.

Celebrating Success 2001
Temple Beth Avodah, Puddingstone Lane, Newton (965-3999). 6-9:30pm. $100. This event honors survivors of domestic violence who have completed the Second Step Program. Marjorie Clapprood and Susan Wornick host, and Martha Coakley delivers the keynote address.

City Hall Plaza Farmers' Market
City Hall Plaza, Boston (635-4447). MBTA: Green to Government Center. Mon. and Wed., 11am-6pm. May 14-Nov. 21. It's farmers' market time again!

Decorators' Show House and Tours
Beale Estate, 181 Adams St., Quincy (422-1907). MBTA: Red Line to Quincy Center. www.jlboston.org. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-2pm , 6-9pm; Sat., 9am-7pm: Sun., 11am-7pm; Mon., closed. Through May 25. $20, $25 at the door.* The Junior League of Boston's largest annual fund-raiser transforms the classic colonial Beale Estate into a decorators' show house, featuring several of the area's most gifted interior designers.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

Chelsea Creek Cruise
Leaves from Charlestown (482-1722). www.tbha.org. *2-4pm. Free.* Join the Boston Harbor Association for a two-hour boat cruise of Chelsea Creek to see the potential open space sites and the working port.

Dinner with the Champ
Kowloon Restaurant, Route 1, Saugus (781-233-0007). 6-9pm. $50. Heavyweight boxing champion Johnny Ruiz will host this dinner. All proceeds will benefit the Somerville Boxing Club.

Leadership in the New Economy
Marriott Copley Place, Boston (781-235-2900). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.nehra.com. *5:30-9pm. $80.* Northeast Human Resources Association hosts its annual awards dinner, focusing on leadership in the new economy.

Parrothead Bash
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. 9-11pm. Wasting away? Replenish your salt shaker at this tribute to Jimmy Buffet, with music and a ticket giveaway to see The Man himself.

Weekly Workout at Faneuil Hall
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (737-3500). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Thurdays, 12-2pm. Local radio personality Karen Blake hosts this live weekly workout. Who cares if the tourists gawk? You're getting in shape for the beach, baby!

Young Professionals Reception
Boston Public Library, McKim Building, Copley Square, Boston (247-8980). 8pm-12am. $100. Black-tie. This reception with live music and dancing is designed to reach the next generation of business leaders and build a new base of support for the BPL.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

WGBH Two Collection Preview Weekend
WGBH, 125 Western Ave., Boston (300-3999). www.wgbh.org/auction. *Fri., 7-10pm ($80); Sat., 12-4pm ($15).* Get a sneak preview of 200 works of art and antiques, meet the artists and enjoy refreshments and live music.



You too can get the autograph of boxing heavyweight Johnny Ruiz at Dinner with the Champ May 10.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

Brimfield Fair
Brimfield, Mass. (978-597-8155). www.jandj-brimfield.com. *Fri., 6am-5pm; Sat., 8am-5pm. May 11-12. $5.* Antique enthusiasts flock to Brimfield three times a year for this outdoor antiques and collectibles show.

Charles River Relay for Life
609 Webster St., Needham (508-652-4333). Also taking place in Cambridge (May 18). During the walk sponsored by the American Cancer Society, there will be entertainment, music and food. At 9pm, a candle-lighting ceremony will take place.

Rhythm and Voices
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory (426-5505). www.teenvoices.com. *7pm. $50.* Benefiting the young women's magazine *Teen Voices*, this fund-raiser event will feature a performance by Anna Deavere Smith.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Art Treasures Evening
Private Home in Chestnut Hill (566-5715). 8pm. $150. The Brookline Arts Center's annual spring fund-raiser auction features a collaboration between the center and two retail stores: Mobilia Gallery and Susi's.

Viva LaX Vegas
International Place, Oliver and High streets, Boston (242-9898). 7-11pm. $100. Metro Lacrosse hosts this gala fund-raiser. Dance, dine and gamble the night away.

City Hall Plaza Arts Festival
City Hall Plaza, Boston (635-4476). 11am-4pm. Free. Stroll around the plaza and browse stalls exhibiting the work of local artists.

The Doggone Walk 2001
Castle Island, South Boston (426-9170). 11am. This 2.1-mile walk/fun run around Castle Island benefits the Animal Rescue League.

Mother's Day Portrait Extravaganza
Various locations, Boston (353-0700). May 12-13. $60. Families can have their portraits taken by some of New England's finest photographers at this benefit for the Photographic Resource Center .

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Duckling Day Parade
Boston Common (426-1885). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. www.cityofboston.com/parks. *12pm, registration; 1pm, parade. Free.* Dress up as your favorite character from *Make Way for Ducklings* and march in a parade.

MONDAY, MAY 14

Eliot Norton Awards
Ritz-Carlton Hotel, Arlington Street, Boston (542-9155). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6pm. $25, $20 in advance. The Boston theater community honors outstanding achievements in theater.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Boogie for Art in the Schools
Milky Way, Jamaica Plain (522-0392). www.amearts.org. *7-10pm. $25.* Shake your booty to the African drumming of the Jah Jah drummers at this benefit for Boogie-Woogie Building. The event is co-sponsored by WBCN-FM and the IMPROPER.

Cape Cod Maritime Days 2001
Cape Cod, Mass. (888-33-CAPECOD). www.capecodchamber.org. *May 16-20.* Open houses at lighthouses feature presentations, tours, re-enactments and cruises.

Exceptional Women
Sheraton Boston Hotel, 39 Dalton St., Boston (822-6534). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 12pm. $100. Celebrate the exceptional achievements of seven women at this benefit for the Family Connections Fund. Singer-songwriter Sophie B. Hawkins performs.

New England Salsa Competition
Sophia's, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 11pm. $10. Eighteen professional and amateur couples will compete for cash prizes at this competition hosted by SalsaBoston.com.

People Scavenger Hunt
Sophia's Nightclub, 1270 Boylston St., Boston (312-5410). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 6:30-9:30pm. $20, $15 in advance. The Social Scene hosts this monthly event, perfect for single young professionals in their 20s, 30s and 40s looking to mix and mingle.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Elder in the Arts
Empire Ballroom, 275 Tremont St., Boston (536-3557). This event hosted by Susan Wornick of Channel 5 benefits MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers. The evening will feature an exhibit of art by and about elders, along with dinner and a live auction.

Gala Spring Benefit Reception
Giuliano Day Spa, 338 Newbury St., Boston (720-1122). The spa celebrates its expansion with an auction of services benefiting the Newbury Street League.

May Fair
Worcester Centrum Center (508-753-8183). Fri., 3-8pm; Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 11am-5pm. May 18-20. $5. This is New England's oldest and largest juried craft fair, featuring work in jewelry, glass and pottery.

MSPCC Benefit
Pravda, 116 Boylston St., Boston (587-1523). 7-10pm. $20, $25 at the door. A DJ will spin tunes at this party to benefit the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres.

Nantucket Wine Festival
Nantucket Harbor, Nantucket, Mass. (508-228-1128). www.nantucketwinefestival.com. *May 17-20.* The fifth annual Nantucket Wine Festival celebrates world-renowned wines and exquisite cuisine.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Sailing Season Kick-Off Party
Community Boating, Charles River Esplanade (523-1038). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 8pm. $10. Community Boating kicks off the 2001 sailing season with a swing dance to benefit its Junior Program.

Singles Dance
Sheraton Hotel, exit 32 off Route 128/95, Burlington (781-721-5844). www.funfunfun.org. *$15.* Join three singles clubs (ages 21-59) for an elegant evening of dancing.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

A Touch of Comfort
Lock-Ober, 3 Winter Place, Boston (236-0002). MBTA: Green Line to Park. 8:30pm-2am. Cocktails until 10pm. $30 and $40 donations. A Touch of Comfort was founded by IMPROPER staffer Jim Pite, who battled cancer from 1993-1999. The reception will feature music by the Antonio Jazz Project and a DJ, cocktails, wine and hors d'oeuvres.

Flea Market and Street Fair
Wellington Street, Boston (266-4735). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 9am-3pm. Free. Peruse the antiques and collectibles of 40 vendors, sample food and be regaled with live music and a raffle.

Franklin Park Kite Festival
Franklin Park Golf Course, Boston (635-4505). 11am-5pm. Free. Make kites, fly kites and groove to music on the beautiful golf course at Franklin Park.

Hyannis Port Challenge
JFK Library, Columbia Point (800-718-3536). MBTA: Red Line to JFK. 7am-3:30pm. Champion cyclist Greg LeMond and other celebrities participate in this 85-mile bike adventure from the South Shore to Hyannis Port. Cheer the riders on as they raise money for Best Buddies.

Impossible Library
Forest Hills Cemetery, Boston (524-0128). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 5-7:30pm. Free. This outdoor multimedia piece combines visual art, performance and video.

In Our Backyard
Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (426-6500, ext. 220). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.bostonkids.org. *6pm. $150.* This year's event features live and silent auctions, with Boston Mayor Tom Menino acting as auctioneer. Proceeds benefit the museum's E-outreach programs.

May Fair
Wellesley Historical Society, 229 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-6690). 10am-3pm. $3. Enjoy children's activities and a massive thrift sale—selling everything from art and antiques to plain old stuff. The 2001 Quartet and the Jazz Henchmen perform.

Singles Dance
Knights of Columbus Hall, 111 Watertown St., Watertown (781-376-9354). 8pm-12am. $12. Mingle and dance to DJ DeeDee Rose's tunes at this singles event, sponsored by the Catholic Alumni Club of Boston.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Bicycle Block Party
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (628-2200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 3-9pm. $10. Bicycle to Redbones for this annual block party to benefit two bicycle advocacy groups and enjoy beer and barbecue.

Cadillac Day
Museum of Transportation, Larz Anderson Park, 15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). www.mot.org. *10am-2pm. $5.* How 'bout that Caddy? Cadillacs from 1902 to 2002 will be out on the green, adjacent the museum.

Second Sundays
Veronique Restaurant and Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (312-5410). 2-5pm. $10. Enjoy live jazz by the Paulo Danay Quartet, wine and light hors d'oeuvres.

The Ultimate Tea Party
Giuliano Day Spa, 338 Newbury St., Boston (720-1122). You haven't been to a tea party until you've been to the Ultimate Tea Party. Enjoy a day of beauty, fashion and informal modeling all day long.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

Community Awards Dinner
Westin Hotel, Copley Place, Boston (254-3800, ext. 1136). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6 pm. $250. The Franciscan Children's Hospital sponsors this dinner with an awards ceremony and silent and live auctions.

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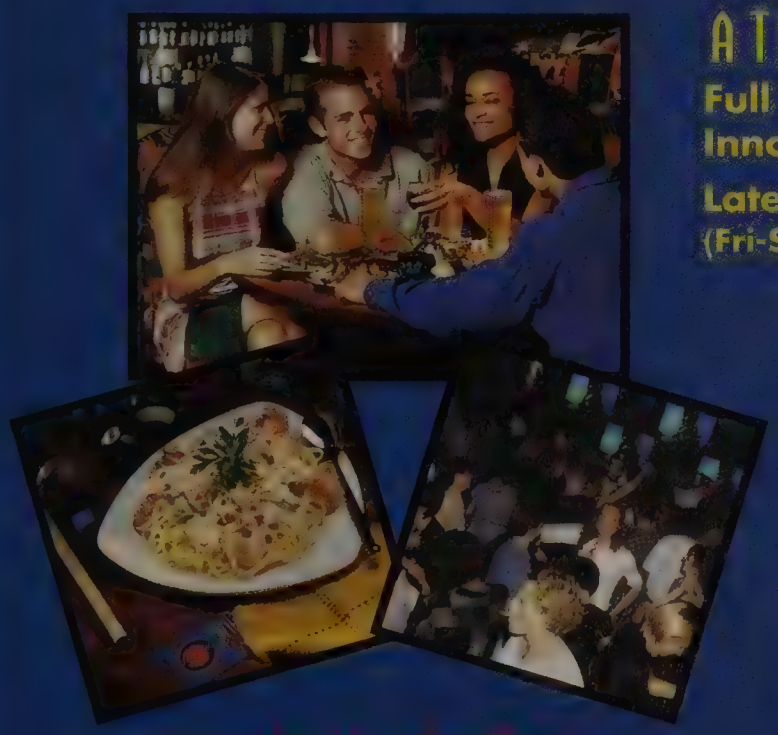
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Patriots Max Lane, Drew Bledsoe and Tedy Bruschi show their support for the Nomar 5 Fund.

inside RACK

Congratulations to John Hancock CEO David D'Alessandro on the release of his new best seller, *Brand Warfare*!

Congratulations to Nomar Garciaparra and Victor Garciaparra on another successful fund-raiser for the Nomar 5 Fund! A special thank you Nomar's teammates, Carl Everett, Rod Beck, Mike Lansing and Lou Merloni; Patriots players Drew Bledsoe, Lawyer Milloy and Max Lane; soccer cutie Mia Hamm; Celtics players Walter McCarty and Antoine Walker; and New England Revolution players John Harkes, Brian Dunseth and Eric Wynalda. Also: Designer Joseph Abboud, Mario Lopez (aka "Slater" from the sitcom *Saved by the Bell*), actor Jay Mohr, *Survivor 2*'s Nick Brown, and to all the sponsors for showing their support to the Nomar 5 Fund!

Every Monday Night – "In The Biz Night," hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Thursday Night, 9pm – RACK-ACTIVE –
Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman or Party Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky mixes it up 'til 2am.

Every Friday Night, 9pm – Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Every Saturday Night – Star 93.7 Dance Party with Vinnie Peruzzi broadcasting live!

Friday, May 11th – Uncle Kracker live, debuting their hit song *Follow Me*, hosted by Kiss 108's Billy Costa! Dancing will never stop as the night continues with Central Basement and DJ Todd!

Tuesday, May 15th – Join us for *The Improper Bostonian*'s 7th Annual Boston's Beloved Bartenders celebration while Mark Morris & The Catunes and DJ Steve Anderson rock the house! Hosted by *The Improper Bostonian*'s social columnist Jonathan Soroff and Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman.

Friday, May 18th, 9pm – EVAN AND JARON perform their hit song *Crazy For This Girl* hosted by Kiss 108's Billy Costa, followed by the high energy of Central Basement and DJ Todd!

THE

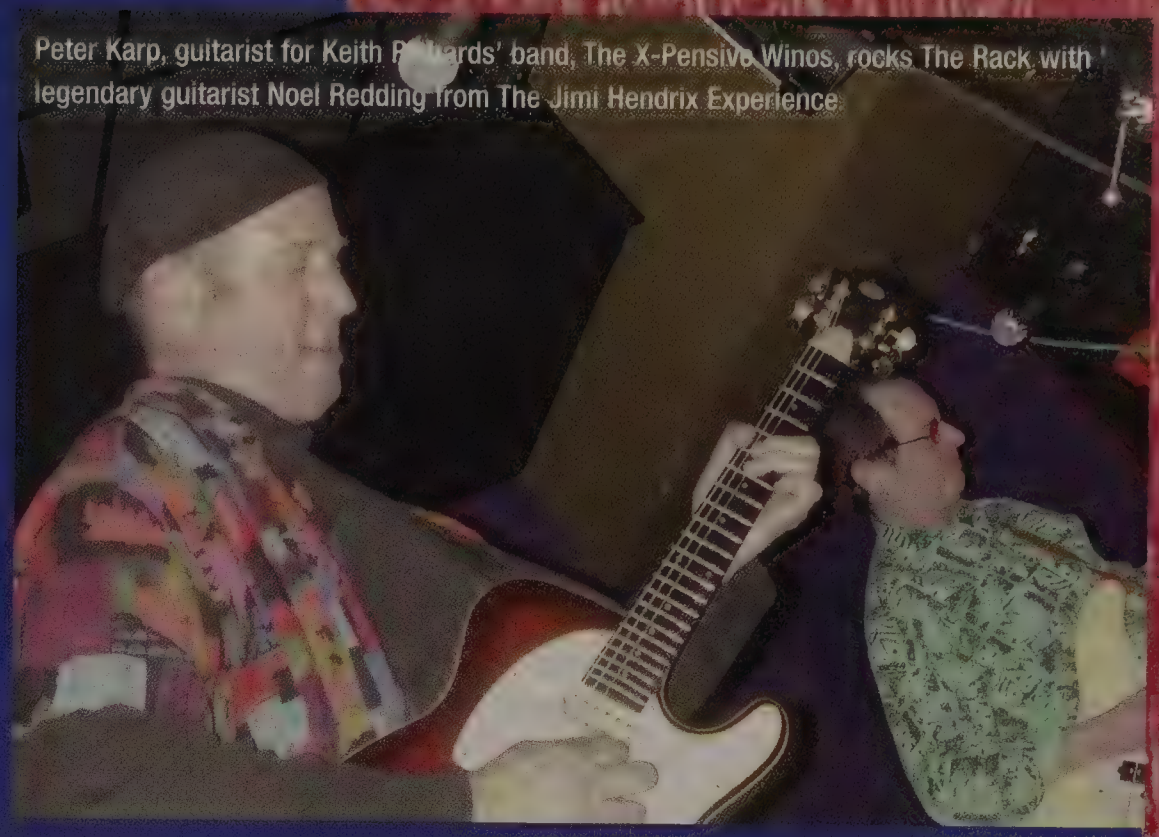


Celtics captain Antoine Walker works on his bank shot.

24 Clinton Street, Boston 02109 617.725.1051 www.therackboston.com



Russell Crowe he's not, but Hill Holiday's CEO Jack Connors proves to John Hancock's CEO David D'Alessandro that he is a true friend and has a great pair of legs!



Peter Karp, guitarist for Keith R[illegible]ards' band, The X-Pensive Winos, rocks The Rack with legendary guitarist Noel Redding from The Jimi Hendrix Experience.

RACK



Mia Hamm, 5 time U.S. Soccer Athlete of the Year, with Boston Breaker Kate Sobrero.

Red Sox shortstop Nomar Garciaparra and World Heavyweight Champion Johnny Ruiz celebrate at the Nomar 5 Fund party!





Actor Kevin James proves he is the "King of Queens!"

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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

The Amen Corner
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. $12-$55. This powerful drama filled with gospel music is by author James Baldwin. Set in a Harlem storefront church in 1960, it tells the story of Sister Margaret, who faces problems within her family and her congregation when her estranged husband shows up at her doorstep after a 10-year absence.

Art
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). May 18-July 1. $28-$42. When a man drops a small fortune on a surprising piece of contemporary art, his lifelong friendship with his two best friends is turned upside down.

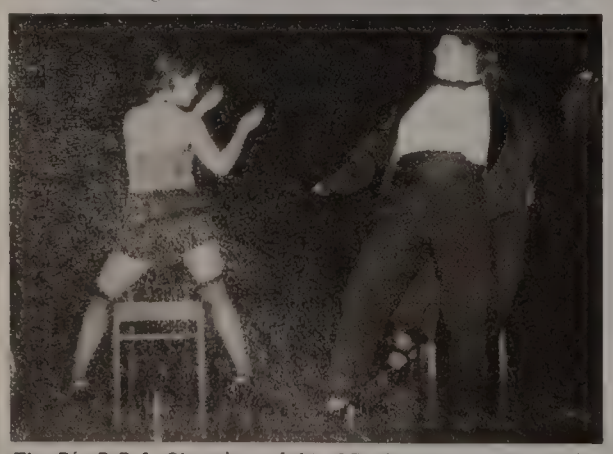
The Big B.R.A. Show
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton, Boston (927-1781). May 16, 8pm. $5. Trista Beard, Sarah Lafferty and Amy Harmon present this night of local Burlesque and vaudeville acts.

Carousel
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). May 15-June 3. $18-$56. This production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's tragic love story is set in a 19th-century New England fishing village.

Crave
The Nora Theatre Company, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (491-2026). May 10-12, 8pm; May 13, 3 and 7pm. $25. Playwright Sarah Kane's play is about love, sex, mortality and our most hidden, potent desires. *Crave* is often cited for its lush musicality, the poetic cadence of the spoken word in the play and the influence of Samuel Beckett on Kane's work.

The Golden Door
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). May 10, 10:30am. Judy Bernstein one-woman musical tells the story of immigration at the turn of the century.

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham, Mass. (781-279-2200). May 18-June 3. $25-$40. This musical performance re-creates one of Billie Holiday's last performances at a rundown club in Philadelphia, when she was suffering from heroin addiction.



***The Big B.R.A. Show* is a night of Burlesque acts May 16.**

'Night Mother
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. $18. QE2 Theatre and Delvena Theatre join forces to present Marsha Norman's Pulitzer Prize-winning play.

Jekyll & Hyde
Lowell Memorial Auditorium, 50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299). May 9, 8pm. $23.50-$42.50. Robert Louis Stevenson's timeless tale is set to music.

Swimming in March
Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. May 12-June 3. $30. Playwright Kate Robin has fun with the unfinished work of German playwright Georg Buchner, Woyzeck. This nightmarish multimedia play unfurls the complex story of Louis, a department store security guard who sells his body for odd experiments, and Marie, his socially and sexually frustrated wife.

The Taming of the Shrew
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. May 11-June 2. $15. A group of actors in 1936 Kentucky, rocked by the economic depression, decide to put on *The Taming of the Shrew* to delight and challenge their audience.

TomFoolery
Vokes Theatre, Route 20, Wayland, Mass. (508-358-4034). Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm. Through May 19. $13-$15. This musical review takes an irreverent look at everything from religion to pollution and from the Boy Scouts to animal control.

Tortoise: A New Musical
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Boston (547-6789). May 19, 8pm. $10. This new musical comedy read by playwright Jeff Flaster aims to find out how we want our lives to be in this age of technology—whether you can succeed in business while still having a life.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

Cider House Rules (Parts I and II)
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through June 17. $28-$42. Raised in a tiny Maine orphanage by a humble but dedicated doctor, Homer journeys into the world and grows from a boy of remarkable insight to a vigorous and committed young physician.

The Curse of the Bambino
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm.; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through May 19. $20-$36. This musical takes a lighthearted look at the years of futility that began in 1920, when Boston Red Sox owner Harry Frazee sold Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees.

Desperately Aloof
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., #2, Boston (470-5329). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. May 11-12, 8pm. $10. Craig Houk takes a candid look at gay life, focusing on six characters—both male and female—who present their individual stories.

I Kissed Dash Riprock
Charlestown Working Theater, 442 Bunkerhill St., Charlestown (628-4750). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through May 27. $15. Cyndi Freeman presents a one-woman comedy about love, sex and movie stars.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Largo Desolato
Leverett Old Library Theatre, Plympton and Mill streets, Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through May 19. $12. Vaclav Havel's play, translated from the Czech by Tom Stoppard, presents a disturbing yet humorous portrait of an artist dehumanized by the oppression of a totalitarian state.

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. Through June 3. $25-$75. Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, this epic saga sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th-century France. Jean Valjean is pitted against the cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelong quest to evade capture.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

1776
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through June 3. $21. Our new nation is struggling to be born in this humorous musical.

The Vagina Monologues
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (931-2787). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. May 8-20. $25-$65. Following Eve Ensler's sold-out engagement in March, three famous women (yet to be disclosed) will come to Boston to share the stage at every performance. The play brazenly explores the humor, power, pain, wisdom, outrage, mystery and excitement hidden in women's bodies.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Cabaret
Curry Student Center, Northeastern University, Boston (373-2247). May 16-19, 23-26, 8pm. $15. This Tony Award-winning musical includes "Cabaret," "Wilkommen," "Don't Tell Mama" and "Two Ladies."

Great Expectations in Concert
Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 14, 8pm. Free. A musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic work.

Harvey
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2530). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. May 10-11, 8pm; May 12, 2 and 8pm. $10. Mary Chase's lovable story of a man and his 6-foot invisible rabbit.

VI:2
Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 10-12, 8pm. $5-8. A collection of six cutting-edge short operas written by Harvard undergraduates.

PERFORMANCE ART

Submergence
Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. May 10-12, 17-19, 8pm. $10. Jennifer Hicks creates movement metaphors of the sea, which merge into a complete water ballet.

COMING SOON

A Thousand Clowns
The Shubert Theatre, 272 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). June 19-July 1. $45-$65. Tom Selleck's revival of Jason Robards role from the 1960s entertains a brand-new generation of comedy lovers.

OPEN HOUSE

Actors' Workshop
Actor's Workshop, 40 Boylston Street, Boston (617-423-7313). May 12, 1-3pm; May 16, 6-8pm. Meet instructors and learn about acting classes starting in May.

Dance

OPEN HOUSE

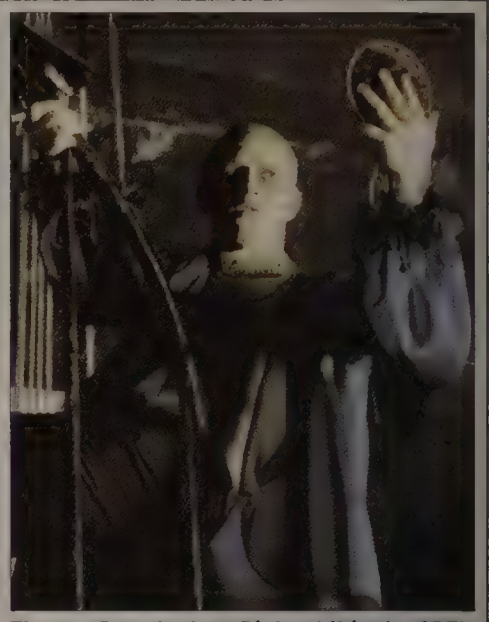
Digby Dance
The Dance Complex Theatre, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (247-2242). MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 18-19 8pm. $10-$12. Six dances by Kate Digby, live music by Bruce Grover and poetry by Nuri Chandler-Smith.

Download This
The Dance Complex Theatre, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (247-2242). MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 12, 8pm, and May 13, 7pm. $15. The faculty performs a repertory concert featuring the work of nine choreographers in various styles, from African dance to hip-hop.

Lasya
Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second St., Cambridge (577-1400). May 11 and 12, 8pm; May 13, 2pm. $15. Classical Indian dance and modern choreography merge in this ensemble dance.

Libana
Somerville Theater, 55 Davis Square, Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. May 12, 8pm. $20. Music from around the world is combined with dance.

Nicola Hawkins Dance Company
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-8724). May 11-12, 8pm. $18. The company premieres



Thomas Derrah plays Richard II in the ART's production of the Shakespearean historical drama May 11-June 10.

Preview

Global Warming

The ART heats up Shakespeare's classic, *Richard II*

In less imaginative hands, *Richard II* has the potential to be a stodgy history play about an overthrown king. It takes true artistic vision to engage an audience that has been lulled into laziness by loose modern interpretations of the Bard's tales (think *Ten Things I Hate About You* and *The Lion King*). Robert Woodruff, director of the American Repertory Theatre's upcoming production of *Richard II*, has that vision. Rest assured that Woodruff won't be giving his audience an easy way out.

"The deadliest kind of theater," says ART Company actor Thomas Derrah, who plays Richard, "is where people sit back and let whatever it is wash over them. In this production that's not going to be allowed. Part of Woodruff's modus operandi is to not let people off the hook." Woodruff has integrated elements of the modern artistic world into the play's staging, infusing the set, costumes and characters with contemporary artistic references while remaining true to the original text. That's not to say that the actors prance around in Elizabethan garb and pointy shoes. "The way Woodruff works," says Derrah, "is to find a lot of seemingly tangential material, either written or visual resources that spur ideas and sow the first seeds, and let the play grow out of that."

During this *Richard II*, audiences should expect both Derrah and Woodruff to engage the audience in a provocative exchange of ideas through stimulating visuals and complex character development. *American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. May 11-June 10. $29-$59.*

—Caroline Wolter

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Past Forward
Shubert Theater, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). May 17-20. $50-$74. Mikhail Baryshnikov's White Oak Dance Project presents an evening of dance, film and narrative celebrating the 1960s and '70s.

Renaissonics
Jewett Hall, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (661-3353). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 11, 7:30pm. $8. Learn the most popular dances of Shakespeare's day.

She's Going
Green Street Studios, 185 Green Street, Boston (864-3191). MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 18-19, 8pm. $15. Choreographed works by Jody Weber.

The Sleeping Beauty
Wang Theater, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800 447-7400). Through May 20. $23-$73. Anna-Marie Holmes' final show as artistic director closes the season with Tchaikovsky's romantic fairytale, which includes one of the most difficult variations for a ballerina in all of ballet.

Tuesdays @ Noon
Dance Complex Theatre, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (247-2242). MBTA: Red Line to Central. May 15 and 22, 12pm. $12. Snappy Dance Theater on May 15 and the Mandala Folk Dance Ensemble on May 22.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

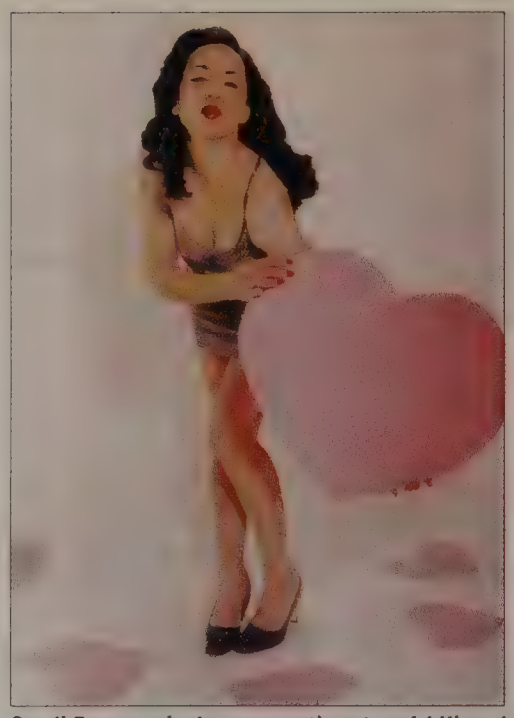
STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). MBTA: Green Line. No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open mike comedy. •Saturdays, 9:30pm-12am: Larry Lee Lewis Rock 'n' Roll Comedy Band and Boston's finest comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •May 9: John Fisch. •May 10, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12. •May 11: Pauly Shore, $22. •May 12, 6:30pm ($22.50) and 8:30pm ($27.50): Rob Bartlett; 11pm: Pauly Shore, $20. •May 13, 7 and 9pm: Pauly Shore, $20. •May 14: Amateur showcase hosted by Kevin Knox. •May 15: Paul Narduzzi and Robbie Printz. •May 16: Don Gavin. •May 17, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12. •May 18: Amazing Jonathan, $20. •May 19: Amazing Jonathan, $25. •May 20, 7:30pm: Boston Headliners. •May 21: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •May 10: Tim McIntire with guests Alana Devish, J. Savage, Shane Kinney and the comics of WAKKA. •May 11: Brendon Small and Larry Murphy welcome Brian Olsen, Melissa Morrow, Lenny Hoffman, John Fisch, Tom Morello, Dan Mitz and Walter Driscoll. •May 12: Brian Olsen with Julie Perkins, Ken Roberts, Lenny Hoffman, John Fisch, Chris Walsh and Ben Joplin. •May 13: Dan Levy, with Steve Calechman, Laurie Hoffma, Sam Walter, Brian Feller, Brian Giles, Adrian Tung and sketch comedy from Slow Children @ Play. •May 17: Tim McIntire with guests Tony Moschetto, Benari Poulten, John Keating and the comics of WAKKA. •May 18: Brendon and Larry with guests Lois McCormack, PJ Fiaella, Pat O'Shea, Rich Gustus, Kelly McFarland, Brian Melvin and Dave Greenberg. •May 19: Rick Jenkins with guests TJ Griffin, Adam Pearlman, Kelly McFarland, Dan Sulman, Pat O'Shea and Tim Golden. •May 20: Sacrificing Virgins. First-time performers are joined by Dan Newbower, Michelle Pierce, John Keating, John Curtis, Laura Kolling, Jan Davidson, Dave Hutchings and Romano & Faalconer.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.



Cyndi Freeman is the provocative star of *I Kissed Dash Riprock*, which runs through May 27.

Lines, Lyrics and Laughs
The Lizard Lounge, 1667 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (520-3355). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mondays, 8pm-9:30pm. No cover.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. Wednesdays: Open mike at 8:30pm. •May 10, 8:30pm; May 11-12, 8:45pm: Bob Gautreau, Larry Myles and John Keating •May 17, 8:30pm; May 18-19, 8:45pm: Frank Santorelli, Tony Moschetto, Matt Jablow.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Wednesdays, 8pm: Micetro. •Fridays, 8pm: Secret Society. 10:30pm: Theatre Sports. •Saturdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston. •Sundays, 7pm: Micetro.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Jackie Mason Live
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 8-12, 8pm; May 13, 2 and 8pm. $38.50-$52.50. Jackie Mason comes to town armed with new material.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

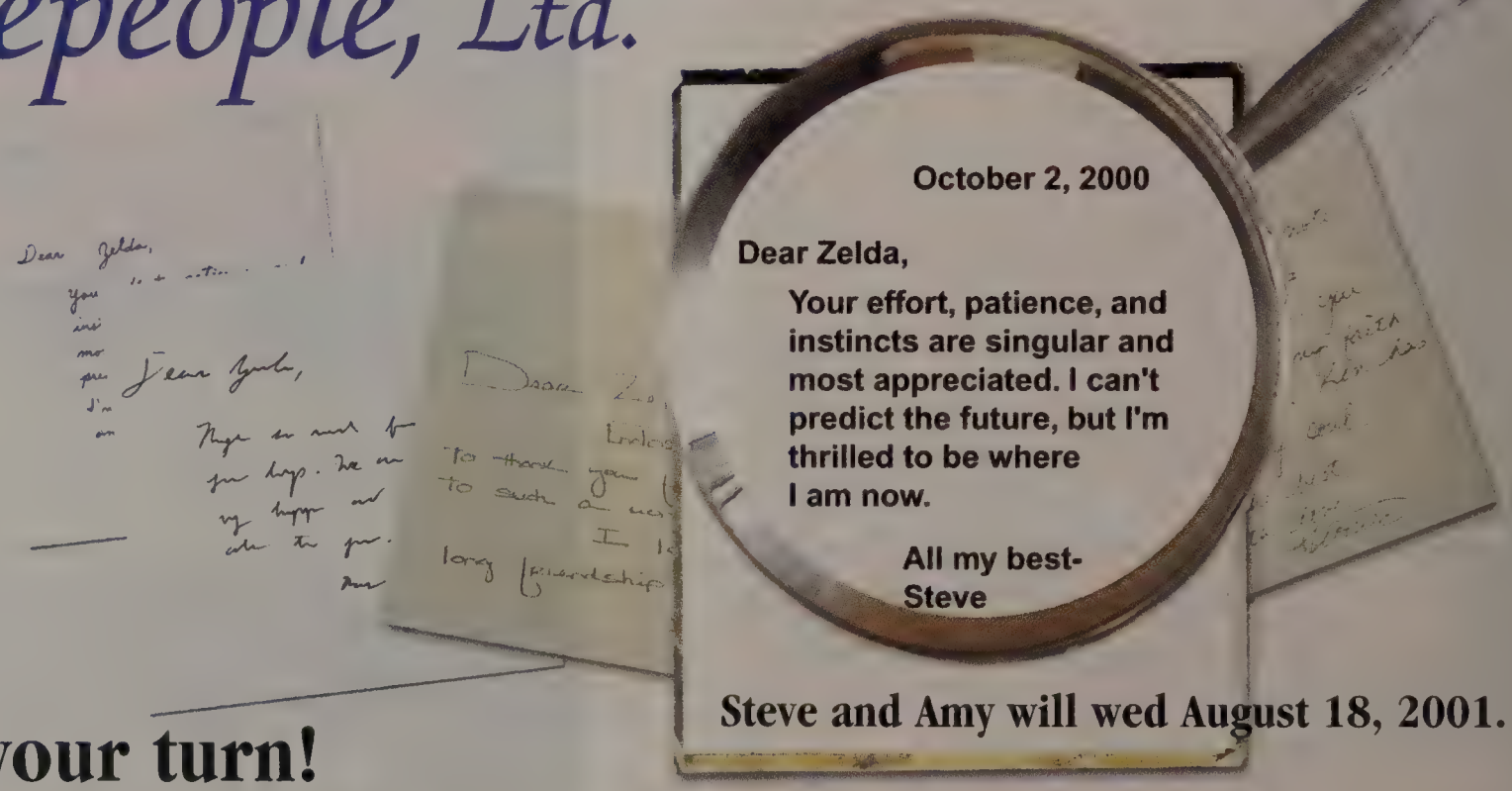
Open Mike Night at the Lizard Lounge
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mondays, 7-10pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

The Secret Formula
First Unitarian Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (489-9332). www.perfectmonster.com *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 11-12. 8pm, $10.* Perfect Monster, a sketch comedy troupe from Boston, presents its first full-length show. See an evening of original sketches, ridiculous characters and sketch comedy.

The Sopranos' Last Supper
The Kowloon Restaurant, Route 1, Saugus (781-233-0077). •May 12 and 26, 7pm. $35: **The Sopranos' Last Supper**. This interactive dinner theater show is based on HBO's *The Sopranos*.

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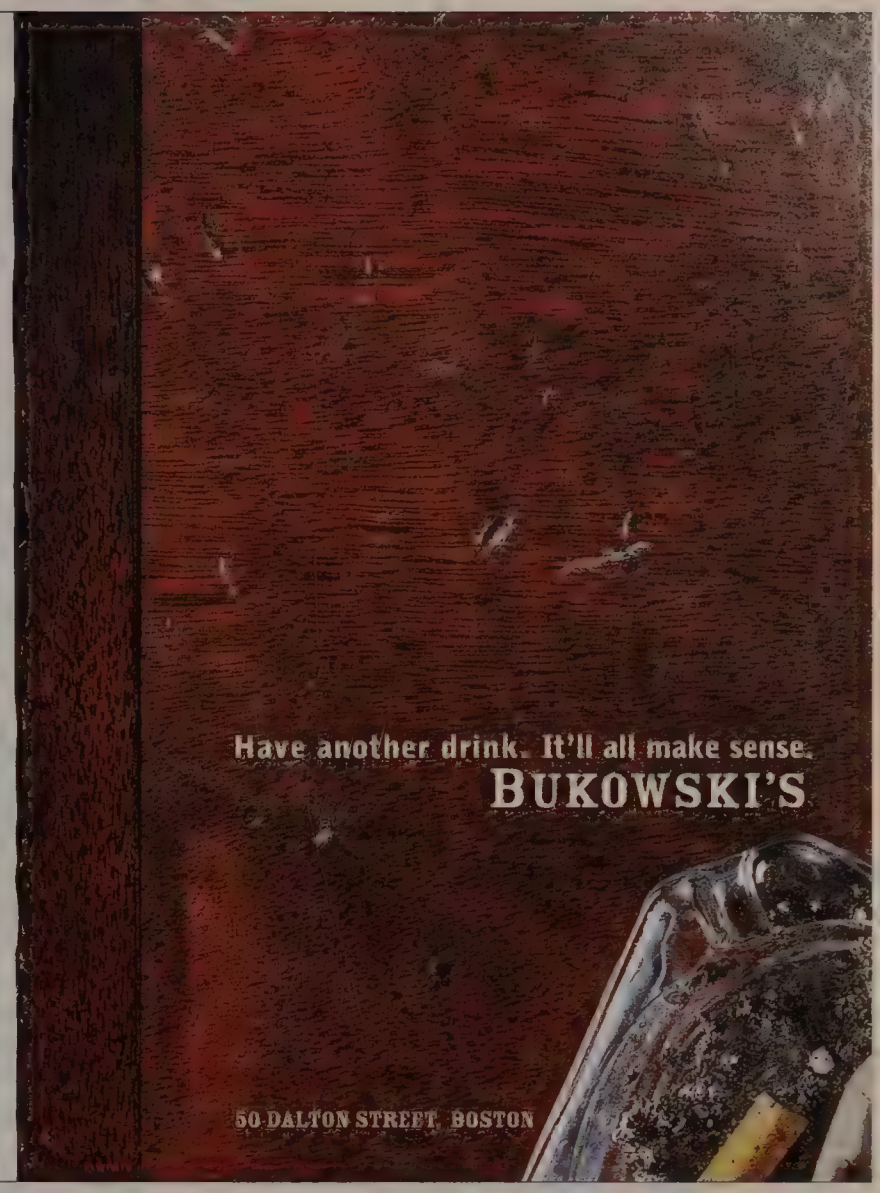


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Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.aiboston.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •The Senior Graduate Exhibition shows May 18-June 17.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •*Proof in Print: A Community of Printmaking Studios* includes prints by 76 artists from four different studios that reflect an important sampling of Boston printmaking over the past two decades. Through May 27. •The *Jerusalem Day* exhibit shows throughout May.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •In *Just the Thing!* everyday objects acquire new perspectives. Through June 10. •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to convey the artist's message. Through May 28. •In *Flights of Fantasy*, four artists present an outdoor computerized installation of shared media and memories. Through May 28.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. Free Sun., 9am-12pm; Wed., 3-5pm; Sept.-May.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these winged beauties. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Dutch artists Rineke Dijkstra presents the first U.S. survey of her photographs in *Portraits*, a collection of two series of her work, *Beaches* and *New Mothers*. Through July 1. •South African artist Marlene Dumas explores relationships in 100 *Models and Endless Rejects*, a one-room installation of 100 ink-wash drawings of faces. Through July 1. •*Laylah Ali: 2000 ICA Artist Prize* showcases a collection of the artist's cartoon-like drawings of ambiguous violence and degradation. Through July 1. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. May 31-Sept. 16.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames Street Building E15, Atrium Level, Cambridge (253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm; Fri., 12-8pm. •Isaac Julien presents a film installation in epic Western style: *The Long Road to Mazatlán* and a double-projection video featuring modern dance, *Vagabondia*. Through July 1. •*The Long Count (I Shook Up the World)* by Paul Pfeiffer is the first of three works in which the artist has depicted Muhammed Ali in order to explore racial identity. Through July 1. •Johan Grimonprez shows *Inflight*, an airline magazine-inspired piece. Through July 1. •*Race in Digital Space* features more than 30 artists who use film, new media and the Web. Through July 1.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive activities take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45 pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings, including his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 9. •*Japan at the Dawn of the Modern Age: Meiji Prints from Jean S. and Frederic A. Sharf Collection* comprises 600 Japanese full-color woodblock prints from 1868-1912. Through July 15. •*Made in Japan*, by Takashi Murakami, is a collection of his recent work and his reinterpretation of *nihon-ga*, a traditional Japanese painting style. Through July 15.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Revolving Museum
288-300 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue.-Fri. 12-6pm. •The Little White Box gallery presents *Temporary Installation* by Rebecca Tasker. May 14-25.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (666-9810). MBTA: Red Line to Porter, transfer to Bus 83. Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm; Sun., 2-5pm. •*Interconnections* features works by 20 artists on issues of multiculturalism, race and gender. Through June 23.



Flights of Fantasy **at the DeCordova Museum uses multimedia elements and installations to explore storytelling in our society. The exhibition runs through May 28.**

Preview

Flight Patterns

Cyberarts finale takes wing at the DeCordova

If you've spent the past few weeks trying to wrap your mind around all the events and exhibitions featured in the Cyberarts Festival, you're probably starting to feel a little cyberspaced-out. But be sure to leave some brain cells for one last exhibit: *Flights of Fantasy*, a work by researchers and storytellers at the MIT Media Lab that's being hosted by the DeCordova Museum. Remember those Choose Your Own Adventure children's books that let you pick different endings for a story? It's kind of like that—only interactive.

The exhibit examines how technology will change the way we tell our stories. It is inspired by the comings and goings of carrier pigeons, and uses a model based on the board games found in urban parks. The bird images represent the way stories fly from one person to the next. The exhibit allows visitors to construct their own stories by moving blocks on an interactive game board. Each block represents a piece of a story line—character, plot and so on—and the options change as different stories are created.

Directed by Glorianna Davenport, founder of the Interactive Cinema Group at the MIT Media Lab, the work is part of the team's continuing exploration into a personal and poetic cinema that interacts with its audience. *The exhibit is organized by George Fifield, Media Arts Curator at the DeCordova Museum. Through May 28. 51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355).*

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Sheets of Glass* is a collection of artists exploring the use of fused and laminated sheet glass. Through June 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Laura Chasman and Kirsten Stoltmann have work on display through June 16.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Suzanne Vincent's *New Paintings* display through May 30.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Kathleen Holmes' *New Works* include paintings and sculptures that combine crocheted lace and textiles, found metals and oil paints. Through May 30.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Tufts Street Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •*Heart of the Arts*, work by students taking classes at the Arlington Center for the Arts, shows through May 18.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. •Local jeweler Sarah Nehama shows her work through May 15. •Ken Standhart presents his collection of ceramic vessels. May 15-31.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Annette Lemieux presents *'Scapes Continued* and *Print Publisher's Spotlight: Universal Limited Art Editions*. Through May 30.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Country Folk*, a collection of paintings, sculptures and functional objects by several artists, shows through June 2.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Ayae Takahashi presents *Snow White: Enciphered* through June 2.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. www.bcaonline.org. •*Hybrid IDs*, guest curated by Robin Reisenfeld, is an exhibition exploring contemporary issues of identity. May 11-June 30.

Boston University Art Gallery
865 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3329). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston University West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •A series of the MFA's sculptures is on display through May 6.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Plantings*, a cyber installation and performance by Adam Sherman, shows through May 19.

Cambridge Center Gallery
One Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm. •Selma Bromberg's Print Studio presents *Students Work*, monotype, drypoint, collograph and woodcut prints. Through May 10. •Stanwyck Cromwell presents *Inside/Out*, his interpretation of the experience of racial identity in the United States. Through May 23.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (577-1400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •Karen Moss presents her exhibition *What I Never Learned in School*. Through June 29.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •Peit Mondrian displays *The Transatlantic Paintings*. Through July 22. •The Department of Visual and Environmental Studies presents *Thesis Work*, and *Juried Student Exhibition*, May 9-18.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Mary Shaffer's solo exhibition of glass, *Current Work*, shows through May 12. •*Surface Tension: Beyond Form* displays May 19-June 16.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •A collection of new photorealistic paintings by Michael Zigmond will be displayed through May 28.

Clark Gallery
145 Lincoln St., Lincoln (781-259-8303). Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm. www.clarkgallery.com. •*Intensions/Intrusions* by Gregory Grenon shows through May 17.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (695-0255). Wed.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Steve DeFrank tapped into his upbringing in the '60s and '70s to demonstrate how toys represent America's socio/sexual issues in *Real Little People*, through May 26.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •Penelope Manzella presents *An Invitational Exhibition*. Through May 12. •*Three Visions West*, art by Eugene Epstein, Edwin Esleeck and Susan Sedgewick, shows



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through May 12. •*Fresh Paint Week* features artists' paintings of Boston. May 12-19.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm. Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment. •William Reimann shows *Sand-Carved Stone Reliefs*. Through June 8.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Contemporary works by Norman Crump, Dan McCole, Robert Fields and Brian Roach contain Irish themes. The works include original oils, watercolors and reproductions of Boston scenes and harbor views. Throughout May.

Depot Square Gallery
1837 Mass. Ave., Lexington Center (781-863-1597). www.depotsquaregallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm, Sun 12-4pm.* •Amy Kaufman's *Flowers, Pears and the Abstract*, a collection of prints and paintings, is on display through May 27.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston (783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. http://drawbridge.com/dvb-gallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •*Promises*, new works by Pia Schachter, is an installation with photography. Through June 9.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •A new exhibition of contemporary French paintings by leading French artists show throughout May.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd Floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm; Sat. 9am-6pm. •*New Photography* by Matthew Fee Zirakian shows through May 26.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Next Wave Prints* is an exhibition of recent developments in printmaking. Through June 21.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equator-gallery.com. *Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm; Fri.-Sun., 11am-7pm.* •Woodcarvings by L. Almeida and L. Potosí show with ceramics with pre-Columbian motifs by Sasha Raiz. •Also on display is Peruvian artist Benito Huillcahuamán's vibrant watercolors depicting modern-day Cuzco. Ongoing. •Pre-Columbian replica ceramics are on display with contemporary work produced by the artists. •Now showing a lithograph by master Ecuadorian painter Guayasamin. Also, paintings of Incan mythology and symbolism by Manami are on display for the next few months.

Fort Point Cultural Coalition
330 Congress St., (423-4299). •*Lite Show*, an international festival of cutting-edge Web-based art and animation shows as part of the Cyberarts Festival. Through May 19.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (266-4351). www.french-lib.org *Tue.-Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •Thomas Rebekk presents a collection of his watercolors in *French City and Seaside Watercolors*. May 9-June 1.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm* •New England artist Robert Caulfield shows work through July 14.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm; Tue., Wed. and Thu., 12-9pm. •*Pressure*, a site-specific digital video, sound and interactive installation by SMFA students and visiting faculty, shows as part of the Cyberarts Festival. Through May 19.

Gallery at Stephan Coiffeur
257 Newbury St., Boston (236-0099). Fri., 9am-8pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •*Images of Our World: Travel Photography as Documentary Art* showcases 40 pieces, including work from Africa, Asia and Latin America. Through June 29.

Gallery at Toscanini's
899 Main St., Cambridge (491-5877). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Fri., 7am-10pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-10pm. •*New Photographs 1997-2000* by local photographer Joseph Levendusky displays through June 4.

Gallery of Social/Political Art
565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. Sun., 1:30-5pm. •*Individual Concerns 2001*, a collection of socially relevant art, shows through June 3.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Le Bain* is studio furniture for the bath by 21 furniture makers. Through June 2.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •Calvin Brown's *Ocean/Memory Paintings: 2000-20001* is on display through May 29. •*Folded Magazines and Selected Sculpture* by Hans Accola displays through May 29.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781 648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •*Inside/Out*, work in a variety of media by faculty, staff and board artists, shows through May 11. •*Body Conscious: Figure and Gesture in Photography and Printmaking*, works by 34 artists juried by James Hull, shows May 21-June 29.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •The gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings. •The gallery continues to show select contemporary artists' works throughout May.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •*New England Sunlight*, works by J.J. Enneking, opens May 18.

Hall Space
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (989-9985). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12pm-5pm. •Rose Olson presents *Color Edge* through May 12. •*Body Language*, a collage exploring human physiology by Alya Romeos, shows May 19-June 23.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Works by Domingo Barreres and Aida Laleian show through May 29.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •An ongoing display features selected vintage posters.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard St., Brookline (739-5769). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10-8pm; Sun., 10-6pm. •The next show at Janus is *Russian Roulette: The Art of the Glasnost Years*, opening June 4.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •New abstract paintings and works on paper by Betsy Kaufman show through May 26.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •Brazilian artist José Gonçalves presents work in canvas, wax and varnish at the gallery through May 29.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •C.J. Lori presents *Unearthed: The Personal Effects of Nature*, an exhibition of landscape works. Through May 13. • *Reflection on Beauty*, an open juried art exhibition, displays May 18-June 10.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-6pm.* •An exclusive exhibit of rarely seen art by Norwegian artist Edvard Munch, this exhibit presents his pieces that typify the Northern European sensibility. Through May 21.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729). Mon.-Fri by appointment, Sat.-Sun. 11am-3pm. •*Impressions of Humanity* shows the work of Suzanne Kammin. Also showing are works by Eileen Wagner and Kara Rooney. Through May 15. •*Mindscapes* by Sonya Skarloff shows May 19-June 19.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •Hank Virgona's *New Work* shows May 12-June 5.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •May 16-June 2: *Drawing by Chance* is a new installation by Margaret B. Tittemore. •May 10-12; 17-19, 8pm: *Submergence*, a performance by Jennifer Hicks, is based on her memories and impressions of her time spent on Cape Cod. $10,$8 students and seniors. •May 14: *Choreographing the Consciousness: Deborah Hay & Boom Boom Boom* features dancers who were participants in Hay's solo project—an expression of her work and methodology.



Joan Irving's sheet-glass work *Amulet* shows at Alianza Gallery.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*New Work* by Ann Christensen shows May 11-June 10.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Maureen Gallace presents *Recent Landscapes*. May 12-June 9.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •This gallery, owned and operated by several local artists, has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on throughout May. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. May features Luther Gray and others. •As part of the *4th Anniversary Show* the gallery features the work of 21 local artists. Through May 30.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). www.pepper-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat. 10am-5:30pm.* •*Nancy Friese: Watercolors* is on display through June 5.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Joe Ablow's recent paintings show through May 23.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 12pm-12am. daily. •This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse also specializes in antique Tixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •*Cape Ann Artists*, an exhibition of work from 1870-1950, shows through June 5.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.Robert KleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Photographs from In Your Dreams & Hunter Green*, Terri Weifenbach's collection of new work, displays through May 26.

Rolly-Michaux Gallery
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm. •*Juste Présent*, a suite of etchings from 1961 designed to accompany poems by Tristan Tzara, shows May 12-June 16.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, between Brattle St. and Garden St., Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Nuestra Comida/Our Food*, a collection of photographs by Mayan photographers from Chiapas, organized by sister Carlota Duarte. May 16-June 29.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •*The Undergraduate Student Exhibition* displays May 11-September.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (266-1810). www.society-ofcrafts.org *Mon.-Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 12-5pm.* •Cybèle Young and Peter Madden present an exhibition of small-scale mixed media and works on paper. Through June 30.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). www.space 12gallery.com *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* •Contemporary paintings from Havana by Mario Ayras show in his first solo exhibition in the United States. Throughout June.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorge-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style. Ongoing.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., Boston (423-SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm. •*In Reverse*, a multimedia installation by Venezuelan artist Gisela Romera, shows through May 20.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin and C. Ferrer, along with striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez.

Trustman Art Gallery
Simmons College, 4th Floor, Main College Building, 300 The Fenway, Boston (521-2268). Mon.-Fri., 10am-4:30pm. •*Unconditional Silence: Pattern in Membrane*, recent sculptures by Therese Zemlin, shows through June 1.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-5pm ; Sat. 8:30am-1pm. •Paintings by Gay VonHenneberg and ceramics by Margarita Solovieva Esimova display through May 26.

Vernon Street Studios
6&20 Vernon St., Somerville (776-0589). www.vernonstreet.com. *Sat. and Sun. 12-5. Free parking.* •The 24th Annual Open Studios is free and open to the public, featuring a group show of over 50 artists and silent auction.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •*Celebration of Life—the Artwork of Lynn Hovey* features drawings, paintings, prints and stained-glass works. Through May 26.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A display of selected works of the gallery's current inventory shows throughout May. •*Wind and Dazzle: The Art of Charles Hopkins (1869-1962)*, a collection of more than 70 oil paintings and watercolors, is on view through July 10.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •Jackie Beckett's photography show, *An East Coast Palette*, displays through May 25.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Floral Photographs*, X-ray photographs by Dr. Dain L., show with botanical studies by Michael Cooper. Through June 1.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*The Nature of Things* is a collection of photographs from the series at the Arnold Arboretum. Through May 17. •*Rocks and Trees* is the fourth and last exhibition of the *Nature of Things* program. This exhibition reflects on the subtheme of rethinking the landscape. Through May 27.

JOAN IRVING

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Film

KING RICHARD'S FOUL

A Knight's Tale is full of horses—and full of bull.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Are there going to be some shower stalls or at the very least some garden hoses outside theaters so people who've sat through *A Knight's Tale* can wash the stink off? This pathetic piece of desperately eager entertainment made me feel as if the seat and floor beneath me had vaporized and I had been plunged into an open sewer, where someone kept their foot firmly planted on the top of my head for 125 minutes.

Where to start ranting about the irritating qualities of this groaner? How about its insipid combination of a turn-of-the-last-millennium story with classic-hits 1970s songs? Or the über-gimmick of melding together portions of previous hits like *Titanic*, *William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet*, *Gladiator* and *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, and coming up with a ridiculously shallow action-romance? And what of the good vs. evil plot that makes the average pro wrestling feud seem complex and subtle by comparison?

Above all, though, *A Knight's Tale* is the juvenile, shopping-mall version of *Gladiator*. Not that *Gladiator* was any bastion of creativity and moral shading—



If the ads are to be believed, Heath Ledger will rock you in *A Knight's Tale*.

but it sure is preferable to this Abercrombie & Fitch knock-off that also features an archaic form of violent competition (jousting), an underdog competitor (Heath Ledger's commoner, who poses as a nobleman so he can compete in tournaments) and a sexual attraction between our hero and an aristocratic young woman (in this case, the vaguely developed noblewoman played by Shannyn Sossamon).

William, the determined knight's squire who rechristens himself Sir Ulrich, is surrounded by a band of merry men with one-dimensional traits. There's the trusty one (Mark Addy of *The Full Monty*), the crazy one (Alan Tudyk), the female blacksmith (Laura Fraser) whose only distinguishing feature is femininity, and the b.s. artist they meet up with (Paul Bettany), whom the movie makes a young Geoffrey Chaucer. (If I had a nickel for every time this character says, "I ought to write about all this someday."...)

So the phony knight (determined) and his cohorts (trusty, crazy, b.s. and woman) travel from one jousting tournament to another, where the knight flirts with the noblewoman (coquettish) and heads towards a showdown with Rufus Sewell's evil reigning champ (dastardly). To liven up the pace, the sounds of the 70s accompany the action sequences. Some of the songs are great (War's "Low Rider," Thin Lizzy's "The Boys Are Back in Town," David Bowie's "Golden Years," for three), but they make the movie seem like some WZLX nightmare. And under the guise of such "rule-breaking" modernity, the movie's shamelessness knows no bounds. One of many low points (aside from the "emotional" childhood flashbacks) comes when the blacksmith makes a new suit of armor, and she etches two Nike swooshes in it. Who knows whether Nike paid for this product placement or whether this is just a very sad way of a movie trying to bond with an audience? Either way, it's disgusting.

Instead of the unpretentious entertainment it tries to be, *A Knight's Tale* is just a pandering bit of soulless product, with no sincerity, genuine emotion or action worth caring about (its only praiseworthy participants are the stuntmen). When you put it next to similar movies from the past that also brought a tongue-in-cheek swagger to old-fashioned action—like the Burt Lancaster films *The Flame and the Arrow* and *The Crimson Pirate*—its emotional immaturity makes *A Knight's Tale* seem less a movie than a bunch of kids playing in a sandbox.

Providence-born and New Bedford–raised Brian Helgeland, who wrote and directed *A Knight's Tale*, had the distinction a few years back of co-writing the screenplay of the outstanding *L.A. Confidential* and then writing the insufferable *The Postman* (the Kevin Costner flop), which made people wonder which movie was really typical of his talent. I think we now have an answer. **iB**

A Knight's Tale ★

Written and directed by Brian Helgeland. With Heath Ledger, Shannyn Sossamon, Rufus Sewell, Mark Addy, Alan Tudyk and Paul Bettany. Rated PG-13. Columbia Pictures.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

About Adam ★½
All About Eve meets *Teorema* in this tiresome comedy about a manipulative outsider (Stuart Townsend) who sexually works his way through the grown siblings of a Dublin family. First, there's the singing waitress baby sister (Kate Hudson), then the shy bookworm (Frances O'Connor), the married oldest sister (Charlotte Bradley) and even the baby brother (Alan Maher). The story's charms are limited to start off with, and it really tries to shove Hudson down our throats. Writer-director Gerard Stembridge's movie is also structured so that it replays the same events from each sibling's perspective, but once was plenty. Hudson made this before *Almost Famous*, in which she's much, much better.

Blow★★★
In director Ted Demme's intense rise and fall drama that's based on a true story, Johnny Depp gives another powerhouse *Donnie Brasco*-like performance. This story of a Weymouth-born working-class guy who finds his fortune—and his personal downfall—in drugs doesn't recall the recent *Traffic* so much as *Boogie Nights*. As in that movie, the hero's drug smuggling starts out as a family-like enterprise run by friends, and it escalates into something much more excessive, both personally and professionally, as he ends up being the guy pumping cocaine into America in the 1970s. The story unfurls in several complex strands, from drug deals to the smuggler's relationship with his parents and his problematic personal life. A killer supporting cast includes Franka Potente, Paul Reubens, Ray Liotta and Rachel Griffiths.

Bridget Jones's Diary ★★
Was the book as flimsy and generic as this? From the tired love triangle plot—woman caught between the exciting guy she knows is bad for her and the stable guy she takes for granted—and the fact that it prominently features the Van Morrison song "Someone Like You," which provided the title for the recent Ashley Judd movie, this is surprisingly run of the mill. And if the book took familiar elements and told them in a fresh way, then the movie failed to transfer such storytelling to the screen. Renee Zellweger is just fine as the English heroine, burying her Texas twang in an English middle-class voice, and Hugh Grant is refreshingly unbumbling as the exciting but emotionally dangerous guy. But when Grant is the most relaxed element of your movie, you're in deep trouble.

Center of the World ★★
The well-worn story of a guy trying to start a relationship with a prostitute doesn't get enough of a twist in Wayne Wang's film. This time, the guy (Peter Sarsgaard) is a millionaire computer nerd who asks a stripper (Molly Parker) he's befriended to spend a weekend with him in Vegas. He gives her money; she sets the physical and emotional boundaries. When the two start to become emotionally attached, things get tricky. It's unclear whether Wang is trying to comment on men turning female sexuality into commerce (since the woman claims once he introduced money into the relationship, affection was impossible) or on the social isolation caused by the home computer age (the talk of the guy's dot-com's IPO dates this already). But it is clear that the drama just isn't that interesting.

The Children of Chabannes ★★★
Wayland native Lisa Gossels co-directed (with Dean Weatherell) this fascinating and touching documentary about the village in central France that took in 400 Jewish refugee children during World War II. Among those who found sanctuary there were Gossels' father and uncle, and through interviews with the now-elderly children and even some of the surviving townspeople—like the incredible Paillassou sisters, two of the children's teachers—the movie creates a vivid portrait of a heroic deed and of life during wartime in Chabannes. It manages to be uplifting without overlooking the tragedies of the Holocaust.

The Circle ★★★
The title of Jafar (*The White Balloon*) Panahi's involving Iranian drama can be taken to mean several things: the daisy-chain structure of the story, which focuses on one character for five or 10 minutes, then moves on to another (à la *Slacker*); the circularity of that daisy chain, which opens and closes on similar visual images; or the circle of social constrictions that threatens its female characters. Most of those characters have just gotten out of prison (for unknown crimes), and knew each other there, like one desperately trying to get an abortion or another trying to get to her rural hometown. The perpetual desperation of these women is disturbing, and with their black clothes and cloaking chadors, they're like stealth people, trying to avoid harassment, humiliation and imprisonment at every turn. Powerful stuff.

The Dish ★★★
Australia's Working Dog comedy group—who've done a slew of Aussie TV series but don't appear in the

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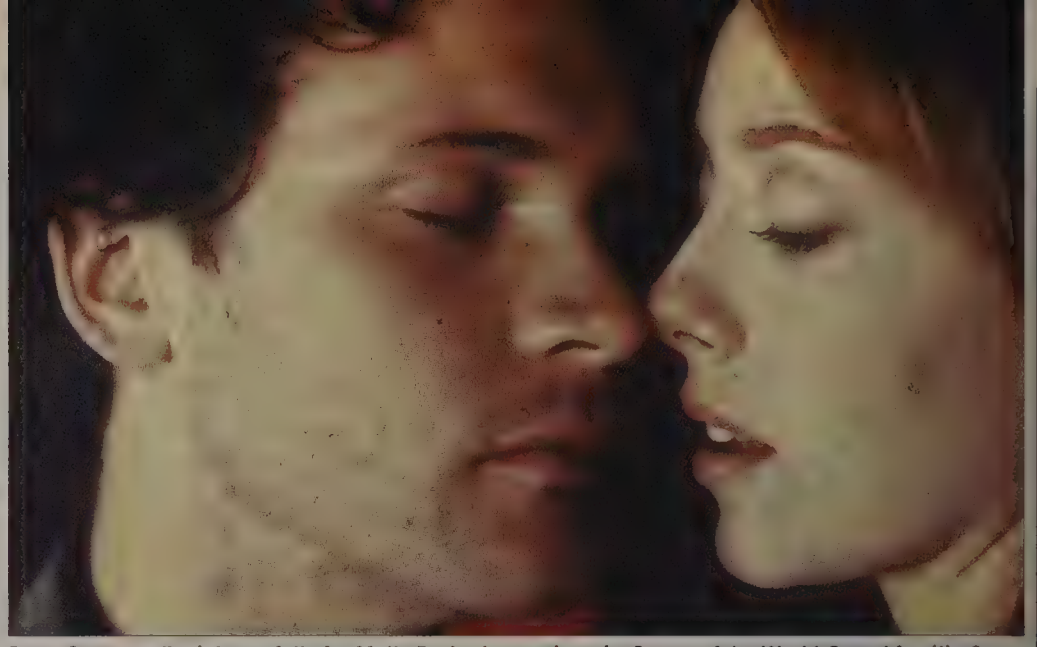
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Peter Sarsgaard's rich guy falls for Molly Parker's prostitute in *Center of the World*. Sound familiar?

movies they make—move from the arthouse to the multiplex in their follow-up to 1999's hilarious *The Castle*. This time, they've taken on a less quirky subject: the goings-on at the huge Australian satellite dish that received the television images from Apollo 11 in 1969. But despite the big backdrop, the movie generates laughs from the everyday details at the dish (where Sam Neill and the local crew are joined by Patrick Warburton as a NASA rep) and in the town of Parkes (where mayor Roy Billings is an endearing bumbler). Although some of the touches play like bad Hollywood, including a present-day story frame with an aged Neill and an overblown music score, the warm comedy ultimately wins you over.

Freddy Got Fingered ★
Tom Green's first starring vehicle and directorial debut is about as blah as the clichéd term so many lazy journalists are using to flatteringly describe it: pushing the envelope. After the likes of *Tomcats* and *Say It Isn't So*, this is just another bad physical comedy. Green's movie gives its many physical gags—involving body fluids, pain and child abuse, among other things—the flimsiest logical set-ups, and even more scanty emotional set-ups. So nothing means anything or has any payoff. It's like paying $9 to watch crash test dummies get bashed around for 90 minutes.

The Luzhin Defence ★½
There's little to director Marleen Gorris' adaptation of Vladimir Nabokov's story beyond its *Masterpiece Theatre*-style gloss. Set at a posh Italian resort in the late '20s, this drama is about the relationship between an unkempt, scatterbrained chess master (John Turturro) and the expatriate Russian aristocrat (Emily Watson) he falls for—and who, unconvincingly, falls for him, too. The relationship is never quite believable. The female character is insufficiently developed and the movie's vague sense of details strains credibility, too (why does it never tell us how these well-to-do Russians escaped the Revolution?). Although this isn't as insufferable as Gorris' last movie, *Mrs. Dalloway*, this too feels like a film in which every storytelling choice has automatically fallen to some generic "costume drama" default setting.

Memento ★★★
Self-deception is at the center of this imaginative noir drama about a man with no short-term memory (Guy Pearce of *L.A. Confidential*) who is trying to avenge the rape and murder of his wife. The mostly successful gimmick is that the movie arrives in backward chunks of about five minutes each—we'll see one event, then another that took place before it and so on. Eventually, we come to see what the guy thinks is true and what's really true, especially regarding the two people aiding in his quest—an apparent hustler (Joe Pantoliano) and a barmaid (Carrie-Anne Moss). Once the novelty of the jigsaw structure fades, the midsection drags. But things pick up again in the strong ending, which retains some ambiguity while revealing that there's more to the hero's "condition" (as he's always calling it) than we thought.

One Night at McCool's ★★
This comic thriller convinces me that Liv Tyler, outfitted in all manner of slinky sun dresses, could twist Matt Dillon, Paul Reiser, John Goodman and Michael Douglas around her finger like so many pieces of chewing gum. But it doesn't convince me that there are many laughs in it. As her femme fatale worms her way into the beds and the lives of the men, the comic thriller just keeps repeating the same old gag of her manipulating them into giving her a place to stay and other things she wants, and them compromising their self-respect and professional integrity to please her. A little variation in her methods and their reactions might have bolstered the meager laugh count here, and forced the script to come up with something a little more clever.

The Tailor of Panama ★★★
John Boorman's adaptation of John Le Carre's novel is one of the few movies released in the past month that's actually worth sitting through. It's the perfect film for our Misinformation Age, with Geoffrey Rush as a phony Panama City tailor who suddenly finds new-spy-in-town Pierce Brosnan flashing money at him in exchange for information about political instability there. The tailor concocts stories for the spy, the spy concocts stories for his British bosses, and the Brits concoct more stories for the Pentagon. Quick moving and with a streak of black comedy, it's smart and entertaining at a time of the year when both qualities are hard to find at the multiplex.

Alternatives & Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

Audrey Hepburn on Film
• May 14, 6pm **The Children's Hour** *1961.* Based on a Lillian Hellman play, this film follows a schoolgirl who spreads a rumor that two teachers, played by Hepburn and Shirley MacLaine, are lesbians. The film also features James Garner.

Brattle Theater
Most shows are $7, including double features.

Mondays: He-Men: Film Noir Hunks
• May 14 **Out of the Past** *1947.* Robert Mitchum is a small-town gas attendant whose past as a private eye catches up to him. • Also showing, **Angel Face** *1952.* Mitchum stars as an ambulance driver who falls victim to the schemes of a femme fatale.
• May 21, **The Postman Always Rings Twice** *1946.* John Garfield plays handyman Frank Chambers, who is lured into a plot to murder his lover's husband. • Also showing, **He Ran All the Way** *1951.* In Garfield's final film, he plays a cop killer hiding out with a middle-class family.

Tuesdays: G is for Greenaway
• May 15, **The Cook, the Thief, His Wife & Her Lover** *1989.* In this case, it's all in the name since *The Cook, the Thief, His Wife and Her Lover* is about the wife of a crime boss restaurant owner who has an affair with a quiet bookseller. Not for the faint of heart. • Also showing, **Drowning By Numbers** *1988.* Three generations of women do away with their unsatisfactory husbands. A tidbit: Throughout the film, the numbers 1-100 appear either verbally or visually.
• May 22, **A Zed and Two Noughts** *1985.* When twin zoologists each lose their wives in a car accident, they become obsessed with the death and decay of animals and enter into a relationship with the doomed car's driver.

Wednesdays: Recent Raves
• May 16, **Boesman & Lena** *2000.* Danny Glover and Angela Basset star in John Berry's story of the intense love and hatred that bring two people through times of trouble.

Thursdays: Masters of Italian Horror
• May 17, **Black Sunday** *1960.* Barbara Steel stars as a vengeful witch who returns from the dead to possess the body of her beautiful descendant in Mario Bava's first film.

Special Screenings
• May 9-11 and 13, 8 and 10pm **The Legend of Rita** *1999.* In Germany during the 1970s, a time marked by the spirit of anarchy and rebellion, Rita is seduced

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Fereshteh Sadr Orafai stars in the Iranian drama *The Circle.*

into the terrorist movement through her sense of justice. This story of a woman's fate is one that could only take place in Germany.

•May 18-20, **Fellini Satyricon** *1969.* Director Federico Fellini interprets first-century Roman writer Petronius Arbiter's novel about a series of loosely related stories. The film centers around two students who quarrel about the ownership of a young boy and part ways, only to be reunited in a plot to kidnap a hermaphroditic demi-god.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Balagan Experimental Film Series

•May 10, 8pm **TV Dinner** Live videography of this performance/installation dinner party is interspersed with film and video about food and eating so as to scramble the line between viewer and viewed.

•May 17, 8pm **Independent Exposure** Balagan hosts this evening of experimental works compiled by Joel S. Bachar, founder of Microcinema and Blackchair Productions.

•May 18, 8pm **Channel Zero**. A classic comedy two-reeler, featuring Buster Keaton, Laurel and Hardy, the Three Stooges and W.C. Fields.

Westerns Ho

•May 21, 7:30pm **The Wild Bunch** *1969.* Sam Peckinpah's creation is a messy tale of a gang of outlaws trapped in an ambush.

Feature Films

•Opening April 27 **With a Friend Like Harry** *2000.* Both a drama and a morbid comedy, this film follows a typical father, after his life is changed by an old high school friend. French with English subtitles.

•May 4-11 **Shadow Magic** *2001.* This is the true story of the introduction of cinema to China a century ago. Mandarin with English subtitles.

•Opening May 11 **Calle 54** *2000.* This is a film about Latin jazz, including its most memorable performers. In French, Spanish and English with subtitles.

Midnight Movies: Road Rage

•May 11 and 12, 12am **Wild at Heart** *1990.* Directed by David Lynch and starring Nicholas Cage, this film follows a couple on the run from the law in a twisted remake of *The Wizard of Oz.*

•May 18 and 19, 12am **Two Lane Blacktop** *1971.* James Taylor and Beach Boys' drummer Dennis Wilson play drag-racing freaks in this film, racing cross country.

Harvard Film Archive

Directors In Focus: Jean Eustache

•May 13, 7pm **Bad Company** *1963* and **Santa Claus Has Blue Eyes** *1966.* Jean Eustache's first two films are in French and black and white. *Bad Company* follows two young "skirt chasers" who plan revenge when a girl ditches them. *Santa Claus Has Blue Eyes* focuses on Daniel, who is unemployed and has girl trouble, until he takes a job as Santa.

•May 13 and 14, 9pm **My Little Loves** *1975.* Eustache's autobiographical film about his childhood in the south of France follows 13-year-old Daniel and his "sentimental education."

•May 14, 7pm and 15, 9pm **The Lost Sorrows of Jean Eustache** *1999* and **The Garden of Delights of Hieronymous Bosch** *1979.* The first film explores the themes of Eustache's films: cinema, absence and mourning. The second film, directed by Eustache, describes the famous painting.

•May 15, 7pm **A Dirty Story** *1977* and **The Pig** *1970.* In *A Dirty Story* Eustache presents the same story twice, once as a fictional story with actors and once in black and white as a documentary. The film describes one day in a Parisian restaurant, when Eustache found a hole in the wall that gave him a perfect view in to the ladies' room. *The Pig* is Eustache's second documentary, recording the slaughter of a pig.

•May 16 and 22, 7pm **The Mother and the Whore** *1973.* The film runs nearly four hours, and is regarded as one of the greatest pieces of French cinema of the 70s. The film consists mostly of long monologues and dialogues, meditating on love, sex and living.

Zanzibar Films and the Dandies of May 1968

•May 18, 7pm **Acéphale** *1968.* The film follows a young man and his friends wandering through post-May 1968 Paris. This film is the most literary of the Zanzibar works.

•May 18, 8:30pm and May 21, 7pm **Deux Fois** *1968.* The film is a series of unconnected episodes, some of which are repeated. It is both a surrealist and a feminist film.

•May 19, 7pm and May 21, 8:30pm **La Révolution n'est qu'un début: Continuons** *1968*, **Home Movie: On the set of Phillipe Garrel's Le Lit de la Vierge** *1968*, **Le Lit de la Vierge** *1969. La Révolution* is a recently discovered film, showing the events that led to the 1968 uprising and its aftermath with a psychedelic visual style. **Home Movie** is a documentary of the making of *Le Lit de la Vierge. Le Lit* itself is a parable about the life of Jesus, set in modern times, made without a script and under the influence of LSD.

•May 20, 7pm **Lecture: Zanzibar Films and the Dandies of May**, **Vite** *1969*, **Détruisez-vous** *1968.* Sally Shafto discusses the Zanzibar films and their impact. *Vite* is a short, but one of the most costly films financed by Zanzibar, about disenchantment with the 1968 revolution. *Détruisez-vous* was the first Zanzibar film, set in Nanterre just weeks before the student uprising in May 1968.

Museum of Fine Arts

Boston Gay and Lesbian Film Festival

•May 10, 6pm. **Men Men, Women Women** *1999.* Chinese director Liu Bingjian and openly gay screenwriter Cui Zi'en collaborate to produce a sympathetic and realistic portrayal of a shy young man who arrives in Beijing to work in a clothes shop and a flamboyant talk show host. •Also showing, 8pm **Hedwig and the Angry Inch** *1995.* Director John Cameron Mitchell adapts his stage hit about a transsexual would-be rock star for the screen. East German teenager Hansel becomes Hedwig when he agrees to a sex change operation and marries an older American man.

•May 11, 6pm **Love/Juice** *2000.* The passionate film is about female friendships in contemporary Tokyo. An intimate bond between two roommates is ultimately threatened by its own intensity •Also showing, 8pm **Big Eden** *2000.* A New York artist returns home to Big Sky Country to care for his grandfather. Upon arrival, he is united with his first love.

•May 12, 1:30 **The Edge of Each Others Battles: The Vision of Audre Lorde** *2000.* This film chronicles poet Audre Lorde's broad social vision and its translation into an historic transnational conference, which took place in Boston in 1990. •Also showing, 3:30pm **History Lessons** *2000.* Former teacher at the School of the MFA Barbara Hammer recontextualizes portrayals of lesbian behavior as illicit, mannish and perverse using images taken from narrative, medical, educational and adult entertainment films.

•May 13, 5:30pm **Julie and Me** *1999.* Director Jeanne Crépeau looks at how the underlying tensions in relationships both enhance and destroy intimacy through the story of Juliet and her childhood friend Julie. •Also showing, 7:30pm **Desi's Looking for a New Girl** *2000.* When Desi is dumped for another girl, her Latina sidekick J.T. becomes obsessed with finding her a new girl.

•May 17, 8:20pm **Boys to Men** This collection of four short films includes Phillip Bartell's **Crush** *2000*, the audience award winner from last year's San Francisco Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Set in rural Illinois, 12-year-old Tina and 16-year-old Robbie become involved in an interesting love triangle. **The Mountain King** *2000* sensuously depicts a relationship between a persuasive hustler and a quiet young man at the beach. Dan Castle's **...lost** *2000* follows a day in the life of a young man in a world of drugs, anonymous tricks and AIDS. **The Confession** *2000* by Carl Pfirman explores love, faith and commitment when Joseph asks his life partner to send for a priest.

•May 18, 8:20pm **Nico and Dani** *2000.* This coming-of-age film follows best friends Dani and Nico's adolescent sexual experimentation, and the tensions that arise when their expectations begin to differ.

•May 19, 4pm **XXXY** *2001* and **Boy Named Sue** *1999.* In *XXXY,* documentary filmmakers Porter Gale and Laleh Soomekh follow two intersex individuals as they articulate the pain of having undergone genital corrective surgery as children. Julie Wyman's documentary *Boy Named Sue* captures transsexual Theo's physiological and psychological changes during the six-year transformation from woman to man.

•May 20, 2pm **Pride in Puerto Rico** *1999* and **Paradise Bent** *1999.* Director Jorge Oliver documented what is now an annual event on the Island—the Gay, Lesbian, Transgender and Transsexual Pride march—telling a story of community and dignity in *Pride and Puerto Rico.* After, *Paradise Bent* explores the Samoan tradition of fa'afafines, boys who are raised as girls and play an important domestic role in traditional Samoan culture. •Also showing, 3:30pm **Chrissy** *1999.* Chrissy is an ex-runaway and street kid who waits eight years to tell her family of her sexual orientation and of having contracted HIV.

New England Film Artists Present

•May 12, 12pm **An Unfinished Symphony** *2001.* This documentary on Operation POW, the 1971 Vietnam War protest that retraced Paul Revere's ride and culminated in a demonstration on Boston Common, marks the 30th anniversary of the event.

New Beat Cinema From Japan

•May 17 and 18, 6pm; May 19, 1:30pm; May 20, 11:30am **Face** *2000. Face* follows one of Japan's leading theatrical actresses, Naomi Fujiyma, in her screen debut as she plays a woman who kills her sister in a fit of humiliation and rage and takes charge of her actions for the first time. Director Junji Sakamoto finds humor in surprising places, and reveals uncomfortable truths about the human condition.

The Wang Center

Classic Film Series

•May 21, 7pm **A Streetcar Named Desire** *1951.* The film adaptation of Tennessee Williams' play set in New Orleans' French Quarter stars Marlon Brando as Stanley Kowalski and Vivian Leigh as his sister-in-law.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.bpl.org

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org/film

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. www.coolidge.org/

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (621-1202). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

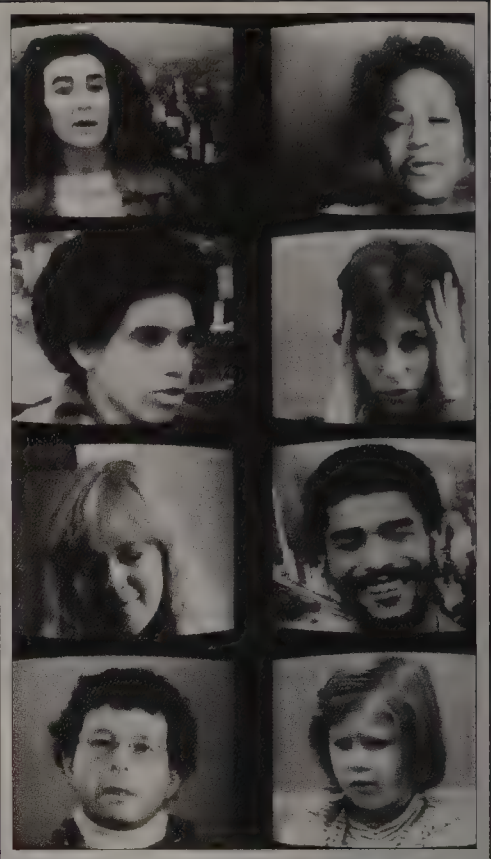
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).



Wendy Clarke presents her film *The Love Tapes* at the Harvard Film Archive May 17.

Preview

Art with a Heart

An evening with Wendy Clarke

Wendy Clarke has built her career around using video as therapy for the disenfranchised, most notably with troubled teens and prison inmates. Her methods of storytelling and sharing are based on African traditions and are intended to be a spiritual, therapeutic experience. She is best known for the work she produced during her six years as an artist-in-residence in the California prison system. Past work includes the Remembrance Project (a collection of individual confessional videos that range from personal tragedy to humorous attempts at coping with HIV/AIDS). She comes to the Harvard Film Archive Thursday, May 17, to speak about her past work.

The program includes the screenings of two of her works: *One on One: Ken and Louise* and *The Love Tapes* (Volume One). *One on One*, made in the early '90s, is a series of remarkable dialogues between inmates at California's Institution for Men in Chino and civilians in Southern California. In a video class taught by Clarke, 15 inmates made tapes of themselves discussing their situations. The segments were then responded to by citizens in the community. *The Love Tapes*, which was made in the early 1970s, features individuals talking about their experiences of love in three-minute segments. The poignant clips are alternately funny and forlorn. *24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm.*

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

Borders Bookshop Author Panel
85 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. **Rhys Bowen**, author of *Evan Can Wait*, and **Lynn Hamilton**, author of *African Quest*, discuss their recent mystery works in a panel discussion for the Still More Mystery series.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Edna O'Brien**'s novel, *Wild Decembers*, is the story of small-town Irish community disrupted by a new resident from Australia.

Radcliffe Fellows Events Series
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4pm. Free. **Ellen More** discusses *Transgressions: Mary Steichen Calderone and the Cultural Politics of Sexuality*. More, a professor at the University of Texas Medical Branch's Institute for Medical Humanities, is also an editor at *Medical Humanities Review*.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

Barnes & Noble Literary Events
One Worcester Road, Framingham (508-626-2823). 7:30pm. **Bernie Chowdhury** discusses and signs copies of his new novel, *The Last Dive: A Father and Son's Fatal Descent into the Ocean's Depths*, which is based on the true story of a father and son who lost their lives in a diving accident.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Suzanne Berne**'s *A Perfect Arrangement* is the story of two parents with busy lives who hire the seemingly perfect day care worker to watch their children. Berne discusses the work and reads from it tonight.

French Library and Cultural Center Author Event
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (912-0400). 7pm. $20. **Adam Gopnik**, reporter for *The New Yorker*, lectures on his five years spent in Paris and presents his best-selling book, *Paris to the Moon*.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Gary Gerstle**'s new book, *American Crucible: Race and Nation in the 20th Century*, takes a look at the way that race relations have shaped the past 100 years of American life, politics and society.

New Words Live Event
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). 6pm. Free. **Anne Fausto-Sterling** reads from her book, *Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality*. The book examines the meaning of gender and analyzes the implications and true meanings of the words "male" and "female."

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. **Zdenka Fantolva**, whose entire family perished in the Holocaust, reads from her memoir, *My Lucky Star*. The work depicts her trials and tribulations as she was sent to Sweden by the International Red Cross for recuperation, where she worked for the Czech embassy until 1949. She then emigrated to Australia, where she married and worked as an actress for 20 years.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Harvard Book Store Author Series
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. **Susan Eaton**, consulting researcher for the Civil Rights Project at Harvard University, discusses her book, *The Other Boston Busing Story*. The nonfiction work examines voluntary school desegregation, focusing on the experience of 4,300 black children who have been voluntarily bused to the suburbs since 1966.



Suzanne Berne is one of the authors partaking in the Algonquin Reading Series event May 16.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **James Ellroy**, author of *Cold Six Thousand*, discusses his newest noir fiction, about a man caught up in the underworld of the J.F.K. shooting conspiracy.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Barnes & Noble Literary Events
One Worcester Road, Framingham (508-626-2823). 7:30pm. **Rose Lewis**, award-winning producer for WCVB-TV, discusses and signs copies of her book, *I Love You Like Crazy Cakes!*, the heartwarming story about a woman who adopts a Chinese baby and comes to understand the joy of parenting.

MONDAY, MAY 14

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Harvard Law School, Pound Hall, Room 106, Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5pm. Free. **Mary Ann Glendon** discusses her biography, *A World Made New: Eleanor Roosevelt and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights*. The book examines one of Roosevelt's greatest accomplishments after her husband died.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Dr. Andrew Stoll** discusses *The Omega 3 Connection*, a new guide to eating properly in order to achieve mental health.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Jamling Tenzing Norgay**, author of *Touching My Father's Soul: A Sherpa's Journey to the Top of Everest*, discusses his work. Norgay, son of one of the first two men to scale Mt. Everest in 1953, describes his experience leading the IMAX team that filmed its own 1996 climb.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Ruth Reichl**'s *Comfort Me with Apples* is a continuation of her autobiography, which documents her rise to culinary fame.

Newton Free Library Author Series
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). www.ci.newton.ma.us. *7:30pm.* Best-selling author **Alan Lightman**, known for his beautifully written, metaphysical novel, *Einstein's Dreams*, speaks about his recently published novel, *The Diagnosis*. Lightman's previous works include *Good Benito* and *Dance for Two*, and he is the editor of *The Best American Essays 2000*. He is a professor of humanities and a lecturer in physics at MIT.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. **John Griesemer** reads from his first novel, *No One Thinks of Greenland*. His fiction has appeared in *Glimmer Train, Gettysburg Review, Threepenny* and other publications. He has worked as a mental hospital orderly, fisherman, journalist and actor.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Thomas Mallon**'s new novel of historical fiction, *Two Moons*, explores the relationships between four characters searching for "the choicest blessings of heaven."

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Barnes & Noble Literary Events
One Worcester Road, Framingham (508-626-2823). 7:30pm. **Gail Shapiro**, executive director of the Womankind Educational and Resource Center, discusses her book *Money Order: The Money Management Guide for Women*.

Brookline Booksmith and Newtonville Books Algonquin Literary Bash
Newtonville Books, 296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619) and Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 5:30-9pm. The Algonquin Reading Series is a five-city tour intended to showcase recent literary talent from one of the strongest small publishers in the nation. Each event includes a panel discussion consisting of the authors, the owner or manager of the bookstore, local media and an Algonquin representative. After the authors read for 10 minutes each, the audience can ask questions about anything to do with writing and publishing. Book signings and receptions follow each panel. The event starts at Newtonville and after a stop at the Newtonville Times Restaurant, continues at Brookline Booksmith. Featured authors are **Anita Rau Badami** (*The Hero's Walk*), **Suzanne Berne** (*A Perfect Arrangement*) and **David Gessner** (*Return of the Osprey*).

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Thomas Gold** discusses his book, *The Deep Hot Biosphere: The Myth of Fossil Fuels*, in which he examines evidence of a subterranean biosphere and speculates on how energy may be produced in a region void of photosynthesis.

Radcliffe Fellows Events Series
Cronkhite Graduate Center Living Room, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4pm. Free. **Vickie Schultz** discusses her book, *Reconceptualizing Sexual Harassment*. She is a professor at Yale Law School and has contributed greatly to the debate on sexual harassment policies and law. Her 1998 law review article, "Reconceptualizing Sexual Harassment," has influenced the perception of harassment in the workplace, and her paradigm of sexual harassment has been debated and discussed in courtrooms as well as the national news media.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Jonathan Baird** reads from his book, *Songs from Nowhere Near the Heart*. The text unravels into a humorous sequence of events in which a group of characters try to outwit each other.

Cambridge Public Library
449 Broadway, Cambridge (876-5310). 6pm. Millions of Americans work full-time, year round, for poverty-level wages. **Barbara Ehrenreich**, author of *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in Boom-Time America*, renders a chilling perspective on how "prosperity" looks from those at the bottom.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Richard Wolman**'s new book, *Thinking with Your Soul*, attempts to bridge the gap between spirituality and science with the author's new PsychoMatrix Spirituality Inventory test.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Michael Klare**'s *Resource Wars: The New Landscape of Global Conflict* argues that we will all soon have to fight wars over the diminishing supplies of our most precious natural resources.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

French Library and Cultural Center Author Event
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (912-0400). 6:30pm. Travel writer **Peter Mayle** discusses his latest book, *French Lessons: Adventures with Knife, Fork and Corkscrew*, a gastronomic adventure through France's restaurants, markets, festivals and vineyards.

New Words Live Event
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). 6pm. Free. Acclaimed poets **Gerry Gomez Pearlberg**, **Jan Freeman** and **Catherine Anderson** read from their books. They lay bare the ground between childhood innocence and urban brutality, pastoral dreams and corporate nightmares.

MONDAY, MAY 21

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Boston (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. Three Boston area poets, **Jill McDonough**, **Maggie Dietz** and **Dan Chiasson**, each read from their works.

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Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Jessica Treadway** reads from her book, *And Give You Peace*, the story of a family dealing with the aftermath of a terrible tragedy. When the father kills his youngest daughter and then himself, the two remaining children and their mother search for answers.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Morning, the new novel by **W.D. Wetherell**, is simultaneously the story of the first television show, of its first famous anchor who was murdered by his best friend, and of the murderer's son, who searches for the truth of what happened.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Barry Werth** reads from his book, *The Scarlet Professor: Newton Arvin—a Literary Life Shattered by Scandal*. It is the story of a literary critic whose life was ruined by the revelation of his homosexuality.

Newton Free Library Author Series
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). www.ci.newton.ma.us. 7:30pm. Los Angeles-based archaeologist **Nicholas Clapp** visits Newton to present a slide show and lecture on his captivating new book, *Sheba: Through the Desert in Search of the Legendary Queen*. The book questions whether the mysterious Queen of Sheba was a flesh and blood monarch or merely a myth.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut Street, Newton (244-6619). 7:30pm. Acclaimed author **Askold Melnyczuk** reads from his novel *Ambassador of the Dead* and **Marci Hershman** reads from *Speak to Me*. Melnyczuk's widely praised first novel, *What Is Told*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book. He teaches writing seminars at Boston University. Hershman is best known for her critically acclaimed novel, *Safe in America*.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **John Hanson Mitchell**'s book, *Wildest Place on Earth: Italian Gardens and the Invention of Wilderness*, is a poetic journey from the beginnings of agriculture through the modern Italian garden.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Fiction aficionados will love Cantab's all new Tuesday night open-mike event featuring short stories, novel exerts and long prose.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4 cover. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

MONDAY, MAY 9

Harry Frazee and the Truth about Ruth
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). 7pm. $5. Co-author of *Red Sox Century*, **Glenn Stout** tells the inside story of why Harry Frazee sold Babe Ruth, why the story has never been told in its entirety, and how the Red Sox were affected.

Transgressions
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). 4pm. Free. **Ellen More** takes a look at the policies and philosophies of leading sex education advocates.

TUESDAY, MAY 10

Local Response to Global Warming
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (573-0742). MBTA: Blue Line to State. 7pm. Free. What policies can the U.S. adopt to help avert climate change and what are the costs and benefits of those policies?

Panel Discussion with Brian Donohue
Starr Center, 100 Cambridge St., Boston (277-3956). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 6-7:30pm. Free. Author **Brian Donohue** expounds on current issues surrounding the preservation of open land in New England.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 11

Changing the Face of Fear
Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (864-3934). 7pm. $5. **Frances Moore Lappe** addresses the connection between our personal fears and the creation of a world of misery and environmental devastation.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Surviving & Thriving in the 21st Century
CCAE, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). 10am-3pm. $5. **Curdina Hill** offers a workshop on coping with racism in the workplace.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Ordinary Heroines
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 11am. Free. **Dr. Deborah Belle** speaks on the lives of low-income mothers.

Women at Fort Warren
George's Island, Boston (727-7676). 1pm and 3pm. Take a water ferry from Long Wharf to George's Island for a tour that highlights the lives of women at Fort. Warren during peace and war.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Where Is My Liquidity?
One Main St., Cambridge (227-2822). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 6:30-8:30pm. Free. A panel of dotcom entrepreneurs, venture capitalists and public relations specialists address how the economic environment is changing the entire new economy.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Challenges of Independent Media
CCAE, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). 8pm. $5. Learn how various local and global independent media outlets are challenging the corporate domination of information dissemination.

Ethics and Ecosystems
Museum of Science, Boston (495-2727). 7pm. Free. What is the proper balance between public policy, scientific research and action needed to create a sustainable world?

FRIDAY, MAY 18

International Business Conference
World Trade Center, Boston (262-1180). www.aimnet.org. *8:30am-4pm. $175.* Join a discussion of global business opportunities and achievements.

MSIC Spring Membership Meeting
Boston Marriott at Copley, Boston (437-0600). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-11am, $80-$120. The Massachusetts Software & Internet Council's spring meeting features **Bob Davis** and Senator **John Kerry**.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 10pm, 18+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, no cover, 21+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Jam with DJ Kapt Krunch •May 14: ChoExperiment with Pivot, 9pm, $5, 18+. •May 21: Killswitch Engage with Sky Came Falling and Autumn to Ashes, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers best of hip-hop, jazz and reggae, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and New York house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
•May 14 and May 21: *In the Biz Night* hosted by *backbaybeat.com*, 6pm, 21+; DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis. DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm; gay night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm, 18+.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo DJ Arsit and DJ Santaglo spin deep and progressive house for dancing, dress slick, 10pm, no cover.

TUESDAYS

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar •May 15: Music poll.

Hibernia
The DJ Lounge is perfect for a laid-back night, 6pm, 21+.

Lot 36
The Modern DJ Eddie K spins progressive Euro house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu Alex, Heather, Igor, Diego, Jason and Gonzaga host Euro house international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson, dress coat required, $15.

The Rack
•May 15: The *Improper's Beloved Bartenders Party*, hosted by Jonathan Soroff and Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman, 6pm, 21+. •May 22: Mac and Jamie, 6pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night with R&B, house, funk and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul at the front bar, while the back bar features different hip-hop artists, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover. 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey, 9pm, 21+.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar Hip-hop live •May 9: Megadeth, listen to WAAF and win tickets to this private show, 18+. •May 16: Music poll, 18+.

Hibernia
DJ Jeremy in the lounge, 6pm, 21+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and JC, $10, 21+.

The Kells
DJ Roy Barboza spins hip-hop, 21+.

Knowledge
Avenue DJ Shugewhite and Eric Santangelo spin hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B.

Mercury Lounge
The Milky Way Soul, house and funk, 9pm, no cover.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

The Paradise
DJ Arsit and DJ Roger M spin progressive house, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
This alternative Irish pub offers a new mixture of guests spinning everything from deep house to techno, 11pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
•May 9 and May 15: Beach Party, 6pm, 21+.

Red Room
Sonsie Listen to Lounge tunes and relax with a cool crowd, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong An evening of psy-trance and drum-and-space with resident DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange Industry night with a champagne reception hosted by DJ Luca and DJ Suge White, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, 19+.

Avenue Lounge Nights
DJ Jason spins house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
Special guest DJs spinning all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
•May 10: The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton and Chubby, 9pm, $7, 18+. • May 17: The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Every Second with Give and Purge, 9pm, $7, 18+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Jeff Knor spins acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Bootyque
Lava Bar Join the Original Lizard Lounge Brother Cleve and Friends for funky beats, 10pm, 21+.

Caprice
Loungy house music, dress casual chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJs John Debo and weekly guests spin progressive house and trance music, 10pm, $10, 19+.

College Night
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ Dragg spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar, 9pm-2am, 21+.

Embassy Thursday Nights
DJ Anthony hosts Latin lounge, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
DJ Maurizio spins international house and dance music, proper dress required, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows and DJ Roger M spinning international house; Greek night in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.



Guests mingle in the festive atmosphere Thursdays at Sugar Shack.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario, proper dress required.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos plays house and DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 19+ with college ID.

Hibernia
After-work party with DJ Mike, 6pm, 21+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Euro house, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Latin Night
Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress and ID required, 18+.

Matrix
Zion Progressive house and trance with DJ Adison. 10pm, 18+.

The Modern
International Thursdays features progressive Euro house, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
Located in the heart of groovy Central Square, this Irish pub presents drum 'n' bass night, 11pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
•May 10 and May 17: Mark Morris and the Catunes hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman and Party-Time Gregg Daniels, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie and DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin band, first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop, R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 9pm.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house; proper dress and ID required, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Sugar Shack
Music from three decades pounds through the festival atmosphere here, where every day is Mardi Gras.

SW1
DJs spin deep soulful music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas.

Tattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC-house; hip-hop in the Ise-O spa with DJ Tasty, no sneakers or hats, $15, 19+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinny puts together a great night of top-40 hits and your favorites from the '70s, '80s, '90s and one-hit wonders, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma All-star American top-40 remixes with DJ Tim Collins spinning hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJ spins top-40 dance; casual dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon Everything about this place screams "Party!" DJ Ali Ajami and special guest DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed night spot has some of the best mainstream DJs in town.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Buzz Fridays
Buzz DJ Roger M lays down Latin house tracks while DJs pay homage to the house music gods, 11pm, $15, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: Dance with DJ Dragg; D: Dance with DJ Cire, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange Tiziano and Maurizio deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B in the vault, 9pm.

Global Fridays
Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, casual dress, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and Top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJs and musicians unite, 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
Roxy Dance party, 3rd floor.

Life
Lava Bar Dance to DJ Fran Englehardt and Paul Nickerson's deeply rooted soulful rhythms, 10pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Fridays
Bill's Bar •May 11: Avery with Hamilton CD-release party and Smoke Poetic, 9pm, $8, 18+. May 18: Who's the Fat Guy with Mappari CD-release party, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins New York House in the main room; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
Dress up and get down as DJ Mario spins current dance music at this hot spot.

Rack
•May 11 and May 18: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Todd, 10pm, 21+.

Revolution
The Modern Find Latin and progressive Euro house here with DJ Eddie K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins high-energy and dance music; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James spinning progressive house and '80s alternative rock, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJs, specialty drinks and dancing 'til 2am.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spin house and top-40 dance music.

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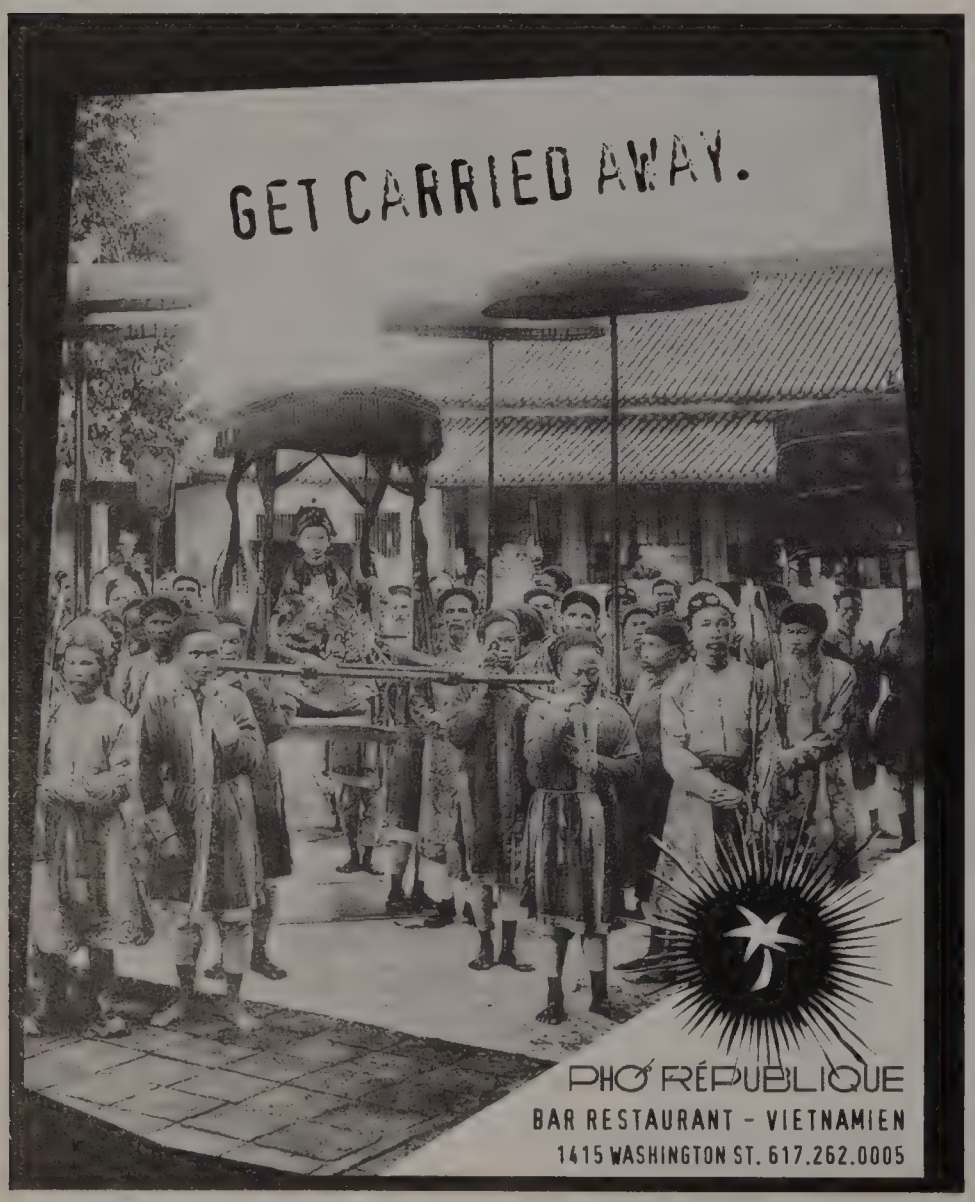
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21+/proper dress

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.
Tattoria Il Panino
Dance party, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Venu
DJ Arsit spins Euro house music; Roomba with DJ Roger M. spinning latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, 19+.
Anything Goes
Lava Bar DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite on lesbian night, spinning open minds and free souls, 10pm, 21+.
Aria
DJ's spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Atlas Dance
DJ spins top-40 dance music, 10:30pm, 21+.
Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.
Backstage
DJ Freddie C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Big Easy Bar
This New Orleans–themed night spot has live bands all weekend long. Does nonstop dancing make you thirsty? There are four bars to boot.
Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spin acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Boom Room
Phoenix Landing Disco fever hits Cambridge all night long with DJ Vinney, 11pm, $3, 21+.
Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern DJ Shiuan Lee spins house for students, scene setters and the A-list, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Club Juliana
Boogieing cuties converge on Latin night; dress to impress, 10pm, $10.
Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Euro house, proper dress, $15, 21+.
Dance Party
The Kells U: Dance with DJ Chaos; D: Dance with DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Downtown
Avalon Resident DJ Manolo and guests spin the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.
Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins hard house while DJ Tim Collins spins old school hip-hop, funk and soul tunes, proper dress required, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Escape
Tiger Lily Deep house and dance classics with DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Exchange Saturdays
DJs melt the tables upstairs with house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins in the vault.
Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.
Hibernia
Steve Porter grooves up a storm with progressive house, 10pm, 21+.
Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.
Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, dress casual but neat, 9pm, 21+.
Miami Club Night
Club Joy/Yesterday's Get a taste of Miami nightlife, 9:30pm, $10, 21+; Ladies free before 11pm, 19+.
Mischief
The Modern Feeling mischievous? Ultra lounging with decadent desserts and erotic electronica, 21+.
Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins house international; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek Ethinic; dress casual chic, $10.
NYC Jukebox
Disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s in the backroom @ Matrix, casual dress, 9:30pm, 21+.
Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins current dance jams, $10, proper dress.
The Rack
•May 12 and May 19: Dance party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Roxy Saturdays
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, 9pm, proper dress and ID required, 21+.
•May 19: Roxy's 15th anniversary party featuring Plasmic Honey, DJ Adilson and recording artist Jessie Jackson.
Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's Groove to three decades' worth of beats in the laser-lit Club DVD, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella brings the best old-school hip-hop, classic funk and soul, proper dress required, 10pm-2am, $15, 19+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spinning dance, 8pm-2am; D: Matt Brown, 4pm-8pm; Kevin Kirrane, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.
Smile Saturdays
Bill's Bar •May 12: Therapy with The Lot Six, 6:30pm, $8, 18+. •May 19: Toyboat CD release party with Calendar Girl, 7pm, $7, 18+.
Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge, 5pm-2am; live Latin band on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor, $10. 21+.
Sugar Shack
Spice up your night with '70s, '80s and '90s dance music as DJ Rich Centi spins the hottest sounds.
Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.
Tattoria Il Panino
Dance party, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi spins deep and progressive house, dress casual chic.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Who's on First?
Check out some of the latest and greatest in hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin, all hosted by Li'l Mike, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.
X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 21+.



SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians, 8pm, 19+.
Avalon
Gay night with DJ Darren Friedman, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Backstage
Urban Night T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae and old school, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Caprice
DJ Quique and the Cuban Trio, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Il Panino
This night features music by DJ Alex of Boston Beat and DJ Roger M, no cover, 21+.
Karma
Sunday night heat hosts hot 97's DJ Chuck Dog, featuring DJ Statik Selektah spinning the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Living Room
Aria DJ Raffy spins International house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Mystic Reggae
Milky Way Groove to great reggae sounds with DJs Larry and Dale, DJ Magnum, DJs Lisa and Robin, 9pm, $5.
Pandora's Box
Lava Bar Mod night with DJ Vinny, Sir Richard and Sterling (Club Courtesy) spinning '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown, 10pm, 21+.
Rack
•May 13 and May 20: The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm-1:30am, 21+.
Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.
Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar •May 13: Cave In with Eulcid, Jane Speed and V Is For Vendetta, 2pm, $10; Reggae with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+. •May 20: Piebald, 2pm, $10; Reggae with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.
Sex
The Exchange Deep house, funk and soul classics spun by the best local DJs every week.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40 and hip-hop, live acoustic music with Jon Frattasio, 3pm-7pm; D: Tom Groleau, 8pm-1am, no cover, 21+.
Trance
Phoenix Landing Get down with some hip trance beats brought to you by DJ Blacksmith, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.
Vibe
Trio Oscar's Sunday night Velvet Lounge has moved to this hot spot, DJs spin house, trance and dance music, no cover, 10pm.

Club Venues

An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Café *94 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Heinz Convention Center.*
Buzz/Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (800-575-9082).*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook Station.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (562-8800). MBTA: Green Line to BU West.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000 x3333). MBTA: Blue line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*



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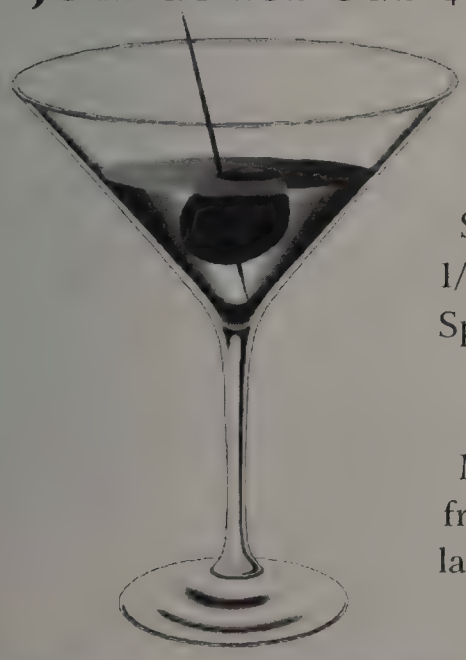
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CAJUN SPICE

Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys take music from the past and drive it into the future. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Cajun music comes from French Arcadians who moved from Nova Scotia to Louisiana in the late 1700s, and some songs can be traced to France before that. Yet one of the music's most prominent veterans is now 31-year-old Steve Riley, who was a tender 15 years old when he joined Cajun great Dewey Balfa's band.

"Thank God it was Dewey who brought me up musically," says Riley, who learned accordion in earnest at age 13, then picked up the fiddle as well. "He was such a wealth of knowledge and was just really cool with young guys like myself."



Steve Riley learned to play the accordion at a young age.

Now Riley is an old hand on the Cajun circuit with the Mamou Playboys, the Lafayette-based band he launched in 1988 with fiddler David Greeley. "There are Cajun dance scenes around the country that we did at first, but we kinda moved away from that," says Riley, whose group plays Johnny D's Uptown May 18, then headlines Labor Day weekend's annual Rhythm & Roots Festival at Ninigret Park in Charlestown, R.I.

"I really love bringing this music to people who have never heard it—just doing different things, like the sit-down concerts where we have to talk a lot about the music and the culture, and the festivals and clubs," he says via cell phone from the road in Texas.

Cajun music has gained a wider audience in recent years, but Riley, who records for Cambridge's Rounder label, doesn't think that awareness has peaked. "It's still growing," he says. "We're playing in new places and venues every year. I think there's plenty of work for several Cajun bands. Probably Beausoleil and us do the most touring every year. But there's a big interest in Cajun music everywhere in the world. We played in Japan before, and there are a couple of Cajun bands there, and all over Europe."

Cajun bands share common instrumentation in the fiddle and button accordion, plus a triangle for percussion—although modern bands like the Mamou Playboys employ electric bass and drums—and French lyrics in traditional form.

"We jump outside the box a bit, but we're still steeped in the tradition," says Riley, whose band also added electric guitar to spice up some newer tunes with a swamp-pop feel. "I feel we can do traditional music as well as anybody else, but we choose to do other things also. So you can't call us a traditional band, really. We do some of that stuff, but even our traditional stuff sounds a little contemporary."

Riley, however, has followed a path quite the reverse of the typical American musician, who starts out playing in a rock band, then discovers roots music. "The music I listened to growing up was the traditional stuff," says Riley, whose expanded family (including cousin Marc Savoy) exposed him to Cajun music from early on. "I had a great-uncle on my mother's side who played accordion, and he actually taught me my first song when I was seven. And even before that, my grandfather was teaching me how to sing and play triangle.

"I met David Greeley right out of high school, at a jam session at Marc Savoy's store, and we realized we were both living in Baton Rouge, and started playing music together," he says of a union which began as a duo, then expanded to a rhythm section and eventually became the Mamou Playboys. "When the band started, David and I wanted to have a traditional sound. I was really into the Balfa Brothers at the time and wanted a band that sounded like that."

Over the past 13 years, Riley and Greeley's supporting cast has shifted, as has the music, which absorbs not only swamp-pop, but zydeco, the R&B-influenced black Creole counterpart to Cajun music. Although the Playboys haven't added zydeco's rhythmic washboard, Greeley doubles on sax, and the group has worked with zydeco stars Geno Delafose and C.J. Chenier.

"We like to push things a bit," Riley says. "We're one big family down here, and have learned a lot from each other."

As for the audiences who dance to the Mamou Playboys' accordion-spiced two-steps and nostalgic twin-fiddle waltzes, he says: "A lot of young people come out, as well as old folks, and our career is one of longevity. I see it lasting for years, until we're old guys and we're still doing it. We travel around, and continue to gather up fans one by one, and play all over this great country." iB

Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys

Play Johnny D's Uptown May 18, and the Rhythm and Roots Festival at Ninigret Park in Charlestown, R.I., Aug. 30 and Sept. 1-2.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Avenger May 14, Axis (262-2437)
Blues Traveler and Pete Yorn May 10, Avalon (423-6398)
Buffalo Tom May 18, Somerville Theatre (931-2000)
Jonatha Brooke May 11, Avalon (423-6398)
Sam Bush May 11, Sanders Theatre (496-2222)
David Byrne May 11, Paradise (931-2000)
Evan and Jaron and Angie Aparo May 19, Paradise (931-2000)
Philip Glass and Foday Musa Suso May 18, Sanders Theatre (496-2222)
Gov't Mule featuring Warren Haynes, Matt Abts, Dave Schools and Chuck Leavell May 13, Avalon (423-6398)
Jah Wobble and Deep Space May 12, Axis (262-2437)
Jekyll and Hyde May 9, Lowell Memorial Auditorium (978-454-2299)
K-Ci and Jo Jo and John B May 20, Avalon (423-6398)
Kottonmouth Kings, Phunk Junkeez, Sprung Monkey and Corporate Avenger May 14, Axis (262-2437)
Libana May 12, Somerville Theatre (931-2000)
Musiq Soulchild May 18, Avalon (423-6398)
Psychedelic Furs and Tinfed May 12, Avalon (423-6398)
The Push Stars, Chauncey and Flynn May 11, Karma (421-9595)
The Push Stars and Missing Joe May 12, Karma (421-9595)
Patti Smith May 13, Paradise (931-2000)
Toadies, Elliott and Diffuser May 10, Paradise (931-2000)
Tortoise, Nobukazu Takemura and Prefuse 73 May 15, Somerville Theatre (931-2000)
Rufus Wainwright, Tegan and Sara May 18, Paradise (931-2000)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Megadeth, listen to WAAF and win tickets, 18+.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys Karaoke with Tricia Kelly.
Club Passim David Massengil, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; Acoustic series, proper dress required, 8pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Ken Clark Organ Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Ciro Stein Organ Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Dr. Awkward and Herbal Nation, $4/$7, 18+.
House of Blues Blind Boys of Alabama and The Silver Leaf Gospel Singers, 9:30pm, $20, 18+.
Johnny D's Hot Club of Cowtown, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Asa Broomhall, 8:30pm; Aaron Lippert and Sam Wahl, 9:30pm, $5.

PAUL ROBICHEAU



TOAST THE WINNERS

The Rack, Tuesday, May 15, 2001
Starting at 6pm. Bartender awards ceremony will start at 8:30pm.
Mark Morris & The Catunes 6-10pm DJ Steve Anderson 10pm-2am

The Improper Bostonian's social columnist Jonathan Soroff
and Mix 98.5's morning DJ Lynn Hoffman will present awards to the winners.

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THE RACK

Linwood Boston Unplugged and open mike, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The David James Motorcycle, Ad Frank and the Fast Easy Women and the Confidence Men, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Middle East U: Black Beetle, $7, 18+; D: The Fucking Champs, Drunk Horse and Cherry Valance, 8pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Lounge Mercury Lounge with downtempo, soul, house and funk, no cover.
Rack Beach Party, 21+.
Regattabar The Peter Parcek Quartet, 8:30pm, $8.
Ryles Bob Sinicrope and the World Leaders, 8:30pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Summer Shack Reggae with the I-Land Rokkerz in the Shack lounge, 7pm, no cover.
The Times Blues with Brad and J, 7pm-11pm, no cover.
Toad Honky Tonk Heroes.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Rondelles, Dead Meadow and The Jack McCoys, $7.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am, no cover.
Les Zygomates The Larry Roland Trio, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 10

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Katie Barbato and Theanonymous Richard, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; Chubby with Ross Phasor and Generic, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Chris Beard, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sunday's Well.
Blue Cat Café DJ Jeff Knor spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Carl Smitty Smooth Group, 7:30pm, no cover.
711 Boylston Live jazz, 8pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Clandestine and Pamela Morgan, 8pm, $12.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke with Dana Z.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort The Baha Brothers, 7pm.
Emily's DJ Maurizio spins international and dance, proper dress required, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie sings classic contemporary and blues, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pittman.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Barnstorm with Bob Moses and Shady Groove, 9:30pm, $5/$8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Return.
House of Blues Superhoney CD release party, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Mike Keneally and Bears for Dolphins, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Michael McDermott, 9pm; Alex Maws, 10pm; Lonesome Red, 11pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Esther, $5.
Lilli's Full Powered Halo, The Naked Sams and Jet Plastic, 8pm, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Daniel Barrett CD-release party with special guest Kristin Cifelli, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Middle East U: WBCN's Rock 'n' Roll Rumble presents the Decals, Say Hi to Lisa, The In Out and Gage, $7, 18+; D: Miracle Orchestra, Mori Stylez and Decifunk, 8:30pm, $10, 18+; C: Board of Education, 10pm, 18+.
PJ Ryan's Undercover with Dave Matthews, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Rack Mis 98.5 and Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Orchestra featuring trumpet great Bobby Shew, 8:30pm, $15.
Scullers Ronnie Earl Duo, 8pm and 10pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille The Issi Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm, no cover.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Karaoke.
Tír na nÓg The Coors, 9:30pm.

Preview

Breaking the Sound Barrier

Jets to Brazil land in Somerville May 23


Jets to Brazil

In the same way that political thought tends to be circular, with the Left and Right frequently meeting in agreement where you would think that they'd be at opposite ends of the spectrum, so too do trends in music reflect an endless loop, in which musicians from diametrically opposite parts of the musical spectrum end up bumping backs. How else to explain the emergence of the genre now commonly known as "emo"? The term was originally used to describe punk or hardcore bands whose songs contained thoughtful, insightful and, yes, emotional lyrics. In the late 1980s, defining bands in this genre were Fuel, from San Francisco, and Ian McKaye's post-Minor Threat project, Embrace, from Washington, D.C. Current practitioners include the Promise Ring, the Get-Up Kids and Avail. The "strange bedfellows" irony is that these emo bands sprung from the American punk and hardcore scenes, and musically and lyrically, they display characteristics that those scenes were initially rebelling against.

As with many genres, emo's characteristics are difficult to pin down. While bands like the Promise Ring tend more toward a low-key, almost indie-rock sound at times, Avail still clings to its hardcore roots, producing raw, high-intensity songs of anger, frustration and hope, while at the same time using catchy, melodic choruses. Jets to Brazil, rising as it does from the ashes of emo giant Jawbreaker, falls closer to Avail's end of the spectrum. Blake Schwarzenbach, Jawbreaker's lead singer and guitarist, put together the three-piece JTB with alumni of other post-hardcore and emo bands. JTB's sound doesn't exactly pick up where Jawbreaker left off—which is probably a good thing. Instead, JTB is a more radio-friendly, harder-edged trio, with more of Jawbreaker's energy from its early days and a steadier balance between the punk sound and the emo influence. In other words, equal amounts of punk's past and its future. ***Jets to Brazil play May 23 at the Somerville Theatre. 8pm, $13. —Andrew Graham***

Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Drawn Butter, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ec8or, Caduceus and C3, $7.
Wally's Cafe Latin jazz with the Renato Tombs, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Seeking Homer with the Joe Deveau Band, $10, 21+.
Bill's Bar Averi with Hamilton CD-release party and Smoke Poetic, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern The Coots, 10pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sunday's Well; Tony and Patsy.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm; D: DJ Joey Demers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Alice Peacock and Lucy Kaplansky, 7pm and 10pm, $15.
Common Ground Owen and Edible Gray, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Booty, 10pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 4pm; DJ Renell spins top-40, house and hip-hop, proper dress required, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Ricks Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown East West, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Plaid Daddy.
Green Dragon Tavern Shoot The Moon, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Slipknot, 9:30pm, $8, 21+.
Hibernia Afterwork DJs, 21+.
House of Blues David Lindley and Heather Eatman, 10pm, $16, 21+.
Johnny D's Four Piece Suit and Mike Barry, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: Pig Pen.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Mike Previti, 9:30pm; Jesse Perkins, 10:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Inner Pink, Classic Ruins, Porn and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Superhoney CD-release party; Heidi, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kay Hanley, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Middle East U: Garrison, Johnny Wishbone, Crack Torch and Francine, $7, 18+; D: Scissorfight and Mr. Lif, $10, 18+; C: Natalie Flanagan, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern The McTagerts.
PJ Ryan's The Mystics, 9pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown,
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Gonzalo Rubalcaba Trio, 8pm and 10:30pm, $14.
Rhythm and Spice Caribbean Cruise Band, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Gertz Group with guitarist Kurt Rosenwinkel and saxophonist George Garzone, 9pm, $15.
Scullers David Newman Quartet, 8pm and 10:30pm, $20.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm, no cover.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times City Pete.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 9:30pm.
Toad Grubstake CD-release party.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron perform with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Raging Teens, The Stumbleweeds CD-release party, The Konks and Paid to Fake It, $8.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with Kolors, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Margo Thunder, 9pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am; Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Rob Gonzalez Band with Almost Speechless and Danny White, $7, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Lot Six with Therapy, 7:30pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Alan and the Alligators, 10pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sunday's Well; Tony and Patsy; Tony O'Riordan.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm; D: DJ Joey Demers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Falcon Ridge preview tour with Christopher Williams, Beth Amsel, Deirdre Flint and Kevin So, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Stymie, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm; Booty, 10pm.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Goodlife Allstars featuring Grant Langford, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Cape Fear.
Green Dragon Tavern The Return, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Superhoney CD-release party, 9:30pm, $10, 21+.
Hibernia Steve Porter, 10pm, 21+.
House of Blues Herbal Nation and Bernie Worrell and the Woo Warriors featuring Jen Durkin from Deep Banana Blackout, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Milo Z, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: Central Basement.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Liz DeBiase, 9:30pm; Local Radio, 10:30pm; On the Drop, 11:30pm, $5.
Lilli's Hvratski, DJ C and Miro, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Dennis Brennan and his Unbelievable Band; Lemonpeeler, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Middle East U: WBCN's Rock 'n' Roll Rumble with AM Stereo, The High Ceilings, Euonym and Kings of Nuthin, $7, 18+; D: John Brown's Body and Olu Dara, $12, 18+; C: Matt Jensen and Acid Reggae, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern The McTagerts.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm.
PJ Ryan's The Andre Balazs Band, 9pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Savage Benjamin, 9pm.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Gonzalo Rubalcaba Trio, 8pm and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice Dis'n'Dat, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jack Kelly and the Buzzard Blues Band, 9pm, $9.
Scullers David Newman Quartet, 8pm and 10:30pm, $20.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times God Fearing Men, 10pm.
Tiger Lily Escape, DJ Brian Luciani and AJ Deep, 10pm-2am.
Toad The Bamboo Steamers.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway performs with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Primrose Path CD-release party, The Popgun 7, The Strokes and Lipfloater, $7.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with Kolors, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Kaoruko, 7pm; Teresa Ines, 10pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Bill's Bar Sonbeam CD-release party; Cave In; Eulcid; Jane Speed; V is for Vendetta, 2pm; Reggae with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan; Sunday's Well.

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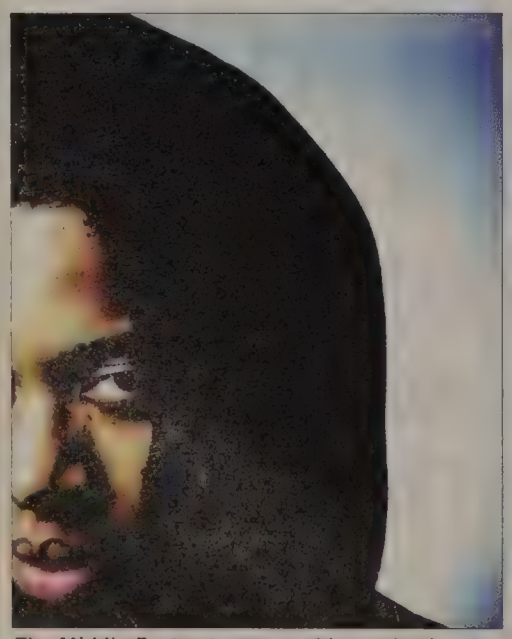
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Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with the Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Carl Cacho and Stephanie Corby, 8:30pm-11:30pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Costello's Tavern Lawrence Watson's performers showcase, 8pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald gospel brunch, 10am; The Complete Unknown, 7pm.
Dunwell's Hang-Over Sunday brunch hosted by local DJs spinning mellow grooves and chill beats, 12pm-8pm.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm; 2nd Annual Amateur Silver Note Singing Competition, no cover.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.
House of Blues Liquid Soul, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Brazilian Night, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Funderdome with Boston Comic Heroes, $5.
Lilli's Alejandro Escovedo; Tim Easton, 8pm, $8, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Cathy Salmons; poetry slam, 7pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: Cappadonna; Remedy, 8pm, $15; C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm.
MilkyWayLounge Mystic Reggae with DJ Junior Rodigan PowerSurge, ladies free before 10pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Rhythm and Muse Priscilla, 2pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Sessiun, 7pm.
Toad The Screw Machine.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Stimulant, International Allies, The Connection and Ramzi, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren 3, 9pm-2am.

MONDAY, MAY 14

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch; Cho Experiment; Pivot; Dummy Plug Conspiracy, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm, Kevin So, 10pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Diversity; Caribbean and reggae, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Nom De Plume and the Chris Canty Band in a benefit for the Boston Food Bank, $5, 18+.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
House of Blues Hazie Maze, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Johnny D's Beat research with DJ Flack, DJ C and Tube, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe The Prayer Boat, 9pm; Emm Gryner, 10pm, $5.



The Middle East puts on an odd-couple show: Mr. Lif (above) plays with Scissorfight May 11.

Middle East D: Stone Soup Poetry, 7:30pm; C: Tom Bianchi and Jason Gardner, 10pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Open mike with Dave Sammarco, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Janedy, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm.
Wally's Cafe Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm-2am.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Blue Cat Café DJ Carrie spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+.
Club Passim Chris Williamson, 7:30pm, $22.50.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge John Kordelski Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $5/$8, 18+.
House of Blues Felix Brown and Leo Gatewood, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Matt Flinner and David Grier, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Open-mike night with DJ Tom Bianchi, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Irresponsibles, $5.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Mcgann's Irish Sessiun with Slainte.
Milky Way Lounge Mary Mary's All Star Karaoke, 9pm, $3.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal; DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack The IMPROPER's Beloved Bartenders Party, hosted by Jonathan Soroff and Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Greg Osby Quartet featuring JasonMoran, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Jacques Chanier Trio, 8pm, $7.
Sidney's Grille The Laura Allen Trio, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Tír na nÓg Easy Marks, 9:30pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; The Residency featuring Blue Pearl, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Stolen Bike Crusade, Linus, G.T. Arpe and The Lovely, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys Karaoke with Tricia Kelly.
Club Passim Chris Williamson, 7:30pm, $22.50.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
The Druid New music, top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm, 21+.



Libana perform their unique ethnic and spiritual female-themed music from around the globe May 12 at the Somerville Theatre.

Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; Acoustic series, proper dress required, 8pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Inner Orchestra, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Ken Clark Organ Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Simon and Black Ice, $4/$7, 18+.
House of Blues Kyler and Antigone Rising, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Mark of Machinery Hall.
Johnny D's Buddy and Julie Miller and Heygoods, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Beach party with DJ Dragg spinning hip-hop and dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Permanent Vacation, 9pm; Leaving Dizzy, 10pm, $5.
Lilli's The Jaded Salingers, The Brian Gottesman Band and Shekel Shirt, 8pm, $7, 21+.
Linwood Boston Unplugged; Open-mike night, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The David James Motorcycle; Cash Money and the Jetsetter; Red Chord, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Middle East U: Trucker, Psychotic Larry, Gluton and We're All Gonna Die, 8:30pm, $7, 18+.
Rack Beach Party, 21+.
Regattabar The Greg Osby Quartet featuring JasonMoran, 8:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston AcappellaScene, 8pm, $7.
Scullers Geoffrey Hicks, 8 and 10pm, $15.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Summer Shack Reggae with the I-Land Rokkerz in the Shack lounge, 7pm, no cover.
The Times Blues with Brad and J, 7pm-11pm.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan and guests, 9:30pm.
Toad Hillbilly Voodoo featuring Barrence Whitfield.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Cropduster, Subdarlings and Mary Prankster, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates John Kordalewski, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Brother Chameleon and Palabra, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; Every Second with Give and Purge D.I., 9pm, $7, 18+.
BlackHorseTavern Zach Koerper, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne.
Blue Cat Café DJ Jeff Knor spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm.
711 Boylston Live jazz, 8pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys DJ Rhythm Nation.
Club Passim Steph Corby and Barb Phaneuf, 8pm $10.
Common Ground The Popgun Seven, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke with Dana Z.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Lonely Gus and the One Night Stand, 7pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Maurizio spins international and dance, proper dress required, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie sings classic contemporary and blues, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pittman.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Sugarcoat, Stymie and Buzby, $5/$8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Tom.
Hibernia DJs, afterwork, 21+.
House of Blues Another Planet, 10pm, $8, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Dance party with DJ Edgar, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Bob Schneider, 8:30pm; Capital City, 10pm; The Reedlings, 11pm, $7.
Kirkland Cafe Twisted Rico All Acoustic Review, $5.
Lilli's The Joint Chiefs, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Middle East U: Rosa Chance Well's CD release party, Victoria at Sea, Helms, Tigersaw and Pads, 8pm, $7, 18+; C: Board of Education, 10pm.
PJ Ryan's The Dave Foley Band, 9pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Mark Kross Five-Piece Trio, 8:30pm, $10.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz with Dave Valentin and Hilton Ruiz, 8:30pm, $17.50.
Scullers Sabor de Cuba, 8 and 10pm, $20.
Sidney's Grille The Issi Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm, no cover.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Karaoke.
Tír na nÓg The Coots, 10pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; David Johnston, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Laffing Freemen, Bully Pulpit, Raymond and The Audiants, $6.
Wally's Cafe Latin jazz with the Renato Tombs, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm.

FRIDAY, MAY 18

ÆR DJs and musicians unite, 21+.
Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Who's the Fat Guy; Mappari CD-release party, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Joe Deveau Band, 10pm, no cover.
Black Rose Eugene Byrne and Celtic Clan.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys DJ Rhythm Nation.
Club Passim Karaugh Brown and Bill Morrissey, 7pm and 10pm, $20.
Common Ground The Swinging Johnsons, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild.

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Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 10pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 4pm; DJ Renell spins top-40, house and hip-hop, proper dress required, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Issi Rosen Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Rythmn, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal The Return.
Green Dragon Tavern Me and Julio, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Babaloo, $10, 21+.
Hibernia Alan Strack and Company, 21+.
House of Blues Billy Joe Shaver, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Freeze Pop.
Johnny D's Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's U: Thomas Park.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Dragg; D: Dance party with DJ Doc, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Felix McTeigue, 9:30pm; John Haydon and Ten Worlds, 10:30pm; Hamilton, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Stonecutters, Lolita's Bliss, Sam Hooper and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's The Pernice Brothers and Julie Doiron, 8pm, $8.
Lizard Lounge Fire in the Boathouse; The Lonesome Brothers CD-release party; Lucky 57 CD-release party, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
McGann's DJ Static.
Middle East U: Jack Drag, The Fly Seville, Longwave and Jr. Corduroy, $8, 18+; C: Ross Robinson, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Sundays Well.
PJ Ryan's Pete Massa, 9pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Jim Devlin Trio, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Marsels.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Dane Vannatter Quintet CD-release party, 8pm and 10:30pm, $14.
Rhythm and Spice Jack Lee and Divercity, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz with Dave Valentin and Hilton Ruiz, 8pm and 10:30pm, $18.50.
Scullers Roy Hargrove Group, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm, no cover.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Rivetrside Train.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 9:30pm.
Toad Asa Brebner.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron perform with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gravel Pit, The Shelley Winters Project, Reverse and Adam Elk, $8.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates Ron Murphy, 9pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am; Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Toyboat CD-release party; Calendar Girl, 8pm, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Sky Blues, 10pm, no cover.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Eugene Byrne; Celtic Clan.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Brian Joseph and Christopher Williams, 7 and 10pm, $12.
Common Ground The Allstonians, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm; Booty, 10pm.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Goodlife Allstars featuring Grant Langford, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Pig Pen.
Green Dragon Tavern Dog House, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.



Alternative rock outfit Toadies have just released their long-awaited album, *Hell Below/Stars Above*. They play May 10 at the Paradise, sharing a bill with Elliott and Diffuser.

Harpers Ferry Mudhens, Stargazer Lilly and Traveling Matt, $8, 21+.
Hibernia London's DJ Paul Sparkes, 10pm, 21+.
House of Blues Michelle Willson and the Evil Gal Orchestra, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Chapter In Verse.
Johnny D's Mango Blue, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's U: The Return.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Chaos; D: Dance party with DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Divya Kumar, 9:30pm; Shiner Jones, 10:30pm; Katie Terrio, 11:30pm.
Kirkland Cafe Bad Ron's Blues and Rockabilly Review with RPM's and Ripchordz, $5.
Lilli's Seks Bomba CD-release party; Lars Vegas, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Ray Corvair Trio, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East C: The Color Forms, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Sundays Well.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm.
PJ Ryan's Uncle Shaker Band, benefit for Foundation for Fighting Blindness, 4pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Jack and Present Company, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Central Basement.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Bruce Katz Band, 8pm and 10:30pm, $12.
Rhythm and Spice Tropical Fire, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Scullers Roy Hargrove Group, 8pm and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
Tiger Lily Escape, DJ Brian Luciani and AJ Deep, 10pm.
The Times Undaunted Professor Harp.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan and Christian McNeil, 9:30pm.
Toad The Armadillos.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway performs with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mistle Thrush, The Strokes, All the Queen's Men and Silverpoint, $7.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates Henrietta Robinson, 7pm; The George Russle Trio, 10pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Anago at the Lenox Hotel Rusty Scott Quartet, 11:30am, no cover.
Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Bill's Bar Piebald with Fairweather, 2pm; Reggae Sunday with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Eugene Byrne.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkins and the B3 Jazz Trio, 11am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Burt LaFountain and Russell Wolff, 8:30pm-11:30pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Chris Williams, 7:30pm, $12.
Costello's Tavern The James Merenda jazz jam featuring the Mingus Three, 8:30pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Silver Lining gospel brunch, 10am; The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
Dunwell's Hang-Over Sunday brunch hosted by local DJs spinning mellow grooves and chill beats, 12pm-8pm.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm; 2nd Annual Amateur Singing Competition, no cover.
Green Street Grill Kilombo Mambo's World Latin Beat, 9:30pm.
HarpersFerry Southern Fried Soul Shack, $3 21+.
House of Blues Josh Dotus Band, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Brazilian night dance party, 9pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Frank Morey, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poet J*ME; poetry slam, 7:30pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm.
Milky Way Lounge Mystic Reggae with DJ Junior Rodigan PowerSurge, ladies free before 10pm, $10.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Seisiun, 7pm.
Toad The Resophonics.
Top of the Hub Gordon Beadle Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reverie; DJs spinning goth, industrial, ethereal and darkwave.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren 3, 9pm-2am.

MONDAY, MAY 21

Bill's Bar Killswitch, Engage with Martyr, A.D. and From Autumn to Ashes, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 7:30pm, $10.
Common Ground Simpson's Trivia Night with The Worst Evening Ever, 10pm.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Livewire, $2/$5, 18+.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
House of Blues East Meets West Earthquake Relief for India featuring James Montgomery, Jerry Portnoy and Johnny A, 9pm, $25, 18+.
Johnny D's Beat research with DJ Flack, DJ C and Tube, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Matt Jensen, 9pm; Emm Gryner, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Essenes, 48 Rooms and Emory Vesh, $6, 18+; C: Tom Bianchi and and Jason Gardner, 10pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Open mike with Dave Sammarco, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Janedy, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer and the Euphorians, 9:30pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Gordon Beadle Trio, 8pm.
Wally's Cafe Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm-2am.

TUESDAY, MAY 22

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7-10pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Blue Cat Café DJ Carrie spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $5/$8, 18+.
House of Blues Shake Senora and Jennie Laws, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Dana Edelman and Joel Case, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Open-mike night with DJ Tom Bianchi, no cover.
Lilli's Kevin So Band and Clare Burson, 8pm, $8, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Mcgann's Irish Sessiun with Slainte.
Milky Way Lounge Mary Mary's All Star Karaoke, 9pm, $3.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
Plough and Stars Live bands, 10pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack Mac and Jamie, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar The John Payne Saxophone Choir, 8:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Brazilian jazz with Giana, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers George W. Russell Jr. Trio, $15.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Tír na nÓg Los Diablos, 9:30pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; The Residency featuring Blue Pearl, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Flat Five, Frank Morey, Dave Sammarco and Lucky and the Bastards, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

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Music Venues

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An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-5101). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue line to Government Center or Aquarium.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Blue Cat Café *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Heinz Auditorium.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (437-0002). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Café Italia *144 Meridan St., East Boston (569-1800). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave, Boston (262-9874). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Coolidge Corner Theater *290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2501). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge.*
Costello's Tavern *723 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (522-9263). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Dunwell's *1271 Boylston St., Boston (424-1441). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
Encore *275 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Avenue, Boston (734-9000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Four Seasons Hotel *200 Boylston St., Boston (267-6338). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or North Station.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333) MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
The Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (742-6618). MBTA: Orange Line to North Station.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299) MBTA: Lowell Commuter Rail to Lowell.*
Lucky's *255 Congress St., Boston (357-5825). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way Lounge and Lanes *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central*
Plaza Garibaldi *1141 Revere Beach Parkway, Revere (781-284-6005).*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
St. Botolph's *99 St. Botolph St., Boston (266-3030). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366A Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *Ai 261 Main St., Worcester (800-477-6849).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

New England Conservatory Concert

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. The NEC's student chamber ensembles perform.

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Boston Boy Choir and St. Paul Men's Schola Concert

St. Paul Church, Bow and Arrow St., Cambridge (868-8658). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $14-$20. Jennifer Lester conducts the Boston Boy's Choir and the St. Paul Men's Schola in their annual Spring concert.

Boston Secession

Episcopal Divinity School, St. John's Memorial Chapel, 99 Brattle St., Cambridge (931-2787). 8pm. $15-$25. The Boston Secession continues the season with *Blood Is Thicker Than Water*, a concert exploring the way that children are represented in music and families in musicals.

Cantata Singers and Ensemble

First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (267-6502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $15-$42. The Cantata Singers and Ensemble perform pieces by Benjamin Britten, William Schuman and Frank Martin.

Chamber Music at Tufts University

Alumnae Hall, Aidekman Arts Center, 40 Talbot Ave., Medford (627-3564). 8pm. Free. Guest artists Cristi Catt, soprano; Daniela Tosic, mezzo-soprano; Tom Noren, guitar; and John McDonald, on piano perform a varied program of songs, duets and ensemble pieces by Boston-area composers.

King's Chapel Recital

Corner of Tremont and School St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 7:30pm. $15. Heinrich Christensen, the musical director at King's Chapel, presents an organ recital that includes the works of Bruhns, Gronau, Bach, Barber, Vierne and Escaiach.

MIT Symphony Orchestra

Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8pm. $2. Dante Anzolini directs Tchaikovsky's *Piano Concerto No. 1* with pianist Jonathan Lee.

NEC's Composer Series

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. Malcolm Peyton, director, performs.

SATURDAY, MAY 12

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Harry Connick Jr. joins Boston Pops Laureate Conductor John Williams and the Boston Pops for a program in tribute to Harry Warren, composer of the music that accompanied Busby Berkely's classical films.

Longwood Symphony Orchestra

Jordon Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (713-4130). MBTA: Green Line to Northeastern. Pianist Hung-Kuan Chen performs two Brahms pieces in a concert to benefit the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Masterworks Chorale

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $16-$31. Allen Lannom conducts the 100-voice chorale and orchestra for a performance of Mozart's *Mass in C Minor* and *Lux Aeterna*, a work by distinguished American composer Morton Lauridsen.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Same program as May 12.

Cantata Singers and Ensemble

First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (267-6502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $15-$42. Same program as May 11.

GBYO

Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3359). 7pm. $7. Joel Bard conducts the Greater Boston Youth Symphony Repertory Orchestra in their spring concert.

MIT Chamber Music Concert

Killian Hall, 14W-160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 7pm. The Chamber Music Society, coordinated by Professor Marcus Thompson, comprises students selected to study and perform chamber music found in literature.



The Longwood Symphony Orchestra plays with pianist Hung-Kuan Chen at Jordan Hall May 12.

Wellesley College

Jewett Auditorium, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). 3pm. Free. Pianist Sarah Takagi joins Michael Bonner on cello.

TUESDAY, MAY 15

Amphion's Lyre

The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (266-4351). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:30pm. $8-$12. Celebrate the return of Spring with a concert of French Baroque chamber music.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

Boston Pops

Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Keith Lockhart leads the Pops in the premiere of Christopher Brubeck's *Concerto for Pops Orchestra.*

THURSDAY, MAY 17

Longy School of Music

Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Longy faculty artist and pianist Sandra Herbert performs in a duo-recital with guest pianist Elaine Kwon, featuring Bartok's *Sonata for Two Pianos and Percussion.*

FRIDAY, MAY 18

Fridays at Trinity

Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944, ext. 311). MBTA: Green line to Copley. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. Performance by Leo Abbott.

Illuminations of Now and the Beyond

First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St, Cambridge (492-8902). 8pm. $20, $30. This is the 21st season for the Spectrum Singers, directed by John W. Ehrlich. They perform virtuoso music tonight.

SATURDAY, MAY 19

Immersion Music Salon

Zeitgeist Gallery, 312 Broadway, Cambridge (686-4898). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Free. Media Assault performs with special guest artist Fames Coleman as part of the 2001 Boston Cyberarts Festival.

Mystic Chorale Spring Gospel Concert

Tremont Temple Baptist Church, 88 Tremont St., Boston (781-648-1515). 8pm. $6-$12. The 250 member Mystic Chorale presents its 11th annual Gospel Celebration featuring traditional gospel songs and original compositions by Geoffrey Dana Hicks.

Spring Strains

First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (427-8200). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. $14-$28. The Chameleon Arts Ensemble performs pieces by Szymanowski, Schumann, Harbison and Beethoven.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

Fauré Requiem

Christ Church, Zero Garden Street, Cambridge (876-0200). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $5-$10. The Choir of Christ Church Cambridge performs under the direction of Stuart Forster.

Mystic Chorale Spring Gospel Concert

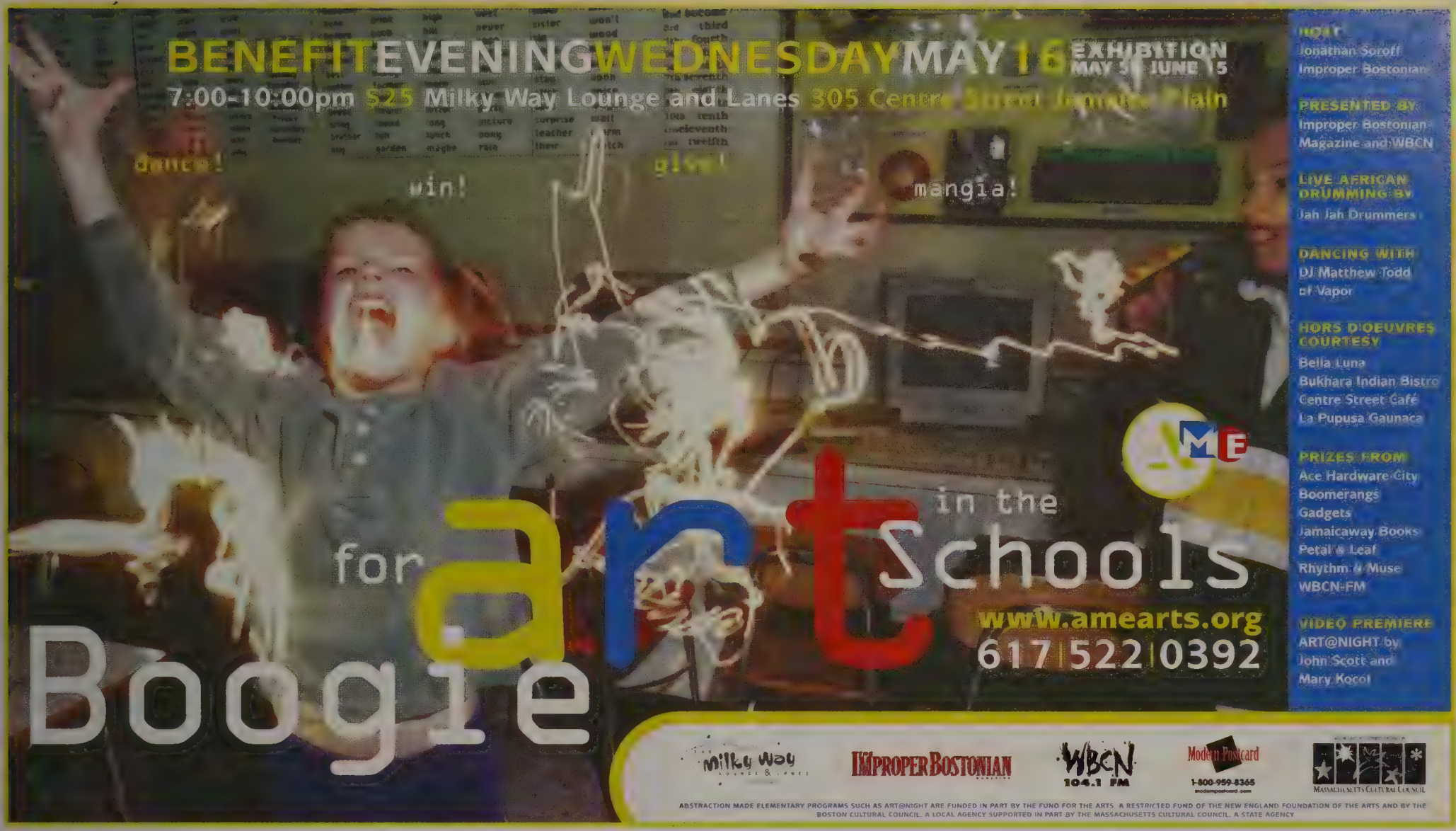
Tremont Temple Baptist Church, 88 Tremont St., Boston (781-648-1515). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 3:30pm. Same program as May 19.

Radcliffe Concert Series

Paige Concert Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge (496-1462). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Barbara White performs *Apocryphal Stories.*

Rosenbaum Plays Beethoven

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (661-7067). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $9-$39. The Pro Arte Chamber Orchestra spotlights master pianist and President of the Longy School of Music Victor Rosenbaum playing Beethoven.


BENEFIT EVENING WEDNESDAY MAY 16
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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., theme shows produced by Diamond Dunhill.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life. Wed.: Twitch Night. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. •May 10, 6pm: **Anne Fausto-Sterling** reads her new book, *Sexing the Body: Gender Politics and the Construction of Sexuality*.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Desperately Aloof
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (470-5329). www.ubiquitystage.com. *May 7-12, 8pm. $10, $7.50 students and seniors.* Written and performed by Craig Houk, this theatrical performance takes a look at gay life and the difference between being lonely and being alone.

Fourth Annual Lesbian and Bisexual Women's Health Research Forum
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Currie Student Center, Boston (927-6306). May 4, 9am-6pm. This forum addresses strategies for conducting research that involves women.

MFA Gay and Lesbian Film Festival
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $8. The series continues with several film screenings. For a complete schedule of films and their showtimes, see the Film section.

Youth Pride March
Copley Square, Boston (727-3600). May 19, 12pm. The seventh annual Gay/Straight Youth Pride March begins with a noon rally in Copley Square, followed by a spirited march through the whole city. It concludes with a festival at approximately 2pm at the MDC Hatch Shell. Then, at 7:30pm, the Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth hosts its 21st annual prom for youths aged 22 and younger.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for mature gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.



The seventh annual Gay/Straight Youth Pride March kicks off at Copley Square May 19 at 12pm.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872). GAYMES is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This nationwide line provides information, referral and support services.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Kristen Porter's Dyke Night
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (542-9038). $5, 10pm, 21+. Every Thursday this lesbian bar has rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900, ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900, ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). Held quarterly. Sliding scale.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (442-1775). www.triangledivers.org. This gay and lesbian SCUBA diving club meets every third Wednesday.

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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body! Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dance of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 18, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10 donation. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the spiritual traditions of the world. Instruction and live music will accompany all dances.

Dance Month
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). http://cambridge.zami.com/dancecomplex. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* May is Dance month in Cambridge, and the Dance Complex is celebrating. Dance performances will be featured every Tuesday this month. If you're the experimental type and prefer a more free-form approach to dance, try the contact improv workshop on May 19, from 1:30 to 5:30pm—it's very liberating.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Eagle Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 19, 8-11:30pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, your clapping hands, your drums, spoons and tambourines. Whether you're a dancing queen or just a curious dabbler, you won't stop moving once you step inside.

Meet the Practitioners
The Marino Center for Progressive Health, 2500 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (661-6225). www.marinocenter.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. May 17, 5:30-7:30pm.* This reception at the Marino Center offers the opportunity to learn more about integrative medicine and to meet the staff. If that's not exciting enough, refreshments and catering by Ristorante Marino should satisfy.

Soulful Sundown Presents *Speaking in Drums*
First and Second Church in Boston, Unitarian Universalist, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (267-6730). www.fsc-boston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. May 13, 5:30pm. $6 requested donation.* Soulful Sundown, a monthly series that explores the connection between the arts, spirituality and social justice, presents master dancer and drummer **Sidi Mohammed "Joh" Camara** and Troupe Sèwa from West Africa.

Theosophical Society Open House
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-0101). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *May 20, 12-5pm. $10.* There will be presentations on a wide variety of subjects, including holistic health, transformational art, Western mystery tradition, Madras and miracles. Private sessions with practitioners in tarot, astrology, palmistry and esoteric healing will also be held.

CLASSES

Swimming Dragon Qigong
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). May 13, 2-5pm. $75. Swimming Dragon Qigong combines Taoist taiji and Internal Alchemy Qigong. It enables you to absorb energy, unblock energy channels and balance yin and yang. Some rave about its fantastic healing influence and weight loss effects.

Ki to Life Workshop
Ki Energy Wellness Center, 256 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. May 19, 10:30am-5pm. $75.* Feeling stressed out and fatigued? Learn to heal yourself naturally. International guest speaker **Master Chun** will teach the concepts of Vital Energy and Ki, and their application in stress management, health and well-being. A healthy lunch will be provided.

Parent/Child Yoga Workshop
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *May 13, 4-5pm.* Come experience yoga with your child and bond on Mother's Day. Open to children ages 4-7, this will be a fun class with yoga basics and games. Certified Kripalu yoga instructor and occupational therapist **Lisa Orkin** will lead the activities.

Phoenix Rising Yoga Therapy
John Stasio Studio, 115 Newbury St., Boston (864-5323). May 19, 10-12pm. $15. Yoga teacher **Colleen Webb** provides this demonstration and workshop where you'll learn the latest in transformational body-mind therapy.


Master Chun discusses ki energy May 19.

Yoga Workshop with Beryl Bender and Thom Birch
Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-BOS-YOGA). www.baronbaptiste.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. May 18-20. 15 hours. $170.* Join **Beryl Bender** and **Thom Birch** for a prana-rich weekend of powerful yoga, deep breathing, sweat, mindfulness, fun and laughter. Bender is the author of *Power Yoga*. Mail payment to Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, c/o Rolf Gates, P.O. Box 400279, Cambridge, MA 02140, or call and use your credit card.

LECTURES

Care for Common Foot and Ankle Problems
Faulkner Hospital, 1153 Centre St., Huvos Auditorium, Jamaica Plain (781-648-0101). May 24, 7-8:30pm. Does foot pain affect the quality of your daily life? Orthopedic surgeon **Christopher Chiodo** will discuss prevention and treatment for troublesome foot conditions.

Paradox of the Subconscious and Soul
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *May 11.* **Mary DeNapoli**, local author of *Behold-God's Holy Trinity Is Within You*, will speak on the dual nature of the human subconscious and the soul. Learn how to cultivate benevolent spiritual intuition to triumph over the neurotic devil within. Discussion and meditation will follow the lecture.

RETREATS

Omega Holistic Retreats
Omega Institute , 150 Lake Dr., Rhinebeck, N.Y. (800-944-1001). www.omega-inst.org. *May 11-13. $165.* You may have heard about the Omega Holistic Learning Center. Omega hosts the finest teachers of wellness, meditation and movement. During the next several months there will be introductory weekends; they are a chance to get familiar with Omega's setting and style. If you don't get to the first on May 11-13, maybe one of the following weekends will fit your schedule: June 29-July 1, Aug. 3-5, Aug. 24-26, Sept. 21-23 or Oct. 12-14.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington. (876-3050). MBTA: Bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wednesdays, 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a non-violent martial art for peace and protection. It is aimed at connecting ourselves back to nature, to our real nature, and to a natural state of good health. This practice takes place outdoors, so call first to confirm.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is relaxing, stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston. (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St. Church of Our Saviour, Brookline (277-YOGA). http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green C line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm; Wed., 11:30am; Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class for a powerfully peaceful time.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Big Apple Circus: Clown Around Town
Fan Pier, Boston (931-2787). www.bigapplecircus.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Fri., 11am and 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. Through May 13. $13-$43.* This all-new show features a cast of circus acts from around the world, including award-winning acrobats, hand balancers, jugglers, trapeze artists, dogs, horses and clowns.

Casey: Play Ball!
Cyclorama, Boston Center for the Arts. 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. May 12, 2pm. $22. Composer and conductor Robert Kapilow has composed this musical based on Ernest Lawrence Thayer's *Casey at the Bat*.

Children's Theater
Theatre 1, 713 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). $8 adults, $5 children. •May12 and 19, 3pm: **Silly Sketches**. *Saturday Night Live* for kids.

Peter Pan
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. May 12-13, 11am. $7. Once Upon a Time children's theater company invites children to come up on stage, don costumes and participate in telling these classic stories.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 and 3pm. •May 12-13: An Arabian Adventure by the Tanglewood Marionettes. •May 19-20: *Gulliver's Travels* by the Poobly Greegy Theatre.

Royal Hanneford Circus
Tsongas Arena, 300 Arcand Drive, Lowell, Mass. (931-2000). May 20, 2:30 and 5:30pm. $10.50, $6.50 for children. Make way for juggling clowns, acrobats, show girls, aerialists, equestrian riders, exotic animals, horses and elephants.

THINGS TO DO

The Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Boston (426-8855). Opening May 20: *Climbing the Walls* exhibition: With the look and feel of real rock gym, this exhibit encourages safe risk-taking and the use of minds as well as muscles. Don a helmet, check out the gear and climb the walls.

Duckling Days Parade
Boston Common, across from the State House, Boston (426-1885). MBTA: Green Line to Park. May 13, 12pm (registration), 1pm (parade). Calling all ducklings! It's time to dress up as your favorite character from *Make Way for Ducklings* and fall in behind Officer Michael and the Harvard University band on a journey through Boston Common. The parade retraces the Beacon Hill adventures of Mr. and Mrs. Mallard and their ducklings in the big city.

The Franklin Park Kite Festival
Franklin Park Golf Course, Boston (635-4505). MBTA: #29 bus from Ruggles or #22 bus from Ashmont. 11am-5pm. Free. Make kites, fly kites and groove to music on the golf course at Franklin Park.

The Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 11am. The Coop offers children's story hours and crafts every Saturday. •May 12: *The Mother's Day Mice* by Eve Bunting. Make Mom a special card. •May 19: *The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss. Create a collage with seeds.

May Fair
Wellesley Historical Society, 229 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-6690). 10am-3pm. $3. Among the attractions at this fair are Yorick's Puppet Theater, Chester the Balloon Jester, petting zoo animals and children's games

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to State. $13. •May 19: Marine Mammal Mania. This day is dedicated to marine mammals. Play games, meet mammals face-to-face, get a temporary tattoo and take home some goodies.

New England School Scrabble Championship
Buckingham, Browne & Nichols, Cambridge (477-0033, ext. 10). May 12, 8:30am-5pm. No entry fee. Children in grades 5-8 can play Scrabble with others in this championship match.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Boston University's Nickerson Field.
Tickets: 866-462-7325
May 27, 6pm: Philadelphia Charge

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
May 9. 7:05pm: Seattle Mariners
May 10, 7:05pm: Seattle Mariners
May 11, 7:05pm: Oakland Athletics
May 12, 1:05pm: Oakland Athletics
May 13, 1:05pm: Oakland Athletics

New England Revolution
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 931-2222
May 12, 7:30pm: Chicago Fire
May 16, 7:30pm: Columbus Crew

Events


The Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day begins May 18.

Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day
(866-746-5200). May 18-20. Some 3,000 men and women walk 60 miles over three days to raise money and awareness. Cheer them on in Boston, May 20.

Dinner with the Champ
Kowloon Restaurant, Route 1, Saugus (781-233-0007). May 10, 6-9pm. $50. Heavyweight boxing champion John Ruiz will host this dinner. All proceeds will benefit the Somerville Boxing Club.

International Soccer
Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill, 356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton (566-1880). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle. May 12, 10am. Watch the Football Association Cup finals with fellow footie fans.

2001 A Bike Odyssey
Citywide. May 12-20. It's Bike to Work week. Help save the environment by hopping on your bicycle.

Viva LaX Vegas
International Place, Oliver and High streets, Boston (242-9898, ext. 208). May 12, 7-11pm. $100. MetroLacrosse hosts this gala fund-raiser to support its ongoing efforts to provide after-school lacrosse and education programs. Dance, dine and gamble the night away.

Weekly Workout at Faneuil Hall
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (737-3500). Thursdays, 12-2pm, through June 14. Local radio personality Karen Blake hosts a live workout.

To Play

CYCLING

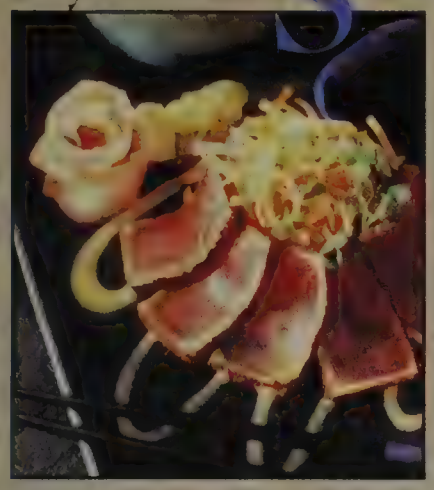
Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

Boston Ski & Sports Club Bike Rides
(789-4070). •May 20, $15: Marblehead Ride. Take a 25-mile scenic tour of the estates, rocky shorelines, historic sites and harbors.

EQUESTRIAN SPORTS

Polo and Horseback Riding
Boston Center for Adult Education (267-4430). The BCAE offers classes in polo (begins May 13) and horseback riding (begins May 12 or May 15).

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FISHING

Introduction to Fly-Casting for Women
Wild Women Outfitters, 397 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-641-5776). May 12, 9am-12pm. $75. Sheila M. Hassan, certified casting instructor, will introduce you to the rod, reel, line, leader and all those funky flies. She'll provide the equipment.

FITNESS

Countdown to Swimsuit Season
Studio 122, 122 Arlington St., Boston (267-4430, ext. 723). May 9, 5:30-6:30pm. $32. Joey Krol, personal trainer and owner of Bodybuilding Lifestyles, teaches basic exercises that work the glutes and abdominal muscles.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

Boston Ski & Sports Club Hikes
(789-4070). May 13, 10am. $30. •Blue Hills Hike and BBQ: Head to a local state reservation for a casual 3-mile hike followed by a barbecue.

Introduction to Rock Climbing
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-430). Meet at Middlesex Fells, Medford. May 19, 9am-4pm. $75. Learn the "top roping" style of rock climbing from a supportive, no-pressure professional staff. Climbs range from easy scrambles to more gradual vertical slopes.

RUGBY

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for play in Brookline and Cambridge.

Charles River Rats Rugby Club
(680-8367). www.crrfc.com. *Practice: Tue. and Thu. Games on Saturdays.* No experience necessary for this team sponsored by Harpoon Brewery.

Old Gold Rugby Club
(742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players welcome.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer begins May 20.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in Greater Boston.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(789-4070).

Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance
(928-0882). www.buda.org.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5. •Spiking clinic: April 29. $25-$35.

Why Watch Volleyball League
Watertown High School, 50 Columbia St., Watertown (825-7723). www.whywatch.com. *Thu., 7-9pm.* Six-on-six co-ed volleyball league with three different levels.

WATER SPORTS

Canoe the Charles
Boston Ski & Sports Club (789-4070). May 12, 4:30-7:30pm. $45. Spend a Sunday afternoon exploring the Newton/Waltham section of the Charles River. After a few hours of paddling, enjoy a pizza party.

WRESTLING

Men's Adult Wrestling
www.masswrestling.com/bostonunion. Ex-high school and collegiate wrestlers wanted. All ages and experiences welcome. Year-round practices are Wednesday, 6-8pm,





around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000, ext. 7523). Tutor immigrants as a part of the English for Employment Program.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Become a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

AIDSRide
(800-825-1000). www.aidsride.org. Crew volunteers are needed for the 350-mile ride from New York to Boston July 19-22.



Is that the Washington Monument in the distance? No, silly, that's the Bunker Hill Monument.

Alliance for Children
(781-431-7148). Adopt a child from abroad. Info. session: May 10, 7-9pm.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Information sessions held regularly. Info. sessions: May 9 and 14, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Tutor at Cambridge public schools.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Volunteers are needed to share fun times with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). www.medainc.org. Volunteers needed for help line, assisting clinical staff and special events.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge
(800-WE-CYCLE). www.pmc.org. *Aug. 4-5.* Volunteers needed for this bicycle fund-raising event's setup, registration, food service and clean up.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300). Mentor academically motivated teens.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

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Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

St. Germain Concert
Paradise Club, April 14. You were the cute, short-haired brunette wearing black-rimmed frames, a maroon top and jeans. I was wearing a gray sweater and tan pants with my usual spiky short black hair. We exchanged glances before the show when you stood by the perforated column. Toward the end of the show we happened to be dancing near each other (by the percussionist) but you were being harassed by a big, sweaty guy in white (he was getting on my nerves!). I think that you acknowledged my being there but I didn't take the opportunity to talk to you. Would you give me another chance?
—bluestu7@hotmail.com

Lil' Peanut
You are my best pal and I love you with all my heart. Good luck at bootcamp, my little peanutty-delicious one. (My fingers are crossed that you don't come back as a hard-headed, cocky sonofabitch.) You have made all the difference in my life, and you can hold me in the Skipjack's parking lot anytime! Friends forever? You betcha!
—Your special friend, M

Nick the rugby player from Holland/Dallas
Friday the 13th was unexpectedly lucky for both of us, wouldn't you agree? And to think we had each considered staying in. I'm not exactly sure what I liked so much about you. Maybe it was your "I'm allergic to tonic" line, your English accent and your offer to share your vitamins the next morning. I had a lovely time, and it seems a shame just to let you disappear. So, if you're in town again one of these days, how about a repeat?
—liz_from_pravda@hotmail.com

Tampa Flight 2514, 4/11
I was with you on the plane, bus and trains from Tampa all the way into BC. You: Turquoise shirt, blue knit hat, camera. Me: Short red hair, eyebrow pierced, biting nails. Both: struggling with luggage. I was surprised when you stayed on the train after BU and got off with me at (ugh) preppy BC...then you disappeared. Why didn't you say hello? Why didn't I?
—PLANEGIRL84@hotmail.com

Neil
I met you at the Paul Oakenfold show at Avalon on 4/9. You go to BU and are tall and from R.I. I had a great time with you that night. E-mail if you'd like to hang out sometime.
—oakieavalongirl@hotmail.com

To the Law School Grad-to-be from Corning, N.Y.
You like dive bars. I like dive bars. You invited me to go with you to Whiskey Park on 4/23 after McCarthy's (the flirt) and Daisy's (where I became awestruck...even if you are a Yankees fan), but I foolishly declined. Instead, I called the bar to buy you and your friend shots of tequila but they said the bar was too crowded (damn!). I hope you read this before you head back to Ithaca to study for the bar exam. Ithaca in the summer sounds like a fun weekend (I could bring the cop uniform and you could make pizza!)...mail me and we'll Delux!
—girlatdaisys_joann@yahoo.com

Dream Girl
Where did you go? I woke up calling your name. Actually that's not exactly true...yet. I see you a couple times a week in the subterranean depths of the Back Bay commuter rail station, heading somewhere between Boston and Worcester. (God, I hope it's not Worcester!) Me: 5' 11", 155, brown hair, green eyes. You: as tall as me?! You have long dark brown hair, always pulled back past your striking face. Every time I see you I want to strike up a convo, but you seem distracted, like something's on your mind (me?!) so I hold off. I can't hold off much longer, Dream Girl...e-mail me.
—dreamgrlwheredyago@hotmail.com

To the attractive curly-haired Irish lass
I saw you at the event at the Boston Park Plaza. We were at the bar next to each other and I offered you a cocktail napkin for your glass of chardonnay. You smiled, and I melted. I saw you in the parking garage and wanted to pull over but I missed my chance and my ticket time was running out. I was driving down Clarendon Street last week and saw you walking but I couldn't stop because of the traffic. My heart was beating as I was pushed down the street by raged drivers in a hurry. I am very tall, and you gazed at me at the bar with a soft and sexy look that I will always remember. If you remember me, I await your e-mail so that we can meet again.
—RJD1219@att.net

To the Alleged Delicate Flower
You are disgusting. The skimpy clothes you wear would be unflattering enough on your rather large body if they fit, but your insistence on wearing clothes two sizes too small really churns our stomachs. Hint: No one enjoys seeing you adjust your pantyhose in public. Other things that you aren't (though you think you are): Witty, funny, classy, rich, or liked by many people.
—Disgusted co-worker

Federalist Powers
You were the dark-haired beauty in the window at the Federalist on April 24, around midnight. I was leaving as part of a group waiting for my jacket. We traded smiles several times and I wanted to come over but you had people at your table. I was taken by your smile and would love to chat.... If I read the signal right, drop me an e-mail.
—drb0086@hotmail.com

Beacon Hill Pubber
To the most beautiful girl I have ever seen: You were in the Beacon Hill Pub on April 6. You were with a group of guys, but I have a feeling that none of them are your boyfriend (at least, that's what I'm hoping). You were friends with the bartender and I heard you mention your work (are you a veterinarian?). I also overheard you talking about the Red Sox, and I have never known a girl who could tell you so much about a sport. Apparently, you were at the opening day game with the guys you were with. Anyway, you were wearing a Garciaparra T-shirt (it was glittery), had long brown hair and the most intoxicating eyes I have ever seen. I had the pleasure of making eye contact with you once in a while, but I was too chicken to talk to you, for fear a girl as cool as you would most certainly not want to speak to a snob like myself! At one point, you took off your sweatshirt, and I caught a glimpse of a tattoo on your lower back (it was very cute!) You also had a scar on your elbow, which someone pointed out, and you told them it gave you character. I agree! You smiled the whole night. You were definitely the coolest, cutest girl there...not like most of the Beacon Hill snobs. I fear that I will be forever kicking myself in the head for not introducing myself! Hopefully, you will see this and respond to it so I can accompany you to a Sox game!
—beaconhillsearch@yahoo.com

Krista
You were celebrating your 30th birthday at John Harvard's Brew House. I playfully commented on your birthday necklace, hoping for some sort of response. I got so much more than I bargained for—beautiful, earnestly sincere eyes...a warm and wonderful smile...an engaging, exquisitely memorable manner. I came back to find you, but you were long gone. If you see this, please send me an e-mail. I would welcome the opportunity to help you make this year as special as possible.
—Krista_Search@Hotmail.com

Rockie Horoscope

MAY 9 – 22, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Does the Birthday Bull want to know what lies ahead? How thrilled are you to learn that generous Jupiter goes back and forth in your money house for most of the rest of the year? However, so does restrictive, anxiety-ridden Saturn. If you plan on enjoying a spending spree, do it soon and avoid that guilty feeling. Once Jupiter gets to Cancer in July, traveling won't be as broadening, but the care and feeding of loved ones might be as fulfilling, maybe even more rewarding. Clambakes and cobblers to go? Ummm, it's a thought.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
One of your closer relationships might suddenly change focus after Mars in your Sagittarius marriage house turns retrograde on the 11th. If there's been friction between you, you'll be able to explore its source and do something besides talk about it. Martian action is far from subtle, so you're liable to be involved in experiences that'll either strengthen your bond or tear it apart. Meanwhile, transiting Mercury in Gemini increases the insights that'll come under review next month.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
The beatific Buddha full-moon festival on the 7th lays its message of serenity and infinite understanding on the Moon Child with a pretty heavy hand. You've been selected to hold significant others together if their work scene changes, debts pile up or an illness crops up as Mars flips. But don't assume you must make more sacrifices or stay in martyr mode much longer. With so much air-sign energy blowing fresh ideas every which way, you're free to bail without severing the ties that bind. And everyone manages to adjust.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Lions have become quite adept at releasing what you sense is already slipping away and not holding on, like you once did, until the bitter end. Therefore, when nebulous Neptune in Aquarius, your cosmic complement, changes direction on the 10th, it won't be that difficult to let go of a vision you shared with a partner or co-worker. Something more energetic, more physically beneficial will pick up the slack until your birthday comes around. For some it may be a sport; for others, another pastime just as thrilling.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Taurus time usually soothes the savage beast that lurks in the Virgin's breast. However, this year there's a lot of pressure bearing down from your Gemini midheaven (Where is the career going?) and the Sagittarius nadir (Where will this personal transformation take you?). While the earth-bound, pleasure-loving Taurus sun rewards some of the practical choices you've made, five planets in the other two signs are asking questions and making you nervous. Over the next two weeks your Mercury ruler should come up with a few answers.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
No effort necessary. You might have to adjust your attitude a bit when dealing with other people's resources, especially the Taurus', but other than that, nothing stands in the way of Librans who want to get high, rise above petty concerns, get away from the madding crowd and generally enjoy a swell time for the next two weeks. This lack of blood, sweat and tears comes courtesy of a sky filled with planets in air and fire signs, the elements that best support the Libran ethic: Make it, take it easy.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
You may not be able to put your finger on it, but after Neptune turns retrograde, you might notice a strange odor, sense a noxious presence in the neighborhood or suspect that something close to home isn't quite kosher. As your Mars co-ruler is also flipping, consider reviewing the financial records of the past few months, taking a slightly jaundiced look at what you've put out and what or whom you've brought into the house. This is the time to recoup losses, and like Aries, refine your vision. Cleaning the windows couldn't hurt, either.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
The big, wide, wonderful world out there might hold very little appeal since all the planets are currently below the line. However, anything generating any interest is probably confined to yourself, your values and assets; home and family; play, work and the people you do them with. Throw the occasional massage therapist into the pot, and there you have it, the first six houses of your solar chart. Mars going retrograde in your sign calls for repeating acts of courage, not reckless behavior.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
You won't entirely lose interest in the progress you've made artistically or in your spiritual development, but once Neptune stops moving forward on the 10th, you might choose to take the rest of the summer off to see what sort of fun you can have now that your Saturn ruler is in the playful sign of Gemini. But if you insist on keeping your nose to the grindstone—seen *Blow* yet?—don't take a vacation from therapy. Insightful Mars turns retrograde in your house of the unconscious, and that suggests excellent work along those lines.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Neptune turns around on the 10th, and while some say that outer planets don't have much of an effect when they are retrograde, you, especially if you were born on or about Jan. 28, are in a position to report otherwise. Will you become more of a spiritual being, more psychically attuned? Will the music you play get any worse, better or will you find something else, like sailing, to take its place? How about your drug and alcohol intake? Are you becoming obsessed with *The Hobbit* and Harry Potter movies? Let us know.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
You may as well read for all the signs since it's your Neptune ruler that's turning around and taking practically everybody else with it. Since Neptune flips each year around this time, you might not notice anything different—spring is spring; summer, summer; the friends are spaced-out, but oh-so-talented. Some may become downright spiritual and try to lead you down the same road. It's your affiliation with groups that is suspect, i.e., under Neptune's delusional influence, not what is in your head or heart.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Your career and/or reputation is about to veer off its current path, on to a more ambiguous, somewhat more artistic bend in the road. Having faith in yourself, your vision and your ability to manifest that vision is the test idealistic Neptune will put you through after the 10th. Mars flips the next day. Retrogression isn't necessarily regression. By taking advantage of opportunities to refine your vision, you can make noticeable progress. But will you be ready when Neptune changes focus again in Oct.?

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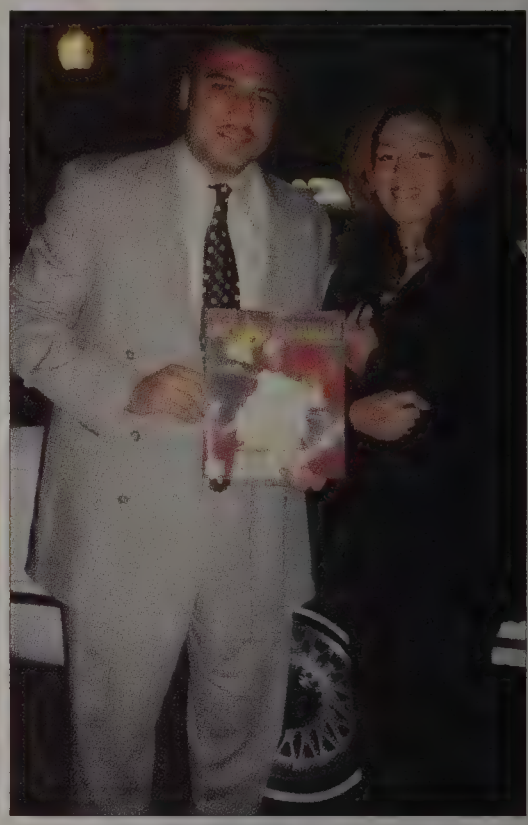
Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

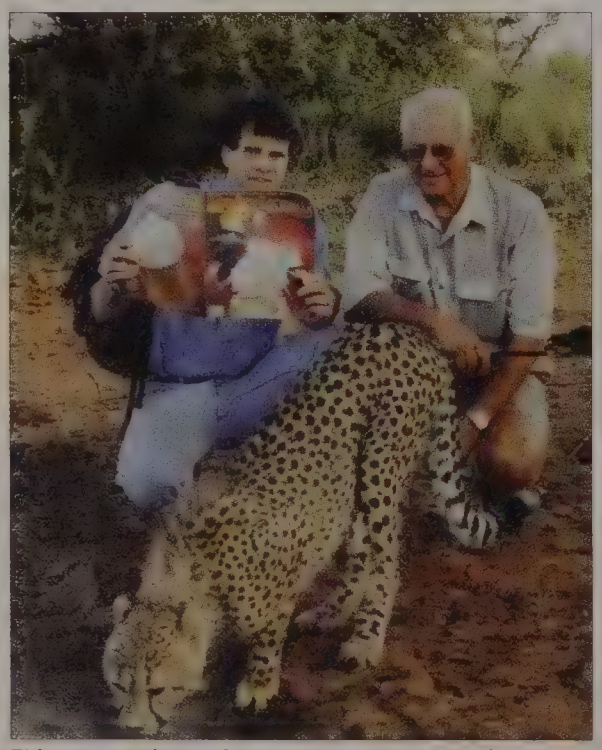
Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



From left to right: Sara Rowe, Anita De Hass, Laura Blom, Emma Orgill and Bethany Lemanski dressed as Mother Nature and the four seasons (isn't that a band?) for a night at Mardi Gras in New Orleans. Their costumes are impressive, but where are the beads?



WBA heavyweight champ Johnny Ruiz and his wife, Sahara, read up on Boston's hottest foods.



This cheetah is lapping from a muddy puddle in South Africa because Tom Tivnan (left) took away his Dew.



Kentucky Governor Paul Patton reads the IMPROPER when he's not at the Derby.



From left to right: Zvi Cole, Kelly Keys, Kim Pollard, Richard Snyder and Ben Abbadassa frolic beside the azure water at the only place in Cancun with no foam parties, Club Med.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:

Putting on some sweet sumowear and weighing in for competition at the Sumo Wrestling Championships, held May 13-27 at the Kokugikan Sumo Hall in Tokyo.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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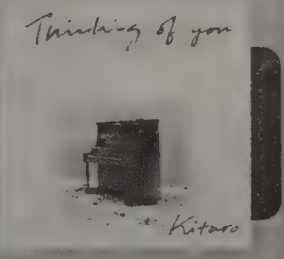
Come see Kitaro

in a very intimate and special setting as he celebrates the release of his new album, Ancient.



Meet and listen to the master of the new age movement
at a special in-store appearance on
Saturday, May 12 at 4 pm at
Borders Books & Music
10 – 24 School Street
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For more information, call the store or visit www.valley-entertainment.com

The Grammy® Award winner
for best new age album of
2000 – Thinking of You



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RECEPTIONIST

Reliable individual sought to manage front desk activities, including answering and screening phone calls, handling shipping and receiving, maintaining office equipment and supplies, as well as providing administrative support to the staff. The ideal candidate will be an organized, efficient, friendly, enthusiastic team player with a great sense of humor. PC/Mac proficiency, 50wpm, experience with Word, Excel and Filemaker required.

Send cover letter, resume and salary history to:

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
ATTN: HR
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor Boston, MA 02116-5143
or fax: 617.859.1446
or email: HR@improper.com

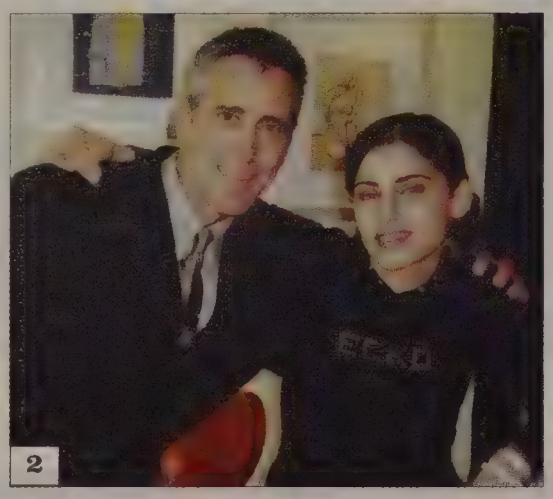
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

improperazzi

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, April 7, **Stars** on Huntington and **Kiss 108 FM** hosted an intimate gathering of Kiss 108 listeners for a private concert by Dreamworks Records recording artist Nelly Furtado.


1


2


3

1. Eatwell partners **Greg Acerra** and **Ed Kane** with **Nelly.**
2. Kiss 108's **Billy Costa** with **Nelly.**
3. **Nelly Furtado.**


1


2


3

On Thursday, April 19, Samantha House, fashion editor for **The Improper Bostonian,** held an art exhibit and hair show at **Maksou** Artisan and spa, featuring works by Charles Maksou (hair god) and Dave-O (visual rock star). Guests were wined and dined by **No.9 Park, Mantra** and **Brooklyn Brewery.**

1. Models **Heather, Andrea** and **Katie** for John Robert Powers as earth, water and fire. Body paint by Dave-O, hair by Charles Maksou.
2. **Dave-O** with one of his frame designs.
3. **Leila Tomey**, **Gabriel Frem** and **Charles Maksou.**

On Friday, April 13, **Viva Productions** and **Boston Models Inc**. hosted the first-ever fashion show at **Caprice**. The show displayed the lines of **Skindeep** and **Chanel**.


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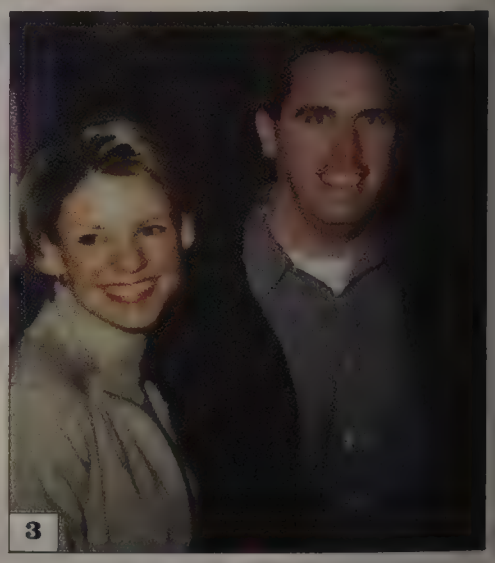
1. **Elisa Catalano** of Shivaya Productions; **AJ Castilla** of Boston Models Inc.; **Tamara Krause**, BMI's Talent director; **Raed Siddiqui**; and **Francesca Wright**, a BMI model.
2. **Lisa Demanche**, BMI model.
3. **Monesh Sajnani** with **April Maranhao.**


1

On April 12, Cindy Cornellier threw a fund-raiser at the **Times** for the **Avon Breast Cancer 3-Day Walk**, which will take place May 18 through 20. *www.breastcancer3day.org/.* Supporters enjoyed beverages and karaoke.

1. The Times owner **Frank Delaney** and event organizer **Cindy Cornellier.**
2. **Cathy Cornellier** and **Mike Adorno**.
3. **Traci Normandin** and **Mark Callahan.**


2


3

PHOTOS: STARS, KAREN DANA; MAKSOU, WENDY SEMONIAN; CAPRICE, KAREN DANA; THE TIMES, NICHOLAS KLENIATIS

For drinks, dinner, or music there are places to go.



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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am -1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week 11:30 am-2am.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

Watch City Brewing Co. *256 Moody St. Waltham 781-647-4000 Top* Ten Reasons To Visit Watch City: 10. At the top of Waltham's restaurant row 9. Easy access from Rt.128 & Masspike 8. Free parking 7. The Embassy Cinema next door 6. Award winning chef & brewers 5. www.watchcitybrew.com 4. Live music Wed & Thurs. nights 3. Great grilled seafood, steaks & burgers 2. Only female owned brew pub in USA 1. Great beers, great food, always a great time.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also of-

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GENERAL

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Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ'snightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and world
class margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a co-worker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample
favorites as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Located at 199 Clarendon St. at Copley Square. Indulge yourself with our delicious Smoked Salmon and Caviar Tasting served on a warm corn blini, or our Fresh Crab Pie made with eggs and jack cheese. Do not forget to sample our award-winning clam chowder. Validated parking available. Reservations accepted. Call 617-536-3500.

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The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF







At Avalon, top: Patrick Lyons (center) with friends. Inset: John Rosenthal.

SISTERS ARE DOIN' IT FOR THEMSELVES...

At one time, the Ladies Who Lunch tended to be well-heeled, beautifully coiffed, perfectly manicured and impeccably dressed human poodles who measured their days in social engagements and the various activities required to look flawless. These days, they're more apt to be corporate executives, lawyers with full dockets, or other high-powered professionals who have to juggle work commitments and hectic schedules to attend an event like the annual luncheon to benefit the **Women's Cancers Program** at the **Dana-Farber**.



At the Copley Plaza, clockwise from top left: Randy Cutler and Sara Edwards; Lily and Susan Poduska; Suki de Braganca; Trudi Feinstein, Susan Poduska and Albert Kriemler.

Of course, most of the women who turned out at the **Copley Plaza** for the luncheon and **Akris** fashion show were perfectly turned out, in Akris, Armani, Escada or something comparably *comme il faut*. However, most of them are also dizzyingly busy, and their attendance at such a charming anachronism is a testament to both the importance of the cause and the fact that even among powerful, highly accomplished women, it's true that sometimes girls just wanna have fun.







More From the Dana Farber party, from top: Models strutted in Akris fashions from Neiman-Marcus; Frances Moseley; Amy Berylson, Susan Smith, Debra Knez and Dana Smith.

Prominent among the attendees: Breast-cancer activist **Susan Smith** and her CEO husband, **Dick**, their daughters, **Amy Berylson**, **Debra Knez**, and **Dana Smith**, mega-philanthropist **Susan Poduska** and her daughter, **Lily**, United Way head **Marian Heard**, crusading M.D. **Trudi Feinstein**, co-chair **Amy Reiner**, force of nature **Frances Moseley** of State Street Global, the exquisite **Liz Harris**, Channel 7 entertainmentatrix **Sara Edwards** and the station's publicist, **Ro Dooley**, breath of fresh air **Suki de Braganca**, former Armani doyenne **Donna Montgomery**, brunette bombshell **Kelly Verrochi**, Boston Ballet board chair **Susan Friedman**, silver-haired fox **Pam Humphrey**, the enchanting **Randy Cutler** and her mother-in-law, **Joan**, Parks Commissioner **Justine Liff**, effervescent Boys and Girls Clubs functionary **Jill Bode Goldweitz**, the eternally chic **Dena Hamilburg**, Akris designer **Albert Kriemler**, and honoree **Diana Golden**, whose speech about living with cancer had everyone dabbing at their eyes even as they were laughing. Golden was this year's recipient of the **Susan F. Smith Inspiration Award**.

As for the runway presentation, it featured various permutations of the sexy librarian/flight attendant/school girl/dominatrix looks and elicited appreciative oohs and ahhs, along with a few smart-aleck remarks.

"I'm just impressed that the models can walk in those heels," said one woman. "If I tried to, there'd be a lawsuit."

HELLO, DRAGONBREATH...

It may seem odd that a bunch of people raising the roof and gorging themselves could benefit people who don't have a roof over their heads or know where their next meal is coming from, but the 14th annual **Beyond Shelter** benefit at **Avalon**, to raise money for **Friends of Boston's Homeless**, proves it's so.

It's quite possibly the best party of the year, and I'm not just saying that because I was the host. OK, maybe I am, a little bit, but it was still a helluva good time, with a drool-inducing buffet provided by 27 local restaurants, a shopaholic's wet dream of a silent auction, a major big raffle, and combustible tunes courtesy of the **Infractions** along with the **Happenin' Horns**.

On-hand for the festivities were such local notables as real estate mag-daddy **John Rosenthal**, bachelor-about-town **Tedd Saunders**, nightclub kingpin **Patrick Lyons**, Back Bay nabob **Bob Palmer**, the exquisitely lovely **Rita Lulla**, restaurateurs **Frank Bell**, **Gordon Hamersley** and **Jim Apteker**, advertising honcho **Erik Soderstrom**, smiley venture capitalist **Paul Nechipurenko**, fashionista **Susanne Frodigh**, hale and hearty party boy **Gregg Norjian**, the bubbly blonde **Carla Blakeley**, and Mass Interactive Media Council minx **Kiki Mills**, to name a few.

Besides eating and drinking, there was dancing and schmoozing, and everyone left looking fat and happy. In fact, the only downside to an otherwise perfect evening was the preponderance of spicy foods combined with the lack of breath mints in the bathroom. **IB**





Also at Avalon, from top: Frank Bell; Gordon Hamersley and Steve Grossman; Rita Lulla and Bob Palmer.

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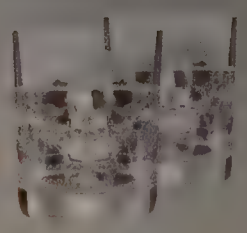
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Contents

MAY 23-JUNE 5, 2001



18
Unusual requests, such as securing an incubator for ostrich eggs, are all in a day's work for Boston's concierges. Below: John Williams; fashion goes behind the catwalk.

FEATURES

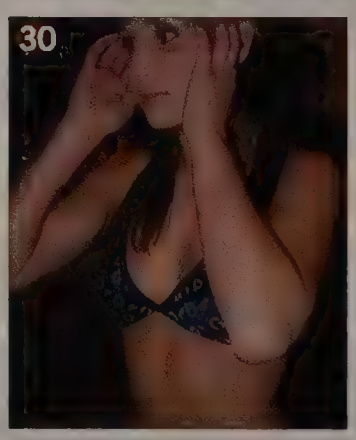
16 Soroff/On John Williams
Conductor/composer John Williams, whose film credits include such canonical scores as *Jaws* and *Star Wars*, discusses how he makes music and where he's going next. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 At Your Service
From babysitting an elephant to procuring sold-out concert tickets, no task is too Herculean for Boston's concierges. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

25 Hidden Treasures
Beyond the mummies and John Singer Sargents, four local curators reveal their favorite objets d'art in their respective museums.
BY ERIN HAGEDORN

30 Fashion: Behind the Scene
Ever wonder what goes on beyond the catwalk at a fashion show? We take an IMPROPER look at Boston's quick-change artists—and the clothes that they manage to slip into in less time than it takes to say "Ermenegildo Zegna." PHOTOGRAPHS BY JIM KALAMBOKIS


16


30



On the Cover:
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COLUMNS

6 The Word
MBTA cares; The Place sports an intriguing video; Dustin Hoffman gets hungry; Fort Point artists protest; pricing pedicures

10 E-Boston
2001 is here, but HAL 9000-like artificial intelligence is not.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
The flat truth about Colorado.
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

36 Mopsy
Yellow; how to rescue a greyhound; Carmen's Veranda
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

52 Film
Despite an all-star cast that includes Mike Myers and Eddie Murphy, *Shrek* falls flat.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

64 Music
Maybe Bono's been listening to Nirvana lately, because U2's bringing a heart-shaped box to Boston.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

88 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

38 Dining
Grill 23 "steaks" its claim as one of the city's pre-eminent purveyors of all that is meat.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

40 Dish
Streetside seating surcharge; a farewell to Fathman?
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

40 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Culinary cookoff.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

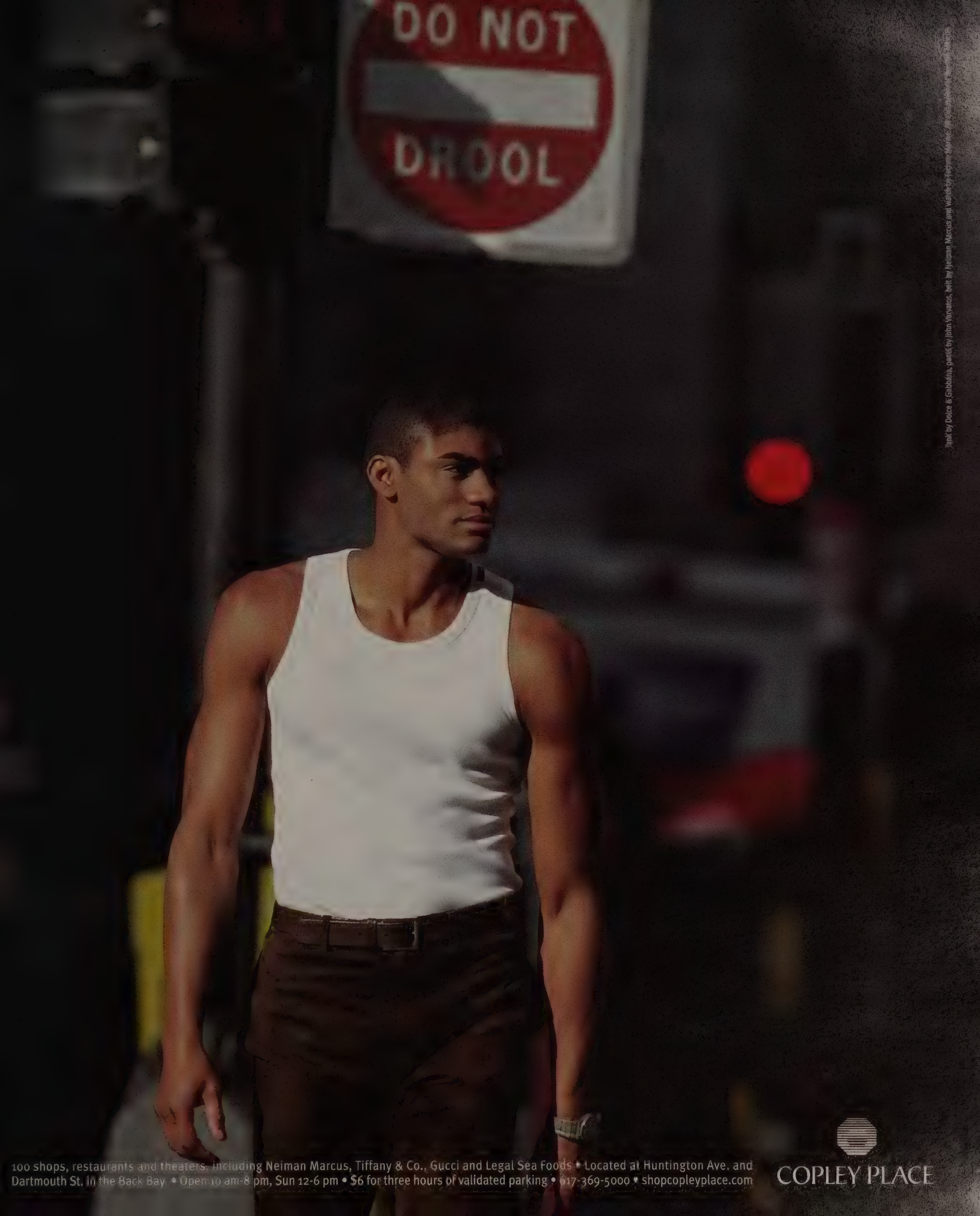
The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 43.
The Dictators • Jazz in June film series • WBCN Rumble finals • Laura Owens exhibition at the Gardner museum • **Mogwai** • Fellini films at the HFA • *Swing!* • Italian Car Day at the Museum of Transportation • *The Amen Corner*

ET CETERA

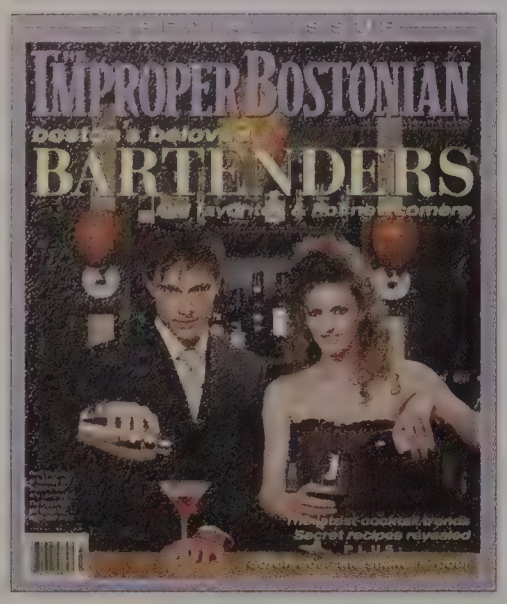
Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	80
Rockie Horoscope	80
Improperazzi	84
Improper Sightings	82
Classifieds	86

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TOP TO BOTTOM: TRACY POWELL; BACHRACH; JIM KALAMBOKIS


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letters



A ROUND FOR US, THEN?

The special Bartenders issue was awesome! I've met so many incredible people, and my drinks are selling like crazy. Thanks, IMPROPER, for helping make one of my dreams come true.

—ALLY LAWRENCE
Quincy

EZRA DYER DISORDER (EDD)

In response to Ezra's article in the last issue, I was humored (as usual) and actually have an addition to your Sensory Integration Disorder: Have you ever experienced leaving the hair stylist (I am going to assume that Ezra has had his hair cut before) and you find yourself spending the rest of the day searching for that one random hair that has managed to find its way down the back of your shirt? Just thought I would add that. On another note, though, I have to tell you that I have worked with kids who actually *have* a disorder similar to what you described. Now, I cannot imagine that they read this magazine, so I am certainly not accusing you of offending anyone, but take it from me, it is the worst possible thing to see happening to a child. We had one child who would have to stand on his head because he was so hypersensitive to things. So, even though Ezra is absolutely hysterical (just to give him a little ego boost, considering what I just wrote), I felt it was my obligation to enlighten you.

—STACEY KIMMEL
Via e-mail

CUSTOMER DISSERVICE

I read Geoffrey James' E-Boston column regarding customer-service issues. I used his "formula" to contact FleetBank because I was having such a horrendous problem with them and their service, and I received an *immediate* response and reaction from them. Thank you so much for the advice! Next I will tackle Dell Computer Corp. for selling me a system with Windows ME loaded, for customer service-reps who actually laughed at me when I called for help figuring out what my problem was, and for having a customer service team where no one gives you the same answer as the person you spoke with the last time you called them!

Thanks for sharing your knowledge.

—ANNA M. VANNI
Via e-mail

CLEAN AS HE WANTS TO BE

I just finished reading Ezra's article on the FCC's new standards and would like to comment briefly on two points he brought up:

First, many people have remarked with total amazement about how truly antediluvian our attitudes toward what is natural and healthy are, compared with the rest of the world. For the most part, our capricious, arbitrary, extremely questionable ratings systems tend to accomplish little and show us and everyone else how juvenile and ludicrous some of our attitudes really are. When the Miramax releases *Priest* and *The Advocate* were going to be shown here, the raters and censors cut them to ribbons and then rated them "R." Maybe that should have been the right rating. But why, then, were these films (and probably many others) shown on foreign television where parents were allowed by themselves to decide who was and was not an "appropriate" audience? Why, pray tell, were *Medium Cool* and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* both rated "X?" The maker of *Kids* became so teed off that he finally withdrew his film from the ratings board and allowed parents and the owners of individual theaters to decide who could see this raw, realistic, controversial classic.

> "FOR THE MOST PART, OUR CAPRICIOUS, ARBITRARY RATINGS SYSTEMS TEND TO ACCOMPLISH LITTLE AND SHOW US AND EVERYONE ELSE HOW JUVENILE AND LUDICROUS OUR ATTITUDES ARE."
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> —*DAVID DAUGMAN*
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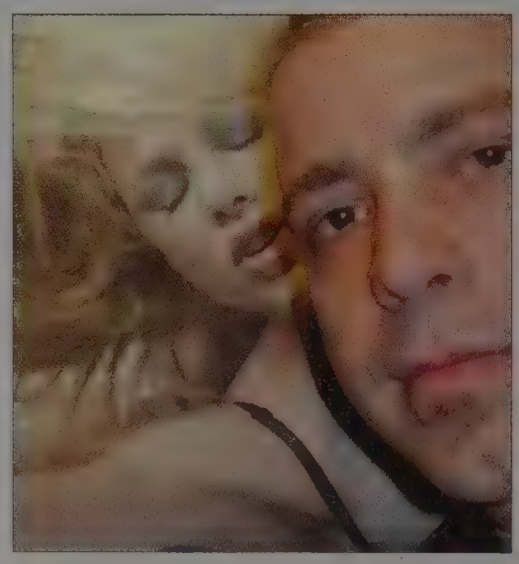
Second, do you think that the frigging cockamamie censors will ever censor or restrict the real obscenities on the airwaves, the virulent vitriol spewed forth daily by the sick, twisted, zealous, Puritannical hate-mongers in our midst? Why are racial slurs not considered four-letter "filth"?

—DAVID DAUGMAN
Waltham

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JIM KALAMBOKIS

Jim Kalambokis is a local Web designer and photographer based in the Fort Point Channel area of Boston. When he's not building Web sites, Jim is chronicling parties and events with his digital camera. Jim captures his subjects from interesting angles and offers a revealing glimpse of these oft-photographed shin-digs. His images are regularly posted on his Web site, *www.jimkal.com/journal/*.
You can also see a sample of Jim's photos right now by turning to this issue's Behind the Scene feature, which starts on page 30.



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NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

CURRY IN A HURRY

With the exception of Inman Square's Punjabi Daba, one hardly thinks of the adjectives "fast," "delicious" and "cheap" when referring to local Indian fare. Typically, you have to pay at least $12 a dish. Until now. Yogi Sood and his wife, Vijay, have just opened **Gourmet India** restaurant in a space recently vacated by Fresh City Wraps in Coolidge Corner. Its tag line: "Not fast food, it's gourmet food fast."


Gourmet India owner Yogi Sood

The second in what Sood hopes will be a mini-chain of mini-restaurants (the first is at the Burlington Mall), Gourmet India offers a wide (and rotating) selection of Northern Indian specialties—from the obligatory chicken tikka masala and lamb vindaloo to saag paneer and homemade naan—all made from scratch using Yogi and Vijay's own recipes. Don't be fooled by the cafeteria-style setup. The piping-hot dishes are some of the best we've had—and the prices are unbeatable. Entrees range from $5.35 to $6.45—and happily enough, the prices are the same for lunch and dinner. Vijay herself will dish you up a combo meal with basmati rice or one of 11 freshly baked breads, including a delectable naan layered with spinach and homemade cheese. As Sood says, "We make a special effort not to compromise quality. You don't have to spend $30 to $40 to get a quality meal." *1335 Beacon St., Brookline (734-3971). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.*

FILM

MOVIE MADNESS

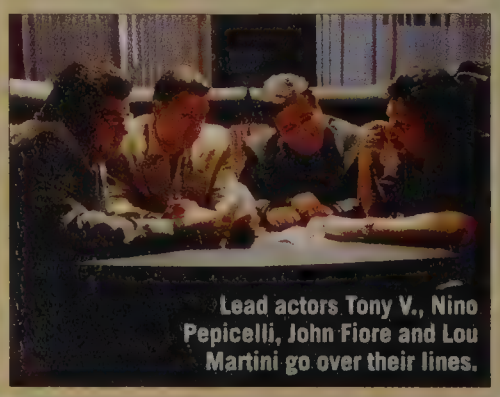
The film *Abacadabra* has attracted local cinematic talent from a variety of places. Patrick Joyce (a Brookline dentist) and Joseph Conforti (a commercial airline pilot) wrote the script for the movie, which is being shot in the North End and in Lowell. It stars John Fiore (of *Sopranos* fame), Milton-bred actress Tara O'Brien, local comedian Tony V, Nino Pepicelli (*All My Children, The Young and the Restless*) and Lou Martini (national spokesman for the Olive Garden). North End designer Denise Hajjar made the costumes.

Meanwhile, it seems the oldest Wahlberg brother is poised for stardom. Robert Wahlberg (bro of Mark and Donnie) has been busy. He's one of the stars of the film *Orphan* (shot in '99), which will be at this year's Nantucket Film Festival June 20 through 24. Directed by Richard Moos, *Orphan* also stars two up-and-coming actors—Belfast-born Marty Maguire and Charis Michelsen (who had a bit part in *Wonder Boys*). And last week he took some time off from shooting Brad Siberlin's Disney film *Baby's in Black* (in which he has a small role) on the North Shore to kick back with a Southie buddie, one of our staffers, Moos and his wife at a sneak preview being held at an IMPROPER friend's apartment.


Robert Wahlberg


A scene from *Abracadabra* in which lead actress Tara O'Brien performs in a nightclub.

Speaking of *Baby's in Black* stars, the film's lead, Dustin Hoffman, was seen air conducting in an aisle seat at Symphony Hall during a BSO concert. When not pretending to conduct, he's been enjoying the cuisine at Terramia in North End. Chef Joe Tinerella tells us that Hoffman, who has traveled all over Italy, said he has rarely had a better meal. *—Erin Hagedorn*


Lead actors Tony V., Nino Pepicelli, John Fiore and Lou Martini go over their lines.


The Palandjian brothers recently unveiled the name of their new luxury hotels: Nine Zero; to the right, a model of what the rooms will look like.

CITYSCAPE

HOTEL BOOM

Why use clunky old words when no-nonsense numerals can create stylish, streamlined monikers? When it comes to naming area restaurants and hotels, there's no doubt numerals are en vogue. There's 711, Tremont 647, 75 Chestnut, Grill 23, 29 Newbury. As for hotels, there's the elegant XV Beacon, and come next spring, another boutique luxury hotel, named Nine Zero, will open its doors.

It's dapper real estate moguls Paul and Peter Palandjian who are behind Nine Zero, which will be a four-star, full-service hotel with 190 rooms. "We're pouring a floor every five or six days," says Peter enthusiastically of the sleek, chic building, designed by Cambridge-based Tsoi/Kobus & Associates. Now that the name has been selected, the next task is to decide which up-and-coming chef will rule the roost in the hotel's signature restaurant. (As for design, word has it that diners will be able to view the culinary staff hard at work through a giant glass wall.) Paul, who has taken on Nine Zero as a pet project, says, "This city needs a hotel that reflects its newfound image as a modern, high-tech, cosmopolitan city with amenities, services and style that's equal to those of the world's most sophisticated cities like New York, Los Angeles and London." Sounds good to us.

Like tiny red plastic hotels popping up on a Monopoly board, Nine Zero is just one of many hotels-in-the-works right now—a welcome thing considering how desperately Boston needs rooms. Boston-Cambridge has experienced a boom in hotel occupancy rates recently; last year, 79 percent of rooms were filled, and visitors increased by 8.4 percent. Beyond this trend, when the new convention center opens in 2003, the need for rooms will increase. When Nine Zero officially unveiled its name at a ceremony a few weeks back, Mayor Menino in his gracious, um, unpretentious way, welcomed the new Tremont hotel and the hotel boom in general, noting that 12,000 hotel rooms are in the works and 4,200 more are planned.

Of the many hotels opening or in the planning stages, a 464-room Boston Marriott Quincy Hotel opened May 15. And perhaps you've seen the two towers rising on Tremont Street; come August, this will be the second Ritz-Carlton in town. Dubbed the Ritz-Carlton Boston Common, these towers will have 193 luxury suites and rooms, in addition to 309 condominiums, a few extended-stay apartments, the Sports Club/LA and a 19-screen Loews Cineplex. And on the horizon for the Palandjian power brothers, another downtown luxury hotel, at 1 Court Street in the old Ames Building, which should have about 150 rooms. We can only wonder: Will this simply be called "One"? *—Rachel Strutt*

TRANSPORTATION

RIDE ON

It's been three months since the MBTA posted its Customer Bill of Rights, an ambitious initiative that urges commuters to "write to the top" with complaints and concerns. The new program pledges exemplary customer service and guarantees a timely response from top-level management. We decided to test this promise when one of our interns, Nicole Gauvin, experienced a Blue Line headache—namely, the brain-busting screech trains make as they travel through State Street station. So Gauvin sent an e-mail to Blue Line Chief **Lisa Bono**. And lo and behold, within a day she received a polite response explaining the friction of wheels against the steel track and outlining a plan that calls for new, quieter Blue Line cars by May 2005. The new Bill of Rights also promises that commuters will receive a complimentary fare if service is delayed by more than 30 minutes. Gauvin tested this too. When the Blue Line was late one day, she filled out a card and dropped it into a reply box at the station. Within a few weeks, she received two free tokens in the mail. For that kind of follow-through, we give the T an A. *—Susan Abbattista*

TOP LEFT: WENDY MIMRAN; ABRACADBRA (2): OLIVIA HANLEY

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ARTS

PRIME TIME ART

Cynthia von Buhler, Allston's beloved, eccentric artist, has become something of a hit in New York too. Her paintings are being shown in the Big Apple at a new art gallery, Arcadia Fine Arts. And that's not all—her Egyptian paintings are plastered on buses, billboards and even on a wallscape on Madison Ave. and 43rd—a full block long. The series depicts Egyptians in modern-day settings, like riding buses and doing construction work. The works were commissioned by the History Channel as advertisements for their program *Egypt: Beyond the Pyramids* (airing May 28 and 29, 9pm). You can also see them in magazines like *Smithsonian, Discover* and *Time*. Her local showplace, The Dietrich Gallery, is at 16 Ashford Street, Allston (783-242).—*Erin Hagedorn*



Mass transit Egyptians (above) and detail

IMPROPER REPORTS

PRICING PEDICURES



It's finally sandal season again (never wear them before Memorial Day, reminds Miss Manners). Need pretty feet?
Candela Day Spa & Salon, *28 Arlington St., Boston* **$50**
Maksou Day Spa, *125 Broad St., Boston* **$40**
Giacomo and Rondi, *539 Comm. Ave., Boston* **$38**
Hollywood Top Nails, *585 Columbus Ave., Boston* **$23**
Sunny Nails, *843 Mass. Ave., Cambridge* **$23**
Nouveau Nails, *5 Babcock St., Brookline* **$20**

SPORTS & LEISURE

PLACE IN HISTORY



Bob Lobel

A new Financial District sports-bar-cum-dance-club called **The Place** has a hook that differentiates it from the pantheon of drinking establishments: a 15-minute video that sets memorable Boston sports moments to music. The video debuted at The Place's grand opening, and the following Sunday Bob Lobel showed it on his *Sports Final* program. Based on the number calls to WBZ asking for a repeat showing or a copy of the tape, it was a success. Unfortunately, from now on the only place you'll be able to see the video is The Place.

The producers have included both the highs and the lows that have defined Boston sports. The opening clips are familiar highlights—Fisk waving fair, Flutie going deep, Orr going horizontal—but later on, we get Yaz dejectedly kicking the dirt in front of the Monster after Bucky Dent's home run, and an image of Reggie Lewis flits past as the "sing for the tears" portion of Aerosmith's "Dream On" plays. "We just sat down here one night and tried to come up with about 400 of the most important Boston sports moments," says Fox 25 weekend sports anchor **Butch Stearns**, who helped decide what should be included. "Then we set out to find the tapes for as much of it as we could." The video appears quite thorough, but die-hard sports fans will doubtlessly have a few "I can't believe you didn't include..." comments. Along those lines, the most obvious omission is purely intentional: Bill Buckner is conspicuous by his absence. Defining or not, perhaps some moments belong in the past. The video plays every night at 6:45pm and again around midnight. —*Ezra Dyer*

URBAN LANDSCAPE

GUERRILLA ART

On May 23 and 30, artist Margaret Tittemore will serve a free lunch to diners in the Fort Point neighborhood. She's calling her event Art Is Like Food, You Can't Live Without It—and as you'd expect from one of New England's most established artist communities, this lunch has a dual purpose: It will provide a meeting ground for residents, business leaders and city officials to discuss the fate of the Fort Point neighborhood in the face of economic development.

For the past 25 years, about 500 artists have lived and worked in this area. But as their leases expire, there's a sense that due to skyrocketing rents, landlords may choose not to renew leases, and that the artists will be left homeless. So for nearly two years, the Fort Point Cultural Coalition (FPCC), made up of the Fort Point Arts Community, Mobius, the Revolving Museum, the New England Foundation for the Arts and Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts, has been talking to real estate owners and city officials "to create a public and civic consensus to secure affordable long-term live/work space," says Jed Speare of Mobius. "We'd like to relocate the entire community within the community." The downturn in the market may work in the organization's favor. In the meantime, the FPCC continues its quest for 500,000 square feet of workspace by holding a series of public art events from now until September that will respond to the current commercialization, economic development and gentrification of the Fort Point neighborhood. The most recent was the sodding of the Summer Street Bridge on May 14, which had local businessfolks prancing on the grass with bare feet. *www.saveourstudios.org.*—*Julie Short*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

02 AND MORE

•Having heard the ear-shattering buzz about the popularity of Aria's infamous Fashion House nights, a television crew from the Travel Channel will fly in from Los Angeles to tape a segment there at midnight on May 31. Feel free to stop by and see the gorgeously clad models wearing the fashions of designers Anthony Ferrara (known for his metal mesh dresses and tops) and Nicole Romano (a former designer for Nicole Miller).
•Talk about hangover relief. Avalon just opened their Oxygen Bar (O-Bar) on May 18. The $9-a-pop breath-of-fresh-air is available anytime—flavored oxygen dispensed through sterile, disposable nose clips in five-minute hits. "We want our customers to be happy and healthy," explains director of Lansdowne Street clubs Steve Adelman.
•Word on the street is that the former Good Life-turned-St. Botolph Restaurant has been sold to developer Paul Roiff and may assume its final incarnation as condominiums. Judging from the location's success (or, sadly, lack thereof), this may be a more suitable tenant.
•Ever fantasized about being 007—or perhaps a Bond Girl? Here's your chance. James Bond's 2001 black BMW Z8 from *The World Is Not Enough* is on sale at Herb Chambers on Comm. Ave. For a mere $170,000, it can be yours.
—*Erin Hagedorn and Julie Short*

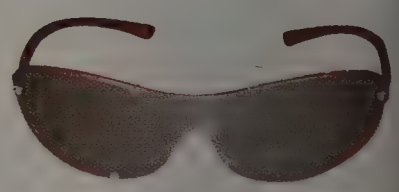
SAM SAYS

WRAP IT UP

For those in the market for sunglasses, I offer you some simple criteria. Numero uno: shape. Long faces look best in wide rims; round faces in larger frames; and oval faces look great in just about anything. This season, vibrant colors are in, so choose a pink or red or blue to go with your bathing suit (**Saks** offers a rainbow of hues). There's also the trend factor. Are you a fashion slave or a lover of classics? If you fall into the first category, like moi, check out the sleek wrap-arounds that are cut from one piece of glass or plastic (shown at right). When it comes to price, there are great knock-offs these days so even someone with a limited budget can be a fashion diva (I found some fab designer-like fare at **Arden B.** and **H&M** recently). —*Samantha House*



Gucci: $180



Arden B: $48



Chanel: $220

THE DISSED LIST

MAY THE BEST SCHMOOSER WIN

Power corrupts. And for those with the lease to a gorgeous, three-bedroom South End apartment, absolute power corrupts absolutely. A friend, desperate for a room, answered a classified for the said room in the South End. Cheap, great location, two decent-sounding roommates. The catch? Interested renters had to attend their applicant party—a night when the roommates opened their doors, set out a slew of cocktails, turned on the tunes and sat back while hordes of lost-looking people wandered about in hopes of selling themselves to the roommates. What followed can only be described as a wacky apartment-seeking version of *The Real World, Survivor* style. The trick, of course, was finding the roommates in the crowd of minglers and then talking them up—a feat that was decidedly not worth it. Sure the apartment was beautiful—but worth your pride? Forget it. But hey, guys—thanks for the drinks. —*Erin Hagedorn*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to *theword@improper.com*.


ANNO 1366
STELLA ARTOIS
ANNO 1366
LEUVEN BELGIUM

Artificial Intelli-Dense

Despite the explosion in computing power, HAL 9000 is still science fiction

The Internet is awash with tidbits about Steven Spielberg's forthcoming epic, *AI (Artificial Intelligence)*. Based upon the trailer (which I viewed via my DSL link), *AI* is about a robot that wants to be human. If this plot line sounds familiar, it's probably because this is one of the great clichés of science fiction. I thought that the smarmy *Millennium Man* had already milked this concept of all its treacle, but Spielberg has upped the sugar quotient by making his robot a little boy who "just wants to be loved," to paraphrase the trailer. Warning: This movie could endanger the health of diabetics.

This obsession with cutesy robots turning into humans probably has some deep psychological meaning, but it only makes me wish for the old-time sci-fi movies where robots kicked butt instead of trying to learn how to grow one. For example, in Fritz Lang's silent classic *Metropolis*, (1927) the robot—a zaftig babe that resembled a bondage hooker with an armor fetish—was pictured as the ultimate triumph of science over mankind and, in one memorable dream sequence, is depicted as the whore of Babylon who heralds the end of the world.

In *The Day the Earth Stood Still* (1951), a flying saucer lands by the reflecting pool in Washington, D.C., causing enormous crowds to gather. Then an alien dressed in a silver suit comes out of the saucer, provoking vast interest among the spectators; one unimpressed soldier even takes a pot shot at him. At that point, a robot emerges. The robot is dressed just like the alien, only with a metal mask, but the crowd immediately panics, with everyone trampling one another in their haste to get away.

(Come to think of it, that's what I want to do when I think about the idea of going to see the movie *AI*.)

Anyway, back in the '50s and '60s, robots were invariably depicted as terrifying creatures, barely under control of the mad scientists who created them. Even the sidekick robot in the TV show *Lost in Space* (1965-1968) was originally a villain, and it tried to destroy the spaceship and its passengers in the series pilot.

Back then, the only thing scarier than a robot was a computer that actually thought it was human. Who could forget the cyclopean presence of HAL 9000 in *2001: A Space Odyssey*, (1968) speaking as softly as a calculated serial killer while he neatly eliminated his crew members. And then there was the far less memorable *Colossus the Forbin Project* (1969), where two gigantic computers (one in the United States, the other in Moscow) decide that they are better qualified to run the world than us puny humans.

Sometime in mid-70s, however, people decided that robots weren't scary anymore, and by the time *Stars Wars* (1977) hit the screen, you could barely find a sci-fi film without a crowd of cutesy-ass robots. It was also about that time that personal computers began to get popular, and soon everybody (except for scary fanatics like Ted Kaczinsky) realized that computers weren't going to "fold, spindle and mutilate" anybody.

It was also around the mid-'70s that large numbers of computer scientists started talking about artificial intelligence for real. I remember reading the first articles in popular science journals predicting that, within 25 years, computers would be smarter than humans and would even be allowed to vote as citizens. Very cool stuff to think about, even though at the time the only thing that computers could do that resembled human intelligence was to recognize letters on a page (badly) and a few hundred spoken words (barely).

A few months ago, I came across an article in *Discover* magazine predicting that within 50 years, computers will be smarter than humans and will be able to vote as citizens. Still very cool stuff to think about, until you notice that the only thing that computers can do today that resembles human intelligence is to recognize letters on a page (badly) and a few spoken hundred words (barely).

Yes, folks, despite the fact that computers are millions of times more powerful than they were in 1975, and despite the fact that there are millions more computers now than there were in 1975, and despite the fact that millions of people-hours have been expended in an attempt to make computers more human, we're basically stuck where we were back in 1975, as far as artificial intelligence goes.

I recently got into a dinner-table argument with a former lecturer at MIT about this subject. I pointed out that the complete lack of progress in AI suggested that we might never achieve generalized AI—in the sense of a computer thinking as a human does. He went absolutely ballistic at this suggestion. "Brains are just meat machines," he said. "Computers will eventually be just like humans." After a while I agreed just to shut him up; after all, he was spouting book and verse from the gospel according to Bill Gates.

Imagine my pleasure when I opened the current issue of *Discover* and learned that my viewpoint on artificial intelligence is shared by the world's foremost futurist, James Martin, the guy who predicted the Internet back in 1975 and now receives $35,000 a day to tell CEOs where the high-tech world is going. Martin believes that generalized artificial intelligence is a crock and that, while computers will get more sophisticated, they'll remain essentially as they are today—fancy gadgets that do what we tell them to do.

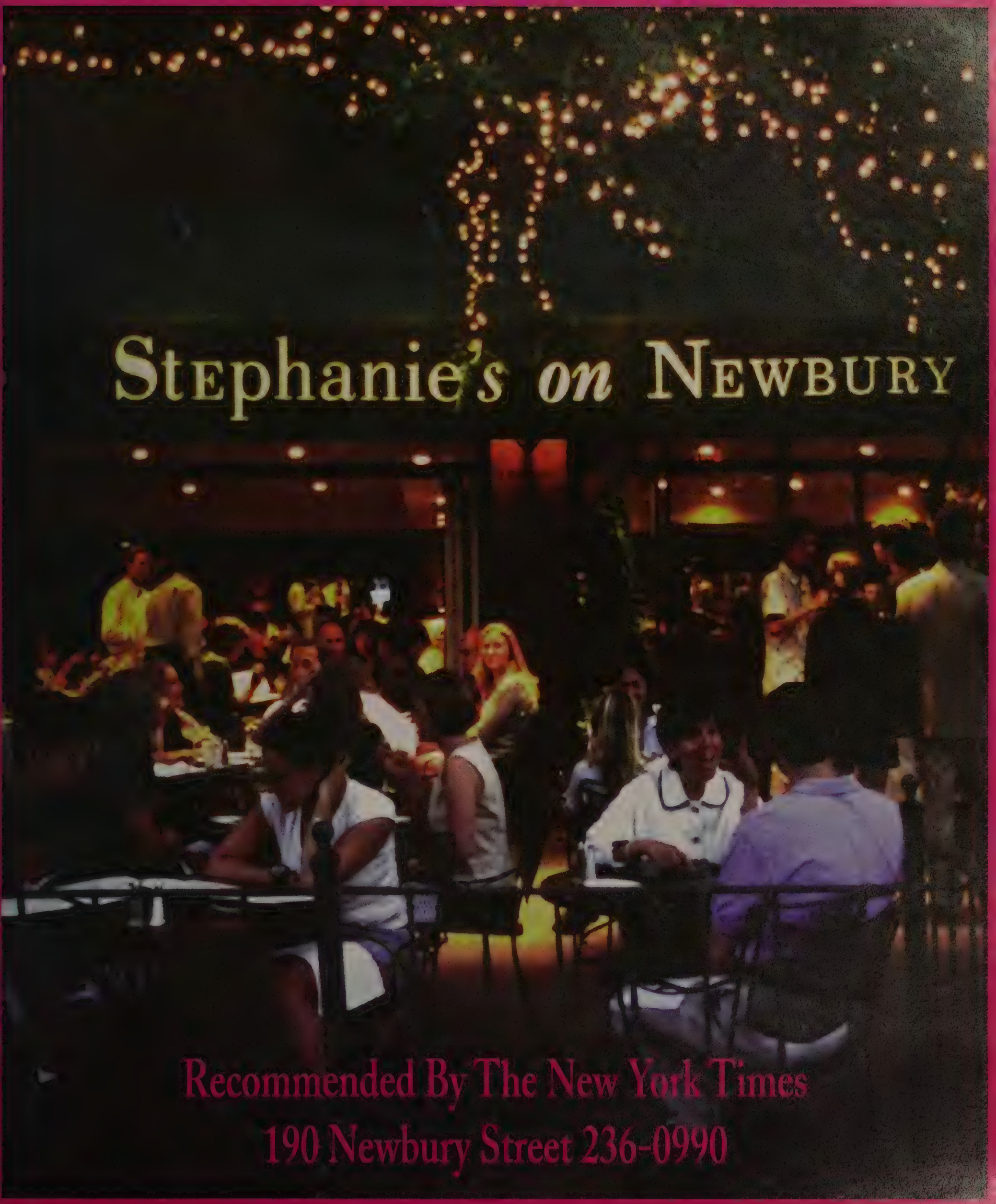
The more I think about it, the more I realize it's a good thing that computers aren't going to turn into humans, because by the time we wade through the syrup in Spielberg's latest epic, the last thing that we'll want to deal with is some freakin' robot complaining that it won't be fulfilled unless it learns how to suffer from acne. iB

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.



In Steven Spielberg's upcoming *AI (Artificial Intelligence)*, the star robot is a little boy—a far cry from many science fiction movies in the pre-Pentium era.

DAVID JAMES


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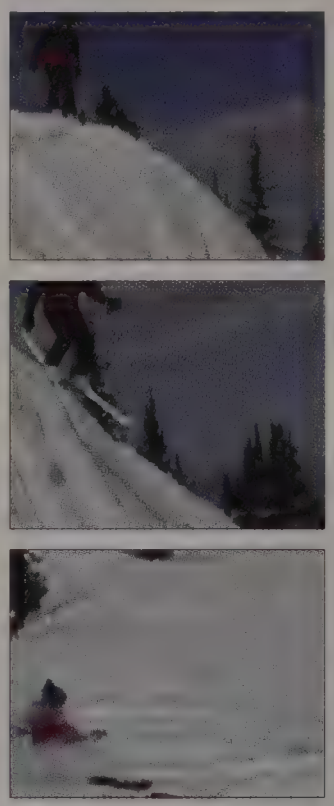
Ezra BY EZRA DYER

Altitude Sickness

A bad skier goes to Colorado

In eighth grade, my class at Jefferson Village School in Maine took a trip. We headed for the nearest major population center, a place that would enrich us all with the cornucopia of cultural opportunities that abound in a modern metropolis. Yes, we headed to Malden. The Town Line Inn, specifically. After we checked in, we continued on to Boston, but for many of us the culture shock started right there. For instance, I recall my roommate pulling open a bureau drawer and exclaiming "Hey, somebody left a bible in here!" I then felt superior, because, having stayed in hotels before, I knew that Gideon left the bible there.

Today I fancy myself a man of the world, but as far as this country goes, I'm still at the "somebody left a bible in here" stage of the game. My experience with the western states has been largely limited to the Wild West section of the Magic Kingdom and playing the Oregon Trail computer game in elementary school. And even then, I never made it past the Snake River because I'd either capsize my wagon on a botched stream crossing or die of dysentery. So I finally committed a few vacation days and took a trip to Colorado.



Ezra executes the "Iron Yeti."

I was ostensibly in Colorado to ski, but I was actually more interested in seeing the state. This is fortunate, because my skiing ability leaves more to be desired than finding a box of saltines in the middle of the Sahara. Luckily, my friend John bought a digital camera with video capability, so I could study my technique and really fine-tune my form. Please, don't try to imitate my signature Iron Yeti move (above), as only hardcore freshie-seekers like me should attempt the rare, non-airborne inversion.

If my skiing ability lived up to expectations, the same can't be said of Colorado's topography, at least the bits on the drive between Boulder and Steamboat. For starters, Boulder is not nestled in a craggy precipice high in the mountains. For the most part the place has less elevation-change than a Louie Anderson/Pavarotti vertical leap contest.

My next romantic notion to be dispelled was that of the Rustic Western Ranch. In high school, Colorado was a post-graduation mecca for hippie-wannabes. It was never clear what anyone was going to do there, but presumably it involved selling incense and hackysacks by the side of the road until you had enough money saved up to buy a ranch and ride horses through the mountains for the rest of your life. Well, I've now seen a few ranches in Colorado, and I'll bet you could get some of them for a pretty good price—like maybe a case of hackysacks and 10 "Thank You Jerry" bumper-stickers. Between Boulder and Steamboat, approximately half of the real-estate appeared to be up for sale, and based on the locations of some of these places, I have to think that the vacancies are due to either A) Ted Kaczinsky divesting his real-estate holdings, or B) the previous residents drowning themselves in the reservoir for lack of anything better to do. There was never any visible indication of life, and signs over driveways carried monikers like "Big Empty Loneliness Corral."

Then you finally come to a town, which prompts the inevitable question: "What do the people here do?" I mean, the town is 800 miles from anything, so it must be pretty self-contained. In one such place, I pose this question to one of our Coloradan car-mates. He replies, "They pack meat." I'll bet they do. In a place like this, all there is to do is get drunk and have sex. I should know. There were only 2,000 people where I grew up, and believe you me, I did a lot of drinking.

But Steamboat was great. It had a mountain, which was good, since I was starting to worry that the only way I was going to ski would be to strap wheels to my boots and harness a team of prairie dogs. And the fluffy snow helped me avoid many concussions. Best of all, I'm almost over the dysentery. iB

You think that's funny?

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ANYTHING GOES

Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The Boston Public Library Spring Gala was held May 10 at the Boston Public Library. Guests first enjoyed cocktails in the newly restored McKim Courtyard and later moved outside to a tent in Copley Square for an enjoyable dinner.

1. **Bryan Rafanelli**, president Rafanelli Events; **Sally Funk**, director of public relations for Neiman Marcus; and **Gerolf Pikl**, managing director of South Street Capital.
2. **Jane Breslau** and her husband, **Howard**, senior development officer for the Boston Symphony Orchestra.
3. **Joe Leary**, president of the Irish American Partnership; **Courtney Connell Toner**, handbag designer, and her husband, **Ed Toner**, partner of Adventures in Advertising in Lynn.
4. **Neil Garceau**, and his wife, **Beth**, both assistant vice presidents of The Boston Company.
5. **Robin Reed**, manager of external affairs for Houghton Mifflin, and **John Welch**, manager of Fresh Concepts Inc., in Newton.
6. **Darlene McCarthy**, co-host of *Day-time Divas* at WRKO 680 AM and her fiancé, **Paul Szep**, Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist for the *Boston Globe*.
7. **Robin Brown**, general manager of the Four Seasons Hotel, and his wife, **Marcia**.
8. **John Hamill** (l), chairman and CEO of Sovereign Bank New England, and **Bob Mahoney**, vice chairman of Citizens' Bank.


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Boston's 2001 Big Brother of the Year Celebration was held May 10 at the Seaport Hotel.

9. **Jonathan Kravitz**, board member and partner at Mintz Levin; **Anne Mahoney**, principal of Cyclone Design in Quincy; and **Pam Erickson**, vice president of Cunningham Communications in Cambridge.
10. **Tom Tringale**, mortgage loan officer for Patriot Fundings in Hyannis, and **Cathy Oken**, senior vice president for Scudder Investments in Boston.
11. **Bobby Hamilton** (l), New England Patriot, and **Bill Dwyer**, co-chair of the event and senior vice president of LPL Financial Services.
12. **Colin Mahoney**, student at Harvard Business School, and **Millie Cruz**, on the advisory committee for Big Brothers and justice of the peace.


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11


12

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Soroff/On

John Williams

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Composer and conductor John Williams, 69, was born and raised in New York and spent his childhood summers at his grandmother's house in Natick. He attended UCLA, studied musical composition privately and attended the Juilliard School, where he played piano. He worked as a jazz pianist before starting his career in Hollywood, writing music for film studios and various television programs in the 1960s, for which he won two Emmys. He has composed the scores for more than 80 films, including such blockbusters as *Jaws*, the *Star Wars* trilogy, *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*, *Superman*, *E.T.*, the three *Indiana Jones* films, *Home Alone*, *JFK*, *Jurassic Park*, *Schindler's List* and *Saving Private Ryan*. He has received 39 Academy Award nominations (more than anyone in the history of Hollywood), won five Oscars, 18 Grammys, and three Golden Globes, and produced several platinum and gold records. In 1980, he was named 19th conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra, and since retiring in 1993 has served as the orchestra's laureate conductor and as an artist-in-residence at Tanglewood. He lives in Los Angeles.

Jonathan Soroff: *Fill in the blank: The Boston Pops are the _____ orchestra in the world.*

John Williams: "The pre-eminent Pops orchestra," I would say.

JS: *Film score you're most proud of?*

JW: I can't say, because I'm happy with aspects of each of them, and there are things with all of them I'd want to improve.

JS: *How about the tune you composed that's most recognizable?*

JW: Probably *Star Wars*.

JS: *More than* Jaws*?! Every time you go to the beach, somebody goes "Duh-duh, Duh-duh...."*

JW: Yeah. It probably rivals *Star Wars*.

JS: *How does it make you feel that everytime some wise-ass kid wants to scare his sister in the water, he hums something you created?*

JW: Well, what amazes me is the reach of film as a medium. When these things are recorded in the private cloister of a studio, you never think they're going to get out and disseminate to that degree, reaching literally billions and billions of people.

JS: *How important to a film is the score?*

JW: It can be very important. A film like *Jaws* is a good example. But not every film can tolerate that distinctive a voice. A lot of film music needs to be accompanimental, and felt, rather than seen or heard. So there are different types of film scores. And some of the best, you're unaware of.

JS: *Is there a score that you didn't write but wish you had?*

JW: Going back to the 1940s, probably *Laura*—a film like that is the kind of assignment we all live for. I also think a film like *Schindler's List* is a wonderful kind of assignment, because of not only the subject matter but the quality in all the aspects—y'know, the photography was so fabulous, and there wasn't a wrong note in any of the performances. Granted, it's a very serious subject, but we have to remember that it was only a film, a re-creation with lighting and photography of a very painful subject—so to contribute to that was very gratifying.

JS: *True or false: Stephen Spielberg can't make a bad movie.*

JW: What's amazing is that his range is so wide. He did *Schindler's List* and *1941*, which is a goofy kind of comedy. *Jurassic Park* and *Saving Private Ryan*—both terrific entertainment but very different. He's an artist with a very broad palette.

JS: *Ever work on a movie that you could unequivocally say was lousy?*

JW: I don't think so, because everything you start out to do, at the beginning, it's all meant to be *Citizen Kane*. So you enter any project hoping to give it your best, and it doesn't always work out that way, but that's what keeps us going. This thing of eternal hope has been given to us by Zeus, I'm told, in exchange for an ability to see the future. So we can't predict hits. We can only live in hope.

JS: *Is it possible for a score to make a bad movie good?*

JW: I don't think so, but it can certainly help.

JS: *Favorite composer of all time?*

JW: Really, really hard to say. Maybe Haydn.

JS: *How about the most gifted musician you've ever worked with?*

JW: Oh, that's very tough. Possibly Yo-Yo Ma. Someone once said, "He helps us apprehend the transcendent." He's really a magical man. I should also mention Itzhak Perlman, and some of the great singers, like Jessye Norman.

JS: *What's in your CD player right now?*

JW: I don't listen to a lot of music, because I'm writing all the time, and it's not helpful—y'know, you're trying to solve musical problems in your mind almost 24 hours a day, even on an unconscious level.

JS: *So do you find yourself scribbling things on cocktail napkins?*

JW: Well, rarely that, but I sit down to work, usually six days a week, when I'm home. If I take a walk or wake up in the middle of the night, I know that some solution to a musical problem will come out of the subconscious. So if you listen to other music—if it's better than your own, that's depressing, and if it's worse than what you're doing, that's also depressing. I can't even go to dinner parties and listen to music in the background. It's too distracting.

JS: *So where do you get inspiration?*

JW: A lifetime of living with music, the great masters on whose shoulders we all stand, popular music. But with film, the inspiration is more the piece itself—the performances, the writing, the ambience. And for me personally, I find more music in reading poetry, or in nature, walking among the trees. I guess I'm a tree-hugger. I'm helped by those moments.

JS: *How do you respond to the criticism that you borrow heavily from other composers?*

JW: I'm not troubled by that, because we do what we can, and it's more or less inescapable. We can try to be original by doing musical handstands, and we're living in an era where originality is heavily prized. But if you listen to the Baroque period, it's hard to tell one composer from another. Originality is wonderful, but in the end, the best we can do is be ourselves. Music is like a river—we have a few brief moments to swim in it, or dip our cup in it, or whatever, and we're all pygmies compared to Bach or Beethoven.

JS: *Do all musicians hate conductors?*

JW: [*Laughs.*] I don't know. The players would be better to ask, but I think there must be conductors they have great affection for.

JS: *If I asked members of the Pops, would they say you're a cruel taskmaster?*

JW: I don't think so. I have such respect for them, and I think they know that. I stand up there listening to them, and they sound so wonderfully good, I'd pay admission just to stand in front of them.

JS: *Are all conductors control freaks?*

JW: Hmmm. As a young composer in Hollywood, it was always painful when an older, more experienced music director would conduct my early scores and I'd think, "Well, it should really be done this way..." So I began conducting out of self-defense, I always say, as a composer.

JS: *What's the most important quality for a conductor to have?*

JW: Two things: a tremendous intuitive gift, a natural musicality, and solid scholarship. The combination is hard to come by. There are great scholars without the blood-in-the-vein intuition.

JS: *You wrote the themes to a lot of sci-fi movies:* Star Wars, Close Encounters, E.T. *Do you believe there's intelligent life out there?*

JW: It's hard to imagine that in such a vastness there isn't intelligent life elsewhere.

JS: *How about the least glamorous thing about Hollywood?*

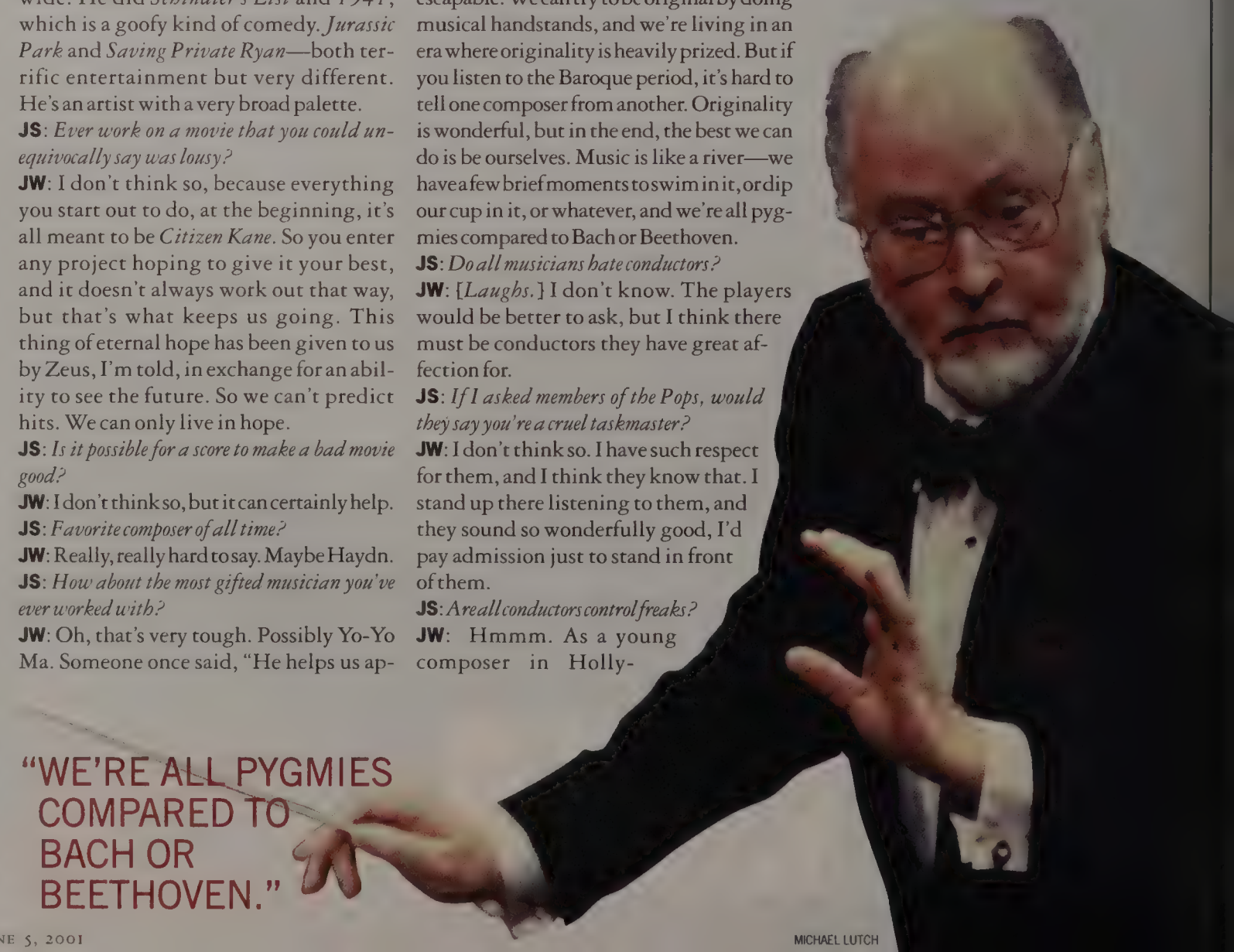
JW: Parking.

JS: *Anything you'd like to do but haven't?*

JW: People keep asking me to write opera. I've never felt that I'm a theater man. I know the film world. But opera's the one thing I haven't tried—although it's getting a bit late; I'm 69 years old, and these things take a few years to do—that's slightly tempting.

JS: *Last question: How do you most want to be remembered?*

JW: In any way at all. I'll amplify that by saying that billions of us live and almost none of us are remembered. In the area of music, it would be a vanity of the highest order to think one could produce something that would be remembered after Mozart walked on the planet. iB



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At your service...



Whether it's securing tickets to a sold-out show or sheltering baby elephants, no request is too outrageous for Boston's top hotel concierges.

By Jonathan Soroff

Photograph by Lawrence Miller

Boston's Hotel Concierges

POSITION VACANT

Seasoned diplomat wanted to act as ambassador to city for visiting dignitaries. Responsibilities include acting as tour guide, restaurant critic, wine connoisseur, personal valet, executive assistant and travel agent. Must have extensive knowledge of foreign languages and cultures, theater, sports, nightlife, arts, history, etiquette and general trivia. Looking for a team player, with the detective skills of Sherlock Holmes, the perseverance of Sysyphus, the organizational abilities of General Patton and the speed-dial prowess of a Hollywood agent. Salary: approx. $30K, with the opportunity to earn commissions and tips (but don't count on it). 40 hrs/wk, or as long as it takes to get the job done. Those who don't genuinely get off on handling oddball requests need not apply.



Walter Janulewicz of the Four Seasons will graciously answer questions for anyone clever enough to ask. Case in point: Recently a woman from the suburbs called to ask whether the tulips had bloomed in the Public Garden.

If you were to stumble upon a help wanted ad for a hotel concierge, it might say something like that.

That's a pretty accurate job description of a concierge at any of the city's more prestigious hotels. "We're here to provide whatever a guest asks for, within the law," says Amy Finsilver, chief concierge and assistant general manager at the upscale boutique hotel XV Beacon.

Most of the time, that means making dinner reservations, hiring limousines, receiving or sending packages, getting tickets to shows and sporting events, copying, faxing, fixing, arranging and putting out all the prosaic little fires (Popped button! No condoms!) that creep into everyone's life. But for every mundane task, there's also a doozy—finding a mariachi band on an hour's notice, or retrieving keys that are locked in a suitcase that's tucked in the cargo hold of a plane en route to Sri Lanka—that would make most of us weep with frustration. It's those bizarre or seemingly impossible tasks that concierges thrive on.

"I once had a guest who needed a special incubator designed specifically for ostrich eggs," recalls David Jamieson, a 33-year veteran of the Copley Plaza Hotel and a pioneer of the profession in Boston. "I get a lot of excitement out of trying to make the impossible possible."

"I love strange requests," agrees Finsilver. "The stranger, the better."

Among the more colorful inquiries she's fielded: A guest came to her wanting to buy a specific, limited-edition wristwatch he'd noticed in a magazine. The only problem was that he couldn't remember the make of watch or the name of the magazine. So Finsilver narrowed down the possibilities and phoned the ad departments at several publications, asking them to fax her jewelry ads from back issues, until she was able to identify it. Then, online, she found one for sale at an auction house in Atlanta.

Michael Cerrato, her colleague over at the Ritz-Carlton, recalls a guest who wanted the exact chemical breakdown of the hotel's water so that he could duplicated it in some buildings he owned in Paris. "Based on the questions I'm asked, I'm amazed some people can get out of bed in the morning," says Cerrato. "I've had a woman come to me with houseplants, wondering if their leaves should be wiped down daily with milk. You name it, they ask—from the history of béarnaise sauce to how many stripes there are on the Cat in the Hat's hat."

Not surprisingly, most concierges are quick-witted creatures who have the patience of Job. However, no one knows everything, and though the best concierges have encyclopedic knowledge (especially of the city), ingenuity is an even more important trait.

"Concierges don't have to know everything," says Jamieson, "but they do have to be resourceful enough to find out."

Take two examples from Cerrato's career.

"There was a guy from California who was traveling with two elephants and needed me to find a place for them to stay for a week. Or the guy who was proposing to his girlfriend and wanted a string quartet in his room within 45 minutes."

In the first instance, Cerrato phoned the Franklin Park Zoo, who referred him to a wild animal farm in New Hampshire. In the second, he called an office at Berklee College of Music, got the number for a hall phone in one of the dorms, and told whoever answered it to grab three friends and their instruments and get over to the hotel. Both incidents ended happily, and, remarkably enough, none of the concierges interviewed for this article ever remembers failing to fulfill a difficult request. "There's always a way to fix something," says Finsilver.

In fact, the only task a concierge would decline is one involving something illicit or illegal. "I think all of us have been asked to hire a prostitute," says Walter Janulewicz of the Four Seasons. "We'd never do it. We just hand them a copy of the Yellow Pages or the classified ads."

Polyglots and Ph.D.s

To watch a hotel concierge at work, it seems they spend all their time with one or more phones glued to their ears. And, as Janulewicz notes, he also takes more and more advantage of the Internet. However, the tool concierges rely on most heavily is the personal relationship.

"It's all contacts," Janulewicz says. "We foster relationships with restaurants, ticket brokers, each other. If you're friendly with someone at a restaurant, they'll help you get someone in."

With personal networks as their stock-in-trade, it's not surprising that concierges won't do anything to jeopardize them.

"I had John Travolta's assistant ask me to book reservations at three different restaurants on a weekend night," says Finsilver. "I told him I couldn't do that to people I've done business with for 10 years, but when Mr. Travolta ca-

OPPOSITE PAGE: PHOTO ASSISTANT: LOUIS SELVITELLA; HAIR & MAKEUP: JILL MALCOLM/MAKSOU; LAMP: ASSOCIATED QUIRKS; THIS PAGE: JURGEN HORN

Boston's Hotel Concierges



Michael Cerrato of Boston's Ritz-Carlton was once asked by a young man wishing to propose to his girlfriend to find some musical accompaniment for the big event. Within an hour, Cerrato had achieved his task. Here, the scene is re-created, thanks to concierge Ben Duren (also of the Ritz-Carlton) and the Copley Chamber Players (from left to right): Brian Clague, Ricardo Silveira, Peter Bloom and Sandy Kiefer.

cided where he wanted to go, I'd be sure they'd take good care of him." (Tellingly, the assistant still calls Finsilver for help from time to time.) Such tact also explains a concierge's ability to work minor miracles like procuring last-minute tickets to a sold-out event.

Because concierges are repeatedly asked where to eat and what to do, they enjoy a high-roller's lifestyle and wield a certain amount of clout in the city. In their free time, these hotel maestros are constantly out on the town—eating at the latest hot spot or taking in a pre-Broadway show. The concierge profession requires learning on the job and staying current on all things hip, cultural and gastronomic, because no good concierge likes to recommend a place they haven't tried first. And given the number of tourist dollars spent at their suggestion, people in the hospitality industry (if they're smart) try to cultivate their high opinion.

"I wouldn't say we could make or break a place," says Janulewicz. "Some restaurants don't need the business. But there are certainly situations—mom-and-pop operations, or people just starting out—where we can influence their level of business."

That power is magnified by the remarkable camaraderie and cooperation of the concierges at competing hotels. A guest at one is the responsibility of all, and they'll bend over backward to help each other.

> "A guest once asked that a California driver's license manual be translated into Chinese. My first thought wasn't how to get it, but if it should be in Mandarin or Cantonese."—MICHAEL CERRATO

"The longer you do this, the more self-sufficient you become," says Finsilver. "But if I have a question about history, I won't hesitate to call Michael [Cerrato], because he's good at that stuff, and he might call me with a question about sports or the arts."

Indeed, a notable thing about Boston's concierge community is what a tight-knit group it is. The Greater Boston Concierge Association, which includes concierges from luxury residential buildings, commercial high-rises and area hospitals, is one of the most vibrant and active professional organizations in town. Then there is Clefs D'Or (Golden Keys)—the international association of hotel concierges that was founded in Paris in the 19th century and now operates in 36 countries. As concierges do within a city, its members rely heavily on one another. For example, Finsilver called upon a Clefs D'Or member in France to negotiate with a French chocolatier to provide XV Beacon with sweets.

Jamieson is a former treasurer of the group for the United States and was one of its first Boston members. Gaining acceptance is like earning a Ph.D. Hopefuls must have five years' experience and apply for membership, with sponsorship from two other members, a letter of recommendation from their hotel's general manager and other demonstrable qualifications, like proficiency in foreign languages.

Finsilver, for instance, speaks three—English, French and Spanish—with a smattering of Portuguese, Italian and German. Cerrato is fluent in French and Italian, speaks decent German, can get by in Spanish, "knows enough Hebrew and Arabic to keep from getting shot" and can say "I don't speak Japanese" in Japanese.

"Most travelers these days speak English," says Finsilver, "but they appreciate us making the gesture." That eagerness to please is part of the mind-set. As Cerrato relates, "A guest once asked that a California driver's license manual be translated into Chinese. My first thought wasn't how to get it, but if it should be in Mandarin or Cantonese."

Given this high level of professionalism, it's perhaps surprising that being a hotel concierge isn't a higher-paying career. Contrary to most people's assumption, it's not even technically a tip position, since the salary is slightly higher (from $9 to 13 per hour) than other hotel employees, and tips are not a given.

As Finsilver explains, "Guests expect the services we provide. At XV Beacon, they're paying $395 to $3,000

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per night, and $750, on average, at the Four Seasons. Check in's at 3pm and checkout's at noon. They spend six to eight hours sleeping. So what do they get for the money? Beyond a clean room and hot water, service—which is what we give them.

"It's not a money-making job at all," she continues. "I think that's why there's such high turnover. In Boston, there are 10 to 12 of us 'lifers,' who tend to be members of Clefs D'Or. Unless you truly enjoy helping people, this isn't the job for you."

That's not to say that gratuities are nonexistent. For instance, Finsilver once received a Raymond Weil wristwatch as a gift from a guest. Cerrato, meanwhile, says that European royalty tend to be the best tippers, delivering an envelope with $1,000 to be divided among the concierge staff upon both arrival and departure. However, all concierges will tell you that the most cherished thanks are the non-material, heartfelt ones: notes of appreciation, offers of reciprocal hospitality or letters of commendation to the general manager.

Princes and power

Martha Stewart-like efficiency and MacGyver-worthy ingenuity is a given among the concierges at the best hotels. Behind their desks, you'll find sundry kits (often fishing tackle boxes) crammed with necessities for every contingency: bobby pins, batteries, condoms, nail polish, safety pins, diapers, formula, aspirin, shoelaces, collar stays, earring backs, contact lens solution—you name it.

An interesting little fact that most people don't realize is that even if you're not a guest at the hotel, a concierge will gladly allow you to avail yourself of such essentials and will be happy to help you in other ways, as well.

Says Janulewicz, "I got a call this morning from a woman in the suburbs, asking if the tulips are out in the Public Garden. I said, 'No, but the daffodils are up. Tulips are about a week away.'" Similarly, most concierges will graciously and unhesitatingly make reservations or handle personal requests from anyone clever enough to ask.

Of course, their top priority is the hotel's guests, who are often an intimidating and demanding lot. As Jamieson points out, "Almost every president since 1912 has either stayed at the Copley Plaza or walked through our lobby," while royalty, film stars, rock bands and captains of industry are typical guests at hotels like the Ritz, the Four Seasons and XV Beacon.

To deal with such high-powered people, concierges like Finsilver maintain a database of guests' preferences, from what newspapers they read, to whether they like a down or foam pillow, to what they drink in the morning. Prior to a guest's arrival, she and her staff will research that person, possibly even finding a photo to help them identify him or her, and doing everything they can to understand who the person is and what his or her needs will be.

Still, preparedness only goes so far. The rich, as F. Scott Fitzgerald pointed out, are different than you and I, and their requirements are frequently just as foreign.

"We once had the ruler of a small Arab country staying here with a group of his top ministers," says Cerrato. "He decided he wanted to go hunting in Maine. Well, the state of Maine requires that foreigners applying for a hunting license have a letter attesting to their good character from a responsible source in their own country; so I had to find someone to vouch for a head of state. We had his minister of defense vouch for the prince, and the prince vouch for the rest of them. We wrote the letters, and they signed them. It was sorta goofy."

Perhaps, but it was all in a day's work, and with the high and mighty, as well as the average hotel guest, it's a concierge's duty to make it all look as if it's absolutely no trouble at all. In fact, this ability to make even the most Herculean assignment look easy might well be the most remarkable characteristic of a good hotel concierge.

As Cerrato puts it: "The best way to describe what we do is to look at the swans in the Public Garden. Above the water, they're the most serene, elegant, graceful, unflappable creatures. But below the water, they're paddling like hell." **IB**

To deal with such high-powered people, concierges maintain a database of guests' preferences, from what newspapers they read to whether they like a down or foam pillow...

Boston's Hotel Concierges



David Jamieson, a 33-year veteran of the Copley Plaza Hotel, was once asked by a guest to secure a special incubator designed specifically for ostrich eggs.

TRACY POWELL

A Winner

The Concierge of the Year is...

This year Mayor Thomas Menino and Governor Jane Swift declared May 15 Concierge Appreciation Day. The proclamation marked the 14th annual Concierge of the Year Awards, sponsored by *Where* magazine. This year's winner: Stephan Schrepel, chief concierge for Swissôtel, who routinely jumps through hoops to satisfy guests. According to hotel officials, Schrepel once got 100 baseball caps emblazoned with the word "metamorphosis," in under three hours—just in time for an important business meeting.—*Galen Moore*



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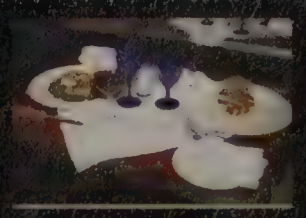
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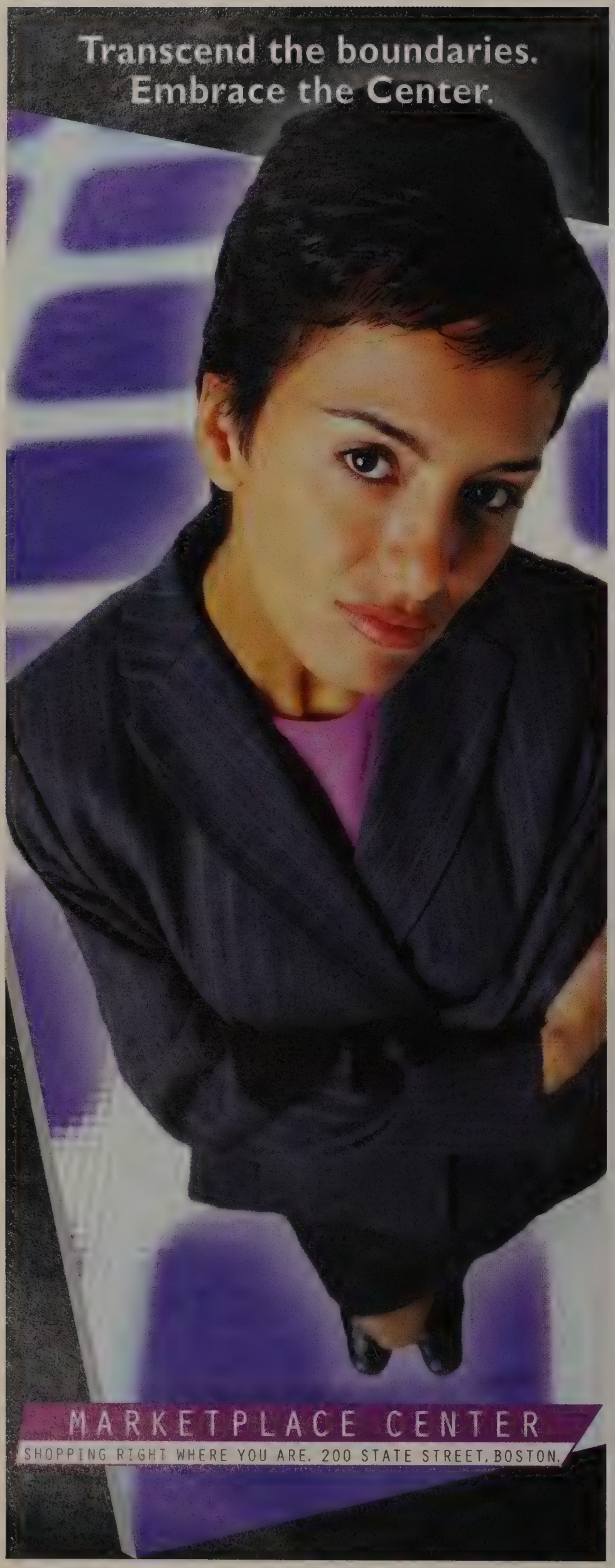
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Ivan Gaskell is the Margaret S. Winthrop Curator in the Fogg Art Museum's department of paintings, sculpture and decorative arts and has worked there for the past 10 years. Here, he contemplates a "weird," rather gruesome painting by Lorenzo Lotto, *A Dominican Friar as Saint Peter Martyr.*

Hidden Treasures

Curators reveal their favorite objets d'art

By Erin Hagedorn

Photograph by Tracy Powell

A 1,642-pound amethyst geode. North America's oldest bowling ball. Bernini's terra-cotta sculptures at the Fogg. These are just some of the priceless yet lesser-known treasures tucked away in our city's museums. With the hope of unearthing artifacts beyond the standard favorites—Titan's *Europa* at the Gardner; Egyptian mummies and Impressionist paintings at the MFA; the Sargent murals at the Boston Public Library—we asked a few Boston curators to choose a hidden gem from their respective museums. They were delighted to oblige, and found marvelous artworks that those of us without such a developed aesthetic sense (and with very short museum-related attention spans) could easily overlook.

Fogg Art Museum

Ivan Gaskell

"We've got so many terrific things here," says Ivan Gaskell, curator in the department of paintings, sculpture and decorative arts at the Fogg, Harvard's oldest art museum. He chooses *A Dominican Friar as Saint Peter Martyr*, a painting by Lorenzo Lotto (1480-1556), a Venetian, who "was very much a weirdo," according to Gaskell. "And the painting is weird, too," Gaskell continues. "There is currently a Venice show on display here, *Sacred and Profane*, with another Lotto on loan. It depicts a saint in a kind of desert setting looking like he's been out in the sun too long. Together they're two great, weird paintings by this really idiosyncratic painter."

A Dominican Friar as Saint Peter Martyr (1549) is truly striking. Located in Gallery Three on the first floor on the left, the painting is most likely the portrait of the Dominican friar Angelo Ferretti in the guise of Saint Peter, a 13th-century inquisitor and martyr. The painting is a single figure painted from just below the waist up. "The immediacy is what's grabbing. He's so close," Gaskell says. "Partly because it's Italian and religious, people don't relate to it so readily. But if you look at it, he's so intensely immediate and so alive....Well, except for this cleaver sticking out of his head."

Painted with the attributes of the saint, the figure is pointing to the words *Credo in Unum Deum* ("I believe in one God"), referring to when Peter was brutally killed by Cathar heretics on his way to Milan. (He wrote these words in his own blood as his last dying gesture.) "He's looking right at you, wearing a monk's habit, a cleaver in his head and a dagger through his heart, looking pretty sad for himself. There's no getting away from it—he's just looking at you with these plaintive eyes! And on the white of his habit is a little spot of blood," Gaskell explains. "When you're standing in front of it, you see his eyes first, and of course you can't miss the cleaver stuck through his head. And there, between the hand clasping the testament and his other hand pointing is this little red stain. It's just so creepy."

One notable fact about the painting is that someone had painted over both the cleaver and dagger. "When we got it in '64, there was no sign of them. We examined it and cleaned it, got the newer paint away, and found the blade—right through his scull. Now you can see him in his full glory of martyrdom." Would the other curators agree with Gaskell's choice? He pauses. "It's just me being perverse, I think."

Harvard Museum of Natural History

Susan M. Rossi-Wilcox

If you like treasure hunting, you'll have a field day at the Harvard Museum of Natural History. Made up of Harvard University's three natural history institutions (the Botanical Museum, the Museum of Comparative Zoology, and the Mineralogical and Geological Museum), the massive building is a winding maze that contains everything from a Great Moa (an extinct ostrich-like bird) to a 42-foot-long Kronosaurus. From rocks to bugs and butterflies, the museum has a total of about 21 million specimens. Although most of the treasures are indeed hidden (there isn't even public access to several floors), the museum's most distinctive works are available for all to see: the *Ware Collection of Glass Models of Plants*, popularly known as the *Glass Flowers*. Originally used as a teaching tool for biology students, these glass plant models still regularly amaze visitors and curators alike. The astonishingly realistic, highly fragile 4,000 glass models represent 840 plant species with astounding scientific accuracy.

Their caretaker, Susan M. Rossi-Wilcox, has a very hard time choosing one as her favorite. As she wanders through the rows of cases she laments, "It's like asking me to choose one of my children." Just then, a visitor approaches and asks, "Where are the glass flowers?" Wilcox informs him that they're all around him, and he gives her an incredulous look. "That's actually the most common question here," she explains. "People can't believe these plants are made of glass. They are so fragile and so accurate—it just takes your breath away." She finally settles on a group of three cacti in one of the standing cases located in the middle of the room. They are three lifelike, green-tinted sculptures with long, intricate, detailed needles. "The great thing about seeing the plants so often is getting to see how they look inside and close-up. Unlike the other flowers, these are in their own little environments, sitting in small beds of sand. I just love these little guys."



Susan Rossi-Wilcox is the administrator and curatorial associate for the glass flowers at the Harvard Museum of Natural History. She is the first female in this role and only the third person ever to hold this position. She began working at Harvard as a volunteer in 1979 and has been working with the glass flowers since 1985. Here, she stands next to some of her favorites: a group of glass cacti.

> "One of the great delights of this museum is that a lot of the treasures are hard to find. That's part of the fun of this place—it's the sense of discovery and exploring."
>
> —*Alan Chong*

All of the plants were created by father-and-son team Leopold and Rudolf Blaschka in Dresden, Germany, between 1887 and 1936. The two devoted their lives to the project, meticulously hand blowing each piece. (You can also see Leopold's workbench and his handmade tools around the corner from the glass garden.) "They worked incredibly long days. Probably 12 hours," Wilcox says. "The project took 50 years in total. The amount of dedication to scientific accuracy is amazing. They must have had a really in-depth knowledge of the inside of flowers. On top of that, they had to really know the whole glass-chemistry business—how some glass colors cool or heat more quickly than others." Considering the crude, handmade tools they were using, the level of precision is remarkable. "We do know they used adhesives and wire understructures. But other parts are so delicate that no one is sure how they made them. Today we have an incredible group of people who do lamp working and flame working, but they used these techniques that still baffle people today."

Last fall, the museum began the initial steps in a monumental process leading to the conservation and reinstallation of the glass flowers, including cleaning each delicate flower, adding a new climate-control system, written interpretive information and installing a new lighting system.



Alan Chong became the Norma Jean Calderwood Curator of the Collection at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum in August 1999. He most recently organized *The Art of the Cross: Medieval and Renaissance Piety*. He stands next to his favorite work at the Gardner, a painting by Fra Angelico.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Alan Chong

Curator Alan Chong had no problem choosing one of the 3,000 objects on display at the Gardner as his favorite hidden treasure: a small, shimmering Renaissance painting by Fra Angelico titled *The Dormition and the Assumption of the Virgin*. "The obvious choices are the Sargent paintings," Chong says of the famed works. "Everyone knows them. I love them too, but I'm more attracted to smaller works of art. In a way, one of the great delights of this museum is that a lot of the treasures are hard to find. That's part of the fun of this place—it's the sense of discovery and exploring." The painting, tucked in a corner directly across from a window on the second floor in the Early

LEFT: LEAH FASTEN; LEFT INSET: COURTESY OF THE ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER MUSEUM; TOP: BERTA A. DANIELS (2)

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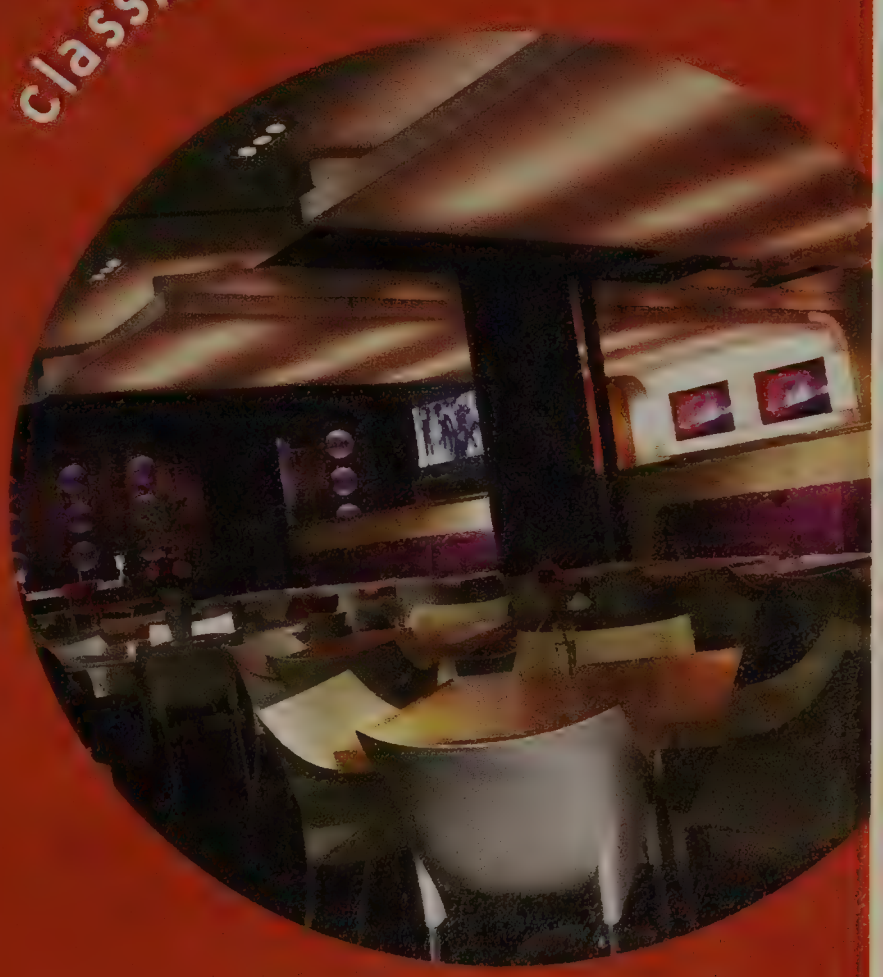
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Tracey Albainy, the MFA's curator of European decorative arts and sculpture, stands beside her favorite pieces in the museum: a fall-front secretary desk and a pair of firedogs that were made for the Queen of France in the 1780s.

Italian Room, is in a spot that is, indeed, easy to miss. But, according to Chong, Mrs. Gardner reserved such well-lighted spots for only her favorite paintings.

The Dormition and the Assumption belonged to a set of four devotional paintings by Fra Angelico in 1420s for Santa Maria Novella. (The other three panels are in the Museo di San Marco in Florence.) Although Chong was familiar with the work before he came to the Gardner, he was really overwhelmed by the painting's characteristics when he got to look at it on a daily basis, noticing the panel's gracefully posed angels, gold highlights and ultramarine blues and swirling draperies.

"Although the assumption is a fairly common subject, what's unusual about this picture is what he does with it," Chong says. "Like all great artists, he gives a standard subject extra impact—the chorus of angels are all wearing the same type of robe, all painted with little stars, playing instruments—they're absolutely delightful. Another reason I am drawn to it is very academic. It's in perfect condition, so it appeals to my instincts as a curator."

As soon as Chong catches his breath, he adds, "I have so many objects that I'm especially fond of. Here I feel I could spend my entire life and discover all kinds of things. At the moment, I'm being seduced by our Italian furniture, which is a rarity. I'm afraid I'm gradually becoming interested in our Italian chairs. It's like I'm cheating on my painting."

> "[The desk and chairs] are icons in the field. Most people don't know their extraordinary story of prominence."
>
> —*Tracey Albainy*

Museum of Fine Arts
Tracey Albainy

The Museum of Fine Arts' collection of 350,000 objects encompasses some of the most rare artistic treasures in the world, so singling just one out is not an easy task. But Tracey Albainy, the curator of European decorative arts and sculpture, finds two objects tucked away in the 18th-century French Decorative Arts Gallery that tend to be eclipsed by the big-name artworks and exhibitions. She is enthusiastic about the simple yet elegant fall-front secretary desk and shimmering pair of firedogs that were made in Paris in the 1780s for Marie Antoinette. "They have been on view for such a long time that most visitors pass by with out taking notice," she says. Indeed, when you walk through the maze of small rooms filled with furniture, they are easy to miss. "But they are icons in the field. Most people don't know their extraordinary story of prominence."



The desk and firedogs were made for the queen's Hameau, a rustic farm (literally a "hamlet") built on the park of Versailles, where she and her friends loved to dress and act like peasants. "We know that the hamlet was her favorite place, an informal retreat from the rigorous etiquette of the main chateau. Here, she entertained her best friends and confidants," Albainy explains. "It was an age when they were embracing a return to nature, to simpler way of life. But it was still all very expensive—the farmhouses looked rustic, but they were warm and charming; the furniture was of the highest quality—even the sheep and cows were well groomed."

The secretary desk, attributed to German cabinetmaker Jean-Ferdinand Schwerdfeger, is made of oak, veneered with mahogany and fixed with gilt bronze mounts made of intricate trelliswork and woven basketry that were commissioned only for the most important royal furniture. "The rarity of the maker and extraordinary quality of craftsmanship is amazing," she says. The elaborate, gilt-bronze pair of firedogs, attributed to Pierre-Philippe Thomire, were made to be in the hearth, linked at back by a wrought-iron grill that held the burning logs. "Even when I become a bit jaded, another colleague draws attention to something I haven't seen before—minute details of the jewel-like mounts or the way the pieces are constructed. The art of furniture making had been perfected to such a degree by then; they brought it to such a standard of perfection that has never been matched."

The pieces were acquired by James Swan, a Boston collector who made a fortune trading with France in the 1790s. He used them to furnish his Dorcester house. Albainy enthuses, "This makes them likely to be the very first examples of French royal works of art in America." The works descended through members of family and were given to the MFA in 1927. iB

Docents' Dearest

More loot brought to light

DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park
Curator Nick Capasso identifies the work he is most excited about as Ursula von Rydingsvard's *ence pence*, a large-scale abstract wood sculpture that is the latest piece to be installed in the Sculpture Park. Von Rydingsvard is a German-born sculptor, now working in New York, and Capasso is thrilled about acquiring it. "I've been trying to borrow a work by Ursula for over five years!" he says. "It looks just fabulous in the outdoor landscape."

Institute of Contemporary Art
Curator Jessica Morgan says, "My favorite works are in our current exhibition in *One Hundred Models and Endless Rejects*, a series of 100 drawings by South African artist Marlene Dumas. It is a room-sized installation of larger-than-life drawn faces, and is on display until July 1."

MIT Museum
Jane Pickering, museum director, says that her favorite piece is the *Metafield Maze*, an interactive virtual-reality floor maze. "It is a giant version of the ones you hold in your hand where you try and get the ball to the end of the maze without it dropping through any holes," she says. "I have never managed to finish it, but on Friday afternoons I sneak into the gallery to have another try."

Museum of Science
David Ellis, president of the museum, says that the 20-ton Horizontal Mill Steam Engine, located in the lower level of the museum's exhibit halls, is his favorite piece. It was built by the Rollins Engine Co. of Nashua, N.H., in 1906.

Sackler Museum
Anne Rose Kitagawa, assistant curator of Japanese Art, chooses a work that is included in their current second-floor exhibition of landscape paintings from China, Korea and Japan. It is a Japanese album of paintings and calligraphic excerpts depicting scenes from the Tale of Genji, a long courtly romance written by a female aristocrat in the 11th century.

USS Constitution Museum
Curator Margherita Desy reveals that the museum's most revered work is a portrait of Commodore Bainbridge (1813), the painting of the hero of the War of 1812.



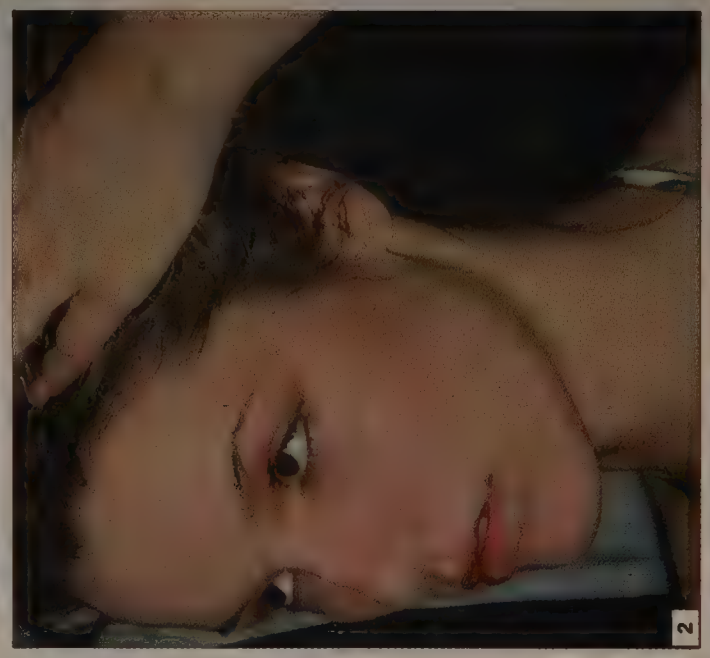
The Museum of Science has a 20-ton steam engine.

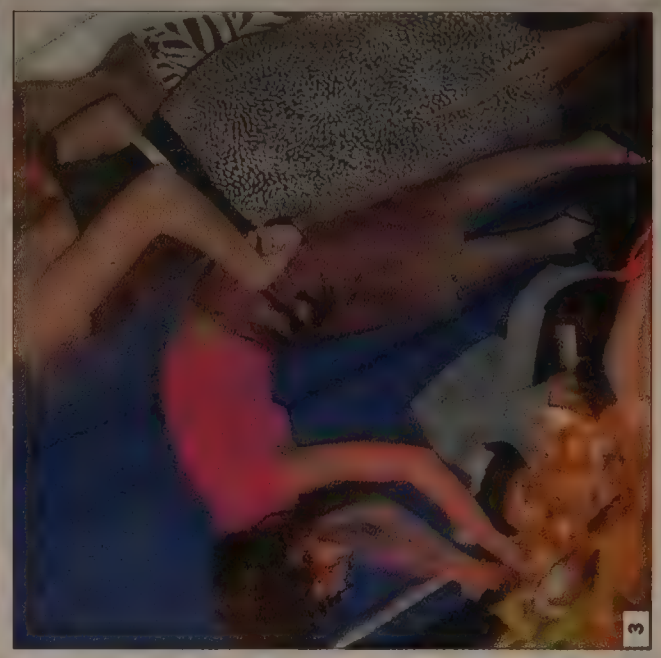
LEFT: BERTA A. DANIELS (2); BOTTOM: RITA GREELEY

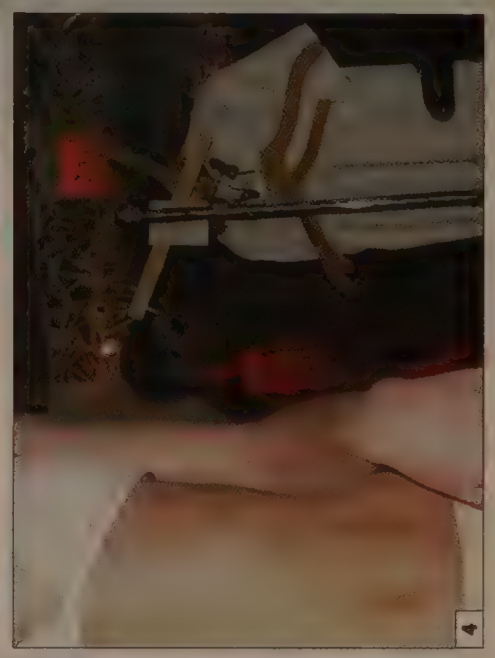

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▲1. At the Guess show by Aria, Modelworks models wear a gray tank top, $18, a black tee, $22, black dress pants, $82, and blue jeans, $58. All available at Guess. 2. A model gets her hair done by Ecocentrix Salon for the Leila fashion show at Avalon. 3. Ford models prep for the catwalk at Avalon. 4. A white T-shirt by Guess, $22, hangs on the rolling rack as the participants scramble to prepare for the show.

▲At Avalon, model Stacey Huggins wears a gold dress by Sharragano, $166, available at Leila.



BEHIND THE SCENE

Snapping, zipping, crimping and primping—an IMPROPER peek at Boston's fashion shows

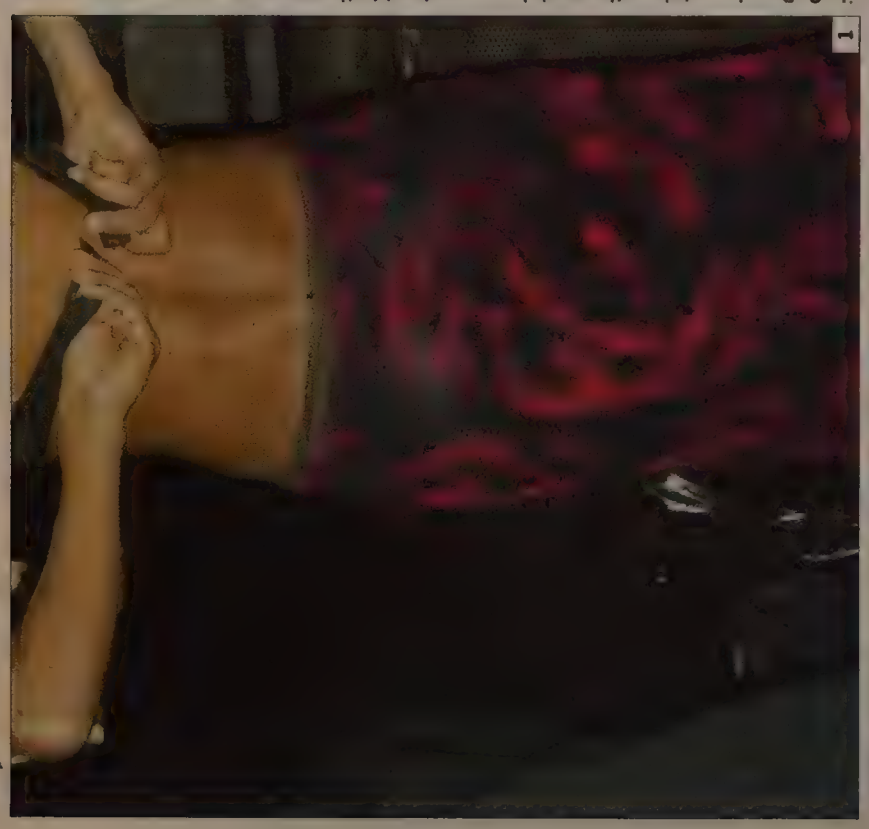
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▲4. Models line up for the show at Aria. Royal blue V-neck T-shirt, $42. Blue jeans, $58. Orange bikini top $38; bottoms $34. Short dark denim shorts, $42. Red ribbed tank top, $34. Dark denim pants, $64. Shoes, $115-$120. All available at Guess. 5. A Modelworks model wears a button-down shirt, $68. Available at Guess. 6. A model stretches as she prepares for the show in a white jean jacket, $68, and white jeans, $88. Both available at Guess.







▲1. A model changes into clothes for the show. 2. Colored beach bags by Le Bag, $60, sit off to the side as a model waits to make an entrance. Available at Leila 3. People watch as the models are sent out to the runway.



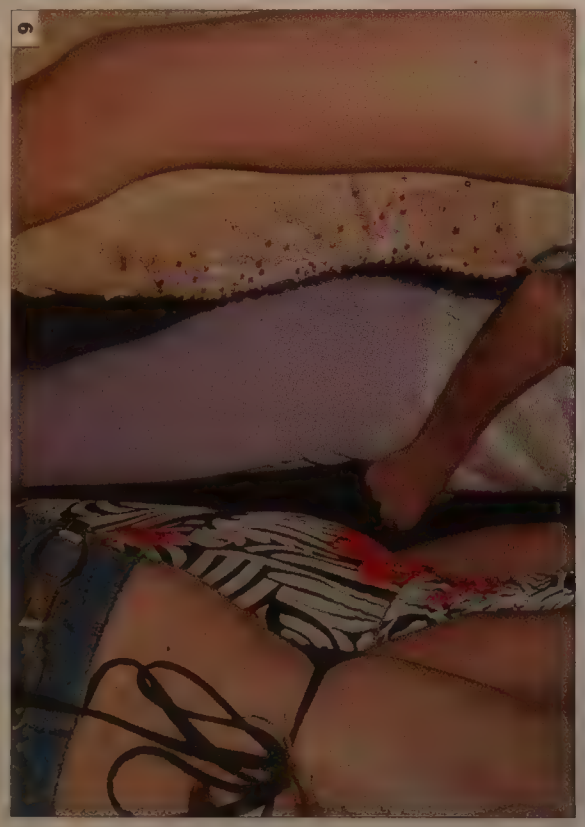




▲1. A model adjusts her white tank, $48, worn with a black and white geometric skirt, $98. Both by Morgan and available at Leila. 2. Leila models hold flowers on the catwalk. Nude sleeveless top with faux fur collar by Sharragano, $145. Nude skirt with ties by Morgan, $88. Available at Leila. 3. A Modelworks model puts on his first outfit at Aria for the Guess show. He wears an orange button-down shirt, $68, and a pair of dark denim jeans, $120. Both available at Guess.







▲4. An ECCentrix makeup artist applies makeup at the Leila show at Avalon. 5. Ford models prepare for the fashion show. 6. Nude sleeveless top with front beading by Sharragano, $110. Pastel sleeveless sweater top with sequins by Morgan, $68. Lilac pants by Sharragano, $166. Available at Leila.



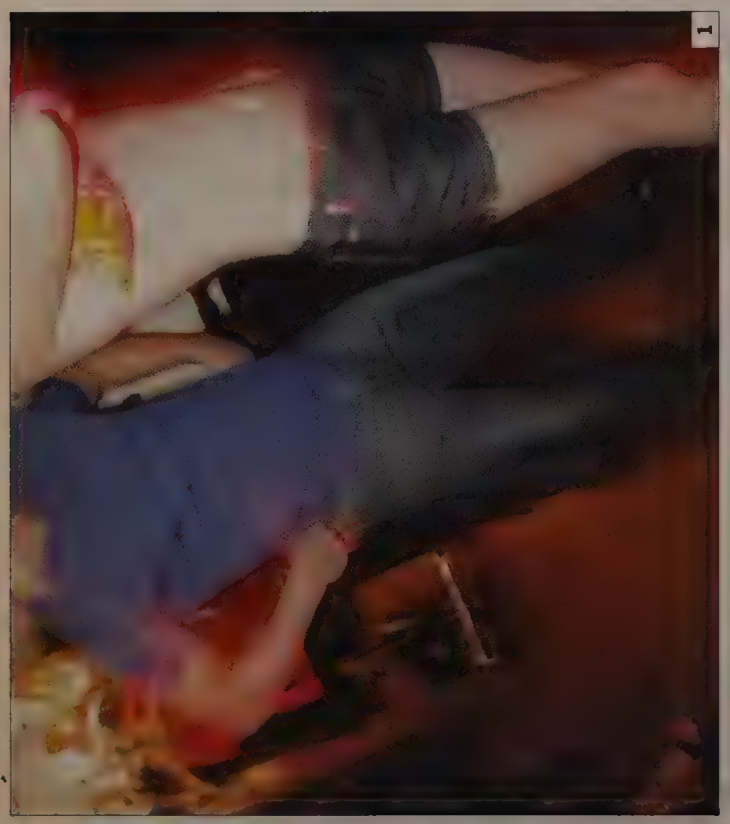




▲4. A model has her makeup applied as she sits wearing a suede blue tie-dyed halter, $84, and suede blue tie-dyed skirt, $160. Both by Morgan and available at Leila. 5. Stylists prepare the models for a perfect runway look. 6. A model adjusts her shirt before the show begins.

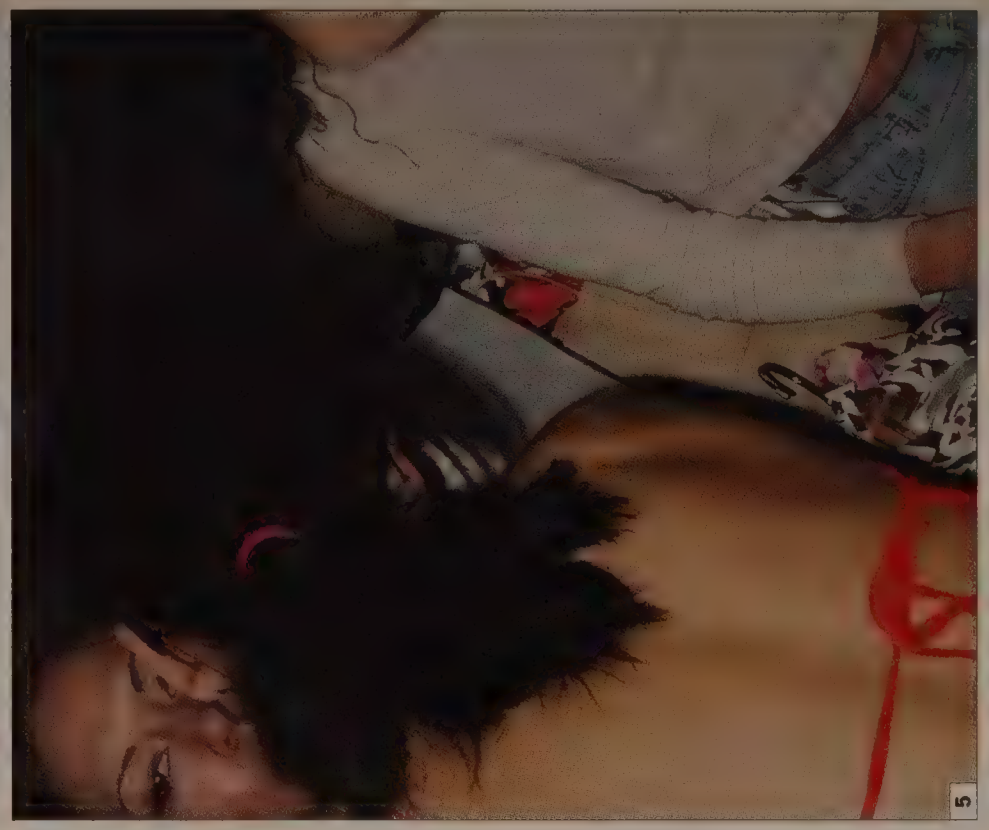






▲1. Models line up in anticipation of the fashion show. 2. Zebra-striped skirt, $53, and bikini top, $74, by Morgan, available at Leila. 3. Models help each other prepare for the show at Aria.







▲4. Ecocentrix hair stylist John McKenna creates runway hair at Leila's fashion show. 5. Ford model Lauren Krol dresses in a black tube top by Morgan, $46, and a black skirt with white sequins by Sharragano, $110. Available at Leila. 6. A model gets dressed for the catwalk. Guess, 80 Newbury St., 236-4147; Leila, 1337 Beacon St., 738-4448; Ecocentrix Salon, 30 Newbury St., 262-2222; Avalon, 15 Landsdowne St., 262-2424; Aria, 246 Tremont St, 338-7080.







▲1. Models talk and eat as they wait to go on stage. 2. A model prepares her outfit at the Guess show. 3. Models help each other get dressed at the Leila fashion show. Orange halter top by Morgan, $74. Dark denim pants, $78. Available at Leila.

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The city under GLASS

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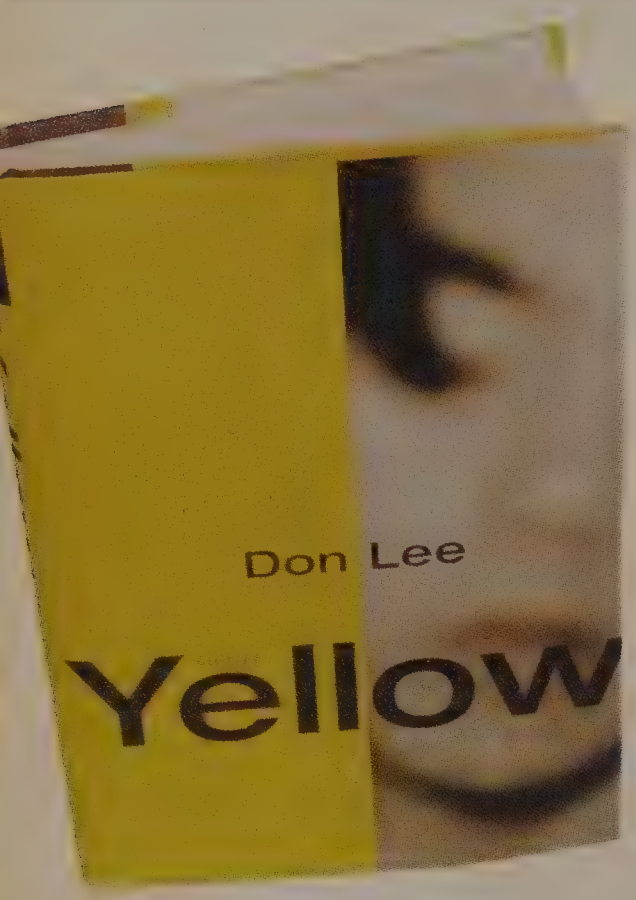
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Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



SHADES OF ASIA

Don Lee, editor of *Ploughshares*, presents a collection of short stories about the Asian-American experience in *Yellow.*

If the immigrant experience begins as a study in bright contrasts—the black-and-white divide between "over there" and "here"—through the generations it fades to something more subtle. Don Lee, a third-generation Korean-American, reflects this interesting wash of one culture over another. His characters, of Korean, Japanese and Chinese origins, tend toward the wild. In the story "Oriental Hair Poets," two female friends become rivals when they reconnect through Dean Kaneshiro, the lover of one who is hired to construct a fancy wooden chair for the other. Dean, a spy aficionado, participates as a co-conspirator in their loony enmity. Love triangles abound in these stories, but so do unconventional, sexy affairs and more staid marriages with a fellow Asian. The snake in the lemongrass is often a subtle revelation of racial differences and the steady tropism towards the familiar. Along with creating disturbing relationships between independent people, Lee is wonderful at describing fine artisanry: That sculpture-like chair is made of a shaving "so thin you could read a newspaper through it." Meanwhile, Lee's commitment-challenged characters crash through waters that he renders as wet, crazy art.



Oaxaca animal figurines adorn shelves. Inset: Sales associate Anna Barrett of Sudbury arranges colorful flowers from Guatemala.

CENTRAL AMERICAN UTOPIA

Rebuilt after a 1999 fire, Carmen's Veranda, 365 Boston Post Road at Mill Village in Sudbury (978-443-8171) is alive with colorful international folk things.

Carmen's Veranda (remember the rhymesake: Carmen Miranda, with her big banana headdress) explodes with color and flowers. International folk clothing, jewelry, toys and inventive tchochkes, many of them Guatemalan or Mexican, figuratively dance around the store. Carmen's has its own clothing company in Central America where they design interesting ethnic dresses and jackets. For instance, they take that otherwise-hard-to-wear embroidered blouse (called a *huipule*), and instead embed it as the chestpiece of a dress. Some adorable little kids' embroidery-rich clothes can make for a more exotic wardrobe. They also have clothes made of flax—a hearteningly sturdy, honest fabric—and some floaty, layered silk dresses from India. Carmen's is a wonderland for young girls who need! need! need! colorful earrings made of fruits, velvety-looking beaded bags in the shape of bananas and apples, and a merry ton of bright little adornments, like rhinestoney earrings decorated with Elvis or Frida Kalo, the patron saint of eyebrows. Mexican tin is cut and perforated to make all kinds of glinting things—picture frames, angels and candleholders are cheerful and light-catching. Huge painted wooden animals from Oaxaca are surreal and fanciful, as if leaping out from a dream.

DASHING DOGS IN AFTER-WONDERLAND

Greyhound Friends adopts doomed doggies whose racing career has ended and recycles them into the real world of loving families. The kennel is in Hopkinton. 508-435-5969. *www.greyhound.org*



Even though their common image—in stately paintings and on the side of namesake buses—depicts them as energetically elongated, Greyhounds, once retired, are actually pleasantly dozey dogs. Ever since a Greyhound came her way in the '80s, Louise Coleman has been in the business of saving these dogs, whose usual ignominious retirement entails no gold watch or severance package. But Greyhounds turn out to be great household pets, less hyper than other dogs bred for action, and after a week or so, they tend to become couch potatoes, very thinly sliced. "You don't need an estate," says Coleman, "and they get along with cats and kids." Like collapsible lawn chairs, they become tiny when they're on the snooze, in other words, most of the day. Nor are they all gray (in greyhound talk that's "blue"): The palette also includes a classy fawn, "brindle" (which looks rather like bird's-eye maple), black-and-white and chocolate. They come spayed and vaccinated, are usually between two and four years old, cost $185 and can be returned to Greyhound Friends if man and dog don't mix. And once you adopt, you join a cozy, passionate, socially useful society full of events, fund-raisers, volunteer ops, parties and friends.

TOP: LEAH FASTEN (2), BOTTOM RIGHT: JOHN MOTTERN



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in this section:
Review: Grill 23
Dish: Tipping and handling fees
Tasty Tidbit: Novice chefs battle it out at the Boston Center for Adult Ed

REVIEW

Hot off the Grill

Thick, tender chops bask in the limelight at Grill 23

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

This spacious, handsomely appointed restaurant was a major player in the Back Bay dining scene even before its recent expansion. By adding an opulently appointed second floor, increasing its capacity to almost 300 diners, Grill 23 has become one of the larger restaurants in Boston, and perhaps the largest that aspires to "fine dining."

Upon entering Grill 23, housed in the historic Salada Tea Building at the corner of Stuart and Berkeley streets, one is struck by the magnitude of the place. With seating on three levels in a number of distinct and distinctive dining areas, including semi-private rooms and assorted nooks and crannies, the physical setting is beyond reproach. The ambiance falls somewhere between clubby and elegant: Mahogany paneling; high sculptured ceilings; broad windows dressed with hangings that look like Aubusson tapestries; massive marbled Corinthian columns, brass lamp poles with globe lights; and flooring of oak parquet or marble.

Seated at dark, wooden tables with crisp, white nappery, we were welcomed by a bread basket filled with edible art—a harbinger of what we could expect from the kitchen. Among the breads were slightly salty, crisp flat bread—like an Indian papadum but less spicy—chewy, crusted light rye and moist focaccia laced with onions, herbs and olive oil. For an appetizer, we tried the sashimi of tuna and blue marlin ($14.75). While the price was aggressive, it was hard to quarrel with the pristine freshness of the fish: five small slabs stacked with lemon slices in between, surrounded by dollops of wasabi, shredded radish, shaved ginger, ponzu gelee, chopped scallions and tiny sliced mushrooms on a large white plate. New England clam chowder ($8.75) was served in a small, white crock. Unfortunately, it arrived cold the first time, and we sent it back. Its replacement was properly hot, with great flavor, rich and full-bodied but not thick or floury. Enlivened with apple-smoked bacon chunks, chives and a deft hand on the herbs, it was splendid. One evening as an appetizer we elected the Alsatian onion tart ($7.95) from the "Sides" category on the menu. It proved to be an excellent starter. Its flaky crust and sweet, succulent onions, enriched with good quality cheese, made the tart more like a bowl of classic French onion soup than a quiche. It was so rich and filling that we could not imagine it being served as a "side."

In making our main course selections, we reminded ourselves that this was, after all, a grill, and we availed ourselves of selections that made use of that equipment. The kidney lamb chops ($20.75) were pronounced by my wife "the best lamb chops I've ever had." The two thick, 8-ounce double-thick loin chops were tender, rare and juicy, requiring only salt and pepper to bring out their exquisite flavor. Most astounding was the price, a veritable bargain considering the quality of the meat and the size of the portion. Another grill staple, the veal loin chop ($26.75), was also excellent. Thick, tender and medium-rare as ordered, it too required only minimal salt and pepper seasoning. Both lamb and veal were accompanied by sweet onions sautéed in reduced meat juices.

On the seafood side of the menu, the seared tuna ($28.75) also came from the grill, where the herbed crust was seared to seal in the succulent goodness of the almost-raw tuna. A starkly satisfying pommery mustard jus was a perfect match for the tuna, and the accompanying "five-

Grill 23

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RESERVATIONS highly recommended

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The ambiance of the newly expanded Grill 23 falls somewhere between clubby and elegant. Opposite page: kidney lamb chops; chef Jay Murray.



onion risotto" was creamy, sweet and savory. Moving from the fire to the frying pan, one evening we ordered a pan-fried crabcake ($12.75) as a main course. Light yet substantial, this well-constructed, deftly seasoned *quenelle* was accompanied by crispy capers and a tangy remoulade. While various vegetable and starch sides are available at aggressive prices, the size of the meat portions, combined with the contents of the bread basket, made them superfluous, which helped keep down the cost of dining at this upscale eatery.

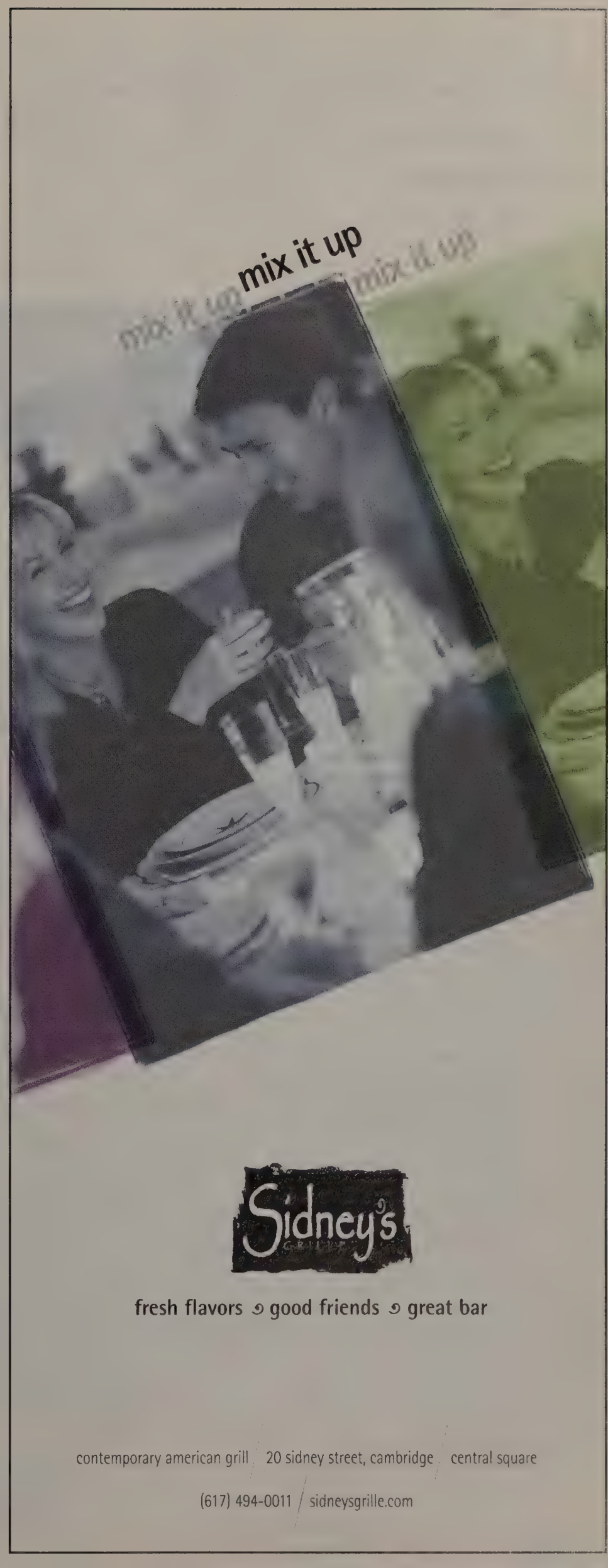
Finally, Grill 23's desserts were very good, although even more aggressively priced ($9.75) than what preceded them. The chocolate cake was at once dense and delicate, very moist with intense chocolate flavor. We rationalized the price by theorizing that the intensity of the chocolate could only have been achieved by fusing two desserts into one. Less memorable but still pleasant was the Boston cream pie, a multilayered cake with pastry cream between the layers and a bittersweet chocolate sauce and raspberry garnish.

Overall, Grill 23 exudes class but for the pedestrian, bar-quality wine glasses in which much of the wine was served. What went into them, however, a splendid 1998 Cotes de Nuits Village, Clos de la Belle Marguerite, was remarkably good. This classic Burgundian Pinot Noir, an excellent value at $25, had a flavor and bouquet that made it the equal of wines much higher in price. Oenophiles—particularly well-heeled ones—could go wild at Grill 23, since the wines range upwards from the modest $19 Beaujolais into the thousands for Grand Cru Classe Bordeaux. On a later visit, however, I asked Grill 23's delightful upstairs sommelier Nathelie if she could serve our wine in the restaurant's Riedel crystal, and she was pleased to do so even though we had ordered the lowest priced wine on the list, a $19 Beaujolais Village. The Beaujolais, despite its bargain price, was perfectly pleasant in its refreshing Gamay fruitiness.

Although we found the waitstaff on our second visit to be charming and attentive, our first visit started ominously. Arriving promptly for a 6:30 reservation one Friday evening, we were shown to a table in a corner of the lower level next to a serving station. When we demurred about the table's location, the host promptly and graciously showed us to a splendid table on the mezzanine, with a good view over the lower-level dining room. This was the night of the cold chowder, and the several minutes it took for it to be replaced apparently threw off the whole meal's timing. For as soon as my wife put down her spoon, the waitress came to whisk away our plates so that she could bring the main courses. When I remarked that we really were not in a rush and would prefer to pace the meal better, she said, somewhat nervously, that our main courses had already come out of the kitchen. Upon arrival, both dishes were cold. At that point, we asked to speak to the manager, because it was evident that our poor waitress had no control over the pacing of the meal.

The manager could not have been nicer. I explained that although we appreciated the economics of American restaurants, where tables are routinely turned over two or three times on a weekend night, we did not plan on lingering for an untoward interval and that we would really prefer not to be rushed. The manager listened to our plea and took away the cold dishes. For the remainder of the meal, not only was pacing much improved, but a dinner that had started out on shaky grounds turned out to be very enjoyable.

While in the final analysis we were pleased with the performance of both kitchen and front of the house at Grill 23, I take two lessons from our experience. First, a polite but determined resistance to unsatisfactory treatment is preferable to accepting whatever comes your way and then grousing about it to your companion for the rest of the evening. Second, a restaurant of class and style, into which category I place Grill 23, will graciously accommodate a reasonable request and do its best to create a satisfied customer. iB



DISH

Absentee Palates

Streetside seating surcharge...a farewell to Fathman?

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

From Fenway Park to Symphony Hall, better seats command higher prices. And so it goes with some of the most desirable warm-weather seats along Newbury Street: the outdoor dining area at **Stephanie's on Newbury**, for one. As noted on the menu, a service charge—specifically, an 18 percent gratuity—is added to all outside diners' checks, "to protect the employees," says assistant manager **Kathleen Ridlon**. Makes perfect sense to us.

On the other hand, when a flock of last-minute cancellations lit up the phone lines at **Eclipse** before a special critics' dinner, owner/chef **Rob LaGrassa** couldn't bring himself to charge even a nominal fee. It's not the way he wants to run his business, he says.

Get the money up front, we say. In case of eleventh-hour phone cancellations, offer the patrons a gift certificate for the same amount and wish them well. That's the general policy for special dinners at **Radius**, and co-owners **Christopher Myers** and **Michael Schlow** run an event like the Kenyans run marathons: smoothly, passionately and with consistently impressive results.

Case in point: the recent all-star benefit that paid tribute to **Jean-Louis Palladin**, who is battling cancer, and raised $37,000 for the renowned chef's medical fund. The challenge here wasn't filling the seats, which were quickly snapped up by Radius regulars and industry colleagues, but ensuring harmony among the big-name Boston chefs cooking dinner in the kitchen: **Jasper White**, **Lydia Shire**, **Susan Regis**, **Ming Tsai** and **Frank McClelland**. Add to the mix **Olivia English**, representing husband **Todd**, and event co-host **Ken Oringer** of **Clio**, fresh from his Best Chef-Northeast award at the **James Beard House**, and you've got enough high-octane talent and potential ego friction to ignite one hell of a kitchen fire.

Yet you also have the proactive thoughtfulness of chef Schlow, who assigned a Radius staffer to each guest chef to serve as a personal assistant. Staffers provided direction, ingredients, access, food and drink as required.

While Schlow ran the kitchen, Myers provided the floor show as he auctioned off items ranging from a VIP valet parking pass to dinner-for-eight at Lydia Shire's house. Myers stopped at nothing to squeeze the highest possible bids from the crowd: Urging bids for a private cooking lesson at Radius, followed by a six-course tasting dinner and a night at **The Four Seasons**, he announced that Schlow "will be wearing a thong, a paisley thong, and matching chef's clogs!"



Eclipse chef/owner Rob LaGrassa was gracious about a few no-shows at his critics' dinner.

Over the top? Not quite. And what would have been over the top? How about a karaoke version of "Take me to the liver/watch me cook the foie gras/let's saute the liver/reducing it down/reducing it doowwwnn!"

IS HE OR ISN'T HE?

Yes, **Robert Fathman**, formerly of **The Federalist** and **Grill 23**, is leaving town for a new executive chef position in Philadelphia after getting **Trio** off to a solid start in the Leather District. But he isn't giving up his position as executive chef at Trio, according to spokesperson **Peggy Rose**.

"He is staying on as our executive chef, but he's relocating," she says, adding that Fathman will "be back in two weeks to introduce Trio's new summer menu and will be back once a month." Meanwhile, Trio's chef de cuisine **David Perrier**, who worked with Fathman at Grill 23 and The Fed, will run day-to-day operations.

Reached at home the day before flying to Philadelphia, Fathman acknowledged having mixed feelings about the move. "I'm packing things up, but I'm unbelievably sad," he said. "Boston's my home. I plan to come back." iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Champagne Dinner
Aura at the Seaport Hotel, One Seaport Lane, Boston (385-4300). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. May 24, 6:30pm. $95. This five-course dinner features champagnes from Gosset, the oldest wine house in the Champagne region. **Jean Francois Ey** from Gosset will be on hand to offer details about the selected champagnes.

Cheese on the Terrace
Maison Robert, 45 School St., Boston (227-3370). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Daily, 2:30-9:30pm. $9. Enjoy a tasting of French goat, sheep and cow's milk cheeses. This spring, it's St. Maur (Loire), Ertorki (Pyrenes) and Pont l'Eveque.

Cheese Tasting
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (266-4351). May 31, 6:30pm. $55. Cheese expert **Randy Barnes** presents this tasting of cheeses from the Provence, Corsica and Rhone-Alpes regions, paired with wine.

Flight Night
Atara Bistro & Wine Bar, 1418 Comm. Ave., Brighton (566-5670). Wednesdays. $40. Indulge in a three-course tasting menu with five wines.

Friday Night Wine Tastings
The Wine Bottega, 341 Hanover St., Boston (227-6607). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Wine expert **Peter Nelson** leads this Friday evening tasting. •May 25: Party wines that are festive and food friendly. •June 1: Favorites over $20. More money equals more value.

Guest Chef Series
The Federalist, 15 Beacon St., Boston (670-2515). May 31-June 1. $80, $120. Executive chefs **Bill Brodsky** of Wequassett Inn Resort in Chatham and **Eric Brennan** of The Federalist collaborate on a seasonal tasting menu designed to highlight the flavors and essences of the summer and local specialties of New England.

Guest Chef
Eat, 253 Washington St., Somerville (776-2889). June 4. **Peter Laspia** of the Seasonal Table will act as guest chef.

I Do Two
Up Stairs at the Pudding, 10 Holyoke St., Cambridge (864-1933). May 24. In a special reunion dinner, **Mary-Catherine Deibel** and **Deborah Hughes** will celebrate all the couples who have held their wedding receptions at the restaurant. The pair have hosted more than 300 weddings.

Island Tasting
The Vault, 105 Water St., Boston (292-9966). June 4, 5:30-7pm. $30.75. This Caribbean-inspired food and beverage tasting will feature five different dishes and three rum beverages. A live steel drum band will entertain.

Ju Ju Cocktail Night
The Times, 112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). Wednesdays, 7-11pm. Guest chef **Willie D.** cooks up a Southern hospitality menu, which includes such specialties as etoufee, barbecued ribs and fried catfish—and then steps onstage to perform blues as a member of the band Ju Ju Cocktail.

Maine Lobster Menu
Caliterra, 89 Broad St., Boston (664-1234). Through June 15. Chef **Damiano de Nicolo** offers a seasonal menu featuring Maine lobster.

Seasonal Table Trio
The Seasonal Table, 61 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (236-7979). Fridays, 5-8pm. Enjoy a wine and cheese tasting with live classical music.

Showcase Luncheons
Beale Estate, 181 Adams St., Quincy (422-1907). 12-2pm. $55. Enjoy a luncheon at the Decorator's Show House 2001. •May 23: Chef **John Delpha**, formerly of Mistral and Harvest.

South African Wine Dinner
Cafe Fleuri, Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (956-8751). May 31. $45. This event includes a reception and three-course meal paired with South African Fleur de Cap wines.

Wine Tasting with Lorenzo
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (542-5108). Tuesdays, 6 and 8pm. $25. General manager **Lorenzo Savona** offers samples of four to five wines, accompanied by hors d'oeuvres. •May 29: South African reds •June 5: Portuguese reds.

TASTY TIDBIT

CULINARY COOK-OFF

Think you're a pretty good cook? Here's an opportunity to match your culinary wits against other chefs-in-the-making. On May 31, the Boston Center for Adult Education will host the Battle of the Chefs, a fun and lively cooking competition. Sign up to be on one of two teams (each team comprises three cooks) and receive a mystery basket of ingredients, including all the necessary components of the dishes you'll be challenged to prepare. The catch: There are no recipes allowed here, so be sure to bring along your creativity. Within a time limit of one hour and a half, you and your partners will make one appetizer and one entree.

If cooking is not one your strong points, feel free to sign up as one of 10 judges. You'll get to enjoy the fruits of your peers' labor as you sip wine and discuss the cooking process and the results. Chef Julia Shanks, owner of Interactive Cuisine, will be on hand to facilitate, moderate and serve as an expert reference. ***5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. May 31, 6:30-9:30pm. $58.***



LEFT: WENDY MIMRAN; RIGHT: MATTHEW WEST

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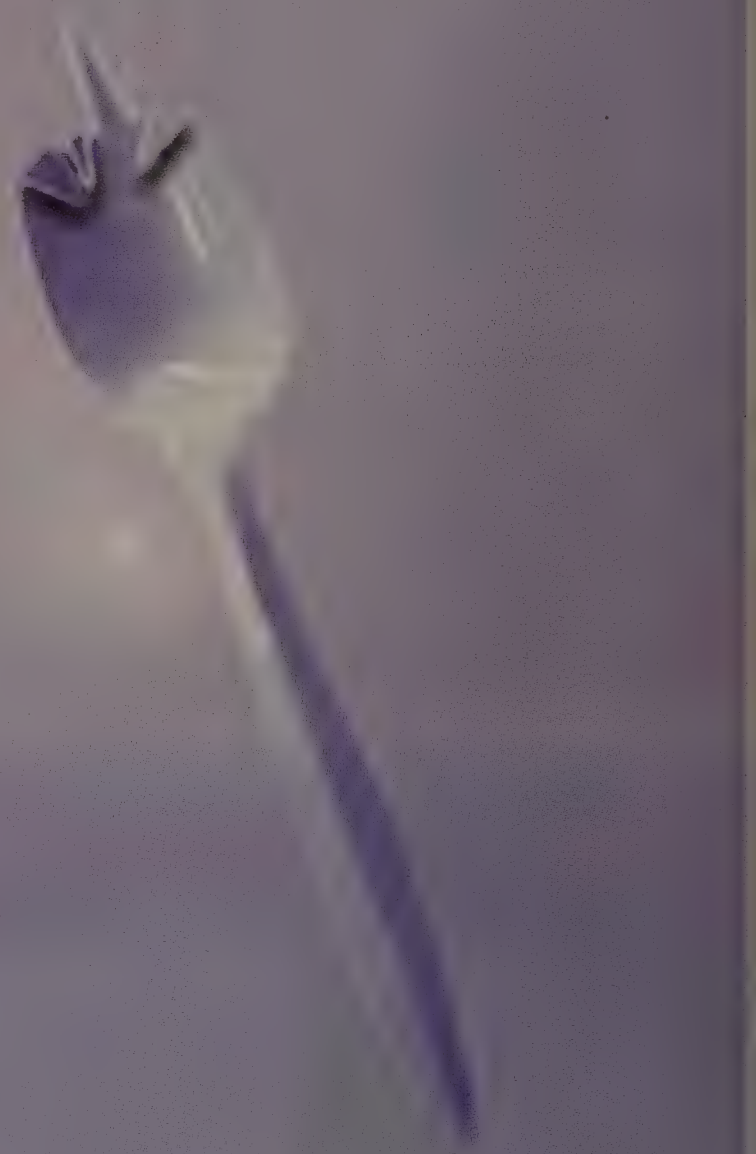
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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 45

PERFORMING ARTS 46

ART 48

FILM 52

BOOKS & POETRY 56

EDUCATION 56

DANCE CLUBS 58

MUSIC 64

CLASSICAL MUSIC 72

GAY & LESBIAN 74

BODY & MIND 76

CHILDREN 76

SPORTS 76

AROUND TOWN 78

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance, Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

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Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope,

Sports

Barbara Mattaliano

Dance Clubs



FRI./MAY 25

Music: Scot Rock

Experimental post-rockers Mogwai are known as much for their punk-rocker spirit as for their emotionally riveting tunes. Their new album, *Rock Action*—a groundbreaking release—is their elaborate, brooding third LP. The album, which debuts two years after the band's last effort, *Come On Die Young*, is a short (40-minute) but very satisfying release, replete with their signature intense, soaring, dramatic romps. Often compared to the orchestral Godspeed You Black Emperor!, the ethereal, light-on-the-vocals lads have put lots of unexpected instrumentation into *Rock Action*—banjo, violin, trumpet and trombone are some of the additions. The scruffy-looking quintet, which formed in Glasgow, Scotland, in 1995 by guitarist/vocalist Stuart Braithwaite, bassist Dominic Aitchison and drummer Martin Bulloch, are truly incredible in concert. Their no-holds-barred music ranges from ferocious indie-rock songs to obscure techno beats—all delivered with gusto. Their full-speed-ahead tour lands them at the Roxy May 25, where they share a bill with the intensely hypnotic Psychedelphia scenesters Bardo Pond. Get there early: Doors open at 6pm. *279 Tremont St., Boston (931-2000). 6pm. $15 advance, $17 at the door. 18+.*

THU./ MAY 24

Music: Rough and Rumble

The pressure's on as the riotous **WBCN Rock 'n' Roll Rumble** comes to a cacophonous close when the finals are held May 24, at the Middle East. The first of two semifinal bouts took place Friday, May 18, when four bands competed for a coveted spot in the finals: synth-popsters Freeze Pop, the irresistibly hooky Bleu, raunch-rockers Lamont, and AM Stereo, a wild-card pick.On Saturday, May 19, round two of the semis featured the delicious pop-punk Decals, hard-rock heathens Cracktorch, Kings of Nuthin' (known for pyrotechnic mischief), as well as metal monsters Diecast (another wild card). Semifinal winners plus one wild-card band will play in the finals, along with the rabblerousing, beer-sloshing Darkbuster (2000 winner). The Rumble not only riles up bands but audiences If you've missed the Rumble so far, the finals offer the ultimate in rawk glory and mayhem. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-EAST).*

SUN./JUNE 3

CityScope: Central Square World's Fair

Despite the fact that travel to such far-flung locales as Tibet and Papua, New Guinea, has become increasingly more affordable and easier to coordinate, it's awfully nice when someone brings the culture, music and cuisine of foreign lands right to your backyard. The **Central Square World's Fair** offers a bit of everything—arts and crafts, clothing and food from around the world. For the kids, there'll be face painters, storytellers and jugglers. The event's nine stages will include ones for Gospel, dance and Latin music, and the best of local and national jazz, blues and rock 'n' roll. Look for the Tarbox Ramblers and the Allstonians on the Green Street Grill stage. *Mass Ave., between Main St. and Pleasant St., Cambridge (868-3247). MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 3, 12-6pm. Free.*



FRI./MAY 25 — SUN./MAY 27

Sports: Frisbee Champs

When I was a kid, I could never throw a Frisbee. Without fail, every time I tossed the red plastic disc, it crashed into the ground. That's why I'd always been Frisbee-phobic, until last year when I was dragged against my will to an ultimate Frisbee game. The team needed another warm body. "Just stand on the field and follow the rest of us," shouted my companion as we jogged onto the field. By the end of the game, I was hooked. Here was a sport where an occasional athlete with little or no coordination could actually participate and feel like a contributing member of a team. Now I'm one of thousands of men and women around the country who are obsessed with the sport. If you get a chance this Memorial Day weekend, check out the **2001 Ultimate Players' Association College Championship** in Ayer, Mass. The very best of the college ultimate players—more than 30 teams and 500 male and female players—will participate in this three-day tournament. And when it's played well, ultimate is like a well-choreographed dance. *The finals will be held at Tufts University on May 27, 11:30am (women's) and 2pm (men's). (800-UPA-GETH). May 25-27.*

FRI./MAY 25— MON./MAY 28

<<CityScope: Street Performers

Unbeknownst to many Bostonians, the performers who entertain at Faneuil Hall are not random buskers. They're a talented group of 30 individuals (hailing from as far away as Australia) chosen by a discriminating panel of judges to sing, dance, juggle, practice magic or play instruments on weekends throughout the summer. They're not paid—they rely solely on contributions from an appreciative audience. Remember that if you decide to attend the four-day **Street Performers' Festival** May 25-28. In celebration of Faneuil Hall's 25th anniversary, this year's festival is even bigger and better. Performers will join the band Ball in the House to kick off each day with a noontime kazoo parade through the marketplace. Group shows take place every night at 7:30 with daring feats by some of Boston's most outrageous entertainers. Don't miss the very special show Saturday night at 7 featuring the Flying Karamazov Brothers (actually jugglers—and not actually brothers). *Faneuil Hall, Boston (523-1300). May 25, 12-11pm; May 26-27, 11am-11pm; May 28, 11am-5pm. Free.*



MONDAYS IN JUNE

Film: Jazzing Up June>>

Every June, Monday nights in Brookline get a whole lot more interesting. Throughout the entire month, WGBH 89.7FM and the Coolidge Corner Theatre team up with New England Conservatory to pair live jazz performances with jazz films. This year's series is especially engaging—from jazz heavy hitters Herbie Hancock and Ella Fitzgerald to the great, but lesser known, tenor sax Big Ben Webster and trumpeter Don Cherry. Here's the lineup for the next two weeks: June 4, 7:30pm **Archie Shepp: I Am Jazz... It's My Life**, about multi-instrumentalist, composer, poet, playwright and educator Archie Shepp. It shows with **Big Ben Webster in Europe**. •June 11, 7:30pm **Don Cherry: Multiculti**, a film about the trumpeter, who became a pivotal composer/theorist and an invigorating, experimental World Music improviser. It shows with **David Moffet & Ornette: The Ornette Coleman Trio**. Visit the Web site for a full schedule at *www.coolidge.org. 290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2500). $8.*





TUE./JUNE 5 — SUN./JUNE 10

Theater: American Music

On this hot summer afternoon in 1906, escape artist Harry Houdini swerves his car into a telephone pole outside the home of an affluent family in New Rochelle, N.Y. Thus begins E.L. Doctorow's classic novel-turned-musical, ***Ragtime***. The four-time Tony Award-winning show comes to town for a one-week engagement at the Wang Theatre June 5. *Ragtime* tells the story of American life at the turn of the 20th century, featuring such pivotal events as the sinking of the Lusitania, the birth of the American labor union, the development of the assembly-line technology and the dawn of the automotive and motion picture industries. Weaving real-life historical characters like Henry Ford, J.P. Morgan and Booker T. Washington into fictional situations, Doctorow manages to paint an entertaining yet thought-provoking tale of three families from very different parts of town whose lives becomes dramatically intertwined...all set to an upbeat ragtime score. *The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). June 5-10. $25-$68.50.*

THU. MAY 24

Books: The Ideology of Censorship

Limiting children's access to libidinous material is a heated topic nowadays. **Marjorie Heins**, director of the Free Expression Policy Project of the National Coalition Against Censorship, is the author of several works examining the issue, especially as it pertains to children. Most recently, she has written *Sex, Sin and Blasphemy: A Guide to America's Censorship Wars* and *Not in Front of the Children*. Both works examine the many forms and degrees of censorship—from *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* to *Harry Potter*, and from Internet filters to the V-chip. She talks about the history of indecency laws and other restrictions aimed at protecting youth, and questions whether censoring information actually harms rather than helps a child's development. She'll also explain the history of such laws, from Plato's pro-censorship argument through Victorian laws to today's battles over sex education in public schools. *Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). 6pm.*

FRI./MAY 25 — SUN./MAY 28

CityScope: Cutting Edge of the Campfire

If the word "campfire" conjures up images of roasting marshmallows, ghost stories and group sing-alongs (not mosquitoes, smoke in your eyes and collapsing tents), then you're the perfect audience for Club Passim's **The Cutting Edge of the Campfire** folk music festival. More than 100 of the best folk performers and singer-songwriters from New England and beyond play in groups of four on the stage at one time at this annual gathering. The extensive list of performers is not to be believed—from Louise Taylor , the MacVitties and Jim Infantino to Vance Gilbert and Cliff Eberhardt. All this for just $5 per day or $10 for a weekend pass. Bug spray optional. *Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 25-28, 12pm-1am, each day. $5, one day; $10, entire weekend.*

WED. & THU. IN JUNE

Film: International Subtitled Cinema

Over the years, many award-winning films have been made in Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Venezuela. But the problem is, for the most part, they've stayed there. Rarely have the majority of these films been screened outside their countries of origin. So, every year, in conjunction with the consul generals of Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Venezuela, the Boston Public Library brings these films to light in the Annual Ibero American Festival. This year's sixth-annual event starts May 30 with a screening of **Baja California: El Limite del Tiempo** (*The Limit of Time*), in Spanish with English subtitles. A reception follows, hosted by the consul generals of the seven participating countries. June 6, 13, 14, 20, 21 and 27, all at 6pm. *Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400).*

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

Banking Investment Analysts' Cocktail Party
The Black Rhino, 21 Broad St., Boston (228-3039). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 9-12pm. Free. Investment banking analysts, tonight is your night! Loosen your tie, come down to the Black Rhino, and enjoy cocktails and promotional giveaways from sponsors Bankers of Boston, Boston Sports Clubs, Harpoon Brewery and Red Bull.

Circle of Friends Gala and Silent Auction
The Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Pkwy., Cambridge (876-4210). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 6:30-9:30pm. $35. Join television celebrities and special guests for good food and wonderful auction items at the Cambridge Family and Children's Service's eighth annual fund-raising event.

Decorators' Show House and Tours
Beale Estate, 181 Adams St., Quincy (422-1907). MBTA: Red Line to Quincy Center. www.jlboston.org. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-2pm, 6-9pm; Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 11am-7pm; Mon., closed. Through May 25. $20, $25 at the door.* The Junior League of Boston's largest annual fund-raiser transforms the classic colonial Beale Estate into a decorators' show house, featuring several of the area's most gifted interior designers.

Spring Soiree Benefit
Joe's American Bar and Grill, 100 Atlantic Ave., Boston (789-4070). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.bssc.com. *6-9pm. $35.* Celebrate spring with a wine tasting, light appetizers and cash bar. Proceeds benefit the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

Hot Salsa and Heavy Schmoozing
The Modern, 36 Landsdowne St., Boston (312-5410). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.thejconnection.com. *7:30pm. $10; $20, after 8:30.* Enjoy drinks and hors d'oeuvres, and take a salsa lesson at this social event for Jewish professionals and students in their 20s and 30s, sponsored by the J Connection.

The Night Is Ours Fund-Raiser
MIT Walker Hall, 142 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (492-8306). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. www.barcc.org. *6pm. $100.* Activist and rape survivor Susan Estrich will be the keynote speaker; she will be honored with the first Susan Estrich Courage Award. Festivities will include a buffet dinner, jazz music and a silent auction.

Weekly Workout at Faneuil Hall
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (737-3500). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Thursdays, 12-2pm. Local radio personality Karen Blake hosts this live weekly workout. Let the tourists gawk. You're beautiful, baby!

FRIDAY, MAY 25

Cutting Edge of the Campfire
Club Passim, 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12pm-1am, each day. $5, one day; $10, entire weekend. More than 100 of the best folk performers and singer-songwriters from New England and beyond play at this annual folk music festival. Performers include Louise Taylor, Jim Infantino, Vance Gilbert and Cliff Eberhardt.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Fridays. $10. Enjoy an evening of live jazz and cocktails as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

Tour de Sol: The Great American Green Transportation Festival
City Hall Plaza, Boston (413-774-6051). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. www.nesea.org.. *11am. Free.* Line up at the finish line to see the final lap of this 50-vehicle road rally featuring the latest Earth-friendly vehicles. Browse cutting-edge conservation technology at 18 sponsor booths.

Street Performers Festival
Faneuil Hall, Boston. Free. Street performers will be doing their thing all day, but the highlight will be tonight's performance by the Flying Karamazov Brothers.

Free Sailing Event on Boston Harbor
Boston Sailing Center on Lewis Wharf, Downtown. 1-6pm.. (227-4198). www.bostonsailingcenter.com. Take a trip around the harbor and learn about sailing on boats ranging from 23 to 40 feet. The center's teaching staff will be on hand to answer questions. Refreshments served.

Boston Harbor Islands Festival
Until May 28. (223-8666). www.bostonislands.com. *Cruises depart from Long Wharf.* This weekend-long festival celebrates the Boston Harbor Islands, which have been operated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a state park for over 25 years.

SUNDAY, MAY 27

Charles Hotel Farmers Market
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (864-1200). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 11am-3:30pm. Free. Get the freshest and the finest for your Sunday dinner.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

Eight-Minute Dating
Legal Sea Foods, 26 Park Plaza, Boston (426-4444). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:10pm, sign-in. $33. Spend an evening at Legal Sea Foods in Park Plaza meeting interesting single 30-40 year-old professionals like yourself. Appetizers are provided; cash bar available. Pre-registration is required.

Reflections 2001
Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston (541-0222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley; Orange Line to Back Bay. 5:30-10pm. www.vpi.org. *$100pp.* This fundraiser will benefit Victory Programs, a non-profit that provides alcoholism and addiction treatment and support services for individuals and families.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

Boston Ski and Sports Club Happy Hour
The Harp, 85 Causeway St., Boston (789-4070). MBTA: Orange or Green Line to North Station. 6-8pm. No cover. Come down for libations and socializing with the largest sport and social club in New England.

Young Professionals Spring Fund-Raiser
Boston Harbor Hotel, Wharf Room (746-5624). 6pm-12am. www.rcab.org/inner-city/youngprof.htm. *$40 in advance, $45 at the door. Jackets recommended.* Proceeds will benefit the Inner-City Scholarship Fund.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Allston Brighton Ethnic Festival
William Smith Playground at the intersection of North Harvard Street and Western Avenue, Allston (787-0425). 11am-5pm. Rain date: June 9. Free. Along with food and crafts from around the world, this festival will feature live music from local ethnic bands, dancers...and free ice cream from Ben & Jerry's.

Train Ride to U.S. Navy Submarine Museum
Leaves from 75 Hammond St., Worcester (361-4445). www.mysticvalleyrs.org. *10am-4pm. $35.* Ride a specially chartered train through the Blackstone and Thames river valleys to the Submarine Museum, where you can come aboard the world's first nuclear sub, the USS *Nautilus*. Sponsored by the Mystic Valley Railway Society.

Bay Village Street Fair
Church St., Boston. Green Line to Arlington. 11am-5pm. Free. Local restaurants, antiques and arts-and-crafts vendors will be out for this annual street fair, which features continuous entertainment and the famous Bay Village Bake Sale.

Lighten Up: The Benefit!
DeCordova Museum and Sculpture Park, 51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln (781-259-3615). 5:30pm-12am. $175, dinner and auction: $65, dance. Taking its theme from the DeCordova's recent art and humor exhibition, this fund-raiser includes a cocktail reception, dinner and dancing to a live swing band, with the museum's art as a backdrop. A live auction during dinner will feature items like art, vacations and a party on the DeCordova's roof terrace. A silent auction will take place during the dancing.

A Day of Scottish Games and Celtic Music
Oak Park, off Rte. 136, Greenfield, N.H. (603-924-6050). www.snhscotcelt.org. Local restaurants, antiques and arts-and-crafts vendors will be out for this annual street fair, which features continuous entertainment, and the famous Bay Village Bake Sale. Proceeds benefit Bay Village neighborhood beautification, crime prevention and public safety programs, as well as the Boston High School scholarship fund and other charitable organizations.



Ferraris are the most popular marque at Italian Car Day, but non-Maranello cars, like this Alfa Romeo TZ, constitute about half of the competitors. Inset: This Ferrari definitely predates air bags.

Preview

Festival of Fast

An array of mobile Italian art revs up the MOT

If you're a fan of Ferraris, then you need to head to the Museum of Transportation in Brookline on June 3. That's when the 6th Annual Tutto Italiano Concours takes place, and this year promises to offer a collection of Maranello metal that will make even the most jaded Four Seasons valet blush like the Church Lady at a *Hustler* photo shoot.

The show is sponsored by Ferrari of New England and the Ferrari Club of America, but all Italian makes are welcome. Show organizer and MOT trustee Neal Heffron expects about half of the 200 cars to be of the prancing horse variety, with the rest of the lawn occupied by Lamborghinis, DeTomasos, Alfa Romeos, Fiats, Maseratis and an assortment of other four-wheeled, motorized Italian conveyances not used for plowing fields.

Every year has its surprises, from Bill Cosby's F-40 (Cliff Huxtable would have been significantly less milquetoast had he had a set of 478-horsepower keys to hold over Theo's head) to the occasional Lamborghini LM002, a.k.a. "Rambo Lambo" sport-utility. Most of these cars are driven to the event, and "trailer queens" are not encouraged. In fact, one year a contestant trailered six cars up from Connecticut, including a Lamborghini Diablo and an F-40. But he refused to take his cars off the trailer and so was disqualified from the Concours judging. "It's part of the fun for the spectators to hear the cars run, so every car being judged has to at least start up and come off the trailer," Heffron says.

Besides the make-specific categories, this year will mark the first time an award is given to the driver who covers the most miles to get to the show. Heffron says that in years past the show has drawn competitors from as far away as Ohio. For his part, Heffron has three Italian rides to bring to the show: an '84 Alfa Spyder, an '87 Ferrari 328 and a '96 Ferrari 355. Given that the 355 sports the rather provocative message "see you" on its plates, do the police pay particular attention to 200 Italian cars snorting through Brookline?

"I suspect people should drive slowly when they leave," Heffron says.

The 6th Annual Tutto Italiano Concours, Sunday, June 3. Admission $5 for adults, $3 for children under 12 and seniors. Museum of Transportation, 15 Newton Street, Brookline. 617-522-6547,* www.mot.org. *—Ezra Dyer

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

AIDS Walk and Run 2001
The Hatch Shell, Boston (424-WALK). www.aidswalkboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington; Red Line to Charles. 9am..* Take a step to end the epidemic in this 10-kilometer fund-raising walkathon and 5-kilometer run. Proceeds benefit the AIDS Action Committee and 12 other non-profit organizations.

Central Square World's Fair
Mass. Ave., between Main St. and Pleasant St., Cambridge (868-3247) diningbc@channel1.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. 12-6pm. Free.* This fair has something for everyone: hundreds of artisans lining Mass Ave., food vendors dishing up global cuisine and a children's area with face painters, story-tellers and jugglers. The event's nine stages will include a Gospel stage, a dance stage, a Latin stage, and the best of local and national jazz, blues and rock'n'roll.

Festa di Santa Maria DiAnzano
Hanover and Prince Streets, Boston. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. www.northendboston.com. *1:30-6pm. Free.* Soak up a bit of the old North End at this procession to celebrate Santa Maria DiAnzano, the patron saint of the town of Anzano in the Italian province of Foggia.

MONDAY, JUNE 4

The p.A.R.T.y 2001
Harvard University Radcliffe Yard. Cambridge (496-2000, ext. 8842) MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.amrep.org. *Cocktails, 6:30; Dinner, 7:30. $500.* This year, the American Repertory Theatre will establish the Jason Robards Award at its annual fund-raiser. The award will be given annually to honor artists for their devotion to live theatre; it celebrates the life of actor Jason Robards. The event will include cocktails and dinner on Harvard's Radcliffe yard, catered by the Four Seasons Hotel.

performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

...And Then You Go On
Berkshire Theatre Festival, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). May 25-26, 8:30pm; May 27, 3 and 8:30pm; May 31, 8:30pm; June 1-2, 8:30pm; June 3, 3pm; June 7-9, 8:30pm. $20. The Berkshire Theatre Festival presents a play in one act culled from the works of Samuel Beckett.

Double Billing
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (542-9155). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. May 25, 10:30am. $11.95. This show features three of Poe's stories, *The Pit and the Pendulum*, *The Black Cat* and *The Cask of Amontillado*, and two stories by Saki (H.H. Munro), *Louis* and *The Interlopers*.

Encore!!
Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston (542-9155). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. May 25, 10:30am. $11.95. Encore!! presents dramatized versions of *The Tell Tale Heart*, *The Necklace*, *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *The Monkey's Paw* and *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*.

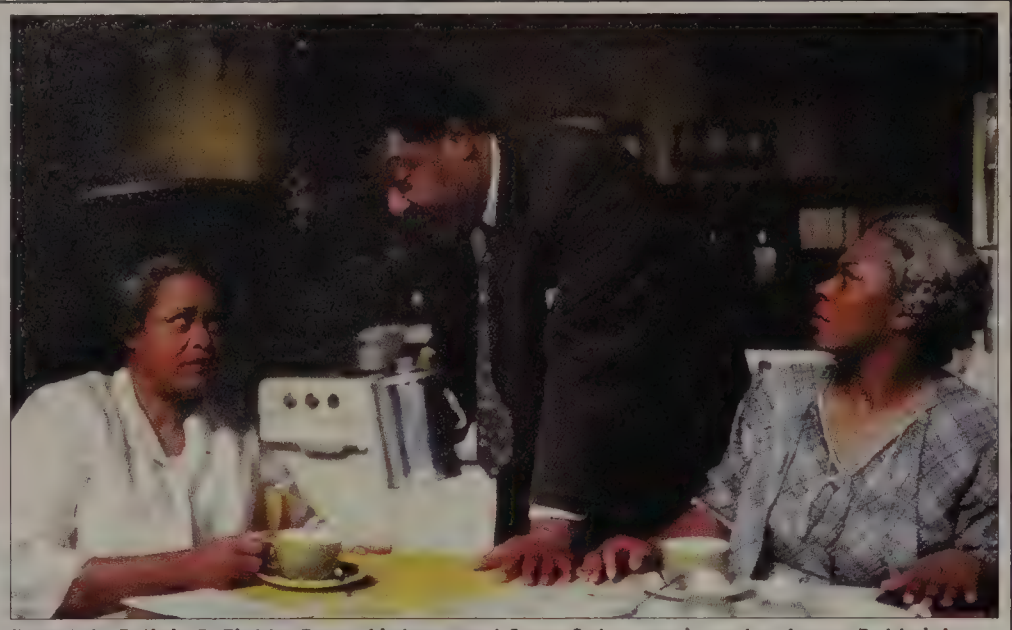
Hysterical!
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through June 3. $15.50 (pay what you can on Sundays). Six profane female clowns tell a story of inspiration, internalized oppression and the ups and downs that accompany the journey to the reunion of creativity and self-love. This work contains profanity, adult situations, nudity and lesbian themes.

Invisible Strings
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. May 17-19, 8pm; May 24-26, 8pm. $5. The BCA Teen Theater Ensemble presents this play about control. Four teenagers make their way through the constantly changing atmosphere of high school life.

Killer Joe
Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (887-2336). www.theatrezone.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. May 25-June 17. $12, $15 at the door.* TheatreZone presents Tracy Lett's dark comedy about a Texas trailer-park family plotting murder.

Ragtime
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. June 5-10. $25-$68.50. The four-time Tony Award-winning musical based on E.L. Doctorow's classic is a panoramic portrait of three remarkable families that become entwined: one upper-middle class, white Anglo-Saxon Protestant; one socialist immigrant Jewish; and one Harlem black.

Swing!
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 7pm; Sun., 1 and 7pm. May 29-June 10. $38.50-$68.50. The original Broadway musical swept the nation in the 1930s and '40s. Now *Swing!* highlights an eclectic mix of jive, Latin swing, West Coast swing, hip-hop swing and Country Western swing.



From left, Felicia P. Fields, Percy Littleton and Greta Ogles star in author James Baldwin's autobiographical musical, *The Amen Corner*, at the Huntington Theatre through June 17.

Preview

Son of a Preacher

The Amen Corner jazzes up the gospel

Can't decide between a concert and a night at the theater? Try *The Amen Corner* at the Huntington Theatre. Not just a dramatic play, *The Amen Corner* also features jazz and new pieces of original gospel music created expressly for this production.

The Amen Corner was written by James Baldwin, a civil rights activist in the 1960s best known for his literary works *Another Country*, *The Fire Next Time* and *The Devil Finds Work*. Few people know that he also wrote two plays that were produced on Broadway. This one is autobiographical—Baldwin re-creates parts of his childhood, growing up as the son of a storefront minister. Baldwin wrote of *The Amen Corner*: "I knew that what I wanted to do in the theater was to re-create moments I remembered as a boy preacher, to involve the people, even against their will, to shake them up and, hopefully, to change them."

The play incorporates the conflict in the community between the church-going gospel singers and the new jazz movement of the time as it captures the feel of 1960s Harlem. Most important, it draws on three powerful experiences: theater, the church and music. As Dina Croce of the Huntington Theatre points out, "Combining the greatest art forms—theater and music—you can't lose." *Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through June 17. $12-$55. —Rachel Allen*

This Year's Fashions
Theater Offensive, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Wed., 8pm. June 4-6. $8. More twisted than any lesbian pulp novel, this is the true 1940s love story of a brainy Jewish girl-turned-platinum bombshell (Judy Holliday) and the socialist NYPD policewoman who won her heart.

Too Tall Blondes Do Sex, Death and Gender
Theater Offensive, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. May 31-June 16. $24 (pay what you can on May 31, June 1 and June 10). The Theater Offensive presents this premiere by Kate Bornstein and Barbara Carrellas. Saunter into a world where sexual variety is the spice of life, gender identity is a nostalgic game, and revolution feels soft and tastes oh-so-sweet. Their *Too Tall* tale of falling in love is so outrageous that it could only be the truth.

NOW RUNNING

The Amen Corner
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through June 17. $12-$55. This powerful drama filled with gospel music is by author James Baldwin. Set in a Harlem storefront church in 1960, it tells the story of Sister Margaret, who faces problems within her family and her congregation when her estranged husband shows up at her doorstep after a 10-year absence.

Art
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through July 1. $28-$42. When a man drops a small fortune on a surprising piece of contemporary art, his lifelong friendship with his two best friends is turned upside down.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

Carousel
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Through June 3. $18-$56. This production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's tragic love story is set in a 19th-century New England fishing village.

Cider House Rules (Parts I and II)
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through June 17. $28-$42. Raised in a tiny Maine orphanage by a humble but dedicated doctor, Homer journeys into the world and grows from a boy of remarkable insight to a vigorous and committed young physician.

I Kissed Dash Riprock
Charlestown Working Theater, 442 Bunkerhill St., Charlestown (628-4750). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through May 27. $15. Cyndi Freeman presents a one-woman comedy about love, sex and movie stars.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham, Mass. (781-279-2200). Through June 3. $25-$40. This musical drama re-creates one of Billie Holiday's last performances at a rundown club in Philadelphia, when she was suffering from heroin addiction.

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. Through June 3. $25-$75. Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, this epic saga sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th-century France. Jean Valjean is pitted against the cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelong quest to evade capture.

Moby Dick, An American Opera
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton (332-1646). Through June 2. $25-$33. Broadway veterans Doug Katsiros and Mark St. Germain have turned Herman Melville's tale into a musical with a nine-piece orchestra and a cast of 13.

Richard II
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through June 10. $29-$59. "The deadliest kind of theater," says Thomas Derrah, who plays Richard, "is where people sit back and let whatever it is wash over them. In this production that's not going to be allowed. Part of [director] Robert Woodruff's modus operandi is to not let people off the hook." Woodruff has integrated elements of the modern artistic world into the play's staging, infusing the set, costumes and characters with contemporary artistic references while remaining true to the original text.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

1776
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through June 3. $21. Our new nation is struggling to be born in this humorous musical.

Swimming in March
Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through June 3. $30. Playwright Kate Robin has fun with the unfinished work of German playwright Georg Buchner, *Woyzeck*. This nightmarish multimedia play unfurls the complex story of Louis, a department store security guard who sells his body for odd experiments, and Marie, his socially and sexually frustrated wife.

The Taming of the Shrew
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (625-1300). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Through June 2. $15. A group of actors in 1936 Kentucky, rocked by the economic depression, decide to put on *The Taming of the Shrew* to delight and challenge their audience.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Cabaret
Curry Student Center, Northeastern University, Boston (373-2247). May 23-26, 8pm. $15. This Tony Award-winning musical includes "Cabaret," "Wilkommen," "Don't Tell Mama" and "Two Ladies."

PERFORMANCE ART

Deviant/Resonance (Liu Shou-yuo)
Tremont Theatre, 276 Trenont Theatre (542-4599). May 25-27, 8pm (theater performance)) 9pm (music by the Saturnalia String Trio). $12. This critically acclaimed performance, which first premiered in Hong Kong in 1999, explores both the oppressive and redemptive qualities of memory, which can overwhelm but also redeem.

Water/Rice
Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. May 31-June 2, 8pm. $10. Water rice, a staple of the Chinese diet, is a fluid substance that will serve as the starting point for Riverbed Theatre's image-based performance meditation. Works by this Taiwan-based performance group have been compared to witnessing the deepest moments in Samuel Beckett's pieces.

CABARET

Open Mike
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Boston (547-6789, ext. 1). May 31, 8-11pm. $7. Bring a song and sheet music and sing at this event co-sponsored by the Boston Association of Cabaret Artists.

COMING SOON

A Thousand Clowns
The Shubert Theatre, 272 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). June 19-July 1. $45-$65. Tom Selleck's revival of Jason Robards role from the 1960s will entertain a brand-new generation of comedy lovers.



The Snappy Dance Theater presents *Vagina (The Dance)* May 31.

Dance

SHOWS AND EVENTS

Endangered Species
Copley Square, Boston (781-861-0735). June 1, 4:30pm and 8:30 pm. A city oasis will be animated by dancers calling attention to the struggle of man and nature to survive in the urban environment. Created by Dawn Kramer and Micki Taylor-Pinney.

Mind, Body and Motion
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (508-580-5627). MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 2, 8pm: June 3, 7pm. $10. Journey to a world of various styles, techniques and emotions as the Dance Force explores the endless moods within the mind, body and soul.

Moving Beyond Balance
C. Walsh Theatre at Suffolk University, 55 Temple St., Boston (718-2477). www.snappydance.com. *May 31-June 3. $22.* A program of a dozen shorter works, including the Boston premier of *Glory Hole*, a commissioned work based on the nature of glass and glass-blowing.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). MBTA: Green Line. No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy. •Saturdays, 9:30pm-12am: Larry Lee Lewis Rock 'n' Roll Comedy Band and Boston's finest comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston. com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •May 23: George DeMartino •May 24, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •May 25: Robert Schimmel, $20 •May 26: Robert Schimmel, $22 •May 27, 7pm: local comedians •May 28: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •May 29: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •May 31: 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •June 1: Brian Regan from Showtime's *What's Wrong with the Regan Boy?* $21.50 •June 2: Brian Regan, $22.50 •June 4: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •June 5: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •May 24: The Comics of WAKKA with guests Joey Caroll and Eric Riley Moore. •May 25: Brendon and Larry with Katie Grady, Geo Lyons and Brian Kiley. •May 26: Brian Kiley, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Mindy Fay and Myq Kaplan. •May 27: Thank Gladys (sketch comedy) and Brian and Mal, John O'Sullivan and Rich Gustus. •May 31: Comedy troupe WAKKA hosts Dot Dwyer, Jesse Gersen and Todd Li. •June 1: Brendon and Larry host Tony V., Patric Borelli and Teresa Craggan. •June 2: A Tony V special, with Patric Borelli, Alana Devich and Laurie Hoffma. •June 3: Comics workout featuring Robert Lamb, Mike Baker, Chris Foltz and Joe Dinkin.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

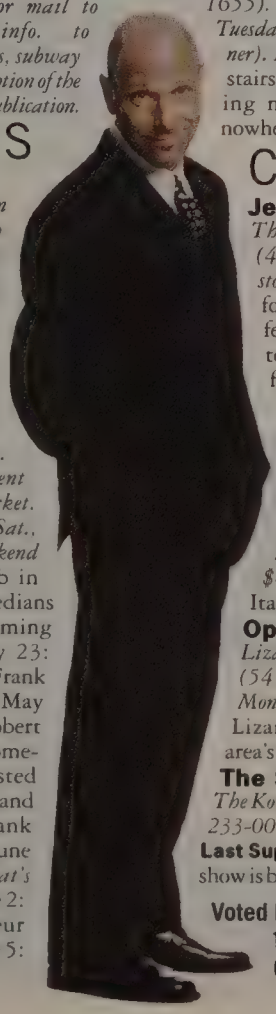
Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. Wednesdays: Open mike at 8:30pm. •May 24, 8:30pm: Robbie Printz, Al Klemick and John Joyce. •May 25-26, 8:45pm: Robbie Printz, Al Klemick and John Joyce. •May 31, 8:30: Kevin Knox, Mike Prior and Jack Lynch. •June 1, 8:45: Tom Clark, Mike Prior and Jack Lynch. •June 2, 8:45: Joe Yannetty, Mike Prior and Jack Lynch.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improv asylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Wednesdays, 8pm: Micetro. •Fridays, 8pm: Secret Society. 10:30pm: Theatre Sports. •Saturdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston. •Sundays, 7pm: Micetro.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.



COMEDY SHOWS

Jerry Seinfeld Live
The Wang Center, 268 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. May 24, 7 and 9:30pm. $46-$76. Unfortunately both of comedian Jerry Seinfeld's shows are sold out, but if you want to catch a glimpse of this funny guy, feel free to camp out on the curb on Tremont. Bring a camera.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mondays, 7-10pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

The Sopranos' Last Supper
The Kowloon Restaurant, Route 1, Saugus (781-233-0077). •May 26, 7pm. $35: **The Sopranos' Last Supper**. This interactive dinner-theater show is based on HBO's *The Sopranos*.

Voted best male stand-up comedian in 1999, Robert Schimmel is at the Comedy Connection May 25-26.

TOP: ROGER IDE; BOTTOM: KEN SAX



art

Advice to Contributors
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Museums

Art Institute of Boston
Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.aiboston.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •The Senior Graduate Exhibition shows through June 7.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture. Ongoing.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •*Proof in Print: A Community of Printmaking Studios* includes prints by 76 artists from four different studios that reflect an important sampling of Boston printmaking over the past two decades. Through May 27. •The annual Jerusalem Day exhibit, sponsored by the Zionist House/Israeli Cultural Center, shows through May 31. •Exhibits of documents, photos and posters commemorating the revolution of April 25, 1974 are featured throughout June.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •*Lighten Up: Art with a Sense of Humor* uses humor as a means to convey the artist's message. Through May 28. •In *Flights of Fantasy*, four artists present an outdoor computerized installation of shared media and memories. Through May 28. •In *Just the Thing!* everyday objects acquire new meanings. Through June 10.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (496-6972). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors. Free Sun., 9am-12pm; Wed., 3-5pm; Sept.-May.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these winged beauties. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Dutch artists Rineke Dijkstra presents the first U.S. survey of her photographs in *Portraits*, a collection of two series of her work, *Beaches* and *New Mothers*. Through July 1. •South African artist Marlene Dumas explores relationships in 100 *Models and Endless Rejects*, a one-room installation of 100 ink-wash drawings of faces, along with a selection of drawings. Through July 1. •*Laylah Ali: 2000 ICA Artist Prize* showcases a collection of the artist's cartoon-like drawings of ambiguous violence and degradation. Through July 1. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. The Artists-in-Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. May 31-Sept. 16. (See box above.)

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames Street Building E15, Atrium Level, Cambridge (253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm; Fri., 12-8pm. •Isaac Julien presents a film installation in epic Western style: *The Long Road to Mazatlán* and a double-projection video featuring modern dance, *Vagabondia*. Through July 1. •*The Long Count (I Shook Up the World)* by Paul Pfeiffer is the first of three works in which the artist has depicted Muhammed Ali to explore racial identity. Through July 1. •Johan Grimonprez shows *Inflight*, an airline magazine-inspired piece. Through July 1. •*Race in Digital Space* features more than 30 artists who use film, new media and the Web. Through July 1.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering and Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive opportunities take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only. Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45 pm. $12, students und seniors $10.* •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings, including his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 9. •*Japan at the Dawn of the Modern Age: Meiji Prints from Jean S. and Frederic A. Sharf Collection* is a group of 600 Japanese full-color woodblock prints from 1868-1912. Through July 15. •*Made in Japan* by Takashi Murakami is a collection of his recent work and his reinterpretation of *nihon-ga*, a traditional Japanese painting style. Through July 15.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Revolving Museum
288-300 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue.-Fri. 12-6pm. •The Little White Box gallery presents *Temporary Installation* by Rebecca Tasker. Through May 25.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (666-9810). MBTA: Red Line to Porter, transfer to bus 83. Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm; Sun., 2-5pm. •*Interconnections* features works by 20 artists on issues of multiculturalism, race and gender. Through June 23.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.- Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Sheets of glass* is a collection of artists exploring the use of fused and laminated sheet glass. Through June 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allston-skirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Laura Chasman and Kirsten Stoltmann have work on display through June 16.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Kathleen Holmes' *Sculptures of Dresses and Paintings of Landscape* displays through May 30.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Kathleen Holmes' *New Works* include paintings and sculptures that combine crocheted lace and textiles, found metals and oil paints. Through May 30. •*Encaustic Show*, by Joanne Mattera, features traditional encaustic as well as experimental mixed-media paintings and sculpture utilizing the ancient medium of pigmented wax. June 2-June 29.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Tue. and Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. •Ken Standhart presents his collection of ceramic clay vessels. Through May 31.



This untitled acrylic work by Laura Owens is one of her many works showing at the Gardner Museum.

Preview

Cross Country

Midwesterner Laura Owens lands at the Gardner

Giving new meaning to the expression "taking the country by storm," West Coast artist Laura Owens is now displaying her Midwestern-themed collection of paintings on the East Coast. Although the Ohio native is only 30 years old, her crisp, expressive paintings have been widely featured in leading art journals and exhibited at several major institutions. Since last spring, she has been an artist-in-residence at the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, where she has created a series of grand-scale canvases. The exhibition demonstrates a great stylistic range—from landscape to abstraction. All of her works all are characterized by precisely formed shapes and clearly delineated objects. They are inspired, in her words, by "a straightforward, Midwestern, no-bones-about-it sensibility."

The exhibition, which is organized by Pieranna Cavalchini, a visiting curator of contemporary art at the Gardner, also features some of Ownes' new works on paper. In addition, fabric work has also been an ongoing area of interest for her; during her residency at the Gardner, she was fascinated by textiles in the collection, particularly two Japanese wall hangings. Because they were such an inspiration, the Japanese hangings are also displayed adjacent to the exhibition. A terrific opportunity to learn more about Owens' work takes place August 7, when Linda Norden, curator of contemporary art at the Fogg Museum, will lead a discussion about the exhibition. *The exhibition opens to the public May 31 and runs through Sept. 16. 280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm.*

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Annette Lemieux presents *'Scapes Continued* and *Print Publisher's Spotlight: Universal Limited Art Editions*. Through May 30. •Five artists present New Works at a group show. Artists include Barbara Broughel, Scott Hadfield, Michael Beatty, Leslie Wilcox, Laura Wulf. Through July 25.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Country Folk*, a collection of paintings, sculptures and functional objects by several artists, shows through June 2.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Ayae Takahashi presents *Snow White: Enciphered*. Through June 2.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. www.bcaonline.org. •*Hybrid IDs*, guest curated by Robin Reisenfeld, is an exhibition exploring contemporary issues of identity. Through June 30.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Arthur Hardigg's show of drawings and paintings, *Cascade*, shows through June 16. •*Back and Forth*, a collection of collages by Carol Lynne Gove, shows through June 16.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (577-1400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •Karen Moss presents her exhibition *What I Never Learned in School*. Through June 29.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •Peit Mondrian exhibits *The Transatlantic Paintings*. Through July 22.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Surface Tension: Beyond Form* displays through June 16.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*New Paintings*, by Michael Zigmond, a collection of almost photorealistic paintings, will be displayed through May 28. •Cindia Sanford displays new paintings, followed by a reception June 1, 5-7p.m. Through June 26.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (695-0255). Wed.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Steve DeFrank tapped into his upbringing in the '60s and '70s to demonstrate how toys are involved in America's socio/sexual issues in *Real Little People*, through May 26.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •May 24, the Copley Society presents a spring/summer members show and a reception, 5:30-7:30pm. Through June 16.

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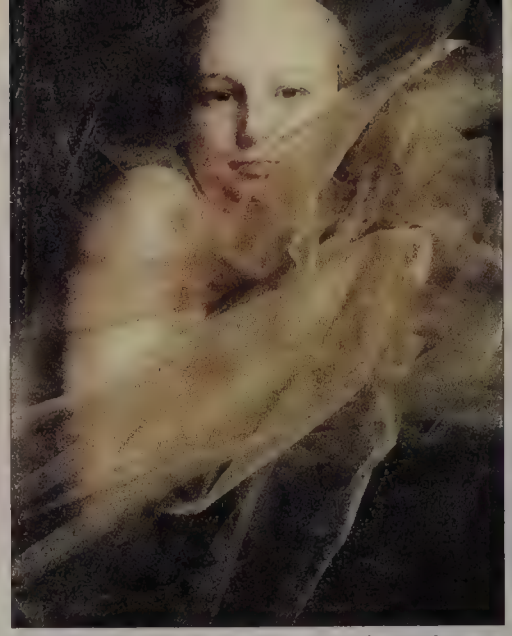
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Janet Koenig Picinich's *Cheryl Series #1* is part of the Lyman-Eyer Gallery's photography show.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment. •The Crosstown Art Gallery presents *Sand in Your Eye: Solo Exhibition of Recent Sand-Carved Stone Reliefs*, a selection of sandblast carvings that include unique pieces and also works available as limited-edition multiples. Through June 15.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Contemporary works by Norman Crump, Dan McCole, Robert Fields and Brian Roach contain Irish themes. The works include original oils, watercolors and reproductions of Boston scenes and harbor views. Throughout May.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston (783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. http://drawbridge.com/dvb-gallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •*Promises*, new works by Pia Schachter, is an installation with photography. Through June 9.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •A new exhibition of contemporary French paintings by leading French artists show throughout May. •Alexandra Nechita,the 15-year-old Romanian art prodigy presents an exhibition. •Rodrerick O'Flaherty shows *Scenes of New England*.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St. 2nd Floor, Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm; Sat. 9am-6pm. •*New Photography* by Matthew Fee Zirakian shows through May 26.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Next Wave Prints* is an exhibition of recent developments in printmaking. Through June 21.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equator-gallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has an amazing collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art, Ecuadorian woodcarvings and ceramics. Pottery by Sasha Raiz, paintings from Oswaldo Guayasamin, Hipolito Mamani Quispe and Benito Huillcahuaman. Andean textiles, Colombian gold and Peruvian silver jewelry. There is also a leture series featuring the areas foremost authorities on Latin American art and culture. Ongoing.

Fort Point Cultural Coalition
330 Congress St., (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm. Sat. 12-5pm. •Andrew Neuman and Jefferey Wallace present, *Adirondack*, an exhibition sponsored in part by a grant from the Boston Cultural Council.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (266-4351). www.frenchlib.org *Tue.-Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •Thomas Rebekk presents a collection of his watercolors in *French City and Seaside Watercolors*. Through June 1.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •New England artist Robert Caulfield shows new works through July 14.

Gallery at Stephan Coiffeur
257 Newbury St., Boston (236-0099). Fri., 9am-8pm, Sat. 9am-4pm. •*Images of Our World: Travel Photography as Documentary Art* showcases almost 40 pieces, including work from Africa, Asia and Latin America. Through June 29.

Gallery at Toscanini's
899 Main St., Cambridge (491-5877). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Fri. 7am-10pm.Sat.-Sun. 9am-10pm. • *New Photographs, 1997-2000* by local photographer Joseph Levendusky displays through June 4.

Gallery of Social/Political Art
565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. Sun., 1:30-5pm. •Individual Concerns 2001, a collection of socially relevant art, shows through June 3.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Le Bain* is studio furniture for the bath by 21 furniture makers. Through June 2.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •Calvin Brown's *Ocean/Memory Paintings: 2000-2001* is on display through May 29. •*Folded Magazines and Selected Sculpture* by Hans Accola displays through May 29.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •*Body Conscious: Figure and Gesture in Photography and Printmaking*, works by 34 artists juried by James Hull, shows through June 29.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •The gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings. •T. Kelly Wilson shows *Mass to Light*, a collection of drawings. Through June 8.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •John Joseph Enneking displays *J.J. Enneking: New England Impressionist*, a collection of landscapes and portraits.

Hall Space
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (989-9985). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12pm-5pm. •*Body Language*, a collage exploring human physiology by Alya Romeos, shows through June 23.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •Works by Domingo Barreres and Aida Laleian show through May 29. •John O'Reilly presents *Heroes and Others*, paper montages from 1972-83. •Harold Tozish features his drawings and sculptures in the exhibition *Hands*. Through June 30.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •An ongoing display features vintage posters.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard St., Brookline (739-5769). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10-8pm; Sun., 10-6pm. •The next show at Janus is *Russian Roulette: The Art of the Glasnost Years*, opening June 4.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Betsey Kaufman displays her new abstract paintings and works on paper through May 26. •*Building Dwelling Thinking* is a collection of photoworks by David Armstrong, James Casebere, Lynn Davis, Candida Hofer, Robert Stivers and Shellburne Thurber. Through June 30.

Judy Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •Brazilian artist José Gonçalves shows mixed media in canvas, wax and varnish at the gallery through May 29. •*The New Yorker* magazine hosts *The Big City*, covering New Yorker cover art. Through June 15.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Reflection on Beauty*, an open juried art exhibition, displays through June 10.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Chestnut Hill (552-8100). www.bc.edu/artmuseum. *Mon.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-6pm.* •*North X East*, Gothic and Byzantine influence on early Italian Renaissance art from the collection of the Mount Holyoke College Art Museum. June 11-Sept. 16.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729). Mon.-Fri. by appointment, Sat.-Sun., 11am-3pm. •*Mindscapes* by Sonya Skarloff and works by Boston artist Tobias Allen show through June 19.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •Hank Virgona's exhibit, *New Work*, is displayed at the Mercury Gallery through June 5.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Drawing by Chance* is a new installation by Margaret B. Tittemore. Through June 2. •*Water/Rice* is the second installment of Riverbed Theatre's rice series, which explores the scents, sensations and emotional resonances of the Chinese food *zhou* (water and rice). May 31-June 2, 8pm.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*New Work* by Ann Christensen shows through June 10.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Maureen Gallace presents *Recent Landscapes*. Through June 9.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •This gallery, owned and operated by several local artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on throughout May. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. May features Luther Gray and others. •As part of the 4th Anniversary Show the gallery will feature the work of 21 local artists. Through May 30.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). www.peppergallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat. 10am-5:30pm.* •*Nancy Friese: Watercolors* shows through June 5.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •This month, the Japanese potter, Noriyasu Tsuchiya displays, *Past to Future Vessels*, ceramic vessels in the Mingei tradition.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse also specializes in antique Tixing teapots, interior design and furniture. Ongoing.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •*Cape Ann Artists*, an exhibition of work from 1870-1950, shows through June 5.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). www.Robert KleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Photographs from In Your Dreams & Hunter Green*, Terri Weifenbach's collection of new work, shows through May 26. •Edward McHugh displays his paintings and Guy Russell presents his photographs. Through July 10.

Rolly-Michaux Gallery
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm. •*Juste Présent*, a suite of etchings from 1961 designed to accompany poems by Tristan Tzara, will show through June 16.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, between Brattle St. and Garden St., Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Nuestra Comida/Our Food*, a collection of photographs by Mayan photographers from Chiapas, shows through June 29.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •The Undergraduate Student Exhibition displays through September.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org *Mon.-Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 12-5pm.* •Cybèle Young and Peter Madden present an exhibition of small-scale mixed media and works on paper. Through June 30.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* •Contemporary paintings from Havana by Mario Ayras show in his first solo exhibition in the United States. Throughout June.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). www.stgeorge-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style. Ongoing.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin and C. Ferrer.

Trustman Art Gallery
Simmons College, 4th Floor Main College Building, 300 The Fenway, Boston (521-2268). Mon.-Fri., 10am-4:30pm. •*Unconditional Silence: Pattern in Membrane*, recent sculptures by Therese Zemlin, shows through June 1.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-5pm ; Sat., 8:30am-1pm. •Paintings by Gay VonHenneberg and ceramics by Margarita Solovieva Esimova display through May 26. •Robin Dash's students from the School of Museum Fine Arts display paintings from a color course, June 4 through June 27.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •*Celebration of Life—the Artwork of Lynn Hovey* shows drawings, paintings, prints and stained-glass works. Through May 26. •Lisa Reindorf displays her watercolor paintings of architecture and landscapes. Through June 30.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A display of selected works of the gallery's current inventory shows throughout May. •*Wind and Dazzle: The Art of Charles Hopkins (1869-1962)*, a collection of more than 70 oil paintings and watercolors, is on view through July 10.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •Jackie Beckett's photography show, *An East Coast Palette*, displays through May 25.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Floral Photographs*, X-ray photographs by Dr. Dain L., show with botanical studies by Michael Cooper. Through June 1.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*Rocks and Trees* is the fourth and last exhibition of the *Nature of Things* program. This exhibition reflects on the subtheme of rethinking the landscape. Through May 27.



Don Gurewitz's *Morning Prayer* is on display at the Gallery at Stephan Coiffeur through June 29.

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Film

UGLY AND THE BEAST

Shrek is a lazy ogre of a movie. BY PAUL SHERMAN

Movies reflect the time in which they are made as much as the time when their stories take place. Just watch an early-1970s movie set in the 1940s and you'll see bushy sideburns, or a Western made in the '40s and you'll see saloon girls with Andrews Sisters hairdos. This unintentional drift of inauthenticity is a given. But what should we make of the current spate of purposely inauthentic movies that have such low expectations of an audience's tolerance for being taken to another "place" for a couple of hours that they feel they must cram in countless contemporary references? Sandwiched between *A Knight's Tale*, the medieval jousting movie that wants to "rock you" with '70s classic hits, and the upcoming *Moulin Rouge*, the 1900 story full of covers of 1970s hits, is *Shrek*. In this medieval-set computer-animated comedy, about a third of the verbal gags reference contemporary things, and the soundtrack's songs are rock hits.



Mike Myers voices the ogre, Shrek, while the donkey's bray will be familiar to any *Nutty Professor* fan.

In the first 10 minutes alone, you get Smash Mouth's song "All Star" and references to Tic Tacs and the old Bette Midler song "Friends." Soon to follow are a short *Dating Game* parody, a pro wrestling take-off and references to "The Pina Colada Song" and "On the Road Again." And this is in a story about a sensitive ogre who, along with a talking donkey, is enlisted to rescue an accursed princess for a nobleman—and who ends up falling for her during the quest. The fit is awkward, to be kind.

The ogre, Shrek, is voiced by Mike Myers, in a toned-down version of the Scottish burr he used for Fat Bastard in the *Austin Powers* sequel; Eddie Murphy voices the gabby donkey who should have "comic relief" tattooed on his snout; Cameron Diaz is the lonely princess; and John Lithgow is the opportunistic lord who hopes to become a king by marrying the princess, who's been sealed up in a castle tower that's guarded by a dragon. The action generally works like this: Shrek and the donkey meet some obstacle (crossing a rickety bridge, fighting the dragon) that the ogre deals with physically and the donkey gets through comically, then that action is capped off by some gag with a contemporary reference. Occasionally, the gag is funny—a *Babe* reference, for instance—but usually it's tired and forced, like the obligatory *Matrix* spoof. And don't get me started on the racial politics of having a jive-talking, Ebonics-spouting comic-relief sidekick (why couldn't Murphy have voiced the ogre, minus the jive?).

Shrek is hardly the first animated comedy to rely on a contemporary sensibility. Just think back to Robin Williams as the wisecracking genie in *Aladdin* or James Woods' villain in *Hercules*. In fact, the injection of such humor was instrumental in the resurgence of the animated feature a decade ago by Disney. But that was a decade ago. Action movies in which big, stiff heroes made wisecracks after violently offing others were big a decade ago, too, but they've come and gone, as this sort of animated comedy should. Whatever bit of postmodern edge such jokes gave a staid genre is long gone, and when a movie relies on such gags as much as *Shrek* does, it's just laziness. *Shrek* officially credits four writers, which probably means at least twice that many participated in what must have been a competition to see how many modern references they could throw in. The movie actually ends with the donkey singing The Monkees' "I'm a Believer." I know I couldn't believe it.

The script's laziness obscures the few good things about *Shrek*: a funny bit where the lord interrogates a gingerbread man, an amusing throwaway moment when Shrek and the princess literally make each other balloon animals (he inflates a frog, she a snake) and a plot twist that finds the princess not being as impossibly perfect as expected. But such moments are small rewards for this Unhappy Meal. iB

Shrek ★

Directed by Andrew Adamson and Vicky Jenson. Written by Ted Elliott, Terry Rossio, Joe Stillman and Roger S.H. Shulman. With the voices of Mike Myers, Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz and John Lithgow. Rated PG. DreamWorks.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

About Adam ★½
All About Eve meets *Teorema* in this tiresome comedy about a manipulative outsider (Stuart Townsend) who sexually works his way through the grown siblings of a Dublin family. First, there's the singing waitress baby sister (Kate Hudson), then the shy bookworm (Frances O'Connor), the married oldest sister (Charlotte Bradley) and even the baby brother (Alan Maher). The story's charms are limited to start off with, and it really tries to shove Hudson down our throats. Writer-director Gerard Stembridge's movie is also structured so that it replays the same events from each sibling's perspective, but once was plenty. Hudson made this before *Almost Famous*, in which she's much, much better.

Amores Perros ★★★½
It's a dog-eat-dog world in Mexican director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu's dazzling movie. To say that it has a *Pulp Fiction* structure—three semi-separate stories that intermingle and are thematically linked—is no knock here. Love and dogs are the most obvious things shared by the Mexico City characters: a young guy (Rodrigo Murray) who fights his dogs against others and is carrying on an affair with his neglected sister-in-law (Vanessa Bauche); a model (Goya Toldeo) recovering from a car crash whose dog gets lost and whose lover (Alvaro Guerrero) has just left his wife to be with her; and a street person (Emilio Echevarria) who takes in stray dogs and is trying to reconnect with the grown daughter (Lourdes Echevarria) he long ago abandoned. The romantic problems and canine troubles ultimately become cleverly intertwined, making the movie a bracing exercise in human emotional survival skills.

Bread and Roses ★★½
Britain's Ken Loach, who's long made populist movies like *Poor Cow* and *Riff-Raff*, makes a movie in America. His latest follows a young illegal Mexican immigrant (Pilar Padilla) to Los Angeles, where she gets a job cleaning offices and eventually becomes involved in the fight to unionize janitors. This is midlevel Loach. Although the immigrant's relationship with the white union organizer (a very strong Adrien Brody) adds some wrinkles to the story and the action is semi-involving, this isn't a case where the characters rise above the political message. So it's a mixed bag, but still better than most.

Bridget Jones's Diary ★★
Was the book as flimsy and generic as this? From the tired love-triangle plot—woman caught between the exciting guy she knows is bad for her and the stable guy she takes for granted—and the fact that it prominently features the Van Morrison song "Someone Like You," which provided the title for the recent Ashley Judd movie, this is surprisingly run of the mill. And if the book took familiar elements and told them in a fresh way, then the movie failed to transfer such storytelling to the screen. Renee Zellweger is just fine as the English heroine, burying her Texas twang in an English middle-class voice, and Hugh Grant is refreshingly unbumbling as the exciting but emotionally dangerous guy. But when Grant is the most relaxed element of your movie, you're in deep trouble.

Center of the World ★★
The well-worn story of a guy trying to start a relationship with a prostitute doesn't get enough of a twist in Wayne Wang's film. This time, the guy (Peter Sarsgaard) is a millionaire computer nerd who asks a stripper (Molly Parker) he's befriended to spend a weekend with him in Vegas. He gives her money; she sets the physical and emotional boundaries. When the two start to become emotionally attached, things get tricky. It's unclear whether Wang is trying to comment on men turning female sexuality into commerce (since the woman claims once he introduced money into the relationship, affection was impossible) or on the social isolation caused by the home computer age (the talk of the guy's dot-com's IPO dates this already). But it is clear that the drama just isn't that interesting.

The Circle ★★★
The title of Jafar (*The White Balloon*) Panahi's involving Iranian drama can be taken to mean several things: the daisy-chain structure of the story, which focuses on one character for five or 10 minutes, then moves on to another (à la *Slacker*); the circularity of that daisy chain, which opens and closes on similar visual images; or the circle of social constrictions that threatens its female characters. Most of those characters have just gotten out of prison (for unknown crimes), and knew each other there, like one desperately trying to get an abortion or another trying to get to her rural hometown. The perpetual desperation of these women is disturbing, and with their black clothes and cloaking chadors, they're like stealth people, trying to avoid harassment, humiliation and imprisonment at every turn. Powerful stuff.

COURTESY OF DREAMWORKS PICTURES

The Dish ★★★
Australia's Working Dog comedy group—who've done a slew of Aussie TV series but don't appear in the movies they make—move from the arthouse to the multiplex in their follow-up to 1999's hilarious *The Castle*. This time, they've taken on a less quirky subject: the goings-on at the huge Australian satellite dish that received the television images from Apollo 11 in 1969. But despite the big backdrop, the movie generates laughs from the everyday details at the dish (where Sam Neill and the local crew are joined by Patrick Warburton as a NASA rep) and in the town of Parkes (where mayor Roy Billings is an endearing bumbler). Although some of the touches play like bad Hollywood, including a present-day story frame with an aged Neill and an overblown music score, the warm comedy ultimately wins you over.

A Knight's Tale ★
Bad concept: blending medieval setting with classic-hits soundtrack. Bad characters: a commoner (Heath Ledger) passing himself off as a nobleman to compete in jousting tournaments (part Leonardo DiCaprio in *Titanic*, part Russell Crowe in *Gladiator*) and his one-dimensional pals and rivals. Bad story: The hero is on the brink of losing the world championship and his woman (dull Shannyn Sossamon) before making the big comeback against a cheating count (Rufus Sewell). Bad movie.

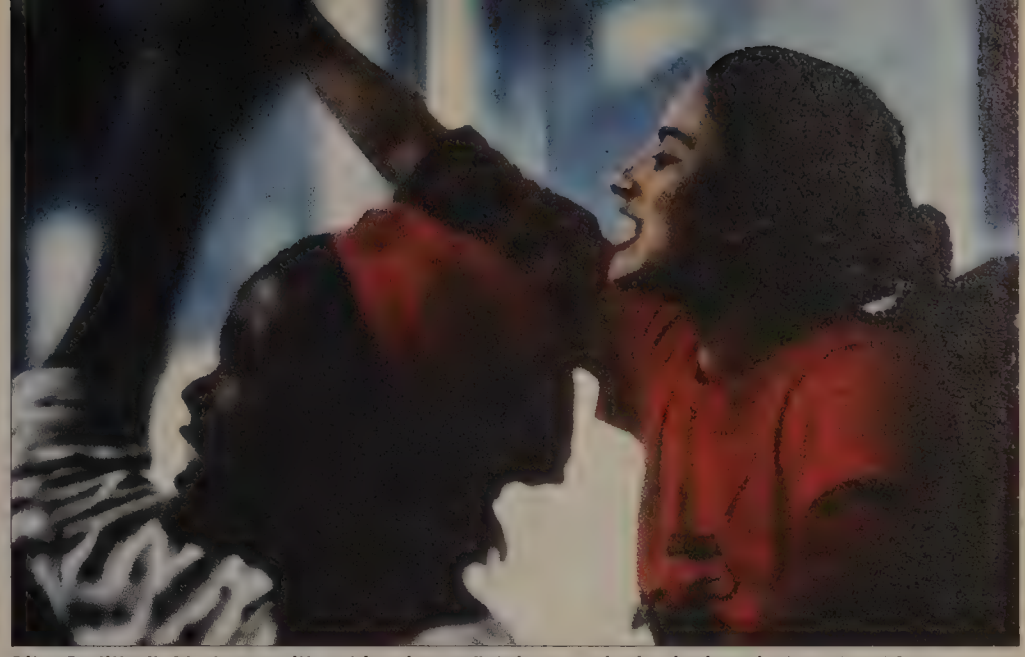
The Luzhin Defence ★½
There's little to director Marleen Gorris' adaptation of Vladimir Nabokov's story beyond its *Masterpiece Theatre*-style gloss. Set at a posh Italian resort in the late '20s, this drama is about the relationship between an unkempt, scatterbrained chess master (John Turturro) and the expatriate Russian aristocrat (Emily Watson) he falls for—and who, unconvincingly, falls for him, too. The relationship is never quite believable. The female character is insufficiently developed, and the movie's vague sense of details strains credibility, too (why doesn't it ever tell us how these well-to-do Russians escaped the Revolution?). Although this isn't as insufferable as Gorris' last movie, *Mrs. Dalloway*, this too feels like a film in which every storytelling choice has automatically fallen to some generic "costume drama" default setting.

MERRICK MORTON

Memento ★★★
Self-deception is at the center of this imaginative noir drama about a man with no short-term memory (Guy Pearce of *L.A. Confidential*) who is trying to avenge the rape and murder of his wife. The mostly successful gimmick is that the movie arrives in backward chunks of about five minutes each—we'll see one event, then another that took place before it and so on. Eventually, we come to see what the guy thinks is true and what's really true, especially regarding the two people aiding in his quest—an apparent hustler (Joe Pantoliano) and a barmaid (Carrie-Anne Moss). Once the novelty of the jigsaw structure fades, the midsection drags. But things pick up again in the strong ending, which retains some ambiguity while revealing that there's more to the hero's "condition" (as he's always calling it) than we thought.

Startup.com ★★★
Here's one for the time capsule. Documentary directors Chris Hegedus (*The War Room*) and Jehane Noujaim chronicle the rise and fall of gov Works.com, an Internet company that hoped to contract with local governments whose citizens could then use govWorks.com's Web site to pay parking tickets, renew licenses and cut through red tape. It sounded like a good idea, and venture capital thought it was, too, ponying up millions to the startup headed by two friends who'd been dreaming of going into business together since high school. The movie not only vividly shows us the economic boom and bust, but also the strains the endeavor puts on the friends' relationship.

An Unfinished Symphony ★★★★
Bestor Cram was one of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War who participated in that organization's 1971 Memorial Day Weekend protest march that traveled Paul Revere's ride in reverse. Now the long-time Boston filmmaker is the co-director (with Mike Majoros) of the staggering movie that tells the march's story through vintage footage and contemporary interviews. As fascinating as the old footage is, it's not the only reason why the movie is so good. The way the directors have assembled it—with no overt narration or jarring editing, and set to the mournful strains of Henry Gorecki's *Third Symphony*—makes it an unusally intimate experience.



Pilar Padilla (left) plays an illegal immigrant fighting to unionize janitors in *Bread and Roses*.

Alternatives & Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

Audrey Hepburn on Film
•June 4, 6pm **My Fair Lady** *1964.* Hepburn and Rex Harrison star in this lavish musical romantic comedy that features such unforgettable songs as "I Could Have Danced All Night" and "Get Me to the Church on Time."

The Sixth Annual Iberoamerican Film Festival
•May 30, 6 pm **Baja California: El Limite del Tiempo** (*The Limit of Time*) *1998.* Following the screening of the film is a reception in the Boston Room hosted by the Consul Generals of Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Venezuela. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features.

He-Men: Film Noir Hunks
•May 28, 4:15 and 7:45pm **Black Angel** *1946.* An alcoholic composer helps search for the killer of his estranged wife in this classic noir film.
•May 28, 2:30, 6 and 9:30pm **Ministry of Fear** *1944.* Set in wartime London, this noir stars Ray Milland as a bystander who accidentally says a secret code word and becomes entangled in a Nazi espionage ring.
•June 4, 4 and 7:45pm **Sweet Smell of Success** *1957.* Starring Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis, this is the story of a gossip columnist, his sister and the publicity agent who works for him. The dark tale reveals the pitfalls of the modern entertainment industry.
•June 4, 6 and 9:45pm **Criss Cross** *1948.* The classic noir stars Burt Lancaster as a man on a quest to save his ex-wife from her self-destructive ways.

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•May 29, 7:30pm **The Pillow Book** *1996*. A young woman obsessed with calligraphy searches to avenge her father's death and finds an odd sort of love with a young man played by Ewan McGregor along the way.
•May 29, 5 and 10pm **Prospero's Books** *1991*. The interpretation of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* focuses on the type and print of Prospero's books.
•June 5, 4, 7:30 and 10pm **The Falls** *1980*. *The Falls* reveals the story of 92 characters, all with surnames beginning with "fall" who are among 19 million victims of an unknown catastrophe.

Recent Raves

•May 30, 7:15pm, **Faithless** *2000*. Directed by Liv Ullmann and scripted by Ingmar Bergman, the film focuses on life and love—a lyrical meditation on the struggle to understand life and death.
•May 30, 5:15 and 10pm **In the Mood for Love** *2000*. In Kar-wai Wong's study of relationships in trouble and unrequited love, two people come together when their spouses cheat.

Masters of Italian Horror

•May 31, 3:30 and 7:45pm **Black Sabbath** *1963*. The film has three segments: *The Telephone*, about a prostitute being terrorized by phone calls; *The Wurdlack*, starring Boris Karloff as a vampire; and a story of a nurse who believes that a corpse is after her for revenge.
•May 31, 5:30 and 9:45pm **Opera** *1987*. A hooded killer terrorizes an opera's production of *Macbeth* in this classic Italian horror film.

Special Engagements

•May 25-27, 5, 7:30 and 10pm **Million Dollar Hotel** *2000*. A neo-noir film starring Mel Gibson, Milla Jovovich and Jimmy Smits among others, this is a complicated story involving a hotel, the FBI and a beautiful woman.
•June 1-3, 4:15, 7 and 9:45pm **Once Upon a Time in China** *1991*. This Hong Kong action film was Jet Li's breakthrough role and is filled with great fight scenes.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Balagan Experimental Film Series

• May 24, 8pm **Director's Eye**. This is a collection of short works directed by Abraham Ravett.
•May 31, 8pm **Visual Surprise, a Balagan Tradition**. This is a surprise movie each year. All are welcome to attend and find out what this year's film will be.
•June 1-7, **Spike & Mike's 2001 Classic Festival of Animation**. This eclectic mix of art and film features world-class animated shorts, including Academy Award winner *Father and Daughter*, Academy Award nominee *Rejected*, and British Academy Award winner *The Man with the Beautiful Eyes*.

Jazz in June

•June 4, 7:30pm. GBH 89.7FM and the Coolidge team up with the New England Conservatory to pair live jazz performances with jazz films. Tonight's performance is set to *Archie Shepp: I Am Jazz...It's My Life* and the half-hour *Big Ben Webster in Europe*.

Midnight Movies

•May 25 and 26, 12am **Mad Max** *1980*. Mel Gibson stars as a cop who becomes Mad Max, a ruthless vigilante seeking revenge after his wife and child are ruthlessly killed. This film is now restored with its original Australian-accented dialogue.
•June 1 and 2, 12am **Viva Las Vegas** *1964*. Elvis Presley stars as a swinging Grand Prix racer who comes to Vegas to race and meets the bombshell Ann Margret.

Harvard Film Archive

Americans at Cannes

•June 1, 7pm **Winter Soldier** *1972*. A documentary on Vietnam by more than a dozen independent filmmakers, the work combines testimonies by soldiers and marines with newsreel footage and photographs.
•June 1, 9pm **The Connection** *1961*. Based on an off-Broadway play, this film is about a group of heroin addicts waiting for their drug connection.
•June 2, 7pm **Goldstein**, *1965*. *Goldstein* is a quirky urban tale about a young sculptor whose pregnant girlfriend decides to end the relationship and have an abortion.
•June 2, 9pm **Lianna** *1983*. When a college professor cheats on his wife, she finds comfort in the arms of another woman.

Séance Screenings

•May 23 and 24, 8pm **Mournful Indifference** *1987*. An imaginative adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's *Heartbreak House*, this film focuses on the senselessness of war.
•June 5, 7pm **Tangos: The Exile of Gardel** *1986*. Focusing on a group of artists forced to leave Argentina after the 1976 coup, the film follows their 10-year attempt to stage a play about the legendary singer Carlos Gardel.

Theater Into Film

•May 27, 7pm **Edward II** *1991*. An adaptation of Christopher Marlowe's play that moves the play's latent homosexuality to the forefront, this version of the story of the King of England is blended with contemporary accounts of gay activism.



Fellini's *Intervista* is his illuminating "mockumentary" about the making of a film about himself. In it, Fellini is depicted in production of an adaptation of Kafka's *Amerika*. It screens June 27 and 29.

Preview

Surreal Cinema

Sixteen Federico Fellini films come to the HFA

Absurdist. Neorealist. Surrealist. All of these adjectives have been used to describe the rather indescribable works of eccentric Italian filmmaker Federico Fellini (1920-1993). The films of "il maestro," as he is known as in the biz, are essentially elaborate fantasy worlds, filled with striking, surreal imagery and clownish humor (the result of his life-long fascination with circuses and vaudeville performers). With a disdain for linear plots and an aversion to straightforward style, Fellini produced films that are purposefully ambiguous and contradictory. As he once said, "'Realism' is a bad word. In a sense everything is realistic. I see no line between the imaginary and the real."

This month's series of Fellini's films at the Harvard Film Archive features works that fully explore the range of this distinctive style. Included are his masterpieces *La Strada* (May 29, 30 and June 4) and *La Dolve Vita* (June 6 and 12), and there are some surprises as well. There are the newly remastered versions of *Nights of Cabiria*, *Juliet of the Spirits* and *Fellini Satyricon* and a new documentary of the filmmaker, *Fellini Narrates: A Discovered Self-Portrait* (May 25, 26, 30 and 31, 7pm). •May 25 and 26, 8:30pm *Fellini Satyricon* (1969). A tale of Imperial Rome in the waning days of the golden era, which includes earthquakes, slave ships and magical sea monsters. •May 29, 7pm *I Vitelloni* (1953). The story of five young wastrels, aimlessly living in a provincial town on the coast. •May 31, 8:30pm and June 4, 9pm *Nights of Cabiria* (1956). This Academy Award-winning film focuses on Cabiria, an impoverished prostitute living in Rome who is betrayed by her faith in human nature. •June 11, 7pm *Juliet of the Spirits* (1965). Fellini's first color film ventures deeply into the surreal as it explores the repressed desires of a bourgeois housewife. •June 13, 7pm June 30, 7pm *8 1/2* (1963). Recipient of over 60 international awards, this autobiographical work follows a famous movie director who, unable to find the inspiration to start his new film, retreats into a dream world. *24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-4700). —Erin Hagedorn*

•June 3, 7pm **Chimes at Midnight** *1965*. Adapted from Shakespeare and directed by Orson Welles, the film examines the relationships of Prince Hal and Falstaff.

Museum of Fine Arts

Boston Jewish Film Festival 2000: Back by Popular Demand

•May 31, 8pm and June 3, 2pm **Man Is a Woman** *1997*. In Jean-Jacques Zilbermann's bittersweet romantic comedy, a Yiddish chanteuse falls in love with a Klezmer musician at a friend's wedding. The musician in turn falls in love with the groom.

Engagements

•May 30, 8pm and June 2, 10:30am **Sound and Fury** *2000*. Josh Aronson's Academy Award-nominated documentary looks at the deaf community's views on cochlear implants, a new surgical procedure that allows some deaf people to hear.
•June 3, 4:30 **Brother Born Again** *2000*. Julia Pimsleur, a bisexual, Jewish New Yorker, travels to a remote island in Alaska with the hope of understanding why her intellectual brother dropped out of college and converted to Christianity.

New Beat Cinema from Japan

•May 24 and 25, 5:30pm; May 26, 3:40pm; May 27, 3:30pm; May 30, 7:45pm; May 31, 5:30pm; June 1, 7:45pm; June 2, 3:45pm; June 3, 11am **Face** *2000*. *Face* follows one of Japan's leading stage actresses, Naomi Fujiyma, in her screen debut as she plays a woman who kills her sister in a fit of rage. Directed by Junji Sakamoto.
•May 25, 8pm **Another Battle** *2000*. Junji Sakamoto's *Another Battle* follows two childhood friends, one now a successful businessman and the other a Yakuza leader, who meet again, 30 years after having taken revenge on a gangster who humiliated them.
•May 26, 1:30pm; June 2, 1:45pm **Knockout** *1989*. Based on the autobiography of a young boxer who suffers brain damage and returns to the ring, Junji Sakamoto's first film features boxer/actor Kidekazu Akai.
•May 27, 1pm; June 1, 5:30pm **Iron Fist** *1990*. A boxing trainer gets a second chance at glory when he discovers a new prospect following a brawl at a car-rental agency.
•June 3, 7pm **Cure** *1998*. In acclaimed Japanese director Kiyoshi Kurasawa's police thriller, detective Takabe tracks a series of identical murders and discovers that his suspect has hypnotic powers.

New England Film Artists Present

•May 23 and 24, 8pm **Metal** *2000*. Set in Allston, Alice Cox's debut film combines local history with a sci-fi drama about a woman who discovers that she's really a clone.
•May 26, 12pm; May 30, 8:20pm; June 2, 10:30am; June 3, 12:45am **An Unfinished Symphony** *2001*. This is a documentary on Operation POW, a 1971 Vietnam War protest that retraced Paul Revere's ride and culminated in a huge demonstration on Boston Common. This Memorial Day marks the 30th anniversary of the event, which drew national attention.
•June 2, 12:30pm **Nine Mile Canyon: Under Construction** *2001*. Animator Karen Aqua and composer Ken Field spent four months in Utah, where they worked with a class of fourth graders to make this 15-minute animated film about the history of the canyon.

Special Events

Underground Film Revolution

•May 28, 8pm **Underground Films**. This program of local and national shorts of all genres reveals a glimpse into the underground film scene. Films include a new series of shorts, animation, documentaries and experimental projects, as well as **Punk Pretty**, an examination of the Riot Grrrl movement from Los Angeles. *Zeitgeist Gallery, 312 Broadway, Cambridge. MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.bpl.org
Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org/film
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle.
Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. www.coolidge.org/

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.harvardfilmarchive.org
Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
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AVENUE

MON. - S.I.N. (Service Industry Night)
TUES. - Old-School Hip-Hop Funk Night
WED. - Knowledge, DJ Steve Austin (Strong-Arm Productions) spins Hip-Hop, Reggae & R&B
THURS. - WFNX Avenue Lounge Night
FRI. - TGIF Night
SAT. - T-Night, DJ Apo spins Progressive and Hard House
SUN. - Mafia Movie Night

Mon.- Sat. 11-1am
breakfast - lunch - dinner

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Mon.-Sat. 11-1am
breakfast - lunch - dinner

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Elizabeth Cox**, author of *Night Talk*, discusses her more recent fictional work, *Bargains in the Real World: 13 Stories*, a collection in which characters face hard choices.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Sue Quinn** reads from her work, *Human Trials: Scientists, Investors and Patients in the Quest for a Cure.* Quinn investigates the numerous autoimmune diseases that over 50 million people suffer from. This is the story of real people—the scientists, patients and venture capitalists all looking for cures.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Law professor **Austin Sarat** discusses the controversy surrounding capital punishment in his newest book, *When the State Kills: Capital Punishment and the American Condition.*

Newtonville Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. **Tony Early** discusses his first novel, *Jim the Boy*, a coming-of-age story set in North Carolina.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Mark Bowden** discusses his book, *Killing Pablo: The Hunt for Pablo Escobar.*

THURSDAY, MAY 24

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Tony Early** discusses his first novel, *Jim the Boy*, a coming-of-age story set in North Carolina. Also, **John Griesemer** discusses *No One Thinks of Greenland*, the story of a military hospital in Greenland and people who remain there long after the Korean War is over.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (661-1515). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Marjorie Heins** reads from *Not in Front of the Children*, a history of literary censorship from *Huckleberry Finn* to the *Harry Potter* series.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Authors **Tom Copeland** and **Vladimir Antikarov** discuss their book, *Real Options: A Practitioner's Guide*, which explores a new method for estimating the value of investments.

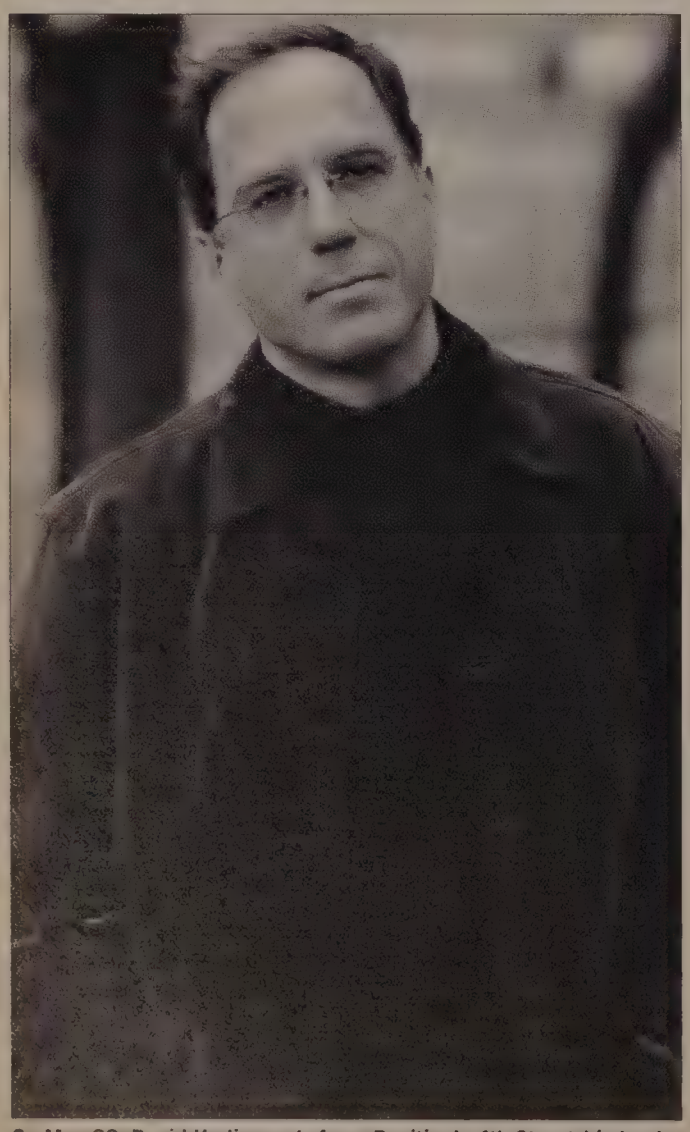
New Words Live Event
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). 6pm. Free. **Paula M. Rayman,** the director of the Radcliffe Public Policy Center, discusses her new book, *Beyond the Bottom Line: The Search for Dignity at Work*, which presents a new model for the workplace, proving that productivity depends not just on the bottom line but also on family, well-being and healthy, satisfied workers.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. WordsWorth hosts a tribute to **Richard Yates**, featuring readings by Jayne Anne Phillips, Leslie Epstein and Dewitt Henry.

TUESDAY, MAY 29

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Paul Collins** discusses his book *Banvard's Folly: Tales of Renowned Obscurity, Famous Anonymity, and Rotten Luck*, which is the story of 13 inventors, artists and others who have been forgotten by history either because they were failures or were outshone by those we now remember.

Newtonville Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. **Regina McBride** reads from her new novel, *The Nature of Water and Air*, a coming-of-age story set on the coast of Ireland, about a young woman's struggle to understand her mother.



On May 30, David Hadju reads from *Positively 4th Street*, his book about the lives of Joan Baez, Bob Dylan and other '60s icons.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Author **Ethan Canin** discusses his second novel, *Carry Me Across the Water*, a work that is more like his short stories than his first novel. He tells the story of a wealthy old man looking back on his childhood in Vienna, his immigration to America, his love for his wife and alienation from his children.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **David Hajdu**, author of *Positively 4th Street*, discusses his book about the lives of Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Mimi Baez and Richard Farina.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

Boston Center for Adult Education
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., (267-4430). 6:30-8:30pm. **Philip Craig**, author of *Vineyard Blues*, discusses his thoughts on writing crime fiction and his life as a writer.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Author and commentator for National Public Radio **Beth LaDow** discusses her book, *The Medicine Life: Life and Death on a American Borderland*, an account of the American frontier in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Young adult author **Bette Greene** discusses two of her best known, *Summer of My German Soldier* and *The Drowning of Stephan Jones.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6-7pm. Novelist **Phil Craig** signs and discusses his latest installment in the Jeff Jackson mysteries, *Vineyard Shadows.*

MONDAY, JUNE 4

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Elizabeth Berg**, whose last novel, *Open House*, was featured in Oprah's Book Club, is on hand to discuss her latest book, *Never Change.* The story is about an unattractive home-care nurse who falls in love with a former high school athlete who is under her care when he returns home to die from an inoperable brain tumor.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

Boston Center for Adult Education Reading Festival
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6pm. $19. Boston Globe columnist, former White House correspondent and mystery author **Brian McGrory** discusses his political thriller, *The Incumbent.*

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
Coolidge Corner Theatre (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. **Irvine Welsh**, author of *Trainspotting*, discusses the continuing misadventures of his Edinburgh lads in his newest novel, *Glue.*

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **George Lundberg**, former editor of *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, urges physicians to take back their profession from the influence of business in his recent book, *Severed Trust: Why American Medicine Hasn't Been Fixed.*

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6-7pm. Mystery writer **Sue Grafton** signs *P is for Peril*, the latest in her Kinsey Millhone series.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, First Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. First Tuesday of the month. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. •On June 5 is **Charles Coe** (*Picnic on the Moon*) and Wellesley High School creative writers Kate Tetreault, Julia Doran and Michael Metzger.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

Architecture Slide Lecture
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (951-1433, ext. 221). 6pm. Free. Boston architect **Robert Linn** recounts his year-long exploration of the architecture of Asia, Australia and Europe.

Executive Etiquette
Boston Women Communicators, Lenox Hotel, 710 Boylston St., Boston (422-1855). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 6-9pm. $50. **Judith Bowman** offers a seminar geared toward businesswomen creating business relationships.

Inside the Dugout
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). 7pm. $5. Former Red Sox manager **Joe Morgan** discusses baseball from an insider's perspective.

Investors Conference
Westin Copley Place, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston. www.masstel.org/events/mtcann.2001-05-23.html. *7:30am-7pm.* Eavesdrop on the future of telecommunications as described by the 40 New England companies that are shaping it.

FRIDAY, MAY 25

Stargazing
Arnold Arboretum, Peter's Hill, across from Bussey Street Gate, Jamaica Plain (635-7383). May 25, 8-9pm. Free. Park rangers will teach you how to locate some of the basic constellations.

The Story of Rome
The New Acropolis, First Parish Unitarian Church, 3 Church Street, Cambridge (591-9959). 7:30pm. $5. What can we learn from the story of Rome's downfall?

SUNDAY, MAY 27

Community Church of Boston
565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). 11am. Free. Reverend **David Carl Olson** leads a walk through the planned urban village in Fenway.

Kennedy Library Forums
J.F.K. Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (929-4571). 7-8:30pm. Free. **John Shattuck**, CEO of the Kennedy Library, and **Dr. William Schulz**, executive director of Amnesty International, discuss the role of human rights in foreign policy.

Trek the Big Dig
South Station Food Court, Boston (367-3766). 2-4pm, $10. Boston By Foot sponsors this two-hour guided sidewalk tour of the Big Dig.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

Behind the Scenes at Runway Shows
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). 7:30-9:30pm. $25. An insider's perspective on runway shows.

Kennedy Library Forums
J.F.K. Library, Columbia Point, Boston (929-4571). 7-8:30pm. Pulitzer Prize-winning historian **David McCullough** discusses the presidency of John Adams.

Radcliffe Fellows
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (495-8212). 4pm. Free. **Daryl Tress** talks about the origins of human life according to the ancient Greeks.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

Look Inside the Big Dig
Barbara's Books, South Station (267-4430). 7-9pm. $29. **Dan McNichol**, former deputy director of public relations for the Big Dig, leads a walking tour of the project.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Learn to Flirt and Find Love
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). 10am-12:15pm and 1:15pm-3:30pm. $39 per session or $69 for both. Psychotherapist **Sharyn Wolf** leads two sessions: "72 Ways to Flirt" and "50 Ways to Find a Lover."

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

Right Wing Populism in America
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (373-5800). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street. Author and political research analyst **Chip Berlet** discusses the influence that radical right-wing groups like militias have had on mainstream America.

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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar • June 4: Jam with DJ Kapt Krunch.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
• May 28 and June 4: *In the Biz Night* hosted by *backbaybeat.com*, 6pm, no cover, 21+; DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning deep and progressive house, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Embassy
DJ Eric Santangelo and DJ Ricky Fats spin deep and progressive house, dress chic, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Lot 36
The Modern DJ Eddie K spins progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson, dress coat required, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Lounge night with DJ Courtney spinning house, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
• May 29: Search Party, 6pm, 21+. • June 5: Mac and Jamie, 6pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night with R&B, house, funk and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+. • May 23: Drum and bass live; Moonraker with Schism, $7, 18+. • May 30: Hip-hop live; Massholes CD-release party with Akrobatik, Skitzofreniks and D-Tension, $12, 18+.

Hibernia
DJ Jeremy spins lounge tunes, 6pm, 21+.



The Exchange spins a mix of dance tunes: vocal house, progressive trance, hip-hop and soul.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

The Kells
DJs Roy Barboza and Chaos spin hip-hop, 9pm, 21+.

Listening
The Modern Groove to DJs Benny Blanco and Tim Ryan while sipping martinis at the vodka bar, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Mercury Lounge
The Milky Way DJs Adam Gibbons, Fran and Paul Nickerson spin downtempo, jazzy deep house, soul and funk, 9pm, no cover.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house, trance to techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
• May 23 and May 30: Beach Party, 6pm, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong An evening of psy-trance and drum-and-space with resident DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $4, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
• May 24: Sugarcoat. • May 31: Soul Patch. This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
• May 24: The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Jabe with Say ZuZu and Wooden Leg, 9pm, $7, 18+. • May 31: The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Dropkick Jesus with Jane Jenson, Curb Feeler and Projek DH, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Jeff Knor, 9pm, 21+.

Bootyque
Lava Bar Join the Original Lizard Lounge Brother Cleve and Friends for funky beats, 10pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house and trance music, 10pm, $10, 19+.

College Night
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ Dragg spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtempo Lounging
The Modern DJ Ricky Fatts spins while you enjoy the raw bar and vodka bar, 9pm-2am.

Downtown
SW1 Afterwork lounge with tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Emily's
DJ Anthony and DJ Franklin host Latin lounge, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Heaven
Backstage College night with DJ Johnny C spinning house music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange U: DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; D: DJ 7L spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
Avenue DJ Jason spins house and techno, 21+.

The Modern
International Thursdays features DJ Eric Santangelo spinning progressive Eurohouse, 9pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
• May 24 and May 31: Mark Morris and the Catunes hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman or Party-Time Gregg Daniels, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin band, first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas 4pm, $3, 21+.

Tattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
Afterwork party, 5pm; DJ Max and DJ Evan spin house, 10pm, 21+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adison. 10pm, 18+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney plays top-40 hits, your favorites from the '70s, '80s, '90s and one-hit wonders, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and special-guest global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+. • May 25: Micro. • June 1: CJ MacIntosh.

Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40, dance and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot. • May 25: Syndicate, $8.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Cire, 9:30pm, 21+.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
Roxy Guest DJs turn this dance party alive, 3rd floor.

Life
Lava Bar Dance to DJ Fran Englehardt and Paul Nickerson's deeply rooted soulful rhythms, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Superstar guest DJs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Fridays
Bill's Bar • May 25: The Gentlemen with Quintaine Americana, Ad Frank and the Fast Easy Women, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Ren Justice spins disco, top-40 and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Rack
• May 25 and June 1: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Todd, 10pm, 21+.

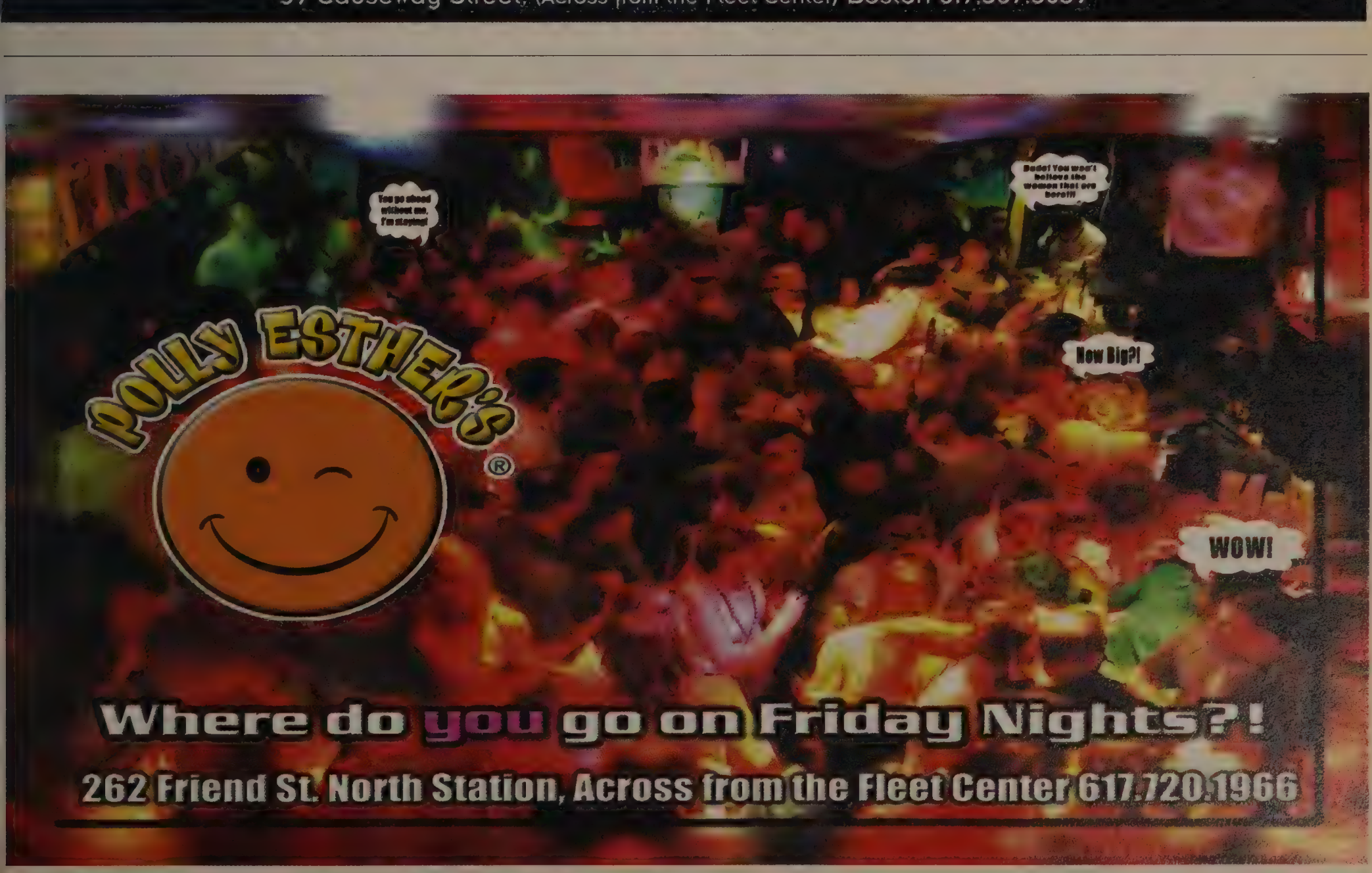
Revolution
Embassy Groove to Latin and progressive Eurohouse with DJ Eddie K and DJ JC, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

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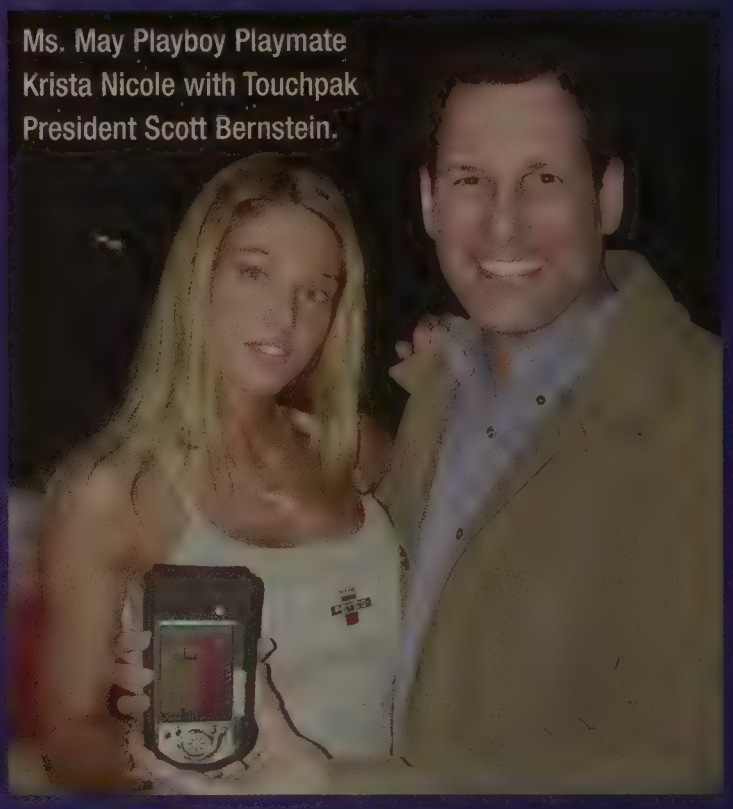
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Ms. May Playboy Playmate Krista Nicole with Touchpak President Scott Bernstein.

inside RACK

THE

Every Monday Night – "In The Biz Night," hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm – "RADIO-ACTIVE" Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman or Party-Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky mixes it up 'til 2am.

Every Friday Night, 6pm – Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Every Saturday Night – Star 93.7 Dance Party with Vinnie Peruzzi broadcasting live!

Wednesday, May 24th, 6pm – Congratulations Cuddles Class of 2001! The first ever sight horse is graduating! BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson will keep you dancing all night! Proceeds will benefit The Carroll Center for the Blind. You will have to see it to believe it!

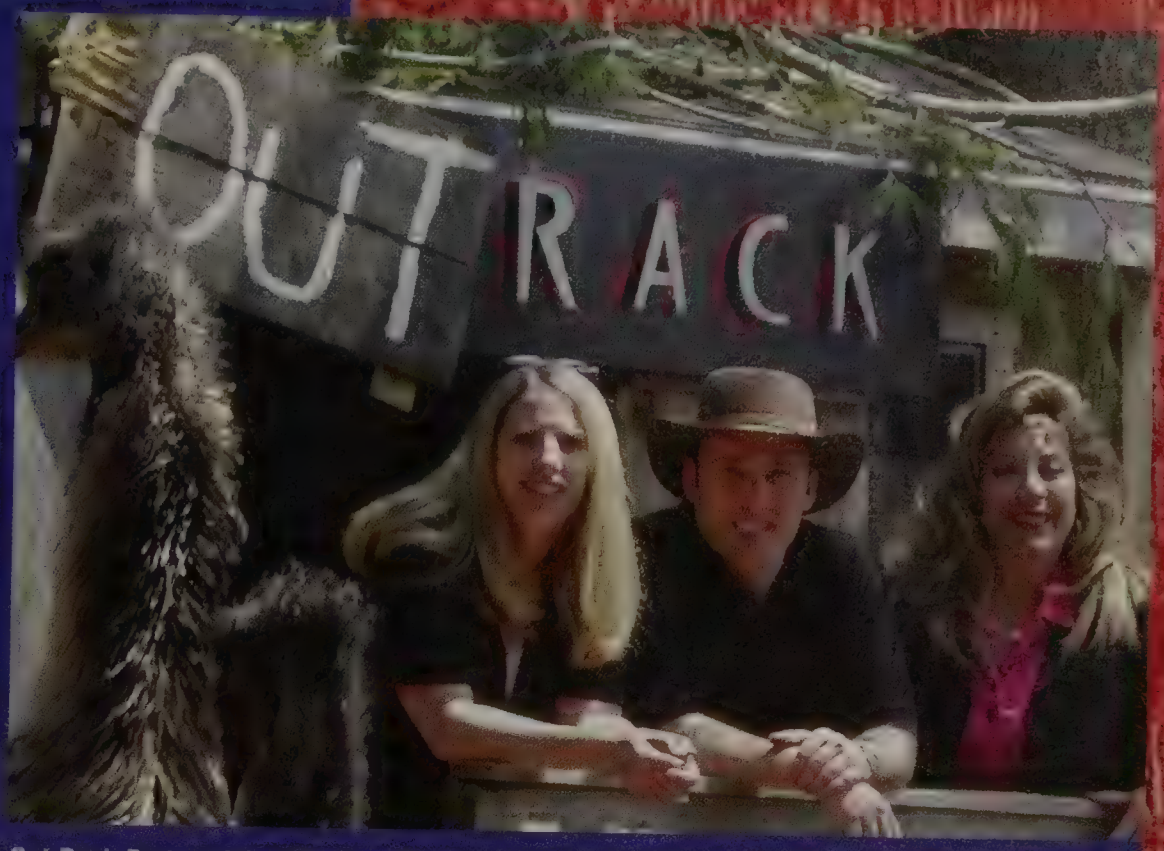
Friday, June 1st, 8:30pm – Kiss Concert Kick-off Party hosted by Kiss 108's Billy Costa featuring Central Basement and DJ Todd! You never know who might show up!



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96.9 FM Talk's Jay Severin and Heidi Barclay.



Out Rack Party celebrating the *Survivor II* finale with Star 93.7's Wilde Thing morning team, Heather Gersten, Charlie Wilde and Karen Blake with Australian Emus, Hemu and Shemu.

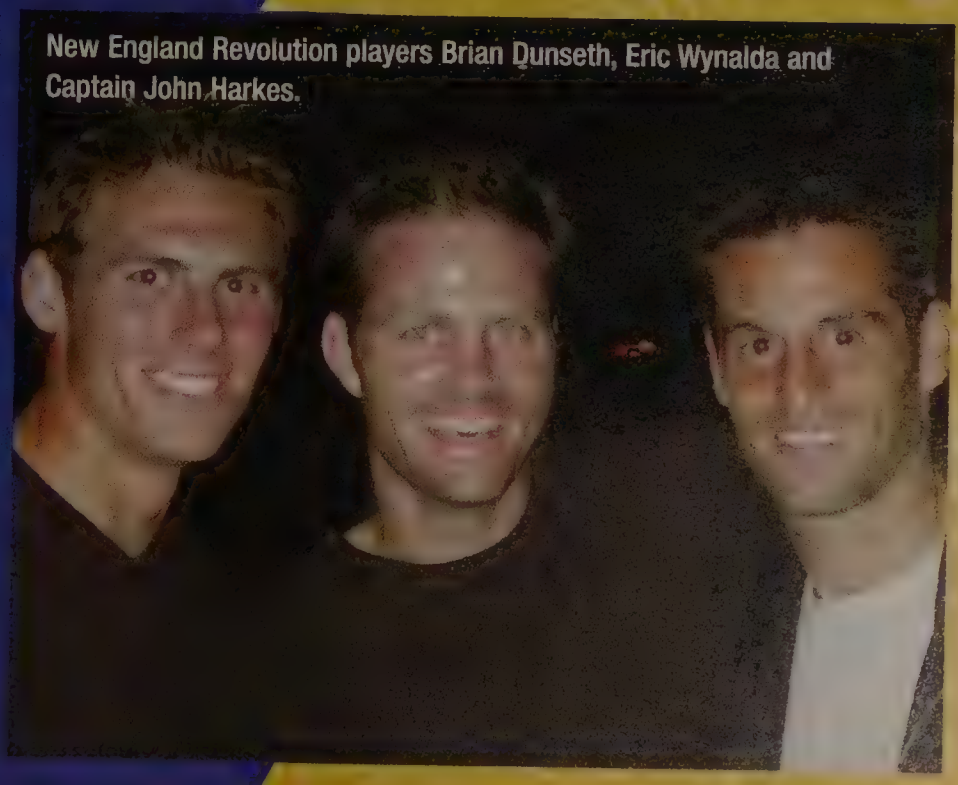
RACK



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Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James spinning progressive house and '80s rock, 10pm, $12, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
Afterwork lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and The Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Tattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old school house and techno, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $4, 21+.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite on lesbian night spinning live, 10pm, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johnny C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance. •May 26: Joe Rockstar, $8.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy/The Modern DJ Eddie K and DJ JC spin classic Eurohouse; Shiuan Lee spins house for scene setters, dress super chic, 9pm, $15, 19+.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house, DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and Top-40 hits, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house; disco and dance favorites from the 1970s, '80s and '90s in the backroom, 9:30pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

Mischief
The Modern Ultra lounging erotic electronica, 21+.

Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins house international; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek Ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
•May 26 and June 2: Dance party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats in this laser-lit club, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Smile Saturdays
Bill's Bar •June 2: Live bands, 7pm and 9pm, 18+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins in basement lounge, 5pm; live Latin band on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor, $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

SW1
DJ Tari spins house, dress sexy, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians; DJ Adrienne spins Brit pop and new wave, 9pm, $3, 19+.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Raffy spins International house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJs Larry, Dale, Magnum, Lisa and Robin play great reggae music, 9pm, $5.

Pandora's Box
Lava Bar Mod night with DJ Vinny, Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Rack
•May 27 and June 3: The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm-1:30am, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar • May 27: Shaka Black; Reggae with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul; DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.



Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Café *94 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Heinz Convention Center.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Embassy *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway St., Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hong Kong *1236 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (800-575-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-9400). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook Station.*
The Modern *36 Lansdowne St., Boston (351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (562-8800). MBTA: Green Line to BU West.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place. Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place. Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000 x3333). MBTA: Blue line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*

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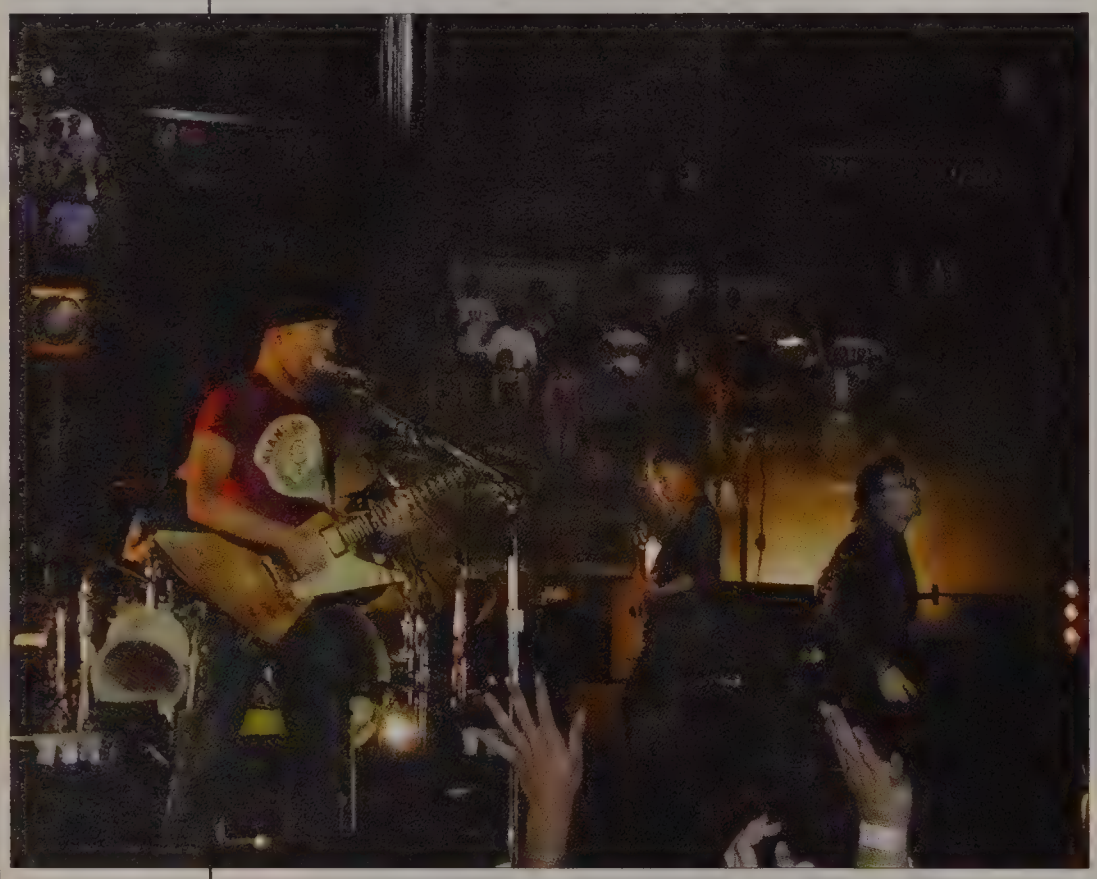
ELEVATION TIME

U2 aims for the heart of Boston with tour of inclusive vision and spirit. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

It's the calm before the storm, which arrives when U2 rolls into Boston for four sold-out shows at the FleetCenter. The hype over the Irish supergroup's concerts on June 5, 6, 8 and 9 will be intense, much like it has been on some level for every U2 show within our city limits since the band debuted as an opening act at the Paradise 20 years ago.

U2's last area stops, which treaded close to being excessively prop-laden, were at Foxboro Stadium on the 1997 PopMart tour. By that time, people questioned whether the band's ego had surpassed the intended irony of the show, not to mention the communal import that U2 had first offered through its music. Where was that sense of personal connection, that sense of heart?

It's back, judging from the opening night of U2's Elevation Tour in Florida and recent tweaks along the road to Boston.



U2 kicks off their tour at Florida's National Car Rental Center. From left: Larry Mullen (hidden), the Edge, Adam Clayton and Bono.

U2 has stirred some dissent by charging $85 to $130 for the bulk of its tickets—at a time when singer Bono is asking superpowers to forgive third-world debt. The Elevation Tour, after all, is a return to the relative intimacy of arenas, not clubs. Yet much as the quartet scaled back and focused on the melodic essentials of its music for last year's *All That You Can't Leave Behind*, U2 has made its current show a consolidation of its career strengths, with a stage design that's as close to a club experience as an arena can get.

The hardest tickets to land at the FleetCenter are for the floor, and not because they only cost $45. They're general admission—with a twist. U2 plays on a close-knit stage in the top half of a heart-shaped catwalk that allows Bono and his mates to wander into the center of the arena. And best of all, the first 300 fans on the floor get locked inside the heart with the band, creating a club-sized show for them, while safely splitting up the general-admission throng and creating a more intimate effect all around.

As for the music, U2 is reclaiming its bare-bones chemistry across a two-hour, 22-song show that maintains that kind of inclusive vibe. The set crosses U2's *Joshua Tree* and *Achtung Baby* tours in content and mood, but with a lighter spirit. Renditions of "I Will Follow," "Sunday Bloody Sunday" and "Bullet the Blue Sky," while a special thrill for newcomers, contribute to a greatest-hits aura, recalling another time, another place. But there's an undeniable rush to much of the show, from the opening stroke of "Elevation" with the house lights still up. During the tour's March 24 kickoff at the National Car Rental Center outside Miami, the most exhilarating visual snapshot came when the group broke into "Where the Streets Have No Name" and Bono stood at the lowest point of the heart and raised his hands to the pogo-crazed crowd as the room flooded with light and adrenaline.

Throughout the show, black-and-white screens above the stage focus on all four band members, as Bono and guitar foil the Edge are ever balanced by bassist Adam Clayton and drummer Larry Mullen. Lighting is equally tasteful and effective, from early strobes to eerily lit scrims. The latter unfurl for "New York" (awkward on the new CD, but engrossing live with Bono playing to both fans and his silhouette) and "With or Without You," part of a ballad-weighted encore recently spiced with the anthemic "Pride (in the Name of Love)."

There have been slight changes in song selection as the tour has wound to the West Coast and Midwest. A spliced pairing of "Discotheque" and "Staring at the Sun" has given way to the new "Kite." An acoustic change-up with Bono and the Edge doing obscure soundtrack piece "The Ground Beneath Her Feet" has evolved into stripped-down alternates such as "Desire," "Angel of Harlem" and "Stay (Faraway, So Close)." Bono is initiating plenty of audience contact, leaning into the crowd along the walkway, and even inviting fans onstage (including a guy in Chicago who got to play keyboards on one song). In Florida, the singer even set the bar by diving into the crowd at set's end to plow his way to a rear floor exit.

Such spontaneity—not possible on recent tours where the staging was more highly scripted to visual cues—bodes well for variation when U2 hits town for multiple nights. The band holds a special place in its heart for the Irish port of Boston, the first city in this country to embrace the group. And 10 weeks into the tour, with only New York dates to follow Boston's, U2 should be more than warmed up. iB

U2

Plays the FleetCenter June 5, 6, 8 and 9.

PAUL ROBICHEAU

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Boston Gay Men's Chorus
June 2, FleetBoston Pavilion (228-6000)

Coldplay and Joseph Arthur
May 24, Avalon (423-6398)

Edwin McCain and Gibb Droll May 31, Paradise (931-2000)

George Thorogood and the Destroyers
May 23, Roxy (931-2000)

Gipsy Kings June 1, FleetBoston Pavilion (228-6000)

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras' Junior, Preparatory and Intensive Community Orchestras
May 27, BU Tsai Performance Center (353-8724)

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Senior Orchestra, Sinfonietta and Repertory Orchestra June 3, Sanders Theatre (496-2222)

Jets to Brazil and the Love Scene May 23, Somerville Theater (625-5700)

Juliana Theory and Show Off June 2, Axis (262-2437)

Kiss 108FM Concert June 2, Tweeter Center (931-1108)

Mogwai and Bardo Pond
May 25, Roxy (338-7699)

Napalm Death, Soilent Green, Isis and Diecast
June 1, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)

NSYNC May 31 and June 1, Foxboro Stadium (228-6000)

Placebo May 26, Paradise (931-2000)

Robert Plant May 25, Orpheum Theatre (228-6000)

Powderfinger and Ours June 2, Paradise (931-2000)

Rustic Overtones, Heidi and the Clarks
June 5, Paradise (931-2000)

Sting May 26, FleetCenter (931-2000)

Systematic
May 30, Axis (262-2437)

U2 Elevation Tour
June 5, FleetCenter (931-2000)

WBCN River Rave May 26, Foxboro Stadium (228-6000)

Zao, Sky Came Falling, Thursday Fairweather and Ludacris
June 5, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Drum and Bass live; Moonraker with Schism, $7, 18+.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys Karaoke with Tricia Kelly.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
The Druid Top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 21+.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; Acoustic series, proper dress, 8pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Ciro Stein Organ Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern JD Ingalls, 9pm.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra.
Harpers Ferry Vogonz; Free Lunch, $4, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
Irish Embassy Pub Empty Stage.
Johnny D's Robbie O'Connell, Aine Minogue, Inchicore and the Gloucester Hornpipe and Clog Society.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Dragg, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

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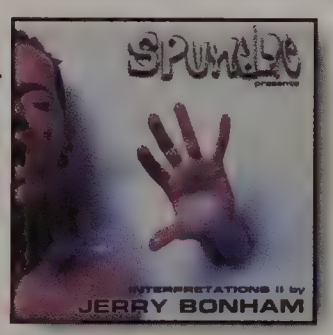
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Kendall Cafe Amelia White, 8pm; The Splendid Nobodies, 9pm; The Gladstones, 10pm, $10.
Lilli's Brett Rosenberg Problem; The Bart Caruso Band, 8pm, 21+.
Linwood Boston Unplugged and open mike, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The David James Motorcycle; Cheerleadr; The Count Me Outs, 21+.
Middle East U: Fighting Dogs, Royal City, Die Electric and Trouble With Sweeney, $6, 18+; C: Evan Harlan Trio, 7pm, 18+.
Rack Beach Party, 21+.
Regattabar Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8:30pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Quintology, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Erica Leopold, 8pm, $15.
Sky Bar Dress Betty; Sunshine Boy; Katie Barbato, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Summer Shack Reggae with I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm.
The Times Blues with Brad and J, 7pm-11pm.
Tír na nÓg The Turpentine Brothers, 9:30pm.
Toad The Cranktones.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bevis Frond, Matt Pond PA and Charlene, $10.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The George Russle Trio, 8pm.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic The Duoastics; Wicked Automatic, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; Jabe with Say ZuZu and Wooden Leg, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Chris Beard, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and Los Diablos.
Bob the Chef's Carl Smitty Smooth Group, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys DJ Rhythm Nation.
Copperfield's One Flew West, 21+.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Maurizio spins international music, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie sings classic contemporary and blues, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pittman.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Jiggle with Mountain of Venus, 9:30pm, $7/$10, 18+.
House of Blues Barrence Whitfield and His Groove Juicy Symphony, 10pm, $8, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Lip Flooter.
Johnny D's Mahavishnu Project, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Edgar, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Barbara Kessler, 8:30pm; Sam Hooper, 9:30pm; Jennifer Tefft Band, 10:30pm; Todd Thibaud, 11;30pm, $10.
Kirkland Cafe Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue, $5.
Lilli's The Pee Wee Fist, Heidi Saperstein's CD-release party, Thalia Zedek and Chris Brokaw, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Uncle Trouble, 21+.
Middle East U: Ted Leo, the Pharmacists, Brandston, The Matters and Ruby Lashes, $7, 18+; D: WBCN's Rock 'n' Roll Rumble finals, 8:30pm, $10, 18+; C: Robbie Phillips and the Eric Baldwin Quartet, 7pm, 18+; Board of Education, 10pm, no cover, 18+.
PJ Ryan's The Dave Foley Band, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Rack Mix 98.5 and Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8:30pm, $18.
Rhythm and Muse Amelia White, Holly Figueroa, Laura Wood and Brenda White, 8:30pm.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Tony Lujan, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Stacy Kent, 8pm and 10pm, $12.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Mike Brown Project, Slackjaw and Something Ira, 9pm, $5, 21+
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey, 9:30pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Clare Burson, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Wide Iris, Vic Morrows, Delta Clutch and Sona Nyl, $7.
Wally's Cafe Renato Tombs, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates Massimo Briocotti Trio, 8pm.



Pop god Sting makes May 26 a brand new day at the FleetCenter.

FRIDAY, MAY 25

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Distant Relatives and Mountain of Venus, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Gentlemen with Quintane Americana; Ad Frank and The Fast Easy Women, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern The Coots, 10pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and The Crossing.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio and Jeff Stout, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm; D: DJ Joey Demers, 9pm, 21+.
Copperfield's View from Here, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe reggae band, 6pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 4pm; DJ Renell spins top-40 and hip-hop, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Weepin Willie and His All-Star Band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Me and Julio.
Green Dragon Tavern Tom Carroll, 5pm-8pm; Classic Trax, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Delta Blues with the Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Pressure Cooker, 9:30pm, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Tom Hambridge Band, 10pm, $10.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: Neopride.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Eric Marcos and Normal Noises, $10.
Kirkland Cafe Tom Sawyer Co., Tiger Method, Al Janik's Plastic Cheese and The Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's The Dictators, The Decals and The Oysters, 8pm, $12, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Buck Dewey Big Band, 21+.
Middle East U: Isis, Anodyne and Cable, $7, 18+; C: Waking Vision Trio and Ernesto Gianola, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
PJ Ryan's Undercover with Dave Matthews, 9pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown, 10pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Live music, 9pm.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8pm and 10:30pm, $20.
Rhythm and Muse Deb Talan, 9pm.
Rhythm and Spice Jamm Down, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Joe Barger and the Soul Providers, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Terrance Blanchard Sextet CD-release party, 10:30pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Jiggiwatica, Elevation 74 and Euphonic, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 9:30pm.
Toad Lemonpeeler.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron perform with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place David Gedge, Kill Rock Stars recording artist Lois and Baby Strange, $10.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Shaka Black, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates The Jim Bridges Group, 9pm.

SATURDAY, MAY 26

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am; Live jazz, 7pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Jiggle, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Alan and the Alligators, 10pm.
Black Rose Frank Ryan; Celtic Clan; The Crossing.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm; D: DJ Joey Demers, 9pm, 21+.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Emily's DJ Gary spins techno, top-40 and dance, proper dress, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; Des Pres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Goodlife Allstars featuring Grant Langford, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Cape Fear.
Green Dragon Tavern Plaid Daddy, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry The Lydia Warren Band and Scratch My Back, 9:30pm, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm-7pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
Hibernia London's DJ Paul Sparkes, 10pm, 21+.
House of Blues Tarbox Ramblers, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Flynn.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: Magnus.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Violet Tide $5.
Lilli's Over the Rhine and The Willard Grant Conspiracy, 8pm, $12, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Lars Vegas; Slamhound featuring Randy Roos, 21+.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: Jenny Toomey; TW Walsh; Daniel Bejar, 6pm, $7, 18+; Racketeers, 10pm, $8, 18+; D: Dick Dale, 9pm, $15, 18+; C: Tobin Bridge, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
PJ Ryan's Pete Massa, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Thomas Park, 10pm.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8pm and 10:30pm, $22.
Rhythm and Spice Kolors, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Frankie V., 9pm, $10.
Scullers Terrance Blanchard Sextet CD-release party, 8pm and 10:30pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Party time DJs.
Tíger Lily Escape; DJ Brian Luciani; AJ Deep, 10pm.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 9:30pm.
Toad Lucky 57 and special guests.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway performs with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Say Hi to Lisa, Xygoatz CD release party, Ross Phasor and Tricycle, $6.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with the Heights Crew Band CD-release party—Wayne Ranks, Fitzi Niceness, Paul Wayne, Shadow and Shaka Black, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Jim Dower Trio, 7pm; Tim Ingles Group, 10pm.

SUNDAY, MAY 27

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Bill's Bar Reggae with DJ K-Don and Shaka Black, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Celtic Clan; Los Diablos.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with the Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Carl Cacho and Stephanie Corby, 8:30pm-11:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Costello's Tavern Lawrence Watson's performers showcase, 8pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort New Revelations gospel brunch, 10am; The Complete Unknown, 7pm.
Dunwell's Hang-Over Sunday brunch with DJs spinning mellow grooves and chill beats, 12pm-8pm.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm; 2nd Annual Amateur Silver Note Singing Competition, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Brazilian night with the Paulo Danay Group, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm-8pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
House of Blues Elements of Hip-Hop, 10pm, $6.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Brazilian Night, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Funderdome, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Jamal St. John and Thelma Bryant; poetry slam, 7pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: Massdahs Uv Da Univerz and Grey Matter; D: Candiria, Unearth, Death Threat and Sworn Enemies, 8pm, $10, 18+; C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Negra Powell Trio, 4pm; Ficus, 7pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Red Rock Bistro and Bar Experience the sunset at this Swampscott beach hot spot and listen to Shufflin' "A" with Marty Rowen, 4pm-7pm, no cover.
Rhythm and Muse Priscilla, 2pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Sessiun, 7pm.
Toad The Benders.
Top of the Hub Dave Maxwell Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Malevolence, Das Booty, The Boxcars and Hunter's Track, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren 3, 9pm-2am.

MONDAY, MAY 28

Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm, Kevin So, 10pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Caribbean and reggae with Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Best Bands Showcase, 21+.
House of Blues Big Bill's Band, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Marci Geller, 9pm; Emm Gryner, 10pm, $5.

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(drawing date: September 29th)

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Super Liquor - Framingham
Tremont Liquors - Roxbury
Top Liquors - Roslindale
Upper Falls - Newton
Uptown Liquors - Hudson
Vernons - Malden
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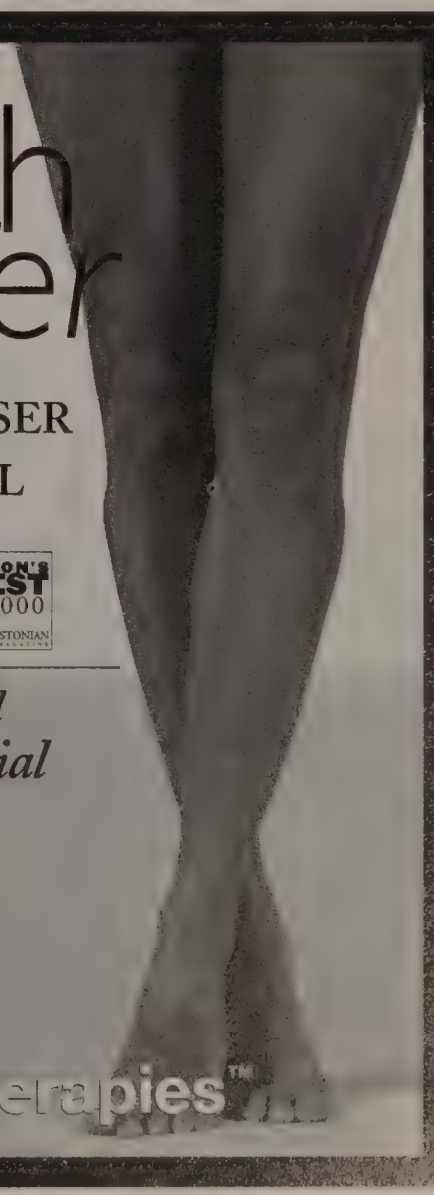
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Middle East U: The Tossers and Rex Hobart, $7, 18+; D: Stone Soup Poetry, 7:30pm; C: Divya Kumar, 7pm; Tom Bianchi and Jason Gardner, 10pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Open mike with Dave Sammarco, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Janedy, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer and the Euphorians, 9:30pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Gordon Beadle Trio, 8pm.
Wally's Cafe Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm.

TUESDAY, MAY 29

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm.
Club Passim Open mike, 7:30pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Fascinatin Rhythm, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Rhythm and blues with the Tim Gagan Quartet.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $5/$8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
House of Blues Ekene and The Source featuring Eric Krasno of Soulive and Kudu, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Henry Elsesser, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Tom Bianchi; open mike, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Irresponsibles, $5.
Mcgann's Irish Sessiun with Slainte.
Middle East U: Kolya, The Mercury Program, Six Parts Seven and Superface, 8:30pm, $7, 18+; C: David Harris Quartet, 7pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal; DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack Search Party, 6pm-10pm, 21+.
Scullers Bill Bruford's Earthworks, 8pm and 10pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille The Laura Allen Trio, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar The Effword; The Fleece and Kausasi's Secret, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ed Jurdi, 9:30pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; Blue Pearl, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bourbon Princess, Torrez, Moodroom and The Kitty Kill, $5.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Massholes CD-release party with Akrobatik, Skitzofreniks and D-Tension, 9:30pm, $12.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys Karaoke with Tricia Kelly.
Club Passim Shelly Cooper-Neil, Ray Davies and Emily Tyson, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; Acoustic series, proper dress required, 8pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern JD Ingalls, 9pm.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Hazie Maze CD-release party, $5/$8.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
House of Blues Michael Burks, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Machinery Hall.
Johnny D's Katie Viqueria, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Beach party with DJ Dragg spinning hip-hop and dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Joe Rathbone, Jessica Schoenberg and Scott E Moore, 9pm; Tom Glynn Duo, 10pm, $5.
Lilli's DJ Greyboy and Ulu, 8pm, 21+.
Linwood Boston Unplugged; Open-mike night, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The Grand Finale, The David James Motorcycle; Tim Catz Book Release; Bloodshot; Photoflash, 21+.
Middle East U: The Binary System and The Lothars, 8:30pm, $7, 18+; C: Gianna and Pedro Viscardi, 7pm.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Beach Party, 21+.
Regattabar David Maxwell's Maximum Blues, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club George Levas Group, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Peter Eldridge, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Melvern Taylor and Bluegrazer, 9pm, $5.
Summer Shack Reggae with the I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
The Times Blues with Brad and J, 7pm-11pm.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan and guests, 9:30pm.
Toad Li'l Memphis.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Blue Letter Days, Crazy Mary, Fixation and The Warren Drews, 8pm, $4, 21+.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The Mike Herclots Trio, 8pm.



The Gipsy Kings bring their pop-oriented flamenco called Sevillana to the FleetBoston Pavilion June 1.

THURSDAY, MAY 31

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic The Duoastics and Labb, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; Dropkick Jesus with Jane Jenson; Curb Feeler; Projek DH, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Zach Koerper, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and Days At Dawn.
Bob the Chef's Sonny Watson Quartet, 7:30pm.
711 Boylston Live jazz, 8pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys DJ Rhythm Nation.
Club Passim Freedy Johnston and Bob Hillman, 8pm, $15.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke with Dana Z.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Lonely Gus and the One Night Stand, 7pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Maurizio spins international and dance, proper dress required, 9pm.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie sings classic contemporary and blues, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pittman.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Chris Fitz Band with Sweetfish, $5/$8, 18+.
House of Blues Reeves Gabrels Band and the Devil Gods, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Vykki Vox, Dave's True Story, Star Hustler, Violet Tide and the Patty Giurleo Ensemble, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Edgar, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Volition, 9pm; Kristian Montgomery, 10pm; McCarthyis Finger, 11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue, $5.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf featuring Micro Vard.
Middle East U: Gameface, Error Type 11 and Garrison, 8pm, $8, 18+; D: Injustice, 8:30pm, $7, 18+; C: Board of Education, 10pm.
PJ Ryan's The Dave Foley Band, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Eddie, 10:30pm, 21+.
Red Rock Bistro and Bar Relax at this Swampscott beach hot spot to Brian Maes, 9pm-12am, no cover.
Regattabar The Patrice Williamson Group, 8:30pm, $12.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5.
Ryles Jazz Club The Jesse Williams Glen Shambroom Group, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Trio Da Paz with Claudio Roditi CD-release party, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar The Audiants and Tizzy, 9pm, $5, 21+.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Jabe, 10pm.
Toad Mayone Thing.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Elysium CD-release party, Alchemilla and Jambone Lewis, $6.
Wally's Cafe Latin jazz with the Renato Tombs, 9pm.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern Joe Deveau Band, 10pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys DJ Rhythm Nation.
Club Passim Liz Queler; Brooks Williams CD-release party, 8pm, $12.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild.
Copperfield's Random Axis.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Embassy Latin and Euro house, 10pm, 19+.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 4pm; DJ Renell spins top-40, house and hip-hop, proper dress, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Grover Mooney, A7 and the Moon Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.



An infamous club hosts an infamous band—The Dictators at the Rat in 1978.

Preview

Faster & Louder

Don't call it a comeback: the Dictators never left

The world of rock music in the mid-to-late '70s was not a pretty picture. Rapidly stagnating blues-rock bands from England, smooth Californian rockers and tiresome troubadours ruled the roost. Hard drugs and fast living had claimed the lives of many of rock's figureheads, and most of the rest of its practitioners seemed content to cruise into the '80s solely on their reputations. The genre was, as Cameron Crowe's *Almost Famous* has emphasized, staggering under its own excesses. Something was direly needed to save rock from itself—a band, a person, a *sound*—but who? Who could save rock 'n' roll?

The answer came out of a New York City apartment, from the floor, by the sofa, muffled by a girly magazine draped over the speaker's face. It was Adny Shernoff, publisher of indie zine *Teenage Wasteland Gazette*, who declared, "I think what we need is the handsomest man in rock 'n' roll!" And with a mighty roar, the Dictators, fronted by Handsome Dick Manitoba, burst onto the scene breathing new life, vigor and passion into rock's comatose frame. Music critic Richard Meltzer labeled them "*The* New York band between the [New York] Dolls and the Ramones" and Lester Bangs praised songwriter Shernoff's "deranged barbiturate-conjured satire and brilliantly inventive new vistas of adolescent scatology." He also notes that "Shernoff's humor was lost on almost everybody." Sad but true. Songs like "Master Race Rock" and "(I Live For) Cars and Girls" were dismissed by many who never bothered to listen. The world was not yet ready for the Dictators, but they soldiered on, gaining critical acclaim and fan appreciation. Their first album, *Go Girl Crazy!*, was followed by *Manifest Destiny* and the group's major-label swan song, 1978's "Bloodbrothers." Since then, the 'tators have continued to perform together intermittently, touring and recording, but never reuniting. Big rock band reunions are, as Adny puts it, "crass and lame; everything the Dictators aren't." On second thought, though. "Well, maybe we are crass, but we're not lame, dammit!" See them at Lilli's May 25.—*Andrew Graham*

LEFT: SEB JANIAK



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Writing Contest Sponsored by
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THE RULES:
All entries must be typed, or we won't read them
All Entries must include:
the word PINT, the word PEN, the name GUINNESS DRAUGHT, the name BUKOWSKI
and must be between 500-750 words.
Must be 21 to enter.

GUINNESS WOULD LIKE YOU TO DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

Present Composition with entry form to
Manager at BUKOWSKI TAVERN
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ENTRY DEADLINE – June 1st
WINNER ANNOUNCED – June 13th
At Bukowksi Tavern

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ENTRY FORM

Name _____ Age _____

Street _____

City _____ State/zip _____

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Fine Print

I hereby agree and sign that I understand that entries become the property of Bukowski Tavern and that the judges decisions are final. Must be 21 to enter.

GUINNESS WOULD LIKE YOU TO DRINK RESPONSIBLY.

_____

Signature

Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Rhythm, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Me and Julio, 9pm.
Green Dragon Tavern Tom Carroll, 5-8pm; Dog House, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Delta Blues with the Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Tripping Billies, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm-7:30pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
House of Blues Leo Nocentelli, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Fred's Bowling Ball and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Sugarman 3 and Lucky Lee Jones, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Fire in the Boathouse; The Lonesome Brothers CD-release party; Lucky 57, 21+.
McGann's DJ Static.
Middle East Ron Jeremy's S+M Sideshow, $13, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Sundays Well.
PJ Ryan's Pete Massa, 9pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Marsels.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The New Black Eagle Jazz Band, 7pm and 9:30pm, $12.
Rhythm and Spice Jack Lee and Divercity, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ulu, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Bob Dorough and Dave Frishberg, 8pm and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm.
Sky Bar Halflife and Ghost 24, 9pm, $5, 21+.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg The Benders, 9:30pm.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron perform with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with Anthem, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Valerie Stephens, 9pm.



Back by popular demand, jazz diva Karin Parker returns to the Good Life Downtown for an extended engagement on Saturday nights.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am; Live jazz, 7-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern Sky Blues, 10pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ina May Wool and Garnet Rogers, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Love Whip, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild.
Copperfield's Consultants, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm; MoJo Slim, 10pm.
Embassy DJ Eddie K spinning classic Eurohouse, 10pm, 19+.
Emily's DJ Gary spins techno, top-40 and dance, proper dress, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal DJ Kevin Tinsley.
Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Foxtrot Zulu with the Jennifer Nettles Band and Chasing Gray, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm-7pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
House of Blues Paul Pena, 10pm, $20, 21+.
Johnny D's Slipknot, 9:45pm, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Thought Brigade, Classic Ruins, and Girl On Top, $5.
Lilli's The Uppercrust, Scissorfight and Treatment Bound, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Ray Corvair Trio, 21+.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
The Modern DJ Eddie K spinning classic Euro house, 10pm, 19+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Sundays Well.
PJ Ryan's Uncle Shaker Band, 4pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Empty Head, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Central Basement.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Annie Royer: Cabaret de Paris, 8pm and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice Tropical Fire, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Mother's Favorite Child, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Bob Dorough and Dave Frishberg, 8pm and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm.
Sky Bar Fooled by April and Palomar, 9pm, $5, 21+.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
Tíger Lily DJ Brian Luciani and AJ Deep, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway performs with the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tom Burris and Jabbering Trout; Todd Thibaud.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with Anthem, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Carolyn Wilkins, 7pm.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Anago at the Lenox Hotel Rusty Scott Quartet, 11:30am, no cover.
Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Bill's Bar Reggae, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Burt LaFountain and Russell Wolff, 8:30pm-11:30pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Andrew Kerr and Susan Werner, 8pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald, 7pm; The Complete Unknowns, 10pm.
Dunwell's Hang-Over Sunday brunch with DJs spinning mellow grooves and chill beats, 12-8pm.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm; 2nd Annual Amateur Singing Competition.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Brazilian night with the Paulo Danay Group, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, $3 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm-8pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
House of Blues Paul Pena, 9pm, $16, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Brazilian night, 9pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poet J*ME; poetry slam, 7:30pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: Rock A Teens, $7, 18+; D: Nebula, Quitter and Cherry Valence, 8:30pm, $8, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Agusto Cego, 7:30pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Seisiun, 7pm.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren 3, 9pm-2am.

MONDAY, JUNE 4

Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm.
Club Passim Kevin McCluskey's open mike, 8pm, $5.
Common Ground Simpsons Trivia Night with The Worst Evening Ever, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Knuckle Sandwich, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Caribbean and reggae with Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Livewire, $2/$5, 18+.
House of Blues East Meets West Earthquake Relief for India featuring James Montgomery, Jerry Portnoy and Johnny A, 9pm, $25, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Matt Jensen, 9pm; Emm Gryner, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Einleitugszeit, Skrol, Scholss Tegal, Skin Crime and Emil Beaulieau, $7, 18+; D: Stone Soup Poetry, 7:30pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Open mike with Dave Sammarco, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Janedy, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Wally's Cafe Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

ÆR Retroactive with Chris Ewen, 21+.
Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7-10pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm.
Club Passim Open mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Rhythm and blues with the Tim Gagan Quartet.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $5/$8.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
House of Blues Shake Senora and Jennie Laws, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Louise Taylor, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Tom Bianchi's open mike, no cover.
Mcgann's Irish Sessiun with Slainte.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke, 10pm.
Rack Mac and Jamie, 6pm, 21+.
Scullers Sophia Bilides, $12.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

Music Venues

Anago at the Lenox Hotel *65 Exeter St., Boston (266-6222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
ÆR *25 1/2 Kingston St., Boston (292-3309). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-5101). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanueil Hall Marketplace, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue line to Government Center or Aquarium.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Boston University Tsai Performance Center *685 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (353-8724). MBTA: Green Line to BU Central.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (437-0002). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Café Italia *144 Meridan St., East Boston (569-1800). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave. Boston (262-9874). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Coolidge Corner Theater *290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2501). MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge.*
Costello's Tavern *723 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (522-9263). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Dunwell's *1271 Boylston St., Boston (424-1441). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.*
Embassy *30 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
Encore *275 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Avenue. Boston (734-9000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Four Seasons Hotel *200 Boylston St., Boston (267-6338). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Foxboro Stadium *60 Washington St., Foxboro (508-543-0350).*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket or North Station.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central Square.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333) MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
The Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (742-6618). MBTA: Orange Line to North Station.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). Green Line to Kenmore.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*

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The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299) MBTA: Lowell Commuter Rail to Lowell.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Griggs St.*
North Shore Music Theatre *62 Dunham Rd.,Beverly, (978-232-7200).*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central*
Plaza Garibaldi *1141 Revere Beach Parkway at the junctions of Route 1 and Route 16 West, Revere (781-284-6005).*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (876-4275). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
St. Botolph's *99 St. Botolph St., Boston (266-3030). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*
Symphony Hall *301 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-1492). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366A Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2333).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *261 Main St., Worcester (800-477-6849).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*



classical music

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Chick Corea performs with the Pops in a spirited program titled *Born in Boston.*

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall., 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. Free. The Children's Opera performs *H.M.S. Pinafore* by Gilbert and Sullivan.

New England Conservatory Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. The 20-member chorus of the Conservatory Camerata performs music from the 16th to the 21st centuries, including Bach, Stravinsky and Al-Zand.

THURSDAY, MAY 24

Back Bay Chorale
Sanders Theater, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (761-6767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $17, $23 and $30. Guest conductor Susan Davenny Wyner leads the Back Bay Chorale for the final concert of its 2000-2001 season, combining *Paukenmesse* with the premiere of BBC director Julian Wachner's *Symphony No. 1.*

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Renowned cellist George Seaman performs with pianist Eda Mazo-Shylam. The program includes several works by Liebman, Martinu, Schnittke and Thuille.

New England Conservatory Concert
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. NEC faculty member Emmanuel Feldman performs.

FRIDAY, MAY 25

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Same program as May 23.

SUNDAY, MAY 27

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-3359). 7pm. The season finale concert features the junior repertory orchestra and the preparatory string orchestra.

TUESDAY, MAY 29

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. The Boston Pops performs with special guest Paul Winter and his Earth Band.

New England Conservatory Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30pm. Free. The NEC Prep School Spring Concert features a performance by the Youth Chorale and the String Chamber Orchestra.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 30

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Same program as May 29.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. Steven Tharpe and Martha Sullivan perform.

New England Conservatory Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. The NEC Youth Philharmonic Orchestra, directed by Benjamin Zander, performs Berlioz, Barber, Khachaturian and Strauss before they set off for their biannual summer tour to Cuba and Venezuela.

SATURDAY, JUNE 2

Boston Virtuosi
Faneuil Hall, Boston (547-8860). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. 8pm. $25-$10. The third concert in the Visions of America series features a world premiere by Claudio Ragazzi as well as the first Boston Virtuosi young artist competition winner.

Cape Ann Symphony
Fuller Auditorium, Blackburn Circle, Gloucester (978-281-0543). 8pm. $10-$20. The Cape Ann Symphony welcomes renowned cellist and Boston Symphony Orchestra member Ronald Feldman.

New England Conservatory Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2pm. Free. The NEC Prep School Spring Festival takes place, featuring the Children's Choruses, String Training Orchestras and Youth Repertory Orchestras.

SUNDAY, JUNE 3

Cape Ann Symphony
Fuller Auditorium, Blackburn Circle, Gloucester (978-281-0543). 2pm. $10-$20. Same program as June 2.

Chorus Pro Musica
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $25-$55. The chorus performs a concert opera production of Verdi's *Macbeth.*

Christ Church Summer Music
Zero Garden St., Cambridge (876-0200). MBTA: Red-Line to Harvard. 5pm. $5. The choir performs favorite hymns with Stuart Forster, director and organist. Followed by ice cream on the lawn.

Convivium Musicum
St. Peter's Episcopal Churc, 838 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (623-0656). 7pm. $12, $6 students and seniors. The Convivium Musicum performs French and Franco-Flemish Music from the Age of Reform, including Le Jeune, Sermisy, Gombert, Crecquillon and Arcadelt.

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. The season finale concert features the senior orchestra and the repertory orchestra, performing Copland, Ravel and Stravinksy.

Newton Free Library Concert
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 2pm. Free. Violinist Barbara Englesberg performs with pianist Esther Ning Yau. The program includes works by Mozart and Grieg.

Shirley-Eustis House
33 Shirley St., Roxbury (442-2275). 2pm. $7, $5 seniors. The Roland Hayes memorial concert features La Fête Musicale performing Couperin, Marais, Rameau, Morel and Danglebert.


Benjamin Zander directs the the NEC Youth Philharmonic June 1.

MONDAY, JUNE 4

Newton Free Library Concert
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. Pianist Robert H. Goepfert performs Schumann, Brahms, Beethoven, Debussy and Franck.

TUESDAY, JUNE 5

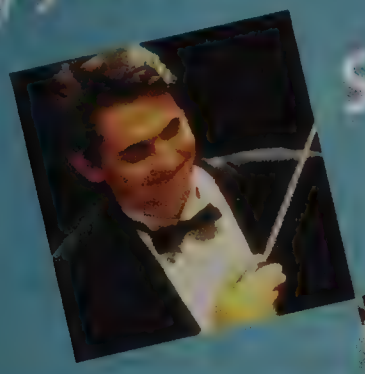
King's Chapel Recital
Corner of Tremont and School St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12:15 pm. $2. Vittorio Marciano, tenor, and Leonardo Ciampa, organ, perform.

New England Conservatory Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1100). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30pm. Free. The Metropolitan Flute Orchestra and Repertory Flute Choir perform in tonight's concert.

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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., theme shows produced by Diamond Dunhill.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). *MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.* "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night—the women's club alternative. With a DJ and plenty of dancing to '70s, '80s and '90s music, 9pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Gay Men's Chorus
FleetBoston Pavilion, 290 Northern Avenue, Boston (931-2000). June 2, 8pm. $20-$50. The 160-voice Gay Men's Chorus, under the direction of Reuben M. Reynolds III, teams up with Broadway diva Nell Carter (*Gimme a Break*) for an original show, *Misbehavin'*. The concert features jazz standards by Fats Waller, Duke Ellington, the Gershwins and other jazz and blues greats. A 12-piece jazz band accompanies the concert.

Hysterical!
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through June 3. $15.50 (pay what you can on Sundays). Six profane female clowns tell a story of inspiration, internalized oppression and all the many deaths that accompany the reunion of creativity and self-love. This work contains profanity, adult situations, nudity and lesbian themes.

Theater into Film
Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 27, 7pm. **Edward II** *1991.* An adaptation of Christopher Marlowe's play that moves the play's latent homosexuality to the forefront, this version of the story of the King of England is blended with contemporary accounts of gay activism.

This Year's Fashions
Theater Offensive, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Wed., 8pm. June 4-6. $8. More twisted than any lesbian pulp novel, this is the true 1940s love story of a brainy Jewish girl-turned-platinum bombshell (Judy Holliday) and the socialist NYPD policewoman who won her heart.



The Gay Men's Chorus performs at the FleetBoston Pavilion June 2 with Nell Carter and a jazz band.

Too Tall Blondes Do Sex, Death and Gender
Theater Offensive, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. May 31-June 16. $24 (pay what you can on May 31, June 1 and June 10). The Theater Offensive presents this premiere by Kate Bornstein and Barbara Carrellas. Saunter into a world where sexual variety is the spice of life, gender identity is a nostalgic game, and revolution feels soft and tastes oh-so-sweet. Their *Too Tall* tale of falling in love is so outrageous that it could only be the truth.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This is the Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for mature gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. This is an ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872). GAYMES is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This line provides referral and support services.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm. $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Kristen Porter's Dyke Night
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (542-9038). $5, 10pm, 21+. Every Thursdays this Lesbian Bar has rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing until 2am.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, known as LANES, is one of Boston's gay swim teams.

Latino Social Groups
(350-6900). Call for information about the Latino Gay Men's Project and the Women's Social Group.

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). Held quarterly. Sliding scale.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons from 8 to 9pm. It's followed by a DJ set. All smoke- and alcohol-free.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (442-1775). www.triangledivers.org. A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Drum and Dance Saturday
Eagle Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 2, 8-11:30pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, your clapping hands, your drums, spoons and tambourines. Whether you're a dancing queen or just a curious dabbler, you won't stop moving once you step inside.

Earth Medicine
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-659-2322 or 781-648-0101). http://welcome.to/ts-boston. *May 25, 7:30pm. $5 donation requested.* **Byron Utah Jordan**, a holistic practitioner with a background in bio-chemistry, nutrition and Native American tradition, will present his knowledge and experiences.

CLASSES

Angelspeake: Talk to Your Angels
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *June 1, 7-9pm. $15.* Learn how easy and helpful it is to meet your angels and how to receive their messages to you in writing.

First Degree Reiki
Center for Balance, 857 Washington St., Newton (527-0247). MBTA: Bus #553, 554, 556. www.centerfor-balance.org. *May 29-30, 7-8:30pm. $90.* Sort-of like 'The Force' in Star Wars, Reiki is an ancient healing force that allows you to channel universal life energy to yourself, others, animals and plants. This class will teach you it's history and how to use it.

Focus Your Thoughts, Meditate and Breathe
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *June 3, 3:30-4:30pm. $40.* Is stress compromising your physical and mental health? Learn practical, portable techniques for guided meditation and proper breathing to slow down the activity of the heart, calm the mind and rid the body of toxins.

Ipsalu Tantra Kriya Yoga
Davis Square, Somerville (623-4393). May 25-27. $325. This workshop will be a level-one intensive with teacher and author **Bodhi Avinasha**, who will reveal the art and science of Tantric Kriya Yoga. You'll learn to transmute sexual energy to rejuvenate the body and stimulate creativity. Prepare to awaken Kundalini safely using Babaji's Cobra Breath.

Spring Renewal Through Yoga
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). May 26, 1-4pm. $30. Nurture yourself through gentle yoga, meditation, journal writing and drawing.

Yoga for a Better Back
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 3, 10 and 17, 4:30-6pm. $64.* Get rid of back pain naturally and effectively. In three classes, learn yoga postures that emphasize proper spinal alignment and strengthen the muscles of the back and abdomen. These moves can heal you.

LECTURE

Kabbalah Lecture
The Kabbalah Centre, 2001 Beacon St., Brighton (492-9267). www.kabbalah.com. *May. 23, 7:30pm.* Kabbalah has the power to alter destinies, give people control over their lives and experience greater joy. This is a free introductory seminar.

RETREATS

The Chakra System
Briarwood Retreat Center, Cape Cod (508-654-6943). www.heartofintuition.com. *June 2-3. $200.* This retreat will focus on learning chakra energy systems and discovering how to open up your intuition. The center is located in a naturally beautiful environment to help get you back to your natural self.

Pema Chödrön: The Places That Scare You
Omega Institute, 150 Lake Dr., Rhinebeck, N.Y. (800-944-1001). www.omega-inst.org. *May 25-28. $325.* Teacher, author, mentor and renowned Chögyam Trungpa Ricpoche of the Shambhala Buddhist tradition, **Pema Chödrön** will host this meditation retreat.



Pema Chödrön hosts a meditation retreat May 25.

After spending two years in seclusion, Chödrön offers her clear teaching style to the public.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington. (876-3050). MBTA: Bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirections-forhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a nonviolent martial art for peace and protection. Its goal is to connect ourselves back to nature, to our real nature and to a natural state of good health. This practice takes place outdoors.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wed., 6:30-7:30pm. Call to register. You'll be feeling so energetic and peaceful after some early-morning yoga that you won't even need coffee. All levels welcome.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Lunch Hour Tai Chi
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). Mon. and Wed., 12:30-1:30pm. Get back to the office relaxed and energized in both mind and body.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is relaxing, stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston. (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/New Directions
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirections-forhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17 per session. Join anytime or drop-in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar. Also: pilates, reiki, embodiment bodywork and family relaxation classes. Wow.

Yoga/Peace Power
Peace Power Yoga, Church of Our Savior, 25 Monmouth St., Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. $10 per class.* Drop in for a powerfully peaceful time. Classes are held: •Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm •Thu., 6pm •Sat., 9:30am.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., (522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. *MBTA: Green Line to Prudential or Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/session.* Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting. Increase flexibility, relieve stress, build strength, relax and enjoy yourself at any of these on-going drop-in classes: Tue., 7pm and Sat., 10 am. Call ahead.

Zen Insight
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Auburn St., Cambridge (576-3229). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.cam-bridgezen.com. *Mon., 7pm.* If you've had a hard Monday, try out this drop-in meditation session open to the public.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

The Century Project
Orpheum, Foxborough, Mass. (508 543-4434). June 1 and 2 (three shows). $12. $6 children. This workshop production has been developed by at-risk youths, along with seniors in the community.

Children's Theatre
Theatre 1, 713 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7929). $8, $5 children. •May 26, 3pm: **Silly Sketches**, *Saturday Night Live* for kids. •June 2, 3pm: **Circus Celebration** gives kids a chance to run away and join the circus, learning skills and talents for the Big Top.

The Island of Anyplace
Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (496-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. May 24, 29 and 31, 10:30am. $16, $9 children. Jennifer has been dragged to the theater by her father. At first she'd rather be home watching television, but when she takes on the roles of playwright and director herself, Jennifer discovers that her imagination can take her to magical places.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 and 3pm. Free. •May 1 and 3: Paul Vincent Davis of Puppets Arts performs *Androcles and the Lion/ Golden Touch of Midas.* •June 2 and 3: The Perry Alley Theatre performs *Tom Thumb.*

THINGS TO DO

Allston Brighton Ethnic Festival
William Smith Playground at the intersection of North Harvard Street and Western Avenue, Allston (787-0425). June 2, 11am-5pm. Free. Along with food, music and crafts from around the world, this festival will feature a ton of children's activities and free ice cream from Ben & Jerry's.

Arthur's Surprise Party
Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. May 27, 11am-4pm. $5, $3 children. Help PBS's Arthur the Aardvark turn 8 (for the 25th time!). He'll be on hand for this birthday party with plenty of crafts and party favors.

Boston by Little Feet
Meet in front of Faneuil Hall at the statue of Samuel Adams on Congress Street, Boston (367-2345). www.bostonby-foot.com. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sat. and Mon., 10am; Sun., 2pm. $6. This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail's architecture and history is especially designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12 years. A free explorer's map and guide is included.

Bugs, Bugs, Bugs!
The Discovery Museums, 177 Main St., Acton (978-264-4200). May 30, 4-5:30pm. $15 non-members. This class for kids ages 6 and older will investigate all the interesting creatures that reappear in the spring. Go on a backyard safari and learn about the bugs in the ground, on the leaves and in the local pond.

Catching a First Fish
Brookline Adult and Community Education. (730-2700). May 26, 4-5pm. $28. Learn to fish using the catch-and-release method on a privately stocked pond with one- to six-pound bass in Duxbury. Children ages 2 and older are welcome, and no fishing license is required.

Central Square World's Fair
Mass Ave., between Main Street and Pleasant Street, Cambridge (868-3247). MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 3, 12-6pm. Free. This fair has something for everyone: hundreds of artisans lining Mass Ave., food vendors dishing up global cuisine, and a children's area with face painters, story-tellers and jugglers.

The Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. The Coop offers children's story hours and crafts every Saturday. •May 26, 11am: Coop Kids Reader of the Month Choice. Paint a picture and hear the Kid of the Month read a few favorite stories.

Hop, Skip and Jump
Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (264-4200). •May 21, 3:30pm: Story Hour. The reading will be *Daisy's Taxi* by **Ruth Young**. Afterward, make magnet boats. *•May 30, 1pm:* The museum is transformed into a fun and challenging course for adventurous folks for the day.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Boston University's Nickerson Field. Tickets: 866-462-7325
May 27, 6:00pm: Philadelphia Charge
June 3, 6:00pm: New York Power

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
May 25, 7:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
May 26, 1:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
May 27, 1:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
May 28, 7:05pm: New York Yankees
May 30, 1:05pm: New York Yankees
June 5, 7:05pm: Detroit Tigers

New England Revolution
•Foxoboro Stadium. Tickets: 931-2222
June 3, 4:00pm: Metro Stars

Events

2001 Ultimate Players' Association College Championship
Fort Devens, Ayer, Mass. (800-UPA-GETH). May 25-27. More than 30 teams and 500 male and female players are expected to participate in this ultimate disc championship. The finals will be held at Tufts University on May 27, 11:30am (women's) and 2pm (men's). (See Selects on page 43 for more information.)

Big Man Run VI
Beachcomber, Cahoon Hollow Drive, Wellfleet (508-775-0143). June 2, 2pm. www.clydesdale.org/onlineapplications/BigManRunVI.html. This 5-mile run benefits the Cystic Fybrosis and Prostate Cancer Foundations. The post-race party will feature a cash bar, music from the Ba Ha Boys, and the Ms. Big Man Run VI Bikini Contest.

To Play

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgol-drugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer. Begins May 20.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in Greater Boston.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(789-4070).



NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Must be legal U.S. or P.R. resident 18 or older. Limit one game card per person per 2-hour period. Subject to complete Official Rules. See rules in-store or call 1-800-395-9579 for free game card info/odds/prize details. Void where prohibited. Ends in-store 6/30/01. All prize claims must be redeemed on or before 8/31/01. Unclaimed prizes will not be awarded. ©2001 by Paramount Pictures Corp. Tomb Raider and Lara Croft are trademarks of Core Design LTD. All rights reserved. ©2001 Ericsson Inc. Ericsson and the Ericsson logo are registered trademarks.

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Players compete for the disc at the Ultimate Players' Association College Championship May 25-27.

Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance
(928-0882). www.buda.org.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club. (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

Why Watch Volleyball League
Watertown High School, 50 Columbia St., Watertown (825-7723). www.whywatch.com. *Thu., 7-9pm.* Six- on-six co-ed volleyball league with three different levels.

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Thomas Rohrer, MD
Director, BU Center for Cosmetic and Laser Surgery

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8. •May 29: Free admission in celebration of JFK's birthday.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu:, 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

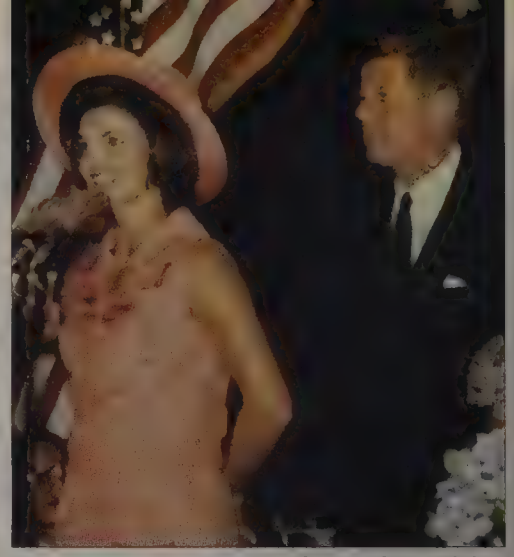
Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

AIDSRide (New York to Boston)
(800-825-1000). July 19-22. Crew volunteers needed.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.



The *John F. Kennedy and Latin America* exhibit opens at the J.F.K. Library and Museum May 26.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Info session: May 31, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Public Schools
(451-6145). Tutor or mentor a child.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Tutor at Cambridge public schools.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Share fun times with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge
(800-WE-CYCLE). Aug. 4-5. Volunteer at major hub and water stop sites at this bicycling fundraiser.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

United Services Organization (USO)
(720-4949). Welcome Navy ships, visit VA hospitals, provide office support or coordinate events.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

ULTIMATE DISC: PETER KRAUTSCHEID; KENNEDY EXHIBIT: THE JFK LIBRARY

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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

To My Secret Admirer
Eighty people seem to think that I might be the person you described as being in the Beacon Hill Pub on April 6. I will say that it sounds scarily enough like me. I do follow baseball; I do have a tattoo; the scar on my elbow is definitely there, and although I say it gives me character, the guy who took the liberty of pointing it out that night at the bar did not. You call yourself a snob, but the fact that you do makes me think that you aren't. Also, I don't believe it was my eyes that had you intoxicated; my feeling is that it might have been the beer. Just a guess. And while it was flattering that you took the time to write those nice things about me, it kind of makes me think that if we were to go to a Sox game together, in three months I would need a restraining order against you. I think perhaps you should've taken the time to come and say hi to me, rather than memorizing what I was wearing and overhearing what I was saying. Very creepy.
—Pub girl :)

Mass Pike Toll Booth Workers
If you see me leaning out of my car as much as I possibly can, maybe you could use your elbow for what it does and actually extend your arm to meet me halfway. Now, I must say that 90 percent of the workers are extremely friendly, but there are those few that find it so miserable to do a mindless job and make more money than a lot of hard workers in this state.
Recently I was paying my toll, and I practically had my torso out of my car as if I were begging the man to take my $1.10. He stood there looking at me, arm firmly planted against his side, hand facing up. I was close to folding my dollar bill into a little airplane and flying it at him. I should have thrown the dollar and dime and took off. When I looked at him as if to say "I can lean no more" he moved his body forward a bit, and rudely snapped the buck out of my hand. You poor baby. That job must be so taxing mentally and physically. Keep in mind, you get a paycheck because I travel on that road. I suggest you change your attitude, or you will have money to pick up off the ground everyday. Looking forward to seeing your smiling face again,
—Your Boss

Cambridge St. Stop 'N Shop Siren
I was wearing Rollerblades in the Cambridge St. Stop 'N Shop checkout line at about 7:30 pm on May 1. You were behind me looking luscious with your long black hair and voluptuous curves. You smiled (sweetly) when I turned around and again when I cleared some room for your groceries on the conveyer belt. Like an idiot I skated away and cursed myself all the way home for not giving you any clue that I was interested. I'm being completely honest when I say that I have not experienced that sort of attraction in years. If you're out there please e-mail me.
—surly7@hotmail.com

David Gray show at the Orpheum
April 28. We were chatting after the show at our seats about the set list and the drummer. I'd love to get a copy of that set list, and chat some more! If you're interested in meeting up again, e-mail me.
—temokku@hotmail.com

Helping Hand
It was Sunday, April 8. Me: Trying to get on the Green Line at Boylston. You: A kind helping hand that pulled me up onto a packed T after the Red Sox game. Afterwards I saw you and your "Little Brother" (?) again on the Red Line heading towards Harvard. I was too shy to speak to you before my stop. This time I reach out my hand.
—offeringhand@hotmail.com

Charmed by the Tatooed Woman
So clearly I remember seeing
Before my eyes your tattoos dear,
Like some glamorous, heav'nly being,
Of charm and beauty without peer.
In throes of sadness without measure,
When woes and tribulations rise,
I saw your form my dearest treasure,
I dreamed of your endearing eyes.
But time will bring a new decision,
Once more I'll touch your painted arms,
Once more I'll see your garish vision,
A creature of the man-made charms.
Dear tattoeed woman from Boston!
My name is Tommy.
Please e-mail me.
—tattoo200@hotmail.com

Nice Tattoo
I spoke to you on May 3. I was a 5'7" redhead in a black and white striped sundress. You were the driver of Bus #73 to Waverly Square, Belmont around 6:30pm. You complimented me on how well my black leather wrist band went with my outfit. I told you that you had a nice tattoo on you arm. I didn't get a chance to say anything else because it was my stop. If you are single and interested or even remember me, send me an e-mail.
—GrnDragon68@aol.com

Staring Problem
So I may very well be retarded, but chances are you want to respond to me. You were at Cinco de Mayo Middle East upstairs, Promise Ring. You have a wonderful smile and lovely black hair. I have an obnoxious orange Hawaiian shirt on and fun spikey hair and a bad staring problem. I couldn't keep from looking at you. You have a staring problem, too. We exchanged glances and smiles all night and I caught up to you and slipped you my card. You gave me a huge smile and then I never saw you again...that's what I call a sad story. So in case that was your boyfriend that saw me give you my card, here is my e-mail and I hope to hear from you soon.
—spikeyhairdevil@hotmail.com

My #1 Hair Guy
I love that you're a rock star kicking ass on tour, but please hurry back to Boston so you can fix my mop! No one does it better...Smooches,
—Andrea

#39 Bus
We met on April 27 on the #39 bus going from Forest Hills to the B.P.L./Copley around 11:15 A.M. We talked the entire way to Copley and I believe you said your name was Heather. You are a vivacious young twentysomething, thin, with reddish brown hair and have a gorgeous smile that I can not erase from my mind since I met you. A native of J.P., you are an aspiring dancer that performs irregularly in Cambridge, and I am the humorous fellow in a wheelchair that does design work and ADA consulting downtown. I handed you a brochure on a summer arts program for youth with and without disabilities at the B.C.A. You seemed to be interested in volunteering for or getting to know the program. Whether or not you want to volunteer or learn more does not matter to me. What does matter to me is if you are interested in getting to know me. I would love to meet up with or talk to you again. Until we meet again on the 39, please e-mail me.
—chartnprAE@aol.com

Chris
Who knows if you'll ever see this, since we are both out in the burbs (Walpole). I saw you shopping on the morning of May 11. I stumbled over paying you a compliment. You looked awesome, and every guy in the store was turning his head. We chatted for a minute. You actually touched my arm and I melted. Hey a guy can dream, can't he? Thanks for making my morning.
—shopper_11@hotmail.com

Rockie Horoscope

MAY 23 - JUNE 5, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



GEMINI MAY 21-JUNE 20
Literally, figuratively and any other way you look at it, you're sitting in the driver's seat. Gemini energy is so prevalent right now, the Twins are so central to what is going on with the other signs, it's a wonder you found time to read the forecast. While some of this activity may weigh heavily on your shoulders (one of the body parts ruled by Gemini), the lessons you learn from having Saturn in your sign will turn you into a full-fledged grown-up by the time the planet of control leaves Gemini in June 2003. Ultimately, you may say, "This is a good thing."

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
Power to the people, because they're the ones who'll empower you. For the next few weeks, socio-political issues and your social life feed off each other, all the while feeding you. They also provide structure and stability to your current scene, and that can do wonders for your reputation. But if being an upstanding member of the community doesn't hold much appeal, you could just as successfully play "make-believe" with some pals and create something that is imaginative, artistic and ahead of its time. Good fun.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Your alliance with the odd ducks of the world, the professed professionals who value their individuality and autonomy above all else, could come to an end shortly. About the time your sun ruler joins tradition-bound Saturn on the 25th—the first time that they merge in the sign of the Twins—an opportunity to embrace what is tried-and-true can look awfully appealing. However, you may have to give up something (Saturn often indicates loss) before this new cycle of recognition and rewards kicks in. Until then, don't worry, be happy.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Restrictions usually don't bother Virgins who like to operate within a framework they're familiar with, rather than wing it out there in the great unknown. If you hear a resounding "no" in the next few days, you'll figure out a way around the obstruction, and still stay within the letter, if not the spirit, of the law. This version of an established game comes to you courtesty of Saturn, whose move into mobile Gemini should keep you on your toes for the next two years, rising to numerous occasions, dodging ye olde ball-and-chain.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
"Conservative and cautious" are hardly words that describe Librans, but this week you might be surprisingly so, particularly when dealing with sex, an inheritance and other ways of obtaining other people's money. What gives? Could it be that the sun's merger with Saturn in Gemini is about to reward you for shit that happened when Saturn was in Aries, opposing your sign, in '97 and '98? Guess so. While the planet of respect and responsibility travels through air-sign friendly Gemini, you'll be protected if you play it safe and pay your dues.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Find someone older or more experienced on whom you can rely, even if you have to do a song and dance. While you usually handles matters on your own, right now you may need input from people who are even more practical and more prudent. If they can input funds, that would be a bonus, but again, you'll probably have to go down on your knees or make some other adjustment to get what you want. Since both of your ruling planets are retrograde, this is not the time to yell "full speed ahead."

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
Archers born around Thanksgiving better be careful whom they point their arrows at. You might encounter formidable resistance from your target, especially if it's an older person, simply because stone-faced Saturn is in your Gemini house of allies and enemies, gathering strength. The rest of the herd can continue to frolic with impunity while your jolly Jupiter ruling planet is also in Gemini, encouraging you to spend money, dispense wisdom and play jokes with (or on) your partner of choice. But not for long.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
You'll get a true sense of what's in store for you over the next two years when your Saturn ruler and the Gemini sun meet in your house of romance, risk and other games you play so well. Expect to become more flexible, more verbal and sensitive to both sides of a situation—gifts that come naturally while Saturn visits the sign of the Twins. Unless you were old enough to vote for JFK, you have no idea what it's like to function as an adult in the wonderful world of "I'll have my cake and eat it, too."

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Like your Libra brethern, you'll benefit enormously from having Saturn—your former ruling planet in the days before Uranus was discovered—in an air sign that rewards its own kind. But first you might have to handle a fairly heavy-duty family obligation or a real estate matter as Saturn and the open-minded Gemini sun meet on the 25th. However the situation resolves itself, you can be pretty sure (with Gemini, there are always alternatives) that your interests will be protected as long as you pay attention. Lip service, too.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
R,e,s,p,e,c,t! Get it, give it, good! You are fast approaching that moment when Saturn, representing the establishment, will reward your artistic, idealistic Neptune ruler and, we assume, you, too. Although their supportive trine is not exact until the end of June, you could already be receiving kudos from peers, neighbors, even a recalcitrant sibling. Now is also the time to touch base with teachers, gurus and assorted father/mother figures who have contributed to your development. Enjoy the glory; the grit and grief come later.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Are your assests scattered all over the place? Not for much longer. A new era of financial responsibility begins as the week ends, when, for the first time in almost 30 years, prudent Saturn and the Gemini sun merge in your money house. That meeting can throw an entirely different light on how you'll deal with your personal income and possessions. And, for another year or so, whenever the sun magnifies Saturn's power to consolidate, those quarterly reports will emphasize a conservative streak you didn't know you had.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
A matter pertaining to art or the heart, and this includes a friendship, returns to the position in your affections it held in early March. That's when your Venus ruler first went retrograde and sent you on a trip down memory lane with—or without—a person from your past. Now that you've seen the many layers of your feelings about the matter, or the person, get a move on and move on. Because you've come out of Venus' "shadow," you can make real progress real fast. Apply the new moon energy on the 22nd to getting started.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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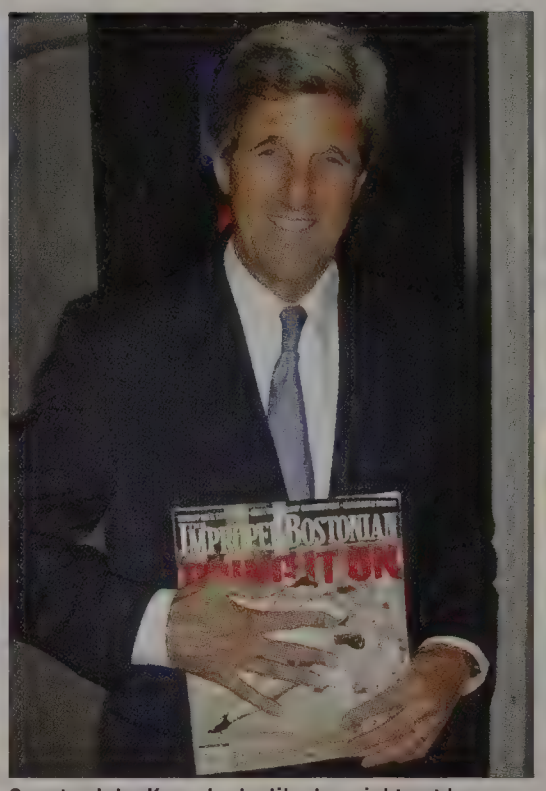
Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



Dadá Faustino (left) and Joe Chapple brought two works of modern art—a BCAE catalog and an Improper—to the Louvre. That's in Paris.



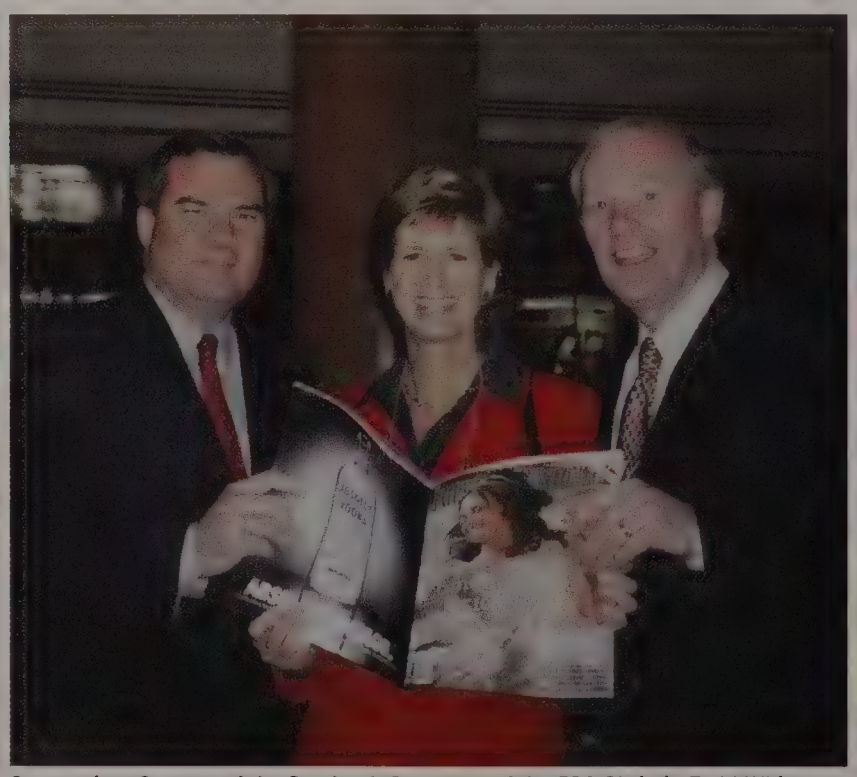
Senator John Kerry looks like he might not be such a big fan of good ol' number 21.



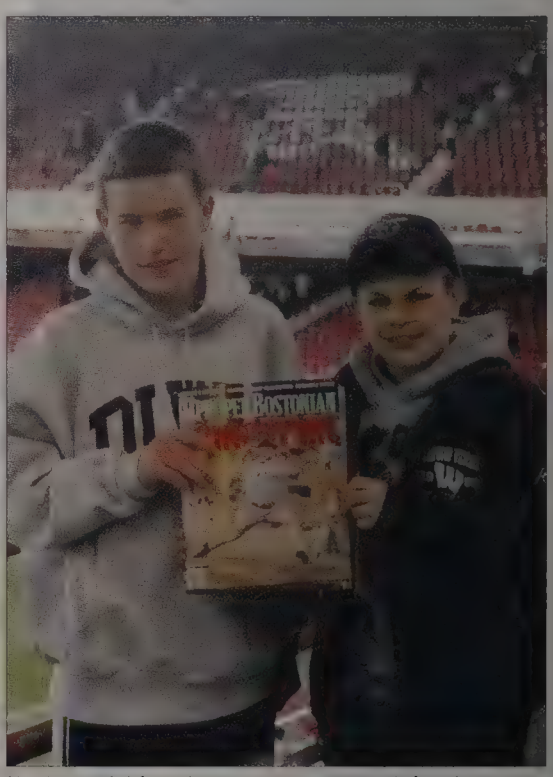
Irene O'Brien, Robin Travers, Vladimir Sejnoha, Karin Travers and David Uhrenholdt relax after an inline-skating race in French Polynesia. Really.



James Hutchinson's eighth grade class straddles time zones during a field trip to the prime meridian in Greenwich, England.



Connecticut Governor John Rowland, Secretary of the EPA Christie Todd Whitman and former New Hampshire Governor Stephen Merrill share some good reading.



Hugh and Adrian MacDonald teach the Brits about the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry at Arsenal stadium in London.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

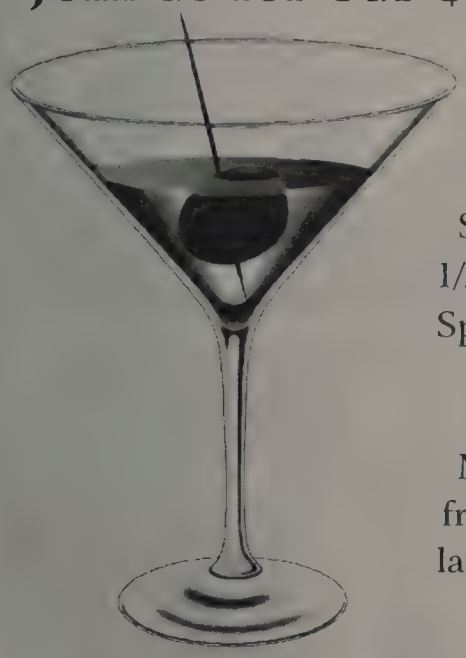
BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Chasing a speeding hunk of cheese down a 60-degree slope at the Cooper's Hill Cheese Roll, held May 28 in Brockworth, England.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of The Improper Bostonian Magazine and will not be returned.

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improperazzi

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

Local pop/rock band **Entrain** played a benefit concert for **Casa Myrna Vazquez**, a community-based, multicultural organization dedicated to the eradication of violence against women and children. The event was held at **The Big Easy** on Thursday, April 26.


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1. **Entrain** with **Diana Delaney,** attorney and event director.
2. **Cyril Calles** of Genzyme with **Shannon Norton** of Casa Myrna Vazquez, Inc.
3. **Beth Limon**, attorney, **Kim Grundfast**, attorney, **Diana Delaney**, attorney and event director, **Lisa Shapiro**, attorney, **Kim Carberry**, attorney, with **Lynn Muster**, attorney.

On Sunday, May 6, **The Improper Bostonian** and **AT&T Broadband 3** sponsored the **Boston/New England NATAS** 2001 Emmy awards at **The Seaport Hotel**.

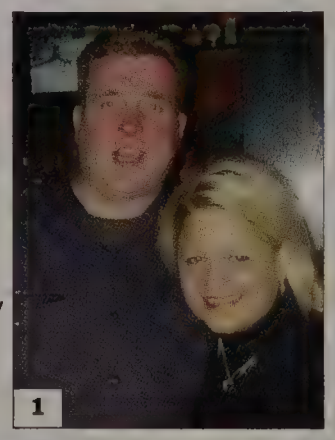

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1. **Polly Lewis** of Lewis Interiors and **Wyndham Lewis**, PR director at Imagitas and Boston/New England NATAS governor; **Timothy Egan**, Director of Business Development, The Rendon Group and Boston/New England NATAS governor with **Betty Egan** of Arnold Worldwide.
2. **Jack Williams,** WBZ -TV, an 2001 Boston/New England Emmy Awards governor's Award Honoree, with **Billy Costa** of Kiss 108 and 2001 Boston/New England Emmy Awards Master of Ceremonies.
3. **Dana Scardigli**, Senior at Harvard University and 2001 NATAS Scholarship Winner, with **Greg Caputo**, Boston/New England NATAS Chapter President & WB56 News Director.

On Tuesday, May 15, The Improper Bostonian celebrated our **7th Annual Boston's Beloved Bartenders** issue with a VIP reception and bartender awards ceremony at **The Rack**. IB's social columnist Jonathan Soroff and special guest **Mix 98.5**'s Lynn Hoffman presented the awards to the winners while **Mark Morris and The Catunes** rocked the house. The event was sponsored by **Absolut Vodka, Doc Otis** and **Starbucks**. A special thanks to **Lucky Brand Dungarees.**


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1. **Jay Duffley,** chef at Joe Fish, and **Sally Ferguson-Duffley** of Ski Market.
2. **Mark Morris** of The Catunes, with **Suzanne Mirak** from Pfizer.
3. **Karen Keaney** of Morgan Stanley, **Lynn Hoffman** of Mix 98.5 and **Heidi Barclay**.
4. Investor **George Lewis,** with **Dana D'Alfonso** of WGBH.
5. **Steve Sweeney** of WZLX with **Lynn Hoffman** and The Improper Bostonian's **Jonathan Soroff**.
6. **Anneka Jasmin**, Boston's Beloved Bartender from The White Horse Tavern with **Frank McHugh,** also a bartender at The White Horse Tavern.
7. **Heather Michalowski**, marketing director for The Rack, **Jacub Kovalcik** of Doc Otis and Busch Media Group, **Elaine Driscoll** of Regan Communications, **Harry Harry,** owner of The Exchange and **Debra Mattaliano** of Federal Express.
8. **Miss Kris Knievil,** Boston's Beloved Bartender from Avalon with **Eileen Dover** and **Sabina Sidney,** both of Avalon.

PHOTOS: THE BIG EASY, WENDY SEMONIAN; EMMYS, TIM EGAN; THE RACK, WENDY SEMONIAN

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week 11:30 am-2am.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Enjoy fresh grilled seafood flown in from around the world, in a casual, comfortable atmosphere. Specialties include blackened tuna sashimi, Skipjack's moonfish, Maryland crabcakes, lobsters and gingered calamari. Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Also performing in Brookline every Fri. and Sat. evenings from 6 - 10 pm. Reservations accepted and discounted underground parking in Boston and Brookline.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

Watch City Brewing Co. *256 Moody St. Waltham 781-647-4000 Top* Ten Reasons To Visit Watch City: 10. At the top of Waltham's restaurant row 9. Easy access from Rt. 128 & Masspike 8. Free parking 7. The Embassy Cinema next door 6. Award winning chef & brewers 5. www. watchcitybrew.com 4. Live music Wed & Thurs. nights 3. Great grilled seafood, steaks & burgers 2. Only female owned brew pub in USA 1. Great beers, great food, always a great time.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the Fleet-Center and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District,

Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

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GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ's nightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and worldclass margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with appearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national standup seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

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brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favorites as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Skipjack's *199 Clarendon St., Copley Sq., 536-3500; 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline, 232-8887; and 55 Needham St., Newton, 964-4244.* Swing with the infamous Winiker Orchestra and enjoy our Jazz Brunch every Sunday, 11 am - 3 pm in Boston. Located at 199 Clarendon St. at Copley Square. Indulge yourself with our delicious Smoked Salmon and Caviar Tasting served on a warm corn blini, or our Fresh Crab Pie made with eggs and jack cheese. Do not forget to sample our award-winning clam chowder. Validated parking available. Reservations accepted. Call 617-536-3500.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.

The Wrap & Smoothie Bar *137 Mass Ave., Boston (at Berklee School of Music), 369-9087; 71 Mt. Auburn St., Harvard Square, 354-5838; 1940 Beacon St., Cleveland Circle, 739-0340; 82 Water St., Financial District, 357-9013.* The Wrap serves delicious, freshly prepared wraps, burritos and salads as well as healthy and refreshing smoothies. Voted Boston's Best 1998 & 1999 by The Improper Bostonian. Fresh ingredients, great taste, healthy options - words we live by!

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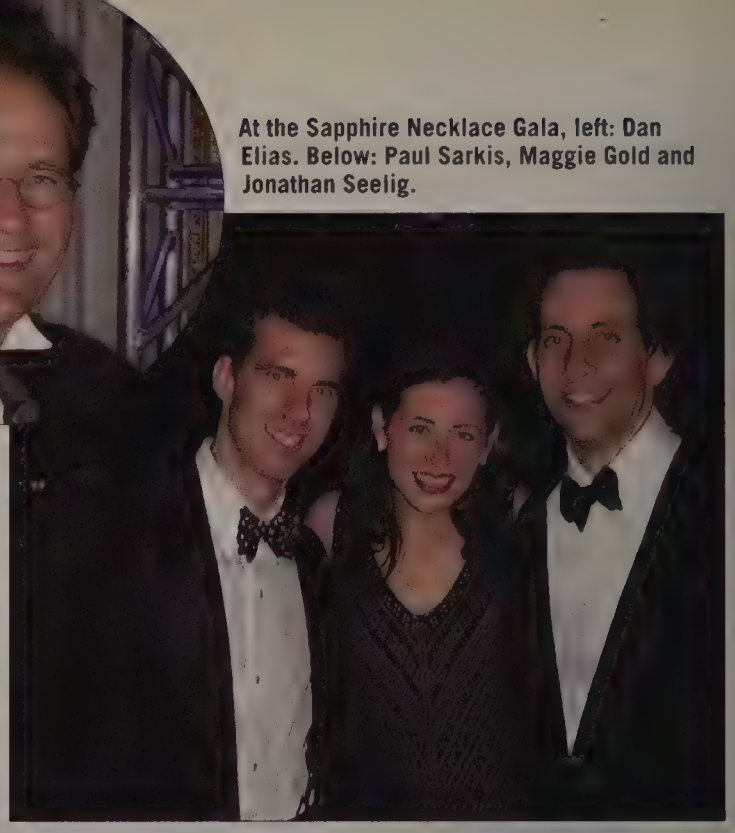
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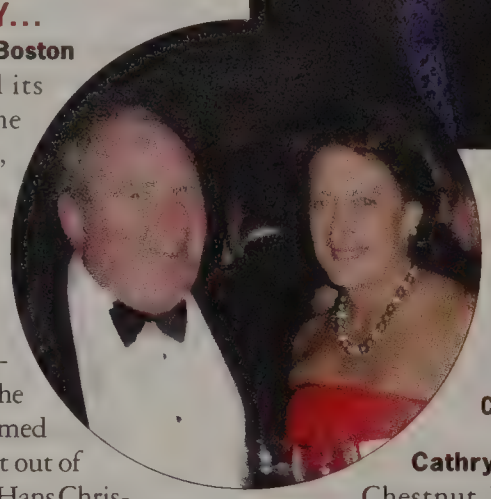


At the Sapphire Necklace Gala, left: Dan Elias. Below: Paul Sarkis, Maggie Gold and Jonathan Seelig.

BEDTIME STORY...

Once upon a time, the **Boston Ballet** decided to call its annual spring gala the **Sleeping Beauty Ball**, in honor of the season's final production.

With help from some ingenious decorators (it's not P.C. to call them fairies anymore), the ballroom of the **Park Plaza** was transformed into something straight out of the Brothers Grimm or Hans Christian Andersen, with a silent auction built around a bedding theme.



At the Sleeping Beauty Ball, clockwise from upper left: Ann Gund and Marjie Kargman; Sam Atkinson, Malcolm Rogers and Tess Atkinson; Hod and Cassandra Irvine.

All the usual courtiers were there, among them: damsel in dis-dress **Ann Gund** and her husband, **Graham**; her co-chairs, **Steve Karol** and **Marjie Kargman**; the latter's son, **Harry**, squiring the blindingly beautiful **Jill Kopelman**; wicked-cool step-mother **Vivian Spiro** and her debonair spouse, **Lionel**; the swanlike **Stephanie Warburg** and her distinguished other half, **Jonathan**; Cinderella-like socialite **Cassandra Irvine** and her Prince Charming, **Hod**; dazzling young things **John** and **Trevania Henderson**; unfairly attractive pair **David** and **Nina Fialkow**; MFA grand poobah **Malcom Rogers**; the ballet's fairy godmother, **Cathryn Keith**; prominent Chestnut Hillions **Kathy** and **Richard Taylor**; Rapunzel-like investment banker **Allison Bibbins**; affable French aristocrat **Pascal Aguirre de Navarre** and his exquisite wife, **Irina**; the always elegant **Gale Noble** and her main squeeze, **Sandy**; patron lady bountiful **Flossie Gerstein**; and numerous well-bred, well-heeled others.

After dinner and a live auction, board chair **Susan Friedman** paid tribute to outgoing artistic director **Anna-Marie Holmes**, followed by members of the company performing scenes from the ballet, and finally, dessert and dancing.

It remains to be seen whether they all lived happily ever after, but it's safe to say that everyone had a good time.





Also at the Sleeping Beauty Ball, from left: Allison Bibbins and Michael Halperson; David and Nina Fialkow; Jill Kopelman and Harry Kargman.

SHE FLIES THROUGH THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF EASE...

It's always good to have a circus performer in the family.

Just ask **Jessica Morgan**, the curator at the **Institute of Contemporary Art**, who prevailed upon her sister, **Lucy**—a world famous British trapeze artist—to entertain the black-tie crowd at the **Sapphire Necklace Gala** marking the museum's 65th anniversary.

Dangling high above the dance floor from swaths of white silk, Morgan wowed the crowd with a 10-minute show that was simulcast on video monitors mounted on the specially designed scaffolding.

Seen oohing and aahing throughout the **Copley Plaza**'s ballroom: the ICA's head honcha **Jill Medvedow**; board chair **Vin Cipolla**; Beacon Hillions **Ann** and **Marvin Collier**; retired movie theater mogul **Alan Friedberg** and wife **Niki**; Mr. and Mrs. Hasbro toys **Alan** and **Vivian Hassenfeld**; Fidelity heiress apparent **Abby Johnson** and dapper other half **Christopher McKown**; PBS chatelaine **Emily Rooney**; contemporary art collectors **Sheryl Marshall** and **Howard Salwen**; hair deity **Mario Russo** and the ever-affable **Frank Gilligan**; art dealers **Karen** and **Michael Rotenberg**; actor and restaurant scion **Paul Sarkis**; Skinner Auctioneer's **Karen Keane** and her TV star husband, **Dan Elias**; blonde bombshell **Lisa Hughes** of WBZ; stunning sisters of Sappho **Chris McCarthy** and **Tia Scalcione**; yoga goddess **Bethany Cantin**; restaurateur **Chris Myers** of Radius; Newbury St. fashionisti **Susanne Frodigh**; **Gilbert Hickman** and **Michael Tilley**; and so on and so forth, down the list of Boston's most peripatetic party-goers.

The ballroom was decorated à la Andy Warhol, with household products in the appropriate shade of deep blue—a theme that was repeated with candles floating in cylinders of sapphire-colored water on all the tables.







Also at the Sapphire Necklace Gala, from top: Joan Jolley and Lisa Hughes; Tia Scalcione and Chris McCarthy; Chris Myers.

Between dinner and dancing, there was the evening's highlight: a raffle drawing for a sapphire and diamond necklace, which went to **Beth Terrana** (whose husband, **Anthony**, is a trustee).

However, Lot 11 in the live auction—a performance by contortionist/aerialist Morgan at a private party—generated more amusing comments, like the guest who said, "It sounds good in theory, but I'd have to have the bedroom completely redone." IB

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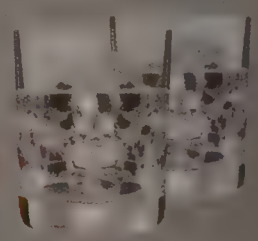
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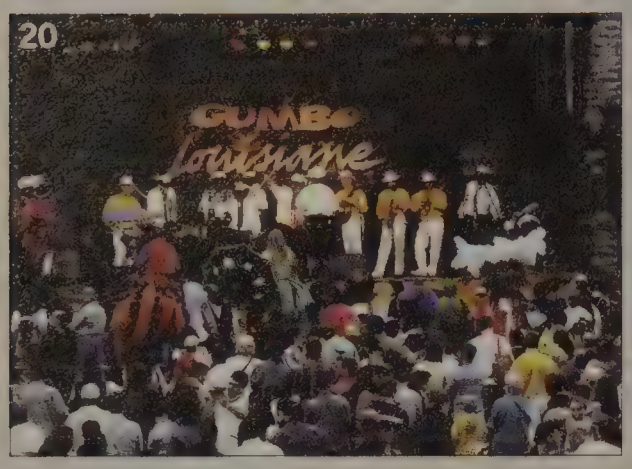
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JUNE 6-19, 2001

CONTENTS

SUMMER FUN 2001

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE



20

The path to summer fun begins here. Insets, from left: the Montreal Jazz Festival; Harborfest; Keith Lockhart; waiting for the Block Island ferry.









On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Michael Indresano**

Wardrobe Styling: **Tim Johnson/ Team the Agency, Inc.**
Photographer's Assistant: **William Byrd**
Studio Manager: **Heather Julian**
Tuxedo, white formal shirt: **Giorgio Armani**
Bow tie & cummerbund: **Hermes**
Silk suspenders: **Saks 5th Avenue**

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FEATURES

16 Soroff/On Barney Frank
A 21-year veteran of Congress, Barney Frank offers a candid look at life on Capitol Hill.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

20 On the Road Again
Sure there'll be some good concerts at city venues, but here are five shows worth packing the car for.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

23 Pops Star
Boston Pops conductor Keith Lockhart reveals his summer plans and favorite escapes.
BY KEITH POWERS

25 'Round the Block
Down the coast from Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, Block Island is a viable alternative to the Cape—and you won't kill yourself getting there. BY EZRA DYER

25 Out and About
This summer, put down the clicker and become a jock.
BY JULIE SHORT

30 Fashion: In the Garden of Good and Evil
Flights of floral fantasy to make even the vegetation green with envy.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER

COLUMNS

6 The Word
Daedalus; Kissinger controversy; Tower Records on the move; Father's Day golf prices; fabulous Fridays

10 E-Boston
The 10 "don'ts" of using corporate e-mail without losing your job.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
Why you need an extended service plan.
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

38 Mopsy
Scooting about town; paint your own pottery; a break from betrothal
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

56 Film
Enlightenment Guaranteed will bring serenity to the art-house set.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

68 Music
Oasis brothers put differences aside on their latest tour with The Black Crowes.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

92 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

40 Dining
Le Meridien's Julien answers the call when a meal should be an event.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

42 Dish
UpStairs at the Pudding looks for new digs.
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

42 Wine
Spanish white wines
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

43 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Cast-Iron Chef.
BY JULIE SHORT

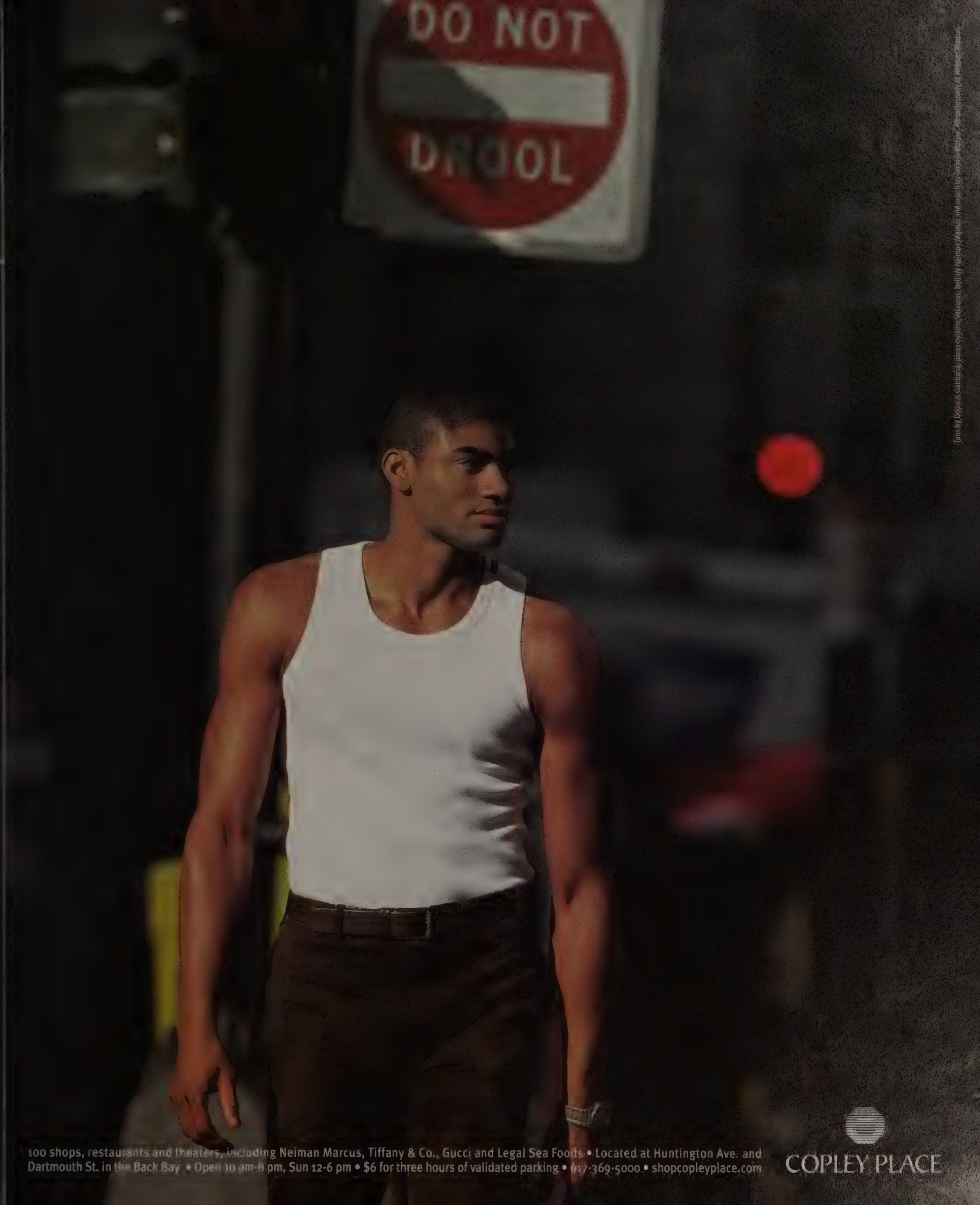
AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 44.
A Thousand Clowns • *Boston Globe* Jazz & Blues Festival • Cambridge River Festival • **Joanne Harris** • Boston Puppet Festival • Boston's Gay Pride celebrations • *Swan Lake* • **Madeleine Albright**

ET CETERA

Letters 4
Improper Impersonals 84
Rockie Horoscope 84
Improper Sightings 86
Improperazzi 88
Classifieds 90

BEACH: TRACY POWELL; MONTREAL JAZZ FESTIVAL: PAUL ROBICHEAU; BLOCK ISLAND: FRANK MULLIN; LOCKHART: MICHAEL INDRESANO



Jank ▼, Dolce & Gabbana pants by John Varvatos, belt by Neiman Marcus, and watch by Fossil. Photographed by Mark Seliger.

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letters


Jonathan Soroff with John Ruggieri and Helen Sinkel, board members of the AME, at The Milky Way.

A SHOUT-OUT

I'd like to send a big, bright shout-out to Wendy Semonian, Jonathan Soroff and all proper art fans who helped raise $1,800 for Abstraction Made Elementary (AME) programs at our first major benefit, "Boogie for Art in the Schools" which was co-sponsored by the IMPROPER, WBCN-FM, Milky Way Lounge and Lanes, and *Modernpostcard.com*. At the event, Jonathan told me how it irked him that art is still "integrated" into the school curriculum more often than viewed as the curriculum itself. I have enjoyed his campy, celebrity-packed wit for several years. Now I know that beyond the glitz of Sunset Boulevard and the glamour of Newbury Street is a man and a magazine seriously involved and supportive of innovative public art education.

—JOHN RUGGIERI
FOUNDER/DIRECTOR
ABSTRACTION MADE ELEMENTARY
Jamaica Plain

SOUTHERN COMFORT

Since I am from Tennessee, I feel that I cannot let Ezra's sly comment about "the South" in his article on the new FCC regulations ("Watch it, Bub") pass without a little rebuttal. I am not sure of his cultural awareness of the South and its gentile nature, but it's very much unlike the Jerry Springer types that he might associate with it. So I just hope that at some point in his life, he is able to come meet some of the more sophisticated Southerners, a true Southern belle or a Southern gentleman, and then maybe change his mind about "God's Country," a.k.a. the South. Until then, may God bless his poor Yankee soul.

—KELLEY MCNAMARA
Via e-mail

MORE DISORDERS

I just want to complain about one thing. Since reading Ezra's article in the Richard Hatch issue, I have had Creed's "Higher"stuck in my head, which is very painful and is affecting my work. I think Creed should have their own disorder. The main symptom would have to be that when you hear that chipmunk-faced man singing, you want to break your perfectly nice radio. Thanks for keeping me laughing!

—TARA SCHIRM
Via e-mail

I THINK CREED SHOULD HAVE THEIR OWN DISORDER. THE MAIN SYMPTOM WOULD HAVE TO BE THAT WHEN YOU HEAR THAT CHIPMUNK-FACED MAN SINGING, YOU WANT TO BREAK YOUR PERFECTLY NICE RADIO.

—TARA SCHIRM
VIA E-MAIL



CORRECTIONS

In the last issue we should have credited Dean Boudreau of Beaucage Salon for styling Amy Finsilver's hair for the cover. Thanks, Dean.

And while we're giving credit like our name was Mastercard, in the April 11 issue, the four photos on the far right of the "Big Dreams" story were incorrectly credited. The photographer was Sean K. Sullivan.

Tell Us What You Think

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Keith Powers has been managing editor of *Musician* magazine, *Fast Company*, *Cook's Illustrated*, *Natural Health*, *Steamtunnels* and the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. Powers covers classical music for the *Boston Herald*. He has written more than 1,000 features, reviews and previews on music over the past 20 years. In addition to the *Herald* and the IMPROPER, his work has appeared in *Chamber Music America*, *Billboard*, the *TAB* newspapers, and the *Salem Evening News*, as well as being syndicated in hundreds of papers across the country. Powers and his sweetheart, Jacquelyn Ball, live in Cambridge and Rockport; his daughter, Emily, lives in Savannah, Georgia. His profile of Pops conductor Keith Lockhart can be found on page 23.

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The Greenhouse Effect: Patrons relax in the well-lit second-floor dining room at Daedalus.

NEW IN TOWN

by erin hagedorn & julie short

RE-JOYCE AND EAT

Contrary to what other media outlets would have you believe, Daedalus, the new restaurant/pub in Harvard Square, is not affiliated with Square's dearly departed Grafton Street Pub—nor the Temple Bar down on Mass. Ave. toward Porter Square. It must be the fabulous large ornamental lamps at Daedalus, similar to those at Temple Bar and Grafton Street, that are causing the confusion.

Co-owners Laurence and Brenden Hopkins took the name "Daedalus" from Steven Daedalus's character in James Joyce's *Ulysses*. The literary-minded duo have authentic Irish brogues, but the decidedly upscale joint stands apart from the local plethora of Irish pubs and eateries. The cuisine is contemporary American, with a healthy selection of burgers, wraps, pasta and salads (and chef Brian Mahn's occasional dish featuring ostrich, wild boar or kangaroo). If you stop by, don't linger too long at the bar on the first floor, but make your way upstairs to the gloriously illuminated greenhouse lounge, full of exotic plants. With walls and ceilings made of glass, and such a verdant environment, you'd never know you were in the heart of Harvard Square—except for the Memorial Church steeple looming in the background. Late at night the upstairs fills with Harvard upperclassmen and grads lounging on the black leather couches and taking in the atmosphere—the perfect spot for discussing the finer points of Ulyssian prose. *45 Brattle St., Cambridge (349-0071).*

BOOKS

DISSENT IN THE RANKS


Henry Kissinger

Henry Kissinger's June 26 appearance at Harvard Book Store has some staffers up in arms. Some (including the bookstore's owner) are accepting of his appearance, with the battle cry of "freedom of speech." Others (the store's assistant manager, for one) are angered that the store is promoting someone who has allegedly chronicled his political career in a strikingly selective and deceptive manner. What's more, foes claim alledged that Kissinger has censored public government documents for self-promotion. The politico's visit has stirred up such a debate, Harvard Book Store's latest newsletter (typically devoted to book recommendations) was dedicated to employees voicing their opinions.

Kissinger, a dazzling diplomat, National Security Adviser and Secretary of State to presidents Nixon and Ford, is indeed a controversial political figure—in and out of office. His three volumes of memoirs stirred up controversy (the last installment came out last year), and his newest book, *Does America Need a Foreign Policy?* is already doing the same. Beyond the written word, Kissinger is also known for walking out of interviews when questions aren't to his liking. No wonder Harvard Book Store staffers are anxious.

Shortly after Kissinger speaks, Christopher Hitchen, author of *The Trial of Henry Kissinger*, pulls into town to offer his views on the controversial man.

Bookstore owner Frank Kramer, who is an advocate for Kissinger's visit, writes in the newsletter, "Despite believing that the two events provide some balance, some members of our staff object to presenting Kissinger at all."

Assistant Manager Mark C. Lamphier offers the opposing viewpoint: "There are books we have carried that he's tried for years to suppress. Harvard Book Store should not help him by lending our name. With Kissinger's appearance, we are promoting a man who, for 30 years, has sought to restrict debate and silence his critics. We should be ashamed of ourselves." *—E.H.*

URBAN LANDSCAPE

TOWER POWER

"Help the homeless!" has been the resounding cry from Newbury Street's Tower Records for months now. The record store, which is in the midst of legal battles to keep its lease, will probably lose out to the glitzy mega-store Virgin this fall. As the deadline looms, Tower is hard-pressed to find a new location (Exeter Street's former Waterstone's building looked promising, but a deal could not be reached). Exactly if, when and where Tower is moving is up in the air, but one thing is for sure—if they go, they're taking part of the sidewalk with them. The Walk of Fame stars that celebrate Boston bands' success (including Aerosmith and New Kids on the Block) have been a Newbury Street landmark for almost 10 years. So what will happen to them when Tower leaves? The stars will be put away into storage until a new location is found... unless there is a last-minute decision by the court forcing the landlord to renew the lease.

Tower fans aren't the only uprooted ones—club goers and DJs who frequent the Lava Bar, located upstairs from Comm. Ave.'s Howard Johnson's, will soon be forced to look elsewhere for pulsing tunes and lights. Boston University, which owns the building, decided not to renew Ho Jo's lease as of June 30 (they're building more dorms). So eat, drink, boogie and buy slews of records while you can, for tomorrow two cool music spots will be gone. *—Erin Hagedorn*



THIS JUST IN

T.G.I.F.

Given the recent backlash to casual Fridays, it's not surprising that more upscale T.G.I.F. events are popping up for the well-heeled crowd. The Federalist hosts a monthly gathering called Fabulous Fridays in the cozy wine cellar, where guests sip wine and munch on chef Eric Brennan's hors d'oeuvres as they listen to guest speakers discuss such topics as floral and pastry design, photography and wine-and-food pairing. The next Fab Friday is June 22, 4:30-7:30pm, and features the work of local artist Joanna Champa. It's free.

On the other side of town, the new Science Street Cafe at the Museum of Science serves up martinis, gourmet appetizers and dessert on Friday nights. It's a great deal—for $20, you get admission to the exhibit halls, a ticket to the Mugar Omni Theater, free parking, a free drink and an appetizer.

Neither of these appeal? Try the Friday Night Dance Craze class ($12) or the Thrill of the Grill class ($38)—both on Fridays at the Cambridge Center of Adult Education—the Friday wine tastings at the Boston Center for Adult Education ($33) and at the Wine Bottega in the North End (free); or the free Friday Flicks at the Hatch Shell. —*J.S.*

IMPROPER REPORTS

LET'S GO GOLFING



Need a Father's Day present? We've scoped out a handful of places to play 18 holes of golf (price includes cart).

- **Stow Acres**, Stow (978-568-1100): **$78**
- **Sandy Burr**, Wayland (508-358-7211): **$70**
- **Colonial**, Wakefield (781-245-9300): **$60**
- **Fresh Pond Golf Course**, Cambridge (349-6282): **$59**
- **Mt. Hood Golf Course**, Melrose (781-665-8139): **$56.20**
- **George Wright Golf Course**, Hyde Park (361-8313): **$54** (non-residents)
- **Franklin Park Golf Course**, Dorchester (265-4084): **$48** (non-residents)

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IMPROPER SPEAKING

PINT-SIZED NEWS

•At long last, **Mantra** is opening. Almost a year after its projected opening date, the bank-turned-Indian restaurant is finally opening its doors June 6. On a sadder note, the **Zita** dream may be destined to remain just that. Its future depends on attracting enough money for six more weeks of construction. If anyone can do it, it's bubbly owner Gwen Butler. **Lilli's**, that groovy bar in Somerville, becomes Lilli's Bar and Restaurant in July with the addition of chef **Mark Romano** from **The Blue Room**. No worries—the club will continue to present live music, reassures owner **Lilli Dennison**.



•Monster.com CEO **Jeff Taylor** finally received his bachelor's degree from UMass Amherst May 27—despite the fact that he's already got an executive MBA from Harvard and a multimillion dollar company under his belt.

•McDonald's new commercial with **Pedro Martinez** that trumpets the return of the lobster roll was filmed at **Avalon**'s cavernous space on Lansdowne Street May 9. The Red Sox pitcher wrapped up his shoot at 2pm and then headed across the street for the Seattle Mariners game (Martinez must have had too many rolls—he wasn't on the roster). Tiny former child star **Emmanuel Lewis** a.k.a. Webster pushed through a three-deep crowd at the grand opening of the Oxygen Bar at Avalon on May 18 to be hoisted onto a stool so that he could sample a breath of fresh air. Down the street at Axis, **Marilyn Manson**—garbed in a big cowboy hat and glasses—was spotted in the audience checking out DJ wonderboy **Fatboy Slim** May 25. **Robert Plant** too was in subdued attendance recently at **Dick Dale**'s concert at the Middle East May 26.

•Apparently, the Horror King is well on his way down the road to recovery. **Stephen King** (and his wife Tabitha) were seen walking (not limping) down Boylston Street toward the Four Seasons Hotel, where he stayed last weekend.

•Seeing eye dogs may be on their way to passé. The fastest growing alternative to seeing eye dogs for the visually impaired is: miniature horses. **Cuddles**, the first ever guide horse, graduated from training school, and there was a big party to celebrate last week at The Rack. In attendance were folks from the Carroll Center for the Blind and the Guide Horse Foundation, as well as Cuddles' new owner, Dan Shaw.



Cuddles, the seeing eye horse



•A tidbit about our favorite **In Sync**-er, **Justin Timberlake**, who was in town last week to promote the MathNMusic Club on the Internet-based mathematics program, MathMastery.com: "When I got a 'B' in math in 6th or 7th grade, I cried all the way home." Poor kid—better leave it to your accountant to count up your millions. *—E.H. and J.S.*

In the mood for a good old-fashioned side show? The small and zany Know Nothing Family Zirkus Zideshow is coming to town briefly, and they've got it all: bed of nails sleepers, fire swallowers, body contortionists, vaudeville shows and more. It's making a stop June 10-12, 9pm, at the Zeitgeist Gallery, and June 10, 1pm, outside the gallery at Sennott Park. There's also a yard sale, record swap, live music and snacks. Call the gallery (876-2182) for details.



AROUND TOWN

WHEELS AND DEALS

To commemorate National Wireless Safety Week (May 21-27), Sprint PCS and Lee Jaguar in Wellesley teamed up to spread the gospel of the hands-free cell phone. This involved taking skeptical reporter types on spins in a Jaguar S-Type 4.0 equipped with a **Motorola Timeport** phone and a $69 speakerphone kit that mounts to your ride's ventilation grills or ashtray. "Do these things really work?" we asked, visions of bad speakerphone calls dancing through our heads. There was only one way to find out.



We pointed the Shaguar toward the Boston cell-phone acid test: making restaurant reservations while mixing it up on Storrow Drive. As we blasted into traffic from the Berkeley Street on-ramp, the Sprint directory-assistance operator was already dialing the number for our North End spot of choice. Since both hands remained on the wheel and eyes remained on the road, it was relatively easy to avoid, say, the cab that started drifting into our lane. Despite threading through Storrow traffic at a proper 65 mph, by the time we reached the exit for Route 90, the reservations were in the bag. More importantly, the Jag was marred by neither merciless Storrow guardrail nor mental Storrow driver.

All in all, it strikes us as a sensible buy. The phone kit, that is. We think we'd need the Jag for at least a month or two before we could make an informed decision. *—Ezra Dyer*

SAM SAYS

SUIT UP

Betsey Jenney, with two Boston stores bearing her namesake, has been in the business for almost a half a century. Here, she gives us a little insight on what suits (of the non-bathing variety) are in vogue.



THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN: When is it appropriate to wear a suit?

Betsy Jenney: Besides the office, suits can go out to dinner, to the theater, to a luncheon. They are great when you don't know what to wear.

IB: What is your suit pick of the season?

BJ: I love the pinstriped look. My favorite suit right now is a navy blue pinstripe Teenflo suit. Nicole Miller also has some beautiful suits right now.

IB: What do you think is the most stylish cut in suits this year?

BJ: You always have to take into account the women's body to put the right suit [for her figure] on her. A great look we are seeing right now is a short jacket paired with a slim pant.

IB: How would you accessorize to dress up a suit for the summer?

BJ: In my store, we sell a lot of Erikson Beamon jewelry. Many of the pieces look like they've come right off of the *Titanic*. It is very colorful and beaded. I would either pick that or a nice piece of industrial jewelry, which is silvery and cool, but not too shiny.

IB: Any suggestions for women who are frustrated with casual dress day at work?

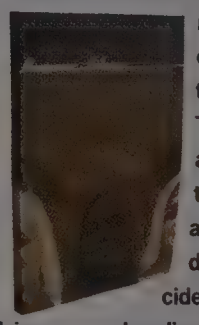
Oh, definitely. I hear all the time how women are sick of khakis and polo shirts—the semi-slob. I tell them that suits don't have to be dressy. Depending on the style and how you accessorize, you can really create a casual look. Pairing a suit with a loose, easy-cut tank by Ghost and a pair of sandals would do the trick.

ALL THE BUZZ

ROCK NOTES



Boston boasts several rock scribes who go from strumming chords to banging out prose without missing a beat. There's David Wildman, a *Boston Globe* correspondent and member of Fire in the Boathouse. *Boston Phoenix* *contributing writer* Ted Drozdowski fronts the Devil Gods and the IMPROPER's old receptionist/calendar music writer Andrew Graham plays bass for the High-Steppin' Nickel Kids (and left our staff recently to start a 'zine called *Superflux* among other projects). Beyond papers and 'zines, there's the Jon Baird of Seventeen who just penned his second novel, the sardonic *Songs from Nowhere Near the Heart*, a work of fiction based on Seventeen's recent tour across the country. The book, published by St. Martin's Griffin, comes complete with a three-song Seventeen demo—a clever marketing coup. And finally, there's Tim Catz of Roadsaw and Bloodshot, who just released his second novel, the honest and often hilarious *Hangover Palaces*. "It's pretty much based on fact," says Catz. "It's about the personal politics of a band. There's also a love interest and an evil friend. About half way through, it becomes an alcoholic love story of two co-dependent people." Coincidentally, both Catz and Baird are heading to L.A. in a few short weeks. We'll miss their noise—but we'll still be reading their pages. *—Rachel Strutt*



PERSONALITIES

OF PATRIOTS, PAINTERS AND PUNKS

One vestige looming large over Boston these days is **John Adams**, whose life has been chronicled by Pulitzer Prize-winning biographer **David McCullough**. The newly released *John Adams* conjures up images that seem far removed from today's world. Indeed, what would the nation's second president, who lived in Quincy and devoted his life to democracy, think of his country today? He'd most likely take the Green Line to the Linwood Grill and watch his 12th great grandson playing in a band called **Rock City Crimewave**. And he would have his powdered wig blown off. Actually 30-year-old Allston resident **Ian Adams** maintains a surprisingly strong bond with his country. "My parents are avid historians who regularly take part in Civil War re-enactments," the punk rocker explains. To him, there isn't much of a difference between the struggles of yesterday and today. "Rebelliousness is inherent in the American spirit," Adams says. "People need that spark and intensity that makes you remember that America is a place where freedom should be had." Right on. Let freedom ring.

We've also received word that the great-great-great grandson of John Singleton Copley, the famous Boston painter who made portraits of John Adams, is coming to town. **John Du Cane**, a master in the art of Qigong—the "music of consciousness"—will be a guest instructor for the Boston Center for Adult Education on June 16-17. Of his direct lineage from a noted painter, he says, "I teach the art of being in the body and help people see themselves as ongoing art pieces." This art form might have amused Copley, who moved to London in 1774 because he felt his Boston contemporaries were "entirely destitute" of a proper appreciation for the arts.—*Susan Abbattista*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to *theword@improper.com*.

CUDDLES (2): ERIK LESSER; EZRA: ERIN HAGEDORN; BETSY JENNEY: STEPHANIE MCGILL



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You Got Nailed

Knowing the 10 don'ts of corporate e-mail can help you avoid getting fired.

What a chump! New hire Paul Chung couldn't resist gloating, via e-mail, about his sexual exploits and cool apartment in Korea. Unfortunately, one of the "friends" to whom he sent the e-mail message decided to forward his message around the Web, until it finally reached the hands of his new managers. Result: Chung got canned, probably more for his stupidity in sending the e-mail than for the behavior that he described.

The only unusual thing about Chung's fate, really, is that it was reported in the *New York Times*. Ever since I first used e-mail back in the Pleistocene era (1980), I've seen dozens of people—especially those just entering the corporate world—totally screw themselves and their careers merely by not knowing how dangerous e-mail can be. So, as something of a public service, I thought I'd provide the graduating class of 2001 with some road rules of the information highway.

Rule 1: Don't send e-mail when you're angry. The nice thing about snail mail is that the process of finding a stamp and walking to the mailbox gives you time to cool off. Not so with e-mail. When you're done and hit "Send," there's no turning back. (Even the America Online's "unsend" function has been known to fail on occasion.) The trick is to never, never, never send an e-mail in the heat of the moment, even if you think that it's entirely appropriate, considering the circumstances, to inform your boss that he couldn't be a more perfect jackass if he had ears and a tail.

Rule 2: Don't start an e-mail war. E-mail wars generally occur when one employee ignores Rule One and sends a pissy message, copying everybody in the organization. The receiver feels obligated to respond in kind and pretty soon everyone is involved in the squabble. Nobody has ever "won" an e-mail war because everyone involved always ends up looking idiotic. The only correct response if you receive a slam-o-gram is to politely request a meeting in order to discuss the issue in "a less public forum." (Note: Send a copy of this message to your boss and the sender's boss.) If you're lucky, the sender will blast out another hissy fit that you can pointedly ignore. You'll end up looking like the mature diplomat while the sender looks like a loose cannon.

Rule 3: Don't be cutesy when it might backfire. I know of one marketing executive who wanted a business acquaintance to read her e-mail first, so she titled it "Sex, Sex, Free Sex!!!" Unfortunately, the executive accidentally sent copies of the e-mail to several hundred co-workers, including a number of corporate vice presidents. The end result was that the executive got transferred to a sales office in central Ohio. In short, unless you are paid to be funny, it's best to avoid any humor that might be misinterpreted.

THE TRICK TO KEEPING E-MAIL FROM OVERWHELMING YOUR WORK LIFE IS, WHEN IN DOUBT, DELETE.

Rule 4: Don't use e-mail to prove that you're working hard. A surprising number of people seem to think that they can look busy if they send copies of everything to everybody. In fact, such behavior has the opposite effect, causing most folks to wonder whether the sender might not have too much time on his or her hands.

Rule 5: Don't download any file from anybody you don't know. Downloading files from all and sundry is the digital equivalent of having unprotected sex. Over the past two years, indiscriminate downloading has been responsible for computer virus attacks that have brought down entire network installations. Even clicking on a URL from an unsolicited e-mail can cause a virus to land on your hard drive. Put simply: If you don't know the sender, delete the message.



Rule 6: Don't upload a document without double-checking. I know of one guy who accidentally attached and uploaded his divorce disclosure and sent it to every co-worker in the building. Noticing to his horror what he had done, he immediately followed up with a request that everyone delete the document without reading it—an action that naturally caused everyone to drop whatever they were doing in order to find out how much he made, what he owned and exactly why he was getting divorced. The best way to avoid a similar nightmare is to put any document that you might want to upload in a separate folder where it won't get confused with the stuff you'd prefer to keep private.

Rule 7: Don't use e-mail to avoid difficult personal contact. E-mail can seem like a godsend to people who would rather not deal with the emotional issues of their co-workers. However, delivering criticism or negative feedback via e-mail is gutless, even though more than one company has actually used e-mail to deliver layoff notices. Human beings deserve the courtesy of face-to-face interaction when they're being taken to task or called on the carpet.

Rule 8: Don't try to read everything. Most of the information that's floating around in corporate e-mail can be retrieved at a later date, if you really need it. The trick to keeping e-mail from overwhelming your work life is, When in doubt, delete. There are few things more satisfying in the office than an inbox that's only holds messages that you *know* are absolutely important.

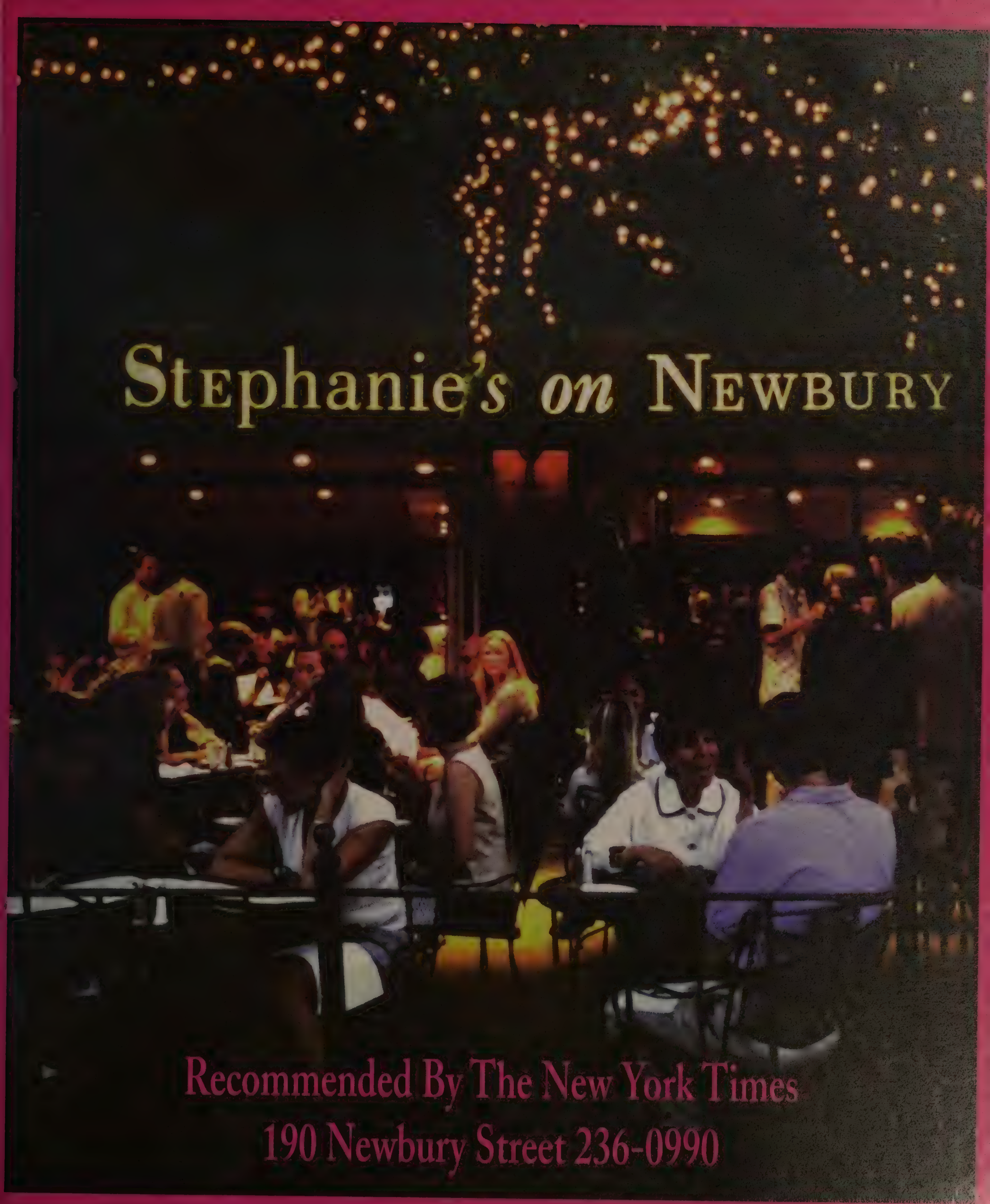
Rule 9: Don't try to write a magnum opus. Because they're perused quickly, e-mail messages aren't a great medium for communicating anything complex. Whenever possible, try to make the entire message be less than an average screenful—about 15 lines or so. If you must communicate something longer, then summarize what you're going say in the first screen and then continue with the details, broken up into little bite-sized chunks. If you find that the finished message is longer than about a printed page or so, then put it in a word-processing file and attach it with a message summarizing its contents. Your co-workers will thank you.

Rule 10: Don't think for a second the boss isn't reading your e-mail. Using e-mail to flirt with co-workers may be hunky-dory for Bridget Jones, but many companies have software that internally flags and stores any message that's even vaguely spicy so that top management can check what's going on among the peons. Even if Big Brother isn't watching, you might find out, like Mr. Chung, that not everyone whom you think is your friend can actually be trusted. iB

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

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Service This

Extended service plans: the best deal since moon property

If you've purchased anything more substantial than a pack of gum lately, chances are you've been offered an extended service plan. My advice: Run. Extended service plans are a bigger waste of money than my stack of Phil Plantier rookie cards. Phil who? you ask. Exactly.

A few years ago I bought an electric razor, and the salesman immediately launched into the service-plan spiel: "OK, say there's a huge underwater earthquake out beyond the continental shelf, and a tsunami comes and washes the contents of your apartment to somewhere off Gloucester. There your razor gets eaten by a shark. Then the shark gets hit by a Cigarette boat running heroin from the Florida Keys. Eventually the whole mess washes ashore while you're at the beach, and your razor is ruined. For $20, you'd be able to bring that baby back, and we'll give you a new one—no questions asked."

That sounded pretty good, and I went for it. But when the razor did actually break, it turned out that some paperwork was required. More paperwork, as it happened, than was required to simply buy a new razor. Which is what I did.

At the opposite end of the cost spectrum, I was pitched an extended service plan on a car once. It was at a car/motorcycle dealership in Brockton. I was on my guard from the moment the salesman told me, "We make our profits on the bikes, so we can sell the cars for less." This seems a bit like the salesman at Banana Republic telling you, "We make our profits on the socks, so we can sell the leather jackets for less." Hence I was wary, but eventually I found myself in front of a desk talking price. I had my eye on a particular car until the guy started pushing the extended service plan, which cost an additional $800. There's a basic flaw in selling something like this, I've concluded. The salesman was put in the position of trying to sell me both the car and the extended service plan, which involved convincing me that this was a good car, a fine car, a paragon of quality and workmanship, and that I should buy it. But it was also a dangerously unreliable piece of crap that would doubtlessly cost me thousands of dollars in repairs and so I needed the extended service plan, too. In the end, I got an ice cream and drove home in the evil I knew, the intermittently reliable Big Dodge Ram.

My latest battle came at Best Buy, where I was attempting to buy an air conditioner with my mother. On the way to the checkout, we were besieged by a wild-eyed extended service plan zealot. "No thanks," I said. "I'm pretty confident that Frigidaire has figured out how to make air conditioners by now. My last one is so old, it's got dodo feathers stuck in the pollen filter."

"Well, that's the thing," Service Plan Freak responded. "They don't make 'em like that anymore. We live in a throwaway society."

"That's right," my mother replied. "So if it breaks, we'll throw it away and get a new one."

I'd like to be able to say that after my broken razor, I never again wasted money on an extended service plan. But the truth is, my Sony WasteofSpaceStation 2 is covered by a $44 insurance policy. The salesman tailored his disaster scenario all too well, I'm afraid. As he launched into "So, say you come home drunk and load a personal pizza into the CD tray, the laser lights

ON THE WAY TO THE CHECK-OUT, WE WERE BESIEGED BY A WILD-EYED EXTENDED SERVICE PLAN ZEALOT.

it on fire, and the only thing you've got to put it out is a bladder full of Milwaukee's Best..." I found myself thinking, "Might happen." But I still feel like a chump for caving in. Maybe I can salvage some sense of value by testing the whole "no questions asked" policy. If I brought in a non-functioning PlayStation covered in Vaseline, would there really be no questions asked? I know I'd have a question or two if I were the one behind the customer service desk. Or what if you brought in a sack of ashes and demanded both a new machine and "a surge protector that doesn't suck." Good questions, these.

In the meantime, you owe me a dollar. You may not be aware of this, but the magazine you're holding carries an extended service plan. You're covered against page tears, ink smudging, theft—even dog damage. If you're not satisfied, I'll authorize you to pick up another copy absolutely free. You've got to admit, that's a great deal for just a dollar. So send it in now, please. No questions asked. iB

You think that's funny?

Send a Coke and a smile to ezra@improper.com.

RITA GREELEY



The Music Pulsed to a Yellow Beat
While He Danced a Yellow Dance



Ice Yellow

Lemon Yellow

Hard Yellow

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"DOC" OTIS • A Different Shade of Yellow

Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The Lupus Foundation New Ways to Dream Gala was held May 24 at the Copley Plaza Hotel. More than 300 friends of the foundation attended.

1. **Dr. Joseph McCarthy**, orthopedic surgeon for New England Baptist Hospital and **Dr. Lisa Fitzgerald**, chair of The Lupus Foundation.
2. **Doug Gage**, financial advisor for American Express in Waltham, and his wife, **Valeri**, designer for The Gift Basket in Waltham.
3. **Lynne Smith** and her husband, **Gary**, executive vice president of Houghton Mifflin, and (center) **Susan Wornick**, news anchor for WCVB TV and honorary chair.
4. **Paul Kelley**, president of Kelley Communications in Beverly and his wife, **Leah**.
5. **Emily Rooney**, executive host of *Greater Boston*, on WGBH-TV Channel 2; **Ron Golobin**, former reporter for WCVB-TV Channel 5, and **Peggy Dray**, director of community affairs for the Copley Plaza Hotel.
6. **Martine Dionne**, chef concierge at Trinity Place, and **James Lack**, president of RSA Media Inc.


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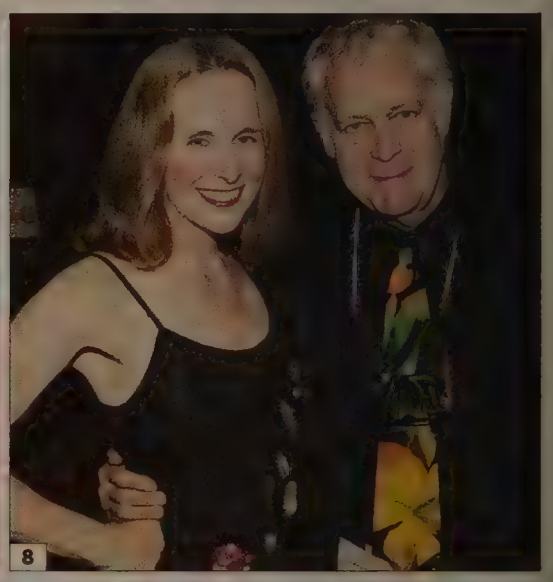

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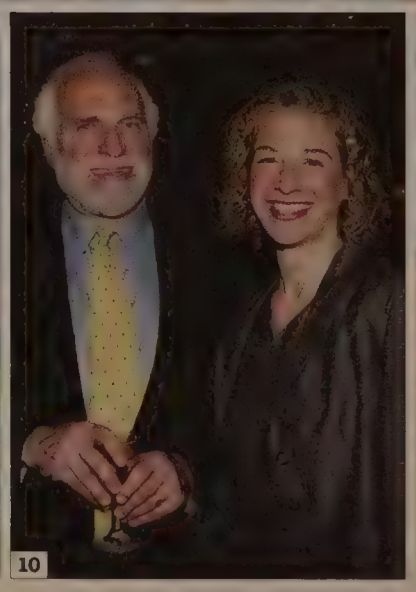
The Greater Boston's Wellness Community hosted the In the Spirit of Wellness dinner on May 24 at the Westin Hotel. More than 400 friends of the Wellness Community gathered at the annual soiree. Guest hosts included WCVB TV5 news anchor Natalie Jacobson and humorist and commentator Jimmy Tingle.

7. **Maria Wallace** and **Debby Toran**, both nurses for the Gillette Center for Women's Cancers; **Chris Roach**, owner of Roach Insurance in the South End and his wife, **Maria**, who also is a nurse at the Gillette Center.
8. **Candy O'Terry**, creator and co-host of *Exceptional Women* on Magic 106.7, and **Bob Spicer**, creative services director for Greater Boston Radio Group.
9. **Rick Borden**, project manager for J. Calnan Construction in Braintree, and his wife, **Karen**, nurse practitioner for the MCH Gillette Center for Women's Cancers.
10. **Dr. Lowell Schnipper**, oncologist at Beth Israel Deaconess Hospital, and his daughter, **Deborah**, medical student at BU.
11. **Roberta Chafetz**, co-owner of Arlene & Roberta Fine Jewelry in Newton, and her husband, **Irwin**, co-owner of GWV Travel in Newton.
12. **George Cloutier**, CEO of American Manager Services Inc., and **Stephanie Dodson**, chair of the Gilda Radner Award Committee and board of directors for The Wellness Community.


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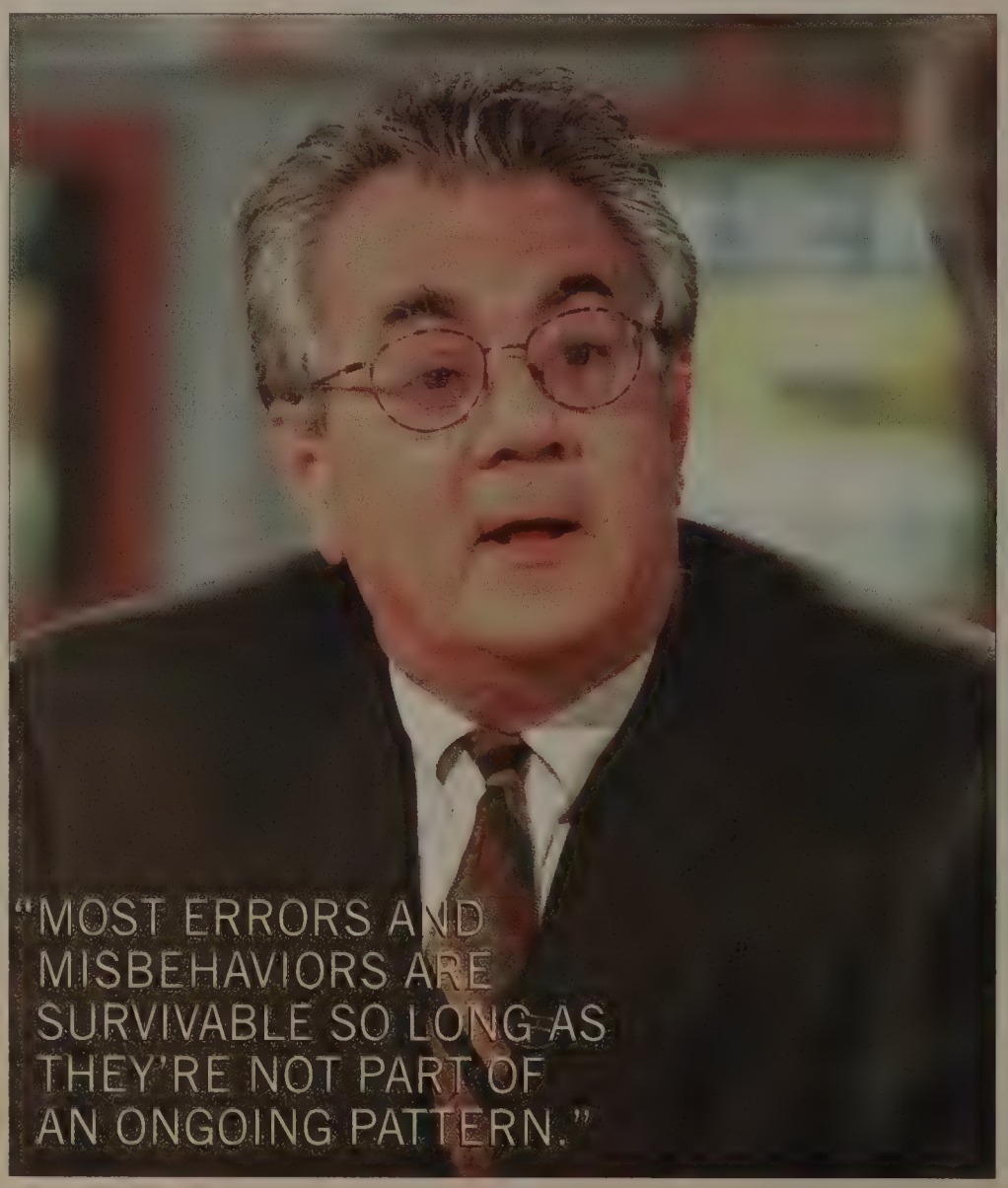
Soroff/On

Barney Frank

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Democratic Congressman Barney Frank has represented the 4th Congressional District of Massachusetts since he was elected in 1980. Born in Bayonne, N.J., he is a 1962 graduate of Harvard and began studying for a Ph.D. there in 1968, but left to become an assistant to Boston Mayor Kevin White. In 1971, he spent six months as a fellow at Harvard's Kennedy School and then served as an assistant to U.S. Congressman Michael J. Harrington. In 1972, Frank was elected to the state legislature, where he served for eight years. During that time, he entered Harvard Law School, graduating in 1977. He joined the Massachusetts bar in 1979. In addition to public service, he has taught at Boston University, UMass Boston and Harvard, and he has written extensively on public policy. Despite an embarrassing episode in the 1980s involving a male prostitute whom he allowed to live in his Washington home, the openly gay legislator and advocate for Democratic causes is one of the most popular figures in Massachusetts politics. He lives in Washington, D.C., and Newton.

Jonathan Soroff: *Twenty-one years in Congress—I assume you're against term limits?*
Barney Frank: I'm opposed. In fact, I sponsored a Constitutional amendment to remove the limitation on presidential terms. I think they're anti-democratic. The implicit notion is that voters are dumb. I'm in favor of no restrictions on people's ability to choose whomever they want to choose.
JS: *Why do you think your constituents keep voting for you?*
BF: That's difficult to answer without sounding either unattractively arrogant or unbelievably humble, but I will say this: Obviously, the people I represent are in general agreement with my approach to public policy. I also have an excellent staff, and I have an advantage in that I started out as part of someone else's staff, and so I understand both what staff should do and how an elected official can make his or her staff most effective.
JS: *Are you one of those democrats who thinks George "Dubya" is a cross between the village idiot and a redneck frat boy?*
BF: No, he's much smarter than people think, but he's not well-informed. He's well above average in intelligence. Unfortunately, as he's acknowledged, until relatively late in life he hasn't been terribly serious about a lot of things, so he reached his mid-50s without knowing a lot of things you'd assume someone in politics would know.
JS: *Most egregious waste of taxpayers' money?*
BF: The extent to which my colleagues indulge the Pentagon. Like that submarine that killed those people? The only reason it was out there, doing something inherently dangerous (namely, surfacing in waters other people were in) was to put on a show for 16 private citizens the Navy was trying to impress. That's just outrageous. In fact, it seems much worse to me than letting someone sleep in the Lincoln bedroom. There's very little danger of a collision with innocent people in the Lincoln bedroom.
JS: *Best perk of being a Congressman?*
BF: Waking up in the morning, reading about something that really pisses you off in the newspaper, and then going to work to try and do something about it.
JS: *Given your name, any thoughts on franking privileges* [free postage for Congressmen]*?*
BF: Franking privileges is one of the few illegitimate advantages an incumbent has—this ability to do blatant political mailings. The rule I try to follow is: I'll write to someone who writes to me. But I don't think we should be allowed to send unsolicited free mail to people.
JS: *Gay Pride Day—isn't that comparable to 5'10" pride day?*
BF: Well, there's a difference. I don't think anyone should be proud of being gay. It'd be contradictory to say you're proud of any sort of inherent characteristic. What I think it's really shorthand for is being proud of our willingness to defy a prejudice. So if you grew up in a world where people who were 5'10" were scorned or abused and they pretended to be either 5'7" or 6'3", walking on stilts or scrunching down, and then suddenly they said, "This is bullshit. Let's tell people how tall we are," that'd be something to be proud of.
JS: *Do you take part in Gay Pride activities?*
BF: From time to time. If I'm invited to a parade, I'll march. I marched in the first gay pride parade in Tulsa. I'll go to places where I think the fight's still on. Last May, I was the speaker for Gay Pride Day at the CIA. I have the poster hanging on my wall. It sounds funny, but there's a serious side to it. Dwight Eisenhower instituted an executive order that was maintained by everyone up to Clinton, saying that if you were homosexual, you couldn't get a security clearance, and Clinton rescinded that.



JS: *OK, finish this joke: "Jesse Helms and Trent Lott walk into a gay bar..."*
BF: "...And the notion of Gay Pride is dashed forever."
JS: *You're known as a wit. What's the one zinger you're most proud of?*
BF: Probably in Mississippi, in 1964, the Freedom Summer. We were trying to get seven or eight white people, out of 60, on a delegation to challenge the all-white Mississippi delegation at the Democratic National Committee. One of our supporters in Washington jumped the gun and prematurely announced that we'd have 20 percent white people, and we thought we'd be doing well to get 5 percent. So I sent him a note saying, "Please hold your fire until we hear the 'Ayes' of our whites."
JS: *You've been at the center of a public scandal. What advice would you give someone in that position?*
BF: It's twofold, and one part is external while the other is internal. First, tell the truth. That's what saved me, I think. Unless you've done something truly horrible, people's expectation of perfection is not all that high, so most errors and misbehaviors are survivable so long as they're not part of an ongoing pattern. The other thing to remember is that fortunately, when you've screwed up, nobody thinks about you as much as you think about yourself.
JS: *Aside from the president, who's the most powerful person in Washington?*
BF: I guess Cheney. It's an unusual situation, but he is a more important figure than most vice presidents. If there was one guy besides the president I'd want to persuade to do something for me, it would be him.
JS: *Favorite presidential anecdote or memory?*
BF: I guess it'd be when Clinton invited me and my ex as a couple to a dinner of 10 Congressional couples.
JS: *So where does the Capitol rank in terms of prostitution—is it worse than, say, Vegas?*
BF: No, not at all. I'm very impressed with my colleagues in Congress, and I think they're motivated less by self-interest and more by public interest than most professions. I certainly think they compare favorably with journalists in terms of seeking to do the right thing.
JS: *So you've got a real disdain for the press?*
BF: Yeah. I'm disappointed. I think journalism, of all the important functions in our democracy, is the least well carried out. The notion that the press should have an adversarial role strikes me as misguided. I think the press should have a skeptical role. A friend of mine who's a high-ranking editor said to me, "I wish young journalists today would be as skeptical of bad news as they are of good news." I think the public doesn't get a good sense of what's truly happening in the world, and they get an unduly negative one.
JS: *Last question: When you leave Congress, what will you do?*
BF: Teach some, maybe at a law school or public policy school—with the stipulation that I wouldn't want to grade—combined with writing. I have a lot of things in my head. I'm a glib talker but a slow writer. iB

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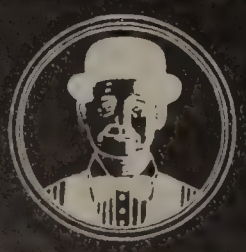
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SUMMER FUN

Ezra storms Block Island. Robicheau gets jazzed about outdoor music festivals. And Pops maestro Keith Lockhart reveals his favorite things about summer in the city. Inside, you'll also find a guide to summer sports, new ideas for entertaining out-of-town guests, and top-five lists of hot summer festivals and cool boat excursions. So whether or not you're the sort who likes to brave the icy Atlantic waters, here's how to have a swimmingly good time this season.

PHOTOGRAPH BY TRACY POWELL

music festivals

keith lockhart

block island

boat trips

out & about

ON THE ROAD AGAIN

a roundup of the summer's best music festivals



by paul robicheau

Road trip! Now that the warm weather has arrived, music fans—like everyone else—will be overcome by the urge to pack up the car and hit the road for out-of-town summer festivals. Sure, gas prices are higher than they were last year, but events around Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New York are fairly nearby, and the U.S. dollar goes far in Canada. Here's where to head for the major Northeast music festivals:

Newport Folk Festival (Aug. 3-5) and JVC Jazz Festival-Newport (Aug. 10-12)
Newport is the granddaddy of area festivals for both folk and jazz, and its Fort Point Adams site offers a breathtaking view of the boats and bridges of Newport Harbor. The scene can get a bit crowded with weekend-warrior types shuttling in from the lots, though this year the Jazz Fest is limiting the coolers and blankets to accommodate reserved seating on one side. And the George Wein-produced lineups are strong as usual. The Folk Fest boasts the Indigo Girls, Nanci Griffith, Emmylou Harris, Gillian Welch, North Mississippi All-Stars with John Medeski, and a Flatlanders reunion of Joe Ely, Jimmie Dale Gilmore and Butch Hancock. The Jazz Fest mirrors Montreal's bookings in part with Diana Krall, Ray Charles, Roy Hargrove, Wayne Shorter, James Blood Ulmer, Natalie Cole, Uri Caine and Los Hombres Calientes. For more information, call 401-847-3700 or visit *www.newportfolk.com* and *www.festival-productions.net/jvc/newport*.

Montreal Jazz Festival (June 28-July 8)
Montreal hosts one of the largest and most prestigious jazz festivals in the world, within a six-hour ride from Boston. Not only is the exchange rate great there, but 350 of the 500 concerts at the Montreal Jazz Fest are free. The middle of the picturesque city is closed down for pedestrians to roam blocks and plazas of outdoor stages. Ticketed indoor events feature the bigger acts, which this year include Michael Brecker, Roy Hargrove, Diana Krall, Wayne Shorter, the Joe Lovano Nonet, John Scofield, Prince, Charles Lloyd, Cesaria Evora and James Carter. And when the night's concerts finish up, look for after-hours jam sessions at the lounge of the central Wyndham Hotel, where Carter tore it up last year in a tenor-sax



Ray Charles graces the Newport, R.I. Jazz Festival this summer, along with Natalie Cole, Roy Hargrove, Diana Krall and Los Hombres Calientes. Top photo: A sea of music lovers at last year's jazz fest.

URBAN NOISE

Hot summer concerts a little closer to home


Thom Yorke of Radiohead

You can hear the funky, combustible mix of Medeski Martin & Wood, John Scofield and DJ Logic at the FleetBoston Pavilion June 23 rather than catching them in Montreal. Granted, that's part of the Boston Globe Jazz Festival, which closes with a free June 24 Hatch Shell bill featuring the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra (with Wynton Marsalis), Dianne Reeves and the James Carter Electric Project.

Another Montreal attraction that pulls into town, at the Sanders Theatre June 29, is John McLaughlin & Remember Shakti, which reunites the fleet-fingered guitarist with tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain from their '70s Indian fusion group Shakti.

Adventurous music fans with the wheels to hop down to Mansfield's Tweeter Center on July 18 should take aim for Area One, techno-pop star Moby's day-long bash with hip-hop avatars OutKast and the Roots, rockers Incubus and DJ Paul Oakenfold among others.

Another offbeat package hits the FleetBoston Pavilion. The so-called Wotapalava on July 20 flaunts disco-popsters the Pet Shop Boys, the reborn Sinead O'Connor, synth-pop relics Soft Cell and eccentric cabaret stylist Rufus Wainwright and the Magnetic Fields.

The highlight of the FleetBoston Pavilion season, however, should be the reunion of ethereal art-funk band Roxy Music July 17 and 20. The last time that stylish crooner Bryan Ferry clicked onstage in Boston with guitarist Phil Manzanera and saxophonist Andy MacKay was back in 1983.

The Pavilion completes a hot weekend July 21 with the String Cheese Incident, but most jam-rock fans are looking ahead to an Aug. 4 Tweeter Center stop by Trey Anastasio's solo band, tackling the shed circuit just like his on-hiatus act Phish. Expect funky grooves with a horn section and a keyboardist.

The summer's biggest rock event, however, will be an Aug. 14 landing at Suffolk Downs for Brit-rockers Radiohead, whose new CD *Amnesiac* promises to be more pop-friendly than last year's electronic *Kid A*.

The biggest pop show will be the return of Madonna at the FleetCenter Aug. 6 and 8, for a hefty top ticket of $250. But the now-elder Material Girl still knows how to tickle a crowd.

Finally, stretching the spectrum, Afro-pop fans can catch Senegal's Baaba Maal at the Paradise Aug. 22, and country stud Vince Gill plays the South Shore Music Circus Aug. 26. — *P.R.*

battle with Ricky Ford. For more information, call 888-515-0515 or visit *www.montrealjazzfest.com.*

Quebec City Summer Festival (July 6-16)

Here's another Canadian fest that takes it to the streets, but with a more intimate Old World charm—and an eclectic focus on homegrown as well as international acts. This year's 500 performances include Afro-pop singer Sally Nyolo, the California Guitar Trio with Tony Levin, world-jazz band Oregon, fiddler Darol Anger, the Cape Breton Barbarians and the lounge-electronica of the Fantastic Plastic Machine. However, expect to be surprised by a majority of Canadian artists, offering styles that span world and classical music, rock, hip-hop, Cajun, blues and Francophone song. Perhaps even more than largely cosmopolitan Montreal, Quebec City—North America's oldest walled city—lends a family-friendly setting where street performers seem to materialize at every turn. And because of the city's small size, the festival seems to consume the city, which only adds to the excitement. For more information, call 888-992-5200 or visit *www.infofestival.com*

Grey Fox Bluegrass Festival (July 19-22) and Falcon Ridge Folk Festival (July 27-29)

Just over the New York border, and a week apart from each other, are the region's premiere folk-roots fests. Grey Fox takes the place of the original Winterhawk festival on hilly Rothvoff's Farm in Ancramdale. The bluegrass talent is top-notch, with Ricky Scaggs, Doc Watson, David Grisman and Del McCoury on tap. There are workshop and dance tents, activities for the kids, and a quiet camping area for folks declining late-night picking sessions. Falcon Ridge occupies grassy Long Hill Farm in nearby Hillsdale, and goes for the singer-songwriter crowd with folks like Dar Williams, John Gorka, Lucy Kaplansky, Gillian Welch and the Nields. An Americana-styled fest retaining the Winterhawk name follows at Long Hill Farm with a diverse schedule including Dave Alvin, Geno Delofose and Greg Brown Aug. 3-5, a third straight weekend of folkie heaven. For more information, call 888-946-8495 or visit *www.greyfoxbluegrass.com*, 860-364-0366 or *www.falconridgefolk.com* and *www.winterhawk2000.com.*

Gathering of the Vibes (June 29-July 1) and Berkshire Mountain Music Festival (Aug. 10-12)

On the livelier end, around both stages and campgrounds, are the ever-broadening jam-band festivals. The Gathering has moved from Connecticut to more remote farmland in Red Hook, N.Y., but with the following lineup, the trip will be worth it: Disco Biscuits, Les Claypool, the Tom Tom Club, Dickey Betts, John Scofield, Bruce Hornsby and Medeski, Martin & Wood. This year's Berkfest lost a little ground by postponing a week to avoid competing with area dates by Phish's Trey Anastasio, but it offers a tasty slate anchored by Moe, Strangefolk, Soulive, Olu


Musique du Monde performed at last year's Quebec's City Summer Festival (above); right: Emmylou Harris will perform at this year's Newport Folk Festival.

LEFT: LOUISE LEBLANC; CENTER: BRIGITTE LACOMBE; RIGHT: NEWSMAKERS

Dara, Galactic and the Steve Kimock Band. And it has a cozy spot in Great Barrington's Butternut Ski Basin. You're likely to run into noodle dancers or vendors that remind you of a Phish show, but on a much cooler level. Both events also promise all-star jams. For more information, call 866-TERRAPIN or *www.gatheringofthevibes.com*, 888-325-BERK or *www.berkfest.com.*

Rhythm & Roots Festival and Tanglewood Jazz Festival (both Aug. 31-Sept. 2)

Family festivals don't come much better than Rhythm & Roots at Ninigret Park in Charlestown, R.I. The flat, grassy concert area isn't as unique as the event's former site at the Stepping Stone Ranch in Escoheag, but the activities span dance-tent workshops and a children's Mardi Gras parade. Acts this year include Steve Riley & the Mamou Playboys, Susan Tedeschi, Chris Ardoin & Double Clutchin', Natalie MacMaster and the Savoy Family Cajun Band. Coastal Ninigret Park offers camping too. Those who prefer a last taste of summer jazz can return to the Berkshires for the revamped Tanglewood Jazz Fest, settling into the familiar Koussevity Music Shed and the more intimate Ozawa Hall, where a Sept. 2 appearance by saxophone colossus Sonny Rollins may alone be worth the trip. Other performers over the weekend include Jane Monheit, Spyrogyra, Nancy Wilson, George Benson and Nicholas Payton & the Louis Armstrong Centennial Celebration Band. At the very least, you can pack a picnic and head for the lawn. For more inforomation, call 888-855-6940 or *www.rhythmandroots.com*, 617-266-1492 or *www.bso.org.* **iB**



James Carter at last year's Montreal Jazz Festival; he'll be returning for an encore this year.

BEST FESTS

Takin' it to the streets with parties, parades

Italian-American Feasts

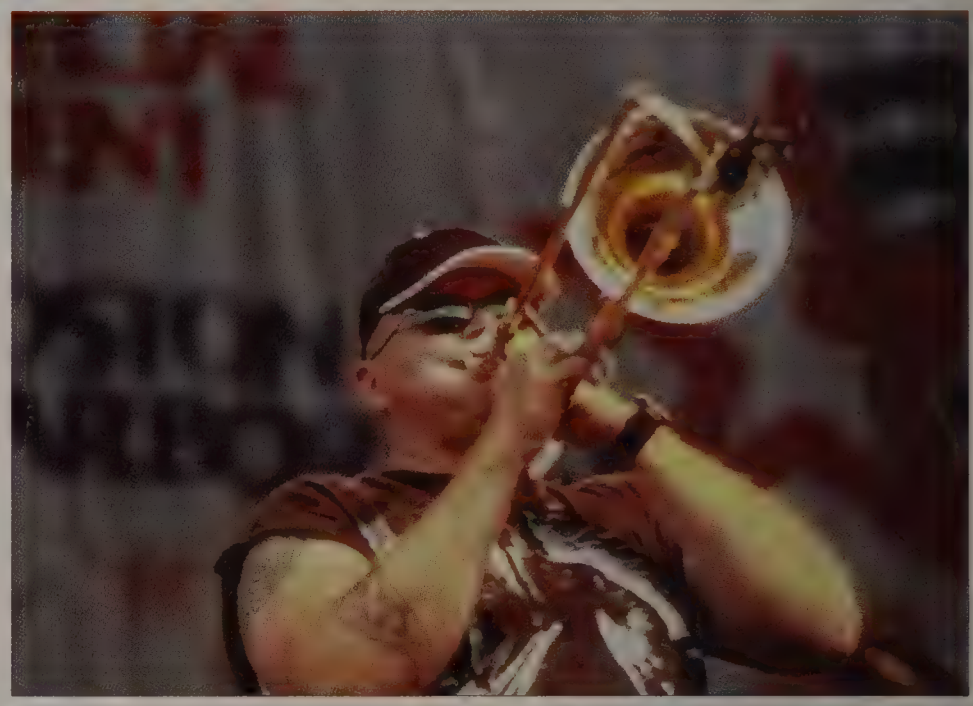
Those who wander unsuspectingly into the North End during one of the summer's Italian-American festivals might believe they've been magically transported to the old country. The aroma of roasted garlic mingles with grilled sausage and onions and the plaintive strains of accordians lure curious passers-by along the narrow streets to feast on crusty rolls stuffed with spiced beef, prosciutto and cheese (and wash it down, of course, with homemade red wine). Follow along behind the religious processions or just stand back and enjoy the atmosphere. •June 24: St. Jude Procession •July 8: Feast of Madonna del Grazie •July 14-15: St. Rocco •July 28-29: Feast of St. Joseph •Aug. 3-5: Feast of St. Agrippina •Aug. 11-12: Feast of Madonna della Cava •Aug. 18-19: Feast of Madonna del Soccorso •Aug. 24: Feast of St. Domenic •Aug. 25-26: Feast of St. Anthony •Aug. 27: Feast of St. Lucy •Sept. 9: Feast of St. Rosalie.

Harborfest 2001

The city will light up well before the big Fourth of July fireworks celebration. At least 2.5 million people are expected to join in the more than 200 events of Boston Harborfest, including the Chowderfest (will Captain Parker's Pub, last year's winner, take the honors again?), Children's Day, the famous Fireworks Skyconcert, walking tours, afternoon concerts (Four Guys in Tuxes, the Boogaloo Swamis, Popgun Seven and Black Sea Salsa), Revolutionary-era historical re-enactments, visits from naval ships and more—whew! Then, Boston's Fourth of July on the Esplanade promises a spectacular concert conducted by Keith Lockhart—with plenty of pyrotechnics illuminating the night sky. *(227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. June 28-July 4.*

Seaport Festival

It sounds like something out of a children's storybook: At the toot of a horn, two cherry red tugboats meet bow to bow, courageously pushing with all their might to force the other backwards. It's a scene of great drama and high emotion—and in the children's tale, the friendliest tugboat is assured the winning spot. But at the fiercely competitive Boston Tugboat Muster, held Aug. 11, "might makes right." The day starts with the Blessing of the Fleet in the morning and continues with a tugboat parade and a pushing and line-heaving contest. At noon, there is a change of command aboard the USS *Constitution*, as Captain Bill Foster welcomes a new commanding officer. The USS *Constitution* then departs Charlestown for Castle Island, where a gun salute is fired. Throughout the day, festival-goers can board the *Libertad*, a 340-foot, full-rigged frigate from Argentina. *Boston Harbor (439-7700). Aug. 11.*







Clockwise from top, live music draws crowds to Harborfest on the Fourth of July; celebrants hoist a madonna and child through the streets of the North End at an Italian-American feast; this year, Salem hosts the Antique and Classic Boat Festival.

Faneuil Hall Marketplace's 25th Anniversary Bash

What began in 1976 as a humble attempt to preserve a decaying historic site yielded one of Boston's most popular tourist sites. Now, 25 years later, Fanueil Hall Marketplace celebrates its silver anniversary throughout the summer with such events as Swingin' Under the Stars (dancing) on Wednesday nights in July and August, and Latin Nights on Thursday nights in August. The celebration culminates with an all-star lineup of cultural entertainment—including dancers and musicians—beginning with a free concert by the Boston Pops and conductor Keith Lockhart Aug. 24. *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (523-1300). Aug. 24-26.*

Boston Antique and Classic Boat Festival

Back in the days of old, boats were made of wood and the salty characters that captained them were full of wonderous tales of adventure on the high seas. Nowadays, it's hard to find a boat that's not made of fiberglass. But on Aug. 25-26, Bostonians can relive their maritime heritage at the Boston Antique and Classic Boat Festival, held this year in Salem (last year it was on Long Wharf). Some 50 classic sailboats and powerboats—ranging from 1890s steam launches and 1920s-era mahogany runabouts to a flotilla of sloops, sharpies, yawls and schooners—sail into Salem Harbor. *Hawthorne Cove Marina, 10 White St., Salem (666-8530). Aug. 25-26.*

—Erin Hagedorn and Julie Short

LEFT: PAUL ROBICHEAU

POPS STAR

how keith lockhart conducts his summer

by keith powers

Considering that he spends all his time facing away from the crowds who come to see him conduct, Keith Lockhart just might have the most recognizable backside in Boston.

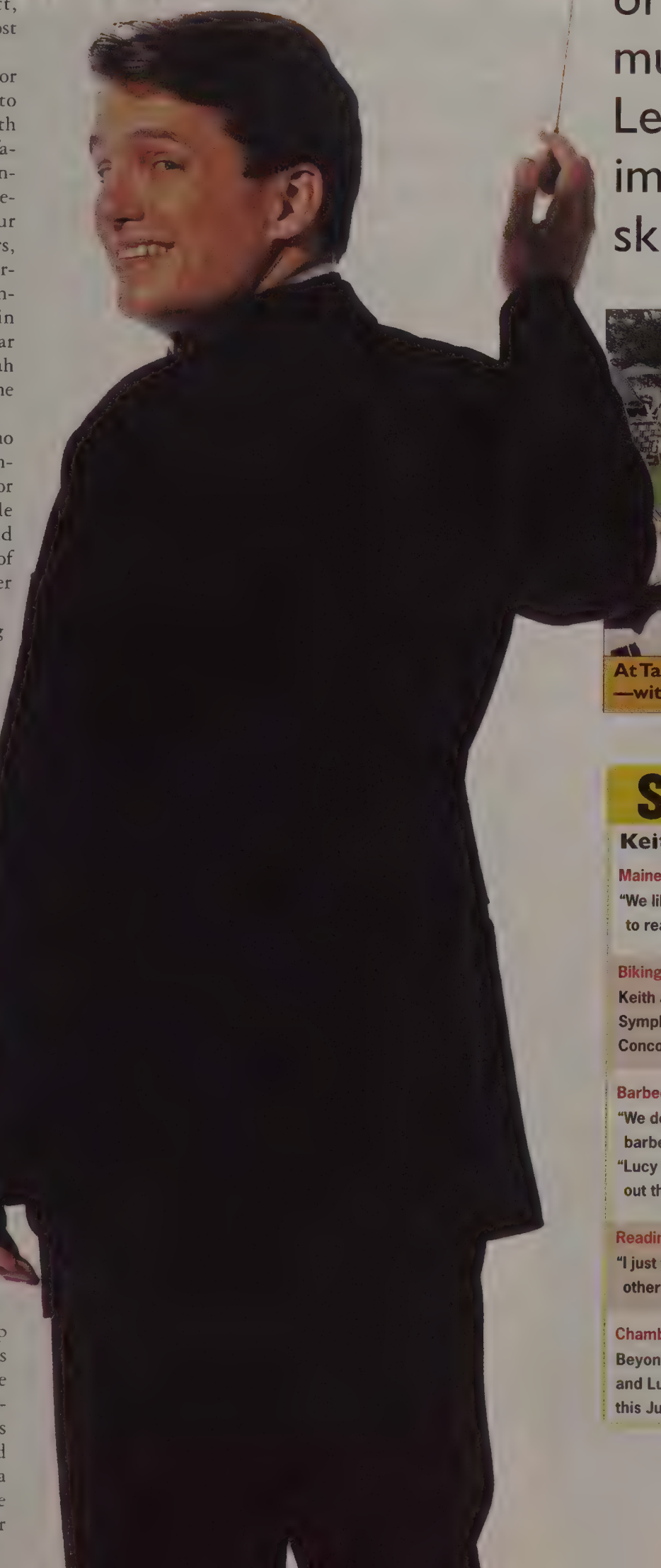
This summer, the youthful conductor —whose face is pretty darn familiar to Bostonians, as well—begins his seventh season of work as leader of the most famous Pops orchestra in the world. Astonishingly, he's managed to successfully replace two legends: Pops poppa Arthur Fiedler, who led the group for 50 years, and Hollywood hero John Williams, perhaps the most influential American composer alive, who succeeded Fiedler in 1980. Lockhart also spends the regular concert season as conductor of the Utah Symphony, a prestigious appointment he received three years ago.

But the world-famous maestro was no music nerd while growing up in Poughkeepsie, N.Y. "It wasn't until I was 16 or so that I went to music camp. Little League was too important to me—and skinning my knees. We were the kind of family who loved to load up the camper and take off on summer trips."

Nowadays, summertime is anything but kick-back time for the 41-year-old conductor. This year's Pops season starts in May and continues through the traffic-snarling Esplanade concerts on Fourth of July weekend. Then it's out to Tanglewood for a few dates, followed by a tour to Japan and Korea. Back stateside in August, Lockhart leads another tour with high-profile gigs at Ravinia (the summer home of the Chicago Symphony in Illinois) and Wolf Trap in Virginia. Then it's back to Tanglewood for a season closer.

And that's just the music—there's much more to "being Keith Lockhart." Yesterday it was a photo shoot. This morning, another shoot. Then an interview. Rehearsals, and some meetings. By the time his "night job" as a baton jockey begins, Lockhart has already put in a full day. "This time of year it's kind of hard to get up at six and go for a bike ride," he says with a sigh. So much for a summer vacation.

Still, the boyish maestro knows the value of relaxation. Biking and hiking keep the skiing muscles in shape. One of the joys of the Utah appointment is skiing in the Rockies: "You'll never go back to Killington again," he says with a laugh. There's also a country retreat in Maine that he and his wife, BSO violinist Lucia Lin, bought a few years ago. "It's 92 acres of woods, on the water, with a cabin. Talk about nothing for miles," says Lockhart with a big grin. iB



"It wasn't until I was 16 or so that I went to music camp. Little League was too important to me—and skinning my knees."



At Tanglewood, classical music buffs come prepared —with blankets, books and, often, elaborate picnics.

SUMMER ESCAPES

Keith Lockhart's favorite summer days

Maine Getaways

"We like to hike and mountain bike. And I actually get a chance to read a book."

Biking

Keith and Lucia (Lucy) live in the South End, "seven minutes from Symphony Hall. But we love to cruise out to Lexington and Concord."

Barbecuing

"We don't have that much space in Boston, but I love to barbecue." The couple has a place near Tanglewood as well—"Lucy got it before we met"—and they entertain musical friends out there.

Reading

"I just finished Milan Kundera's *Immunity*. I've read all of his other books; they're like a bible to me in a way."

Chamber Music

Beyond conducting, Lockhart still performs as a pianist. He and Lucy have a piano quintet, Innuendo, which will perform this July in Stockbridge.

PHOTOGRAPH OF KEITH LOCKHART BY MICHAEL INDRESANO
WARDROBE STYLING: TIM JOHNSON/TEAM THE AGENCY INC.
PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT: WILLIAM BYRD
STUDIO MANAGER: HEATHER JULIAN
TUXEDO: GIORGIO ARMANI; BOW TIE & CUMMERBUND: HERMES

TANGLEWOOD: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

ROGGIE'S

New Age Bar & Grille

356 Chestnut Hill Avenue
Brighton
617-566-1880
www.roggies.com

THE AVENUE

1249 Commonwealth Avenue
Allston
617-782-9508
www.avenuebar.com

Free Delivery
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617-566-1880

AVENUE

MON. - S.I.N. (Service Industry Night)
TUES. - Old-School Hip-Hop Funk Night
WED. - Knowledge, DJ Steve Austin (Strong-Arm Productions) spins Hip-Hop, Reggae & R&B
THURS. - WFNX Avenue Lounge Night
FRI. - TGIF Night
SAT. - T-Night, DJ Apo spins Progressive and Hard House
SUN. - Mafia Movie Night

Mon.-Sat. 11-1am
breakfast - lunch - dinner

ROGGIE'S

The Annual Boston Harbor Boat Cruise
June 29,2001

DJ APO - spinning Progressive & Hard House
DJ Steve Austin - Strong Arm Productions
DJ G² - (Kreators) spinning Hip-Hop, Reggae & R&B
For ticket sales, page 617.560.2764 • $25 • 9pm-12am • 21+

Mon.-Sat. 11-1am
breakfast - lunch - dinner

'ROUND THE BLOCK

just a two-hour drive and a ferry jaunt away, block island is an overlooked alternative to the overbooked cape

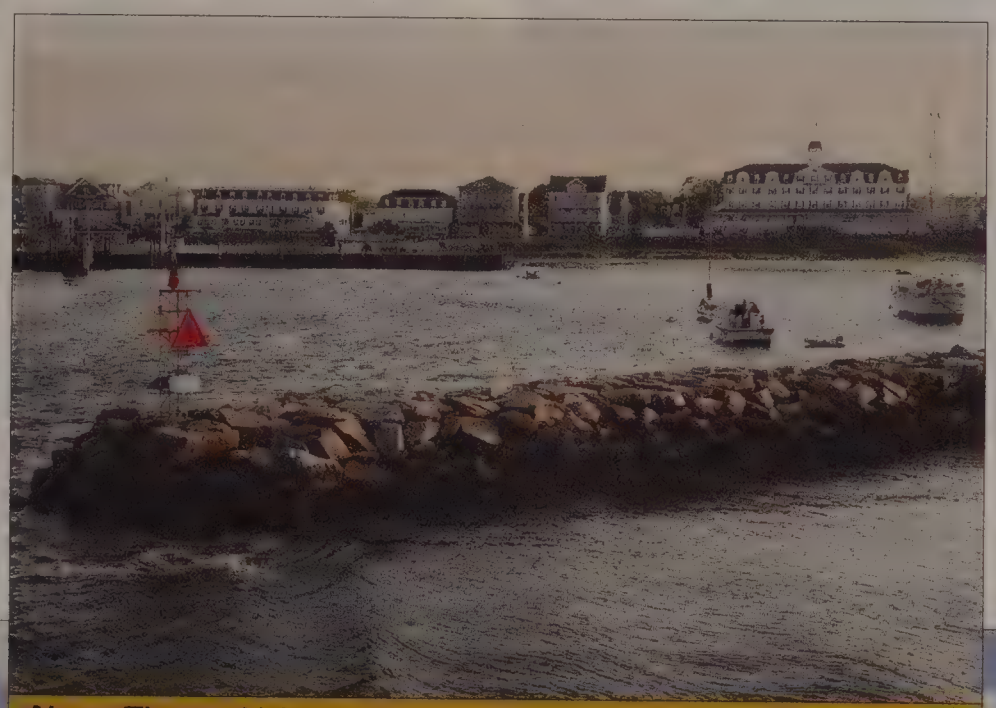
by ezra dyer

Let's face it: Cape Cod is king. When Bostonians think of a summer destination, the mighty arm of the Cape flexes, and the rest of New England's sandy locales step aside. But even though the Cape has a lot to get excited about, its very popularity is its Achilles' heel. As anyone who has sat in the gridlock of Route 6 can attest, sometimes the "Well, it's no fun getting there, but once you do, it's worth it" argument starts to sound a bit like "Well, it's no fun getting a tonsillectomy, but once they give you that ice cream, it's worth it." Except, where the Cape is concerned, come Sunday, you get back on the road to undergo a tonsillectomy all over again.

Well, Cape Cod, you've got a challenger. When the glacier that carved out Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket receded, it left another mound of sand farther south: Block Island. And while the "MV," "CC" and "ACK" stickers continue to proliferate on our state's sumo sport-utility vehicles, this lesser-known island has steadily grown in popularity. Make no mistake, though, Block Island is still relatively undeveloped, and it's not overflowing with tourists. Perhaps as a consequence of that, the attitude of the place is decidedly unpretentious. That's a large part of its attraction—especially if you're the kind of person who would rather get a Celine Dion photo montage tattooed on your back than advertise your vacationing proclivities with a Black Dog T-shirt.

Block Island, which attracts about 12,000 day-trippers on summer weekends, offers many of the same attractions as the Cape islands—beaches, restaurants, house rentals and that all-important island mystique—but on a smaller scale. What's more, the traffic from Boston is far less daunting than any Cape alternative. Even allowing for the inevitable Route 93 clog south of Boston, it shouldn't take more than two hours to reach the ferry terminal in Point Judith, R.I. (taking into account that you'll avoid the I-95 parking lot known as Providence by skirting around it on 295). It's worth noting, however, that you shouldn't drag your heels getting out of Boston, because the last ferry leaves at 8pm, and if you miss it you'll have to scramble to get aboard a flight out of the Westerly Airport, roughly a half-hour away.

Once you reach the ferry, your vacation has begun. The trip takes about an hour, and the ferry atmosphere on a Friday is one of infectious optimism. Whether you choose to crack the first frosty beverage of the evening (the bar opens when the boat departs) or unwind with some properly vapid summer reading, everyone is glad to be there, which is a rare occasion aboard any type of mass transportation.





Above: The non-high speed ferry arrives at the main drag, Water Street, in Old Harbor. Below: A beachin' day on Block Island.

TOP: FRANK MULLIN; BOTTOM: CINDY HOROVITZ WILSON



OK, so it's hard to look cool on a moped. But it is a great way to explore the island if you're not the pedaling type.

This marks the first year of a high-speed ferry to the island, but the cost/benefit relationship of the high-speed service—about twice as fast, about twice as expensive—means that unless you have dinner reservations or the unfortunate "I must hurry up and relax" mentality, you may as well enjoy the extra half hour it takes the slow boat to reach the dock. Check out the sun setting over the bluffs on the way in. Have another beer. Read another chapter.

decisions, decisions

An advantage of the slower ferry is that it deposits you in Old Harbor, which is the nexus of Block Island nightlife. (The high-speed ferry arrives in New Harbor, across the island) Upon arrival, your evening can play out in a few basic ways: If you're feeling swanky and romantic, for $250 Hotel Manisses offers a five-course dinner for two—served by a tuxedo-clad maitre'd—at the location of your choice. If you're not stepping to that level, you can enjoy dinner/cocktails at one of the more low-key establishments, such as the National (see story at right), or you can release your weekday tensions on the dance floor of one of Block Island's bars.

If you opt for the latter, you have two main options: McGovern's Yellow Kittens and Captain Nick's. Both offer live bands or DJs, and both are within walking distance of Old Harbor and each other. Block Island might not have a plethora of choices as far as nightlife goes, but these two places should allow you to get any pent-up rambunctiousness out of your system. Sneakers and jeans or shorts are the de facto dress code, and Roxy-esque attire will likely render you an object of scorn among your fellow pub-goers. There is a place for haute couture, but that place is not Captain Nick's.

When morning rolls around, you'll want to hit the beach. At least, you should want to hit the beach, or else why didn't you just go to Vermont? Since Block Island has no private beaches, you can set up shop pretty much wherever you fancy. Two top choices are Mansion Beach, which lies at the foot of the dramatic bluffs, and Crescent Beach (see related story).

No matter where you end up, unless you brought a car on the ferry or rented transportation on the island, you'll probably have to take a taxi. The upside here is that, by dint of the size of the place, taxis on Block Island are never very expensive. And the drivers know the island inside out, a fact that you should take advantage of. For instance, Marilyn Wolfe, a.k.a. Wolfie (of Wolfie's Taxi Service), has logged more than 180,000 Block Island miles in her trusty van, so you could probably describe your ideal beach and have her take you to the closest thing the island has to offer.

Block Island is still relatively undeveloped, but that's its attraction—especially if you're the kind of person who would rather get a Celine Dion photo montage tattooed on your back than advertise your vacationing proclivities with a Black Dog tee-shirt.

THIRD ROCK

Five must-do's for your Block Island weekend

1. Ballard's in the Daytime

Ballard's, just across the parking lot from the ferry terminal, has three big draws during the day. First, it has live music on an outdoor patio—and if basking in the sun while a reggae band plays Bob Marley tunes doesn't assuage your weekday worries, then perhaps you need to get your Zoloft refilled. Or, if the patio's too crowded, you can always step down to the beach and find a patch of sand. No need to take a cooler—the waitstaff will bring drinks directly to your towel. Finally, if you make the 12-mile trip to the island via private boat, the stretch of breakwater bordering Ballard's is the perfect place to weigh anchor and venture in for either of the aforementioned activities.

2. The Painted Rock

If we told you exactly where this is, it would lose some of its mystique. Suffice it to say, then, that if you can find the Painted Rock Road (the name unoffically bestowed by the locals), you're there. The rock, which has been getting this treatment since the early '60s, is traditionally repainted under the cover of darkness, so your *chef d'oeuvre* might only survive until the next night, especially if you break out the paint on a Friday. Some days, the rock is repainted as many as three times. But the very impermanence of your artistic statement is a fitting metaphor for life itself, and indeed heightens the power of your message, non?

3. Crescent Beach

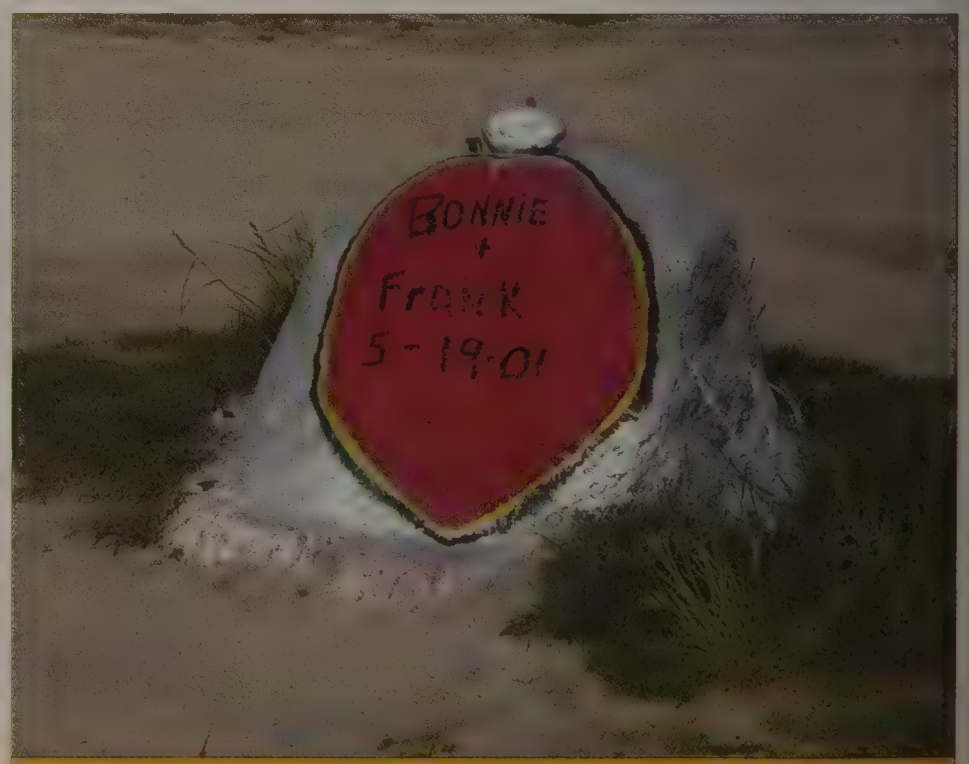
Free parking plus a good concession stand plus a long strip of white sand lapped by tropical-looking turqouise water equals a great day at the beach. It's usually crowded enough to avoid that last-scene-in-*Planet of the Apes* feeling of loneliness, but not so crowded that you'll be sharing your personal space with strangers. Unless you want to. As a bonus, you're within walking distance of the Old Harbor's bars and restaurants. And the non-savvy swimmers among us will appreciate the ever-attentive lifeguards, who have a keen eye for beachgoers whose sun-baked state has rendered them less than coherent. Or buoyant....

4. Rent a Moped

It's an island activity that has become a cliché, but Block Island is particularly well-suited to touring via moped. Once you get away from the Old Harbor area, much of the island is sparsely populated enough so that you can explore without seeming like you're part of the Morons on Mopeds World Tour. Dirt roads and little-traveled trails abound, so you're unlikely to get bored with the territory in a single day. Just keep in mind, Evel, that Block Island has a lot of hairpin curves. And 150-foot cliffs.

5. The National for Early Evening Drinks

If people-watching is your sport, it's hard to beat The National. With a raised patio that abuts the main drag of Water Street, the National beckons from the moment you step off the ferry. The tasty culinary selection is an added bonus that makes this the primo place to kick off the evening. If you're not feeling particularly fired-up, the National can be a destination unto itself. Alternately, you can use it as the springboard to launch you into an evening of debauched revelry. It's your call.



Bonnie and Frank, let's hope your special relationship outlasts its commemoration on Block Island's infamous Painted Rock.

TOP: FRANK MULLIN. BOTTOM: JOHN DOYLE

Unfortunately, if you asked Wolfie to take you to the trophy houses, you'd now have a selection (albeit a small one) from which to choose. According to John Hopf, owner of the Black Rock Cafe, this was not the case until recently. Hopf has lived on Block Island since 1996, and while the island's overall attitude is still more ripped T-shirt than pressed polo, in that time he's seen a slow movement toward Vineyardization in new home construction. "Christopher Walken was the first one to break the million-dollar mark a few years ago, and since then it's been broken many times," Hopf says. "In the past couple of years, the big money from New York and New Jersey has started to come out to build. This is still a middle-class vacation spot—Block Island isn't filled with Kennedy wannabes—but it's starting to get really expensive."

Hopf also reports that most of the traffic to Block Island comes from the south, rather than from the Boston area. "Right now it's mostly a New York phenomenon. When people from Boston head south, they take a left onto the Cape, even though it's quicker to come here."

Only the future will tell if the Christopher Walken contingent harkens a coming age of Armani boutiques and pet massage on Block Island. Hopefully it won't, but in the meantime, head south out of the city some weekend. And take satisfaction in not making that left turn. **iB**

Useful Block Island digits and Web sites

Pt. Judith-Block Island Ferry (401-783-4613), *www.blockislandferry.com*

Island Hi-Speed Ferry (877-733-9425), *www.islandhighspeedferry.com*

Aldo's Mopeds and Bikes (401-466-5018)

Wolfie's Taxi Service (401-466-5550)

www.cajun-hot-stick.com

The National Hotel Tap and Grille (401-466-2901), *www.blockislandhotels.com*

Block Island Chamber of Commerce (401-466-2982)

New England Airlines, Westerly, R.I. (401-596-2460)

Resort Air charter flights (800-683-9330 or 401-466-2000)



You can get crafts at the Scarlet Begonia and a game of darts at McGovern's Yellow Kittens Tavern.





The Spirit of Boston cruises daily from the World Trade Center.

MAKE WAVES Block alternatives: Five boat trips from Boston

See Bermuda on the Norwegian Majesty
If you've got $2,000, you've got a ticket on a weeklong cruise from Boston to Bermuda. Norwegian Cruise Lines, Boston Harbor. Ships sail every Sunday at 4pm. Prices start at $1,564. (800) 327-7030; *www.norwegiancruiselines.com*

Explore Boston Harbor Islands State Park
A ferry takes you to the Boston Harbor Islands State Park, which has fabulous ruins and trails to explore (plus all the modern conveniences of civilization for a picnic). Boston Harbor Cruises. Take Blue Line to Long Wharf. The ferry runs every two hours from 10am to 4pm. $8/adults; $7/seniors & students; $6/children. 227-4321; *www.bostonharborcruises.com*

Board the Provincetown Express
A 90-minute catamaran ride whisks you away from the commotion of Boston to the tranquility of Provincetown. Stay overnight; you've earned it. Bay State Cruise Company. Leaves from the World Trade Center in the Seaport District. Departs Boston at 8am and 5:30pm; departs Provincetown at 10am and 7:30pm. Adults:-$28/one way, $49/round trip; seniors:-$20/one way, $39/round trip. 227-432; *www.boston-ptown.com/ferry.html*

Catch the Spirit of Boston
How about a two-hour cruise with lunch, or a three hour dinner cruise around Boston Harbor? Have a lobster, enjoy a Caribbean-themed ride or catch the sunset on the water. Spirit Cruises. Leaves from the World Trade Center in the Seaport District. Lunch, Mon.-Sun.12-2pm. Individual and group events/rates available. 748-1499; *www.spiritcruises.com/boston/location.asp*

Boston Harbor Sailing Club
Sailboats to match every taste, and priced accordingly. If the weather is good, and the wind is blowing right, this hands-on experience is hard to beat. Marina at Rowe's Wharf. Rentals run from $25/hour to $119/hour. 720-0049; *www.by-the-sea.com/bhsclub* —*Jonathan Bender*

LEFT: FRANK MULLIN (2)

OUT AND ABOUT

boston's best spots for outdoor sports



Cycling/Running/Skating







● One of the city's best routes is the 18-mile path from the Museum of Science to Watertown Square along the Charles River.

● For a peaceful excursion, head to the Arnold Arboretum (524-5980) in Jamaica Plain.

● The hearty can run or bicycle six miles back from JP along the Emerald Necklace trail from Franklin Park to the Boston Public Garden.

● Dorchester's Franklin Park (635-4505) has 4.5 miles of paved paths in the woods.

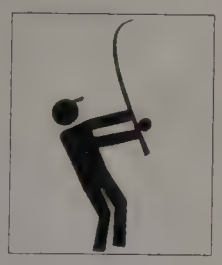
● The Fens trail from Fenway Drive and Brookline Avenue runs past the MFA and then back along Park Avenue to Brookline Avenue for a pleasant 2-mile loop.

● Chestnut Hill Reservoir has an enjoyable 1.5-mile course with great views of the reservoir and Boston College.

● Jamaica Pond offers incredible scenic views (and a refreshment stand!).

● The Inline Club of Boston (781-932-5457) holds weekly skates through downtown Boston on Tuesdays until the end of October. Meet at the Hatch Shell at 7pm.

Fishing

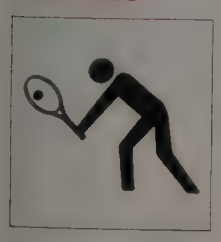


● The Brookline Reservoir on Route 9 is also home to largemouth bass and tons of sunnies.

● At Jamaica Pond on the Jamaicaway, it's hard to keep bait on your hook in this fully stocked lake (trout, bass and perch).

● For ocean fishing, try the John J. McCorkle Fishing Pier on Day Boulevard (on the back side of Castle Island) or Carson Beach Fishing Pier (in front of the Bayside Expo Center) for bass and bluefish. Call 800-ASK-FISH for statewide fishing information.

Tennis



Grab a racket and head to any of these MDC (727-1300) courts.

● Tenean Beach on Conley Street, Dorchester. One court. Open dawn to dusk.

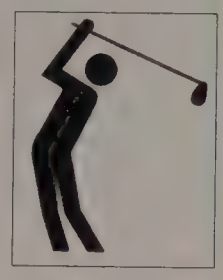
● North End Park, Commercial Street, North End, Boston. Two courts. Open dawn to dusk.

● Marine Park, Day Boulevard (near M Street Beach), South Boston. One lighted court. Open dawn to 11 pm.

● Charlesbank Park, Charles Street, West End (near Hatch Shell). Four lighted courts. Open dawn to 11 pm.

● Southwest Corridor Park (along the Orange Line, near Copley Square). Five lighted courts. Open dawn to 11 pm.

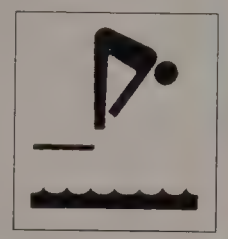
Golf



● William J. Devine Golf Course in Franklin Park, Dorchester (265-4084)

● Fresh Pond Golf Course, 691 Huron Ave., Cambridge (349-6282)

Pools



● Brighton/Allston Pool, North Beacon St., Brighton (254-2965)

● McCrehan Memorial Pool, Rindge Ave., Cambridge (354-9381)

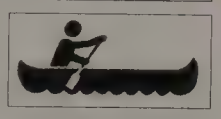
● Veterans Memorial Pool, Memorial Drive, Cambridge (354-9381)

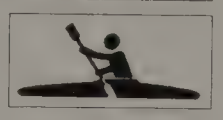
● Latta Brothers Memorial Pool, McGrath Highway, Somerville (623-9174)

● Reilly Memorial Pool, Cleveland Circle, Brighton (277-7822)

Water Sports







● Boston Harbor Sailing Club (345-9202) on Rowes Wharf is the largest sailing school in New England.

● At the Jamaica Pond Project (522-6258) on the Jamaicaway you can boat on the pond.

● Over on Lewis Wharf, Boston Sailing Center (227-4198) offers top-notch instruction and boats.

● Courageous Sailing Center (242-3821) in Charlestown is a great place to rent a sailboat—if you don't mind dodging oil tankers off the Navy Yard.

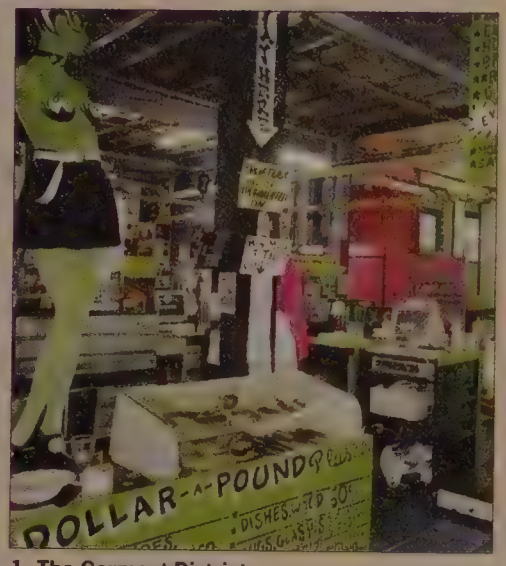
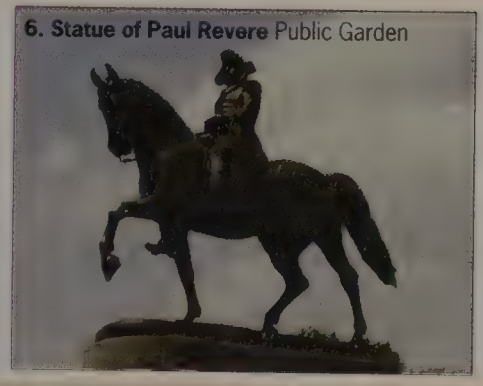
● Piers Park Sailing Center (561-6677) in East Boston has a membership fee, but you get unlimited use of its fleet.

● Community Boating (523-1038), which is near the Hatch Shell, is the country's oldest program. It's a great deal if you want to go sailing, windsurfing, kayaking or canoeing. **iB**

ALTERNATE ROUTES

For those seeking a more creative destination

When you've got guests coming, there's certainly nothing wrong with taking them to the tried-and-true tourist attractions. But if you're getting tired of the same ol' predictable thing, why not mix it up a bit and take your visitors someplace you haven't been to yet?

When they want to do this:	Why not try this:
 **1. Filene's Basement** 426 Washington St., 348-7900; *www.filenesbasement.com*	 **1. The Garment District** 200 Broadway, Cambridge; 876-5230; *www.garment-district.com*
2. A Harbor Cruise Long Wharf, near the North End	**2. Canoe rental at Charles River Canoe & Kayak** Soldiers Field Road; 462-2513
3. The Prudential Observation Tower Copley Square; 572-6429	**3. The Washington Tower at the Mount Auburn Cemetery** 580 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge; 547-7105
4. A Duck Tour 790 Boylston St., Plaza Level; 800-226-7442 *www.bostonducktours.com*	**4. Touring Boston by bike** Boston Bike Tours, kiosk on Boston Common, 308-5902; Bike Boston, by reservation, 547-2453
5. The Freedom Trail Boston Common; 227-8800; *www.thefreedomtrail.org*	**5. The Emerald Necklace** For a map, see *www.emeraldnecklace.org*.
6. Statue of Paul Revere Public Garden 	**6. New England Holocaust Memorial** Congress Street, near Faneuil Hall; *www.nehm.com* 
7. The Bull & Finch Tavern (Cheers) 84 Beacon St., 227-9605	**7. The Littlest Bar** 47 Province Street; Boston; 523-9766
8. The Blue Man Group Charles Playhouse; 74 Warrenton St., 426-6912	**8. I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change** Stuart Street Playhouse; 200 Stuart Street; 800-447-7400
9. The New England Aquarium Central Wharf; 973-5200; *wwwneaq.org*	**9. Fish Tanks at the Imperial Seafood Restaurant** 70-72 Beach Street; 426-8439.
10. Museum of Fine Art 465 Huntington Ave., 267-9300; *www.mfa.org*	**10. The Museum of Bad Art** 580 High Street, Dedham; 325-8224.

FILENE'S: RACHEL BROMBERG; GARMENT DISTRICT AND HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN


In
the
Garden

of Good and Evil

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER



Previous spread: Missoni striped bikini with sequins, $337. Available at Saks Fifth Avenue. Sal Sol dark blue string bikini with flowers, $58. Available at Jasmine Sola. This page: Calvin Klein floral-print bathing suit, $116. Available at Saks Fifth Avenue.

Yellow Bi[illegible]
$162. Avail[illegible]

Model: [illegible]

[illegible]
Saks Fifth [illegible]
125 Broad [illegible]
443-86[illegible]

Makeup: Jennifer Br[illegible]

Saks Fifth Avenue
Prudential Cen[illegible]
262-[illegible]500

Jasmine S[illegible]
344 Newbury Street
867-4636

Suits you

Tracking the swimsuit trends of the season

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

It's the must-have clothing item of the season, and it instills pure fear in every one of us who isn't a would-be supermodel. We're talking, of course, of the bathing suit. Lucky for you, there are so many figure fixers this year that you will be the envy of all of those shy creatures who didn't have the foresight to do their research.

For men, I offer some basic advice: Don't go for the familiar pair of plain green swim trunks with elastic waistband and no character. Look for something that actually flatters you. For guys with nice abs, go for short, straight trunks. They have a distinctive European cut, but are not quite as revealing as a Speedo. Burberry's, H+M and Armani Exchange have a great selection of this trunk type. If you are too modest to wear such a revealing suit, try a pair of long swim trunks. This style looks best on taller men (and is also good for diverting attention from a ballooning beer belly). Finally, if you are totally averse to a stylistic change, try to find a pair of swim trunks with a nice design on them, like the ones we found at Polo Sport.

Women, who are generally more receptive to sartorial trends, are often downright neurotic when it comes to selecting swimwear. But follow these basic guidelines, and your annual swimwear-buying spree will be a breeze. For women with large hips, choose a skirt suit. For breast enhancing, the halter-top suit has made a comeback; it gives you a nice lift if you need it and creates some much wanted cleavage for smaller-breasted women. The bandeau top is a holdover from last year but is still a favorite. This style draws attention to your upper body, thus making it a popular style for women who are not happy with their lower regions. The strapless one-piece makes just about everyone look taller and slimmer—although it's not terribly practical for swimming.

Thanks to Charlie's Angels, designers are showing asymmetrical suits with only one shoulder strap that give an interesting twist to the one-piece. And, the blouson bathing suit (this looks like a blouse that's cinched at the waist with a swim bottom) hides just about everything, making it the most practical suit this season. And finally, for the trendiest suit, I'm a big fan of the one-piece with a plummet neckline. Just about every designer is showing this style, and it is already flying off the racks.

For all of the suits featured here, there is bound to be a matching tank and sarong. This year, buy the set and you will be ready to jump from the beach to the bar or club and look as stylish as ever. So there you have it: Now get out there and get shopping before the first big beach day hits. iB

Photographed by Andrew Swaine
Models: Heather and T.R. for Click Models of Boston
Hair: Charles Maksou
Makeup: Jennifer Brown for Maksou

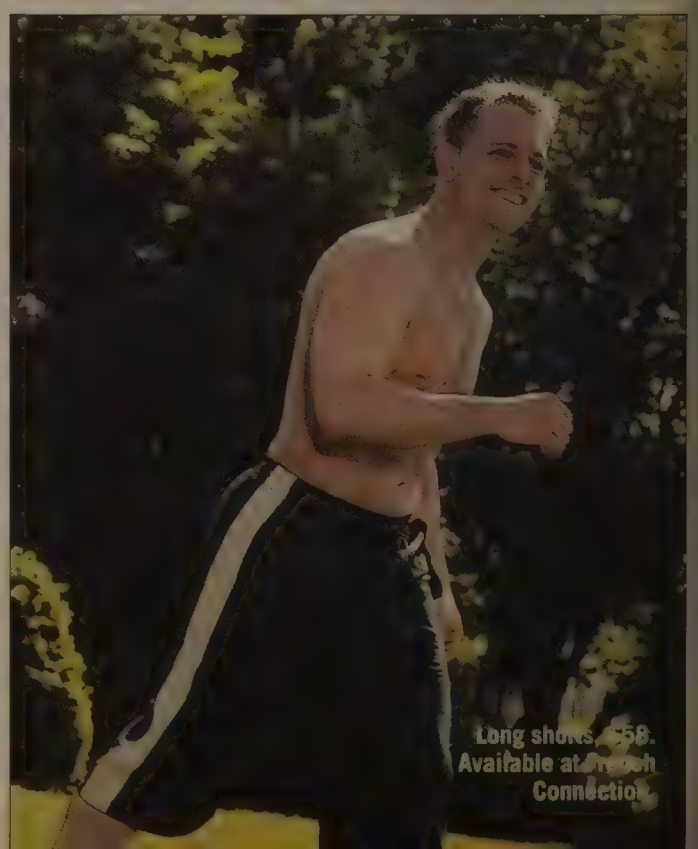

Pink and red halter-top tie bikini, $103. Available at Leila.


Dark gray board shorts, $65. Available at Armani Exchange.


Light-blue bathing trunks with dolphins, $45. Available at Polo Sport.


Jantzen blue polka-dot bandeau bikini top, $36. Blue polka-dot bikini bottom, $3[illegible]. Both available at Filene's.


Pink and yellow striped bikini with [illegible]


Long shorts, $58. Available at [illegible] Connection

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JODI LOOKS RAVISHING IN CHANEL TINT NATUREL FOUNDATION IN FAWN, $50; CHANEL LIP GLOSS IN SPARK, $23.50; CHANEL SCULPTING MASCARA IN BROWN, $21; CHANEL BLUSH IN CAPRICE, $38.50; CHANEL SHADOW LIGHTS EYESHADOW IN DAYLIGHT ROSE, $25. HER HAIR WAS SWEPT UP IN A CASUAL UPDO BY CHARLES MAKSOU— PERFECT FOR HOT SUMMER NIGHTS.

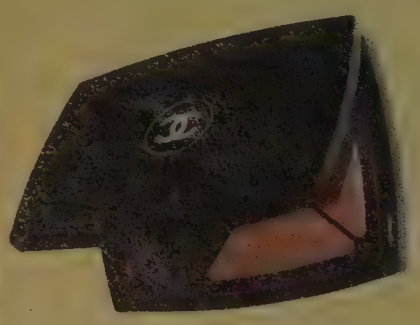
Foxy Lady






JODI WORKS IT IN NARS GEL FRAICHURE FOUNDATION IN ALASKA, $30; NARS BLUSH IN PASSION, $20; NARS EYESHADOW SINGLE IN FUJI, $17; NARS MASCARA IN BLACK ORCHID, $19; NARS BORNEO LIPLINER, $16.50; NARS LIPSTICK IN NIAGRA, $21; NARS LIPGLOSS IN BABE, $20. FOR CAMERA-READY HAIR ON JODI, CHARLES MAKSOU BLOW DRIED IT STRAIGHT AND USED A SMALL AMOUNT OF SAHAG DRY OIL FOR SHINE AND DEFINITION.

EDITOR'S PICKS



Powder bronzer is great for the summertime to give your face a kick of color. The problem that most people have is finding one that looks natural. Chanel has answered our needs by offering Bronze Perfection, four wonderful shades of golden color, suitable to give anyone's complexion a hint of sun. $57.50, available at the Chanel Boutique.

Jody Applegate of Fox 25 News at 4:30 shows off the season's hair and makeup looks

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRACY POWELL

On June 4, a new show will grace the screen by way of Fox 25. This unique show is called *Fox 25 News at 4:30*. The name is not all that punchy but I assure you, the talent will keep you interested. Jodi Applegate, formerly of NBC's *Weekend Today Show* has it all. She's beautiful, with flawless skin, and if that's not enough, the fair Jodi has the comedic charm of a cast member of *Ally McBeal*.

When asked about her beauty philosophy, Jodi says that she prefers the natural look. "I have to wear so much makeup on television that when I am off air, I like to keep it simple." Jodi focuses on skin care and prefers Elizabeth Arden clarifying masque to rid her face of impurities and leave her skin glowing. She also told us that her secret to a perfect complexion is avoiding sun exposure. As far as makeup is concerned, Jodi likes natural hues like Bobby Brown's summer collection and uses lipstick as a cream blush.

We are sure that Fox 25 News at 4:30 will be a hit, and Jodi will steal the show. But, may we suggest a more appropriate name? We like *The Jodi Show*. iB

EDITOR'S PICKS



Fresh has introduced a bath soak using the all-natural ingredients, sake and rice, to improve your skin. Sake has been used for many years by geishas as an all-purpose tool to exfoliate, smooth, detoxify and regenerate. Pick some up at Fresh on Newbury Street for $75.

PRODUCTS: STEPHANIE MCGILL

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★★★½
-Boston Globe

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

SCOOTING UP

To get your Sidewalker scooter for grown-ups (or smaller ones for kids ages 3 and up), call 888-810-1308. The average price is about $329.

With SUVs taking up all the parking spots and scads of kids jamming up the sidewalks with their scooters, what's a grown-up in-a-hurry to do? Well, a full-sized body needing to get from here to there in no time at all can now scoot around with the youngest and zippiest of them. Introducing the Sidewalkers. Very possibly the rogue offspring of the VW Bug, the new scooters are sleek, chic and able to accommodate the height and weight of an adult. Made of chrome, they've got hand brakes, pneumatic wheels and the ability to be folded, which greatly increases their bring-into-the-office allure. The sight of a tall, indeed middle-aged person, commute-scooting still causes a sensation, and one Sidewalker user who travels three miles to work has discovered that she can actually coast the last mile leading from Central to Harvard Square. And the scooter's style is just so sexy, with a colorful chrome snake connecting the sometimes-red wheels. On the little kids' models, the frames may be covered in playful splattery grass green or free-form Dalmation spots.





POTTERING AROUND

Clayroom, at 1154 Mass. Ave. in Cambridge (617-354-8111) is a paint-your-own pottery studio for all ages. $8 per hour, plus the price of the piece. Courses offered.

You have to see the contagion of merriment that buzzes around the Clayroom as groups of friends go about exuberantly choosing their plain white, chalky-bisque plates, bowls and cups for their painting project. Then they settle down like happy campers—whatever their ages—and begin to transform the modest plainness of the pottery into calypsos of color, fun and originality. By painting and writing on a Clayroom pottery piece (which include light-switch covers, big bowls, ready-wired lamps, fat little animals, tiles and much more) you can cast into stone the most idiosyncratic message—nicknames, jokes, affectionate greetings, possibly embedded in a commemorative plate for a wedding or graduation.

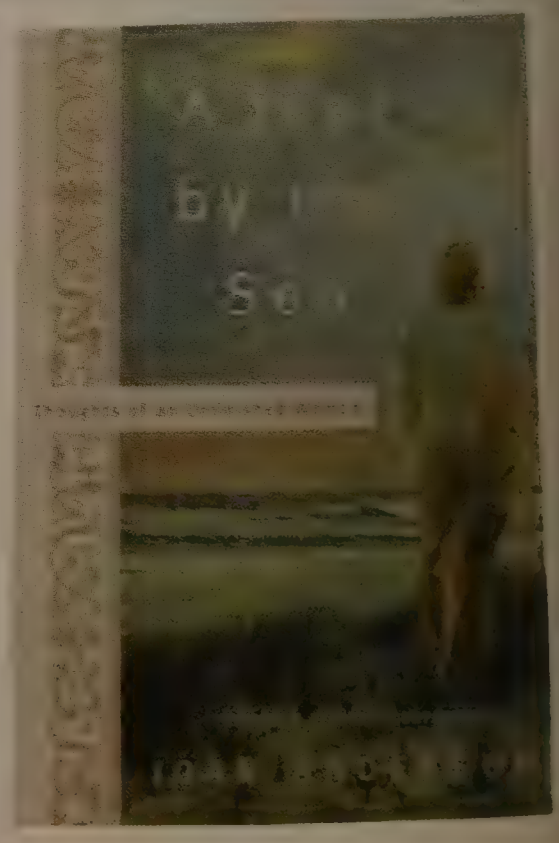
The firing process makes your painting, doodling and writing look thrillingly vivid and professional, but in a homey way. Books of patterns, designs and even stencils spark inspiration, and impressively varied pieces by the store's arty staff demonstrate the array of artistic endeavors that are possible. Pottery parties—for kids or even groups of bridesmaids—can turn into riotous painting bees (incidentally, amid beautiful views slicing down small Cambridge streets). Paintbrushes, squeeze bottles, pencils: Voilà! You're pottery's own Picasso.

A YEAR OF ONE'S OWN

Joan Anderson's book, *A Year by the Sea*, which is now in paperback, follows a married woman through a year of solitary reflection on the Cape.

Married for many years and in the spirit of stuckness and quandary about the meaning of her relationship with her husband, Joan Anderson approached the occasion of her husband's new job elsewhere as a chance to go elsewhere herself. Specifically, she retreated to their cottage on the Cape, off-season, for her marriage sabbatical. Tipping her hat to Anne Morrow Lindbergh's *A Gift from the Sea*, Anderson returned to her more essential self, living in greater sync with the rhythms of nature, while moving outside the confines of what she saw as "roles" imposed by the world. She also made friends with the shamanistically supportive Joan Erikson, wife of psychologist Erik Erikson.

Clamming, working in a fish store, watching seals flip over ("The once-velvety blanket that covered the beach comes to life. Thud, thud."), Anderson invites the unfinished and the unknown while shedding her familiar social constraints. The privileged women who buy fish from her, now viewed from the other side of her self-created divide, seem to be "kept women." Itchiness, ambivalence and shifting affectionate nostalgia characterize her feelings toward her husband, but their eventual reconnection also suggests an interestingly different "second marriage" between them.



TOP RIGHT: WENDY MIMRAN; SCOOTER: RACHEL BROMBERG

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in this section:
Review: Julien
Dish: Upstairs at the Pudding's "I do two"
Wine: Spanish white wines
Tasty Tidbit: Eat's Cast Iron Chef event

REVIEW

Dining on Occasion

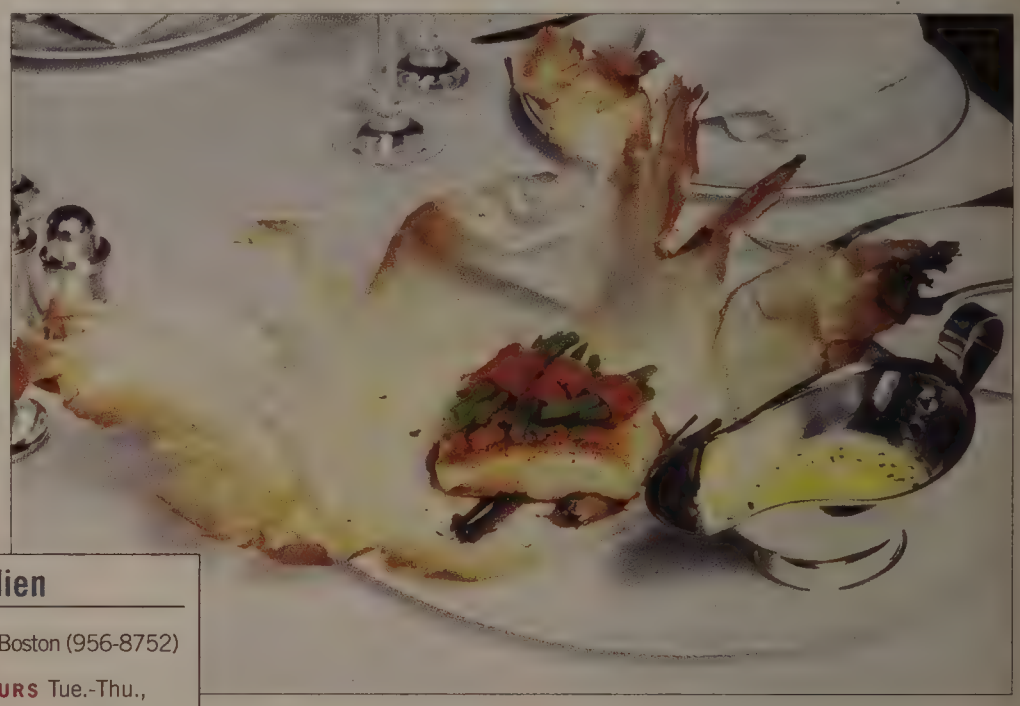
For those special meals, Le Meridien's Julien brings impeccable service to the table

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

With the recent demise of the Ritz Dining Room, only a handful of truly luxurious hotel restaurants remain in Boston for the perfect celebratory dinner. An important job promotion, an advanced degree, a milestone birthday or anniversary—these are events that cry out for the kind of gastronomic tour de force that one expects and receives at a serious French restaurant. At such times, the aggressive prices of places like Le Meridien's Julien seem less intimidating. And at its best, Julien performs superbly, delivering real value for its hefty tariffs.

Julien's physical setting is stunning. The magnificent old Federal Reserve Bank building, across from Post Office Square, provides a fitting venue for a serious dining experience: limestone and marble; balustraded balcony; regally high ceiling; comfortable, high-back wing chairs; and elegant, upholstered Victorian settees facing outward from a voluptuous flower arrangement that dominates the center of the dining room. At tables set with crisp, white tablecloths and adorned with a motherlode of silver, you can kick back and wait to be pampered while listening to the lilting melodies that emanate from the grand piano in the handsome, coffered-ceiling cocktail lounge a few steps up.

Good things to eat begin to come immediately, when a server brings a huge basket containing an assortment of excellent breads from HiRise Bakery in Cambridge. The bread could be a meal in itself—crusty semolina rolls that resemble tiny boules, crunchy peasant white and rye, sourdough and potato rolls with raisin nut on one night and fruit pecan on another.



Julien

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SUMMER HOURS Tue.-Thu., 6-9:30; Fri.-Sat., 6-10pm; closed Sun. and Mon.

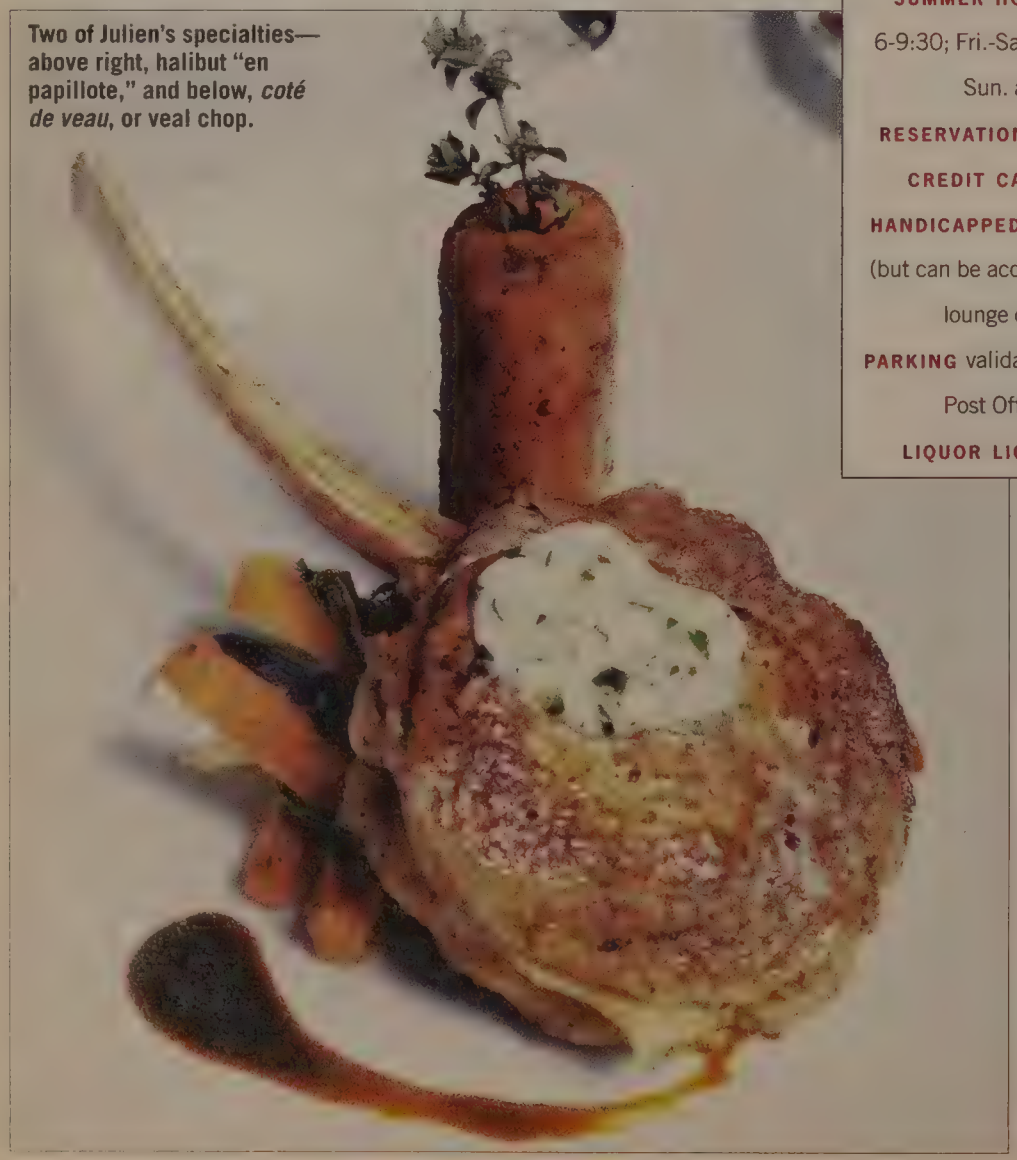
RESERVATIONS recommended

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE no (but can be accommodated in the lounge or the cafe)

PARKING validated parking in One Post Office Square

LIQUOR LICENSE full bar



Two of Julien's specialties—above right, halibut "en papillote," and below, *coté de veau*, or veal chop.

Julien's menu is daunting, both in physical size and price. Appetizers range from $9 to $19, and main courses from $24 (pasta) to $39 (lobster). There are garnishes offered à la carte for $6.50, but they are wholly superfluous since the main courses come with substantial ones. Julien also offers a five-course fixed-price menu for $68, which turned out to be a real bargain one night because it contained two of the principal menu's highest-priced offerings.

For appetizers, the lemon-scented ravioli ($10) was first rate. Four tender pasta pillows filled with ricotta cheese swam in a delicate sauce of corn, scallions, black truffles and herbs. Tender and fresh, the ravioli were intriguingly delicious. Foie gras "trois styles" ($19) consisted of a tranche of foie gras terrine with a tangy rhubarb, sauterne gelee, a sautéed lobe of foie gras with sweet onion jam, and a slice of foie gras brioche, in which rendered foie gras took the place of butter.

Main courses included a perfectly prepared halibut "en papillote" ($34). While our server had a difficult time liberating this wedge of firm, white-fleshed fish from its parchment shroud, the effort was worth it. The sauce of roasted fennel, dried orange and saffron, and a sprightly garnish of crisp fried slivers of leek, showed that Julien's kitchen knows how to enhance and not overwhelm a good piece of fresh fish.

One of Julien's pricier main courses was the cote de veau, or veal chop ($38). This thick, succulent carnivore's delight was accompanied by a sautéed cylinder of whipped potatoes and a medley of vegetables, including carrots and fennel. While the vegetables were on the undercooked side of al dente, the veal, served on the bone, was tender. The herb- roasted rack of lamb ($36) was not quite as successful. The three thick chops were rare and juicy, but their strong flavor betokened a creature more mature than we had anticipated. The herbed crust, in which Dijon mustard seemed to predominate, added little. The vegetable accompaniment, truffled parsnip rosti (like a potato pancake), ragout of favas, black trumpet mushrooms and leeks, was entirely too busy, with flavors and textures that coexisted uneasily.

Our favorite main course was also one of the least expensive, the ballotine of spring chicken ($29). Three delicious cylinders of



The elegant dining room of Julien serves as the perfect backdrop for pampering, proposing or pondering.

tender, succulent chicken stuffed with a pesto of wild garlic and basil were served with an extraordinary sweet pea and chanterelle risotto. The tantalizingly sweet, herbaceous flavor of the peas and the enticingly resilient texture of the chanterelle mushrooms in combination with the flawless consistency of the risotto were outstanding. This was simply one of the best chicken dishes we have encountered in some time.



The chefs of Julien, from left: pastry chef Christophe Feyt, chef du cuisine Brian Corbley and executive chef Mark Sapienza.

Surprisingly, the two desserts ($9.50) we tried did not measure up to what preceded them. The dessert aux trois chocolat, consisting of a coffee chocolate *pot de crème*, a cocoa sorbet *mille feuille* and a milk chocolate Sacher terrine, varied from the excellent pot de crème to the forgettable sorbet. Better, but curiously flawed, was a special pistachio soufflée, for which, the menu advised, one must allow 20 minutes' preparation time. The soufflée, rising a full 3 inches above the ramekin, was a delight to the eye and a pleasantly flavored treat, but the promised "bittersweet chocolate sauce" turned out to be neither bitter nor particularly chocolate. In fact, it had the color and pale flavor of weak cocoa. It hardly did justice to the well-executed soufflée. Fortunately, the array of *friandises* in the form of truffles and tiny tarts that were brought on an elegant silver *étagère*, or multi-tiered serving piece, at the conclusion of the meal made up for any disappointment with the dessert proper.

Service at Julien was impeccable. On a busy Saturday night our waiter was both attentive and unobtrusive, seeming to recognize our needs and desires at a glance before we even thought of articulating them. He was most knowledgeable about the kitchen's offerings and conveyed his knowledge with grace and tact—a far cry from all too many waiters in upscale establishments. On a subsequent weekday night, when the ornate dining room was almost empty but for a handful of parties, the service fell off a bit. Because of the dearth of patrons, the waiter seemed to hover, returning to the table every few minutes to add another comment or bit of information about what we were eating.

Finally, while I would be the last to complain about gifts freely bestowed, we thought that Julien did not put its best foot forward with the *amuse bouche* (an appetizer that is served gratis by the restaurant to amuse the *bouche*, or mouth). On a recent Saturday night, it was a somewhat dry, coarse half of sea scallop that arrived refrigerator-cold. Nor did it distinguish itself with the extra dessert brought on another evening just as the soufflée was finishing. The confection had apparently rested in the fridge long enough to cause it to adhere to the plate.

As I paid the checks at Julien, I pondered the appropriateness of its location in an old bank building. To dine here regularly would require either owning the bank or the building. Refinement and luxury do not come cheap, however, and at its best Julien indeed delivers refinement and luxury, pampering professional service and elegant surroundings. iB



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DISH

Up Stairs Where?... Sweet Dreams

Luck and the Good Life BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Given their public personas—their characteristically exuberant, passionate embrace of all that they have held dear through two decades at **Up Stairs at the Pudding**—it comes as a shock to realize that co-owners **Mary-Catherine Deibel** and chef **Deborah Hughes** are saving themselves for a real commitment.

"We're holding out," says Deibel, of the couple's vow of silence regarding plans for their new location. "We think it would be better to wait."

It is, of course, a very personal decision. We respect that, but we're running low on patience. The lease is up, and the Pudding proprietresses are out as of June 17. Will they stay in Harvard Square, or at least in Cambridge? Will they keep their name, or change it in accordance with a new geographic relationship (Up Stairs at Abercrombie & Fitch)? And what kind of difference will it make in the long run? After all, the name is valuable, but it's the Pudding experience that's priceless.

CARRIAGE-TURNED-PUMPKIN STORY

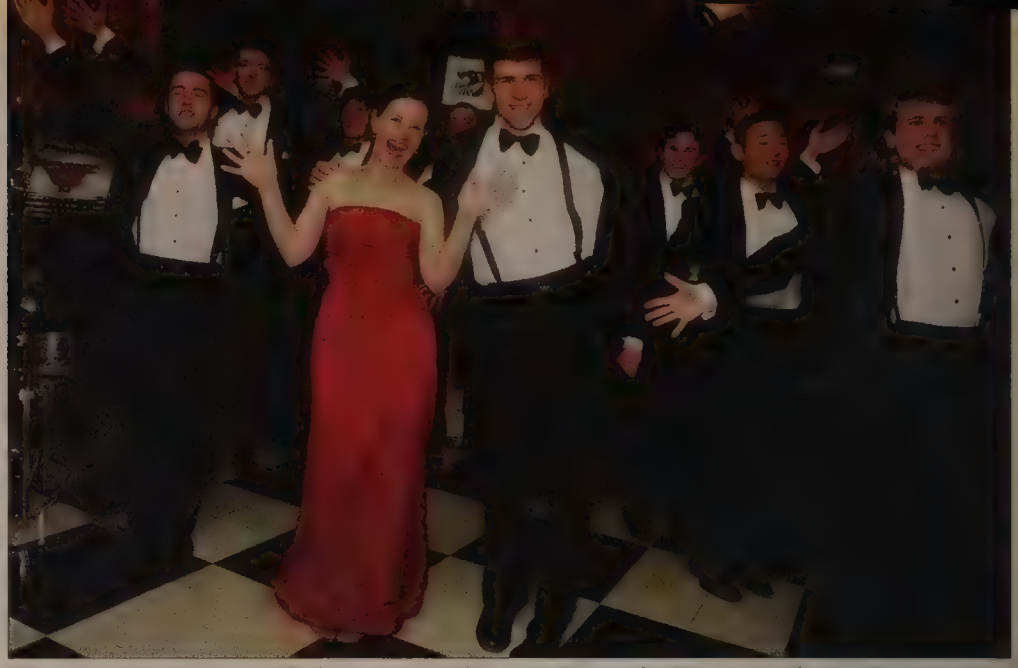
Whither **Zita**? The oft-told tale of **The Federalist** bartender and the Swiss banker who wrote a princely check to finance her dream restaurant has no happily-ever-after ending, but reports of Zita's demise may be premature.

"There's still definitely a chance" of the restaurant opening, says **Gwen Butler**. "It's not dead."

But it's certainly in critical condition. And at a distance, it's easy to look askance at the well-funded ruins of a dream Butler now describes as "my worst nightmare." Yet, even as she relates her story of broken friendship, mysterious expenditures and squandered opportunity, she exudes an ingenuous, bubbly charm that makes it clear why an utter stranger would want to make her lifelong dream come true.

Now, the dream depends on attracting enough money for six more weeks of construction. In today's economy, "it's difficult to find people to invest" in a restaurant, says Butler. Still more difficult was the bitter end of Butler's relationship with her best friend, whom she'd chosen to be her contractor.

If she could do it all over again, she says, "I wouldn't have mixed friends with business. And it taught me not to believe anyone—everyone is full of it until they prove otherwise. And that's the opposite of the way I've always been."



"I Do" Two: On May 24, Up Stairs at the Pudding hosted a reunion of former brides and grooms (including Stephanie Mitchell, above) who were married at the restaurant.

Because she declined to draw her agreed-upon salary during the past year, and bills must be paid, Butler is now tending bar at **Aquitaine** in the South End. Isn't that awkward? Not for Gwen Butler.

"I love working in restaurants; that's what I want to do with my life," she says with enthusiasm. So will this Cinderella story, with all its colorful characters—the dashing stranger-turned-hero, the trusted friend-turned-villain, the irrepressible red-headed optimist—finally culminate in a restaurant? If not, watch for *Zita*, the TV miniseries.

INCOMING/OUTGOING

After doing his utmost to make a success of the restaurant formerly, and most recently, known as **St. Botolph**, restaurateur **Brian O'Neill** has sold the strategically located, yet unaccountably success-resistant, South End property. Talented but temporarily unlucky executive chef Brian Hill is traveling overseas for several weeks before he returns to open his own place.

As for O'Neill, he has more than one life to live: He's hired **Keith Maurizio**, most recently executive chef at **Redbones** in Somerville, as corporate chef for **The Good Life** pair of restaurant/jazz bars, to lay the groundwork for bringing new Life to more Boston-area locations, and perhaps even nationally. Get a Life, Little Rock! iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

An Introduction to Spanish Whites BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

When I recently revisited Spain on a wine-buying trip, I was struck once again by the rugged natural beauty of the mountainous terrain in the country's Northwest, the distinctiveness of Galician gastronomy and the uniqueness of the Basque cultural landscape in general. But what surprised me most was how interesting many of the white wines tasted.

Spain is solidly and forever in my mind red wine country. My first experiences drinking the country's adult white beverages were memorably unpleasant: oxidized, hazy, bitter and lacking grace or liveliness. The best were simply inoffensive. Many of the rustically styled reds, on the other hand, were shockingly good, unknown except to local enthusiasts and therefore downright cheap. But so much has changed in Spain's dynamic wine industry during the past few decades that red wines from now fashionable regions are no longer even remotely bargains, and they have been joined by an exciting new array of modern white wines, particularly those originating from indigenous varieties in the Northwest.

The regions producing these wines and the grape varieties from which they're made are hardly household words in the United States. They'll require a search of the more adventurous local wine shops, but in my opinion they are well worth tasting. Spain has experimented a bit more than its neighbor Portugal in planting grapes from other countries, and there is some very fine Sauvignon Blanc growing in Rueda, but the most interesting wines seem to be made from local varieties. If there is an outstanding feature that unites the following three grape varieties, it is a common flowery aroma and a bright, distinctively fruity flavor. The best are wines made to a world-class standard that are just waiting to be discovered.

Godello, which is primarily grown in Valdeorras, is the grape whose aroma and general style I find most attractive. The best are light, pale green in color, with a cool, sleek aromatic profile: lime, green leaves, sweet aromatic spices. On the palate Godello is soft and mellow but with crisp balancing acids. It's mild in texture, with a feathery lightness, and the flavors are fresh, invigoratingly ripe and verging on sweetness (although there is not even a trace of sugar). The finish, so important in terms of complementing food, is exciting as well: long and spicy. So this has become one of my new favorites for an all-purpose white wine with seafood. And it's usually available at between $10 and $12.

Albariño as a grape is much better known than Godello, as it has been discussed and promoted as a high-quality wine for the past decade from its point of origin in the Galician region of Rías Baixas. Why do some authorities on Spanish wine consider it the country's premiere white grape? A stunning combination of richness and brilliant peachy, blossomy fruit aromas. Good Albariño will taste less sharp and acidic than Godello, and for that reason it can have a creamier texture to go along with the often dazzling fruit bouquet. Unfortunately, because of the grape's near cult status, there has been a rash of new plantings, and I have tasted some Rias Baixas Albariño that is a bit on the thin and diluted side. Also, because of the low acidity, there is a tendency for the wine to oxidize after a few years in the bottle. So while there are notable exceptions, in general with Spanish Albariño you get what you pay for, and the $15 to $25 bottles are that much more exciting and pure than those that retail for $10 to $15. This is a wine that is a great aperitif and can complement earthy vegetable dishes as well as grilled fish admirably.

The last of the trio is a grape named Verdejo, which is primarily grown in the region of Rueda. Some consider this Spain's most classic white wine because of its tendency to combine bracingly sharp acids with luscious fruit and a steely, lingering aftertaste. Even more so than with Albariño, it's important to catch the Verdejo-based wines of Rueda young and fresh. The best are incredibly exciting when first released, but they can oxidize and lose freshness prematurely. Verdejo is often blended with Viura, and the name on the label to look for is "Rueda Superior" rather than the grape name. It is also easier on the budget than Albariño. Because it has a tendency to be fuller on the palate than the other two wines, Verdejo can make a nice match for lobster or crab. iB

WENDY MIMRAN

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

A Bourbon Street Bash
Jordan's Furniture, One Under Price Way, Natick (876-0079). June 10, 7-10pm. The American Institute of Wine & Food throws this fundraiser catered by Greater Boston restaurants at Jordan's Furniture.

Clio Anniversary Dinner
Clio, Eliot Hotel, 270A Commonwealth Ave., Boston (536-7200). June 12, 7pm. $125. Chef **Ken Oringer** and Canadian guest chefs **Susur Lee** and **Normand Laprise** will prepare a six-course dinner to celebrate the restaurant's fourth anniversary.

Community Servings Benefit
Up Stairs at the Pudding, 10 Holyoke St., Cambridge (445-7777). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 10, 5-9pm. $50. Join co-owners **Deborah Hughes** and **Mary-Catherine Deibel** as they say goodbye to their Holyoke Street location at this benefit for Community Servings.

Dessert and Wine Pairing
The Federalist, 15 Beacon St., Boston (628-9658). MBTA: Green Line to Park. June 12. $45. Federalist pastry chef **Judy Mattera** and wine manager **Bruno Marini** host this dessert wine tasting sponsored by the Women Chefs & Restaurateurs Exchange.

Fleet Scooper Bowl
City Hall Plaza, Boston (632-3863). June 12-14, 11:30am-6pm. $5. Glut yourself with all-you-can-eat ice cream and be satisfied to know that all proceeds will go to the Jimmy Fund.

Food Project Benefit
Butterfish, 5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge (497-5511). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 18, 6-9pm. $40. Chef **Chris Bussell** will prepare delicacies using freshly harvested vegetables from the Food Project for this benefit.

Harpoon Brewstock 2001
Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-HARPOON). www.harpoonbrewery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Free shuttle to brewery. June 7-9.* Celebrate summer with the eighth annual beer and music festival.

Music in the Orchard
Nashoba Valley Winery, 100 Wattaquadoc Hill Road, Bolton (978-779-5521). June 9, 12-5pm. Feast on a barbecue, pick strawberries, relax with live music in the orchard or take a winery tour.

Regnard Wine Dinner
Julien, Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (956-8752). June 13, 7pm. $85. Chef **Mark Sapienza** prepares a four-course dinner paired with the wines of Regnard, one of the oldest and most prestigious vineyards in Chablis, France.

Second Saturday Brewery Dinner
Cambridge Brewing Company, One Kendall Square, Cambridge (494-1994). June 9, 6-10pm. $45. Chef **Chris Carlson** offers a five-course meal paired with five different brews. One of CBC's brewers will visit the table to discuss the beers.

Secrets of Saffron
Saffron, 279A Newbury St, Boston (247-4112). June 12, 4-6pm. Free. Author **Pat Willard** will be on hand to sign his new book, which celebrates "the haughtiest, most expensive and most mysterious of spices." Taste dishes prepared with saffron.

Viva Gazpacho
Copley Square, Boston (713-4440). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay. 12-2pm. Free. Lunchtime gets spiced up with a celebration of the flavor of Spain. Savor the flavor of España with free gazpacho, a salsa dancing competition and giveaways from Magic 106.

The Women's Lunch Place
California Pizza Kitchen, 137 Stuart St., Boston (342-5000). June 11, 6:30. $30. This benefit for the Women's Lunch Place includes a buffet of pizza, pasta, salad, dessert, wine and beer.

TASTY TIDBIT

THE CAST IRON CHEF

People who consider themselves devotees of the Food Network's *Iron Chef* show should head to Eat restaurant for the Cast Iron Guest Chef Challenge June 11. Chef Jason Santos of Tremont 647 will serve as the first contender in what Eat owner Charlie Robinson hopes will become a series of challenges throughout the year. When Santos arrives at noon on June 11, he'll be given a list of ingredients from which he must create a menu. "We probably won't throw in quail eggs or 10 pounds of eel," says Robinson. "Most likely it will be whatever's fresh, affordable and available that day." Nevertheless, the challenge is to determine "if a chef is made of cast iron—if he or she can cook from the hip," he adds. It's not a direct competition with other guest chefs, but the creations will be judged by the customers who order the food. "We'll give them a short questionnaire and ask them to rate the food on taste and appearance," Robinson says. And don't worry, there will be variety. "We won't serve a cauliflower as an appetizer and a main entree and then cauliflower ice cream for dessert," he says with a laugh. *Eat, 253 Washington St., Somerville (776-2889). June 11.*



Jason Santos of Tremont 647 will take the Cast Iron Guest Chef challenge at Eat restaurant June 11.

ITALA SOUZA



6th Avenue, 48x24 oil on panel by Sonya Sklaroff

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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 48

PERFORMING ARTS 50

ART 52

FILM 56

BOOKS & POETRY 60

EDUCATION 61

DANCE CLUBS 62

MUSIC 68

CLASSICAL MUSIC 76

GAY & LESBIAN 78

BODY & MIND 80

CHILDREN 80

SPORTS 80

AROUND TOWN 82

EDITED BY:

Erin Hagedorn

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

Julie Short

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports

improper picks



WED./JUNE 13—SAT. JUNE 16

Theater: Love Birds

More than 120 years after it was first performed, *Swan Lake* remains the quintessential ballet—an exquisite display of movement, emotion and music. And with the Royal Ballet performing it, you can't ask for a more beautiful rendition. For those unaware of the hierarchy of the ballet world, the London-based Royal Ballet is one of the most prestigious ballet companies, and the Royal Ballet Director Anthony Dowell makes the show leaps and bounds above the rest. The tragic tale of *Swan Lake* is based on a German fairy tale, an emotional story that gets right to the heart of human nature-good and eveil, beautiful and the ugly found in everyone. And of course, the story is set to Tchaikovsky's amazing score. The opening night (Wednesday) and Saturday night casts of Swan lake feature two of the ballet world's best rising stars, principal dancer Tamara Rojo as Odette/Odile and principle guest artist Carlos Acosta as Prince Siegfried. *Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). $45-$85.*

SUN./JUNE 17—SUN./JUNE 24

Music: Boston Globe Jazz & Blues Fest

For 30 years, the **Boston Globe Jazz & Blues Festival** has been supporting up-and-coming local musicians by providing venues around the city for these merrymakers to strut their stuff. Big-name artists have caught on, and this year's roster includes the following performers: Nancy Wilson and David Sanborn at the FleetBoston Pavilion June 20; Toni Lynn Washington and Cubanismo! at Copley Square June 22; Medeski, Martin & Wood with the John Scofield Band and DJ Logic/Project Logic at the FleetBoston Pavilion June 23; and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis at the Hatch Shell June 24. Whew! That's quite a lineup—now add to the mix free concerts by nine groups on three stages along Newbury Street on June 17 and several more daily through June 20, and you've got a jazz and blues orgy. *www.bostonglobe.com/jazzfest.*

TUE./JUNE 19—SUN./JULY 1

Theater: A Clown for All Seasons

Tom Selleck's revival of Jason Robard's role from the 1960s will entertain a brand-new generation of comedy lovers in *A Thousand Clowns*—in town only for a few weeks at the Shubert Theatre before it heads to Broadway. Herb Gardner's beloved story from 1962 follows Murray Burns, a former writer of the kids' TV show *Chuckles the Chipmunk*, who gets so fed up with his conformist lifestyle that he tunes in, drops out and holes up with his nephew in his apartment. Unemployed and unconventional, he must decide how far he will go to keep from losing his nephew to foster care. The original 1962 production starred Jason Robards, as well as Gene Saks, Sandy Dennis and William Daniels, and there was a brief Broadway revival of the play in 1996 with Judd Hirsch. But this much anticipated production, directed by John Rando (*The Dinner Party*), promises to be a hit—especially with Magnum PI at the helm. The play is one that Selleck has always wanted to perform in, and this marks his professional stage debut. *272 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun, 1 and 7pm. $45-$65.*



FRI./JUNE 15 -
SUN./JUNE 17

Theater: Street Puppets

Marionettes, hand puppets, rock 'n' roll and masked musicians. It can only be **The Boston Puppet Festival**, when the downtown streets come alive with music, kids, actors and, of course, giant wooden and paper figurines. The second annual puppet festival will bring a kind of magic to Marketplace Center, as kids and adults alike share in the joy of talent, artistry and imagination. On Friday night (6pm) the opening event features the show *Peter Pan and the Flying Rodents*. During the weekend, the puppet frenzy continues with puppet shows taking place every hour on three different stages, puppet parades (onlookers are encouraged to grab a free kazoo and march along behind them), puppet-making workshops, a be-a-puppet area (where you get to dress up in a giant papier mâché costume) and more. *Fri., 5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm and Sun. 12-5pm. Marketplace Center, 200 State St., Boston (478-2040).*



THU./JUNE 7

Education: Albright on the Eastern Front

When we learned of former Secretary of State **Madeleine Albright**'s impending visit to the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, it struck us that it's awfully reassuring that little girls have a more well-rounded role model than Princess Diana to emulate nowadays. Sadly, princes don't grow on trees, and glass slippers don't come without a price. So when you hear the tale of a woman who made her own fairy tale, it's reassuring to know that the rest of us can rise up from our workaday existence to become the highest-ranking female official in the United States. On June 7, Albright will discuss her role in shaping American foreign policy, particularly in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. *Columbia Point, Boston (929-4571). 5:30-7pm. Free.*



SAT./JUNE 16

CityScope: River Fest

The folks over in Cambridge think we need something other than this temperamental weather to mark this spring—so they've moved their annual **Cambridge River Festival** from the fall to June, and soon we'll be dancing on the banks of the river Charles in celebration. Among the cooler activities planned (aside from six stages with folk and world music, jazz and gospel) will be a folk and traditional arts venue featuring 10 New England artists at work; a public art installation called Crowded River, in which 100 festival-goers cross the Charles River to evoke images of migration, celebration, war, protest and pilgrimage; and a children's art-making area and stage. Attendees are invited to take a crash course in swing with the Blue Suede Boppers, move their hips to the merengue and salsa rhythms of Jorge Arce and Humano, and tango with the Tango Society of Boston. Our two favorites, though, are the Chalk on the Walk event (express yourself with chalk on Memorial Drive!), and a giant magnetic poetry wall for creators of impromptu haiku. *Memorial Drive, Cambridge. 12-6pm Free. (349-4380).*



TUE./JUNE 12

Books & Poetry: Summer Reading Indulgences

Talk about summer reading. The number of big-name authors rolling into town this summer is incredible. **Irvine Welsh** spoke in Brookline last week; **David Sedaris** reads from his new book (June 20, Wordsworth); **Henry Kissinger** talks about his new work (June 26, Charles Hotel); and **Nick Hornby** of *High Fidelity* fame also presents his new novel (July 9, Coolidge Corner Theatre). This week, Brookline Booksmith brings in another decadent offer—**Joanne Harris**, author of *Chocolat*, talks about her work (including her new book, *Five Quarters of the Orange*). This is a special treat for those who don't know the story of *Chocolat*—as her talk is followed by a screening of *Chocolat* (above) across the street at the Coolidge Corner Theatre. So if that doesn't have you jonesing for a chocolate fix, nothing will. We say head down the street to JP Licks to cap it off with a hot fudge sunde. *279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. $2, signing; $5, a signing and movie.*

MON./JUNE 11—SUN./JUNE 17

Classical Music: Early Music Festival

Unless you're an avid follower of early music, you're probably unaware that Boston's home to the world's leading festival devoted to medieval, Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and early Romantic music (count us truly among the uninformed). Every other year for the past 20 years, early music fanatics have converged upon our city to learn about the latest discoveries and developments in the field at the **Boston Early Music Festival and Exhibition**. Why should the rest of us care? Well, according to the *Boston Globe*, the festival "has evolved into one of the city's most prestigious cultural achievements." If that piques your curiosity, then you'll want to check out one of the stunning, early music performances that are offered around the clock. The centerpiece for the entire week will be a fully staged opera called *Thésée* by Jean-Baptiste Lully at the Copley Theatre. The show has a cast of 72 specialists in 17th-century French performance as well as colorfully varied music, spectacular ballets and brilliant special effects. *June 11-17.* www.bemf.org.

THU./JUNE 14

Body & Mind: Eastern Therapies

With all the hoopla about complementary medicine these days, it'd be mighty nice to get an informed perspective of what it's all about—and whether it really is effective. Who better to give the Western perspective on Eastern therapies than a physician from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute? Dr. **David Rosenthal** will lead a discussion with panelists **Suzanne Hanser**, a music therapist; Reiki masters (and registered nurses) **Susan DeCristofaro** and **Larraine Bossi**; and acupuncturist **Weidong Lu** at Dana-Farber June 14. They'll discuss ways to keep your life in balance, exploring the benefits and uses of acupuncture, Reiki, music and massage therapy. And they'll even provide a light supper afterward—and you can bet it'll include a bounty of healthy options (like broccoli and cauliflower—yum!). *Smith Family Room, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney St., Boston (1-800-553-3787).* www.cancercare.harvard.edu. *6-8pm. Free.*

WED./JUNE 6—SUN./JUNE 10

Gay & Lesbian: Party Like It's Gay Pride Week

This year marks the 31st anniversary of **Boston's Pride** celebrations, and it's going to be one helluva party. The theme is Mardi Gras, and more than 3,500 people are expected to turn out for the raucous roster of events—many of which are brand-new. In addition to the Pride March on Saturday, (12pm, Copley Square), there's also a Women's Dance at Faneuil Hall (a first time event) at 9pm. On Sunday, Stuart Street comes alive for a block party at 12pm. "It takes about 10 months, 20 committee members and about 200 volunteers throughout the week," says organizer Aandre Davis. "The most exciting part is probably the march and festival on the common, where you see the thousands of gays and lesbians with their families and lovers. It makes all the work we do worthwhile." Don't miss the Mr. And Mrs. Pride Pageant (June 6); the Pride Gay Film night at the Cheri Theater (June 7); the Pride Boat Cruise (June 9) and more. See *www.Bostonpride.org* for more details. *Various locations (512-6699).*

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

Gardens of the Back Bay: A Walking Tour
Back Bay, Boston (424-7186). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10am-5pm. $25. Spend a day exploring private backyard and patio gardens of Boston's historic Back Bay. Proceeds benefit neighborhood environmental projects.

YWCA Academy of Women Achievers Induction Ceremony
The Westin Copley Place Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (351-7622). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay. 12pm. $135. The YWCA hosts a luncheon to honor 12 inductees into the Academy of Women Achievers, a group of female leaders pledging to fight for gender and racial justice.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

Harpoon Brewstock 2001
Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-HARPOON, ext. 3). MBTA: Red Line to South Station (free shuttle to brewery). www.harpoonbrewery.com. *Thu.-Fri., 5:30-11pm; Sat., 2-11pm. Doors close 9:30pm. $10.* Celebrate summer with Harpoon beer, local bands from rock to reggae and ribs provided by Jake & Earle's Dixieland Bar-B-Que.

Weekly Workout at Faneuil Hall
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (737-3500). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Thursdays, 12-2pm. Local radio personality Karen Blake hosts this live weekly workout. Let the tourists gawk. You're beautiful, baby!

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

7-Minute Date and Latin Dance
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Pkwy., Cambridge (623-7571). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. www.jjproductions.net. *6:30pm-1am. $38-$45.* Look your best in cocktail or business attire for this singles event featuring 7-minute dating and dance lessons in Salsa and Merengue.

Discover Food, Flavors and Fun
Seaport Hotel, World Trade Center, Boston (385-4000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 8-10. This interactive event will teach children about food nutrition and flavors in a lively, hands-on setting.

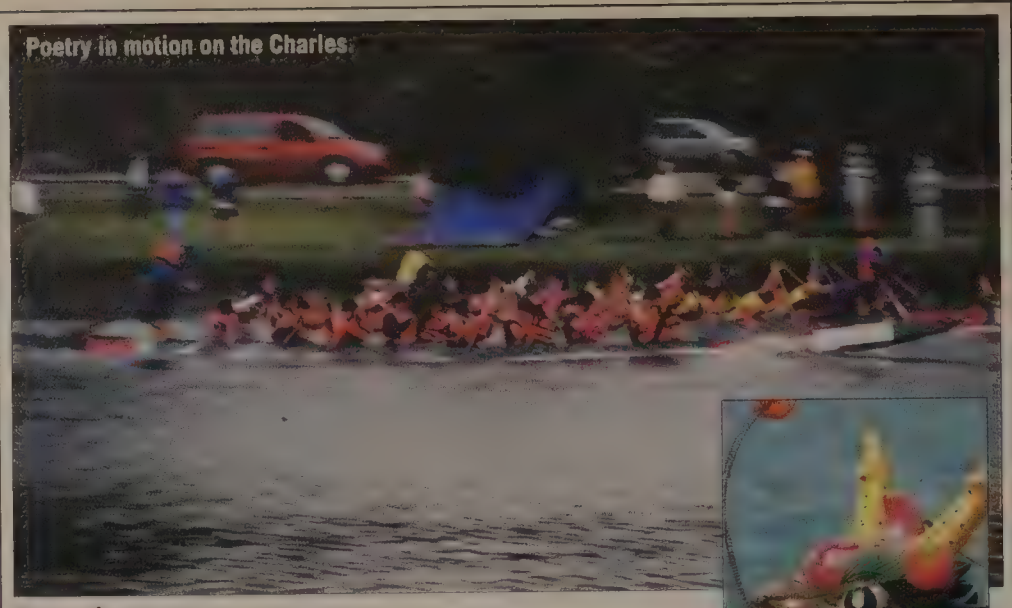
Erev Pride Liberation Seder
Hebrew College Auditorium, 43 Hawes St., Brookline (457-8595). MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. 8pm. Free. Celebrate gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender pride with your Jewish family with Shabbat services, followed by a Seder retelling the story of the GLBT liberation movement, and a dessert reception.

Firefighters Foundation Fund raiser
Six Flags, Rte. 159, Agawam (413-786-9300, ext. 3464). www.sixflags.com. *7-10pm.* Join actor/comedian Denis Leary for an exclusive family night out at the park. Proceeds benefit the Leary Firefighters Foundation, founded by Leary, a Worcester native, in response to the 1999 death of six firefighters.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org. *5:30-9:30pm. $10.* Enjoy live jazz, cocktails and fine art as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

Stonehill Irish Festival
Stonehill College, North Easton (781-821-8291). www.irishculture.org. *Fri., 6pm-12am; Sat., 12-11pm; Sun., 9am-8pm. $12 a day.* Enjoy Irish music, dancing, literature, sports and kids' activities.

Zootopia! 2001
Franklin Park Zoo, One Franklin Park Rd., Boston (989-2089). 6:30pm-12am. $250. This year, the zoo's fund raiser celebrates Stone Zoo's *Treasures of the Sierra Madre* exhibit (no stinking badges required). The black-tie gala features a gourmet buffet, open bar, silent auction and music by Blue Heaven.



Preview

Drag On

Boat races color the Charles

Descendents of Chinese emperors and Viking warlords alike will feel right at home at this festival on the Charles River. The main attraction is the Dragon Boat Races, in which teams of local participants board massive floating Chinese relics—the dramatically painted wooden dragon boats—and row furiously to the finish line.

The dragon boat tradition celebrates the life of Chinese poet Qu Yuan, who lived from 340 to 278 B.C. Exiled from the capital, Qu Yuan drowned himself in the Mi Lo River. His devoted readership rushed to save him. When they couldn't, they splashed furiously and threw rice dumplings into the river as a sacrifice to his spirit and to keep the fish away from his body.

This is no Head of the Charles. The boats are 39 feet long, made out of teak, and painted in bright golds, greens and reds. A drummer, ensconced in the bow, wields two huge mallets, keeping the rowers synchronized with beats of a massive wooden drum. To the back of this intrepid leader is the ship's figurehead—a fearsome wooden dragon.

The festival, the largest celebration of Asian culture in New England, includes Japanese Taiko drummers, Cambodian dance, martial arts demonstrations and Asian foods. In addition, the festival will include the highly entertaining Asian Women's Lion Dance by Gund Kwok Asian Women's Lion Dance troupe. —*Galen Moore*

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

A Closer Look at Historic Herbs
Old Sturbridge Village, One Old Sturbridge Village Rd., Sturbridge (508-347-3362). 9am-5pm. $20, adults; $10, youth. Village gardeners will present tours and demonstrations highlighting the village's garden of historic herbs.

Boat Tour of Chelsea Creek
Chelsea (Location TBA) (482-1722). 11am-1pm. Free. Ride up the Chelsea river on this tour of maritime and industrial uses, and potential open space.

Reggae Party Cruise
Commonwealth Pier, Northern Ave., South Boston (789-4070). www.bscc.com. *8:30pm, boarding. $25; $20 in advance.* Party on three huge decks aboard the Provincetown II. Reggae band Jah Spirit will be on one deck, and a top-40 DJ on the other.

"Summer Romance" Singles Harbor Cruise and Dance
Rowes Wharf, Boston (781-283-0400). 5-6:30pm, hors d'oeuvres; 7-10pm, cruise. $40. Join 375 single professionals 25-55 years old for complimentary hors d'oeuvres and a cruise on the harbor. Music provided by Bruno. Call for reservations.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

Biodiversity Bonanza
World's End, Boson Harbor (781-821-2977). 1pm. Free. Join trustees' staff and try to identify every bird, butterfly, flower and plant at this event sponsored by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs.

Bourbon Street Bash
Jordan's Furniture, 1 Under Price Way, Natick (876-0079). 7-10pm. $50. Robert Mondavi's American Institute of Wine and Food is holding a Big-Easy-style cocktail reception to raise funds for its youth programs. The catered reception will be complete with a Bourbon Street replica.

Community Servings Benefit
Up Stairs at the Pudding, 10 Holyoke St., Cambridge (445-7777). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 10, 5-9pm. $50. Join co-owners Deborah Hughes and Mary-Catherine Deibel as they say goodbye to their Holyoke Street location at this benefit for Community Servings.

Dragon Boat Festival
Western Ave. Bridge, Charles River, Boston. (426-6500 ext. 778). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.bostondragonboatfestival.org. *12-5pm. Free.* See box above for description.

MB/Rover Day
Museum of Transportation, 15 Newton Street, Brookline (522-6547, ext. 20). 10am-5pm. $5. Don your nattiest tweed and come down to ogle sporty British cars, as owners show them off on the museum lawn.

Mysteries of the Fort
George's Island, Boston Harbor (727-7676). www.bostonislands.com. *1pm and 3pm. Free.* Take a Boston Harbor Cruise boat on a tour of the harbor islands, and stop on George's Island to enjoy tales from the dark side of Fort Warren told by a park ranger.

Run-Walkathon for Infectious Diseases
MDC Lee Pool, Charles River Esplanade (723-9874). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Red Line to Charles. 10am. $20. Run (or walk) five kilometers to benefit Mass General Hospital's Infectious Diseases Division. The first 25 to register will receive a free T-Shirt.

Second Sundays
Veronique Restaurant and Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (312-5410). MBTA: Green Line to Longwood. 2-5pm. $10. BostonEventGuide.com is hosting this singles event with wine-tasting, live jazz by the Paulo Danay Quartet and light hors d'oeuvres.

St. Anthony's Festival
Hanover Street, Boston (523-2110). MBTA Green, Orange Line to Haymarket. 2pm. Free. In the North End, some things haven't changed. You can still buy a box of cannoli and watch the parade for St. Anthony of Padua, patron saint of lost articles.

MONDAY, JUNE 11

Boston Early Music Festival
Various locations (661-1812). www.bemf.org. *June 11-17. Call for concert locations and times.* One of the nation's most prestigious festivals, the BEMF presents seven days of medieval and Renaissance music.

The Party
Radisson Hotel, 220 Stuart Street, Boston (720-6066). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to New England Medical Center. 8pm $18 (720-6066). Lean on the cash bar and schmooze; hit the dance floor and shake your thing. StageSource will honor Kate Snodgrass with the 2001 StageSource Theatre Hero Award.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

Business Buddies
McCarthy's Bar & Grill, 903 Boylston Street, Boston (597-0029). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 6-9:30pm. $10 donation. Meet new people, catch up with friends and have fun, while supporting Best Buddies, which offers mentally retarded individuals with opportunities for one-to-one friendships and employment.

Fleet Scooper Bowl
City Hall Plaza, Boston (632-3863). MBTA: Green, Blue Line to Government Center or Orange Line to State. www.jimmyfund.org. *June 12-14, 11:30am-6pm. $5, adults; $2, children.* City Hall is finally available for something useful: Gorge yourself on ice cream, knowing that all proceeds go to the Jimmy Fund. Pay admission and eat all the Ben & Jerry's, Double Rainbow and Häagen-Dazs you can.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

After-Work Social Networking
Sophia's Latin Club, 1270 Boylston Street, Boston (312-5410). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.bostoneventguide.com. *6-9pm. $15; $10, in advance.* These events give young professionals the opportunity to get together and view art, hear speakers, listen to music and take dance lessons.

The Single Gourmet
Maison Robert (497-0444). 6:30pm, cocktails; 7pm, dinner. This singles dining club offers men and women a chance to meet over good food and drink, without the pressure of a blind date. Call for reservations.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

8-Minute Dating
North East Brewing Co., 1314 Commonwealth Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: B Green Line to Griggs. www.8minutedating.com. *7:10pm. $33.* Spend an evening meeting single 30-40 years old in a relaxed atmosphere. Appetizers are provided. Advance registration is required.

Victorian Society Preservation Awards
Ayer Mansion/Bayridge Residence and Cultural Center, 395 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (789-3927). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. 5:30pm, Reception; Awards Program, 6:30pm. $15. The New England Chapter of the Victorian Society recognizes those who have advanced the cause of historic preservation in New England architecture, landscape, social history and other categories.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

American Diabetes Association Recognition Dinner
Seaport Hotel, World Trade Center, Boston (385-4000). MBTA Red Line to South Station. 6pm, Cocktails; 7pm, Dinner. The ADA hosts its third annual black-tie Recognition Dinner, raising money for research.

Jubilation 2001
Park Plaza Hotel, 64 Arlington St., Boston. (725-0022, ext. 9). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. 6:30pm, reception; 7:30pm, dinner and celebration. $125. The Museum of Afro-American History marks Juneteenth, celebrating African-American emancipation, with a reception and dinner. Actor Ossie Davis will be the featured guest.

The Art of Making a Difference
Fort Point Channel Arts Community Gallery and Atrium. 300 Summer Street, South Boston (437-8871). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7-11pm. $50. Enjoy modern art, gourmet hors d'oeuvres, desserts, spirits and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit People Making a Difference, an organization dedicated to local charities.

Massachusetts Special Olympics
Harvard & BU Athletic Facilities, Boston (800-628-2736). www.specialolympicsma.org. *Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 8am-2pm; Sun., 8:30am-2pm.* Come cheer more than 2,000 athletes in aquatics, gymnastics and more.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Cambridge River Festival
Memorial Dr., Cambridge (349-4380). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.ci.cambridge.ma.us/~cac. *12-6pm. Free.* After eight years of being held in September, the 23rd festival is once again taking place in spring. This year features six live music stages, with folk, jazz, dance, children's and more.

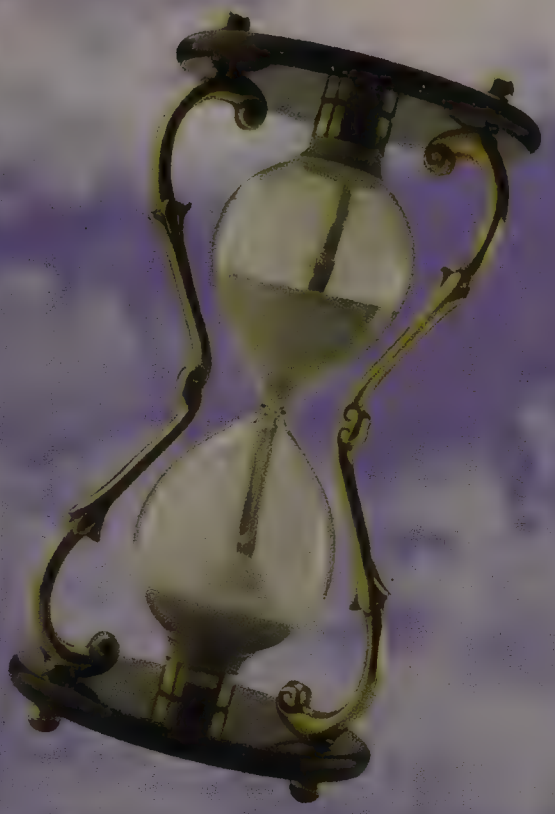
SUNDAY, JUNE 17

The Boston Globe Jazz and Blues Festival: Newbury Street Fair
Newbury St., Boston (267-4031). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Hynes or Copley. www.bostonglobe.com/jazzfest. *12:30-6pm. Free.* Newbury Street will be closed to car traffic as the *Boston Globe* Jazz and Blues Festival kicks off with nine bands on three stages.

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On Tremont Street, there is a place where you can trade one hour for ten years...

off your skin.



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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

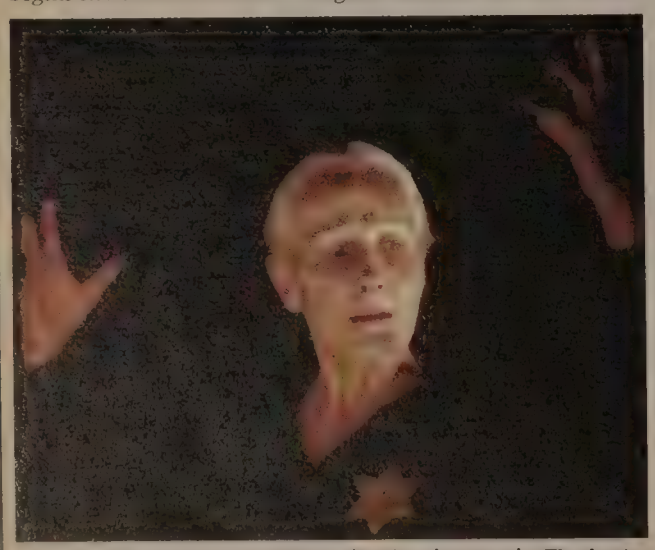
...And Then You Go On
Berkshire Theatre Festival, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). June 7-9, 8:30pm. $20. The Berkshire Theatre Festival presents a play in one act culled from the works of Samuel Beckett.

Come Back to the Five & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean
Footlight Club, Eliot Hall, 7A Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (524-3200). June 15-16, 8pm. $15. On Sept. 30, 1975, the members of the Disciples of James Dean gather to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the night James Dean died. Throughout the course of the evening, each character experiences painful memories and reveals a secret pain and a secret strength.

Glen Gary, Glen Ross
Stanley B. Theatre Group, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. June 8-30. $20. In David Mamet's play, every man is trying to save himself while still trying to make a buck after a crime is committed and a detective is called on the scene.

The Last Letter
Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 6-9 and 11-14, 8pm. $30. This heartbreaking monologue is imagined as a farewell letter written in 1941 by a female Russian Jewish doctor living in a small town in the Ukraine that has been recently occupied by the Nazis. Writing to her son, she reports what is happening to the community around her as the situation hopelessly degenerates. This production is performed in French with English subtitles and is directed by filmmaker Frederick Wiseman.

The Last Train to Nibroc
The Boston Playwrights Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (695-0659). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. June 7-23. $20-$23. This two-character romantic comedy begins on a crowded train traveling eastbound from Los Angeles during World War II. Aspiring writer Raleigh meets a pious woman named May on her way home to Kentucky. And with the surprising discovery that they are both from the same rural town, the play becomes a journey across America that marks the uncertain start of an often tempestuous relationship.



Renowned French actress Catherine Samie stars in *The Last Letter*, a play directed by filmmaker Frederick Wiseman.

Meshugah
Studio 210, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (824-8000). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. June 7-July 1. $20. Meshugah is the story of two Holocaust survivors who escape to America. The script, adapted by Emily Mann from the novel by Isaac Bashevis Singer, explores the guilt they face and the solace they find in each other. The production is presented by Boston Theatre Works.

Molly Sweeney
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. June 6-24. $25. Molly, who has been blind since infancy, has recently had some of her sight restored. Along with her husband and eye surgeon, Molly tells us about her life in the dark and in the light. Paula Plum and Paul O'Brien star as husband and wife.

The Persephone Project
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (576-1308). June 15-16, 8pm. Free. This full-length play directed by Anna Baum is based on the writings of seven local women who are survivors of interpersonal abuse.

Prelude to a Kiss
Arlington Friends of the Drama Theatre, 22 Academy St., Arlington Center (781-646-5922). June 8-9, 8pm; June 10, 7pm; June 15-16, 8pm; June 17, 2pm. $13. Prelude follows the whirlwind courtship of two jaded young lovers, Peter and Rita, as they unexpectedly meet, fall in love and plan their lives together. Their wedding day is disrupted, however, by a mysterious old man who appears uninvited. When he kisses the bride, their souls are exchanged and the two lovers are sent on a magical journey.

Saturday Night
SpeakEasy Stage Company at the Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7731). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. June 8-30. $28. As the story goes, this musical was to have been 23-year-old Steven Sondheim's Broadway debut as a composer/lyricist in 1955 until the untimely death of its producer, Lemuel Ayers, halted its production. Sondheim himself revised this sweet romantic comedy 45 years later. It's a boy-meets-girl fantasy involving a group of Brooklyn boys trying to make it big in the stock market in pre-crash 1929.

This Is Our Youth
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Unicorn Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Mon.-Sat., 8:30pm. June 15-July 14. $20. Award-winning screenwriter Kenneth Lonergan, (*Analyze This*, *You Can Count on Me*) penned this semi-autobiographical play about three disenfranchised youths. Set in the early '80s, Lonergan's three characters create a poignantly engaging, humorous play.

A Thousand Clowns
The Shubert Theatre, 272 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun, 1 and 7pm. June 19-July 1. $45-$65. Tom Selleck's revival of Jason Robards' role from the 1960s will entertain a brand-new generation of comedy lovers.

NOW RUNNING

The Amen Corner
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through June 17. $12-$55. This powerful drama filled with gospel music is by author James Baldwin. Set in a Harlem storefront church in 1960, it tells the story of Sister Margaret, who faces problems within her family and her congregation when her estranged husband shows up at her doorstep after a 10-year absence.

Art
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through July 1. $28-$42. When a man drops a small fortune on a surprising piece of contemporary art, his lifelong friendship with his two best friends is turned upside down.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

Cider House Rules (Parts I and II)
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through June 17. $28-$42. Raised in a tiny Maine orphanage by a humble but dedicated doctor, Homer journeys into the world and grows from a boy of remarkable insight to a vigorous and committed young physician.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Just So
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). June 12-July 1. $18-$56. This new family musical is based on *The Just So Stories*, which Rudyard Kipling wrote to entertain his daughter on their long sea journeys from England to South Africa. In this comedy, you'll learn how the elephant got its trunk, how the leopard got its spots and much more.

Killer Joe
Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (887-2336). www.theatrezone.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through June 17. $12, $15 at the door.* TheatreZone presents Tracy Lett's dark comedy about a Texas trailer-park family plotting murder.

Les Miserables
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 1:30pm and 7:30pm. Through June 3. $25-$75. Based on Victor Hugo's classic novel, this epic saga sweeps through three turbulent decades of 19th-century France. Jean Valjean is pitted against the cruel and self-righteous Inspector Javert in a lifelong quest to evade capture.

Ragtime
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. June 5-10. $25-$68.50. The four-time Tony Award-winning musical based on E.L. Doctorow's classic is a panoramic portrait of three remarkable families that become entwined: one upper middle class, white Anglo-Saxon Protestant; one socialist immigrant Jewish; and one Harlem black.

Richard II
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through June 10. $29-$59. "The deadliest kind of theater," says Thomas Derrah, who plays Richard, "is where people sit back and let whatever it is wash over them. In this production that's not going to be allowed. Part of [director] Robert Woodruff's modus operandi is to not let people off the hook." Woodruff has integrated elements of the modern artistic world into the play's staging, infusing the set, costumes and characters with contemporary artistic references while remaining true to the original text.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Swing!
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 7pm; Sun., 1 and 7pm. Through June 10. $38.50-$68.50. The original Broadway musical swept the nation in the 1930s and '40s. Now *Swing!* highlights an eclectic mix of jive, Latin swing, West Coast swing, hip-hop swing and Country Western swing.

This Year's Fashions
Theater Offensive, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Wed., 8pm. June 4-6. $8. More twisted than any lesbian pulp novel, this is the true 1940s love story of a brainy Jewish girl-turned-platinum bombshell (Judy Holliday) and the socialist NYPD policewoman who won her heart.

Preview

It's *Saturday Night*

The SpeakEasy presents Sondheim's first musical



There's no middle ground when it comes to Stephen Sondheim—either you love his work or you hate it. Even if you're not familiar with his name, you probably already know his creations: *West Side Story*, *Follies* and *Gypsy*, among others—including, of course, the ballad "Send In the Clowns."

As Sondheim matured, his work became more complex, darker and thematically innovative (see *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Assassins* and *Sweeney Todd*). But now Bostonians have a chance to see the very first musical written by the legendary composer/lyricist at the Lyric Stage Company June 8-30. As the story goes, the untimely death of producer Lemuel Ayers halted the production of 23-year-old Sondheim's *Saturday Night* in 1955. Years later, after his success with *West Side Story* in 1957 and *Gypsy* in 1959, plans were set to resurrect the show with Bob Fosse as director and lead actor. But this time, Sondheim himself halted the production. "He'd had success with his other shows and probably felt a bit insecure about his earlier work," says Paul Daigneault, artistic director at the SpeakEasy Stage Company, which is producing the show. It wasn't until 1997 that Sondheim agreed to stage a revised version of the show in London. The result is much more accessible than his later works, a boy-meets-girl fantasy full of youthful energy.

"I love the idea of taking one of America's most famous music composers and seeing where it all began," says Daigneault, who admits he generally directs edgier works. "This one's very traditional." The toughest critic of all said of *Saturday Night* in *The New York Times Magazine*: "It's not bad stuff for a 23-year-old. There are some things that embarrass me so much in the lyrics...but I decided, leave it. It's my baby pictures. You don't touch up a baby picture—you're a baby!" *SpeakEasy Stage Company at the Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7731). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. June 8-30. $28. —Julie Short*

COMING SOON

Glass Menagerie
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. June 19-July 11. $29-$59. Tennessee Williams' 1945 play offers a glimpse of the Wingfield family as it struggles to hold its ground in 1939 St. Louis.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 16. Through the story-telling magic of the songs of ABBA, Donna, a feisty 40-something single mom, recalls distant memories of carefree days and nights while her daughter Sophie dreams of tradition, romance and a big, white wedding.



A Texas trailer-park family plots a murder in the comedy *Killer Joe*.

Dance

SHOWS AND EVENTS

Intercommunity
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (864-3191). June 8-9, 8pm. $10-$15. Jin-Wen Yu presents a multicultural and multimedia dance concert featuring new and recent works in modern dance, tai chi and chinese opera dance. The performance will include six pieces that incorporate music and videography with traditional and modern choreography.

Swan Lake
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). June 13-16. $45-$85. The Royal Ballet, based in London, is one of the world's premiere ballet companies. Under the direction of Sir Anthony Dowell, the performance promises to remain true to the original Petipa/Ivanov choreography.

Wide
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 9-10, 8pm. $15. Performed by an intergenerational group of artists, *Wide* is a suite of dances and songs arranged in concert fashion featuring movement accompanied by traditional American songs including "Jacob's Ladder," "Hard Times" and "All Through the Night." Music direction by Chris Eastburn, choreography by Daniel McCusker.

Comedy

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STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). MBTA: Green Line. No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy. •Saturdays, 9:30pm-12am: Larry Lee Lewis Rock 'n' Roll Comedy Band and Boston's finest comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston. com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •June 6: PJ Thibedeau •June 7, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •June 8: Arsenio Hall from *The Arsenio Hall Show*, $30 •June 9: Arsenio Hall, $30 •June 10: Boston headliners •June 11: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •June 12: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •June 13: Boston headliners •June 14, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •June 15: Adam Ferrara from *The Job*, $15-$18 •June 16: Adam G. Ferrara, $17-$29 •June 17: Boston headliners. •June 18: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •June 19: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •June 7: Time McIntire stars with Wil Mc Neill, Todd Liz and the comics of WAKKA. •June 8: Brendon Small with guests Paul Shea, John Fisch and Jan Davidson. •June 9: Rick Jenkins hosts Bethany Van Delf, Kyria Abrahams and Liz Cinquino. •June 10: Comics Workout featuring Tony Moschetto, John Shaunessey, Ross Garmil and Walter Driscoll. •June 14: Tim McIntire hosts TJ Griffin, Tom Morello and the comics of WAKKA. •June 15: Brendon and Larry host Dan Newbower, Travis Wallace and Anne Manakis. •June 16: Rick Jenkins presents Lakshmi Balachandra, Greg Rodrigues, Benari Poulten, Travis Wallace and Jim Fleming. •June 17: Comics Workout featuring Ben Joplin, Peter Gray, John Fisch and Dan Sulman.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $10-$22. Wednesdays: Open mike at 8:30pm. •June 7, 8:30pm: Clinton Jackson, George Ham and P.J. Walsh. •June 8-9, 8:45pm: Clinton Jackson, George Ham and P.J. Walsh. •June 14, 8:30: Paul Gilligan, Jim Coliton and Paul Keenan. •June 15-16, 8:45: Paul Gilligan, Jim Coliton and Paul Keenan.

IMPROV COMEDY

Gorilla Theatre
Theatre 1, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through the end of June. $15. See a show as it is being directed and literally throw things at bad directors who are competing to become the top banana.

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Wednesdays, 8pm: Micetro. •Fridays, 8pm: Secret Society. 10:30pm: Theatre Sports. •Saturdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston. •Sundays, 7pm: Micetro.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mondays, 7-10pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

The Sopranos' Last Supper
The Kowloon Restaurant, Route 1, Saugus (781-233-0077). •June 16, 7pm. $35: **The Sopranos' Last Supper**. This interactive dinner-theater show is based on HBO's *The Sopranos*.



DANIELLE FATEUX JACQUES

art

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Museums

Art Institute of Boston

Lesley College, 700 Beacon St., Boston (585-6600). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. www.aiboston.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*The Senior Graduate Exhibition* shows through June 7. •The gallery is closed until the beginning of the fall.

Arthur M. Sackler Museum

485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Antoin Sevurguin and the Persian Image* features more than 45 photographs of Persian life. Also on display are ancient Islamic and Asian pieces, an array of Neolithic bronze Buddhas, Greek pottery and Hellenistic sculpture. Ongoing.

Boston Public Library

700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*Portuguese Civil Revolution*, a collection of of documents, photos and posters commemorating the revolution of April 25, 1974, are featured through June 30. •*Gunther Schuller: A 75th Birthday Celebration* is an exhibit lauding his multifaceted accomplishments—Pulitzer Prize–winning composer, horn player, educator, wirter, conductor, publisher and record producer. The exhibit includes photographs, books, articles, sound recordings and music. Through June 15.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center

Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-0283-2051). •A multimedia installation, *Cold War Modern: the Domesticated Avant-Garde*, explores the avant-garde in art, music and design in the United States between 1945 and the early '60s. Through June 10.

DeCordova Museum

51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •In *Just the Thing!*, everyday objects acquire new perspectives. Through June 10. •*Welcome to the House of Art*, a giant installation by Todd McKie, is an ongoing display. •In *Abstract Expressionism/Figurative Expressionism: Common Ground*, the museum uses its new wing to highlight works from its own collection. Ongoing.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)

32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. •*Flip Side of Master Drawings* exhibit shows how artists use both sides of the sheet. Through August 12.

Harvard Museum of Natural History

26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these delicate creatures. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art

955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Dutch artists Rineke Dijkstra presents the first U.S. survey of her photographs in *Portraits*, a collection of two series of her work, *Beaches* and *New Mothers*. Through July 1. •South African artist Marlene Dumas explores relationships in *100 Models and Endless Rejects*, a one-room installation of 100 ink-wash drawings of faces and drawings. Through July 1. •*Laylah Ali: 2000 ICA Artist Prize* showcases a collection of the artist's cartoon-like drawings of ambiguous violence and degradation. Through July 1. •*Conspire* examines Boston's most important historic sites and the role each played in the founding of the nation (call for locations). Through Oct. 14. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. Through Sept.16.



Willoughby Walling's *Blue Stele* is one work on display at U. Mass. Boston's Harbor Gallery through July 2.

MIT List Visual Arts Center

20 Ames Street Building E15, Atrium Level, Cambridge (253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 12-6pm and Fri., 12-8pm. •Isaac Julien presents a film installation in epic Western style: *The Long Road to Mazatlán* and a double-projection video featuring modern dance, *Vagabondia*. Through July 1. •*The Long Count (I Shook Up the World)* by Paul Pfeiffer is the first of three works in which the artist has depicted Muhammad Ali in order to explore racial identity. Through July 1. •Johan Grimonprez shows *Inflight*, an airline magazine–inspired piece. Through July 1. •*Race in Digital Space* features more than 30 artists who use film, new media and the Web. Through July 1.

MIT Museum

265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. •The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm, West Wing only. Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45 pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings, including his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 9. •*Japan at the Dawn of the Modern Age: Meiji Prints from Jean S. and Frederic A. Sharf Collection* is a collection of 600 Japanese full-color woodblock prints from 1868-1912. Through July 15. •*Made in Japan* by Takashi Murakami is a collection of his recent work and his reinterpretation of *nihon-ga*, a traditional Japanese painting style. Through July 15.

Museum of Our National Heritage

33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Somerville Museum

One Westwood Rd., Somerville (666-9810). MBTA: Red Line to Porter, transfer to Bus 83. Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm; Sun., 2-5pm. •*Interconnections* features works by 20 artists on issues of multiculturalism, race and gender. Through June 23.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery

154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Sheets of Glass* is a collection of artists exploring the use of fused and laminated sheet glass. Through June 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery

129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Laura Chasman and Kirsten Stoltmann have work on display through June 16. •Tina Feingold and Ilene Sunshine present new works in paint, sculpture and drawings. June 22-July 27.

Alpha Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat. 10am-5:30pm in July, Mon.-Fri 10am-5:30pm in July and August. •A new talent show runs through the month of June. •A collection of gallery artists will show through July and mid-August.

Arden Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Encaustic Works*, by Joanne Mattera, Ron Ehrlich, Helen Febbo and John Tracey, features traditional encaustic as well as experimental mixed-media paintings and sculpture utilizing the ancient medium of pigmented wax. Through June 29.

Artesano Gallery

757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Tue.-Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. •The gallery presents Cindy Luna's woven metal baskets through June 15. •Billie Ruth Sudduth's woven baskets show June 16-July 1.

Barbara Krakow Gallery

10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Five artists' works are included in *New Works*, a group show. Artists include Barbara Broughel, Scott Hadfield, Michael Beatty, Leslie Wilcox and Laura Wulf. Through July 25.

Berenberg Gallery

4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Created in California* is a collection of art from California galleries: the Creative Growth Art Center, Creativity Explored, First Street Gallery Art Center and more. Through July 28.

Bernard Toale Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Marian Roth presents *Pin-Hole Pictures* June 6-30. •*Dazzling!*, paintings by Steven Charles, Aaron Parazette and Susie Rosmarin, shows July 3-Aug. 3. •The gallery is closed in August.

Boston Center for the Arts

Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bcaonline.org. *Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm.* •*HybridIDs*, guest-curated by Robin Reisenfeld, is an exhibition exploring contemporary issues of identity. Through June 30.

Bromfield Art Gallery

560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Arthur Hardigg's show of drawings and paintings, *Cascade*, shows through June 16. •*Back and Forth*, a collection of collages by Carol Lynne Gove, shows through June 16. •Two exhibits, *Museum of Transportation Pioneering*, by Ravi Jain, and *Sacrificial Zoo*, by Amy Ross, show June 20-July 14. •An exhibit of photographs by teenage participants in *Project Image, Seeing Teens. Photographs by Teenagers*, shows July 18-28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center

41 Second St., Cambridge (577-1400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •*Have We Gone Too Far?*, works by Susan Erony and Erika Marquardt, shows through June 21. •Karen Moss presents her exhibition *What I Never Learned in School*. Through June 29.

Carpenter Center

24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •Peit Mondrian exhibits *The Transatlantic Paintings*. Through July 22. •Albert Szabo shows *Inventions and Interventions*, a series of sculptural assemblages. June 25-July 31.

Chappell Gallery

14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Surface Tension: Beyond Form* displays through June 16. •*Contemporary Japanese Glass Sculpture* shows through June 29. •*Glass Evolution—Established and New Talent* is on display July 11-August 3.

Chase Gallery

129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Cindia Sanford displays new paintings. Through June 26.

Clifford Smith Gallery

450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (695-0255). Wed.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Henry Horenstein presents *Canine*, a series of black-and-white abstracted photographs of dogs. Through June 23. •Closed in July and August.

Copley Society

158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •The Copley society presents a spring/summer members show. Through June 16. •*Copley Artists* is a juried exhibition of work by Copley Artists members of the Copley Society of Boston. June 21-July 14.

Crosstown Arts Inc.

One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com *Tue.-Fri,. 9am-5pm, Sat., 9am-1pm, or by appointment.* •*Sand in Your Eye: Solo Exhibition of Recent Sand-Carved Stone Reliefs* is a selection of sandblast carvings. Through June 15. •*Gallery Artists and Contemporary Prints: Unique Paintings and Sculptures and Multiples* includes work by Peggy Badenhausen, Steven deFilippis, Josette Ghiseline, Anne Gilson Haney, Paul Inglis, Peter Inglis, Sol LeWitt, Roy Lichtenstein, Megan McNaught, Robert Rauschenberg, William P. Reimann and Andy Warhol. July 4-Aug. 15. •The gallery will be closed the second half of August.

Crump Gallery

622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •The gallery shows work by local artists Norman Crump, Jeff Eldridge, Robert Fields, Dan McCole and Brian Roach, depicting Boston scenes. Ongoing.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery

16 Ashford St., Allston (783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Street. Sat., 2-4pm. •*Promises*, new works by Pia Schachter, is an installation with photography. Through June 9. •*Royally Fucked: Artists as*



Poet/activist Meng Lang speaks out about freedom of expression in China at Mobius on June 11.

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Royalty features several projects: *The Empire S.N.A.F.U. Restoration Project, The Princess Project, The Blair Princess Project, The Princesses of Porn* and *King VelVeeda*. June 21-July 21.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. • Romanian art prodigy Alexandra Nechita displays her work. • Rodrerick O'Flaherty presents *Scenes of New England* through Aug. 30. • *Modern Masters* featuring paintings by Picasso, Mattise and Chagall. June 24-July 31.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. • *Next Wave Prints* is an exhibition of recent developments in printmaking. Through June 21.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has an amazing collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art, Ecuadorian woodcarvings and ceramics. Pottery by Sasha Raiz, paintings from Oswaldo Guayasamin, Hipolito Mamani Quispe and Benito Huillcahuaman. Andean textiles, Colombian gold and Peruvian silver jewelry. There is also a lecture series featuring the area's foremost authorities on Latin American art and culture. Ongoing.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St. (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm. • *Adirondack*, part high-tech minimalism, part twisted mountain folklore, is a collaboration by Andrew Neumann and Jeffrey Wallace. Through June 16. • *Girls and Swirls*, by Melorah Kuhn and David Palmer, shows alongside Rick Fox's *Hoarded Intuitions* and sculptures by Jeff Smith. June 22-Aug. 3.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (266-4351). www.frenchlib.org. *Tue.-Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* • *Work in Progress*, by Sylvain Buffile, shows June 6-22.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* • New England artist Robert Caulfield shows new works through July 14.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave. Boston (338-4232). Wed., 1-5:30pm. • To celebrate its recent opening, the gallery is showing an array of works by Gedy Moody.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. • Two new installations by Larimer Richards and Cameron Shaw show through June 30.

Gallery at Stephan Coiffeur
257 Newbury St., Boston (236-0099). Fri. 9am-8pm, Sat. 9am-4pm. • *Images of Our World: Travel Photography as Documentary Art* showcases almost 40 pieces, including work from Africa, Asia and Latin America. Through June 29.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • *A Celebration of Aging (Holographic Portraits and Audio Domes by Harriet Casdin-Silver and Kevin Brown) and Recent Portraits* shows June 8-July 13. • Open by appointment in August.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. • *Art for Everyday*, an exhibition of paintings by Tom Pappas and sculpture by Jay Swift, shows through July 1. • A group show by gallery artists shows July 5-August 3. • The gallery will be closed for the rest of August.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781 648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. • *Body Conscious: Figure and Gesture in Photography and Printmaking*, art by 34 artists juried by James Hull, is on display through June 29.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. • The gallery has an impressive collection of 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings. • T. Kelly Wilson's *Mass to Light*, a collection of drawings, shows through June 8.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. • Prints from the Havell edition of John James Audubon's *Birds of America* displays June 8-30.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (989-9985). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. • *Body Language*, a collage exploring human physiology by Alya Romeos, shows through June 23. • *Adults Only*, a group show, runs throughout July.

Preview

The Big City

A national tour of *The New Yorker*'s cover art visits Boston



Late in 1924, New Yorker Harold Ross assembled a small staff to create a new kind of weekly humor magazine geared toward affluent, educated sophisticates. The result was *The New Yorker*, which has had urbane literati chortling for more than 75 years. But, of course, the magazine is highly regarded not only for its verbiage, but for its illustrations and cartoons. *The New Yorker* has prevailed upon the country's top graphic artists to produce its cover illustrations (and cartoons), witty depictions of the nation's current events and cultural trends. More than 40 of these covers will be exhibited in *The Big City*, a collection of classic and contemporary art that shows at the Judi Rotenberg Gallery this month. Organized by *The New Yorker* in celebration of its 76th anniversary, the show features such renowned artists as Edward Sorel, Bruce McCall, Art Spiegelman, Roz Chast, Peter Arno, Maira Kalman, Saul Steinberg and Rea Irvin, the creator of the magazine's signature image: the monocled Eustace Tilley. *The Big City* exhibit is coming to Boston after showing in San Francisco and will then travel to Chicago and Miami. *Through June 15. 130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518).*

Harbor Gallery
McCormack Hall, U. Mass. Boston, 1st Floor, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (287-7988). Mon.-Fri. 11am-6pm. • *Recent Work* by three new artists, Jon Bancroft Colon, Lynn Dorian and Willoughby Walling, features realistic and abstract work. Through July 2.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. • John O'Reilly presents *Heroes and Others*, paper montages from 1972-83. • It shows with Harold Tozish's drawings and sculptures in *Hands*. Through June 30.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (491-6888). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm and by appointment. • African dolls from Kirdi, Zaramo, Mossi and Namji are on display through July 14.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. • An ongoing display of vintage posters.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard St., Brookline (739-5769). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10am-8pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. • *Russian Roulette: The Art of the Glasnost Years* is the first in a series of shows presenting contemporary Russian art owned by a private collector. Through June 25.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. • *Building Dwelling Thinking* is a collection of "photoworks" by David Armstrong, James Casebere, Lynn Davis, Candida Hofer, Robert Stivers and Shellburne Thurber. Through June 30.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. • *The New Yorker* magazine hosts *The Big City*, a display of *New Yorker* cover art. Through June 15.

Kaji Aso Studios
40 St. Stephen St., Boston (247-1719). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. www.kajiasostudio.com. *Hours by appointment.* • *Thrown, Coiled and Pinched*, an exhibition of clay works by local artists, shows through June 24.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* • *Reflection on Beauty*, an open-juried art exhibition, displays through June 10. • *Serenity* features landscape and marine vistas by Boston artist Ann Scott. June 12-30.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. • *City View*, an exhibition of works by Joseph Solman, Daniel Robinson, Grant Mudford and Phillip Jones, shows June 8-July 2.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. • Anti-music performances by 12 artists comprise *My Five Year Old Daughter Could Do That*. June 15 and 16, 8pm. $8. • *Art-a-la-Carte: Teens Art Show VII* shows June 6-16. • *Star*, an installation by Jennifer Hicks, displays June 20-July 7. • Karl Viksnin's installation, *Thresholds*, is on view July 14-Aug. 18. • Poet activist Meng Lang speaks about the political repercussions of free expression in China in *Glorious Subversion*. June 11, 7pm.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • *New Work* by Ann Christensen shows through June 10. • *Land, Sea and Beyond*, a group show of landscape paintings, shows June 14-Aug. 5. • *New Work* by Gail Bessette is a collection of landscapes. Aug. 9-Sept. 24.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. • *Works on Paper Invitational* shows through June 9. • Roger Kizik's paintings display June 16-July 7. • *In the Spirit of Landscape*, a group show of landscape paintings, runs June 16-July 31. • The gallery is closed in August.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. • *Market Strategies*, works by Jan Hammer, Daniel Lefcourt, Jocelyn Shipley and Cheyney Thompson, explores the exuberance of the marketplace. Through June 15. • German-born photographer Judith Jockel shows *Portraits*, a series of photographs drawing from Flemish and German paintings of the 14th century. June 23-July 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. • This gallery, owned and operated by several local artists, always has a variety of interesting artwork and art-related events going on. • Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. • The gallery shows work by six female artists: Linda Emerson, Farleigh Goss, Katie McDonald, Julie Pepper, Caroline Sandel and Ava Swoboda. Through June 29.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • Judith Belzer, Stanley Bielen and Diana Horowitz present their work June 8-July 7. • Bradford Johnson, Lance Keimig, Ron Rumford and Thomas Tietjen present a summer group show, July 11-Aug. 17. • The gallery is closed for the rest of August.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • Japanese potter Noriyasu Tsuchia displays *Past to Future Vessels*, ceramic vessels in the Mingei tradition. Through June 27. • *Fine Choices: Objects* focuses on the artistic object as a source of beauty and interest. July 1-Sept. 4.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. • This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse also specializes in antique Tixing teapots, interior design and furniture. Ongoing.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* • The exhibit *American Watercolors and Pastels* is ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.Robert KleinGallery.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* • Edward McHugh displays his paintings, and Guy Russell presents his photographs. Through July 10.

Rolly-Michaux Gallery
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm. • *Juste Présent*, a suite of etchings from 1961 designed to accompany poems by Tristan Tzara, shows through June 16.

Schlessinger Library
Radcliffe Yard, between Brattle and Garden streets, Cambridge (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. • *Nuestra Comida/Our Food*, a collection of photographs by Mayan photographers from Chiapas, is organized by Sister Carlota Duarte. Through June 29.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. • *The Undergraduate Student Exhibition* displays through September.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12 gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* • Contemporary paintings from Havana by Mario Ayras show in his first solo exhibition in the United States. Throughout June.

Spena Gallery
One Bowdoin Square, Boston (227-3956). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm. • The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques presents *Boxes, Open and Shut*, which reveals what an icebox, snuffbox and lunch box have in common. Through Sept. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • Witness the evolution of a brilliant contemporary artist's work over the past three decades. The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression as he moves from representational and impressionistic brushwork and color usage, leading up to this current style.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. • The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works, including those by painters M. Tigrane, R. Kefflin and C. Ferrer, along with striking dried-flower arrangements made near Saint Tropez. Ongoing.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (876-0246). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-1pm. • The Cambridge Art Association presents the work of Brookline artist Mary Kostman. Through July 14.

Upstairs at Johnsons
355 Newbury St., Boston (536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Fri., 8:30am-5pm; Sat., 8:30am-1pm. • Students from the School at the Museum of Fine Arts display paintings from their class about the use of color. Through June 27.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. • Lisa Reindorf displays her watercolor paintings of architecture and landscapes, influenced by her time spent living in Mexico. Through June 30.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. • A display of selected works of the gallery's current inventory shows throughout June. • *Wind and Dazzle: The Art of Charles Hopkins (1869-1962)*, a collection of more than 70 oil paintings and watercolors, is on view through July 10.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. • A Playground Jazz Series takes place on Friday nights. • Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. • Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

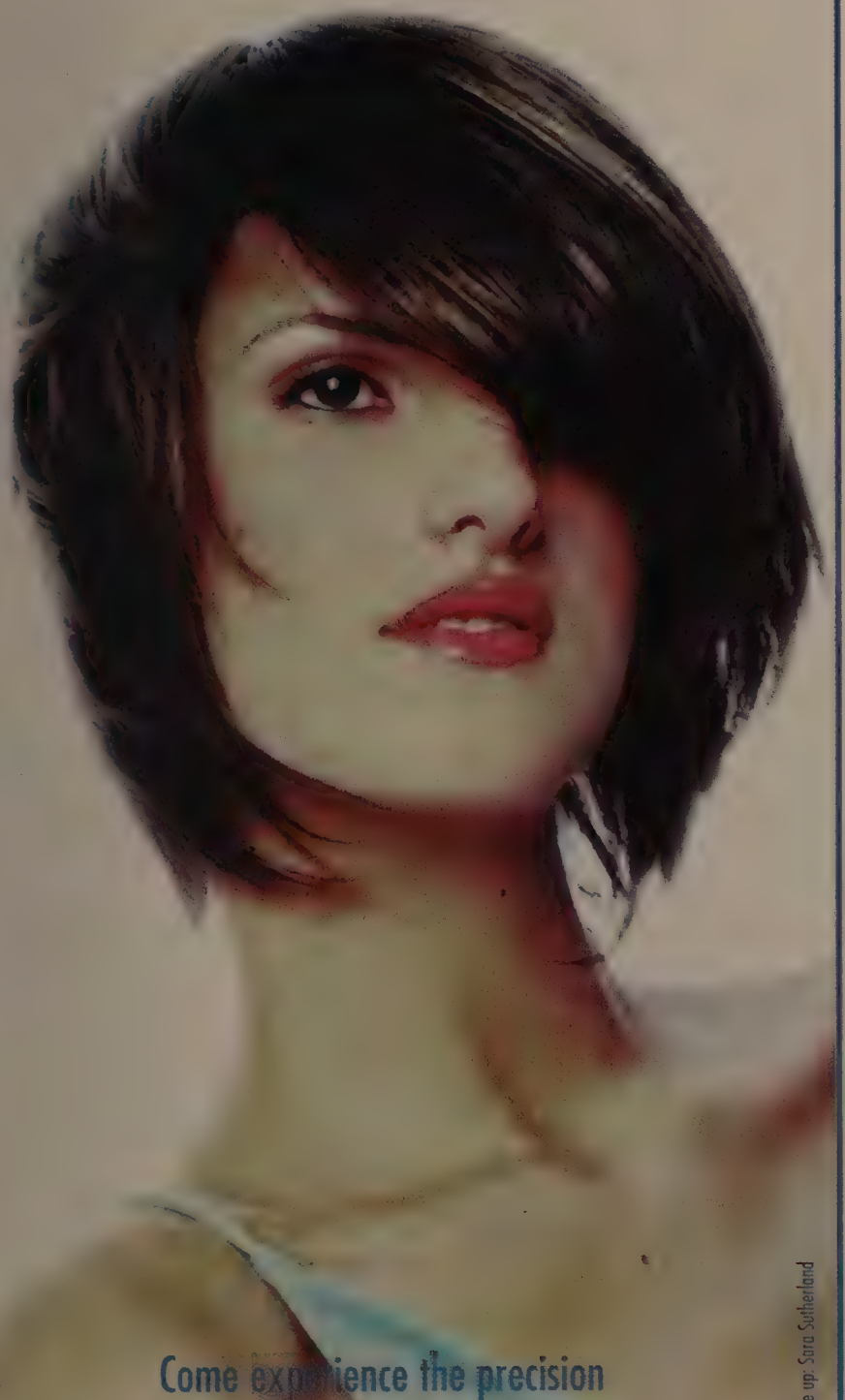
Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. • *Senior Graduation Show* exhibit displays June 8-July 27.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. • *Photographs from the Gallery Archives* show through Sept. 15.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. • The 2001 juried member's exhibition shows June 22 through July 29. • The PRC is closed in August.

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FILM

ZEN AND THE ART HOUSE

Bask in the aura of *Enlightenment Guaranteed*

BY PAUL SHERMAN

One of the more puzzling mysteries of American moviegoing is why the work of German writer-director Doris Dorrie has gotten spotty exposure, at best, in this country. With 1987's wry romantic comedy *Men...*, Dorrie had a genuine art house hit here, and she seemed destined to become a major international director. Well, she did become a major director, but her work has barely registered on U.S. radar. Maybe it was the infamy of having made the 1989 Hollywood flop *Me and Him*, an underachieving comedy about a man and his talking penis, that soured her to American distributors and caused them to ignore all but one of Dorrie's 1990s movies, 1995's bittersweet *Nobody Loves Me*. But subsequent film series screenings at the Brattle Theatre and Harvard Film Archive showed that "unseen" Dorrie movies like *In the Belly of the Whale*, *Money* and especially 1998's *Am I Beautiful?* were as rewarding as all but a small fraction of the movies that clutter our art houses.



Uwe Ochsenknecht (left) and Gustav Peter Wohler get spiritual in *Enlightenment Guaranteed*.

Finally, another of Dorrie's movies has received American distribution and a local opening. *Enlightenment Guaranteed* continues her fruitful fascination with her characters' relationships to the world around them. Their struggles to fit in, to feel comfortable and to find some contentment in themselves are quests that ran through *Nobody Loves Me* and *Am I Beautiful?*, and which strike the two German brothers at the center of *Enlightenment*.

I don't think these two brothers quite expect to have such topics dominate their lives, which is what makes this movie a comedy about some serious issues. The bossier of the two, Uwe (Uwe Ochsenknecht), sells kitchen fixtures for a living and comes home one day to find that his wife and kids have left him, thanks to his insensitivity. His brother, Gustav (Gustav Peter Wohler), is a feng shui expert who's dabbled in Eastern philosophy and is about to leave for a retreat at a Japanese Buddhist monastery. Distraught, dumped Uwe pleads to come along.

Showing that you have to get a little lost to find yourself, the trip to Japan turns out to be a very humbling experience for the brothers. They walk around at night using neon signs as landmarks but then become hopelessly lost later on when they discover that the signs have been turned off for the night. Separated from their clothes and money, they then try to use an ATM but can't understand the instructions and lose their cards inside the ATM. And after sleeping in a stolen tent, the suddenly homeless siblings—whose desperation skyrockets when they get separated at a crowded intersection—eventually get rescued by a German expatriate who gets them a night of work wearing lederhosen at a cheesy German-themed restaurant.

Against the bustle of Tokyo, the monastery they finally reach is almost painfully intimate. After fighting off the city, each brother now has to contend with himself and the adjustment to the monks' Spartan regimen. Just mastering the sitting position for reciting ritualistic sutras is plenty, but there's also the early wake-ups, the seemingly endless cleaning and the Zen emptiness to battle, as well as the imposingly pious abbot. Dorrie—who filmed *Enlightenment Guaranteed* on digital video—really gets into the nooks and crannies of both the monasteries and the brothers, using Uwe's video diary to get into his head. But Dorrie manages to keep a light touch thanks to her script, which injects some amusing sibling rivalry into the retreat when decadent Uwe turns out to take to the monastery better than the more spiritual Gustav.

Enlightenment Guaranteed proves that a movie can be entertaining and wise. The brothers' journey enjoyably celebrates living for the moment, a message anyone hoping to see Dorrie's movie should heed. Released by a small distributor with little of the marketing dollars of Hollywood-owned art-film distributors like Miramax and Sony Pictures Classics, *Enlightenment Guaranteed* may only grace our screens briefly. **iB**

Enlightenment Guaranteed ★★★

Directed and written by Doris Dorrie. With Uwe Ochsenknecht and Gustav Peter Wohler. Not Rated. In German with subtitles. Capitol Entertainment.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Angel Eyes ★★
This romantic drama's dark side is more ambitious than expected, but the love between Jennifer Lopez's Chicago cop and Jim Caviezel's drifter is never quite believable, thanks to the repeated sugarcoating of its supposedly gritty backdrop.

Atlantis: The Lost Empire ★★
The latest Disney animated feature is very much in the *Star Wars*/*Raiders of the Lost Ark* adventure mold. It has a boyishly eager Luke Skywalker-sort-of-hero, undersea battles staged like the *Star Wars* aerial fights, dramatic John Williams-sounding music and a plot in which the hero clashes with mercenaries over an exotic treasure. Although the animation is rich and detailed, this is routine storytelling for such stuff: white-bread hero in an unusual setting, lots of natives who get to do nothing, marginalized ethnic characters for comic relief, a love interest with a Barbie figure. Michael J. Fox voices the young hero—gee, why didn't they just cast Mickey Rooney?

Bread and Roses ★★½
Britain's Ken Loach, who's long made populist movies like Poor Cow and Riff-Raff, makes a movie in America. His latest follows a young, illegal Mexican immigrant (Pilar Padilla) to Los Angeles, where she gets a job cleaning offices and eventually becomes involved in the fight to unionize janitors. This is mid-level Loach. Although the immigrant's relationship with the white union organizer (a very strong Adrien Brody) adds some wrinkles to the story, and the action is semi-involving, this isn't a case where the characters rise above the political message.

Keep the River on Your Right ★★★
Painter-turned-anthropologist Tobias Schneebaum is fascinating, and so is this documentary about him. Now 80, Schneebaum lived with primitive tribes in New Guinea (where the men had both wives and homosexual lovers) and in Peru (with cannibals), and the documentary takes him back to the places where he left the "civilized world" behind, only to find places he liked better.

The Man Who Cried ★★
A story about a little girl who escapes the Cossacks in the late 1920s, works as a showgirl and in an opera company in Paris in the late 1930s, escapes the Nazis in 1940 and finally emigrates to America should have been a lot more thrilling than it is in English director Sally Potter's latest. Although filled with the haunting images of 80-year-old cinematographer Sacha Vierny (*Hiroshima Mon Amour*) and another typically convincing Cate Blanchett performance (as another Russian emigre in Paris), this suffers from the miscasting of Christina Ricci as the heroine, the overacting of John Turturro as an arrogant opera star, Johnny Depp playing essentially the same gypsy he did in *Chocolat* and the overall impression that something more exciting must be taking place off screen.

Pearl Harbor ★½
Letting *Armageddon* director Michael Bay near real-life events (and emotions) is like letting a guy in a Godzilla suit near a miniature city. Any hope of finesse is gone. In this World War II drama centering on two farm boys turned fly boys (Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett), everything is applied with a sledgehammer: the clunky dialogue, the music that overwhelms most scenes by continually telling you how to feel, and the peculiar need to wring a happy ending from a national tragedy. Meanwhile, the featured characters—including those played by Kate Beckinsale and Cuba Gooding Jr.—are so one-dimensional and flawless that the movie has to resort to contrivances like one's presumed death to try to generate conflict among them.

The Road Home ★★
Chinese director Zhang Yimou made a name for himself with dramas that were epic in their range of human emotion, movies like *Raise the Red Lantern* and *To Live*. But his work has become increasingly smaller. His latest is a surprisingly conflict-free story. It's a bit like two movies in one: the first about a contemporary black-and-white tale about a businessman returning to his hometown after the death of his father, and the second an extended color flashback about the courtship of his parents in 1958. Though beautifully shot and well-acted—the cast includes young Zhang Ziyi of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*—there's little going on beneath the surface of these stories, and whatever little conflict creeps in is quickly settled. It's not bad, just very disappointing.

Shrek ★
Like its title character, this animated feature means well but is dim-witted and aggravating. This medieval tale in which a third of the jokes are contemporary references just seems like a lazy cheat. As the ogre Shrek and his animal sidekick carry out a quest, all the movie can do is put some obstacle in front of them, and then have the ogre hit something or get hit, and the sidekick make some contemporary wisecrack—again and again. And don't get me started on the sickening racial politics of this movie's jive-talking donkey sidekick.

Songcatcher ★★★
The last time director Maggie Greenwald headed into the wilderness with an independent woman from the past, the result was the memorable *Ballad of Little Jo*. Her latest isn't quite so potent, but this story of a turn-of-the-last-century musicologist (Janet McTeer) who leaves the Ivy League for Appalachia gets by. Some of the plotting feels a bit by-the-numbers—oh look, it's Aidan Quinn as the guy who has to become her love interest—the central struggle of a strong-willed woman trying to find herself in a male-dominated setting works well, without clichè. And, as in *Tumbleweeds*, McTeer is a powerful presence who also projects vulnerability.

Sound and Fury ★★★½
One of last year's Best Documentary Oscar nominees returns, at the Museum of Fine Arts on June 6, 10 and 16. In this moving look at the dilemma of whether deaf people should get cochlear implants, John Aronson chronicles the choices of two adult brothers, one deaf and one not, who make different decisions regarding the implants for their kids.

Startup.com ★★★
Here's one for the time capsule. Documentary directors Chris Hegedus (*The War Room*) and Jehane Noujaim chronicle the rise and fall of govWorks.com, an Internet company that hoped to contract with local governments whose citizens could then use the Web site to pay parking tickets, renew licenses and cut through red tape. It sounded like a good idea, and venture capital thought it was, too, ponying up millions to the startup headed by two friends who'd been dreaming of going into business together since high school. The movie not only vividly shows us the economic boom and bust, but also the strains the endeavor puts on the friends' relationship.

An Unfinished Symphony ★★★★
Bestor Cram was one of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War who participated in that organization's 1971 Memorial Day Weekend protest march that traveled Paul Revere's ride in reverse. Now the long-time Boston filmmaker is the co-director (with Mike Majoros) of the staggering movie that tells the march's story through vintage footage and contemporary interviews. As fascinating as the old footage is, it's not the only reason why the movie is so good. The way the directors have assembled it—with no overt narration or jarring editing, and set to the mournful strains of Henry Gorecki's *Third Symphony*—makes it an unusally intimate experience.

PETER MOUNTAIN

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com.

Boston Public Library

Audrey Hepburn on Film
•June 11, 6pm **My Fair Lady** *1964*. Hepburn and Rex Harrison star in this lavish musical romantic comedy that features such unforgettable songs as "I Could Have Danced All Night" and "Get Me to the Church on Time."

Iberoamerican Film Festival
•June 6, 6 pm **Piel** (*Skin*) *1998*. Following the screening of the film is a reception in the Boston Room hosted by the Consul Generals of Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Spain and Venezuela. In Spanish with English subtitles.
•June 13, 6pm **Capitães de Abril** (*April Captains*) *2000*. Combining fictional characters with historical facts and places, this film portrays events surrounding the Portuguese Revolution.
•June 14, 6pm **Oriundi** (*True Love Is Timeless*) *1999*. A 93-year-old patriarch struggling with personal demons is visited by his long-deceased wife, who appears in the guise of a beautiful young relative.

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features.

He-Men: Film Noir Hunks
•June 11, 5:30 and 9:30pm **The Blue Dahlia** *1946*. A war hero returns to disillusionment, corrosive sexuality and moral decay in Los Angeles. It is Raymond Chandler's only original screenplay.
•June 11, 3:30 and 7:30pm **The Glass Key** *1942*. This story of murder, frame-ups, and cover-ups features a steely, austere Alan Ladd playing the loyal assistant of a corrupt politician.

G is for Greenaway
•June 12, 7pm **8 1/2 Women** *1999*. Intrigued by Fellini's *8 1/2*, Philip Standing and his odd playboy son Storey Delamere try to fill the void in their lives—and their opulent Geneva estate—with sensual adventure.


Cate Blanchett is the saving grace of English director Sally Potter's *The Man Who Cried.*

•June 12, 4:30 and 9:30pm **Early Shorts** (*various*). Sequentially produced short films deal with such ecclectic themes as ancient (or futuristic) tribes, falling from windows, the buildings of Venice, unmade films, telephone boxes and more.

Recent Raves
•June 13, 10pm **Lies** 1999. A sculptor and his young mistress embark on an explicitly sexual, obsessive affair.
•June 13, 4, 6 and 8pm **Suzhou River** *2000*. A motorcycle courier falls in love against a gritty, poverty, stricken urban backdrop.
•June 6, 3:15 and 7:30pm **The Taste of Others** *1999*. Truthful exploration of romantic folly and social intercourse collide in this film, which was nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film.
•June 6, 5:30 and 9:45pm **When Brendan Met Trudy** *2000*. A madcap adventure ensues when two hilariously mismatched movie fanatics meet in a pub.

Special Engagements
•June 8-10, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45 and 10pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 1pm) **Spring Forward** *2000*. The complex relationship between a former convict and his older co-worker is presented and developed through four seasons.
•June 15-21, 4, 6, 8 and 10pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 12 and 2pm) **Taboo** *1999*. The historical drama and artistic portrait of Samurai ethos depicts its last surviving practitioners, who are forced to assimilate in the face of rising nationalism and encroaching Western ideology.



Coolidge Corner Theater

Baiagan Experimental Film Series

•Through June 7 **Spike and Mike's 2001 Classic Festival of Animation**. This eclectic mix of art and film features world-class animated shorts, including Academy Award winner *Father and Daughter*, Academy Award nominee *Rejected* and British Academy Award winner *The Man with the Beautiful Eyes*.

Jazz in June

•June 11, 7:30pm. WGBH 89.7FM and the Coolidge Corner Theatre team up with the New England Conservatory to pair live jazz performances with jazz films. Tonight, *Don Cherry: MultiCulti* will show in tandem with music by *David Moffett and Ornette: The Ornette Coleman Trio*.

•June 18, 7:30pm. The series continues with *Herbie Hancock Trio: Hurricane* showing with *LA All Stars: Big Joe Turner and Hampton Hayes*.

Midnight Movies

•June 8 and 9, 12am **Diamonds Are Forever** *1971*. In Guy Hamilton's film, the infamous 007 squares up against arch enemy Blofeld in this James Bond classic film based on the novel by Ian Fleming.

•June 15 and 16, 12am **Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas** *1998*. Fueled by massive quantities of psychedelic drugs, Raoul Duke (Johnny Depp) and his "attorney"(a corpulent Benicio Del Toro) set out to capture the elusive American Dream in this screen adaptation of Hunter S. Thompson's cult novel.

Special Screenings

•Jun 18, 7:30pm **The Shootist** *1976*. A lyrical elegiac Western of the highest quality, and moving tribute to John Wayne and the last days of the Old West.

Widescreen!

•June 15 and 16 **Raiders of the Lost Ark** *1981*. Archaeologist/adventurist Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford) goes up against the Nazis in a race to find the Ark of the Covenent.

•June 17 and 18 **All About Eve** *1950*. A story of ambition and betrayal unfolds as an aspiring actress tries to make it to the top in this look at life in and around the theater. Six Oscars include Best Picture.

•June 19 **Ran** *1985*. In this adaptation of Shakespeare's *King Lear*, an elderly lord relinquishes control to his three sons, unleashing corruption. Directed by Akira Kurosawa.

Harvard Film Archive

The Divine Comedy of Federico Fellini

•June 13 and 30, 7pm **8 1/2** *1963*. One of the most lauded works in cinematic history, *8 1/2* depicts a famous movie director whose professional and personal difficulties trigger his descent into a hazy torpor of recollection and outrageous fantasy.

•June 18 and 21, 9pm **Amarcord** *1974*. A collection ofimpressionistic vignettes depicting the director's hometown of Rimini during the fascist era.

•June 18, 7pm **The Clowns** *1971*. Made for Italian TV, Fellini's homage to circus clowns is itself a clownish spoof of documentaries. Exploring the dying art of clowning, the funny piece even makes fun of itself.

•June 11, 7pm **Juliet of the Spirits** *1965*. A visually resplendent, often surreal exploration of the repressed desires of a bourgeois housewife.

•June 6 and 12, 7pm **La Dolce Vita** *1960*. A reporter for the society pages of a Roman newspaper becomes entangled in the lives of a jaded aristocracy in his search for meaning, exposing the convoluted values of modern society.



Zhang Ziyi finds love in *The Road Home*.

Living with Your Eyes: The World According to Johan van der Keuken

•June 16, 7 pm and June 20, 7 pm **Amsterdam Global Village** *1996*. A patchwork of personal tales taking place in Amsterdam.

•June 15, 7pm, and June 17 8:30pm **The Eye Above the Well** *1988*. An evocative, cinematic "poem" taking place in India, capturing its distinctly non-Western sights and sounds.

•June 15, 9pm **Last Words: My Sister Yoka** *1998*. A tribute to the filmmaker's older sister, the film begins with her in conversation during the last week of her battle with cancer, and works back in time, metaphorically combatting the disease.

Museum of Fine Arts

Boston Jewish Film Festival 2001: Back by Popular Demand

•June 14, 8pm and June 17, 2pm **Dad on the Run**, *1999*. Young father Jonas must adhere to tradition and bury his son's foreskin three days after circumcision, but procrastination and the wayward tendencies of young adulthood make the task a difficult one.

•June 7, 8pm and June 10, 2pm **Left Luggage** *1998*. An agnostic philosophy student works as a nanny for a household of Hassidic Jews and gains insight into her Jewish parents' past.

•June 16, 4pm and June 17, 4pm **Brother Born Again** *2000*. Julia Pimsleur, a bisexual, Jewish New Yorker, travels to a remote island in Alaska with the hope of understanding why her intellectual brother dropped out of college and converted to Christianity.

New Beat Cinema from Japan

•June 15, 8pm and June 17, 12pm **Beautiful Sunday**, *1998*. A whimsical, revealing look at the tenants of a Japanese apartment building.

•June 8, 8:15pm , June 10, 10:30am and June 17, 10:30am **Happy Go Lucky** *1995*. A fourth grader suffers through a series of humiliations, offering a humorous perspective on the role of guilt in Japanese society.

New England Film Artists Present

•June 13, 8pm **Colombians: Looking Inside** *2001*. This is a presentation of four short films that aim to capture the lives and voices of Colombians in urban and rural Colombia, as well as recent immigrants to New York City.

•June 7, 6pm **Harry's Deal** *2000* and **Oma Rhee** *1999* (two shorts). In *Harry's Deal*, a daughter and her estranged mother reunite after the father's unexpected death. *Oma Rhee* is the personal documentary of three sisters recalling the deterioration of their mother's arranged marriage.

•June 6, 8pm **Orphan** *2001*. A hired killer gets shot during a routine hit and must look after his victim's daughter from the spiritual realm as he hovers between life and death.

•June 16, 10:30am **An Unfinished Symphony** *2001*. This is a documentary on Operation POW, a 1971 Vietnam War protest that retraced Paul Revere's ride and culminated in a huge demonstration on Boston Common. This past Memorial Day marked the 30th anniversary of this event, which drew national attention.

Special Engagements

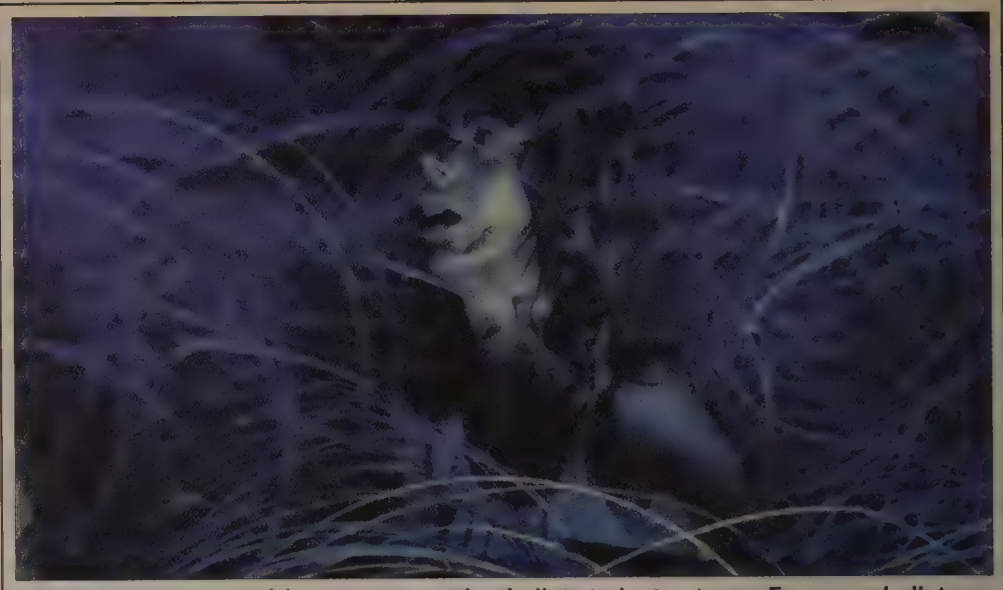
•June 6, 6pm and June 10, 12pm **Sound and Fury** *2000*. Josh Aronson's Academy Award-nominated documentary looks at the deaf community's views on cochlear implants, a new surgical procedure that allows some deaf people to hear.

Wang Center

•June 18 **Braveheart** *1995*. Directed, written by and starring Mel Gibson, this is the (very, very long) epic tale of 13th-century Scottish rebel warrior William Wallace who builds a grassroots resistance to the tyranny of King Edward I. Beautiful scenery and a highly emotional love story made this movies a hit, earning *Braveheart* five Oscars in '95, including Best Picture. *270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400), $6.*

Special Events

June 26, 8pm **Local and National Shorts** of all genres as the **The Underground Film Revolution** continues at the Zeitgeist Gallery. 312 Broadway, Cambridge, (876-2182).



In Dario Argento's *Suspiria*, an unsuspecting ballet student enters a European ballet academy and learns more than dance moves as the bodies begin piling up.

Preview

Gore Galore

The Brattle features masters of Italian horror

When it comes to the typical cheap-thrill teen slasher flicks of today, camp often supersedes horror and any touch of artfulness. But since the late '50s, Italy has been producing captivating horror flicks—reels and reels of celluloid that features breathtaking cinematic panache as well as blood-smeared scariness. Sure, these Italian films also feature plenty of tacky fun that make horror films creepy cult favorites: repulsive cannibal tales, zombie killers and supernatural Gothic monsters. But most are very stylish as well, with soaring, sweeping camerawork, striking imagery and stunning musical scores. For the next few Thursdays, the Brattle Theatre is showcasing some of the best examples of Italy's most influential horror directors, like Italian gothic horror master Dario Argento's *Suspiria* and Lucio Fulci's zombie film, *The Beyond*.

•June 7, 3:30 and 7:45pm *The Beyond* 1981. A hotel, built upon seven gates to Hell, threatens to open its gates, releasing the living dead. Behind the doorway lie the terrifying and unspeakable secrets of hell. Lucio Fulci's masterpiece is by far one of the best Italian gore films of the '80s.

•June 7, 5:30 and 9:45pm *The Cemetery Man* 1994. Horror with a comedic twist, the film follows a watchman at a cemetery who must keep the dead in their graves but is easily distracted by the opposite sex. Francesco Dellamorte (Rupert Everett) is the watchman who battles to keep the dead actually dead.

•June 14, 7:45 and 9:45pm *Suspiria* 1977. Dario Argento paints a chilling story: An unsuspecting American ballet student enters a weird European ballet academy; soon the bodies begin piling up. Ranked as one of the scariest films ever made, it has the apt tag line: "The only thing more terrifying than the last 12 minutes of this film are the first 90." All with vivid, dreamlike cinematography. *Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. —Erin Hagedorn*

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St.(495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). DGreen Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

Barnes & Noble Booksellers
1 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-628-5567). 7:30pm. Free. Photographer **Bonnie McGrath** shows her new collection, *Walden Pond*. The subject of the book is New England monuments.

The BCAE Summer Reading Festival: Masters of Mystery
The Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-8:30pm. $19. **Jeremiah Healy** discusses his recent works, *Spiral* and *The Only Good Lawyer.* He also talks about how one can use life experience when writing fiction.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Emma Richler** discusses her new book, *Sister Crazy*, a stream-of-consciousness narrative in which a young woman loses herself in her love for her family. Also, **Rachel Seiffert** talks about her work, *The Dark Room*, which comprises three harrowing stories of people trapped in the violence of Nazi Germany.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Carl Kozlowski** and **Tim Joyce** talk about their humorous guide to life after college, titled *Life: the Final Frontier*.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free. Amnesty International Executive Director **William F. Schultz** speaks about his new book, *In Our Best Interest: How Defending Human Rights Benefits Us All.* Schultz is presented by former Massachusetts congressman **Chester Atkins**.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. **Thisbe Nissen** discusses and signs her first novel, *The Good People of New York*, a story of a New York marriage and ensuing divorce.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Authors **Tom Copeland** and **Vladimir Antikarov** discuss their book, *Real Options: A Practitioner's Guide*, which explores a new method for estimating the value of investments.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 6pm. Free. Retired *Washington Post* food critic **Phyllis Richman** discusses *Who's Afraid of Virginia Ham?*, a novel about a food critic in Washington, D.C. Also, **Andy Stryckha** signs copies of his first book, a crime novel called *A Witness Above*.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. Pulitzer-prize winning reporter **Madeleine Blais** reads from her memoir, *Uphill Walkers*.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Brattle Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Historian **Robert Ballard** gives a talk about his compelling survey of the major WWII Pacific battlefields and graveyards, *Graveyards of the Pacific: From Pearl Harbor to Bikini Island*.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

Borders Books and Music
Borders Books and Music, Cambridgeside Galleria (679-0887). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 3pm. Free. Photographer **Bonnie McGrath** discusses her new book of photographs, *Walden Pond*.

MONDAY, JUNE 11

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Myla Goldberg** discusses *Bee Season*, a novel about a family torn apart when its youngest member experiences an intellectual awakening that manifests itself in the winning of a spelling bee.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free. **Michael Capuzzo** signs copies of *Close to Shore*, his account of the terrifying Jersey-shore shark attacks of 1916, upon which the movie *Jaws* was based.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

The BCAE Summer Reading Festival: Masters of Mystery
The Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-8pm. $19. **David Brody**, author of *Unlawful Deeds*, a legal thriller set in Boston, discusses the novel and how he drew upon his own experiences to write it.

Borders Books and Music "Lunch and Learn" Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:30pm. Free. **Dr. Santiago Villazon** discusses his new book, *The Laservision Breakthrough*, about laser-based eye surgery.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. $2, signing; $5, signing and movie. **Joanne Harris**, author of *Chocolat*, talks about her new book, *Five Quarters of the Orange*, in which she returns to post-war, small-town France to chronicle the childhood memories of café proprietress Framboise Dartigan. The book signing is followed by a screening of *Chocolat* at the Coolidge Corner Theatre.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (661-1515). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6:30pm. Free. **David Lodge**, author of *Changing Places, Small World* and others, discusses his newest novel, *Thinks*.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Former celebrity journalist **Iris Krasnow** discusses her memoir of married life, *Surrendering to Marriage: Husbands, Wives and Other Imperfections*.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. **Jennifer Belle** reads from her latest novel, *High Maintenance*. As part of the bookstore's Books and Brews series, patrons are invited to join the author at the Newtonville Times restaurant after the event for free appetizers and a pint of local brew.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

The BCAE Summer Reading Festival: Masters of Mystery
The Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-8:30pm. $19. **Dennis Lehane**, author of the critically acclaimed *Mystic River* and *A Drink Before the War*, discusses the importance of character development in novels and how to build believable ones.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. **Elinor Lipman** discusses and signs *The Dearly Departed*, a novel about a young woman who returns to her small New Hampshire hometown for her mother's funeral, only to discover a half-brother she never knew.

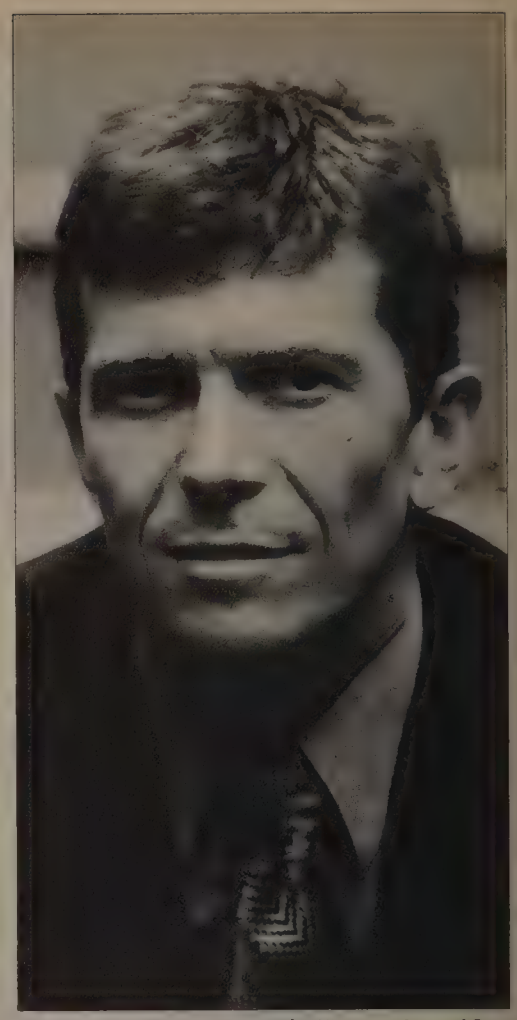
Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. Boston Globe science columnist and author **Chet Raymo** speaks on his new book, *An Intimate Look at the Night Sky*. The book offers a unique annotated star guide and a series of essays on humans' relationship to the heavens.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Barnes & Noble Booksellers
1 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508) 628-5567). 7pm. Free. Calling all fantasy readers. **Eoin Colfer** reads from his new novel, *Artemis Fowl*. Tonight, be transported into a world of magic, mystery and adventure.

Borders Books and Music
Borders Books and Music, Independence Mall, Kingston (781-582-8100). 3pm. Free. Baseball announcer **Ken Coleman** signs his biography, *Talking on Air: A Broadcaster's Life in Sports*. Coleman is a former Red Sox broadcaster who became an institution throughout New England.

Borders Books and Music
151 Andover St., Peabody (978-538-3003). 7:30pm. Free. Author **Joseph E. Garland** reads from his book, *Bear of the Sea*, a biography of legendary Gloucester captain Giant Jim Patillo.



Stephen McCauley reads in Newton June 19.

Borders Books and Music Second Thursday Series
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:30pm. Free. **Harris Gardner** presents the featured poets and the open-mike session. The poets include **Charles Coe**, author of *Picnic on the Moon*. National Poetry Slam Team member **Jack McCarthy** and award-winning poet **Jean Monahan**.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. **Alexandra Styron** reads from her debut novel, *All the Finest Girls*. As part of the bookstore's Books and Brews series, patrons are invited to join the author at the Newtonville Times restaurant after the signing for free appetizers and a pint of local brew.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30pm. Free. Novelist **Richard Russo** discusses his new book, *Empire Falls*, a story of the pitfalls and acts of heroism that occur in the everyday life of a down-at-the-heels New England mill town. Russo is the author of *The Risk Pool, Straight Man* and *Nobody's Fool*.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

WordsWorth Books Author Series
The Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30pm. Free. Letter enthusiast **Andrew Carroll** discusses and signs copies of his new book, *War Letters: Extraordinary Correspondence from American Wars*—a collection of letters written by notables and footsoldiers alike.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Barnes and Noble Booksellers
325 Harvard St., Brookline (232-0594). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 2pm. Free. **Dick Lehr** and **Gerard O'Neill** discuss *Black Mass*, their account of the alliance between FBI agent John Connolly and Boston Irish mob boss James "Whitey" Bulger.

Borders Books and Music
Borders Books and Music, Cambridgeside Galleria (679-0887). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 11am. Free. Editor **Leigh Grossman** signs copies of *The Red Sox Fan Handbook*. This compilation of the defining characteristics of Red Sox fans brings readers up to speed on everything you need to know about New England's favorite team.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

Meet the Poets Series
Naumburg Room, Fogg Museum, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $5. Poet **Jennifer Clarvoe**, winner of the 2001 Kate Tufts Discovery Award, discusses her book of poems, *Invisible Tender*. Then, **Deborah Tall** discusses her book, *Summons*.



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MONDAY, JUNE 18

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Stanford University Professor **W. S. Di Piero** discusses and signs *Skirts and Slacks*, his latest book of lyric poems, which delves into the emotional and imagistic life of the writer.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Andrew Solomon** gives a reading of excerpts from his new book, *Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression*, in which he paints a portrait of depression by drawing on his own struggles with the illness and his interviews with doctors, scientists, policymakers and politicians, drug designers and philosophers.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
Coolidge Corner Theatre (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. Canadian script-writer **Donna Morrisey** discusses her debut novel, *Kit's Law*, a tale of mother-and-daughter misfits in a small Newfoundland town. Also, **Carolyn Cooke** discusses *The Bostons*, her book of short stories that depict vacationing Bostonians through the eyes of Maine natives.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. Author **Susan E. Eaton** discusses school busing and her new book, *The Other Boston Busing Story*.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. **Stephen McCauley**, author of *The Man of the House* and *The Object of My Affection*, reads from his latest novel, *True Enough*, and signs copies of the book.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, First Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. First Tuesday of the month. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Every first Tuesday is a poetry session.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

The Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange Meeting
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Sunday. 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

The Harvard Coop Pre-School Story Hour
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Every Tuesday, 11am. Free. Bring the kids for a picture-book reading and an arts-and-crafts session.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month. It features music by Rob Gonzalez and poetry by Nola Kelley.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A headlining poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have served up soothing inspirations with their weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going Mondays with a wealth of featured writers.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

Radcliffe Institute
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge. 4pm. Free. **Janis Caldwell** and **Lisa Herschbach** discuss *Writing Bodies: Medicine, Literature, History*.

Learn to Be a Private Eye
Brookline Adult and Community Education Center, Brookline High, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). 6:30-9:30pm. $36. A private investigator explains what a real PI does when investigating divorce, politics and missing persons.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

Madeleine Albright
Kennedy Library, Columbia Point, Boston (929-4571). 5:30-7pm. Free. **Madeleine Albright** discusses her tenure as the first female Secretary of State—dealing with issues from the unrest of Kosovo to peace in the Middle East.

The Life of Marina Tsvetaeva
56 Brattle St., Boston (547-6789). 10:30am. $2. A slide lecture based on the memories and letters of **Marina Tsvetaeva**'s family, friends and contemporaries will explore the poet's life and writings.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

Star Gazing
Arnold Arboretum, Peter's Hill, across from Bussey Street Gate, Boston (635-7383). 9-10pm. Free. Join park rangers as they teach you the difference between planets and stars and the location of the constellations. Bring a flashlight, binoculars and a telescope.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

Be Your Own Headhunter
Brookline Adult and Community Education Center, Brookline High, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. 9am-12pm. $46. Learn how to be your own headhunter. This class will discuss aggressive techniques for landing your dream job.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

MDC Boston Harbor Islands
Fort Warren, Boston (727-7676). 1 and 3pm. Free. Come hear an MDC park ranger tell stories about the dark side of Fort Warren.

MONDAY, JUNE 11

How to Freelance
Brookline High, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (730-2700). 7-9pm. $31. A professional small-business consultant explains marketing, how much to charge and how to book your time as a freelancer.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Creating a Lifestyle of Beauty
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave, Boston (267-4430). 7:30-9:30pm. $25. Learn about eating well, finding the right exercise routine and how your lifestyle can affect how beautiful you feel.

Radcliffe Institute
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge. 4pm. Free. **Dhooleka Saarhadi Raj** discusses the concept of creating balance: work, family and community choices for middle-class America.

Technology and New England
Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, Harrison Gray Otis House, 141 Cambridge St., Boston (227-3956). 12:15pm. Free. SPNEA examines how the Industrial Revolution changed New England—from textile mills to railroads.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

The Back Bay Fens: Visions & Revisions
Meet at the Leif Ericson statue, Commonwealth Avenue Mall and Charlesgate East, Boston (566-1689, ext. 216). 10am. Free. This two-hour walking tour examines the multifaceted history of the Fens, from its ecological past to its uncertain future.

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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar • June 4: Jam with DJ Kapt Krunch.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
• June 11 and 18: In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Mike J, 6pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Vertigo Mondays
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning deep and progressive house, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
DJ Eddy K spins old school house mixed with the latest hits. 10pm. 19+. No cover.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Lounge night with DJ Courtney spinning house, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
• June 12: The Return, 6pm-10pm, 21+. • June 19: MD Jazz, 6pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night with R&B, house, funk and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.

Hibernia
DJ Jeremy spins lounge tunes, 6pm, 21+.



The Avalon's new Oxygen Bar (O Bar) is a big "hit" with clubbers.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

The Kells
DJs Roy Barboza and Chaos spin hip-hop, 9pm, 21+.

Listening

Mercury Lounge
The Milky Way DJs Adam Gibbons, Fran and Paul Nickerson spin down-tempo, jazzy deep house, soul and funk, 9pm, no cover.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house, trance to techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
• June 6: Baha Brothers; DJ Steve, 21+. • June 13: Baha Brothers; DJ Steve, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong An evening of psy-trance and drum-and-space with resident DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $4, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Jeff Knor, 9pm, 21+.

Bootyque
Lava Bar Join Original Lizard Lounge Brother Cleve and Friends for funky beats, 10pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house and trance music, 10pm, $10, 19+.

College Night
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ Dragg spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 After-work lounge with tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm. $15 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean. Jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Heaven
Backstage College night with DJ Johnny C spinning house music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
Avenue DJ Jason spins house and techno, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
• June 7 and 14: Mix 98.5 and Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin band, first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas 4pm, $3, 21+.

Tattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Vertigo
After-work party, 5pm; DJ Max and DJ Evan spin house, 10pm, 21+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adison. 10pm, 18+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney plays top-40 hits, your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s and one-hit wonders, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and special-guest global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40, dance and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Cire, 9:30pm, 21+.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
Roxy Guest DJs turn this dance party alive, 3rd floor.

Life
Lava Bar Dance to DJ Fran Englehardt and Paul Nickerson's deeply rooted soulful rhythms, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Ren Justice spins disco, top-40 and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
• June 8 and 15: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Todd, 10pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. 10pm, $12, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
Afterwork lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house and techno, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $4, 21+.

Anything Goes
Lava Bar DJ Fran and Tommy Delahunt unite on lesbian night spinning live, 10pm, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johnny C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

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Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house, hip-hop and top-40 dance.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house, DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house music while disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the backroom come alive. 9:30pm. Dress is casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins house international; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek Ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
• June 9 and 16: Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats in this laser-lit club, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor, $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

SW1
DJ Tari spins house, dress sexy, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.



On a recent Friday night, DJs Mike Hosker and Nasty Squirrel spin at one of the city's hottest night spots, SW1.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians. Then, DJ Adrienne spins Brit pop and new wave tunes to dance to. 9pm, $3, 19+.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Raffy spins International house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJs Larry, Dale, Magnum, Lisa and Robin play great reggae music, 9pm, $5.

Pandora's Box
Lava Bar Mod night with DJ Vinny, Sir Richard and Sterling spin '60s exotica, loungecore, psychedelic flowerpop and Motown, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
• June 10 and 17: Shoot some pool and have some drinks while the Chad LaMarsh Band performs live, 9:30pm, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Reggae with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

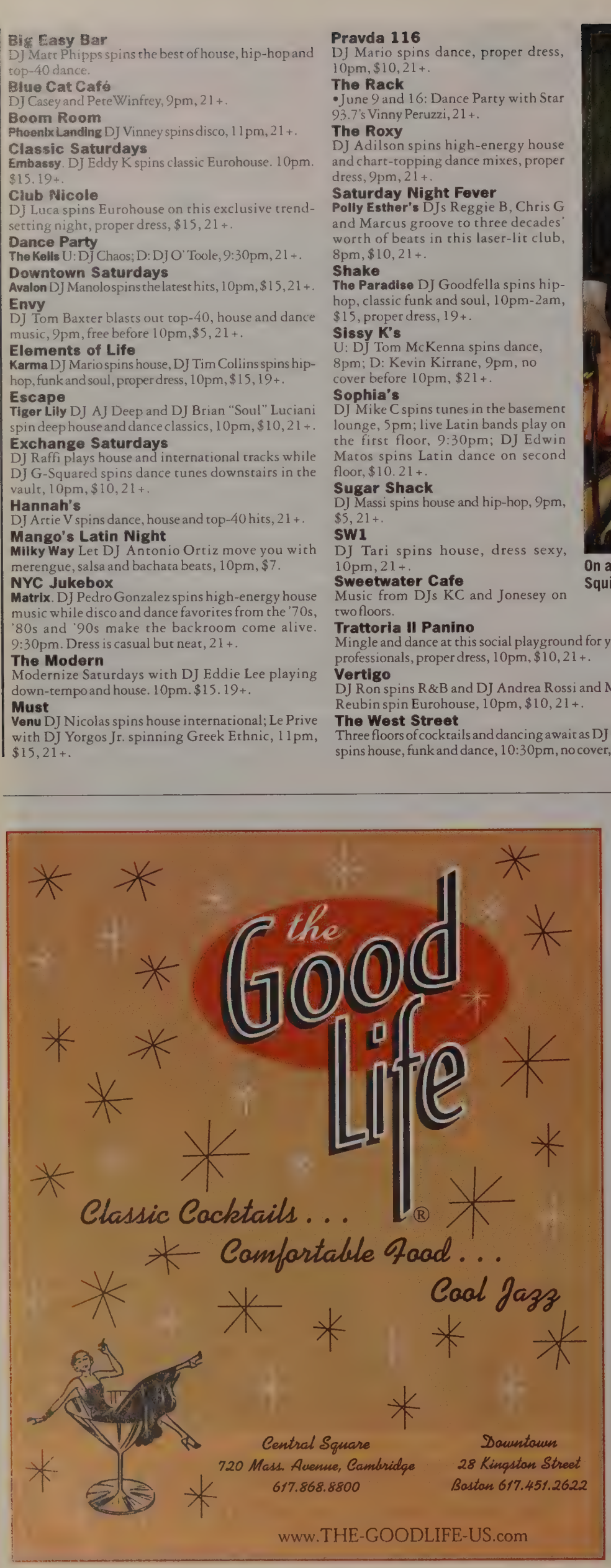
Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.



Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Café *94 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central or Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway, Somerville (629-5302). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Hong Kong *1236 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (800-575-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-9400). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Lava Bar *575 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-7707). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (562-8800). MBTA: Green Line to BU West.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station or Orange Line to Government Center.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000 x3333). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*

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Tuesday, June 12, 6pm – John Gilpatrick Spinal Cord Foundation Party to benefit people who have spinal injuries, hosted by WAAF 107.3's Greg Hill and featuring The Return!

Wednesday, June 13, 6pm – Summer Kick-Off Party hosted by WBCN's Cha Chi featuring The BaHa Brothers & DJ Steve Anderson! Have a barbecued dinner on our patio, ride the Wave Runner, dance, or just kick back and enjoy the scenery. This is a summer bash you won't want to miss!



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BROTHERLY LOVE

Oasis reflects a diplomatic new attitude while jamming on a U.S. tour with The Black Crowes. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Noel Gallagher sounds cheery as he gets on the phone from a hotel in Cleveland. Some people might find this unusual for the guitarist-songwriter of Oasis, the British rockers whose goal to become the biggest band in the world was pretty much reached in the mid-90s, when the only thing bigger may have been the brotherly arrogance of Noel and Liam Gallagher.

But things have clearly moderated as Oasis crosses the United States on a tour with The Black Crowes, which concludes June 11 at the Tweeter Center. Gallagher will probably even feel sorry when it's over. "It's been fantastic, yeah," he reports. "We haven't had a gig for two days, and we really miss it."

Not only has Oasis and the show-closing Crowes jammed together on revolving encores that range from Fleetwood Mac's "Oh Well" to the Bee Gees' "To Love Somebody," but their camaraderie has extended to hanging out offstage.



Oasis has joined The Black Crowes, another band with bickering brothers, on their latest tour.

"It's the first time ever where we've made new friends," says Gallagher, who includes actress Kate Hudson—wife of Crowes singer Chris Robinson—in that circle. "We usually sort of isolate ourselves when we get over here and don't speak to anyone. Just do the gig and sulk and go on again."

It's enough to make this "Tour of Brotherly Love"—a nod to the bickering history of both the Gallaghers and brothers Chris and Rich Robinson—approach its literal definition.

"It's all marketing," Gallagher says of that billing. "It looks good on the posters, 'The Tour of Brotherly Love,' and everyone giggles and says, 'Ha ha, it's funny.' But it doesn't really bear any relevance to what's going on."

The guitarist and his lead-singing sibling have long been at odds ("If we weren't in a band, we'd always be arguing about something," he says), even walking out on each other during past tours. But the elder Gallagher agrees that things seem better. Or at least, he says. "It's been good so far. You never know what today might bring."

Certainly the two groups share good war stories. "Yeah, we've had a couple of nights like that," says Gallagher, citing the making of Oasis' 1995 album *(What's the Story) Morning Glory?* as one favorite topic. "It's quite funny looking back. Just the fighting, and firing people and hiring them and refiring them."

For his part, Gallagher says that he's been much nicer and happier since he kicked drugs three years ago. Referring to the Robinson brothers' own substance-enhanced roller-coaster rides, he pipes, "It's a good thing that this tour didn't happen three years ago, 'cause we would've been all on drugs, wouldn't we, and causing trouble."

The pairing of the Atlanta-born Crowes and Manchester-bred Oasis may seem strange on paper, but Gallagher says, "We're quite similar. It's different styles of music, but it's all drawn from the same well."

The biggest difference is their distinctly American and British orientation. "They're more bluesy, and we're more of your classic British rock band," he says. "We're more like the Kinks and the Small Faces and the Beatles, and they're more like the Allman Brothers."

Indeed, while the hard-rocking Crowes attract some jam-band fans, when it comes to the Allmans, Grateful Dead or Phish, Gallagher admits, "I wouldn't listen to them at home, no. I prefer listening to the Beatles. But it's all good."

The Crowes and Oasis still share a common position vs. the rest of popular music, about which Gallagher is less diplomatic. "The music business has managed to manifest itself into one big heap of shit at the moment," he says. "The same music that's on the charts over here is the same music that's in England. It's awful. It's pretty much the same, which is what the big corporate businesses wanted in the first place, you know. They want this rap-rock thing, which is pretty big all over the world, and on the other side of the coin, the pops thing, the girl and boy bands."

Oasis has so far recorded eight songs for a new CD. "At the moment," Gallagher says, "is by far the best one we've done since [1994's *Definitely Maybe*]. The approach is the main part, 'cause we're producing it ourselves, and very quickly. There are never more than one or two takes from any musician in the band."

"We're a songs band," Gallagher says. "The song is the master, and we all have to fit in around the song in some way. That's the main difference between the two bands. The Black Crowes are more about feel, and we sit down and compose." Then, without the slightest pause, the newfound diplomat adds, "And one is equally as dynamic as the other." iB

Oasis

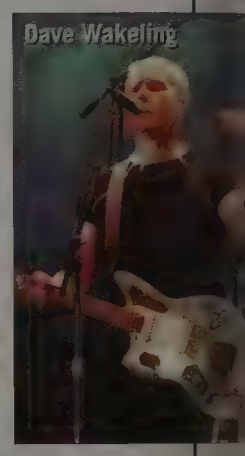
Plays the Tweeter Center with The Black Crowes June 11.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Alabina June 8, Roxy (931-2000)
Alkaline Trio, Hot Rod Circuit, Dashboard Confessionals and No Motiv June 10, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
America June 9, Hatch Shell
Artie Shaw Orchestra June 8, Worcester Ecotarium (508-929-2700)
Bane, American Nightmare, The Nerve Agents, Right Brigade and Shark Attack June 8, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
The Boston Globe Jazz and Blues Festival June 17, Newbury Street (929-2816)
Eric Clapton with Doyle Bramhall II and Smokestack June 11 and 12, FleetCenter (931-2000)
The Clarks June 5 and 6, Paradise (931-2000)
Cowboy Junkies June 16, FleetBoston Pavilion (228-6000)
Cubanismo! June 22, Copley Square (728-1600)
Dave Matthews Band and Macy Gray June 16 and 17, Foxboro Stadium (228-6000)
Dirty Dozen Brass Band June 18, Copley Square Park (929-2816)
Dispatch June 8, FleetBoston Pavilion (228-6000)
Elisabeth Belgrano and Catherine Liddell June 16, the French Library and Cultural Center (266-4351)
The English Beat's Dave Wakeling June 17, Paradise (931-2000)
Felix Da Housecat, Space Girl, Danny the Wild Child, Scotty Marz, X-Dream, Stratosphere, Laboratory Type-O, DJ Ezrah and Dave "The Wave" Dresden June 9, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
The Freeman/Freiberg Duo and Reinmar Seidler June 13, the French Library and Cultural Center (266-4351)
The Icarus Line, Paris Texas and Rise Park June 6, Axis (262-2437)
Insane Clown Posse, Marz and Blaze June 10, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
John Mayer June 16, Paradise (931-2000)
K.C. and the Sunshine Band and the Gap Band June 16, Hatch Shell
La Monica June 14, The French Library and Cultural Center (266-4351)
The Levellers June 12, Paradise (931-2000)
Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis June 24, The Hatch Shell (728-1600)
Lynyrd Skynyrd, Deep Purple and Ted Nugent June 16, Tweeter Center (228-6000)
Medeski, Martin & Wood, the John Scofield Band, and DJ Logic June 23, FleetBoston Pavilion (728-1600)
Nancy Wilson and David Sanborn June 20, FleetBoston Pavilion (728-1600)
O.A.R. and the Virginia Coalition June 13, Paradise (931-2000)
Oasis, Black Crowes and Spacehog June 11, Tweeter Center (931-2000)
Old 97's and the Josh Joplin Group June 14, Paradise (931-2000)
River Fest June 16, Memorial Drive, Cambridge (349-4380)
Rustic Overtones June 6, Paradise (931-2000)
93.7's Star Show June 16, MDC Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade (779-5300)
Soulive June 19, Copley Square Park (929-2816)
Stereo MC's June 10, Axis (262-2437)
U2 and P.J. Harvey June 6, 8 and 9, FleetCenter (931-2000)
Lucinda Williams and Kasey Chambers June 10, FleetBoston Pavilion (228-6000)
Woody Herman Orchestra June 15, Worcester Ecotarium (508-929-2700)



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September

Michelob Light PGA Tour Golf Umbrella and Michelob Light Golf Folding Chair

(drawing date: September 29th)

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Budget Liquors - Dorchester
Busa Brothers - Lexington
Busa Brothers - Woburn
Charlestown Liquors - Charlestown
Chan Market - Roslindale
Chauncy Liquors - Roxbury
Colonial Package - Woburn
Crest Liquors - Dorchester
D&L Liquors - Waltham
Dion & Lehan - Waltham
Dorr's - Brighton
Discount Mall Liquors - Cambridge
Dorchester Supreme - Dorchester
East Woburn Package - Woburn
Fannon's - Natick
Field Station - Dorchester
Fifth Ave Liquors - Framingham
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Framingham Liquors - Framingham
Gary's Liquors - W. Roxbury
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Glendale Package - Waltham
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Olde Town Liquors - Burlington
Presidential Liquors - Quincy
Quintree Liquors - Roslindale
Reservoir Wine - Brighton
Save More (participating locations)
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S&S Liquors - Quincy
Super Liquor - Framingham
Tremont Liquors - Roxbury
Top Liquors - Roslindale
Upper Falls - Newton
Uptown Liquors - Hudson
Vernons - Malden
Wine Vault - Framingham
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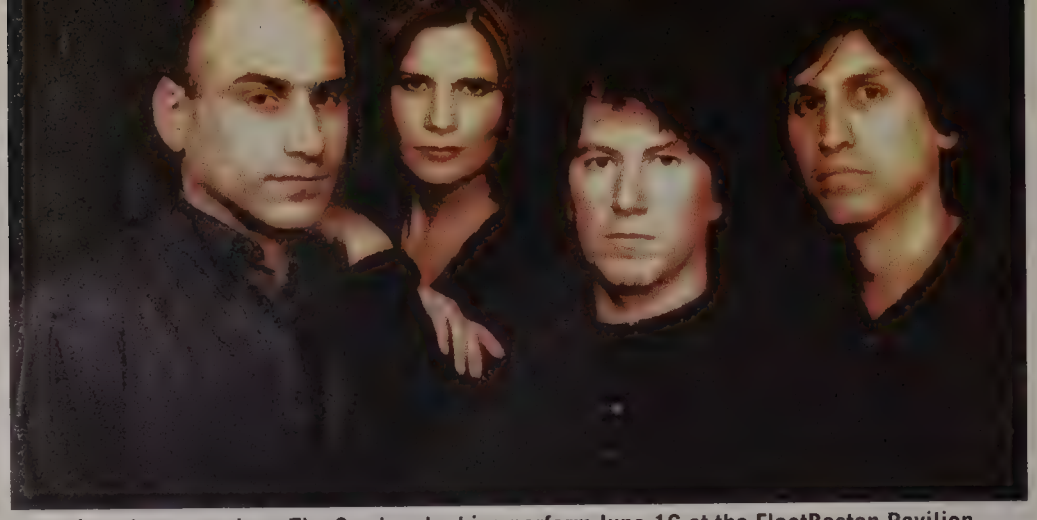
Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Funk and groove with DJ Tim Collins; Little Horse with the Joe Devoe Band $7, 18+.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys Karaoke with Tricia Kelly.
Club Passim Hottest from the Campfire with Chris Elliott and Amy Fairchild, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; Acoustic series, proper dress,8pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Ciro Stein Organ Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern JD Ingalls, 9pm.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Vogonz; Free Lunch, $4/$7, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
House of Blues Marcia Ball CD-release party, 9pm, $20, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Empty Stage.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Dragg spinning hip-hop and dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Bryan Kelley, 8pm; Amelia White, 9pm; Zoe Lewis & the Rubber Band, 10pm, $5.
Lilli's David Mead, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The David James Motorcycle; Cheerleadr; The Count Me Outs, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Middle East U: Bluetip, the Bismark, Pinebender, Fred Weaver, $7, 18+.
Midway Cafe Chandler Travis Philharmonic.
Milky Way Lounge Mercury Lounge, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm.
Paradise Fighting Gravity, Rustic Overtones and the Clarks.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Baha Brothers; DJ Steve, 21+.
Regattabar Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8:30pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Yoko Miwa, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers The Matt Gordy Group, 8pm, $10.
Sky Bar Intruder 5, The Halogens, Wicked Automatic, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Summer Shack Reggae with the I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm, no cover.
The Times Blues with Brad, 7pm.
Tír na nÓg The Turpentine Brothers, 9:30pm.
Toad Jennifer Kimball and Ry Cavanaugh, 7pm, Lucky Stereo, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Krakow, Cal Hopkins, Amish Armada, Bound4Venus, Superglyde, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The Jim Dower Trio, 8pm.

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Ed Jurdi Band and Euonym, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; the Slackers with Tommy and the Terrors and Westbound Train, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Michael from Brother Chameleon, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and Los Diablos.
Blue Cat Café DJ Jeff Knor spins acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers 7:30pm.
711 Boylston Live jazz, 8pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys DJ Rhythm Nation.
Club Passim Deb Talan and Evan Brubaker, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground Foul Ball Frenzy, 10pm.



Canadian alterna-rockers The Cowboy Junkies perform June 16 at the FleetBoston Pavilion.

Coogan's Bluff Karaoke with Dana Z.
Copperfield's One Flew West, 21+.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Maurizio spins international music, proper dress,9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie sings classic contemporary and blues, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pittman.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Uncle Sammy, 9:00pm.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Tom.
Hibernia DJs and musicians unite.
House of Blues Tommy Malone, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Lip Flooter.
Johnny D's Mary Fahl, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Edgar, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Dayna Kurtz, 8pm, Katie Barbato, 9 pm, Nobody, 10 pm, Grubstake, 11 pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue, $5.
Lilli's Topaz and Robert Randolph, 8pm, 21+.
Linwood Gaskell, Medea Connection, 5ive.
Lizard Lounge Uncle Trouble, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
McGann's J.I. Buffett with Jim Majorowski.
Middle East U: 3 Percent, Distant Relatives, Mobius Trip, $8, 18+.D:Akrobatik, Humans Being, Cannae, D-Tension, 8:30pm, $10, 18+.
The Modern R&B classics, 10pm, 19+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
PJ Ryan's Pete Massa.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Rack Mix 98.5 and Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Red Rock Bistro and Bar Relax at this hot spot with Brian Maes, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Regattabar Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8:30pm, $18.
Rhythm and Muse Amelia White, Holly Figueroa, Laura Wood and Brenda White, 8:30pm.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Jazz Orchestra with music director Frank Vardaros, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Alex Bugnon, $20.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar The Three 4 Tens, Miss Mary, Color Forms, Mercy James, 9pm, $5, 21+
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Karaoke.
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey, 9:30pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Tobin Bridge, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Innerpink CD-release, Dead City Rockers, The Mockingbirds, Hip Tanaka, $7.
Wally's Cafe Renato Tombs, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

ÆR DJs and musicians unite, 21+.
Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Zyrah's Orange with Unprovoked Moose Attack, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Slackers with New Reggae Revue and Hibatchi Joe, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Juniper's Daughter..
Black Rose Celtic Clan and The Crossing.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio and Jeff Stout, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm; D: Bill the DJ, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys DJ Rhythm Nation.
Club Passim Cordelia's Dad, 8pm, $12.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild.
Copperfield's Figure Four, Liquid Soul, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe reggae band, 6pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 4pm; DJ Renell spins top-40 and hip-hop, proper dress,9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Weepin Willie and His AllStar Band, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Me and Julio.
Green Dragon Tavern Tom Carroll, 5pm; Classic Trax, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Delta Blues with the Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Entrain, 9:00pm.
House of Blues Rod Piazza CD-release party, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub DJ Cadillac.
Johnny D's X-Centric Sound System, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: Neopride.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm-7:30pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
The Kells U: Dance party with DJ Dragg; D: Dance party with DJ Doc, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Adam Ezra, 9:30pm, Lorraine Della Rocca, 10:30 pm, Flatwater, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Tom Sawyer Co., Tiger Method, Al Janik's Plastic Cheese and The Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Francine, 8pm, 21+.
Linwood Buck 50, Rainshine, Attic of Love—a concert to benefit the Worcester Fire Department.
Lizard Lounge The Buck Dewey Big Band, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
McGann's DJ Static.
Middle East U: The Faint, Radio4, Zero Zero, $8, 18+.
Midway Cafe The Spurs Western swing.
Milky Way Lounge Fathead, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Modern Latin and Eurohouse, 10pm, 19+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Undercover with Dave Matthews, 9pm.
Plaza Garibaldi Live Latin jazz, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown, 10pm.
Porter's Bar and Grill Live music, 9pm.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Todd, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8pm and 10:30pm, $20.
Rhythm and Muse Deb Talan, 9pm.
Rhythm and Spice Tropical Fire, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Slam Hound, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Alex Bugnon, $20.
Sidney's Grille Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Dr. Awkward, Bootsie, Travelling Matt, 9pm, $5, 21+.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Sweet Willie D and the Continental Walk.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 9:30pm.
Toad The Dave Samarco Band.
Top of the Hub Andy McGhee with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Helicopter Helicopter, The Fly Seville, Loveless, The Knee-Hi's, $8.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with Tribe of Djemba, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates The Mark Greel Group, 9pm.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am;Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Rippopotamus with MacGregor, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Ed Jurdi Band.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Celtic Clan; The Crossing.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm0000.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Café Italia The Al Vega Trio, 9pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm; D: DJ Joey Demers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Diane Zeigler, 8pm, $14.
Common Ground DJ PD, 10pm
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild.
Copperfield's Live bands.
Dick's Last Resort Kevin McCluskey, 7pm.
Emily's DJ Gary spins techno, top-40 and dance, proper dress, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Goodlife Allstars featuring Grant Langford, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Cape Fear.
Green Dragon Tavern Plaid Daddy, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Entrain, 9:00pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm-7pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
Hibernia London's DJ Paul Sparkes, 10pm, 21+.
House of Blues Jerry Portnoy, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Flynn.
Johnny D's Toni Lynn Washington, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's U: Magnus.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Henry Elsesser, 9:30, Rama Winslow, 10:30pm, Bluegrazer, 11:30pm, $5.
Lilli's The Sugar Twins and The World Famous Pontani Sisters, 8pm, 21+.
Linwood Stone Soup, Hazey Maze.
Lizard Lounge Lars Vegas; Slamhound featuring Randy Roos, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: Lyres, Bottleneck Drag, Purple Wizard, The Midnight Creeps, $8, 18+.
Midway Cafe Dyke night with DJ Mix Mistress.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Undercover with Dave Matthews.
Purple Shamrock Thomas Park, 10pm.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Elvin Jones Jazz Machine, 8pm and 10:30pm, $22.
Rhythm and Spice Jack Lee & Divercity, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Horns, 9pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
The Times Party time DJs.
Tíger Lily Escape, DJ Brian Luciani and AJ Deep, 10pm-2am.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 9:30pm.
Top of the Hub Herb Pomeroy with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Of Montreal, Vic Firecracker, Summer Hymns, The Brett Rosenberg Problem, $8.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with the Tribe of Djembe, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 7pm; David Eure Group, 10pm.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch, 11:30am.
Bill's Bar Reggae with DJ K-Don; Bob Marley tribute 10pm, $10, 18+.
Black Rose Happy hour with Frank Ryan; Celtic Clan; Los Diablos.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkins' B3 Jazz Trio, 10am-pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Carl Cacho and Stephanie Corby, 8:30pm-11:30pm.

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Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Dee Carstensen and Edie Carey, 7:30pm, $12.
Costello's Tavern Lawrence Watson's performers showcase, 8pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald gospel brunch, 10am; The Complete Unknown, 7pm.
Dunwell's Hang-Over Sunday brunch with DJs spinning mellow grooves and chill beats, 12pm-8pm.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm; 2nd Annual Amateur Silver Note Singing Competition, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Brazilian night with the Paulo Danay Group, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm-8pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Brazilian Night, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Julie K, 9pm, Pawn Unction 10pm, $5.
Lilli's Ron Sexmith, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Jamal St. John and Thelma Bryant; poetry slam, 7pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: The Clientele, Dump, $8, 18+.
Midway Cafe The Coachmen a.k.a.—Li'l Spurs.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Quartet, 11am, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Red Rock Bistro and Bar Sunday brunch with Juliette Willoughby, 12pm-3pm; Lazy afternoons at the bar with Shufflin A and special guests, 4pm-7pm.
Rhythm and Muse Priscilla, 2pm, no cover.
Tir na nÓg Sessiun, 7pm.
Toad The Screw Machine, no cover.
Top of the Hub Consuelo Candelrio Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Teiou Sekkai, Local Radio, Myshkin, Trace Element, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren 3, 9pm-2am.

MONDAY, JUNE 11

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch; We're All Gonna Die with Skin Device and Cops on Crutches, $5, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm, Kevin So, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Kevin McCluskey, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Caribbean and reggae with Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Best Bands Showcase, 21+.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Morgan Keating & Gary Young, 8pm, Dave Norton, 9pm, Bob Martin 10pm, $5.
Lilli's The Royal Fingerbowl, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Marci Geller, 9pm; Emm Gryner, 10pm, $5.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Open mike with Dave Sammarco, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Mike J, 6pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Tir na nÓg Bow Thayer and the Euphorians, 9:30pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 7pm; Tim Gearan, 10:30pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Consuelo Candelrio Trio, 8pm.
Wally's Cafe Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm-2am.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

Atlantic 101 Live jazz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Blue Cat Café DJ Carrie spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7:30pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Fascinatin Rhythm, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Ricks Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.



Preview

Sonic Snapshots

Calexico and Arthur Prewitt pull into town

Much has been written about how Calexico's music is the perfect soundtrack for a road trip. And indeed, with its expansive, leisurely sound—a mix of alt-country and indie rock layered with vibes, AM radio samples, mariachi trumpets, countrified pedal steel and soft, husky vocals—it's ideal for cruising down long stretches of road, preferably in an old '60s chevy, through a dusty Southwestern landscape. Hailing from Tucson, Ariz., Calexico's Joey Burns and John Convertino are familiar with such a landscape—and they evoke it well, like a sonic snapshot. Whereas several songs from their latest EP, *Even My Sure Things Fall Apart*, are up-tempo and full of festive mariachi flair, there are also haunting, slower songs such as "Hard Hat," which evokes the loneliness of a wind-swept ghost town.

Since they formed back in 1996, Calexico has collaborated with Richard Buckner, Giant Sand, Brokeback and Neko Case, but luckily they still find the time to create their strange, beautiful brand of music—and tour. The duo pulls into town to play the Middle East downstairs on Wed., June 20. Also on the bill is Archer Prewitt, a Chicago-based musician who is a member of the Sea and Cake and the Cocktails (and is a prolific comic-book illustrator, to boot). Prewitt creates lush melodies, and like Calexico's fare, they're often evocative and haunting. Case in point: His latest release, *Gerroa Songs*, was recorded at a seaside house (formerly a nunnery and supposedly haunted) on a desolate stretch of Australian coastline. And not surprisingly, the CD is infused with a sense of expansiveness and plenty of intrigue. *The Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). —Rachel Strutt*

Green Street Grill Rhythm and blues with the Tim Gagan Quartet.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $5/$8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
Hibernia Lounge tunes, 21+.
Johnny D's Henry Elsesser, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Tom Bianchi; open mike, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Averi, 9pm, Say Hi to Lisa, 10pm, Deb Pasternak, 11pm, $5.
Lilli's Pennywheel CD-release party with Rocketscience, Quick Fix, 707, members of the Dubnicks and the Mission 120, 7pm, $5, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
Mcgann's Irish Sessiun with Slainte.
Middle East U: Shannon Wright, Clairvoyants, Azure Ray, $7, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal; DJ Wayne, 9:30pm.
Paradise Emmett Tinley and Levellers.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm.
Plough and Stars Live bands, 10pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke with Tricia Kelly, 10pm.
Rack The Return, 6pm-10pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Pat Loomis, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Sherman Irby, $12.
Sidney's Grille The Laura Allen Trio, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar M3, Specimen 37, Tunnelvision, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tir na nÓg Ed Jurdi, 9:30pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; The Residencey featuring Cash Monies and the Jetsetter, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and David Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Black Helicopter, The Beatings, White Trash Deluxe, Bradshaw, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am, no cover.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Charles River Project, 21+.
Bill's Bar Sugarcoat with Edible Gray, $7.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge D: poetry slam, 8pm; U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys Karaoke with Tricia Kelly.
Club Passim Daryl Purpose CD-release party, 8:30pm, $15.
Common Ground What a Way to Go-Go, Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm.
Emily's Lounge tunes, 5pm; Acoustic series, proper dress required, 8pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Booty Juice, 9:30pm, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mike Shea Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern JD Ingalls, 9pm.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Hazie Maze CD-release party, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio.
Irish Embassy Pub Machinery Hall.
Johnny D's The Groobies, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells Beach party with DJ Dragg spinning hip-hop and dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Pierce Woodward, 9pm, Cliff Murphy and John Nolan, 10pm, $5.
Lilli's Jim White and The Tarbox Ramblers, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Grand Finale, The David James Motorcycle; Tim Catz book release; Bloodshot and Photoflash, 21+.
Middle East U: The Lot Six, Pilot to Gunner, 90 Day Men, Fashion Colt, $7, 18+; D: Lloyd Cole, Jill Sobule, 8pm, $20, 18+.

Midway Cafe Chandler Travis Philharmonic.
Milky Way Lounge Mercury Lounge with downtempo, soul, house and funk, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston folk and traditional singers club, 9pm
Paradise Llama and O.A.R.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
Rack Baha Brothers; DJ Steve, 21+.
Regattabar David Maxwell's Maximum Blues, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Los Chagos, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Lynn Arriale Trio, $12.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar The Tardy, The Lovely, Lonas, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Summer Shack Reggae with the I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm-10pm, no cover.
The Times Blues with Brad and J, 7pm-11pm.
Tir na nÓg Jimmy Ryan and guests, 9:30pm.
Toad Jennifer Kimball and Ry Cavanaugh, 7pm, The Cranktones, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and David Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place An Evening with Mike Peters of The Alarm, $10, 21+.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The Kurtis Rivers Group, 8pm.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; 7th Rail Crew and Gargantua Soul, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Chris Baird.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and Days At Dawn.
Blue Cat Café DJ Jeff Knor spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers 7:30pm.
711 Boylston Live jazz, 8pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Einstein's Little Humunculus, 8pm.
Common Ground Foul Ball Frenzy, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff Karaoke with Dana Z.
Costello's Tavern Open blues jam, 10pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Booty, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pittman.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Labb, 9pm.
Hennessy's of Boston DJ Tom.
House of Blues Reggae Greats Series, 21+.
Johnny D's Johnny Hoy and Kevin McCluskey, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's D: Me and Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells DJ Edgar, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Stephanie Corby, 9pm, Jenny Reynolds, 10pm, Pat Curtis Band, 11pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue, $5.
Lilli's Topaz, 8pm, 21+.
Linwood Sibil, Last Step, Tung, Tootsie.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf featuring Micro Vard.
Middle East U: Uz Jsme Doma, Reverend Glasseye, $7, 18+; D: Luna, 8:30pm, $14, 18+.
Milky Way Lounge Live bands.
The Modern R&B classics, 10pm, 19+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm
PJ Ryan's The Dave Foley Band, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Patrice Williamson Group, 8:30pm, $12.
Rhythm and Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Greg Hopkins Group, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers The Woody Herman Band, $20.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar The Silverpoint, Volition, Jupiter Project, Juniper's Daughter, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Karaoke.
Tir na nÓg Jabe, 10pm.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm, Summer Pierre, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and David Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Strangemen.
Wally's Cafe Latin jazz with the Renato Tombs, 9pm.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.

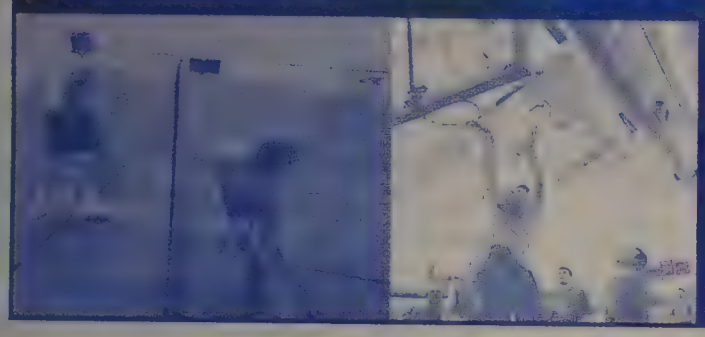
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Attic Katrin with Juniper's Daughter, 21+.
Bill's Bar Super Zero CD-release party with Angry Hill and Pleasure Crush, $8.
Black Horse Tavern No Michael No.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Clerys DJ Rhythm Nation.
Club Passim Greg Greenway, 7 and 10pm, $14.
Common Ground DJ Ren Justice, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild.
Copperfield's God Fearing Man.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, 6pm; Soul City, 10pm.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Grover Mooney A7 The Moon Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Rhythm, 9:30pm, 21+.
Grand Canal Me and Julio, 9pm.
Green Dragon Tavern Tom Carroll, 5pm-8pm; Dog House, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Delta Blues with the Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Two Ton Shoe, 9pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Me and Julio, 5pm-7:30pm; DJ Bri, 9pm.
House of Blues Seth Yacovone Band, 10pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Curtis Salgado.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Eric Fontana, 9:30pm, Clare Burson, 10:30pm, Henshaw, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Fred's Bowling Ball and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's The Dude of Life, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Fire in the Boathouse; The Lonesome Brothers CD-release party; Lucky 57, 21+.
McGann's DJ Static.
Middle East U: Retsin, K, Orso, Certainly Sir, $7, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Sundays Well.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's The Mystics.
Porter's Bar and Grill Live music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Marsels.
Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Todd, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The New Black Eagle Jazz Band, 7pm and 9:30pm, $12.
Rhythm and Spice Dis n Dat, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Sonabo, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Larry Carlton, $22.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm.
Sky Bar The Royal Family, Hazie Maze, Uprise, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Riverside Train.
Tír na nÓg The Benders, 9:30pm.
Toad The Rivergods with Melissa Morris, no cover.
Top of the Hub Greg Hopkins with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Damn Personals, Pinehurst Kids, $8.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with Crucial Massive, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates The Stan Stricklan Group, 9pm.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Grade with The Movielife, The Impossibles and Prizefighter, 2pm, $10, all ages.
Blue Cat Café DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey spinning acid jazz and house grooves, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Lance Martin Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm.
Cantab Lounge D: DJ Bill, 9pm, 21+; Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Live from New York with Sam Shaber, Edie Carey, Teddy Goldstein, Anne Heaton & Andrew Kerr, 7pm and 10pm, $15.
Common Ground Chauncey with The Irresponsibles, 10pm.
Coogan's Bluff DJ Deuces R Wild.
Copperfield's Consultants, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm; MoJo Slim, 10pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal DJ Kevin Tinsley.
Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Latin night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm.
Harpers Ferry Vykki Vox Band, 9pm.
Hennessy's of Boston Irish Sessuin, 4pm-7pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
House of Blues Johnny A CD-release party, 21+.
Johnny D's Sleepy LaBeef, 9:45pm, 21+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Damion Wolfe, 9:30pm, the Warren Drews, 10:30pm, the Drunk Stuntmen, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Thought Brigade, Classic Ruins, and Girl on Top, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Ray Corvair Trio, 21+.
Lucky's Live jazz, 9pm.
McGann's DJ Cadillac.
Middle East U: Cheerleadr, Reverse, The Naked Sams, Mockingbirds $8, 18+. D: Rippopotamus, Eben Levy Disaster Relief Fund, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern Sundays Well.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
Paradise John Mayer.
Porter's Bar and Grill Empty Head, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Central Basement.
Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Annie Royer: Cabaret de Paris, 8pm and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Spice Kolors, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Rumbafrica, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Larry Carlton, $22.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm, no cover.
St. Botolph's Live acoustic jazz, 10pm, no cover.
Tíger Lily DJ Brian Luciani and AJ Deep, 10pm.
Toad Big Ray and the Futuras.
Top of the Hub Matt Langley with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Big Toe, Make Lisa Rich, The Buckners, Major Major, $7.
Wally's Cafe John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm-2am.
Western Front Reggae with Crucial Massive, 9:30pm, $10.
Les Zygomates Teresa Ines, 7pm, Joel Smith, 10pm.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

Anago at the Lenox Hotel Rusty Scott Quartet, 11:30am, no cover.
Bill's Bar Reggae Sunday with DJ K-Don; Skiffington, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with the Sonny Watson Quartet, 10am.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan, 11am, no cover.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Burt LaFountain and Russell Wolff, 8:30pm-11:30pm.
Cantab Lounge U: Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Live from New York- Sam Shaber, Edie Carey, Teddy Goldstein, Anne Heaton & Andrew Kerr, 7pm and 10pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort New Revelations, 10am; The Complete Unknowns, 10pm.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm; Amateur Singing Competition, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Brazilian night with the Paulo Danay Group, 9:30pm.
Harpers Ferry Southern Fried Soul Shack, $3 21+.
Hennessy's of Boston The Martini Brothers, 5pm-8pm; Karaoke, 9pm.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
The Kells Brazilian night, 9pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Angus, 8:30pm, Merrick, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio and poet J*me; poetry slam, 7:30pm; poetry jam, 9pm.
Middle East U: Violent Society, The Profits, Crash & Burn, Global Threat, Leon Czolchosz, $7, 18+.
Milky Way The Beatings, $10.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
Paradise The English Beat's Dave Wakeling.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 10pm.
Rack The Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:30pm, 21+.
Red Rock Bistro and Bar Sunday brunch with live music, 12pm-3pm; Lazy afternoons at the bar with Shufflin A and special guests, 4pm-7pm.
Ryles Jazz Club Agusto Cego, 7:30pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Seisiun, 7pm.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren 3, 9pm-2am, no cover.

MONDAY, JUNE 18

Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge U: Geoff Bartley's open mike, 8pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 7:30pm, $10.
Common Ground Simpsons Trivia Night with The Worst Evening Ever, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Knuckle Sandwich, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm.
Green Street Grill Caribbean and reggae with Jack Lee and Diversity, 10pm.
Harpers Ferry Livewire, $5, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Morgan Keating & Gary Young, 8pm; Dylan Callahan, 9pm; Melvern Taylor and the Meltones, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Theatrical open mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Mount the Assembly, Thieves, Red Skies, $6, 18+. D: Red House Painters, Drew O'Doherty, 8:30pm, $13adv/$15door, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, Tom Carroll and DJ Sean, 9:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
Rack In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Mike J, 6pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8pm, Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Richard Lloyd, Steve Wynn, Fire in the Boathouse, $10.
Wally's Cafe Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

Bristol Lounge Bob Winter, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Fascinatin Trio, 9:30pm.
Green Street Grill The Tim Gagan Quartet.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's of Boston John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Bill Janovitz, 18+.
Johnny D's Barbara Baig, 8:30pm,
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Summer Pierre, 8:30pm, The Modifiers, 9pm, Machinery Hall, 10pm, $5.
Mcgann's Irish Sessiun with Slainte.
Middle East U: True Love Always, Utah!, Mark Robinson, Burnside Project, 8:30pm, $7, 18+. D: The Ex, Fat Day, 8:30pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Lounge Karaoke, 9pm, $3.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm.
Rack MD Jazz, 6pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Bartlett Trio, 9pm, $7.
Scullers Andre Ward, $12.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Jack's Smirking Revenge, Six Shot Brady and the McDonough Band, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Blues night with Joe Mack.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm, the Residency featuring Cash Monies and the Jetsetter, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and David Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Janis Figure, the Halogens CD-release, Orange Park and Fighting Dog, $4.
Wally's Cafe Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm-2am.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.



On Friday, June 8, rockers Fathead perform at Milky Way Lounge and Lanes. 9pm, $8, 18+.

TOP: DANNY CLINCH

Music Venues

Anago the Lenox Hotel *65 Exeter St., Boston (266-6222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
ÆR *25 1/2 Kingston St., Boston (292-3309). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanueil Hall Marketplace, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue Line to Govt. Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
711 Boylston *711 Boylston St., Boston (437-0002).*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Clerys *331 Columbus Ave, Boston (262-9874). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Costello's Tavern *723 Centre St., J.P. (522-9263).*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Dunwell's *1271 Boylston St., Boston (424-1441). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Avenue. Boston (734-9000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

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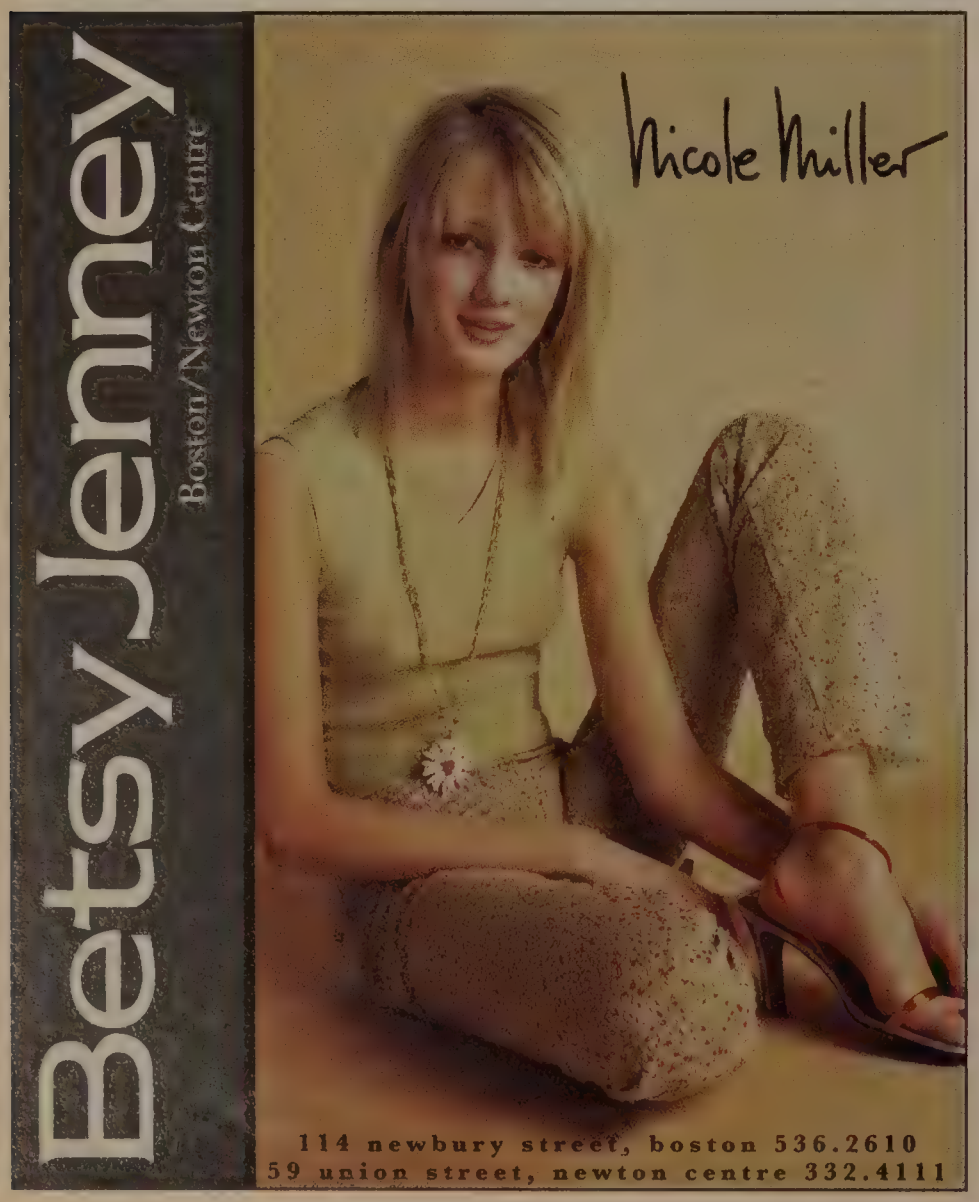
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Good Life Downtown *28 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
The Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lucky's *255 Congress St., Boston (357-5825). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston. (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theatre *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *At 261 Main St., Worcester (800-477-6849).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108).*



classical

THURSDAY, JUNE 7

Zephyr Chamber Orchestra
Temple Beth El, 105 Hudson Rd., Sudbury (978-443-9622). 7:30pm, $25, $18 students. The inaugural concert of the Zephyr Chamber Orchestra benefits the Mark Reich Fund. It features worlks by Haydn, Walton and Brubeck.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Keith Lockhart directs Yo Yo Ma and the Boston Pops in a performance of music from Stanley Kubrick's *2001: A Space Odyssey.*

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. Jared Johnson performs.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

Boston Pops Swing
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. James Orent directs *Swing, Swing Swing*, a night of jumping and jitterbugging with the Pops.

Gala Birthday Celebration
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall., 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. $10. Flutist Robert Willoughby celebrates his 80th birthday with a concert featuring works by Bach, Mozart and a work by Boston Composer John Heiss. The celebration includes guest flutists and Willoughby's friends and former students.

SUNDAY, JUNE 10

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 7:30pm. $80-$250. The Pops celebrates Latin night, playing songs from their most recent album.

TUESDAY, JUNE 12

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave, Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Keith Lockhart leads the Pops in a tribute to Richard Rogers, one of Broadway's greatest composers.

King's Chapel
School and Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). 12pm. $2. Organist Andrew Paul Holman performs.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Same program as June 12.

Fortune's Wheel
Emmanuel Church, Boston (424-7232). 11pm. $18. The medieval ensemble Fortune's Wheel performs a program titled *Pasourelle: Music from the Springtime of Mediaeval France*, as part of the Boston Early Music Festival.

The Labyrinth and Other Stories
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (424-7232). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $18-$42. As part of the Boston Early Music Festival, Paolo Pandolfo performs the music of Marin Marais.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $80-$250. Bruce Hangen conducts a performance tonight.

Ensemble Clément Janequin
Emmanuel Church, Boston (424-7232). 11pm. $18. The ensemble performs *Polyphony* and the *Edict of Nantes*, music from the 16th-century Huguenots.

The Four Nations Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (424-7232). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 5:30pm. $18-$42. The Boston Early Music Festival presents the Four Nations Ensemble. They play courtly music from the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles and from the Forbidden City in Beijing.

French Harpsichord Music
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (424-7232). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11pm. $18. Byron Schenkman performs harpsichord music from the court of Louis XIV as part of the Boston Early Music Festival.

Lully Orchestra Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (424-7232). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $18-$42. The Boston Early Music Festival presents a program of music from 18th-century France, including *La Guirlande, ou Les Fleurs Enchantées*, a one-act show with an orchestral score.



Byron Schenkman is one of the many performers in this year's Early Music Festival.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $80-$250. Bruce Hangen performs with the Pops in a tribute to the grand old flag.

Ensemble Clément Janequin
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (424-7232). 5pm. $18-$42. The Boston Early Music Festival presents Les Cris de Paris of the 16th century.

Ensemble Doulce Mémoire
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (424-7232). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $18-$42. The Boston Early Music Festival presents an evening built around the works of Nicolas Gombert and Claudin de Sermisy, and revives the Renaissance tradition of improvised music.

Fridays at Trinity
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:15-12:45pm. Free. Erik Wm and Chuyoung Suter perform.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $80-$250. Same program as June 15.

Le Concert Spirituel
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (424-7232). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 5pm. $18-$42. The Boston Early Music Festival presents Hervé Niquet directing *Le Concert Spirituel*. It includes two previously unknown works.

A Viola Extravaganza!
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (424-7232). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 2pm. $18-$42. The Boston Early Music Festival presents acclaimed gambist Margriet Tindemans performing works by 18th century French composers Charpentier, Marais, Lejeune, Mouliniéand Moderne.

SUNDAY, JUNE 17

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 7:30 pm. $80-$250. The Pops perform selections from their latest album.

Father's Day Concert
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 2pm. Free. A concert for all ages—an afternoon of jazz and ice cream.

Musique pour la Chambre du Roi
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (424-7232). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 12:30pm. $18-$42. Hugo Reyne, recorder, and Pierre Hantaï, harpsichord, perform *Musique pour la Chabre du Roi* (Music for the King's Room), a collection of music played for King Louis XIV in the 18th century.

King's Chapel
School and Tremont streets, Boston (227-2155). 12pm. $2. Cellist Alexei Romanenko performs this afternoon.

TUESDAY, JUNE 19

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8 pm. $80-$250. Keith Lockhart conducts with special guest Hideki Togi, who performs on traditional Japanese instruments.

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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

An Tua Nua
835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. $3-$5. Formerly known as Rira, this club regularly hosts DJ Vinney and Tim Collins and serves up karaoke as well as lots of food. But Sundays are sweet with Honey 'n' Spice Lesbian Nights.

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, although with 52 varieties on the wine list and moderately priced bistro fare, there is much to choose from.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., theme shows produced by Diamond Dunhill.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus', a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life. Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance til dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's best literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Boston's Gay Pride Week
Various Boston locations (512-6699). June 6-10. Highlights include: June 6: Mr. and Mrs. Pride Pageant. June 7: Gay Pride Film night at the Cheri Theater; Boston Pride Trick Dance at Paradise; Cambridge Pride night with after-parties at Parade and Campus. June 8: Pride Boat Cruise. June 9: Pride March (12pm at Copley Square); Pride Festival on the Common; Men's Dance at Machine, 10pm; Women's dance at Faneuil Hall. June 10: Sunday Pride street fest along Stuart Street.

Dyke March 2001
*Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (*Dykemarch@gurlmail.com*). June 8, 7pm.* The march begins at the Boston Public Library and ends with a rally on the Common, where speakers discuss race, reproduction, body image, sexuality and trans issues.

DJ Junior Vasquez @ Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (423-1211). June 9, 1:30am. Rise, Boston's popular members-only after-hours club, features DJ Junior Vasquez of New York City's Twilo. Proceeds go to both the Boston Pride Committee and Community Servings.



Spring Queening **is a series of performances featuring the "fruity" members of the troupe Fresh Fruit.**

Fever! Dance Productions
The Sons of Italy Ballroom, Rt. 28, Winchester (781-648-0722). June 9, 8pm. $10. This Pride Dance for women features DJ Dee Greenberg spinning everything from Motown to Latin rhythms.

Fresh Fruit Does Spring Queening
International Society at the Tremont Theater, 276 Tremont St., Boston (879-3181). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. June 7-9 and 14-16, 8pm; June 10 and 17, 2pm. Spring Queening is a series of hilarious performances featuring members of the troupe Fresh Fruit. With larger-than-life costumes and twists on old favorites, the Fruits blow the genre of drag theater wide open.

Queer Theory!
Theater Offensive, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. June 11-13, 8pm. $8. Burlesque showstoppers, biting satirical comedy and giddy original songs all poke fun at how academics cannibalize the "queer body" to the point where it's been deconstructed beyond all recognition.

This Year's Fashion
Theater Offensive, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. June 4-6, 8pm. $8. More twisted than any lesbian pulp novel, this is the true '40s love story of a brainy Jewish girl turned platinum bombshell and the socialist NYPD officer who won her heart.

Too Tall Blondes in Love
Theater Offensive, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through June 16. $24 (pay what you can on June 10). The Theater Offensive presents this premiere by Kate Bornstein and Barbara Carrellas. Saunter into a world where sexual variety is the spice of life, gender identity is a nostalgic game, and revolution feels soft and tastes oh-so-sweet. Their *Too Tall* tale of falling in love is so outrageous that it could only be the truth.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday, 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for mature gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872). GAYMES is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
Mon.-Fri. 6pm-11pm, Sat. and Sun., 5-10pm. (267-9001). This nationwide line provides information, referral and support services.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons are 8-9pm. Lessons are followed by a DJ set. All smoke- and alcohol-free.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (442-1775). www.triangledivers.org A gay and lesbian SCUBA diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

CRAIG BAILEY/CBE PHOTO

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Drum and Dance Saturday
Eagle Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 16, 8-11:30pm. $6. Bring your stomping feet, your clapping hands, your drums, spoons and tambourines. Whether you're a dancing queen or just a curious dabbler, you won't stop moving once you step inside.

Soulful Sundown Presents Michelle "Evil Gal" Willson
First and Second Church in Boston, Unitarian Universalist, 66 Marlborough St., Boston. (267-6730). www.fsc-boston.org *or* www.evilgal.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay. June 10, 5:30pm. $6 requested donation.* Soulful Sundown, a monthly series exploring the connection between the arts, spirituality and social justice, presents a dance/worship/celebration with rhythm-and-blues singer **Michelle Willson** and the Evil Gal Festival Orchestra. Evil Gal is an acclaimed performer, and her Sunday program will be entitled "Wake Up Call."

Stay Healthy With Therapy
Smith Family Room, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 44 Binney St., Boston (1-800-553-3787). www.cancercare.harvard.edu. *June 14, 6-8pm. Free.* Therapy practitioners discuss ways to keep life in balance through the use of acupuncture, Reiki, music and massage therapy.

CLASSES

Kuan Yin & Tara: Buddhist Goddesses of Compassion
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *June 8. 7-9pm. $15.* Referred to as goddesses, **Kuan Yin** and **Tara** are Bodhisattvas, embodiments of wisdom and compassion. Come learn their mantras and experience new ways to welcome the Divine Ladies of Space into your life.

Massage for Partners Workshop
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 12, 7:30-10pm. $74 per pair.* Bring a friend or significant other to learn basic Esalen/Swedish massage strokes through lecture, discussion, demonstration and supervised practice. The focus will primarily be on the back, neck and shoulders.

Painting to Awaken the Heart
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (978-546-8018). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *June 9, 10:30am-12:30pm. $50, includes materials.* This esoteric approach to art as a path of self-discovery is based on the profound color inspirations of Rudolf Steiner. Through creative movement with guided watercolor and drawing exercises, you can enhance your perception and creative imagination.

Re-sourcing to Overcome Chronic Fatigue
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *June 9, 2-5pm. $55.* Do you suffer from a chronic fatigue disorder? Try "re-sourcing." Learn how thoughts, beliefs, past experiences, personalities and traumas can lead to exhaustion and chronic depletion. In this supportive group, discussion, creative imagery, movement, meditation, shamanic journeying and energy healing will be explored.

Spring Cleansing Yoga Detox Day
New Directions for Yoga, Health and Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (524-3484). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village and C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. June 10, 1-6pm. $85. Don't just clean house this spring—cleanse the body and mind. Join instructor **Doreen Kleinschmidt** for hot yoga, raw juice fasting, meditation and chanting for healing the internal organs. All levels welcome.

Urban Tantra with Barbara Carrellas
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, Boston (731-2626). www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. June 13. Call for details.* "Sex positivist" **Barbara Carrellas** has created Urban Tantra for those who live in intense urban environments. After a long day's work, Tantra's traditional, feathery touch may not be erotic enough—yet the sharp jabs of sadomasochism might simply be too intense. This workshop teaches you how to combine the heart-filled, spiritually energizing techniques of Tantra and Tao with the intense stimulation and heightened awareness of S&M.


Michelle "Evil Gal" Willson performs June 10.

LECTURE

The Macrobiotic Road to Health: Demystifying the Body's Discharge
Spontaneous Celebrations Cultural Center , 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (524-0717) MBTA: Orange Line to Stonybrook. June 18, 6:30-9pm. $20. Sponsored by Macrobiotic Center of New England, this lecture and dinner will provide information on studying our health by observing what comes out of our bodies. Registration is required. Please mail payment by June 16 to: MCNE c/o Warren Kramer, 100 Paul Gore Street, #100, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130.

The Philosophy of Yoga
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. June 16, 2-4pm. $28.* Join **Claire Carroll** for an educational exploration on yoga, including an overview of the ancient philosophy, different types of yoga, the major texts and guiding principles.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington. (876-3050). MBTA: Bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a nonviolent martial art for peace and protection. This practice takes place outdoors.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wed., 6:30-7:30pm. Call to register. You'll be feeling so energetic and peaceful after some early morning yoga that you won't even need coffee. All levels welcome.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Lunch Hour Tai Chi
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). Mon. and Wed., 12:30-1:30pm. Get back to the office relaxed and energized in both mind and body.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St., Church of Our Savior, Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm. Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class for a powerfully peaceful time.

Zen Insight
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Auburn St., Cambridge (576-3229). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.cambridgezen.com. *Mon., 7pm.* If you've had a hard Monday, try out this drop-in meditation session.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Children's Theatre
Theatre 1, 713 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7929). $8, $5 children. •June 9 and 16, 3pm: **Circus Celebration** gives kids a chance to run away and join the circus, learning skills and talents for the Big Top.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. 1 and 3pm. $8. •June 9 and 10: ***Rumpelstiltskin***, by Paul Vincent Davis of Puppet Arts. •June 16 and 17: ***Puss 'n' Boots*** by Michael Graham and his Spring Valley Puppets.

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. June 9, 12pm. Geoff Barnes encourages kids to sing and move along with lively, fun songs about helping others.

Boston Puppet Festival
Marketplace Center, 200 State St., Boston (478-2040). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. June 15, 5:30pm; June 16, 11am-5pm; June 17, 12-5pm. The opening show will feature the Big Nazo Band, larger-than-life puppet creatures and masked musicians. See puppet shows every hour on three stages (11am–4pm) and march in a puppet parade at 1pm on Saturday and Sunday.

Cambridge River Festival
Memorial Drive, Cambridge (349-4380). 12-6pm. Free. There'll be a ton of children's activities and performances at this festival by the river.

Discover Food, Flavors and Fun
World Trade Center, Boston (385-4000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 8-10. Children learn about nutrion and flavors in a lively, hands-on setting.

Fleet Scooper Bowl
City Hall Plaza, Boston (632-3863). June 12-14, 11:30am-6pm. $5, $2, children. Glut yourself with all-you-can-eat ice cream. All proceeds go to the Jimmy Fund.

French Cooking and Etiquette Class
Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (912-0400). MBTA: Blue Line to State. June 9, 10am-1pm. $45. Children will visit Le Meridien's kitchen and work with chefs to prepare their lunch. Etiquette instruction will be provided by the teachers of the French Library and Cultural Center.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •June 12, 10:30am: **Teddy Bear Picnic**. Bring a teddy, lunch and blanket and join the librarians for a sing-a-long. •June 14, 4pm: **World Cultures—Flag Day**. Celebrate the many cultures of the world with a craft, story and delicious treat. •June 19, 3:30pm: **Tell How and Why Stories**, presented by Mother Nature. Kate Carney, dressed as Mother Nature, will tell myths and folk tales about nature.

Book Signing: Martha Day Zschock
Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 16, 1pm. $5, $3 children. Martha Day Zschock will sign copies of her book *Journey Around Boston from A to Z*. In the book, an energetic mallard duck guides explorers of all ages on a tour of Boston.

Boston by Little Feet
Meet in front of Faneuil Hall at the statue of Samuel Adams on Congress Street, Boston (367-2345). www.bostonbyfoot.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sat. and Mon., 10am; Sun., 2pm. $6.* This child's-eye view of the Freedom Trail's architecture and history is especially designed for young walkers ages 6 to 12 years. A free explorer's map and guide is included.

Dragon Boat Festival
Along the Charles River, beside Harvard Square, Cambridge. www.bostondragonboat.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 10, 12-5pm. Free.* Hear the rhythmic drum beating along the Charles, marvel at colorful dragons powered by energetic paddlers and enjoy thundering Taiko drumming, a Chinese lion dance and martial arts.

Summer Art Camp
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). June 25-Aug. 31. Tuition varies. This summer vacation camp is for children ages 5 to 11.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Boston University's Nickerson Field.
Tickets: 866-462-7325
June 6, 7:30pm: Atlanta Beat
June 16, 7:30pm: Washington Freedom

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
June 6, 7:05pm: Detroit Tigers
June 7, 7:05pm: Detroit Tigers
June 8, 7:05pm: Detroit Tigers
June 8, 7:05pm: Philadelphia Phillies
June 9, 1:15pm: Philadelphia Phillies
June 10, 1:05pm: Philadelphia Phillies
June 12, 7:05pm: Florida Marlins
June 13, 7:05pm: Florida Marlins
June 14, 6:05pm: Florida Marlins

New England Revolution
•Foxoboro Stadium. Tickets: 931-2222
June 9, 7:30pm: Tampa Bay Mutiny *(789-4070).*


The Boston Breakers prepare to kick some butt with a little pre-workout stretching.

Events

HoopTown
James Bradley Courts, Back Bay Fens (635-4505, ex.6203). June 17, 10am-2pm. The Boston Neighborhood Basketball League, which has named Celtics captain Antoine Walker as its 2001 honorary commissioner, kicks off its season today.

MasterCard Celebrity Challenge for Charity Golf Tournament
Spring Valley Country Club, 25 Tiot St., Sharon (242-1335). June 18, 10:30am. Join Joe Pesci and other notables in this charity golf tournament to benefit inner-city youth.

To Play

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

BREAKERS: RITA GREELEY

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RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/ bostonhhh Weekly runs year round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer. Begins May 20.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in the Greater Boston area.

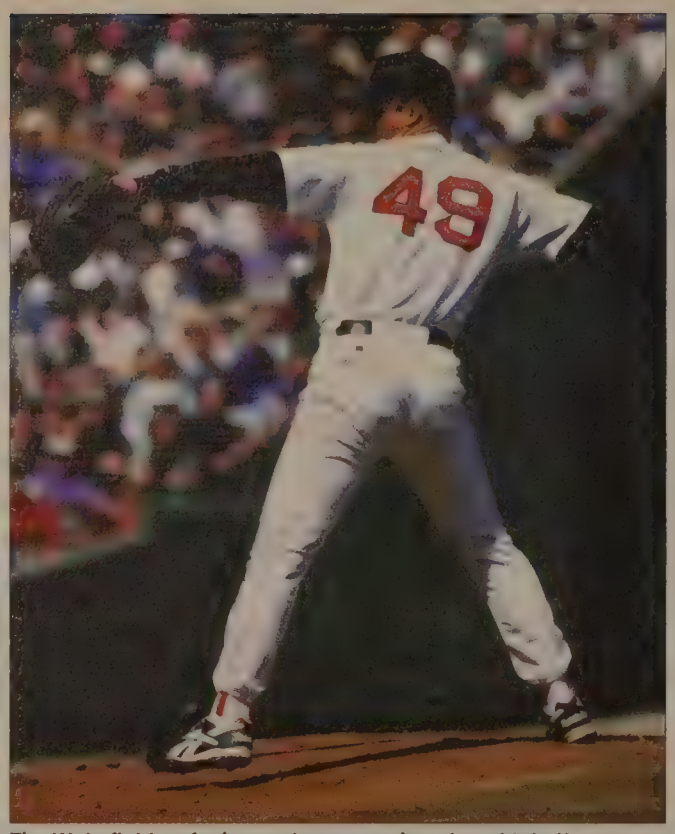
ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(789-4070).

Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance
(928-0882). www.buda.org.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.



Tim Wakefield wafts in another mysterious knuckleball.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Founded in 1937, Community Boating is the largest and oldest non-profit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for only $190 per season, including instruction. That sounds like a bargain to us.

jazz GBH

Jazz in June

Films and Music at the Coolidge Corner Theatre
Every Monday at 7pm

June 4
Archie Shepp: I Am Jazz...It's My Life
Big Ben Webster in Europe

June 11
Don Cherry: Multiculti
David Moffet & Ornette: The Ornette Coleman Trio, 1966

June 18
Herbie Hancock Trio: Hurricane
LA All Stars: Big Joe Turner and Hampton Hawes

June 25
Ella Fitzgerald: Something to Live For

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For more info and film admissions:
www.wgbh.org

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8. •May 29: Free admission in celebration of JFK's birthday.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

AIDSRide (New York to Boston)
(800-825-1000). July 19-22. Crew volunteers needed.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.



The Old State House stands amid the new.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Info sessions: June 9, 11am-12pm; June 14, 6-7pm; June 19, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Public Schools
(451-6145). Tutor or mentor a child.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Tutor at Cambridge public schools.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with homeless children living in shelters. Volunteer training sessions: June 11 and 12.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Share fun times with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge
(800-WE-CYCLE). Aug. 4-5. Volunteer at major hub and water stop sites at this bicycling fundraiser.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

United Services Organization (USO)
(720-4949). Welcome Navy ships, visit VA hospitals, provide office support or coordinate events.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

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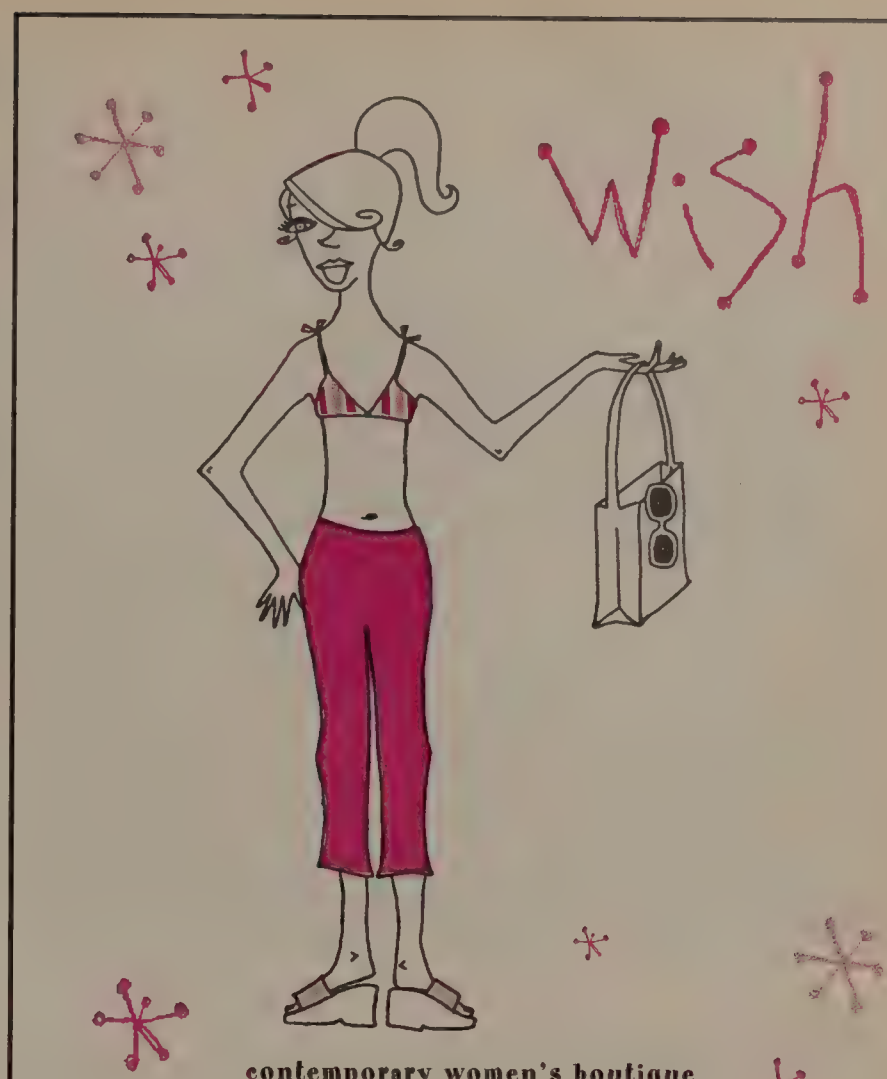
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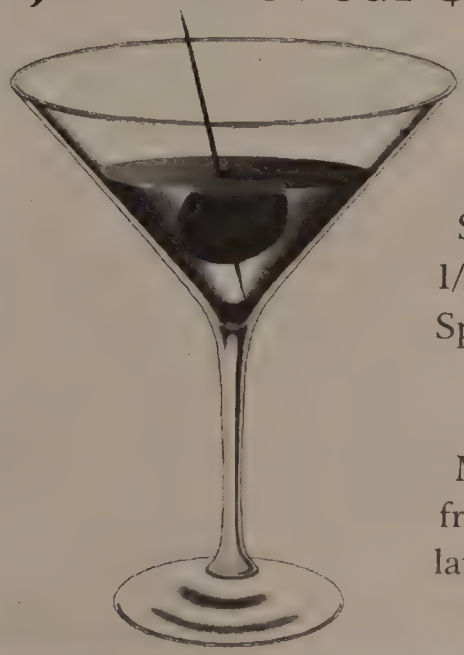
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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

To the Girl Who Doesn't Like Secret Admirers
I have this to say to you: Your attitude is absolutely the strongest argument for proper condom usage I have heard in a long time, for if you were to reproduce then God help us all. So you have a scar and a tattoo—put on an eyepatch and give Davey Jones a run for his money. Meanwhile, if you don't appreciate being admired in a bar, then stay the hell out of them. And you should certainly stop hiding behind your bevy of boys. Perhaps if you did, he might have come over to you in the first place.
—A non-admirer

The Saga Continues
There I was, having dinner with some friends, and in you walk! The same girl that called me a "stalker" in this publication! It was you all right, scar and all, but instead of a Sox jersey, you were wearing an evening gown. You looked amazing! I sat next to you at the bar, ready to tell you off, but all I could get out was a sheepish grin and a "hi." You smiled, I melted, bought you a Cosmopolitan and started a conversation. What can I say? I'm a sucker for freckles on shoulders! I didn't tell you who I was for fear the drink I just bought would end up in my face! I could've talked to you all night, but unfortunately, a guy in a tux showed up (boyfriend?) and you left with him. As you walked away, you glanced back at me and smiled. I had a quick thought about fate and the fact that I was letting you get away again, so like a fool I ran outside. There you were, waiting for your car. I asked for your number; you told me it was in the phone book. When I pointed out the fact that I didn't even know your name, you said that was in the phone book too! I couldn't help but laugh! (I would also like to thank your boyfriend for not punching me in the face!) Finally, as you got into your car, I got a first name out of you! I guess that's a start! So, Kelley, when are you going to let me take you to dinner and a Sox game? I promise you won't need a restraining order.
—Brad

Nathanial, Where Art Thou?
It was May 27, around 10:30pm, and you were sitting alone at the bar at Trio drinking a Cosmo as my friend Rene and I sat next to you. You had on a red button-down shirt and wore black glasses. Me: I have blond hair and wore a blue T-shirt...just to refresh your memory. You told me you are moving from Beacon Hill to go out West. Upon hearing that I may have appeared a little too promiscuous. I probably even frightened you a little. I would genuinely like to get to know you better. If I could reverse this first impression I would. Can I invite you for a cup of coffee?
—sucram31@hotmail.com

Newbury Street, May 14
My friend and I were patting the black lab in front of Time and Time Again when you walked out. We looked at each other and went our separate ways. I looked back and saw you were looking too. We both stopped and continued looking at each other, but I didn't know what to do, so I kept walking. Now I'm regretting it. My friend and I both have dark hair. Mine was pulled back in a ponytail. Do you know me? Do you want to? If so, email me.
—girlwithdog@hotmail.com

To My One Guy Roommate
We hit it off right away. We made ourselves easy at the Behan. We exchanged life stories over pints on a weekly basis. I looked into your beautiful blue eyes and wondered what it would be like to kiss you. I knew you wondered too (I saw you stare at me in my flowered undershorts in our kitchen). We refilled the Brita and I dumped it on the floor. You got through being molested by the Praying Mantis. I'm sorry I moved out. I have a crush on you. I'm in love with you. Let's move back in together. OK?
—Me

Mr. T
You get so used to seeing the same people at the T—then BAM! Someone new! May 17, about 8:15am, Andrew T station: You're clean-cut, have light eyes and a cute smile, and were wearing a blue-checked shirt with a purplish tie. Me: Short blond hair, green eyes, red sweater. Before you got off at Park Street there were some sideways glances, and you stuck your elbow in my paper! I'm usually quite the conversationalist, but allergy medicine was hampering my social skills—and now I'm kicking myself. I'd love to chat, minus the Sudafed, if you're interested!
—blondeatandrews@yahoo.com

Sunday Cabriolet
It was a sunny Sunday afternoon, May 20, in the Mass. Turnpike/Leather District area. You: Black VW Cabrio with the top down. Me: Black BMW with the roof open. I saw your left brake light was out, you thought it was the turn signal. Perhaps we should do more testing?
—SundayBMW@yahoo.com

Salma
You were little, Latina and Salma Hayek-like. You were with another couple, and I was hanging out at the bar in a suit talking to two friends. I did not manage to find the opportunity to get over to you and, like most people in this space, regretted it immediately afterwards. If you see this and want to meet there for a coffee some late afternoon, respond to:
—incafearmaniboston @hotmail.com

To Radioman
Sorry I threw myself at you at F******e, but I thought I'd met you before! But seeing as I hadn't...I would love to hear more store etiquette jokes. Beer ? Tea ?
—suukar@hotmail.com

Stacey
You get off the Orange Line at Back Bay Station. I heard your name as you talked to a co-worker. I pass you quite a bit in the station, but when our eyes meet I get tongue-tied. You are absolutely beautiful, and I'm working up the nerve to approach you. Want to chat?
—MRL2650@aol.com

Sayonara
Only three more weeks of living in the constant hostility and awkwardness known as Apartment 204. No more waiting for your 45-minute showers to end, no more gigantic garbage piles, no more dirty looks or moronic complaints. I look forward to cable, phone and parties at my new apartment. There, the rule will be that you have to pay for your part of the keg, not that you have to be quiet on Saturday nights. Have a nice life, I hope to never see you again.
—Szymon Jay

Jamaica Plain Thai Restaurant
Buzz cut, goatee, green jacket, baggy jeans, beautiful eyes: The date was May 26, around 5pm at the Ban Chiang House in JP. I couldn't help noticing you noticing me noticing you. I was shy and kept looking away, then sat frozen as you and your friend walked out the back door. Would it be too late to ask for your name and a chance to get to know you?
—backbaykate@yahoo.com

Angels Waiting Instruction from Charlie
Your barcoded angels await their next mission. What's it going to be, Vox? And Megan wants to come, too.
—Angels

To My Favorite Slacker
After 330 days without your shine and sugary sweetness... only a mysterious German city and a Speedo to keep me smiling. Welcome home!
—The one with the red pants

Rockie Horoscope

JUNE 6 – JUNE 19, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



GEMINI MAY 21-JUNE 20
From now until the summer solstice, you're on a non-stop joy ride, complete with heart-stopping moments of exhilaration as well as sheer terror. Are we having fun, yet? The Gemini-Sagittarius full moon on the 5th marks the halfway point in your odyssey. But it's hardly downhill from there. High ideals, unbridled enthusiasm and intellectual break-throughs abound as the Gemini sun aligns with protective Jupiter and inventive Uranus. But watch out for a sneak attack from an opposing force, your version of the Evil Empire, hell-bent on undermining your efforts.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
The last of the spring full moon festivals, the Festival of Humanity, can transport the Moon Child to a higher plane of planetary consciousness. Stay above the fray to observe the action the rest of us are engaged in, and far enough away that you don't get hurt in conflicts between, say, your shrink and your health plan or the specifications and the implications of an assignment. Right now it is as if mighty mental giants are competing in a cosmic game show, and, until summer begins, the touchy-feelie water signs haven't a clue.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Once again, Leo is in the center of the action, getting support from futurists and optimists (not always the same group) while facing a recalcitrant force at home or on the playground. Athletes and actors, especially, are infused with more energy and will-to power than usual, so try to be somewhat cool and don't burn out a friendship with your enthusiasm. Money comes out of the blue when your sun ruler favorably aligns with Jupiter and Uranus mid-month, so stock up on lottery tix or whatever games of chance you prefer to play. Really.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Although your Mercury ruler is currently retrograde and, because of that, you might be feeling less than brilliant, you can still play mind games of a high order. They won't come to culmination, at least to your satisfaction, until mid-month when the Messenger meets the Gemini sun in your midheaven and sheds light on career accomplishments or your reputation in the community. And while the Force seems to be with you, the opposition, be it neighbor, sibling or enraged parent, is quite formidable and will fight dirty.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Make sure you keep at least one ace up your sleeve. You'll need it to maintain a semblance of harmony while almost every other sign is busy loading the deck in their favor, so that when push comes to shove in the middle of the month, they'll have the advantage. How you continue to fuel the fires of romance in such a tense war zone is the Libran trait that amazes the rest of us. Should you find the courage to take to the road while Mercury is retrograde this month, be extra careful.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
For a change, you're not being paranoid. If you sense that invisible forces are gathering to oppose your every move, you're absolutely right. Because both Mars and Pluto, your co-ruling planets are in Sagittarius and retrograde, to boot, the stage is being set for more than one confrontation with more than one indecisive, argumentative person. About—what else?—money and sex. Because you're more determined, more sure of your position than, say, a Gemini, once the summer gets under way, you will prevail. Until then, try to keep cool.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
You're in conflict and there's not much you can do about it, not until your Jupiter ruler and the Gemini sun stop opposing eager-beaver Mars in Sagittarius. Normally a polarity like this skyrockets you straight into entrepreneurial heaven, but with five planets heading backward (in retrograde), you'd best be cautious before you even strap yourself in for the wild ride. Arriving at a decision is difficult, but listen to what a significant other and your gut are telling you, even if they are poles apart.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Choices will have to be made, but you can avoid the tough "either/or" ones if you wait long enough. For example, you want an animal friend. Do you pick out a relatively small one (sixth house action) at the pound and rescue it from certain death? Or do you give into a lifelong desire to have a horse of your own (large animals=12th house)? Since you'll have the wherewithal—Uranus in your money house is blessed by the Gemini sun and generous Jupiter this month —why not get both, right after the summer solstice, and make two vets wealthier?

AQUARIUS.
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Unity (for you, anyway) in diversity. Although most of the macho planetary forces are stressing the importance of making do-or-die decisions for the rest of your brethren, Aquarius can escape the ambient anxiety entirely. Because your Uranus ruler receives positive support from the guys in the Gemini-Sagittarius polarity, all you have to do is sit back and wait with open arms for them to resolve their differences and end their competition. Gee, might you be the prize they are going for? Best days: the 6th, 15th, 17th and, especially, the 19th.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
You might get caught in the cross-fire between the Sagittarius powerbrokers and the Gemini curiosity-seekers, simply because, like them, you are a mutable sign, and mutables must move. Maybe you'll be offered a new job in a different location? Maybe your landlord wants to move his family into your place? Maybe your family wants you out of theirs? Such is the mobile nature of this powerful planetary opposition. Happily, sympathetic pals hang around to pick up the pieces and help carry your baggage and boxes. Ch,ch,changes.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Go for it. If romantic bliss hasn't already landed in your lap, don't fret, it's still within reach. As is one of those magical moments when you connect with a true original and discover that you have more in common than either one suspected. This budding friendship could be the perfect blendship, and moreover, lead to an entrepreneurial adventure. So much is going on, and, because we're in Gemini, there's more than one way to proceed. To stay focused mentally and grounded in whatever you call "reality," make lots of love.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Ride 'em, cowboy. Financial ups come from a sudden coup, coupled with an amazing run of luck; the downs can be exhausting, but thrilling, nonetheless. So much emotion spent on the stuff that dreams are made of will make the four weeks that your Venus ruler is traveling through your sign—until July 4th—more than a pleasant memory. This month could easily mark a major turning point in your life. Every now and then, remember to stop, look and listen to what your inner voice is saying. And buckle up.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.



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Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



Jean Anne Rowe wins an Extreme Sighting Award for lugging seven magazines to Santa Barbara. She also wins a Vague Caption Information Award for writing, "Top: Jean, Edwin, Leh, Cristine and her man. Bottom: Leanna and her friend." Cristine's Man and Leanna's Friend: You're now famous.



Alexandria, Va. clerk of the court Ed Semonian takes an Improper break from the daily docket.



Alma Hernandez (front, right) and crew join mascot Clawd at American Airlines flight attendant training in Dallas.



Justin Jones (left) and Chris Mudd say, "Socialism or no socialism—these are great cigars!" at Plaza de la Revolucíon in Havana, Cuba.



Marcia Contrado and her 12-year-old daughter, Devin Dobbins-McCarthy, celebrate Mother's Day by skiing Tuckerman's Ravine.



Kristina Saunders and friends take a short break from tearing up the slopes in Aspen.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Yodeling in the valley for fun and prizes at the 33rd Annual National Hollerin' Contest, held June 16 in Spivey's Corner, N.C.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of The Improper Bostonian Magazine and will not be returned.

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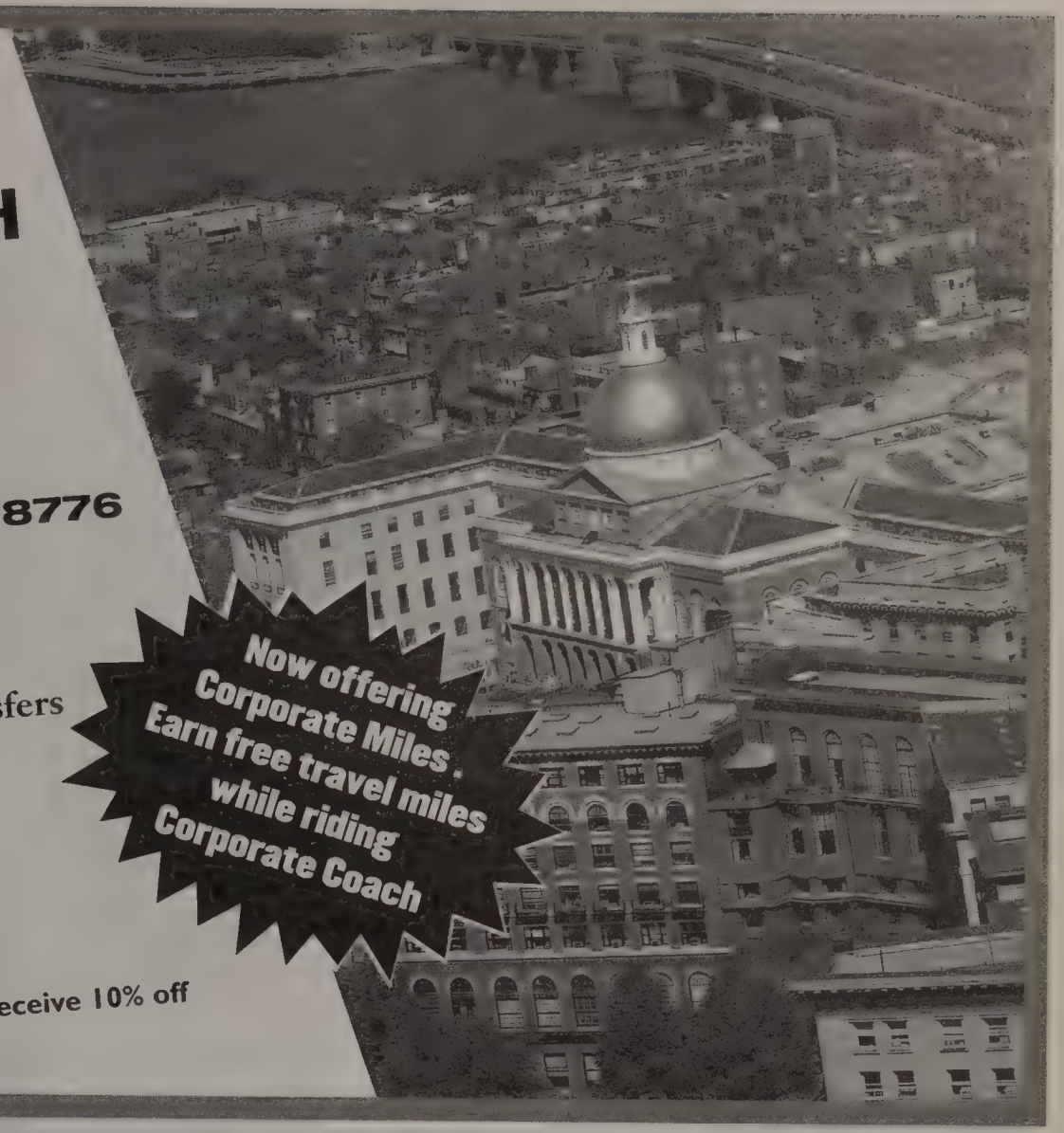
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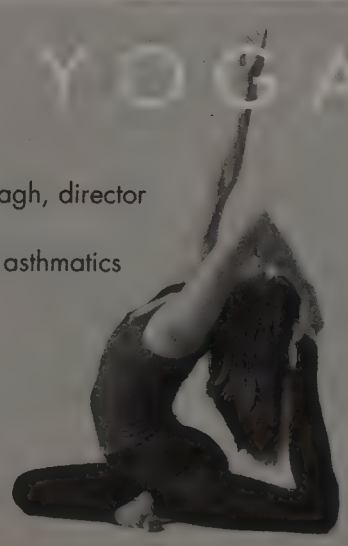
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The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, May 19, the **2nd Annual Touch of Comfort** benefit was held at **Locke-Ober** in honor of Jim Pite, who passed away in November 1999. Jim, a former 6-year Improper employee, founded A Touch of Comfort shortly before he died to improve the quality of life and peace of mind for cancer patients, providing them with resources, amenities and services they might otherwise go without. The evening featured **The Antonio**


1


2


3

1. **Claudia Liberatore** of All Weather Insurance and event coordinator, with **Mrs. Pite** and **Ray Liberatore** of Baring Asset Management.
2. **Rick Savitt** of Hantman & Associates, with **Mary Ferrara** of New York's *Stuff Magazine* (part of Maxim), and **Billy Feder** of Mass. Latitude LLC.
3. **Jen Valerio** with **Tim Reed** of Voice Promotions and his wife, **Carole Reed**, creative director of House of Blues.


1

1. Improper's **Jonathan Soroff** with AME board members **John Ruggieri, Helen Sinkel, Holly Vogel** and **Simon Vining.**
2. **Abbey Reading**, baby **Isaac**, and husband **Miles Reading**, who is an artist.


2

On Wednesday, May 16, **The Improper Bostonian** and **WBCN** presented the AME Benefit Evening "Boogie for Art in the Schools" at the **Milky Way Lounge and Lanes**. With the IB's Jonathan Soroff as host, the crowd enjoyed an exhibit of abstract art of all sizes along with a documentary video, African drumming by **Jah Jah Drummers** and Bella Luna pizza.

On Tuesday, May 8, **The Place** officially opened its doors with great fanfare. With a Boston all-star sports video, plasma TVs and creative videography, The Place promises to bring some fast-action excitement to the Boston night scene.


1


2


3

1. **Steve Burton**, **Alice Cook** and **Bob Lobell**, WBZ 4 sports anchors.
2. **Damon Haurd**, Patriots quarterback and **Paul Holian**, investor.
3. **Dan Bacigalupo**, The Place bartender, with **Scott Zolak**, former Patriot.

On Saturday, May 19, the entire **RoxyPlex** joined together to celebrate **The Roxy**'s 15th anniversary with a party to end all parties. With **Kiss 108**'s Kid David as Master of Ceremonies, all of the RoxyPlex venues hosted VIP receptions in honor of the long-standing dance club.


1


2


2

1. **The Roxy** party in full effect.
2. **Stu Liatsos**, owner of Nutrition One; **David Schwartz**, owner of Coast Realty; **Chuck Osborne** of the New England Patriots and **Nick Liatsos** of Health North Physical Therapy.
3. **Elaine Foley, Kristen Finn** and **Julie Carney**, all students at Salem State College.

PHOTOS: LOCKE-OBER, MILKYWAY, WENDY SEMONIAN; THE PLACE,KAREN DANA; THE ROXY, DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Cafe Escadrille *26 Cambridge St., Burlington, MA, 781-273-1916.* For over 25 years, people who appreciate exceptionally fine food, attentive service and a choice of three dining experiences...tableside preparation in our gourmet room, casual dining in the Greenhouse Cafe or lighter fare until midnight...all meet at the Cafe Escadrille. Famous for our Chateaubriand, 3 -lb lobsters, Black Angus steaks and award-winning Caesar salad. Open Mon-Sat for lunch and dinner. Visa, MC, AE and Diners Club accepted.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week 11:30 am-2am.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the Fleet-Center and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

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JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: Bobby Femino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

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Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favorites as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flatout lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF



THE SOCIAL REGISTER MEETS MOULIN ROUGE...

Those blue-blooded do-gooders at the **Vincent Club** did it again (for the hundred-and-something-th time), mounting a Ziegfield-worthy extravaganza entitled **Raise the Roof!**, which included the requisite Rockettes-style kickline, at the **Copley Theater**.





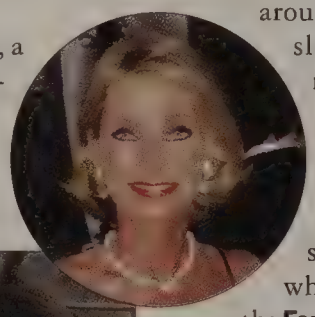
At the Vincent Club party, from top: Priscilla Anderson; Vicky Whitney and Doris Yaffe; Trevania Henderson.

The opening night gala featured cocktails, followed by a pre-performance dinner, and attracted the likes of ethereal beauty **Priscilla Anderson**; Wellesley dwellers **Hannah-Lou** and **Sam Coco** (whose stockbroker daughter, **Caroline**, was in the show); high-kicking cutie-pie **Vicky Whitney**; Nashville-born thoroughbred **Trevania Henderson**; TV producer **Jennifer Donaldson Janes** and her investment guru husband, **Tom**; the vivacious **Carla Cabot**; flawless blonde **Beth Johnson**; restaurateur/socialite **Debbie Lewis**; the eternally smiling **Donna Storer**; and more Brahmins than you could shake a shelaleagh at, which is not to say that the crowd was stuffy or uptight.

In fact, one man on the elevator was completely forthright about his reasons for being there, saying, "I hope our seats are right up front. I want a good view when they start showing some leg."

1,000 SF IN BACK BAY, OVERLOOKING THE PUBLIC GARDEN...

What's green and white and extravagant all over?



The **Green and White Ball**, a black-tie hoo-ha of epic proportions that benefited the **Friends of the Public Garden**. It began with cocktails under a tent tricked out with multiple raw bars, hanging flower arrangements and white furniture that incorporated the stone benches on the **Commonwealth Avenue Mall**, and continued with dinner and dancing in the ballroom of the **Ritz**.



At the Green and White Ball, from top: Hollis Colby; John and Renee Rolfs.

Present and accounted for: bodacious co-chairs **Sandy O'Connor** and **Susan Doll**; real-life Barbie doll **Hollis Colby** with Palm Beach gadfly **Peter Madden**; the Ritz's new GM, **John Rolfs**, and his exquisite wife, **Renee**; soignee blonde **Patty Griffith**; interior design avatars **Chris Drake** and **Lee Bierly**; real estate mack-daddy **Dan Mullin**; art dealer **Andrea Cleghorn** and her husband, **Gordon**; Republican publican **Tom Kershaw**; the achingly lovely **Joanna Datillo**; the charity's patrician president, **Henry Lee**; and one woman who looked around the tent and said, "It's slightly depressing. This is nicer than my house."

CHANEL BAGS AT DAWN...

The swans—both literal and social—were out in full force when the **Chanel** boutique and the **Four Seasons** hosted the **Return of the Swans**, a fashion show and luncheon that raised money to restore the period lighting in the **Public Garden**.

A flotilla of fashionable women, many with nannies and children in tow, gathered by the duck pond to watch the big, white birds take their first splash of the season—a ceremony presided over by **Mayor Menino** and Parks Commissioner **Justine Liff**. After sending their little mouth-breathers home, the ladies took their seats on either side of a mirrored runway, under the shade of blossoming cherry trees, for a fashion show that can only be described as completely over the top (Who knew Chanel made snow shoes and snowboards?).

Among the throng: interior designers **Fotene Demoulas** and **Carolina Tress Balsbaugh**; bauble peddler **Barbara Dorfman**; the *comme il faut* **Patty Ribicoff**; Chanel head honcho **Arie Kopelman** and his daughter, **Jill**; jewelry designer **Maud Cabot**; Back Bay fashion plate **Rachel Goldfarb**; self-proclaimed South Beach biker-chick **Martha O'Brien**; arts patron **Marjie Kargman**; the dazzling duo of **Stephanie Warburg** and **Joan Kennedy**; and so on and so forth.



A luncheon in the Four Seasons ballroom followed, where one guest deconstructed the gathering as "The Battle of Chanel vs. Armani."

"Perhaps," sniffed an Armani partisan, possibly intimidated at being outgunned. "But the Chanel contingent seems excessively blonde to me."

MAYBE HE COULD BORROW BJORK'S SWAN DRESS TO CONDUCT THE OVERTURE TO SWAN LAKE...

The **Boston Pops** received a fiscal booster shot on Opening Night, with a new donor program spearheaded by gazillionaire **Paul Verrochi** and his stunning wife, **Kelly**, who hosted a pre-performance dinner party at the **Four Seasons**.







At the Return of the Swans party, from top: Carolina Tress Balsbaugh, Fotene Demoulas and Rachel Goldfarb; models show off the latest offerings from Chanel.

At the Pops party, from top: Ed Sullivan and Thalassa and Peter Scholl; Maureen and Richie Balsbaugh; John Lithgow and Keith Lockhart.

Helping them scare up the big bucks were such munificent worthies as **Susan** and **Bill Poduska**; **Joan** and **Ted Benard-Cutler**; **Cokie** and **Lee Perry**; **Marcia** and **Robin Brown**; **Patty** and **Charles Ribicoff**; and **Maureen** and **Richie Balsbaugh**, who had cocktails with conductor **Keith Lockhart** and guest star **John Lithgow** before sitting down to a quick supper and then heading over to the concert.

Meanwhile, at **Symphony Hall**, the usual suspects all congregated for boxed dinners and table-hopping, among them: Contessa **Clementine deAgazio**; former spouses but best of friends **Thalassa** and **Peter Scholl**; banking bigwig **Ed Sullivan**; party stalwarts **Maggie** and **Kevin Ahearn**; broadcasting smoothie **Ron della Chiesa**; philanthropists-about-town **Steve** and **Roberta Weiner**; the TV anchor triumvirate of **Jack Williams**, **Mary Richardson** and **John Henning**, and numerous, equally sparkly others.

As always, the concert was a tremendous success and raised more than $320,000, which should be enough to keep Lockhart in goofy get-ups for the next season or so. **iB**

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contents

JUNE 20-JULY 3, 2001



28
The Rattlesnake serves up outdoor dining on the roof



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Tania Schnapp**

Sauteed lobster with red pepper and potato blini photographed on location at **Les Zygomates**

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FEATURES

16 Soroff/On Oedipus
WBCN program director Oedipus speaks up on the effect of video on music, who's selling out and why content ratings are a bad thing.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

19 The Taste of Summer
Five chefs discuss how fresh seasonal ingredients make summer their favorite time to spice up their menus.
BY BETH FORREST
PLUS: Fresh From the Farm—fruits and vegetables to get revved up over

23 A Four-Course Feast
Robin Young on Harvard Square dining; Donna Skinner's dining experiences; Keith Marden on fish; and Merry White on Boston's Asian cuisine
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX AND BETH FORREST

28 Back Bay Goes Al Fresco
A photographic trip through a selection of outdoor eateries. PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

33 Fashion: Portrait of the Artist
Local creative types display their works—and minimalist fashion. PHOTOGRAPHS BY ZOE CAMPAGNA

COLUMNS

6 The Word
Tangierino; *Miz T*; Pine Street Inn graduation; lunchtime excursions; trapped in Fenway

10 E-Boston
Media companies must find new ways to add value in the age of digital piracy.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
Cleaning lady needed. Bad.
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

38 Mopsy
Garden art in leafy gold-covered bronze; a comical book; an old-school shoe store
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

60 Film
The re-release of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* is a nice counterpoint to the usual summer blockbusters.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

70 Music
On their latest tour Aerosmith continue to bring their music to a new generation of fans.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

92 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

40 Dining
Taranta adds a Southern Italian influence to the North End.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

42 Dish
Dining by the book
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

43 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Harpoon beer and grilled seafood at the MFA
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 44.
DJ Logic • *Much Ado About Nothing* • **Donny Osmond** • Haiku and Beyond • *The Anniversary Party* • **Dennis Miller** • Boston Harborfest • **Mouse on Mars** • Chefs in Shorts • **Wynton Marsalis** and **Carl Vigeland** • the *Mayflower II* hits town

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	84
Rockie Horoscope	84
Improperazzi	88
Improper Sightings	86
Classifieds	90

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

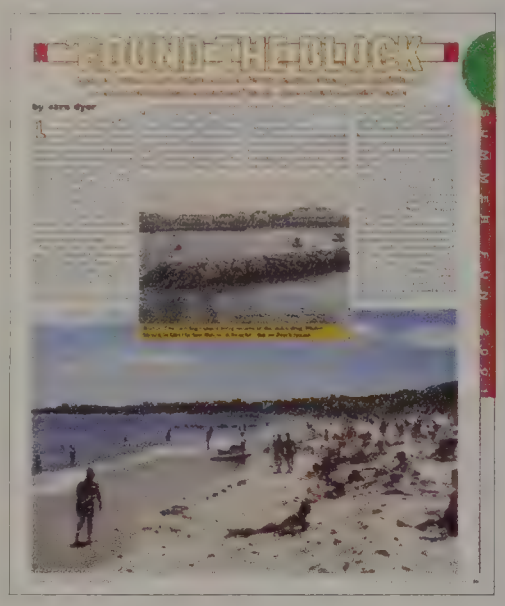
DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Tank by Dolce & Gabbana, jeans by Miih Yaiyaios, [illegible] at Neiman Marcus and Bergdorf Goodman Maitre-All Bedlisewski at Neiman Marcus

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letters



MY ADVICE IS TO RENT A BIKE INSTEAD OF A MOPED AND YOU'LL FEEL BETTER ABOUT YOURSELF BOTH PHYSICALLY AND PSYCHOLOGICALLY.

—LELAND STEIN
ARLINGTON

BIKING BLOCK ISLAND

Having experienced Block Island for the first time Memorial Day weekend, I was intrigued to read Ezra's piece in the "Summer Fun" issue. I found it very disappointing, however, that he chose to highlight renting a moped as a "must-do." Why recommend noisy, polluting motor vehicles and not even mention that all sorts of bicycles are readily available and at a far lower cost? The fact that the island is small—around 10 square miles—makes it perfect for biking. For those who enjoy getting off the beaten track, there are many exceptionally beautiful and unusual natural areas to explore on the island—many accessible only by biking or hiking. In fact, The Nature Conservancy owns more than 15 percent of the entire island. One favorite, the Clay Head Trail, is absolutely breathtaking! So, my advice is to rent a bike instead of a moped, and you'll feel better about yourself both physically and psychologically. And, believe me, after an exhilarating bike ride, the draft beers at the National will taste even better!

—LELAND STEIN
Arlington

WELL, GEE, THANKS

I just got the latest IMPROPER dropped off and I must say, You've come a long way, baby! I have lived and worked in Back Bay for six years and have seen your magazine take quantum leaps in information provided, exciting covers, ads and the general overall quality. You've become a real player in the Boston scene, both business-wise and fun-wise—a difficult thing to do. Keep up the good work.

—BRIAN SULLIVAN
Via e-mail

NO HORSING AROUND

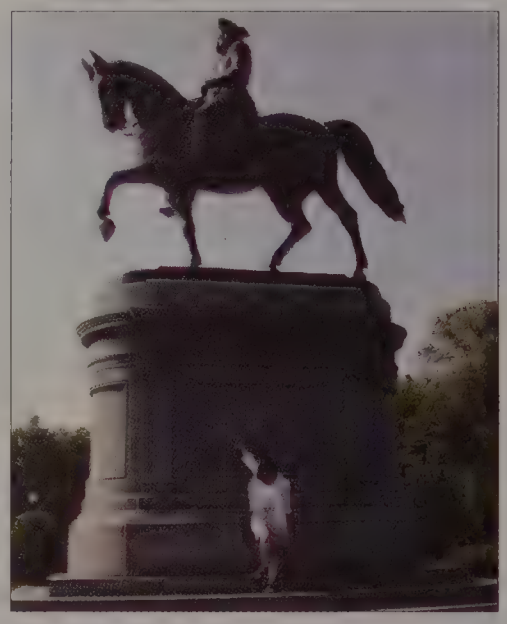
The first two lines of last issue's story about Cuddles the guide horse were seriously inaccurate. To say that guide dogs may become passé due to the use of guide horses is completely unfounded at this time. The horse should in no way be portrayed as supplanting the guide dog. It is an alternative; it is *not* fast growing. It took years to produce this one horse. Inaccuracies and exaggerations will only cause damage and misunderstanding to both guide dog users and potential horse users. Thank you for your attention to this sensitive issue.

—LYNNE BRIDGES, ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY INSTRUCTOR, CARROLL CENTER FOR THE BLIND
Via e-mail

CONFUCIUS CONFUSE US

Your article on Boston concierges was a bit is misleading. Written Chinese appears in only two forms: traditional and simplified. Spoken Chinese includes hundreds of dialects, Mandarin and Cantonese being among the most popular. Since the hotel guest in your article requested a translation of a manual, the decision to be made would be based on which kind of written Chinese the target audience reads—not the kind of Chinese that they speak. Had the request been for an interpreter, then the question regarding dialect (Mandarin or Cantonese) would have been appropriate. As one of the leading translation companies, we find that a surprising number of people are not aware of this distinction.

—MARY SHILLUE
RIC INTERNATIONAL
Via e-mail



CORRECTIONS

Hello, my name is Susan Abbattista (see picture above), and I am the copy chief here at THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN. I'd like to personally congratulate the approximately 8,000 sharp-eyed readers who wrote to point out that the statue behind me is George Washington, not Paul Revere, as was stated in last issue's "Alternate Routes" story. We don't have room for all of your letters, so let me paraphrase the general sentiment: "You are obviously not from Boston. You must be from Stupidville. That is George Washington." Well, of course it is. Clearly, it says "Washington" right across the base of the statue. We were just seeing if you were paying attention. Good job! I recommend you celebrate your encyclopedic knowledge of the city by going to the North End and getting some of its famous Chinese food.

Also: In last issue's "Making Waves" sidebar, the 90-minute Provincetown Express is part of Boston Harbor Cruises, not Bay State Cruises. The correct phone number is 227-4321.

And in the May 23 issue, Ford Models was credited in the fashion feature. Ford Model Management of Boston should have been the proper credit.

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CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Columnist Carolyn Faye Fox, who writes "Dish" for THE IMPROPER, is better known outside Boston for her role as a panelist on *Says You!*, NPR's nationally syndicated word game quiz show. Formerly editor of *Gastronoma*, Carolyn writes food and travel articles for various publications and occasionally appears on WCVB Channel 5's *Chronicle*. Turn to page 23 for her feature, "A Four-Course Feast."

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Tangierino co-owners Samad and Heike Naamad

NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

MOROCCAN MEZZE

In the weeks before the opening of Charlestown's newest restaurant, **Tangierino**, husband-and-wife co-owners Samad and Heike Naamad had to turn away more than 500 eager neighbors who couldn't wait to sample their Moroccan cuisine. Most simply pressed their faces up against the windows of the former Duckworth Lane restaurant for a peek—but the bolder ones marched through the door demanding the exact opening date. Clearly, Tangierino has generated excitement in an area that has been overshadowed by neighboring Olives for many years.

The space looks more Newbury Street than Charlestown, with polished hardwood floors, dark red walls, intricate light fixtures, tile tables and plush, expensively upholstered furniture. It's divided into three distinct rooms—a dining area with an entire wall of windows, a cigar lounge and the hidden jewel: a softly lit room with lavish, low-lying couches and chairs around exotic circular tables. Co-chefs Tim Durette and Mostafa Naamad's cuisine is equally rich—a fusion of French and Moroccan. We sampled the chicken bistilla, a savory chicken pie with sweetened almonds and a touch of powdered sugar and cinnamon, and salmon baha with charmoula sauce, potatoes, bell peppers and olives. Both were accompanied by a savory couscous, and both were delectable. "We want Tangierino to be a destination—an experience that combines great food with ambiance, artwork and exotic style," says Samad Naamad. And it's exactly that. *83 Main St., Charlestown (242-6009).*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

CLUBBING AND ROCK TALK

•Love was in the air as *Almost Famous*' beloved band-aid **Kate Hudson** took her role to heart, sitting perched atop an amp while her hubbie, **Chris Robinson,** performed with the **Black Crowes** at the Tweeter Center last week. Our spies say that the lovestruck blonde sang along to each and every song. Glam gal **Liv Tyler**, who's engaged to **Royston Langdon** of Spacehog (also on the bill along with Oasis) was also bopping along backstage.

•Another first at **Avalon**: On the heels of the O-Bar is a new fun toy: tanks full of liquid nitrogen and carbon dioxide that blast jets of the mixture over the crowd. Liquid nitrogen is actually 300 degrees below zero, and when it is mixed with carbon dioxide, it forms a cold gas cloud that drops the room temperature a full 30 degrees. When it's released, it makes a really loud noise, like the rumble of a jet plane, and the cloud takes 30 seconds to fill the room. But even more exciting, in three weeks it's going to snow at Avalon. They're installing a water tank and when the liquid nitrogen, carbon dioxide and water are combined, snow is created—far closer to the real deal than the fake flakes they make now with a blizzard machine. Cool, eh?

•**Dar Williams** and **Margo Timmins** of **Cowboy Junkies** were just in town to film the pilot of *The Chord*—a new show that features two musicians discussing their craft while an audience (this time, Berklee students) looks on. Think of it as *Inside the Actors' Studio* meets VH1's *Behind the Music*. The stunning set was designed by Koo de Kir of Charles Street.

•We're saddened to see Boston's music-makers take a hit: local studio **Supersonic** recently closed its doors for good. The building however, will remain in capable hands. Local producer and engineer Colin Rhinesmith of the ethereal post-rockers the Clairvoyants already took over the space with his **Longhouse** studio two weeks ago.

•On a happier rock note, **Cheerleadr** recently recorded with sound craftsman extraordinaire (and former Big Black member) **Steve Albini**. The band's songwriter/guitarist Will Claflin said that working with Steve was his dream come true. "It was a "life-changing experience." So what's it like spending six intense days in the studio with Albini? "He's strange in a very calculated way. The only breaks he took were to make strange espresso concoctions with maple syrup—one about every six hours. And he ate nothing but mints." Claflin tells us that the entire time that they were recording, Albini left the studio only once—to take a walk with his girlfriend. (Cheerleadr's next gig is June 29 at the Beachcomber in Welfleet, where they play with Helms and the Ivory Coast).


The Clifford-Smith Gallery


Click (left) and Clack congratulate Pine Street Inn class speaker, Alfred Gibson (center).

•**Barenaked Ladies** were hanging out at **The Place** on a recent Saturday night. When the band came in, they were treated to the video of their own song "Pinch Me" and a private showing of The Place's all-star Boston sports video.

•Charles Maksou, owner of the swank Maksou Salon and Day Spa, traveled to Foxboro with three assistants to do **Eden's Crush**'s hair for their concert last week. The group booked him from New York and Maksou and his assistants styled all five girls. He said that they were thrilled with their hairdos and squealed, "You made us look like rock stars!"

•On June 7, the Pine Street Inn held a graduation ceremony for those who completed its job training program. Delivering the keynote address were **Tom** and **Ray Magliozzi** (a.k.a. **Click** and **Clack**), the Cambridge bros who host NPR's *Car Talk*. The bros ad libbed a brief speech. Ray offered, "Wisdom? We ain't got no stinkin' wisdom!" Tom candidly admitted that he thought Pine Street Inn was "some kind of flophouse" before he got the invitation to speak.

•If only art galleries were always this much fun. The **Clifford-Smith Gallery** threw a dog-gone great party (with slews of man's best friends) June 7 in honor of *Canine*, a collection of Henry Horenstein's abstract photographs of dogs. —*E.H. and J.S.*

TOP: SAM WRIGHT; DOGS AT GALLERY: OLIVIA HANLEY

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Classical concerts at Copley

BREAK TIME

TIME OUT

There are plenty of reasons to play hooky and get out of the office during lunch hour other than blue skies and warm weather.

Go Canoeing

You can rent canoes and kayaks at lunchtime, and any level of instruction is available. *Charles River Recreation Inc., 2401 Comm. Ave., Newton (965-5110). Season: Early April to late October. Weekdays, 10am to dusk; weekends, 9am to dusk. $11-$14.*

Relax with Music

•WCRB sponsors free lunchtime classical music concerts on Thursdays at the Reflecting Pool at Copley Square. *(893-7080). June 21 and 28.* •On Fridays, a quick hit of classical music in the beautiful Trinity Church at Copley Square is a relaxing lunchtime option. *Fri., 12:15-12:45pm. (536-0944).* •WGBH presents free lunchtime jazz concerts on Thursdays in June at South Station. *(300-1623). June 21 and 28, 11:30am.* •The Boston Globe Jazz & Blues Festival hosts Robert Randolph in Copley Square June 20, Johnny A. June 21 and Toni Lynn Washington June 22—all at noon. *(939-2816). www.bostonglobe.com/jazzfest.* •Boston Blues Festival is at the Hatch Shell Sept. 23-24, 11am. (973-8800).

Buy Tonight's Dinner

Bag some fresh produce and flowers at the farmers market at Copley Square (Tue. and Fri., 11am-6pm); City Hall Plaza (Mon-Wed., 11am-6pm); Boston Center for the Arts, South End (Wed., 3-7pm).

Take a Class

Go back to school at the Boston Center for Adult Education: July 9, 10am-12pm: Deadlines, Due Dates and Disasters, $21-$23; July 20, 10am-12pm: Emotional Intelligence—Increase Your Innate Potential, $24-$26. *5 Comm. Ave, Boston (267-4430).*

Volunteer at a School

Tutor a student, or volunteer as a teacher's aid for an hour or two. *Cambridge School Volunteers (349-6794) and Boston Public Schools (451-6145). Sept.-June.*

Lectures at Lunch

Brown bag it, and spend your midday at Old South Meeting House. They offer all sorts of lectures and music events. *310 Washington St., Boston (482-6349). 12:15-1pm. $5. Nov.-March.*

Friday Music at House of Blues

Come listen to some solo artists during your lunchbreak. *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). 12-2pm. Free.*

—E.H. and J.S.

THE DISSED LIST

CAR TRAPPED

After the marathon 18-inning Sox game a few weeks back, some Fenway fans headed back to retrieve their cars at Van Ness St. Parking, a garage at 80-90 Van Ness Street, only to find that the garage workers on duty had decided to call it quits and locked the place. Considering that a sign by the garage entrance clearly states that the facility stays open for one hour after Sox games end, the unfortunate folks with trapped cars were justifiably outraged. There was even a family from New Hampshire left waiting for someone to unlock the place until the wee hours of the morning. And here's the real kicker: When a Sox fan went to pick up his car the next day (after cabbing it home the previous night), the garage proprietor was anything but contrite, stating "people make mistakes all the time." Yeah, right. File under: outrageous blooper. *—Rachel Strutt*

MEDIA

OUT WITH THE OLD, IN WITH THE NEW

It is with regret we bid adieu to another Boston-based magazine, ***The American Prospect.*** The progressive political magazine that covers politics, policy and culture will relocate to Washington, D.C., in August. Says founder and co-editor Robert Kuttner, "We are making this move because, for better or worse, the national capital is also increasingly the media capital, at least for political news. However, we emphatically recognize that most of what energizes progressive politics necessarily happens outside the Capitol Beltway."

But there's a new mag to fill the slot. John Strahinich, former executive editor of ***Boston Magazine***, brings us ***Boston Business Forward***—a monthly magazine with the goal "to deliver depth, color, wit and edge to Greater Boston's business leaders." The *BBF* is not to be confused with the *BBJ* (***Boston Business Journal***), whose goal is "to cover the diverse and dynamic economy of Greater Boston." Both have sister publications that co-exist peacefully in Washington, D.C.

In related news, Boston was rated No. 16 in a recent ***Forbes*** survey titled "Where to Score as a Single." Each of the 40 most populated U.S. cities was rated based on how well it scored in several categories, including number of other singles, nightclubs, job growth and cost of living. (Washington, D.C., was No. 1.) ***People*** magazine simultaneously released its girls' guide to sizzling places to go and be seen in Boston—*Sex and the City* style. Oddly enough, Healthworks, the all-female gym, and Tremont 647's Pajama Brunch—a notoriously gay gathering—made the list. Looks like the odds of meeting a straight male aren't too good for you, gals. But the other places are certainly worth checking out—for single gals and for guys on the prowl who know how to use a bit of reverse psychology: Newbury Street's House of Culture (for shopping), Aria (nightspot) and Bomboa (dinner). *—E.H. and J.S.*

IMPROPER REPORTS

SAY CHEESE

Need to have your summer photos developed? We've found some places in and around Boston to get the job done. Prices are for single prints of a 24-exposure roll.

•**Moto Photo,** 657 Boylston, Boston (266-6560): **$12.99** (doubles free on Tuesdays and Thursdays)

•**South End Photo Lab**, 597 Tremont, Boston (536-9335): **$12.55**

•**Zeff Photo Supply**, 11 Brighton, Belmont (489-3311): **$12**

•**Newtonville Camera and Video**, 249 Walnut, Newton (965-1240): **$11**

•**Ritz One Hour Photo**, 81 Charles Street, Boston (248-1909): **$9.99**

•**Park Square Camera and Photo**, 77 Arlington, Boston (482-6449): **$9.84**

•**CVS**, 1266 Commonwealth Ave., Allston (277-2953): **$6.99**

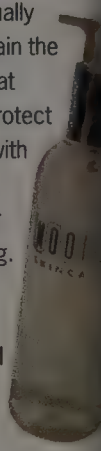


If you can't get Sox tickets, try checking out a cricket match (this one was held at Biggs field at MIT). For more information, visit *www.mscl.org*

SAM SAYS

CARE FOR THE BARE

For summer skin care, make it **Noode**. Noode (pronounced "new day," not "nude") is an inexpensive line of skin-refreshing products that add spunk and vitality to your skin and attitude to your life. With names like Renew Me facial peel and Rub Me body oil, it's hard not to be intrigued by this brand of colorful and cute body products that focus on the "me" aspect of beauty care. The three-step daily face-washing cleanser, scrub and moisturizer made my skin tingle. I could feel the increased blood flow to my face, and after applying the Make Me Soft moisturizer, I felt clean, soft and non-greasy. I was actually looking forward to washing again the next morning. Another thing that fascinated me was Heal and Protect Me, a gel that can be applied with or without makeup to prevent slippery-shine that comes after long hours of cosmetic-wearing. I'm not a huge fan of body oils, but with Rub Me, a little went a long way to leave my arms and legs moist and smooth after a quick dry. Best of all, Noode is not a mail-order or sales-consultant product line. The beauty products are available at Colonial Drug (864-2222), Nordstrom and Bloomingdales. Bet your bath oils they won't be a secret much longer. *www.noode.com. —Samantha House*



AROUND TOWN

BOAT STUFF

So, you want to get out for a cruise on the harbor with some friends and/or co-workers and you're looking for a vessel. If you need something bigger than a WaveRunner and smaller than the *QE2*, take at look at *Miz T*, which resides at a berth at Rowe's Wharf.

This 68-foot Ocean motor yacht caters primarily to corporate groups looking for a night out, but at $1,400 for three hours (and $200 per hour thereafter), it wouldn't be inconceivable to use it for, say, a bachelorette party (sorry, they don't do bachelor parties).

Whatever your agenda, the crew is jovial and eager to accommodate. If vegetating and enjoying the view doesn't suit you, you can also waterski (the boat does 20 knots), surf on the rooster-tail or—our personal favorite—win a few skins on the golf tee on the upper deck. To book, contact Carol Kent Yacht Charters *(742-2500). www.carolkent.com or www.mizt.com. —Ezra Dyer*



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A Surprise In Every Box

With digital piracy rampant, consumers need bonuses that can't be bootlegged



The Napster controversy appears to be settling down as the erstwhile bootlegging service attempts to become a legitimate distribution company. Despite this, there's little sign that the illegal reproduction of copyrighted material across the Internet has abated. As I learned from the many hostile letters I received regarding my previous column about Napster, many people are so attached to the notion that the world owes them entertainment that they think nothing of stealing from the very entertainers whom they claim to appreciate.

Unlike taped music, digitally stored music can be copied and recopied without any loss of quality, and the files are small enough to download on a dial-up 56K link. Broadband makes it an entirely trivial matter to bootleg even massive volumes of music. Broadband also opens the possibility of downloadable movies; there are some sites that now offer entire movies—in low resolution, to be sure—as downloadable files. It's pretty easy to envision a time when the digital version of an entire, full-quality movie will be traded around the Web as easily as an MP3 file is traded today. Before that happens, however, we're going to see recordable DVD drives, which will inevitably result in a bumper crop of bootlegged movies. (That's why George Lucas has wisely decided not to release his *Star Wars* movies in DVD format.)

There are, of course, numerous software schemes intended to deter illegal copying. But no matter how clever the programmers are for the media companies, there will always be hackers who can crack the code. That's been proven time after time in the world of software publishing, where piracy represents a multibillion-dollar yearly loss to large and small companies alike, despite decades of copy-protection technology.

Oddly enough, the only mass media that hasn't been overly affected by the Internet is the one that you'd think would be most affected—print publishing. While there are many Web sites that contain the content of magazines and newspapers, there's been no drop in demand for either form of publication. Twenty years ago—long before the Internet—there was a massive consolidation of the newspaper business, with smaller papers folding left and right. Today, however, it's rare to hear of a newspaper folding. What's far more common is the announcement of layoffs at Web sites that contain newspaper content. The same is true of magazines. New magazines are launched every day, even as dozens of informational Web sites collapse simply because they can't make any money.

The reason that the Internet hasn't displaced print media is the quality of the reading experience. A good MP3 file or a DVD, when played on a computer, sounds or looks as good as it would on a stereo or television. The printed word, however, still looks pretty crappy, even on a high-resolution screen. Furthermore, the experience of reading a printed periodical is partly tactile—you flip through the pages, rip out pages, scribble on the margins. In the process, you discover articles that you wouldn't otherwise find, simply because the editor thought that the information was interesting. No search engine, not even *google.com*, can completely replace the serendipity of thumbing through the *New York Times*.

> MEDIA COMPANIES WILL INCREASINGLY BE FORCED TO CREATE PRODUCTS THAT HAVE ADDITIONAL VALUE BEYOND THEIR DIGITAL CONTENT.

The Internet isn't clobbering book publishers, either. While there's been a great deal of talk about electronic books, it's rare to find anyone who's ever read one "cover to cover." While Stephen King's first Internet book, *Riding the Bullet*, sold 400,000 copies during the first day that it was offered for sale, the first chapter of his second book, *The Plant*, only attracted 41,000 downloads on the first day, despite the fact that payment was optional. In short, there simply isn't much demand for electronic books.

By contrast, thousands of new hardcover and paperback books are released every day. People want hard-copy books because they're physical objects, something tangible that they can hold in their hand and put on a book shelf. That's even true when the content is available on the Web. One of my first books, a very short work entitled *The Tao of Programming* (InfoBooks, 1986), has been reproduced verbatim on thousands of Web sites. The book itself, however, remains in print because it's fun to own, being something like Mao's little red book for revolutionaries, only for programmers.

In short, books are "artifacts" that have value beyond their contents. This observation has enormous implications for media companies. With content becoming infinitely reproducible without any realistic method for extracting money from the customer, media companies (and the entertainers whom they employ) will increasingly be forced to create products that have additional value above and beyond their digital content.

For a music CD to be commercially viable, it may need to consist of more than just a plastic disk and some liner notes. Instead, the packaging will probably have to include something that can't be bootlegged, like a concert ticket in every hundredth CD or maybe a certificate giving the bearer a chance to hang out with the artist. CDs and DVDs may have to become more like print publications and offer tactile gratification. Of course, this may prove difficult in cases where the audience is functionally illiterate.

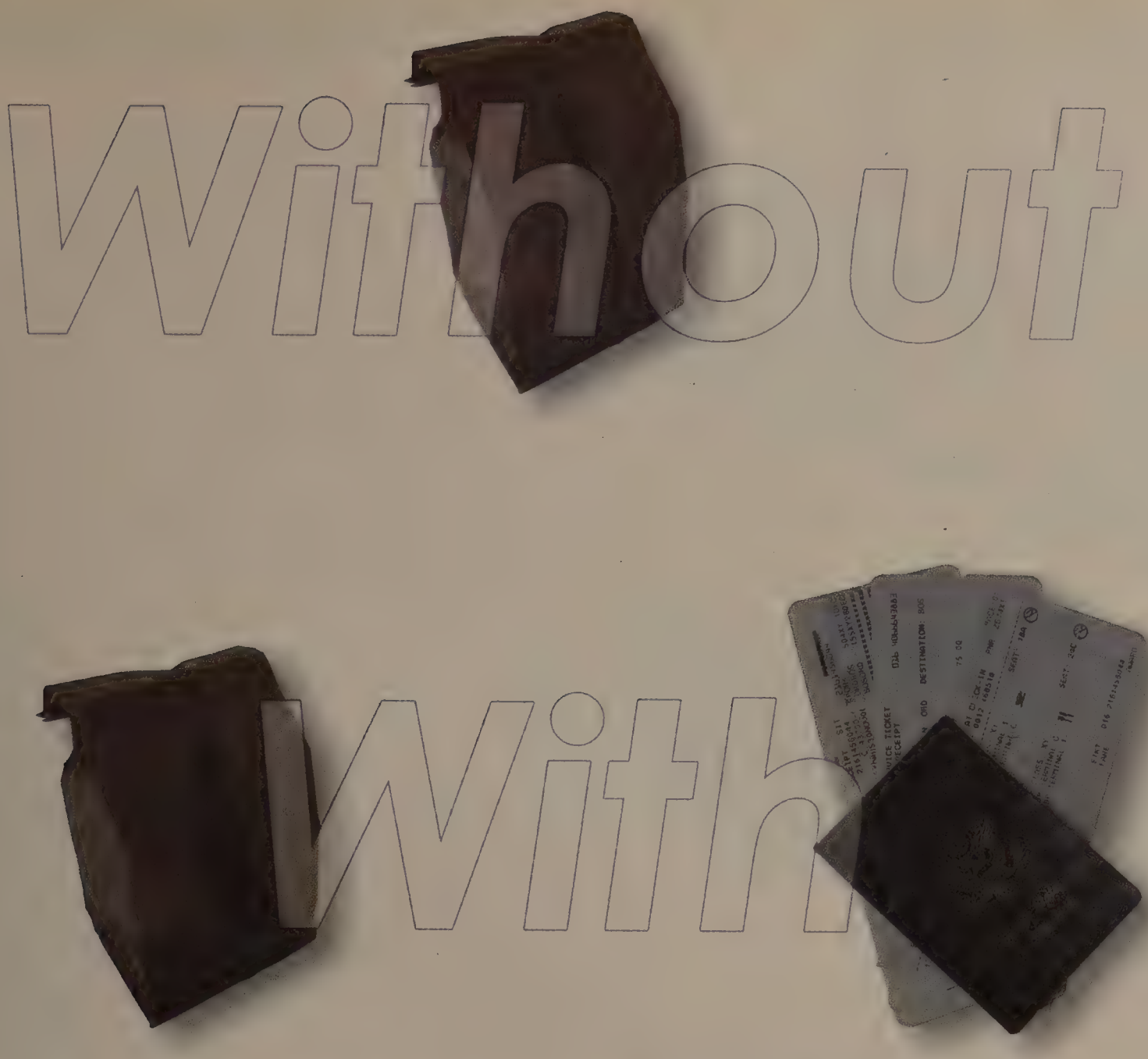
Even then, audiovisual entertainment will have to depend more on events rather than packaged products. That's already taking place in those movie theaters that offer stadium seating and eardrum-crunching sound systems to compete with increasingly ubiquitous home theaters. As consumers embrace digital bootlegging, we can expect to see more live concerts, with higher ticket prices that offset the money lost on the digital content.

This isn't to say that media companies shouldn't keep trying to enforce their copyrights. They have an obligation to their creative employees to attempt to get reimbursed for the entertainment that they provide consumers. However, this may be a case where the genie is already out of the bottle.

There's no question that people who download and clone content without the permission of the copyright owners are simply small-time crooks whose sense of integrity is totally dwarfed by their sense of self-entitlement. However, it doesn't look as if human nature is likely to change anytime soon, so it may be necessary to adapt to the realities of the current situation. **iB**

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

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Crisis of Clean

If cleanliness is next to godliness, then I live next door to Satan

We need a cleaning lady at my apartment. Before you bust me for being a sexist cretin ("You mean you need 'a person who cleans,' male chauvinist pig!), allow me to explain: My apartment is evidence of how guys clean. Guy-cleaning methods are the reason that we need a cleaning lady in the first place. "Sweep it under the couch and resume watching the game," is a fine tidying technique, but one that only takes you so far. So we're in the market for a cleaning lady.

There are several major problem areas that need to be addressed. Perhaps most striking is the bathroom. Now, even if it were regularly cleaned, our bathroom would never be featured in *Better Homes & Gardens*. A cleaning lady would, for instance, not be able to replace a bathtub that is inexplicably *painted*, and with latex paint at that. Who paints a bathtub with water-based paint? That's like wallpapering a firehouse with oil-soaked rags.

A cleaning lady would also have no control over our bathroom's discolored ceiling panels, a mirror that looks like a porthole on a Chinese junk and floor tiles that abut the toilet about as closely as South America abuts Africa. And the toilet itself has chips in the bowl that make it permanently appear to have more skid marks than I-95 through Providence. But even so, the bathroom could be clean. I'm sure that getting rid of the accumulated sludge and smegma that covers everything—the hair and soap scum and fossilized toothpaste nuggets on the sink, for starters—would go a long way toward making it look almost as nice as the bathrooms at Fenway.

The next disaster area is the fridge. There are several veteran items in our fridge that escape getting thrown out simply because they can't go bad. I guess the idea is that someday my roommates and I will have consumed every other edible item in the fridge, including the frost off the back of the freezer, and *then* won't we be glad to see that Hickory Farms summer sausage in the cold-cuts drawer.

The fridge also needs help from an organizational standpoint. The beer dispenser is a prime example. There, in a metal rack occupying a third of the top shelf, sits a single Milwaukee's Best, a grizzled survivor that somehow eluded the thirsty hoard at our St. Patty's Day party. There was recently an apartmental discussion that raised the idea that the beer dispenser would probably work with, you know, soda, too. Then maybe we could move some of the soda that is sitting in 12-packs on the floor next to the couch. But as of now, the single Beast still grimly reigns over the top shelf. Could a cleaning lady help implement major ideas like the Soda Plan? What's more, what are we thinking of, putting soda where beer should be? Maybe the cleaning lady could find where we put our manhood while she's at it.

It's not in the toaster oven, that's for sure. There's no room, what with it being filled with the charred remnants of bagels past. Luckily, our particular toaster oven has a way of indicating when it needs to be cleaned: It catches fire. The last time this happened was in the morning, pre-coffee, and I stood there watching helplessly while my bagel received a flame-broiling from the accumulated briquettes beneath the rack. Luckily roommate Dave, who had already had his coffee, came to the rescue and doused the flames with a glass of water (and even had the foresight to unplug the oven before he did so). But what if Dave hadn't been there? It would have been terribly embarrassing to have my death certificate read "Cause: Smoke inhalation (flaming bagel)." Cleaning lady of my dreams, I hope you do toaster ovens. My life just might depend on it.

The final and most daunting challenge presented by my chill crib is dust. Cleaning up dust is a must, but our vacuum cleaner lacks thrust (Next column: My short-lived career as a wack MC). So our apartment features several dust strata, depending on where you look. The TV is likely to have the least dust, because TV dust presents a functional impediment to everyday life. To have TV resolution compromised—especially on Sunday night, when there's a better-than-average chance of seeing Sarah Jessica Parker in her underwear—is unthinkable. But I wouldn't recommend venturing behind the TV without heavy equipment. As I said, our vacuum cleaner creates less suction than Bea Arthur working on a Big Gulp, so sticking your head behind the TV is equivalent to perishing in a dustalanche. Some people have dust bunnies. We have dust brontosaurases.

Well, potential cleaning lady, that's the mission, should you choose to accept it. To get things moving in the right direction, I'm going to start cleaning now. I'm going to go drink that Milwaukee's Best. iB

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The American Repertory Theatre's Gala on the Grass pA.R.T.y was held June 4 at Radcliffe Institute. More than $250,000 was raised.

1. **Gideon Lester**, incoming associate director of the ART, and actress **Debra Winger**.
2. **Biff Liff**, agent with William Morris; **Mary O'Connor**, architect; and actress **Cherry Jones**.
3. Novelist **Robert B. Parker** and his wife, **Joan**.
4. **David Nyhan** (l), political columnist for the *Boston Globe*, and **Geoffrey Dana Hicks**, director of the Brookline High School Cammerata.
5. **Paula Brown**, designer and owner of Paula Jaclyn in Martha's Vineyard, her husband, **George**, CFO Blanche Field in the Design Center, and **Carol Campbo**, teacher at the O'Donnell Middle School in Stoughton.
6. **Arliss Howard**, actor/director, and **Rose Styron**, wife of novelist William Styron.
7. **Arthur Miller**, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright and actress **Dame Diana Rigg**.


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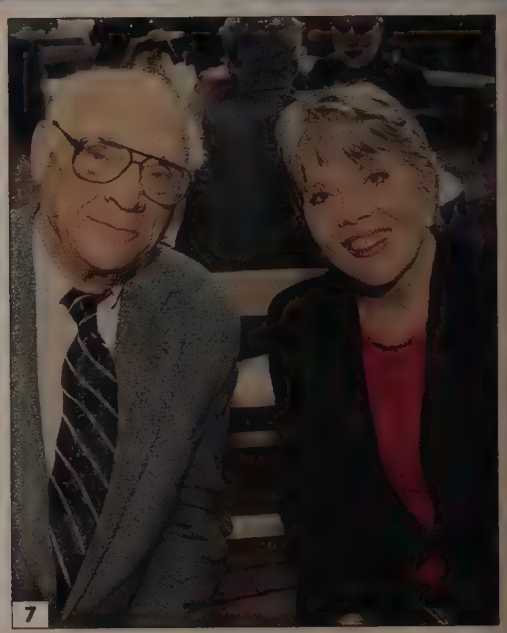

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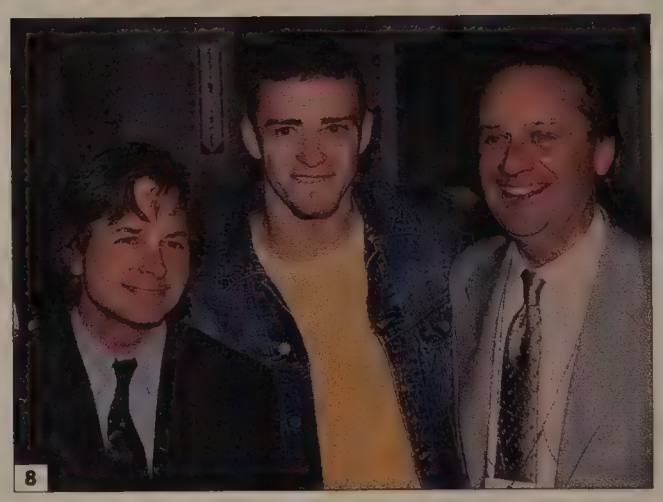

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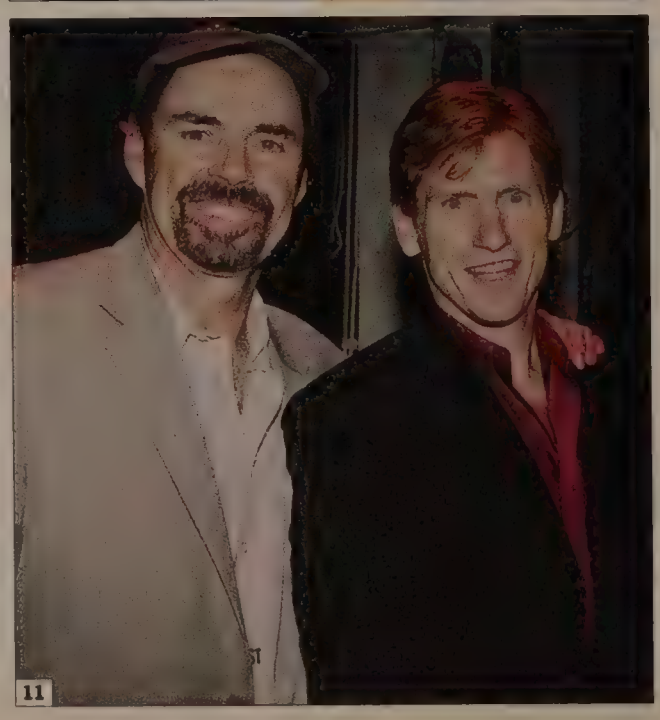
The *What's the Worst That Could Happen?* premiere party was held May 29 on the Wang Theatre Stage, before the debut of Boston's new movie. VIP movie-goers showed up to support and honor actor Michael J. Fox, who joined a friend, Newton's Sam Weisman (who directed both the 1980s sitcom *Family Ties* and *What's the Worst That Could Happen?*). Bostonians Matt Seigel and Robin Brown made cameo appearances in the film and were also present at the party. The event raised more than $150,000 for the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research.

8. From left: **Michael J. Fox**; **Justin Timberlake** of 'N Sync; and **Robin Brown**, Four Seasons general manager and the "auctioneer" in *What's the Worst That Could Happen?*
9. **Matt Siegel**, radio personality for KISS 108, and "convention host" in *What's the Worst That Could Happen?* and his wife, **MaryAnn**.
10. Actress **Sascha Knopf** and **Josiah Spaulding**, CEO of Wang Center.
11. **Steve Sweeney** (l), comedian/radio personality for WZLX 100.7 FM and **Denis Leary**, comedian/actor.
12. **Sam Weisman** (l), director of *What's the Worst that Could Happen?* and comedian/actor **Lenny Clarke**.
13. **Dennis Lloyd**, arts and entertainment advertising manager for the *Boston Globe*, and **Kathryn San Filippo**, investor.


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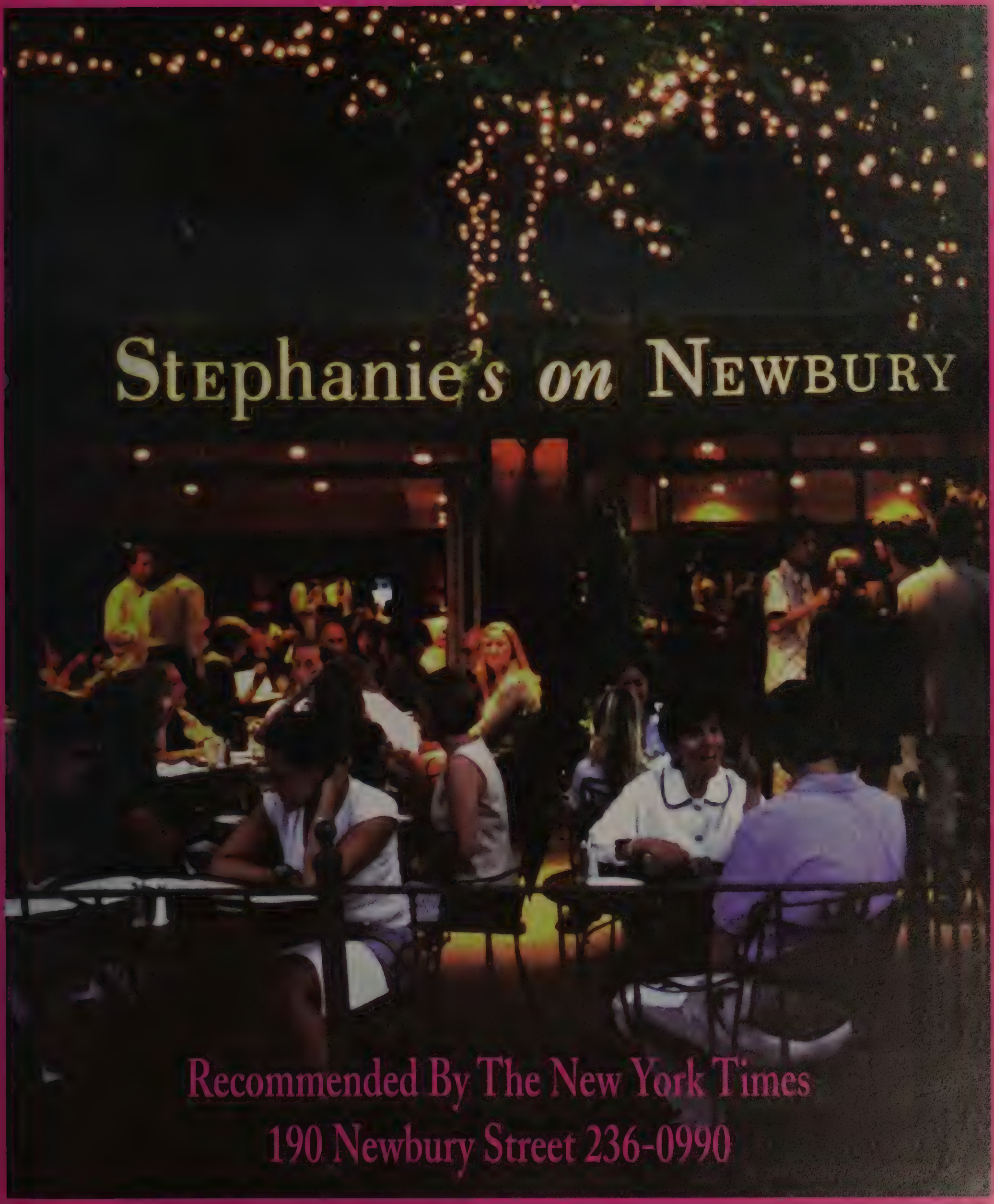

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Stephanie's on Newbury
Recommended By The New York Times
190 Newbury Street 236-0990

Oedipus

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

WBCN vice president and program director Oedipus, 47, was raised in the Midwest. He came to Boston as a student in the 1970s and worked for a time as a photographer of celebrities. His radio career began in 1975, as a DJ at MIT's college station, WTBS (now WNBR). He gained notoriety by starting what was (according to rock historian Gina Arnold) the first punk-rock radio show in America, introducing punk and new wave to the country. He did the first radio interviews with such seminal bands as the Ramones, Talking Heads and the Damned, and in 1977 convinced WBCN to hire him as a part-time announcer. He soon had a full-time gig, and his acclaimed *Nocturnal Emissions* is now the longest-running new-music show in radio. In 1995 he was named vice president of programming, and in 1997 he was named the T.J. Martell Honoree of the year (the music industry's equivalent of a lifetime achievement Oscar). This year, *Boston Magazine* named him the third most influential person in the arts in the city. He lives in Dover with his pet wolf, Contessa.

Jonathan Soroff: *First of all, your name—Oedipus?*

Oedipus: The original mother-f...

JS: *I'll bet your given name was something like Stanley Shapiro.*

O: Nah. I was so beautiful, my mother took one look at me when I was born and said, "Oedipus."

JS: *Coolest man in rock 'n' roll?*

O: David Bowie. Every note, every gesture, every word is poetry. He's genius.

JS: *Favorite Bowie anecdote?*

O: We were on the bullet train to Kyoto. He was sitting in the smoking car; he'd quit doing drugs, so he was chain-smoking. I was going to have a few extra days in Kyoto, and he'd been there before, so he offered to write down a few suggestions of things to do. Well, he comes back with a huge list, and I have this vision of him, kneeling down in the aisle of the bullet train, describing all these places he's sending me, and I'm looking into those exotic, intense eyes. (He has two different colored eyes.) And behind him, Mount Fuji is going by in the window.

JS: *Most loathed person in rock 'n' roll?*

O: I have a tendency to filter them out.

JS: *Oh, come on. There must be somebody you dislike.*

O: Most of the assholes I meet are people from the record label or management. Very few are artists, because once you get inside their handlers, they're dying for contact with humans. The bigger the star, the more isolated they become.

JS: *Most significant change you've witnessed in the music business?*

O: Clearly, it's video.

JS: *Yeah. You can't be an ugly rock star now.*

O: It's extremely difficult. Music is the most abstract of all the arts, and video has eliminated abstraction and turned music into lengthy infomercials.

JS: *So MTV has screwed up rock 'n' roll?*

O: Unbelievably. Music has become an advertisement.

JS: *Most overrated band in rock?*

O: Right now? U2.

JS: *Really?! Coming from the guy who helped Carter Alan break them in America?*

O: It's all a little too precious. They're a major corporation. They're very successful, and I'm happy for them. But they used to have something to say, and now it's posturing.

JS: *Is Howard Stern the most powerful man in radio?*

O: Bar none.... With the possible exception of Mel Karmazin, the head of Viacom.

JS: *Most guys get into your business to get laid.*

O: Absolutely. It's an easy way to meet girls.

JS: *Favorite story about that?*

O: Once, when I walked into the station, there was this chick hovering around. I said, "Can I help you?" She said, "No. I'm waiting for Oedipus." I said, "Well, I'm Oedipus." She said, "No you're not." We go back and forth for a while. Finally she says, "I called the station yesterday and talked to him. I spent the night with him. He has a British accent." Turns out that one of my part-time production directors who was fond of using a phony British accent told her he was me. When I asked him why, he said, "I thought it'd be more effective."

JS: *When did the drugs and sex leave the equation, or become uncool?*

O: The sex has never been uncool. Rock 'n' roll is a euphemism for sex. But with diseases that can kill you, there's a little bit more caution. As for the drugs, I think they've just changed. I think X has really become the drug of choice.

JS: *Seems like the Pleasure Police have invaded the music business. When did it get co-opted by Puritans?*

O: It got co-opted by capitalism. You want true sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll? You have to look at the urban environment. That's where the danger is. Rap music. That's where it's always been, because rock 'n' roll has always emanated from black music. Whether it's blues, Motown, Reggae, ska, hip-hop, whatever. That's where the excitement is, until it gets co-opted by white people.

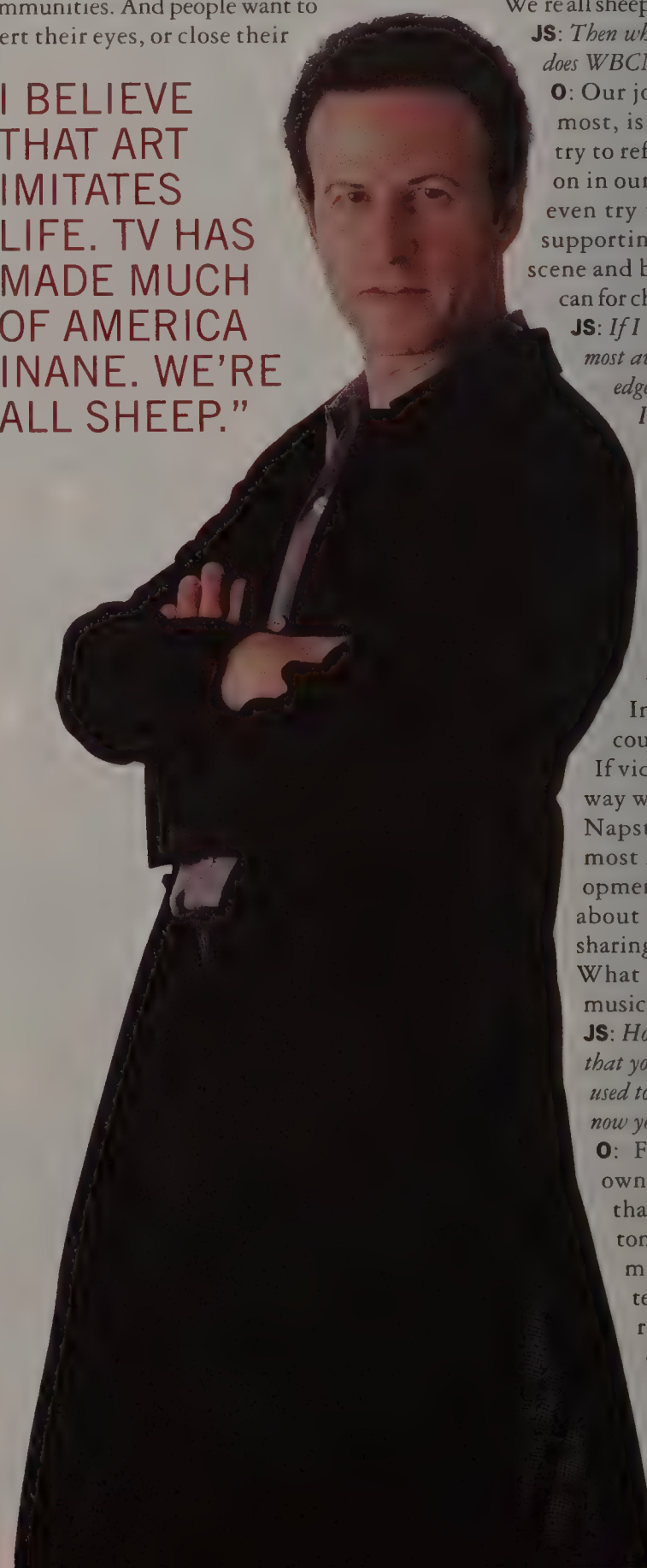
JS: *Most dangerous man in music right now?*

O: Eminem. Easily. And why? He's adopted all the elements of black culture. Like early Elvis; white adults didn't understand him.

JS: *Well, it's one thing when Dr. Dre or Snoop Dogg talks about doing drugs, and bitches and hos, because they're black. It's when a white kid starts doin' the same thing that the establishment gets up in arms.*

O: They don't want to acknowledge that music is a reflection of life. And the frightening thing about rap music is that that's what's going on. That's the reality in their communities. And people want to avert their eyes, or close their eyes to it. So these wonderful artists say, "We're not closing our eyes. We're going to talk about it."

"I BELIEVE THAT ART IMITATES LIFE. TV HAS MADE MUCH OF AMERICA INANE. WE'RE ALL SHEEP."



JS: *So you're against a ratings system?*

O: Ratings are the worst thing that could possibly happen. Labeling records or movies is reprehensible. It should be outlawed. It makes the government the parents. It asks the artist to assume a role he shouldn't. An artist's job is to create, not to be a role model. He should take us places we haven't been, give us new viewpoints. Just because you don't like those viewpoints doesn't mean you should label them. It's one of the most frightening things that's happened to our culture.

JS: *So has popular discourse been coarsened by forces like radio, or was that inevitable?*

O: Again, I believe that art imitates life. TV has made much of America inane. We're all sheep.

JS: *Then what responsibility does WBCN have?*

O: Our job, first and foremost, is to entertain. We try to reflect what's going on in our community. We even try to enhance it, by supporting the local music scene and by doing what we can for charitable causes.

JS: *If I want to find the most avant garde, cutting-edge music, where do I look?*

O: The specialty shows. College radio. You can go online, although right now it's somewhat amorphous. But one of the most exciting things about the Internet is how it's counteracting video. If video has ruined the way we listen to music, Napster's one of the most important developments in ages. It's all about the music. Music sharing. Word of mouth. What music was before music television.

JS: *How about you, now that you're corporate. You used to stick it to the man; now you* are *the man.*

O: Fortunately, we're owned by a company that lets us be autonomous. We determine our own content. So my job hasn't really changed, because our audience wouldn't tolerate homogenization. In radio, creativity will always win out. iB

TRACY POWELL

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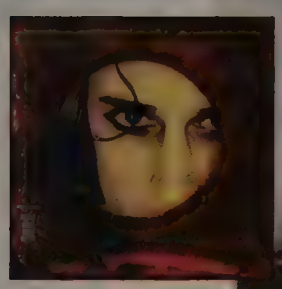
Nikka Costa
Everybody Got Their Something [13.99 cd]
Nikka's red-hot "Everybody Got Their Something" debut is gritty, positive and sexy. Fresh off the Tommy Hilfiger TV spot that sizzled all last summer on MTV and VH1 is the song "Like a Feather." The song had legs long before anyone knew who Nikka was - positively representing the trajectory of Nikka's life.



Binocular
Binocular [12.99 cd]
The self-titled debut from Binocular is a truly unique pop album blending edgy, modern and classic sounds. Binocular was written, performed, produced and recorded in its entirety in his New York City apartment.



Ray Munns
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Ours make their debut with "Distorted Lullabies," a stunning 12-song journey through a landscape of darkness and hope. The album features the much celebrated production work of Steve Lillywhite (U2, Dave Matthews Band) and Mark Endert (Madonna, Vertical Horizon).



City High
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Take 2 guys with smooth voices and tight raps, add a stunning woman who can captivate you with her soulful voice and melodies and you have City High. Their debut album comprises fresh beats, phat rhymes & high harmonies that prove real vocalists still have room to thrive in the contemporary urban music world.



Stereomud
Perfect Self [7.99 cd]
Stereomud is not your big brother's heavy band! It's not yesterday but today and tomorrow. "Perfect Self", the group's seminal Epitaph debut, exemplifies the type of inspired edge necessary to elevate much of rock from its stagnant doldrums.



Manu Chao
Proxima Estacion, Esperanza [13.99 cd]
A world traveller whose songs musically combine commentary with infectious rhythms, Manu Chao has been referred to as "a musical John Steinbeck" and a "Latin Bruce Springsteen." His songs are stories, snapshots of the places he's been and the people he's met.



Olivia
Olivia [13.99 cd]
This gifted smart, singing, songwriting New Yorker has depth, which is why she was signed by Clive Davis to become the first artist on J Records. She's a classic in the making, full of talent and ready to take her place at the forefront of the hip R&B game. And at only 20, she'll definitely be around a while.

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Alison Arnett
The Boston Globe

"Blending Western Food With Indian Spices"

The Taste of SUMMER

Chefs share their plans for the bounty of the land

BY BETH FORREST



Eat's Cretan spelt bread and ripe tomato salad sings a lively medley of flavors: red onion, chives, parsley, red-wine vinegar and olive oil.

TANIA SCHNAPP

summer DINING

For most of us, coming up with a summer menu usually involves the tried-and-true backyard fare: grilled burgers, corn on the cob and large slices of watermelon. But for Boston chefs, the abundance of fresh local ingredients offers a new culinary palette with which to showcase their talents. Interested in sampling such talent? Well, the vast majority of restaurants in Boston will offer a summer menu, typically unveiled in late June or early July. Here, we caught up with five chefs from around the city who profess that summer is their favorite time to cook. What follows is merely a taste of the sumptuous spreads you will find in restaurants this season.

At **Perdix**, in Jamaica Plain, chef/co-owner Tim Partridge has the same level of excitement as a schoolboy about to start summer vacation. "It's light, fun and easy," says Partridge of the summer cuisine. All season long, the restaurant stove won't be ignited until the first nightly patrons walk through the door, in contrast with the winter months, when the stove is fired up upon Partridge's morning arrival. The summer menu, which will be rolled out in late June, will include chilled cucumber soup with green grapes and almonds, fried tomatoes with creamy tuna tartare, and roasted bluefish with red potato salad and parsley sauce. Later in the season, expect to find fried scallops with pureed corn on the cob and a tomato raw bar, which will parade three varieties of heirlooms served with saucers of salt, pepper, olive oil and balsamic vinegar. Still not light, fun or easy enough? How about littlenecks steamed in Budweiser and served with drawn butter, a dish that Partridge says "reeks of summer."

Beyond these sample dishes, however, one never knows what will be offered at Perdix. Items change regularly, and throughout the dog days, a farmer in Waltham helps shape the menu. Twice a week, Partridge gets a call telling him what's ready to be harvested. Hours later, the produce arrives at the restaurant and is served on dinner plates that night.

Over at **Oleana** in Cambridge, just-picked freshness makes preparation easy. "When ingredients are perfect, cooking should be a simpler process," explains chef/owner Ana Sortun, whose restaurant offers a 50-seat garden oasis out back. And when her summer menu is unveiled in the first week of July, an elegant mix of local produce and Eastern Mediterranean influences will prevail, using eggplant, corn and melon. From her favorite local farmer comes "arugula so fresh and pungent that you can smell it before it even comes in the door." It serves as the base of a Turkish salad with fresh coconut, celery and pine nuts, simply dressed with olive oil and lemon. A carrot

salad topped with fried kasseri cheese will feature oregano and lovage from Oleana's own herb garden.

For the main course, look for fish couscous (using the freshest fish, whether it be striped bass or bluefish) heavily seasoned with ginger, pepper and cumin and rounded out with tomato and zucchini. Desserts will include summer pudding (with fresh local berries in July and pit fruits such as peaches in August). But Sortun's favorite inspiration comes during a two-week period at the end of summer: just-dug potatoes. "Their skin is paper-thin, and the sugar hasn't yet converted to starch. They are so sweet! I use them as a vegetable rather than a starch."

Meanwhile, at **Les Zygomates**, live jazz serves as an accompaniment to fresh summer tastes that dance on the tongue. Patrick Simone, chef de cuisine, promises that its newly debuted menu will maintain the same balance of creativity and bistro sensibility, but will also "be lighter and, of course, use local, fresh produce." Simone enthusiastically describes such appetizers as Smoked Les Zygomates Plate, which consists of salmon and mussels smoked in-house, served beside decadent bluefish rillette. Another summer starter is endive salad with shaved pears and fennel. Entrees will include poached Maine lobster with roasted pepper blini, presented with fava beans, leeks, baby carrots and corn coulis; roasted duck with a cherry glaze, served with oven-roasted potatoes and Swiss chard; and smoked pork loin with huckleberry sauce and plantain chutney.



Desserts at the downtown Boston eatery run the gamut from the rich to the refreshing. For chocolate lovers, a warm German chocolate cake is matched with caramel-laced ice cream, while a syrup-soaked sevarin cake filled with gingered plum compote and ginger ice cream placates fruit-minded diners. Too afraid to break your summer diet? The berry sorbets served in a tuille reward the tastebuds without the guilt.

At least three times a week, all summer long, one can find **eat's** chef Nicky Sperros perusing the farmer's markets in Davis Square, Central Square and Newton. "You can find the most beautiful, fresh produce in the universe!" says Sperros. From these superlative ingredients, Sperros synthesizes a menu of light and quick dishes.

The summer menu begins July 9, when one will find appetizers of chilled watercress soup with grilled shrimp—or, for the more adventurous, Moroccan goat skewers served with dates and salad of barley, amaranth and lentils. Thanks to an extended fishing season, pan-fried soft-shell crab with Yukon potato salad and rouille will be offered throughout the summer. Entrees will include roasted striped bass with caponata and shoestring potatoes, a seared tuna niçoise with green beans, red onions and egg, served as a "deconstructed composition" and grilled pork pailliard with romesco (a red pepper sauce thickened with almonds) along with arugula and potato salad. To finish off the meal, and to evoke memories of summer camp, try the toasted-marshmallow ice-cream brownie sundae.

If you've ever tried to find parking in the South End and then securing a table at the Franklin Café, you now have a perfect reason to take the Route 128 pilgrimage to Gloucester, to find the familiar olive-garnished martini-glass sign marking the **Franklin Cape Ann**. There you will find the same gastronomic attitude set forth by co-owner/chef David Du Bois: the use of fresh products with the focus on skill and



At the Franklin Cape Ann, summer dishes will emphasize the use of fresh products, focusing on skill and technique rather than complexity.

Above: Oleana's cod and clam *cataplana* with sausage, tomato and boiled potato. At left, David Du Bois (left) and Carlos Oliveira, chefs and co-owners of the Franklin Cape Ann in Gloucester.

summer DINING

Fresh from the Farm

Fruit and vegetables to drive for

BY GALEN MOORE

Summertime, and the livin' is easy. Still, perusing the aisles of your trusty local supermarket somehow fails to evoke that "livin' off the fat of the land" feeling you crave. As many city dwellers have discovered, it can take some effort to find the best of nature's bounty. So next time you take a weekend jaunt outside city limits, venture onto the back roads and bring something back for your barbecue. Here are some of our favorite places to get the sweetest corn, the juiciest strawberries and the ripest tomatoes along the back roads of Eastern Massachusetts.

Green Meadows Farm

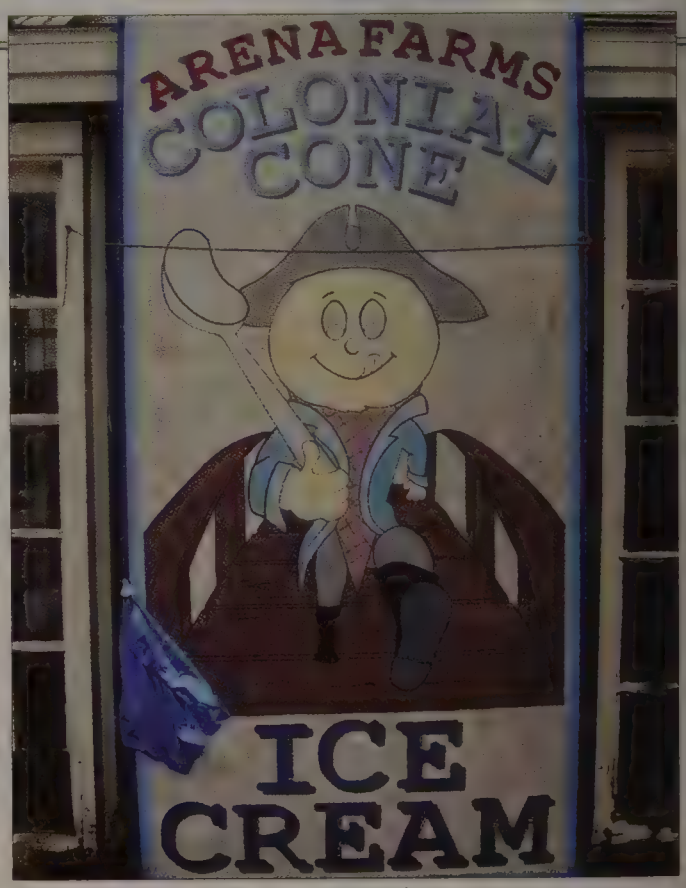
650 Asbury St., Hamilton; 978-468-2277

If you're headed up to Ipswich Cove or Wingarsheek Beach, set aside some time to stop at Green Meadows Farm. On a country road off Route 1A, wind your way up Vineyard Hill and past old wooden farmhouses, meadows and broad, leafy trees. Near the top stands a tall house, and just past it, the farm stand itself—a substantial structure that looks more like a small produce market. It sells a wide assortment of fruits and vegetables. The farm's specialty items are strawberries and blueberries, which are available from June to August. You'll also find fresh-baked goods that are made on-site at the Green Meadows Bakery. Throughout spring, summer and fall, the farm holds festivals for each of its harvests—strawberries, blueberries, corn, pumpkins and others.

Colonial Ice Cream & Arena Farms

1100 Concord Turnpike, Concord; 978-287-5920

Any summertime drive on Route 2 is not complete without a stop at Colonial Ice Cream, just after Walden Pond heading west from Boston. The ice cream comes to the counter fresh from small creameries in Massachusetts and Vermont, and each scoop is rich and delicious. When the season peaks in July, summer corn and tomatoes are on sale for a song, fresh from neighboring Arena Farms, which operates the ice cream stand.



At Arena Farms, enjoy a cone as you pick out your corn.

COD: TANIA SCHNAPP; DU BOIS & OLIVEIRA: SARAH CLARKE; ICE CREAM: GALEN MOORE

technique rather than complexity. The summer menu is slated for around the first day of summer—June 21.

Zucchini matchsticks served with toasted slivered almonds and shards of pecorino cheese tops the appetizer list. For entrees, there will be frito misto—"sweet-like-candy" local scallops served along deep-fried basil leaves and fennel with tumeric aioli and saffron, and pan-seared codfish served with crispy oyster mushrooms, ginger, cilantro and garlic in a lobster broth. The menu also will include grilled prime sirloin served with thick slabs of heirloom beefsteak tomatoes and basil oil. For dessert, try the homemade melon ice cream.

So there you have it: a teaser of what Boston's chefs will be serving up this summer. These creative new menus give you a good reason to revisit your favorite restaurant (where, by now, you've probably sampled every entree on last season's menu). And who knows, this summer cuisine may inspire you to start digging up your small urban plot so you can plant your own row of arugula. iB

Where to find them:

Perdix
597 Centre St., Jamaica Plain
524-5995
www.perdixrestaurant.com

Oleana
134 Hampshire Street, Cambridge
661-0505

Les Zygomates
129 South St , Boston, 542-5108
ww.leszygomates.com

Eat
253 Washington St., Somerville
776-2889
www.eatrestaurant.com

Franklin Cape Ann
118 Main St., Gloucester
978-283-7888





"It's light, fun and easy," says Tim Partridge, who plans to feature a raw tomato bar that will parade three varieties of heirlooms served with simple seasonings.

Above: Les Zygomates' roast duck breast with sauteed pea tendrils and a cherry glaze. At left, Perdix's Tim Partridge, who plans to tailor his summer menu to the changing array of produce delivered from a farm in Waltham.

Tiny Bubbles

Wines to tickle your summer fancy

"Wine is a natural component of life. The way your shoes and clothes change for the seasons, so too should your attitude toward food and drink," says Christian Vassilev, a former sommelier of The Federalist who has taken up the post at Mantra, the much-anticipated Indian-inspired French restaurant that debuts in Boston this month. In the summer, Vassilev looks for lighter, livelier and crisper wines to refresh the palate.

While the sommelier is quick to point out that in addition to a dish's main ingredient, one must look at both the cooking method and the sauce to properly choose a wine, he does offer some suggestions for the more popular summer dishes. For example, nothing matches champagne for freshly shucked oysters. For a yogurt-based chilled soup, he recommends a glass of cold Pernod. To offset the natural acidity of a native tomato salad, a Sauvignon Blanc from the Loire Valley pairs nicely, or, for the *vino rosso* fans, a Valpolicella. For the meaty bluefish, he proposes either a Beaujolais Villages or a lighter style Pinot Noir.

When it comes to desserts, late-harvest wines, especially off-dry German or Austrian ones, will complement a wide array, while a southern French or Spanish rosé with a hint of sweetness succeeds as the perfect companion to a fresh bowl of berries.—*B.F.*



Christian Vassilev of Mantra has a nose for good wine.



David Llewellyn, an intern at Drumlin Farm, prepares to harvest.

Drumlin Farm

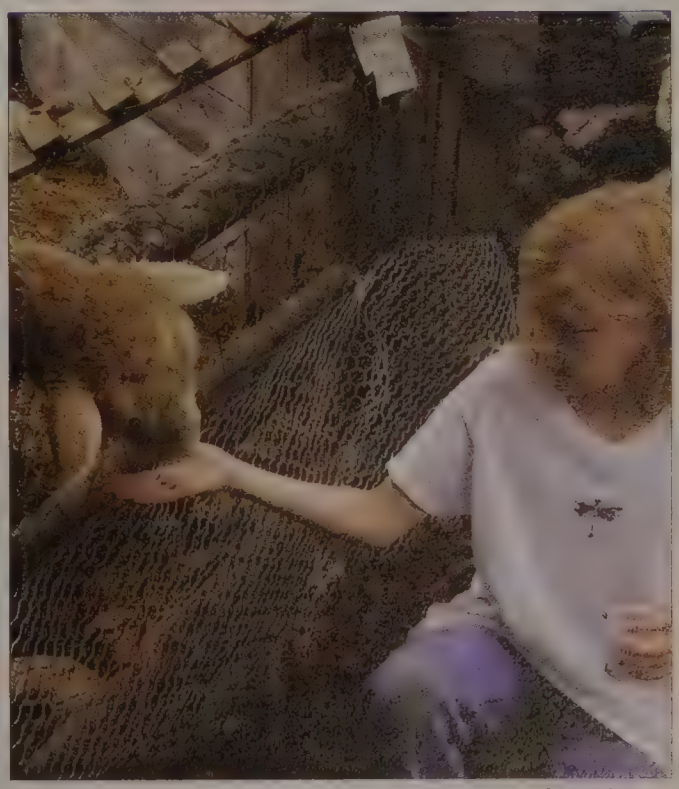
South Great Road, Lincoln; 781-259-9807

The Drumlin Farm deserves a full day of attention. A sanctuary of the Massachusetts Audubon Society, the farm's stated mission is to demonstrate ecologically friendly agriculture and to preserve some of the old-school farming methods of New England's dwindling population of small farmers. At Drumlin Farm, you will see thick ears of corn, tomatoes ripe to bursting and lush, crisp greens wet with dew. All the produce grown here—including its signature baby garlic—is fully organic. Besides produce, Drumlin Farm raises chickens, pigs and cows. Accordingly, you can stop by and purchase a few steaks or a pork shoulder. You'll also find a basket filled with yarn from the farm's Romney sheep.

Jane & Paul's Farm

33 Fruit St., Norfolk; 508-528-0812

If you just want to go for a long drive somewhere, or maybe a picnic, head west on Route 9 and take a left near Wellesley College. Once you get past Natick, the drive south offers sheer beauty. Head south on Route 27 or 115, and the roads are lined with elms and oaks as old and stately as the houses they shelter. Jane & Paul's farm is in Norfolk, on top of a high hill near the Charles River. Local residents will tell you it has the best corn in Massachusetts. Every week throughout July and August, the farm has a new supply of freshly harvested corn. It also yields strawberries, squash, cucumbers and other seasonal vegetables, and pumpkins in the fall. iB



Children can feed the animals at Jane & Paul's Farm in Norfolk.

DUCK: TANIA SCHNAPP; PARTRIDGE: SAM WRIGHT; CHRISTIAN: BERTA A. DANIELS; BOTTOM: GALEN MOORE (2)

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Boston foodies and celebs serve up inside views on the local dining scene.

summer DINING

The Codfather: Part Two

Keith Marden, kingpin of the local fish industry, reveals some of his secrets | **BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX**

What would you do if someone sent you a couple hundred pounds of halibut heads, nestled in ice and packed into an enormous coffin?

Well, if you were Keith A. "Kim" Marden, you'd thank the delivery person, cut the cheeks from the fish heads, then call Lydia Shire at Biba to let her know that her order was ready.

It's all in a day's work for Marden, president of Captain Marden's Seafoods, and fish facilitator for Boston's finest chefs. So what does this mean? When a chef wants giant carnivorous conger eels, Marden's the man. When Todd English suddenly realizes he's forgotten to order Nantucket bay scallops for a lunch the very next day in California, he calls Kim Marden...who then rushes to Cape Ann to pick up the scallop delivery from Cape Air, carefully repacks the scallops and makes sure they arrive in California, via Federal Express, before 10am on the day of the lunch.

"Nothing's impossible to get," says Marden, the third generation of his family to work in the business founded by his grandfather, Captain Roy Wilfred Marden, over 50 years ago. And nothing, it seems, is impossible to sell anymore; although not long ago, "we used to buy a bag of mussels a week and then throw it away," he remembers. Today, Captain Marden's sells about 400 pounds of mussels a week. The difference? These are rope-grown Prince Edward Island mussels, "really good, really reasonable, and people love them," says Marden, who adds that he especially enjoys mussels roasted, the way Chef Bill Poirier prepares them at Sonsie.

Ask him anything about seafood, and Marden has an answer. Why are soft-shell crabs in season longer than they used to be, from April through October? Because fishermen put the crabs in tanks, wait for them to shed, and voilà—instant soft-shell crab! What's been the biggest change in the biz over the last ten years? The variety, he says, citing seafood flown in from all over: "cockles from New Zealand, bass from Chile, king salmon from Alaska, tuna from the Caribbean or as far away as Vietnam, swordfish from Australia and South Africa. The kicker is, the quality is wonderful."

Another major shift is the development of salmon farming technology, which has made this incredibly popular fish considerably less expensive—down from $10 or $12 a pound to $7 or $8 a pound—and easily accessible year-round. The summer salmon season used to begin with "Nova Scotia salmon for two weeks, then sock-eye salmon, silver salmon, king salmon from the Northwest—and that was it," says Marden.

Marden's roster of high-profile clients is impressive, given that the wholesale portion of Captain Marden's business (there's also a retail market in West Newton, as well as a market and small restaurant in Wellesley) has never advertised itself or hired any salespeople. Word-of-mouth has attracted the likes of Clio, Radius, Blue Ginger, Lumiere, Hamersley's Bistro, The Federalist, Icarus, L'Espalier, No. 9 Park, Salamander and Jasper White's Summer Shack.

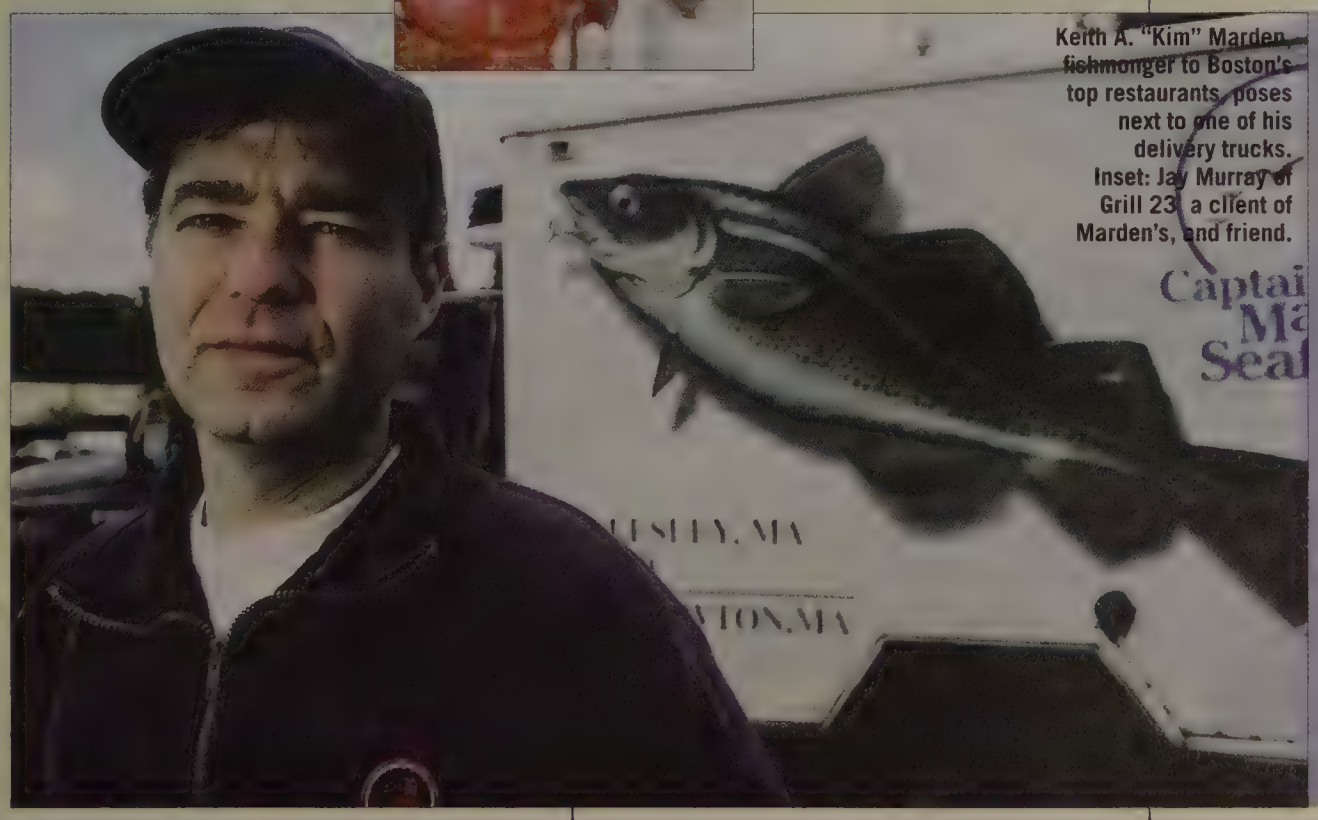
Clients such as The Charles Hotel count on him to fulfill a specific mission: For the weekly brunch at Henrietta's Table, Marden provides one or two types of seafood, and not the same thing all the time. The fish has to hold up under buffet conditions and be reasonably priced. Halibut, blue marlin and snapper fit the bill, says Marden.

And finally, Marden sheds light on a fishy aspect of the seafood trade. According to the upscale fishmonger, there *is* no such thing as the peeky-toe crab. It's a triumph of marketing by another seafood supplier, a labeling ploy that Marden patiently explains when chefs ask him about the specialty item. "It's the same crabmeat I've been selling for 10 years," he tells restaurateurs.

Ever eat fish sticks?

"No," he says, in the polite yet no-nonsense manner for which he's known. Another case in point: When a local chef who wanted the conger eels asked if the six-foot-long creatures would arrive alive, Marden quickly responded: "If I stuck you in a box and sent you here from Chile, would *you* still be alive?" iB





Keith A. "Kim" Marden, fishmonger to Boston's top restaurants, poses next to one of his delivery trucks. Inset: Jay Murray of Grill 23, a client of Marden's, and friend.

When a chef wants giant carnivorous conger eels, Marden's the man. When Todd English suddenly realizes he needs scallops for a lunch in California the next day, he calls Marden.

MARDEN: LEAH FASTEN

Comfort Zone

Donna Skinner, wife of Boston College basketball coach Al Skinner, weighs in on what it's like being hungry—and being different— when it comes to the local restaurant scene.

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

During college basketball's Final Four, when Donna Skinner is on the road with her husband, Boston College coach Al Skinner, she thumbs through the phone book in their hotel suite, looking for a soul-food restaurant and watching out for the "D" word. That's "D" as in "Dixie."

"When you see something with the word 'Dixie,' well, *white* people use the word 'Dixie.' That's *white* Southern food," says Donna. To elaborate: Dixie-esque eateries are unlikely to serve the requisite greens, ribs and fried catfish that are at the heart of a real soul-food menu.

More than a fun bit of trivia or evidence of a finely honed linguistic sensibility, this is the kind of wary perceptiveness that comes from knowing that you might be more welcome in one restaurant than you would in another.

And that's something Donna Skinner always keeps in mind, whether she's out of town or back in Boston. For her, awareness of other people's perceptions determines where she goes out for dinner, her assessment of the restaurant's service, even the way she dresses.

Well, sometimes. Al is under a certain amount of pressure to project a certain image in public—"because he's coach of BC, and he can't look bad in public," says Donna. But an elegantly dressed African-American couple doesn't always make a positive first impression on some people.

"They see this big, tall black guy with gold bracelets getting out of a Lincoln Town Car, and they see Mr. Superfly," says Donna, who grew up in middle-class Medford. "If they don't know who Al is, they assume it's drug money."

If she dresses casually, in jeans, says Donna, she's likely to be dismissed as poor and uneducated. On the other hand, she relates with exasperation, if she dresses up in "stuff that's 'too nice'—like my mink coat—people say, 'Holy shit, who is *she*?' I love jewelry, bright colors, hats. I feel them looking at me...and I stand out anyway."

When she's recognized as a celebrity's wife, does that recognition dispel any racial uneasiness? Sometimes, says Donna. "When I'm with Al, it's a horse of another color, so to speak."

Yet Donna is ever alert to being slighted by waitstaff, a sensitivity that's rooted in Boston's history. "I try to figure out when there's lousy service, is it everybody who's on the receiving end, or just our table?" Often, she says, her table will get "basic" service, and she has to specifically request a list of the evening's specials. "Sometimes I think they don't [believe] we're as knowledgeable as they are [about the food]," she says.

One of the most blatant cases of racism Donna encountered took place not in Boston but in Charleston, S.C., not long ago. "I took a group of friends to a restaurant," she relates, "and we were the only people of color there." No one came to take our order, she reports, even though they were seated in the center of the dining room. They summoned the owner, who, upon hearing their complaint, gave them the meal for free. Why would Donna want to eat lunch in such a place? "We were hungry," Donna laughs.

Occasionally, the Skinners find themselves in a situation right here in Boston that's difficult to ignore. "One night," says Donna, "after the theater, we went into a restaurant where everyone else was getting seated—even people without reservations—while we waited. Finally, we got up and left."

On the whole, however, when Donna compares the Boston of her childhood with the Boston of today, she concludes that things have most definitely improved. Nevertheless, it's clear she'd rather go where she knows she'll feel comfortable. Donna reports that she's quite at home at Bob the Chef's, Legal Seafood in Chestnut Hill and Ciao Bella on Newbury Street, where Al takes recruits to dinner.

"They say nothing ventured, nothing gained, but I go where I know they'll treat me well," says Donna. **iB**

Al is under some pressure to project a certain image in public—"because he's coach of BC, and he can't look bad in public," says Donna. But an elegantly dressed African-American couple doesn't always make a positive first impression...



Donna Skinner enjoys dining at Ciao Bella on Newbury Street, where her husband, BC football coach Al, likes to take recruits to dinner.

SAM WRIGHT

Harvard Square, Full Circle

Radio maven **Robin Young** *sizes up the Cambridge dining scene of yesterday and today*

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Robin Young at Sandrine's, a chef-owned Harvard Square restaurant that Young frequents not only for the food, but for the warm, intimate atmosphere.

In the pre–cable TV era, back when Robin Young hosted *Evening Magazine* on WBZ-TV in the mid-'70s, there were about as many restaurants to choose from as there were television channels in Boston.

"When there was a big event, you went to Maison Robert or Anthony's Pier 4," recalls Young, currently co-host of *Here and Now* on WBUR in Boston. "Twenty-five years later, I find I still want to take out-of-town visitors [to Pier 4] for the beautiful city skyline, the sailboats...for a Boston experience. I still do that. It's silly, but there's still nothing like it."

While the ageless Anthony Athanas presided over his namesake property over the past 38 years, Young left town to tend to a career that included a stint as the first host of *Ready, Set, Cook!* Back in the early '90s, the TV Food Network program, which featured star chefs such as Jean-Louis Palladin in a cooking game-show format, was one of the first indications that fine dining was evolving into mainstream entertainment.

When Young returned to her cherished Harvard Square home a couple of years ago, after living and working in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and New York, she was struck not only by the number of new restaurants but by the cultural transformation they represented for Boston and Cambridge.

"Food had become a sport here," she says. "Suddenly, the [three] new celebrities in town were: chefs, Robert Parker and Peter Wolf."

In Young's Harvard Square neighborhood, the booming economy that fueled the gentrification of the area and enabled diners to pursue more upscale tastes had a downside: rising rents pushed out smaller independent businesses and opened the door for national retail and restaurant chains.

Like many denizens of the Square, Young bemoans the departure of trusty old favorites such as Elsie's, whose cheap, plentiful fare fed thousands of Harvard students; The Tasty, as seen in *Good Will Hunting* (and now the site of Abercrombie & Fitch); and, of course, the landmark Up Stairs at the Pudding, which Harvard pushed out of its 20-year digs on June 17.

So has the funky, uniquely idiosyncratic Harvard Square sold out to the Great Corporate Satan? Hardly. Robin Young may cringe when she walks past the soulless Sprint storefront that replaced Sage's grocery store, but she's always happy to walk to any number of first-rate restaurants within the limits of her Harvard Square zip code.

One of her favorites is Sandrine's, next door to the Pudding on Holyoke Street. Not only did it fulfill her criteria by offering a "warm atmosphere" and by being chef-owned, but the service was both professional and welcoming...and not, she emphasizes, because she was recognized as a media celebrity.

"He [chef/owner Raymond Ost] didn't know me from a hole in the wall," she says. What Ost , who bears the honored title of Maitre Cuisiniere, *does* know is how to run a tight ship: on Friday and Saturday nights, he expedites the kitchen orders, positioning himself at the edge of the cozy, blue-and-copper dining room, keeping an eye on staff and diners. He's expanded his menu beyond traditional Alsatian *choucroute* and *flammekuche* to offer vegetarian fare such as grilled vegetable ravioli (Robin's choice) and—new this summer—a delicious pan-seared tofu layered with grilled sourdough bread, ratatouille and portobello mushroom, splashed with a fresh herb rouille sauce.

Both Butterfish, which features contemporary American cuisine, and Chez Henri, with its menu of sophisticated French-Cuban dishes, are chef-owned and well worth the desperate search for a parking space.



Harvard Square's Abercrombie & Fitch stands where the Wursthaus and the beloved greasy spoon The Tasty used to be.

Ost, meanwhile, praises the cooking of another owner/chef, Christos Tsardounis, of Aspasia, in West Cambridge. Tsardounis, last year's IMPROPER pick for Boston's Best Up-and-Coming Chef, earns Ost's approval for his skillful sauces, a product of proper French training.

From a diner's standpoint, the last 10 years or so have seen a fine crop of new restaurants in the Harvard Square area. Both Butterfish, which features seasonally inspired, contemporary American fine dining, and Chez Henri, with its sophisticated menu of French-Cuban dishes, are chef-owned and well worth the desperate search for a parking space in their vicinities. And right inside the Square, The Charles Hotel houses the excellent Henrietta's Table and the nationally recognized Rialto, a showcase for the modern Mediterranean cuisine of chef Jody Adams.

"I love Rialto; I just love it," says Robin Young, citing it as an example of fine dining that's "very sophisticated and very warm."

So when out-of-town guests want the tried-and-true tourist treatment, Young still treks to Anthony's Pier 4. But these days, she's equally inclined to take them to one of the Square's top-notch restaurants. After all, while Boston has become a dining mecca, Cambridge is no slouch in the gastronomic zeitgeist department. And for Robin Young, there's still no place like home—especially when home is Harvard Square. iB

PORTRAIT: LEAH FASTEN; HARVARD SQUARE: RITA GREELEY

Globetrotting Gastronome

Professor Merry White, an expert in authentic Asian cuisine, talks about how Boston restaurants stack up

INTERVIEW BY BETH FORREST

summer DINING

Merry White, author, lecturer and noted gastronomer, is currently a professor of cultural anthropology at Boston University, where she teaches a class in Asian culture and cuisine. She's also a columnist for *Newsweek Japan* and a regular contributor to *Attaché Magazine*, *USAirways* and *Navigator, Holiday Inns*. Early in her career, White ran her own catering business and authored such books as *Noodles Galore* and *Cooking for Crowds*. In 1976, she held an apprenticeship in the Omotesenke School of Tea Ceremony, in Tokyo, and annually returns to Asia to do research.

You've centered your life around food. Why?
Have I indeed centered my life around food? It alarms me somehow to hear that so boldly stated. I have played with food, I've rejected food, I've professionalized food—and I have just begun to really pay attention to food. This means paying attention in every part of how I consider food. Thinking about a meal and planning a meal is a joy—choosing wines, and people with whom to share.

Have you had any regrets about food?
I used to overcook—many different dishes, elaborate ones, to excess. Nothing exceeds like excess. I wrote cookbooks, and most of them were sensible. Except one, *Multiple Pleasures*, which was indeed orgasmic. It wasn't about aphrodisiacs, that would be too technical and fetishistic; it was more like sensual, lovely, foods that give comfort and yes, may surfeit, but in the interests of good pleasure. It didn't get published: I came out with it in the '70s when the health-food movement was at its height—very bad timing.

What is the strangest food you've eaten?
Strange foods? Nothing edible is strange. Chinese have no food taboos, and neither do I. Some are challenging, like witchetty grubs or live shrimp, but I manage. If they don't taste good, they're not good—to me: I'm a good anthropologist, and everything is relative. If someone likes it, it is good to them. I don't think I'll try that wormy Sicilian cheese everyone writes about now, but I did have a cup of cat-poop coffee. (The Luwak is a civet cat in Indonesia that loves coffee berries, and when they are excreted, the berries are gathered in their fermented state, roasted and made into quite a strong and good coffee.)

What is your most memorable dining experience?
Oh my. Meals in Rome, meals on my back porch with interesting people who have their own unique contributions. A good old-fashioned barbecue. The next meal I make, that is the memorable one. My friend Jonathan and I cook together and improvise the best meals. Yes, you can plan, but the moment of truth is when we go to the markets and see what looks good. This food with that one, this dish with that wine, and asking others what they think. Meals cooked with someone else who pays attention are deep and fun and generous.

How would you rate Boston Asian food?
There's good Malaysian food at Penang on Washington Street, good Chinese food—I had a Peking Duck at New Shanghai in Chinatown for my birthday recently. Fine Korean here and there; I like Wuchon in Somerville for kimchee and pickles. Vietnamese? A good place is Viet Cafe, in Arlington Center. As for Thai: We need food from the regions of Thailand, instead of the generic menu. I wish there were good sushi somewhere, but in my view, you really gotta go to New York.

Can one find authentic Asian food in Boston?
That is not important, and neither is it possible. Authenticity is an invention, always was—invented to codify and centralize images of "the right thing." It's not a notion that works in any food's home soil where it is just "food," good or bad. When food leaves home, that is when people start being concerned about "authenticity," just think, Is it good?

Food-wise, what is your secret indulgence?
Nothing's a secret! I love Kozy Shack rice pudding out of the tub and crème brûlèe and garlic bruschetta. I don't play favorites. I also love sipping Oban scotch on the rocks while I'm cooking. **iB**



"Strange foods? Nothing edible is strange....I'm a good anthropologist, and everything is relative. I don't think I'll try that wormy Sicilian cheese, but I did have a cup of cat-poop coffee."





Viet's Cafe of Arlington Center is one of White's favorite local places to get Vietnamese cuisine. Pictured at left are the Ha Ha Rolls—shrimp, ground pork and water chestnuts wrapped in tofu paper. Below, Viet's Scallion Fish, which is steamed striped bass served with a special house sauce.

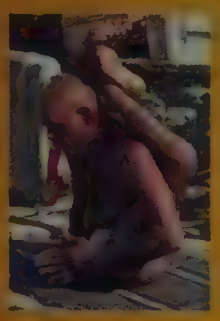
PORTRAIT: BOSTON UNIVERSITY PHOTO SERVICES; FOOD: RITA GREELEY (2)



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summer DINING

1. Vox Populi; 2. 29 Newbury; 3. Stephanie's on Newbury; 4. Pho Pasteur


3


4

As the mercury rises, diners head to the great outdoors

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



5



6

5. Parish Café; 6. Saffron; 7. Sonsie; 8. Cactus Club



7



8

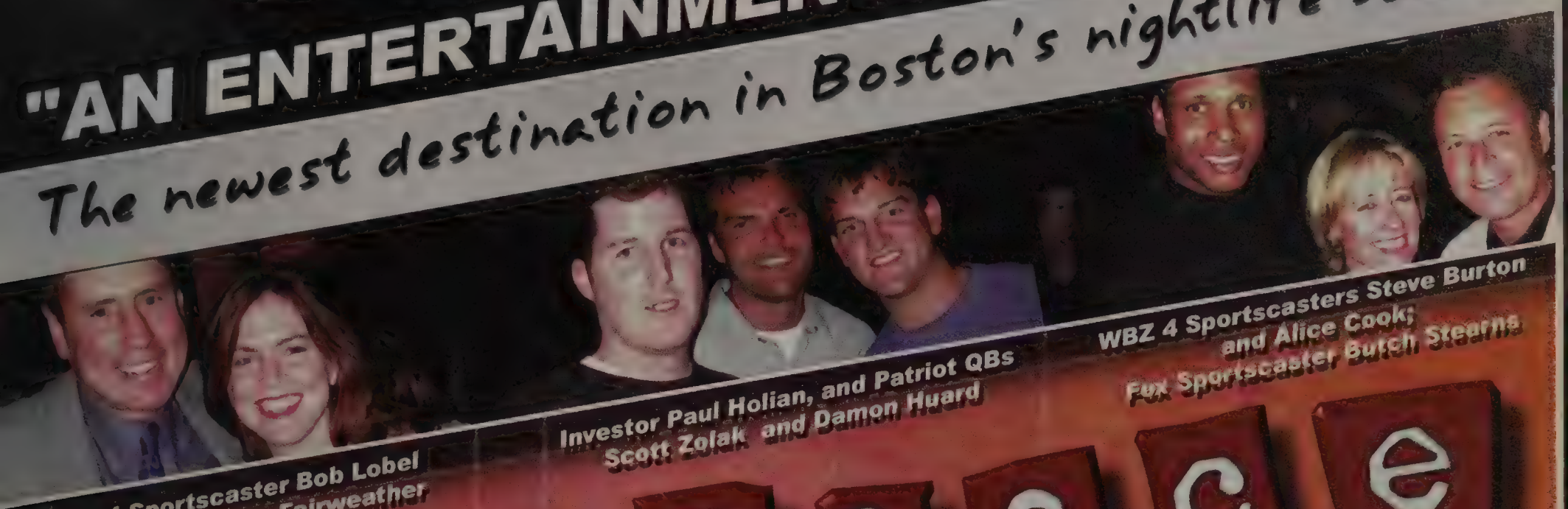
HOT Summer Guide to COOL Outdoor Treats

Restaurant & Address	Favorite Summer Drink	Coolest Summer Meal	Style File	Celebrity Sightings	Best View of...
Atlantic 101 101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 617-723-5101	Atlantic 101 Fruit Punch	Pan-seared scallops w/Asian noodles	Casual & friendly	Casts of Swing and Ragtime	Columbus Park
Bar Code 955 Boylston St., Boston 617-421-1818	Strawberry-kiwi Martini	Seared halibut w/asparagus	Stylish, urban, swank	Stone Temple Pilots	Bar Code's "Secret Garden"
Barking Crab 88 Sleeper St., Boston 617-426-2722	Harpoon I.P.A.	Panko encrusted Mahi Mahi	Fun, lively, casual	Steven Wright	Boston Harbor, Financial District
Bishop's Pub 5 Boylston Place., Boston 617-351-2583	Black & Tan	Spicy chicken pizza	English sports pub	Denis Leary	Red Sox & club-goers
Black Rhino 71 Broad St., Boston 617-263-0101	Cosmopolitan	Blackened chicken & roast corn quesadilla	Fun yuppie with a twist	Thomas H. Lee	Sexy, young professionals
Boston Beer Garden 732 E. Broadway, S. Boston 617-269-0990	Frozen Stoli Raspberry Madras	Spinach & artichoke dip	A great neighborhood bar	Ben Affleck, Matt Damon	10 foot big-screen TV
Cactus Club 939 Boylston St., Boston 617-236-0200	Cactus Bowl	Grilled jerk chicken salad	Habañero hot & Coyote cool	Nomar Garciaparra	Tank tops
Clery's 113 Dartmouth St., Boston 617-262-9874	Stoli Raspberry, Cranberry, splash of Sprite	Blackened/broiled salmon w/potatoes & veggies	Young shirt & tie's	Joe Thornton	Hustle of Columbus & Dartmouth
Clery's on Columbus 331 Columbus Ave., Boston 617-262-9874	Martini	Shrimp tortellini	Elegantly casual	Mike Barnicle	Crossroads of S.End & Back Bay
Coogan's Bluff 173 Milk St., Boston 617-451-7415	Shipyard Summer Ale	Boiled lobster	Upscale casual	John Ratzenberger	Custom House Clock
Flash's 310 Stuart St., Boston 617-574-8888	Moscow Mule	Burger bites w/ BBQ dipping sauce	Eclectic	Manny Ramirez	Park Plaza Castle
Francesco's 90 N. Washington St., N. End 617-557-0920	Red Bull & Stoli Raspberry	Grilled shrimp bruschetta	Friendly & casual	Ian Ziering	Where Big Dig tax $'s are spent
Green Briar 304 Washington St., Brighton 617-789-4100	Guinness	Seafood pasta salad	Best "Craic"	Joe Kennedy	Irish Girls
Henrietta's Table 1 Bennett St., Cambridge 617-661-5030	Big Pig Brew	Seared native sea bass w/wilted greens	Power restaurant, Cambridge style	Drew Barrymore, Kevin Bacon	Rock stars, academics, politicians
José McIntyre's 160 Milk St., Boston 617-451-9460	60 oz. Margarita	José's combo fajita's	Fun-loving fiduciary types	Barenaked Ladies	Big Dig progress
The Joshua Tree 256 Elm St., Somerville 617-623-9910	Frozen Strawberry Margarita	Oriental chicken salad	Just plain fun	Matt Damon	Red Sox in Somerville
Kashmir 279 Newbury St., Boston 617-536-1695	Mango Lassi	Tandoori sea bass	Relaxed & content	Susan Sarandon	Historic, Trendy Newbury St.
Kinvara 34 Harvard St., Allston 617-783-9400	Divine Guinness	Pan-seared trout w/grilled pineapple citrus-garlic glaze	Relaxed, but lively & energized	Boston Rugby players	Irish Eyes!
Legal Seafood's Long Wharf 255 State St., Boston 617-742-5300	Palm Beach Cooler	Grilled swordfish kabobs w/summer vegetables	Relaxed & casual	Tom Hanks	Boston Harbor
Olive Oil's 151 Brighton St., Allston 617-782-5660	Summer Sangria	Sailor's seafood risotto	Fun & funky	Mayor Menino	Sunset Grill & Tap/Big City
Parish Cafe 361 Boylston St., Boston 617-247-4777	Anything from the Martini menu	The Blue Ginger	Fun, exciting, unpredictable	Adam Clayton, Dustin Hoffman	What city life is all about
The Playwright 658 E. Broadway, Boston 617-269-2537	Viagra Martini	Blackened salmon caesar	As good as it gets	Elvis	Life as it happens
Purple Shamrock 1 Union St., Boston 617-227-2060	Captain Morgan Strawberry Daiquiri	Clam bake	Melting pot of locals & tourist	Brad Pitt	People
The Rack 24 Clinton St., Boston 617-725-1051	Stoli Raspberry Martini	Grilled Ahi w/herb butter & fresh vegetables	An oasis w/great energy	Bono, The Edge	The hottest party in town
Rattlesnake Bar & Grill 384 Boylston St., Boston 617-859-8555	Rattlesnake Margarita	Chipolte chicken	After-work meeting place of Back Bay	Bruce Willis	Beautiful people on Boylston St.
Saffron 279A Newbury St., Boston 617-536-9766	Saffron Martini	Chicken tikka masala	Where East meets West	Joe Pesci	Newbury Street
Scoozi 235 Newbury St., Boston 617-247-8847	The Black Cherry	Salad Niçoise	Urban chic	Jackie Mason, Natalie Portman	Gucci bags & Prada sunglasses
Sister Sorel 645 Tremont St., S. End 617-266-4600	Margarita	Burger daddy	Quasi-professional, fun & funky	None	Tremont 647
Sonsie 327 Newbury St., Boston 617-351-2500	Sunkist Martini	Grilled loin lamb chops w/zaatar spice	World bistro	George Clooney	What $1000 in health club fees can buy
Stephanie's on Newbury 190 Newbury St., Boston 617-236-0990	Tangerine Cosmo	Cold seafood margarita	Casual	Derek Jeter	People watching
Sweetwater Café 3 Boylston Place, Boston 617-351-2515	Margarita	Margarita pizza	Jimmy Buffett style	Ben Affleck	Sunsets & beautiful people
Tia's 200 Atlantic Ave., N. End 617-227-0828	The Island Breeze	Steamers & lobsters	Unpretentious "beautiful" crowd	Alec Baldwin, Doug Flutie	Waterfront scene
Trattoria Il Panino 295 Franklin St., Boston 617-338-1000	Tuscan Wine	Portabello risotto w/truffle oil	Mediterranean bistro	Helen Hunt, Gypsy Kings	Financial District
Tremont 647 647 Tremont St., S. End 617-266-4600	Mojito	Spanish style shrimp w/saffron & sherry	Professional, fun & funky	Will Farrell, Bill Gates	Boys cruisin'
Vox Populi 755 Boylston St., Boston 617-424-8300	Key Lime Pie Martini	Sea scallops w/peas & fingerling potatoes	Hip, sophisticated professionals	Mike Piazza	Duck Tours

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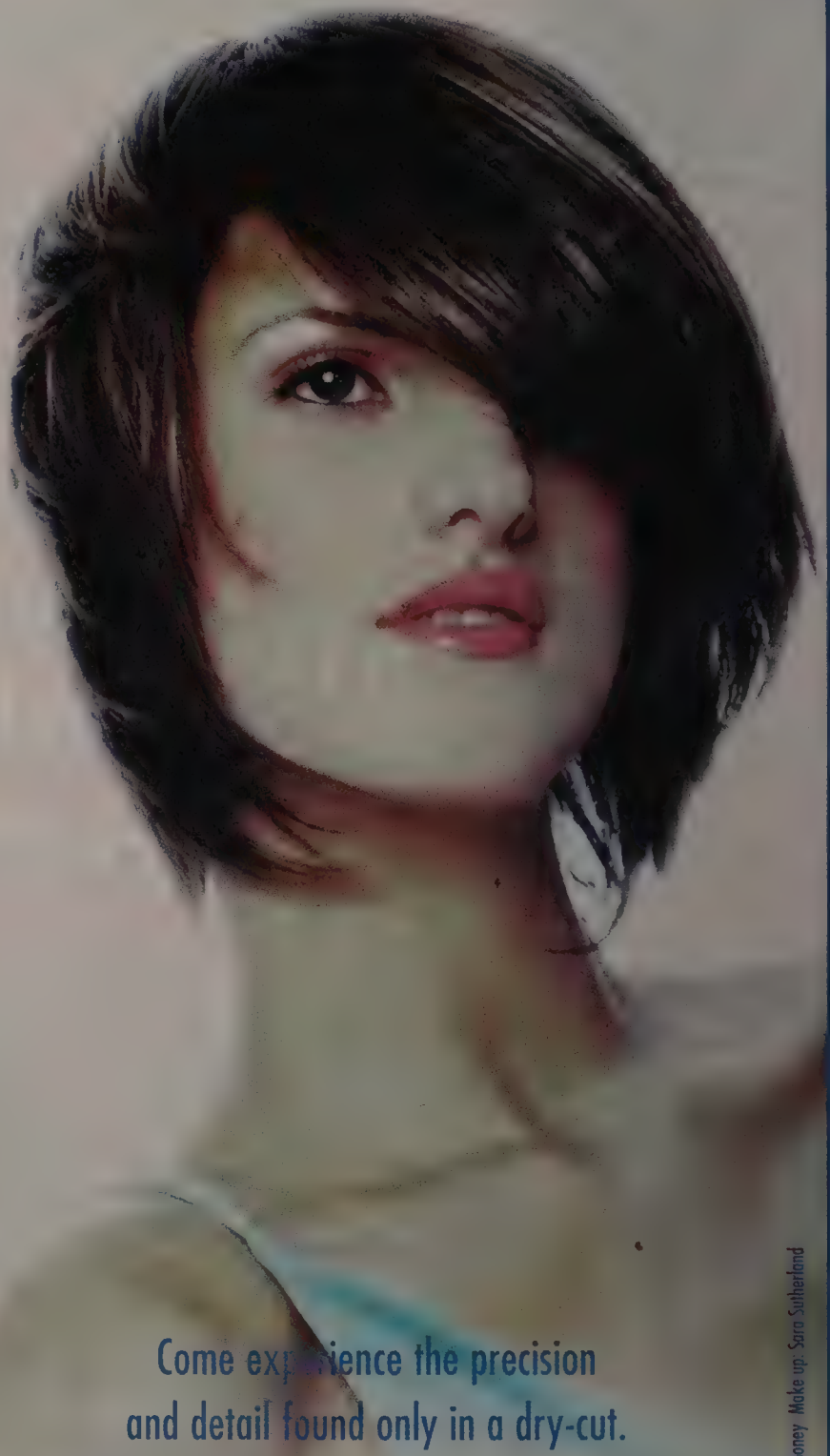
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portrait of the Artist

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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY ZOE CAMPAGNA

Previous page:
Painter Melora Kuhn will display her work in a show with David Palmer (see page 37) on June 29 at the FPAC Gallery, 300 Summer Sreet.
White dress with ruffle, $548; available at Emporio Armani. Gold strappy sandals, $152; available at Sola Shoes. 18-karat white-gold pearl-accented tiara, $8,500, and cultured pearls with signature clasp, $18,700; both available at Shreve, Crump & Low.



This page:
Photographer Peter Harris' work will be displayed in September at Howard Yezerski Gallery, 14 Newbury Street.
Black pinstriped jacket, $428; black pants, $148; black-collared shirt, $198; all available at Emporio Armani.



View more of photographer Zoe Campagna's work at www.zoecampagna.com.
White sleeveless sheer blouse, $228; black miniskirt, $228; both available at Emporio Armani. 18-karat and agat on an 18-karat neck ring by Daniella Vittori, $3,650; available at Shreve, Crump & Low. Bronx black strappy sandals, $54. Available at Sola Shoes.

View more of conceptual artist Nemo Hoffman's work at www.fauxmo.com.
Black Chinsed, silk two-button Tokyo suit with peak lapel, $2,620; available at Gucci. Black slides, $108; available at Sola Men. Natural, black Tahitian South Sea pearls, $35,300; available at Shreve, Crump, & Low.

Conceptual artist Jeff Smith will exhibit his work June 29 at the Fort Point Framers Gallery.
Black suit jacket by Calvin Klein, $495; black pants by Quick Reflex, $78; both available at Sola Men. White-collared shirt, $148; gray and black striped tie, $78; both available at Emporio Armani. Black slide shoes, $108; available at Sola Men.



As well as being a sculptor, Ana Crowley is artistic director of the M.A.P. Project and the Virtual Circus. You can contact her at sendmap@hotmail.com *or visit* www.virtualcircus.org.
Women's black tuxedo jacket, $678; women's black tuxedo pants, $298; both available at Emporio Armani. 18-karat handwoven mesh scarf by Yuri Ichihashi, $12,250; gold mesh dangling earrings, $4,950; both available at Shreve Crump & Low. Black heels, $54, available at Sola Shoes.

Conceptual artist Danny-O is the only Massachusetts artist exhibiting in Mass MoCA's Game Show. *His work is also featured this summer on Channel 2's Boston Greater Arts. Danny is also working on a large-scale mural for the Floating Hospital with Joanne Kalontizis. To see more of his work, log on to* www.dannyo43.com.
Black CK suit, $495; white cotton shirt, $54; both available at Sola Men.

Check out painter David Palmer's site at www.sonicboomstudio.com.
Black wool, mohair gabardine two-button Tokyo suit, $1,760; black-collared shirt, $240; both available at Gucci.





Photographer Jim "Kal" Kalambokis' photos can be viewed at www.jimkal.com/journal.
Off-white cotton two-button Tokyo suit with peak lapel and three-pleat pants, $1,560; white shirt with French cuffs, $240; both available at Gucci. 18-karat and sterling carved amethyst pendant on an 18-karat handwoven neck chain, $5,700; matching amethyst ring, $3,300; both available at Shreve, Crump & Low.



Shreve, Crump, & Low
330 Boylston St.
267-9100

Emporio Armani
210 Newbury St.
262-7300

Gucci
Copley Place
247-3000

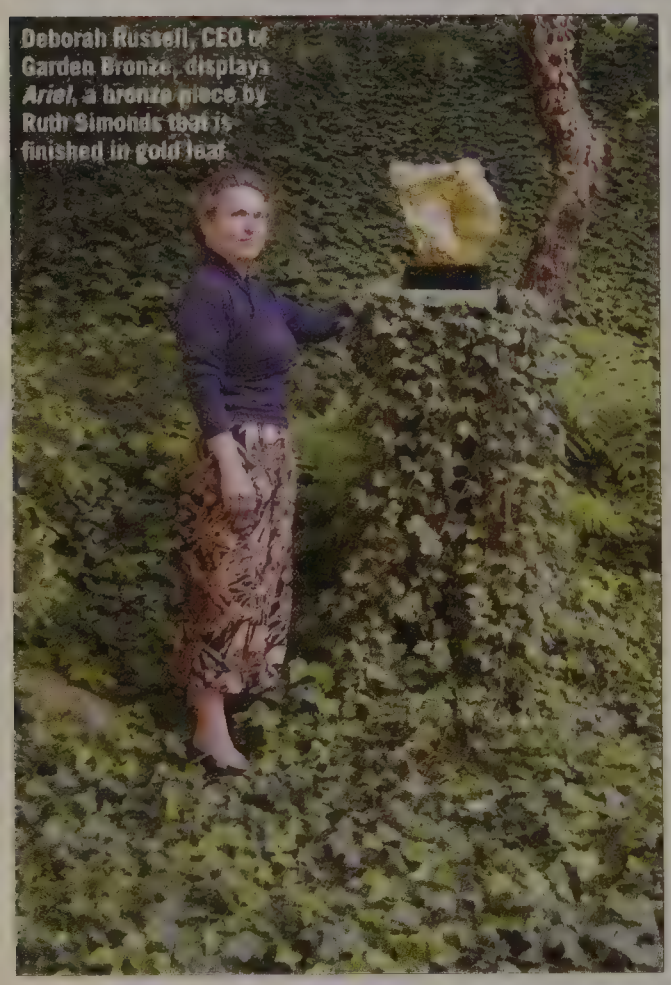
Sola Men
333 Newbury St.
450-9484

Sola Shoes
329 Newbury St.
437-9456

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



Deborah Russell, CEO of Garden Bronze, displays *Ariel*, a bronze piece by Ruth Simonds that is finished in gold leaf.

GODS OF THE GARDEN

Garden Bronze brings sleek sculpture to outdoor spaces (232-2945; *info@gardenbronze.com*).

Even though it's a paradise of greenery and flowers, the garden is often not recognized for the art gallery it can become. But as a recent al fresco opening of Garden Bronze has demonstrated, a beautiful piece of sculpture is a real fresh-air find. Compared with the more static, stingy constraints of indoor spaces, a garden offers liberated space, the movement of leaf-filled air. There's an evolving daily drama of light: dappling, darkening and ray-catching. (Go ask Monet.) This company has taken sculptures—many by artist Ruth Simonds, mostly rather abstract—and, through the alchemizing work of a foundry, has magnificently produced them in bronze. Their surfaces present all sorts of flickering variety, depending on the moment and the time of day; walking around them brings new angles of appreciation. Garden Bronze is also interested in finding suitable sculptures to cast in bronze and sell in numbered editions (preserving the original, whatever its material). These gold or shiny-black sculptures, viewed against the greenery, remind you that New York's Museum of Modern Art isn't the only place for dramatic outdoor art.



Dick Michaelson assists customers at the original Michaelson's Shoes in Lexington.

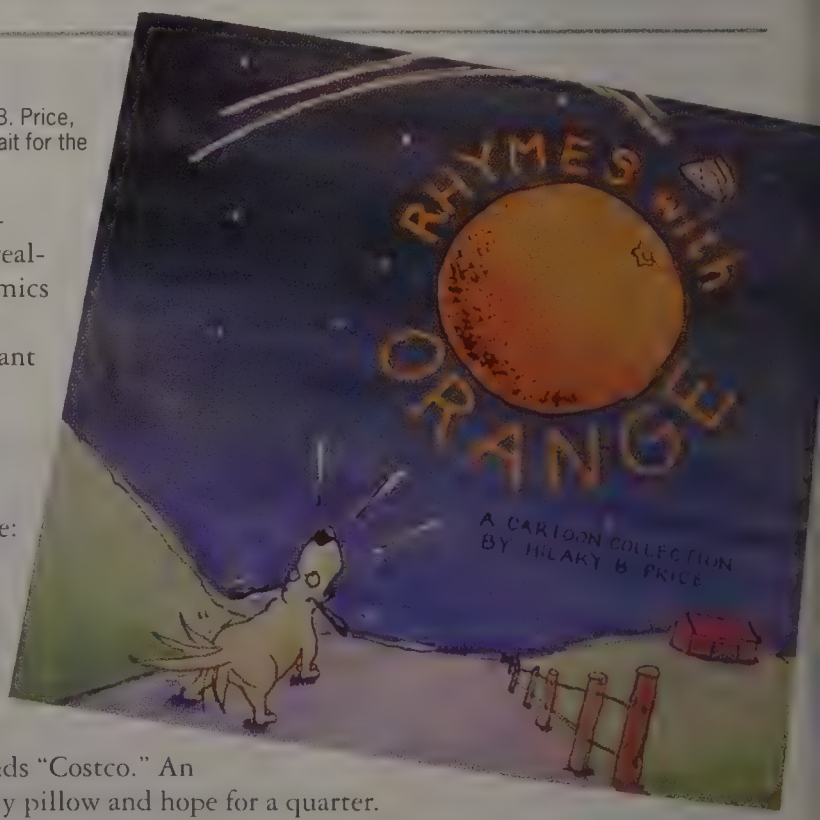
SHOES YOU CAN USE

Expect old-fashioned service at Michaelson's Shoes, 1780 Mass. Ave. in Lexington and 1082 Great Plains Ave. in Needham (781-449-2753).

You may have never been to a shoe store like this, even though Michaelson's (in both Lexington and Needham) has been around since 1919. The feeling is more hometown America à la *It's A Wonderful Life* than just shopping for shoes, with friendly salesmen who have "a gazillion years' experience," chatting away merrily with the shopping-happy families. And then—oh, surely this must be the 1940s—they actually measure your feet! They also talk knowledgeably about the necessary depth of the "toe box" and make suggestions for various correctable pedal woes, leisurely and politely helping you get the right size and width, something many resist for Cinderalla-stepsister-smallness. Far from Boring Land (though they have some conventionally pretty pumps), they feature "comfort shoes," walking Oxfords and brands like SAS, Naturalizers, Mephisto (with its latex foam midsole), Ecco, Teva, Rockport and the ever-earnest Birkenstock, a receptive Mr. Rogers to your feet. The salespeople worry whether the "shoe is fighting your foot instead of working with it," and remind you that feet, alas, grow indefinitely. Children needing corrective shoes are sent here by doctors to get Markell Shoes, and women and men using orthotics find shoes deep and wide enough to accommodate them.

RHYMES WITH BRILLIANT

Rhymes with Orange, a compilation by the daily comic by Hilary B. Price, crams months of humor into your hands without that annoying wait for the day to change.



The cartoon strip by Weston-born, Northampton-dwelling Hilary B.Price nestles in its own prime real-estate, smack in the center of the *Boston Globe*'s comics page. Her ruefully witty territory is the kind that makes you shout "Yes!" Products and their attendant pretensions are gently skewered, like the great meditation supplement: "I can't believe it's not Buddha." Or the bacon-and-eggs room freshener needed when "Neither of us cooks." A software manual-writer makes things romantically readable: "Follow me," she whispered, "taking in his broad shoulders. She turned and led him over to the modem." Price has a fondness for the vagaries of styles and fads as they drift across time, restlessly changing their meaning. A woman contemplating a giant can of Campbell's Soup opines "Warhol," while the other character responds "Costco." An old man says: "Used to be I'd put a tooth under my pillow and hope for a quarter. Now I put a quarter under my pillow and hope for a tooth." Flip inevitably comes to flop, as when Rural Deforestation becomes Urban Reforestation, as discarded Christmas trees slouch against trash cans. Always, there's a hovering spirit of Peanuts-style existential head-scratching.

FAR LEFT: RITA GREELEY; SHOES: OLIVIA HANLEY

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in this section:
Review: Taranta
Dish: Three dining guides
Tasty Tidbit: Harpoon beer and grilled seafood on the patio at the MFA

REVIEW

The Land of the Midday Sun

Taranta proves there's more to Italy's Southern cuisine than red sauce.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

There is a prevailing snobbery in regard to Italian cuisine. If one mentions or recommends a new Italian restaurant, a frequent response is, "I assume it's Northern Italian." The premise of the remark is that food from Italy's *mezzogiorno*—the land of the midday sun, as the Italians call the southern part of the boot, it hardly worth talking about. Taranta, opened last year by Jose Duarte and Mario Nocera (chef/owner of Terramia and Antico Forno) is dedicated to dispelling this myth. They have recently added, as executive chef, Jim Becker, chef-owner of the recently closed Catalonian restaurant in Somerville, Rauxa. The team is well on its way to putting Italy's sunny South on Boston's gastronomic map.

Occupying three floors in an attractive storefront at the Haymarket end of Hanover Street, Taranta has ample space for private parties as well as overflow crowds on busy weekend evenings. Exposed red brick walls, a midnight-blue ceiling, art deco light fixtures, tile floor and a semi-open stainless-steel kitchen at one end of the ground floor create an atmosphere that is stylish and comfortable. A large mirror and an oversized wood-framed antique family photograph grace one wall, while tambourines and copper pans decorate the wall that leads to the second floor, alongside an art deco illuminated staircase with a wrought-iron railing.

The kitchen delights with its heady, robust Mediterranean flavors. Eggplant Napoleon ($8) is an exquisite bruschetta of grilled eggplant layered with roasted tomatoes, freshly marinated white anchovies, olives and lemony breadcrumbs enlivened with fresh basil and doused with fine olive oil. Eggplant is a vegetable that Taranta handles particularly well, and the grilled eggplant that made up part of a platter of assorted antipasti served on request one lunchtime was superb, both in texture and flavor. Although the portion was small, the wood-grilled prawns ($8.50) were very good. The two moderately large shrimp were skewered and grilled to a fine crunch and served with a fetching sauce of Marsala wine and chestnut honey. Unfortunately, the garnish of minted oranges had a dry, tough texture and would have been better omitted.

Taranta

210 Hanover St., Boston (720-0052)
HOURS Mon.-Sat., 11:30-2:30pm and 5:30-10pm; Sun., 5:30-10pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
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PARKING with validation at Parcel 7 on Hanover Street
LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

From an enticing selection of pastas, we selected "haystacks" of spaghetti ($16). Served in a hot, terra-cotta baking dish, this attractively presented mound of al dente pasta was adorned with fresh Maine crabmeat, cherry tomatoes, toasted herbed bread crumbs and a light, delicate cream sauce spiked with lemon. Equally enjoyable was the *malloreddus con salsiccia de desulo* ($15), slender Sardinian gnocchi with assertive chunks of sausage, full-bodied tomato sauce and Sardinian sheep's cheese. Featured on Taranta's abbreviated lunch menu were a provocative spaghetti puttanesca ($6.50), rich with tuna, olives, tomatoes, peppers and basil, and a more conventional gnocchi ($7.50), dense yet somehow light, also served in a earthenware baking dish with tangy tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese.

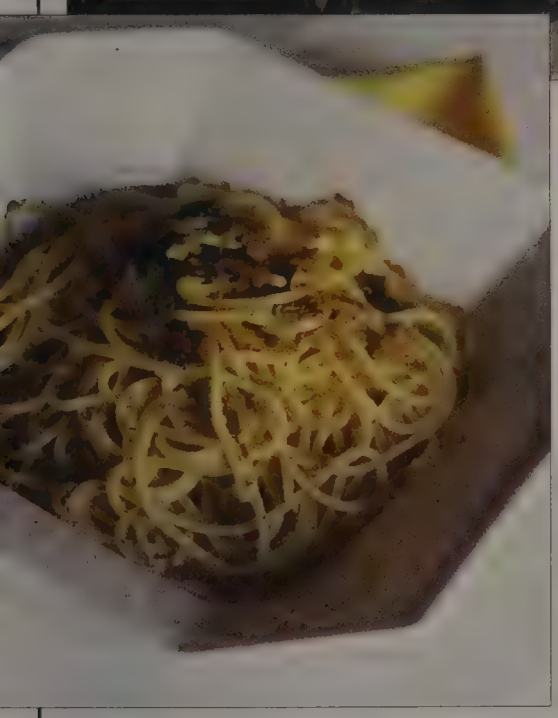
Main courses, offered only in the evening, included moist, flavorful *pollo con rosmarino e aglio in terra cotta* ($16), a large, juicy breast of free-range chicken baked, as



Exposed brick walls, art deco light fixtures and a tile floor create a stylish yet comfortable atmosphere.



Jim Becker, former chef/owner of Rauxa, is now in the kitchen at Taranta. Inset: Sardinian spaghetti with fresh sea urchin.



its Italian name signifies, with garlic and rosemary, accompanied by hefty rosemary-impregnated roasted potatoes. On the seafood side of the menu, the *spigola arrosto al vincotto* ($24) was a boneless filet of sea bass roasted with grape must (concentrated juice and pulp). The firm-textured fish was accompanied by grilled fennel and bay leaf-scented potatoes, a robust contrast to the delicate fish. The grape must was well balanced between sweet and tart, but we would have preferred if it had been served on the side rather than ladled over part of the fish, where it detracted from the delightfully crispy skin.

We often skip dessert at Italian restaurants, where they are frequently banal and perfunctory. Not so here. The chocolate tart, served with mint leaves and whipped cream ($7.50), was guaranteed to delight chocolate afficionados, with its dark, intense bittersweet chocolate, and it provided the extra charm and interest of anisette-flavored crust.

Taranta's wine list is populated almost entirely by Southern Italian wines. Lower-priced selections are notably absent. We did enjoy a 1998 Cannonau Riserva ($29), a full-bodied, almost inky Sardinian red. We would have thought, however, that given the array of lower-priced red wines from Italy's South available in the neighborhood's wine shops, including the grapey Primativa varietal, Taranta would be able to offer very drinkable wines at $20 or less and still make a reasonable mark-up.

Taranta has clearly profited from the infusion of Mediterranean know-how from Jim Becker, whose knowledge of Catalan cuisine is put to good use in Taranta's kitchen (for a significant period of time, the Spanish dominated the southern part of Italy). Its "cucina meridionale," cooking of the South, is a wonderful addition to the increasingly varied assortment of restaurants that now dot the North End. iB

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DISH

Dining by the Book

Shelf life varies for restaurant guides

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



***Where to Eat*'s spring/summer 2001 issue features 176 Greater Boston eateries.**

In the beginning, there was *Zagat*. People saw that it was good and bought it, and it sprang up in cities across the country. Then along came the local *Where to Eat*, whose menu-focused format and appealing design gained increasing popularity from one biannual issue to the next. This guide, too, will soon expand its presence into another as-yet-unnamed major restaurant city. Most recently, *Cook's Illustrated* magazine has sought to carve out its own niche with a pocket-size dining guide purporting to list the 200 top restaurants rated by readers of the magazine.

So, which one is The Good Book? *Zagat*, which set a new standard by rating restaurants according to data gathered from diners' surveys, is still useful, but it isn't the last word in gastronomic guidance anymore. That's partly because the Boston dining scene is now changing—closings! chefs moving! menu shifts!—as quickly as it was expanding a few years ago. In short, it's virtually impossible to be authoritative in a yearly publication, and when the inevitable errors crop up, the credibility of other information can be called into question.

What's more, the diners who eagerly filled out those survey forms in exchange for a free copy of the guide may be losing interest in participating now that the novelty has worn off. Now, this is just a theory. But the *Zagat* people went to the trouble of sending me, via overnight mail, a huge stack of forms, with a note that suggested I distribute them to interested parties...and return them within about a week to meet the deadline for receiving a free copy of the guide. Comprehensive follow-through, or last-ditch act of desperation?

If Jill Epstein, the publisher of *Where to Eat*, feels any desperation, it's got nothing to do with her publication. The latest glossy issue (Spring/Summer 2001) runs over 200 pages, with a restaurant count of 176 Greater Boston eateries organized by neighborhood, plus clear maps and a bonus glossary of culinary terms. The page-per-restaurant menu-focused format is, of course, made possible by the fact that the restaurants pay for the space, but that's not a caveat—just a fact that enables you to think critically about the information provided. It also makes for some oddities in the written introductions to the restaurant menus: for example, it's a shock to read that the fabulously talented and exceptionally well-mannered Michael Leviton, chef/co-owner of Lumiere in Newton, has received "national notoriety" for his culinary achievements. Renown, yes. Notoriety? Uh-uh.

Now that we're being fastidious about language, it's time to turn to the newest of the bunch. The cover of *The Cook's Guide Boston Restaurants 2001-2002* bears the tagline "where locals eat..." That goes a long way toward explaining the inclusion of chains such as T.G.I. Friday's and Bertucci's. And the readers' comments are well-chosen, insightful and sometimes hilarious ("for those who fear Chinese food," "for people whose vocabularies are more sophisticated than their tastebuds," and "like being run over by a circus").

Because the 200 "top" (bad word choice) restaurants are chosen on the basis of popularity rather than demanding culinary criteria, you will find places not generally found on any "best dining" lists: for example, Cottonwood Café and Kowloon. What you won't find are names that really deserve a place in this guide, such as Masa or Trattoria a Scalinatella, or spots that opened too recently to be included: Salamander, Pigalle, Oleana. And what about Sel de la Terre, Kingfish Hall and Jasper White's Summer Shack?

Maybe next time. It's a handy-dandy little guide, and the "sleeper" feature, which lists lesser-known spots that garnered high marks for quality (Franklin Café), is a smart idea that needs to be expanded beyond five restaurants. My advice: Buy all three, and make up your own mind. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Celebration of Wine
Stonebedge Inn, 160 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsboro (978-649-4400). June 25, 7pm. $95. **Matias Lecaros** of the Vina Carmen, the oldest of the Chilean wine houses, speaks at this dinner.

Chefs in Shorts
Seaport Hotel at the World Trade Center, One Seaport Lane, Boston (385-5955). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 29, 7-9:30pm. $45. Boston chefs, including **Ed Doyle** of Aura, **Chris Douglass** of Icarus, **Stan Frankenthaler** of Salamander and **Andy Husbands** of Tremont 647, are being paired with chefs from all over the world at this clambake on the roof of the World Trade Center.

Seafood Festival
Sakonnet Vineyards, Little Compton, R.I. (401-635-8486). June 24, 1:30-4:30pm. $80. This year's seafood festival brings together 15 of the nation's top female chefs with a dozen wineries owned by women or with principal female winemakers.

Scandinavian Celebration
Maison Robert, 45 School St., Boston (227-3371). MBTA: Green Line to Park. June 21, 6:30pm. $35. A lively social hour with a musical trio is followed by a three-course Scandinavian dinner featuring cold smoked poached salmon and traditional accompaniments, followed by Icelandic almond cake.

Single Gourmet
Various locations (497-0444). www.single-gourmet.com. *6:30pm.* This singles dining club offers singles the opportunity to share good food. •June 22: Tremont 647 •June 24: Tapeo •June 27: Pho Republique •June 28: Bricco.

Sparkling Wine Gala
Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winer, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (508-636-3423). June 30, 6-9pm. $125. Enjoy a bit of Paris in Westport. Wine aficionado **Lorenzo Savona** and chef **Ian Just**, both of Les Zygomates, host this dinner under the stars featuring Westport Rivers champagnes.

Summer Guest Chef Series
Trattoria Il Panino, 295 Franklin St., Boston (338-4112). $85 (includes a five-course meal and wine). In this series, five chefs will each create tantalizing menus in their own distinctive Italian tradition. •June 25: Chef **Fabrizio Aielli** of Teatro and Goldoni in Washington D.C. •July 2: Chef **Claudio Cristofoli** of Cipriani in New York City.

Summer Solstice
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). 6:45pm. $50. Chef **Benjamin Cevelo** and Harpoon Brewery pair the best of summer grilling with Harpoon beers.

Taste of Aglianicos
Taranta, 210 Hanover St., Boston (520-0052). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. June 25. This five-course meal is paired with Aglianico wines.

Turkish Regional Dinner
Oleana, 134 Hampshire St., Cambridge (661-0505). June 26, 6:30pm. $65. Slow Food Boston hosts this five-course Turkish regional dinner featuring chef **Ana Sortun**, *Lonely Planet Turkey* author Tom Brosnahan and Formaggio Kitchen's **Ihsan Gurdal**.

Veuve Clicquot Summer Solstice
Cafe Louis, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (266-4680). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. June 20, 6:30pm. $150. Chef **David Reynoso** prepares a menu that complements Veuve Clicquot Italian wines.

Wine and Cheese Tastings
South End Formaggio, 268 Shawmut Ave., Boston (350-6996). Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30pm. Free. Enjoy a free taste of wine and cheese.

Wine Garage Sale
Atara, 1418 Comm. Ave., Brighton (566-5670). All selected wines are marked down with a $10 corking fee.

TASTY TIDBIT

THE ART OF DINING



The Museum of Fine Arts is probably one of the last places that would come to mind when considering where to go for dinner on a Thursday night. It shouldn't be. Relaxing with a glass of chianti amid blooming flowers on the Fraser Garden Court Terrace is a must-do on a warm summer evening.

Recognizing that most Bostonians aren't familiar with its secret courtyard restaurant, the MFA will celebrate the summer solstice with an grilled dinner featuring Harpoon beer June 21. Spend the evening under the stars sipping unusual brews and partaking in grilled caesar salad, soft shell crabs and tuna burgers. Later in the summer, the Fraser hosts a Garden Party with native seafood paired with vintages from Westport River Vineyards on July 26 and a food-and-wine pairing from France's Loire Valley Aug. 23.
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (369-3474). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. June 21, 6:45-9:30pm. $50.

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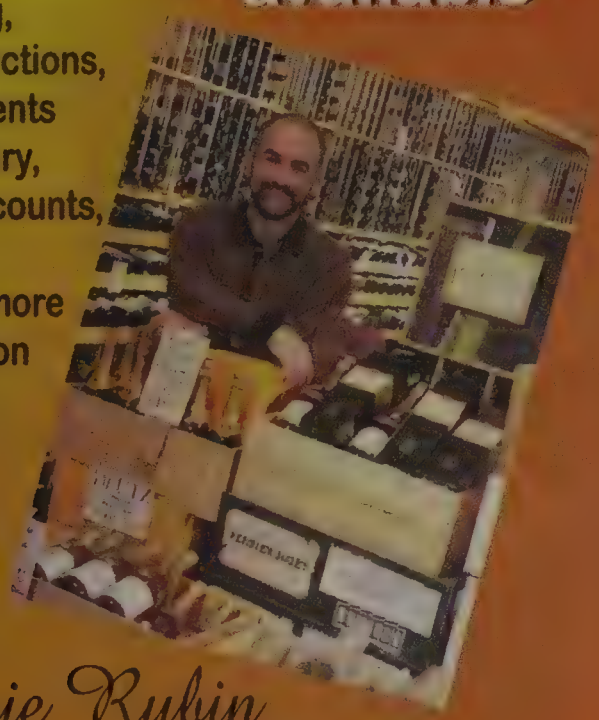
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CITYSCOPE 48

PERFORMING ARTS 52

ART 56

FILM 60

BOOKS & POETRY 64

EDUCATION 64

DANCE CLUBS 66

MUSIC 68

CLASSICAL MUSIC 72

GAY & LESBIAN 74

BODY & MIND 82

CHILDREN 82

SPORTS 82

AROUND TOWN 83

EDITED BY:

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Art, Books & Poetry,

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Museums, Music

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improper picks



SAT./JUNE 23

Music: The Anomaly

Most people became aware of the futuristic sounds of turntable wizard **DJ Logic** when he worked with Medeski, Martin & Wood. But Logic, a.k.a. Jason Kibler, has been a part of the rock scene since for years when he played with the now-defunct Eye and I, was a sideman in Vernon Reid's Masque and endlessly toured as the unofficial fourth member of MM&W. DJ Logic is now the leader of the sonic exploration consortium Project Logic, whose latest album has just been released on Ropeadope Records. Fusing the sounds and styles of hip-hop, rock, soul and jazz on his turntable, his improvised tunes are ever-changing, as is the line-up of Project Logic itself. The collective has recorded and performed with the likes of Joshua Redman, Teo Macero, Karl Denson, DJ Spooky and Bela Fleck. In his upcoming concert at the FleetBoston Pavilion, DJ Logic once again teams up with Medeski Martin & Wood and jazz guitar guru John Scofield to create a funky version of jazz fusion and deep, improvisatory grooves. *FleetBoston Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave., Boston (423-NEXT).*

THROUGH SUN./JULY 8

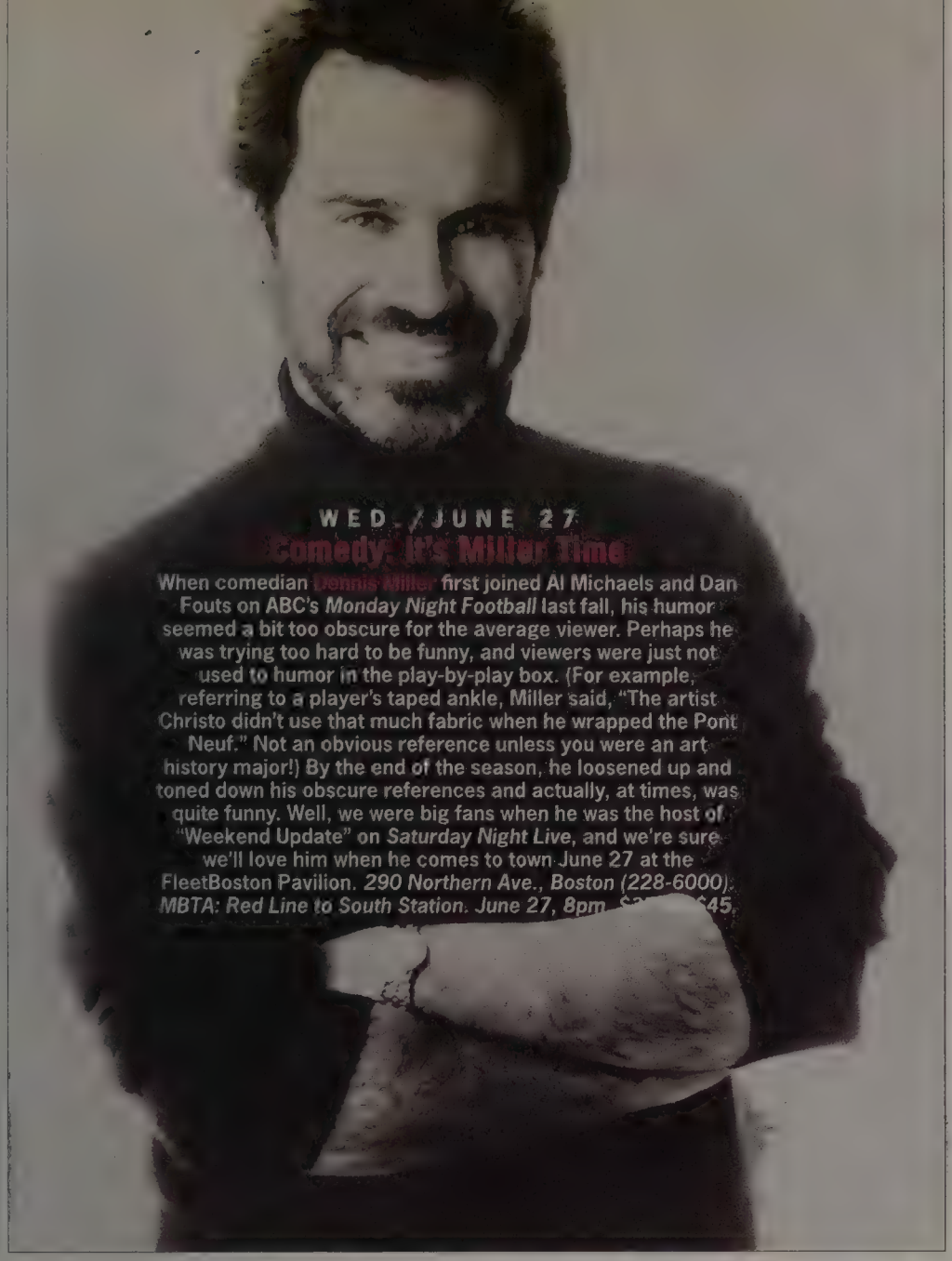
Theatre: Much Ado About the Publick

If anyplace deserves a little TLC this summer, it's the Publick Theatre. Last year's vandalism that destroyed access to the second floor was followed by a fire that caused about $25,000 worth of damage. The theater was already suffering from financial woes when these disasters struck, so it's with great compassion that we promote "the little theater that could," which bounced back with renewed vigor and a great summer lineup. The season starts with ***Much Ado About Nothing***, Shakespeare's classic comedy about the consequences of eavesdropping, followed by *Pirates of Penzance* (July 19-Aug. 12) and *The Winter's Tale* (Aug. 23-Sept. 16). *The Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, 1175A Soldiers Field Road, Boston (782-5425).* www.publick.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, transfer to #86 bus to Market Street. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through July 8. $15-$25.*

SAT./JUNE 23

Music: Donny Sans Marie

As children of the early '70s, we shamelessly admit to using a well-worn poster of **Donny Osmond** to practice our kissing. All too many years later—when we actually had our first (oh-so-awkward) kiss—the poor boy couldn't measure up to the passion ignited by cherubic Donny. So when we heard that our childhood flame was coming to the Wang Theatre, we pulled out our lipstick and puckered up (nevermind that he has a wife and five children, according to a VH1 *Behind the Music* special that we got sucked into watching on a recent Sunday afternoon). In his first concert tour in more than a decade, Donny performs selections from his new CD *This Is the Moment*, a collection of "not just any Broadway songs, but new and exciting ones produced and arranged with a pop edge." The second he heard the pitch for a creative new album of Broadway songs, Donny said, "That's it. That's exactly where I want to be." Us too! *268 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). June 23. $35-$65.*



WED./JUNE 27

Comedy: It's Miller Time

When comedian Dennis Miller first joined Al Michaels and Dan Fouts on ABC's *Monday Night Football* last fall, his humor seemed a bit too obscure for the average viewer. Perhaps he was trying too hard to be funny, and viewers were just not used to humor in the play-by-play box. (For example, referring to a player's taped ankle, Miller said, "The artist Christo didn't use that much fabric when he wrapped the Pont Neuf." Not an obvious reference unless you were an art history major!) By the end of the season, he loosened up and toned down his obscure references and actually, at times, was quite funny. Well, we were big fans when he was the host of "Weekend Update" on *Saturday Night Live*, and we're sure we'll love him when he comes to town June 27 at the FleetBoston Pavilion. *290 Northern Ave., Boston (228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 27, 8pm* [illegible]*45.*



OPENING FRI./ JUNE 22

Film: Your Friends and Neighbors

What promises to be one of the biggest indie hits of the summer, ***The Anniversary Party***, is directed, produced and written entirely by Alan Cumming and Jennifer Jason Leigh. The movie looks at 24 hours in the life of a Beverly Hills couple (Cumming and Leigh) who have been separated for a year but come back together in time for their sixth anniversary party. The party, which goes decidedly awry when friends and neighbors get a bit "fried" and start telling each other how they really feel, is alternately sobering with its raw emotion and laugh-out-loud funny, as are the married couple themselves. The two actors give captivating (largely improvised) no-holds-barred performances. Cast members seem as real as if they were captured on home video (it was, in fact, shot entirely on digital video), especially real-life couple Kevin Kline and Phoebe Cates (and their real children). The cast also includes Gwyneth Paltrow, John C. Reilly, Jennifer Beals, Parker Posey, Jane Adams, Mina Badie, John Benjamin Hickey, Denis O'Hare, Michael Panes and Otis (the dog). Look for Cumming himself around town—he was just showing his film at the Provincetown Film Festival last week. *Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2500).*



THU./JUNE 28—
SUN./JULY 1

Books: A Slew of Haiku

Four days of poems
A strangely restrictive form
Foreheads are furrowed

If you can't tell from our sad attempt at bard-dom, the above display of linguistic genius and creative prowess is a haiku—written in honor of the upcoming four-day conference, **Haiku and Beyond**. The event brings an onslaught of performances, readings and discussions of all things haiku to the Boston Conservatory and features a number of accomplished poets from several different Haiku North America chapters. There are also exhibits of Japanese art forms, tea ceremonies, musical performances, poetry readings, panel discussions, lectures on the lives of haiku masters and more. Events also take place at the Museum of Fine Arts (including tours of the newly-aquired Meiji-period prints and slide shows), the Garden in the Woods in Framingham and the Kaji Aso Studio. *8 The Fenway, Boston (508-653-3354). $140.*



FRI./JUNE 29

Tastings: Barenaked Gourmands

Which chefs in Boston have the best legs? Since most chefs are usually hidden behind a counter or swathed in a long cotton apron, we couldn't say for sure. But on June 29, some of Boston's top chefs will take off their pants for the **Chefs in Shorts** event on the roof of the World Trade Center. At this giant outdoor barbecue, Ed Doyle of Aura, Chris Douglass of Icarus, Salamander's Stan Frankenthaler, Rialto's Jody Adams, Steve Johnson of the Blue Room, Oleana's Ana Sortun, Bricco's Bill Bradley and Andy Husbands of Tremont 647, among others, will preside over the grills. Plus, you'll have an opportunity to sample the delicacies of chefs from around the country, including Peter Hoffman of Savoy in New York; Sam Hayward of Fore Street Restaurant in Portland, Maine; Peter Platt of Wheatleigh in Lenox, Mass.; Bruce Tillinghast of New Rivers in Providence; Jonathan Cartwright of the White Barn Inn in Kennebunkport, Maine; and Kerry Downey Romaniello of Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winery in Westport, Mass. *Seaport Hotel at the World Trade Center, One Seaport Lane, Boston (385-5955). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 29, 7-9:30pm. $45.*

MON./JULY 2

Music: Space Rock

German post-techno duo **Mouse on Mars** are among a growing number of innovative electronic-music groups digitizing melodies—creating complex, surrealist blends of ambient, techno and rock music. The combined efforts of Andi Toma, Jan St. Werner and Dodo, the German outfit MoM formed in 1993, reportedly after Werner and Toma met at a death-metal concert. The trio combines their passion for early Krautrock experiments with modern German techno and ambient sounds—and, with the addition of real instruments (including guitars, horns and drums), create an emotive, often very playful space-y sound. Their latest release, April's *Idiology* (Thrill Jockey), incorporates many more sounds than previous efforts, including manipulated vocals—a first for MoM (except for a collaboration with Stereolab). By most accounts an acquired taste, Mouse on Mars are adored by post rock-intellectuals who like to dissect intricate melodies (and by those who like to feel superior in the company of perplexed listeners). If their latest release is any indication, their live show July 2 downstairs at the Middle East will give those unfamiliar with MoM a chance to hear them at their most accessible. *472-480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-EAST). $12. 18+.*

MON./JUNE 25

Books: Tooting His Own Horn

If you don't have the chance to hear trumpeting genius **Wynton Marsalis** blast out his signature tunes this summer, you can settle for a distant second—hearing him talk about his signature tunes. Marsalis and author **Carl Vigeland** are making their way to Cambridge to talk about their book, *Jazz in the Bittersweet Blues of Life*, which traces Marsalis' brilliant performances, recordings, compositions, educational efforts and his vision as artistic director of the renowned arts organization Jazz at Lincoln Center. Marsalis made his recording debut as a leader in 1982 and over the past two decades produced an astounding catalog of close to 40 jazz and classical recordings for Columbia Jazz and Sony Classical, which have won him eight Grammy Awards. In recent years, Marsalis has become a rather controversial figure despite his obvious talents. His knowledge of jazz history is influenced by the somewhat eccentric beliefs of Stanley Crouch, and his hiring policies as musical director of the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra have led to charges of ageism and racism from local writers. However, Marsalis' contribution as a musician is undeniable, and we can't wait to hear him talk about his experience. *Cambridge Ringe and Latin School, 459 Broadway, Cambridge (349-6630).*

THU./JUNE 28—WED./JULY 4

CityScope: Independence Day Festivities

If you met a man crawling through the Gobi desert dying of thirst, would you expect him to ask you for a cup of chowder? Yes—if he was a true New England chowderhead. These folks are willing to endure the somewhat inhumane conditions afforded by the concrete stretch of City Hall Plaza to sample lukewarm chowder under the baking sun at Chowderfest. Take our word for it: Everyone should try it—at least once. Some 2,000 gallons of soup will be ladled out on July 1 as part of the annual **Boston Harborfest**. The fun starts on Thursday, June 28, with the opening ceremonies in Faneuil Hall, a concert by Four Guys in Tuxes at City Hall Plaza and a sunset parade in Charlestown. The week continues with Children's Day; concerts by the Boogaloo Swamis, the Popgun Seven and Black Sea Salsa; and a party on the plaza. On July 4, listen to a reading of the Declaration of Independence at the Old State House and then take in the Fourth of July on the Esplanade with Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops. And if you're really, really good, maybe your boss will let you take Thursday and Friday off and make it a five-day weekend. *www.harborfest.com* and *www.july4th.org.*

CHEFS: FAY FOTO



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Boston's Best 1999 Improper Bostonian
Boston's Best 2000 Improper Bostonian



World Heavyweight Champion Johnny Ruiz celebrates with his friends before heading to China to fight Evander Holyfield!

inside RACK

Every Monday Night – "In The Biz Night," hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Tuesday Night, 6pm – After-work Jazz Party featuring the band MD!

Every Wednesday Night, 6pm – The BaHa Brothers & DJ Steve Anderson.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm – "RADIO-ACTIVE" Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman or Party-Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky mixes it up 'til 2am

Every Friday Night, 6pm – Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Every Saturday Night – Star 93.7 Dance Party with Vinnie Peruzzi broadcasting live!

[illegible], June 27th – PEOPLE SCAVENGER HUNT! New, easy and sexy way to mix and mingle! You can make unlimited connections, dates, new friends and more. Break down the social barrier in a fun, exciting and relaxing environment while dancing to the BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson. RSVP with your name and e-mail to pshrsvp@email.com

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Central Basement with special guests Evan & Jaron!

RACK



Mark Morris & The Catunes every Thursday!

New pro-lacrosse team, The Boston Cannons, blast off their season!





"In The Biz Night" every Monday hosted by BackBayBeat.com while DJ Mike Janedy spins all night.

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

The Boston Globe Jazz and Blues Festival: Free Noontime Concerts
Copley Square, Boston (267-4031). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay or Green Line to Copley. www.boston.com/jazzfest. *12pm, June 20 and 22. Free.* Take in a lunchtime blues concert on the *Globe*, featuring Robert Randolph on June 20 and Toni Washington on June 22.

8-Minute Dating
Skipjack's Restaurant, 2 Brookline Pl., Brookline (232-8887). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. www.8minutedating.com. *7:10pm. $33.* Spend an evening at Skipjack's meeting single Jewish 30- to 40-year-old professionals. Appetizers and cash bar are provided. Pre-registration is required.

Historic Hingham Homes
Hingham (781-749-1851). 1-8:30pm. $18, $15 in advance. Five antique homes, dating from the 1750s to the late 1800s, will be open for viewing.

People Scavenger Hunt
The Rack, 51 Clinton St., Boston (312-5410). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. www.bostoneventguide.com. *6:30-9:30pm. $20.* Meet other young professionals in this relaxed scene. On the way out, drop in your wish list and wait to hear if you've been matched.

Summer Soiree
Tavern on the Water, Charlestown (242-8040). 7-11pm. $25. Relax on the outside pier at the Tavern on the Water with hors d'oeuvres, a raffle and entertainment by Matt Brown, and support the fund-raising efforts of the Pan-Mass Challenge bike ride. All proceeds benefit the Jimmy Fund and the Dana-Farber Cancer Research Center.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

American Cancer Society Corporate Regatta
Courageous Sailing Center, Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (556-7432). www.corporateregatta.com. *6-11pm. $50.* Watch from the pier as amateur sailors from Boston area corporations compete in a regatta, and enjoy a surf-and-turf dinner by Gargoyles on the Square, wine, beer, a fashion show, a silent auction and more. Proceeds benefit the American Cancer Society.

BAH.BQ
Hyatt Regency, 575 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (876-1400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 5:30-7:30pm. $25. The Cambridge Center of Commerce hosts this BAH.BQ, a "Business After Hours" networking event. Spend the first evening of summer outside on the Charles River, networking with other Cambridge-area business community members.

Gift of Life Anniversary
Logan Airport Hilton, 85 Terminal Rd., Boston (569-4621). 6:30-11pm. $35. Celebrate a life-saving organ transplant at this gala fund-raiser for the recently created Anthony Picarello Foundation, which raises money to assist organ transplants. Last year, the foundation raised $10,000 for the New England Organ Bank.

Sunset Cruise Fund Raiser
80 Rowes Wharf, Boston (482-3170, ext. 319). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State. www.cjpc.org. *5:45pm, departure; 9pm return. $75.* Enjoy a two-hour open bar with food, music, dancing and a three-hour tour along the Boston Harbor on a plush cruise boat. Proceeds benefit the Criminal Justice Policy Coalition, a non profit education organization.

Weekly Workout at Faneuil Hall
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (737-3500). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Thursdays, 12-2pm. Local radio personality Karen Blake hosts this live weekly workout. Let the tourists gawk. You're beautiful, baby!



Preview

Howdy, Pilgrim

The Puritans traveled from Europe to the New World on the *Mayflower* solely by the power of sail. They endured storms, hunger and disease. This weekend, Bostonians can experience the Atlantic passage, minus the scurvy.

The *Mayflower II*, a seaworthy replica of the original *Mayflower*, will sweep into Boston Harbor June 24 under full sail. The ship will make the voyage to Boston from its berth on the waterfront at Plymouth Harbor, leaving Plymouth at noon and arriving at Rowe's Wharf between 7 and 8 pm. The *Mayflower II* is one of the few tall ships that (in the interest of maintaining authenticity) lacks an onboard motor. While the ship most often moves with the assistance of a tugboat, during its sail to Boston a costumed crew will drop sail and power *Mayflower II* using sailing techniques from the 1600s. *National Geographic* photographers will be onboard to shoot scenes for a new children's book about the original *Mayflower* voyage.

The *Mayflower II*, which was made in the United Kingdom, was a gift from the British and its first voyage was transatlantic. The ship's last stop in Boston was part of a return voyage from Portland, Maine, in 1983. As in Plymouth, Boston visitors to the *Mayflower II* will encounter costumed role-players who will tell stories of their 1620 voyage from England to New Plymouth. Also on her decks, modern guides and artisans will explain the history of the re-creation of *Mayflower II* in 1956 and her 1957 trip to Plymouth. —*Galen Moore*

***June 24-28, Rowe's Wharf (508-746-1622).* www.plimoth.org.**

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

American Cancer Society Parkway Relay for Life
West Roxbury High School, West Roxbury (556-7431). www.cancer.org. *6:30pm. $100 minimum donation for participants.* Sponsored teams will keep at least one representative walking around the school track all night long. Spectators may purchase luminary bags in honor of or in memory of cancer patients, which will line the track.

Fabulous Fridays at the Fed
The Federalist, 15 Beacon St., Boston (670-2515). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. 4:30-7:30pm. Works of art from the MFA are on view at the Federalist's impressive wine center. Look them over and knock back a glass or two of a rare vintage with the artist.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org. *5:30-9:30pm. $10.* Enjoy live jazz, cocktails and fine art as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Against the Tide
Hopkinton State Park, Hopkinton (781-961-7460). www.mbcc.org/swim. *9am-12pm. Free.* This event brings together swimmers of all ages and abilities who will swim to support the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition's effort to eradicate breast cancer. Jump on in.

Bob McCourt Run for Multiple Sclerosis
Municipal parking lot, Main St., Harwich Port (800-493-9255). www.msnewengland.com. *Begins at 4pm. $15.* This three-mile road race benefits the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. There is a post-race party at Cape Cod's Irish Pub, and the registration fee includes a commemorative T-shirt.

"Envisioning a Garden" Party
Longfellow House, 105 Brattle St., Cambridge (566-1689, ext. 203). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1-4pm. Free. Celebrate the planned rehabilitation of the historic grounds and gardens of the house that once belonged to poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. There will be music, dance, painting, tours and exhibits.

Immigrant Festival
Magazine Beach, Memorial Dr., Cambridge (661-6130). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 12-6pm. Free. Hang out in the park by the Charles and enjoy international food and music, plus soccer and lots of activities for children.

Lighthouse Expedition
Long Wharf, Boston (781-740-4290). 10:30am-5pm. $34. Take a leisurely, narrated cruise to view eight classic New England lighthouses. The boat stops in Plymouth for two hours.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

BMW Day
Museum of Transportation, 15 Newton Street, Brookline (522-6547, ext. 20). 10am-5pm. $5. Once you go German, you never go back. BMW owners will drive their Bavarian beauties to the museum and park them on the lawn for your perusing pleasure.

North End Feast of St. Jude
Hanover St., Boston. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. 2pm. Free. The Italian Society of St. Jude honors its favorite miracle worker with a parade featuring marching bands and statues of the saint.

Second Sundays
Veronique Restaurant and Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (312-5410). MBTA: Green Line to Longwood. 2-5pm. $10. BostonEventGuide.com is hosting this singles event with wine-tasting, live jazz by the Paulo Danay Quartet and light hors d'oeuvres.

Transportation Family and Friends
Pine Manor College, Brookline (866-468-7691). 12-6pm. $10. The MBTA hosts this picnic for Transportation Family and Friends with food, antique cars, motorcycles, pony rides, helicopters, a mini-train and more.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

18 Checkered BMWs
Herb Chambers BMW, 1186 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (877-4A-DRIVE). MBTA: B Green Line to Fordham Rd. Eighteen checkered BMWs continue their 200-city cross-country drive, raising money to fight breast cancer. You can help by taking these beamers out for a cruise: For every mile driven, BMW donates $1 to the Komen Foundation for breast cancer research.

Summer Soulstice
Christian Science Plaza, 175 Huntington Ave., Boston (450-7319). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 11am-1:30pm. Free. Weekly Tuesday events on the plaza this summer (through Aug. 21) include participatory art projects, children's theater and live music. Call for more information.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

The Single Gourmet
Phô Republique (497-0444). 6:30pm. cocktails; 7pm, dinner. This singles dining club offers men and women a chance to meet over good food and drink, without the pressure of a blind date. Call for reservations.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Chefs in Shorts
Seaport Hotel, World Trade Center, Boston (385-4000). MBTA Red Line to South Station. 7-9:30pm. $45. The fourth annual summer-in-the-city outdoor clambake will feature nationally renowned chefs like Rick Bayless of Chicago's Topolobampo and Greg Higgins of the Higgins Restaurant in Portland, Oregon, paired with Boston's own celebrities, including Chris Douglass of Icarus and Andy Husbands of Tremont 647. Proceeds go to the Boston Chapter of the Chef's Collaborative, a non profit organization.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Bean Town Ball 2001
Holiday Inn Newton, Grove St., Newton (482-8255). www.hubtall.org. *5:30pm, cocktails and dinner; 8pm, dance. $55; dance only, $18.* Sponsored by the Boston Beanstalks to promote the exchange of friendship, information and ideas between persons of comparable height, this dinner and dance is open to women 5'10" and taller and men 6'2" and taller. No fibbing on the height, shorty.

Great Mass. Getaway Cycling Tour
Marina Bay, Quincy (800-493-9255). www.msnewengland.org. *$350 minimum contribution.* This two-day event, which benefits several multiple sclerosis charities, takes cyclists from Boston to Provincetown. Housing for Saturday night is provided at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in Wareham, or cyclists can find their own lodging. Return is via ferry on Sunday.

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Have a Blast!

Boston kicks off summer with a bang

Bring your friends, your picnic basket and your lawn chairs. To ensure an up-close view of the famous fireworks you'll have to stake an early claim for a spot on the Esplanade, but you won't be bored while you're waiting. The first Boston Harborfest of the 21st century promises to live up to its reputation as a good time for Bostonians of all ages. Join your fellow Americans in celebrating the Fourth of July all week long, and enjoy such events as the annual Chowderfest, Children's Day and of course the Boston Pops concert on the Esplanade. Experience everything from New Orleans-style dance music to Revolutionary-era historical re-enactments during a week of fun, food, festivities and fireworks. Here's a look at some of the more entertaining events taking place through July 4. Have fun, and remember: The Fourth lands on a Wednesday this year. Five-day weekend, anyone?

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Boston Harborfest: Opening Ceremonies
On the West End of Faneuil Hall Marketplace (227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12-12:30 pm.* Celebrate the beginning of Independence week and the 20th anniversary of Harborfest at the opening ceremonies.

Boston Harborfest: Four Guys in Tuxes Concert
On the Plaza at City Hall (227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12-2pm.* Kick off this week of celebration with Four Guys in Tuxes. The septet will take to the stage to liven up the lunchtime lull and perform an all-request concert extravaganza.

Boston Harborfest: Sunset Parade
US Navy, Pier One, Charlestown Navy Yard, Charlestown (242-5670). 7:30-8:45pm. Enjoy a Sunset Parade, an age-old military tradition during which the flag and nation are honored in a moving ceremony adjacent to the USS *Constitution*. The Middlesex County Volunteers Fifes and Drum will also perform in the ceremonies, which culminate in the lowering of the Stars and Stripes. If you miss today's parade, it will take place again on July 3.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Boston Harborfest: Children's Day
On the Plaza at City Hall (227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 10am-3pm.* Come enjoy magic, juggling, face painting and plenty of other fun activities for the kids!

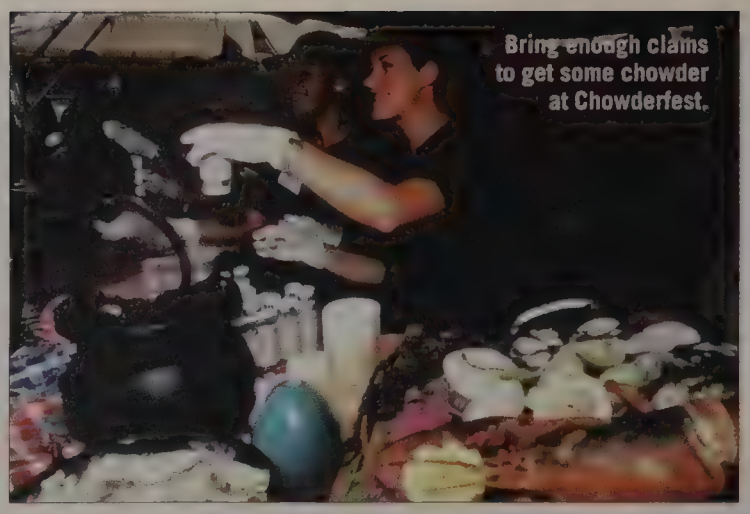
SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Boston Harborfest: Boogaloo Swamis in Concert
On the Plaza at City Hall (227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12-2pm.* Let the "bon temps rouler" and dance to the Cajun Bayou beats straight from the heart of N'Awlins.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

Boston Harborfest: Independence Day Service
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., North End (523-6676). 11am-12pm. Experience history and worship in the church where the lanterns of freedom once hung.

20th Annual Chowderfest
City Hall Plaza (227-1528). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. www.bostonharborfest.com. *11am-6pm. $5-$7.* Some 2,000 gallons of New England's most delectable soup will be ladled out during this annual chowder orgy. A perennial favorite, Chowderfest brings together more than a dozen chefs from the city's best restaurants and two naval ships to compete for the title of "Boston's Best Chowder."



Boston Harborfest: Party on the Plaza
On the plaza at City Hall, Boston (227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6-10pm.* An evening of dancing and socializing under the stars. Local band Soul City will kick off the evening's festivities with their funky music, Motown-style.

MONDAY, JULY 2

Boston Harborfest: Beat the Monday Blues Concert
On the Plaza at City Hall (227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12-2pm.* The Popgun Seven, a seven-piece, horn-fueled dance/pop/ska/reggae band, will take to the stage. Don't miss 'em. (They're regulars at the Middle East and T.T. the Bear's Place.)

TUESDAY, JULY 3

Boston Harborfest: Black Sea Salsa in Concert
On the Plaza at City Hall (227-1528). www.bostonharborfest.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12-2pm.* Take a break and treat yourself to the jazzy combos of Black Sea Salsa, a 15-member band with Old World and New World influences.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

Boston Harborfest: July Fourth Celebrations
•*9am-10am*: **Celebration of Independence** at City Hall. Flag raising followed by a short parade. •*10-10:30am*: **Reading of the Declaration of Independence** on the balcony at the Old State House. •*12pm:* **21 Gun Salute to the Nation** off the USS *Constitution* near Castle Island, South Boston. •*12:05pm:* **19 Gun Salute to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts** at Fort Independence, Castle Island, South Boston.

Cape Verdean Festival
City Hall Plaza, Boston (635-3404). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 2-7pm. The usual shebang with Cape Verdean music, food, art, dance, martial arts and performances. If you hustle, you'll be able to take in the festivities and then head down to the Esplanade for the night's main event: the fireworks.

Boston's Fourth of July on the Esplanade
Esplanade, Boston (267-3763). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. www.july4th.org. *6am: Esplanade opens to the public; 12pm: recorded music program; 8-10:30pm: Pops concert; 10pm: fireworks display. Free.* End your Fourth with a bang at Boston's biggest musical event of the year. The annual Boston Pops concert, led by Keith Lockhart, will be followed by the traditional fireworks spectacular. A 30-minute "pyromusical" will include a riveting display of fireworks over the Charles River, choreographed to an international mix of recorded classical, jazz and popular music. Besides the fireworks, you can enjoy the rare treat of eating a sausage while standing in the middle of Storrow Drive.



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Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

Fiddler on the Roof
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Through June 24. $25-$68.50. See box at right for more information.

FillerUp
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. June 27-July 1. $25. A limited run of a one-woman show by Deb Filler about eating, overeating, living and over-living.

Glass Menagerie
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. June 19-July 11. $29-$59. Tennessee Williams' 1945 play offers a glimpse of the Wingfield family as it struggles to hold its ground in 1939 St. Louis.

H.M.S. Pinafore
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Main Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). June 22-July 7. $28-$40. Romance and intrigue, the mystery of changelings, not to mention the notorious rigid class structure of 19th-century England are the combustibles that ignite this musical comedy by Gilbert and Sullivan.

Jane Eyre
Ruth Nagel Jones Theatre, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (June 21, 7pm; June 22, 8pm; June 23, 2 and 8pm; June 28, 7pm; June 29, 8pm; June 30, 2 and 8pm. $20. Polly Teale's intensely focused adaptation of the beloved tale fuses the mad woman in the attic with Jane's younger self.

Kurt Weill: Songs Degenerate and Otherwise
Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. June 19-July 1. $30. Simple setting: two singing actors and a pianist. But together they create a world populated by real characters. The show includes selections from *The Threepenny Opera* and well-known works *Speak Low* and *Mack the Knife*.

Much Ado About Nothing
The Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, 1175A Soldier's Field Road, Boston (782-5425). www.publick.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, transfer to #86 bus to Market Street. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through July 8. $15-$25.* Shakespeare's classic comedy is about the consequences of eavesdropping. Three deceptions—one malicious, one humorous and one redemptive—intertwine to produce a biting comedy about how much can go awry when hearsay is understood as the truth.

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead
Tower Auditorium, Mass College of Art, Huntington Ave., Boston (931-2000). Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 8pm. June 20-July 1. $20. Tom Stoppard's tale of *Hamlet* is told from the worm s-eye view of the bewildered Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, two minor characters in Shakespeare's play.

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* •Stables Theatre: *The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspr (abridged)*, through July 8; *The Comedy of Errors*, through Sept. 12. •Spring Lawn Theatre: *The Wharton One-Acts* and *The Rembrandt*, June 30-Sept. 2.



Theodore Bikel and Susan Cella star in the Colonial Theatre's Fiddler on the Roof through June 24.

Preview

Fiddler on the Roof

Boston welcomes Broadway's ninth longest-running show to the Colonial Theatre

When Susan Cella walks on stage as Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof* this week, there's sure to be a few enthusiastic claps from the audience. "About 5,000 of my friends and relatives are trying to get tickets," said Cella, a Revere native, during a phone interview from Washington, D.C., where she's performing at the Wolf Trap theater. She returns home this week for two weeks to perform at the Colonial Theatre through June 24. "It's not a very glamorous role, " admits Cella, who's been playing Golde since October. "I have to put on a babushka and 14 woolen skirts every evening." Nevertheless, her entourage is sure to be impressed with the show itself, a winner of nine Tony Awards and recipient of the New York Drama Critics Circle Award in 1965 for best musical.

Cella's 77-year-old co-star, Theodore Bikel—a musician and folk singer, actor, radio host and political activist—is also worthy of recognition: He's played the role of Tevye more than 1,600 times in 33 years (and never missed a show!). Bikel brings something new to every performance, says Cella. But he considers himself "not a specialist but a general practitioner in the world of the arts."

The show is based on *Tevye's Daughters*, a collection of stories by Yiddish author Sholom Aleichem. It's about a humble milkman who struggles to preserve his family traditions as he raises five daughters in the impoverished Russian village of Anatevka prior to the revolution. "It's one of those stories that everyone can relate to—despite generational differences, love prevails," says Cella. *Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2pm and 8pm; Sun., 2pm and 7:30pm. Through June 24. $25-$68.50. —Julie Short*

NOW RUNNING

The Amen Corner
Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (266-0800). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through June 23. $12-$55. This powerful drama filled with gospel music is by author James Baldwin. Set in a Harlem storefront church in 1960, it tells the story of Sister Margaret, who faces problems within her family and her congregation when her estranged husband shows up at her doorstep after a 10-year absence.

Art
Trinity Repertory Company, 201 Washington St., Providence, R.I. (401-521-1100). Through July 1. $28-$42. When a man drops a small fortune on a surprising piece of contemporary art, his lifelong friendship with his two best friends is turned upside down.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. Special performances during 4th of July week. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props (including plastic tubes and Twinkies) and three men painted blue.

Glen Gary, Glen Ross
Stanley B. Theatre Group, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-2787). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through June 30. $20. In David Mamet's play, every man is trying to save himself while still trying to make a buck after a crime is committed and a detective is called on the scene.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Just So
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Through July 1. $18-$56. This new family musical is based on *The Just So Stories*, which Rudyard Kipling wrote to entertain his daughter on their long sea journeys from England to South Africa.

The Last Train to Nibroc
The Boston Playwrights Theatre, 949 Comm. Ave., Boston (695-0659). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through June 23. $20-$23. This two-character romantic comedy begins on a crowded train traveling eastbound from Los Angeles during World War II.

Meshugah
Boston Theatre Works, Studio 210, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (824-8000). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through July 1. $20. Meshugah is the story of two Holocaust survivors who escape to America. The script, adapted by Emily Mann from the novel by Isaac Bashevis Singer, explores the guilt they face and the solace they find in each other.

Molly Sweeney
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Through June 24. $25. Molly, who has been blind since infancy, has recently had some of her sight restored. Along with her husband and eye surgeon, Molly tells us about her life in the dark and in the light.

Saturday Night
SpeakEasy Stage Company at the Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7731). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through June 30. $28. This musical was to have been 23-year-old Steven Sondheim's Broadway debut as a composer/lyricist in 1955 until the untimely death of its producer, Lemuel Ayers, halted its production. Sondheim himself revised this sweet romantic comedy 45 years later.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

This Is Our Youth
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Unicorn Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Mon.-Sat., 8:30pm. Through July 14. $20. Award-winning screenwriter Kenneth Lonergan (*Analyze This*, *You Can Count on Me*) penned this semi-autobiographical play about three disenfranchised youths. Set in the early '80s, Lonergan's three characters create a poignantly engaging, humorous play.

A Thousand Clowns
The Shubert Theatre, 272 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 7pm. June 19-July 1. $45-$65. Tom Selleck's revival of Jason Robards' role from the 1960s will entertain a brand-new generation of comedy lovers.

COMING SOON

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 16. Through the story-telling magic of the songs of ABBA, Donna, a feisty 40-something single mom, recalls distant memories of carefree days and nights while her daughter Sophie dreams of tradition, romance and a big, white wedding.

Dance
SHOWS AND EVENTS

Goodbye Dance & Celebration
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton, South End (298-1790). July 1, 8-11pm. $10. This celebration honors more than 18 years of cultural contributions to the Greater Boston community by Jorge Arce and his family with a dance concert. Gather before the show and enjoy family events and food.

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival 2001
Ted Shawn Theatre, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (413-637-1322). •June 20-23, 8pm; June 23-24, 2pm. $40-45. The Limon Dance Company opens the festival with the world premiere of the Limon Jazz Project.



The Glass Menagerie **plays at the American Repertory Theatre in Cambridge June 19-July 11.**

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The repertory work is performed live with an ensemble of African instrumentalists and jazz musicians, including the great Don Moye, founder of the Art Ensemble of Chicago. *•June 27-June 30, 8pm; June 30-July1, 2pm. $45-50.* Twyla Tharp Dance presents a brand-new company performing two different programs, one of which is a unique participatory work celebrating the dancer in all of us.

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival 2001

Doris Duke Studio Theatre, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (413-637-1322). •June 21 and 22, 8:15pm; June 23, 2:15 and 8:15pm; June 24, 5pm. $20. Buglisi/Foreman Dance perform two ground-breaking dance traditions in 21st-century style. *•June 28-29, 8:15pm; June 30, 2:15 and 8:15pm; July 1, 5pm. $20.* Dances by Very Young Choreographers showcase just that. Directed by award-winning educator and choreographer Ellen Robbins, these emerging artists, ages 8-16 years old, deliver surprising sophistication and inspiration to audiences of all ages.

Merge

The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 22-23, 8pm. $20. Featuring live music composed by Gill Aharon and Warren Levenson, *Merge* brings together the works of artistic directors Jolie Yawitt and Rick Vigo to form a collaborative choreographic event.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Include address, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a description of the performances. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge

Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). MBTA: Green Line. No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy. •Saturdays, 9:30pm-12am: Larry Lee Lewis Rock 'n' Roll Comedy Band and Boston's finest comedians.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •June 20: Harrison Stebins •June 21, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •June 22: Dane Cook, *Mystery Men*, $20 and $17 •June 23: Dane Cook, *Simon Sez*, $20 •June 24, 7:30pm: Dane Cook, *Late Show with David Letterman*, $15 •June 25: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •June 26: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •June 27, 8:30pm: George Demartino •June 28: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •June 29: Caroline Rhea, Aunt Hilda on *Sabrina, the Teenage Witch*, $20 •June 30: Caroline Rhea, $22.



Yup, that's our favorite P.I., Tom Selleck, in *A Thousand Clowns*, playing June 19-July 1.

The Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •June 21: WAKKA comedy troupe stars with Greg Rodriques, Katie Grady, Rich Gustus and Nate Johnson. •June 22: Brendon Small stars with John Keating, Katie Grady, Adam Koppel, Jules Own, Gene Doucette and Arthur Januario. •June 23: Eugene Mirman presents the stars of New York. Representing the Boston scene: Rich Gustus, David Walsh and Ryan Stitcher. •June 24: Bloody Mayhem sketch comedy with guests Brian & Mal, Rob Reuter, Eric Riley Moore, Laura Kollig, Andrew O'Fish, Sean Lily and Susan Arbing. •June 26: Special Alzheimer Association Benefit: Tom Morello, Tim McIntire, Rick Jenkins and Kyria Abrahams. $15 donation. •June 28: WAKKA comedy troupe with host John Keating and guests Laurie Hoffma, Dave Greenberg and Chris Foltz. •June 29: Brendon Small stars with guests Even O'Television, Ben Joplin, Pat O'Shea, Alana Devich, Ross Garmil, Greg Simoneau and Phyllis Albani. •June 30: Rick Jenkins hosts Tom Morello, Jan Davidson, Mindy Fay, Liz Gutterman and Thomas Harrington. •July 1: Circus Pigs sketch comedy with Walter Dixon, Jan Davidson, J Savage, John Curtin, Maggie McCracken and Dan Pulido.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$14. Wednesdays: Open mike at 8:30pm. •June 21, 8:30: Paul D'Angelo, Jimmy Byrne, Katy Grady. •June 22-23, 8:45: Paul D'Angelo, Jimmy Byrne, Katy Grady. •June 28, 8:30: Bob Siebel, Mark Scalia, Johnny Pizzi. •June 29-30, 8:45: Bob Seibel, Mark Scalia, Johnny Pizzi.

IMPROV COMEDY

Gorilla Theatre

Theatre 1, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (842-7927). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through the end of June. $15. See a show as it is being directed and literally throw things at bad directors who are competing to become the top banana.

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro. • Fridays, 8pm: Red Herrings. 10:30pm: Theatre Sports. •Saturdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston. •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree.

Magicians & Spirits

Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Comedy at the Isle

Emerald Isle Bar & Lounge, 1501 Dorchester Ave., Fields Corner, Dorchester (288-3481). MBTA: Red Line to Fields Corner. June 22, 9pm. $5, $10 at the door. Christine and Michael Herman, Kelly McFarland, Frank Santorelli and Tony V perform.

Comedy Cruise Featuring Red Peters

Boston Harbor Cruises (227-4321). June 22, 9:30pm-12:30am. $28. Join Red Peters for a comedy-filled adventure on Boston Harbor.

Dennis Miller

FleetBoston Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave., Boston (228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. June 27, 8pm. $37.50-$45. Comedian Dennis Miller performs.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding

Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 7-10pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

Ya Wanna Put That Where?!

Grand Opening!, Coolidge Corner Theatre Video Screening Room, Brookline (731-2626). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm. $15. A one-woman stand-up show about sex toys and their many uses.

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Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •The museum shows *Streams and Mountains Without End: Landscape Paintings from China, Korea and Japan*, through Aug. 26. *The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of Middle Eastern and Southern Asian depictions of love, shows July 7-Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*Portuguese Civil Revolution*, a collection of documents, photos and posters commemorating the revolution of April 25, 1974, are featured through June 30.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). •The museum's permanent collection of 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century European and American art is on display, as well as an extensive sampling of distinct cultural pieces from around the world.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •*Welcome to the House of Art*, a giant installation by Todd McKie, is an ongoing display. •In *Abstract Expressionism/Figurative Expressionism: Common Ground*, the museum uses its new wing to highlight works from its own collection. Ongoing. •This year, the DeCordova's *Annual Exhibition* features works by Richard Klein, Brett Bigbee, Ahmed Abdalla, Kelly Heaton, Kelly Kaczinski, Janice Redman, Marian Roth, Sarah Walker, Annu Palakunnathu Matthew and Dean Snyder. Through Sept. 3. •In *A Garden of Unearthly Delights*, outdoor American sculptor Wendy Ross displays some of her work. Through June 9, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. • In *Mondrian: The Transatlantic Paintings*, the Busch-Reisinger Museum shows 15 late paintings by the Dutch modernist painter Piet Mondrian. Through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. •*Verso: The Flip Side of Master Drawings* exhibit demonstrates how the masters used both sides of the sheet. Through Aug. 12.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these delicate creatures. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •Dutch artists Rineke Dijkstra presents the first U.S. survey of her photographs in *Portraits*, a collection of two series of her work, *Beaches* and *New Mothers*. Through July 1. •South African artist Marlene Dumas explores relationships in 100 *Models and Endless Rejects*, a one-room installation of 100 ink-wash drawings of faces, and drawings. Through July 1. •*Laylah Ali: 2000 ICA Artist Prize* showcases a collection of the artist's cartoon-like drawings of ambiguous violence and degradation. Through July 1. •The ICA displays defining images of postwar America in *The Social Scene*, an exhibition of documentary photography. July 18-Sept. 30. •The second ICA Artists-in-Residence at Boston National, Historical Park present *Conspire*, which examines Boston's most important historic sites and the role each played in the founding of the nation. Through Oct. 14. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Preview

Forbidden City

Treasures from China's secret palace are unveiled



Since the 17th century, the ornate art collection of China's Imperial Palace has been accessible only to nobility. But a rare exhibition, *Secret World of Forbidden City: Splendors from China's Imperial Palace*, a collection of their art at the Peabody Essex Museum, provides an intimate look at previously concealed imperial life. The emperors and families of the Qing Dynasty surrounded themselves with elaborate treasures during their reign from 1644 until the fall of the Imperial system in 1911. This collection of 300 of their artifacts includes portraits of the empresses, exotic paintings of concubines, formal robes, armor, jewelry and sceptors. The centerpiece of the exhibit is a breathtaking throne room, but not to be missed are pieces reflecting the European influence on China, like Emperor Puyi's bicycle. This is the largest collection to come out of the Beijing Palace Museum and opens with a Chinese opera, martial arts demonstration and dulcimer performance on July 1. Through Sept. 23. *East India Square, Peabody, (978-745-9500).* www.pem.org.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. Through Sept.16.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames Street Building E15, Atrium Level, Cambridge (253-4680). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., Sat.-Sun., 12-6pm; Fri., 12-8pm. •Isaac Julien presents a film installation in epic Western style: *The Long Road to Mazatlán* and a double-projection video featuring modern dance, *Vagabondia*. Through July 1. •*The Long Count (I Shook Up the World)* by Paul Pfeiffer is the first of three works in which the artist has depicted Muhammad Ali in order to explore racial identity. Through July 1. •Johan Grimonprez shows *Inflight*, an airline magazine–inspired piece. Through July 1. •*Race in Digital Space* features more than 30 artists who use film, new media and the Web. Through July 1.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive activities take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic*, displays a selection of holograms from the museum's collection (the world's largest). Ongoing. •*Thinkapalooza*, the museum's new interactive zone, is ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45 pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings, including his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 9. •*Japan at the Dawn of the Modern Age: Meiji Prints from Jean S. and Frederic A. Sharf Collection* is a collection of 600 Japanese full-color woodblock prints from 1868-1912. Through July 15. •*Made in Japan* by Takashi Murakami is a collection of his recent work. Through July 15.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org. *Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm.* •*If These Walls Could Talk* is a traveling exhibit that explores buildings throughout history and the world as artifacts of human existence. Through Sept. 3. •The *Current Science and Technology Center* showcases the very latest innovations and discoveries. Ongoing. •The current Omni Theatre film is *Journey into Amazing Caves* lets moviegoers squeeze into the subterranean world of the spelunker.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (666-9810). MBTA: Red Line to Porter, transfer to Bus #83. Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm; Sun., 2-5pm. •*Interconnections* features works by 20 artists on issues of multiculturalism, race and gender. Through June 23.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Sheets of Glass* is a collection of artists exploring the use of fused and laminated sheet glass. Through June 30.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Laura Chasman and Kirsten Stoltmann display their works through June 16. •Tina Feingold and Ilene Sunshine present new works in paint, sculpture and drawings, June 22 through July 27.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat. 10am-5:30pm in July. Mon.-Fri 10am-5:30pm in July and August. •A new talent show runs through the month of June. •A collection of gallery artists will show through July and mid-August.

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •*Body Conscious*, an exhibition of art focusing on figure and gesture, shows through June 29.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Encaustic Works*, by Joanne Mattera, Ron Ehrlich, Helen Febbo and John Tracey, features traditional encaustic as well as experimental mixed-media paintings and sculpture utilizing the ancient medium of pigmented wax. Through June 29. •Stephen Dinsmore shows *Landscapes and Still Lifes*, July 2-30.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Tue.-Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. •*Glass Sculptures* by Sumo Glass through July 3. •Billie Ruth Sudduth's woven baskets will show June 16-July 1.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Five artists present *New Works*, a group show. Artists include Barbara Broughel, Scott Hadfield, Michael Beatty, Leslie Wilcox and Laura Wulf. Through July 25.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Created in California* is a show of art from California galleries: the Creative Growth Art Center, Creativity Explored, First Street Gallery Art Center and more. Through July 28.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Marian Roth presents *Pin-Hole Pictures* through June 30. •*Dazzling!*, paintings by Steven Charles, Aaron Parazette and Susie Rosmarin, shows July 3-Aug. 3.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., 4th Floor (585-0250). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.the-bac.edu/exhibits. *Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*Gated Communities*, a photographic exhibit by Jerry Russo, shows June 3-July 30.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. •*Hybrid IDs*, guest-curated by Robin Reisenfeld, is an exhibition exploring contemporary issues of identity. Through June 30.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Two exhibits, *Museum of Transportation Pioneering*, by Ravi Jain, and *Sacrificial Zoo*, by Amy Ross, show June 20-July 14.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •*Have We Gone Too Far?*, works by Susan Erony and Erika Marquardt, shows through June 21. •Karen Moss presents her exhibition *What I Never Learned in School*. Through June 29.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •Peit Mondrian exhibits *The Transatlantic Paintings*. Through July 22. •Albert Szabo shows *Inventions and Interventions*, a series of sculptural assemblages. June 25-July 31.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappell-gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Contemporary Japanese Glass Sculpture* shows through June 29.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Cindia Sanford displays new paintings. Through June 26. •*The Liminal Line* features abstract landscapes by Danna Ruth Harvey. June 28-July 28.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (695-0255). Wed.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Henry Horenstein presents *Canine*, a series of black-and-white abstracted photographs of dogs. Through June 23. •Closed in July and August.

Compton Gallery
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. http://web.mit.edu/i-m/image3big.htm. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. Free.* •*Beyond Appearances: Imagery and Science at the Millennium* shows May 21-Aug. 3.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Copley Artists* is a juried exhibition of work by Copley Artists members of the Copley Society of Boston. June 21-July 14.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •*Gallery Artists and Contemporary*

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Martini & Rossi posters decorate the State Transportation Building starting June 28.

Prints: Unique Paintings and Sculptures and Multiples includes work by Peggy Badenhausen, Steven deFilippis, Josette Ghiseline, Anne Gilson Haney, Paul Inglis, Peter Inglis, Sol LeWitt, Roy Lichtenstein, Megan McNaught, Robert Rauschenberg, William P. Reimann and Andy Warhol. July 4-Aug. 15.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •The gallery shows work by local artists Norman Crump, Jeff Eldridge, Robert Fields, Dan McCole and Brian Roach, depicting Boston scenes. Ongoing.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston (783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. http://drawbridge.com/dvbgallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •*Royally Fucked: Artists as Royalty* featuring: The Empire S.N.A.F.U. Restoration Project, The Princess Project, The Blair Princess Project, The Princesses of Porn and King Vel Veeda shows June 21-July 21.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •Romanian art prodigy Alexandra Nechita displays her work. •Rodrerick O'Flaherty presents *Scenes of New England* through Aug. 30. •*Modern Masters*, featuring paintings by Picasso, Mattise and Chagall, shows June 24-July 31.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St., Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •*Watercolors and Sculpture*, by Joe Norris, displays through June 30. •Tha Rattanusk shows *Photography from Exotic Locales*, through July 28.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •A solo show of works by Vienna photographer Tina Dietz shows June 22-Aug. 11.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has an amazing collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. Ongoing.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St. (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm. •*Girls and Swirls*, by Melorah Kuhn and David Palmer, shows alongside Rick Fox's *Hoarded Intuitions* and sculptures by Jeff Smith, June 22-Aug. 3.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Two new installations by Larimer Richards and Cameron Shaw show through June 30.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •New England artist Robert Caulfield shows new works through July 14.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*A Celebration of Aging (Holographic Portraits and Audio Domes by Harriet Casdin-Silver and Kevin Brown) and Recent Portraits* show through July 13. •Open by appointment in August.

Gallery 79
79 Newbury St., Boston (262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •The gallery exhibits photography by Grace Hopkins-Lisle, June 5-Aug. 17.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* •There is an ongoing show of an array of works by Gedy Moody.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •*Art for Everyday*, an exhibition of paintings by Tom Pappas and sculpture by Jay Swift, shows through July 1.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •*Body Conscious: Figure and Gesture in Photography and Printmaking*, art by 34 artists juried by James Hull, shows through June 29.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •Works by T. Kelly Wilson are on display through June. •The gallery has an impressive collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •A show of prints from the Havell edition of John James Audubon's *Birds of America* runs through June 30.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (989-9985). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Body Language*, a collage exploring human physiology by Alya Romeos, shows through June 23. •*Adults Only*, a group show, runs July 1-29.

Harbor Gallery
McCormack Hall, U. Mass. Boston, 1st Floor, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (287-7988). Mon.-Fri. 11am-6pm. •*Recent Work* by three new artstis, Jon Bancroft Colon, Lynn Dorian and Willoughby Walling, features realistic and abstract work. Through July 2. The gallery is then closed through Sept. 1.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •John O'Reilly presents *Heroes and Others*, paper montages from 1972-83. •It shows with Harold Tozish's drawings and sculptures, in the exhibition *Hands*. Through June 30.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (491-6888). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment. •African dolls, of the Kirdi, Zaramo, Mossi and Namji peoples, are on display through July 14.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •An ongoing display of selected vintage posters.

Janus
Russian-American Center for the Arts, 77 Harvard St., Brookline (739-5769). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Mon.-Sat., 10am-8pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •*Russian Roulette: The Art of the Glasnost Years*, is the first in a series of shows presenting contemporary Russian art owned by a private collector. Through June 25.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Building Dwelling Thinking* is a collection of "photoworks" by David Armstrong, James Casebere, Lynn Davis, Candida Hofer, Robert Stivers and Shellburne Thurber. Through June 30.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •Cape Ann artist Zygmund Jankowski shows *Zyg: Unseen* which includes his landscapes and still life paintings. June 21-July 16.

Little White Box Gallery
Revolving Museum, 288 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.littlewhitebox.org. *Open by appointment.* •The second annual *Student Show* will display through Aug. 10.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Serenity*, featuring landscape and marine vistas by Boston artist Ann Scott, displays through June 30. •*Summer Salon* opens July 1 and features landscapes, still-life, figure and abstraction on view through Aug. 31.

Kaji Aso Studio
Kaji Aso Studio Institute for the Arts, 40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (247-1719). By appointment. Free. •The gallery presents *Thrown, Coiled and Pinched*, clay works by Mary Ellen Gardner, Jeanne Cugino, Candy Kuba and Beth Negus Viveiros. Through June 24.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat.-Sun., 11am-3pm.* •Jorg Fraske and Maria Kvedaras present *Ethereal Nature*, an exhibition of landscapes, through July 15.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •*City View*, an exhibition of works by Joseph Solman, Daniel Robinson, Grant Mudford and Phillip Jones, shows through July 2.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Star*, an installation by Jennifer Hicks, will be on display June 20 - July 7. •Karl Viksnin's installation *Thresholds* will be on view July 14-Aug. 18. •*Tibor's Wedding*, a performance by The Association of Czechoslovak Roma in Canada, runs from June 28-30 at 8pm.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Land, Sea and Beyond*, a group show of landscape paintings, shows June 14-Aug. 5.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Roger Kizik's paintings show through July 7. •*In the Spirit of Landscape*, an invitational group show of landscape paintings, runs through July 31. •The gallery is closed in August.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. •German-born photographer Judith Jockel shows *Portraits*, a series of photographs drawing from Flemish and German paintings of the 14th century. June 23-July 15.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •The gallery is now showing work by six women artists, including Linda Emerson, Farleigh Goss and Katie McDonald, through June 29. •*Vampire Pigeons Variety Show*, a multimedia presentation by poet Paul Angelosanto, photographer David Stickney and painter Gregory Grinnel, shows June 30-July 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Judith Belzer, Stanley Bielen and Diana Horowitz present work through July 7.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Japanese potter Noriyasu Tsuchia displays *Past to Future Vessels*, ceramic vessels in the Mingei tradition. Through June 27. •*Fine Choices: Objects* focuses on the artistic object as a source of beauty and interest. July 1 through Sept. 4.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse also specializes in antique Tixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •The exhibit of *American Watercolors and Pastels* is ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.Robert KleinGallery.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •Edward McHugh displays his paintings, and Guy Russell presents his photographs. Through July 10.

Rolly-Michaux Gallery
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics*, fine lithographs and etchings by Georges Braque, Marc Chagall, Sonia Delaunay and others, shows through Aug. 31.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Landscapes*, a collection of sun-drenched vistas and cityscapes from Boston to Beaucaire, by William St. George, is on display through June 30.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. •The Undergraduate Student Exhibition displays through September.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* •Contemporary paintings from Havana by Mario Ayras show in his first solo exhibition in the United States. Through June.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bpl.org/www/branches/ south end.html. *Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm.* •The gallery shows Leon Robinson's *Scenes of the South End and Back Bay*, through July 17.

SPNEA Gallery
One Bowdoin Sq., Boston (227-3956). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. www.spnea.org. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm.* •The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques presents *Boxes, Open and Shut.* Discover what an icebox, snuffbox and lunch box have in common. Through Sept. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression. Ongoing.

State Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza, Boston (800-972-2784). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •*Martini & Rossi 100 Years*, a traveling exhibit of original Martini & Rossi posters, shows June 28-July 27.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works. Ongoing.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (876-0246). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-1pm. •The Cambridge Art Association presents the work of Brookline artist Mary Kostman. Through July 14.

Via Gallery
83 Newbury St., 2nd Floor (424-1750). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-4pm; Sat., 12-4pm. •Lisa Reindorf displays her watercolor paintings of architecture and landscapes, influenced by time spent living in Mexico. Through June 30.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. •A display of selected works of the gallery's current inventory shows throughout June •*Wind and Dazzle: The Art of Charles Hopkins (1869-1962)*, a collection of more than 70 oil paintings and watercolors, is on view through July 10.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. •Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session. •Sunday is a vegan potluck supper, with live music and poetry.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •*Senior Graduation Show* exhibit will be on display June 8-July 27.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Photographs from the Gallery Archives* show through Sept. 15.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •The 2001 juried members' exhibition shows June 22 through July 29.



Danna Ruth Harvey's oil and wax panel *Remembering Summer* shows at the Chase Gallery June 28.

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FILM

SIX KNIGHTS' TALE

The reissued *Holy Grail* beats blockbuster blues.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

I danced like a Temptation when the moviegoing public did not eat up the supremely obnoxious *A Knight's Tale*, and I sang like a Pip when I heard that in its wake a movie that has genuine fun with the Middle Ages was returning to screens. I hadn't seen 1975's *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* since the days of the then-independent Harvard Square Theatre's daily double features and, frankly, it was never my favorite Python comedy. But if anything could help fight off the recent propaganda onslaught for each week's blockbuster, it was the spontaneity-charged absurdity of Terry Jones, Michael Palin, John Cleese, Terry Gilliam, Graham Chapman and Eric Idle.

I still have problems with the dead spots that litter *Holy Grail*, but it does the trick. The hilarious opening credits, with their fake Swedish subtitling that veers deeper and deeper into a tangential comic vein, is alone worth the price of a ticket. And *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* also arrives with a restored negative, a soundtrack that's gone from mono to stereo and, supposedly, some added footage, though any reinserted deletions reportedly total only a few seconds here and there.



From left: Eric Idle, John Cleese, Graham Chapman, Terry Jones and Michael Palin ride again in *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*.

Pre-*Grail*, Python's only movie had been *And Now for Something Completely Different*, which was just a refilming of TV sketches, primarily for American consumption. So they had no luck getting movie companies interested in their first feature-length story. They turned to the world of music, where they were popular, and raised a budget from bands such as Led Zeppelin and Pink Floyd (so those dinosaur bands' existence wasn't a total waste, after all). It's easy to see why a mere description of the movie's comedy wouldn't excite backers. The notion of knights who pretend to ride horses, but only pretend to while their servants make hoofbeat sounds with coconut shells sounds absolutely stupid, yet it's one of the movie's funnier running gags.

The foremost of these knights not on horseback is King Arthur (Chapman). He's traversing the English countryside, enlisting knights to join his court at Camelot and, after a vision of God summons him, to find the elusive Holy Grail. That's the very loose plot, but the movie only pays attention to it half the time. It's more interested in episodic incidents involving the individual knights or just poking fun at the standard elements of medieval adventures.

One of the more memorable comic moments is the argument Arthur has with a radical peasant (played by Palin), who won't recognize the rule of the king. It manages to make fun of both the monarch, who justifies himself by proudly stating the rather silly legend of being presented with the sword Excalibur by the Lady of the Lake, and the peasant, whose mocking political rants are amusingly singleminded. There's also the scene in which Arthur faces off in a swordfight against another knight who won't let him pass, and then won't surrender even though his limbs are being lopped off one by one. This is followed by the funny verbal showdowns between Arthur's retinue and an abusive French castle guard played by Cleese ("You don't scare me, you stupid English pig dogs!").

And then, of course, there are the knights who go "Ni," the Holy Hand Grenade and a killer rabbit.

Aside from Chapman, the five other Python members play multiple roles in this quest movie, while Gilliam also contributes animated interludes like those on the troupe's TV series. Gilliam's animation sometimes feels like filler, while the injection of a modern-day subplot that affects the climax doesn't work as well as the similar device in Mel Brooks' *Blazing Saddles*, which came out around the same time as the original release of *Holy Grail*. And a few of its episodic incidents, like one with Sir Robin (Idle) eluding a three-headed knight, are outright duds. But *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* does a comedic rescue mission of our sanity that few summer blockbusters are likely to match. **iB**

Monty Python and the Holy Grail ★★★

Directed by Terry Jones and Terry Gilliam. Written by and with Jones, Gilliam, Eric Idle, Graham Chapman, Michael Palin and John Cleese. Rated PG. Rainbow Releasing.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Atlantis: The Lost Empire ★★
The latest Disney animated feature is very much in the *Star Wars*/*Raiders of the Lost Ark* adventure mold. It has a boyishly eager Luke Skywalker-sort-of-hero, undersea battles staged like the *Star Wars* aerial fights, dramatic John Williams-sounding music and a plot in which the hero clashes with mercenaries over an exotic treasure. Although the animation is rich and detailed, this is routine storytelling for such stuff: white-bread hero in an unusual setting, lots of natives who get to do nothing, marginalized ethnic characters for comic relief, a love interest with a Barbie figure. Michael J. Fox voices the young hero—gee, why didn't they just cast Mickey Rooney?

The King Is Alive ★★½
The latest film made under the Dogme 95 Danish film collective's no-frills "vow of chastity"—the first in English—is about a busload of Western tourists stranded in the African desert. One among them convinces the others to try to stage Shakespeare's *King Lear*. As in the play, strained human emotions among the movie's characters cause a breakdown of order that results in chaos. A cast that includes Jennifer Jason Leigh, Janet McTeer and Bruce Davison keeps the story of death, madness and sexual couplings and uncouplings mildly involving, but the movie, shot in 1999, strains to be profound at times, especially during the climax.

Moulin Rouge ★★★
Think of director Baz (*William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet*) Luhrmann's splashy musical as a slugger who only knows how to take big, full-tilt swings. When he misses, he looks terrible; when he connects, he really connects. Set in a dreamscape Paris of 1900, *Moulin Rouge* is too long; its dependence on reconstituted pop/rock oldies for its music is questionable; and its hyper and very scattered first half-hour is grating. But there's more than a little magic in this musical love story about a much-desired showgirl (Nicole Kidman, seemingly channeling Ann-Margret) and an aspiring writer (Ewan McGregor). The surprising thing is that a lot of these magical moments come when the two sing together (and it is indeed them singing). And thanks to the sheer bravado of it all, the stock story about love and the battle between art and commerce actually works.

Pearl Harbor ★½
Letting *Armageddon* director Michael Bay near real-life events (and emotions) is like letting a guy in a Godzilla suit near a miniature city. Any hope of finesse is gone. In this World War II drama centering on two farm boys turned fly boys (Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett), everything is applied with a sledgehammer: the clunky dialogue, the music that overwhelms most scenes by continually telling you how to feel, and the peculiar need to wring a happy ending from a national tragedy. Meanwhile, the featured characters—including those played by Kate Beckinsale and Cuba Gooding Jr.—are so one-dimensional and flawless that the movie has to resort to contrivances like one's presumed death to try to generate conflict among them.

Quadrophenia ★★★
It's hard to believe now, but there was a time when Sting was actually cool—1978 to 1981, to be precise—and his featured role in the movie adaptation of The Who's concept album was, along with *Brimstone and Treacle*, the highlight of his acting career (though it was not, as is often mistakenly stated, his movie debut). At the Brattle for a June 22 to 28 re-release, the 1960s story of mods and rockers is a bit overwrought with teen angst, as is the album, but Phil Daniels brings fire to the lead role and the period music (Booker T & the MGs' "Green Onions," James Brown's "Night Train," etc.) is killer.

The Road Home ★★
Chinese director Zhang Yimou made a name for himself with dramas that were epic in their range of human emotion, movies like *Raise the Red Lantern* and *To Live*. But his work has become increasingly smaller. His latest is a surprisingly conflict-free story. It's a bit like two movies in one: the first about a contemporary black-and-white tale about a businessman returning to his hometown after the death of his father, and the second an extended color flashback about the courtship of his parents in 1958. Though beautifully shot and well-acted—the cast includes young Zhang Yidi of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*—there's little going on beneath the surface of these stories, and whatever little conflict creeps in is quickly settled. It's not bad, just very disappointing.

Songcatcher ★★★
The last time director Maggie Greenwald headed into the wilderness with an independent woman from the past, the result was the memorable *Ballad of Little Jo*. Her latest isn't quite so potent, but this story of a turn-of-the-last-century musicologist (Janet McTeer) who leaves the

Ivy League for Appalachia gets by. Some of the plotting feels a bit by-the-numbers—oh look, it's Aidan Quinn as the guy who has to become her love interest—the central struggle of a strong-willed woman trying to find herself in a male-dominated setting works well, without clichè. And, as in *Tumbleweeds*, McTeer is a powerful presence who also projects vulnerability.

Startup.com ★★★

Here's one for the time capsule. Documentary directors Chris Hegedus (*The War Room*) and Jehane Noujaim chronicle the rise and fall of govWorks.com, an Internet company that hoped to contract with local governments whose citizens could then use govWorks.com's Web site to pay parking tickets, renew licenses and cut through red tape. It sounded like a good idea, and venture capital thought it was, too, ponying up millions to the startup headed by two friends who'd been dreaming of going into business together since high school. The movie not only vividly shows us the economic boom and bust, but also the strains that the endeavor puts on the friends' relationship.

Unfinished Symphony ★★★★

Bestor Cram was one of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War who participated in that organization's 1971 Memorial Day Weekend protest march that traveled Paul Revere's ride in reverse. Now the long-time Boston filmmaker is the co-director (with Mike Majoros) of the staggering movie that tells the march's story through vintage footage and contemporary interviews. As fascinating as the old footage is, it's not the only reason why the movie is so good. The way the directors have assembled it—with no overt narration or jarring editing, and set to the mournful strains of Henry Gorecki's *Third Symphony*—makes it an unusually intimate experience.

What's the Worst That Could Happen? ★★

Shot locally last summer, mostly at South End and Beacon Hill locations, director Sam (*George of the Jungle*) Weisman's latest is Grade-C forgettable high-concept comedy. It's basically a low-octane retread of the more clever Steve Martin-Michael Caine comedy *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, this time with thief Martin Lawrence and shady tycoon Danny DeVito engaged in a tit-for-tat grudge match of conning each other. But DeVito and Lawrence each plays the same sort of character he's tackled a half-dozen times before, and as rendered here ,the concept is painfully flimsy. Supporting characters played by John Leguizamo, Bernie Mac, Lenny Clarke and Siobhan Fallon add some laughs, but not enough.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

Audrey Hepburn on Film

•June 25, 6pm **Wait Until Dark** *1967.* Her last film before retirement, this thriller earned Hepburn an Academy Award nomination for her performance as a blind woman terrorized by a gang of thugs.

Iberoamerican Film Festival

•June 20, 6 pm **El Dia de la Bestia** (*The Day of the Beast*) *1995.* A Basque priest who believes he has information about the Antichrist joins forces with a heavy metal fan and a TV host on his quest to invoke the devil in order to save the world. In Spanish with English subtitles.

•June 21, 6pm **No Se Lo Digas a Nadie** (*Don't Tell Anyone*) *1998.* A troubled youth from a wealthy family struggles with his racist father and obsessively religious mother as he discovers his true sexuality.

•June 27, 6pm **El Dia Que Me Quieras** (*The Day You Loved Me*) *1986.* Winner of the Casa de Las Americas Award for Best Latin American Feature, *El Dia* is a humorous period film set in 1935.

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features.

Special Engagements

•June 20-21, 4, 6, 8 and 10pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 12 and 2pm) **Taboo** *1999.* The historical drama and artistic portrait of Samurai ethos depicts its last surviving practitioners, who are forced to assimilate in the face of rising nationalism and encroaching Western battle ideology.

•June 22-28, 5, 7:30, and 10pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 12 and 2:30pm) **Quadrophenia** *1979.* One of the modern classics of rebellious youth cinema, this restored 35mm print (with remastered soundtrack!) follows a young man's struggle to escape his seemingly empty existence.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Feature Films

•Through June 21 **Split Decision**. From Austin documentary filmmaker Marcy Garriott comes this film about Jesus "El Matador" Chavez, the North American Boxing Federation super featherweight champ who was deported because of a new immigration law. He then faces the challenge of continuing his life and career in Mexico, a country he hasn't known since childhood.

•June 22-28 **The Anniversary Party** *2001.* An all-star cast of indie-film greats gather for this largely improvisational film about a reunion of friends gone awry.

Jazz in June

•June 22 and 23. The series continues with *Found Footage Film Festival* featuring rarely-seen oddities such as **Future Shock** with Orson Welles and the classroom anti-drinking yarn, **Just Along for the Ride**.

•June 25, 7:30pm. GBH 89.7FM and the Coolidge team up with the New England Conservatory to pair live jazz performances with jazz films. Tonight, American Masters presents **Ella Fitzgerald: Something to Live For**, a comprehensive documentary featuring never before seen performance footage and exclusive interviews.

Midnight Movies

•June 22 and 23, 12am **Showgirls** *1995.* A dancer comes to Las Vegas to make it in the big time but soon discovers the price of success.

•June 29 and 30, 12am **Swingers** *1996.* An instant cult classic, *Swingers* features a group of friends who cruise L.A.'s singles hot spots in this hilarious depiction of the dating game of the 1990s.

Widescreen!

•June 20 **Ran** *1985.* In this adaptation of Shakespeare's *King Lear,* an elderly lord relinquishes control to his three



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ELLEN VON UNWERTH

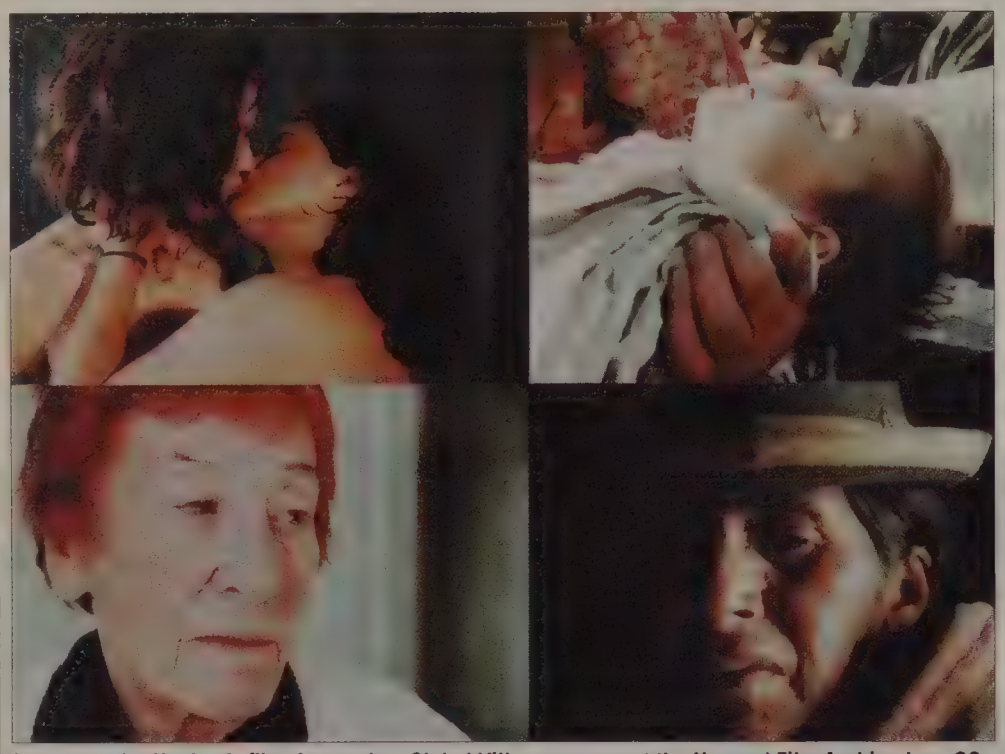


sons, unveiling corruption. Directed by Akira Kurosawa.
•June 21 **Doctor Zhivago** *1965.* Set in the backdrop of World War I and the Russian Revolution, *Doctor Zhivago* focuses on a man torn between the women he married and the woman he loves. Directed by David Leon.
•June 21 **Chinatown** *1974.* In Roman Polanski's classic film, a private detective gets more than he bargained for when he takes on an adultery case and stumbles onto murder. Starring Jack Nicholson and Faye Dunaway.

Harvard Film Archive

The Divine Comedy of Federico Fellini

•June 28, 7pm **Fellini Narrates: A Discovered Self-Portrait** *2000.* Rare interviews of the late director, offering insights into his career while capturing his charm and humor.
•June 21, 9:30pm **Amarcord** *1974.* A collection of impressionistic vignettes depicting the director's hometown of Rimini during the fascist era.
•June 21, 7pm and June 27, 9pm **Fellini's Roma** *1972.* A story of a city according to its director, this film weaves together a series of images of the Eternal City from the 1930s to the turbulent era of the 1970s.
•June 23, 8:45pm **Casanova** *1976.* Loosely based on episodes from the life of eighteenth-century Venetian author, scientist and libertine, Giacomo Casanova, the Fellini version incorporates a stylized romantic pessimism that confronts impotence, failure, sexuality, and exploitation.
•June 25, 7pm and June 28, 8:30pm **City of Women** *1980.* Widely misinterpreted upon its release as Fellini's statement on women and the feminist movement, this film finds a businessman in a world completely dominated by women.
•June 26, 7pm and June 29, 9pm **Ginger and Fred** *1986.* Giulietta Masina and Marcello Mastroianni came together for the first time in their careers in this film about two past-their-prime dance partners who relive their former glory for a few magical moments.
•June 27 and June 29, 7pm **Intervista** *1987.* Conceived as a tribute to famed Cinecitta Studios on its fiftieth anniversary, this imaginative distillation of a man's life and work is the director's valentine to the movies and the filmmaking process.
•June 30, 7pm **8 1/2** *1963.* One of the most lauded works in cinematic history, 8 1/2 depicts a famous movie director whose professional and personal difficulties trigger his descent into a hazy torpor of recollection and outrageous fantasy.



Johan van der Keuken's film *Amsterdam Global Village* screens at the Harvard Film Archive June 20.

Preview

Patchwork of Reality

The world according to Johan van der Keuken

Johan van der Keuken, one of the greatest—and least known—experimental documentary filmmakers of our time, has made a wealth of cinematic and photographic social commentaries. The Dutch artist first gained popularity in the '60s with black-and-white films about ordinary life depicting the early-morning markets and street sweepers of Paris and Amsterdam. In the '80s, JVDK (as he was called by friends and fans) gained notoriety for his brand of highly compassionate documentaries—most notably *Face Value, The Eye Above the Well* and *Brass Unbound,* films that reveal the common ground between seemingly diverse people. Beyond his call for global social change, JVDK is notorious for blurring the line between fiction and documentary filmmaking. This disregard for a straightforward depiction of reality is particularly evident in his editing: disparate shots are juxtaposed to convey ideas, and narratives are often non-linear. Throughout his career, van der Keuken made more than 50 films—most of which are unknown in North America. The Harvard Film Archive's retrospective is a memorial tribute to the artist, who passed away in January.

•June 20, 7pm *Amsterdam Global Village* (1996). A highly original film about cacophonous city living, this work is a meditation on everyday life in Amsterdam as a microcosm of the post-colonial world. Encountering a Moroccan moped courier, a businessman from Chechnya and a Bolivian immigrant with a newborn baby, the filmmaker follows their stories, always circling back to Amsterdam.

•June 23, 7pm *To Sang Fotostudio* (1997). Many nationalities are represented in the streets of Amsterdam where Chinese-born photographer To Sang operates his photo studio. Like van der Keuken himself, To Sang works with his wife to create his portraits of neighbors and customers.

•June 23, 7pm *Living with Your Eyes* (1997). Director Ramon Gieling turns the tables (and the cameras) on van der Keuken and his wife in this portrait. Gieling reveals van der Keuken's journey through the no-man's land between reality and fiction and coaches his "actors" to achieve a sense of their natural spontaneity. Gieling films retakes to achieve his signature striking compositions and carefully assembles the resulting footage. *24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. —Erin Hagedorn*



Pearl Harbor **is proof yet again that a big budget doesn't guarantee a great movie experience.**

Museum of Fine Arts

Boston Jewish Film Festival 2001: Back by Popular Demand

•June 21, 8pm and June 24, 2pm **Inside Out,** *1998.* When her car breaks down in Eden, Hazel Levine finds herself stranded in a backwater South African town which she surprisingly grows to like.
•June 28, 8pm and July 1, 2pm **Louba's Ghosts** *2000.* An emotionally troubled woman, abandoned by her family, imagines what World War II must have been like for her parents and other French Jews. In French with English subtitles.
•July 1, 4pm **All My Loved Ones** *1999.* In 1938, a family purchases a house at a fraction of its worth from a Jewish man emigrating to America. Oblivious to political developments, they do not realize the gravity of his decision until the conclusion of a horiffic act. In Czech with English subtitles.

New Beat Cinema from Japan

•June 22 6pm; June 23 3:30pm; June 24 4pm, June 28 6pm; June 29 6pm and July 1 1:50pm. **Cure,** *1997.* An intellectual thriller about a murderous drifter with hypnotic powers. Directed by Kurosawa.
•June 22, 8pm **Seance** *1999.* A spiritual advisor, using her powers to locate a kidnapped girl, prods her bumbling husband to create an elaborate hoax in order to become a star in the spiritualist community. Directed by Kurosawa.
•June 23, 1:30pm **License to Live** *1998.* The most radically interior and personal of Kiyoshi Kurosawa's films, *License to Live* depicts a young man who awakens from a 10-year coma to learn that his close-knit family has now dispersed around the world.
•June 24, 12pm **Charisma** *1999.* An environmental thriller in which the villain is a tree, *Charisma*, a bizarre film but with a great twist in the end, is Kurosawa at his most adventurous.
•June 30, 2:15pm **Eyes of the Spider** *1999.* A serious but lighthearted film about a man's obsession with avenging his daughter's murder. Directed by Kurosawa.
•June 30, 4pm **The Serpent's Path** *1999.* A partner film to *Eyes of the Spider*, *The Serpent's Path* covers the same vengeance theme as its predecessor but offers a more nihilistic work with a profoundly bleak view of humanity. Directed by Kurosawa.

New England Film Artists Present

•June 23, 12pm and June 30, 10:30am **An Unfinished Symphony** *2001.* This is a documentary on Operation POW, a 1971 Vietnam War protest that retraced Paul Revere's ride and culminated in a huge demonstration on Boston Common. This Memorial Day marks the 30th anniversary of the event, which drew national attention.

Special Engagements

•June 21, 6:30pm **Brother Born Again** *2000.* Julia Pimsleur, a bisexual, Jewish New Yorker, travels to a remote island in Alaska with the hope of understanding why her intellectual brother dropped out of college and converted to Christianity.
•June 30, 12:30pm **The Mirror Project** *Part II.* This is an evening of video by award-winning Colombian-American videographer and media educator Roberto Arevalo and his teen students.

Special Events

June 26, 8pm **Local and National Shorts** of all genres as the **The Underground Film Revolution** continues at the Zeitgeist Gallery. *312 Broadway, Cambridge, (876-2182).*

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.bpl.org.
Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org/film.
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org/home.html.
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.
Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. www.coolidge.org.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.harvardfilmarchive.org
Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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books& poetry

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

Barnes & Noble Booksellers
1 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-628-5567). 7:30pm. Free. **Eugene Goodheart** discusses his memoir, *Confessions of a Secular Jew*, an account of growing up immersed in Yiddish culture on Long Island.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Elizabeth Searle** reads from her collection of stories, *Celebrities in Disgrace*, in which she discusses the nature of fame and the ways that it affects construct personal relationships.

Kate's Mystery Book Store
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (491-2660). 6pm. Free. **Randye Lordon** signs copies of his book, *East of Niece*, and **Jessica Speart** gives a talk about her work, *Black Delta Night*. Lordon's *East of Niece* is the sixth Sydney Sloan novel, a story of a peppy lesbian detective and her partner on the trail of yet another criminal. Speart's *Black Delta Night*, another crime thriller, details the adventures of young Rachel Porter, who is sent to Tennessee to investigate the mob's involvement in caviar poaching.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **David Sedaris**, author of such laugh-out-loud collections as *Naked*, reads from and signs his new book, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*. His move to Paris inspired many of the pieces in this book, but he still takes shots at familiar targets—family and childhood.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

The BCAE Summer Reading Festival
The Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Com. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-8pm. $18. **William Tappley**, author of *Scar Tissue*, discusses his newest mystery novel starring Boston lawyer Brady Coyne. When Coyne takes over an investigation of the death of a friends' son, he uncovers pornography rings, political corruption and high school students with sinister pasts.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Deborah Digges** gives a talk about her memoir, *Stardust Lounge*. The book is about her son's unconventional passage through adolescence and her own alternative parenting methods that eventually turn her son around.

An Evening of Prose and Poetry
Grove Hall Branch Library, 5 Crawford St., Dorchester (427-3337). 6pm. Enjoy an evening of jazz and poetry featuring SPACE poets **Shirley Langford**, **Lynette Comma**, **Sabriah Ahmad**, **Donald Clarke**, **Russell Warner** and **Cynthia Watson**. Also featured is Eula Lawrence and her jazz trio.

Newtonville Books and Brews Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. **Matthew Iribarne** reads from his debut collection of short stories, *Astronauts & Other Stories*. His work follows the lives of people searching for stability despite their unsteady emotional footing. The reading is followed by free snacks and Park Pale Ale.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (354-5201). 6pm. **Heather McGowan** discusses her novel, *Schooling*, a story of a young girl sent away to boarding school after the death of her mother.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). 3pm. Free. **Indira Ganesan** reads from her book, *The Journey*, which is about to be reissued alongside her newest novel, *Inheritance*. *The Journey* is the story of a young immigrant's return to the homeland.



David Sedaris talks pretty one day—and one day only: June 20 at WordsWorth Books in Cambridge.

MONDAY, JUNE 25

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (491-2660). 6pm. Free. Author **Steve Hamilton** is on hand to sign copies of his third book, *The Hunting Wind*. The mystery novel follows detective Alex McKnight, a retired police officer from Detroit.

New Words Bookstore Author Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (876-5310). 6pm. Free. **Barbara Ehrenreich** reads from her new book, *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*. The book explains how millions of Americans work fill-time, year-round for poverty level wages.

Special Event: Wynton Marsalis
Cambridge Rindge and Latin School, 459 Broadway, Cambridge (349-6630). 6pm. Free. **Wynton Marsalis**, one of the most accomplished and acclaimed jazz artists and composers of his generation, talks about his new book with co-author **Carl Vigeland**. They discuss *Jazz in the Bittersweet Blues of Life*.

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Dick Lehr** and **Gerard O'Neill** give a talk about their book, *Black Mass: The True Story of an Unholy Alliance Between FBI and the Irish Mob*. As reporters at the *Globe*, Lehr and O'Neill set out to tell the story of the 20-year marriage of the Irish mob and the FBI.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Michael Fredrickson**, author of *A Cinderella Affidavit*, signs copies of his newest book, *Witness for the Dead*, a legal thriller about FBI involvement in murder.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (661-1515). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7pm. **Henry Kissinger** discusses his book, *Does America Need Foreign Policy? Toward a New Diplomacy for the 21st Century*. Kissinger looks at the dilemmas facing America's foreign policy in a new millennium under a new presidency. **David Gergen** also discusses his new book, *Eyewitness to Power: The Essence of Leadership, Nixon to Clinto*n, in which he shares observations and assessments of Nixon, Ford, Reagan and Clinton, as well as his own White House experiences.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (354-5201). 6pm. **Kathyrn Harrison** talks about *Binding Chair: Or, a Visit from the Foot Emancipation Society*, a novel about love, marriage and the Chinese tradition of foot binding.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Barnes & Noble Booksellers
1 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-628-5567). 7:30-8:30pm. Free. **Elinor Lipman** reads from her latest book, *Dearly Departed*. When a woman returns to her hometown for her mother's funeral she at first feels stifled by the tiny town she grew up in but finds an unforeseen friend in her own half-brother.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **Madeleine Blais** signs copies of her memoir, *Uphill Walkers*, a work that focuses on her 1950s rural Massachusetts childhood.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (354-5201). 6pm. **Anne LeClair** discusses her novel, *Entering Normal*, a story about two women who bond by similar experiences of motherhood: birth, hope, separation and grief.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Remy Rougeau** comes to Brookline to sign copies of his novel, *All We Know of Heaven*, a comical and slightly sobering story about living as a monk.

Haiku and Beyond
Boston Conservatory, 8 The Fenway, Boston (508-653-3354). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. June 28-July 1. $140 full admission; $70 for half. This four-day conference includes readings and discussions of haiku by many accomplished poets from several HNA (Haiku North America) chapters.

Newtonville Books Author Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. **Sheila Kohler** discusses her novel, *Children of Pithiviers*, about Jewish children taken from their mothers by the Nazis during WWII.

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (349-4040). 6pm. **Walter Willett** reads from his book, *Eat, Drink and Be Healthy*, which questions the food intake guidelines of the traditional USDA Food Pyramid.

MONDAY, JULY 2

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (491-2660). 6-7pm. Free. **Lee Childs** signs copies of his book, *Echo Burning*, in which he once again invokes detective Jack Reacher.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, First Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. First Tuesday of the month. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Every first Tuesday is a poetry session.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

The Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going on Mondays.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

Brookline Chamber Annual Business Awards Breakfast
Holiday Inn, 1200 Beacon St., Brookline (739-1330). 7:30-9am. $15 non-members. Awards will be presented to distinguished local companies. This is an excellent networking opportunity for all types of businesses.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

Stargazing
Arnold Arboretum, Peter's Hill, across from Bussey Street Gate, Jamaica Plain (635-7383). 9-10pm. Free. Boston park rangers will teach you how to locate some of the basic constellations.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Introduction to Philosophy and Metaphysics
First Parish Unitarian Church, 3 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (591-9959). 7:30pm. Free. Discover the real meaning of esoteric science as taught by the great masters of humanity. The emphasis is on practical techniques for self-knowledge and self-mastery. Presented by New Acropolis.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Captain Amasa Soper's Company
Paul Revere House, 19 North Square, Boston (523-2338). Meet at the Plaza, corner of Washington and School streets. 1-4pm. $2.50. Members of the Revolutionary War re-enactment group take on the roles of Boston citizens defending the city in 1776.

A Talking Circle on Prophecy: The Pilgrim Vision, Native Prophecy and the Future
The Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center, 41 Second Street, Cambridge (577-1400). 8pm. Photographer **Connie Baxter Marlow** discusses her work.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Literary Landmarks
Boston by Foot (367-2345). Meet at the Plaza, corner of Washington and School streets. 2-3:30pm. $9. A guided tour of Boston's literary landmarks.

MONDAY, JUNE 25

Career Discovery Workshop for Women
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). 6-9pm. $43. Learn about your strengths and weaknesses so you can improve your job search.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Calligraphy Tour
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5300, ext. 2225). Meet in Rare Books and Manuscripts Department. 4pm. Free. Preregistration is required. Local artist **Margaret Shepherd** leads an outdoor walking tour through Boston that focuses on the art of calligraphy in public spaces.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

What Every Woman Should Know...
Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Smith Family Room (800-553-3787; call to reserve space). 6-8pm. Free. Experts discuss menopause and the risks and benefits of hormone replacement therapy.

Shopping Strategies for Style and Savings in Boston
BCAE, 3 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). 7:30-9:30pm. Free. Explore Boston's shopping opportunities. Learn how to shop wisely.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Inside the Sanctuary of Freedom
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (267-4430). 2pm. Free. A guided architectural tour of the Old South Meeting House.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

18th Century Town Meeting
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (267-4430). 11am and 2:30pm. Free. Participate in a re-enactment of the historical gathering that culminated in the Boston Tea Party.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Top DJs spin.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
•June 25 and July 2: In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
Go Retroactive with DJ Chris Ewen, 9pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits. 10pm. 19+. No cover.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
Lounge night with DJ Courtney spinning house, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
•June 26: After Work Jazz Party with Eddie's Shoe, 8pm-12pm, 21+. •July 2: MD Jazz, 6:30pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night with R&B, house, funk and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey. 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.



Stop by Backstage Wednesday through Sunday for a night of nonstop dancing to top-40 and club classics.

Hibernia
DJ Jeremy spins lounge tunes, 6pm, 21+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

The Kells
DJs Roy Barboza and Chaos spin hip-hop, 9pm, 21+.

Milky Way
The Milky Way DJs Adam Gibbons, Fran and Paul Nickerson spin down-tempo, jazzy deep house, soul and funk, 9pm, no cover.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house, trance to techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
•June 20: Baha Brothers; DJ Steve, 10pm, 21+. •June 27: Baha Brothers; DJ Steve, 10pm, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong An evening of psy-trance and drum-and-space with resident DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $4, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Jeff Knor, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house and trance music, 10pm, $10, 19+.

College Night
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ Dragg spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by for some after-work lounging with the mellow tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm. $15 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean. Don't forget to dress up—jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
•June 21 and 28: Mix 98.5 and Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae and hip hop, 10:30pm, $5.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adison. 10pm, 18+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney plays top-40 hits, your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s and one-hit wonders, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and special-guest global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+. •June 22: Pete Heller of Farley and Heller spins dark tribal house.

Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Jonny C spins top-40, dance and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Cire, 9:30pm, 21+.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
Roxy Guest DJs turn this dance party alive, 3rd floor.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Mondo Bar
Roxy International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Ren Justice spins disco, top-40 and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
•June 22: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+. •June 29: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm, 21+; DJ Ricky, 10pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.
Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on second floor, $10, 21+.
Spin Cycle
Axis Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. 10pm, $12, 19+.
Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.
SW1
Afterwork lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.
Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.
Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house and techno, 10pm, 21+.
An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $4, 21+.
Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.
Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.
Backstage
DJ Johnny C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house, hip-hop and top-40 dance.
Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.
Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.
Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.
Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.
Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.
Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.
Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house, DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.
Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.
NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house music while disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive. 9:30pm. Dress is casual but neat, 21+.
The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house. 10pm. $15. 19+.
Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins international house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.
Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The Rack
• June 23 and 30: Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.
Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats in this laser-lit club, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.
Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor, $10. 21+.
Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.
SW1
DJ Tari spins house, dress sexy, 10pm, 21+.
Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.
X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians. Then, DJ Adrienne spins Brit pop and new wave tunes. 9pm, $3, 19+.
Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Living Room
Aria DJ Raffy spins International house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJs Larry, Dale, Magnum, Lisa and Robin play great reggae music, 9pm, $5.
The Rack
• June 24 and July 1: Shoot some pool and have some drinks while the Chad LaMarsh Band performs live, 9:30pm, 21+.
Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.
Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Reggae with DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.
Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.
Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

Club Venues

An Tain *35 India St., Boston (426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Café *94 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central or Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Hong Kong *1236 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (800-575-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-9400). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (562-8800). MBTA: Green Line to BU West.*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station or Orange Line to Government Center.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*



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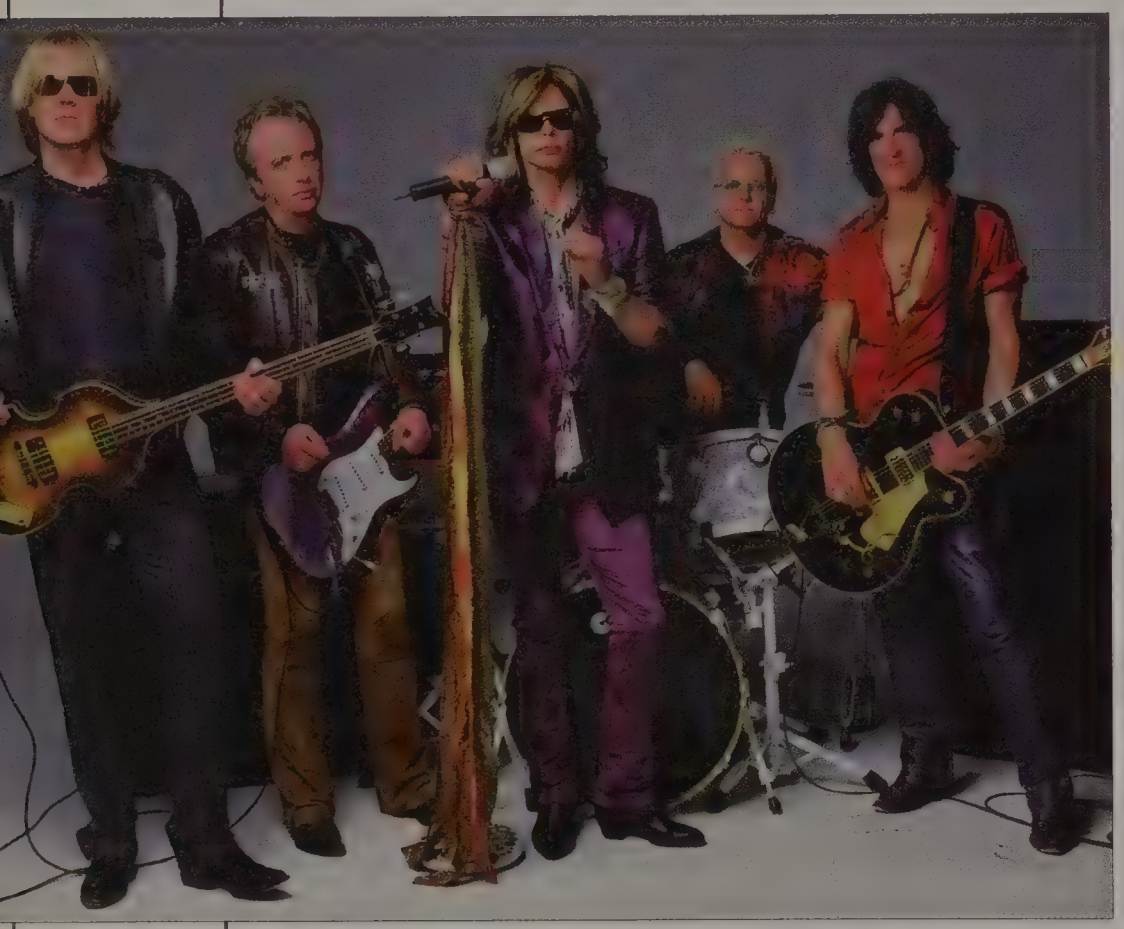
No boundaries. No bull.

NOT THE SAME OLD SONG AND DANCE

Hall of Famers Aerosmith continue to evolve their sound for a new generation of fans. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

For a band already enshrined in the museum known as the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame, Aerosmith have a lot on their plate as they rev up a tour that hits the Tweeter Center June 26 and 28 in support of their new CD, *Just Push Play*.

"It takes a little while to get into the groove," guitarist Joe Perry says by cell phone on his way to the tour's second stop. "You wonder, 'Well, we're going to do it again,' and you always remember the end of the last tour when everything was banging on all eight cylinders and running right, and you knew what guitars you wanted to use, and Steven [Tyler]'s voice was rock-solid.... It's always a bit of a shock when you get out there and the stage is about 80 feet across."



Aerosmith's tour supports their latest album, *Just Push Play*.

Indeed, the venerable band is bringing a sizable production to the sheds, including a mammoth back-of-stage video screen and a satellite stage where the boys rock out classics like "Same Old Song and Dance" and "Dream On" for folks on the lawn.

"There's an intensity you get that translates to the crowd when you're right there and you play on a stage the size of a postage stamp," Perry says. "The stadiums aren't really for rock 'n' roll. You're looking at people who are the size of a peanut, and that's really not what rock 'n' roll is about. Rock 'n' roll is immediate and in-your-face."

When Aerosmith rocked postage-stamp stages 30 years ago, many of today's fans weren't even born yet, and the Boston band is well aware of the challenge to keep proving itself. "We're not going out on tour on the strength of our first record," says Perry, 50. "We still feel like we've got a lot to do in the studio, and live, I still love rock 'n' roll. I still listen to Chuck Berry records in the dressing room before I go on.... That stuff still carries as much weight."

Yet the band has long adapted itself to the times, from crafting glossy power ballads like its Diane Warren-penned No. 1 "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing" (from the *Armaggedon* soundtrack) and the new disc's token "Fly Away from Here" to a Superbowl half-time romp with Britney Spears and 'N Sync.

"You have to be open to hearing that stuff," he says. "I don't think we'd ever do a whole album of Diane Warren songs. I don't think that would be physically possible for me. I think I would...But to experiment with that for a song or two, I mean, we've been doing ballads all our lives. I can remember being at a high-school dance waiting for the ballad to come on so you could ask the girls to slow-dance. That's part of it, but on the other hand, the rock is the main thing. So you let some of that stuff in. That's what is reflected on *Just Push Play*. We take our hits for a song like 'Fly Away,' but people still like to hear that stuff."

For the most part, *Just Push Play* recasts the crunch and cadence of vintage Aerosmith, while songs like the title track inject a modern collage of hip-hop and electronica.

"Every riff I've written the last five years has started with some kind of electronic loop," Perry says. "I used to start with Steven playing the drums. All those songs like 'Same Old Song and Dance' had some kind of rhythm going on there. That's where it starts. It speaks to me, because it's all about the rhythm for me. It always has been, whether it was Chuck Berry and his rhythm section or whatever. It's all ear candy that you put on top to give a different slant."

In another change, Perry co-produced *Just Push Play* in his South Shore home with Tyler and their songwriting associates Mark Hudson and Marti Frederiksen. "It was easier, because we didn't have to translate it to anybody," he says of the recording, which involved both high-tech production tools and Perry's collection of guitars and percussion instruments from around the world. "We just threw that all in."

Now Aerosmith are translating their new material to the stage, with some help from sampling, but mostly an organic bond.

"As long as there are people out there interested in seeing us, we'll be out there doing it," Perry says of his enduring combo with frontman Tyler, guitarist Brad Whitford, bassist Tom Hamilton and drummer Joey Kramer. "When the lights go down and we hit the stage, it's an adrenaline rush. And it still feels the same as it did in 1973." iB

Aerosmith

Play the Tweeter Center June 26 and 28.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billing

Aerosmith with Fuel
June 26 and 27, Tweeter Center
Afro-Cuban All Stars
June 27, Roxy
Air
June 24, Avalon
Allman Brothers Band
June 22, Tweeter Center
Big D & The Kids Table, Kicked in the Head, Spitvalve and Darkbuster
June 30, Upstairs at Worcester Palladium
Depeche Mode
July 1, Tweeter Center
Dido with Travis
June 24, Tweeter Center
Echo & the Bunnymen
July 2, Paradise
Extreme Steel Tour with Pantera, Slayer, Static-X, Skrape and Morbid Angel
June 23, Worcester Centrum Centre
Aretha Franklin
June 20, Lowell Memorial Auditorium
Green Day with The Living End
June 22, Tsongas Arena
Juliana Hatfield
June 23, Lilli's
The Irish Tenors
June 22, FleetBoston Pavilion
Gladys Knight
June 29, Worcester Centrum
Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis, Dianne Reeves and James Carter Electric Project
June 24, MDC Hatch Shell
The Locust and Piebald
June 27, Upstairs at Worcester Palladium
Martina McBride with Phil Vassar
June 30, Cape Cod Melody Tent
John McLaughlin: Remember Shatki with Zakir Hussain, V. Selvaganesh and U. Shrinivas
June 29, Sanders Theatre
Medeski Martin & Wood with John Scofield and DJ Logic and Project Logic
June 23, FleetBoston Pavilion
Donny Osmond
June 23, Wang Center
Perfectly Ridiculous with John Lithgow
June 24, FleetBoston Pavilion
Dianne Reeves
June 24, MDC Hatch Shell
The Samples
June 30, Paradise
David Sandborn and Nancy Wilson
June 20, FleetBoston Pavilion
Stretch Armstrong
June 29, Upstairs at Worcester Palladium
Styx, Bad Company, Billy Squire and Joe Starks
June 28, FleetBoston Pavilion
James Taylor
June 29 and 30, Tweeter Center
Wynonna
June 30, South Shore Music Circus

Rock, Jazz and Blues

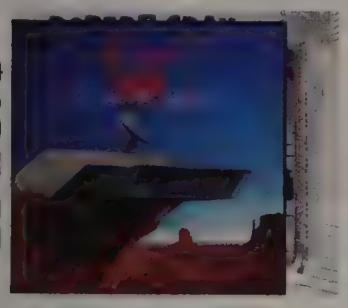
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Funk & Groove with DJ Tim Collins; Ekene with The Squad and Robert Randolf, $7, 18+.
Black Rose Sundays Well.
Boston Globe Jazz & Blues Festival at Copley Square Park Robert Randolph, 12pm, free; Femi Kuti, 5:30pm, free.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.

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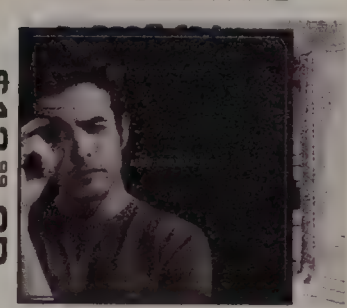
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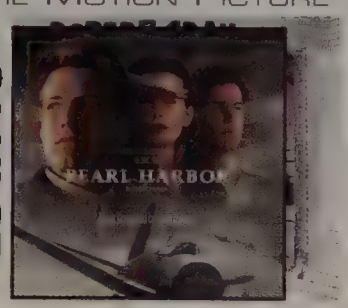
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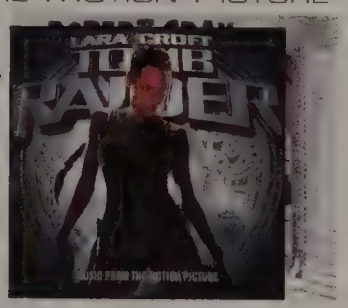
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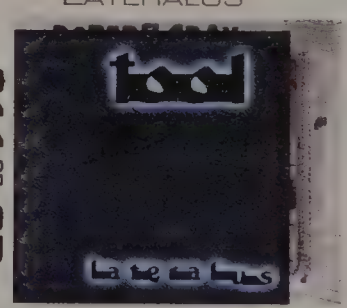
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- **Solomon Pond Mall**, Marlborough (off I-290) 508-303-3666
- **Avon, CT** at 380 W. Main Street 860-678-9400

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Club Passim Oen Kennedy CD release, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls.
Green Street Grill Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 10:30pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry The Recipe with Hubbinger Street, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's "Johnny Bahama Night" with Me & Julio.
House of Blues Third World, 10pm, $22, 18+.
Johnny D's Dave Weckl, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Rob Getzschman, 9pm; Mike Ill, 10pm, $5.
Lilli's RKK13 CD-release party with Hrvatski, Bitter, Eoss, Sister Sunshine, DJC, DJ Planar and 78ESP, 8pm, 21+.
The Linwood AIDS Ride Acoustic Benefit with Leigh Chodos and Guests, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Ms. Pigeon, 21+.
Maison Robert Joseph Fields Trio, 6pm.
ManRay OhGr: The Remains of the Skinny Puppy Tour, 8pm, $40, 19+.
Middle East U: Big in Japan, Junction 18 and Quickstep Manouver, 5:30pm, $7, 18+; VPN, The Malarkies and Matt Khikle, 9pm, $7, 18+; D: Calexico, Archer Prewitt and The Glands, 8pm, $10, 18+; C: Evan Harlan Trio, 7pm; Belly Dancing, 10pm.
M.J. O'Connor's Live traditional Irish music, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soar, 8pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk & Traditional Singers Club, 9pm.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Either/Orchestra, 8:30pm, $10.
Scullers Al Vega, 8 and 10pm, $16.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Lincoln Conspiracy, Anti Clockwise and Scrim, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Summer Shack The I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm, no cover.
Summer Soulstice at the Christian Science Plaza Inca Son, 10-11:30am.
Toad Jennifer Kimball and Ry Cavanaugh, 7pm; Ken Clark Organ Trio, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ben Lee with Chris Colbourn and Hilken Mancini, $10.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alan Rowe Trio, 8pm.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

Abbey Lounge Asciento record-release listening party.
Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Generic & Perpetual Motion Machine, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; Lamont CD release, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Eric Fontant, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sundays Well and Dave Foley.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar & the Soul Providers, 7:30pm.
Boston Globe Jazz & Blues Festival at Copley Square Park Johnny A., 12pm, free; Karl Denson's Tiny Universe, 5:30pm, free.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Chic Street Man, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Foul Ball Frenzy, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Lonely Gus & The One Night Stand, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones & The Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos & The Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Grand Canal Tom Pitman.
Green Street Grill Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Zen Tricksters with Brother Chameleon, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane.
House of Blues Fat Possum Juke Joint Caravan featuring T-Model Ford, Paul "Wine" Jones and Cedell Davis, 10pm, $15, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Lip Floater.
Jose McIntyre's Me & Julio, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Kevin McCluskey, 9pm; Zoubeck & Bryant, 10pm; Sheffer Stephens, 11pm, $5.



They may looked buttoned-up here, but don't be fooled. One of Boston's top rock acts, the Gravel Pit put on an energetic, no-holds-barred live show.

Preview

Pop meets Rock

The Gravel Pit to tear up T.T.'s for two nights

It was 1995 when the Gravel Pit descended upon the Boston scene, and it's been churning out high-energy rock for the locals ever since. Earlier this month, the band released *Mass Avenue Freeze-Out* (its fourth CD on the local label Q Division), a rollicking sonic ride that mixes classic rock, garage grunge and infectious pop. On the opening track "Loved One," singer Jed Parish lulls listeners with a McCartney-esque croon: "Oh my loved one, what's become of you?" Next up, the band, which also includes guitarist Lucky Jackson, Bassist Ed Valauskas and drummer Pete Caldes, shifts into high rock gear with the driving "The Ballad of the Gravel Pit." The songs are solid from start to finish, but "Baby Gap" is a standout power pop gem with its absurdly hooky chorus that will replay in your head for days.

To check out these Boston rock darlings live, head to T.T.'s on June 22 or 23 when the foursome hosts a two-night CD release party. And when Parrish breaks into "The Ballad of the Gravel Pit" snarling "Do ya think we oughta, oughta stick around?" (a line suggesting that, after 10 years together, the band may be reexamining its future), the answer is: Hell yeah. *The Gravel Pit play T.T. the Bear's Place June 22 and 23; 10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). —Rachel Strutt*

Kirkland Cafe Twisted Rico All Acoustic Revue Farewell Show, $5.
Lilli's Topaz, 9pm, $7, 21+.
The Linwood Fastlane, Flinch, Impaled Milk and Midnight Creeps, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Betty Dylan and Gregg Trooper, 21+.
Maison Robert Mike Turk Duo, 6pm.
Middle East U: Rival Schools United by Fate, J. Majesty and The Ex-Models, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: The White Stripes, Von Bondis and Mr. Airplane Man, 9pm, $10, 18+. C: Robbie Phillips and the Eric Baldwin Quartet, 7pm; Board of Education, 10pm.
Milky Way Kenwood Denard, Schism and Tube with Frank Heiss, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Company Chris Ross Band, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soar, 8pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
PJ Ryan's Undercover with Dave Matthews, no cover, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett with DJ Mike Flanagan, 10pm.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & The Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Eddie, 21+.
Regattabar The Sergio Brandão Sextet with George Garzone: Shades of Bossa with Fernando Brandão, Nando Michelin, Fernando Huergo and Steve Langone, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Giant Step featuring Artie Barbato and Benny Schroni, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Freddie Hubbard & The New Jazz Composers Octet, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Rabadango, Boatyard Resin and Chris Canty Band, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Drawn Butter, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Emm Gryner, Rachel Gaudry and Kelley Riley, $7.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Atlantic 101 Kite Minkos and Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Bowman with Town Hall & Springfield, 21+.
Bill's Bar Missing Joe with Jeremiah Freed and Brown, $8, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Fluid, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sundays Well and Dave Foley.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Boston Globe Jazz & Blues Festival at Copley Square Park Tony Lynn Washington, 12pm, free; ¡Cubanismo!, 5:30pm, free.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9:30pm.
Club Passim Dave Van Ronk, 8pm, $15.
Common Ground Stymie, 10pm.
Copperfield's Five Easy Pieces, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Dany Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6pm, no cover; Soul City, 10pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Kubuto Power Jazz Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Weepin' Willie and His All Star Band, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Briar Scott Miller Band.
Green Dragon Tavern Tom Carroll, 5pm; The Swinging Johnsons.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm, no cover.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harpers Ferry Tripping Billies, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5pm.
House of Blues Jones Brothers, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Edable Gray and Sugarcoat, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Neopride.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.

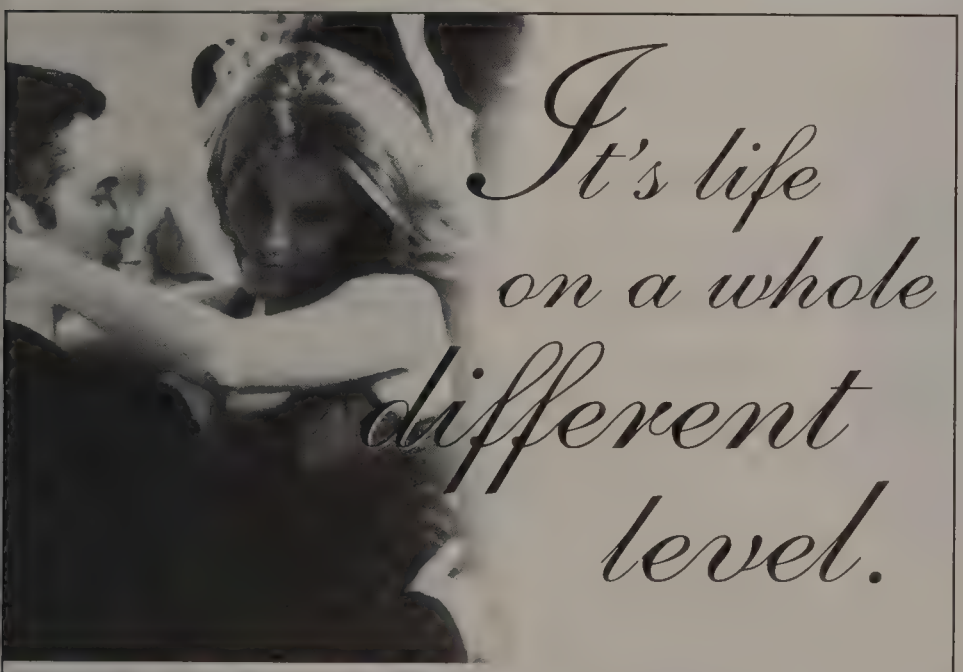
Kendall Cafe Ed Fingerling, 9:30; Tom Glynn Duo, 10:30; Weed Inc., $5.
Kirkland Cafe Club Bohemia 8-Year Anniversary Party featuring Tootsie, Big Ray & the Futuras, Al Janik's Plastic Cheese and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Nelson Hubbard and Asa Brebner CD-release party featuring a Robin Lane and the Chartbusters reunion, 8pm, 21+.
The Linwood Controlled Aggression, Super Kollider, Nok and Tung, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Cigar Store Indians, Buch "Tooth" Johnson and Jennifer Jackson, 21+.
Middle East U: The Skels, Photon Torpedos, The Spitzz and Zippo Raid, 9pm, $7, 18+; D: Three Day Threshold, Mappari CD Release, Rocketscience and The High Ceilings, 8:30pm, $9, 18+. C: Splendid Nobodies, 10pm.
Milky Way Sunbather, Shelley Winters Project, Buck Dewey Big Band and Cabaret All Stars. 9pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Pete Massa, no cover, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Bumpin Uglies.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Wallace Roney Quintet with Antoine Roney, Adam Holzman, Buster Williams and Lennie White, 8 and 10:30pm, $14.
Rhythm & Spice Mystic Vibes, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Eugene Uman, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Freddie Hubbard & The New Jazz Composers Octet, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm.
Sky Bar Chubby, Linus, Kodachrome and Lola, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Phil Danatelli Band.
Toad Frank Morey.
Top of the Hub Ken Cervenca with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gravel Pit CD release with Quick Fix, Heavy Stud and David James Motorcycle, $8.
Western Front Mentos and the New Horizon, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chonic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Tim Ingles Group, 9pm.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Atlantic 101 John Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; The Laura Allen Trio, 7:30pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Black Horse Tavern Springfed, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Sundays Well, Dave Foley and Tom O'Carrol.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
The Burren Jabe.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Scott Alarik and Robbie O'Connell, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Rippopotamus, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker, 6:30pm, no cover; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Real Jazz Octet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Dragon Tavern The Return.
Green Street Grill Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm, no cover.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry Cluch Grabwell, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4pm.
House of Blues Sugar Ray & The Bluetones featuring Mike Welch, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Central Basement.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Adam Brodsky, 9:30pm; Fooled by April, 10:30pm, Booda Velvets, 11:30pm, $5.
The Linwood WBCN's Deek and Heavy Diaper Productions Present 6 Gig, Give and Angry Hill, 10pm, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Confidence Men, 21+.
Man Ray Boston Regional DMC Turntable Championship, 4-9pm, $18.
Middle East U: Quintaine Americana, Lamont, Elvis 777 and Short Lived, 9pm, $7, 18+; D: The Dismemberment Plan, Cerberus Shoel and Aerialist, 9pm, $8, 18+.

LIZ LINDER PHOTOGRAPHY





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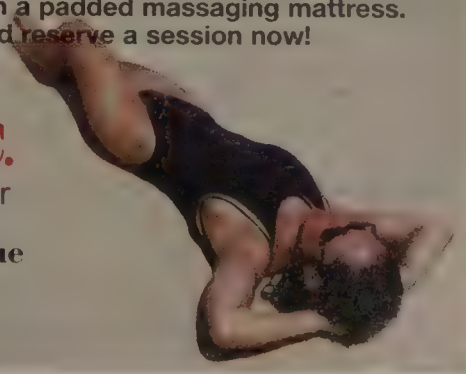


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Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, 9:30pm.
Porters Bar and Grill Blockhead.
Purple Shamrock Neopride.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Wallace Roney Quintet with Antoine Roney, Adam Holzman, Buster Williams and Lennie White, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 10:30pm, $10.
The Roxy A-Trak, Infamous, Spictakular and "The Allies."
Ryles Teresa Ines Group, 9pm, $10.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm.
The Times God Fearing Men.
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey.
Toad The Armadillos, no cover.
Top of the Hub Paul Fontaine with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gravel Pit CD release with Creme Brulee and The Gladstones, $8.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Eula Lawrence, 7pm; Skip Smith Trio, 10pm.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Atlantic 101 Kevin Beck, 11:30am-2:30pm.
Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar Reggae Sunday with DJ K-DON; Various Artist Showcase, $10.
Black Rose Sundays Well and Tom O'Carrol.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nat Simbkinsi B3 Jazz Trio, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm, no cover.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Cactus Highway and Shiner Jones, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Richard Cambridge's Poet's Theatre presents Reggie Gibson, A Journey of Myth & Music, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel Brunch with Silver Lining, 10am; The Complete Unknowns, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover. 2nd Annual Amateur Singing competition Grand Prize awarded.
Green Briar Donegal Cords, 4pm; Finbar Doyle, 9pm.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Green Street Grill Paulo Danay Group, 9:30pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Rhythm featuring Members of Sugarcoat and guests, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's The Martini Brothers, 5pm.
House of Blues Open Faders, 10pm, $9, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Chris Powers, 8pm; Swizzle, 9pm; The Purple Ivy Shadows, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Lizard Lounge Poetry Jam featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: US Maple, Landed, Common Cold and Migration Trap, 8:30pm, $8, 18+. D: Cannibal Ox, MHz, Aesop Rock, The Masterminds, O.V.M. featuring EI-P and Mr. Lif and The Skitzofrenics, 9pm, $18, 18+. C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; No Michael No, 7pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz Brunch with Rusty Scott, 11am-2pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Rhythm & Muse Adam Ezra, 2pm, no cover.
Toad Dave Foley, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Neville Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jaywalkers, Moontide, Sweet Libido and David's Playground, $4.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JUNE 25

Bill's Bar Monsta Mondays with DJ Kapt Krunch; The Casualties with Mourningslide CD release, A Global Threat and Mark of Cain, $8, 18+.
Black Rose Tony O'Riordan.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Geoff Bartley's Open Mike, 8pm; Mark Erelli, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mic 2-Song Night with Scott Alarik, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Kevin McCluskey, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee & Diversity, 10:30pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Ricochet Stud and Tokyo Tramps, $5, 21+.
House of Blues Vibetribe presents an evening of spoken word and jazz, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Morgan Keating and Gary Young, 8pm; Rick Fuller, 9pm; Frank Morey, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: New Music Night with The Lovely, Underwater and Happy the Clown, 9pm, $6, 18+; D: Stone Soup Poetry, 7:30pm; C: Tom Bianchi and Jason Gardner, 10pm.
M.J. O'Connor's Live traditional Irish music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake Brian Walkley featuring Buck Taylor, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8pm; Tim Gearan band, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Neville Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Adam Franklin and Scott Janovitz, $12.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Peter Parcek, 9pm.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Atlantic 101 John Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; Blue Hills Bluegrass, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Tim Gagan Quartet, 10:30pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Every Tuesday and Another Planet & Friends, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Spearhead featuring Michael Franti, 10pm, $15, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Willem Hartong, 9pm; Calendar Girl, 10pm; Nate Borofsky, 11pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Battle Axe, Geoff Scott, Brian Sayers Duo, MC Kabir Sen and DJ Mr. Rourke, 21+.
McGann's Slainte.
Middle East U: Alien Crime Syndicate and Hibachi Joe, 9pm, $7, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live traditional Irish music, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soar, 8pm, no cover.
The Rack Eddie's Shoe, 8pm, 21+.
Sidney's Grille The Laura Allen Trio, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar The Cool Grape Goodness, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Summer Soulstice at the Christian Science Plaza Sol Y Candto, 12-1:30pm.
Toad Michael Tarbox, 7pm; Cash Monies and the Jetsetter, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Mermen and Honest Bob, $10.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates The Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Atlantic 101 John Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Hip Hop Live, $12, 18+.
Black Rose Celtic Clan.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Deb Talan and Lori McKenna, 7 & 10pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls.
Green Street Grill Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 10:30pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Lawn Boy, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's "Johnny Bahama Night" with Me & Julio.
House of Blues Tonic presents Funk-Kin and Fathead, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Machinery Hall.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Ernie Lijoi, 8pm; Dave Hall, 9pm; The Fizz, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Ms. Pigeon, 21+.



Long-time British post rockers Echo & the Bunnymen come to the Paradise for a show July 2.

Maison Robert Hey Rim Jeon Trio, 6pm.
Middle East C: Gianna & Pedro Viscardi, 7pm; Belly Dancing, 10pm.
M.J. O'Connor's Live traditional Irish music, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soar, 8pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk & Traditional Singers Club, 9pm.
Paradise Big Wreck.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Pierre Hurel Trio, 8:30pm, $12.
Sidney's Grille Nuage, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Zola Turn and Drop Dose, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Summer Shack The I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm, no cover.
Toad Jennifer Kimball and Ry Cavanaugh, 7pm; Lil Memphis, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mancie, Dryer, Wingnut and Motorplant, $4.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Philippe Critien, 8pm.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Attic Big Top Vertigo and Greyshine, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Avalon Doves and The Webb Brothers.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton; Miss Fortune with guests, $7, 18+.
Black Horse Tavern Ryan from Palabra, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and Fenian Sons.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar & the Soul Providers, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Andrea Florian, Sandi Hammond and Felicia Brady, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground Foul Ball Frenzy, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos & The Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown live jazz, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Grand Canal Tom Pitman.
Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Booty Juice, One Flew East and Vogonz, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane.
House of Blues Miracle Orchestra and Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Amazing Mudshark CD release party, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Duende, 10pm; Laughing Freeman, 11pm; $5.
Kirkland Cafe Owen, Atomic Voodoo and Nikulydin, $5.
Lilli's Topaz, 9pm, $7, 21+.
The Linwood The Lucky Bastards, The Flux, Muscle Cah and Meat Depressed, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf featuring Micro Vard, 21+.
Maison Robert Mike Turk Trio, 6pm.
Middle East U: Edable Gray, Sugarcoat and Polyquin, 9pm, $7; D: Akrobatik and Breez Evahflowin' Record Release Party and Jeru the damaja, 8:30pm, $17, 18+; C: Cactus Highway, 7pm; Board of Education, 10pm.
Middle East Presents at The Garment Milky Way Mishkin, Ghost 24 and the Assembly, 9:30pm, $7.
Northeast Brewing Co. Nate Watkins, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soar, 8pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
PJ Ryan's The Mystics, no cover 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & The Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar The Luciana Souza Quintet with Chris Cheek, Bruce Barth, John Lockwood and Adam Cruz, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Ryles Dead Cat Bounce, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Ray Brown Trio, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Sidney's Grille The Issy Rosen Quartet, 5:30pm.
Sky Bar Distant Relatives and Tiger Method, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The Familiy Jewels, 7pm; Todd Thibaud, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.

A gentleman

LIVES BY A STRICT CODE.

HIS OWN.



WHAT A GENTLEMAN SHOULD KNOW.

A gentleman should know his limits. Please drink responsibly.

Alcohol 40% by Volume (80 Proof). Distilled and Bottled by Jack Daniel Distillery, Lem Motlow, Proprietor, Lynchburg (Pop. 361), Tennessee 37352. Visit us at www.gentlemanjack.com.
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T.T. the Bear's Place Lemon Peeler, The Astrojet and The Irresponsibles, $6.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Joel Smith Trio, 8pm.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

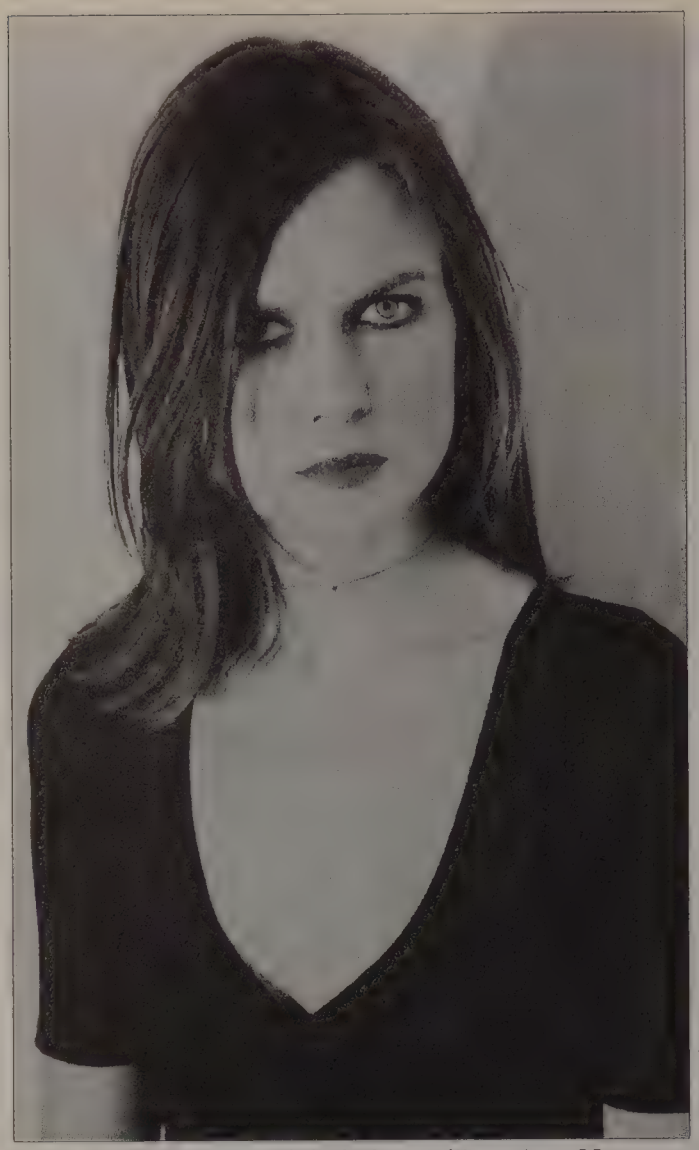
Atlantic 101 Kate Minkos and Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic Renata, Almost Speechless and Synaesthesia, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Becky Chace Band, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan and Fenian Sons.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rust Farm, 8pm, $10.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10pm.
Copperfield's Emptyhead, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6pm, no cover; Booty, 10pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Kubuto Power Jazzx Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Weepin' Willie & His All Star Band, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Grand Canal Tom Pitman.
Green Briar The Risk.
Green Dragon Tavern Tom Carroll, 5pm; Guy Smily.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 11pm, no cover.
The Harp Peat Moss and the Fertilizers.
Harper's Ferry Moon Boot Lover with Ike Reilly, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5pm.
House of Blues Entrain, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub In Concert Flynn.
Johnny D's Murali Coryell, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Thomas Park.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe JL Stiles, 9:30pm; Boris McCutcheon, 10:30pm; Mannix, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Swinging Somerville Jazz Festival featuring Felonius Fonk, Synergy, Eric Baldwin Ensemble and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Dr. Awkward CD release party, 8pm, 21+.
The Linwood Scissorfight, Suicide Contest, 5ive and Cable, 10pm, 46, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Thompson Brothers, 21+.
Middle East D: Andrew Bird's Bowl of Fire and Mason Jennings, 9pm, $10, 18+; C: The Color Forms, 10pm.
Milky Way The Franc Graham Band CD-release party, $7.
Mr. Dooley's McGloughlan Brothers.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Undercover with Dave Matthews, no cover, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Deborah Henson-Conant, 7 and 9:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Jamm Down, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Wildest Dreams, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Ray Brown Trio with Marlena Shaw, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The Rusty Scott Quartet, 6pm.
Sky Bar Winterboy and The Warren Drews, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Undaunted Professor Harp.
Toad Amphibian.
Top of the Hub Toni Corelli with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Swiss Bomb, Front Royale CD-release show, Jennifer Tefft and Something Ira, $7.
Western Front Mystic Vibes, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chonic Chronicles, 9:30pm.
Les Zygomates The Ron Murphy Trio, 9pm.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Atlantic 101 John Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; The Laura Allen Trio, 7:30pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Attic The Mudhens with the Thompson Brothers, 21+.
Black Horse Tavern Bowman, 7pm, no cover.
Black Rose Celtic Clan, Fenian Sons and Frank Ryan.
Bob the Chef's Lance Martin Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Bill Cud-dyer and Pete Donnelly, 8pm, $12.
Copperfield's Itchy Fish, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Complete Unknowns, 6pm, no cover; In the House, 10pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker, 6:30pm, no cover; Des Pres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge The John Kordelski Trio featuring Mae Arnett, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain.
Green Street Grill Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm-12pm, no cover.
The Harp Peat Moss and the Fertilizers.
Harper's Ferry Merl Saunders & his Funky Friends with Who's the Fat Guy, 9pm, $14, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4pm.
House of Blues Wild Magnolias, 10pm, $20, 21+.
Johnny D's Brave Combo, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Cactus Highway, 9:30pm; Choo Choo La Rouge, 10:30pm, $5.
Lilli's Mistle Thrush, Freezepop and Annette Farrington, 8pm, $10, 21+.
The Linwood Strawhorse, God's Little Joke and Photoflash, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Lars Vegas and Munjoy Hill Society, 21+.
Middle East U: Alabama Thunder Pussy, Suplecs and Dixie Witch, 9pm, $8, 18+; C: Dan Blakeslee, 10pm, no cover.
Mr. Dooley's McGloughlan Brothers.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
PJ Ryan's Pete Massa, no cover 21+.
Porter's Bar and Grill Scott Nichols.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Deborah Henson-Conant, 7 and 9:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Lady Lee with Dub Station, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Five O'Clock Shadow, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Ray Brown Trio with Marlena Shaw, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Sidney's Grille The John Mordalewski Trio, 6pm.
The Times Jack and Present Company.
Toad Mayone Thing, no cover.
Top of the Hub Mark Pinto with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Western Front Mystic Vibes, 9:30pm, $10.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Henrietta Robinson, 7pm; George Russle, 10pm.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

Atlantic 101 Two Sided Triangle, 11:30am-2:30pm.
Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkinsi Jazz Trio, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm, no cover.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Divya Kumar and Chris Elliot, 8:30pm, no cover.
Club Passim The Swinging Steaks, 7:30pm, $10.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, cover varies.



Juliana Hatfield plays at Lilli's in Somerville on June 23.

Green Street Grill Paulo Danay Group, 9:30pm, no cover.
Hennessy's The Martini Brothers, 5pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Aspera, Canyon, AM/FM and the National Blue, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz Brunch with Jay Sylva, 11am-2pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, 9:30pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Neville Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JULY 2

Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm, no cover.
Club Passim Open Mike 2-Song Night with Jodi Sheeler, 8pm, $5.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee & Diversity, 10:30pm, no cover.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm, no cover.
Middle East D: Mouse on Mars and Vert, 8:30pm, $12, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake Brian Walkley featuring Buck Taylor, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub The Chris Neville Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, JULY 3

Atlantic 101 John Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Tim Gagan Quartet, 10:30pm, no cover.
Hennessy's John McLoughlin.
Middle East U: The Gossip, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with MD, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Sidney's Grille The Laura Allen Trio, 5:30pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place 5th Annual Pre-Fourth Figgs Bash with the Decals.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

Music Venues

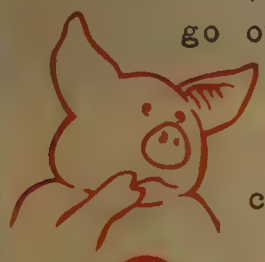
Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-5101). MTBA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue line to Government Center.*
Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent *21 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100).*
Christian Science Plaza *Christian Science Center Plaza, Huntington Ave. (450-7319). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Copley Square Park *Copley Square, Boston (929-2816). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (789-4100).*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Central Square, Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State St.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299).*
ManRay *21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
MDC Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, Boston (267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*

PIG. OUT.



1. Call 617-421-1400

Our pitmaster will take your order (and have it ready to go out the door in minutes!).

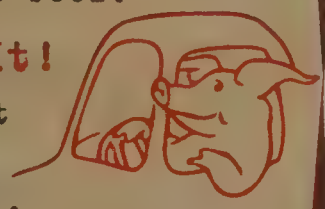


2. Make Up Your Mind

Hard to do, given the choice of mouth watering ribs, chicken, and beef.

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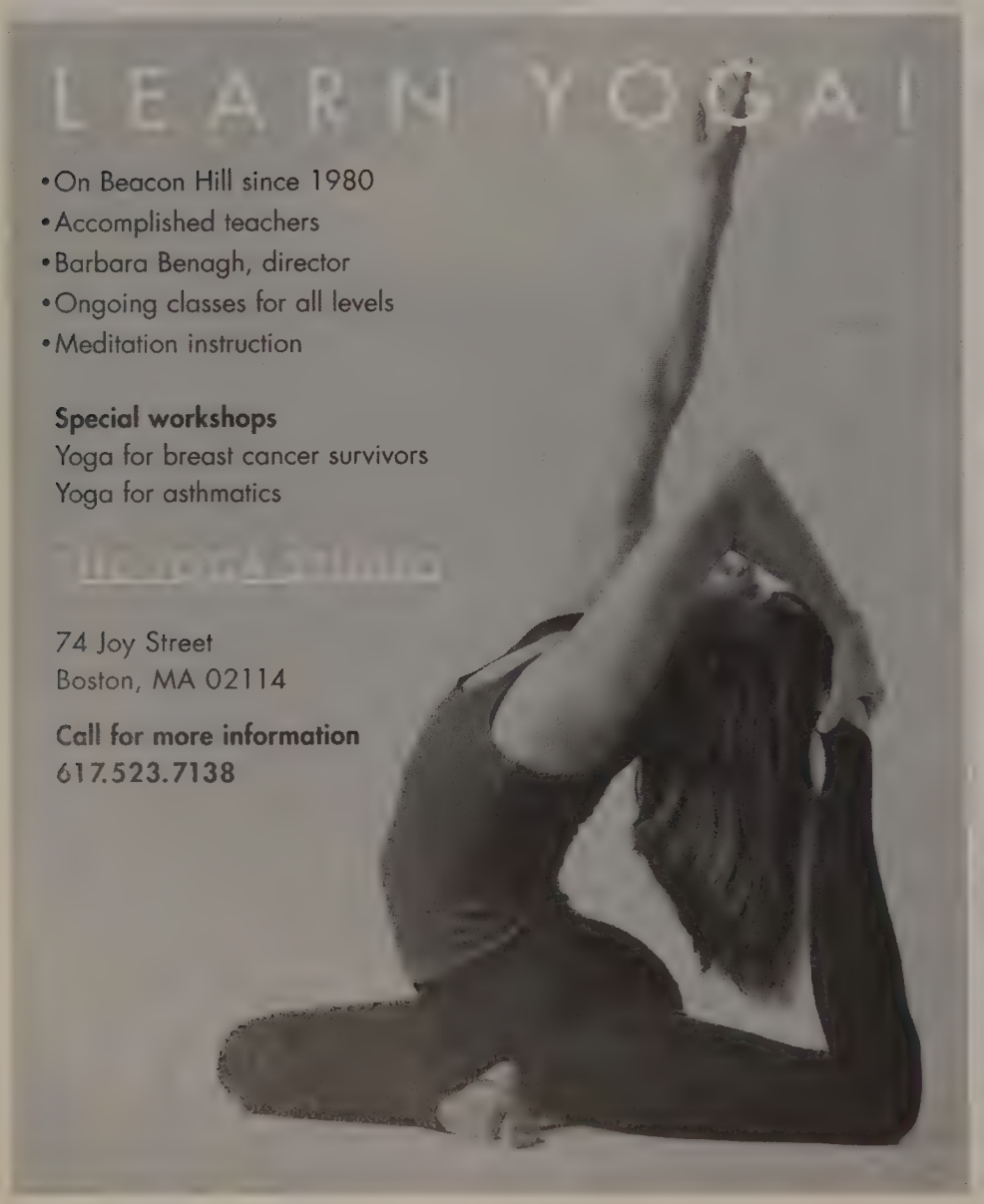
Reservations Recommended Valet Parking

Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (625-8200).*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*



Electronic pop star Dido plays with Travis June 24 at the Tweeter Center.

Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
South Shore Music Circus *130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400).*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 S. Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wang Center *270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St. Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*



classical music

WEDNESDAY JUNE 20

Bach's Lunch Series
Longy School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12:15pm. Free. Scenes from Our American Cousin, a new opera by Eric Sawyer, features baritone Winfield Ford and tenor Stanley Wilson.

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $14-$55. U. Mass. celebrates its first year of attending the Pops. Keith Lockhart conducts.

Bryn Mawr Boychoir
Chirst Episcopal Church, Zero Garden St., Cambridge (876-0200). 7pm. $10. The Bryn Mawr Boychoir, directed by Dan Moriarity, performs music by Benjamine Britten, Simon Lole, jazz musician John Dankworth, John Wood and others.

Chamberfest
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). 8pm. $10. Clarinetists Allesandro Carbonare, Jonathan Cohler and Luis Rossi team up with the Diabelli String Quartet in a Mozart tribute.

New England Conservatory Opera
New England Conservatory, Brown Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (585-1100). 8pm. Free. Janice Giampa directs staged opera scenes.

New England Conservatory Institute for Contemporary Piano Performance
New England Conservatory, Williams Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (585-1100). 8pm. Free. Guest artists perform Stockhausen, Ligeti and others.

THURSDAY, JUNE 21

Boston Pops: Foreign Film Scores
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $14-$55. The Pops performs a tribute to Paul Simon, as well as a variety of music from films, including the overture to *Phantom of the Opera* and music from *Laurence of Arabia.*

Copley Classic Concert Series
Copley Square, Boston (781-893-7080). 12pm. Free. The Borromeo String Quartet performs.

Early Music Concert
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (625-1898). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8pm. $12. $8 students and seniors. The Furiosi Baroque Ensemble performs *The Brazen Throat of War*, which includes pieces by Handel, Purcell, Dowland and Lampe.

New England Conservatory Opera
New England Conservatory, Brown Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (585-1100). 8pm. Free. Same program as June 20.

Bryn Mawr Boychoir
St. Cecilia's Church, Berklee College of Music , Boston (536-4548). 7pm. $10. Same program as June 20.

Chamberfest
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). 8pm. $10. Principal clarinetist Alessandro Carbonare of the National Orchestra of France performs *Quintet in E Flat.*

FRIDAY, JUNE 22

Boston Pops: Foreign Films Scores
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $14-$55. Same program as June 21.

Chamberfest
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). 8 pm. $10. Grammy-winning Latin and jazz clarinetist Paquito D'Rivera performs.

Tanglewood Concerts
Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 7pm $35-$80. The Baroque Opera is directed by Gilbert Blin and choreographed by Lucy Graham.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23

Boston Pops Swing
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $14-$55. Charles Floyd conducts the Pops and vocalist Rev. Daryl Coley of the Pops Gospel Choir in a program that includes music by Big Band favorites Duke Ellington, Count Basie and Glen Miller.

Chamberfest
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956 ext. 524). 8pm. $10. Artists perform the *Quintet for Winds*, the *Quartet for Strings*, and *Sonatine*, in the closing performance of the International Clarinet Connection.



Laura Pudwell is at Tanglewood June 22.

Tanglewood Concerts
Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 7pm. $35-$80. Same program as June 22.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Boston Pops Gospel
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). 7:30pm. $14-$55. Charles Floyd leads the Pops, the Boston Pops Gospel Choir and vocalist Rev. Daryl Coley in a program of Gospel favorites.

TUESDAY, JUNE 26

Boston Pops: Passport to Passion
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). 8pm. $14-$55. Evans Haile leads the Pops and vocalist Judy Kale in a program including works by Dvorak, Gershwin and Offenbach.

King's Chapel
School and Tremont Streets, Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:15 pm. $2. Kathryn Manning performs on the Celtic harp.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27

Bach's Lunch Series
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). 12:15pm. Free. The Willow Flute Ensemble, with Orlando Cela conducting, performs works written for multiple flute configuration.

Boston Pops: Passport to Passion
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). 8pm. $14-$55. Same program as June 26.

THURSDAY, JUNE 28

Boston Pops: Passport to Passion
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). 8pm. $14-$55. Same program as June 26.

Early Music Concert
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (625-1898). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8pm. $12. This performance, titled *The Splendid Century*, is a tribute to Bach.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Boston Pops Swing
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $14-$55. The Pops, led by Bruce Hangen, performs Big Band Swing favorites and music by Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Glenn Miller and Benny Goodman.

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

Boston Pops
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $14-$55. The Pops, conducted by Keith Lockhart, performs American classics, Broadway hits and orchestral favorites.

SUNDAY, JULY 1

Boston Pops: Fourth of July Preview
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. 7:30pm. $14-$55. The Pops prepare for the Fourth of July festivities in this concert that includes a piano solo by the Van Cliburn Competition Winner.

MONDAY, JULY 2

Boston Pops: Gospel
Esplanade, Cambridge (638-9280). MBTA: Red Line to Charles MGH. 8pm. Free. The Pops Gospel Choir joins the Pops to perform an evening of inspirational music.

TUESDAY, JULY 3

Boston Pops: Pop Goes the Fourth!
Esplanade, Cambridge (638-9280). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 8pm. Free. The Pops' dress rehearsal for the Fourth of July includes the *1812 Overture.*

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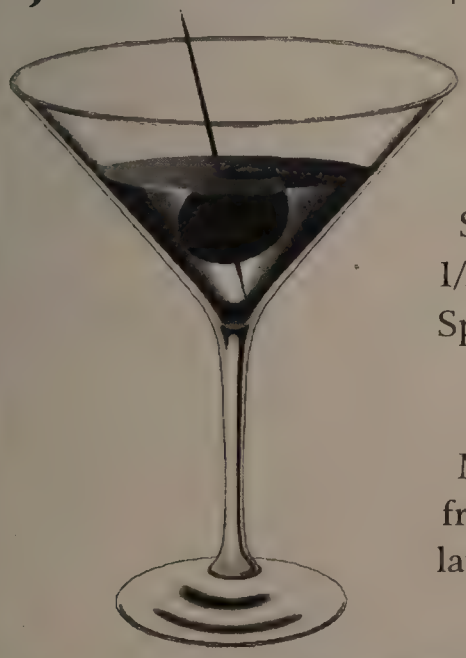
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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the boys busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and mid-priced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., theme shows produced by Diamond Dunhill.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.



Triangle Divers, a gay and lesbian scuba-diving club, schedules group dives in a variety of locations. See *www.triangledivers.org* or call 422-1775.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+. •June 20: Maverick electronic band OHGR appears with The Remains of Skinny Puppy Tour. 19+. $20. Call Ticketmaster.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life. Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance til' dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. •June 24, 3pm: **Indira Ganesan** reads from her book, *The Journey*, which is to be reissued alongside her newest novel, *Inheritance*.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. One of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Bi Coffee and Bi Health
Diesel Cafe, 257 Elm Street, Somerville (629-8717). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. June 20, 7pm. Biversity and BiHealth join forces to offer a fun and educational gathering at Diesel Cafe.

Fetish Fair Flea Market
Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). June 30, 11am-7pm. Free for members of any fetish organization, $5 non-members. A biannual fair sponsored by the New England Leather Alliance, the Summer Fetish Fair showcases more than 70 vendors of erotica ranging from fetish clothing to bondage equipment.

Gay Spirit Camp
Easton Mountain Retreat, 391 Herrington Hill Road, Easton, NY (800-553-8235). June 29-Sept. 3. A new retreat founded by Bostonian John Stasio, this trip offers a variety of community building and mind-body programs to help gay men recognize and celebrate their talents.

Sunday Bi Brunch
Addis Red Sea, 544 Tremont St., South End (426-8727). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. June 24, 1pm. Ethiopian food will be shared at this popular restaurant.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for adolescents ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for mature gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872). GAYMES is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm. $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900 ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900 ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). Held quarterly. Sliding scale.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons at 8pm. Lessons are followed by a DJ set. All smoke- and alcohol-free.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

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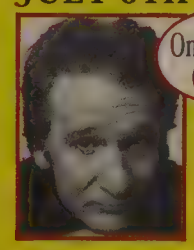
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JUNE 22-24



Dane Cook

JULY 5TH



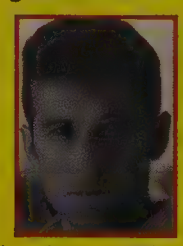
Bill Maher

JULY 6-7



Craig Shoemaker

JULY 13-14



Anthony Clark

JULY 20-21



Jim Gaffigan

JULY 27-28



Bobby Slayton

AUGUST 3RD



John Valby

SEPTEMBER 7-9



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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Evening Kirtan
St. Mary's Church, 8 Inman St., Cambridge (666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 23, 8-10pm. $22.* **Jai Uttal** and **Geoffrey Gordon** will present the ancient practice of "kirtan," better known as chanting. Uttal is a sacred-music composer who combines influences from India with American rock and jazz, creating an exotic multicultural fusion.

Interactive Meditation
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (888-447-0070). MBTA: Red Line to Central. June 24, 2:30pm. $10. While most meditation involves sitting still, this method achieves the same results through dancing, human interaction and occassionally intense activity.

CLASSES

Celebrate the Moon
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *June 22, 7-9pm. $15.* Ancient pagan civilizations studied and understood our connection to the moon. This workshop will pass on knowledge of moon signs, phases, mythology and seasonal celebrations.

Food as Consciousness: Connecting with Divinity
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-3752). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *June 30, 1:30-5:30pm. $25 (includes materials).* If we are what we eat, how do we experience the food that nourishes us? This class will discuss readings about the sacred nature of food from various spiritual outlooks. The evening will end with cooking and sharing a nourishing meal.

Massage for Partners Workshop
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 22, 7:30-10pm. $74 per pair.* Bring a friend or significant other to learn basic Esalen/Swedish massage strokes through lecture, discussion, demonstration and supervised practice. The focus will primarily be on the back, neck and shoulders.

You Go, Girl!—Sex Tips for Gals
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, Boston. www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Coolidge. June 20, 7:30-9:30pm. $25.* Women only. In this wildly popular class, **Kim Airs** will share some tricks of the trade that are sure to increase pleasure and fun.

RETREAT

Summer Rest and Rejuvenation: Cambridge Yoga Retreat
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. June 23, 12:30-5:30 pm. $58.* Get away for an energizing and peaceful Saturday afternoon in a beautiful Cambridge Tudor house near Harvard Square, with a spectacular garden, hot tub and swimming pool. Meditation, water yoga, and back and foot massages are some of the day's delights.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington. (876-3050). MBTA: Bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a nonviolent martial art for peace and protection. This practice takes place outdoors.

Drop In Yoga
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St., Church of Our Savior, Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm. Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class for a powerfully peaceful time.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wed., 6:30-7:30pm. Call to register. You'll be feeling so energetic and peaceful after some early morning yoga that you won't even need coffee. All levels welcome.



Jai Uttal practices the art of chanting June 23.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Healthy Practices
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http:// dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *Free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Check out these classes: Tai Chi lunch hour, Tue./Fri.: 12:30-1:30pm; Kung Fu, Wed. 5-6pm; Taoist Qi Gong, Tue.: 7-8pm; Tai Chi and Self Defense, Tue.: 8-9pm.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mondays: 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are open to and appropriate for anyone seeking or already on a personal spiritual path.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17 per session. Join anytime or drop-in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar. Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork and family relaxation classes. Wow.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., (522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. *MBTA: Green Line to Prudential or Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/session.* Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting. Increase flexibility, relieve stress, build strength, relax and enjoy yourself at any of these ongoing drop-in classes: Tuesdays at 7pm and Saturdays at 10 am. Call before coming.

Zen Insight
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Auburn St., Cambridge (576-3229). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.cambridgezen.com. *Mon., 7pm.* If you've had a hard Monday, try out this drop-in meditation session.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

BPL's Children's Films
Connolly Branch Library, 433 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (522-1960). June 20, 10:30am. Short, fun films for children of pre-school age.

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). June 28-29 and July 1-3, 8pm. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts his life in revolutionary Boston.

Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. June 23-24, 1 and 3pm. $8. John McDonough and his Pumpernickle Puppets present *Peter Rabbit Tales.*

North Shore Music Theatre
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly (232-7200). Route 128, exit 19. • June 29, 9:30am and 12pm. $10-$12. The Gingerbread Players and Jack present ***Snow White*** in a new and inventive musical format. • Through July 1. $18-$56. ***Just So***: This new family musical is based on *The Just So Stories*, which Rudyard Kipling wrote to entertain his daughter on their long sea journeys from England to South Africa. In this comedy, you'll learn how the elephant got its trunk, how the leopard got its spots and much more.

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Every Saturday, 12pm. Staff read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Chess with Don Lubin
Brighton Branch Library, 40 Academy Hill Rd, Brighton (782-6032). June 21, 3:30pm. Children will receive chess instruction from Don Lubin and will play supervised games with other participants.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge (236-7460). Every Tuesday, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of storytelling fun.

Junior Ranger's Treasure Quest
Boston Harbor Cruises, 1 Long Wharf, Boston (727-7676). June 28 and every Thursday in July. Reservations required. Children ages 9-13 will search for clues on the trails on both Bumpkin and Grape islands in order to solve junior ranger questions and earn a badge. Bring a lunch and drinks.

Preschool Storytime
Faneuil Branch Library, 419 Faneuil St., Brighton (782-6705). June 20, 10:30am. Free. This event for children includes stories, songs, fingerplays and crafts.

Summer at Old South Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 210 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). $1-$3. • June 29, 1pm: During the Meeting House Hunt, children find out what Benjamin Franklin, Anna Green Winslow and Phillis Wheatley left behind. Kids will follow clues to Winslow's diary, Franklin's cravat and tricorner hat and Wheatley's inkwell and quill. • July 1 and 3, 2pm: Kids play dress up with examples of 18th century clothing to see how times have changed. • July 1, 3pm: Charlestown Chorale's "Salute to Summer" includes traditional and patriotic music from the 5th century to today.

Summer SOULstice
Christian Science Plaza, 200 Mass. Ave., Boston (450-7319). • June 20, 10-11:30am: This summer arts festival includes Andean music, participatory theater with the Huntington Theatre Company, balloon art by Rami Salami and face painting by Susan Bloom. • June 21, 12-1:30: Participatory performances and Yorick's Marionette Theatre for children. Balloon art and face painting will follow the show. • June 26, 12-1:30: Children enjoy folk music of the Americas in a performance called *Sol Y Canto*. Mass College of Art sponsors sponge painting, followed by face painting with Cathy Moylan and balloon art.

Wild Animals at Your Doorstep
Jamaica Pond Nature Center, Pond Street and Jamaica Way, Jamaica Plain. June 26, 1pm. Children ages 5-10 will learn about the pond's animals, read a story with park rangers and then create animals of their own in an arts-and-crafts session.

sports

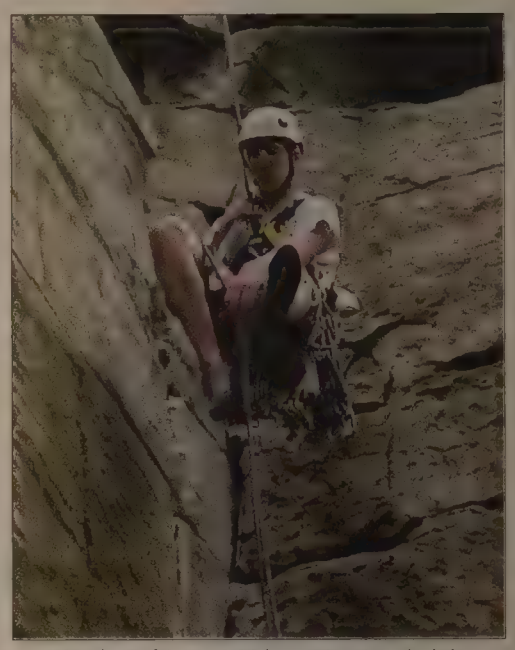
Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Boston University's Nickerson Field. Tickets: 866-462-7325
July 12, 7:30pm: Carolina Courage
July 15, 6pm: Bay Area Cyber Rays

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
June 22, 7:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
June 23, 6:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
June 24, 1:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
June 25, 7:05pm: Tampa Bay Devil Rays
June 26, 7:05pm: Tampa Bay Devil Rays
June 27, 7:05pm: Tampa Bay Devil Rays
June 28, 7:05pm: Tampa Bay Devil Rays

New England Revolution
•Foxoboro Stadium. Tickets: 931-2222
June 20, 9:30pm: Colorado Rapids
June 30, 7:30pm: San Jose Earthquakes



Go climbing with the BSSC or other local clubs.

Events

Free-Sailing Event
Boston Sailing Center, Lewis Wharf, Boston (227-4198). www.bostonsailingcenter.com. *June 23, 12-5pm.* Sailboat trips around the harbor will be conducted by experienced sailors.

Golf Weekend at Sugarloaf, Maine
Sugarloaf, Maine (617-789-4070). June 29-July 1. $280. The trip includes two nights in on the mountain condos and 18 holes of golf (with cart).

POW/MIA Race/Walk for Freedom
Boston Teacher's Union, South Boston (781-961-2110). June 24, 10am. $22. Whether you walk or race the 10K route, your efforts will go toward a good cause.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through Aug. Men's and women's divisions are open to players.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (972-1711). www.boston-boxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2pm-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 bus.* Amateur, Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.



Summer softball is in full swing.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum). $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

LACROSSE

Greater Boston League
Fessenden School, Newton. (964-5350, ext. 346). Men: Tue., Wed. 6:30pm. Youth: Thu., 6:30.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/bostonhhh. Weekly runs year round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer. Begins May 20.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in the Greater Boston area.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(789-4070).

Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance
(928-0882). www.buda.org.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Founded in 1937, Community Boating is the largest and oldest non profit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for only $190 per season, including instruction. That sounds like a bargain to us.

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8. Summer package deal: Visit the JFK Museum and then take a guided tour of Little Brewster Island. $29.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
260 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.



King's Chapel holds Paul Revere's largest bell.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

AIDS Ride (New York to Boston)
(800-825-1000). July 19-22. Crew volunteers needed.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Info. sessions: Tue.-Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a young girl. Info sessions: June 19 and 28, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Boston Public Schools
(451-6145). Tutor or mentor a child.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(349-6794). Tutor at Cambridge public schools.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with children living in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Share fun times with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge
(800-WE-CYCLE). Aug. 4-5. Volunteer at major hub and water stop sites at this bicycling fund raiser.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

United Services Organization (USO)
(720-4949). Welcome Navy ships, visit VA hospitals, provide office support or coordinate events.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.



TOP RIGHT: PAUL TANCREDI

Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Brisket!
Per our conversation Sat. night at the parking lot at Bank St. Beach, let me reiterate the answers to some points you made:
1. Yes.
2. I will.
I love you forever (ugly infinity sign).
—Bagel

Game?
You: Red hair, silver necklace, brown lipstick, black dress; sitting in the first booth with friends. Me: Dark hair, glasses; playing at the first table with friends. You know how this works: I thought you were great looking (and looking) but I didn't do anything about it etc, etc. Want to play some one-on-one? Write me.
—ftjs05192001@hotmail.com

Act I
It is the type of thing that doesn't happen to me very often. I had just flown in from Orlando and was enjoying a few later afternoon/early evening drinks at Tia's, sitting on the second-to-last stool at the bar on May 25. You sat down next to me on the last stool. You identified yourself as Romey, a name I found both unusual and beautiful. We sat and chatted. I told you that I worked in computers and felt very pedestrian as you told me you were an actress. (Believe it or not, it isn't very often that I have the chance to enjoy the company of striking young actresses in a bar.) It would be easy to describe you as blond and attractive, but your beauty was not merely skin deep; you were smart and sweet, and I enjoyed our conversation. Circumstance, or fate or maybe just life intervened: You left with your agent, and you left me enchanted. And I never had a chance to ask for your number. So I have decided to seize this last chance. Feel free to e-mail.
—ensorj@hotmail.com

Tattooed Woman
You were near me looking luscious and voluptuous with your magnificent and thought-out tattooed form. I can not erase your flashes /artistic pictures from my mind. You have wonderful tattoos. I could not keep from looking at you. You looked awesome and all were turning their heads. I'm sure men were delighted, but women looked enviously at your painted body. I was too shy to speak with you, and I saw you only once in the crowd of people and never again. This time I reach out my hand. My name is Griffin. Please e-mail me at this address:
gri_gri200@hotmail.com

Clay
You are a liar! You tell so many lies, for no reason. You lie so much that I think you've lost sight of the truth. I hate to break it down to you but lying makes you nothing! How does it feel to be discovered as the one thing that you didn't want anyone else to know about you? That deep inside you really are nothing! That's what you are to me. Nothing! Putting my life at risk sleeping with me and every 22-year-old who has an ad on AOL. Thank Gawd I got out of this unscathed! This time I'm not angry, I'm not bitter...I just quit. I quit being your friend, I quit sleeping with you. I quit being in your life, I quit saying your name. I quit thinking about you. Anything else I can quit, I'll quit that too.
—Crystal

The Doctor Is In
It was accidently that we spoke. I was taken away by your description and your voice. You gave me a sense of wonder about who you are. I am Tiffany the dancer. I travel from Boston, New York and Connecticut to dance. You called the wrong number but yet we spoke for an hour or two. You captivated me. I ache to meet you. I tried paging you, when I visited my friends in Boston. I did not get a response. This is my last chance to find you. I believe we could have lots of adventures together. I have a special dance just for you. I long to entertain you all night. Dr. Bob, I long to discover everything about you. Luv, Tiffy.
—tiffany77tiffy@aol.com

Can I Offer You Another Shot?
It was late on June 2 as D.J. Vinney took us through an '80s nostalgia trip at The Phoenix Landing. Eric, Sean and I were cozied up at the bar, while you were in the corner singing along with a friend. Next thing we know, a row of killer Kool-Aids appears before our motley crew like magic, followed by you and the bartender offering up a toast. Your generosity was unexpected but far from unappreciated, and as you left for the evening (leaving with a smile and a touch), I was left wondering, "Who's That Girl?" So if you're interested in being more than a fixture in these electric dreams, I'd love to return the favor. E-mail me.
—magpies_ire@hotmail.com

Russian Roulette
I'm looking for that cool, funky girl I used to work near on the fourth floor of a large software company. You speak beautiful Russian, are into gadgets and seem very businesslike and determined (which I like). You have a funky attitude as well. I was attached at the time and always wanted to return your smiles with more than a hello. If you're still around Boston, write me and say Hi.
—wired2001@bigmailbox.net

Novakane Performance, Last Oct.
You were the short cute blonde with a group of girlfriends. I was the tall Asian guy. We exchanged glances multiple times and I asked you about meeting one of your friends, a redhead. She wasn't as friendly as you were. I kicked myself later for not talking to you more and for giving her my business card instead of you. If you're not with someone in the way you want to be with somebody, can we e-mail and see if we should meet for coffee or drinks?
—maninmotion2@hotmail.com

Upstairs Downstairs
We were going to a friend's apartment and accidently walked into yours! We introduced ourselves and asked where our friends were. You politely informed us that they were upstairs in their apartment. On our way out for the evening, we stopped by to see if you wanted to come, but you two had already left. We were just wondering, how's Max?
—newfriends_@hotmail.com

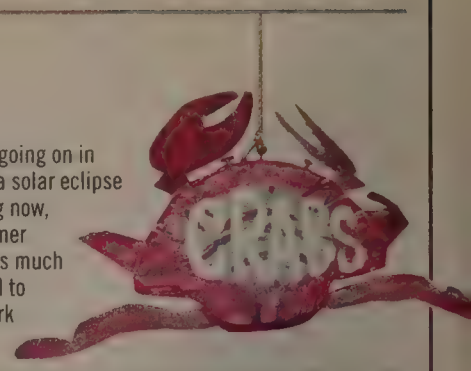
Pork Chop
We keep going and going. It's been two years of wedded bliss, and I still love to play "STP," Scrabble and Chinese checkers with you. I look forward to your ballet moves as much now as ever. Every day is a new adventure with you, whether in my country or yours. Here's to many more happy years. It's still hard to see you off at the airport.
—Puddins

Baby
I just want to thank you for always believing in me and being right there for me. I hope you know that this is the turning point in our lives. Baby, our love is the stuff dreams are made of. Together our new life will be a non-stop joyride complete with heart-stopping moments. I'm hell-bent on making you the happiest man alive, 'cause you've made me the happiest girl on earth. The sky's the limit!
—Li'l Gus

Brian
Where did you go? I can't forget the portobello and tuna sandwich that you prepared that stormy March day. I was moved by your sensuality. I would love to experience one of your creations again.
—arcadia101@hotmail.com.

Rockie Horoscope

JUNE 20 – JULY 3, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



CANCER JUNE 21-JULY 22
Assuming that you're older than 19, you may remember what was going on in your life and in your head the last time (June 21, 1982) there was a solar eclipse on the Gemini-Cancer cusp. Something that started then is ending now, and a new variation, another 19-year cycle is beginning. The summer solstice point is a sacred moment when, having been exposed to as much light as we in the northern hemisphere can absorb, we turn inward to prepare for the more soulful aspects of being alive, the wintery dark side. Catch all the rays you can while you can.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
A total solar eclipse is always awesome for Lions ruled by the sun, but the one scheduled for the summer solstice can have a significant effect on you now, and again in three months. That's usually how long it takes to see what develops from the initial impact. Because the eclipse occurs in your house of hopes and humanity, you may take on a new social and political agenda and fall in with a new group of folks who share a a common interest. Until then, an old friend, once again, turns out to be your lucky charm.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Check out the major comings and goings of your Mercury ruler in the Gemini forecast. But because Gemini governs your midheaven, the good stuff (brilliant flashes as well as possible delays and reversals) will have more of an effect on your career than on your personal life. Now is the time to gather a wealth of information, the kind that'll pay off when Mercury passes through your Libra money house in September, when the Patriots are playing and the Sox are in contention.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Much of the interaction between the planets in Gemini is purely cerebral or, if jolly Jupiter is lined up with your natal planets and tickling your funny bone, pretty comical. However, Librans born in mid-October can rise to astronomical heights right about now because altruistic Uranus is also part of the grand trine in air signs that has been lifting you higher. People tend to win the lottery when Jupiter and Uranus are supportive; add your Libra sun to the mix and you become the focus of their expanding and liberating energies.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
No surprise! Sex and money are the matters most affected by the solar eclipse on the 21st, and not simply because you're a Scorpio to whom these matters matter more than most. Folks with Scorpio rising (which is just about everyone you've ever met in a bar, or so they claim) feel the effect of this powerful eclipse taking place on the Gemini-Cancer cusp in their eighth house, which is traditionally ruled by Scorpio. So, one way or another, your position regarding sex, death, the occult and other people's money (e.g., investments, inheritances and insurance) is about to change.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
Where have all the partners gone? The inexplicably lucky, ever-protective, supremely intelligent convergence of your benevolent Jupiter ruler, the Gemini sun and Mercury in Aquarius should land Mr. or Ms. Righteous right on your doorstep. So, where is the person who is going to liberate you, extend your range of influence and, if you're not careful, publish your memoirs? Maybe this marvel will show up once the super-duper solar eclipse in your marriage house kicks off a new 19-year cycle? Maybe three months later.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Flying high and gliding by are hardly traits attributed to well-organized, cautious Capricorns, but right now, if you make a slight adjustment in your m.o. to accommodate a Gemini jack-of-all-trades attitude, you'll be considered quite a success at "growing prosperity." You could also chuck the financial loop-de-loops of that growth process and instead work on grounding your artistic aspirations in a firm, sound base under the guidance of a practical-minded guru. Or you could beautify the house and garden one baby step at a time.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
No matter what else is going on, you are in a fabulous position, being rewarded by magnanimous Jupiter and the mentally stimulating Mercury-sun combination in airy Gemini. Plus all this good stuff stems from your house of romance, children and other creative endeavors. If ever you were going to expand into your Spock persona and prosper like a true Vulcan, now is that time. You're also about to enjoy the rewards of an honorable, if sometimes taxing, family life and the spiritual high you get from it.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
Is it time to move again? So much planetary activity in your Gemini home base suggests that you're about to adjust to a new set of circumstances. If you can remember what big change occurred 19 years ago, prompted by a solar eclipse at the tail end of Gemini, you may be able to see into the future and predict how your home life or relationship with a parent will change. Because Jupiter is involved in this eclipse, abundance, protection, justice and devotion are givens.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
One 19-year eclipse cycle ends on the summer solstice, another begins that day with the total solar eclipse at 0 degrees of Cancer. Where were you on June 21, 1982, and what has been nourishing your soul since then? In the years to come, what will you eat, and who gets to be the Mom? More food for thought: Jupiter trining Uranus rewards a challenge you faced last May, probably something to do with an associate rather than a close friend. Mercury turns direct on June 28 at 1:49 am ET.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
When it comes to finances, the Bull doesn't fool around. So even if an amazingly profitable money matter falls in your lap, which it is liable to do as the week begins, you need to consider your good fortune from every angle, discuss it with all concerned and seek out advice from knowledgeable bystanders. Once prudent Saturn in your Gemini house of assets is satisfied, and the ethical ramifications have been addressed, then will you embrace what is basically your reward for surviving the years Saturn was in Taurus. Congratulations.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
In spite of the soul-searching that springs from the solar eclipse on the solstice, this can be a very mercurial period. The merger of your Mercury ruler and the Gemini sun over the Father's Day weekend provides insights into your early childhood as well as your immediate future. The distant future benefits from a "Eureka!" moment on Sunday. Mercury's conjunction to lucky Jupiter on Flag Day is the stuff best-sellers are made of. And to ensure that your Independence Day holiday is hassle-free, the Messenger turns direct on June 28.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



Improper photographer Derek Kouyoumjian went to Kyoto, Japan. His pics were developed here, as there is no Moto-Foto in Kyoto.



Well, well, Becca Yturregui has been to Hell and back. Hell, Grand Cayman, that is. She says Hell is nice and she'd like to return someday.



Dave Licciardi also drank pink lemonade and listened to Aerosmith's "Pink" in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.



Rebeccah Eldridge went to Piana, Corsica, a beautiful Mediterranean island named after an equally beautiful Chevy.



From left: Officer candidates Stephanie Kelley, Jeff Ferlauto and Lance Tinstman shiver their timbers in St. Johns, Newfoundland.



Wayne Gallo made the short list of guests at a wedding in Bermuda, where the heat will beat the pants off you. Literally.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Rasslin' worms by getting them to come to the surface (without digging, mind you) at the World Worm Charming Championships, held June 23 in wormy Willaston, England.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, May 17, Caprice celebrated it's second anniversary. The hot night spot once again hosted a party with lots of beautiful people in attendance.



1

1. **Manox Linoxilakis**, **Christophe Muller**, **Michael Moran**, all owners of Caprice.
2. **Dicky Barrett** of the Mighty Mighty Bosstones and a friend.
3. **Stanley Francis** of Saks Fifth Avenue; **Krystal** of Maggie Models; **Anthony Santio** of Saks Fifth Avenue; **Tim Kennard** of BostonFashion.com and **Dee** of Maggie Models.
4. **Cheyenne Corliss** of Matrix; **Jessica Rust** from Boston and **Shawna Corliss** of Matrix.
5. **Jessica Thomas** from Boston with **Sasha Safar** of Safar Coiffure.



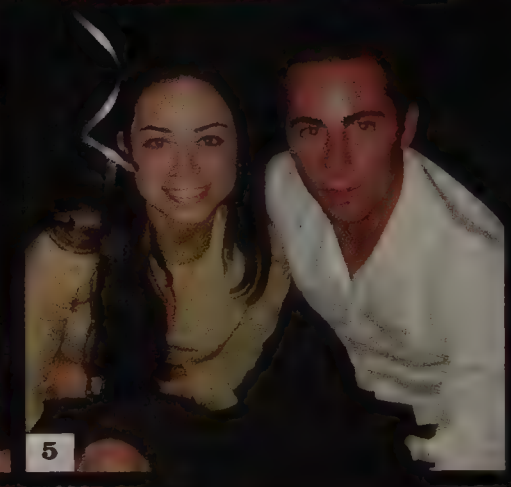
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On Sunday, June 10, friends and long-time restaurant patrons joined Up Stairs at the Pudding co-owners Deborah Hughes and Mary-Catherine Deibel in bidding farewell to their Holyoke Street location of 20 years. Guests enjoyed sumptuous hors d'oeuvres, wine and a champagne toast. All proceeds were donated to Community Servings, an organization providing food for people living with AIDS.



1



2



3



4



5

1. Ran Ansin of Harvard, Mass. and **Joan** and **Robert Parker**, author of *Spenser for Hire* novels.
2. **Barbara Dollar**, owner of Cuchi Cuchi and Suzanna; **Deborah Hughes**, co-owner of Up Stairs at the Pudding and **Mario Léon**, owner of Dalí.
3. **Edgar Knudson**, on the Board for Community Servings; **Paul Smith**, volunteer for Community Servings and **Brian Callahan**, of General Cinemas.
4. **David Waters**, executive director of Community Servings, and **Mary-Catherine Deibel**, co-owner of Up Stairs at the Pudding.
5. **Michelle** and **John Gettings** of Jamaica Plain.

On Friday, June 8, Atlantic 101 hosted the closing cast party for the musicals *Swing* and *Ragtime*.



1

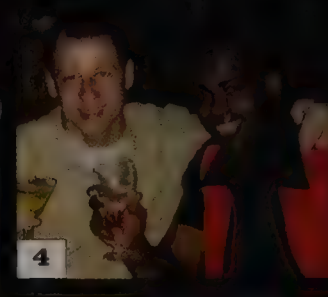


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1. Atlantic 101 chef **Clarke Congdon**, owner **John Hauck**, function manager/event coordinator **Richard Lenar**, and manager **Beverly Keyes**.
2. Swing's lead actors **Charlie Marcus** and **Sarah Jane Nelson**.
3. Local costumer **Patti Feeney** and Ragtime's **Jay Bodin**.
4. **Neil Young** and **Lance Roberts** of *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*.



3



4

PHOTOS: CAPRICE, SAMANTHA HOUSE; UP STAIRS AT THE PUDDING, ALISON MORANT; ATLANTIC 101, MARC BRIGHTMAN

For drinks, dinner, or music
there are places to go.



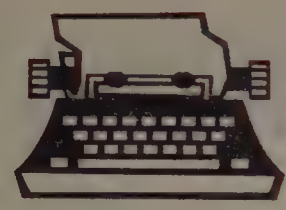
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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

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BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Cafe Escadrille *26 Cambridge St., Burlington, MA, 781-273-1916.* For over 25 years, people who appreciate exceptionally fine food, attentive service and a choice of three dining experiences...tableside preparation in our gourmet room, casual dining in the Greenhouse Cafe or lighter fare until midnight...all meet at the Cafe Escadrille. Famous for our Chateaubriand, 3-lb lobsters, Black Angus steaks and award-winning Caesar salad. Open Mon-Sat for lunch and dinner. Visa, MC, AE and Diners Club accepted.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

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Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

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Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

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Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

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Science Street Cafe *Science Park, Boston, MA, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out the newest night spot--The Museum of Science. Try our one-of-a-kind martinis, gourmet appetizers and desserts, then tour the Museumor catch an Omni movie. $20 package includes one drink, one appetizer, Mugar Omni Theater ticket, Exhibit Hall admission and parking. 6-10pm at the Museum of Science.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the Fleet-Center and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday-Sunday.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ's nightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and worldclass margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a coworker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Roggie's: New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.

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Last Scene Here

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



At the *What's the Worst That Could Happen?* party, clockwise from upper right: Paulina Neely and Maureen Balsbaugh; Cam Neely; Nancy and Dick Friedman; Linda Comstock, Nora Dunn and Sally Fay Cottingham; Gloria Rawn, Terry Hamilton and Patti Kraft; Lenny Clarke and Robin Brown.

WHO YOU CALLIN' A HAM?

One of those odd collisions between Boston and Hollywood took place recently when the **Wang Center** hosted the premiere of the Danny Devito-Martin Lawrence romp ***What's the Worst That Could Happen?*** to raise money for Parkinson's disease research.

The film's director is Newton resident **Sam Weisman**, who helmed the '80s sitcom *Family Matters*. He held the benefit to support the charitable foundation started by his friend **Michael J. Fox**, who put in an appearance at the pre-screening VIP party. Among the other glitterati on-hand: bubblegum pop pinup **Justin Timberlake** of 'N Sync; comedians and TV co-stars **Denis Leary** and **Lenny Clarke** (with his lovely wife, **Jen**); their stand-up cohort **Kenny Rogerson**; *Saturday Night Live* alum **Nora Dunn** and her fellow cast members from the film, **Sascha Knopf** and **Siobhan Fallon**; hockey legend **Cam Neely** and his absurdly gorgeous wife, **Paulina**; antiques dealer and Aerosmith wife **Terry Hamilton**; Kiss 108 morning mouth **Matt Siegel** (who has a cameo in the movie); Wang grand poobah **Josiah Spaulding, Jr.**; gazillionaire real estate developer **Dick Friedman** and his picture-perfect photographer wife, **Nancy**; restaurateurs **Michela Larson** and **Gordon Hamersley**; Republican publican **Tom Kershaw** of Cheers; broadcasting mogul **Richie Balsbaugh** and his statuesque spouse, **Maureen**; insaniac actress **Linda Comstock**; Cambridge socialite **Sally Fay Cottingham**; and countless other sparklers from the local social firmament.

Perhaps the evening's biggest star, however, was humble hotelier **Robin Brown**, who had a cameo role as an auctioneer in the movie and who hosted the post-party at the **Four Seasons**, where a bartender told a guest who tried to pay for a cocktail, "Drinks this evening are on Mr. Brown."

Meanwhile, another guest referred to a scene in the movie where the affable hotel GM appeared hog-tied with duct tape over his lips.

"That was Robin?!" she said. "I didn't recognize him with his mouth closed!"

APPEARANCES CAN BE DECEIVING...

Who knew a party could achieve maximum fabulosity without serving a single drop of alcohol?

Victory Programs, an organization that treats substance abuse, held its glittery annual fund-raiser, **Reflections 2001**, at the **Park Plaza Hotel**. The evening began with a soft-drink hour (sans cocktails but with plenty of tasty hors d'ouevres) and a silent auction of mirrors designed by various artists. It continued with an elaborate dinner in the hotel's ballroom, an awards presentation, and a lineup of musical acts that most people would've stood in line all day at a box-office to buy tickets for.

Providing the evening's celebrity wattage were rock gods **Steven Tyler** and **Joey Kramer** of Aerosmith and their stunning spouses, **Teresa** and **April** (the latter being the driving force behind the whole evening). Also present and accounted for: the event's honoree, anchor cutie **Mary Richardson** of *Chronicle*, her producer-husband, **Stan Leven**, and daughter, **Jessie**; Channel 7 stud-muffin **Randy Price**; crooner **Livingston Taylor**; the members of **Rockapella** (who serenaded the crowd); morning radio host and stand-up comic **Steve Sweeney**; rock 'n' roll jewelry designer **Loree Rodain**; media mogul **Ron Ansin** and tie designer **Tony Corey**; mohawk-sporting drug-recovery crusader **Tomas O'Sullivan**; the group's president, **Jonathan Scott**, with other half **Dr. Michael McGuill** and Mom **Joelyn Scott Fiorato**; and a handful of Aerosmith lookalikes who circulated through the crowd, presumably to confuse any stalkers, groupies or psychos who might've crashed the party.

The evening's most amusing comment, from a guest who was taking allergy medicine to relieve her sniffling: "Look at me, popping pills at a fund-raiser for drug recovery. I'll bet everyone here thinks I'm on something." iB









At the Reflections 2001 party at the Park Plaza Hotel, from top: Aerosmith icon Steven Tyler; April and Joey Kramer and Loree Rodain; Tomas O'Sullivan; Jessie Richardson, Stan Leven and Mary Richardson; Jonathan Scott, Ron Ansin, Tony Corey and Liz Cary.

Avez-vous dish?

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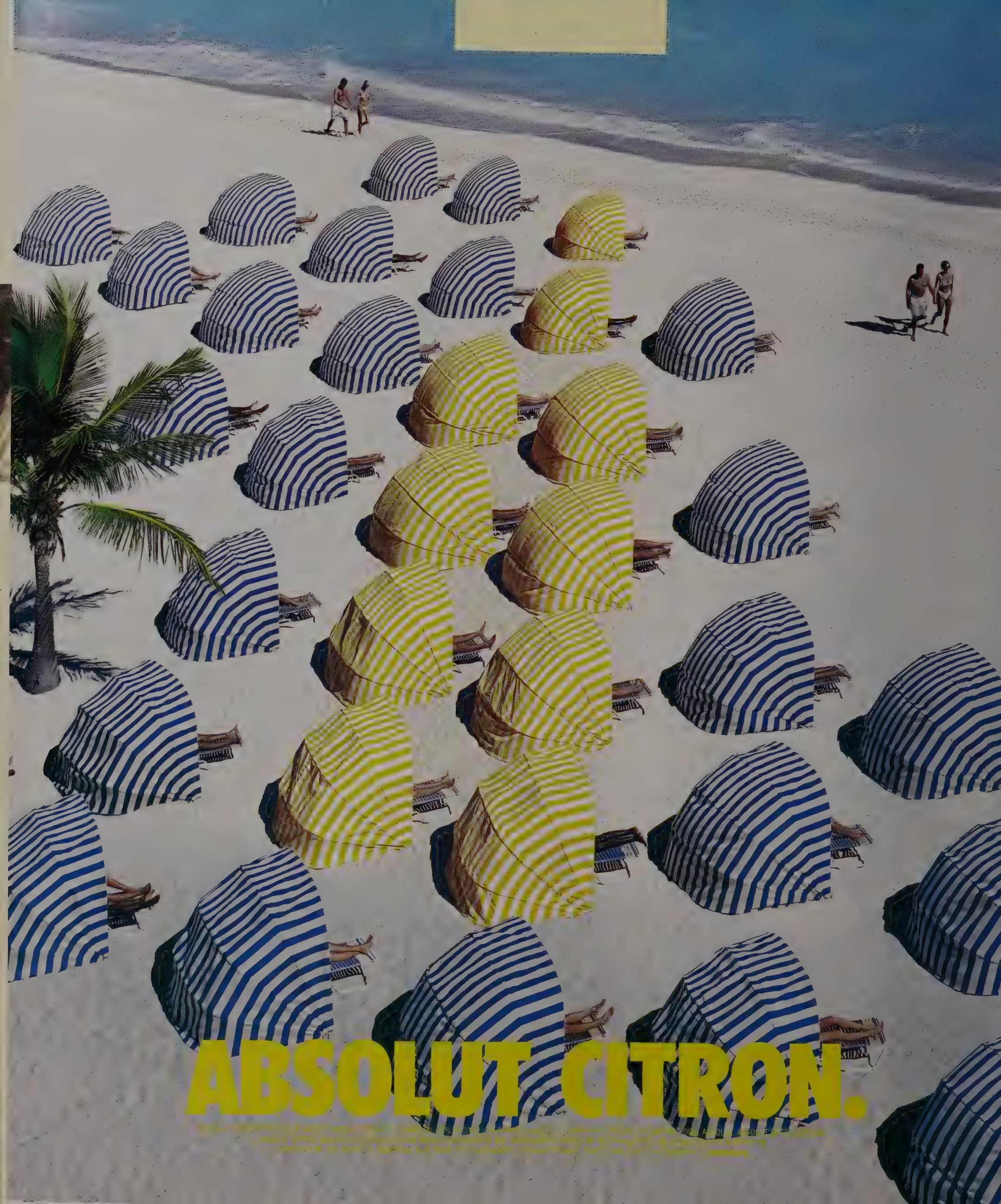
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ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

INDEPENDENCE DAYS

Judith Forman finds out why Boston-area women are staying single longer

Breakers stars kick back at the beach; clockwise from top left: Kristine Lilly, Angela Hucles, Allie Kemp, Kate Sobrero and Kim Calkins.

BREAKING Away

Kicking off the women's pro soccer league, the Boston Breakers are scoring one for the history books

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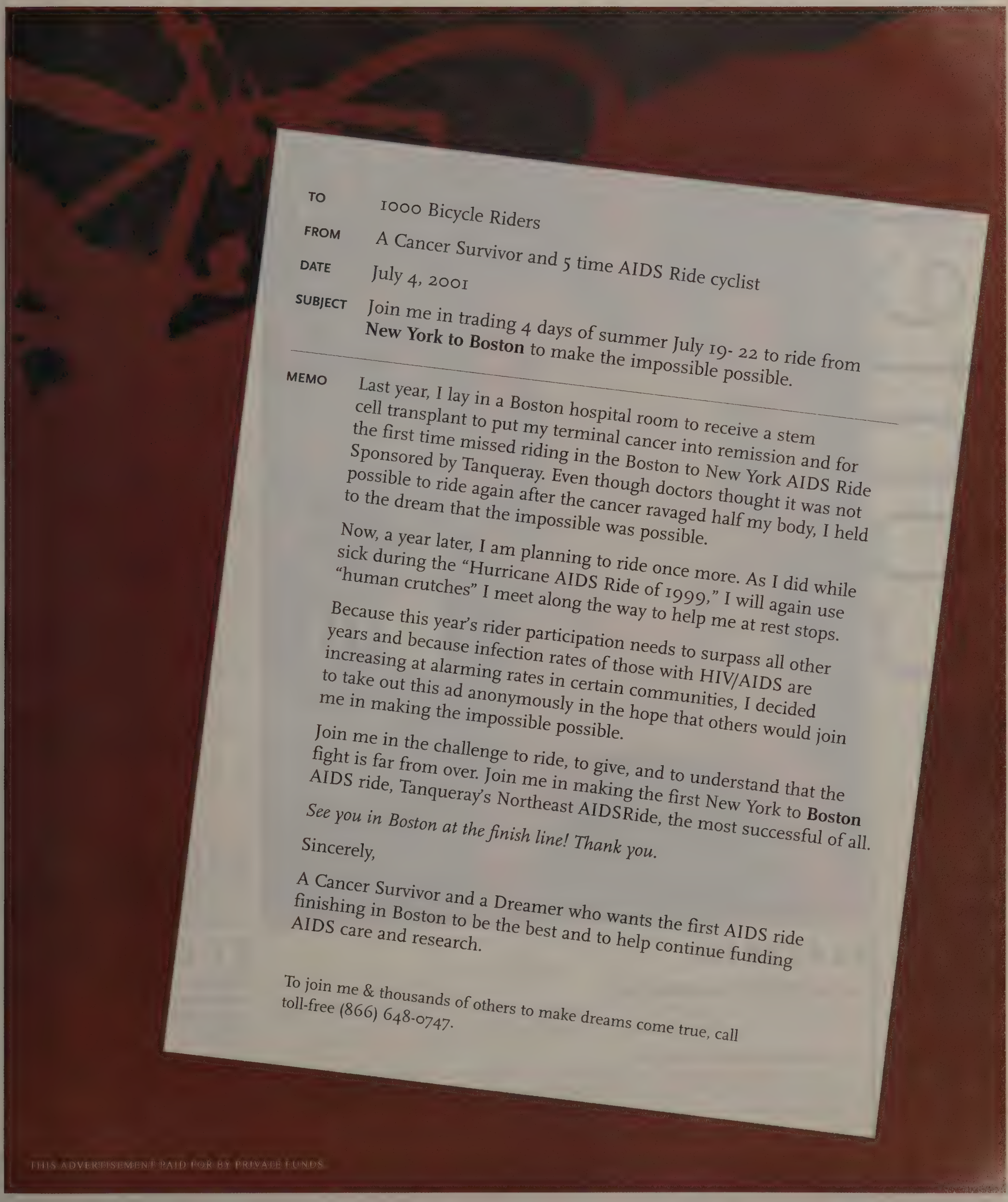
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TO 1000 Bicycle Riders

FROM A Cancer Survivor and 5 time AIDS Ride cyclist

DATE July 4, 2001

SUBJECT Join me in trading 4 days of summer July 19- 22 to ride from **New York to Boston** to make the impossible possible.

MEMO Last year, I lay in a Boston hospital room to receive a stem cell transplant to put my terminal cancer into remission and for the first time missed riding in the Boston to New York AIDS Ride Sponsored by Tanqueray. Even though doctors thought it was not possible to ride again after the cancer ravaged half my body, I held to the dream that the impossible was possible.

Now, a year later, I am planning to ride once more. As I did while sick during the "Hurricane AIDS Ride of 1999," I will again use "human crutches" I meet along the way to help me at rest stops.

Because this year's rider participation needs to surpass all other years and because infection rates of those with HIV/AIDS are increasing at alarming rates in certain communities, I decided to take out this ad anonymously in the hope that others would join me in making the impossible possible.

Join me in the challenge to ride, to give, and to understand that the fight is far from over. Join me in making the first New York to **Boston** AIDS ride, Tanqueray's Northeast AIDSRide, the most successful of all.

See you in Boston at the finish line! Thank you.

Sincerely,

A Cancer Survivor and a Dreamer who wants the first AIDS ride finishing in Boston to be the best and to help continue funding AIDS care and research.

To join me & thousands of others to make dreams come true, call toll-free (866) 648-0747.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT PAID FOR BY PRIVATE FUNDS

contents

JULY 4-17, 2001



26
Summer dresses light up the night. Insets, from top: the new Loews Megaplex; independent woman Dorothy Dwyer; *the Glass Menagerie*.



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Michael Indresano**

Photographer's Assistant: **William Byrd**
Studio Manager: **Heather Julien**
Assistant Studio Manager: **Jenny Pimentel**
Hair Styling: **John Porter and Kate Duclos for Umi**
Makeup: **Elena Lyakir for Umi**
Styling: **Ngina Bowen/Ennis**
Shot on location at the Curley Community Center, "L Street"—Boston Community Centers.
Kristine Lilly: Khaki short, by Xhilaration; sold at Target, $18
Angela Hucles: Aqua/white short shorts by Express, $34
Allie Kemp: "Tahiti Sweetie" board shorts by Roxy; sold at T.J. Maxx, $15
Kato Sobrero: White logo shorts by Mossimo for Target, $13
Kim Calkins: Blue floral shorts by Express; sold at T.J. Maxx, $8
Sunglasses by Liz Claiborne; available at Filene's. All tops courtesy of the Boston Breakers

FEATURES

16 Soroff/On Kristine Lilly
The Boston Breakers' star scoring powerhouse shows a girly side—that is, when she's not ruining her pedicure by ripping shots at hapless goalies. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

19 Independence Days
For some women, staying single is a matter of choice. For others, it isn't. Whatever the reason for their solo status, today's women are better educated, more independent in spirit and better equipped to support themselves than ever before. BY JUDITH FORMAN

26 Fashion: Light Up the Night
Summer dresses to spark up your wardrobe. PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILL BYRD

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

COLUMNS

6 The Word
Loews Megaplex; gallery closings; odd ads; a new Cheers

10 E-Boston
The business name game
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
That was, like, so random.
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

32 Mopsy
A change in orientation; celebrating the Machine Age
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

50 Film
Sexy Beast is an original thriller.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

60 Music
The String Cheese Incident
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

80 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

34 Dining
Oleana enters the fray of Boston's Mediterranean dining scene.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

36 Dish
Draghi on the move
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

36 Wine
Investing in wine
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

37 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: cold fish.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 38.
Beer, Bites, Brewers and Books • **Brian Wilson** and **Paul Simon** • *The Glass Menagerie*

ET CETERA

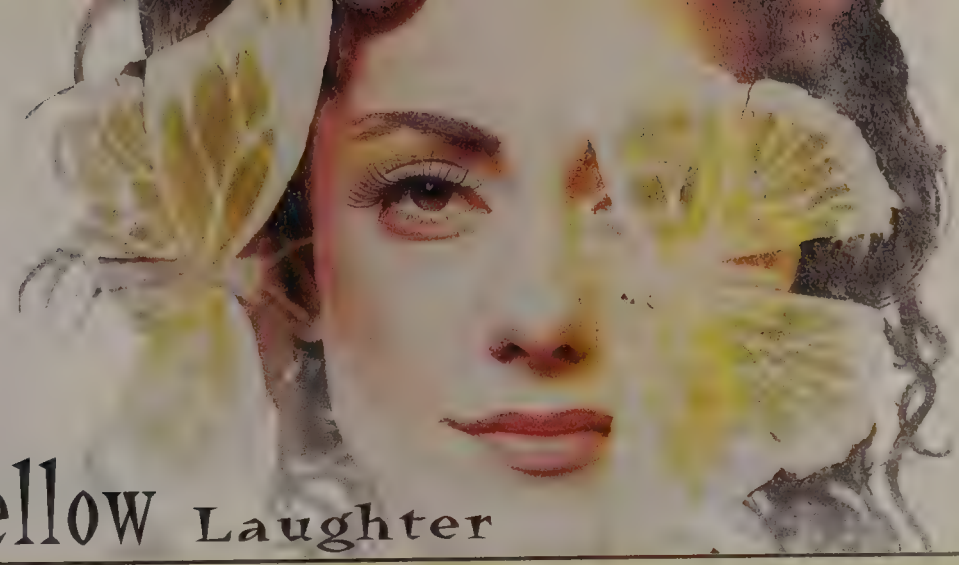
Letters	**4**
Improper Impersonals	**72**
Rockie Horoscope	**72**
Improper Sightings	**74**
Improperazzi	**76**
Classifieds	**78**

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letters

ALTERNATIVE MUSIC

I just returned from a sunny lunch in the Public Garden and had to write immediately after reading Jonathan Soroff's interview with Oedipus. Question for Oedipus: Why can't "alternative" radio play more than just the one mainstream pop song off an album? It's painfully dull to listen to a severely limited play list (which usually just includes the MTV hits) when these great artists who have so much more to offer are out there. You mention your station's autonomy and the creativity of radio. Huh? At least TV has more channels to choose from.

—Steven Smith
Cambridge

THE ONGOING DIGITAL CONTENT DISCUSSION

The people who download and clone digital content are making full use of new technologies ("E-Boston," June 20). It is not greed that drives them, nor the notion that "the world owes them entertainment." It's a desire to enjoy and appreciate the vast universe of media without having to enrich the giant media conglomerates that control the material, the artists and the rights. It's the entertainment companies that want to prevent this new technology from being fully utilized. Karl Marx said it exactly right a century and a half ago: Relations of production, such as ownership, copyrights and control over distribution, put fetters on forces of production—the sheer ability to use this wonderful new technology to its potential so as to better the lives of people. I wouldn't mind paying for downloading—if I were sure that the vast majority of the money were going to the artists themselves, rather than to the middlemen who control it all. Instead of denigrating us as small-time crooks, you would do better to take aim at the big-time crooks—the media monopolies that think they are entitled to control every aspect of artistic production, distribution and consumption, and who have notoriously screwed and cheated their own artists out of royalties for decades.

—Robert Rotstein
Via e-mail

WHY CAN'T "ALTERNATIVE" RADIO PLAY MORE THAN JUST ONE MAINSTREAM POP SONG OFF AN ALBUM? IT'S PAINFULLY DULL TO LISTEN TO A SEVERELY LIMITED PLAYLIST WHEN THESE GREAT ARTISTS WHO HAVE SO MUCH MORE TO OFFER ARE OUT THERE.

—*STEVEN SMITH*
CAMBRIDGE



SERVING IT UP

On behalf of the clients, staff and volunteers of Community Servings, I would like to thank you for covering *A Goodbye Toast, A Benefit for Community Servings* at Up Stairs at the Pudding. Thanks to the incredible generosity of Mary-Catherine Deibel and Deborah Hughes, we raised almost $11,000 to provide hot, home-delivered meals to men, women and children ill with AIDS in our community.

We truly appreciate your support. Your ability to reach so many people on behalf of Community Servings is essential to the fulfillment of our mission to let no one living with AIDS go hungry. Currently serving 675 meals a day in Boston, Cambridge, Somerville and Lynn, we hope to expand our services to other communities in the next year. Your support will help us achieve this. Along with those meals, we'll deliver the vital message that someone cares. Thank you.

—David B. Waters
Executive Director
Community Servings

CORRECTION

In last issue's "Comfort Zone" article, the photo caption incorrectly identified Al Skinner as Boston College's football coach. He is the BC basketball coach.

Tell Us What You Think

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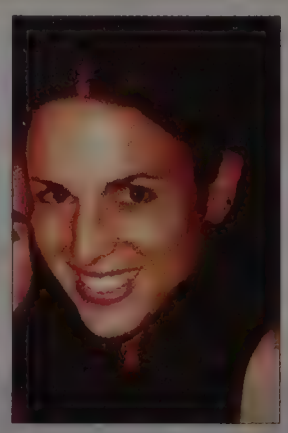
CONTRIBUTORS

JUDITH FORMAN

Since returning to her native Boston after two years in thriving Hartford, Conn., Judith Forman, 24, jumped headfirst into the city's singles scene. Dozens of dates later, she's still looking for love (in all the wrong places). Her search has even taken her to the Internet, where she got her 15 minutes of fame in a *Newsweek* profile about online dating.

Forman, once an Associated Press newswoman, most recently helped launch *Boston Metro*.

A graduate of Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, she's also worked at the *Baltimore Sun*, *Patriot Ledger*, *Ann Arbor News* and *Journal Inquirer*. Her latest work, "Independence Days," begins on page 19. Fans, critics and potential soulmates can e-mail Judith at *jfglitter@aol.com*.



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NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

GIANT CINEMA

At a recent press conference heralding the opening of the Loews Boston Common in mid-July, the mood was meant to be festive. After all, New England's largest downtown movie theater boasts a whopping 19 giant screens, digital sound, a bar/lounge, stadium seating (with the option of reserved seats) and concession stands so close to individual theaters that you could actually get there and back with your popcorn before the end of the first preview.

Sitting in plush, high-back rocking chair seats, members of the press were treated to a quick compilation of trailers shown on the 23-by-55 foot screen in an auditorium that seats 700. But when the lights came back on, several skeptical journalists were less than enthusiastic during a tense Q & A session. Their problem? The financially strapped owner of General Cinema, which opened the 13-screen multiplex last year in the Fenway, recently signed a letter of intent to sell the theater chain to the Toronto-based Onex Corp. and Oaktree Capital Management LLC of Los Angeles—the same two companies that announced their intentions to purchase all of the Loews theaters a few months ago. If the U.S. Bankruptcy Court OKs the deals, most of the theaters in Boston will be owned by the same companies (the next largest is Showcase Cinemas). "At some point in the near future," asked the mob, "will one company decide what movies Americans will watch—and how much we'll pay?" The fear is justifiable, but most likely the Justice Department will step in before that happens. Until then, you'll get what you pay for—and it's top-of-the-line all the way. But with tickets at $10 a pop for weekend shows (not to mention $3.75 for a frozen coffee drink and $7 for nachos), we'll see you there at a $6 matinee (we'll be the ones trying to smuggle our Junior Mints from CVS).



Welcome to the new 19-screen Loews Boston Common, the most elaborate movie theater in the city.

ALL THE BUZZ

CAMBRIDGE CONFLICTS



An online petition called "Save the Out of the Blue Gallery" has been circulating like mad throughout the arts community (*www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com/pet.htm*). As Cambridge's **Out of the Blue Gallery** faces eviction (it received a notice to quit from its landlord a few weeks ago), supporters of the gallery are desperately eager to help the owners, who have been showcasing the works of the artists, musicians, actors and poets of the Cambridge community for four years. The gallery is also drawing support from the charities it has supported through the years, as well as local businesses that display its works of art. Out of the Blue's Deborah Priestly explains, "We got the notice and were panic stricken. We are trying to come up with enough money through their fund raisers and help from the city to buy the place or to find a new location." She adds, "But we have more support now than we've ever had." The gallery will probably be open at least until the end of August. Out of the Blue isn't the only art group battling real estate prices. Of course, there's the outspoken Fort Point artists (who are always finding all sorts of creative methods of protest), and several others that haven't been able to stay afloat. Rescent demises include Somerville's **Gallery Bershad**, Jamaica Plain's **Bad Girrls Studios**, the **Dance Umbrella** and now possibly the **Revolving Museum**. In addition, Cambridge's **Zeitgeist Gallery** has faced uncertain territory for as long as it's been there—seven years. Outspoken director Alan Nidle feels abandoned by city officials. "The city of Cambridge is becoming a bloodsucking, vampiring demon, replacing the arts with condos and computers. The city needs to wise up and start protecting its cultural institutions." —*E.H.*



Singing Beach is exactly 30 miles from the Back Bay.

IMPROPER REPORTS

REACH THE BEACH

If you wake up one beautiful, bright, cloudless summer morning and decide that you've just got to play hooky and head to the beach, here's a list of some of our favorites with their distances from downtown Boston (from the IMPROPER's office on Berkeley Street, to be exact):

- **Singing Beach**, Manchester by the Sea: **30 miles**
- **Coast Guard Beach** (National Seashore), Eastham, Cape Cod: **89 miles**
- **Duxbury Beach**, Duxbury: **32 miles**
- **Old Silver Beach**, Falmouth, Cape Cod: **66 miles**
- **First Beach** (Easton's Beach), Newport, R.I.: **71 miles**

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IMPROPER SPEAKING by erin hagedorn & julie short

IMPROPER IMPOSTERS, VH1 AND MORE



Mantra's Hookah Den lures in fine diners looking to toke up on fruit tobacco smoke.

•They say that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. If so, we owe a big, slobbery thank you to the folks at the new publication ***Improper Hamptonian*** in Westhampton Beach, N.Y. Started by a reporter for a local newspaper, it purports to be "an adult literary source about [the] community that will push the edge of the envelope in every arena we venture." When asked if his publication was affiliated with or based on the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, the unnamed founder said, "No, no. Not at all." Yet the layout looks awfully familiar....

Improper Hamptonian

•We have mixed feelings about promoting hokey reality-based shows of any kind. But we make an exception for VH-1's ***Bands On the Run***, which captures some of the real-life grit of life on the road. The premise: It's a fierce competition between four bands (Soulcracker, Flickerstick, Harlow and Josh Dodes) to see who rocks the most (and makes the most money with limited resources). Here in Boston, we'll get to see **Flickerstick**, who play July 15 with **Loveless** downstairs at the Middle East ($10). Unlike most of the other bands who busily promote their shows, these guys are real rockers—more likely to be drunk in a bar than sucking up to fans.



•Two Cheers for Boston! Bull and Finch owner Tom Kershaw is currently building a **Cheers** in Faneuil Hall, slated to open this August. Patrons will be immersed in an exact replica of the *Cheers* TV set, complete with overhead stage lighting. Kershaw hopes that if tourists are disappointed that the Bull and Finch's resemblance to Cheers is limited to the exterior, they will head to the new location. "That way, we'll get 'em twice!" he says. Our question: Will everybody know your name?

•It may be time to reconsider setting up that home theater. The **Brattle Theatre** in Cambridge has announced it will be closing for a week in late August for some much-needed renovations during which new seats and a new sound system will be installed. Some 235 old (*very* uncomfortable) seats, dating from the '70s, will be given away on the as-yet-unconfirmed Seat Removal Day. Two chairs will be preserved in the Brattle lobby for a lingering retro touch. Email *info@brattlefilm.org* to be notified of the date.

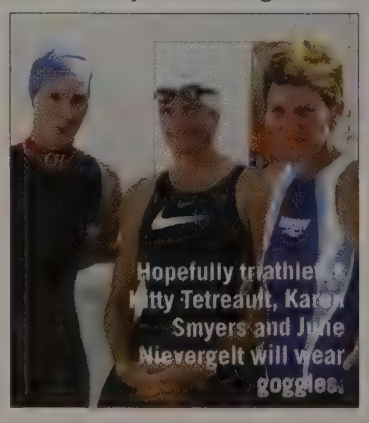
•When we reported last issue that **Mantra** (above), the much-anticipated upscale French-Indian restaurant located near Downtown Crossing, would finally open June 6, we jumped the gun a tad. But now Mantra truly is open—we promise. We know because we recently stopped by for a visit to the Hookah Den, an immense free-standing wooden structure in which patrons can toke up from an Eastern smoking pipe that looks (and works) like an intricate bong. These hookahs have five tubes through which you can suck fruit tobacco smoke, all for $18. Partake in the Raj, and you'll get hookah service for six, Veuve Clicquot Brut and fresh strawberries with cream ($100). *52 Temple Place, Boston (542-8111).*

•Endless lines at the local **Registry of Motor Vehicles** may soon be a thing of the past. On June 22, the RMV kicked off a high-tech service that posts expected wait times at every branch in the state on its Web site, *www.massrmv.com*. Now you can decide how many novels to bring with you. On the topic of endless waiting, **Massport** has installed hunter green rocking chairs in the terminals at Logan Airport to ease the stress of travel. Look for them by the windows and near the Kidports. Of course, with 27 million people a year flying in and out of Boston and only 35 rockers as of now, here's yet another opportunity to wait in line.

•Our favorite urban oasis, the **Colonnade Hotel**'s rooftop pool, now offers a way to play hooky and get work done at the same time. The pool just added wireless Internet access.

•Just how clean is the Boston Harbor? Some 1,000 triathletes will find out when they dive into its murky waters during the new **Monster Challenge: Tri-Boston**, the city's first Olympic distance triathlon, Sept. 2. After the swim, participants will bicycle along the Charles and run through the Seaport District.

—additional reporting by Leah Gourley



Hopefully triathlet[es] Patty Tetreault, Karen Smyers and June Nievergelt will wear goggles.

MEDIA WATCH

ADS THAT MAKE YOU GO HMMM...



An image on the MegaFirms Web site.

Every so often you run across an ad on TV, radio, or in a magazine or newspaper that seems out of place. Take an ad for Megafirm, a "revolutionary new weight-loss breakthrough," that aired on WBOS 92.9 recently. To paraphrase, the ad featured a man telling a friend that he was really turned on by his wife now that she wasn't such a porker. When we called to inquire if 'BOS had received any complaints, the 'BOS spokeswoman apologized and offered a feeble explanation (one that we might already have guessed): Times are tough financially, forcing media outlets to accept ads they normally might discard in the circular file.

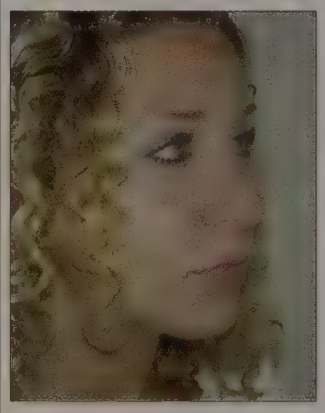
So far, the MBTA has resisted distasteful ads (remember the uproar over the revealing *Tomcats* ads?), but what about local print media? On June 4, the *Boston Globe* ran a large ad in the front section warning readers that "Christ Is Coming Very Soon!" This seemed a tad out-of-the-ordinary for the *Globe*, an impression that was drawn into sharp focus by the ad's positioning above a mundane ad for Ritz Camera. But *Globe* spokesman Rick Gulla says that although the paper rejects ads every day for a variety of reasons, this ad made the cut and has so far generated no complaints. "Free speech does include advertising," Gulla says. "But we look at ads on a case-by-case basis. For instance, if I were to try to take out an ad that said that 95 percent of what's in the IMPROPER is fiction, that would be a problem."

Yes, it certainly would be. However, we've got bigger problems right now. Like how to prepare for Christ. *—Ezra Dyer*

SAM SAYS

LARRY, MOE AND CURLY

You can't walk down the street these days without catching a glimpse of a one-shouldered shirt, an arm full of bracelets or a wide, low-slung belt. Eighties style is back with a vengeance: And now, brace yourself, it's the return of the perm! Yes, curls have made a comeback. Like most born-again trends, there are a few refinements this time around. Instead of ultra tight curls, today's women want loose, beautiful waves and flowing ringlets.



Hair goddess **Judy Cunha** from **Daryl Christopher** says, "Anyone who has any length to her hair is going to want some body in it. We are really going to get away from the straight, straight look." She also informs us that perms nowadays are much gentler and that there are some formulas designed specifically for color-treated hair. If you want to try out the curled do, purchase a seven-day, do-it-yourself perm at CVS. *—Samantha House*

PERSONALITIES

BUSTED!

Talk about acting. When directing his newly formed theatrical troupe Unpremeditated Productions, the founder and self-professed "master of ceremonies" Samuel Reich—son of former Secretary of Labor and Cambridge resident Robert Reich—did more than a bit of résumé-padding. Telling everyone that he was 26, Reich convinced his hapless cast and crew that he'd spent five or so years "at Oxford" studying theater and mounting semiprofessional shows. It turns out that the high school drop-out spent less than a year in the town of Oxford, England at a prep school that has no affiliation with the university of the same name. His real age? 17. Nevertheless, the boy wonder and his sadder, albeit wiser, co-stars recently closed a modestly successful run of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* at the Tower Auditorium on Huntington Ave. Suggested name for his next production? *Truth or Lies*.



Reich th[e] Younger

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Name That Company

For tech start ups, finding the right moniker is an exercise in "genuity"

If you drive through Burlington on Route 128, it's almost impossible to miss the giant "Genuity" sign that's plastered across one of the taller office buildings there. The owner of this sign is a company named Genuity, which is an "Internet infrastructure services provider," according to its Web site. However, what the company does is less interesting to me than the corporate name itself, because "genuity" is a made-up word that you won't find in any dictionary.

Coming up with bogus words like "genuity" is big business for public relations and advertising firms. It's not unusual for a company to spend as much as $100,000 to fabricate a word that suggests the kind of corporate virtues that top management believes their organization should embody. In the case of Genuity, I suspect the name is intended to suggest that the company offers the kind of *ingenuity* that its customers need to solve their problems.

The coined-word corporate-name fad started in the early '90s, when IBM hired a New York research firm to come up with a corporate name for a new joint venture. The result, "Taligent," was supposed to suggest that the company would become a "talented agent" for the customer. In more recent years, the world's largest IT consulting firm, Andersen, changed its name to "Accenture." This new name is apparently intended to suggest that the firm stands out among others, like an accented syllable. To me, the name suggests that the firm's employees might be pickled in monosodium glutamate, but, then again, what do I know?

In any case, coined words for corporate names are becoming increasingly common because most real words—at least the ones that you'd want for a corporate name—have already been registered as Web sites.

It used to be that all a company had to worry about was the ability to file a trademark. Trademarks—like Coca-Cola—are considered intellectual property and are thus protected by a complex series of state, national and international laws. Trademarks also make it more difficult for one company to try to piggyback upon the success of another, which is why you don't see an off-brand product called "Coka-Cola" on your supermarket shelves.

This is not true in all countries, by the way. When I was last in Mexico, I came across a line of tennis shoes from a company that clearly wanted to leverage all the work that Nike had expended on building its world-recognized corporate name. However, while the shoes looked reasonably well-made, it seemed unlikely that a great many Americans would be dying to bring them back to the United States, considering that the manufacturer had simply changed the capital "N" to a capital "K."

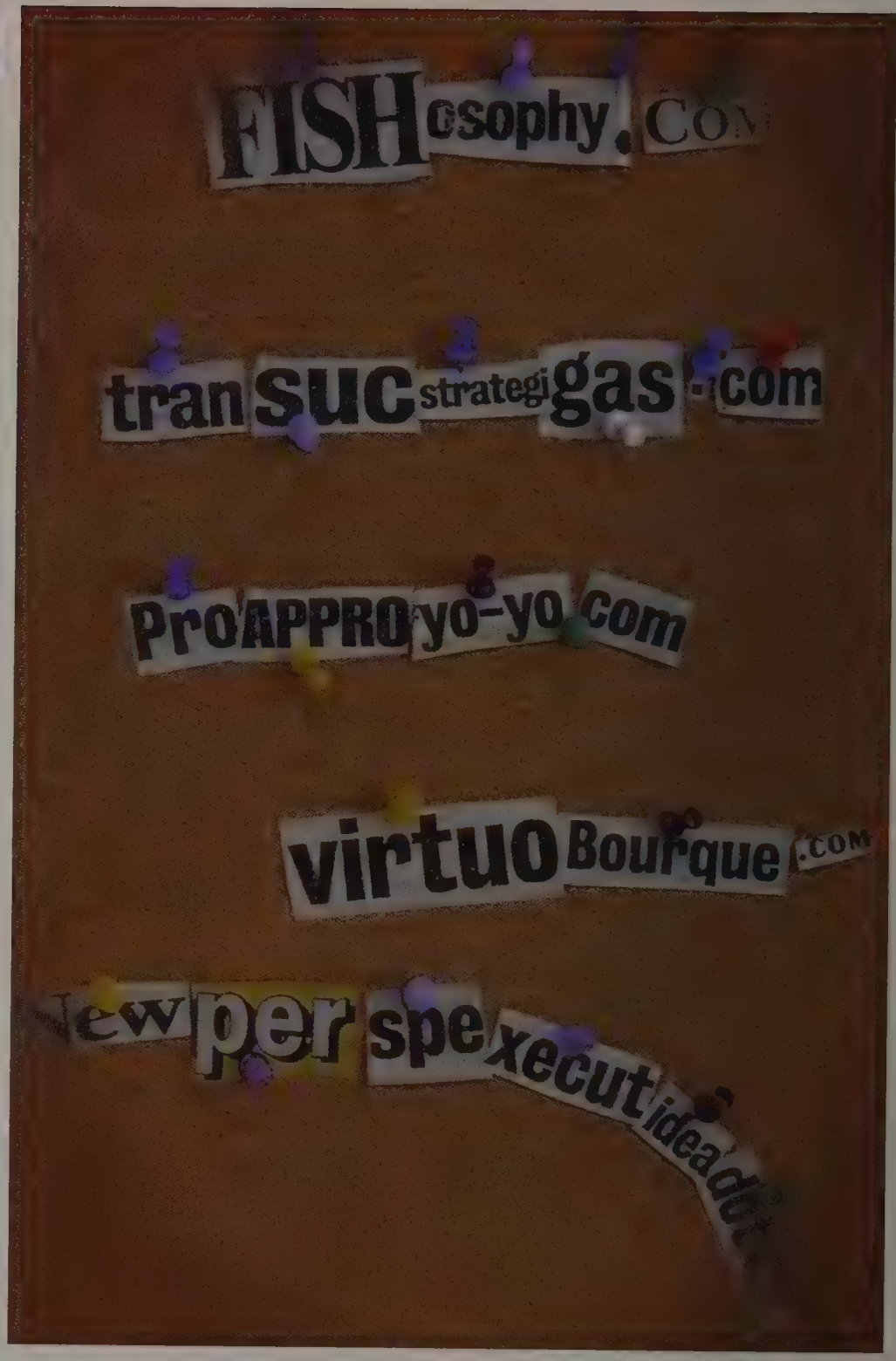
Filing trademarks is a complicated legal process, which has traditionally limited the number of words and phrases that actually get registered. In addition, trademarks are relatively flexible when it comes to non-competing industries. A steel materials company, for example, could probably name itself "Coke Inc." without risking a lawsuit from the company that makes soft drinks. The Web, however, has changed all that.

The ease of registering Web sites has resulted in the gobbling up of just about every real cool word on the planet. In contrast to the major legal hassle of trademarks, it takes less than a minute to register a Web site and, as long as that site name isn't specifically intended to defraud, there's nothing that anybody can do about it, not even the president of the United States. (See *www.gwbush.com* and *www.whitehouse.com*.)

Great site names are such slim pickings that some executives end up playing the corporate equivalent of championship Trivial Pursuit in trying to find the mot juste. I just interviewed an executive at a company that used to be named Gazoo Inc., a reference to the alien that used to help Fred Flintstone. Unfortunately, a Japanese firm already owned *www.gazoo.com*, forcing Gazoo Inc. to use the pale imitation *www.mygazoo.com*. Finally, the company decided that it needed another name, so it hired a PR firm to come up with "Talaris"—a coined word similar to the real word "talaria" which is (I kid you not) the name for the winged sandals that Mercury, the Roman God, wore.

You'd think that this concept would be obscure enough so that there wouldn't already be a Web site named Talaria, but you'd be wrong. There is a software firm named Talaria and even the coined word Talaris was already taken, which meant that the erstwhile Gazoo actually had to pay money to get the site name *www.talaris.com*. I wonder what the board of directors thought of that expenditure.

So now you know why Genuity has a made-up word as its corporate name. A software company owns *www.ingenuity.com*, some goofball engineer owns *www.genius.com*, and another software company owns *www.ingenious.com*. Oddly enough, nobody currently owns *www.genuine.com*, but I'll bet that won't be true five minutes after this issue hits the newsstands. iB



THE EASE OF REGISTERING WEB SITES HAS RESULTED IN THE GOBBLING UP OF JUST ABOUT EVERY COOL WORD ON THE PLANET. IN CONTRAST TO THE MAJOR LEGAL HASSLE OF TRADEMARKS, IT TAKES LESS THAN A MINUTE TO REGISTER A WEB SITE AND THERE'S NOTHING ANYBODY CAN DO ABOUT IT.

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

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Randomania

It's officially time to empty the junk drawer of my brain

Usually this column follows a rigid thesis, introducing an idea and developing it according to the classic "triangle structure," until it reaches a pithy conclusion that sheds a ray of brilliant lucidity on the society in which we live. That, you know, is always my goal. I want you, the reader, to finish a column and be left with important questions, questions like "What exactly *is* camel toe?" But in the course of developing said "ideas," sometimes one is left with a few random leftovers, like when you finish assembling an entertainment center and you have two loose bolts sitting on the floor. How do you use those random bolts? What do they have in common? Merely the fact that they're random. So you put them in a box with other leftover bolts and electrical tape and batteries that might or might not work, and that's what all that stuff has in common—the fact that it has nothing in common. Well, this column is that box.

•If a kid is taller than your knee, don't wheel it around in a baby carriage. I saw a kid the other day riding in a baby carriage who looked big enough to protect Drew Bledsoe from the blitz. No wonder our nation's youth has the average fat percentage of a Ballpark Frank—they're getting pushed around in baby carriages until they're old enough to buy cigarettes.

•If I just wanted to say something guaranteed to make people in Boston mad, I'd say, "In the Duck Tour spirit of using old military vehicles to give people tours, I plan to buy a fleet of tanks and give tours of Dorchester." Dorchester people get very defensive about Dorchester, I've found.

•Movies that people are always incredulous that I haven't seen: *The Godfather*. *Rocky*. *The Sixth Sense*. *The Shawshank Redemption*. *Spinal Tap*. I recently saw *Swingers*, which removes one movie from this list. Now I'm so money. I'm a big bear, with big claws. If you don't know what I'm talking about, you're culturally illiterate and I pity you.

•It seems like I've been bruising really easily lately. When I play catch, my fingers bruise through my baseball glove. I bump into my desk and bruise my leg. My bruisability now rivals an overripe banana. My roommates, who are studying for the MCAT and whom I regularly consult for professional medical advice, tell me that this could mean I have an iron deficiency. Perhaps the next time I go to the gym, I should eat the weights instead of lift them.

•True financial disclosure: On last month's bank statement, it says I earned a total of four cents of interest on my savings account. I'm already planning uses for this burgeoning trust fund. Right now, I'm saving up to buy a copy of *The Robb Report* so I can see what to buy next.

•Every so often I flirt with the idea of getting a tattoo, but for someone who has trouble deciding if he'd like fries with that, the prospect of deciding the "what" and "where" of permanent physical branding is just too daunting. Plus, what I really want is a barbed-wire tat around my right biceps, but I don't think I have the proper personality to pull it off. I don't scowl enough, it seems. Maybe I'll just get a bar code tattooed on the back of my neck to express my criticism of our nation's sick materialistic culture. I wonder how much those cost.

WHAT I REALLY WANT IS A BARBED-WIRE TAT AROUND MY RIGHT BICEPS, BUT I DON'T THINK I HAVE THE PROPER PERSONALITY.

•One thing that really annoyed me when I was at prime cartoon-watching age was the tendency to "kid-ize" every popular cartoon. This involved taking a regular show and making all the characters kids—which I guess was aimed at rendering the programs more accessible to children. The result was shows like *A Pup Named Scooby Doo*, *The Flintstones Kids* and *Muppet Babies*. What, the regular *Scooby Doo* was too mature? Was there ever *A Very Special Scooby Doo—Scooby Finds Out He Has Hip Dysplasia*. No, there wasn't. Did I ever find myself watching the regular *Flintstones* and thinking, "Hey, what's the deal with Fred driving around in his car? I'm five years old. Driving is a non-relevant activity for my demographic, as is participating in a bowling league, working at a factory and having domestic squabbles. Please, focus this show on Bam-Bam and Pebbles"? No, I did not. I hated this trend and all it stood for.

Although, I've gotta admit, *Muppet Babies* was a pretty good show. **iB**

You think that's funny?

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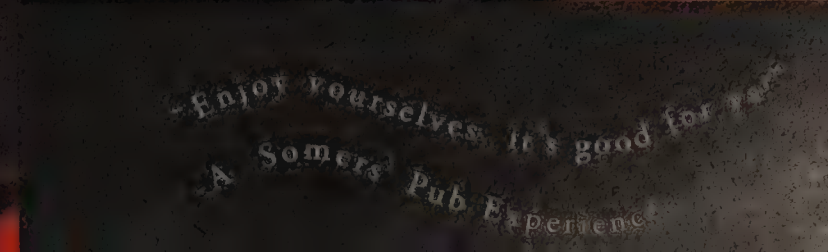
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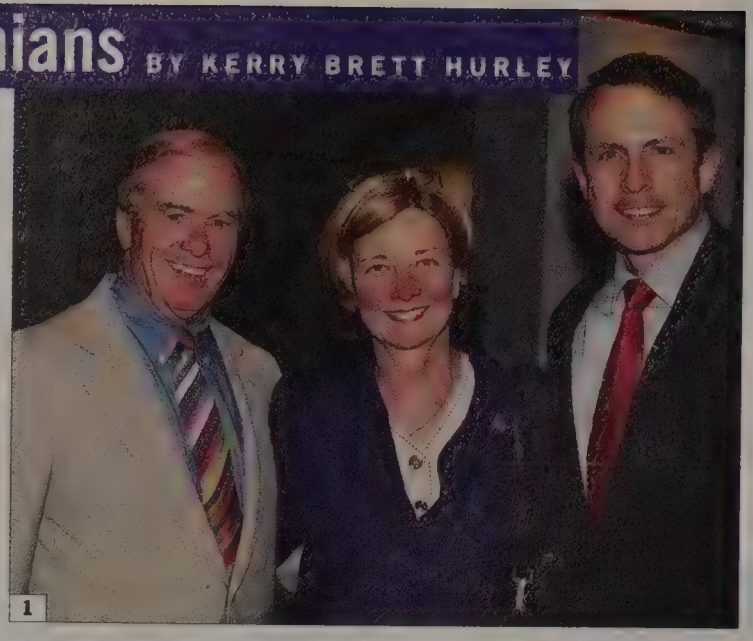




Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The University of Massachusetts' Alumni Evening at the Pops was held June 20 at Symphony Hall. More than 2,300 friends of the university came to celebrate. Highlight of the event was President William M. Bulger "conducting" the Boston Pops in its performance of "Stars and Stripes Forever." The event capped off UMass' 10-month campaign to endow 15 new faculty chairs.


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1. **Dr. Gerard Burke**, vice president of the Alumni Association and Irish History Professor at UMass Boston; **Pat Flaherty**, president of UMass Boston's Foundation Board and president of the Alumni Association; and **Paul Joyce**, president of Joyce Commodities Inc.
2. **Laura Falardeau** (l), assistant to the news director at NECN, and **Jackie MacCormack**, finance specialist at Viacord Inc.
3. **Jeff Cornell**, consultant at Ernest & Young, and **Erin Mahoney**, research technician at Dana Farber.
4. **Paige Martin**, senior communications specialist at Fidelity; **Eric Hamburger**, stockbroker for Bank of America Securities; and **Amanda Rowe-Beddoe**, destination marketing manager at Massport.
5. **Sarah Casey**, staffing specialist at Fidelity, and **Heather Rosbeck**, interior designer for Rosbeck Realty, in Martha's Vineyard.
6. Speaker of the House **Tom Finneran** and his wife, **Donna**.


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The Museum of Afro-American History hosted its second-annual gala and awards celebration, Jubilation 2001, on June 15 at the Park Plaza Hotel. The theme for the benefit was "Juneteenth: An Emancipation Quilt," a quilt that brings together fragments of history.

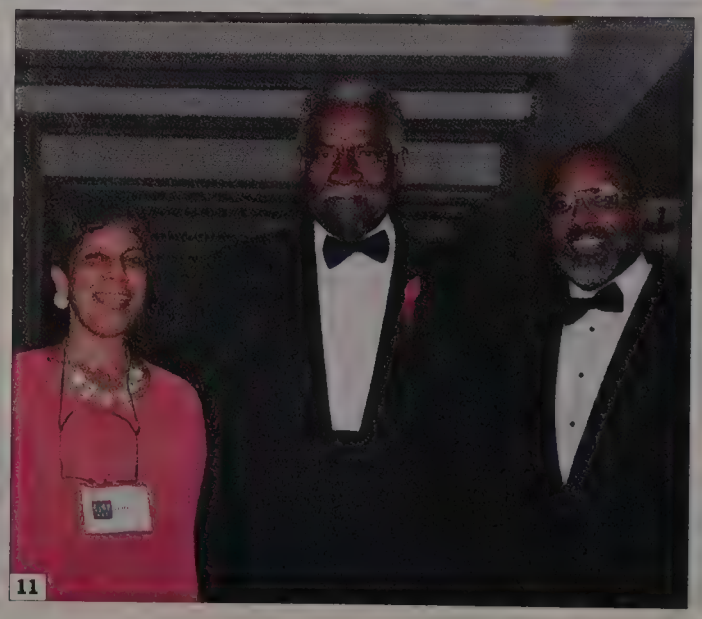

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7. **Bernard Fulp**, vice chairman of Middlesex Bank & Trust Company; **Sharon Adams**, owner of Sharon Adams Garden Design, and her husband, **Henry Louis Gates**, chairman of the Department of African American Studies and director of the Dubois Institute at Harvard University.
8. **Ira Jackson**, director of the center for Business and Government at Harvard University, and **Carol Bolling Fulp**, vice president of community relations at John Hancock.
9. **Eric Jackson** (l), host of *Jazz with Eric in the Evening* on WGBH 89.7 FM, and **Rich Peters**, customer service supervisor for the New England Division for Amtrack.
10. **Leon Wilson** (l), co-chair of the event, and executive vice president of FleetBoston and **Wayne Johnson**, senior vice president of FleetBoston.
11. **Chandra Harrington**, director of operations at the Museum of Afro-American History; actor **Ossie Davis**; and **Phillip Harrington**, teacher at the Harrington School in Cambridge.
12. **Susan Clarke**, account director at Arnold Public Relations, and Boston City Councilor **Mike Ross**.


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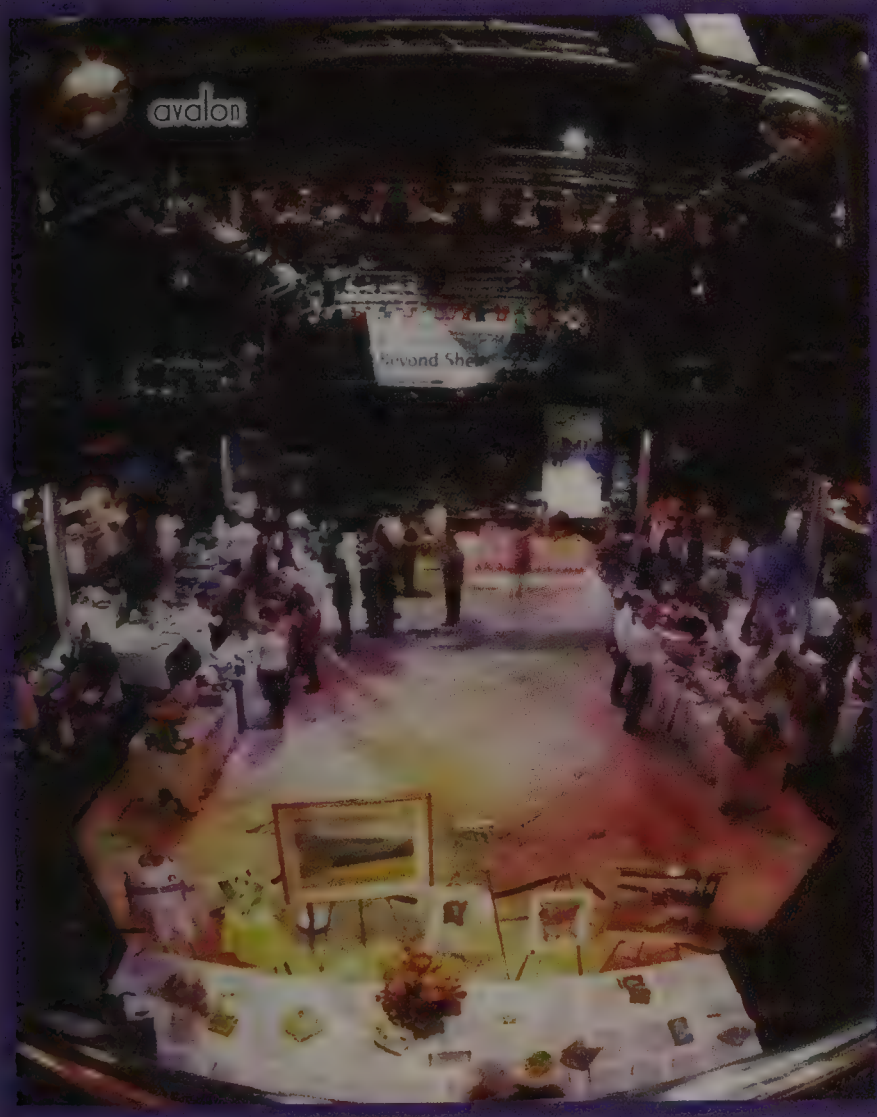

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Kristine Lilly

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Olympic gold and silver medal–winning soccer player Kristine Lilly is the captain and plays forward/midfielder for the Boston Breakers, the local franchise in the newly formed WUSA women's professional soccer league. A native of Wilton, Conn., she began playing at 12 years old and later helped the Wilton High School team capture the state title during her freshman, sophomore and senior years. At the University of North Carolina, she majored in communications and helped lead the Tar Heels to four NCAA titles between 1989 and 1992. The second-leading scorer in the nation (behind teammate Mia Hamm), Lilly completed her college career with 78 goals and 41 assists. Her UNC jersey (number 15) was retired in 1994. As a member of the U.S. Women's National Team, which she first joined at age 16, she became the all-time leader in international appearances (or caps), with more than 200—the first player in either men's or women's soccer history to reach that number. She ranks third all-time in goals (87), second in assists (65), won two Women's World Cups (1991 and 1999), and has a gold medal from the 1996 Olympics and a silver from last year's. In 1994, she was a member of the Tyreso Football Club in Sweden, and in 1995 she played with the Washington Warthogs. The road signs entering Wilton now say, "Hometown of Olympic Gold Medalist Kristine Lilly," and the field at her high school was named in her honor. Last year, she signed with the Breakers, who play at B.U.'s Nickerson Field (she is pictured, opposite, with Breakers teammates Angela Hucles, Kate Sobrero, Kim Calkins and Allie Kemp). Lilly lives in Brookline, with her golden retriever, Scribner.

Jonathan Soroff: *I went to Duke, so I should start this interview by saying, "Go to hell, Carolina, go to hell."*
Kristine Lilly: Thanks.
JS: *Let's start with an easy one. What's your favorite flower?*
KL: Lillies.
JS: *Do you ever wear your Olympic medals around the house?*
KL: No, but my brother has. He says, "I'm glad I didn't win these, because I think I'd have 'em on forever."
JS: *Your birthday's in a few weeks....*
KL: I know, and it's my 30th. The big one.
JS: *What do you want for your birthday?*
KL: Umm. I haven't really thought about it. Maybe a red convertible Jaguar.
JS: *What part of your body hurts most after a game?*
KL: My back. And my lungs, from running.
JS: *Compare salaries for male and female pro athletes.*
KL: I don't think you can compare, because they're at a different level than we are. Their leagues have been around forever, and they've had the money involved, so the only thing I fight for is equality. Give us a chance.
JS: *Do you make a lot?*
KL: We make enough to live on. Our lowest salaries are $24,000, and our highest are $85,000.

"LOOKS ARE WHAT'S MARKETABLE. IT'S ALWAYS THE PRETTY GIRL, NOT THE ONE WHO'S THE BEST PLAYER. THEY DO IT TO MEN, TOO, BUT IT'S NOT CHARACTERIZED THAT WAY. AND SOMETIMES, THEY ARE THE BEST ATHLETE. BUT TO ME IT'S ALL CRAZY."

JS: *Do other women ever look down on female professional athletes as not being ladylike?*
KL: Nah. Not these days. Everyone's like, "I wish I could work out. I wish I had muscles."
JS: *Should women be playing with men on the same teams at a professional level?*
KL: I don't think they can. Physically. Strength-wise and speed-wise, we can't compare physiques. Our bodies are just different.
JS: *Well, should female pro teams have buff guys in skimpy outfits as cheerleaders?*
KL: [Laughs] C'mon. That's what we're trying to do away with in men's sports. We've got enough young kids in the stands, cheering us on. We don't need cheerleaders.
JS: *Any thoughts on the criticism that in covering women's sports, the media say things like, "She's also a great Mom!" Or, "When she's not on the field, she's a fashion model!"*
KL: Y'know, women have always been looked at that way.
JS: *Shouldn't it be enough that she's a great athlete?*
KL: Sure, but looks are what's marketable. It's always the pretty girl, not the one who's the best player. They do it to men, too, but it's not characterized that way. And sometimes, they are the best athlete. But to me, it's all crazy.
JS: *Are you a girly-girl? Do you wear heels when you go out at night?*
KL: I don't wear big heels. I can't walk in them. But I get manicures and pedicures; it's one of my favorite things to do.
JS: *Soccer must do brutal things to a pedicure.*
KL: [Laughs] I know! I go in and immediately say, "Sorry!" Sometimes I'm missing a couple of toenails. The sport's not kind. But I like to get dressed up. I don't use a lot of makeup, or products in my hair, but I have that girly side.
JS: *Do kids come up to you and ask for your autograph?*
KL: Yeah. There's a grade school in my neighborhood, and all the kids know me now. I think they know my dog more than me, but they're all really nice. They say things like, "Oh, we came to the game," or "That's Kristine Lilly!" It's kinda neat.
JS: *How about the one product you'd most like to endorse?*
KL: I think we're back to Jaguar again.
JS: *What endorsements and sponsorships do you have now?*
KL: Adidas. Gatorade. Met-R-X....
JS: *Met-R-X?! That stuff gives me gas!*
KL: [Laughs] I haven't come across that problem yet. I also have Earth Grain as a sponsor. I'm probably forgetting something, but that's the general idea.
JS: *Ever kick balls other than soccer balls?*
KL: A golf ball, once or twice, if it's not cooperating.
JS: *OK. Finish this sentence: Women soccer players do it _____.*
KL: ...for 90 minutes.
JS: *Name one thing Mia Hamm has that you don't...*
KL: [Laughs] I guess it'd be rhythm. She'll get a kick out of that if she reads this.
JS: *Any thoughts on the scandal surrounding Brandi Chastaine whipping off her shirt at the end of your big win?*
KL: The one thing I always say is that instead of looking at her stomach, or her boobs, or her sports bra, if you look at her face, that tells you we just won the World Cup.
JS: *OK, now for the painful part of the interview. You're a Yankees fan?!*
KL: I'm becoming a Red Sox fan. I'm a Lou Merloni and Nomar fan.
JS: *How ass-kissy.*
KL: Hey, I'm a two-player fan. If the Red Sox and Yankees were playing, I'd root for the Yankees. If the Red Sox were playing someone else, I'd be rooting for them.
JS: *Have you been to Fenway yet?*
KL: Yeah. I was there for a Yankees game. I love Fenway. My favorite chant, I think it's the funniest thing, is "Yankees suck!" They'll yell it for any reason. I went to a Dave Matthews concert last week, and the crowd was chanting, "Yankees suck!" I get the biggest kick out of it, 'cause they've won for like 25 years.
JS: *You've been referred to as one of the greatest athletes in history. How does that feel?*
KL: Any time you're acknowledged, or someone says, "You're my favorite player," it feels good. How can it not?
JS: *Yeah, but do you feel like the greatest?*
KL: I feel like one of the top in my game. The thing about the women's side of it is that there hasn't been the long history. I mean, Martina Navratilova's a great athlete. I think Jackie Joyner is your ideal athlete. So I guess it depends on what category you're looking at.
JS: *How about three people from history you'd invite to a dinner party?*
KL: Michael Jackson. I've seen him in concert, and he's the most amazing entertainer, and he's weird, so I'm intrigued by that. I'd love to meet Princess Di. The way she lived her life in the limelight, and she was so charismatic. She's just someone I find appealing. And the last one, Martin Luther King, for obvious reasons.
JS: *Ever picture the face of someone you hate on the soccer ball?*
KL: Yeah. My emotions are probably my strongest part of soccer. I'm a very emotional player. You don't see it a lot, but if I have things going on in my life that bother me, I usually play better, because I focus it all on the field.
JS: *Any weakness, like, say, Twinkies, or pork rinds?*
KL: Swedish Fish. I love them. Or vanilla yogurt with Oreo cookies and Grape Nuts.
JS: *How many calories do you consume per day?*
KL: I'd say 2,000 or 2,400.
JS: *So you can eat all kinds of stuff that would make most women fat?*
KL: Yup. If I wasn't running, I couldn't eat some of the stuff I eat, or the amount of it. Like if we were at a buffet, I'll keep going up to that buffet.
JS: *Any bad habits?*
KL: I bite my cuticles.
JS: *One thing you can't do with your feet?*
KL: Hmmm. Eat with them.
JS: *Are you a killer Hackey Sack player?*
KL: No. I'm terrible. The ball's too small.
JS: *What about other sports?*
KL: I love golf right now, even though I'm not very good. I like to Rollerblade every once in a while, bike.
JS: *I'll bet there are things you're not allowed to do.*
KL: Yup. Contractually, I think we can't ski, or skydive, but I wouldn't want to, anyway. I don't want to get hurt.
JS: *Speaking of which, what's the worst injury you've ever had?*
KL: Knock on wood, nothing. The worst thing was maybe a pain in the bottom of my heel, called plantar fascitis. And a hip pointer, where you get jabbed in the hip and it hurts to laugh or cough. But that's it, thankfully. Nothing's ever kept me out of a game. iB



BREAKERS PLAYERS: KRISTINE LILLY, ANGELA HUCLES, KATE SOBRERO, KIM CALKINS AND ALLIE KEMP
SHOT ON LOCATION AT THE CURLEY COMMUNITY CENTER, "L STREET" – BOSTON COMMUNITY CENTERS.
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HAIR STYLING: JOHN PORTER AND KATE DUCLOS FOR UMI.
MAKEUP: ELENA LYAKIR FOR UMI.
STYLING: NGINA BOWEN/ENNIS.

KRISTINE LILLY: KHAKI SHORTS BY XHILARATION; SOLD AT TARGET, $17.99.
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DRESS CASUAL BUT NEAT

Instead of walking down the aisle, many Boston-area women in their 30s are staying single; some aren't happy about it, but many would have it no other way.

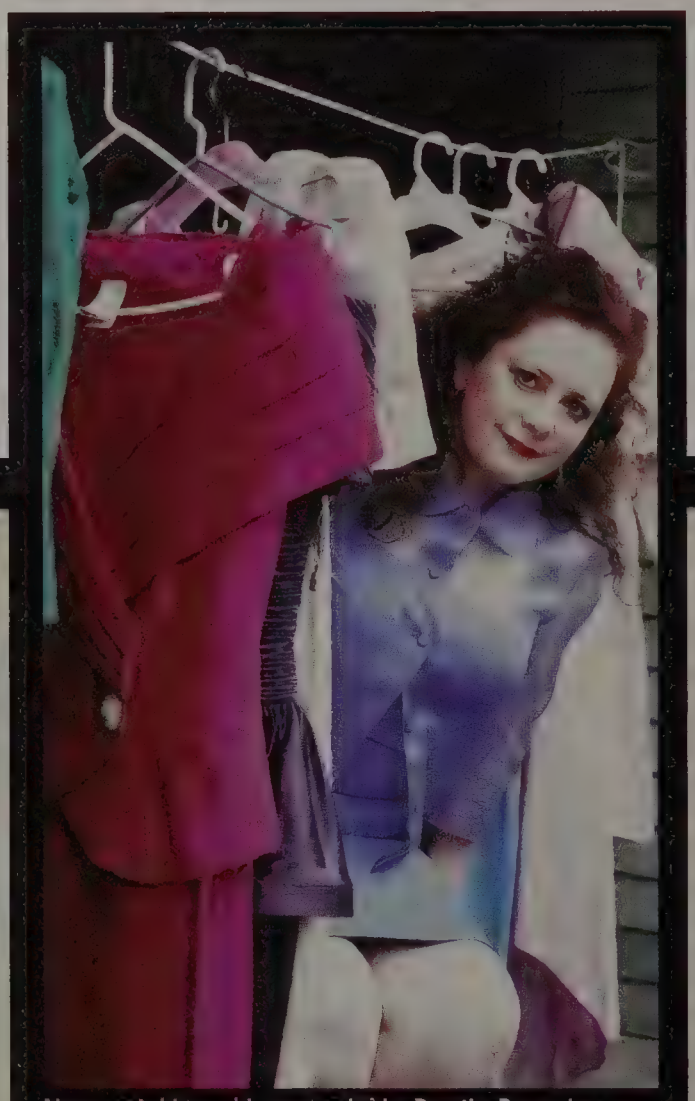
INDEPENDENCE DAYS

by Judith Forman

PHOTOGRAPHER TRACY POWELL
MODEL: ABBY / CLICK MODELS OF BOSTON
MAKEUP: JENNIFER BROWN/MAKSOU ARTISAN
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"I have to be professional. Men would rather see me with a bunch of girls than with a





Always a bridesmaid, never a bride: Dorothy Dwyer has no complaints about her single status. As she puts it, "I am more committed to having fun."

DOROTHY DWYER HAS MADE IT TO THE ALTAR nine times. But the 41-year-old Somerville actress doesn't mind that she's been twice a maid of honor, seven times a bridesmaid and not once the star of the show.

"The main reason I'm single," she says, "is that I prefer my own company to other people's."

Maria Luoni, 28, understands. Since a six-year-relationship ended in 1995, the health care worker from Dorchester has dated here and there but feels no pressure to stumble into anything serious.

"As you approach 30, you're busy with your friends, busy with your career and busy with your family, and your time is so valuable," she explains.

Married at 19, divorced at 23 and now unattached at 32, Sandy Howes, a Harvard University library assistant, is "definitely happy" spending her time seeing live bands and checking out cafes as a single.

"I do have a certain longing for falling in love," she says. "But there's no haste in marriage."

There are endless examples of women in their late 20s 30s and 40s who are in no hurry to don wedding dresses. Gone are the days, especially in urban, well-educated populations, when women were corraled into marriage at an early age. Demanding careers, a strong sense of self and fear of divorce are prompting women —around Boston and the country—to find personal and professional fulfillment without wearing a wedding band. More than ever before, women in and around their 30s are single—and happy.

These are women who more often take their cues from Sarah Jessica Parker's Carrie Bradshaw than from Bridget Jones. Being a strong, single woman is culturally acceptable; to some, desirable. After all, women everywhere spend their Sunday nights lusting after the lifestyle depicted on HBO's *Sex and the City*.

"Women are better educated, more independent and better able to support themselves without being married," says sociology Professor Janet Z. Giele, who studies the changing roles of women at Brandeis University's Heller Graduate School of Social Policy and Management. "We've been seeing [an increased] delay of marriage since the mid '80s."

There are 82 million unmarried adults in the United States, with singles making up more than 40 percent of the country's population, according to the Los Angeles-based American Association for Single People (AASP). Last year's Census figures confirm that a sizeable chunk of Americans and Bostonians have yet to say "I do." Nearly 26 percent of U.S. households (27 million people) are householders living alone. In Boston, 29 percent of homes are single households.

Across the Charles, more than 41 percent, or roughly 17,650 people, are single in Cambridge, perhaps too busy studying everything other than romance. Or maybe it's the progressive nature of the city, filled with free thinkers who shun the traditional "family values" lifestyle embraced by much of mainstream America.

"Think about it logically," reasons Thomas F. Coleman, 53, executive director of the 1,200-member AASP. "If you were told and you believed you should not have sex until you were married, that would be quite an incentive to marry young. That has changed."

Women are not alone in embracing the single life, says Coleman, who is also unattached.

"Men have always tended to have had more of a fear of responsibility than women," he says. "The 'M word' just has that aura of obligation to it."

CAREER MOVES

SHE HAS ALL THE INGREDIENTS FOR A PERFECT LIFE: THE house, the car, the clothes, the vacations and the management job at ATG in Cambridge.

Yet, Lisa Neville, a 33-year-old Burlington resident who has mapped out her life in a series of five-year plans, hasn't checked off everything on her wish list. She always thought she would be married with kids by the age of 30.

"I'm by myself and kind of wishing someone was around," she says. "It would be nice to spend the summer with someone hanging out, sitting on the deck." But, Neville's quick to add, "I don't want someone around every day to do that."

She also says she doesn't stop projecting her fierce independence when she's off the clock. "I've been told I am intimidating," Neville admits. "I don't want someone to feel like I need them in everything I am doing."

SAM WRIGHT

I'm not as approachable with a guy...

I'm not as approachable with a guy...

—Gina Rodgers,
proprietor of Gina Cigar



Above: Gina Rodgers of Gina Cigar, shown here kicking back with smokes at the Good Life, says that her job requires her to fit a certain single image—something she doesn't mind one bit.

While many single career women often don't lack the desire to find a man, several lack the time. Between long hours at the office and a constant drive for success, some Boston-area singles seem wedded to their jobs.

More and more women, especially middle-class professionals, are cultivating their identities through their careers, says Meg Lovejoy, a sociology graduate student at Brandeis who's currently studying unmarried women in their '30s and '40s. On the other hand, AASP director Coleman says that although "'single' is not a dirty word," there are those who turn to their careers to avoid scrutiny about their marital status.

"If [women] haven't really made it successfully economically, I think the stigma of being unmarried may overshadow everything else," he says.

While Neville says many of her co-workers at ATG are married or seriously involved, Gina Rodgers, 31, spends most of her time with those similarly single.

"Wherever I go, I run into single people everywhere," says the entrepreneur. "I don't know too many married people."

Rodgers, the force behind Gina Cigar, a Boston-based cigar marketer and distributor, says her job requires her to fit a certain single image. Somewhat of a socialite, Rodgers is often spotted around town at restaurant openings and nightclub anniversary parties.

"I have to be professional at all times. Men would rather see me with a bunch of girls than with a guy on my arm. I'm not as approachable with a guy," she says.

The self-described "business-driven" Rodgers doesn't seem to mind that she usually shows up stag. "I focus all my energy right now on my business because that's all I have time for," she explains.

Somerville-based actress and writer Cyndi Freeman, 36, also has set her sights on her career, but only "because there's nothing else to focus on," she explains. I have the time and energy to focus on it," she says. "But people come first."

TICK TOCK

AND THEN THERE'S THE QUESTION OF THE BIOLOGICAL clock, the supposed bane of all 30-something women living in singledom. Unlike in the past, today's women don't need a man to become a mother. With options ranging from adoption to artificial insemination to having a baby with a man with whom there's no intention of having a lasting relationship, a husband and a baby are no longer a package deal. Even though some singles say they're not panicking about reproducing, several can't deny the maternal instinct that's creeping up on them as they get older.

As summed up by ATG dynamo Neville, who has been single since a nine-year relationship (that included an engagement) ended five years ago: "It would be nice to have someone to share having a child with," she says. "But if need be, I could go and buy a frozen dad."

Cigar maven Rodgers is another woman who is not overly concerned with her biological clock. And each time she visits friends back in her Utah hometown, Rodgers is struck by the same thought.

"The only thing that's really changed is that they're having more children," she says of her high school friends, many of whom married young. "I never wanted to take that path."

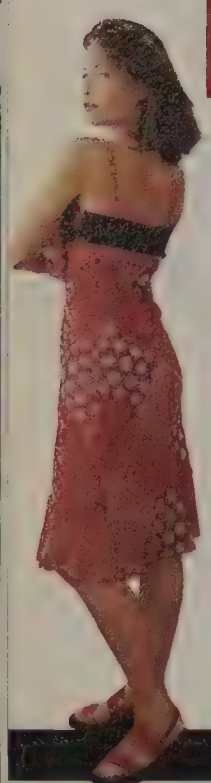
Library assistant Howes also has entered what she coins her "maternal decade."

"I have become a little bit more motherly," she says. "I noticed that my body is changing; I'm not really quite sure how." Yet these subtle changes are not worrying Howes. "With the general life expectancy getting longer," says Howes, "people are just staying single longer, [and] women can have children longer."

Indeed. And, on this point, it's hard not to think of pop culture's female role models. The ultimate mother-cum-pop icon is, of course, Madonna, who had her first child at 38 and her second at 42. The eternally youthful superstar is making the point perhaps more clearly than anyone else: You can be a 40-something mom of young kids—have a successful career and look great, to boot.

"It would be nice to have someone to share having a child with, [but] if need be, I could go and buy a frozen dad."

—Lisa Neville





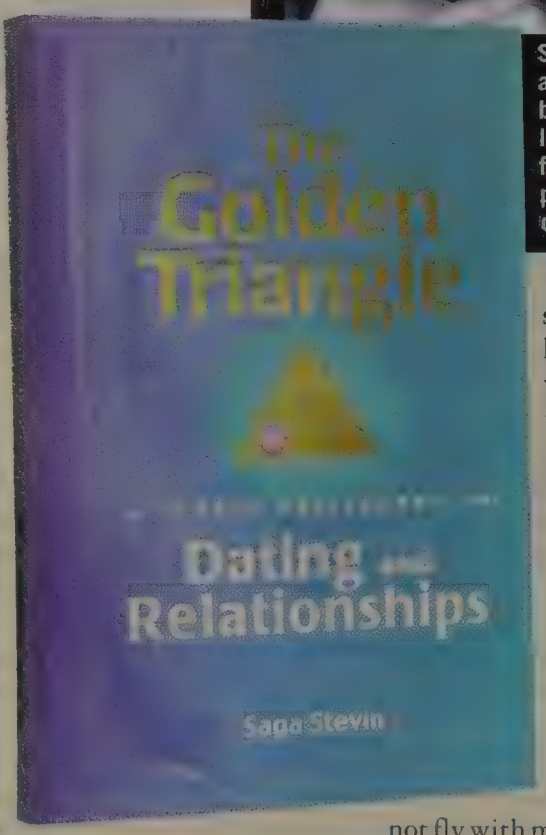
Saga Stevin, the 43-year-old author of *The Golden Triangle*, believes that by staying single longer, women are better able to find relationships that include physical, emotional and spiritual connections.

There are some local single women who are questioning whether their life sans a man is the ideal situation for entering motherhood. "I have toyed with the idea of having a child on my own, but I don't know," says Neville, the manager at ATG. "I still need to finish a couple of other things and be in a position where I don't have to work a lot of hours."

Freeman, the actress and writer, says even her own mother has completely given up hope of another grandchild. "She thinks I have no maternal instinct," she says, laughing. "My big thing with having kids is I'm not going to have them on my own. It would have to be with a man who would make a good father."

Mixing a career with motherhood—especially as a singleton—is not easy, Professor Giele acknowledges. "[Women] have to make sacrifices and compromise either the amount of time they spend with their families or the amount of achievement they will settle for," she says.

Many experts agree that women are often forced to decide what they want and how they're going to go after it. Saga Stevin, for one, has made up her mind. To win her heart, a man must have courage, integrity and faith. The 43-year-old Minneapolis-based author of *The Golden Triangle: A Simple Philosophy on Dating and Relationships* knows what she wants. And as a personal coach, she urges other women to follow suit and create a non-negotiable list of mate must-haves.



"It's a more mature outlook," she says. "Women are getting to know themselves, their values, what they will tolerate and what they won't. They're just taking their time because they know what they want and they're not settling."

Independent women are everywhere, Stevin says, staying single longer to make sure they find relationships that include physical, emotional and spiritual connections.

The idea of settling for just any Joe in a rush to the altar does not fly with most Boston singles. "My top priority is to be a happy, fulfilled person," Freeman explains. "If a relationship falls into that category, great. If it takes me away from myself or my goals or my friends, then it's not good for me."

It's important for people to take "time to establish themselves before they establish themselves in relationships," concurs Luoni, the health-care worker from Dorchester.

Men echo this sentiment as well. Take Edison Wong, a 36-year-old Gloucester doctor who was hellbent on staying single after a 1999 divorce. He's recently realized that he's ready for a long-term relationship. After a seven-month romance ended, his soul searching led him to continue to search for another commitment.

"It felt extremely comfortable and very stable," says Wong, who has joint-custody of a 6-year-old son with his ex-wife. "Initially I just wanted companionship. Now I want a connection on all levels—physical, mental, emotional and spiritual," says the self-proclaimed savvy dater.

Putting action behind his words, Edison has recently taken to the Internet, the classifieds and area dining clubs to meet a match.

Tom Jaffee is another single male who is experienced in the world of dating; you could call him an expert, in fact. After living in and working in New York, Orlando and Seattle, the 38-year-old entrepreneur is back in his native Boston. In December, Jaffee launched 8minuteDating.com, one of the latest entries into the world of dating games. At Jaffee's events, equal numbers of men and women come together, pair up for a series of informal eight-minute chat sessions and then use a scorecard to mark which potential partners they want to see again.

Despite participating in these events and meeting scores of the city's single-and-looking women, Jaffee remains a bachelor. "As a result of being transient, it makes it more difficult to settle down," he says of his singledom. But, Jaffee adds, he could just be a product of the times.

"Maybe people have mixed up their priorities and are putting their careers in front of their personal happiness. Ultimately, people need to consider what's most important."

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CULTURE SHOCK

WHILE SOME SINGLES ARE NOT single out of choice, others say they realize there's more to life to marriage. Case in point: the nearly 3,000-member-strong Alternatives to Marriage Project. The Boston-based group advocates for the acceptance of all types of couples—straight, gay, married or unmarried. Singles can turn to the AMP Web site (*www.unmarried.org*) to share stories, offer community and gather support for their chosen lifestyle.

"Compared to previous eras, you don't have to be married anymore and I think that's a good thing," says Marshall Miller, who co-founded the project three years ago with Dorian Solot, his longtime partner. (The two say they do not refer to each other by the more standard "boyfriend"/"girlfriend" titles.) "Women don't feel like they have to marry, but rather can choose marriage on their own terms."

Miller and Solot, both in their late 20s, have been a couple for eight years and live together on the South Shore. While they haven't ruled out marriage, Miller says, both are happy with their relationship as is.

"A lot of pressure for people to marry in their '20s has gone away," he says. "But it's been replaced with pressure to marry in their '30s."

Lovejoy, the 30-something single grad student, agrees that society today is too focused on the institution of marriage. "People tend to look at romantic relationships and marriage as being the source of all their emotional needs, their social needs, their economic needs and their sexual needs," she explains. "Marriage is seen as this kind of ideal that will provide you with all those needs. That's unrealistic, and people end up getting disappointed."

Instead, Lovejoy hopes society will shift toward a strong extended social networks and communities—instead of continuing the "couples-oriented culture."

Although American divorce rates have stabilized, the fear of a broken marriage also influences some to shy away from holy matrimony. Howes, the library asistant-who divorced at 23, is now watching her 60ish parents part ways. And Rodgers, whose parents have also split, says she's putting off marriage until she's sure it's for the right reasons. "I want to make sure it's going to be forever," she says.

With a booming business and plans under way for early retirement, Rodgers says she's more than happy with her single life. "I think 35 [will be] a great time to get married," she says. "You've got stability; you know what you want in life. I think you should live your life, live your dream and once you find that special someone, make it work for you."

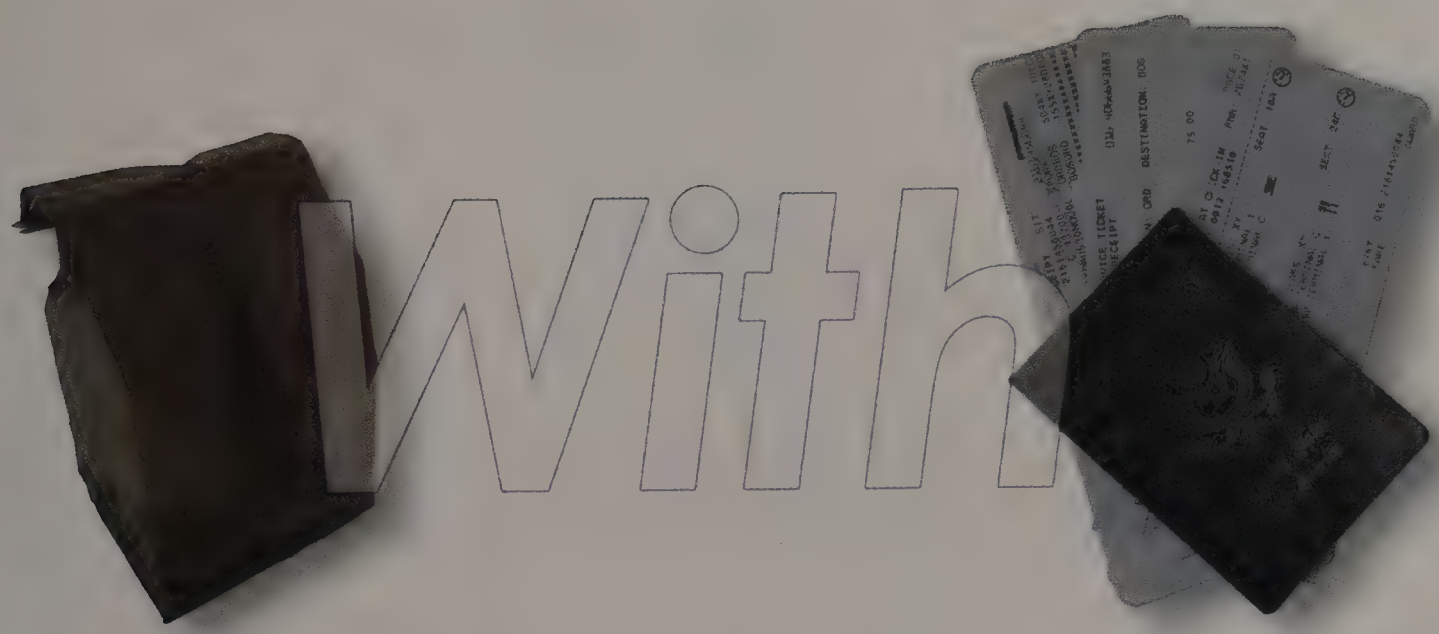
Freeman, who eventually hopes to "have someone there at the end of the day," acknowledges she's set herself up for singledom by searching for an oxymoron.

"I love free spirits, but I want a committed monogamous relationship and I don't think I am going to get that with a free spirit," she explains.

And despite her cherished independence, Howes admits, "it would be a bummer if I end up an old maid." But, she adds, "it is worthwhile to have what's really good for you or to not have anything at all. Second best isn't good enough when you are better off on your own." **iB**

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PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY WILL BYRD



Previous page: Bias tube dress by Milly, $295. Available at Wish.

This page: Tank dress with shearing and lace trim by Rebecca Taylor, $325. Available at Wish.

Sequined tulle cocktail dress
by Nicole Miller, $440.
Available at Betsy Jenney.



Pink metallic irridescent cocktail dress by Nicole Miller, $330. Available at Betsy Jenney

Model: Stephanie for Maggie Models

Hair by Charles Maksou for Maksou Artisan 125 Broad Street [illegible]

Makeup by Jennifer Brown for Maksou Artisan

[illegible]

Wish 49 Charles Street [illegible]

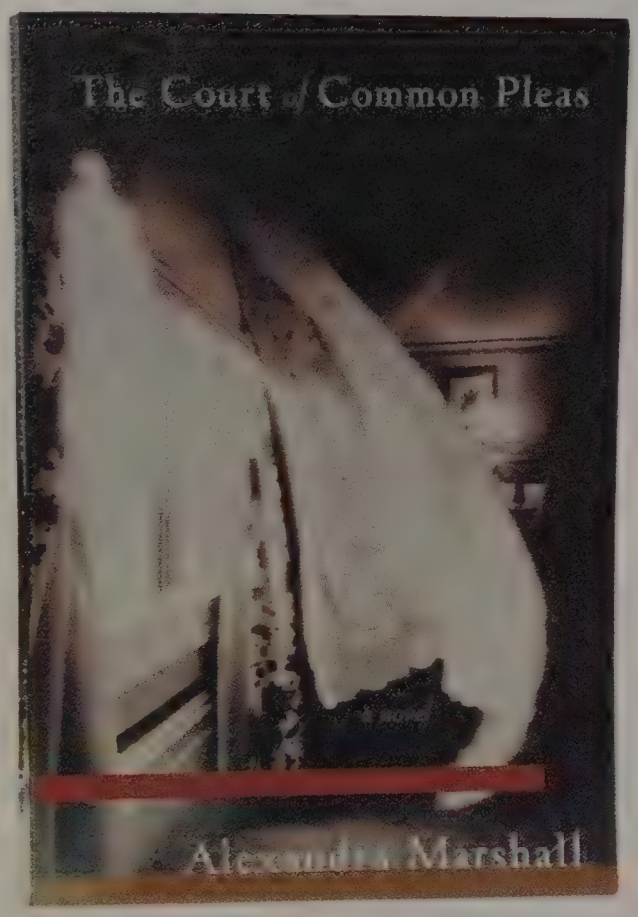
Betsy Jenney 114 Newbury Street 536-2610

Nicole Miller V-neck, flip-back printed dress, $265. Available at Betsy Jonely

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



EMPTY NEST, FULL HEARTS

The Court Of Common Pleas, by novelist Alexandra Marshall, explores a midlife marriage.

In her novel, Alexandra Marshall takes a wry, deeply sympathetic look at the many complexities of marriage. Take Judge Gregory Brennan and his wife, Audrey, found at the point in their marriage when their youngest child is leaving for college. But lo, the oldest child has arrived back home after a car accident, proving that parenthood is, rightly, eternal. Unknown to Gregory, his wife has just gotten accepted into medical school, and while he has been dreaming of the rose petals of retirement and travel, she has been anticipating the colossal red-eye of school and hospitals. Meanwhile, Gregory's mentor, another judge, Rob, has died—leaving him grieving and providing some of the caretaking that the judge's widow and children need. Marshall conveys the many levels of this dilemma in a subtle, textured way, never letting one side of the "argument" prevail cartoonishly. Gregory's reluctance is not about "holding his wife back"; it's about his longing for the rewards of leisurely midlife intimacy. And his quasi-flirtatious feelings toward Rob's widow demonstrate that loss and grief confuse the emotional mix almost as fascinatingly as do still-dependent adolescents and, alas, going to medical school after age 50.



Machine Age owner Normand Mainville with a very yellow chair.

THE SLEEK SHAPE OF THINGS PAST

Machine Age, at 354 Congress Street in Boston sells 20th-century furniture (482-0048, *www.machineage.com*).

As they make their way into the now "classic" past, the design styles of the good ol' 20th century look damn fine. Sleek and chic Bauhaus pieces, including black leather and chrome chairs of the '30s, offer a certain restraint and yet are very sumptuous and comfortable for reclining. And familiar, pragmatic pieces like Charles Eames' stackable molded plastic look cleaner and purer all the time. What could be more sexily optimistic than the red 1950s chair/sofa by Bertoia that look like two red lips? Machine Age lovingly restores and refinishes fading things too (one art deco chair's arms, stripped down, revealed gorgeous carved snakes), and the store also has some reproductions. Playful furniture here includes Herman Miller's "marshmallow chair," which is made of jokey dots that resemble little bar-stool seats all strung together, or a red plastic bureau with drawer pulls that look like squished-out lips. One gray-wool covered sectional sofa stretches forever, then sprouts a perpendicular table-like extension. But the 20th century also offered burled-wood tabletop finishes and even ladylike boudoir pieces featuring etched glass. The whole sweep of the century is represented; its restraint and rebellion and its ornamentation and crispness are presented alongside giant stuffed blue marlins. And a disco ball twirls above it all.



CHANGE IN THE SEXUAL FORECAST

You Are Not Alone, a support group for straight spouses of gay mates, meets at the Newton Wellesley Hospital on the fourth Monday of each month (508-429-0969).

Started by a married woman who learned that the "someone else" in her husband's life wasn't another woman, You Are Not Alone is a support group for men and women whose spouses have left the heterosexual fold. The radical dislocation that this situation entails, even in what may continue to be loving relationships, can be extreme. Confidentiality and anonymity—the watchwords of such groups—protect sensitive territory. Peer leader Ed Payne (left) was blindsided by this experience and now says, "I don't believe in support groups or in therapists, but this has been helpful for me. I would have been bitter without it." After coming out, says Payne, men tend to linger in the original relationship, while women often leave more quickly. In the group, people tell their stories, working through anger, depression, sadness and damage to their self-esteem. They try to find ways to accept the spouse's choice and new life, and to explain the situation to children. "It's a grieving process, and the person tends to blame him or herself at first," says Payne. "The group encourages the straight spouses, who feel so wounded, to take care of themselves."

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in this section:

Review: Oleana
Dish: Charles Draghi on the move
Wine: Investing in wine
Tasty Tidbit: Gazpacho at The Vault

REVIEW

Sun-Drenched Flavors

Ana Sortun's new bistro, Oleana, is a welcome addition to Boston's Mediterranean dining scene.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Patrons sip wine and sample hors d'oeuvres on Oleana's patio.

For the past few years there has been an increasing emphasis on Mediterranean food among Boston restaurants. From the Iberian Peninsula (Dali), to the South of France (Sel de la Terre and Mistral), to Italy (Dolce Vita, Taranta and La Prezza), to Turkey (Margo Bistro), the Mediterranean—the "sea surrounded by land"—was and is the cradle of Western civilization. Its multi-faceted cuisine is one of the most enjoyable manifestations of that culture.

Oleana chef Ana Sortun's sparkling new bistro in Cambridge, about midway between Kendall and Inman squares, is a fine new addition to the Boston restaurant scene, one that is certain to increase discerning diners' appreciation for the flavors of the Mediterranean.

Nuts, olives, honey, lemons, figs, eggplant, tomatoes, oregano, basil, bay leaf and rosemary are ingredients that warm our souls and charm our palates. Sortun's instincts and skills, developed over a dozen years on the Boston restaurant scene, deploy and combine these ingredients with a deft touch.

Right off the bat, a pair of deviled eggs ($3) are a superb if modest starter. Overflowing with a marvelous filling of tuna and black olives in a creamy aioli, they were listed under the heading "pret a manger"—ready to eat—and they were just the thing to keep the appetite at bay as we delved further into Oleana's menu.

Under the category "grains and greens," Oleana offered spicy fideos and chick peas with Swiss chard ($7). This was a delicious, rose-colored Middle Eastern pasta with the warm, pleasantly bitter flavor of Swiss chard and an intriguing orange-nuanced aioli. Clams cataplana with sausage, tomato and boiled potatoes ($9) came to the table in an authentic, copper cooking and serving vessel native to Spain or Portugal, with its contents steamed to facilitate flavor exchanges among the shellfish, sausage and vegetables. Unfortunately, the five clams and tiny nuggets of sausage were sparse indeed. In fact, the sausage was really only a flavoring ingredient, rather than a major component of the dish—and it left us wanting more. We are not big fans of the oversized portions that mark American restaurants, but this dish erred on the meager side of adequate. Another seafood appetizer, grilled shrimp and rice cake with egg-lemon sauce ($9), was toothsome indeed. The three decent-sized shrimp were crunchy in texture, and the egg-lemon sauce was a fine Hollandaise, enhanced by what we took to be the flavor and aroma of saffron rather than the cinnamon listed on the menu.

Oleana

134 Hampshire St., Boston
(661-0505)
HOURS Sun.-Thu., 5:30-10pm; Fri.-Sat., 5:30-11pm
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CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING free after 6pm at Eli Computers Inc.
LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

Moving to the main courses, we encountered a clear winner in the shredded-pork empanada ($17). The pastry was rich and tender, and the filling of pork, rhubarb, spinach and pine nuts was unforgettably delicious, with a felicitous blending of complementary flavors and textures. Grilled lamb steak with Turkish spices and fava bean moussaka ($19) was a superbly satisfying rendering of the Mediterranean's most popular meat, accompanied by an imaginatively conceived and well-executed moussaka topped with Greek melting cheese, mint and yogurt. The lamb was tender, rare and juicy, and the mint leaves—unlike the horribly cloying mint jelly with which Northern Europeans too often corrupt lamb—provided a fresh counterpoint to its intense, almost gamey flavor.

Almond fried chicken with red rice, beans and Provençal herbs ($17) was less successful. On an earlier visit, we had been intrigued by its delightful aroma, which wafted over from a neighboring table. Unfortunately, on the night we ordered it, the chicken appeared to have been left in the fryer too long, since it was excessively browned, with a thick crust that wholly pre-empted the flavor of the herbs. The accompanying rice and tiny light-green beans, however, were excellent.

Oleana offers more seafood than meat dishes, as is perhaps fitting for a restaurant



Oleana co-owner Gary Griffin poses outside the kitchen with chef/owner Ana Sortun. Inset: Turkish spiced lamb.

so self-consciously Mediterranean. Dishes included a first-rate filet of monkfish stuffed with artichoke and lemon, and braised with fig and fennel ($21). The fish had that resilient texture one looks for in monkfish, which is often called "mock lobster." The dark, rich fig-and-fennel-accented sauce was a particularly fine accompaniment, but we were hard-pressed to detect artichoke flavor in this complex preparation.

Desserts were inconsistent. The tapioca tart ($8) on one evening was heavenly. I did not think that this simple, straightforward pudding, which was a staple dessert at our house, could be turned into such a first-rate dessert. The pastry was rich with butter, and the tapioca just sweet enough. The grilled pineapple chunks that surrounded it were the perfect garnish. Also excellent was the peanut brittle ice cream with an accompanying honey, lemon and pistachio cookie. On another evening, however, the chocolate tort ($8), which required advance ordering, was only fair. We found it dry, and though we normally appreciate warm desserts, this was served so hot as to impinge on its flavor. The accompanying ice cream had a slightly odd herb flavoring that one might call "interesting."

Similarly disappointing was the wine list, which offered a dearth of reds in the lower price range. Of what is offered, the Casa de Santar Dao Riserva, a 1998 Portuguese red, was very good, its robust flavors and sturdy tannins standing up well to the pronounced flavors of Oleana's Mediterranean cuisine. The menu prices at Oleana are so reasonable in general that we were dismayed that more of an effort had not been made to offer drinkable wines at more consumer-friendly prices.

Service at Oleana was only fair. On our first visit we had no fewer than four different individuals bring us different courses. The bartender, apparently pressed into service with inadequate information, brought us someone else's order. On the second visit, our request for salt went unfilled until we had almost finished our meal. Also on our second visit, bread—terrific, hard-crusted loaves, accompanied by fruity olive oil—did not make its appearance until we had almost finished our first course.

In contrast to the indifferent and inconsistent service, the décor at Oleana is charming. We were impressed with the ramp leading to the front door, facilitating patronage by physically limited guests. The cork-appointed walls, liberal use of stone and slate, cute pot-bellied stove, and hanging blue Oriental carpet on one wall provided an eclectic yet tasteful melange of colors and textures. Small tables were decorated with small stone tiles, and there were a couple of lovely leaded-glass partitions separating different parts of the space.

With its beguiling food and pleasant décor, which far outweigh its indifferent service, Oleana is worth a detour or even a voyage to this corner of Cambridge. Sortun's culinary prowess drives home the geographic reality that the Mediterranean Sea has shores to the north, south, east and west, and we are enriched by her efforts. iB



DISH

Just Say "Noi!"

Draghi moves South...Bomboa moves outside...Bastille Day moves the bubbly...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

From North to South via Limbo—that's one way to describe Charles Draghi's career path. Formerly executive chef at Marcuccio's in the North End, Draghi is now putting the final touches on a menu for the jazz bar Limbo, set to open Aug. 1 near Downtown Crossing, and is looking ahead to opening his very own restaurant in the South End in a few months.

The new place will be named "**Noi**," which Draghi explains is "us" or "we" in Italian. The "we" in this case is Draghi and his fiancée, Joan Johnson, who ran the front of the house at Marcuccio's while Draghi oversaw the kitchen. They did that "basically all by ourselves, seven days a week, for four years," says Draghi.

Fans of Marcuccio's will be pleased to hear that Draghi's new menu will feature dishes that are "contemporary Italian, very much like Marcuccio's but with more finesse." These same folks may be puzzled to hear Draghi also describe the food as "country farmhouse Italian."

Finesse and country farmhouse? Sounds like a contradiction, but Draghi, with a degree in English from Harvard, is quick to elaborate on his terminology.

"The flavors I get are flavors you don't see in Boston Italian restaurants," he says. For example, Draghi combines straightforward, simple-roasted meats with the "finesse technique" of making and using a fruit "must," defined as "wild, organic fruit, crushed and fermented for two or three months with herbs, vinified so it's not sweet," then blended with a bit of olive oil and pan drippings before serving as a sauce. It is not, he asserts, "just throwing wine skins" on the meat, although his approach derives from his Italian relatives, who hunted wild game, roasted it, then reached into the wine vat for a handful of fermented grapes as a condiment.

Draghi and Johnson plan a late September or early October opening in the former **Blackstone on the Square**, whose windows overlooking Blackstone Park remind Draghi of restaurants in Torino. There's a possibility of outdoor dining next year, Draghi says. Meanwhile, prices will be reasonable, presentations will be refined ("no bones in the rabbit or herb stems in everything") and his confidence seems well-founded.



Charles Draghi, formerly the executive chef at Marcuccio's in the North End, and his fiancée Joan Johnson, formerly manager at Marcuccio's, will open a new restaurant in the South End called Noi.

"What Joan and I do together could be one of the best restaurants in the city," Draghi says.

SECOND COURSE

Bomboa continues to thrive without missing a beat after the abrupt departure of former executive chef **E. Michael Reidt**. Stellar executive chef/owner **Felino Samson** has whipped up a hot new menu, and any day now a new patio addition will seat up to 90 diners in specially landscaped urban splendor on Stanhope Street.

Liberty! Equality! Gastronomy! **Bastille Day** is a terrific holiday, offering historical precedent to celebrate with French style and French food in your choice of venue. In Harvard Square, a family-friendly street fun fair July 15 includes nibbles priced from $1 to $5 from the likes of **Sandrine's**, **Butterfish**, **Elephant Walk**, **Brasserie Jo**, **Mistral** and **Sel de la Terre**. Over in Boston, Bastille Day is observed on the historically correct date of July 14 at Le Meridien's Café Fleuri and Maison Robert. Expect a more rambunctious evening at Café Fleuri, where cabaret artists perform, radio DJs will give away prizes, and Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI will make a very special appearance (with or without their heads?). Maison Robert, on the other hand, plans a "civilized" dinner complemented by live music, patriotic décor and tastefully costumed servers. Vive la France, and pass the champagne, *s'il vous plait*. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

Investing in Wine

BY SANDY BLOCK MW

Anyone who's ever invested in wine to make a profit knows that it isn't easy. The spectacular price appreciation of rare vintages of Bordeaux may make this look like an attractive game, but it's full of pitfalls. Especially now—with a massive campaign under way to market the as-yet-unbottled 2000 Bordeaux vintage (which, by all accounts, is outstanding)—there's renewed talk of investing in cases of the top wines as a "sure thing." If you hear anyone suggesting that you use money that you will need in the future in order to do this, my advice is to walk the other way.

What are the risks? You may have to sue shadowy companies to recover your costs if there is a problem with delivery or quality. You can do your research online, but beware of buying from an Internet Web site and confine real down-payment purchases to trusted merchants. Fraud is not common, but it has occurred (one estimate is that there has been in the neighborhood of $300 million lost worldwide to wine investment scams), and there is none of the complex regulatory machinery that oversees investments in, for instance, financial products. At the very least, there is no obligation on the part of the merchant to prove to a government commission that he or she is offering competent advice. Picking the wrong wine is therefore also a potential problem: Not every wine—even in the best vintage—appreciates in price. General economic conditions definitely affect your potential investment; in low-growth environments, people spend less discretionary cash on luxuries. Timing is everything, and among those investors who bought Bordeaux futures after the amazing run-up of 1982, most were left with wine that in real dollars fetched the same 10 years later as it did at the time it was purchased. Buying at the right price is always an issue; the first "tranche," or release, of 2000 has already largely been sold out despite steep 50 percent price increases over lackluster 1999. Initial demand proved strong despite record-high prices because of reports of unprecedented quality. But the wines coming to market now will be offered at a much higher price. Not to say that they also won't appreciate, but if you're looking to sell them, this would be like getting in on the second round after the IPO has already gone skyward. You have to shop around because there is substantial variation in the prices each merchant offers.

Wine is not an easy investment to sell, although it's not as onerous as it once was. The secondary market for quality is active today. There is a much more active trading scene among consumers. In fact, long-term wine industry figures blame rampant speculation (similar to the type that caused problems in the financial markets) for some of what is viewed as an unsustainable price increase for the new Bordeaux vintage. Prices can (and probably will) drop in the future, but losses on wine cannot be written off against profits (as would be the case with equities). For tax purposes you need to keep good records : Keep track of when you purchased the wine and how much you paid because there are no brokers to do this for you. Wine is bulky, perishable and expensive to ship and insure. If you're looking to sell it at auction, which is probably the best option right now, you need to take into account the hefty premium paid to the auction company (approaching 20 percent) and not allow yourself to be dazzled by the purchase price itself. If you need to raise cash quickly, forget it. It's quite a different scenario than logging on to the Web, or picking up your phone and shouting "Sell!"

There is a great reason to invest, however. If you buy a wine you particularly like when it's young (and if you have outstanding storage, a lot of patience, access to some good advice about what to buy, and a taste for mature wine flavors), you'll likely have a more satisfying experience than if you want to make a killing. Buy what you love—not because it will be more expensive when it's ready to drink, but because you won't be able to find any later. But be careful. iB

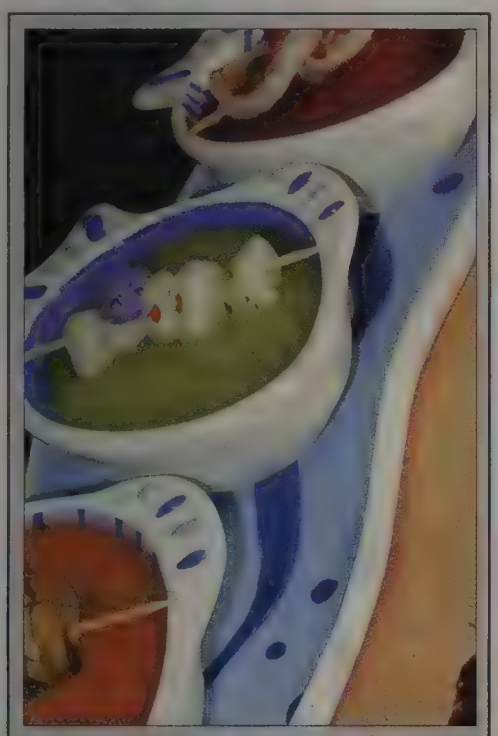
Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Bastille Day
Cafe Fleuri, 250 Franklin St., Boston (800-791-7761). July 14. $39. Enjoy passed hors d'oeuvres followed by a three-course meal and live entertainment by cabaret artists.

Bastille Day at Maison Robert
Maison Robert, 45 School St., Boston (227-3370). MBTA: Green Line to Park. July 14. $40. An evening of food, wine and live music.



The Vault offers gazpacho and ceviche at the bar. (And that blue flower is edible, too.)

TASTY TIDBIT

A COLD FISH

Typically, the restaurant biz slows down a bit in the summer as Bostonians flee to the beach, which forces proprietors to come up with unique ways to entice diners to stick around. One that caught our eye was a new ceviche and gazpacho station at The Vault. Served at the copper bar, chef Michael Foley's gazpacho is a departure from the typical tomato-based soup. He experiments with such varieties as strawberry gazpacho with citrus shrimp ceviche or honeydew melon gazpacho flavored with mint and accompanied by skewered scallops. All are served in colorful ceramic dishes, and at $9 for three tastes, it's a great deal. Says owner Sue Fortuna, "It may take a bit of effort to convince our meat-and-potato eaters to try it. We'll just have to ease them into it." *105 Water St., Boston (292-9966).*

Beer, Bites, Brewers and Books
Sam Adams Brewery, 30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain (876-0079). July 9, 5:30-8pm. $45. Boston Beer Company founder **Jim Koch** and **Jasper White**, owner of Summer Shack, host a tasting of favorite food-and-beer combinations.

Brewery Dinner Series
Cambridge Brewing Company, One Kendall Square, Cambridge (494-1994). www.cambrew.com. *July 14, 6:30 or 8:30pm. $45.* Enjoy five courses prepared by chef **Chris Carlson** matched with five beers. Meet the CBC's brewers.

Celeb Chef Series
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520). 7-9pm. $29-$65. Treat yourself to a tasting of the chefs' specialties: • July 9: Chef **Gerard Lopez** of Elephant Walk • July 10: Sous chef **Max Harvey** of Jasper White's Summer Shack • July 14: Tour Mercury Brewery with brewmaster **Horst Dornbusch**. • July 16: Chef/owner **Dave Becker** of Sweet Basil.

Community Lunch Series
July 13: Baker Bridge Farm, Route 126 and Baker-bridge Avenue, Lincoln; July 16: West Cottage Road, Lincoln (781-259-8621). Boston-area chefs work with five youths to prepare a healthy meal for the community. • July 13: **Raymond Ost** of Sandrine's • July 16: **Josh Childs** of Silvertone.

Discover Alsace
July 14: French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston; July 17: Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (542-5208). $25. Learn all about Alsace and enjoy Fischer Beer and hors d'oeuvres.

Fabulous Fridays: Pie in the Sky
The Federalist, 15 Beacon St., Boston (445-7777). MBTA: Green Line to Park. July 13, 6:30-9:30pm. $25, $30 at the door. This event will feature lavish desserts created by **Judy Mattera**, pastry chef at The Fed, to benefit Pie in the Sky.

La Fête de la Fédération
Beacon Hill Bistro, 25 Charles St., Boston (723-7575). July 9-14. $35, $50 including wine. Chef **Al Soto** offers a three-course prix fixe menu in honor of Bastille Day.

Guest Chef Series at Eat
Eat, 253 Washington St., Somerville (776-2889). • July 7: Cast Iron Guest Chef Challenge with **Peter Sueltenfuss** of Davio's • July 16: **Ron Abell** from Icarus.

Guinness Nostalgia Night
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern, 77 Broad St., Boston (338-5656). July 19, 5-7pm. True Guinness fans can collect authentic memorabilia.

Late Night Dining at Kingfish Hall
Faneuil Hall South Marketplace, Boston (523-8862). Thu.-Sat., 10pm-1am. Sample menu items include lobster rolls, raw bar, crab cakes, burgers, chowder, tuna sliders and beef skewers.

Spa Cuisine Cooking Class
Giuliano, 338 Newbury St., Boston (262-2220). July 10, 6:30pm. $45. Dietitian **Wendy Diamond** teaches you how to put together a healthy yet fancy feast.

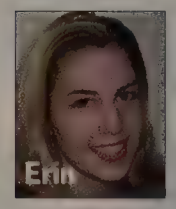
Spanish Fiesta: San Fermin 2001
Metropolis Cafe, 584 Tremont St., Boston (247-2931). July 9, 6pm and 8:30pm. $60. Chef **Kenny Jervis** will prepare five courses representing the Navarra region of Spain.

Summer Guest Chef Series
Trattoria Il Panino, 295 Franklin St., Boston (338-4112). $85. • July 9: Chef **Filippo Paolini** of Tappo in New York prepares a five-course meal with wine.

Soft Shell Crab Dinners
Top of the Hub, Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775); Caliterra, 89 Broad St., Boston (556-0006). Through July 19. Both restaurants serve up sof shell crab creations.



agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 42

PERFORMING ARTS 44

ART 46

FILM 50

BOOKS & POETRY 54

EDUCATION 54

DANCE CLUBS 56

MUSIC 60

CLASSICAL MUSIC 66

GAY & LESBIAN 68

BODY & MIND 70

CHILDREN 70

SPORTS 70

AROUND TOWN 71

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

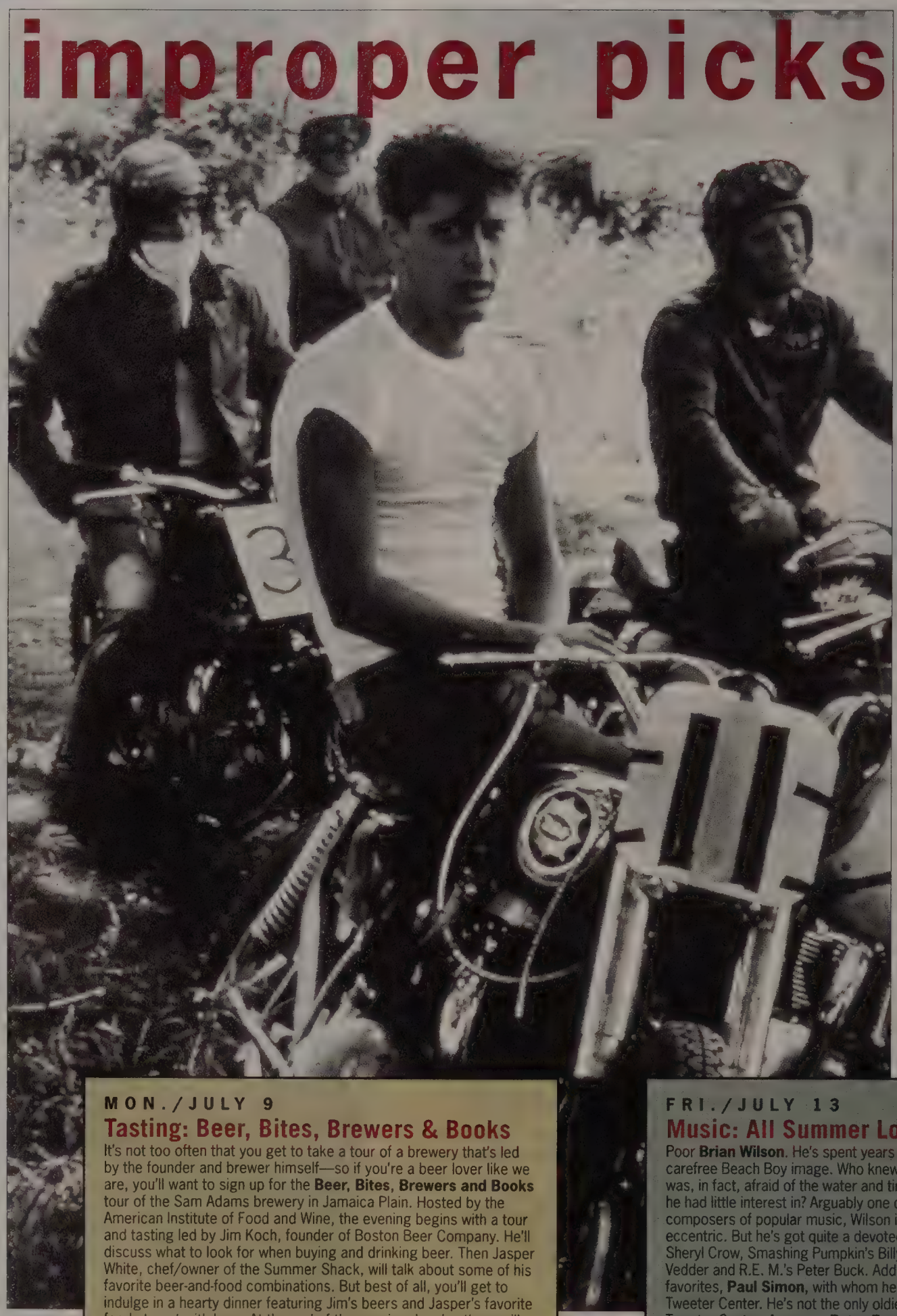
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope, Sports

improper picks



WED./JULY 18

Art: *The Social Scene*

Images of postwar America are as varied as can be—the civil rights movement, gritty urban stretches and suburban landscapes, industrial growth, street scenes, and all kinds of people ranging from rebellious bikers to mental patients to fortune tellers—all come together in *The Social Scene*, a collection of artists' efforts to document the history of an era of great social change. The collection of 250 photographs, organized by the Museum of Contemporary Art in Los Angeles, was originally amassed by New York collector Robert Freidus, capture American culture between the 1930s and the 1980s, as seen through the lenses of photographers from all camps, including Brassaï, Diane Arbus, Lee Friedlander, Robert Frank, Helen Levitt, Danny Lyon (left), Roger Mertin, John Pfahl and Garry Winogrand. Much of these photographers' works have come to define the photographic practice of the late 20th-century and present a nostalgic image of America to the world. July 18-Sept. 30. *The Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). $6, $4 children and seniors.*

MON./JULY 9

Tasting: Beer, Bites, Brewers & Books

It's not too often that you get to take a tour of a brewery that's led by the founder and brewer himself—so if you're a beer lover like we are, you'll want to sign up for the **Beer, Bites, Brewers and Books** tour of the Sam Adams brewery in Jamaica Plain. Hosted by the American Institute of Food and Wine, the evening begins with a tour and tasting led by Jim Koch, founder of Boston Beer Company. He'll discuss what to look for when buying and drinking beer. Then Jasper White, chef/owner of the Summer Shack, will talk about some of his favorite beer-and-food combinations. But best of all, you'll get to indulge in a hearty dinner featuring Jim's beers and Jasper's favorite foods to eat with beer. At the end of the evening, local authors will sign their cookbooks. It sounds like heaven to us. *30 Germania St., Jamaica Plain (876-0079). July 9, 5:30-8pm. $45.*

FRI./JULY 13

Music: All Summer Long

Poor **Brian Wilson**. He's spent years trying to escape from his carefree Beach Boy image. Who knew that this former Beach Boy was, in fact, afraid of the water and tired of writing about subjects that he had little interest in? Arguably one of the most underappreciated composers of popular music, Wilson is definitely one of the more eccentric. But he's got quite a devoted following, including Neil Young, Sheryl Crow, Smashing Pumpkin's Billy Corgan, Pearl Jan's Eddie Vedder and R.E. M.'s Peter Buck. Add to that list another of our favorites, **Paul Simon**, with whom he appears on July 13 at the Tweeter Center. He's not the only oldie but goodie who's coming to the Tweeter Center. **Journey**, **Peter Frampton** and **John Waite** will be there on July 6, **Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers** on July 8 and **Stevie Nicks** on July 14. www.ticketmaster.com. *(228-6000).*



SAT./JULY 14

Music: Forever Stevie

Singer/songwriter Stevie Nicks (Stephanie Lynn Nicks) has been churning out gentle ballads and soft pop for decades. Hailing from Phoenix, Arizona, she has been performing since the age of four when she took to the stage in her parents' tavern. In high school, she formed the band Fritz with Lindsey Buckingham, and in the late '60s, the pair became something of a West Coast phenom, opening for huge acts like Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin. A few years down the road, Nicks and Buckingham recorded an album, and although it was a flop, it caught the eye of pop wonder Fleetwood Mac. In '74, they teamed up, and the rest is history: massive success, a giant following ('77's *Rumours* sold more than 17 million copies), and the inevitable decline. Nicks stuck with it for a long time before setting off for a solo career in the early '90s. Her May release, *Trouble in Shangri-la*, was her first solo album since '94's *Street Angel*. The album has so many guest musician gal pals, it could easily be mistaken for a Lilith Fair bootleg—there's Macy Gray, Sheryl Crow, Sarah McLachlan, Dixie Chick Natalie Maines. Nicks promotes the album with a show in Mansfield this week at the Tweeter Center. *Route 140, Mansfield (508-339-2333).*



THU./JULY 12

CityScope: Light Our Fire

What's a little festival to do if it doesn't have the promotions or financial backing of the bigger celebrations like Harborfest or First Night? If it's the **Lantern Festival** at Forest Hills Cemetery, it continues in relative under-funded obscurity and hopes that eventually the public will catch on to what a wonderful event it is. Take our word for it: Enter this one into your Palm Pilot. Held on the banks of Lake Hibiscus, the Lantern Festival combines Buddhist ritual and spiritual music and dance. You'll be given paper to write the name of a loved one or a personal message, and calligraphers will be on hand to brush black ink onto the white paper. As dusk falls, hundreds of Bostonians will light a candle and send their thoughts (and handmade paper lanterns) across the pond to the sound of a lone bagpiper's call. Apparently the non-denominational ceremony draws upon the meaning of light as a powerful symbol of life and death, remembrance, healing and hope. On a more superficial level, it's a darn beautiful sight. Pack a picnic and enjoy performances by Japanese drummers and dancers. *Forest Hills Cemetery, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (524-0128). www.foresthillstrust.org. July 12, 6-9pm. Free.*

THROUGH JULY 11

Theater: McCarthyism Takes Over the Rep

There are plenty of compelling reasons to attend the American Repertory Theatre's production of ***The Glass Menagerie***—among them, the Tony Award-winning actress Elizabeth Ashley ("It isn't likely that a star has put a more individual spin than Ms. Ashley does on the fearsome character who Williams said induces love and pity as much as laughter," wrote *The New York Times*). It received rave reviews in Hartford ("This is the one production of the year that shouldn't be missed," wrote *The Connecticut Post*). But our reasons are more self-serving: to make our teenage dreams come true by sitting 20 feet from '80s heartthrob **Andrew McCarthy**, teen dream and star of such classics as *Pretty in Pink*, *Sixteen Candles* and *St. Elmo's Fire*. We can scarcely contain our excitement to watch him play Tom, the reluctant breadwinner of a family abandoned by its patriarch during the Great Depression. His mother, Amanda (played by Ashley), tries to maintain her dignity and provide for the future in Tennessee Williams' early masterpiece, directed by Michael Wilson. Be still our hearts! *64 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through July 11. $29-$59.*



MON./JULY 16

Books: Literary Parody

There's nothing quite like a healthy dose of controversy to jazz up what would otherwise be an average book release. If you haven't heard the hoopla about screenwriter Alice Randall, a Harvard grad who doubles as a country singer, you'll get a chance to hear it from the author directly when she reads from her controversial first novel, *The Wind Done Gone*. A parody of Margaret Mitchell's Southern classic *Gone With the Wind*, Randall's novel explores the same period from the viewpoint of a mulatto slave woman (critiquing slavery and racism along the way)—much to the discomfort the Mitchell estate. The resulting lawsuit filed by Mitchell Trusts ended in a ban on the book, forbidding Houghton Mifflin from publishing and promoting it, but an all-out battle of First Ammendment rights ensued, garnering national attention including an outpouring of support for the book from writers Harper Lee and Toni Morrison. The lawsuit finally was overturned in May, allowing it to be published after all. You can't ask for better hype than that. *Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660).*



WED./JULY 4

CityScope: Independence Day Shebangs

James Taylor is at Tanglewood. **The Summer Wind Symphony** is at the Tweeter Center. **Keith Lockhart** is at the Hatch Shell. And thousands (and we mean thousands) of people all have the same idea—milling through downtown to take in as many of the 4th sights as possible. About 500,000 people will attend the **Pops Fourth of July Esplanade Concert**, and it's going to take some careful maneuvering to have a barbecque and still have time to hit all of the main attractions. Some of the highlights: There's **Boston Harborfest**, starting with a 9am celebration and short parade at City Hall, a reading of the *Declaration of Independence* on the balcony at the Old State House and a 21 Gun Salute to the Nation off the USS *Constitution* near Castle Island, South Boston. At City Hall Plaza is the **Cape Verdean Festival** (635-3404), the annual shebang with Cape Verdean music, food, art, dance and performances. If you hustle, you'll be able to take in the festivities and then head down to the Esplanade for the night's main event: the fireworks and the Pops concert at 10pm. And, if you decide to avoid the crowds and stay in, the **Comedy Studio** celebrates Independence Day on July 5 with a comedic tour of our country's history that actually includes indoor fireworks.

FRI./JULY 13 & SAT./JULY 14

Film: Giant Classic Films

It's a battle of the bulge. One that started with the Fenway theater. It seems that whoever has the biggest screen wins. And everything about the new Loews Boston Common, which is on the verge of its grand opening (slated for mid-July), is gigantic. It has a screen that dwarfs most in the area (not to mention its gigantic $10 admission ticket). But its biggest screen—measuring more than 23 feet by 55 feet in an auditorium that seats 700, doesn't match that of the **Wang Center**, whose screen still holds the title of the biggest in New England, with dimensions of 23 feet by 60 feet. So if for you, size matters (and you can put off checking out the new three-floor, 19 screens with state-of-the-art sound systems until next weekend) head down the street from the new Loews to the Wang Center to see two classic greats that each sparked many a sequel. On Friday, July 13, superstitious free adventurers head out for the '80s sci-fi thriller with incredible special effects, ***The Terminator***. Or if bad luck strikes and you miss it, try again Saturday, this time to see another dystopic futuristic flick ***Mad Max***, with Australian badass Mel Gibson in one of his only good roles. *268 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393).*

FRI./JULY 13—MON./JULY 16

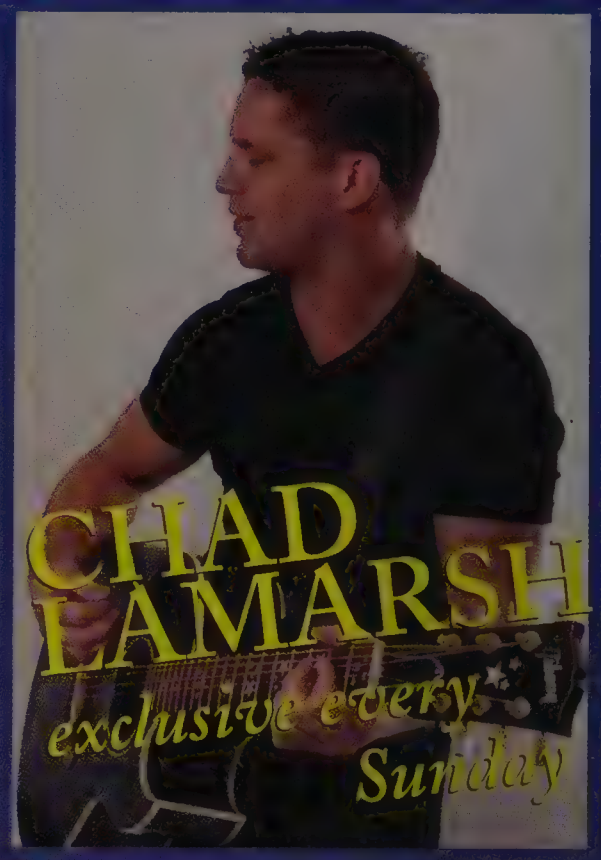
CityScope: Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler

With the Fourth of July falling inconveniently on a Wednesday this year, Bostonians may be in greater need of another excuse to party during that long stretch before Labor Day. (Really, we ask, who can toast the fireworks in true style if they have work the next day?) That's where **Bastille Day** fits in. As a nation, we've adopted this French holiday—which celebrates the end of the French monarchy and marks the start of the Revolution and the birth of the French nation—as our own. In France, they celebrate it with a military parade, fireworks, live music in the streets and parties. Here in Boston, we're a bit more tame (this *is* an adopted holiday, after all). On July 13, the French Library and Cultural Center will host a street festival with puppet shows and games early in the evening for the kids and then dancing to the music of WFNX DJ Mike Traylor and the West African rhythms of Rumbafrica for the adults. On July 15, in Harvard Square, you can "storm the republic of Cambridge" by sampling tidbits from a variety of restaurants and dancing to live music. Quench your thirst at the impromptu beer gardens. If you want to go the civilized route, both Cafe Fleuri and Maison Robert are offering multicourse meals with live entertainment on July 14. *See CityScope on page 48 or Tastings on page 37 for more information.*

NICKS: ALBERT SANCHEZ; RANDALL: DENNIS WILE



BOSTON'S BEST 1997 — IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
BOSTON'S BEST 1998 — IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
BOSTON'S BEST 1999 — IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
BOSTON'S BEST 2000 — IMPROPER BOSTONIAN



inside RACK

THE

Every Monday Night – "In The Biz Night," hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Tuesday Night, 6pm – After-work Jazz Party featuring the band MD!

Every Wednesday Night, 6pm – Summer Reggae Party & DJ Steve Anderson.

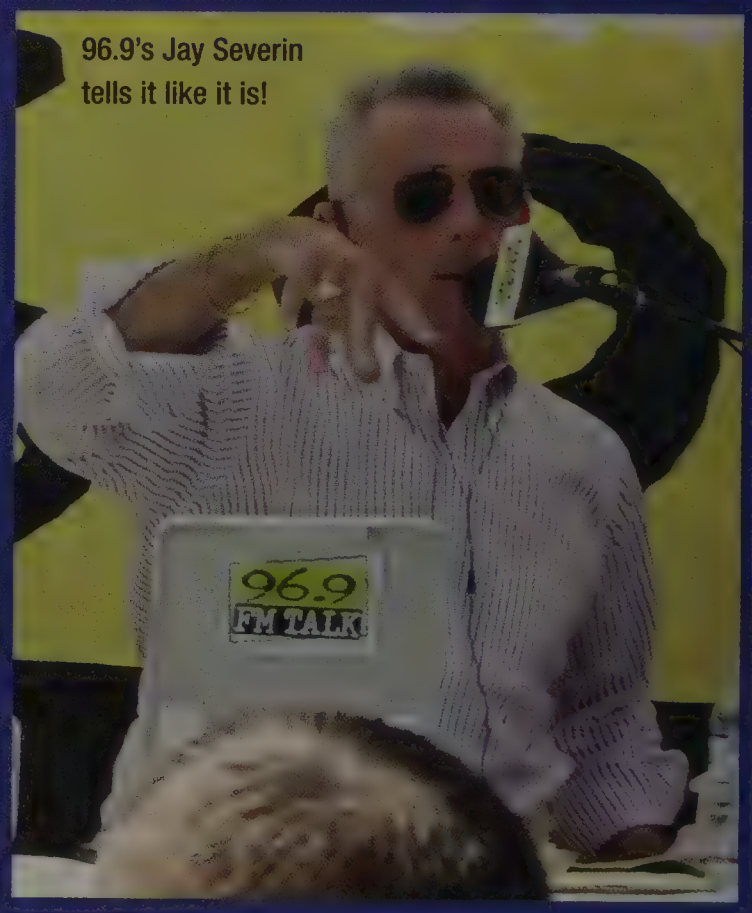
Every Thursday Night, 6pm – "RADIO-ACTIVE" Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes, hosted by Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman or Party-Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky mixes it up 'til 2am.

Every Friday Night, 6pm – Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Every Saturday Night – Star 93.7 Dance Party with Vinnie Peruzzi broadcasting live!

Tuesday, July 25th, 6:30pm – Pre-Pan Mass Challenge Party! Join us to celebrate Pan Mass riders and cheer on the first ever PMC Kayakers TeamRack who will be kayaking from Boston's Rowes Wharf to Provincetown! Mark Morris & The Catunes and DJ Ricky will keep you dancing all night!

Saturday, July 31st, 6:30pm – Hootie & The Blowfish and Amy Correia live! Fashion, food, cocktails and music! All proceeds go to benefit the Breast Awareness Movement. This gala is hosted by Spin City's Connie Britton, Mix 98.5's Gregg Daniels and the Improper Bostonian Magazine. It will begin with a celebrity cocktail party and runway fashion show by Boston's top designers and models from Maggie Inc. After the show, Boston's Hottest DJs will spin the night away! Please call The Rack for tickets and details.



24 Clinton Street, Boston 02109 617.725.1051 www.therackboston.com



Congratulations to Colorado Avalanches' Captain Joe Sakic and his teammates on becoming Stanley Cup champions.



RACK







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cityscope

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

Independence Day Cannon Salute

Cambridge Common, (349-4760). 12-6pm. There will be plenty of activities for the family, including soccer, food and music all day.

Olmsted Day Celebration

Jamaica Pond, Boston and Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site, 99 Warren St., Brookline (566-1689, ext. 216). 12-4pm. Free. Celebrate the life and achievements of Frederick Law Olmsted, acclaimed urban architect and designer of Boston's Emerald Necklace chain of parks. Enjoy ranger-guided walks, New England Aquarium freshwater programs, storytelling by Brother Blue and live performances by Boston Community Choir, Huntington Brass Quintet and more.

Independence Day on the Esplanade

The Charles River Esplanade, Boston (888-4th-POPS). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.july4th.org. *8pm. concert; 10pm. fireworks. Free.* Spread out a blanket, bring a picnic, cruise up in your yacht, whatever. Enjoy one of the biggest and best 4th of July celebrations in the country.

Independence Day Celebration

City Hall Plaza, Boston. 9-10am.
Flag raising followed by a short parade.

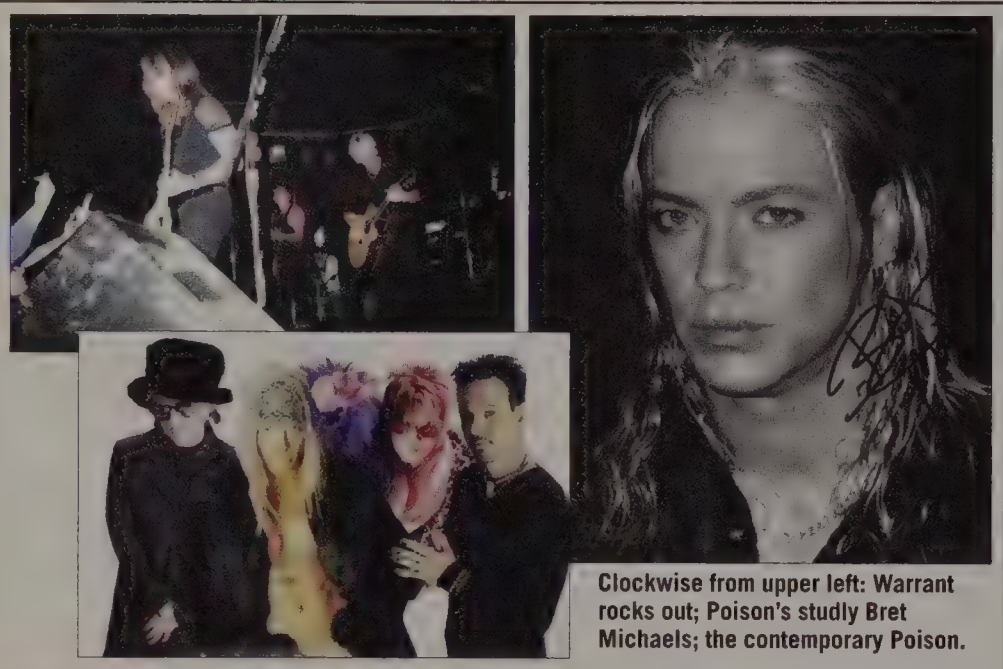
An Old-Fashioned Fourth of July

Rt. 20, Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge (508-347-3362, ext. 338). 9am- 5pm. adults $20; seniors $18; youths 6-15 $10; under age 6, Free. Bring a picnic, and enjoy the sounds of fifes and drums, and a dramatic reading of the Declaration of Independence. The festivities will also include a toy hot-air balloon flight and the Village's historical parade.

THURSDAY, JULY 5

Weekly Workout at Faneuil Hall

Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (737-3500). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Thursdays, 12-2pm. Local radio personality Karen Blake hosts this live weekly workout. Let the tourists gawk. You're beautiful, baby!



Clockwise from upper left: Warrant rocks out; Poison's studly Bret Michaels; the contemporary Poison.

Preview

The Glam Slam Jam

Poison and friends prove every perm has its comb

Tease it. Spray it. Make it big...really big. On July 7, the Tweeter Center is set to host this summer's marquee big-hair festival, The Poison Glam Slam Metal Jam. The music of Poison, along with fellow bands Quiet Riot, Warrant and Enuff 'z Nuff, take audiences to an era when rock 'n' roll rocked and the skyscraper perm was in—on women and men.

Approaching their 20th anniversary, Poison remains one of the hottest heavy metal acts of the 80s. Formed in 1983 in Harrisburg, Pa., by vocalist Bret Michaels and drummer Rikki Rocket, the two were later joined by guitarist C.C. Deville and bassist Bobby Dall. Although surrounded by other great bands of their time like Guns 'n Roses and Def Leppard, Poison created an identity for itself. The lyrics to "Every Rose Has Its Thorn," for instance, were immortalized in *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*.

Quiet Riot, another favorite from the aerosol age, is among the opening bands. 1983's "Cum On Feel the Noize" cemented their Monster of Rock status and recent hits from their 1995 album, *Down to the Bone*, ought to rock the Tweeter Center.

And the Metal Jam doesn't end there. Warrant, which toured with Poison in 1990, will give the 2001 crowd another taste of "Cherry Pie." Enuff 'z Nuff, the third group to shake up the stage before Poison, will deliver more 80s sounds, as well as songs from their most recent album, *10*.

They were idolized, admired, and lusted after, but more important, the members of the big-hair bands defined a canon of music in the 1980s. Almost two decades later, their music is still appreciated by mullets and non-mullets alike. So watch out, ozone layer! The hair spray is back in July when the The Poison Glam Slam Metal Jam invades the Tweeter Center.

July 7, 6pm. Tweeter Center, Mansfield (508-339-2333)* www.tweetercenter.com. *$25-35. —Sarah C. Kendrigan

FRIDAY, JULY 6

Fabulous Fridays at the Fed

The Federalist, 15 Beacon St., Boston (670-2515). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park. 4:30-7:30pm. Works of art from the MFA are on view in the Federalist's impressive wine cellar. Look them over and knock back a glass or two of a rare vintage with the artist.

MFA Fridays

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org. *5:30-9:30pm, $10.* Enjoy live jazz, cocktails and fine art as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

New Bedford Summerfest

New Bedford (508-999-5231). Through July 8. New Bedford's Summerfest is a three-day folk festival that takes place on the waterfront and in the historic district of the city. Over 100 performers comprise the 40 musical groups that will bring traditional, contemporary, Anglo/Celtic and world music to six stages. In addition, 50 artisans and vendors will line the streets, and there will be musical workshops as well as performances.

TGIF at the Museum of Science

Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org. *6-10pm, $20.* Let it all hang out with a few cocktails and an Omni screening. And while you're there, you can run up and down the Steps of Music a few times and duck into the new exhibits.

SATURDAY, JULY 7

Micro Mini Car Day

Museum of Transportation, 15 Newton Street, Brookline (522-6547, ext. 20). 10am-5pm. $5. Can't get a date? Everyone knows three-wheeler Morgans are irresistible to the opposite sex. If you don't have one to cruise in yourself, at least you can come down to the Museum of Transportation's sunny lawn and dream about purchasing a Goggomobil someday.

Lighthouse Expedition

Long Wharf, Boston (781-740-4290). 10:30am-5pm. $34. Take a leisurely, narrated cruise to view eight classic New England lighthouses. The boat stops in Plymouth for two hours.

Butterflies in Your Tummy?

Boston Harbor Islands (781-821-2977), 10am, $4.50. Join a local butterfly expert and enjoy the fresh air away from Boston while you observe those beauteous winged inhabitants of the islands.

SUNDAY, JULY 8

Festa di Madonna Del Grazie

Endicott St., North End, Boston. 2pm. Free. Processional only.

Jamaica Pond Stroll

Jamaica Pond Nature Center, Jamaicaway and Pond St. (635-7383). 8-9am. Start your morning off with a leisurely 1.5 mile stroll around Jamaica Pond and learn about the pond's history and wildlife from one of the Nature Center's rangers.

Fun in the Sun at Pleasure Bay

Pleasure Bay, South Boston (727-1300, ext. 555). www.state.ma.us. *12-4pm. Free.* Do the moon-bounce and superslide your way to the beach while listening to rock and roll bands. Your kids can even join in the fun, building castles, making kites and getting their faces painted.

MONDAY, JULY 9

First Night—Summer Beat 2001

Various Outdoor Locations, Boston (542-1399). www.first-night.org. *Jul. 9-Aug. 31.* This summer-long blend of artist workshops, neighborhood celebrations and day-long festivals will feature Mardi Gras-style processions, live music and spectacular fireworks.

TUESDAY, JULY 10

Summer Soulstice

Christian Science Plaza, 175 Huntington Ave., Boston (450-7319). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 11am-1:30pm. Free. Weekly Tuesday events on the plaza this summer (through Aug. 21) include participatory art projects, children's theater and live music. Call for more information.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Futurefunk Streetwear Fashion Show

Karma Club/Bill's Bar, 9 Lansdowne St. (421-9595). www.nextticketing.com. *$12/$15 day of show: 9pm. Green Line to Kenmore.* New designs by Harley Davidson, 3D Innovations and Sensitive will be fronted on the catwalk while bands provide auditory entertainment at both Karma and Bill's. Scheduled acts include Ripshop, Give, The Lot Six, The Bismark, Rude Awakening Sound System, Take Out Order and Lotus Sound. All proceeds will benefit the Mark Sandman Music Education Fund.

THURSDAY, JULY 12

***Friendship* Parade of Sail**

Various North Shore Ports of Call (978-468-0509). July 12-15. Free. Friendship, the largest wooden sailing vessel to be built in New England in more than a century, will be commissioned in a weekend-long festival. The ship will be open for tours from 1-4pm on Friday, and then will depart on a parade of sail that will include stops in Beverly and Manchester harbors before docking at its permanent harbor, historic Derby Wharf in wonderfully witchy Salem. Call for more information.

FRIDAY, JULY 13

Barbecue Heaven in Vermont

The Harpoon Brewery, Windsor, Vt. (888-HARPOON). www.harpoonbrewery.com. *4pm.* New England's largest craft brewer and teams of professional chefs fire up the barbecues. Who better to spend the weekend with? Cheer on our own Tremont 647 restaurant as it competes for best barbecue. Bored with the beer and beef? Live music and games will keep you busy.

Bastille Day 2001

The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St. (912-0400). www.frenchlib.org. *5-11pm, $200; Street Festival Only, $25 at the door; Children under 12, free.* After a Champagne reception, enjoy dinner at one of Boston's best restaurants. Puppet shows, games and more will entertain the whole family from 5:30-7pm. Then dance to the sounds of FNX's DJ Mike Traylor and the West African rhythms of Rumbafrica.

Brimfield Fair

Rte. 20, Brimfield (413-245-3436). 6am-5pm, Fri.; 9am-5pm, Sat. $5, Fri.; $3, Sat. Antique collectors flock to Brimfield yearly for this massive, two-day outdoor sell-off.

Village Tavern Evening

Rt. 20, Old Sturbridge Village, Sturbridge (508-347-3362). 6-10pm. Adults, $28, Children 10 and under, $22. Delight in the colors and fragrances of the Towne House Garden as you take a stroll through New England history. The evening includes a tavern meal, cash bar, strolling musicians, and 19th century "gambling" at the Bullard Tavern.

SATURDAY, JULY 14

Plymouth Waterfront Festival

Plymouth Waterfront, Plymouth (508-830-1620). Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 11am-5pm. Free. Stroll along Plymouth's picturesque waterfront and check out the wares of 100 New England Artisans. Also, enjoy children's rides, a duck race and parade, a dunk tank, a library book sale and a Saturday night concert.

Salem Maritime Festival

Derby Wharf, Salem National Park, Salem (978-740-1660). www.salem.org. *10am-dusk, free.* Instead of going to Salem for the usual witch-hunting, visit it to see replicas of 18th-century ships and celebrate its links with the outside world (i.e. Hawaii and Alaska) in this two-day celebration of all things nautical. The Peabody Essex Museum will feature arts and entertainment.

Lighthouse Expedition

Harbor Islands (781-740-4290), 10:30am-5pm, $34. Bring your observation glasses on this expedition to eight New England lighthouses along the coast starting off at Boston's Long Wharf. The boat stops for two hours in Plymouth so that shoppers can get their fill.

SUNDAY, JULY 15

Bastille Day

Holyoke St., Cambridge (497-5300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4-11pm. Free. Get out into the streets and celebrate French liberté, egalité and fraternité. Festivities will include live music, a beer garden, booths by six restaurants with food items from $1-$5, a waiter's race at 4pm and a raffle to benefit Community Servings. Grand prize: a ticket to the place it all started, France.

Day of Triumph

Museum of Transportation, 15 Newton Street, Brookline (522-6547, ext. 20). 10am-5pm. $5. So what if the wiring is shot: This is Boston; you don't need your turn signals. Bring your beautiful British automobile down to the Museum of Transportation lawn and show it off to eager onlookers in this event sponsored by New England Triumph Club.

Festa di St. Rocco

Prince St., North End, Boston. 1pm. Free. Head to the North End for lunch, and enjoy the mellow sounds of Italian brass as the North End Society of St. Rocco parades in honor of its patron saint.

TUESDAY, JULY 17

Summer Soulstice

Christian Science Plaza, 175 Huntington Ave., Boston (450-7319). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 11am-1:30pm. Free. Weekly Tuesday events on the plaza this summer (through Aug. 21) include participatory art projects, children's theater and live music. Call for more information.

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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

Awake and Sing!
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Main Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). July 11-28. $26-$40. Dylan McDermott and Shiva Rose star in Clifford Odets' compelling, evocative play about a Jewish family living in a Bronx tenement during the Great Depression.

Dew Point
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. July 4-15. $25. This romantic comedy focuses on a recently married young woman who "sets up" her best friend with her womanizing ex-boyfriend.

A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum
Harvard-Radcliffe Summer Theater, Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2:30 and 7:30pm; Sun., 7:30pm. Through July 14. $9-$12. The ancient plays of Plautus are the basis for this madcap romp by Stephen Sondheim.

Lemonade
Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, Wellfleet (508-349-6835). Tue.-Sun. Through July 21. $18. A woman who finds an amnesiac stranger sitting at her kitchen table doesn't question his presence—instead she offers him a glass of lemonade. So begins this complex and funny story by *The Vagina Monologues*' Eve Ensler.

The Pirates of Penzance
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. July 13-Aug. 19. $21. A fun-filled tale of swashbuckling pirates, maidens in distress, madcap cops and more.

The Real Inspector Hound
Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (887-2336). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. July 6-28. $12, $15 at the door. Two drama critics, each preoccupied with his professional status and personal dissatisfaction, go to the theater to see a new thriller. Tom Stoppard involves the critics in the play with results that prove surprisingly serious for both.

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* •Stables Theatre: *The Compleat Works of Wllm Shkspr (abridged)*, through July 8; *The Comedy of Errors*, through Sept. 12. •Spring Lawn Theatre: *The Wharton One-Acts* and *The Rembrandt*, through Sept. 2. •Founder's Theatre: *Coriolanus*, through July 13; Collected Stories, July 14-Aug. 2.

Summer Shorts Festival
Abbott Memorial, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). July 12-14 and 19-21, 8pm. $10. A series of new short plays written by local playwrights.

Tent Meeting
Threshold Theatre, Piano Craft Guild Building, 791 Tremont St., Boston (718-9875). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. July 11-15. This dramatic comedy foreshadows America's obsession in the 1990s with religious wonderment, government conspiracies and alien intervention.

Tomfoolery
Tower Auditorium, Mass College of Art, Huntington Ave., Boston (931-2000). Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. July 13-28. $15. Ubiquity Stage presents the words and music of Tom Lehrer.

Preview

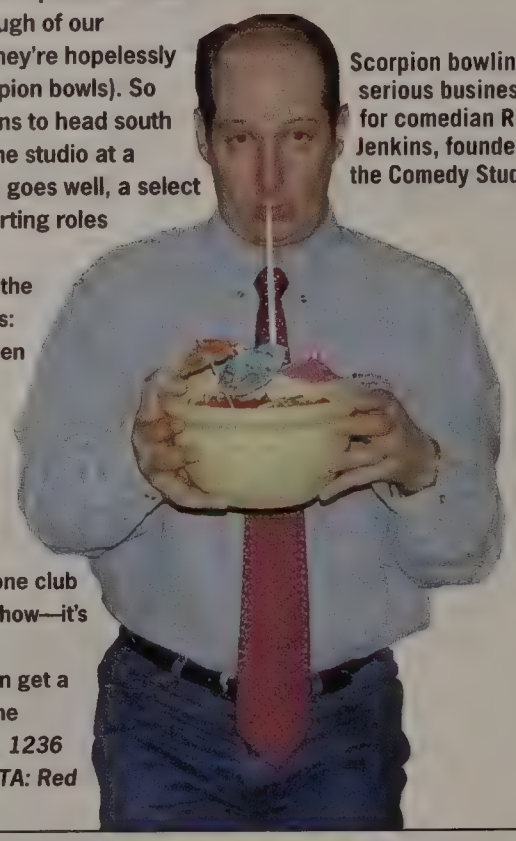
On the Laugh Track

Boston comedians head to NYC

Recognizing that most Boston comedy venues tend to be overshadowed by that behemoth of all laugh factories, the Comedy Connection in Faneuil Hall, a bunch of Boston comics opened their own room in Cambridge a few years ago to encourage "a breeding ground for new talent," says comedian Rick Jenkins. The resulting forum, the Comedy Studio at the Hong Kong, has caught the attention of television execs from New York, who've been making pilgrimages north once a year to seek out potential talent.

Apparently, the scouts can't get enough of our hometown comedians (either that, or they're hopelessly addicted to the Hong Kong's killer scorpion bowls). So NBC has invited a van-load of comedians to head south to showcase the edgy, quirky style of the studio at a private performing space July 16. If all goes well, a select few will be chosen for regular or supporting roles on sitcoms or as comedy writers.

How do these Bostonians plan to wow the studio execs? In a bunch of creative ways: Sam Walters and Kyria Abrahams will open the show with the song, "For the Love of Comedy"; Chris and Dave Walsh have directed a video short; Greg Rodrigues and Teresa Craggan will parody improv comedy; and Dan Sulman, Benari Poulten, Katie Grady and Mike Coleman will perform standup. "I don't think that one club has ever been asked to bring an entire show—it's a sign of just how much talent Boston is producing," says Jenkins. Bostonians can get a sneak preview of their performance at the Comedy Studio July 15. *The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $7. —Julie Short*



Scorpion bowling is serious business for comedian Rick Jenkins, founder of the Comedy Studio.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. Special performances during 4th of July week. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, performance art, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Glass Menagerie
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through July 11. $29-$59. Tennessee Williams' 1945 play offers a glimpse of the Wingfield family as it struggles to hold its ground in 1939 St. Louis.

H.M.S. Pinafore
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Main Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Through July 7. $26-$40. Romance and intrigue, the mystery of changelings and the notorious rigid class structure of 19th-century England ignite this musical comedy by Gilbert and Sullivan.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse, 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Much Ado About Nothing
The Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, 1175A Soldier's Field Road, Boston (782-5425). www.publick.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, transfer to #86 bus to Market Street. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through July 8. $15-$25.* Shakespeare's classic comedy is about the consequences of eavesdropping.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

This Is Our Youth
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Unicorn Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Mon.-Sat., 8:30pm. Through July 14. $20-$25. Screenwriter Kenneth Lonergan penned this semi-autobiographical play about three disenfranchised youths.

COMING SOON

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Aug. 16.

Twelfth Night
Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, Boston (423-7600). www.commonwealthshakespeare.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Park. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. July 20-Aug. 4. Free.*

Dance
SHOWS AND EVENTS

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival
Ted Shawn Theatre, 358 George Carter Road, Becket (413-637-1322). •July 4-7, 8pm. $40-45: Israel's Inbal Pinto performs its U.S. premiere, *Oyster*, danced by dreamlike characters creating magical, funny and poignant vignettes. *•July 10-14, 8pm, $40-50:* Broadway choreographer Chet Walker and veteran Robert La Fosse perform *The Seven Deadly Sins*. *•July 5-7, 8:15pm and July 8, 5pm, $20:* The Taipei Crossover Dance Company performs a rich mix of Asian traditions and the style of American choreographer Martha Graham. *•July 12-13, 8:15pm:, July 14, 2:15 and 8:15pm; and July 15, 5pm, $20:* James Cunningham and Tina Croll collaborated to create *From the Horse's Mouth*, showcasing famous and emerging ballet, modern jazz and tap artists.

Comedy

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STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). MBTA: Green Line. No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy. •Saturdays, 9:30pm-12am: Larry Lee Lewis Rock 'n' Roll Comedy Band and Boston's finest comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). www.comedyconnectionboston.com. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Gov't Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary).* The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •July 4, 8pm: Boston Headliners, $10 •July 5, 7pm: **Bill Maher**, *Politically Incorrect*, $30; 9pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12. •July 6-7, 8:15 and 10:30pm: **Craig Shoemaker**, "The Lovemaster," $20 and $22 •July 8, 7pm: Tony V, $10. •July 9, 8pm: Amateur Showcase, hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •July 10, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10 •July 11, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •July 12, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •July 13-14, 8:15 and 10:30pm: **Anthony Clark**, Star of CBS' *Yes Dear*, $27 •July 15, 7pm: Mike Donovan, $10 •July 16, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •July 17, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •July 5: Tim McIntire with guests Ira Proctor, Amanda White, Cyndi Tarnauskas and WAKKA. •July 6: Brendon & Larry with special guest DJ Hazard. Also, Tony Valentini, Bob Hagearty, Nina Tamburello, Ira Proctor and Ben Joplin. •July 7: DJ Hazard sketch by The Incontinentals, and stand-up comedy by Dan Newbower, TJ Griffin, James Cennamo, Ira Proctor and Laura Cooney. •July 8: Comics Workout with Arthur Januario, Denise Robichau, Todd Gorell, John Lynch, Dan Savage, Ira Proctor and Loren Soares. •July 12: Tim McIntire stars with Louie Winz, Troy Pernell, Bill Ford and the comedy troupe WAKKA. •July 13: The Brendon & Larry Show with guests Andy Wasif, Teresa Craggan, Sam Walter, Ben Boime, Benari Poulten, Steve Calechman and Hugh Chatfield. •July 14: Rick Jenkins' Best of the Studio show with Ben Joplin, Steve Calechman, Sam Walters, Teresa Craggan, Joe Dinkin, Adam Koppel and Whitney Melton. •July 15: Practice show for the Comedy Studio's NBC audition in New York.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$14. Wednesdays: Open mike at 8:30pm. •July 5, 8:30pm: Paul Nardizzi, Danny Kelley and Johnny Pizzi •July 6-7, 8:45pm: Paul Nardizzi, Danny Kelley and Johnny Pizzi •July 12, 8:30pm: Tony V., Stephanie Peters and Ted Barrett •July 13, 8:45pm: Tony V,. Stephanie Peters and Ted Barrett •July 14, 8:45pm: Ken Rogerson, Stephanie Peters and Ted Barrett.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro. • Fridays, 8pm: Red Herrings. 10:30pm: Theatre Sports. •Saturdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston. •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians reading minds, making birds appear out of nowhere and levitating objects onstage.

COMEDY SHOWS

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

WAKKA Celebrates the Fourth
The Comedy Studio, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (629-0006). July 5, 8pm. WAKKA celebrates the birth of our nation with a comedic tour of our country's history that actually includes indoor fireworks.

SUSIE COPITHORNE

The Rattlesnake

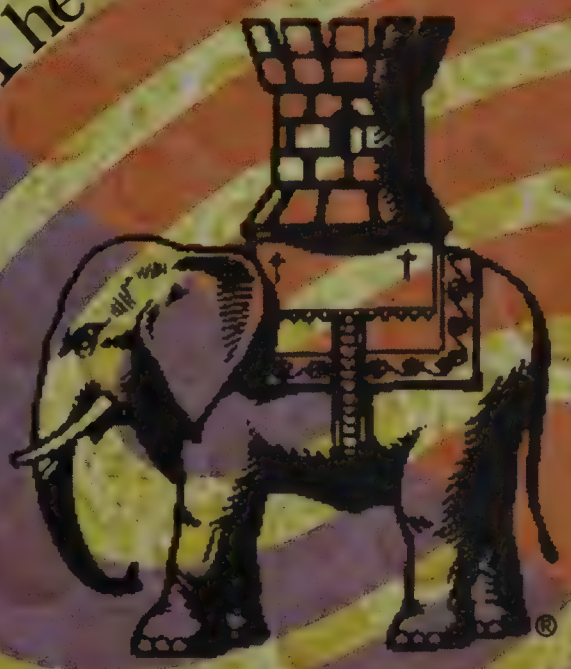
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art

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Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •The museum shows *Streams and Mountains Without End: Landscape Paintings from China, Korea and Japan*, through Aug. 26. *The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of Middle Eastern and Southern Asian depictions of love, shows July 7-Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*International Children's Books* show July 1-Aug. 31. •Art, essays and poetry about peace by schoolchildren from around the world are on display as part of the *UNESCO Culture of Peace*. July 1-31.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). •The museum's permanent collection of 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century European and American art is on display, as well as an extensive sampling of distinct cultural pieces from around the world.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). •*Welcome to the House of Art*, a giant installation by Todd McKie, is an ongoing display. •In *Abstract Expressionism/Figurative Expressionism: Common Ground*, the museum uses its new wing to highlight works from its own collection. Ongoing. •This year, the DeCordova's *Annual Exhibition* features works by Richard Klein, Brett Bigbee, Ahmed Abdalla, Kelly Heaton, Kelly Kaczinski, Janice Redman, Marian Roth, Sarah Walker, Annu Palakunnathu Matthew and Dean Snyder. Through Sept. 3. •In *A Garden of Unearthly Delights*, outdoor American sculptor Wendy Ross displays some of her work. Through June 9, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. • In *Mondrian: The Transatlantic Paintings*, the Busch-Reisinger Museum shows 15 late paintings by the Dutch modernist painter Piet Mondrian. Through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. •*Verso: The Flip Side of Master Drawings* exhibit demonstrates how the masters used both sides of the sheet. Through Aug. 12. •In *Precision and Prestige: The Arts of Engraving*, the museum displays mundane and artistic examples of engraving. Aug. 11-Dec. 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these delicate creatures. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •The ICA displays defining images of social change in postwar America in *The Social Scene*, an exhibition of documentary photography. July 18-Sept. 30. •Korean-born Nikki S. Lee opens *Nikki S. Lee: Projects* on July 18. Her show features performance-based photographs where the artist changes roles and swaps identities to become the subject of her art. •The ICA Artists-in-Residence at Boston National Historical Park program presents *Conspire*, which examines Boston's most important historic sites and the role each played in the founding of the nation. Through Oct. 14. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. Through Sept. 16.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $3, $1 students, seniors and children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive exhibits take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic*, displays a selection of holograms from the museum's collection (the world's largest). Ongoing. •*Thinkapalooza*, the museum's new interactive zone, is ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only. Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45 pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings, including his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 9. •*Japan at the Dawn of the Modern Age: Meiji Prints from Jean S. and Frederic A. Sharf Collection* is a collection of 600 Japanese full-color woodblock prints from 1868-1912. Through July 15. •*Made in Japan* by Takashi Murakami is a collection of his recent work. Through July 15.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org. *Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm.* •*If These Walls Could Talk* is a traveling exhibit that explores buildings throughout history as artifacts of human existence. Through Sept. 3. •The *Current Science and Technology Center* showcases the very latest innovations and discoveries. Ongoing. •The current Omni Theatre film is *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*. Shackleton explored Antarctica in a doomed ship called *Endurance*, which is the name of the concurrently running exhibition depicting Shackleton's challenging explorations. Through Sept. •Now showing in the Omni Theatre is the incredible *Journey into Amazing Caves*, which lets moviegoers squeeze into the subterranean world of the spelunker and experience all that lives in these fascinating caves. Through September.

The Revolving Museum
300 A St., Boston (493-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Hours by Appointment. •There are no ongoing exhibits until Aug. 17, the opening of *Disturb Delight Design*, an invitational show.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Tea in Fantasy*, an exhibition of artistic teapots, shows July 7-Aug. 3.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Tina Feingold and Ilene Sunshine present new works in paint, sculpture and drawing. Through July 27.



These porcelain pots by Brother Thomas Bezanson are just a sample of the pottery chosen for the Pucker Gallery's summer show, *Fine Choices: Objects*, which opens July 7.

Preview

Global Pottery

The Pucker Gallery opens a massive summer show

The Pucker Gallery's new show, *Fine Choices: Objects*, brings together art from around the world: Zulu pottery, Japanese stoneware, Inuit soapstone carvings and Chinese-inscribed clay pots, to name a few. The show, opening July 7, is a diverse selection of works by artists the gallery has represented throughout its 34 year tenure on Newbury Street. The four floors of the gallery will be utilized to display this large show (comprising several thousand pieces) with the primary focus on pottery, although paintings, mobiles, sculptures and photographs will also be included. One of the highlights of the show is a collection of work by Brother Thomas Bezanson, a former Benedictine monk and self-taught potter who has exhibited artworks in the Pucker Gallery for the past 20 years. His hand-thrown vases, plates and teabowls do not rely on elaborate surface decorations but instead have a certain straightforward appeal. Also not to be missed are the unique ink and acrylic drawings by Japanese artist Shigeru Matsuzaki, who currently resides in Barcelona, and the cloth paintings by Boston artist Ali. *Through Sept. 4. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. 171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473).* www.puckergallery.com. *—Leah Gourley*

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat. 10am-5:30pm in July. Mon.-Fri 10am-5:30pm in July and August. •A collection by gallery artists will show through July and mid-August.

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •*People, Places and Plants* is an exhibit of works by Alice Denison and Kate Ledogar. July 9-Aug. 10.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Stephen Dinsmore shows *Landscapes and Still Lifes* through July 30. •Through August, work by gallery artists Tom Seghi, Paul Balmer and Anne Packard is on display.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Tue.-Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. •Jewelry by Dominique Giordano shows through July 15. •Nepalese-inspired jewelry by Steve Estelle of Tsogyai shows July 15-30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Five artists present *New Works*, a group show. Artists include Barbara Broughel, Scott Hadfield, Michael Beatty, Leslie Wilcox and Laura Wulf. Through July 25. •The gallery is closed July 28-Sept. 3.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Created in California* is a show of art from West Coast galleries: the Creative Growth Art Center, Creativity Explored, First Street Gallery Art Center and more. Through July 28.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Dazzling!*, paintings by Steven Charles, Aaron Parazette and Susie Rosmarin, shows through Aug. 3. •The gallery is closed in August.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., 4th Floor (585-0250). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.the-bac.edu/exhibits. *Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*Gated Communities*, a photographic exhibit by Jerry Russo, shows through July 30.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. •*The Chicken Show*, an exhibition of poultry-related art, shows July 20-Sept. 16.

Boston College McMullen Museum of Art
Devlin Hall, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Mon.-Fri 11am-3pm, Sat. and Sun. 12-5pm. Free. • New England artists Fritz Buehner, Bruce Monteith, Shellburne Thurber and Mark Wethli contributed to *House: Changed Space*. This exhibition of various media explores the interiors and exteriors of residential buildings. Through Sept. 16.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Two exhibits, *Museum of Transportation Pioneering*, by Ravi Jain, and *Sacrificial Zoo*, by Amy Ross, show through July 14 . •Teenage participants in Project Image present *Seeing Teens: Photographs by Teenagers*. July 18-28.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •The center is closed in July and August.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •Peit Mondrian exhibits *The Transatlantic Paintings*. Through July 22. •Albert Szabo shows *Inventions and Interventions*, a series of sculptural assemblages. Through July 31.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Glass Evolution—Established and New Talent* focuses on work by seven young artists. July 11-Aug. 3.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*The Liminal Line* features abstract landscapes by Danna Ruth Harvey. Through July 28.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., 3rd Floor, Boston (695-0255). Wed.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •The gallery is closed in July and August.

Compton Gallery
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. http://web.mit.edu/i-m/image3big.htm. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. Free.*

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• *Beyond Appearances: Imagery and Science at the Millennium* shows through Aug. 3.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. • *Copley Artists* is a juried exhibition of work by members of the Copley Society of Boston. Through July 14. • The *New Members Show* is a collection of work by the society's newest artists. July 19-Aug. 18.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* • *Gallery Artists and Contemporary Prints: Unique Paintings and Sculptures and Multiples* includes work by Peggy Badenhausen, Steven deFilippis, Josette Ghiseline, Anne Gilson Haney, Paul Inglis, Peter Inglis, Sol LeWitt, Roy Lichtenstein, Megan McNaught, Robert Rauschenberg, William P. Reimann and Andy Warhol. July 4-Aug. 15. • The gallery will be closed for the remainder of August.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. • The gallery shows work by local artists Norman Crump, Jeff Eldridge, Robert Fields, Dan McCole and Brian Roach, depicting Boston scenes. Ongoing.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston (783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. http://drawbridge.com/dvbgallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* • *Royally Fucked: Artists as Royalty,* featuring The Empire S.N.A.F.U. Restoration Project, The Princess Project, The Blair Princess Project, The Princesses of Porn and King VelVeeda, shows through July 21.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. • Romanian art prodigy Alexandra Nechita displays her work. • Roderick O'Flaherty presents *Scenes of New England* through Aug. 30. • *Modern Masters,* featuring paintings by Picasso, Matisse and Chagall, shows through July 31.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St., Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. • Tha Rattanusk shows *Photography from Exotic Locales,* through July 28. • David Pienmonte shows his work in *Photo Synthesis—A Transcendence of Light.* July 31-Aug. 25.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. • Solo show *Tina Dietz: Blumen und Falten* by Viennese photographer Tina Dietz shows through Aug. 11.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has an amazing collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. Ongoing.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St. (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm. • *Girls and Swirls,* by Melorah Kuhn and David Palmer, shows alongside Rick Fox's *Hoarded Intuitions* and sculptures by Jeff Smith, through Aug. 3.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. • New sculptures by Paul Meneses and Steve Novick show in *Completely Fabricated.* July 6-Aug. 12. • *Real,* a multimedia installation by Aaron Fry, will be visible 24 hours a day from outside the gallery. Aug. 15-Sept. 12.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* • New England artist Robert Caulfield shows new works through July 14.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • *A Celebration of Aging (Holographic Portraits and Audio Domes by Harriet Casdin-Silver and Kevin Brown)* and *Recent Portraits* show through July 13. • The gallery is open by appointment in August.

Gallery 79
79 Newbury St., Boston (262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. • The gallery exhibits photography by Grace Hopkins-Lisle through Aug. 17.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* • There is an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. • A group show of gallery artists shows July 5-Aug. 3. • The gallery is closed in August.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. • Cambridge artist Kate Ledogar shows her figurative oils and portraits July 9-Aug. 10.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. • A collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early-20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. • The gallery's collection of 18th- and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk Ave., Boston (989-9985). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. • *Adults Only,* a group show, runs through July 29.

Harbor Gallery
McCormack Hall, U. Mass. Boston, 1st Floor, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (287-7988). Mon.-Fri., 11am-6pm. • The gallery is closed through Sept. 1.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. • A group photographic portrait show is on display July 7-Aug. 18.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (491-6888). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment. • African dolls of the Kirdi, Zaramo, Mossi and Namji peoples are on display through July 14.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. • The 8th annual summer poster show opens July 1. *First Class Ticket* features 50 original vintage travel, transportation and entertainment posters. Through Sept. 3. • A display of selected vintage posters is ongoing.

John Stobart Gallery
113 Lewis Wharf, Boston (227-6868). Tue.-Fri., 10am-6pm, Sat. and Sun, 12-6pm. • Celebrating the Port of Boston and its maritime heritage, the first annual Boston Waterfront Art Exhibition and Sale will display art depicting notable Boston scenes. Through Aug. 28.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. • Gallery artists will be showing works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. • The gallery is open by appointment only in July.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. • Zygmund Jankowski shows *Zyg: Unseen* which includes landscape and still life paintings. Through July 16. • *Cape Ann Classics* shows, portraying the North Shore through the eyes of local artists Charles Movalli and Robert Gruppé. July 18-Aug. 15.

Kaji Aso Studio
Kaji Aso Studio Institute for the Arts, 40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (247-1719). By appointment. • A show of gallery selections will be ongoing through August.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (423-4113). Tues.-Sun., 12-5pm. • *New Art 2001* shows work by more than 20 artists. July 5-28.



Cool off at the International Poster Gallery this summer. Above, work by Charles Holmes.

Little White Box Gallery
Revolving Museum, 288 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.littlewhitebox.org. *Open by appointment.* • The second annual *Student Show* will display through Aug. 10.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* • *Summer Salon* features landscape, still-life, figure and abstraction. Through Aug. 31.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat.-Sun., 11am-3pm.* • Jorg Fraske and Maria Kvedaras present *Ethereal Nature,* an exhibition of landscapes, through July 15. • The gallery hosts *Through a Childs Eyes,* a showing and "creative" black tie gala to benefit the women and children of Casa Myrna Vasquez, an organization dedicated to the eradication of domestic violence. The show features art by Boston area children; all proceeds will go to Casa Myrna Vasquez.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. • A group show of gallery artists shows July 6-31.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* • *Star,* a large-scale charcoal drawing installation by Jennifer Hicks, will be on display through July 7. • Karl Viksnin's *Thresholds* will be on view July 14-Aug. 18.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • *Land, Sea and Beyond,* a group show of landscape paintings, shows through Aug. 5. • *New Work* by Gail Bessette, a collection of landscapes, shows Aug. 9-Sept. 24.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • Roger Kizik's paintings show through July 7 in *Making Book.* • *In the Spirit of Landscape,* an invitational group show of landscape paintings, runs through Aug. 4.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. • German-born photographer Judith Jockel shows *Little Paradise Garden,* a series of portraits and landscapes. Through July 15. • Works by Fabian Birgfeld show July 21-Aug. 11.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm. • Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. • *Vampire Pigeons Variety Show,* a multimedia presentation by poet Paul Angelosanto, photographer David Stickney and painter Gregory Grinnel, shows through July 31. • A solo show by artist Julie Peppershows Aug. 1-31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • Judith Belzer, Stanley Bielen and Diana Horowitz present work through July 10. • Bradford Johnson, Lance Keimig, Ron Rumford and Thomas Tietjen present a summer group show. July 11-Aug. 17.

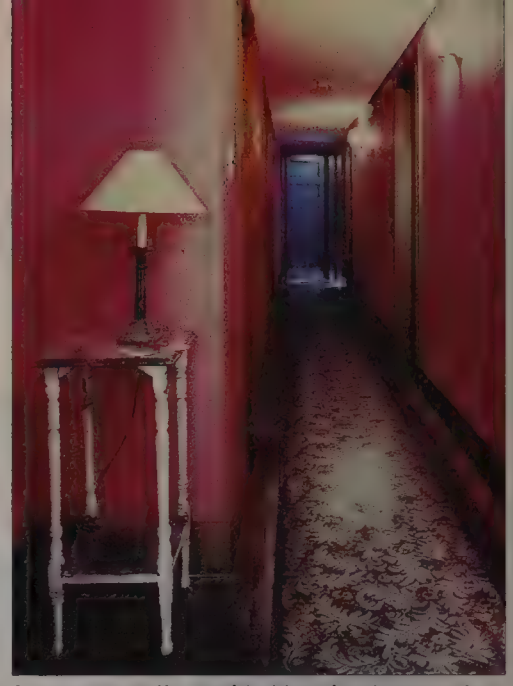
Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • *Fine Choices: Objects* focuses on the artistic object as a source of beauty and interest. Through Sept. 4.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am. daily. • This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse, which serves up delicious tea, also specializes in antique Yixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* • The exhibit of *American 19th and 20th Century Watercolors and Pastels* is ongoing. • Also showing is *Old Master and 19th Century Drawings.*

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.Robert KleinGallery.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* • Edward McHugh displays his paintings, and Guy Russell presents his photographs. Through July 10.

Rolly-Michaux Gallery
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm. • *20th Century Master Graphics,* fine lithographs and etchings shows through Aug. 31.



Sarah Malakoff's *Untitled Interior* shows at the Photographic Resource Center through July 29.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. • The *Undergraduate Student Exhibition* displays through September.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* • With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents Cuban artists.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bpl.org/www/branches/ south end.html. *Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm.* • The gallery shows Leon Robinson's *Scenes of the South End and Back Bay,* through July 17.

SPNEA Gallery
One Bowdoin Sq., Boston (227-3956). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. www.spnea.org. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm.* • The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques presents *Boxes, Open and Shut.* Discover what an icebox, snuffbox and lunch box have in common. Through Sept. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* • The painting exhibition shows William St. George's progression. Ongoing.

State Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza, Boston (800-972-2784). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. • *Martini & Rossi 100 Years,* a traveling exhibit of original Martini & Rossi posters, shows through July 27.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. • The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (876-0246). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-1pm. • The Cambridge Art Association presents the work of Brookline artist Mary Kostman. Through July 14.

Vose Gallery
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm. • *Wind and Dazzle: The Art of Charles Hopkins (1869-1962),* a collection of more than 70 oil paintings and watercolors, is on view through July 10.

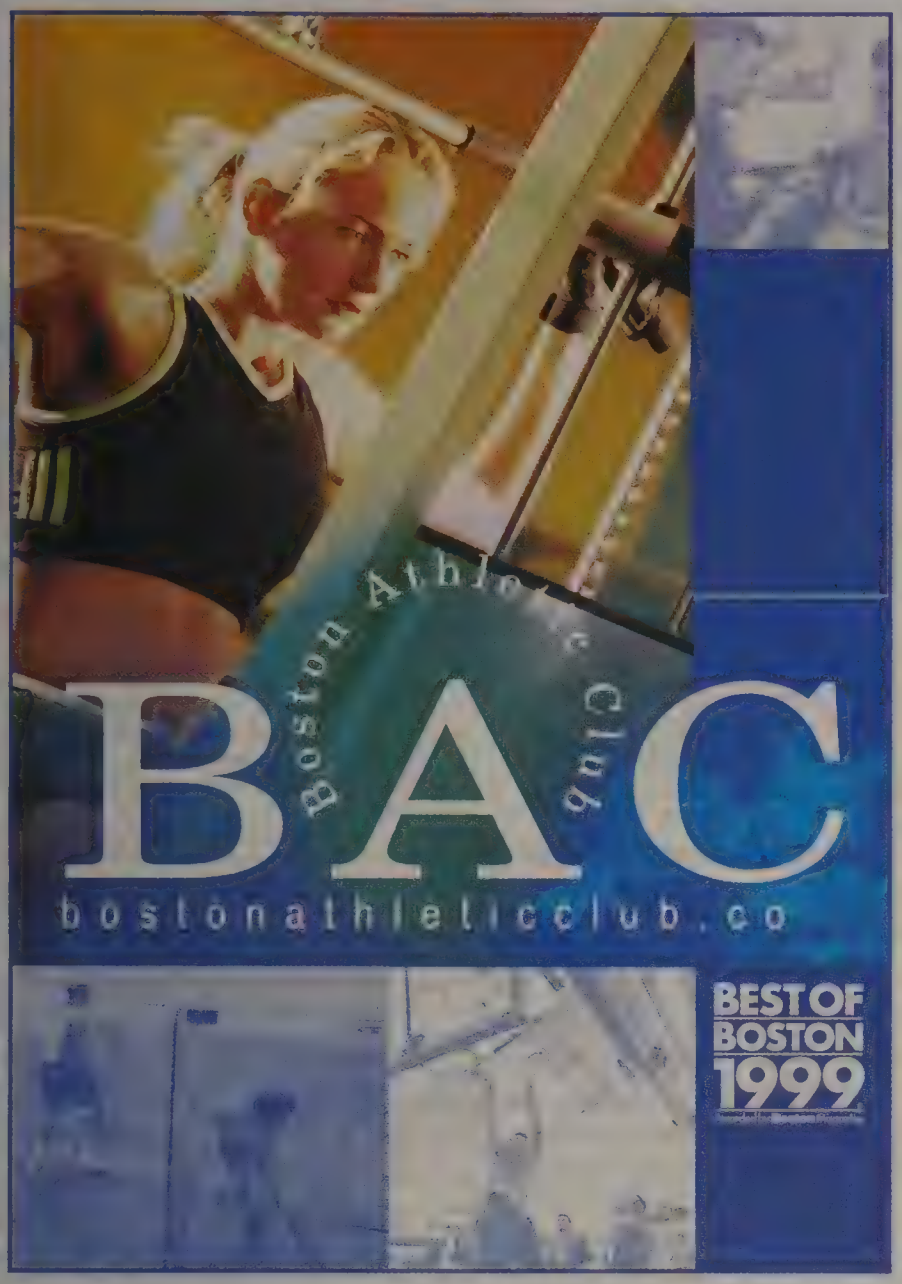
Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. The gallery displays a variety of local artists' work. • Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. • Every Wednesday is a figure-drawing session, 6-8pm. • Every Friday is the Playground New Music series.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. • *Senior Graduation Show* exhibit will be on display through July 27.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. • *Photographs from the Gallery Archives* show through Sept. 15.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. $3, students and seniors $2, free on Thu. • *The Members' Exhibition 2001* shows a juried photography exhibit through July 29.



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FILM

BEAST-IE BOYS

Ben Kingsley is the anti-Gandhi in *Sexy Beast*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

A boulder is about to plunge itself into the life of retired English thief Gary "Gal" Dove (Ray Winstone), the hero of the blistering crime comedy-drama *Sexy Beast*. Actually, a couple of boulders. One is the literal rock that, in the sly opening sequence, slips off a Spanish mountainside and whizzes by Gal as he basks, proudly overtanned, poolside at his Costa del Sol villa. But this piece of rolling death is just an omen of the other boulder that's about to drop—a figurative one that's every bit as resolute and menacing as the geological kind. This human boulder is Don Logan (Ben Kingsley), a former comrade in crime who wants Gal to be in a crew he's assembling for a big job—and he won't take no for an answer.

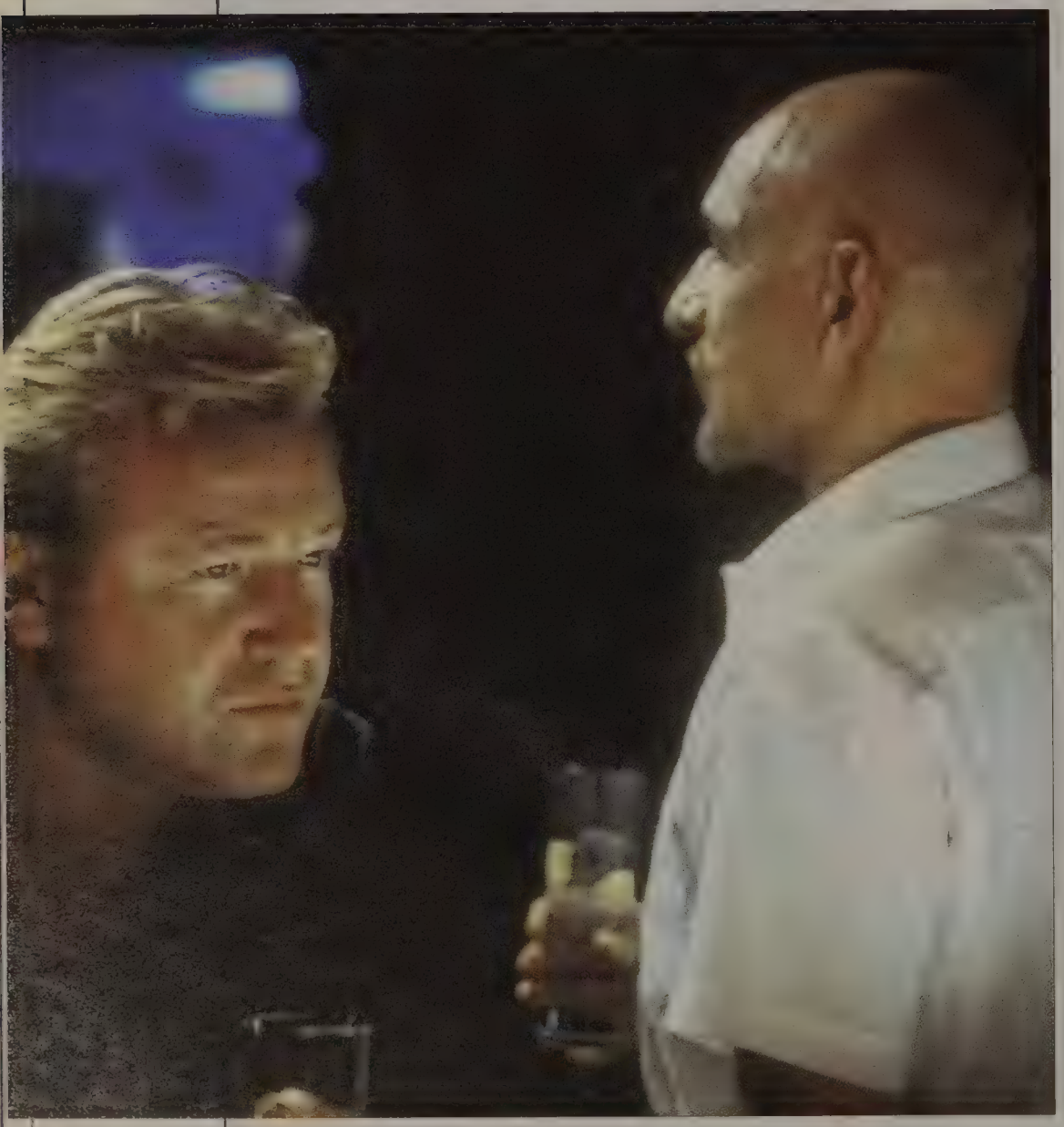
What's this, you say, little Ben Kingsley as someone who inspires fear in others, someone you think twice about before making eye contact, someone who makes Joe Pesci's characters look reasonable? Well, Kingsley may have famously said "I am a Hindu and a Muslim and a Christian and a Jew" while playing Mohandas K. Gandhi years ago, but you can now add "and a psycho" to that line. His Mahatma of Mayhem is the dominating factor in *Sexy Beast*, the sort of character whose presence looms over scenes he's not even in, even when those scenes take place in an entirely different country.

Kingsley's Don, with a shaved head and goatee that say "Go ahead, make my day," hasn't the faintest concept of diplomacy. He shows up in Spain intent on two things: getting Gal to leave his life of leisure to join in the heist and trying to rekindle an affair with Jackie (Julianne White), the wife of Gal's carefree friend Aitch (Cavan Kendall). In other words, he wants to make *everyone* uncomfortable. He's not happy seeing Gal escape a life of crime to a life of leisure; he's not happy seeing Aitch with Jackie; he's not *happy*.

Like a boxer who can't be hurt, Don takes on every comeback Gal, his wife (Amanda Redman), Aitch and Jackie throw at him. Soon, the English expatriates realize a simple "No" won't get Don off their backs. And it's a strange twist of plot that gets Gal back on a plane to London to participate in the heist, a robbery of a legendary London safe-deposit vault. The heist is the creation of Teddy (Ian McShane), who's also the sort of person Gal wants to avoid.

Like the scenes pitting Gal against Don, a flashback showing how Teddy hit upon the idea of robbing the vault and the actual heist itself—drilling underwater through the wall of the steam bath next door—are filled with tense drama as well as an underlying dark humor. But the stylish crime of *Sexy Beast* is not the glib posturing of Guy Ritchie movies like *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* or *Snatch;* nor does it aspire to the sophomoric "cool violence" of those movies. And we can be thankful for that.

Sexy Beast is braver than that, and actually asks you to invest yourself emotionally in Gal's plight. Winstone has long been a sturdy presence in English films, bringing a mix of aggression and amiability to movies like *Nil by Mouth*, *The War Zone* and *Our Boy* (impressively, in the first two, Gary Oldman and Tim Roth chose Winstone to star in each's directorial debut). Here, he makes Gal convincingly capable of violence and love. And then there's Kingsley. You won't soon forget his pit bull Don Logan, or first-time director Jonathan Glazer's bold move of casting against type for Gal's nemesis. The title of *Sexy Beast* doesn't totally make sense, but Kingsley has certainly given us this year's most frightening film. iB



Ray Winstone (left) plays opposite a decidedly un-Ghandilike Ben Kingsley in *Sexy Beast*.

Sexy Beast★★★½

Directed by Jonathan Glazer. Written by Louis Mellis and David Scinto. With Ray Winstone, Ben Kingsley, Ian McShane, Amanda Redman and James Fox. Rated R. Fox Searchlight.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Atlantis: The Lost Empire ★★
The latest Disney animated feature is very much in the *Star Wars/Raiders of the Lost Ark* adventure mold. It has a boyishly eager Luke Skywalker-sort-of-hero, undersea battles staged like the *Star Wars* aerial fights, dramatic John Williams-sounding music and a plot in which the hero clashes with mercenaries over an exotic treasure. Although the animation is rich and detailed, this is routine storytelling for such stuff: white-bread hero in an unusual setting, lots of natives who get to do nothing, marginalized ethnic characters for comic relief, a love interest with a Barbie figure. Michael J. Fox voices the young hero—gee, why didn't they just cast Mickey Rooney?

Crazy/Beautiful ★★
Well, at least there's a summer movie about teens that doesn't feel like one big product placement. And this romantic drama about a rich white girl (Kirsten Dunst) and a less privileged Hispanic boy (Jay Hernandez) somewhat passes on the usual Hollywood racial profiling, by making him the focused one with a bright future and her the troubled teen who's a bad influence. Still, there's little to recommend beyond the good intentions. It's hard to see what Hernandez's touchdown-scoring good student sees in Dunst's obnoxious burnout (beyond her sexual availability); the drama involving her condescending congressman dad (Bruce Davison) is like a community theater production of *Rebel Without a Cause*; and the happy ending rings false.

Evolution ★★
It's indicative of how gimmicky Hollywood movies have become that gimmick-loving Ivan (*Ghostbusters*, *Twins*) Reitman's latest, about an alien invasion, doesn't even seem all that cheesy. And it's indicative of how reliant on special effects those movies have become that this effects-laden film seems totally generic. It bears a slight resemblance to *Ghostbusters* when it focuses on the misfit scientists played by David Duchovny, Julianne Moore and Orlando Jones, who have to fight the beasts. But it's the sort of movie that nefver seems to kick into gear.

Everybody's Famous★★
There are elements of *Muriel's Wedding* and *The King of Comedy* at work in this Belgian comedy, but the result is not nearly as original or amusing as those movies. In this one, a showbiz-obsessed dad (Josse de Pauw) relentlessly pushes his talent-short teen daughter (Eva Van der Gucht) into pursuing a singing career. When it seems all has failed, he kidnaps a real pop star (Thekla Reuten), and blackmails her manager into giving his daughter a shot at stardom. The last-minute appearance of the daughter's supposed talent and self-confidence is unconvincing, and neither she nor her dad emerge as the appealing underdogs they're supposed to be.

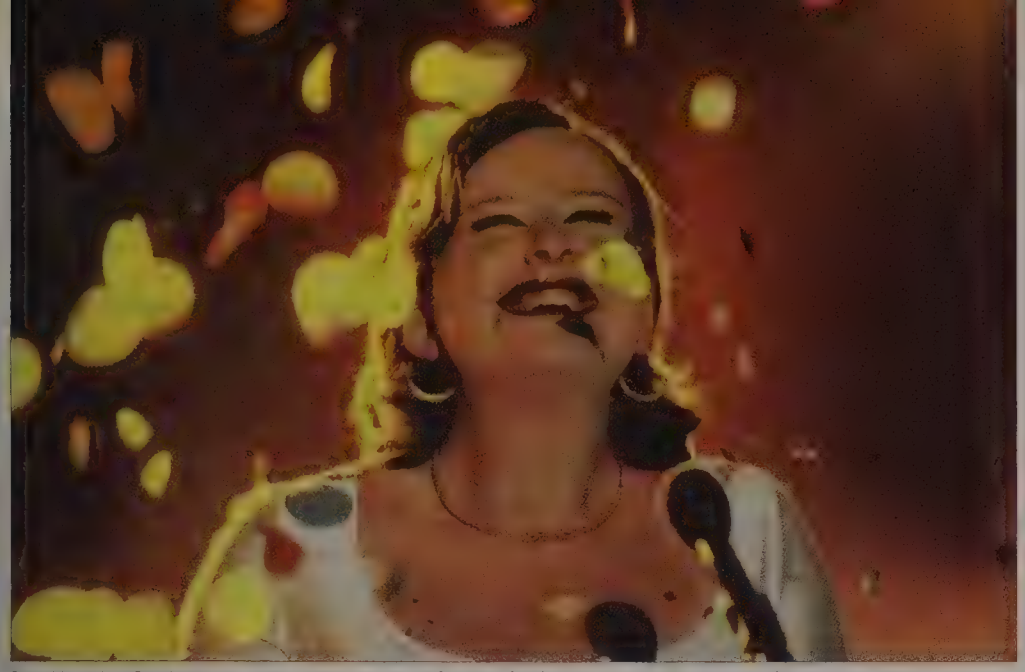
The Fast and the Furious ★½
From the silly premise about a gang of hot-rodding "street racers" and the "edgy" characters in designer clothes, to the macho posing and the presumably unintentional gay subtext, this action drama is totally preposterous. But it's not goofy enough to be genuinely entertaining because it's such a pathetic propaganda film for consumerism.

Lakeboat ★★½
David Mamet adapted his first play (which dates to the mid-1970s) into the screenplay of this indie film, which stars his younger brother Tony and is the directorial debut of actor Joe Mantegna. With the younger Mamet as a grad student thrown among older workingmen during a summer job on a Great Lakes freighter, it occasionally has the spark of Mamet's more famous plays, like *Glengarry Glen Ross*. That spark comes mainly in the colorful dialogue of the old hands well-played by Robert Forster, Jack Wallace and J.J. Johnston. But these moments are occasional, the grad student character is incredibly dull, and Mantegna proves to be an unimaginative director.

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider ★½
If there's anything appealing to the video game this is based on (besides Lara Croft's body), it didn't make it into the movie. The film is a bit like *Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Unfun Version*, with adventurous archaeologist Croft (Angelina Jolie, stripped of most of her personality) tangling with bad guys who are after some trinkets that will let them control time. But the plot is incomprehensible mumbo-jumbo (if the heavies need both halves of "the key," and she snags the first one from them, why does the story continue!?). There are a couple of decent special-effects action sequences, but most of the movie is murky and dull.

The Man Who Cried ★★
A story about a little girl who escapes the Cossacks in the 1920s, works as a showgirl and in an opera company in Paris in the late 1930s, escapes the Nazis in 1940 and finally emigrates to America

NICK WALL



Eva Van der Gucht plays a daughter pushed into a singing career by her father in ***Everybody's Famous.***

should have been a lot more thrilling than it is in English director Sally Potter's latest. Although filled with the haunting images of 80-year-old cinematographer Sacha Vierny (*Hiroshima Mon Amour*) and another typically convincing Cate Blanchett performance (as another Russian emigre in Paris), this suffers from the miscasting of Christina Ricci as the heroine, the overacting of John Turturro as an arrogant opera star, Johnny Depp playing essentially the same gypsy he did in *Chocolat* and the overall impression that something more exciting must be taking place offscreen.

Moulin Rouge ★★★
Think of director Baz (*William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet*) Luhrmann's splashy musical as a slugger who only knows how to take big, full-tilt swings. When he misses, he looks terrible; when he connects, he really connects. Set in a dreamscape Paris of 1900, *Moulin Rouge* is too long; its dependence on reconstituted pop/rock oldies for its music is questionable; and its hyper and very scattered first half-hour is grating. But there's more than a little magic in this musical love story about a much-desired showgirl (Nicole Kidman, seemingly channeling Ann-Margret) and an aspiring writer (Ewan McGregor). The surprising thing is that a lot of these magical moments come when the two sing together (and it is indeed them singing). And thanks to the sheer bravado of it all, the stock story about love and the battle between art and commerce actually works.

The Princess and the Warrior ★★
The reteaming of *Run Lola Run* writer-director Tom Tykwer and actress Franka Potente starts out promisingly, but the movie gets less and less interesting as it progresses—and it progresses for 130 minutes. Potente plays an orderly at a mental hospital whose life is saved by a surly ex-soldier (Benno Furman) who performs a tracheotomy on her after she's hit by a truck and can't breathe. She then becomes obsessed by him, much to his chagrin. That's the promising part. But despite Tykwer's knack for creating moods, the story throws in plot turn after plot turn and gets so incredibly convoluted by the last half-hour that it's really hard to keep caring about its characters.

The Road Home ★★
Chinese director Zhang Yimou made a name for himself with dramas that were epic in their range of human emotion, movies like *Raise the Red Lantern* and *To Live*. But his work has become increasingly smaller. His latest is a surprisingly conflict-free story. It's a bit like two movies in one: the first a contemporary black-and-white tale about a businessman returning to his hometown after the death of his father, and the second an extended color flashback about the courtship of his parents in 1958. Though beautifully shot and well-acted—the cast includes young Zhang Yidi of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*—there's little going on beneath the surface of these stories, and whatever little conflict creeps in is quickly settled. It's not bad, just very disappointing.

Songcatcher ★★★
The last time director Maggie Greenwald headed into the wilderness with an independent woman from the past, the result was the memorable *Ballad of Little Jo*. Her latest isn't quite so potent, but this story of a turn-of-the-last-century musicologist (Janet McTeer) who leaves the Ivy League for Appalachia gets by. Some of the plotting feels a bit by-the-numbers—oh look, it's Aidan Quinn as the guy who has to become her love interest—the central struggle of a strong-willed woman trying to find herself in a male-dominated setting works well, without clichè. And, as in *Tumbleweeds*, McTeer is a powerful presence who also projects vulnerability.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Brattle Theater

Most shows are $7, including double features.

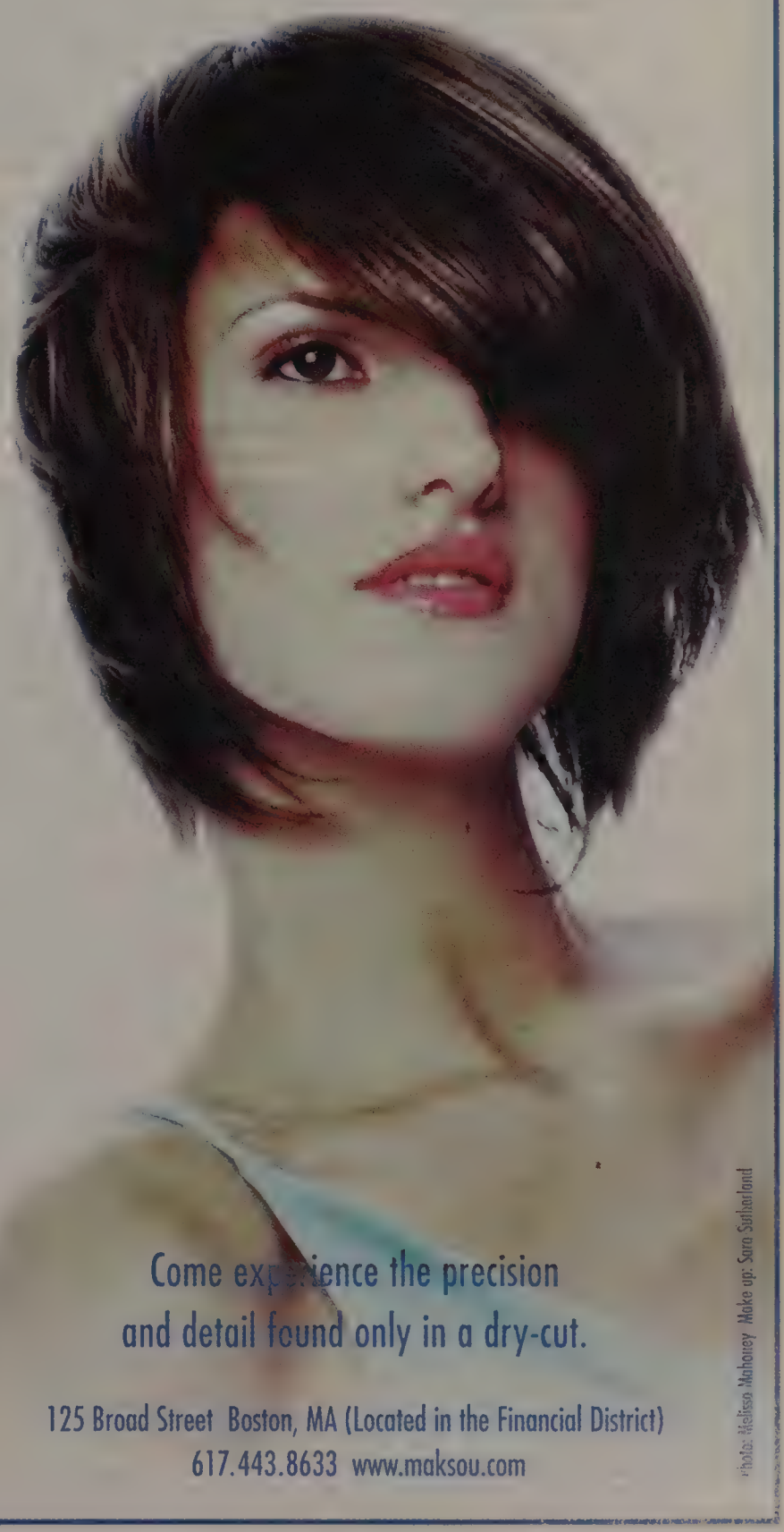
Special Engagements
• July 4 and 5 **Our Song** *2000.* Boston College alum Jim McKay shows his coming-of-age film in its local premiere. It follows three teenage girls through a summer in Brooklyn. McKay wrote and directed this glimpse of inner-city life.
• July 6-8 **Simon Magus** *1999.* This is another local premiere—this time from emerging director Ben Hopkins. His debut feature film centers on a village in 19th-century Poland where Jews and Christians reside in uneasy proximity. Tensions escalate when a new railroad is built, as the gentiles and Jews debate over who should control it.
• July 13-15 **Faat Kine** *2000.* This film follows Kine, a single mother who manages a gas station in Senegal, through her children's graduation and subsequent loneliness. This is the film's theatrical premiere.
• Also showing, **Million Dollar Hotel** *2000.* Written by Bono and featuring a cast full of Hollywood heavyweights such as Mel Gibson and Milla Jojovich, this film takes off when federal agents set out to determine whether the death of a wealthy young heir in a sleazy hotel was suicide or murder.
• July 17 **Heart of the World** *2000.* This is the Boston premiere of Gary Maddin's latest short, which has been acclaimed at festivals worldwide. It pays homage to silent sci-fi films of the past.

Mondays—On the Road Again
• July 9 **North by Northwest** *1959.* This classic Hitchcock film follows an upstanding businessman (Cary Grant) who is mistaken for a government agent by a gang of spies. Chased across the country by both real government agents and suspicious spies, he digs his way out of trouble with the help of an attractive blonde.
• July 16 **Sullivan's Travels** *1942.* Sullivan is a naive and sheltered film director who decides to turn his camera lens toward the less fortunate section of society. He masquerades as a vagrant to experience poverty firsthand. An introduction to the film will be given by Elysa Engelman, curator of the *Return to Route 66* exhibit at the Museum of Our National Heritage. • Also showing, **It Happened One Night** *1934.* Newlywed Ellie Andrews is whisked away from her husband by her wealthy and disapproving father. Ellie escapes and heads back to her love, but when things go wrong she must accept the help of a seedy reporter, played by Clark Gable.

Tuesdays—Phantasmagraphic
• July 10 **Institute Benjamenta** *1995.* The Quay Brothers direct this disturbing tale of Jakob, who arrives at the Institute Benjamenta to learn to become a servant under siblings Johannes and Lisa Benjamenta. Jakob becomes drawn to Lisa, much to Johannes' disapproval. • Also showing, **Twilight of the Ice Nymphs** *1997.* Shelly Duvall stars in this Guy Maddin film that marks a departure from Maddin's previous directorial methods.
• July 17 **Careful** *1992.* Written and directed by Guy Maddin, *Careful* was shot in the style of an early German film, complete with a deliberately crackly soundtrack and hand-tinted color effects. In the remote Alpine village of Tolzbad at the turn of the century, people live

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their lives in quiet repression for fear of triggering a deadly avalanche. • Also showing, **Faust** *1994.* Jans Svankmajer directs this humorous adaptation of Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*, Goethe's *Faust* and an amalgamation of other versions of the legend of a man who sold his soul to the devil.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

• July 11 **Amores Perros** *2000.* Three intertwined stories take place in the streets of ever-changing and dismally violent Mexico City. An aimless loser, a deadbeat dad and a bitter ex-con turned hitman become inexplicably entangled as they try to control their fates. • Also showing, **Chopper** *2000.* Eric Banna, as Chopper, dreams of being remembered as a legendary crime figure, yet he can't seem to get off the path of failure.

• July 18 **The Golden Bowl** *2000.* Uma Thurman, Kate Beckinsale and Nick Nolte star as characters who get caught up in a comic quandary when a man marries an heiress for her money even though he is truly in love with her friend.

Thursdays—Catherine Deneuve

• July 12 **Dancer in the Dark** *2001.* Björk won critical acclaim for her role in this film, a Czech woman who emigrated to America in '64. Working day and night, she tries to save her son from a debilitating disease. Through her desperation, she finds salvation in music.

Coolidge Corner Theater

Feature Films

• Opening July 6 **Songcatcher**. Set in the Appalachian Mountains of 1907, this winner of the Sundance Film Festival Ensemble Cast Special Jury Prize examines the origins and traditions of three generations of American folk songs.

Special Engagement: Early Films of Atom Egoyan

• July 6-12 **Next of Kin** *1984.* Egoyan's first full-length feature is a sly comedy about a catatonically unhappy only child with a miserable home life. To get away from his family, he poses as the long-lost son of an Armenian couple who embrace him as their own. It shows with several of Egoyan's short films. • Also showing, **Family Viewing** *1987.* A young man is traumatized when he finds his childhood home videos have been erased to make room for his father's homemade sex tapes. • Also showing, **Speaking Parts** *1989.* Haunting images and obsessive sexuality merge in this film. This thriller follows an actor/gigolo, a frustrated chambermaid, an obsessed writer and a manipulative film producer in a web of compulsive psychosexual desire. • Also showing, **Calendar** *1993.* Egoyan stars in this evocative film in which he plays a photographer sent to Armenia to document historic churches for a calendar.

Hot Summer Midnites

• July 6 and 7, 12am and July 8, 12am **The Shining** *1980.* This is the classic creepy Kubric psycho-thriller, written by Stephen King and starring Shelly Duvall and Jack Nicholson. An old hotel drives its snowed-in caretakers insane. • July 14, 12am and July 15, 12am **Requiem for a Dream** *2001.* This film takes the audience on an emotional journey as it shows how initial drug-happy enthusiasm can eventually lead to a dismal climax. Ellen Burnstyn steals the show in her Oscar-nominated portrayal of a middle-aged mom with an addiction to diet pills and TV game shows.

Harvard Film Archive

Directors A to Z: Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive

• July 5, 7pm **The Producers** *1968.* Obviously, scoring Broadway tickets to this hit play is practically out of the question, so seeing the film is a good fall-back option. Two Broadway producers get together with the intent of making a musical that will surely bomb. Mel Brooks-style hilarity ensues.

• July 5, 8:45pm **Lost in America** *1985.* Albert Brooks directs and stars with Julie Hagerty and Michael Greene in this comedy about a couple who gives up stability in order to travel across the country.

• July 6, 7pm **The Miracle Woman** *1932.* Frank Capra directs this black-and-white classic with Barbara Stanwyck, Sam Hardy and David Manners.

• July 6, 8:45pm **A Woman Under the Influence** *1974.* John Cassavetes' film is about an unstable wife and mother. With Peter Falk, Gena Rowlands and Seymour Cassel.

• July 7, 7pm **Sons and Lovers** *1960.* Dean Stockwell, Trevor Howard and Wendy Hiller star in this adaptation of D.H. Lawrence's tale of passion and family history. Directed by Jack Cardiff.

• July 7, 9pm **Sweetie** *1989.* Australian film maverick Jane Campion directs this story about the mentally ill (and very repulsive) Sweetie and her dysfunctional family.

• July 8, 7pm **Singin' in the Rain** *1952.* Stanley Donen and Gene Kelly direct, and Kelly stars in this hilarious musical about a silent-film production company.



As part of the French Film Festival, Frederic Schoendoerffer's new thriller, *Scenes de Crimes* (*Crime Scenes*), screens at the Museum of Fine Arts. It shows July 14 at 4:15pm.

Preview

Venons au Cinéma!

French Film brings European flair to the MFA

For the past six years, July has brought Gallic gallimaufry to the Museum of Fine Arts with some of the finest French films being packed into a three-week festival. This year's lineup has expanded to include 24 films—all of which are Boston premieres. Several veteran directors are slated to make appearances—including Bertrand Tavernier (*It All Starts Today*) and Michel Deville (*La maladie de Sachs*), as well as emerging talents Hélène Ange (*Skin of Man, Heart of Beast*) Ian Duran Cohen (*Gender Confusion*).

• July 12 *Under the Sand* (2000). A woman copes with her husband's mysterious disappearance in this Francois Ozon film. A reception follows.

• July 13, 6pm *Everything's Fine—We're Leaving* (2000). Claude Mourieras directs this film about three sisters whose father returns 15 years after abandoning them. • Also showing, 8pm *A Brush with the Stars* (2000), in which a father's relationship with his daughter changes as she pursues a career in acting. Gerard Jugnot directs.

• July 14, 12pm *It All Starts Today* (1999). A schoolmaster deals with the effects of economic depression in this Bertrand Tavernier film. • Also showing, 2:15pm and July 15, 7:30pm *Once We Grow Up* (2000). Renaud Cohen directs this film about roots and heritage. • Also showing, 4:15pm *Crime Scenes* (2000). This is a thriller about a serial killer, directed by Frederic Schoendoerffer. • Also showing, 6:15pm *Little Darling* (2000). Anne Villaceque directs. • Also showing, 8:15pm Bad Company 1999. Jean-Pierre Ameris directs this story of a young girl who turns to prostitution in her search for love.

• July 15, 1pm *Himalaya* (1999). Eric Valli directs this examination of the traditional lives of Tibetan herdsmen. • Also showing, 3:15pm *La Maladie de Sachs* (1999). Michel Deville's film follows a doctor suffering from loneliness. • Also showing, 5:30pm *Tomorrow's Another Day* (2000). Directed by Jeanne LaBrune, this is the story about the various relationships that form in a circle of friends. It shows with Francoise Romand's 14-minute film *The Rules of My Game. MFA, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). $12 and $15, opening night July 12; $8 and $9 on following nights. —Erin Hagedorn*

• July 8, 9pm **Les Desmoiselles de Rochefort** *(The Young Girls of Rochefort) 1967.* Catherine Deneuve and Francoise Dorléac star as sisters in Jacques Demy's film.

• July 9, 7pm **Staroye i Novoye** *(The Old and the New) 1929.* Sergei Eisenstein and Grigori Alexandrov direct this black-and-white film.

• July 9, 8:45pm **El Espíritu de la Colmena** *(The Spirit of the Beehive) 1973.* Directed by Victor Erice and set in Castile circa 1940, this is the story of two young girls who search for Frankenstein after seeing the movie. The film is in Spanish with English subtitles.

• July 10, 7pm **The Naked Kiss** *1965.* Samuel Fuller directs with Constance Towers, Anthony Eisley and Michael Dante in this film about a prostitute who tries to reform her lifestyle.

• July 10, 8:45pm **Bolwieser** *(The Stationmaster's Wife) 1977.* German director Rainer Werner Fassbinder's film is about an everyday man who weds the town siren. In German with English subtitles.

• July 11, 7pm **Vivre sa Vie** *(My Life to Live) 1962.* The story of a Parisian woman's descent into prostitution was filmed in 12 separate tableaux and directed by Jean-Luc Godard. In French with English subtitles.

• July 11, 8:45pm **Prénom: Carmen** *(First Name: Carmen) 1983.* Jean-Luc Godard directs Maruschka Detmers as Carmen, a gang member who falls in love with a police officer. In French with English subtitles.

• July 12, 7pm **Tiger Shark** *1932.* A fisherman who lost his hand to a tiger shark while saving a friend experiences the effects of his heroic act. Howard Hawks directs.

• July 12, 8:30pm **Moby Dick** *1956.* John Huston directs Gregory Peck as Captain Ahab in this adaptation of Herman Melville's story of the great white whale.

• July 13, 7pm **Only Angels Have Wings** *1939.* Cary Grant stars in this Howard Hawks film about pilots who deliver mail by way of a dangerous mountain pass.

• July 13, 9:15pm **The Misfits** *1961.* Clark Gable, Marilyn Monroe and Montgomery Clift star in this John Huston film about a woman who protests the killing of misfit horses for dog food.

• July 14, 7pm **A Room with a View** *1985.* A young Englishwoman finds love on a trip to Florence, then must choose between marrying her fiancé at home or following her heart. James Ivory directs.

• July 14, 9:15pm **The Bostonians** *1984.* James Ivory directs this film about a 19th-century Boston woman who was committed to the suffrage movement.

• July 15, 7pm **The Company of Wolves** *1984.* This dreamlike film dealing with the myth of werewolves is presented as a metaphor for life, with a feminist twist. Neil Jordan directs.

• July 15, 8:45pm **Caravaggio** *1986.* Derek Jarman directs this film based on the life and art of the Italian painter Caravaggio.

• July 16, 7pm **Neobychainye priklyucheniya mistera Vesta v strane bolshevikov** *(The Extraordinary Adventures of Mr. West in the Land of the Bolsheviks) 1924.* Lev Kuleshov directs this silent and verbosely titled black-and-white film. The story is about an American man's visit to the land of the Bolsheviks.

• July 16, 9pm **Seven Chances** *1925.* A man will inherit a fortune if only he can marry by 7pm on his birthday in this silent, black-and-white film by Buster Keaton.

• July 17, 7pm **Paths of Glory** *1957.* Stanley Kubrick directs this black-and-white film about mutinous soldiers during World War I.

• July 17, 8:45pm **Dr. Strangelove, or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb** *1964.* The world is in danger as an insane general plots to bomb the USSR, thus setting off a device that will destroy all life in this Stanley Kubrick classic.

Museum of Fine Arts

Jewish Film Fest Encore

Tickets $8, students, seniors and members, $7.

• July 8, 2pm **All My Loved Ones** *1999.* In 1938, the Silberstein family purchases a beautiful house at a fraction of its worth from a Jewish man emigrating to America. A horrific act helps this family, who are oblivious to political developments, comprehend the man's decision.

The Films of Kiyoshi Kurosawa

Tickets $8, students, seniors and members $7.

• July 5, 6pm **Charisma** *1999.* A detective is called in to save a politician held hostage by a lunatic, but fails. He retreats to a mountain forest where there is a seemingly magical tree that controls everything around it.

• July 6, 6pm **Eyes of the Spider** *1997.* This is a twin film with *The Serpent's Path* that tell very different but parallel stories about gangster revenge. • Also showing, 8pm **The Serpent's Path** *1997.*

• July 7, 1:20pm **Cure** *1997.* Police are trying to solve a rash of murders sweeping Tokyo and end up with a strange drifter who maliciously uses his hypnotic powers.

• July 7, 3:30pm **Séance** *2000.* Using his natural powers along with supernatural methods, a psychic tries to find a missing girl.

• July 8, 5:30pm **License to Live** *1999.* A young man awakens from a 10-year coma and struggles to rebuild his life and family.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway or Kenmore.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org/film.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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pale ale
mild ale
brown ale
scotch ale
barley wine
porter
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belgian ale
trappist ale
altbier
kolsch
berliner
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pilsel
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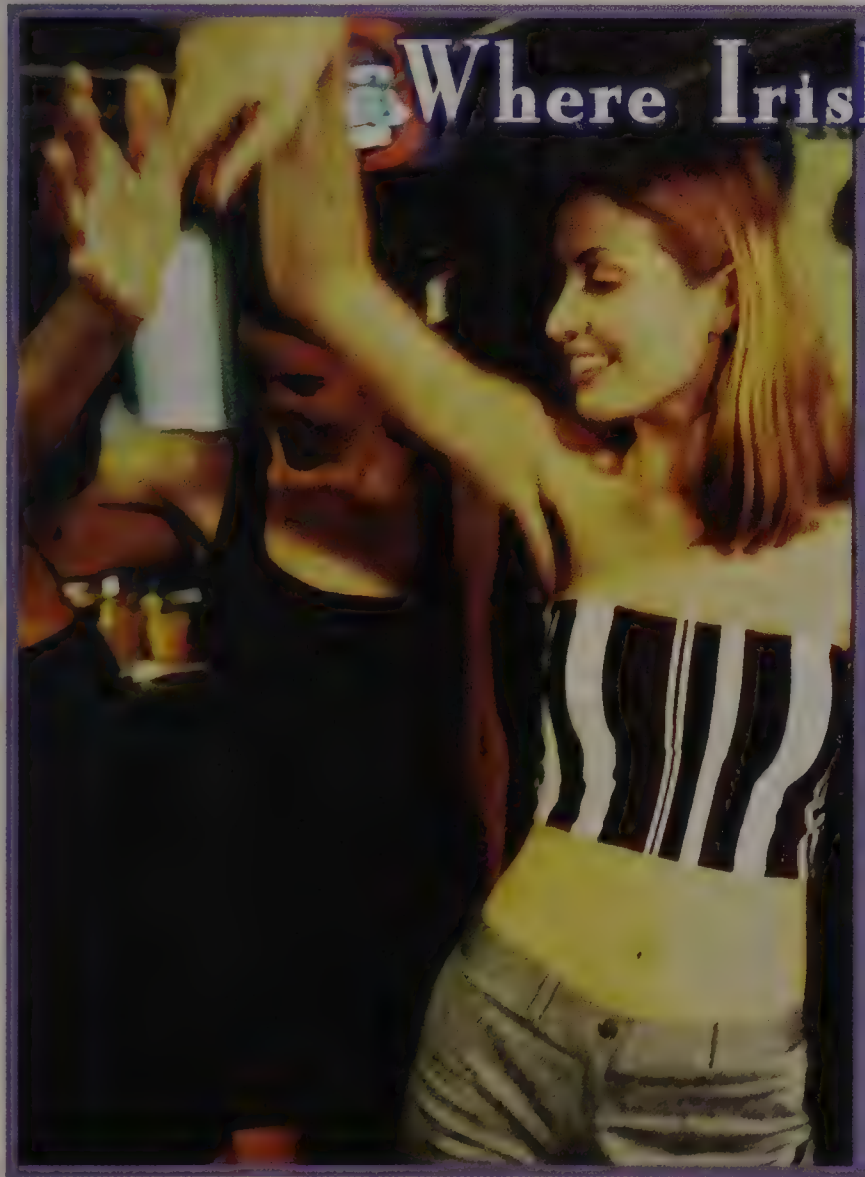
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July 27, 28 - The Zoo

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READINGS & SIGNINGS

THURSDAY, JULY 5

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., #1, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **J. Richard Gott** discusses his new book, *Time Travel in Einstein's Universe*, which explores the existence of time travel and its implications regarding the creation of the universe.

SATURDAY, JULY 7

Borders Books and Music Special Event
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 2pm. Conductor of Boston Pops Orchestra **Keith Lockhart** signs copies of *Symphony Hall: The First 100 Years*. The most recent addition to the Boston Symphony Orchestra library presents an artistic and informative look at Boston's architectural and acoustic landmark.

MONDAY, JULY 9

Brookline Booksmith
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline. (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $3.50. **Nick Hornby**, British author of *High Fidelity*, reads from his latest novel. *How to Be Good*, the story of a career mom and her funny attempts to become just that—good.

TUESDAY, JULY 10

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Alan Emmet** reads from *The Mr. & Mrs. Club*, her debut novel about the incredibly constricting the lifestyle of the '50s housewife. Structured as a series of vignettes, this novel paints a vivid portrait of the protagonist's struggle toward emancipation.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. Bostonian **Frederick Reiken**, author of *The Odd Sea*, reads from his second novel, *Lost Legends of New Jersey*, a dramatic tale of family, romance, loss, hope and survival in a northern New Jersey suburb. The reading is followed by free snacks and local brew Park Pale Ale.

Borders Open Mike Poetry Event
85 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. Free. Poet **B.G. Thurston** hosts this event that features **Paula Bonnell**.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **Madeleine Blais** signs copies of her memoir, *Uphill Walkers*, a work that focuses on her 1950s rural Massachusetts childhood.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., #1, Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **David Gessner** discusses his chronicle of the breeding season of four mated pairs of osprey in *Return of the Osprey: A Season of Flight and Wonder*. This collection of Gessner's own observations is supplemented with citations from technical sources and commentary from local fishermen, family members and friends.

THURSDAY, JULY 12

Borders Second Thursday Poetry
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30pm. Featured poets **Steven Cramer**, **Robert K. Johnson**, **Suzanne Owens** and **Joyce Peseroff** read their poetry with an open-mike session to follow.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Susan Quinn** reads from *Human Trials*, her case study of Auto Immune, a drug company doing high-stakes experimental drug testing on MS and rheumatoid arthritis patients. The book offers more than just the facts, however, in its revealing conversations with patients and doctors who are giving their all to find a cure.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. **Daniel Jones** reads from his latest novel, *After Lucy*, a compassionate glimpse of a young father who copes with his wife's death by taking his kids on the road in search of a new beginning.

FRIDAY, JULY 13

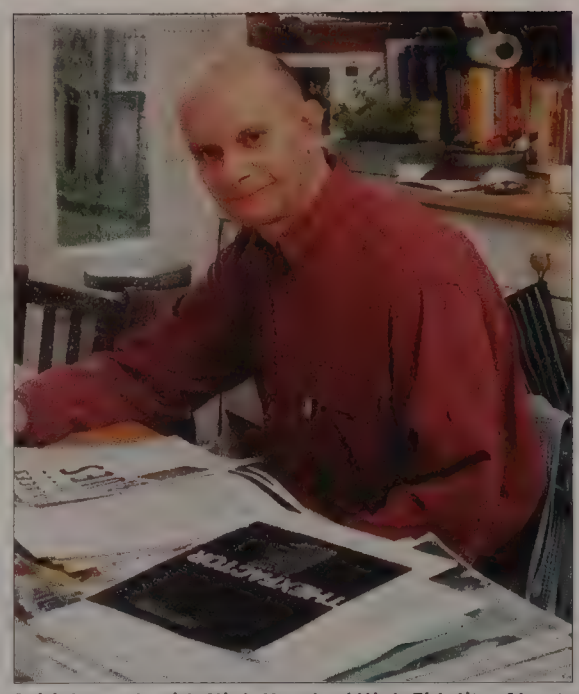
The Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Gerald Nicosia**, a Vietnam veteran, discusses his new book, *Home to War: A History of the Vietnam Veteran's Movement*. Nicosia delivers a telling historical account of the war as well as its many protests. His work is based on more than 600 interviews with veterans.

SATURDAY, JULY 14

Borders Books and Music Author Event
Cambridgeside Galleria, 100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (679-0887). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. 3pm. **Martha Day Zschock**, a third-grade teacher, author and illustrator, reads from her two books, *Journey Around Cape Cod* and *Journey Around Boston from A to Z*. The books are based on field trips with her students and are meant to pique young readers' curiosity. Zschock hopes they will serve as springboards for further study and exploration about all that New England has to offer.

Borders Special Event
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 2pm. Reading from her debut literary effort, songstress-cum-author **Melissa Etheridge** shares her dynamic life story in *The Truth Is:...My Life in Love and Music*. Etheridge addresses many personal aspects of her life—as an artist, musician, icon and mother. The book accompanies her latest CD release, *Skin*.


Songstress and author Melissa Etheridge reads from her autobiography July 14 at Borders downtown.


British wordsmith Nick Hornby (*High Fidelity, About a Boy*) talks about his new book, *How to Be Good*, at Brookline Booksmith July 9.

The Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Free. **Chris Hoffman** discusses his book, *The Hoop and the Tree: A Compass for Finding a Deeper Relationship with All Life*. The book explores the hoop and the tree as symbols of every individual's life and identity, and how we can grow spiritually and intellectually by understanding ourselves.

MONDAY, JULY 16

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Alice Randall** reads from *The Wind Done Gone*, her controversial first novel. A parody of *Gone With the Wind*, Randall's novel explores the same period from the view point of a mulatto slave woman.

TUESDAY, JULY 17

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, First Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. First Tuesday of the month. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Every first Tuesday is a poetry session.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

The Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going on Mondays.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446), or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

FRIDAY, JULY 6

Gnosis as Revelation
First Parish Unitarian Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (591-9959). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. $5. New Acropolis presents a lecture on dualities: the classical mind and early Christianity, and the primal man and his descent into darkness. Learn about the Pistis Sophia and discuss its insights into early Christian man (and woman).

MONDAY, JULY 9

Feng Shui for Your Home
1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (781-453-9800). 7-9pm, $35. Think that the potted plant in the dark corner of your living room is in the wrong place, but you're just not sure where to put it? Is your mess overwhelming you? Feng Shui consultant **Stephen Devine** demonstrates how to bring balance and harmony into your home using Eastern principles and his own insights garnered from two decades of teaching and consulting.

Make Your Own...Web Page
Museum of Science, One Science Park, Boston (589-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. July 9, 9:30-3:30pm, and July 10. $120. Learn the art of creating Web pages—fast. Use Claris Home Page 3.0 to design your own personal pages by adding colors, pictures, tables and links.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Beginning Computer Wizardry
Egleston Square Branch Library, 2044 Columbus Ave., Roxbury (445-4340). 5pm. Free. Hate computers? Love computers? Want to know more about how they work and what's inside? **Eric Ostrom** presents a short free course on the how and why of computers, including hands-on activities and an introduction to writing Web pages and simple computer programs, as well as the structure of computers, networks and the Internet.

From Telegraph to the Internet: New England Communication Revolutions
SPNEA at One Bowdoin Square, Boston (227-3957, ext. 270). 12:15-1pm. Free. New England has been a center for revolutionizing communication over the past 200 years. Each wave of technology has changed the way we live and work. **Dr. Krim**, executive director of the Boston History Collaborative, will look at the key elements that led to communication innovations from this region: telegraph, telephone, television, computers and the Internet.

Warning: Start-Up Ahead
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Four Wednesdays, beginning July 11, 5:45-7:45pm. $95. Itching to leave the corporate world and strike out on your own? This four-session lecture discusses how to create a practical business plan, market and advertise your venture, and land that all-important start-up capital.

THURSDAY, JULY 12

The Writing Life: An Evening with Ezra Dyer
5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-7:30pm. $19. **Ezra Dyer**, the IMPROPER's own wordsmith, will talk to you in person about his triumphs and travails as a young writer in Beantown and how he's made a go of it. And, with his own inimitable brand of witty repartee. he'll tell you how you can do the same thing.

SATURDAY, JULY 14

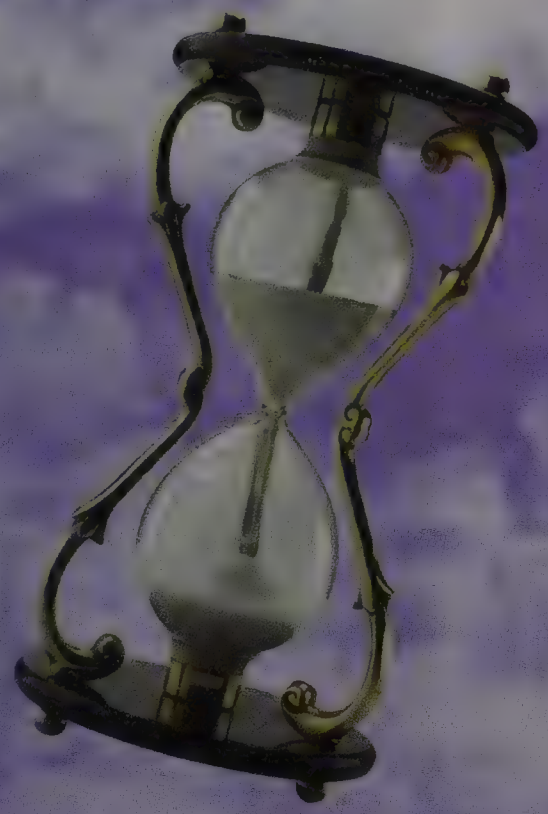
French Art Before and After the Revolution
Museum of Fine Art, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). 12pm. Free with museum admission ($12 general admission). This lecture by **Henry Augustine Tate** discusses how French art was influenced by the Revolution.

Tour New England's Historic Lighthouses
Boston Harbor Cruises, Long Wharf, Boston (227-4321). 10am-3:00pm. $28. Reservations required. A tour of historic lighthouses that remain standing and in use today. Sites include Deer Island, 1903 Graves Light, Hospital Point Light, Bakers Island and Ten Pound Island.

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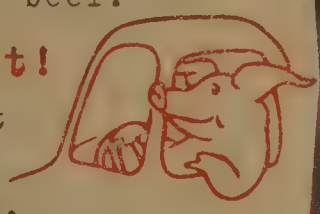


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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Top DJs spin.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
•July 9 and 16: In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs. Martini bar, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
Go Retroactive with DJ Chris Ewen, 9pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits. 10pm. 19+. No cover.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid jazz soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
•July 10: Mac and Jamie, 10pm, 21+. •July 17: After Work Jazz Party, 6:30pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night with R&B, house, funk and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.

Hibernia
DJ Jeremy spins lounge tunes, 6pm, 21+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

The Kells
DJs Roy Barboza and Chaos spin hip-hop, 9pm, 21+.

Milky Way
DJs Adam Gibbons, Fran and Paul Nickerson spin downtempo, jazzy deep house, soul and funk, 9pm, no cover.

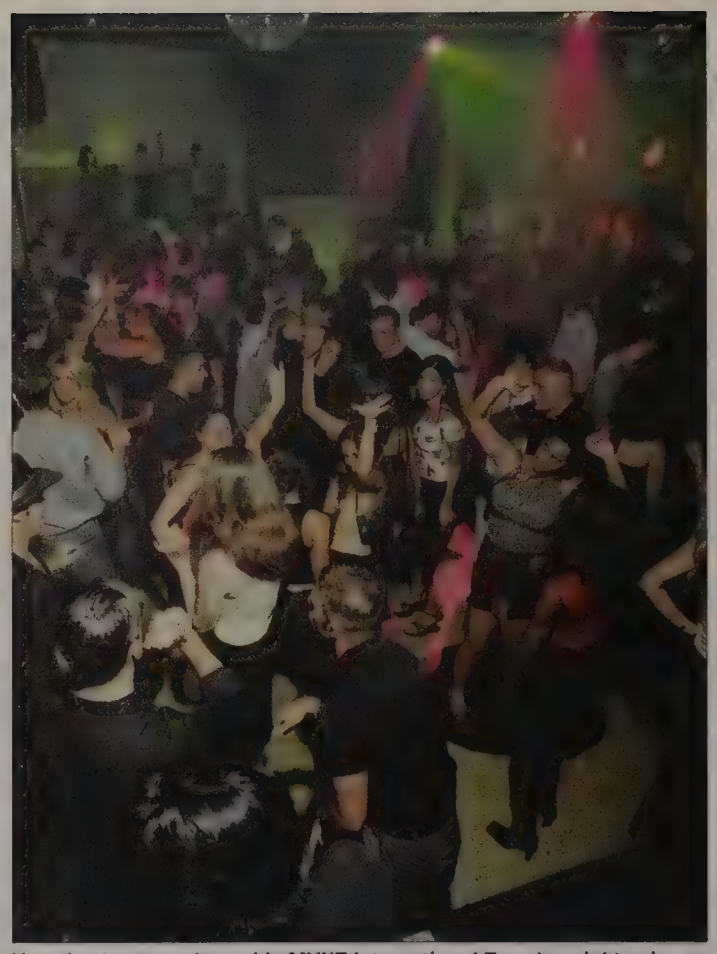
New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
•July 4 and 11: Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.



Venu hosts a swank weekly MYNT International Tuesday night soiree.

Samsara
Hong Kong An evening of psy-trance and drum-and-space with resident DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $4, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Jeff Knor, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house and trance music, 10pm, $10, 19+.

College Night
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ Dragg spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by for some after-work lounging with the mellow tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm. $15 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean. Don't forget to dress up—jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
•July 5 and 12: Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae and hip hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adison. 10pm, 18+.

FRIDAYS

Aer
DJs Pete Bailey and G-Mac play some deep house for your listening pleasure, 10pm.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney plays top-40 hits, your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s and one-hit wonders, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and special-guest global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Cire, 9:30pm, 21+.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
The Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

International Lounge
Vertigo DJ A. Rossi upstairs and DJ Peter Souhleris spin Latin dance early, progressive house and top hits, 11pm. Cocktails and free hors d'oeuvres before 10pm. 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
The Roxy Guest DJs turn this dance party alive, 3rd floor.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house music with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Ren Justice spins disco, top-40 and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
•July 6: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+. •July 13: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm, 21+; DJ Ricky, 10pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
•July 6: Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. 10pm, $12, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
After-work lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house and techno, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house, hip-hop and top-40 dance.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house, DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house, 10pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house music while disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive. 9:30pm. Dress is casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins international house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
•July 7 and 14: Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
•July 7: Danny Tucker spins roots and reggae, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

R&B Lounge
Vertigo DJ Ron spins R&B, hip hop, and light house at this elegant R&B night. 10:30pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats in this laser-lit club, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor, $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

SW1
DJ Tari spins house, dress sexy, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians. Then, DJ Adrienne spins Brit pop and new wave tunes. 9pm, $3, 19+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins International house, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Raffy spins International house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJs Larry, Dale, Magnum, Lisa and Robin play great reggae music, 9pm, $5.

The Rack
•July 8 and 15: Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar •July 8: Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (292-3309).*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Cafe *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central or Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333).*
Hong Kong *1236 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (800-575-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-9400). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (562-8800). MBTA: Green Line to BU West.*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (576-6260).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300).*
Who's on First? *19 Yawkey Way, Boston (247-3353). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*



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WEST-COAST VIBE

String Cheese travels far and wide with its bluegrass-rooted fusion of rock and world music. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

It's a long way from playing for lift tickets at ski areas to becoming the favorite West Coast band of the post-Phish tour tribe. But it has come naturally for the String Cheese Incident, which most closely evokes the laid-back vibe of the Grateful Dead with its rootsy mix of bluegrass, rock and world music.

"Three of us came from California and we played the West Coast a lot before we came east," bassist Keith Moseley says of the Colorado band, which plays the FleetBoston Pavilion July 22. "But now it's consistent from coast to coast."



From left: Keith Moseley, Michael Travis, Kyle Hollingsworth, Bill Nershi and Michael Kang make up the String Cheese Incident.

"In the very beginning, we were all living in Crested Butte, so we could ski and mountain bike and live the mountain town lifestyle," he says of the sextet's origins as a four-piece acoustic outfit in the mid-'90s. "We decided to start taking gigs at after-ski parties, playing for drinks and dinner and lift tickets, then started traveling to other ski areas."

Along the way, Moseley needed to switch from guitar to bass, and conga player Michael Travis learned trap drums, and now combines both elements with separate hands. "He needed a kit to get people dancing," Moseley says. Latin and Afro-Cuban rhythms developed further when jazz-trained keyboardist Kyle Hollingsworth joined the band, which is fronted by acoustic guitarist Bill Nershi (who shares Moseley's bluegrass roots) and Michael Kang, who was classically trained as a violinist and also plays electric and acoustic mandolins.

"We have five unique personalities, and the band functions as a democracy," says Moseley, an approach evident on new studio CD *Outside Inside*, where the band not only mixes up styles (adding horns to Kang's funky "Black and White") but writing and lead vocals as well. "We like to have a moment where everyone gets to do their own thing," Moseley, who lends his laconic drawl to "Joyful Sound" on the record, says of an idea that String Cheese also embraces onstage.

"We spend a lot of time on set lists before a show," he says. "We might start with a high dynamic and come out swinging, blast a couple of rock tunes, then do some acoustic, more bluegrass tunes. We try to visualize a journey that we can take the crowd on."

Not that the sets are completely scripted. "We have arrows on the set lists for jam sections," the bassist says. "Some nights we talk about it a little bit, like 'Let's jam with a reggae feel in G Minor,' and sometimes there's an arrow, and we don't discuss it. We leave plenty of room for improvisation."

They focused differently on *Outside Inside*, however, working with producer Steve Berlin of Los Lobos to help craft a CD that could help break the old axiom that a jam-band can't make a good studio album. "We had a little bit of that in the back of our minds," Moseley says. "We wanted to show [people who believed that] and ourselves what we can do."

"We wanted to highlight the songs and trim some of the jamming back, to go in and make something different," he says. "When we play them live, we can stretch them out."

Outside Inside has been released on the group's SCI Fidelity Records division, just one arm of a self-contained operation that even includes a travel bureau and ticketing service for fans. More than 4,000 fans have also become "pirates," a street team that helps publicize gigs around the country.

"We have a juggernaut in Boulder, Colorado," Moseley laughs about the band's homegrown operation, on the phone from his home outside Boulder. "It's quite an organization. It ties into the fact that we're independent-minded. We carve out our own niche and do things our own way."

To that end, while String Cheese is one of many jam-bands taking advantage of a Phish-free summer in hitting the tour circuit of outdoor theaters and festivals ("We love playing outside," Moseley says), the group has another unique concert enterprise. Each winter, the band picks an exotic locale to stage an "International Incident," respectively playing the past three years in Jamaica, Mexico and Costa Rica, where String Cheese gave free tickets to the locals and raised money for rainforest preservation and a computer lab.

"It's not only a chance to take a working vacation and check out another culture," he says, "but to help out as well." iB

The String Cheese Incident

Plays the FleetBoston Pavilion July 22.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billling

Backstreet Boys, Krystal and Shaggy
July 6, 7, 9, 10 and 11, FleetCenter

Beyond Good and Evil Tour 2001: The Cult, Monster Magnet and Stabbing Westward
July 10, Worcester Palladium

Chicago
July 15, FleetBoston Pavilion

The Creature Comforts and the Sheila Divine
July 13, Paradise Rock Club

The Dickey Betts Band and the Doobie Brothers
July 14, FleetBoston Pavilion

Jen Durkin & the Conscious Underground
July 6, Paradise Rock Club

G3, Joe Satriani, John Petrucci and Steve Vai
July 16, FleetBoston Pavilion

Goldfinger, Reel Big Fish, HomeGrown, RX Bandits and Zebrahead
July 14, Avalon

Journey, Peter Frampton and John Waite
July 6, Tweeter Center

Patty Larkin
July 11, Museum of Fine Arts

Jo Dee Messina
July 12, FleetBoston Pavilion

The Monkees
July 13, Cape Cod Melody Tent;
July 14, MDC Hatch Shell

Alioune Mbaye Nder
July 9, Paradise Rock Club

Stevie Nicks
July 14, Tweeter Center

Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers
July 8, Tweeter Center

Poison Glam Slam Metal Jam
July 7, Tweeter Center

Reel Big Fish with Goldfinger, RX Bandits, Zebrahead and Homegrown
July 14, Avalon

Roxy Music
July 17, FleetBoston Pavilion

Paul Simon and Brian Wilson
July 13, Tweeter Center

Super Rail Band
July 18, Paradise Rock Club

The Temptations
July 14, Cape Cod Melody Tent

A Walk Down Abbey Road: A Superstar Tribute to the Beatles, featuring Alan Parsons and Ann Wilson
July 11, FleetBoston Pavilion

Widespread Panic
July 13, FleetBoston Pavilion

Chris Whitley's Rockethouse with DJ Logic
July 11, Paradise Rock Club

Trisha Yearwood
July 7, South Shore Music Circus

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30-10:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30pm.
Bill's Bar After-fireworks party, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm.
Cafe Louis Robert Stillman trio, 6-10pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Common Ground Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzales Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
Harper's Ferry 17th Annual Battle of the Blues Bands.
House of Blues I Muvrini, 9pm, $7, 18+.

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- **24 Winter Street**, Downtown Crossing 617-357-8444
- **The Mall at Chestnut Hill** 617-964-8100
- **Solomon Pond Mall**, Marlborough (off I-290) 508-303-3666
- **Avon, CT** at 380 W. Main Street 860-678-9400

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Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Post-fireworks party with Honest Bob, 10:30, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Loveless, Bleu and the Gladstones, 9pm.
Middle East D: Independence Day with US Bombs, Kings of Nuthin', Lost City Angels, Ragin' Teens, Out Cold and Tension Men, $10, 18+.
Oak Bar Pianist Steve Soars, 8pm, no cover.
The Rack Bal Ha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, JULY 5

Atlantic 101 Jim Porcello Trio, 7:30pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm.
The Attic Almost Speechless and Adios Pantalones, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Left of Heaven with Luzz and Dr. Bewkenheimer, $5, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Joe Barbato, 8pm.
Cafe Louis Gianni, 6pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Anne Heaton and Beth Amsel CD-release show, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Mr. Slate, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Roxbury Blues Aesthetic, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, no cover, 21+.
Green Briar DJ Doc.
Harper's Ferry 17th Annual Battle of the Blues Bands.
House of Blues Weepin' Willie, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Johnny D's Dwayne Dopsie, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Dylan Callahan, Melvern Taylor and Chris Elliot, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Inda Loka, Jonathan Hall, Adam Ezra and Nick Zaino, 8pm, $5.
The Linwood Stimulant, Red Letter and 12 Step Process, 10pm, $5, 21+.


The '60 vocal wonders The Temptations prove they've still got it July 14 at the Cape Cod Melody Tent.

Lizard Lounge Bill Janowitz 7pm; Club d'Elf, Moroccan Bazaar and Brahim Fribgan, 10pm.
Middle East U: Rise Park, William and Kimone, $7, 18+; D: The Delta 72, The Walkmen and The David James Motorcycle, $8. 18+.
Milky Way Beneath the Planet of Go Ape with Mondo Topless, the Invisible Men, Speedbuggy and Psych-O-Daisies, hosted by General DJ Vinny, Dr. "Sir Richard" Zaius and Astronaut "Long Player" Taylor, 9pm, $8.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm, no cover.
PJ Ryan's Nate Walkins, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Temporada Latina, 8:30pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The William Academy and Hill Valley, $7.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

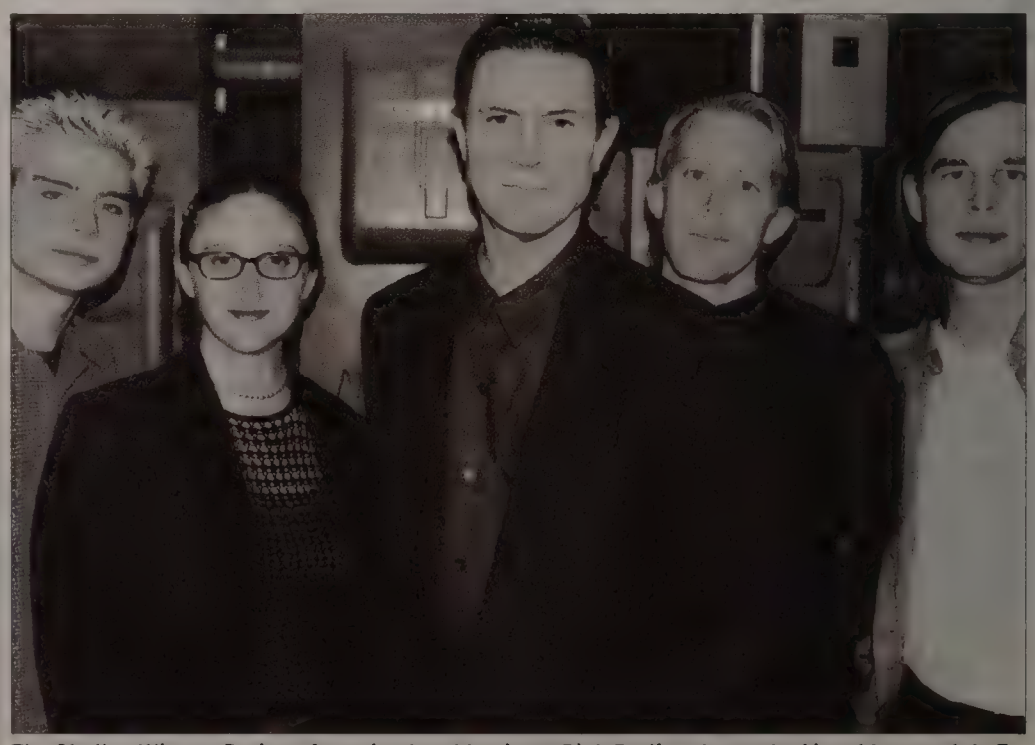
FRIDAY, JULY 6

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown and Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Attic Heir and Distant Relatives, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Three Day Threshold with Paid to Fake it and Hackensaw Boys, $7, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cafe Louis Robert Stillman trio, 6pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Ellis Paul and Flynn, 7 and 10pm, $17.
Common Ground Lovewhip, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe; Soul City, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Fascinating Rhythm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Roxbury Blues Aesthetic, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pitman, 6pm.
Harper's Ferry 17th Annual Battle of the Blues Bands.
House of Blues Jimmy Johnson, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Bluerunners, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Teddy Goldstein, 9:30; Shiner Jones, 10:30pm; Carla Patullo Band, 11:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Eighteen Abbey, Audianz, Local Jack and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8pm, $5.
The Linwood Laffing Freemen, Brother Mosely and Jerkwater Ruckus, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Wide Iris, Tootsie, Slide Piece and SBGB, 9pm.
Middle East U: Joint Chiefs and the Room Show, 18+, $8; D: RC Crimewave, Crack Torch, Medea Connection, The Beatings, Crash & Burn and Swamp Witch Revival, $8, 18+.
Milky Way The Allstonians, Chelsea on Fire and the Spitvalves, $9, 8pm.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Greenhouse, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Dis 'n' Dat, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club "A Festa" Brazilian Dance Party, 9pm, $10.
Top of the Hub Jim Cameron and the Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place AdFrank & the Fast Easy Women, Paula Kelley, The Modifiers and Tardy, $7.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, JULY 7

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with the Harry Fix Trio, 11am-2pm; Alison Brown and Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm.
Bill's Bar Lake Trout, 6pm, $10.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Guy Davis, Stefanie Fix opens, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzales Band, 7pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Pimp the Cat, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Annual Battle of the Blues Bands.
House of Blues Zakiya Hooker, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Babaloo, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Hog Mawl CD-release, Foundry and Neil Cleary, $7, 21+.




The Shelley Winters Project, featuring local luminary Rick Berlin, play at the Lizard Lounge July 7.

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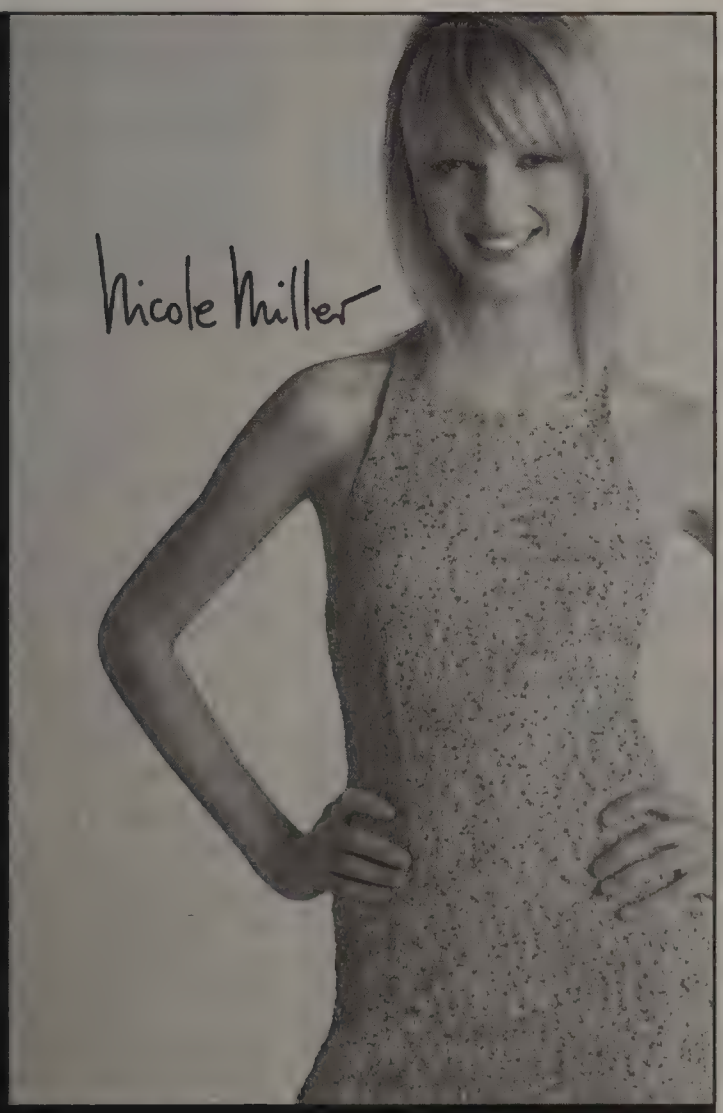
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Kirkland Cafe J-Walkers, Uprise, Jama Gigi, $5.
The Linwood Glutton, Banter and Woody, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Shelley Winters Project.
Middle East U: Thought Brigade, Cart Blanch and Ostrich Farm, $7, 18+; D: Burning Airlines, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club, 9:30pm, $7.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Danny Tucker, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Freelance Bishops, 9pm, $9.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway and the Jeff Auger Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Continental Drifters, Crown Victoria and the Dirty Truckers, $8.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAY, JULY 8

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown and Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar Big D and the Kids Table with Cooter, The Know How and Mouthwash, 2pm, $10; Jem-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10.
Bob the Chef's Sunday jazz brunch with Sonny Watson Quartet, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Heather Waters and Frank Morey, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Eric Taylor and David Goldfinger, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Evelyn McDonald Gospel Group, 10am-3pm; The Rob Gonzles Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Briar Inchicore and Finbar Doyle.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon and friends, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Josh Magis, 9pm; Deep C, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam with open mike, 7pm; Poetry Jam featuring Jeremiah Shepard, 9pm.
McGann's Open Mike Night.
Middle East U: Eternal Suffering, As the Sunsets and Redcord, $8, 18+. D: Voodoo Glow Skulls, Grade, Ann Beretta and Backside, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Hurricane Sound, 9pm, $10.
North East Brewing Co. Harry Fix Trio.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm
T.T. the Bear's Place Kevin MacDonald, Planeside and Sarah Fimm, $4.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JULY 9

Bill's Bar Poison the Well with Eighteen Visions, Twelve Tribes and Spitfire, $8, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter open-mike session, 8pm, 21+; Nick Danger and Sonny Aruba, 10pm, 21+.



Afro-pop Senegalese sensation Nder and the Setsima Group give a colorful performance together July 9 at the Paradise Rock Club. They perform *mbalaxm*, traditional African pop music.



Turntable Talent

On Friday, July 13, underground turntable heavyweights come together for a night of powerhouse beats at the Middle East. Latino mix masters the Beatnuts (Junkyard JuJu and Psycho Les) are celebrating their latest album, *Take It Or Squeeze It*, an incredible effort that features Greg Nice, who mans the mike for their set. New York's the Arsonists (above), formerly Bushwick Bomb Squad, are also on the bill. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278).*

Club Passim 2-Song Open Mike with Kathrin Shorr, sign-ups at 8:30pm, show at 9pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Rob and Brian "Unplugged," 7pm, no cover.
Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry Doctor Rocket, $6, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Monday Night Madness with JB.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Sam Wahl and Aaron Lippert, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Mike's theatrical open mike; The Fringe, 10pm.
Middle East U: Kid Tested, the Chase Theory and the Halogens, $6, 18+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band featuring Buck Taylor, 8pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Chitlin' Fooks featuring Bettie Serveert's Carol Van Dyk and Suki Love's Pascal Deweze and Jennifer Jackson, $12.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, JULY 10

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm.
Cafe Louis Robert Stillman trio, 6-10pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+; Jake & the Thin Man, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open-mike night, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Lagbaja, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
The Kells Open Mike with Tom Bianchi, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Kathrin Shorr, 8:30pm; Alex Maws, 9:30pm; Palabra, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Plexus, Justin Baily, Meta-Tronica 4.0 and Seishi, 9pm.
McGann's Slainte.
Middle East U: Haste, Spiritfall and Minus, 8pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mary, Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm, no cover.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Mac and Jamie, 21+.
Ryles John Payne Sax Choir, 8:30pm, $8.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Black Beetle, Certainly Sir and Fashion Colt, $7.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm.
Berklee Jazz Series at Mothers Rest Playground Victor Mendoza and Friends, 6:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Futurefunk Streetwear Fashion Show featuring Ben Sherman, Ed O.G., SiSe', Give, the Lot Six and Ripshop, $15, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Joe Barbato, 8pm.
Cafe Louis Robert Stillman Trio, 6pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim Linda Sharar CD-release show, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzales Band, 7pm, no cover.
Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
Harper's Ferry Dexter Freebrish and Flynn, $13, 18+.
House of Blues Mark Eitzel and David Garza, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Machinery Hall.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Tom Glynn Duo, 9:30; Virgil Cain, 10:30, $5, 21+.
The Linwood Mr. Cocktail presents David Age, Phil Dubnick, Andrew King, Hollis, Jim & Scott, Billy "Sixgun" McGrab and Nubz Zannella and others, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Loveless, Kay Hanley and Heavy Stud, 9pm; Mappari, 11pm.
Maison Robert Hey Rim Jeon Trio. 6pm.
Middle East U: The Transmegetti, the Drop Science and Idiot Toaster, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury, 9pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm, no cover.
Paradise Ike Reilly and Chris Whitley.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Ryles Phil Yoon Group, 8:30pm, $7.
Sky Bar Kittymonkey .
Toad Star Martin and the Honkey Tonk Heroes, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, JULY 12

The Attic Almost Speechless, Photoflash and Jaded Salingers, 9pm, 21+.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Major Major and Lunus, $7, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Joe Barbato, 8pm.
Cafe Louis Gianni, 6pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Kennedys and Bob Malone, 8pm, $10.
Coolidge Corner Theater Kristin Hersh, $15.

Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6pm; Brick, 8pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and The Special Blend, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Jiggle, 21+.
House of Blues Tom Tom Club, 10pm, $20, 18+.
ImprovBoston Theatre Charlie Kohlase , 9pm, $9.
Johnny D's Neon Grandma featuring Adrian Sicam and Jack & Present Company, 9pm, no cover.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Alastair Moock, Mark Erelli, Pat Burtis and Stephen Kellogg, 8pm, $6, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe 12 Step Process, Fly Danny Glisck, Mr. Curt Trio and the Tyler Wood Organ Combo, 8pm, $5.
The Linwood Chris Rucker, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Bill Janowitx, Treat Her Right and Maggi Pierce and EJ, 7pm.
Maison Robert Andy Baer Trio
McGann's Guest DJ.
Middle East U: Crooked Fingers and Johnny Dowd, $10, 18+; D: House of Blues Presents: Yellowman and the Sagittarius Band, $15, 18+.
Middle East Presents at the Coolidge Corner Theater Kristen Hersh with Damon and Naomi, 10pm.
Milky Way Edable Gray, Stymie, Damn Good Productions and Uprise, 9pm, $8.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm, no cover.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Temporada Latina, 8:30pm.
Tir na nÓg Frank Morey.
T.T. the Bear's Place Add N To (X) and Second Gen, $12.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAY, JULY 13

Atlantic 101 Harry Fix Trio, 7:30pm, no cover.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Attic Palabra, Violet Tide and Pete Palladino, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Helicopter Helicopter with Dave Aaronoff and the Details and Reverse, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cafe Louis Robert Stillman trio, 6pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Burns Sisters and Thea Hopkins, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Beat Soup with Immortal Alice, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6pm; Booty, 10pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Nick Goumas Quintet, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Booty Juice, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pitman, 6pm.
Harper's Ferry Jiggle, 21+.
House of Blues Little Milton, 10pm, $20, 21+.
Johnny D's Love Dogs, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Joel Aberbach, 9:30; Silver Son, 10:30; Hospital, 11:30. $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Wild Card, Classic Ruins, Wicked Automatic and the Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
The Linwood Rock Bottom, Blow and the Irresponsibles, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Merrie Amsterburg, 9pm.
Middle East D: Gamelan presents: Beatnuts with Greg Nice and Arsonists, $20, 18+.
Middle East Presents at the Coolidge Corner Theater Conner Oberst and Simon Joyner, $14.
Milky Way Scout, Mishima USA and Car Crash Show, 9pm, $9.
New Words Live: Unplugged Pamela Means, 7pm, no cover but call for advanced seating.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's Pete Massa, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Time Well Spent, 9:45pm, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm, 21+.
Rhythm & Muse Liz deBiase and the Grand Opry, 9pm.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee and Diversity, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Patricia Adams, 9pm, $12.
Scullers Jimmy Smith, 8and 10:30pm, $24.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Jim Cameron and Maggie Galloway, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jim's Big Ego, Tom Burris and Jabbering Trout and Brian Gottesman, $8.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, JULY 14

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown and Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30-9pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm-12am.
The Attic Plank 63 with Controlled Aggression, 9pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Lance Martin Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Mary Lou Lord, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Dr. Awkward with the Double Deckers, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzales Band, 7pm, no conver.
Good Life Cambridge John Kordelski Trio featuring Mae Arnett, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, no cover, 21+.
Green Briar DJ Long John.
Harper's Ferry Foxtrot Zulu with Hazie Maze, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Ronnie Earl, 10pm, $20, 21+.
Johnny D's Debbie Davies, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Senor Happy and Creme Brulee, $5, 21+.
The Linwood T House of the Almighty, Purge d.i., Volition and Injustice, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Bleu and Cynthia Von Buhler and the Jellyrollers, 9pm.
Middle East U: Psychotic Larry, Canine, Mary Prankster and Tootsie, $8, 18+; D: Vibewise, 18+.
Middle East Presents at the Garment District Q and Not U, Red Monkey, Panthers and Erase Errata, 7:30pm.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club, 9:30pm, $7.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
Porters Bar and Grill Savage Benjamin, 9:45pm, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm.
Scullers Jimmy Smith, 8 and 10:30pm, $24.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio with Maggie Galloway, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Francine, The Fly Seville, Kristen Barry and Baby Ray, $7.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.



Hey, hey, they're the Monkees, and they're performing July 13 (Melody Tent) and 14 (Hatch Shell).

SUNDAY, JULY 15

Atlantic 101 Live jazz brunch with Rusty Scott Trio, 11am-2pm.
Bill's Bar Shadowz, $10, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Sunday jazz brunch with Paulo Danay Quartet, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Nate Borofsky and Garden Verge, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim "Indie Guy Night" with Teddy Goldstein, Stephen Kellogg, Ben Arnold and others, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch, 10am-3pm; The Rob Gonzales Band, 7pm, no conver.
Green Briar Donegal Cords & Finbar Doyle.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon and Friends, $7, 18+.
House of Blues Howie Day, 7pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Dan Bliss, 9pm; Nikullydin, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam with open mike, 7pm; Poetry Jam featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and poet U-Meleni and Ghetto, 9pm.
McGann's Open Mike Night.
Middle East U: Drowning Man, Absolve and Purity's Failure, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Hurricane Sound, 9pm, $10.
North East Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Duo.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joel Press Trio, 8pm.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JULY 16

Bill's Bar Unearth with the Sky Came Falling, Most Precious Blood and Maharahj, $8, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8pm, 21+; Barb Phaneuf, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Peter Parcek, 7pm, no conver.
Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry The Gourds with Mike Nicolai, $5, 18+.
House of Blues Tribe of Judah, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Monday Night Madness with JB.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
Kendall Cafe Rachel Loshak, 8pm; Pamela Miller, 9pm; Matt Newburg, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's theatrical open mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm.
Middle East U: Cephalic Carnage, Neuraxis, Stasis and Kevorkian, $10, 18+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band featuring Buck Taylor, 8pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joel Press Trio, 8pm.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30 pm, 21+.


The Cult hits the Worcester Palladium July 10 for the Beyond Good and Evil Tour.

TUESDAY, JULY 17

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm.
Cafe Louis Robert Stillman trio, 6pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+; Jake & the Thin Man, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike, sign-up 7:30pm, show 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover.
Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Coco Montoya, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Johnny D's Paul Rishell and Annie Raines, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5pm.
The Kells Open Mike with Tom Bianchi, no cover.
Kendall Cafe "City Girls Go Solo": Meghan Cary, 8:30pm; Sarah Pinsker, 9:30pm; Brenda White, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Learned Evolution, the Mobius Band, Christopher Pierce and Seishi, 9pm.
McGann's Slainte.
Middle East U: Immortal Lee County Killers, and Quitter, $8, 18+; D: The Posies, Pernice Brothers and the Chamber Strings, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Mary, Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm, no cover.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm.
Ryles The Real Jazz Octet, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Alma Vucinic, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm.
Tremont Theater Charlie Kohlase, Jorrit Dijkstra Jazz Quartet and Dan DeChellis Chamber Music Ensemble, 8pm, $10.
T.T. the Bear's Place Banana Hands, Emery Vesch, Echo Us and Thought Brigade, $4.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Music Venues

Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Center.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanueil Hall, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cafe Louis *234 Berkeley St., Boston (266-4680). MBTA: Green line to Arlington.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent

Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogans Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange Line to State Street.*



Mappari gives a show at the Lizard Lounge July 11, along with Kay Hanley and Loveless.

Coolidge Corner Theatre *290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
FleetBoston Pavlion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
The Garment District *200 Broadway St., Cambridge. MBTA: Red Line to Central (734-2500).*
Good Life Central *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (789-4100).*
Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
ImprovBoston Theatre *1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red line to Central.*
Julien Bar *Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Avenue in Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Griggs St.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradox Lounge *32 Station St., Brookline Village, (547-7904). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
South Shore Music Circus *130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400).*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300).*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
Tremont Theater *276 Tremont St., Boston (542-4599). MBTA: Green line to Boyleston.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 S. Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JULY 4

Concert with James Taylor
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 7pm. $28-$100. The Independence Day festivities grounds open at 3pm, offering family entertainment throughout the day. Fireworks follow the concert.

Boston Pops: Pop Goes the Fourth!
Esplanade, Cambridge (638-9280). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. 8pm. Free. The Pops provide a spectacular show in this Boston tradition along the Charles River. The concert includes the *1812 Overture* and *American Orchestra*.

National Park Service and Boston Academy of Music Concerts
Fanueil Hall, Boston (242-5616). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 1 and 3pm. Free. The program includes music for soloists, chorus and piano, and features celebrated Boston Academy vocalists Ellen Chickering and Ray Bauwens.

THURSDAY, JULY 5

Boston Pops
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $13-$40. Peter Serkin performs on piano in this concert that features the music of Schoenberg.

FRIDAY, JULY 6

Boston Pops: A Tribute to Louis Armstrong
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $14-$55. Keith Lockhart leads the Pops in a tribute to the great jazz legend Louis Armstrong in honor of the 100th anniversary of his birth. Selections include such hits as "What a Wonderful World" and "Hello Dolly."

Boston Pops
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $15-$88. The opening night performance includes *Symphony No. 8* and *Don Quixote*. Conducted by Seiji Ozawa.

SATURDAY, JULY 7

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. $14-$78. Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos conducts. Music of Mozart and Strauss are performed.

SUNDAY, JULY 8

Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. $15-$88. An afternoon performance conducted by Mariss Jansons and includes music by Mozart, Strauss and Tchaikovsky.

TUESDAY, JULY 9

Boston Pops
Hatch Shell, the Esplanade, Boston (727-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Red Line to Charles/MGH. 8pm. Free. Boston Pops Associate Conductor Laureate Harry Ellis Dickson joins conductor James Orent for the annual Arthur Fiedler Concert at the beautiful Charles River Esplanade.

TUESDAY, JULY 10

King's Chapel Concert Series
School and Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). 12:15pm. $2. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. The Chapel presents the fifth annual Boston/AGO Young Organists Initiative Showcase Recital.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11

Bach's Lunch Series
Longey School of Music, Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12:15pm. Free. A program titled Two Centuries of Boston Composers features Arthur Foote, John Heiss and Daneil Pinkham, as well as Longy faculty members Vanea Mulkvey (flute) and Eileen Hutchins (piano).

Matthias Goerne and Eric Schneider
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $13-$40. Baritone Goerne performs the music of Schubert with Schneider on piano.

THURSDAY, JULY 12

Chanticleer
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $13-$40. The popular vocal ensemble performs music venerating the Virgin Mary.

FRIDAY, JULY 13

Boston Symphony Orchestra Prelude Concert
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 6pm. $13-$40. Featuring Elizabeth Ostling on flute and Ann Hobson Pilot on harp.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. Conducted by Rafael Fruhbeck de Burgos, the program includes music from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Carmina Burana*.

SATURDAY, JULY 14

Boston Landmark Orchestra
Boston Common, Boston. MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 8pm. Free. The opening weekend of *Romantics in the Park* includes overture to *The Barber of Seville* and Bizet's *Symphony in C Major*. Conducted by Charles Ansbacher.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $15-$88. Today's performance by the BSO is conducted by Seiji Ozawa and features cellist Yo-Yo Ma.

SUNDAY, JULY 15

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. The BSO is conducted by James Conlon and featues baritone Matthias Goerne and cellist Han-na Chang.

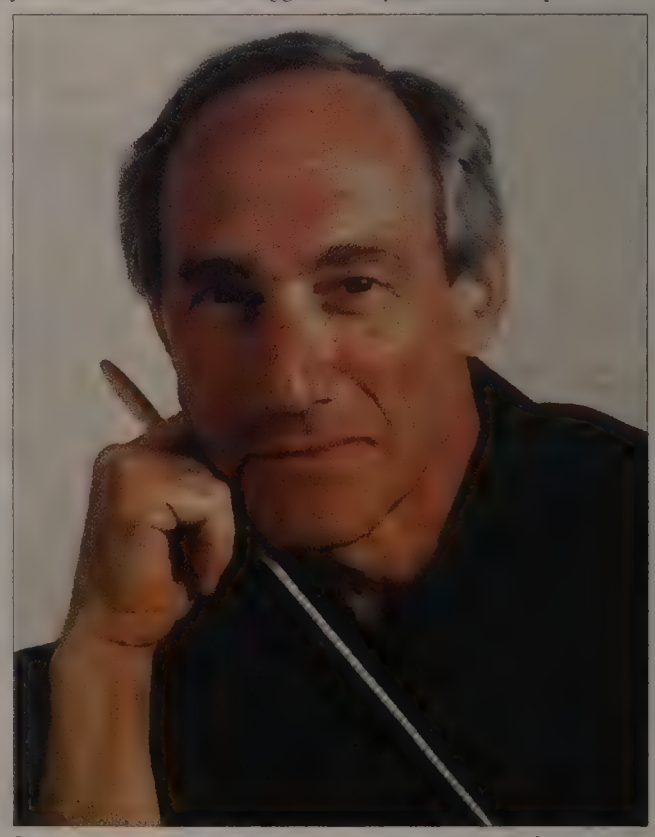
MONDAY, JULY 16

The Daniel and Shirlee Freed Endowed Concert
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $20. The concert features the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra, the Women of Tanglewood Festival Chorus and the PALS Children's Chorus.

TUESDAY, JULY 17

Boston Pops: John Williams
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $15-$88. John Williams conducts a program featuring his own music as well as works by composer Harry Warren.

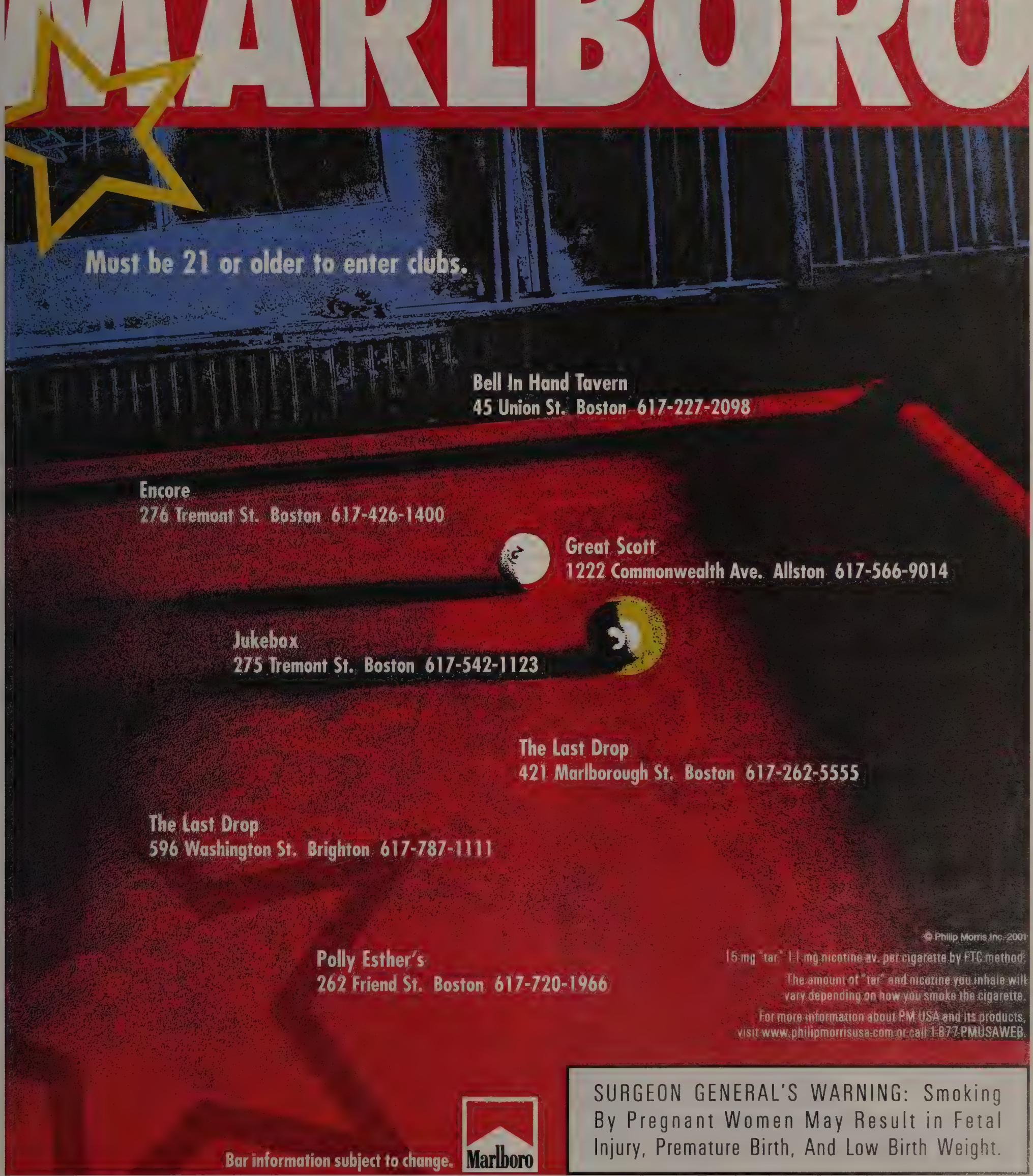
King's Chapel Lunchtime Concerts
School and Tremont streets., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Featuring Thomas Gregg and Emily Laurance on harp.



Charles Ansbacher conducts the Boston Landmark Orchestra in the opening weekend of *Romantics in the Park*, July 14.

ANSBACHER: KATHY CHAPMAN

MARLBORO



Must be 21 or older to enter clubs.

Bell In Hand Tavern
45 Union St. Boston 617-227-2098

Encore
276 Tremont St. Boston 617-426-1400

Great Scott
1222 Commonwealth Ave. Allston 617-566-9014

Jukebox
275 Tremont St. Boston 617-542-1123

The Last Drop
421 Marlborough St. Boston 617-262-5555

The Last Drop
596 Washington St. Brighton 617-787-1111

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262 Friend St. Boston 617-720-1966

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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe (Daily)
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat. 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am. This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •Carol O'Shaughnessy performs with Steve Heck, Dottie Dean or David Sparr, Thursdays. The first Wednesday of every month, Diva-licious. It's a two-hour drag variety show hosted by Drag-on Showgirl Diamond Dunhill and her friends. 9pm, 21+.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., theme shows produced by Diamond Dunhill.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.



We think the World of You Bookstore is one of Boston's liveliest gay and lesbian hangouts.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life. Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Biversity Brunch
Boston Bisexual Women's Network, Au Bon Pain in Harvard Square, Cambridge (327-1407). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 15, 11:30 am. Join the ladies of the BBWN for their annual summer brunch outing. A Biversity Planning meeting takes place in the restaurant right after the brunch.

Encounters Supper Club
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (236-1012). July 17, 6:30pm. Free, reservations required. Encounters is a monthly dinner for HIV-positive gay and bisexual men and their friends. Offering a sober and comfortable environment, the evening starts with appetizers and follows with a candlelit dinner. Bring a positive friend or meet a new one; this event is open to members and non-members of the BLC.

Gay Spirit Camp
Easton Mountain Retreat, 391 Herrington Hill Road, Easton, NY (800-553-8235). Through Sept. 3. A new retreat founded by Bostonian John Stasio, this trip offers a variety of community building and mind-body programs to help gay men recognize and celebrate their talents.

GLAD's 19th Annual Summer Party
Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum, Provincetown (426-1350). July 28, 5-7:30pm. Boston-based GLAD (Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders) celebrates recent victories at GLAD's 19th Annual Summer Party in Provincetown. GLAD is New England's leading legal-rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity and expression. GLAD also represents the seven same-sex couples who have sued the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for full and equal marriage rights.

Naturist Swimming Trip
Boston Bisexual Resource Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (424-9595). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. July 7, 9am. Meet at the BBRC for a carpool to the Ledges, a clothing-optional swimming site in southern Vermont. Bring a towel, a bag lunch and plenty of sunscreen.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday, 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305). Third Saturday of each month, 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872). GAYMES is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900, ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900, ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). Held quarterly. Sliding scale.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons at 8pm. Lessons are followed by a DJ set. All smoke- and alcohol-free.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

CELESTE DELRUSSO



3RD ANNUAL

Habitat for Humanity Boston

RAISIN' THE ROOF

Party to benefit low income housing in Greater Boston

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18TH

AT THE BLACK RHINO
21 BROAD STREET, BOSTON

6-9PM $20 DONATION

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

visit www.habitatboston.org or call 617-524-8891



body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Emotional Intelligence
Cortext, Hyatt Regency, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (492-1234). www.cortext.com. *July 18, 8am-4pm. $85.* Emotional intelligence is the ability to recognize and manage emotions. The Medical Education Collaborative presents this EI-raising seminar to discuss how to build self-esteem and empathy.

Spiritual Art and Performance: The View from Eternity
The Swedenborgian Chapel, 50 Quincy St. Cambridge (617-864-4552). www.soulstirring.org. *July 7, 7-9:30pm. $5-$10, sliding scale.* This event is a celebration of mystical art, with a full evening of paintings, poetry, story and song. Afterward, enjoy a blissful reception.

CLASSES

Africa Art Moves: An Experiential Workshop
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *July 14, 1-4pm. $55.* The art of Africa is all about movement. This workshop with **Deborah Lotus** will move from an African art exhibit to the classroom and then to the outdoors to find each participant's "inner individual" and to examine group responses, rhythms and moves.

Free Yoga Classes
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St., Boston (523-7138). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. July 7, 10am, 12pm and 2pm. Check out this yoga studio at one of three free yoga sessions offered.

High Energy Dance Yoga
In the Moment Wellness Center, 106 Access Road, Norwood (781-762-9281). www.inthemoment.org. *July 11, 8-9pm. Free.* Energetic improv dance combined with the spiritual flow of yoga could be the casual and moderate exercise you're looking for.

Home on Earth
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *July 13, 7-9pm. $15.* Come and learn how to create a home that feeds and supports your life force. A guided meditation will help facilitate the lesson.

Organizing with Body and Soul
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. July 14, 10am-3:30pm. $59.* Organization is more than just straightening papers—it can be a bridge between everyday reality and your deepest values. If your spiritual life seems out of sync with what happens every day, this class is for you.

The Starting Point of Happiness
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-3752 or 617-484-2472). http://welcome.to/ts-boston. *July 13, 7:30pm. $5 suggested donation.* This workshop with **Kazuhiro Takegawa** is based on Ryuho Okawa's new book, *Starting Point of Happiness*. This book explains profound ideas such as "Happiness can never be taken from others—it can only be gained by giving it to others." Meditation follows.

LECTURES

Fundamentals of Well-Being
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *July 6, 7:15-8:45 pm. Free.* This talk will introduce the principles of mind, consciousness and thought that operate within all people. Understanding what underlies the human experience puts wellness into a usable context.

RETREAT

Chakra Healing Retreat
Alison Shaw, Blairhaven Retreat Center, Duxbury (781-648-0947). July 13-15. As you sit by the sea, explore your seven chakras—the energy centers of the body—through movement, art, yoga and healing techniques. You'll come back with knowledge and a new sense of inner strength.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detoxification
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6200). Daily during walk-in hours. If you want to break the cycle of substance abuse, try acupuncture.


Deborah Lotus teaches African Art Moves July 14.

Astanga Focus Class
Metropolitan Fitness, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (927-2274). www.bostonfitness.com. *Wed., 6pm.* This 30-minute yoga class with **Marc McDonald** will focus on one or two Astanga postures each week. Great for beginners as well as advanced students who want to perfect their postures.

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (876-3050). MBTA: Bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirections-forhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a nonviolent martial art for peace and protection. This practice takes place outdoors.

Drop In Yoga
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St., Church of Our Savior, Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm. Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class for a powerfully peaceful time.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wed., 6:30-7:30am. Call to register. You'll be feeling so energetic and peaceful after some early morning yoga that you won't even need coffee. All levels welcome.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Healthy Practices
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http:// dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *Free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Check these classes out. Tai Chi lunch hour, Tue./Fri.: 12:30-1:30pm; Kung Fu, Wed. 5-6pm; Taoist Qi Gong, Tue.: 7-8pm; Tai Chi and Self Defense, Tue.: 8-9pm.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm. Call ahead.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirections-forhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17 per session. Join anytime or drop-in (call ahead).* Yoga classes 7 days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar. Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork, and family relaxation classes. Wow.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., (522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. *MBTA: Green Line to Prudential or Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/session.* Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting. Increase flexibility, relieve stress, build strength, relax and enjoy yourself at any of these ongoing drop-in classes: Tuesdays at 7pm and Saturdays at 10 am. Call before coming.

Zen Insight
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Auburn St., Cambridge (576-3229). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. www.cambridgezen.com. *Mon., 7pm.* If you've had a hard Monday, try out this drop-in meditation session.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children. Or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). July through October. Thursdays and Fridays, 8pm. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts his life in revolutionary Boston.

North Shore Music Theatre: Dinorock
62 Dunham Rd., Beverly (232-7200). Route 128, exit 19. July 6, 9:30am and 12pm. $10-$12. Dinorock features life-sized singing and dancing dinosaurs getting down to all kinds of music, including swing, tango and plenty of rock 'n' roll favorites.

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Saturdays, 12pm. Staff read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Chess with Don Lubin
Brighton Branch Library, 40 Academy Hill Rd, Brighton (782-6032). July 5, 3:30pm. Children will receive chess instruction from Don Lubin.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge (236-7460). Tuesdays, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of story telling fun.

Family Pajama Storytime
Codman Square Branch Library, 690 Washington St., Dorchester (436-8214). July 5, 6pm. Children ages 2-5 can enjoy storytime.

First Works Creative Writing Program
Lower Mills Branch Library, 27 Richmond St., Dorchester (298-7841). July 5, 2pm. Kids ages 8-14 learn to express themselves through poetry, short stories and essays.

Jedlie's Totally Interactive Magic Circus
Roslindale Branch Library, 4238 Washington St., Roslindale (323-2343). This program for kids ages 6-12 includes magic, illusion and comedy.

Junior Ranger's Treasure Quest
Boston Harbor Cruises, 1 Long Wharf, Boston (727-7676). Thursdays in July. Children will search the trails on Bumpkin and Grape islands for clues to solve junior ranger questions and earn a badge.

Kids @ BLS
Boston Learning Society Kitchen, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (1-800-432-5520). $39-$49. •July 14, 9am-12pm: Cartooning with Your Kids is a parent-child program that will teach not only the creation of cartoons, but also communication between parents and children. •July 17, 10am-12pm: Make pizza.

Micro-Car Day
Museum of Transportation, 15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). July 7, 9am-3:30pm. Visitors can take a ride in micro-cars—tiny cars with names like King Midget and Goggomobile. Kids can even create a micro car of their own.

My Book of Firsts
West Roxbury Branch Library, 1961 Centre St., Roxbury (325-3147). July 5, 11am. Children get to make and decorate their very own book of firsts.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). •July 6 and 13, 10:30 am: Preschool films for children ages 2 and older. •July 12, 7pm: Act out scenes and play improvisational games. •July 10 and 16, 2:30pm, and July 12, 10:30am: Reading events include storytime for children ages 3-6.

Summer at Old South Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 210 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). $1-$3. •July 9 and 16, 2pm: During the Meeting House Hunt, children find out what Benjamin Franklin, Anna Green Winslow and Phillis Wheatley left behind. •July 12, 11:30am, and July 15, 2pm: Kids play dress up in 18th-century clothing.

Summer SOULstice
Christian Science Plaza, 200 Mass Ave., Boston (450-7319). •July 10, 11am-1:30pm: A storyteller from the Boston Public Library will be followed by an entertaining jazz combo from the Berklee College of Music. There will be balloon art by Rami Salami and face painting by Susan Bloom before and after the program. •July 17, 11am-1:30pm: The Brewster Bayside Skippers will host a competitive jump-roping exhibition with audience participation. Balloon art and face painting will follow the show.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Boston University's Nickerson Field. Tickets: 866-462-7325
July 12, 7:30pm: Carolina Courage
July 15, 6pm: Bay Area Cyber Rays

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
July 6, 7:05pm: Atlanta Braves
June 7, 5:05pm: Atlanta Braves
July 8, 1:05pm: Atlanta Braves

New England Revolution
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 931-2222
July 7, 8:00pm: Kansas City Wizards
July 14, 7:30pm: D.C. United
July 17, 7:30pm: Los Angeles Galaxy

Events

Adidas Tennis Smash
Ocean Edge Resort & Golf Club, Brewster (508-896-9000). www.oceanedge.com. *July 11-12. $20-$1,000.* Three generations of tennis stars face off with other pros and celebrities at this event. Proceeds benefit the Tim and Tom Gullickson Foundation, which assists brain-tumor patients and their families. You can pay $20 for a courtside seat to watch Jan-Michael Gambill, Tom Gullickson and Rod Laver face off, or you can up the ante to the $1,000 package, which includes a foursome in the accompanying Celebrity Golf Pro-Am and four tickets to the Gala Reception.

Club Ciclismo Climb to the Clouds
Concord Carlisle High School (800-866-7314). www.ciclismoclassico.com. *July 15, 9-3pm.* This intermediate/advanced bike ride traverses some challenging and scenic hilly terrain on its way to Mount Wachusett.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through August. Men's and women's divisions are open to players.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (972-1711). www.boston-boxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2pm-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur, Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours


The Hash House Harriers point the way to fun.



The Boston Cannons aren't lax pool players.

(two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

LACROSSE

Greater Boston League
Fessenden School, Newton. (964-5350, ext. 346). Men: Tue., Wed. 6:30pm. Youth: Thu., 6:30.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.burfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/bostonhhh. Weekly runs year round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer. Begins May 20.

SOFTBALL

BSSC Softball
(789-4070). Leagues in the Greater Boston area.

ULTIMATE FRISBEE

Boston Ski & Sports Club
(789-4070).

Boston Ultimate Disc Alliance
(928-0882). www.buda.org.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Founded in 1937, Community Boating is the largest and oldest non-profit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for only $190 per season, including instruction. That sounds like a bargain to us.

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

AIDSRide (New York to Boston)
(491-3329). July 19-22. Crew volunteers needed.

Alliance for Children
(781-431-7148). July 11, 7-9pm. Learn about adoption from abroad.



The U.S.S. *Constitution* in Charlestown Navy Yard

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesday and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Be a friend to a young girl. Informoation sessions take place July 10, 6-7pm; July 18, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge Cares about AIDS
(661-3040, ext. 13). Weekly volunteers needed to help at the front desk.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with homeless children in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Share fun times with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge
(800-WE-CYCLE). Aug. 4-5. Volunteer at major hub and water stop sites at this bicycling fundraiser.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

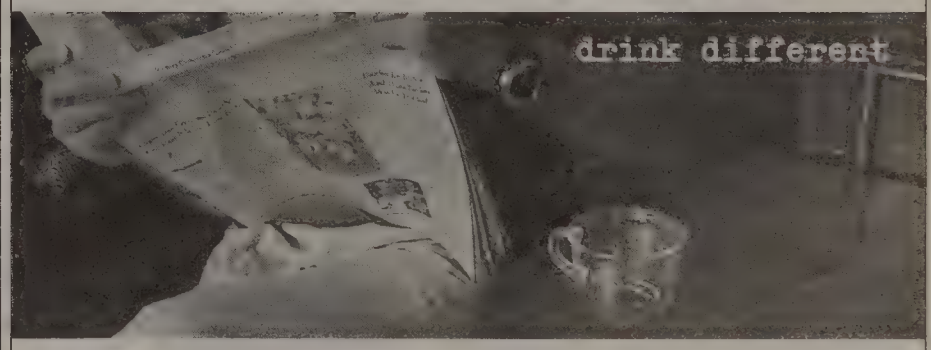
Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

United Services Organization (USO)
(720-4949). Welcome Navy ships, visit VA hospitals, provide office support or coordinate events.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

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Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 **E-MAIL:** impersonals@improper.com

Recent correspondence follows.

Crazy Eyes
Even though you were with a bunch of your friends at The Rack, you pulled me over to dance after saying that I had "ignored" you for an hour. If I was ignoring you, I stopped pretty quickly. You had beautiful eyes and a great sense of humor. I said you looked like Joe McIntyre, and you told me I looked like Sandra Bullock and that I had "crazy eyes." You said you were in sales, and I thought you said "jail." I made fun of you for being the only Mass. native I know that likes the Yankees. We danced for the rest of the night, and we kissed and I nearly forgot what planet I was on. I made you memorize my number—half out of being coy, half out of the fact that I didn't have a pen! Did you forget my number or did you forget me? You've been on my mind a lot lately, so if any of this rings a bell to you or your friends, e-mail me!
—crazyeyesinma@aol.com

Johnny Angel
How I love you. Happy birthday to the best person in my life. I love the hours we spent together, even if we do only watch SportsCenter and play PlayStation. (OK, you play the PlayStation, I read my books.) There's no other way that I'd rather spend my Friday nights than with you and Harold Reynolds on ESPN. Unless it's at Antonio's or a Sox game, but I don't think the fans around us would appreciate the PDAs. You're the bestest friend a girl could have.
—johnnysgirl811@hotmail.com

The Bomb
Thank you for coming back into my life again to be my partner in silliness. After three and half years, what a long, strange trip it's been. Is it just me or does there seem to be an unspoken barrier between us? Crazy Hair, just broach the subject, and I'll fall for you all over again. You have no idea how wonderful you make me feel whenever we're together or are talking on the phone late at night. Just being your friend is the best birthday gift I could have hoped for. Shyness is nice, but shyness can stop you from doing all the things in life you'd like to... so ask me, ask me, ask me. If it's not love, then it's the bomb that will bring us together. If you're feeling what I am, give me a hint. I'll brave mice, fleas and messy roommates to be with you.
—Bri

Bonescrew
I saw you at the Bonescrew show in Somerville on June 8. I was wearing a short black skirt, blonde hair; we talked briefly. I love the name Robert. Thought you were there with a girlfriend. I heard later from a friend that you were single. Yes, I really do think you are cute. I loved your hair. I thought you were noticing me, but that girl kept interrupting and just when we started chatting all those other ladies took you away. E-mail me and we can chat or maybe I'll see you at the next Bonescrew show.
—Katie (katiebelm1@yahoo.com)

Psychocow
I frequently refer to you as Satan (Take the stupid soul already. It's yours!) but in reality you are simply the cutest Jewish rugby player I've ever met. Granted you are the only Jewish rugby player I've ever met, but that's beside the point. (Not to mention I'm a sucker for big lips.) OK, so you may be cute and have the ability to do a crazy number of pushups, but your attitude leaves a lot to be desired. Anyway, every time we say goodbye (and they are never really "good"), I wonder if I'll ever see you again. And inevitably I always do. So, I think you should stop being so damn immature, quit pushing me away and let me show you what I have to offer.
—Devil Woman

Sad
Where have you been? Did you go back home over the summer? I miss seeing you at the gym. Every time I look at you I get butterflies in my stomach. You said hi to me once in the locker room but I kinda freaked out because I'm such a wimp. I wish I could do it over again. You always look soo good in that white tight T-shirt and black pants. I just pray you're not straight. Write to me if you ever see this. I'd like to meet you for real.
—metronida@yahoo.com

Paradise
It was a hot summer night at the Paradise. We were there to see the Old 97's. You were definitely more into it than the rest of us—jumping around like a 12-year-old on a pogo stick. I razzed you for bumping into people, then we did the Lindy, and bumped into people. Another case of Boy Meets Girl, Girl Doesn't Get Boy's Number. If you or one of your Old pals reads this, e-mail me. But I'm warning you if you do....
—smartcrew9@aol.com

Hapa Ya Doin?
Lunch at the Temple Bar, June 9. Half Asian, I think you are—a hapa, as they say in Hawaii. You were having lunch with a girlfriend. I was the Asian male in the adjoining booth, having lunch with two biracial women.
—L51120@yahoo.com

Mail Boxes Etc.
Friendly Brian, of Sedgewick Street yard sales, who plays piano at Club Cafe: Where is my mailbox? Did you suddenly have kids, and have a burning need to organize their individually packed lunches? Do you have houseguests who insist on having personal towel caddies? Whatever the case, drop me a line. It'd be fun to see you—and to have a place for my mail.
—Karin, who enjoyed the Red Sox game

The Rack
It was June 23, around 11:30pm, and as soon as I entered the bar, I saw you. You and your friends stood out; you were all dressed in ties but you caught my eye immediately. You are tall with dark hair and light eyes, and you definitely work out on a regular basis. I think that you were wearing a blue shirt and you were just starting to undo your tie. It was at the halfway point, like you were at a wedding all night and you were dying to take it off. I was there with two girlfriends and I purposefully walked by you a few times. I have shoulder-length red hair and I was wearing a red tank top with black pants. I was there to meet someone else but I was distracted by you. I usually would have approached you but you had so many people around you, I didn't take the time. I would like another opportunity. Can I buy you a drink?
—girlattherack@hotmail.com

Rose and Thistle
On June 15 we were both on a cancelled American Airlines flight to New York. The airline gave us cab vouchers and we shared a cab. You were going to Brookline and I was going to Davis Square. I enjoyed talking with you and I had hoped that I might run into you the next night in Huntington because you mentioned that you sometimes went to the Rose and Thistle when you were in town. Unfortunately, I did not see you there and since I didn't even catch your name I didn't know any other way to get in touch with you. Hopefully you will see this message. Maybe we could get together and go mountain biking (how is the injury?) or something like that? E-mail me.
—jk52796@hotmail.com

SB
I just wanted you to know that I missed you. Your hugs, patience and friendship mean everything to me. I'm still crazy about you, sexy! IWU...RISR?
Miss you always,
—Freckles

Rockie Horoscope

JULY 4 – JULY 17, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



CANCER JUNE 21-JULY 22
To further accentuate both the positive and negative aspects of being a Moon Child, you get to experience a partial lunar eclipse on July 5th, which won't be seen in the States, merely felt by all concerned. Barring heavy cloud cover, the Capricorn moon should look pretty full on the Fourth, as the rockets' red glare and cherry bombs bursting in air accompany Luna's rise and fall across starry skies. Things change considerably on the 12th when Mercury, for a little more than two weeks, and lucky Jupiter, for a full 12 months, move into Cancer.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Although Mercury flipped forward on the 28th, you shouldn't count on making significant progress just yet. The planet the Messenger is cozying up to this week is unpredictable Uranus in your Aquarius house of partners and pacts. While the news Mercury gets may be good, it can also disrupt plans that were already made. Keep things fairly tentative for a while, at least until the lunar eclipse on the 5th has restored some of the power loss you may have experienced when your sun ruler was totally eclipsed on the summer solstice.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Once your Mercury ruler reconnects to the planets it was allied with when it was retrograde, you'll see how fast your career can take off, even in the midst of someone's summer vacation. Since Mercury doesn't come out from under its shadow—the point at which it turned retrograde in early June—until July 12, try to postpone important decisions or moves until then. That's also the date when Mercury shifts out of mutable Gemini, with its endless list of alternatives, into cardinal Cancer and a more mellow, family-friendly frame of mind.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Ah yes, the ever-present fickle finger of fate is currently pointing to your pleasure-loving Venus ruler in your house of sexual experiences as it connects to spur-of-the-moment Uranus in the area of romance and other risks you occasionally take. What sort of Independence Day holiday did you have in mind, and from whom are you distancing yourself? As long as you're not taken completely unawares, you should be able to gracefully handle a sudden change of heart if and when it occurs.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Read for Aries because it's Mars and Pluto, your co-ruling planets, that'll determine how ardently you'll feel this summer about something you value greatly. Also, the Cancer forecast delivers good news for water signs like yours: Starting July 12, Jupiter, planet of plenty, begins rewarding your natal Scorpio planets over the next 12 months. You haven't been scheduled for this long a run of good luck since 1998. And while the lunar eclipse might affect communications, sales and traveling, unless your moon is in mid-Capricorn, it's not that big a deal.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
You'll also benefit from a cursory reading of the Aries and Scorpio forecasts, but the major astrological event for Archers is your Jupiter ruler moving out of Gemini in the middle of the month. Instead of confronting past, present and future partners head-on, for the next 12 months you'll try to adjust to whatever shakes their trees as those occasions arise. While Jupiter is passing through maternal Cancer, there'll be more nurturing of the body and the spirit. Practice asking "What do you need?"

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
This year the Cancer-Capricorn polarity could have a greater effect than usual, because the solar and lunar eclipses take place at critical degrees. These are 0 (the solar eclipse on the first day of Cancer), 13 (the partial lunar eclipse in Capricorn on the 5th) and 26 degrees of the above-mentioned signs plus Aries and Libra, the other cardinal signs. Too much information? Not if you're preparing to put your best foot forward or are worried that something is missing. Ask someone with an eye for style to take a closer look.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Reward yourself, take off for parts unknown. Since you've managed to glide through Mercury retrograde without stumbling, now that the planet of hotel reservations and e-tickets is moving forward again, you will, too. But first expect to encounter a bit of a hissy-fit while Venus, no longer masquerading as the amiable parent or roommate, challenges your Uranus ruler. When someone in the household or the extended family has a change of heart, you'll be the only one who can smooth ruffled feathers or negotiate a peace treaty.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
Good news for water signs such as yours: Prosperity-conscious Jupiter enters friendly Cancer mid-July for 12 months. This means you'll have much better luck with family matters and real estate ventures, and won't get as tense or overwrought as Jupiter in antsy Gemini may have made you. Imagine, an internal chill pill with a year-long shelf life! Not to mention its half-life! So now that you're about to be calm, cool and collected, consider ways of maximizing your potential for growth without drifting away from your roots.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
If "Beware the Ides of March" had an impact on your own historical drama four months ago, you're being warned to expect something along those lines again. While your retrograde Mars ruler and Pluto in fiery Sagittarius draw closer together, as they were back then, your passion for a person, a project or an ethic that may have ebbed grows stronger. Sounds like the makings of a torrid summer romance! However, you shouldn't neglect your career, especially since the full-moon eclipse on the 5th may skew the direction of its arc a bit off course.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
It was fun while it lasted, but right after Independence Day, your ever-lovin' Venus ruler moves out of Taurus and into Gemini where it'll hold court for four weeks. And while you might not be quite as sought after or as pleasant to be with, you can compensate by becoming more articulate and somewhat less bull-headed. Try to see it my way. You may also get into an owl and the pussycat bag, and fantasize about sailing away for a year and a day when amiable Venus and aquatic Neptune trine around the 12th. Bon voyage.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
Magnetic Venus makes a grand entrance into your sign on the 5th along with a month's worth of friendly relationships, a more pronounced sense of style and "Gee, you're looking good" compliments. The same day, the Cancer-Capricorn full-moon eclipse gives a financial matter more importance than it normally would have; pay attention to the price you wind up paying for getting what you want when you want it. Venus knows value, but when transiting Gemini, she can be fickle or insist on having her cake and eating it, too. You, too.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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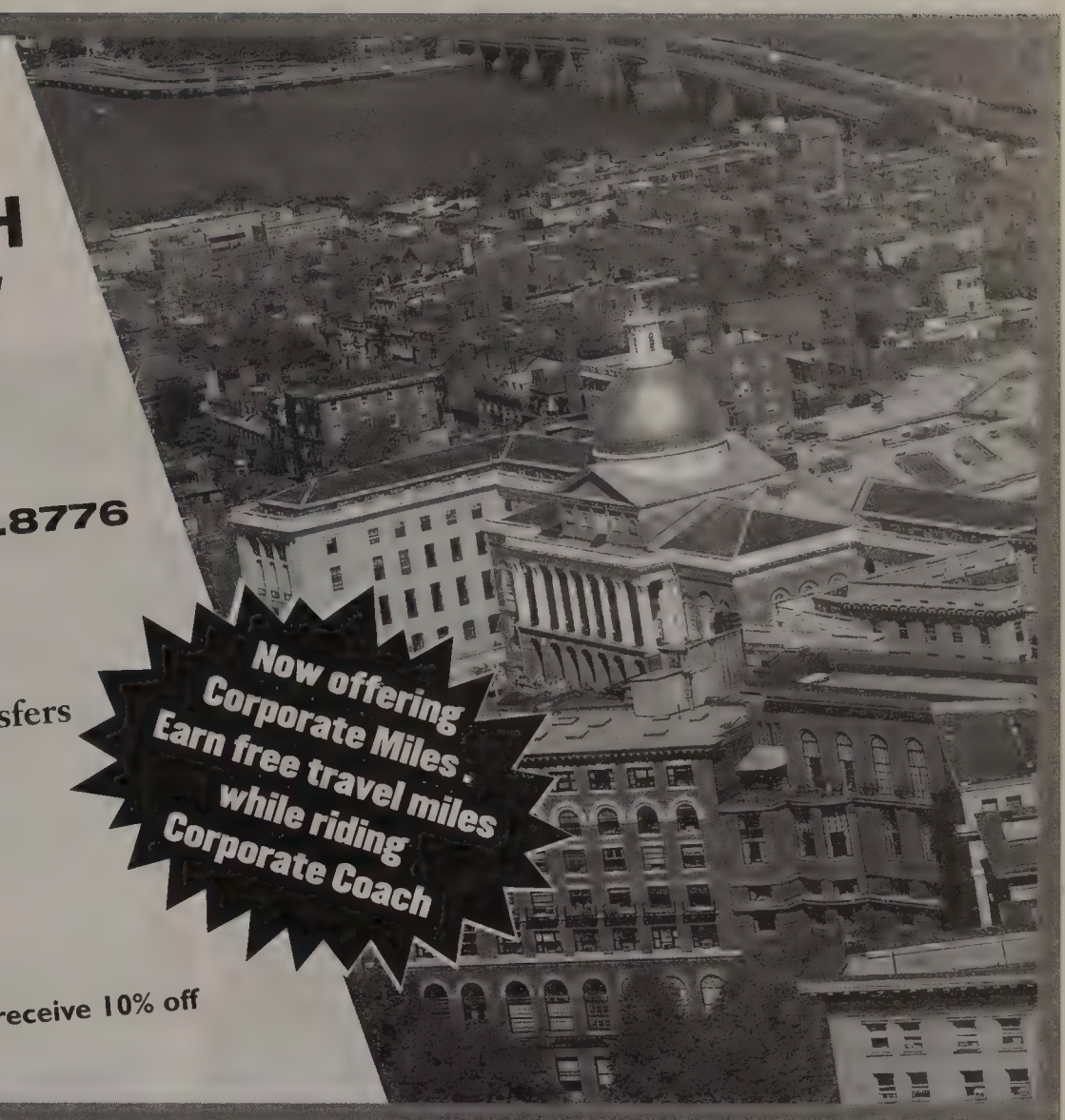
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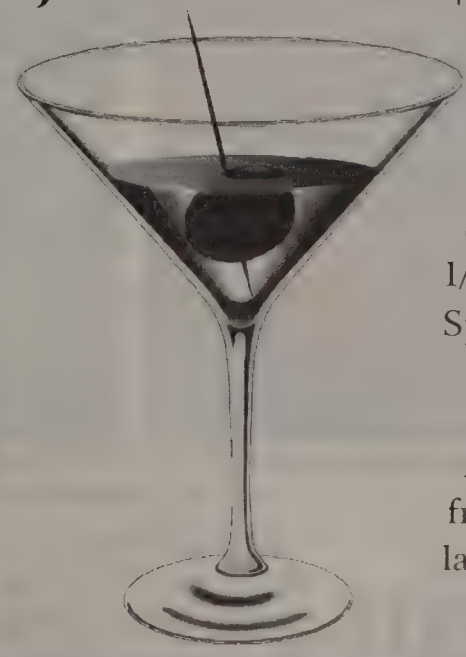
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Big bonus points go to Jen O'Hearn, Sophia A. Kapsaskis, David Peckham, Tina Banerjee and TJ and Christine Peckham for snatching Improper Bounty (see below) by traveling to the World Series of Poker Players in Vegas. But will they make it to Moxie Days?



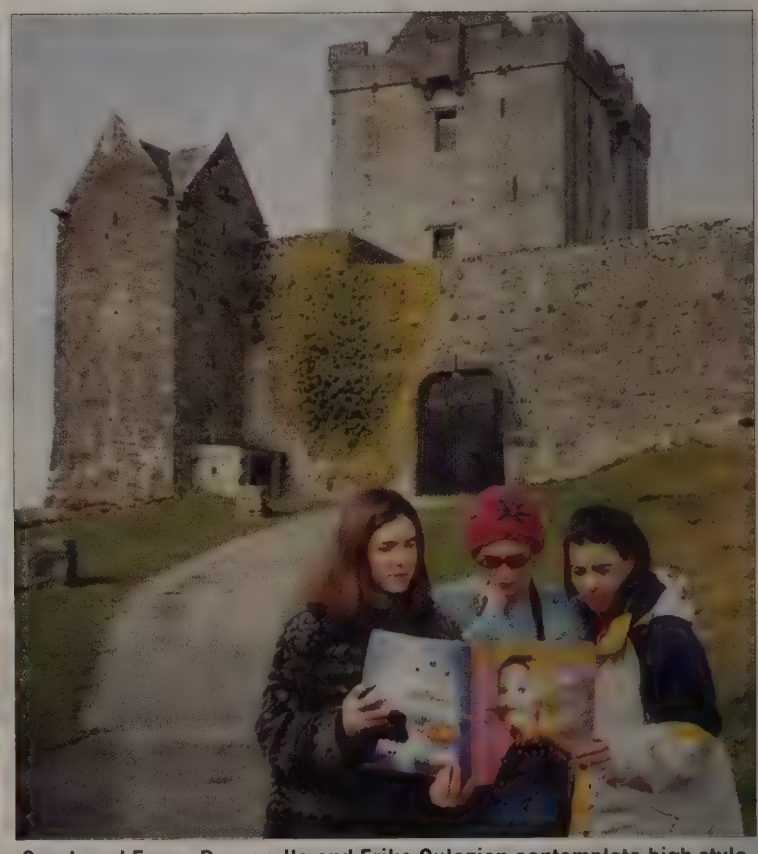
Elayne and Federico Alanis, Evelina Caito and Giacomo Coppola in Sicily, where the women, they ride in the back.



Dimitra Tsourianis catches up on concierges at the Barcelo Maya Beach Resort in Playa del Carmen, Mexico.



Abigael Alvarez enjoys a relieving read in statuesque Brussels, Belgium.



Sarah and Emma Pascarella and Erika Gulezian contemplate high style at fashion epicenter Dunguaire Castle in Galway, Ireland.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:

Showing their moxie at Moxie Days, July 7-8 in cosmopolitan downtown Lisbon Falls, Maine, where the men are men, and the water flows like amber rivulets of Moxie.

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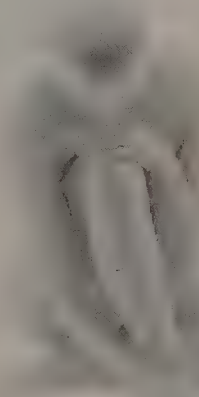
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Advertising

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, June 13, [redacted] hosted the book signing of Lycos founder Bob Davis' *Speed Is Life*. The networking event was held at [redacted].


1


2


3


4

1. **Howie Weinstein** and **Dan Wagner** of FleetBank.
2. **Bob Davis**, founder of Lycos.
3. **Georgette Young-Pointer** of Zooba.com and **Kimberly Pagliuca** of Hotjobs.com.
4. **Kiki Mills** of MIMC with **Rodney Brown** of Mass. High Tech.

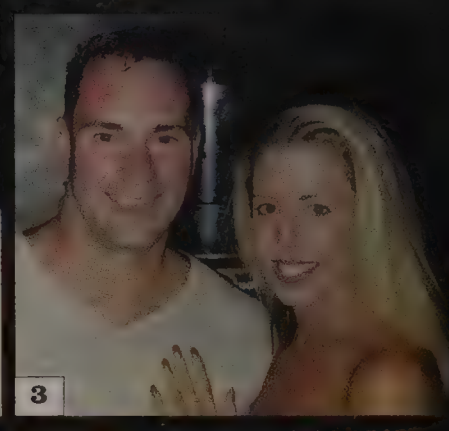

1

Wednesday, June 13, saw [redacted] play host to the [redacted].

Famed international DJs Judge Jules and Jason Bye provided the beats that helped bring the smoldering essence of Ibiza to Beantown.

1. **Avalon dancers.**
2. **Nick Adcock** of the The Shop, **Kevin McCarthy** and **Al Rand** of Allied Domecq with **Miss Kris Knievel**.
3. **David Conrow**, a radiologist from Brigham & Women's Hospital and The Dana Farber Cancer Institute with **Dawn Herrick** of Chambord Liquor.


2


3


1


3

On Wednesday, June 13, **Bukowski** hosted its annual Pint and Pen writing contest. The contest, which was sponsored by **Guinness**, required the authors to include the words "pint," "pen," "Guinness" and "Bukowski" in their essays. The first-prize winner, Brett Winton, was awarded $1,000.


2

1. Bukowski contest winner **Brett Winton**.
2. **Amelia McKinney** of the Institute for Healthcare Improvement; **Julie Lohnes**, director of Chase Gallery; **Andrea Kulish** of Arnold Communications; and **Elizabeth Doherty**, director of Omni Gallery.
3. **Chris Luongo, Kevin McCaffrey, Valerie Ashleman** and **Mike Giosriddo**, all representing Guinness.


1

On June 14, **Jose Melendez's** and **Budweiser** hosted their 8th Annual Block Party, raising funds for Cystic Fibrosis. Guests partied late into the night and grooved to four live bands: Me and Julio, Thomas Park, The Return and Pig Pen.


2


3

1. **Raquel Jose** of Regan Communications; **Sean McCormick** of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation; **Kelly Glynn** of the Glynn Company; **Karen Kelly** of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.
2. **Griff Noble** of Zurich Scudder Investments, **Sara Lewandowski** of Brown Brothers Harriman, **Sarah Feinberg** of Cambridge Systematics with **Christian Morris** of Forrester Research.
3. The crowd.

PHOTOS: ALLEY, AVALON, BUKOWSKI, WENDY SEMONIAN; BLOCK PARTY, KAREN DANA

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Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

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bars/clubs

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Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the Fleet-Center and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

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Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

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Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston

Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ'snightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and worldclass margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a coworker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's: New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.

Science Street Cafe *Science Park, Boston, MA, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out the newest night spot--The Museum of Science. Try our one-of-a-kind martinis, gourmet appetizers and desserts, then tour the Museumor catch an Omni movie. $20 package includes one drink, one appetizer, Mugar Omni Theater ticket, Exhibit Hall admission and parking. 6-10pm at the Museum of Science.

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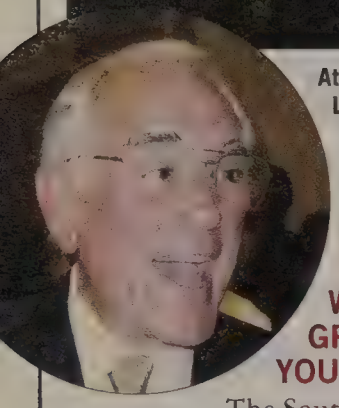
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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF





At the Fenway Leadership Dinner, from top: Elliot Wright and Raphael Jaimes-Branger; Ed Ansin.

WHERE ARE WILL AND GRACE WHEN YOU NEED THEM?

The South End was transplanted to the **John F. Kennedy Library** one recent evening, when the **Fenway Community Health Center** hosted its **Leadership Dinner** to fete honorees **Tom Menino** (our illustrious mayor), **Ron Ansin** (philanthropist and business leader) and **Nan Dumas** (a tireless activist and advocate for the gay and lesbian community).

The gala, which began with cocktails and nibblies and continued with dinner and speeches, attracted the likes of former Congressman **Gerry Studds** and his partner, **Dean Harra**; cohabitating party pair **Jeff Coakley** and **Gregg Tivnan**; State Street smoothie **Gordon Bither**; hunky politician **Jarret Barrios**; the alarmingly sparkly **Stewart Clifford**; budding real estate mogul **Michael McGinnity**; renowned photographer **Mikki Ansin**; celebrity biographer **Jane Scovell**; South End lovely **Ann Kaye**; noted art collector **Allison Salke**; fund-raising fixtures **Raphael Jaimes-Branger** and **Elliot Wright**; Middle Eastern live wire **Hoda Abou-Jamra** and the distinguished **Dr. Ray Bassiouni**; banking imp **Peter Nee**; preppy playboy **Skip Hughes**; party planner extraordinaire **Michael Wasserman**; tireless do-gooder **Arnold Sapenter**, and one man who took stock of what everyone in the mostly gay crowd was wearing and said, "It looks like purple is the new orange."

Meanwhile, another guest tried to interest an acquaintance in going out with her friend, describing the prospective date as "straight-acting."

"What does that mean?" asked the man, slightly taken aback.

Without missing a beat, someone interjected: "To me, it means having no fashion sense."

LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION...

Each year **Shelter, Inc.**, a non-profit that combats homelessness, hosts a fund-raiser that incorporates the concept of shelter in a creative and unusual way.

Last year, the group asked architects and decorators to design birdhouses. This year, it was an elegant dinner beneath a tent, along with an art auction based on the theme "Images of Home," in the courtyard at the **Mass College of Art**. The works up for bid ranged from a realist painting of a bowl of cherries to a sculpture of a seashell, and from dense abstractions to photographs.

TV news personality **Kasey Kaufman** acted as emcee, and among those on-hand for the event were her husband, **Michael Horowitz**; Cambridge party pair **Graham** and **Ann Gund**; high-powered consultant and son-of-a-Speaker-man **Tom O'Neill**; MFA curator **Cheryl Brutvan**; art dealer **Barbara Krakow**; their fellow auction juror **Tom Payette**, and one guest who looked at a scale model of a Mediterranean villa and said, "I'd like that...if it was a bit bigger and in Tuscany."

THREE CHEERS FOR THE GUY IN THE RED HAT...

High-rollin' holy-rollers of all denominations turned out in droves for Cardinal **Bernard Law**'s annual **Garden Party** to benefit **Catholic Charities**.







At the Rose Garden Party, clockwise from top right: the rose garden; Angela Menino and Justine Liff; Tenley Albright and Frances Moseley; Courtney Forrester and Karyn Lamb.

An elegant affair under a tent on the lawn of His Eminence's residence in Brighton, the party attracted such movers and shakers as former mayor and ambassador to the Vatican **Ray Flynn**; morning anchor babe **Kerry Connolly** of WBZ; gubernatorial hopeful **Steve Grossman**; the cardinal's secretary, Father **John Connolly**; RFK offspring and almost-congressional candidate **Max Kennedy**; House Speaker **Tom Finneran**; former attorney general **Robert Quinn** and his wife, **Claudina**; event planner **Dusty Rhodes**; Channel 5 GM **Paul LaCamera**; Channel 4 sports anchor **Steve Burton** and his father, **Ron**, who was the evening's honoree; the Most Reverend **William Murphy** and fellow Bishops **Richard Malone** and **Lawrence Riley**; a guy who thought it was appropriate to wheel and deal on his cell phone throughout the party, lots of women in whimples and men sporting clerical collars, and one guy who said something disparaging about "the Cardinals," but as it turned out, he was talking baseball.

STOPPING TO SMELL THE ROSES...

It could've been the grounds of a stately home in England—lush, perfectly manicured and awash in blossoms—but the dead giveaway that the 5th annual **Rose Garden Party** to support **Park Arts** took place at the **Kelleher Rose Garden** in the Back Bay Fens was the sound of Mayor Menino talking about the importance of "pahk, ahts and cul-cha."

Gracious First Lady **Angela Menino** chaired the event, and was there with daughter **Susan Fenton** and the adorable First grandchildren: **Giulia**, **Olivia** and **William**. Also present: Queen of Green Parks Commissioner **Justine Liff**; centenarian **Florence Kershaw** and her son, Republican publican **Tom**; Olympic gold-medallist figure skater and eminent M.D. **Tenley Albright**; force of nature **Frances Moseley**; the statuesque **Susan Paine**; junior socialites **Courtney Forrester** and **Karyn Lamb**; Seaport spinmistress **Dawn Curtis**; the criminally tanned **Harry Collings**; Newbury Street publisher **Sarie Booy**; Ritz-Carlton social butterfly **Bea Flammia**, and the city's special-events planner **Cecily Foster**. The guests wore hats festooned with flowers and all of them looking smashing, despite the crippling heat.

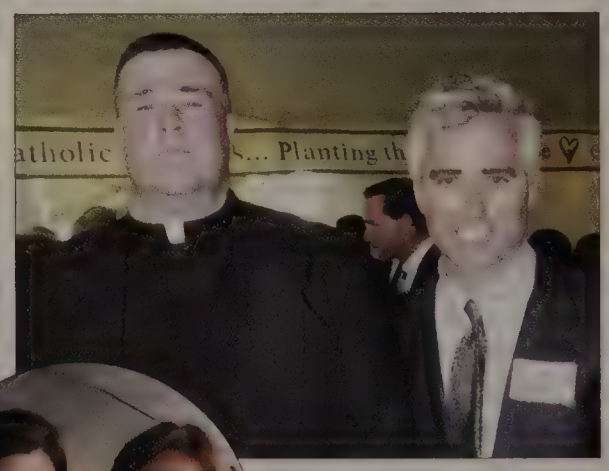
In fact, so oppressive was the temperature that one guest offered the disclaimer, "I'm not wearing any makeup because it would just melt off," while another greeted a friend by saying, "Let's just air-kiss. It's too hot to actually touch." iB





At the Shelter party; top: Cardinal Law and Ambassador Ray Flynn; Bottom: Ann and Graham Gund.



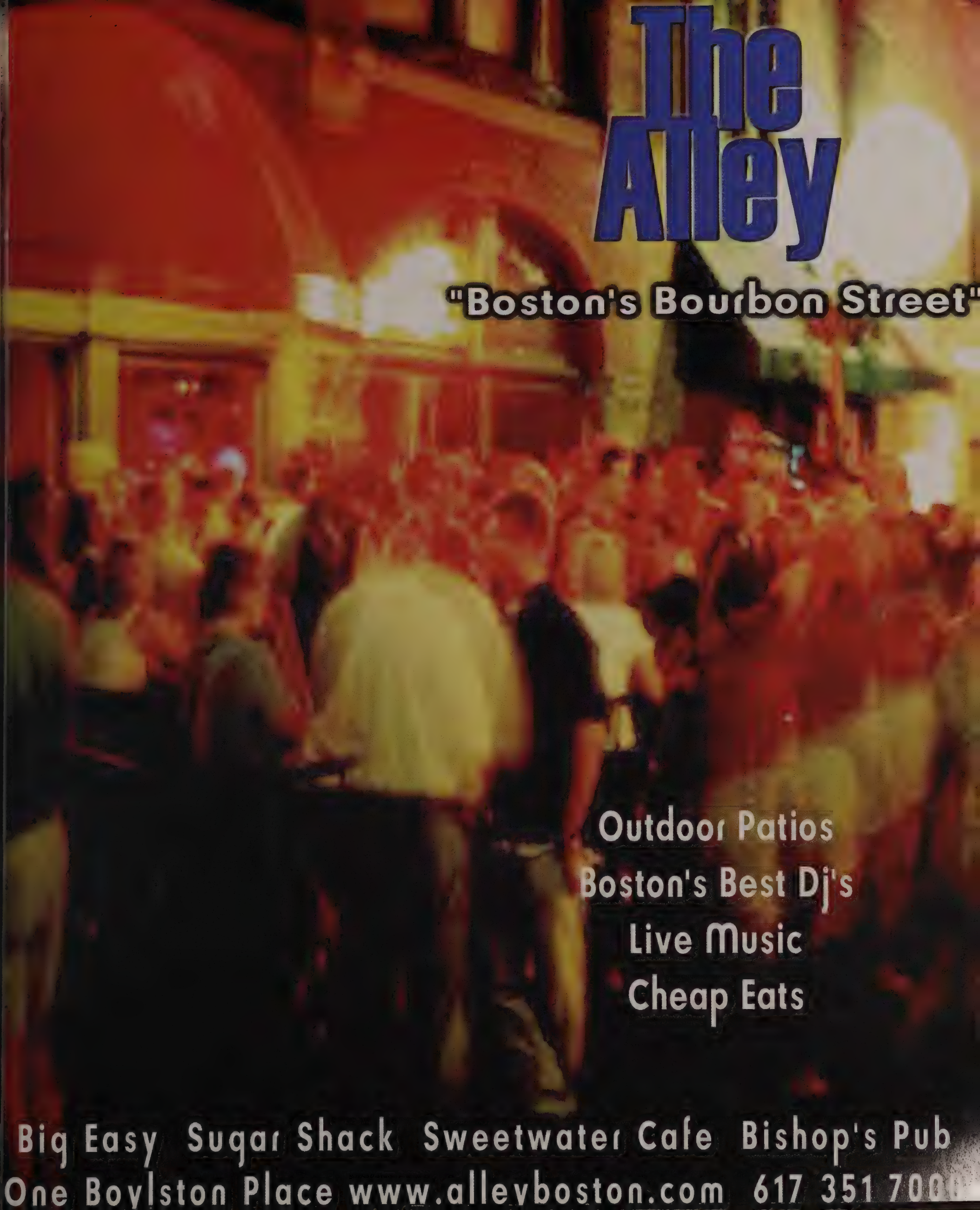




At Cardinal Law's Garden Party, from top: Michael Horowitz and Kasey Kaufman; Rev. John Connolly and Max Kennedy; Kerry Connolly and Pat Kreger.

Avez-vous dish?

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So many taboos, so little time.

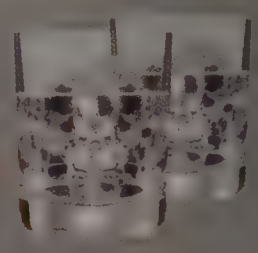
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10th

annual guide to the city's superlatives

INSIDE:

What Jay Leno **misses most about Boston**

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JULY 18 - 31, 2001

OUTSIDE OF METRO-BOSTON

29

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contents

JULY 18-31, 2001



62
Jay Leno can't believe how great our 10th Annual Boston's Best issue is. Either that, or he just remembered that he dropped his fake ID in the Andover Dairy Queen parking lot.

BOSTON'S BEST

Turn to page 16 for our annual compilation of Boston's finest

20 Food & Drink
We give you Boston's gastronomic stars On a platter

34 Beauty & Health
Our picks for looking fab and losing flab

42 Services
From fixing shoes to walking pooches, these businesses will make you a regular

46 Shopping
We show you where to dispose of your disposable income

52 People & Places
Individuals and locations of note, plus a really bad place to park

56 Entertainment
Do we not entertain you?! OK, then, we might have some alternative suggestions PLUS: Jay Leno reflects on life in Boston

64 Sports
Superlative jocks, teams and sports for 2001

66 Media & Politics
Multitalented moms, the dreaded MCAS tests and a sad farewell

74 Business & Technology
The who's who of every sector

78 Fashion: Hall of Fame
Four New England athletes dress up

PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL INDRESANO



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COLUMNS

6 The Word
We check your balance; the Independent; Tsunami; where have all the *Globe*-ies gone?

10 E-Boston
The name game, part II
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
Between beer and razor blades, the cost of being a man is making a sex-change look like a good investment.
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

84 Mopsy
Jingo's Playhouse; down by the Mystic; the Photographic Resource Center puts on a show
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

106 Film
Kiss of the Dragon isn't exactly a step up for Jet Li.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

118 Music
Susan Tedeschi returns to where it all started.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

144 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

86 Dining
Devlin's serves up tasty food with a big side order of value.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

88 Dish
Chefs in Shorts return; Divas Uncorked; the new Ritz
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

88 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: East Meets West
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 90.
The Go-Go's • Shakespeare on the Common • **Moby, OutKast, Incubus, the Roots** and **Nelly Furtado** • Artbeat • Boston Beer Summit • Scrabble master **Stefan Fatsis** • Galerie d'Orsay's summer show • Tour d'Alsace • free concerts at Copley and City Hall Plaza • *Signs & Wonders*

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	136
Rockie Horoscope	136
Improper Sightings	138
Improperazzi	140
Classifieds	142

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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letters

AT LEAST THE SOCK IS OLD

After reading your "Personalities" item ["The Word," July 4] concerning both Unpremeditated Productions and myself, I would like to make the following three corrections.

First, Unpremeditated Productions was founded in Oxford before it was in America, functioning within the Oxford Playhouse's Burton Taylor Theatre after negotiations with Adam Leigh. Our technical team consisted of Alexander Cansell, Victoria Shore and myself.

Second, I was affiliated with Oxford University, as are both the Oxford Playhouse and Burton Taylor Theatre. I worked under Jonathan Nash, assisting with theatrical undertakings on the Playhouse's main stage while simultaneously producing and directing within the Burton Taylor.

Third, I'm actually 16, though I'm told I can play 17.

Confronted with an enterprise, age is as relevant as an old sock. I manipulated this information in order to overcome potential professional inhibitions that otherwise would have jeopardized the creation and production of *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*. Theater's excellence is gained through, and only through, the resulting inspiration of cast and audience members. Let their words, if not mine, be heard.

—Samuel Reich
Via e-mail

A FOUR-STAR REVIEW

I just wanted to drop a note to tell you how much I liked the Summer Dining issue of the Improper. I thought the food article (especially the piece on Donna Skinner) was really interesting and a provocative change from the boring food articles that other magazines produce. I'll never think of the word "Dixie" in a restaurant title the same way!

I also thought the fashion spread was really well done. I recognized a couple of the artists from my neighborhood but I never knew who they were. Anyway, that's about it. Keep up the good work.

—Joel Benjamin
Via e-mail

OEDIPUS COMPLEX

Soroff's interview with Oedipus is rife with errors. The credibility of any magazine depends upon factual reporting. If it was OK to make things up, or to believe everything a person you are interviewing says, Mike Barnicle and Patricia Smith would still be at the *Globe*.

Oedipus' claim to having the first punk radio show in America is rather suspect. Didn't former Strawberries Records President Ivan Lipton and writer Brian Goslow have punk shows prior to Oedi on Clark University's WCUW? Didn't Debbie Frost have a show on Harvard's WHRB prior to Oedipus?

—Joe Viglione
Producer/Host
Visual Radio-Television
Via e-mail

RANDOMANIA

I read Ezra's article last issue and drew a great deal of attention to myself by laughing hysterically out loud. Great stuff—the Dorchester section was highlighted today and on the desk of a co-worker who lives there and happens to fit the "defensive" profile. Thanks for the laughs.

—Ryan Morgan
Via e-mail

I just wanted to say how much I enjoyed Ezra's last column, the randomness of it all. It's nice to read something written by someone my own age whose view of the world isn't as depressing as certain women writers in certain Boston newspapers.

—Cela Dorr
Via e-mail

CORRECTION

Apologies to Bruce Myron, who should have been credited for taking the photo of the winner of the Bukowski Pen and Pint contest last issue.

Tell Us What You Think

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MICHAEL INDRESANO



Three-time Boston's best cover photographer and long-time contributor Michael Indresano (pictured at right, with Jay Leno and photo editor Rita Greeley) hit the jackpot this issue, by traveling to California to photograph Jay Leno and shooting the Hall of Fame fashion with local Boston pro athletes. Out West, Indresano and his crew got to sit in on a taping of *The Tonight Show* at NBC Studios in Burbank before conducting the photo shoot with the affable Leno.

A Wellesley native, Indresano has done loads of commercial work for companies from IBM to Structure, and his walls are covered with accolades. He was also the only artist named to *Boston Business Journal*'s "40 Under 40" roundup of the city's brightest businesspeople under the age of 40. Besides this issue's cover and fashion spread, more of his work can be found at *www.indresano.com*.

CAROLE WINKLER



The prose-producing personality behind the Business & Technology portion of this issue, Carole Winkler draws from years of experience in the business and writing sectors. She holds an MBA from the University of Chicago, formerly worked on Wall Street and has also written for the *Boston Globe*, *Wired*, *The Industry Standard* and *TheStreet.com*. Rounding out her resume, she also knows how to clean fish and brand cattle. Business & Technology begins on page 74.

ANDY LEVINSKY



Andy Levinsky, the author of our Boston's Best Media section, has written for the *Boston Phoenix*, *Boston Magazine*, *Vibe* and many educational and media trade publications. He also has a multimedia background, working as a producer and writer at several Boston radio and TV stations. He currently handles public relations at Fisher College. The Media section begins on page 66.

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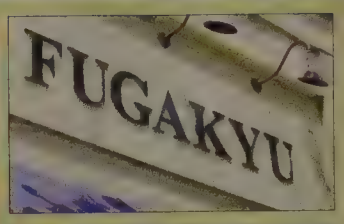
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the Word

trends
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people
panache


ChoVco owner Eddie Huang of Tsunami







AROUND TOWN

SUSHI CENTRAL

Why in the world would anyone open yet another sushi bar in a town that already has 12 within a one-mile radius? That's the question we posed to John Wu and Eddie Huang, who recently launched the newest sushi addition to the Coolidge Corner area. "Our sushi tastes better and is more affordable than the rest," says Wu confidently. His restaurant, called Tsunami, is within easy walking distance of Fugakyu, Takeshima, Mr. Sushi and Sushi House Kiyoshi. About a mile down Beacon Street you'll find Sushi Express and Ginza, and farther down, in Kenmore Square, is Maruken. Up Beacon Street is Kaya. Down Harvard toward Comm. Ave. is Daiwa, and up Harvard to Washington Street is Yokohama and Minato. You get the picture...

So what's the 411? "We never intended to settle in Brookline," says Wu, who along with Huang, scoured towns up and down the East Coast to find the right location. "Finally, we just decided, why not go where it's already been proven that there's a market for sushi? We know people here love sushi, and they can afford it. With our prices, we're more like McDonald's $4 hamburger, while Fugakuyu is like a Brew Moon, with a $10 burger." An interesting comparison, certainly, but as far as taste goes, Tsunami is no McDonald's. We were wowed by Chef Huang's spicy tuna rolls, melt-in-your-mouth tuna and savory smoked eel. He chooses only the freshest fish and uses top-shelf ingredients to prepare his marinades. Rarely have we tasted better sushi in Boston. Let the competition (all of it) beware. ***10 Pleasant St., Brookline (277-9940).—Julie Short***

NEW IN TOWN

IRISH EYES ARE SMILING


From left to right: chef George Leu and managers Kenneth Kelly and Conor Brennan.

Ireland's two big dailies, the *Independent* and the *Times*, have long been popular names for Irish bars in this country. Among Boston's ever-proliferating population of Irish pubs, there's the Times Pub on Broad Street, which has been around for more than two years, and now there's the Independent, an upscale restaurant and bar that quietly opened in Union Square a few weeks ago.

Independent managers Conor Brennan and Kenneth Kelly, who've known each other since attending boarding school together in Tipperary, Ireland, spent 18 months renovating the building. "We're not sick of each other yet, but we're getting close," quips Brennan, who adds, "Before I show the bills to Kenneth, I tell him 'Take some Jameson's and knock it back, then I'll show you the bills.'" Brennan may joke, but judging from a recent weeknight visit, when the place was bustling with people, there will be a healthy portion of returns.

The Independent is divided into two distinctly different spaces: There's a dimly lighted, cozy pub on one side and a spacious, elegant and airy restaurant on the other. The walls of the pub are paneled with 150-year-old carved oak that originally lined a boardroom in the Schraft's factory in Charlestown. There's an old tin poster advertising Kinahan's L.L. Whiskey (that came from Kelly's aunt's bar in Ireland) and a panel of stained glass based on an illustration from the Book of Kells. In short, this is no pre-fab affair; the place has a wonderfully weathered feel despite its newness.

The Irish duo have hailed upon chef George Leu to create a contemporary American menu that includes a few updated, somewhat more gourmet versions of Irish classics such as shepherd's pie, which is flavored with rosemary and topped with puff pastry instead of mashed potatoes. It's a long way from corned beef and cabbage—and it's delicious. *—Rachel Strutt*

MEDIA

SHIFTING FOCUS

Retirement? Ha! Last month, longtime *Globe* photographer and associate editor Bill Brett was one of the 193 employees who accepted an early retirement offer. But the veteran photojournalist has no intention of letting his lens get dusty. A full-time staffer for 37 years, Brett will stay on at the *Globe* as a contributor—continuing to snap shots for the perennially popular "Party Lines" column. He will also launch the Sheehan Scholarship Foundation, a program that will allow a young photographer to learn the ropes of photojournalism.

Brett got the idea for a foundation when he learned Globers wanted to throw him a blow-out retirement party. The veteran photographer decided to shift the focus of the event into a fund-raiser. "I'm not really retiring after all," says Brett. "And who in the hell wants to go to retirement parties, anyway?" he says laughing. And so the 500-plus person party, which will be held at F1 in Braintree in late October, will also include an auction of photographs—with the proceeds going toward the scholarship.

"It will be a celebration of photojournalism," says Brett. "I'm asking photographers from the area—people from the *Globe*, the *Herald*, the *Patriot Ledger* and the *Brockton Enterprise*—to donate their favorite photographs. I'm hoping to get about 50 [works]." As for the scholarship, the only criteria for the lucky recipient is that he or she live in Dorchester, where Brett grew up. The winner will not only receive funding for coursework in photojournalism but will be given the opportunity to shadow *Globe* photographers—including Brett—on the job.

"I'm naming the foundation in the memory of Dan Sheehan, who was a Boston photographer for 40 years; I met him as a young boy and he became my mentor. I want to give back what he gave to me, to pass it along to the next generation."—*R.S.*


Bill Brett retires from the *Globe* in style, setting up a fund for aspiring photographers.

SUSHI: SUSIE COPITHORNE (5); INDEPENDENT: RACHEL STRUTT

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IMPROPER SPEAKING by erin hagedorn & julie short

GOSSIP

• Proof-positive that Julia Child is really leaving town: The wonder chef offered up her travel cooking bag for auction at a recent beer tasting hosted by the American Institute of Wine and Food at the Sam Adams Brewery. A lucky bidder took home the red bag that contained the equipment that Child would bring to cooking demos—including whisks, spatulas, towels and saucepans—all for a mere $600. At the July 9 gathering, Child bid a fond farewell to members of the AIWF, the nonprofit educational organization that she co-founded with Robert Mondavi and Richard Graff. Along with Boston Beer Company founder Jim Koch and Summer Shack chef/owner Jasper White, Child sampled nine different brews. She had this to say about the evening as she sipped more than a few: "Beer is best."



• An extraordinary number of people beat down the Hynes Convention Center doors to get a glimpse of Moose (theJack Russell terrier known as Eddie on *Frasier*), who was making an appearance in town to promote flea control. From our calculations, that's 10 times as many people going to see Frasier's dog as went to see Kelsey Grammer when he was in town with *Macbeth*.

• Local bachelor-at-large Matt Damon was spotted recently at Porter's Bar and Grill after he and his pals played a round of golf at Brookline Country Club. He was reportedly sipping a micro-brew made especially for Porter's called Duff beer, which is named after Homer Simpson's favorite malt beverage. Golf instructors at the country club be forewarned: Expect hordes of eligible ladies lining up for lessons, hoping to catch a glimpse of Damon.

• Who said a cheeky gimmick can't guarantee you publicity? Clothing chain French Connection United Kingdom, cleverly abbreviated as FCUK, is unveiling what they've dubbed "Boston's Big Fcuk," a remodeling of their current location. Following the tradition of FCUK Brit stores, they've chartered a London black cab, which FCUKers will drive down Newbury Street on July 20 while handing out invites to their futuristic new "concept store." The invites will be in the shape of oversized prophylactics emblazoned with their questionably tasteful slogan, "Boston's Big Fcuk." But what to fill the giant condom with? The answer, according to FCUK, is a measuring tape allowing patrons to measure up the new store for themselves.

• Happy birthday! J.P. Licks celebrates its 20th anniversary by rolling back its prices to what they were in '81 for one day—July 29. Look for small cones for 75 cents, medium for $1 and large for a mere $1.25. Throw on those Jordache jeans, spray your hair and head on over.

IMPROPER REPORTS

LOBSTER ROLLS



Take a hot dog bun, coat it with melted butter and toast it slightly, add lobster meat with mayo and maybe a sprinkling of celery and what do you get? Pure heaven. We priced lobster rolls at restaurants around town:

McDonald's, 1282 Boylston St., Boston (247-9165): **$4.99**
D'Angelo's, 155 Mass. Ave., Boston (859-5999): **$7.99**
Atlantic 101, 101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-5101): **$14**
Dolphin Seafood Too, 1105 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-2937): **$14.95 (for two rolls)**
Jimmy's Harborside, 242 Northern Ave., Boston (423-1000): **$15**
Union Oyster House, 41 Union St., Boston (227-2750): **$16.95**

SAM SAYS

THE SOLA ALSO RISES

Luciano Manganella has been in the fashion world since 1968 and still has his finger on the pulse of what is fashionable. He has changed with the times and offers his clients some of the most intriguing fashions at his Sola boutiques. But Manganella has something new up his sleeve: his own clothing line to be sold at his Jasmine Sola shops and other local women's boutiques. The clothing will be produced in Manganella's manufacturing company in New York called Gruppo Americana. What's his motivation? Manganella says that he has been very disappointed with a lot of designers' products. "Customers have really been cheated. They're charged outrageous prices for bad quality," he asserts. Manganella assures us that his products will be well-priced and made with quality craftsmanship for women of all ages. —*Samantha House*

TAKE OFF

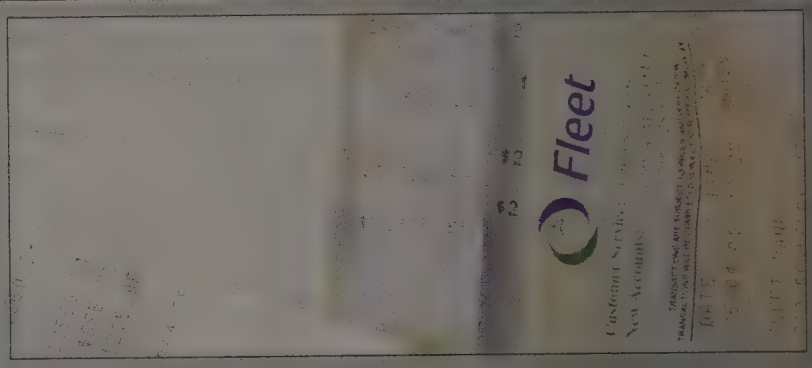
CAMPING FOR DUMMIES



In theory, we all love camping. The idea of toasting marshmallows around a campfire and sleeping under the stars appeals to our most primal instincts. But when it comes down to logistics, who has the time to figure out where to go, what equipment to bring and where to buy it? Then, once you've spent nearly a grand on camping gear, the reality is: Are you really ever going to use it again?

Maybe not. That's why we were intrigued by a brochure that crossed our desks promoting a company up in Maine that does it all for you...literally. Krismark Outfitters provides everything you'd possibly need, including a tent, sleeping bags, stove and tarp, plus gourmet meals delivered to your campsite. But does it really feel like camping—or is it simply a low-budget B&B? We asked owner Kristen Greer-Dremann, and she invited us to give it a try. So last weekend we packed up our car with pillows, towels and clothing (the only items we were required to bring) and headed north to Bar Harbor. When we arrived at the campsite at 9pm on Friday night, we were pleasantly surprised to see a giant tent in the middle of the woods (granted, there were other campsites nearby, but it sure felt like the great outdoors). Inside the six-person tent were sleeping bags and pads, a lantern and a flashlight, a stove and a cooler stocked with lobster chowdah, a loaf of fresh bread, potato salad and a Dutch apple pie. All we had to do was heat and serve. The next morning—after a restful night's sleep—we awoke to a breakfast of blueberry muffins and yogurt with granola, plus O.J. and a carafe of hot coffee. Apparently, the camping fairies had left this treat during the wee hours of the morning. Was this heaven? The campground even had hot showers, which we made use of after we spent the morning sea kayaking around the islands—a trip that Greer-Dremann also arranged.

"It's a great way for city-dwellers to enjoy the outdoors without hassle," she says of her service. "Think of it as camping for non-campers." *Krismark Outfitters (888-746-CAMP). Prices start at $295 per person.—J.S.*



MONEY WATCH

ATM SNOOPING

Ah, the miracle of the ATMs. We take it for granted that we can access our cash day or night, seven days a week. That is, if we have any cash to access. Hey, what just happened to that guy in front of you, who got his card back but no money? And what about the sugar mamma next to you, the one who's kept the dispenser spitting out an endless supply of crisp bills for longer than it takes to read the fine print of a Claritin ad? Wouldn't you like to know what her balance is?

Well, so would we. So we sent our intrepid interns to a variety of local ATMs to pick through the discarded slips and take a peek at the balances. The highest came in the Back Bay, where one individual withdrew $200, leaving only $56,359.99 remaining in his or her checking account. We will feel so embarrassed for that person if he or she tries to put a loaded BMW M3 convertible ($56,720) on the debit card and gets declined.

The lowest balance came in at a whopping 69 cents. This was found in the Financial District, leading us to believe that someone should be a little more careful with the day trading.

And out of 161 slips we checked, the average balance was $2,763.36. Which strikes us as pretty good, actually. Unless, that is, you've got an M3 payment coming up. —*Ezra Dyer*

Got scoop?

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Name Games, Part Deux

What's in a name? Well, do you know anyone who owns a Woody?

My previous column was about how high-tech executives pick names for their companies. That's a difficult enough process, but it's only half of the story, because even a company with a great corporate name still needs great names for its high-tech products. Back in the olden days, product naming was relatively simple. Most companies were run by engineers who sold products to other engineers. As a result, all high-tech products had names that sounded as if they came from the dialogue of a 1960's sci-fi potboiler. ("Fire up the System 360, captain! The asteroids are about hit our rocket ship!") Even today, data centers are full of hardware and software products that have hoary and respected names such as VM, VAX, AS400, VMS, UNIX and RS6000.

However, as more marketing professionals weaseled their way into the high-tech business, these bland acronyms began to fall out of favor. Rather than just picking some numbers and letters out of the air, high-tech companies spend up to $100,000 to come up with product names that have commercial appeal. As a result, most high-tech products now have names that sound as if they came from the dialogue of a 1980s sci-fi potboiler. ("If the Vulcan ambassador would be so kind enough to hand me the Denebian ThinkPad....") Today, it's difficult or impossible to find a computer, for example, that isn't named something like Magnia, Infinia, Vectra, Brio or PowerBook.

The downside of this trend towards zippier product names is that there's always the possibility that the names in question might mean something weird in another language. Worst case, the product name might be so dreadful when translated that it could cause the product to fail in international markets.

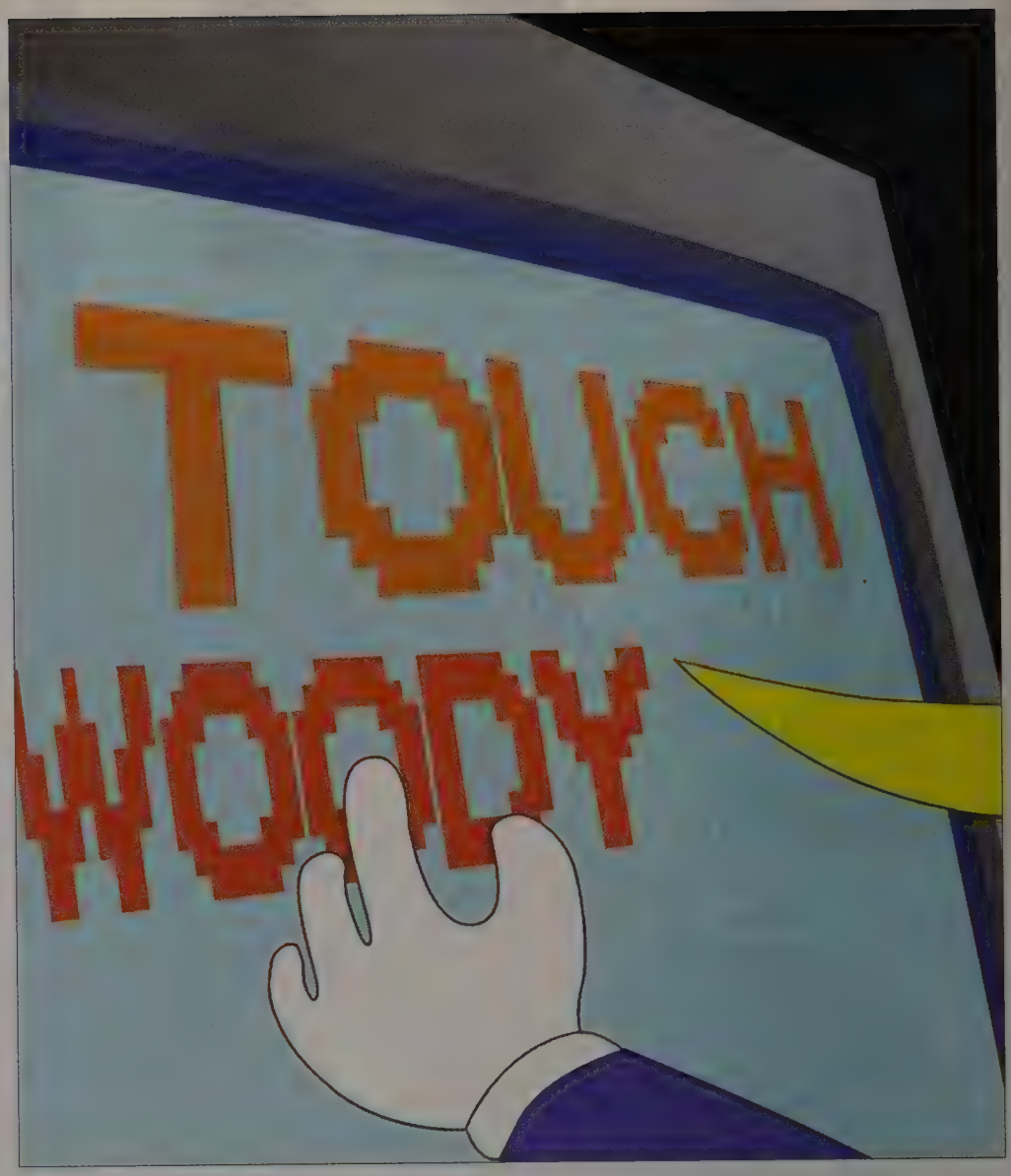
Such errors are not limited to U.S. companies. A Chinese manufacturer of hand tools once tried to sell a line of products named after the town in which the firm's main factory was located. However, it turned out that there was little demand in the States for the "Fuking Hammer," despite the fact that the product label was likely to prove useful if one were searching for words in reaction to the sudden failure of a home improvement project.

In order to avoid such debacles, most high-tech companies run their product names past a team of linguists, who check for other meanings in other languages, searching especially for slang that might not appear in a standard dictionary. However, there was at least one situation in which a company neglected to perform this important step in the product naming process.

The company in question was Japan-based Matsushita, a leading manufacturer of consumer electronics products. (I told this story briefly in this column about a year ago, but I think that it deserves a more thorough treatment.)

Matsushita wanted to get into the growing market for consumer PCs—the kind of machines that peoploe use in the home to play games, balance checkbooks, do homework, and so forth. This was a strategic market for the company because Matsushita's arch-rival, Sony, had just launched a successful consumer PC business. Matsushita believed that, if it could make its consumer PC popular in Japan, it could quickly roll out the product to the rest of the world, thereby stealing Sony's thunder.

Matsushita's marketing folk felt they needed a product name that would be family-friendly, something that would inspire a sense of fun and frolic. They wanted the kind of product name that would tell every parent that this computer would make a great holiday gift for the kiddies. So Matsushita bought the right to use the name of a cartoon character who happened to be wildly popular in Japan: Woody Woodpecker. Much in the way that Jerry Lewis is popular in France, Woody Woodpecker, with his loopy grin and insane laugh, though virtually forgotten in the United States, has remained a favorite of Japanese children.



THE DOWNSIDE OF THIS TREND TOWARD ZIPPIER PRODUCT NAMES IS THAT THERE'S ALWAYS THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE NAMES IN QUESTION MIGHT MEAN SOMETHING WEIRD IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE. WORST CASE, THE PRODUCT NAME MIGHT BE SO DREADFUL WHEN TRANSLATED THAT IT COULD CAUSE THE PRODUCT TO FAIL IN INTERNATIONAL MARKETS.

Matsushita's new consumer PC was therefore named the "Woody," but that's not all. One of the main features of the product was a touch-screen interface that allowed users to tap on the screen to select menu picks, a feature called "Touch Woody." Blissfully ignorant that the terminology they had chosen had a different meaning in the States, Matsushita proceeded with its product release plan.

Hoping to build drama for the unveiling, Matsushita kept its "Woody" strictly under wraps. It wasn't until the night before the product announcement press event that a female employee who had worked in this country told Matsushita's management that they might need to do a little rethinking of the product name.

Panic ensued. It was too late to change the "Woody" name, but Matsushita's marketing executives worked throughout the night to remove every reference to "Touch Woody," replacing it with the somewhat less objectionable "Woody Touch Screen." The near disaster, however, made Matsushita's executives leery about emphasizing the touch screen interface, so the decision was made to call press attention to another unique feature—an automatic browsing interface that allowed customers to easily retrieve information from the Internet.

Matsushita's executives were calm and collected on the day of the product announcement. As they bowed and greeted the gentlemen and ladies of the press, the executives were confident that they had saved their company from unthinkable embarrassment. Finally, it was time to unveil Matsushita's new consumer PC to the world, a PC that featured an automatic browsing feature that was proudly named the "Internet Pecker." iB

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

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Ezra BY EZRA DYER



Cost Cutting

Being a man is an expensive proposition these days

Normally, when I fire up my Web browser, I blast right past my Netscape home page. This is because there are usually two types of article posted: One of the "Strife Continues in Lower Strifenastan" variety, and one "Christina Aguilera Goes Two Shades Blonder for Upcoming Tour"-type piece. But recently a headline compelled me to postpone my ongoing E-Bay search for Bob Ross paintings ("Pool of Platitude: Self-Portrait with Shimmering Mountain Lake," in particular, gives voice to the silent screams of a misunderstood genius hamstrung by the iron shackles of PBS celebrity). The eye-catching banner was titled "The Costs of Being a Man."

The article began by confirming that while there are a lot of woman-specific expenses—bras, tampons, Sarah McLachlan albums—men have their own man-specific expenses. Such as beer.

Really, beer is one of our big expenses. I always suspected as much, but the numbers back it up. According to the Miller Brewing Co., men consume about 85 percent of the beer in the United States. This article puts the average guy's annual beer tab at $780. Sound like a lot? That estimate is based on a five-beer-per-week bar tab. Five beers. Per week. Is that what everyone else is having? Do I need to seek counseling? I drank two-fifths of that by the third inning of the last Sox game I attended, and that was only because I inadvertently ended up in an alcohol-free section and had ushers threatening to kick me out if I revisited Señor Coors Light. Had I been in the bleachers, it is conceivable that I could have gone straight into next week's ration.

Shaving is also identified as a significant male expense because of the cost of razor blades. I suppose I would spend a lot money on blades, then, if I ever replaced mine. I use a razor blade until it's duller than a lobotomized Bob Saget. Toward the end of its life, the only reason hair comes off my face is because it sticks to the rust. By the time I throw out a blade, it's sitting on the bathroom shelf smoking unfiltered cigarettes, drinking mescal and berating my toothbrush: "Nice wear indicator, you pussy."

But women make up for their savings on Bud and Mach IIIs in other areas. Apparently, men spend only one-third of all retail dollars. I'm guessing this is because while women are out doing two-thirds of all the retail spending, men are busy hounding the Sakkio Japan guy for one more free teriyaki chicken sample in the food court. Hey, it's better than shopping. "The Costs of Being a Man" quotes consumer behavior researcher Britt Beemer as saying, "Men don't hate shopping, it's just not pleasant to them." Well, *Beemer*, maybe if the shopping in question involved picking out option packages on a new *Bimmer*, we'd find it more pleasant. Unfortunately, that's hardly ever the case.

Instead, we end up shoe shopping, an activity that Britt is absolutely right about. I don't hate it; it's just not pleasant to me—much the same way that getting flaming bamboo jammed under my fingernails wouldn't be pleasant to me. As such, I basically own three pairs of shoes: brown ones, black ones and sneakers. And the brown ones, frankly, have been overdue for the scrap pile for quite some time. They're supposed to be waterproof, yet my feet have been getting soaked on rainy days. This is because I've worn holes in the soles. Still, getting new ones just doesn't seem like a very high priority for me. Shoes are boring. They don't make noise or require complex assembly or transform into robots, all of which dims their cachet for me considerably. I think the last time I was really excited about buying shoes was when I got a pair of Jordans in seventh grade. If it was societally acceptable to duct-tape slabs of bark to one's feet, I'd be a bark-wearin' fool.

> I THINK THE LAST TIME I WAS REALLY EXCITED ABOUT BUYING SHOES WAS WHEN I GOT A PAIR OF JORDANS IN SEVENTH GRADE.

But since that is not acceptable and my current kicks are rapidly approaching an unwearable state of decrepitude, I hereby officially recognize that I need new shoes. But how to afford them? After all, my man-costs are high. If I spent less on beer, I'd just be a mooch....

OK, I've looked at my budget and decided what to do. I've temporarily cut a few things out to free up some cash for a pair of Kenneth Coles. They'll look pretty snazzy—hopefully snazzy enough to draw attention away from my new beard. iB

You think that's funny?

Gender is a construct. E-mail ezra@improper.com.



The Music Pulsed to a Yellow Beat
While He Danced a Yellow Dance



Ice Yellow

Lemon Yellow

Hard Yellow

©2001 Anheuser-Busch, Inc., "Doc" Otis Hard Lemon Flavored Alcohol Malt Beverage (Beer in TX), St. Louis, MO

"DOC" OTIS • A Different Shade of Yellow

Proper Bostonians BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

Restaurateur Tom Kershaw, owner of the Bull & Finch Pub, Hampshire House and 75 Chestnut Street, hosted his annual rooftop party at his penthouse at 84 Beacon Street on July 4.

1. **Constance Hughes**, **Tom Kershaw**, restaurateur, **Heather Kennedy**, and **Regina Howard**.
2. **Jean Kenney**, assistant vice president for Eastern Bank, her husband, **Uncle Sam Rounseville**, real-estate agent for Century 21 Abigail Adams in Quincy and **Allen Kenney**, accountant at State Street Mutual Funds.
3. **David Balfour**, commissioner, metropolitan district commission, and **Beverly Becham**, *Boston Herald* columnist.
4. **Riley Murphy** (l), executive for Telecom and **Richard DeAgazio**, executive vice president for Boston Capital.
5. **Pat Fattell**, medical office manager at Englewood ENT in New Jersey, Mayor **Tom Menino**, **Melissa Fattell**, conference concierge at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, and **Les Goldberg**, vice president of the American Express Company.





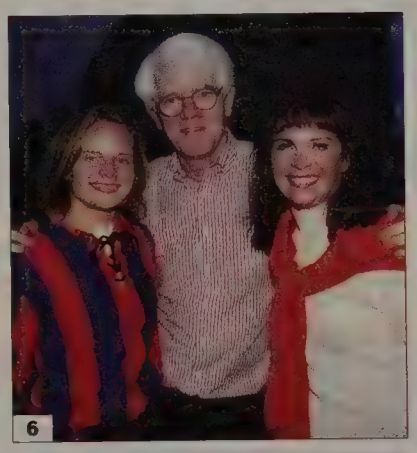




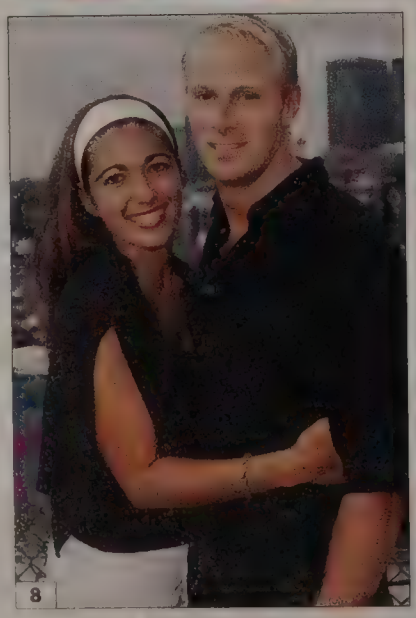


David Mugar, executive producer of the Fourth of July celebration, also hosted a rooftop party at 100 Beacon Street.

6. **Beth Lynch**, her father **Peter**, vice chairman of FMR Co, of Fidelity Investments, and his wife, **Carloyn**.
7. **David Mugar**, executive producer of the Fourth of July Pops and CEO of Mugar Enterprises, and **Carolyn Cartelli**, assistant DA for Suffolk County.
8. **Deb Cartelli**, SCE operations manager for Springfield Technical Community College, and her husband, **Damon**, vice president of Fathers & Sons in West Springfield.
9. **Dave Poltack**, director of finances for Techno Venture Management, and his wife, **Rupal**, manager at Pricewaterhousecoopers.
10. **Ralph Martin**, Suffolk County district attorney, and his wife, **Deborah Scott**, physician at Beth Israel Hospital.
11. **Charlie Petri**, president of Millbrook Companies in Somerville, **Barbara Lynch**, chef/owner of #9 Park, **Paul Mattera**, senior vice president of Liberty Mutual, and **Jim Brett**, president & CEO of the New England Council.
12. **Peter Mancusi**, business editor at the *Boston Globe*, **Miranda Daniloff**, assistant director of communications and public affairs at the Kennedy School of Government, **Ben Bradley**, deputy managing editor of the *Globe* and his wife, **Jan Saragoni**, president of Saragoni & Company.















The ice cream man's got nothing on this.

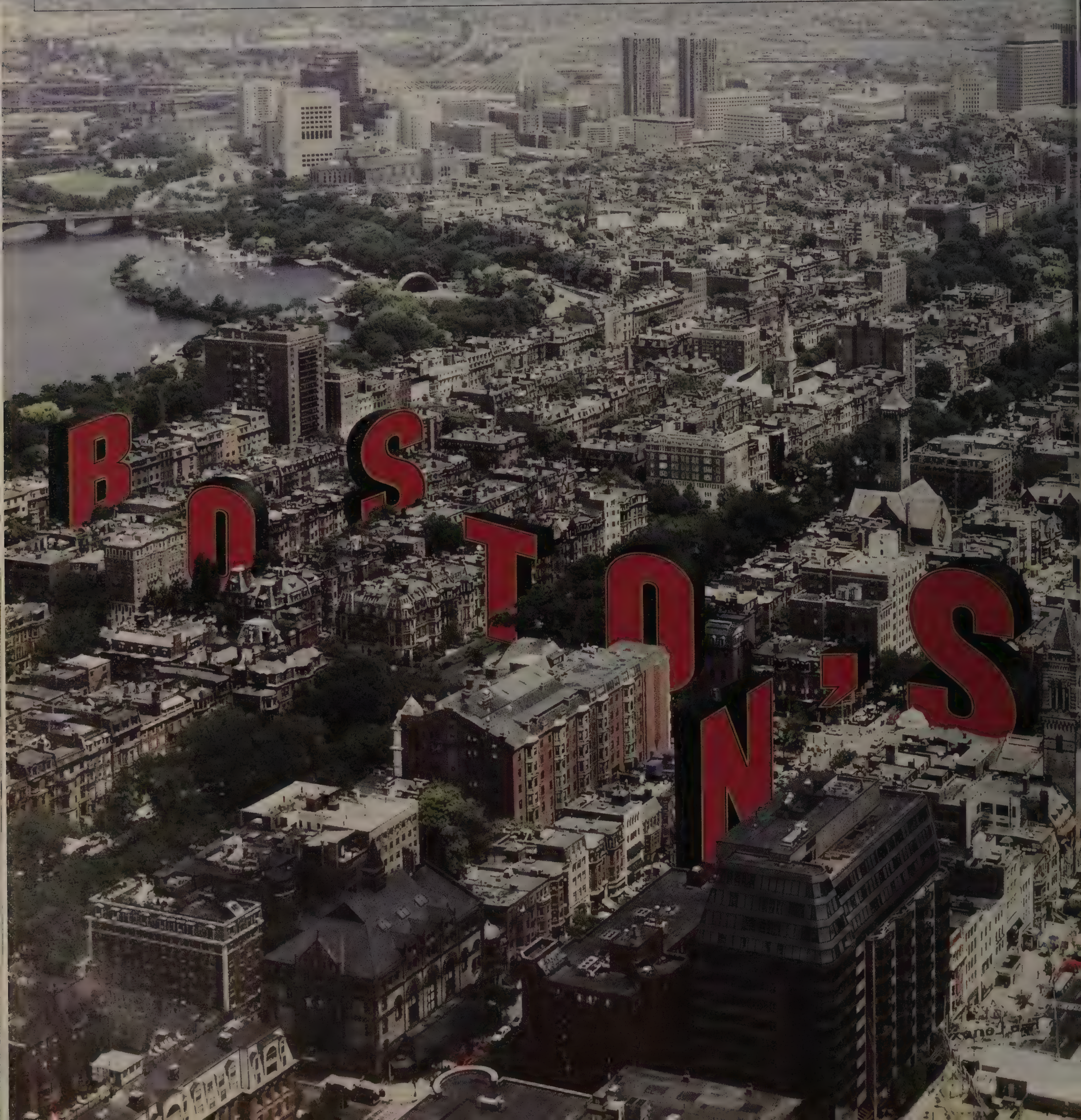


Coffee at its coolest.™

FRAPPUCCINO®

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A scientific milestone, a snazzy new sports club and sumptuous sushi. Hotels, hair extensions and histrionic jocks. Those are just some of the topics covered in our 200-plus list of Boston's Best winners. So whether you're looking for a massage or the lowdown on the latest media melee, we've got you covered. The IMPROPER has scoped the city to offer you a panorama of the very best. All you have to do is flip a few pages.





PHOTOGRAPH BY JONAS KAHN
Shot on location from the Prudential Center Skywalk

SEX and our CITY

In a city with so many choices, make it easy.

People Magazine's hottest selections for a night out in Boston

BOMBOA



35 Stanhope St., 617.236.6363

HOUSE OF CULTURE



286 Newbury St., 617.236.1090

ARIA



246 Tremont St., 617.338.7080

HEALTHWORKS



Back Bay, Brookline, Cambridge 617.859.7700

TREMONT 647



647 Tremont St., 617.266.4555



how it works

FOOD 20
drink
beauty
HEALTH 34
SERVICES SHOPPING 42
46
PEOPLE PLACES 52
ENTERTAINMENT 56
SPORTS 64
MEDIA POLITICS & 70
BUSINESS 71

In the elegant subterranean wine cellar of the Federalist, our Boston's Best judges wined, dined and deliberated on "best" winners for several grueling (and overindulgent) hours.

Back row (left to right): Ezra Dyer, Julie Short, Mark Sufferadini (who came with Marilyn Riseman on his arm), Drew Martin, Phillipo Caporella, Kerry Brett Hurley, Paula Lyons, Charles Mokriski, Arnie Reisman, Wendy Semonian, Lynn Hoffman, Stan Grossfeld, Kiril Alexandrov, George Lewis, Ari Feinstein, Samantha House, Steve Sweeney, Erin Hagedorn, Lilli Dennison, Tai (a.k.a Tom A. Irwin) and Ferguson Heriveaux.

Front row: (left to right) Jonathan Soroff, Marilyn Riseman, Carolyn Faye Fox, Paul Roiff, Amy Finsilver, Joan Jolley, Rachel Strutt and Susan Abbattista.

So we spoil you. Forgive us. It's just that we think you deserve nothing but the very best. Is that such a crime? We work and we slave, year after year, trying to find the very finest in food, shopping, services and whatnot this city has to offer, and what do we get in return? Nothing. Except maybe the satisfaction of knowing that we've told you about it. Mind you, we're not complaining.

But we did go to the trouble of hosting a big fancy-schmancy dinner party in the wine cellar at the Federalist to thank our panel of judges for helping us select the winners. We're not talking about a bunch of schmoes here, either. This was an impressive group.

Among our panelists, we had people like real estate developer Paul Roiff, Pulitzer prize–winning photojournalist Stan Grossfeld of the *Globe*, XV Beacon chief concierge and assistant GM Amy Finsilver, radio personalities Lynn Hoffman of Mix 98.5 and Steve Sweeney and Tai of WZLX, marketing consultant and event planner Joan Jolley, bachelor-about-town Drew Martin, nightclub owner Lilli Dennison, the Honorable Robert J. McKenna Jr., kabuki socialite Marilyn Riseman, *Boston Book Review* publisher Kiril Alexandrov, Brahmin businessman George Lewis III, clothing store owner Ari Feinstein, WBZ consumer reporter Paula Lyons and her TV producer husband, Arnie Reisman, hairstylist and club kid Phillipo Caporella, nightlife impresario Ferguson Heriveaux, and select members of our staff, including *Improper* food writers Carolyn Faye Fox and Charles Mokriski. Not to name-drop or anything.

In any case, we tried to be fair—and thorough. When judges had a conflict of interest, their vote was discounted. And beyond brainstorming at our decadent best fest at the Fed, we asked a panel of experts to weigh in on certain subjects. Savvy scribe Andy Levinsky contributed to the media section; biz whiz writer Carol Winkler wieghed in our business and technology section; and Keith Powers chimed in with his classical music raves. Oh, and did we mention our crack team of interns, led by alpha intern Paul Venuti, that researched and fact-checked day-in and day-out—in exchange for nothing more than our lavish gratitude and affection?

One last thing: Final decisions were made by our editors.

So enough, already. Here's our Boston's Best 2001. Enjoy. iB

TRACY POWELL

boston's BEST 2001

FOOD & drink

Barbecue joints, bakeries and buzzworthy boîtes. Dim sum, delis and dive bars. An IMPROPER guide to great gastronomy.



BAGELS • Kupel's Bakery • *421 Harvard St., Brookline; 566-9528*

If variety is what you're missing at your local bagel shop, Kupel's is sure to set your head spinning. They offer 20 varieties of bagels, 20 flavors of cream cheese, nine kinds of hummus, five types of coffee and 15 teas. A manager at Kupel's modestly pontificates, "We're the best, and everybody knows it." The secret, he maintains, is inside the bagel. Sesame bagels, for example, have seeds baked throughout, eliminating the pesky problem of the seeds flaking off, leaving you with a plain bagel. A dozen of Kupel's consistently delectable bagels will set you back only $5.50, and you get one extra thrown in "for good luck."

ALTERNATIVE TO BOSTON PUBLIC GARDEN

Boston Beer Garden

734 East Broadway, South Boston; 269-0990

Although the actual "garden" part of this Southie institution is limited to a botanic mural on the wall, this watering hole has been keeping Southie fortified with more than 40 varieties of ales and lagers for six years. By catering to the regular crowd here, the management has created a place where a hefty portion of the crowd might actually know your name. This neighborhood hangout with a patchwork little-bit-of-everything menu is sure to hook people, and an added draw is the 10-foot big-screen TV always tuned to the game. Go cheer on the Sox and sample the stellar spinach and artichoke dip ($6.95).

APPROXIMATION OF A NEW YORK SCENE

Whiskey Park

54 Arlington St. in the Park Plaza Hotel, Back Bay; 542-1482

Since nightlife impresario Rande Gerber (a.k.a. Mr. Cindy Crawford) opened Whiskey Park six months ago, this gorgeously designed bar has become a favorite haunt of the terminally trendy and the chronically hip, in addition to those who desperately wish they were. The scene is super-groovy, but it's the long line outside, combined with the antics of wannabes trying to get in (threats, frantically waved bills in large denominations, desperate cell-phone calls to friends) and the bouncers trying to keep them out, that make this place the closest you can get to the silliness of Manhattan without actually going there.

BAKERY

Hi-Rise Bread Co.

208 Concord Ave., Cambridge; 876-8766
56 Brattle St., Cambridge; 492-3003

Choosing our favorite bakery is like trying to find a starter on the Sox who hasn't graced the DL this season. Boston, while not overflowing with pennants, abounds with outstanding bakeries, and Hi-Rise stands out in the already exceptional crowd. Owner Rene Becker has attracted a devout following of bread-besotted fans, proving his dedication to his 'hood by naming the top-selling sourdough loaves "Huron" (whole wheat) and "Concord" (white). He refuses the wholesalers who call daily, opting to oversee every step of the baking and retailing process himself—even hand-picking ingredients from his orchard. Becker's high-caliber breads venture into lunchtime as well, creating our favorite ensemble, Fern's Problem Solver: roasted turkey, avocado and Monterey Jack cheese, all grilled and served sublimely on a semolina roll. If anyone's on a roll, it's the Hi-Rise.

BAR FOOD

B-Side Lounge

92 Hampshire St., Cambridge; 354-0766

A Kendall Square hot spot frequented by lounge lizards and barflies of every persuasion, the B-side is the kind of place that Hollywood tries to re-create in movies about downtown hipsters and their edgy urban milieu. One difference, though: This place is for real, and so is the food, which is upscale and inventive, and priced within reach of students and starving artists. The circa 1940s-style décor is perfectly done—red wood, block glass and green tile—without the theme-park feel of so many other bars trying to capture the vibe of a cocktail lounge along Sunset Strip. If Joey Heatherton walked through the door, no one would bat an eyelash.

BARBECUE

Blue-Ribbon Bar-B-Q

1375 Washington St., West Newton; 332-2583; 908 Mass. Ave., Arlington; 781-648-7427

The food had better be pretty damned good to make us want to wait in line and then sit on metal stools in a storefront to eat it. Take our word for it: It is. As close as you'll get to a pig-pickin' north of the Carolinas, Blue Ribbon features regional barbecue recipes (flavors from Texas, North Carolina and Kansas City, as well as Memphis ribs and Jamaican jerked chicken), and some of the meats are smoked for 14 hours. Traditional

SUSIE COPITHORNE



CASUAL DINING • Stars on Huntington • *393 Huntington Ave., The Fenway; 536-3232*
Part of the Hingham-based dining empire that includes Tosca and Fire King, this casual eatery located on the street level of a Northeastern dorm is sleek and sophisticated with multiple flat-screen TVs and a futuristic décor. The restaurant's signature accessory is the Gerber daisy. Tiny vases with colorful daisies adorn each table, bar stool—even the walls of the restaurant. Cuisine is sophisticated but affordable, and the atmosphere stylish but unpretentious. The specialty is classic American comfort food with a funky flair, and everything from the burgers to the halibut is done admirably. Sandwiched, as it is, between Symphony Hall and the Museum of Fine Arts, it's the perfect place for culture vultures to grab a quick bite to eat without a big production.

sides include cornbread, rice, beans and slaw, and there's even a huge jug of sweetened iced tea (the table wine of the South). The only things missing are cheese grits and hush puppies.

BRUNCH

Henrietta's Table

One Bennett St., Cambridge; 661-5005

This relaxed and casual dining room at the Charles Hotel is named after a pig that lived at the Vineyard summer home of owner Dick Friedman, and you're likely to leave feeling like a pig if you give yourself over to all the delicacies Henrietta's serves at its $42 Sunday buffet brunch. Our mouths water just thinking about the abundant offerings—from smoked salmon, shrimp cocktail and oysters on the half shell to omelet, waffle and carving stations; a salad bar; and 10 desserts. Our faves include red flannel hash with poached eggs and hollandaise sauce and cinnamon cranberry French toast. Everything is farm fresh, and portions are fit for a field hand.

BURGER

Porter's Bar and Grill

173 Portland St., Boston; 742-7678

Vegetarians, hold on to your garden burgers—this place just might turn you into a carnivore. Not for the weak of appetite, Porter's Angus beef 8-ounce burgers are cooked on a grill over an open flame, crowned with your choice of melted cheddar, American, Swiss or gouda cheese, and topped off with crisp lettuce, fresh tomato and onion. The sesame bun is toasted to perfection (no soggy buns here) and a kosher spear and fries make fine crunchy companions. There's no better way to watch Joe Thornton put a slapshot through the five-hole than with a Porter's burger in your belly.

BURRITO

Anna's Taqueria

1412 Beacon St., Brookline; 739-7300;
446 Harvard St., Brookline; 277-7111;
822 Somerville Ave., Cambridge; 661-8500

Anna's has developed something of a cult following since the first taqueria opened six years ago. The object of obsession: the super burrito, a freshly steamed flour tortilla layered with rice, beans, cheese, salsa and meat or vegetables served almost too hot to handle. The whole process—from the steaming of the flour tortilla to the garnishing with hot sauce—takes only about two minutes. In fact, the folks behind the counter have got it down to such a science that you wonder if they hold competitions in the store after hours. But perhaps the best part about Anna's is that the super burrito costs only $3.75. To that we say, "Que bueno."

BUTCHER

The John Dewar Co.

753 Beacon St., Newton Centre; 964-3577

Want the same quality steak, veal or lamb as the best restaurants in Boston serve? Go to the same place they get it. In addition to outstanding meats (one New York socialite we know orders her rack of lamb from here and has it shipped), John Dewar has gourmet goodies such as truffles, pate and caviar, and a new prepared-foods section that meets the same high standards as the butcher shop. Not surprisingly, the line goes out the door and down the block on days leading up to major holidays.

CATERER

Baker's Best

27 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands; 332-4588

Finicky hosts and hostesses have sworn by this crew for 18 years. Their four chefs (one of them French) can whip up peppercorn tuna, roast duck, chicken marsala, chicken piccata or rack of lamb for the most elegant get-together or special occasion. But they're equally adept at provisioning more casual gatherings, like picnics or garden parties, with delicious finger foods, sandwiches and salads (the tuna is a revelation). Next time you're entertaining, leave the heavy lifting to them.

CHEAP EATS

The Delux Café and Lounge

100 Chandler St., South End; 338-5258

The ambience is bike-messenger chic, with a shrine dedicated to Elvis and old LP covers decorating the pine-paneled walls. The crowd is urban boho: artists, musicians, grad students and tortured intellectuals, mostly in their 20s and mostly clad in black. And while most patrons are there to hang out and nurse a Schlitz, the food here is one of the best-kept secrets in the city. With a menu that changes every six weeks, there's always something new, and the most expensive dish is never more than $10. With tasty food and a funky atmosphere, it's the perfect low-key night out.

CHEF, OVERALL

Julia Child

For nearly 40 years, she's taught us how to master the art of French cooking with her patience, passion and less-than-pristine kitchen antics. Her knowledge in the kitchen has made even the staunchest meat-and-potatoes man an avid gastronome, and her books and PBS show provide kitchen wisdom to the cooking-challenged. But Child has had enough of the harsh Boston winters, and now we're losing our beloved chef to sunny California. We'll sorely miss the woman who taught Americans how to wine and dine at home. Bon appétit!

CHINESE RESTAURANT

Bernard's

199 Boylston St., Mall at Chestnut Hill; 969-3388

If you still think of Chinese food as chow mein and chop suey, think again. This gourmet restaurant might have the décor of an upscale cafeteria, but the food is strictly five-star. Seasonal dishes such as baby rock-lobster tails with rice vermicelli and a garlic scallion sauce, daily specials of sirloin in a spicy sauce and stand-bys like Peking duck are prepared to perfection. A revelation to anyone who's used to bland Sino-American fare, this outstanding eatery is unbelievably crowded on Sunday nights, and it's no wonder why.

CIVILIZED NIGHTCAP

Lucca

226 Hanover St., North End; 742-9200

If you want "one for your baby and one more for the road," this is the spot. Co-owner Ted Kennedy, a one-man Mardi Gras, presides over the bar at this North End eatery, where last call is at 12:59am but they won't kick you out until 1:30. The food's worth checking out too.

CLAM CHOWDER

Legal Sea Foods

(24 locations)

Still the best place to get a cup or bowl of New England's quintessential soup. The clams are tender and tasty, the vegetables still recognizable and the broth creamy without being unctuous. Satisfies both the stomach and the soul.

FOOD & drink

COMFORT FOOD

Silvertone Bar and Grill

69 Bromfield St., Downtown Crossing; 338-7887

This off-the-beaten-path bar/grill in Downtown Crossing offers simple, consistently delicious food that reminds you of a home-cooked meal at your mother's house, minus the intrusive questions. Macaroni and cheese, meatloaf and steak tips are standouts, and all are under $14. A reliably cool bar scene adds to the appeal, as does the speakeasy feel. It's the place to go when you're not sure where to go and don't want to shell out a ton of dough.

CONTEMPORARY INDIAN RESTAURANT

Saffron

279A Newbury St., Back Bay; 536-9766

Despite the departure of its former chef, Olaf Niemeier, Saffron is keeping Back Bay diners on their toes with an intriguing blend of Western food and Indian spices. New chef S. Giridhar's specialty, an eggplant tower made with layers of mushrooms and eggplant with a tomato chutney sauce, looks more like a work of art than something you would eat—but it's just as delicious as it is beautiful. Better yet, Saffron has given late-night diners a place to go after 11pm, Wednesday through Sunday, serving light fare until 1am and entertaining patrons with Indian pop in the downstairs lounge—and, once again, proving its ability to innovate.

CREATIVE SANDWICHES

Parish Café

361 Boylston St., Boston; 617-247-4777

To create their sandwich selections, this groovy Back Bay boîte asked the city's top chefs for their recipes. Among the contributors: Lydia Shire, Todd English, Tony Ambrose and Ming Tsai, who came up with one of the newest additions, the Blue Ginger: teriyaki-marinated rare tuna steak on scallion foccacia with a wasabi spread. Still, one of their most popular offerings remains Norma's Zuni Roll. A post-modern Thanksgiving feast in sandwich form, it consists of smoked turkey, dilled havarti, bacon, cranberry chutney and scallions. In addition to great sandwiches, the bar is a popular post-work hang out.

DELI

Zaftigs Delicatessen

335 Harvard St., Brookline; 975-0075

"Let us be your Jewish mother," offer the folks at Zaftigs. And that's exactly what they'll be—but only if your mother can provide a menu that has everything from noodle kugel and knishes to Reubens and beef brisket, plus walls splashed with wild, colorful paintings. All the food is prepared on-site—so whether you go for the pastrami, hot corned beef or knockwurst, you know it'll be fresh. For late risers craving a sweet treat to kick off the day, try the banana-stuffed French toast; breakfast is served all day, every day.



Head ice cream maker Azhar knows the secret to Toscanini's tasty scoops—but if he told you, he'd have to kill you.

ICE CREAM • Toscanini's • *809 Main St., Cambridge; 491-5877; 1310 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; 354-9350; MIT Student Center, Cambridge; 491-1558*

With apologies to maestro Arturo, it may come to pass that the name Toscanini will be better remembered as an ice cream-maker than a conductor. The folks there attribute the intensity of the flavor to something called the "infusion method" (we're not sure what that means, but it sure tastes good). For added creaminess, many flavors contain egg custard, something that probably falls under the heading: Dieters Beware. New chunky flavors include one called "chocolate sluggo," which contains "just about everything that can be made out of chocolate" and is named for the MIT professor who concocted it. Best of all, Toscanini's pints are now available at Bread & Circus and online, earning them the added award of Best Reason to Use Internet Delivery Service.

DIM SUM BRUNCH

Chau Chow City

83 Essex St., Chinatown; 338-8158

When in Chinatown, do as the Chinese do. On weekend mornings, that means grazing on tasty little tidbits at this boisterous, friendly restaurant. The recently expanded menu includes more vegetarian offerings, making it the ideal place to bring herbivores. And with an average tab of $7 to $10 per person, it's a low-key, pressure-free place for a first date with that cute little dumpling you've been eyeing.

DINNER AND A SHOW

Les Zygomates

129 South St.; Boston; 542-5108

After all these years, chef-owner Ian Just and his GM/sommelier partner, Lorenzo Savona, have the art of fine dining down to a science. The authentic French bistro ambience, with exposed brick walls, paper table covers and a casual atmosphere, is coupled with consistently excellent food and sizzling jazz in the bar, which attracts a hip, eclectic crowd. The ideal place to take guests from out of town or that date you're eager to impress.

DIVE BAR

My Brother's Place

308 Stuart St., Boston; 338-7643

Don't let the metal grates on the windows intimidate you. Inside this hole-in-the-wall is a live-and-let-live clientele that ranges from the prim-and-proper suits to residents of the Pine Street Inn. The no-frills décor (yellowing newspaper clippings, rec-room paneling and a jukebox with nothing recorded since 1978) is reflected in the modest prices: $1.50 for a 1-ounce draft or $3.25 for a Bloody Mary. Most business is transacted during daylight hours, making it also the Best Place to Hide from Your Boss During Office Hours.

FRIED CLAMS

Clam Box

Route 3A, Quincy Shore Drive; 773-6677

How do they do it? Without gimmicks or glamour, the Clam Box draws fried-clam fans from near and far to Wollaston Beach to indulge in a plate of tender, crispy fried clams with big, juicy bellies. Apparently, the secret's in the batter, which the folks at the Clam Box describe as "basic and very light." Don't expect them to share the recipe with you, though. It's been in the family for 34 years.

GREASY SPOON

Charlie's Kitchen

10 Eliot St., Cambridge; 492-9646

A holdout from the old Harvard Square days, Charlie's not only serves some of the best lowbrow cuisine on either side of the river, but it also has a full liquor license. Consequently, it attracts everyone from Harvard students to hardcore barflies (not that those are mutually exclusive categories). It's hard to say which is better: the cheeseburger or the lobster roll, but both will get you change for a 10, and both go well with an ice-cold Heineken.

INDIAN RESTAURANT

Kashmir

279 Newbury St., Back Bay; 536-1695

Like its sign says: "Superb Indian Cuisine." Using fine ingredients and fresh spices, Kashmir offers all the classics of regional Indian cooking as well as creating dishes of its own. The presentation is always exquisite, and the service like something from the days of the Raj. The wine list will soon be updated to make it better complement the food. Consider this a quick trip to the subcontinent without leaving Back Bay.

SAM WRIGHT



CURIOSITY. REWARDED.



OP. natural orange, peach and ginger flavored spirit with aquavit, 35% alc./vol. (70 proof). © 2000 V&S Vin & Sprit AB. All rights reserved. Imported by Crillon Importers Ltd., Paramus, NJ 07652 www.op-up.com Ad by Gigante Vaz Partners.

FOOD + drink

INEXPENSIVE BREAKFAST

The Paramount Café

44 Charles St., Beacon Hill; 720-1152

The most important meal of the day is served cafeteria-style, so you know it's made to order. On weekends, there's always a line out the door, which also earns it Best Place to Bump into Your Ex Looking Hung Over. Favorites include banana pancakes with maple syrup, and the tomato, basil and mozzarella omelet. The Paramount earns bonus points for its easily digestible prices—nothing here is likely to set you back more than 10 bucks, which is a rarity in this neighborhood.

IRISH PUB

Hennessy's

25 Union St., Downtown Boston; 742-2121

This Faneuil Hall pub has made famous its down-to-earth hospitality, which is notoriously Irish. The staff radiates it, the atmosphere effuses it and the crowd eats it up. Hennessy's is a bit classier than its Irish cousins, with less clutter and more varnished wood and gleaming brass, drawing a mix of tourists and Blarney-loving locals. Patrons devour the popular Irish wood-grilled salmon ($12.95) and down more than a few pints of the pub's 20 draught beers.



MARTINI

Oak Room at the Copley Plaza

138 St. James St., Back Bay; 267-5300

There isn't a prettier room in Boston, and the Oak Room's drink selection includes 16 signature martinis ($14 apiece), four luxury martinis ($15 apiece) and the Engaging Martini, which goes for $12,750 and includes a diamond ring from Shreve's, a suite in the hotel, champagne, flowers, dinner for two and chocolates. Need we say more?

LATE-NIGHT GRUB

Marché

800 Boylston St., Back Bay; 578-9700

You've just left the bar and now you're craving sushi, yet your Euro pal is hankering for a heapin' helpin' of pasta. Open until 2am and serving everything from cheesecake to cube steak, this Swiss chain is like a culinary Epcot Center, offering a virtual trip around the globe in the form of delicious freshly prepared food. Although Boston boasts restaurants that suit the worldliest of appetites, we all know it's a pain to find both parking and a decent slice of pizza in Chinatown. Marché offers both—it's a small world after all.

LUNCH DEAL

Flash's

310 Stuart St., Back Bay; 574-8888

No fuss. No frills. Just nine menu items, ranging from a veggie burger and mac 'n cheese to a sloppy joe or chicken salad roll-up, most priced at $3.95. You can't beat that with a stick. The once dive-y décor has been updated with floor-to-ceiling windows, a giant semi-circular bar and dark wooden furniture, lending it a sleek, modern feel that attracts everyone in the `hood—from construction workers to corporate bigwigs.

MARGARITA

Cactus Club

939 Boylston St; Back Bay; 236-0200

If your taste buds crave a sip of something sweet, sour and salty, head over to the Cactus Club for one mean margarita. The bar makes its own sour mix for a puckeringly good flavor and gives you a choice of 22 tequilas. The basic margarita will set you back $5.50, or you can shell out an additional $1.25 for a higher-end tequila (it may be worth it—people don't call it "to kill ya" for nothin'). Try one of the specialty "snow cone" margaritas—a frozen medley of lime, strawberry and tangerine—or ask the bartender to whip you up a concoction to suit your taste.

MIDDLE EASTERN FOOD

Lala Rokh on Beacon Hill

97 Mt. Vernon St., Beacon Hill; 720-5511

If you think Middle Eastern fare begins and ends with hummus and baba ghanoush, this Persian restaurant will be a revelation. Achingly romantic, it's a veritable rabbit's warren of cozy rooms decorated with Iranian accents, and the food is wonderful. Made from old family recipes, specialties include mirza ghasemi (a smoky marriage of eggplant and garlic), kebabs, sauteed spinach with caramelized onions and walnuts, and ghormeh sabzi—boneless leg of lamb stewed with herbs, spices and dried limes, served with basmati rice. 1,001 nights of deliciousness.



LOBSTER • Summer Shack

149 Alewife Brook Parkway; Cambridge; 520-9500

When uber-chef Jasper White shut his eponymous waterfront eatery a few years back, there were those of us who quietly sat shiva, wondering when we'd ever taste a big red bug that good again. Then he published his cookbook about lobsters, and we thought, "Is he taunting us?" Turns out he's not that sadistic. Last year he opened a down-home family restaurant in Fresh Pond that offers lobster prepared in his inimitable style. If you close your eyes, you can almost hear the surf roaring in the background (or maybe that's just the Alewife T). The other options on the menu are equally good, proving that you don't have to go all the way to Maine for a fantastic New England clambake.

MOST UNDERRATED CHEF

Bill Poirier, Sonsie

327 Newbury St., Back Bay; 351-2500

Every Bostonian with a social conscience knows that Sonsie's allure lies in its reputation as the place to see and be seen. But don't spend so much time choosing the perfect outfit that you miss dinner. Chef/owner Bill Poirier—in the restaurant biz for 22 years, working with nationally known chefs Lydia Shire, Gordon Hamersley and Jasper White—has put together a menu that rivals Sonsie's fashionable clientele in appeal. Signature dishes include an award-winning chocolate bread pudding, Thai crispy noodles (which have survived 37 of Poirier's seasonal menu revamps), and vegetable spring rolls that have Aerosmith's Steven Tyler runnin' back for more. So get decked out and get ready to enjoy more than just atmosphere.

MUFFINS AND SCONES

Appleton Bakery Cafe

123 Appleton St., South End; 859-8222

Using real butter and fresh fruit, this neighborhood patisserie whips up delectable bundles of love in the form of muffins and scones. One specialité de la maison is a rolled scone, which is lighter and fluffier than its denser cousin and looks more like a pastry but still tastes like a scone. The classic blueberry muffin is the biggest seller, but Appleton's also carries unique creations such as caramel apple or raspberry white-chocolate-chip muffins, which qualify as sinfully delicious. For those born without a sweet tooth (we pity you), the cafe often has scones stuffed with cheese, chives and bacon. Whether you order something savory or sweet, angioplasty is not included.

LEFT: LEO GOZBEKIAN; TOP: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

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FOOD & drink

NEIGHBORHOOD IRISH BAR AND RESTAURANT

Clerys

113 Dartmouth St., South End; 262-9874

The music, the beer, the hospitality—these are just a few reasons why Bostonians embrace all things Irish. Certainly Irish "cuisine" isn't the biggest draw at most of the pubs around town. If you can't bear to tear yourself away from the bar to grab some grub, Clerys is a great compromise. In the newly annexed bistro, you can dine on gourmet pizzas, burgers and daily seafood specials. If you find yourself longing for a truly Irish experience, Clerys will accommodate you with bangers and mash or fish and chips. Wash it all down with a perfect pint of Guinness and then head next door to catch a football match on TV at the bar.

NEIGHBORHOOD LUNCH SPOT

Nashoba Brook Bakery

288 Columbus Ave., South End; 236-0777

Owned by two 30-something couples (three of whom have been friends since high school), this cute-as-a-bug's-ear bakery specializes in sandwiches made with thick, hearty slabs of multigrain bread, as well as homemade soups, gourmet salads and mouth-watering desserts. Our personal fave is the hummus sandwich with carrots, cucumbers, apples and spicy honey mustard on whole wheat sourdough bread. Aside from the napkins, everything is made daily in Concord (where you'll also find Nashoba Brook) with fresh ingredients. If that's not wholesome enough for you, it even make its own yogurt.

NEW RESTAURANT

Centro

720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; 868-2405

This unassuming eatery opened quietly last October but enthusiastic word-of-mouth has put it squarely on the culinary map, where the North End and Central Square collide. Small, quaint and cozy, in the style of a trattoria, the food (by Brian Maxwell and Rene Michelena, both La Bettola alums) highlights a different region of Italy every six to eight weeks. As a result of the constantly changing menu, you can return every two months for a completely new experience. Va bene.

NOUVELLE ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Bricco

241 Hanover St., North End; 248-6800

Downstairs is an open kitchen and a dining room with wrought-iron chandeliers, while upstairs is a romantic little hideaway done in soft yellow and pale green with cherry-wood accents. The ever-changing menu features authentic, as opposed to Italian American, food, expertly prepared by owner Bill Bradley, who studied cooking in Asti. Everything—bread, pasta and even cannoli shells—is made on the premises, and the bill of fare includes an extensive ciccetti (Venetian-style tapas) menu. A sight for sore eyes in a city where Italian used to mean spaghetti with red sauce.

CHEESE SHOP • **Formaggio Kitchen** • *244 Huron Ave., Cambridge; 354-4750; 268 Shawmut Ave., South End; 350-6996*

Hanker for a hunk-o', a slab or slice or chunk-o', hanker for a hunk o' cheese? Well, if you're Julia Child or any of the other top chefs in the city, you'll head to this purveyor of fine cheeses from around the globe. Owners Ihsan and Valerie Gurdal are passionate about it—he even teaches a course at BU on the subject, and they were the first people to build a cheese cave in the States. The staff will discuss cheese with the sort of reverence most people reserve for wine. And while it may seem a bit fanatical, one taste of their goods will be enough to persuade you. You'll never look at cheddar the same way again.



Formaggio Kitchen employee Catherine MacPherson displays melange of cheeses

PIZZA

Santarpio's

113 Chelsea St., East Boston; 567-9871

Properly pronounced "San-tahhhhh-pio's," this East Boston institution has only three items on the menu—pizza, sausage and lamb kebabs—and the familiar, slightly presumptuous waitstaff makes going there more like eating in someone's kitchen than at a restaurant. The pizza, which hasn't changed much in 70 years, is so good that one of our judges used to order them slightly undercooked and then freeze them and send them to a friend on Nantucket (who would return the favor with fresh shellfish). If that's not a rave, we don't know what is.

PLACE TO GO IF MONEY IS NO OBJECT

L'Espalier

30 Gloucester St., Back Bay; 262-3023

Even if you have to take out a second mortgage, it's worth it. Located in a turn-of-the-century brownstone, this stunningly elegant, decidedly formal restaurant boasts a customer-to-staff ratio of nearly 1-to-1. In other words, prepare to be pampered and for your every whim to be either anticipated or quickly fulfilled. The spectacular food by chef/owner Frank McClelland is unforgettable, as is the whole experience. Also: Best Special Occasion Restaurant or Place to Impress Snotty French Folk.

PLACE TO PEOPLE-WATCH

Armani Cafe

214 Newbury St., Back Bay; 437-0909

It's the place to see and be seen. The spacious patio offers premiere seating for viewing everything from uber-grunge punks to uber-chic international prima donnas. From the flagrant women teetering on eight-inch stilettos with questionably authentic breasts to men garbed in $400 wife-beaters, you'll never get tired of the colorful crowd that skates, scurries or saunters by. Also: Best Place to Suffer an Allergic Reaction to Cologne, Best Place to Tally Fashion Faux Paus, and Highest Population of Post-Plastic Surgery Patients.

POWER BREAKFAST

Aujourd'hui at The Four Seasons

200 Boylston St., Back Bay; 338-4400 or 351-2071

The early bird gets the worm, and apparently the worms at Aujourd'hui are worth waking up for, because it remains the breakfast spot of champions. Habitually plugging in to the city's power grid over poached eggs or granola are such regulars as the Rev. Charles Stith, Jack Connors, Gloria Larson, Billy Bulger, Larry Moulter, Frances Moseley, Terry McDermott, Chris Gabrielli and Paul LaCamera, to name a mere handful. Want to get something off the ground? Here's your early-morning launchpad.

POWER DINING

The Federalist

15 Beacon St., Beacon Hill; 670-2515

Sandwiched between the city's two poles of power—the State House and the Financial District—it's not surprising that this extremely elegant (not to mention



CAESAR SALAD • **Café Louis** • *234 Berkeley St., Back Bay; 266-4680*

An architectural triumph, Louis' carefully constructed tower of lettuce is drizzled with a flawless Caesar dressing that's not too fishy, too lemony or too garlicky. It's a perfect balance of all three. The rest of the food is outstanding as well, most notably the pizzas; not surprising, since it's owned by the same people who own Al Forno in Providence.

SUSIE COPITHORNE (2)

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pricey) restaurant has become the grazing land of choice among the high and mighty. The food is superb, the atmosphere subdued, and the décor, which many women claim to find too masculine, fairly screams wealth and privilege. A high-octane bar scene adds to the appeal, and the offerings include a 1795 Madeira, at $320 for a 1-ounce glass. Last year they went through three bottles. Also: Best Place to Run Into Visiting Billionaires, Celebrities and Royalty.

POWER LUNCH

Locke-Ober

3 Winter Place, Downtown Crossing; 542-1340

Still the place to seal the deal or celebrate making a killing, this institution remains ground zero for Boston big shots. With its clubby décor, traditional menu, old-world service and tobacco-stained ceiling, it's a throwback to the era of robber barons and industrial moguls. Just walking through the door and being seated at a table is enough to make anyone feel important. Also: Best Place For A Three-Martini Luncheon.

PRE/POST-THEATER DINING

Pigalle

75 Charles St., Theater District; 423-4944

Within easy walking distance of the theaters, Marc Orfaly and Kerri Foley's new restaurant has been making waves since it opened a few months ago—and for good reason. It has the charm of a mom-and-pop operation and cuisine fit for a king. The tuna niçoise with traditional accompaniments and coq au vin with morel mushrooms and pearl onions are standouts. Waitstaff are experienced at getting diners in and out in ample time to take their seats before the curtain goes up. And Pigalle is open until 10:30 on Friday and Saturday nights, making it the ideal spot for a post-performance supper as well.

PROOF THAT BOSTON IS ON THE GLOBAL DINING MAP

Radius

8 High St., Financial District; 426-1234

The dining room is the equal of any in New York City or London. The staff is as accommodating, friendly and professional as any restaurant in Paris. And Chef Michael Schlow's food, which has earned breathless praise from just about every national and international food magazine there is, actually warrants all the hype. A world-class operation, it's proof-positive that at least in culinary terms, Boston is hardly provincial.

RAW BAR

Union Oyster House

41 Union St., Boston; 227-2750

America's oldest continually operating restaurant, Union Oyster House opened in 1826 and will celebrate its 175th anniversary on Aug. 8. No one stays in business that long without doing something right. The gorgeous, well-worn raw bar specializes in raw oysters, clams and scallops, but most dinner items are also available there. In the 1800s, Daniel Webster was a regular and would order six plates of oysters with a tumbler of brandy to accompany each. We're not suggesting anything nearly that ambitious, although it's tempting. A must for out-of-town guests.

RESTAURANT GIMMICK

The Bloody Mary Bar at the East Coast Grill and Raw Bar

1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge; 491-6568

At Sunday brunch (which we warmly recommend), patrons can get a pint glass with a shot of vodka in it, and then pick and choose between 24 ingredients, among them: wasabi, coriander, cumin, cucumber, carrots, celery—even an Indian spice rub chef chef Jason Lord uses on his fish and meats. Whether you prefer it vindaloo hot or Waspy traditional, it's your call. The in-house spiced vodka rocks.



Bob the Chef's owner Darryl Settles savors a plate of Southern-fried cuisine.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

SOUTHERN FOOD • Bob the Chef's Jazz Café

604 Columbus Ave., South End; 536-6204

A South End institution, this house of good eats serves genuine Southern cooking in a convivial atmosphere. Jambalaya, fried chicken and catfish are among our favorites, with soul-satisfying side dishes like collard greens, black-eyed peas and candied yams. Live jazz from Thursday to Sunday (eight in-house bands rotate) adds to the feel-good vibe, and Sunday brunch, an all-you-can-eat buffet for $17.95, is one of the best values in the city. Next month a full liquor license takes effect. This place rules, and we ain't just whistlin' Dixie.

RESTAURANT OENEOLOGIST

Lorenzo Savona at Les Zygomates

129 South St., Leather District; 542-5108;

Three cheers for Lorenzo the Magnificent. Affable, humorous and passionate about wine without being pretentious, he hosts the restaurant's weekly wine tastings and doesn't hesitate to use terms like "a strong whiff of cat's piss" when the occasion calls for it.

RESTAURANT, VEGETARIAN

Masao's Kitchen

581 Moody St., Waltham; 781-647-7977

With the untimely closing of last year's winner, Brookline's Five Seasons, it's tough to choose from the handful of vegetarian restaurants around town that all offer pretty much the same thing: tasty food that's fit for a rabbit. Masao's Kitchen, which recently moved from Porter Square to Waltham, is one of the few restaurants in town that's strictly vegan and macrobiotic. Masao, the chef and owner, offers a variety of dishes made with locally grown vegetables in the summertime and emphasizes the true flavor of the fresh produce in each one. His menu—scrawled on a giant blackboard—changes daily, but you can always be assured of plenty of tempeh and tofu.

SANDWICH

Chez Henri

1 Shepard St., Cambridge; 354-8980

If you're still munching on PB&J for lunch, you're missing out on the mouth-watering designer sandwiches that are sweeping the restaurant scene. Chef Bob Cina of Chez Henri masterminds our favorite by piling slow-roasted pork, country ham, pickles and Gruyère cheese onto cuban bread, pressing it on the grill with mustard butter sauce and voilà, at $8.95, the cuban sandwich. It's the perfect accompaniment to a mojito.

SANDWICHES/PASTRIES

Flour Bakery and Café

1595 Washington St., South End; 267-4300

Patrons of this South End pastry palace will find it hard to believe that pastry chef Joanne Chang does anything but bake. But the Harvard grad left a career as a management consultant to follow her sugar-coated dreams to the kitchen. The former pastry chef at Rialto and Mistral (her first restaurant job ever was at Biba) makes everything in-house daily, and you can taste the freshness. Chef Chris Parsons' specialties are the grilled sandwiches, which include roast beef with horseradish sauce, tomatoes, portabello mushrooms and grilled onions. As delicious as those offerings are, the desserts (including our favorites: midnight chocolate cake and fresh fruit tarts)

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are even yummier; hence the bakery's slogan: "Make life sweeter...eat dessert first!"

SUBURBAN RESTAURANT

Lumiere

1293 Washington St., West Newton; 244-9199

You don't have to deal with the hassle of driving downtown to enjoy urbane and sophisticated fine dining. Since opening this understated and elegant eatery, chef Michael Leviton has quietly been creating some of the area's best food, and cognoscenti have beaten a path to his door. His steak tartare was called "dish of the millennium" by celebrity chef Chris Schlesinger, and Julia Child is also a fan. Unself-consciously fabulous, Lumiere was named No. 9 on a list of Boston's 200 best restaurants by a reader's poll in *Cook's Illustrated*. Reason enough to brave the western suburbs, no?

SUSHI

Oishii

612 Hammond St., Chestnut Hill; 277-7888

For several years, we've refrained from publicizing this hole in the wall, for fear that it would be overrun. It's tiny. Word got out anyway. The sushi at Oishii (Japanese for "delicious") is superb and well worth trying to squeeze into one of the nine seats at the bar, since the table for four is usually taken. Ting Yen, the owner, used to work at the fabulously overpriced Nobu in New York. He's a sushi sensei. Order takeout, or stop at a liquor store on the way and stock up for the long wait (here it's BYOB).

STEAKHOUSE

Abe & Louie's

793 Boylston St., Back Bay; 536-6300

A nirvana for carnivores, Abe and Louie's is the real McCoy. Their steaks are aged for up to six weeks to ensure tenderness and juicy flavor. The bone-in filet mignon is the restaurant's signature steak, while the Porterhouse remains the mother lode: This cut includes the tenderloin and top loin, and although it can be tricky to cook, Abe and Louie's gets it right. Despite the emphasis on beef, the seafood is also superb. We're mad for their cow!

TRADITIONAL ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Trattoria a Scalinatella

253 Hanover St., North End; 742-8240

Short of booking a flight on Alitalia, a few hours at Trattoria a Scalinatella is the best way to fulfill your desire for the old country's culture and cuisine. The restaurant's goal is to make their guests feel as if they're in Italy, and they succeed—from the classic decor to the European-style service. The waiters speak fluent Italian and are referred to as "captains." Delicious regional dishes are complemented by an impressive variety of wines (they serve only authentic Italian vino). It's a classic Italian dining experience from start to finish. Buon appetito.

TRIP TO PARIS FOR UNDER $100

Brasserie Jo

120 Huntington Ave., Back Bay; 425-3240

Mon Dieu! Sacre bleu! Zut allors! Who knew there was an authentic French brasserie right here in Beantown? You'll find traditional dishes such as salade nicoise and steak frites, expertly prepared and reasonably priced. Brasserie Jo serves a light menu until 1am, so you can eat at an appropriately Gallic hour. Best of all, it's French food without French attitude.

UNDERAPPRECIATED RESTAURANT

Maggiano's Little Italy

4 Columbus Ave., Back Bay; 542-3456

The headache that is the Big Dig is enough to keep even the most adventurous among us from venturing into the North End. Maggiano's Little Italy gives the North End a run for its rigatoni, proving that in Boston you can find quality Italian food beyond Hanover Street. It has taken many knocks for being a chain, but this restaurant, with its pre-World War II décor and casually elegant, supper-club feel, serves up bigger portions than your Aunt Angelina at a Sunday dinner. You'll leave feeling overstuffed, like their lasagna, but never disappointed. Our advice: Don't overlook the non-pasta offerings—Maggiano's steak and seafood are also delicious.

UP-AND-COMING CHEF

Gabriel Frasca, Aquitaine Bis

11 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill; 734-8400

After working at a few jobs at restaurants in the Boston area, this 27-year-old North Shore native left to apprentice first in Provence and then San Sebastian, Spain ("The best cooking experience I have ever had," he says) and Italy. Beantown babes mourned the loss of Frasca, a chef who looks as tasty as the food he makes. After working with David Bouley to open the much-anticipated Danube in New York two years ago, Frasca finally returned to Boston and secured a position at Aquitaine. Among his trademark dishes: New England bouillabaisse and crisp skate, both of which are typical of Aquitaine's flair for classic French dishes with a modern New England twist. Ladies, before you beat down Aquitaine's door to get a glimpse of this man who is easy on both the eyes and the tummy, rumor has it that his superchef girlfriend, Amanda Lydon (recently voted best new chef by *Food and Wine* magazine), is temporarily lending a hand at Aquitaine.



DINER • The Rosebud Diner • *381 Summer St., Somerville; 666-6015*

Orson Welles would've loved this place. It's a fully restored 1950s diner, complete with disregard for counting calories. The meatloaf and mashed potatoes are excellent (of course), and the jumbo breakfasts are up to long-haul trucker standards. Like any great diner, though, its most winning characteristic is the colorful staff, who banter with one another and customers in between serving food and keeping the place spotless.

WAY TO RECOVER FROM SATURDAY NIGHT

Pajama Brunch at Tremont

647 Tremont St., South End; 266-4600

Sundays were made for staying in your pajamas and reading the paper, both of which you can do at this trendy South End café. The brainchild of owner Andy Husbands, the Pajama Brunch has been attracting neighborhood denizens in various stages of dress and undress since he hit upon the inspired idea several years ago. Just think: delectable food and Bloody Marys in a quirky setting, with urban hipsters all around you, intentionally cheesy musical selections like "Muskrat Love" on the sound system, and lollygagging about in your flannel jammies. And after you pay the check, you can roll right back into bed. Life doesn't get any better than that.

WEE BIT O' IRELAND IN BOSTON

M. J. O'Connor's

27 Columbus Ave., Back Bay; 482-2255

Although open for only a year, M. J. O'Connor's is a growing presence among the city's innumerable Irish bars. Silence the groans—yes, another Irish bar in Boston. However, O'Connor's is truly Irish in a way other bars can only aspire to. Everything from the decorations, artifacts, tables and stools was built in Ireland, shipped over and reassembled. The bartenders pour a mean pint of Guinness, and there's live Irish music Monday through Wednesday. The pub offers added incentive for night owls to wake up before noon: a best-selling Irish breakfast served the way the natives cook it—straight down to the bachelor (baked) beans. Chock-full o' cholesterol, it may not be the breakfast of champions, but like the rest of the bar, it's certainly authentic.

WORTH THE WAIT

Mantra

52 Temple Place, Ladder District; 542-8111

What can you say about a French-Indian restaurant that delays its highly anticipated (and much-hyped) opening by more than half a year? In a word: yum. Mantra finally opened late last month, and yes, it was well worth the wait. Chef Thomas John is a master in the kitchen, using Indian spices to flavor his French-style sauces. Don't miss his caramelized aniseed-dusted scallops with baby leeks, curried cepes and red pepper coulis. Mantra's grand setting and marble decor—designed by white-hot architectural firm Office dA—scream money (perhaps owing to the fact that the building once housed a bank?), and the hookah den, a free-standing wooden structure where patrons can toke up on fruit-flavored tobacco, makes this place distinctive.

JENNY LOLLEY

SAFFRON

Restaurant & Bar
Contemporary Indian Cuisine



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Alison Arnett
The Boston Globe

"Blending Western Food With Indian Spices"



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ALL-AROUND ESTHETICIAN

Kler Salom, Maksou Day Spa

125 Broad St., Financial District; 443-8633

Kler Salom has that rare quality of being good at everything she does. She tames unruly brows, gives a wonderful facial, provides manicures and pedicures with lightning speed and does everything with the right kind of attitude (none). Her goal is to make her clients "look and feel incredible from head to toe." And judging by the accounts of clients who spend hours with her in a single day, she succeeds on all fronts.

BATH STORE

Fresh

121 Newbury St., Back Bay; 421-1212

To borrow a line from Mr. Bubble, Fresh makes getting clean as much fun as getting dirty. Once a tiny shop on Tremont Street, Fresh has transformed itself into a beauty and health-care kingdom, now with two branches in New York. The bath boutique carries a mind-boggling array of fragrant items, from lotions and soaps to signature incense and cosmetics. The scents are soothing, and every product is beautifully packaged and based on all-natural ingredients such as soy, rice, clay, milk, sugar and honey. In short, Fresh offers the perfect pick-me-ups for sticky summer days.

BODY TREATMENT

Harborside Seaweed Wrap and Mud Bath

Swiss goat butter crème wrap? Therapeutic wheat-germ oil soak? Tempting, but no. This year we salute the Boston Harbor for its massive warm-weather infusion of the green stuff—jellyfish treatments optional. And we all knew that the Big Dig had to be good for something; it just took us awhile to figure out what: mud. Now if those hard-hatted gentlemen (and women) would only move their cranes so that we could have a good roll in it.

BOXING INSTRUCTORS

Gregory Leschishin

Boston Sport Boxing Club; 125 Walnut St., Watertown; 972-1711

Teanna Babcock

Healthworks; Porter Square, Cambridge; 497-4454

Most physical fitness experts would agree that boxing is one of the best conditioning workouts around. And Boston is lucky to have two of the best, most knowledgeable boxing instructors around: Gregory Leschishin of the Boston Sport Boxing Club and Teanna Babcock of Healthworks. Leschishin's state-of-the-art box-

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

PRAVDA 116

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ing club in Watertown offers a clean, safe, family-friendly place where people of all abilities can learn how to spar with someone of their age and size. Babcock, who once trained and competed at Boston Sport Boxing, now teaches at Healthworks, where she empowers women with an encouraging teaching style that brings out the swagger in even the shyest of novice boxers.

beauty & HEALTH

DAY SPA

Giuliano Day Spa

338 Newbury St., Back Bay; 262-2220

Recently expanded and renovated, this shrine to self-indulgence offers a couples' spa where friends or lovers can receive treatments together, in the same cozy room. In the new Rasul Signature Ceremony Room, the design of which is based on ancient Middle Eastern baths, you can get covered in five different healing muds and relax on an ergonomic throne. This takes place in a tiled steam chamber with aromatherapy, soothing music and projected fiber-optic stars. Amenities include a full-time concierge who can arrange dinner, theater, hotel, shopping or transportation, making this the ultimate in downtown R&R.

DESTINATION SPA

Canyon Ranch

165 Kemble St., Lenox, Mass.; 800-742-9000

Celebrities and socialites flock to its picturesque campus in the Berkshires for world-class pampering. Relax with massage and meditation. Rejuvenate with an herbal wrap or a long soak in a whirlpool. Reconfigure with hiking or yoga. Whether you want to recapture your lost youth, release built-up tension or replenish your soul, this spa has got the deluxe facilities to do it. With prices ranging from $1,910 to $2,873 for a three-night stay (everything included), it might be a bit pricier than other stress-busters, but it's still cheaper than a facelift, a heart attack or checking yourself into a local psychiatric ward.

EYEBROW SHAPING

Lavinia Borcau Skin Care

29 Harvard St., Brookline; 734-5523

The key to good eyebrows is a perfect arch, and no one knows a flattering curve better than the staff at Lavinia Borcau. They will wax, pluck and work with you to create the appropriate arch for the shape of your eyes and face. After a short brow-grooming session, even tired eyes seem wider and more alert. The $12 procedure only takes a few minutes, and your bright eyes are worth it.

FACIAL

Lori Vertullo

Michaud Cosmetics; 297 Newbury St., Back Bay; 262-1607

Michaud Cosmetics, owned by renowned makeup artist Julie Michaud, has always been known for its unsurpassed makeup and grooming techniques, but since Lori has hopped on board, there is even something else to croon about. Vertullo provides the perfect all-in-one package: The massage is heavenly, the extractions thorough, and the entire treatment leaves you with a beautiful glow that lasts for weeks. Those whose troubled skin has been dried out from harsh dermatological products come here for an oasis of rehydration.

HEALTH CLUB

Boston Athletic Club

653 Summer St., South Boston; 269-4300

Clean, convenient, well-equipped and well-staffed, this health club has all the fitness facilities you could ask for—weights, cardio, swimming, and classes offering all the most popular and innovative workout regimens—as well as massage, chiropractic and acupuncture facilities. A salon and restaurant round out the picture. Getting into shape shouldn't mean doing time in a smelly dungeon, and at the BAC, the experience is downright pleasant.

HAIR EXTENSIONS

Arthur Harris at Ecocentrix

30 Newbury St., Boston; 262-2222

As you may have guessed, hair extensions are coming back strong. But, in the City of the Bob, where do you go to get such a thing? Look no further than Arthur Harris, whose specialty is providing long, natural locks where there once were none. Whether you want to add purple and red flourishes to your hair for a party or you'd like to wear an elegant ponytail with an evening gown, Harris can make it happen. And best of all, he'll tell you up front whether that funky style you saw on Janet Jackson will look good on you too.

MANICURIST

Sheri Botticelli

30 Newbury Spa; 30 Newbury St., Back Bay; 266-7606

Sheri Botticelli goes beyond the ordinary manicure by providing the best in hand care, artistry and service. With a gentle yet confident touch, Botticelli shapes and buffs even the most neglected nails to groomed perfection. The products she uses leave hands feeling luxuriously soft, and her nail colors last and last. A relaxing hand massage completes the nail-pampering package.

MASSAGE

Scott St. Cyr

Etant Day Spa; 251 Shawmut Ave., South End; 423-5040

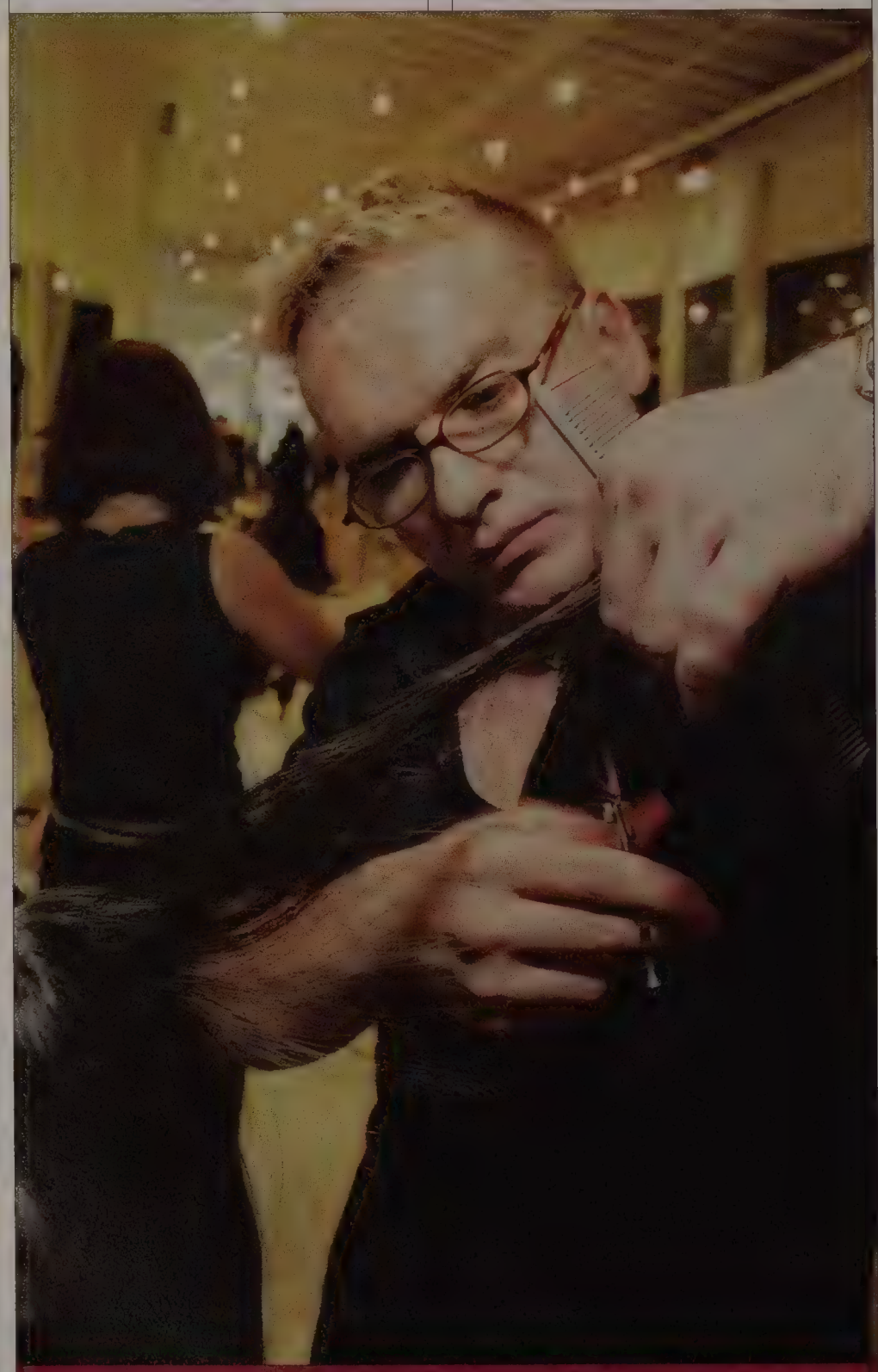
Close your eyes and say "Aaaaaaaah." Using Swedish and deep-tissue techniques, St. Cyr's hands will take you to a peaceful state that can only be described as pure bliss. And, unlike many massage therapists who automatically pop in a tape of New Age music while you're settling in on the table, St. Cyr allows clients to choose their own background tunes from a music library. Moreover, the salon offers the special pampering you'll find at other posh establishments—without all the hype, attitude and extraneous glitz. While you're there, you might consider indulging in a salt glow or a soy body mask to complement your massage.

MEN'S HAIRCUT

Eva Mustafi

James Joseph Salon; 168 Newbury St., Back Bay; 266-7222

For those who just want "a little off the top," the corner barbershop is fine. But men who desire added style and flair go to Eva Mustafi. She can be more artistic with one inch of hair than you ever dreamed possible, washing and drying



DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

WOMEN'S HAIRCUT • Charles Maksou, Maksou Salon

125 Broad St., Financial District; 443-8633

Far from the madding crowds of Newbury St. and the attendant attitude of some of the intimidating people who labor there, this Financial District coiffeur strives for a natural look, as if he styled and sculpted your hair with his hands. He achieves it with a dry-cut technique that's so popular in New York. This means there's no waiting for the blow dry to see how your hair really turned out. One indication of Maksou's skill and artistry is that he looks at your face while he cuts, not your hair. Assorted TV anchors, singers, performers and celebrities swear by him, and who are we to argue?



SALON INTERIOR • Umi • *75 Newbury St., Back Bay; 247-0770*

Umi's minimalist design, a collaborative effort between salon owner Jeffrey Dauksevich, architect Jeffrey Fishbein and designer Kevin Musumano, is unlike anything we've seen in other Boston salons. The walls are white, the lines are clean, and all clutter is kept out of sight. It is the perfect place to clear one's mind of messy baggage. Best of all, this kind of careful attention to detail also carries over to the way the stylists treat hair—with precision and thought.

the hair first and then doing a New York-style dry cut. Men like how she listens to what they want and how she never rushes through the cut. Mustafi says, quite simply, "I love hair," and it shows.

MIRACLE WORKER

Dean Boudreau

Beaucage; 71 Newbury St., Back Bay; 437-7171

Sometimes we all have what is called a hair disaster—that box of hair coloring that beckoned you from the drugstore shelf or that home perm that left you with hair like an old piece of Brillo. People who've got problems like these head to Dean Boudreau, who is a veritable genius with hair and at fixing other people's mistakes, including yours. His talents at cutting and coloring, along with his mild-mannered disposition, will have you feeling relaxed and relieved in no time. Our only caveat: Book your appointment early—the word is out.

MOST-ANTICIPATED HEALTH CLUB

Sports Club L.A.

4 Avery St., Theater District; 375-8200

Slated to open at the beginning of September, this sumptuously appointed health spa/exercise facility (it's far too fancy to be called a gym) is for fitness fanatics who like a little luxe with their workout. This $50 million, 100,000-square-foot club will feature more than 40 fitness and recreation options, including weight training, aerobics, basketball, squash, exercise studios, cycling, pilates, volleyball, a lap pool and cardio center. Among the plethora of amenities: steam, sauna, concierge, valet parking, dry cleaning, shoe shine, beauty salon, cafe and lots of little extra touches that take the sting out of working out. Big-name sports aficionados—including Nancy Kerrigan, Bobby Orr and Nomar Garciaparra—have already signed up to use the gym. Oops, we mean sports club.

NONSURGICAL COSMETIC IMPROVEMENT

Dr. Madeline Krauss

The Center for Cosmetic Skin Surgery; 262 Tremont St., Theater District; 636-5517

Sure, beauty is only skin-deep. But when you're thinking about finally doing something about those varicose veins, crow's feet, broken blood vessels or brown spots, you'll want to talk with someone who is as understanding as she is competent. Dr. Krauss is a skilled cosmetic dermatologist with a gentle bedside manner that puts anxious patients at ease. Her treatments, which usually involve laser therapy or injections of Botox or collagen, are less expensive than traditional surgical procedures and, most important, involve much less of a health risk. Dr. Krauss is honest and supportive and never pushes patients into making quick decisions about treatments. We feel better already.

ONE-STOP WELLNESS

Wellspace

Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge; 876-2660

It may not look like much from the outside, but once you step inside this calming facility, you can feel the weight of your day loosen its grip on your shoulders. With 21 private treatment rooms and a staff that prides itself on excellence of service, Wellspace caters to the lives of busy clients by operating seven days a week, with hours that start early and end late. Treatments are all-inclusive (no tipping is required) and include massage, acupuncture, skin-care treatments, chiropractic sessions, a headache-relief program and even a new menopause wellness program. Easy on-site parking completes the stress-melting package.

PEDICURE

Donna Charloff

Beaucage; 71 Newbury St., Back Bay; 437-7171

More than a mere manicure for the toes, this is pampering of the first order, done in a private room so you can giggle when Charloff toys with your tootsies. She scrubs away every bit of dry skin and moisturizes your feet until they are soft, smooth and groomed to perfection. Whether you choose a one-hour pedicure with therapeutic foot bath, a paraffin wax treatment or a half-hour mini-pedicure, your little piggies will be going "Wee, wee, wee!" all the way home.



For years, men have been coming to Gregory Zorian for first-rate cuts and hot-lather shaves.

FULL-SERVICE BARBERSHOP • Gregory's

745 Boylston St., Back Bay, 236-4885

A shave and a haircut might not cost two bits, but this is the place to go for the old-fashioned treatment. Haircuts and hot-lather shaves are complemented by herbal steam facials, manicures, pedicures and hair coloring, and the shop uses George F. Trumper and other top-of-the-line British products. Gregory's also offers a class in shaving, where men can learn how to get through the daily ritual without having to leave the house with little pieces of toilet paper stuck to their face. The atmosphere reminds you of the way it used to be, before the advent of "stylists," the kind of place where a guy can still feel like a guy and walk out looking like a million bucks.

TOP: JOHN LAWLER; RIGHT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

beauty & HEALTH



HAIR COLORIST • Erica Colameta

Daryl Christopher Salon, 37 Newbury St., Back Bay, 424-0250

Daryl Christopher hosts a crew of great colorists, largely because the training and products are excellent, but there is one person who stands out in the crowd. Erica Colameta provides highlights and lowlights with skill and artistry. She gets to know each client's professional and personal routines and works to match the hair color to that lifestyle. Whether you're looking for a subtle radiance or an all-out makeover, the result is always luminous, glossy, healthy hair. Colameta can even transform you from black to blond and make you look as if you were born that way.

POWER-YOGA INSTRUCTORS

Baron Baptiste

Baron Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, 661-9642

Bo Forbes

Healthworks, Porter Square, Cambridge; 497-4454

You can't talk about power yoga without mentioning Baron Baptiste in the same breath. His popular no-frills yoga studio has brought to Cambridge what celebrities and athletes have known for years: His power yoga will work your muscles, lungs and sweat glands like no other. "Stress is the enemy, and yoga is the enema," Baptiste is fond of saying. After taking one of his classes, consider yourself cleansed. Just down the street, at Healthworks, Bo Forbes teaches her own spiritual approach to vinyasa yoga that emphasizes internal strength and balance. Her classes are extremely challenging on the physical level, but they do not focus on "the workout" as much as the internal process of letting go, clearing the mind and opening the heart. Best of all, Forbes knows many students by name and spends lots of time correcting alignment, deepening stretches and offering encouragement. She seems to have been sent by the Buddha himself.

UP-DO

Javier Berdecia

Daryl Christopher Salon; 37 Newbury St., Back Bay; 424-0250

Berdecia is the Superman of up-dos. He can take a woman with long, thick, unmanageable hair, and transform her (with a few bobby pins and some gel) into an elegant princess. He works equally well with short, thick and curly hair. His upswept creations are sexy and polished—perfect for weddings, special occasions or nights out on the town.

WAY TO IMPROVE YOUR APPEARANCE WITHOUT COSMETIC SURGERY

Britesmile

75 Newbury St., Back Bay; 867-9500

In one hour, have your choppers blasted to a blinding white using patented fiber-optic light technology. Painless and safe, the procedure is performed by expert technicians and is overseen by a dentist. This is a must for anyone—especially coffee drinkers and cigarette smokers—whose teeth have seen brighter days.

WAXING

Austen

Austen's; 115 Newbury St., Back Bay, 266-4017

Having one's hair yanked out is never a pleasant experience. Yet there are times when having smooth skin is worth the discomfort. Austen (who, like Cher, goes by only one name) has 13 years of salon experience, and he makes the waxing process quick and relatively painless. He applies the wax evenly and removes every speck of hair in a quick swoosh. The result? Soft, spotless skin with none of the usual trauma experienced in lesser hands.

WORKOUT IN BLACK

Punk Rock Aerobics

See www.punkrockaerobics.com for schedule and locations.

Citizens of rock 'n' roll nation looking for a cool way to get buff should find their way to Hilken Mancini and Maura Jasper's Punk Rock Aerobics. The high-spirited classes are lead by two veterans of the local scene (Mancini slings guitar for local legend Fuzzy and the upstart Count Me Outs; Jasper booked music at the recently departed Gallery Bershad in Somerville). The two create a great workout for people who wouldn't be caught dead in a gym but would rather be dead than stand still when they hear the Stooges.



Manicurist extraordinaire Vi Vi transforms neglected nubs into tantalizing talons.

ACRYLIC NAILS • Pinckney Nail Salon

91 Charles St., Beacon Hill; 720-5688

Sometimes the forces of nature—or the insistent rattling of nerves—can ground our nails down to neglected little nubs. But when long and sleek nails are the order of the day, only the experts at Pinckney Nail Salon will do. The manicurists here not only include a hand massage and cuticle repair as part of their service but also teach customers how to get the longest life from their acrylics. The result is nothing like the do-it-yourself kits you get at the corner drugstore. Pinckney's nails are always thin and natural-looking. And, as one customer remarked, "They know exactly what to do with my nails to make them pretty, and they always get it right the first time."

LEFT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; RIGHT: SUSIE COPITHORNE



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CELEBRITY HOT SPOT



Playmate
Crista Nicole



Matt Damon with owner Errol
and FOX 25's Sean McDonough



Brad Sherwood (Who's Line Is It Anyway?)
with Manager Rob Forde & waitress Jillian

Kevin James (King of Queens)

The Place has become a frequent host to celebrities who are looking to enjoy a night out on the town. You never know who might be stopping by, but we are all happy to make everyone feel like a celebrity.

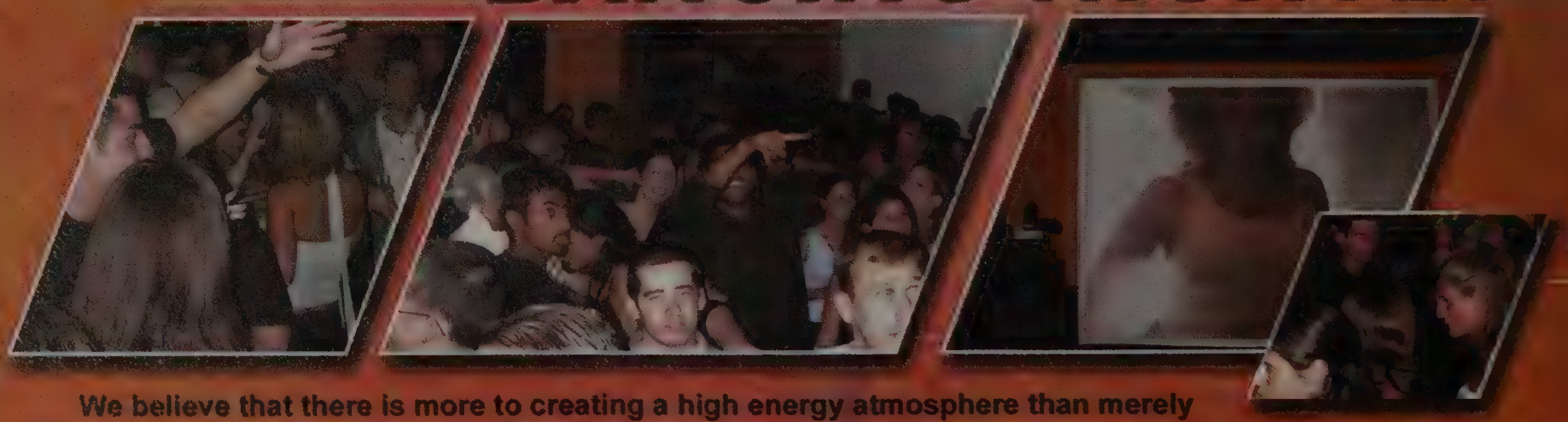
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WEDNESDAYS
LIVE MUSIC (6-9:30)
MARTINI MADNESS! (10-2)

THURSDAYS
Greg Lutrell (6-9:30)
COVER GIRL NIGHT (10-2)

DANCING NIGHTLY



We believe that there is more to creating a high energy atmosphere than merely a dance floor and music. At The Place we are utilizing DVDs, live cameras, in-house video productions and slide shows to create an Entertainment Revolution!

2 BROAD ST. (CORNER OF STATE AND BROAD)

Barenaked Ladies and Friends





Owner Billy Fairweather with Bruins Hall-of-Famer Phil Esposito



Major League Lacrosse's Boston Cannons with ESPN Sportscaster Steve Levy



WWF "Tough Enough" star Chris Nowinski



UPSCALE SPORTS BAR

The Place uses its array of Flat-screen Plasma TVs & Wide Screen to show sporting events and we have become a favorite stomping ground for athletes and sports personalities. We have also produced our own 13-minute short film featuring Boston's Greatest Sports moments that has drawn raves throughout the city (shown daily at 6:45)

place

where people meet



FRIDAYS
John McGlauglin (6-9:30)
VJ LAPTOP (10-2)

SATURDAYS
Multimedia Showcase
VJ LAPTOP (10-2)



ver a dull moment with our staff



Place bartenders Holli & Dan having a few laughs



The Girls from The Place and friends get crazy on the bar!



Bartender Dawn dancing up a storm

ENTERTAINMENT REVOLUTION

The energy is raied by our outstanding and talented staff. Our staff joins in the fun by dancing, singing and re-enacting scenes from movies like Cocktail & Coyote Ugly. We don't want you having fun alone...So we join in!

617-523-2081 WWW.THEPLACEBOSTON.COM

services

Dogs bark. Seams split. Heels break. When you need assistance and you need the job done right, only the best service providers will do.

BOUTIQUE HOTEL

XV Beacon

15 Beacon St., Beacon Hill; 670-1500

Boston's only boutique hotel, it's simultaneously piss-elegant and perfectly relaxed. With 61 rooms and a staff of 130, guests are assured a level of service rarely encountered outside a royal palace. Each room is decorated with exquisite art and furniture, and the amenities are almost laughably over the top: French chocolates, Kiehl's bath products, zillion-count sheets and buckwheat eye pillows, to name a few. Guests are also guaranteed a table in the superb dining room, the Federalist. Rates start at $395. Worth every penny.

CHEAP CAR RENTAL

Enterprise Rent-A-Car

800 Boylston St., Back Bay; 262-9215; 1 International Place, Financial District; 261-1439

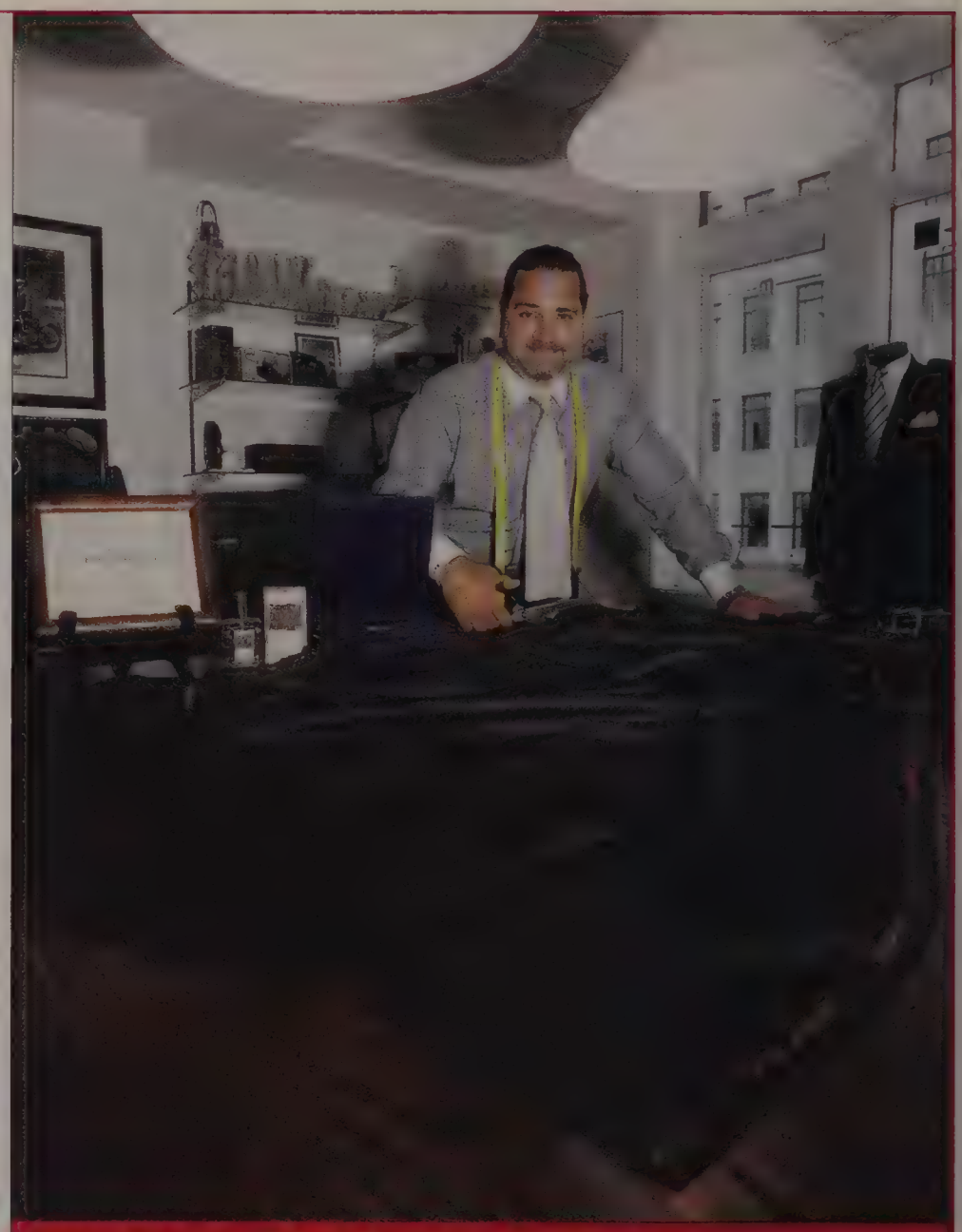
Complimentary pick-up and delivery service. Numerous neighborhood locations. 24-hour drop-off. Rates well below the extortionate amounts charged by some competitors. No wonder that for two years in a row, Enterprise has been ranked highest in customer satisfaction among rental car companies by JD Power and Associates.

COMPUTER REPAIR

Techfusion

98 Kirkland St., Cambridge; 491-1001

They're wizards when it comes to computer and printer repair, data recovery and networking, putting out just about any technical fire with speed and expertise. For Luddites (like us), these guys are a godsend, and their calm professionalism may stop you from freaking out when your big project has suddenly disappeared from a hard drive gone bad.



CUSTOM TAILOR • **Alan Rouleau Couturier**

91 Newbury St., Back Bay; 424-6555

Bespoke tailoring and an attention to detail rarely found outside Savile Row make this custom clothier a standout. While Rouleau dealt strictly with business and dressier clothing in the past, he has recently branched out into more casual suits, sport jackets and sport shirts, and his shop also does flawless alterations. Prices for an Alan Rouleau original tailored men's suit typically fall between $1,295 and $2,200, but can go as high as $6,000 for one made of exotic fabric. Tailored shirts range from $135 to $350. If you want to look like a million bucks, he's the guy to see.



PARTY PLANNER • **Rafanelli Events Management**

456 Harrison Ave., Suite 401, South End; 357-1818

With an eye for detail and a penchant for lighting effects, extravagant flowers and sumptuous linens and table settings, the folks at Rafanelli know how to throw the perfect party. They can re-create an Italian disco under a tent on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall or transform the Ritz's ballroom into the Czar's Winter Palace. (Pictured above, Bryan Rafanelli, the angel-faced powerhouse who runs the whole show.)

SAM WRIGHT (2)



Just what we need around here. More beautiful Italian models.

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BOSTON, MA 02116
617-425-6100
WWW.VESPABOSTON.COM

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services

DOG-SITTING SERVICE

Doggiday

265 Dudley St., Brookline; 566-9299

With a full-range of caregiving services for busy people who love their pets, Doggiday's top offerings are dog walking and dog play groups, but the folks here provide home services for a wide variety of domestic animals (except snakes). Flexible packages mean that you can take advantage of their services five days a week, one day a month or just when you go on vacation. It's a dog's life—and these guys make it even more so.

POSTMODERN YENTA

8-Minute Dating

236 Huntington Ave., Suite 208, Fenway; 859-8869

The latest craze for meeting potential mates in a fast-forward world, the organization holds one or two events per week, divided into 10-year age groups, for singles who have registered online (no walk-ins allowed). The cost is about $30 (minus drinks), and the drill goes something like this: four eight-minute dates, followed by a 20-minute intermission, followed by four more eight-minute dates. Not surprisingly this also wins award for Saddest Answer to "Mommy, How Did You and Daddy Meet?"



DRY CLEANER • Holly Cleaners *1314 Centre St., Newton Centre; 527-0770*

Holly has locations in Newton and Wellesley, but its pick-up and delivery service extends to Boston, Cambridge, Concord, Sudbury, and even Marblehead and Swampscott. All the clotheshorses we know won't entrust their things to anyone else because they offer numerous methods to get things clean, from aqua cleaning and laundering to hydro-carbon and Hollycraft—a by-hand system in which shoulder pads and buttons are taken off the garment for cleaning and are reattached afterward. Not surprisingly, high-end clothiers also recommend Holly for their fine fabrics.



FLOWERS • Lotus Designs • *547 Columbus Ave., South End; 262-7031*

The people at Lotus earn high praise for their ability to create gorgeous traditional arrangements using commonplace flowers or wildly inventive arrangements using exotic blossoms. The staff is so friendly and outgoing that the act of buying flowers is as pleasant as having them around.

TATTOO PARLOR

Darkwave Dermagraphics

2129 Washington St., Roxbury; 445-9090

Now that tattooing has finally been legalized in Massachusetts, it seems as if tattoo parlors are proliferating like mushrooms. Natan Lin, who is studying plastic surgery in medical school and learned the tattoo trade in Amsterdam, is a veritable Michelangelo of body art. In fact, he recently won an award for best artist at a tattoo convention in Boston. So think about it: It's gonna be there forever; you might as well have it done by the best.

TICKET AGENCY

Hub Tickets

240 Tremont St., Theater District; 426-8340

Need last-minute seats for the symphony? Two on the aisle for *Phantom*? An entire section at the FleetCenter for a Bruins game? No problem. Since 1975, the folks who operate out of the white trailer next to the Wilbur Theatre have been successfully getting seats for savvy Bostonians. Theater and sporting events are their forte (for concerts, Front-Row Freddy at Ticket City in Allston has 'em beat), and their numerous upper-echelon corporate accounts give them clout at the box offices. The concierges at the top hotels swear by these guys.

SHOE REPAIR

Rinaldi's Park Square Shoe Repair

31 St. James Ave., #198, Back Bay; 426-6480

Once these guys get through with it, everything old is new again. For more than 50 years, they've been fixing the fine shoes of well-shod Bostonians, and they've never met a pair they couldn't help. What's more, most of their work can be done while you wait (unlike most of their competitors), and they offer a free shine with many of their repairs. They're all that—and a bag of chips.

SHOESHINE

Shining Example

Numerous locations; 512-2150

Not only are the shines great, but the service is top-notch, with little extras like eyeglass cleaner and candy. And if you can't make it to one of the many locations (125 High Street, 1 Beacon Street, Sheraton Boston, Marriott Copley Place and Long Wharf Marriott), the friendly staff will come right to your office for an old-fashioned box shine.

LEFT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; RIGHT: SAM WRIGHT

soak up more than the sun



The Rattlesnake

Bar and Grill

Open until 2am
Food until 1am
Function room available

384 Boylston Street
Boston
617.859.8555

SHOPPING

Whether you're in the market for a one-of-a-kind bracelet or a built-to-order bicycle, we've got the inside scoop on Back Bay boutiques and unbeatable back-alley bargains.



As buyers for Shreve, Crump & Low, Michael Lebowitz and Diane Magnarelli bring in some of the finest pieces from around the globe

TRADITIONAL JEWELRY STORE

Shreve, Crump & Low

330 Boylston St., Back Bay; 267-9100

The Mall at Chestnut Hill; 965-2700

The oldest jeweler in America has been in business for more than 200 years, which speaks volumes for its quality. Known for diamonds (long before Tiffany, Shreve's was the place to buy an engagement ring), it also carries estate jewelry and exclusive designs that are both beautiful and wearable, a small selection of antique home furnishings, and a wide array of gift items—from silver rattles to porcelain figurines. Here's wishing the jeweler another 200 years.

ALTERNATIVE JEWELRY STORE

Kitty Haas

1815 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; 661-4191

For more than 60 years, this Porter Square shop has specialized in hand-selected, one-of-a-kind and unusual jewelry from Afghanistan, Zaire, Poland, Brazil, Russia, Indonesia, Tibet, Nepal and other far-flung corners of the globe. Priced anywhere from $10 to $10,000, selections are primarily handmade and are the antithesis of the country-club jewelry so many women settle for. The store will also procure any kind of stone, from tanzanite to green and orange garnet. It's the perfect place to shop for vintage, antique and ethnic baubles to adorn the body.

ALTERNATIVE REMEDIES

Harnett's

47 Brattle St., Cambridge; 491-4747

A personal trainer heads the vitamin department. A Chinese-medicine expert and acupuncturist oversees the herbal department. A feng shui master designed the place for optimum energy flow. There's also an impressive collection of resource material available on common ailments and natural therapies. With alternative medicine gaining more and more credence from the medical establishment, this purveyor of homeopathic and all-natural remedies and prophylaxis is way ahead of the game.

ANTIQUES MARKET

Antiques on Cambridge

1076 Cambridge St., Cambridge; 234-0001

With 100 dealers under one roof, it's a collector's ultimate fantasy. Since last year, the collective has added several new dealers, including one who imports from France, one who imports from Germany, and one whose specialty is France and Spain. With prices ranging from $5 to $5,000 and goods spanning every genre from folk art to Queen Anne, it's the best variety and quality in the area. It's just like watching *Antiques Roadshow*, except that you can actually buy the stuff.

AUDIO EQUIPMENT

Cambridge Soundworks

100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge; 225-3900; 17 New England locations

Cutting out the middleman by selling its own products is how this pioneering retailer is offers superlative equipment at competitive prices. Its specialty is speakers for stereos and home theaters, but the retailer also offers components by manufacturers such as Sony, Onkyo, Marantz and so on. The staff is knowledgeable without being patronizing and helpful without being pushy. Bonus points for the listening room, where you can test-drive products before buying them.

BIKE SHOP

Ace Wheelworks

145 Elm St., Somerville; 776-2100

Competitive bike shop quality combined with mom-and-pop charm, Ace carries everything from a kid's first two-wheeler to a Tour de France-worthy dream machine. The staff consistently rises to the challenge of finding the perfect match between human and bike. At least three big sales per year offer great deals. The shop and its staff are also deeply involved in regional grassroots organizations, supporting events like Bike to Work Week and local triathlons, and sponsoring New England-based racing teams. Their stated goal: "To truly be the New England source for bikes." As far as we're concerned, they are.

BOOKSTORE

Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline; 566-6660

If you dislike the sterile, bestsellers-only feel of the big chains, this is the place for you. A warm, inviting neighborhood place, the bookstore even welcomes dogs and has biscuits and water bowls to keep them happy while you browse. An eclectic selection of titles, frequent readings by authors and plenty of comfy chairs make it the ideal place to spend a rainy afternoon. Bonus points for community involvement: They recently hosted a Red Cross

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

drive called Blood in the Basement, during which local mystery writers read to those who donated blood.

COOKING STORE

Williams-Sonoma

Many locations, including 100 Huntington Ave., Copley Place; 262-3080
Atrium Mall, Chestnut Hill; 969-7090

A bit of a no-brainer, this general store for chefs carries everything you could possibly want for the kitchen, as well as some gadgets and doodads you never realized existed. The staff will offer cooking tips and advice, and they even offer cooking classes. Along with Julia Child and Martha Stewart, Williams-Sonoma has raised home cooking to an art.

COSMETICS

Filene's

426 Washington St., Downtown Crossing; 357-2100

Although it may not carry some of the most obscure designer or specialty brands, Filene's offers a full line from all the major players: Estee Lauder, Clinique, Origins, Prescriptives, Mac and Chanel among them. Coupled with what may be the largest fragrance counter in New England, it's one-stop shopping for the woman (or man) who doesn't have time to run all over town in search of cosmetics and won't settle for cheap drugstore brands, either.

HIGH-END FURNITURE

Repertoire

114 Boylston St., Back Bay; 426-3865

Specializing in high-style, mostly contemporary European furniture, this store is where the country's top interior designers come to find breathtaking signature pieces or the perfect accent item to tie together a room's décor. The prices are correspondingly rarefied, but there's consolation in knowing that everything is of the finest quality, made with flawless craftsmanship from the best materials. For those with money to spare, the shop can help transform your home from by-the-book bland to something straight out of Better Homes and Hangouts.

HIGH-END MEN'S CLOTHING

Louis, Boston

234 Berkeley St., Back Bay; 262-6100

It's no accident that the city's most venerable clothing store is housed in what was once the Museum of Natural History; the clothing here is worthy of being in a museum, which is not to say that it's outdated or fusty. On the contrary, Louis carries a vast array of the hottest contemporary designs for men, from weekend casual to boardroom corporate, and from nightclubbing groovy to black-tie formal, as well as everything in between. The fabulosity factor is off the charts and the price tags can be intimidating, but if you want to look as if you just came from the pages of *GQ*, this is the place to shop.

MEN'S SHOES

Danielo

253 Newbury St., Back Bay; 859-7575

Remember that old Indian saying "Never judge a man till you've walked a mile in his moccasins"? Well, the fact is that most people judge a man just by looking at his shoes, so they'd better be sharp. This Back Bay boutique carries hard-to-find European brands such as Patrick Cox, Trussardi and Cesare Paciotti. The prices aren't as nosebleed-high as one might expect, either. So why imprison your tootsies in the same boring brogues that everyone else is wearing? Your feet deserve to make a fashion statement, too.

MODERATELY PRICED MEN'S CLOTHING

DKNY

37 Newbury St., Back Bay; 236-0476

Designer duds at down-to-earth prices. It may not be as affordable as Filene's Basement, but one look at the mannequins in the window will tell you what we mean. There's something for everyone, and DKNY is stylish without being crazy. Clean silhouettes and eye-catching colors. Decent materials and craftsmanship. And most important of all (to guys at least), it's all as comfortable as an old pair of pajamas.

MOST ANTICIPATED CLOTHIER

H&M

(opening soon in Downtown Crossing)

This Swedish import has been all the rage since it opened in New York, offering fashion-forward clothing at back-in-the-day prices. Serious style, adequately made, it's the place to shop for that trendy item that will be over by the time you've worn it once.

MUSIC BOUTIQUE

Other Music

90 Winthrop St., Cambridge; 491-4419

An offshoot of a store in New York by the same name, this funky little music shop is a far cry from the major label superstores and features a broad selection of independent, underground and experimental music spanning periods and genres. It's loosely divided into two sections, "In" and "Out"—the former containing pop, indie rock, Brit pop, post-rock and a smattering of mainstream stuff; the latter encompassing more experimental music such as noise, free jazz, modern classical and the like. A know-it-all staff straight out of *High Fidelity* and the smorgasbord of esoterica make it worth the trip.

NUTRITION STORE

Nutrition One

311 Huntington Ave., Fenway; 572-3700
16 Brighton Ave., Allston; 779-7333

This retailer features low prices and a wide selection of every nutritional supplement you've ever heard of and some you haven't. Vitamins from A to Zinc, more than 100 kinds of health bars, weight-loss products and performance enhancers—you name it, they've got it. But the area in which they really excel is customer service. The staff has tried most of the products and will give you the 411 without the sales pitch, exaggerated claims and other BS.

OFFBEAT GIFTS

Joie de Vivre

1792 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; 864-8188

We'd call it an adult toy store, except that that might give the wrong impression. Everything here is whimsical, amusing or just plain fun. The eye-popping assortment of stuff includes stamps and stamp pads, wind chimes, goofy light-switch plates, wind-up toys, mosaic can-

SHOPPING



PLACE TO SAY "I SHOULDA THOUGHT OF THAT!" • Museum of Useful Things

370 Broadway, Cambridge; 576-3322

Dedicated to "the beauty and function of everyday objects," this store has a collection of vintage and modern tools and such goodies as a display case juxtaposing antique mousetraps with the latest animal-friendly designs. Its biggest sellers include four-packs of rubber bands (at 50 cents a piece), they receive orders for these nifty little contraptions from all over the world. Sticky tape that's also a yellow measuring tape and an expandable folding fake. The vintage gimcrackery is bound to induce nostalgia, or at the very least, a smile.

OLIVIA HANLEY

dleholders and ornamental boxes. The place to shop for that person who has everything, except maybe a Jim Morrison lunchbox.

POWER TIES

Zareh's

1 Liberty Square, Financial District; 350-6070

Now that the dot-com bubble has popped, wearing khakis and sport shirts to work isn't exactly as hip as it once was. Make no mistake about it: Business casual is on its way out, and suits are making a comeback. And what better way to add some flair to traditional gray and black than with a great-looking tie that's as snazzy as it is classy. Zareh's carries a vast assortment of gorgeous silk ties from top names such as Ferragamo, Leonard and Robert Talbott. These beauties don't come cheap (most cost about $100) but are all the rage among the movers and shakers in the Financial District.

SHOPPING

RECORD STORE

HMV

24 Winter St., Downtown Crossing; 357-8444
1 Brattle St., Cambridge; 868-9696

While music snobs are quick to dismiss chain outlets, it is tough to be dismissive of HMV. In addition to an astounding musical selection, HMV also offers the largest selection of DVDs in the city and takes full advantage of its Harvard Square location by offering regular student discounts. And, as an incentive to get adventurous, if you don't like a CD for any reason, bring it back with your receipt for full credit and their crackerjack staff will help find something more suited to your ears.

SPORTS CLOTHING STORE

Nike Town

200 Newbury St., Back Bay; 267-3400

With staff better trained in the podiatric than your average person with a foot fetish, Nike Town's area of expertise is hardly limited to body parts below the Achilles'. Their vast clothing selection can outfit you in the latest technically correct fashions for tennis, basketball, golf, yoga, kickboxing, baseball, hockey, football and of course, running. Boasting the largest assortment of Nike apparel and footwear in the Boston area, no matter what your extracurricular activity, you're guaranteed to find sports clothing to keep you comfortable and stylish—though there are no guarantees that you'll be picked for the starting team.



WOMEN'S DRESSES • Wish • *49 Charles St., Beacon Hill; 227-4441*

A breath of fresh air on stuffy Beacon Hill, this funky little boutique opened recently but already has legions of devoted customers. Owned by three women with distinctly different personal styles, the inventory reflects that fact with a wide range of kicky little numbers. If Holly Golightly had a clothing store, this might be it.

USED-BICYCLE STORE

Bikes Not Bombs

59 Amory St., #103, Roxbury; 442-0004

Bikes Not Bombs isn't your ordinary used-bike store—the guys that run this non-profit full-service bike shop are working for social justice. BNB offers teens employment opportunities repairing and selling used bikes. Here you'll find bikes that have been overhauled or custom-built for you. And when you ride out of there on your new used bike, you know that you've made a quality purchase and developed your social conscience.

USED BOOKS

Avenue Victor Hugo Bookstore

339 Newbury St., Back Bay; 266-7746

Although it lives in the shadow of ever-growing bookstore chains everywhere, the old-fashioned used bookstore is still alive and kicking. Nowhere is this more apparent than among the shelves at Victor Hugo. With a selection of fiction that includes 50,000 titles, a range of rare and special books, nearly a quarter of a million magazines and a history section that would make university professors weep with joy, this is truly the place to get comfortable and expand your literary horizons. The staff does an excellent job keeping everything in order so it's easy to find that coveted copy of Jessie Weston's *From Ritual to Romance*.

USED COMPACT DISCS

Record Hog

368 Beacon St., Somerville; 868-4647

Somerville's easily accessible Record Hog is the area's best spot to gorge on used CDs. With offerings rarely topping $9 and well-organized shelves affording painless searches for that obscure title you simply must have, Record Hog is a dream come true for bargain hunters. The store will also buy your castaways for cash or credit. Once you have found that treasured rarity though, be sure to pass along a thankful pat on the head to one of the store's three resident cats.

VIDEO STORE

Hollywood Express

1740 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; 497-2001
765 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; 864-8400
14 McGrath Highway, Twin City Plaza; 628-6000

Step aside, Blockbuster. This three-store chain boasts a gargantuan selection of titles, from mainstream blockbusters and the latest new releases to foreign, classic and independent films. In fact, film buffs insist they're able to locate somewhat dated and rare films here that can't be found at the prodigious chains. Movies can be returned at any of the three locations, and their inventories are linked by computer. While small compared to many competitors, they're accommodating beyond belief, proving that size isn't everything.

VINTAGE FURNITURE

Machine Age

354 Congress St., South Boston; 482-0048

Dedicated to the great design trends of the 20th century, this funky South Boston shop lovingly restores and resells or offers reproductions of items such as Eames chairs, chrome dinette sets and Bauhaus sofas. If great design is a question of form serving function, there's nothing here that doesn't qualify as classic, right down to the disco ball twirling over it all.

VINTAGE STORE

Absolutely Fabulous

108 Beacon St., Somerville; 864-0656

Located on the edge of Inman Square, this cozy shop offers a wide collection of merchandise from yesteryear. Here you'll find vintage clothing of all kinds—dresses, skirts, men's and

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN



Unique friends

DO YOU REALLY WANT TO BE DIFFERENT?

"Different" people aren't like everyone else. So before you ask for a Savanna, bear in mind that when you have its distinctive bottle in your hand, you will not look like "most people".



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You may be fine with that. Yet there are those who believe if they are seen drinking an



Unique beverage

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Unique vice

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Only you can decide if that's a risk worth taking.

Savanna

DIFFERENT. IN A GOOD WAY.

women's pants, jackets and much more. Mixed among the hippest of hipster garb you'll also find antiques, shoes, rugs, lamps, dinnerware and memorabilia, along with hand-painted furniture, pottery and jewelry. All items are selected by co-owners Mara Kustra and Collene Covey, who opened the store less than a year ago. If there's something special you must have, the two will even scour flea markets and estate sales to find it for you. Absolutely cool.

WELCOME ADDITIONS

There was a three-way tie in this category, between IKEA (the affordable Scandinavian furniture store that's definitely opening a Boston location but hasn't yet announced where or when), Krispy Kreme (the decadently delicious donut maker who is in the same position) and Centerfolds (the so-called "gentleman's club"—wink, wink, nudge, nudge—that recently opened on Washington Street). The one that deserves to win will depend on whether you prefer tucking yourself into a comfortable bed with a good book, tucking a few more inches onto your waistline, or tucking dollar bills into somebody's G-string.

SHOPPING

HANDBAGS • Christian Dior • *100 Huntington Ave., Copley Place, Back Bay; 927-7577*

The Copley Place shop looks like a monument to the purse—from casual daytime bags to glittery evening clutches, in designs that are as unique as they are breathtaking. Why look like a member of a cult, clutching one of those purses emblazoned with the designer's name when you can carry a work of art?





MEN'S SUITS • Hugo Boss

100 Huntington Ave., Copley Place, Back Bay; 266-7492

With current sartorial standards for men in the workplace hovering somewhere between rumpled frat boy and yacht-club commodore, you may not need to wear a suit every day, but every man should own at least one. And when you do put it on, why look like a drone? This designer shop offers fine fabrics and German construction in a variety of silhouettes to flatter any form. Prices average about $900, which may be more than department stores, but you get what you pay for. In the immortal words of ZZ Top, "Every girl's crazy 'bout a sharp-dressed man."

WOMEN'S FORMAL WEAR

Lord & Taylor

760 Boylston St., Back Bay; 262-6000

Generations of well-dressed women have shopped here when the occasion called for a long gown or something a little bit dressier, and the reasons are obvious. Large selections from the latest collections by various top designers, a sales staff that's polite and helpful, and a better chance of finding that certain something than at all those specialty boutiques with minuscule offerings and major price tags. Not for nothing has this legendary Fifth Avenue retailer survived and thrived in Copley Square. It's got the goods, without the attendant haughty attitude.

WOMEN'S HIGH-END CLOTHING

Escada

308 Boylston St., Back Bay; 437-1200

Ever wonder where those *comme il faut* fashion plates find those outfits that are just to-die-for? Chances are it's here. From exquisite beaded ensembles to brightly colored cruise wear, Escada carries everything the well-dressed woman needs, and plenty that she probably doesn't but she should buy anyway because it looks absolutely stunning on her. Cost be damned—you can't put a price tag on looking fabulous.

WOMEN'S MODERATELY PRICED CLOTHING

Leila

1337 Beacon St., Brookline; 738-4448

Named after the owner's sister, this funky Coolidge Corner boutique is strong in the body-conscious, South Beach look that's popular among 20-something club kids, but there's also a wide range of more conservative fashions, which explains why it's also a favorite among chic women from the western suburbs. Lines like Sharagano and Morgan from Paris, Tessuto from Italy, Kiko and Avalin from the States, and Custo from Spain are some of the lines you'll find on the racks at Leila. And best of all, nothing you try on is so pricey as to trigger a bad case of buyer's remorse.

WOMEN'S SHOES

Jasmine Sola

329 Newbury St., Back Bay; 437-8465

37 Brattle St., Cambridge; 354-6043

Most women have an inner Imelda Marcos, but few have the budget to binge on Manolo's and Jimmy Choo's. Here's the sensible alternative. With many prices in the $50 range and approximately 150 styles to choose from, you can afford to indulge your shoe fetish without wondering how you'll make next month's mortgage payment. Unlike most moderately priced places, their shoes look chic and wear well, and you don't have to feel guilty when you consign them to the back of your closet or give them to Goodwill.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN (2)

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Boston's BEST 2001

BOOZE & PLACES

From visionaries to cemeteries, we tip our hats to the city's top achievers, most beloved hot spots and best-kept secrets.

BACHELORETTE PARTY VENUE

Dick's Last Resort

55 Huntington Ave., Back Bay; 267-8080

Assuming you have a sense of decorum, leave it at the door. This is the place to let your hair down and go hog-wild. The prank-playing staff is expert at bringing out the immaturity in customers, who chow down on heaps of decent barbeque and chug suds or headier stuff till the inhibitions are long gone. Live entertainment every night, in addition to your own misbehavior. Plus there's never a cover charge.

CINDERELLA STORY GONE HORRIBLY WRONG

Gwen Butler and Zita Restaurant

The shattering sound of former Federalist bartender Gwen Butler's glass slipper is still reverberating around Boston's dining scene. The $2 million tip she received from Swiss banker Erich Sager wasn't enough to see her pet project Zita through to completion—and the media was delighted to point out her every misstep as a fledgling businesswoman. After run-ins with less-than-scrupulous contractors, Butler, a perpetual optimist, is back on her feet and meeting with investors to secure a second round of financing. Once the money is in the bank, it'll take about six weeks for Zita to make its long-awaited debut. Some have said that the clock struck midnight on our Cinderella, who is back behind the bar at Aquitane, but we think her coach isn't anywhere near turning into a pumpkin.

CENTENARIAN

Symphony Hall

301 Mass. Ave., The Fenway; 266-1492; www.bso.org

A century ago, when it was built, Europhile know-nothings laughed at its boxy design and lack of ornamentation, but 100 years later, it still remains the most acoustically perfect concert hall in North America. One of the many things Bostonians can rightfully brag about, it's an architectural marvel. Here's wishing it many happy returns!

HYPED AUTHOR

Alice Randall

A healthy dose of controversy helped promote this Harvard grad's fiercely debated novel, *The Wind Done Gone*, a parody of Margaret Mitchell's epic *Gone With the Wind*. The media had a field day when Mitchell's estate sued and blocked publication—and even more was made of the ordeal when when Houghton Mifflin appealed the case and won. Now the book's cover glows with a hideous red dot stamped with the giant promo stunt, "The Unauthorized Parody." Sure, too much hype is a turnoff—but we say ignore it. This inventive, daring literary debut is well worth a read.

PLACE TO MINGLE WITH THE WEALTHY

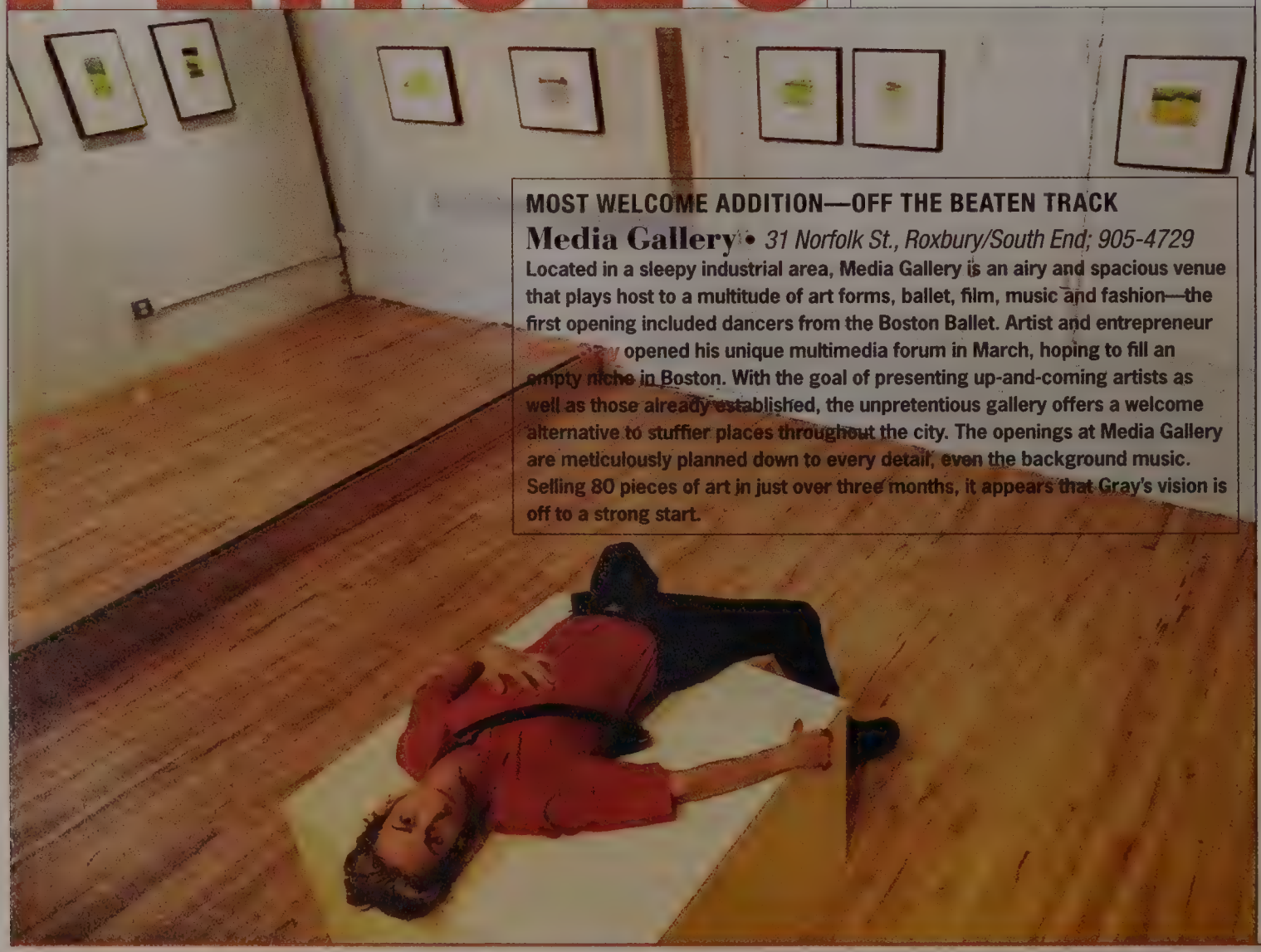
Grill 23 and Bar

161 Berkeley St., Back Bay; 542-2255

Since opening the upstairs dining area and bar, Grill 23 has rapidly become a favored place for plutocrats and hotshots to gather and gab about such pressing matters as their stock portfolios and what to do with all that disposable income. You'd never know the economy had slowed down. Cigars are de riguer, and ladies, be warned: The testosterone in here is almost as thick as the smoke.

CLUE THAT END OF CIVILIZATION IS NEAR

Cracking open a crunchy fortune cookie won't just foretell your future anymore. Boston-area Chinese restaurants are predicting you can "Save a Fortune at Half.com," a tasty morsel found printed on the back of the standard fortune slips inside the cookies. Half.com is a subsidiary of Internet auction site Ebay, and even if you're not wired at home, you'll be digesting that commercial long after you finish your kung pow chicken.



MOST WELCOME ADDITION—OFF THE BEATEN TRACK

Media Gallery • *31 Norfolk St., Roxbury/South End; 905-4729*

Located in a sleepy industrial area, Media Gallery is an airy and spacious venue that plays host to a multitude of art forms, ballet, film, music and fashion—the first opening included dancers from the Boston Ballet. Artist and entrepreneur [redacted] opened his unique multimedia forum in March, hoping to fill an empty niche in Boston. With the goal of presenting up-and-coming artists as well as those already established, the unpretentious gallery offers a welcome alternative to stuffier places throughout the city. The openings at Media Gallery are meticulously planned down to every detail, even the background music. Selling 80 pieces of art in just over three months, it appears that Gray's vision is off to a strong start.

OLIVIA HANLEY

One Part - You
Four Parts - Us
Mix it up at the Briar Group



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irish pub
85 Causeway St. Boston
617.742.1010

M.J. O'Connor's
irish pub
27 Columbus Ave. Boston
617-482-2255

The Briar Group

irish pubs



the Kinvara
irish pub
34 Harvard Ave. Allston
617.783.9400

the Green Briar
irish pub
304 Washington St. Brighton
617.789-4100

Served Shaken & Stirred

WORST PLACE TO PARK

David G. Mugar Way

Along this brief stretch of pavement that merges out into Storrow Drive you can find Boston's Holy Grail of parking: a string of free, nonresident, unmetered spaces. But there's a catch. This strip's proximity to Beacon Hill and Back Bay make it a tempting place to park, should you find a spot. But we recommend you keep driving, because this is also a prime spot to have your car broken into. Feeling lucky? Disregard the broken glass all over the sidewalk, as well as the likely sight of at least one vehicle relieved of its stereo. Or take the stoic approach, as did one smash 'n' grab victim we encountered surveying her freshly remodeled passenger-side window. "Oh well," she said. "That's life in the city."

PLACE TO RUB ELBOWS WITH CELEBRITIES

Mount Auburn Cemetery

580 Mount Auburn St., Cambridge; 547-7105

Rather than trawling Newbury Street or black-tie charity gigs, celebrity-starved locals would do better to visit this park-like cemetery in Cambridge, the first garden-style graveyard in the country. Among its famous denizens: Isabella Stewart Gardner, Fannie Farmer, Buckminster Fuller, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr., Mary Baker Eddy, Charles Sumner and B.F. Skinner. You may not be able to get an autograph out of them, but they won't tell you to get lost, either.



Owners Sally Dean and Louise Venden lay back in their charming Charles Street Inn

BED & BREAKFAST • **The Charles Street Inn**

94 Charles St., Beacon Hill; 314-8900; www.charlestreetinn.com

All the rooms at this quaint yet elegant inn are decorated with Victorian antiques, working fireplaces and (mercifully) private baths. Deluxe amenities include DSL access, a TV and phone in every room, data ports and fax service, along with all the little homey touches that make it so much more inviting than a huge hotel. Charm and coziness, convenience and luxury, all under one roof.

ART PROVOCATEUR

Greg Shea at Space 12 Gallery

12 Union Park St., South End; 423-9760; www.space12gallery.com

A ubiquitous South End hipster and tireless self-promoter, he shakes the local art scene out of its complacency with shows like his *Cuba, Cuba* exhibition, an ongoing collaboration with a gallery in Havana. Beyond merely exhibiting art, he engages the community in a substantive dialogue. Bonus points for being the person who dubbed his corner of the deep South End NOWA (North of Washington).

HAPPY ENDING

Dana Lake of West Newbury

On May 6, the amateur pilot was flying himself, his wife, his children and another family from Nantucket to the North Shore when he was forced to make an emergency landing in Cape Cod Bay. When the Coast Guard arrived on the scene 45 minutes after receiving the distress call, all nine people were rescued with only minor injuries. Keeping a cool head in an emergency situation, Lake turned what could have been a tragedy into a story of adventure that everyone involved will undoubtedly be dining out on for years to come.

CHANGES TO THE SKYLINE

Bostonians can boast that we have three Pritzker-prize winning architects working on local projects: Sir Norman Foster designing the new wing at the Museum of Fine Arts, Frank Gehry working on the new Stata Center at MIT and Renzo Piano's new art museum for Harvard. Take that, Bilbao!

MOST MISSED INSTITUTIONS

The last year has witnessed the sad passing of three arts groups: Gallery Bershad, the Revolving Museum and Dance Umbrella, all of which added vitality and spice to the local cultural scene. Let's pray the Boston Ballet doesn't suffer a similar fate.

ART GALLERY

Bernard Toale Gallery

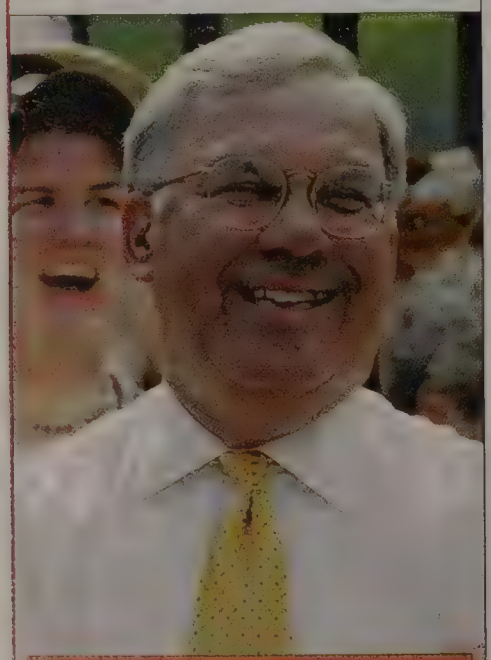
450 Harrison Ave., South End; 482-2477

If you're like most artists, your art has probably spent a lot of time in some sort of file—circular or otherwise. But at the Bernie Toale Gallery, local artists are actually scrambling to get their works de triumph into the drawers that make up the Boston Drawing Project, a permanent exhibition that showcases the work of more than 70 up-and-coming artists. But what we like most about Toale's gallery is the man himself—humble and soft-spoken, he sees himself simply as "a nice guy with good taste." Or else it's the theme song. Either one is good.

REASON TO BE ASHAMED YOU'RE FROM BOSTON

The Longfellow Bridge

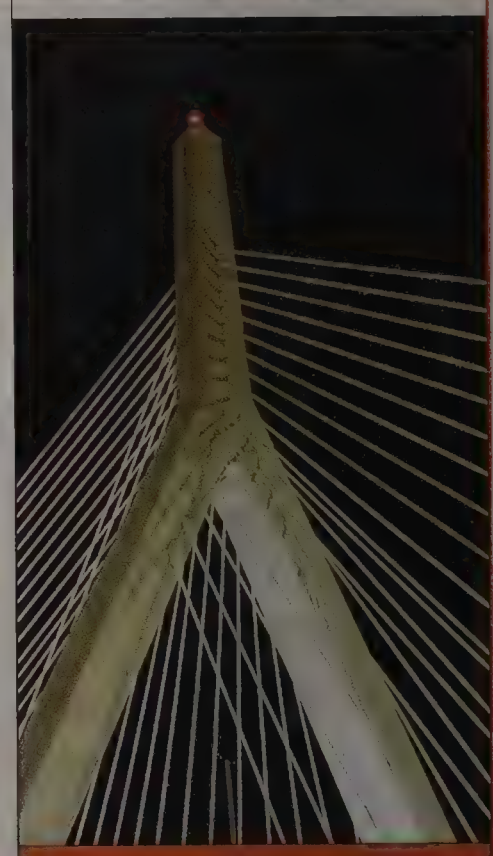
Otherwise known as "The Salt and Pepper Bridge," this architectural gem is in a shameful state of decrepitude and disrepair. Let's hope fixing it up is on the mayor's To Do list.



CITY VISIONARY

Mayor Menino

Say what you will, but the guy's done wonders for the city. Under his watch, Boston has grown and prospered, revitalized and evolved, without losing its unique character and charm. It looks better. It sounds better. It smells better. Three cheers for Hizzonah.

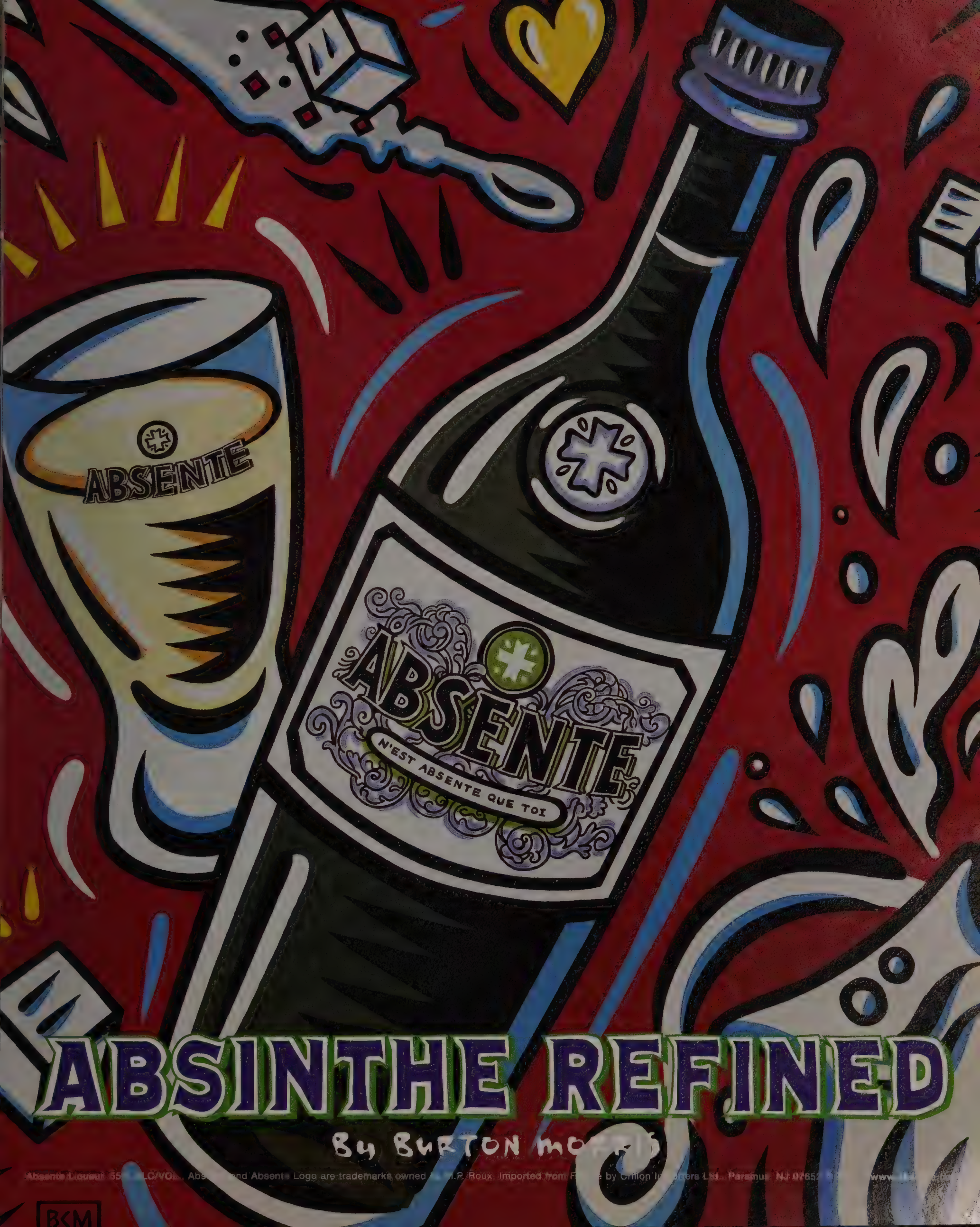


REASON TO BE PROUD YOU'RE FROM BOSTON

The Lenny Zakim Bunker Hill Bridge

Forget cries of anti-Semitism over the fact that some obstreperous townies objected to naming it after the deceased local Jewish leader, or the fact that some architecture critics find the obelisk support towers a too-cutesy reference to the Bunker Hill monument. It's the most aesthetically pleasing addition to the city's skyline since the Hancock Tower went up, and when it's completed (next month) and open (Lord knows when), it will be the world's widest suspension cable bridge, carrying 10 lanes of traffic. Worth every penny of the $100 million it cost to build.

LEFT: MIKOLAY MOLTCHANOV; TOP: SAM WRIGHT; RIGHT: DAN HOWARD



ABSINTHE REFINED

By Burton Morris

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FINALE

ADDITION TO THE DOWNTOWN SCENE

Lucky's Lounge

355 Congress St., South Boston; 357-5825

If Frank and Sammy and Dean-O were still alive, this is where they'd head for some late-night, dimly lit, low-key hanging. On the bar side, there's live music that ranges from Vegas Lounge to funk, while the dining room serves good eats at palatable prices. The lack of a sign out front keeps it hard to find—except for the stylish cognoscenti.

ADDITION TO PERFORMANCE-ART SCENE

Burlesque and Vaudeville Revival

They're not strippers, they're burlesque dancers, well-versed in the art of tease. With the help of the Burlesque Revival Association (BRA), the sexy dance performances are being brought back to Boston, proving that some things are indeed better left to the imagination. Vaudeville is also enjoying a revival with its showcase format that includes acts like contortionists and tap dancers and often burlesque. Both provide lighthearted, fast-paced fun. Look for a BRA showcase in September at the Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center in the South End.

ART-HOUSE CINEMA

Kendall Square Cinema

1 Kendall Square, Cambridge; 494-9800

With nine screens, it's the biggest art house in America and the most successful in the Landmark theater chain. No wonder. The concession stand sells superior munchies (fill your own candy bag!) and espresso, the seats are comfortable and the repertoire ranges from quality local fare to artsy foreign films—some actually have subtitles. Quelle horreur!

ARTS VENUE

Boston Center for the Arts

539 Tremont St., South End; 426-5000

Looking for something a little more thoughtful and provocative than *Shear Madness?* In addition to the fabulous New Market Theater in Harvard Square, there's the tried-and-true Boston Center for the Arts. Housed in the round architectural phenomenon on Tremont Street once known as the Cyclorama, it is a breathtaking space with a capacity of 1,200. The nonprofit organization offers artists affordable work space, sponsors special exhibitions and performances, and develops educational and outreach opportunities for several communities. It also has a standout Community Conversations series in which artists and community leaders talk publicly.

NIGHTCLUB • Avalon • *15 Lansdowne St., The Fenway; 262-2424*

The granddaddy of Boston discos still knows how to turn up the heat, with its consistently happening pan-sexual Friday night bacchanal, Avaland, featuring top DJs from New York and abroad. Gimmicks like the new Oxygen Bar in the library and the recently installed liquid nitrogen system in the dance floor keep things from getting stale. You want something groovier? Go to South Beach.



BIG-SCREEN DEBUT

Whitey Bulger

In *Hannibal* (the egregiously bad *Silence of the Lambs* sequel) a photo of Whitey Bulger appeared (along with Osama Bin Laden and Anthony Hopkins, as Dr. Lecter) in a scene showing the FBI's Most Wanted Web site. Bulger and Bin Laden delivered what were arguably the film's most believable performances.

BOSTON BAND DOING IT THEIR OWN WAY

The Clairvoyants

In a town best known for loud rock dynamics, the dreamy atmospherics of The Clairvoyants say a lot in a soft voice. After recording a well-received debut for locally based Kimchee Records, the band made the jump to San Francisco-based Badman in a move that will ensure national distribution. Although the music may be delicate, the band has demonstrated strength in the face of adversity. When band members Colin Rhinesmith and Brian Dunn's Longhouse in-home studio burned in a fire, the two found new digs within a week.

CABARET

Encore at the Roxyplex

279 Tremont St., Theater District; 338-7699

A below-the-radar good time, this place does little or no self-promotion and yet boasts a large and growing following. Its appeal is its quirkiness. Rather than by-the-book standards, torch songs and show tunes, you're as likely to hear cabaret interpretations of tunes like Britney Spears' "Hit Me Baby One More Time" or the

The Kendall's films dazzled us, the Regattabar got us jazzed and the Middle East gave us raucous rock shows. Aria made us dance, 1369 fueled us with caffeine and the Comedy Connection kept us laughing all year long.

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Doors' "Roadhouse Blues" on Saturday nights, which feature contemporary cabaret. Sundays showcase more conventional fare. Although the room is big, the feeling is intimate, and the crowd comes from all walks of life.

CASINO

Foxwoods Casino

Route 1, Mashantucket, Conn.; 800-PLAY-BIG

Who cares about 401Ks; treat yourself to some R&R accompanied by the sounds of cards being shuffled and slot machines being pulled. Nestled in the woods of Connecticut, the largest casino in the world is a welcome change from the garish schlock of Las Vegas—and is much easier to reach for a weekend of high-rolling entertainment. Featuring a nearby golf course, a spa and entertainers ranging from stand-up comedians to rock bands, Foxwoods provides around-the-clock amusement. With the casino's proximity to historic Mystic and to the Pequot Tribal Nation Museum, you can cram your brain full of national history even when your pockets are empty.

CLUB DJ

Brother Cleve

This self-professed child of the '70s lays down a funk-soul rhythm that seems to borrow from every genre under the sun. Bravely combining classic disco with the latest Brazilian chart topper, tribal beats with timeless lounge stylings, Brother Cleve is the Bostonian most likely to conjure visions of Ibiza in local scenesters' heads. He didn't miss a beat after his residency at Lava Bar ended when the club closed—now he's spicing things up at Mantra. Soon he'll also be at the new club, Limbo, when it opens next month.

ENTERTAINMENT

COFFEE HOUSE

1369 Coffee House

1369 Cambridge St., Cambridge 576-1369; 757 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; 576-4600

If all you want is a cup 'o hyper, go to one of those ubiquitous West Coast chains. The 1369 not only offers a cup of joe, but is a throwback to the days when a coffee house was a place to gather with friends and bandy about some high-minded philosophical concepts—and maybe even plan a little revolution. The 1369's specialty is iced coffee, which is cold brewed for 24 hours to preserve the bitter, slightly chocolaty taste of the bean. There's also a selection of light snacks. But its real allure is the authentic boho, decidedly Cantabrigian feel.



Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, makes people do crazy things on a regular basis at the Comedy Connection.

COMEDY CLUB • **Comedy Connection**

245 Quincy Marketplace, Faneuil Hall; 248-9700

Every time we go there, we laugh so hard we think our pants will never dry. The preeminent Boston comedy club, the Comedy Connection is open seven nights a week and showcases local comics like Don Gavin and Kevin Knox as well as national acts like Jay Mohr and Bill Maher. Straight-up stand-up, it's a guaranteed laugh riot.

DANCING CHEEK-TO-CHEEK

Your Living Room

Now that Rialto is no longer hosting Tango Night and the Ritz rooftop is open only for private functions (weddings and banquets), the only place to practice those Fred and Ginger moves is at home.

ELECTRONICA ACT

Hrvåtski

Raw beats, hypnotic loops and organic noise all feature heavily in Hrvåtski's work, which resides in genres with names as commonplace as "electronica" and as quasi-obscure as "laptop punk." Always subtly subversive and often relentlessly frenetic, Hrvåtski's music shows flashes of electronica greats Autechre, DJ Shadow, Alec Empire and Pan Sonic. Although it's hard to find a Hrvåtski album in local stores, this glitch master is huge in Germany, where he's toured with Mouse on Mars. His latest offering: a cacophony of his own tracks remixed by artists such as Thurston Moore, Kid 606 and other laptop luminaries.

FASHION-SHOW NIGHTCLUB

Aria

246 Tremont St., Theater District; 338-7080

Aria, the Euro-cool night spot located under the Wilbur Theatre, holds the crown for most fashion shows. Rick Russo puts on a New York-style fashion show (The Fashion House) every Thursday night. Equipped with the sleekest runway models in Boston and different designers every week, Russo pulls it off without a single broken stiletto. You can even find owner Seth Greenberg watching from a ringside seat. Need to see what's en vogue on a Friday or Saturday? No problem—you can satisfy your craving for couture sans catwalk by ogling the gorgeous young crowd poured into the latest fashions from designers like Jean-Paul Gautier and Prada.

GAY CLUB

Machine

1256 Boylston St., The Fenway; 266-2986

This white-hot club in the Fenway is a gay melting pot, attracting the bare-chested, leather-clad clientele of its upstairs neighbor, Ramrod, as well as club kids, drag queens, pretty boys and fun-loving college students. The pool hall is the gathering place for all these factions before they split up and visit one of the bars or the crowded sunken dance floor. Note: If you decide to venture to the back room of Ramrod, be prepared to observe the obligatory leather or shirtless dress code.

GAY NIGHT OUT

Buzz

51 Stuart St., Back Bay; 482-3939

Vapor

100 Warrenton St., Theater District; 695-9500

Rise

306 Stuart St., Bay Bay; 423-7473

Start your night out with all the sweaty hardbodies flexing their pecs on the dance floor at Buzz. If things get too swampy, or you can't stand the parade of scary exes, head over to Vapor for more of the same. If you strike out at the sidewalk sale after last call, stumble over to Rise to party till dawn. Although it's members-only, you either belong or know someone who does. If not, you should have your gay card revoked.

GOOFY WAY TO SPEND AN EVENING

Rock Bottom

They've got the rock-star hair (albeit artificial), they've got the arena-rock posturing and ringing guitars, and most important—they cover blissfully cheesy '80s tunes with shameless abandon! Rock Bottom, Boston's most studiously sloppy yet remarkably spot-on cover band, got their start at Lilli's. The secret soon got out and now their club performances are the easiest way to remember that classic Alice Cooper tour that came through when you were far too young to attend.

HIP-HOP ACT

Mr. Lif

A favorite here at the IMPROPER for a couple of years now due to his wit, intelligence and style-defying/defining flow, Mr. Lif continues to make strides forward in the local hip-hop realm and overseas. This past year has seen him tour with indie instrumental gods Tortoise, and in the fall he'll perform a series of shows in Europe with left coast underground stars Rasco and Planet Asia. Lif's EP, *Enters the Colossus*, has sold more than 10,000 copies, and in the pipeline are new tracks created with local producer Insight, as well as with El-P of NYC's legendary Company Flow.

INTERNET SOURCE FOR LOCAL MUSIC

RadioBoston.com

Local music fans who have yet to visit the *RadioBoston.com* Web site are in for a treat.

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Manager John Leverone has a ball at Cambridge's Lanes and Games.

BOWLING ALLEY

Lanes and Games

195 Concord Turnpike, Cambridge; 876-5533

Not that there are lots of options to choose from in the immediate vicinity, but this place still deserves high praise. With both candlepin and 10-pin bowling, a restaurant and lounge, party facilities and a pro shop, they've got everything that makes bowling the sport of kings, or at least the sport of guys named Earl.

ENTERTAINMENT

After beginning with a Webcast of the Boston Music Awards, the site rapidly expanded into a valuable resource for the lively local music scene. Providing regular feeds from such popular nightspots as the Kendall Café and T.T. the Bear's Place, *RadioBoston.com* ensures that even if your will to club-hop is not strong, your ears (or eyes, with a sufficient connection) no longer need suffer.

JAZZ CLUB

Regattabar

1 Bennett St., Cambridge; 661-5000

Boston may offer nonstop live rock, but jazz aficionados need not fear they'll be left out of the live performance party. The Regattabar, nestled comfortably in Cambridge's Charles Hotel, enjoys a national reputation for its jazz offerings. Among the legends of the genre that have graced the club's stage are Branford Marsalis, Joshua Redman and McCoy Tyner. Be forewarned though: Regulars take their jazz seriously. There is no smoking and conversation during a performance will earn you a scowl from the faithful—and rightfully so.

LESBIAN NIGHT OUT

Fridays at Circuit Girl

51 Stuart St., Theater District; 482-3939

Now that Lava Bar is no longer, what's a lesbian to do? Head over to the Theater District for Circuit Girl, which is essentially Lava Bar transplanted to a new location. Gyrating Sisters of Sappho, and possibly romance, await. Who knows? You might even get to dance with that cutie you were eyeing Thursday night at the Midway Café. And if not, there's always brunch in JP tomorrow morning.

LIVE MUSIC CLUB

The Middle East

472-480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge; 864-EAST

Lansdowne Street may book bigger names and the acoustics at the Paradise may occasionally surpass, but when it comes to consistency the legendary Middle East stands unbowed. With three rooms and a refreshingly eclectic booking policy, on most nights there is something to get virtually any listener's foot tapping. Kudos as well to owners Joseph and Nabil Sater for their willingness to take chances. With the ambitious new upscale dining room, ZuZu, the Middle East continues to intrigue newcomers and satisfy the coolest group of regulars in town.

LIVE BLUES MUSIC VENUE

House of Blues

96 Winthrop St., Cambridge; 491-2583

House of Blues' booking agent Teo Leyasmeyer not only books blues acts, but chooses to showcase a surprising range of local and national performers. On any given night, clubgoers can find gospel, New Orleans jazz, R&B, reggae, soul or jam—with some rock and singer/songwriters thrown in for good measure. And recently, hip-hop acts have become standard fare. The club is decorated with outsider folk art; the Cajun food is extraordinary; and the sound system and sight lines are excellent. The weekly gospel brunch is worth having your visa renewed to cross the river into the People's Republic of Cambridge.

LIVE ROCK ACT

Cracktorch

They burned through the 'BCN Rumble like Sherman through Atlanta and when their combination of AC-DC/Motorhead-inspired guitar blasts and over-the-top histrionics earned them second place, their fans did everything short of salt the earth to show their disapproval. Cracktorch's supercharged live shows keep getting better, and in a town that has recently seen hard-rocking acts Cave-In and Heidi sign with major labels, it may be only a matter of time before A&R types smell the smoke.

LOCAL CLASSICAL PERFORMANCE OF THE YEAR

Esther Budiardjo

Sept. 30, 2000; Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Clarinetist Richard Stotzman is the only local musician who can claim to be the greatest practitioner of his instrument in the world. But this fall a younger performer gave a piano recital that ought to be her steppingstone to greatness. Esther Budiardjo's concert at the Gardner Museum—which included Beethoven's titanic "Hammerklavier" sonata, a work some great players never perform—was breathtaking.

LOCAL JAZZ ACT

Either/Orchestra

Never judge a book by its cover. Beneath Either/Orchestra leader Russ Gershon's statesmanlike demeanor lies the heart of a musical lion. Well-versed in jazz, rock and world beats (with a particular weakness for Ethiopian music, a soft spot Gershon shared with his friend, the late Mark Sandman), the Either/Orchestra has entertained fans around the world and remain accessible, either in Orchestra form or varied offshoots, to discerning Bostonians.

MAINSTREAM MOVIE THEATER

Loews Theatres Boston Common

175 Tremont St., Theater District; 423-5801

It's been a while since Boston's had anything new to brag about when it comes to cinemas, but the latest multiplex to open in the city's most radically rehabbed neighborhood deserves a mention. Nineteen screens with stadium seating, digital sound, and best of all: The Back Lot Reserved, a bar and lounge with reserved seating privileges. Is Beantown finally catching up with LA?

ONE-STOP PARTYING

The Alley

1 Boylston Place, Theater District; 351-7000

With the Big Easy, The Sugar Shack, Sweetwater Café and Bishop's Pub, it's Boston's answer to Bourbon Street, with dancing, drinking and all manner of carrying on. If done correctly, and in its entirety, it will take you a week to 10 days to recover.

ORCHESTRAL PERFORMANCE

Boston Symphony Orchestra

Robert Spano, conductor, Oswaldo Golijov's Pasion Segun San Marco, *Feb. 8-10*

There is no question that the American premiere of Golijov's *Pasion* was the orches-

SAM WRIGHT

tral highlight of the past season. This is a major modern classical work, set for string orchestra, kick-ass Latin percussion band, an outstanding chorus, terrific vocalizers, capoeira dancers and a flawless performance by soprano Elizabeth Keusch. Conductor Robert Spano has no peer when performing new music. Why was he rejected for the permanent BSO job?

PERFORMANCE ART

Mobius

354 Congress St., South Boston; 542-7416

For 21 years, Mobius has been the city's premiere venue for experimental art, programming a 42-week roller-coaster ride of events that range from consciousness-raising to the downright bizarre. The annual Art Rages fund-raiser is one of the funkiest and most fun happenings in town, and the group's commitment to the Fort Point artists' community is one of the few things standing between it and the developers' wrecking ball. Our hats are off to them.

PLACE TO DRINK IN STYLE

Caprice

275 Tremont St., South End; 292-0080

Make sure you hit Caprice before heading to the theater if you want to see and be seen by the crème de la crème of the Boston chic circuit. It's also the place to go for a night out at the clubs after 10 on a Friday or Saturday. You'll find a distinctly well-dressed crowd lounging on the comfy blue and green sofas or dancing up a storm to the international house on a Saturday night. You can sit at the illuminated steel bars or kick back on the couches in the front or back lounges while sipping a killer cosmo or a sour apple martini.

PLACE TO FIND GUARANTEED ROMANCE

Rattlesnake Bar and Grill

384 Boylston St., Back Bay; 859-8555

This super-sassy hot spot is always packed with fresh-faced 20-somethings and eager young professionals who want to mix and mingle in a raucously fun atmosphere. Unlike some of the more stuffy bars around town where people keep to themselves, these hepcats are always up for meeting each other. If you strike out downstairs, you can always try your luck on the gorgeous roof deck. Plus, the Rattlesnake's margaritas are terrific.

PLACE TO FIND "THE CRAIC"

Times Pub

112 Broad St., Financial District; 357-8463

Wondering what the "craic" (pronounced *crack*) is? It's not a street drug, but just as addictive—it's Irish slang for fun. Ask any Irish native where the craic is and they will point to the Times Pub, an energetic gathering spot drawing suits, students and Big Dig workers alike. The Times, which maintains that it's "not your typical Irish pub," is the perfect location for your crash course in the craic.

PLACE TO GET YOUR GROOVE ON

Ryles Jazz Club

212 Hampshire St., Cambridge; 876-9330

Tired of pulsating techno music, strobe lights and an overcrowded room stuffed with sweaty ravers? Ryles Jazz Club offers various alternatives to the clubbing scene, with live jazz six nights a week, salsa and merengue dancing on Thursdays with Temporada Latina, Funk and R & B acts and a jazz brunch on Sundays. The general scene will make you think you're an extra on the set of *Swingers*. Now that's money, baby.



JAZZ JOINT • Wally's Cafe • *427 Mass. Ave., South End; 424-1408*

A return to the days when a jazz club meant a small, smoky room with a convivial if slightly seedy ambience and a bunch of hepcats onstage, creating something truly unique. The 9am opening time is just one indication of how hardcore this place is. There's live music daily until 2am and on Sundays there's an afternoon jam session from 3:30-7:30pm. Every jazz great, dead or alive, has passed through at some point, and you're always guaranteed a memorable time.



PROVERBIAL BARREL OF MONKEYS • Jillian's

145 Ipswich St., The Fenway, 437-0300

Like Chuck E. Cheese for adults, the place has have six full bars, billiards, slews of video games, virtual reality simulators, foosball and darts. Plus, it's close to Fenway. So if you didn't get enough of the Sox game, head over to Jillian's, knock' em down and rack 'em up.

POETRY NIGHT

Stone Soup Poetry

Got something to say? For more than 1,500 staggering weeks the Stone Soup Poets have provided a forum for established poets and nervous first-timers looking to share their verse. Founder Jack Powers' vision of a nurturing environment in which fledgling poets received encouragement has been fulfilled. Held downstairs at Cambridge's Middle East on Monday evenings, what began with the most admirable of intentions has grown over the course of 30 years into a beloved institution.

POOL HALL

The Rack

24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall; 725-1051

An über hot spot among pro jocks and rock stars (recent sightings include Nomar, Bledsoe, Uncle Kracker and the Goo-Goo Dolls), The Rack has great pub grub and a staff that looks like the cast of an Aaron Spelling series—not to mention live music every night (don't miss superhunky Chad LaMarsh). Beyond the stellar live music, pool is the big draw here—and with so many tables, you never have to wait in a long queue. The crowd is relaxed; you'll fit right in whether you order a cosmo or a Bud longneck. This place is a no-brainer.

ENTERTAINMENT

REASON TO ASK FOR A REFUND

Seussical the Musical

Horton might've heard a Who, but he didn't see it, and neither did you.

ROCK BAND

The Gentlemen

What started out for fun has turned into one of Boston's most consistently entertaining acts, the Gentlemen. Figgs frontman Mike Gent went from working on the road for the Gravel Pit to playing with three of its members (Ed Valauskas, Lucky Jackson and Pete Caldes). Their '70s-influenced thunder and lightning have been electrifying fans throughout the area, though one wonders how they were left off the recent 'BCN Rumble roster.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN (2)

SLICE OF AMERICAN CHEESE

Boston Pops

Visitors to Symphony Hall may find themselves humming a familiar tune—too familiar, according to some. The Boston Pops (dubbed "Corn Pops" by the cynical) has been dumbing down their play lists to an insulting extent, with such hackneyed tunes as the theme from *Star Wars* and various Beatles classics, leaving Bach fans feeling as if they just saw Raffi for grown-ups. Clapping along to "I'm a Yankee Doodle Dandy" is not everyone's idea of a night at the symphony.

SPORTS BAR

The Place

2 Broad St., Financial District; 523-2081

Upscale sports bar is not an oxymoron. This place has a mahogany floor, bar and furniture, three high-tech plasma-screen televisions, a 10-foot projection screen and every other bell and whistle to enhance the holy union of watching sports and drinking. One of the owners is a producer for ESPN and there's an in-house videographer who shows great moments in sports clips. The food beats the hell out of anything at Fenway or the FleetCenter. There's also a dance floor where you can put on your own half-time show and a VIP room where you can behave like a spoiled NBA star.

STRIP CLUB TO VISIT INCOGNITO

The Squire Lounge

604 Squire Road, Revere; 781-289-7000

ENTERTAINMENT

You're not likely to run into your boss on your way out of the Squire, yet it's closer to town than either the Cabaret or the Golden Banana. So throw on dark glasses, go forth and be entertained. Hot tip: You'll be extra stealthy if you venture out on an unlikely weeknight. But you should know that Monday and Tuesday are amateur nights, so though you might not see your boss, you may encounter a member of your immediate family shedding garments to Fragma's "Miracle."

TEA HOUSE

Qingping Gallery Teahouse

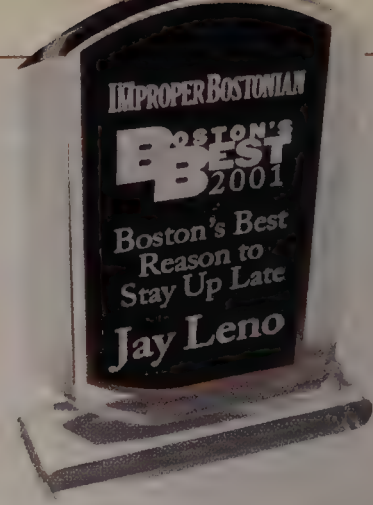
231 Shawmut Ave., South End; 482-9988

A slice of the Far East right in the South End, this exotic spot features Chinese artworks, antique furnishings and 20 blends of Chinese tea. More interesting than Starbucks. More cerebral than a bar. It's the sort of place where the customers are as interested in picking up ideas as they are in picking up each other.

LENO LOOKS BACK

Late-night funny guy Jay Leno tells the IMPROPER what he misses most about Boston and the hub-burbs.

INTERVIEW BY RACHEL STRUTT



Improper Bostonian: *What did you do for kicks growing up in Andover?*

Jay Leno: We'd go hang out at the spa. Burn rubber at Dairy Queen. That was about it.

IB: *Has Andover changed a lot since you grew up there?*

JL: Well, I lived there before it was home of the $5 chocolate chip cookie. We used to go to Ford's coffee shop, which had been there since the '30s. We'd meet there all the time; our initials were carved into tables. Now I'm sure it's Starbucks or Coffee Bean.... But there are other things that don't change. Not that long ago, I found an address book from 1974. All the numbers are the same. That's something that never happens in California. I still keep in touch with high school teachers. When you grow up in a small town, you keep in touch more. New England is like that; there's a familiarity that's nice.

IB: *What kind of car did you drive when you were at Emerson?*

JL: I worked at Foreign Motors on Comm. Ave. So I'd take a Rolls or a Mercedes for a spin, take it to class. I'd pick people up—a few girls actually thought I was Donovan, because I had long hair back then.

IB: *So your first Boston gig was in a strip club. What was that like?*

JL: Those types of places don't exist anymore. When I worked in strip joints, the women were strippers, not hookers. These were women who had families, single moms. They weren't whores. They had stage names like Lily Pagan Ineda Man. They'd do things like take baths in giant champagne glasses, or they'd come out twirling guns and do a dance routine. It was the last dying gasp of burlesque.

IB: *And how did you go over?*

JL: I'd go out in between performances and the guys would heckle me. The women were great and very supportive. One time a girl got out her giant champagne glass and decked a guy who was heckling me! It was fun; I mean, I was 19, there were naked girls at work. How bad could it be?

IB: *Boston has turned out some great comedians. Why do you think that is?*

JL: Boston is just a great comedy town. I think it's because we have that dichotomy of us vs. them, New England vs. everyone else. And we don't like anyone telling us what we can't do. For example, what possible reason do we have for trying to repeal the seat-belt law? It's just a question of Yankee independence and stubbornness. You see it in Denis Leary. He'll get onstage and smoke a cigarette. Here's a guy who'll get cancer just because someone tells him he can't smoke.

IB: *Is there a restaurant you miss in Boston?*

JL: The Paramount Café in Beacon Hill. I used to get a steak dinner there for $1.49; I could afford it once or twice a week. I went there the last time I was home—it's still there! {see page 24 for more on the Paramount Café.}

IB: *A favorite area or place in Boston?*

JL: Boston Common was the most amazing place. In the late '60s, the early '70s, people really gathered there—civil rights speakers and political leaders. I remember Abby Hoffman once spoke there; he was the first person [I heard] say the word "f***" into a microphone. People were like, "jeez!"

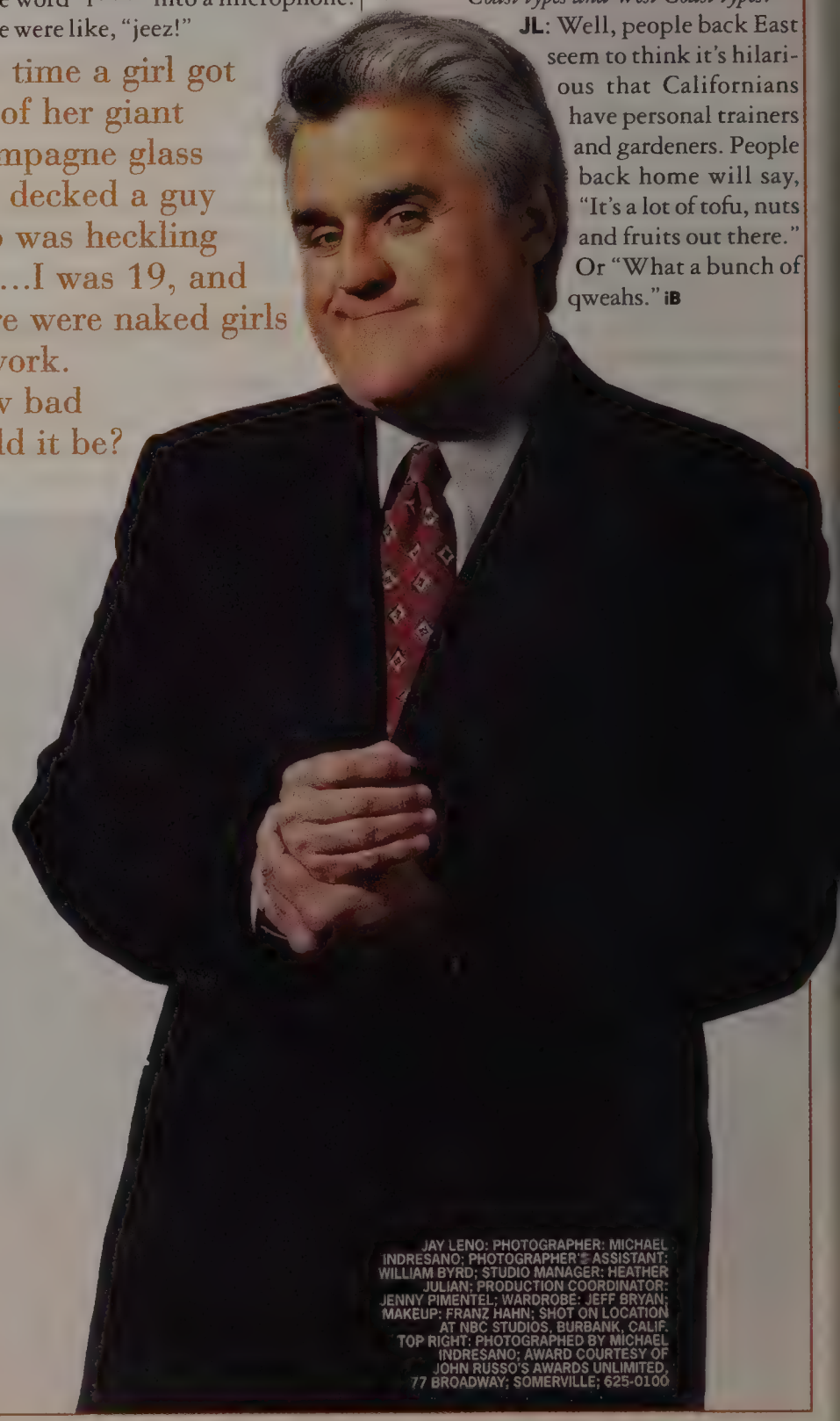
One time a girl got out of her giant champagne glass and decked a guy who was heckling me....I was 19, and there were naked girls at work. How bad could it be?

IB: *Is there something you like best about the Boston area?*

JL: I think it's the best place to grow up. You get a sense of place. When you're a little kid, I don't think change is necessarily good. It's nice to know that Mrs. So-and-So will always live there. And the teachers I had in New England were professional teachers. Everyone in LA is teaching until they can (fill in the blank)—whether it's write their screenplay or become an actor.

IB: *Do you see a big difference between East Coast types and West Coast types?*

JL: Well, people back East seem to think it's hilarious that Californians have personal trainers and gardeners. People back home will say, "It's a lot of tofu, nuts and fruits out there." Or "What a bunch of qweahs." IB



JAY LENO: PHOTOGRAPHER: MICHAEL INDRESANO; PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT: WILLIAM BYRD; STUDIO MANAGER: HEATHER JULIAN; PRODUCTION COORDINATOR: JENNY PIMENTEL; WARDROBE: JEFF BRYAN; MAKEUP: FRANZ HAHN; SHOT ON LOCATION AT NBC STUDIOS, BURBANK, CALIF.
TOP RIGHT: PHOTOGRAPHED BY MICHAEL INDRESANO; AWARD COURTESY OF JOHN RUSSO'S AWARDS UNLIMITED, 77 BROADWAY, SOMERVILLE; 625-0100

Hey Moretti! How ya doin'?



Every Thursday & Friday nights from July 19 - August 31 I'll be at one of my favorite restaurants in Boston's North End. Come ask me, "How ya doin'?" and I'll buy you a Birra Moretti, "The Authentic Italian Beer", and enter you in the contest for the Grand Prize trip to the Venetian in Las Vegas, "the closest thing to Italy this side of the Mediterranean".

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Sox Appeal

While the rest of our city's teams are "rebuilding," we are once again left rooting for the Red Sox. Well, Curse of the Bambino be damned—BC hockey rules!

DEFIANCE OF THE RADAR GUN

Tim Wakefield

While most other pitchers rely on throwing gas, Tim Wakefield steps to the mound with a different approach. His stiff, upright "Hey, we're just playing catch here" delivery produces pitches that often dip below 60 mph. But just because his bread-and-butter knuckleballs wouldn't get pulled over for speeding on I-95 doesn't mean they're not effective. When Wakefield's got his stuff (admittedly, when he's off, he's really off), not only are batters left swinging like confused T-ballers, but his beleaguered catcher can barely put a mitt on the ball. Witness June 19, when he took a no-hitter into the ninth inning against the Devil Rays. As an added bonus, he is one of the few pitchers who can start or work from the bullpen. So although he might not be a fireballer, this season Wakefield has made a prime contribution to keeping the Sox from knuckling under.

ATHLETE TO HAVE NEXT TO YOU IN A BAR FIGHT

Carl Everett

Everett makes us recall the Eddie Murphy routine wherein Murphy stated that the best way to psyche out an opponent in a fight is by acting crazy: "My name is Ed, and I'm gonna make you dead." Well, his name is Carl, and you best not make him, um, snarl. OK, maybe the psycho rhyming technique doesn't serve him well. But intimidation and attitude still play a big role in unplanned altercations, so Everett's Jekyll-and-Hyde ability to go from zero to maniacally furious in 2.2 seconds is what makes him our choice for this category. What can we say, the man has passion. Plus there's that everpresent, bad-ass toothpick. Other athletes may be bigger, schooled in martial arts or packing heat, but give us Jurassic Carl and a pool cue and we like our chances against everyone in this damn bar. Honorable mention: Izzy "Bloodsport" Alcantara.

MAKING THE BEST OF A BAD SITUATION

Jim O'Brien

When Rick Pitino decided that he'd had enough of coaching the underwhelming Celtics, assistant coach Jim O'Brien was picked for the unenviable duty of playing interim coach for a 12-22 team. But the players responded to O'Brien's relatively laid-back attitude (Paul Pierce in particular heated up in the home stretch and ended the year as the eighth-highest scorer in the NBA), and the Celts went 24-24 for the rest of the season. That still isn't stellar, but it's certainly an improvement over the train-wreck of a season O'Brien was handed by Pitino. The boys in green even flirted with making the playoffs, but it was not to be. Perhaps with a fresh start next year—and O'Brien's fresh three-year contract—the post-Pitino Celts will be able to get the franchise moving back in the direction of its former glories.

NEXT SPORT TO FIELD A PROFESSIONAL TEAM

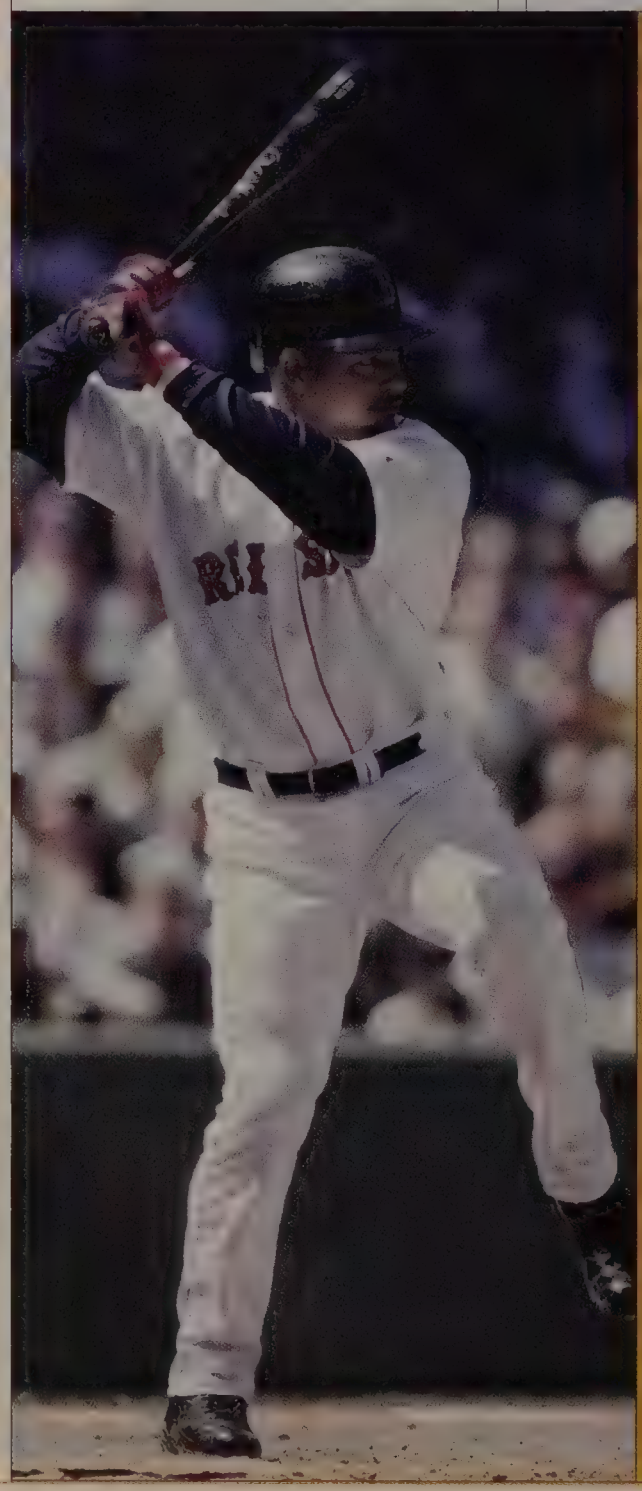
Curling

Only a few years ago, the Red Sox-Patriots-Celtics-Bruins quartet reigned supreme in Boston's sportscape, but as of late our city is accumulating pro teams faster than you can say "What was the XFL?" (Mercifully, we did avoid fielding a team in that pathetic league.) The New England Revolution men's soccer team arrived in 1996, paving the way this year for their female counterparts, the Boston Breakers. Now we also have a pro lacrosse team, the Cannons. Shrewd trend-spotters that we are, we see where this is going. You heard it here first: The Boston Slide pro curlers are soon going to creep into your hearts and join the growing pantheon of professional Boston sports franchises. On the Frog Pond next winter, watch out for curling-crazed youngsters pushing around official Slide-logoed 44-pound curling stones. File under: Just kidding. We hope.

OBLIVIOUS TO CRITICISM

Jimy Williams

"Why were you sitting Bichette?" "Why did you yank Pedro?" "What've you got against Lou Merloni?" "Why do you spell your name like that?" Jimy Williams has had his decisions second-guessed this year with nuclear intensity by fans, the media and Dan Duquette. But in the end, he can always give his detractors the figurative finger with a single reply: "Manager's decision."



MOST IMPORTANT SOX PLAYER WHOSE NAME ENDS IN "EZ"

Manny Ramirez

On May 1, the Red Sox beat the scorching Seattle Mariners 2-0. Pedro Martinez struck out 12 en route to a shut-out, while Manny Ramirez drove in both of the Sox's two runs. This game epitomizes the contributions both players make to the team, but on the whole, who's the MIP (Most Invaluable Player)? This question begets another broader query: What is more important to the Sox: driving in runs or denying them to the opposition? It seems that this year, as in years past, the Sox offense has been inconsistent. True, many players have had hot streaks and/or clutch hits, but—particularly with Nomar Garciaparra out—Manny has provided a bastion of offensive stability in Jimy Williams' schizophrenic lineups. Pedro, while routinely dominating, has been joined by a rotation that has surprised everyone with its own stingy earned run average. So the Pedro vs. Manny question really comes down to the performance of their supporting players, and in the erratic Sox lineup, Manny's RBIs are simply irreplaceable.



HEAVYWEIGHT CHAMPION OF THE WORLD • Johnny Ruiz

We can't help but take some pride in the fact that the current WBA heavyweight champ hails from Chelsea. Ruiz, who will defend his belt against former champ Evander Holyfield in China next month, is also one pugilist that you're not embarrassed to claim as your own. Ruiz's nickname, "The Quiet Man," seems contrary to the kind of unbridled aggression one expects in the ring. But with a 37-4 lifetime record (one of those losses was a questionable decision against Holyfield the first time they fought), Ruiz's fists do the trash-talking for him.



REASON TO ROOT AGAINST NEW JERSEY • Ray Bourque

He toiled in Boston for more than two decades without winning a championship. But when the Colorado Avalanche finished off the New Jersey Devils last month, Ray Bourque finally got his hands on the Stanley Cup. Sure it wasn't in Boston, but it almost felt like it. Some would say that the proprietorship toward the NHL championship displayed by Boston fans is misguided, but in a world where team-switching athletes are often shunned as traitors in their original homes (ahem, Clemens), it was refreshing to see both Bourque and Boston celebrate their inextricable connection when he returned to his old turf. Hey, if you can't beat 'em...go Aves.

FEMALE ATHLETE

Kristine Lilly

She may not have attained the Jordan-like status of Mia Hamm or the notoriety of Brandi Chastain, but Lilly does have a slew of NCAA championships, two Olympic medals (one gold, one silver), the world record for international appearances and two Women's World Cups on her resume. The third all-time leading scorer on the Women's National Team, we pity the goalies charged with stopping this Boston Breaker's shots.

LONG-TERM MOVE

Drew Bledsoe's 10-Year, $103 Million Deal

The Patriots have many problems. Iraq had a better ground attack in the Gulf War. Their offensive line is a human colander. They play in a dumpy stadi—oh wait, they've taken care of that one. They've also taken care of locking in a solid quarterback for the next decade, which ought to allow owner Bob Kraft to focus on those other pesky shortcomings. So then, may the next 10 years at CMGI Field be rich with NFL championships. Or at least a few playoff games.

LONG-AWAITED TITLE

Boston College's 2001 Hockey Championship

With a dramatic 3-2 overtime win against defending champion North Dakota, the Eagles sealed their first title in any sport since they last won the hockey crown—in 1949. There could be hope for the Red Sox yet...

SPORTS EQUIVALENT OF DRIVING THE INDY 500 ON FOUR SPACE-SAVER SPARES

Red Sox

You can't complain about the season the Red Sox have had thus far, especially given their health status. If the team succumbs to any more injuries, they're going to have to start using ghost runners. Barring that, Jimy Williams may have to write himself into the lineup. And hey, Kevin Kennedy, how's the arm feel? Good. You're starting. Yes, we're aware that Pete Schorek is available.

USE OF A RAZOR

Brian Daubach

The chin strap is gone, finally. But watch out for his hot fall look: the neck beard.

RUIZ: DARREN MCCOLLESTER/NEWSMAKERS; BOURKE: NIKOLAY MOLTCHANOV

media & politics

From radio rabble-rousers and media moms in political pundits and school scandals—our fair city provides plenty of drama. We praise the talented protagonists and comment on the comedy.

RADIO TALK-SHOW HOST

David Brudnoy
WBZ Radio

...And then there was one. With Chris Lydon's abrupt departure (see "Media Demise"), you can count the number of talk-show hosts who even feign intelligence on one finger. When it comes to thoughtful conversation, Brudnoy is the only game in town.

MEDIA PERSONALITY COMEBACK

Robin Young
Here & Now, *WBUR*

Even in her early role as co-host/cheerleader of WBZ-TV's *Evening Magazine*, there was always something refreshingly real about Robin Young. In her first radio gig, as morning drive DJ at WBOS, Young was straitjacketed by the station's tight music format. But as co-host of WBUR's noontime news magazine *Here & Now*, she has found her niche, and listeners have discovered her depth. Like NPR's master interviewer Terry Gross, Young has an amiable delivery that allows her to challenge guests without seeming deliberately confrontational. Best of all, she actually follows up on their answers, suggesting that she listens as well as she speaks.

TV NEWS

New England Cable News (NECN)

The very qualities that "set the standard" at WHDH-TV, last year's "Best," are now getting to be old news. Channel 7's brand of hyperaggressive reporting, dizzying story counts and gonzo graphics have become de rigueur, leaving newscasts in this market basically interchangeable, with one notable exception: New England Cable News. The newscast relies on solid journalism in a relatively straightforward package; not exactly a formula likely to inspire imitators, but one that puts NECN in a class by itself.

MEDIA DEMISE

Christopher Lydon

Wait a cotton-picking minute! Didn't we anoint Lydon "Best Radio Talk-Show Host" just last year? Yes, and therein lies the tragedy. Lydon remains "well informed," "well prepared" and "smart," but his own ego and greed have deprived us of his talents. We're reminded of this every time we try to make the connection with another one of the has-beens and wannabes who attempt to fill his shoes, while the genuine article cools his heels in the self-imposed obscurity of the occasional Webcast. On a brighter note, the official Lydon Web site hints that the radio rabble-rouser will be back on the radio waves this fall. Let's hope so; greedy or not, he's the best there is.

SPORTCASTER

Gene Lavanchy
WHDH-TV, Channel 7

It was basically a dead heat between 7 *Sports Extra* with Gene Lavanchy on WHDH-TV and *Sports Final* with Bob Lobel on WBZ-TV, according to the May ratings book. Which show you watch—and which sportscaster you prefer—may have less to do with substance (they're both knowledgeable) than style. Lobel is a Boston sports legend in his own right, larger than life like many of the athletes he covers, but Lavanchy's focus on his subjects and his passion give him a refreshing style of his own—and the edge.



GAG ORDER

Boston Globe/WEEI SportsRadio Standoff

The feud dates back to 1999, when a *Globe* sportswriter appeared on a WEEI show in which another participant used an ethnic slur to describe a Japanese pitcher. According to a column by *Globe* ombudsman Jack Thomas, that comment prompted editor Matt Storin to ask, "What are we doing on these shows?" Two years later, after another *Globe* sports scribe's guest spot on the station's morning show—now filled with references to penis size, "fat naked fags" and "Korean whores"—Storin barred all *Globe* staff from the show. WEEI retaliated by banning *Globe* writers from all of its programs. Columnist Eileen McNamara wrote a piece critical of the *Globe*'s decision. Storin killed the column. McNamara defied the ban and appeared on WEEI to denounce the censorship of her views. The paper denounced McNamara's move. Gag order? Still in place. Final score? Depends if you view the *Globe* as censor or savior. IB take? An edict may not have been the wisest way for the paper to protect its image, but we have to wonder about writers who would risk their own integrity for such a sorry self-promotion.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES MEDIA PLAYER

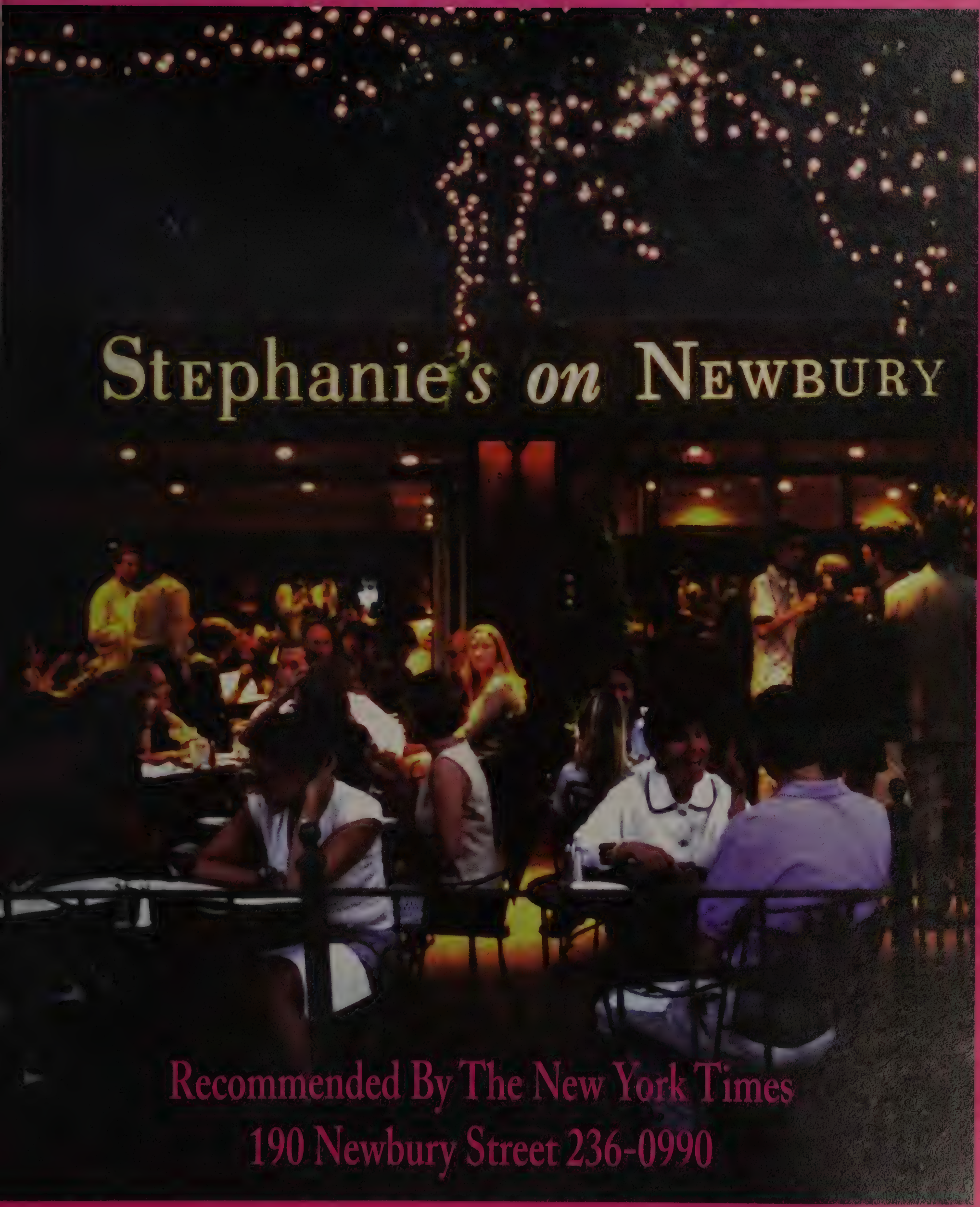
Jane Christo
General Manager, WBUR

As an employer, she makes Leona Helmsley look like Aaron Feurstein. But in the war with Christopher Lydon, she took the high ground and emerged the winner on two fronts: PR and principle. When Lydon tried to demonize her in the press, she refused to get personal, focusing on her (admirable) position that public radio must remain public. Throw in her track record developing national hits (*Car Talk, It's Only a Game, The Connection*), and it's clear that Christo is a force to be reckoned with.

Media Mom • Liz Walker • *WBZ-TV*

This year, it was anchors away at channels 4, 5 and 7. Motherhood was certainly a factor at Channel 5, where presumed Natalie Jacobsen–heir Heather Kahn opted for full-time domestic duties (and ultimately, bolted Boston altogether) after the birth of her third child. Kim Carrigan's unceremonious dismissal at Channel 7 coincided (uncomfortably) with her pregnancy. But WBZ-TV's Liz Walker is an all too rare example of consciously and successfully striking a balance between the personal and professional. In "demoting" herself from the marquee 11pm newscast to the lower-profile noon show, Walker exchanged money and status for time. Time to pursue a spiritual journey, through coursework at The Harvard Divinity School, and time to be with her teenage son. How inspirational.

TRACY POWELL


Stephanie's on Newbury
Recommended By The New York Times
190 Newbury Street 236-0990

HIGH-TECH COLUMNIST

Hiawatha Bray

The Boston Globe

Last year's winner of our "Columnist for Geeks" award, this year, we recognize Bray's ability to transcend "Geek speak" and reach out to those of us who think an Air Port is a place where Palm Pilots hang out.

NEWS FOR THE GLOBE AND HERALD

The *Metro*

The idea of a quick free read for commuters might have spelled real trouble for the major dailies in their quest for new, younger readers. Fortunately (for Misters Purcell and Gilman), the new Boston edition of this Swedish-born, London-based international chain of newspapers barely has enough substance to sustain a T rider from Boylston to Park Street. The content and the look of The Metro are so generic, they could be phoning it in from Stockholm.

INDICATION THAT TREES ARE BEING SAVED WHILE DOT-COMS ARE DYING

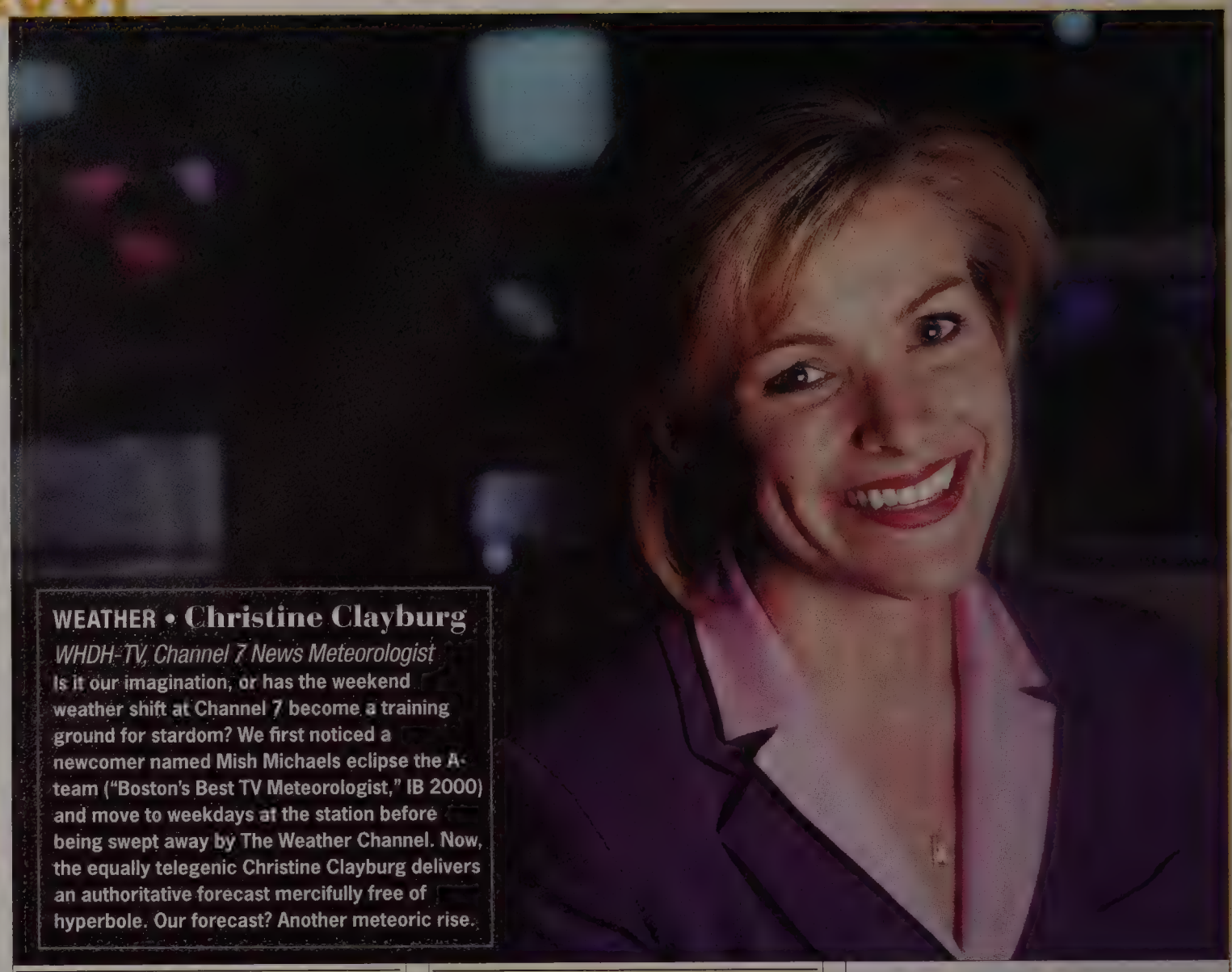
Fast Company

If there was ever an icon for the dot-com explosion (and accompanying boom economy), it's *Fast Company*, the Boston-based new-age business phenomenon. So how did such a fast-rising star of the magazine world go from fat as a phonebook to slimmer than a Titanium PowerBook, all in less than a year? It's the economy, stupid. As dot-coms bit the dust, so did their ad budgets. Last July's issue had 388 pages; this month's is a svelte 162. Maybe the editors ought to read their current cover story, "How to Stay Fast in Slower Times."

ONLINE MAGAZINE

The Atlantic Online

Want to hear John Updike read his poem "Rainbow"? Care to respond to James Fallows, as he exchanges thoughts with Barbara Ehrenreich about "not getting by in America"? Interested in some feedback about your own poem or exposé? Check out The Atlantic Online, the "home on the Internet" of the venerable literary magazine, *The Atlantic Monthly*. The content highlights and complements the paper edition, but what sets the new media version apart is their incredible "Atlantic Unbound" section, which offers Web-only features that make the site a must even for folks who read the print edition cover to cover.



WEATHER • Christine Clayburg

WHDH-TV, Channel 7 News Meteorologist

Is it our imagination, or has the weekend weather shift at Channel 7 become a training ground for stardom? We first noticed a newcomer named Mish Michaels eclipse the A-team ("Boston's Best TV Meteorologist," IB 2000) and move to weekdays at the station before being swept away by The Weather Channel. Now, the equally telegenic Christine Clayburg delivers an authoritative forecast mercifully free of hyperbole. Our forecast? Another meteoric rise.

NEWS ANCHOR

Lisa Hughes

WBZ-TV, Channel 4

The faces in Boston news used to change so rarely, we were practically the Mt. Rushmore of television markets. These days, reporters and anchors are as interchangeable as the cast on *E.R.* So what makes WBZ-TV's Lisa Hughes stand out from the crowd? Authority. Her delivery suggests that she truly understands what she's reading, a result, no doubt, of her years as a globetrotting reporter for Newspath, a service for CBS stations. We're also impressed by her psychic abilities: Upon moving to Washington, D.C., several years ago, the first thing she did was to buy a city guide—of Boston. A gut feeling told her she'd wind up living here one day. Nothing like being first on a story.

LOCAL NEWS TRADITION

"Wednesday's Child"

WBZ-TV News, Channel 4

Twenty years ago, WBZ-TV news anchor Jack Williams came up with the idea of using television as a sort of matchmaking service between special-needs children and prospective adoptive families. Working with Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange, Williams has helped to place more than 450 children, and the concept he developed is now used in local news shows at more than 100 stations across the country. An unfortunately rare example of television doing well by doing good.

EDITORIAL COLUMNIST

Derrick Jackson

The Boston Globe

With David Nyhan among the *Globe* veterans recently accepting management's offer of early release for time served, the ranks of the paper's liberal contingent have been conspicuously thinned. Now more than ever, Derrick Jackson is the voice of the disenfranchised in this community. Jackson writes with an equal dose of passionate indignation about scout leaders banished for their sexual orientation, African Americans deprived of their votes, and sick state employees suffering workplace discrimination. That he does so with such eloquence makes Jackson a consistently compelling voice.

EXAMPLE OF MEDIA MISSING THE FOREST THROUGH THE TREES

Boston Globe Becoming Unhinged by Anti-Staples Ad

Did the *Boston Globe* really kill an ad submitted by an environmental group to kiss up to a major advertiser, or was the paper simply trying to get the organization to substantiate its claims, as its spokesperson contends? The answer hardly matters anymore. Whether or not the charges Forest Ethics attempted to level against mega chain Staples about its environmental policies are legit, the real story has become the newspaper itself. By circling the wagons, the editors have simply raised more questions: Are we experiencing déjà vu from the FleetBank fiasco last year, when the paper refused to run an ad critical of the bank (another major *Globe* advertiser)? Could the recent round of cutbacks and buyouts at the paper suggest a financial climate in which the wall between editorial and advertising is likely to be constantly chipped away? Why did ombudsman Jack Thomas, normally the independent, even-handed voice of the paper's readers, suddenly sound like a mouthpiece for the powers that be? And why were those powers suddenly silent? "I think the *Globe* has created a situation where you have to give the Forest Ethics people the benefit of the doubt," observed media watcher John Carroll.

POLITICIAN TO WATCH

Cheryl Jacques (D-Needham)

She's gay, Catholic and a graduate of both Boston College and Suffolk University's graduate schools. In the days of Ricky Ricardo, State senator Cheryl Jacques might have had a lot of 'splaining to do. Today she's viewed by many as a serious contender for the 9th District's seat in Congress. Jacques' work for the rights of women and children and common-sense gun control legislation have earned her a spot in the national spotlight, an illumination that could brighten the halls of Capitol Hill.

TRACY POWELL

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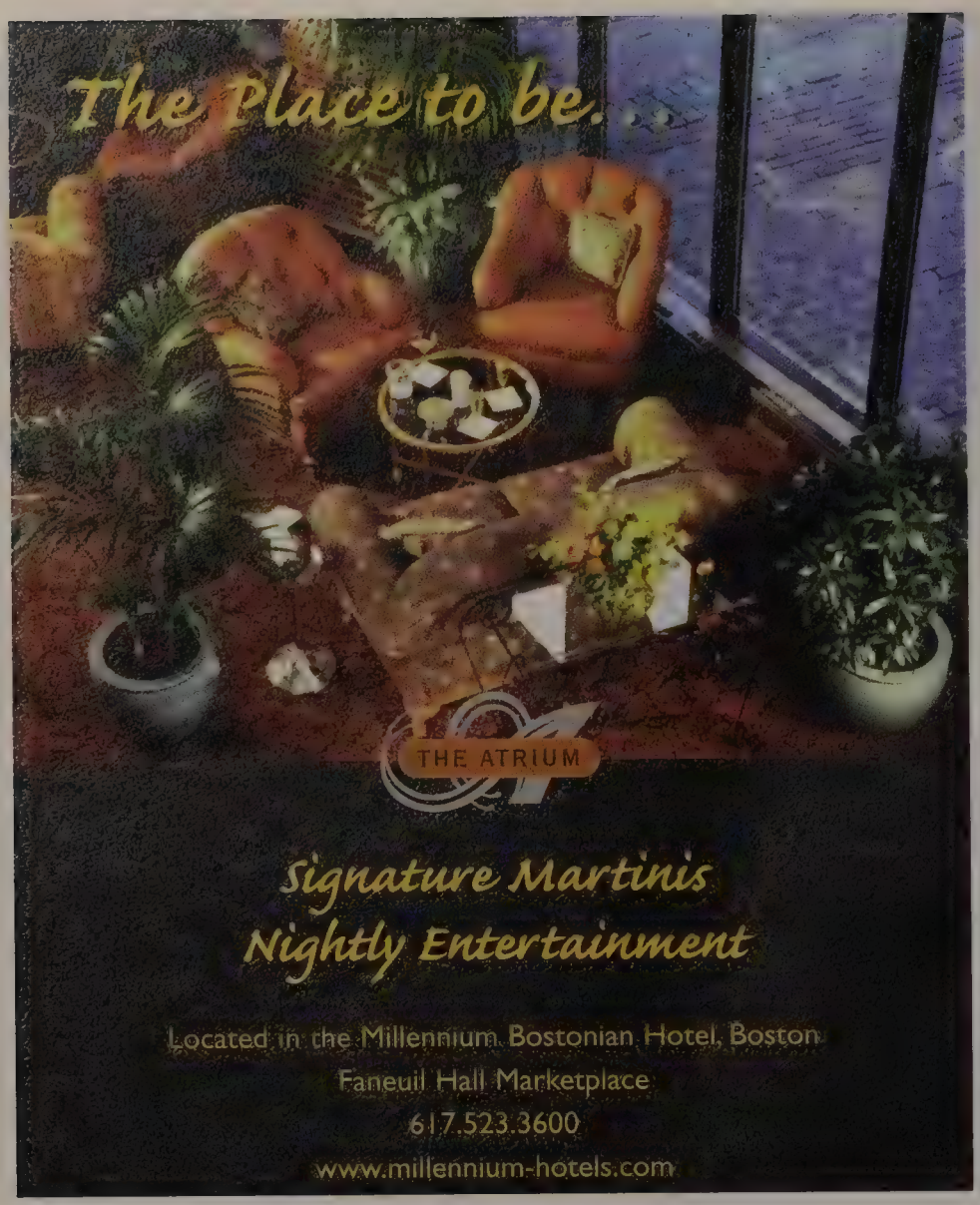


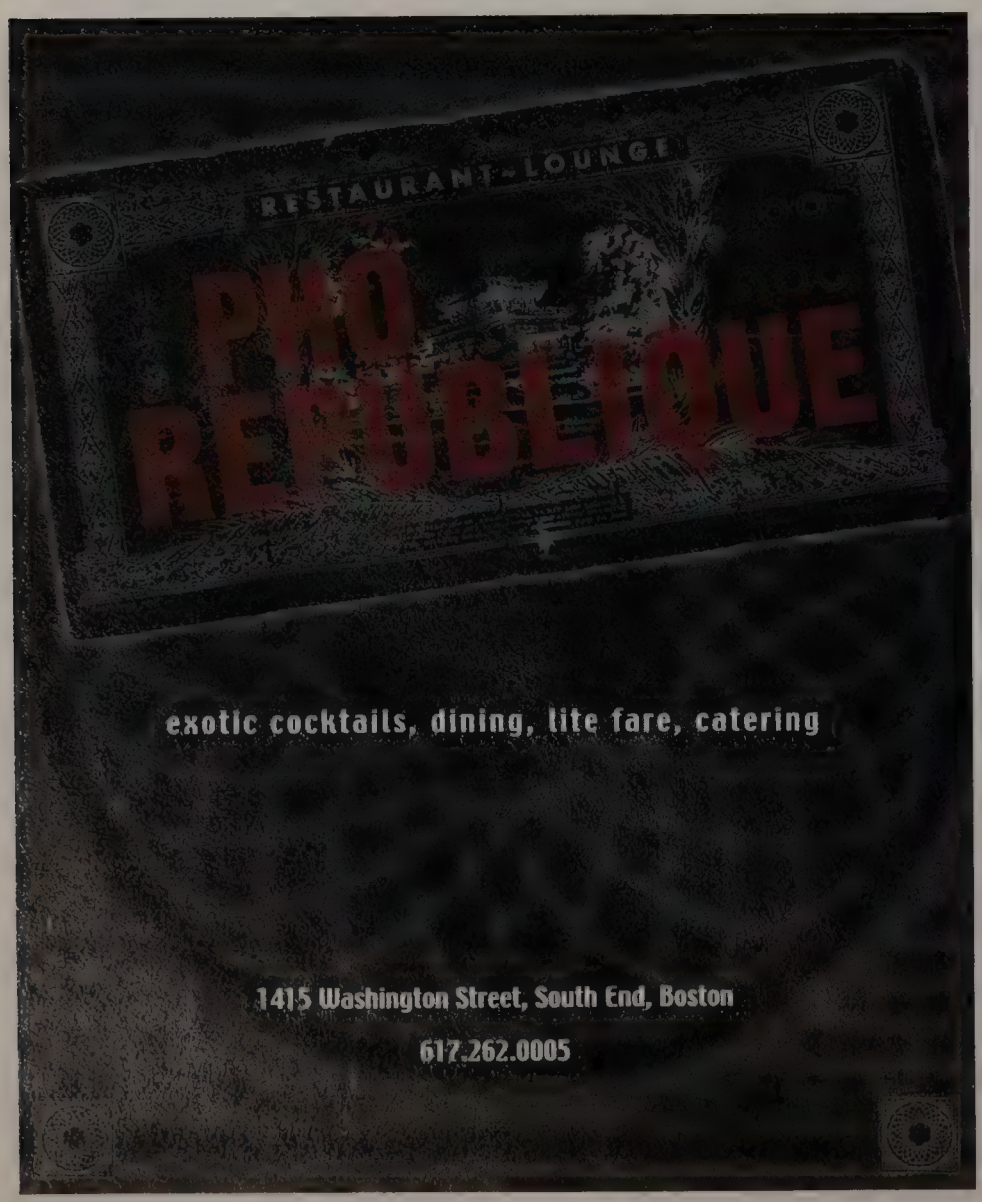
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MOST MISSED

John Joseph Moakley

1927-2001

Moakley joined the Mass. House in 1953 and served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1972 until his death this May. But his passing marks more than a loss of a time-tested stalwart of our state's political machine. With one potential successor to his 9th District seat beginning fund-raising before Moakley even died (Brian A. Joyce) and another blowing off student loans (Stephen F. Lynch), it's hard not to think that Moakley's absence leaves a vacuum in areas other than mere experience. In the words of Ted Kennedy, "Joe embodied the highest ideals and values of the nation, and public service is a more noble profession because of his life and the example that he set." We couldn't say it any better.

EDUCATIONAL CRISIS

The MCAS Tests

Zits, raging hormones, peer pressure and the SAT: As if high-schoolers don't have enough sources of stress. Well, the state added another huge one this year with the stipulation that students must pass the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System tests to graduate. Sorry, kiddo—if the 2000 tests are any indication, you might not want to clean out your locker just yet, as 45 percent of 10th graders failed the English section and 34 percent failed math. Are our kids big dum-dums, or is this test possibly a little too difficult to use as a basic graduation requirement? When a high school test is only slightly easier than the Massachusetts bar exam (which had a 48.2 percent failure rate the last time it was administered), maybe students' cries of "No fair!" should be taken seriously.

PARLOR GAME

Where's Whitey?

The latest reports have him somewhere in the Southwest with an unidentified female companion, frequenting nudist colonies and gay bars. Oh yes, and he supposedly has fierce halitosis.

PRESENT FOR A BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR

Ear Plugs

It's noisy at City Hall Plaza. Boo hoo hoo.

EXAMPLE OF A 1968-STYLE UPRISING

Harvard's Living-Wage Protest

It must have felt good to the Harvard students rallying for the employees who clean up after their Ivy-covered shenanigans to demand that they be paid a higher wage. Unfortunately, like their hippie predecessors, most did not see the big picture. By demanding that wages be raised from $8 to $10 per hour, these shining stars ensured that a number of staff jobs would be eliminated and as a fringe benefit the most ambitious of the lot earned reprimands on those pricey permanent records.

EXAMPLE OF PLAGIARISM

MassBay Community College stealing L.L. Bean's slogan: "Start here. Go anywhere."

It's used on the college's Web site; it's plastered on its vans, emblazoned on its stationery, etc. Hmmm, it's hard to believe that no one at MassBay has ever gotten an L.L. Bean catalog. And here's the kicker: You can't sue a state agency, so the college is still using the slogan with no signs of contrition. This makes us wonder: Does MBCC stand for Mass Bay Cheaters College?

STATE TO HATE

media & politics

Florida

Between Elian Gonzalez and his Miami relatives, dimpled chads and the botched election, the Sunshine State offered more annoying media fodder in the past year than all of the other 49 combined.

CANDIDATE FOR...BROW WAXING

Max Kennedy

(Max, check out our recommendation for best brow shaping on page 36.)

NIKOLAY MOLTCHANOV

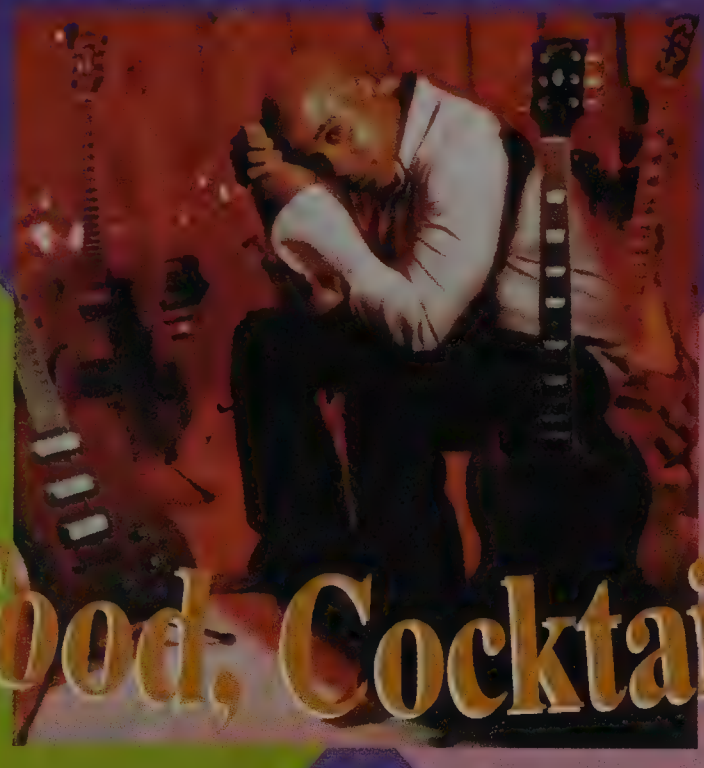
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Fashion, Food, Cocktails & Music!

with special guest

AMY CORREIA

All proceeds go to benefit The Big Bam! Foundation, a volunteer driven organization that raises funding for uninsured women with breast cancer and promotes education and awareness about prevention for young women nationwide

6:15 - 7:30pm — Exclusive cocktail party with Connie Britton, formerly of Spin City, Darius Rucker and the band members, Mix 98.5's Gregg Daniels, news anchor Janet Wu, meteorologist Mishelle Michaels and other local celebrities. This portion will also include a runway presentation featuring fashions modeled by click, and fabulous food by KingFish Hall, Flemmings Prime Steakhouse, Sel de la Terre, and South End Galleria.

[redacted] — Musical performance by Amy Correia

9:00-10:00pm — Musical performance by Darius Rucker (lead singer of Hootie & the Blowfish) who will be debuting songs from his forthcoming solo album

[redacted] — DJ and Dancing

[redacted] Slightly Swanky

For more information, please visit our website at www.bigbam.com or call 1-866-4BigBam

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inside RACK

Every Monday Night

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Every Tuesday Night, 6pm

After-work Jazz Party featuring the band MD!

Every Wednesday Night, 6pm

Summer Reggae Party & DJ Steve Anderson.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm

"RADIO-ACTIVE"

Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes, hosted by Mix 98.5's Party-Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky mixes it up 'til 2am.

Every Friday Night, 6pm

Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Every Saturday Night

Star 93.7 Dance Party with Vinnie Peruzzi broadcasting live!

Thursday, July 26th, 6:00pm

Pre-Pan Mass Challenge Party! Join us to celebrate Pan Mass riders and cheer on the first ever PMC Kayakers TeamRack who will be kayaking from Boston's Long Wharf to Provincetown! Mark Morris & The Catunes and DJ Ricky will keep you dancing all night!

Tuesday, July 31st, 6:30pm

Darius Rucker, best known as the lead singer of Hootie & The Blowfish debuting his songs from his forthcoming solo album with an opening performance by Amy Correia live! Fashion, food, cocktails and music! All proceeds go to benefit the Big Bam foundation "breast awareness movement". This gala is hosted by Connie Britton, formerly of Spin City, Mix 98.5's Gregg Daniels and the Improper Bostonian Magazine. It will begin with a celebrity cocktail party and runway fashion show by Boston's top designers and models from click. After the show, Boston's Hottest DJs will spin the night away! Please call The Rack for tickets and details or call 866-4BIGBAM

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THE RACK

BUSINESS & technology

The mapping of the human genome, dot-com deaths and the financial gurus who manage to float merrily along despite the choppy stock-market waters.

COMPANY MOST LIKELY TO TAKE OVER CAMBRIDGE

Millennium Pharmaceuticals

Why are globe-girdling pharmaceutical giants like Bayer, Eli Lilly and Bristol-Myers Squibb so anxious to partner with this Cambridge-based pharmaceuticals company? Because maybe Millennium can save them years in drug development by identifying the specific genes that cause disease. Not content just to be a genetics company, Millennium intends to do it all, from identifying disease-related genes, creating diagnostic tests that can predict whether a patient will become sick, identifying potential drug targets, performing clinical trials, obtaining FDA approval and selling the new drug. A blockbuster drug can bring in over a billion dollars, but CEO Mark Levin has a loftier goal—to revolutionize modern medicine. We think he's well on his way.

BUSINESS MODEL FOR SURVIVING ON NEWBURY STREET

London Lace

While storefront vacancies are rising on Newbury Street, 18-year veteran Diane Loesch Jones' London Lace store proves that a small business can be lucrative—even where rents are ridiculously high. Jones' winning formula: 80% of her sales come from her catalog, the Internet and from phone orders. It doesn't hurt that her store is the only place in the world that carries such breadth of authentic Scottish lace, hand-strung on Victorian looms for the past 130 years in the same two Scottish factories.

DOT-COM SURVIVAL STORY

Art Technology Group

While scores of dot-coms file for bankruptcy, Cambridge Web entrepreneur Jeet Singh keeps his company afloat by concentrating on the basics: delivering a superior e-commerce platform called Dynamo, servicing 730 customers worldwide (including AT&T, Sony, Fidelity Investments and General Motors) and making tough cost-cutting decisions when required. Singh follows the "work hard, play hard" philosophy, and encourages his customers to do the same. The company parties at ATG's annual user conference in New Orleans—including a parade, lavish client bash and a carnival complete with a ferris wheel at the Superdome—were recently featured in the *Wall Street Journal*.

BUSINESS BOMB

Kozmo.com

It must have looked easy to Joseph Park, a young investment banker at Goldman, Sachs & Co. Young entrepreneurs were becoming millionaires overnight as they took their dot-coms public. Park's brainchild, an Internet-based bicycle-powered one-hour delivery service eventually discovered what Domino's Pizza could have told them for free: Timed deliveries are expensive. Although Kozmo.com never went public, the ousting of its braggart founder and the company's subsequent spectacular demise inspired a documentary called "e-Dreams" directed by Wonsuk Chin, a silent co-founder of Kozmo. Or is that "e-Nightmares"? (*www.edreamsmovie.com*)

MOST INAPPROPRIATE BUSINESS NAME

In April "Baby on Board" child product manufacturer Safety 1st and its parent, Cosco, were fined a record $1.75 million by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission for not reporting product malfunctions, injuries and deaths to the CPSC as required by law. According to Marla Felcher, author of *It's No Accident: How Corporations Sell Dangerous Baby Products*, Canton-based Safety 1st is also the only major company that continues to produce bath seats, a product that has been associated with at least 79 infant deaths. Perhaps the company should consider changing its name to "Safety Last."

WEIRDEST BUSINESS DECISION

CMGI's Purchase of Naming Rights to Patriots Stadium/ Idealab's Expansion to Newbury Street

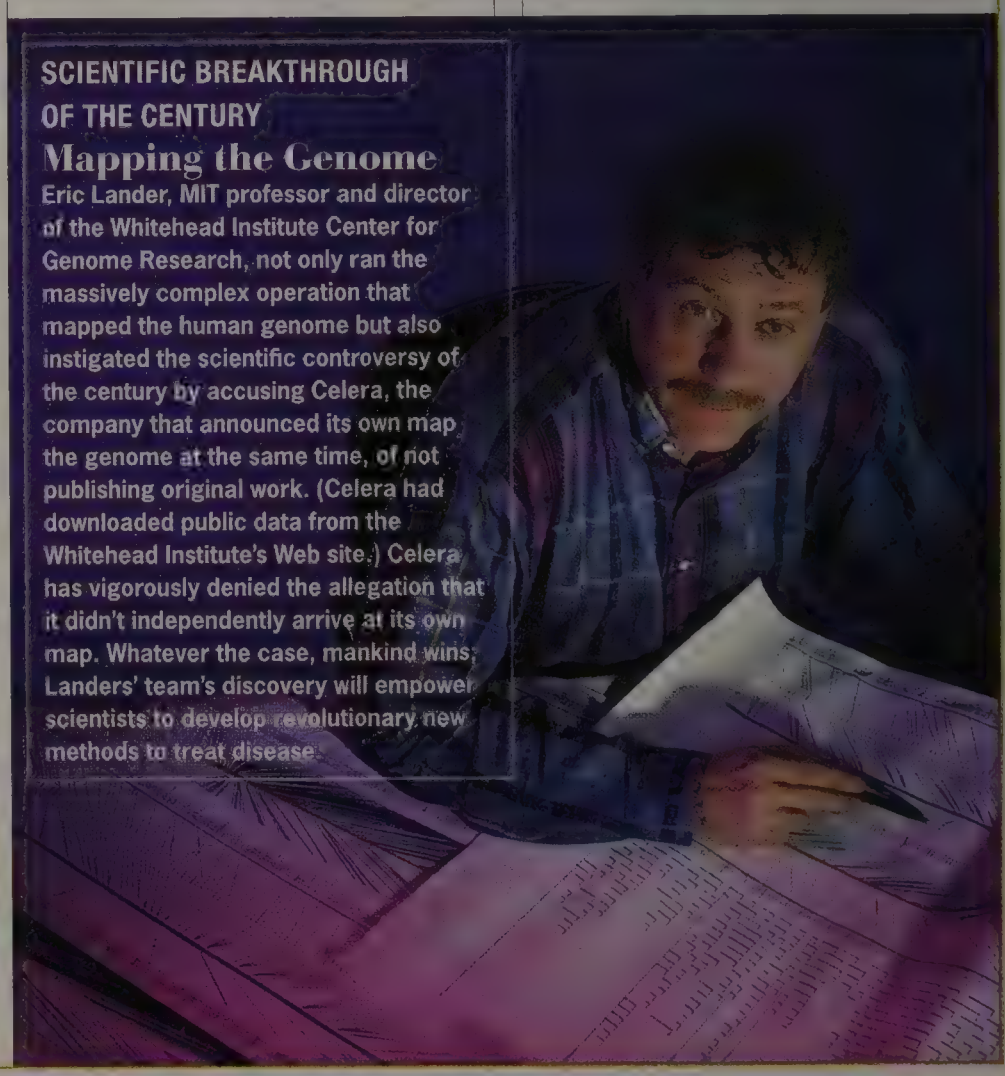
Despite huge recent losses, Internet business incubator CMGI still plans to pay millions to purchase the naming rights to the new Patriots stadium to be called "CMGI Field." (CMGI claims it has enough cash to survive for two years.) One financial expert questions the benefits of such a purchase: "A lot of technology companies have gotten into the naming-rights business and the track record is pretty ugly," says analyst Steve Frankel of Adams, Harkness & Hill. "I expect them to flip the naming rights [within a couple of years]." Investors, get ready to say "Ouch!" when CMGI writes the first $7.5 million check in January. (For CMGI's side of the story, go to *www.cmgifield.com*)

On a similar note, Headstrong California Internet business incubator Idealab! expanded into pricey Newbury Street digs (formerly Waterstones) last Halloween, despite having been forced to cancel its IPO and notwithstanding two previously announced member company layoffs. The *Boston Globe* called Idealab "...a poster child for the Internet's bloody rise and fall." Not surprisingly, the space was available for rent four months later.

SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH OF THE CENTURY

Mapping the Genome

Eric Lander, MIT professor and director of the Whitehead Institute Center for Genome Research, not only ran the massively complex operation that mapped the human genome but also instigated the scientific controversy of the century by accusing Celera, the company that announced its own map the genome at the same time, of not publishing original work. (Celera had downloaded public data from the Whitehead Institute's Web site.) Celera has vigorously denied the allegation that it didn't independently arrive at its own map. Whatever the case, mankind wins; Landers' team's discovery will empower scientists to develop revolutionary new methods to treat disease.



SAM OGDEN



Modernista! co-founders Lance Jensen (left) and Gary Koepke, have a lot to smile about these days given that their roster of clients includes the Gap, General Motors and MTV.

BEST UP-AND-COMING AD AGENCY • Modernista!

In the past 18 months Modernista! virtually exploded onto the national ad scene, dazzling national accounts like The Gap, General Motors, The Travel Channel, the Art Technology Group, and MTV (one of their MTV ads was later banned on the "T" for being too racy.) Nothing about Modernista! is ordinary: Their Web site looks like a Hong Kong acupuncture site with hyperlinks cleverly displayed as Meridian points on the body. The agency's captivating "Slow down" Christmastime ad for The Gap made Adweek's "Best Spots of 2000" and established the agency as a serious national player. Could a Clio award be in store next year?

REASON TO AVOID YOUR FRIENDS/NEIGHBORS/RELATIVES

They all invested in your dot-com.

BUSINESS SECTION

The Boston Globe

For the third year running the *Boston Globe*'s business section has won the "Best in Business" award from the Society of American Business Editors and Writers (SABEW). In addition to praising the stories as "lively" and "well-edited," the judges were also wowed by the *Globe*'s technology coverage. "The Click section is very useful, designed well and full of good techie reading. We loved their holiday personal technology roundup, 'What To Get the Geek Who Has Everything.' It was smart and fun." We agree.

INVESTMENT ADVISER

John Spooner

The *Wall Street Journal* calls Spooner, a novelist and high net-worth money manager for Salomon Smith Barney, an "investment guru." With both fiction and nonfiction books to his credit, Spooner has somehow managed to conquer the investment and publishing industries. Having reading his books, wealthy individuals from around the world beg Spooner to take their money. Even *Playboy* asked him to write an article on how Anna Nicole Smith should invest her late husband's fortune. (See last February's 2001 issue. Then you can honestly say you read *Playboy* for the articles.) His keen understanding of human nature and investments makes him a rarity in the financial world.

HIGH-TECH BUSINESS TO BE IN RIGHT NOW

Digital Storage Industry

Massachusetts has become a hotbed for storage and networking technology. And according to analyst Steve Duplessie, president of the Enterprise Storage Group in Milton, "the demand for digital storage has ratcheted up from doubling every 12 months to doubling every 8½ months." After a slight downward dip in the market, Duplessie believes we are coming to the end of a six-month window, in which companies are trying to stuff data into the last bit of storage before purchasing more.

UP-AND-COMING DIGITAL STORAGE COMPANY

StorageNetworks Inc.

A year ago if you mentioned the term "storage service provider," no one would know what you were talking about. Then Waltham-based StorageNetworks CEO Peter Bell and his team created the storage service provider industry that allows corporations to outsource their storage needs by paying for the usage, not the hardware. "Peter had the vision to create something where nothing existed and the ability to execute where most people said he couldn't," says analyst Steve Duplessie, president of the Milton-based Enterprise Storage Group. "And now there are a lot of 'me-toos' trying to be them. But if you added together all of their competitors' revenues, customers and vision, they would still come in a distant second to StorageNetworks."

LOCAL ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN

Charles Gowan for Vox Populi/Barcode

The print ads for Vox Populi and Barcode, two swank, stylish boîtes on Newbury Street, are both elegant and terribly cheeky. The spare graphics of one ad—simply a bar code of red and pink lines—are coupled with terse, clever text: "Once you can name more than two types of vodka, then you'll fit right in." A Vox ad follows suit with text that reads, "We don't have a dress code. We just assume you don't want to be the only jackass walking around in sweatpants." In short, the creatives over at Charles Gowan dare to poke fun at the target audience, urbane 25- to 35-year-olds—and this is what makes them so successful. If you've been to either Vox or Barcode, you'll know these places are swingin'—and with not one sweatpant-clad frat boy in sight.

CAREER TO AVOID

Internet Analyst

When the market was going up we couldn't get enough of them. Now everyone is slamming Internet analysts for not predicting the dot-com meltdown. Even Congress is threatening regulation. "Being an Internet analyst used to be a cool thing," says one dot-com analyst. "Now I feel like a rock band that used to headline stadium shows and now plays bat mitzvahs at the local Holiday Inn."

EXAMPLE OF CONVOLUTED JUSTICE

Chief Justice Margaret Marshall

Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court

In April Justice Marshall and the SJC ruled that a Cambridge man must continue to pay child support for a 7-year-old girl, even after DNA testing proved that she wasn't his daughter. One reader wrote to the editor at *Boston Globe*, "Must we take to the streets and march? Should men burn their wallets in public protests? Perhaps it has come to this." Maybe it has.

BEST NEW PERSONAL FINANCE BOOK

Chuck Jaffe's *Lifetime Guide to Mutual Funds: An Owner's Manual*

Mutual funds can be a dry topic, but Jaffe, a personal finance and mutual funds columnist for the *Globe*, makes it look easy. A quick flip-through uncovers little standout boxes containing some counter-intuitive gems. For example, who knew that no-load funds can actually be more expensive than those that charge an up-front fee? Did you realize that all proxy proposals are a virtual certainty? Chapters contain "wrong-way signs," "the right way to proceed" and "the least you should remember." Now that wasn't so hard, was it?

TECHNOLOGY COMPANY

EMC Corp.

Despite missing its projected earnings this past quarter, the undisputed king of digital storage still made a profit, an accomplishment that has eluded many tech companies recently. Investors, chill; in this economy those are spectacular results.



TRACY POWELL

index

Food

Abe & Louie's » Steakhouse » *536-6300* 32
Anna's Taqueria » Burrito » *Brookline (739-7300 & 277-7111); Cambridge (661-8500)* 21
Appleton Bakery » Muffins/Scones » *859-8222* 24
Armani Café » People-watching » *437-0909* 26
Aujourd'hui at The Four Seasons » Power Breakfast » *338-4400 or 351-2071* 26
Baker's Best » Caterer » *332-4588* 21
Bernard's » Chinese Restaurant » *969-3388* 21
B-Side Lounge » Bar Food » *354-0766* 20
The Bloody Mary/East Coast Grill » Restaurant Gimmick » *491-6568* 30
Blue-Ribbon Bar-B-Q » Barbeque » *West Newton (332-2583); Arlington (781-648-7427)* 20
Bob the Chef's » Southern Food » *536-6204* 30
Boston Beer Garden » Alternative to the Boston Public Garden » *269-0990* 20
Brasserie Jo » Paris under $100 » *425-3240* 32
Bricco » Nouvelle Italian Restaurant » *248-6800* 26
Cactus Club » Margarita » *236-0200* 24
Café Louis » Caesar Salad » *266-4680* 26
Centro » New Restaurant » *868-2405* 26
Charlie's Kitchen » Greasy Spoon » *492-9646* 22
Chau Chow City » Dim Sum Brunch » *338-8158* 22
Chez Henri » Sandwich » *354-8980* 30
Julia Child » Chef, Overall 21
Clam Box » Fried Clams » *773-6677* 22
Clerys » Irish Bar and Restaurant » *262-9874* 26
The Delux Café » Cheap Eats » *338-5258* 21
The Federalist » Power Dining » *670-2515* 26
Flash's » Lunch Deal » *574-8888* 24
Flour Bakery » Sandwiches/Pastries » *267-4300* 30
Formaggio Kitchen » Cheese Shop » *Cambridge (354-4750); South End (350-6996)* 26
Gabriel Frasca, Aquitane Bis » Up-and-Coming Chef » *734-8400* 32
Hennessy's » Irish Pub » *742-2121* 24
Henrietta's Table » Brunch » *661-5005* 21
Hi-Rise Bread Co. » Bakery » *Cambridge (876-8766 & 492-3003)* 20
The John Dewar Co. » Butcher » *964-3577* 21
Kashmir » Indian Restaurant » *536-1695* 22
Kupel's Bakery » Bagels » *566-9528* 20
Lala Rokh » Middle Eastern Food » *720-5511* 24
Legal Sea Foods » Clam Chowder » *24 locations* 21
L'Espalier » Place To Go If Money Is No Object » *262-3023* 26
Les Zygomates » Dinner and a Show » *542-5108* 22
Locke-Ober » Power Lunch » *542-1340* 30
Lucca » Civilized Nightcap » *742-9200* 21
Lumiere » Suburban Restaurant » *244-9199* 32
Maggiano's » Underappreciated Restaurant » *542-3456* 32
Mantra » Worth the Wait » *542-8111* 32
Maseo's » Restaurant, Vegetarian » *781-647-7977* 30
M. J. O'Connor's » Wee Bit o'Ireland » *482-2255* 32
Marché » Late-Night Grub » *578-9700* 24
My Brother's Place » Dive Bar » *338-7643* 22
Nashoba Brook Bakery » Lunch Spot » *236-0777* 26
Oak Room » Martini » 267-5300 24
Oishii » Sushi » *277-7888* 32
Tremont 647 » Pajama Brunch » *266-4600* 32
The Paramount Café » Inexpensive Breakfast » *720-1152* 24
Parish Café » Creative Sandwiches » *247-4777* 22
Pigalle » Pre/Post-Theater Dining » *423-4944* 30
Bill Poirier, Sonsie » Most Underrated Chef » *351-2500* 24
Porter's Bar and Grill » Burger » *742-7678* 21
Radius » Proof That Boston Is on the Dining Map » *426-1234* 30
The Rosebud Diner » Diner » *666-6015* 32
Saffron » Contemporary Indian Restaurant » *536-9766* 22
Santarpio's » Pizza » *567-9871* 26
Lorenzo Savona at Les Zygomates » Restaurant Oeneologist » *542-5108* 30
Silvertone Bar and Grill » Comfort Food » *338-7887* 22
Stars on Huntington » Casual Dining » *536-3232* 21
Summer Shack » Lobster » *520-9500* 24
Toscanini's » Ice Cream » *Cambridge (491-5877, 354-9350 & 491-1558)* 22
Trattoria a Scalintella » Traditional Italian Restaurant » *742-8240* 32
Union Oyster House » Raw Bar » *227-2750* 30
Whiskey Park » New York Scene » *542-1482* 20
Zaftigs Delicatessen » Deli » *975-0075* 22

Beauty & Health

Austen, Austen's » Waxing » *266-4017* 38
Teanna Babcock, Healthworks » Boxing Instructor » *497-4454* 34
Baron Baptiste, Power Yoga Institute » Power-Yoga Instructors » *661-9642* 38
Javier Berdecia, Daryl Christopher Salon » Up-Do » *424-0250* 38
Boston Athletic Club » Health Club » *269-4300* 36
Sheri Botticelli, 30 Newbury Spa » Manicurist » 266-7606 36
Dean Boudreau, Beaucage » Miracle Worker » 437-7171 37
Britesmile » Teeth Whitening » *867-9500* 38
Canyon Ranch » Destination Spa » *800-742-9000* 36
Donna Charloff, Beaucage » Pedicure » *437-7171* 37
Erica Colameta, Daryl Christopher Salon » Hair Colorist » *424-0250* 38
Bo Forbes, Healthworks » Power-Yoga Instructors » *497-4454* 38
Fresh » Bath Store » *421-1212* 34
Gregory's » Full-Service Barbershop » *236-4885* 37
Guiliano Day Spa » Day Spa » *262-2220* 36
Arthur Harris, Ecocentrix » Hair Extentions » 262-2222 36
Dr. Madeline Krauss, The Center for Cosmetic Skin Surgery » Nonsurgical Cosmetics » *636-5517* 37
Lavinia Borcau Skin Care » Eyebrows » *734-5523* 36
Gregory Leschishin, Boston Sport Boxing Club » Boxing Instructor » *972-1711* 34
Eva Mustafi, James Joseph Salon » Men's Haircut » *266-7222* 36
Pinckney Nail Salon » Acrylic Nails » *720-5688* 38
Kler Salom, Maksou » Esthetician » *443-8633* 34
Sports Club L.A. » Health Club Arrival» *375-8200* 37
Scott St. Cyer, Etant » Massage » *423-5040* 36
Umi » Salon Interior » *247-0770* 37
Lori Vertullo, Michaud Cosmetics » Facial » *262-1607* 36
Wellspace » One-Stop Wellness » *876-2660* 37

Entertainment

1369 Coffee House » Coffee House » *Cambridge (576-1369 & 576-4600)* 58
The Alley » One-Stop Partying » *351-7000* 60
Aria » Fashion Show Night Club » *338-7080* 58
Avalon » Nightclub » *262-2424* 56
Boston Center for the Arts » Arts Venue » *426-5000* 56
Buzz » Gay Night Out » *482-3939* 58
Caprice » Place to Drink in Style » *292-0080* 61
Comedy Connection » Comedy Club » *248-9700* 58
Encore at the Roxyplex » Cabaret » *338-7699* 56
Foxwoods Casino » Casino; *1-800-PLAY BIG* 58
Fridays at Circuit Girl » Lesbian Night Out » *482-3939* 60
House of Blues » Live Blues Music Venue » *491-2583* 60
Jillian's » Proverbial Barrel of Monkeys » *437-0300* 61
Landmark Theatres Kendall Square » Art-House Cinema; *494-9800* 56
Lanes and Games » Bowling Alley » *876-5533* 60
Loews Theatres Boston Common » Mainstream Movie Theater » *423-3499* 60
Lucky's Lounge » Addition to the Downtown Scene » *357-5825* 56
Machine » Gay Club » *266-2986* 58
The Middle East » Live Music Club » *864-EAST* 60
Mobius » Performance Art » *542-7416* 61
The Place » Sports Bar » *523-2081* 62
Qingping Gallery Teahouse » Tea House » *482-9988* 62
The Rack » Pool Hall » *725-1051* 61
Rattlesnake Bar and Grill » Place to Find Guaranteed Romance » *859-8555* 61
Regattabar » Jazz Club » *661-5000* 60
Rise » Gay Night Out » *423-7473* 58
Ryles Jazz Club » Place to Get Your Groove On » *876-9330* 61
Squire Lounge » Strip Club to Visit Incognito » *781-289-7000* 62
Times Pub » Place to Find "the Craic" » *357-8463* 61
Vapor » Gay Night Out » *695-9500* 58
Wally's Café » Jazz Joint » *424-1408* 61

Services

8-Minute Dating » Postmodern Yenta » *859-8869* 44
Alan Rouleau Couturier » Custom Tailor » *424-6555* 42
Darkwave Dermagraphics » Tatoo Parlor » *445-9090* 44
Doggiday » Dog-Sitting Service » *566-9299* 44
Enterprise Rent-a-Car » Cheap Car Rental » *several Boston locations; 262-9215* 42
Holly Cleaners » Dry Cleaner » *527-0770* 44
Hub Tickets » Ticket Agency » *426-8340* 44
Lotus Designs » Flowers » *262-7031* 44
Rafanelli Events Management » Party Planner » *357-1818* 42
Rinaldi's Park Square Shoe Repair » Shoe Repair » *426-6840* 44
Shining Example » Shoeshine » *512-2150* 44
Techfusion » Computer Repair » *491-1001* 42
XV Beacon » Boutique Hotel » *670-1500* 42

Shopping

Absolutely Fabulous » Vintage Store » *864-0656* 48
Ace Wheelworks » Bike Shop » *776-2100* 46
Antiques on Cambridge » Antiques Market » *234-0001* 46
Avenue Victor Hugo Bookstore » Used Books » *266-7746* 48
Bikes Not Bombs » Used Bicycle Store » *442-0004* 48
Brookline Booksmith » Bookstore » *566-6660* 46
Cambridge Soundworks » Audio Equipment » *17 New England locations; 225-3900* 46
Christian Dior » Handbags » *927-7577* 50
Danielo » Men's Shoes » *859-7575* 47
DKNY » Moderately Priced Men's Clothing » *236-0476* 47
Escada » Women's High-End Clothing » *437-1200* 50
Filene's » Cosmetics » *357-2100* 47
Harnett's » Alternative Remedies » *491-4747* 46
H&M » Most Anticipated Clothier » *opening soon in Downtown Crossing* 47
HMV » Record Store » *Downtown Crossing, 357-8444; Cambridge, 868-9696* 48
Hollywood Express » Video Store » *Cambridge (497-2001 & 864-8400); Twin City Plaza, 628-6000* 48
Hugo Boss » Men's Suits » *266-7492* 50
Jasmine Sola » Women's Shoes » *Back Bay, 437-8465; Cambridge, 354-6043* 50
Joie de Vivre » Offbeat Gifts » *864-8188* 47
Kitty Haas » Alternative Jewelry Store » *661-4191* 46
Leila » Women's Moderately Priced Clothing » *738-4448* 50
Lord & Taylor » Women's Formal Wear » *262-6000* 50
Louis, Boston » High-End Men's Clothing » *262-6100* 47
Machine Age » Vintage Furniture » *482-0048* 48
Museum of Useful Things » Place to Say "I Shoulda Thought of That!" » *576-3322* 47
Nutrition One » Nutrition Store » *Fenway, 572-3700; Allston, 779-7333* 47
Other Music » Music Boutique » *491-4419* 47
Record Hog » Used Compact Discs » *868-4647* 48
Repertoire » High-End Furniture » *426-3865* 47
Shreve, Crump & Low » Traditional Jewelry Store » *Boston; 267-9100; Chestnut Hill, 965-2700* 46
Williams-Sonoma » Cooking Store » *many locations; 262-3080* 47
Wish » Women's Dresses » *227-4441* 50
Zareh's » Power Tie » *350-6070* 48



We have Boston's Best interns, and they are, from left to right: Crystal Fenton, Bethany Gumper, Kelly Dutton, Jessica Buschsbaum, Paul Venuti, Celeste DelRusso, Lindsey Stanberry, Leah Gourley, Meredith Banker, Elizabeth Lash and Lance Morganelli. We also have Elizabeth Bond, Marni Fogelson, Sarah Kendrigan, Stephanie McGill, Nicola Miller, Carly Press and Phoebe Sweet, but we don't have their pictures.

THURSDAY, JULY 26TH, 6PM-2AM

KICK-OFF PARTY!

The Pan-Massachusetts Challenge
Closer by the MILE.
SINCE 1980

Meet your fellow Pan Mass riders before they are beat up and sweaty!



Meet the first ever

PMC Kayakers "TEAMRACK"

who will be kayaking from Boston Long Wharf to Provincetown for the PMC/ Leslie's Links Foundation!



FEATURING
MARK MORRIS & THE CATUNES
AND
DJ RICKY WILL BLAST THIS PARTY OFF!

CATUNES

THE RACK

ERBA

24 Clinton St., Boston 617.725.1051 www.therackboston.com

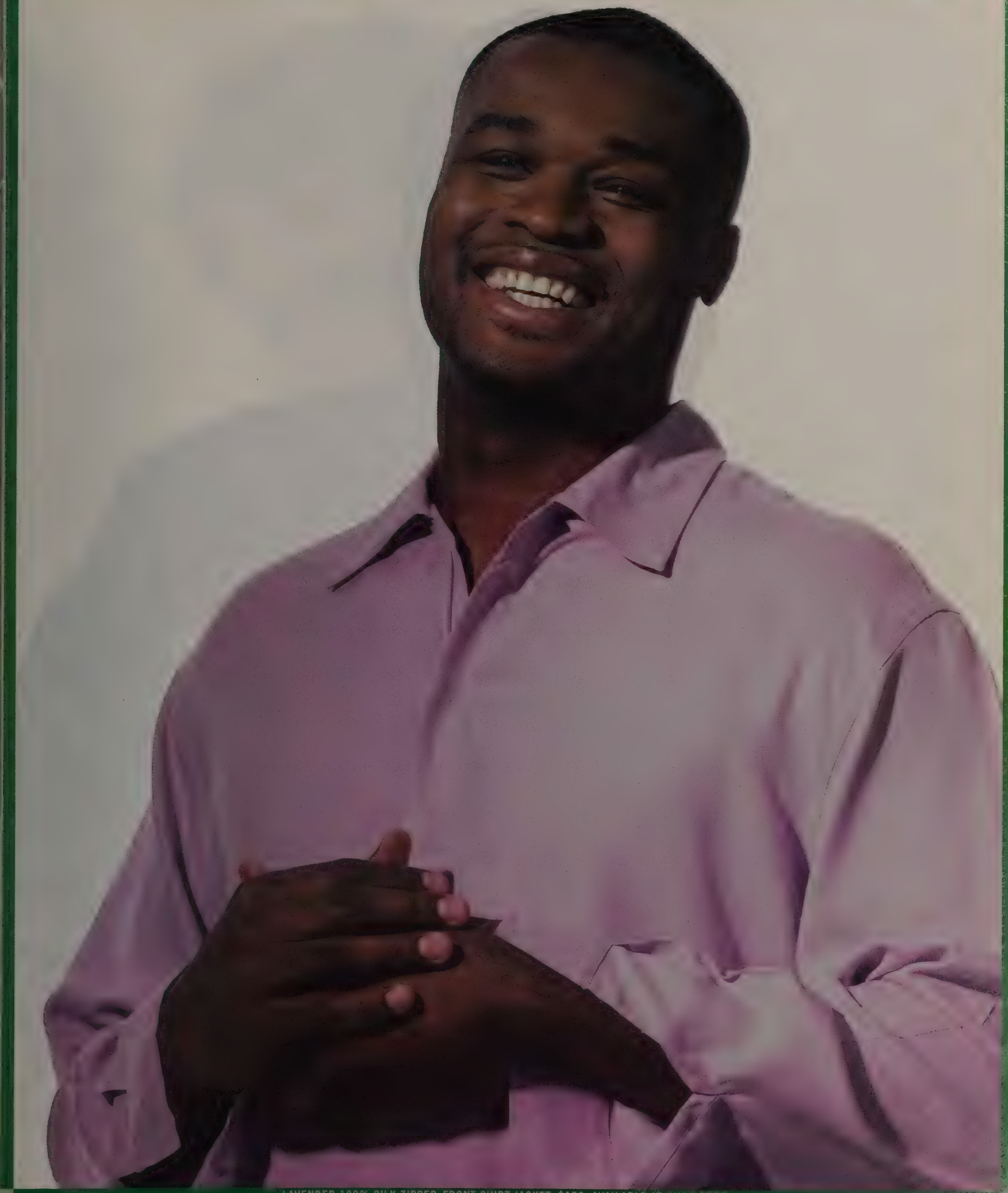
HALL OF FAME

NEW ENGLAND ATHLETES TRADE IN UNIFORMS FOR CLASSIC DESIGNS

PHOTOGRAPHED BY MICHAEL INDRESANO, PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

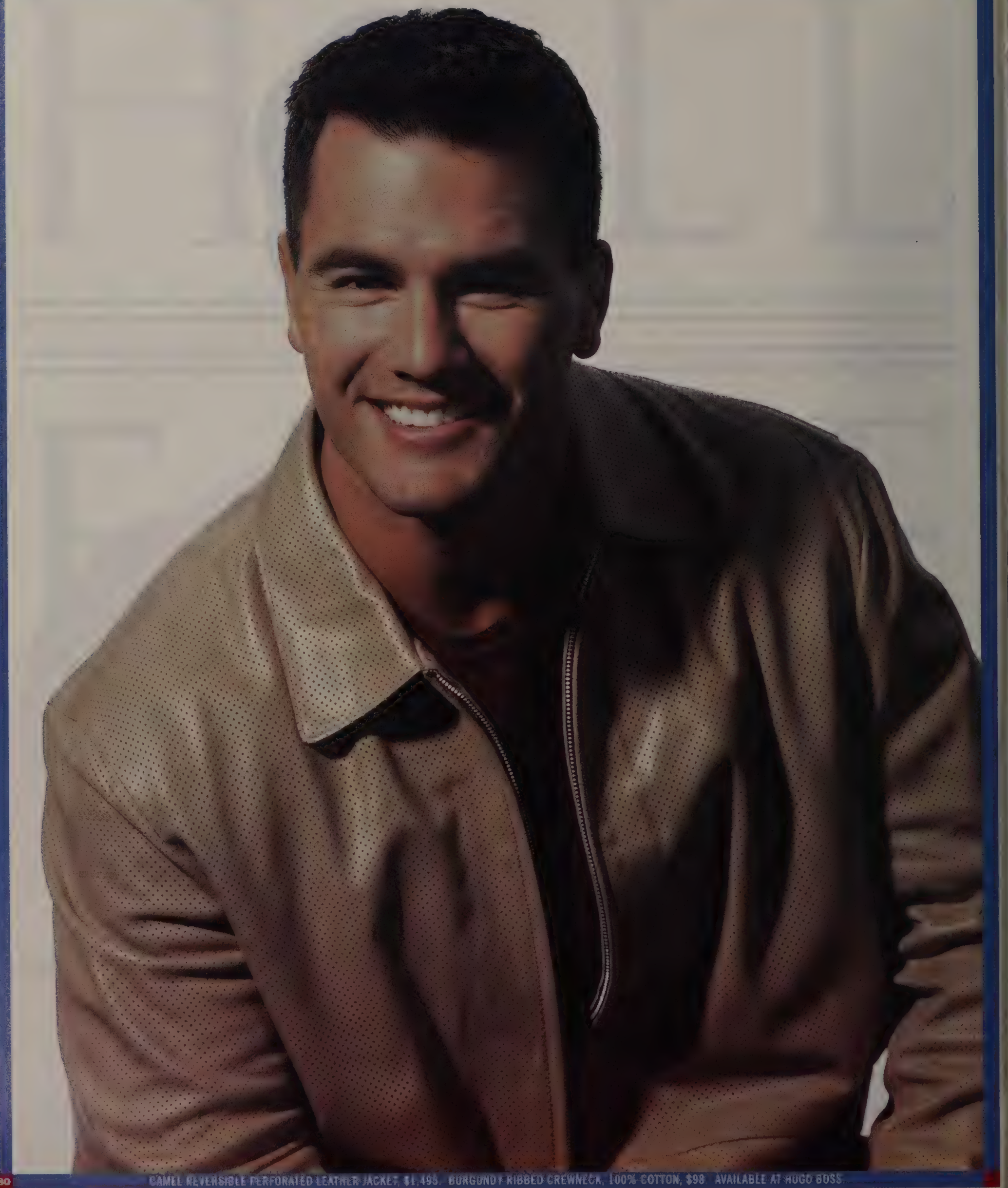
PHOTOGRAPHER'S ASSISTANT: WILLIAM BYRD ■ STUDIO MANAGER: HEATHER JULIAN ■ ASSISTANT STUDIO MANAGER: JENNY PIMENTEL. ■ PRODUCTION COORDINATOR: PAULA GINCHEREAU
ANTOINE WALKER: MAKEUP: ANGELIKA GURSTER ■ **ADAM VINATIERI:** MAKEUP: MEGHAN CAHILL ■ **JOE THORNTON:** MAKEUP: LEAH SAN SOUCI ■ **WOLDE HARRIS:** MAKEUP: CHRIS LEWIS.
HUGO BOSS COPLEY PLACE ■ 100 HUNTINGTON AVENUE ■ 266-7492

ANTOINE WALKER/CELTICS



LAVENDER 100% SILK ZIPPER-FRONT SHIRT-JACKET, $170. AVAILABLE AT HUGO BOSS.

ADAM VINATIERI/PATRIOTS

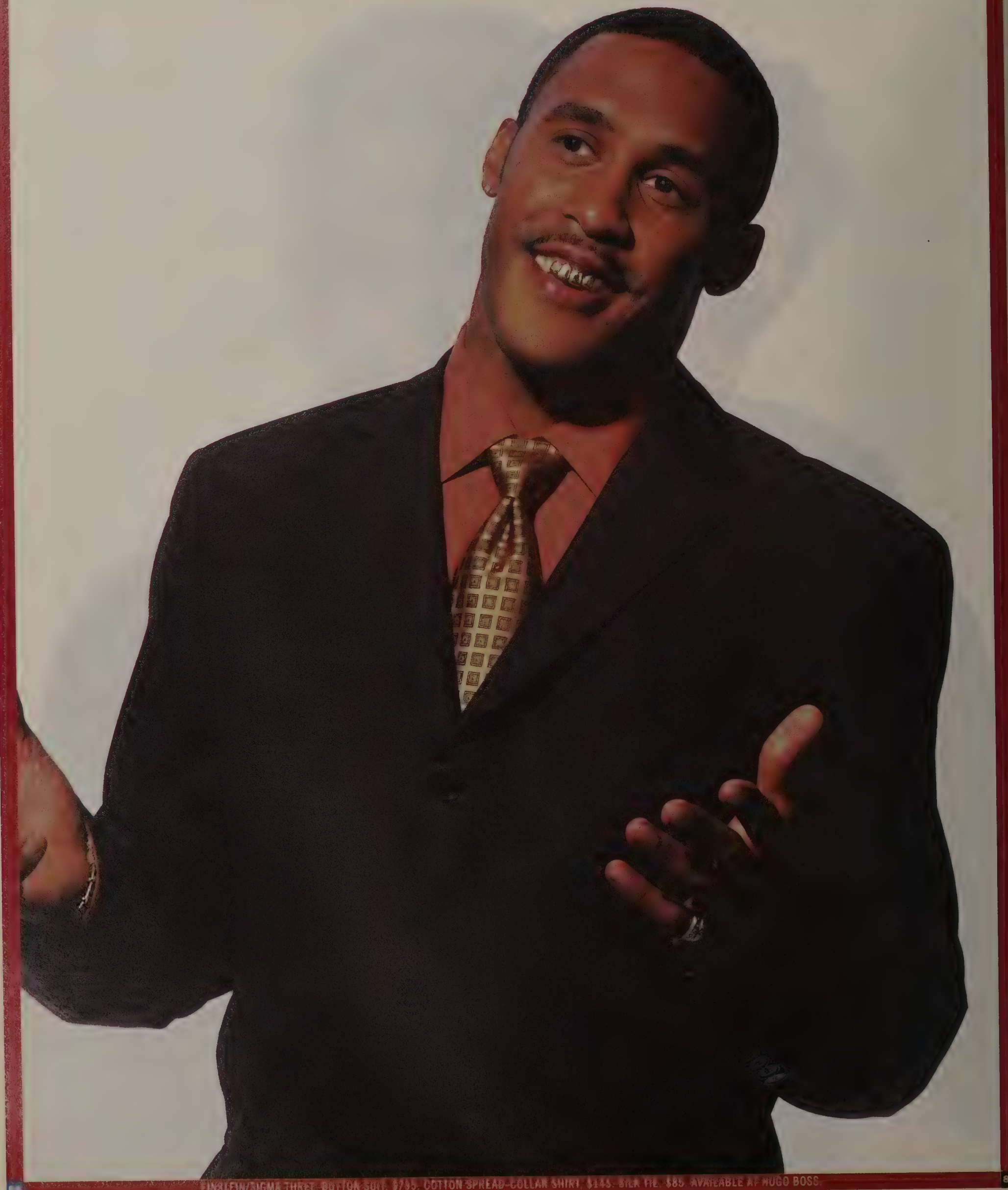


CAMEL REVERSIBLE PERFORATED LEATHER JACKET, $1,495. BURGUNDY RIBBED CREWNECK, 100% COTTON, $98. AVAILABLE AT HUGO BOSS.

JOE THORNTON/BRUINS



STONE THREE-BUTTON 100% WOOL SUIT, $985. RASPBERRY SHORT-SLEEVED MERCERIZED COTTON SPORT SHIRT, $130. AVAILABLE AT HUGO BOSS.



EINSTEIN/SIGMA THREE. BUTTON SUIT, $795. COTTON SPREAD-COLLAR SHIRT, $145. SILK TIE, $85. AVAILABLE AT HUGO BOSS.

new age bar & grille

Roggie's

356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton ☐ 617.566.1880 ☐ www.roggies.com
Breakfast – Lunch – Dinner ☐ Monday-Saturday, 11-1am
Brunch – Monday-Sunday, 11am-3pm
26 Beers on Tap ☐ Over 200 menu items

Free Delivery
Allston Brighton Brookline
617.566.1880

The Avenue

1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston ☐ 617.782.9508 ☐ www.avenuebar.com
Breakfast – Lunch – Dinner ☐ Monday-Saturday, 11-1am
Entertainment Weekly

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

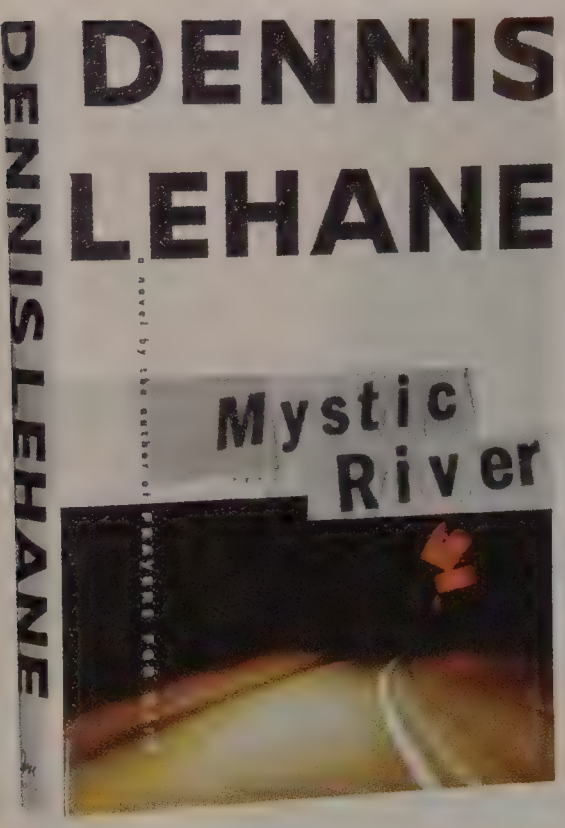
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



FREDERICK'S OF CAMBRIDGE

Jingo's Playhouse, at 1200 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-497-5457), sparkles with clubby clubwear to meet your fashion needs—whether you're an exotic dancer, an exotic dancer-wannabe or a future Carmen Electra.

Behind the peek-a-boo curtain, marvelously improbable amid Cambridge's strolling professors, is a store selling the etceteras of sexy dressing: the tightest, sparkliest clubwear ever. If you happen to be an exotic dancer, Jingo sells your skimpy necessities too. At the very nudest, there's Fantasy Liquid Latex to paint on your body which, after all the wiggling, peels off like skintight pants. Catsuits prowl the store, in nighttime fabrics like stretchy foil print, sometimes radiating a thousand points of disco light via rainbow silver-dots. Hot pants are big here (or rather, very little), and it's always bellybutton time. If it's snakeskin, metallic, black vinyl feathers of boa or a slither-suit that's more cut-out pieces than filled-in ones—well, it's here. If you're feeling theme-y, dressing up as a maid, a naughty schoolgirl in plaid or a crossing guard in dayglo hot pants are all options offered at Jingo's. Sometimes local DJs spin records to get you in the mood. (Further mood: Jingo's Basement, Saturdays at SW1 in Downtown Crossing.) Add Jingo's 7-inch, hyper-strutty stilettos and you're off.



THE BAD OLD NEIGHBORHOOD

Mystic River, by Dennis Lehane, follows three childhood friends, now in big grown-up trouble.

They all started out together, in a hazily identified neighborhood near the Mystic River. The three are working-class guys—Jimmy and Dave from the Flats, Sean from the Point, one small blue-collar stripe up. Something happened to Dave when he was abducted as a child by two men in a car, but he survived. At least physically. Now, 25 years later, Dave is drifting somewhat, though anchored by a loving wife and child, and Jimmy is a reformed ex-con whose daughter Katie has just been brutally murdered. Sean is a homicide detective. Their reunion is full of ironies and deep connections that have been throbbing underground these many years. For all their rough, flip and even sinister grit, the three men, now twined by the Mystic algae of murder and retribution, are all married to a woman they love. This opens the book to a welcome balancing theme of affectionate dependence that Lehane develops deeply and sweetly. Dave, whose transit from child-victim to tormented adult, is searching darkly to regain and redeem his innocent, strong self, making him the most rivetingly drawn character.



NUDES, SOFAS, TRAILER LIVIN'

The Photographic Resource Center's Members' Exhibition, 602 Commonwealth Ave. at Boston University, through July 29. 353-0700.

Part of the fun of a photography show like this one is to roam through the variety of it all, indulging its numerous moods. The pictures range enormously, from black-and white artiness bordering on the abstract, to more slangy colloquial styles. In the first room, you are greeted arrestingly by a picture of Andrew Brilliant's that shows a naked man and his sleepy bathrobe-wearing wife looking together into the bathroom mirror: It's called "Middle Age." Next to it, a groom is kneeling by his bride, in a bar, with men against the blue-colored background. Paul Cary Goldberg has assembled three remarkable Vermeer-lit pictures of a wooden table, with a blue and white pitcher lying sideways, another with rose hips, a third with a thin strip of bark. Margo Cooper captures the boredom, disorder and affection of working-class families, including one glazed-faced plump girl whose arm bears the inky slogan: "I ♥ Bad Boys." Sarah Malakoff's rooms, empty but for furniture, makes the sofas and chairs wonder, pleadingly, "Where is everybody?" Other subjects include toilets and sinks in famous museums, a lurid Indian movie poster and the huge, almost lizardlike leg of an Asiatic elephant.

TOP: ITALA SOUZA (2



A FAST-MOVING FAMILY BREAKFAST. A QUIET HOUR TO READ THE PAPER.

A LIVELY DINNER DISCUSSION. CHERISH IT IN STYLE.

Circle Furniture

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in this section:
Review: Devlin's
Dish: Chefs In Shorts

Tasty Tidbit: Ken Oringer hosts a nine-course meal at Clio.

REVIEW

Brighton Belle

As the newest upscale eatery on Washington Street, Devlin's provides consistently tasty food at affordable prices

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Brighton Center, long known for its mom-and-pop delis, ethnic groceries and lively bar scene, is undergoing a massive face-lift thanks to the efforts of the Brighton Main Streets program, which began in 1997. As a result, longtime local businesses are rubbing elbows with new upscale restaurants and shops in this increasingly gentrified section of Boston. Among the newcomers is Devlin's, located in what used to be a post office.

The renovated space at Devlin's is airy and attractive. A skylight floods the restaurant with natural light on summer evenings, while the off-white, cone-shaped sconces and hanging lights provide more mellow lighting when the sun goes down. Green velvet draperies surmount the half-wall that divides the coffee shop/bakery from the restaurant dining room, which accommodates about 60 diners at comfortable upholstered booths, bar-level tables, a bar with seven stools, and a few regular tables dressed with crisp white tablecloths. A large abstract painting with a jazz motif, in which reds and blues predominate, decorates one wall, and a round mirror, another. Recorded jazz provides background music, and despite the hardwood floors, conversation is possible.

Devlin's prices are restrained, with appetizers, salads, pizzas and half-orders of pasta priced in the single digits, and most main courses in the mid- to high teens. Only two vault to more than $20. A reliable starter was the fried calamari with spring greens and red pepper drizzle ($8). A huge order, those fleshy ringlets of squid arrived fresh and hot from the fryer, with a light breading and a spicy pink sauce for dipping. A grilled shrimp and scallop skewer with hoisin dipping sauce ($8) brought three good-sized shrimp and two large sea scallops. The shrimp were grilled to a perfect crunchy texture, and the scallops were golden brown and tender. The pleasantly charred saltiness of the shrimp, mellow sweetness of the scallops, and rich, sweet-tart flavor of the sauce made a first-rate combination. Perhaps our favorite appetizer was the asparagus, tomato and Parmesan gratin ($7), a platter of al dente asparagus grilled with chopped tomatoes, crusty herbed bread crumbs and Parmesan cheese. The grilling enhanced both the flavor and texture of the asparagus.

Moving on to pizza and pasta, our reactions were mixed. We enjoyed the pizza with pepperoni and mushrooms ($7). Although the crust lacked the oily, chewy consistency we look for in pizza, the topping was robust and tasty, with a generous supply of mushrooms, pepperoni and high-quality cheese. Of the pastas we tried, the ravioli stuffed with lobster, a special ($10), could have been excellent, with firm pasta and toothsome morsels of lobster inside, but it was overpowered by a heavy tomato sauce laced with vodka. Better was the penne with sweet Italian sausage, chicken and roasted peppers ($7 for a generous half-order), in which the tomato sauce was suited to the strong flavors of the sausage and peppers.

When it came to the main courses, we had a mixed reaction to the seared salmon fillet with asparagus, risotto cake and balsamic glaze ($17). The fish was excellent, moist and firm, and the asparagus a crunchy winner. The sweet corn risotto cake, however, was so hard and dry that, but for its color, it resembled a hockey puck. A 14-ounce New York strip steak ($24), served with horseradish-whipped potatoes, a vegetable side and a red wine

Devlin's

332 Washington St., Brighton
(779-8822)
HOURS Mon.-Fri., 7am-12am; Sat., 8am-12am; Sun. 9-12am
RESERVATIONS recommended for parties of six or more
CREDIT CARDS all major
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING no
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar



Devlin's in Brighton Center is a relaxing spot to grab a pint and some grub.



Chef David Kane (left) prepares a dish of cornmeal-crusted halibut with mussels, clams and a white wine broth (bottom right).

thyme reduction, was also graced with an unexpected garnish of delicious sautéed spinach. The steak, unfortunately, was overcooked, inundated with sauce and presented in a towering melange of ingredients that detracted from the dish—alas, even Brighton is plagued by tall food. Roast chicken with sautéed potato and onion ($16) had a crisp skin, which we applauded, but the flesh was a little dry and tough. The potatoes and onions were excellent, the sweet flavor and velvety texture of the onions complementing the firm, pleasant starch of the potatoes. Again, an unexpected vegetable dividend appeared on the plate in a few spears of flavorful asparagus.

Desserts ranged from an excellent chocolate éclair with thick, bittersweet chocolate frosting and a well-constructed pastry cream ($6, including a large cup of cappuccino), to an absolutely abysmal banana cream pie, which appeared to be nothing more than a mass of whipped cream covering horribly overripe bananas. When we complained, our waitress graciously removed it from the table and from our check. Crème brulee and strawberry rhubarb tart with ice cream (both $6) were good, if not remarkable.

Devlin's, as one might expect in a restaurant in Brighton, has a good selection of draft beers at the reasonable price of $4 a pint. We particularly enjoyed the Boddington's draft, a creamy, pleasant reminder of jolly old England, as well as a Pilsner Urquel from the Czech Republic. Nor are wines ignored at Devlin's. Zonnebloem Pinotage ($18), a South African blend of Pinot Noir and Censault grapes, offered a fine bouquet and good structure. Devlin's solid choice of beverages is mirrored by its first-rate bread, procured from Iggy's just a short distance away in Cambridge. In our opinion, Iggy's crusty loaves are not bested in the Boston area.

Service at Devlin's was beyond reproach. Friendly, attentive and informed waitresses with charming Irish brogues made us feel like guests rather than customers. Devlin's is well on its way to making its mark not only as a convivial, inviting neighborhood eatery, but as a restaurant that will draw patronage from beyond its immediate environs. **iB**



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DISH

Thighmasters

Chefs in Shorts...Rialto does it Diva... The Ritz goes crackers... BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



A bevy of local and national chefs showed off their legs at the annual Chefs in Shorts event at the World Trade Center June 29.

They've been taking off their pants for us for four years now, so how do the **Chefs in Shorts** keep us interested? With fresh legs! This year, Chef **Ed "Easy Knees" Doyle** of **Aura** at **The Seaport Hotel** invited some stellar chefs from outside Boston to join a slew of local regulars at the outdoor event that features nifty grilled eats, benefits the **Chefs Collaborative**, and proves conclusively that hamstrings have nothing to do with hamburgers.

So **Rick Bayless** of **Topolobampo** in Chicago and **Peter Hoffman** of **Savoy** in Manhattan lit up their grills alongside more familiar figures: **Chris Douglass** of **Icarus**, **Ana Sortun** of **Oleana**, **Bob Calderone** of **Anago**, et.al.

Also familiar was the first-rate freshness and flavor of the food. Most chefs stayed true to their restaurant format. **Julien**'s **Mark Sapienza** served up an exquisite taste of duck confit atop white polenta with white raisins. **Rialto**'s **Jody Adams** drew a long line of guests eager to try lamb salad with feta. **Andy Husbands** of **Tremont 647** and **Sister Sorel**, painstakingly prepared small batches of curried grilled scallops over Balinese greens. **Salamander**'s **Stan Frankenthaler** generously offered one from his satay bar's Column A: tiny chunks of barely cooked albacore tuna tossed with fried lotus root and cubed tropical fruit; and one from Column B: grilled mahi-mahi. Dessert brought a surprise, with **Raymond Ost** of **Sandrine's** grilling jumbo fruit kabobs. Fruit kabobs? Was that the famous Alsatian pineapple?

Another new feature this year: official "Chefs in Shorts" merchandise, including baseball hats and—yes—shorts. Hey kids, be the first on your block to have a "Chefs in Shorts" party in your own backyard!

SECOND COURSE

The grills of Summer: **Rialto**'s sixth annual wine barbecue is slated for July 16 . Divas Uncorked (sounds like a scary PMS movie!) stars a trio of first-rate female winemakers. **Susie Selby**, co-founder of **Selby Winery** in Sonoma County's renowned Russian River Valley; **Pamela Starr**, winemaker and proprietor of **Crocker & Starr**; and a winemaker to be named, will each match two of their wines with two courses of **Jody Adams**' six-course dinner. The wine women and Adams will work their magic outside at the lovely Charles Hotel courtyard.

In Boston, the Ritz has always been considered the epitome of impeccable taste. And inside the new **Ritz-Carlton** hotel on Tremont Street, the restaurant will be strikingly elegant, with a sleek design incorporating an exhibition kitchen, tandoor oven and a steel-and-glass winding staircase to the bar. The chef, **Jorg Behrend**, was on the opening team of the Ritz in Singapore and also worked at the Ritz in Kapalua. The menu, described as "blended East/West cuisine," promises to be spectacular.

And what's the name of this new restaurant? **JER-NE**. The Ritz people say it's the "phonetic spelling of journey." Not in my dictionary, it isn't. I say that it's proof that even the Ritz can make a silly mistake. Those lovely people are apparently so hooked on phonics that it may be time to book a stay at a rehab clinic. What's on the meh-nyoo? Way-ter, I'll have the fwah-grah.

Also opening in September is **Todd "Hunka Hunka Burnin' " English**'s South American steakhouse, **Bonfire**. Opening a restaurant is usually a gamble, but not if you're **Jasper White**, who'll open another **Summer Shack** this fall at **Mohegan Sun** in Uncasville, Conn. The $1 billion gambling-and-entertainment complex has been dubbed "Casino of the Sky." Anyone for flying fish'n'chips? iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Anthony's Pier 4 Trolley Service
Anthony's Pier 4, 140 Northern Ave., Boston (482-6262). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Anthony's Pier 4 offers a special deal for FleetBoston Pavilion concertgoers: Eat at at the restaurant and you can park your car for the duration of the concert and receive a free ride to the pavilion aboard a trolley.

Boston Beer Summit
The Castle at Park Plaza, 130 Columbus Ave., Boston (783-5555). www.beersummit.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. July 21, 1-5pm and 6-10pm. $25 per session, $30 at the door (includes 10 4-ounce pours).* Some 60 breweries and imports will pour 180 different beers at this tasting.

Celeb Chef Series
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520). July 19, 7-9pm. $29-$65. Explore the history, brewing and nuances of fine teas with **Brian Knowles** of Peet's Coffee and Tea. Taste one of civilization's oldest beverages.

Celebration of Wine
Stonehedge Inn, 160 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsboro (978-649-4400). July 25, 7pm. $95. **Bob Foley** of the Pride Mountain winery in California, which produces merlot, cabernet, chardonnay and viognier wines, speaks about his craft.

Community Lunch Series
July 20: Baker Bridge Farm, Route 126 and Baker-bridge Avenue, Lincoln: July 23 and July 30: West Cottage Road, Lincoln (781-259-8621). Boston-area chefs work with five youths to prepare a healthy meal for the community. • July 20: **Chris Bussell** of Butterfish • July 23: **Jim Becker** of Taranta • July 30: **Bill Bradley** of Bricco.

Eight Ways to Eat a Lobster
Kowloon Restaurant, Route 1 North, Saugus (781-233-0077). Through September. The lobster menu features eight cooking styles.

Garden Party
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (369-3474). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. July 26, 6:45-9:30pm. $50. Enjoy a garden party with native seafood paired with vintages from Westport River Vineyards.

Guest Chef Series at Eat
Eat, 253 Washington St., Somerville (776-2889). • July 23: Cast Iron Guest Chef Challenge with **Steve Haskell** of Les Zygomates • July 30: **Matt Poling** from the Tuscan Grill.

Guinness Nostalgia Night
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern, 77 Broad St., Boston (338-5656). July 19 and 26, 5-7pm. True Guinness fans can collect authentic memorabilia.

Happenin' Hour
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential. Mon.-Fri., 4:30-7pm. Enjoy a 1 1/4-pound lobster for $11.99 and chicken wings for 25 cents.

Kitchen Etc. Chef Series
Kitchen Etc., Middlesex Mall Plaza, Middlesex Turnpike, Burlington. www.kitchenetc.com/events.cfm. *July 21, 9-11am.* Executive chef **Jon Mathieson** of Silks at the Stonehedge Inn shares the secrets of braising meats and seafood.

Magnolia's Shrimp Festival
Magnolia's, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1971). Through July 28. It's shrimp season in southern waters. Partake in a menu of dishes made with fresh shrimp.

Seasonal Table Trio
The Seasonal Table, 61 Mass. Ave., Boston (236-7979). Fridays, 5-8pm. Enjoy a wine and cheese tasting with live classical music.

Southern Comfort Cocktail Clinic
Caliterra, 89 Broad St., Boston. www.boston.citysearch.com. *July 18, 6-9pm.* Learn from the pros how to host a sophisticated party. Entertaining experts chef **Duke LoCicero** and master mixologist **Tony Abou-Ganim** will host an evening of interactive cooking and bartending.

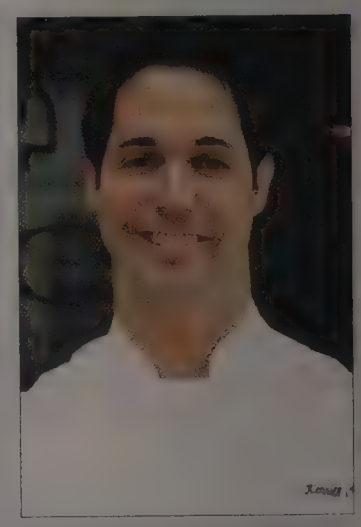
Sparkling Westport
Wetsport Rivers Vineyard & Winery, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport, Mass. (508-636-3423). July 21, 5-7:30pm. $45. Chef **Ed Doyle** of Aura will cook a meal to be accompanied by Westport's sparklers.

Summer Guest Chef Series
Trattoria Il Panino, 295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). $85. • July 30: Chef **Roberto Donna** of Galileo in Washington, D.C., prepares a five- course meal with wine.

Wine Dinner at Taranta
Taranta, 210 Hanover St., Boston (520-0052). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. July 31. $55. Chef Jim Becker presents a six-course wine dinner highlighting the tastes of the Campania region of Italy.

TASTY TIDBIT

EAST MEETS WEST



Since winning the James Beard Award for Best Chef in the Northeast, Ken Oringer of Clio says his life hasn't changed that much—"I'm certainly not ready to retire," he says with a laugh. "If anything, I'm under more pressure to do well."

Undoubtedly, he'll impress his fans with the nine(!)-course dinner he and fellow chefs Ming Tsai of Blue Ginger and Ting Yen of Oishii Sushi Bar (voted Boston's Best) are hosting at Clio July 23. The dinner will feature the flavors of East meets West. "It's going to be very spontaneous," Oringer says. "Behind a sushi bar, you can improvise, depending on people's reactions. This dinner will offer that casual feel." After escaping for a much-needed vacation in Nantucket for the Fourth of July, Oringer's back in town, planning the evening. He's not yet willing to divulge the menu, but he says the trio will use high-end ingredients to do "funky, off-the-wall stuff." We can't wait. ***Clio Restaurant at the Eliot Hotel, 370A Commonwealth Ave., Boston (536-7200). July 23, 7pm. $125.***

FAY FOTO (TOP LE



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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 94

PERFORMING ARTS 96

ART 100

FILM 106

BOOKS & POETRY 112

EDUCATION 112

DANCE CLUBS 114

MUSIC 118

CLASSICAL MUSIC 128

GAY & LESBIAN 130

BODY & MIND 132

CHILDREN 132

SPORTS 132

AROUND TOWN 134

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Art, Books & Poetry,

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Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

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THU. / JULY 19

Music: Beauties and the Beats

The Go-Go's evoke images of '80s rock at its finest. The energetic Californian punk rockers blended punk and pop and delivered it with a party hardy 'tude—not to mention some truly good songwriting. And the result—the most successful all-gal rock band of all time. With singer Belinda Carlisle, bassist Kathy Valentine, guitarists Jane Wiedlin and Charlotte Caffey and drummer Gina Schock, they churned out instantly recognizable power pop hits like "Our Lips Are Sealed" and "Vacation." This time round, they're celebrating their new release, *God Bless the Go-Go's*, and there's one Go-Go who's also celebrating her ability to make a whole new audience Ga-Ga. That's Belinda Carlisle, whose *Playboy* spread proves that gals still just wanna have fun. *FleetBoston Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave., Boston (931-2000). 8pm. $30.*

WED./ JULY 18

Music: Area: One

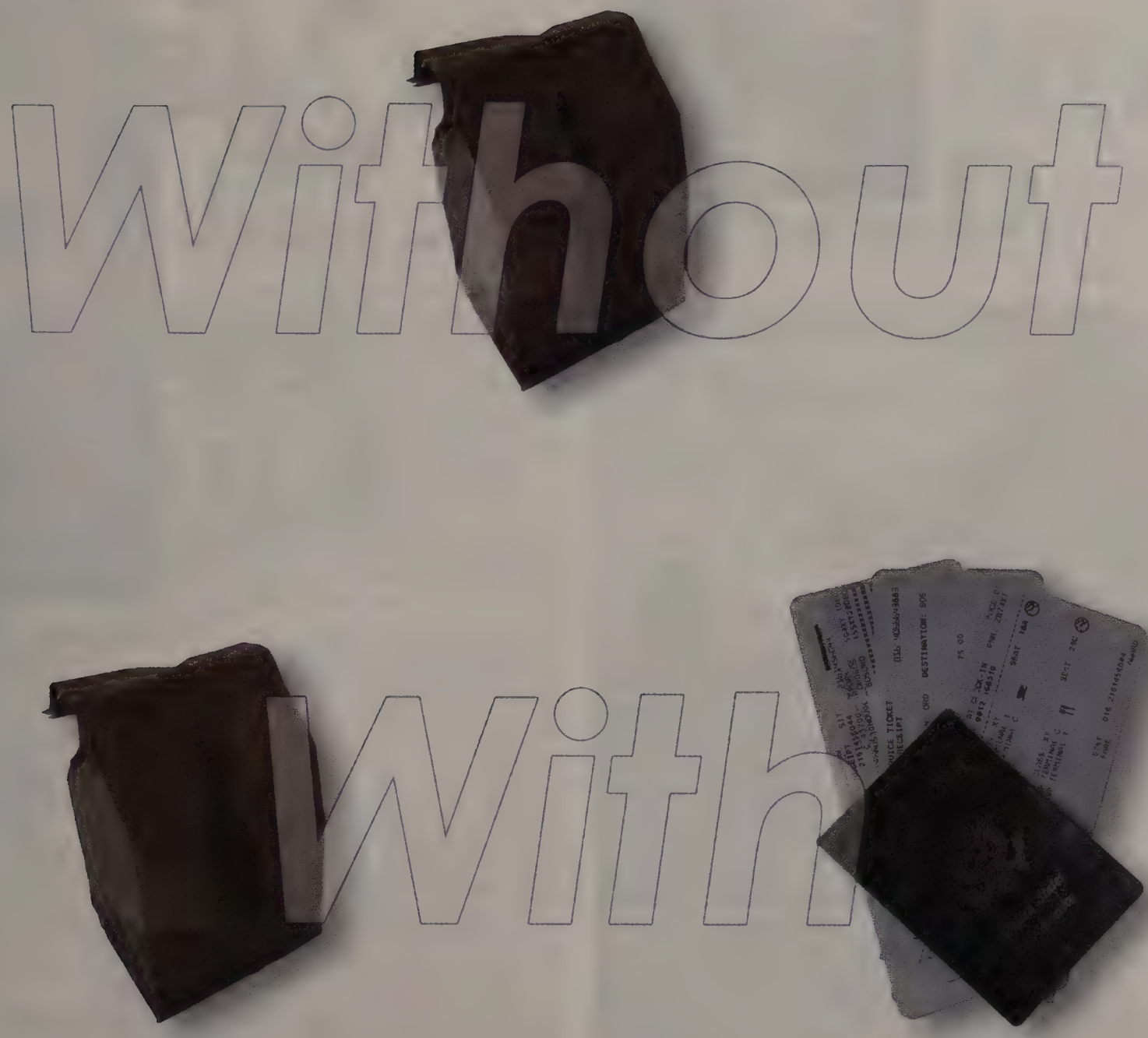
Electronic pop star **Moby** kicked off his multiact, multigenre Area: One tour July 11 in Atlanta and is making his way to Boston with an entourage of musical acts. The daylong line-up includes headliner Moby, hip-hopster duo **OutKast**, **Incubus**, the **Roots** and **Nelly Furtado**. (OutKast performs on the East Coast leg of the tour and the newly reunited New Order play on the West Coast.) In describing this festival, mix-meister Moby says, "My reason for putting together Area: One is that there is a lot of music in the world that I love that does not always get the appropriate exposure." The secondary line-up for the Boston show includes Paul Oakenfold, Carl Cox, the Orb, Rinocerose and Derrick May. If for some reason the rock, electronica and hip-hop combo don't quite fill your entertainment quotient for the day, there's a slew of corporate-sponsored goodies there as well: Intel presents a virtual Digital Music Zone where concert goers can see and create their own music videos and mix music. There's also something called the Ford Focus Area, a giant tent where DJs play. *Tweeter Center, 885 S. Main St., Mansfield (508-931-2000).*

JULY 20-AUG. 4

Theater: Shakespeare on the Common

Honestly, who can afford to go to the theater nowadays? Sure, you can skimp and get the $35 tickets at the Wang, but when the usher leads you and your date to nosebleed seats in the balcony, you'd best have a pair of binoculars with you. That's why **Shakespeare on the Common** is such a coup for this city. Modeled after Shakespeare in the Park in New York's Central Park, shows are performed outside at the Parkman Bandstand on Boston Common, and they're free. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis, so the paupers among us have a shot at front-row seats if we get there early enough. Last year, more than 40,000 people saw *The Tempest* in its 15 performances. Even more are expected this year to see ***Twelfth Night***, Shakespeare's comedy that follows the misadventures of a lovesick maiden who, disguised as a boy, is obliged to woo her own rival in love. It's a reason to stick around the city this summer. *Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common (423-7600). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. July 20-Aug. 4.*

CHRIS CUFFARO



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SAT./JULY 21

Tastings: Beer Bash



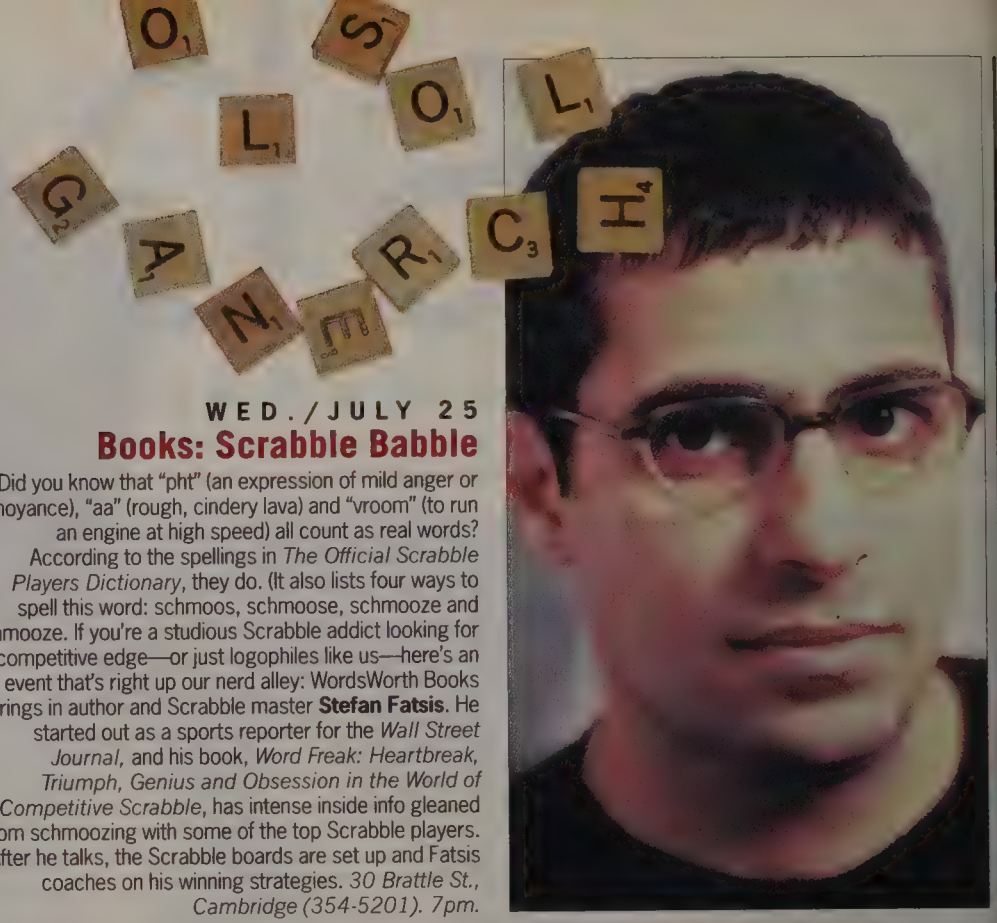
Every January, beer lovers have had to endure the throngs of oenophiles who converge upon Boston for the Wine Expo at the World Trade Center to discuss such trivialities as bouquet and mouth-feel. Now we have our own reason to toss one back (and you can be sure that we lagerheads don't spit): The first annual **Beer Summit** will be held at the Castle at Park Plaza July 21. More than 60 breweries and importers from around the globe will pour some 180 types of beer. There'll be two sessions, one from 1-5pm and the other from 6-10pm, and during each, you'll be able to sample 4-ounce samples of 10 brews. The House of Blues and the Linwood Grill will provide food, and the Tarbox Ramblers will entertain. *The Castle at Park Plaza, 130 Columbus Ave., Boston (783-5555). www.beersummit.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. July 21, 1-5pm and 6-10pm. $25 per session, $30 at the door (includes 10 4-ounce pours).*



THU./JULY 19-
SAT./JULY 21

Cityscape: Artbeat

On July 19-21, the normally traffic-[illegible] center of Davis Square in Somerville will be transformed into a center for the arts, with dance and theatrical performances and concerts on both indoor and outdoor stages and arts and crafts sales. The fun starts with a parade on July 19, followed by a concert by the Chandler Travis Philharmonic. The following evening the reggae/rock/ska band Pressure Cooker performs. On July 21, take your pick from an entire day of performances. The Park Stage will feature the Dave Foley Band (country), Silver Leaf Gospel Singers, Halali (Celtic), Mr. Airplane Man (rock), Binary System (avant-garde jazz) and Bim Skala Bim (ska), among others. In the Somerville Theater, see Jody Wel[illegible] and Dancers (serious modern), Snappy Dance Theater (playful modern) and Boston Tango School (Argentine tango). The Works Theater features Ricardo Frota (folkloric and traditional songs), Rosalita's Puppets and puppet cabaret for adults. And throughout the day, be on the lookout for Art Attacks, seemingly serendipitous performances that move through the streets. *Davis Square, Somerville (625-6600). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. July 19-21. Rain date: July 20-22.*



WED./JULY 25

Books: Scrabble Babble

Did you know that "pht" (an expression of mild anger or annoyance), "aa" (rough, cindery lava) and "vroom" (to run an engine at high speed) all count as real words? According to the spellings in *The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary*, they do. (It also lists four ways to spell this word: schmoos, schmoose, schmooze and shmooze. If you're a studious Scrabble addict looking for a competitive edge—or just logophiles like us—here's an event that's right up our nerd alley: WordsWorth Books brings in author and Scrabble master **Stefan Fatsis**. He started out as a sports reporter for the *Wall Street Journal*, and his book, *Word Freak: Heartbreak, Triumph, Genius and Obsession in the World of Competitive Scrabble*, has intense inside info gleaned from schmoozing with some of the top Scrabble players. After he talks, the Scrabble boards are set up and Fatsis coaches on his winning strategies. *30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). 7pm.*



SAT./JULY 28

Art: Everyone Loves Impressionism

Granted, there isn't much of a choice during Boston summers as far as art exhibitions go. But **Galerie d'Orsay**'s summer show would be worth braving the Newbury Street traffic for no matter what kind of stiff competition there was. The gallery's new show, *Masters of Impressionism*, features a collection of sensuous Impressionist works—paintings, lithographs and etchings by Mary Cassatt, Edgar Degas, Edouard Manet, Pierre Auguste Renoir and a slew of Pissarros: Camille Pissarro, his son Paul-Emile Pissarro and his grandson H. Claude Pissarro. There's an opening reception July 28, 6-8pm with a curator's lecture at 7:30pm. If you're day-tripping and are craving an Impressionism fix, the Clark Institute in Williamstown is showing *Impressionism: Painting Quickly in France 1860-1890* (through Sept. 9) and the Portland Museum of Art shows *American Impressionism: Treasures from the Smithsonian American Art Museum* (through Oct. 21). *3 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. July 28-Aug. 27.*

JULY 17-AUG. 21

Tastings: Passport D'Alsace

Gimmicks work. We say this because we recently received a passport of sorts in the mail. All right, so it wasn't exactly a passport; it was a promotion for the **Tour D'Alsace**—a series of "Meet the Chef" dinners sponsored by the Fischer Brewery in Alsace, France. The premise is, if you bring along the "passport" and get it stamped at each of the six participating restaurants, you'll be eligible to win a four-day, three-night trip to Paris and Strasbourg. We might have tossed it out (we never win anything) but for the high-caliber restaurants involved in the tour. The line-up includes **Les Zygomates** (July 17), **Butterfish** (July 24), **Bricco** (July 31), **Pho Republique** (Aug. 7), **Sandrine's** (Aug. 14) and **Brasserie Jo** (Aug. 21). You'll get to meet the chef as you munch on hors d'oeuvres and learn about this region in northeastern France that's famous for its beers (Alsatians produce 80 percent of all French beer). We make no promises about this brew—but considering that Fischer's been around for 180 years, they've got to be doing something right. *www.fischerbeverages.com.*

THU./JULY 19

Music: Thank God It's Thursday

A five-day workweek in the summer feels like cruel and unusual punishment. Thus, we applaud anything that makes the countdown to the weekend (and escape from the subarctic climate of our cubes) that much faster. Here's one: WBOS offers its yearly summer concert series at Copley Square on Thursday evenings at 5:30pm. On July 19, local rockers **The Push Stars** perform with Jeb Loy Nichols. Then, on July 26, our favorites **The Samples** and their environmentally friendly lyrics come to town July 26 to promote their new album, *Return to Earth*. The oddly named but strangely talented **Jonatha Brooke** performs Aug. 9 and **Deep Blue Something** ("Breakfast at Tiffany's") on Aug. 16. Down on City Hall Plaza is another set of free concerts featuring popular music, big band orchestras, military bands and dancing under the stars. It's **Country Night** on July 18, and then on July 25, the **Glenn Miller Orchestra** appears, and on Aug. 1, it's **Herb Reed and the Platters**. *Copley Square, Boston (740-0929). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 5:30. City Hall Plaza, Boston (635-4505, ext. 6224). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 7-9pm. Free.*

FRI./JULY 27

Film: Cinema Alternatives

So you've seen *AI*, *Moulin Rouge* and *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider* and are looking to see something a little...less Hollywood. If you've got the summer blockbuster blues, it's time to head to the just-as-air-conditioned arthouse theaters. This week, the Brattle is featuring **Signs & Wonders** (2000). Shot in digital video, director Jonathan Nossiter's film chronicles the experiences of a man who becomes obsessed with the recurring images and themes he notices throughout the day. Then at 10pm, it's **In the Mood for Love**, last year's tale of unrequited love set in 1962 Hong Kong that follows a couple whose common ground is that their spouses are having an affair. Over in Brookline at midnight, the Coolidge is showing **Delicatessen** (1991). Part horror story and part comedy, this French post-apocalyptic surrealist black comedy follows the lives of oddball characters who live in a cannibalistic boarding house. Finally, the Harvard Film Archive has **The Killers** (1946), the film noir flick that marked the screen debut of Burt Lancaster, and later that night **Mean Streets** (1973), the film with Robert De Niro and Harvey Keitel that put director Martin Scorsese on the map.

BEER: AMANDA BARISONEK; ARTBEAT: MEGHAN KRIEGEL; STEFAN FATSIS: JOHN I

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

Fun and Games with Sea Lions
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, (973-5206). 12 and 2pm. $50. Interact with sealions and watch them race. Two participants per show. Runs through Sept. 12.

Dorothy Curren Concert Series
City Hall Plaza, (635-4505, ext. 6224). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 7-9pm. Free. Now in its 28th year, this series features Country Night with John Penny and Co. The series also features local youth performers.

Swingin' Under the Stars
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, South Market Street by the Red Auerbach statue. (523-1300). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 6-10pm. Free. Faneuil Hall takes on swing dancing with live bands and instructors. Swing the night away every Wednesday through Aug. 22.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

The 2001 Aiwa Blues Cruise
The Seaport Hotel, World Trade Center, Boston (497-2229). 6:30pm. $25. Preparty at the Seaport Hotel's Aura Bar from 6:30-7:30pm. At 8pm sharp, the boat will depart from the Boston Harbor Cruise Launch at the World Trade Center. Tickets are also available through Ticketmaster (931-2000).

135th Barnstable County Fair
Barnstable County Fairgrounds, Route 151, Falmouth (508-563-3200). www.barnstablecountyfair.org. *Adults, $8; children under 12, free.* Venture out to Cape Cod's largest event. This fair, running through July 28, offers entertainment for the whole family.

Italia Unita
Central Square, East Boston (561-3201). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. www.italiaunita.org. *6pm. Free.* See story at right.

Puppet-Making Workshop and Shows
Tot Lot, Clarendon Street, Boston (635-4505, ext. 6404). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10am. $25. The whole family will enjoy the whimsical puppet shows featuring the Tanglewood Marionettes. Hands-on workshops follow each performance. Materials provided.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

First Night Concert
Jim Rice Field, Ramsey Park, Washington and Melneacass Streets, Roxbury (542-1399). 6-9pm. Free. Yandje Dibinga's OrigiNation performs hip-hop and will be followed by the rhythm and blues of The Delfonics.

Freedom Trail Starter
Boston Common Visitor Information Center, 150 Tremont St. (635-7383). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 10:30am-12pm. Free. Learn about Boston's history and geography as a park ranger leads you along the Freedom Trail. Every Saturday through September.

SUNDAY, JULY 22

Codman Antique Auto Show
The Codman House, Codman Road, off Rt. 126, Lincoln. (781-259-8843). 8am-2pm. www.SPNEA.com *$5.* There will be antique and classic cars in abundance at the Codman Estate, as well as entertainment, children's activities and, for those not tours of the historic Codman House museum, which is a property of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities.

Franklin Park Tour
Meets at Franklin Park Picnic Area across from the Shattuck Hospital, 120 Morton St., Jamaica Plain (635-7487). 1-3pm. Learn about the "jewel" of the Emerald Necklace in this guided hike through the country park and the ante park. Olmsted's design, natural and historical features of the park will be discussed.

Tanqueray NY-Boston AIDS Ride
Boston Common, Boston (866-648-0747). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. www.aidsride.org. *3pm. Free.* The Northeast AIDS Ride starts July 19 in Bear Mountain, N.Y., and 2,000 cyclists will cross the finish line here in Boston after pedaling 325 miles. The closing ceremonies include a tribute called the "Riderless Cycle," dedicated to friends, relatives and loved ones who have died because of AIDS. All the proceeds, estimated at $6 million, will benefit AIDS-related services at Fenway Community Health Center.

St. Domenic Procession
Sacred Heart Church, North Square, Boston. (635-3911) 2pm. Free. Processional only.

MONDAY, JULY 23

Puerto Rican Festival Flag Raising
City Hall Plaza, Boston (971-0603). 12pm. Free. The Puerto Rican Festival commences its week-long celebration with a flag raising. Festival activities continue at Franklin Park, with live Puerto Rican bands Thursday through Sunday.



Getting in a little street bocce is a quintessentially Italian part of Italia Unita's Italian Festival in East Boston's Central Square. At the St. Joseph's feast, you can play at North End Park's new bocce court.

Preview

Mamma Mia!

Two big festivals are guaranteed to fill you up

This time of year Boston's Italian populace takes to the streets with a series of feasts and celebrations. In East Boston's Central Square, Italia Unita's Italian Festival takes place July 20 through 22. In addition to the abundant food and bocce playing, there will also be a range of performances. Friday night, the Artie Barsamian 18-piece orchestra takes the stage; Saturday will feature the Stylistics; and Sunday there will be music from Teppisti dei Sogni and comedy from Ciro Giorgio. Friday and Saturday performances are at 7pm, Sunday's is at 6pm.

The following weekend, July 28 through 30, St. Joseph's Feast will take place on Hanover and Charter Streets in the North End. The feast honors St. Joseph, who was quite a busy guy—he's the patron saint of carpenters, Canada, house hunters, dying, laborers, fathers, families, Peru, social justice and the universal church.

On Friday night a priest takes the statue from its permanent place at 9 Charter St, and the feast is on. The Sea Breeze band will be playing that night, and Saturday night Dick Jameson's Swing Band featuring Dick Alessi will provide the musical fuel for a dance competition. Sunday there will be a processional. If you feel like stopping by, the St. Joseph's Society will have a table accepting donations for their many charities. So head on over to the North End. Because even if you're not a Canadian carpenter looking for a house for his kids, you can probably still appreciate a good tiramisu.

***Italia Unita Italian Festival, Central Square, East Boston (561-3201). July 20-22.* www.italiaunita.org.**

St. Joseph's Feast, Hanover St. and Charter St., North End (635-3911). July 28-30. Fri., 6-11pm; Sat.-Sun., 12-11pm. —Ezra Dyer

TUESDAY, JULY 24

The Art of July
Copley Fairmount Hotel, Boston (521-0100). 6:30pm. $20. The Art of July is a silent auction of jewelry, paintings, photography and miscellaneous gift items. The event will benefit Casa Myrna Vazquez, so that print that you simply have to own will not only look good on your wall, but will help fight domestic violence.

Summer Soulstice
Christian Science Plaza, 175 Huntington Ave., Boston (450-7319). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 11am-1:30pm. Free. Weekly Tuesday events on the plaza this summer (through Aug. 21) include participatory art projects, children's theater and live music. Call for more information.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

Dorothy Curren Concert Series
City Hall Plaza, Boston (635-4505, ext. 6224). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 7-9pm. Free. The Glenn Miller Band performs.

Stargazing
Peter's Hill, across from Bussey St. Gate; meet at Arnold Arboretum, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain (635-7487). 8-9pm. Free. Always confusing airplanes for shooting stars? The Boston Park Rangers will teach you how to sharpen your stargazing eye and locate some basic constellations. A high-powered telescope will be provided, but gazers are encouraged to bring their own flashlight, telescope and binoculars.

FRIDAY, JULY 27

Waterfront Music Series
Christopher Columbus Park, Boston (635-3911). 7-9pm. Free. The Mayor's Office of Special Events and Tourism presents this Friday night series. Bring your lawn chairs and enjoy not only the music but the harbor views as well.

St. Joseph's Feast in the North End
Hanover St. and Charter St. (635-3911). Through July 30. Free. See story at left.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org. *5:30-9:30pm, $10.* Enjoy live jazz, cocktails and fine art as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

J.P. Licks 20th Anniversary Celebration
J.P. Licks, 659 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-2020) Through July 29. To commemorate their opening in 1981, J.P. Licks is throwing a bash this weekend. Friday there will be live music outside the store, and Saturday and Sunday there will also be midway-style games and prize giveaways. But Sunday might be the best day to stop by, as that's when all four stores roll back their prices to 1981-levels.

SATURDAY, JULY 28

***Conspire* Guided Tours**
Meets at the African Meeting House, 8 Smith Court, Boston (927-6615). 2:30pm. Free. The ICA's pair of Artists-in-Residence at Boston National Historic Park, Laura Baring-Gould and Michael Downing, lead a walking tour of their new multipart installation, *Conspire*. The artists' works celebrate the role of five historic sites in Boston with sculptures at the African Meeting House, Old South Meeting House, the Paul Revere House and, Copp's Hill Burying Ground and the Charlestown Navy Yard. The artists will focus their tour on the inspiration for *Conspire* and the significance of each location, all notable historic places of assembly and shelter. Tours will run through October.

Noche de Soneros—Puerto Rican Festival
Playstead, Franklin Park, Dorchester (971-0603). Free. Top Puerto Rican music acts perform, including the Frankie Rodriguez Orchestra, Cano Estremera, Luisito Carrion, Rafael De Jesus and Viti Ruiz.

Riverfest
City Hall Plaza, Boston (635-3911). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 5-9:30pm. Free. Music all day long; bands TBA.

SUNDAY, JULY 29

Puerto Rican Parade
Egleston Square, Columbus Avenue (635-3911). 12pm. Free. The parade begins at Madison Park High School and continues to Franklin Park with First Lady of Puerto Rico, Sila Marie Gonzalez, as the Grand Marshall.

Miata Day
Museum of Transportation, 15 Newton Street, Brookline (522-6547, ext. 20). 10am-5pm. $5. Those car nuts with a penchant for wind in their hair—but an aversion to the Prince of Darkness, Joe Lucas, and all his maddening British electrical foibles—should toodle on down to the MOT's lush lawn and take in an array of utterly reliable yet grin-inducing Miatas.

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Advice to Contributors
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Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181) www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854). This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Art
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. July 18-Aug. 5. $25. This internationally acclaimed comedy won the 1998 Tony Award for Best Play.

A Dream Play
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Unicorn Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Mon.-Sat., 8:30pm. July 19-Aug. 4. $20-$25. A note in playwright August Strindberg's diary called it "my most beloved play, the child of my greatest pain." In the hands of director Eric Hill, Strindberg's brilliant spiritual allegory reveals the joys and sorrows of human life.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Wed. and Sun., 2pm. July 17-Aug. 12. $18-$56. This musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice is a retelling of the biblical story of Joseph, his devoted father, his jealous brothers and his incredible series of adventures.

Love's Fire
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Aug. 11. $18. See box at right.

Pirates of Penzance
The Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, 1175A Soldier's Field Road, Boston (782-5425). www.publick.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, transfer to #86 bus to Market Street. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. July 19-Aug. 12. $15-$25.* The Publick Theatre reprises Gilbert and Sullivan's hilarious lampoon of slavishness to duty.

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* •Stables Theatre: *The Comedy of Errors*, through Sept. 12. •Spring Lawn Theatre: *The Wharton One-Acts* and *The Rembrandt*, through Sept. 2. •Founder's Theatre: *Collected Stories*, July 14-Aug. 2.

Twelfth Night
Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, Boston (423-7600). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. July 20-Aug. 4. Free. Shakespeare's comedy follows the misadventures of a lovesick maiden who, disguised as a boy, is obliged to woo her own rival in love.

NOW RUNNING

Awake and Sing!
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Main Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Through July 28. $26-$40. Dylan McDermott and Shiva Rose star in Clifford Odets' compelling, evocative play about a Jewish family living in a Bronx tenement during the Great Depression.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. Special performances during 4th of July week. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.



Celebrated playwrights offer a modern take on Shakespeare's sonnets at the Boston Center for the Arts through Aug. 11.

Preview

Love's Fire

Company One has its way with the Bard's sonnets

A few years back, a group of America's most provocative and celebrated playwrights were asked to write one-act plays inspired by Shakespeare's love sonnets. The resulting creations were compiled and published in a book called *Love's Fire*. This month, Company One will stage the collection of plays penned by such big names in theater as Eric Bogosian (*Talk Radio*), William Finn (*March of the Falsettos*), John Guare (*Six Degrees of Separation*), Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*), Marsha Norman (*'Night Mother*) and Ntozake Shange (*For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide*). Each offers a modern take on the issues that shape and define the American urban experience, says Mason Sand of Company One. "For the most part, the plays are totally divorced from the original sonnets—they include just a line or two of Shakespeare's verse—but the ideas and themes are prevalent throughout," he says.

What you'll witness onstage—from the burlesque to the sublime—is a far cry from the mind-boggling iambic pentameter of your high school English days. A DJ will provide the musical accompaniment, and each play will be prefaced with a video of Bostonians reading the sonnets in familiar locations around the city. "The show will be a sensory masterpiece for the stage, a multitude of sights, sounds and smells," says Sand. *Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Aug. 11. $18. —Julie Short*



You'll want to designate a specific amount of time for rest each weekend.

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and Thai Chili Sauce

Grilled Thai Chicken Salad
with Peanuts, Sweet Soy and Crisp Wontons

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Pan-Seared Halibut
with Blood Orange Salsa, Parmesan and Chive Potato Gratin

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with Proscuitto and Asparagus

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I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Lemonade
Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, Wellfleet (508-349-6835). Tue.-Sun. Through July 21. $18. A woman who finds an amnesiac stranger sitting at her kitchen table doesn't question his presence—instead she offers him a glass of lemonade. So begins this complex and funny story by *The Vagina Monologues*' Eve Ensler.

Pirates of Penzance
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Aug. 19. $21. A fun-filled tale of swashbuckling pirates, maidens in distress, madcap cops and more.

The Real Inspector Hound
Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (887-2336). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through July 28. $12. $15 at the door. Two drama critics, each preoccupied with his professional status and personal dissatisfaction, go to the theater to see a new thriller. Tom Stoppard involves the critics in the play, which proves to have surprisingly serious consequences for both.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30pm and 9:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Summer Shorts Festival
Abbott Memorial, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). July 19-21, 8pm. $10. Local playwrights get recognition with a festival that presents their new works.

Tomfoolery
Mass College of Art, Huntington Ave., Boston (931-2000). Through July 28. $15. Ubiquity Stage presents the words and music of Tom Lehrer.

COMING SOON

Dralion: Cirque du Soleil
Suffolk Downs, Route 1A and 145, East Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. *Tue.-Wed., 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 5 and 9pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 5pm. Beginning Aug. 15. $38-$60.*

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Beginning Aug. 16.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy. •Saturdays, 9:30pm-12am: Larry Lee Lewis Rock 'n' Roll Comedy Band and Boston's finest comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •July 18, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •July 19, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •July 20, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Jim Gaffigan from CBS' *Welcome to New York*, $18 •July 21, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Jim Gaffigan, $20 •July 22, 7pm: Mike McDonald, $10 •July 23, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •July 24, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10 •July 25, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •July 26, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •July 27-28, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Bobby Slayton, "The Pitbull of Comedy," $18/$22 •July 29, 7pm: benefit show, $10 •July 30, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •July 31, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •July 19: The Tim McIntire Show with guests Kim & Josh, Stephan Schsherby, Mike Baker and the comedy troupe WAKKA. •July 20: The Brendon & Larry Show with guests Alana Devich, Dan Sulman, Wil McNeill, Steve Schnaps, Todd Lee and Noreen Kirkwood. •July 21: Greg Rodrigues stars with Alana Devich, Jen Trainor and Amy Austin. •July 22: Comics Workout with Bethany Van Delf, Jules Owens, Eric Riley Moore, Alana Devich, Shelby Siems and Eric Davis. •July 26: Tim McIntire stars with Robert Hagearty, Dave Greenberg and the comedy troupe WAKKA. •July 27: Brendon & Larry star with guests Kerry Talmage, Ross Garmil, Jan Davidson, Chris Foltz, Tim Collins and Stacey. •July 28: Kerry Talmage from the Montreal Comedy Festival with Pat Keatring, Craig Zeltzar, Jan Davidson, Tammy Two-Tone and Rob Reuter. •July 29: Comics' Workout with Stan Dzierzeski, Denise Robichau, Brian Gordon, Adam Pearlman and Jese Gersten.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$14. •July 19, 8:30pm: Jim McCue, Matt B and PJ Thibodeau •July 20-21, 8:45pm: Jim McCue, Matt B and PJ Thibodeau •July 26, 8:30pm: Larry Myles, Chris Zito and Matt B •July 27-28, 8:45pm: Larry Myles, Chris Zito and Matt B.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro • Fridays, 8pm: Red Herrings; 10:30pm: Theatre Sports •Saturdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree.

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians.

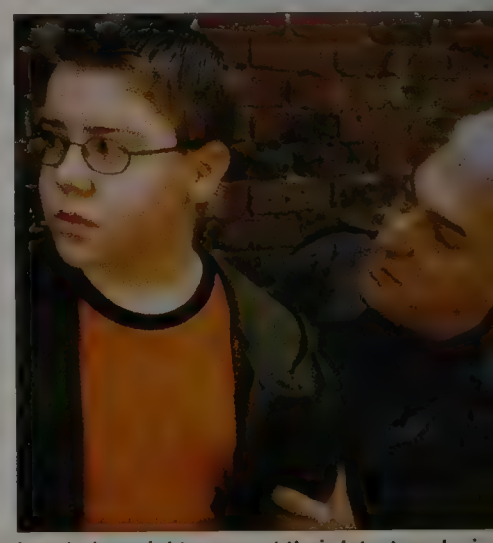
COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

Jay Mohr and John Pinette
•July 28, 8pm: The Melody Tent, 11 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100). $29.50. •July 29, 8pm: South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400). $29.50. Jay Mohr *(Action, The Jeff Foxworthy Show and Jerry Maguire)* and John Pinette *(Seinfeld, Parker Lewis Can't Lose, Duets)* perform.

John Leguizamo
Shubert Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). July 24. $31-$48.50. John Leguizamo brings his signature wild, dark and always entertaining comedic style to Boston on his 20-city summer tour.



Local playwrights present their latest works in the Summer Shorts Festival July 19-21.

PASSEPORT D'ALSACE

Win a trip to France!



FISCHER PASSEPORT D'ALSACE

Fischer Beer and several top Boston restaurants are joining forces to present a tour of historic Alsace this summer. Participating restaurants will be hosting "Meet the Chef" dinners on Tuesdays from July 17th through August 14th. For $25.00 patrons will learn about Alsace and the historic Fischer Brewery while enjoying hors d'oeuvres specially prepared by master chefs. The six week tour culminates on August 21st with a Gala celebration at Brasserie Jo at which one lucky patron will win a four day, three night trip to Paris and Strasbourg, including an exclusive tour of the brewery.

Reservations Required







In order to be eligible for the grand prize one must be in attendance at the Gala with this passport bearing stamps from all restaurants on the Tour. Patrons have the duration of the tour to acquire stamps from all restaurants listed to the right.

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include opening and closing dates, nearest T stop, price of admission, if any, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •The museum shows *Streams and Mountains Without End: Landscape Paintings from China, Korea and Japan*, through Aug. 26. *The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of Middle Eastern and Southern Asian depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*International Children's Books* show through Aug. 31. •Art, essays and poetry about peace by schoolchildren from around the world are on display as part of the *UNESCO Culture of Peace*. Through July 31.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). •The museum's permanent collection of 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century European and American art is on display, as well as an extensive sampling of distinct cultural pieces from around the world.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. •*Welcome to the House of Art*, a giant installation by Todd McKie, is an ongoing display. •In *Abstract Expressionism/Figurative Expressionism: Common Ground*, the museum uses its new wing to highlight works from its own collection. Ongoing. •The DeCordova's *Annual Exhibition* shows through Sept. 3. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place*, a new ongoing exhibit, opens July 28. A selection of artists present their interpretations of landscape through various styles and media. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* explores the darker side of imagination. Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. •*Water: Photographs from the Permanent Collection* show interpretations of water from the eastern seaboard. Through Sept. 3. •In *A Garden of Unearthly Delights*, outdoor American sculptor Wendy Ross displays some of her work. Through June 9, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Sacred and Profane Visions from Renaissance Venice* is on display through July 22. • In *Mondrian: The Transatlantic Paintings*, the Busch-Reisinger Museum shows 15 late paintings by the Dutch modernist painter Piet Mondrian. Through July 22. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. •*Verso: The Flip Side of Master Drawings* exhibit demonstrates how the masters used both sides of the sheet. Through Aug. 12. •In *Precision and Prestige: The Arts of Engraving*, the museum displays mundane and artistic examples of engraving. Aug. 11-Dec. 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these delicate creatures. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •The ICA displays defining images of social change in postwar America in *The Social Scene*, an exhibition of documentary photography. July 18-Sept. 30. •Korean-born Nikki S. Lee opens *Nikki S. Lee: Projects* on July 18. Her show features performance-based photographs where the artist changes roles and swaps identities to become the subject of her art. •The ICA Artists-in-Residence at Boston National Historical Park program presents *Conspire*, which examines Boston's most important historic sites and the role each played in the founding of the nation. Through Oct. 14. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. Through Sept. 16.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive exhibits take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic*, displays a selection of holograms from the museum's collection (the world's largest). Ongoing. •*Thinkapalooza*, the museum's new interactive zone, is ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*From Head to Toe: Selections from a Costume Collection* contrasts three centuries of fashionable clothing, including Chinese robes, Indonesian sarongs, Japanese Kimonos and Western dress. Through July 29. •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Takashi Murakami: Made in Japan* is on view through Sept. 3. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings and his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 19.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org. *Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm.* •*If These Walls Could Talk* is a traveling exhibit that explores buildings throughout history as artifacts of human existence. Through Sept. 3. •The *Current Science and Technology Center* showcases the very latest innovations and discoveries. Ongoing. •The current Omni Theatre film is *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure.* Shackleton explored Antarctica in a doomed ship called *Endurance*, which is the name of the concurrently running exhibition. Through Sept. •Now showing in the Omni Theatre is the incredible *Journey into Amazing Caves*, which lets moviegoers squeeze into the subterranean world of the spelunker . Through September.

The Revolving Museum
300 A St., Boston (493-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Hours by Appointment. •There are no ongoing exhibits until Aug. 17, the opening of *Disturb Delight Design*, an invitational show. Through Aug. 20.



Nikki S. Lee dons leather and poses as a punk in this shot, part of her series *The Punk Project.*

Preview

My Photos, My Self

Nikki S. Lee transforms her persona at the ICA

When her dream of becoming a filmmaker didn't pan out, Korean-born and New York–educated Nikki S. Lee turned her focus to photography, and soon after, became the subject of her works. Lee has completed more than a dozen photographic studies in which she drastically changes her identity—transforming herself into a cast of different characters in the tradition of self-portrait artist Cindy Sherman. Her show, *Nikki S. Lee: Projects*, opening July 18 at the Institute of Contemporary Art, chronicles Lee as she makes dramatic changes to her age, skin color, talents and personality. The show portrays her as a drag queen, tourist, senior citizen, exotic dancer and skateboarder, just to name a few. It's all done with a run-of-the-mill point-and-shoot camera that her friends use to take snapshots of her. So where's the art in all this? She explains that she is documenting herself in relation to multiple cultural and ethnic concepts, thus becoming a human canvas upon which she can display an array of American stereotypes. *Through Sept. 20. 955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. —Leah Gourley*

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Tea in Fantasy*, an exhibition of artistic teapots, shows July 7-Aug. 3.

Allston Arts District
Allston Branch of the Boston Public Library, 300 N. Harvard St., Allston (787-6313). Mon. and Wed., 12-8pm; Tue. and Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •The newest branch of the BPL opens with an *Inaugural Exhibition*, featuring 21 artists and three galleries from the Allston area. Through Oct. 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Tina Feingold and Ilene Sunshine present new works in paint, sculpture and drawing. Through July 27.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm in July; Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm in July and August. •A collection by gallery artists will show through July and mid-August.

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm. •*People, Places and Plants* is an exhibit of works by Alice Denison and Kate Ledogar. Through Aug. 10.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Stephen Dinsmore shows *Landscapes and Still Lifes* through July 30.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton (558-2783). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Tue.-Wed., 10am-6pm; Thu.-Sat., 10am-7pm. •Nepalese-inspired jewelry by Steve Estelle of Tsogyai shows through July 30.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Five artists present *New Works*, a group show. Through July 25. •The gallery is closed July 28-Sept. 3.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Created in California* is a show of works by self-taught artists with disabilities. Through July 28.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Dazzling!*, paintings by Steven Charles, Aaron Parazette and Susie Rosmarin, shows through Aug. 3.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., 4th Floor (585-0250). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.the-bac.edu/exhibits. *Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •*Gated Communities*, a photographic exhibit by Jerry Russo, shows through July 30.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. •*The Chicken Show*, an exhibition of poultry-related art, shows July 20-Sept. 16.

Boston College McMullen Museum of Art
Devlin Hall, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Mon.-Fri., 11am-3pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. Free. • New England artists contributed to *House: Changed Space*. This exhibition of various media explores the interiors and exteriors of residential buildings. Through Sept. 16.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Teenage participants in Project Image present *Seeing Teens: Photographs by Teenagers*. July 18-28. •The gallery will be closed throughout August.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •*Rhythms of Creation: A Family's Impressions of Indigenous People of the World—An Exhibit of Images and Ideas* shows through July 20. •The center is closed for the remainder of July and August.

Carpenter Center
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9:30am-11:30pm. •Piet Mondrian exhibits *The Transatlantic Paintings*. Through July 22. •Albert Szabo shows *Inventions and Interventions*, a series of sculptural assemblages. Through July 31.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Glass Evolution—Established and New Talent* focuses on work by seven young artists. Through Aug. 3.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*The Liminal Line* features abstract landscapes by Dann Ruth Harvey. Through July 28.

Compton Gallery
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. http://web.mit.edu/im/image3big.htm. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. Free.* •*Beyond Appearances: Imagery and Science at the Millennium* shows through Aug. 3.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •The *New Members Show* is a collection of work by the society's newest artists. July 19-Aug. 18.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm & by appointment.* •*STARS: 8 Gallery Artists* reviews six artists shown at the gallery since its opening two years ago as well as two new artists. Through Aug. 15.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •The gallery shows work depicting Boston scenes by local artists. Ongoing.



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Stephen Dinsmore's still life *Red Vase with Car* is on display at the Arden Gallery through July 30.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Boston (783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. http://drawbridge.com/dvb-gallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •*Royally Fucked: Artists as Royalty,* shows through July 21.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •Romanian art prodigy Alexandra Nechita displays her work. •Roderick O'Flaherty presents *Scenes of New England* through Aug. 30. •*Modern Masters*, featuring paintings by Picasso, Matisse and Chagall, shows through July 31.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St., Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Tha Rattanusk shows *Photography from Exotic Locales,* through July 28.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Solo show *Tina Dietz: Blumen und Falten* by Viennese photographer Tina Dietz shows through Aug. 11.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equator-gallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has a collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. Ongoing.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St. (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm. •*Girls and Swirls* and *Hoarded Intuitions*, show with a selectin of sculptures through Aug. 3.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •New sculptures by Paul Meneses and Steve Novick show in *Completely Fabricated.* Through Aug. 12.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Masters of Impressionism* shows July 28-Aug. 31 and features renowned artists Mary Cassatt, Edgar Degas, Edouard Manet and Pierre August Renoir.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •The gallery is open by appointment in August.

Gallery 79
79 Newbury St., Boston (262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •The gallery exhibits photography by Grace Hopkins-Lisle through Aug. 17.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* •There is an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •A group show of gallery artists shows through Aug. 3.

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •Cambridge artist Kate Ledogar shows her figurative oils and portraits through Aug. 10.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •A collection of etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •The gallery's collection of 18th-and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Adults Only*, a group show, runs through July 29.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •A group photographic portrait show is on display through Aug. 18.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (491-6888). www.hurst-gallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment.* •*African Dolls: To Amuse, Assist and Protect* shows dolls originating from West, Central and Southern Africa. Through July 31.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. First Class Ticket features 50 original vintage travel, transportation and entertainment posters. Through Sept. 3. •A display of selected vintage posters is ongoing.

John Stobart Gallery
113 Lewis Wharf, Boston (227-6868). Tue.-Fri., 10am-6pm, Sat. and Sun. 12-6pm. •Celebrating the Port of Boston and its maritime heritage, the Boston Waterfront Art Exhibition and Sale will display art depicting notable Boston scenes. Through Aug. 28.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Gallery artists will be showing works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. •The gallery is open by appointment only in July.

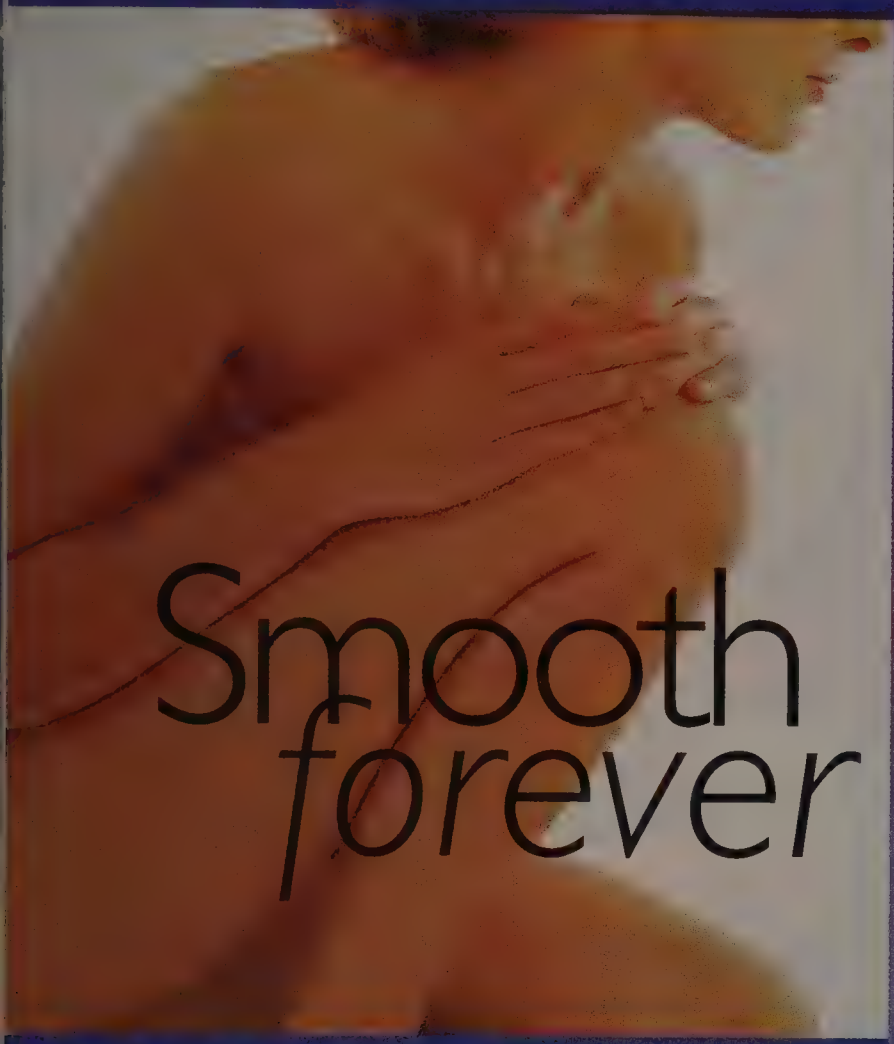
Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Cape Ann Classics* shows, portraying the North Shore through the eyes of local artists Charles Movalli and Robert Gruppé. July 18-Aug. 15.

Kaji Aso Studio
Kaji Aso Studio Institute for the Arts, 40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (247-1719). By appointment. •A show of gallery selections will be ongoing through August.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (423-4113). Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm. •*New Art 2001* shows work by more than 20 artists. Through July 28.

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Little White Box Gallery
Revolving Museum, 288 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.littlewhitebox.org. *Open by appointment.* •The second annual *Student Show* will display through Aug. 10.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery Inc.
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Summer Salon* features landscape, still-life, figure and abstraction. Through Aug. 31.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729). www.mediagallery-online.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •The gallery hosts *Through a Child's Eyes* July 26, a showing and "creative" black-tie gala to benefit the women and children of Casa Myrna Vasquez, an organization dedicated to the eradication of domestic violence. The show features art by Boston-area children; all proceeds will go to Casa Myrna Vasquez.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •A group show of gallery artists shows through July 31.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Karl Viksnin's *Thresholds* is on view through Aug. 18.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Land, Sea and Beyond*, a group show of landscape paintings, shows through Aug. 5.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton Centre (552-7145). Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-5pm. •Joan Baldwin's *Furniture Interactions* shows through July 30.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Roger Kizik's paintings show through July 7 in *Making Book.* •*In the Spirit of Landscape,* an invitational group show of landscape paintings, runs through Aug. 4.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. • Fabian Birgfeld's triptych photographs show in *Public Spaces: Private Spheres* July 21-Aug. 11.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •*Vampire Pigeons Variety Show*, a multimedia presentation by a poet, photographer and painter, shows through July 31. •A solo show by artist Julie Pepper shows Aug. 1-31. •Upcoming fund-raising benefits for the gallery include: July 23, 7:30pm at the Middle East, an "Out of the Blue Poetry Night" featuring Deborah Priestly and Out of the Blue poets; July 26, 9pm, Harvard Epworth Church, open mike; July 29, 2pm, Blacksmith House Auditorium, "Shattering Walls Theatre Collaboration" presents a day of one-act plays.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Bradford Johnson, Lance Keimig, Ron Rumford and Thomas Tietjen present a summer group show. Through Aug. 17.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Fine Choices: Objects* focuses on the artistic object as a source of beauty and interest. Through Sept. 4.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The beautiful teahouse, which serves up delicious tea, also specializes in antique Yixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •The exhibit of *American 19th and 20th Century Watercolors and Pastels* is ongoing. •Also showing is *Old Master and 19th Century Drawings.* Ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *Call for gallery hours.* •The gallery will be showing contemporary American photographs by the same artists featured in the ICA's *Social Scene* show. Through August.

Rolly-Michaux Gallery
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics*, fine lithographs and etchings, shows through Aug. 31.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. •The *Undergraduate Student Exhibition* displays through September.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* •With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents Cuban artists.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bpl.org/www/branches/ south end.html. *Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm.* •Danette English's *Falling and Floating* shows July 24-Sept. 4.

SPNEA Gallery
One Bowdoin Sq., Boston (227-3956). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. www.spnea.org. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm.* •The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques presents *Boxes, Open and Shut.* Discover what an icebox, snuffbox and lunch box have in common. Through Sept. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •William St. George's painting exhibition, *Horses and Swimmers*, shows through July 31.

State Transportation Building
10 Park Plaza, Boston (800-972-2784). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •*Martini & Rossi 100 Years*, a traveling exhibit of original Martini & Rossi posters, shows through July 27.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (876-0246). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-1pm. •*Translating the Epiphany* shows through Sept. 5.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. •Photography by Dennis Miller shows through July 30. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz. •July 21: Neptune performs to silent movies. 8pm. $7.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). 9am-5pm, daily. •*Senior Graduation Show* exhibit will be on display through July 27.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Photographs from the Gallery Archives* show through Sept. 15.

Photographic Resource Center
Boston University, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. $3, students and seniors $2, free on Thu. •*The Members' Exhibition 2001* shows a juried photography exhibit through July 29.



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THE FRENCH CONFUSION

Kiss of the Dragon is an Eiffel Tower of action clichés

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Kiss of the Dragon isn't a horrible movie. But it is a horribly backward direction for Jet Li's career to take. The Chinese action star was hardly a Jackie Chan-like bundle of action-comedy charisma in his early movies. But after getting his first Hollywood role in *Lethal Weapon 4*, he really got showcased well in last year's *Romeo Must Die*. Li showed a previously untapped charm in that initial Hollywood starring vehicle, along with the martial arts acrobatics that made this former king fu champ a star in the first place.

But if you were to show *Romeo Must Die* and *Kiss of the Dragon* to someone who didn't know better, they'd probably think *Kiss* was Li's clumsy Hollywood starring debut and *Romeo* the much improved follow-up. While *Romeo* had such distinctive touches as an unconventional romantic interest (Aaliyah) and a top-notch dramatic actor (Delroy Lindo), as well as a playful mix of comedy and action, *Kiss* is just cheesy and formulaic. This Europe-set action drama—which, though in English, is as much a French film as a Hollywood film—is so generic it could almost be a Jean Claude Van Damme vehicle.

Li plays a Chinese cop who's sent to Paris to help police there work on a drug case involving Chinese smugglers (this is practically the default premise for Asian action stars in exotic settings, having been used in countless Jackie Chan movies and in Samo Hung's *Martial Law* TV series). The story gets some mileage out of keeping you guessing whether Li is a cop or a crook for a few minutes, but any hint of subtlety vanishes once the powerful Parisian detective played by Tcheky Karyo (*The Patriot*) enters. First seen pummeling a bloodied opponent into the floor of a restaurant's kitchen, he's a corrupt cop run amok. And when the Chinese drug lord (Ric Young) the detectives are after arrives at his swanky hotel room with a couple of hookers, the crooked cop bursts in during an altercation and shoots the kingpin and one of the call girls. He then frames Li's Beijing cop for the crimes.

What ensues is a clunky travelogue chase movie in which Li has to hide out and try to prove his innocence. The movie strains to put his character in tight situations from which he just barely escapes, like on a sightseeing boat where he's outnumbered (aren't there any cops in Paris who aren't Karyo's henchmen?), in a hotel laundry chute or in his uncle's Chinese restaurant. To say that the action is over-the-top is understating it, as all the rogue cops act like pro wrestlers desperately trying to be flamboyant or, in Karyo's case, overact as if they're being zapped with a cattle prod. To say that the sometimes gruesome violence fails to accumulate the least bit of emotional context is to realize why the movie is so gratuitous.

More generic flotsam arrives in the form of Bridget Fonda's American character, an honest-to-goodness movie hooker with a heart of gold. She's a woman who has been made into a junkie by the crooked cop, and the villain has also taken her young daughter to force Fonda to walk the streets. Maybe if *Kiss of the Dragon* offered any explanation as to what the cop is getting out of this arrangement—he never has sex with the American, she's not a good hooker and he's paying to keep the girl in an orphanage—it might actually matter.

But giving you a reason to care is way beyond any strengths this movie demonstrates. Li, whose mix of mild-mannered personality and high-kicking athletics is still appealing, has always needed strong support from others in order to make good movies, from *Fong Sai Yuk* to *Romeo Must Die*. He gets no help at all in *Kiss of the Dragon*. iB

Kiss of the Dragon ★½

Directed by Chris Nahon. Written by Luc Besson and Robert Mark Kamen. With Jet Li, Bridget Fonda and Tcheky Karyo. Rated R. Twentieth Century Fox.



Jet Li's career takes a jump backward in *Kiss of the Dragon*.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Atlantis: The Lost Empire ★★
The latest Disney animated feature is very much in the *Star Wars*/*Raiders of the Lost Ark* adventure mold. It has a boyishly eager Luke Skywalker sort of hero, undersea battles staged like the *Star Wars* aerial fights, dramatic John Williams-sounding music and a plot in which the hero clashes with mercenaries over an exotic treasure. Although the animation is rich and detailed, this is routine storytelling for such stuff: white-bread hero in an unusual setting, lots of natives who get to do nothing, marginalized ethnic characters for comic relief, a love interest with a Barbie figure. Michael J. Fox voices the young hero—gee, why didn't they just cast Mickey Rooney?

Crazy/Beautiful ★★
Well, at least there's a summer movie about teens that doesn't feel like one big product placement. And this romantic drama about a rich white girl (Kirsten Dunst) and a less privileged Hispanic boy (Jay Hernandez) somewhat passes on the usual Hollywood racial profiling, by making him the focused one with a bright future and her the troubled teen who's a bad influence. Still, there's little to recommend beyond the good intentions. It's hard to see what Hernandez's touchdown-scoring good student sees in Dunst's obnoxious burnout (beyond her sexual availability); the drama involving her condescending congressman dad (Bruce Davison) is like a community theater production of *Rebel Without a Cause*; and the ending rings false.

Everybody's Famous★★
There are elements of *Muriel's Wedding* and *The King of Comedy* at work in this Belgian comedy, but the result is not nearly as original or amusing as those movies. In this one, a showbiz-obsessed dad (Josse de Pauw) relentlessly pushes his talent-short teen daughter (Eva Van der Gucht) into pursuing a singing career. When it seems all has failed, he kidnaps a real pop star (Thekla Reuten), and blackmails her manager into giving his daughter a shot at stardom. The last-minute appearance of the daughter's supposed talent and self-confidence is unconvincing, and neither she nor her dad emerges as the appealing underdogs they're supposed to be.

The Fast and the Furious ★½
From the silly premise about a gang of hot-rodding "street racers" and the "edgy" characters in designer clothes to the macho posing and the presumably unintentional gay subtext, this action drama is totally preposterous. But it's not goofy enough to be genuinely entertaining because it's such a pathetic propaganda film for consumerism.

Lakeboat ★★½
David Mamet adapted his first play (which dates to the mid-1970s) into the screenplay of this indie film, which stars his younger brother Tony and is the directorial debut of actor Joe Mantegna. With the younger Mamet as a grad student thrown among older workingmen during a summer job on a Great Lakes freighter, it occasionally has the spark of Mamet's more famous plays, like *Glengarry Glen Ross*. That spark comes mainly in the colorful dialogue of the old hands well played by Robert Forster, Jack Wallace and J.J. Johnston. But these moments are occasional, the grad student character is incredibly dull, and Mantegna proves to be an unimaginative director.

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider ★½
If there's anything appealing to the video game this is based on (besides Lara Croft's body), it didn't make it into the movie. The film is a bit like *Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Unfun Version*, with adventurous archaeologist Croft (Angelina Jolie, stripped of most of her personality) tangling with bad guys who are after some trinkets that will let them control time. But the plot is incomprehensible mumbo jumbo (if the heavies need both halves of "the key" and she snags the first one from them, why does the story continue!?). There are a couple of decent special-effects action sequences, but most of the movie is murky and dull.

Moulin Rouge ★★★
Think of director Baz (*William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet*) Luhrmann's splashy musical as a slugger who knows how to take only big full-tilt swings. When he misses, he looks terrible; when he connects, he really connects. There's more than a little magic in this musical love story about a much-desired showgirl (Nicole Kidman, seemingly channeling Ann-Margret) and an aspiring writer (Ewan McGregor). The surprising thing is that a lot of these magical moments come when the two sing together (and it is indeed the two of them singing). And thanks to the sheer bravado of it all, the stock story about love and the battle between art and commerce actually works.

Pootie Tang ★½
Lance Crouther's gibberish-spouting character from HBO's *Chris Rock Show* gets a movie, which is a failed attempt at a sort of goofier hip-hop *Austin Powers*. But

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North Woburn Package - Woburn
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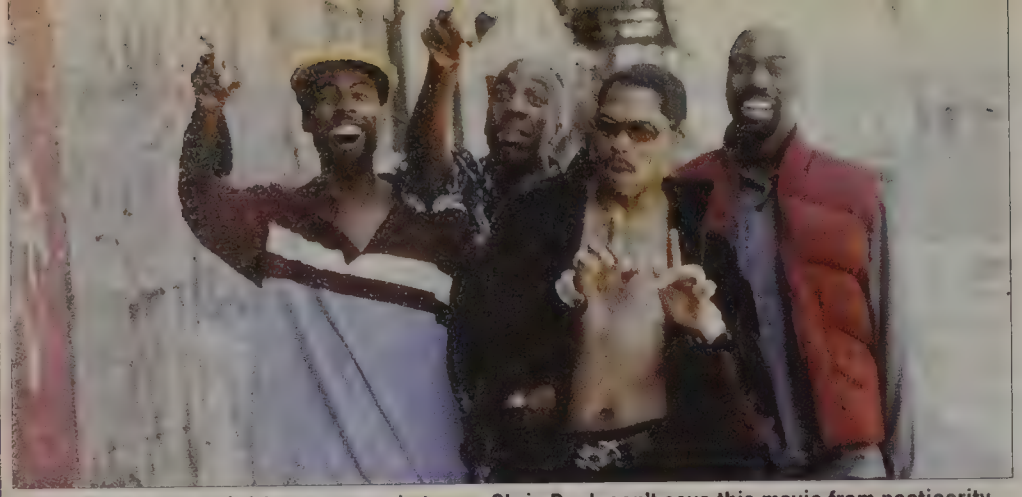
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Pootie Tang (open shirt) has a posse, but even Chris Rock can't save this movie from pootiocrity.

even at only 75 minutes, this runs out of comic gas very quickly and is about as pointless as your average *Saturday Night Live* film. Rock plays a bunch of supporting roles and there are cameos galore, but it's a waste.

The Princess and the Warrior ★★

The reteaming of *Run Lola Run* writer-director Tom Tykwer and actress Franka Potente starts out promisingly, but the movie gets less and less interesting as it progresses—and it progresses for 130 minutes. Potente plays an orderly at a mental hospital whose life is saved by a surly ex-soldier (Benno Furman) who performs a tracheotomy on her after she's hit by a truck and can't breathe. She then becomes obsessed with him, much to his chagrin. That's the promising part. But despite Tykwer's knack for creating moods, the story throws in plot turn after plot turn and gets so incredibly convoluted by the last half-hour that it's really hard to keep caring about its characters.

Scary Movie 2 ★

Considering that last summer's original was a very hit-or-miss comedy, even the normal amount of sequel drop-off in quality probably would have made this not worth sitting through. Still, the follow-up to the *Scream* parody—which this time spoofs *The Exorcist*, *What Lies Beneath* and *Hannibal*, among others—is embarrassingly feeble. Instead of being inspired by the success of the original, director Keenen Ivory Wayans and brothers/co-writers Shawn and Marlon just cling to rehashing the character gags from the first film and injecting bodily-fluid jokes. They even recycle *Matrix* gags, this time as *Charlie's Angels* gags. Additions to the cast include people like Chris Elliott and David Cross, who have been very funny elsewhere, but aren't here.

Sexy Beast ★★★½

Thankfully, the English crime thriller hasn't totally gone the way of glib crap like the movies of Guy Ritchie (*Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*). Jonathan Glazer's debut film creates a lot more menace with a lot less violence, thanks to the searing performance of Ben Kingsley as a sadistic, insistent London crook determined to enlist the services of a retired former comrade (the always dependable Ray Winstone) for a heist. Winstone says no, but Kingsley won't take no for an answer—until, as the old song says, something's gotta give. Kingsley's character is so strong that his presence looms over scenes he's not even in.

Songcatcher ★★★

The last time director Maggie Greenwald headed into the wilderness with an independent woman from the past, the result was the memorable *Ballad of Little Jo*. Her latest isn't quite so potent, but this story of a turn-of-the-last-century musicologist (Janet McTeer) who leaves the Ivy League for Appalachia gets by. Some of the plotting feels a bit by-the-numbers—oh look, it's Aidan Quinn as the guy who has to become her love interest—but the central struggle of a strong-willed woman trying to find herself in a male-dominated setting works well, without cliché. And, as in *Tumbleweeds*, McTeer is a powerful presence who also projects vulnerability.

Tea Cakes or Cannoli ★½

It wants to be *Moonstruck Goes to the North End*, but the romance, comedy and culture clash between the old world ethnicity of the North End and the "new world" beyond Hanover Street never really take hold in this local production. There are some appealing performances from Conor Michael Dubin, writer/co-director Francine Pellegrino and the one and only Abe Vigoda—as, respectively, a restless North End teen, his single mom and his dying grandfather. But Pellegrino's script awkwardly segues from comedy to drama and back, failing to hit on the consistent tone or style needed to convey the story.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Brattle Theatre

Most shows are $7, including double features.

Special Engagements

•July 20-22, 5, 7:30 and 10pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees, 12 and 2:30pm) **Once Upon A Time in China II** *1992.* This legendary Hong Kong action sequel has been re-released in a new 35mm print and has new subtitles. It features Jet Li and was choreographed by Yuen Wo-Ping, the man behind the hijinks in *Crouching Tiger* and *The Matrix*.

•July 27-29, 3:15, 5:30 and 7:45pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees, 1pm) **Signs & Wonders** *2000.* Shot in digital video, this film chronicles the experiences of a man who becomes obsessed with the recurring images and themes he notices throughout the day. •Also showing, 10pm **In the Mood for Love** *2000.* This tale of unrequited love follows a couple as they build a relationship on the tenuous bond that their spouses are having an affair.

Mondays—On the Road Again

•July 23, 4:30, 7 and 9:30pm **The Grapes of Wrath** *1940.* An adaptation of John Steinbeck's novel, this film stars Henry Fonda. John Ford directs.

•July 30, 4:15, 7 and 9:45 **Lost Highway** *1997.* Director David Lynch's hallucinatory film tells the tale of a jazzman who literally walks into the darkest recesses of human existence.

Tuesdays—Phantasmagraphic

•July 24, 4 and 7:45pm **Alice** *1988.* This Svankmajer film, his first feature, launched the Quay brothers on an under-the-refrigerator journey in a retelling of *Alice in Wonderland*. •Also showing, 6 and 9:45pm **Tales from the Gimli Hospital** *1988.* This black comedy fable is set during a smallpox epidemic in Gimli, Manitoba. It is Guy Maddin's debut feature.

•July 31, 3, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45pm **Lumiere & Company** *1995.* To celebrate the centennial of Cinema, 40 filmmakers were invited to make a one-minute film using antique equipment, resulting in a highly stylized collection of shorts. •Also showing, **Un Chien Andalou** *1929.* This groundbreaking Surrealist film features some of the most indelibly bizarre images on celluloid. Luis Buneul and Salvador Dali direct.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•July 18, 4:15, 7 and 9:45pm **The Golden Bowl** *2000.* The latest Merchant/Ivory production depicts two marriages that become entwined in ways both adulterous and nearly incestuous. Stars Kate Beckinsale, Nick Nolte, Uma Thurman and Jeremy Northam.

•July 25, 3:15 and 7:15pm **Once Upon a Time in China** *1991.* Chinese folk hero Wong Fei-Hung (Jet Li) becomes a master a school just in time to get into a conflict with the local authorities. •Also showing, 5 and 10pm **Time & Tide** *2000.* With a mob war, a couple of mercenaries, a lesbian policewoman and a graphic childbirth, this is one of the best examples of Hong Kong cinema.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Feature Films

•Opening July 20 **The Man Who Bought Mustique** *2000.* Lord Colin Tennant, the "Jet Set Monarch," bought the tiny Caribbean island Mustique in 1956 and turned it into a beach party hideaway of the stars, namely Princess Margaret—until he ran out of money and lost control of the island in the late 1970s. Complete with hissy fits, family tragedies

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•Opening July 27 **Himalaya** *2001.* Nepal's first-ever Oscar submission features stunning cinematography in the story of a generational power struggle for the leadership of a tiny mountain village in the Himalayas.

Special Engagement: Russian Film Program—Fedor Chaliapine

•July 29, 12pm **Don Quixote** *1932.* It was Charlie Chaplin who suggested director George Pabst cast Fedor Chaliapine in the title role of this film, and it became an instant classic.

•July 30 and 31, 7:30pm **Tsar Ivan Vasillievich Grozny** *1915.* "Ivan the Terrible" is the first film starring Chaliapine, in which he creates an unforgettable image of Russia's most famous czar.

Hot Summer Midnights

•July 20 and 21, 12am and **Fargo** *1996.* When mild-mannered car salesman (William H. Macy) attempts a fake kidnapping of his wife to help him pay off his gambling debts, he had no idea his plan could go so awry. Directed by the Coen brothers.

•July 27 and 28, 12am and July 29, 12pm **Delicatessen** *1991.* Part horror story and part comedy, this French film follows the lives of oddball characters who live in a boarding house in post-apocalylptic Paris.

Harvard Film Archive

Directors A to Z: Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive

•July 18, 7pm **She's Gotta Have It** *1986.* Shot on a dozen days with a paltry budget, this contemporary farce about sex features four of director Spike Lee's family members. •Also showing, 8:45pm **Naked** *1993.* This potent, post-Thatcher portrait of an angry British young man is developed through an exhaustive process of improvisation. Mike Leigh directs.

•July 19, 7pm **Design for Living** *1933.* This film is a light, yet romantic comedy with a touch of bedroom farce that is director Ernst Lubitsch's trademark. A painter (Gary Cooper) and playwright (Frederic March) both fall in love with an American living in Paris. •Also showing, 8:45pm **To Be or Not To Be** *1942.* Created at the height of Germany's power during the Second World War, this film is an anti-Nazi satire set in occupied Warsaw. It centers on the resistance of a Polish theater company.

•July 20, 7pm **Atlantic City** *1980.* Written by playwright John Guare, this tale follows the lives of two different generations of people who attempt to live in the shadows of Atlantic City. •Also showing, 9pm **The Band Wagon** *1953.* A masterpiece of American movie musicals, Fred Astaire stars as an aging movie star who is lured to Broadway for a musical role.

•July 21, 7pm **The Graduate** *1967.* This film follows the adventures of the young graduate (Dustan Hoffman) who is seduced by the seductive Mrs. Robinson (Anne Bancroft). •Also showing, 9pm **Mississippi Masala** *1991.* This story begins in Uganda in the early 1970s and chronicles the exile of the family of a successful Indian lawyer as they settle in Greenwood, Mississippi. Mira Nair directs, Denzel Washington stars.

•July 22, 7pm **The Reckless Moment** *1949.* High suspense meets the domestic in this thriller-melodrama by director Max Ophüls. A housewife discovers the body of a man in the house and, believing her daughter has killed him, removes the evidence. •Also showing, 8:45pm **Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence** *1982.* This is an unsettling assessment of two highly ritualistic military cultures in conflict, replete with stylized violence and homoerotic overtones, set in a Japanese prisoner-of-war camp in 1942.

•July 23, 7pm **Pandora's Box** *1928.* Louise Brooks provides one of the great performances of the silent film era as Lulu, the hedonistic but otherwise innocent prostitute. •Also showing, 9pm **A Matter of Life and Death** *(Stairway to Heaven) 1946.* This romance revolves around an RAF squadron leader who makes radio contact with an American WAC.

•July 24, 7pm **The Roman Spring of Mrs. Stone** *1961.* Theater director José Quintero crossed over into film to adapt this Tennessee Williams novel for the screen. Vivien Leigh and Warren Beatty star in this twisted romance that takes place in Rome. •Also showing, 9pm **Paris When It Sizzles** *1964.* This Richard Quine work finds a screenwriter ensconced in a luxury Paris apartment. Audrey Hepburn stars as his assistant. •July 25 **Nothing But a Man** *1965.* Considered one of the most sensitive films about African-American life ever made, this story is set in Birmingham, Ala., in the 1960s. •Also showing, 8:45pm **Le Beau Mariage** *1982.* The second in Eric Rohmer's series Comedies and Proverbs, this film is the cautionary tale of a young woman who impulsively decides it's time to get married.

•July 26, 7pm **The Loved One** *1965.* Evelyn Waugh's audacious satire of the Southern California way of life is a black comedy billed as having "something to offend everyone." •Also showing, 9:15pm **Choose Me** *1984.* A free-loving bar owner works out her problems with the help of a radio-show sex therapist who meddles in other people's romances.

•July 27, 7pm **The Killers** *1946.* This film noir marks the screen debut of Burt Lancaster, who refuses to flee his hired assassins. •Also showing, 9pm **Mean Streets** *1973.* This film put Martin Scorsese on the map as a director.

•July 28, 7pm **Jour de Fête** *1948.* This film follows the bungling adventures of a small-town mailman who, after hearing about the efficiency of the American postal service, decides it's time to do the same in France. •Also showing, 8:45pm **Small Change** *(L'argent de poche) 1976.* Examining the lives of several school children in a small provincial town, this film assesses the relationship of children to adults and to each other.

•July 29, 7pm **The Story of Adele H.** *1975.* In 1863, the daughter of world-famous writer Victor Hugo crosses the Atlantic in pursuit of a British lieutenant. •Also showing, 8:45pm **A Flame in My Heart** *1987.* A collaboration between director Alain Tanner and actress Myriam Mézières, this is an intense portrait of obsessive love.

•July 30, 7pm **Detour** *1945.* While hitchhiking cross-country, a piano player meets a scheming femme fatale and is innocently involved in a sudden death. •Also showing, 8:30pm **Billy Budd** *1962.* Actor Peter Ustinov directed, produced and starred in this version of Herman Melville's classic. •July 31, 7pm **The Big Parade** *1925.* King Vidor's anti-war film is one of the classics of silent cinema. It is said to have been one of Stanley Kubric's biggest influences.

Museum of Fine Arts

French Film Festival

•July 19, 6pm **Crime Scenes** *2000.* This thriller about a serial killer is directed by Frederic Schoendoerffer. •Also showing, 8:15pm **The Adventures of Felix** *2000.* A well-adjusted man living with his boyfriend has his life shaken up when he gets laid off.

•July 20, 5:30pm **It All Starts Today** *2000.* A schoolmaster deals with the effects of economic depression in this Bertrand Tavernier film. •Also showing, 7:45pm **The King's Daughters** *2000.* The wife of Louis XIV establishes a boarding school for impoverished children of nobility, but what starts out as charity turns into a nightmare. Patricia Mazuy directs. •Also showing, 1:30pm **Les destinées** *2000.* This film follows the life of a man torn between public responsibilities and private needs. •Also showing at 5pm, **A Matter of Taste** *(Une affaire de goût) 2000.* A bond between a wealthy man and his food taster spirals into deceit and obsession. Bernard Rapp directs. •Also showing, 7:15pm, **Gender Confusion** *(La confusion des genres) 2000.* This comedic look at a web of twisted relationships is directed by Ilan Duran Cohen. •July 21, 9pm **Lisa** *2000.* Director Pierre Grimblat will be present for the screening of this new film.

•July 22, 12pm **Princes and Princesses** *1999.* This animated film consists of six memorable fables and is suitable for all ages. •Also showing, 1:45pm **La Bûche** *1999.* This comedy won many French awards and takes a witty look at the loves, intrigues and travails of a modern Jewish family in Paris. •Also Showing, 4pm **Everything's Fine, We're Leaving** *(Tout va bien, on s'en va) 2000.* Claude Mourieras directs this film about three sisters whose father returns 15 years after abandoning them. •Also showing, 7pm **Ouch** *(Aïe) 2000.* Director Sophie Fillières and star Hélène Fillières will be present for this screening of their offbeat comedy.

•July 26, 6pm **La Bûche**. See July 22. •Also showing, 8:15pm, **Come Undone** *(Presque rien) 2000.* Mathieu's family holiday by the sea gets a memorable jolt when he meets his first homosexual lover.



Deneuve plays a bored housewife who takes a job in a fashionable Paris brothel in ***Belle de Jour.***

Preview

French Beauty

From *Hunger* to *Repulsion*, the Brattle showcases a range of Catherine Deneuve films

Catherine Deneuve, a study in European elegance, was France's top female screen star for many years, known for her daring role choices (from bisexual vampire to call-girl housewife) and powerful performances. In her native France, her face even adorns postage stamps and sits atop ubiquitous busts of Marianne, the symbol of the Republic. Her allure stems from her ability to play characters that are alternately icy-cool (François Truffaut's *The Mississippi Mermaid*) and charmingly innocent (*The Umbrellas of Cherbourg*. No matter what the role, there is always a shimmer of the erotic. "She looks like a professional virgin, but sexy," said Roman Polanski of her role as the frigid, mentally disoriented character in his macabre 1965 *Repulsion*. Aside from Polanski, she has worked with other famous directors over the past four decades, making a pair of films with François Truffaut (*The Mississippi Mermaid* and *The Last Metro*) and Spanish director Luis Bunel (*Belle de Jour*). In recent years, she was so impressed by *Breaking the Waves* (1996) by Lars von Trier that she wrote a letter to him asking him for a part. The result was her role in last year's incredible *Dancer in the Dark*.

The Brattle presents a smattering of her older work: July 26, 5 and 8pm is *Indochine* (1992), for which Deneuve earned an Oscar nomination. July 19, 5:30 and 9:45pm is the erotic vampire thriller *The Hunger* (1983) with Susan Sarandon and David Bowie. Polanski's *Repulsion* shows July 19, 3:15 and 7:30pm. *40 Brattle St., Cambridge (876-6837). —E.H.*

•July 27, 6pm **Little Darling** *2000.* A woman who meets her fantasy man is deceived by him after he moves in with her and her family. Anne Villacèque directs. •July 28, 12pm **Princes and Princesses**. See July 22. •Also showing, 1:45pm, **A Brush with the Stars** *(Meilleur espoir féminin) 2000.* A father's relationship with his daughter changes as she pursues a career in acting. Gerard Jugnot directs. •Also showing, 3:45pm **Code Unknown: Incomplete Tales of Several Journeys** *(Code inconnu) 2000.* Several characters are connected through a random event. Directed by Michael Haneke.

•July 29, 11:30am **Samia** *2000.* This film is based on the codes, taboos and family dynamics of Algerians living in France. Phillipe Faucon directs. •Also showing, 1pm, **Tomorrow's Another Day** *(Ça ira mieux demain) 2000.* Jeanne Labrune's comedy takes a wry look at the way problems can result in unexpected consequences and is followed by **Rules of My Game** *(Le règle du je) 2000.* Françoise Roman's original video diary looks at the filmmaker's life, family and friends. •Also showing, 3pm **Taking Wing** *2000.* A young man dreams of becoming an actor, but his family wants him to take up the family business. Steve Suissa directs and will be present at this screening. •Also showing, 5pm **Skin of Man, Heart of Beast** *1999.* The effect of family violence is examined through the eyes of two children. Hélène Angel directs.

American Folk on Film

•July 21, 12:30pm **The Angel that Stands by Me : Minnie Evan's Paintings** *1983.* Profiling 88-year-old Minnie, a black folk artist, this Allie Light and Irving Sarah film traces Minnie's slave ancestry.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley
Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org/film.
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.
Coolidge Corner
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard
Schlesinger Library
10 Garden St. (495-8647). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard

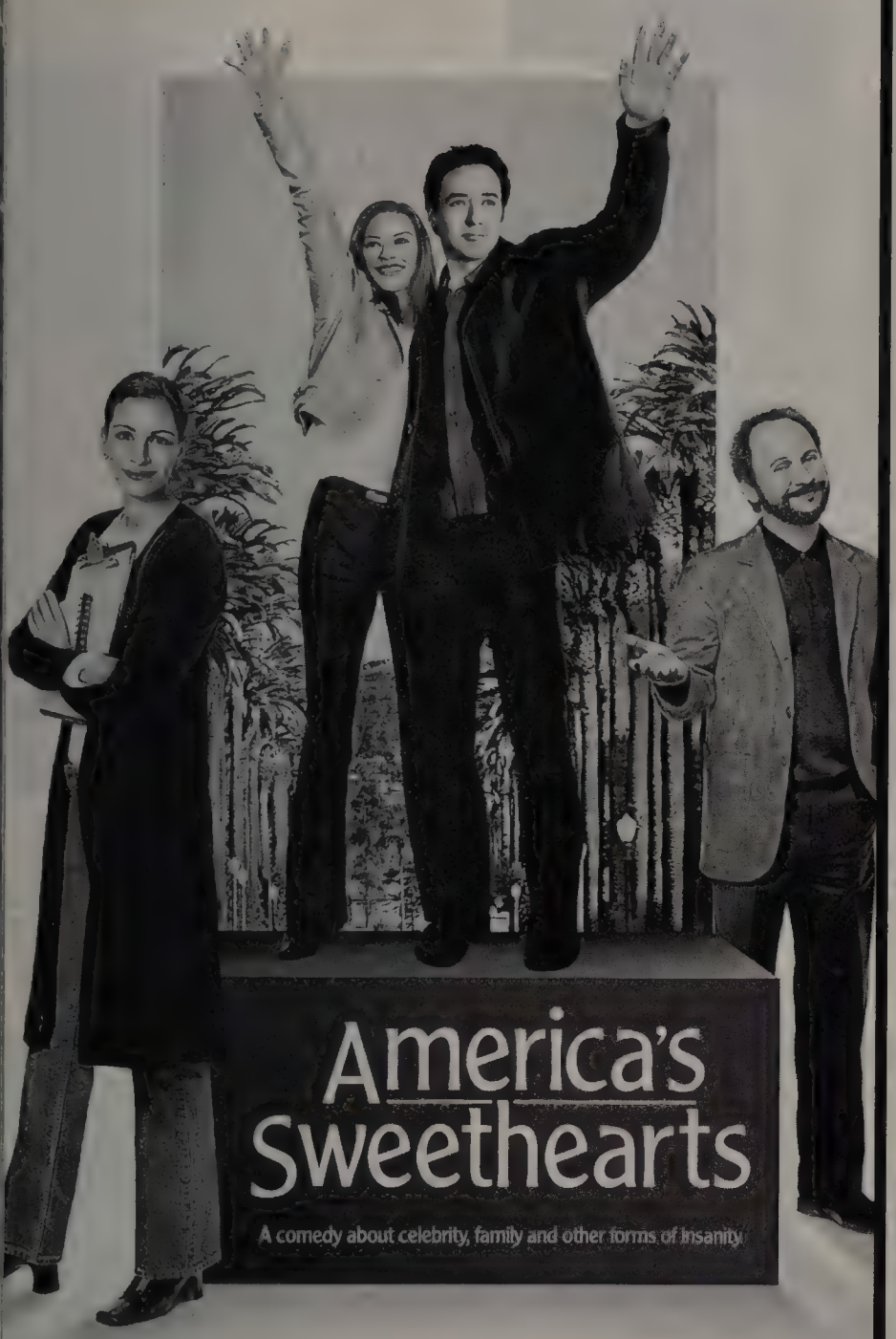
SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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EMBASSY CINEMA
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WALTHAM
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books& poetry

READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Alexandra Marshall** reads from her latest book, *Court of Common Pleas*, a story about a judge and his wife who sent their youngest child off to college and have very different expectations about what life will be like with an "empty nest."

THURSDAY, JULY 19

Borders Books and Music
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to State. **Eric Nisenson** reads from *The Making of "Kind of Blue:" Miles Davis and His Masterpiece*. This work examines how Miles Davis' masterpiece *Kind of Blue* was born. For the work, Nisenson conducted extensive interviews and had access to rare recordings.

MONDAY, JULY 23

Borders Books and Music
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (630-1120). 6:30pm. **Nick Tsiotos** and **Andy Dibilis** discuss *Running with Pheidippides*, the true story of the stunning 1946 Boston Marathon win of Stylianos Kyriakides. The book explains how Kyriakides ran to raise awareness of the turmoil in his Greek homeland.

TUESDAY, JULY 24

Barnes & Noble Author Event
One Worcester Road, Framingham (508-626-2823). 7:30pm. Psychologist **Sheila Reindl** discusses her book, *Sensing the Self: Women's Recovery from Bulimia*. Reindl studied women suffering from this eating disorder and reveals her findings.

Borders Books and Music
85 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. **Alice Hoffman**, author of *Practical Magic*, reads from her latest novel, *Blue Diary*. In this novel, a man sees his life change and his past come alive when magic comes knocking at his door.

Brookline Booksmith Author Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Suzanne Strempek Shea** talks about her fourth book, *Around Again*. Adults return to the pony farm where they worked as children, hoping to make peace with the past.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (349-4040). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Frederick Reiken**, Boston-based author of *The Odd Sea*, reads from the paperback version of his second novel, *The Lost Legends of New Jersey*, about a high school hockey star living in the Garden State circa 1980.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

Borders Books and Music
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (630-1120). **Robert Caulfield** discusses his book, *Caulfield*, which contains more then 50 years' worth of his paintings. The Vermont artist paints everything from city streets to deserted beaches and shares his work at this discussion.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Alice Hoffman** reads from her newest novel, *Blue Diary*. If you missed the discussion held Tuesday at Borders Books and Music in Framingham, you can catch it today.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Stefan Fatsis** is a living testament to how people can be sucked into the world of competitive Scrabble. He reads from *Word Freak: Heartbreak, Triumph, Genius and Obsession in the World of Competitive Scrabble*.

THURSDAY, JULY 26

The Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Jeff Shaara** discusses his latest book, *Rise to Rebellion: A Novel of the American Revolution*. Spanning the years between the Boston Massacre and the signing of the Declaration of Independence, traditional history-textbook characters participate with new vigor in Shaara's version of events.



Alice Hoffman reads from her new magical tale, *Blue Diary*, at Brookline Booksmith July 25.

FRIDAY, JULY 27

Borders Books and Music
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to State. If you missed author **Jeff Shaara** yesterday at the Harvard Coop, he reads again from his historic portrait, *Rise to Rebellion: A Novel of the American Revolution*.

TUESDAY, JULY 31

Barnes & Noble Author Event
One Worcester Road, Framingham (508-626-2823). 7:30pm. **Leonard Mees, M.D.** talks about *Get a Life, America! Your Companion in Achieving Life-Long Health*. Mees believes that the most essential component to health is being a motivated person who has some understanding of the threats to health imposed by modern society.

Borders Books and Music
85 Worcester Road, Framingham (508 875-2321). 7:30pm. **Anne LeClair** and **Jacqueline Mitchard** team up to tackle the issue of custody battles. LeClair's new book, *Entering Normal*, is the tale of the friendship of two women—a 50-year-old dealing with the loss of her only son and a single mother fighting for custody of her own son. Mitchard discusses her novel, *A Theory of Relativity*.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Suzanne Berne**, author of *A Crime in the Neighborhood*, reads from her new novel, *A Perfect Arrangement*, the story of an untrustworthy nanny.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, First Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. First Tuesday of the month. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Every First Tuesday is a poetry session.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

The Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

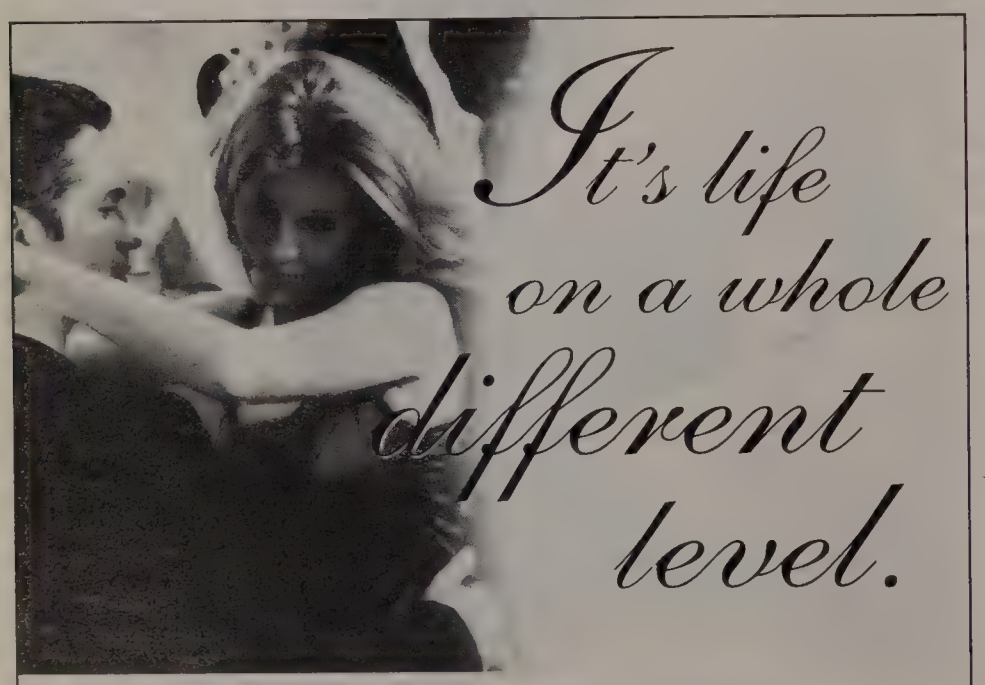
Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event also takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.



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CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

Love Your Body, Darn It!
5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:30-9:30pm. $25. We're all sick of looking at stick-thin gorgeous models that can make us feel self-conscious about our own bodies. Fashion Week Boston director **Jay Calderin** gives a lecture on how to create a more positive self-image as well as embrace beauty in all its forms—not just the glossies' ideals.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

Emotional Intelligence: Increase Your Innate Potential
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:30-9:30pm. $26. Learn how to draw power from the negative emotions that can challenge us and discover how to apply an "emotional education" successfully in business.

Introduction to Philosophy and Metaphysics
First Parish Unitarian Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (592-9959). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. Free. Discover the real meaning of esoteric science as taught by the great masters of humanity. The emphasis is on practical techniques for self-knowledge and self-mastery.

Job Seekers Unite
368 Congress St., Boston (426-0609, ext. 160). www.ifactory.com/wshops.html. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 6:30-8pm. $35.* **Alan Yen**, president of Interactive Factory, discusses new media and how to present yourself to potential employers in this industry. He'll be on hand to help tweak resumes and discuss his own career path.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

Innovation Odyssey
Meet in front of Citizens Bank, 28 State St., Boston (574-5950). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street. 10am-12pm. $19. See where Alexander Graham Bell had his eureka moment. Learn about Boston's greatest innovators and inventors. For those techie types, laptops are not included.

Digital Fun
Apple Market Center, 28 State St., 9th Floor, Boston. www.uda.com/digitaljuice. *MBTA: Blue Line to State Street. 6:30-8:30pm. Free.* Network with other creative types as you eat, drink and accept free product brochures from vendors. Stop by the Flash Film Festival for animated shorts.

THURSDAY, JULY 26

Calligraphy Tour
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5300, ext. 2225). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Meets in the Rare Books and Manuscripts Department. 4pm. Free. Preregistration is required. Local artist **Margaret Shepherd** leads an outdoor walking tour through Boston that focuses on the art of calligraphy in public spaces.

Twilight Talking
137 Beacon St., Boston (267-6338). Reception, 5:30pm; lecture 6:15pm. $10. It's the annual Victorian Society's twilight lecture, this year on "Museums in the Garden." **Elise Madeleine Ciregna**, sculpture historian, discusses American sculpture, with a special focus on art in the Mount Auburn Cemetery.

Literary Landmarks
Boston by Foot (367-2345). Meet at the corner of Washington and School streets. MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. 2-3:30pm. $9. Take a guided tour of Boston's literary landmarks.

TUESDAY, JULY 31

Interface Design
Interactive Factory Training Center, 354 Congress St., 5th Floor, Boston. MBTA: Red Line to South Station. E-mail Kalia Laughlin at kalia@mimc.org. *9am-4pm. $350 (includes one-year Massachusetts Interactive Media Council membership).* Practice creating effective Web pages by learning about content and page types, organizing information for easy navigation and documenting your designs.

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Top DJs spin.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
•July 23 and 30: In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com* with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay Night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs. Martini bar, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
Go Retroactive with DJ Chris Ewen, 9pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits. 10pm. 19+. No cover.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid jazz soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
•July 24: Mac and Jamie, 10pm, 21+. •July 31: After Work Jazz Party, 6:30pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

What's Up Night
An Tua Nua *What's Up Magazine* presents a new weekly dance night with R&B, house, funk and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

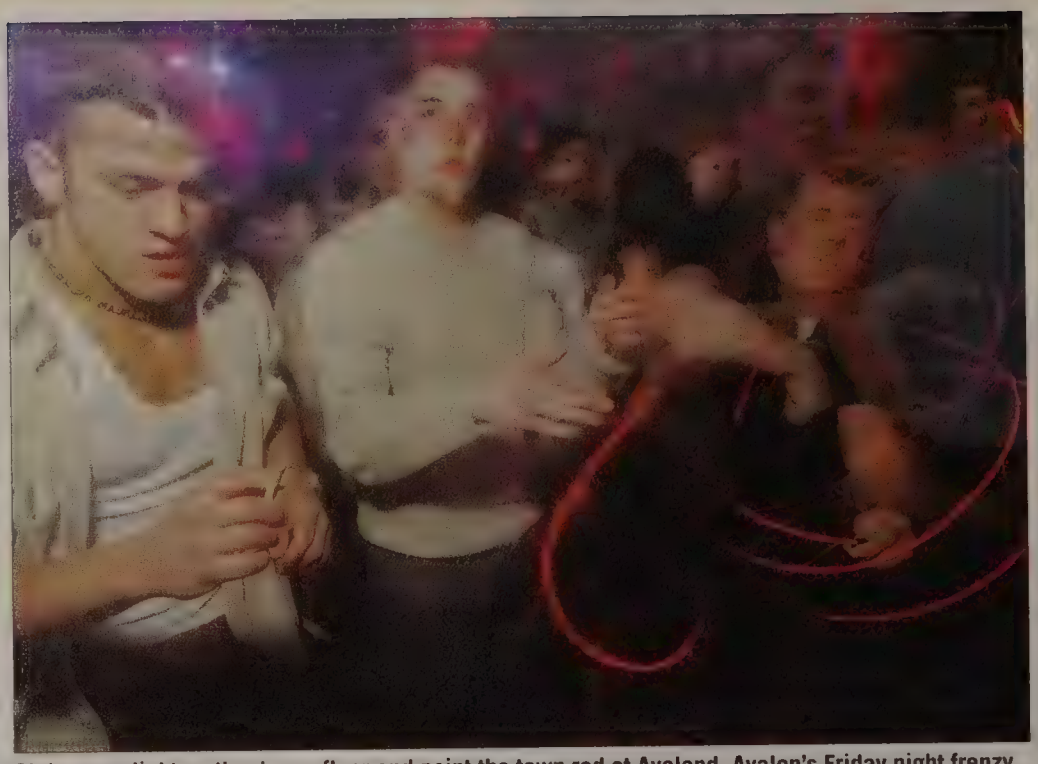
Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.



Club-goers light up the dance floor and paint the town red at Avaland, Avalon's Friday night frenzy.

Hibernia
DJ Jeremy spins lounge tunes, 6pm, 21+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

The Kells
DJs Roy Barboza and Chaos spin hip-hop, 9pm, 21+.

Milky Way
DJs Adam Gibbons, Fran and Paul Nickerson spin jazzy deep house, soul and funk, 9pm, no cover.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caserocand Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
•July 18 and 25: Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong Join in a night of psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $4, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Jeff Knor, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

College Night
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ Dragg spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by for some after-work lounging with the mellow tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm. $15 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean. Don't forget to dress up—jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
•July 19 and 26: Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae and hip hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adison. 10pm, 18+.

FRIDAYS

Aer
DJs Pete Bailey and G-Mac play some deep house for your listening pleasure, 10pm.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney plays top-40 hits, your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s and one-hit wonders, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and special-guest global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Cire, 9:30pm, 21+.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
The Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

International Lounge
Vertigo DJ A. Rossi and DJ Peter Souhleris spin Latin dance early, progressive house and top hits, 11pm. Cocktails and free hors d'oeuvres before 10pm. 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
The Roxy Guest DJs spin at this third-floor dance party.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Ren Justice spins disco, top-40 and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
•July 20: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+. •July 27: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm, 21+ DJ Ricky, 10pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse 10pm. $15. 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Sangria, Sunsets and Salsa
Sophia's Dance on the roof deck to live music from 4:30-9pm. DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor, and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

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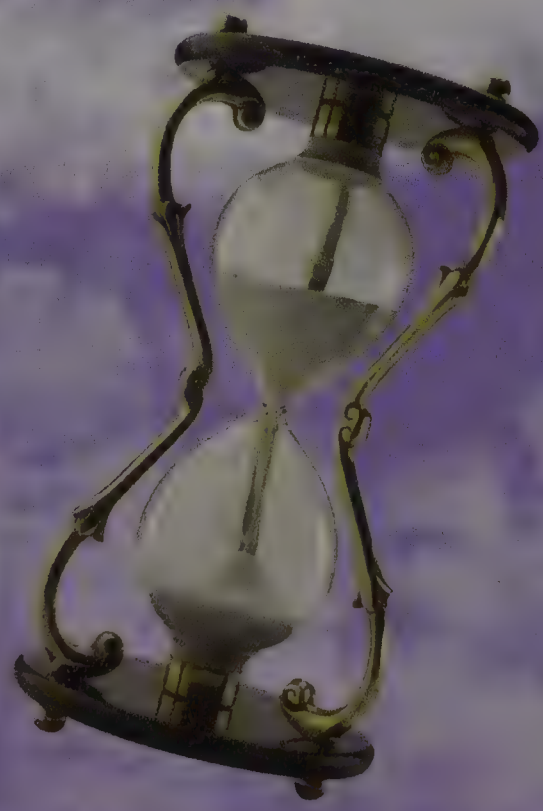


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Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Spin Cycle
Axis Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ David James. 10pm, $12, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
After-work lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house and techno, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house, hip-hop and top-40 dance.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house, DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house, 10pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive. 9:30pm. 21+.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins international house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
• July 21 and 28: Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 21+.

R&B Lounge
Vertigo DJ Ron spins R&B, hip hop, and light house at this elegant R&B night. 10:30pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats. 8pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on second floor, $10. 21+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

SW1
DJ Tari spins house, dress sexy, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians. Then, DJ Adrienne spins Brit pop and new wave tunes. 9pm, $3, 19+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins International house, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Raffy spins International house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJs Larry, Dale, Magnum, Lisa and Robin play great reggae music, 9pm, $5.

The Rack
• July 22 and 29: Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.



Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (292-3309).*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Cafe *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central or Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333).*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-9400).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (562-8800). MBTA: Green Line to BU West.*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (576-6260).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*



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BLUES BREAK

Hometown hero Susan Tedeschi puts studio pressures at bay to stretch out with a new band, new styles and new excitement. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Susan Tedeschi almost released a new CD in the spring, the long-awaited followup to her 1998 breakthrough, *Just Won't Burn*. But despite the industry glare over the delay, the South Shore-bred blueswoman says she's glad she held off.

"I'd rather let the hype die down a little bit and then release a record," says Tedeschi, who plans a summertime homecoming by headlining the FleetBoston Pavilion July 28 and the Rhythm & Roots Festival in Charlestown, R.I., Sept. 2. "I don't want people to get too psyched up and put a lot of pressure on the record. A record should just do its thing."



In the years since she won the 1994 Battle of the Bands at Harpers Ferry, Susan Tedeschi has risen to national blues prominence.

Granted, a blues-based artist is bound to generate hype in the course of selling a half million copies of her Grammy-nominated second album, playing with B.B. King and the late John Lee Hooker, and recording with Willie Nelson and Double Trouble. And it's not as if Tedeschi has avoided the studio.

"I recorded 15 tracks with my old band, but I just wasn't happy with the band and the way it went," she reveals from a Quebec City tour stop with Jason Crosby on keyboards and violin, Ron Perry on bass and Jeff Sipe (Aquarium Rescue Unit, Leftover Salmon) on drums. "I figured I'd hold off and put a record together that I really liked, something that I'm proud of and fits the style of what I'm doing."

What the 30-year-old Tedeschi says she's doing is branching out, exploring a bit of reggae, funk and soul to supplement the skills she honed at clubs like Johnny D's and Harpers Ferry, where she won the 1994 Battle of the Blues Bands.

"It's hard for me 'cause I have so many different styles that I like," the singer-guitarist says. "But I think it's good to have some versatility on a record." Tedeschi says she has about 14 new tunes that she is developing with her new band and that they plan to go into the studio this fall and get a new disc out by early next year.

While she records for local label Tone-Cool, she also notes that Island/Def Jam distribution will help promote the next album, especially abroad. "They're actually going to cross-categorize it, which is great, 'cause the last record was only in the blues section. It wasn't in rock, pop and soul."

Tedeschi has learned a lot about the music business over the past few years of hard touring. But while she is discouraged about things like the "payola" mentality of radio ("They can make or break your record, but the thing is, they know it"), the Norwell native is also encouraged by her fortune.

"The good side is there are so many amazing people in this industry, like B.B. King and Willie Nelson, who have been doing it for years and are so grateful," she says. "They sign autographs for everybody and they're so patient, and they love what they do. They make you feel really lucky that you get to play music for a living."

"And the fans have been really wonderful," Tedeschi adds. "Even though I haven't put out another record, they still come to the shows. That's been a highlight for me, because I'm under such pressure and everything in putting a record together that I had to take off some time. I got so stressed out. But now I feel a lot better and a lot more grounded."

"I feel like I've gone further than I ever thought I would. I never thought I'd play with B.B. King, which I guess is one of those things you dream about when you're playing Harpers Ferry," says Tedeschi, who now lives in Florida with Allman Brothers guitarist Derek Trucks when they have the time off. She cites Trucks, 22, as a stabilizing influence.

"Derek has turned me on to so many things, from Indian classical to Ladysmith Black Mambazo, and lots of jazz," says Tedeschi, whose interest in the blues stemmed from her experience in a gospel ensemble at Berklee College of Music. "I went to a jazz college, but I never appreciated it until now. I never listened to Coltrane and Miles and Bill Evans."

"I'm so excited, 'cause I'm learning again," she says. "I was starting to get where you're kinda at a plateau where you're kinda frustrated and you're not learning. And that's where I was when I was trying to make that other record."

"The surprising thing about music is there are so many things in the future: You really don't know what it holds," Tedeschi says. "You might have a bad gig or you don't do anything, but you can always have music. It doesn't matter if you're selling records or not if you love it." iB

Susan Tedeschi

Plays at the FleetBoston Pavilion July 28.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by e-mail to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings are not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double-check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billing

Area: One Tour with Moby, OutKast, Incubus, the Roots and Nelly Furtado, featuring Paul Oakenfold, Carl Cox, the Orb, Rinocerose and Derrick May
July 18, Tweeter Center

Barenaked Ladies
July 21, Tweeter Center

The Big Bam! with Darius Rucker and Amy Correia
July 31, The Rack

Blink-182, Bodyjar and New Found Glory
July 28, Suffolk Downs

Bon Jovi
July 25, Tweeter Center

Buckcherry and Econoline Crush
July 29, Paradise Rock Club

Chicago
July 24, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Phil Coulter
July 21, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Go-Go's
July 19, FleetBoston Pavilion

Guided By Voices
July 23, Downstairs at the Middle East

Engelbert Humperdink
July 29, South Shore Music Circus

Indigenous
July 27, Paradise Rock Club

K. C. and the Sunshine Band
July 19, Cape Cod Melody Tent

R. Kelly, Syleena Jonson and Sunshine Anderson
July 18, FleetBoston Pavilion

Phil Lesh and Friends
July 20, Tweeter Center

Huey Lewis and the News
July 26, Cape Cod Melody Tent
July 27, FleetBoston Pavilion

Los Amigos Invisibles and Iffy
July 21, Paradise Rock Club

Willie Nelson and Friends
July 25, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Nullset
July 20, Axis

Papa Wemba and Viva La Musica
July 31, Paradise Rock Club

The Righteous Brothers
July 27, South Shore Music Circus

Roxy Music
July 21, FleetBoston Pavilion

Seagrams Gin Live Tour with Mystikal, Jagged Edge, Jaheim and Public Announcement
July 26, FleetBoston Pavilion

Brian Setzer '68 Comeback Special
July 21, Avalon

The String Cheese Incident
July 22, FleetBoston Pavilion

Susan Tedeschi and Robert Randolph
July 28, FleetBoston Pavilion

Tenacious D featuring Jack Black
July 27, Avalon

Tricky and Citizen Cope
July 20, Avalon

Paul Weller
July 26, Berklee Performance Center

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30pm, no cover.
Berklee Performance Center Tower of Power Ensemble.
Bill's Bar Laughing Freeman and Robert Randolph, $7, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.

EXPOSE YOURSELF TO NEW MUSIC!



Alicia Keys

Songs In A Minor [13.99cd]

With a presence and artistry well beyond her years, stunning 20-year-old Alicia Keys is poised to take the music world to a whole new place. From her piano virtuosity to her uncommon songwriting ability, spine-tingling vocal power to her inner-city insights, Alicia's much anticipated debut album, "Songs in A Minor" is simply a gem. With a rare mix of sheer soul, hip-hop, guts, grooves and grace, "Songs in A Minor" is a major affair.



Fila Brazillia

Another Late Night [12.99cd]

"Another Late Night" is a new brand and mix series from the people who brought you the critically acclaimed Back To Mine collection. With eight acclaimed albums of their own to draw reference from, the guys take us on a guided tour of their record collection, from classic reggae to Bach inspired gems and back again... twice!



Amanda

Everybody Doesn't [13.99cd]

Sweden's latest exciting musical export is the first young female pop artist signed to Maverick Records. The vivacious performer debuts with "Everybody Doesn't" from Sweden's hottest pop/R&B/dance writer-producers. Britney, Christina and groups such as 'N'Sync and Backstreet Boys have all enjoyed their share of hits with Swedish producers and songwriters. Now Amanda brings them together as the next female pop sensation.



Ray J

This Ain't A Game [9.99cd]

After his successes in the TV and movie world, Ray J is ready to take on the music world. Prompted by a keen musical vision and driving desire to go the distance, the SoCal-based artist has joined with a number of today's top producers to create the striking new "This Ain't A Game." Ray J is in top flowing vocal form and possesses a mature perspective poised to set heads spinning on this album.



Michael Franti & Spearhead

Stay Human [12.99cd]

Michael Franti's socially inspired lyrics and Spearhead's infectious mix of classic soul, funk and hip-hop combine forces to take on one of America's biggest issues on their highly anticipated new album "Stay Human." "Stay Human" delivers its own message - that strength, esteem or individuality in a community comes from the core. And for all the nitty-gritty, street-wise toughness, "Stay Human" is ultimately a very spiritual recording.

Faithless

Outrospective [8.99cd]

Faithless returns with their strongest album to date - one that's ready to break them big stateside with the help of superstar Dido, the sister of band member Rollo. "Outrospective" breaks more ground, reaches new heights, new emotions and new atmospheres. The electrifying production on singles like "We Come 1," "Tarantula" and "One Step Too Far" which features Dido.



Basement Jaxx

Rooty [13.99cd]

Basement Jaxx took underground music and fused it with Latin, ragga, hip hop, and all the sounds and attitude of their native South London. Now with their latest album "Rooty" they are back to get you shakin' on the dance floor with their unique anthems like the first single "Romeo" forged in the dancehall furnace of their underground Rooty parties.



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• Avon, CT at 380 W. Main Street 860-678-9400

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Club Passim Tara Greenblatt CD-release, 8pm, $10.
Concerts in the MFA Courtyard Jah Spirit, 7:30pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Kristen Long, 9pm-1am, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern J. D. Ingalls.
Harper's Ferry Vibrotica and Baby Strange, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Johnny Bahama Night with Me & Julio, 21+.
House of Blues Rebirth Brass Band, 9pm, $15, no cover, 18+.
Johnny D's Rani Arbo, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Cameron Dezen, 8:30pm; Tom Glynn Duo, 9:30pm; Similar Jones, 10:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Loveless, 9pm; Creme Brulee, 9:30pm; Reverse, 11:30pm.
Middle East U: Rebecca Gates and K $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury with U-Meleni, 9pm, no cover.
MJ O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
The Rack Loose Caboose, 6:15-10:15pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm-2am, 21+.
Regattabar The Aardvark Jazz Orchestra, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Laszlo Gardony, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Gerald Albright, 8 and 10pm, $24.
Summer Shack I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm.
Toad The Early Show featuring Ry Cavanaugh and Jennifer Kimball with Billy Beard and Tom West, 7-9pm; The Cranktones, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Fly Danny Glick, David's Playground, The Fizz and Davinchi, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, JULY 19

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown and the Harry Fix Trio.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30pm, no cover.
The Attic The Common, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Gravel Pit with the Gravy and Linch Pin, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar & the Soul Providers, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Albert & Gage and Dave's True Story, 8pm, $10.
Concerts at Copley The Push Stars and Jeb Loy Nichols, 5:30pm, no cover.
Copperfield's Labb, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6-8pm; Rhythm Method, 8pm-2am, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm-1am, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos & the Special Blend, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Addison Groove Project and Edable Grey, $11, 18+.
Hennessy's Undercover, 5:30pm; The Return, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Rebirth Brass Band, 10pm, $15, no cover, 18+.
Johnny D's The Iguanas, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Indie Girl Showcase with Divya Kumar, Ari Charbonneau, Liz DeBiase and Rama Winslow, $5.
Kirkland Cafe South 16, The Warren Drews, Lashes and Deb Rao, 8pm, $5.
The Linwood Kings of Nuthin, Three Day Threshold and Euphonic, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East U: Album Leaf, Helms, Aloha and Landing, $8, 18+. D: Little Horse and Miss Fortune, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Lovewhip, Swivelhips and Scrapple, 9pm, $8.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
PJ Ryan's Brogue, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Miss Karin Parker, 8:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Temporada Latina, 8:30pm.
Scullers Gerald Albright, 8 and 10pm, $24.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9pm; Hillbilly Voodoo featuring Barrence Whitfield, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
Trattoria Il Panino Racky Thomas All-Stars, 11pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Full Powered Halo, Pennywheel, Jaded Salingers and Roxie $7.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

Atlantic 101 Kane Minkos.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30-9pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
The Attic Kristian Montgomery CD-release party, $10, 21+.
Bill's Bar Six Gig with Gage and Cave, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Laurie Lewis, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground The Swinging Johnsons, 10pm, 21+.
Copperfield's Sound Kings, 10pm, cover varies, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6-9:30pm; Soul City, 10pm-2am, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm-9:15pm; Jan Peters, 9:30pm-1am, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Freelance Bishops, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Kubuto Power Jazz Unit, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pitman.
The Green Briar Lulu's in Crisis.
The Green Dragon Tavern 4 on the Floor.
The Harp Pete Massa.
Harper's Ferry Missing Joe, Aberdeen and Mike Farley Band, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30pm.
House of Blues David Hole, 10pm, $12, 21+; Aiwa Blues Cruise: Jorma Kaukonen & Jack Casady: An Evening with the Original Hot Tuna.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Sandi Hammond, 9:30pm; Edith, 10:30pm; Howard Fishman Quartet, 11:30pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Executrix and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
The Linwood Banjo Spiders, the Brett Rosenburg Problem, Orange Park and Delicious, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Amy Rigby, Dennis Brennan.
Middle East U: Mass, Rainshine, Buck 50 and Joe Feloni, $7, 18+. D: Gamelan Presents Percy Hill, Shake Senora and Vogonz, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Da Massdas Tournament Expo featuring Insight, Gray Maddaz, Massdasdauniverz and Busted Fro, 9pm, $10.
Mr Dooley's Sundays Well.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 9:30pm.
PJ Ryan's On a Tangent, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Jim Devlin Trio, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:15-10:45pm; DJ Todd, 10:45pm-2am, 21+.
Regattabar The James Cotton Blues Band celebrates its 35th anniversary, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Jamm Down.
Ryles Jazz Club Rippopotamus Farewell Show, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Diane Schuur, 8 and 10:30pm, $21.
Toad John Haydon and 10 Worlds and Charlie Chesterman.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio featuring Maggie Galloway and Jim Cameron, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Trattoria Il Panino Double Take, 11pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Racketeers CD-release show with the Raging Teens, Cave Catt Sammy, Gein & the Graverobbers, $10.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis and Kane Minkos.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30-9pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Charlie Farren, $12, 8pm.
Copperfield's 24-7 and Rosemary Crass, 10pm, cover varies, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker, 6:30-9pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm-2am, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Cambridge Grant Langford Quintet, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Return.
The Harp Peat Moss.
Harper's Ferry Slipknot, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7pm.
House of Blues Bernard Allison, 10pm, $12, no cover, 21+.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Wishing Chair, 9:30pm; Boris McCutcheon, 10:30pm; Amelia White, 11:30pm, $5.
The Linwood Calendar Girl and Aviso 'Hare, 9pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Pamela Means and Rachael McCartney.
Middle East U: Steelhead, Liquor Tricks and High Society. D: Blake Babies and Wheat, $12, 18+.
Mr Dooley's Sundays Well.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 9:30pm.
Porters Bar and Grill Freudian Slip, cover varies, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Teresa Inês Quintet, 7:30 and 10pm, $12.
Rhythm & Spice Kolors.
Ryles Jazz Club Gospel Brunch, 10am-2pm, $15; The Bluehemians, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Diane Schuur, 8 and 10:30pm, $21.
Toad Asa Brebner.
Top of the Hub The Jeff Auger Trio featuring Maggie Galloway, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Trattoria Il Panino Sunshine Boy, 11pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Pills, Big D & the Kid's Table, David James Motorcycle and the Datsons, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

Mali superstars Balla Tounkara and the Super Rail Band blend traditional *manding* and Latin music July 18 at the Paradise in their Boston debut.

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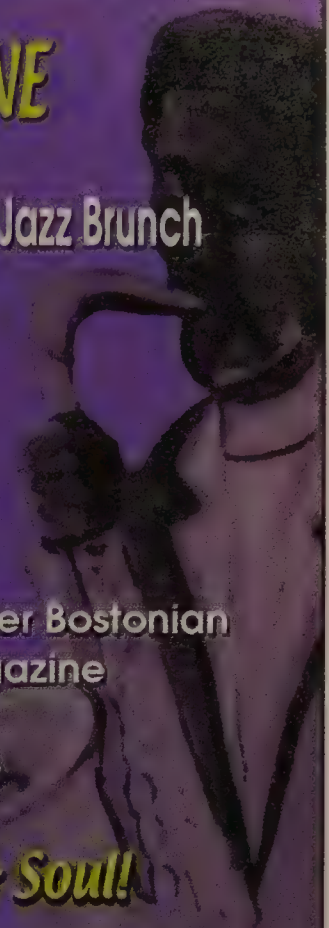


TUES.-WED. 11:30am-10:00pm THURS.-SAT. 11:30am-Midnight
SUN. Brunch 10:00am-3:00pm, Dinner 3:00pm-9:00pm CLOSED MONDAY

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SUNDAY, JULY 22

Bill's Bar Chaos UK with Toxic Narcotic and Molotov Cocktail, 2pm, $10, All Ages; Hot Like Fire and Dub Station, 10pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Sonny Watson Quartet, 10am-2pm
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Joe Rathbone and Dan Blakeslee, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, cover varies, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel Brunch with Silver Lining, 10am-3pm; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm-1am, no cover.
The Green Briar Sunday's Well and Finbar Doyle.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's The Martini Brothers, 5-8pm; karaoke, 9pm.
House of Blues Jazzy fatnastees and Spontaneous, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Martin Finke, 9pm; James O'Brien, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Lizard Lounge Poetry Jam, The Jeff Robinson Trio, The Boston Slam Team, 7pm.
Middle East U: Fashion Colt, Pro Solar Mechanics, Runner and Thermodynamics, $7, 18+. D: Massdasuv da Univerz, Justice, Grey Matter, Insight and Algebra $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Power Surge, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Sunday Jazz Brunch with Harry Fix Trio.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm.
Toad Kelly Riley.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm-12am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ransom, Eventide, Fixation and Nimmer, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JULY 23

Bill's Bar The Red Telephone with Delta Clutch and Rocketscience, $5, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8pm; Barb Phaneuf, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Bala Tounkaras, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry The Cool Grape Goodness and Nikulydin, $7, 18+.
House of Blues Ulu and Barnstorm, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Jodi Shaw, 8pm; Dave Llewellyn, 9pm; Elysium, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mic, 7-9pm, The Fringe, 10pm.
Middle East U: Stone Soup Poetry/Out of the Blue Poetry Night featuring Deborah M. Priestly and Out of the Blue Poets, $6 (Proceeds benefit the gallery), 7:30pm; Close Call, Out Cold and Last in Line, 10pm, $7, 18+; D: Guided By Voices, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Mike Tucker Jazz Quartet, 9pm, $5.
MJ O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band featuring Joe Cunningham, 7-11pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm-12am, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear Acoustic Series with Clare Burson, $3.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, JULY 24

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Moke with guests, 6pm, $7, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.



Indie pop veterans Guided By Voices, fronted by Robert Pollard, play at the Middle East July 23.

Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin Party, 8pm; True Life Bluegrass, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike; sign-ups at 7:30pm, $5
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet. $8, 18+.
Hennessy's John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Los Mocosos, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's MP3.com night featuring Bodega Sonica, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
The Kells Acoustic Open Mike with Tom Bianchi, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Carolann Solebello, 8:30pm; Mark Berube, 9pm; Leaving Dizzy, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge "Organic Tuesdays at the Lizard" with Livetronica, Actual Proof, Moonraker and Seishi.
Milky Way Mary Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
MJ O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with Megladon Jazz Band, 6:15-10:15pm, 21+.
Scullers Ralph Irizarry & Timbalaye, 8 and 10pm, $16.
Toad The Residency featuring Carla Ryder.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Amber Spyglass, The Silent Goodbye, Fire Engine Red and Sociedad Anonima, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

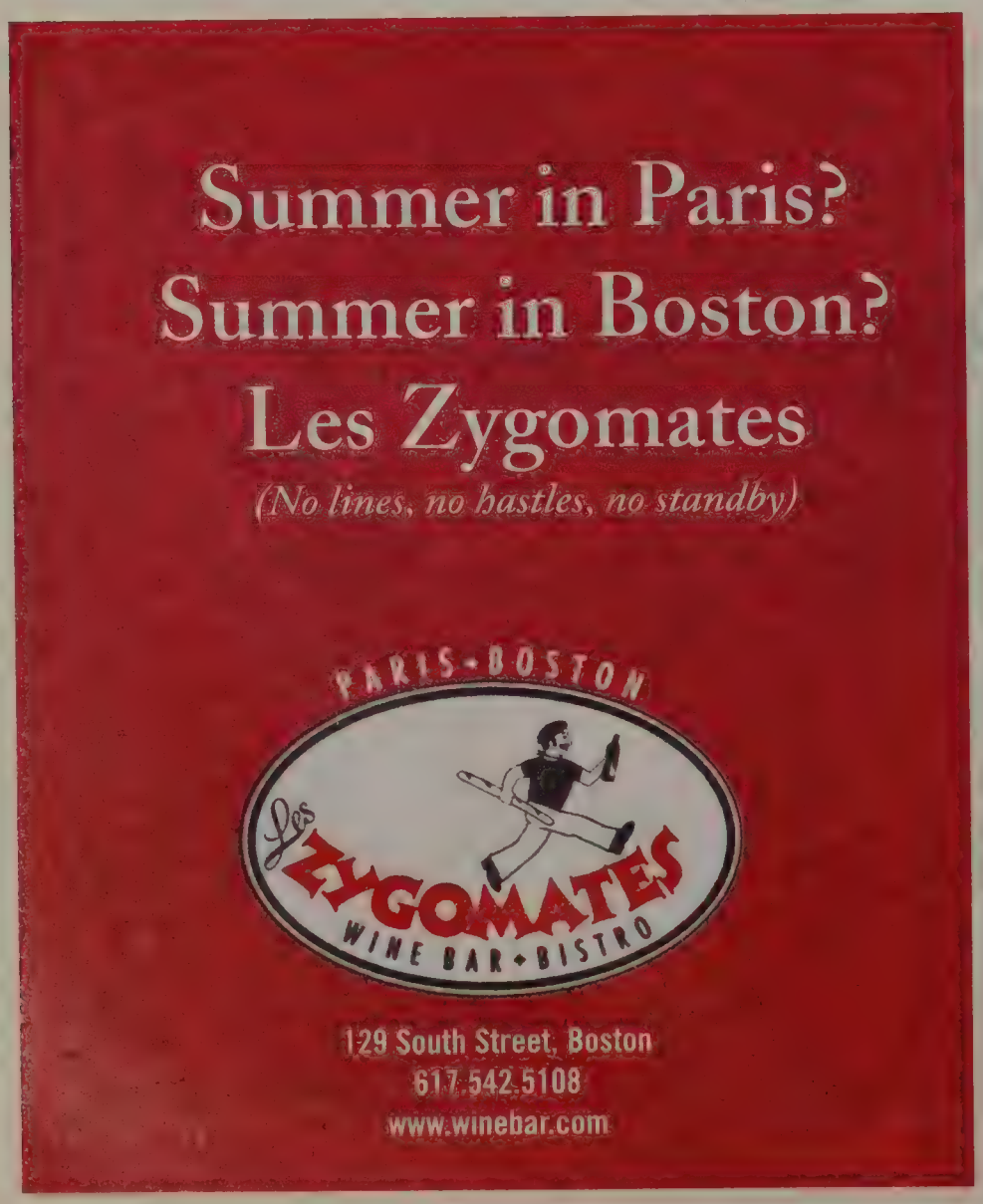
Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Berklee Performance Center The Michael Herklots Quintet.
Bill's Bar The Kreators, Kiki Breevlife, Balistik 82, Eroc the Revolutionist, Term & Ed, Quite Nyce, $12, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Andrew Kerr CD-release show with Jodi Sheeler, 8pm, $10.
Concerts in the MFA Courtyard Jah Spirit, 7:30pm.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Grand Canal J. D. Ingalls.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
Harper's Ferry Nancy S. Mroczek PhD, Miracle Orchestra and Dr Didge, 10:30pm, 18+.
Hennessy's "Johnny Bahama Night" with Me & Julio.
Johnny D's Barbara Kessler Band and Bob Malone, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Andy White, 8:30pm; Tom Glynn Duo, 9:30pm; Skunk, 10:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Loveless, 9pm; The Somes, 9:30pm; Aaron Lippert, 11:30pm.
Middle East U: Pleasure Forever, Love Life and Ghetto Thunder, $7, 18+. D: Sugar Cult, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury with Host U-Meleni (spoken word, dance and art collaborative), 9pm, no cover.
MJ O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
Quingping Gallery Teahouse Rahul Kakkar, 8pm.
The Rack Calypso Hurricane, 6:15-10:15pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10:15pm-2am, 21+.
Regattabar Natraj, 8:30pm, $10.
Scullers Strunz and Farah, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Summer Shack I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm.
Toad The Early Show featuring Ry Cavanaugh and Jennifer Kimball with Billy Beard and Tom West, 7-9pm; The Coachmen, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Bluebloods, Nancy Mroczek PhD, Mean Ether and the New Youth, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, JULY 26

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Attic Jon Tierney & the Truth and Hurricane Jane, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Citizenfish with The Pug Uglies and Suspect Device, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Dave Foley.
Bob the Chef's Toni Lynn Washington Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Deb Talan and Flora Reed, Steve Tannen, 10pm, $12.
Concerts at Copley The Samples, 5:30pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6-8pm; Brick Park, 8pm-2am, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm-1am, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Uncle Sammy, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Undercover, 5:30-7:30pm, The Return, 9pm.
House of Blues Chris Duarte, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Mike Auldridge, Richard Bennet and Jimmy Gaudreau, 9pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Solomon, 9pm; Naked Poets, 10pm; Darby Jones, 11pm, $5.
Kirkland Cafe Rabadango, Thi Anonymous Richard, Jama Gigi, Tyler Wood Organ Combo, 8pm, $5.
The Linwood Carmelita's (WAAF) Local Picks, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East U: Three Day Threshold, Red Planet, The High Ceilings and Sona Nyl, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Cha Cha Cha All-Stars and Brass Routes, 9pm, $7.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
PJ Ryan's Pete Massa, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar The Dominique Eade Trio with Mick Goodrick and John Lockwood, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Strunz and Farah, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9pm.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Prime Rib, Schedule 2 and Juniper's Daughter, $6.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

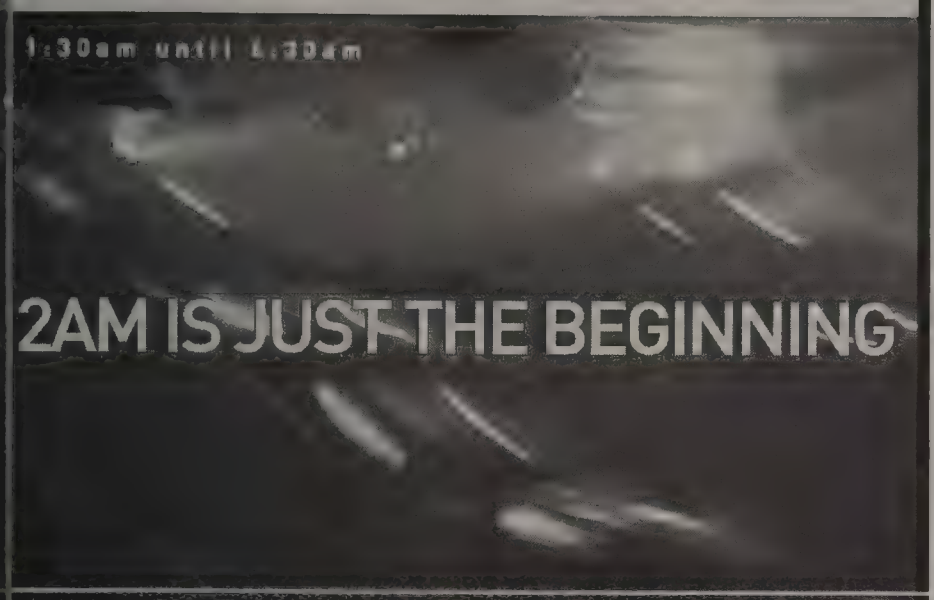
FRIDAY, JULY 27

Atlantic 101 Kane Minkos.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30-9pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
The Attic The Mudhens with Traveling Matt, cover varies, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Royal Family with Greenhouse $8, 18+.



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RISE



The MISSION of RISE is to create a world-class safe space for people to dance after-hours while setting a new standard for late-night activity in Boston. To eliminate homophobia through dance and to provide charitable support for the less fortunate.

orbit fridays at rise

friday, 7.20: resident **Steve Porter** with special guest **John Debo** (axis/chrome)

friday, 7.27: special guest **Manolo** with **AC** (soundfactory/boston)

friday, 8.3: residents **MJ, Danny Laurel and Heuge** (satellite/boston)

friday, 8.10: resident **Steve Porter** (balance promote group)

friday, 8.17: residents **MJ, Danny Laurel and Heuge** (satellite/boston)

mantra saturdays at rise

saturday, 7.21: resident **Billy Carroll** / (nyc)

saturday, 7.28: resident **Vlad** / (nyc)

saturday, 8.4: guest **Dan Robbins** / (nyc)

saturday, 8.11: guest **TBA**

saturday, 8.18: special guest **Joe Gauthreaux** / (new orleans)

EARTH sundays at rise

sunday, 7.22: resident **Richie Rich LaDue**

sunday, 7.29: resident **Richie Rich LaDue**

sunday, 8.5: resident **Richie Rich LaDue**

sunday, 8.12: resident **Richie Rich LaDue**

sunday, 8.19: resident **Richie Rich LaDue**

www.skymedia.com/rise

RISE is a private, member-only club and is not open to the public. New members must be sponsored by an existing member who has been a member for at least three months. Memberships are NOT sold at the door. RISE is 18+ and is a drug and alcohol-free space.

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Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim David Olney and Louise Taylor, 8pm, $12.
Copperfield's Figure Four and Earth Dog, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 10pm-2am, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45-9:15pm; Jan Peters, 9:30pm-1am, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Kubuto Power Jazz Unit, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Inner Orchestra, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Tom Pitman.
The Green Briar Scott Miller Band.
The Green Dragon Tavern Classic Trax.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry Entrain and Acoustic Hookah, cover varies, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
House of Blues Elio Schiavo, 10pm, $10, 21+; Aiwa Blues Cruse: Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson.
Johnny D's New Orleans Klezmer Allstars and Afroskull, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Jeremy Schonfeld, 9:30pm; Kristin Cifelli, 10:30pm; Daniel Barrett Sumber, 11:30pm, cover varies.
Kirkland Cafe Strangeman, Surficide, Gein & the Graverobbers, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $6.
Lilli's Tracy Husky, $7.
The Linwood Trucker, Mount the Assembly, Mhyskin, 9pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Say ZuZu.
Middle East U: Dr. Awkward and 84 West, $8, 18+.
Milky Way The Spurs & Tumbleweeds, 9pm, $10.
Mr Dooley's Sundays Well.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
O'Brien's R.C. Crimewave.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 9:30pm.
Paradise Indigenous.
PJ Ryan's Uncle Shaker Band, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Velvet Jones, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:15-10:15pm; DJ Todd, 10:15pm-2am, 21+.
Regattabar Benny Green CD-release show, 8 and 10:30pm, $14.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band.
Scullers Airto Moreira and Flora Purim, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Toad Mayone Thing.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio featuring Jim Cameron, 9pm-1am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Swirlies, Lockgroove, Bright and Moto Wife featuring Seana Carmody, $8.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm.

SATURDAY, JULY 28

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, Kane Minkos and the Laura Allen Trio.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30-9pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
The Attic Mountain of Venus and Paul Ruderman Band, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Lance Martin Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rockwell Church, 8pm, $10.
Copperfield's Clarias and Lincoln Conspiracy, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7-10pm; Classic Trax, 10pm-2am, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacey Baker, 6:30-9pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm-2am, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend: Jose's Birthday Celebration, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Six Shot Brody.
The Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain.
The Harp The Zoo.
Harper's Ferry Entrain and Virginia Coalition, cover varies, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7pm.
House of Blues Masters of Groove, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Boston Horns and Mary Ann Redmand, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Annie Lin, 8:30pm; Blue Tree Project, 9:30pm; Jenny Greer, 10:30pm, $5.
Lilli's Lyres, Purple Wizard and The Downbeat 5, 8pm, $7, 21+.
The Linwood Blowtorch Betty and the Humanoids CD-release, 9pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Live From Lars Vegas, Lars Vegas, Barbez.
Middle East U: Damn Personals, the Greenhornes, French Kicks, 7pm, $8, 18+. D: Darkbuster, Tommy and the Terrors, the Skels, Kings of Nuthin', Hudson Falcons, Tommy and the Terrors, Niblick Henbane, Meat Depressed and the Tomb Tones, $10, 21+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club with salsa lessons, 8:30pm and DJ Antonio Ortiz, 9:30pm, $7.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
O'Brien's A night of music and spoken word with Machinery Hall, Search Engine, Nola Kelley with Mariano and The Collective, 9pm, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 9:30pm.
Porters Bar and Grill Blockhead, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Benny Green record release, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club John Payne Battle of the Student Bands, 11am-7pm, $6; Patiokings, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Airto Moreira and Flora Purim, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Toad Dave Johnston Band.
Top of the Hub Jeff Auger Trio featuring Maggie Galloway, 9pm-1am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Peaches with Taylor Savvy, DJ-C and MC Flack, $10.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, JULY 29

Bill's Bar Shaka Black and Dub Station, 10pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Paulo Danay Quartet, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm.
The Burren Melissa Morris and Peter Mulvey, 8:30pm, $10.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Edie Nicholson Scholarship Fund Benefit, 7:30pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 10am-3pm; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and MIchael Larson, 9pm-1am, no cover.
The Green Briar Donegal Cords and Finbar Doyle.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's The Martini Brothers, 5-8pm.
House of Blues Simon Townshend, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Brian Michael Roff.
Lizard Lounge The Lizard Lounge Poetry Jam, The Jeff Robinson Trio and the Boston Slam Team, 7-9pm.
Middle East U: Drexel, Mancain, Mission 120 and Random Acts of Violence, 8:30 pm, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Hurricane Sound, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Sunday Jazz Brunch with Jay Silva.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Amazon Poetry Slam, 7:30pm, $9.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ransom, Eventide, Fixation and Nimmer, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JULY 30

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Crunch, Six of Fire with Deguelo and Grudge Fuck, $5, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8pm; Boris McKutcheon, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Two-song open mike with Adam Brodsky, 7:30pm, $5.

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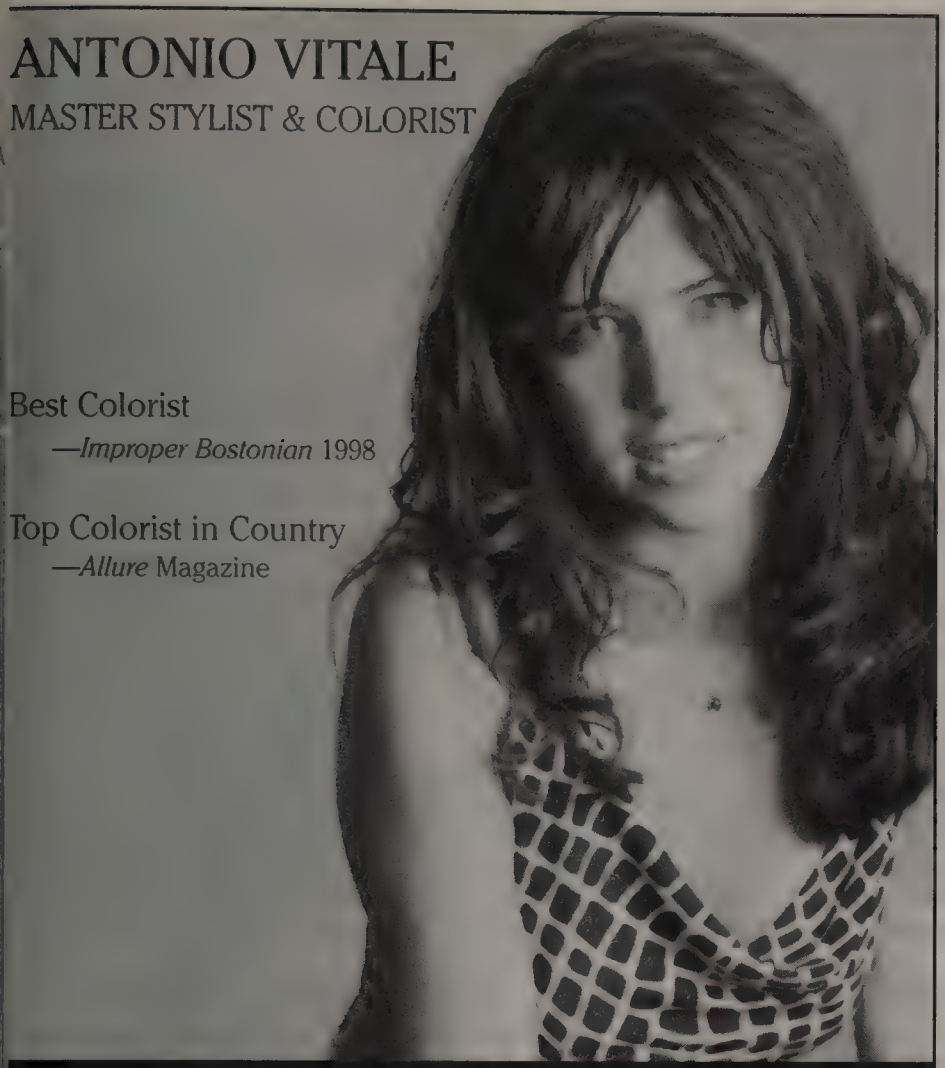
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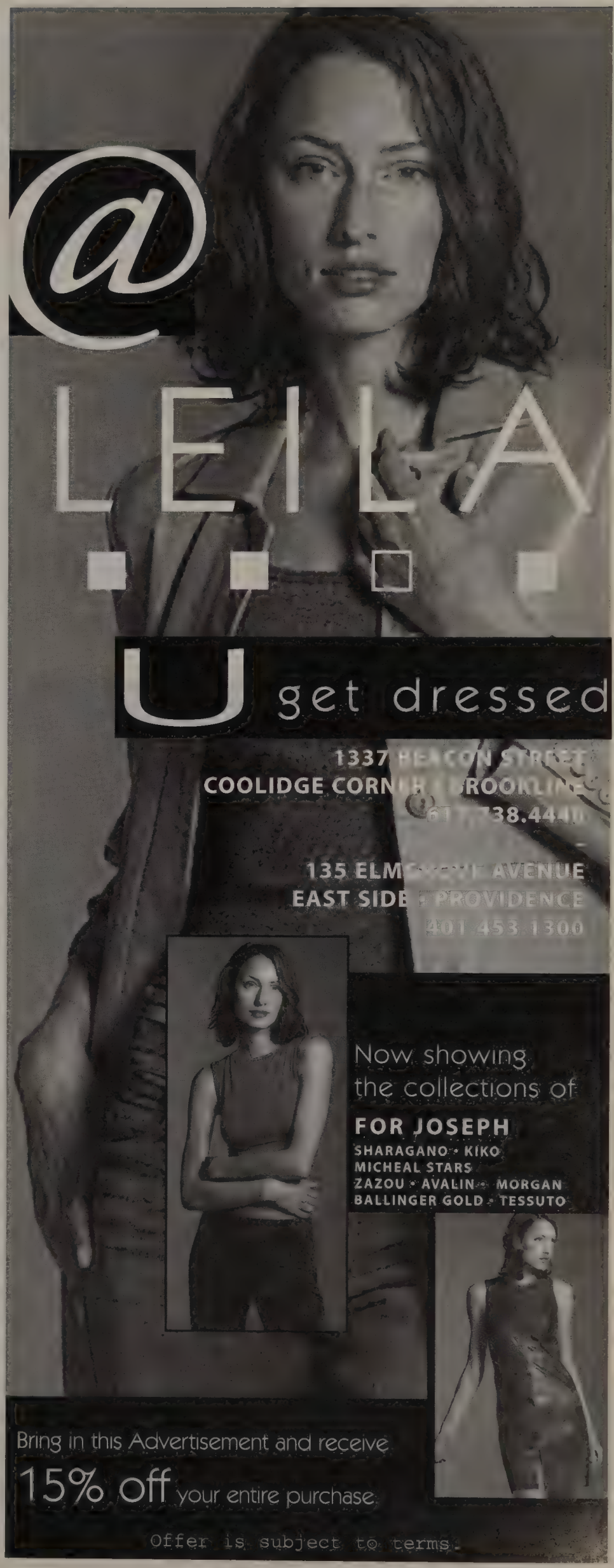
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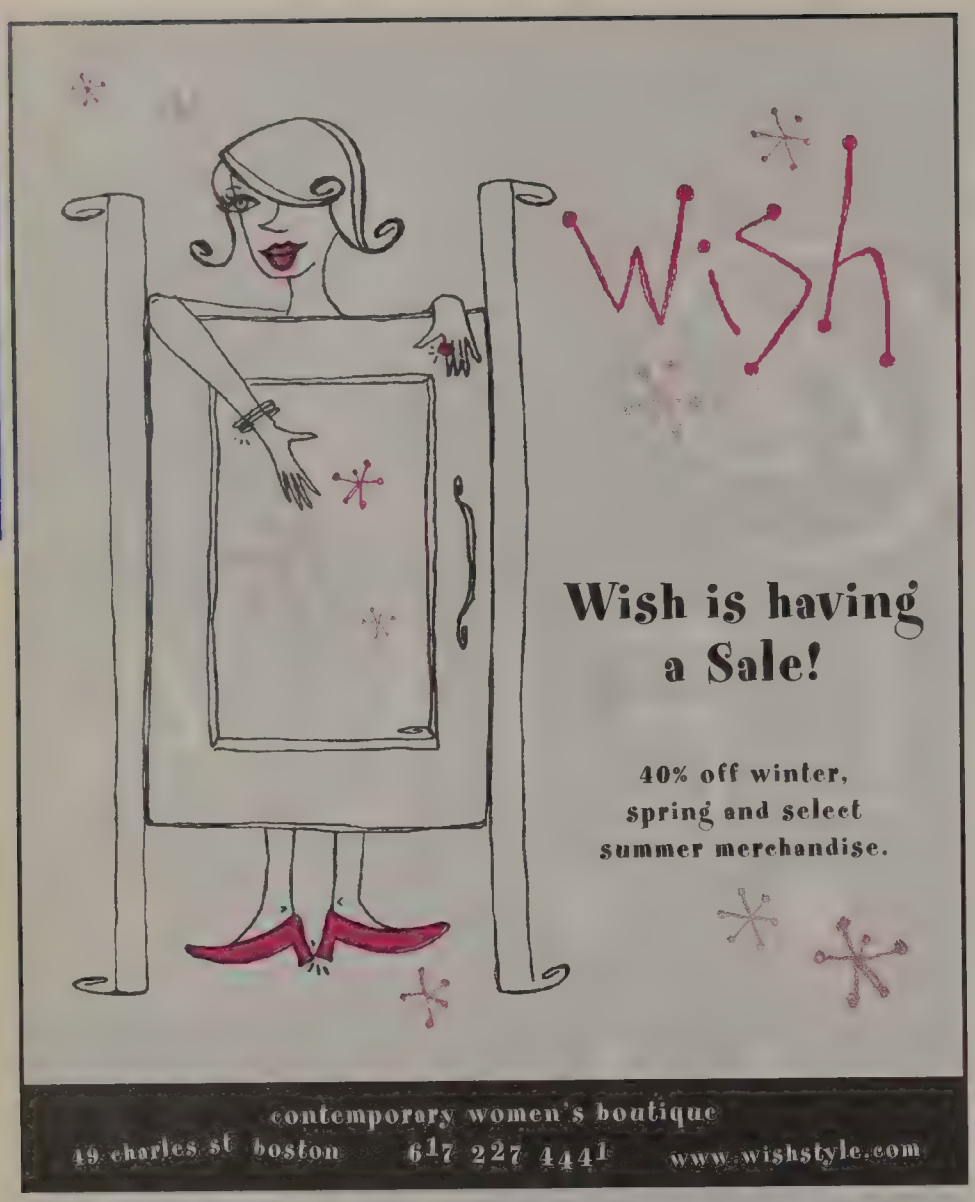
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Dick's Last Resort Kevin McClusky, 7pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm-12:30am, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Sessuin.
Harper's Ferry Best band showcase, 18+.
House of Blues Professor Shuman and guests, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Teresa Storch, 8:30pm; Dani Carroll, 9:15pm; Chris Elliott, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mic, 7-9pm, The Fringe, 10pm.
Middle East U: The Secrets, Set Director, Heather Number One, Cathy Cathotic and Het, $6, 18+.
Milky Way Scarrie Monday with metal acts, 9pm, $5.
MJ O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, 21+.
Paradise Pete Yorn and Ours, 8pm, $12, 18+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band featuring Keiichi Hashimoto and the Real Deal Horns, 7-11pm, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10pm; Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Gord Downie and The Dinner Is Ruined with Julie Doiron, $15.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, JULY 31

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin Party, 8pm; Still on the Hill, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike; sign-ups at 7:30pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Sally Taylor, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Kevin So and Dani Carroll, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
The Kells Acoustic Open Mike with Tom Bianchi, no cover, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Dave Ramont, 8:30pm; Jesse Perkins, 9:30pm; Ticklepenny Corner, 10:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Cancer to the Stars, Kingspin (Kingsize, USA), Matters & Dunaway and Seishi.
Middle East U: American Steel, Lawrence Arms and River City Rebels, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mary, Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
MJ O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with Megladon Jazz Band, 6:15-10:15pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Aaron Goldberg Trio record release, 8:30pm, $14.c
Toad The Residency featuring Carla Ryder and Ms. Pigeon.
T.T. the Bear's Place Specimen 37, Ghost 24, Mount the Assembly and Longinus, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-5101). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Millennium Bostonian Hotel. One Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent *21 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100).*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogans Bluff *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*



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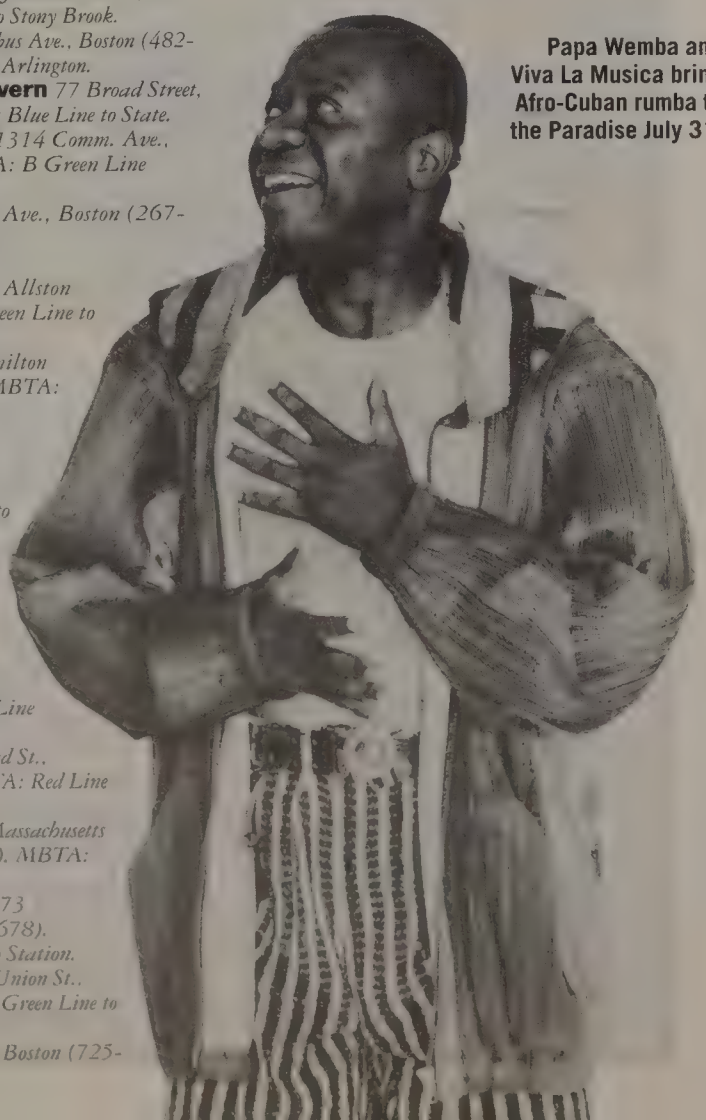
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Good Life Cambridge *720 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
Maison Robert *45 School St. Boston. (227-3370). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
MDC Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston (727-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
MJ O'Connor's *27 Colombus Ave., Boston (482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad Street, Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: B Green Line to Long Ave./Griggs St.*
Oak Bar *138 Saint James Ave., Boston (267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave. Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place. Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Plough and Stars *912 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *One Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *One Bennet St., Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
South Shore Music Circus *130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400).*
Suffolk Downs *111 Waldemar Ave., East Boston (567-3900). MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs.*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
TírnanÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
Trattoria Il Panino *120 South Market. Faneuil Hall, Boston (573-9700). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester, (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*



Papa Wemba and Viva La Musica bring Afro-Cuban rumba to the Paradise July 31.

classical music

WEDNESDAY, JULY 18

Mitsuko Uchida
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $13-$40. Mitsuko Uchida performs the music of Schubert and Weber on piano.

New England Conservatory Festival Youth Orchestra Concert
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. *7:30pm. Free.* Aaron Kula directs this 36-member chamber orchestra.

THURSDAY, JULY 19

From the Top Recording Concert
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 1pm. Free. This acclaimed WGBH radio program is here to record five performances from musicians ages 9 to 18.

Yo-Yo Ma, Emanuel Ax, Denyce Graves, Pamela Frank and William Hudgins
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$45. This performance includes the world premiere of Danielpour's *Portraits*, a composition for mezzo-soprano, clarinet, violin, cello and piano.

FRIDAY, JULY 20

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. Sir Andrew David conducts, and pianist Emanuel Ax performs the music of Beethoven, Delius and Stravinsky.

Kodàly Teachers and Children's Choir
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (585-1122). www.newenglandconservatory.edu. *7pm. Free.* Mary Epstein, Jonathan Rappaport and Johnne Crowell direct this concert that concludes the NEC Summer School's Kodàly Pedagogy Institute and Vocal Vacation for children. It features a combined choir of teachers and students.

SATURDAY, JULY 21

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. $14-$78. Seiji Ozawa conducts the orchestra with Peter Serkin on piano, and John Oliver conducts the Tanglewood Festival Chorus.

TUESDAY, JULY 24

King's Chapel Lunchtime Concerts
School and Tremont streets, Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. The Phillips Consort of Viols performs.

Tanglewood Music Center Vocal Fellows and Orchestra Concert
Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8pm. $35-$80. The music of Ravel is featured in a performance conducted by Seiji Ozawa and Robert Spano and directed by David Kneuss.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 25

Tanglewood Music Center Vocal Fellows and Orchestra Concert
Tanglewood, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8pm. $35-$80. Same program as July 24.

THURSDAY, JULY 26

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Evans Way Park, The Fenway, Boston (520-2200). 8pm. Free. The BLO presents Classical Classics, featuring Bayla Keyes on violin and Marcus Thompson on viola.

Emerson String Quartet
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $13-$40. Featuring Yefim Bronfman on piano.

FRIDAY, JULY 27

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Boston Common Parade Ground, Boston (520-2200). 4pm. Free. Same program as July 26, including pieces by Mozart and Haydn.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. Conducted by Hugh Wolff, the program features violinist Joshua Bell and includes music by Sheng, Bernstein and Beethoven.



Viola soloist Marcus Thompson plays July 26 with the Boston Landmarks Orchestra.

Preview

Site and Sound

Boston Landmarks Orchestra unites music lovers and history buffs

Bostonians have long been able to enjoy free outdoor concerts in the summertime, and now classical music fans have yet another good reason to get comfortable in their lawn chairs. The fledgling Boston Landmarks Orchestra presents a new series of seven free concerts this summer, designed to generate a greater appreciation of classical music by bringing it into various Boston neighborhoods. Conductor and founder Charles Ansbacher, who has conducted worldwide from Chicago to the Czech Republic, created the Landmarks Orchestra in January with the stipulation that concerts would be held in locations of cultural and historical significance, such as the Boston Common, Franklin Park and George's Island. See the orchestra July 26 at Evans Way Park on the Fenway and July 29 on the Boston Common Parade Ground, when viola soloist Marcus Thompson and violin soloist Bayla Keyes will join in. On both dates, the Landmarks Orchestra will perform Classical Classics, a program featuring the familiar music of Mozart and Haydn. Watch for Ansbacher and his orchestra at historic Boston sites through August. —*Kelly Dutton*

MONDAY, JULY 30

Berkshire Night
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $10. Various music for winds, brass and percussion, conducted by Stefan Ashbury and featuring Gil Evans' arrangements.

TUESDAY, JULY 31

King's Chapel Lunchtime Concerts
School and Tremont streets, Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15pm. $2. The A-No-Ne Jazz Trio with Hiro Honshuku performs.

Tanglewood on Parade
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $17-$88. Seiji Ozawa, Keith Lockhart, John Williams and André Previn conduct a program that includes works by Tchaikovsky and music by Williams from *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. Grounds open at 2pm.

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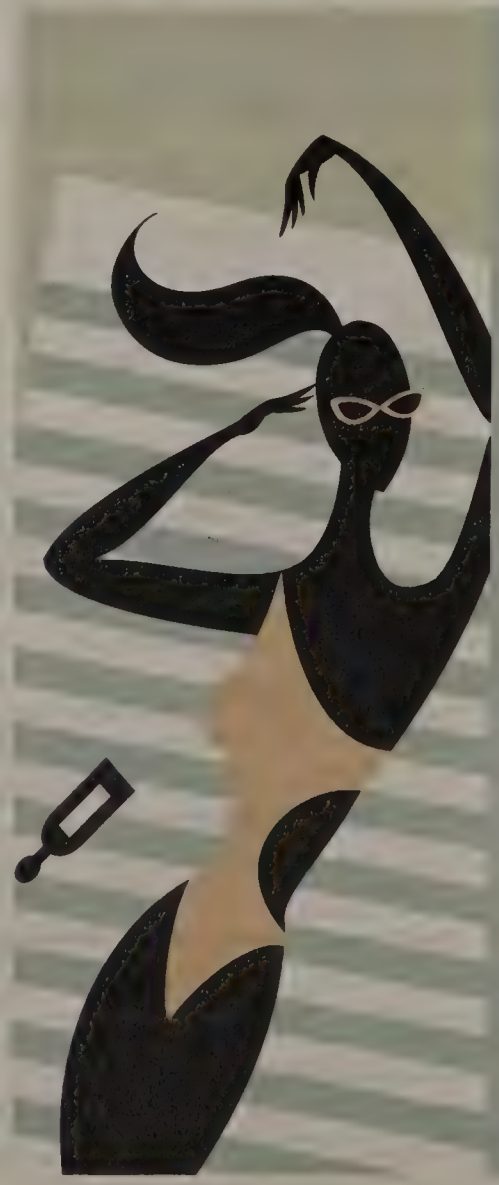
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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Buzz (Tuesdays, Fridays, Saturdays)
51 Stuart St. in the Theatre District, Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

Chaps (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. www.chapsofboston.com. Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; Tue.: Retro DJ night; Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; Sat.: High Energy Dance, DJ Danae Jacovidis.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm: Sat: 10am-9pm: Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). www.club-cafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a non-stop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with sets scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Cafe-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., theme shows produced by Diamond Dunhill.

Lava Bar (Saturdays)
575 Commonwealth. Ave., Boston (267-7707). The Lava Bar's Tabu night boasts DJ Fran spinning out high-energy house with a taste of Latin beats. 10pm.

The Lizard Lounge (Wednesdays)
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. "Marlene Loses It at the Lizard" is the title of this eclectic evening of poetry, live music and theater. 10pm, $5 cover, 21+.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.


John Stasio, founder of Gay Spirit Camp, offers a range of mind-enriching activities at his retreat.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you will find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: Synergy with special guest DJs.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.new-wordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Gay Spirit Camp
Easton Mountain Retreat, 391 Herrington Hill Road, Easton, NY (800-553-8235). Through Sept. 3. A new retreat founded by Bostonian John Stasio, this trip offers a variety of community-building and mind-body programs to help gay men recognize and celebrate their talents.

GLAD's 19th Annual Summer Party
Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum, Provincetown (426-1350). July 28, 5-7:30pm. Boston-based GLAD (Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders) celebrates recent victories at GLAD's 19th Annual Summer Party in Provincetown. GLAD is New England's leading legal-rights organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, HIV status and gender identity and expression.

Museum of Fine Arts French Film Festival
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org/film. •July 19, 8:15pm **The Adventures of Felix** 2000. A well-adjusted man living with his boyfriend has his life shaken up when he gets laid off and goes searching for his long-lost father. Oliver Ducastel and Jacques Martineau direct. •July 21, 7:15pm **Gender Confusion** *(La confusion des genres) 2000.* This comedy is a web of twisted relationships involving tough choices, commitments and sexual confusion. Ilan Duran Cohen directs. Also shows July 27, 8:15pm. •July 26, 8:15pm, **Come Undone** *(Presque rien) 2000.* Mathieu's family holiday by the sea gets a memorable jolt when he meets a gorgeous and mysterious man who becomes his first lover.

Tiffany Club Annual Barbecue
Randolph Country Club, Route 139, Randolph (781-891-9325). www.tcne.org. *July 21, 1pm. $12.* The Tiffany Club of New England, a support and social group serving the transgendered community, hosts this annual summer fête, complete with an outdoor pool, volleyball court and sunbathing. Casual dress is fine, and families and friends are invited.

ONGOING

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope Street, Boston (338-5305). Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel's Restaurant, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. www.egroups.com/communitycosmeticallycorrect. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900, ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900, ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). Held quarterly. Sliding scale.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons at 8pm. Lessons are followed by a DJ set. All smoke- and alcohol-free.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

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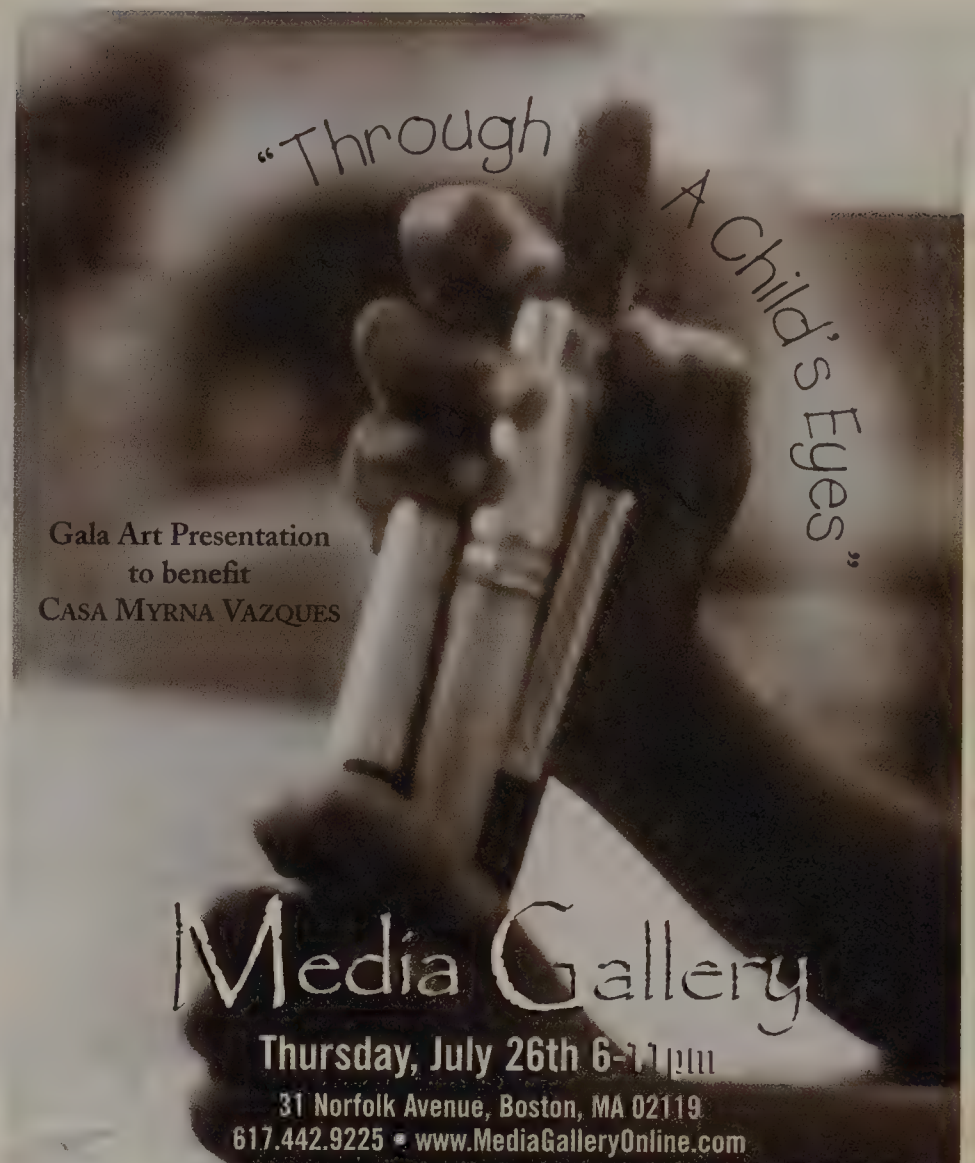


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EVENTS

Spiritual Performing Arts Celebration
The Swedenborgian Chapel, 50 Quincy St., Cambridge (508-376-2059). www.soulstirring.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. July 28, 8pm. $10.* The Spiritual Performing Arts Network presents an evening of inspiring music, soulful storytelling and mystical dance featuring street poet and storyteller **Brother Blue**, musician **Steven Kriger**, the Celtic harp duo **Caera Aislingeach** and **Myra Hope Babbitt**, and the multi-media performers **Katja Esser** and **Gene Hall**.

CLASSES

The Body Electric Evening
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, Boston (731-2626). www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. July 27, 7pm. Free and open to all.* Grand Opening hosts an informational meeting for the upcoming Body Electrics Program called "Celebrating the Body Erotic for Women." Visit *www.bodyelectric.org* for details.

Breathe Naturally
Unicorn Books, 1210 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *July 27, 7-9pm. $15.* Therapist and author **Robert Gerzon** will teach the art of natural breathing through breath awareness exercises. It can help you relax and may improve your health, vitality and emotional well-being, and even bring spiritual ecstasy.

Feng Shui: The Art of Harmonious Environments
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (547-6789). www.wellspace.com. *July 28, 2-5pm, and July 29, 3:30-6:30pm. $75.* The connection between your living and work environment with your emotional well-being is not to be underestimated. Ancient Feng Shui acknowledged that, and this weekend workshop with certified practitioner **Susan Rundle** will teach these principles and help you work out a plan for your personal space.

Past Life Regression: Charting Your Soul's Journey to Wholeness
Center for Balance, 857 Washington St., Newton (527-0247). MBTA: Bus lines #553, #554 or #556. www.centerforbalance.org. *July 20, 7-8:30pm.* Tap into your past lives and retrieve knowledge that may help you understand yourself today. **Karen Garrett** will lead this meditation to help evoke deep subconscious images.

Qigong-Level One
New England School of Acupuncture, 40 Belmont St., Watertown (926-1788, ext. 5). www.nesa.edu. *July 28, 10am-5pm. $125.* For centuries, Qigong exercises have been practiced as a means for attaining health and relaxation. Regular practice may vitalize the body and calm the mind. It has proved helpful in the treatment of numerous health disorders. This in-depth workshop with **Dr. Peter Wayne** emphasizes deep relaxation and an awareness of the body-mind connection.

LECTURES

Create a Dynamic Relationship: Love, Sex and Intimacy
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. July 20, 6-9pm. $32.* Why does "I'm crazy about you!" change to "You're driving me crazy!"? **Robert** and **Christine Gerzon** will discuss how to use the powerful energies of emotion, sex and spirit to create a loving, passionate relationship. This workshop focuses on male/female relationships, but many of the principles apply to other intimate relationships.

RETREAT

Day of Meditation with the Sun
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-641-0610). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *July 29, 9am-9pm. $85.* The sun offers life to all. This day is for honoring the sun's presence and guidance through meditation, pranayama and lots of water.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detoxification
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6200). Daily during walk-in hours. If you want to break the cycle of substance abuse, try acupuncture.



Relax the healthy way by learning the art of Qigong with specialist Dr. Peter Wayne July 28.

Astanga Focus Class
Metropolitan Fitness, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (927-2274). www.bostonfitness.com. *Wed., 6pm.* This 30-minute yoga class with **Marc McDonald** will focus on one or two Astanga postures each week. Great for beginners as well as advanced students who want to perfect their postures.

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (876-3050). MBTA: Bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a nonviolent martial art for peace and protection. This practice takes place outdoors.

Drop In Yoga
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St., Church of Our Savior, Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm. Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wed., 6:30-7:30am. Call to register. Feel energetic and peaceful after some early morning yoga that you won't even need coffee. All levels welcome.

Healthy Practices
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http:// dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *Free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Check these classes out. Tai Chi lunch hour, Tue./Fri.: 12:30-1:30pm; Kung Fu, Wed. 5-6pm; Taoist Qi Gong, Tue.: 7-8pm; Tai Chi and Self Defense, Tue.: 8-9pm.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily. Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-18 per session (call ahead).* This peaceful environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Call ahead. Drop in on any class. Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17 per session. Join anytime or drop in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar. Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork, and family relaxation classes.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

North Shore Music Theatre: Gordon and Aladdin
62 Dunham Road, Route 128, Exit 19, Beverly (232-7200). •July 20, 9:30am and 12pm. $10-$12. Gordon, who taught the ABCs and 123s on *Sesame Street* for years, has a new live show that combines his traditional learning techniques with new messages about child health and safety. •July 27, 9:30am and 12pm. $10-$12. The Gingerbread Players and Jack performs the familar story of *Aladdin and the Magic Lamp* with beautiful new sets and lighting.

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). Thursdays and Fridays, 8pm. Through October. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts his life in revolutionary Boston.

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Saturdays, 12pm. Staff read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Boston by Little Feet
Samuel Adams Statue at Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (367-3766). Saturdays and Mondays, 10am; Sundays, 2pm. This tour, especially designed for ages 6-12, caters to young walkers. The Freedom Trail's architecture and history are explained in an "Explorer's Map" for kids.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Mass. Ave., Harvard Square, Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tuesdays, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of storytelling fun.

George's Island Children's Hour
Boston Harbor Cruises, 1 Long Wharf, Boston (727-7676). July 22, 12 and 3pm. Volunteers from the Friends of Boston Harbor Island will lead kids in an hour of storytelling and coloring fun.

Junior Ranger's Treasure Quest
Boston Harbor Cruises, 1 Long Wharf, Boston (727-7676). Thursdays in July. Children will search the trails on Bumpkin and Grape islands for clues to solve junior ranger questions and earn a badge.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). •July 18, 4pm. Ages 6 and older. Kids design their own coat of arms. •July 24, 3pm. Ages 3-5. Children get to make their own chikadee mobile. •July 31, 3:30pm. Ages 7 and older. During Science Tuesday youngsters participate in educational science experiments

Rain Forest Explorers
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (723-2500). July 18, 9am-12pm. $35-$45. Ages 11-15. Plant biology gets exciting when kids learn about tropical plants that eat insects and how plants make food.

Rain Forest Reptile Show
New England Wild Flower Society, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). July 23, 10-11am. $3-$4. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Michael Ralbovsky also brings a mini-zoo in containers to teach kids about the importance of preserving reptile ecosystems.

Summer at Old South Meeting House
Old South Meeting House, 210 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). $1-$3. •July 23 and 30, 2pm: During the Meeting House Hunt, children find out what Benjamin Franklin, Anna Green Winslow and Phillis Wheatley left behind. •July 19 and 26, 11:30am, and July 22 and 29, 2pm: Kids play dress-up in 18th-century clothing.

Summer SOULstice
Christian Science Plaza, 200 Mass Ave., Boston (450-7319). •July 24, 11am-1:30pm: A storyteller from the Boston Public Library will be followed by the *Singing Ringing Tree*, interactive children's theater and children's singer Victor Cockburn. •July 31, 11am-1:30pm: Brother Rumas Barrett will tell a story to be followed by children's song and dance. Sidewalk Sam creates art with chalk.

Wonderful Water Wizardry
Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marret Road, Rt. 2A, Lexington (781-861-6559). July 25, 2pm. $6-$8. Ages 5 and older. Stephen Lechner teaches kids about water using experiments like the Gravity Shield, Bubbleology and the Gigantifier.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Boston University's Nickerson Field.
Tickets: 866-462-7325
July 21, 7:30pm: Carolina Courage
July 29, 3pm: Washington Freedom

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
July 24, 7:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
July 25, 7:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
July 26, 7:05pm: Toronto Blue Jays
July 27, 7:05pm: Chicago White Sox
July 28, 5:05pm: Chicago White Sox
July 29, 1:05pm: Chicago White Sox
July 31, 7:05pm: Anaheim Angels

Events

Shaw's Pro Summer League
Clark Athletic Center Gymnasium, UMass Boston (931-2222). www.celtics.com. *July 16-22. $8.* The Shaw's Pro Summer League features roster players, free agents and rookies from 10 NBA teams, including the Celtics. For your $8, you just might get to watch the next Rookie of the Year in action—or Michael Jordan sharpening his skills for a comeback.

Mayor's Cup Adult Softball Tournament
Clifford Park, Roxbury (635-4505, ext. 6311). July 27-29, 9am-6pm. Neighborhood teams from around Boston compete to see who's rules the diamond. Pre-registration of teams is required.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through August. Men's and women's divisions are open.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2pm-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur, Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. No experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).



The Old Gold Rugby Team heads for a serious ruck. Will anyone shoot the boot later on?



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around town

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.burfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/ bostonhhh. Weekly runs year round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer. Begins May 20.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club. (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/ MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Community Boating is the largest and oldest nonprofit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for $190 per season, including instruction.

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress Street Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BU East. Wednesdays (on clear nights). Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*



Learn how immigrants in quest of a better life shaped the city at the Dreams of Freedom Museum.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10. $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

AIDSRide (New York to Boston)
(491-3329). July 19-22. Crew volunteers needed.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Be a friend to a young girl. Information sessions take place July 18, and July 26, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work and special events.

Cambridge Cares about AIDS
(661-3040, ext. 13). Weekly volunteers needed to help at the front desk.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with homeless children in shelters.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Share fun times with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge
(800-WE-CYCLE). Aug. 4-5. Volunteer at major hub and water stop sites at this bicycling fundraiser.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

United Services Organization (USO)
(720-4949). Welcome Navy ships, visit VA hospitals, provide office support or coordinate events.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Volunteers for Citizenship seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

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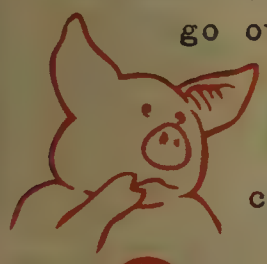
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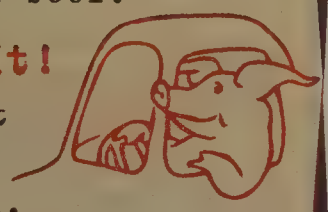


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Chef Roberto Donna
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August 6th
Chef Tommaso Lestingi
Arcodoro
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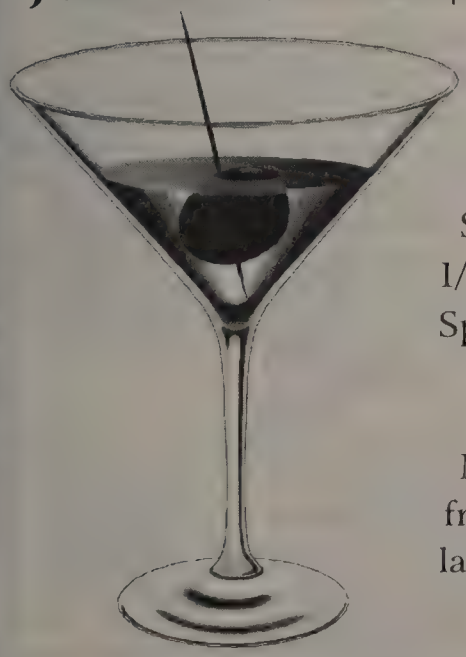
Tickets are $85 per person and include a five-course meal with wine.
For information, call Il Panino at (617) 338-1000

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Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: We like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 **E-MAIL:** impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

MFA

My apologies to those whose've e-mailed me and got no reply. My account was spammed to death, but has since been revived.
—jondon@xmail.com

May 27

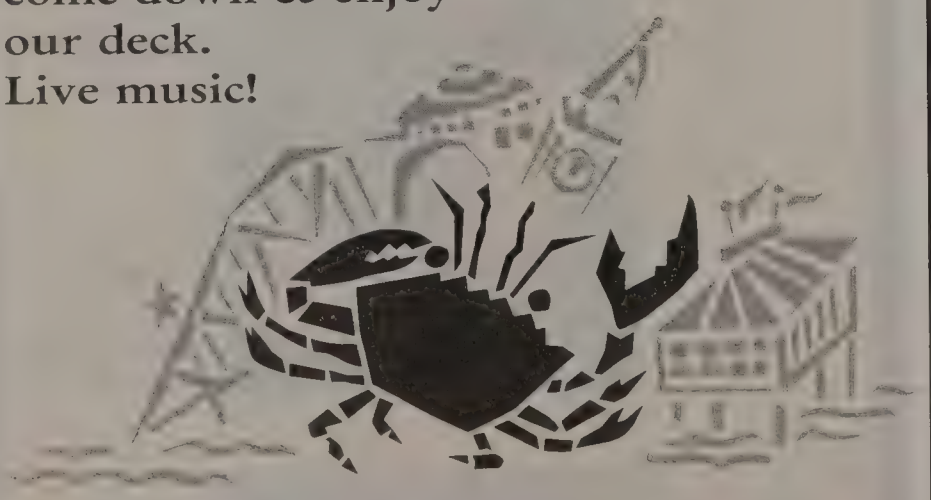
It was so long ago but I didn't have the courage to write until now! It was a Sunday night at the Kells and I really didn't feel like going out. Until I saw you walk into the bar. You: Blondish hair and a gray long-sleeved shirt, and probably the most gorgeous guy I've seen in a long time. Me: Gray pants, a purple striped shirt, and horn-rimmed glasses. We locked eyes the minute you walked in. I passed you later on and you nudged me on the shoulder. When I finally got to the dance floor, three guys tapped me on the shoulder and pointed at you, and you told me that you just wanted to tell me that I was pretty. I couldn't hear anything else you said, but the next thing I knew, you left! I searched the bar endlessly for you but you were gone. It's been eating at me since. E-mail me so I can tell you that you're not that bad looking yourself.
—bostonslittleb@yahoo.com

Boom Boom

It's been 12 years. Did you know that? Of course you did. Sure my migration scared you senseless—I'm not immune to fear. I know my intensity often causes your emotions to implode. I know what a fool I've been. I see you and think of movement and laughter and liquid love. I see you and dream the past could be sifted and we could flick off the excess—look shocked and relieved and not too tired to get some vegetable sushi, a few drinks and do some deep kissing on my couch, or yours for that matter. Since that won't happen, I'll make you a deal—I'll wear damn sneakers and jeans for you, I'll transform into an athlete and a person who cherishes solitude, I'll take it nice and slow, I'll let it go that you resent the way I make you like yourself, I'll even continue to improve and encourage you to do the same. You're too damn sexy and brilliant and I'm way too stubborn and smitten and full of faith and pride in you and in myself to give up yet (did I mention stubborn?). Who else surpasses me as an elitist snob? Think about it—we're perfect for each other in our intrinsic imperfection and lack of compatibility. Besides, you make me laugh and are unsurpassed in ways that need not be mentioned ifyouknowhatimean. So look alive and let's just admit it—we were made for each other, by each other and we're not going to experience that with anybody else. So now can I see you naked?

Prrrrr,
—Kitten

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Rockie Horoscope



JULY 18 – JULY 31, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Lions could receive more than their fair share, but not quite the lion's share, as a result of the conflict between legal eagles, a friend and the family. You might also be asked to draw a line between business and pleasurable pursuits and not cross it as freely or as frequently. Weighing the pros and cons, listening to your head or following your heart is how you'll spend these lazy, hazy days of summer, at least until Leo starts on the 22nd. Then you get to step up to the plate and take your best shot.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Both stay-at-home artisan types and gadabout adventurers may have to make choices this month that'll have a major effect on their career and family life. Consider all the alternatives with your customary thoroughness, but wait until assertive Mars turns direct on the 19th and picks up some momentum before you decide to act. The next two weeks can be stressful; you might feel that other people's agendas revolve around you, las if you're the rope instead of the prize in the tug-of-war they're waging.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Librans are more personally involved in what is going on than Leos are, however, you stand to benefit in a similar fashion. For some, the contest taking place will be about style, wit and artistry; for others, the opposition they encounter will be played in the fields of academia and athletics. But no matter where your particular talent lies, you will attract two different types: the teacher/mentor with sterling credentials and the subtle manipulator with dishonorable intentions. Have fun, play safe.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
That summer romance you've been nurturing heats up dramatically while affectionate Venus comes face-to-face with Pluto and Mars, your co-ruling planets. One of two things might happen: The relationship grows even more passionate or one of you gets really pissed off and cuts off contact entirely. No matter what, you become more sure of yourself, less accommodating and responsive to others after Mars comes out of retrograde on the 19th. And, like magic, you'll notice that money is flowing more freely.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
Far be it for me to maintain that the world revolves around Sagittarius, nevertheless, this week our sign is one of the two pivotal forces at work. The other is Gemini, the sign in which we're supposed to find our soul mates. And who among us doesn't have history with the Twins? Anyway, after Venus, the planet of hugs and kisses, teams up with serious-minded Saturn in Gemini, she gets so strong, so obdurate, she dares to challenge sexy Pluto and Mars in Sag. This serves mainly to whet our appetite for more action, which we should see after Mars turns direct on the 19th.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
It will come as no surprise to you that Venus, arbiter of style, harmony and affection, is so close to your Saturn ruler, they are like one. Venus' presence makes you softer while it sharpens your eye for beauty. The merger of the two planets this week starts a yearlong cyle that has its highs and lows the farther from Saturn Venus travels. Take notice of what's going on art- and amour-wise now, because this theme, event or relationship will keep you hopping until May.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Like your Leo partner, you'll benefit indirectly from what goes down among friends and family. But as the month ends, the goodies—both the great stuff and the smiles—will come directly to you. Knowing that happy times are in the cards should make it easier to assume more responsibility at work or to use the opportunity the Cancer new moon on the 20th provides to take someone under your wing. This is also a good time to start a new exercise routine such as swimming or merrily rowing—and rocking—the boat.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
You're being pushed to make a decision that can affect your position in the family or alter the direction of your career. Pisces, like the other mutable signs, tend to react to situations instead of creating them—unless, of course, you're a bona fide drama queen trying to build up your role. But if you truly feel that you're caught in the middle of a power struggle between external forces, do what a Fish is meant to do—swim away, be reclusive, pop up later when the smoke has cleared.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Anticipate big changes around the time your Mars ruler changes direction on the 19th. Since Mars went retrograde in mid-May, dealings with academics or athletes, not to mention a skittish Sagittarian, may have presented problems for impatient Rams. If those folks played hard to get or simply gave you a hard time during the past two months, they'll be back soon enough, ready to make amends and pick up where they left off. But, thanks to adoring attention from Venus, you could be too involved in a romantic escapade to care.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
These can be two tough weeks, with too many responsibilities, too little cooperation, even outright opposition. It starts when your Venus ruler runs into a roadblock as it conjuncts strict Saturn, the nasty naysayer. Once you extricate yourself from that situation, you could go head-to-head with a macho man who doesn't pull his punches. A strong sexual attraction makes the encounter more thrilling, but anytime Pluto and Mars gang up on Venus, things tend to get dangerous, sometimes violent. Be careful.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
The first test of your newfound fortitude and unending (for a Gemini) patience—just two of the many virtues Saturn develops as it transits your sign—comes when lighthearted, lovable Venus and stern Saturn conjoin. Will you take fun and flirtation seriously or will the sensible side of you prevail? No matter which route you choose, you're bound to meet with friction when Venus faces off against Pluto and Mars next week. This is not entirely a bad thing. The sexual tension created by the tight opposition is really hot. And pretty rare.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
Two full moons in a month makes the second one a "blue moon," but what would a Moon Child call the second Cancer new moon of 2001? Because the first Cancer new moon on the solstice was a total solar eclipse, as well as the start of a new 19-year cycle of eclipses, the new moon on the 20th won't be quite as monumental. This one will be more personal, more geared to what you would like to see happen to you and for you. So take time to think about the new moon magic you need to make, and do it on the 20th after 3:44pm EDT.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.







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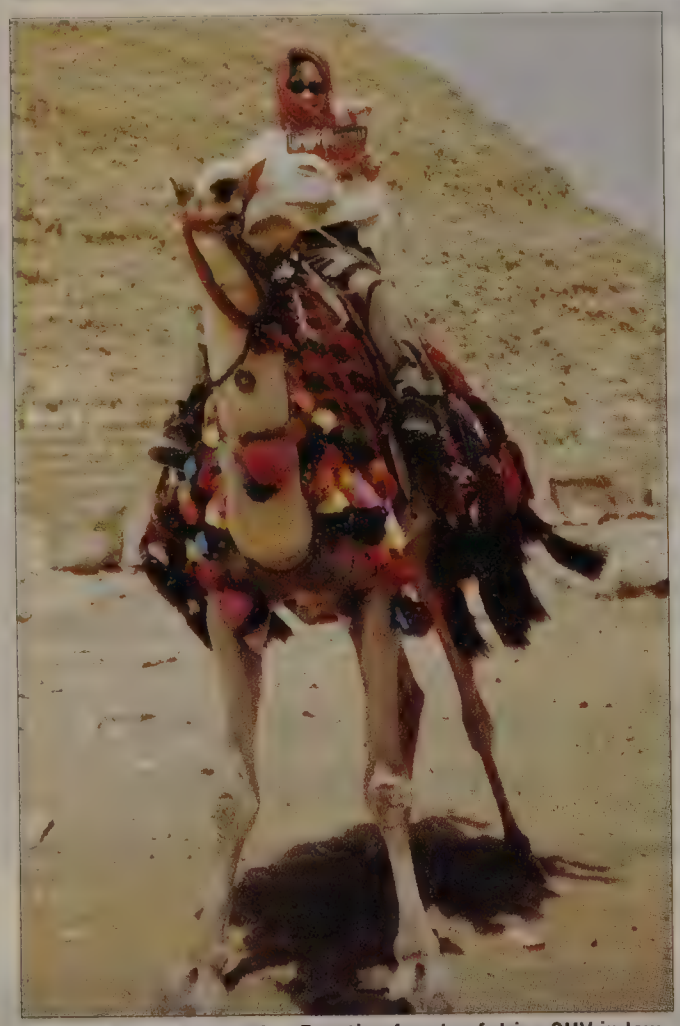
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Thuy Ho is about to put her Egyptian four-hoof-drive SUV in low gear to climb that pyramidal pile of rocks behind her in Cairo.



MaryPatricia Bolbrock and Emil Issavi on Aruba's Kukoo Kunuku Party Bus, which plies the busy route from Buzztown to Wastedville.



David Thompson, chairman of Mikohn Gaming, brought an IMPROPER to Vegas just in case the video Yahtzee gets boring.



Former California Governor George Deukmejian and his wife, Gloria, find out where to get a proper orange martini.



Nancy Klein makes a pit stop with the "Blue Men" of the Moroccan Sahara, who have a camel, but no marshmallows or techno music.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:

Napalming a 1981 Chevy Citation at the annual Hiram Maxim Machine Gun Shoot, July 20-22 at the scenic Dover-Foxcroft town gravel pit, Dover-Foxcroft, Maine.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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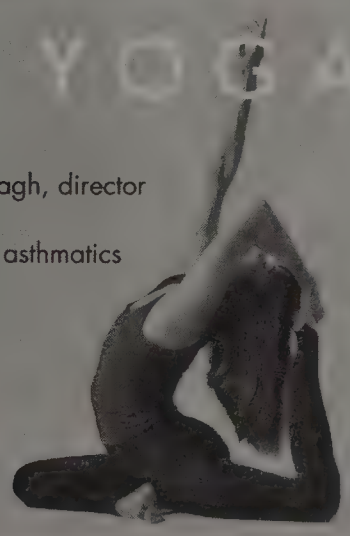
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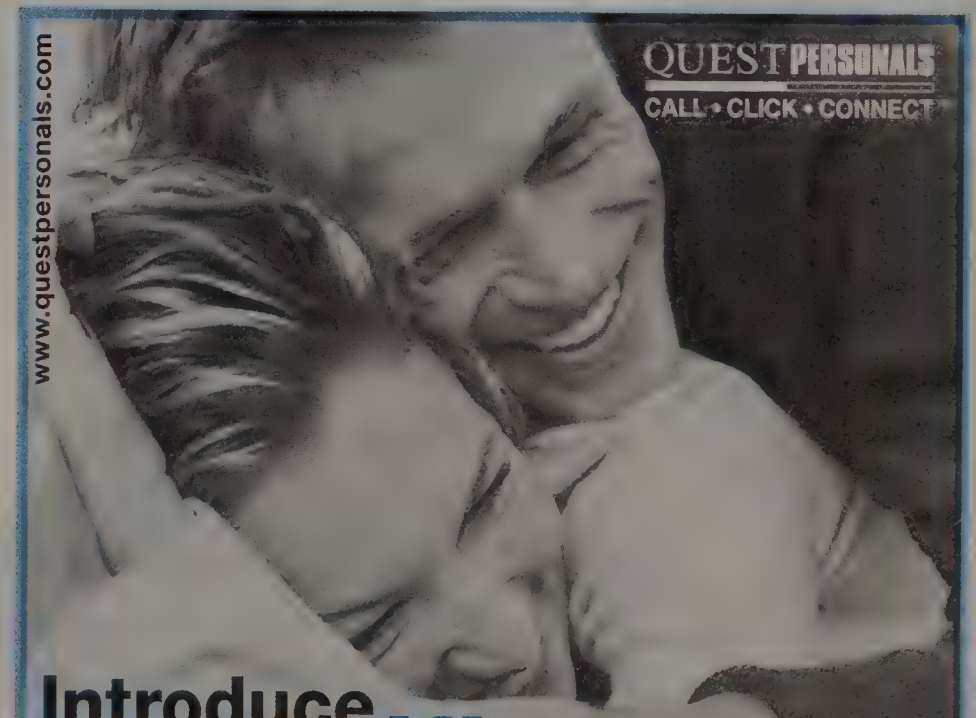
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The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, June 28, The Rack hosted Mix 98.5's Lynn Hoffman's going-away party. Family, co-workers and hundreds of faithful fans crowded the patio to wish Lynn bon voyage.



Stephen Walker, The Rack's **Heather Michalowksi**, Mix party boy **Gregg Daniels**, **Lynn Hoffman**, Rack owner **Paul Barclay** and Burns & Levinson lawyer, **George Tobia**.

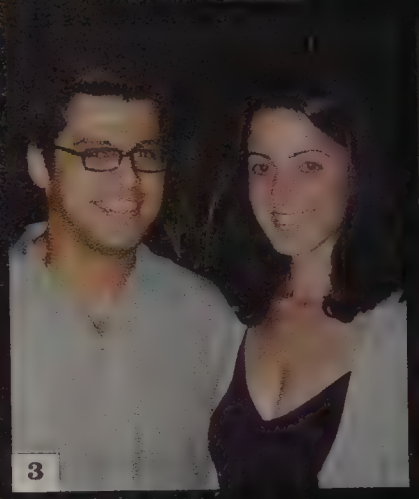
1. **John Rogaris**, owner of Roggie's and The Avenue, **George** of Greek soccer team Olympiakos Piraeus, **Leann Bowman**, assistant to City Councilor Brian Honan.
2. **Dennis Dwyer**, assistant to City Councilor Brian Honan, **Brian Honan**, City Councilor, and **John Rogaris**.
3. **Josh Torez** of the Paradise, **Ramessa Ciamba** of Roxy and **Shana Hayward** of the Paradise.


1


2

On Monday, July 2, Trattoria Il Panino continued "Regional Tastes of Italy" summer dining series with guest chef Claudio Cristofoli of New York's Cipriani. The five-course meal was prepared in a traditional Venetian fashion and served with select wines.

1. **Claudio Cristofoli**, chef of New York's Cipriani, and **Victor Paone**, executive chef of Trattoria Il Panino.
2. **Daniel Butler**, chef at Toscana Kitchen and Bar and Deep Blue in Delaware, with **Kasia Kwiatkowski**.
3. **Luis Morales**, sous chef at Radius with **Stacy Klein**, pastry chef.
4. **Frank DePasquale**, owner of Trattoria Il Panino, with his wife, **Deborah**.


3


4


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2


3

On Friday, June 29, Roggie's, The Avenue and Strong Arm Productions hosted the Annual Boston Harbor Boat Cruise on Boston Harbor Cruises. Throughout the evening, DJs APO, Steve Austin and G2 spun progressive and hard house beats as well as hip-hop, reggae and R&B.


1


2


3

1. **Cheryl Balian**, public relations for OTW Advertising; **Joe Ruggiero**, furniture designer and host of HGTV; **Cindy Berry**, store manager for Circle Furniture.
2. **Richard Tubman**, co-owner of Circle Furniture; **Cindy Hale**, owner of OTW Advertising.
3. **Andrew Tubman** of Circle Furniture; **Harold Tubman**, co-owner of Circle Furniture; **Jim Gerken** of Norwalk Furniture; **Lilli Lief** of Lief Karson Communications.

On June 14, Circle Furniture unveiled the new Joe Ruggiero Collection of furniture and home accessories. Ruggiero, host and producer of Homes Across America for the Home and Garden TV Network, was on hand to talk about his new line of sleek and comfortable furnishings. The Collection is offered exclusively at Circle Furniture.

PHOTOS: THE RACK, WENDY SEMONIAN; IL PANINO, ROGGIES, MARC BRIGHTMAN; CIRCLE FURNITURE, ALISON MORAN

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Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

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Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) - 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Science Street Cafe *Science Park, Boston, MA 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Lookingfor somehing different to do this Friday night? Check out the newest night spot--The Museum of Science. Try our one-of-a-kind martinis, gourmet appetizers and desserts, then tour the Museum or catch an Omni movie. $20 package includes one drink, one appetizer, Mugar Omni Theater ticket, Exhibit Hall admission and parking. 6-10pm at the Museum of Science.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

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The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

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The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

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Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the Fleet-Center and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place.

Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ's nightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and worldclass margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a coworker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flatout lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate street-side cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.

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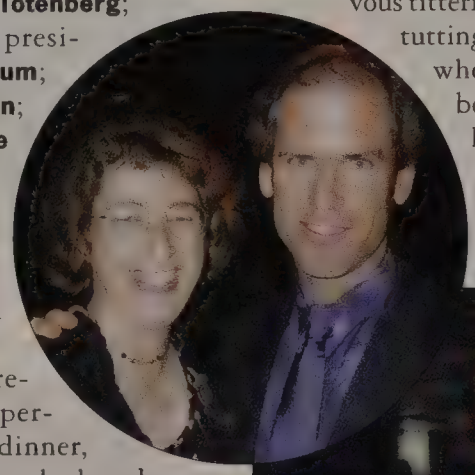
Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF

IMAGINE HOW THE ELEPHANT MUST FEEL...

It's not often that a loud Hawaiian shirt is appropriate attire at **Symphony Hall**, but the **Tropical Garden Party** to benefit scholarship and outreach programs at the **Longy School of Music** was one of those rare occasions.

Not that anyone went all out to dress like Don Ho, but there was a decidedly casual vibe as guests gathered for cocktails in the Cohen Wing and then were led by jazz great **Stan Strickland**, in a samba line, into the hall for dinner.

Present and accounted for: composer and conductor **Gunther Schuller** (recipient of the evening's lifetime achievement award); **Alexander Bernstein** (son of Leonard, after whom the award is named); novelist and wit **John Sedgwick** and his wife, **Megan Marshall**; Brookline music patron **Angela Fischer**; Gardner Museum honcha **Anne Hawley**, squired by former National Gallery director **Carter Brown**; musical giant **Roman Totenberg**; the school's retiring president, **Victor Rosenbaum**; opera star **Phyllis Curtin**; philanthropist **Flossie Gerstein**; party pair **Suki** and **Miguel de Braganca**; art collectors **Sandy** and **David Bakalar**, and so on and so forth.



Guests were serenaded by musical performers throughout dinner, and the room looked as lush and tropical as it's possible for Symphony Hall to look. There were bright tablecloths and centerpieces made out of those flowers that resemble a diagram in a gynecology textbook, but by far the most exciting part of the decor was a the light blue Tiffany box on every seat. The size and weight of the boxes made waiting to open them, even until after the salad was served, impossible.

Inside, there was a pair of crystal candlesticks that were way too nice to regift—another rarity at a charity event. Perhaps the part of the evening that provoked the most reaction, however, was a comment by board chair **Frederick Cabot**, who came onstage toward the end of the event and prefaced his remarks by saying, "I feel like the elephant that comes out at the circus and takes a big dump."

Presumably, he meant it in reference to the musical talents who had preceded him, as a bit of self-deprecating humor, but the remark drew mixed reactions—some nervous tittering and indignant tut-tutting—as well as one guest who observed, "That's better than saying that he felt like the guy who follows the elephant with a broom and a dustpan."

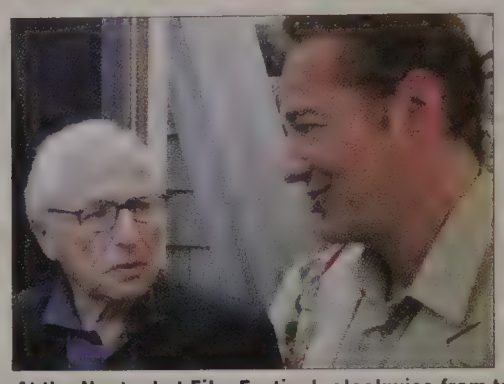






At the Tropical Garden Party, clockwise from top: Megan Marshall and John Sedgwick; Stan Strickland leading guests in to dinner; Gunther Schuller and Alexander Bernstein; models show off an array of Tiffany jewels.







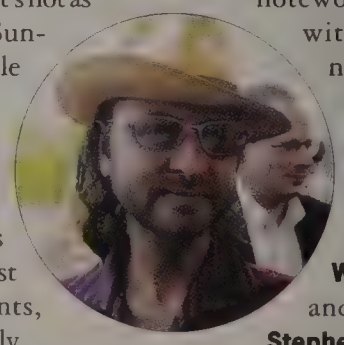
At the Nantucket Film Festival, clockwise from top: Lois Demko and Steve Schiff; Robert Walhberg and Rob Morgan; Walter Bernstein and Steve Schiff. Inset: Fisher Stevens.

CREDIT WHERE CREDIT IS DUE...

There's an old joke in Hollywood: How do you tell if an actress is a real blonde? She's sleeping with the screenwriter.

The **Nantucket Film Festival**—which has always steadfastly billed itself as being all about screenwriting—suffers from a similar lack of respect.

People complain that it doesn't attract enough (or any) big stars. Or it's not as edgy or experimental as Sundance. Or it can't hold a candle to Cannes' prestige.



None of which is really to the point. There are exactly four reasons why people in the entertainment business attend film festivals in the first place, and on all four counts, Nantucket compares favorably.

#1. Location, location, location. Film festivals are supposed to provide attendees with an excuse to spend a week in a glitzy resort area in the guise of work. Whether or not you find the island too precious and obnoxiously geared toward billionaires (the ATMs dispense only 50s), Nantucket isn't exactly a hardship assignment.

#2. Swag is key. The goody bags handed out by the organizers to VIPs, festival participants and (thank sweet Jesus) the press are certainly up to industry standards. This year's included an NFF6 fleece-lined vest, a pair of jerseys from Showtime, an MSNBC baseball cap, two books, a CD and assorted stuff of the keychain/bottle-opener variety.

#3. The free shrimp circuit. Film festivals are outstanding opportunities to network with one's peers, networking in this context being a euphemism for eating and drinking on someone else's tab. Among the parties connected to this year's festival: a cookout hosted by Showtime at **Jetty's Beach**, an awards dinner at the **'Sconset Casino**, and a closing-night party at **Cisco Brewers**. At all of them, booze flowed freely and food was enthusiastically gobbled, as everyone diplomatically critiqued the films (otherwise known as moving their lips while saying absolutely nothing at all).

#4. Name dropping. OK, so Sophia Loren and Steven Spielberg weren't there, but there was no shortage of interesting and noteworthy people to schmooze with, including: blow-dried news anchor **Brian Williams**; legendary screenwriter **Walter Bernstein**; quirky actor **Fisher Stevens**; up-and-coming homeboy and celebrity sibling **Robert Wahlberg** (brother of Donnie and Mark); screenwriter **Stephen Schiff**; sculptor (as well as baby-powder and Band-Aid heir) **Seward Johnson**; festival founder **Jonathan Burkhart** and one guest who was overheard saying to one of the filmmakers: "Did you direct the horror movie?"

"No," he answered. "unless you're referring to the actual process of making it."

The award for best bon mot, however, would have to go to Brian Williams, who said, "I'd like to welcome you all to the Nantucket Film Festival, otherwise known as white people getting too much sun."

Fair enough. But in the final analysis, the Nantucket Film Festival meets, and may even exceed, all the basic criteria.

I can't wait to see what's in next year's goody bag. **iB**

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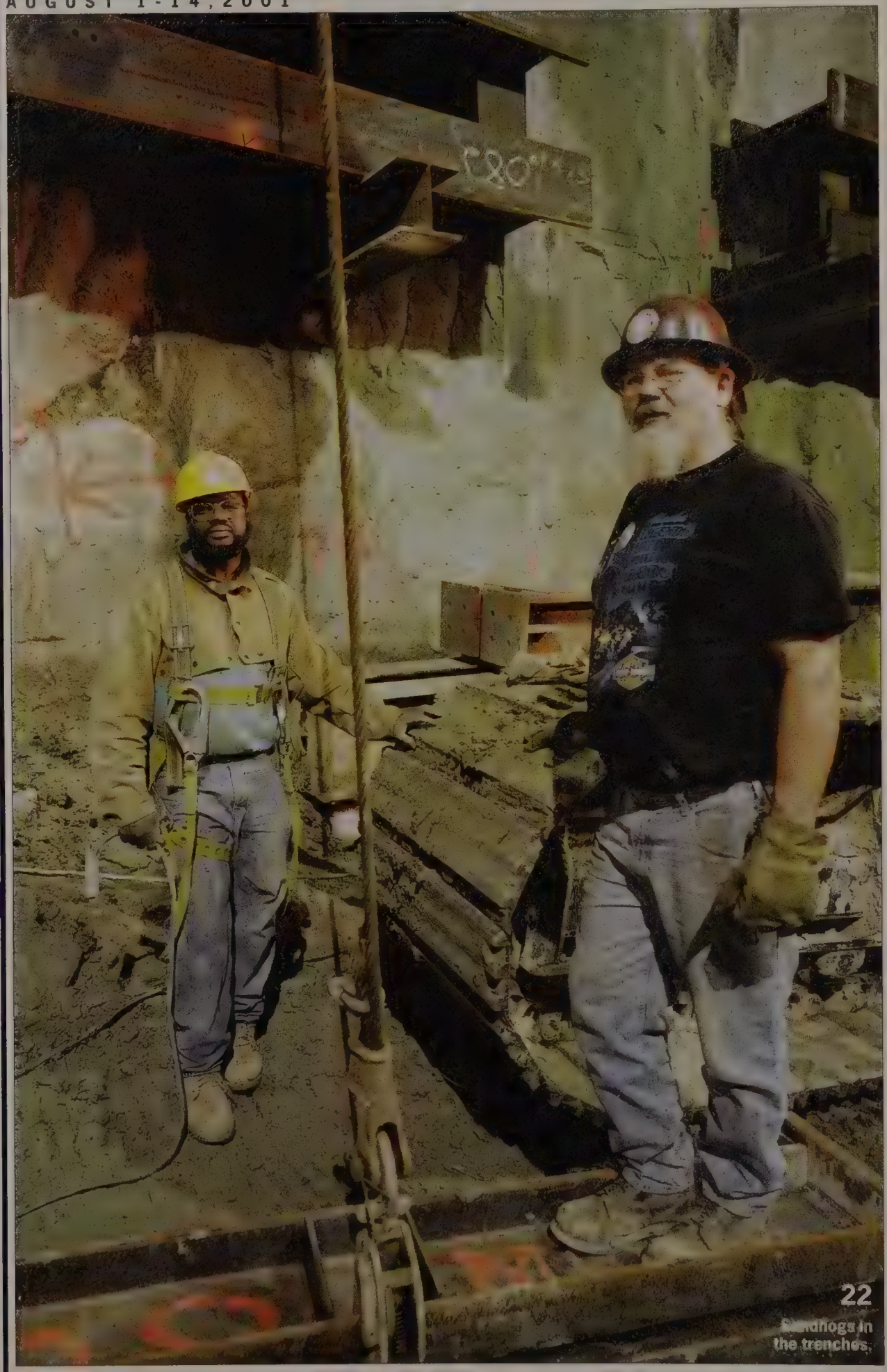
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Contents

AUGUST 1-14, 2001



22
Sandhogs in the trenches.



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Kerry Brett Hurley**

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FEATURES

16 Soroff/On Todd English
One of Boston's most prominent chefs, Todd English, reveals some gastronomic secrets—if not how rich he is. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 Eye of the Storm
At home in Chelsea, heavyweight champion Johnny Ruiz trains to defend his title.
BY JOSHUA RESNEK
PHOTOGRAPHS BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

22 Tunnel Vision
It takes a unique type of person to do the dirtiest tunnel work of the Big Dig. Meet the labor force that's been at ground zero of the Central Artery Project: Local 88, the Sandhogs.
BY ROB AZEVEDO

27 Pulp Fashion
See what happens when saucy vixens dare to use their sassy attire to titillate and tantalize their way to murder and mayhem!
PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHEN SHEFFIELD AND TRACY POWELL

COLUMNS

6 The Word
The MBTA's road-eo; a new dog on the block; coffee expenses

10 E-Boston
Online customer service has some catching up to do.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

12 Ezra
Confusion in *Graceland*
BY EZRA DYER

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

34 Mopsy
Kids and yoga; Chiasso; learning about The Hub
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

52 Film
Jackpot doesn't exactly hit cinematic gold.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

58 Music
Michelle Willson is now happy to sing the blues.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

76 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

36 Dining
Perdix is like eating in the kitchen of a friend—one who really knows how to cook.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

40 Dish
East Meets West dinner; serious barbecue; Mantra
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

40 Wine
Old-school European vs. New World wines
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

41 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Henrietta's clambakes.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 42.
Female artists at the MFA • Intro to holistic healing modalities • **Elayne Boosler** • Union Oyster House rolls back prices • Castle Island Ceili • **Jess Klein** • **Bela Fleck and the Flecktones** • Celebrate Seaport Festival

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	70
Rockie Horoscope	70
Improper Sightings	72
Classifieds	74

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

ANDY RYAN



The Music Pulsed to a Yellow Beat
While He Danced a Yellow Dance



Ice Yellow

Lemon Yellow

Hard Yellow

©2001 Anheuser-Busch, Inc., "Doc" Otis Hard Lemon Flavored Alcohol Malt Beverage (Beer in TX), St. Louis, MO

"DOC" OTIS • A Different Shade of Yellow

letters

8-MINUTE DRILL

I was thrilled that 8minuteDating was included in your Boston's Best issue. It's quite a feather in our cap, especially since we started running events just four months ago. At the same time, I was shocked that you tarnished our award by implying that there's something embarrassing about attending our events. Based on our exit polls, over 95 percent of attendees report that they would recommend our service to others and that they would attend another event. Therefore, it's reasonable to assume that our attendees would also proudly tell their kids that they met at an 8minuteDating event.

—Tom Jaffee
CEO and Founder
8minuteDating.com
Via e-mail

DIS-CONNECTION

Folks, you have *got* to be kidding about your characterization of Christopher Lydon, formerly of *The Connection* on NPR (until he got greedy), as "the best there is." The topics of the show during his tenure were interesting and diverse, yes, but his manner nearly spoiled the whole thing. He was pretentious, only superficially prepared and kept interrupting his guests and callers before they had a chance to finish their thoughts. However, even worse than your dumb elevation of Lydon is your criticism of the fill-ins as "has-beens and wannabes." Are you even listening to the show these days? One of the guest hosts, who was (deservedly) your Boston's Best Columnist last year—Alex Beam—was excellent. He was smart, attentive, and as modest as Lydon was full of himself.

—Wayne Jones
Somerville



ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING TO [*THE CONNECTION*] THESE DAYS? ONE OF THE GUEST HOSTS, WHO WAS (DESERVEDLY) YOUR BOSTON'S BEST COLUMNIST LAST YEAR—ALEX BEAM—WAS EXCELLENT.

—*WAYNE JONES*
SOMERVILLE

SPARKLING PHOTOS

I enjoy reading your magazine and am curious how your photographer produced the photos in the July 4 "Light Up the Night" fashion section. I can't figure out how they got the trail of the sparkler's light without the model's hands being blurry. Please let me know, as I'd like to try to create similar photos myself.

Steve Hansen
Via e-mail

Editor's Note: *Use a flash initially, then leave the shutter open. After the flash dims, the only thing the camera will pick up is bright lights.*

BOOZE AND BLADES

So, Ezra, women save money on Bud and Mach IIIs? Me and thousands of other Boston girlies are spending *plenty* of our hard-earned dollars on both! We're all so busy getting waxed and polished and tweezed that we have no choice but to numb ourselves with booze. Ah, to be female in the summer...

—Emily Donahue
Via e-mail

CORRECTIONS

Unfortunately, in the Boston's Best issue we omitted the inclusion of the Sunset Grill & Tap in Allston. The Sunset won Best Beer Selection.

We incorrectly identified the author of "A Four-Star Review" in last issue's Letters section. We regret the error.

Two facts regarding Vox Populi and Barcode in the Boston's Best issue were incorrect. First, both establishments are on Boylston Street. Second, their advertising agency is Clarke Goward. We apologize for the errors and also promise not to wear our sweatpants out to bars anymore.

The photo of Manny Ramirez in the last issue should have been credited courtesy of the Boston Red Sox.

Tell Us What You Think

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Rob Azevedo is a freelance writer living in Melrose. A regular contributor to the *Boston Globe*, Azevedo also writes for various men's magazines. His work was most recently featured in the May issue of *Details*, in which he wrote about trailing Don King throughout a heavyweight title bout in Las Vegas. For this issue, he traveled 120 feet below the earth to get a glimpse of the life of tunnel workers, aka "Sandhogs," the brave souls who continue to toil away on the world's biggest construction project right beneath our feet. "Tunnel Vision" begins on page 22.

ANDY RYAN



Andy Ryan, who took the photos for the "Tunnel Vision" feature, has photographed a wide variety of subjects, ranging from the 1989 crackdown in Beijing's Tiananmen Square to the current construction of China's Three Gorges Dam. He also knows the Big Dig inside and out, as he moved to the Fort Point Channel neighborhood of South Boston in 1988 and began documenting all facets of the Central Artery Project for the joint venture Bechtel/Parsons Brinkerhoff. Ryan's work has appeared in magazines ranging from *Conde Nast Traveler UK* to *Scientific American*.

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NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

HOT DOG!

On our way to the new Joe and Nemo's on Cambridge Street, we made the mistake of stopping to ask someone for assistance. "Do you know where we can find a place called Joe and Nemo's?" we asked innocently. The woman practically jumped on us. "They have the best hot dogs in town!" she squealed as she led us toward the unbelievably popular restaurant. According to our new friend, nobody makes a better "all around": an all-beef hot dog served in a steamed bun with relish and onions on the bottom and zesty mustard on top. Even Mayor Menino agrees—he recently had one for lunch.

Since we're not avid consumers of food containing questionable meat byproducts, we weren't familiar with the joint, but the enthusiastic crowd of regulars convinced us that we'd been missing out. Actually, all of Boston has. The original closed in 1963, but over the years, there have been 50 Joe and Nemo's locations throughout the city. Now there's just one—with another on its way this month and four more by the end of the year. "We're glad to be back, and the acceptance has been great. We can't go three minutes without someone walking by, banging on the window and giving us a thumbs up," said one employee. The new place is an updated version of on original. Owner Jeff Earp calls it "upscale fast food done right"—with eight wooden bar stools, large picture windows, mustard-yellow walls and old photos of the city. Joe and Nemo's is the place to go when you're craving a chili and cheese dog with a side of Boston baked beans and brown bread. *138 Cambridge St., Boston (720-4342).*





MBTA deputy general manager Michael Mulhern (left), Lorraine Landsburg and MBTA general manager Robert H. Prince Jr. at the roadeo.

PERSONALITY

ROAD-EO DRIVE

Every year, the MBTA holds a competition to determine the crème de la crème of its drivers. This year a woman took the crown for the first time, as **Lorraine Landsburg** scored 549 points (out of a possible 600) in the MBTA's "bus roadeo."

The object of the challenge is to navigate a cone-strewn obstacle course in under seven minutes. Running over the cones or overshooting stops results in penalty points, and Landsburg's masterful negotiation of the course resulted in the fewest simulated squashed pedestrians and bent fenders. This means that she'll go on to represent Massachusetts at the national version of the event, which takes place in Philadelphia in September.

Landsburg says her goal at this event is to score higher than any other previous female driver, but with skills honed on the Copley to Forrest Hills route (the MBTA's busiest), we think her next stop could be the top of the podium as the country's best bus buster.—*Ezra Dyer*

IMPROPER REPORTS

ICED COFFEE



Are you one of those people that can't bear to start the morning without wrapping your hands around a cup o' joe? Although it seems like a cheap thrill, your little java habit might be taking a big bite out of your wallet. We checked some of Boston's popular coffee shops and compared the prices of a large iced coffee (including tax).

Rebecca's Cafe, 500 Boylston St., Boston (536-5900): **$1.58**. Daily for a year: **$576.70**

Peet's Coffee and Tea, 176 Federal St., Boston (439-3177): **$1.79**. Daily for a year: **$653.35**

Diesel Cafe, 257 Elm St., Somerville (629-8717): **$2**. Daily for a year: **$730**

Dunkin' Donuts, 480 W. Broadway St., South Boston (269-4527): **$2.18**. Daily for a year: **$795.70**

Starbucks, 755 Boylston St., Boston (450-0310): **$2.52**. Daily for a year: **$919.80**

Berkeley Perk, 69 Berkeley St., Boston (426-7375): **$2.63** (for a 24-ounce cup). Daily for a year: **$959.95**

1369 Coffee, 757 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-4600): **$2.75**. Daily for a year: **$1,003.75**

Conclusion: For the cost of buying a cup of coffee every day for a year, you could practically buy a ticket to Colombia (American Airlines, $829) and pick the beans yourself.

AROUND TOWN

BIKING WOES



So, you think it's safe to leave your bike unlocked for just a minute or two while you run into the convenience store for that Powerbar? Bike-lock manufacturer Kryptonite, which is famous for the "New York Noose" that protects so many of our precious cycles, says Boston ranks No. 7 on its list of the nation's 10 worst cities for bike theft. That includes Cambridge and Somerville, too. In fact, according to the Cambridge Police Department, 360 bikes were reported stolen last year in Cambridge alone.

There are ways to protect your bike from theft, and the ever-helpful MIT Campus Police Crime Prevention Unit offered some tips: Use a heavy-duty U-lock, leave as little room as possible around the lock, and make sure the lock faces downward. We have some other suggestions: Ride a tandem bike and take turns watching it with the other person. Get a radar-based bike security system that audibly warns thieves with "Step back—this bike protected by Viper." Carry a blowtorch and weld your bike to large stationary objects. And finally, one more tip based on the sad remnants pictured here: Just because you don't think your bike's seat/rims/handlebars are items of particular value doesn't mean Joe Crackhead doesn't want them.—*Lindsey Stanberry*

LEFT: SUSIE COPITHORNE

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ALL THE BUZZ

PUNK OUTFITTERS

Newbury Comics recently opened Hootenanny below its Harvard Square shop—a fashion store that's sort of an alternative to Urban Outfitters. It specializes in rock, punk, goth, swinger, indie and hipster apparel—the same genres that Newbury Comics covers musically. Whereas Urban Outfitters has heaps of trinkets and trendy household goods, Hootenanny keeps its focus on fashion. Here's a taste of what the retail rivals of the hip-hop culture are offering among their selections of clothes, shoes and accessories:





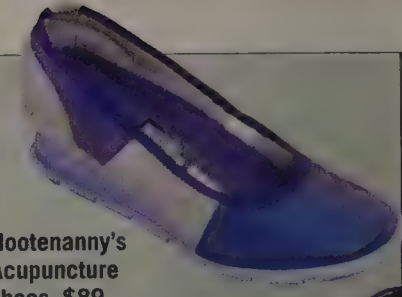
Above: Hootenanny's Fashion Express bag, $25; Below: Urban Outfitters' Fashion Express bag, $38

Urban Outfitters' fishnet tights, $12





Hootenanny's flame tights by Leg Avenue, $8



Hootenanny's Acupuncture shoes, $89

Urban Outfitters' Diesel/Marianne shoes, $68



IMPROPER SPEAKING by erin hagedorn & julie short

FROM P-TOWN TO MISSING BILLBOARDS



•***Summer Catch***, a lighthearted Warner Bros. film about the Cape Cod Baseball League that's directed by **Mike Tollin** (*Varsity Blues*) and stars heavy hitter **Freddie Prinze Jr.** (pictured left) and **Jessica Biels**, opens Aug. 24. But you can catch a sneak preview Aug. 2 at the Cape Cod Mall. No word yet on whether the stars will be in attendance.

•Boston's loss is P-town's gain. Longtime museum factotum **Chris McCarthy** has left the Institute of Contemporary Art to become the director of the Provincetown Art Association and Museum, a sure sign that this promising little jewel is poised to become a major player in the art scene.

•Don't ever say Patriots tackle **Adrian Klemm** doesn't share his good fortune. He and his black labrador, Honey, recently enjoyed a hydrosurge massage at Purina's Beneful Smart Spa, a one-day expo showcasing the latest in wholesome health and lifestyle activities for dogs, on the Boston Common July 13.



•To secure the coveted position of spokesperson (one of 10) for the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee, local PR talent **Jaimie Adler** says she basically bombarded the HR office with a publicity campaign about herself. She says that applicants had to be able to speak another language, have the freedom to take time off work and be willing to do grunt work. But more important, Adler adds, you have to supply your own housing—or have deep pockets. Motels in Salt Lake City are charging as much as $595 per night for double occupancy.

•Dorchester homie **Mark Wahlberg** knows where the party is. On July 25, he was back in the Hub, living it up with friends at **Whiskey Park**. *The Planet of the Apes* star breezed in at 11:30pm with a stunning brunette (whom he smooched frequently), a body guard and a small army of friends. His drinks of choice? Bud Light, blue Hawaiian shots and little bottles of Evian. That's our boy.

•A reason to gather the gal friends for a night on the town: **West Side Lounge** has a female triumvirate at the helm—the chef, GM and owner are all women—and in celebration, they're throwing a Women of West Side Night on Aug. 7. Free T-shirts for groups of four or more women. You go, girls!

•If the food at the newest restaurant to open in Cambridge is as delicious as Charo's trademark shake of the rump, we're all in luck. **Cuchi Cuchi** opened July 26 and serves up tapas.

•The bad news: 126-year-old **Locke-Ober** sadly closed its doors on July 21. The good news: **Lydia Shire** of **Biba** fame has purchased it and will reopen it (under the same name) in three to four months.

•A host of Boston's hotshots, including **Billy Bulger**, **Mayor Tom Menino**, **John Silber**, **Rikki Kleiman**, **Ray Flynn**, **Patrick Kennedy**, **Todd English**, **Jimmy Kelly** and **Charles Flaherty**, celebrated Anthony's Pier 4 owner **Anthony Athanas**' 90th birthday at the restaurant July 27. Talk about swimming with the big fishes.

•Attention all writers! We want to publish your fiction. We'll give two tickets to the Stoneham Theatre's tribute concert ***Simply Barbara*** to the first person who submits their work. See page 50 for details.

•Just as Boston's skyline wouldn't be the same without the Citgo sign looming large over Fenway, the "Home of Ellis the Rim Man" billboard is a landmark on Comm. Ave. Or was. **Ellis Rim**—which was founded in 1917 by Morris Ellis—has been there for 41 years. But times have changed in the auto supply biz. Original Ellis' son Ed says, "The do-it-yourselfers aren't doing so much themselves. Instead they go where they pay $20, and it's done in an hour." Guilty as charged. But we'll miss you.



URBAN EYE

ORGANIC VODKA



Finally, a reason to forgive Nantucket for giving us those annoying wicker handbags and red go-to-hell pants. **8-Ball**, an organic vodka brewed by the same folks who brought you the better-than-passable suds at Cisco Brewers, is starting to pop up at regional watering holes. The packaging is beyond cool,and the signature 8-Ball cocktail—garnished with three black olives stuffed with goat cheese—is the niftiest-looking nouveau martini we've seen in a long time. Smooth as a trick-shot and sure to provoke cheesy pick-up lines like "Can I interest you in a game of pool?" —*Jonathan Soroff*

SAM SAYS

SMOOTH MOVES

After working out intensely for the past three weeks, I finally felt that my body looked good enough to sport a bathing suit. But first I had to decide which hair removal technique to use. Shaving is such a hassle, and waxing is just about the most painful thing I have ever experienced. Recently, one of my friends suggested laser hair removal. Never worrying about hair again strikes me as a good idea. I interviewed countless friends, and everyone raved about it. My friend Layla says that she goes to Claire at Beauty Therapies and that she has never had such soft, hairless skin. Here's the deal: You can set up an appointment after an initial complimentary consultation. Numbing cream is applied one hour before treatment to make sure it's not painful (without the cream, it feels like a rubber band snapping on your skin). A beam of pulsed light is aimed directly at the root to kill it at the source. This process takes three to four visits. Then voila—visibly hairless skin forever. Toss out those razors!

Beauty Therapies (739-8888). $600-$1,200 per visit. —Samantha House

THIS JUST IN

ENGLISH INVASION

Lord knows Boston has its share of Irish bars, but the venerable English pub is something of an underepresented institution. Thus, old chap, we welcome the resurrection of **Cornwall's**, which just opened across the street from its old Kenmore Square digs. With its framed bar towels and cricket bats adorning the walls, the place has the decor down pat (but for the fact that it's a little too new-looking to accurately recreate the typical smoke-besmirched Blighty nattiness). Although the menu features bangers and mash and fish and chips, it also offers Boston staples like clam chowder. It could be rendered more authentically British with the addition of at least one curry offering. But since they keep Strongbow on tap, play gloriously cheesy music and have two excellent dart boards toward the back, we'll forgive that minor omission. Now, if they could just get to work making it a bit dirtier...

654 Beacon St., Boston (262-3749).

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to *theword@improper.com*.

TOP: CELESTE DEL RUSSO (6); VODKA: JONATHAN SOROFF; BILLBOARD: ITALA SOUZA


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Help, I Need Somebody

Dot-coms must compete with traditional retailers in service, not just price

Conventional wisdom says that the dot-coms crashed because of bad business plans, too much spending and the mistaken notion that the Internet would somehow suspend the laws of economics. While there certainly is some truth in that perception, there's another reason that the dot-coms fell: a basic ignorance, even within the biggest firms, of the nature of the Internet experience.

Take Amazon.com, for example. Most of the analysts I've spoken with consider Amazon to be the best-in-breed for online shopping. Despite this, the company is still essentially clueless when it comes to dealing with customer problems.

For example, one of the main features of Amazon.com is its "1-Click" ordering system. The idea is, when you see something you want to buy, you just click on the icon and the item will be shipped to you the next day. It's such an important part of Amazon's online "personality" that the company recently sued when BarnesAndNoble.com launched a similar capability.

I once used 1-Click pretty heavily but then one day it stopped working. The erstwhile 1-Click button was replaced with a notice saying that I should edit my "1-Click Settings" if I wanted to turn the 1-Click feature back to "ON." However, despite several minutes of searching through Amazon's web pages, I couldn't find such an option anywhere on the site.

When I complained, via e-mail, to Amazon's customer service, I received a form letter saying that I should go to my 1-Click Settings to turn the service on. I eventually got through to a service technician and explained, in detail and with screen dumps, how there was no way to turn 1-Click on. Despite the evidence, the technician insisted that I was incorrect and that the button was on the 1-Click Settings page. After three weeks of this kind of interaction, I finally determined, on my own, that 1-Click had disappeared because I had turned off the "cookies" feature in my browser.

Cookies is a feature of the Internet experience that lets Web sites store marketing information in your computer so that they know where you've been and what you've been doing. Most security experts recommend turning off the cookies feature because it makes it easy for rogue sites to put bogus information on your hard drive. Unfortunately, Amazon requires cookies to be enabled in order to function properly, so I had to choose between the convenience of 1-Click and leaving my system vulnerable to hackers. Amazon isn't the only site that won't work properly without cookies. Microsoft's Expedia.com travel site, for example, displays an error page telling you, step by step, how to turn cookies on.

I was understandably annoyed at Amazon, first for requiring me to enable cookies and second for having technicians who didn't know that cookies had to be turned on for 1-Click to work. Then the spam started. Every day, I received an e-mail message from Amazon telling me all sorts of things that I didn't really want to know—like what movies were playing nearby, and what new books were available.

Like most Internet users, I hate spam, and keep multiple accounts to try to keep the spam traffic down. As you can imagine, I wasn't at all pleased that Amazon was conducting a spam attack on my primary e-mail account. According to the e-mail messages, the Amazon site had a page called "update your communications preferences" that would supposedly allow me to filter the spam. I went to that page and discovered a number of options, including "Tell me about…new, trusted Amazon-.com online shopping partners," which is computer lingo for "send me spam about other Web sites." Amazon had turned every one of these options on, completely without my knowledge and approval.

What's worse, in order to turn the options back to "OFF," I had to go through a two-step process, de-selecting all the options and then confirming, via a separate e-mail, that I really wanted to turn them off. The idea behind this song and dance was to make it as difficult as possible to stop the spam, in the unlikely hope that I'd eventually order some of the products and services that they were hawking.

MARKETING TECHNIQUES THAT FORCE USERS TO ACCEPT COOKIES DON'T RESULT IN PROFITS.

America Online tried a similar ploy a couple of years ago, requiring AOL customers to reset their spam options to "OFF" every year. In order to keep from receiving AOL spam, the customer couldn't simply reply via e-mail but had to go to a special page and access six separate menus in order to stop receiving spam. And then AOL started forcing nonremovable pop-up advertisements on their user screens. That proved too much, however, and after thousands of complaints the company finally decided to disable these "features."

In short, even the biggest dot-coms are still incredibly wooden-headed when it comes to the rather obvious fact that Internet users want to be in control. Online marketing techniques that force users to accept cookies and wade through daily spam don't result in higher sales or fatter profits. They result in fewer online purchases and more visits to the local brick-and-mortar stores. I now buy twice as many books at Borders as on Amazon—the reverse of my buying habits just a few months ago.

Given that even the most powerful players in the dot-com world don't understand the basic nature of the Internet experience, is it any wonder that so many Internet firms have failed? iB

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.



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and Thai Chili Sauce

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with Peanuts, Sweet Soy and Crisp Wontons

Maine Lobster and Asparagus Fettuccine
in a Saffron Cream Sauce

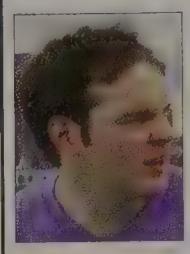
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Ezra BY EZRA DYER



Jigga What?

Or "What's the deal with Paul Simon and the trampoline girl?"

I recently went to see Brian Wilson and Paul Simon at the Tweeter Center. Normally I'm not interested enough in either performer to go to one of their concerts. But since Acura decided to randomly send me tickets, I found myself on my way to Mansfield, driven by the same urge that causes me to pick through the garbage on Beacon Hill. You might not be looking for something specific, but if you find it just sitting there... well, you may as well take it. For the record, though, I just want to state that even though Acura gave me tickets and food and free beer at the show, my journalistic integrity is still vaultlike. As vaultlike as the chassis of the all-new 2002 Acura RSX coupe, available at dealerships now.

Brian Wilson opened the show. I was curious to see the former Beach Boy live, since I'd just read an interview in *Maxim* that portrayed him as a psycho. Among other things, once he basically locked himself in his room for three years. Not only that, he hates the endlessly cheery "Good Vibrations" ("I don't know what I was thinking when I wrote it," he says. "I can't deal with it.")

In person, the gulf between Wilson's chipper Beach Boys tunes and his real-life morbid persona is striking. If you closed your eyes, you'd think everyone in the Tweeter Center had their own ocean and was surfin' on waves of carefree bliss. But when you looked at the stage, you saw Brian Wilson sitting on a stool, looking less happy than the couple in *American Gothic*. If his brow was any more furrowed, he could plant corn and qualify for federal crop subsidies. While his mouth said "We'll have fun fun fun 'til Daddy takes the T-Bird away," his face said "I've had no fun fun fun since my doctor took the Zoloft away." I kept my eyes closed, because there's nothing worse than getting depressed by a damn Beach Boy.

And I was really there to see Paul Simon, anyway. En route to the show, I listened to the live *Concert in the Park* CD to get in the proper mind-set. This turned out to be a good prelude to the out-of-placedness I would feel at the actual show. For instance, on the "Graceland" track on the CD, there is an eruption of cheering after the line: "There's a girl in New York City who calls herself the human trampoline." In the car, I wondered why this was something you would cheer about. At the show the cheering happened right on cue, just like on the CD. Why does the girl in New York City who calls herself the human trampoline provoke this response? I am so out of the loop.

At least I knew that song, though. As it turns out, I basically assumed that since I'm familiar with "Call Me Al" that I'm a Simonophile. But the rest of the crowd ruthlessly exposed my ignorance of Simonology. A song would typically begin with Paul plucking his guitar and crooning something like this: "I walked into a truck stop in Decatur, Illinois, and was immediately confronted by a phlegmatic girl who said 'Hey. How 'bout a game of backgammon?'" (*Crowd cheers wildly in recognition while I look confused.*)

I think this comes down to a generation gap. While I enjoy Paul Simon music, it was evident from the rest of the crowd that I was not really representative of his fans' primary age group. And this got me thinking about the future.

I'LL BE A MEMBER OF THE FIRST WAVE OF FAT, BALD WHITE GUYS WHO GREW UP LISTENING TO GANGSTA RAP.

What I see on the horizon is an unprecedented level of offspring embarrassment when my generation's kids become teenagers. This is because I'll be a member of the first wave of fat, bald white guys who grew up listening to gangsta rap and techno. From Warren G to Jay-Z, ATB to Melanie C, my kids are going to be running for cover.

My first concert was Bob Dylan, whom my parents took me to see when I was 12. Before we went, they'd impressed upon me at least a dim grasp of Dylan's cultural significance. I wonder what the equivalent experience with my children will be. I picture driving to a concert, trying to explain to the youngsters the history behind what they are about to see: "Now kids, Ice Cube was one of the original members of NWA, along with Dr. Dre and Eazy-E, back in the days before those two ended up in a beef and E got AIDS from hittin' skins with too many chickenheads without his jimmy hat."

"Ohmygod, Dad, you're so embarrassing. You're from Maine. Get over it... and could you put my Paul Simon CD back on now?" **iB**

You think that's funny?

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY



1

The Courageous Sailing Center hosted its 5th annual Make A Mark fund raiser July 19 on Pier 4, in the Charlestown Navy Yard. More than 200 guests enjoyed cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and dinner, and $40,000 was raised for the center.

1. **Neil Martin**, architect for EYP Architects, **Lisa Virello**, financial planner for ING Employee Benefits, and **Sturtt English**, consultant for KPMG.
2. **Ed Robertson**, designer and engineer for Design Communications in South Boston, and **Sarah Grilly**, Suffolk law student.
3. **Roger Elliott**, CEO of Elliot Merchant Banking, and **Carole DeJure**, personal trainer.
4. **Mark Selvaggi** (l), co-owner and director of operations of Plaster Fun Time, and his brother, **Joe**, co-owner and president of Plaster Fun Time.
5. **Justine Liff**, Boston Parks commissioner; **Chris Stulb**, president of the Courageous Sailing Center, and his wife, **Erin**, chairperson of the event.
6. **Todd Ackerman**, broker for CIBC World Markets, and his wife, **Nicole**, marketing director for the Community Newspaper Co.



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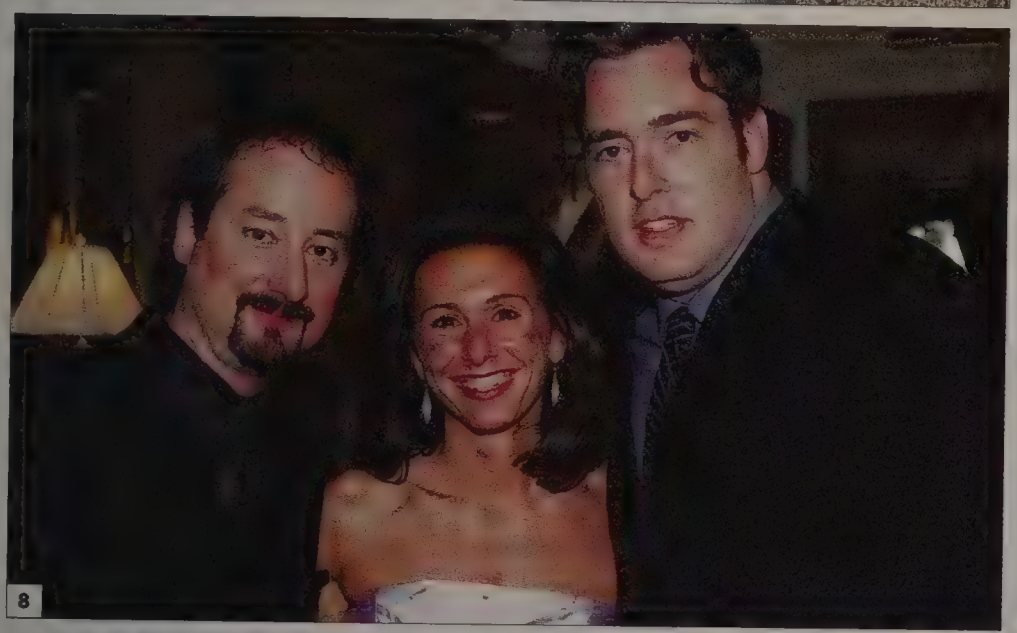


6

The 2nd Annual Doug Flutie Jr. Golf Classic Pre-Tournament Party was held July 12 at the DoubleTree Guest Suites in Boston.

7. **Lisa Borges**, executive director for the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism, Inc., and San Diego Chargers quarterback **Doug Flutie**.
8. **Richard Brackett**, managing partner of the Capital Grille, **Erica Rattet**, sales and marketing manager for the Capital Grille in Chestnut Hill and in Boston, and **Chris Scott**, managing partner of the Capital Grille.
9. **Hilary St. Jean** (l), intern at Capital Group in Marblehead, and her sister, **Nicole**, consultant at Towers Perrin.
10. **Vincent Strully Jr.** and **RoseAnn Lovely**, executive director and director of development, respectively, for the New England Center for Children.
11. From left: **Rick Case**, investment executive for Paine Webber, **Patti Case**, New England manager for *Sports Illustrated*, **Holly Case**, Suffolk County assistant district attorney, and **Alex Case**, financial adviser for Paine Webber.


7


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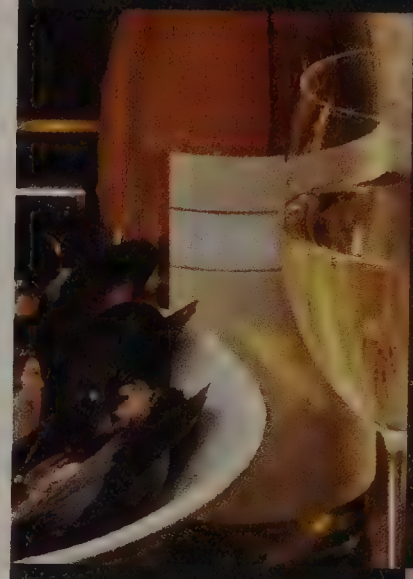

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11

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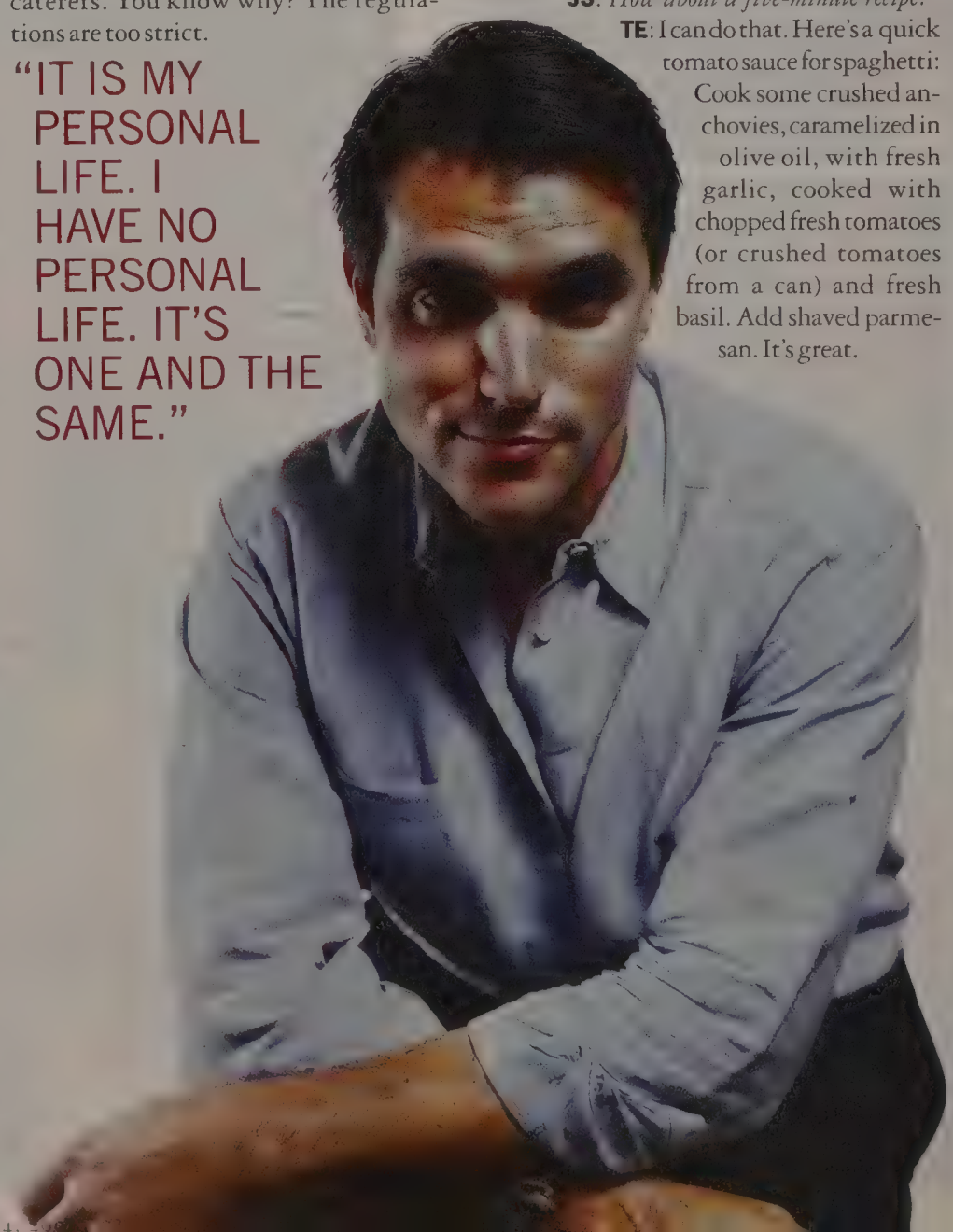
Todd English

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Celebrity chef Todd English was born in Amarillo, Texas, raised in Atlanta and started cooking professionally at the age of 15. He attended Guilford College in North Carolina before graduating with honors from the Culinary Institute of America in 1982. After honing his skills at the legendary La Cote Basque in New York, he spent several years in Italy. At 25, he came to Boston to work at Michela's in Cambridge. Three years later, in 1989, he opened the phenomenally successful Olives in a storefront in Charlestown. Four Figs restaurants followed, serving gourmet pizza and pasta, as well as Olives locations at the W Hotel in Manhattan and in Washington, D.C., at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas, and the St. Regis in Aspen. Adding to his empire are Kingfish Hall in Faneuil Hall Marketplace, the Miramar in Westport, Conn., Greg Norman's Australian Grill in Myrtle Beach, S.C., and two Figs locations at New York's LaGuardia Airport. This fall, he will open a steakhouse named Bonfire at the Park Plaza Hotel. In addition to being the subject of exhaustive ink (favorite Boston restaurant in *Zagat*, Top Ten in *Esquire* and so on), he's been named National Rising Star Chef and Best Chef in the Northeast by the James Beard Foundation, as well as receiving numerous other accolades. His TV credits include *Cooking In with Todd English*, *Martha Stewart Living*, *CBS This Morning*, *The Today Show* and a spot alongside WBZ anchor Liz Walker on the Friday noon broadcast. He has also authored the cookbooks *The Olives Table*, *The Figs Table* and *The Olives Dessert Table*. He lives in Brookline with his wife, Olivia, and their three children.

Jonathan Soroff: *What's the best way to get a table at Olives?*
Todd English: Come in Sunday night, when we're closed. Actually, it's to come either early or late, and by late, I mean around 9 at night during the week.
JS: *How does being a restaurateur affect your personal life?*
TE: [Laughs] Shit! It *is* my personal life. I have no personal life. It's one and the same.
JS: *Cam Neely lashed out at you in the press...*
TE: He took a good crack at me. He said I only think about No. 1.
JS: *Anything you want to say in return?*
TE: I've got plenty of comments. Y'know, too many pucks off the head...
JS: *Any chance that someday I'll be able to buy an Olives franchise?*
TE: No. But a frozen Figs pizza, maybe.
JS: *Worst thing you've ever cooked?*
TE: One time, I had to do a wine dinner in California, and I tried to make a green grape sauce. They're not really green, though. They're sort of yellowish. So it basically came out looking like a urine sample.
JS: *Grossest thing you ever ate?*
TE: Haggis. Stuffed sheep's stomach. Some Scottish chef came over here and tried to bring it into fashion, and I thought, "Leave it right where it is. Don't come any further."
JS: *You've consulted for airlines. Is there any way to make airplane food good?*
TE: No. The only way would be to have somebody else do it besides the airline caterers. You know why? The regulations are too strict.

"IT IS MY PERSONAL LIFE. I HAVE NO PERSONAL LIFE. IT'S ONE AND THE SAME."



JS: *If you could only eat one kind of food for the rest of your life, what would it be?*
TE: Pasta...spaghetti. Or sushi.
JS: *Any guilty pleasures: Taco Bell? Spaghetti-O's?*
TE: Peanut M&M's. Or those little Reese's things they have at the check-out counter.
JS: *Biggest mistake novice chefs make?*
TE: How to sauté. How to caramelize something. Especially if they don't have a hood over their stove, they don't understand that in order to really sear something, you need high heat, and high heat creates smoke, and new chefs usually get freaked out.
JS: *Single most important ingredient in a kitchen?*
TE: Salt.
JS: *Finish this poem: Roses are Red, Violets are Blue; Todd English is a chef...*
TE: ...I love golf, too.
JS: *If you could cook for one person from history...*
TE: Thomas Jefferson. Or Marie Antoinette. I'm fascinated with their fascination with cooking. Escoffier, too, but he's too obvious.
JS: *Do you know the Heimlich maneuver?*
TE: I do. Never had to practice it, though.
JS: *Ever give someone food poisoning?*
TE: Me?! It must've been the meal before.
JS: *Dirty little secret about the restaurant business?*
TE: Hmm, there are so many. I'll just say that I don't reuse my butter.
JS: *How about a five-minute recipe?*
TE: I can do that. Here's a quick tomato sauce for spaghetti: Cook some crushed anchovies, caramelized in olive oil, with fresh garlic, cooked with chopped fresh tomatoes (or crushed tomatoes from a can) and fresh basil. Add shaved parmesan. It's great.
JS: *How about Liz Walker. Is she a good chef?*
TE: She's an apprentice chef. But she's a fearless chef.
JS: *You're in front of a firing squad. What would you request as your last meal?*
TE: Probably a bucket of fried chicken, or a giant burger.
JS: *Exactly how rich are you?*
TE: [Laughs] I have no idea because I keep investing in my own business, so it's hard to say at this point.
JS: *What's your favorite game in Vegas?*
TE: Blackjack.
JS: *Most you ever won?*
TE: I was up $2,500 once. I've been down about that much, too. I think I'm about even now. I don't really gamble that much.
JS: *Favorite celebrity anecdote?*
TE: The time Dan Aykroyd pulled up in front of Olives with a bunch of his Harley buddies—blue jeans, leather jackets, tattoos, the whole deal. They parked on the curb out front, came in for dinner. There were six of them. Before even looking at a menu they drank $700 worth of wine. Then they ordered. Four or five hours later, he's standing on the table, singing "Happy Birthday" to some woman at the table next to him, followed by the Canadian national anthem. That was one of the better ones.
JS: *What about the time Bill Gates passed out in your bathroom, up against the door?*
TE: That was a good one.
JS: *Can I print that?*
TE: Sure.
JS: *How did being named one of* People Magazine*'s Sexiest Hundred People, or whatever it's called, affect you?*
TE: They had to widen the door at Olives right around head level. Actually, the only way it affected me was that I got more crap about it than compliments, so it's humbled me even more.
JS: *{Laughs} Somebody asked me if you waxed the back of your hands and forearms for those TV close-ups.*
TE: No. When I cook, the hair burns off.
JS: *What's the one thing at a restaurant that's most inflated in terms of price?*
TE: Used to be coffee, but now it's probably the soda guns. Those things are really cheap, and you get charged for it.
JS: *Do you know your cholesterol level?*
TE: It's been about a year, but it was something like 166.
JS: *Are food critics the vultures of the restaurant world?*
TE: I'd say that not all, but the majority of food critics in the world need to check their egos at the door. They need to try and review the restaurant and not themselves.
JS: *How important are reviews?*
TE: Important enough for me to care about them. But I can't cook for reviewers. I have to cook for the customer, because I can name half a dozen three-star restaurants in New York that went out of business within a year. What does that say?
JS: *Last question: Will you name your next restaurant after me?*
TE: If you give me a good review. iB

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EYE of the STORM

JOHNNY RUIZ KEEPS HIS COOL IN THE MEDIA SPOTLIGHT

Photographs by Kerry Brett Hurley

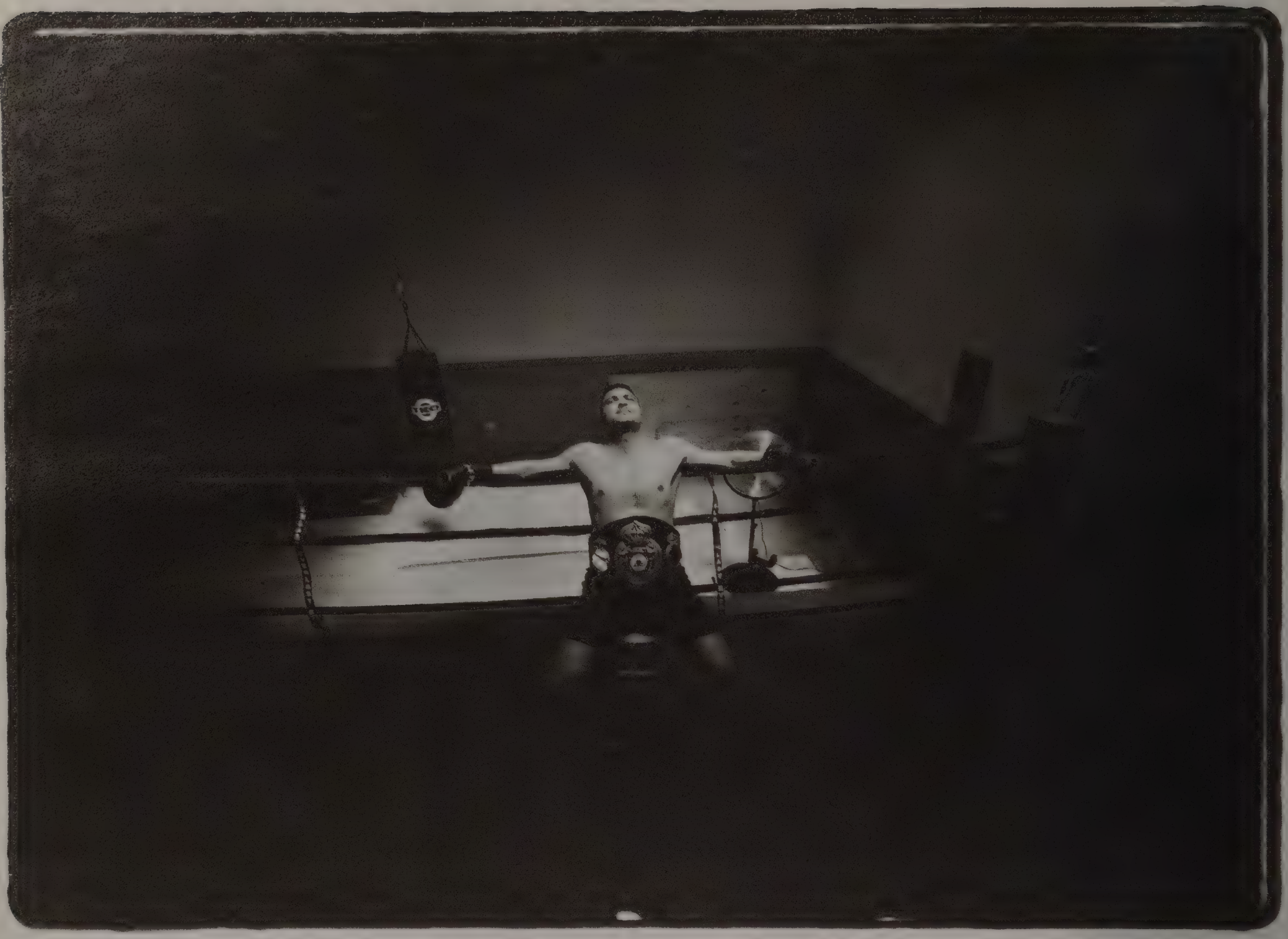
Text by Joshua Resnek

It is Monday in July, the hottest summer of Johnny Ruiz's life. After a hard workout, the world-class boxer leans against the ring, sweating and somber. Inside this cinder-block garage at the rear of a nondescript building at 950 Broadway in Chelsea, members of the media are gathered around, eagerly waiting for their turn to ask questions.

For the past 10 weeks, Ruiz has been training for the fight of his life—the long-awaited rematch with Evander Holyfield that was originally scheduled for Aug. 4 but was postponed due to Ruiz's neck injury. He spars and works the heavy bag in the mornings, pumps iron in the afternoons and runs in the evenings. He doesn't just run along the streets of Chelsea, he attacks the low points of the city and accelerates on its hills. His life has been all about climbing mountains and getting to the top.

Even this media event, staged as a photo op, was one more opportunity for Ruiz to shadowbox, pump up his confidence and think about what lies ahead. At 29, Ruiz is in the prime of a boxing career 18 years in the making. The first Latino heavyweight boxing champion of the world is preparing for another rendezvous with destiny.

This third fight with Holyfield holds the key to the future of his career as a heavyweight. Ruiz's boxing career will live or die by the outcome of the title match between him and the aging former champion. The atmosphere here is heavy with talk, flashing cameras, expectations.



One reporter skips the chit-chat and steers the questions directly toward Holyfield and his notorious head-butting maneuver. Cary Shuman, executive editor of the *Chelsea Record*, has followed Ruiz's boxing career since he was a boy. "Are you afraid of Holyfield, and is he afraid of you?" he asks pointedly. Ruiz looks him straight in the eye. "I'm not afraid of Holyfield, and he's not afraid of me. Boxers are not afraid of anything. You think you're the best and you go out to prove it."

"Do you think Holyfield is so desperate that he'll try to do whatever he can to come out with a win?" asks Ron Borges, noted boxing writer at the *Boston Globe*. Ruiz's voice is barely audible: "Holyfield is trying to convince himself to bring himself up to the challenge. Whether or not he's desperate doesn't matter. I have to prove I'm worthy to be a champion."

MEAN STREETS

Johnny "Quiet Man" Ruiz was born in Methuen in 1972. When he was a little boy, he lived in Puerto Rico with his parents. Then his mother took him back north, where he came of age under difficult circumstances in the beaten-down neighborhoods of Chelsea. He lived in a half-dozen public housing projects, trying to find his place in the world.

Tough times and drugs on the streets have turned more than one good man into a crack addict, gambler or thief. But sometimes, perhaps too rarely, those same stresses can purify a man's soul and harden him like steel.

★★★★★★★

"I'm not afraid of Holyfield, and he's not afraid of me. Boxers are not afraid of anything. You think you're the best and you go out to prove it."

★★★★★★★

"For all intents and purposes, John Ruiz is the messiah for Latino kids not only in Chelsea but around the world," says Chelsea novelist Keith Ablow, psychiatrist and author of the thriller *Denial*. "He is a glowing symbol of self-respect and possibility."

In a city once known for its corrupt and colorful politicians, Ruiz drew from deep inside something genuine and real that made him admired from the start. In a city where English has been a second language for more than a century and where 24 languages are spoken, Ruiz chose to add his own—the language of the boxing ring.

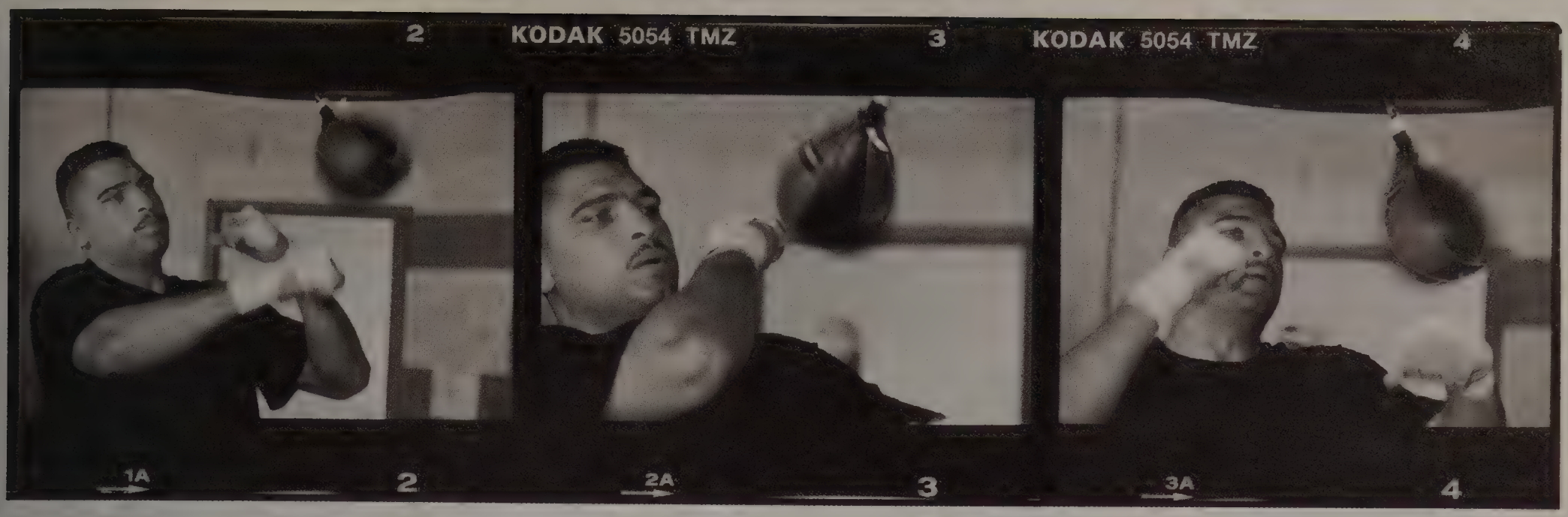
Faced with pain and suffering, he found religion. His religion is boxing.

"PREPARED FOR ANYTHING"

Ruiz is surrounded by a half-dozen cameras. Channels 4, 5, 7, Fox, NESN and New England Cable News reporters continue to pepper him with questions. The *Globe*'s Borges locks eyes with him, pad in hand, moving his pen across the page as quickly as some fighters move their feet. "What kind of fight is this going to be and what's your strategy?" he asks.

"It won't be a pretty fight," says Ruiz. "If he tries to headbutt me like the last time and to elbow me and to hit me low, then I'll have to retaliate to get his attention and the ref's. He's been a great champion, but I'm not worrying about him. I have to worry about myself. I have to be in shape. I want to be prepared for anything."

SHOT ON LOCATION IN CHELSEA



One by one, the journalists approach Ruiz to shake his hand before leaving. Ruiz bows his head slightly and lowers his eyes. Each time he says goodbye deferentially. "Thank you for coming," he tells each one, with a whisper and a smile.

Ruiz's wife, Sahara, drives up to the open garage door in the couple's new white Lincoln Navigator. Most of the media has now gone. In a moment, Sahara and Johnny are sharing a kiss and a hug—that's how it's been for them since they met in Chelsea 12 years ago. Last month they sold their brick bow-front home on Orange Street and bought a home in Las Vegas, the vortex of the boxing world. They are planning to move before their two children return to school in the fall.

There are rumors floating around Chelsea that Ruiz is deserting his hometown. "When John has completed the circle of his life, he'll be back," says Shuman of the *Chelsea Record*. "There is something ineffable about this city that gets to all of us who have had the privilege of living here. John Ruiz is all about Chelsea, and Chelsea is all about Ruiz. One doesn't stand alone without the other." **iB**



SPECIAL THANKS TO PAUL CAMELLO AT COLORVISION AND TEAM RUIZ

The names change, but the rock remains the same. Above: Pouring concrete at the Porter Street Outfall Tunnel in East Boston, 1992. Below: Sandhogs take a break in the Ted Williams tube tunnel, 1994.

Below: Working in tight quarters, "tunnel rats" face hours of moving through muck. The photo below shows a tunnel that runs beneath the Mass. Pike (1993).

TUNNEL VISION

Deep inside the bowels of the Big Dig, Sandhogs face a limitless landscape of dirt, dust and danger

BY ROB AZEVEDO • PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDY RYAN

"You wanna know about this job?" Bobby Zupkofska has been off the clock for a few hours now, and his mean, watery eyes are swimming a bit in his head. He's been hanging out at Weggies Pub, down near Chinatown, and now he's back at the job site's locker room—better known as the Hog House, on Atlantic Avenue—to pick up some things before heading home to Quincy. It's late afternoon in the middle of fall, and I'm asking him what it's like to be a Sandhog. Zupkofska—or "Zup"—is in the mood to talk. Who better to ask? Zup's been a tunnel worker for 12 years, and he's been here on The Big Dig for the past four.

"Just go down there and look at that gray, wet rock, six days a week, 52 weeks a year, and you're gonna tell me you ain't gonna start fallin' in love with it," says the thirty-something tunnel worker in his lion's roar of a voice. "It becomes your life. It grabs you by the face, and you just wanna break it and bash it and blow it apart."

"Down there" is actually 120 feet beneath the city, where Zupkofska and the other members of Local 88, the Sandhogs, have made a living for over four years. More than 100 members strong, the Hogs have been busy mining 13,000 yards of earth, installing 300 tons of reinforcement steel, pouring 9,300 yards of concrete. It will take some 340,000 person-hours to complete the $25 million underpinning job of strengthening the support structure beneath the MBTA's Red Line, and that's just one phase of the $14.4 billion Big Dig project. When finished, the new underground expressway is expected to greatly improve mobility throughout the Boston area.

For years, writers like Thomas Kelly—whose 1997 novel, *Payback*, focused on New York City tunnel workers fighting a corrupt union and organized crime—have presented a romanticized view of Sandhogs. They're seen as hard-edged, bed-hopping drug addicts who have little education, broken marriages and legendary drinking habits. In reality, Sandhogs are merely heavy construction workers, albeit well-paid ones, who can make as much as $1,200 a week. What sets them apart from their aboveground counterparts: grueling 10-hour shifts and dangerous labor conditions typically associated with chain gangs rather than law-abiding citizens. Few people outside the construction industry truly know what goes on down in the holes where Sandhogs toil every day. And if what they do in the hole is something of a mystery, why they do it is even more so.

The taste of dust and clay and chemically saturated dirt is everywhere as I stand inside the 3-by-4 foot steel cage swinging 50 feet above the ground. As the cage falls at a steady pace, I glance over at South Station to my right and the Federal Reserve Bank to my left. Up here, it feels like being on a carnival ride, only this is a lot more scary.

Standing beside me is 30-year-old Jeff Nelson, one of the project engineers for the construction beneath the Red Line. Nelson looks through the grid of the bucket; below is the shaft where the crane operator will lower us into the earth. "Jesus," Nelson says, squinting over at the crane. "That's some responsibility that guy's got."

But the crane operator is really no different from any other member of the team. "Everyone depends on everyone around here," Nelson says. Slowly we are lowered into the hole where the Hogs are working well into the day shift. Soon the cage is surrounded by four concrete walls that drop straight down into the earth.

As if being dispatched into the heart of the apocalypse, the cage makes its way into the bowels of the city. It sways back and forth, and I start to wonder what would happen if the cable were to snap. The image of being inside a runaway cage falling deep into the earth makes me shudder.

The bottom of the shaft looks nuked. A wet and dour stench hangs in the air as crew members sit on buckets and crates, leaning against a wet wall, eating sandwiches. There is no set lunch time for the Sandhogs. They eat on the fly, stopping now and again to refuel with snacks and smokes.

It's well known that the life of a Sandhog is one of constant danger. The tools of the trade alone—jackhammers, backhoes, razor-sharp cables—can be deadly if safety precautions aren't properly carried out. Over a year ago, for example, on the Fort Point Channel job in South Boston, a crane was hooked to a bundle of scaffolding that split midway through the lift. Fifty pieces of iron slid out of the straps and down into the Glory Hole, grazing the temple of a laborer standing 30 feet below. It nearly killed him on the spot. And if the work itself weren't dangerous enough, the ventilation systems must run perfectly for the Sandhogs to survive a 10-hour shift, 60 hours a week.

"Safety's the most important thing to remember when you're working down here," says 44-year old John Hanley, a body builder turned tunnel rat who is a foreman for the day crew. Hanley has been in the construction business his entire life, building everything from shopping malls to health clubs across New England. He says Hogs need to look out for each other because "a lot of things can go on down here."

Sandhogs are extremely protective about their space. They don't like outsiders, and they most definitely don't like someone bird-dogging them when they're on the job. They believe that if you don't have the mind-set to work in the hole—if you don't have the stones—you don't have the right to say a damn thing. The only other union locals the Hogs allow to work with them are Local 4, the crane operators, and Local 103, the electricians.

"I see 10,000 people walk by this job every day," says Local 88 Walker Boss Jimmy Marinelli, a resident of Quincy. "All they see is the arm of a crane going back and forth, but they don't see the Hogs reinforcing steel and pouring concrete."

To get a taste of a Hog's life, all you have to do is hold a 25-pound rivet buster over your head for 10 hours straight while your shoulders knot up and your wrists ache. Then try burning steel with a hot torch as a million sparks shoot into your face, leaving pockmarks on your chin and cheeks. Not a pretty picture.

We head toward the west end of the tunnel, across from South Station on Atlantic Avenue. The color gray stains the railways that move muck buckets into the shaft through which they will be lifted aboveground. Faded red clay spades rest against steel structures, ready to pulverize stone. The 17-foot high ceilings are covered with dirt and stacked timber, set in place to strengthen the foundation of the train station, four feet overhead.

Eddie Ward, a man in his early 40s, is welding slits into huge steel beams. Rebar will be slid through the slits, tying the concrete forms together. Another Hog is "humpin' the mud stick," filling buckets with debris from the floor of the tunnel. Soon the Hogs will be tying thousands of pounds of rebar in the tunnel. I ask Ward whether he'd ever consider another line of work, like sitting behind a desk. He shakes his head, laughing at the thought of ever becoming a "preppie."

After spending time with these guys, you begin to recognize that Hogs are simply a reflection of their working environment. They're professionals who understand they'll be out of the daylight almost all the time, with their hands wrapped around a torch and flint, burning steel, making good money to do a dreadful task.

You also realize they have little interest in growth and progression in the workplace unless they have a boss's mentality, which most Sandhogs don't. Most of these men are just happy to be working. "It's been almost 12 years since these guys had tunnel work they could count on," says Marinelli. This is about finishing a job, doing it right and getting paid.

But Hogs don't like to be thought of as uneducated laborers doing work that anyone with a pulse could do. Even though they often find themselves slumped over a mud stick, laying pipelines or stacking timber, they still want their work to be recognized. And if simple labor is setting steel girders in place four feet beneath a major train station, what is listening to motions being filed all day? If lowering a 40,000-pound deck beam into a narrow 60-foot slot is mindless work, what is trading stocks?

Far from seeing themselves as grunts, some Hogs feel a certain power in their profession. As Jammer, an enigmatic journeyman who has done tunnel work in Oregon and California, says: "We're kind of like King Shit in Dirt City down here."

When the job is finished, many of the Sandhogs will head to the union hall, hoping to land another gig, another paycheck, another chance to do the muscle dance. Maybe the next hole they drop into will be in New Bedford or Dallas. Some will get work; others will find themselves fighting boredom at home and keeping vices at bay.

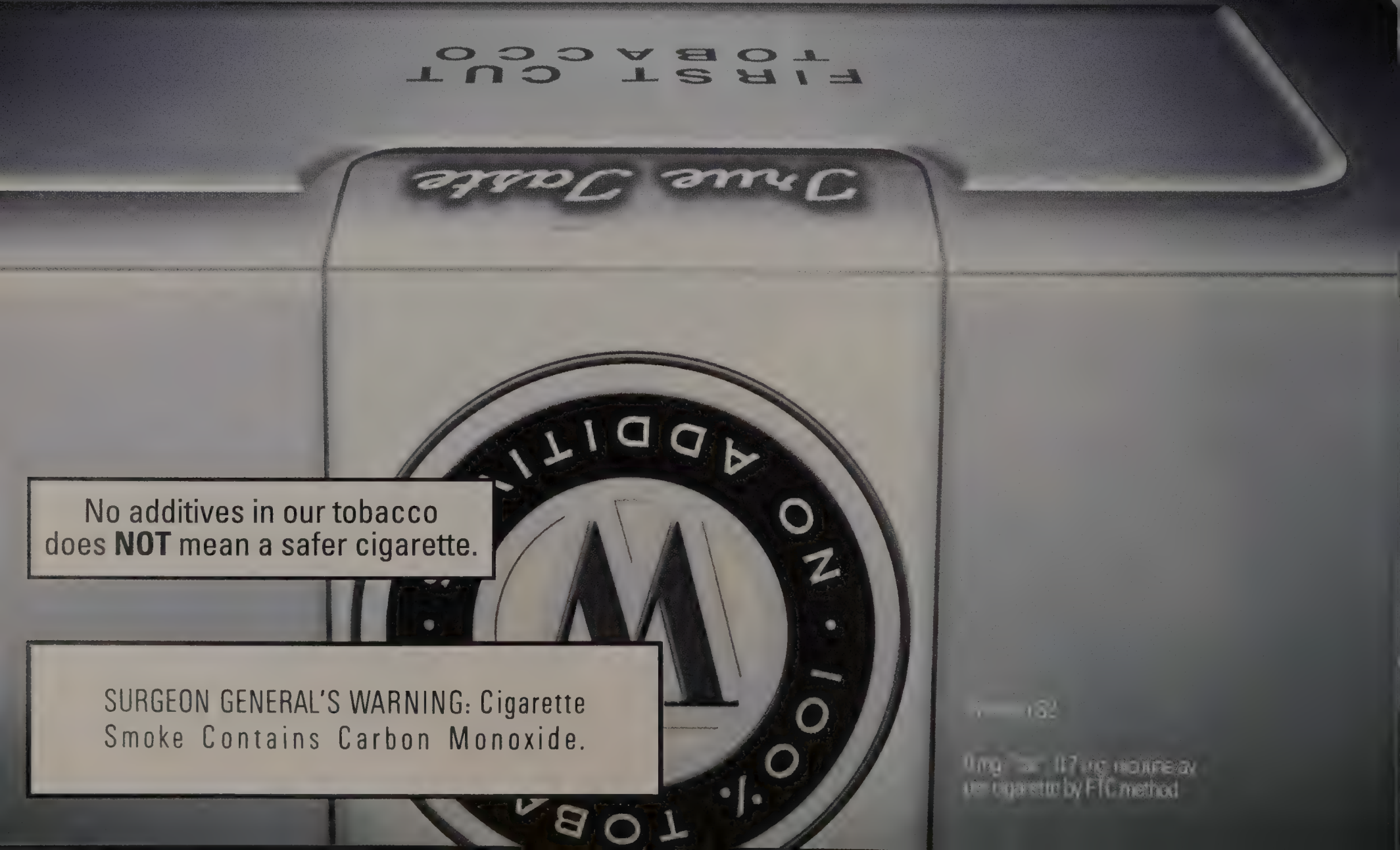
Hogs are made up of all kind of people: roughnecks and role-players, whiners and storytellers, pushers and posers. There are those who go home to their families when the whistle blows, and others who just want to wrap their hands around a cold beer until closing time.

But one thing's certain: Hogs aren't going anywhere. When the dirty jobs need to be done, and the "white hats" (management types) aren't ready to play in the hole, the Sandhogs will be down there first—cussing, drilling, digging, bending, burning and breaking. And, in Zup's words, "falling in love with the wet, gray rock." IB

The old rules just went up in smoke.

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PULP FASHION

Desired by many, possessed by few, these tempting threads weave a wicked web of passion



Produced by Samantha House
Fashion Photography by Stephen Sheffield
Background Photography by Tracy Powell
Book Designs by Scott Oldham

Previous page:
Boy Madness:
On him: Red button-down shirt, $68. Available at Country Road.
On her: Flowered black-and-white halter by Hot Sauce, $62.
Matching skirt by Hot Sauce, $64.
Both available at Leila.

She lived in a

CITY OF SIN

avalon value priced

Another tale of lust, deception and betrayal by Shadow Wheatfield

The story of a private secretary gone wild!

City of Sin:
On him: Stone linen suit jacket, $200. Stone linen pants, $98. Both available at Country Road.
On her: Black cocktail dress with piaettes, $400. Available at Betsey Jenny.

Vera Is a Tramp:
Athene silk nightgown with lace trim, $64. Available at Top Drawer.

Dime a Dance Queen:
Linen sundress by Nicole Miller, $220. Available at Betsey Jenny.

VERONICA WAS A VIRGIN, BUT

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by Chopper Ridge
AUTHOR OF
Helen Is a Harlot

Confessions of a

DIME A DANCE QUEEN

by Major MacArthur

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Running Wild
Red dress by Hot Sauce, $98. Available at Leila.

Slay As You Go:
Rossellini movie suit, $895. Available at Hugo Boss.
On her: Red V-neck matte jersey gown, $210.



The Big Blue Boat courtesy of Craig MacCormac
Location stylist: Hillary
City of Sin location: Lucky's

Models:
Matthew Lane-Smith; Jerry Hoyt; Christina Marchand for Ford; Kristin Spoonamore for Ford; Elin for Click; Naomi for Click; Lindsey for Click; Kaitlin for Click; Matt for Click

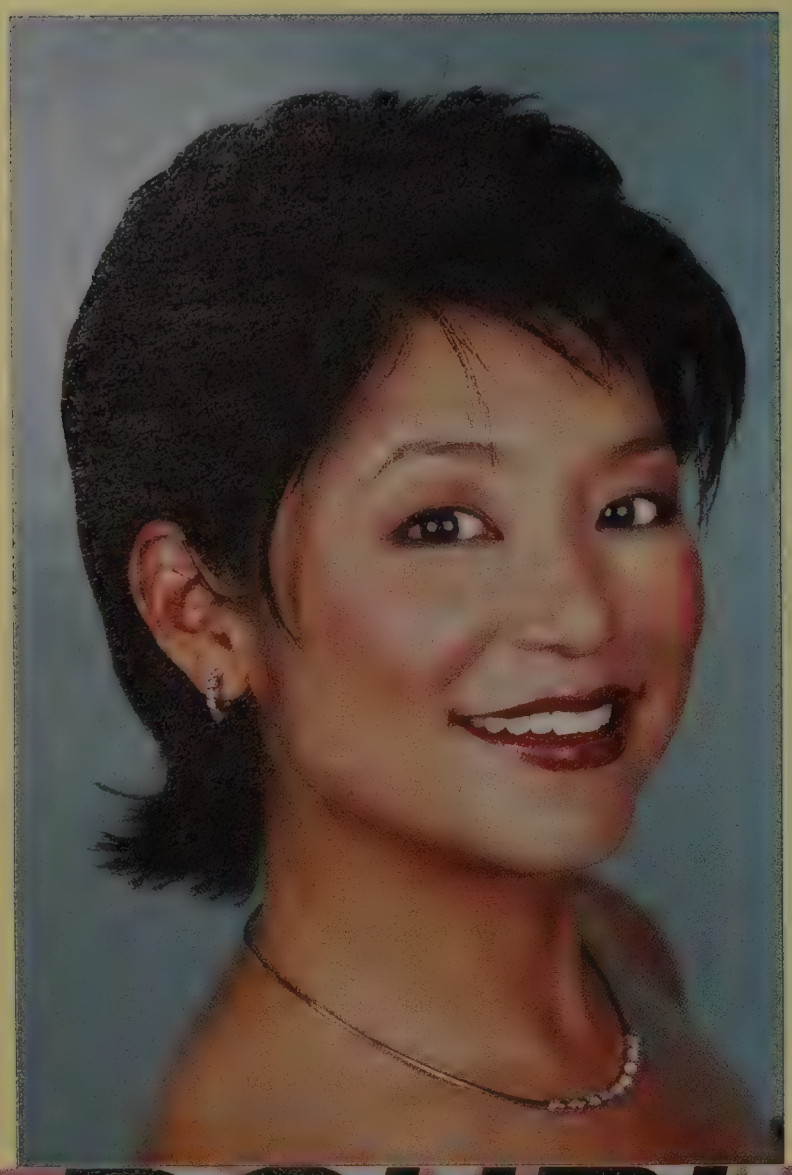
Manicure on page 32 by Julianna at Caryl Christopher, 37 Newbury St., 424-0250

Lelis
1367 Beacon St.
738-4448

Country Road
140 Newbury St.
262-3820

Betsey Jeany
114 Newbury St.
536-2[illegible]

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64 [illegible]



DOUBLE TAKE

News anchors share their secrets for looking good

by Samantha House

As anchors for Channel 7 News, Janet Wu and Christopher May have to look their best every day. That means having flawless skin, natural-looking makeup and a healthy, well-rested appearance. Here they fill us in on what keeps them looking great both on and off camera.

Janet is a busy woman, so she needs a quick and easy beauty regimen. She prefers Cetaphil cleanser for daily face washing and always uses a moisturizer with SPF 15 protection. When applying makeup, she likes to keep it simple. She carries a Trish McEvoy Makeup Kit that includes all the essentials. It's all any woman needs, she says, calling it a "life saver." Her tip for staying healthy and looking great? Drinking lots of water. "I'm trying to get into the habit of never leaving the house without a bottle of water in my hand," she says. "Water keeps you healthy in general and helps maintain good skin and hair."

When it comes to grooming products, Christopher admits that he lets his wife do all the shopping. Christopher follows a daily skin-care regimen of face wash, moisturizer and SPF 15 lotion. He keeps his well-groomed coif looking good with help from his favorite stylist, Nestor Real at Diego Salon on Newbury Street. Christopher says he prefers his hair short and tame, which means that he has to stop in for a trim every two to three weeks.

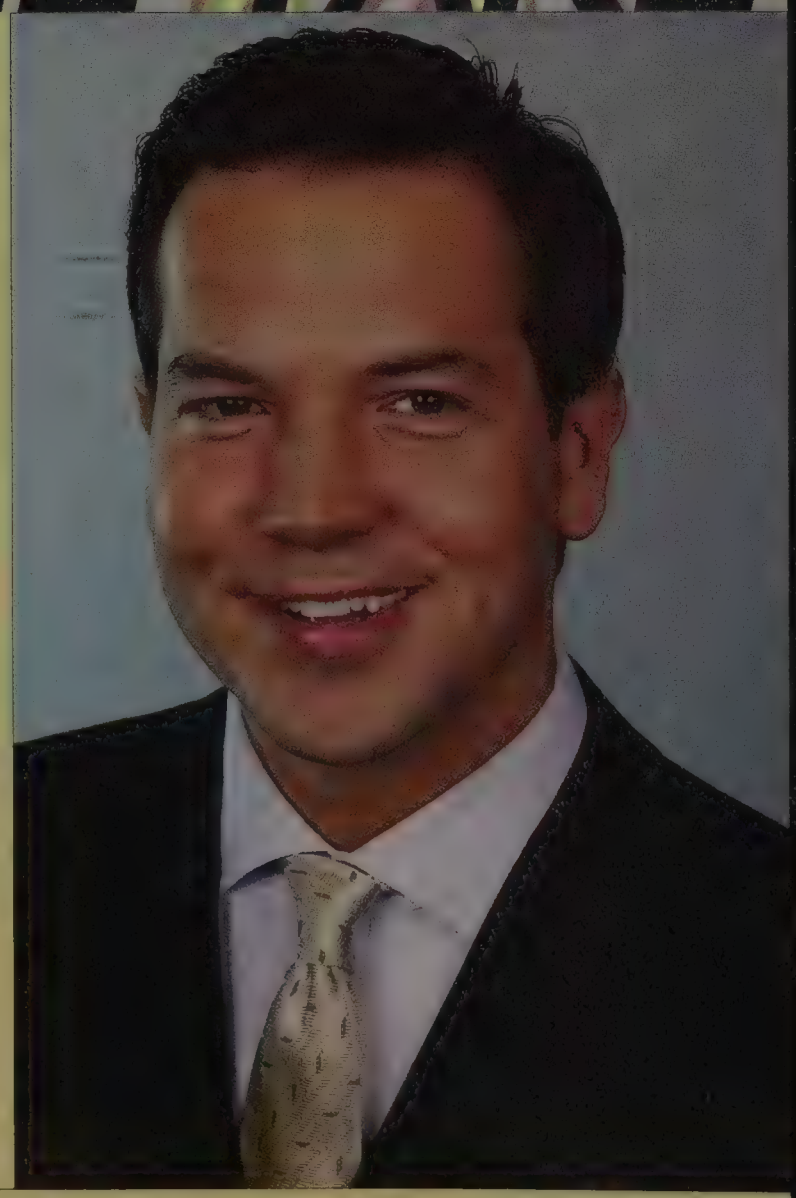
This summer, take a cue from Janet and Christopher. Always make sure you are well hydrated, don't forget to protect your skin by liberally applying lotion with an SPF of at least 15 and remember, keep things simple! iB

—Additional research by Nicola Miller

On Janet: For the perfect look to take to the beach, we gave Janet a clean, natural glow with a selection of essentials by Bobby Brown: SPF 15 moisturizing foundation, $35; Sheer Finish loose powder, $30; bronzing powder on her lids, $26; waterproof mascara in black, $16; tawny blush, $19; lip liner, $15.50; and lipstick, $17.50.

Charles Maksou, owner of Maksou Artisan on Broad Street in the Financial District, followed Janet's natural head shape and created a cut with no heavy lines. Says Maksou: "The first thing I did was soften the hair around the neck, then cut wisps for more movement in the front. All this was done in a dry cut, so she could see and feel the true effect as I was cutting."

Janet wears a diamond set, both in platinum. Baguette and round diamond necklace, 1.76 carats, $8,750. Baguette and diamond hoop earrings, .70 carats, $3,200. All available at Shreve, Crump & Low.



Here, Christopher was groomed by Ja 'Coal of Maksou Artisan. "I trimmed up Christopher's hair and lightly powdered his face to give him a polished look."

BEAUTY

JUST FOR MEN

For decades, while men stuck to a short list of hair balms and after shave, women have been able to pick and choose from a wide variety of grooming products. Realizing that men also need a little spa treatment from time to time, manufacturers are evening the score with a slew of new products. Here are some of the latest testosterone-friendly potions for men.



Boss After Shave Balm by Hugo Boss, $29. Moisturizing and fragrant. **Boss Shower Gel by Hugo Boss, $20.** Fragrant and refreshing. **Boss Eau De Toilette by Hugo Boss, 3.4 fl. oz., $49.** Men's spray with an au naturel fragrance.



Africa Spa Rich Cocoa Body Balm by The Body Shop, $20. Cocoa and shea butters from Ghana provide deep-down moisture while sesame oil leaves skin soft and enriched.

Africa Spa Body Salt Scrub by The Body Shop, $26. Natural salts gently exfoliate while Ghanean Shea Butter provides moisture for tired skin.



Index Body Cream by Fresh, $30. Natural ingredients make this body cream ideal for healing dehydrated skin while leaving it refreshed and moisturized.

Luxe Formula Shaving Cream by Fresh, $18. Shea butter, olive oil and glycerin as well as soothing aloe help moisturize the skin while providing a close shave without any irritation. Especially good for sensitive skin.

Index Extra Gentle Cleansing Soap for Face and Body by Fresh, $18. Made with 100% pure cucumber extract and enriched with shea and illipe butter. This gentle soap nourishes and soothes the skin.

Luxe Formula Tobacco Flower Soap by Fresh, $9. Inspired by the cultivation of seeds from olives, tobacco plants and grapes, and enriched with olive oil and shea butter, this cleansing bar is appropriate for all skin types.

JANET WU & CHRISTOPHER MAY: TRACY POWELL

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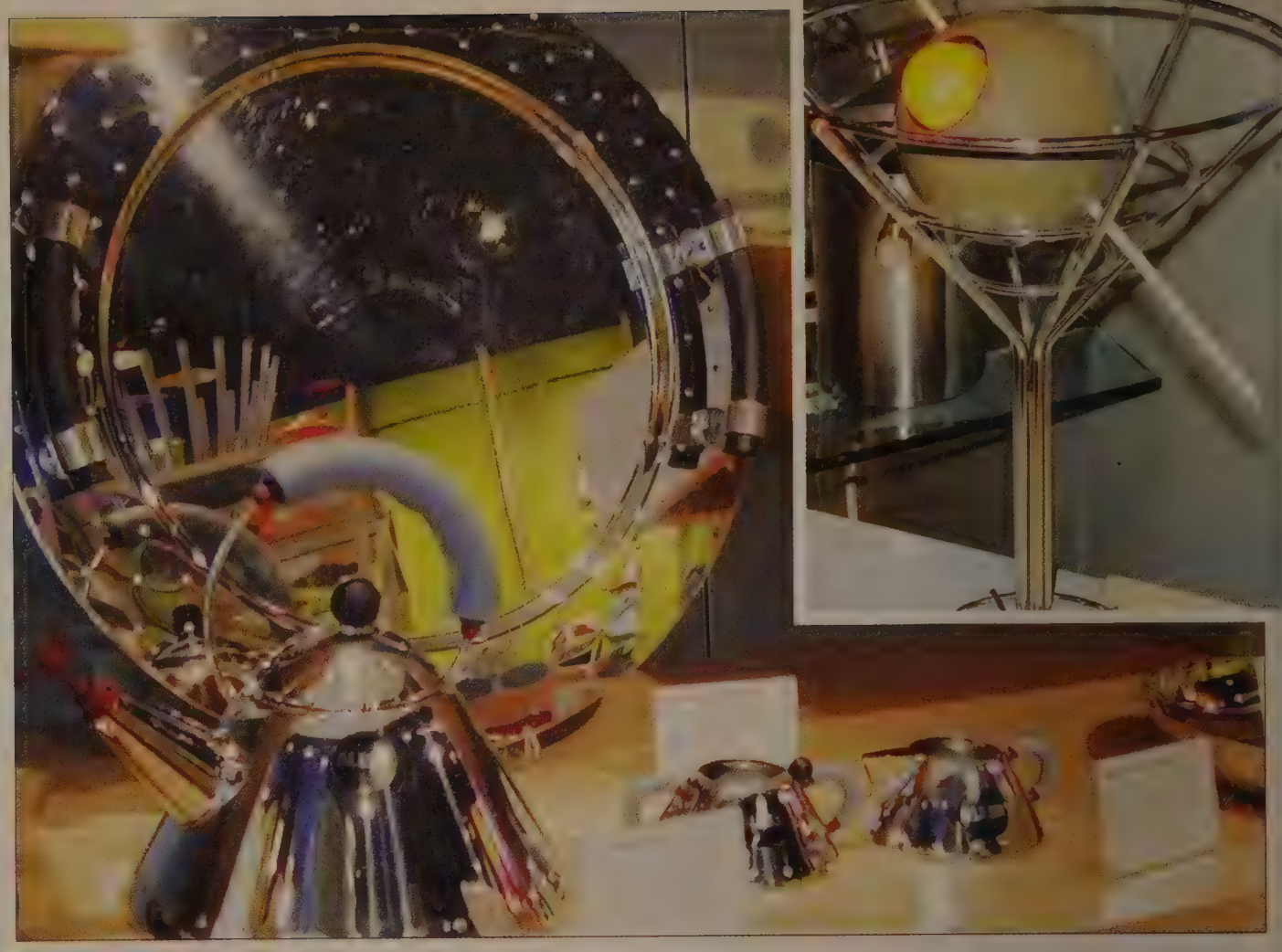
Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



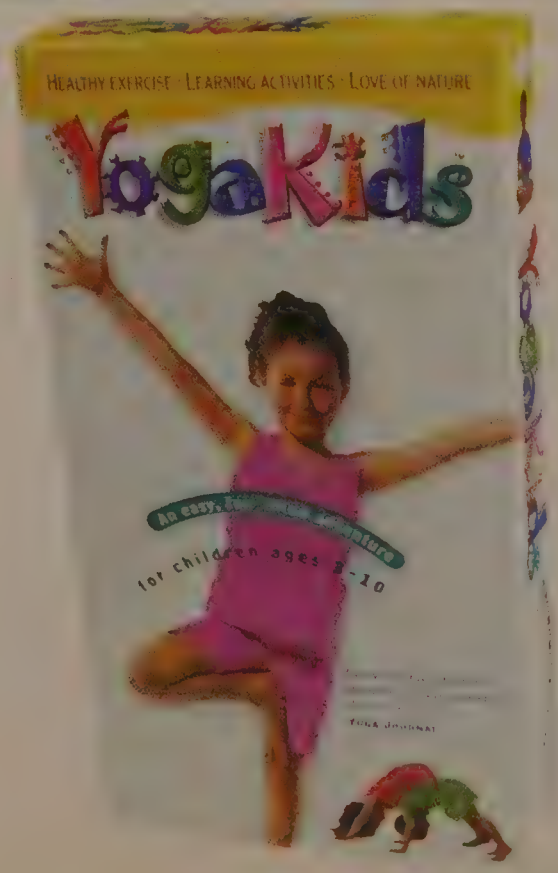
OUR TOWN
In *The Hub*, Thomas H. O'Connor, emeritus professor of history at Boston College, writes about Boston from the Puritans to the Big Diggers.

Thomas H. O'Connor has written extensively about Boston—the Irish, the Catholics, the politics. In *The Hub*, we have the whole picture in one satisfying sweep. Boston does double duty as a major locus in American history and the Revolution, but it also holds its own richly evolving stories. From the time of the religious and political refugees of the 1600s, divergent forces and clamoring groups have continually gathered behind whatever crowd was currently in the ascendency at the time—the Puritans later yielding to the Irish Catholics, for instance. Over several hundred years, European immigration changed the face of the city, from its primeval "stern and rockbound" character to a city with far more salt and variety. As O'Connor describes the development of Boston (and its many extraordinary historical figures: John Hancock, abolitionist Garrison, reformer Dorothea Dix, James Michael Curley, Honey Fitz, Louise Day Hicks), this city of ours grows with his story, propelled by such architectural giants as Richardson and Bulfinch. Finally, the fires of busing in the '70s have yielded to a "minority majority" in which the embattled have prevailed, numerically at least, over their former excluders.



WAVY, MICHAEL GRAVES-Y
Chiasso, near the Huntington Avenue end of the Prudential Center, sells amusing, postmodern housewares, some by famous designers. (617-859-1808, www.chiasso.com).

There is no end to the design wittiness of this store, where many inanimate items seem to be in motion. A "wave" look is a theme that runs throughout Chiasso's wares—you see it in richly colored tilted highball glasses and in wastebaskets that seem to have been touched by the wind, leaving them frozen in an oblique shape. Vases, typically bulbous in the middle, have tucked in their tummies and courted a flattened look, highlighting the flowers they hold in a Japanese-like way. The chic company Alessi brings us Michael Graves and Phillipe Starck housewares, architecture writ small. The streamlined Graves teapot, with a droll bird at the whistling end, is famous. The plate of a wildly entertaining cake stand appears to be carried, from below, by a scurrying blue character—half abstraction, half mad butler. And a nonelectric coffee maker features a green plastic alien wrapped around it. Glass shades in arresting colors, of the popular Medusa Lamp variety stick out every which way. Kids' items include funny Keith Haring books and a dollhouse with colorful Plexiglas windows and Cindy Sherman photos on the walls. Inventive 3-D calendars brilliantly reimagine the ways we conceive of the days and months. This is postmodern originality at its best.



MRS. YOGA AND THE YOGETTES
YogaKids video introduces children ages 3-10 to this ancient art. Available at Bread and Circus, $10. Or call 1-800-2-Living.

Why should it be that the show-horse perfections of gymnastics are so often urged on kids, while the soulful, peaceful, and, frankly, easier movements of yoga are aimed at grown-ups? Mrs. Yoga, with her small group of kids, shows it can be otherwise. Lying with their heads on one another's bellies as if they are at a cozy outdoor sleepover, the kids pay attention to their breathing, and to the oxygen refreshing their bodies. Then each pose is demonstrated, in conjunction with clips of the animal it's named for (animals clearly did invent yoga!). "Sit on your heels with your sharp lion paws on your thighs," the mother-teacher instructs. While doing the Tree Pose, animated roots spread beneath the feet of one of the children. The anger and excitement behind the Volcano Pose is identified as the child explodes—in a gentle yoga way. Throughout the video, the children slither likes snakes and stand on earth like stolid warriors. The tender, ancient virtues of joining with nature, and becoming "one with the sun" are invoked, ending with the appropriately named Child's Pose. And there's not a hint of ADD under the India-flavored sun that the children are working—even playing—in.

TOP: ITALA SOUZA (2)



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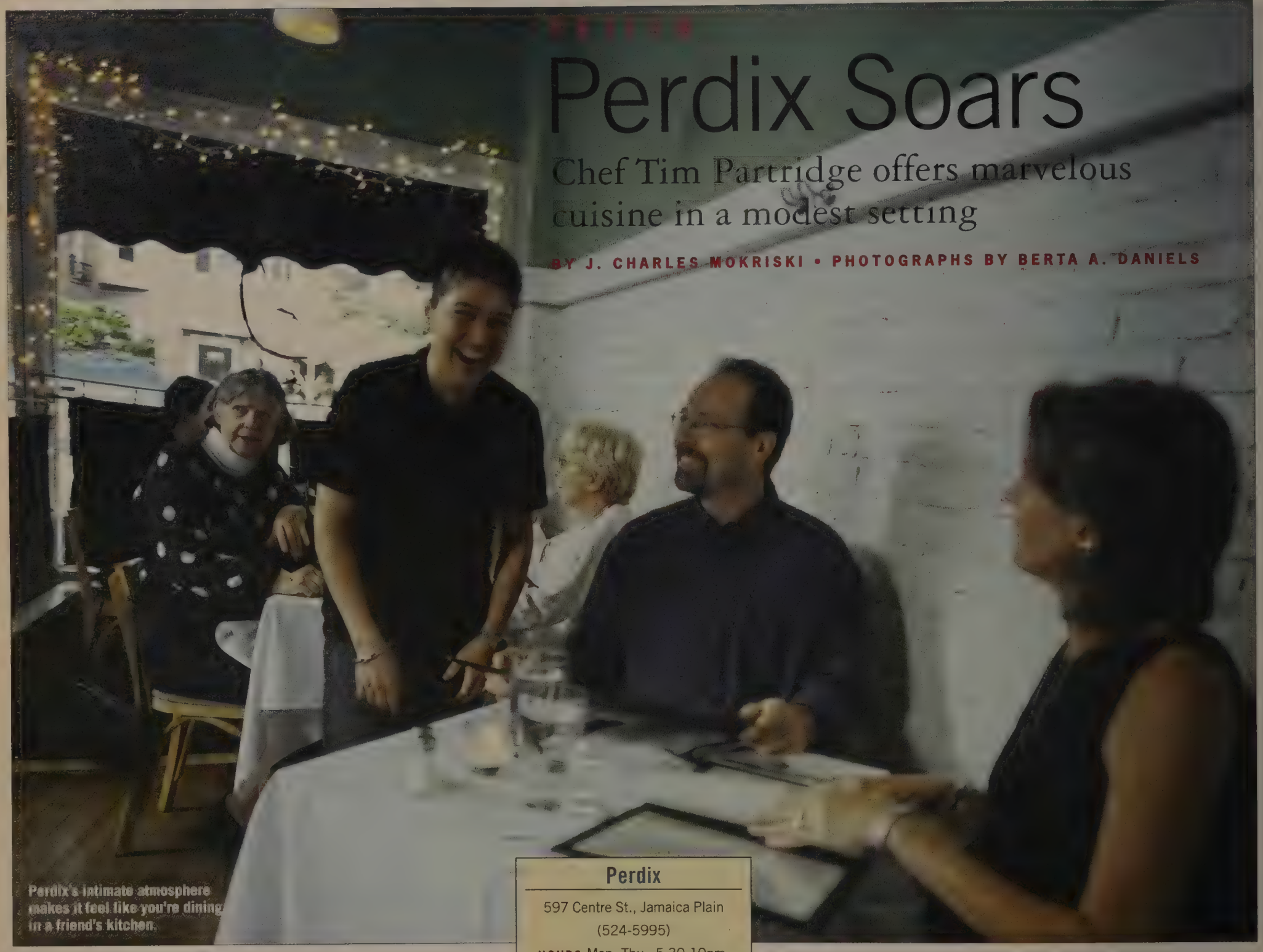
in this section:

Review: Perdix
Dish: The whole hog at Jake & Earl's
Wine: European vs. New World wines
Tasty Tidbit: Clambake in the city

Perdix Soars

Chef Tim Partridge offers marvelous cuisine in a modest setting

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Perdix's intimate atmosphere makes it feel like you're dining in a friend's kitchen.

Perdix

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The chef can be seen working at his stove from every table in the house at Perdix, a tiny, 20-seat bôite on Centre Street in Jamaica Plain. In fact, dining here almost feels like spending the evening in a friend's kitchen.

The name Perdix belongs to a once extensive genus of birds now limited to the European partridge. At first I thought that the obscure reference to this small game bird was intended to suggest a combination of traditional if seldom-encountered ingredients and creative preparations, but I soon learned that Perdix is a play on the name of restaurant's chef-owner, Tim Partridge. Given the imaginatively conceived and competently executed cuisine of Mr. Partridge, my first impression of the name was not too far off course.

Perdix's menu is a delight, with a half dozen starters all priced in the single digits followed by an equal number of main courses ranging in price from $16 to $20. The menu descriptions are simple and straightforward. For example, the Parker Farms summer greens with simple lemon vinaigrette ($5) was a copious heap of delicate, fresh, tender greens bathed in a lemon dressing, with a nice balance of sweet and tart. Black pepper mussels ($9), a large bowl of clean, plump mussels, arrived in a broth in which strong, aromatic black pepper competed with pungent garlic. Sautéed cod cakes with mango sauce and herb salad ($8) consisted of two magnificent thick cod cakes, in which shards of resilient cod, not filler, predominated. Garnished with a salad of chopped tomatoes and fresh basil with a tangy mango dressing, this was not Mom's typical Friday fare.

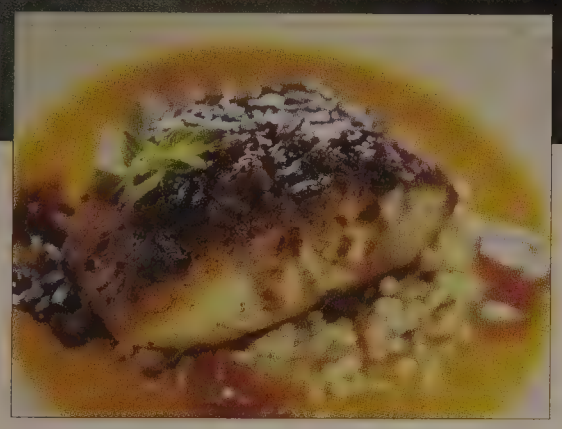
Three beet goat cheese terrine with watercress and tarragon ($8) was a firm but tender block of flavorful pâté in which the earthy, sweet beets complimented the salty, savory goat cheese. The strong licorice flavor of tarragon added an interesting and provocative note. Finally, but definitely not the least flavorful among the starters, was crisp flatbread with bacon, smoked onion and three cheeses ($9). Despite the conceit of its name, this was a good old-fashioned pizza, generous in size with crisp crust, sweet-smokey onion, savory bacon and mellow cheese.

Perdix's main courses included sautéed scallops with Napa slaw, English peas and tarragon ($19). The scallops were tender and sweet, and the slaw was delicious, with carrots, cherry tomatoes and shallots accompanying the peas and Chinese cabbage. Chicken mousse ravioli with bacon, spinach and plum tomato sauce ($16) featured tender pasta pillows stuffed with smooth, delicately herbed ground chicken dressed with a plum tomato sauce. The dish was enlivened with smokey bacon, pleasantly bitter spinach and fresh ground pepper.

Roasted lamb with fingerling potatoes, feta cheese, watercress and minted chimichurri ($20) arrived medium-well instead of medium-rare as ordered, but it was still juicy and flavorful. Buttered club steak with Yukon Gold potato cake and ratatouille ($19) combined extraordinarily good garnishes with a decent piece of beef, with perhaps too heavy a hand on the ground pepper. In fact, fresh ground pepper is used extensively at Perdix, at times threatening to overwhelm the other, more



Chef-owner Tim Partridge presides over the dining room from Perdix's open kitchen. Inset: Pan-seared local striped bass with yellow tomato soup, couscous salad and bacon barbecue sauce.



subtle seasonings. Finally, hoisin pork with crispy jasmine rice cake and pineapple herb salad ($19) consisted of two thick bone-in chops, succulent and flavorful.

Perdix procures its bread from Iggy's and serves it torn into small pieces just right for dipping in flowery, aromatic extra virgin olive oil. The wine list includes a credible selection at very modest prices, including some around $20. The 1999 Chateau de Terriere ($22) Beaujolais Village was pleasantly fruity, but with good acid and structure. Even better was the 1999 Burgo Magredo Merlot from Italy's northeastern Friuli province. Tannic and full- bodied, it was a great value at $20.

Many restaurants of Perdix's size—particularly those in the North End—dispense with dessert after exhausting their energy in the creation of appetizers and main courses. Not Perdix. All four desserts we tried (each $6) were first-rate. The *pot au crème* was rich with intense chocolate flavor. Upside-down cake with apricots and almonds and a honey frangiapan was as delicious as it was different. Plum and ginger cake with vanilla ice cream and caramel sauce combined fruit, spice, sugar and cream in a most felicitous fashion. Finally, strawberry shortcake announced that the berry season had reached the Northeast, with juicy, plump, fresh strawberries, good shortcake and voluptuous whipped cream.

Perdix purveys its marvelous cuisine in a very humble venue. The decor is spartan—even stark—with slightly off-putting green brick walls, weathered duct work, a single ceiling fan and a lonely picture hung on one wall. Light wooden chairs, votive candles and tables with white tablecloths covered with butcher paper complete the scene. Somewhat incongruously, in view of the general low ambiance, wine is served in elegant glasses—if not Riedel crystal, then credible knockoffs—and tableware is frequently replaced. The food is served in oversized white bowls, and our waitress graciously brought an ample number of small plates for sharing. Perdix's emphasis on what goes on the tables, rather than what surrounds them, signals that this splendid eatery is in the business of encouraging diners to share, discuss and collectively enjoy the substantial creations of its kitchen. Elegant surroundings can enhance a good meal, but they cannot rescue a bad one. Conversely, great food can trump the sparest of environments, which it does at Perdix. iB

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"In The Biz Night" every Monday hosted by BackBayBeat.com while DJ Mike Janedy spins all night.


Jamie Fox and friends.

inside RACK

Every Monday Night

"In The Biz Night," hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Tuesday Night, 6pm

After-work Jazz Party featuring the band MD!

Every Wednesday Night, 6pm

Summer Reggae Party & DJ Steve Anderson.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm

"Radio-Active"

Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes or the Chad LaMarsh band, hosted by Mix 98.5's Party-Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky mixes it up 'til 2am.

Every Friday Night, 6pm

Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Every Saturday Night

Star 93.7 Dance Party with Vinnie Peruzzi broadcasting live!

Friday, August 10th, 6:30pm

Swim Across America after-party to benefit the Dana Farber Institute. Hosted by Kiss 108's Billy Costa featuring Central Basement.

Sunday, August 12th

Join the Boston Breakers to celebrate their final game of their first season. Featuring Chad LaMarsh!

Thursday, August 16th, 5:00pm

They've been saying it for years, and it's finally happened, The Rack has gone to the dogs! Dog Day Afternoon is back at The Rack! Hosted by The Improper Bostonian Magazine and Mix 98.5's Erin O'Malley and Gregg Daniels, bring your loveable pooch down to The Rack to help benefit the WSPA and MSPCA!

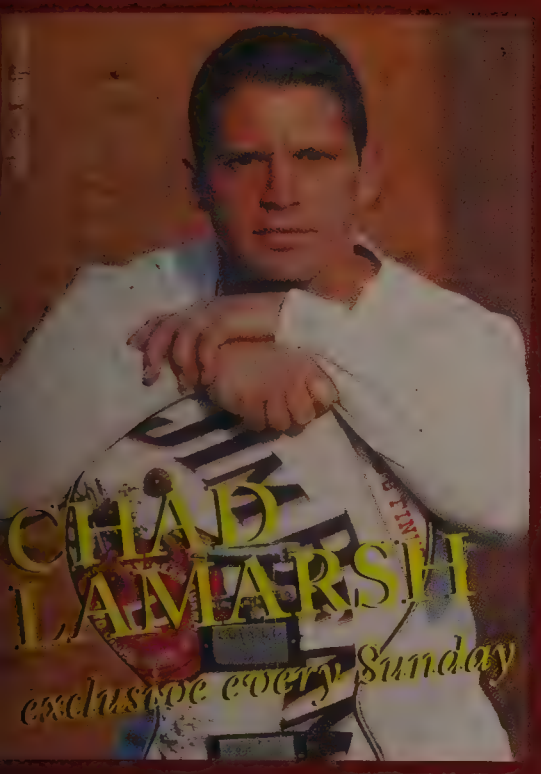
Boston's Best 1997 – Improper Bostonian
Boston's Best 1998 – Improper Bostonian
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Boston's Best 2001 – Improper Bostonian

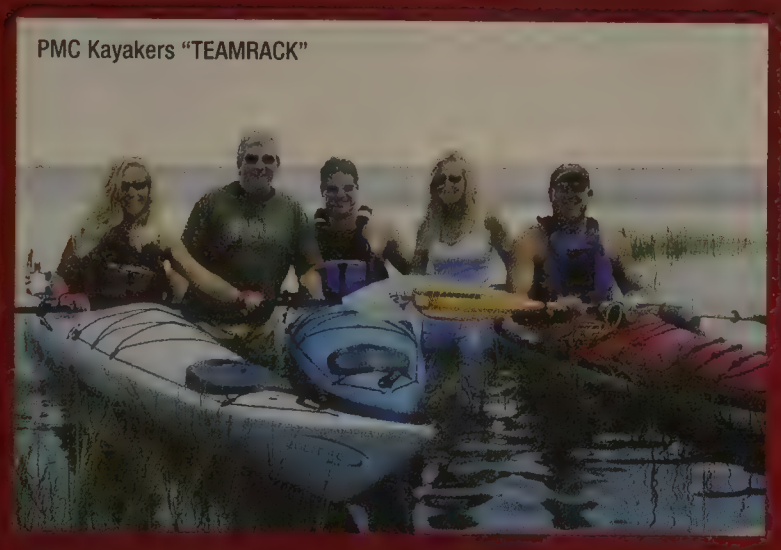

Central Basement every Friday night!

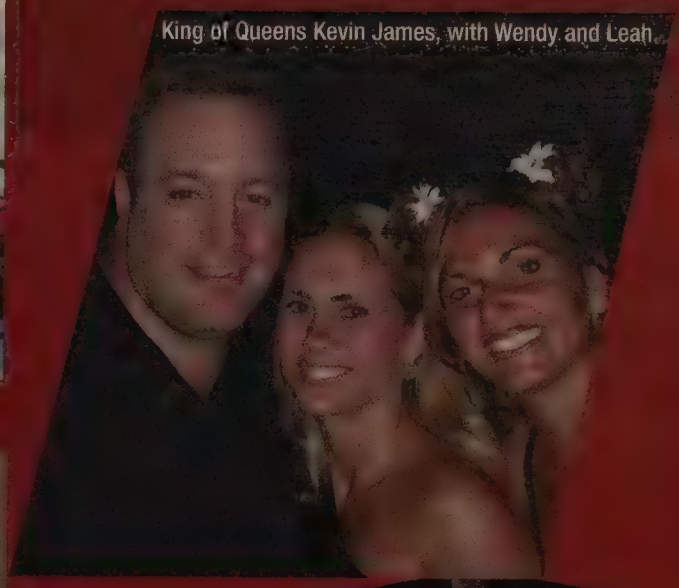


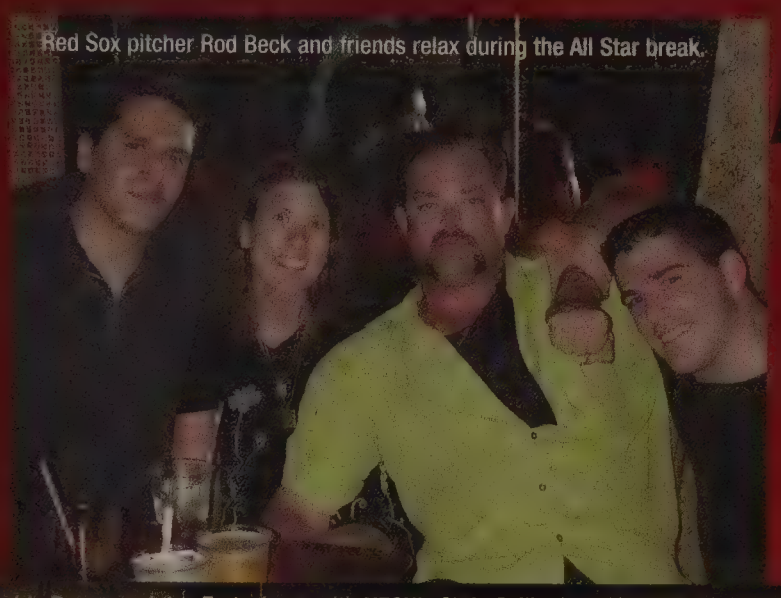
Mark Morris & The Catunes every Thursday night!


Join us for "Dog Day Afternoon" August 16

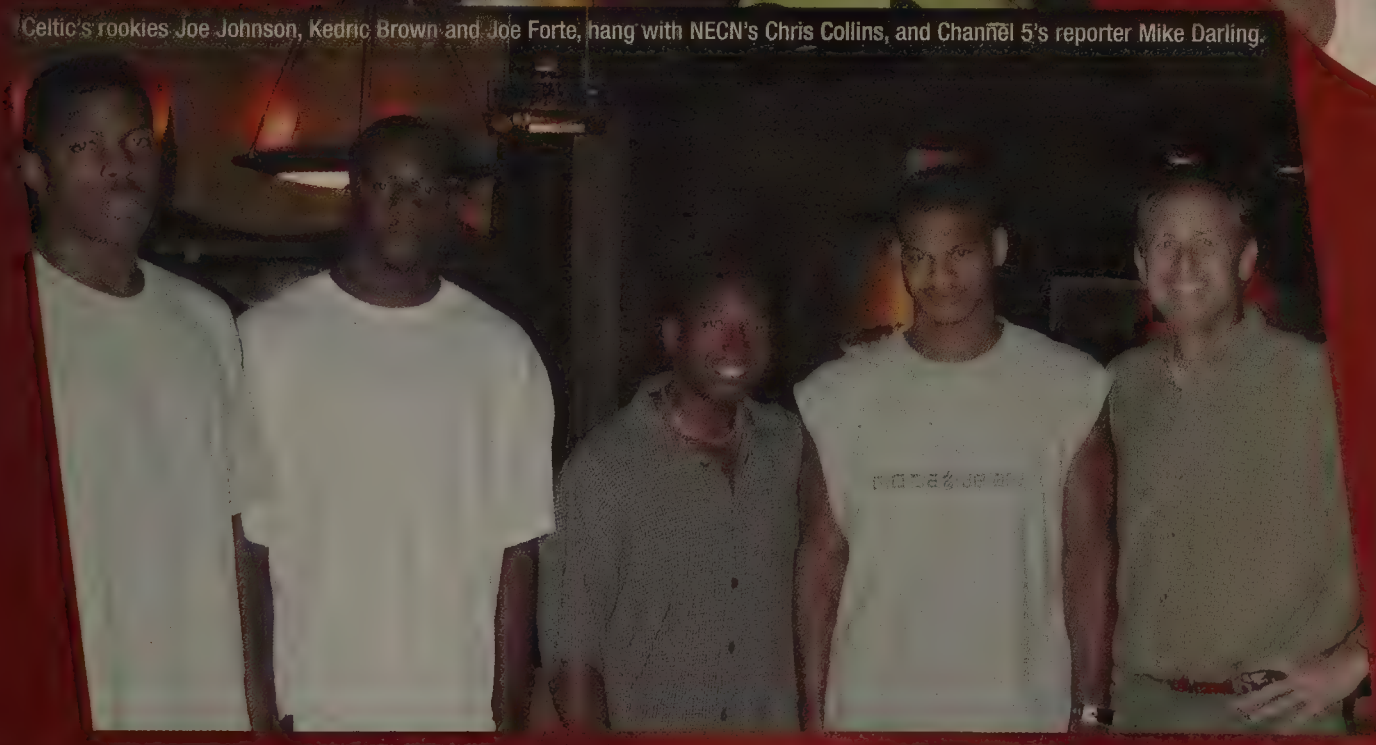



PMC Kayakers "TEAMRACK"


King of Queens Kevin James, with Wendy and Leah.


Red Sox pitcher Rod Beck and friends relax during the All Star break.


Politically incorrect's Bill Maher and friends love the Boston night life!


Celtic's rookies Joe Johnson, Kedric Brown and Joe Forte, hang with NECN's Chris Collins, and Channel 5's reporter Mike Darling.

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THE RACK

DISH

East Meets West, and Southern BBQ

Clio chills...Jake & Earl's grills...Mantra thrills

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

How do three hot chefs keep their cool when teaming up to prepare an elaborate nine-course dinner?

Simple—they don't cook. Well, hardly at all. What was billed as "East Meets West Dinner 2001" at **Clio**, starring recent James Beard honoree **Ken Oringer**, **Blue Ginger**'s **Ming Tsai** and **Ting San** of **Oishii**, turned out to be a four-hour extravaganza of raw fish, exquisite presentations and three very relaxed chefs enjoying one another's company as they graciously received compliments from guests while putting the finishing touches on their creations in a downstairs room.

At one point, Tsai surveyed the parade of diners and commented, "If everyone's down here, then no one's upstairs. And we're down here drinking beer." An exaggeration, for sure. The chefs' low-key nonchalance belied the intensity and effort that each put forth into his three courses.

For starters, Oringer's plate of Alaskan king crab, king salmon and bigeye tuna, served with a martini glass of bright green cucumber, melon and green apple broth, seemed an edible rendition of a Japanese *Alice in Wonderland*. "Drink me," said the glass with the fanciful liquid; "eat me," said the vividly colored fish.

And down the rabbit hole we went. We spent four hours sampling all kinds of Eastern delicacies: dishes garnished with origami birds and butterfly-shaped leaves; a traditional Japanese dish whose name literally translates to "lick the plate" that was generously dusted with gold sprinkles; rare treats such as a sweetly pickled mountain peach, which only grows in Japan; and inventive luxuries like chilled foie gras custard with Asian pear and yuzu salad.

Where does the "West" come into all of this? A truffle here, a Vidalia onion there...and a fine dessert that combined chocolate, chai tea ganache, green tea ice cream and sesame brittle. The winner: East.

SECOND COURSE

From the sublime to the ridiculous: After a superrefined dinner, the human need for balance must be fed with something from the opposite end of the spectrum. Something really hefty, meaty and cooked for a good long time. Which brings us to **Jake & Earl's Dixie Barbeque**. These folks will actually come to your home and cook up "whole hogs, lambs, turkeys, goats or your favorite animal" in the privacy of your own backyard. Or patio. Whatever.



The folks at Jake & Earl's in Waltham know how to do barbecue right.

Co-owner **Don Yovicsin** is willing to smoke your chosen critter on- or off-site and is open to just about any suggestion. "We'll do any animal, as long as it's legal," he says. "But no spouses or family pets."

Right place, bong time: You've heard about the "hookah den" at **Mantra**, but will *you* hunker down in the hut to smoke fruit-flavored tobacco? The den is getting lots of buzz, but I took one look at that stacked wood construction and thought two words: Lemon Pledge.

Then I ate dinner at Mantra and totally forgot about the hookah den. Transethnicity and minimalist style aside, the food can be fantastic, a smooth blend of French technique and the subtle nuances of Indian spices.

Minimalism has its downside. One recent evening, two dish-breaking incidents echoed through the hard-surfaced space. Not that the plates are special—they're plain white to showcase the food. But there's a limit to austerity, and the menu descriptions don't do the food justice when it comes to dessert. Pastry chef **Ernie Quinones**, formerly of **The Four Seasons** in Houston, is a first-rate talent. Just go, and make sure to order dessert.

Speaking of just going, check out Mantra's bathrooms. The women's stalls feature bizarre one-way mirrors, and the men's room offers a urinal full of ice cubes. Gives a whole new meaning to the term "wet bar." iB

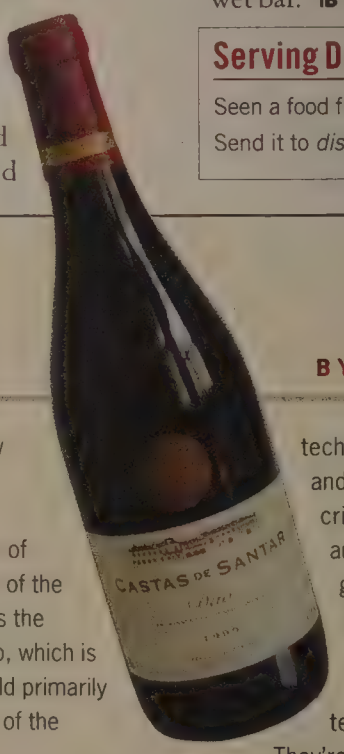
Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

European vs. New World

BY SANDY BLOCK MW



There has been a long-term battle raging for the heart, the mind and, most importantly, the wallet of the American wine drinker. On one side are the bastions of tradition, bottles with labels that proclaim production in some classic European region. Facing them are bottles identified primarily by the name of a famous grape variety. Since it's easier to know what you're getting with one of the so-called "varietal" wines, it appears that for the majority of consumers, the conflict is pretty much over. Most of us just don't care to remember more than a few terms or wine names, and asking for a chardonnay, cabernet or merlot is less taxing on the intellect than memorizing all of the geographic information provided on European labels.

Not only are the wines from the so-called "New World" outside Europe easier to pronounce--they're also easier to drink. The wines' overtly fruity flavors appeal directly to the casual palate. Compared to regions like Bordeaux, Burgundy, Champagne and the Mosel or Rhine, it's sunnier in most of the newer wine areas, and the soils are more fertile. Therefore, it's easier to ripen grapes. This all adds up to greater consistency in product quality and style. It's no wonder then that an increasing percentage of New World varietal wines (which ironically are made with grapes originally grown in Europe) are sold here every year as the market share of traditional European wines continues to slip. The trend was initiated by the ascendancy of California, but Australia and Chile (whose bottles are also named after grapes) have long since overtaken Spain, Portugal and Germany in the popularity sweepstakes. They are even fast closing the gap between themselves and traditional import leaders Italy and France. Today, although only 20 percent of the world's wine originates outside Europe, approximately 90 percent of the wine we drink in the U.S. is made by a New World wine producer.

What is the secret of their success? Establishing strong brand identities at medium price points of $8 to $15, something that the French, for instance, have not been able to do. Branded products from the U.S., Australia, Chile and other relative newcomers such as South Africa, Argentina and New Zealand, dominate sales in supermarkets and retail chains, where an increasing percentage of the wine we buy originates. One of the major exceptions from Europe is the wildly popular Italian Pinot Grigio, which is also, after all, a varietal wine sold primarily based on the market reputation of the production company.

But there is another side to the story. Traditional European wines, facing more adverse growing conditions and tighter regulations on production, offer distinctive aromas and flavors that are impossible to duplicate anywhere else. If the appeal of a branded or varietal wine is that the approximate flavors consistently match your expectations (which is not easy to achieve with an agricultural product), the appeal of Europe's classic wines is that they are strikingly and surprisingly different from one another, from place to place, year to year, and producer to producer.

Better wine is being made today in Europe largely because of vineyard and winery technology imported from the U.S. and Australia. Although some critics decry the loss of regional authenticity and a supposed growing "internationalization" of style, the classic regions are still making unique wines—but to a higher technical standard than before.

They're worth investigating. For wines under $20, I would single out French appellations like Menetou-Salon and Chinon in the Loire, Bandol in Provence, cru Beaujolais like Fleurie and Moulin-a-Vent, and Gigondas in the Rhone Valley; virtually any estate-bottled wine from the Mosel in Germany; Italian D.O.C.'s like Salice Salentino or Copertino in Apulia, Collio in Friuli, Morellino di Scanscano in Tuscany, and Rosso di Montefalco in Umbria; wines from the Dao, Douro and Alentejo in Portugal; and Spanish denominations such as Toro, Valdeorras, Priorato and Rueda. You may just find them more interesting to talk about too. iB

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

EVENTS

Beer Tasting: Beyond the Basics
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 9, 6-9pm. $44. **Jay Hersh** teaches this course that samples esoteric styles of beer.

Community Lunch Series
Aug. 3 and Aug. 10: Baker Bridge Farm, Route 126 and Bakerbridge Avenue, Lincoln; Aug. 6 and Aug. 13: West Cottage Road, Dorchester (781-259-8621). Boston-area chefs work with five youths to prepare a healthy meal. • Aug. 3: **Chris Schlessinger** of East Coast Grill; Aug. 6: **Philip Dirango** of Zathmary's; Aug. 10: **Tony Rocha** of Gala; Aug. 13: **Chef Lee** of Chef Lee's Soul Food.

Crab Fest
Skipjack's, 2 Brookline Place, Brookline (232-8887). Through Aug. 31. Feast on blue crabs from the Chesapeake Bay.

Sandemonium
Fan Pier, Boston (385-5955). Aug. 11, 7pm. $75. Enjoy a wine and seafood extravaganza at the Celebrate Seaport Festival.

Guest Chef Series at Eat
Eat, 253 Washington St., Somerville (776-2889). • Aug. 6: **Jay Paddol** of Boston Beer Works.

Local Garden Grille
Sidney's Grille, 20 Sidney St., Cambridge (494-0011). Aug. 1-15. Chef **Todd Young** shows off his talents on the grill with vegetable-only dishes, including grilled tomato gazpacho and grilled stuffed squash.

Pre-Theater Menu
Oak Room, 138 St. James Ave., Boston (267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. $85 (for two). Enjoy a three-course meal with a choice of appetizer, entrée and dessert before a show in the Theater District.

Reggae at the Summer Shack
Jasper White's Summer Shack, 149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (520-9500). Wednesdays, 7-10pm. Free. Live reggae by I-Land Rokkerz.

Seasonal Table Trio
The Seasonal Table, 61 Mass. Ave., Boston (236-7979). Fridays, 5-8pm. Enjoy a wine and cheese tasting with live classical music.

Second Sundays
Veronique Restaurant, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (312-5410). Aug. 12, 2-5pm. $20. This event for young professionals includes a tasting of Chilean and Argentinian wines and live salsa music.

Summer Guest Chef Series
Trattoria Il Panino, 295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). $85. • Aug. 6: Chef **Tommaso Lestingi** of Arcodoro in Houston, Texas.

Summertime Seafood Specialties
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Aug. 9, 6:30-9:30pm. $60. Chef **Richard Vellante** of Legal Sea Foods will teach you how to make simple seafood dishes.

Super Foods!
Giuliano Spa, 338 Newbury St., Boston (262-2220). Aug. 14, 6:30-8pm. $45. Learn how to turn life-enhancing foods like blueberries, sweet potatoes and tomatoes into gourmet creations.

Surf and Turf
The Palm, Westin Copley Place, 200 Dartmouth St., Boston (867-9292). Through Aug. 31. $95 (for two). Feast on a three-course dinner for two that includes an 18-ounce New York strip steak and a 3-pound Nova Scotia lobster.

Taste With Us
Nashoba Valley Winery, 100 Wattaquadoc Hill Road, Bolton (978-779-5521). Aug. 11, 12-5pm. Free. Taste gourmet foods paired with Nashoba Valley wines and watch cooking demos by chefs.

Vegetarian Food & Wine Lab
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). Aug. 7, 6:30-8:30pm. $50. Explore food and wine combinations as chef **Didi Emmons** refines recipes for an upcoming cookbook.

Women of West Side Night
West Side Lounge, 1680 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-5566). Aug. 7. West Side Lounge now has a female chef, general manager and owner. Gather your girlfriends for a night on the town.

TASTY TIDBIT

CLAMBAKE IN THE CITY



If you can't make it Down East this summer for your yearly fix of lobstah, there's an alternative right here in the city. Henrietta's Table in Harvard Square offers an authentic New England clambake every Thursday through the end of August. How authentic can it be without the wind whipping through your hair and seagulls crying above, you ask? Well, we gave it a try and were duly impressed.

Henrietta makes a real effort to create the genuine clambake experience, complete with plastic bibs and wooden picnic tables outside on the patio. Unwrap the steaming gauze bag to reveal a 1-1/2-pound lobster, steamers, corn on the cob and red potatoes—even strings of seaweed. One dip of a succulent clam into the melted butter and you'll be hooked. And if you can get over the fact that you're surrounded by pillars of concrete (rather than wooden shanties and towering pines), it's damn near perfect. ***Henrietta's Table, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge (661-5005). Thursdays, 7-9pm, through Aug. 30. $45.***

TANIA SCHNAPP





agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 44

PERFORMING ARTS 46

ART 48

BOOKS & POETRY 50

EDUCATION 50

FILM 52

DANCE CLUBS 56

MUSIC 58

CLASSICAL MUSIC 62

GAY & LESBIAN 64

BODY & MIND 66

CHILDREN 66

SPORTS 66

AROUND TOWN 68

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports

improper picks



OPENING WED./AUG. 15

Art: Fin de Siècle Female Artists

The Museum of Fine Arts' *American Folk* exhibition runs for only a few more days. But even if you can't make it over there before Aug. 5 for that show, it's still a good time to head over to the MFA. *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* (Aug. 15-Dec. 2), displays about 80 turn-of-the-century paintings, pastels, drawings, photographs, miniatures, sculptures, stained glass, ceramics, book covers and metalworks—all created by women. Drawn equally from the MFA's holdings, other museums and private collections, the exhibit will showcase works by both well-known artists like Lilian Hale and Anna Vaughn Hyatt, as well as lesser-known artists like Gretchen Rogers (work shown here). The show traces the history of women's contributions to the arts in Boston and explores women's choices of medium, subject matter and domestic arrangements. There are also heaps of special programs and events associated with the exhibit, including walking tours, talks, lectures, concerts and a film festival. Some of the highlights are a daylong symposium Saturday, Sept. 29, during which guest speakers from a variety of disciplines will discuss the lives and careers of women in politics, literature and the arts. (369-3498). In addition, there are walking tours around the Back Bay where female artists lived and exhibited work. *Aug. 26, Sept. 15 and 30, and Oct. 17. (369-3306).*

SAT./AUG 4

Holistic Healing

Nowadays, nobody simply "goes to the doctor." We usually have to consult our astrologer, therapist, psychic and Tarot card reader before we'll seek the advice of the doddering family physician. We want someone who looks at the big picture—someone who'll make a diagnosis based on our overall lifestyle instead of simply treating the symptoms we're experiencing. That's where holistic practitioners fit into the picture. But what exactly should we be looking for? Acupuncture? Reiki? Cranial-sacral therapy, reflexology, rolfing, chiropractic massage or organic vectorial manipulation? Find out at the **Intro to Holistic Healing Modalities** seminar at the John Hancock Conference Center, where you'll learn about all kinds of therapies. Explore the basics of nutrition and emotional counseling as the foundation for all health. *40 Trinity Place, Boston (781-891-8696). Aug. 4, 2-5pm. $125.*

DAILY

Film: Eastern Treats & Sexy Beasts

There's no doubt about it. Very few things are as blissful as an air-conditioned movie in August. Why not go see a good one? In ***Himalaya***, a cast of mostly natives render this visually stunning story of a generational power struggle for the leadership of a tiny mountain village. It's set in a far-flung village in the North-Western Himalayas, where a charismatic old chieftain refuses to allow a young warrior to lead the yak caravan in the annual winter trek that brings salt to the people and carries goods to be traded. If you're not in the mood for subtitles but still want to see a quality flick, the Coolidge is also playing British gangster thriller ***Sexy Beast,*** starring anti-Buddha Ben Kingsley, for a few more days. *Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.*

FRI./AUG. 10 & SAT./AUG. 11

Performing Arts: A Boosler of Laughs

"We definitely see more male comedians coming through Boston every year," says Colette Greenstein of the Comedy Connection. With that in mind, we take great pleasure in singing the praises of **Elayne Boosler**, who headlines at the Comedy Connection Aug. 10-11. Did we mention she's really, really funny? The Brooklyn-born writer and funny gal got her start when the late Andy Kaufman saw her singing one night between comedy acts at Manhattan's Improv, where she worked as a hostess in 1973. Kaufman took her under his wing as she began to pursue a career in comedy. It wasn't an easy journey for Boosler, though. Back in 1985, she was told "no one would watch a woman do an hour of comedy." So she decided to fund her own cable TV special, *Party of One*, on Showtime. Since then, this comedienne—who is known for her feisty and thoughtful political material— has created four other Showtime specials and has appeared on *Politically Incorrect*, *Late Night with David Letterman* and *The Tonight Show*. *245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). Aug. 10-11, 8:15 and 10:30pm. $17-$25.*



Funny gal Elayne Boosler appears at the Comedy Connection Aug. 10-11.



Jess Klein performs in the MFA courtyard Aug. 1

WED./AUG. 1, 8 & 15

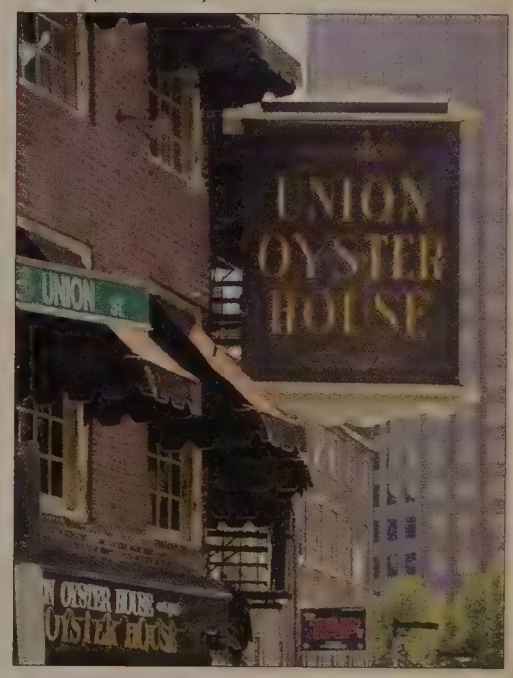
<<Music: Concerts in the Courtyard

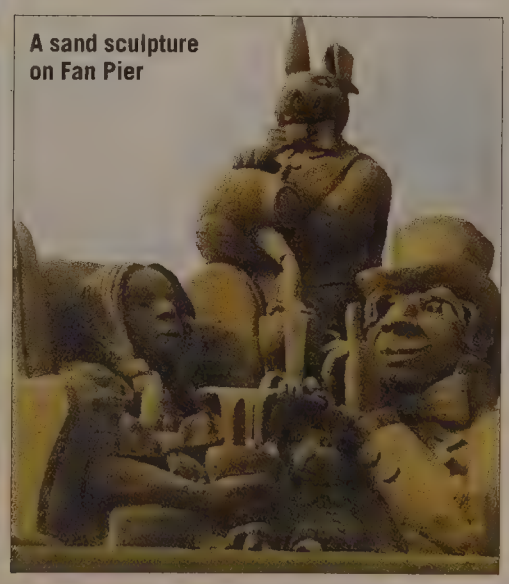
Still debating how to spend that little tax rebate? We've got a grand way to drop a Jackson or two. On Wednesday nights, the Museum of Fine Arts opens its courtyard to host a series of concerts under the stars. Bring a blanket or just relax on the lawn (limited chair seating is available as well). Or, if you really want to burn through that extra cash, try the fabulous buffet beforehand. Folk, Latin, reggae, jazz, soul—it's all part of this summer's concert series. On Aug. 1 see local pop/folk singer **Jess Klein**; Aug. 8 showcases Latina/reggae/salsa outfit **La Timba Loca**; and on Aug. 15 the large-ensemble jazz group **Either/Orchestra** takes the stage. In bad weather, concerts move inside to air-conditioned Remis Auditorium. *The music starts at 7:30pm. Tickets are $20, $16 for members, seniors and students. To charge tickets, call 369-3306. For more specific information on the series, call 369-3300. 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300).*

WED./AUG. 8

VTastings: Ye Olde Fare

Rumor has it that in the early 1800s, Daniel Webster indulged in six plates of a half-dozen oysters and then washed them down with a tall tumbler of brandy and water every day at the **Union Oyster House**. Here we can trace the beginnings of American overindulgence. But we digress. On Aug. 8, America's oldest restaurant celebrates its 175th anniversary, There will be an 8-by-16-foot cake in the shape of the restaurant, costumed characters decked out in early 1800s garb, a town crier, fife and drum music and—hold onto your wallets—a menu rollback to the original prices. Now we've piqued your interest! Yes, that means you can get a half-dozen oysters for 10 cents. ("That's 100 times less than what it costs now," says owner Joseph Milano, whose family has owned the Oyster House since 1971.) There's also oyster stew for 35 cents, fried oysters for 40 cents, fried clams for 25 cents ("It costs me twice that per clam today," adds Milano), clam chowder for 15 cents and fried scallops for 35 cents. Sample the apple pie or coffee, tea or milk for a mere nickel . And the proceeds (however meager they may be) will be donated to the Freedom Trail Foundation and the Dana Farber Jimmy Fund. The hours will be from 11am to 1pm, but "we'll serve anyone waiting in line," says Milano. *41 Union St., Boston (227-2750).*





A sand sculpture on Fan Pier

SAT./AUG. 11-SUN./AUG. 12

<<CityScope: See the Sea!

When you're stuck inside an office all day, it's easy to forget that Boston's a coastal city. Unless you work on the waterfront, it's possible to go for weeks—even months—without catching a glimpse of the swelling seas. That's why we encourage you to head to two upcoming seaside fests. On Aug. 5 in South Boston, there's the eighth annual **Castle Island Ceili**. Pronounced "kay-li," it's a gathering of traditional Irish musicians and dancers on the banks of the Boston Harbor. Regular performers include accordionists Joe Derrane, Mike Reynolds and Chris Bulger, plus fiddlers Seamus Connolly, Brendan Bulger and Larry Reynolds. Don't forget your dancing shoes. On Aug. 11 and 12, some 100,000 festive partiers will head to Fan Pier for the **Celebrate Seaport Festival**, where there will be sand sculpting by world-renowned sand artists; sailing, kayaking and hydrobiking; a farmers' market; arts and crafts; and live music. In the evening, the festival hosts Sandemonium, a wine and seafood extravaganza amid the sand sculptures. *Ceili: Castle Island Park, South Boston (268-1230). Aug. 5, 12-9pm. Celebrate Seaport: Fan Pier, Boston (385-5955). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Transfer to shuttle to Fan Pier. Aug. 11-12, 11am-6pm. Free.*

SUN./AUG 5

Music: Mountains of Music

On Sunday, Aug. 5, Grammy award winners **Bela Fleck and the Flecktones** will headline a one-day outdoor music festival at Butternut Basin Ski Area in Great Barrington. Joining them will be another Grammy winner, **Keb' Mo'**, plus Boston-based performers **Martin Sexton** and **Melissa Ferrick**, and local music collective **M.O.B**. (Musicians of the Berkshires). In addition to the music, there will be a food court with several different choices of fresh, homemade foods. Check out the assortment of craft vendors who will be selling goods made from all over the world. More information is available at *www.berkfest.com*. And if you miss this show, Bela Fleck and the Flecktones play with Keb' Mo' Aug. 11 at the FleetBoston Pavilion. *Butternut Basin Ski Area, Great Barrington. Gates open at 12pm. Tickets are $38 advance or $43 at the gate. (888-325-BERK).*

THROUGH WED./AUG. 8

Clubs: Madonna Alternatives

We admit defeat. We couldn't be roused to stand in line at the crack of dawn for **Madonna** tickets. Our friends wouldn't give us one of theirs, and the last time we checked on eBay, they were selling for up to $1,000 for a pair. We have to live with the sad fact that her latest CD is the closest we'll ever come to experiencing the Material Girl. Thankfully, there are alternatives. Madonna minus the "Ma"—**Donna de Lory**—is one of Madonna's singers/dancers, who will be promoting her own music Aug. 7 at Borders downtown at 12pm and then at the House of Blues at 9pm. Avalon is also bringing in the power tunes—with much less damage to your wallet. One alternative: Madonna's fellow '80s pop icon, **Boy George**, adds some culture to the club when he returns to the Hub Aug. 4. Then, things get Hot in the City when bleached-blond punk grad **Billy Idol** rocks Aug. 6. On Aug. 8 is the playful, jazz-funk entourage **Galactic**. Then, wind down on Aug. 10 with trance master **DJ Paul Van Dyk**. *Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (423-NEXT).*

THROUGHOUT AUGUST

Music: Entertainment Gratis

Feeling pretty broke after all those high-priced concerts, weekend jaunts to the Vineyard and numerous pairs of sandals we've purchased this summer, we're awfully glad when we stumble across a free show. WBOS offers its yearly summer concert series at Copley Square on Thursday evenings at 5:30pm. **Jonatha Brooke** performs Aug. 9, and **Sophie B. Hawkins** performs with **Blue Something** Aug. 16. Down at City Hall Plaza is another set of free concerts featuring popular music, big band orchestras, military bands and dancing under the stars. On Aug. 1, it's **Herb Reed** and the **Platters**, on Aug. 8, it's the **U.S. Air Force Jazz Band** and on Aug. 15, it's **Show Time Night**. On the Hatch Shell, there's the **Massachusetts Allstate Community Honors Band** Aug. 8 at 7pm. Also on the Hatch Shell is the WFNX Jazz Series with **Mango Blue** Aug. 5 at 5pm and **Groove Juice Symphony** Aug. 12, 5pm. And if you feel like straying a bit farther from town, pack a picnic and watch the new **Boston Landmarks Orchestra** perform at Fort George on Georges Island Aug. 11 at 2pm.

JESS KLEIN: ANDRIANA MEYER; UNION OYSTER HOUSE: SARAH KENDRIGAN

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1

Fun and Games with Sea Lions
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, (973-5206). 12 and 2pm. $50. Interact with sea lions and watch them race. Two participants per show. Runs through Sept. 12.

Dorothy Curren Concert Series
City Hall Plaza, (635-4505, ext. 6224). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 7-9pm. Free. Now in its 28th year, this series features Country Night with John Penny and Co. The series also features local youth performers.

Swingin' Under the Stars
Faneuil Hall Marketplace. South Market Street by the Red Auerbach statue. (523-1300). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 6-10pm. Free. Faneuil Hall takes on swing dancing with live bands and instructors. Swing the night away every Wednesday through Aug. 22.

THURSDAY, AUG. 2

Summer Catch Benefit Screening
Hoyts Cinema, Cape Cod Mall, Rt 132, Hyannis (508-385-6260). 7pm. $75-$150. A benefit screening of Warner Bros.' *Summer Catch* starring Freddie Prinz Jr. The event benefits the Cape Cod Baseball League and includes a special screening of the movie and a "Play Ball" celebration with games, music, and authentic ballpark food.

FRIDAY, AUG. 3

British Motor Cars
Wachusett Village Inn, 499 Mountain Road, Princeton, Mass. (978-464-2300). 10am-5pm. This weekend festival includes a British automotive and regalia auction, "valve cover racing," and a tailgate picnic competition, so bring those hibachis. To exhibit, call 401-944-0309.

SATURDAY, AUG. 4

First Night's Summer Beat 2001
Carson Beach and Moakley Park, South Boston (542-1399) 12 pm 'til dark. Free. Music and dance accompany family-oriented activities including interactive workshops, outdoor activities, stunt shows, large-scale puppets and Mardi Gras style processions. The day will conclude with fireworks.

Chinatown Festival
Chinatown, Red Line to Downtown Crossing, Green Line to Boylston(435-9590). 10am-6pm free. A festival to celebrate Chinese culture with dragon and lion dances, kung fu demonstrations, yo-yo performances and much more. There will be exhibiting businesses, organizations and vendors lining the streets with their wares.

27th Annual Antique Auto Show
Wachusett Mountain, 499 Mountain Road, Princeton, Mass. (508-829-3168). 8am-4pm. $5, children $3, under 5 free. A "chill weekend" with true classics cars from the venerated (and long-gone) Packard, oldies music, barbecue, Skyride and more.

Swim for Boston Harbor
M Street Beach, South Boston. (451-2860) registration:10:30 am, race: 12pm. $25. A celebration of the restoration of the harbor as a recreational resource. The daylong event includes a race for all ages and a beach party for children following the swim. Remember to wash up afterwards!

SUNDAY, AUG. 5

8th Annual Castle Island Ceili
Castle Island Park, South Boston (268-1230) 12-9 pm. A daylong festival featuring top Irish musicians and dancers. The event benefits the St. Augustine Food Pantry in South Boston.



Preview

That Can't Be Legal!

NECW—it's like the WWF, minus the steroids

Even if you don't wear an "Austin 3:16" T-shirt or follow the intricate rivalries of professional wrestling, on Aug. 10 you can hit the Good Time Emporium in Somerville for a dose of over-the-top wrestling entertainment. New England Championship Wrestling (NECW) will be holding its one-year anniversary event, and the scheduled match-ups promise to offer all the venom and bravado of the WWF, if not the same degree of 'roid rage.

The NECW follows the blueprint of wrestling's major leagues, even if the stars here tend to have real names instead of enigmatic monikers like The Rock (although there are a few exceptions to this, unless the NECW's Maverick Wild has some truly sadistic parents). The feuds, for instance, could come straight out of Vince McMahon's playbook. In one scheduled matchup, former WCW referee Scott Dickinson will face "Flying" Fred Curry Sr. in a special "lumberjack" match. Now, apparently there's some bad blood between these two, as Dickinson unleashed a totally illegal post-match attack on Curry at the last event. Thus the need to surround the ring with wrestlers, so that if either man tries to escape, he'll be thrown back in.

It will probably be tempting for Curry's son, "Rocket" Fred Curry Jr., to come to his father's assistance, but he'll have his own business to take care of with British aristocrat Zaquary Springate III (who, incidentally, also has an excellent ring name). Springate has called Curry "the only American in NECW I haven't beaten up yet," and we'll be rooting for Curry to represent and whup that naff wanker for the 'States.

So go smell what the NECW's been cooking. Who knows, maybe you'll get to see the next big WWF or WCW star honing his soon-to-be-famous Atomic Elbow Reverse Suplex Pile Driver. And then, years down the road, you'll be able to tell your awestruck friends, "I saw Maverick Wild at the Good Time Emporium."

NECW Birthday Bash, Good Time Emporium, 30 Assembly Square Drive, Somerville. Aug. 10, 7:30. $15. 617-628-5559, www.necwwrestling.com. —Ezra Dyer

MONDAY, AUG. 6

Multicultural Jewelry-Making Workshops
Dorothy Curran Tot Lot, Joe Moakley Park, South Boston. 10:30am-12:30pm. (635-4505, x6404). Visit the park and create your own jewelry in styles from all over the world, including India, Asia, South America, Europe and Africa. Special guest artists will conduct selected workshops to show you how to make that grizzly-claw necklace you've always wanted.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8

ParkARTS Performing Arts Festival: Boston Dance Company Best of Dance 2001 and Sooz Sing Along
Boston Common. Red and Green Lines to Park St. 10:30am. Free. (635-3445). This citywide event, centered in the Common, will bring a variety of performances, from live jazz to ballet to Boston's parks for the fifth straight year.

THURSDAY, AUG. 9

Catholic-Jewish Young Adult Council Presents: The Immigrations Experience
International Institute of Boston, 1 Milk St., Red Line to South Station. $8 includes museum admission and dessert. RSVP by Aug. 6. (457-8666). An exclusive look at the "Dreams of Freedom" exhibit. The event will include a chance to experience the challenges that faced first-generation Americans and an opportunity to discuss your own family's story.

Parrotheads Roost
Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave, Prudential Center.(267-8080). 7pm. The annual summertime "Jimmy Buffet-Lovers Parrothead Party" featuring $3 cheeseburgers in paradise, live music from the Sea Dogs and a chance to win tickets to see Buffet himself at his sold-out Tweeter Center concert.

Sangria and Salsa
Sophia's, 1270 Boylston Street. (312-5410).7:30pm-12am. $10 before 8:30. www.thejconnection.com. Join The J Connection for the 3rd Annual Sangria and Salsa at the hippest roof-deck party in town.

FRIDAY, AUG. 10

Wrestling Birthday Bash
Good Time Emporium, 30 Assembly Square Drive, Somerville. (628-5559). www.necwwrestling.com. *$15. 7:30pm.* See story at left.

Swim Boston
Rowes Wharf, Downtown Boston. (508-660-1720). . www.swimacrossamerica.org. Test your muscles as you swim with Olympians and swimming legends along the 22-mile relay-style course. Money raised benefits the David B. Perini Jr. Quality of Life Program at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

3rd Annual Singles Ball
Sheraton Four Points, Wheeler Road, Burlington (781-283-5900). 8:30-12:30pm. $15 in advance, $25 at the door. Enjoy live music, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and dancing while you mingle with other single professionals.

MFA Fridays
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org. *5:30-9:30pm. $10.* Enjoy live jazz, cocktails and fine art as you mingle with other single Bostonians.

SATURDAY, AUG. 11

Vineyard Vibes
MV Regional High School, Martha's Vineyard. 7:30pm. General Admission$15-$20 BR Creative and Berklee College of Music bring top-shelf music to Martha's Vineyard. Cruise to the island and enjoy this festival of music, while supporting the Berklee College of Music Scholarship Fund.

Harbor Cruise
Long Wharf. (277-9344). 8-11:30pm. $45. www.armnet.org/boston/cruise.html. Network and enjoy the water as the Boston Armenian Network sponsors its first Harbor Cruise, featuring a five-piece band ensemble with Mal Barsamian, an open-air top deck, complimentary mezza and cash bar.

2nd Annual "Against the Tide"
Nickerson State Park, Brewster. (781-961-7460) www.mbcc.org/swim. Join the fight against breast cancer and get some exercise doing it. Swimmers of all ages and abilities are welcome to participate in this one-mile swim, which benefits the Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition.

Celebrate Seaport
World Trade Center and Seaport Hotel, Boston. (385-5955) 7 pm Sand artists, water sports, beach volleyball, children's games and much more.

Hawaiian Romance Singles Cruise
Rowes Wharf, Boston (781-283-0400) 5-10pm $40 From 5-6:30 enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres at the Bon Voyage Party. Then ready your best (or worse) "c'monyawannalayme" line and climb aboard for a night of dancing and fun. Sponsored by The Singles Executives Club and The Young Professionals Club, this event is for those between the ages of 35-55. Island or casual attire. Space is limited.

Newport Jazz Festival
Fort Adams State Park, Newport, RI (635-4505, ext. 6224). This two-day event hosts some of the best jazz performers including Ray Charles and Natalie Cole. Featuring both classical and contemporary jazz, the festival includes nearly 20 performers and showcases both legends and rising stars.

SUNDAY, AUG. 12

Mingle with the Models
Veronique Restaurant and Ballroom, 20 Chapel Street. Brookline. www.bostoneventguide.com. *2-5pm. $20* A stylish evening with the models of model-BOSTON 2001. Argentinean Jazz, along with various Chilean and Argentinean wines, contribute to this fashionable summer celebration!

MONDAYS AT CAPRICE



Transcend yourself into the exotic world of flying carpets,chillum pipes & Buddha bar sounds. Come experience the magical world of Buddha Lounge, every Monday from 10pm as Caprice transforms into your personal harem.

Full menu served until 1 am
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Local Hero, Cancer Patient, Supported by Thousands

P.J. Terrelonge is one in a million



With treatment from Jimmy Fund Clinic doctors and staff, P.J. is doing well and is hopeful for a healthy future. He's learned at an early age what it means to help those in need. P.J. is helping raise awareness and contributions as one of two official "spokes-patients" for the 2001 Jiffy Lube/Taco Bell Value Card Program, which supports the Jimmy Fund Clinic at the world-renowned Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

His inspirational story is one of hope and determination, things we all long to see in others and in ourselves.

For more information about the Jimmy Fund please call 800-52-JIMMY or visit jimmyfund.org

The Jimmy Fund
DANA-FARBER CANCER INSTITUTE

performing arts

Advice to Contributors

Submit updated press releases by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

Cooking with Elvis
Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, Wellfleet (508-349-6835). Tue.-Sun., 8pm. Through Sept. 2. $18. This provocative and touching black comedy is about a baker named Stuart who is drawn into the life of an extraordinarily dysfunctional family—a paraplegic Elvis impersonator; his alcoholic, sex-crazed wife; his food-obsessed daughter; and the family's pet tortoise.

A Dream Play
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Unicorn Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Mon.-Sat., 8:30pm. Through Aug. 4. $20-$25. A note in playwright August Strindberg's diary called it "my most beloved play, the child of my greatest pain." In the hands of director Eric Hill, Strindberg's brilliant spiritual allegory reveals the joys and sorrows of human life.

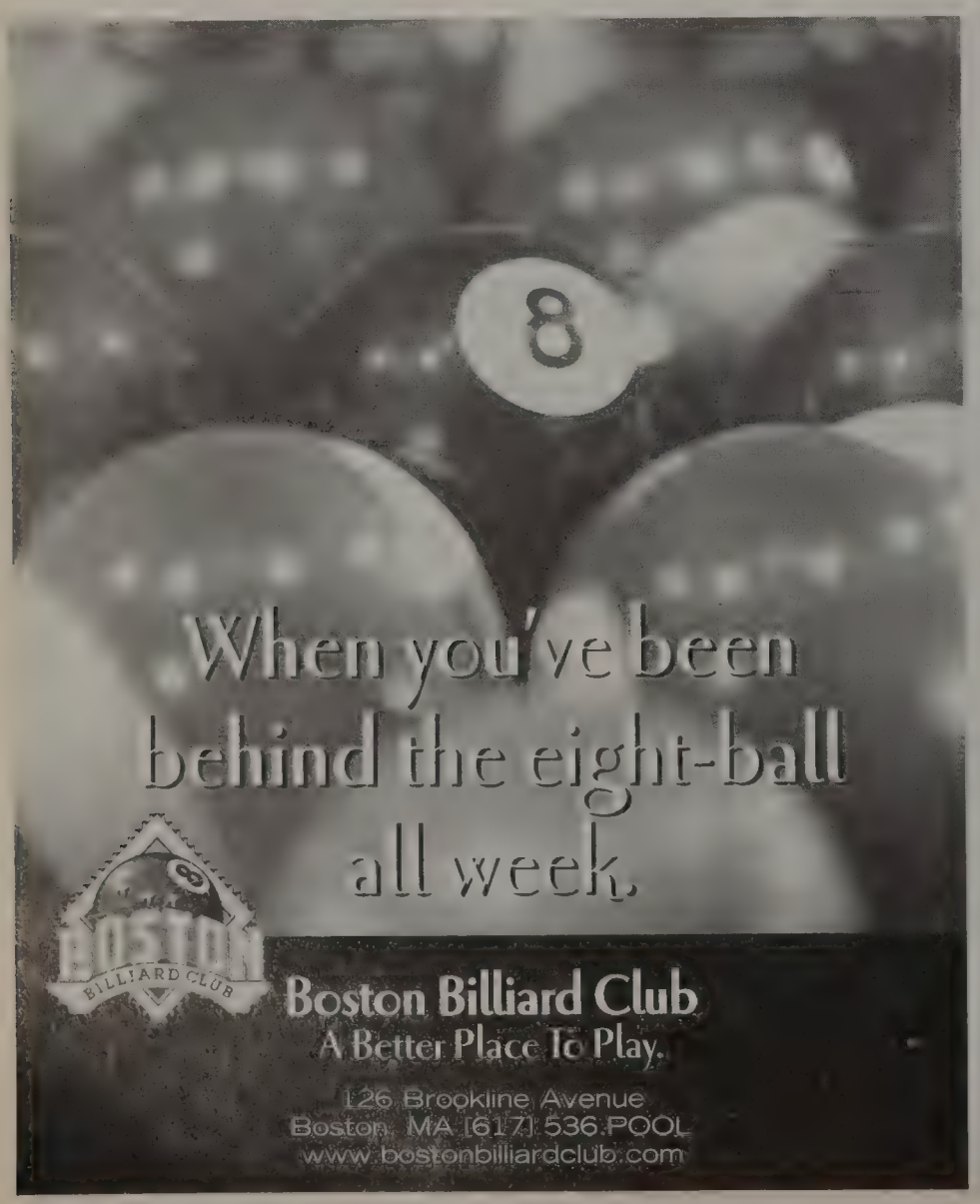
50 Years of Caddying
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Aug. 8-26. $25. Israel Horovitz's newest play is a comedy set on a golf course. The play alternates between 1951 and the present, as a racist white golfer with a black caddy finds himself in 2001, caddying for a racist black golfer.

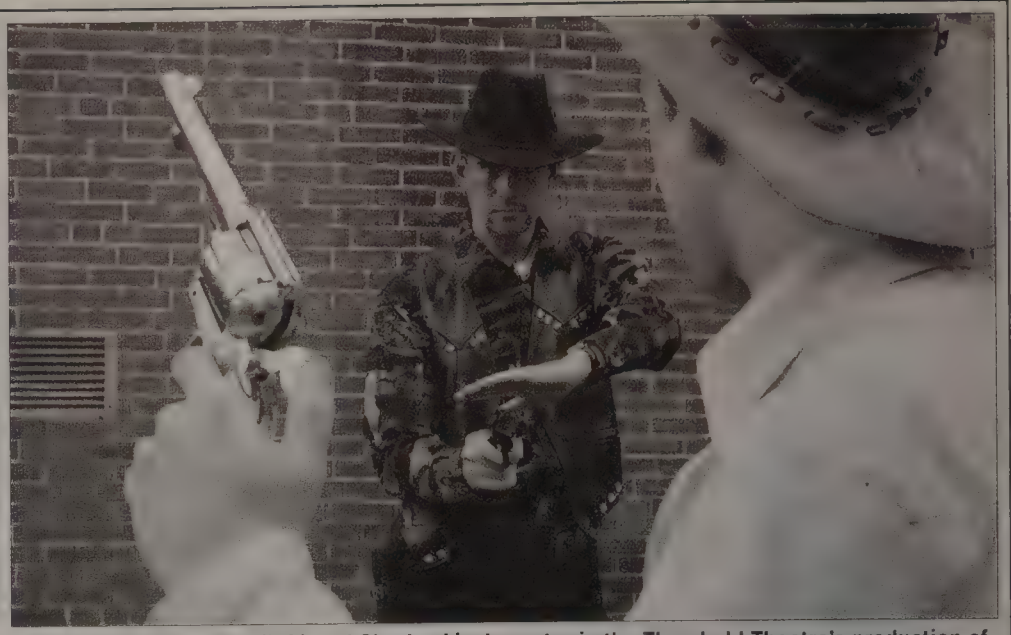
Pounds of Flesh
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Unicorn Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Mon.-Sat., 8:30pm. Aug. 9-18. $20-$25. Based on the brief period that writer Ezra Pound spent in a U.S. Army prison in Italy in 1945, this two-character revelatory world premiere examines the poet's relationship with his guard, his conscience and the war that led to his 13-year commitment in a mental hospital.

Romeo & Juliet
Harvard Radcliffe Summer Theatre at Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 2:30 and 7:30pm. Aug. 3-16. $12. In a city where conflict is defined not between two families but between two generations, two young lovers struggle to shield themselves form the chaos.

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* •Stables Theatre: *The Comedy of Errors*, through Sept. 12; *King John*, Aug. 11-Sept. 2. •Spring Lawn Theatre: *The Wharton One-Acts: An International Episode* and *The Rembrandt*, through Sept. 2. •Founder's Theatre: *Collected Stories*, through Aug. 2; *The Tempest*, Aug. 4-Sept. 1.

The Smell of the Kill
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Main Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Aug. 1-11. $26-$40. Three men practicing their putting skills in the living room are overheard by their wives in the kitchen. They're busy cooking up a bizarre stew of malice, revenge, humor and dark bittersweet spite that simmers and ultimately boils over in this black comedy.





Actors Barlow Adamson (left) and Charles Linshaw star in the Threshold Theatre's production of the *Texarkana Waltz*, which begins on the day of a man's execution for the murder of his wife.

Preview

Texarkana Waltz

A tale of love, murder and revenge in the West

In the little pond that is Boston, Kevin Fennessy is a big fish: a Hollywood hotshot with a little black book that's thicker than the Yellow Pages. But chances are, his name won't ring any bells. He's behind the scenes—the guy who casts local actors in such productions as *What's the Worst That Could Happen?*, *The Perfect Storm*, *The Love Letter* and *Me, Myself and Irene*. In his spare time, however, Fennessy directs local theater productions. This month you can see his work, a "tragecomedy set to music," as Fennessy describes it, at the Threshold Theatre. *Texarkana Waltz*, which played to sold out houses in Los Angeles and Seattle and was recently optioned for an off-Broadway run, is a comedy about love, murder, revenge and the Wild Wild West.

That's about as straightforward a description as you can get for a play that jumps between the day of a man's execution in 1977 for the violent murder of his wife, Emma, to his son's fantasies of seeking revenge in the Wild West to his daughter 's journey to retrieve her brother from a long-term stay at the Oklahoma State Mental Hospital. All along, the characters are attempting to figure something out: Why did Eddie kill Emma? How can this circle of violence be stopped?

"It's a very poetic piece," says Fennessy. "All the scenes that take place in the fantasy world of the Wild West are spoken in iambic pentameter. It sounds like prose but has the rhythm and lyricism of poetry." The show evokes images from classical tragedies like *Hamlet* (Emma seeks revenge from beyond the grave) and *Macbeth* (Emma warns, "You never get blood out. Blood don't come out. You scrub and soak, the stain remains.") The Cowboy Bob Band performs the Country Western score to Louis Broome's play, whose goal is simply to entertain. *Threshold Theatre, Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., Boston (746-4326). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Aug. 18. $17. —Julie Short*

Stop Kiss
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Aug. 9-25. $15. This tragicomedy performed by the Erinys theater group offers a provocative glimpse at how two women unexpectedly fall in love and how an act of violence transforms their lives in a way they could never have anticipated.

Texarkana Waltz
Threshold Theatre, Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., Boston (746-4326). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Aug. 18. $17. A comedy about love, murder, revenge and the Wild Wild West. See box above.

NOW RUNNING

Art
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Through Aug. 5. $25. This internationally acclaimed comedy won the 1998 Tony Award for Best Play.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Wed. and Sun., 2pm. Through Aug. 12. $18-$56. This musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice is a retelling of the biblical story of Joseph, his devoted father, his jealous brothers and his incredible series of adventures.

Love's Fire
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Aug. 11. $18. Company One will stage a collection of one-act plays inspired by Shakespeare's love sonnets and penned by such big names in theater as Eric Bogosian (*Talk Radio*), William Finn (*March of the Falsettos*), John Guare (*Six Degrees of Separation*), Tony Kushner (*Angels in America*), Marsha Norman (*'Night Mother*) and Ntozake Shange (*For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide*).

Pirates of Penzance
The Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, 1175A Soldier's Field Road, Boston (782-5425). www.publick.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, transfer to #86 bus to Market Street. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through Aug. 12. $15-$25.* The Publick Theatre reprises Gilbert and Sullivan's hilarious lampoon of slavishness to duty.

KRIS RODAMMER

Pirates of Penzance
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Aug. 19. $21. A fun-filled tale of swashbuckling pirates, maidens in distress, madcap cops and more.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Twelfth Night
Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, Boston (423-7600). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Aug. 4. Free. Shakespeare's comedy follows the misadventures of a lovesick maiden who, disguised as a boy, is obliged to woo her own rival in love.

COMING SOON

Dralion: Cirque du Soleil
Suffolk Downs, Route 1A and 145, East Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. *Tue.-Wed., 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 5 and 9pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 5pm. Beginning Aug. 15. $38-$60.* A two-hour circus-art spectacle, fusing ancient Chinese acrobatic tradition with the avant-garde approach of Cirque du Soleil.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Beginning Aug. 16. Through the storytelling magic of the songs of ABBA, Donna, a feisty 40-something single mom, recalls distant memories of carefree days and nights while her daughter Sophie dreams of tradition, romance and a big, white wedding.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

Dance

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival
Ted Shawn Theatre, 358 George Carter Rd., Becket (413-637-1322). Aug. 1-5, 8pm. $40. Noche Flamenca returns from Madrid to celebrate flamenco with dance, song and live music. *Aug. 8-12, 8pm. $40.* Doug Varone and Dancers performs *Ballet Méchanique.*

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival
Doris Duke Studio Theatre, 358 George Carter Rd., Becket (413-637-1322). Aug. 2-5, 8pm. $40. Urban Tap, directed by Herbin "Tamango" Van Cayseele, combines freestyle tap, hip-hop, African and Brazilian dance and live music. *Aug. 9-12, 8:15pm. $20.* Joe Goode Performance Group tells stories with movement, song and text in *The Best of Joe.*

Ride
Red Pony Farm, West Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard (508-645-7884). Aug. 2-4, 8pm. $20. Internationally recognized choreographer Paula Josa-Jones combines the centuries-old classical tradition of dressage with aerial and modern dance in an equestrian dance-theater performance.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info. to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy. •Saturdays, 9:30pm-12am: Larry Lee Lewis Rock 'n' Roll Comedy Band and Boston's finest comedians.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Aug. 1, 8pm: Joe Yannetty, $10 •Aug. 2, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Aug. 3, 8:15 and 10:45pm: John Valby, a.k.a. Dr. Dirty, $18 •Aug. 4, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Mike Donovan, Tony V. and Harrison Stebbins •Aug. 5, 7pm: Tony V., $10 •Aug. 6, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Aug. 7, 8pm: Robbie Printz, $10 •Aug. 8, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •Aug. 9, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Aug. 10-11, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Elayne Boosler from HBO's *Women of the Night*, $17-$25 •Aug. 12, 7pm: Tim McIntire, $10 •Aug. 13, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Aug. 14, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Aug. 2: Tim McIntire's Thursday Night Fights with guests Adam Koppell, Mindi Fay, Kelly McFarland and the comedy troupe WAKKA. •Aug. 3: The Brendon & Larry Show with guests Ben Joplin, Pat O'Shea, Chris Walsh, Steve Schnaps, Ben Murray and Brendan Trainor. •Aug. 4: Brian Olsen, Ben Joplin, Pat O'Shea, Sean Lily, TJ Griffin, Julie Mason and Mike Dunphy. •Aug. 5: Comics Workout with Mikko Von Ronne, Ira Proctor, Steve Calechman, Dan Newbower, Arthur Januario, Jason Roeder and James Medeiros. •Aug. 9: The Tim McIntire Show with Dave Hutchings, Dan Savage, Greg Rodrigues and the comedy troupe WAKKA. •Aug. 10: Brendon & Larry star with guests Jan Davidson, Chris Walsh, Amanda White, Michelle Pierce and Lois McCormack. •Aug. 11: Brent Sverdloff, Benari Poulten, Ben Boime and Adrian Tung. •Aug. 12: Comics Workout with Paul Shea, Jeff Goldberg, Robert Hagearty, James Cennamo, Katie Grady, Mike Baker and Stephanie Wishnick.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$14. •Aug. 2, 8:30pm, and Aug. 3-4, 8:45pm: Tony V, Rick Berretta, P.J. Walsh •Aug. 9, 8:30pm, and Aug. 10, 8:45pm: Patty Ross, Brian Kiley and Craig Rodriguez •Aug. 11: Patty Ross and Brian Kiley.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro ($5) • Fridays, 8pm: Boston Creem; 10:30pm: Theatre Sports •Saturdays, 8 and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree ($5).

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

Don't Stress, Loretta's Here
Aug. 3: Cape Cod Melody Tent, 11 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100). Aug. 12, 8pm: South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400). $24.50. Loretta LaRoche, known for her stress-free performances "Relax, You Only Live Once" and "The Joy of Stress," performs a one-woman show.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

R.E.A.L. Theater
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Aug. 12, 8:30pm. $25. The R.E.A.L. theater troupe performs comedies by Israel Horovitz.



art

Advice to Contributors
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Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •The museum shows *Streams and Mountains Without End: Landscape Paintings from China, Korea and Japan*, through Aug. 26. *The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of Middle Eastern and Southern Asian depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*International Children's Books* show through Aug. 31. •*Wish You Were Here*, a collection of 200 postcards dating back to the 1900s, shows through Aug. 31.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). •The museum's permanent collection of 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century European and American art is on display, as well as an extensive sampling of distinct cultural pieces from around the world.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. •*Welcome to the House of Art*, a giant installation by Todd McKie, is an ongoing display. •In *Abstract Expressionism/Figurative Expressionism: Common Ground*, the museum uses its new wing to highlight works from its own collection. Ongoing. •The DeCordova's *Annual Exhibition* shows through Sept. 3. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is a new ongoing exhibit. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* explores the darker side of imagination. Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustration* is a companion exhibition to *Terrors and Wonders*, exploring monsters in children's literature and the cultural traditions they represent. Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. •*Water: Photographs from the Permanent Collection* is a collectin of interpretations of water from the Eastern Seaboard. Through Sept. 3. •In *A Garden of Unearthly Delights*, outdoor American sculptor Wendy Ross displays some of her work. Through June 9, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. •*Verso: The Flip Side of Master Drawings* exhibit demonstrates how the masters used both sides of the sheet. Through Aug. 12. •In *Precision and Prestige: The Arts of Engraving*, the museum displays mundane and artistic examples of engraving. Aug. 11-Dec. 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these delicate creatures. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors. •The ICA displays defining images of social change in postwar America in *The Social Scene*, an exhibition of documentary photography. Through Sept. 30. •Korean-born Nikki S. Lee shows *Nikki S. Lee: Projects* through Sept. 20. Her show features performance-based photographs where the artist changes roles and swaps identities to become the subject of her art. •The ICA Artists-in-Residence at Boston National Historical Park program presents *Conspire*, which examines Boston's most important historic sites and the role each played in the founding of the nation. Through Oct. 14. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm. The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. Through Sept.16.

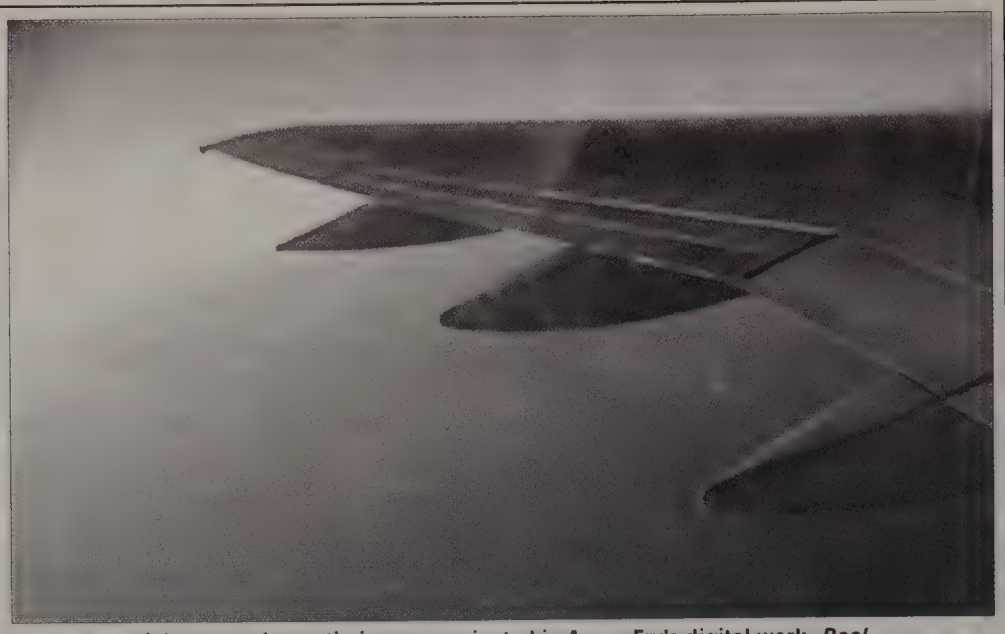
MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive exhibits take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic*, displays a selection of holograms from the museum's collection (the world's largest). Ongoing. •*Thinkapalooza*, the museum's new interactive zone, is ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*American Folk*, the first major exhibition of folk art at the MFA, showcases portraits, quilts, furniture and more to provide a look at life in 19th-century America. Through Aug. 5. •*Takashi Murakami: Made in Japan* is on view through Sept. 3. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings and his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 19.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org. *Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm.* •*If These Walls Could Talk* is a traveling exhibit that explores buildings throughout history as artifacts of human existence. Through Sept. 3. •The *Current Science and Technology Center* showcases the very latest innovations and discoveries. Ongoing. •The current Omni Theatre film is *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*. Shackleton explored Antarctica in a doomed ship called *Endurance*, which is the name of the concurrently running exhibition. Through Sept. •Now showing in the Omni Theatre is the incredible *Journey into Amazing Caves*, which lets moviegoers squeeze into the subterranean world of the spelunker. Through September.

The Revolving Museum
300 A St., Boston (493-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Hours by appointment. •There are no ongoing exhibits until Aug. 17, the opening of *Disturb Delight Design*, an invitational show. Through Aug. 20.



Above, one of the monochromatic images projected in Aaron Fry's digital work, *Real*.

Preview

Outside the Box

The Gallery @ Green Street presents a digital kaleidoscope of thought-provoking images

Aaron Fry's new digital installation, *Real*, is designed to be an endlessly changing artwork. Using stills from his hand-held video, Fry assembles an array of images from around the world, capturing details from many sources: postcards, street scenes, museum displays and billboards. Those images are constantly shuffled and placed in new contexts through their juxtaposition with other images. The never-ending number of combinations create what Fry calls a "matrix of associations." The effect is meant to frame urban environments in different ways and explore the way common objects have the capacity to shape people's behavior. If you're confused, don't worry. There's no single "right" interpretation, according to Fry. The experience is intended to be different for everyone, and each person will take away a different meaning. The exhibition is the third annual of its kind at the gallery, and it is visible night and day through the gallery's windows. *Aug. 15-Sept. 12. 141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street.* —Leah Gourley

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.- Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Tea in Fantasy*, an exhibition of artistic teapots, shows through Aug. 3. •

Allston Arts District
Allston Branch of the Boston Public Library, 300 N. Harvard St., Allston (787-6313). Mon. and Wed., 12-8pm; Tue. and Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •The newest branch of the BPL opens with an *Inaugural Exhibition*, featuring 21 artists and three galleries from the Allston area. Through Oct. 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •The gallery is closing its Allston location and is opening a new gallery in the South End in September.



Tina Dietz's *Chrysanthemum (Red)* shows at Elias Fine Art.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •A collection by gallery artists will show through mid-August.

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*People, Places and Plants* is an exhibit of works by Alice Denison and Kate Ledogar. Through Aug. 10. •*Constructions* is a multimedia, international exhibit. Aug. 20-Sept. 28.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Through August, *Gallery Group Show* is on display.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •The gallery is closed through Sept. 3. •Kate Shepherd's *Like Colors* shows Sept. 15-Oct. 17.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Call for hours in August. •Works from the gallery's collection are on ongoing display.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*Dazzling!*, paintings by Steven Charles, Aaron Parazette and Susie Rosmarin, shows through Aug. 3. •The gallery is closed for the rest of August. • The exhibit *New Prints*, by Carl Fudge, shows Sept. 5-29.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., 4th Floor (585-0250). www.thebac.edu/exhibits. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •David DeCelis shows a selection of still-life paintings and tables he's designed. Through Sept. 17. •*Works on Paper*, an annual faculty exhibit, shows Sept. 20-Oct. 5.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. •*The Chicken Show*, an exhibition of poultry-related art, shows through Sept. 16.

Boston College McMullen Museum of Art
Devlin Hall, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 11am-3pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. Free. • New England artists contributed to *House: Changed Space*. This exhibition of various media explores the interiors and exteriors of residential buildings. Through Sept. 16.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •The gallery is closed throughout August. •*Members Group Show* opens Sept. 5.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •The center is closed in August.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Glass Evolution—Established and New Talent* focuses on work by seven young artists. Through Sept. 6.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •A group exhibition of gallery artists shows through August.

Compton Gallery
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. Free. •*Beyond Appearances: Imagery and Science at the Millennium* shows through Aug. 3.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm. •The *New Members Show* is a collection of works by the society's newest artists. Through Aug. 18.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •*STARS: 8 Gallery Artists* reviews six artists shown at the gallery since its opening two years ago, as well as two new artists. Through Aug. 15. •The gallery will be closed for the remainder of August.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •The gallery shows work depicting Boston scenes by local artists. Ongoing.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Thu., Sat., 10am-6pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •Fifteen-year-old Romanian art prodigy Alexandra Nechita displays her work through August. •Roderick O'Flaherty presents *Scenes of New England* through Aug. 30.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St., Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •David Piennonte shows his work in *Photo Synthesis—A Transcendence of Light*. Through Aug. 25. •Carol Whorf Wescott presents *New Paintings from Provincetown*. Aug. 28-Sept. 29.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Solo show *Tina Dietz: Blumen und Falten* by Viennese photographer Tina Dietz shows through Aug. 11. •The gallery will be closed until Sept. 13. It then reopens with *The Margin*, new photographs by Oscar Palacio. Through Oct. 22.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has a collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. Ongoing.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Girls and Swirls* and *Hoarded Intuitions* show with a selection of sculptures through Aug. 3. •From Aug. 6-16, the gallery will be closed. •*Ideas in Things* shows Aug. 24-Sept. 28, featuring work by Hedya Klein and Heimo Wallner.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •New sculptures by Paul Meneses and Steve Novick show in *Completely Fabricated*. Through Aug. 12. •*Real*, a multimedia installation by Aaron Fry, will be visible 24 hours a day from outside the gallery. Aug. 15-Sept. 12.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Masters of Impressionism* shows through Aug. 31 and features renowned artists Mary Cassatt, Edgar Degas and Edouard Manet.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •The gallery is open by appointment in August.

Gallery 79
79 Newbury St., Boston (262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •The gallery exhibits photography by Grace Hopkins-Lisle through Aug. 17.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* •There is an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Genovese Sullivan Gallery
47 Thayer St., Boston (426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. MBTA: Orange Line to N.E. Medical Center. •A group show of gallery artists shows through Aug. 3. •The gallery will be closed for the remainder of August.



***Historic Gloucester*, by Charles Movalli, shows through Aug. 15 at the Judi Rotenberg Gallery, along with works by Robert Gruppé.**

Gibbs Gallery
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm. •Cambridge artist Kate Ledogar shows her figurative oils and portraits through Aug. 10.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •A collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early 20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •The gallery's collection of 18th- and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Adults Only* shows through Aug. 15. •*Open Season*, a group show, opens Sept. 8. Through Oct. 13.

Harvard's Holyoke Center
1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (495-5214). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 7am-9pm; Sun., 7am-6pm. •Images of Our World, travel photography by Cambridge photographer Don Gurewitz, shows through Aug. 29. The show's emphasis is on Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm. •A group photographic portrait show is on display through Aug. 18.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment.* •The gallery has an ongoing display of art of the Pacific, Africa, Asia, the Americas and the ancient world.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. *First Class Ticket* features 50 original vintage travel, transportation and entertainment posters. Through Sept. 3. •A display of selected vintage posters is ongoing.

John Stobart Gallery
113 Lewis Wharf, Boston (227-6868). Tue.-Fri., 10am-6pm. Sat. and Sun, 12-6pm. •Celebrating the Port of Boston and its maritime heritage, the Boston Waterfront Art Exhibition and Sale will display art depicting notable Boston scenes. Through Aug. 28.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Cape Ann Classics* shows, portraying the North Shore through the eyes of local artists Charles Movalli and Robert Gruppé. Through Aug. 15. •Ralph Wolf will show works through September.

Kaji Aso Studio
Kaji Aso Studio Institute for the Arts, 40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (247-1719). By appointment. •A show of gallery selections will be ongoing through August.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (423-4113). Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm. •The gallery is closed for the month of August.

Little White Box Gallery
Revolving Museum, 288 A St., Boston (439-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.littlewhitebox.org. *Open by appointment.* •The gallery is closing in August and will be announcing its new location soon.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Summer Salon* features landscapes, still-lifes, figures and abstractions. Through the end of August.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729). www.mediagallery-online.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •*Film*, a multimedia show, features work by Stephen Sheffield, Jodie Sinclair, Lisa Conrad, Andrew Brilliant and Kyssa. Opens Aug. 16



Media Gallery shows *Self Portrait of a Man*, a mixed-media piece by Stephen Sheffield.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., Boston (859-0054). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •The gallery is closed for the month of August.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Karl Viksnin's *Thresholds* is on view through Aug. 18.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Land, Sea and Beyond*, a group show of landscape paintings, shows through Aug. 5. •*New Work, a* collection of landscapes by Gail Bessette, shows Aug. 9-Sept. 24.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*In the Spirit of Landscape VI*, an invitational group show of landscape paintings, runs through Aug. 4.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. • Fabian Birgfeld's triptych photographs show in *Public Spaces: Private Spheres* through Aug. 18. •The gallery is closed through September.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •A solo show by artist Julie Pepper shows through Aug. 31. •A rock 'n' roll, spoken-word benefit will be held Aug. 18, 8pm, downstairs at the Middle East, featuring AM Stereo, Cheerleadr, Machinery Hall, C60, Duncan Wilder and Nola Kelley. $12.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Bradford Johnson, Lance Keimig, Ron Rumford and Thomas Tietjen present a summer group show. Through Aug. 17.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Fine Choices: Objects* focuses on the artistic object as a source of beauty and interest. Through Sept. 4.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The teahouse, which serves delicious tea, also specializes in antique Yixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •The exhibit of *American 19th and 20th Century Watercolors and Pastels* is ongoing. •Also showing is *Old Master and 19th Century Drawings*. Ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *Call for gallery hours.* •The gallery will be showing contemporary American photographs by the same artists featured in the ICA's *Social Scene* show. Through August.

Rolly-Michaux Gallery
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics*, fine lithographs and etchings, shows through Aug. 31.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. •The *Undergraduate Student Exhibition* displays through September.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* •With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*. •A selection of work by artists from Northern Ireland, France, Vietnam, Cuba and Boston is ongoing.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bpl.org/www/branches/south end.html. *Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-2pm.* •Danette English's *Falling and Floating* shows through Sept. 4.

SPNEA Gallery
One Bowdoin Sq., Boston (227-3956). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. www.spnea.org. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm.* •The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques presents *Boxes, Open and Shut*. Discover what an icebox, snuffbox and lunch box have in common. Through Sept. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •A selection of paintings by William St. George is on ongoing display. •*Florals and Abstracts* shows through Aug. 31.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (876-0246). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-1pm. •*Translating the Epiphany* shows through Sept. 5.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.vosegalleries.com. *Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •A selection of watercolors and oils by Aiden Lassell Ripley shows through Sept. 1.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9am-5pm, daily. •Student work will show through August.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Photographs from the Gallery Archives* show through Sept. 15.

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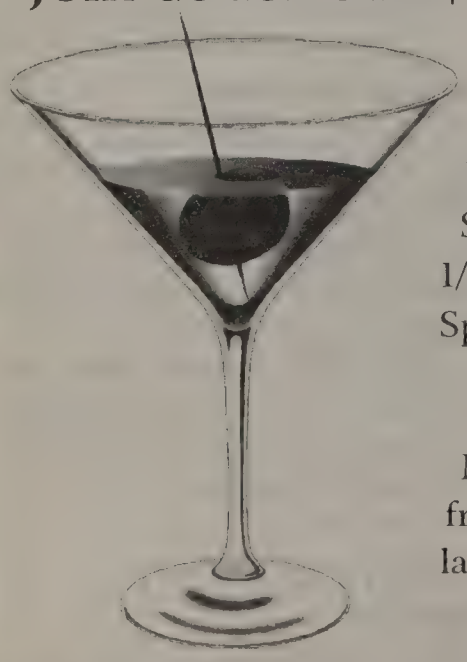
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books& poetry

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Every summer we are faced with a dearth of literary happenings in the city, as national authors take tour breaks and local writers head to greener, more inspiring pastures. So this year, we've taken it upon ourselves to make a literary contribution of our own—we are dedicating an entire issue to celebrating local fiction. As part of our first ever Literary Boston issue, we are inviting all local authors (residing in Massachusetts) to submit a short work of fiction (no more than 2,500 words) by Sept. 1. Entries should be original works that have never been previously published. Our panel of judges will review stories for originality, vividness and compelling themes. The winning author's story will be published in our Sept. 26 issue. Plus the skilled scribe will be saddled with a slew of fun prizes. Send your story to us at THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN (attention: Fiction Contest), 142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116.

READINGS & SIGNINGS

THURSDAY, AUG. 2

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). 7pm. **Philip Gourevitch**, author of *We Wish to Inform You That Tomorrow We Will Be Killed with Our Families: Stories from Rwanda*, reads from his latest novel, *A Cold Case*, the true story of a New York investigator's pursuit of a murderer.

MONDAY, AUG. 6

Benefit for the Out of the Blue Gallery
Out of the Blue Gallery, 186 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (781-237-8857). 8-11pm. $4. The Out of the Blue Gallery hosts an open-mike session for fiction and poetry. Cambridge author **Andrew Stone** reads from his novel, *All Flowers Die.* **Gigi Phillips** reads from her novel, *Dealmaker.* It is hosted by **Timothy Gager** and **John Baily**.

TUESDAY, AUG. 7

Barnes & Noble Framingham
One Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-626-2823). 7:30pm. **Wen Spencer** reads from her new sci-fi book, *Alien Taste*, a tale of a boy who has exceptionally keen senses because he was raised by wolves.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, First Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. First Tuesday of the month. 8-11pm. $3. sign-ups at 7pm. Every First Tuesday is a poetry session.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East. 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1

Making Media Tools Work for You
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7:30-9:30pm. Examine the various messages we receive from magazines, television shows, film and the Internet.

Adult Internet Class
Adams Street Branch Library, 690 Adam's St., Dorchester (436-6900). 6:30pm. Preregistration required. Anyone with basic computer skills can learn how to use search engines and Web addresses to better understand the benefits of the Internet.

FRIDAY, AUG. 3

Big Dig Walking Tour
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (589-0438). 2-4pm. $20-$24. Walk from Track No. 1 to the Charles River Dam with the expert guides of Boston by Foot and discover the engineering and innovation behind the controversial project that will free up 27 acres of land in the middle of Boston.

MONDAY, AUG. 6

The Complete Course on Getting Organized
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (781-453-9800). 7-9pm. $25-$35. Get expert advice from **Greg Marsello** on how to take control of your life, save time and space, get your finances in order and manage your paperwork.

Interface Design: Effective Web Pages
Interactive Factory Workshops, 368 Congress St., Boston (426-0609). 9am-4pm. $400. Learn how to choose effective design and content options for your Web site.

Online Stock Trading
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-8pm. Personal finance advisor and licensed stockbroker **Maureen Igoe** will lead you into the world of online trading through lectures and hands-on experience with the most user-friendly sites.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8

Consuming Technology
Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge St., Boston (227-3956). 12:15pm. Free. **Cheryl Robertson** discusses the revolution in domestic comfort, hygiene, functionality and novelty items for the home between 1850 and 1900.

THURSDAY, AUG. 9

Landscaping in Three Easy Phases
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (781-453-9800). 7-9pm. $29-$39. In three easy steps you can turn an empty lot into the yard of your dreams with the help of instructor **Monique Allen**.



Monique Allen discusses landscaping Aug. 9

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BOSTON'S BEST 2000
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BOSTON'S BEST 2001
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Film

LIP-SYNCH SERVICE

Jackpot sings the karaoke blues. BY PAUL SHERMAN

Mark and Michael Polish used the title *Jackpot* one movie too late. While the brothers hit a creative bonanza with 1999's *Twin Falls Idaho*, their follow-up is more like a "snake eyes" you'd rather just forget. Compared with the uncanny ability of *Twin Falls Idaho* to specifically convey the emotional worlds of its characters, *Jackpot* is frustratingly unspecific and unable to make that emotional connection.

Much like the collaboration between Joel and Ethan Coen, once again Michael directs; Mark co-writes and co-produces. Their second release is a road movie about a singer named Sunny (Jon Gries) and his manager (Garrett Morris), who kick around the bottom rungs of showbiz. But we're given very little background information about Sunny or his manager, no hint of why or how they've been thrown together and—fatally—no idea why they stay together. *Jackpot* never answers the question of why a down-and-out singer who tries to scrape together a living by winning karaoke contests actually needs a manager in the first place.



Jon Gries plays *Jackpot*'s karaoke-singing cowpoke.

As some sort of compensation or alternative to the lack of character development, *Jackpot* indulges in a nonlinear, quick-cut structure that moves between Sunny and the important people in his life: his manager, the wife (Daryl Hannah) and child he left behind and his lawyer brother (Rick Overton). When the cut-ins with the wife and brother start happening, though, you don't know who they are, and the movie's eventual revelations don't offer enough of a payoff to make the jigsaw structure work.

What's worse (and is in complete contrast to *Twin Falls Idaho*), is that *Jackpot* not only doesn't make you sympathize with its characters, but it can't even make you care enough to dislike them. The singer shows little talent (except when he sings to a George Jones song) and the manager has no sense, thinking the path to stardom starts at karaoke bars in the boonies. Instead of being likable dreamers, each of these guys comes off as a fool for putting any faith in the other.

Some more interesting characters inject themselves into the story as the singer and manager travel mid-America: the club manager played by Peggy Lipton (another blowsy blonde, like her *Twin Peaks* hash-slinger); the barfly to whom Crystal Bernard gives a sad dignity; and the karaoke competitor played by Mac Davis. But those characters are in and out in minutes. Meanwhile, a sequence in which the singer encourages the flirting of Bernard's underage daughter (Camillia Clouse) never moves beyond cliché.

While promoting *Twin Falls Idaho*, the Polishes had talked of next making a larger-scaled period piece about the flooding of a town for a water-dam project. Maybe the sudden switch to this more stripped-down production is why *Jackpot* feels incomplete, like a work in progress. How else to explain it making *Duets*, last year's underachieving Hollywood karaoke movie, look good? How else to explain a movie in which someone sings karaoke to Cheap Trick's "I Want You to Want Me" *not* being fun?

One of the few strengths of *Jackpot* is its imaginative casting. From original *Saturday Night Live* regular Morris (who was also in *Twin Falls Idaho*), TV faces like Lipton and Bernard, comedian Overton (in a straight role), former star Hannah, veteran singer-actor Davis and *E.R.* star Anthony Edwards, the Polish brothers have cleverly picked and chosen. But *Jackpot* is only a success technically. Filmed on high-definition video, this is easily the best looking of the recent digital-video movies, looking every bit as sharp and clear as film. In fact, the visuals are as sharp and clear as the story is dull and vague. iB

Jackpot ★½

Directed by Michael Polish. Written by Mark and Michael Polish. With Jon Gries, Garrett Morris, Daryl Hannah, Peggy Lipton, Crystal Bernard, Rick Overton and Anthony Edwards. Rated R. Sony Pictures Classics.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

A.I. ★★
Steven Spielberg writes and directs the futuristic drama that the late Stanley Kubrick had developed for years but never got around to filming. Who knows what the Kubrick version would have been like, but it sure seems Spielberg has missed the point. It's about a robot boy (Haley Joel Osment) who's been programmed to love his adoptive mother (Frances O'Connor). After getting separated from her (thanks to the cruelty of humans) and after having to live in the robot underground (thanks to the cruelty of humans again, who hunt stray robots for sports entertainment), he starts the centuries-long process of trying to become a "real boy," because then his mother will love him more, so his logic goes. This live-action Pinocchio story is laboriously doted upon, and the movie limps to its very overextended climax, a supposedly feel-good resolution. Somehow, with all the cruelty of humans on display, Spielberg presents the robot's transformation into one without any hint of irony, seemingly ignoring the more Kubrick-like first half of his own movie.

America's Sweethearts ★★½
Like the marriage of its fictitious movie stars, this romantic comedy and Hollywood satire is very off and on. Catherine Zeta-Jones and John Cusack play the perennially popular couple whose professional and personal lives have started derailing since they separated. And the promotion of the last movie they filmed together is the backdrop for the romantic bumper cars played by the two with the wife's sister and assistant (Julia Roberts) and Latin lover (Hank Azaria). There are certainly enough laughs to get by—thanks to Azaria, Stanley Tucci as the opportunistic studio head, Christopher Walken as the movie-within-a-movie's crazed director and Billy Crystal as the publicist trying to hold everything together at the movie's press junket. But the romantic comedy side is so heavily plotted that it lacks spontaneity or spark, and never conveys much of the emotion that's supposedly pinballing across the screen.

Crazy/Beautiful ★★
Well, at least there's a summer movie about teens that doesn't feel like one big product placement. And this romantic drama about a rich white girl (Kirsten Dunst) and a less privileged Hispanic boy (Jay Hernandez) somewhat passes on the usual Hollywood racial profiling, by making him the focused one with a bright future and her the troubled teen who's a bad influence. Still, there's little to recommend beyond the good intentions. It's hard to see what Hernandez's touchdown-scoring good student sees in Dunst's obnoxious burnout (beyond her sexual availability); the drama involving her condescending congressman dad (Bruce Davison) is like a community theater production of *Rebel Without a Cause*; and the ending rings false.

Downtown 81 ★★
As found footage, there's something to be said for this low-budget independent film that was shot in 1981, never edited and then thought lost. Now completed, it stars the late artist Jean-Michel Basquiat as a struggling artist traipsing through the Manhattan art, music and fashion scenes, and has many appearances by prominent alternative bands of the day (Plastics, James White and the Blacks, Kid Creole and the Coconuts) and cameos by many scenesters (Debbie Harry, Fab Five Freddy, Cookie Mueller, etc.). In particular, the two songs by Kid Creole are a great reminder of their heavenly shows of the early '80s. But as a movie, this is a pointless ordeal to sit through, with little narrative drive, poor sound (in the nonmusical scenes) and incessant voice-overs. A compilation of the complete musical footage would be much more entertaining.

Kiss of the Dragon ★½
Jet Li will become the new Jean Claude Van Damme if he keeps making clinkers like this. After *Romeo Must Die*, a very distinctive first English-language vehicle for the Chinese star, this one is all generic: in story (Li's a Beijing cop loaned to the Paris police), in villain (the corrupt detective overplayed by Tcheky Karyo) and in love interest (Bridget Fonda's hooker with a heart of gold). And when the elements are this flat, no amount of high-flying action scenes can perk them up.

Lara Croft: Tomb Raider ★½
If there's anything appealing to the video game this is based on (besides Lara Croft's body), it didn't make it into the movie. The film is a bit like *Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Unfun Version*, with adventurous archaeologist Croft (Angelina Jolie, stripped of most of her personality) tangling with bad guys who are after some trinkets that will let them control time. But the plot is incomprehensible mumbo jumbo (if the heavies need both halves of "the key" and she snags the first one from them, why does the story continue!?). There are a couple of decent special-effects action sequences, but most of the movie is murky and dull.

JO STRETTELL

Legally Blonde ★★

Reese Witherspoon sparkles as usual, but Robert Luketic's comedy plays out its *Clueless Goes to Law School* premise predictably and with only a few chuckles thrown in. Witherspoon plays a sorority maven happily destined for a life as a trophy wife until she gets dumped by her boyfriend, and then devotes all her energy into getting into Harvard Law School to be near him and win him back. Of course, once she gets there, she discovers she doesn't need him or the life she would have had with him. A female empowerment story is refreshing to see, but there's not another memorable character in the story besides Witherspoon's, and she's done this kind of character before.

Made ★★★

The amusing reteaming of *Swingers* stars Jon Favreau and Vince Vaughn for another Favreau script—his directorial debut this time—is pretty much a rehash of that memorable indie comedy. Favreau is again the Everyman and friend, while Vaughn is a verbal loose cannon with delusions of grandeur. And this time the pair are L.A. hangers-on to the criminal underworld who are loaned out by their annoyed boss (Peter Falk) to a New York hood (Sean Combs, the artist formerly known as Puff Daddy). There's little new ground broken, but the interplay between Favreau and Vaughn is never less than fun. A safe but appealing ground-rule double of a movie.

The Princess and the Warrior ★★

The reteaming of *Run Lola Run* writer-director Tom Tykwer and actress Franka Potente starts out promisingly, but the movie gets less and less interesting as it progresses—and it progresses for 130 minutes. Potente plays an orderly at a mental hospital whose life is saved by a surly ex-soldier (Benno Furman) who performs a tracheotomy on her after she's hit by a truck and can't breathe. She then becomes obsessed with him, much to his chagrin. That's the promising part. But despite Tykwer's knack for creating moods, the story throws in plot turn after plot turn and gets so incredibly convoluted by the last half-hour that it's really hard to keep caring about its characters.

Scary Movie 2 ★

Considering that last summer's original was a very hit-or-miss comedy, even the normal amount of sequel drop-off in quality probably would have made this not worth sitting through. Still, the follow-up to the *Scream* parody—which this time spoofs *The Exorcist*, *What Lies Beneath* and *Hannibal*, among others—is embarrassingly feeble. Instead of being inspired by the success of the original, director Keenen Ivory Wayans and brothers/co-writers Shawn and Marlon just cling to rehashing the character gags from the first film and injecting bodily-fluid jokes. They even recycle *Matrix* gags, this time as *Charlie's Angels* gags. Additions to the cast include people like Chris Elliott and David Cross, who have been very funny elsewhere, but not here.



MELINDA SUE GORDON

John Cusack, Catherine Zeta-Jones and Julia Roberts star in *America's Sweethearts*.

The Score ★★★

Though hardly perfect, this heist thriller is about the closest Hollywood comes to classy movies these days. Old wheeler-dealer Marlon Brando, methodical burglar Robert DeNiro and young hotshot Edward Norton are the three crooks who plan the heist of a priceless antique scepter from the basement of the Montreal Customs House (Angela Bassett, as the dishy stewardess DeNiro wants to marry after this last big score, gets little to do). The set-up builds drama impressively, throwing complications in the trio's path along the way, and the heist itself jacks up the tension even more. But then, when one of the characters tries some monkey business, the movie suddenly ends, without the showdown that might have made this good movie a great one.

Sexy Beast ★★★½

Thankfully, the English crime thriller hasn't totally gone the way of glib crap like the movies of Guy Ritchie (*Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*). Jonathan Glazer's debut film creates a lot more menace with a lot less violence, thanks to the searing performance of Ben Kingsley as a sadistic, insistent London crook determined to enlist the services of a retired former comrade (the always dependable Ray Winstone) for a heist. Winstone says no, but Kingsley won't take no for an answer—until, as the old song says, something's gotta give. Kingsley's character is so strong that his presence looms over scenes he's not even in.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Brattle Theatre

Most shows are $7, including double features.

Special Engagements

• Aug. 3-5, 4:15, 6, 7:45 and 9:30pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 12:45 and 2:30pm) **Downtown 81** *1981/2000.* Shot in 1980-81 and re-edited in 1998, this film stars Jean Michel Basquiat as a New York graffiti artist searching for wealth and happiness. Edo Bertoglio directs.

• Aug. 10-12, 3, 5:15 and 7:30pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees, 12:45pm) **The Blue Angel** *1930.* Josef von Sternberg directs Marlene Dietrich as cabaret singer Lola-Lola in this film classic. • Also showing, 10pm **The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai** *1984.* Peter Weller stars as Banzai, a comic-book hero who leads his team in the fight against evil. W.D. Richter directs.

Mondays—On the Road Again

• Aug. 6, 3:45 and 7:30pm **Easy Rider** *1969.* Dennis Hopper directs and stars with Peter Fonda and Antonio Mendoza in this film about a cross-country motorcycle ride. • Also showing, 5:45 and 9:30pm **The Wild One** *1954.* More bikes and leather abound in this *Easy Rider* precursor, directed by Laszlo Benedek, about a gang that invades a small Midwestern town.

• Aug. 13, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Pee Wee's Big Adventure** *1985.* Tim Burton's directorial debut features Paul Reubens as the zany yet lovable hero Pee Wee Herman.

Tuesdays—Phantasmagraphic

• Aug. 7, 3:45 and 7:30pm **In Absentia and other shorts.** The Quay Brothers' new short film, *In Absentia* examines the emotions of a solitary woman. • Also showing, 5:45 and 9:30pm **Conspirators of Pleasure** *1996.* A black Svankmajer comedy about a group of people determined to make their erotic fantasies a reality.

• Aug. 14, 5 and 7:30pm **The Company of Wolves** *1984.* Director Neil Jordan presents traditional fairy tales





Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau attempt to repeat their *Swingers* success in *Made*.

with a horror-movie twist. The film plays with *Dog Days (2000)*, an Ellie Lee film about a man who deals with the difficulties of American life by dressing in a dog suit. • Also showing, **An American Werewolf in London** *1981*. John Landis directs this classic about two American tourists attacked by a hairy beast.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

• Aug. 1, 4 and 8pm **Eureka** *2000*. Heralded for its cinematography, this film is the emotional story of a man and his children, who suffer after surviving a tragedy. Shinji Aoyama directs.

• Aug. 8, 3:15 and 7:30pm **Calle 54** *2000*. Fernando Trueba directs this documentary dedicated to Latin jazz.

• Also showing, 5:30 and 9:45pm **The Gleaners and I** *2000*. A film about the history of the gleaners of the French countryside, and the value in looking beneath the surface. Agnes Varda directs.

Thursdays—Catherine Deneuve: Hot Blood, Cold Beauty

• Aug. 2, 7pm **Time Regained** *1999*. Raoul Ruiz directs Deneuve as Odette in the film version of Marcel Proust's epic *Remembrance of Things Past*.

• Aug. 9, 5 and 10pm **Genealogies of a Crime** *1997*. Deneuve stars in dual roles, as a psychoanalyst and a lawyer, in this Raoul Ruiz film. • Also showing, 5 and 9:30pm **Mississippi Mermaid** *1969*. Deneuve plays a mysterious mail-order bride in this film directed by Francois Truffaut.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Feature Films

• Opening Aug. 3 **Hedwig and the Angry Inch** *2001*. Hedwig, a rock singer, searches for fame and love in all the wrong places, keeping her sense of humor even in the face of humiliation and disappointment. John Cameron Mitchell directs.

• Now playing **Himalaya** *2001*. Nepal's first submission for the Foreign Language Oscar features daring cinematography and a cast of mostly nonprofessional natives in the story of a generational power struggle for the leadership of a tiny mountain village. It is set in the North-Western Himalayas, where a charismatic old chieftain refuses to allow the young warrior Karma to lead the yak caravan. *Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.*

Through Aug. 2 **Sexy Beast** *2001*. Brian Glazer directs Ben Kingsley in this story of retired British gangster Gary "Gal" Dove. He spends his days in his Spanish villa, tanning by the pool and doting on his wife. Then word comes his way that an old colleague (Kingsley) wants to enlist Gal for a new job.

Hot Summer Midnights

• Aug. 3 and 4, 12am and Aug. 5, 12pm **The City of Lost Children** *1995*. A side-show strongman called "One" fights to stop an evil scientist who kidnaps children in order to steal their dreams. Marc Caro and Jean-Pierre Jeunet direct.

• Aug. 10 and 11, 12am and Aug. 12, 12pm **Twelve Monkeys** *1995*. Terry Gilliam directs Bruce Willis and Brad Pitt in this film about a prisoner who goes back in time to examine the causes of a virus that has wiped out 99 percent of the population.

Harvard Film Archive

Directors A to Z: Treasures from the Harvard Film Archive

• Aug. 1, 7pm **L'Atalante** *1934*. The sole feature film of director Jean Vigo, this is the story of a young woman's initiation into married life. • Also showing, 8:45pm **Senso** *1954*. Luchino Visconti directs this film about the relationship between an Austrian officer and his Italian mistress amid political discord.

• Aug. 2, 7pm **Picnic at Hanging Rock** *1975*. Three schoolgirls and their teacher mysteriously disappear in this Australian film by Peter Weir. • Also showing, 9pm **Swept Away...by an Unusual Destiny in the Blue Sea of August** *(Travolti da un insolito destino nell'azzurro mare d'agosto) 1975*. Lina Wertmüller directs this story of a man and a woman from opposite ends of the economic spectrum who are marooned on an island together.

• Aug. 3, 7pm **Roman Holiday** *1953*. Audrey Hepburn and Gregory Peck star in this William Wyler film about a rebellious princess who runs away and finds love with a commoner. • Also showing, 9:15pm **Some Like It Hot** *1959*. Billy Wilder directs Marilyn Monroe, Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis in this comically memorable film.

• Aug. 4, 7pm **The Ballad of Gregorio Cortez** *1982*. This is the poignant tale of a Mexican farmhand who accidentally kills a U.S. sheriff and achieves infamy as he tries to evade capture. Robert Young directs. • Also showing, 9pm **Bullitt** *1968*. An action-packed film by Peter Yates.

• Aug. 5, 7pm **Camouflage** *(Barwy Ochronne) 1977*. Directed by Krzysztof Zanussi, this film addresses the corruption of scholarly life in Poland. • Also showing, 9pm **Possession** *1981*. A Polish film by Andrzej Zulawski about a domestic crisis that grows out of control. Isabelle Adjani stars in a performance that landed her the Best Actress Award at the Cannes Film Festival.

Museum of Fine Arts

The Films of Kon Ichikawa

• Aug. 2, 7:45pm and Aug. 12, 2:30pm **Conflagration** *1958*. The film version of Yukio Mishima's based-on-a-true-story novel *The Temple of the Golden Pavilion*, this is the story of a young student fleeing his promiscuous mother.

• Aug. 3, 7:45pm **An Actor's Revenge** *1963*. A cross-dressing man vows revenge on his parents' murderers.

• Aug. 4, 1:45pm **Bridge of Japan** *1956*. Two geishas in old Tokyo fight for the affections of a young doctor. • Also showing, 4pm **Odd Obsession** a.k.a. **The Key** *1959*. This is a dark film about an old man whose plans to restore his sexual abilities backfire when his family becomes involved.

• Aug. 5, 1:30pm **Harp of Burma** *1956*. A Japanese soldier fights for survival in the Pacific War in Burma in this hopeful story. • Also showing, 3:45pm **Fires on the Plain** *1959*. This is a powerful classic about war, survival and humanity.

• Aug. 9, 5:30pm **Mr. Pu** *1953*. A math teacher deals with post-war life in this comic tale.

• Aug. 10, 5:30pm **The Heart** *1955*. A beautiful rendering of Soseki Natsume's novel, this is the story of a friendship between a young student and an older teacher.

• Also showing, 7:45pm **The Outcast** aka **The Sin** *1962*. This film presents the haunting tale of a teacher dealing with the effects of hiding his true roots.

• Aug. 11, 12pm **Mr. Pu**. See Aug. 9. • Also showing, 2pm **A Billionaire** *1954*. This is a dark satire about a young tax collector with a fear of rainclouds. • Also showing, 3:45pm **A Full-Up Train** *1957*. A young graduate experiences the effects of the war on the Japanese economy.

• Aug. 12, 4:30pm **The Men of Tohoku** *1957*. Young Risuke deals with a tribal law that forbids him, as the younger son in his family, to inherit land and, more important, to reproduce.

New England Film Artists Present

• Aug. 9, 7:15pm and Aug. 12, 11am **Mad Songs of Fernanda Hussein** *2000*. This film is presented as three separate stories of people facing the effects of the Persian Gulf War on life in America. By John Gianvito.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: Green Line to Fenway.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. www.mfa.org/film.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).



In between punk rock songs, Hedwig relates the comical story of her multigendered life.

Preview

Rock Star Redux

Hedwig makes a cinematic splash

Almost two years ago, the play *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* ran at the Stuart Street Playhouse—befuddling, amusing, surprising and eventually winning over critics. Now the film version of *Hedwig* has arrived, opening at the Coolidge Corner Theatre Aug. 3. Adapted from the critically acclaimed off-Broadway rock theater hit by musician/songwriter Stephen Trask and writer/performer John Cameron Mitchell (the original Hedwig), the film portrays the audacious story of a very unique, glittered singer and her search for stardom and love. With the same lurid yet cheerful qualities conveyed by the play (John Cameron Mitchell directs and stars in the film), the energetic film follows Hedwig and her glam group as they play a series of lowbrow gigs in coffee shops and malls. Meanwhile, Hedwig relates the sad story of her life. She started off as an East German boy named Hansel, who reluctantly submitted to a sex-change operation in order to marry an American G.I. to get over the Berlin Wall. But the operation was botched and she ended up in a Kansas trailer park.

The resilient Hedwig moved on to form a rock band with her lover/protege Tommy Gnosis, who then left her, stole her songs and became a huge rock star. Now, a bitter, witty and very Ru Paul-esque Hedwig shadows his big-time tour with her band, the Angry Inch. The film version's got just as many rock 'n' roll punk songs as the play, plus the addition of flashbacks and animation. The film was the winner of the Audience Award and Directing Prize at the Sundance Film Festival, as well as the winner of Best Feature Film (Gay/Lesbian) at the Berlin International Film Festival. *290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. —Erin Hagedorn*

LEFT: ROBERT ZUCKERMAN; RIGHT: S. GIRAUD/FINE LINE



Thursday, August 16th, 5pm

They've said it for years, and it's finally happened. The Rack has gone to the dogs!

It's a Dog Day Afternoon

Join us with Mix 98.5's Erin O'Malley, Gregg Daniels and The Improper Bostonian Magazine

Benefit for World Society for the Protection of Animals & MSPCA

THE RACK

24 Clinton St., Boston 02109 • 617.725.1051
www.therackboston.com



dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Top DJs spin.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
•Aug. 6 and 13: In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s SJ Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay Night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs. Martini bar, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
Go Retroactive with DJ Chris Ewen, 9pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits. 10pm. 19+. No cover.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid jazz soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
•Aug. 7 and 14: After Work Jazz Party with Megladon (MD) Jazz, 6:15-10:15pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.

Hibernia
DJ Jeremy spins lounge tunes, 6pm, 21+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots and dance the night away. International and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.



Rhythm & Spice serves up a hot night of reggae, hip-hop, soca and Caribbean music.

The Kells
DJs Roy Barboza and Chaos spin hip-hop, 9pm, 21+.

Milky Way
DJs Adam Gibbons, Fran and Paul Nickerson spin jazzy deep house, soul and funk, 9pm, no cover.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
•Aug. 1: Reggae with Jamm Bamm, 10pm, 21+.
•Aug. 8: Reggae with One People, 10pm, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong Join in a night of psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $4, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Jeff Knor, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

College Night
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ Dragg spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by for some after-work lounging with the mellow tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm. $15 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean. Don't forget to dress up—jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes. 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
•Aug. 2 and 9: Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae and hip hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adison. 10pm, 18+.

FRIDAYS

Aer
DJs Pete Bailey and G-Mac play some deep house for your listening pleasure, 10pm.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney plays top-40 hits, your favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s and one-hit wonders, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon •Aug. 10: Paul Van Dyk spins his epic trance.
•DJ Ali Ajami and special-guest global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Axis
•Aug. 10: CJ Bolland, pioneer of German techno/trance, spins his hard-hitting sound.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Cire, 9:30pm, 21+.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
The Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

International Lounge
Vertigo DJ A. Rossi and DJ Peter Souhleris spin Latin dance early, progressive house and top hits, 11pm. Cocktails and free hors d'oeuvres before 10pm. 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
The Roxy Guest DJs spin at this third-floor dance party.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes. 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Ren Justice spins disco, top-40 and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $3, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
•Aug. 3 and 10: Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:15pm; DJ Todd, 10:45pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Sangria, Sunsets and Salsa
Sophia's Dance on the roof deck to live music from 4:30-9pm. DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor, and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins. 10pm, $10, 19+.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.
SW1
After-work lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.
Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.
Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house and techno, 10pm, 21+.
An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $4, 21+.
Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.
Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.
Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house, hip-hop and top-40 dance.
Blue Cat Café
DJ Casey and Pete Winfrey, 9pm, 21+.
Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.
Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.
Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.
Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.
Downtown Saturdays
Avalon • Aug. 4: Eighties icon Boy George performs. • Aug. 11: Scott Bond spins progressive house. • DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.
Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.
Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house, 10pm, 21+.
Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.
NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive. 9:30pm. 21+.
The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house. 10pm. $15. 19+.
Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins international house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.
Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The Rack
• Aug. 4 and 11: Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 21+.
R&B Lounge
Vertigo DJ Ron spins R&B, hip hop and light house at this elegant R&B night. 10:30pm, 21+.
The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.
Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats. 8pm, $10, 21+.
Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.
Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10. 21+.
Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.
SW1
DJ Tari spins house, dress sexy, 10pm, 21+.
Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.
X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians. Then, DJ Adrienne spins Brit pop and new wave tunes. 9pm, $3, 19+.
WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.
Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins International house, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Living Room
Aria DJ Raffy spins international house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJs Larry, Dale, Magnum, Lisa and Robin play great reggae music, 9pm, $5.
The Rack
• Aug. 7 and 14: Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.
Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.
Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.
Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience hot electric vibes in an ultra-hip, cutting-edge trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (292-3309).*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Cafe *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *Inman Square, Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Central or Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333).*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-9400).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (562-8800). MBTA: Green Line to BU West.*
Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (576-6260).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
The West Street *15 West Street, Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*



WAKE UP CALL

Inspired by R&B greats, Michelle Willson hits her stride with the Evil Gal band. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

The legacies of R&B vocal greats like Dinah Washington and Ruth Brown have helped turn Arlington native Michelle Willson's life around more than once.

The most obvious turn came in the aftermath of Willson's funk group Animal Train—and failed marriage to bandmate Kenny Harris—when she finally got around to listening to some tapes that friends had given to her.

"I had put the tapes in my drawer for two or three years," says the robust singer. "It wasn't until I got divorced, and I was really on my own and didn't know how I was going to pay the rent, that this music started to make sense to me. People always say the blues are about these horrible feelings, and I'm sure that it's born of horrible feelings, but what it's really about is trying to make yourself feel better."

Things got better fast when Willson launched a jump-blues outfit called Evil Gal. The group won the 1993 Harpers Ferry Battle of the Blues Bands and a subsequent Blues Foundation competition in Memphis. Eventually, Evil Gal signed with Rounder Records.



Michelle Willson has had her share of the blues, but she has reason to smile these days.

But after a couple of albums, Willson hit a low point in 1997. "I was traveling through Europe thinking pretty seriously about not 'Shall I kill myself?' but how," She says. "Who is going to pick up the pieces? What's it going to be like for somebody to find the bloody body in the bathtub?"

What saved her, Willson said, was reading the biographies of Dinah Washington ("She pretty much killed herself with pills and alcohol") and survivors Brown ("She's a fighter") and Etta James, who once told firemen to wait to enter her burning house while she was shooting heroin in the bathroom.

"Etta cleaned up, she's still here, and still singing. Right on, sister," Willson says by phone from Kansas City, where she and her Evil Gal Festival Orchestra just played a blues festival on the way to shows at the Yard Rock in Quincy Aug. 3 and the Regattabar Aug. 15. "They are true role models."

One thing that refreshed Willson upon her return to America was the idea of an organ trio, so she formed a band with Ken Clark on Hammond B-3, Mike Mele on guitar, and Scott Shetler on tenor sax and bass clarinet. "I wanted to take the jump tunes that traditionally have that big horn section," the singer says. "So here I am on the road with one horn, the organ and the guitar, and we're trying to make the music sound legit but at the same time be who we are."

That last concept was sealed when the band hit the studio with new drummer Zac Casher to record the new disc *Wake Up Call*, a varied batch of originals and standards that allowed the musicians to shine with their own contemporary personality.

"I was a little disconcerted about how I was going to fit into this, and I went into the control room and [the band] was grooving like hell and were really into each other," says Willson, who made sure her combo got equal billing on the record for the first time. "If you hire really good people, let them do what they do, not necessarily what you do."

It has taken decades for Willson to shape such philosophies as a performer. "I didn't have a real happy home life as a child," says the singer, who first found satisfaction in youth theater. "For the few hours that I was onstage every night, all of a sudden, everything was going to be OK."

In the mid-'70s, when she began listening to Bruce Springsteen and Bonnie Raitt and hanging with friends' older brothers and sisters who were in a rock band, Willson got hooked.

"The night before SATs, I stayed up all night, and the manager of the rock band drove me to Arlington in his purple MG and pealed up in front of the high school, leaving a cloud of dust," Willson says. "Every single kid turned around to look, and I thought, 'That's it. I'm done.'"

She scored high on those SATs, but Willson's prime was yet to come. "I remember my voice teacher telling me at age 20 that my voice wasn't going to mature until I was between 35 and 40 because of the size of my voice, and she was right," says Willson, who will realize another dream when she gets to sing the National Anthem at Fenway Park Aug. 14.

"I hope I don't pull a Rosanne," she jokes. "As a singer, your best bet is just to sing the song. Don't fool around with it. And that's how I approach just about everything. Don't put a lot of fancy junk in, and just do it." iB

Michelle Willson

Plays the Yard Rock Aug. 3 and the Regattabar Aug. 15.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

The 5th Dimension
Aug. 11, MDC Hatch Shell

Agnostic Front, Ensign and the Business
Aug. 11, Axis

Trey Anastasio
Aug. 4, Tweeter Center

Atom and His Package, Dynamite Boy and River City High
Aug. 10, Worcester Palladium

Bela Fleck and the Flecktones and Keb' Mo'
Aug. 11, FleetBoston Pavilion

Bela in the Berkshires featuring Bela Fleck and the Flecktones, Keb' Mo' and Martin Sexton
Aug. 5, Butternut Basin Ski Area, Great Barrington, Mass.

Pat Benatar
Aug. 4, South Shore Music Circus

Berkshire Mountain Music Festival feauring moe., Soulive, The Word and others
Aug. 10-12, Butternut Basin Ski Area, Great Barrington, Mass.

David Cassidy
Aug. 14, North Shore Music Theatre

Judy Collins Wildflower Festival
Aug. 8, South Shore Music Circus
Aug. 9, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Shawn Colvin and Kim Richey
Aug. 1, FleetBoston Pavilion
Aug. 2, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Galactic
Aug. 8, Avalon

Bebel Gilberto
Aug. 10, Paradise Rock Club

Bruce Hornsby & His Band
Aug. 3, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Aug. 5, South Shore Music Circus

Hot Summer Nights: Al Jarreau, George Duke and Rachelle Ferrell
Aug. 12, FleetBoston Pavilion

Billy Idol
Aug.6, Avalon

Loretta LaRoche
Aug. 3, South Shore Music Circus

The Letterman
Aug. 1, City Hall Plaza

Little Feat
Aug. 9, South Shore Music Circus
Aug. 10, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Madonna
Aug. 7 and 8, FleetCenter

Mahotella Queens and Rokia Traoré
Aug. 7, Paradise Rock Club

Johnny Mathis
Aug. 4 and 5, Cape Cod Melody Tent

MTV TRL Tour with Destiny's Child, Nelly, Eve, Dream and 3LW
Aug. 10, Tweeter Center

Newport Folk Festival
Aug. 3-5, Fort Adams State Park, Newport, R.I.

Ozzfest featuring Black Sabbath, Marilyn Manson, Slipknot, Papa Roach, Linkin Park and others
Aug. 7 and 8, Tweeter Center

Radiohead with The Beta Band
Aug. 14, Suffolk Downs

Kenny Rogers
Aug. 9, North Shore Music Theatre
Aug. 10, South Shore Music Circus
Aug. 11, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Henry Rollins
Aug. 9, Suffolk Downs

Jill Scott and Kindred
Aug. 14, FleetBoston Pavilion

Sheila E.
Aug. 4, FleetBoston Pavilion

Short End of the Stick Tour with ünloco, Darwin's Waiting Room and Simon Says
Aug. 9, Karma

Simon Says, Unloco and Darwin's

Waiting Room
Aug. 9, Karma
Ringo Starr's All Starr Band
Aug. 4, FleetBoston Pavilion
The Statler Brothers
Aug. 11, South Shore Music Circus
Aug. 13, North Shore Music Theatre
Rod Stewart
Aug. 5, Tweeter Center
Sugar Ray and Uncle Kracker
Aug. 10, FleetBoston Pavilion
Vans Warped Tour with Less Than Jake, Dropkick Murphys, Rancid, Pennywise, Tree, Catch 22 and others
Aug. 9, Suffolk Downs
WKLB Country Music Festival featuring Brooks and Dunn, Cledus T. Judd, Keith Urban, Toby Keith and Montgomery Gentry
Aug. 3, Tweeter Center
The Word featuring John Medeski, North Mississippi All-Stars and Robert Randolph
Aug. 2, Paradise Rock Club

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collings, Three Percent and Town Hall, 9pm, $7, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 10pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Tarbox Ramblers, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
Faneuil Hall Marketplace Rico & the Jump and Jive Review, 6-10pm.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
House of Blues Howard Tate, 9pm, $10. 18+.
Johnny D's Acoustic Syndicate, 8:30pm, $7.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Stan Martin, 9pm; 84 West, 10pm, $5, 21+.
The Linwood Specimen 37, Electropy, A/D.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Hybrasil and guests, 8:30pm, 21+.
Maison Robert Issi Roszon Duo, 6-9pm.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
Museum of Fine Arts Courtyard Jess Klein.
Middle East U: Roots of Orchis, Cancer Conspiracy and Rise Park, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury, 9pm, no cover.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack Reggae with Jamm Bamm, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Sugar Ray and the Bluetones, 8:30pm, $10.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast (reggae, soca & hip-hop), 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jacques Chanier Trio, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Marcus Miller, 8 and 10pm, $24.
Sky Bar Wild Card, Punk Monkees and Presley, 9pm, 21+.
Summer Shack I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Jimmy Ryan.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7-9pm; Summer Pierre, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Joel La Rue Smith Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Meghan Toohey, Teddy Thompson, Miss Fortune and Lori McKenna, $6, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, AUG. 2

Atlantic 101 Alison Bromwell and the Harry Fix Trio.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30pm, no cover.
The Attic Almost Speechless Residency and Marie's Children, 9pm.
Bill's Bar The Underground, DJ Mark Hamilton, We're All Gonna Die, Crown Vict and Eve to Adam, 9pm, $7, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 10pm.



Scottish Indie rockers the Beta Band bring their freewheeling trip-hop to Suffolk Downs Aug. 14.

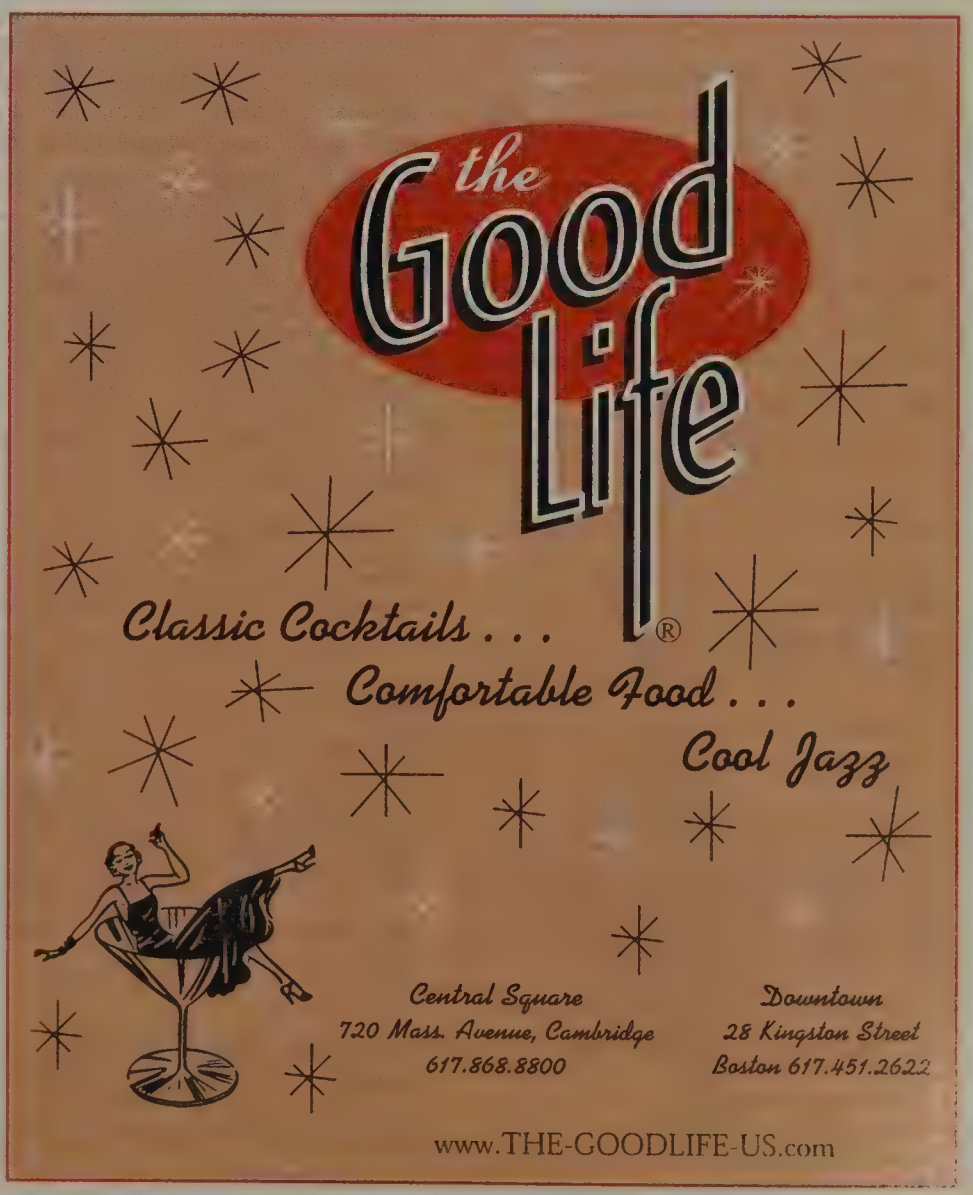
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar and the Soul Providers, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Jimmy LaFave, 8pm, $10.
Coogan's Karaoke, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6pm; Classic Trax, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Borderland, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
House of Blues Donna De Lory, 9pm.
Irish Embassy Pub The Whole Tribe Sings.
Johnny D's Geno Delafose & French Rockin' Boogie, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's The Return, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe John Haydon & Jaime DiAlmeida, 9pm; Jeff Kauppi, 10pm; Beth Boucher, 11pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Mystic Highway, Marlene Hall and Chris Mascara Organ Combo, 8pm, $5.
Lilli's Balaton, 8pm, 21+.
The Linwood Angry Hill, Brian Gottesman, The Naked Sams and 360 Loose.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf featuring Micro Vard and guests, 8:30pm, 21+.
Maison Robert Mike Turk Duo, 6-9pm.
Middle East U: Him and Alex Blake, 6pm, $8, 18+; Purple Ivy Shadows, Reservoir and Aaron Perrino, 10pm, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Al Foul and the Shakes, Lucky and the Bastards and The Raging Teens, 9pm, $8.
PJ Ryan's Nate Walkins, 9pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Eddie, 21+.
Regattabar Cyrus Chestnut Trio, 8pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Temporada Latina, 8:30pm.
Scullers Larry Harlow's Latin Jazz Encounter, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Sky Bar Hurricane Jane, Famous and Kratchet, 9pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Coots.
Top of the Hub Joel La Rue Smith Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Laura Clapp and Citizen Cope, $6, 21+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, AUG. 3

Atlantic 101 Kane Minkos.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:30-9pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
Bill's Bar Johnny Wishbone, Starhorse and Donny-Brook, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose U: Curragh's Fancy, 10pm; D: Sunday's Well, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Sara Hickman and Jenny Reynolds, 8pm, $12.
Coogan's McKenna & Beech, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6pm; Soul City, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:15pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Cole Broderick Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Dave Davies Kink Kronikles, 9pm, $15, 21+.
House of Blues Aiwa Blues Cruise: Matt "Guitar" Murphy and the Mohegan Sun All-Stars featuring David Foster, $25, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Pig Pen, 10pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Rick Ekstrom, 9:30pm; Little Mojo, 10:30pm; Typhoon Ferri, 11:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Laffing Freeman, Brother Mosley, Mike Diplomat and the Misprints and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Lilli's Rock Bottom, Random Road Mother and Treatment Bound, 8pm, $7, 21+.
The Linwood Ohm, Buddha, Death Grip.
Lizard Lounge Michelle Malone and Lovepie, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: AM Stereo, Slater, ROcketscience and Roxie, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: Bim Skala Bim, The High Hats, Black Market Medalions, and Monty's Fan Club, 9pm, $8, 18+. C: Waking Vision Trio, 10pm.
Milky Way Plexus and Metatronica 2.0, 9pm, $12.
PJ Ryan's Gerry and Brian Lehane, Eric Martin and Bob Cenci, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Jim Devlin Trio.
Purple Shamrock Thomas Park, 10pm.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Cyrus Chestnut Trio, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire (soca & reggae), 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Matthias Lupri Quintet with George Garzone, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Larry Harlow's Latin Jazz Encounter, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Sky Bar Boatyard Resin, Sand Machine and The Fuss, 9pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg David Foley.
Toad The Coots.
Top of the Hub Joel La Rue Smith Quartet, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mishima, Jr. Corduroy, 71 Sunbeam and Emetrex, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, AUG. 4

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis and Kane Minkos.
Atrium Lounge Dave Philip, 5:30-9pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
The Attic Lemonpeeler and Punch Havana, 9pm.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4pm; U: Curragh's Fancy, 10pm; D: Sunday's Well, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, 21+.



CORRINE DAY

Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Erin McKeown, 7 and 10pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Classic Trax, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Cole Broderick Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
House of Blues Al Copley.
Harpers Ferry Another Planet, $7, 21+.
Johnny D's The Blazers, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Off the Wall, 10pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Hellcountry, 9:30pm, $7, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Lyres, Chris Ware Band and Girl on Top, $5.
Lilli's Vibewise, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Winterboy, The Devil Goods and Bound 4 Venus, 9pm, 21+.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Victoria Williams, Marc Olsen and the Orginal Harmony Bridge Creek Dippers, 4:30pm, $12, 18+; Chelsea on Fire Dragstrip Courage, Random Road Mother and Fast Actin' Fuses, 9pm, $10, 18+. D: RC Crimewave, Quintaine Americana, Scissorfight, Lamont and Quitter, 9pm, $10, 18+. C: Katrin, 10pm.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club, 8pm, $7.
PJ Ryan's Gerry and Brian Lehane, Eric Martin and Bon Cenci, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill EmptyHead.
Purple Shamrock 2nd Story, 10pm.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi and DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar Roomful of Blues, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Kilombo Mambo, 9pm, $9.
Tír na nÓg Ray Mason.
Toad Paved Country.
Top of the Hub Joel La Rue Smith Quartet, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place euphonic, Mappari and The Jupiter Project, $7, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, AUG. 5

Bill's Bar Shalom, 10pm, $12, 21+.
The Black Rose Tom O'Carroll, 4pm; Sunday's Well, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Joe Rathbone, Dan Blakeslee and Amy Speace, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9m, 21+.
Club Passim Cyril Pahinui and Ledward Ka'apana, 7:30pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel Brunch, 10am to 3pm; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
Harpers Ferry Brother Chameleon, $4.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Carl Cacho, 8pm; Jack Hardy, 9pm; Hewitt Huntwork, 10pm; $5, 21+.
Lilli's The Cash Brothers, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; Poetry Jam with The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 6pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Mira and All the Queen's Men, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Hurricane Sound, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. The Rusty Scott Trio, 10am-3pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm; African Night at Ryles, 9pm, $10.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 7pm.
Toad Josh Lederman y Los Diablos.
Top of the Hub Consuelo Candelario Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place DJs spin "Reverie," 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.



Among the bands that will move mountains at Berkfest is Les Claypool & the Holy Mackerel.

Preview

Berkfest

The hills are alive with the sound of jam bands

Summer's here and the time is right for dancing in the meadows, and the hills, and the valleys—but not the streets. The Berkshire Mountain Music Festival (Berkfest, to friends) is held at the Butternut Ski Basin in Great Barrington, Mass., where the bands play on a stage facing a Music Meadow, with not a street in sight. Now in its fourth year and going strong, the participants in this three-day-long jamboree will draw a wide range of participants this year, from the electric to the eclectic. Jam-band stalwarts like moe, Strangefolk and Galactic will make the scene, as will local favorites Jiggle (doing their farewell show), and up-and-coming acts like Addison Groove Project and Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey will grace the Festival's Showcase stage for some eagerly anticipated sets. Add the wonky funk of Les Claypool's Flying Frog Brigade, the hip-hop reggae of Michael Franti and Spearhead, and the good vibrations of dozens of other performers, and top it all off with the traditional All-Star Closing Jam (this year featuring Vernon Reid of Living Colour, drum legend Bob Moses and some equally "combustible" surprise guest stars), and you've got yourself a recipe for a memorable three days of peace, love and camping. ***Aug. 10-12, Butternut Basin Ski Area, Great Barrington, Mass. Call 888-325-BERK for tickets. $105, including camping.***

MONDAY, AUG. 6

Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch, Immolition, Cannae, Bane of Existence and Halo Effect, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 10pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter open mike, 8pm; Tim Mason, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Two-song open mike with Sarah Scharff, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Groove Authority, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry Will Hoge.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Mike Gent, 9:30pm; The Irresponsibles, 10:30pm; $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mike, 7-9pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: The Rapture and Quix*o*tic, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Red Invasion, C.O.P., Strange Corner and The Enemy Myself, 9pm, $6.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10pm; The Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Consuelo Candelario Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear Acoustic Series: Twisted Rico presents Dave Wildman, Chilly Kurtz, Chris Mascara and John Surette, $3, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY, AUG. 7

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; Standing Room Only, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Johnny D's Amy Fairchild and The WAiFS, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe The Scharff Brothers, 9pm; Reckless Daughter, 10pm; $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Clare Muldaur and Jeff Lange, 8:30pm, 21+.
Maison Robert Hey Rim Jeon Trio, 6-9pm.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Rosa Chancewell, 27 and December Architects, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mary, Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with Megladon (MD) Jazz, 6:15-10:15pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ellipsis, 8:30pm, $8.
Toad Hillbilly Voodoo featuring Barrence Whitfield.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Panda Squad, Kelly Buchanan, The Cautions and Red Letter, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins, Decifunk and Hazie Maze, 9pm, $7, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+
Club Passim '80s night with The Loomers and special guests, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
House of Blues Lucky Peterson.
Johnny D's John Abercrombie Quartet, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Ian Richardson, 9pm; Nero, 10pm; $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Hybrasil with The Jaded Salingers, 8:30pm, 21+.
Maison Robert Mike Turk Duo, 6-9pm.
Middle East U: Dalek, DMS, The Common Cold, RCDC and The Secrets, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury, 9pm, no cover.
M.J. O'Connor's Live traditional Irish music, 9pm.
The Rack Reggae with One People, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Katie Viqueria Group, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club EST, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers The Brubeck Brothers Quartet, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Summer Shack I-Land Rokkerz, 7pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7-9pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Meghan Toohey, Rose Polenzani, Stephen Kellog and Shamsi, $6, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, AUG. 9

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Attic Almost Speechless Residency and Brother Chameleon, 9pm.
Bill's Bar The Underground, DJ Mark Hamilton, Rouges March and Pug Uglies, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Toni Lynn Washington Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Edie Carey and Nini Camps, 8pm, $12.
Coogan's Karaoke.
Dick's Last Resort Parrothead Bash featuring the Sea Dogs, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Issi Rosen Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Colonel Bruce Hampton and Code Talkers, $12.
House of Blues James Montgomery.
Johnny D's Kevin Coyne, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's The Return, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Steve Shiffman, 9pm; Ed Valauskas, 10pm; Dave Wanamaker, 11pm; $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Somerville Jazz Festival: Eric Baldwin Ensemble, Dave Scott, Synergy and Com'On Man, 8pm, $5.
The Linwood Freezepop, Echo Us, Kittymonkey.
Lizard Lounge Brite, Motowife featuring Seanna Carmody and The Subject, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Milligram, Bottom, Give and Treatment Bound, $7, 18+; D: T-House of the Almighty, Controlled Aggression, Drop 360, Breather and Breeding Ground, $10. 18+.
Milky Way Nancy S. Mroczek, PhD with NYC Daddy & Matavahar, 9pm, $8.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar Calypso Hurricane, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Temporada Latina, 8:30pm.
Scullers Tom Harrell Quintet, 8 and 10:30pm, $14.
Tír na nÓg Jabe.
Toad Katie Terrio, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.

T.T. the Bear's Place The Alchemysts, Abunai!, Atyobach Kreisor and Medicine Ball, $8, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, AUG. 10

Atlantic 101 Kane Minkos.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillips, 5:30-9pm; Bert Seager Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
The Attic Dr. Awkward, 9pm.
Bill's Bar Euonym, Bowman and The High Ceilings, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose U: Dave Foley Band, 10pm; D: Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Harvey Reid and Joyce Andersen, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Stan Strickland, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
House of Blues Lucky Peterson; Aiwa Blues Cruises: Kim Wilson, $25, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub The Whole Tribe Sings.
Johnny D's Say Zuzu, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Magnus, 10pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Martin Finke, 9:30pm; John Powers, 10:30pm; Tom Glynn Duo, 11:30pm; $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Tootsie, Atomic Voodoo, Classic Ruins and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
The Linwood Rock City Crimewave, Medea Connection, The Beating.
Lizard Lounge Hip Hop Night featuing Kabir, The Turntable Demolition Team, Mr. Rourke and The Improvised Schratch Symphony, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: His Name is Alive, Retsin and Noise Camp, $8, 18+; D: Murder City Devils and Crack Torch, $10, 18+; C: Shiner Jones, 10pm.
Milky Way Drums and Tuba, 9pm, $9.
PJ Ryan's On A Tangent, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Time Well Spent.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate, 10pm.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billly Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Todd, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Tom Harrell Quintet, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Tír na nÓg Benders.
Toad Asa Brebner.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Bob Gallow, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Barbara Manning& The Go-Luckys, Varnaline and Headset, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, AUG. 11

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, Kane Minkos and the Laura Allen Trio.
Atrium Lounge Dave Phillilp, 5:30-9pm; Freedom of Assembly Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
The Black Rose Kevin Byrne, 4pm; U: Dave Foley Band, 10pm. D: Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12am, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Elisa Gilkyson, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzlez Band, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Stan Strickland, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Edable Gray and Damn Good Music, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Syndicate, 10pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey Moore, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Jackie Martino, 9:30pm; The Reedlings, 10:30pm; Violet Tide, 11:30pm; $5, 21+.
The Linwood Malevolence, Tung, Blackstone Valley Crew, Shortfuse.
Lizard Lounge Clare Burson, Amelia White, Ry Cavanaugh and Jennifer Kimball Band, 9pm, 21+.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8pm, no cover.
Middle East U: The Racketeers, $8, 18+.
D: NRBQ, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club, 8pm, $7.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi and DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar Irma Thomas, 8 and 10:30pm, $24.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee and Divercity, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Lance Martin Band, 9pm, $9.
Tír na nÓg Christian MacNeil.
Toad Cash Monies and the Jetsetter, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Mike Turk, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, Rocketscience and Baby Strange, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, AUG. 12

Bill's Bar DJ K-Don, Dion Knibb, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The Black Rose Kevin Byrne, 4pm; Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkins' B3 Jazz Trio, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Anne Donohue and Zach Koerper, 8:30pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Cactus Highway with Chris and Meredith Thompson, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort New Revelations—Gospel Brunch, 10am-3pm; Rob Gonzalez Band, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Ephraim Lessell, Dresden Dolls and Evan OiTelevision, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; Poetry Jam with The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8pm, no cover.
Middle East U: The Bizaree Pass the Hat Benefit for Out of the Blue Gallery, 2pm; World/Inferno Friendship Society, $7, 18+. D: Brokeback and Chris Brokaw, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan, Hurricane Sound and Ky-Mani Marley, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Reed Deffenbach, 10am-3pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 7pm.
Toad Stephane Wrembel and band.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ricochet Stud, No Michael No, 5 lb. Brown and Dropdose, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, AUG. 13

Bill's Bar Killswitch Engaage, Every Time I Die and Santa Sangre, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 10pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter open mike, 8pm; Single Entendre, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Two-song open mike with Butch Ross, 9pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort God Fearing Man, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Julien Bar Alfredo Cardim, 6:30pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Ether Park, 9:30pm; The Irresponsibles, 10:30pm; $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mike, 7-9pm; The Fringe 10pm, 21+.
McGann's Luka Bloom.



Boston-based blues vocalist Toni Lynn Washington delivers some rousing tunes Aug. 9 at 7:30pm at Bob the Chef's.

Middle East U: Rise Against, Jericho and No Intention, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Film shorts by local filmmakeres, 8pm, $5.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer.
Toad The Tim Gearan Band, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, AUG. 14

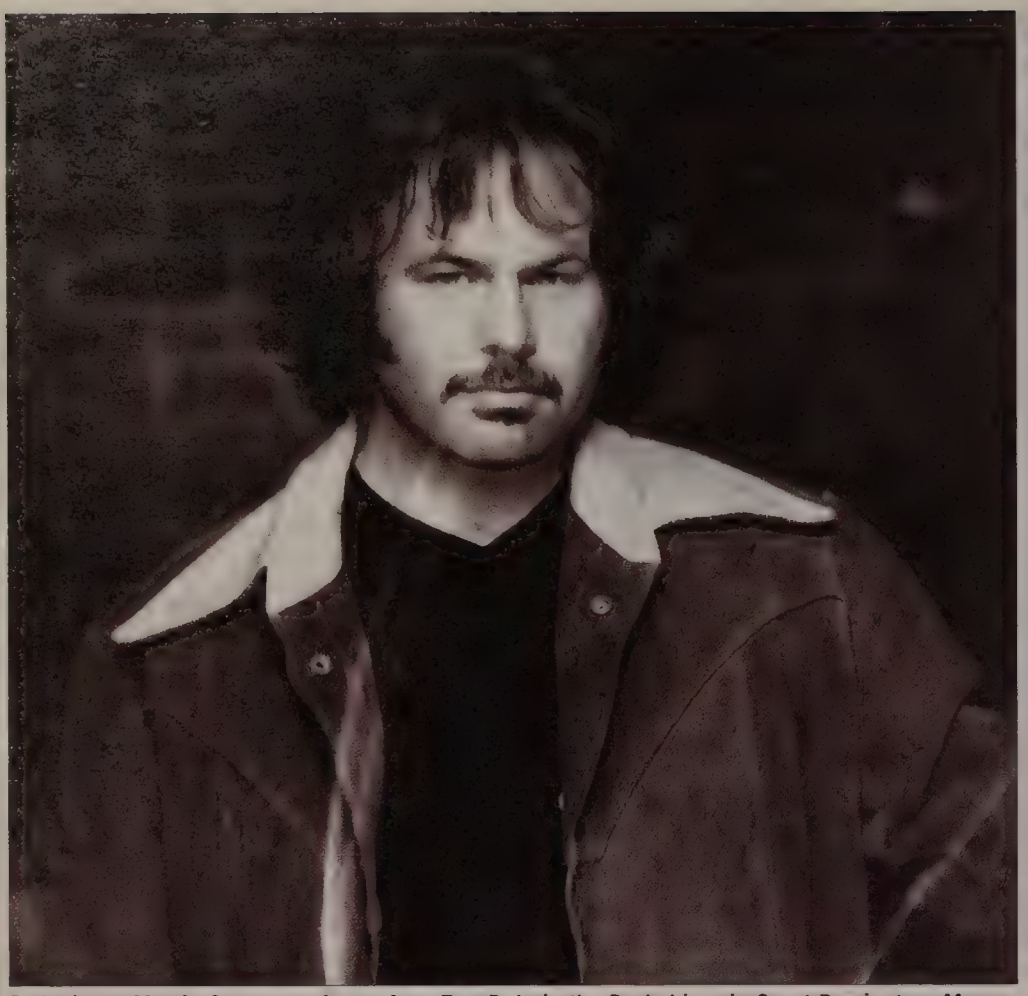
Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis.
Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 10pm.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Blue Grass Pickin' Party, 8pm; Andrew Hall Band 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Johnny D's Brooks Williams, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffrey More, 5-11pm, no cover.
Kendall Cafe Steve Poltz, 21+, $10.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8pm, no cover.
McGann's Luka Bloom.
Middle East U: Brando, Red Invasion, Kevorkian's Angels and Default, $8, 18+. D: Jazz Is Dead, $20, 18+.
Milky Way Mary, Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
PJ Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with Megladon (MD) Jazz, 6:15-10:15pm, 21+.
Toad Hillbilly Voodoo featuring Barrence Whitfield.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Boxsteps, Houston Cassettes and The Autumn Rhythm, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent *21 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100).*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*



Keb' Mo' brings his modern acoustic blues to the FleetBoston Pavilion Aug. 11.



Folk singer Martin Sexton performs Aug. 5 at Bela in the Berkshires in Great Barrington, Mass.

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
Maison Robert *45 School St. Boston, (227-3370). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Marché Caveau *The Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (578-9700). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
MDC Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston (727-1300).*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Colombus Ave., Boston (482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA. Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
South Shore Music Circus *130 Sobier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400).*
Suffolk Downs *111 Waldemar Ave., East Boston (567-3900). MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs.*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 1

Bach Cantata
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $13-$40. Soprano Dawn Upshaw in Bach's Cantata No. 199.

Bach's Lunch Series: Early Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). www.longy.edu. 12:15pm. Tonight's program is titled *La Fête Musicale.*

WCRB's Concert Series
MDC Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. New England Conservatory Children's Chorale performs.

THURSDAY, AUG. 2

Hekun Wu and Elise Yun
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. Wu and Yun perform *Songs and Dances from Distant Lands.*

FRIDAY, AUG. 3

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. David Robertson conducts. A prelude concert will be held at 6pm in Ozawa Hall.

SATURDAY, AUG. 4

Boston Chamber Music Society
Longy School of Music, One Follen St., Cambridge (349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. 8pm. $22. Martin Beaver is featured on violin.

Boston Symphony Orchestra—George W. and Florence N. Adams Concert
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. Seiji Ozawa conducts this performance of Strauss's *Salome.* An open rehearsal takes place at 10:30am.

SUNDAY, AUG. 5

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. $14-$78. Dame Kiri Te Kanawa is the featured soprano. André Previn conducts.

MONDAY, AUG. 6

Summer Sings
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (267-7442). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30pm. $8, including refreshments. Chorus pro Musica invites the public to sing along with them. Previous singing experience is not required; scores will be provided. Tonight's featured music is Beethoven's *Mass in C.*

TUESDAY, AUG. 7

Janus 21 Chamber Music Festival
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (931-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $21. Tonight's program is titled *Drama and Dreams.*

Noon Hour Recitals at King's Chapel
School and Tremont streets, Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Elzbieta Wlosek plays the C. B. Fisk organ.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8

Bach's Lunch Series: Vocal Recital
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (876-0956). 12:15pm. Free. Featuring soprano Anastasia Nikolova and Lisa DeSiro on piano.



The Boston Chamber Music Society performs Aug. 4 and 11 at the Longy School of Music.

Dawn Upshaw and Friends
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. Dawn Upshaw, soprano, presents songs of heart and home.

WCRB's Concert Series
MDC Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. Massachusetts Allstate Community Honors Band performs.

THURSDAY, AUG. 9

Paul Carlson
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7pm. Free. Pianist Paul Carlson presents a concert of works by Chopin, Neislen, Debussy and local composer Hayg Boyadjian.

Collage New Music
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. David Hoose conducts.

Festival of Contemporary Music—The Fromm Concert
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. Conductor David Hoose leads Collage New Music.

FRIDAY, AUG. 10

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. $14-$78. André Previn conducts and Van Cliburn is featured on piano.

Festival of Contemporary Music
Tanglewood, The Theatre, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 1:30pm. The Fellows of the Tanglewood Music Center present a prelude to the day's featured performance, which begins at 2:30pm. Stefan Asbury conducts.

SATURDAY, AUG. 11

Boston Chamber Music Society
Longy School of Music, One Follen St., Cambridge (349-0086). www.bostonchambermusic.org. 8pm. $22. Christiaan Bor, violinist, is featured in this program.

Boston Landmarks Orchestra
Georges Island, (520-2200). 2pm. Free. The summer concert series continues with a program titled *The Baroque Concerto.*

Festival of Contemporary Music
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. Ilan Volkov conducts the Fellows of the Tanglewood Music Center. A prelude concert takes place at 1:30pm.

Festival of Contemporary Music—Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. Roberto Abbado conducts a program featuring flutist Jacques Zoon.

SUNDAY, AUG. 12

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. Bernard Haitink conducts.

Festival of Contemporary Music
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 10am. Stefan Asbury conducts the Fellows of the Tanglewood Music Center.

MONDAY, AUG. 13

Festival of Contemporary Music—Herbert Wasserman Memorial Evening
Tanglewood, The Theatre, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 7pm. A program titled *Music for Two Pianos* is presented by the Alumni and Fellows of the Tanglewood Music Center.

Festival of Contemporary Music—Herbert Wasserman Memorial Evening
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. Paul Zukofsky conducts the Fellows of the Tanglewood Music Center.

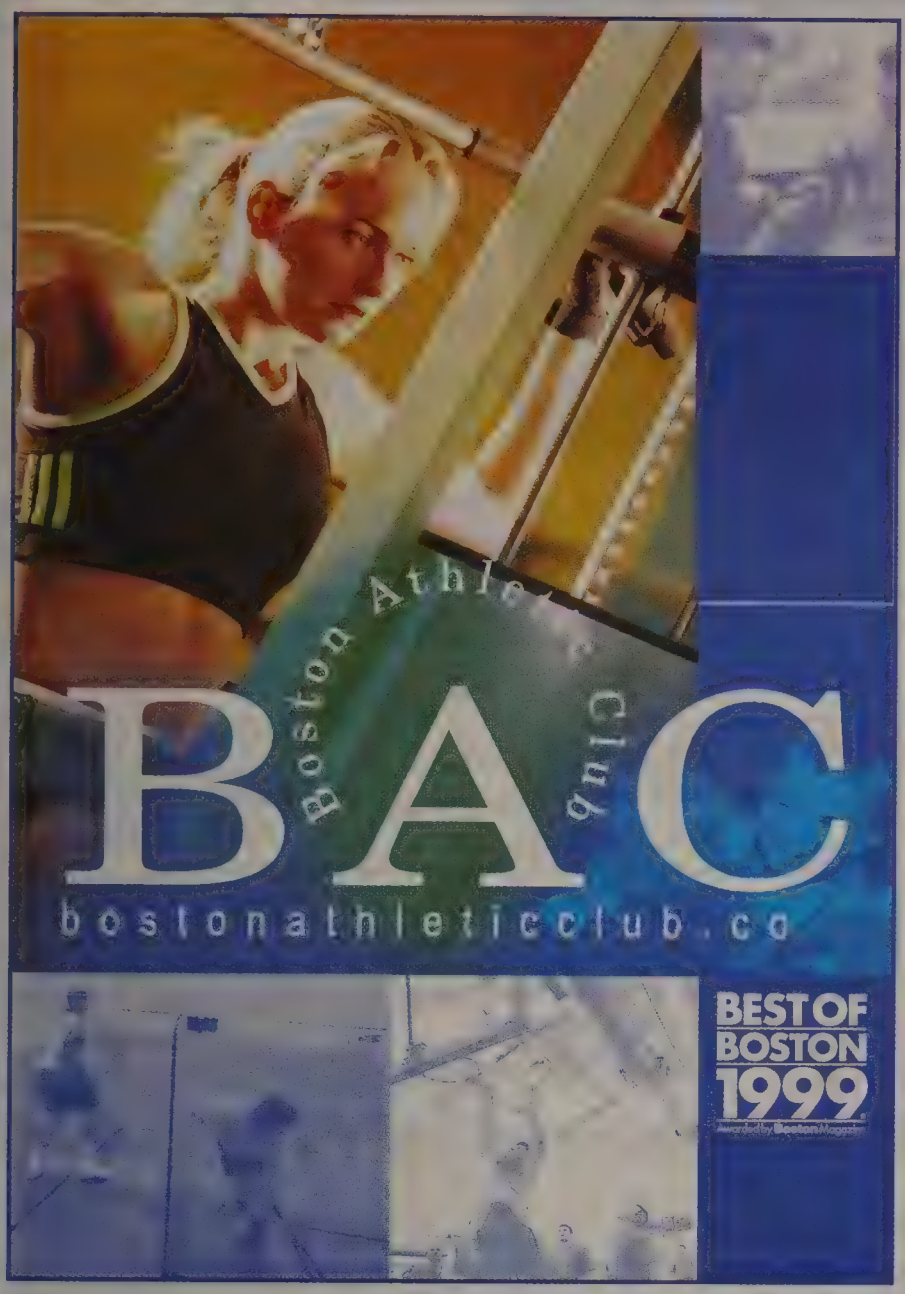
Summer Sings
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (267-7442). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30pm. $8, including refreshments. Tonight's featured music is Haydn's *Creation.* See Aug. 6 for details.

TUESDAY, AUG. 14

Festival of Contemporary Music—The Margaret Lee Crofts Concert
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. Oliver Knussen conducts the Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra.

Janus 21 Chamber Music Festival
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St, Cambridge (931-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $21. Tonight's program, titled *Summer Breezes*, features guest artists the Zéphyros Quintet.

Noon Hour Recitals at King's Chapel
School and Tremont streets, Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Brian Troiano, Scott Rossley and Jon Baker perform on trombone.



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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is an Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Fridays, Saturdays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spinning. Sat.: DJ sensation Vanessa Cummings.



Jacques' Showgirl Miss Diamond Dunhill hosts Chic, Vapor's new Tuesday night disco party.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life. Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free afterhours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. Chic celebrates Markus' big birthday Aug. 14. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Alternative Insemination Seminar
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). www.fenwayhealth.org. *Aug. 1, 6:30-9:30pm. $50.* This introductory class is also the first step in Fenway Health's insemination program.

BiCamp 2001
Northampton (424-9595). www.biresource.org. *Aug. 16-20. $15-40. (sliding scale).* Missing the great outdoors and those late-night skinny dipping sessions? The Bisexual Resource Center is hosting a weekend of camping out. You provide your own tent, food, transportation; they provide the bathroom facilities.

Gay Spirit Camp
Easton Mountain Retreat, 391 Herrington Hill Road, Easton, NY (800-553-8235). Through Sept. 3. A new retreat founded by Bostonian John Stasio, this trip offers a variety of community-building and mind-body programs to help gay men recognize and celebrate their talents.

Stop Kiss
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Aug. 9-25. $15. This tragicomedy performed by Erinys offers a provocative glimpse at how two women unexpectedly fall in love and how an act of violence transforms their lives in a way they could never anticipate.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Best Foot Forward
Ballet Etc. Dance Studios, 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (522-1444). MBTA: B Green Line to Washington Street. Bring your friends for swing dancing for gays/lesbians/bisexuals of all skill levels.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday, 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (338-5305). Third Saturday of each month, 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6235). First Friday of each month, 7-9pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. An ongoing group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

Hepatitis A Clinic
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6244). www.fenwayhealth.org. *Free. 5-7pm.* Walk-in clinic provides first and second doses of the vaccine.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Latino Social Groups
Latino Gay Men's Project (350-6900, ext. 125) and the Women's Social Group (350-6900, ext. 124).

Lesbians Considering Parenting
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6243). Held quarterly. Sliding scale.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Male Survivors of Sexual Assault
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (800-834-3242). This free 10-week program is held in conjunction with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Swingtime Committee
Ballet Etc., 185 Corey Rd., Brookline (364-7207). Every first Saturday, take free swing lessons at 8pm. Lessons are followed by a DJ set. All are smoke- and alcohol-free.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

The Luxury of a Limo,
The Affordability of a Cab

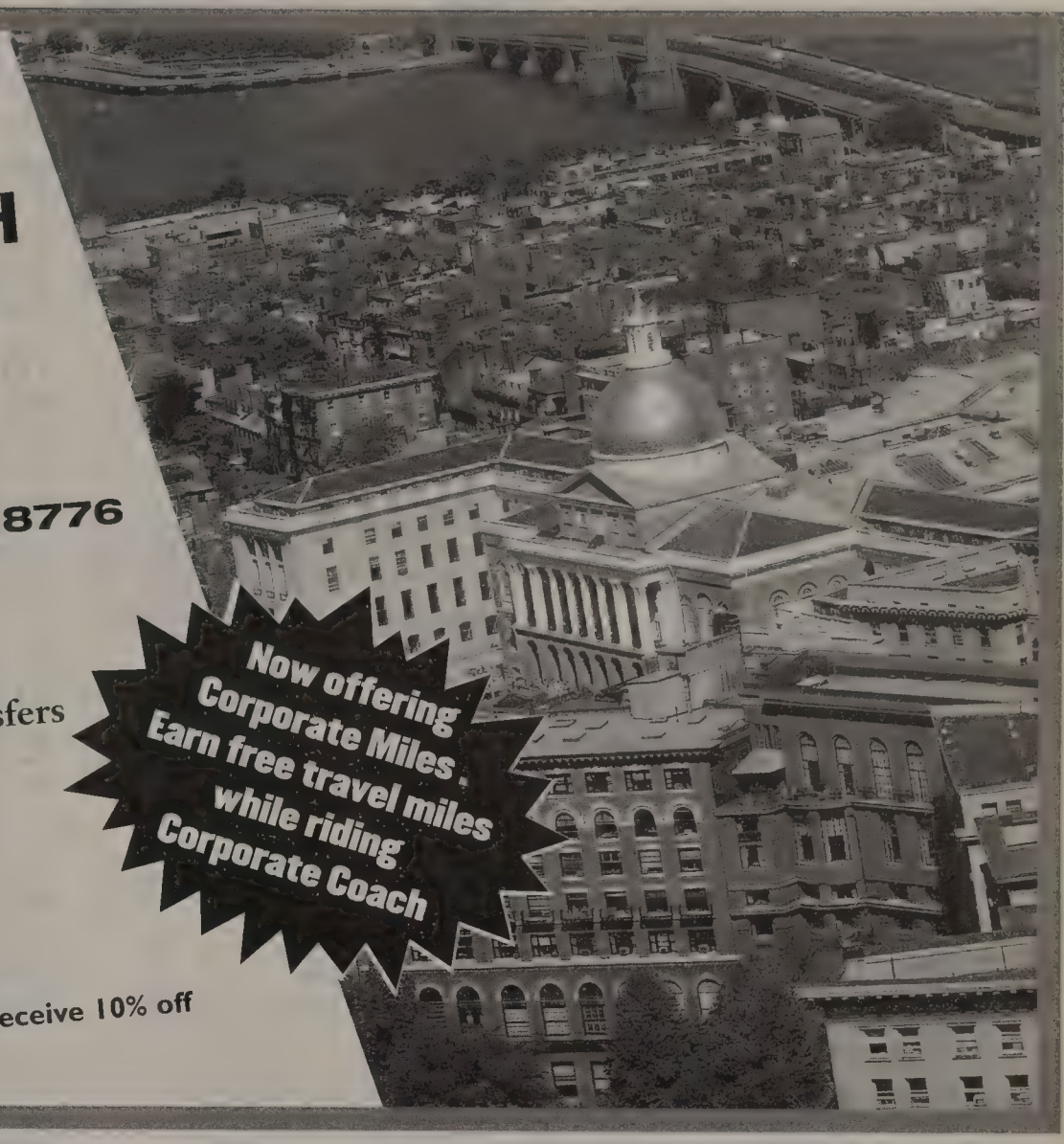
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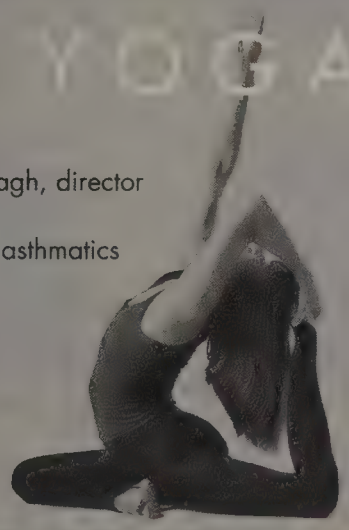
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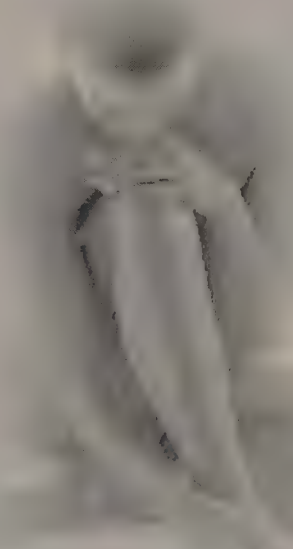
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Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*



Michele Blood teaches MusiVation Aug. 7.

EVENT

Intro to Holistic Healing Modalities
John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place, Boston (781-891-8696). Aug. 4, 2-5pm. $125. Have you ever wanted to visit a holistic health practitioner but were unsure of which type would be best? This presentation will explain the differences between them and talk about how good nutrition and emotional well-being are fundamental to good health.

CLASSES

Create Miracles and Heal Your Life
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Aug. 7, 6-8:30pm. $31.* Maybe bad things have happened to you or you're simply not living the life you want, but you still can dramatically create a healed and happy self. **Michele Blood** teaches her technique MusiVation in this workshop. This technique uses positive song lyrics to create a long-term positive outlook on life.

Reincarnation & Karma
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Aug. 3, 7-9pm. $15.* We hear these words all the time, but do we really understand what they mean? In an evening of discussion, experiential exercises and meditation, speaker **Avril Bell** will guide an investigation of these two concepts and their relevance to our lives in the present moment.

Tai Chi Partner Drills
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http:// dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *Aug. 11, 9am-1pm. $50.* This is tai chi for two. Learn two-person drills that will help you live and work peacefully within your surroundings.

Tapping Into Your Intuition
Center for Balance, 857 Washington St., Newton (527-0247). MBTA: Bus lines #553, 554, 556. www.centerforbalance.org. *Aug. 6 and Aug. 13, 6:30-8:30pm. $55.* Intuition, sixth sense, gut feeling...whatever you call it, this class explores it. Learn how to listen to yours so you can reap all the benefits it provides.

The Light at the End of the Carpal Tunnel: Repetitive Strain Injury and Feldenkrais
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 1 Story St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 7, 6:30-9:30 pm. $43.* Before you curse your cursor, take a look at yourself through this mini-workshop on Awareness Through Movement. Learn to work smarter, not harder.

LECTURES

Astrology Weekend
Theosophical Society, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101 or 617-524-7072). Aug. 11-12, 9am-5 pm. $170. This two-day workshop with **Dr. Monique Pommier**, astrological counselor, educator and writer, will offer a full overview of astrology and how it relates to your sense of self and your potential. Learn how these cosmic energies make us who we are and discover life paths that make us whole.

Cambridge Yoga Rest and Rejuvenation
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Aug. 11, 12:30-5:30 pm. $58.* Too busy to get away or plan a proper vacation? Enjoy an energizing and peaceful Saturday afternoon in a beautiful Cambridge Tudor house near Harvard Square with a spectacular garden, hot tub and swimming pool. Meditation, water yoga and back and foot massages are some of the delights to be had. No yoga experience needed.

Summer Yoga Weekend
The Yoga Studio, 74 Joy St., Boston (523-7138). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. www.yogastudio.org. *Aug 10-12. 10 hours. $120.* Deepen your practice at this yoga intensive taught locally by **Barbara Benagh**. Emphasis will be on the natural rhythm of breathing and the science of breath in asanas. This internally focused practice helps poses bloom naturally.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detoxification
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6200). Daily during walk-in hours. If you want to break the cycle of substance abuse, try acupuncture.

Astanga Focus Class
Metropolitan Fitness, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (927-2274). www.bostonfitness.com. *Wed., 6pm.* This 30-minute yoga class with **Marc McDonald** will focus on one or two Astanga postures each week. Great for beginners as well as advanced students who want to perfect their postures.

Contact Improvisation Jam
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (320-9792) MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 8-10pm. $7-$10. Join three fantastic movement teachers, **Gene Broadway**, **Amy Dore** and **Patrick Crowley**, in a workshop that provides a freeing, exciting, and an enjoyable way to dance with others.

Dance Friday
Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (876-3050). MBTA: Bus #77, 80 or 350. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7 adults. Make plans to get moving and dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a nonviolent martial art for peace and protection. This practice takes place outdoors.

Drop In Yoga
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St., Church of Our Savior. Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm. Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class for a powerfully peaceful time.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wed., 6:30-7:30am. Call to register. You'll be feeling so energetic and peaceful after some early morning yoga that you may not even need coffee.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-$18. Call ahead.* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Call ahead. Drop in any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm.

Yoga/South End
Union United Methodist Church, 485 Columbus Ave., (522-7199). www.angelfire.com/ma/patrice. *MBTA: Green Line to Prudential or Orange Line to Back Bay. $15/session. Call ahead.* Certified Kripalu yoga teacher **Patrice Flesch** teaches mixed-level classes in a spiritual setting. Increase flexibility, relieve stress, build strength, relax and enjoy yourself at any of these on-going drop-in classes: Tuesdays at 7pm and Saturdays at 10 am.

Zen Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are appropriate for anyone who seeks or is on a personal spiritual path.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). Thursdays and Fridays, 8pm. Through October. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts his life in Revolutionary Boston.

North Shore Music Theatre: The Wizard of Oz and Cinderella
62 Dunham Road, Route 128, exit 19, Beverly (232-7200). •August 3, 9:30am and 12pm. $10-$12: The Gingerbread Players and Jack will be performing the timeless classic *The Wizard of Oz*, by L. Frank Baum. •August 10, 9:30am and 12pm. $10-$12: The Yates Musical Theatre group performs *Cinderella*.

THINGS TO DO

All About Owls
New England Wild Flower Society, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). August 6, 10-11am. $3-$4. Children can learn all about owls, from the great horned owl to the tiny, secretive saw-whet owl. Learn how owls use their amazing senses of sight and hearing.

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Saturdays, 12pm. Staff read from the best of new and classic children's books.

City of Boston Summer Clinics
Boston Parks and Recreation (625-4505). No preregistration is required. Call for details. Ages 6-14. This month there are tons of summer clinics and workshops for children. Participate in wheelchair basketball clinics, take double-dutch lessons or learn to play lacrosse, football, baseball, basketball and softball.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tuesdays, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of storytelling fun.

Discover Science with BPL
•*August 7, 10:30am: Roslindale Branch Library, 4238 Washington St., Roslindale (323-2343).* •*August 9, 10:30am: Faneuil Branch Library, 419 Faneuil St., Brighton (782-6705).* •*Aug. 9, 1:30pm: South End Branch Library, 685 Tremont St., Boston (536-8241).* Kids can discover science with the Boston Public Library and the Museum of Science during this hands-on science workshop. Learn about liquid nitrogen and how planes fly, and see animals up-close.

Family Fun Day
Malcolm X Park, Dale St., Roxbury (427-2222). August 4, 11am-4pm. This event, sponsored by WBOT 97.7FM, includes sports activities, live musical performances, food, clowns, magicians and jugglers.

Harry Potter's Birthday Celebration
Barnes & Noble, 395 Washington St., Boston (426-4142). MBTA Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Aug. 2, 6:30pm. Free. Come dressed as Harry Potter. There wil be fun activities and snacks in celebration of Harry's birthday.

Make Cookies!
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520). Aug. 11, 10am-12pm. $39-$49. Kids and parents make cookies together.

National KidsDay Celebration
City Hall Plaza, Boston (877-346-KIDS). Aug. 5, 11am-2pm. A full day of children's music and entertainment, snacks and prizes, costumed characters and games.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). Call to preregister. •August 1, 4pm. Ages 6 and older. Colonial Cooking from Sturbridge Village. •August 7, 3pm. Ages 6 and older. *Massachusetts Indians* story and craft hour. •August 13, 3pm. *Swimming Codfish* story and craft hour.

Summer SOULstice
Christian Science Plaza, 200 Mass. Ave., Boston (450-7319). •August 7, 11am-1:30pm: A storyteller from the Boston Public Library will be followed by a quintet from the Boston Pops, and then balloon and face painting fun with Rami Salami and Susan Bloom. •August 14, 11am-1:30pm: Children can participate in a gardening activity and watch a dance performance. Janice Allen will tell a story, and then kids can get balloon sculptures and have their faces painted to top off the fun.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Boston University's Nickerson Field. Tickets: 866-462-7325
Aug. 2, 7pm: Atlanta Beat
Aug. 5, 3pm: San Diego Spirit
Aug. 12, 6pm: Philadelphia Charge

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
Aug. 1, 7:05pm: Anaheim Angels
Aug. 2, 7:05pm: Anaheim Angels
Aug. 3, 7:05pm: Texas Rangers
Aug. 4, 5:05pm: Texas Rangers
Aug. 5, 1:05pm: Texas Rangers
Aug. 6, 6:05pm: Texas Rangers
Aug. 7, 10:05pm: Oakland Athletics
Aug. 8, 10:05pm: Oakland Athletics
Aug. 9, 3:35pm: Oakland Athletics
Aug. 10, 7:05pm: Baltimore Orioles
Aug. 11, 1:15pm: Baltimore Orioles
Aug. 12, 1:35pm: Baltimore Orioles
Aug 14, 7:05pm: Seattle Mariners

New England Revolution
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 877-GET-REVS
Aug. 1, 8:30pm: Kansas City Wizards
Aug. 8, 7:30pm: Dallas Burn
Aug. 11, 7:30pm: Miami Fusion

Events

Backpacking Talk
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). Aug. 8, 6-9pm. $27, members; $29 non-members. Expert backpacker Tim Wilson shares his tips about hitting the hiking trails and conquering the great outdoors. Learn how to use modern materials and techniques. Information about trip planning and gear selection will make your next backpacking outing better than ever.

Cape Cod Baseball League Benefit Screening of *Summer Catch*
Hoyt's Cinema at Cape Cod Mall, Rt. 132, Hyannis (978-975-2405). Aug. 2, 7pm. $75, screening and after-party; $125 with VIP reception; $150 with VIP seating and reception. In *Summer Catch*, Freddie Prinz Jr. struggles to make it back to the majors from the Cape Cod Baseball League. Here's your chance to go see the movie while supporting the real thing.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players age 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practices Sunday at 11am.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through August. Men's and women's divisions are open.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (972-1711). www.boston-boxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2pm-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur, Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum). $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston

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AUG. 3RD



John Valby

AUG. 10-11



Elayne Boosler

AUG. 17-18



Jake Johannsen

AUG. 26TH



Sommore

AUG. 31-SEPT. 2



Dane Cook

SEPT. 7-9



Steve Sweeney

SEPT. 14TH



Bobby Collins

SEPT. 21ST



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BSSC in Brighton (789-4070).

HIKING/ WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.burfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (499-4835). www.angelfire.-com/ma/ bostonhhh. Weekly runs year round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer. Begins May 20.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club. (789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.



You'll be hoisting your jib and shivering your timbers in no time with Community Boating.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Community Boating is the largest and oldest nonprofit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for $190 per season, including instruction.



around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and noon-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Mount Auburn Cemetery
580 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (547-7105). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8am-8pm.



Famous Bostonians rest in peace at the Mount Auburn Cemetery.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10. $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesday and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Be a friend to a young girl. Info sessions: Aug. 1 and Aug. 6, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge Cares about AIDS
(661-3040, ext. 13). Help at the front desk.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Deliver meals for individuals with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with homeless children in shelters. Training session: Aug. 14-15.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Share fun times with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pan-Massachusetts Challenge
(800-WE-CYCLE). Aug. 4-5. Volunteer at major hub and water stop sites at this bicycling fundraiser.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Serve meals and act as receptionist.

Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic
(577-1111). Needs volunteers to record textbooks at East Cambridge studio, days and evenings.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, the groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(536-2460). Provide friendship over the phone.

United Services Organization (USO)
(720-4949). Welcome Navy ships, visit VA hospitals, provide office support or coordinate events.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to assist legal immigrants and refugees to become naturalized citizens.

LEFT: SUSIE COPITHORNE; RIGHT: RACHEL BROMBERG

Leslie's Links was founded in 1999 by Leslie Semonian who battled cancer and passed away in December of 1999 at the age of 32. During the eight and a half year period of her illness, until her death, Leslie never allowed cancer to stand in the way of her goal of helping others. She knew how precious life was and energetically embraced each day. She helped others to appreciate their own lives more. She wanted to be remembered as a participant in life, not an observer. Her passion was boundless, and will continue in the hearts of the many friends and people whom she inspired.



Leslie's Links is a fund at the Dana Farber Cancer Institute which raises money for Ewings Sarcoma Cancer Research in various ways. One of which is through the Leslie's Links bike team associated with the 192-mile Pan-Mass Challenge bike-a-thon from Sturbridge to Provincetown which will take place August 4-5, 2001. In addition to the bikers, there is a team of Kayakers called TEAM RACK who will be kayaking from Boston's Rowes Wharf to Provincetown, also in honor of Leslie's Links. They are committed to raising over $30,000!

The Leslie's Links riding team raised over $250,000 last year which is already allowing Dr. George Demetri (Leslie's former doctor) at the Dana Farber to make some great progress. **www.leslieslinks.com** helps link patients, family members and doctors together to help one another share information, finance research and hopefully find a cure.

To make a donation to the Leslie's Links/Pan-Mass Challenge Team, please make checks payable to the address below. Donations will be accepted until September 25th. We graciously thank you for your support.

Leslie's Links/PMC
Improper Bostonian
142 Berkeley St. 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116

Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

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Recent correspondence follows.

Heathcliff
"Let go your heart, let go your mind, and feel it now..."
—Cathy

Jason
You said, "I would never use you. That's not me." But at this point I feel used! You kept on telling me, "I'm not like other guys," but from where I stand you are just like the rest of them. Why is it that men feel they can treat women this way? I actually believed you were different, but that was my mistake. I should have listened when people told me, "He's only after one thing." But you're still young and maybe someday you will grow up and want a real woman in your life. But you can bet I won't be around. Don't get me wrong, it was fun—you are easy to talk to. I always had fun with you, but I want a relationship that you can't give me. You are the one who missed out, because you will never find someone like me again. I guarantee it!
—sickofmen@hotmail.com

Dog Walker
You were walking your dog and I was walking down Newbury. Your dog was so well behaved without a leash, and I told you I thought so. You told me you liked my pink shades. We walked for a while side by side talking about your dog (I said he looked like a bear). When I reached my car, I made the mistake of stopping and getting in. I should have continued my walk with you, but we said goodbye. I would love to hear more about your dog. If you're interested, e-mail me so we can get to know each other, and I can get to know your dog.
—jennjune26@hotmail.com

No Name
You made your employees cry. And you stink. You smell. Your body odor is offensive. Your stench reminds us of something dying or dead. We are forced to mouth-breathe whenever you walk by, as one whiff of your unique scent makes us physically ill. Please consider a daily bath or shower, preferably with soap or some other lathering agent. If that is too much to ask, then please consider not leaving your house ever again. We thank you from the bottom of our scarred lungs, you cold, evil woman.
—howshesmells@hotmail.com

Meredith
Hi, I know this is whimsical and quixotic but here goes... I met you at the Duncan Sheik concert in Copley Square. I offered you a seat. You accepted. I was with a friend and we were leaving. However, I wanted to stay and talk with you. I had previously seen you on the T and thought that you looked very nice. I would definitely like to see you again. I hope you see this and respond.
—ihopeyouaresingle@hotmail.com

Lost and Found and Lost
You lost your wallet at Faneuil Hall on July 4. You were the pretty airline stewardess from Illinois, and I met you at Downtown Crossing the next day. I helped you with your banking needs. Then I told you your wallet was found, as I called lost and found over there. You went over to get it. I hope you found it! I would love to take you out to dinner and see you smile again, or you just e-mailing me to say hi would make me smile.
—thegoodguy9@aol.com

Art Chick
Fortune certainly favors the brave. Little did I know, that innocuous letter would send my life veering off into this deliriously happy orbit that am I now in. I shall not even bother to count the ways in which you have made me happy. I'll simply leave it to the two of us to find out. Here's to many many more late-night talks, thunderstorms and flaming pillows (Well, maybe not the last one!). From the physicist across the river who is smitten by your charms and hopes never to recover.
—A guy called Mit

Dave from Atrack
I miss your smile and wish I could have gotten to know you better while you where here, but I couldn't seem to get past "Hi Dave." On the off chance that you see this and remember me (and you're not attached), e-mail me at dmcleod@bbn.com.
—Diane

Cover Girl
To the bitchy hand-stamping girl with the short dark hair: Did I pay a cover charge to be graced with your attitude? Do you realize that you work at an establishment that operates a fog machine? There's a reason you're not working at Morton's or the Ritz, although you seem to believe you're of that caliber. Surprise! I'm glad you find fulfillment playing drink monitor and herding cattle. You have neither looks nor personality, and every new encounter with you is worse than the last one. Megabitch, take it down a level. You're not that pretty, personable or classy.
—Notifitwasfree@aol.com

Cast Away
Jodi, I remember you telling me that you always read the Improper Impersonals, so here goes. The last time we went out was when we saw *Cast Away* in Dec. I made a big error at the end of the evening that I tried to apologize for throughout most of 2001, but you have turned me off like a light switch. Most people have been telling me to give it up, but I think you're worth it. Tell me to stop and I will. Some sort of answer is all I want. Silence does not qualify. I don't know what more I can do except once again say I'm sorry. I do like you. I was hoping we could iron out the bumps we have been hitting for the past few years. Can't we go for a walk on one of these nice summer evenings and just talk? Interested?
—bacresdozen@hotmail.com

Morning of June 19 at the Boston Small Claims Court
Hi, we met only for a moment at the small-claims calendar. You are a tall, pretty Asian lady with thick black glasses who had a case pending. I guess I'm tall, dark and handsome, or so I've been told (of course you can't believe everything you hear!). You asked me if I was opposing counsel. I glanced at the list and said I didn't think so. You smiled and said, "That's good." Why the ad? I still can't forget that smile. If you read this and remember me, send me an e-mail.
—tomi02118@yahoo.com

Sweet Pea
It'll be one year officially Aug. 1, but it's just one of many many more to follow. You've shown me what true happiness is and have given me a reason to look forward to every day. I know I've made it difficult at times, but thanks for not giving up on me. I love you always sweet pea, and happy anniversary!
—Oskar

Dog Daze of Summer
Yo, pet owner. Is that you I see riding your bike with your dog trailing behind, its leash tied to your handlebars? Or maybe you're the dude on Rollerblades, coasting along at high speeds while your trusty pet tries to keep up, its tongue hanging out of its mouth and its eyes wild with fatigue. Or maybe you're the person who just runs into Star Market "for a minute" and leaves Snuggles in the car, roasting in the summer sun. Your dog can't talk, but I can. Don't be a numskull. When you take your pet out for your daily run/ride/skate, be sure to stop and give it a rest once in a while. When you take a drink, give your dog a drink. And never, ever leave your pet in a hot car, not even for a few minutes. That's cruel.
—Patron Saint of Panting Pooches

Rockie Horoscope



AUGUST 1 – AUGUST 14, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LEO JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Something's gotta give. While the Leo sun opposes the planets in your Aquarius marriage house, the tension generated between you and a partner becomes as taut as it's gonna get, for another year at least. Before one of you snaps, find a common ground to safely land on. There is so much going on—besides deciding how to celebrate your birthday—it won't be easy to focus on what is most important: art for art's sake, change for the sake of change or, finally, freedom from same-old, same-old.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Find a way to milk your heritage for fun and profit, like Mario Puzo did, and you could become a famous name in your town, on the Internet, maybe even be inscribed in the *Guinness Book of Records*. The confrontation between Saturnian tradition and Plutonic transformation can affect your relationship with neighbors and family, especially if they are Corleones. Colleagues will be eager to add their creative input (for a piece of the action, no doubt) but, ultimately, to insure success, you'll have to blow your own horn.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
The resolution of a personal matter that's been in the works a long time, ever since Saturn and Pluto met in Libra at the end of 1982, can have huge repercussions while these planets are in opposition this year and next. It'll affect what you value, what you possess, what you're willing to lose and how you'll deal with that loss. At the same time, you're about to benefit from the annual merger of your Venus ruler and expansive Jupiter; look for a double dose of good fortune when traveling, especially if you're revisiting your roots.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
August shows up with a mixed bag of experiences: cash and creature comforts from either a joint venture you're currently engaged in or an ex-partner, a responsibility you didn't realize you had to assume and you won't be happy about, excellent information and plenty of artistic inspiration. A test of faith in your surroundings, sympathy for a spacy neighbor and a sudden desire to move or rearrange your living conditions pretty much covers this year's rendition of summer in the city. Hot town, hot time.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
It all depends on how involved you get and how seriously you take the changes about to go down. Goodies such as money and the happy times that come when sociable Venus joins up with your lucky Jupiter ruler, as it does at least once a year, every year, will no doubt bring pleasure. But will it force you to question your perspective on a partnership or transform how you deal with your dark side the way Saturn's opposition to Pluto in Sag will? This could be a heavy-duty, real-life turning point, so put down the wine glass and pay attention. Or not.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Caps have a lot in common with Scorpios, Sags and Geminis this month, so see if their forecasts contain kernels of sage advice for you. You'll probably receive a lucky break or benefits from a co-worker or a partner while Venus and Jupiter meet up in your Cancer complement. That'll be nice, but more relevant to your inner life is the pressure put on your Saturn ruler from powerful Pluto, the planet of transformation and inevitability. Something big is about to happen on a worldwide and, for you guys, personal level. Get ready.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Things come to a head while the Leo sun and "all ears" Mercury oppose the planets in Aquarius through the 10th. Take the information you glean to heart: It'll probably be matters of the heart and family affairs that'll affect you the most. Changes could readily occur regarding work, but those won't leave as lasting an impression as even slight variations on your personal life. You need to feel rooted right now, so do what you can to nurture those roots.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
A standoff with a colleague or a casual acquaintance is usually no big deal, but if the opposition is over an artistic choice, it could turn into a source of practically "divine" inspiration. While the sun and Mercury oppose your Neptune ruler, your antenna is very much attuned to the creative process, making this the best time to spend with kids or a childlike lover. As for the on-going family saga, try to loosen your attachment.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Summertime and the livin', for an impatient Ram, is not particularly easy. Even if you plan to spend most of the summer on a sailboat, there's still a lot you'll have to do. Plus, contact with planets in your career midheaven can give rise to sudden spurts of ambition. The next two weeks are especially productive for video and film makers, actors, musicians, idealists or anyone with a vision they've been working towards. Family matters, the care and feeding of the folks, can add to your caseload and, at moments, test your faith.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Read for Aries, since your career and a crucial family matter are in the spotlight now. Because your Venus ruler spends all of August in the domesticated sign of the Crab, you may develop a harder shell to protect yourself and an even softer belly than the one you're presently sporting. Being at home, surrounded by the things and people you love, can provide more pleasure than you bargained for. Speaking of which, when Venus hooks up with generous Jupiter around the 5th, there are no bargains, only a rare chance to win, earn and spend lots and lots of money.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
Your financial position, unclear as it may appear, starts to improve as soon as Venus leaves your sign on the 1st. The fewer alternatives there are for a Twin to consider, the fewer opportunities to question decisions and second-guess yourself. Peace of mind in your own time, or something similar as your Mercury ruler merges with the cheerfully creative Leo sun on the 5th, a big day for everybody. Listen to your muse and plan a celebration to mark what could be a major turning point in your or your partner's life.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
"Supreme good fortune," the best of all I Ching predictions, could be your fate when lovable Venus meets lucky Jupiter in Cancer on the 5th. Their favorable conjunction occurs again next June, but after that, you'll have to wait another 12 years to take advantage of the opportunities and rewards offered, to appreciate the roll you're on. What to do? Anything but take the resulting blessings for granted, which could happen simply because Venus encourages a narcissistic, self-indulgent pursuit of pleasure.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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Virginia Governor Jim Gilmore and his wife, Roxane, know where to find Boston's Best of everything.



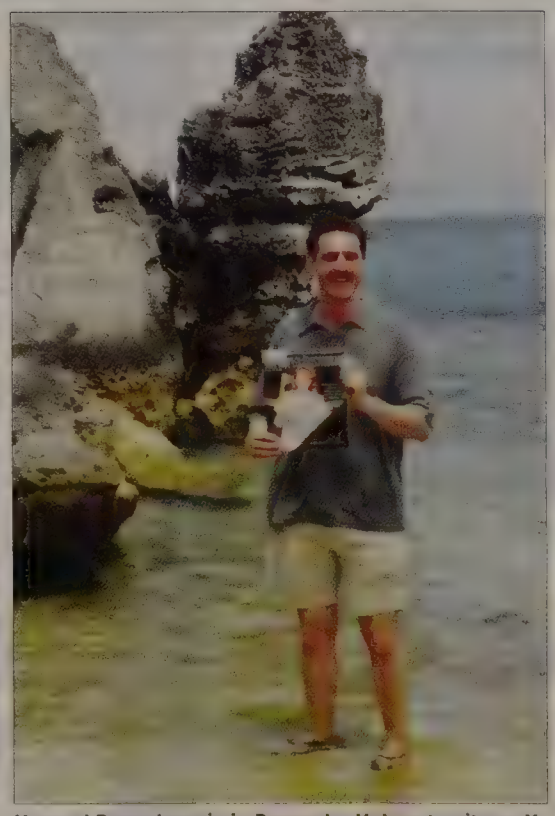
Thomas Roether (left) and Alexander Gill in Amsterdam's lesser-known Green Light District.



Demonstrators in Poland, crying "We love the Improper," march behind D.C. political consultant Brian Katulis, who demands umbrellas for all!



Clockwise from left: Pam and Sharon Reznick, Laurel Seneca and Brenda LeClerc went to Portofino, where color film is scarce but gnocchi aren't.



Howard Rosenberg is in Bermuda. He's not quite as X-Treme as Lisa Eastman, but he does waderead a bit.



Culinary matriarch Julia Child, David O. Harden and Biba chef/owner Lydia Shire take an Improper respite aboard the *Queen Elizabeth*.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:

Jumping a train, eating some beans or taking a cowboy bubblebath at the 101st National Hobo Convention, held Aug. 10-12 in hobocentric Britt, Iowa.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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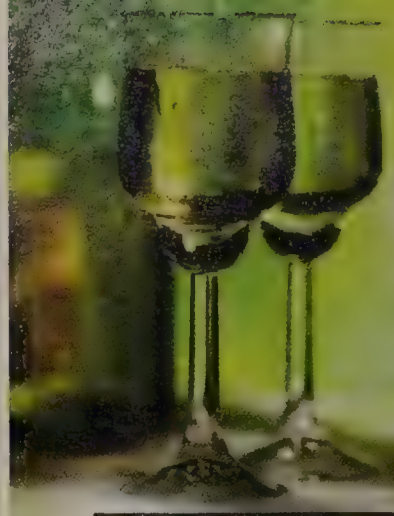
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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week 11:30 am-2am.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

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Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Bronze medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

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The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

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Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

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Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the Fleet-Center and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

Jimmy O'Keefe's *33 Battery March Street, Boston, 695-9333.* Located in the heart of the Financial District, Jimmy O'Keefe's offers great food in a cool place. Open daily for lunch and dinner, O'Keefe's also offers buckets of beer with free hot wings everyday after work. With a saying like "No Bullshit, Just Beer," find out why Jimmy O'Keefe's is the after work and late night hot spot in the downtown area. Entertainment Thursday - Sunday.

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Chowderfest 2000. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/dj's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ'snightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and worldclass margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

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Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a co-worker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science - Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for Adults, $26 for Seniors/ Children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate street-side cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.

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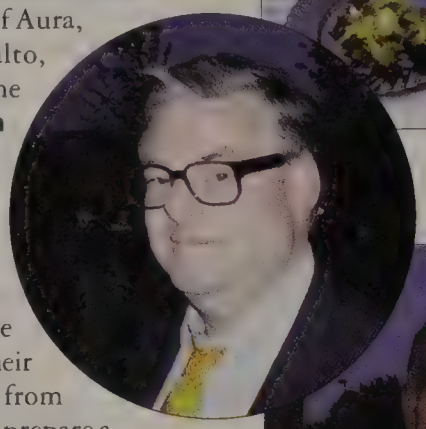
Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF

IT'S NOT THE SIZE THAT MATTERS; IT'S THE RECEPTION...

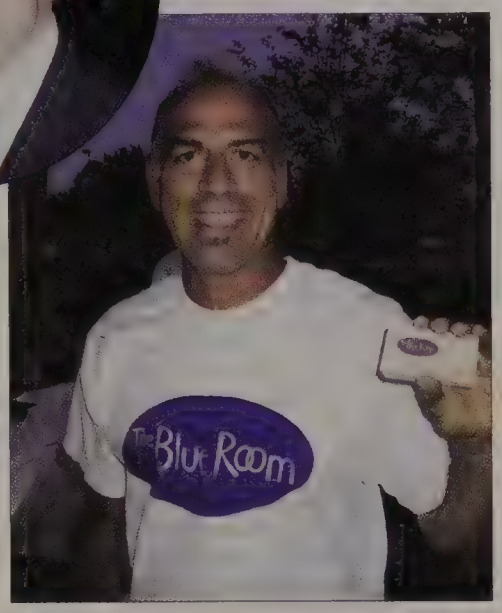
What could be sexier than a professional chef? A professional chef showing a little leg, which explains the popularity of **Chefs in Shorts**.

The annual fund-raiser for the **Chefs Collaborative**, held at the **Seaport Hotel**, attracted such prominent local chow-slingers as **Ed Doyle** of Aura, **Jody Adams** of Rialto, **Steve Johnson** of the Blue Room, **Stan Frankenthaler** of Salamander, **Andy Husbands** of Tremont 647 and **Chris Douglass** of Icarus. The local luminaries were paired with some of their leading colleagues from across the country to prepare a giant outdoor barbecue.





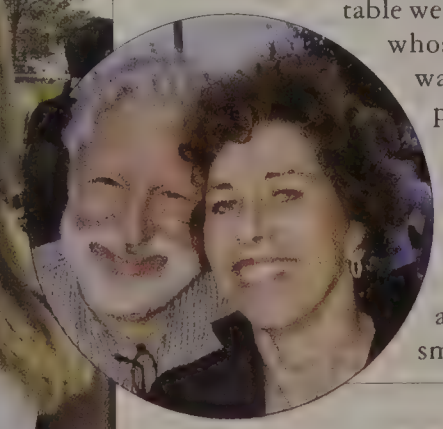
At Chefs in Shorts, from top: chef Jody Adams and her daughter; Kevin Fox; Steve Johnson.

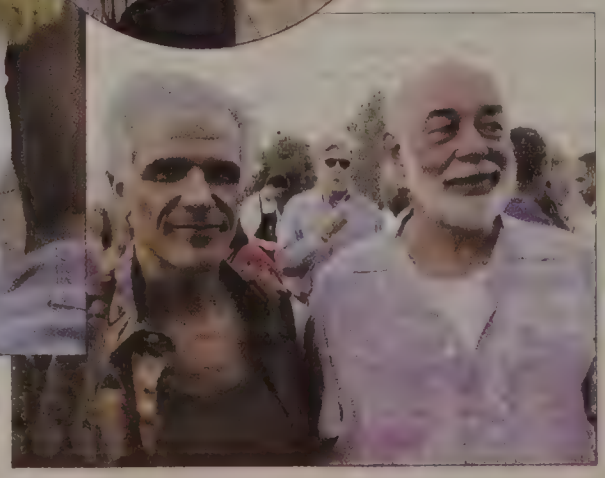


It was a perfect summer evening, with enough of a breeze to keep the smell of mesquite from permanently permeating everyone's clothing, as guests sipped and supped and schmoozed with abandon. Seen grazing among the food stations were such gluttons and gourmands as arctic blonde art dealer **Anja Kola**; Harpoon Brewery bigwig **Charlie Storey**; venture capitalist **Sheryl Marshall** and her affable other half, **Howard Salwen**; retired movie theater executive **Edgar Knudson** and Lucent mucky-muck **Louis Mula**; Community Servings development director **Tim Leahy** with charter school financial guru **Paul Smith**; and one catty woman who said, "It's a good thing the lines are so long. By the look of these people's butts, they could use the exercise."

The evening's most amusing/insightful comment, however, came from another guest who said, "I was at lunch the other day, and these two guys at the next table were arguing over whose cell phone was more compact. I thought, 'Geez. This has to be the first time in history that two men are boasting about whose is smaller.'"

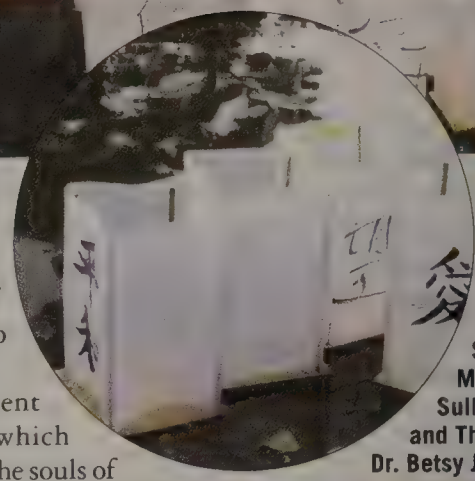






At Chefs in Shorts, clockwise from top: Anja Kola; Howard Salwen and Sheryl Marshall; Louis Mula and Edgar Knudson.





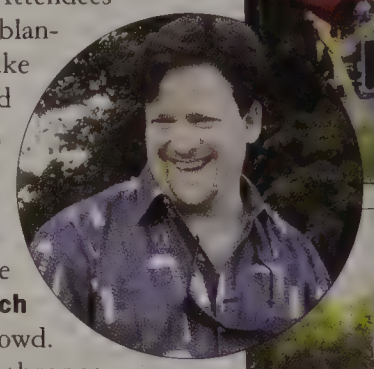
At the Lantern Festival, from top: lanterns to honor the dead; Japanese samurai drummers Tsuji Daiko; Tedd Saunders; Andrew McFarlan and Lori Sullivan; Michael Jolley and Theresa Devine; Dr. Betsy Johnson.

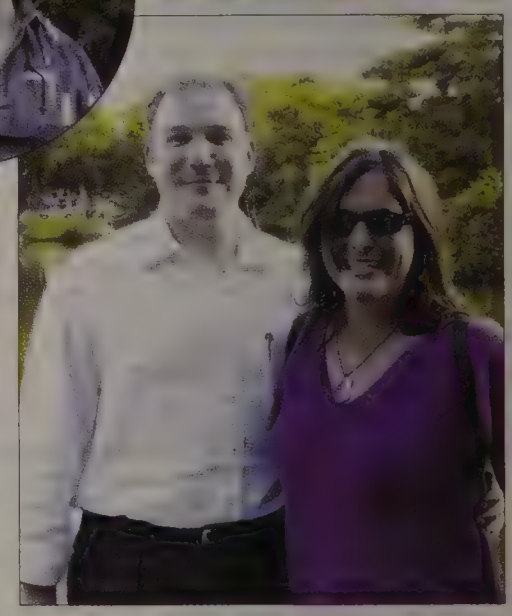
R.I.P.

A graveyard might seem like an odd place for a picnic, but not if it's a celebration to honor the dead.

Inspired by an ancient Buddhist ritual in which lanterns representing the souls of the departed are decorated with prayers and floated out to sea, the third annual **Lantern Festival** at **Forest Hills Cemetery** attracted an eclectic crowd, ranging from arthritic grandmas with thick townie accents to biracial lesbian couples with adopted Asian babies. Attendees spread out on chairs and blankets on the shores of Lake Hibiscus to picnic and decorate their lanterns, while Japanese Samurai drummers **Tsuji Daiko**, dancers from the **Showa Boston Institute** and the **Good Shepherd Church Choir** entertained the crowd.







Spotted among the throng: environmental management consultant and real estate scion **Tedd Saunders** and his Tibetan terrier, **Kiko**; Belmont-bred blue-blood **Andrew McFarlan**; peripatetic lawyer **Lori Sullivan**; Fidelity telecom whiz **Michael Jolley**; stunning homelessness advocate **Theresa Devine**; and physician to the stars **Dr. Betsy Johnson**.

As twilight fell, a bagpiper began to play and the lanterns were lit and launched onto the the lake, joining the swans and geese gliding across its surface. The mood became subdued. The darkness thickened. The looks on people's faces ranged from wistful to cathartic, as everyone watched the votive candles reflecting on the water.

And then quietly, respectfully, everyone left, having said a profound goodbye to those they'd lost.

"I see dead people," someone whispered, only half-joking.

As silly as it sounds, the presence of ghosts was palpable. Reassuring, too. iB





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1999	Audi	A4 1.8Q	Blue/Gray	$22,900.00
1998	Audi	A4 1.8Q	Silver/Black	$17,900.00
1998	BMW	528I sport	Black/Black	$27,900.00
1998	BMW	M3 convt	Black/Black	$28,900.00
1999	BMW	328i	Black/Beige	$26,900.00
1998	BMW	M roadster	Silver/Black	$28,900.00
2001	BMW	X5 3.0 Lit	Black/Black	$44,900.00
1999	Ferrari	F360 Modena	Blue/Beige	$159,000.00
1997	Jaguar	XK8	Ivory/Tan	$33,900.00
2001	M-Benz	CL430 convt.	Red/Gray	$67,900.00



YEAR	MAKE	MODEL	INT./EXT.	PRICE
1998	M-Benz	E430	Burgendy/Beige	$33,900.00
1998	M-Benz	C230	Silver/Black	$20,900.00
1998	M-Benz	SL500 sport	White/Beige	$45,900.00
1998	M-Benz	ML320	Green/Beige	$25,900.00
1999	M-Benz	CL500	Silver/Beige	$47,900.00
1997	M-Benz	CL500	Black/Black	$32,900.00
1999	Porsche	911 convt.	Red/Tan	$62,900.00
1999	Porsche	Boxter	Blue/Tan	$34,900.00
1997	Porsche	Boxter	Silver/Black	$31,900.00
1995	Porsche	911 convt.	Yellow/Blue	$37,900.00

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contents



28
A property in South Boston awaits a buyer. Below: Mark Wahlberg; a member of the New England Hillclimb Association speeds up Mount Washington

FEATURES

18 Dane Cook
Boston-bred comic Dane Cook's rise to success continues. But make no mistake: There will always be hecklers. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

20 Overdrive
Most car owners use their vehicles for strictly utilitarian purposes, but a select few take things further. Much further.
BY EZRA DYER

23 The New Urban Frontier
With prices in the obvious Boston residential areas higher than ever, urbanites are expanding their housing search and moving to up-and-coming neighborhoods that offer more bang for the buck.
BY TERI BORSETI
PLUS: Should you rent or buy? And an apartment hunter's at-a-glance guide to Boston's neighborhoods.

28 Picture Windows
Realtors reveal the crown jewels of their listings.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JONAS A. KAHN

32 Fashion: Elite Retreat
Styles to complement the scent of old money.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MITCHEL GANT


16


20



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Jonas A. Kahn**

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COLUMNS

8 The Word
Limbo; Jimmy Pastore and the Bartender Hall of Fame; Bulger books; psychics take the curse off Fenway; punk-rock aerobics

12 E-Boston
The Microsoft monoculture continues to grow
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 Ezra
Ramen noodles, coffee and the flawed food pyramid
BY EZRA DYER

16 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

38 Mopsy
Pix Poster Cellar; going all Zen; Boston stories
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

56 Film
The Deep End resurrects the premise of 1949's *The Reckless Moment* with success.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

62 Music
Michelle Shocked redefines herself once again.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

80 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

42 Dining
Tu y Yo is a muy bueno choice for Bostonians looking for some authentic Mexican food.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

44 Dish
Tale of the Fed chefs; the Fireplace
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

44 Tastings
Don't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Restaurant Week.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 46.
Cirque du Soleil • The Blue Suede Tribute and Elvis Fest • MFA's **Frederick Wiseman** retrospective • Oldtime Baseball Game Fisherman's Feast in the North End • **Squarepusher** • *The Cherry Orchard* • Dog Day afternoon at The Rack • *The Moon Is Up There* • Fun and games at the Aquarium

ET CETERA

Letters	6
Improper Impersonals	72
Rockie Horoscope	72
Improperazzi	74
Improper Sightings	76
Improper Shopper	78

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

TOP: JONAS A. KAHN; WAHLBERG: KERRY BRETT HURLEY



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letters

YOU CHOSE LAVINIA FOR HER ARTISTRY IN BROW SHAPING, BUT I WOULD SUGGEST HER EXPERTISE GOES FAR BEYOND THE BROW.... A VISIT TO LAVINIA'S SKIN CARE CENTER IS MORE ABOUT HEALTH THAN VANITY.

—SALLY BOWIE
LEXINGTON

MORE THAN SKIN DEEP

I was pleased to see the quality of your choices in the recent Boston's Best issue, a worthy roundup of the city's finest. I want to offer a personal testimony about one of your choices, Lavinia Borcau Skin Care. You chose Lavinia for her artistry in brow shaping, but I would suggest her expertise goes far beyond the brow. I have frequented many well-known shops around town, both chains and individual establishments. Once I experienced Lavinia, my travels were over. As I live in Lexington, Brookline is not the most convenient destination for me, but the service is well worth the trip. I have found a home I trust and value. I have never been pressured to buy products or services. That in itself adds a degree of relaxation I have experienced nowhere else. But what I value most about Lavinia is her intelligence. She treats her customers with respect and gravity. She sees skin scientifically. On two occasions, she urged me to consult my dermatologist about a small bump that she saw as suspicious. On both occasions, she was right on the money. On the second occasion, my dermatologist thought she was mistaken but agreed to biopsy the site. Lavinia was right. My dermatologist now wants to go to Lavinia herself. A visit to Lavinia's Skin Care Center is more about health than vanity. While her eyes are careful evaluators, her hands are full of love. Her facial massage is truly a gift.

I applaud your corps of reviewers in their choice of Lavinia Borcau Skin Care. She *is* Boston's Best.

—SALLY BOWIE
Lexington

CATMAN WANTS FUR GRAFT

The IMPROPER BOSTONIAN has no room panning *Boston Metro* as a no-content newspaper in the Boston's Best issue. While I pick up your magazine religiously, my average viewing time is 10 minutes and then the entire thing goes into the recycling bin. The IMPROPER BOSTONIAN provides a great overview of happenings around town, but I don't go to your publication for in-depth news. Metro doesn't espouse to be the *Globe* or *Herald*. They provide a glimpse of what's going on in the world today, which, as a busy Bostonian, I appreciate. I think you owe them an apology. Either that, or the IMPROPER needs to beef up its own content.

—KATE QUICK
Via e-mail

A SHOE-IN

Ezra: You forgot, in your article on the cost of being a man, the most important reason for a dashing guy like yourself to have nice, new(ish) shoes. Girls.

As the manager of a shoe store and a girl myself, I gotta tell you: Girls notice shoes. So put on some Campers or, if those are too "out there" for you, some plain brown Docs. Let those girls eyeing you down the bar know, without a word, just how together you are. And don't mention the love for the Playstation until you've got her in your apartment and she already thinks you're a swell fella.

—BRIANA CAMPBELL
BERK'S STORES
Harvard Square

I agree that the costs of being a man are high, but I have to say the costs of being a woman are much higher. I don't know of any self-respecting girlfriend or wife who doesn't buy underwear, shoes or clothes for the men in their lives because the guys spend their own money on beer, cars and electronic gadgets. Most times if a woman wants to make sure that the shoes her boyfriend/husband wears to the next office party don't look like they deserve a proper burial, she has to go out and buy her man new shoes herself. This is one of the reasons that I feel that women should earn more than men: The woman in a relationship has to support two people.

—MARCY HEWSON
Brookline

Shoes are not boring. Shoes are perhaps the most telling of all accessories. Try not to disregard the importance of footwear. Think of it as a little insurance plan for picking up the ladies. Just don't go overboard.... Elvis' blue suede shoes are a sad example of an uneducated male shopper taking the reins for himself and failing miserably.

—EMILY BELLO
Via e-mail

CORRECTIONS

We regret that we left out Bauer Wine (pictured above) in our July 18 Boston's Best issue. Bauer won Best Wine and Beer Store.

Our apologies to Umi's John Porter, who we failed to credit for doing the hair for the fashion section last issue.

Lesly DiStefano, a co-owner and stylist at Umi, collaborated in the design of Umi's interior, which won Best Salon Interior.

Tell Us What You Think

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Paul Stoddard, a Stoneham-based freelance illustrator for the past eight years, has an illustration style that is both colorful and whimsical. Through the use of colored pencils and watercolors on textured paper, he creates vibrant images. His work has been featured in *PC Magazine*, *Guideposts for Teens*, *Family Circle* and *Chance Magazine*. Turn to "Buy Buy, Baby" on page 26 to check out his work. To view more of his illustrations, visit *www.pstoddard.com*.

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NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

LIMBO IN THE LADDER DISTRICT

With the recent openings of the Indian-French fusion restaurant Mantra, the 19-screen Loews Cineplex and the imminent opening of the LA Sports Club and the new Ritz-Carlton, the much touted "Ladder District" has experienced a renaissance—yet most of us still aren't really sure where it is. It's the grid of ladder shaped parallel and perpendicular streets bridging Tremont and Washington streets from Downtown Crossing to the Theatre District. "Back in the '60s," says jazz musician Ron Murphy, "the Ladder District had a music club every two blocks."

Murphy is the entertainment director of the latest—and almost sure to be greatest—addition to the 'hood, the jazz supper club Limbo. The club's executive chef, Charles Draghi (of Marcuccio's fame), had already developed a tentative menu when he listened to Murphy's music—and more specifically, his voice—for the first time. "It totally changed my mind," says Draghi, who revamped his menu to match the musical ambience. Now, he says, "The cuisine is carefully choreographed to reflect the space and the music."

That kind of attention to detail is evident throughout the entire two-level dining room and lounge designed by award-winning Brazilian architect Arturo de Casas. "We looked around and saw that there were plenty of clubs along Lansdowne for the under-25 set and numerous restaurants like Locke Ober and the Hampshire House for the Brahmins, but there wasn't a sophisticated place with youthful verve for the in-between crowd to listen to music in elegant surroundings," says co-owner Niel Robertson, one of a dream team of enthusiastic men who brought the idea to fruition.

"Jazz has long been relegated to hotel bars," says renowned composer-keyboardist Brother Cleve, the club's DJ. Murphy agrees. "If you want to have dinner and see a show, you have to pay $40 or so at a place like Scullers. When the show ends at 11pm, where do you go then?"

The triumvirate of enthusiastic owners, which includes Robertson, Matt Cutler and Russell Jackson, want to entice those music-lovers to come to Limbo for the entire evening with their contemporary Mediterranean cuisine (plus 16 wines by the glass), live DJ on the first floor and mezzanine and everything from funk and latin to R&B and jazz performed by some of Boston's best musicians downstairs—seven nights a week. The best part of all: There's never a cover charge. "We've created a place that we'd enjoy ourselves," says Robertson, an MIT grad and VP of research at a billion-dollar Internet company based in Boulder, Colorado.



From left, executive chef Charles Draghi, entertainment manager Ron Murphy, chef de cuisine Phillipe Ducrot, owner and assistant manager Russell Jackson, owner Niel Robertson, general manager Jean-Claude Jasa and DJ Brother Cleve in the lower level of Limbo.

"Limbo is not a restaurant—it's a bar with an outstanding menu," adds Cutler, a fellow MIT grad who is the chief e-business intelligence officer for NetGenesis. "It's the groove and fun, relaxed atmosphere that's going to draw people here."
49 Temple Place, Boston (338-0280).

PERSONALITY

MIXER OF ELIXIR

Jimmy Pastore, a bartender at the Continental Restaurant in Saugus, recently had a strange visit. Three men arrived from Portland, Maine, carrying a picture of him from a newspaper. They wanted him to autograph it. As a freshly inducted member of the Bartender's Hall of Fame, he obliged.

Pastore, 90, was awarded the M.W. Heron Bartender of the Month award and entered the Hall of Fame in July. A bartender for the past 65 years, Pastore still shakes and stirs four days a week at the Continental Restaurant in Saugus.

He began his career at the now-defunct Hotel Brunswick in Boston. Since those days, he's had many unique experiences, such as the time he took **Doris Day** and her mother to see the Bunker Hill Monument—at 2am. Day, then singing with Les Brown's Band of Renoun at the Brunswick, "just



decided she wanted to see it then," Pastore says.

Pastore counts the Manhattan as his favorite drink, as well as one of the most common ones he's served over the years. It's appropriate, then, that as part of his Hall of Fame induction he was presented with two bottles of Southern Comfort with his name on the labels. So, will he ever open one of those bottles to make a Southern Comfort Manhattan with his name on it? Says Pastore: "It'd have to be a really special occasion."
—Ezra Dyer

AROUND TOWN

JAZZING UP THE FROG POND

Probably the last place you'd look for a new jazz cafe is the Frog Pond on Boston Common—best known for its wading pond and ice-skating rink. But it's true. As local musicians play upon a stage built out over the water, patrons of the Frog Pond Jazz Café dine on a menu designed by Chef Markus Ripperger of the Hampshire House and 75 Chestnut. The one downside: There's no booze. Located near Charles Street in the Boston Common. Open daily, 5-9pm, through the end of the summer.

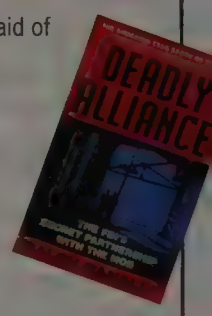
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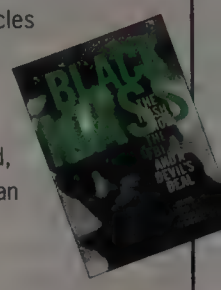
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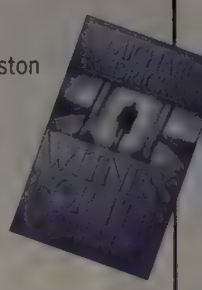
As if organized crime didn't create enough rivalries, it's now fostering an interesting dynamic within the city's journalism community, and as always, **Whitey Bulger** lies at the heart of the matter.

To begin with, there are two non-fiction books vying for space on bookstore shelves. *Deadly Alliance: The FBI's Secret Partnership with the Mob* was written by *Boston Globe* State House reporter (and *Boston Herald* alum) **Ralph Ranalli** and was released last month by HarperCollins. In it, Ranalli exposes previously unpublished aspects of the chummy relationship between the FBI, Bulger and Steve "The Rifleman" Flemmi. It also takes a macro look at the FBI's controversial use of informants and other problems within the Bureau, connecting them to such national embarrassments as Waco and Ruby Ridge. Meanwhile, *Black Mass: The Irish Mob, the FBI and a Devil's Deal* (Free Press) enjoyed a brief appearance on the *New York Times* bestseller list and focuses exclusively on the Boston angle. Its authors, **Dick Lehr** and **Gerard O'Neill**, are colleagues of Ranalli's from the *Globe* (although O'Neill is now retired).

Presumably, the *Globe* newsroom remains free of *Sopranos*-style threats and intimidation, but the same probably can't be said of the paper's relationship with its archrival, the *Herald*, and self-proclaimed former Bulger confidante Edward MacKenzie. The *Herald* based a four-day investigative series on information provided by MacKenzie, who then signed a publishing deal to release a book on the subject this fall. After *Globe* articles quoted law-enforcement officials as saying that MacKenzie was a fraud and not as close to Bulger as he claimed, HarperCollins shelved the idea (an indictment last spring for workman's-comp fraud probably didn't help either).







Add to the mix a fictionalized account of the Bulger story by Boston lawyer and member of the state Board of Bar Overseers **Michael Fredrickson**, titled *Witness for the Dead* (Forge), and you have as many authors competing for the same territory as there are mobsters in the trash-removal business.

Just wait till they start negotiating film rights.
—Jonathan Soroff

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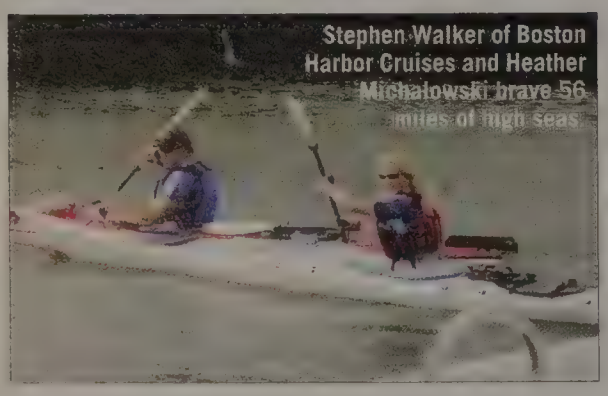

Mystique Productions' launch party turned Trio into a fashion extravaganza.

•What do you get when you combine two motivated women, five gorgeous models and a love for a good party? This was the recipe for **Mystique Productions**, a brand-new Boston-based company started by **Tamara Krause** and **Kerri Herlihy** that began as an events-planning gig and now focuses on fashion shows and promotions. Their trademark, says Krause, is the "five hot chicks" that appeared in all their hot-chick glory recently at Mystique's launch party at **Trio** and who can be seen at The Place on Wednesdays. Check 'em out in their cover photo at *www.backbaybeat.com*.

•For months, we've heard rumors about a bunch of girls fine-tuning punk-aerobics routines in the depths of the Middle East club. Now they're finally ready to share their secret with the public: **Punk Rock Aerobics** is the latest exercise class craze—a cardiovascular workout set to classic punk-rock tunes. The brain child of Maura Jasper and Hilken Mancini, PRA has got moves not seen at traditional aerobics classes: guitar kicks and windmills, devil horns and pogos, and some free-form rocking thrown in for good measure. *$7. At Middle East Downstairs, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge: Thu. and Sat., 2pm; At Spontaneous Celebrations, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain: Thu., 6pm; At Center of Light, 663 Centre St., Jamaica Plain: Sat., 5pm.*



•We admit, we were a tad bit worried when we heard that **The Rack** was sponsoring a team to kayak from Boston's Long Wharf to Provincetown as part of the Pan Mass Challenge Aug. 3. How could any of those slim, well-manicured waitresses go the distance? We were proven wrong by team leader Heather Michalowski, marketing director for the Rack. She and six others arrived exhausted after 56 miles of choppy seas and stormy skies—but with $45,000 to benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and the Leslie's Links/Ewing Sarcoma Fund to show for it. (Must have been all those drinks hoisted on trays around the bar.)


Stephen Walker of Boston Harbor Cruises and Heather Michalowski brave 56 miles of high seas.

•If the oxygen bar and liquid-nitrogen fog system weren't enough to get you glitzed out and queuing up at **Avalon**, the folks there have come up with something that may. The creators of the **Wheel of Adventure**, a pioneering *Wheel of Fortune*-inspired nightclub game show, boast that their version would send Pat Sajak into cardiac arrest. Clubbers can win prizes ranging from an afternoon in the sauna with their favorite drag queen to a spanking from Avaland dancers, and of course, cold hard cash. Celebrity hosts will be spicing up the game, which is hosted by Avalon's beloved dwarf Gnomar and will be held every Friday.

•Lest you were concerned, the answer is no—the distribution of the free daily *Metro* has not cut into the sales of 9-year-old *Spare Change*, the biweekly newspaper benefiting the homeless. In fact, says *Spare Change*'s executive director **Fran Czajkowski**, although the paper is experiencing a normal summertime slump in sales, it's selling more than it was at this time last year. There is one change, though. *Spare Change*, which publishes each issue in a different color, is removing green from its palette after customers confused it with *Metro*.

•Good news, fellow distraught music lovers! The recently uprooted Newbury Street **Tower Records** has found a temporary location at 1249 Boylston Street (near Fenway Park). Yes, it's temporary, but Tower Records promise us that it's looking for a permanent location.

•Wouldn't it be great if every time your ex-boyfriend called, your mobile phone rang with Ugly Kid Joe's "[I Hate] Everything About You"? It's possible, thanks to Boston-based company Sonera zed, which offers a service that allows mobile phone users to download their favorite songs onto their mobile phones and match songs to specific callers. AT&T carries the service.

•**Mish Michaels** is back. The comely self-described "weather-geek" took some time away from reporting on the unpredictable New England weather on WHDH 7 News to work at the blue-skies Weather Channel. Now she's back at WBZ-TV 4 (maintaining a part-time gig on the Weather Channel). Yeah!

•Once a 3am haven for the city's hippest, drunkest and poorest, Kenmore Square's **Deli Haus** has undergone a quiet change. Alas, they threw out the gloriously busted green-vinyl booths and moved in tall bar stools. Modish paintings adorn the wall where Elvis had reigned in velvet glory. The former greasy-spoon hybrid now offers standard grill fare. Knishes, stuffed cabbage and kasha varnishkes are gone, as are most breakfast options. Luckily, sweet-potato fries, the Fenway Melt and a small selection of Dr. Brown's sodas remain, and it's still the only place in Boston you can go for a frosty Guinness float.

•Did you hear the one about the baseball player and the bartender with chutzpah? After having a few drinks at a hip Back Bay bar, Red Sox superstar **Pedro Martinez** paid his tab and thanked the bartender who said, "Thank you. You know, I have to admit, I'm a Yankees fan, but I do enjoy watching you play."

"I'm a Yankees fan, too," said Martinez, with a hint of a smirk. "Well, then," said the bartender, "feel free to stop by anytime."



•State Commissioner of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission **Suzanne Iannella** (standing) celebrated her 50th birthday at Abe & Louie's with (from left) **Caroline Guarino**, executive secretary of ABCC, **Suzanne DelVecchio**, Chief Justice of the Superior Court and **Carmel Shields**, executive vice president of Shields Health Care, Aug. 10.

Additional reporting by Kelly Dutton, Leah Gourley, Bethany Gumper, Galen Moore and Jonathan Soroff


So fa[illegible] anticipation as psychics prepare to remove the curse of the Bambino.

ALL THE BUZZ

BAMBINO, BE GONE

Bostonians are willing to try anything to reverse the Curse of the Bambino. On Aug. 1, psychics Diane Dalpe and Daphne Weld Nichols came to Fenway armed with crystals and candles in an attempt to banish the Fenway curse—New Age-style. After using Native American and gypsy methods to eliminate negativity and bring in positive energy, the pair burned a red candle, dripping the wax over a jar containing a picture of the Babe himself surrounded by broken glass. The goal was to eliminate any tainting related to Babe Ruth. So Fenway Park has supposedly been cleansed of more than 80 years of negativity. Don't expect immediate results, though. The estimated length of time for the curse to be fully reversed is two months. In the meantime, the players themselves can burn their own red candles—just in case Nomar is looking to add to his pre-at-bat ritual. This one might be worth it. —*Kelly Dutton*

IMPROPER REPORTS

BUCKS FOR BILLIARDS

•**Boston Billiard Club**, 126 Brookline Ave, Boston (536-7665).
Before 7pm: **$9/hour**; after 7pm: **$11/hour**
•**Rack Billiards Club**, 20 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051).
Before 5pm: **$6/hour**; after 5pm: **$12/hour**
•**Big City**, 138 Brighton Ave., Allston (782-2020).
Mon.-Thu. (after 6pm): **$10/hour**; Fri.-Sat. (after 6pm) - **$12/hour**
•**Jillians Boston**, 145 Ipswich St., Boston (437-0300).
Two players: **$8/hour**; four players: **$14/hour**
•**Columbia Billiard Company**, 558 Columbia Road, Boston (265-1828). Two players: **$6.60/hour**; four players: **$7.80/hour**
•**Brighton Billiards**, 345 Washington St., Brighton (787-2610).
Before 6pm: 1 player: **$5/hour**; two players: **$7/hour**
After 6pm on weekdays: one player: **$7.50/hour**; two players: **$9.50/hour**
After 6pm on weekends: one player: **$8/hour**; two players: **$10/hour**

SAM SAYS

HIGH THERE



As generations go by, women are getting taller. The average height in the 1800s was 5 feet, 2 inches. Now the average height is 5 feet, 6 inches. Too often, there are no clothes to accommodate the woman who towers. As a tall woman myself, I understand what it's like to try on 20 pairs of pants and find that I look like the incredible hulk—legs shooting out in a most unflattering way. Who needs yet another pair of Capri pants?

Hazel Gould recognized this problem and came up with Tall Girl, a clothing boutique that caters to the needs of the terminally tall. What a brilliant idea! The first store opened in 1959, and today there are 38 stores in the US and Canada. The most recent is in our own backyard. Located at 211 Berkeley St., Tall Girl carries tall sizes from 6-22 with outseams measuring to 47 inches. —*Samantha House*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to *theword@improper.com*.

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LEUVEN BELGIUM

OBVIOUSLY, A COMPLIMENT.

A Bundle of Trouble

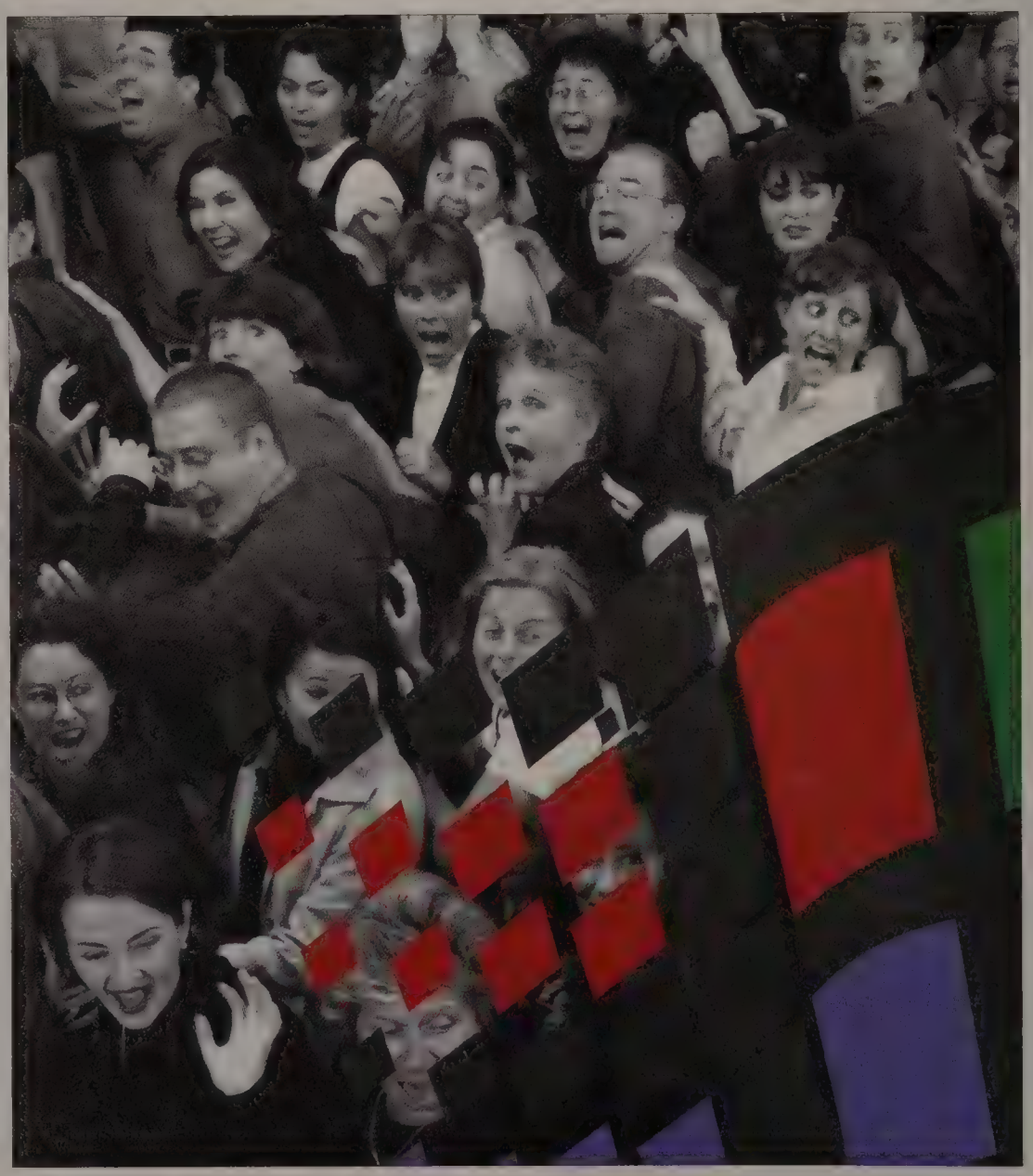
A new Microsoft operating system! Now isn't that special.

In case you hadn't heard, Microsoft is about to release another operating system. The new Windows XP is supposed to replace all of Microsoft's older operating systems, including Windows 3.0, 3.1, 95 98 and ME. Starting in November, most new computers will have XP preinstalled, and the company is launching a $1 billion (yes, that's a "b") marketing campaign to convince you to upgrade.

Microsoft's last operating system for consumers, Windows ME, was released only a year ago, but the company is especially eager to hype XP because (unlike ME), it's got features that Microsoft hopes will make you a Microsoft customer for nearly everything that you do (or anything you purchase) on the Web. For example, XP has built-in features that make it easier for you to get plugged into Microsoft's online banking facilities, Microsoft's instant messaging facilities, Microsoft's media player technology and Microsoft's online digital photocopying service. (These features are aimed at Intuit, America Online, RealNetworks and Kodak—all of whom Microsoft perceives as competitors.)

It was this "bundling" of new features into the operating system that, in the past, resulted in Microsoft being hauled into court for violating antitrust laws. Back then, the brouhaha was over the Internet Explorer browser, which Microsoft distributed free to lure legions of Netscape users. Microsoft was not only willing to lose money on every copy of Internet Explorer, but it used all kinds of strong-arm tactics to keep PC manufacturers from distributing Netscape's popular browser.

Microsoft lost the antitrust suit and was ordered to be broken into two separate companies to prevent it from behaving the same way again. The court of appeals, however, has modified that judgment. And while Microsoft is still considered guilty of some antitrust violations, the breakup order was rescinded. Microsoft has essentially declared victory and is going forward with XP as if there were nothing wrong with a company using its power to monopolize the market.



GOVERNMENT REGULATORS ARE MORE CONCERNED WITH THE ANTI-COMPETITIVE ASPECTS OF WINDOWS XP RATHER THAN THE OVERALL DANGERS OF A MICROSOFT MONOCULTURE.

Microsoft claims that it's just being "innovative" by folding all these new features into Windows XP. To computer industry insiders, however, the idea of Microsoft as an innovative company is a joke. Nearly every feature in every Microsoft product was "borrowed" from products developed by other companies. In one case, Microsoft was actually found guilty of patent infringement and ordered to pay $120 million in damages.

As for antitrust violations, Microsoft has been saying all along that it doesn't matter if the company is a monopoly because it hasn't raised prices and thus hasn't harmed consumers. It's true that Windows XP will sell for roughly the same price as the first real version of Windows, which hit the market 10 years ago. However, the idea that consumers haven't been damaged is nonsensical. In 1990, the average PC cost $4,000, making the Microsoft operating system (at around $150) roughly 4 percent of the total cost. In 2000, the average PC came in at around $800, making the operating system roughly 19 percent of the total cost. That's a relative price increase of nearly 500 percent!

The real danger to consumers from Microsoft's monopoly is more subtle, though. Even as I write this, the Internet is under attack by a virus called Code Red, which propagates on Microsoft operating systems and is causing widespread slowdowns and shutdowns. Within hours of its first identified outbreak on July 19, the virus infiltrated hundreds of thousands of computers and forced the White House to take evasive action and the Pentagon to briefly halt public access to its Web sites. While Microsoft has issued patches (a downloaded fix-it program) to prevent the worm from propagating further, it's expected to remain a hazard for some months to come.

The destructive power of Code Red—and, indeed, of most viruses—rests heavily on the fact that Microsoft has a commanding presence in corporate computing and Web sites. Microsoft's success has, in effect, created what's known in biology as a "monoculture"—where a farm, region or country decides to cultivate a single crop. Agricultural monocultures are notoriously susceptible to plant disease, which can spread like wildfire. The famous potato famine in Ireland was a perfect example of what can happen when there's too much dependence on a single crop.

Microsoft's operating systems are so pervasive that computer viruses can easily propagate with potentially dangerous consequences. To make matters worse, Microsoft's operating systems are notoriously full of security holes that viruses can exploit. In fact, for years there was a back door in one of Microsoft's Internet products that allowed anyone to access Microsoft-powered Web sites, simply by typing the password "NetscapeProgrammersAreWeenies."

Unfortunately for consumers, Microsoft's main motivation behind Windows XP (which does have better security features than Windows ME) appears to be making money by selling add-on services. And government regulators are more concerned with the anti-competitive aspects of Windows XP rather than the dangers of a Microsoft monoculture. The Department of Justice and a number of states are reportedly contemplating whether to file suit against Microsoft to block the XP release.

However, in all likelihood, Windows XP will be released without government intervention and will quickly become the operating system of choice on almost all new PCs. And while many consumers may enjoy Windows XP's improved ease-of-use, they might be better served if Microsoft would release operating systems that are less vulnerable to hackers and virus attacks. iB

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

PHOTODISC



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Ezra BY EZRA DYER



Mission: Nutrition

Giving my personal food pyramid an overhaul

I always trusted the USDA's Food Pyramid. At the bottom was bready stuff; at the top was butter, which you put on the bready stuff. It seemed to make sense. But, as I've recently learned, Wonder Bread is evil and butter should be kept in a locked cabinet, out of the reach of children. And let's not even talk about margarine, a substance so deadly that several terrorist groups are now threatening to spray it into major subway systems if their demands are not met. And you thought trans-fats were overweight people with a special lane at toll booths.

All this information is included in Harvard nutritionist Walter Willett's new book, *Eat, Drink and Be Healthy*. Willett exposes several flaws in the old food pyramid, which was created by the Department of Agriculture. Chief among them is that the Department of Agriculture is subject to manipulation by powerful special-interest groups, whose insidious hand can be seen at every level. Hence the bottom layer being composed of breads, rice and tasty Mobil 1 motor oil. (There are also cultural influences at play in the food pyramid. Japan's, for instance, has a level devoted entirely to whale meat. Of course, there is an asterisk stressing that this layer should be consumed only for research.)

The second problem with the government's pyramid of lies is that it's not specific enough. For instance, Willett says that while bread does belong at the bottom, there are both good and bad kinds of starches. In a nutshell (incidentally, anything that comes inside a nutshell is pretty good for you), refined carbohydrates like pasta and white bread are bad. Whole-grain foods, which can be found in your local supermarket's hippie aisle, are good. Potatoes are useless, but beans—beans are a magical fruit. The more you eat 'em, the more you avoid getting diabetes from eating too much damn pasta.

All this new information rocked my dietary world. Basically, according to Willett's new pyramid, I should have died of scurvy several years ago. I eat lots of pasta. I love red meat. I don't eat nuts, oats or soy products. I only eat beans if I know I'm not going anywhere for a while. And fresh veggies seldom visit my refrigerator.

Since I want to live to see the end of baseball season, I decided to give Dr. Willett a call to see what he thought of my eating habits. At the time I called him, he was pretty busy—he'd just done an appearance on *The Today Show*, and his book was No. 1 on Amazon.com. So I had to be quick. Quick like the cooking time of ramen noodles.

"What's the maximum number of times a person should eat ramen noodles in a week?" I ask. In my opinion, ramen is a great food. If you're ever hungry for, say, some shrimp scampi, but you only have 15 cents in your pocket, you're just a package of shrimp ramen away from a bonanza of artificially flavored shrimpy goodness. There is no mention of ramen on Willett's pyramid.

"Ramen noodles have very little nutritional value," he says. "I'd say eat them maybe once a week, if you absolutely have to have them." Very little nutritional value? Score! I didn't think they had *any* nutritional value at all. It stands to reason, then, that I'll get more nutrition if I just eat more ramen. Ramen-san, I double up on you next time.

Coffee is also absent from Willett's pyramid. "The reason I didn't include coffee is because it's neutral," he says. "A lot of bad things have been ascribed to it, but studies haven't really backed that up. On the positive side, it can help prevent suicide."

Woah, Doc. Coffee can prevent suicide? Does this mean that we should we put a Starbucks in the middle of the Tobin Bridge?

"Coffee is an antidepressant," he explains. "It washes away your blues in the morning." Well, that's about all the endorsement I need. I'm putting java somewhere in the middle of my personal food pyramid, above ramen but below Luigi's Italian Ice.

Willett also endorses drinking one alcoholic beverage per day—two for men. I love this man. I ask if I can save up my alcoholic beverages over the week, and then reap the benefits all at once on Saturday night. Willett says it doesn't work that way. You can't put money in the bank.

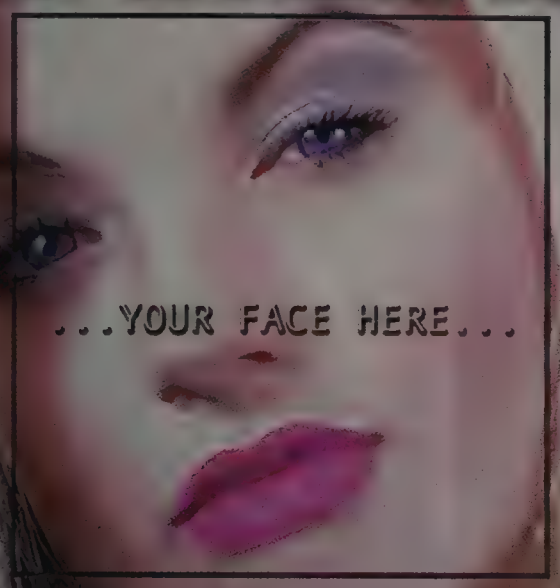
Speaking of which, that's got to be something ol' Dr. Willett's been doing a lot of these days. Health-conscious Americans are snapping up his book like free tofu at a vegan convention. So you'll doubtlessly be interested to know what Willett said when I asked him what the single easiest-to-make, cheapest, tastiest, most-nutritious food is.

And I'll be happy to give you that answer. It'll be in my new book. iB

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The Boston premiere of the summer blockbuster *Planet of the Apes*, starring Mark Wahlberg, was held July 26 at the new Loews Boston Common Theatre, with the post-performance party at Pravda 116. Mark Wahlberg launched his new charitable youth foundation with a flourish, inviting 1,200 kids and parents from his old Dorchester neighborhood. Attendees included Mark's family, actors Robert and Donnie Wahlberg and local friends.

1. Actor **Mark Wahlberg.**
2. **Gina** and **Robert Wahlberg.**
3. **Brian Crounse** (l), research director for Walden Media, and **Peter Flaherty**, vice president of partnership and alliances for Walden Media.
4. **Florence Hamer** and **Brian O'Donnell**, operations manager and general manager, respectively, at Pravda 116.
5. Former New Kids on the Block **Donnie Wahlberg** (l) and **Joe McIntyre.**
6. **Sandra Buker**, documentation administrator for American Power Conversion, and **Jeffrey Zides**, independent film buyer for Cinema Film Buying in Quincy.
7. Boston Celtics forward **Walter McCarty** (l) and **Tim Panagopoulos**, manager of Whiskey Park.



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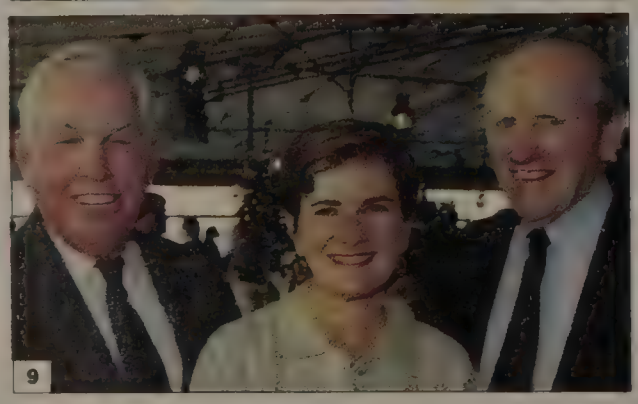
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Anthony Athanas' 90th Birthday Celebration was held July 27 at Anthony's Pier 4. More than 400 friends and local celebrities attended the event. Natalie Jacobson hosted the program honoring Anthanas' life. Other notables included Mayor Thomas Menino and William Bulger.

8. **Dom DiMaggio** (l), former Boston Red Sox player, and restaurateur **Anthony Athanas**.
9. From left: **Bob Crane**, former state treasurer; **Barbara McDonough**, and her husband, **Will**, sports columnist for the *Boston Globe*.
10. From left: Rhode Island Congressman **Patrick Kennedy**; **Rikki Klieman**, anchor on Court TV, and her husband, **Bill Bratton**, former police commissioner for Boston and New York; and Congressman **Bill Delahunt**.
11. **John Silber**, chancellor of Boston University.
12. **Suzanne Iannella**, Massachusetts commissioner of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, and her mother, **Virginia**.



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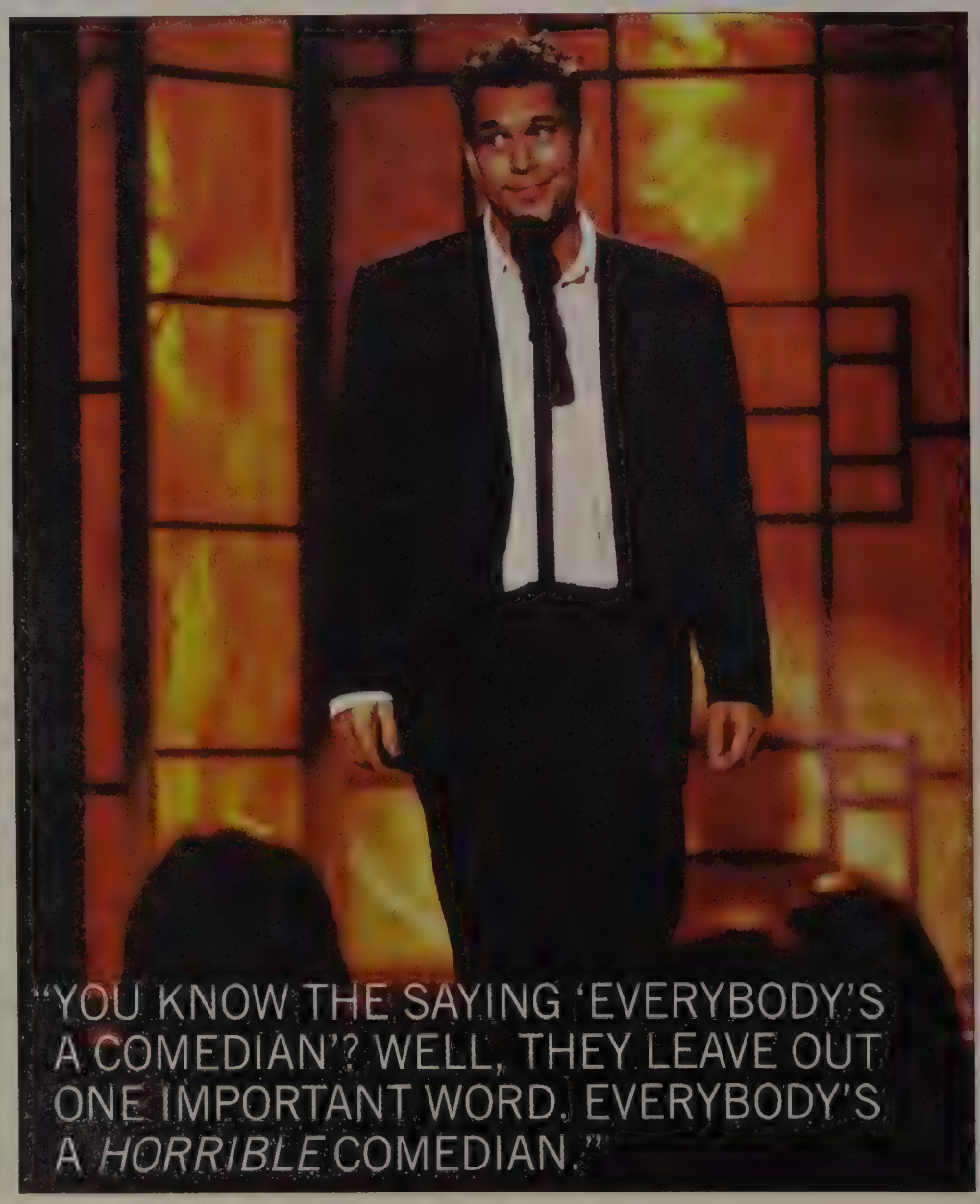
Dane Cook

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Stand-up comic Dane Cook was born and raised in Arlington. After graduating from Arlington High in 1990, he became a comedian and worked the Boston comedy circuit before moving to New York. Within a year, he was signed to his first development deal by ABC and began his TV career on the sitcom *Maybe This Time* with Betty White.

The same year, he made his feature film debut opposite Rene Russo in *Buddy*. He moved to L.A. the following year, where he signed a development deal with NBC and guest-starred on Brooke Shields' hit sitcom *Suddenly Susan*. His other film credits include *Mystery Men* (with Ben Stiller and Janeane Garofalo) and *Simon Sez* (with Dennis Rodman). Recently, he appeared in his first half-hour special, *Comedy Central Presents...Dane Cook*, and he has made four appearances on *Late Night with David Letterman*. *Spiral*, a short film that he wrote, produced and starred in, has won several awards on the festival circuit and will be featured at next month's Boston Film Festival. From Aug. 31 to Sept. 2, he headlines at the Comedy Connection in Faneuil Hall. He lives in Los Angeles.

Jonathan Soroff: *So how exactly does one decide to become a stand-up comic?*
Dane Cook: When I was in eighth grade, I said to my Dad, "I don't want to go to college. I think it would be a waste of my time and your money." He said, "Why?" I said, "I want to be a stand-up comic."
JS: *He must've been thrilled. So I assume you were a real cut-up as a kid, the class clown?*
DC: Not at all. That's why he didn't get it. I was sort of shy and quiet. Very much a loner. And yet just a complete freak in my house. When I was in the confines of my own home, it was just constant characters, acting like a buffoon for my family.
JS: *Are you still shy?*
DC: I've gotten over it. I go onstage pretty much every night of the week. It thickens your skin.
JS: *First joke you ever told?*
DC: An article I saw in the newspaper. It said, "I was raped by a snowman." I cut it out. I still have it on my wall, laminated, in my office. It was the first schtick I ever did.
JS: *This was on a stage?*
DC: Yeah, I went to Catch a Rising Star in Harvard Square just to see what the deal was, and there was an open-mike night. They'd just call out the names of people who had signed up and they'd come onstage. So I was sitting in the audience with a friend, watching, and they said, "Is Ernest Glenn here?" There was enough of a pause that I knew this guy wasn't there, so I threw my hand up and did my first five minutes ever.
JS: *So if you'd bombed...*
DC: Ernest Glenn's reputation would've been ruined.
JS: *Is stand-up a form of aggression?*
DC: Oh, man, yeah. Look at the people who do it. We're mostly freaks. For me, you can definitely say, "Here's a guy who didn't get enough attention growing up." But it really did come from a pretty pure place of just wanting to make people laugh in any way possible. Even if that meant hurting myself, which I've done several times.
JS: *Like how?*
DC: Well, one time at a Chinese restaurant, I was going mental, impersonating a velociraptor. I jumped up on someone's table, and it just gave way. The other side of the table hit this guy in the mouth. Food went everywhere. Needless to say, I was never asked back to that particular restaurant.
JS: *Worst part of doing stand-up?*
DC: It gets lonely. You're on the road, and when you ask the locals, "What is there to do around here?" they say, "Drink!"
JS: *Do people ever tell you your own jokes?*
DC: Yeah, but the worst is when people come up and say, "Dude, I got a joke for you. You should use it." And it's always the most ignorant, racist thing, like, "There were these two Jews..." I'm like, "Oh, sure. I'll close with that next time. Thanks." You know the saying, "Everybody's a comedian?" Well, they leave out one important word. Everybody's a *horrible* comedian.
JS: *Speaking of which, doesn't Carrot Top deserve the death penalty?*
DC: Jeez. I gotta go the other way. I've seen his show and he's rippin'. Comics always use him as a punchline, just 'cuz of his name, but I gotta say, he's made a lot of money.
JS: *I know! I saw his house on some TV show.*
DC: They should do a TV show on *Homes of Comics*. Y'know, a 4-by-4 with one of those Koala coolers in the corner, or a refrigerator box on Hollywood Boulevard.
JS: *Best gig you ever did?*
DC: The first time I did *Letterman*. For a comedian, that's pretty much it.



JS: *How do you handle hecklers?*
DC: I usually threaten to kick them in the face.
JS: *Most annoying heckle?*
DC: I was in New York, at the Boston Comedy Club in Greenwich Village, and I was trying out some new material. I took one pause just to kind of get on track. This guy right in the middle of the crowd, so loud and so confident, goes, "New joke." The crowd just started crackin' up.
JS: *Your first TV show was with Betty White. Does that make you an honorary Golden Girl?*
DC: Sure. We dated for a little bit, me and Betty, until I started seeing Rue McLanahan. Betty wasn't happy about that one.
JS: *Really? Ever go out with the old one?*
DC: Estelle Getty or Bea Arthur? Sure. We actually did a five-way, me and the Golden Girls.
JS: *Can I rent that video somewhere in the Combat Zone?*
DC: Sure. *Golden Showers*, starring Dane Cook and the Golden Girls...
JS: *Charming. All right, so are Lucky Charms really magically delicious?*
DC: The pink hearts are. I think Lucky Charms is kind of the kids' version of Ecstasy. I used to crunch it up and snort it. I free-based Froot Loops, too.
JS: *If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why?*
DC: Probably being bulletproof. I think that would definitely get the ladies. I'd walk around parties with a gun, shooting myself and going, "You like that? It ricocheted off my eye. What are you doing later?"
JS: *Any superstitions or rituals before going onstage?*
DC: Well, the biggest superstition for comedians is never talk to magazine reporters. So I guess my career is over now.
JS: *Anything you'd never joke about?*
DC: Nah. I'll go anywhere. That's the thing about stand-up. If a plane goes down in the morning and everybody aboard dies, I guarantee you that somewhere at a comedy club, somebody's gonna sneak in a joke about it, because you can't hold back. If you're gonna hold back, quit. Don't even bother.
JS: *What's the most tasteless or inappropriate joke you ever told?*
DC: [Laughs.] There've been so many.
JS: *So what do you want written on your gravestone?*
DC: Don't Stand Here.
JS: *OK—finish this joke: A rabbi, a priest and a gay guy go into a bar.*
DC: Ooooh, puttin' me on the spot. Lemme think. [Pause.] I got nothin'.
JS: *How about you call me back within a half hour?*
DC: OK.
Ten minutes later, Cook left the following voice mail:
A rabbi, a priest and a gay guy walk into a bar. It was the same guy, cause the bar was in West Hollywood! Hey, I'll be here all week! Try the veal! And if you have other questions, my e-mail is gayrabbipriest @hotmail.com. iB

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Left: Mike Noonan with his racing Porsche 914-6. Right: "I do a pretty good job of keeping it on the road," says Patrick Curran, shown here taking on the Mount Washington Auto Road.

For car club members, the line between hobby and obsession can be as blurry as a Miata's back window

OVERDRIVE

by ezra dyer

The car-owning public encompasses a wide spectrum of enthusiasm levels. On one end, we have people for whom cars are transportation appliances. In this case, cars engender no more interest than a washing machine, and perhaps even less than a nice Sub-Zero refrigerator. On the other end of the spectrum, we have people for whom cars are an integral part of their lives, either as a hobby or a business. Within this group is a subset, those who not only love cars but are fervently devoted to one *kind* of car, be it hearse or Miata. They own one, or possibly several examples of their favorite ride. They have an encyclopedic knowledge of its specifications. They sink large amounts of money into performance-enhancing modifications. Effectively, they have an automotive fetish. So what does a person do when they're thus afflicted? They form a club.

That's what Chris Laws, president of the Bay State Rover Owners Association (BSROA), did back in 1992. Now roughly 150 members strong, this band of Land Rover aficionados regularly embarks on off-roading trips that put the British SUVs' capabilities to the test. Poseurs who balk at the idea of bashing their expensive grocery-getters over rocks, through brush and into deep mud need not apply.

Laws, who drives an old-school 1964 Series IIA affectionately called "The Badger," has had his share of adventures and mishaps over the years. "I once got stuck on a mountaintop in Colorado and had to leave it there for two weeks," he says. Indeed, the BSROA's photo albums are filled with pictures of woefully mired (and even rolled-over) vehicles. But in an age when the worst thing most





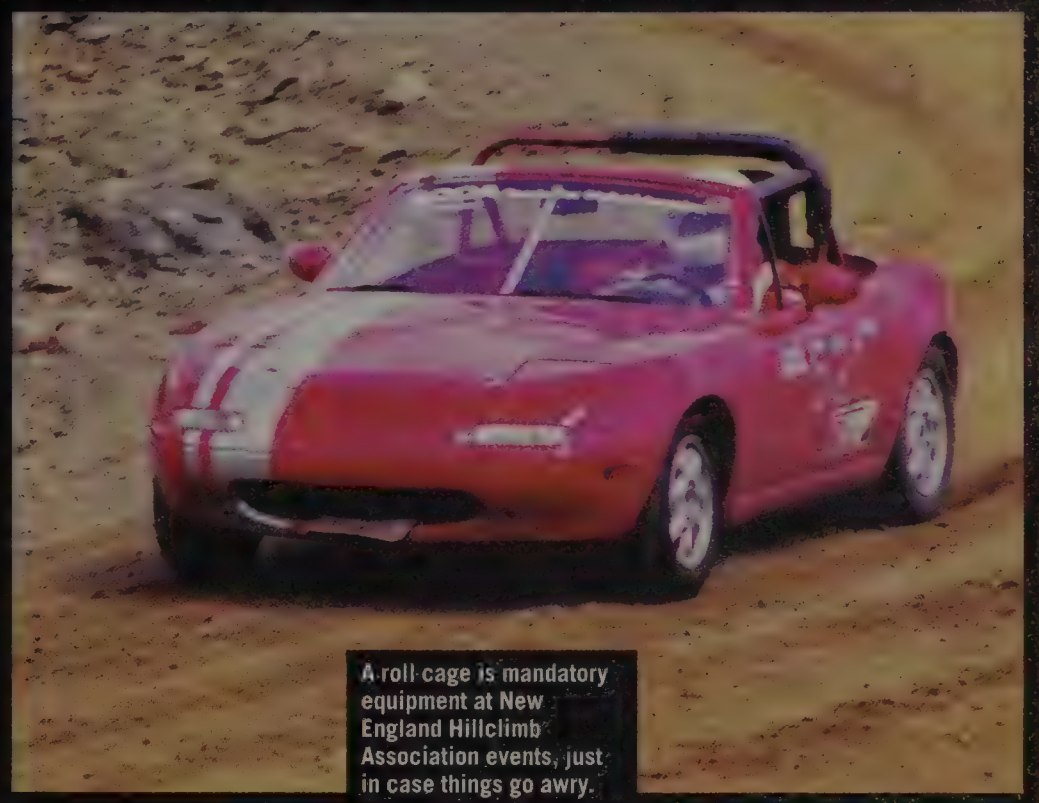




Clockwise from lower left: Bay State Rover Owners Association members prepare to go off-roading at a club event in Hope, Maine; a Discovery follows a modified Defender onto a log bridge on the trail; an older Land Rover awaits action while BSROA members take a break; a Range Rover in its true element is carefully piloted over a suspension-testing obstacle.

TOP LEFT: MIKE MERGEN; TOP RIGHT: MT. WASHINGTON AUTO ROAD PHOTO; BOTTOM: MATT PECKHAM

"That's the nature of racing. It costs $10,000 to go a half-second faster next year. But trying to improve on what you've done keeps it interesting.



A roll cage is mandatory equipment at New England Hillclimb Association events, just in case things go awry.

Land Rovers ever get stuck in is traffic, that's the kind of excitement that draws people to Laws' club.

Besides off-road derring-do, Laws also exemplifies the brand loyalty that characterizes club members: He's owned The Badger, his first car, for the past 26 years. In that time, he's logged more than 385,000 miles. However, despite his affinity for his '64, Laws recently doubled his Land Rover collection by picking up a 1988 Range Rover. "Driving the same car for 26 years does bad things to your psyche," he says. "I wanted to feel like I was making progress."

Mike Noonan, owner of Mike's Auto Body in Malden and a member of the Northeast chapter of the Porsche Club of America, also knows a thing or two about loyalty to a car. While the Porsche Club organizes cruise nights, autocross events (where drivers race the clock around an obstacle course in an empty parking lot or airfield) and go-kart races, Noonan's favorite activity is racing the real thing: his bright green Porsche 914-6.

In addition to its other events, the club regularly has track days at the Lime Rock racetrack in Connecticut, where Noonan's 914-6 is a force to be reckoned with. It should be, given the amount of time, work and money he's sunk into the vehicle. "I bought it for $300," Noonan says. "Now here I am, $100,000 later. That's the nature of racing. It costs $10,000 to go a half-second faster next year. But trying to improve on what you've done keeps it interesting."

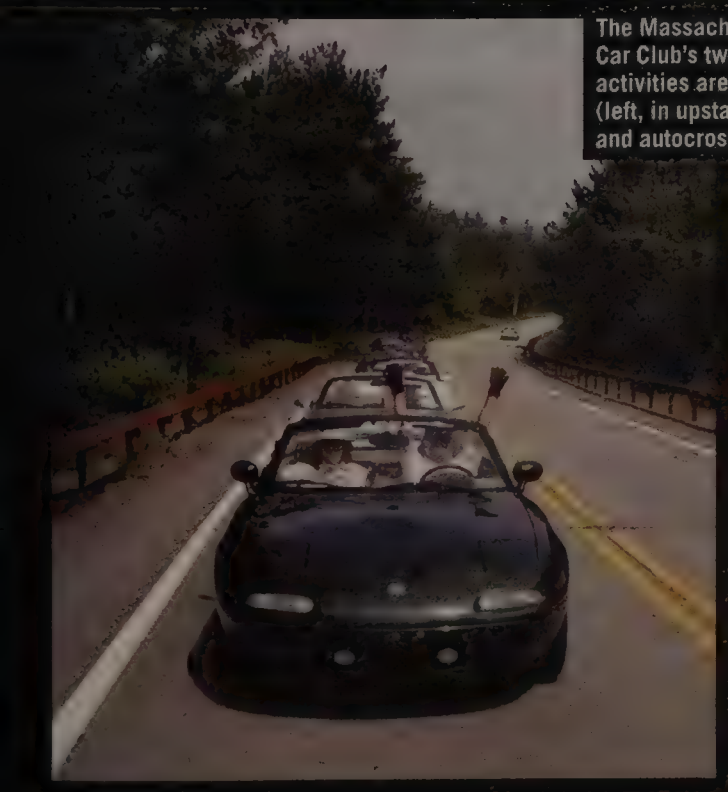
One might think that devoting countless weekends and thousands of dollars to a Porsche might be a quick route to matrimonial discord, but Noonan says that his wife, Barbara (who drives a 1976 911S), is totally supportive. In fact, she's the one that got him started racing Porsches. "Her first car was a 914, and she went to the track a few times before I did," he says. "I'm pretty lucky."

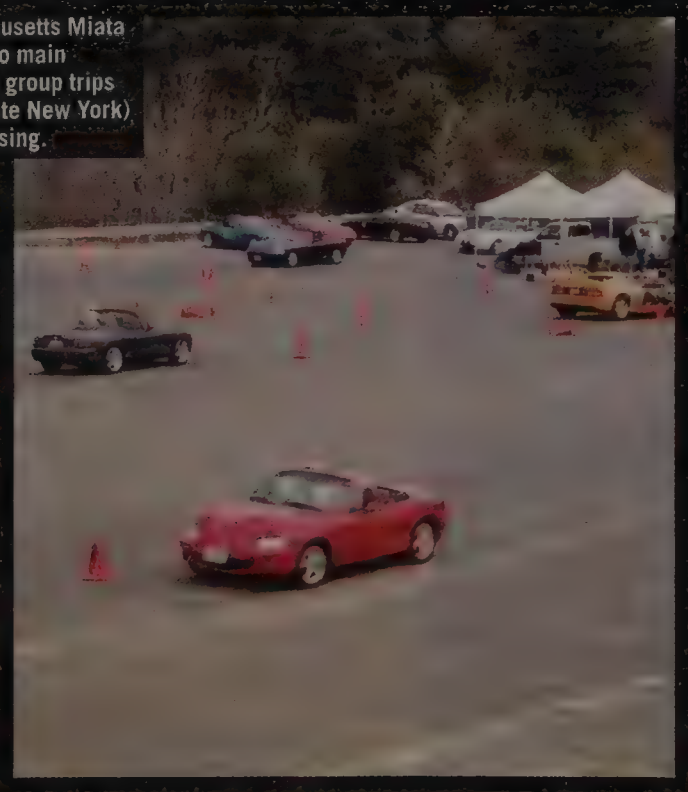
Patrick Curran, a member of both the Vintage Sports Car Club of America and the New England Hillclimb Association (NEHA), agrees that support is a necessity. Especially when, like him, your hobby involves flogging a 380 horsepower 1966 Ford Mustang up the Mount Washington Auto Road at demented speeds. "I do a pretty good job of keeping it on the road," Curran says. But when the outside corner of a track is bordered by nothing more than clouds, there's certainly an element of risk that's not present in, say, a company softball game.

The NEHA also runs hill climbs at several other mountains in New England, but the basic attraction of the sport (as described on the Web site) applies to every event: For your entry fee, you get "an absolutely beautiful road, to be driven at glorious speed, in the wildest car you can get here, with your friends to watch the turns."

Some clubs prefer slightly more relaxed workouts for their favorite cars. The Massachusetts Miata Club, for instance, focuses on putting the Miata to its intended use—carving up twisty roads with the top down. The club also holds eight autocrosses per year, allowing its members to hone their car-control skills without risk of damage to either car or owner. And members occasionally play "Miata hockey," where a passenger with a large hockey stick held alongside the car tries to maneuver a ball into a goal. But trips and socializing are the raison d'etre of the group. Two years ago club president Bob Lannin drove one of his Miatas (he has two) to an event in Texas. He started the trip in Connecticut with six other drivers and began picking up Miataphiles in other states as he passed through. By the time Lannin reached Texas, the caravan was 135 Miatas long.

Lannin says that the club, which has about 160 members, has no real defining demographic. "We've got a lot of empty-nesters. We've got at least five married couples who have a car for each person. But we've also got a lot of young people whose only car is their Miata. Everyone gets along because they have a common interest that transcends their differences—the one thing they share is a love of putting the top down on a sports car." iB





The Massachusetts Miata Car Club's two main activities are group trips (left, in upstate New York) and autocrossing.

Rubber Meets Road

Here are the Web sites for the clubs mentioned here, plus another large one—the BMW Car Club of America. For further information, check out www.carclubs.com.

Massachusetts Miata Car Club
www.massmiata.net

Bay State Rover Owners Association
www.bsroa.com

Northeast Chapter of the Porsche Club of America
www.porschenet.com

New England Hillclimb Association
www.hillclimb.org

Boston Chapter of the BMW Car Club of America
www.boston-bmwcca.org

TOP RIGHT: MT.WASHINGTON AUTO ROAD PHOTO

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Tony Giacalone, of Tony's Realty in East Boston, recently sold a two-bedroom condo with a skyline view for $162,000. It was scooped up by a couple who gave Eastie a closer look after being priced out of Somerville.

The New Urban Frontier

Tenacious tenants and first-time buyers are exploring new neighborhoods and redefining what's trendy in city living

BY TERI BORSETI

When you talk to almost any real-estate agent in the Boston area, you're likely to hear that urban living is more popular than it's been in decades. Young professionals, boomers and retirees all want to be close to the hustle and bustle of the city. Whether they settle in Back Bay or Beacon Hill or one of the up-and-coming neighborhoods like Roxbury, Roslindale, East Boston and Hyde Park, people are being lured by city life.

A relatively small "big" city (or to paraphrase the late George Fraser, a "large town") with an enormous amount to offer—including cultural diversity, a strong arts community, proximity to natural splendor, a wide selection of top-notch and world-renowned universities and world-class medical facilities—Boston remains a highly desirable place to settle. And though the benefits of living in the city have always been appreciated by both home owners and renters, the area seems to be basking in the afterglow of last decade's healthy economy.

Beacon Hill, Back Bay and the South End are still Boston's most sought-after neighborhoods, but they're also the most expensive. John O'Connor, a broker at Hunneman Coldwell Banker in the South End, says that because a lot of new condos and homes were built last year and are now for sale, there's more availability this year. But prices are still high—often topping a million dollars for single-family homes and condos in the city.

In the past couple of years, though, soaring real-estate prices have prompted people to move to areas on the periphery of the city—such as Roxbury, Dorchester, Hyde Park and East Boston—where they can get a lot more for their money.

Nesting Areas

Elisa Daley of Gibson/Domain in the South End has been selling properties in that location for years but more recently has been doing more business in Roxbury, particularly the Fort Hill section. "People are finally getting it," she says. "Rents are out of control, and the cost of a condo in almost any part of the inner city is sky-high. Places like Roxbury and Dorchester are up-and-coming. They're the new hip neighborhoods. A two-bedroom condo that would sell in the high $300,000s in the downtown area would cost about $175,000 less in these places. And these neighborhoods offer some green space as well."

Daley adds that she deals with a mix of buyers, young and old, all of whom are enthusiastic about living in the city. "There are empty-nesters who want to sell the big suburban house, downsize, move to the city and have a little nest egg in the bank. And there are the young professionals or families

"Rents are out of control, and the cost of a condo in almost any part of the city is sky-high. Places like Roxbury and Dorchester ... are the new hip neighborhoods."
—*Elisa Daley, agent*

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

who want to live in a neighborhood that's five minutes from everything," she says.

And the trend isn't limited to places like Roxbury and Dorchester. According to Lydia Leonard, owner of City Square Realty in Chelsea, people who have been priced out of the South End have discovered that Chelsea offers lower prices and better views from the other side of the harbor.

"You can either pay $3,000 a month [in rent or mortgage] to look out at Chelsea, or a lot less to live here and have a view of the city," Leonard says. "A unit that would cost a million dollars in the South End can be bought for about $350,000 here."

A two-bedroom townhouse can still be found for $250,000 to $279,000 in Chelsea's waterfront or Soldier's Hill neighborhoods, where the view of Boston is spectacular, according to Leonard. "Chelsea is in transition, and a lot of people are moving here. The downtown common was recently refurbished, and the city spent $40,000 to repair the fountain. New roads, sewer systems and trees are going into many areas. The area is just five minutes from downtown Boston, and it's a place where you can really get to know your neighbors," she says.

"Chelsea is in transition, and a lot of people are moving here....The area is just five minutes from downtown Boston, and it's a place where you can really get to know your neighbors."
—Lydia Leonard, agent



Young professionals Kara and Jim Lippie recently purchased a charming one-bedroom townhouse in Chelsea's waterfront area. The roof-deck provides a fantastic view of the city.

The Lure of Southie & Eastie

"When I think of alternative neighborhoods, I think of South Boston and East Boston," says Robin Portman, owner of Century 21 Portman Properties in Hyde Park. "There are some great prices in East Boston, and there's a lot of renovation going on there. The skyline view from that side is amazing." Tony Giacalone of Tony's Realty in Maverick Square agrees. He says that "Eastie" is fast gaining a reputation as a place "where you can get a big bang for your buck." Transplants from the South End, Somerville and even Jamaica Plain are opting to buy property just one train stop away from Boston, and they're saving money in the process. "Ten years ago, you just didn't see people moving into East Boston," Giacalone says. "But nowadays people are realizing they can get a lot for their money here, and they're still basically in the city. When East Boston comes up in conversation now, people all seem to know someone who lives here," he says.

When formidable prices drove a young professional couple out of Somerville, Giacalone put them into a "nice" two-bedroom condo for $162,000. "The unit came with parking and a balcony that overlooks the harbor and skyline," he says.

East Boston is also a place where people can buy a reasonably priced three-family house, live in one unit and rent the other two. "I just sold a three-family Victorian house to a man from the South End who is going to live there and rent two of the apartments. He got three times the space he had for $300,000, which is high for East Boston," Giacalone says.

According to Giacalone, Massport has proposed a waterfront housing-development project, but nothing will be available there for at least two years.

While the dollar goes far in East Boston, the opposite is true in South Boston. "Five years ago, you could buy a condo in Southie for $225,000 to $250,000, but not now," says Jackie Rooney, owner of Rooney Real Estate in South Boston. "South Boston has appreciated in much the same way the South End did. People are starting to get priced out of both South Boston and Jamaica Plain," he says.

According to Rooney, apartments that have been converted into condos start at $300,000 in Southie, and a 1,200-square-foot unit can cost $350,000.

A Family Affair

Although they're not considered "trendy" neighborhoods—like certain parts of JP and Somerville—both Hyde Park and Roslindale have a lot to offer professional couples with children. "For many, Hyde Park isn't an alternative, it's a first choice," says Robin Portman, owner of Century 21 Portman Properties in Hyde Park. "The difference is that here, you can buy a freestanding single-family house with a yard for about $250,000. It's a different market, but if you work in Boston, the commuter train will land you there in 11 minutes."

Portman said that most of the inner city is made up of attached row houses and condo conversions, but buyers can find more of a family atmosphere in Hyde Park and still be close to Boston.

Roslindale has seen its ups and downs over the past couple of decades, but Linda Burnett of Innovative Moves—with offices in JP and Roslindale—says numerous families are now coming into Roslindale for several reasons. "We have the lowest crime rate in the city. People can buy a nice Victorian home here for about $250,000 [the same price you might pay for a condo elsewhere], and there's a lot of green space here, like the Arnold Arboretum," Burnett says. "Longtime residents who have stuck it out in Roslindale are now enjoying the renaissance that's taking place here." In addition, Burnett adds, Roslindale is kid-friendly, with several parks and "tot lots."

Urban Migration

So what's driving the popularity of urban residences? One factor is a steady influx of the so-called empty-nesters, according to real-estate experts. "People who moved out to the suburbs to raise their kids want to be adults again," says Fred Meyer, who works at University Realty in Cambridge. "The suburbs can get boring when the kids are gone, and many folks want to live in a place where they can walk to everything."

But at the same time, "many young families are making the decision to raise their children in the city these days," Meyer adds. Regardless of age, those who can't afford Cambridge, Brookline or downtown Boston are settling into Brighton and parts of Somerville, particularly the Davis Square area. "That area has seen amazing gentrification in the past couple of years," Meyer says. "The artists can no longer afford it, so others are buying up the properties there."

In Brookline, Chobee Hoy, owner of Chobee Hoy Real Estate said she's noticed quite a few middle-aged folks who moved to Florida to escape New England winters moving back up North to live in or close to the city. Hoy has sold several condos to people who became disillusioned with the Florida lifestyle and wanted to come back to theater, music and most of all, public transportation. "Brookline seems to have something for everyone. There's an urban/suburban feeling people look for."

Whether they've had it with the 'burbs, want to be closer to work or school or just want to enjoy an urban setting, a growing number of people seem to feel the Boston area is the place to be. And despite the economic gloom-and-doomers, most realtors interviewed agreed that this year's real-estate market is still going strong and the demand for houses is high. As Jackie Rooney says, "It's usually very quiet [midsummer], but I was very busy." IB

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Buy Buy, Baby



After sinking money into a place that isn't theirs, many renters are finding ways to buy their own home

BY TERI BORSETI
ILLUSTRATIONS BY PAUL STODDARD

We are in the middle of hunting season. Apartment hunting, that is. And as legions of apartment seekers in Greater Boston scour the newspaper listings and ring the doorbells of potential landlords, there are scores more who wonder whether it's a good time to sink their cash into something more permanent.

Most realtors agree that buying is generally smarter than renting. "If you're planning to live in Boston for three to five years, it definitely makes more sense to buy because you're throwing that rent money out the window," says Jill Freint, manager of Boston Realty Associates. And with Boston's real-estate prices being among the highest in the country, wasting three to five years' worth of rent money can add up.

Freint says that owners can buy a condo in the Fenway area for $190,000 to $250,000, and depending on the size of the down payment, their monthly mortgage payment can be about the same (or slightly higher) as what they would pay for rent. Buying also affords a tax write-off that lets owners save money in the long run, since interest and property taxes are deductible.

By moving out of the city to commuter rail-accessible towns like Attleboro, for example, clients can get a two- or three-bedroom single-family home for about $170,000 to $200,000—and still have easy access to the city. For a monthly mortgage payment of $1,200-$1,500, including taxes (the same amount renters shell out for many one-bedroom apartments in the Boston area), buyers can get a half-acre or more of land with their purchase. After doing the math and being willing to forgo some of the pleasures of living in the city, many people decide that purchasing a home in the country or the suburbs is the more sensible option.



"By the time a renter comes up with first and last months' rent, a security deposit and the rental fee, they should just put that money toward a down payment," Freint says. And there are plenty of programs to help first-time buyers, such as those offered by Fannie Mae. Some require down payments of just three percent, putting home ownership within the reach of those without a large chunk of change in the bank.

"I tell people that while renting they should meet with a mortgage broker and get preapproved so that if something becomes available, they're ready."
—John O'Connor, Coldwell-Banker Hunneman

But not everyone feels this is a good time to buy. "Right now there's a risk of a downturn in the market," says Richard Niebor, vice president of marketing for Alliance Mortgage Corp. in Boston. He reminds potential buyers that real estate is subject to market fluctuations, just like every other investment. He says, "During the late '80s, people bought during a peak market and lost a lot of money." However, over an extended period of time, real estate has always increased in value. Conventional wisdom says that potential buyers should be able to hold on to their property for 5 to 10 years to weather market downturns.

Niebor agrees that rents are at an all-time high, because landlords have raised rents between 15 percent to 20 percent every year over the past few years. But recently he's spoken to some brokers who believe that the rental market has come down a bit.

At Coldwell-Banker Hunneman on Berkeley Street in Boston, Geoff Gibbons says, not surprisingly, that the start of the academic year typically has a strong impact on apartment rentals. "There's a peak demand at this time of year with the influx of students coming back to school," says Gibbons.

Gibbons also rents quite a few apartments to people who are planning to buy property but need a year or so to educate themselves on the market or to decide exactly where they want to live.

John O'Connor, also of Coldwell-Banker Hunneman, says it may be easier to find something to buy than finding a rental property and suggests that even those in their early 20s should opt to buy something small and then trade up in a couple of years. "In the meantime, I tell people that while renting they should meet with a mortgage broker and get preapproved so that if something becomes available, they're ready," O'Connor says.

In today's market the same rules seem to apply to both renters and buyers: By moving further away from Greater Boston, you can get more for your money. Prices in alternative locations, including Roxbury, Dorchester, East Boston and Chelsea, are considerably lower than in the South End or Back Bay, and some of those areas are just 10-15 minutes from downtown. "The further out you go," says Coldwell-Banker's Gibbons, "the smaller the gap between monthly rent and a mortgage payment."

"The biggest problem as far as [living] in Boston is the lack of housing," says Thomas Beaton, vice president of Dolben Real Estate Development and Management Co. in Boston. "There's some land here and there, but it's so difficult to go through the approval process and actually build something that almost no one does it," Beaton says. "The market continues to be strong and that's great. Now we need to increase the amount of housing [options] in Boston." IB



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Picture Windows

From charming townhouses in Charlestown to stately brownstones in Back Bay, realtors reveal their most prized properties

PHOTOGRAPHS BY JONAS A. KAHN



Beacon Hill

Otis & Ahearn
Listing agent: Fred Alibrandi (267-3500)
Selling price: $3,290,000

- Three-story condominium overlooking Boston Common and Public Garden
- 3,490 square feet, 2,500 on the second floor
- 2 bedrooms, au pair suite, 3 full baths, 2 half baths
- Formal living room with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking Public Garden
- Family room opens to Romeo and Juliet balcony overlooking courtyard (pictured)
- Two direct-access garage parking spaces

"The renovation has incorporated warmth and elegance within a dramatic view-oriented home, ideally suited for entertaining."
—Fred Alibrandi, vice president and listing agent



South End

ERA Mediate Real Estate Co.
Listing agent: Liz Kaye (267-2666)
Selling price: $949,000

- Four-story row home
- 2,700 square feet
- 3 bedrooms, 3 full baths, 3 half baths
- State-of-the-art kitchen (pictured)
- Penthouse master suite with roof access
- Oversized deck and parking

"Built less than two years ago, it's versatile, flexible, and the kitchen is ideal for an at-home gourmet."
—Liz Kaye, listing agent



Back Bay

Coldwell-Banker Hunneman
Exclusive agent: Christine McCarron (796-8450)
Selling price: $6,995,000

- Five-story brownstone
- 10,000 square feet
- 19 rooms, 7 bedrooms, 4 full baths, 3 half baths, au pair suite, 2 decks plus roof deck, 9 fireplaces (18th-century French marble fireplace in living room pictured)
- Wine cellar and humidor
- Hydraulic elevator
- Heated two-car garage

"What has always amazed me about this property is its grandness. It is very much a home regardless of its impressive size. It was skillfully returned to its Victorian roots yet has all the modern conveniences of today's lifestyle."
—Christine McCarron, exclusive agent

Charlestown/Waterfront

Otis & Ahearn
Listing Agent: Carol Adolph (242-7393)
Selling Price: $1,100,000

- Two-level town home on Constellation Wharf
- 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1 half bath
- 1,830 square feet
- Formal dining room and step-down living room with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the city and sailboat docks (pictured)
- Two private decks with city and waterfront views
- Deeded parking included

"The day and evening views of the city and harbor from every window and from both decks are truly spectacular."
—Carol Adolph, listing broker





South Boston

Smith & Doyle Real Estate Inc.
Listing agent: Susan Smith (268-3990)
Selling price: $519,000

- Detached four-story Victorian single-family home
- 3,000 square feet
- 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, 1 half bath
- Stained-glass windows in dining room (pictured)
- Steam bath and jacuzzi
- Fully renovated kitchen

"This home offers exquisite period details throughout, such as stained glass, original moldings and parquet floors."
—Susan Smith, principal and listing agent

Welcome to the Neighborhood

An at-a-glance renter's guide: where to live, what to do and what it will cost

Boston Community	Average 2 BR Rental 1996	Average 2 BR Rental Today	Notable Eating Establishments	Hangouts/Things to Do	Nightlife
Allston-Brighton	$1,100	$1,600	Aside from late-night pizza joints and ethnic eateries, there's also the superb Pho Pasteur, Tasca, Daiwa, Atara, Sunset Grill and Tap, and Big City.	Visit Big City for pool, Allston Cinema for cheap flicks and the Dietrich von Buhler Gallery for alternative art.	Live music, good beer and Eire cheer...it's all here: Wonderbar, Northeast Brewing Co., Harper's Ferry, White Horse Tavern and a bevy of Irish pubs.
Back Bay	$2,000-$2,500	$2,500-$3,500	Abe and Louie's, Grill 23, Mistral, Scoozi, Tapeo, Ciao Bella, Cottonwood Cafe and the Parish Cafe, among streets full of others.	People-watching, first and foremost. Then check out the ICA or one of more than 50 galleries along Newbury Street.	Current hot spots: Vox Populi, Barcode, Sonsie, The Alley, Pravda 116, McCarthy's, Daisy Buchanan's and the Rattlesnake.
Beacon Hill	$2,000-$2,500	$2,500-$3,500	A wide variety of tastes: The King and I, Café Podima, Ma Soba, Paramount Café, 75 Chestnut and Lala Rokh.	Sip coffee and peruse the newspaper at Panificio, or pack a picnic and head to the Common.	The Hill, Harvard Gardens, Beacon Hill Pub and The Sevens are a must. Craving late-night "drunk food"? Go to Buzzy's Roast Beef.
Brookline	$1,300	$1,800	With 13 sushi bars within a 1-mile radius, plus Indian, Chinese, Vietnamese and Middle Eastern restaurants and kosher delis, it's a gastronome's ethnic paradise.	Artsy films play at the Coolidge Corner Theater; authors regularly read at Brookline Booksmith; coffee shops abound.	A mellow night scene: Try the Washington Square Tavern, Coolidge Corner Clubhouse, Matt Murphy's Pub or Village Smokehouse.
Cambridge	$1,000-$1,300	$2,200	From sushi to schwarma to sorbet, Cambridge has it all.Try Oleana, East Coast Grill, Central Kitchen, Olé Mexican Grill and the B-Side Lounge.	The streetside theatrics are nearly as entertaining as the professional troupes at the American Repertory and Market theaters.	Laid-back crowds at the Lizard Lounge, the Middle East, the Good Life, Sculler's and Ryles Jazz Club. The Brattle shows great artsy flicks.
Charlestown	$1,200-$1,800	$1,750-$2,500	If you're tired of waiting in line at Olives, there's always Figs, Ironside Grille, Wesley's Bistro, Paolo's Trattoria and the new Morroccan restaurant, Tangierino.	Try Sorell's for coffee or Tavern on the Water for evening cocktails; but true locals hang at the Dunkin' Donuts.	Grab your sailor's hat and head to Warren Tavern (on Wednesday nights), the Ironside Grille or Sullivan's to chug a few.
Dorchester	$700	$1,200	Aside from terrific barbecue at Big Moe's, there's Gerard's, the Fat Belly Deli at Blasi's, the Blarney Stone, Patty's Pantry, CF Donovan's and 224 Boston Street.	Get a scone with butter and jam at Greenhill's Bakery; visit the JFK Museum; pack a picnic and head to the Franklin Park Zoo.	For men, there's the Erie; for the fairer sex, there's the Banshee, Ned Kelly's, Desmond's Pub and Donovan's Village Tavern.
Hyde Park	$700-$800	$1,200	Basic fare: Mario's Restaurant, Dottie's Deli, the River Street Grill, Melinda's Taqueria, Talk and Wok and Hyde Park Cafe (for that dinner to impress).	The River Street Grill has live music and great coffee. See a musical at the Riverside Theatre Works.	Master McGrath's and Dempsey's Bar & Grill have live music playing at the bar.
Jamaica Plain	$800-$900	$1,400-$1,600	Ethnic eateries abound. For good eats try Dogwood Café, Bukhara, Perdix, Bella Luna or Doyle's (and then head to the original J.P. Licks for dessert).	After a cup of joe at Coffee Cantata, rent a boat at Jamaica Pond or stroll through the Arnold Arboretum or Franklin Park Zoo.	There's raucous karaoke on Tuesday nights at the Milky Way or more mellow entertainment at the Brendan Behan Pub or James's Gate.
North End	$1,200	$1,600	Your best bet is to get in line. Try Restaurant Bricco, Monica's, L'Osteria, Il Panino, Taranta, Lucca, Dolce Vita, Terramia or Pizzeria Regina.	Café Vittoria has some of the best cappuccino in Beantown. Walk the Freedom Trail or peruse the art at Crosstown Arts Gallery.	Tiny cafes and bars make up social hour: Florentine Café, Cafe Paradiso, Cafe Graffiti and Marcuccio's. For a good laugh, try the Improv Asylum.
Roslindale	$800-$900	$1,300	A multiethnic mecca: The Pleasant Cafe, Gusto Trattoria (for Italian), Checkmate Cafe for pizza and the Wapo Taco. Village Grill and Sushi opens soon.	Get an ice cream at Emack & Bolios, admire the Victorian homes; visit the farmers' market on Saturdays.	Things are looking up: Several new hot spots will soon spice up the nightlife (among them, Cafe Lola).
Somerville	$900-$1,000	$1,600-$1,800	From college cheap to super-chic. Try Diva, Rudy's, Johnny D's, Eat, Amelia's Kitchen, Dalí, Tu Y Yo, Kebab Factory or Anna's Taqueria.	McIntyre and Moore Booksellers the Somerville Theatre, Diesel Cafe and the Someday Café are perfect for lazy Sundays.	Irish bars compete across the street: the Joshua Tree and the Burren. For live music, try Johnny D's, Lilli's and the Sky Bar.
South Boston	$900	$1,800	It's not exactly a culinary oasis, but places such as Mul's Diner, Terry's Place, Andrew Square House of Pizza and 224 Boston are standouts.	Relaxing on Castle Island is a popular choice (try the hot dogs and ice cream at Sullivan's).	The Beer Garden on East Broadway, the Farragut House, Playwright, Molly Darcy's and Lucky's are all down-to-earth watering holes.
South End	$1,700-$2,500	$2,200-$3,300	It's a food mecca. Try the Franklin Café, Masa, Tremont 647, Bob the Chef's, Claremont Café, Metropolis Café or the Garden of Eden.	See a show at the BCA, nibble on pastries at Flour Bakery, sip tea at Quing Ping Gallery, or visit one of a handful of terrific art galleries.	Sophisticated spots include the Franklin Café, Tremont 647, Pho Republique, Anchovies and Deluxe.
West Roxbury	$900	$1,300-$1,500	Pick up a pizza at Tony's Place or try the chicken at Fontaine's. Craving corned beef? Taste of Ireland has Irish food and gifts.	Shoot the breeze at Steve Slyne's, an old-school deli that's a gathering place for neighborhood policy wonks.	Corrib Pub and Restaurant offers more than Guinness. Another local hangout is Buck Mulligan's—open until 2am, with darts and video games.

RENETAL PRICES WERE OBTAINED FROM LOCAL REAL-ESTATE AGENTS.

Outdoor Recreation	MBTA Train/Trolley	Shopping	Who You'll See	Main Attraction	Bottom Line
Run along the Charles or around the Chestnut Hill Reservoir. Crash the Frisbee games on the B.C. fields.	The slowest of the Green Lines, the B Line is often crowded and stops frequently. Buses are a better alternative.	A thrift store here, a used-vinyl store there ... antique shops abound. Lots of unfinished furniture options at decent prices.	College students and young professionals working at non-profits; ethnically diverse neighborhoods (many Asians and Latinos).	Exuberant street life	Housing is certainly cheaper here, but cultural options are limited. You can easily act like you're still in college—since your downstairs neighbors probably are.
Join the fashion parade down Newbury Street or run through the Common to the Charles.	Orange Line to Back Bay; Green Line to Arlington, Copley, Hynes or Prudential	Between Copley Square Mall and Newbury alone, it's the best (albeit the priciest) shopping in the city.	Flashy Europeans and Middle Easterners, monied Brahmins and casual window shoppers.	More than 50 art galleries and nearly 100 hair salons	Skyrocketing prices have all but squeezed out young professionals, but if you can afford it, this is the place to be.
Play basketball at South Russell Street; stroll through the Common or along the Esplanade.	Red Line to Charles/MGH or Park Street; Green Line to Park Street or Government Center	Except for a few boutiques like Wish and Koo de Kir, you'll find mostly restaurants and antiques.	Octogenarians, wig-wearing politicians and a smattering of 20-somethings crammed into tiny apartments.	Quintessentially English	Centrally located and incredibly picturesque. The downside: Apartments are tiny, some with fixtures dating back to the early 1900s.
Brookline's got 26 public tennis courts; the Riverway weaves through the Longwood area.	C and D Green Lines (multiple stops)	Leila (women's wear), Best Cellars wine shop, Trader Joe's, Brookline Booksmith and many reasonably priced boutiques.	An eclectic mix of young professionals and families; many Jewish families settle here.	Self-contained community	If you're a low-key young professional or just starting a family, this is an exceptional community—if you can afford it.
Jog, bike or walk along Memorial Drive. Meander through Mt. Auburn Cemetery or Harvard's quad.	Red Line to Central, Harvard, Porter or Alewife	Bargain basements, bookstores, high-end boutiques, used-CD shops and adult stores	Crunchy, intellectual, forward-thinking and left-leaning, Cantabrigians are a class apart.	Academic Disney World	Forget Harvard Square—it's too expensive. Porter Square is on its way to having come and gone, but there are still bargains to be found. Central Square—despite its gentrification—is an appealing option.
City Square Park and John Harvard Mall are prime picinic spots.	Orange Line to Community College or Sullivan Square	Slim pickings for shopping	A healthy (although somewhat segregated) mix of yuppies, young families and longtime residents	A town within a town	New England charm on the water; historical landmarks abound.
Bicycle the Neponset River Greenway; picnic at Pope John Paul II Park or Stony Brook Reservation.	Red Line to JFK/UMass, Ashmont or Shawmut	Antique shops in Lower Mills	Irish immigrants and second-generation Irish, African-American, Haitian and Vietnamese. Diverse socioeconomic backgrounds.	Boston's melting pot	If you can't afford Southie, try Dorchester. You can live in a house with a garage (!) without having to sell your car to afford it.
Walk the trails along the Neponset River.	The commuter rail goes to Cleary Square, or you can take the Orange Line to Forest Hills and then catch a bus.	Lion's Domain (gift shop); and Avie's Art Store	A good mixture of young professionals moving in and ethnic groups such as Haitians	Suburbs within the city	Hyde Park is moving up in the discerning Bostonian view—especially with young professionals. The rent has gone sky-high, just like the skyline you can see from your porch.
Grab your running shoes and hit the trails along Jamaica Pond, the Arnold Arboretum or Franklin Park.	Orange Line to Stony Brook, Green Street or Forest Hills	Lots of thrift stores (Gumshoe), ethnic groceries and several antique stores	Diverse, including alterna-hip 20- and 30-somethings, lesbians and Latinos.	Revitalized mecca for displaced artists	Very affordable and decidedly diverse, yet it's still somewhat sleepy compared with other areas. Watch out—renters are catching on, and prices are on the rise.
Want something to do? Help finish the Big Dig.	Green Line to Haymarket, North Station, Government Center	It's mostly Italian grocers, bakeries, butchers and kitsch shops here.	The young professionals stand out from the multigenerational Italian families.	La dolce vita	Housing may not be cheap, but the ambiance, social options, restaurant choices and proximity to the city make the North End extremely desirable. Parking's a bitch, though.
Stony Brook Reservation has more than 400 acres of forest to explore.	Orange Line to Stony Brook, Green Street or Forest Hills or Commuter Rail (Needham Line) to Roslindale	Downtown is a nice respite from chain-store shopping. Try Zia, a funky boutique on Birch Street.	You name it, it's here. A diverse crowd that spans all age groups, races, religions and sexual orientations.	Word on the street is that Roslindale's about to happen	Roslindale may be cheap, but it certainly doesn't skimp in terms of ambiance and activity. It reminds us of Inman Square—at one-third the price.
Head to the Minute Man Trail outside Davis Square for a run or go boating on the Mystic River.	Red Line to Porter or Davis Square	From Davis to Porter squares, there are heaps of boutiques and clothing, record and book stores.	Slap-happy students, directionless 20-somethings, crunchy bohemians...anything but uber-chic.	So long Slummerville, hello nouveau Cambridge	It's affordable and home to unpretentious, creative people, but few trees thrive in this concrete oasis.
Castle Island, Carson Beach and Joe Moakley Park are all great places to run, bike or blade.	Red Line to Broadway or Andrew Square	The Goodwill of Southie is not to be missed. There's a few antique stores and lots of mom 'n pop stores.	Irish lads and lassies, young families and an influx of young professionals, but not much in the way of cultural diversity.	L Street Bathhouse and Castle Island	Accessible by T and within spitting distance of the water, Southie is slowly becoming *the* place to live. Residents, however, are still wary of yuppie newcomers.
The Northwest Corridor is an oasis, with tons of "dog" parks scattered throughout.	Green Line to Copley or Prudential; Orange Line to Back Bay, Mass. Ave, N.E. Medical Center	Upscale boutiques abound.	Every race, background, age and sexual preference mingle night and day.	Flamboyant ... and the beat goes on	The South End is your spot if you're craving a close-knit community with diversity, culture, charm and a pronounced funky flair.
Billings and Hynes fields are popular in the summer.	Commuter Rail (Needham Line) to West Roxbury or Highland	Not for the shopaholic, but Centre Street has a bunch of locally owned bakeries and businesses.	This predominantly white Irish Catholic neighborhood is all about families. Play "dodge the strollers" on sidewalks.	It's quiet—no main attraction	If you want a neighborhood with strong community ties, this is it. Technically, it's "city," but West Roxbury has a less hectic feel than other areas of Beantown.

Elite Retreat



Jet setters tee up and wind down in smart seaside styles

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY MITCHEL GANT

Opening page: Ivory lace blouse, $1,200; ivory bustier, $350; ivory trousers, $525. All available at Escada. Faux diamond studs, $82. Available at Erwin Pearl.

Previous page: Cashmere shell by Michael Kors, $675; cashmere cardigan by Michael Kors, $875; linen skirt by Michael Kors, $475; straw hat, $100. All available at Neiman Marcus. Belt by Prada, $178; knit and leather gloves, $65. Both available at Saks Fifth Avenue. Golf shoes by Stuart Weitzman, $250, available at Stuart Weitzman.



Argyle top by Tocca, $198; cotton skirt by Tocca, $185; hat by Burberry, $160. All available at Saks Fifth Avenue. Golf shoes, $250, available at Stuart Weitzman.

Pleated chiffon pants by Laundry, $200; sweater tank by Miu Miu, $200; cardigan by Miu Miu, $320; signature Eric Javits hat, $625. All available at Neiman Marcus. Rope of pearls, $82, available at Erwin Pearl. White dress sandals with clasp by Stuart Weitzman, $208, available at Stuart Weitzman.

On her: Plum halter swimsuit by Calvin Klein, $94; striped organza scarf, $125. Both available at Saks Fifth Avenue. On him: Swimsuit, $88; sports watch, $225. Both available at Emporio Armani.

On her: Ruffle-neck knit striped top by Moschino, $635; black flounced skirt with grommets by Narcisco Rodriguez, $300; studded black stilettos by Narcisco Rodriguez, $595. All available at Serenella. On him: Black tank, $128; white pants, $228; black sandals, $198. All available at Emporio Armani.



Clothing stylist:
Mark Ellis

Hair and makeup:
Stephani Housley

Location stylist:
Dean Bragonier

Models:
Dean for Maggie;
Emily for Maggie;
Ashley for Copley 7.

Neiman Marcus
Copley Place
617-536-3660

Erwin Pearl
4 Newbury St.
617-236-7240

Stuart Weitzman
Copley Place
617-266-8699

Escada
Heritage on the Garden
617-437-1200

Serenella
134 Newbury St.
617-262-5568

Emporio Armani
210 Newbury St.
617-262-7300

Saks Fifth Avenue
Prudential Center
617-262-8500

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

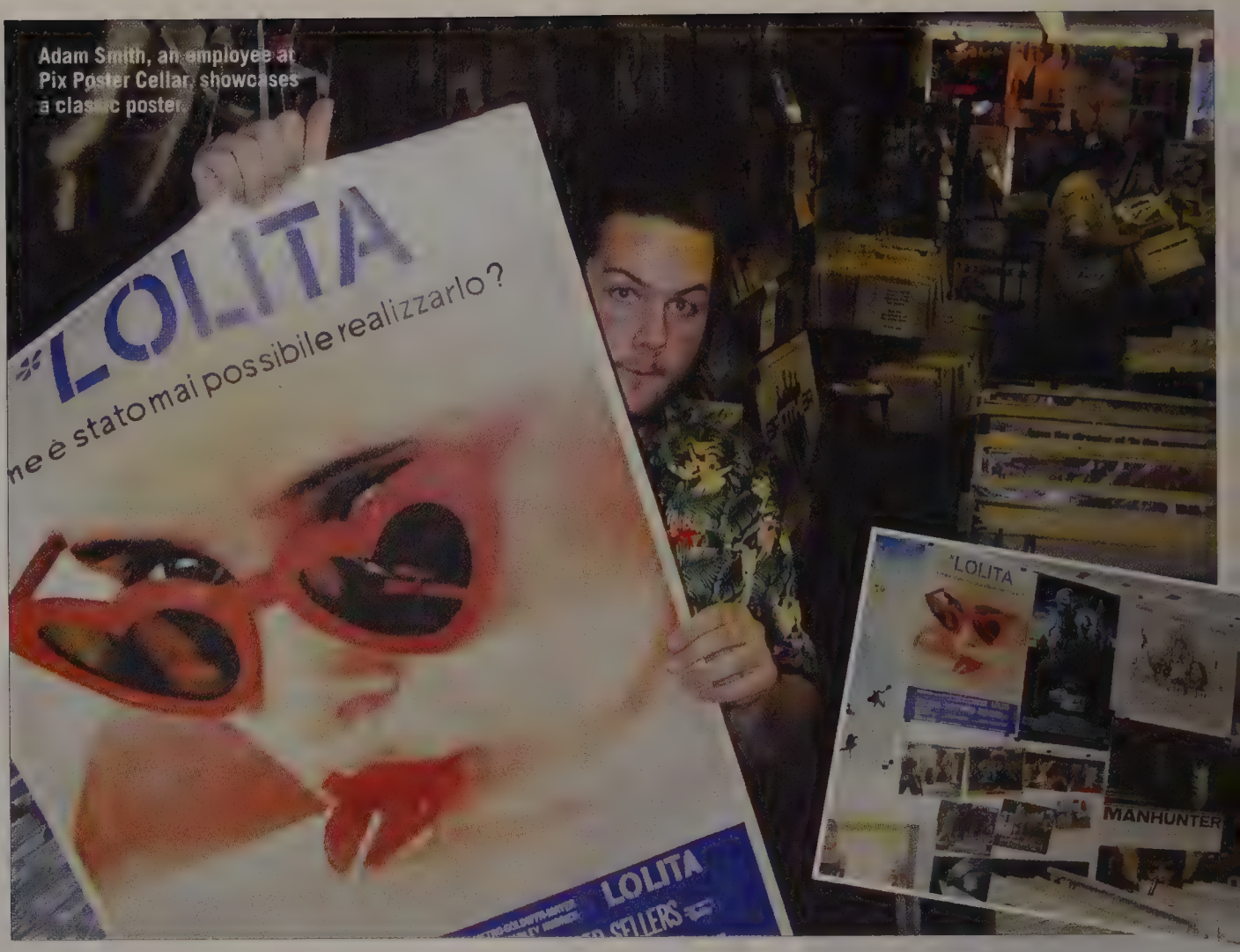
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

CENTER YOURSELF WITH ZEN

The Zen Center, at 199 Auburn Street in Cambridge (576-3229), offers various programs, some free, some drop-in (drop a friendly call first.)

You might not suspect that, behind increasingly bustling Central Square, is a place so dove-of-peace-quiet that while about 40 people live there, you hear nothing. This special "nothing" is the soothing, smoothing, enriching quiet of the Zen Center. This Kwan Um School of Zen is one of several centers founded by Zen Master Seung Sahn, the first Korean Zen master to teach in the West. For beginners (which is ironic, as all Zen students strive for something pure and receptive called "Beginner's Mind" anyway) they offer an introductory talk on Monday evenings at 7pm, which includes a brief sitting. Other weekly happenings include chanting, meditation, Dharma Talk, and Kong-an (or Koan) readings—paradoxical-sounding riddles embedded in anecdotes that invite an answer requiring, first, a particular slide into a Zen attitude. Ji Hyang Su Nim, the peaceful woman Abbot who lives at the center, characterizes the shift, the stance, the psychic spot Zen students aspire to in their beautifully un-muscle-minded-way: "To clear the mind of excess, so we can see what is right in front of us, in the moment, with compassion." Almost as if floating, the Zen people welcome you in.





Adam Smith, an employee at Pix Poster Cellar, showcases a classic poster.

ALL THE WORLD'S A MARQUEE

Pix Poster Cellar, at 1105 Mass Ave., Cambridge (864-7499) sells the world's largest selection of contemporary movie memorabilia.

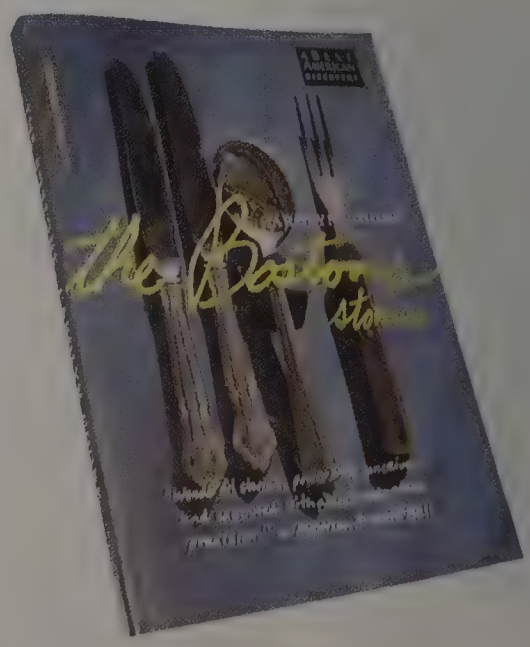
Plunge into the collective movie unconscious with all the usual suspects (yeah, they have that movie too)—Bogie, Orson, Marilyn, Julia and, of course, local gods Matt and Ben. Pix Poster Cellar is your source for all the "still" versions of motion pictures. Gratifyingly enormous posters will pour romantic *Casablanca* redness all over your dorm room, provide space for *Lola to Run!* or display the stylized perkiness of Charlie Chaplin in black and white. The new posters mostly date back to at least the '60s, with reproductions of earlier ones. Many of the posters not only recall the movies and their stars, they also sharply evoke the era when they were made: see *Breathless* from 1961, with Belmondo and Seberg. There are foreign film posters, which, if seen on video, may look exotically new. They include Japanese, German, Chinese, Italian and French movies. And you'll find gangsters aplenty. Along with the art represented by these posters, there are movie scripts and scads of alphabetized black and white publicity shots for sale. TV examples include the redoubtable Sopra-Mafiosi. Reliably eternal is, as one PixNik put it, "the standard college girl purchase": Audrey Hepburn breakfasting at Tiffany's.

THE BOSTON AND MAINE

The Bostons, by Carolyn Cooke—whose work has appeared in *The Best American Short Stories*—is a collection of sometimes-connected stories.

With the eccentric rich on one end and the weirdo poor on the other, Carolyn Cooke has covered a lot of landscape. Her own eye is marvelously eccentric, too, in these looping stories whose characters often prove, much later, to be linked. In one story, we hear about the daughter of conservative Boston parents. Then, in another, we meet her in person, as a grown woman who has left her husband and children for a wilder lesbian life in California.

In yet another story, an older man picks up a much younger drunken girl on the Boston subway and travels with her, disappointingly, painfully, to Europe. The stories are shot through with defiant ruptures—people leaving their husbands, disowning a child, shaking a rebellious fist at their social class. A man in Maine, running a bungalow motel with his wife, shoots her (accidentally?) but they stay together for years, the man medicated to the gills, until their own reckless son dies. Cooke's talent goes beyond the shock of craziness that seeps through all her stories; she continually surprises with her ability to slither into the varied and peculiar consciousness of her characters and render, fascinatingly, their mad hunger for experience and danger.



BOTTOM LEFT AND INSET: ITALA SOUZA; TOP: JENNY LOLLEY



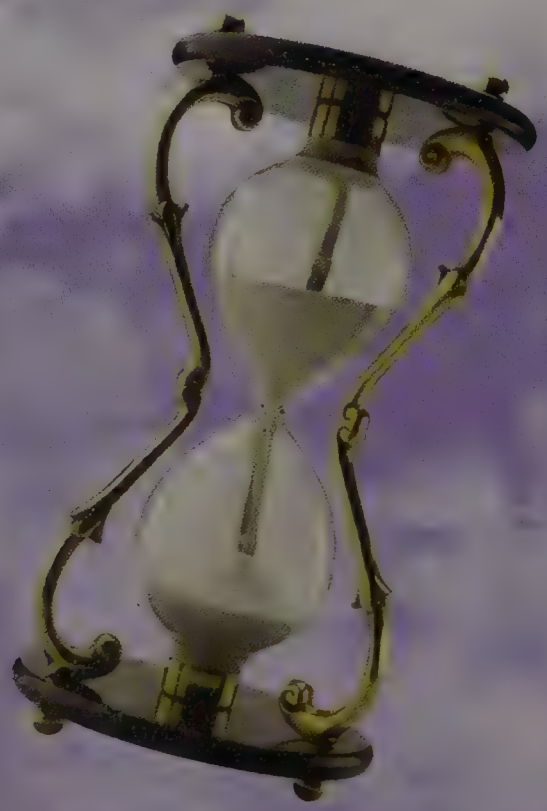
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The Rack rocks to Darius's smooth sounds!

inside RACK

Every Monday Night

"In The Biz Night" pool challenge, hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Tuesday Night, 6pm

After-work Jazz Party featuring the band MD!

Every Wednesday Night, 6pm

Summer Reggae Party & DJ Steve Anderson.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm

"Radio-Active"

Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes or the Chad LaMarsh band, hosted by Mix 98.5's Party-Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky mixes it up 'til 2am.

Every Friday Night, 6pm

Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Thursday, August 16th, 5:00pm

They've been saying it for years, and it's finally happened, The Rack has gone to the dogs! Dog Day Afternoon is back at The Rack! Hosted by The Improper Bostonian Magazine and Mix 98.5's Erin O'Malley and Gregg Daniels, bring your loveable pooch down to The Rack to help benefit the WSPA and MSPCA!

Wednesday, August 22nd, 6pm

American Red Cross Reggae Party! Featuring Loose Caboose.

Saturday, August 25th, 11-6pm

Here's your chance to become a STAR! ABC TV is hosting a casting call for their new reality show "The Runner" which will be produced by Matt Damon and Ben Affleck!

Saturday, August 25th, 7pm

Celebrity Bash! Join Boston Celtic star Paul Pierce for his Celebrity Softball Challenge After-Party! All proceeds benefit The Boys and Girls Club of Boston, Mayor's Scholarship Fund and Massachusetts Sports Partnership. Enter to win a chance to play a "3-on-3" game with Paul and friends.

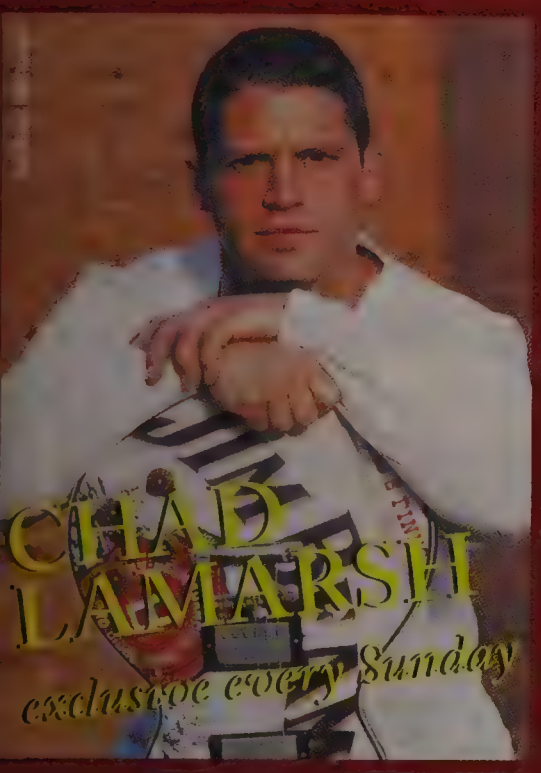
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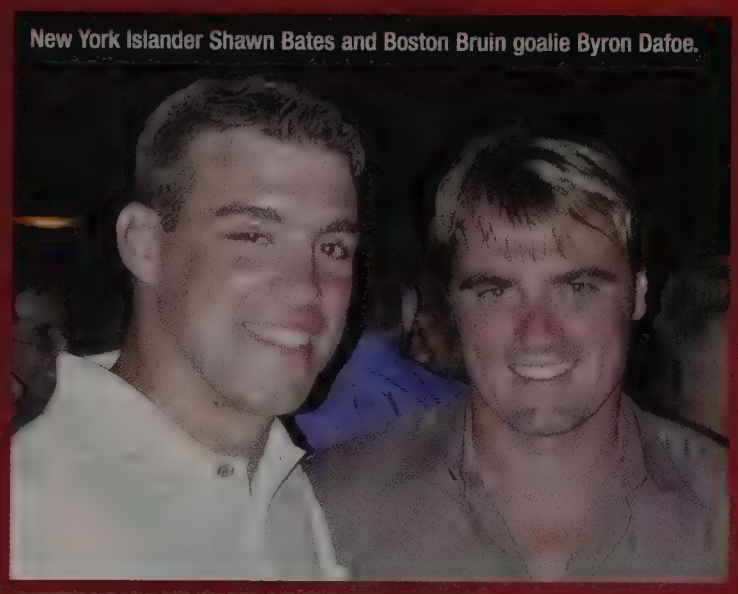
Mark Morris & The Catunes every Thursday night!


Click agency models spice up "In The Biz Night" pool challenge every Monday hosted by BackBayBeat.com while DJ Mike Janedy spins all night.


Join us for "Dog Day Afternoon" August 16




Darius Rucker with The Racks' Heather Michalowski and The Improper Bostonians' Wendy Semonian, Carrie Wallace and Mary O'Malley.


New York Islander Shawn Bates and Boston Bruin goalie Byron Dafoe.


Join Paul Pierce on August 25 for his celebrity bash!


Darius hangs with Boston Celtic's Walter McCarty and friends



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THE RACK

in this section:
Review: Tu y Yo
Dish: Tempest in a tater

Tasty Tidbit: Aug. 20-24 is Boston's Restaurant Week

REVIEW

Que Bueno!

Mexican cantina Tu y Yo in Somerville avoids the typical Tex-Mex cliché with authentic cuisine at simpatico prices

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

The first taste of a tortilla at Tu y Yo transported me back to my college days and my first visit to Mexico. As young pilgrims taking part in a school building project in a small town in the mountains north of Mexico City, my companions and I were hosted by local families who shared with us simple but memorable meals. My señora offered an unending supply of freshly made tortillas hot off the grill with a distinctive, pleasant aroma and a flavor of corn that I will never forget. Like the tortillas at Tu y Yo, they were miles apart from the cardboard-like, manufactured tortillas encountered in all too many Mexican restaurants.

Tu y Yo ("You and I") is an engaging cantina in Somerville's Powderhouse Square, a reasonable walk from the Davis Square T station. The kaleidoscopic colors of its décor bespoke the Aztecs to one of my companions. A bright blue chair rail separated the lighter blue upper wall, decorated with photographs of Mexican people and places, from the vibrant yellow of the lower wall. Six colorful stools lined a gleaming ceramic blue tile bar. Two ceiling fans lazily moved the still summer air as we perused the menu titled "Mom's Cuisine."

Tacos (all $2.75) were basic but delicious: fresh, hot corn tortillas covered with a choice of fillings. Our favorite was the *longaniza*, fried Mexican sausage accompanied by raw onions and cilantro. We have enjoyed this sausage—slightly citric, hot but not fiery, salty but not excessively—many times in Mexico under the generic name *chorizo*. Other taco fillings included grilled pieces of marinated pork, robust and full of flavor, and for the more faint of heart, white chunks of chicken breast. The tacos were served with a choice of red or green salsa, the red packing a wallop while the green was milder but far from bland. Another appetizer, the quesadillas ($3.25), consisted of deep fried flour tortillas stuffed with sausage, mushrooms or shrimp mixed with mild cheese.



Chef Carlos Cerrillo and owner Epigmenio Guzman. Opposite page: Diners feast on *camaron cuernavaca*, jumbo grilled shrimp mixed with fresh vegetables in garlic butter sauce.

Tu y Yo

858 Broadway, Somerville

(623-5411)

HOURS Daily, 11:30am-10pm

RESERVATIONS No

CREDIT CARDS Visa, MasterCard

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE Yes

PARKING On-street available

LIQUOR LICENSE Beer and wine



Moving on to the main course, we sampled the *camaron Cuernavaca* ($13.95), five or six jumbo grilled shrimp in a garlic butter sauce with fresh carrots, peppers and broccoli. The shrimp were of good, resilient texture, and the garlic butter sauce was a soothing respite from the spicy kick of many of the dishes. *Pollo Chiapas* ($9.95), a boneless chicken breast marinated in spicy orange sauce and pan-fried, was simple and straightforward. More noteworthy was the *cochinita Pibil* ($9.95), shredded boneless pork loin marinated and broiled in spicy Mayan sauce, with tomatoes, garlic and chili peppers. The *chuletas Pancho Villa* ($9.95), a pair of grilled pork chops marinated in a red sauce, were fried to a crisp crust. While we found them a little dry, the warm flavors of the marinade and spices made them enjoyable nonetheless, with the zest of citrus (lime and/or orange) adding a welcome nuance. Garnishes for all main courses consisted of a substantial pyramid of moist Spanish rice topped with a flat parsley leaf and a small bowl of *frijoles*, pureed refried beans, and a dusting of grated cheese. Like the tortillas, the frijoles evoked unadulterated nostalgia for our neighbor south of the border.

What made Tu y Yo's food so good was the clean, distinct flavor, unencumbered by the embellishments we have been led to expect with Tex-Mex food. The talented Mexican chef at Tu y Yo shows respect for the integrity of the flavors and textures of his ingredients, avoiding the all too common gambit of layering globs of sour cream and guacamole, thickets of chopped iceberg lettuce and liberally ladled cheese over everything. Fans of typical Tex-Mex food may be disappointed, since portion sizes are modest (as are prices), and the presentations and combinations are simple, almost ascetic. Moreover, in our two visits to Tu y Yo there was not a nacho in sight. I am not opposed to nachos, salsa and guacamole—they are among my favorite snack foods—but they have become almost a cliché in Mexican restaurants.

An upbeat and congenial Guatemalan-American waiter served us on both of our visits. For beverages, Tu y Yo offers a good selection of Mexican beers (Bohemia, Carta Blanca, DosEquis and others), an estimable wine list and pitchers of cinnamon-laced sangria.

Desserts included a finely crafted, creamy flan, Mexico's traditional custard. A second dessert was an uninspiring in appearance but delicious bowl of strawberries and cream. Sweet but not cloying, the pristine fresh flavor of the fruit broke through the richness of the cream. Strong, intensely flavored coffee spiked with chocolate and cinnamon served as a definitive punctuation mark to conclude the meal.

For diners in search of authentic, well-rendered Mexican food—and the best tortillas and frijoles this side of Monterey—Tu y Yo *esta muy bueno y muy simpatico*. **iB**



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DISH

Hot Potatoes

The Fed goes II for XV...Lobster extravaganza... BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



It's two! Two! Two chefs in one ... restaurant. The "perfect team" Matthew Morello (left) and Stefano Zimei have taken over the kitchen as co-executive chefs at The Federalist at XV Beacon.

William Sander, XV Beacon's general manager, has touted **The Fed**'s new co-executive chefs **Matthew Morello** and **Stefano Zimei** as the "perfect team," suggesting that their tenure should extend beyond that of their predecessors. Former executive chef **Eric Brennan**, armed with executive chef credentials from the **Four Seasons Hotel Toronto** (plus six previous years at the Boston **Four Seasons**), seemed a fine choice when he came to Boston about a year ago. Brennan followed **Robert Fathman**, who got The Fed up and running, created a lavish menu to match the dining room and eventually realized, some months later, that the role of high-profile celebrity hotel chef wasn't one he wanted to play in the long run.

Brennan left The Fed quietly earlier this summer. After a well-received stint at **Trio**, Fathman left Boston for a hot job offer in Philadelphia that quickly cooled. Now, ol' Blue Eyes is back in town...south of town, at **The Red Lion Inn** in Cohasset.

Cohasset? Has Robert Fathman settled down his soft-spoken, motorcycle-riding, tattooed self in the *suburbs*?!? Fathman acknowledges he's on the receiving end of some teasing. But he sounds sincere when he says, "I think this'll be very long term. I feel like I'm home."

Fathman is pondering changes to the inn's dining room menu, focusing on adding upscale polish to the front of the house and planning his herb garden. And he really does sound content. "It's a pretty cool spot, built in 1704," he says. "It's nice, it's quiet." Also pretty cool: Odds are that Fathman's renowned lobster bisque will be on the new menu.

SECOND COURSE

Closer to Boston, **The Fireplace** is slated to open soon in the former site of **The Five Seasons** in Washington Square. Forget the tofu—chef/owner **Jim Solomon** plans to feature what's billed as "New England Backyard Cooking" and an all-American wine list. That means mostly regional foods prepared on a grill, rotisserie or in a brick oven. Look for a late-summer menu including barbecued Nantucket littlenecks; BBQ short ribs with maple sweet-potato mash, buttermilk onion rings and fresh vegetable slaw; and fiery grilled whole butterfish with wheatberry succotash.

Chef **Ben Nathan**, a Brookline native, will implement Solomon's menu and manage the kitchen. Nathan's Boston background includes stints at **Grill 23**, **Chez Henri**, **Harvest** and **Bok Choy**. Bet you'll hardly miss the soy milk.

Speaking of **Butterfish**, the Cambridge restaurant of that name is making the most of the menu presented by chef/owner **Chris Bussell** at a recent James Beard House dinner. Bussell will repeat the all-lobster extravaganza on Sept. 11 at his own restaurant, saving local diners the plane fare to New York (plus the pressure of dressing for dinner in NYC). Enjoy four sumptuous courses—the third is butter-poached lobster tail with sweet corn flan and tarragon oil—plus dessert, for $65 (not including wine). And feel free to wear your Birkies.

Just wondering: When **Lydia Shire** takes over **Locke-Ober** next month, will she offer lobster Savannah pizza?

Tater tease: First, a joke. Two cannibal women are eating dinner. One says, "Honestly, I can't stand your husband." The other replies, "That's OK. Just eat the potatoes." In the next Dish, potato salad mixes with political correctness. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

EVENTS

August Crab Festival
Magnolias, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1971). Through Sept. 1. Sample a variety of dishes made with crabs.

Beer and Grilling Dinner
Cafe Louis, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (266-4680). Aug. 15, 6:30pm. $100. **Garrett Oliver**, brewmaster from Brooklyn Brewery in New York, will be on hand to discuss beer. Enjoy grilled pizza, chicken sausages, spicy short ribs and Maine lobster.

Celebration of Wine 2001
Stonehedge Inn, 160 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsboro (978-649-4400). $95. As a part of this wine program, 12 wine makers from top vineyards around the globe host a dinner at the inn. • Aug. 20, 7pm: **Chateau Reynella** of South Australia.

Chillin' and Grillin' Tuesdays
Paolo's Trattoria, 251 Main St., Charlestown (242-7229). Tuesdays, through the end of August. Chef **Paul Delios** prepares his famous barbecued ribs, grilled sea bass and tuna steaks.

Chocolate Trio Dessert
Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). Through the end of August. Pastry chef **Christophe Feyt** has created a complimentary special 20th anniversary dessert for all diners.

Corn and Tomato Festival
Verill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). Aug. 18-19, 12-4pm. $2. This two-day festival features an all-you-can-eat sampling of 8 to 12 varieties of corn and more than 25 varieties of tomatoes. Enjoy music, hay rides and visits with live animals.

Elephant Walk Turns 10
The Elephant Walk, 2067 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (281-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Aug. 20, 6-10pm. $10. This birthday celebration features a sampling of Cambodian cuisine, a signature cocktail or wine and live music. Proceeds benefit the Nginn Karet Foundation.

Four Seasons: Summer Cooking
Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winery, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (508-636-3423). Aug. 25, 5-7:30pm. $45. Chef **Kerry Downey Romaniello** hosts this wine and food pairing.

Loire Valley Wine Tour
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (369-3935). Aug. 23, 6:45pm. $85. Take a wine tour of France's Loire Valley with the food of chef **Benjamin Cevelo**.

Miso Hungry Miso Thirsty
Pho Republique, 1415 Washington St., Boston (262-0005). Wednesdays. Experience an exotic menu and cocktail list.

Nantucket Grille
Sidney's Grille, 20 Sidney St., Cambridge (494-0011). Aug. 16-30. Chef **Todd Young** shows off his talents on the grill with such native dishes as yellowfin tuna tartar and grilled Nantucket-style swordfish with tomato and olive relish.

Simple Indian Vegetarian Cooking
Near Porter Square/Alewife, Cambridge (424-8846). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Aug. 18, 3-6pm. $7. **Laxmi Jain**, author of *Melody of India Cuisine Cookbook*, teaches how to make quick dishes using chickpeas, curry, cabbage, tofu and vegetables.

Sunday Night at the West Side Corral
West Side Lounge, 1680 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-5566). Sunday nights. Each week, the Sunday menu will feature mouth-watering ribs with a twist.

Whole Animal Night
Tremont 647, 647 Tremont St., Boston (266-4600). Aug. 20, 7pm. $45. This dinner is based on "whole foods," including salmon, pork, lamb, beef (though "not actually the whole cow," says chef Andy Husbands) and watermelon. Wash it all down with Pabst Blue Ribbon tallboys.

Wines You've Never Heard Of
The Wine Bottega, 341 Hanover St., Boston (227-6607). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Aug. 17, 5-8pm. **Peter Nelson** leads this Friday night tasting of little-known wines.

TASTY TIDBIT

RESTAURANT WEEK



Judy Mattera of The Fed, Mark Sapienza of Cafe Fleuri and Jack Robert of Maison Robert

Here's an amazing opportunity to try all those restaurants that exceed your meager weekly food allowance. During Boston's first Restaurant Week, three-course prix-fixe lunches will be offered for a mere $20.01 at 40 restaurants around the city. A similar event held in New York City for the past couple of years is wildly popular with Manhattanites. Boston chefs are betting that our spin-off will be just as successful. Among the dishes to be offered: freshly made egg fettucine with Wellfleet clams and oven-dried tomatoes prepared by Cafe Fleuri's chef Mark Sapienza, and black-and-white woven pasta and giant blue prawns with lobster sauce by chef Jacky Robert of Maison Robert. Name any prominent restaurant around town, and it's probably participating. Here's the short list: Ambrosia on Huntington, Atlantic 101, Aujourd'hui, Aura, Beacon Hill Bistro, Biba, Bob the Chef's, Brasserie Jo, Centro, Harvest, Henrietta's Table, No. 9 Park, Radius, Salamander, Sandrine's, Taranta, The Elephant Walk, The Federalist and Trattoria Il Panino. *Aug. 20-24. 888-SEE-BOSTON. www.BostonUSA.com.*

LEFT: BETHANY GUMPER, RIGHT: J.D. SLOANE

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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 48

PERFORMING ARTS 50

ART 52

BOOKS & POETRY 54

EDUCATION 54

FILM 56

DANCE CLUBS 60

MUSIC 62

CLASSICAL MUSIC 68

GAY & LESBIAN 69

BODY & MIND 70

CHILDREN 70

SPORTS 70

AROUND TOWN 71

EDITED BY:

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improper picks



THU./AUG. 16 – SUN./SEPT. 16

Theater: New Age Circus

Six years ago, a friend invited us to see a Cirque du Soleil performance. We'd given up our circus habit years before, the direct result of watching in horror as tightrope walkers teetered 100 feet above the ground without a safety net. But we decided to go anyway—reluctantly. "It's a far cry from what you'd see at a Ringling Bros. show," our friend emphasized. That was quite an understatement. What we experienced was a fantastic display of ancient Chinese acrobatic movement set to Hindu melodies and electronic symphonies from Andalusia, Africa, Central Europe and the West. But where were the clown cars? The pacing, roaring tigers? The parade of enormous elephants? Not at this circus. Cirque du Soleil's *Dralion* has 56 artists presenting a variety of acts, from teeterboard, ballet on lights, hoop diving, bamboo poles and juggling to hand balancing, double trapeze and skipping ropes. It's an otherworldly experience, one we wouldn't want to miss. *Suffolk Downs, Route 1A and 145, East Boston (800-678-5440).* www.cirquedusoleil.com. *Tue.-Wed., 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 5 and 9pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 5pm. Aug. 16-Sept. 16. $38-$60.*

THU./AUG. 16

CityScope: Party Like the King

Happy Death Day to Elvis, the one and only person cool enough to have us celebrate everything associated with him—even the day he died. He's been gone for 24 years now, but he is anything but forgotten. If you can't make the pilgrimage to Graceland, where Elvis Week is going strong through Aug. 19, you can shake your glittered, polyestered hips and down Blue Hawaiis during the **Blue Suede Tribute** at Dick's Last Resort. There will be karaoke sing-a-longs, an outdoor patio candlelight vigil, a mini-parade and Elvis flicks. Even the dining is Elvis-inspired—the dinner special is the Good Ole Boy Double Cheeseburger. In other Elvis-related events, Jose McIntyre's is throwing its second-annual **Elvis Fest**, with heaps of impersonators and blue-suede margaritas. During the singing contest, you can karaoke your way to Graceland. *Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave., (267-8080). 8pm. Jose McIntyre's 160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460).*

WED./AUG. 29

Film: Wiseman Retrospective

Most of us are only marginally versed in the wealth of documentary work that Frederick Wiseman has produced during his extraordinary 34-year career as a filmmaker. Starting at the end of August and running through part of next year is a retrospective of his disturbing yet revealing work at the MFA. From ***Titicut Follies,*** his '67 graphic portrait of the conditions that existed at the State Prison for the Criminally Insane at Bridgewater, Mass., to ***Juvenile Court***, his '73 film about the complex cases before the Memphis Juvenile Court, Wiseman's films examine pressing social issues in all walks of American life. The MFA's retrospective is enormous, and the first month's schedule includes some of his most provocative work. Wiseman himself will appear at the screening of ***High School*** (1969) Aug. 22, 7:45pm. ***High School II*** (1995) shows Aug. 25, 10:30am and ***Law and Order*** (1969) screens Aug. 29, 6pm. *65 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300).*

AL SEIB



THU./AUG. 23

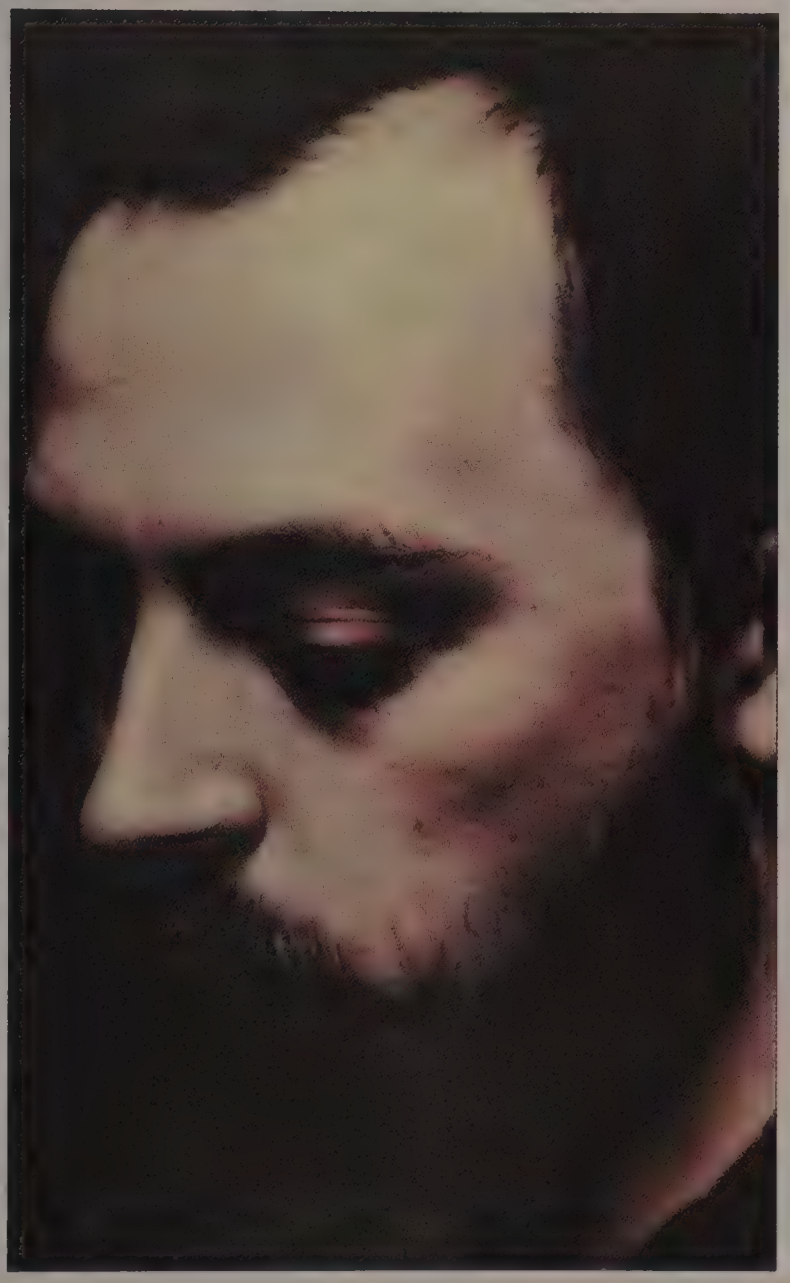
Cityscope: Take Me Out to the Ball Game>>

Remember back to the days before salary disputes and corporate sponsorships muddied the playing field—when baseball was a game that people loved for the sheer joy of the sport? If it's tough to recall, here's something to jog your memory: the **Oldtime Baseball Game**, held at Peter's Field in North Cambridge Aug. 23. For the past eight years, true fans have gathered here to share their love of the game and support a local charity at the same time (this year's proceeds go to the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America). The game features top college and amateur players from Greater Boston—some of whom have gone on to play in the minor leagues—wearing reproductions of oldtime uniforms, including the 1901 Baltimore Orioles and the 1969 Seattle Pilots. If you close your eyes and listen to the roar of the crowd and the crack of the ball against the bat, you'll almost forget that today's players make more per year than you'll ever see in your lifetime. *St. Peter's Field, Sherman Street, North Cambridge (978-688-9010). Aug. 23, 7pm. (Raindate: Aug. 24, 7pm.)*

THU./AUG. 16 – SUN./AUG 19

CityScope: Fisherman's Feast in the North End

If you've yet to attend one of the North End feasts this summer (shame on you!), pull out your pen and mark this one on your calendar. It's a spectacle not to be missed. A little girl dressed as an angel (and strapped to a wire and pulley) appears in a third-story window. She "flies" down to the statue of Madonna del Soccorso with a bouquet of flowers and recites an Italian prayer. Then, amid an avalanche of confetti and balloons, she flies back up to the balcony to the cries of "Viva La Madonna, viva Maria Madre del Soccorso." And that's only the half of it. The 91st annual celebration of the **Fisherman's Feast** is four days of music (Jerry Vale and Pat Cooper headline), food and religious festivities. It's a lot less rinky-dink than most festivals, perhaps thanks to corporate sponsorship, by Sorrento Cheese. It begins Aug. 16 as the statue of Madonna del Soccorso is carried to the waterfront in a candlelight procession. A priest leads the congregation in prayer in memory of deceased fishermen. *Corner of North and Fleet streets, Boston (248-0343). Aug. 16-19.*



SAT./AUG. 25

Music: Hip to Be Square >>

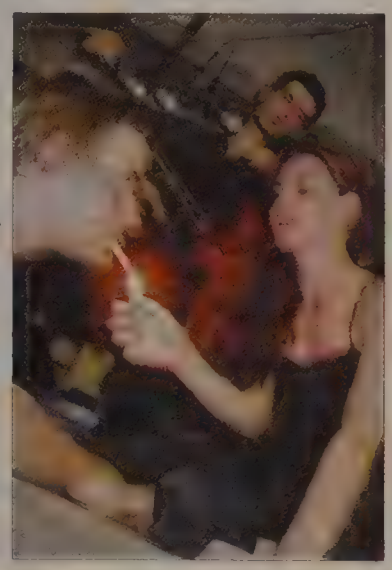
There's no doubt that what is termed Difficult Listening is becoming mainstream. As evidence, a new breed of fans are filling up music boutiques like Twisted Village and Other Music in search of the latest Aphex Twin release. And at Toneburst Collective shows, newcomers try to figure out the difference between drill 'n' bass and experimental jungle. Our recommendation? Get acquainted with some of these incredible acts in person—namely, drum 'n' bass wizard **Squarepusher** (a.k.a. Tom Jenkinson or Chaos A.D). Squarepusher infuses elements of jazz and pop into his fractured hooks and warm, electronic soundscapes. Because he creates sounds that are alternately moodily ambient, intensely experimental and dance-friendly, his show at the Paradise should please the discerning electronica guru as well as those just getting used to Difficult Listening. Squarepusher is in the middle of a monthlong club tour and will be joined by Warp label mates **Plaid**. *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (562-8800).*



FRI./AUG. 17 – SUN./AUG. 19 & THU./AUG. 23 – SUN./AUG. 26

Performing Arts: Evicted!

In his play ***The Cherry Orchard***, Anton Chekhov wrote about a new social order that threatened to force a small community in Russia from their beloved estate at the turn of the century. The premise of the play is frighteningly familiar to the plight of some artists living in Fort Point Channel, who face eviction from their well-established warehouse space on 300 A Street within a matter of months. So a group of them have banded together to support conceptual artist Jeff Smith's modern adaptation of Chekhov's play, called ***The Loft***. The show, which blends past and present, reality and theater, will be performed by the American Art Theatre in one of the soon-to-be evacuated lofts. It depicts the real-life drama unfolding in Fort Point Channel and poses the question "Is this the crumbling aristocracy in Russia 100 years ago, or is this an eroding community in an American city at the turn of the millennium?" A portion of the proceeds will benefit Rosie's Place. *288-300 A Street, Fort Point Channel, Boston (330-6857). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Aug. 17-19 and Aug. 23-26, 8pm. $15.*



SAT. & SUN. IN AUGUST

City Scope: Horsing Around with Lions

If you've spent too much time primping and schmoozing at clubs lately, it's time to have some low key, dressed-down, childlike fun. Two new programs at the **Aquarium** let you give your liver a much-needed reprieve: getting snuggly with sea lions. You can go behind the scenes to spend the morning with a trainer and prepare food for the seals, sea lions and otters. Or, you can opt for the have **Fun and Games with Sea Lions** program, where you learn about, play with, touch and feed a sea lion. Maybe even get a wet slobbery kiss. Maybe it's not so different from a night out on the town after all... *Fun and Games is every morning and afternoon for one hour ($50) and Trainer for a Morning is every Sat. and Sun. morning ($80). New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (973-5206).*

THU./AUG. 16WED./AUG. 22

Performing Arts: Spontaneous Hootenanny

A very, um, interesting performance is coming to the Coolidge Corner Theatre—a piece titled ***The Moon Is Up There***, a "paper opera." There are only three things that we have discerned about this most confusing event. One: It is a touring performance about a giant ball of rock. Two: Audience members are encouraged to bring potatoes. Three: 12 pairs of scissors and an inflatable swimming pool are involved. We also know that the performance piece combines mime, music (both pretend and real), audience assimilation, found props and lots of improvisation. The "plot" goes like this: The moon is just hanging in the sky; no one quite knows why. A careful scientific inquiry is conducted utilizing utensils such as a tin can telephone, fake mustaches, a cardboard dunk tank and other objects. When one theory is disproved, the researchers consult the *Over-Sized George Michael Songbook* to plot another course of action. Hmmm. Be prepared for audience participation in the form of sing-a-longs, treasure hunts and the infamous audience challenges. Need another reason to see it? If you make it through the whole performance, you get tea and cookies afterward. *9:30pm, $7. 290 Harvard St., Brookline (734-2501).*

WED./AUG. 22

CityScope: Dog Days of Summer

One doesn't expect to see bar fights and inappropriate behavior (specifically bum-sniffing) between patrons at the **Rack** of all places. Heck, you can't even make it through the door if you're wearing jeans and sneakers (not even if your name is Darius Rucker). So we were shocked when we stopped by the pool hall one day last year and saw that the Rack had gone to the dogs...literally. The place was teeming with golden retrievers, Boston terriers, poodles, yellow labs and mutts, among at least 25 others, who mixed and mingled, lapped water from margarita glasses and dined on the *specialite du jour*, Alpo beef chunks. On Aug. 16, you too can bring your pooch to the patio (haven't you always wanted to let your mutt lick the salt off your margarita?) during **Dog Day Afternoon**. Mix 98.5's Erin O'Malley and Gregg Daniels will host this IMPROPER-sponsored event. *The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). Aug. 16, 5pm. Proceeds benefit the World Society for the Protection of Animals and the MSPCA.*

TOP RIGHT: MATT STONE

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15

Fun and Games with Sea Lions
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston. (973-5206). 12 and 2pm. $50. Interact with sea lions and watch them race. Two participants per show. Runs through Sept. 12.

Stargazing
Peter's Hill, across from Bussey St. Gate; meet at Arnold Arboretum, 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain (635-7487). 8-9pm. Free. Always confusing airplanes for shooting stars? The Boston Park Rangers will teach you how to sharpen your stargazing eye and locate some basic constellations. A high-powered telescope will be provided, but gazers are encouraged to bring their own flashlight, telescope and binoculars.

Swingin' Under the Stars
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, South Market Street by the Red Auerbach statue. (523-1300). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 6-10pm. Free. Faneuil Hall takes on swing dancing with live bands and instructors. Swing the night away every Wednesday through Aug. 22.

THURSDAY, AUG. 16

Concert at Copley
Copley Square (740-0929). 5:30pm. Free. Remember the hit single "Breakfast at Tiffany's"? Deep Blue Something will be performing that and more at their appearance in the WBOS Summer Concert Series.

Fisherman's Feast of the Madonna del Soccorso Society
North, Lewis, and Fleet streets, North End (635-3911). 6-11pm. Free. The oldest North End celebration, this feast is based on the devotion of the fishermen from Sciacca to the Madonna del Soccorso, a tradition that dates back to the 16th century.

It's A Dog Day Afternoon
The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). Erin O'Malley and Greg Daniels of Mix 98.5 join the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN to benefit the World Society for the Protection of Animals and the MSPCA. It's a chance to bring your pooch out and share a margarita—with your human friends, that is.

FRIDAY, AUG. 17

Greek Festival
Central Square, Cambridge (876-3602). 11am-11pm. Free. This weekend festival celebrates Greek cultural traditions with music and dance. There will be booths selling authentic Greek food, jewelry and handmade crafts.

Quincy Bay Race Week
Wessagusset Yacht Club, Weymouth (327-8683). 10am. $20-$30. Boat races in the Quincy Bay all weekend, with a Marine Parade on Sunday leaving from the Town River Marina. There will be food and T-shirts for the kids.

SATURDAY, AUG. 18

First Night's Summer Beat 2001
Jamaica Pond, Olmsted Park, Jamaicaway and Perkins Ave. (542-1399). 12pm-4pm. Free. Music and dance accompany family-oriented activities including performances by a hip-hop dance crew, traditional and contemporary Irish dance as well as outdoor activities.

Framingham and Mohegan Sun Bluesfest
Bowditch Field, Union St., Framingham (978-461-0910). www.musicfestproductions.com. *12-9pm. $11 in advance, $15 at the gate.* A daylong event featuring Grammy-winning R&B legend Delbert McClinton, as well as other top rock, R&B and Americana acts.

Save the Out of the Blue Gallery Event
The Middle East Downstairs, Mass Ave., Central Square, Cambridge (266-9197). 8:30pm, 18+, $10. A collaboration of local musicians and spoken-word performers in a benefit to save the Out of the Blue Gallery. Bands include Machinery Hall and The Collective.

Shark Discovery Day
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf (973-6508). Free with general admission. Get to know more about sharks and their relatives at this daylong event at the New England Aquarium. There will be special talks, as well as face painting and a chance to win a behind-the-scenes tour the aquarium.

SUNDAY, AUG. 19

Boston Landmarks Orchestra Free Outdoor Concert
Jamaica Pond, Jamaica Plain (520-2200). 4pm. Conductor Charles Ansbacher leads the Boston Landmarks Orchestra in renditions of classical favorites. So pack some snacks, grab some friends, and get out there and enjoy the music and (hopefully) the sunshine at Jamaica Pond.

Harbor Islands Triathlon—Race Against the Tide
Hull High School, Pemberton Point, Hull (223-8666). www.active.com. *9 am. $50 per competitor. $75 per team.* Show your endurance during the first Harbor Islands Triathlon. The day begins with a swim in the Boston Harbor followed by a bike race and run through the town. Awards and a family celebration will follow at Georges Island.

Rock Ride 2001
Aegean Dr., Methuen and Topsfield Fairgrounds (978-689-9483). 9 am. Love motorcycles and small animals? Then join thousands of your fellow bikers for a ride to help animals at the MSPCA's 8th Annual Rock Run. The ride is followed by a celebration featuring the Electric Blues Band and as well as contests, food and fun.

MONDAY, AUG. 20

Black Rose's 25th Anniversary
160 State St., Boston. (451-7400) www.irishconnection.com. Boston's most famous Irish Pub celebrates its 25th anniversary with a week of special musical performances. And their beloved chef, Mother Sweeney, returns from retirement to offer the public a chance to taste some of her prized family recipes.

4th Annual Parrothead Golf Tournament
Sandy Burr Golf Club, off Rte. 27, Wayland, after-party at Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave. (267-8080). 10 am. $125 per player, $500 for a foursome. Dig out your plaid golf pants and dust off your putter, because the Eastern Mass. Parrothead Club is holding its annual charity golf tournament to benefit The Kids Fund at Boston Medical Center. Don't miss the after-party at Dick's Last Resort.

10th Anniversary of the Elephant Walk
2067 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. RSVP 281-9400. 6-10pm. $10 donation. In celebration of its 10th anniversary, the Elephant Walk invites friends old and new to help celebrate as well as raise money for the Nginn Karet Foundation, dedicated to traditional Cambodian agriculture.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 22

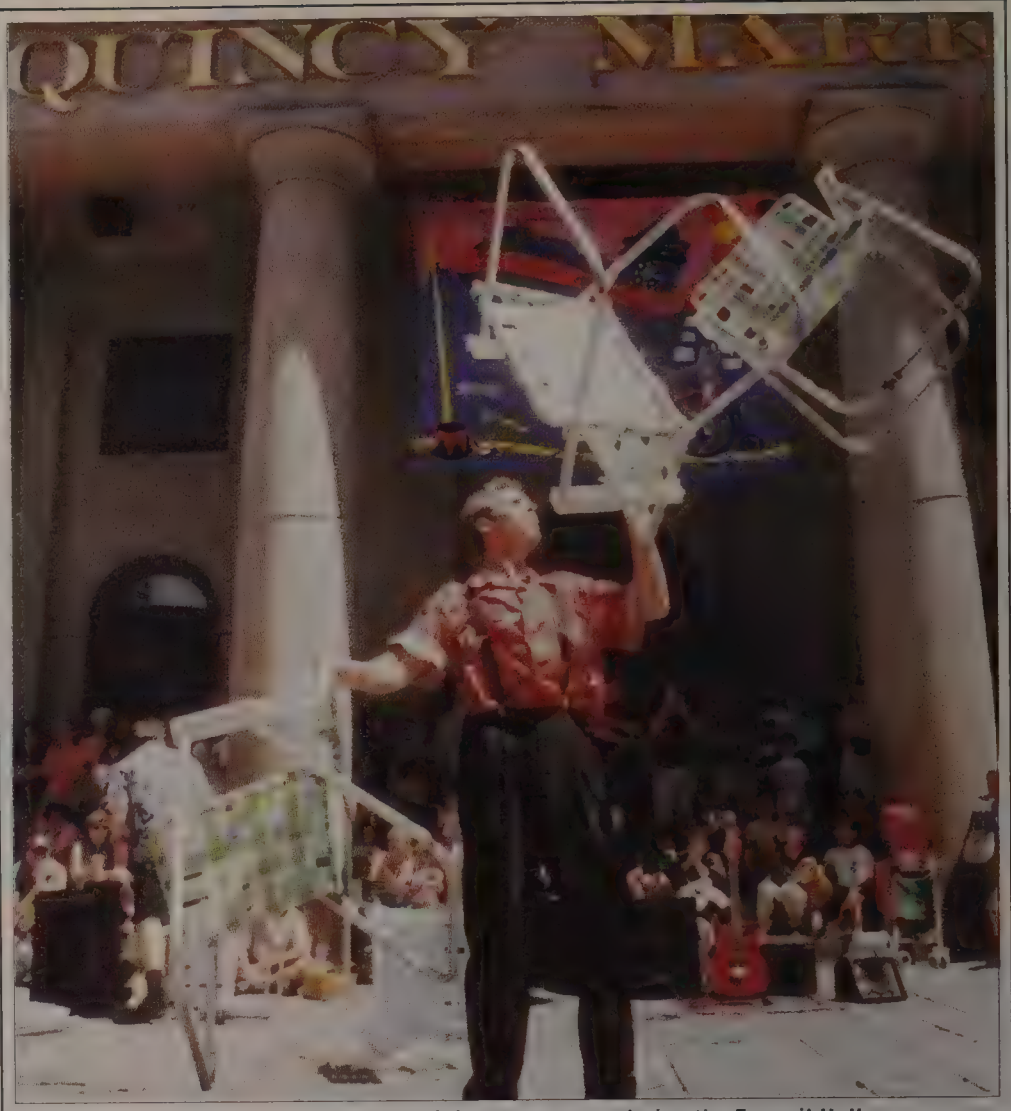
Rock for RAINN: A Benefit to Unlock the Silence
The Matrix at the Roxyplex, 279 Tremont St. Boston (800-656-HOPE), rockforrainn.homestead.com. *7:30pm-12am. $18 in advance, $22 at the door.* A benefit concert and auction for the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network, the country's only hotline for victims of sexual abuse. The event includes a charity auction featuring music memorabilia, live musical performances by Flynn and many other bands, and a chance to hear a debut recording by Tori Amos.

THURSDAY, AUG. 23

FleetBoston Oldtime Baseball Game
St. Peter's Field, Sherman St., North Cambridge. 7pm. The area's best college and amateur players will converge on St. Peter's Field to square off in the 8th annual iteration of this event. Players will be wearing old-style flannel uniforms from a variety of teams—many of them, such as the Brooklyn Dodgers, now relocated (or defunct). All proceeds from the game will be donated the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation of America. Let's hope it's not too hot for flannel.

FRIDAY, AUG. 24

Calligraphy Tour of Back Bay and Beacon Hill
Boston Public Library Rare Books and Manuscripts Department. (859-2225) 4pm. Free. Join local artist and calligrapher Margaret Shepherd as she gives a walking tour focusing on the art of calligraphy. The two-hour tour will wind its way through Back Bay and Beacon Hill.



Street performers galore will be entertaining the masses during the Faneuil Hall Marketplace's 25th birthday celebration, Aug. 24-25.

Preview

A Silver Anniversary

Grab a piece of the action—and the cake—at the Faneuil Hall Marketplace's birthday bash

OK, so it's not totally accurate to say that the Faneuil Hall Marketplace has its 25th anniversary coming up. In one form or another the place has been around since 1742, when beets were a valid form of currency and coed sleepovers involved bundling bags instead of sleeping bags. But Faneuil Hall Marketplace as we know it—a central tourist/shopping destination—was completed in 1976, which makes this the time to throw a little party for one of the nation's most successful urban-renewal projects.

At 12pm on August 24, the 25th anniversary cake will be unveiled at the west end of the marketplace. The cake, baked by Montilio's, is going to be large and the cake-cutting ceremony will kick off the festivities. Various Boston dignitaries will get to slice their way to unconditional love, as the Brobdingnagian confection will be served to the public, which always enjoys some free cake.

At 7pm music lovers and other people who carve Keith Lockhart's name into park benches will want to head up to City Hall Plaza for a free concert from the Boston Pops. Lockhart is slated to keep the Pops popping until 10pm.

The next day, the celebration continues from 11am to 5pm with public chalk drawing on the sidewalks. But if you don't care to render a poignant-yet-fleeting masterpiece on pavement, you can still take in the Marketplace's trademark street performers doing their thing. Or continue a Faneuil Hall tradition that goes back a lot further than 1976—grabbing a beer and some grub. Just remember to tip your server the appropriate number of beets.

Faneuil Hall Marketplace 25th anniversary celebration, Aug. 24-25, Faneuil Hall. 617-523-1300,* www.faneuilhallmarketplace.com. *—Ezra Dyer

7-Minute Date and Dance
Royal Sonesta Grand Ballroom, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge (623-7571)., www.jjproductions.net. *6:30pm-1am. $38, $45 after Aug. 18.* Do the seven-minute-date thing until 10, and then dance and party (with any luck, not solo) for the rest of the night.

SATURDAY, AUG. 25

19th Annual Boston Antique and Classic Boat Festival
Hawthorne Cove Marina, 10 White St., Salem, (666-8530). $4, 12-5pm. Classic sailboats, powerboats and hand-powered craft are on display to the public at the weekend festival. The nautical event also includes a crafts market and a Grand Parade of Boats in Salem Harbor.

SUNDAY, AUG. 26

Brazilian Music and Poetry Evening
The Longfellow House, 105 Brattle St., Cambridge (876-4491). 4pm. After opening remarks, the show begins at 4:30 with guest musicians Jaime and Odette Ernst Dias and poets Diana Der Hovanessian, Lloyd Schwartz and Steven Tappscott.

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The Last Drop
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Bell In Hand Tavern
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The Last Drop
596 Washington St. Brighton 617-787-1111

The Big Easy
1 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2560

Polly Esther's
262 Friend St. Boston 617-720-1966

Bishop's Pub
21 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2583

Sugar Shack
1 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2510

Encore
276 Tremont St. Boston 617-426-1400

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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

As You Like It and Richard III
Lyric Stage, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed. and Fri. As You Like It: *Wed. and Fri., 7:30pm and Sat., 3pm;* Richard III: *Thu. and Sat., 7:30pm and Sun., 3pm. Aug. 15-19. $10.* Project Shakespeare presents two productions performed by students.

Dralion: Cirque du Soleil
Suffolk Downs, Route 1A and 145, East Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. *Tue.-Wed., 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 5 and 9pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 5pm. Beginning Aug. 15. $38-$60.* A two-hour circus-art spectacle, fusing ancient Chinese acrobatic tradition with the avant-garde approach of Cirque du Soleil.

The Loft
American Art Theatre, 288-300 A Street, Fort Point Channel, Boston (330-6857). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Aug. 17-19 and Aug. 23-26, 8pm. $15. This modern adaptation of Anton Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard* blends past and present, reality and theater. It takes place in a loft that is due to be evacuated in a matter of months. Just as the artists face eviction from their warehouse space on 300 A Street, so do the characters in the play.

My Fair Lady
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Main Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5576). Mon.-Sat., 8pm. Matinees: Thu., 2pm and Sat., 3pm. Aug. 15-Sept. 1. $26-$40. James Warwick plays good ol' Professor Higgins, and opera singer Maureen O'Flynn is the enchanting Eliza Doolittle. This time around, the classic musical is given a new lease on life as an intimate chamber piece.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (426-9366). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Aug. 16-Sept. 23. $27-$82. See box at right for more info.

Marat/Sade
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Aug. 17-Sept. 1. $16. Peter Weiss' play focuses on inmates in the asylum of Charenton in the years following the French Revolution.

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* •Mainstage: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, through Sept. 2. •Stables Theatre: *The Comedy of Errors*, through Sept. 12; *King John*, Aug. 11-Sept. 2. •Spring Lawn Theatre: *The Wharton One-Acts: An International Episode* and *The Rembrandt*, through Sept. 2; *The Studio Festival of Plays*, Aug. 28-30. •Founder's Theatre: *The Tempest*, through Sept. 1.

Winter's Tale
The Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, 1175A Soldier's Field Road, Boston (782-5425). www.publick.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, transfer to #86 bus to Market Street. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Aug. 23-Sept. 16. $15-$25.* When there's love, can there always be forgiveness? This comedy picks up a theme from Shakespeare's earlier *Much Ado About Nothing*, and explores it as only a seasoned author can.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Cooking with Elvis
Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, Wellfleet (508-349-6835). Tue.-Sun., 8pm. Through Sept. 2. $18. This provocative and touching black comedy is about a baker named Stuart who is drawn into the life of an extraordinarily dysfunctional family—a paraplegic Elvis impersonator; his alcoholic, sex-crazed wife; his food-obsessed daughter; and the family's pet tortoise.

50 Years of Caddying
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Through Aug. 26. $25. Israel Horovitz's newest play is a comedy set on a golf course. The play alternates between 1951 and the present, as a racist white golfer with a black caddy finds himself in 2001, caddying for a racist black golfer.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Pirates of Penzance
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Aug. 19. $21. A fun-filled tale of swashbuckling pirates, maidens in distress, madcap cops and more.

Pounds of Flesh
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Unicorn Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5536). Mon.-Sat., 8:30pm. Through Aug. 18. $20-$25. Based on the brief period that writer Ezra Pound spent in a U.S. Army prison in Italy in 1945, this two-character revelatory world premiere examines the poet's relationship with his guard, his conscience and the war that led to his 13-year commitment in a mental hospital.

Romeo & Juliet
Harvard Radcliffe Summer Theatre at Loeb Drama Center, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tue.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 2:30 and 7:30pm. Through Aug. 16. $12. In a city where conflict is defined not between two families but between two generations, two young lovers struggle to shield themselves form the chaos.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Stop Kiss
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Through Aug. 25. $15. This tragicomedy performed by the Erinys theater group offers a provocative glimpse at how two women unexpectedly fall in love and how an act of violence transforms their lives in a way they could never have anticipated.

Texarkana Waltz
Threshold Theatre, Piano Factory, 791 Tremont St., Boston (746-4326). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Aug. 18. $17. A comedy about love, murder, revenge and the Wild Wild West. That's about as straightforward a description as you can get with a play that jumps between the day of a man's execution in 1977 for the violent murder of his wife Emma to his son's fantasies of seeking revenge in the Wild West to his daughter 's journey to retrieve her brother from a long-term stay at the Oklahoma State Mental Hospital.

COMING SOON

Bewitched, Bothered and Bewildered
Stoneham Theatre, 395 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Aug 25 and 26. $21 and $25. There's nothing like good ol'-fashioned shtick and tunes to brighten a day. The ensemble revue piece showcases classic show tunes, shtick humor, and a sketch involving Ethel Merman, Judy Garland, and Katherine Hepburn.



Young and sweet, this bride's a "Dancing Queen" in the musical *Mamma Mia!*

Preview

Mamma Mia!

ABBA songs enliven this new musical

At first glance, it seems an odd premise for a musical: an intimate wedding held in the Greek isles and set to the tunes of Swedish disco supergroup ABBA. Now add fluorescent spandex and a paternity dispute and you've got *Mamma Mia!*, coming to the Colonial Theatre Aug. 17.

Before you shrug off this theatrical spectacle, know that it's been sold out since its opening in London's West End two years ago (critics were dancing in the aisles), and its final destination is Broadway this fall. The score is made up of 22 ABBA songs, both well-known tunes and less popular ballads, expertly woven into a contemporary and hilarious storyline. "The tunes are absolutely brilliantly conceived," said director Phyllida Lloyd from London. "But the play's not just working on a nostalgic level. The serious ballads are very theatrical and dramatic. You wouldn't have that with the Beatles or the Rolling Stones."

"Emotionally, it's a memory exercise that takes you back to where you were the day you first heard [each song]," adds lead chantreuse, Dee Hodey, a Broadway veteran with three Tony nominations under her belt. Hodey plays Donna, a peppery single mom operating a resort on a tiny Grecian island. Her engaged daughter, Sophie, in a quest to discover the true identity of her father, secretly invites three possible dads to her wedding. The resulting antics are touching, poignant and downright funny—a musical that will have you humming along, if not disco-dancing down the aisles. *Colonial Theater, 106 Boylston St., Boston (931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Aug. 17-Sept. 23. $27-$82. —Leah Gourley*

JOAN MARCUS



INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

Dance

Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival
Ted Shawn Theatre, 358 George Carter Rd., Becket (413-637-1322). Aug. 15-18, 8pm; Aug. 18-19, 2pm. $40. Traditional court and folk dances are performed with live Cambodian music in *Dance, the Spirit of Cambodia. Aug. 22-23, 8pm; Aug. 25-26, 2pm. $40.* Modern dance, jazz and classical ballet are blended in *Hubbard Street Dance Chicago*, directed by Jim Vincent.

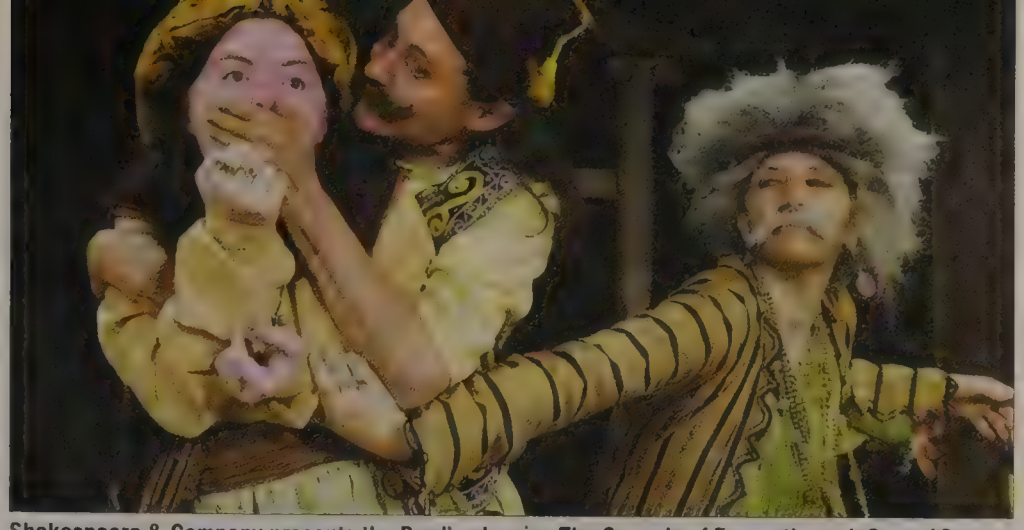
Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival
Doris Duke Studio Theatre, 358 George Carter Rd., Becket (413-637-1322). Aug. 16-17, 8:15pm; Aug. 11, 2:15 and 8:15pm; Aug. 12, 5pm. $20. Dance-theatre group 8 & ah I presents *Confessions of Love*, a performance about relationships combining popular music, live percussion and energetic dancing. *Aug. 23-24, 8:15pm; Aug. 25, 2:15 and 8:15pm; Aug. 26, 5pm. $20.* Urban Bush Women presents the world premiere of *Hair Stories*, in which artistic director Jawole Willa Jo Zollar uses dance, music, video and storytelling to explore African-American women's identification with their hair.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (771-2668). No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy. •Saturdays, 9:30pm-12am: Larry Lee Lewis Rock 'n' Roll Comedy Band and Boston's finest comedians.



KEVIN SPRAGUE

Shakespeare & Company presents the Bard's classic, *The Comedy of Errors*, through Sept. 12.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Aug. 15, 8pm: Rich Ceisler, $10 •Aug. 16, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Aug. 17, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Jake Johannsen, *The Tonight Show*, $16 •Aug. 18, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Jake Johannsen, *Politically Incorrect*, $20 •Aug. 19, 7pm: Teddy Bergeron, $10 •Aug. 20, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Aug. 21, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10 •Aug. 22, 8pm: Frank Santorelli, $10 •Aug. 23, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Aug. 26, 8 and 10pm: Sommore, *The Queen of Comedy Tour*, $20 •Aug. 27, 8pm: Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Aug. 28, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Aug. 16: The Tim McIntire Show with Dot Dwyer, Wil McNeil, Ira Proctor and Scott Carney. •Aug. 17: The Brendon Small Show with guests Melissa Shaw, Ben Joplin, John Fisch, Tammy Two-Tone, Jesse Gersten and Yaffe. •Aug. 18: Rick Jenkins hosts James Patterson, Teresa Craggan, Dan Sulman, John Fisch and Erik Hansen. •Aug. 19: Sacrificing Virgins: First-time comedians and pros Sam Walter, Alana Devich, Troy Pernell, Brian Gordon, John Fisch and Adam Freilich. •Aug. 23: Tim McIntire stars with Jules Owen, Steve Calechman, Katie Grady and the comedy troupe WAKKA. •Aug. 24: The Brendon Small Show with Bethany Vavn Delf, Rich Gustus, Ross Garmil, David Walsh, Adam Pearlman, Anne Manekis and Chris Oake. •Aug. 25: Rich Gustus, Joe Dinkin, Adam Pearlman, Eric Riley Moore and Andy Austin. •Aug. 26: Comics Workout with John Fisch, Adam Koppell, Bob Hagearty, Colin Cohen, Greg Rodrigues, Staphan Shscherby and Geo Lyons.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$14. •Aug. 16, 8:30pm; Aug. 17, 8:45pm; and Aug. 18, 8:45pm: Brad Mastrangelo, Mark Riley and Chuck Grover •Aug. 18, 9pm: Todd Parker and Stephanie Peters •Aug. 23, 8:30pm; Aug. 24, 8:45pm; and Aug. 25, 8:45pm: Teddy Bergeron, Ted Barrett and Eric Handler.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro ($5) •Fridays, 8pm: Boston Creem; 10:30pm: Theatre Sports •Saturdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree ($5).

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

Boston Creem
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (576-1253). Fridays, 8pm. Through Sept. 28. $12. ImprovBoston's newest improvised show features a baker's dozen of some of Boston's best female improvisers. A single audience suggestion fuels this women's troupe in an evening of improv comedy.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.



art

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include opening and closing dates, nearest T stop, price of admission, if any, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •The museum shows *Streams and Mountains Without End: Landscape Paintings from China, Korea and Japan*, through Aug. 26. •*The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of Middle Eastern and southern Asian depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*International Children's Books* shows through Aug. 31. •*Wish You Were Here*, a collection of 200 postcards dating back to the 1900s, shows through Aug. 31. •*New England and Beyond*, a collection of photojournalist Arthur Griffen's work, shows through Aug. 29.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). •The museum's permanent collection of 18th-, 19th- and 20th-century European and American art is on display, as well as an extensive sampling of distinct cultural pieces from around the world.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. •*Welcome to the House of Art*, a giant installation by Todd McKie, is an ongoing display. •In *Abstract Expressionism/Figurative Expressionism: Common Ground*, the museum uses its new wing to highlight works from its own collection. Ongoing. •The DeCordova's *Annual Exhibition* shows through Sept. 3. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is a new ongoing exhibit. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* explores the darker side of imagination. Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustration* is a companion exhibition to *Terrors and Wonders*, exploring monsters in children's literature and the cultural traditions they represent. Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. •*Water: Photographs from the Permanent Collection* is a collection of interpretations of water from the Eastern Seaboard. Through Sept. 3. •In *A Garden of Unearthly Delights*, outdoor American sculptor Wendy Ross displays some of her work. Through June 9, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. •In *Precision and Prestige: The Arts of Engraving*, the museum displays mundane and artistic examples of engraving. Through Dec. 2.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, an exhibit highlighting the many qualities of this beautiful mineral, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •The museum presents *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies*, an exhibit that examines the intricacies of these delicate creatures. Through Sept. 3.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* •The ICA displays defining images of social change in postwar America in *The Social Scene*, an exhibition of documentary photography. Through Sept. 30. •Korean-born Nikki S. Lee shows *Nikki S. Lee: Projects* through Sept. 30. Her show features performance-based photographs where the artist changes roles and swaps identities to become the subject of her art. •ICA/Vita Brevis commissioned artist Olafur Elisson presents *The Young Land*, a temporary floating environment created out of Icelandic lava rock. Shows at Fan Pier though Sept. 30. •The ICA Artists-in-Residence at Boston National Historical Park program presents *Conspire*, which examines Boston's most important historic sites and the role each played in the founding of the nation. Through Oct. 14. •Ellen Gallagher's controversial paintings and drawings show Oct. 17-Dec. 31. •Free, guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. The museum features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries spanning three centuries. •Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. Through Sept. 16.

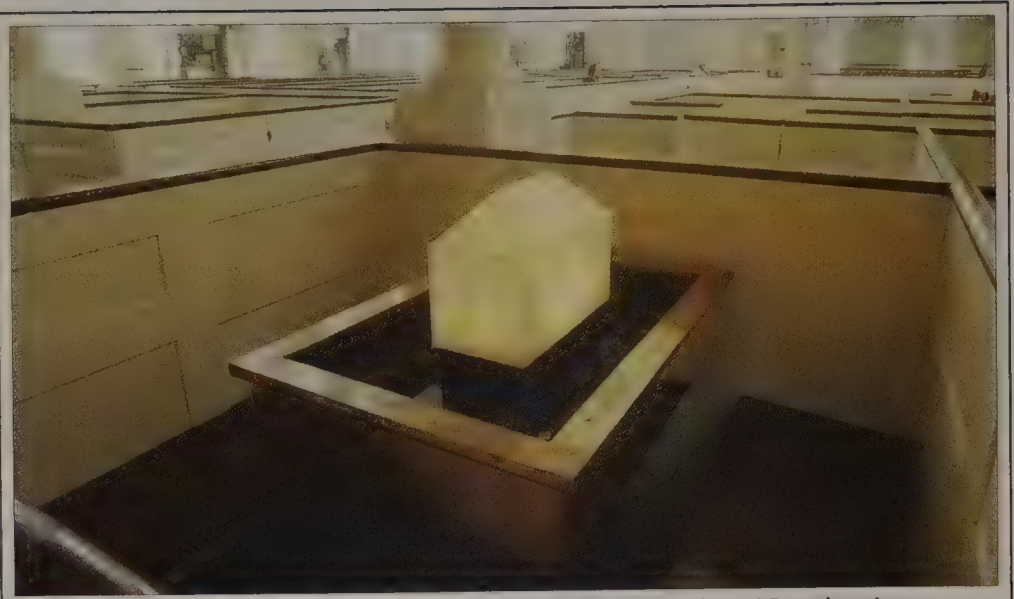
MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Enjoy an interactive excursion into the world of artificial intelligence in *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT*. Special interactive exhibits take place from 2-4pm daily. Ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic*, displays a selection of holograms from the museum's collection (the world's largest). Ongoing. •*Thinkapalooza*, the museum's new interactive zone, is ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only. Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*Takashi Murakami: Made in Japan* is on view through Sept. 3. •*Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's architectural drawings and his etchings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 19. •At the Torf Gallery, *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* shows more than 40 notable Boston women's work. Aug. 15-Dec. 2. •In the Japanese Galleries, *Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* shows. Sept. 8-March 10, 2002 •At the Lorin Textile Gallery, *Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* shows. Sept. 19-Jan. 21, 2002. •Paris-based artist Sophie Ristelheuber presents the photographic installation *Sophie Ristelheuber: Details of the World* in the Foster Gallery. Sept. 26-Jan. 21, 2002. •*The Look: Images of Glamour and Style* shows in the Gund Gallery, featuring the fashion photography of renowned artists Horst P. Horst and George Hoyningen-Huene. Oct.21,2001-Jan. 6, 2002.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •The museum presents a nostalgic look at the road that has dramatically influenced American pop culture in *Route 66*. Through Sept. 9.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org. *Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors.* •*If These Walls Could Talk* is a traveling exhibit that explores buildings throughout history as artifacts of human existence. Through Sept. 3. •The *Current Science and Technology Center* showcases the very latest innovations and discoveries. Ongoing. •The current Omni Theatre film is *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*. Shackleton explored Antarctica in a doomed ship called *Endurance*, which is the name of the concurrently running exhibition. Through September. •Now showing in the Omni Theatre is the incredible *Journey into Amazing Caves*, which lets moviegoers squeeze into the subterranean world of the spelunker. Through September.

The Revolving Museum
300 A St., Boston (493-8617). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Hours by appointment. •There are no ongoing exhibits until Aug. 17, the opening of *Disturb Delight Design*, an invitational show. Through Aug. 20.



In a collaborative effort called *Conspire*, Laura Baring-Gould and Michael Downing show sculptures at historical sites in the city. Pictured is a work at the Old South Meeting House.

Preview

Art Meets History

A sculpture tour highlights the city's roots

Even though the fanfare of Independence Day has come and gone, a pair of Boston artists have found an interesting way to capture that spirit for the rest of the summer. Laura Baring-Gould and Michael Downing, Institute for Contemporary Art artists-in-residence at Boston National Historical Park, teamed up for a yearlong collaboration that culminated with *Conspire*, a series of sculptures nestled all over the city. Hoping to relay the importance of meeting, collaborating and conspiring in our nation's history, Baring-Gould and Downing chose to exhibit their sculptures at sites that were integral to the country's formation. Creating the sculptures wasn't enough for these artists—they're also leading information-packed walking tours that will delight both art and history fans alike. Beginning at the African Meeting House, the artists will discuss the inspiration as well as the significance of each location, and the sculpture placed at each site. The tour moves to the Old South Meeting House, the Paul Revere House, Copp's Hill Burying Ground and finally the Charlestown Navy Yard, where a full-sized meeting house created by the artists is afloat. *Aug. 25 and Sept. 22, 2:30pm. Free. Meets at the Museum of Afro-American History's African Meeting House, 8 Smith Ct., Boston (927-6615). Tours available by appointment for groups of 10 or more, call 927-6602 to schedule.*—Leah Gourley

Galleries

FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (262-2385). Mon.- Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Tea in Fantasy*, a collection of artistic teapots, shows through Aug. 31.

Allston Arts District
Allston Branch of the Boston Public Library, 300 N. Harvard St., Allston (787-6313). Mon. and Wed., 12-8pm; Tue. and Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •The newest branch of the BPL opens with an *Inaugural Exhibition*, featuring 21 artists and three galleries from the Allston area. Through Oct. 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •The gallery is closing its Allston location and is opening a new gallery in the South End in September. The inaugural show will be a group show titled *What I Did This Summer...*

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. •A collection by gallery artists will show through mid-August. The gallery is then closed until Labor Day.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*Constructions* is a multimedia, international exhibit presenting interpretations of construction as a word or concept. Aug. 20-Sept. 28. Opening reception Aug. 23, 6-8pm.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •Through August, *Gallery Group Show* is on display. •Margaret Gerding's *New Paintings* depict New England landscapes and contemporary nature. Sept. 1-29.

The Artists Foundation
516 East Second St., 1st Floor, South Boston (464-3561). Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •In the main gallery, *Selling ½ Japanese* shows, featuring Steve Aishman's photographs. •In the office gallery, Kim Carmona shows her sculptures in *Elemental Imprint*. •In the video room, Daniel Sousa shows *Minotaur*. Through Aug. 25

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •The gallery is closed through Sept. 3. •Kate Shepherd's *Like Colors* shows Sept. 15-Oct. 17. Also showing, Print Publisher's Spotlight of Jenkins Sikkema Editions.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Call for hours in August. •Works from the gallery's collection are on ongoing display.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •The gallery is closed for the rest of August. • The exhibit *New Prints*, by Carl Fudge, shows Sept. 5-29.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., 4th Floor (262-5000). www.thebac.edu/exhibits. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* •David De Celis shows a selection of still-life paintings and tables he's designed in *Tabled Objects—Objectos de Mesa*. Through Sept. 17. •*Works on Paper*, an annual faculty exhibit, shows Sept. 20-Oct. 5.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. •*The Chicken Show*, an exhibition of poultry-related art, shows through Sept. 16. •In the Cyclorama, *In Full Swing* shows through Sept. 16. It features swings from a playground artistically manipulated by Tess DiMatteo and M. Alyssa Jones.

Boston College McMullen Museum of Art
Devlin Hall, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Boston. Mon.-Fri., 11am-3pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. Free. • New England artists contributed to *House: Changed Space*. This exhibition of various media explores the interiors and exteriors of residential buildings. Through Sept. 16.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •The gallery is closed throughout August. •*Members Group Show* opens Sept. 5.

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-11:30pm; Sun., 12-11:30pm. •Works by seven new faculty members will be presented in *New Fall Faculty 2001*. Aug. 27-Sept. 29. Opening reception Sept. 11, 5-7pm.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat.,*

PHILLIP JONES



Elin Christopherson's glass work *Inner Skin* shows at the Chappell Gallery through Sept. 6.

11am-5:30pm. •*Glass Evolution: Established and New Talent* focuses on work by seven young artists. Through Sept. 6. •*Fluid Canvas II* shows Sept. 11-Oct. 9. Opening reception Sept. 15.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm: Sun., 1-5pm.* •A group exhibition of gallery artists shows through August.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* •*Joseph Margulies at the Shore, A Century of British Print Makers, 1850-1950* and *A Study of Human Form: Charcoal and Pencil Drawings* show through Sept. 8.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm.* •The *New Members Show* is a collection of works by the society's newest artists. Through Aug. 18. •*Manifest 2001*, a juried exhibition of contemporary photography, highlights work by 35 New England photographers. Aug. 30-Sept. 22. Opening reception Sept. 6, 5:30-7:30pm.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •*STARS: 8 Gallery Artists* reviews six artists shown at the gallery since its opening two years ago, as well as two new artists. Through Aug. 15. •The gallery will be closed for the remainder of August.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •The gallery shows work depicting Boston scenes by local artists. Ongoing.

Duncan Purdy Wells Gallery
One Arrow St., Cambridge (868-8213). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 12-1pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. •The gallery presents the prints and paintings of Mary Susannah Robbins.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (262-4800/800-936-6901). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Wed., Sat., 10am-6pm: Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. •Fifteen-year-old Romanian art prodigy Alexandra Nechita displays her work through August. •Roderick O'Flaherty presents *Scenes of New England* through Aug. 30.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St., Boston (247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •David Pienmonte shows photographs in *Solitude and Light*. Through September.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •The gallery will be closed until Sept. 13. It then reopens with *The Margin*, new photographs by Oscar Palacio. Through Oct. 22.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has a collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. Ongoing.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm. •Through Aug. 16, the gallery will be closed. •*Ideas in Things* shows Aug. 24-Sept. 28.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Real*, a multimedia installation by Aaron Fry, will be visible 24 hours a day from outside the gallery. Through Sept. 12.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Masters of Impressionism* shows through Aug. 31 and features renowned artists Mary Cassatt, Edgar Degas and Edouard Manet.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •The gallery is open by appointment in August.

Gallery 79
79 Newbury St., Boston (262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •The gallery exhibits photography by Grace Hopkins-Lisle through Aug. 17.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* •There is an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm: Sun., 12-6pm. •A collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early 20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. •The gallery's collection of 18th- and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Adults Only* shows through Aug. 15. •*Open Season*, a group show, opens Sept. 8. Through Oct. 13.

Harvard's Holyoke Center
1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (495-5214). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 7am-9pm; Sun., 7am-6pm. •*Images of Our World*, travel photography by photographer Don Gurewitz, shows through Aug. 29. The show's emphasis is on Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •A group photographic portrait show is on display through Aug. 18. •Sketch board drawings of fabricated photographs of the seventies by Robert Cumming, and color photographs by Peter Harris show in *Up*. Sept. 7-Oct. 2.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment.* •The gallery has an ongoing display of art of the Pacific, Africa, Asia, the Americas and the ancient world. •Through August, *African Dolls: The Amuse, Assist and Protect* is on display.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*First Class Ticket* features 50 original vintage travel, transportation and entertainment posters. Through Sept. 3. •A display of vintage posters is ongoing.

John Stobart Gallery
113 Lewis Wharf, Boston (227-6868). Tue.-Fri., 10am-6pm, Sat. and Sun. 12-6pm. •Celebrating the Port of Boston and its maritime heritage, the Boston Waterfront Art Exhibition and Sale will display art depicting notable Boston scenes. Through Aug. 28.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Cape Ann Classics* shows, portraying the North Shore through the eyes of local artists Charles Movalli and Robert Gruppé. Through Aug. 15. •Ralph Wolf will show works through September.

Kaji Aso Studio
Kaji Aso Studio Institute for the Arts, 40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (247-1719). By appointment. •A show of gallery selections will be ongoing through August.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Musical Marvels*, a collection of contemporary aluminum sculptures by Stanley Marcus, shows through Sept. 15.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Summer Salon* features landscapes, figures and abstractions. Through August.

Mayor's Art Gallery
Fifth Floor, City Hall, Boston (635-3245). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •As part of the Boston Emerging Artists and Humanist Fellows Program, Hannah Barrett and Laurel Sparks will be showing their paintings through Aug. 28.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •*Film*, a multimedia show, features work by Stephen Sheffield, Jodie Sinclair, Lisa Conrad, Andrew Brilliant and Kyssa. Opens Aug. 16. Through Sept. 2.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Karl Viksnin's *Thresholds* is on view through Aug. 18. •*Stark* features large-scale drawings by Jennifer Hicks. Through Aug. 25.

MPG
285 Newbury St., Boston (437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*New Work*, a collection of landscapes by Gail Bessette, shows through Sept. 24.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Maine Landscapes*, a solo show by John Walker, runs Sept. 15-Oct. 13.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. • Fabian Birgfeld's triptych photographs show in *Public Spaces: Private Spheres* through Aug. 18. •The gallery is closed through September.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Poetry readings take place Saturdays at 8pm, and the gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday. •A solo show by artist Julie Pepper shows through Aug. 31. •A rock 'n' roll, spoken-word benefit featuring AM Stereo, Cheerleader, Machinery Hall, C60, Duncan Wilder and Nola Kelley will be held Aug. 18, 8pm, downstairs at the Middle East. $12. •Aug. 18, 8pm: open-mike poetry and music hosted by Deb Priestly. •Aug. 24, 8pm: Improv and open-mike storytelling hosted by Tongue in Cheek Storytellers. •Aug. 25, 8pm: open-mike poetry and music hosted by Morrighan Productions.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergalleryboston.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Bradford Johnson, Lance Keimig, Ron Rumford and Thomas Tietjen present a summer group show. Through Aug. 17. •*New Paintings*, works by Howard Silberthau, shows Sept. 7-Oct. 12.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Fine Choices: Objects* focuses on the artistic object as a source of beauty and interest. Through Sept. 4.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. •This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The teahouse, which serves delicious tea, also specializes in antique Yixing teapots, interior design and furniture.



***Larkspur, Peonies and Canterbury Bells*, by Laura Coombs Hills, shows at the MFA.**

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* •The exhibit of *American 19th and 20th Century Watercolors and Pastels* is ongoing. •Also showing is *Old Master and 19th Century Drawings*. Ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (267-7997). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *Call for gallery hours.* •The gallery will be showing contemporary American photographs by the same artists featured in the ICA's *Social Scene* show. Through August.

Rolly-Michaux Gallery
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-6pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics*, fine lithographs and etchings, shows through Aug. 31.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. •The *Undergraduate Student Exhibition* displays through September.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* •With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*. •A selection of work by artists from Northern Ireland, France, Vietnam, Cuba and Boston is ongoing.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5. Closed Sundays in August.* •Contemporary basketry of established and emerging artists is exhibited in *No Boundaries*. Thorugh Aug. 30.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.bpl.org/www/branches/southend.html. *Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm.* •Danette English's *Falling and Floating* shows through Sept. 4.

SPNEA Gallery
One Bowdoin Sq., Boston (227-3956). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. www.spnea.org. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm.* •The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques presents *Boxes, Open and Shut.* Discover what an icebox, snuffbox and lunch box have in common. Through Sept. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* •A selection of paintings by William St. George is on ongoing display. •*Florals and Abstracts* shows through Aug. 31. •*New Expressions*, recent oil paintings by William St. George, shows through the end of September. Opening reception Sept. 8, 2-4pm.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. •The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (876-0246). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-1pm. •*Translating the Epiphany* shows through Sept. 5.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.vosegalleries.com. *Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •Selected watercolors and oils by Aiden Lassell Ripley show through Sept. 1.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (437-1868). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9am-5pm, daily. •Student work will show through August.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6:30pm; Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Photographs from the Gallery Archives* shows through Sept. 15.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •The Leopold Godowsky, Jr. color photography award nominees show Sept. 10-Oct. 26.

books& poetry

CALL FOR FICTION

Every summer we are faced with a dearth of literary happenings in the city, as national authors take tour breaks and local writers head to greener, more inspiring pastures. So this year, we've taken it upon ourselves to make a literary contribution of our own—we are dedicating an entire issue to celebrating local fiction. As part of our first ever Literary Boston issue, we are inviting all local authors (residing in Massachusetts) to submit a short work of fiction (no more than 2,500 words) by Sept. 1. Entries should be original works that have never been previously published. Our panel of judges will review stories for originality, vividness and compelling themes. The winning author's story will be published in our Sept. 26 issue. Plus the skilled scribe will be saddled with a slew of fun prizes. Send your story to us at THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN (attention: Fiction Contest), 142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116.

READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15

Borders Books and Music
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Local author **Nancy Geary** reads and signs her book *Misfortune*, a look into the lives of the wealthy of South Fork Long Island. When main character Francis Pratt is forced to investigate the death of a relative, she finds a darker side of both her family and her hometown.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (566-6660). MBTA: C Greenline to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Marian Keyes**' *Last Chance Saloon* is a light read about the lives of a few thirty-somethings bumbling along as best they can. Tara, Katherine and Fintan, friends since childhood, manage to help one another out when they can, but the problems that we all face every day seem to pile up for this almost real threesome.

TUESDAY, AUG. 21

Barnes & Noble Framingham
One Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-626-2823). Free. Former naval officer **Theodore Tredwell** will discuss and sign his book, *Splinter Fleet: The Wooden Subchasers of World War II.* There will also be a model of a World War I subchaser created by Franklyn Brown on display.

THURSDAY, AUG. 23

Borders Books and Music
10-24 School St., Boston (557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to State. **John Colapinto**'s *About the Author* is the first-person account of Cal Cunningham's rise to literary fame. While working as a bookstore stock boy, Cunningham writes an autobiographical best seller, which he then sells for millions. This book explores the darker side of Manhattan's publishing industry as well as traditional literary themes like the difference between reality and imagination.


Elizabeth McCracken reads from her newest novel Aug. 28.

SATURDAY, AUG. 25

The Harvard Coop
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12pm. **Randi B. Noyes** reads and discusses her book, *The Art of Leading Yourself: Tap the Power of Your Emotional Intelligence.* It explains how to better your communication skills and use them to improve personal relationships.

TUESDAY, AUG. 28

Borders Chestnut Hill
Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (630-1120). 7:30pm. Newton author and career coach **Gail McMeekin** discusses *The Power of Positive Choices*, a concise guide to getting your life in order.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (354-5201). 7pm. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. **Elizabeth McCracken**'s second novel, *Niagara Falls All Over Again*, is the life story of narrator Mose Sharp. Sharp runs away after the death of his younger sister and joins a vaudeville act with performer Rocky Carter. The novel explains the love/hate relationship between the two men, the end of vaudeville and the way Rocky and Mose's relationship continues to define them both.

ONGOING

Agape, Tuesdays
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8-10pm. Every Tuesday, this somewhat sophisticated poetry group gathers to share versions of their latest work.

Cantab Lounge, First Tuesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. First Tuesday of the month. 8-11pm. $3, sign-ups at 7pm. Every First Tuesday is a poetry session.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

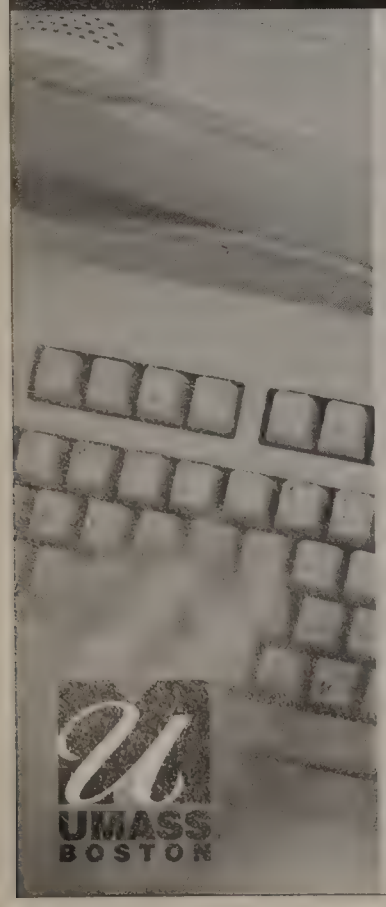
Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word and music event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every first Thursday of the month.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.

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education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15

Coming to a Theater Near You
Boston Learning Center, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (781-453-9800). 7-9pm. $25, $5 materials fee. **Garen Daly**, a 25-year veteran of the film industry, discusses the metamorphosis of the drive-in from parents' night out to teenage ritual. Relive the past with movie clips and typical drive-in fare.

MFA Gallery Talks: Myth and Legend on Greek Painted Pottery
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). 6pm. Free with museum admission. **Pamela Russell** discusses the stories and traditions behind Greek pottery.

THURSDAY, AUG. 16

Life Drawing Class
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). 7-9pm. Haven't gotten a chance to draw in a while? Get together with a group of other artistically inclined folks.

FRIDAY, AUG. 17

Job Search
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). www.bcae.org. 9am-1pm. Avoid common interviewing mistakes by learning to prepare your own "60-second commercial." **Lee Ann Bennett** and **George Zeller** help you prepare résumés and cover letters and discuss how to seek out jobs beyond the classifieds and the Internet.

SATURDAY, AUG. 18

Ladies Who Walk
Crematory, 171 Walk Hill St., Boston (524-0128, ext. 22). www.foresthillstrust.org. 2pm. $5 donation. **Susan Wilson** leads a walking tour of Forest Hills and points out the leading ladies who reside there. **Judy Jackson** remembers suffragette Lucy Stone.

A Stroll in the North End
CCAE, 42 Brattle St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (547-6789). www.ccae.org. 5:30-7:30pm. $33. Walk through Boston's oldest neighborhood and take a trip back through time. Learn the truth about Paul Revere's ride, the sailors who livened up this neighborhood, the Kennedys and, of course, the Italians.

TUESDAY, AUG. 21

Tenants and Landlords
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). 5:45-7:45pm. $29. Landlady treating you badly lately? Late on paying your rent? **Joseph Carreiro** discusses the rights and responsibilities of both landlords and tenants, state laws and resources to seek out in times of trouble.

THURSDAY, AUG. 23

I Wanna Be an Actor
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). 5:30-7pm. $34. Break into Boston's spotlight or get behind the scenes with this one-day workshop. **Milton Coykendall**, director for the Java Theatre Company, advises on how to get involved in acting—from small and large professional theater to community cable television stations.

MFA Gallery Talks: A Studio of Her Own
Museum of Fine Arts, Avenue of the Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-9300). 11am. Free with museum admission. **Erica Hirshler** leads this lecture on female artists in Boston from 1870-1940.

SUNDAY, AUG. 25

The Back Bay Fens: Visions and Revisions
Leif Erickson statue, Commonwealth Avenue Mall and Charlesgate East, Boston (566-1689, ext. 216). 10am. Free. It was once named the "filthiest mud flat in all of Massachusetts." This two-hour tour examines how **Frederick Law Olmsted** transformed the Fens from an eyesore to an oasis, as well as the future of this Back Bay treasure.

MONDAY, AUG. 26

Powerpoint
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). 10am-6pm. $174. Come learn how to use Powerpoint and spice up your business presentations. **Paul Dumas** discusses how to create, organize and automatically display slides and transparencies, how to design and import text, and how to use graphics.

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Film

GO DEEP

An old thriller gets a new life in *The Deep End*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Old-movie fans know 1949's *The Reckless Moment* as one of film noir's more fertile thrillers. It's about a respectable housewife who descends into the underworld of crime when she thinks her teen daughter has murdered a shady man in a crime of passion, and when she then must defend her family against a blackmailer threatening to expose her daughter's relationship with the dead man. Although it's very much of its time, mining the woman's desire not to have her family "exposed" in the unforgiving conformity of postwar America, the story in the old Joan Bennett-James Mason movie turns out to travel well in the new *The Deep End*.



Tilda Swinton is a mother forced to fend off blackmailers who could destroy her family in *The Deep End*.

Also based on Elisabeth Sanxay Holding's novel *The Blank Wall* (which, aptly, was originally serialized in *Ladies Home Journal*), the new movie is written and directed by Scott McGehee and David Siegel, a duo who already showed themselves to be very capable thriller storytellers in their nifty 1993 black and white debut *Suture*. While that surreal thriller had an abstract artiness, *The Deep End* is more rooted in color reality. It's in this crisp, present-day reality where wife and mother Margaret Hall (Tilda Swinton) lives in upper-middle-class comfort with her three children on the banks of Lake Tahoe in California.

Her husband is a Navy officer away at sea—the movie abounds in water imagery and allusions—and the teen daughter of the previous movie is now teen son Beau (Jonathan Tucker). Mom Margaret's problems start when she learns her Ivy League–bound son has been with an older gay man (Josh Lucas). When she goes to a Reno gay bar to tell the guy to stay away from her son, he tells her he wants money. The son doesn't believe his friend could be so mercenary, but when the lover comes to secretly visit that night, Beau discovers the guy really is after money. They scuffle in the family's boathouse and, unbeknownst to Beau, his adversary falls off the pier and onto a beached anchor.

The next morning, Margaret finds the impaled body and assumes her son is responsible. Mustering all her domestic survival skills, she dumps the corpse in the middle of the lake. In a macabre twist, she later must dive in the water to get the dead man's car keys, so she can move his conspicuous Corvette from her street. If Margaret thinks her troubles are over, she's wrong. A stranger (Goran Visnjic) soon appears, demanding she pay him and his partner $50,000, or else they'll release a sex tape of her son and the dead man to the public.

Deep End does a great job of matter-of-factly portraying the split between Margaret's everyday domestic side and her sudden resilience in facing down men who could jeopardize her family's well-being. This comes across most strongly in scenes where she's phoning banks in an attempt to drain accounts and take out second mortgages, often while doing laundry or some other household chore (since everything is in both her and her husband's names, without his signature she can't raise much). While hiding all her doings from her kids, she's like a tigress trying to fend off their attackers.

The movie is less convincing when handling the blackmailer, a handsome stranger who becomes more positive as the story progresses. He's the kindly crook with a nastier partner (Raymond J. Barry) from whom he's trying to protect Margaret. Though you can feel the mutual attraction that emerges between Margaret and the blackmailer, sometimes this conflicted "bad guy" is too good to be true—like when he revives Margaret's father-in-law (Peter Donat) during a heart attack.

The blackmailer's eventual self-sacrifice also makes the resolution shaky. But ultimately, it is Swinton's steely performance of the sacrificing Margaret that makes *The Deep End* work. **iB**

The Deep End ★★★

Directed and written by Scott McGehee and David Siegel. Based on *The Blank Wall* by Elisabeth Sanxay Holding. With Tilda Swinton, Goran Visnjic, Jonathan Tucker, Raymond J. Barry and Josh Lucas. Rated R. Fox Searchlight.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

America's Sweethearts ★★½
Like the marriage of its fictitious movie stars, this romantic comedy and Hollywood satire is very off and on. Catherine Zeta-Jones and John Cusack play the perennially popular couple whose professional and personal lives have started derailing since they separated. The promotion of the last movie they filmed together is the backdrop for the romantic bumper cars played by the two with the wife's sister and assistant (Julia Roberts) and Latin lover (Hank Azaria). There are certainly enough laughs to get by—thanks to Azaria, Stanley Tucci as the opportunistic studio head, Christopher Walken as the movie-within-a-movie's crazed director and Billy Crystal as the publicist trying to hold everything together at the movie's press junket. But the romantic-comedy side is so heavily plotted that it lacks spontaneity or spark, and never conveys much of the emotion that's supposedly pinballing back and forth across the screen.

Apocalypse Now Redux ★★★★
As is usually the case with these things, the 50-minute longer version of Francis Ford Coppola's late-'70s Vietnam classic is essentially no better or worse than the version we've known and loved for 21 years. Some of the new stuff is great (a practical joke played on Robert Duvall's gung-ho colonel), some is useless (more action with the Playboy Playmates in the USO show) and some is strong though overextended (the so-called French Plantation Sequence). But it's the original charms that linger most potently: the sometimes absurd, sometimes tragic nature of war in general and our involvement in Vietnam in particular; the unflinching performance of Martin Sheen; the unsettling Marlon Brando; and Coppola's ability as a director to tap into us on a subconscious, dreamy level. He could have called this descent into hell on Earth *1971: A War Odyssey*.

Jackpot ★½
This road movie about a karaoke singer (Jon Gries) and his manager (Garrett Morris) is a very disappointing, totally flat second film from Mark and Michael Polish, the brothers who gave us 1999's character-rich and atmospheric *Twin Falls Idaho*. Why does a no-talent singer trying to jump-start a career by winning karaoke contests need a manager? Why does the manager think this guy can become his meal ticket? Why should we care? This film never answers any of those questions.

Jump Tomorrow ★★★½
If only *America's Sweethearts* had the romantic sparks of this very funny, totally endearing low-budget independent film. The story is centered on a shy African-American man (Tunde Adebimpe) who is about to reluctantly enter into a marriage arranged by his old-country relatives. However, he gets amorously waylaid by a dynamic Latina (Natalia Verbeke). It has the cockeyed romance of vintage screwball comedies, the physical gags of a Peter Sellers vehicle and the sensibility of such oddball coming-of-age movies as *Billy Liar* and *Harold and Maude*. Yet it somehow manages to be more than just a retread and provide its own distinctive experience.

Legally Blonde ★★
Reese Witherspoon sparkles as usual, but Robert Luketic's comedy plays out its *Clueless Goes to Law School* premise predictably and with only a few chuckles thrown in. Witherspoon plays a sorority maven happily destined for a life as a trophy wife until she gets dumped by her boyfriend and then devotes all her energy into getting into Harvard Law School to be near him and win him back. Of course, once she gets there, she discovers she doesn't need him or the life she would have had with him. A female empowerment story is refreshing to see, but there's not another memorable character in the story besides Witherspoon's, and she's done this kind of character before.

Made ★★★
The amusing reteaming of *Swingers* stars Jon Favreau and Vince Vaughn for another Favreau script—his directorial debut this time—is pretty much a rehash of that memorable indie comedy. Favreau is again the everyman and friend, while Vaughn is a verbal loose cannon with delusions of grandeur. And this time the pair are L.A. hangers-on to the criminal underworld who are loaned out by their annoyed boss (Peter Falk) to a New York hood (Sean Combs, the artist formerly known as Puff Daddy). There's little new ground broken, but the interplay between Favreau and Vaughn is never less than fun. A safe but appealing ground-rule double of a movie.

Osmosis Jones ★★★
The Farrelly brothers (*Kingpin*, *There's Something About Mary*) have made a family film. So you know

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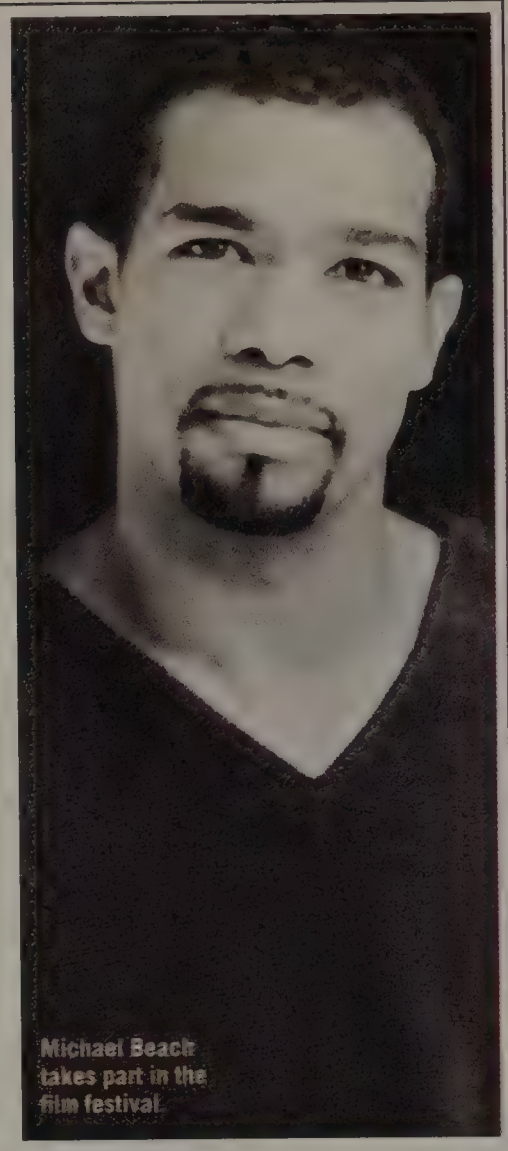
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Preview

Cross-Cultural Arts

The Roxbury Film Festival returns with an exciting round-up of movies


Michael Beach takes part in the film festival.

Feature length films, documentaries and short films made by local filmmakers of color come together in the third Roxbury Film Festival Aug. 16-19. Held at Northeastern University, the festival kicks off with an opening reception on Aug. 16, 6pm at the John D. O'Bryant African American Institute, followed by evening screenings at Blackman Theatre and 450 Dodge Hall. More screenings take place Aug. 17 (6-9:30pm), 18 (11am-8:30pm) and 19 (12-1:45pm). In addition to several quality films, there will also be appearances by Nina Henderson Moore, president and COO of BET Picture II and Roxbury native Michael Beach (NBC's *Third Watch*, *Waiting to Exhale*). Some of the highlights are *Blue Hill Avenue*, a film about four friends dealing with the effects of drug dealing, *Double Dutch Divas*, which follows three generations of women who share a love and skill for double dutch and *Compensation*, a drama about black culture that explores the relationship between a man and a deaf woman. The festival is co-sponsored by the ACT Roxbury Consortium and the Color of Film Collaborative. *$25 festival pass; $10 per day. For a complete schedule call 445-1061 ext., 222 or visit* www.actroxbury.org. *Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston.*

it's a little twisted. This blend of live action and animation centers on what happens inside the (animated) body of Bill Murray's slob zookeeper after he sucks down a virus on a deviled egg. Then it's up to the white blood cell voiced by Chris Rock and the cold capsule voiced by David Hyde Pierce to be mismatched buddy cops and take down the virus (Laurence Fishburne). Writer Marc Hyman has done a clever job of giving the body parts and the cells within all sorts of hidden functions (love the armpit that's a steambath where wise guys hang out). The live-action segments pale next to such animated comedy and this won't make you laugh half as much as *Kingpin*, but it's a fun novelty.

The Others ★★★
The twist ending will no doubt remind you of a famous late-1990s movie—and much is going to be made of that familiarity, probably too much. Writer-director Alejandro Amenabar's intimate film is a solid gothic thriller, with Nicole Kidman as a young widow in 1945 Britain trying to protect her two sickly children from things that go bump in their secluded, fogged-in Channel Islands mansion. Like *The Deep End*, the chiller finds drama in the plight of its besieged mother, while Kidman is perfectly enigmatic as the unstable mom. And, despite the familiarity, the ending is very well set up.

Planet of the Apes ★★
Tim Burton's flat remake of the socially conscious 1968 sci-fi hit concocts interesting and not-so-interesting ways to differentiate itself. The most interesting are the fact that this has a variety of apes (gorillas, baboons, orangutans) and that it comes up with a different twist to explain just where the hero astronaut (an ineffective Mark Wahlberg) crash lands. The least interesting elements are that the enslaved humans he finds talk, too, so he's not as different from them as he should be—and that the movie barely develops this unusual setting before it launches into "the chase," as Wahlberg leads a human rebellion against the ruthless general played by Tim Roth. Roth's body language is the best thing about the movie, and the apes clearly overshadow the humans. Even Charlton Heston has gone over to the other side, with a cameo as Roth's dying dad, who—no fooling—gives his son a gun before he expires.

Rush Hour 2 ★★★
It was a drag to see Jackie Chan, star of so many creative Hong Kong action-comedies in his prime, shoehorned into a formulaic, 1980s-style action-buddy movie for the first *Ruth Hour*. Maybe because expectations are lower this time, or because the sequel doesn't have to indulge in all the contrivances to get Chan's Hong Kong cop and Chris Tucker's L.A. cop together, this one is more fun. The chemistry between the stars is more relaxed now, Zhang Ziyi from *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* is here as a high-kicking henchwoman, and Chan's gymnastics are still awe-inspiring. It's no *Shanghai Noon*, but it'll do.

The Score ★★★
Though hardly perfect, this heist thriller is about the closest Hollywood comes to classy movies these days. Old wheeler-dealer Marlon Brando, methodical burglar Robert DeNiro and young hotshot Edward Norton are the three crooks who plan the heist of a priceless antique scepter from the basement of the Montreal Customs House (Angela Bassett, as the dishy stewardess DeNiro wants to marry after this last big score, gets little to do). The setup builds drama impressively, throwing complications in the trio's path along the way, and the heist itself jacks up the tension even more. But then, when one of the characters tries some monkey business, the movie suddenly ends, without the showdown that might have made this good movie a great one.

Tea Cakes or Cannoli ★½
It wants to be *Moonstruck Goes to the North End*, but the romance, comedy and culture clash between the old world ethnicity of the North End and the "new world" beyond Hanover Street never really take hold in this local production. There are some appealing performances from Conor Michael Dubin, writer/co-director Francine Pellegrino and the one and only Abe Vigoda—as, respectively, a restless North End teen, his single mom and his dying grandfather. But Pellegrino's script awkwardly segues from comedy to drama and back, failing to hit on the consistent tone or style needed to convey the story.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Brattle Theatre
The Theatre is closed for renovations from Aug. 24-30.

Special Engagements
•Aug. 17-23, 7pm (Sat. and Sun. matinees at 2pm) **Juliet of the Spirits** *1965.* Fellini directs Giulietta Masina in this story of a broken relationship. •Also showing, 5 and 10pm **That Obscure Object of Desire** *1977.* Director Luis Bunuel's final film is the story of a charming man who is tortured by his love for a woman.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves
•Aug. 15, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45 and 10pm **With a Friend Like Harry** *2000.* Problems arise as two men's lives reconnect.

Thursdays—Catherine Deneuve
•Aug. 16, 3 and 7pm **Umbrellas of Cherbourg** *1964.* Jacques Demy directs Deneuve in her first leading role in this music-filled love story. •Also showing, 5 and 9:30pm **The Young Girls of Rochefort** *1967.* Also directed by Demy, this film starst Deneuve stars alongside her sister, Francoise Dorleac.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Feature Films
•Opening Aug. 17 **Down from the Mountain** *2000.* In May of 2000, the music from the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* was performed in Nashville. *Down from the Mountain*, directed by D. A. Pennebaker, is a document of that concert.
•Through Aug. 23 **Kingdom Come, Parts One and Two** *1995 and 1997. Twin Peaks* meets *ER* in this Lars Von Trier film about a haunted hospital.

Documenting Dissent: Resisting the IMF and the World Bank
•Aug. 24, 7 and 8:30pm **Praha** *2000.* A look at the protests against the IMF and World Bank in Prague.
•Aug. 25, 7pm **Two Trevors Go to Washington**. IMF official Trevor Manuel and former anti-apartheid activist Trevor Ngwane take conflicting interests to Washington. •Also showing, 8:30pm **It's Our Water, Damnit!** *1967.* Residents of the city of Cochabamba revolt against a World Bank decision to privatize their water supply.

Hot Summer Midnights
•Aug. 17 and 18, 12am and Aug. 19, 12pm **Crumb** *1994.* Terry Zwigoff directs this story of the eccentric comic-book artist R. Crumb.
•Aug. 24 and 25, 12am and Aug. 26, 12pm **Blazing Saddles** *1974.* Every western-movie cliché imaginable is spoofed in Mel Brooks's classic comedy with an all-star cast including Gene Wilder and Madeline Kahn.

Museum of Fine Arts

The Films of Kon Ichikawa
•Aug. 16, 6pm **Punishment Room** *1956.* This is a controversial film about a student whose violent attitude affects his parents, teachers and girlfriend.
•Aug. 17, 8pm **Dora-Heita** *1999.* A magistrate fights governmental corruption after being sent to clean up a center for prostitution, gambling and smuggling.
•Aug. 18, 1:45pm **The Wanderers** *1973.* Ichikawa makes a parody of the story of three farm boys dedicated to becoming gamblers and samurai. •Also showing, 3:45pm **A Woman's Testament** *1960.* Three "immoral" women are featured in this anthology film about love, sex and money. Yasuzo Masumara and Kimisaburo Yoshimura direct with Ichikawa.
•Aug. 19, 1pm **The Makioka Sisters** *1983.* This film focuses on domestic issues and the tradition of courtship as a family tries to marry off one of four sisters.
•Aug. 22, 6:30pm **The Men of Tohoku** *1957.* Young Risuke deals with a tribal law that forbids him, as the younger son in his family to reproduce.
•Aug. 23, 6pm **Ten Dark Women** *1961.* Ten women conspire against the man of whom each has been mistress.
•Aug. 25, 2:30pm **The Woman Who Touched Legs** *1952.* This film is a comedy about a woman accused of robbing a man who ends up falling in love with her.
•Also showing, 4:15pm **I Am Two (Being Two Isn't Easy)** *1962.* From the viewpoint of a baby, this is a domestic comedy about the effects of tradition and the economy on the Japanese family.
•Aug. 26, 12:30pm **Tokyo Olympiad** *1965.* A unique documentary of the 1964 Olympics, this film caused controversy for its refusal to idealize Japan. •Also showing, 3:45pm **Alone on the Pacific** *1963.* Based on the true story of a young Japanese man who crossed the Pacific alone, this visually impressive film deals with isolation and the power of will.

The Tales of Eric Rohmer
•Aug. 23, 8pm **The Girl at the Monceau Bakery** and **Suzanne's Career** *1963.* These two works are the first of Rohmer's Six Moral Tales; they deal with love and sex and set the scene for the following Tales.
•Aug. 24, 8pm **La Collectionneuse** *1967.* The fourth of the Moral Tales, this film is a witty look at the causes and effects of sexual temptation.

New England Film Artists Present
•Aug. 16, 8pm and Aug. 18, 12pm **Lifestyles of the Poor and Unknown** *2001.* Director Nancy Fliesler challenges stereotypes in this story of a developmentally disabled couple in New York City.

Special Event

ICA Test Screening
The new, local production company Jimmyfilms will test-screen an early cut of its debut film, **Draftdodging**, Aug. 23 at 7pm. Filmed in Boston, New York and New Hampshire, the movie tells the story of Berg, a 25-year-old footsoldier on Wall Street who attempts to recreate his idealized childhood. Along with several fellow New Yorkers, Berg heads for the sleepy village of his youth to change his life. Jimmyfilms was created by Bostonians Hugh Eaton and Gavin Wiesen when the two teamed up to finish the in-progress *Draftdodging* along with executive producer Robert Patton-Spruill. *Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (266-5152).* www.ica-boston.org.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Common (Lowes)
175 Tremont St. (423-3499). MBTA: Green Lin e to Boylston.

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (536-1540). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (723-2500). Green Line to Science Park St.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (964-6060).

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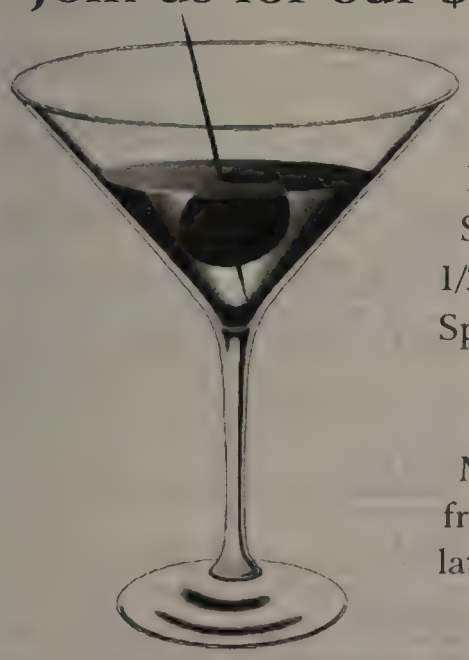
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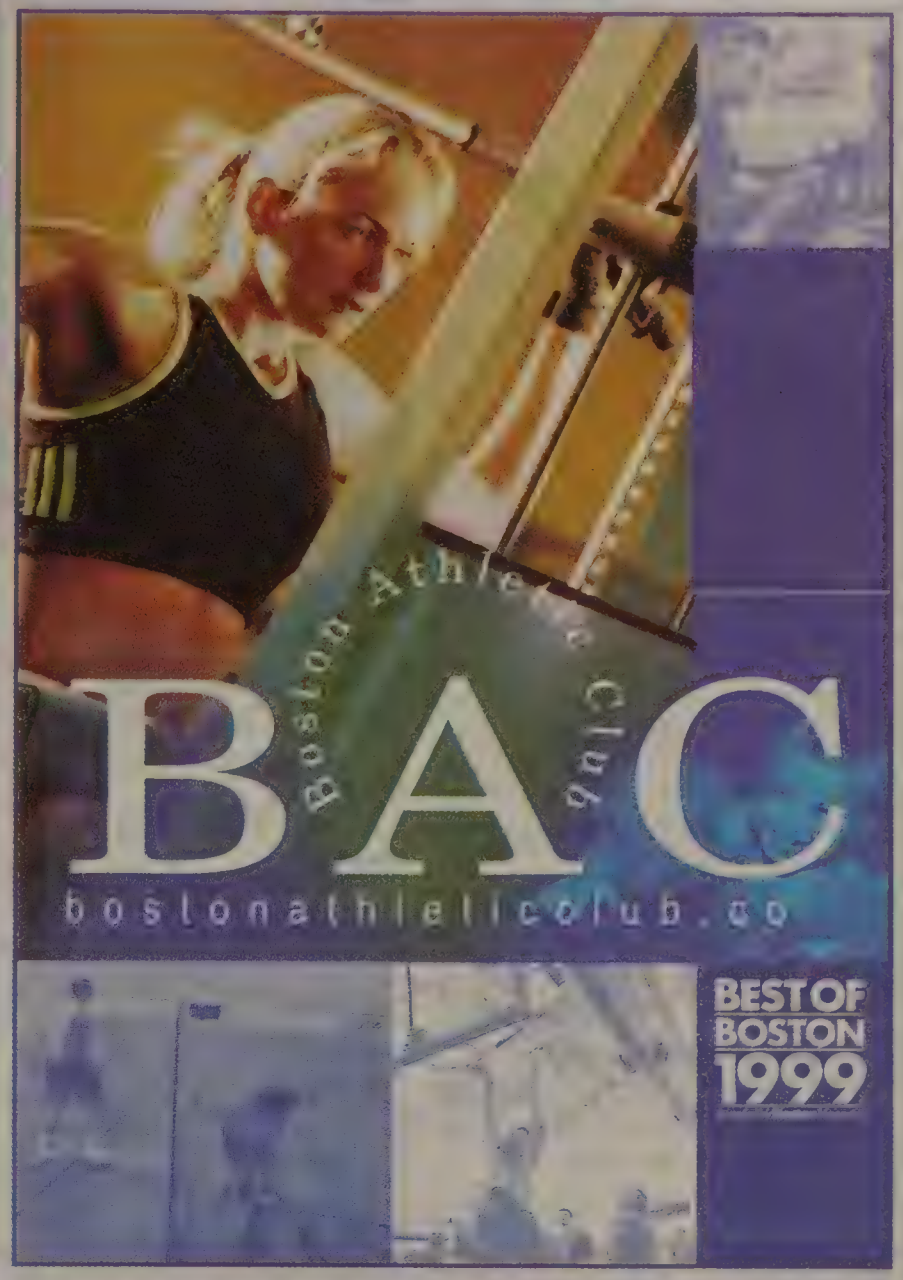


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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Top DJs spin.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay Night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs. Martini bar, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
Go Retroactive with DJ Chris Ewen.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits. 10pm. 19+. No cover.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid jazz soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with Megladon (MD) Jazz Band, 6:15-10:15pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing, 5pm-2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Beach Party
The Kells DJ Dragg spins hip-hop and dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.



Mingle and dance at Trattoria Il Panino, a social playground for hip, young professionals.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.

Higher Meditations
Aer DJ David Starr spins reggae and drum'n' bass.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Milky Way
DJs Adam Gibbons, Fran and Paul Nickerson spin jazzy deep house, soul and funk, 9pm, no cover.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night with live bands and DJ Steve Anderson spinning the latest hits. 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong Join in a night of psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $4, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and WFNX spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by for some after-work lounging with the mellow tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm. $15 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean. Don't forget to dress up—jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes. 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae and hip hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Tundra
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adilson. 10pm, 18+.

FRIDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins '70s, '80s and '90s tunes, 10pm, 21+.

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and special-guest global DJs spin progressive dance music. New night club game show "Wheel of Adventure" gives clubbers the opportunity to win cash, get spanked or hang out with an Avaland dancer, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
The Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

International Lounge
Vertigo DJ A. Rossi and DJ Peter Souhleris spin Latin dance early, progressive house and top hits, 11pm. Cocktails and free hors d'oeuvres before 10pm. 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
The Roxy Guest DJs spin at this third-floor dance party.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes. 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:15pm; DJ Todd, 10:45pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Sangria, Sunsets and Salsa
Sophia's Dance on the roof deck to live music from 4:30-9pm. DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor, and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Glitzed-out club hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins. 10pm, $10, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.
SW1
After-work lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.
Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.
Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

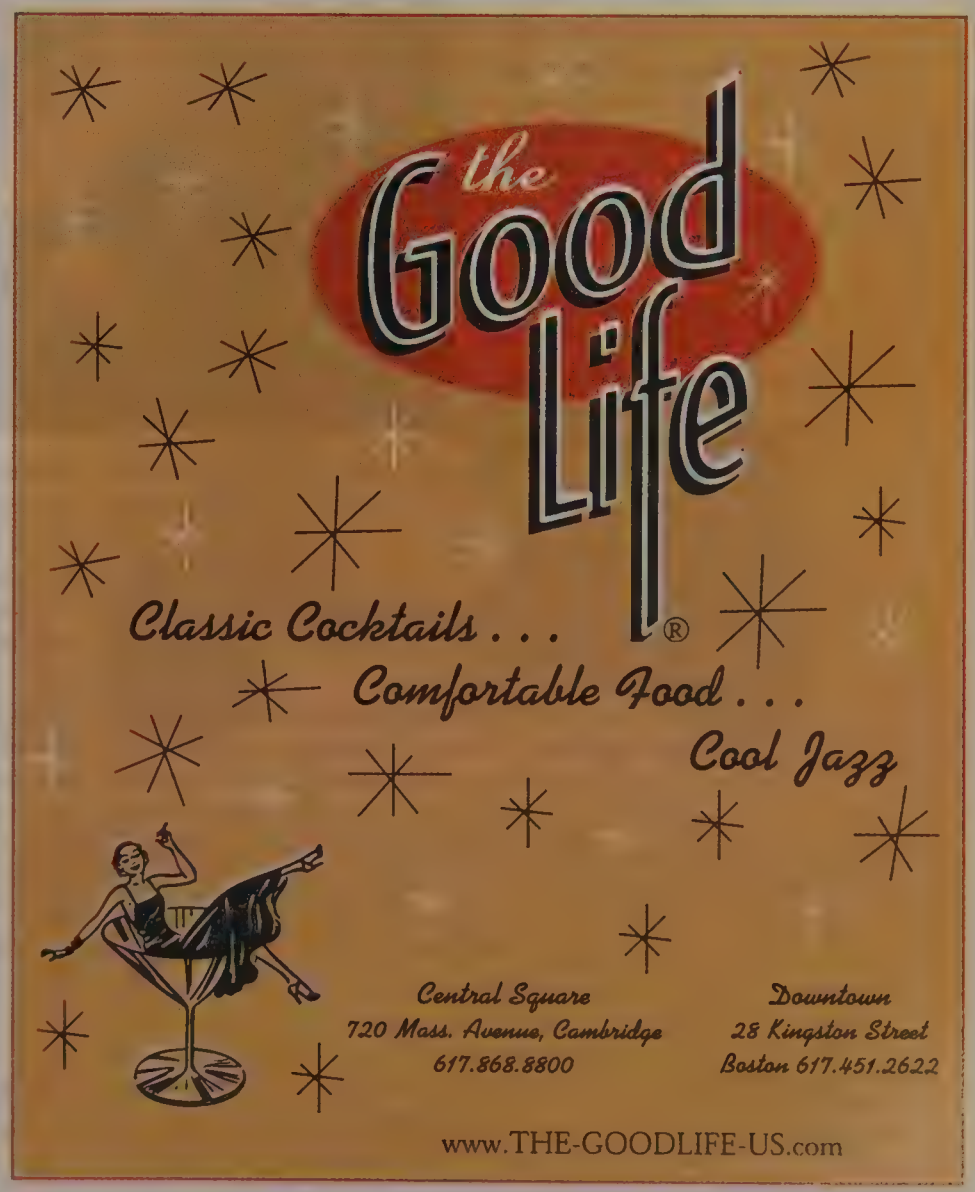
An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.
An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $4, 21+.
Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.
Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.
Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.
Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.
Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.
Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse. 10pm. $15. 19+.
Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.
Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.
Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.
Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.
Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special-guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.
Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.
NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive. 9:30pm. 21+.
The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house. 10pm. $15. 19+.
Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins international house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.
Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 21+.
R&B Lounge
Vertigo DJ Ron spins R&B, hip hop and light house at this elegant R&B night. 10:30pm, 21+.
The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.
Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats. 8pm, $10, 21+.
Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.
Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10. 21+.
Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.
SW1
DJ Tari spins house, dress sexy, 10pm, 21+.
Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.
X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night featuring everything from DJs to comedians. Then, DJ Adrienne spins Brit pop and new wave tunes. 9pm, $3, 19+.
WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.
Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins International house, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Living Room
Aria DJ Raffi spins international house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJs Larry, Dale, Magnum, Lisa and Robin play great reggae music, 9pm, $5.
The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.
Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Touch
Aer Deep soulful house is provided by guest DJs, 10pm.
Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.
Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (292-3309). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (338-7080). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (782-9508). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Cafe *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (789-4100).*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (292-2333). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (782-9082). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (576-6260).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (267-8881). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
The West Street *15 West St., Boston (423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*



DUB HER INDEPENDENT

Michelle Shocked continues to weave American influences into roots music of her own design. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

For singer-songwriter Michelle Shocked, switching genres is more than a passing fancy. It's part of her roots.

"Any American musician who limits themselves to one genre is selling their birthright for a bowl of gruel," says Shocked, who returns to House of Blues Sept. 29 and 30 with Hothouse Flowers guitarist Fiachna O'Braonain. "We have the most amazing heritage as American artists. It's certainly not by my device that I say, 'I only do this.'"

That stance follows a similar line to the one the Texas-bred Shocked took with Mercury Records in the mid-90s. At first she delivered folk-pop hits like "Anchorage" and "When I Grow Up" on *Short Sharp Shocked*, her 1988 debut with that major label. But after she tried a big-band flavor on 1989's *Captain Swing* and American roots music on 1992's *Arkansas Traveler*, Mercury balked at her plans for a gospel outing. So Shocked sued for release, citing the 13th Amendment against slavery.



Michelle Shocked continues to defy categorization.

"It's the past, but the legacy remains," Shocked says of that victory, speaking by phone from her part-time home of Los Angeles. "Why have I been underground? Why have I been on sabbaticals? I've had to sustain myself. The river altered its course."

Indeed, Shocked took the tributary that many artists have more recently followed, eschewing major-label fancies to make exactly the records they want and to release them independently. Shocked did it a few years back, selling her *Kind-Hearted Woman* disc only at shows until she licensed it to Private Music. Now she's promoting a CD called *Dub Natural* on the road. It's a "dub" version of her next album, *Deep Natural*.

"By playing with it, dubbing some of the stuff and dropping the vocals out, we've got a version of the record," Shocked says of the atmospheric "dub" CD, built from tracks for *Deep Natural* that were altered at the mixing board with faders and reverb. "In Italy, we'd tell people it was antipasti."

"The definition of dub is that you take existing tracks and play around with them," she says of the CD, which is infused with touches of gospel, mariachi and R&B, as well as reggae. "Because a lot of people think dub came out of Jamaica, and Jamaica is associated with reggae, and a lot of pot was being consumed, a lot of times the definition stays there. But you can look at things like what goes on these days with sampling, and the way techno tracks are built. What's being done in contemporary culture with music is more digital than dub. We've done a pretty old-fashioned analog thing."

In turn, it's just an experimental step along from Shocked's last outing, a black gospel-funk band that she formed after living in New Orleans through the late '90s. "I pretty much took a sabbatical in '97," Shocked says of that post-Mercury period, "literally going to church five to seven days a week at this small, what-would-be-a-storefront church if there were stores in that neighborhood in the 9th Ward."

"I'm a communicator, so whatever it is that I learn, I desire to communicate," says Shocked, whose insights often surface between songs in concert. "There are times when you feel like the well is really full and times where you're searching for new sources of inspiration. And then there are other times where you feel like—whether it's a depleted or whether it's a poisoned well—you need to go looking elsewhere. And I wouldn't want to limit the scope of where I'd go looking based on the original well's location."

Over her 39 years, Shocked has looked into wells from coast to coast and beyond. Early on, she went through a hardcore-punk phase, lived as a squatter, and was briefly committed to a psychiatric hospital by her mother. Then she found an odd route to fame when a British producer recorded her with a Walkman at the Kerrville Folk Festival and made *The Texas Campfire Tapes*, the hit that prompted Mercury to sign her.

"As a knee-jerk anarchist, I've tried so hard not to be partisan, but the fact is, I'm partisan," Shocked says. "I come from a working-class background, but we never used the term 'working class.' It's very different to be working class without realizing when you go to school, all the kids have new clothes and you've got hand-me-downs. So I try not to be doctrinaire about it, but once you do learn, 'Oh, you mean that's why we had a dysfunctional family? Because poverty affects the resources that a family has?' So when I became conscious of those kinds of politics, I thought anarchism was the more sexy of the options available." iB

Michelle Shocked

Plays the House of Blues Sept. 29 and 30.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stop. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

A*Teens, Aaron Carter and Leslie Carter
Aug. 16, FleetBoston Pavilion

The Beach Boys
Aug. 18, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Aug. 19, South Shore Music Circus
Aug. 20, North Shore Music Theatre

Tony Bennett
Aug. 17, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Aug. 18, South Shore Music Circus

Blues Traveler with the Pat McGee Band
Aug. 28, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Burning Spear, Patty Larkin, the Persuasions and Rebecca Parris
Aug. 21, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Mary Chapin Carpenter
Aug. 18, FleetBoston Pavilion

Robert Cray Band with Toni Lynn Washington
Aug. 15, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Aug. 16, South Shore Music Circus

Crosby, Stills and Nash
Aug. 22, FleetBoston Pavilion

Death by Stereo, Good Riddance and Hope Conspiracy
Aug. 23, Axis

Deep Blue Something
Aug. 16, Copley Square Park

The Everly Brothers and the Crickets
Aug. 24, South Shore Music Circus
Aug. 25, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Aug. 26, North Shore Music Theatre

Framingham Blues Festival with Delbert McClinton and Entrain
Aug. 18, Bowditch Field, Framingham

Aretha Franklin
Aug. 15, Lowell Memorial Auditorium

Fuel and Train
Aug. 25, FleetBoston Pavilion

Vince Gill
Aug. 26, South Shore Music Circus

Godsmack, The Deftones, cKy and Puddle of Mudd
Aug. 24 and 25, Tweeter Center

Gospelfest 2001
Aug. 26, City Hall Plaza

Janet Jackson and 112
Aug. 25 and 26, FleetCenter

Jethro Tull with Willy Porter
Aug. 22, South Shore Music Circus
Aug. 24, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Aug. 25, North Shore Music Theatre

Lyle Lovett and His Large Band
Aug. 16, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Aug. 17, FleetBoston Pavilion

Baaba Maal featuring Daande Lenol and Karsh Kale
Aug. 22, Paradise Rock Club

Matchbox Twenty, Train and Seven Mary Three
Aug. 17, Tweeter Center

Johnny Mathis
Aug. 16, North Shore Music Theatre

John McDermott
Aug. 22, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Aug. 23, North Shore Music Theatre

98 Degrees
Aug. 23, Tweeter Center

Peter, Paul and Mary
Aug. 19, North Shore Music Theatre
Aug. 23, South Shore Music Circus

Plaid and Squarepusher
Aug. 25, Paradise Rock Club

Tom Rush's Club 47
Aug. 24, Sanders Theatre

Sade and India.Arie
Aug. 22, FleetCenter

Southside Johnny and the Asbury Jukes
Aug. 25, City Hall Plaza

The Saw Doctors
Aug. 17, South Shore Music Circus
Aug. 19, Cape Cod Melody Tent

Watcha 2001 with Enanitos Verdes, Juanes, La Ley and Molotov
Aug. 21, The Roxy
WFNX New Music Concert
Aug. 16, MDC Hatch Shell
Dar Williams, Great Big Sea and Shawn Mullins
Aug. 24, FleetBoston Pavilion
Dar Williams and Shawn Mullins
Aug. 23, Cape Cod Melody Tent
Mary Wilson of the Supremes
Aug. 22, North Shore Music Theatre

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15

Bill's Bar D-Stroy, Reks, Skitzofreniks, Strange Habitat and MC Kabir, 9pm, $15, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kyle Shiver, Rob Gonzalez and Steve Rapson, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls.
Harper's Ferry Robby Krieger Band with Liz Lannon Band, $18, 21+.
Hennessy's Johnny Bahama Night with Me and Julio.
House of Blues Sugarcoat plus Soulwork, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Lip Floater.
Johnny D's Sheryl Cormier, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe The Hobohemians, 8:30pm; Shelley King, 9:30pm; the Swinging Steaks, 10:30pm; $5, 21+.
Lilli's Boca Chica, 8pm, $6, 21+.
Limbo Herman Johnson Quartet, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Hybrasil and Firewater, 21+.
Maison Robert Issi Rozen Duo, 6-8pm.
McGann's Pub Nero, 9:30pm.
Middle East U: Auto Interiors, Alotia, Rhythm of Black Lines and Luke Temple, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury Deep House, Soul, Groove and Liquid Fusion, 9pm, no cover.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
Purple Shamrock DJ Massi, 10pm.
The Rack Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Michelle Wilson and the Evil Gal Orchestra, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Los Changos, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers Willie & Lobo, 8 and 10pm, $16.
Summer Shack The I-Land Rokkerz, 7-10pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan.
Toad The Early Show with Deb Pasternak, 7-9pm; Hog Mawl, 10pm; no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Meghan Tooney, Chris Colbourn and Hilken Mancini, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, AUG. 16

Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton and Lost City Angels with Jaya the Cat and guests, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Trina Hamlin and Sam Shaber, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Tribute to Elvis, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm-12am, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Jones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Live Jazz, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry Tom Constantin, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 9pm.
House of Blues Milo-Z, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Chapter in Verse.
Johnny D's Junior Brown and the Stumbleweeds, 9pm, cover varies.
Jose McIntyre's The Return, 8pm.


Sixties crooners The Beach Boys will be surfin' around Massachusetts this month.

Kendall Cafe Ethan Bessey, 9pm; Abi Tapia, 10pm; Goodpeople, 11pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Jen Johnson, Tommy Gee (x-Psyclones), Honey Deluxe, LJ Delta and the Lonesome Wolves, 8pm, $5.
Lilli's Balaton, 9:30, $7, 21+.
Limbo Jaqueline Rossi Quartet, 9pm-1am.
The Linwood Little A, Vibrotica and the Nines.
Lizard Lounge Dub, Trance and Groove; Club d'Elf featuring Micro Vard, Alain Mallet, Brahim Fribgane and Jere Faison; cover varies, 21+.
Maison Robert Andy Baer Duo, 6-8pm.
Middle East U: Clem Snide, Pee Wee Fist and Brian Michael Roff, $8, 18+. D: Rival Schools, Thursday and the Ghost, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Benefit for Felix Arroyo, 8pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill The Terrors.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Eddie, 10:45pm, 21+.
Regattabar Kenny Barron & Regina Carter, 8 and 10pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5.
Scullers Victor Mendoza Latin Jazz Sextet, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Easy Marks.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9pm; John Cate, 10pm; no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Asciento, Car Crash Show, the Collisions and Paula Kelley, $6.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAY, AUG. 17

Bill's Bar Cracktorch with David James Motorcycle, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Jim Kweskin Band with Samoa Wilson, 8pm, $15/13.
Copperfield's Figure Four and Labb.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6-9:30pm; Soul City, 10pm; no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm; no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Grant Langford Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Roxbury Blues Aesthetic, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Six Shot Brody.
Harper's Ferry Superzero, Mike Previti and Laughing Colors, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm.
House of Blues Joe Louis Walker, 10pm-12:30am, $12, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub Flynn.
Johnny D's Tom Hambridge and Lucky 57, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's NeoPride, 10pm.
Kendall Cafe Burt LaFountain, 9:30pm; PJ Loughran, 10:30pm; Mo Matching Drapes; 11:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Downbeat 5, Last Ones, Psych-o Daisies, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Mark Greel Band, 9pm-1am.
The Linwood The Strangemen, Seks Bomba and Irreversible Slacks
Lizard Lounge The Groove Holmes Band, 21+.
Middle East U: The Control Group, Front Royale, Naked Sams and Jet Plastic, $8, 18+. D: The Gravel Pit, Nada Surf, Ozma and Rilo Kiley, $10, 18+. C: Flatbrush Park Leisure Group.
Milky Way Schizm, 9pm.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
P.J. Ryan's Pete Massa, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Bumpin' Uglies.
Purple Shamrock Marcels, 10pm.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm; 21+.
Regattabar Kenny Barron & Regina Carter, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Dis 'n' Dat, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Clark Organ Trio, 8:30pm-12am, $9.
Scullers Eddie Palmieri, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Toad Amphibian, no cover.
Top of the Hub Joe Esposito with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Wide Iris, the Popgun Seven, The Shelley Winters Project and Citizen Cope, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAY, AUG. 18

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Pamela Means, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Roxbury Blues Aesthetic, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Owen.
Harper's Ferry Groove Collective, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7pm.
House of Blues Chris McDermott's Love Perimeter, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Rosie Ledet, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Kendra Flowers, 9:30pm; Tiger Tom Dixon's Blues, 10:30pm; Todd Thibaud, 11:30pm; $5. 21+.
Lilli's Edith, 9:45pm; Antigone Rising, 10:45pm; Dragstrip Courage, 12am; $8, 21+.
Limbo Frank Wilkins Trio, 9pm-1am.
The Linwood Caged Heat, Fire in the Boathouse and Tokoyo Millenium.
Lizard Lounge Hamilton with Chauncy, 21+.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8pm-1am, no cover.
Middle East U: Pinback, Certainly Sir and Secret Machines, $8, 18+. D: Benefit for Out of the Blue Gallery with Machinery Hall, C60, AM Stereo and Say Hi to Lisa, $10, 18+. C: Dan Blakeslee.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club, 8pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riordan.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paradox Lounge Noah Rohrer, Nat Brooks and Showcase, 8pm, $8.
Porters Bar and Grill Blockhead.
Purple Shamrock NeoPride, 10pm.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.



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Regattabar Kenny Barron and Regina Carter, 8 and 10:30pm, $20.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee and Divercity, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Dr. Blues and his Screamin' Blues Orchestra, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Eddie Palmieri, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Tir na nÓg Jabe.
Toad Typhoon Ferri, no cover.
Top of the Hub Herb Pomeroy with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Red Elvises, the Boy Joys and Dave Foley Band, $10.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, AUG. 19

Bill's Bar Toxic Narcotic and guests, 2pm, $10; Reggae Sunday with DJ K-Don, Rocky Tracy and guests, 10pm, $10.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Sonny Watson Quartet, 10am-2pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Copperfield's Labb, 10pm, cover varies, 21+.
Club Passim David Maxwell and 2120 South Michigan Avenue, 7:30pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel Brunch with Silver Lining, 10am-3pm; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon and Friends, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's The Martini Brothers, 5-8pm.
House of Blues Mountain of Venus, 9pm-12:30am, $6, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub DJ Nite Train.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Reflective Edge, 9pm; Clare Muldaue, 10pm; $5, 21+.
Limbo Alon Yavnai Trio, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; Poetry Jam featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Mwalim Allah, 9pm; 21+.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 6-10pm, no cover.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Power Surge, 9pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm.
Tir na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 7pm.
Toad Dave Foley and the Standup Boys, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Neville Trio, 8pm-12am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Malevolence and J-Walkers, $4, 21+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, AUG. 20

Bill's Bar Monsta Mondays with DJ Kapt Krunch and Absolve with Red Chord, Head Pro and Flatline, 9pm, $6, 18+.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8pm; Ken Bonfield, 10pm; 8pm, $10.
Copperfield's Sound Kings, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rob and Brian "Unplugged," 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry Moving Buildings and Elevation 74, $7, 18+.
House of Blues Kara Tondorf plus Matt Chase Band, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Bleu, 9:30pm; The Irresponsibles, 10:30pm; $5, 21+.
Limbo Chuck Langford Quartet, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mike, 7-9pm; The Fringe, 10pm.
Middle East D: Amber Spyglass, Boys Suck and Scissorkiss, $6, 18+.
Milky Way Tristan de Cunha, Shopping, the Secrets and the Enditalls, 9pm, $8.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Tir na nÓg Ed Jurdi.

Preview

Dunes and Tunes

Melodies and memories wash over the Cape

If you're planning to visit the Cape, consider making the trip soon: The Cape Cod Melody Tent will be packed with goodies. And to match the laid-back atmosphere, the acts are all of the non-offensive, easy-listening variety. So even though you may be a rock chick vacationing with a mellow-groove mom and jam-band brother, you can find a show that appeals to the whole family. Here's a glimpse at what's on the bill. The peerless purveyor of blues and soul, Robert Cray Band, pairs with the passionate bluesista Toni Lynn Washington Aug. 15. Texan balladeer Lyle Lovett brings His Large Band to the Tent Aug. 16 to play everything from wry folk and country songs to big-band swing tunes. From all-American easy-listening favorites to sentimental jazz-inspired songs, Tony Bennett (Aug. 17) is still a multigenerational crowd pleaser. Then The Beach Boys take a surfing break to play Aug. 18. Celtic aterna-rockers The Saw Doctors play Aug. 19; long-time reggae great Burning Spear performs with Patty Larkin, The Persuasions and Rebecca Parris Aug. 21; and Scottish pop singer John McDermott takes the stage Aug. 22. Next up is soprano folk star Dar Williams, who shares a bill with Shawn Mullins Aug. 23; the boisterous hard rock/folk melody maker Jethro Tull plays with folk-rock guitarist Willy Porter Aug. 24. First-generation rock 'n' roll phenoms the Everly Brothers—who have been churning out classic ditties for decades—team up with Buddy Holly's former band The Crickets Aug. 25. Finally, jam-band extraordinaire Blues Traveler play with sextet The Pat McGee Band Aug. 28.



Dar Williams shares a bill with Shawn Mullins Aug. 23 at the Cape Cod Melody Tent in Hyannis.

Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10pm; The Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm; no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Neville Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm-1am, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY, AUG. 21

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; John Lincoln Wright, 10pm; 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, sign up at 7:30pm, $5, members free.
Copperfield's 24-7 and Rosemary Crass, 10pm, cover varies, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Friends, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Felix Brown and Edable Gray, 9:30pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Brother, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe The Tundra Survey, 9pm; TW Walsh, 10pm; Drew O'Doherty, 11pm; $5, 21+.
Lilli's Three Day Threshold, 9pm; Blow with Silde and Caged Heat, 10pm; The Collisions, 11pm; Violition, 12am; $5, 21+.
Limbo Alan Rowe Trio, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge Members of the Miracle Orchestra and Friends, 21+.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
McGann's Pub Slainte.
Middle East U: Lipfloater, Jaded Salingers, The Beatings and Lifestyle, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mary, Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
P.J. Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke, 10pm.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with MD Jazz, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Pianist Geoffrey Gee, 8:30pm, $10, 21+.
Toad The Residency with Hillbilly Voodoo featuring Barrence Whitfield, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Wave, The Han Solos, Bridges Fell and Lowstar, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 22

Bill's Bar Funk and Groove with DJ Tim Collins and Rudolph Randolph with Dan Rockett, 9pm, $9, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Janet Feld, Esther, Licia Sky and Ksenia Mack, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls.
Harper's Ferry See Peoples, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's "Johnny Bahama Night" with Me and Julio.
House of Blues Tonic presents "Real Hip-Hop in Back" featuring Shuman, Baba, and special guests, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Machinery Hall.
Johnny D's April Verch, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Kevin Wood, 9pm; Charlie in the Box, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Lilli's Boca Chica, 9pm, $6, 21+.
Limbo Marc Rossi Group, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge The Residency featuring Hybrasil, cover varies, 21+.
Maison Robert Issi Rozen Duo, 6-8pm.
Middle East U: Raymond, Kid Tested, Photoflash and Sector 98, $7, 18+. D: Grant Lee Phillips, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury Deep House, Soul, Groove and Liquid Fusion, 9pm, no cover.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner Trio with Avery Sharpe and Al Foster, 8:30pm, $20.
Scullers Peter Calo, 8 and 10pm, $12.
Summer Shack The I-Land Rokkerz, 7-10pm, no cover.
Tir na nÓg Dave Champagne.
Toad The Early Show with Deb Pasternak, 7-9pm; The Cranktones, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Meghan Toohey and Erin McKeown, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, AUG. 23

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Kevin So and Steve Gilette & Cindy Mansen, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6-8pm; Classic Trax, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm-12am, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 9pm.
Harper's Ferry Stymie, Decifunk and Kfloor, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 9pm.
House of Blues Seth Yacovone Band, 10pm-12am, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Boston Horns and Brotherhood of Groove, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's The Return, 8pm.
Kendall Cafe Mieka Pauley, 9pm; Randi Driscoll, 10pm; Permanent Vacation, 11pm; $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Tokyo Tramps, Redletter, Dumb It Down, The Buzz, 8pm, $5.
Lilli's "Livetronica Event" with Nikulydin and guests.
Limbo Nadine Chase Quartet, 9pm-1am.
The Linwood Gun Metal Gray, Boot Factor 5ive and Underwater.
Lizard Lounge The Groove Juice Symphony featuring Barrence Whitfield and the Sugar Twins, 21+.
Maison Robert Alexei Tsiganov Duo, 6-8pm.
Milky Way The Halogens, Linus, Hurricane Jane and Car Crash Show, 9pm $8.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
P.J. Ryan's Brogue, 9pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner Trio with Avery Sharpe and Al Foster, 8 and 10:30pm, $20.
Rhythm & Spice DJ Evalast, 10:30pm, $5.
Scullers Andy Narrell, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Tir na nÓg Jabe.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9pm; Francine with the Brett Rosenberg Problem and Lemonpeeler, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Texas Governer, Rockets Burst from the Streetlamps, Tree Lined Highway and The Skating Club, $7.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, AUG. 24

Bill's Bar Gruvis Malt with Doctor Overseer, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, 21+.
The Burren Melissa Morris, Charlie Strater and Eric Fontana, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Slaid Cleaves, Rod Picott, 8pm, $12.
Copperfield's Stout.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6-9:30pm; Soul City, 10pm; no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm; no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Borderland, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Issi Rosen Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern 4 on the Floor.
Harper's Ferry Michigan Blacksnake and Hazie Maze, $7, 21+.

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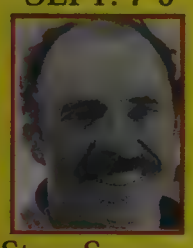
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Dane Cook

SEPT. 7-9

Steve Sweeney

SEPT. 14TH

Bobby Collins

SEPT. 21ST

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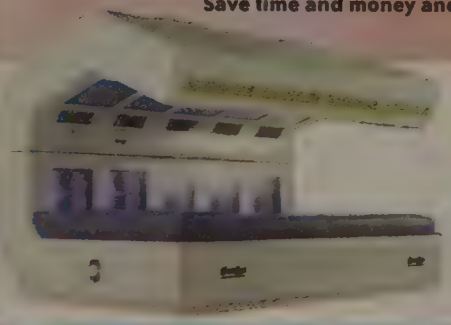
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Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm.
House of Blues E.C. Scott, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Rumbafrica, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Pig Pen, 10pm.
Kendall Cafe Garden Verge, 9:30pm; Nate Borofsky, 10:30pm; Edable Gray, 11:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Cafe Cartman's Pig, Uprise, J-Walkers, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9pm.
The Linwood The Gentlemen, The Gladstones and Rocketscience.
Lizard Lounge The Miracle Orchestra, 21+.
Middle East U: The Shods and Frank Morey, $7, 18+. C: Color Forms.
Milky Way Live Soca, 9pm.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman, 8:30pm, no cover.
P.J. Ryan's The Dave Foley Band, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Violet Tide.
Purple Shamrock Magnus, 10pm.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm; 21+.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner Trio with Avery Sharpe and Al Foster, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Rhythm & Spice Hot Like Fire, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Eguie Castrillo Group, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Dizzy Gillespie Alumni Band, 8 and 10:30pm, $26.
Tír na nÓg Benders.
Toad The Pierce Woodward Trio, no cover.
Top of the Hub Matt Langley with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Angry Hill, Debris, Love Me Less and Innerpink, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAY, AUG. 25

The Black Rose Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Tom Russell and Andrew Hardin, 8pm, $13.
Copperfield's Shake da Planct and Pond.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7-10pm; Classic Trax, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm; no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Grant Langford Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain.
Harper's Ferry Ranking Roger of the General Public, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7pm.
House of Blues Savoy Brown, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's Mango Blue, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's 2nd Story, 10pm.
Kendall Cafe Blue Horizon, 9:30pm; The Splendid Nobodies, 10:30pm; Dan and Kev, 11:30pm; $5, 21+.
Lilli's The Outlets, 8pm, 21+.
Limbo Eula Lawrence, 9pm-1am.
The Linwood Hamilton, Chubby and Roxie.
Lizard Lounge CD-release party for Bo Thayer and the Euphorians with Willie Bernstien, 21+.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8pm-1am, no cover.
Middle East U: Toxic Narcotic, Tommy and the Terrors, Crash N Burn and Morning Side, $8, 21+. C: Danielle Miraglia.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club, 8pm, $7.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
O'Brien's Nancy S. Mroczek, Ph.D., 12am.
P.J. Ryan's On a Tangent, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar McCoy Tyner Trio with Avery Sharpe and Al Foster, 8 and 10:30pm, $20.
Rhythm & Spice Jamm Down, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Gospel Brunch, 10am-2pm, $15; K.D. Bell, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Dizzy Gillespie Alumni Band, 8 and 10:30pm.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band.
Toad Trailer Park, no cover.
Top of the Hub Felicia Carter with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm-1am.
T.T. the Bear's Place "Coolest Cats" CD-release party with The Decals, The Kitty Kill, The Modifiers, AdFrank, Roma, Blow, John Surette and the Deniros, Kristian Montgomery and Aviso Hara, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, AUG. 26

Bill's Bar DJ K-Don, Courtney Morris, $10.
Black Horse Tavern Eugene Byrne, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Sonny Watson Quartet, 10am-2pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Richard Shindell and James Keeleghan, 6pm and 9pm, $20.
Dick's Last Resort The Kurth and Taylor Tour for Kids Benefit Concert, 1pm, $40; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon and Friends, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's The Martini Brothers, 5-8pm.
House of Blues Metro Concepts presents Illin' P, 9pm, 18+, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Mystic Highway, 9pm; Julie Dougherty, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; Poetry Jam featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and poet Juliette Monestime, 9pm, 21+.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 6-10pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Cloud 9 1/2, Powderburn and Blindsided, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Power Surge, 9pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm.
Northeast Brewing Co. Live jazz brunch with Paulo Danay, 10am-3pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 7pm.
Toad The Resophonics, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm-12am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place David's Playground, Dark Flowered Music, Offtrack and Din, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.



Ian Anderson plays with Jethro Tull Aug. 22-25.



Baaba Maal plays the Paradise Aug. 22.

MONDAY, AUG. 27

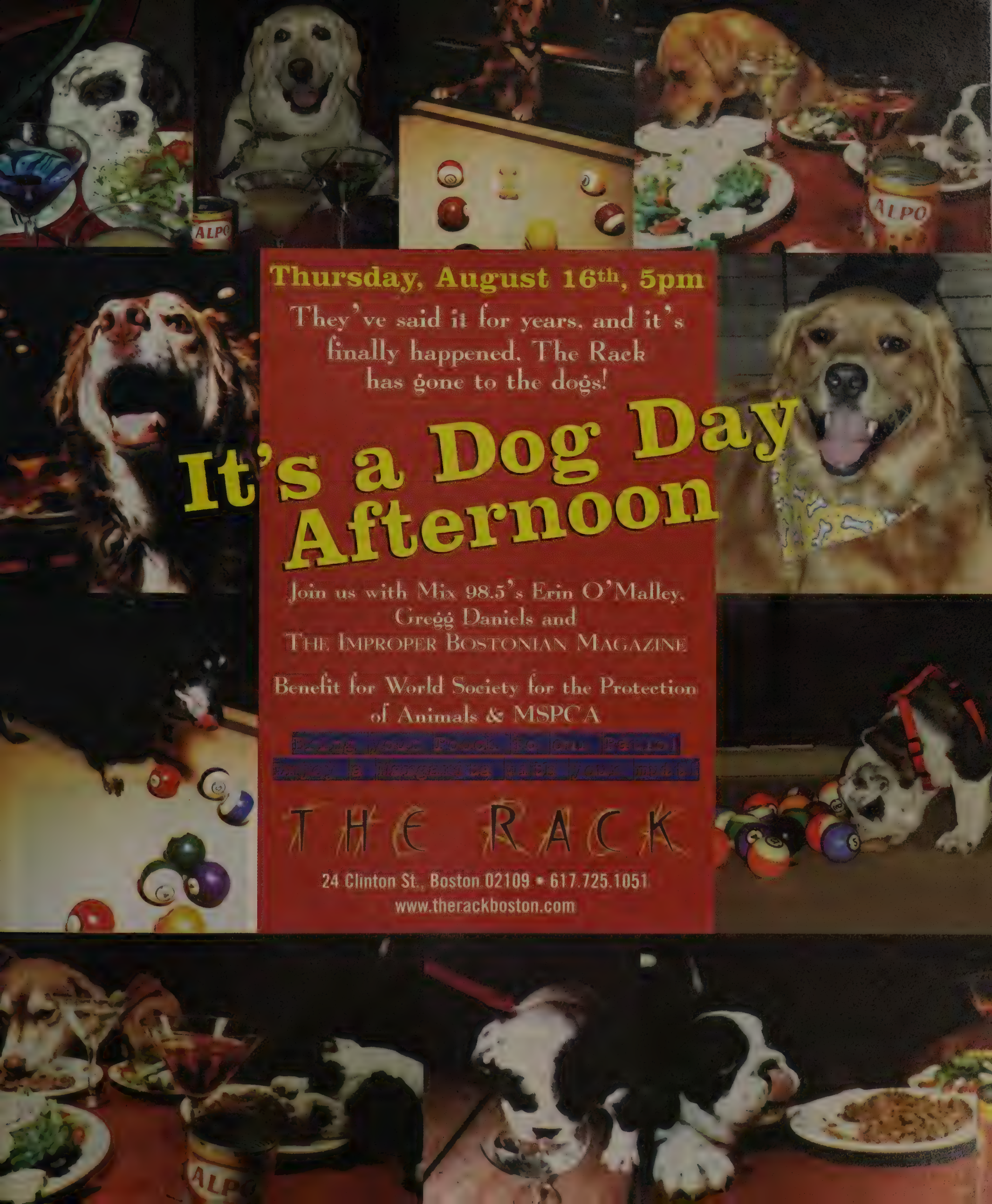
The Black Rose Tony O'Riordan, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8pm; Maria Guillard, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Sumaj Chasquis, 8pm, $10.
Copperfield's Figure Four and Earth Dog, 10pm, cover varies, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry The Peter Barton Project: Neil Young Tribute, $5, 18+.
House of Blues The Jeff Robinson Trio and Reggie Gibson, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Irish Embassy Pub Monday Night Madness with JB.
Kendall Cafe Kevin Condon, 9pm; Volition, 10pm; the Irresponsibles, 11pm; $5, 21+.
Limbo Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mike, 7-9pm; The Fringe, 10pm.
Middle East U: Bradford Ave, Artemis and Advocate, $7, 18+. D: Eek-A-Mouse and Anthony B., $25, 18+.
Milky Way Scarrie Monday, 9pm, $5.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 10pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, no cover, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Bow Thayer and the Euphorians.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10pm; The Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm; no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm-12am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear Acoustic Series with AdFrank, Tony Norton, Clayton, Scoble and Bo Barringer, $3.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm-1am, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, AUG. 28

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 10pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; James King Band, 10pm; 21+.
Club Passim Open mike, 7:30pm sign up, $5.
Copperfield's Clarias and Lincoln Conspiracy, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Friends, 18+.
Hennessy's John McLoughlin.
House of Blues Mappari, Averi and the High Ceilings, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Myllarit, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Judy Feldmann, Eric Saulnier and Choo Choo La Rouge, $5, 21+.
Lilli's Blow with members of Slide and Caged Heat, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Peter Barr Quartet, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge Members of the Miracle Orchestra and Friends, 21+.
Marché Caveau Yoko Miwa Trio with Scott Goulding and Justin Purtill, 8-11:30pm, no cover.
McGann's Pub Slainte.
Middle East U: Ohia and Tiger Saw, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mary, Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Steve Soars, 8pm-12am, no cover.
P.J. Ryan's Pub Quiz, 9pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Karaoke, 10pm.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with MD Jazz, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Acappella Scene, 8pm, $7.
Toad The Residency with Hillbilly Voodoo featuring Barrence Whitfield, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Puppet Kung Fu, G. T. Arpe, Mason's Sleepwalkers and BJ Snowden, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanueil Hall, Boston (227-2038). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent *21 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100).*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way. Cambridge (661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*


ALPO
ALPO
Thursday, August 16th, 5pm
They've said it for years, and it's finally happened. The Rack has gone to the dogs!
It's a Dog Day Afternoon
Join us with Mix 98.5's Erin O'Malley, Gregg Daniels and The Improper Bostonian Magazine
Benefit for World Society for the Protection of Animals & MSPCA
THE RACK
24 Clinton St., Boston 02109 • 617.725.1051
www.therackboston.com



Texas natives Deep Blue Something perform their mellow rock at Copley Square Park Aug.16.

Limbo *49 Temple Place, Boston (338-0280). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
Maison Robert *45 School St. Boston, (227-3370). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Marché Caveau *The Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (578-9700). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
MDC Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston (727-1300).*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Colombus Ave., Boston (482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, Boston (267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
South Shore Music Circus *130 Sobier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400).*
Suffolk Downs *111 Waldemar Ave., East Boston (567-3900). MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*

advance seating

THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON

Anthrax and Judas Priest Oct. 10, Orpheum Theatre (931-2000).
Patti Austin Sept. 16, The Wang Theatre (800-447-7400).
Jimmy Buffett Aug. 30 and Sept. 1, Tweeter Center (931-2000).
Built to Spill and **The Dillusions** Sept. 17-19, Paradise Rock Club (423-NEXT).
Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds Oct. 3, Orpheum Theatre (931-[illegible]).
Joe Cocker and **The Guess Who** Sept. 14, Tweeter Center (931-[illegible]).
Neil Diamond Oct. [illegible], Fleet-Center (931-2000).
Ben Folds Sept. 15, Avalon (423-NEXT).



Built to Spill play Sept. 17-19.

Incubus Sept. 18, Avalon (423-NEXT).
k.d. Lang and **Tony Bennett** Aug. 30, FleetBoston Pavilion (931-2000).
Lloyd's Blues Music Festival with **B. B. King, Lee Ann Womack, Buddy Guy** and **Tommy Castro** Sept. 11-12, FleetBoston Pavilion (931-2000).
John Mellencamp, The Wallflowers and **Will Hoge** Sept. 13, Tweeter Center (931-2000).
moe. Sept. 14-15, Orpheum Theatre (931-2000).
Sonny Rollins Sept. 15, Berklee Performance Center (876-7777).
Kelly Smith Sept. 13-15, Sculler's Jazz Club (562-4111).
3 Doors Down Sept. 22, Foxboro Stadium (931-2000).

classical music

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15

WCRB's Concert Series
MDC Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. The Longwood Symphony performs, featuring students from the Walnut Hill summer program of the Foundation for Chinese Performing Arts.

THURSDAY, AUG. 16

Soprano Doris Maron and Pianist William Merrill
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. Maron and Merrill perform works by Bellini, Donizetti, Chopin, Rorem, Barber, Gershwin and others.

Vocal and Instrumental Chamber Music Concert
Tanglewood, The Theatre, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. This performance of vocal and instrumental music is part of the Tanglewood Music Center's summer lineup.

FRIDAY, AUG. 17

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. Bernard Haitink conducts the orchestra. Featuring pianist Richard Goode. A preview is held at 6pm in Ozawa Hall.

SATURDAY, AUG. 18

Boston Chamber Music Society
Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (349-0086). 8pm. $22. The String quartet performs works by Mozart, Brahms and Chausson.

Boston Symphony Orchestra and Tanglewood Festival Chorus
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. Bernard Haitnik and John Olivier conduct Stravinsky and Ravel. An open rehearsal is held at 10:30am in the Shed, with a pre-rehearsal talk at 9:30am.

Concerts in Boston Parks Series
Boston Common, Boston (520-2200). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 8pm. Free. (Rain site: Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston.) The Boston Landmark Orchestra presents The Baroque Concerto, featuring works by Bach, Vivaldi, Torelli, Pachelbel and Handel.

WCRB's Concert Series
Keiter Center at the Walnut Hill School for the Performing Arts, 12 Highland Ave., Natick (332-7011). 7:30pm. See Aug.15 for details.

SUNDAY, AUG. 19

Concert in Boston Parks Series
Jamaica Pond, Jamaica Plain (520-2200). MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. 4pm. Free. See Aug.18 for details.

Jazz Evening at Tanglewood
Tanglewood, Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $14-$78. Pianist André Previn and Double Bassist David Finck perform.

Leonard Bernstein Memorial Concert
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. $14-$78. The Tanglewood Music Center Orchestra performs works by Bernstein and Berlioz. Gianluca Cascioli is the featured pianist, and Roberto Abbado conducts.

MONDAY, AUG. 20

Boston Pops Concert
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. $14-$78. Keith Lockhart conducts a program that includes selections from the Pops' Latin repertoire. The show has a special appearance by the Mexican group Mariachi Cobre.

Summer Sings with Chorus pro Musica
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Copley Square, Boston (267-7442). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30pm. $8, including refreshments. The public is invited to sing Mozart's *Requiem* with the choir.

TUESDAY, AUG. 21

Janus 21 Chamber Music Festival
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (931-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $21. Tonight's program, Contrasts in Time, features works by Bartok, Loeffler, Holst and Messiaen.

Noon Hour Recitals at King's Chapel
School and Tremont streets, Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15pm. $2. Organist Heinrich Christensen performs the music of Mendelssohn and Pergolsi, with Holly Loring, soprano, and Shannon Bulls, mezzo-soprano.

Summer SOULstice
Christian Science Plaza, Huntington Ave. and Belvidere St., Boston (450-7048). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. 10:30am. Free. This performance features a children's interactive dance performance and drumming concert.

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 22

Concert of Romantic Piano Works
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. Pianist Alfred Watson performs Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Schubert, Debussy, Scriabin and original compositions.

WCRB's Concert Series
MDC Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. The Air Force Band of Liberty performs.

FRIDAY, AUG. 24

All-Mozart Program
Tanglewood, The Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. Donald Runnicles conducts the Orchestra of St. Luke's and pianist Peter Serkin in a medley of Mozart pieces.

Prelude Concert at Tanglewood
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 6pm. $14-$78. The Concord Trio and members of the Tanglewood Music Center perform.

SATURDAY, AUG. 25

Boston Chamber Music Society
Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (349-0086). 8pm. $22. The ensemble performs Mozart's *Divertimento for String Trio in E Flat Major* and Dvorak's *Piano Quartet in E Flat Major.*

Israel Philharmonic Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. Zubin Mehta conducts and violinist Vadim Repin performs. They will present Tchaikovsky's *Violin Concerto* and Mahler's *Symphony No. 5.*

SUNDAY, AUG. 26

Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and Tanglewood Festival Chorus
Tanglewood, Seiji Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 2:30pm. Zubin Mehta conducts Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9.*

MONDAY, AUG. 27

Summer Sings
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Boston (267-7442). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7:30pm. $8, including refreshments. Tonight's featured music is Verdi's *Requiem.* See Aug. 20 for details.

TUESDAY, AUG. 28

Noon Hour Recitals at King's Chapel
School and Tremont streets, Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Fiddlefest V: Cathy Goode and Louis Kaplan perform.



Bernard Haitink conducts the BSO Aug. 17.

TOP LEFT: AENGUS MCMAHON; BOTTOM RIGHT: CLIVE BARDA

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is an Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Weds.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+. Thu.: Catch some live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ sensation Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins retro house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.


***Stop Kiss*, a tragicomedy, shows at the Boston Center for the Arts until Aug. 25.**

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life. Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance. Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis; •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night; •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. Chic celebrates Markus' big birthday Aug. 14. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar; •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance; •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy; •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

BiCamp 2001
Northampton (424-9595). www.biresource.org. *Aug. 16-20. $15-40. (sliding scale).* Missing the great outdoors and those late-night skinny-dipping sessions? The Bisexual Resource Center is hosting a weekend of camping out. You provide your own tent, food, transportation; they provide the bathroom facilities.

Encounters Supper Club for HIV+, Gay and Bisexual Men
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (236-1012, 255). Aug. 21, 6:30pm. Free, reservations required. Evening of appetizers followed by candlelit dinner that offers sober, comfortable alternative to bars for meeting other HIV+/gay men.

Gay Spirit Camp
Easton Mountain Retreat, 391 Herrington Hill Road, Easton, N.Y. (800-553-8235). Through Sept. 3. A new retreat founded by Bostonian John Stasio, this trip offers a variety of community-building and mind-body programs to help gay men recognize and celebrate their talents.

Stop Kiss
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Aug. 9-25. $15. This tragicomedy performed by Erinys offers a provocative glimpse at how two women unexpectedly fall in love and how an act of violence transforms their lives in a way they could never anticipate.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (499-9433). Every first Tuesday, 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (338-5305). Third Saturday of each month, 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with hiking, biking, camping, skiing and other outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Coming Out Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). A short-term (10-12 week) group for men and women to discuss coming out.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Down Low
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6235). First Friday of each month, 7-9pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Dykes Who Hike
(522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. An ongoing group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (822-2148). Sundays, 6pm. $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(423-6881). Sun., 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Long Yang Club
(825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(363-0029). www.OuttoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
Fenway Community Health Center, 7 Haviland St., Boston (547-2440). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every fourth Monday, 6:30pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects like making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENT

Psychic and Intuitive Healing
John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place, Boston (781-891-8696 or 781-899-0648). Aug. 16, 7-10pm. $125. Learn how to activate your innate healing abilities by exploring the concepts of energy and emotions, considered to be the bridges between the conscious and subconscious mind.

Put Some Fire Under Your Tush Through Fire Walking
Fire Dancers, Hopkinton (508-435-7876). Aug. 18, 3-11pm. $85. Move past your fears and limiting beliefs to awaken your full potential as a soul incarnated on the planet Earth. Walking on hot coals (with the assistance of certified firewalking instructors) will dramatically and positively change you.

CLASSES

Befriend Your Angels
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Aug. 18, 1-4pm. $31.* Since ancient times people have told stories of angels. Learn the history of what we believe angels are and modern methods for accessing your own guardian angels through meditation.

Feelings Swallowed Are Never Digested
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Aug. 17, 7-9pm. $15.* Storing suppressed emotions adds toxicity to your system. Illness is the body's attempt to expel the accumulated toxins. Before you get another cold, learn how to release and heal toxic emotions with meditation and essential oils.

How to Talk to Angels
The Kabbalah Centre, 2001 Beacon Street, Brighton. (492-9267 or 877-525-2773). www.kabbalah.com. *Aug. 20, 6:30 or 7:30pm. $35.* Learn to communicate with angels and how it relates to the Kabbalah. A free introductory seminar begins at 6:30pm, and the featured lecture begins an hour later.

Past Life Regression—Charting Your Soul's Journey To Wholeness
Center for Balance, 857 Washington St., Newton (527-0247). MBTA: Bus lines #553, 554, 556. www.centerforbalance.org. *Aug. 17, 7-8:30pm.* Tap into your past lives and retrieve knowledge that may help you understand yourself today. **Karen Garrett** will lead this meditation session.

RETREAT

Dance Vision Festival
50 Glenwood Ave., Falmouth, Mass. (508-495-3311). www.pages.prodigy.net/stevenmalkus1/fal.htm. *Aug. 24-26.* This retreat is worth the wait in traffic. The spirit-dance community presents workshops and performances related to the concept of dance as a form of spiritual practice. Workshops offered include Creative Movement, Sacred Dance Circles and West African Dance and Drum.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detoxification
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (927-6200). Daily during walk-in hours. If you want to break the cycle of substance abuse, try acupuncture.

Astanga Focus Class
Metropolitan Fitness, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (927-2274). www.bostonfitness.com. *Wed., 6pm.* This 30-minute yoga class with **Marc McDonald** will focus on one or two Astanga postures each week. Great for beginners as well as advanced students who want to perfect their postures.

Contact Improvisation Jam
YWCA, 7 Temple Street., Cambridge (320-9792) MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 8-10pm. $7-$10. Join three fantastic movement teachers, **Gene Broadway**, **Amy Dore** and **Patrick Crowley**, in a workshop that is freeing, exciting and an enjoyable way to dance with others.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (497-8041). Fri., 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like and to all kinds of music, in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.



Retreat to the Dance Vision Festival Aug. 24-26.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a nonviolent martial art for peace and protection. This practice takes place outdoors.

Drop In Yoga
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St., Church of Our Savior, Brookline (277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm. Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class for a powerfully peaceful time.

Early Morning Yoga
Roni Brissette, 57 Waverley St., Brookline (738-9561). Wed., 6:30-7:30am. Call to register. You'll be feeling so energetic and peaceful after some early morning yoga that you won't even need coffee. All levels welcome.

Healthy Practices
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http:// dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *First Tai Chi class is free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Check these classes out: •Tai Chi lunch hour: Tue./Fri., 12:30-1:30pm •Kung Fu: Wed., 5-6pm •Taoist Qi Gong: Tue., 7-8pm •Tai Chi and Self Defense: Tue., 8-9pm.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are open to and appropriate for anyone seeking or already on a personal spiritual path.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover a stress-reducing exercise that enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-$18. Call ahead.* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Call ahead. Drop in on any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17 per session. Join anytime or drop in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar, plus Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork and family relaxation classes.

Yoga/Harvard Square
Portia Brockway in Cambridge (864-YOGA). www.yogainharvardsquare.com. *MBTA Red Line to Harvard.* Eight weekly yoga classes in a moderate flowing style for the following groups: regular, prenatal and postnatal.

Zen Insight
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Auburn St., Cambridge (576-3229). MBTA: Red to Harvard. www.cambridgezen.com. *Mon., 7pm.* If you've had a trying Monday, try this drop-in meditation session and get back to the center of your being.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). Thursdays and Fridays, 8pm. Through October. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts his life in Revolutionary Boston.

Gingerbread Boy and Parachute Express
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Route 128, exit 19, Beverly (232-7200). •August 17, 9:30am and 12pm. $10-$12. The Gingerbread Players and Jack will be performing Elsa Rael's classic *Gingerbread Boy.* •August 24, 9:30am and 12pm. $11.50-$13.50. *Parachute Express* presents music in a kid-friendly performance that appeals to all ages.

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Saturdays, 12pm. Staff members read from the best of new and classic children's books. •Aug. 25: *Miss Spider's Tea Party.*

Borders Explorers Camps
151 Andover St., Peabody (978-538-3003). Saturdays, 11am. •Aug. 25: Kids can combine science and fun with the book *The Chemistry of Slime* and experiments led by chemistry professor Dr. Pat.

Boston by Little Feet
Samuel Adams Statue at Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (367-3766). Saturdays and Mondays, 10am; Sundays, 2pm. This tour, especially designed for ages 6-12, caters to young walkers. The Freedom Trail's architecture and history are explained.

City of Boston Summer Clinics
Boston Parks and Recreation (625-4505). No preregistration is required. Call for details. Ages 6-14. During the month of August there are tons of summer clinics and workshops for children. Participate in wheelchair basketball clinics, take double dutch lessons or learn to play lacrosse, football, baseball, basketball or softball.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tuesdays, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of storytelling fun.

Corn and Tomato Festival
Verill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). Aug. 18-19, 12-4pm. $2. This two-day festival features an all-you-can-eat sampling of 8 to 12 varieties of corn and more than 25 varieties of tomatoes. Enjoy music, hay rides and live animals.

Mask-Making Workshop
Boston Public Library, Charlestown Branch, 179 Main St., Charlestown (242-1248) Aug. 15, 4:15pm. Each child can design and create an original mask and learn about the role of masks in various cultures.

Modern Manners for Children
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520) Aug. 25, 9-10:30am. $35. Learning manners is fun with puppet Catherine the Mannerly Cat and her owner, Jeanne Comeau of the Etiquette School.

Museum of Our National Heritage Children's Program
33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). Aug. 29, 2pm. $6-$8. Jim Parks presents *Birds of Prey*, Learn about the role of eagles, hawks, falcons and other birds in Native American art and lore.

Southwick Zoo
Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). Aug. 27, 10-11am. $4. Children can learn about the ways animals adapt to life in the wild.

Summer SOULstice
Christian Science Plaza, 200 Mass Ave., Boston (450-7319). •Aug. 21, 11am-1:30pm: A storyteller from the Boston Public Library will be followed by a participatory drumming show, balloon making and face-painting.

Swim with the Sharks
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). Aug. 18. $7-$13 for aquarium admission. This day is dedicated to learning about all varieties of shark.

Whale Watches
Boston Harbor Cruises, 1 Long Wharf, Boston (727-7676). Through October. $23-$29. Ride in comfort in a high-speed catamaran that transports passengers to the whales in half the ususal time.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Breakers
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 617-931-2222
Aug. 22, 2pm: WUSA Championship Game

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
Aug. 15, 7:05pm: Seattle Mariners
Aug. 16, 7:05pm: Seattle Mariners
Aug. 17, 7:05pm: Baltimore Orioles
Aug. 18, 5:05pm: Baltimore Orioles
Aug. 19, 1:05pm: Baltimore Orioles

New England Revolution
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 877-GET-REVS
Aug. 18, 4pm: D.C. United

Events

Galactic Tennis Party and Barbecue
Beren Tennis Center, 65 N. Harvard St. (923-8510) www.galactictennis.org. *Aug. 18-19. $50.* If you're a wannabe Sampras or Venus, this tourney will allow you to test your mettle in four matches over two days. In addition to the men's and women's singles, doubles and mixed doubles action, there will be a barbecue on Saturday night, breakfast and lunch on both days, a raffle and a fastest serve contest. You'll love-love it.

Bill Littlefield Talks About *Prospect*
The Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520). Aug. 22, 7pm. $25 for Learning Society members; $35 non-members. Littlefield, host of National Public Radio's *It's Only a Game*, will talk about his book, *Prospect*, which is now out in paperback. The story deals with a retired baseball scout who finds himself thrust back into the action when he finds one last prospect.

Women in Technology International Best Ball Golf Tournament
Stow Acres Country Club, 58 Randall Rd, Stow, MA (978-889-1446). www.witi.com/boston *Aug 22, 8am-4pm. $130 for members, $150 for non-members.* Tee off with the women of the Boston Chapter of Women in Technology International at their first Annual Best Ball Golf Tournament . Prizes will be given to the top golfers. The day will also include lunch and networking.

BSSC Rafting Trips
(789-4070) www.bssc.com. *Trip 1: Deerfield River. Aug. 18-19. $195 for members, $225 for non-members. Trip 2: Rouge River, Montreal. Aug. 24-26. $270 for members, $300 for non-members.* On the first trip, join the Boston Ski and Sports Club for two days of rafting and tubing on the raging Deerfield River. The trip includes lunch on Sat. and breakfast on Sun. If you're looking for a little international flair and nightlife with your rafting adventure, the Montreal trip includes two nights in a downtown hotel.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players age 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practices Sunday at 11am.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through August. Men's and women's divisions are open.

BSSC Basketball
(789-4070). Coed year-round basketball at all levels. Leagues meet in Watertown, Brookline and Waltham. Teams and individuals welcome.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur, Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hour (two-hour minimum). $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FLOOR HOCKEY

Boston Ski and Sports Club
(789-4070). www.bssc.com. Coed year-round floor hockey. All levels. Leagues held in Newton. Individuals and teams welcome.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Outdoor Flag and Touch Football
Boston Ski and Sports Club in Brighton (789-4070). Play coed flag or touch football this fall. You can sign up individually or with a group of friends.

HIKING/ WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (499-4835). www.angelfire.-com/ma/ bostonhhh. Weekly runs year-round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

SOCCER

Boston Ski and Sports Club
(789-4070, ext. 225). Coed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club. (789-4070). Sun.-Thu. $5 members, $10 non-members. Open coed play on Tuesday and Friday in Newton. Coed teams forming now for fallleagues in Cambridge, Brookline, Watertown and Newton.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/ MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Community Boating is the largest and oldest nonprofit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for $190 per season, including instruction.



On Aug. 18 the Boston Ski and Sports Club hits the Deerfield River for rafting and tubing.

TOP RIGHT: PAUL TANCREDI

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and 12-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir, bus 51. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.



Trinity Church is dwarfed by the John Hancock.

Big Brothers
(956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Be a friend to a young girl. Info sessions: Aug. 16, 6-7pm; Aug. 22, 12-1pm.

Boston Cares
(263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge Cares about AIDS
(661-3040, ext. 13). Weekly volunteers needed to help at the front desk.

Community Servings
(445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(287-1900). Play with homeless children in shelters. Training session: Aug. 14-15.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(558-6585). Share fun times with an isolated senior, help in a shelter or food program or mentor a child.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

One with One
(254-1691). Aug. 21, 29; Sept. 6. Tutor an immigrant in English in preparation for the American workplace.

Pine Street Inn
(521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

Safe Harbor for Animals
(625-7332). Volunteer at this Somerville cat shelter.

SafeLink
(521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Steppingstone Foundation
(423-6300, ext. 226). Be a Saturday mentor to academically motivated teens.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.



Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Colleen H.
If you are out there, please call me! We all miss you and want to see you. I am not mad at you, nor do I hate you. Please call me—I am listed! You can even call collect if you need to. Your family misses you!
—Meredith

On the D Line Outbound
During rush hour: It was brutally hot and crowded. The train lurched and bucked like some sick animal. You stood in the middle part that pivots, wearing a black dress and some kind of silver jewelry. I stood a little in front of you, buried in a book. We made brief eye contact a few times, but I was too shy to say anything. I remember you stumbled on your way to a seat. I asked if you were OK and said "It's a rough ride today." Your eyes and smile were enchanting. I'd love to see them again. Maybe over lunch or coffee?
—pat.holland@littlebrown.com

Shane
I know you through Lauren, whom you went to college with. I've actually hung out with you, her and some friends. However, since then I have seen you at Cactus Club, Tia's and most recently on July 20 walking down Boylston St. I wanted to stop and see where you were going but we were in the middle of the street. Anyway, I am leaving in a few months for a year and I'd like to get together, so if you see this e-mail me.
—laurensfriend14@hotmail.com

Roomie
You moved in one year ago. History has repeated itself. I had a crush on you and I knew you liked me too. I saw you staring at me in my flowered shorts. We exchanged stories at the Behan about rodeos, mechanical bulls and life lessons. You've made it clear you are "Mommy's 'Lil Monster" but I want you anyway! The crush is no longer just a crush, I thought you should know! Let's move together.
—J

Saratoga Street
July 28, East Boston: I overheard someone call you Duffy (nickname?). I noticed you right away but two things stopped me from coming over to you and introducing myself. 1) I'm shy. 2) You were occupied by someone else in a denim skirt and black tank top (friend or girlfriend?). If you are curious and want to talk, e-mail me. Hope to hear from you!
—interestedinu333@hotmail.com

Ragin'
Aug. 1, 9pm, D-Line. "RAGE" T-shirt: Hey there, you were reading THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN when I got on at Waban. You: Black T-shirt, "RAGE" printed in red, black jeans, black sneakers, leather arm band, spiky black hair, goatee, fiddling with an industrial-strength bottle opener—Mark McGrath without the (visible) tattoos. Me, goatee/mustache, brown/gray hair, dressed way too preppy that night, sitting across from you and trying not to stare. I was too shy to do much more than smile at you and hope you'd say hi. Then the gang of girls got on, and I got off at Fenway. Were you smiling back? Could you possibly be gay? Could you possibly be interested? If you read this and remember, drop me a line!
—BrigCircMn@aol.com

Writer's Block
You: Thin, blond, green dress, sitting with your feet in the fountain. Me: early 20s, clean-cut, short blond hair, tie, doing the same. You spent nearly half an hour writing in a notebook, flipped back through it, and then tore out the pages and crumpled them up. I couldn't help but laugh. I have been there! You looked around and gave a smirk either to me or someone behind me and decided just to read instead. I had to leave to meet a friend, but I wanted to wish you luck.
—icannotbelieveiamdoingthis@hotmail.com

Orange Appeal
On the morning of Aug. 3, at about 7:55, you were on the Green Line T with me (I got on at Kenmore Square). I glared at you from across the car, and was totally dumbfounded by how cute you looked in your orange polo shirt and khakis. (I didn't know a guy could look so awesome in orange, I might add.) You looked at me also. I was the little blonde chick (hair pulled back) in the khaki capri pants and the red shirt, standing near the exit. Sadly, you got off at Copley, before I had the nerve to say hi! You brushed by me as you left, and I watched you go through the turnstile, hoping that maybe I would see you again on the T. So I say my hello now, cute boy in the orange polo shirt, and hope you see this and write to me. I would love to see what lies beneath that incredible smile and orange polo!
—Michelle, belletkd@aol.com

Bob
You asked for a final response and you deserve one. My silence has been in part due to changing my e-mail address because of your persistence. I check it once in a great while and find countless emails from you every time. I am counting my blessings I never gave you my phone number that night. You told me back in January that if I was going to be this way, you didn't want to see me. So why are you continuing to say, "Well, I still want to see you..." after eight months of my ignoring every e-mail you have ever sent me? Forget it, I don't want to know. Please. Listen to your friends. You deserve to be focusing on someone else more deserving of your attention. It's not me. Please don't e-mail me anymore, not even to acknowledge this. I won't open it. And I will continue to not respond. You asked me to finally tell you to stop. Stop.
—Me

Faint Memories
We both got on the T at Hynes Convention Center. It was hot! I fainted somewhere between Boylston and Park Street. It took me a couple of days to piece together the details, and it hit me that I never really said thanks. I think your name is Brandon and you were coming from a softball game. You and a doctor, who I think was named John, were so wonderful to hold my head, take my pulse, and keep the gang of BU orientation students and MBTA guys away from me until I could catch my breath. You walked me off the train, sat on the platform for a while and offered me your bottle of water. In this town full of heartless people, you have no idea how much your kindness meant to me. I would really like to thank you!
—faintingsarah@yahoo.com

Sox Fan at Cask N Flagon
It was Aug. 4 and you were with two of your friends. It was an afternoon game so I'm assuming you had just come from the game, like I did. We were in the not-so-crowded section of the bar. You had blond hair, you were wearing a grey T-shirt and brown leather sandals. You were at least 6', probably a little taller. Me: A "Cher" look-alike—tall, with long dark brown hair. We kept looking at each other, but neither of us had the guts to make the approach. You left before me and I was bummed. E-mail me if you want to meet for a drink. You like Bud, right?
—casknflagangirl@hotmail.com

Bagel
Thank you so much for making my 36th birthday the most memorable. Your thoughtfulness was above and beyond anything I could have ever imagined. I am looking forward to have many more memorable experiences with you for the rest of our lives. I love you for eva, eva and eva.
—Brisket

Rockie Horoscope



AUGUST 15 – 28, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
It's fun and games for lovable Lions, and not simply because it's the time of year to celebrate your inherent love of life. An infusion of physical energy and philosophical *je ne sais quoi* from passionate Mars in your house of pleasurable pastimes adds to the festive feeling. However, be prepared to face some resistance mid-month from an occasionally erratic partner while your sun ruler is opposing rebellious Uranus in your house of allies and enemies. This too shall pass, and sooner rather than later.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
The hazy, lazy days of summer didn't end when your Mercury ruler entered Virgo on the 14th, but it may have seemed that way. Once the planet of perception is back home in your sign, your mental faculties will be reenergized. You might even look forward to handling matters you've let slide. Putting your house in order—figuratively-speaking, the place can remain a mess—before your birthday actually arrives makes the kind of sense that satisfies the typical Virgo, but mystifies the rare procrastinators who subscribe to "later, rather than sooner."

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Artists and women, especially mother-hen types, can have a profound influence on your career or reputation this summer, but only until your Venus ruler leaves compassionate Cancer on the 26th. If you get upset by a colleague's inexplicable reaction to your work or the temporary withdrawal of group support—the sort of things that tend to happen when disruptive Uranus in your house of creativity is activated—seek counsel and comfort from a lady who is on top of the situation. She'll smooth things over.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Surprise! Letting pure, for-the-fun-of-it creative impulses run loose can lead to a spurt of income-producing activity. While the sun favors your Mars co-ruler in your money house, you'll be motivated by something other than a burning desire to pay bills on time. Somewhat bizarre vibes emanating from a sector of the family circle can seem like an invitation to visit. However, for the time being, sending money may do the trick. Consider going home for Thanksgiving, when your presence will have a greater effect.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
This is an excellent time to scratch the bites left by the travel bug. Your appetite for new experiences can become voracious while the spirited Leo sun favors adventurous Mars in your sign. Next month, when Mars moves on to Capricorn, you'll be busy making money and won't have the time or the inclination. But if you absolutely cannot manage to get away right now, start planning a major trip for next August, which is when Mars meets the Leo sun in your house of foreign cultures and distant horizons.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Other people's money: The area of your life currently being illuminated by the sun includes loans, grants, scholarships, insurance, tax refunds and whatever you can squeeze out of Grandma. Because there is an element of surprise attached to your financial dealings right now, don't impose limits if none exist. Hope for the best because other people are feeling quite friendly toward you. While amiable Venus is passing through your house of significant others, your adoring public will welcome you with open arms.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
All eyes are on Aquarians, who, like Mt. Etna, could erupt at any moment. For the next two weeks, you are subject to sudden, inexplicable mood swings and underlying tensions that'll become blazingly apparent while the sun opposes Uranus. You can add a partner's obsession with his or her self-realization to the list. As long as you keep your appreciation of the human condition, and sympathy for the devil, intact, all of the above is doable. Even though you're under a lot of pressure, you'll probably maintain your cool.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
It's August and the shrinks are on vacation. What are Fish supposed to do when unpredictable Uranus starts shaking up the house of your unconscious? Turn into a shark and upset the "normal" flow of daily life? You should be more reasonable and perceptive since Mercury entered Virgo on the 13th, even if this period of heightened rationality only lasts for two weeks. You could also connect to a young person who sees things differently than you, and from this whiz kid, learn a lot.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Since your batteries are being charged by the sun's rewarding trine to your Mars ruler, the Ram can instantly be transformed into the Energizer Bunny, raring to go and in it for the long haul. No matter what you hoped to achieve over the summer, now is the time to let those creative impulses loose and your love flow. But try not to cross a colleague in the process. A casual friend or a business acquaintance might become erratic and blow the plans you make sky high at the next new moon.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Even if the Leo new moon presents an unexpected career opportunity, home and the pleasure of spiffing it up is where your heart currently is. Expect to be conflicted. However, entertaining friends and family while you have the means will probably win out. Another chance to show your talents on the job will appear in about a month, after your Venus ruler completes her trip through Cancer and Leo, the signs of fun in the sun. And after you've had plenty of time to devote to what may well turn out to be your Summer of Love.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
You could succumb to the call of the wild and suddenly take off for places you've never, not even in your dreams, been before. The life-altering experiences that await you, the chance to be creative in another environment are temptations you'll find difficult to deny, especially if you're feeling the stodginess and bouts of anxiety that having Saturn in your sign can bring. After five months of stagnation, your relationship with a domestic and/or business partner will soon be revitalized.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
Thanks to magnetic Venus transiting your sign until the 26th, you'll attract an assortment of oddballs and adventurers, the kind of wildlife you usually manage to avoid. But since you're under Jupiter's protection this year, no harm should come from these dalliances and distractions, just fun and experiences that will expand your horizons. However, this week a financial matter may suddenly pop up, forcing you to make a spur-of-the-moment decision. Because the information could be incomplete, trust your intuition instead of the numbers.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 1021 N. Genesee, #1, West Hollywood, CA 90046. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.



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On Tuesday, July 31, The Big Bam Foundation and The Rack presented a Fashion and Music Slam. Darius Rucker, the former lead singer of Hootie & The Blowfish, rocked the house with a special guest appearance by Amy Correia. All proceeds will benefit The Big Bam Foundation, a volunteer driven organization that raises funding for uninsured women with breast cancer. The event was sponsored in part by The Improper Bostonian, Cointreau, Mix 98.5, Edelman Public Relations, *Self Magazine* and Wush.

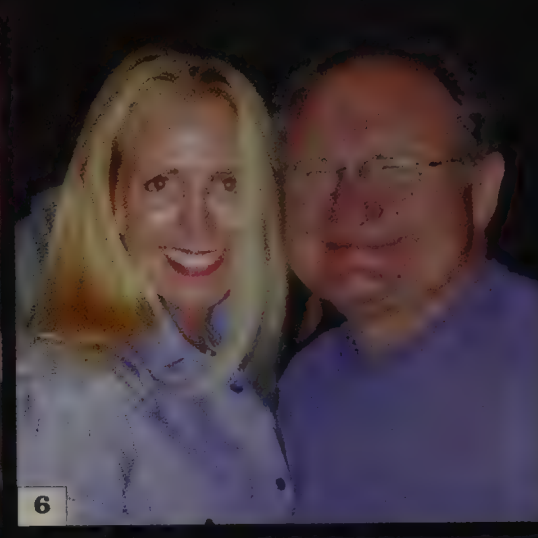

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1. **Janice Bonadio** of The Big Bam, **Kathleen Bradley** of *Self Magazine* and **Janet Wu** of Channel 7 News.
2. **Todd Mills** of Fidelity Investments with **Tim Chisholm** of M.F.S.
3. **Michael Gregorio** of Martignetti Companies with girlfriend **Lindsey Smith**, Click model.
4. **Laura Greer** of Rational Software, **Jean DiGiovanna** of Think People and **Lisa Bellamore** of House of Blues.
5. **Darius Rucker.**
6. **Karen Keaney** of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter with **Tom Kershaw**, owner of Cheers.
7. **John Ryan** of Remy Amerique, **Tanya Grammer** of Mix 98.5, **David Boyle** of Martignetti Companies and **Kristi Yesse** of Mix 98.5.
8. **Steve Levy** of ESPN, **Suzi Abruzzi** of DMB Consulting and **Errol Apostoloupoulos**, owner of The Place.



On Thursday, July 26th, The PMC Kayakers "TEAMRACK" hosted The Pan-Mass Challenge Kick-Off Party at The Rack to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. TEAMRACK is made up of the first ever Bostonians who've kayaked from Boston Long Wharf to Provincetown for the benefit of the PMC and Jimmy Fund Foundation. Congratulations to TEAMRACK on raising over $50,000 so far!

Paul Barclay, owner of The Rack, **Leon Semonian** of The Improper Bostonian; **Meredith Starr; Billy Starr**, founder of the PMC, **Heather Michalowski**, marketing director of The Rack; and **Stephen Walker** of Boston Harbor Cruises.

On Thursday, August 2, Boston Ski and Sports Club kicked off it's Membership Madness Month at Dick's Last Resort.


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1. BSSC members hanging out at Dick's.
2. BSSC staff **Patty DesMaisons, Katie Davis, Stacey Gordon** and **Cathy Batzer.**
3. BSSC members **Lisa, Kerri** and **Helena.**

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Improper Sightings

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Senator Chuck Poochigian of Fresno, Calif., checks out the definitive guide to Boston's most beloved bartenders.



Amy Lamontagne (left) and Patricia Baumer captured IMPROPER Bounty by driving a centauricar at Moxie Days in Lisbon Falls, Maine.



Alison Quill stopped for this photo in Saas Fee, Switzerland, where the Quills are alive with the sound of music.



Eric Douglas Keene went from Boston to Shangri-La—the Island Shangri-La hotel in Hong Kong, that is. Shangri-La is a remote, mythical place in James Hilton's 1933 novel *Lost Horizon*. Now you know.



WBZ talk-radio host David Brudnoy awaits his turn at one of Paris' internationally famous "toilettes." We don't speak much French, but we assume that it's one o' those little instant photo booths.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:

Swigging nitromethane as 10,000 horsepower tractors stand your Tennessee tophat on end at the National Tractor Pulling Championships, Aug. 17-19 in Bowling Green, Ohio.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

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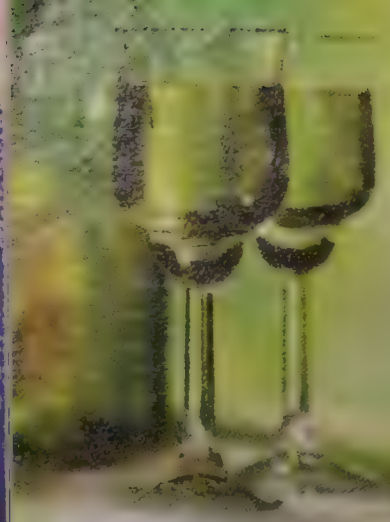
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Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week 11:30 am-2am.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston, MA 02110, 338-1000.* Five floors of world class dining and dancing offering a full complimentary limosine service to and from Boston hotels. Our renown Executive Chef Vittorio Paone and his staff of Italian regional chefs will make this a true dining experience. After dinner you will find yourself dancing to our diverse music style in our spacious world class nightclub.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) - 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1 95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

Mistral *223 Columbus Ave. 867-9300.* Acclaimed chef/owner Jamie Mammano's South End restaurant. The design is both elegant and informal, resonating with the ambiance of Provence. Mistral features a crisp linen dining room as well as a casual lounge and bar. Serving dinner Mon-Sun beginning at 5:30pm - 11pm. Late night menu served Thurs-Sat 11pm-12midnight. Reservations recommended-private dining available.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Science Street Cafe *Science Park, Boston, MA 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out the newest night spot--The Museum of Science. Try our one-of-a-kind martinis, gourmet appetizers and desserts, then tour the Museum or catch an Omni movie. $20 package includes one drink, one appetizer, Mugar Omni Theater ticket, Exhibit Hall admission and parking. 6-10pm at the Museum of Science.

Shenandoah Rest., Marketplace Cafe, Brewskellar Pub *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston 227-1272.* Located in the North Market Building of Faneuil Hall, Shenandoah Restaurant, The Marketplace Cafe, and Brewskellar Pub have something for everyone. Whether you're interested in a casual dinner on one of Boston's largest outdoor patios or the quiet more elegant surroundings of Shenandoah Restaurant, we offer it all. Having a function? We cater personally to all events you may be planning. Visit us soon and let us surprise you.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-9966.* A wonderful secret hidden in Boston's Financial District. The Vault offers contemporary American cuisine and an extensive and exclusive affordable wine list. Come in and enjoy creative dishes prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Lunch Mon. - Fri. from 11:30 am - 2:30 pm. Dinner Mon. - Wed. from 5:30 - 10:30 pm, Thurs. - Sat. from 5:30 - 11 pm. Closed Sun.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the Fleet-Center and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: Bobby Femino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ's nightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and worldclass margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a coworker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.

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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF

A CITATION FROM THE FASHION POLICE...

Buffy the Vampire Slayer, **Prince William** and **Jimmy Carter** are just three of the bold-faced names who have volunteered their time to help build low-income housing with **Habitat for Humanity**. And while none of them attended **Raisin the Roof**—the organization's midsummer fund raiser at the **Black Rhino**—the evening did attract a primarily young, impressively attractive, and almost uniformly fashionable crowd.

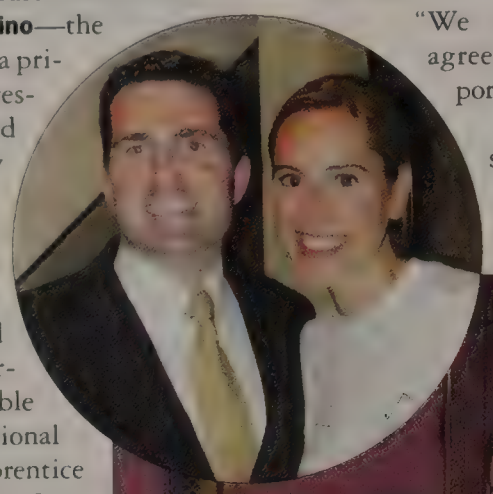
Spotted among the three floors of partiers (most of whom congregated on the rooftop terrace) were such notable scenesters as professional host **JJ Williams**; apprentice suburban Dad **Josh Gregory**; executive do-gooder **John Judge**; fashion maverick **Sonia Schwarz**; the vivacious and indefatigable **Sarah Stoddard**; stunning numbers cruncher **Avery Solomon**; corporate geisha **Amanda Martelo**; her dapper colleague, **Rich DiLonardo**; world traveler **Robyn Hale**; Mellon Financial madame **Holly Adorno**; Digitas monkey trainer **Jim Harrington**; comely gatekeeper **Catherine Wiedwald**; and one woman wearing what looked like a macramé plant holder from the 1970s.

"Does she own a mirror?" marveled another guest.

"I know!" said her friend. "I really think some night we should walk around and say to people like that, 'You obviously didn't look at yourself before you went out.'"

"We should," the other agreed. "It would be an important public service."

Which just goes to show that some people don't know when to stop being charitable.











At Raisin the Roof, from top: John Judge and Sonia Schwarz; Holly Adorno, Robyn Hale, Sarah Stoddard, Jim Harrington and Catherine Wiedwald; Josh Gregory and Scott Pope; JJ Williams; Avery Solomon, Rich DiLonardo and Amanda Martelo.

LE PLUS CA CHANGE...

It takes no small amount of artistry to attract a large, groovy, good-looking crowd to a charity fund raiser, especially during the dog days of summer. Which probably qualifies the **Art of July** as some sort of masterpiece.

An annual benefit for **Casa Myrna Vazquez**, the event is essentially a by-the-book (but by no means paint-by-numbers) art auction. It took place this year in the Venetian Room at the **Copley Plaza** (which, as one guest pointed out, is the only room in Boston where a bandstand shaped like a giant clamshell doesn't look a little too Disney).

Among the attendees: joie de lifeforce **Linda Schwabe**; flack extraordinaire **Sally Jackson**; improbably tall artist **Tom Cotton**; incorrigible advertising scamp **Duncan Hughes**; design avatars **Manuel de Santaren** and **Carolina Tress Balsbaugh**; the formidable **Billie Brenner**; frock designer **Denise Hajjar**; art dealer/provocateur **Kenn Gray**; precious-metal artist **Kate Jones**; M.C. Deejay **Charles Clemons**; the event's originator, **Randace Rauscher**; bachelor about town **Bob Palmer**; reprobate around town **Bob Gertsen**; venture capitalist **Paul Nechipurenko**; and others too numerous to mention but no less glittery and fabulous.

In between munching on little nibbly things, sipping cocktails and bidding on work by local artists, guests got the rare opportunity to catch up and compare summer plans.

A typical exchange:

"Are you going to Europe?"

"Not until all the Americans leave."

"So what are you?"

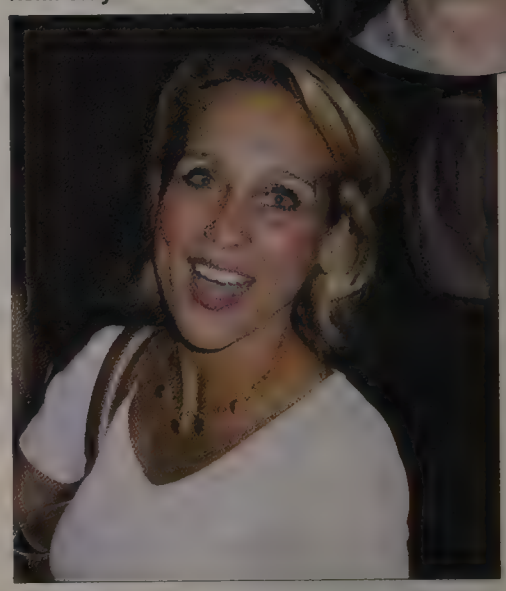
"American... But with delusions of Eurotrash." **iB**











At the Art of July party, from top: Mary Hinson, Randace Rauscher, Charles Clemons and Kate Jones; Linda Schwabe; Christine Didiuk and Kenn Gray.



At the Art of July, from middle inset: Duncan Hughes; Carolina Balsbaugh; Paul Nechipurenko and Bob Palmer; Tom Cotton.



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FALL FASHION

THE LOOKS THAT TURN HEADS

FASHION IMPERATIVES:
THE DESIGNS, HAIR,
SHOES AND BAGS
YOU MUST HAVE
THIS SEASON

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

SOROFF ON RANDY PRICE AND CATERINA BANDINI

PLUS

THREE TAKES ON THE NEWS BIZ

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contents

AUGUST 29-SEPTEMBER 11, 2001



23
We've got our eye on fall fashion. Below: The Sports Club/LA; WBZ's Sarah Underwood.

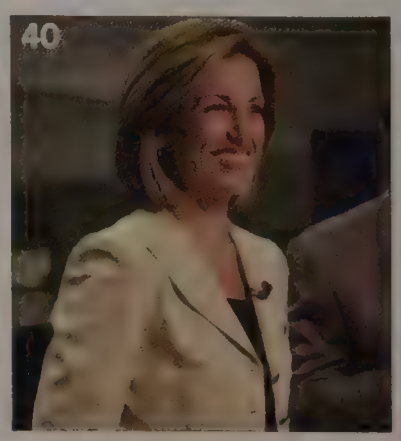
FEATURES

20 Soroff/On Randy Price and Caterina Bandini
We're the ones asking the questions now. Our intrepid inquisitor shines his hot lights on our fair town's current Numero Uno news team. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

23 Fall Fashion Preview
You can always employ Bill Blass' sage advice on accessories, "When in doubt, wear red." In any case, here we are with the most important information about fall fashion and all the attendant sorcery and dreams. Right? BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PLUS: Local painter Eric Kluin renders designer fall garments on canvas with bold lines and an understated palette. BY ERIC KLUIN

40 This Just In
Scot Yount, Sara Underwood and Tom Ellis are three Boston newscasters at different points in their career arcs. Are their lives in the news trade cautionary tales? Will we continue to be deluged by body-bag journalism? What makes Katie Couric want to hurl? Answers to all these questions and more...!
BY ROB AZEVEDO


10


40



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Bill Streicher**

Model: Joan Phillips/MMA
Hair Stylist: Ja'coall for Maksou
Dress available at Leila

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COLUMNS

10 The Word
Bobby from Boston, Elmo at risk, Sam Adams Light, men's haircuts and more.

14 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer immortalizes proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

16 E-Boston
The tech downturn moves the SEC to take a closer look at the influence of financial analysts on the market.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

18 Ezra
He's back. Back in the saddle again.
BY EZRA DYER

46 Mopsy
Weaving magic, lighting up your life and examining postwar America.
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

72 Film
Filmmaker Brad Anderson's next stops: *Session 9* and *Happy Accidents.*
BY PAUL SHERMAN

82 Music
Americana (that's music with banjo) from Nashville's BR549.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

108 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young, restless and you know...
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

48 Dining
Beacon Hill Bistro plants one more flag for French cuisine.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

50 Dish
Metro, Limbo in the Ladder District, Blu coming soon.
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

50 Wine
About must-have Muscat grapes.
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

51 Tastings
Don't-miss-or-else culinary events. Tasty Tidbits: Chefs on Hogs.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 53.
The 17th Annual Boston Film Festival • September Beer Banquet at Redbones • South End Open Studios • Out On the Edge Theater Festival • Scrapstock Music and Arts Festival • Notable Women: A Soirée

ET CETERA

Letters	8
Improper Impersonals	98
Rockie Horoscope	98
Improperazzi	104
Improper Sightings	106
Improper Shopper	100

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

TOP: BILL STREICHER; BOTTOM: MIKE MERGEN

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letters

CORRIDOR OF CONFUSION

My husband and I read your article on Boston neighborhoods in the August 15 issue with much interest. It was a great thumbnail view of what areas make up the city. However, as an 11-year resident of the South End, I'm puzzled by your description of the outdoor recreation listed for the South End in the "At-a-Glance Renter's Guide." I've never heard of the Northwest Corridor. I think it's the Southwest Corridor that you're referring to—the piece from Copley Plaza to Mass. Ave. Also, the last time I read any of the articles in the *South End News* on the subject, the fight to get a dog park is still a massive one between dog owners and others who aren't as dog-friendly for one reason or another. While I enjoyed the guide, I wondered how many other distorted facts were in it.

—CATHY G. NAIRNE
South End

AS AN 11-YEAR RESIDENT OF THE SOUTH END, I'M PUZZLED BY YOUR DESCRIPTION OF THE OUTDOOR RECREATION LISTED IN THE "AT-A-GLANCE RENTER'S GUIDE." I'VE NEVER HEARD OF THE NORTHWEST CORRIDOR.

—*CATHY G. NAIRNE*
SOUTH END

ON THE HOOK (AND LOOP)

We noticed the attached clipping, which unfortunately misuses the registered trademark VELCRO® [*The clipping was an old Ezra column that made a reference to wearing "Velcro shoes."*]. We are sure the misuse was unintentional, however, such an oversight can serve to weaken the identity and value of our VELCRO® hook and loop fastener trademark. We must ensure that the VELCRO® trademark continues to be used as a brand name for the products we manufacture—and not as a name for just any fastener. The VELCRO® trademark must modify the goods it distinguishes and because VELCRO® is a registered trademark, it needs to be easily distinguished from the rest of the printed text. If you mean to refer to our product, please capitalize the mark followed by the symbol "®," the word "brand" and the generic term "hook and loop fastener."

—JOYCE M. BELANGER
LEGAL ASSISTANT
Velcro Group Corporation

Editor's Note: *To avoid any confusion about what brand of hook-and-loop fastener system we're talking about, we shall henceforth make the trademark easily distinguishable from the rest of the text, as such: "Hey, Barry, have you tried jumping off the trampoline onto this wall of* **VELCRO®** *brand hook-and-loop fasteners?"*

FOOD FUN

I just read Ezra's article about nutrition in the last IMPROPER. Speaking of diet, health and food pyramids, the Oldways Preservation and Exchange Trust in Boston might be of interest to him. They are a non-profit food think tank involved in producing their own dietary food pyramids based on the some of the healthiest diets in the world, namely the Mediterranean, Asian/Pacific Rim and Latin American diets. Check them out. They hold numerous national and international conferences and trips throughout the year that deal with food habits, diets, culinary traditions, health, agriculture and related topics. It's a very interesting organization if you're into that sort of thing. And they work quite a bit with the Harvard School of Public Health. The article reminded me of them.

—JULIE DIMILLA
Via e-mail

I just thought that you should know that you cannot catch or develop diabetes from the diet you keep or excessive consumption of the foods you choose to eat. I have several relatives with diabetes and I can confirm that both types are hereditary. Otherwise, I thought that the rest of the article was funny.

—WILL SANDALLS
Via e-mail

Tell Us What You Think

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Letters to the editor must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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Bill Streicher has contributed to the fashion section of the IMPROPER's past three fashion issues. In the latest, he shot the cover and the fashion trend story on pages 32 and 33. Streicher has been in the business for years and works all over the country in editorial and advertising. Streicher is hardly ever in front of the camera, so here's a shot of him with (from left) our cover model, Joan Phillips for MMA; fashion editor Samantha House; and hairstylist Ja'coall of Maksou. More of Bill's work can be found at *www.billstreicher.com*.

ERIC KLUIN



Eric Kluin studied at Kalamazoo College and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. Working with pastels or oils on canvas, Kluin's pieces are defined by confident lines composed from a striking and often controversial palette. Represented by the Passions Gallery in Provincetown, Kluin's artwork has earned him a dedicated following in Boston, Miami and Los Angeles. A resident of Boston for the past 12 years, Kluin is a summertime fixture in front of Sonsie on Newbury St. and a year-round menace on his bike. Addicted to coffee and sunshine, Kluin is diverted by crossword puzzles and full-contact softball. Turn to "Painted Ladies" on page 24 to see more of his work, or visit his open studio at 43 Winter St., 4th floor, Sept. 16. Call 617-482-0825 for details.

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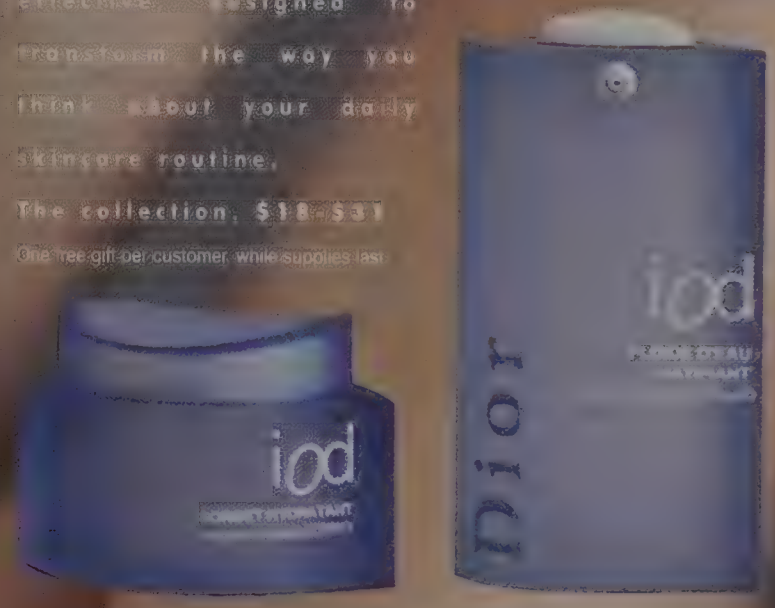
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FILENES

NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

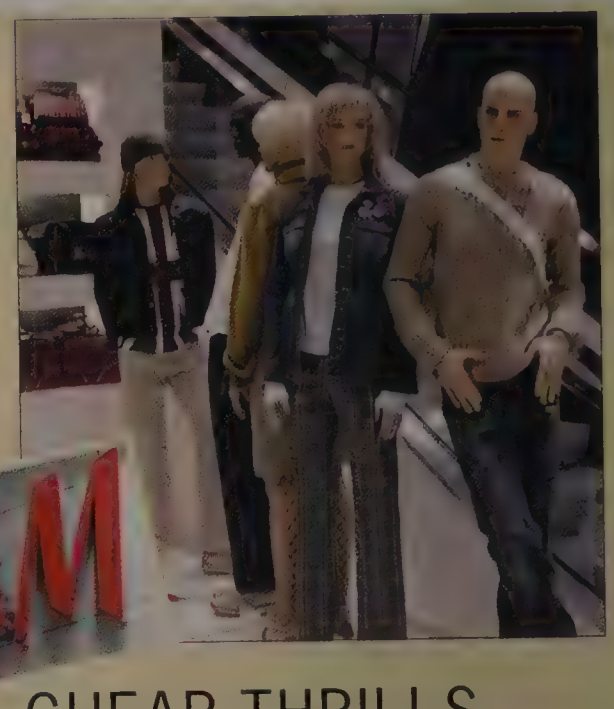
SWEATIN' IN STYLE





Before you dismiss a hefty $200-a-month executive gym membership (plus a $900 initiation fee), keep in mind that you're not paying for just any old gym membership—you're paying for the privilege of sweating in the Shangri-La of all gyms: The Sports Club/LA. The $200 a month gets you your own locker in a VIP locker room, free daily laundry service, three hours of free valet parking per day and charging privileges throughout the club.

It's a concept that could only originate in La La Land, and it just opened across from the Boston Common. But unfortunately, men, you're out of luck. Executive memberships have reached capacity (at 582), and there were only 79 spots left for women at press time. But the rest of us (with significantly smaller weekly budgets) can still get a regular membership for $120 a month. What does that get you? Everything you'd expect from a top-of-the-line gym and more: a 10,000-square-foot weight training gym, a full-court gymnasium for basketball, four squash courts, a lap swimming pool—and best of all—an amazing view of the city as you work out. Add a spa with rejuvenation therapies and hair and nail care, a rooftop sundeck, one-hour dry cleaning, inexpensive day care and Jody Adams and Michaela Larson's new restaurant, Blu, and you've got yourself an all-day outing. Obviously, this is in an entirely different category than most gyms in Boston. That's probably why Bobby Orr, Steven Tyler, Nomar Garciaparra and Nancy Kerrigan have already signed up.
172 Tremont St., Boston (617-375-8200).



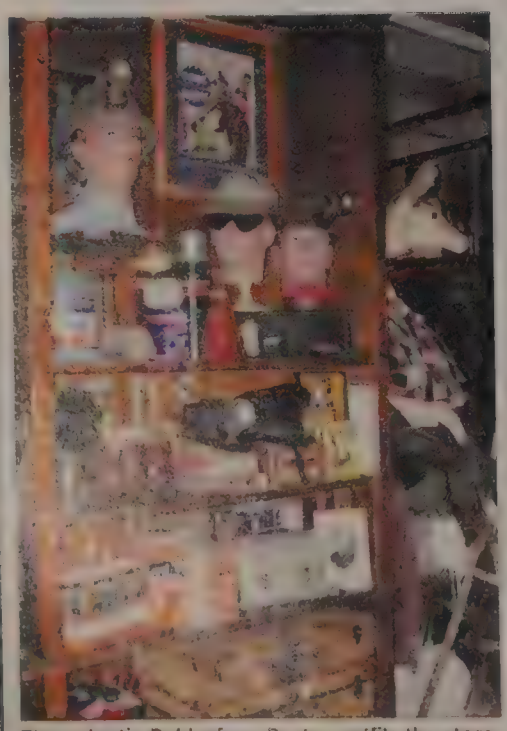
CHEAP THRILLS

If you've ever passed by H&M clothing store on 51st and Fifth Avenue in Manhattan and marveled at the line down the block—or braved the line only to play tug-of-war over a little black dress—then you know the significance of the following statement: H&M is opening its first Boston store in Downtown Crossing Sept. 7. Let the madness begin.

The clothing store has something of a cult following in NYC, where the scene is reminiscent of Filene's Basement's wedding-dress sale. What's the big deal? H&M sells current designs that are well-made and best of all—reasonably priced. Its collections of men's, women's and children's clothing are designed in-house exclusively for H&M (which stands for Hennes & Mauritz, a Sweden-based retailer). For $200, you can leave H&M with an entirely new wardrobe. *350 Washington St., Boston.*

ALL THE BUZZ

THE CELLULOID CLOSET



The eclectic Bobby from Boston outfits the stars.



Bobby Garnett, who made his bones in the vintage rag trade at his legendary store **Strutters** (once located at North Station, Provincetown and Newbury Street at various times), has been running **Bobby from Boston** by appointment out of his NOWA location on Thayer Street. For years a resource for local photostylists, Garnett's refined fashion sensibility has garnered him a production design clientele of major filmmakers—from Spike Lee to Martin Scorsese—not to mention designers at various Ralph Lauren brands. A repository of fashion history from the '30s to the '80s, Bobby carries men's and women's clothing and accessories from England also. We are told that Bobby merchandise will appear in the Muhammed Ali bio pic slated for a December release, as well as the **Russell Crowe** movie *A Beautiful Mind,* and **Tom Hanks** gangster flick. *19 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-9299). —Robert Birnbaum*

FOOD

GOOD LIGHT BEER?

Mmm, light beer. It's long been dismissed as the drink of choice for calorie-counters and lightweights. Not anymore, if Jim Koch, founder of Boston Beer Company, has his way. He's currently test-marketing Sam Adams Light, a lighter version of the classic, in Rhode Island and Maine.

But how does it differ from the other light beers already on the market? "It just tastes a whole lot better," says Koch, the brewmaster. "It's not like Wagner's music that's supposedly better than it sounds. Our beer is purely about how it tastes."

Apparently it's flying off the shelves. "People are driving to Rhode Island to find Sam Adams Light at a liquor store just over the Massachusetts border," says spokeswoman Sally Jackson.

We poured a tall one and found it to have a rich copper color and foamy head. But the taste? A heck of a lot better than we expected from a light beer. The taste testers we recruited from our staff gave it mixed reviews. Of course, every "It's good" statement they uttered was qualified by "...for a light beer."

Meanwhile, we're eagerly awaiting the arrival of Edison Light, a new brew developed by Koch's former partner Rhonda Kallman. Will Edison or Adams be the victor? Wait and see.
—Julie Short

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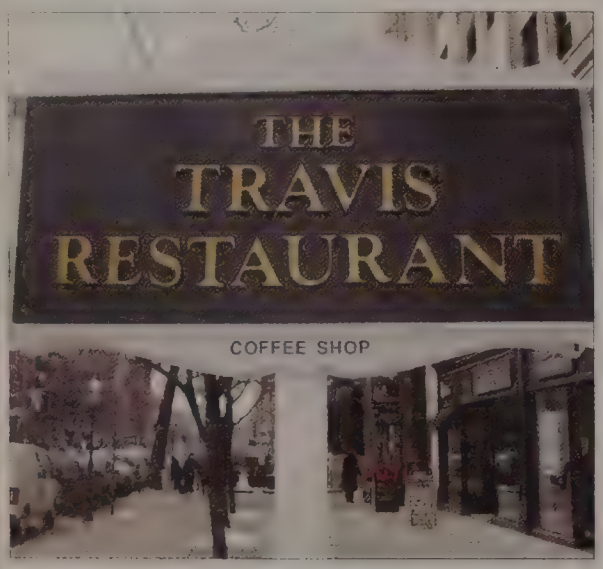
IMPROPER SPEAKING

BIG DIG TUNES, MAMBO MANIA AND MORE

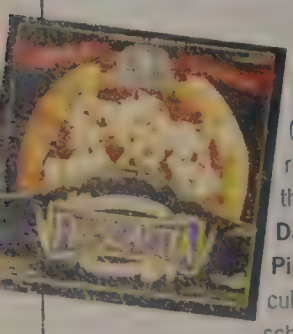


•Think you're the only one with Big Dig blues? The band **Dr. Watson Reid & Americana**, comprised of eight notable Boston musicians, felt so bad that they released a CD titled *The Big Dig*. Listen for the bluegrass-tinged ditty that bemoans the inconveniences of construction accompanying Big Dig updates on the local television news reports.

•After nearly 40 years on Newbury Street, **The Travis Restaurant** (next door to Winston's flowers) was shuttered last Christmas after the death of its only owner, Leo Travis. For years the object of numerous overtures to modernize (read: make lots of money), The Travis has withstood rumors that Charles Street's Paramount Cafe would be moving into the hallowed site. **Michael Bissanti,** owner of the **Paramount** (and the Blarney Stone in Dorchester), confirmed that the café will not be vacating Charles Street in favor of Newbury Street. But "we've got our eyes on the Back Bay and are looking to fill the void in the neighborhood." Bissanti is one of a multitude of applicants for the Travis space, according to Talanian leasing agent Tom Brennan. The coffee shop void will probably not be filled at the Travis since Brennan is favoring applications by upscale retail merchants.



•***Walking*** magazine has lost the pep in its step and closed its doors for good last week. According to editor-in-chief **Seth Bauer**, "When *Readers Digest* bought us in 1997, their intention was to own a large stable of medium-size magazines like ours. They changed management strategies and we became an orphan magazine within their operation." It's not all sad news, though. The staff likes working together so much that they're considering sticking together to create a new magazine.



•**Freschetta**, self-proclaimed innovator in the frozen pizza industry, called upon a Boston chef (and Italian native) to serve on its research and development team, the Freschetta Culinary Council. **Daniele Baliani**, formerly of **Pignoli**, traveled with four other culinary experts to Potenza's cooking school in Gubbio, Italy, where the quintet perfected three new recipes (including the margherita pizza, now available in supermarket freezers nationwide). "The exciting and fun aspect for me was that instead of making pizza for one, two or 10 people, I could literally make millions of them," Baliani says.



•Pack up your swing-dancing duds and break out the salsa shoes: We smell a hot trend here. The Middle East rock club has branched out again. Just after it began hosting punk-rock aerobics, it has become home to a new Mambo/Salsa Club that premieres Sept. 9. Headed up by choreographer Patric Lacroix, it features live Latin and Caribbean music by the Mackie Burnette Bands, and you can learn how to do such seductive dances as the mambo, salsa, rhumba and merengue. That's every Sunday at 1pm. Call 617-524-2763 for information.

•It's been a while since we checked in on the alchemical process taking place with **Howard Zinn**'s ***People's History of the United States*** film project (with considerable support from our friends **Ben and Matt**). As you may remember, first the boys brought the three-part miniseries based on the perenially popular Zinn history to Fox TV where, predictably, it languished. Then it was brought to HBO, where it is undergoing script development. The latest news is that Paul Lussier, author of the truly revolutionary novel Last Refuge of Scoundrels (and known as the "poor man's Gore Vidal"), has come on to write the screenplay for the Revolutionary War segment.

•**Top Drawer**, the popular Newbury Street boutique that has charmed Boston women with its pretty and sexy underclothes for 13 years, is closing its doors for good at the end of August. According to **Shannon Cragen**, the store's manager, the shop is feeling the squeeze from high rents, the slowdown in the economy and the growing presence of larger chains in that area. Meanwhile, just down the street, the newly opened **Lingerie Studio** is hoping to satisfy silk-searching shoppers with its wide selection of fine European brands. Excuse us while we slip into something more comfortable.

•Those of you thinking that Newbury Street was a microcosm of the dog-eat-dog world at large take heart. Armani Café, once a bustling lunchtime scene, has clearly been affected by the opening of **Serge Safar** and **Seth Greenberg**'s Scuzzi . Which makes it all the more kind and gentle that Seth continues to valet his rag top with the nice folks over at the cafe.

—Erin Hagedorn, Julie Short, Leah Gourley and Robert Birnbaum

IMPROPER REPORTS

A CUT ABOVE

Pricing men's haircuts around town

•**Supercuts**, 829 Boylston St., Boston (617-236-0310): **$12.95**
•**Hair Fx Studio**, 627 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-266-7030): **$25**
•**Daryl Christopher**, 37 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-0250): **$35-$75**
•**James Joseph Salon**, 168 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-7222): **$40-$60**
•**Gregory's Barber Shop**, 745 Boylston St., Boston (617-236-4885): **$48**
•**Mario Russo**, 9 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6676): **$50-$190**

SAM SAYS

EXTEND YOURSELF

Thanks to the pioneering efforts of **Gwyneth Paltrow**, hair extensions have hit the en vogue crowd and have become the quick alternative to the time-consuming process of hair growing. When *Jane* magazine cut off **Britney Spears'** hair at a cover shoot, she freaked out and quickly secured an even longer set of extensions. But for those of you who think hairpieces are just for the rich and famous—think again. I bought my locks at Venus cosmetics in Central Square (where the folks are very helpful to those who never dreamed they could buy hair in a bag) and applied them myself. I have also seen ponytails that you can buy at a kiosk at the Prudential for a mere $45—not bad for endless good-hair days. Or you can go to a salon to get them done. Konjo, Mario Russo and Maksou all have specialists who will affix a new do to your tired tresses for a reasonable price. *—Samantha House*



AROUND TOWN

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

This note was found on a staffer's windshield. The perpetrator expresses his sorrow at his mistake:

To Whom It May Concern:

Elmo abuse will not be tolerated. You should be ashamed of yourself! At least crack the windows or leave him in the shade. I mean, look at that painful expression on his face (not to mention that his color is fading). Please use better judgment in the future.

Yours truly,
Kermit the Frog



Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to *theword@improper.com*.

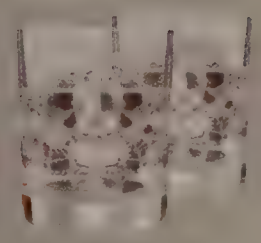
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Proper Bostonians BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The American Ireland Fund annual fund-raiser was held on Nantucket Aug. 18. The evening began at the home of George Cloutier before moving to a Patrons' Event at the home of Teresa Heinz and Senator John Kerry.

1. **Tim Shriver**, president and CEO of the Special Olympics; his wife, **Linda Potter**; **Senator John Kerry**; **Jeanne Shriver** and husband, **Mark**, Maryland candidate for U.S. Congress.
2. Former Ambassador to Portugal **Elizabeth Frawley Bagley** and her husband, **Smith Bagley**.
3. **Ted Kennedy Jr.** and his wife, **Kiki**.
4. **Mia Matthews**, **George Cloutier** and **Eileen Mielko**, co-owner of Mielko Gallery in Nantucket.
5. **George Albrecht**, president and CEO of Woburn Foreign Motors; **Martha O'Brien**, co-owner of K.C. Thompson New York; and **Doris Yaffe**, president of Doris Yaffe Associates.
6. **Jane Tracy** (l) and **Anne Finucane**, senior vice president of FleetBoston.
7. **Bob Matthews**, investor; **Pam McDermott**, consultant; her husband, **Terry**, attorney and partner at McDermott, Quilty and Miller and **Kingsley Aikins**, president and CEO of the American Ireland Fund.


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The opening reception for *A Studio of Her Own—Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* was held Aug. 14 at the Museum of Fine Arts.

8. **Annemarie Kerwin**, assistant chancellor at UMass Boston, and her husband, **Mark**, CFO of the MFA.
9. **Francine Weiss**, graduate student at Boston University; **Laura Muir**, assistant curator at the Busch Reisinger Museum; and **Michelle Lamuniere**, curatorial intern at the Fogg Museum.
10. **Mark Brock**, owner of Brock & Company in Boston and Carlisle; his wife, **Jennifer**, independent art consultant; and **George Shackelford**, chair of Art of Europe at the MFA.
11. **Erica Hirshler**, exhibition curator and author of *A Studio of Her Own—Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940*, and **Tom Hollister**, president and CEO of Citizens Bank.
12. **Blake Jordan**, vice president of public affairs for Citizens Bank and his wife, **Maryellen**, director of MBA program operations at Boston College.


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Talking a Lot of Bull

Financial analysts are taking the heat for the dot-com crash

There was a time when having "financial analyst" printed on your business card was a major status symbol. Analysts were the Armani-suited darlings of the financial world, appearing regularly on television to tout dot-com stocks that would hopefully turn us all into millionaires. Now it's the morning after, and suddenly it's a really bad time to be a financial analyst.

Since the dot-coms crashed, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has finally admitted what everyone inside the high-tech industry already knew—that some financial analysts, and the brokerage firms employing them, were talking up stocks in which they had a financial interest. In many cases, the analysts who were hyping the shares owned large quantities of founders' stock, often purchased at a fraction of the cost that the public paid. To make matters worse, some analysts were actually dumping their own holdings even as they were telling the rest of us poor schlepps to buy.

If you or I tried to pull that kind of stunt, we'd likely end up arrested. It's called "pump and dump," and it's got a long history in the annals of stock fraud. Traditional "pump-and-dump" operations are run out of boiler rooms full of telemarketers who use high-pressure sales tactics to get regular folks to buy a questionable stock. The resulting demand causes the stock price to rise, at which point the telemarketers sell their own shares, leaving the unsuspecting investors holding a portfolio of Turkish lira.

Until recently, however, the SEC has focused its attention on the con artists and stayed away from anyone who had a fancy suit and a fancy title. No longer. In August, Laura S. Unger, acting chairwoman of the SEC, testified before Congress that conflicts of interest run "deep and wide" among analysts at almost all of the nation's largest brokerage firms. The SEC may even haul some analysts into court.

The ire of the SEC can't be taken lightly. The powerful government agency has come down increasingly hard on individuals who try to manipulate stock prices. Take the case, for example, of Jonathan Lebed, a 15-year-old New Jersey teen who posted his positive opinions, multiple times, about the stocks that he was holding. His postings created incredible buzz about his stocks, which he almost always sold at their peak price. The SEC, however, didn't approve—nor did it go easy on Lebed because of his age. The young market manipulator was forced to pay back $285,000 of his earnings.

The SEC also came down heavily on 26-year-old Gary D. Hoke Jr. He posted a fake *Bloomberg* story saying that his employer, PairGain Technologies, was about to be acquired and then referred to the posting in a Yahoo chat room. The news caused the stock to jump from $8.50 per share to $11.25. For this trick, Hoke was sentenced to five months of home detention, five years of probation and ordered to pay $93,000 to people who lost money because of the hoax.

THE IRE OF THE SEC CAN'T BE TAKEN LIGHTLY. THE POWERFUL GOVERNMENT AGENCY HAS COME DOWN INCREASINGLY HARD ON INDIVIDUALS WHO TRY TO MANIPULATE STOCK PRICES.



The Lebed and Hoke cases are significant because both defendants were strictly small-time operators, whose damage to the market was limited. The financial analysts, on the other hand, were not only posting their opinions on highly-regarded financial Web sites, but were also appearing on national television, influencing literally millions of investors to purchase stocks that the analysts knew were essentially worthless. The scope of the deception is so much greater that the SEC may feel that stiffer penalties are in order.

SEC officials aren't the only folks who are mad as hell. Earlier this month, the law firm of Lovell Stewart LLP, filed a class-action lawsuit on behalf of the holders of various hyped-up technology stocks. The lawsuit targets the most prestigious firms in world, some of which have their roots in the Boston area: Credit Suisse First Boston; Goldman Sachs; Merrill Lynch; Pierce, Fenner & Smith; Morgan Stanley Dean Witter; BancBoston Robertson Stephens; and Salomon Smith Barney.

The complaint alleges that defendants violated the federal securities law and artificially inflated prices by systematically issuing research reports that never discussed how brokerage firms put extraordinary pressure upon analysts to issue favorable recommendations so that the brokerage could earn extra fees. The lawsuit also echoes the SEC's concerns that analysts were holding stocks in the companies that they were covering and that those shares were often acquired at a fraction of the price that public investors later paid.

Not surprisingly, some analysts and brokerage firms are running scared. Credit Suisse and Merrill Lynch have both issued directives that prohibit analysts from owning stocks of the companies they cover. And Goldman Sachs now makes its analysts disclose ownership stakes in companies they research.

Goldman Sachs may be underestimating the threat, though. Christopher Lovell, the senior partner bringing the class-action suit, was lead counsel or co-lead counsel in some of the largest class-action recoveries in history, including $1 billion in a NASDAQ antitrust case and a $145 million judgment against mega-firms that conspired to manipulate the worldwide copper market. When the class-action suit against the analysts finally comes to court, they just might get their Armani-suited butts kicked. iB

Geoffrey James *(www.geoffreyjames.com)* is the author of numerous articles and books on high-tech business and technology.

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1998	BMW	M3	Blue/Gray	$28,900.00
1998	BMW	740iL	Black/Black	$28,900.00
1998	BMW	528I sport	Black/Black	$27,900.00
1998	BMW	M3 convt	Black/Black	$28,900.00
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1997	BMW	z328	Black/Black	$23,900.00
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2000	M-Benz	S430	Navy Blue/Gray	$54,900.00



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1998	M-Benz	ML320	Green/Beige	$25,900.00
1997	M-Benz	E320	Black/Tan	$24,900.00
1995	M-Benz	SL500	Green/Beige	$29,900.00
1999	Porsche	911 convt.	Red/Tan	$62,900.00
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Ezra BY EZRA DYER



Polo-rized

Lesson No. 1: Only dorks play polo in Polo shirts

I don't want to brag, but I'm something of an accomplished horseman. My formative years were spent riding a snorting, untamed steed. Her name was Miss Piggy, and she was a very mean pony.

I was 4 years old the last time I rode Miss Piggy. One second she was plodding along next to my mother; the next she decided in her little pony brain that I was ready for a hell ride. She bolted, and I got to use a word I'd just learned on *Sesame Street*: help. I held on until my dad brought Miss Piggy's rampage to an end, but for several years after that incident I was soured on horses in general and ponies in particular. Many was the time on the playground when one of my battery-powered Stomper monster trucks "accidentally" went out of control and decimated a corral of My Little Ponys.

But I'm over it now, really. Now, when I watch *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, I'm almost more afraid of the Headless Horseman than his horse. So when Peter Poor at the Stage Hill Polo & Riding School invited me to try my hand at polo, I bolted at the chance. Bolted like the hateful Miss Pig—sorry, sorry; over it; right.

You may conceive of polo as a sport for the wealthy, but at Stage Hill it's $300 for 12 lessons per month—a relative pittance. Still, I suspect that I might be in a different tax bracket than some of the other players.

For instance, if I say "I gotta jet," it means that I have to leave. If a polo player says "I gotta jet," he is talking about his aircraft. On the sidelines of one game, a guy named Dave was discussing flying his plane in an upcoming air show. In an attempt to be friendly, I asked him what kind of plane he has. "A French Bidet Depardieu jet," he replied. "Oh, that's a good one," I said, hoping to imply that I, too, am a long time subscriber to *Jet Owner Magazine*. Somehow, I don't think it worked. Nobody thought it was funny that I was wearing a Ralph Lauren Polo shirt, either, but then the nuances of my humor often go underappreciated.

Onto the polo, then. I was given a mallet, a helmet and Bill. That's all you need to play polo, provided (as was the case here) that Bill is a horse.

I climbed into the saddle with a bit of trepidation, and not only for Miss Piggy-related reasons. A few days before this, there was an article in the paper about Prince Charles being hospitalized after he fell off his horse while playing polo. The article said something to the effect of, "This is not the first time that Prince Charles, an expert polo player, has been injured at the sport. In 1998 he fell, was trampled by the other horses and received a severe concussion when an opposing player mistook his bleeding skull for the ball. He was treated for 18 broken bones and a bruised Cowper's gland."

But after a quick lesson in how to drive Bill, I began my first game of polo. Despite the "no trotting/galloping" rule in effect for my benefit, I had my hands full. Literally. Since one hand is busy with the mallet, the reins are controlled with the other. It was immediately obvious to everyone, especially Bill, that I wasn't too deft with the one-handed-reins routine. I found that I was always beaten to the ball, and I began to suspect that Bill was a lazy horse. Just when I was lamenting the fact that I'd ended up with the equine equivalent of the slow go-kart, an opposing player pointed out that I was constantly yanking back on the reins as I was spurring him on. Bill, correctly interpreting this as an indication that he had an idiot aboard, thus defaulted to take-it-easy mode.

> WHEN I SAY "I GOTTA JET," IT MEANS THAT I HAVE TO LEAVE. IF A POLO PLAYER SAYS "I GOTTA JET," HE IS TALKING ABOUT HIS AIRCRAFT.

Once I relaxed the reins, things improved. The surface of the arena was unusually hard, so one of my dribbling hits managed to roll all the way to the goal. My teammate, Rick, congratulated me while his horse, Juanita, did her part to soften up the playing field. I racked up one more goal after that, for which I was congratulated by the opposing team. They weren't just being friendly—I scored it for them (for future reference, the goal you're attacking changes each time you score).

I'm excited to take another lesson, when I'll learn advanced skills like what to do when the horse actually runs. I'm expecting to do well. I already know the word "help". iB

For more information on Stage Hill Polo & Riding school, turn to Sports on page 94.

You think that's funny?

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Randy Price and Caterina Bandini

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

WHDH 7News co-anchors Randy Price and Caterina Bandini recently teamed up to share duties on the station's 5pm, 6pm and top-rated 11pm newscasts. Price was born and raised in Baton Rouge, La., and graduated from LSU before beginning his New England broadcasting career at WBZ. After working on a variety of highly rated and award-winning programs there, he was temporarily sidelined by a widely publicized alcohol-related driving incident. After several months' hiatus, he joined 7News in 1996 and was promoted to the anchor desk in 1998. He and his partner live in Kittery, Maine, where they breed and show champion cocker spaniels.

Caterina Bandini is a native of Houston, Texas, and after graduating from Fordham University in New York, she began her TV career behind the scenes at *Good Morning America* in New York and at a station in Houston before moving to on-air work in Gainesville, Fla. She also worked at WJAR in Providence before joining 7News, where she has distinguished herself by, among other things, being the region's only reporter to cover the Kosovo crisis from ground zero. She lives just outside Boston.

Jonathan Soroff: *So have you started finishing each other's sentences yet?*
Randy Price: She starts. I do the middle. She finishes.
JS: *Who gets the last word?*
Caterina Bandini: It depends on what we're talking about.
JS: *{To Caterina.} Your favorite thing about him?*
CB: His sense of humor.
JS: *{To Randy.} Your favorite thing about her?*
RP: Her spunk.
JS: *The most irritating thing about her?*
RP: Her spunk.
JS: *Most irritating thing about him?*
CB: We'll find out. We just started sharing a dressing room.
JS: *How does that work?*
RP: I gave her the whole counter.
JS: *Hardest part of working as a team?*
RP: Sensing the rhythm of the other person.
JS: *So are you guys the Chet and Natalie of the 21st century?*
RP: Well, we've got similar baggage. [Laughs.]
JS: *Biggest story you ever covered:*
CB: Kosovo would certainly be the most rewarding. I also remember that moment when I was sent to Washington to cover the Clinton scandal. I was sitting on that plane thinking, "How could he be that careless?" But Macedonia was pretty amazing. We went and just winged it. We arrived in Athens, got a Serbian driver and talked our way past the border patrol into Macedonia.
JS: *How about you, Randy?*
RP: To tell the truth, the stories I remember most have more to do with families and emotions than big stories, because we all get involved in the major ones, like John Kennedy's plane going down, or the impeachment. I guess the Christa McAuliffe story is it for me, because I was at the White House when she was selected to go on the shuttle. I remember the personal conversations with her, and watching, on closed-circuit TV, the flight that day, and the explosion, and thinking about her family, her children.
JS: *How about the biggest non-story?*
RP: Other than the weather?
CB: Yeah, the big storms. I'd be pulling my hair out thinking, "How many ways can I say, 'It's still snowing.'"
JS: *Channel 7 has been blamed for the dumbing down of local news. How do you plead?*
CB: If you look at channels 4, 5 and 7, we all pretty much make the same calls, but everybody says about us, "If it bleeds, it leads." It's not true. If we're dumbing down, why are we the top-rated newscast and why are the others doing the same stories?
RP: I agree. Ultimately, viewers decide what's important, and they do it by watching.
JS: *So which one of you gets paid more?*
RP: She does, and I'm hoping she'll take me out to dinner sometime.
CB: Oh, get outta town.
JS: *Who has more important hair?*
RP: Well, she has more of it, so it's obvious.
CB: Mine constantly needs more maintenance. I have thick, curly hair that I hate, so I go once a week to a guy who straightens it.
JS: *Randy, you've lived through an embarrassing public scandal. Does that color the way you present news about a comparable situation, like Ben Affleck going into rehab?*
RP: Not really. Those are experiences that a lot of people go through. Mine was certainly a turning point in my life, but if anything, I probably look more fairly on those situations, because I hope anyone going through that will have the same experience I had, with people who understand them, support them and employ them. I kinda feel blessed.
JS: *You breed cocker spaniels. Aren't they inherently dumb dogs?*
RP: Well, I try to tell them that. But most dog breeds aren't known for their enormous intellects.
JS: *So you don't come home and catch them reading Kierkegaard. {To Caterina.} What happened to your Texas twang?*
CB: Well, my Dad was from Brooklyn and my Mom was from England, so it was never that bad. I still say "y'all," though.
JS: Most embarrassing on-air gaffe?
RP: At this point, it's kind of a mental block. There've been way too many, including the small ones, like getting halfway through a broadcast before realizing your collar is turned up.
CB: For me, it was a situation when the broadcast was coming back for a cut-in and there was no one on the anchor desk, so they just said, "Go!" I wasn't an anchor at that point, but I jumped in there, no make-up, my hair was a mess, and as soon as I started speaking I couldn't breathe right. It was like I was hyperventilating. I ran to the bathroom afterward in tears. I was mortified.
JS: *Does being recognizable intrude on your private life?*
RP: Well, in the city, people tend to leave you alone, and the further out you go, the more suburban the attitude becomes, until you get to a place like Kittery, where it's rural, and people do feel free to come up to you at the supermarket. But it's nice, in a way, because it's an indication that they feel a connection to you. In some cases, you're in these people's homes more often than their closest relatives.
JS: *What about the emphasis on looking good?*
RP: I'm trying! But, yeah, people feel as free to share their thoughts on how you look as they do on the news itself. They won't hesitate to say, "That tie looked awful…"
CB: I get a lot of help, in terms of hair and makeup, but people are mean! They'll say anything. This was funny—I was in a department store recently, and this woman came up to me and said, "That Randy Price always looks like a million bucks. You need to be careful."
JS: *Caterina, did anyone ever tell you you'd have to change your name to do TV news?*
CB: Oh, yeah. I had one station tell me I'd need to be Cathy, and I said, "No, thank you. Not interested in a cute Anglo name."
JS: *Randy, how often do you hear "It's such a waste that you're gay."*
RP [Laughs.] Never. Y'know, I think the only things I've ever heard about me being gay are things like, "My son is gay, and you made a difference." I'm not B.S.-ing you a bit when I say I've never had a negative comment.
JS: *OK, last question. The one piece of news that each of you would most like to deliver to the public.*
RP: Well, it's a strange question, because the news is often negative. We strive to bring people useful information and it's not always positive. Of course, we relish the times we get to have nice, life-affirming things, but it's not that way. It's not the nature of our business. So I don't want to sound fake by coming up with my idea piece of news.
JS: *So by nature, news people are cynics. How about you, Caterina?*
CB: Hmmm. I guess that the Red Sox would the World Series. IB



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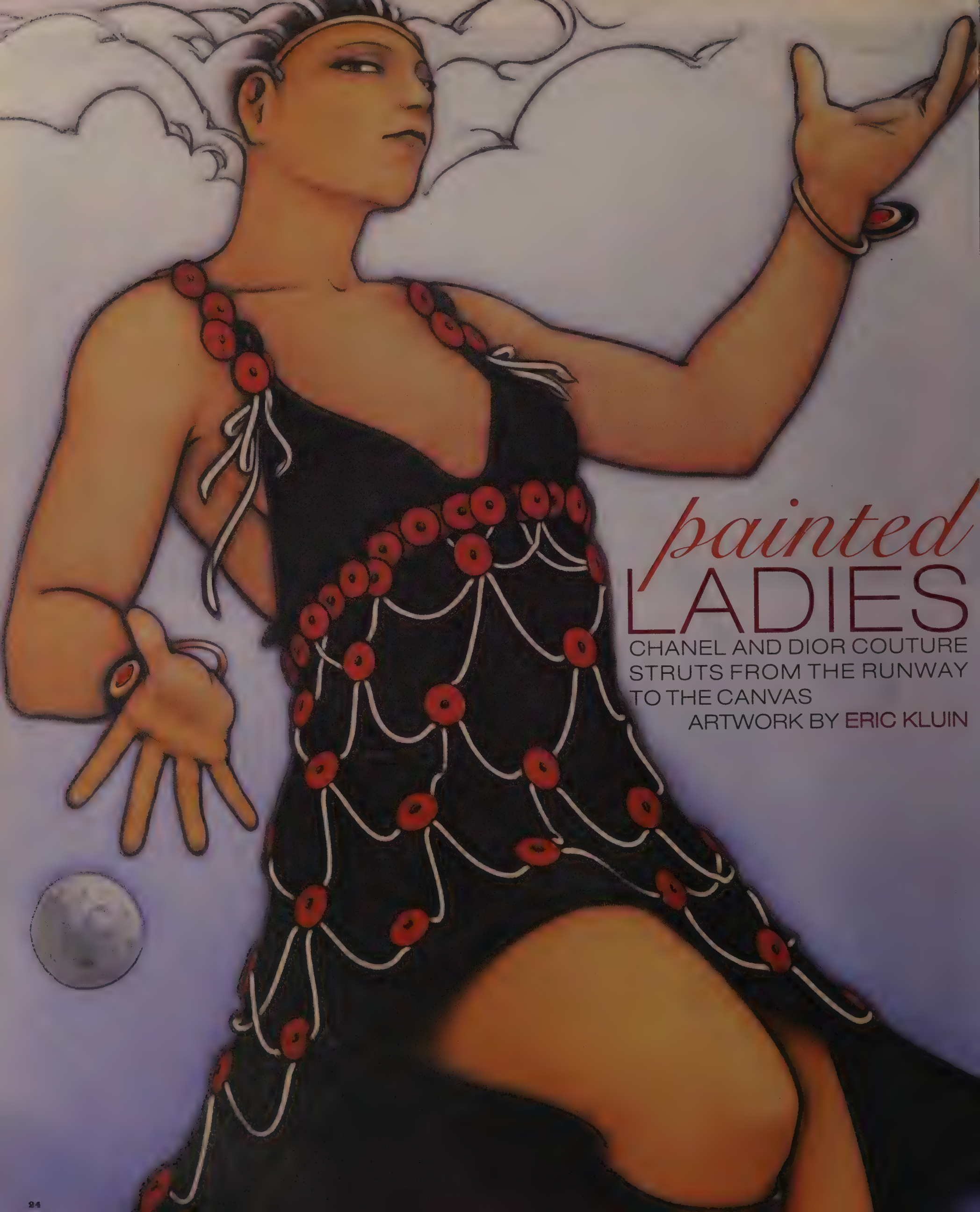

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FASHION PREVIEW 2001

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

The moon of fashion orbits the twin planets of art and commerce. The arrangement of these celestial bodies in any season is the stuff of wizardry and possibly occult science. Or, to quote one of the deities of the fashion pantheon, Coco Chanel, "Fashion is not something that exists in dresses only, fashion is something in the air. It's the wind that blows the new fashion: You feel it coming, you smell it ... in the sky, in the street. Fashion has to do with ideas, the way we live, what is happening." This fall we find ourselves in the thrall of rich colors and earth tones, asymmetrical silhouettes and flowery patterns, slouchy bags and suede and leathery fabrications. This retro chic movement swings between the 1980s and fashion's golden age of the '30s and '40s. A tension exists between the edgy modernity of punk and the ultrafeminine soft and beautful designs.... In any case, wherever the season's fashions migrate, it is best to keep in mind the venerable Coco's statement: "Fashions change, style remains."



painted LADIES

CHANEL AND DIOR COUTURE STRUTS FROM THE RUNWAY TO THE CANVAS

ARTWORK BY ERIC KLUIN

Opposite page: Black chiffon dress with red disks and gold chain links, $6,165. Available at Chanel Boutique.



This page: Wool jacket, $1,995; veste, $445; cotton shirt, $220; pants, $795; leather hat, $520. Available at Christian Dior.

Gypsy shirt (satin), $1,505; "Champion" T-shirt, $140; leather patchwork, $6,280; chapka, $810. Available at Christian Dior.



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Beige wool boucle coat, $3,080. Available at Chanel Boutiqu

Black chiffon shell and skirt with black corset belt, $2,845. Available at Chanel Boutique.

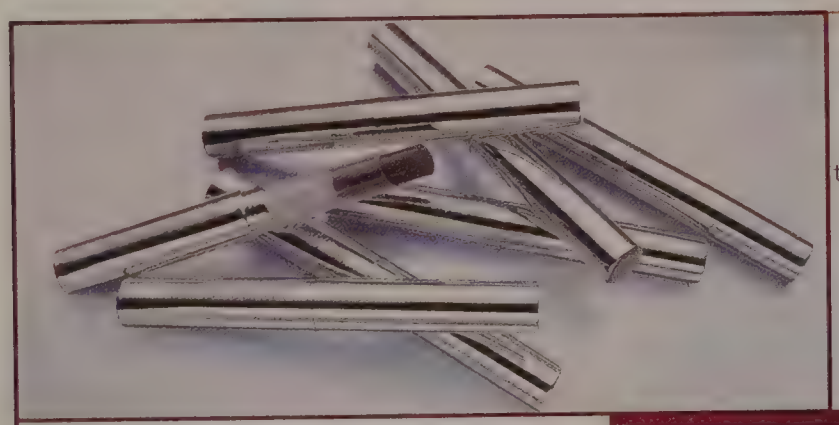


Artwork photographed by James Leavitt • Chanel Boutique: 5 Newbury Street; (617) 859-0055 • Christian Dior: Copley Place; (617) 927-7577.

beauty BUFFET

IMPROPER asked Edlyn Suh of MAC to give us the low down on fall makeup trends:

From girly Goths to feminine punks, there is something for everyone this season. Fall makeup is an equal blend of edgy and elegant. Industrial chic has made its move from the pavement to the palette. Sexy city eyes are paired with fleshy lips (try Existential paint and Brave lipstick by MAC—the hottest new nude). Think bedroom Lolita eyes with sinful pouts of color. Dark eyes ruled the catwalk during New York fashion week; they look good on everyone and let you hint at your mysterious side. Another look: Eyes are nude and the lips are electric with strong color. Gone are the dewy faces of the past, making way for matte velvet beauties. Matte is wearer-friendly; it can be worn even if you don't have perfect skin. It can be sheer and fresh and doesn't have to be heavy or made-up looking. Trends change all the time. Makeup is not high stakes, it comes off easily and is the most playful variable.



Lip/cheek pencil by Sonia Kashuk. This dual glide-on pencil gives cheeks and lips soft color. Available in four ripe shades—they add vibrance to cool gray days. Available at Target stores.

Inspired by a collection of featherweight leather, pearlized silk satin, angora velour, the fall 2001 Calvin Klein Color Collection adds a sensuality that's sexy, modern and opulent You can find Calvin Klein Cosmetics at Filene's.







MAC's Haute Voltage line melds classic fall colors with new, brighter hues to create a truly unique look. Find the pulse of color at Saks Fifth Avenue.



Can beautiful skin be created ? With Clinique gentle light powder, the answer is yes. Clinique's new "wonder powder" uses the qualities of light to cover, conceal and perfect the look of skin with the most sheer, luminous finish. Available at Macy's.



The Chanel Fall Beaute Collection offers flamboyant shades that are both glamorous and ultra-feminine. The look for fall is wonderfully textured, infused with rich pigments and deep tones.



Nars Fall 2001 is a delicate recipe of hard and soft (think bikers and baby dolls). Nars also introduces liquid eyeliner in six shades ranging from classic black to shimmering turquoise. Nars offers that perfect pop of color this season's legions of black-clad women will crave. Nars is available at Neiman Marcus.



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HAIR & MAKEUP ARTISAN DAY SPA

trend SPOTTING

Trends are fickle. As soon as you catch on to what's hot, the look of the moment whisks on by. Thankfully, this season's essential pieces are more about embellishing your wardrobe, not necessarily searching for a new one. Nothing drastic, just modern iterations of some classic looks. The miniskirt, which picked up speed this spring as a fun warm-weather look, hasn't slowed down for autumn (when worn with tights). Another retro style, gathering, has also come full circle. For those who prefer to be a bit more demure, the feminine



look is also in. Flowers, lace and patterns are extremely versatile. A simple black dress with a few roses can be innocent, while asymmetrical necklines and slit sleeves will give you more of an edge. Leather pants are always a hit in the fall, combining comfort with sex appeal. Lastly, the sheer blouse is one of the most daring—yet timeless—trends. Choose your clothes wisely, and you'll be able to carry them over to next season.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER

From left to right: Gathered camel minidress; fall-patterned asymmetrical dress with slit sleeves; lace pants; white mock cowgirl button-down shirt with pearl accents and black soft leather pants; black sheer dress with pom-pom adornments; sheer white blouse with pom-poms and black suede skirt with outward stitching. All items by For Joseph, available at Leila, 1337 Beacon St. Model: Joan Phillips for MMA. Hair by Ja'coall for Maksou.









hair AWARE



As always, Fall brings the cool breezes of change. Now is the time to take a good look in the mirror and book an appointment with your favorite hair stylist. This season's styles are all about darker shades and added volume. Body is back with a bang. It's time to put away your straightening iron—curls and waves are all the now rage. And rich colors will provide a crisp contrast with fall's vibrant fashion hues. Bangs are still in, especially when coupled with long, face-framing layers. This fall, styles are flattering and feminine. Are you ready to let your hair down?

Salon owner **Charles Maksou** shares some of his tips for achieving beautiful, full-bodied hair this autumn.

On curls: "To create volume, use a little bit of gel in your hair and comb it through while it's wet. Then use a diffuser to bring out your natural waves. When your hair is dry, you may want to add a few curls with an iron, then try a nice shine enhancer like John Sahag dry oil."

On color: "To darken your light hair, I suggest a semi-permanent rinse. It darkens your hair just enough and gradually rinses out. This will enable you to go darker but keep your base color while also adding shine."

On cut: "Bangs are growing out a bit, bringing the longer version into the spotlight. Layers are also a big hit this year and look great on everyone."

Charles Maksou, of Maksou Hair & Makeup Artisan, is located at 125 Broad Street, in the Financial District.

Photographs by Tracy Powell
Hair: Charles Maksou
Models (clockwise from upper left): Amelia Philipchuck, Anna Mongayt, Anne Marie Parker, Caroline, Lauren Krol. All for Ford Model Management.
Makeup: Jenny Brown for Maksou Artisan

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glad BAGS

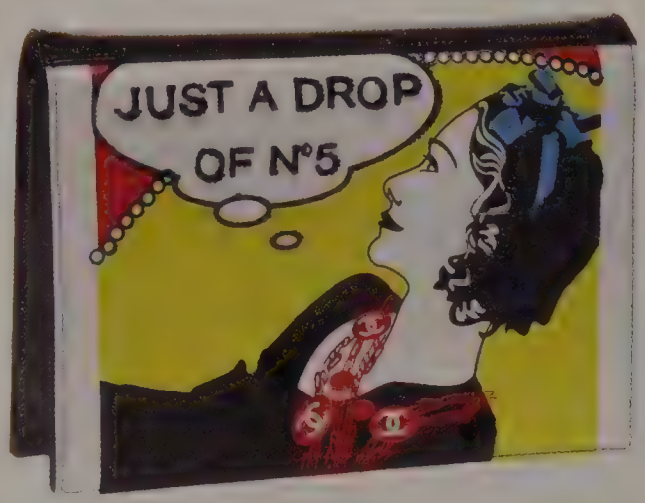
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID SITRON







It holds everything from your lipstick to your car keys. You keep your life in it, and it is always close by. It's your purse—what would you do without it? Since you do have to lug this accessory around all day, every day, make sure it's the perfect fit for you. The handbag trend this fall is on the larger scale and a bit on the slouchy side. Bags are comfortable and practical. Some are so big that you could easily lose your keys inside. Opt for structure in a larger sack or fun, playful designs. Just make sure your purse fits your lifestyle.





Clockwise from upper left:
Suede pocketbook with leather trim, $198, available at Coach. Clutch with bow, flowers and faux pearl adornments, $2,800, available at the Chanel Boutique. Leather purse, $3,225, available at Hermes. Sidney black-and-brown leather bag, $395, available at Kate Spade. Coco illustration clutch, $2,800, available at the Chanel Boutique.

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Franco Paolucci stiletto boot, $235, available at Daniello. Charles David calf boot, $278, available at Jasmine Sola. Guess ankle boot with wedge heel, $169, available at Jasmine Sola.



Donald Pliner brown loafer, $185, available at Daniello. GFF lace-up boot, $229, available at Daniello. Paciotti red athletic shoes, $215, available at Daniello. Calvin Klein boot, $249, available at Daniello.

stride RIGHT

>> PHOTOGRAPHS BY TRACY POWELL ON LOCATION AT FRESH (121 NEWBURY ST.)

Before stepping out this season, step into the freshest shoe finds. Ankle-length boots will look great with any of the styles you'll see on the racks this fall. Say good-bye to clunky heels and replace them with stilettos and wedges to create truly sexy silhouettes. Catholic schoolgirls will be happy to hear that Mary Janes are a hit again, especially when designers stack the heels. Men can expect to find more detail in their shoes, such as stripes or bright colors. Try throwing on loafers for the resurgent preppy look or sporting colorful sneakers. Men and women alike will get pampered in soft leathers and subtle textures in a variety of profiles. This fall, it will be easy to develop a shoe fetish and to indulge your soles with decadent delights.



Sebastino Migliore boot in wine, $149, available at Daniello. Duo-colored heel with ankle strap by Kenneth Cole Reaction, $89, available at Jasmine Sola. Gianni Bravo multicolored boot, $650, available at Daniello.



Gamma Studio Mary Jane with wedge,$89, available at Jasmine Sola. Charles David stiletto with stitching, $115, available at Jasmine Sola. Franco Sarto slides, $86, available at Jasmine Sola. Byblos sling-backs in tan with stitching, $220, available at Daniello.

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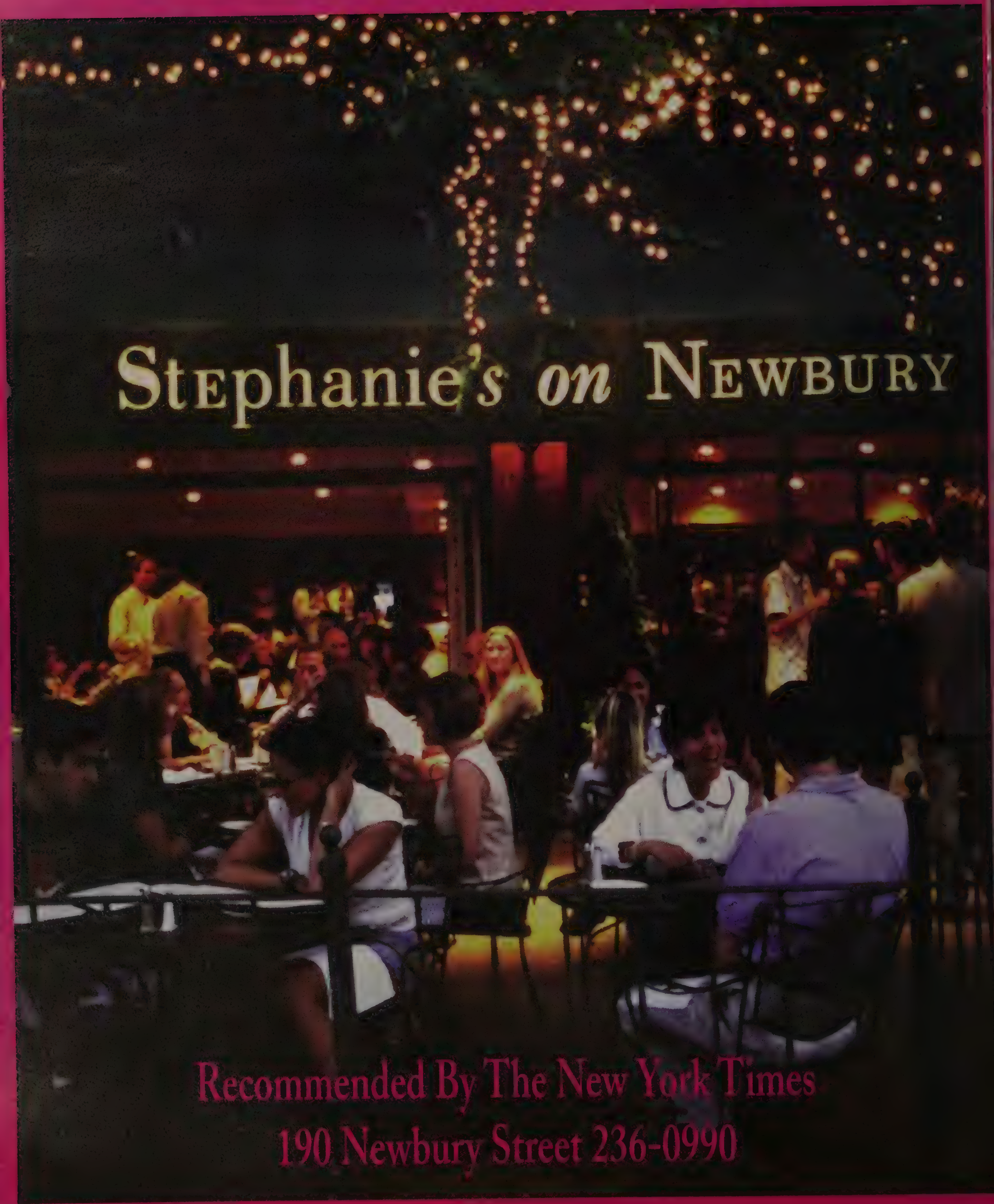
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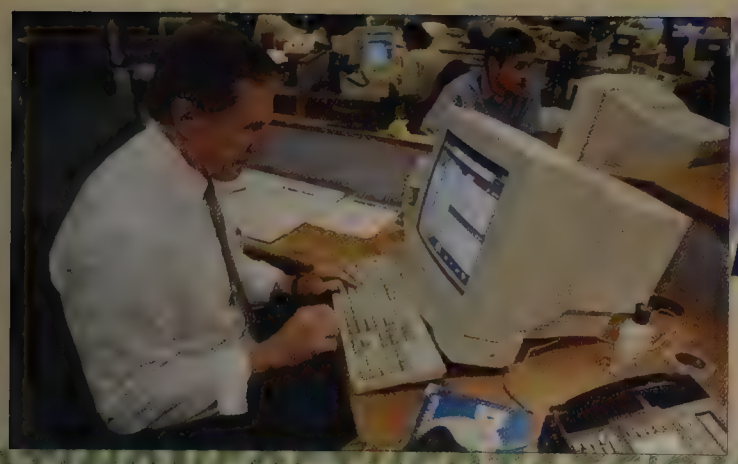
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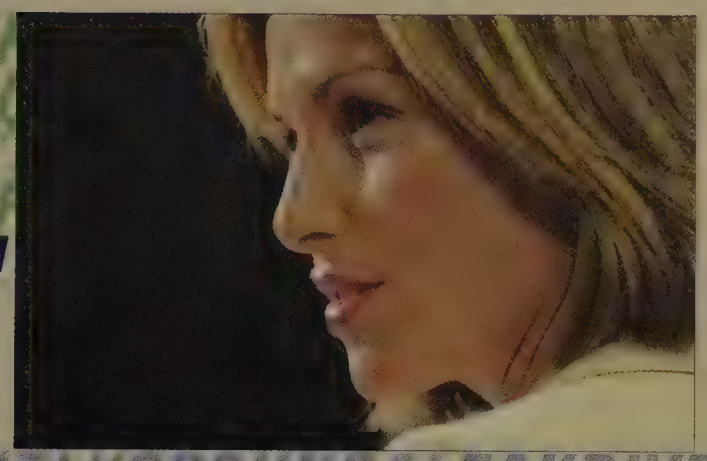
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THIS JUST IN:

Beyond the polish and poise, the life of the newscaster is not as picture-perfect as it seems. Here, we take a closer look at three lives in the news game **BY ROB AZEVEDO**

Scot Yount, assignment reporter at New England Cable News, sits in a small editing room at the station's headquarters in Newton. His right foot taps on the tiled floor as his hand drums against his thigh. It's 5:18pm, and the room is uncomfortably warm. Yount is trying to synchronize the audio track with video footage shot earlier in the day at the Berklee School of Music, where he interviewed, wrote and recorded a story on legendary drummer Bernard "Pretty" Purdie. "This cat's got a nice groove," says Yount as he adjusts the controls.

Down the hall, Tom Ellis, a 50-year veteran in the news business, sits at his desk working on copy for his weekend anchor position at NECN. Young and talented copywriters, editors and producers surround Ellis in the newsroom. Looking lean and strong-jawed and dressed in a pair of dark slacks, a crisp white shirt and a silver tie, Ellis has a presence that fills the room completely. The staff adores him. After all, he is their Crash Davis, the well-traveled character Kevin Costner played in the movie *Bull Durham*.

Meanwhile, across town, Sara Underwood, anchorwoman at WBZ Channel 4, is finishing her day. It's just after six in the evening when Underwood appears in the lobby of the station, dressed in a conservative blue suit. She looks spectacular. After a flawless 5:30pm newscast where she reported at length about accused killer Gary Sampson, Underwood is now ready to unwind in her South End apartment. Polished and full of confidence, Underwood presents herself very much the way she does on TV—crisp, lucid and extremely careful with her words.

Scot Yount, Tom Ellis and Sara Underwood are significantly different news personalities at three very different stages of their careers. Yount is a grunt of sorts, working mostly in the trenches, traveling to far-off places like Berlin, N.H., and Lee, Maine, to report on everything from gas leaks to murder sprees to musicals. Underwood, who presents news reports from the streets occasionally, mostly sits at the anchor desk. She is trying to make a name for herself in the business, wondering where the TelePrompTer might take her next. And Ellis, who is less of an impact player these days, is in the latter stages of his career, anchoring only on weekends. He's still a leader in this business, but he's clearly moved to a different phase of his life.

By getting a closer look at Yount, Ellis and Underwood, we get three distinct snapshots of life inside and outside the newsroom—not only the trends in television news but the sacrifices and frustrations one must endure to have a fulfilling career as a TV journalist. What we learned is that there's a lot more to this job than just showing up, looking good on camera and delivering a convincing report.

Making a Connection

Scot Yount, at age 43, is an attractive man , but not quite handsome in the Ted Knight anchorman sort of way. He looks like a guy who drove an early-'70s muscle car in 1988. His hair edges toward shoulder-length and is specked with gray. When he speaks, the words sound lyrical, in a proud, magnetic way. "Everything is about emotion," says Yount about TV reporting. "It doesn't matter if it's good news or bad. It's all about emotion."

Before Yount became a TV reporter, he studied trumpet at Indiana University. "I wanted to be a classical symphonic player." Tiring of school, Yount went back to his native Alaska and took a job at a small CBS affiliate station in Fairbanks, logging tapes on weekends. It was only after the news director asked him to cover a story that Yount got hooked on news. "My first story, I covered a couple touring the country on bicycle who stopped in Alaska," he remembers.

Being able to connect with an audience isn't always easy. To many viewers, news people—with their perfectly styled hair and carefully applied makeup—not only influence and inform but also annoy and frustrate. Their predictable rhetoric and tired one-liners sometimes make viewers want to wipe the tight smiles right off their faces.

Yount says he tries to stay away from that cock-eyed, vacant look of sincerity that journalists sometimes have

TOP AND MIDDLE: MIKE MERGEN; BOTTOM: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

when covering a tragic story, for example, when he had to report that an 11-year-old boy had been found dead in a "Rent-a-Box" off the Mass Pike. "When I talk to you now I'm making it up as I go along," says Yount. "And that's what[news reports]should sound like."

One time a woman on the street approached Yount and said, "My husband says you're not like the other 'hairdos.' You're the only one not reading cards." That brought a smile to Yount's face.

To the average viewer, news reporters live an interesting life. Interviewing celebrities, unlocking secrets, chasing stories that can bring them from New Hampshire to Connecticut in a matter of hours sounds more like fun than hard labor. But Yount admits the pace can also whittle a social life down to a nub.

"With this job, it's not like I can tell friends that I'll meet them for beers later," says Yount, who has been at NECN since 1992. "I never know where I'm going to be."

Yount says his purpose is to be nothing more than the storyteller. Good news or bad, rain or shine, he has to deliver the message to the audience, no matter how horrific the circumstances. The station pays him to be the guy who has to shove the mike into people's faces at their most vulnerable moments. That he understands.

"We're out there in the real world, facing real, live people who may be very upset," says Yount about pushing for quotes. "And people are upset about something we didn't do."

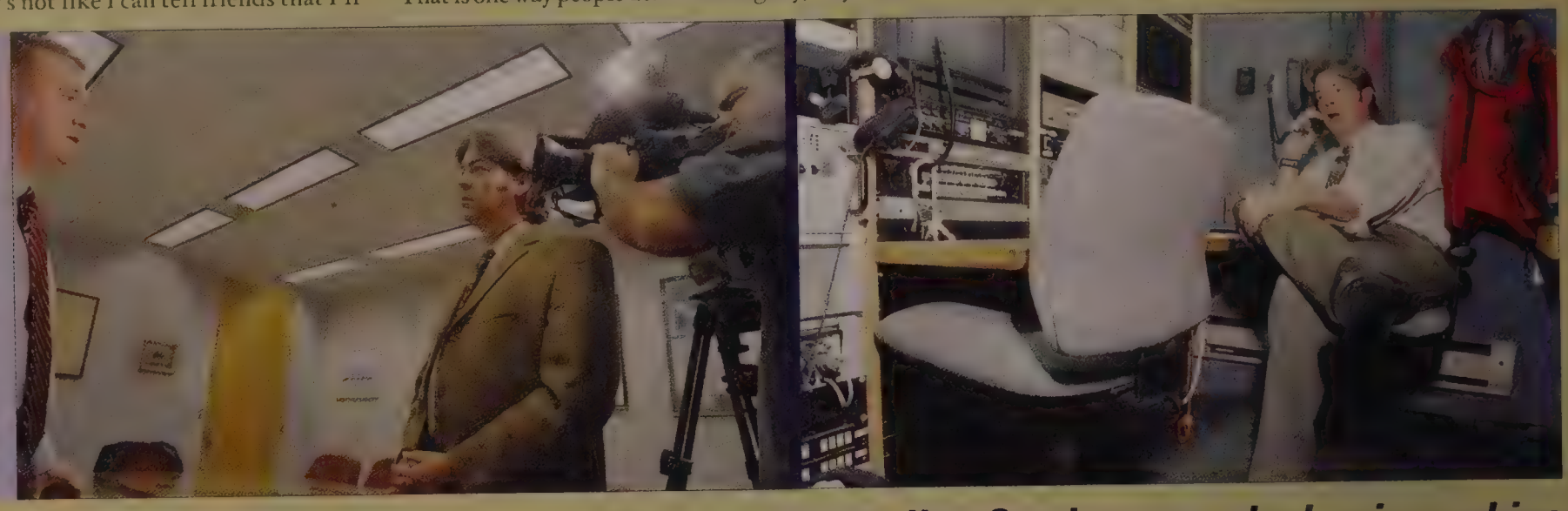
When Yount was working in Fort Myers, Fla., as a TV reporter, he interviewed the parents of a young boy who'd just been killed that day by a drunk driver. When Yount knocked on the front door of the home, the parents invited Yount in to look at pictures of the boy growing up. "That is one way people deal with tragedy," says Yount.

what we are going to do. That's what the viewers want."

Steve Johnson, *Chicago Tribune* TV critic, agrees: "People fear losing the capacity to be outraged by what is on the news."

A documentary called *Embattled Witness* that aired on the History Channel a few years ago focused on the state of broadcast journalism. On the program, *Today Show* anchor Katie Couric was asked to describe how she feels when she is asked to do a fluff piece, like interviewing a celebrity. Couric said, "Sometimes I'm thinking 'I just want to hurl.'"

Deborah Norville from *Inside Edition*, a huge retailer of trash journalism, offered this: "I am in the singularly unique position of having been at two major networks on their biggest shows," said Norville, who used to host the *Today Show*. "And I can tell you there's not that great a difference [between them]."



All in a day's work: Scot Yount prepares to interview Robert Hayden, assistant general manager of the MBTA. Later, Yount regroups in the NECN news van.

Yount says his purpose is to be nothing more than the storyteller. Good news or bad, rain or shine.



Tom Ellis, who has delivered news in the Boston area since 1968, has entered a more laid-back phase of his career. He now anchors only on weekends, sharing the news desk with Chris Collins (left) and J.C. Monahan (in red dress).

Indeed, life in the fast lane isn't all glitter for Yount. A resident of Dedham, Yount has seen more dead bodies than he cares to remember. A few weeks back, Yount was in Fall River covering a double homicide. When he came to the scene, the police hadn't yet secured the area. Yount found himself "standing right over the bullet-riddled body."

"That got to me," says Yount.

Yount confesses to intruding on far too many lives when trying to break news. "I don't always like doing it," he says in earnest about knocking on doors. "But it's my job."

Once when he was at a funeral reporting on the drunk-driving deaths of five high school football players, Yount was physically threatened. A group of kids, offended by his presence, started throwing rocks at the news van. "These kids were at a very terrible time, and they look at us as just vultures," says Yount, sympathizing with the teenagers but also defending his role.

Body-bag Journalism

It seems that anyone is allowed to publicly voice his or her opinion these days. Cable and network TV are littered with pundits casting philosophies on how the world should be run. Melodramatic news stories about child-murdering mothers, second-rate mobsters and missing children are top stories. Somewhere in the middle come weather and sports. And maybe, just maybe, a positive piece about education or an active community leader will get tagged on at the end of a broadcast.

News stations like Fox News in New York have made it their business to dominate what is called "body-bag journalism," or blatant sensationalism. Instead of leading a newscast with an issue surrounding stem-cell research, the broadcast will begin with a so-called update on something much more racy, such as the Levy/Condit scandal.

Yount doesn't hide his face from the facts. He describes television news as "a reflection of society. Nothing more." Says Yount: "If we put on blood, guts and gore and the ratings go through the roof, then that is

Life Changes

Sacrifice in the news game is like bleeding in a rock fight—it's inevitable. Working up to 80 hours a week locked in a newsroom for days covering stories like Waco, the Oklahoma bombing and the death of John F. Kennedy Jr. is all part of the commitment of being a newscaster and reporter.

Nobody knows this more than Tom Ellis, 69, who has worked at every major news station in Boston at one time or another since 1968. "You sacrifice your family life. You sacrifice your social life. It just takes over," says Ellis, who has been married three times, most recently to his wife Arlene for 29 years.

Upon greeting Ellis at the station on a recent Sunday, he offered me a firm handshake and then launched into a story about the day the news changed his life.

Once an avid hunter, Ellis grew up in East Texas on land used by renegade Indians and runaways for hiding. It was called "The Big Thicket." Ellis hunted and fished for table food there, he says, learning the meaning of earning

YOUNT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN (2); ELLIS: MIKE MERGEN (2)

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Foxy Brown's third album, aptly titled "Broken Silence," finds the controversial rapper confessing her soul. Though her debut "ill Na Na" and her sophomore album "Chyna Doll" were both critically acclaimed, it's "Broken Silence" that will define Foxy Brown, as a person as well as an artist. With her Caribbean-influenced rap style, Foxy is unique and sets herself apart from everything else out there. She is gritty and controversial. Foxy is still on the tip of everyone's tongue despite her two year hiatus. Catch Foxy on "Broken Silence" as she emerges once again as rap's reigning lady.

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Hailing from Philadelphia, Bilal is the latest practitioner of what could loosely be called "Neo-Soul". The name of his debut album "1st Born Second" is a tribute to artists like Erykah Badu, Q-Tip, and D'Angelo who came before him and pushed the limits of the current R&B formula. He regards them as forefathers - hence the name "1st Born Second". This album is the introductory masterpiece from a young genius whose future looks bright and clear. Keep an ear out for Bilal.



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your keep. Then, in 1963, John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Texas. Ellis was 31 years old. "I don't know why," says Ellis, who now lives in East Sandwich, Mass. "But I never hunted again after Kennedy was killed."

Ellis' career began gathering steam in 1961. After working briefly at a steel mill maintaining blast furnaces, Ellis got work being a radio broadcaster in San Antonio. Later that year, he was offered the chance he was looking for. "Everything just seemed to stop."

A news director at a station in San Antonio asked Ellis if he wouldn't mind filling in for an anchor who quit. Ellis jumped at the chance. "Damn, right!" Ellis remembers saying to the station manager.

"It stuck in my mind that what I was doing in news was important," says Ellis, whose name alone brought instant credibility to NECN, which has established itself as the largest regional cable news network in the country, serving 2.6 million homes throughout New England.

"You can't fake it on camera," says Ellis about his first days being a news anchor. "You just have to relax, communicate and try to connect."

In his heyday in the '80s, Ellis was a local star in Boston. He dined with diplomats, interviewed presidents and sipped cocktails with high-ranking politicians. He even started acting in commercials and plays. But Ellis also found out that in one instant you may be top dog and the next you are begging for scraps.

Over the years, there have been three separate occasions when Ellis' career was stalled due to management changes. Ellis remembers being at Channel 7 for five years during the '80s where the station went through 42 on-air people. "That creates a lot of problems," he says about station makeovers.

Beyond having his ego trampled on from time to time throughout his career, Ellis has had to deal with the more important issue of maintaining a meaningful relationship with his wife, Arlene. For 29 years Arlene watched Ellis step on and off planes, trains and buses. She did this while running a successful real estate company on Cape Cod. Ellis acknowledges that someone occupied with a profession as demanding as his needs "a lot of support and room."

But with space comes a price tag. Ellis was confronted with the consequences of his ambitions a few years back when Arlene said to him, "You know, Tom, you haven't saved any time for us."

"And that hit me," says Ellis, who a few years ago cut back to anchoring only on weekends.

Ellis looks the way newscasters are supposed to look. His chin is strong. He's got a razor-blade smile. But Ellis' proficient manner and cultivated good looks have also prompted some people to label him "the Plastic Man."

Ellis' demeanor sometimes comes off as being statuesque. His ability to go from reporting on an assassination attempt in the Middle East to asking the weatherman about the changing humidity in the Colorado Rockies sometimes appears too slick, too cold.

But Ellis appears comfortable in his own skin. He says he's worked hard to disconnect himself from the emotion in the story to do his job correctly, which is to read the news, not editorialize. And his calm voice can help steady the minds of viewers when extremely emotional stories—such as when six firefighters died in a Worcester blaze—must be relayed.

Beyond the Pretty Face

Though she grew up in California, 31-year-old Sara Underwood has the presence of someone born and raised in an affluent section of Boston—she's conservative, well-groomed and slightly guarded. Her hair is cut into a bob, with blonde highlights. Her teeth are straight and gleaming white. She is, in every sense of the word, picture-perfect.

But because she possesses an unblemished, collegian look, Underwood might have the most difficult task proving herself in the news business. People will assume she was hired to boost ratings because of her face. It's not such an absurd assumption, really. Hearing about rising unemployment rates and cancer scares sounds better when told by a pretty face. Management recognizes this, as do viewers. When Underwood was asked if it would offend her if someone referred to her as more of a TV personality than a newsperson, she responded sharply, saying, "What in your mind is the difference?"

Ed Goldman, general manager of WBZ-Channel 4 and the person who hired Underwood, refutes the claim that she was hired for her looks. "In addition to being attractive, Sara is a very good reporter." When Goldman went in search of a news anchor two years ago, he traveled to a convention center in Dallas, where he watched hundreds of videotapes of hopeful newscasters before choosing Underwood. "Substance and credentials will get you hired," he says. "Attraction doesn't last long."

Underwood not only has a knack for reading the news coherently; she's also a seasoned journalist, having spent five years reporting from Washington, D.C., Ohio and California before coming to Boston.

After graduating from UCLA, Underwood worked out of a news trailer set in a cow pasture in Eureka, Calif. During the day she would shoot, write and edit her own pieces before anchoring the evening news. "It was a great experience," she says.

Since coming to Channel 4 a year and a half ago, Underwood has been a favorite among younger male viewers. Her face shines on a handful of billboards around town. She could be reading you an eviction notice and you wouldn't care. Although not quite considered a household name, Underwood is fitting well into the mix at WBZ, sharing time anchoring with Lisa Hughes.

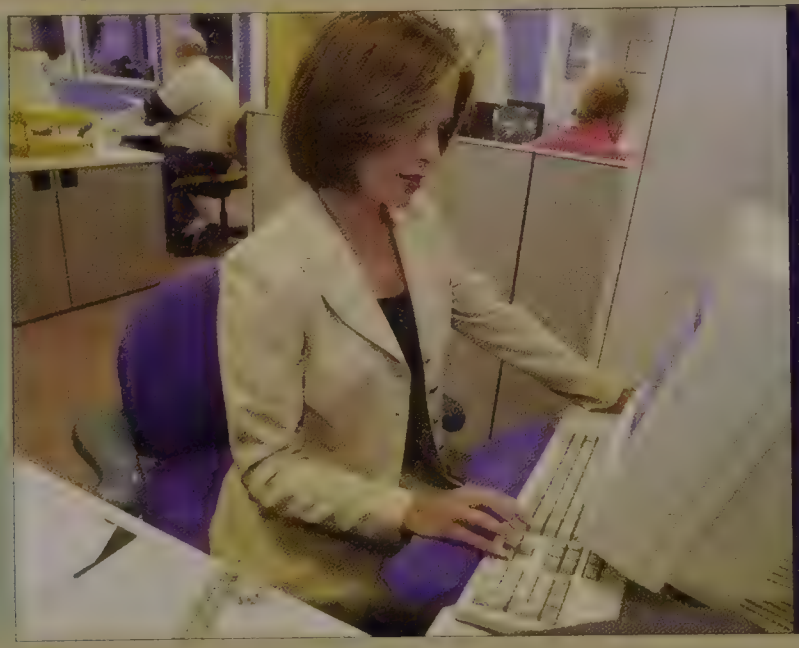
"This is by far the best gig I have ever had," says Underwood.

Underwood, who credits Diane Sawyer as a role model, has also worked with a speech stylist to help develop her delivery on camera. She says she has grown into her style, one she describes as "easy going."

When asked about her ambitions for the future, Underwood paused, possibly considering management's reaction to her answer, then said, "Right now I want to keep doing what I'm doing."

These three individuals, Yount, Ellis and Underwood, are as susceptible to paranoia and disenchantment as anyone is. They fear layoffs, angry mobs, younger bodies and changes set forth by management. They've also sacrificed relationships by relocating to bigger cities for a better, more recognized gig. As news people they put their faces out in the public's eye, asking to be picked apart. Ellis with his quick grin. Underwood with her sculpted good looks. And street-poet Yount standing in the rain dressed in a puffy yellow slicker. It's almost too easy to pass judgment on a profession many know so little about.

"Right now I just want to keep doing what I'm doing," says Underwood of her career aspirations.





What most people don't realize is that these three people have scrapped and hustled as hard as anyone to get where they are. Ellis used to be a "barker," a street haggler at a circus, before he became a newsman. Yount once owned 18 sled dogs when he lived in Alaska. Underwood used to step over cow dung every day getting into work.

Today, Ellis is considered an icon. He rose from being a radio broadcaster to becoming one of the most highly regarded newscasters in the history of Boston television. As an assignment reporter, Scot Yount possesses the rare gift of being able to report a story with color and sadness without sounding artificial. And Underwood is blessed not only with good looks but with intelligence and grace.

The truth is, as much as newscasters and reporters disappoint us at times with their apparent lack of emotion, they also inform and influence the public daily. They set our minds at ease when they tell us that a cross-dressing baby killer has been captured. They help us understand disease and psychological trauma. They direct us through gridlock, help us figure out what to wear in the morning, guide our stock portfolios and sway our political interests.

Scot Yount may have said it best for each of them: "Like tribes had medicine men," says Yount. "I'm the storyteller." IB

MIKE MERGEN (2)

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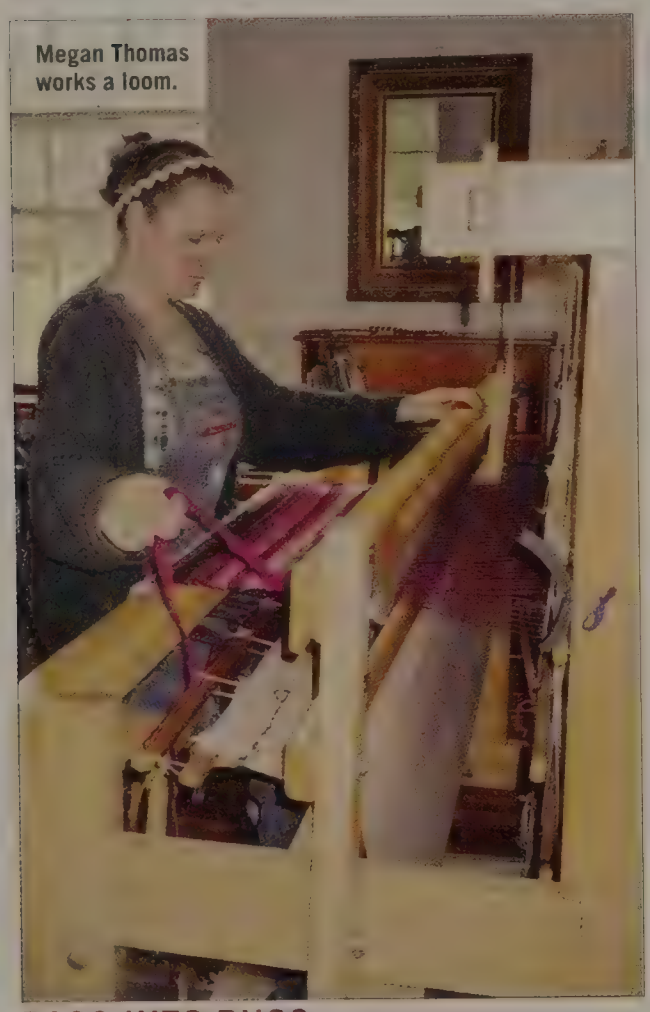
LEUVEN BELGIUM

OBVIOUSLY, A COMPLIMENT.

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



Megan Thomas works a loom.

RAGS INTO RUGS

Open Studios, in Adamsville, R.I., offers weavings, furniture and paintings. Open Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm (508-264-6019).

Take a Sunday drive to the rural landscape of Rhode Island, where the wooden spaciousness of old Oddfellows Hall is filled by a textile studio. Looms loom up from a small stage, suggesting a bygone time of patience, simplicity and beauty, presided over by colors with quiet names like taupe and garnet and poppy. Megan Thomas, herself as soothing as her craft, sells her own and other weavers' pieces and that often means creating the fairytale straw-into-gold weaving magic. For example, flannel sheets can be turned into a wall hanging. Multicolored '60s dresses, plaid sheets or fabric—linen, cotton, wool, silk—all await rebirth. Gail Disney, Amy Lund and the charmingly named Polly Blue Moss sell scarves, hangings and runners. Shoppers might also consider purchasing some of the early American furniture and paintings of luscious local landscapes that share the space. Fans of cutting-edge modern decor need not apply, but those looking for warm homey atmosphere will find that Open Studios has much to offer.



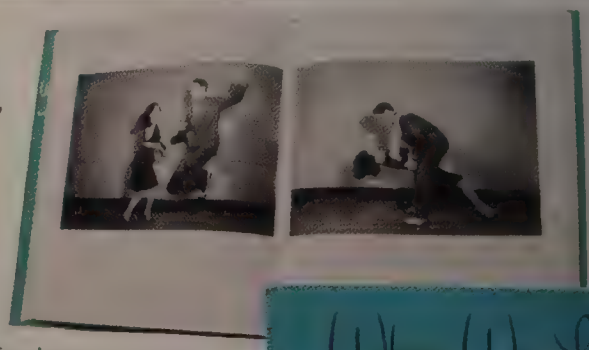
BURNISHED TWINKLINGS FROM THE PAST

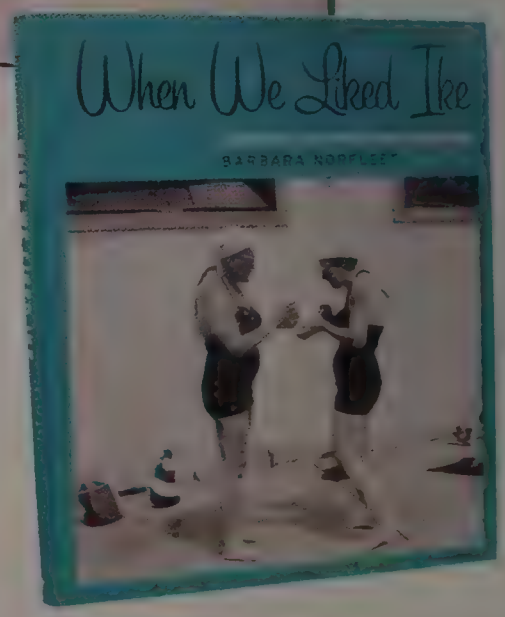
Appleton Antique Lighting, at 801 Boylston St (Route 9) in Chestnut Hill, sells, restores and custom-designs chandeliers, lamps and sconces (617-566-5322).

A room with high-enough ceilings almost cries out that something decorative should flow down—Niagara-like—from an overhead fixture. At Appleton Lighting, lustrous antique chandeliers sparkle with crystals. Some are Venetian, with distinctive etched shapes; others are made of Czech Bohemian crystal from the 1920s, hanging off in interestingly twisty, branched ways. Appleton also repairs and rewires lights of all kinds, including Tiffany-glass lamps or your own chandeliers (which can range from elegant to sentimentally displaying a few sad flaws). The store prides itself on attention to detail and on hand-polishing the components of the pieces. Other dramatic antique lamps include ladies standing tall and bearing light, lending a classic touch. Another enormous line here is lampshades, traditional and modern, familiar or excitingly different—such as those made from rawhide. The tightly beaded ones just like those you sometimes see on restaurant tables are sweet, and there are lightly meshed shades with tiny embroidery on them. New (but looking retro) are shades with beaded fringe, recalling the velvety froufrou of Funny Girl. Lamps and shades are sold separately.

THE (FIFTIES) WAY WE WERE

When We Liked Ike, Looking for Postwar America, by Barbara Norfleet of the Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts at Harvard, photographically captures the look of life from 1945-1959.





Before nostalgia, ragged hippies or a critical backward glance struck the postwar era, life in the '40s and '50s looked terrifically glossy and hopeful. In these photographs collected by Barbara Norfleet, you can feel that the war has ended and the world is full of exciting new stuff to buy, like washing machines and tract homes. An exuberant futuristic whoosh surrounds the highways under construction everywhere. Men on the corporate merry-go-round wear suits, ties and hats. Women, also clad in hats, smoke in innocent shamelessness alongside their dressy children. They lived (often smilingly) as dutiful appendages of a husband's career. The silvery tone of the black-and-white photographs adds to the happy complacency of the consumer-driven '50s. Accompanying the pictures are carefully selected social commentaries by William Whyte, James Baldwin, and C. Wright Mills and others that amplify the underlying hypocrisies of the pre-Civil Rights era—and the associated "conformity" of that time—while casting a critical eye on the creeping manipulations of the media and "ad men." Norfleet notes that the pictures can be read in many ways—and, indeed, they are beautiful, touching, nostalgic and funny.

BOOK, LAMPS: RITA GREELEY



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in this section:

Review: Beacon Hill Bistro
Dish: Opening Days
Wine: Muscat wines
Tasty Tidbit: Ride with the Chefs

REVIEW

Finesse and Flair

Beacon Hill Bistro stands out with excellent food, friendly service and charming decor

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

The Beacon Hill Hotel is a small, European-style boutique hotel that opened quietly on Charles Street late last year. Its name aptly conveys the casual charm of its décor and reasonable prices, but it could well lead one to underestimate the quality and seriousness of its food. The word "bistro" is said to be derived from a word chanted by Russian soldiers as they occupied Paris in 1870, banging their fists on the tables and demanding that their food be served "bistro," or quickly. There is nothing hurried or casual, however, about the cuisine of Chef Al Soto, whose flair and finesse rivals some of the best kitchens in the city.

The bistro's long, narrow dining room sports gray-green leather banquettes that run its entire length beneath sparkling, rectangular mirrors along one wall and picture windows with the etched hotel logo along the other. Stainless-steel or brushed aluminum triangular art déco sconces punctuate the dark wooden paneling, while the floor of tiny white tiles adds a touch of lightness to the inviting French ambiance. In classic bistro style, tables are set with white tablecloths covered by butcher paper, and napkins are of heavy, absorbent cloth.

Beacon Hill Bistro's appetizers are less impressive than its main courses, but even here the good taste and talent of the chef are evident. An asparagus salad with blue cheese, walnuts and frisée ($6.50) featured tiny, pleasantly crunchy asparagus spears and near raw beets that brought sweetness to the medley of flavors featured in the ensemble's varied but compatible ingredients. An assortment of *charcuterie* ($9.50) included *rillette*, a rich puree of well-seasoned pork; julienned sausage mixed with green olives; and a slice of moist pâté, all garnished by a small thicket of frisée and fresh mint, dressed with a mustard vinaigrette. The caramelized onion tart ($8.50) surprised us because it was served at room temperature, but it was moist and flavorful, graced with the sweetness of caramelized onion and the Mediterranean warmth of rosemary. Last, and perhaps least, among the appetizers was a fresh tomato salad ($8). This was disappointing only because, being in the middle of New England's all-too-short growing season, we expected a generous platter of thick, fleshy slices of ripe red tomatoes, and received instead only a few thin, less than outstanding specimens under a pile of frisée, garnished with thin slices of peach and shavings of Grana cheese. The well-constructed vinaigrette, however, was first-rate, nicely balanced between sweet and tart.

With the main courses, Chef Soto hit his stride. Among our favorites was the confit of chicken with mushroom fricassée, baked onion and smoked bacon ($17.50). A big, crispy-skinned hindquarter was accompanied by an elegant *ballotine* of moist breast rolled around deftly sea-





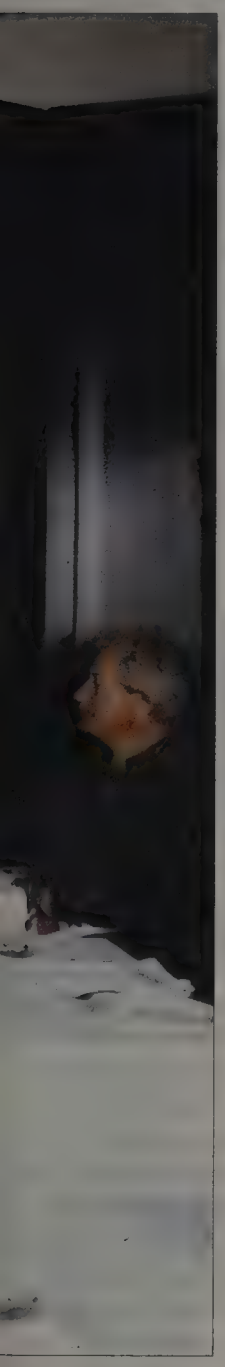
Chef Al Soto wows patrons of the Beacon Hill Bistro with his outstanding cuisine

Beacon Hill Bistro

25 Charles St., Boston (617-723-1133)
HOURS Mon.-Fri., 7am-10am, 11:30am-3pm and 5:30-11pm; Sat., 7:30-10am, 11:30am-3pm; 5:30-11pm; Sun., 7:30-10am, 11:30am-3pm, 5:30-10pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING on-street
LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine

soned dark meat and wrapped in bacon—all redolent of slow-roasted garlic. The fricassée of mushrooms, bacon chunks and fresh peas, and the large, moist-baked onion were delicious. Almost on a par with the chicken was the roast duck breast with pears, potato puree and clover honey ($19.50). This thick, succulent slab of lean duck beneath crisp salt-encrusted skin was complemented by the sweetness of the honey. An incomparable medley of fresh vegetables—peas, asparagus, lima beans and carrots—made a delicious accompaniment.

Bistro's fish dishes are oustanding. The special one evening, grilled salmon, arrived as a beautiful, thick wedge of rare, tender, full-flavored fish ($18.50) accompanied by another delightful fricassée of vegetables, this time peas, green beans, corn, carrots, tomato and parsley. Striped bass with fennel, white beans and parsley-celery puree ($18.50) was also excellent, as was the gray sole with Maine crab, baby artichokes and fava beans ($17.50), the latter spiked with just a hint of curry.



Only the steak *frites* ($19.50) and the rack of lamb fell below the high standards set by the other offerings. The steak itself was fine—a tender, substantial strip steak served with herbed butter, but the French fries were substandard—heavy, overly browned, slightly soggy and broken into pieces. The lamb was described as baby lamb with potato gratin, creamed spinach and black-olive puree ($18.50). The three tender, rare ribs were very good, as were the spinach and potatoes, but the olive puree were absent. Instead there was a timbale of brazed lamb shoulder with a fatty texture and overly strong flavor.

Desserts were uniformly excellent. A fresh raspberry tart with flawless plump red berries and light custard had a perfect, flaky sweet crust. The golden kiwi tart combined the muted, exotic sweetness of the fruit with the rich creaminess of custard.

The Beacon Hill Bistro's excellent food was accompanied by splendid, chewy crusted loaves of slightly dark bread well-suited to mopping up the toothsome





Delectable dishes: Striped sea bass with fennel, white beans and parsley-celery puree (top) and roast duck breast with pears, potato puree and clover honey.

sauces produced by the kitchen. Even better, in a city plagued by outrageous wine prices, the imaginatively selected and reasonably priced wine list had a number of selections in the low $20s. The 1999 Reserve de Mas ($22) from Mas de la Dame, long one of our favorite wineries in the South of France, was a robust, full-bodied red in the southern Rhone style, a good match for the lamb. The 1996 Domaine Champs Perdrix ($24), a well-balanced pinot noir from the Cotes Chalonnaise, was a remarkably good value for a Burgundy, and went well with the steak and chicken. It is likely that Chef Soto, whose previous engagements included the now defunct Uva in Brighton, which boasted Boston's best restaurant wine values, has brought to the Bistro his conviction that wine is not a frill or luxury but a necessary companion for fine food.

Service at the Bistro was friendly and accommodating, with its young waitstaff making up an in enthusiasm and diligence what it lacked in experience. From the point of view of value—what the French call *rapport prix-qualite*—the Beacon Hill Bistro is outstanding. If it stays the course it has charted, it will be around for a good, long time. **iB**

NEW DIALECT DISCOVERED IN THE VAULT

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EVM

DISH

On the Verge

Chugging along at Metro...You can't rush Limbo

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Can we eat there yet? It's the grown-up diner's version of "Are we there yet?" A few answers to the universal question:

Metro, originally slated to open months ago in the former **Cottonwood Café** space in Porter Square, will open "October first, come hell or high water," according to owner **Joe Quattrochi**. Quattrochi's latest addition to his roster of star chefs is **Rick Katz**, formerly pastry chef at **Legal Seafood**. Once Metro opens, expect to enjoy sweets such as chocolate souffle with cognac ice cream and caramelized upside-down pear-and-fig cake with crème fraiche. Make sure to try Katz's sorbets—a boysenberry sorbet he whipped up recently was intensely flavored with a plush, almost velvety texture.

Amanda Lydon, Metro's executive chef, plans some hearty fall dishes, such as *gigot a sept heures*—seven-hour leg of lamb with medjool dates and root vegetables—and steak frites made with Niman Ranch organic beef.

Limbo, another upscale rung on the recently dubbed Ladder District downtown, is officially open but had to start off with some rented furniture while waiting for the real stuff to be delivered.

You probably already know about the bilevel dining room, lounge and supper-club jazz concept, but Dish cares about the food and wine. Executive chef **Charles Draghi**, formerly of **Marcuccio's**, has devised a menu of dishes served in scaled-down portions so that you can order a series of different tastes. The menu descriptions will entice you to try a bit of everything. Although the dominant theme is "contemporary Mediterranean," Draghi adds flavors from North Africa and uses exotic herbs, oils and fruit musts to enhance familiar seasonal ingredients. For example, sauteed Maine crabcakes are presented in a kataifi crust with preserved lemons and cardamom. Salmon tartar is marinated with roses, anise hyssop and grated sweet fennel. Grilled native lamb is served with a roasted red-onion jus spiced with scented geranium oil. What—you don't like fruit oil? Have the lemon linguine with cockles, leeks, arugula and fresh lemon thyme instead.

As for the wine, general manager/sommelier **Jean-Claude Jassa**, formerly of **Les Zygomates**, has created a first-rate list, with 16 wines by the glass available each night. Best of all, for those of you who bemoan the lack of late-night dining in Boston, there's the late-night menu offered from 11pm to 1am.

The Sapphire Group, otherwise known as the folks who brought you **Rialto** and **Red Clay**, have definitely been feeling **Blu**, but they're not saying much about the "opening soon" project that includes both a café and a dining room in The Sports Club/LA across from Boston Common. Watch for more details—if not the missing vowel—in the next Dish.

Out in the suburbs, **Nelson Cognac**, who was last mentioned in this column when he was chef at **The Harvest** a couple years ago, plans to open his own restaurant in partnership with his wife, **Joanna**, any day now. **Kouzina** (Greek for "kitchen") will offer a Mediterranean menu (no surprise there) in a cozy Waban location.



Rick Katz makes his first official appearance (at Vox Populi) since being named pastry chef of the forthcoming Metro in Cambridge.

SECOND COURSE

It's true: Pastry chef **Judy Mattera** has checked out of **The Federalist** at XV Beacon for good and is vacationing in Hawaii. Stay tuned.

Ever wonder about the restaurant survey comments that don't make it past the legal screening into the **Zagat** guide? Check out *www.zagat.com/help/outtakes* to read some hilariously uncomplimentary commentary. My favorite: "Food is icky, tables are sticky, waitress has hickey, stay home if you're picky." iB

Carolyn Faye Fox is a panelist on "Says You!," NPR's nationally syndicated word-game quiz show.

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

Eau de Muscat

BY SANDY BLOCK MW

There are some wines that you ponder and analyze, and some that you just drink because they're so good. You don't have to think twice about muscat. It's a grape variety with a perfume distinctive enough—seductive to some, cloying to others—that you just know whether it's for you the moment you pick up the glass. I've found that muscat's exotically fruity, floral scents and bright grapey flavors make it particularly appealing to beginners. While I don't fall into that category, I particularly love a good chilled muscat all by itself when the weather is steamy, or before, during or after a meal, particularly if Asian spices appear on the menu.

Actually muscat is the name for several grape varieties with a common ancestry. Scholarly research suggests that virtually all the grapes we use for making quality wine today evolved from muscat vines, which have been cultivated since antiquity around the Mediterranean Sea. More than 200 varieties currently comprise this diverse group. Their colors range from pale green (or "white" in the peculiar parlance of wine) through golden and orange to brown and black. Muscats adapt to a broad range of vineyard conditions and climates, and vintners can shape them into virtually every known winemaking style, including sweet, off-dry, bone-dry, sparkling, half-sparkling and fortified. The common trait is a memorable fragrance reminiscent of peaches, apricots, honey, lilacs and sweet herbs.

The finest, most delicate aromas are associated with white muscat, or muscat Canelli as it's called in Italy and sometimes California and the Pacific Northwest. This generally makes a pale, lightly sweet wine that is either semi-sparkling or still. The wines with bubbles are generally low in alcohol and therefore delicious with fruit-based salads or other midday fare. Because muscats lack vibrant acidity, a degree of carbon dioxide provides refreshment and flavor balance. The famous, and almost ubiquitous, Italian sparkler Asti Spumante is made with muscat Canelli; but for a version using better quality grapes, look for a wine from Piedmont labeled Moscato d'Asti. This crowd-pleaser is delightful chilled as an aperitif, makes a luscious partner to dishes incorporating sweet root vegetables, and is a tasty with an apple or peach tart.

Other outstanding white muscats are produced in a dry style in Alsace and Portugal. Alsatian muscat is sometimes confused with Gewurztraminer, as both grapes contain high concentrations of linalool, an organic compound that bestows a pungently fruity scent. Although not widely grown, muscat is classified as one of the four noble grapes of Alsace, and it makes an interesting wine in that it "smells sweet" but is dry and sometimes quite earthy. It's a great match with grilled river fish and is also enjoyable after dinner with fruit and cheese.

Fortified white muscats include the southern French triumvirate of muscat from the Rhone Valley and Languedoc-Roussillon regions, which to my taste are generally brighter flavored, more citrusy and ageworthy dessert wines that have a special affinity to blue cheeses and apricots.



Muscat of Alexandria is grown in southern Italy, producing a sweet fortified wine, as well as in Greece, its original home, where it's called muscat of Samos. Along with muscat Hamburg, this variety is a bit coarser than white muscat, with muskier aromas, and it is often used for table grape or raisin production. Portugal produces a fortified wine, Moscatel de Setubal, south of Lisbon; it's largely made from muscat Ottonel and can age into a rich, spicy, nutlike fruit nectar best enjoyed with pungent cheeses and dried figs. It's generally a little mellower than port.

Some of the most brilliant, syrupy dessert wines I've ever had originate in Australia and are made of fortified brown muscat. The so-called "liqueur muscats" of Victoria's Rutherglen region are amazingly rich and caramel-like, with dried-fruit aromas that are an exotic rival to the best ports.

Try a good muscat. It's the furthest thing you could imagine from an oaky Chardonnay. The sometimes shocking sensuality of its flavors may delight you. You won't have to explain them to anyone—all you have to do is pour. iB

KATZ: WENDY SEMONIAN; WINE AVAILABLE AT BEST CELLARS, 1327 BEACON ST (617-232-1400); AND 745 BOYLSTON ST. (617-266-29

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

EVENTS

Barbecue Wines
The Wine Bottega, 341 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-6607). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Aug. 31, 5-8pm. **Peter Nelson** leads this Friday-night tasting of barbecue wines that are food and wallet friendly.

Cookin'
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 1 and 7pm. Sept. 4-23. $35-$55. What do you get when you mix Jackie Chan, Stomp and Benihana? *Cookin'*, the Korean percussion-fest cooking sensation, which blends music, comedy, dance and contemporary elements of traditional Korean art forms into a musical adventure.

Downeast Grille
Sidney's Grille, 20 Sidney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). Sept. 1-15. Chef **Todd Young** serves up Cape creations such as grilled corn and crab chowder and grilled lobster with lemon butter.

Eat Guest Chef Series
Eat, 253 Washington St., Somerville (617-776-2889). Sept. 10. **David Potash** of Lumiere cooks.

A Harvest of Beers
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). Sept. 10, 7pm. $35. Enjoy a three-course dinner and a selection of harvest ales and Oktoberfest beers at this dinner hosted by Boston brewer Tod Mott.

Harvest Festival
Nashoba Valley Winery, 100 Wattaquadoc Hill Road, Bolton (978-779-5521). Sept. 8, 12-5pm. Free. This day of pick-your-own apples includes barbecue, live music and hay rides.

James Beard Dinner
Butterfish, 5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge (617-497-5511). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 11. $65. Chef/owner **Chris Bussell** will repeat his four-course all-lobster extravaganza from his appearance at the James Beard House.

Joy of Soy
Giuliano Spa for Beauty and Wellness, 338 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2220). MBTA: Green Line Hynes/ICA. Sept. 11, 6:30pm. $45. Tofu, TVP, edamame, miso—do these soy products baffle you? Well, that's about to change. Learn how to use them to create delicious and satisfying meals.

Second Sundays
Veronique Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (617-312-5410). $20. These events for young professionals includes wine, live music and hors d'oeuvres. •Sept. 9, 2-5pm: French wines.

Sunday Night at the West Side Corral
West Side Lounge, 1680 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-5566). Sunday nights. Each week, the Sunday menu will feature mouth-watering ribs with a twist.

Tea Time at Saffron
Saffron Restaurant & Bar, 279A Newbury St., Boston (617-536-9766). Daily, 3-5pm. $10. Tea time includes signature teas such as Indian Masalaea and selections from a dessert cart.

TASTY TIDBIT

BORN TO RIDE

Seems that every other weekend, a local chef hosts a benefit for a charitable organization. All that varies is the chef *du jour* and the charity of choice. If you can distinguish between Boston Bakes for Breast Cancer, Table for Ten and A Taste of Boston (Allston, the South End, etc.), you're ahead of the game. That's not to say these aren't great events—they're all just beginning to blur in our minds. This one stands out, though: It's Ride with the Chefs on Sept. 9. Local chefs like Jason Santos of Tremont 647, Peter Dockendorf of the Hill Tavern and Jae Chung of Jae's will hop on their Harleys in Hudson, Mass., and embark on a 125-mile motorcycle ride through Worcester County to benefit Share Our Strength's Operation Frontline, which provides cooking, nutrition and food budgeting skills to low-income parents. Three hours later, the crew of 200 (mostly comprising non-chefs) will meet back up in Waltham at Jake & Earl's Dixie Barbecue for an outdoor barbecue in the parking lot with live music and bike games. Chef Lawrence Parks of the soon-to-be-opened restaurant Blu is the inspiration behind the ride. Parks, who enjoys riding his motorcycle, says, "It's nice to do something other than cook." Chefs Paul Sussman of Macondo, Steve Zimei and A.J. Alicambro of The Federalist and Dave Perrier of Trio—all non-riders—will contribute their culinary talents. The public is invited to join the chefs or cheer them in Hudson, Winchendon and Acton, or simply join the festivities at Jake & Earl's. *Jake & Earl's, 218 Moody St., Waltham (617-267-5828). 9am (the ride), 1pm (barbecue). $40, $25 (barbecue).*



Lawrence Parks of Blu leads Ride with the Chefs Sept. 9.



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CITYSCOPE 58
PERFORMING ARTS 60
ART 64
BOOKS & POETRY 70
EDUCATION 70
FILM 72
DANCE CLUBS 78
MUSIC 82
CLASSICAL MUSIC 92
GAY & LESBIAN 93
BODY & MIND 94
CHILDREN 94
SPORTS 94
AROUND TOWN 96

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THROUGH OCT. 14

Theater: Mamma Mia!

First, a confession: We're not usually "musical" people. Rarely can we sit through three hours of show tunes. So we were amazed to find this one terrific. We didn't once check our watches, and we felt genuinely disappointed when the show was over (we were actually swinging our hips as we sang along). Mamma Mia!, the smash hit from London that had even the most jaded of critics dancing in the aisles, loosely follows an impending wedding in the Greek Isles. But the plot is secondary to the performers' renditions of ABBA songs, which are superb. The crew of actors are clearly having a blast—as is the audience, both ABBA fanatics and the uninitiated alike. Book tickets now. *Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Oct. 14. $27-$82.*

FRI./SEPT. 7—SUN./SEPT. 16

Film: Mountains of Movies

Now in its 17th year, the **Boston Film Festival** is set to debut 50 local and internationally produced feature films and a slew of short works. The films are all shown during a celluloid 10 days, and you can get the entire schedule of showtimes online at *www.bostonfilmfestival.org*. Despite years of grouchy gripes from the public about being crammed into the lackluster Copley Place, it's still the only place to screen the 16-millimeter films. Most other films will be upgraded to the new mammoth Loews Boston Common. Each year, the festival organizers present a Film Excellence Award to an outstanding performer or filmmaker—this year it's going to **Steve Martin**. *175 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-5801); Loews Copley Place, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-1300). $10 per film; $85 (10 admissions).*

MON./SEPT. 10 & TUE./SEPT. 11

Tastings: Crustaceans and Beer

For those of you who haven't had your yearly fix of lobster, Chef Christopher Bussell of **Butterfish** will give it to you all at once. He's recreating his Aug. 6 James Beard House dinner at his Cambridge restaurant Sept. 11. And it's all about lobster. The first course is tropical fruit and lobster claw salad. The second course is crispy lobster Brandade in sweet corn broth, and the third course is veal sweeetbreads with lobster tail in a lobster Bordelaise. Add a cheese course and dessert, plus wines with every course, and you've got pure dining heaven. And while we're on the topic of pure indulgence, **Redbones** hosts the September Beer Banquet—featuring harvest ales and Oktoberfest beers—Sept. 10. *Butterfish, 5 Craigie Circle, Cambridge (617-497-5511). Sept. 11. $65. Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). Sept. 10, 7pm. $35.*



Highlights from Dog Day Afternoon.

inside RACK

Every Monday Night

"In The Biz Night" pool challenge, hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Tuesday Night, 6pm

After-work Jazz Party featuring the band MD!

Every Wednesday Night, 6pm

Summer Reggae Party & DJ Steve Anderson.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm

"Radio-Active"

Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes, hosted by Mix 98.5's Party-Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky rocks 'til 2am.

Every Friday Night, 6pm

Jump-start your weekend with Kiss 108's Billy Costa along with Central Basement and DJ Todd. Come on down and tell Billy Costa your sexiest and wildest secrets on "Barstool Confessions!"

Wednesday, August 29th, 6:30-9:30pm

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Thursday, September 20th



Be bad with Willa! Atlantic recording artist Willa Ford comes to The Rack for a night of fun.

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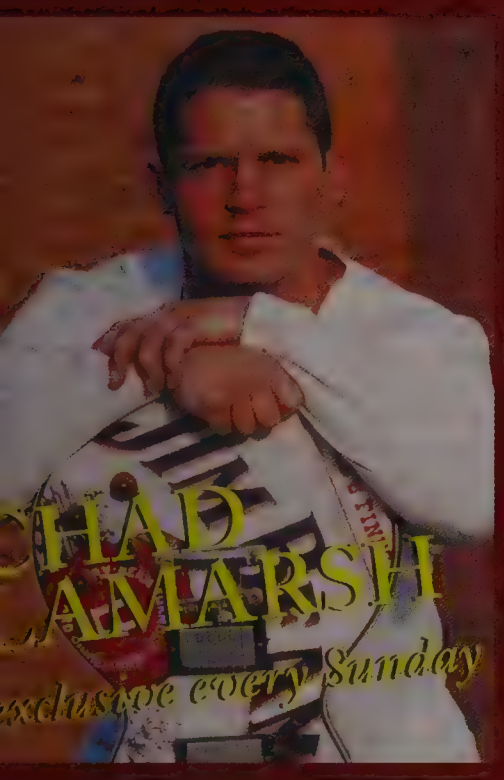


Mix 98.5's Damon Oaks, Kelly Malone and Gregg Daniels with Chad LaMarsh.





Paul Ferazzi with pooch Heather and Jerry Ahearn with Babe.




Mix 98.5's Erin O'Malley with her dog Casey.



Central Basement every Friday night!


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Animal hero John Walsh of the WSPA.


Joey McIntyre.

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THE RACK



FRI./SEPT. 7—SUN./SEPT. 9

◀ Music: Sounds from the Scrapyard

The **Zeitgeist Gallery**, Central Square's one-stop-shopping gallery for experimental multimedia, has outdone itself with its latest scheme: the **Scrapstock Music and Arts Festival**, a three-weekend outdoor shebang packed with music, film, art and food at the Empire Stone Company lot near Union Square in Somerville. The scrapyard will be filled with art by local sculptors, live radio broadcasts, live video art, a video projection billboard, a barbecque cookout and music by as many as 75 local bands. **The Either/Orchestra**, **Mike Rivard**, members of **Club D'elf** and DJ **Hrvatski** are just some of the acts on the bill. You can get the schedule online at *www.project3.com/scrapstock.html* (or see our Music Listings section). In Zeitgeist owner Al Nidle's words: "Scrapstock could prove the best thing to happen to the cause of fun since the invention of tandem bicycles." Sept. 7-9; Sept. 14-16; Sept. 21-23. *$20 a day; $40 weekend pass; $75 nine-day ticket. Prices include food. (617-876-2182).*

SUN./SEPT. 2

Sports: Monster Challenge ▼

Despite our nightly jaunts from bar to bar, we readily admit that we're not the most physically fit kids on our the block. With the extra padding around our waists, we give new meaning to the term "hipsters." Thus, we're doubly impressed by anyone who makes an effort to get their heart rate above resting/drinking pace. In this case, we're talking about the 600 participants in Boston's first annual triathlon, the **Monster Challenge Tri-Boston**. The race begins at the World Trade Center (the best viewing spot) with a half-mile swim in Boston Harbor followed by a 12.4-mile bike ride through the city along Memorial Drive and finishing with a 3.1-mile run through Marine Industrial Park. *www.monster challenge.com.*



TUE./SEPT. 4—SUN./SEPT. 23

◀ Theater: Benihana Gone Berserk

We were a wee bit skeptical when we got a call to see a sneak preview of **Cookin'**, billed as a "mix between Jackie Chan, Stomp and Benihana" last spring. How much entertainment value is there in watching Korean chefs chop veggies? Turns out, the answer is plenty. First off, it's a ton of fun. The loosely developed plot revolves around four chefs who've been asked by their manager to prepare an elaborate dinner in less than an hour. Chaos ensues as the cooks frantically slice, dice, chop and stir to make their deadline. In the meantime, they keep the beat by banging on pots and pans, juggling plates and wielding knives. This percussion-fest culinary delight blends music, comedy, dance and contemporary elements of traditional Korean art forms into one big stir-fry spectacle. Iron Chef beware. *Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 7pm. Sept. 4-23. $35-$55.*



SAT./SEPT. 15 & SUN./SEPT. 16

Art: South End Open Studios ▶

The fall art season is upon us again, and the open studios events allow us to wander freely into people's homes and look at their stuff each and every weekend. The season is inaugurated with the 15th anniversary of the **United South End Open Studios**, where more than 200 artists showcase their paintings, sculptures, photography, ceramics and fiber works. Open Studios continues every weekend until the last event in Charlestown Dec. 8 and 9. It's a good opportunity to meet collectors, gallery directors, students and artists, and to observe work in progress. Plus, you can purchase work directly from the artists. There are two main starting places to tour the studios: 560 Harrison Ave., Boston (Rebecca's) or 539 Tremont St., Boston (The Boston Center for the Arts). *Various Galleries in the South End (617-267-6682). 11am-6pm. Free parking at lots in the South End.*



SUN./SEPT. 9

Tastings: Art Has Never Tasted So Good

On the eve of venerable chef **Julia Child**'s departure from the Northeast, Boston University's Seminar in the Arts hosts a night dedicated entirely to female artists. Held at Child's home in Cambridge, **Notable Women, A Soiree** will fête local writers, painters, sculptors, musicians, chefs and sommeliers. Museum of Fine Arts curator **Erica Hirshler** kicks off the night with a slide show of paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture and decorative arts from her new exhibition, *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940*. Her lecture will be accompanied by music written by female composers and performed by world-renowned pianist **Virginia Eskin**. Chef/co-owner of Al Forno and Cafe Louis **Johanne Killeen** will prepare dinner, and pastry chef **Stephanie Hersh** will concoct delectable desserts. Wash it all down with wines selected by **Jeannie Rogers**, award-winning sommelier and co-owner of Il Capriccio. *(617-353-9852). Sept. 9, 5:30pm; $225.*

THROUGHOUT SEPTEMBER

Art: Davis Square Looks in the Mirror

For the whole month of September, the photo installation ***Square²*** (you can just say "square squared") plasters Davis Square with images of the square itself and pedestrians that have wandered through during the past year. Created by photographer **Gary Duehr**, the digitally based images are a random sampling of passersby, often snapped without looking through the lens, and are all untitled and unsigned so as to blend into the environment. The images cover everything imaginable, from cafe napkins to manhole covers, tree leaves to bookmarks, cakes in bakeries to a 30-foot banner. Duehr says that they "will act like a mirror of the people who pass through every day." Maps, information and a comment book are available at **McIntyre and Moore Booksellers**. The bookstore also hosts the closing reception Sunday, Sept. 30, 5-8pm. *255 Elm St., Somerville. For more information, contact New England Foundation for the Arts (617-951-0010).*

WED./SEPT. 5—SAT./SEPT. 29

Gay & Lesbian: Out on the Edge

Since Mayor Flynn declared an official "Out on the Edge Week" 10 years ago, the **Theater Offensive**'s annual ***Out on the Edge Festival of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Theater*** has become a tradition. The four-week celebration includes pieces that are alternately glamorous, sassy and gritty. There are also free workshops held weekly. During the next two weeks, you can catch *Dr. Frockrocket's Vivifying (Re-Animitronic) Menagerie and Medicine Show*, a traveling cabaret that's billed as a "queer punk circus of the apocalypse" (Sept. 5-6, 8pm; Sept. 7-8, 9pm). There's also *I Remember Mapa*, a lurid backstage Broadway show (Sept. 7-9, 7pm), and *Shequida's Opera for Dummies*, an operatic evening of arias (Sept. 12-13, 8pm; Sept. 14-15, 9pm). *Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Sept. 5-29. $22.*

TOP: CHARLES DANIEL


..:la boom:..
sept-21, 2001
:resident dj: edward grant stuart
:resident drummer: michael gunn

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 29

Fun and Games with Sea Lions
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston, (617-973-5206). 12 and 2pm. $50. Interact with sea lions and watch them race. Two participants per show. Runs through Sept. 12.

Last Days of Summer at Tia's
200 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-254-3800, ext. 1641) 6:30pm-10pm $10. An evening-get-together with appetizers, music and a chance to mingle and network with Boston's Young Professionals and enjoy one of the last days of summer. The proceeds benefit the Franciscan Children's Hospital.

People Scavenger Hunt at the Rack
The Rack, 51 Clinton St., Boston (617-312-5410) RSVP at pshrsvp@email.com *6:30-9:30pm. $20.* The Rack's monthly People Scavenger Hunt is a fun way to mix and mingle. The evening will include a live reggae band, dancing, appetizers and pizza. And on your way out, drop off your "wish list" and you will be contacted if you made a match.

FRIDAY, AUG. 31

Gloucester Schooner Festival
Gloucester Harbor, Gloucester (978-283-1601). www.capeannvacations.com *10-9:30pm. Free.* Enjoy the last weekend of summer with the 17th annual Gloucester Schooner festival. There will be a parade of lights, deck tours, an open house aboard the 121-foot *Adventure* and fireworks.

Rhythm & Roots Festival
Ninigret Park, Rt. 1, Charlestown, R.I. (888-855-6940). 5pm-midnight, $20-$100. Rock all weekend to the best in roots music at the Rhythm and Roots Festival, headlined by Steve Riley and the Mamou Playboys. There will be four stages of musicians as well as the Bud Light Dance Tent offering two-hour blocks of various dance music, from Cajun to Swing.

16th Annual Saint Lucia Festival
Cushing St., West Cambridge (617-547-6392). 6-11pm. Free. This weekend-long festival celebrates Saint Lucia and Italian heritage in Cambridge. There will be parades, a mass, music and entertainment, including a concert by the North Shore Acapella group.

Sounds in the Night
Arnold Arboretum (617-635-7487) 8-9:30pm. Free. This is a chance to hear the wild sounds of the arboretum, from crickets and frogs to owls, and even coyotes. Don't forget to bring a flashlight and something to sit on.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1

Galway Bay Oyster Festival
The Fish Pier (next to the World Trade Center), Seaport District. Through Sept. 3. www.irishheritagetrail.com, *(617-696-9880).* This is the first year of what will hopefully become an annual tradition—a festival of Irish culture, crafts, music and, of course, oysters. There will be four stages, 35 bands and 100 step dancers. (We were under the impression, based on all those plastic Reebok steps we've seen out in the trash each week, that the step craze had passed. Maybe it's still big in Ireland.) And if you fancy yourself one mean shucker, make sure you enter the hotly contested oyster-shucking championship.

Magnificent and Modest: A Beacon Hill Walking Tour
Harrison Gray Otis House, 141 Cambridge St. (617-227-3956) 11am. $10, reservations recommended. An extensive walking tour of Boston's historic Beacon Hill, presented by The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities. The tour includes a slide show presentation, a visit to the federal-style Harrison Gray Otis House and a walking tour of Beacon Hill, which includes tree-lined streets where Boston's elite resided (hard to imagine, isn't it?) as well as the North Slope, home to the working class.

6th Annual Southern Vermont Garlic and Herb Festival
Beaver Brook Field, Wilmington, Vt. (802-368-7147) 10am-5pm. $3. Don't forget your breath mints at this garlic lovers' mecca that includes everything from garlic ice cream to garlic golf. The two-day festival features food and crafts from 30 vendors and outdoor activities for the whole family.

WWF—The Invasion Continues
Worcester's Centrum Centre (508-228-6000) www.centrumcentre.com *7:30 pm. $17-$40.* Uh-oh, it's the invasion that all wrestling fans have feared! The WCW and the ECW have infiltrated the ranks of the WWF and it's now your chance to see the chaos this is causing.

MONDAY, SEPT. 3

Bread and Roses Festival
The Common, Jackson St., Lawrence (978-685-5231) www.breadandroses.net *11am-8pm. Free.* An outdoor festival featuring music, theater, poetry and culture in commemoration of the Strike of 1912. There will also be an International Food Fair and vendors selling arts and crafts.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5

The Fidelity Investments Jumper Classic
The Mansion at Turner Hill Equestrian Center, Ipswich Sept. 5-9, gates open at 10:30am. www.jumperclassic.com. *(978-283-7708).* Equestrians will compete in show jumping events throughout the week, culminating on Sunday with the AGA Grand Prix. The Grand Prix will feature some of the best show jumping in the country. The daylong event includes ample entertainment, with skydiving (to add some danger to the event), Clydesdales, pony rides (for the aspiring equestrians) and many family-oriented activities. Proceeds of the Jumper Classic will benefit the Windrush Farm, a non-profit working horse farm in Boxford.



Natalie MacMaster fiddles around on stage at the Rhythm & Roots festival in Charlestown, R.I.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 7

Boston Film Festival
Loews Copley Place. Through Sept. 16. $9. (617-266-2533). Now in its 17th year, the Boston Film Festival will launch the fall film season by premiering 50 feature films—many of them in their U.S. or world premiere. Jean-Claude van *Damme* that sounds like fun.

Bourne Scallop Fest
Buzzard's Bay Park, Bourne. Through Sept. 9. (508-362-3225). The Scallop Fest will feature an opening parade, games and rides, but let's be honest here: It's really all about scallops and the people who love them. As an added attraction, the post-Labor Day scheduling of this event should mean that traffic around Bourne won't make you wish you were a scallop yourself.

Ride Far 7 Benefit Concert
South Shore Folk Music Club, Beal House, Kingston. (978-779-0393). 8pm. $20 donation. Ride Far 7, the five-day, 500-mile bike-a-thon to raise money for AIDS, presents Lucy Kaplansky and Cliff Eberhardt in concert on the third evening of the tour The critically acclaimed acoustic musicians will each play a solo set and the profits will benefit the AIDS cause.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

Cambridge Artists Open Studios
Various locations between Mass. Ave and Memorial Drive and River St. and Sidney St. Free. More than 50 artists and performers open their studios to the public to perform, show and talk about their art. Maps are available at Pearl Art in Central Square.

Not Quite First Night
Berkshire Grill, Prudential Tower 111 Huntington Ave. (617-542-1399) www.firstnight.org *$40 in advance, $45 at the door. 7-11pm* A grand opening VIP party for the Berkshire Grill to benefit First Night's Network Neighborhood, a community outreach program that promotes creativity and self-esteem for youth and adults.

75th Diamond Jubilee Italian Festival of Saint Cosmas and Damian
Warren and Porter Streets, East Cambridge (617-661-1164). 6:30-11pm. Free. The 75th celebration of the healing saints festival will feature a performance by the Al Martino, parades, candlelight processions, ethnic food, carnival games and more.

Wish Fashion and Beauty Day
Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St., Beacon Hill (617-227-4441) 9:45am, $20. See story at upper right for details.

The Dudley Street Initiative Multi-Cultural Festival
Clifford Park, Dudley St., Dorchester (617-442-9670) 9:30am-7:30pm free. Join the Dudley Community as they celebrate their diversity at their annual cultural festival. The day's events include the Village Run, a 5K race/bike/swim, children's activities and a parade with a marching band, floats and—ohhh, scary, kids—clowns.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9

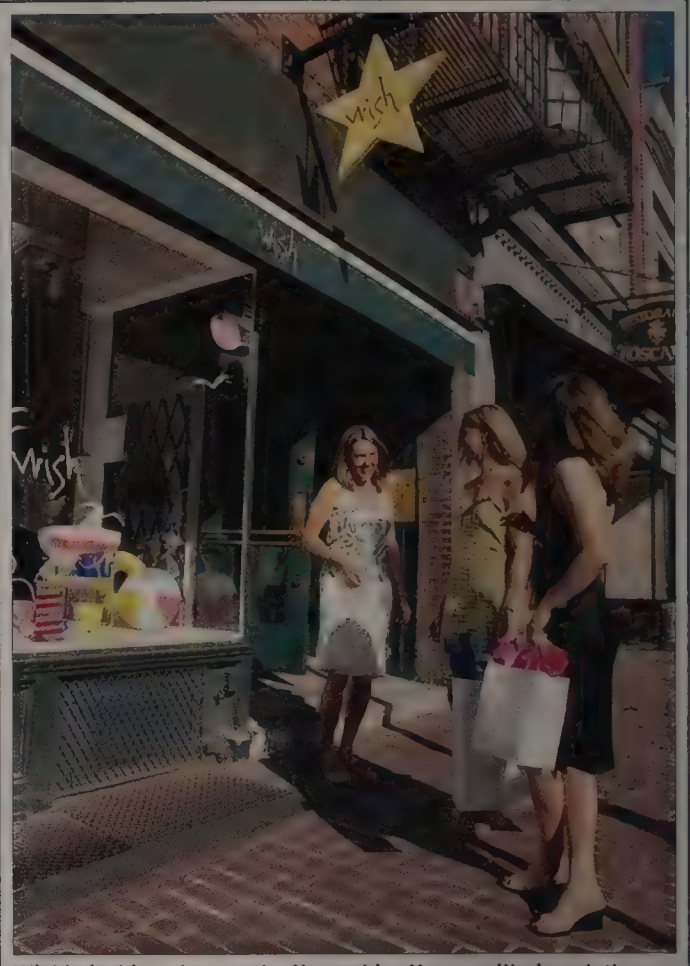
Chef Ride and Barbecue for Hunger
Hudson's Roller Kingdom and Jake and Earl's, Waltham. (781-894-4227). 10am. $40 for ride, $25 for barbecue. Join a mix of chefs and motorcyclists as they embark on a 125-mile benefit ride for hunger. The event was developed by chef Lawrence Parks of the new restaurant Blu, who is both an avid chef and motorcyclist. Join the motorcyclists at Jake and Earl's for a barbecue following the ride.

Greater Boston Antique and Collectible Toy Show
Holiday Inn, Dedham, Rt. 1 at Exit A off Rt 128/95. (508-379-9733) 9am-2:30pm. $3.50-$4.50 There is everything from Barbies to Tonka Toys at this extensive antique toy show. You might just find that one toy that you're still mad your mom didn't buy you for Christmas years ago. We really hope you can get over that.

Newton Library Benefit Barbecue
155 Homer St., Newton (617-965-7702) 4:00, suggested donation $25-$250. Join Newton community leaders and elected officials as they fire up the grill to raise money for the Newton Free Library.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 11

8 Minute Dating
X&O European Trattoria, 1388 Hancock St., Quincy. (617-479-1900) www.8minutedating.net. *$33.88.* The super popular eight-minute dating craze has hit the South Shore. Who knows, eight might be enough for you to find a little lovin'.



Wish's fashion show at the Hampshire House will give clothes-horses a preview of fall fashions while helping Rosie's Place.

Preview

A Rosie Future

Wish holds a fall fashion show to help women and children

On Saturday, Sept. 8, Beacon Hill clothier Wish is hosting a benefit fashion show and breakfast for Rosie's Place at the Hampshire House. Rosie's Place is an organization that provides safety and shelter for homeless women and children, so here's an opportunity to turn your usual Bloody Mary debauchery into a socially redemptive endeavor.

The latest designs from Milly, Rebecca Taylor, Cynthia Steffe, Theory and others will be on display, and representatives will be on hand to give seminars in fashionology. There's also an incentive to clean out your closet to help Rosie's, as each piece of clothing you donate will earn you a raffle ticket and a chance to win fabulous prizes. So hit the Hampshire House to revamp your wardrobe, learn a thing or two and feel good about it.

Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St. Breakfast served at 9:45am, show starts at 10am. Tickets $20. Call 617-227-4441 for more information.

BOTTOM: FRED ELFENBEIN; TOP RIGHT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets half-price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

Cookin'
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 7pm. Sept. 4-23. $35-$55. What do you get when you mix Jackie Chan, *Stomp* and Benihana? *Cookin'*, the Korean percussion-fest cooking sensation, which blends music, comedy, dance and contemporary elements of traditional Korean art forms into a musical adventure.

Dario Fo Festival
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Johan Padan: *Sept. 6, 7, 8, 11-15, 8pm; Sept. 9, 15-16, 2pm; Sept. 9 and 16, 7pm.* Mistero Buffo: *Sept. 21, 26, 27, 8pm; Sept. 22 and 29, 2pm.* Sex? Thanks, Don't Mind If I Do!: *Sept. 22, 22, 28-29. $25 and $35.* See the preview box (at right) for more information.

Directors' Lab
Threshold Theater, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-469-9339). $18 per show. $50 for the series. This theater company is dedicated to fostering the development of the art and craft of directing. • *The Balcony:* Sept. 6, 8, 14 and 20, 8pm; Sept. 16, 23, 2pm • *Off the Map:* Sept. 7, 13, 15, 21, 22, 7pm; Sept. 9, 1pm • *The Vietnamization of New Jersey:* Sept. 7, 13, 15, 21, 22, 9pm; Sept. 9, 3pm.

Forever Plaid
Stoneham Theatre, 359 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Sept. 7-30. $25-$35. After six years of practice, the four members of Forever Plaid landed their first big gig at the airport Hilton cocktail lounge. Tragically, before they got a chance to perform, the group was hit by a bus and killed. Tonight they return from heaven for the show they never had.

James Joyce's The Dead
The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Sept. 7-Oct. 14. $12-$62. Based on a short story by James Joyce, this Tony Award–winning musical takes place at the aunts' annual Christmas party.

Laundry and Bourbon and Lone Star
Stanley B Theatre, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-448-2892). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sept. 6-30. $25. Travel to Maynard, Texas, where the ladies drink, fold laundry and gossip while the men get drunk at the Lone Star Bar.

Letters from 'Nam
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sept. 4-23. $18-$56. Stories of six American soldiers during the Vietnam War as told through letters to their mothers, wives and girlfriends. All female parts are played by Maureen McGovern.

The Madwoman of Chaillot
The Vokes Theatre, Route 20, Wayland (508-358-2011). Aug. 30-Sept. 1, 8pm; Sept. 6-7, 8pm; Sept. 8, 2 and 8pm. $12. A comical and spirited romp that celebrates the courage of the individual to challenge the big-shot powers that be.

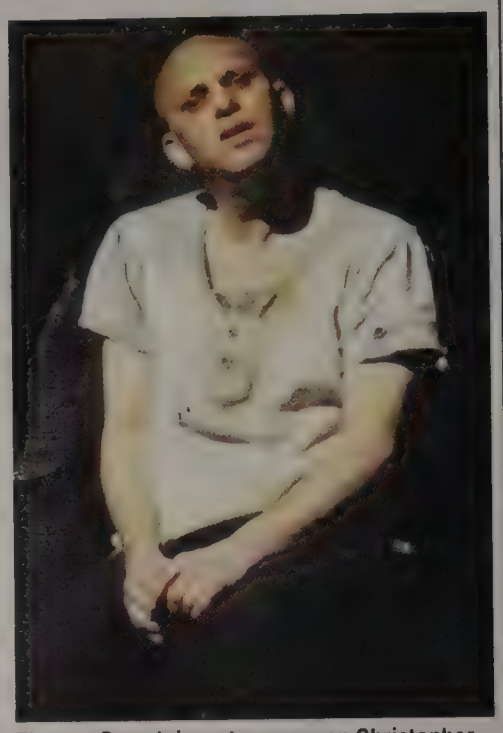
Preview

Fo Republique

The ART hosts the Dario Fo Festival

When a theater company as prestigious and cutting edge as the American Repertory Theatre organizes a festival dedicated entirely to someone you've never heard of (namely Italian dramatist/actor Dario Fo), it tends to pique your curiosity. So we called director Ron Jenkins to find out what makes Dario Fo worthy of a month's attention.

Jenkins was blunt: "Well, he's the first clown and physical comedian ever to win the Nobel Prize." Oh. Apparently Fo and his wife, Franca Rame, are renowned in Europe for their biting satirical plays and performances, combining *commedia dell'arte*, puppetry and clowning to tell stories. They've been censored, banned, rebuked, denied visas—and played to packed houses all over the world. This month, the ART presents a Dario Fo Festival, including Fo's one-man play, *Johan Padan*, performed by Thomas Derrah, and *Mistero Buffo* and *Sex? Thanks, Don't Mind If I Do!*, performed by Dario Fo and Franca Rame.



Thomas Derrah is a stowaway on Christopher Columbus' voyage in *Johan Padan*.

Johan Padan* describes the journey of a stowaway on Christopher Columbus' voyage who jumps ship and ends up on the side of the Indians fighting the Conquistadors. It's based on diaries from 16th-century explorers, but it resonates with Fo's trademark spirit of slapstick absurdity and physical humor. "You'll hear how the Indians cooked iguanas, how they made love in a hammock and how to tame wild horses by tying up their testicles," says Jenkins. But it also deals with heavier issues like "ethnic cleansing, mass migrations of refugees, violence and ethnic hatred—still very contemporary concerns," adds Jenkins. Actor Thomas Derrah, who has starred previously in Fo's *We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!*, plays dozens of characters—from sailors and Indians to horses, cannons and fireworks. "He's a terrific comic actor," says Jenkins. *ART, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.* Johan Padan: *Sept. 6, 7, 8, 11-15, 8pm; Sept. 9, 15-16, 2pm; Sept. 9 and 16, 7pm.* Mistero Buffo: *Sept. 21, 26, 27, 8pm; Sept. 22 and 29, 2pm.* Sex? Thanks, Don't Mind If I Do!: *Sept. 22, 22, 28-29. $25 and $35. —Julie Short

Midnight Sun
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Aug. 29-Sept. 16. $25. Maja Ardal's comedy is set in 1942 Iceland in a tiny fishing town where 2000 American GIs arrive en route to the war in Europe. The town is turned upside-down when the GIs announce a dance to which only the women of the town are invited.

The Most Massive Woman Wins
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Sept. 7-8 and 14-15. $10. This show explores the causes and effects of America's obsession with body image through monologue, make-believe, humor and horror.

Noises Off!
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. Aug. 31-Oct. 7. $28-$42. This farce-within-a-farce lets us watch from backstage as the long-suffering director, beleaguered stage manager and dimwitted thespians battle lovers' quarrels, diva fits and technical mishaps. The show must go on.

Out on the Edge: Festival of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Sept. 5-29. $22. • Sept. 5-6, 8pm; Sept. 7-8, 9pm: *Dr. Frockrocket's Vivifying (Re-Animitronic) Menagerie and Medicine Show* • Sept. 7-9, 7pm: *I Remember Mapa* • Sept. 12-13, 8pm; Sept. 14-15, 9pm: *Shequida's Opera for Dummies* • Sept. 14-16, 7pm: *Crouching Cabico, Hidden Cho* • Sept. 19-20, 8pm; Sept. 21-22: *P.S. 69* • Sept. 21-23, 7pm: *A Fairy Tale* • Sept. 28-29, 7pm: *Holy Shit! Stories from Heaven and Hell* • Sept. 27, 8pm; Sept. 28-29, 9pm: *Higher Highs, Lower Lows.*

Rickey
The Nexus Theatre Center, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sept. 7-8, 8pm; Sept. 9, 3pm. $20. David Wilcox portrays Branch Rickey, the legendary baseball executive known for signing Jackie Robinson to the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1945, thereby changing baseball and deeply influencing American Civil Rights policy forever.

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* • Mainstage: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, through Sept. 2. • Stables Theatre: *The Comedy of Errors*, through Sept. 12; *King John*, through Sept. 2. • Spring Lawn Theatre: *The Wharton One-Acts: An International Episode* and *The Rembrandt*, through Sept. 2; *A Tanglewood Tale*, Sept. 7-Oct. 21 • Founder's Theatre: *The Tempest*, through Sept. 1; The Studio Festival of Plays, Aug. 28-Sept. 2.

Snoopy
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sept. 7-30. $21. Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the Peanuts gang come to life.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Cooking with Elvis
Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, Wellfleet (508-349-6835). Tue.-Sun., 8pm. Through Sept. 2. $18. This provocative and touching black comedy is about a baker named Stuart who is drawn into the life of an extraordinarily dysfunctional family—a paraplegic Elvis impersonator; his alcoholic, sex-crazed wife; his food-obsessed daughter; and the family's pet tortoise.

Dralion: Cirque du Soleil
Suffolk Downs, Route 1A and 145, East Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. *Tue.-Wed., 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 5 and 9pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 5pm. Through Sept. 16. $38-$60.* A two-hour circus-art spectacle, fusing ancient Chinese acrobatic tradition with the avant-garde approach of Cirque du Soleil.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Oct. 14. $27-$82. Through the storytelling magic of the songs of ABBA, Donna, a 40-something single mom, recalls distant memories of carefree days and nights while her daughter Sophie dreams of tradition, romance and a big, white wedding.

Marat/Sade
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Sept. 1. $16. Peter Weiss' play focuses on inmates in the asylum of Charenton in the years following the French Revolution.

My Fair Lady
Berkshire Theatre Festival, Main Stage, 6 Main St., Stockbridge (413-298-5576). Mon.-Sat., 8pm. Matinees: Thu., 2pm and Sat., 3pm. Through Sept. 1. $26-$40. James Warwick plays good ol' Professor Higgins, and opera singer Maureen O'Flynn is the enchanting Eliza Doolittle. This time around, the classic musical is given a new lease on life as an intimate chamber piece.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Winter's Tale
The Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, 1175A Soldier's Field Road, Boston (617-782-5425). www.publick.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, transfer to #86 bus to Market Street. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through Sept. 16. $15-$25.* When there's love, can there always be forgiveness? This comedy picks up a theme from Shakespeare's earlier *Much Ado About Nothing* and explores it as only a seasoned author can.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

City of Angels
Krege Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-6294). Aug. 30-Sept. 1; Sept. 6-8pm. $9. MIT Musical Theatre Guild presents this jazzy musical set in the glamorous, seductive Hollywood film studios of the 1940s.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (617-423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. • Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name, national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. • Aug. 29, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 • Aug. 30, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 • Aug. 31, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Dane Cook, co-star in *Mystery Men*, $20 and $17 • Sept. 1, 8 and 10:15pm: Dane Cook, $20 • Sept. 2, 7pm: Dane Cook $15 • Sept. 3, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 • Sept. 4, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10 • Sept. 5, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 • Sept. 6, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 • Sept. 7, 8 and

::boston nightlife::



:not anymore::

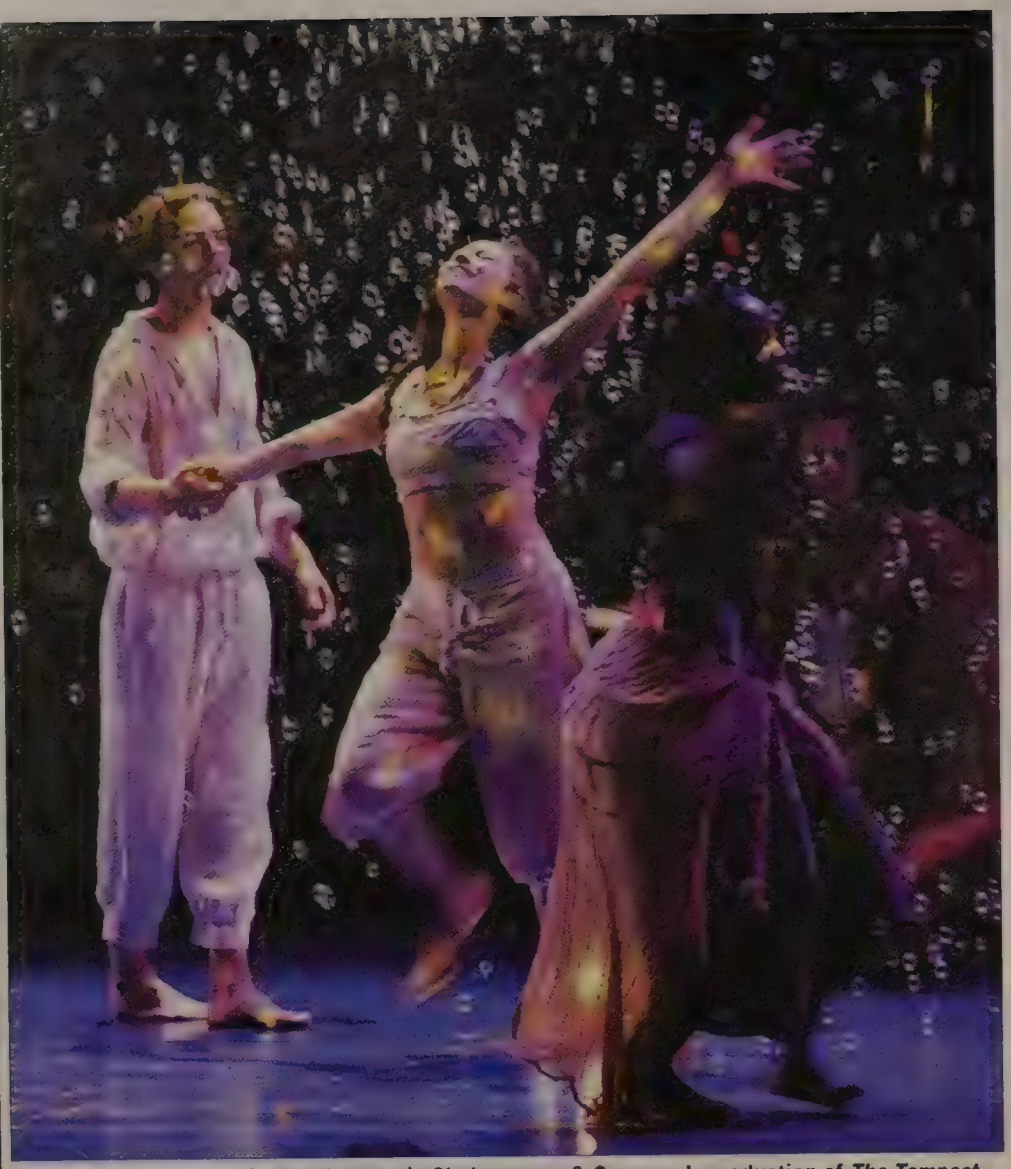
::LA BOOM::

sept: 21, 2001

esident dj: edward grant stuart

esident drummer: michael gunn

LA BOOM:boston



Jason Van Over and Lucia Brawley star in Shakespeare & Company's production of ***The Tempest.***

10pm: Steve Sweeney, *There's Something About Mary* and *Me, Myself & Irene* $20 •Sept. 8, 8pm: Steve Sweeney, $25 •Sept. 9, 7pm: Steve Sweeney, $17.50 •Sept. 10, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Sept. 11, 8pm: Comedy Central's Laugh Riot Competition, $10.

The Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Aug. 30: The Tim McIntire Show with Laura Kolling, Sandy Asai, Stefen Frey, Nate Johnson and WAKKA. •Aug. 31: The DJ Hazaard Show with Val Kappa, Chrissy Lavoie, Paul Keenan, Jen Trainor, Dave Greenberg, Chris Foltz and Shelby Seims. •Sept. 1: Women of Color Show with Alana Devich, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Sandy Asai, Malene Welch, Jennifer Ruelas and Bethany Van Delf. •Sept. 2: The Rick Jenkins Showcase with Adam Gropman, Jim McCue, Val Kappa, Jan Davidson, Kim & Josh, Rob Reuter, Chengda Li, Tim Golden and Jennifer Ruelas •Sept. 6: Tim McIntire stars with Tony Moschetto, Teresa Craggan, Brian Giles, Jeff Stern and the comedy troupe WAKKA. •Sept. 7: DJ Hazard Show with Dave Rattigan, Dan Newbower, Arthur Januario, Tim Collins and Clark Elefteriadis. •Sept. 8: DJ Hazard with Evan O'Television, Mindi Fay, Ben Boime, Lana Devich, Benari Poulten and Dave Thompson. •Sept. 9: Circus Pigs sketch comedy troupe with John Keating, Pat O'Shea, Dov Fox, Sean Lily, TJ Griffin and John O'Sullivan.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$14. •Aug. 30, 8:30pm: Kevin Knox, John David and Jeanine Pace •Aug. 31-Sept. 1, 8:45pm: John David, Al Klemick and Jeanine Pace •Sept. 6, 8:30pm; Sept. 7-8, 8:45pm: Tom Hayes, John Fish and Johnny K •Sept. 7, 8:15 and 10:30pm; Sept. 8, 8:15 and 10:30pm: Tony V., Katy Grady and Al Klemick •Sept. 9, 9pm: Kevin Knox and Paul Gilligan.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro ($5) • Fridays, 8pm: Boston Creem; 10:30pm: Theatre Sports •Saturdays, 8pm and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree ($5).

Magicians & Spirits

Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). A cabaret show with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

Bill Cosby

South Shore Music Circus, 130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400). Sept. 3 and 5, 8pm. $38. Bill Cosby live.

Boston Comics

North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sept. 9. $21-$29. Joe Yannetty, Lenny Clarke, Kevin Knox, Ken "Viper" Rogerson, and Don Gavin perform.

Boston Creem

ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). Fridays, 8pm. Through Sept. 28. $12. ImprovBoston's newest improvised show features a baker's dozen of some of Boston's best female improvisers.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding

Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.



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304 Washington St. Brighton
617.789.4100

the Kinvara
irish pub
34 Harvard Ave. Allston
617.783.9400

new age bar & grille

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Entertainment Weekly

Head Chef - Jim Sklaver

art

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include opening and closing dates, nearest T stop, price of admission, if any, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. • *The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of Middle Eastern and Southern Asian depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. • *International Children's Books* shows through Aug. 31. • *Wish You Were Here*, a collection of 200 postcards dating back to the 1900s, shows through Aug. 31. • *Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer featuring front-page obituaries from the *New York Times*, opens Sept. 4.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). The museum's permanent collection of European and American art is an ongoing display.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. • *Welcome to the House of Art*, a giant installation by Todd McKie, is an ongoing display. • The DeCordova's *Annual Exhibition* shows through Sept. 3. • *Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. • *Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* explores the darker side of imagination. Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. • *What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustration* explores monsters in children's literature. Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. • *Water: Photographs from the Permanent Collection* shows trough Sept. 3. • In *A Garden of Unearthly Delights*, outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work shows. Through June 9, 2002.

Dreams of Freedom Immigration Museum
One Milk St., Boston (617-695-9990). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sun., 10am-6pm. $7.50 adults; $3.50 children. • An exhibit of Italian immigrants by B. Amore titled *Lifeline: An Italian Odyssey 1901-2001*, shows through Oct. 27, tracing seven generations from Southern Italy.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. • *Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. • In *Precision and Prestige: The Arts of Engraving*, the museum displays examples of engraving. Through Dec. 2. • *You Look Beautiful Like That: The Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Malick Sidibé* is presented Sept. 1-Dec. 16.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* • *Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, displays through Jan. 20, 2002. • *Beauty on the Wing: The Double Lives of Butterflies* shows through Sept. 3. • *Dodos, Trilibites and Meteorites* shows never-before exhibited work. Sept. 29-Sept. 2, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* • *The Social Scene*, an exhibition of documentary photography, shows through Sept. 30. • Nikki S. Lee shows *Nikki S. Lee: Projects* through Sept. 30. • ICA/Vita Brevis commissioned artist Olafur Elisson presents *The Young Land*, a floating environment created out of Icelandic lava rock. Shows at Fan Pier though Sept. 30. • The ICA Artists-in-Residence at Boston National Historical Park program presents *Conspire*, which examines Boston's most important historic sites. Through Oct. 14. • Free guided walk-through takes place each Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* The Artists in Residence program brings contemporary artists from many disciplines to the museum to exhibit and lecture. • Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of her paintings. Through Sept. 16.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. • Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. Demonstrations take place from 2-4pm daily. • *Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an interactive exhibit. Ongoing. • *Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays a selection of holograms from the museum's collection. Ongoing. • *Thinkapalooza*, an interactive zone, is ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* • *Takashi Murakami: Made in Japan* is on view through Sept. 3. • *Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's drawings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 19. • At the Torf Gallery, *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* shows notable Boston women's work. Through Dec. 2. • In the Japanese Galleries, *Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* shows. Sept. 8-March 10, 2002.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. • The museum presents a look at a historic road in *Route* 66. Through Sept. 9.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org. *Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors.* • *If These Walls Could Talk* is an exhibit that explores buildings as artifacts of human existence. Through Sept. 3. • The *Current Science and Technology Center* showcases the latest innovations. Ongoing. • The Omni Theatre film is *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*. Through September.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. • *Tea in Fantasy*, a collection of teapots, shows through Aug. 31. • *Clockworks*, a show of sculptural clocks, opens Sept. 15. Through Nov. 10.

Allston Arts District
300 N. Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). Mon., Wed., 12-8pm; Tue., Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. • The newest branch of the BPL opens with an *Inaugural Exhibition*, featuring 21 artists and three galleries from the Allston area. Through Oct. 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery
129 Braintree St., Allston (617-254-7027). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* • The gallery is closing its Allston location and is opening a new gallery in the South End in September at 450 Harrison Ave. The inaugural show will be a group show titled *What I Did This Summer....*

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm. • The gallery is closed until Labor Day. • *New Paintings*, a show by Wlodzimierz Ksiazek, shows Sept. 15-Oct. 10.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* • *Constructions* is a multimedia exhibit presenting interpretations of construction as a word or concept. Through Sept. 28.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • Through August, *Gallery Group Show* is on display. • Margaret Gerding's *New Paintings* depict New England landscapes and contemporary nature. Sept. 1-29.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton Centre (617-558-2783). www.artesanogallery.com. • The gallery is closed for August. • The gallery offers an ongoing collection of glass pieces, ceramics, metal sculptures, wood vessels, art lamps and jewelry.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. • *Käthe Kollwitz: Engravings, Lithographs and Woodcuts 1891-1938* shows 33 pieces of Kollwitz's work. Sept. 12-Nov. 3.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* • The gallery is closed through Sept. 3. • Kate Shepherd's *Like Colors* shows Sept. 15-Oct. 17. Also showing, Print Publisher's Spotlight of Jenkins Sikkema Editions.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Call for hours. Works from the gallery's collection are on ongoing display.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* • The gallery is closed for August. • *New Prints*, a show by Carl Fudge, shows Sept. 5-29.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., 4th Floor (617-262-5000). www.thebac.edu/exhibits. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* • David DeCelis shows a selection of still-life paintings and tables he's designed in *Tabled Objects—Objectos de Mesa*. Through Sept. 17.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. • *The Chicken Show*, an exhibition of poultry-related art, shows through Sept. 16. • In the Cyclorama, *In Full Swing* shows through Sept. 16. It features artistically manipulated swings from a playground.

Boston College McMullen Museum of Art
Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-552-8100). Mon.-Fri., 11am-3pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. Free. • *House: Changed Space*, is an exhibition exploring the design of residential buildings. Through Sept. 16.

Boston University Art Gallery
BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. *Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West.* • Work by Whitfield Lovell Embers shows Sept. 14-Oct. 28.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. • The gallery is closed throughout August. • *Members Group Show* opens Sept. 5.

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-11:30pm; Sun., 12-11:30pm. • Works by seven new faculty members will be presented in *New Fall Faculty 2001*. Through Sept. 29.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* • *Glass Evolution: Established and New Talent* focuses on work by seven young artists. Through Sept. 6. • *Fluid Canvas II* shows Sept. 11-Oct. 9. Opening reception Sept. 15, 3-5pm. • Massachusetts Cultural Council's Artists Grant program presents *Sculpture and Installation*. Grant recipients exhibit their works Sept. 5-Oct. 7.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* • A group exhibition of gallery artists shows through August.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* • *Joseph Margulies at the Shore, A Century of British Print Makers, 1850-1950* and *A Study of Human Form: Charcoal and Pencil Drawings* show through Sept. 8.

Compton Gallery
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 9:30-5pm. • *Beyond Appearances: Imagery and Science at the Millennium* shows through Sept. 14.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm.* • *Manifest 2001: A Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Photography* highlights work by 35 New England photographers. Aug. 30-Sept. 22.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* • The gallery will be closed for the remainder of August. • Solo show of the paintings of Paul Inglis shows Sept. 14-Oct. 25.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery shows work of Boston scenes by local artists. Ongoing.

Duncan Purdy Wells Gallery
One Arrow St., Cambridge (617-868-8213). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 12-1pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. • The gallery presents the prints and paintings of Mary Susannah Robbins.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4800/800-936-6901). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Wed., Sat., 10am-6pm; Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. • Alexandra Nechita displays her work through August. • Roderick O'Flaherty presents *Scenes of New England* through Aug. 30. • *Modern Masters*, featuring work by Picasso, Matisse and Chagall, opens Sept. 9. Collectors' reception, Sept. 8, 6-9pm; general reception Sept. 9, 1-5pm. Through Sept. 24.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. • David Pienmonte shows photographs in *Solitude and Light*. Through September.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. • The gallery will be closed until Sept. 13. It then reopens with *The Margin*, new photographs by Oscar Palacio depicting the urban environment. Through Oct. 22.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has a collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. Ongoing.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-

Preview

Life and Times

Obituaries immortalized in ongoing sculpture


Nearly 300 newspapers comprise *Obituary*, showing at the Davis Museum Sept. 4-Dec. 30.

With libraries tossing out hard copies of old newspapers in favor of high-tech digital databases, the Davis Museum's new exhibition, *Obituary*, by Joseph Bartscherer, is created from a medium of dwindling availability. Bartscherer, primarily a photographer, assembled every *New York Times* front-page obituary published since January 1, 1990 into a single unfinished sculpture. Comprising of nearly 300 newspapers laid flat on Plexiglass panels, *Obituary* presents a chronological ankle-high grid of text and images that people can stroll through, examining portraits and life stories caught within the daily stream of pictures and words. His cast includes such historic figures as Mickey Mantle, Ryan White, Kurt Cobain, and a recent addition, Jack Lemmon. The artist left additional space to accommodate future entries and the sculpture continues to evolve, even as the newsprint deteriorates. An opening reception with the artist will be held Sept. 13, 6:30pm, and music by those memorialized in *Obituary* will be played by WZLY radio. *Sept. 4-Dec. 30. Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). Tues., Fri. and Sat., 11am-5pm; Wed.-Thu., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. Free.—Leah Gourley*



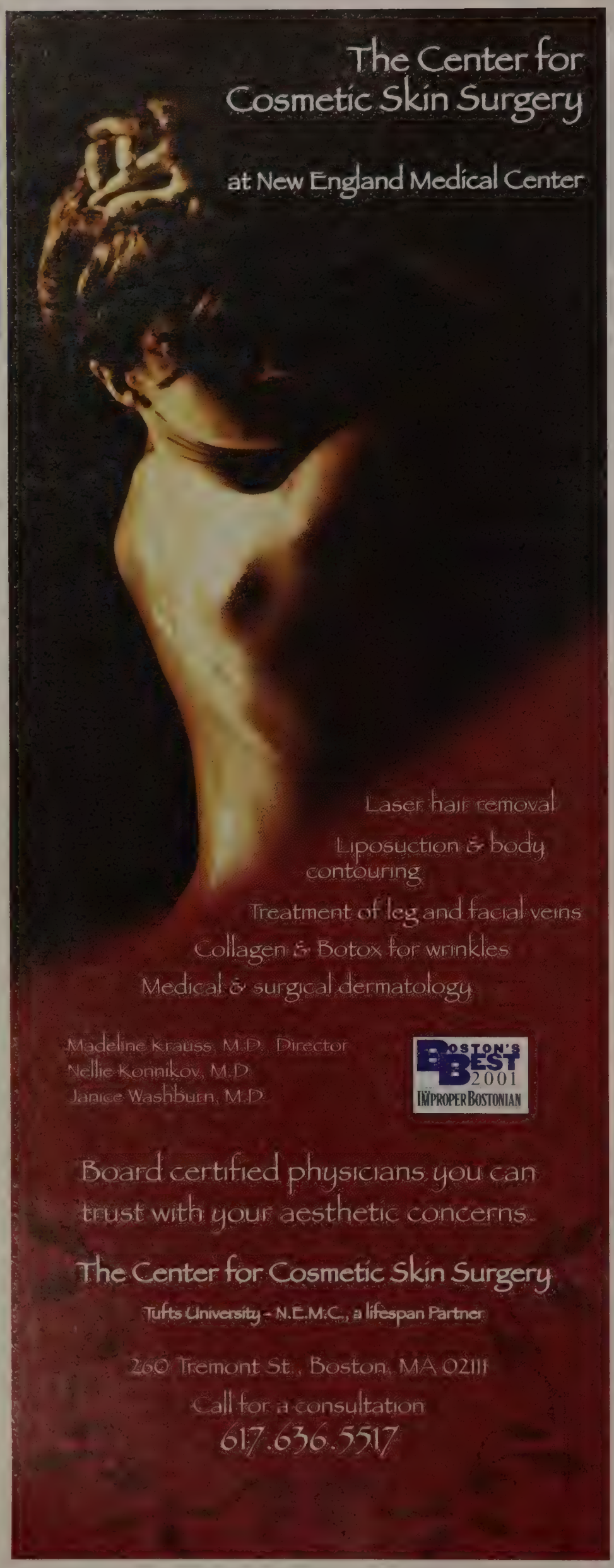
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5pm. •*Ideas in Things*, featuring the work of Hedya Klein and Heimo Wallner, shows through Sept. 28.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Real*, a multimedia installation by Aaron Fry, will be visible 24 hours a day from outside the gallery. Through Sept. 12. •The *150x150* fundraiser shows Sept. 18-30. The main event is Sept. 22 at 12pm, when 150 pieces of art are sold for $150 each to the first person who grabs the tag beside each work. Proceeds benefit non-profit gallery space.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galeriedorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •*Masters of Impressionism* shows through Aug. 31. •Joan Colomer, a Spanish contemporary landscape painter, shows *Reflections of Spain*. Opens Sept. 15.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •The gallery is open by appointment in August. •Sam Earle presents *Tattoo Paintings*. •*Camera Work* features artists Morgan Cohen, Mary Kocol, Davit Prifti and Robert Siegelman. Sept. 4-29.

Gallery 79
79 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •The gallery presents *Strawberry Thoughts*, works by Julie Lohnes, and *Color Coded*, works by Michelle Giargiari. Sept. 1-29.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (617-338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* There is an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Paintings by Peter Coe show Sept. 7-Oct. 2.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (617-367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. A collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early 20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. The gallery's collection of 18th- and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Open Season*, a group show, opens Sept. 8. Through Oct. 13.

Harvard's Holyoke Center
1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-495-5214). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 7am-9pm; Sun., 7am-6pm. •*Images of Our World*, travel photography by photographer Don Gurewitz, shows through Aug. 29.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Sketch board drawings by Robert Cumming and color photographs by Peter Harris show in *Up*. Sept. 7-Oct. 2.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment.* The gallery has an ongoing display of art of the Pacific, Africa, Asia, the Americas and the ancient world. •Through August, *African Dolls: The Amuse, Assist and Protect* is on display.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*First Class Ticket* features original vintage travel, transportation and entertainment posters. Through Sept. 3. •A display of vintage posters is ongoing.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •Ralph Wolf will show works through September in *Something New*. In the Annex, Laurie Flaherty's paintings show in *Through the Skin of Water*.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. •*Life in Black and White*, a photography show, runs through Sept. 1.

Kaji Aso Studio
Kaji Aso Studio Institute for the Arts, 40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). By appointment. A show of gallery selections is ongoing.



***Rat Licking His Tail* by Masano is at the MFA.**

Kathryn Shultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). Tue.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Fall Salon 2001* presents a range of work by members. Sept. 11-Oct. 1.

Kniznick Main Exhibition Space
Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-4210). Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm. •*My Notebooks*, a show of notebooks, desks and projected images by Helene Aylon, depicts the artist's view of the absence of the female voice in Jewish tradition. Through Sept. 30.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Musical Marvels*, a collection of contemporary aluminum sculptures by Stanley Marcus, shows through Sept. 15.

List Visual Arts Center
20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4680). 12-6pm, daily. •The *Annual Student Loan Art Exhibition* shows Sept. 4-16. The public is invited to attend this show of famous prints, where MIT students can borrow a print for the academic year.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Summer Salon* shows through August. •*Hidden Pleasures*, featuring new work by Peter Arvidson, Mark Forde and Jack Morefield, shows Sept. 7-28.

Mayor's Art Gallery
Fifth Floor, City Hall, Boston (617-635-3245). www.cityofboston.gov/arts. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm.* •A month of city-wide open studios kicks off from September-December. Sept. 15-16, see the United South End Artists at work. •Through Sept. 29, Patrick Mahoney shows his pantings. •A group show by Oni Artists Group shows through Sept. 29 in the Scollay Square Gallery.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •*Film*, a multimedia show, runs through Sept. 2. •Work by Giovanni DeCunto, Karen Dimit and Harry Folsom show Sept. 10-Oct. 10. Opening event Sept. 13, 6-11pm.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* •*Studio Interiors and Still Lifes* shows Sept. 12-Oct. 4.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius.org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*This Is a Test*, an installation by Margaret Tittemore, shows Sept. 12-29.

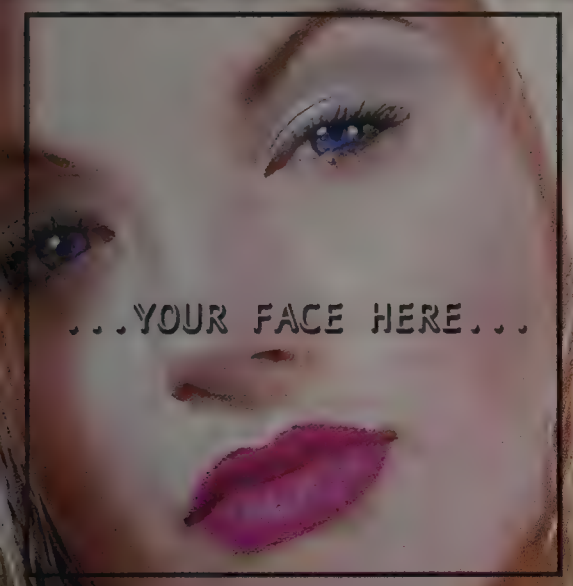
MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*New Work*, a collection of landscapes by Gail Bessette, shows through Sept. 30.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Maine Landscapes*, a solo show of paintings by John Walker, runs Sept. 15-Oct. 13.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. •The gallery is closed through September. •*Salon IV* opens Sept. 22, paying homage to the French painters of the 19th century.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm. The gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday with Luther Gray. •A solo show by artist Julie Pepper shows through Aug. 31. •*Cambridgeport Artists Open Studios Show*, featuring dozens of local artists, is exhibited Sept. 1-30. Opening receptions, Sept 8 and 9, 12-6pm.

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Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery boston. com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*New Paintings*, works by Howard Silberthau, shows Sept. 7-Oct. 9.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Fine Choices: Objects* focuses on the artistic object as a source of beauty and interest. Through Sept. 4. •*Maria Muller: Reality Transforms* shows concurrently with *Southern African: Works of Art by the People of Southern Africa IV*. The exhibition combines photographs and ceramic utilitarian vessels by the people of Southern Africa.



Jack Morefield's *August 11th* shows at the Lyman-Eyer Gallery.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The teahouse, which serves delicious tea, also specializes in antique Yixing teapots, interior design and furniture.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* The exhibit of *American 19th and 20th Century Watercolors and Pastels* is ongoing. Also showing is *Old Master and 19th Century Drawings.* Ongoing.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.RobertKleinGallery .com. *Call for gallery hours.* •The gallery will be showing contemporary American photographs through August. •Photographs by Yousuf Karsh show Sept. 14-Oct. 27.

Roland Smart Gallery
The Armory, 59 Armory St. #105, Roxbury (617-889-6269). Sat.-Sun., 2-6pm and by appointment. •Roland Smart presents *Room*, an interactived mixed media piece including lighting, sound, kinetic sculpture and video. Sept. 13-Oct. 11.

Rolly-Michaux Galleries
290 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-536-9898). Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •*20th Century Master Graphics*, lithographs and etchings, shows through Aug. 31.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. •The *Undergraduate Student Exhibition* displays through September.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5. Closed Sundays in August.* •Contemporary basketry is exhibited in *No Boundaries*. Through Aug. 30. •Rolf Hoeg and Joël Urruty exhibit their painted and carved sculptures and furniture. Sept. 8-Oct. 30.

Somerville Arts Council
The Elizabeth Peabody Theater Co-operative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-623-1300). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square; 101 or 89 bus. By appointment only or with admission to the monologue. •Melora Kuhn shows *Blackboard Exercises*, paintings displayed in conjunction with a monologue titled *The Most Massive Woman Wins*. Sept. 7-15.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •Danette English's *Falling and Floating* shows through Sept. 4.

SPNEA Gallery
One Bowdoin Sq., Boston (617-227-3956). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. www.spnea.org. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm.* •The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques presents *Boxes, Open and Shut.* Through Sept. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery .com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* A selection of paintings by William St. George is on ongoing display. •*Florals and Abstracts* shows through Aug. 31. •*New Expressions*, recent oil paintings by William St. George, shows through September.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., South Boston (617-423-SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm and by appointment. •A multimedia show of works Claudia Bernardi and Gustavo Sota-Rosa run in *The Steps Never Taken.* Sept. 16-Oct. 21.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. The gallery imports contemporary French artists' works.

Trustman Art Gallery
Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-521-22687). Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm. •Work from the Simmons College art collection shows Sept. 5-28.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-1pm. •*Translating the Epiphany* shows through Sept. 5.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.vosegalleries.com. *Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •Watercolors and oils by Aiden Lassell Ripley show through Sept. 1. •Works by Polly Star show in *Poetry of Hand and Spirit*. Sept. 14-Nov. 3.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz. •Scrapstock, a three-weekend music and arts festival, kicks off Sept. 7. It features a sculpture garden with the work of local sculptors, live FM radio broadcasts, live video art and a video-projection billboard, barbecque cookout and an eclectic mix of local music groups.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9am-5pm, daily.* •Student work will show through August. •Janet Knott showsphotographs in *Snap Snap Click Click: Digital Age Newspaper Photography.* Though Oct. 5. Opening reception Sept. 13, 7-9pm. •Photographs by France Scully Osterman and Mark Osterman show in *A Confidence Exposed.* Oct. 8-Dec. 7. Opening reception Oct. 25.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www. panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* •*Photographs from the Gallery Archives* shows through Sept. 15. •*A Greek Portfolio*, showcasing photographs by Constantine Manos, shows Sept. 17-Nov. 10. Opening reception Sept. 20, 8-10pm.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •The Leopold Godowsky Jr. color photography award nominees show Sept. 14-Oct. 26.

SPECIAL EVENT

15th Annual South End Open Studios
Various Galleries in the South End (617-267-6682). www.useaboston.org. *Sept. 15 and Sept. 16, 11am-6pm. Free parking at lots in the South End.* More than 200 artists, from established to emerging talent, will showcase their paintings, sculptures, photography, ceramics and fiber. The public is invited to observe work in progress and can purchase completed work directly from the artists.

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Every summer we are faced with a dearth of literary happenings in the city, as national authors take tour breaks and local writers head to greener, more inspiring pastures. So this year, we've taken it upon ourselves to make a literary contribution of our own—we are dedicating an entire issue to celebrating local fiction. As part of our first ever Literary Boston issue, we are inviting all local authors (residing in Massachusetts) to submit a short work of fiction (no more than 2,500 words) by Sept. 1. Entries should be original works that have never been previously published. Our panel of judges will review stories for originality, vividness and compelling themes. The winning author's story will be published in our Sept. 26 issue. Plus the skilled scribe will be saddled with a slew of fun prizes. Send your story to us at THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN (attention: Fiction Contest), 142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02116.

READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 29

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Marian Keyes**' *Last Chance Saloon* is the story about the lives of a few 30-something friends struggling with life's problems.

THURSDAY, AUG. 30

Borders Books and Music
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to State or Green Line to Government Center. 12:30pm. Author **Phillip Margolin** reads from his book, *The Associate*, a mystery about an ambitious attorney-in-training at Portland's top law firm who covers for a colleague and finds his career on the line.

Borders Bookshop Framingham
85 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-845-8720). 7:30pm. Free. Right-wing analyst and author **Chip Berlet** signs copies of the book he co-wrote with Matthew Lyons, *Right-Wing Populism in America: Too Close for Comfort*. He discusses the history of interest groups in America, the danger they pose for the future of politics, and his hopes for social progress.

FRIDAY, AUG. 31

Borders Books and Music
255 Grossman Drive, Braintree (781-356-5111). MBTA: Red Line to Braintree. **John Colapinto**'s *About the Author* is a first-person account of a bookstore worker's rise to literary fame.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5

New Words Live Reading Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Arthur Bradford** reads from *Dogwalker*, a book of short stories involving the misfits of society.

Brookline Booksmith
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Bebe Moore Campbell**, discusses her new book, *What You Owe Me*. This novel is an account of the relationships between whites, African-Americans and Jews.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 6

Wordsworth Books Author Series
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-876-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free; tickets available at store. **Salman Rushdie** reads from his new work, *Fury*, a satire on American society at the beginning of the 21st century.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 7

Out of the Blue Open-Mike Poetry
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. $4.





Chip Berlet reads from his latest at Borders Framingham Aug. 30.

Local authors **Ben Jezierski** and **E.M. Budd** read from their works. There are also eight 15-minute open slots as well as a 45 minute feature.

The Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 12pm. **Randi B. Noyes** discusses her new book, *The Art of Leading Yourself: Tap the Power of Your Emotional Intelligence*. It explains how to improve your communication skills and use them to better personal relationships.

MONDAY, SEPT. 10

Brookline Booksmith Reading Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 8pm. $2. **Rabbi Harold Kushner** reads from *Living a Life That Matters: How to Resolve the Conflict Between Conscience and Success*, in which he addresses the conflict between wanting to be successful and wanting to think of oneself as a good person.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 11

Brookline Booksmith Reading Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 8pm. Hear **Nomi Eve** read from *The Family Orchard*, the story of six generations of a unique Jewish family.

New Words Live Reading Series
Simmons College 3rd Floor Conference Room, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-876-5310). 7pm. **Jane Hamilton** discusses her new novel, *Disobedience*.

ONGOING

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every few Thursdays.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.



education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 29

Life Drawing Class
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). 6-9pm. Free. Paper, pencil and easel provided. Spend a few hours drawing models in the gallery.

Home and Gardens
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520). 7-9pm. $35. **Alexandra Stoddard**, author and founder of the Manhattan-based Design & Art Society, discusses tips and tricks to express yourself and create beauty and comfort in your home.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 2

The Secret Garden
N.E. Wild Flower Society, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630). Tue.-Sat., 10am; Sun., 2pm. $6. See the salmon-hued sumacs and scarlet-leaved blueberry bushes, burgundy azaleas and rust-colored ferns and hear the crunch of dry leaves underfoot as an expert explains what is all around.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 4

The Rain in Spain
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave. (617-267-4430). 7-9pm. Two sessions. $94. Local producers **Jordan Rich** and **Ken Carberry** teach aspiring voice-over talents, proper breath control, enunciation, pronunciation and pacing. Also learn how to record a demo tape and experience working in a real production studio.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5

Shoemaker, Shoemaker, Make Me Some Shoes
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). 7-8pm. Free. Professor **Paul G. Faler** discusses the revolution in the lives of eastern and central Mass. shoemakers when the Industrial Era came a-knockin'.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 6

Adventures in Conservation
Geological Lecture Hall, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-384-8309). 6pm. Free. **Dr. George Archibald** discusses efforts to save the black-necked cranes in Tibet and Bhutan and the risks modernization poses.

CyberQue 2
Royal Sonesta Hotel, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge (617-876-4100). 5:30-7:30pm, $35. Network with other business-minded individuals afterwork at CyberQue 2. Chat up the latest Internet entrepreneur (one who hasn't gone broke yet), have some BBQ, drink and go for a cruise with the Charles River Boat Company.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

Architectural Tours
West Wing at the Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3395). 9:45am-12pm.. $25. I.M. Pei, Charles Bulfinch and H.H. Richardson all helped design buildings in Boston. Betcha didn't know that! Take the time to get to know your own city's buildings on a first (and last!) name basis.

Netsuke and the Contemporary Artist
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). 1-4pm. Free. **Clive Hallam** discusses and demonstrates the art of carving netsuke (the toggles used to attach the sash to a kimono).

TUESDAY, SEPT. 11

Economy and Ecosystem in New England
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 7-9pm;. $14. **Diana Muir** reaches beyond Yankee aspirations to explain how a growing population began the Industrial Revolution. She discusses pre-Columbian peoples and fauna all the way up to the present day and how the land has influenced the people—not the other way around.

The Big Dig: A Work In Progress
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave. (617-267-4430). 7-9pm;. $29. **Dan McNichol**, author of *The Big Dig* and former director of PR for the BigDig, answers the big questions: the budget, the politics, the merits and the management. And the biggest one of all: What will Boston look like when the work is all done?



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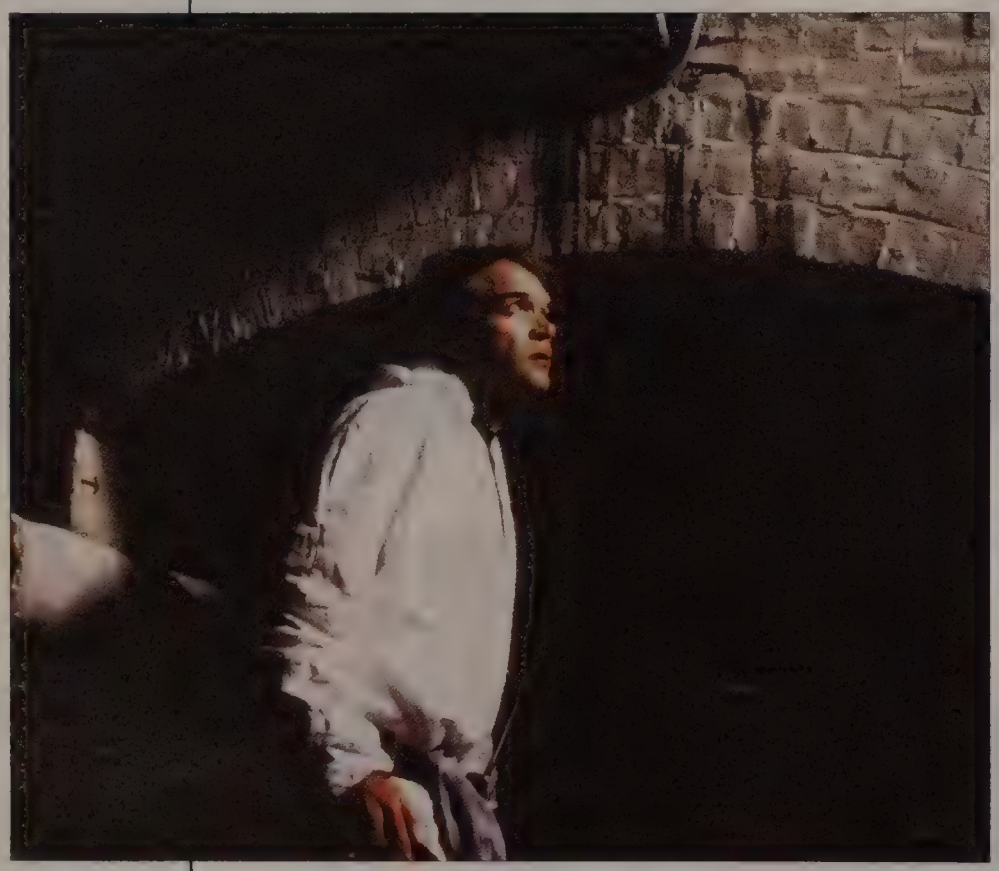
HEEEEERE'S BRAD

Anderson scores with *Session 9* and *Happy Accidents*.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Happy Accidents turns out to be much more than the title of a movie for writer-director Brad Anderson. The maker of the 1998 indie hit *Next Stop Wonderland* might have come off badly since his third movie, the romantic comedy *Happy Accidents*, was released two weeks *after* his subsequent film, *Session 9*. But there are good things to say about both *Happy Accidents* and *Session 9*, so their near-simultaneous appearance is actually a double-barreled boon for their maker.

Anderson, a one-time Boston resident, made these movies after parting ways with Miramax Films (the distributor of *Next Stop Wonderland*), for whom he was supposed to have directed remakes of the French comedy-drama *When the Cat's Away* and the 1940s suspense classic *The Seventh Victim*. Ironically, both new movies reflect Anderson's ultimately unsatisfying experience with Miramax. *Happy Accidents* celebrates the kind of quirks Miramax tried to smooth out of *Wonderland* (the company made Anderson change the ending so that his hero and heroine meet, something that hadn't been in the original script). And *Session 9* is not only a cool, *The Shining*-style story of madness in a specific setting, but also an outstanding update of the sort of low-budget, unseen-menace chiller mastered by 1940s producer Val Lewton, who made the original *Seventh Victim* and *Cat People*.



Co-star and co-writer Stephen Gevedon explores what used to be the creepy Danvers State Hospital in *Session 9*.

The setting of *Session 9*, the now-defunct Danvers State Hospital, is the film's undeniable star. Since the Massachusetts Film Office has long given visiting film productions free office space in the former "lunatics' asylum," it was inevitable that the photogenic, creepy Victorian complex would eventually become the setting of a movie.

It is there that the film's five main characters, the men of Hazmat Elimination Co., are hired to remove asbestos. The Scottish-immigrant boss (Peter Mullan) has promised the town they can get the big job done in a week; the crew chief (David Caruso) has a chip on his shoulder; the jerk of the bunch (Josh Lucas) has stolen Caruso's girlfriend and won't let him forget it; the smartest (Stephen Gevedon, Anderson's co-writer) is more interested in sifting through old patient files than working, and the new guy (Brandon Sexton III) is the boss' clueless teen nephew.

Take these guys' egos and personality clashes, throw in spooky recordings of therapy sessions involving a woman with multiple personalities and add some lingering spirits of psychotic patients, and you've got the basic ingredients for a chilling movie.

And that's all Anderson needs. Shot in digital video like some home movie gone awry, *Session 9* mixes "old school" suspense (not a girl showing off her belly button in the whole movie!) with a *Blair Witch* immediacy and rawness. Right down to its disturbing, ambiguous ending, this is a nifty little creep show.

Anderson makes ambiguity work in *Happy Accidents*, too. His Manhattan romantic comedy takes the stumbling blocks faced by the heroines in "single woman looking for love in the big city" movies like *Bridget Jones's Diary* and adds a *Terminator*-like time-travel wrinkle. That collision occurs when neurotic, codependent Ruby (the appealingly manic Marisa Tomei) meets mysterious Sam (Vincent D'Onofrio). Sam is a potential Mr. Right who, once Ruby has fallen for him, lets her know that he came from the year 2470 and "back traveled" after becoming smitten with a photo of her.

Sure, the premise seems far-fetched at first, but it works. Thanks to the plot's extremes, Ruby's dilemma about how much trust to invest in Sam becomes amusing comedy. As in *Wonderland*, Anderson again shows an empathy for his heroine and he's also given Ruby some memorable pals, especially the confident confidante played by Nadia Dajani. Another friend is tartly played by writer-director (*Slums of Beverly Hills*) and former Boston performance artist Tamara Jenkins.

Full of unpredictability and clever swerves, *Session 9* and *Happy Accidents* are both impressive next stops for Anderson. iB

Session 9 ★★★

Directed by Brad Anderson. Written by Anderson and Stephen Gevedon. With David Caruso, Peter Mullan, Josh Lucas, Gevedon, Brandon Sexton III and Paul Guilfoyle. Rated R. USA Films.

Happy Accidents ★★★

Written and directed by Brad Anderson. With Marisa Tomei, Vincent D'Onofrio, Nadia Dajani, and Holland Taylor. Not Rated. IFC Films.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

American Outlaws ★½
Calling this movie a western would be flattering it. Like the *Young Guns* movies of a decade ago, it never really taps into the drama that genre is capable of, and it's just an excuse for a young, handsome cast to play cowboys—this time as the James Younger Gang. This one's cast boasts Colin Farrell, who was dynamic in last year's little-seen *Tigerland*. But despite his charisma, the movie barely develops his character or any of the others.

American Pie 2 ★½
The genuine sympathy that the first *American Pie* showed for its horny yet romantically clumsy teen guys gave it a sweetness that moderately improved its quality. The sequel—which was not directed by the original's Paul and Chris Weitz—is just late-night cable fare. Set the summer after the former high schoolers' first year at college, the guys are still trying to nail the girls they didn't hook up with, or get back with those they did. The original cast is back, most with little to do, and not even Eugene Levy, as the world's most embarrassing dad, can save it.

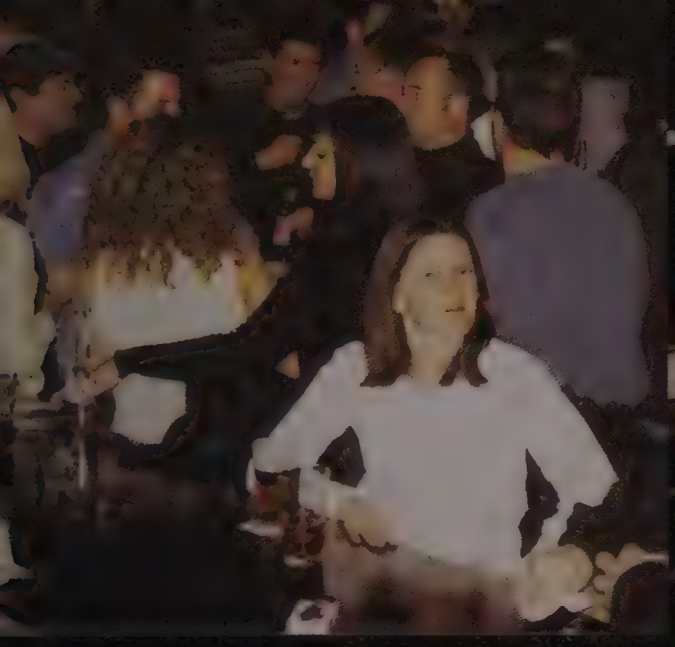
Apocalypse Now Redux ★★★★
As is usually the case with these things, the 50-minute longer version of Francis Ford Coppola's late-'70s Vietnam classic is essentially no better or worse than the version we've known and loved for 21 years. Some of the new stuff is great (a practical joke played on Robert Duvall's gung-ho colonel), some is useless (more action with the Playboy Playmates in the USO show) and some is strong though overextended (the so-called French Plantation Sequence). But it's the original charms that linger most potently: the sometimes absurd, sometimes tragic nature of war in general and our involvement in Vietnam in particular; the unflinching performance of Martin Sheen; the unsettling Marlon Brando; and Coppola's ability as a director to touch us on a subconscious, dreamy level. He could have called this descent into hell on Earth *1971: A War Odyssey*.

Curse of the Jade Scorpion ★★½
Woody Allen's usual self-flattery is kept in relative check in his latest. It's a brisk 1940-set comedy in which he's an insurance claims investigator and Helen Hunt is the insurance company's new efficiency expert, who's out to rid the office of his old-school methods. Thanks to a nightclub hypnotist (David Ogden Stiers) who uses the pair as onstage volunteers—and then uses his control over them afterwards—the pair get involved in post-hypnotic thievery, romance and bickering. As has been the case lately, Allen's presence grates after a while, and of course younger female characters are all over him. But the strong ensemble cast, including Charlize Theron and Dan Aykroyd, prevents total "Woody-itis" from setting in.

The Deep End ★★★
In this thriller, a middle-class housewife (Tilda Swinton) flirts with crime when she thinks her teen son (Jonathan Tucker) has murdered a predatory lover. She secretly covers up the crime, then starts fending off blackmailers who have incriminating evidence. This has less social relevance than the movie it remakes, 1949's *The Reckless Moment*—in which the woman fears exposure in her conformity-crazy post-war times—and the sexual tension between the woman and her conflicted blackmailer (Goran Visnjic) isn't very convincing. But it's a fascinating exercise in the maternal protective impulse, with Swinton really fleshing out the heroine and co-directors Scott McGehee and David Siegel (*Suture*) again excelling at conveying eerie atmosphere.

Ghost World ★★★★
Just when it seemed movies were incapable of producing something that wasn't gimmicky, something that was fun yet disarmingly deep, along comes Terry (*Crumb*) Zwigoff's astonishingly good fiction debut. Based on co-writer Daniel Clowes' comic novel, it starts out as if it's going to be just another movie about misfit teens—in this case, the graduating high schoolers played by Thora Birch (*American Beauty*) and Scarlet Johansson. Bored and annoyed at the pre-fab world around them, the pair amuse themselves by playing a practical joke on a lonely guy (Steve Buscemi) who's taken out a personal ad. But the guy turns out to be a nonconformist who has a lot in common with the pair, especially Birch's malcontent, and she becomes quite taken with him. The movie then evolves into a much more distinctive story that effectively dovetails many themes: the poor way people communicate with each other; the struggle between individuality and the need for companionship; and the way we construct our own inner realities, selectively taking in and shutting things out to suit our emotional needs.

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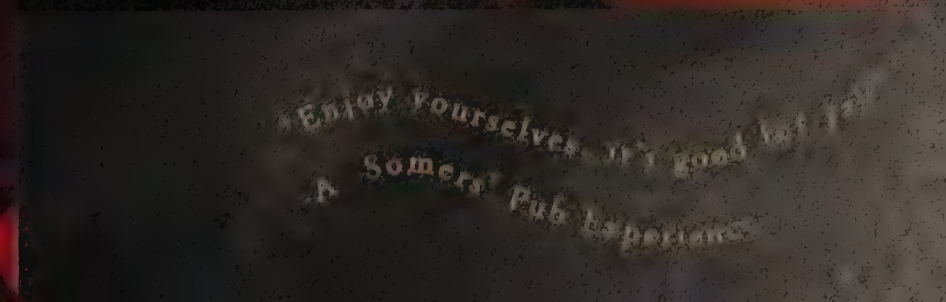
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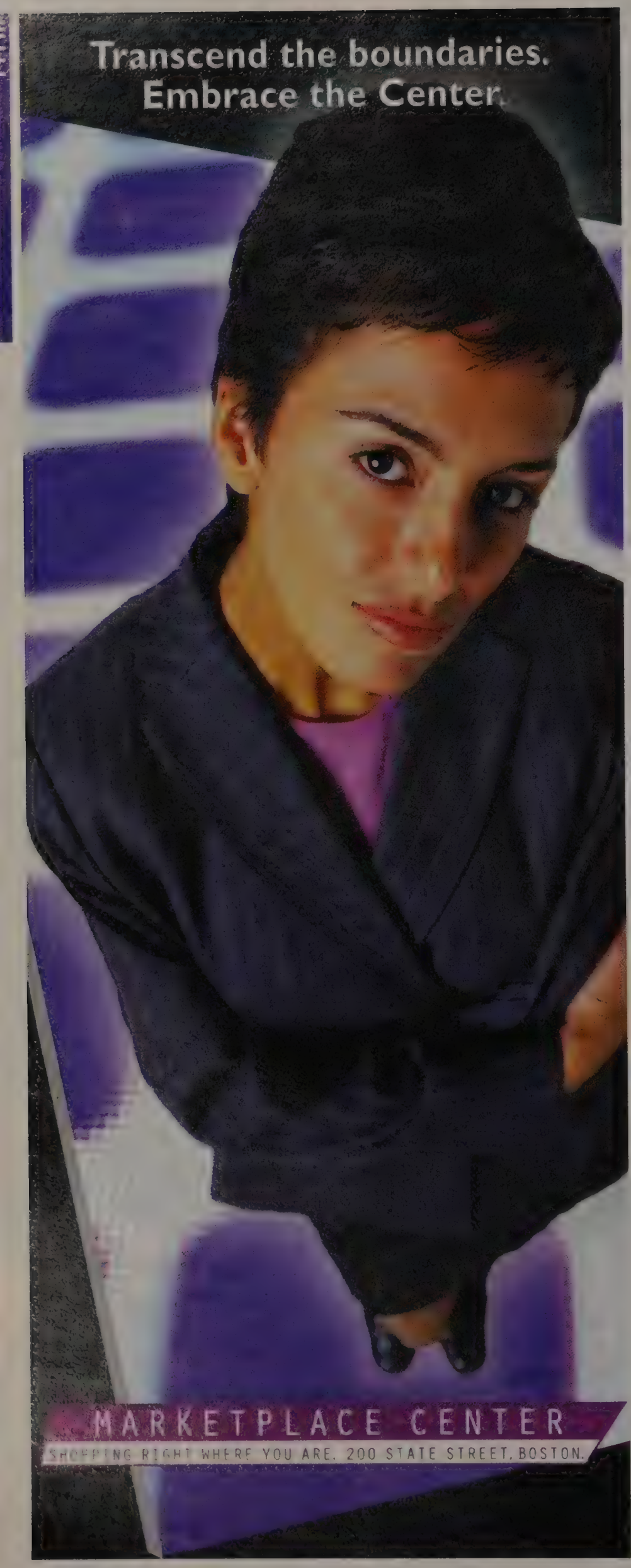
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"This one time, at band camp...." *American Pie 2* expands on the themes of the original movie.

Made ★★★
The amusing reteaming of *Swingers* stars Jon Favreau and Vince Vaughn for another Favreau script—his directorial debut this time—is pretty much a rehash of that memorable indie comedy. Favreau is again the everyman and friend, while Vaughn is a verbal loose cannon with delusions of grandeur. And this time the pair are L.A. hangers-on to the criminal underworld who are loaned out by their annoyed boss (Peter Falk) to a New York hood (Sean Combs, the artist formerly known as Puff Daddy). There's little new ground broken, but the interplay between Favreau and Vaughn is never less than fun. A safe but appealing ground-rule double of a movie.

Original Sin ★★
There's a thin line between love and hate in this Angelina Jolie–Antonio Banderas romantic thriller, and a thinner thread of credibility. The second movie based on the 1947 novel *Waltz of Darkness* by Cornell Woolrich (*Rear Window*, *The Bride Wore Black*), following Francois Truffaut's *Mississippi Mermaid*, it's about an 1880s businessman who arranges for a mail-order bride and unwittingly gets a con woman instead. When she fleeces him and he hunts her down for revenge, he can't go through with it because he loves her too much. The rinse-and-repeat plot keeps playing out that same situation, while Banderas and Jolie are essentially miscast. The guy needs to be more of an everyman, and the woman needs to have at least the semblance of maybe being on the level.

Osmosis Jones ★★★
The Farrelly brothers (*Kingpin*, *There's Something About Mary*) have made a family film. So you know it's got to be a little twisted. This blend of live action and animation centers on what happens inside the (animated) body of Bill Murray's slob zookeeper after he sucks down a virus on a deviled egg. Then it's up to the white blood cell (voiced by Chris Rock) and the cold capsule (voiced by David Hyde Pierce) to be mismatched buddy cops and take down the virus (Laurence Fishburne). Writer Marc Hyman has done a clever job of giving the body parts and the cells within all sorts of hidden functions (gotta love the armpit that's a steambath where wise guys hang out). The live-action segments pale next to such animated comedy, and this won't make you laugh half as much as *Kingpin*, but it's a fun novelty.

The Others ★★★
The twist ending will no doubt remind you of a famous late-1990s movie—and much is going to be made of that familiarity, probably too much. Writer-director Alejandro Amenabar's intimate film is a solid Gothic thriller, with Nicole Kidman as a young widow in 1945 Britain trying to protect her two sickly children from things that go bump in their secluded, fogged-in Channel Islands mansion. Like *The Deep End*, the chiller finds drama in the plight of its besieged mother, while Kidman is perfectly enigmatic as the unstable mom. And, despite the familiarity, the ending is very well set up.

Rat Race ★½
Just rent *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World*. You'll have a much better time.

Rush Hour 2 ★★★
It was a drag to see Jackie Chan, star of so many creative Hong Kong action-comedies in his prime, shoehorned into a formulaic, 1980s-style action-buddy movie for the first *Rush Hour*. Maybe because expectations are lower this time, or because the sequel doesn't have to indulge in all the contrivances to get Chan's Hong Kong cop and Chris Tucker's L.A. cop together, this one is more fun. The chemistry between the stars is more relaxed now, Zhang Ziyi from *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* is here as a high-kicking henchwoman, and Chan's gymnastics are still awe-inspiring. It's no *Shanghai Noon*, but it'll do.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Brattle Theatre
The Theatre is closed for renovations through Sept. 6.

Special Engagements
•Sept. 7-13 **Bande à Part** *(Band of Outsiders) 1964.* Jean-Luc Godard directs Anna Karina as a crafty woman who enlists the help of two male friends in stealing her aunt's money.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
Feature Films
•Now playing **The Deep End** *2001.* Scott McGeehee and David Siegel direct Tilda Swinton as a mother who faces the consequences after she finds her gay son's lover dead outside her home.
•Opening Aug. 31 **The Turandot Project** *2000.* This film documents the creation of Giacomo Puccini's opera *Turandot*, beginning with performances in Florence and culminating in a spectacular Beijing show. Directed by Zhang Yimou with conductor Zubin Mehta.

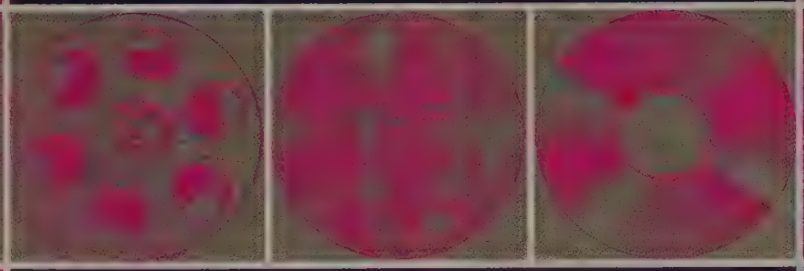
Hot Summer Midnights
•Aug. 31 and Sept. 1, 12am and Sept. 2, 12pm **Airplane** *1980.* Jim Abrahams, David Zucker and Jerry Zucker direct this hilarious comedy classic.
•Sept. 7 and 8, 12am **Let My Puppets Come** Puppetmaster Jake performs live at the showing of this rarely seen film, which features a cast of risque puppets who produce a porno flick. Adults only.

Museum of Fine Arts
The Films of Kon Ichikawa
•Aug. 30, 6pm **Money Talks** *1964.* This film is the action-packed story of Machida, a troublemaking gang member driven by his instinct to do right.
•Aug. 31, 7pm **Tokyo Olympiad** *1965.* A unique documentary of the 1964 Olympics, this film caused controversy for its refusal to idealize Japan.
•Sept. 1, 3:45pm **Her Younger Brother** *1965.* One of Ichikawa's greatest film successes in Japan, this is a portrait of the relationship between a brother and sister in a patriarchal household during the Taisho period. •Also showing, 3:45pm **Bonchi** *1960.* Reizo Ichikawa stars as a playboy dealing with the pressures of tradition in this satire about the matriarchal system of the Osaka merchant class.
•Sept. 2, 1:30pm **I Am a Cat** *1975.* This film is a dark satire of turn-of-the-century Japanese society, narrated by a philosophical and witty cat. •Also showing, 3:45pm **Odd Obsession** (or **The Key**) *1959.* An old man involved his family in his attempts to restore his virility in this dark comedy.

The Tales of Eric Rohmer
•Aug. 29, 8pm **My Night at Maud's** *1969.* This film is the third of Rohmer's *Six Moral Tales*; it explores the mutual isolation of two very different individuals during the sexual revolution.
•Aug. 30, 8pm and **Claire's Knee** *1970.* The fifth of the *Moral Tales*, this film is about the moral and emotional struggles of a groom-to-be.
•Sept. 1, 4pm **Chloe in the Afternoon** *1996. Moral Tales VI* is the story of a married Parisian businessman whose life is turned upside down when an old friend's flame re-enters his life.
•Sept. 2, 3:45pm **A Summer's Tale** *1970.* A math major awaits the arrival of his girlfriend in Brittany while striking up new and unexpected relationships.

VIVIAN ZINK

CELLULOID SOUNDS



THE NEW YORKER GOES TO THE MOVIES
FILM FESTIVAL

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In a cinematic set combining folk, rock, and reggae, The New Yorker's latest film festival is composed of movies where the score plays a starring role. The festival playlist is a mix of documentary and feature films that provides the perfect accompaniment to The New Yorker's Music Double Issue.

SCHEDULE

DON'T LOOK BACK (1967)
D.A. Pennebaker's classic portrait of Bob Dylan on tour in 1965 England captures the folk bard just before his ascension from prophet to icon. Features numerous performances, including "The Times They Are a Changin" and "Mr. Tambourine Man," along with appearances by Joan Baez and Donovan.
Monday, September 10 at 5:30 PM

LET'S SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER (1982)
This cinematic celebration of The Rolling Stones includes twenty-five songs recorded during their record-breaking 1981 tour. Concert footage was filmed in the Brendan Byrne Arena in East Rutherford, New Jersey, and Tempe, Arizona's Sun Devil Stadium.
Monday, September 10 at 7:45 PM

ROCKERS (1978)
When a reggae musician starts his own record company to liberate his colleagues from the control of a crooked label, the results are both exciting and dangerous. Even rawer than the reggae classic "The Harder They Come," the film features songs by Peter Tosh, Bunny Wailer, and Burning Spear.
Tuesday, September 11 at 5:30 PM

WATTSTAX (1973)
Isaac Hayes, The Staple Singers, Rufus Thomas, and others commemorate the five-year anniversary of the Watts riots with a performance in Los Angeles. This documentary mixes concert footage with social commentary on the black community and comedy from a young Richard Pryor.
Tuesday, September 11 at 7:45 PM

STOP MAKING SENSE (1984)
In this masterful concert film, Jonathan Demme captures the kinetic magic, eccentricity, and oversize suits evocative of The Talking Heads' storied three-day gig at Hollywood's Pantages Theatre late in 1983.
Wednesday, September 12 at 5:30 PM

PURPLE RAIN (1984)
This electrifying film début chronicles the story of The Kid, a struggling Minneapolis musician. Prince's Oscar-winning soundtrack reveals, among other things, exactly what it sounds like when doves cry, and Morris Day and the Time sparkle in their supporting roles.
Wednesday, September 12 at 7:45 PM

THE NEW YORKER

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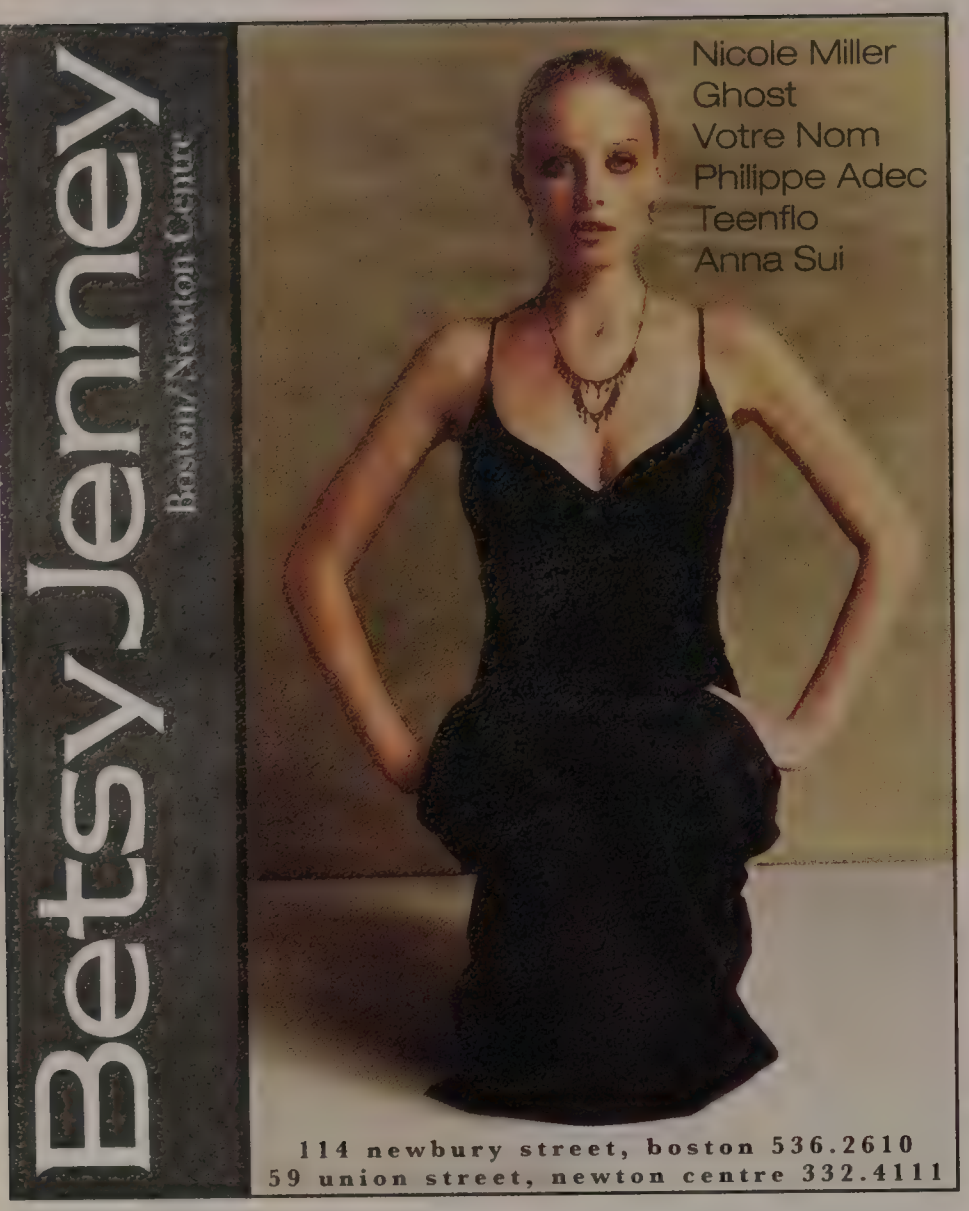
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•Sept. 5, 8pm **The Aviator's Wife** *1980.* Comedy results as a young man pursues his obsession with an older, more sophisticated Parisian woman.
•Sept. 6, 8pm **A Good Marriage** *1982.* The subject of this story is 25-year-old Sabine, played by Beatrice Romand of *Claire's Knee*, who pursues marriage at all costs.
•Sept. 8, 1:45pm **Claire's Knee** *1970.* See Aug. 30.
•Sept. 9, 2pm **A Full Moon in Paris** *1984.* This ironic comedy explores the romantic experiences of a woman who has just left the security of suburban life for the excitement of city singledom. • Also showing, 4pm **My Night at Maud's** *1960.* See Aug. 29.

The Films of Frederick Wiseman
•Aug. 29, 6pm **Law and Order** *1969.* The many roles of the police are explored from various perspectives in this Emmy Award–winning film.
•Sept. 8, 10:30am **Welfare** *1975.* The complex nature of welfare is examined through sequences illustrating the various issues and problems that constitute the system.

Soviet Cinema in the '60s
•Sept. 5, 6pm **Ivan's Childhood** *1962.* This is the tale of a soldier boy whose only memories of peace occur in the form of dreams about his mother. Andrei Tarkovsky directs.
•Sept. 6, 6pm **Asya's Happiness** *1967.* Also directed by Konchalovsky, this film was banned for over 20 years for its candid portrayal of Russian peasantry.
•Sept. 8, 3:45pm **Nine Days of One Year** *1961.* By Mikhail Romm, this ode to science is about two nuclear physicists on the verge of a great discovery.
•Sept. 9, 10:30am **No Ford in the Fire** *1967.* Gleb Panfilov directs this melodrama about an artistic country girl in the wake of the Civil War. • Also showing, 12:15pm **Debut** *1970.* Also by Panfilov, this film stars Inna Churikov as a plain, naive girl who aspires to be like her actress heroine.

Cinema Venues

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214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

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666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
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50 Dalton St. (617-536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
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168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.



The Talking Heads film *Stop Making Sense* plays at the Kendall Sept. 12 at 5:30pm.

Preview

Celluloid Sounds

The New Yorker's Film Series features music-themed movies

In celebration of *The New Yorker*'s recent Music Double Issue (Aug. 20-27), the magazine is sponsoring a music-themed film series at the Kendall Square Cinema. From documentaries to feature-length productions, the melodic movies are full of famous musicians and familiar tunes from the past few decades. The series kicks off with a three-day run in Boston, then moves to San Francisco the following week. Call 617-333-FILM for tickets.

•Sept. 10, 5:30pm *Don't Look Back* 1967. Rare performances are featured in D.A. Pennebaker's portrait of Bob Dylan in England during his '65 tour. •Also showing, 7:45pm *Let's Spend the Night Together* 1982. This has plenty of concert footage from the Rolling Stones' record-breaking 1981 tour.

•Sept. 11, 5:30pm *Rockers* 1978. Action and drama ensue when a reggae musician breaks away from his record label to start his own company. Songs by Peter Tosh, Bunny Wailer and Burning Spear are featured. •Also showing, 7:45pm *Wattstax* 1973. This documentary features footage from the concert commemorating the five-year anniversary of the Watts riots. With performances by Issac Hayes, the Staple Singers and Rufus Thomas.

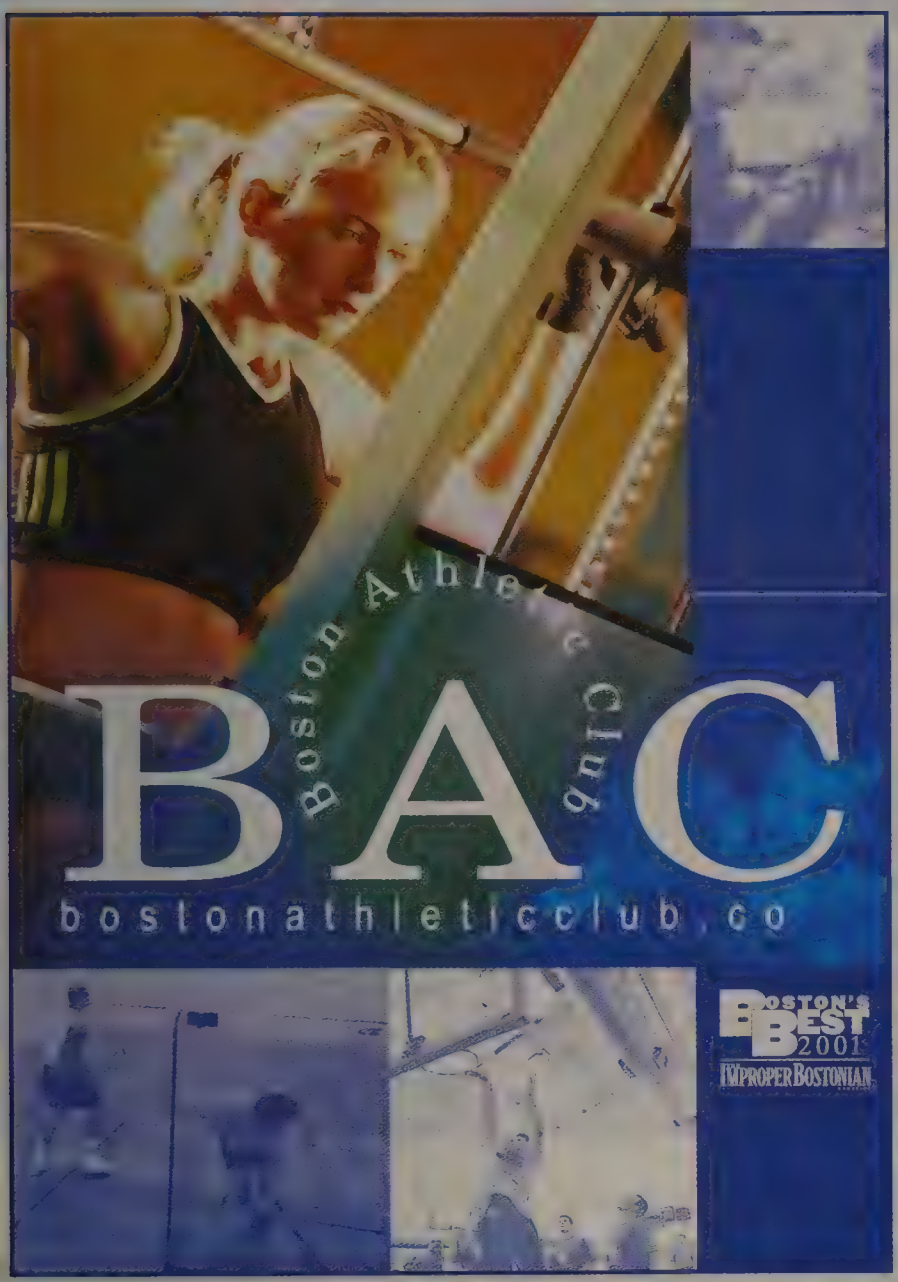
•Sept. 12, 5:30pm *Stop Making Sense* 1984. The Talking Heads' three-day '83 Hollywood concert is captured in this concert film by Jonathan Demme. •Also showing, 7:45pm *Purple Rain* 1984. The film chronicles the star's struggle (back when he was known as Prince) as an up-and-coming Minneapolis musician. With an Oscar-winning soundtrack.

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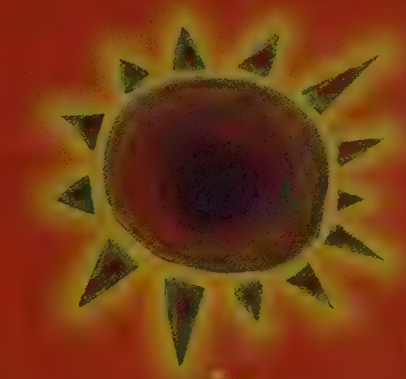
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Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Top DJs spin.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay Night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with Martin Finke, 9pm, 21+.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs. Martini bar, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
Go Retroactive with DJ Chris Ewen.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits. 10pm. 19+. No cover.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid jazz soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with Megladon (MD) Jazz Band, 6:15-10:15pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Beach Party
The Kells DJ Dragg spins hip-hop and dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.

Higher Meditations
Aer DJ David Starr spins reggae and drum 'n' bass.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night with live bands and DJ Steve Anderson spinning the latest hits. 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong Join in a night of psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $4, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Cream
Sugar Shack Resident DJs Massi and Joshua Carl baring a new house night to the alley. $10, 19+; $5, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and WFNX spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by for some after-work lounging with the mellow tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm. $15 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean. Don't forget to dress up—jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.



Fashionable dancers show off their best moves at Aria.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes. 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae and hip hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Tundra
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adilson. 10pm, 18+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins '70s, '80s and '90s tunes, 10pm, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music. A new game show, Wheel of Adventure, gives clubbers the chance to win cash, get spanked or hang out with an Avaland dancer, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
The Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

International Lounge
Vertigo DJ A. Rossi and DJ Peter Souhleris spin Latin dance early, progressive house and top hits, 11pm. Cocktails and free hors d'oeuvres before 10pm. 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
The Roxy Guest DJs spin at this third-floor dance party.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes. 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K. 10pm. $15. 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:15pm; DJ Todd, 10:45pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Sangria, Sunsets and Salsa
Sophia's Dance on the roof deck to live music from 4:30-9pm. DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor, and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Glitzed-out club-hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins. 10pm, $10, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
After-work lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.

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Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $4, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Cherry
SW1 The ultimate erotic experience sponsored by Jingo's Playhouse with DJ Tari and guests, 10pm, $12, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse, 10pm. $15. 19+.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special-guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins international house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 21+.

R&B Lounge
Vertigo DJ Ron spins R&B, hip hop and light house at this elegant R&B night, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Summer Shamrock Saturday
The Purple Shamrock DJ Joshua Carl spins new and old school hip-hop with a touch of house, $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

An Tua Nua
Sign up early for an open-mike night. Then, DJ Adrienne spins Brit pop and new-wave tunes, 9pm, $3, 19+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins International house, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Raffi spins international house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins great reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.

100% Flava
The Purple Shamrock Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop with guest DJs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Touch
Aer Deep soulful house is provided by guest DJs, 10pm.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

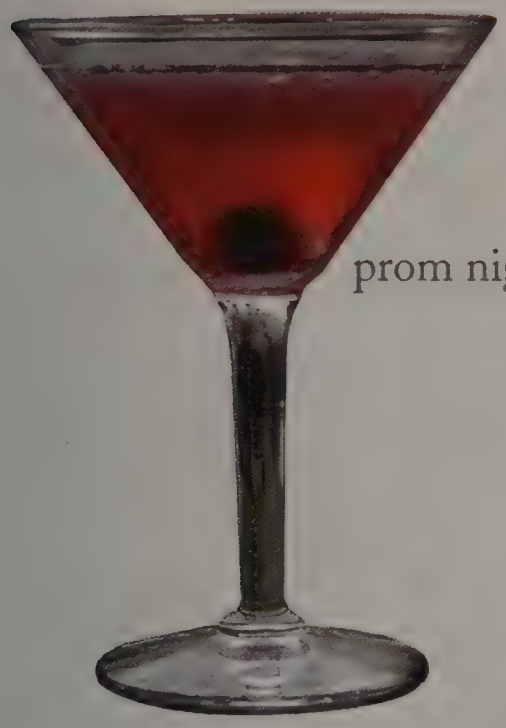
Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.



Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Cafe *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (617-542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (617-292-2333). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (617-864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (617-576-6260).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (6174-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (3617-38-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*



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Music

HILLBILLY REDUX

Nashville's BR549 rebounds to share its deep, country-inspired well of songs. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Chuck Mead starts the conversation by asking about Fenway Park, where he caught a game on a past Boston visit. "It's Americana, man," proclaims the singer-guitarist of Nashville hipsters BR549, who are scheduled to play the Somerville Theatre Sept. 7. "That's America when it was still good. When everything worked decent, and the right guys were getting paid off."

That's how things seemed when BR549 first hit the highway to spread the hillbilly-country gospel, hitting a chord with rock and country crowds. Then the likely front-runners of the mid-'90s alt-country scene slipped off the radar screen.

"We took three months off and starved like we used to, then came back and were really playing tons better 'cause we had time to get away from it," Mead recalls of BR549's low point in 1999. "Now everything's all better."



BR549 is gaining popularity with their eclectic country-based sound.

Indeed, hopefully the right guys are getting paid off this time, because the 6-year-old quintet is ready for a fresh start with new CD *This Is BR549*, on Sony imprint Lucky Dog.

"Times are hard in the country music business right now—they don't like to say that, but it kinda is," says Mead, whose band has toured with everyone from Tim McGraw and Faith Hill to the Black Crowes. "But then you look at the [country-bluegrass] soundtrack to *O Brother, Where Art Thou* [No. 15 on the *Billboard* chart at press time]. People definitely want to hear some good music."

Of course there's also the success of the Dixie Chicks, whose producer, Paul Worley, worked on BR549's latest CD.

"Who but the Dixie Chicks have gotten the banjo on mainstream country radio in the last few years," says Mead, who is joined in BR549 by guitarist-singer Gary Bennett; drummer Shaw Wilson; upright bassist Smilin' Jay McDowell; and multi-instrumentalist Don Herron, who plays fiddle, mandolin, dobro, cello, pedal steel and, yes, banjo.

"I think we've made a good country record that touched on a whole lotta other things as well, 'cause that's kinda what we are," Mead says of the disc, which spans from his apt "Too Lazy to Work, Too Nervous to Steal" to a harmonized twist on the Everly Brothers' "The Price of Love" and Nick Lowe's rockabilly "Play That Fast Thing (One More Time)."

"We want to get exposed to as many different crowds as possible," he says, describing his group's following as: "Rockabilly and mainstream country people. Punk-rockers. Just general curiosity-seekers. Old trucker guys. It's great to see the diversity of people still coming to see us play." Mead adds that the crowd hasn't changed since BR549 (named after a phone number on the country variety show *Hee Haw*) came together at Robert's Western World on Nashville's Lower Broadway in the early '90s, playing five hours a night for patrons who heard an endless stream of covers and originals. Ask how many Hank Williams songs he knows, and Mead pauses before saying, "I'm not going to brag. We can do a lot."

"That's how you survive down there on the street... People come up and ask for a song, and if you don't know it, you go home and learn it," he says, adding, "We don't have to play five hours a night anymore. We just play a couple of hours. So we can do different things every night. And people still come up and give us a buck or two for a song, you know. We take tips. We're not above that. Just last night, we had a request for a Hank Snow song I don't think we've ever done."

"I always knew from when I was a kid, I wanted to be a picker," the Kansas native says. "I think a lot of what we got, we got from our folks, 'cause our folks picked. Donny played at square dances when he was a kid, so that's just ingrained in him. And I played in my folks' country and western band since I was 12 years old. And Gary was singing in a gospel quartet. And then of course there was the '70s AM radio and the Beatles and Buster Keaton and the Marx Brothers, John Wayne, Will Rogers. It keeps going."

Mead says that he's excited to play the Somerville Theatre, where the band once caught part of a folk-blues show when they played across the street at Johnny D's.

"Theaters are always the best," he says. "The places that were made for performance are always the best. You can hear the band, you don't have to play as loud. It lends itself to music better than someplace that was a warehouse that they turned into a nightclub. But we'll play anywhere." iB

BR549

Plays the Somerville Theatre Sept. 7.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Backstreet Boys
Sept. 8-10, Fleet Center
Erykah Badu
Sept. 3, FleetBoston Pavilion
Buju Banton
Sept. 9, FleetBoston Pavilion
Tony Bennett and kd lang
Aug. 30, FleetBoston Pavilion
BR549
Sept. 7, Somerville Theatre
Brother Chameleon
Aug. 29, Charles Playhouse
Jimmy Buffett
Aug. 31-Sept. 1, Tweeter Center
Crystal Method and Uberzone
Aug. 31, Worcester Palladium
The Disco Biscuits
Sept. 5, Avalon
Electric Light Orchestra
Sept. 8, Tweeter Center
The Four Tops with the Marvelettes
Aug. 29, FleetBoston Pavilion
P.J. Harvey
Sept. 7, Orpheum Theatre
Lit and The Sound of Urchin
Sept. 9, Gravity Games, Providence, R.I.
Mighty Mighty Bosstones and Riddlin' Kids
Sept. 7, Gravity Games, Providence, R.I.
Dave Navarro and The Sheila Divine
Aug. 30, MDC Hatch Shell
The Proclaimers
Sept. 5, Paradise Rock Club
Shaggy
Sept. 9, Fleet Center
Smash Mouth and Unwritten Law
Sept. 8, Gravity Games, Providence, R.I.
Stiff Little Fingers
Sept. 6, Paradise Rock Club
Tanglewood Jazz Festival
Aug. 31-Sept. 2, Tanglewood
Lee Ann Womack
Sept. 11, FleetBoston Pavilion
The Yes Symphonic Tour
Aug. 31, FleetBoston Pavilion

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 29

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-9:30pm.
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and Brothers Past, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 10pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Dough Johnson, 8-11:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm.
Club Passim The Lilly Brothers & the Lilly Mountaineers, 8pm, $17.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 10:30pm-1am.
Harper's Ferry Flipside, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's Johnny Bahama Night with Me & Julio.
House of Blues Michelle Shocked, 9pm, $22, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Lilli's Boca Chica, 9pm, $6, 21+.
Limbo Mark Greel Band, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Maison Robert Harry Fix Trio, 6-8pm.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
Middle East U: Rose of Sharon, Kind of Like Spitting, Kolya and Headset, $7, 18+. D: Belly Dancing.
Milky Way Mercury Lounge with host Courtney Gray and U-Melini, 9pm.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soares, 8pm, no cover.



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Riddlin' Kids share a bill with local ska rockers Mighty Mighty Bosstones at the Gravity Games.

Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk and Traditional Singers Club, 9pm.
The Rack Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Nadine Chase Quartet, 8pm, $12.
Tír na nÓg Dave Champagne, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Deb Pasternak, 7-9pm; The Cadavers, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm-12am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Meghan Toohey, Dan Talan, Josh Ritter amd Shamsi, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, AUG. 30

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-9:30pm.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Spyndakit, Throe and Thresher, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose D: Sunday's Well, 10pm; U: Fenian & Sons, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Joe Bargar & the Soul Providers, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5-7:30pm; Doug Johnson, 8-11:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Geoff Bartley and Tim Mason, Friedman and Don White, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band and BrickPark, 6pm-2am, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Jack Lee and Diversity, 11pm.
Harper's Ferry Fink Fank Funk, 18+
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 9pm.
House of Blues Michelle Shocked, 10pm, $22, 21+.
Johnny D's Charivari, 9pm.
Jose McIntyre's The Return, 8pm.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Dynamo Hum, Sam Hooper and Katrin, $5.
Lilli's NikulyDin and guests, 8pm, 21+.
Limbo Kaoruko, 9pm-1am, no cover.
The Linwood Mancain, Super Kollider, Chainsaws & Children and Duncan Wilder Johnson.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf featuring Micro Vard and special guests Alain Mallet, Brahim Fribgane, Jere Faison and others, 9pm-2am, 21+.
Maison Robert Alexei Tsiganov Duo, 6-8pm.
Middle East U: Massdas Uv Da Univerz, Grey Maddaz and Insight, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Rosa Chance Well, Moto Wife, Grrrl Power, Heidi Saperstein and The Matters, 9pm, $7.
Oak Bar Steve Soares, 8pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 8pm.
P.J. Ryan's Brogue, 9pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 10pm.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Eddie, 21+.
Regattabar David Maxwell's Maximum Blues with Monster Mike Welch, Marty Ballou and Marty Richards, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Temporada Latina, 8:30pm.
Scullers Ivan Lins, 8 and 10pm, $20.
Tír na nÓg Boris McCutcheon, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9pm; Dave Johnston, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm-12:30am.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Astrojet, The Booda Velvets, The Warren Drews and Jennifer Matthews, $6.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAY, AUG. 31

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:15-8:45pm; Doug Johnson Piano Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am.
Bill's Bar FNX presents The Storm and Birdsie Yankees Suck party, 3pm, no cover, 21+; Stymie CD-release and Sugarcoat, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose D: Sunday's Well, 10pm; U: Fenian & Sons, 10pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5-7:30pm; Suzanne Davis Trio, 8:30pm-12am.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, 12pm-2am, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band and Soul City, 6pm-2am, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Live jazz, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Live jazz, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Return.
Green Street Grill Kilambo/Havana Band, 11pm-2am.
Harper's Ferry Blues Spectacular with Lydia Warren Band, Nicole Nelson Band and Coup Deville Band, $6, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7pm; DJ Bill, 9pm.
House of Blues Mac McAnally, $20, 10pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Thomas Park.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Lorraine Della Rocca, Wheelers & Dealers and the Micky Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo George W. Russel Jr. Quartet, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Lilli's The Kings of Nuthin', 8pm, 21+.
The Linwood Kristian Montgomery and the Warren Drews.
Lizard Lounge The Brian Gottesman Band, 21+.
Middle East U: Ted Leo/Pharmacists with The Ivory Coast, Radio 4, Juno, $8, 18+. D: Stocklan CD-release, Injustice and Strawhorse, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Moonraker, 9pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy Courtney and Alan Loughnane.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Other Music Ted Leo, 5:30pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 9:30pm and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm.
P.J. Ryan's On a Tangent, 9pm, no cover.
Porter's Bar and Grill Scott Nichols, 9:30pm.

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The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Chiaro Civello Quartet with Alain Mallet, John Lockwood & Jamey Haddad, 8 and 10:30pm, $12.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee and Divercity, 10:30pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club "A Festa" Brazilian Dance Party, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Ivan Lins, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Tir na nÓg Frank Morey, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Armadillos.
Top of the Hub Felicia Carter with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm-1am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Senor Happy, Banjo Spiders, Noelle, Starla Dear, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:15-8:45pm; Bert Seager Piano Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am.
The Attic Uncle Sammy.
Bristol Lounge Gilad Barkin, 5-7:30pm; Gilad Barkan Trio, 8:30pm-12am.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, 12pm-2am, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band and Mr. Slate, 7pm-2am, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Nate and the Companions, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Acoustic Salsa Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm-2am.
The Harp Central Basement.
Harper's Ferry Thaddeus Hogarth Group, $6, 21+.
House of Blues John Mooney.
Johnny D's Swinging Steaks, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11:30pm.
Kirkland Cafe Velvet Tide, 9pm, $5.
Lilli's The Kings of Nuthin', 8pm, 21+.
Limbo Joe La Rue Smith Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz Brunch with the Rusty Scott Trio, 10:30am.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson and the Magic Rockers, 8 and 10:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9pm, $12.
Tir na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 10:30pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Greg Hopkins with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm-1am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Dave Reilly, Woody, The Lovely and Pony, $6.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 2

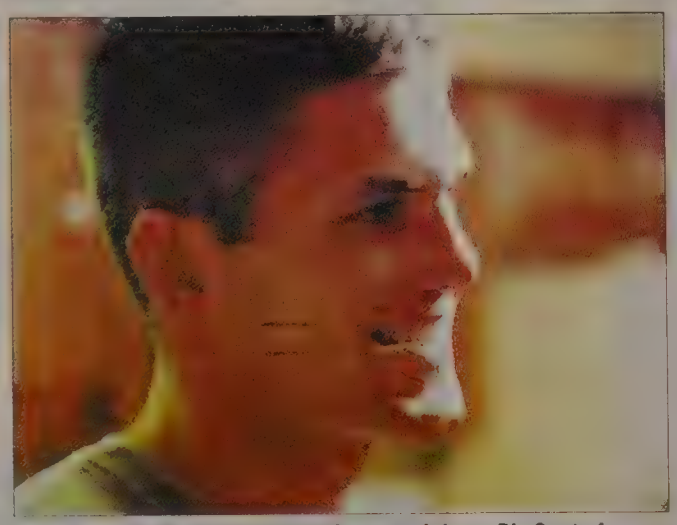
The Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar DJ K-Don, Sonbeam, 1-Tal Fire and Dub Station, 11:30pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Sonny Watson Quartet, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm.
The Burren Singer/Songwriter Series with Danielle Miraglia, Jason Gardner, Tom Bianchi and friends, 8-10pm, no cover.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, 12pm-2am, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Donegal Chords, 2-6pm; Finbar Doyle, 7-10pm; DJ Long John 10pm-1am.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon, $7, 18+.
House of Blues Stevie Ray Vaughan Tribute.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and Salsa with Rumba NaMa, 4:30pm.
Julien Bar Jazz Brunch with Guillermo Nojechowics Trio, 11am-3pm; Alfredo Cardim, 6:30-9:30pm.
Lilli's The Kings of Nuthin', 8pm, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Middle East U: Parker and Lily, $7, 18+. D: War of the Roses: Femcee Battle, open-mike and guests, 18+.
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan and Power Surge, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz Brunch with the Rusty Scott Trio, 10:30am.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover.
Tir na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm-12am.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPT. 3

Bill's Bar Monsta Mondays with DJ Kapt Krunch, Further Seems Forever, As Friends Rust and Keepsake, $8, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis, 8-11:30pm.
The Burren Joe Rathbone and Chris Elliot, 8-10pm, no cover.
Club Passim Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, 12pm-2am, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Rob & Brian Unplugged, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Green Street Grill Michael Tarbox Duo, 10:30pm-1am.
Harper's Ferry Boatyard Resin, $6, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Middle East U: Kimone, $7, 18+. C: Tom Bianchi.
Milky Way Rock 'n Bowl.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Plough and Stars JABE and Jeffrey Foucault, 9pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm-12am.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 4

Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 8-11:30pm.
Club Passim Open-mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.



Folk singer Jeffrey Foucault performs at Johnny D's Sept. 4.

Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Tim Gearan Band, 10:30pm.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and friends, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Mad Pudding and Jeffrey Foucault, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Limbo Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Middle East U: Favorite Atomic Hero, The Fault and Suburban Sky, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soares, 8pm, no cover.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with MD Jazz, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm-12:30am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mekanizm and White Trash Deluxe, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-9:30pm.
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins, Greenhouse and Hazie Maze, $7, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Alfredo Cardim, 8-11:30pm.
Club Passim Amazing Mudshark and Kodac Harrison, 8pm, $8.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill The Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 10:30pm-1am.
Harper's Ferry 84 West and Gel, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Suicra, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Limbo Mark Greel Band, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Maison Robert Andy Bauer Duo, 6-8pm.
Middle East D: Starlight Mints, Baby Bird and The Comas, $8, 18+. C: Belly Dancing.
Milky Way Courtney Gray and U-Meleni, 9pm, no cover.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soares, 8pm, no cover.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Tiger Meazell Quartet, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Black Sea Salsa Band, 8:30pm, $10.
Scullers Fred and Ethel: Songs of Astaire and Merman, 8pm, $14.
Tir na nÓg Dave Champagne, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm-12:30am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Victory at Sea, Placer, The Subject and Black Helicopter, $7.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 6

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-9:30pm.
The Attic Almost Speechless, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, T-House of the Almighty with Chinstrap and Freak Show, $8, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Alfredo Cardim, 8-11:30pm.
Club Passim DaVinci's Notebook, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker & the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band and Peter Parcek, 6pm-2am, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge East West Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Acoustic Salsa Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm-2am.
Hannah's The Dave Samarco Band, 9:30pm.
Harper's Ferry Zen Tricksters and Freelance Bishops, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Rayna Gemert and Frank Lee.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Wicked Automatic, Offramp, Fixation and Insoma, 8pm, $5.
Limbo Evan Margetson Quartet, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Maison Robert Issi Rozen Duo, 6-8pm.
Middle East U: Flower Kings, $15, 18+. D: Nullset and Angry Hill, $12, 18+. C: Board of Education.
Milky Way DJ Vinny presents American Mod films and live music afterward, 8:30pm, $10.
Oak Bar Steve Soares, 8pm, no cover.
P.J. Ryan's Nate Walkins, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar Ann Hampton Callaway, 8:30pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club D: Don Houge Band, 8:30pm, $10; U: Temporada Latina with Tumbao, 8:30.
Scullers Lavay Smith and Her Red Skillet Lickers, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Tir na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm-12:30am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Soulcracker, AM Stereo and Sugarbomb, $10.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 7

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:15-8:45pm; Dave Phillip Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am.
The Attic Jennifer Tefft with Something Ira and Mappari.
Bill's Bar The Inflatable Men, The Realistics, DJs David, Kit and M16, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Stan Strickland with the Phill Argyris Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Suzanne Davis Trio, 8:30pm-12am.
Club Passim Alastair Moock and Pastures of Plenty, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band and In the House, 6pm-2am, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Paolo Danay, 9:30pm, 21+.



Folk siren and rising star Edie Carey is one of the acoustic acts performing at the festival.

Preview

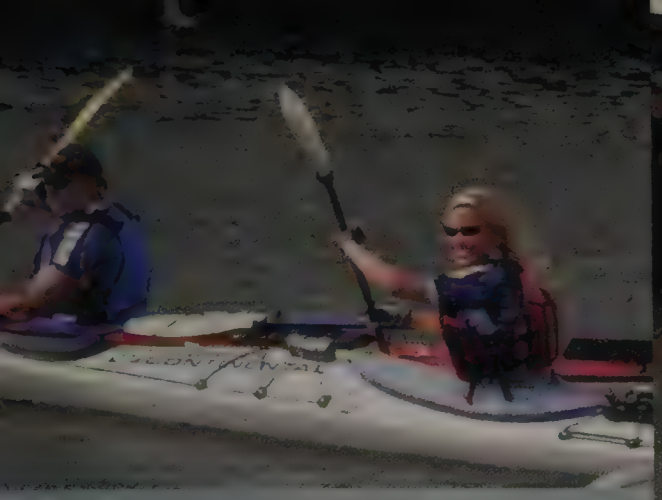
Passim by Campfire

Acoustic acts of New England converge for Labor Day

Every Memorial Day and Labor Day weekend, folk fans flock to the Club Passim for the Cutting Edge of the Campfire Festival, now four years running. The event focuses on up-and-coming artists while interspersing the lineup of more than 100 performers with well-known acts. From noon until 2am each day during the holiday weekend, local and national folk, bluegrass, rock, blues and poetry acts storm the club.

In previous years, the festival has drawn up-and-coming musicians who have since gone on to become household names: Ellis Paul, Lori McKenna, Melissa Ferrick, Vabce Gilbert and Jim Infantino. There's an average of 25 acoustic acts a day, so the odds are quite good that you'll find something to your liking. Think you'll need help staying awake? There will be free coffee after 11pm. *The festival runs Aug. 31 3pm -2am; Sept. 1, 2 and 3, 12pm-2am. 47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $15 festival pass; $8 per day.*

LEFT: ERIC VANDEVELD; TOP RIGHT: BRAD WILSON

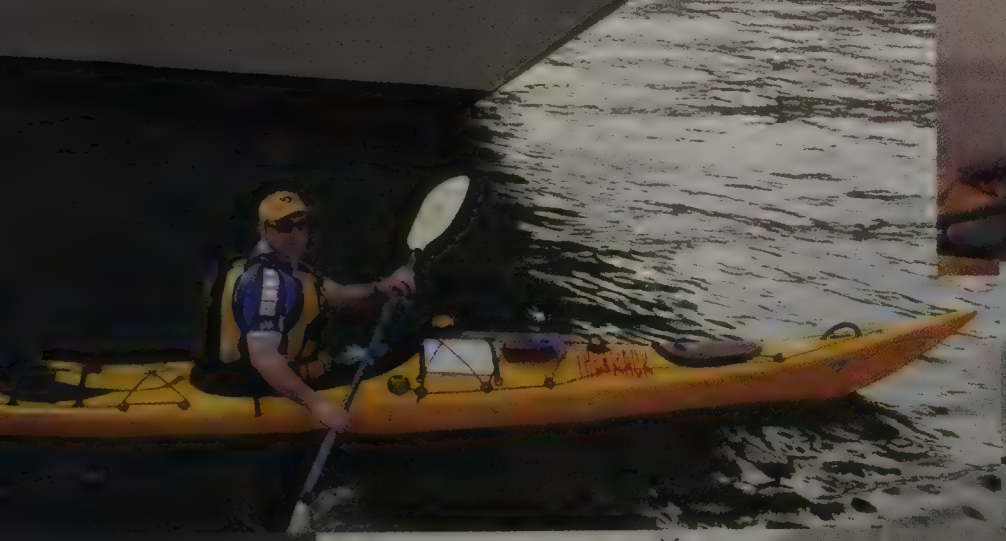






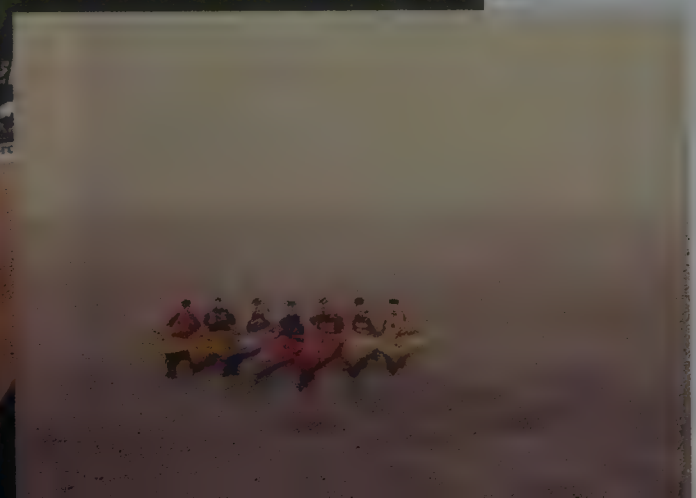












On Friday, August 3rd, TEAM RACK set out on a challenge that no one has done before...to kayak from Boston Harbor to Provincetown, MA. A 56 mile adventure! Through open seas, across shipping lanes, and contact with the occasional whale, all the while surrounded by thunder, lightning and fog so thick they could not see each other, they succeeded arriving on the shore of Race Point in Provincetown a day ahead of schedule. We are extremely proud of the kayakers for a job well done. This feat was to benefit the Pan Mass Challenge with proceeds going to the Dana Farber Institute and Leslie's Links. Two foundations we strongly believe in. Our efforts raised over $45,000.00 and the checks are still coming in.

We would like to thank our courageous kayakers for this undertaking- Heather Michalowski - The Rack, Stephen Walker - Modern Continental, Robert Rivers - The Bostonian Hotel, Nick Corvinus - Putnam Investments, John Sava - Sava Architectual and our Essex River Basin Adventures (ERBA) team - Richard Osborn (Ozzie), Christopher "The Man" Murphy, Tony Boxham, and David Phillips. Also, a special thanks to Paul Ferazzi - owner of the "STAR", Captain Andrea Thoreau, and with first mate Rolf Taunton-Rigby and of course Big Lou - owner of "THE TAZ" who could find steak tips and Bloody Mary's in any port in a storm, and to Dave Barclay for his daily back breaking deliveries of ice!

Special thanks to our generous sponsors and friends:

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Bob Phillips and The Improper Bostonian Magazine

Gregg Daniels and Mix 98.5

Karen Blake, Heather Gersten, Michael Knight and Vinnie Peruzzi from Star 93.7

Matt Siegel, Billy Costa and Skip Kelly from Kiss 108

Henry Santoro, Big Jim, Bruce Mittman and the morning crew from WFNX

Billy Starr - Founder of the PMC Challenge

and to many, many others for their support!

Paul Barclay

THE RACK

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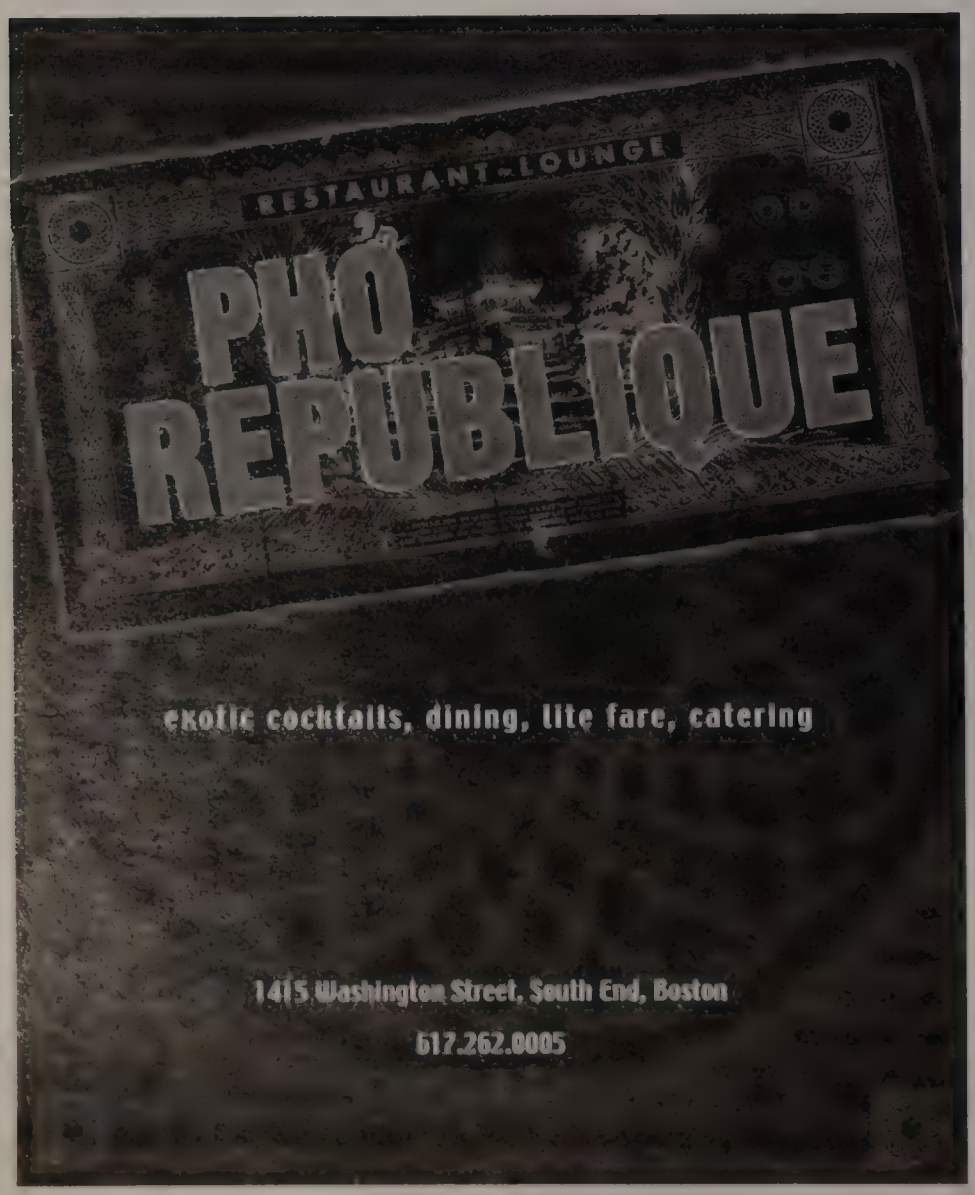
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Dave Navarro

Six-string virtuoso and alterna-rock pioneer Dave Navarro, formerly of Jane's Addiction and the Red Hot Chili Peppers, joins The Sheila Divine for a free 'BCN-sponsored show at the Hatch Shell. 6pm, Aug. 30.

Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Briar Me & Julio.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 10:30pm-2am, no cover.
The Harp Mr. Greenegenes.
Harper's Ferry Fighting Gravity and Missing Joe with Flynn, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Slipknot, 9:45pm.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Inner Pink, The Good North, Lowstar and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30pm, $5.
Limbo Nadine Chase Quartet, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Middle East U: Bright, Juneau and Conversation, $7, 18+. D: Cannibal Ox, Mr. Lif, Aesop Rock, Eyedea and Abilities, $18, 18+. C: Julian Russell, Roseshel Doyal and Tom Bianchi.
Milky Way Thaddeus Hoggarth and Carla Ryder, 9pm, $10.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
P.J. Ryan's Pete Massa, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Ann Hampton Callaway, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Jamm Down, 10:30pm-1am, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club J.V. Band, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Marian McPartland Trio, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Scrapstock Hearing From the Gap, 7pm; Blind Spot Trio, 7:30pm; Ken Field, Jane Wang and others, 8pm; Piezo, 9:30pm; Green Mountain Cowboys, 10pm; Power Book/Power Boogie, Andrew Newmann, 11pm; Immersion Music Salon and friends, 12am; DJ Hrvatski.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Bill Lowe and Chuck Langford, 9pm-1am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Steve Wynn, Willard Grant Conspiracy and Drew O'Doherty, $8.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

Atrium Lounge Dave Phillip, 5:15pm-8:45pm; Bert Seager Piano Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am.
Bill's Bar The Unseen with Menace, Hudson Falcons and Blind Society, 2pm, $10, all ages.
Bob the Chef's Stan Strickland and the Phil Argyris Quartet, 7:30pm.
Bristol Lounge Gilad Barkan, 5-7:30pm; Suzanne Davis Trio, 8:30pm-12am.
Club Passim Les Sampou CD-release, 8pm, $14.
Copperfield's Adios Pantalones, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles and the Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm-2am, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Acoustic Salsa Night with Giancarlo Buscaglia, 11pm-2am.
The Harp Mr. Greengenes.
Harper's Ferry Babaloo, $10, 21+.
House of Blues Ola Dixon.
Johnny D's Sugar Ray and The Bluetones with Mike Welsh, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Six of One, 9pm, $5.
Limbo Jim Bridges Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Lilli's The Control Group, Say Hi to Lisa, Pennywheel and Linus, 8pm, $8, 21+.
Middle East D: Firewater, $10, 18+. C: Grubstake.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz Brunch with Paulo Denay, 10:30am.
Oak Bar Jeri DiMarco Jazz Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
P.J. Ryan's On a Tangent, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Savage Benjamin, 9:30pm.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Ann Hampton Callaway, 8 and 10:30pm, $20.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 10:30pm-1am, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom CD-release party, 8:30pm, $8.
Scrapstock Either/Orchestra, 8pm; Mike Rivard and Club D'Elf, 9:30pm; Balkan bass and druns, 11pm; Immersion Music Salon, 12:30am; DJ Hravtski and friends, 1am.
Scullers Marian McPartland Trio, 8 and 10:30pm, $22.
Tír na nÓg Jen Matthews Band, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Ron Murphy, 8pm-12am.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Minders, The Waxwings, Brett Rosenberg Problem and Capital City, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9

The Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar DJ K-Don, Skiffington and Dub Station, 11:30pm, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkins' B-3 Jazz Trio, 10am-2pm.
Bristol Lounge Dan Greenspan Jazz Duo, 10:30am-1:30pm.
The Burren Singer/Songwriter Series Joe Rathbone and Chris Elliott, 8-10pm, no cover.
Club Passim Janet Field and Friends, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 1-4pm; Donegal Chords, 4-8pm; Finbar Doyle, 8pm-12am.
Hannah's Acoustic open-mike with Chris Fitz, 9:30pm.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon and friends with Rebecca Hart, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and Salsa with Rumba NaMa, 4:30pm.
Julien Bar Jazz Brunch with Jacques Chenier, 11am-3pm; Alfredo Cardim, 6:30-9:30pm.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Middle East U: Pullman and Papa M, 6pm, $10, 18+; Double Dong, Wyld Lixx, the Dance of the Seven Veils, Lucky Lee Jones and the Texas Governor, 10pm, $7, 18+.
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan & Power Surge, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz Brunch with Jay Silva, 10:30am.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover.
Scrapstock Kathy Duff, 1:30pm; The Last Ones, 2pm; The Highwaters, 3pm; Triple Thick, 4pm; Dead City Rockers, 5pm; Red Chord, 6pm; The Psycho Daisies with David Aguilar, 8pm; The Lyres, 9pm.
Scullers Al Kooper and the Funky Faculty, 7 and 9pm, $16.

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Dynamic alt-rockers Firewater, fronted by Tod A., play the Middle East Sept. 8.

Tir na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm-12am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Malevolence, Wicked Automatic and J-Walkers, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPT. 10

Bill's Bar Monsta Mondays with DJ Kapt Krunch, The Buddha, Madhaddah, Product 62 and Deathgrip, $8, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Suzanne Davis, 8-11:30pm.
Club Passim Open-mike with John Schindler, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Green Street Grill Michael Tarbox Duo, 10:30pm-1am.
Harper's Ferry Flying Lessons, $6, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Limbo Peter Barr Quartet, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Middle East U: Clinic, $, 18+. C: Tom Bianchi.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Tir na nÓg The Coots, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Tim Ray Trio, 8pm-12am.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 11

Bill's Bar Grand opening of the Gallery at Bill's Bar, 8pm, 21+.
Bristol Lounge Joe Barbato, 8-11:30pm.
Club Passim Open-mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and friends, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Dick Gaughan, 8:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Lilli's The Speed Devils, 8pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Arab on Radar and Flying Lutrenbachers, $7, 18+. D: Unwound, Mecca Normal and the Thrones, 8pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Oak Bar Steve Soares, 8pm, no cover.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with MD Jazz, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Roswell Rudd with The Charlie Kohlhase Quintet, 8:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Cervenka, Tomassi and Odgren, 8:30pm, $8.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm-12:30am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Crash Palace and Lipfloater, $8.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (617-964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell In Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanneil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent *21 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100).*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Hannah's *499 Broadway, Somerville (617-629-5302).*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Limbo *49 Temple Place. Boston. (617-338-0280). MBTA Green Line to Park St. or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299).*
Maison Robert *45 School St., Boston (617-227-3370). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Marché Caveau *The Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-578-9700). MBTA: Green Line to Prudential*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
MDC Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston (617-727-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Colombus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Nexus Theater Center *255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-0627). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*



Indie rock songstress P.J. Harvey plays the Orpheum Sept. 7.

advance seating

THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON

Tori Amos Oct. 15-16, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Anthrax and **Judas Priest** Oct. 10, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Björk Oct. 12, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Built to Spill and **The Dillusions** Sept. 17-19, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds Oct. 3, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).



See Suzanne Vega Nov. 14.

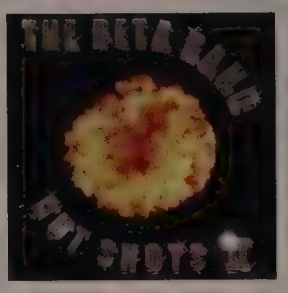
Neil Diamond Oct. 2-3, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Maxwell Oct. 18, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Megadeath Oct. 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Sigur Ros Sept. 21, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Bobby Short and His Orchestra Oct. 4-6, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562-4111).
3 Doors Down Sept. 22, Foxboro Stadium (617-931-2000).
Suzanne Vega Nov. 14, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).

TOP LEFT: MICHAEL LAVINE

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Baaba Maal
Missing You (Mi Yeewnii) [12.99cd]
Senegalese superstar Baaba Maal collaborates with Mansour Seck as they take an aural odyssey examining the roots of West African music. Recorded in Nbunk, Senegal with the assistance of producer John Leckie (Radiohead and The Stone Roses), the result is a masterpiece that captures "acoustic Africa."



The Beta Band
Hot Shots II [12.99cd]
The Beta Band are John Maclean (decks, samples, piano), Steve Mason (guitar, vocals, percussion), Robin Jones (drums, piano, tape, loops), and Richard Greentree (bass, percussion). They met up a couple of years ago in London and set out to make beautiful music while living together. Hailing from Scotland and the UK, The Beta Band have quickly become a symbol of hope in a sea of musical mediocrity.



Craig David
Born To Do It [13.99cd]
At age 18, the Southampton, England-based Craig David became the youngest British male ever to score a #1 hit, when his debut solo single, "Fill Me In," entered the UK charts at the top spot in March 2000. His record single, "7 Days," likewise entered the charts at #1, as did his acclaimed debut album "Born To Do It". Not only has David earned popular success internationally, he also earned voluminous critical raves. He's crowned as "the century's first UK pop star."



Jimmy Cozier
Jimmy Cozier [13.99cd]
Anchored by a smooth voice that expresses a full palette of emotions, "COZIER," Jimmy's debut album, is a powerful mix of sensual, silky soul and pop. An impressive, authentic talent, Jimmy co-wrote 10 of the album's 12 tracks, three of them with Wyclef Jean. Jimmy is clearly a breakthrough artist destined to make his own place in R&B and pop. Check out his major radio hit single "She's All I Got."

Trance Party
Various Artists [13.99cd]
From the people who brought you Dance Party (Like It's 2001), Robbins Entertainment presents Trance Party (Volume One), 16 of the hottest imports and radio smashes DJ-mixed for your enjoyment. Hit songs like "Barbados" from Darude, "Toca's Miracle" and "Pacific State" from Dario G's "Castles In the Sky."





Pete
Pete [8.99cd]
A musically and emotionally intense four-piece rock band whose sound is raw and hard, yet remarkably melodic and dynamic. From the relentless and seductive leadoff track, "Sweet Daze" through the dark realism of "Burn" to the stunning, powerful "Bury Me," Pete's self-titled debut explodes with passion and fury.

Blu Cantrell
So Blu [13.99cd]
Blu Cantrell started out singing background for the stars and on the road for some major R&B and hip-hop artists including P. Diddy, Gerald Levert and Aaron Hall. Blu's style has been described as a unique mix of Janet Jackson's sexy vocal power and Mariah's ear for melody. She has the same special qualities some of the great soul singers of the past have possessed.



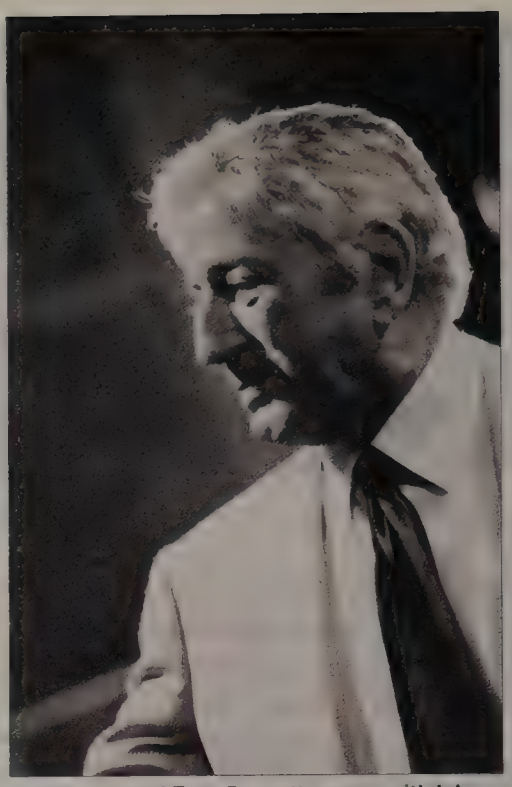
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Where music lives.







Ageless legend Tony Bennett croons with kd lang Aug. 30 at the FleetBoston Pavilion.

The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
South Shore Music Circus *130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400).*
Suffolk Downs *111 Waldemar Ave., East Boston (617-567-3900). MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs.*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

classical music

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 29

WCRB Concert Series
MDC Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. The Seasonal Table Trio and Friends perform.

FRIDAY, AUG. 31

Tanglewood Jazz Festival
Tanglewood, Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8:30pm. $19-$51. Chuck Mangione and New York Voices perform.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 1

Jazz Afternoon at Tanglewood
Tanglewood, Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 1:30pm. $13-$28. The John Pizzarelli Trio and Jane Monheit perform.

Jazz Evening at Tanglewood
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 7pm. $19-$51. Nancy Wilson plays with the all-woman Big Band Diva, Spyro Gyra and Ahmad Jamal are featured in this night's lineup.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 2

Jazz Afternoon at Tanglewood
Tanglewood, Ozawa Hall, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 1:30pm. $13-$28. Sonny Rollins comes to Tanglewood.

Jazz Evening at Tanglewood
Tanglewood, Koussevitzky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 7pm. $19-$51. George Benson, Poncho Sanchez and Nicholas Payton and the Louis Armstrong Centennial Celebration Band come together to perform.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 4

Noon Hour Recital at King's Chapel
School and Tremont streets, Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15pm. $2. George Worthley and Carol Clark play a menagerie of instruments: voice, whistle, guitar and bagpipe.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 5

WCRB's Concert Series
MDC Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. The Air Force Band of Liberty performs.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 6

WCRB's Concert Series
Copley Square, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12 pm. Charness Family Quintet performs.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 7

Septemberfest Opening Night
Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). 8pm. Free. Featured music includes Mozart's *Quartet for Flute and Strings No. 3*, Paul Brust's *Six Preludes for Piano*, Eric Sawyer's *Pas de Deux* and Brahms' *Trio in B Major*.

Piano Performance Seminar
New England Conservatory, Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1100). 9:30-11:30am. $15. Pianists perform Ingmar Bergman's *Magic Flute*.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 8

Monteverdi Festi
Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). 8pm. Free. Academic dean Robert Shay lectures on Monteverdi and the Music of the Future. Monteverdi's ballet follows, with *Zefiro torna and Ohime Ballo Tirsi e Clori* danced by the Baroque Dance Company. Francis Fitch accompanies on harpsichord.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 9

Mostly American
Longy School of Music, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). 8pm. Free. Featured music includes Howard Frazin's *Family Parable*, Aaron Jay Kernis' *Valentines*, Albert Roussel's *Trio* and John Harbison's *Piano Quintet*.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 11

Noon Hour Recital at King's Chapel
School and Tremont streets, Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15pm. $2. Trumpeter Jon Dante and organist Kimberly Hess perform.

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (617-859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am- 9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Weds.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+. Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the Eastern forces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington . 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.



Marga Gomez performs with Out On the Edge Theater.

SHOWS & EVENTS

AIDS Care Project Benefit
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). Sept. 13, 9pm-2am. $5. Dyke Night Productions' benefit promises to be a good time—with the sounds of the Maggie Salzberg Band. Dance the night away with DJ Mix Mistress .

Boston Women's Rainbow Chorus Auditions
Call Michelle (781-326-8967) for scheduling and information. Audition to be a member of the Boston Women's Rainbow Chorus, Boston's Chorus for Lesbians, Bisexual Women and Our Allies, directed by Ellen Oak.

Out On the Edge Theater
Boston Center for the Arts Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). Sept. 5-29. $22. The Theater Offensive presents the 10th annual Out on the Edge Festival of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Theater. Come see the nation's best queer performers as they premiere their new works, starting with *Dr. Frockrocket's Vivifying (Re-Animatronic) Menagerie and Medicine Show.*

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(617-508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for support and discussion with men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safter Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month. 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (617-822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(617-423-6881). Sundays, 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is Boston's gay swim team.

Long Yang Club
(617-825-5677). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.OuttoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Monday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/Mind, or electronically to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENT

Free Yoga Classes for One Healthy Week
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (617-666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sept. 9-15. Free.* Each day will feature free classes of every type of yoga taught by different instructors. Check out the Web site for a schedule.

Walk for an Alternative Approach
Center for Balance, 857 Washington St., Newton (617-527-0247). MBTA: Bus lines #553, #554 and #556. www.centerforbalance.org. *Sept. 9, 10am.* This is the third annual walk to support and promote alternative healing modalities hosted by the Center for Balance. The walk, starting at the center, will travel through the garden villages of Newton. Support freedom for health practices.

CLASSES

Extending Chi Awareness
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.CharlesRiverShiatsu.com. *Sept. 8, 9am-1pm. $50.* Learn how to use standing and sitting meditations, facial expressions and sounds to expand awareness, energy, concentration, healing power and strength of spirit.

The Power of Mantra
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Aug. 31, 7-9pm. $15.* "Mantra" is the Sanskrit term that refers to syllables or words that carry immense vibrational power—to heal on all levels, to protect and purify the mind, to invoke sacredness and divinity. **Gita Beth Bryant** will draw on her 30 years of study and practice in the yogic tradition to share ways that you can use mantras for healing, prayer, meditation and many daily activities.

RETREAT

Harvest Gathering
Spirit of Change Magazine, Beckett (508-839-2228). www.spiritofchange.org. *Sept. 7-9. $75-$225 (suggested donation depending on desired lodging).* This annual event was created to bring traditional and modern spirituality together with people in a natural setting. This weekend will feature native ceremonies, outdoor cultural activities, sacred fire, children's activities, healing-methods workshops, drumming concert, stargazing and more.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detoxification
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). Daily during walk-in hours. If you want to break the cycle of substance abuse, try acupuncture.

Astanga Focus Class
Metropolitan Fitness, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-927-2274). www.bostonfitness.com. *Wed., 6pm.* This 30-minute yoga class with **Marc McDonald** will focus on one or two Astanga postures each week. Great for beginners as well as advanced students who want to perfect their postures.

Contact Improvisation Jam
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-320-9792) MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 8-10pm. $7-$10. Join three fantastic movement teachers, **Gene Broadway**, **Amy Dore** and **Patrick Crowley**, in a workshop that is freeing, exciting and an enjoyable way to dance with others.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-497-8041). Fri., 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 7, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10 requested donation. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances which honor the world's sacred traditions. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and accompanied by live music.

Deep Tao Martial Arts
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (617-731-0991). www.newdirections forhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed., 6:30am. Free.* Deep Tao is a nonviolent martial art for peace and protection. This practice takes place outdoors.


Refresh at the Harvest Gathering Sept. 7-9.

Drop In Yoga
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St., Church of Our Savior, Brookline (617-277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm. Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class for a powerfully peaceful time.

Healthy Practices
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http://dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *First Tai Chi class is free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Check these classes out: •Tai Chi lunch hour: Tue./Fri., 12:30-1:30pm •Kung Fu: Wed., 5-6pm •Taoist Qi Gong: Tue., 7-8pm •Tai Chi and Self Defense: Tue., 8-9pm.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teacher. All sessions are open to and appropriate for anyone seeking or already on a personal spiritual path.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (617-362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover a stress-reducing exercise that enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-$18. Call ahead.* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (617-536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Call ahead. Drop in on any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (617-731-0991). www.newdirections forhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17 per session. Join anytime or drop in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar, plus Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork and family relaxation classes.

Yoga/Cambridge
Portia Brockway, Cambridge. (617-864-YOGA). www.yogainharvardsquare.com. *MBTA Red Line to Harvard. $17. Drop-in.* Portia Brockway teaches a flowing and moderate yoga style for everyone interested (and especially for women who are prenatal or postnatal). •Regular group meets: Mon., 6pm; Tues., 5:45pm; Wed., 9:30am; Sat., 9am •Prenatal group meets: Mon., 7:30pm; Tues./Wed., 4:15pm •Postnatal moms with new babies meet: Wed., 11:15am. Beginners welcome.

Zen Insight
Cambridge Zen Center, 199 Auburn St., Cambridge (617-576-3229). MBTA: Red to Harvard. www.cambridgezen.com. *Mon., 7pm.* If you've had a trying Monday, try this drop-in meditation session and get back to the center of your being.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 482-4SOX
Aug. 31, 7:05pm vs. New York Yankees
Sept. 1, 1:15pm vs. New York Yankees
Sept. 2, 1:05pm vs. New York Yankees
Sept. 4, 7:05pm vs .Cleveland Indians
Sept. 5, 7:05pm vs. Cleveland Indians
Sept. 6, 7:05pm vs. Cleveland Indians

Events

Race for the Cure
The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Daly Field (near the MDC rink) on the Charles River, Brighton. Sept. 9, 7am-12pm. http://bostonraceforthecure.org. *Pre-registration fee, $15; $25 race day.* Help support research for a cure for breast cancer and run in a coed 5K run or family 5K walk.

Triathlon Labor Day Weekend
The Monster Challenge Tri-Boston, 617-450-1100. www.monsterchallenge.org. *Sept. 2., Individual registration fee, $50.* Do your part for the AIDS Action Commitee in researching a cure for AIDS (and providing services to those afflicted by it). Swim, bike, run or do all three.

Cam Neely Award Dinner
Westin Copley Place, 617-219-8232. www.arthritis.org. *Sept. 11, 6pm. Tickets $150.* Bruins great Cam Neely has been given the 2001 Sportsperson of Distinction award. As such, there will be a gala presentation dinner with Neely and other local notables in the sports world, including Luis Tiant and Bob Lobel. There will also be a silent and live auction, and all proceeds will go to the Arthritis Foundation.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players age 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practice takes place Sunday at 11am.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through August. Men's and women's divisions are open.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur, Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (617-308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (617-789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

POLO

Stage Hill Polo and Riding School
Topsfield Fair Grounds, Topsfield (356-5601). Mon. and Wed., 6-8pm; Sat., 1pm. $300/mo. For people looking to actually play the sport depicted on their Ralph Lauren shirts, Stage Hill provides the equipment, horses and lessons. No prior riding experience is necessary.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/bostonhhh. Weekly runs year round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(617-789-4070, ext. 225). Co-ed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Co-ed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (617-523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Community Boating is the largest and oldest nonprofit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for $190 per season, including instruction.


Spike your way to glory at a Boston Ski & Sports Club volleyball game.



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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). Thursdays and Fridays, 8pm. Through October. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts life in Revolutionary Boston.

Snoopy
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sept. 7-30. $21. The Peanuts gang comes to life.

South Shore Music Circus
130 Sobier St., Cohasset (781-383-9850). Aug. 30, 10:30am. $6. Kaleidoscope Theatre presents *Little Red Riding Hood.*

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (617-679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Saturdays, 12pm. Staff members read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Boston by Little Feet
Samuel Adams Statue at Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-3766). Sat. and Mon., 10am; Sun., 2pm. This tour of the Freedom Trail's architecture caters to young walkers.

Children's Program
Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). Aug. 29, 2pm. $6-$8. Jim Parks presents *Birds of Prey*. Learn about the role of eagles, hawks, falcons and other birds in Native American art and lore.

Child Safety (and Fun) Day
Charles River Saab, 570 Arsenal St., Watertown (617-923-9230). Sept. 8. Project KidCare and Fingerprint America will be there to teach parents and children about safety. There will also be a cookout, ice cream, moon bounce and in-line skating lessons. Radio Disney Party Patrol will even be there.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tuesdays, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of storytelling fun.

Figure It Out-Posts
The Children's Museum of Boston, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). Fridays, 6-8pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 11am-1pm. Through the end of September. $7, $6 children. Kids can celebrate numbers and problem-solving techniques at "Figure It Out" stations.

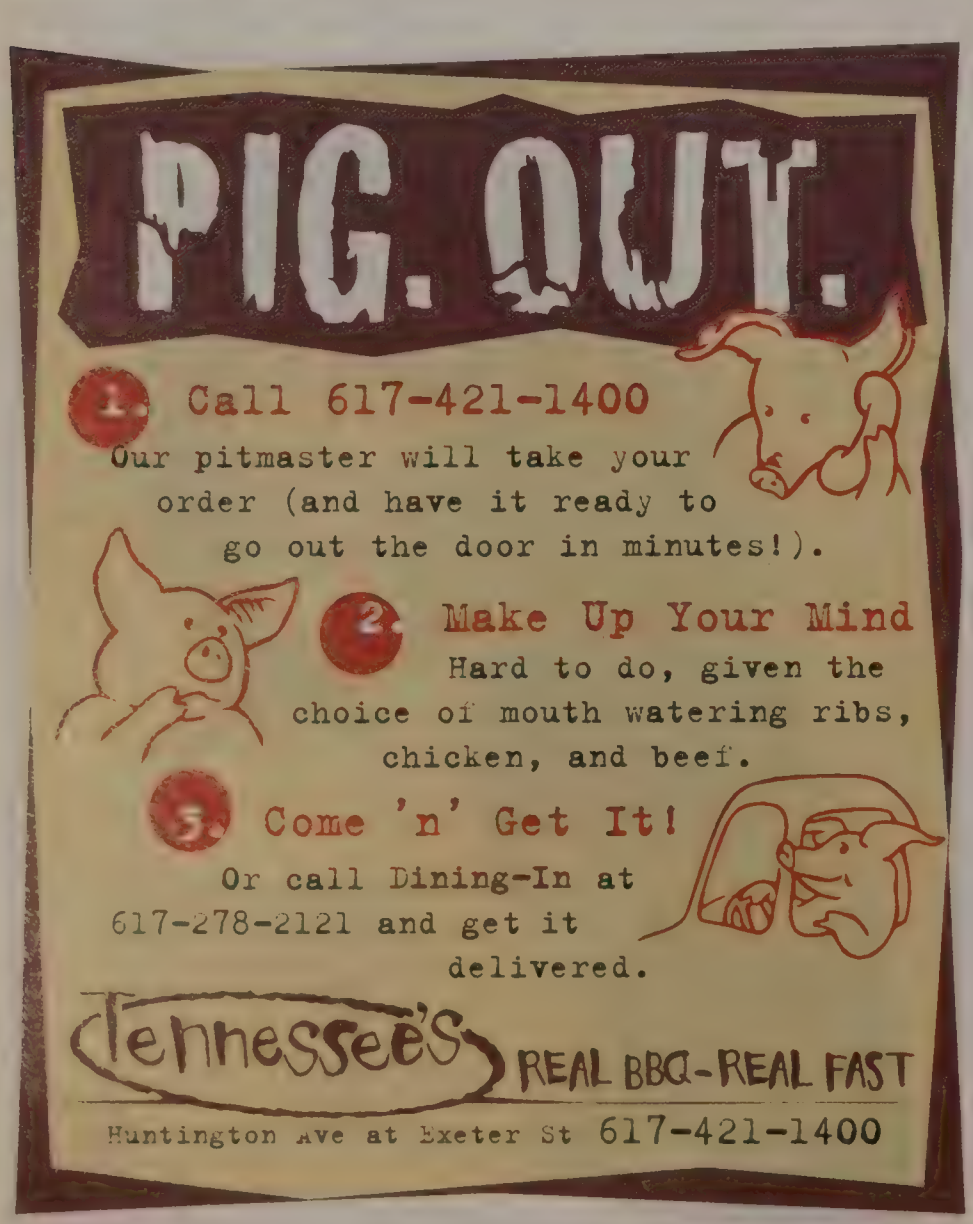
Freedom Trail Starter
Boston Common, Visitor Information Center (617-635-7383). Sept. 1 and 8, 10:30am-12pm. Free. Start your walk along the Freedom Trail with a park ranger, who will orient you and your whole family historically and geographically as you explore Boston.

Multicultural Festival
Clifford Park, Roxbury (617-442-8047). Sept. 8. A multicultural festival with events for the whole family. • 11am-12pm: Participate in a parade with a marching band, clowns, mounted police, stilt walkers, kids on bikes, floats and dancers. • 12-7:30pm: Local performers, games for children, face painting, workshops for kids and adults, and arts and crafts for the whole family.

Self-Defense for Youths
West Suburban YMCA, 276 Church St., Newton Corner (617-244-6050). Ages 7 and up. Mon-Thu., 6:30-8:30pm; Sat., 8-10am, beginning Sept. 4. $85. Kids can learn to defend themselves, gain strength and self-confidence, and develop mental and physical awareness.

Yoga for Youngsters
Gymboree, 3 Crescent St., Waltham (781-736-0081). Sept. 4-Nov. 1, 4-5pm. $120. Children ages 5 to 11 can experience yoga games, stretches and relaxation techniques from Lisa Orkin of Lotus Blossom Yoga.

ZOOM into Action Fun Fest
WGBH, 125 Western Ave., Boston (617-300-1623). Sat. and Sun., Sept. 8-9, 12-4pm. $10, $5 children. Arthur and Clifford the Big Red Dog will attend, and kids can enjoy gourmet ice cream and live music.



around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (617-338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (617-242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (617-572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and 12-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (617-566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theater, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

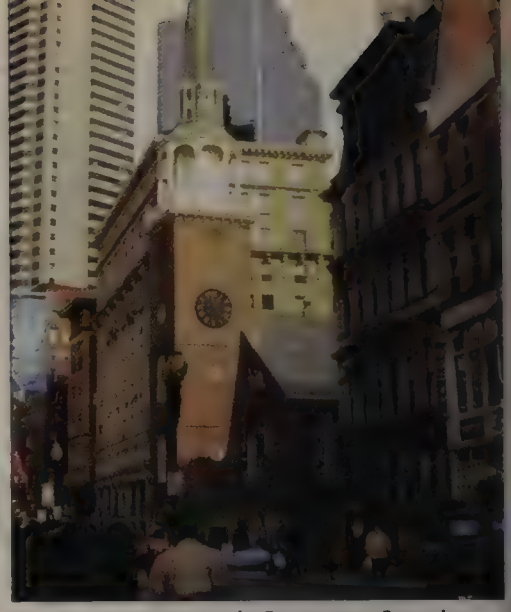
Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. Free.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.



The Old State House in Downtown Crossing

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(617-357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Be a friend to a young girl. Info sessions: Aug. 29, 6-7pm.

Book Drive
Starbucks Coffee locations. Sept. 7-Oct. 2. Donate a new or gently used children's book to benefit Jumpstart.

Boston Cares
(617-263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge Cares about AIDS
(617-661-3040, ext. 13). Weekly volunteers needed to help at the front desk.

Community Servings
(617-445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Friday Night Supper Program
Arlington Street Church (617-536-7050, ext. 22). Help prepare, cook and serve meals on Fridays, 5-7pm.

The Greater Boston Food Bank
(617-427-5200). Groups needed to sort donated food.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Eating Disorder Association
(617-558-1881). Volunteers are needed for help line.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info. Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

One with One
(617-254-1691). Aug. 29; Sept. 6. Tutor an immigrant in English in preparation for the American workplace.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(617-375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program. Training begins in September.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.

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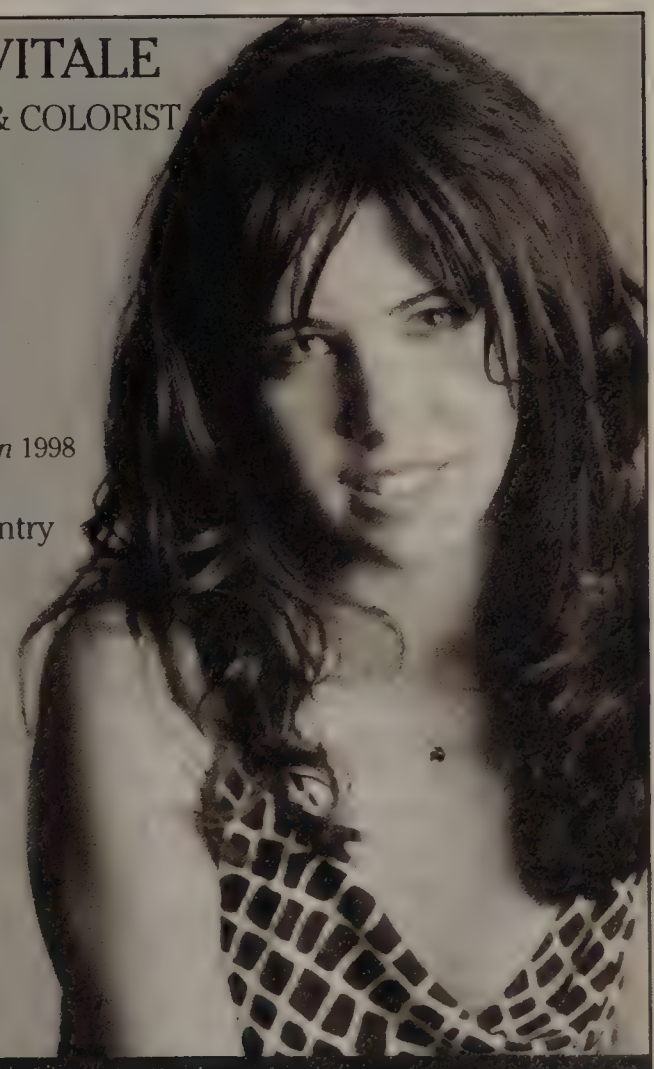
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Marc
I just had to let you know, and let everyone know, that I am in love with you. You make my heart beat faster whenever you enter the room. I smile when I hear your voice. Your touch makes me tremble. I look forward to the end of every workday because I am coming home to you. Your eyes eat me up with their intensity. I cannot get enough of you. You are my love, and I am happy. Te amo,
—Yesim

Cathy
That was the most poetic, windswept blowoff I've ever received. Thank you. Don't worry: The haunting is over. See you in 60 years (in the afterlife).
—Heathcliff

Karen
I wish you could have actually spoken with me after two years. The fact that you were not able to is something I should take solace in. I hope someday we can be friends. Know that I never wish ill will on you and hopefully someday I will be able to reflect on you and I with a light heart. Because we were happy together for a long time. Soon, I hope, I will be able to get past how you acted and remember what we had. I hope you are as rich as you obviously want to be. I am already rich. Rich with friends, family and the knowledge that helping people brings the greatest wealth of all. I am also rich with—what do you call it? Oh yeah... money. Still, please, have a good life and take care. Oh, one more thing: I will not miss your often horrible body odor.
—XO

Star-Tattooed Sushi Spectator
On a scorchingly hot and muggy August day I saw you on one of the lower blocks of Newbury Street as I made my way to a sushi joint with a few friends. It's not often that I see a non-plastic female who appeared to be into good music and good fashion walking down the lower strip of Newbury Street, so you piqued my interest. You caught me checking out your star tattooed wrists and burgundy hair on Newbury Street while I was en route. I caught you "perusing" the menu in the window while I waited for seating and contemplated approaching you and your predominantly black and silver tight outfit. Unfortunately I was overwhelmed and engaged in conversation so I missed the call as you surveyed what they had to offer and decided against a cucumber roll. Let's pick up where we should have started. Don't worry, I won't make small talk about your tattoos if you don't inquire about the loudly colored thrift store T-shirt I was wearing.
—cleversushireference@hotmail.com

Roxy Music
I never caught your name. We were having a grand time at the Roxy Music show. I'm still buzzed from it but I still think about you, mystery woman. Was there a small buzz or were we two ships that sailed away afterwards? I often think about you and who you are. If you read this, great. Say hi via the 'net. It was a fantastic show and your presence and beauty/style made it more than another concert. Well here's hoping I hear from you. Did your friend have the baby yet?
—samuelsamwas40@aol.com

Next Stop: Kendall/MIT
I've never done anything close to this before, but I figured I'd take my chances. There's nothing to lose except for the fact that you won't see this. Sometimes I'd see you on the train. I got on at Downtown, you were already on. Coming from the South Shore perhaps? Before I knew it, every day I found myself looking for you; it gave me something to do for the next three stops. The few times we walked by each other from the train toward the office, I wanted to say good morning, etc. but, well, I don't know why I didn't. We've seen each other for over a year; we worked in the same building, obviously not for the same company. I'd see you outside getting some fresh air or going for a run. I can't say I was doing either. You wouldn't know this but I do like to work out and be healthy. What you saw was a figment of your imagination, hahaha. We spoke once, briefly. And just when I started to get up the nerve to talk with you further, I no longer work there. Most of the times I saw you, you were usually alone so I'd like to see what your smile looks like. I don't know why, but you've piqued my curiosity. I don't know your name or your status for that matter but if you want to e-mail me, I think I could make you smile.
—kendallnomore@hotmail.com

Nancy V
I'm kicking myself in the ass because I can't remember your last name. We met at the Mr. Tasty booth and talked about pot stickers. I've been going back to the booth every day and haven't found you. Please stop by during the lunch hour before I get so fat you won't recognize me.
—Chicago Chris

A Poet Who Knows It
Fabiana my sweet. Since the first day that I met you last fall in the sun, our lives have grown stronger with more and more fun. I miss you when you get nervous and pull yourself away, but you have buried yourself in my heart and there you shall stay. I understand your complexities and will give you your space, just don't let others be what keeps you from my place. Do what you want and believe in yourself; you deserve to be happy more than anyone else. You are a wonderful woman who helps those in need with caring and kindness and acts of good deeds. Let yourself be happy content and proud. You are an inspiration to others. You stand out in a crowd. Your beauty is eternal like that I have never known. Our connection is forever, I feel it in my bones. Call me tomorrow, tonight or today. I will always be willing to get together and play. You are my friend and my confidante, I thank you for that. I will love you forever, we always have such good laughs. Thank you Fabiana. Love,
—Big Country

Tom
No, I will not go out with a 51-year-old, so stop flirting with me.
—The Girl Who's Too Young for You

Rush Limbaugh Wannabe
You are a loathsome individual. I was not surprised to learn that I was just one of many women who fell victim to your (vile) charms and pseudo-intellect. I can only hope that your wife finds out about your lecherous ways, and that she scalps you for all of your money and your manse. I hope that you lose your job, but I doubt your bosses give a rat's ass about the impropriety of your actions. Until you do lose your job, I suppose everyone will have to put up with your b.s. as it permeates our air. You are a hack.
—Ms. Nom de Plume

Victor Hugo
Near Victor Hugo books, Newbury Street, 5pm on Aug. 12. You: blue jeans, royal blue top, black backpack, dark hair, bright eyes—smiled at me. Me: khakis, gray short-sleeve sweater, tall, unshaven, dark hair, blue eyes—smiled at you. I turned too late; you were gone; write to me:
—newbury_street@hotmail.com

Cinderella Where Are You?
I tried to answer your AOL personal, but your e-mail address (snow470@aol.com) was dead! Were you scared off by a freak? I hope you're still out there.
—MeetMeInMA@aol.com

Rockie Horoscope

AUGUST 29 – SEPTEMBER 11, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



VIRGO AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Overwhelmed by details? Feeling a bit cantankerous? Have you been taking it out on the family or are they even more aggravating than you right now? Until your perfection-seeking Mercury ruler moves into harmonious Libra on the 31st, hanging with the Virgin could be more trouble than it's worth. Blame assertive Mars for adding a militaristic edge to your behavior, a demanding voice to your requests. Consider getting a piñata for your birthday celebration, so that your guests can hit at something other than your back.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
It's been a while, but after your Venus ruler moves into demonstrative, open-hearted Leo, your spirits will lift and your reputation should burn a little brighter. You'll be able to show off without incurring the wrath of the gods, your boss or your parents, and any grandiose gesture you make will be considered the height of style. Where did this special dispensation come from? Must be the good press you'll enjoy after chatty Mercury enters Libra on the 31st. Have fun; come fall, the hoopla can fade fast.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Check it out: Every year about this time a woman or a gracious, generous artist comes on the scene and affects the course of your career in a dramatic way. For the next month, Venus, ruler of flirtatious females and other objects of beauty, travels across your Leo midheaven—the area of your chart where you make a name for yourself and where you earn the right to be lionized. Just keep doing the best work you can; pay attention to details and organize your time and resources. In other words, act like a Virgo on a gig.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
And what did you do during the past seven months with bold, brave Mars in your sign? Have laser surgery? Sculpt a new body? Cut, bruise and burn your clumsy self more than usual? Because Mars is moving on to Capricorn on the 8th, concern with your physical attributes may be supplanted by a passionate interest in financial matters and a more cautious set of values. Maybe. At the same time, the practical and fairly prosaic Virgo sun is challenging you to rise to an occasion that'll advance your career, broadcast your name and make you even more skittish than you currently feel.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Now that we're in Virgo, a practical earth sign like your own, you'll have a lot of support, especially when dealing with joint financial matters such as insurance and inheritances. As long as you're not fending for yourself, you should be OK. However, the Virgo vibe, in its desire to achieve perfection in this lifetime, can be extremely critical. Don't be put off if your enviable organizational skills come under review or your dearly beloved gets on your case. Everyone only wants what's best.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
The only planetary change worthy of your consideration is the shift loving Venus makes from crabby Cancer to your Leo complement. That means the folks you work with, the ones you work out with, even those who minister to your needs or provide services, like the best back massage in the world, will be cheerful, kind and very generous with their time and affection. We won't even mention the "M" word. This heart-warming, romantic interlude should last until Venus moves on to picky Virgo as fall officially begins. Enjoy it while you can.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
Try to squeeze every bit of glamour and romance from what's left of the summer. Take time to work yourself into the appropriate mood so that you'll be at your soulful, simpatico best when irresistible Venus attracts your idealistic Neptune ruler on Sept. 1. Nothing is as exquisite and ethereal (or delusional) as this polarity, so if the purple chiffon needs ironing, if the water-colors need to be replenished, do it before you get totally caught up in a fantasy and realize (this is Virgo, you know) you don't have the proper props.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
By now you probably sense that there's a significant change in the wind, and on the 28th, when Mercury contacts your Mars ruler, you're likely to get the official word—you're movin' on up. No matter what rung up the ladder of success you currently occupy, you'll have an opportunity to show off your executive abilities and astound even yourself before Halloween arrives. Knowing how disciplined you're going to be this fall, better play hard—fast and loose, too—for the rest of the summer.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Feeling neighborly? Not for long. You could lose interest in the care and feeding of the folks next door, along with your compassion for a needy sibling, as soon as your Venus ruler leaves homey Cancer on the 26th for the royal realm of Leo. Unfortunately, the luxury of living in the lap of luxury only lasts a month, but while you're there, you'll be inspired to surround yourself with more beauty, gaiety and romance than you currently enjoy. Luckily, the Virgo sun helps you get organized enough to make a few of your dreams come true.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
One heated discussion deserves another. Generating enough friction to make the sparks fly is the assignment your Mercury ruler assumes when it squares passionate Mars in your marriage house. Could it be you're doing the same thing? Being the gadfly is sometimes painful, especially if you're liable to be shooed away, or worse, swatted down, but provoking intelligent thought is what Gemini does best. So while the antsy Virgo sun is making you more impatient, you might do whatever it takes to move the relationship further along.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
An easy opportunity to earn serious money may pop up just before the Labor Day weekend when the Virgo sun supports protective Jupiter in your sign. Check out all potential prospects because you never know from which direction Lady Luck will appear. And while amassing bucks might not be the be-all and end-all, you are rarely in as favorable a position as you are now. Just don't let luxury-loving Venus lead you astray with delusions of grandeur and overly romantic visions of togetherness.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
The exceptionally long, seven-month holiday you had while Mars traveled back and forth through take-it-easy Sagittarius is coming to an end. Better make the most of the free time that's left and fill the last days of summer with fun and games, wine and roses. After energetic Mars moves into staid, sober Capricorn on Sept. 8, you won't be as willing to take chances or to go where your spirit of adventure, not to mention your deepest desires, lead. You'll be too busy working like a demon.

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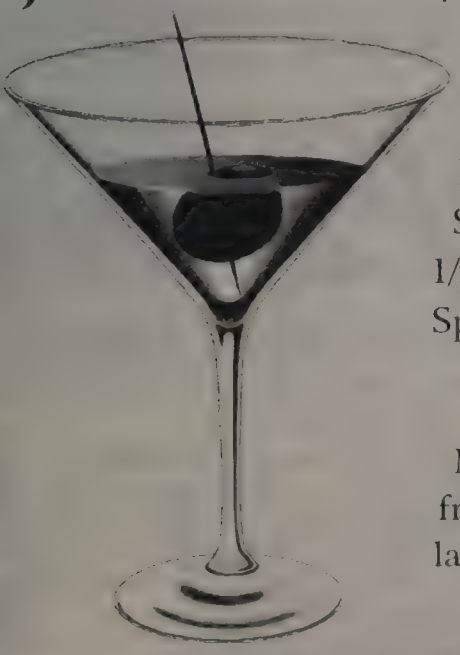
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The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and

ntimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, window dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@theblackrhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Get a taste of the Southwest in Boston. Specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, Cajun Catfish. Sample the firewater menu while you are there, including Coyote Killer (Light and dark rum, peach schnapps, ginger beer and mixed juices), or a Chambord Margarita. The daring may go for a dip in the Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Amex, Diners Club, MC and Visa. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants, in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. www.cactusclub.com.

Copperfields *98 Brookline Ave., Boston 247-8605.* Located directly across from historic Fenway Park. Copperfields offers either of its two rooms at no charge for private parties accommodating up to 440 people. Ideal for pre & post Red Sox parties, corporate functions, charities, fundraisers, graduation parties, college get-togethers and birthdays. Copperfields features live cover and original bands Thursday, Friday and Saturday on two floors, with three separate bars and 30 draft beer lines providing local microbrews. Entertainment starts at 10pm, casual attire, cover varies.

Harvard Gardens *316 Cambridge Street, Boston, MA 02114, 617-523-2727.* A wonderfully relaxed haven located opposite MGH on the back side of Beacon Hill. Serving the finest cocktails and most comfortable food in town. Plant yourself in a comfy booth, a cozy banquette, or at our fully loaded bar and escape from your everyday troubles. Doing it nice & easy 7 days a week - 11am-2am. Major credit cards accepted. Valet parking available.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

Sweetwater Cafe *3 Boylston Place, 351-2515.* A classic American bar featuring Boston's best bands and DJ'snightly. A favorite Boston bar for 15 years with two floors of entertainment, an outdoor patio and worldclass margaritas. Always great music and cold beer, never a dress code. Available for private functions of any kind. (Credit cards: Am Ex, Visa, MC, Diner's) Tues. - Sat. 5 pm - 2 am. Located in "The Alley."

The Big Easy Bar *1 Boylston Place, Boston, 351-7000.* Informal. Located in Boston's version of Bourbon Street, "The Alley." The Big Easy Bar is a hot new New Orleans style bar featuring Boston's best live bands and disc jockeys nightly playing music you know and love. Relax in a lounge, listen to the band, play billiards, hang at the bar or dance the night away. The Big Easy Bar has something fun for everyone. Great beer selection, 22 oz. Hurricanes, 4 huge bars, 2 lounges, a balcony, plenty of seating, and a large dance floor. Wed. - Sat. 8 pm - 2 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

The Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, 351-2510.* "Home of Boston's Best Party." Set in the middle of a mini-Bourbon Street, The Sugar Shack celebrates Mardi-Gras year-round with a carefree, reckless, spontaneous and unpretentious attitude. Carnival lights, confetti, beads, specialty drinks, live bands and Disc Jockeys playing classics, motown, R&B, funk, disco, and old school hip hop from the last three decades mixed with the best of today's top 40. Home of young professional, young alumni, 20 something hipsters who desire cold beer, cocktails, classic party tunes and unadulterated fun!!

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

WINE BARS

The Vault Bistro & Wine Bar *105 Water St., Liberty Square, Boston, 292-0966.* The hip meeting spot in the Financial District for after work, dinner, late night, or a seductive tryst. The Vault offers some of the most exclusive wines in Boston, which complement the creative American Cuisine prepared by Chef Michael Foley. Can't decide on a wine? Relax and compare with our Tasting Flights featuring selections from different reds and whites. So what are you waiting for? Call an old friend, a client, or a coworker and meet for cocktails at The Vault today.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science-Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA 02114.* Enjoy Suday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Shackleton's Antartic Adventure at 2pm. Tickets are $28 for adults, $26 for seniors/children. Brunch only is $20. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, cal (617) 723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.


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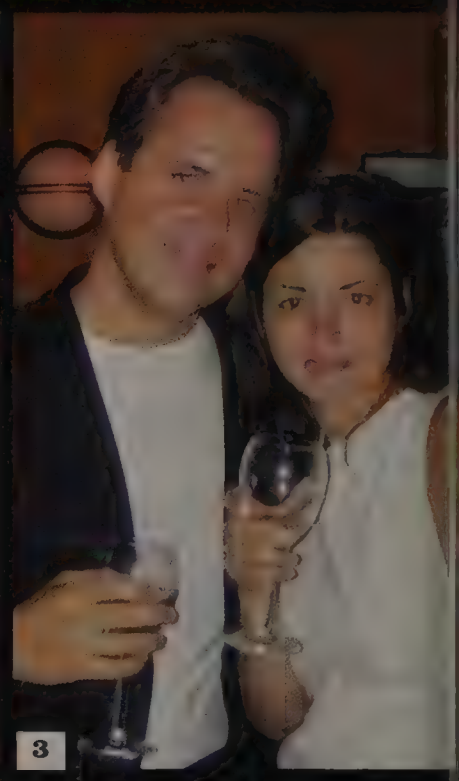
Advertising

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, Aug.15th, Vox celebrated it's one-year anniversary with a special dinner prepared by Amanda Lydon, Matthew Murphy, Michael Burgess and Rick Katz.







1. Owners **Brian Lesser** and **Joe Quattrocchi** of Vox, Barcode and Metro with PR maven **Diane Mantouvalos**.
2. **Peter Webster** of Webster & Company Ltd. with his wife, **Emily,** of Children's Trust Fund, **Marion Kassler** of The Design Center with **Chris Poirier** of Resinate Corp.
3. **Cristina Baltatzidis** of Back Bay Restaurant Group with **Jeffrey Osborne**.

The Rack went to the Dogs! On Thursday, Aug. 16th, The Rack celebrated Dog Day Afternoon, sponored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and Mix 98.5 to benefit the WSPA and MSPCA







1. Rack investor **Paul Ferazzi, Jerry Ahearn** of the MBTA, **Erin O'Malley** of Mix 98.5 and **John Walsh** of the WSPA with their pooches.
2. **Cuba Birnbaum** with his dog, Rosie.
3. Smile for the camera.







On Thursday, Aug. 16 Jose McIntyre's hosted it's 2nd Annua Elvis Fest. Elvis impersonators competed in the King's Karaoke contest, which awarded the winner a trip for two to Graceland.

1. **Lisa Martocci**, auditor at PriceWaterhouseCoopers; **Mark Kennedy**, animal trainer at the Franklin Park Zoo; **Rebecca Seldow**, entrepreneur; **Brad Coyle**, research scientist at New England Medical Center; **Craig LeMoult**, public relations executive at MS&L; **Cindi Young**, nanny.
2. **Dan LaPorte**, contractor from Clairemont, N.H., and **Kelly Dwyer**, an accountant from Cambridge.
3. **Pamela Knight** and **Sean Huse** of Public Consulting Group; **Jennifer Chun**, QA engineer at Idiom; **Florie Catab, Chris Naumann** and **Mikki Sullivan**, all of Public Consulting Group.

PHOTOS: VOX, THE RACK, WENDY SEMONIAN; JOSE MCINTYRE'S, KAREN DA

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Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



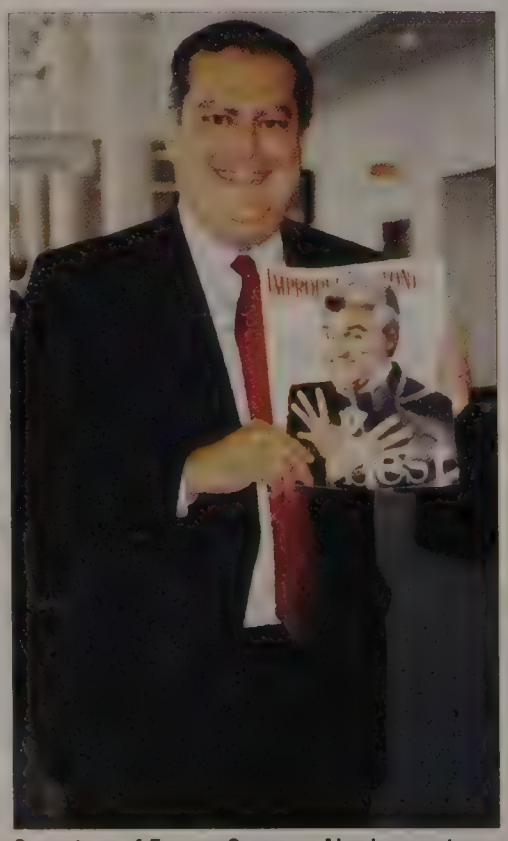
Debbie Kleynen got these *federales* to pose for a photo in Puerto Adventuras, Mexico. In exchange for six copies of the Improper, they "overlooked" the drugs and guns concealed in her Cigarette boat.



Leo "Buddy" Nelson IV and Samanth Cousins at the changing of the horse guards in London. They tol this guy the one about the duck trying to buy some duck food and he still didn't smile. Wow.



Michelle Lee visited the Space Needle. She forgot to bring her sunglasses to Seattle, but somehow managed to get by without them.



Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham gets a charge out of reading the Improper's Boston's Best issue.



Adrian Sulea gets the Tenacious Tourist Award for sending in *seven* separate Sightings pictures. Here, he's in Timisoara, Romania.



Her Excellency Heng-Chee Chan, ambassador of Singapore to the United States, checks out a most excellent magazine.

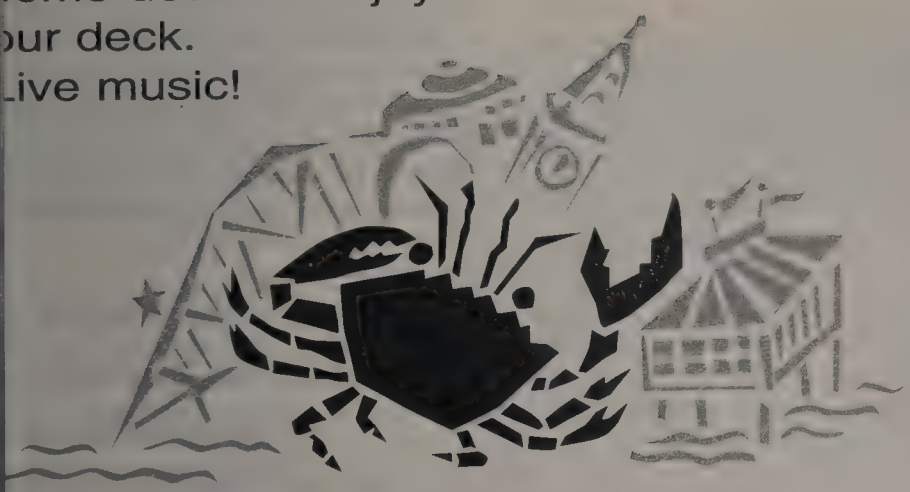
IMPROPER BOUNTY

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Totally renouncing captialistic society in a post-apocalyptic community, (or, uh, something), at Burning Man 2001, Aug. 27-Sept. 3, Black Rock Desert, Nevada.

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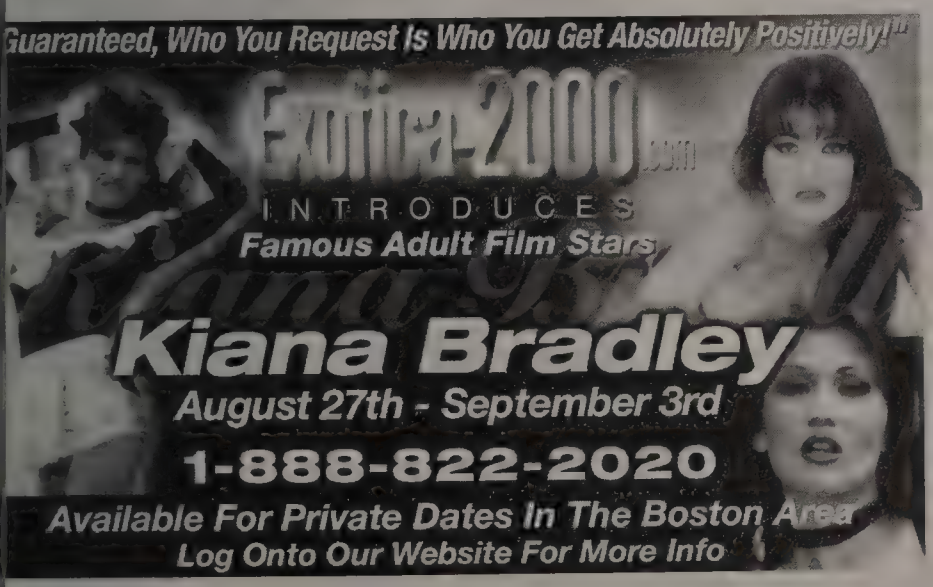
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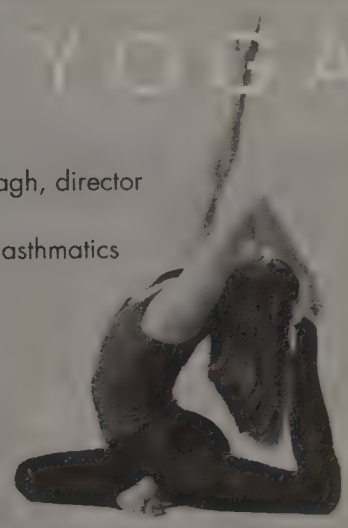


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Last Scene Here

BY JONATHAN SOROFF







At the *Planet of the Apes* premiere: Mark Wahlberg (inset left, and above with fans); Richie LaMontagne.

MARKY-MARK AND THE MONKEY BUNCH...

As if further proof were needed that humans descended from apes, there was the flashbulb-popping lunacy and star-struck hysteria lavished on Dorchester homey-gone-supernova **Mark Wahlberg** at the ***Planet of the Apes*** premiere he hosted to benefit his new youth foundation that benefits disadvantaged kids.

Before he even set foot at the **Loews Boston Common**, each arriving limousine was enough to trigger squeals from the crowd out front, while his actual appearance caused a fusillade from the photographers and a look of desperately needing to visit the bathroom from the fans who pressed in around him and shoved everything imaginable into his face to be autographed.

Even more amusing was the scene across the street, where passersby congealed into a curious mass, exchanging odd bits of dialogue like, "He's in that new monkey movie?" "My actor friend always says he's so short," and—from a Japanese tourist speaking fractured English—"Who, please, is Mucky-Muck?"

In addition to an impressive number of inner-city kids and an alarming number of bodyguards, publicists, handlers and attitudinal Hollywood types, the audience at the pre-release screening included familiar faces like siblings and stars in their own right **Donnie** and **Robert Wahlberg**; the latter's stunning wife, **Gina**; solo recording artist **Joey McIntyre** (a.k.a. the cutest New Kid); Newbury Street purveyor of phatitude **Patrick Petty**; Celtic **Walter McCarty**; Red Sox **Darren Lewis**; cruiser-weight boxing champ and Wahlberg's colleague in underwear modeling **Richie "The Mountain" LaMontagne**; scratch golfer **Charlie Guber** (brother of former studio chief Peter); Walden Media VP **Peter Flaherty** (son-in-law of philanthropist **David Mugar**); XV Beacon St. number-cruncher **Dan Avery**; entertainment smoothie **Billy Costa**; snappily dressed indie producer **Mitchell Robbins**; film critic, radio host and renaissance man **David Brudnoy**; the breathtakingly beautiful **Danny Theodat Levy** and her lucky but worthy husband, **Wayne**; Harley-riding hairdresser **Stephen Doherty**; a guy named **Michael** who claimed to be pop heartthrob Justin Timberlake of 'N Sync, and attorney-at-large **Lori Sullivan**, who's still telling anyone who will listen that "Mark Wahlberg looked right at me and said, 'Thanks for coming to see my movie.'"









At the *Planet of the Apes* premiere, clockwise from upper left: Mitchell Robbins and Charlie Guber; Peter Flaherty; Marti Rosa and Patrick Petty; Robert Wahlberg and Joey McIntyre.

Following the screening, the party moved over to **Pravda 116** for an open-bar celebrity worship service, with a VIP section cordoned off in full view of the dance floor and a bartender named **Eric** breaking hearts and mixing martinis in equal measure.

Despite popcorn coated in axle grease, almost everyone seemed to enjoy the movie tremendously, and the reception raged on until well after the star and most of his buddies had gone home to bed.

Putting it succinctly, one guest summed the evening up by saying, "The only thing that could've made it better was if Marky-Mark had taken his clothes off in the movie...or better yet, in my apartment afterwards."



The Evening of Discovery took place on an exceptionally idyllic lawn.

SO NANTUCKETERS ARE JUST A BUNCH OF ASH...

For anyone interested in scrimshaw marital aids, porcelain chamberpots and the like, the **Martha's Vineyard Historical Society** (affectionately referred to by some as "the hysterical society") is dedicated to preserving and chronicling the island's illustrious past (and by that, we mean the period before Carly Simon, John Belushi and Jackie O. turned it into a celebrity petting zoo).

To that end, an august assembly gathered for the organization's third annual **Evening of Discovery**, under a tent on the lawn of a beautiful house overlooking Edgartown Harbor. They were there to hear a lecture by *Antiques Roadshow* host **Dan Elias** and his wife, Skinner Auctioneers CEO **Karen Keane** (an appraiser on the show), but there were the added diversions of delicious nibblies and the two most irresistible kinds of bar: raw and open.

There was also a highly impressive guest list, including such notable islanders as the dean of TV journalism, **Walter Cronkite**, and his wife, **Betsy**; stentorian PBS host and best-selling historian **David McCullough** and his wife, **Rosalee**; tireless party pair **Bert** and **Rosalie Cohen**; diminutive doyenne and renowned art collector **Olga Hirshhorn** (as in the Washington, D.C. art museum); Skinner jewelry expert **Gloria Lieberman** and her affable other half, **Larry**; fashionista and philanthropist **Barbara Jordan**; eminent orthopedic surgeon **Melvin Glimcher**; the society's director **Matthew Stackpole**; countless members of the **Vose** family, most notably **Donald**; and assorted other attractive, tanned and relaxed looking people.

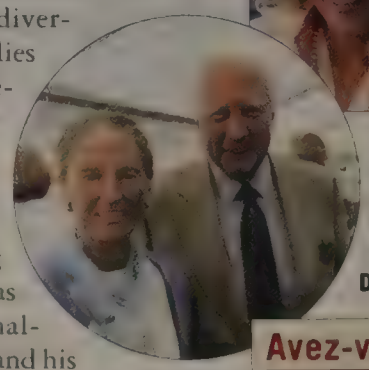
As if to prove just how important the society is as a historical resource, one of the staff was asked to recall the legend of Moshup, the deity who created the island, according to native lore.

"I forget most of the details," he answered. "All I can remember is that he tipped his pipe ash, and that became Nantucket." iB









At the Evening of Discovery, from top: Gloria and Larry Lieberman; Rosalie Cohen, Mary Virginia Palmer and Olga Hirshhorn; Karen Keane and Dan Elias; Rosalee and David McCullough.

Avez-vous dish?

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INSET PHOTO OF MARK WAHLBERG BY KERRY BRETT HUI

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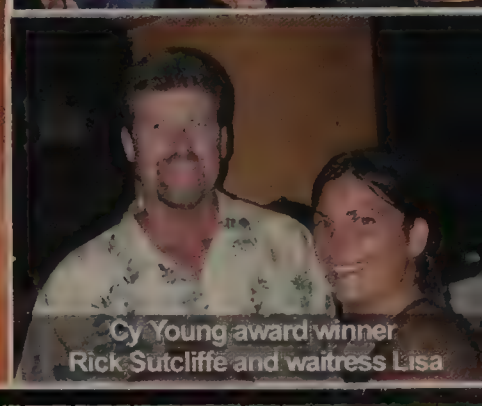
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College Football Kickoff Party!

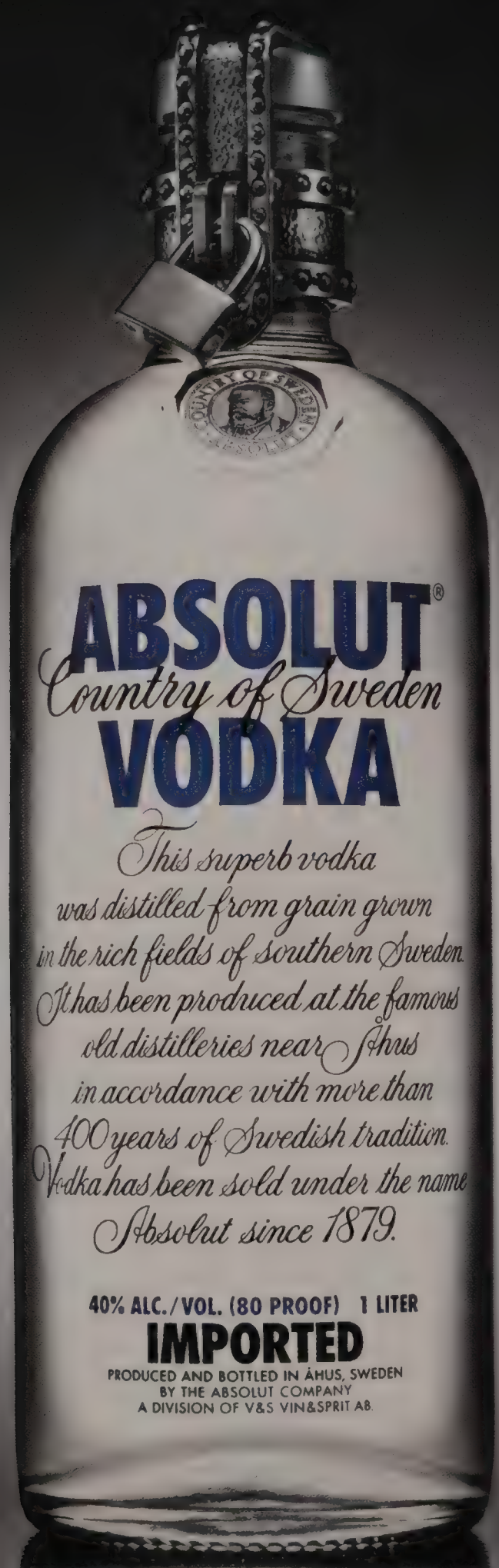
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Cy Young award winner Rick Sutcliffe and waitress Lisa



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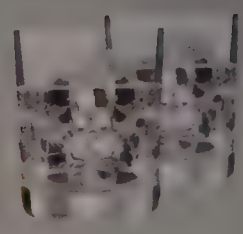
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contents



22

View from the bar at Brasserie Jo. Below: Cambridge's About Hair; Canine cachet



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Andrew Swaine**

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FEATURES

16 **Soroff/On Loretta LaRoche**
The noted stress-management expert expounds on misguided social values, prostitution, marijuana and designer water. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 **Dining Boston**
A SLICE OF ITALY
The quest for authentic thin-crust pizza. BY JULIE SHORT
DINING DARWINISM
What restaurants do to stay afloat. BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX
MEAT MARKETS (and Meet Markets)
Carnivorous and amorous activities intertwined.
BY LEAH GOURLEY AND JULIE SHORT
BELLY UP TO THE BAR
Delectable delights to complement your thirst.
BY MARLO FOGELMAN

24 **Two in One**
Adventures in split-personality retailing. BY ERIN HAGEDORN

30 **Canine Cachet**
If your pooch looks good in plaid, you sure will too. Take a walk in the best of autumn styles. BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DAVID SITRON





THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

COLUMNS

6 **The Word**
New saloons and diners, Cara McLaughlin's triumph, squash at Symphony Hall and more...

10 **Proper Bostonians**
Our society photographer eternizes proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

12 **E-Boston**
Market researchers playing with numbers, plus how to find old pals online.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 **Ezra**
Good college degrees, cheap
BY EZRA DYER

36 **Mopsy**
Positive choices, Stone walls and exotic fabrics. Yup.
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

60 **Film**
Wet Hot American Summer spills over into the fall.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

70 **Music**
Steel guitar virtuoso Robert Randolph wails the gospel
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

96 **Last Scene Here**
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

38 **Dining**
Zu Zu rocks in Cambridge
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

40 **Dish**
True blu. And The Vault changes hands
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

43 **Tastings**
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Paddling to Westport River Winery
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 43.
•MixFest 2001 •Volunteer Fair •Somerville Comix Week •James Joyce's *The Dead* •Equinox Music Festival •Taste of Boston •Howard Zinn •National Ballroom Dance Week •Boston Folk Festival •*Sunday in the Park With George* •Built to Spill

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	86
Rockie Horoscope	86
Improper Shopper	88
Improperazzi	92
Improper Sightings	94

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letters

FROM THE EDITORS

Dearest Readers:
This is the part of the song where we sing the praises of our contributors (see below) and our upcoming features. On Sept. 26, we offer our first-ever Literary Boston issue, which includes the publication of the winning entry of our fiction contest.

Closely on the heels of that, in our Internet issue, we go where angels fear to tread and talk with Internet survivors, tour Boston by keyboard, and discuss Web and E-business trends.

So hum along with us, won't you? You know how to hum. You just close your mouth and go, "Mmmmm."

Robert Birnbaum
Consulting Editor

DANGEROUS CROSSINGS

I'm a lifelong resident of Massachusetts, and understand the hustle and bustle of the city. But what I don't understand is why no traffic laws are enforced. Think of the amount of money that could be generated from this. Anyway, I have an idea. I'm sure you get a million ideas every day but Ezra might be intersted in writing about this one. The topic is Pedestrians and Crosswalks. I don't understand why the so-called police or police details don't enforce the state law requiring motor vehicle drivers to stop for pedestrians in crosswalks.

I live in Somerville and work at Massachusetts General Hospital so I take the bus every day to and from work. When I get off the bus at my street, I have to wait for at least eight cars to speed by me while I'm waiting impatiently to cross the street.
I eventually inch my way out into the street, hoping one car will stop and let me by. Keep in mind, every car that's speeding by me has to pass the big orange barrel and posted sign on the tree beside the crosswalk that reads something like "State Law, Yield for Pedestrians in Crosswalk, $100 Fine." I was counting the number of cars that didn't stop for me yesterday... I think the number was seven or eight. Now that's $700 or $800 the State of Massachusetts could have just for enforcing the law. Imagine how much money the state could make from this.... Maybe that would solve the problems with funding for the new Fenway, or even the Big Dig. I am totally preoccupied by this. It drives me nuts every time I want to cross the street and nobody stops.

—KELSEY KOEHLER
Via E-Mail

I'D HATE TO END UP IN A PRISON CELL NEXT TO EZRA, BECAUSE I HAVE SHOELACES IN MY SNEAKERS, NOT VELCRO ® BRAND HOOK-AND-LOOP FASTENERS.

—LARRY HANNAY
SOMERVILLE

VELCRO REDUX

To Velcro CorpConcerning your earlier letter regarding Ezra Dyer's Velcro colum:

I couldn't agree more with the letter you fired off to the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN concerning Ezra Dyer's blatant misuse of the term velcro, er, I mean, VELCRO ® brand hook-and-loop fasteners. Ezra writes funny columns to make people laugh, but he must be made to understand that corporate law is NOT a laughing matter. I think he should be punished. Severely. If you fine him, the IMPROPER will pay it and he will have learned nothing. Therefore, I think a little jail time is in order. (Please note the ironic beauty of this solution, as I'm sure Ezra will come to appreciate VELCRO ® brand hook-and-loop fasteners as they shave crucial moments off the time he must spend bent over to fasten his sneakers to his feet.)

As for me, I'd like to incorporate the phrase VELCRO ® brand hook-and-loop fasteners not only in my writing, but in my everyday speech as well. Not wanting to be Ezra-esque, I'd like to find out my legal responsibilities BEFORE shooting my mouth off. Here is my question: When I come to the "®", do I have to say the words "Registered Trademark"? You have to admit, that's quite a mouthful. Does the "®" have an accepted sound that we can use instead? If not, can I suggest the term "ircle" (for "r" in a circle). I think the phrase "VELCRO ircle brand hook-and-loop fasteners" rolls off the tongue quite nicely, don't you? Thank you for bringing this atrocity to my attention,

—LARRY HANNAY
Somerville

P.S. Could my shoe store scheme be considered entrapment? I'd hate to end up in a prison cell next to Ezra, because I have shoelaces in my sneakers, not VELCRO ® brand-hook and-loop fasteners. So while Ezra would be standing upright after quickly fastening his sneakers, I would still be bent over tying my shoelaces. And that would be neither funny nor fair, seeing as how I am the one who is taking VELCRO ® brand hook-and-loop fasteners seriously.

Tell Us What You Think

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Letters to the editor must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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DAVID SITRON

After a successful career as an internationally recognized abstract painter, David decided it was time for a change. With a new name and a new career, he was able to combine his love for both photography and dogs in this shoot, his first for the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN (see fashion spread "Canine Cachet" on page 30). You can catch him walking his two retired greyhounds on the streets of East Boston, or contact him at *sitronstudio@mindspring.com*.



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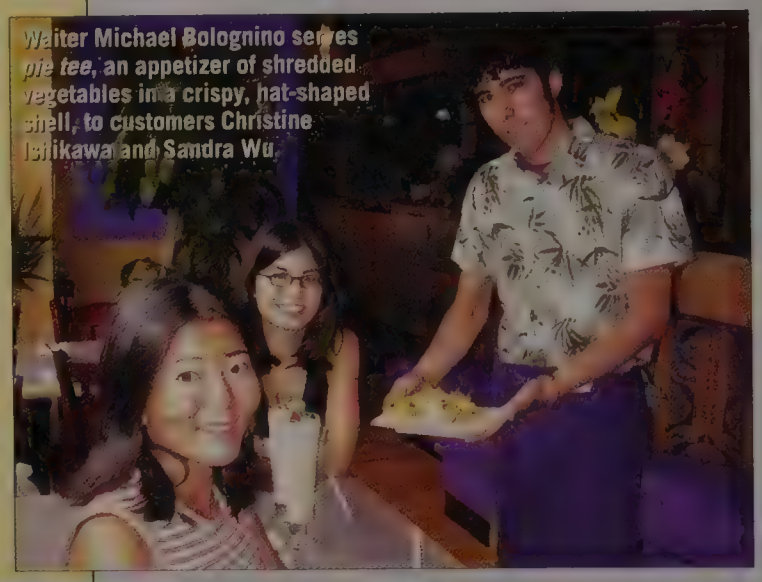
OLIVE OYL'S

In its short heyday, 6 Burner in Allston Village drew hordes of students and young professionals who came for its inexpensive brunch every weekend. Alas, owner Marc Kadish (of Sunset Grill & Tap, The Big City and Redneck's Roast Beef) shut off the burners in August, only to reopen them a few weeks later as the Italian restaurant Olive Oyl's. Picture Vinny Testa's-size portions at Chef Boyardee prices. "This may be a cheap eat," says Kadish, "but only in price—certainly not value." Prices average $10 for such classics as Italian wedding soup, which consists of meatballs, tortellini, escarole, carrots, celery and onions in a savory broth; spaghetti with Roman meatballs; and a selection of panini sandwiches. But the best news of all: Brunch is back from 10am-3pm on both Saturdays and Sundays. Bravo! *151 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-266-7642).*

ISLAND HOPPING

For the past decade, when Berklee students had a craving for a colorful mai tais served with little paper umbrellas or dishes of chow mein, they'd head to the Chinese joint called Oceanic on the corner of Mass. Ave. and Newbury Street. No longer. About a year ago, the hole in the wall was bought by Karen Ye and Evans Fu.

For six months, the pair painstakingly gutted and redecorated the space. When they opened the doors of Island Hopper in mid-July, former patrons did a double-take at the door. It was hard not to be wowed by the exposed brick, floor-to-ceiling windows, potted plants, wooden tables, colorful paintings and artsy light fixtures. Gone were the red booths and dim lighting. "We didn't want to look like your typical Chinese restaurant," says Ye. The menu is far from run-of-the-mill. Ye, a native of Malaysia, has created a sampling of tastes from the South Pacific, including Malaysia, Indonesia, Burma, Thailand and Vietnam. Our favorites include the seafood *chow fun*, flat rice noodles wok-fried in a scrambled-egg gravy, topped with shrimp, scallop, squid and greens; and Island Hopper, a crispy Malaysian pancake with curry-chicken dipping sauce. Prices are reasonable, and the service is first-rate. We don't even miss the mai tais. *91 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1618).*



Waiter Michael Bolognino serves *pie tee*, an appetizer of shredded vegetables in a crispy, hat-shaped shell, to customers Christine Ishikawa and Sandra Wu.



Executive chef Stephen Sherman poses in front of The Elbow Room.

ELBOW UP TO THE BAR

The recently departed El Phoenix on Commonwealth Avenue in Brighton, once a popular low-key spot for Tex-Mex (and killer wings), has been transformed into something just as welcoming, thanks to the efforts of new owners Frank McHugh and Tim Bacon. Back in its day, El Phoenix held the grand title of Boston's first Mexican restaurant. But some 35 years later, says McHugh, it was in a state of disrepair and failed to attract new patrons. When its owner passed away, McHugh and Bacon bought the space and, after 16 laborious months, turned it into The Elbow Room. "We're now an upscale neighborhood restaurant—the kind of place where folks can go four or five times a week," says McHugh. The menu ranges from tuna spring rolls to meatloaf and grilled pizzas. The drink of choice: "Martinis, martinis, martinis," says McHugh. *1430 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton (617-738-9990).*



THE IMPROPER SPEAKS

BOXED OUT

Recently a Superior Court judge blocked the City of Boston from enforcing its ban on newspaper boxes in the Back Bay. The argument being made by several publications is that the city's policy is an infringement on their First Amendment rights. We at THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN feel that the city should allow newsboxes until there is an alternative means of distribution. The only alternative the city has proposed is "street furniture" (kiosks, for example). However, the earliest possible implementation for this proposal would be sometime in mid-2002. This lagtime would be injurious to a number of publications whose primary means of distribution in the Back Bay is through newsboxes. We have contacted several city officials to support a delay of the ban. Unfortunately, our efforts to date have proved fruitless. We remain hopeful that the Mayor and the City Council may finally do the right thing and abolish the ban. Stay tuned.

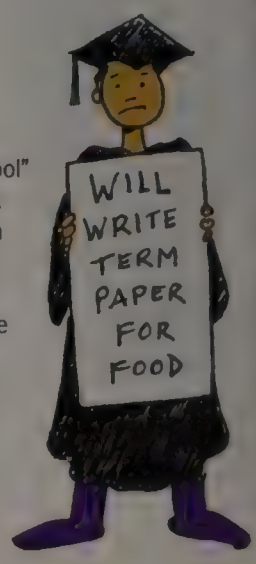
—Robert Phillips, publisher

IMPROPER REPORTS

COLLEGE COSTS

Remember the days when "back to school" meant buying a new lunchbox, notebook and crayons? In this town, the cost of an education is somewhat steeper for the college crowd. Here are our estimated total costs for a four-year undergraduate degree at a handful of local schools.

Harvard University $144,439
Brandeis University $144,253
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RITA GREELEY (4)

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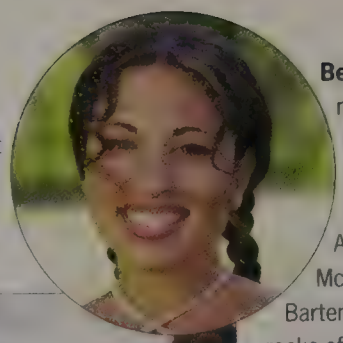
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IMPROPER SPEAKING



Lost and Found...Maggie model **Alisha Hill** thought she had struck gold when she made the cut for the new television show *Lost In America*, a new bit of reality TV from the producers of the *Real World*. WB executives told Hill, "We need someone like you—absolutely insane," she says. Alas and alack, it was not to be, as the show was cancelled before its initial airing due to sponsorship problems. Hill, however, made such an impression on the executives that they agreed to consider her for upcoming shows.



Faring better were Bostonians **Carla Antonino** (pictured above center and inset) and **Courtland Bascon**, who made it to NBC's *Lost*.

On the Avenue...It's been a bittersweet year for small businesses on Newbury Street. Newburians will never, of course, get over the darkening of **The Travis**. Then the Romano brothers closed the doors of their café, and this summer, the Western bootery **El Paso** rode off into the sunset. And now one of the area's prized gift shops, **Henry Solo**, takes wing. We caught up with owner Harriet Goldberg on her last official day as a merchant: "I met the nicest, most wonderful people." That was the brighter side of street life. The dark side dealt with leases, Draconian tax assessments and the difficulties of small proprietorship on Newbero Drive.

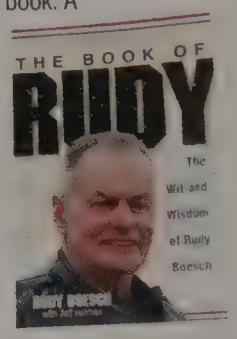
Cheap Java...Although the **Starbucks** phenomenon is relatively new on the East Coast, the coffee behemoth has been around for 30 years this fall. In celebration of its anniversary, the company will offer an anniversary tumbler for $30. Before you gag on your java, you should know that for nearly two months, you can enjoy unlimited refills. Do the math: A Grande coffee is $1.68. If you have one cup a day for 56 days, it would cost you $94.08. It might just be worth it.

Kickoff...Just in time for the football season, the Brookline Adult and Community Education Program is offering the **Girlfriend's Guide to Football**, taught by a seasoned coach. He'll explain the basic rules—everything from the number of players on a team, their numbering system and a description of the field to the basics of plays and strategies. Yawn. Is it halftime yet?

Beloved Bartender...**Vox Populi**'s most popular bartender, **Carah McLaughlin**, beat out 60 other Boston-area bartenders in a drink contest sponsored by VeryFine in late August. We had no doubt that McLaughlin, one of our most Beloved Bartender hall-of-famers, would blow the rocks off of her fellow contestants. Her winning concoction was based on the Mojito, says McLaughlin, "a refreshing Cuban rum drink that was popular with Ernest Hemingway and in Cuba after World War I." She mixed lime Fruit$_2$0 with light rum, lime juice and crushed mint, garnished with a sprig of mint leaves.

Lean but Never Mean...Veteran Newbury Street hairstylist **Sandy Porier**, whose 20-year career on the Street of Dreams has placed him on every block of Boston's famed boulevard, has lost 35 pounds in six months. His secret: iced coffee and salad. Asked if he was adding fitness guru to his growing portfolio of talents (he also does fashion photography), the Svelte One replied, "Nah!"

Survivor Tales...In the not-even-bathroom-reading category comes ***The Book of Rudy*** (Adams Publishing) from the hard-nosed, almost-winner of *Survivor*'s first season (doesn't that make him a loser?). It's subtitled *The Wit and Wisdom of Rudy Boesch*. Needless to say, it's a short book. A snippet: "Do you think there is a difference between *Playboy*, *Penthouse* and XXX pornographic movies?" Answers Rudy: "*Playboy* and *Penthouse* call it 'art.' But pornography you actually see the sex act or something. I don't think kids should be looking at the stuff." We smell a Pulitzer.



Putting On The Ritz..The much-anticipated, super high-tech, ultraglam Ritz-Carlton Hotel opened to great fanfare and with a flourish. And wouldn't you know it, the Sept. 5 opening reception had a minor hiccup. Some 20 minutes into the party, guests had to be ushered outside due to a pesky fire alarm that one guest declared "tasteful and civilized, like you'd expect from the Ritz." Party-goers hung out on the street next to two massive fire engines until the firefighters declared it safe to re-enter. Unfortunately for the party planners, some chose not to rejoin the gathering.

—Reporting by Robert Birnbaum, Erin Hagedorn, Julie Short and Jonathan Soroff

ALL THE BUZZ

A RECORD VICTORY



The equivalent of winning the lottery just came true for one lucky record collector. John Murray, a frequent customer at Deja Vu records in Coolidge Corner, has managed to walk away with the entire store. "I'd go to the Deja Vu warehouse [in Natick], buy inexpensive records and sell them at different stores in the city," he explains. A few months ago, while visiting the warehouse, owner Eleni DiMeo offered him the whole Brookline store for an undisclosed amount (rumors puts the deal in the $1,000 range). "It's still technically Deja Vu, but I renamed it Echo Bridge Records," Murray says. "I handle all affairs, and the profits are mine. [DiMeo] gets the classical music sales." After (quite ironically) hocking his personal CD collection at Newbury Comics and other music shops to drum up the cash, he had the money to make it work. "I sold almost everything I owned to buy the store," he says. "Now, I try to sell records at half of what they're really worth. It's a good deal." *318 Harvard St., Brookline (617-739-2848). —E.H.*

AROUND TOWN

FIRST LADY FANFARE



Will the JFK Library and Museum's new exhibit—*Jacqueline Kennedy: The White House Years*—be as wildly popular in Beantown as it was in the Big Apple earlier this year? Museum officials think so.

The collection drew about 560,000 Jackie O. fans to the Metropolitan Museum of Art from May through July. The turnout was so huge that visitors had to cram into galleries like sardines. "I was shocked by the sheer volume of spectators eager to get a glimpse of Jackie's wardrobe," says one New Yorker who waited in line for three hours at the Met.

Now local fans of Camelot will get to see more than 80 garments and accessories, drawn from JFK Museum archives, that belonged to the stunning first lady. But whether the exhibit will elicit the same response on Columbia Point remains to be seen. "We're expecting a lot of people, but it's hard to know," says the museum's director of marketing, Lee Statham. To ensure a hassle-free experience, the museum is planning to use a carefully timed admission system. ***Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4500). —Susan Abbattista***

NIGHT SEEN

SONIC BOOM



Kevin Troy, (right) owner of Pravda 116, Jillian's and Blue Cat, is at it again. On Sept. 21, he'll open **La Boom** in the space formerly occupied by Club Envy in the Alley. "It was a dump," says Troy. "But it had a great location." Adds publicist Tracey Wallace, "We ripped the place apart, tearing down walls, moving the DJ booth and adding custom-made furniture, a lounge, raw bar and expanded dance floor."

Troy hopes to attract the same 25-to-30-year-old crowd that snakes down the block on Saturday evenings outside Pravda 116. "Every weekend we've got 600 to 700 people lined up outside. We decided there was a market for another upscale club, similar in style to Pravda," says Troy. "People can come in early and relax to mellow music on the couches in the lounge upstairs, or they can arrive later for the club." Thursdays will feature international house with hosts Manos and Christof; guest DJs will spin on Fridays; and Saturdays will feature La Boom XO with Edward Grant Stuart and Michael Gunn. On Oct. 5, don't miss French DJ extraordinaire Stephane Pompougnac.

But why is it called La Boom? "Just wait 'til you hear the booming sound system," says Troy. *—J.S.*

SPORTS

HARMONIOUS SQUASH

Squash at Symphony Hall? Yup. On Sept. 13-16, the home of the world-famous Boston Symphony Orchestra and Boston Pops will host its first-ever sporting event: the U.S. Open Squash Championships. The top 28 squash players from around the world will play in a state-of-the-art, 32-by-21-foot glass court on the floor of the hall. The players will be happily oblivious to the masses watching on the bleachers due to the one-way viewing system created by ContraVision (similar to the colorful "wraps" seen on many of the city's buses and trolleys).



New York's Grand Central Station hosted a squash tourney in February.

It's not the first time Symphony Hall has hosted an offbeat event, says publicist Colleen Turner. Back in the 1940s, the ladies from the Homemakers of America held a meat-cutting exposition. *—J.S.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

MURRAY, TROY: RITA GREELEY, "LOST" (2): COURTESY OF NBC TELEVISION

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disguise great taste.

(Blindfold Optional.)



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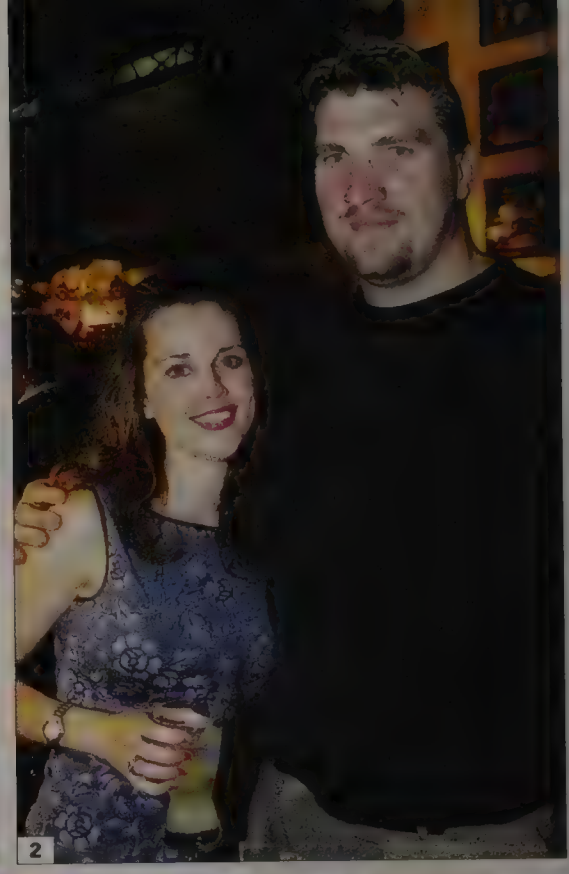
Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The Grand Opening Celebration ceremony and cocktail reception for Cheers Boston in Faneuil Hall Marketplace was held Aug. 23.

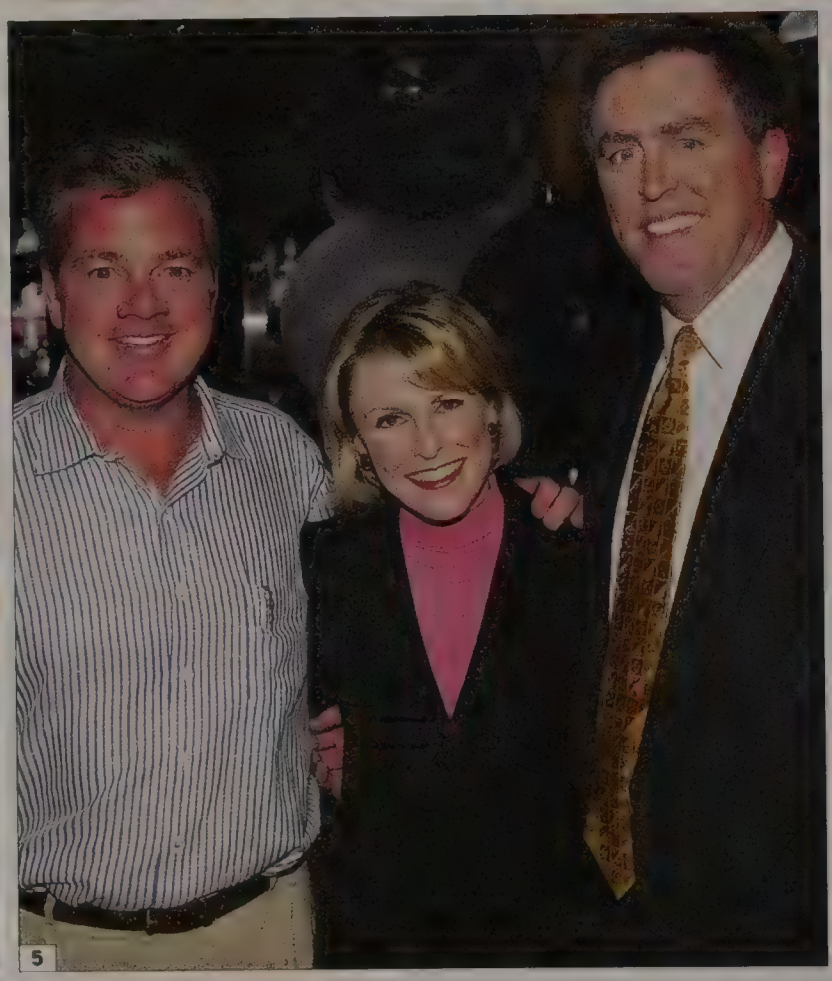
1. **Tom Kershaw** (left), owner of the Hampshire House Corp., and actor **George Wendt**.
2. **Melanie Lane** and her husband, **Max**, former New England Patriot.
3. **Francois Nivaud**, principal at New England Management Services, and his wife, **Annick**.
4. **Patrick Moscaritolo** (left), president and CEO of the Greater Boston Convention and Visitors' Bureau, and Boston City Councilor **Stephen Murphy**.
5. **Joe Shortsleeve**, **Lisa Hughes** and **Ed Carroll**, all of WBZ Channel 4's anchor team.
6. **Joe Milano**, owner of the Union Oyster House, and his wife, **Jill**.
7. **Bill Gearon** (left), manager of a Target Store in Rhode Island, and **Eddie Doyle**, senior bartender at the Bull & Finch Pub.
8. **Lea May** and her husband, **Chris**, anchor for Channel 7, and **Sara Edwards**, arts and entertainment reporter for Channel 7.


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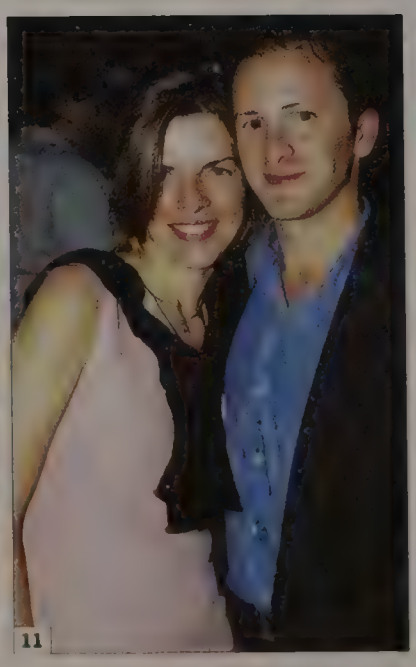

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Restaurant Villa Francesca's 25th Anniversary Tribute, Taste of Italy, was held Aug. 23 in the North End. More than 200 lovers of Italian cuisine enjoyed a VIP reception, cooking exhibition and wine tasting hosted by Guglielmo Ranauro.

9. **Doug Bell** (left), lead singer for Bellevue Cadillac, and **Gregg Nourjian**, president and owner of Millennium Events Corp.
10. **Guglielmo Ranauro** (left), executive chef/owner of Villa Francesca, and **Antonio Novarro**, musician.
11. **Angela Kirkpatrick**, nutrition consultant, and her husband, **Jeremy**, sales rep for Astar Inc.
12. **Jennie Pepper**, event planner for Emerson College, **Denise Brown**, event planner for Millennium Events Corp., and **Christy Plotner**, independent event planner.


9


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11


12



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Optimism Overdrive

Market researchers and their thirst for big numbers; how to find lost pals online

In my last column, I lambasted financial analysts, some of whom were apparently promoting Internet stocks even as they were selling off their own holdings. But there's another group of experts that I am compelled to admonish: the market researchers who keep hyping the "trends" that prompt investors to put their money into technological fads in the first place.

A great deal of what passes for "market research" in the high-tech world is actually pure speculation and conjecture. For example, it's very common for high-tech market researchers to estimate the future sales of a new technology simply by looking at today's sales and then adding 40 percent or 50 percent growth each year. Most researchers realize that those kinds of growth rates are impossible, but they're under constant pressure from their management to forecast big numbers and fast growth rates because such predictions drive the sales of market-research reports.

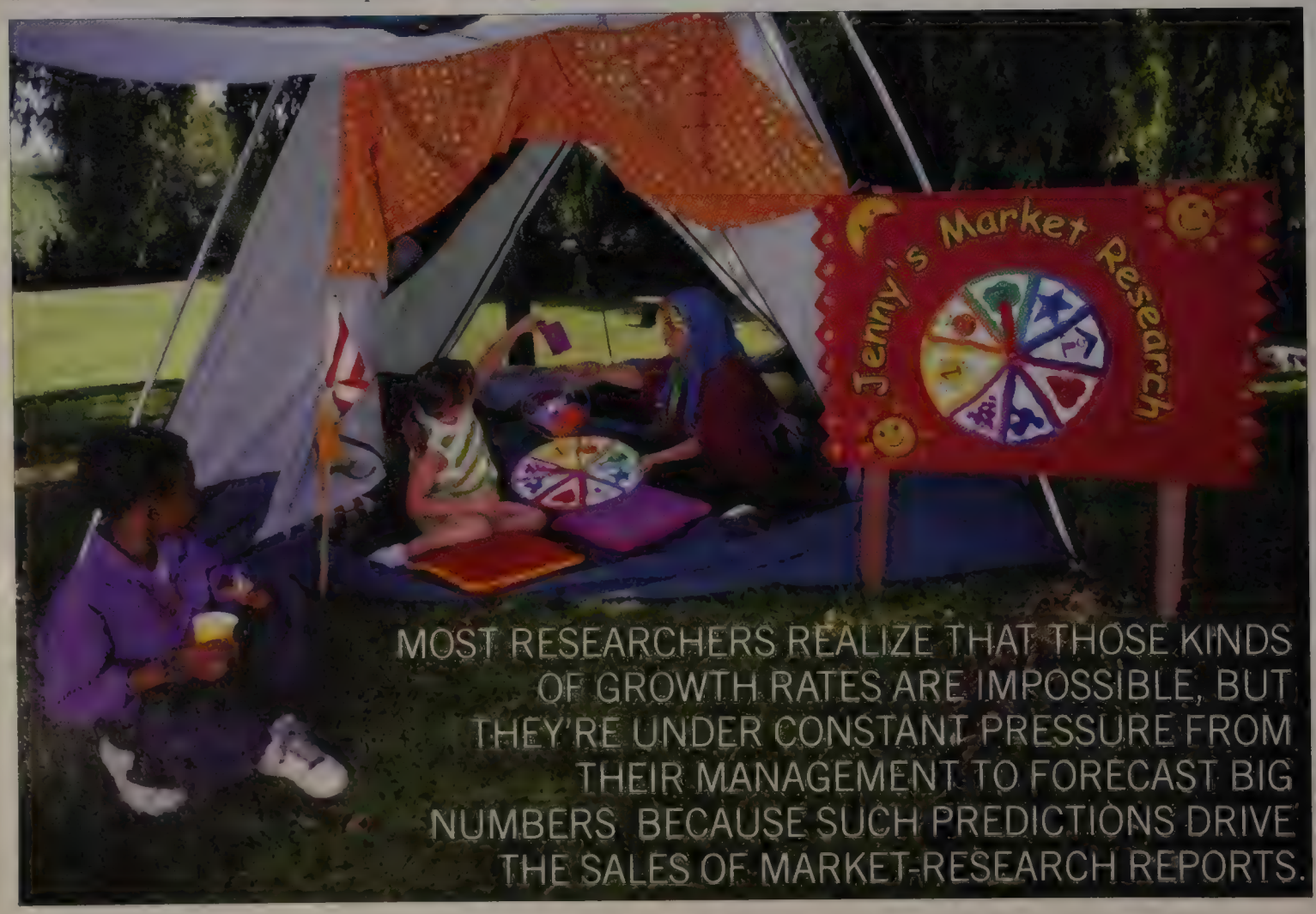
And make no mistake about it—high-tech market research is big business. Gartner, the largest of these firms, currently employs some 4,500 people and has yearly revenues that approach $1 billion.

The relentless pressure to forecast big numbers means that the advent of a new buzzword can drive market-research firms into a bidding war to see who can come up with the biggest numbers while still keeping a straight face.

For example, last year's big buzzword was B2B (Business to Business)—the sales of products and services between businesses across the Internet. As the buzzword became more popular, the market researchers got busy with their spreadsheets. Boston's own Forrester Research predicted that by 2004, B2B e-commerce trade in North America would exceed $2.7 trillion annually. Similarly, Gartner forecast that B2B revenues in the United States would reach $2.85 trillion by 2004. Not to be outdone, Giga Information Group (one of Gartner's competitors) upped the ante, forecasting $4.4 trillion by 2004. Then Jupiter Media Metrix came out with a statement that B2B e-commerce in the U.S. would grow to an astounding $6.3 trillion by 2005. To put this into perspective, $6.3 trillion is larger than the entire 1992 Gross National Product (GNP) of the United States!

The reason for these bloated forecasts is simple—they create enormous media interest. A quote from a researcher stating that "sales of multi-widgets will reach $50 billion by 2005" will inevitably get more ink than the bland but accurate "sales of multi-widgets this year will top $1 million." Reporters are well-aware that the big market forecasts seldom pan out but can't resist the urge to include the big-number quotes because they lend an air of importance to technology articles that otherwise might seem inconsequential.

Unlike the financial analysts, however, the high-tech market researchers—or the editors who demand that they be quoted—are unlikely to be called into court for misleading the investing public. Unless, of course, somebody notices that these people have been fortune-telling without a license.



PHOTODISC

FINDING OLD FRIENDS ON THE WEB

Do you want to get back in touch with an old friend? Here's how to do it on the Web. The first place to look is *www.superpages.com*. Hit the button marked "People Pages" and enter the friend's name, along with the city and/or state in which you believe he or she is living. With any luck, you'll get an address and a telephone number. The problem with *superpages.com*, however, is that it lists everybody in the specified region who has the same name. If the list is too long, though, there are other ways to trace that elusive chum down.

A good way to find out more about your friend's location is to enter *www.google.com* and then type your friend's name and a list of his or her interests. For example, I wanted to find a guy who used to be in the rock band I played in back in my college years. I simply typed "Randy Rask lead guitar" and got straight to the Web site of a music store in Laguna Beach, Calif., where he now works. I clicked on the store's e-mail button and, presto, I was back in touch. Time spent: less than a minute.

It's even possible to find a friend whose name has changed. For example, I was recently thinking about an old girlfriend whom I knew had gotten married, but I didn't know her married name. By entering (on Google) her maiden name and the town where she had previously lived, I came across her father's obituary, which included a list of his surviving children. I then searched on her married name and found an article describing a property dispute in a town in Florida. Back to *superpages.com*, and I had her current address and phone number. Time spent: less than two minutes.

Even a minimal amount of information can sometimes point you in the right direction. I recently met a girl who gave me her phone number on a napkin—which I somehow managed to lose. I remembered her first name (which was unusual) and the town where she was from. Unfortunately, when I entered the name and the town into *google.com*, it spilled out 100,000 Web pages.

I had no desire to slog through the information overload, so I changed my search strategy. I searched on the town first (getting several thousand sites) and then hit the button at the bottom of the Google page that says "search within results" and entered her name. Now I was down to about 300 pages. I entered "search within results" again and entered the phrase "college" (I figured she was probably just out of school). Her full name came up on the roster of a field hockey team. Back over to *superpages.com* and there was her phone number. Problem solved. Time spent: less than three minutes. **iB**

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of numerous articles and books about technology and management.

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Alma Matters

Giving the University Degree Program the third degree

There is definitely a condition known as buyer's remorse. And it's most poignant when you see something you bought at regular price go on sale. It's that shirt you bought last week landing on the sale rack for 50 percent off. It's the new mail-in rebate offer on the electronic gee-gaw you just paid top dollar for. And now, it's my college diploma.

A college diploma can be an expensive piece of paper. I figure mine's worth somewhere in the neighborhood of $120,000, and that doesn't include ancillary costs such as books, a computer and visits to The Bob In, that Waterville, Maine cultural mecca where intellectual matters of great import were debated on many a Bikini Tuesday. Now I have serious buyer's remorse, because I just found out that I could have eliminated the middle man (that pesky "college" place, with all its aggravating "papers" and "professors") and gone straight to the head of the class. Listen up, kids—it's too late for me, but it might not be too late for you: Skip college and just buy yourself a diploma.

If you have a Hotmail address that includes the word "ezra" somewhere, you probably already know where to get one. This is because I, along with roughly 100 other Ezras, recently received an e-mail entitled "Your diploma is waiting." My curiosity piqued, I opened the message to see if perhaps I'd earned a master's degree somewhere and had simply forgotten to pick it up. I'm absent-minded like that.

The message read: "Obtain a prosperous future, money earning power and the admiration of all." Hey, that sounded good. I read on: "Diplomas from prestigious non-accredited universities based on your present knowledge and life experience. No required tests, classes, books or interviews."

Some people will no doubt scoff at the idea that there is a direct correlation between a piece of paper and a prosperous future, the admiration of all, etc. Those people, obviously, have never seen *The Wizard of Oz*, which besides syncing up with *Dark Side of the Moon* in a very far-out way, proves the value of a diploma. Ever see Scarecrow working the late-night shift at Wendy's? I don't think so. Once the Wizard gave him his Th.D. (the rare and esteemed Doctor of Thinkology degree) his earning power shot up. He now owns a condo, works at Goldman Sachs and drives a mid-luxury car.

I decided I wanted another degree. My BA in English is only going to get me so far. But in what field? At which prestigious non-accredited university? I've always been partial to Harvord, although Yalle is also steeped in history and academic excellence.

I called the diploma hotline to ask about my new fast-track access to success. The e-mail said "bachelor's, master's, MBA and doctorate (Ph.D.) diplomas available in the field of your choice," but what about other degrees? I've always thought I'd make a good jet-engine repair technician, but prospective employers always want to see proof that I'm certified to do that sort of thing. Ditto with my aspirations in the fields of laser eye surgery, bomb defusing

LISTEN UP, KIDS: SKIP COLLEGE AND JUST BUY YOURSELF A DIPLOMA.

and gynecology. I called the diploma hotline, hungry to learn if they offer any other types of degree. Like the one you need for, whaddayacallit, fixing airplane motors.

Unfortunately, all I learned is that the good people at "the University Diploma Program" will not talk to you. Instead, you get a recording of a woman with a terrible fake British accent (as we know, all British people—even Keith Richards—are incredibly smart) telling you to leave two phone numbers so that they can get back to you. This message is repeated twice, very slowly, as if they expect that the individuals calling to buy diplomas might not be the sharpest blades in the QVC Ginsu knife set.

I left them one number, partly because I expect that they're going to sell it to telemarketers and partly to see what would happen if their simple instructions were not followed. As it turns out, I think I may have become the first person to flunk out of the University Diploma Program, because they didn't call me back. I guess the ladies of Boston will just have to take my word for it when I say I have a Ph.D. in bootyology.

I'm disappointed that the University Diploma Program turned out to be a letdown. It seems like such a wonderful idea. So, purely in the spirit of helping others achieve great things in life, I happen to know where you can get yourself an easy bachelor's degree in English. I'm accepting bids for mine now. iB

You think that's funny?

Send reader-response criticism to ezra@improper.com

RITA GREELEY



The Music Pulsed to a Yellow Beat

While He Danced a WOLLOW Dance



Ice Yellow

Lemon Yellow

Hard Yellow

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Soroff/On

Loretta LaRoche

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Stress expert Loretta LaRoche was born in Brooklyn and raised on Long Island, before studying speech therapy and communications at Hoftsra University. She moved to Maine with her first husband, and then New Jersey, while raising three kids. In the 1970s, she got divorced and carved out a career for herself, starting in the fitness movement.

After teaching dance as exercise, she added yoga, meditation and then stress management. In the meantime, she got remarried and eventually went from being a gym owner to lecturing, doing workshops and seminars and developing her trademark style as a voice for sanity and common sense. A PBS producer who attended one of her lectures thought it would make a good program, resulting in her first TV special. Four more followed, with her last, *Relax. You Only Live Once*, currently reairing on PBS and her next, *Sex. Women and Finances*, scheduled for next year. Meanwhile, her first book, *Relax—You May Only Have a Few Minutes Left*, was a success, while her second, *Life Is Not a Stress Rehearsal*, was released in April and became a best-seller. This summer, she did sold-out shows at the South Shore Music Circus and Cape Cod Melody Tent. Now a grandmother living in Plymouth, she is affiliated with Harvard's Mind/Body Medical Institute and is booked for personal appearances through 2003.

Jonathan Soroff: *What's the stupidest thing most people stress out about?*

Loretta LaRoche: To me, technology, like the fax machine or the computer, because they always come back. When a computer crashes, unless you beat the crap out of it with a sledge hammer or put a bomb under it, it comes back.

JS: *Most stressful thing in your life?*

LL: Trying to be all things to all people. Make everyone happy. My mother thinks I don't spend enough time with her. My kids say I don't act like a grandmother. A woman of 60 is supposed to be sitting in the park, watching the grandchildren, not doing the South Shore Music Center [laughs]. But I have this immortality issue. Before I croak, I want to do things like getting a black belt in karate.

JS: *Favorite spa treatment?*

LL: Hot rocks. The ones they put on your back? That's, like, orgasmic.

JS: *Shouldn't massage be legally mandated?*

LL: Absolutely. We're in a touch-deprived society, where touching is analogous to sex. In other cultures, touch is a frequent part of every relationship; everybody's kissing, hugging. Here, everything is foreplay. But massage calms you down. It strengthens your immune system. There'd probably be less war if everyone got massage.

JS: *Ever lose your temper in public, like in the supermarket check-out line?*

LL: I'm human. Sure.

JS: *It must be especially embarrassing for someone with your message and visibility.*

LL: Sure. I reach the point where I think, "OK, the two clerks really shouldn't be having a conversation about their date last night," and I have said things like, "I'm sorry to interrupt while you're being rude, but let me introduce myself. I'm the customer."

JS: *Marijuana: Pro or con?*

LL: Con, because it creates changes in the brain. It's much worse than smoking cigarettes, in terms of lung cancer. And I don't see the point of becoming disconnected from reality.

JS: *Really? I see the appeal of that, on a recreational basis. Some people go to amusement parks to escape from reality.*

LL: It doesn't really resonate with me. I'm a control freak, on some level, and smoking pot would prevent me from the illusion of being in charge of everything. To me, a plate of pasta and a funny movie are a great escape.

JS: *Does being creative help relaxation?*

LL: When you're creating, whether you're doing needlepoint or reading a book, you're in a state called flow. You're totally in the moment, so that gerbil on the wheel in your head gets a rest. The problem is that too many people think of that as non-doing.

JS: *Stress reduction is now a nine-point-something-billion-dollar industry. What's your slice of that pie?*

LL: Well, when I got into it, it wasn't about money. I had a passion for it. So now, yeah, I make a decent living. But it's a result of total absorption in it.

JS: *Some people would characterize your philosophy as fatalistic.*

LL: What, that you're gonna die?

JS: *Or that there's no point in trying to change things, because it's useless?*

LL: Well, it is! I'm short. Shouldn't I take a fatalistic attitude toward that? What the hell am I gonna do? Walk around saying, "Jesus Christ, I'm so sick of being short."? There are things in life that you must accept.

JS: *Would that be your personal bumper sticker: Just suck it up?*

LL: Yes. Or if it's changeable, do something about it.

JS: *What are the top three things in the suck-it-up-or-do-something-about-it category?*

LL: It's different for everyone. Traffic's a big one. If you commute, how many times do you have to be told that other people will also be driving? Another one is weight obsession. How many times do you have to say, "Oh, I gained weight. I don't know what to do." Just do the opposite of whatever you did to gain it! We're getting fatter and fatter, and we talk about it incessantly. It's bizarre.

JS: *Traffic. Eating. Give me one more.*

LL: Sex. We're obsessed with it. And yet fewer people are having sex because they're so exhausted [laughs]. We've also confused intimacy and a way of bonding with someone for technique. Every magazine cover has something like, "Ten ways to Make It Hot," or "Twenty Secrets to Keep It Going."

JS: *Sex is an acknowledged stress reliever. Would you advocate legalized prostitution?*

LL: No, because that's so demeaning to women. I just think we need to have more fun with each other in general, and we'd have more sex.

JS: *What about vacations?*

LL: For Americans, they've become something where you have to get so much crap together to go away, to someplace so imaginative and adventuresome, because we're so bored with just going to the beach. We have to be dropped into the middle of a volcano or explode out of a cannon.

JS: *What about the beach? I see a lot of people who don't even know how to relax.*

LL: Oh, like talking on the cell phone? I tell them, "Why even leave your office? Have a dump truck full of sand backed up to your desk. Get a CD with waves. Rent a seagull. Then just sit on the floor with your phone."

JS: *Most misguided societal value we have?*

LL: Acquisitiveness. The attitude, "You can never have too many black pants." Guess what? You can. Especially if there's some you're not wearing.

JS: *I know designer water is a pet peeve of yours. The latest is Artesian well water from Fiji.*

LL: I know. Why are we drinking this? Because we have to keep upping the ante. "The water from France is mundane." It's stupid.

JS: *A lot of scientists say that stress, and the way we react to it, is an adaptive response. What do you say?*

LL: Sure, that made sense when we were trying to stave off woolly mammoths. But we are now, hopefully, at an evolutionary stage where we understand that it's not a mastodon or woolly mammoth in front of us, but an 87-year-old-woman in a Buick.

JS: *So in the final analysis, what's worth stressing about?*

LL: The health of a loved one turning bad. Someone abducting your children. There's a lot of stuff we should be thankful for, but people don't make those kinds of lists.

JS: *When did you last literally stop to smell the roses?*

LL: I do it every day.

JS: *So what do they smell like?*

LL: Pretty good, so long as I don't get a prick. IB



SUSAN WILSON

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A SLICE OF ITALY

Three Italian food experts search for authentic thin-crust pizza

BY JULIE SHORT

In most competitions, there are winners and there are losers. In this case there were neither. Perhaps our standards were too high. In our quest for authentic Italian pizza in Boston, we were unable to find a pizza joint that really stepped up to the plate.

Ever since I spent the summer in Italy more than 10 years ago, I've been on a mission to find pizza here in the States that tastes like the kind I had there. After my travels, Domino's—while tasty—simply didn't provide the same level of gratification that a hot-from-the-brick-oven thin-crust pizza in Parma provided. For years I've searched but have had little success. My hopes were renewed lately, however, when I noticed a new wave of gourmet pizzerias popping up around town, among them Real Pizza, Emma's Pizzeria and Il Buongustaio in Cambridge; Sweet Tomatoes in Newton; Scoozi in Back Bay; Upper Crust in Beacon Hill; and Vici in Brookline. Perhaps I'd finally find my perfect pizza. Hoping against hope, I decided to arrange a taste-test to rate the "authenticity factor" of the newest entries in the pizza-pie world.

To be fair, however, I realized that my distant memory of what an authentic Italian pizza should taste like was a bit dim. So I enlisted the help of three judges to help me in this serious endeavor: Michelle Torpor, Joe Tinarello and Angelo Firenze. Torpor leads weekly tours of the North End. She's traveled to Italy 35 times and has worked with several well-known Italian chefs. Tinarello, a chef at Terramia and Antico Forno in the North End, for years has traveled back to Naples with his mother, a Napolitano, and his father, a Sicilian, every summer. Last, but not least, we invited Angelo Firenze. We unabashedly admit that we chose Angelo in part because of his name (how much more Italian can you get than *Angelo Firenze?*) and the fact that he worked in Milan for three years.



Pizza judges Michelle Torpor, Joe Tinarello and Angelo Firenze.

In late June, we gathered at Terramia, where each restaurant delivered two pizzas: one margherita (plain cheese with tomatoes or tomato sauce) and one chef's specialty. Pizzas were gently reheated prior to the tasting. Before sampling each pie, I asked the judges to clarify their definition of an authentic Italian pizza. "It has a thin crust at the center but is thicker around the edge," said Torpor. "The dough is light and airy with a subtle yeast flavor. The toppings should be fresh, but minimal."

"And freshly diced tomatoes and basil should be tossed on top," Tinarello added. "Americans tend to use canned tomatoes on their pizzas. The cheese should be buffalo mozzarella and should be layered thinly. The final step is to cook it two to three minutes in a brick oven."

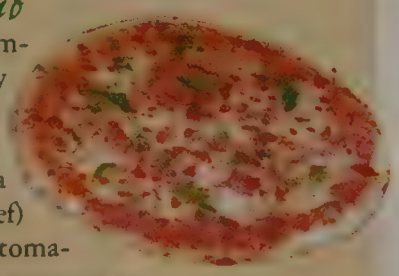


Firenze nodded in agreement. "Each pizza should be individually sized. You should be able to eat it with a knife and fork."

With all the judges *d'accordo* (in agreement), we were ready to taste.

Our Authenticity Rating System (from best to worst):
Four Davids: Autentico
Three Davids: Molto bene (very good)
Two Davids: cosí cosí (so-so)
One David: A far cry from Italy

Il Buongustaio



Il Buongustaio, a Cambridge pizzeria owned by Italian-Americans, was the first contestant. Its specialty was the bresaola (air-cured, salted lean beef) with gorgonzola, fresh tomatoes and arugula. "It has great eye appeal," Topor mused as she bit into the first slice. "Oooh, but it's too salty."

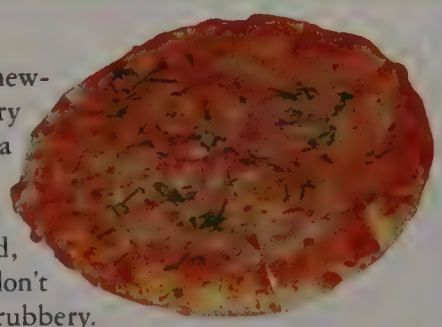
Tinarello agreed. "This combination of toppings isn't usually advisable. ... The sauce is tasty, but the tomatoes could be fresher."

"The crust is typically American in its chewiness," said Firenze. All agreed that Il Buongustaio got points for its authentically Italian toppings, but the end result was only fair.



Authenticity rating: cosí cosí
What's special about your pizza? "We use a fresh plum-tomato sauce. Our dough is made with virgin olive oil, not butter, and not too much yeast," said Il Buongustaio chef/owner Dijilali Belabbes.
Is your pizza authentic Italian? "I learned the art of pizza making from a 60-year-old Italian chef," said Belabbes.
370 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-491-3133).

Scoozi



Scoozi, a relative newcomer to Newbury Street, offered a white pizza. Torpor, always the most vocal, cried, "Even the onions don't have flavor—it's rubbery. Save your calories." Scoozi's margherita pizza, however, scored better with Torpor. She conceded that "It's good, but it's not authentic. And it's too salty."

Said Tinarello: "Basically this pizza is more like focaccia. You can really taste the different cheeses, and it's nice and crusty on the bottom; but the bready dough on top kills it. I like the fresh tomatoes. They're not acidic, and they add a nice sweetness on top."

"I'd say it's pretty good for an American pizza," added Firenze, "but it's not Italian at all."



Authenticity rating: A far cry from Italy
What's special about your pizza? "We don't mask the individual flavors of our ingredients," said Scoozi chef Bill Gideon.
Is your pizza authentic Italian? "Our methods are steeped in Italian tradition," said Gideon.
237 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-8847).

Vici



Vici in Coolidge Corner sent over a wild-mushroom and goat-cheese pizza. "There's too much topping and the tomato sauce is too sweet," said Torpor. "It's an American pizza."

"Yeah, the tomato sauce tastes like something that you'd use on pasta. The mozzarella is from a deli, part-skim [a no-no, all concede]. The crust is soggy and there's too much tomato and too much water," said Tinarello.

"The crust on its own is like chewing a breadstick. There's no flavor," Torpor complained.

"The goat cheese is a nice idea, but there's too much," said Torpor. "And the wild mushrooms are nice— fresh and exotic—but they don't go well with the tomato sauce."

"It has good, quality ingredients that get overwhelmed on one pizza," Firenze added.



Authenticity rating: A far cry from Italy
What's special about your pizza? "The whole thing: the way it cooks, the way it's made, the way it smells, the way it tastes. It's our secret recipe," said Vici manager Baher Rezkalla.
Is your pizza authentic Italian? "I think it is, although I've never been to Italy. But I'm very sure it's the best around," said Rezkalla.
286 Harvard St., Brookline (617-558-0222).

TOP CENTER: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Real Pizza



The judges expected a lot from Rene Becker, genius baker at Hi-Rise Bread Company and owner of Real Pizza in Cambridge. At first glance, all three exclaimed that Becker's white-clam, tarragon and garlic pizza looked the most authentic. It was individually sized and the crust was very thin in the middle and rose to a puffy edge ("Fabulous," Torpor said). The toppings obviously impressed the judges. But the sauce, which was "too sweet, with too much bitter oregano," according to Tinarello, overwhelmed the flavorful dough on the margherita. The mozzarella was topnotch, and the crust was "cracker-crunchy and quite good, " said Torpor. "It's the most Neopolitan of the bunch."

Authenticity rating:
Molto bene



What's special about your pizza? "We do everything from scratch—from making the dough, which is tender and flaky, to mixing the curd with fresh milk to make mozzarella," said Real Pizza owner Rene Becker.

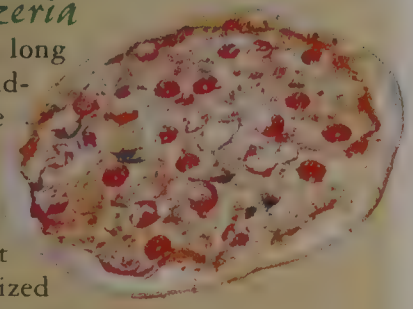
Is your pizza authentic Italian? "We're not really looking to be authentic Italian. This just happens to be the kind of pizza that I like to eat," said Becker.

359 Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4497).



Angelo Firenze (left) and Joey Tinarello (with their trusty assistants in the background) discuss the finer points of each slice.

Emma's Pizzeria



Emma's Pizzeria has long been praised as a standout in its field. But the judges had mixed reviews of the specialty pizza with baby spinach, roasted sweet potatoes, caramelized onions, garlic, rosemary sauce, mozzarella and goat cheese. "They use baking powder instead of yeast in their crust," said Tinarello, "so there's no rise. That's what we're looking for." There was, in fact, no crust around the edge of the pizza. In regard to the toppings, he was a bit more blunt. "*Ciambotta*—it means 'big mess.' There's a lot going on here."

Torpor, the skeptic, was surprisingly positive. "It's sweet, but I like it. It's tasty, and I like all the flavors together. It's *creativo*, but of course, it's not Italian." Unfortunately, the sauce tasted "burnt, with too many herbs."

"Italians wouldn't eat this pizza —it's too sweet," stated Tinarello.

Authenticity rating:
cosí cosí



What's special about your pizza? "All of our toppings are original and fresh. We smoke our own chicken, mozzarella and sausage," said Wendy Saver, co-owner of Emma's.

Is your pizza authentic Italian? "Honestly, my partner David Rockwood came up with the recipe on his own. We just played around until we came up with something we liked," said Saver.

40 Hampshire St., Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-864-8534).

Upper Crust



The newest of the pizzerias, Upper Crust on Charles Street, held its own with its white pizza with diced tomatoes, fresh basil, garlic and ricotta cheese. Firenze said, "It looks as authentic as any today. It's a little too chewy, but it's not overpowering overall in terms of sauce, cheese or toppings."

Torpor added her two lire. "Sure the crust looks good, but it tastes like cardboard; it's not flavorful and neither are the toppings or the sauce."

Tinarello disagreed: "I think the crust is cooked perfectly on top. It's too thin to be authentic Italian, but it's good. There's just enough cheese and tomatoes. I'd add sausage though."

Authenticity rating:
Molto bene

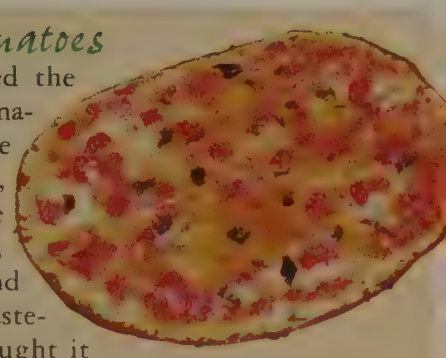


What's special about your pizza? "The dough melts in your mouth," said Upper Crust owner Jordan Tobins.

Is your pizza authentic Italian? "I was taught how to make my dough from someone who learned in Italy. It doesn't get any more real than that," said Tobins.

20 Charles St., Boston (617-723-9600).

Sweet Tomatoes



The judges loved the pesto on Sweet Tomatoes' pizza. The crust was very thin, but again, like some of the others, it had no edge and Torpor found it tasteless. Firenze thought it was too soggy. Tinarello, on the other hand, said, "I like the dough. The whole pizza is a nice, light combo: tasty pesto, a little fresh tomatoes and cheese. But I'd also like more crust on the edges." The threesome agreed that the mozzarella was from a deli and added little flavor.

Authenticity rating: cosí cosí

What's special about your pizza? "The products we use and our method of preparation sets us apart, said Sweet Tomatoes manager Elysha McAllister. "Our pizzas are low fat with no added oil or sugar. Our sauce isn't cooked—it's light and refreshing with chunks of tomatoes. Our philosphy is: Less is more."



Is your pizza authentic Italian? "Yes. It's a Neopolitan-style pizza, which goes in line with the thin crust, light cheese and light sauce," said McAllister.

47 Langley Road, Newton Center (617-558-0222).

Well, there you have it. No pizzeria scored very high on authenticity. The judges agreed that you can't really get a true Italian-style pizza in Boston (which may be kind of like asking for authentic bagels in Aspen). That's not to say that we didn't find delicious—even excellent—pies. We simply couldn't find a pie that our great-uncle Tino in Naples would give the nod to. "Most of the pizzas we tried had too many things going on, and they were overwhelmed with too much cheese to be authentic," said Tinarello. Firenze agreed. "Next time, let's judge them as 'American gourmet pizzas.' "IB

TOP RIGHT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

dining DARWINISM

BOSTON DINING

It's survival of the fittest at local restaurants

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Leaner times are upon us. The gravy train that delivered hordes of free-spending diners to Boston's finest restaurants to feast on foie gras and champagne is running out of steam. Just about everybody whose dinner choices were based more on the stock market than the supermarket is spending money more cautiously these days.

So how do the Boston restaurants that thrived in boom times plan to survive in a climate of economic uncertainty? In what ways, besides the everybody's-got-one Web sites and dining guide listings, do restaurateurs adapt and evolve to accommodate newly price-conscious patrons? And how can they achieve and maintain diner loyalty without compromising their cachet?

Last spring, as the economy stumbled, restaurant **Clio** introduced a $50 prix fixe menu. More widely known as the creator of extravagant $125 multicourse tasting menus, chef/owner Ken Oringer now prepares a different four-course menu every night to encourage regular visits from cost-conscious diners. Especially popular in Clio's lounge and bar, the prix fixe is only a little less luxe (morel vinaigrette instead of truffles, perhaps) than the a la carte menu.

On Beacon Hill, another proactive strategy came from Evan Deluty, chef/owner of **Torch**, who several months ago braced himself for tough times ahead. "In May, we wrote the summer off," he says. Deluty dramatically downsized his kitchen staff, cut costs and priced all his entrees at $25 or less. Last year, Deluty explains, Torch had "a terrible summer" because "people had money and went away all summer." This year, those people have spent more time in the neighborhood, so Deluty's July sales have actually gone up about 5 percent. We're feeling the brunt" of the downturn, he says, but the pain isn't severe.

But the stay-at-homes aren't drowning their summer sorrows in pricey bottles from the reserve wine list. Wine sales are down significantly, says Deluty, because diners are choosing less expensive wines than they would have six months ago. As people have become more educated about wine, they've learned that price isn't always a sure indicator of value, or a guarantee that taste is proportional to the investment. Of course, the urge to splurge is another casualty of the economy.

"During the boom time, we sold crazy wines," says Andree Robert, general manager of **Maison Robert**. Now, diners "spend a little less, and parties are a little less lavish," she adds. Yet if patrons are more fiscally restrained in their choice of wines, they're not compromising their choice of menu items.

"If they're here to have a filet mignon, they'll have a filet mignon," says Robert. And when "they" are regulars at lunch, they can expect the waitstaff to know their preferred drink as soon as their face is recognized. That's due to a unique gallery in Maison Robert's kitchen: about 20 photographs depicting regulars' faces and their customary refreshment, for the benefit of new waiters.

"We have them study it," says Robert. "It works out really well, plus the regulars get a kick out of having their pictures taken."

> "We've been through this before," says Jody Adams of Rialto." For those of us who've been in the business a long time, we know the ebb and flow, and this is the ebb."

In general, the picture isn't quite as rosy at restaurants that depend on business travelers and tourists to fill their dining rooms. A less-than-fully-booked hotel means fewer private functions, fewer private dining room events, fewer corporate high-rollers to drink and dine at hotel restaurants.

Still, a restaurant that's earned its reputation independently and inspires remarkable loyalty in its regular clientele is in a better position to weather tough times.

"We've been through this before," says Jody Adams, chef/partner at **Rialto**. "For those of us who've been in the business a long time, we know the ebb and flow, and this is the ebb."

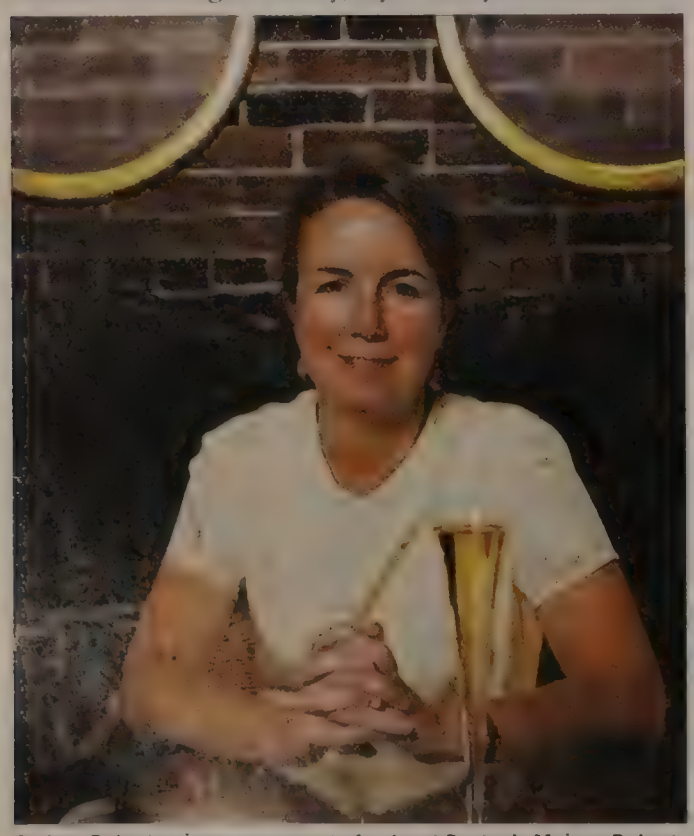
At a recent managers meeting at Rialto, the subject was "the customer tonight is the customer who's coming back tomorrow," says Adams, and right now, "there aren't as many of them." What's more, "everybody is being slightly cautious," she adds. "People are choosing a wide range of wines, not the $200 bottles they chose in 2000."

Nevertheless, "we don't change what we do," she says firmly. "It's critical that we remain consistent." Consistency means discussing regulars' preferences in the pre-meal service meetings, then anticipating their needs, however idiosyncratic. It means that for "a guy who came in every other Wednesday, we prepared a chocolate-espresso torta" especially for him—"a little tiny one," says Adams.

Most challenging is the triple whammy of the weak economy, the disruptive Big Dig and the notoriously difficult parking situation in Boston's North End. Jim Becker, chef at **Taranta**, says there are definitely fewer tourists in the neighborhood this summer. And his conversations with other North End chefs indicate that business "seems to be way down" for everyone. Taranta is freshening its appeal with a three-story reconfiguration: The first floor will evolve into a tapas and drinks lounge, complete with comfy couches, and dinner will be served on the second and third floors only. Becker says his customers are taking an increasingly thrifty approach to dining. Not only do they arrive with less money, says Becker, but they leave with more food: Doggie bags are absolutely more popular.

Genuinely good food is what keeps regular diners happy, and "regulars are the backbone of our business," says Peter McCarthy, chef/owner of the 3-year-old **EVOO** in Somerville. McCarthy keeps his prices moderate and mails out monthly postcards with recipes. At the end of the night, as an added touch, he sends customers home with leftover loaves of his homemade bread, often with a personalized note. So far, he says, his business is unaffected by the economy.

Summer is typically the slowest time of the year in the Boston restaurant business, and many restaurateurs hope for better times in the traditionally busy fall season, as social events fill calendars, cooler weather stirs heartier appetites, and businesses plan holiday parties. Until then, it's wait-and-see. **iB**



Andree Robert enjoys an moment of calm at Boston's Maison Robert.



EVOO's jefe Peter MCarthy is smiling about his bread and butter.

TRACY POWELL (2)

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drink smart

belly up to the bar

Peanuts? Goldfish? Old school. Look at what you can nibble on at bars around town these days.

BY MARLO FOGELMAN • PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Even in these times of cost-cutting and economy-watching, you can still find bars that provide the little extras, like bowls of mixed nuts or pretzels. When we sidle up to our favorite bar, most of us don't give it a second thought as we pop a few cashews into our mouths while enjoying a pint or two of our favorite libation.

The tradition dates back to at least the 1940s, when American barkeepers, in a great stroke of self-serving cleverness, began offering salty nuts, thereby increasing the thirst—and bar tabs—of loyal patrons. These days, however, local watering holes are a bit more creative with their bar-top treats. "The era of trying to trick guests into having an extra drink is over," says Tim Holmes, managing partner of Brasserie Jo, which offers olives and hard-boiled eggs at the bar. "Now it's just a little something extra that we do differently."

We invite you to join us for a sampling of delectable complimentary nibbles that are always available on the bar at local restaurants and saloons.



The perfect afterwork snack: Nothing goes better with a pint of beer than an oreo at the Sail Loft.

branch of peace

The new French bistro in the Theater District, **Pigalle,** serves a crock of niçoise, kalamata and picholine olives cured in extra-virgin olive oil and lemon-and-lime zest, finished off with thyme and bay leaf—"a Provençal recipe," says general manager/owner Kerri Foley. It's served at the bar with freshly baked peasant bread from Flour Bakery. "It's a perfect complement to an aperitif or a glass of rosé," says Foley. Sop up the marinade with a crust of bread and experience pure heaven.

Papa Razzi, just off Newbury Street, has its own recipe for olive success: an oblong white ceramic bowl parked on the bar that's always filled with an assortment of rustic country olives marinated in olive oil, oregano, salt, pepper and garlic. Patrons can also snack on freshly baked Italian breadsticks, called *grissini*, as they sip a martinis or glasses of wine.

peas, love and understanding

Both Asian-inspired **Ambrosia on Huntington** and Brazilian bombshell **Bomboa** on the edge of the South End offer wasabi peas to offset their beverages. Be forewarned: Wasabi, the spicy green mustard paste served with sushi, is no less powerful in "pea" form. And folks can't keep away from them, says Rob Mannke, bartender at Bomboa. "Originally, they were just a fun idea that we came up with. Now people love 'em. They come here and the first thing they ask is, 'Where the hell are the wasabi peas?'"

no one can eat just one

Where would we be without the mighty potato? The homemade potato chips at Back Bay's **Grill 23 & Bar** are thinly sliced and flavored with just the right kick of Cajun jerk seasonings. "They're very spicy. Be prepared to have a couple of drinks as you eat them," says manager Ferenc Auer. Over on Mercantile Wharf, **Atlantic 101** offers its own take on the potato chip, in a crispy waffle form. We've also heard that the homemade chips at **Eclipse** in Downtown Crossing are so tasty that you need a 12-step program to beat the addiction.

thanks, easter bunny

Incredible and edible (at least according to the Chicken Farmers of America), eggs have been getting a bad rap for too long. Yet any health nut knows that the egg is hard to beat as a complete source of protein. In true French tradition, the *bonnes hommes* over at **Brasserie Jo** in the Colonnade Hotel serve up *oeuffs durs* (hard-boiled eggs) at the bar. "In France, brasseries are located near a train station, and they offer a quick bite to eat—like hard-boiled eggs or large pretzels, plus drinks—for commuters, " says Holmes of Brasserie Jo. **No. 9 Park** on the Boston Common and the **B-Side Lounge** in Cambridge also serve hard-boiled eggs, perched precariously on decorative stands at the bar. "Most people don't understand the whole egg concept," says No. 9 Park maitre d' Janet Kim. "They don't realize that eggs taste really good with beer."

milk and cookies

By this point, you may be surprised at how full you feel after a snack of olives, peas or eggs. If you're craving a little something sweet to end the night, head on down to the **Sail Loft** on Atlantic Avenue, where you can look out at the harbor while enjoying complimentary Oreo cookies. The glass cookie jars strategically placed along the bar have been a fixture since the early 1980s, when the restaurant's owners tried to minimize the effects of the popular three-martini lunches by offering customers an Oreo and a mug of hot coffee when they tried to order a third drink.

Ah—the good old days.... IB

Marlo Fogelman is a publicist in her spare time.



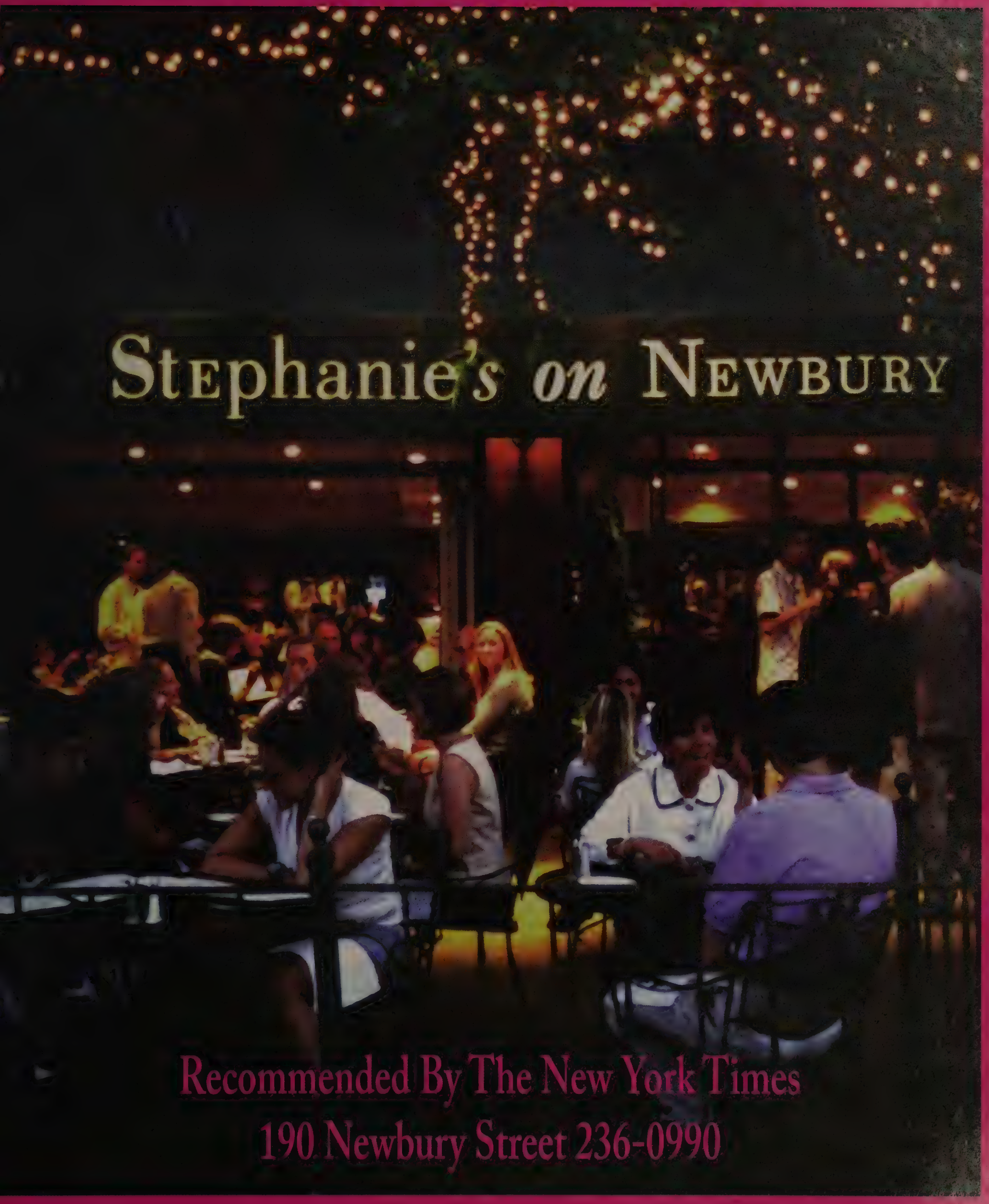
Brasserie Jo carries on the French tradition with olives at the bar.



Bomboa spices up its bar scene with a dish of wasabi peas.



B-Side Lounge's artful egg dispenser doubles as a bar decoration.


Stephanie's on Newbury
Recommended By The New York Times
190 Newbury Street 236-0990



Talk fast—the line of young professionals and students waiting for burritos moves quickly at Anna's Taqueria in Brookline.

meet markets

These unlikely pickup joints get the USDA stamp of approval

BY LEAH GOURLEY AND JULIE SHORT
PHOTOGRAPHS BY OLIVIA HANLEY

They say you can't get your meat where you get your dough. If that's the case, single city-dwellers must look beyond the office cubicle to find that special someone. In fact, there are many places where you can satisfy two primal urges at once: physical hunger and romantic lust. We scoured the city and found a handful of eating establishments where you can indulge your inner carnivore with a prime cut of beef (seared on the outside, pink on the inside) *and* chat up an appealing rump roast with whom you'd like to share a nice glass of cabernet sauvignon. Join us for a tour of the city's mouthwatering, Grade A, free-range "meet markets."

Grill 23 & Bar

The rumors are true: Grill 23 & Bar is chock full o' handsomely attired, *available* men (outnumbering female patrons 10-to-1). Whether you like 40-somethings in power ties, 30-somethings in khakis or 20-somethings in uniform (the white-jacketed army of waiters), the selection is endless. We stopped by at 6pm on a Thursday, with cigar smoke and the aroma of grilled New York sirloins wafting through the bar. Reclining in green velvet chairs by the bar, we chatted about the Concord and California vineyards with suave men (one of whom even offered us his Givenchy tie when we complimented it). A couple of suitors hinted at taking us to dinner, but we were content to stay where we were. After a few hours, we tangoed out the door in the afterglow of fine wines, company vice presidents and golf swings. We could have danced all night. *161 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-2255).*

Anna's Taqueria

Mmm...the Anna's burrito: a steamed flour tortilla with melted cheese, savory rice, pinto beans, shredded meat and a dollop of salsa tucked inside. There's almost nothing better after a hard day at work. That's probably why there's a line out the door of Anna's Taqueria in Brookine every evening. It's a mecca for young professionals. Who else could truly appreciate good food that's this convenient and affordable? But if you want to strike up a conversation with the friendly guy or gal standing next to you in line, *habla rapido.* Chances are that you'll be out the door with a burrito in hand before you can say "Gracias." The good news is that most Anna's fans are repeat customers. So if you spot "the one" at the front of the line, you can bet that he or she will be there again soon. *446 Harvard St., Brookline (617-277-7111).*

Bartley's Burger Cottage

Faced with the prospect of a juicy all-beef burger topped with grilled peppers, mushrooms and a slice of melted Swiss cheese...or the opportunity to gab with a professorial type from nearby Harvard, most of us would choose the burger—especially if it's from Bartley's Burger Cottage. Luckily, you can partake of both at this popular Harvard Square joint. Park yourself on a plastic chair at the long communal wooden table and you're likely to rub elbows (and share condiments) with a wide assortment of consultants, shoppers, policy wonks and just plain folk. We ask you: Where else can a Dick Cheney bacon cheeseburger sit a heartbeat away from a Ted Kennedy (a plump, liberal amount of burger with cheddar cheese and mushrooms) and a Professor Skip Gates (new and hip, with teriyaki sauce and sliced pineapple)? *1246 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-6559).*

Redbones

A friend of ours drove across country one summer in search of barbecue better than Redbones. He never found it. He now lives within a few blocks of this popular BBQ joint in Davis Square. You'll find him, and dozens of others like him, seated at the subterranean watering hole, Underbones, munching on smoky, thick-cut, country-style pork ribs drenched in a sweet sauce, or smoked beef brisket with a vinegar marinade. An eclectic crowd of young professionals and townies—all barbecue fanatics—make the pilgrimage here nightly. Families remain upstairs, but the motley crew of regulars knows there's a spot for them at the bar downstairs. There's no better way to mingle than with sticky hands and smears of barbecue sauce on your flushed cheeks. And it would seem that everyone looks good after a plate of ribs and several pints of beer in this dimly lit cavern. *55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200).*

Joe & Nemo's

Joe & Nemo's hot dog shop on the downside of Beacon Hill on Cambridge Street is hoppin' at lunchtime. Every cop, EMT and cab driver in town stops by for a Li'l Nemo—a 100 percent all-beef dog served "all around" in a steamed bun with relish and onions on the bottom and zesty mustard on top. The Boston accents are as thick as the Old Howard chili served with cheese on a dog, and the talk swings from the Red Sox to local politics. Order up a corn dog with a side of dirty fries and park yourself next to some suits from the Financial District or a Mass General worker in scrubs on one of the wooden stools at the big picture window. A shared love of dogs makes this a true melting pot. *138 Cambridge St., Boston (617-720-4342).*

B&D Deli

The line for a table at the B&D Deli on a recent Sunday morning was nearly as impressive as the pile of hash browns steaming on the grill. Our stomachs rumbled as we stood next to glass cases filled with corned beef, pastrami, bologna, pickled tongue, liverwurst, salami and smoked turkey. Perusing the menu—and at the same time, trying to avoid being bowled over by the bustling waitstaff—we chatted with neighborhood folks and discussed front-page news in the *Sunday Globe.* Once we secured a coveted table, we found ourselves so close to our neighbors that a sidelong glance at their ketchup granted us permission to borrow it. Brunchers around us exchanged snippets about the Sox, work and relationships as they struggled with overstuffed sandwiches of Swiss

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Entertainment Weekly

Head Chef - Jim Sklaver

cheese, ham and roast turkey on challah bread dipped in sweet batter and grilled (the Monte Cristo) or corned beef, Swiss, sauerkraut and Russian dressing on grilled dark rye (the Reuben). As for the crowd: plenty of casually outfitted groups of women, but on this morning we were hard-pressed to find a man not escorting his mother or girlfriend. *1653 Beacon St., Brookline (617-232-3727).*

Sausage Guy

Whether you like 'em sweet or Italian (and it's not men we're talking about here), sausages served up by the Sausage Guy outside Fenway Park are sure to fulfill cravings from both sides of the street. It's a popular pregame snack for Red Sox attendees and a post-night-clubbing nightcap for dancing queens and their Prince Charmings. We like them with green peppers and onions, mustard and ketchup, hot from the grill. Grab a spot along the back wall of the Green Monster and check out the passers-by: You're just as likely to spot ladies in hot-off-the-runway duds, men in slick Euro styles, a platoon of fans in Nomar jerseys or sailors in dress whites. Even if you don't find your Mr. or Ms. Right here, you're sure to be supremely entertained by the crowd. *Lansdowne Street (outside Fenway Park), Boston.* www.sausageguy.com.

Bomboa

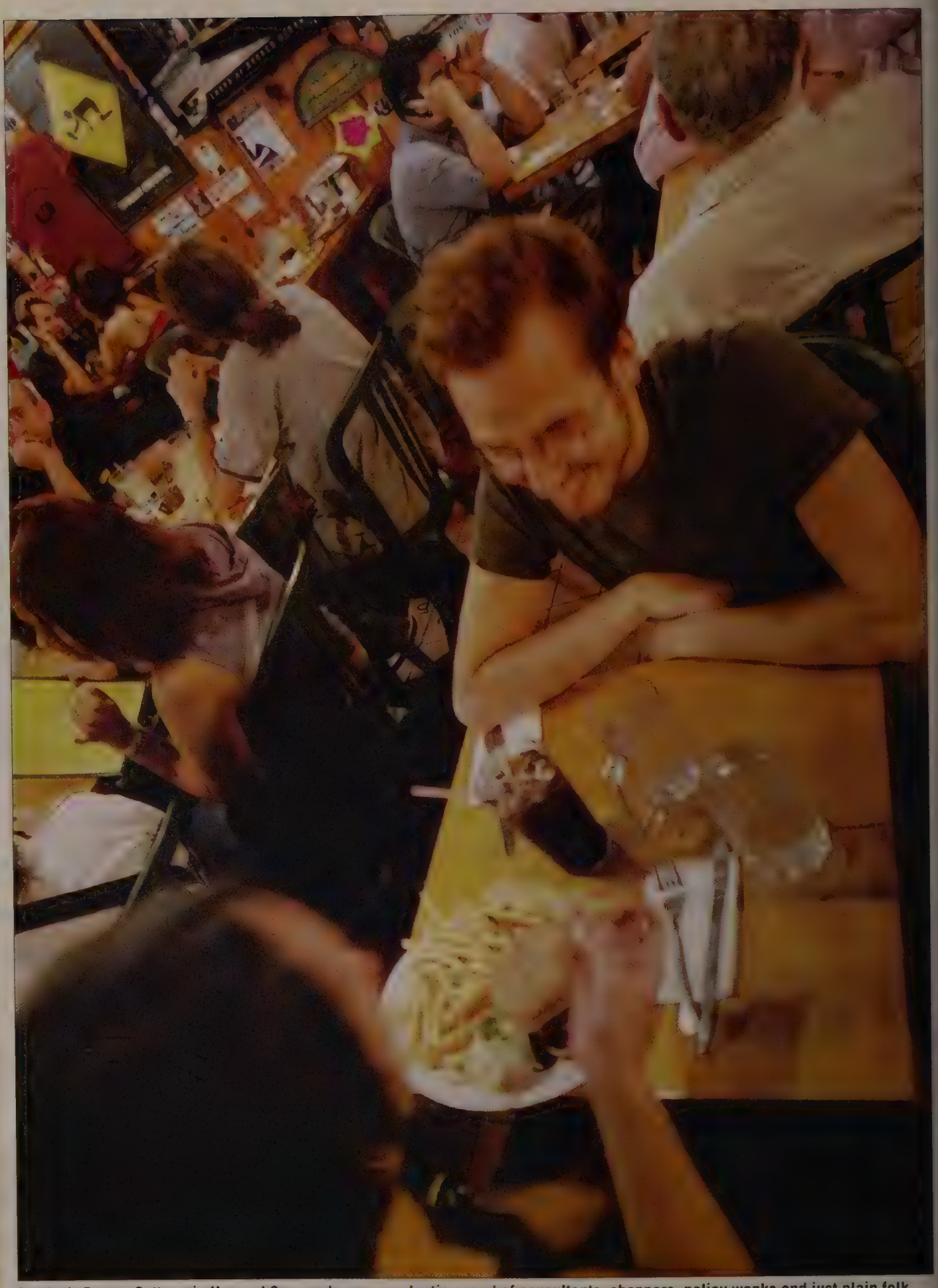
Like the Brazilian beauties popping up on fashion catwalks lately, the scene at Bomboa was naturally sexy without trying. Drawing from the rich Brazilian influences that flavor this French-fusion restaurant, the steak frites (steak and fries, for the non-Francophile) we sampled was succulent and tender, generously flavored with garlic and parsley. Bordering the South End, Bomboa reflects the vibrancy of this colorful and unorthodox neighborhood. A smartly dressed crowd of young professionals flowed in steadily from 6pm on and showed no signs of ceasing as the minutes slid past 9pm. Exotic *caipirinhas*, cosmos and sangria were the drinks of choice. It's a fresh, sophisticated hangout where the potency of the menu is backed up by an equally provocative bar scene. *35 Stanhope St., Boston (617-236-6363).*

Chacarero

By noon, the line outside Chacarero snakes around park benches and down the block. The aroma of grilled beef and chicken wafts over the brick plaza beside Filene's in Downtown Crossing, luring power brokers, lawyers and government *appartachiks* who wander by this hole-in-the-wall eatery. They've made pilgrimages from all over the city to partake in a flat disc of bread spread with guacamole and spices and layered with muenster cheese, roasted red peppers, tomatoes, string beans and beef or chicken. The crowd is boisterous as 30 men and women of all ages, races and manners of dress await their turn. These strangers brought together by their shared obsession for the delicious sandwiches soon form couplets and threesomes in line, and discussions turn to the stock market, Internet, nearby construction, bills pending and cases going to court. *426 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0392).*

Bisuteki Japanese Steakhouse

On a Wednesday night in August, we were ushered into Bisuteki Japanese Steakhouse and seated next to six others at a communal table. Our introductions were drowned out by the noise from adjacent tables, as our neighbors cheered on their chef's bladework. Back at our own table, our chef was dicing, chopping, grilling and otherwise preparing our orders on the grill right in front of us with the dexterity and grace of a swordsman.



Bartley's Burger Cottage in Harvard Square draws an eclectic crowd of consultants, shoppers, policy wonks and just plain folk.

We enjoyed talk of spy missions and sunsets in Trinidad vs. Venezuela—but we *really* enjoyed our filet mignon dinner. The slices of grilled steak were heaven on a plate, and conversation momentarily ceased as we savored our selections. Because of its location in a hotel, Bisuteki draws tourists, but it also has a loyal following of locals from all walks of life. *777 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-492-7777).*

DeLuca's

A good-looking yet slightly rumpled crowd of young professionals wearing suits and dresses, or khakis and loafers, straggles into DeLuca's on Charles Street after a long day at the office. They squeeze through the cereal aisle to the meat counter in the back and peruse the offerings in the long glass case that runs from one side of the store to the other. "What can I get ya?" asks John from behind the counter. "Veal cutlets, lamb chops, steak tips, top round, rump steak, sweet Italian sausage, hamburger, Porterhouse?" he rattles off the options. On this balmy evening near summer's end, the general sentiment among patrons, who chatter freely as they await their turn, is that it's a great night to barbecue. The aroma of grilled chops and blue clouds of smoke will hang low over roof decks of Beacon Hill gatherings tonight. Perhaps you'll be invited to one while you place your order at the deli. *11 Charles St., Boston (617-523-4343).* IB



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two in ONE

Split-personality shops give us the best of both worlds

BY ERIN HAGEDORN

Some things just naturally belong together. Campfires and marshmallows. Abbott and Costello. The Red Sox and the September choke. U-Haul and irate customers. Then there are the things go together but aren't so instantly associated—Tim Burton and *Planet of the Apes*. Eminem and Elton John. Nicolas Cage and Priscilla Presley. These duos certainly give one pause. But were it not for these kinds of oddball pairings, the world would certainly be a far less interesting place. Thus, we salute the local stores that support such crazy couplings—shops that offer two distinctly different types of merchandise, happily acting as the meeting point where retail worlds collide.

The Old Dutch Cottage Candy Store

Candy & Antiques



Jack Repetti samples his store's decadent chocolates amid heaps of antiques.

Wandering around the Old Dutch Cottage Candy Store feels a lot like how was when you explored your crazy aunt's attic, only there's more sugar here than you were ever allowed to consume as a kid. Paper pineapples, wooden marionettes and pink monkeys hang from the ceiling, while more serious pieces, such as Jackie Kennedy autographs and rare lamps rest against silk posters from 1898. After digesting the splendid sights, it's time to dive into the heaps of mouth-watering candy. Owner Jack Repetti's main goal when opening the store was to create an old-fashioned candy store with something for everyone. He seems to have come close; you can chose from 90 different homemade chocolates. The most popular is the Dutch truffle.

518 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-0233)

About Hair

Salon & Antiques

After being in business for 12 years, Duncan Wells Purdy, owner of Harvard Square's About Hair, decided to fuse his two interests—hair care and vintage treasures. Partly to combat the pressures of being a small business, he transformed his salon three years ago into a cozy, enchantingly cluttered shop. The space is divided in two—antiques piled high on the left, barber's chairs to the right. The only salon we know of where you can get a perm and a 1963 Mickey Mantle baseball card, Purdy's store offers a peerless combo of great inexpensive hair care and vintage goods. Although the prices on the antiques are negotiable, haircut rates are firm; prices range from $24-$40.

1 Arrow St., Cambridge (617-868-8213)



Duncan Wells Purdy is multitalented. Here, he outfits client Kristina Susi with a vintage stereoscope and a new 'do.

B and I International at Wireless

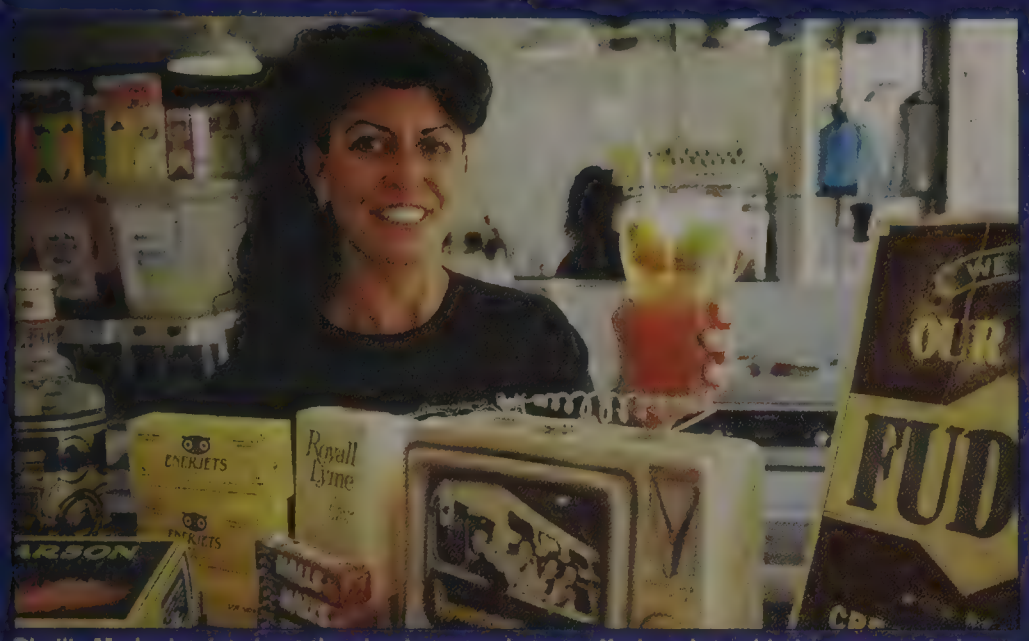
Lingerie & Wireless Phones

26 Union Square, Somerville (617-625-2001)

No, the "Wireless" sign above this lingerie/cell phone store doesn't refer to the store's possible double entendre of wireless phones and undergarments. It refers solely to the phones—the wireless bras just happen to be a part of the store. Co-owner Isaura Michelon opened B and I as a Brazilian lingerie shop when she was unable to find a pair of panties in Boston that fit the way she thought they should. So she began selling a wide range of decadent Brazilian underwear and bras, as well as sarongs and selections of Spanish perfume. Then her partner, Bill, proposed the addition of cell phones, and they were so popular that they quickly became the store's main seller. Michelon has never had the heart to phase out the lingerie line and just concentrate on the phones, though, so the odd coupling remains.

TRACY POWELL (2)

General Store & Bakery



Phyllis Madanian has kept the shop's general-store offerings but added a gourmet bakery.

Billings & Stover Inc.

This family business has been in Harvard Square since 1854. The glass windows that look out onto Brattle Street pay homage to days past with items that range from an Elvis Blue Hawaii lunchbox to an I Love Lucy jewelry box. A year ago, the store underwent a transformation and closed its pharmacy, but the mom-and-pop shop still has plenty of general-store-type offerings—Visine, Rolaids, store-specialties English Mason Pearson hairbrushes; Roger & Gallet soaps from France; even film developing. Owner Phyllis Madanian is most proud of the incredible bakery selection: gourmet cookies, nonpareils, truffles, cupcakes, cakes, an average of 300 pounds of fudge a week and marzipan—all made in-house.

41 Brattle St., Cambridge, 617-547-0502

The Cuttery

Frames & Salon

100 Charles St., Boston (617-223-7263)

When you walk into this Beacon Hill shop, the extensive selection of frames is nothing surprising. The setting is so subdued that you almost expect to hear Bach quietly filtering in. Instead, coming from below, there's a cacophony: loud voices straining above the electric purr of hair dryers. Owner Dave Poutre took over the space five years ago, when it was a basic hair salon, and mixed things up. He tells us that clients take advantage of the convenience, choosing a frame for their art and frame for the face at the same time.

Tuttles

Dry Cleaning & Faux Orchids

245 Main St., Charlestown (617-242-2080) and three other Charlestown locations

Tuttles has been in Charlestown for 50 years, and owners Farshad Sayan and Bijan Darvish have run the dry cleaner for the past 21. The oversized faux orchids are a new addition to the store's offerings in the past year. Flower sales have been a bit slow, but the small store is certainly brighter. The faux orchids are handmade by Sayan's wife, and he says that his wife's more frequent presence in the store and the orchids are "new and lovely additions" to Tuttles.

The Hardware Café, Sugar Shack and Sippican Hardware

Home improvement and music club? That's right. Last year, Sippican Hardware owners John and Susan Sares decided to add authentic old-fashioned penny candy machines to their store. The candy counter quickly expanded into an ice cream parlor, which became so popular that much of the hardware was rearranged to make way for seating. With all the extra room, the Sares saw even more potential—this time for a stage big enough for bands to play on. A musician himself, John Sares always had a dream of owning a rock club, and thus, The Hardware Café was born. The unlikely venue has drawn local and national acts seven nights a week.

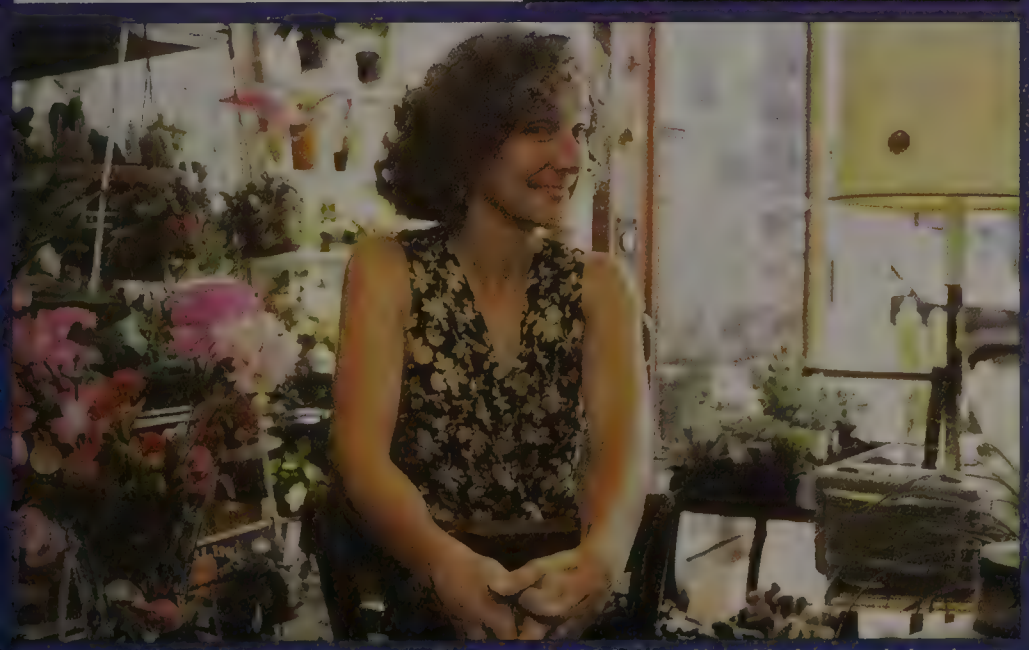
177 Spring St., Marion (508-748-6700)

Hardware Store & Rock Club



John Sares has transformed the Cape's Sippican Hardware into a popular rock club.

Plants & Furniture



The flowery Janet Hawkins displays her greenery, which co-exists with the store's furniture.

The Avenue Gardener/ McBride's Used Furniture

McBride's, an eclectic furniture shop, has occupied this space for more than 20 years. But the store morphed into the Avenue Gardener when owner Don McBride had Janet Hawkins add bits of greenery to complement his antiques. He liked the combination so much that the plants stayed. Now there is a wide variety of cacti, succulents and bizarre looking foliage out front for sale; wander to the back and you'll find china, cups, plates, armoires and old sewing machines to buy. Before the grand piano was sold, students would often come in on Saturdays and practice. Now they push their way through the plants to settle for the little white upright that is practically buried under treasures in the corner.

167 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-782-8555)

City Salon

Salon & Art Gallery

118 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4990)

One of the definitions of the word "salon" is "a place where works of art can be displayed," so City Salon is, appropriately enough, both an art gallery and a cuttery. And what better décor for making the locks fashionable than fashionable contemporary works of art? Owner Steven Cecchinelli came up with the idea of incorporating talented friends' artwork into the ambience of his salon. Art lovers and stylists' clients receive invitations to show openings every two months.

TOP AND BOTTOM: TRACY POWELL; MIDDLE: OLIVIA HANLEY

canine cachet

Fall trends to warm up a brisk autumn stroll with your favorite companion

PRODUCED BY
SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHS BY
DAVID SITRON



This page: Antonia stripes coat, $485; bird's-eye nylon slide, $210. Both available at Kate Spade. Platinum, .60 ruby ct. and 2.12 ct. diamond ring, $17,500; platinum, .60 ct. ruby and .63 diamond pendant, $5,250; platinum 4.87 ct. ruby and 2.28 ct. diamond bracelet, $6,750; platinum and 2 ct. diamond bumble bee pin, $6150. All available at Shreve, Crump & Low.

Opposite page: On her: Black wool sweater, $475; plaid miniskirt, $325. Both available at Burberry. Parquet Collection .18 ct. diamond ring by Suna, $5,500; Parquet Collection .91 ct. diamond bracelet by Suna, $1,200. On dog: Dog jacket, $130, available at Burberry. 18 Karat Fleur de Lys .31 ct. diamond brooch. Available at Shreve, Crump & Low.

On him: Striped turtleneck, $88; tweed pants, $148; men's brown leather jacket, $598; leather loafers, $148. All available at French Connection
On dog: Coach signature dog jacket, $108. Available at Coach.

On him: Navy wool pinstriped double-breasted suit, $1,630; navy and yellow diagonal striped tie, $125; cotton shirt, $400. All available at select Gucci stores. Pug pin, 18 karat with diamond collar and leash, $3,300; pug cufflinks, 18 karat with ruby eyes, $2,975. Available at Shreve, Crump & Low. On dog: Black leather collar with Gucci links, $290. Available at select Gucci stores.

Models:
Lauren Krol, Kristin Weeks, Josh Manning, and Storm for Ford Model Management
Alison Hossman for Click
Dogs: Pink, Taboo, Echo, Beatrice, Justice
Grooming for Beatrice by Snippers

Hair by Tony Defabritis for Maksou
125 Broad St
617-443-863

Backdrop by Mark Hunt
www.markhunt backdrops.com

Gucci
Copley Place
617-247-3000
1-800-234-8224

French Connection
206 Newbury St
617-247-1301

Coach
Copley Place
617-262-2063

Burberry
2 Newbury St
617-236-1000

Kate Spade
117 Newbury St
617-262-2632

Betsey Johnson
201 Newbury St
617-236-7072

Shreve, Crump & Low
330 Boylston St
617-267-9100

On her: Copper and black wool skirt, $150; matching wool jacket, $256; multi-colored sequined purse, $118. All available at Betsey Johnson. Necklace, $3,800; bracelet, $1,475; agate pin, $2,000. All by Daniela Vettori. Available at at Shreve, Crump and Low.
On dog: Black leather belt with rhinestone bow, $182. Available at Betsey Johnson.

AFTER 1366,
A BELGIUM WAS INVADED BY THE ROMANS, DUTCH, FRENCH, ENGLISH, AND GERMANS.



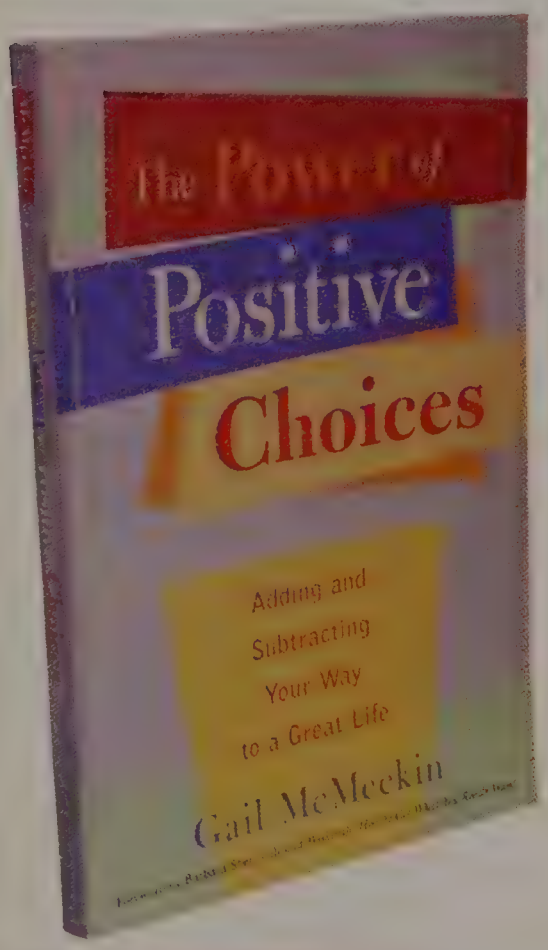
LEUVEN BELGIUM

OBVIOUSLY, A COMPLIMENT.

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our undaunted correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



CHOOSE A HAPPIER LIFE
The Power Of Positive Choices by Gail McMeekin, career and creativity consultant, gives you practical tools to push yourself upward.

One way to look at your life's woes and worries is to trudge through the painful specifics and sort them. Consultant Gail McMeekin takes a different tack: She identifies 15 rather general principles, all in the direction of integrity and uplift that could make anyone's life better and invites you to apply them to yourself. Their common theme is "choice"—choosing to be more centered, more committed, more welcoming of support from friends, more of an owner of your true wants and drifted-away dreams. The principles correspond to the first letters of *Positive Choices* and in every chapter McMeekin smuggles in some inquiries for you to ask yourself, make lists about or study in your body's reactions.

She talks about the blessed, liberating idea of subtracting bad-vibesy negatives (including exhausting, "serenity stealing" people) while adding positives, such as ideals, dreams and vocations, that you might have forgotten. Through visualizing and honoring your true, best self, you may succeed in punching through to a more refreshed, invigorating life. And here's some help for your self: Imagine shifting some joyless "shoulds" for the zestier realm of "wants." "Wanting implies choosing," says McMeekin.



A ROCK MAKES A WARM PLACE
Brian of Guimond's Stonewalls (508-636-6767) builds old-looking stone walls , for residential and commercial clients.

Westport, Mass., and Little Compton, R.I. (but he'll travel, bringing his heavy load) are country towns dotted almost continuously with stone walls. Many are older than New England wisdom itself, but about 80 percent of the newer ones are the work of Guimond's Stonewalls. And their amazing charm lies in the fact that they look old too: "Brian hates cement," says his business partner, Bill. The "old farmer's wall" style he prefers is made of rounded rocks, often found in the abundant local woods. Some of his constructions have a flatter look, on both sides, but even those manage not to look fake or suburbanized. Brian and his 14 workmen have made graceful, defining entryways into driveways of new houses, as well as many other punctuations on the land. This takes away that new-construction rawness and adds what looks like the weight of history. "We've been here a long time," the heavy snuggling stones seem to say. Stones can encircle a big tree, solidifying it; millstones cut in half can create a solid welcome before a front door. Guimond's portfolio, writ on earth, also contains granite stairs, waterfalls in natural pools, and cemeteries restored to their original quiet dignity.



WHERE THE FABRICS ARE EXOTIC
Coromandel, at 364-A Huron Avenue in Cambridge, open Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm, (617-497-6110) sells decorative accessories from India.

Last month, two creamy-white sheets of cutwork fabric billowed in the window of this store, creating an image of coolness that drew in hot passersby. Coromandel sells traditional Indian quilts, bed and table linens, quilted bags, clothing and wall hangings made by skilled women who have produced these crafts in their own workshops for generations. Roughly speaking, the store is divided between the darker reddish Kalamkari pieces that are hypnotically dense and earthy (because they're made with vegetable dyes) and the lighter, Mughal ones, which are often white and pink or blue. One blanket, suitable for a picnic, has a sturdy weave; another is a luscious bed cover. You could adorn the ghostliness of a white wall with an antique wall hanging, patchworked from various pieces, glinting with mirrors. Then there are the airy Mughal pieces, including comforters made from cotton spun fine, that suggest they'd bring on the lightest sweet dreams. In that paler mode, you can also find baby quilts and easygoing curtains. Going fast: slithery scarves in hummingbird blue and green silk.

STONE WALLS: WENDY GOLDBERG; COROMANDEL: RITA GREELEY (2)

amelias

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in this section:
Review: ZuZu
Dish: End of summer "blu"
Tasty Tidbit: Kayak, wine and dine at Westport Rivers Winery

REVIEW

ZuZu Rocks

New Middle Eastern restaurant in Central Square offers a harmonious arrangement of vegetables and kebobs

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Located next door to the Middle East music club in Cambridge, ZuZu draws music lovers and food lovers alike.

Middle Eastern food is exotic and even mysterious fare for most Americans. While other ethnic cuisines—notably Italian, Chinese and Mexican—have become standard offerings throughout the country, restaurants featuring food of the Levant and North Africa are largely confined to metropolitan areas with high concentrations of people with Lebanese, Turkish, Armenian and North African ancestry. With the internationalization of cuisine, however, certain staple dishes or ingredients of Middle Eastern food, most notably couscous, pita bread and phylo dough, are gradually making their way into mainstream American cuisine. ZuZu, a delightful new restaurant in the Central Square area of Cambridge next door to the Middle East (with which it shares common ownership), will help make this estimable cuisine more familiar and popular.

ZuZu's menu starts with two dozen mazzas or small dishes, the equivalent of tapas in Spain. Some are simple, such as hummus, tabbouleh, olives and baba ghanooj (each $3). More substantial offerings include kibbeh mihshi ($5), irregularly shaped balls of bulgar wheat and ground lamb fried crisp and served with a yogurt-based dipping sauce. Dark and crunchy on the outside, they were light and flavorful beneath the crust, their dryness alleviated by the subtly seasoned sauce. Even better was the tagen ($5.50), flaked white fish with sesame oil, lemon, garlic and caramelized onions. It was sprinkled with terrific roasted pignoli nuts, "snoubar" in Arabic. Last among the mazza we sampled were the grilled kebobs ($5), a serving of three skewers, each with two juicy chunks of meat—chicken, beef or lamb. The kebobs arrived on a bed of lettuce, accompanied by mellow roasted garlic and a minted chili dipping sauce.

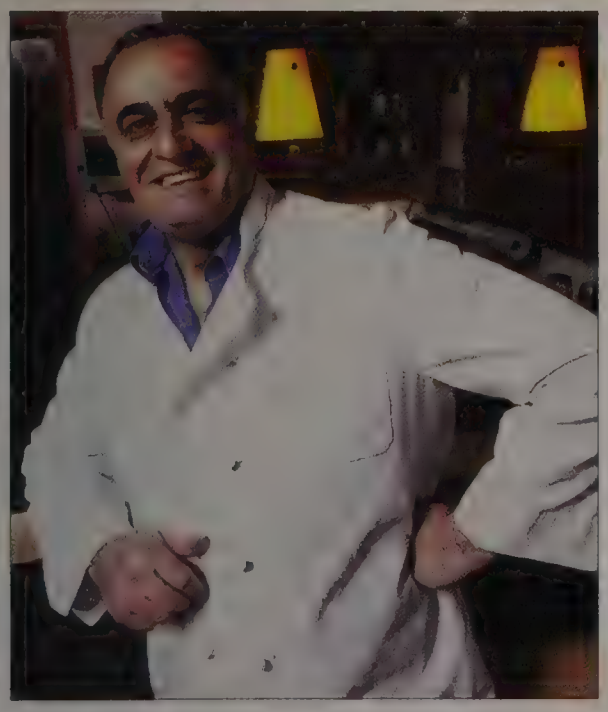
Main courses at ZuZu included the best couscous we have found this side of the Atlantic. Advertised on the menu as a "seasonable blend of seven vegetables," ZuZu's couscous included green beans, large chickpeas, zucchini slices, strips of red peppers, mushrooms, broccoli and tomatoes ($14). All of the vegetables retained their shapes and textures, with the crunch of the zucchini and broccoli particularly enjoyable. The ensemble was combined in a warm, exotic, spicy-but-not-fiery sauce

ZuZu

474 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-492-9181)
HOURS Thu.-Sat., 5:30pm-12am; Sun., Tue. and Wed., 5:30-10:30pm
RESERVATIONS for six or more
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING on-street
LIQUOR LICENSE full



An array of appetizers includes hummus, tabbouleh, spinach pie, kibbeh and fattoush. Below: Chef Joseph Halaby.



redolent of Mediterranean herbs and was served in a traditional North African earthenware tagine dish, with a round pyramidal top to keep it piping hot from kitchen to table.

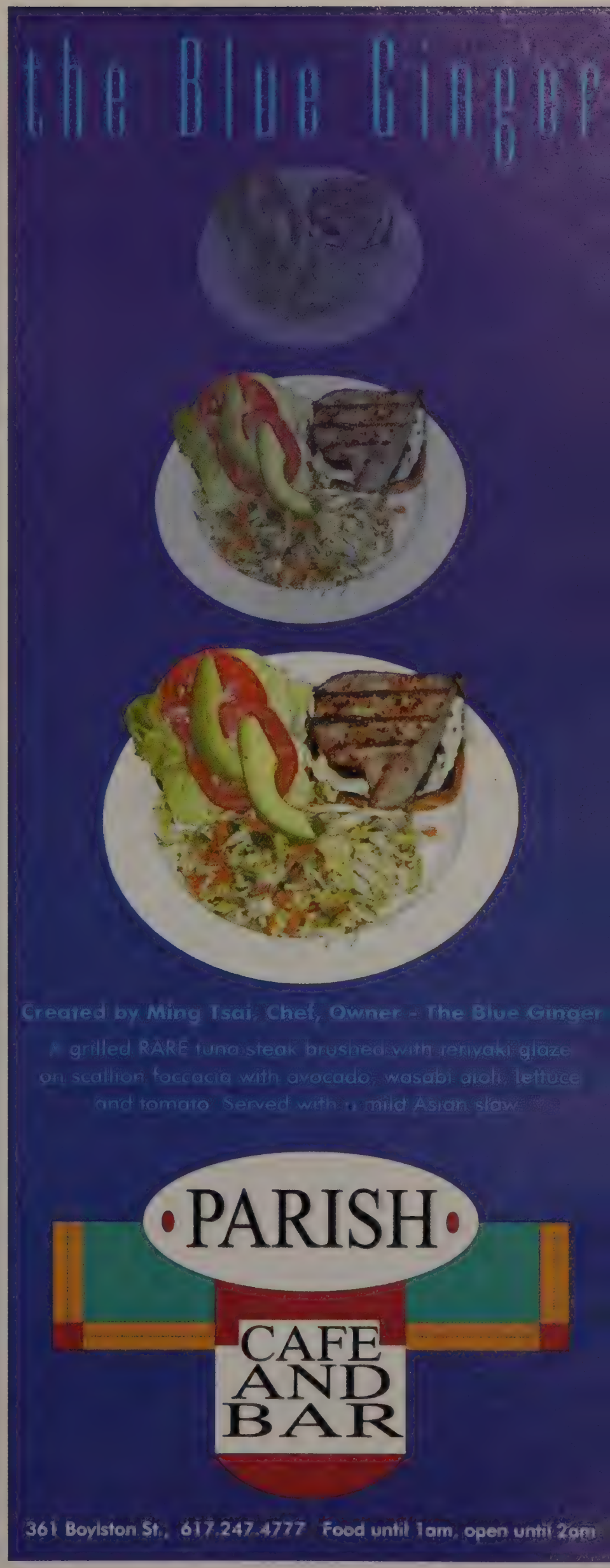
Another main course was the grilled rack lamb chops ($20). As if to compensate for the vegetarian thrust of the couscous, this dish consisted of four large, meaty rib chops, cooked to medium-rare as ordered. A flavorful marbling of crisp fat along the bones begged to be nibbled. With the lamb was a mound of rich, robust moussaka—roasted eggplant baked in a flavorful lamb stock, layered with a light cheese custard—served over young, tender spinach.

ZuZu's marvelous food is served in a sprightly, cheerfully decorated setting. A standard storefront has been turned into a kaleidoscope of colors: yellow walls illuminated indirectly by neon lights and directly by tiny spots at the end of black, snakelike fixtures, making the yellow glow like gold. Reddish wood tables and glass-paned china and glassware cabinets at one end of the dining room add to the color. Walls are hung with large colorful paintings on one side and small gleaming mirrors on the other. A bar, with five contoured seats, is illuminated by four or five small, yellow, cone-shaped hanging lamps.

ZuZu's decent wine list includes a number of reasonable choices, including a grapey Stonehedge Cabernet Sauvignon ($20). The Beaulieu Vineyards Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon ($35) offers considerably better structure and balance but at a significantly higher price. Desserts (all $6) included a fine crème caramel, with a pleasant hint of lemon, but we thought the whipped cream garnish gratuitous and inappropriate. Zalaaby fritters were nuggets of fried dough, slightly crunchy on the outside but soft and moist within. The chocolate sauce with which they were served boasted intense, bittersweet flavor.

Service at ZuZu was impeccable. A young, knowledgeable waitress anticipated and responded to our needs quickly and efficiently. Even our repeated requests for take-home containers to accommodate the leftovers from ZuZu's abundant portions were fulfilled without a hint of annoyance.

With its cheerful, informed service, well-prepared food and reasonable prices, ZuZu is the perfect place for the uninitiated to explore the wonderful world of Middle Eastern cuisine. iB

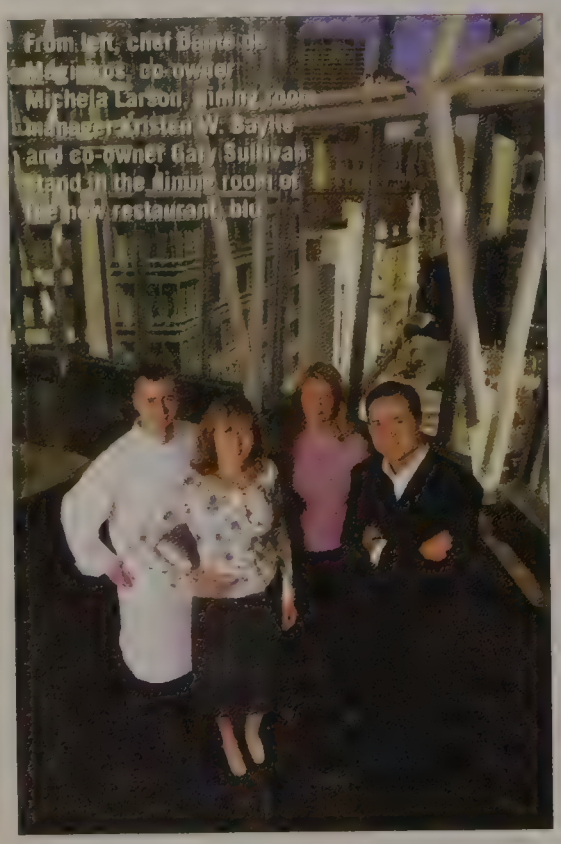


DISH

Seeing Blu

A jewel in a chain...a re-Vaulting development

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



From left: chef Dante de Magistros, co-owner Michela Larson, dining room manager Kristen W. Sayre and co-owner Gary Sullivan stand in the dining room of the new restaurant, blu.

It looks like **The Sapphire Group** has carved out a real gem in **blu**, the new café-bar-restaurant on the fourth floor of the Ritz Carlton Towers at The Sports Club/LA.

Maybe the third time is indeed the charm, or it could be that the group's partners—**Jody Adams**, **Karen Haskell**, **Michela Larson** and now **Gary Sullivan** (formerly general manager of **Rialto**) have learned a few things from their second project: **Red Clay** in Chestnut Hill's Atrium Mall. Red Clay has had a tough time establishing its identity, perhaps because "red" is a bad-luck name (remember the ill-fated **Red Herring**?) or because its location, in a windowless basement corner, is afflicted with bad feng shui.

Blu (using a lowercase b, like e.e. cummings), on the other hand, is on the fourth floor, 100 feet above street level, with drop-dead elegant floor-to-ceiling windows. The décor features diaphanous curtains, bird's-eye maple, a bar backed with opaque seaglass, and orange-and-mocha leather lounge chairs. Orange and blu? Forget the Howard Johnson's flashback; this is more like the perfect setting for sophisticated, non-smoking Nick-and-Nora types.

Because secondhand cholesterol isn't an issue, however, you'll find the dining room menu features such non-spa fare as seared foie gras with corn brioche, candied leeks and pumpkin with verjus. Chef **Dante de Magistros** (even the chef's name is elegant!) also offers some lovely seafood: roasted lobster with coral mashed potatoes, tomato and sea bean salad. Reserve Table 21 for your party of 12, and you'll be seated at a big round table in a curved niche designed to provide just the right amount of privacy. Wait 'til next spring, and you may find a seat at the seasonal outdoor deck—it's enough to make you believe that patience, along with a personalized cardiovascular program, is truly a virtue.

If the dining room is too rich for your blood, or you don't have enough muscle in your wallet to join the sports club, feel free to visit the café. It's more casual (you can wear a workout suit), less expensive (sandwiches, salad and so on), and you can admire your surroundings (the view, the freshly massaged and fetchingly muscled members) 'til you're blu in the face.

SECOND COURSE

High Vault-age: Why would **Brian O'Neill** and **Rene Michelena**, owner and chef/owner, respectively, of **Centro** in Cambridge, want to take over **The Vault** in the Financial District in the midst of their enthusiastic planning for **Mau-Mau** and **Moon-Doh**? Well, it's all about the real estate. There isn't much out there that would suit those two projects, so the ever-resourceful O'Neill is in the process of buying The Vault from owner **Susan Fortuna**. The purchase and sales agreement has been signed, the liquor license is expected to be transferred any day now, and O'Neill and Michelena plan to be running The Vault by early November.

The name will stay the same (what—no "Vault and Pepper"?), but the menu will change to reflect Michelena's expertise in Italian cuisine. Look for dishes such as an escargot and Chianti caponata appetizer, beef tongue lasagna with spicy charred tomato, and monkfish scallopini with fennel, raisin and saffron sauce. Michelena plans to offer a few Southeast-Asian inspired dishes, too, that draw on his Filipino heritage and his ongoing, if temporarily sidelined, ambition to open Moon-Doh.

Next time: Lit Dish. Not a column flambé but a look at local cookbooks. iB

Carolyn Faye Fox is a panelist on "Says You!," NPR's nationally syndicated word-game quiz show.

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings

BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

EVENTS

Appleton Bakery Prepares Brunch
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 20. 6-9pm. $60. Appleton Bakery owners **Lisa** and **Greg Sikora** teach you how to prepare a brunch menu.

Chart House's 40th Anniversary
Chart House, 60 Long Wharf, Boston (617-227-1576). Through Sept. 15. $19.61. In celebration of its 40th anniversary, Chart House offers a $19.61 menu.

Chocolate Bar Re-Opening
Cafe Fleuri at Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8752). Saturdays, beginning Sept. 15, 12-3pm. $18.50. It's everything chocolate (some 30 ooey-gooey desserts) at this buffet.

Cirque du Soleil Dinner
Top of the Hub, Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. Nightly, through Sept. 16. $49. This three-course dinner showcases Veuve Clicquot champagne.

Culinary Workshops
Boston Learning Society Kitchen, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520). 7-9pm. $29-$39 (plus materials fee of $8-$10). Representatives from various New England restaurants will teach cooking classes. •Sept. 17: McCormick & Schmick's •Sept. 18: Venda Ravioli •Sept. 24: Empire and Zebra •Sept. 25: Bricco

Downeast Grill and Harvest Grill
Sidney's Grille, 20 Sidney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). •Through Sept. 15: Downeast Grill. Chef **Todd Young** serves up Cape creations such as grilled corn and crab chowder and grilled lobster with lemon butter. •Sept. 15-30: Harvest Grill. Sample fall foods such as grilled bluefish on lobster-corn succotash or grilled pheasant, chanterelles, tomato and thyme.

English Cheeses
Bread & Circus, 200 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-491-0040). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. Sept. 25. 6:30-8pm. Free. Join **Edward Humble** for an evening of cheese and cheese lore.

Fabulous Pastries
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Sept. 22. 11am. $55 (includes lunch). Pastry chef **Kristen Eycleshymer** shares her tips for concocting delicious pastries.

Fashionable Brunch and Lunch
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2161). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. $35. Dine at a special prix fixe meal as some of Boston's best courtiers present informal modeling of their latest fashions. •Sept. 16, 12-2pm: Max Mara •Sept. 23, 12-1:30pm: Denise Hajjar •Sept. 25, 12-1:30pm: Calypso.

Girls' Night Out
Zephyr on the Charles, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-441-6510). Mondays, 7pm. $50. Chef Lynette Mosher introduces this Monday-night dinner series celebrating female chefs. •Sept. 24: **Ruth-Anne Adams** of Casablanca and **Carrianne Brogan** of Kobrand Corp.

Hotter Than Hell Tripleheader
East Coast Grill, 1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-491-6568). Sept. 24-Sept. 26, 5:30pm. Chef **Eric Gburski** exorcises his culinary demons at this dinner recommended for diners who sneer at Tabasco sauce and eat jalapenos like olives.

Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health
Codman Square Health Center, 637 Washington St., Dorchester (617-822-8388). Sept. 20. 6-9pm. $75. Celeb chefs from business, politics, sports, entertainment and academia team up with their favorite restaurants to prepare a signature dish. Proceeds benefit Women's Health Programs.

Slow Foods Dinner: Brazil
Bomboa. 35 Stanhope St., Boston (617-236-6363). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 25, 6:30pm. $75. The Boston Convivium of Slow Food hosts A Night in Ipanema with dishes prepared by chef **Felino Samson**.

Taste of Boston
City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-427-5200, ext. 5050). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Sept. 15, 11am-6pm. This event benefiting the Greater Boston Food Bank features dozens of booths with food samples.

Taste of Central Square
University Park, Sidney Street, Cambridge (617-914-2561). Sept. 20, 4-8pm. $15, $20. Some 15 restaurants will offer samples of their cuisine to benefit Cambridge Family & Children's Service.

TASTY TIDBIT

PADDLE, WINE AND DINE

Instead of whining over your watered-down gin and tonic that the warm weather's nearly gone for good, get outside and take advantage of this balmy Indian summer. How about a day of kayaking followed by a wine dinner at Westport Rivers Winery? The day starts in the morning with an easy paddle along the east branch of the Westport River. The group stops on an island for a picnic lunch and a leisurely swim, and eventually winds its way back to the boat landing—which happens to be within walking distance of the winery. Chef Kerry Downey Romaniello meets the group and leads a tour of the vineyard and winery. Then the pièce de résistance: a four-course dinner paired with Westport Rivers wines in the Long Acre House. We ask you: Is there anything better than a rugged adventure in the great outdoors followed by good food and wine? We think not. ***Westport Rivers Vineyard & Winery, 417 Hixbridge Road, Westport (508-636-3423). Sept. 15, 10am. $149.***



Get on the water with Buzzards Bay Kayak.

TOP LEFT: MIKE MERGEN

LIFE DOES NOT END

at thirty. Pub crawls do.

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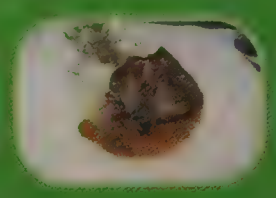
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Rooms available for private parties.

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CAPRICE

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COME CELEBRATE THE BLACK ROSE'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY

SEPTEMBER 24TH - 29TH 2001
Black Rose 25th Anniversary
Week Long Celebration

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2001
VIP Party for Boston's Prominent Irish Community Upstairs at The Rose
Downstairs: Tony and Patsy

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25TH, 2001
Comedy Show with Teddy Bergeon, Jim Lauletta and Don Gavin to benefit Cystic Fibrosis Foundation

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2001
Upstairs: Black 47 & Neck, from 9:30pm-2am
Downstairs: Eugene Byrne from 9pm-2am

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH, 2001
Downstairs: Eugene Byrne from 9pm-2am
Upstairs: Fenian and Sons

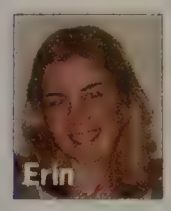
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28TH, 2001
Upstairs: The Old Brigade
Downstairs: Eugene Byrne

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2001
GRAND FINALE
Live recording by Sundays Well, Celtic Clan and Eugene Byrne
Upstairs: The Old Brigade

The Black Rose

RÓISÍN DUBH

agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 46

PERFORMING ARTS 50

ART 54

BOOKS & POETRY 58

EDUCATION 59

FILM 60

DANCE CLUBS 66

MUSIC 70

CLASSICAL MUSIC 76

GAY & LESBIAN 81

BODY & MIND 82

SPORTS 82

CHILDREN 84

AROUND TOWN 84

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

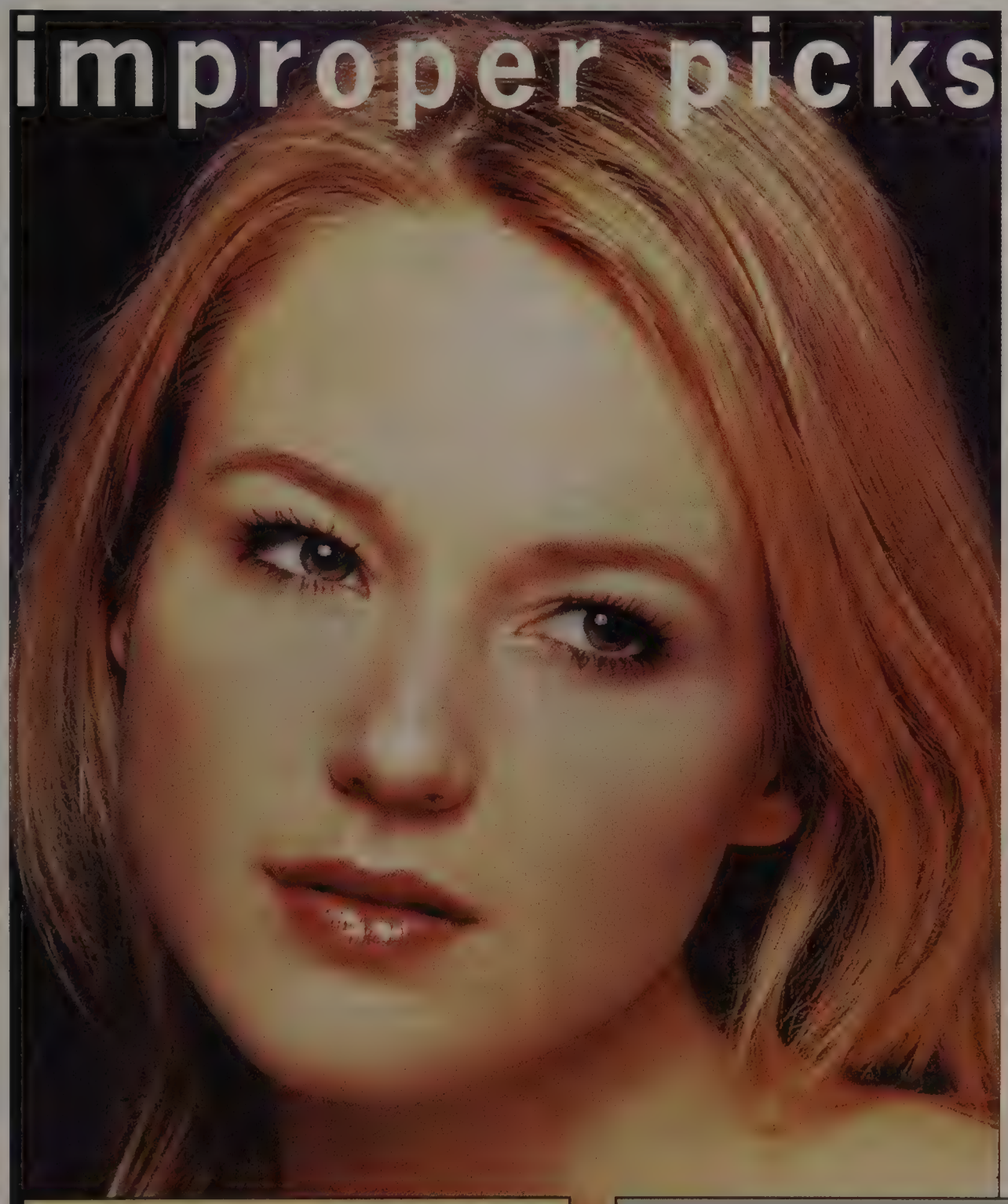
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports



SAT./SEPT. 22

Music: MixFest

How much money would you save if you could buy one concert ticket and see a bunch of your favorite performers in one day? Do the math. And if you figure out that it's enough to feed a Third World nation for a year, you'll be relieved to know that there's a more economical alternative. For a mere $38, MixFest 2001 at Foxboro Stadium promises to deliver an impressive roster of big-name rock stars, including Alanis Morissette, Everclear, Billy Idol, Barenaked Ladies, 3 Doors Down, Jewel (left), Better Than Ezra, Collective Soul, Nelly Furtado, Jeffrey Gaines, Uncle Kracker, Cold Play, Five for Fighting, David Gray and Shelby Lynne. There will also be local bands, food, arts-and-crafts vendors and interactive games. Of course, if pop music doesn't float your boat, you're out of luck. Start saving now. ***Foxboro Stadium, Route 1, Foxboro (800-MIX-FEST or 617-931-2000). 10am.***

THU./SEPT. 20

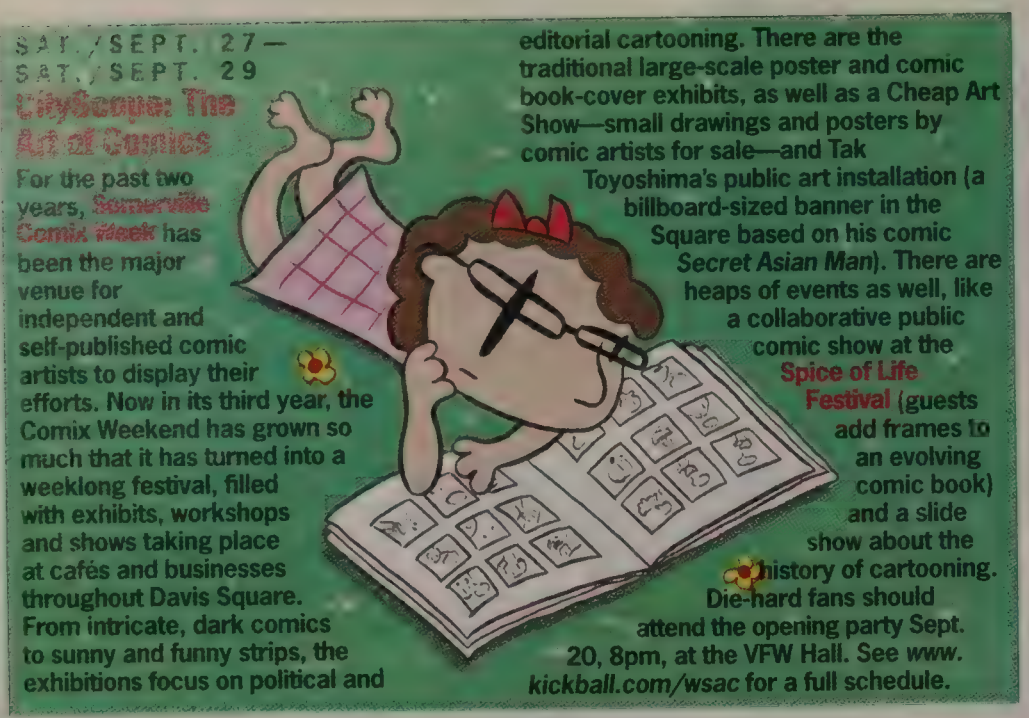
Around Town: Attention Do-Gooders

You know all those times you've talked about getting out there and doing something good for humanity—but you never actually got out there and did anything? Well, now you have no excuse. Representatives from nearly 200 nonprofit organizations dealing with arts and culture, education, health, animals, children and teens, the environment, homelessness, hunger, seniors and women's issues will be at the Boston Marriott for the **Volunteer Fair** Sept. 20. Think of it this way: For the time it takes to get your hair cut and your nails manicured, you can make a big difference in someone else's life. We absolutely guarantee you'll feel good about it. *Boston Marriott, Copley Square, Boston (617-267-4430). 4-8pm.*

MON./SEPT. 24

Books & Poetry: Shock Treatment

Belmont's McLean Hospital has always been an unlikely hotbed of literary activity—Sylvia Plath, Robert Lowell and Anne Sexton all put in a fair amount of time there. Even though McLean is no longer considered the same fashionable getaway for those with a poetic temperament, it's good to know that it's still chic enough to host a book reading. **Hallie Ephron** and **Dr. Donald A. Davidoff** read from their chilling book *Addiction*, the second Dr. Peter Zak mystery, which takes place in the fictional Pearce Psychiatric Institute and bears a striking resemblance to McLean Hospital. Whatever you do, don't go see the creepy movie set in an abandoned insane asylum, *Session 9*, first. *McLean Hospital, Administration Building, Paul Howard Room, 115 Mill St., Belmont (617-855-2110). 7pm.*



SAT./SEPT. 27—SAT./SEPT. 29

CityScope: The Art of Comics

For the past two years, Somerville Comix Week has been the major venue for independent and self-published comic artists to display their efforts. Now in its third year, the Comix Weekend has grown so much that it has turned into a weeklong festival, filled with exhibits, workshops and shows taking place at cafés and businesses throughout Davis Square. From intricate, dark comics to sunny and funny strips, the exhibitions focus on political and editorial cartooning. There are the traditional large-scale poster and comic book-cover exhibits, as well as a Cheap Art Show—small drawings and posters by comic artists for sale—and Tak Toyoshima's public art installation (a billboard-sized banner in the Square based on his comic *Secret Asian Man*). There are heaps of events as well, like a collaborative public comic show at the Spice of Life Festival (guests add frames to an evolving comic book) and a slide show about the history of cartooning. Die-hard fans should attend the opening party Sept. 20, 8pm, at the VFW Hall. See *www.kickball.com/wsac* for a full schedule.



Maxim girls will spice up the regular crowd at Whiskey Park Sept. 19.

WED./SEPT. 19

CityScope: *Maxim*-um Heat ▲

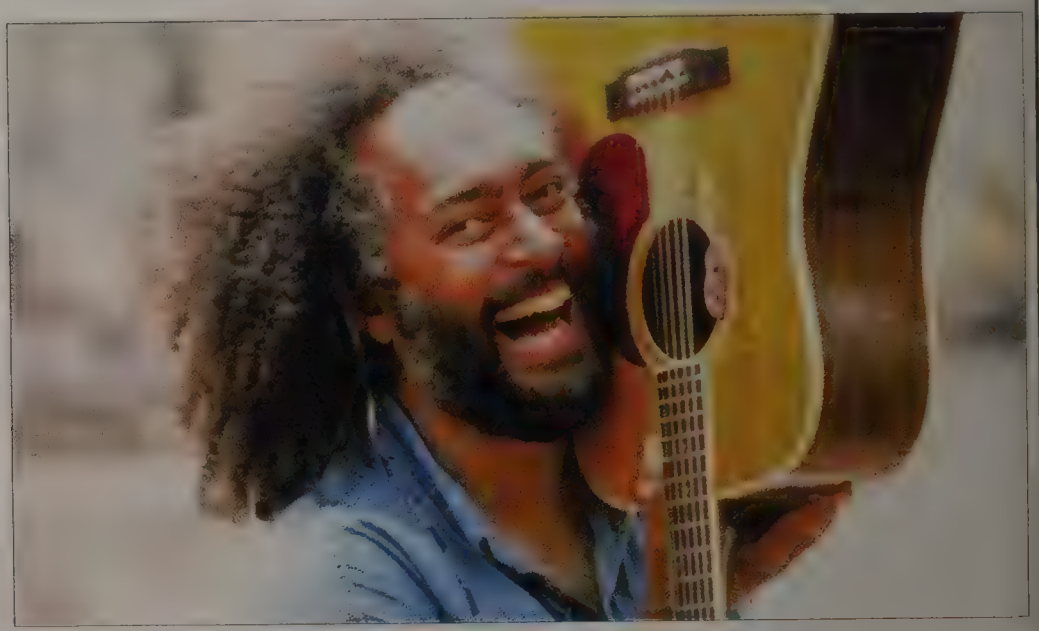
Our guilty pleasure? *Maxim* magazine. It's a hoot. Our male friends have stooped to checking our bags when we leave their apartments, knowing they'll find their latest copy buried under our things. (Really, boys, is a strip search necessary?) You can be sure that we'll be the first in line at **Maxim's Prohibition**, a night of gambling for a good cause, at Whiskey Park Sept. 19. At this IMPROPER-sponsored event, you'll experience a night of gambling, circa 1920s, complete with blackjack, poker, craps and roulette (and, most likely, many other outlawed activities!). While expert gamblers offer tips and demonstrate tricks, *Maxim* models will strut their stuff as croupiers. (Men: Hands off.) Earn enough chips, and you'll win three pairs of BSO tickets, a round of golf for four, his and her Harley Davidson jackets, or a shopping spree at Bloomingdale's (with a Maxim model as your personal shopper). Proceeds will benefit Children's Hospital. *Whiskey Park, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1482). 8pm-12am. $125.*

WED./SEPT. 19—SUN./SEPT. 23

Music: Equinox Music Festival ▼

Sept. 22 is the autumnal equinox—the day when the length of day and night are equal. We interpret that to mean we should spend just as much time going out at night as we spend working during the day. The **Equinox Music Festival** provides ample opportunity. The highlight is the 24th annual John Coltrane Memorial Concert, now into its third decade, which celebrates the 75th Anniversary of John Coltrane's birthday with unique arrangements of Coltrane's music. A powerful lineup of internationally feted artists will also help usher in the fall: Mark Harvey's Aardvark Jazz Orchestra; The Joanne Brackeen Trio with Bill Pierce; Grammy Award nominee Joanne Brackeen and her Trio; and Anthony Brown and the Asian American Orchestra. *In various venues throughout Boston and Cambridge (617- 373-2247). www.jcmcsite.com.*





SAT./SEPT. 22 AND SUN./SEPT. 23

Music: Fun as Folk ▲

It's the ideal way to see music for lazy folks like us. Instead of going to a different show each night, we can jam it all into one weekend. During the **Boston Folk Festival**, we can park ourselves on a blanket on the UMass Boston campus and listen to music all day without having to move. Unless, of course, the smell of fried food and the artsy crafts lure us to the vendors. The nine stages on Saturday and two stages on Sunday will host more than 100 musicians playing contemporary and traditional folk music, and a bit of blues, Celtic and gospel. Highlights include Altan, Livingston Taylor, Tim O'Brien, Rosie Flores, Marcia Ball, the Holmes Brothers and Eddie from Ohio. A more ambitious way—the only way, according to motivated folk fans—is to take in the tunes on a boat tour of Boston Harbor. (617-287-6900) weekdays, 9am-4pm. *www.wumb. org/folkfest/. Sept. 22, 11am-7pm; Sept. 23, 12-6pm. Sat. $30; Sun. $25 or both days $40.*

THU./SEPT. 20

Tastings: Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health

Finally, ladies, men get it! At **Men of Boston Cook for Women's Health**, more than 80 of Boston's most notable male celebrities from business, politics, sports, entertainment and academia will team up with male chefs from their favorite restaurants to prepare a signature dish for those special women in their lives. It's about time men caught on. Proceeds will benefit Women's Health Programs. We can't wait to be pampered! In other food news, the **Taste of Boston**, which benefits the Greater Boston Food Bank, will be held on City Hall Plaza Sept. 15. Sample everything from eggdrop soup to shish kebobs and ice cream. Across the river, more than 15 restaurants will offer samples of their cuisine at the **Taste of Central Square** to benefit Cambridge Family and Children's Service Sept. 20. It's a battle of the tastes. *See the Tastings section on page 40 for more information.*

TUE./SEPT. 25

Books & Poetry: Out of the Ivory Tower

If you're like us, you pretty much feel restless unless you are going out, looking for the next frenzy of entertainment. But every once in great a while, your conscience comes out of hibernation and reminds you to do something noble in the name of social justice. Quick! Volunteer! Unionize! Then the motivation fades. One quick fix—read anything by **Howard Zinn**, the free-thinking historian known for his revisionist *A People's History of the United States*. Or better still, go hear him in person when he talks about his newest work, *Three Strikes*, a chronicle of workers' struggles throughout the 20th century. You just might get inspired to go off and do something passionately progressive on your own. *Harvard Book Store, 485 Broadway, Cambridge For tickets (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm.*

FRI./SEPT. 14—SUN./SEPT. 23

Dance: National Ballroom Dance Week

For those who fancy themselves the next Fred Astaire or Ginger Rogers, here's an opportunity to show off your moves: It's **National Ballroom Dance Week** Sept. 14-23. Travelers be damned, the Grand Concourse of South Station will be transformed into an elegant ballroom with music by Triology Sept. 23, 4-8:30pm. But if your moves are a little rusty (and your dancing shoes a bit dusty), you'll have an opportunity to learn from the pros at a lunchtime lesson taught by dance professionals at South Station Sept. 19, 11:30am-1:30pm. Throughout the week, professional dancers will show off their moves at venues around town. Watch dancers from clubs all over Boston swing and jive at the **Ballroom Dancing Under the Stars** event at the Hatch Shell Sept. 22. Pack a picnic dinner, spread a blanket on the lawn and get ready to see some of Boston's finest glide across the stage. *See the Dance section on page 52 for more information.*

TOP RIGHT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; BOTTOM LEFT: ANDY NOZAKA

Harpoon Octoberfest

Friday, September 28th, 5:30 - 11:00 pm
Saturday, September 29th, 2:00 - 11:00 pm
Sunday, September 30th, 2:00 - 7:00 pm
Entrance closes by 9:30 pm Fri. & Sat. night, 5:00 pm Sun.

Love Beer. Love Life. Harpoon.

At the Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston. Come celebrate the season Harpoon-style with fresh Harpoon beers, German Oompa bands, live local rock, and great food including traditional German fare. Admission: $10 per person; includes one beer token and a souvenir cup. Cash bar. Free shuttle from South Station. Parking available. MUST BE 21 YEARS OR OLDER WITH PROPER ID. For more information, call 888-HARPOON, ext. 3, or visit www.harpoonbrewery.com

Celebrate again at Harpoon Octoberfest, Windsor VT; October 13th & 14th.

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12

Last Days of Summer at Tia's
200 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-254-3800, ext. 1641). 6:30-10pm $10. An evening get-together with appetizers, music, and a chance to mingle and network with Boston's young professionals. The proceeds benefit the Franciscan Children's Hospital.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

CCTV's Fourth Annual Backyard Barbecue
CCTV's "backyard" in Central Square (617-661-6900). 5:30 to 8:30pm. $35. Eat up a storm and have fun: The event raises funds for youth programs at CCTV.

Dyke Night's AIDS Care Project Benefit
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. *9pm-2am. $5.* The Maggie Salzberg band plays from 9-10:30pm, then it's dancing with DJ Mix Mistress for the rest of the night.

New Fund Sports Benefit for Women
Swissotel, Boston (617-731-5600). 7-9pm; $65 ticket, $150, VIP ticket. Join famous female athletes and journalists to benefit the New England Women's fund, an organization devoted to increasing opportunities for women and girls in sports.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

The Big E
1305 Memorial Ave., Springfield (800-639-2908). www.thebige.com. *Through Sept. 30.* See story above for more details.

New England Sports & Collectibles Festival
Suffolk Downs, East Boston (617-569-0197). www.vspsportshow.com. *Through Sept. 16.* This is definitely the place to find that Manny Ramirez bobbing-head dashboard doll you've always wanted. Besides sports cards and memorabilia, there will also be autograph sessions with sports figures, batting cages, music and exhibits.

Patriot Award Dinner
Sheraton Boston Hotel (617-443-9933). 6pm. The Patriot Award Dinner is the big event in the Congressional Medal of Honor Society's convention. EMC's Richard Egan, NBC News' Tim Russert and Celtic tenor John McDermott will be honored.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

Forest Hills Cemetery Sculpture Path Opening
95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain. (617-524-0128). 3-6pm. Free. Come check out the Forest Hill Cemetery's new sculpture path, which aims to complement the Victorian memorial sculptures already in abundance. Music will be provided by the New Black Eagle Jazz Band.

Quincy ArtsFest
Merrymount Park, Quincy (617-376-1990) www.ci.quincy.ma.us. *Sat., 10am-8pm; Sun., 10am-3pm. Free.* A weekend of art, photography, live music and dancing in Merrymount Park.

The Healing & Arts Studio Silent Auction
731 Harrison Ave., South End. Sept. 15-16. (617-859-9561). Free. Bid on fine art to help raise money for the healing and arts organization, which fights child abuse.

Boston Celtics Block Party
Fleet Center west entrance (Causeway St.). Sept. 15-16. (617-523-6050) www.bostonceltics.com. *9am-12pm. Free.* Tickets for the upcoming hoops season go on sale at 10am, and to celebrate, the Celts will have a celebrity/media shoot-out, music, food, giveaway prizes, clowns and Rick Pitino's head on a stick. Just kidding about that last one. We think.





Preview

Fair Play

The Big E in Springfield is the mother of all fairs

You've got a hankerin' for some fried dough and a ride on the Gravitron, but your significant other wants to go to the Lee Ann Womack concert. Will these two seemingly irreconcilable desires ground your Love Boat on the perilous shoals of domestic discord? Not if you head to the Big E.

The ninth-largest fair in North America, the Big E will offer more than just Womack and every edible that mankind has dropped into a Fryolator. Other performers include Styx, Mya, Dream with LFO and The Black Crowes. And while there will be plenty of rides, games and crafts for the kiddies, adults can enjoy exhibitions like Bud World, where you'll learn all about the wonderful impotation known as beer. Not a night will pass without a Mardi Gras parade; the Toyota Hollywood Stunt Show should inspire at least a few donuts in the fairgrounds parking lot; and Mechanical Man will wander the premises daily. "Is he real? Or robot?" asks the Big E's Web site. Well, people, there's only one way to find out. See you in Springfield.

The Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., Springfield (800-639-2908). www.thebige.com. Sept. 14-30. Prices for ticket packages vary. —Ezra Dyer

SUNDAY, SEPT. 16

Filene's Fall Fashion Benefit
Filene's, the Mall at Chestnut Hill, Newton (617-264-5323). 10am. $35. Filene's and Ralph Lauren will show you what's hot this fall, give sartorial advice and even dish you some breakfast. It's all to benefit the Home for Little Wanderers.

MSPCA Walk For The Animals
350 S. Huntington Ave. (617-522-7400). www.mspca.org. *10am-2pm.* This 1.7-mile pledge walk around Jamaica Pond draws hundreds of dog/owner walking teams each year. The event benefits the 30,000 animals cared for by the MSPCA. For talented pooches, there will be an amateur dog show after the walk.

The Healing & Arts Studio Silent Auction
731 Harrison Ave., South End. Sept. 15-16. (617-859-9561). Free. Bid on fine art to help raise money for the healing and arts organization that fights child abuse.

Run for Cystic Fibrosis
Doubletree Guest Suites, 550 Winter St., Waltham. 9am (kids' runs start at 8:30am). (781-487-4292). www.hightechclassic.com. *$7 for kids. $15 in advance, $18 day of the race.* With divisions for just about every possible category of runner and either 5K or 10K routes, the "I'll bet they don't have a category for 60-and-over wheelchair teams" doesn't fly here, buddy. Get thee to Waltham.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

People Scavenger Hunt at the Rack
The Rack, 51 Clinton St., Boston (617-312-5410). RSVP at pshrsvp@email.com *6:30-9:30pm. $20.* The Rack's monthly People Scavenger Hunt is a fun way to mix and mingle. The evening will include a live reggae band, dancing, appetizers and pizza. And on your way out, drop off your "wish list" and you will be contacted if you made a match.

Maxim Magazine Prohibition Party at Whiskey Park
Whiskey Park, 64 Arlington St. (617-542-1482). 8pm-12am. $125. The Boston financial community and *Maxim magazine* are partnering up to raise money for Boston's Children's Hospital. The theme of the evening is the Prohibition Era, and party-goers will be able to play blackjack, poker, craps and roulette to help the cause. Even if you're not feeling particularly charitable, the prizes should pique your interest: How about a Wilke Rodriguez shopping spree at Bloomingdales with a *Maxim* model as your personal shopper? How's that Mr. Big Shot! And it's sponsored by us, THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 20

Quilt Raffle
51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln. (781-289-8692) www.decordova.org. *Through Sept. 23.* Part of the "Decordova Style" event, this is your chance to own a real designer item—the "Sea Life" quilt, which was designed and constructed by the couture detail class. Proceeds benefit the Craft Emergency Relief Fund.

BCAE Volunteer Fair
Boston Marriott Copley Place (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. *4-8pm.* If you've got a hankering to do a little non-state-mandated community service, head on over to the Boston Center for Adult Education's annual volunteer fair. There will be about 200 organizations offering opportunities to earn yourself some good karma while helping others.

Light the Night Walk
The Boston Common (800-688-6572). www.lightthenight.org. *Registration begins at 4:30pm, walk begins at 6:30pm.* Rally your friends and coworkers to sponsor you and raise a few Benjamins for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

Salem Jazz and Wine Festival
Salem (781-639-0062). www.salemjazzfest.com. *Through Sept. 23.* A weekend-long celebration of good jazz and good vino in picturesque Salem.

Scarecrow Festival
Publick House Historic Inn & Country Motor Lodge, Rt. 131, Sturbridge (508-347-5073). www.publickhouse.com. *Through Oct. 21. Free.* Think you've got what it takes to out-scare the competition? This annual event has become a venue for scarecrow artists to showcase their talent, so you'd best come with more than a sorry-looking, hay-stuffed generic job. A life-size Michael Jackson statue might be a good start.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

Samaritans of Boston 5K Run/Walk
Artesani Park, Soldier's Field Rd., Brighton (617-536-2460) www.samaritansofboston.org. *Registration 8am, race 10am.* Get some exercise and raise pledges to help prevent suicide.

Annual Danehy Park Family Day
99 Sherman St., Cambridge (617-349-4300) www.ci.cambridge.ma.us. *11am-4pm; rain date: Sept. 23.* More than 3,500 people are expected to turn out for food, amusement rides and performers. There will also be live reggae, latin dance and Brazilian samba music, a DJ on the main stage and hip-hop dance instruction for all you wanna-be P Diddys.

Boston Folk Festival
UMass Boston Campus, 100 Morrissey Boulevard (617-287-5305) www.wumb.org/folkfest. *11am-7pm.* The two-day folk music event will have 100 performers playing folk from all around the world.

Somerville Comix Festival
Events around Somerville (617-623-5315) www.kickball.com/wsac. *Through Sept. 30.* This festival celebrates the artistic and cultural contribtions of comics. Besides exhibits, there will be workshops for budding Crumbs.

The New Vision Foundation Fund Raiser
The John Hancock Hall (508-782-0137) 7:30pm. The MetroWest Leadership Award will be given to three people this year; also, gospel artist Richard Smallwood will perform.

Downtown Crossing Art Show/Book Fair
Along Summer and Washington Streets (617-482-2139) www.downtowncrossing.org. *10am-5pm.* Enjoy art work from many genres with live music at two locations.

Worcester International Fair & Festival
City Hall Plaza, Downtown Worcester (800-231-7557). www.worcester.org. *12-6pm. through Sept. 23.* This festival will feature food, dance, music, costumes, crafts and myriad other celebrations and representations of the confluence of cultures that is Worcester.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 23

An Elegant Evening of Ballroom Dancing
South Station Ballroom (978-670-9143). 4-8:30pm. Free. One of the main events of National Ballroom Dance week in Boston, there will be photo keepsakes and early-bird gifts for the first 250 people, plenty of dancing, two showcases (American Smooth and Latin), a mini-lesson and live music by Trilogy.

Castle Hill Concours d'Elegance
290 Argilla Rd., Ipswich (978-356-7774). www.castlehillconcours.com. *9am-3pm. $20 adults. $10 children.* A bunch of cars you wish you owned, shown in a pastoral setting. Jolly good.



Billie Jean King will be at the New Fund Benefit.

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WSA soccer stars Julie Foudy, Shannon MacMillan, Carla Overbeck, Mia Hamm and Danielle Fotopoulos

inside RACK

Every Monday Night

"In The Biz Night" pool challenge, hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 10pm.

Every Tuesday Night, 6pm

After-work Jazz Party featuring the band MD! Coming soon every Tuesday night – Support Boston's best local rock bands! Stay tuned for more details.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm

"Radio-Active"

Mix it up with Mark Morris and The Catunes, hosted by Mix 98.5's Party-Time Gregg Daniels! DJ Ricky rocks 'til 2am.

Every Friday Night, 6pm

Central Basement rocks The Rack with Kiss 108's Billy Costa! Dance all night with DJ Todd!

Wednesday, September 19th, 6:30pm

Looking for Love? Join us for the People Scavenger Hunt hosted by Boston Event Guide featuring reggae by One People and DJ Steve Anderson.

Friday, September 21st

96.9 FM TALK Best & Brightest Birthday Bash featuring Jay Severin from 3-7pm with a live broadcast and special surprise blues band performance! R.S.V.P. to listeners@969fmtalk.com.

Wednesday, September 26th, 7pm

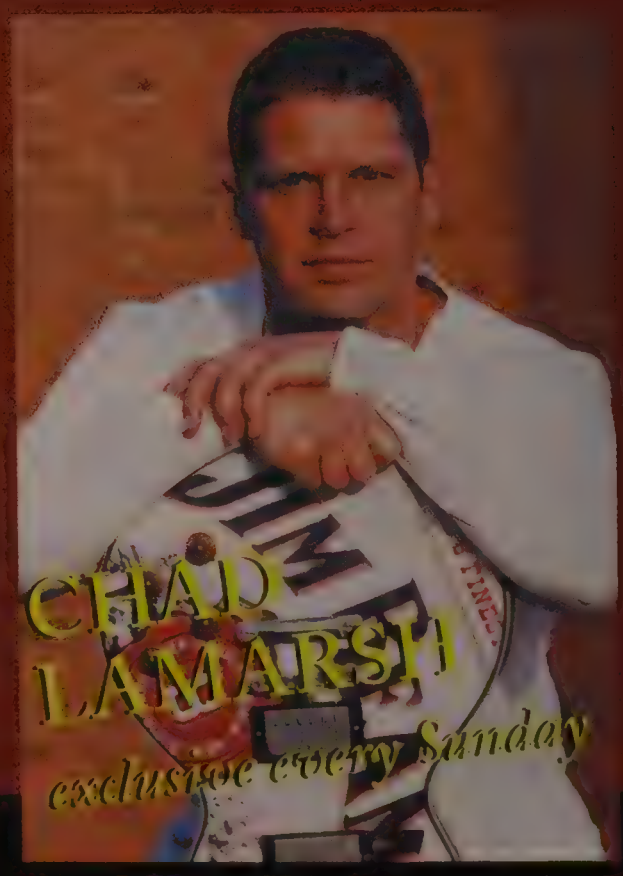
Celebrity Jamboree Gala featuring Michael & Regina Winans! Party with Boston Celtics Paul Pierce, Walter McCarty, Fubu models, and many more surprise celebrities to benefit the Casa Myrna Vazquez Fund to end domestic violence.

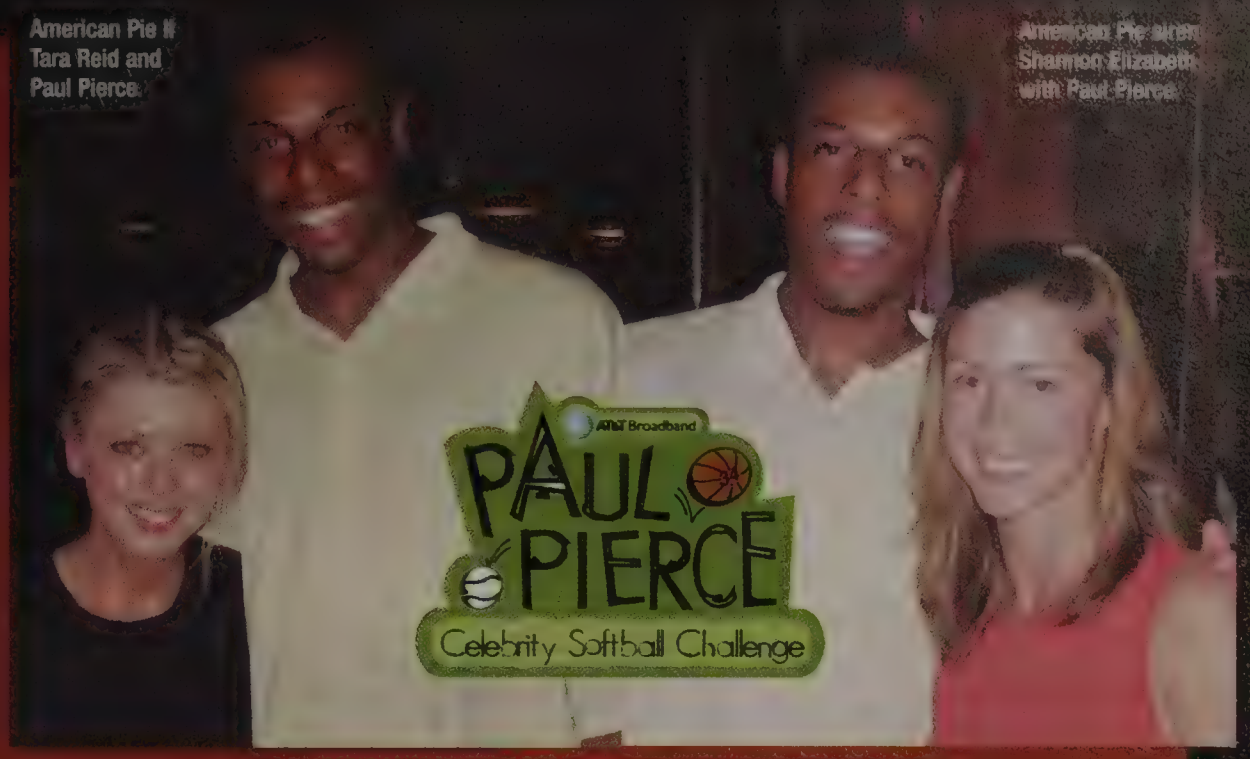
Friday, October 5

Be bad with Willa! Atlantic recording artist Willa Ford comes to The Rack for a night of fun.

Boston's Best 1997 Improper Bostonian
Boston's Best 1998 Improper Bostonian
Boston's Best 1999 Improper Bostonian
Boston's Best 2000 Improper Bostonian
Boston's Best 2001 Improper Bostonian

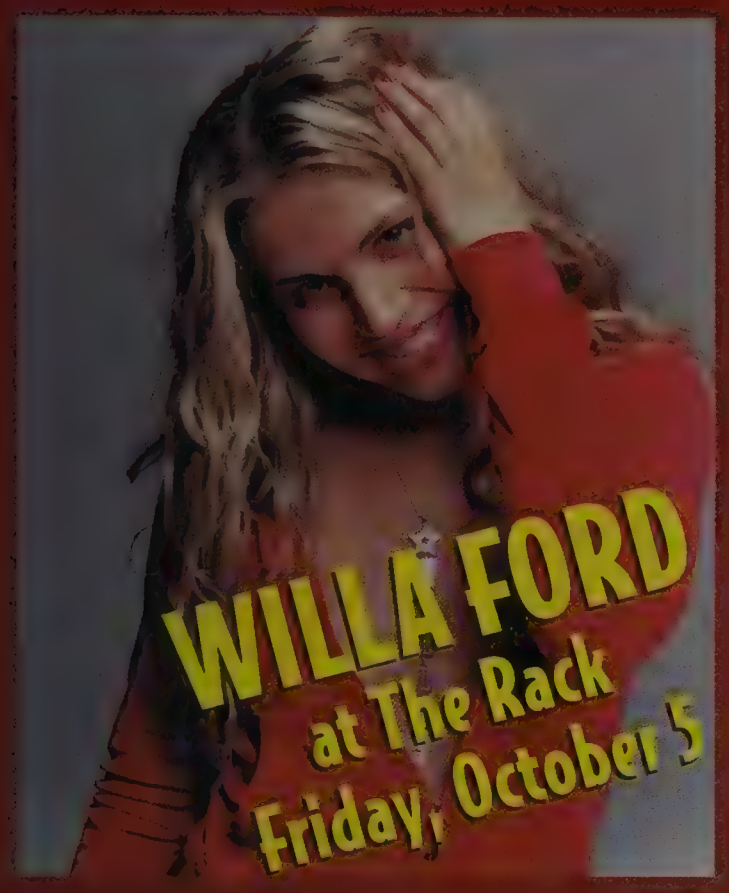

American Pie II cast members Tara Reid, Shannon Elizabeth, Steve Shenbaum and Actor Joe Reitman with Colorado Avalanches' Shjon Podein.





American Pie II Tara Reid and Paul Pierce

American Pie siren Shannon Elizabeth with Paul Pierce





First ever three-time U.S. Soccer Athlete of the Year, Mia Hamm with George Wendt



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THE RACK

performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

The Actor's Nightmare
Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston St., Boston (781-424-8592). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 4pm. Sept. 14-15. $8. Fourth Wall Productions presents this play written by Christopher Durang and directed by Rob Bettencourt.

Communicating Doors
Hovey Players, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). Thu.-Sun., 8pm. Sept. 21-Oct. 6. $12. The Hovey players present this comedy by Alan Ayckbourne, directed by Michael Tonner.

Dinner with Friends
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Sept. 21-Nov. 4. $28-$42. Tom and Beth, Gabe and Karen have been friends forever. When one couple announces they're splitting, the rug is pulled out from underneath them all.

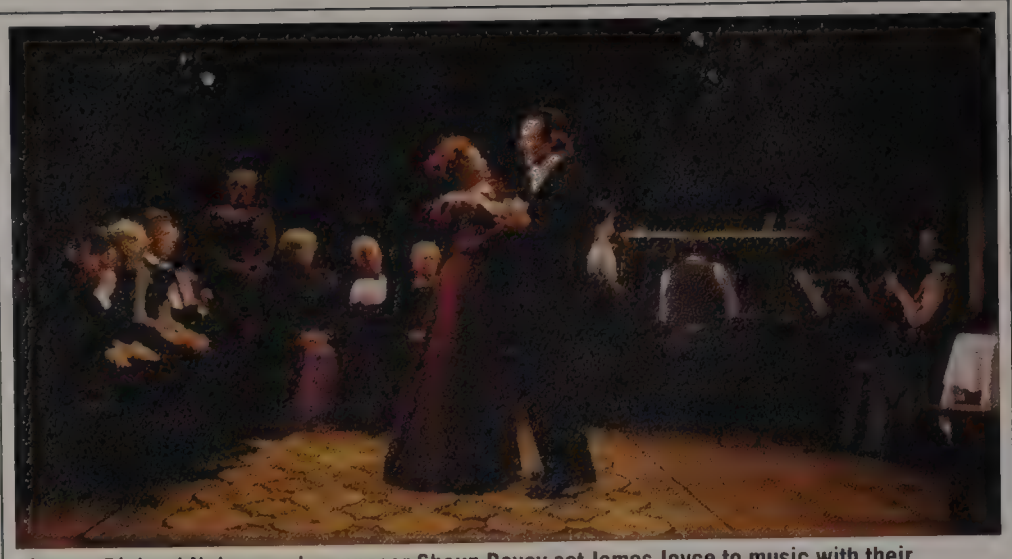
An Enchanted Evening
Orpheum Foxborough, One School Street, Foxborough (508-543-ARTS). Sept. 21-22, 8pm; Sept. 23, 3pm. $27. Nationally recognized cabaret performers Lee Lessack and Joanne O'Brien will perform more than six decades of songs from such Broadway composers as Rogers and Hammerstein and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

Fort Point Outdoor Theater Festival
Necco Court, South Boston (617-338-2222). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept. 15, 8pm (raindate: Sept. 22, 8pm). Free. An evening of 10-minute plays by regional playwrights in a waterfront parking lot with milkcrate seating. Plays include *Down* by Janet Kenney; *Tanko Bushi/Yellow Man* by Allan Fujita, Dan Miranda and Marguerite Miranda; *The 9:07* by Seth Michaels; *Timber* by Stephen M. Libby; *32* by Joshua Rollins; *Clerestory* by Patrick Cleary; and *Gate 28* by Jimmy Hickey.

The Square Root of Minus One
The Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (617-576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 15-Oct. 7. $30. Peter Morris's grimly comic satire about mind games and sexual hazing at a 1950s boys' school.

Sunday in the Park With George
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Sept. 14-Oct. 20. $20-$36. Writer James Lapine and composer Stephen Sondheim bring George Seurat's great painting to life. While the painting depicts people gathered on an island in the Seine, the musical goes beyond simply describing their lives. It's an exploration of art, love and commitment.

The Waverly Gallery
The New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Wed., 2 and 7pm; Thu., 8pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Sept. 19-Oct. 21. $25-$33. Kenneth Lonergan's powerful, poignant and often hilarious play about the final years of a generous, chatty and feisty Jewish woman's battle with Alzheimer's disease.



Director Richard Nelson and composer Shaun Davey set James Joyce to music with their production of his short story, "The Dead," at the Huntington Theatre Company through Oct. 14.

Preview

Re-Joycing *The Dead*

The Huntington stages a James Joyce classic

James Joyce set to music? If it seems implausible, guess again. Huntington Theatre Company presents the Tony Award–winning musical based on the Irish writer's short story, "The Dead," through Oct. 14. The story revolves around a Christmas party attended by friends and family on a snowy Dublin night. Each guests brings his or her musical talents to the parlor.

As one might expect with work by Joyce, this ain't no *Guys and Dolls*. There's drama lurking under the surface as each character battles his or her own demons and passions. Directed by Richard Nelson, who along with composer Shaun Davey adapted the story for stage, *The Dead* ushers in a new era of musical theater. "At the time, I was looking to write a musical that was character-based rather than performance-oriented. An English director introduced me to Irish composer Shaun Davey and I fell in love with his music," says Nelson. The resulting creation "is a much quieter kind of piece than your typical musical. It's more like looking through a window or a half-open door," Nelson adds. Indeed it is, as some of the songs are sung by actors with their backs to the audience. For those with a fear of Joyce that can be traced back to high school English days, rest assured that this work is accessible. "It's not an experimental story. It's very human. Joyce wants to find out what's under the surface of people." With this musical, he does. *The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Oct. 14. $12-$62*

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Cookin'
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 7pm. Through Sept. 23. $35-$55. What do you get when you mix Jackie Chan, *Stomp* and Benihana? *Cookin'*, the Korean percussion-fest cooking sensation, which blends music, comedy, dance and contemporary elements of traditional Korean art forms into a musical adventure.

Dario Fo Festival
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Johan Padan: *Sept. 11-15, 8pm; 15-16, 2pm; Sept. 16, 7pm.* Mistero Buffo: *Sept. 21, 26, 27, 8pm; Sept. 22 and 29, 2pm.* Sex? Thanks, Don't Mind If I Do!: *Sept. 20, 22-23, 28-29. $25 and $35.* In September, the ART celebrates the 50-year partnership of Nobel Prize-winning Italian dramatist/actor Dario Fo and his wife, the legendary actress Franca Rame. The festival includes Fo's one-man play *Johan Padan* performed by Thomas Derrah and *Mistero Buffo* and *Sex? Thanks, Don't Mind If I Do!* performed by Dario Fo and Franca Rame.

Directors' Lab
Threshold Theater, 791 Tremont St., Boston (617-469-9339). $18 per show. $50 for the series. This theater company is dedicated to fostering the development of the art and craft of directing. • *The Balcony:* Sept. 14 and 20, 8pm; Sept. 16, 23, 2pm • *Off the Map:* Sept. 13, 15, 21, 22, 7pm • *The Vietnamization of New Jersey:* Sept. 13, 15, 21-22, 9pm.

Dralion: Cirque du Soleil
Suffolk Downs, Route 1A and 145, East Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. *Tue.-Wed., 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 5 and 9pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 5pm. Through Sept. 16. $38-$60.* A two-hour circus-art spectacle, fusing ancient Chinese acrobatic tradition with the avant-garde approach of Cirque du Soleil.

Forever Plaid
Stoneham Theatre, 359 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Sept. 30. $25-$35. After six years of practice, the four members of Forever Plaid landed their first big gig at the airport Hilton cocktail lounge. Tragically, before they got a chance to perform, the group was hit by a bus and its members were killed. Tonight they return from heaven for the show they never had.

James Joyce's The Dead
The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Oct. 14. $12-$62. Based on a short story by James Joyce, this Tony Award–winning musical takes place at the Aunts' annual Christmas party.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Laundry and Bourbon and Lone Star
Stanley B Theatre, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-448-2892). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Sept. 30. $25. Travel to Maynard, Texas, where the ladies drink, fold laundry and gossip while the men get drunk at the Lone Star Bar.

Letters From 'Nam
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Sept. 23. $18-$56. Stories of six American soldiers during the Vietnam War as told through letters to their mothers, wives and girlfriends. All female parts are played by Maureen McGovern.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Oct. 14. $27-$82. Through the story-telling magic of the songs of ABBA, Donna, a 40-something single mom, recalls distant memories of carefree days and nights while her daughter Sophie dreams of tradition, romance and a big white wedding.

Midnight Sun
Gloucester Stage Company, 267 East Main St., Gloucester (978-281-4099). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Through Sept. 16. $25. Maja Ardal's comedy is set in 1942 Iceland in a tiny fishing town where 2000 American GIs arrive en route to the war in Europe. The town is turned upside down when the GIs announce a dance to which only the women of the town are invited.

The Most Massive Woman Wins
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Sept. 14-15. $10. This show explores the causes and effects of America's obsession with body image through monologue, make-believe, humor and horror.

Noises Off!
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Oct. 7. $28-$42. This farce-within-a-farce lets us watch from backstage as the long-suffering director, beleaguered stage manager and dimwitted thespians battle lovers' quarrels, diva fits and technical mishaps. The show must go on.

Out on the Edge: Festival of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Sept. 29. $22. • Sept. 12-13, 8pm; Sept. 14-15, 9pm: *Shequida's Opera for Dummies* • Sept. 14-16, 7pm: *Crouching Cabico, Hidden Cho* • Sept. 19-20, 8pm; Sept. 21-22: *P.S. 69* • Sept. 21-23, 7pm: *A Fairy Tale* • Sept. 28-29, 7pm: *Holy Shit! Stories From Heaven and Hell* • Sept. 27, 8pm; Sept. 28-29, 9pm: *Higher Highs, Lower Lows.*

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox, Mass. (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* • Stables Theatre: *The Comedy of Errors*, through Sept. 12. • Spring Lawn Theatre: *A Tanglewood Tale*, through Oct. 21.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Snoopy
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Sept. 30. $21. Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the Peanuts gang come to life.

Winter's Tale
The Publick Theatre, Christian Herter Park, 1175A Soldier's Field Road, Boston (617-782-5425). www.publick.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard, transfer to #86 bus to Market Street. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through Sept. 16. $15-$25.* When there's love, can there always be forgiveness? This comedy picks up a theme from *Much Ado About Nothing* and explores it as only Shakespeare can.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

The Psychic Life of Savages
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-4200). Sept. 18, 9pm; Sept. 19-22, 8pm; Sept. 23, 2 and 7pm. $11-$15. A play about the lives of four famously obsessive mid-century poets—Sylvia Fluellen, Ted Magus, Anne Bittenhand and Dr. Robert Stoner—with occasional visits from Emily Dickinson and others.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

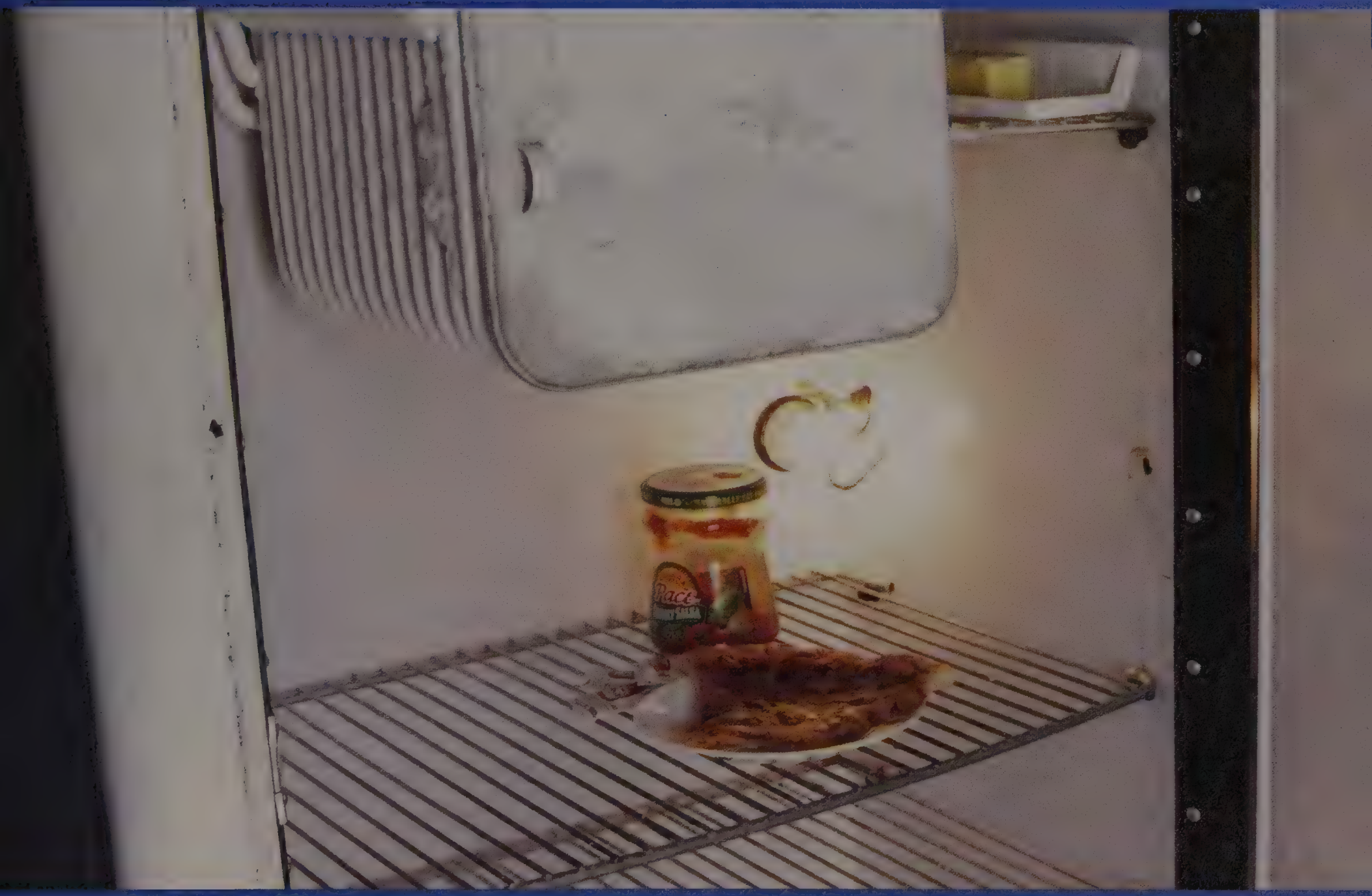
Medieval Manor Theatre
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (617-423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

EXPERIMENTAL THEATER

Radio Pü in Metagumshoe
Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept. 21-22 and Sept. 28-29, 8pm. $8. In this neo-noir mythic mystery, a parboiled new-age detective discovers himself and the seedy alien underbelly of modern suburbia.

JOAN MARCUS

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Dance

Boston Ballet's A Midsummer Night's Dream and Suite Saint-Saëns

The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 20, 26 and 27, 7pm; Sept. 21, 25 and 28, 8pm; Sept. 22 and 29, 2 and 8pm; Sept. 23 and 30, 2pm. $25-$78. The Boston Ballet inaugurates its 38th season with two ballets, a magical fairy tale and a salute to the American dream.

The Dance Complex's 10th Birthday Celebration

536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 21, 5:36pm. $20 donation, free with purchase of birthday shirt. The Dance Complex's birthday celebration features ongoing concerts in four studios, all relating to the evening's theme of 10 (years of operation), 536 (address), 9-21 (date) and Odd Fellows, a dance hall). State Representatives Alice Wolk and Jarrett Barrios and Cambridge City Councilor Kenneth E. Reeves host. There will also be a silent auction for a signed photograph of Dame Margo Fonteyn.

National Ballroom Dance Week

•Salute to the Pros: The Grande Concourse of South Station is transformed to an elegant ballroom. Dancing takes place Sept. 19, 11:30am-1:30pm, to the live music of Trilogy. At 11:50am, Arthur Murray professionals Martin Rebello and Olga Stepanets perform the foxtrot, followed by a mini-lesson. At 12:50pm, the Super Shag Professional Dance Group perform tango, foxtrot, swing and salsa numbers and then teach a swing and salsa mini-lesson. All events are free; call 978-670-9143 for more information. **•Ballroom Dancing Under the Stars**: Dancers from dance clubs all over Boston come together to perform a free show at the MDC Hatch Shell on the Charles River Esplanade, Sept. 22, 7-9pm. Call 617-916-1936 for more information. **•An Elegant Evening of Ballroom Dancing**: The South Station Grand Concourse is turned into Ballroom 2001 with dancing Sept. 23, 4-8:30pm, to the live music of Trilogy. Early-bird registration and gifts for the first 250 people who attend. At 5pm, there is an American Smooth Showcase performed by Tom and Marie Osterland, followed by a Latin Showcase performed by Peter Lu and Nancy Tobias. At 6pm, Nancy Diduca teaches waltz and Latin combo line dances. At 7pm, Tina LaFlamme's Adult Formation Group perform foxtrot and quickstep. All events are free.

Renaissonics and Friends

Jewett Hall, First Church Congregational, Mason and Garden streets, Cambridge (617-661-3353). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 14, 7:30pm. $8. Hark, ye lords and ladies! Dance teacher and historian Charles Garth along with members of Renaissonics lead a program of Renaissance social dancing for all levels of experience. Learn the pavan, galliard and other dances from the 1500s and 1600s. No partner needed; refreshments will be served.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge

Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Sept. 12, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •Sept. 13, 7pm: Bill Engvall, the Blue Collar Comedy Tour, $28; 9pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Sept. 14, 8pm: Bobby Collins, VH1's "Stand-Up Spotlight," $21 •Sept. 17, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Sept. 18, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $10 •Sept. 19, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •Sept. 20, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Sept. 21, 8 and 10:15pm: Bobcat Goldthwait, *Police Academy* movies, $19 and $14 •Sept. 22: Bobcat Goldthwait, F/X's "Bobcat's Big Ass Show," $20 •Sept. 23, 8 and 10 pm: Wanda Sykes, writer on "The Chris Rock Show," co-star in the movie *Down to Earth* and NBC's "The Downer Channel," $20 and $15 •Sept. 24, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Sept. 25, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi & Robbie Printz, $10.

The Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.



***The Massive Woman Wins* plays at Somerville's Theatre Cooperative Sept. 14-15.**

Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Sept. 13: The Tim McIntire Show featuring comedy troupe WAKKA, Mike Dunphy, Mike Dorval, Laura Kolling and Dan Pulido. •Sept. 14: The Tony V. Show with guests Katie Grady, Ben Joplin, James Patterson, Anne Manekis, Steph Wishnick and Scott Carney. •Sept. 15: Brent Sverdloff, Katie Grady, Ben Joplin, Sam Walters, Ira Proctor and Dot Dwyer. •Sept. 16: Dave Hutchings, Adam Ginsburg, Ben Murray, Amanda White, Tammy Two-Tone, Tom Morello and sketch comedy from "Bloody Mayhem." •Sept. 20: Tim McIntire Show with WAKKA, Alana Devich, Pat Napoli, John Keating and Greg Johnson. •Sept. 21: Tim McIntire guest stars with Mike Baker, Louie Wintz, Steve Calechman, James Cennamo, Maggie McCracken and Todd Andrews. •Sept. 22: Susan Arbing, Kelly Fattman, Jan Davidson, Mike Baker and Dan Sulman. •Sept. 23: Comics Workout featuring Joe Dinkin, Chris Walsh, Mike Dorval, Michelle Pierce, Alex Fulsky, Dan Savage and Greg Boggis.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$14. •Sept. 12-13, 8:30pm; Sept. 14-15, 8:45pm: Paul D'Angelo •Sept. 20, 8:30pm; Sept. 21-22, 8:45pm: Frank Santorelli, Willie Parsons and Katy Grady.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show. •Thursdays, 8pm ($15); Fridays, 8 and 10pm ($15); Saturdays, 8 and 10pm ($17.50): Bingo with Nanna • Wednesdays, 8pm; Sunday, 7:30pm: Best of Improv Asylum ($10).

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro ($5) • Fridays, 8pm: Boston Creem ($12); 10:30pm: Theatre Sports ($12) •Saturdays, 8 and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston ($12) •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree ($5).

Magicians & Spirits

Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

Boston Creem

ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). Fridays, 8pm. Through Sept. 28. $12. ImprovBoston's newest improvised show features a baker's dozen of some of Boston's best female improvisers. A single audience suggestion fuels this women's troupe.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding

Tremont House Hotel, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-733-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm. Ongoing. $39-$45. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

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Nate Watkins

WEDNESDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
Undercover

THURSDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
Greg Lutrell

FRIDAY
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John McLaughlin

Sportscasters Kip Lewis and Butch Stearns with owner SJ





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Mystique Models

THURSDAY
10pm-Close
Martini Madness

FRIDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP

SATURDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP



NBA Great Mark Aguirre with owners Billy and SJ



Bartenders Amanda and Heather having fun!

art

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include opening and closing dates, nearest T stop, price of admission, if any, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. • *The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of Middle Eastern and Southern Asian depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. • *Latino Life in the United States*, a photography show, runs through Nov. 30.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). The museum's permanent collection of European and American art on display. • *Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer featuring front-page obituaries from the *New York Times*, shows through Dec. 30.

DeCordova Museum
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. • *Welcome to the House of Art*, a giant installation by Todd McKie, is an ongoing display. • *Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. • *Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* shows Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. • *What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustration* runs Sept. 15-Jan. 6, 2002. • In *A Garden of Unearthly Delights*, outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work shows. Through June 9, 2002.

Dreams of Freedom Immigration Museum
One Milk St., Boston (617-695-9990). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sun., 10am-6pm. $7.50 adults; $3.50 children. • An exhibit of Italian immigrants by B. Amore titled *Lifeline: An Italian Odyssey 1901-2001*, shows through Oct. 27.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. • *Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. • In *Precision and Prestige: The Arts of Engraving*, the museum displays examples of engraving. Through Dec. 2. • *You Look Beautiful Like That: The Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Malick Sidibé* is presented through Dec. 16. • *Marking Places: Spatial Effects of African Art* shows through Dec. 31, 2002. • *Beyond Decorum: The Photography of Iké Udé* shows through Oct. 21.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* • *Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline*, displays through Jan. 20, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* • *The Social Scene*, an exhibition of documentary photography, shows through Sept. 30. • Nikki S. Lee shows *Nikki S. Lee: Projects* through Sept. 30. • Olafur Elisson presents *The Young Land*, a floating environment created out of Icelandic lava rock. Shows at Fan Pier though Sept. 30. • The ICA Artists-in-Residence present *Conspire*, which examines Boston's most important historic sites. Through Oct. 14. • Free guided walk-through takes place every Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* • Laura Owens presents *New Works*, a collection of paintings. Through Sept. 16.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering* and *Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. • Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. Demonstrations take place from 2-4pm daily. • *Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an ongoing interactive exhibit. • *Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays a selection of holograms from the museum's collection. Ongoing. • *Thinkapalooza*, an interactive zone, is ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* • *Piranesi and Architectural Fantasy* presents the artist's drawings in the *Prisons Series*. Through Sept. 19. • At the Torf Gallery, *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* shows notable Boston women's work. Through Dec. 2. • In the Loring Gallery, *Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* shows Sept. 19, 2001-Jan. 21, 2002. • *Art of the Natural World*, Chinese and Japanese art, shows through Dec. 2. • *Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* show Sept. 26, 2001-Jan. 21, 2002. • In the Japanese Galleries, *Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* shows. Through March 10, 2002.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. • Permanent collections include *Lexington Alarmed*, *The Enchanted Clocks*, *Made in Massachusetts* and *Initiating America*. • *Flash: The Associated Press Covers the World*, shows through Oct. 21.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. www.mos.org. *Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors.* • The *Current Science and Technology Center* showcases the latest innovations. Ongoing. • The Mugar Omni Theatre film is *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*. Through September.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults $10, Seniors and Students $8, Children under 16, Free.* • Photography shows in *Kenru Izu: Sacred Places*, Sept. 14-Dec. 2. • *Secret World of the Forbidden City: Splendors from China's Imperial Palace* shows through Sept. 23. • *Painted with Thread: The Art of American Embroidery* shows through Sept. 30.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm. Free. • *SAC 2001*, a show by 20 local visual artists, shows Sept. 16-Oct. 27.



Viewers can observe a dramatic performance as one part of *House of Curiosities*.

Preview

A Woman's Place

Conway and Pratt's latest living museum opens

A Woman's Work Is Never Done: House of Curiosities*, the latest large-scale undertaking of Conway and Pratt Projects, opens Sept. 19 in a sprawling 10,000 square feet of performance space. As the brainchild of longtime collaborators Merry Conway and Noni Pratt, this walk-through performance-art creation explores the female experience through close scrutiny of three elements of women's lives: the home, women's traditional domain; the myth of Eve, the origins of women's self-image; and beauty, women as the objects of desire. Viewers walk through the site-specific exhibit, encouraged to actively investigate the environment by opening drawers and snooping in cabinets—the type of behavior that might get you asked to leave your neighbor's house. *The New York Times* called *A Woman's Work* an "Alice in Wonderland inversion of reality" when it was exhibited in New York in 1998. Conway and Pratt have presented similar installations throughout the Northeast in the past 15 years. The duo is striving to create dense layered art that reflects particularly American experiences in addition to evoking emotion and nostalgia. Conway and Pratt give an artist's talk about the exhibit at Mobius Sept. 17. *Sept. 19-Oct. 14, Wed.-Fri., 4-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 2-6 pm. 71 Armory St., Jamaica Plain (617-747-4495).* www.conwayandprattprojects.org. *Free.* —*Leah Gourley

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. • *Clockworks*, a show of sculptural clocks, opens Sept. 15. Through Nov. 10.

Allston Arts District
300 N. Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). Mon., Wed., 12-8pm; Tue., Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. • *Inaugural Exhibition*, featuring 21 artists and three galleries from the Allston area, shows through Oct. 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 303, Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue. Wed.-Sat., 11am-5pm.* • The inaugural show of the new gallery is a group show titled *What I Did This Summer...*. Through Sept. 29.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* • *New Paintings*, a show by Wlodzimierz Ksiazek, shows Sept. 15-Oct. 10.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • Margaret Gerding's *Journal Reflections* show through Sept. 29.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* • *Constructions*, a multimedia exhibit, shows through Sept. 28.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton Centre (617-558-2783). www.artesanogallery.com. The gallery offers an ongoing display of glass pieces and jewelry.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. • *Käthe Kollwitz: Engravings, Lithographs and Woodcuts 1891-1938* shows through Nov. 3.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* • Kate Shepherd's *Like Colors* shows Sept. 15-Oct. 17. Also showing, Print Publisher's Spotlight of Jenkins Sikkema Editions.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* • *New Prints*, a show by Carl Fudge, shows through Sept. 29.

Boston Architectural Center
320 Newbury St., 4th Floor (617-262-5000). www.thebac.edu/exhibits. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm.* • David DeCelis shows still-life paintings and tables in *Tabled Objects—Objectos de Mesa*. Through Sept. 17.

Boston Center for the Arts
Mills Gallery, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. • *The Chicken Show*, an exhibition of poultry-related art, shows through Sept. 16. • In the Cyclorama, *In Full Swing* shows through Sept. 16.

Boston College McMullen Museum of Art
Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-552-8100). Mon.-Fri., 11am-3pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. Free. • *House: Changed Space*, is an exhibition exploring the design of residential buildings. Through Sept. 16.

Boston University Art Gallery
BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. *Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West.* • Work by Whitfield Lovell Embers shows Sept. 14-Oct. 28.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. • *Members Group Show 2001* shows through Sept. 29. The gallery is also open for South End Open Studios Sept. 15-16.

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-11:30pm; Sun., 12-11:30pm. • Works by seven new faculty members will be presented in *New Fall Faculty 2001*. Through Sept. 29.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* • *Fluid Canvas II* shows through Oct. 9. • Massachusetts Cultural Council's Artists Grant program presents *Sculpture and Installation*. Grant recipients exhibit their works through Oct. 7.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* • Dozier Bell and Noriko Sakanishi present *New Work* through Oct. 1.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* • *New England Women Artists, Prints of Daubigny* and work by James A. M. Whistler show Sept. 17-Nov. 3.

Compton Gallery
77 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Mon.-Fri., 9:30-5pm. • *Beyond Appearances: Imagery and Science at the Millennium* shows through Sept. 14.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat. 10:30am-5:30pm.* • *Manifest 2001: A Juried Exhibition of Contemporary Photography* shows though Sept. 22.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* • Solo show of the paintings of Paul Inglis shows Sept. 14-Oct. 25.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery shows work of Boston scenes by local artists. Ongoing.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Allston (617-783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Packard's Corner. drawbridge.com/dvb gallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* • Laura Donaldson presents a show of her work, *Hollows*. Through Sept. 22.

Duncan Purdy Wells Gallery
One Arrow St., Cambridge (617-868-8213). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 12-1pm; Sat., 10am-6pm. • The gallery presents the prints and paintings of Mary Susannah Robbins.

Dyansen Gallery
132A Newbury St., Boston (617-262-4800/800-936-6901). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Wed., Sat., 10am-6pm; Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri., Sun., 12-6pm. • *Modern Masters*, featuring work by Picasso, Matisse and Chagall, shows through Sept. 24.

Eclipse Gallery
167 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. • David Piemonte shows photographs in *Solitude and Light*. Through September.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. • The gallery reopens on Sept. 13 with *The Margin*, new photographs by Oscar Palacio depicting the urban environment. Through Oct. 22.

ALISON BRADLEY



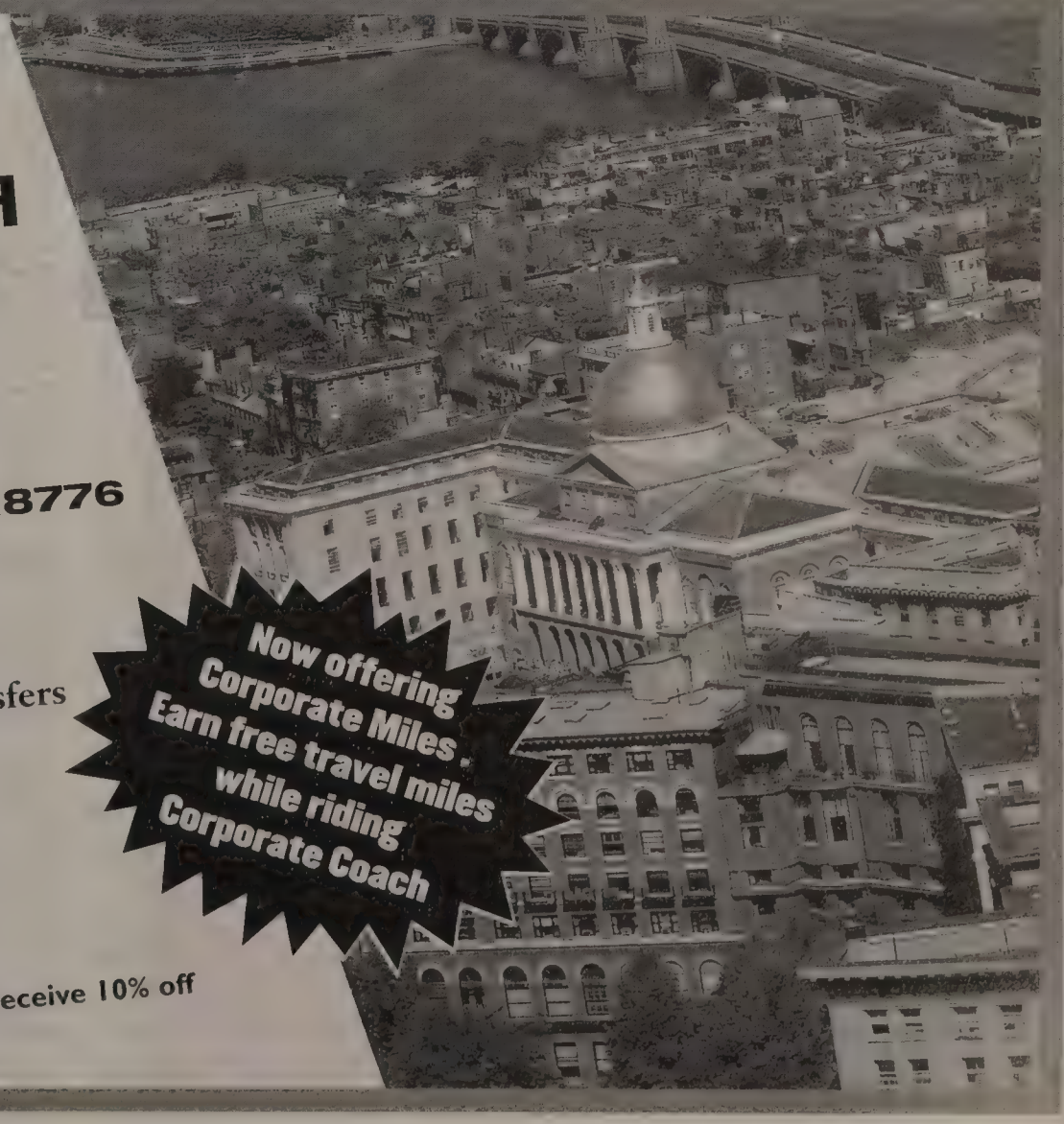
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Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has a collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. Ongoing. • *Magical Dreams: Works in Bronze and Epoxy* present work by Argentine sculptor Silvina Mizrahi. Through Sept. 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm. • *Living Room Compatible* shows through Sept. 28. • *Weeping Wall*, a free outdoor event, will take place Sept. 24. Meet at sunset at the Mobius Gallery.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-266-4351). Tue.-Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 10am-5pm. • *Clouds-Sunny Side Up*, with work by Pierre Desjardins, shows through Oct. 2.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. • *Real*, by Aaron Fry, will be visible through Sept. 12. • The *150x150* fund-raiser shows Sept. 18-30. The main event is Sept. 22 at noon, when 150 pieces of art are sold for $150 each to the first person who grabs the tag beside each work.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galeriedorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* • Joan Colomer, a Spanish painter, shows *Reflections of Spain*. Opens Sept. 15.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • Sam Earle presents *Tattoo Paintings*. • *Camera Work* shows through Sept. 29.

Gallery 79
79 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. • The gallery presents *Strawberry Thoughts*, works by Julie Lohnes, and *Color Coded*, works by Michelle Giargiari. Through Sept. 29.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (617-338-4232). www.gallery223 .com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* There is an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. • Paintings by Peter Coe show through Oct. 2.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (617-367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. A collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early 20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. The gallery's collection of 18th- and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* • *Open Season*, a group show, shows through Oct. 13.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • Drawings by Robert Cumming and photographs by Peter Harris show in *Up*. Through Oct. 2.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment.* The gallery has an ongoing display of art of the Pacific, Africa, Asia, the Americas and the ancient world.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. A display of vintage posters is ongoing.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. • Ralph Wolf will show works through September in *Something New*. In the Annex, Laurie Flaherty's paintings show in *Through the Skin of Water*.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. *Sat. 1-4pm and by appointment.* • *Living Color*, a group show of oil paintings, mixed media paintings and mixed media sculpture shows through Oct. 13.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). By appointment. The gallery shows its permanent collection.

Kathryn Shultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). Tue.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • *Fall Salon 2001* presents a range of work by members. Through Oct. 1.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm. • *See13@Kingston* showcases 13 artists through Sept. 29. Also, the gallery is open Sept. 15 and 16 for the South End Open Studios.

Kniznick Main Exhibition Space
Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-4210). Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm. • *My Notebooks*, a show of notebooks, desks and projected images by Helene Aylon, depicts the artist's view of the absence of the female voice in Jewish tradition. Through Sept. 30.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. • *Musical Marvels*, a collection of contemporary aluminum sculptures by Stanley Marcus, shows through Sept. 15.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* • *Hidden Pleasures*, featuring work by three artists, shows through Sept. 28.

Mayor's Art Gallery
Fifth Floor, City Hall, Boston (617-635-3245). www.cityofboston.gov/arts. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm.* • A month of citywide open studios kicks off from September to December. Sept. 15-16, see the United South End Artists at work. Sept. 22-23, the Jamaica Plain Artists have open studios. • Through Sept. 29, Patrick Mahoney shows his paintings. • A group show by Oni Artists Group shows through Sept. 21 in the Scollay Square Gallery.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* • Work by Giovanni DeCunto, Karen Dimit and Harry Folsom show through Oct. 10. Opening event Sept. 13, 6-11pm.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* • *Studio Interiors and Still Lifes* shows through Oct. 4.



Eric Swenson's prize-winning photograph *Red Shirt* is at the Copley Society through Sept. 22.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. • Maria Levitsky's work is featured in *Recent Photographs*. Through Oct. 3.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. www.mobius. org. *Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* • *This Is a Test*, an installation by Margaret Tittemore, shows through Sept. 29. • On Sept. 17 at 7pm, Noni Pratt and Merry Conway give a free artists' talk titled *Reports From Afield: A Woman's Work Is Never Done: A House of Curiosities*. They discuss their upcoming exhibition with the same name. • Radio Pü returns with "Metagumshoe," a presentation of experimental audio theater. Sept. 21, 22, 28 and 29, 8pm, $6 students and seniors, $8 adults.

MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • *New Work*, a collection of landscapes by Gail Bessette, shows through Sept. 30.

Mugar Memorial Library
Boston University, 771 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-353-1309). • *Tempest Tossed: The Life of Sterling Hayden: Author, Adventurer, Actor* shows through May 2002. Original photographs, movie memorabilia, personal scrapbooks, letters and drafts of books are displayed.

New Art Center
61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-964-3424). www.newartcenter.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* • Artists used all mediums to express *The Animal As Muse: Divine to Demonic*. Sept. 14-Nov. 2.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • *Maine Landscapes*, a solo show of paintings by John Walker, runs Sept. 15-Oct. 13.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. • The gallery is closed through Sept. 21. • *Salon IV* opens Sept. 22, paying homage to the French painters of the 19th century.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* • Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm. The gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday with Luther Gray. • *Cambridgeport Artists Open Studios Show*, featuring local artists, shows through Sept. 30.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery boston.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* • *New Paintings*, works by Howard Silberthau, shows through Oct. 9.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • *Maria Muller: Reality Transforms* shows concurrently with *Southern African: Works of Art By the People of Southern Africa IV*. The exhibition combines photographs and ceramic utilitarian vessels by the people of Southern Africa. Through Oct. 9.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The teahouse specializes in antique Yixing teapots.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings are on ongoing display.

Roland Smart Gallery
The Armory, 59 Armory St. #105, Roxbury (617-889-6269). Sat.-Sun., 2-6pm and by appointment. • Roland Smart presents *Room*, an interactived mixed media piece including lighting, sound, kinetic sculpture and video. Sept. 13-Oct. 11.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to B.U. West. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 1-5pm. • The *Undergraduate Student Exhibition* displays through September.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*. • Paintings by Rachel Wardrop are also on display.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5.* • Rolf Hoeg and Joël Urruty exhibit their painted and carved sculptures and furniture. Through Oct. 30.

Somerville Arts Council
The Elizabeth Peabody Theater Co-operative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-623-1300). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square; 101 or 89 bus. By appointment only or with admission to the monologue. • Melora Kuhn shows *Blackboard Exercises*, paintings displayed in conjunction with a monologue titled *The Most Massive Woman Wins*. Through Sept. 15.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. • *Three Decades of the Box*, work by Robert Rovenolt, runs Sept. 18-Oct. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery .com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* • *New Expressions*, paintings by William St. George, shows through Sept. 30.



Spanish contemporary landscape painter Joan Colomer presents his works at the Galerie d'Orsay in a show titled *Reflections of Spain*.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., South Boston (617-423-SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm and by appointment. • A multimedia show of works Claudia Bernardi and Gustavo Sota-Rosa run in *The Steps Never Taken*. Sept. 16-Oct. 21.

Touch of France
173 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6966). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. The gallery imports French artists' works.

Towne Art Gallery
Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2124). Mon.-Fri., 12-5pm. • Maria Coppola's paintings show Sept. 17-Oct. 12.

Trustman Art Gallery
Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-521-22687). Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm. • Work from the Simmons College art collection shows through Sept. 28.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.vosegalleries.com. *Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* • Works by Polly Star show in *Poetry of Hand and Spirit*. Sept. 14-Nov. 3.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2pm-7pm. • Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. • Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. • Fridays are the Playground New Music series. • Saturday has live music, mostly jazz. • Scrapstock, a three-weekend music and arts festival, resumes Sept. 14-16. Check music listings for full schedule.

Zona
138 Rogers St., Cambridge (781-431-2611). • An exhibition of photographs by John Lawler, titled *Life Goes On*. shows through Sept. 28.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9am-5pm, daily.* • Janet Knott shows photographs in *Snap Snap Click Click: Digital Age Newspaper Photography*. Though Oct. 5.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* • *Photographs from the Gallery Archives* shows through Sept. 15. • *A Greek Portfolio*, showcasing photographs by Constantine Manos, shows Sept. 17-Nov. 10.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. • The Leopold Godowsky Jr. color photography award nominees show Sept. 14-Oct. 26.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *Call for gallery hours.* • Photographs by Yousuf Karsh show Sept. 14-Oct. 27.

SPECIAL EVENT

South End and Jamaica Plain Open Studios
Various Galleries in the South End (617-267-6682). Sept. 15 and Sept. 16, 11am-6pm. Free parking at lots in the South End. More than 200 artists will showcase their wares with opportunities to buy work directly from the artists. • *Pick up a map at the Gallery @ Green Street, Jamaica Plain (617-524-3816). Sept. 22 and 23, 11:30am-6pm.* More than 150 artists at 60 locations all over JP will open their doors.

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Baked Macaroni
with Roasted Tomatoes and Vermont Chevre

Grilled Marinated Chicken Breast
with Carmelized Onion and Butternut Squash Flat in a Grain Mustard Pan Sauce

Pan Seared Olive and Garlic Crusted Swordfish
over Fettuccini in a Preserved Lemon Butter

books& poetry

READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12

Borders Bookshop Author Event
85 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-845-8720). 7:30pm. Free. **Marge Pierce** discusses her book, *So You Want to Write*, a self-help resource for career writers that was created from years of workshops. Pierce and co-author **Ira Wood** urge prospective writers to read often and ask critical questions.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. **Aleksander Hemon** reads and signs his latest book, *The Question of Bruno*, a collection of stories. Hemon, in self-imposed exile from his native Sarajevo, mastered the English language and writes eloquently in this collection.

Newton Free Library Reading Series
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7pm. Free. Poets **Sandy Chadis** and **Clara Silverstein** kick off the 10th annual poetry reading series with their original works. **Jack McCarthy** also reads.

Newtonville Books Author Event
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Margot Livesey** reads and signs her novel *Eva Moves the Furniture*, the story of a young girl and the two invisible (not imaginary) friends who follow her throughout her life. Eva's companions are not invisible to her, and they both save her from harm and keep her from intimacy.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

A Tapestry of Voices
Borders, 10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-7188). MBTA: Blue Line to State or Green Line to Government Center. 6:30pm. Free. **Peter Davidson**, **Emily Hiestand**, **Lloyd Schwartz** and **Ellen Steinbaum**, acclaimed poets, read their poetry in the Café Mezzanine. The reading is followed by an open-mike session.



Political humorist P. J. O'Rourke ruminates on life at Brookline Booksmith Sept. 13.

Borders Bookshop Author Event
85 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 7:30pm. The author of *Enemy Glory*, **Karen Michalson**, discusses her book, which is steeped in fantasy and emotion. The story of the education of Llewelyn is a tale filled with war, melancholy and magic.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. Political humorist **P.J. O'Rourke** has put his traveling days behind him in his new book *The CEO of the Sofa*. Although O'Rourke takes his usual shots at Democrats, he takes time to ruminate on kids, the economy, driving, politics and life's most laughable moments.

Harvard Coop Reading Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Moyra Davey**, editor, and **Susan Rubin**, contributing author, discuss *Mother Reader: Essential Writings on Motherhood*, a chronological compilation of essays, memoirs, interviews and stories. *Mother Reader* features such prominent authors as Toni Morrison, Alice Walker, Sylvia Plath, Doris Lessing, Grace Paley and Adrienne Rich. It both celebrates and mourns motherhood.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free. The Grand Complication, by **Alan Kurzweil**, is a book for the true bibliophile. Kurzweil reads from his novel, the story of a research librarian who stumbles upon a real-life mystery in his world of literature. • At 7pm, **Dan Kindlon** reads from his book, *Too Much of a Good Thing: Raising Children of Character in an Indulgent Age.* From interviews with parents, grandparents, teachers and children, Kindlon offers sound advice regarding how to raise teens in a world where parents indulge themselves, too.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 4:30pm. Free. **Elizabeth Benedict** is the author of *Almost*, a mystery that is funny, self-critical and serious at the same time. When narrator Sophy Chase gets a call from the police saying that her almost-ex-husband is dead, she is thrown back into a family and a past she thought she had left behind.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 18

Creatively Speaking
Borders, 85 Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-875-2321). 2pm. Free. **Darlene Arden** interviews author **Adria Bernardi** about her new novel, *The Day Laid on the Altar*, which traces the life of three artists from the Italian Renaissance.

Grand Opening! Presents The Beauty of Fetish
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7:30pm. $15. 18+. This intimate slide presentation and informal discussion with the talented and provocative photographer **Steve Diet Goedde** comes on the heels of his newly released book, *The Beauty of Fetish–Volume II*. His work has appeared in *SkinTwo*, *Fetish Magazine*, *Marquis* and many others. He discusses his style, techniques, philosophy and the fine art of balancing photography with the taboos of fetishism.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

Barnes & Noble Author Event
One Worcester Road, Framingham (508-628-5567). 7:30pm. Free. **Adam Pertman** reads and signs *Adoption Nation: How the Adoption Revolution Is Transforming America*. Pertman provides the latest statistics and discusses all aspects of domestic and international adoption.

Newtonville Books & Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. **David Gessner** reads and signs *Return of the Osprey*, a memoir about his studies and observations of the reintroduction of the osprey into the wild. **Nina de Gramont** will also read and sign her book *Of Cats and Men*, a collection of short stories about the ways that cats and their personalities illuminate the truths of human relationships. After the reading, there will be free appetizers and Park Pale Ale at the Newtonville Times Restaurant.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 20

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. **Claire Messud** reads and discusses her book of novellas, *The Hunters*. These two stories are set in different parts of the world and reflect on the strength of human emotion.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Dr. Suzen J. Ziegahn** discusses her book *Seven Steps to Bonding With Your Stepchild*, a guide on how to reach out to new members of the family and how to realize that love takes time.

New Words Live Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7pm. Free. **Vickie Nam**, editor, and contributors read from their book *Yell-Oh Girls*, which explores the experiences and confusions of growing up as Asian-American women.

Newton Free Library Reading Series
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7:30. Free. Author **Alan Hirshfeld** talks about his new book, *Parallax: The Race to Measure the Cosmos*, an explanation of how human beings went from gazing at the stars with the naked eye to using giant telescopes to map the universe.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

The Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Sarah Flannery**, named Ireland's 1999 Young Scientist of the Year for her work with the Cayley-Purser algorithm, an encryption system, discusses her book *In Code: A Mathematical Journey*. At sixteen, she rejects the title genius, and spends more of her book exploring herself than her math.

New Words Live Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7pm. Free. Days of Awe, by **Achy Obejas**, is the story of Alejandra San Jos, a Cuban immigrant. As Alejandra grows into her womanhood in Chicago she discovers her entangled Cuban, American, Jewish and Catholic roots.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 23

Kate's Mystery Books Author Event
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 3pm. Free: **Karen Grigsby Bates**, a correspondent for *People* magazine, signs copies of her first mystery, *Plain Brown Wrapper: An Alex Powell Novel*. Alex, the heroine, is an African-American journalist attending an awards banquet where the honoree turns up dead.

New Words Live Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7pm. Free. Brandeis professor **Jyl Lynn Felman**, a teacher with a flair for performance, reads from her newest book, *Never a Dull Moment*. This collection of essays covers topics from academia to social issues such as racial injustice and feminism.

MONDAY, SEPT. 24

Barnes & Noble Author Event
One Worcester Road, Framingham (508-628-5567). 7:30pm. Free. **Dan McNicol** discusses and signs *The Big Dig at Night*, the follow-up to his previous book, *The Big Dig*.

Boston Center for Adult Education
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. $27-$49. **James Carroll**, controversial author of *Constantine's Sword: The Church and the Jews. A History of Anti-Semitism From Jesus to the Holocaust*, gives a reading and lecture. His book documents the history of the Christian Church's battle against Judaism. A lecture and discussion follows.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. Pulitzer Prize winner **Michael Chabon** reads from *The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay*, a comic adventure. Samuel Klayman and Josef Kavalier, the heroes of the story, have adventures to rival Superman's, but Chabon manages to include a touching human side to this captivating story as well.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Askwith Lecture Hall in Longfellow Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free. **Morton** and **Phyllis Keller** discuss their book, *Making Harvard Modern*, about the rise of Harvard University from being merely the oldest university in the nation to also being the most prestigious.

Kate's Mystery Books Author Event
McLean Hospital, Administration Building, Paul Howard Room, 115 Mill St., Belmont (617-855-2110). 7pm. **Hallie Ephron** and **Dr. Donald A. Davidoff**, of the writing team **G. H. Ephron**, read and discuss their book *Addiction*, the second Dr. Peter Zak mystery, which takes place in the fictional Pearce Psychiatric Institute and bears a striking resemblance to Harvard's McLean Hospital, where Dr. Davidoff runs a unit.

Newton Free Library Reading Series
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7pm. Free. Student affairs expert **Joel Epstein** discusses his book *A Parent's Guide to Sex, Drugs and Flunking Out: Answers to the Questions That Your College Student Doesn't Want You to Ask*. Epstein is an expert at helping college-bound youth make decisions regarding schools, social situations and personal health.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Trans-sister Radio, by **Chris Bohjalian**, is the story of one man's sex change operation and its effect on the community. This book is a novel about sexuality and gender as well as love that is stronger than society's norms.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 25

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. **Judith E. Hughes** and photographer **Michael Malyszko** read and discuss their book, *Betty and Rita: La Dolce Vita*. Following in the paw prints of *Betty and Rita Go to Paris*, this book is composed of 40 duotone photographs capturing Betty



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and Rita, labradors, on their Roman holiday. Meet the intrepid traveler Betty at the reading.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Howard Zinn**, co-author of *A People's History of the United States*, discusses his new book, *Three Strikes: Miners, Musicians, Salesgirls and the Fighting Spirit of Labor's Last Century*. This chronicle of workers' plights throughout the 20th century examines the struggles of the American labor movement, including the Colorado Coal Strike of 1913-1914.

Newtonville Books & Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. **Laura Pappano**, of the *Boston Globe*, reads from her book *Connection Gap: Why Americans Feel So Alone*, about the way that our consumer-driven society has taught us to evaluate relationships in terms of cost equations and to want more than we can ever have. After the reading, there will be free appetizers and Park Pale Ale at the Newtonville Times Restaurant.

New Words Live Reading Series
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Peggy Orenstein** reads from her new book, *Flux: Sex, Work, Love, Kids and Life in a Half-Changed World*, a compelling narrative created from hundreds of interviews with real women. Orenstein gets deep into the lives of these women to explore the burdens of contemporary living.

Woodberry Poetry Room Reading
Exhibition Room, Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-495-2454). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30pm. Free. **Alice Fulton**, award-winning poet and author of the collections *Felt* and *Sensual Math*, reads from her graceful and heartfelt poetry.

WordsWorth Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. Free. **Mona Simpson**, author of *Anywhere But Here*, reads from *Off Keck Road*, a novella that evokes the transcendence of so-called ordinary human experiences.

ONGOING

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every few Thursdays.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.



Historian Howard Zinn reads from his latest book at the Harvard Book Store Sept. 25.

ROBERT BIRNBAUM

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

An Insider's View of The Big Dig
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-951-1433, ext. 221). 6pm. Free. The Boston Society of Architects presents a slide lecture by **Dan McNichol**, author of two books on The Big Dig.

T. Berry Brazelton and Joshua Sparrow
Harvard Graduate School of Education, Askwith Lecture Hall, Longfellow Hall, Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-0740). 6pm. Free. **T. Berry Brazelton**, a pediatrician, child advocate, columnist and author, and **Joshua Sparrow**, child psychiatrist, columnist and author, discuss their book, *Touchpoints Three to Six: Your Child's Emotional and Behavioral Development.*

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

Merrymount Park Walking Tour
Quincy Park Department Headquarters, 100 Southern Artery, Quincy (617-566-1689, ext. 221). 1pm. Free. Experience natural beauty, learn about local history and get your daily workout by exploring the park and learning about its connections with Quincy's Adams family.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

African Ecological Disaster
First Parish Universalist Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-497-1553). 7pm. $15. The Center for Psychology and Social Change presents **Wangari Maathai**, head of Kenya's Green Belt Movement, speaking on environmentalism and her efforts to stop the government's plan to level African forests.

Private 20th-Century Antique Collections Tour
SPNEA, 141 Cambridge St., Boston (617-570-9105, ext. 270) 7pm. $35. Boston collector **John Axelrod**, **Jeannine Falino** of the Museum of Fine Arts and **D. Roger Howlett** of Childs Gallery will guide you through a tour of art dating from 1920 to 1945. The collections include furniture, ceramics, glass and fine art, with an emphasis on works by African-American artists.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 20

Science in the News
Harvard Medical School, Room 122, Goldenson Building, 200 Longwood Ave., Boston (617-432-2420). MBTA: D or E Green Line to Longwood. 7-9pm. Free. Interactive biology lecture followed by discussion of the Human Genome Project and genetic testing.

Tax Law Seminar
Cambridge Chamber of Commerce, second floor boardroom, 859 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-876-4100). 11:45am-1pm. $25. Call by Sept. 18 to reserve space. **John A. Tyler** and **Carol Abbott** of the CPA firm John A. Tyler Associates present a discussion of bottom-line tax law changes. Lunch is included.

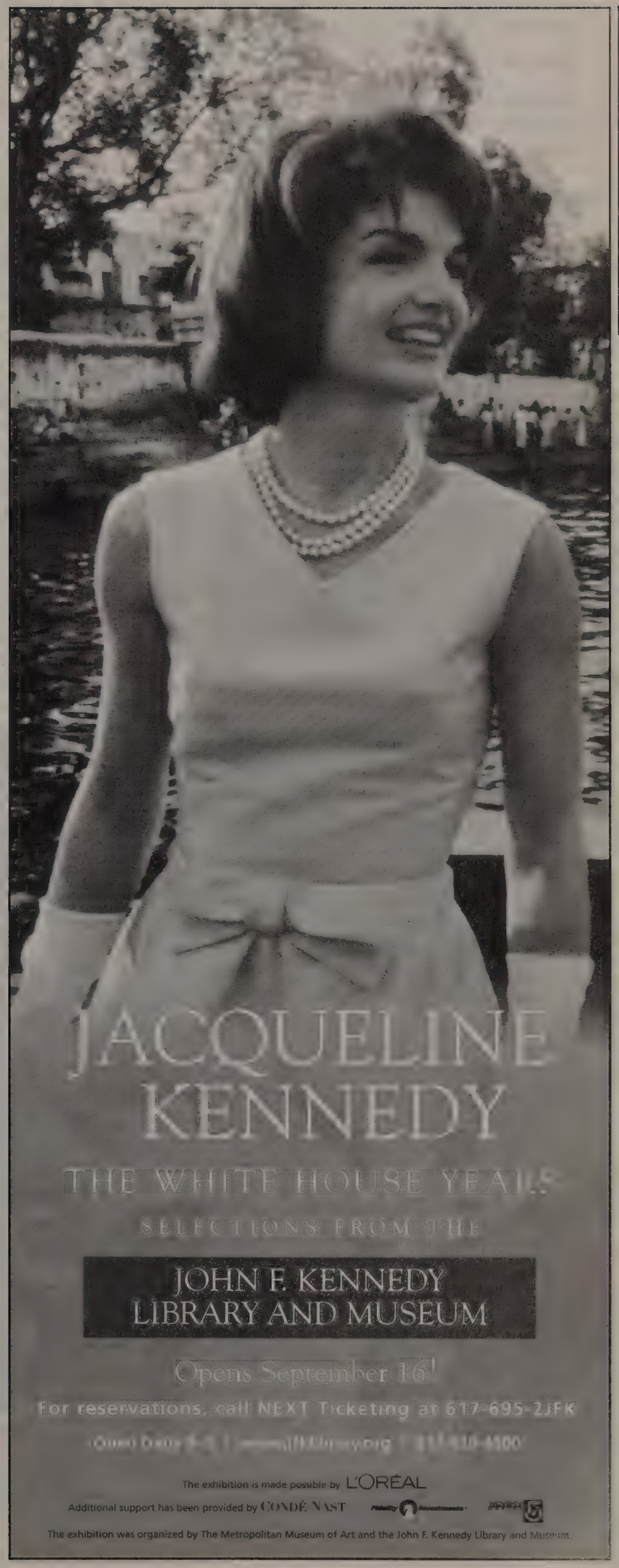
Twilight House Tour
Paul Revere House, 19 North Square, Boston (617-523-2338). 6-8:30pm. $15 adults. Experience Boston's history with a tour of the Paul Revere, Otis, Nichols, Prescott and Gibson houses. Sponsored by Downtown Boston's House Museum Alliance.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

Sex and Power: Women in the 21st Century
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. **Susan Estrich**, professor of law and political science at the University of Southern California, the first woman to be elected president of the *Harvard Law Review*, and the first woman to run a presidential campaign, discusses her book on feminism in corporate America.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

Intro to Money Management for Women
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 10am-2pm. $49. Learn how to make sounder investment decisions and be more financially savvy from **Maureen Igo**, **Karen Pike** and **Joanne Reilly** of American Express Advisors.



Film

STATE AND PLAIN

Wet Hot American Summer goes to camp. BY PAUL SHERMAN

It was long ago in a galaxy far, far away—actually, America 20 years ago. It was post–Ed Sullivan, pre-MTV. Post–sexual revolution, pre-AIDS. Shorts were shorter, socks were higher. *Jaws* and *Star Wars* had edged Hollywood away from the soul-searching of *Apocalypse Now* and *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* and towards mass-market escapism. *Animal House* unexpectedly became a youth-culture landmark and spawned a wave of hormonal gross-out comedies long before *There's Something About Mary* and *American Pie* arrived. It is this whole mini-genre of movies such as *Meatballs*, *Up the Creek*, *G.O.R.P.* and their ilk that *Wet Hot American Summer* spoofs and, in its own way, celebrates.

Veterans of the comedy troupe The State and its imaginative MTV sketch-comedy series are the force behind the parody, both behind the camera (director-co-writer David Wain, co-writer Michael Showalter) and among its ensemble cast (Showalter, Ken Marino, Michael Ian Black, Joe Lo Truglio). *Wet Hot American Summer* shares some of The State's emphasis on going beyond merely spoofing something, into the realm of spoofing the very idea of spoofing. One of the TV series' most inspired moments re-created, word for word and giggle for giggle, the bloopers in the end credits of *Cannonball Run*. It wasn't just funny seeing comics in their 20s ape the couldn't-care-less glibness of line-flubbing Burt Reynolds and Dean Martin, it was hilarious that anyone would want to do so.

Wet Hot American Summer sometimes captures this postmodern take on parody. Its story of counselors and kids at a 1981 Maine camp seems to attempt the same sort of re-creations at times (damned if I can remember subplots from early-'80s movies well enough to say for sure, though) but it has trouble turning its best moments of parody into something more than just goofs on movies no one took seriously in the first place.

The focus is definitely on the counselors and their hormones, not the campers. Janeane Garofalo plays the camp director, who's clueless at romance yet has a crush on the astrophysicist (David Hyde Pierce) who has a cabin next to the camp; Showalter is a "nice guy" counselor with the hots for a beautiful co-worker (Marguerite Moreau) who won't dump the hunky but jerky swimming instructor (Paul Rudd); Marino is a studly counselor whose playboy image is all an act; Black (*Ed*, *Spy TV*) is a counselor with a sexual secret; and Molly Shannon (*Saturday Night Live*) is an older camp staffer grieving the break-up of her marriage.

Set on the last day of camp, *Wet Hot American Summer* promises to deliver the same concentrated emotions as Richard Link-later's vivid look back at the mid-1970s set on the last day of school, *Dazed and Confused*. But while it may bring urgency to its characters' libidos—Can Garofalo catch Pierce's eye? Will Marino get lucky? Can Showalter win Moreau away from Rudd?—too few of the characters stand on their own, outside of the parody. Only Showalter's sensitive guy generates genuine sympathy, while Burlington native Amy Poehler (*The Upright Citizens Brigade*) is a hoot as a theater counselor with unrealistically high standards.

Of course, if the comedy were more consistent, the lack of interesting characters wouldn't be a problem. *Airplane!* never disappointed anyone by having weak characters, because the gags never let you notice. But some characters' scenes deflate *Wet Hot American Summer* repeatedly, like those with Shannon getting psychoanalyzed by her precocious arts-and-crafts campers, Rudd dumping on all the women who are crazy for him and, to a lesser extent, Christopher Meloni as the psycho-Vietnam-vet cook who gets a ton of screen time. *Wet Hot American Summer* simply never builds up the comic momentum to win you over and let the laughs of its funny scenes spill over to its less amusing ones. In camp terms, it's like an invitation to a day on the lake that turns out to be a swimming test. iB

Paul Rudd and Marguerite Moreau model the trendiest fasions of 1981 in *Wet Hot American Summer*.

Wet Hot American Summer ★★

Directed by David Wain. Written by Wain and Michael Showalter. With Janeane Garofalo, David Hyde Pierce, Showalter, Marguerite Moreau, Amy Poehler, Paul Rudd, Ken Marino and Molly Shannon. Rated R. USA Films.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Apocalypse Now Redux ★★★★
As is usually the case with these things, the 50-minute-longer version of Francis Ford Coppola's late-'70s Vietnam classic is essentially no better or worse than the version we've known and loved for 21 years. Some of the new stuff is great (a practical joke played on Robert Duvall's gung-ho colonel), some is useless (more action with the Playboy Playmates in the USO show) and some is strong though overextended (the so-called French Plantation Sequence). But it's the original charms that linger most potently: the sometimes absurd, sometimes tragic nature of war in general and our involvement in Vietnam in particular; the unflinching performance of Martin Sheen; the unsettling Marlon Brando; and Coppola's ability as a director to touch us on a subconscious, dreamy level. He could have called this descent into hell on Earth *1971: A War Odyssey*.

Bubble Boy ★★½
This Tim Burton knockoff mixes road-movie comedy and social commentary. With shades of *Edward Scissorhands*, the hero is an immune-deficient teen (Jake Gyllenhaal) experiencing the outer world for the first time when he sneaks out of his plastic tent in his parents' house and hits the road in a portable bubble. His mission: to stop the wedding of the woman he loves (Marley Shelton). To further the Burton redux feeling, the goodhearted hero's encounters with likable oddballs along the way is very *Pee-wee's Big Adventure*. But despite its derivative quality, the movie is decent, with strong performances, many amusing moments and a surprisingly effective message about facing up to emotional reality.

Curse of the Jade Scorpion ★★½
Woody Allen's usual self-flattery is kept in relative check in his latest. It's a brisk 1940-set comedy in which he's an insurance claims investigator and Helen Hunt is the insurance company's new efficiency expert, who's out to rid the office of his old-school methods. Thanks to a nightclub hypnotist (David Ogden Stiers) who uses the pair as onstage volunteers—and then uses his control over them afterward—the pair get involved in post hypnotic thievery, romance and bickering. As has been the case lately, Allen's presence grates after a while, and of course younger female characters are all over him. But the strong ensemble cast, including Charlize Theron and Dan Aykroyd, prevents total "Woody-itis" from setting in.

The Deep End ★★★
In this thriller, a middle-class housewife (Tilda Swinton) flirts with crime when she thinks her teen son (Jonathan Tucker) has murdered a predatory lover. She secretly covers up the crime, then starts fending off blackmailers who have incriminating evidence. This has less social relevance than the movie it remakes, 1949's *The Reckless Moment*—in which the woman fears exposure in her conformity-crazy post-war times—and the sexual tension between the woman and her conflicted blackmailer (Goran Visnjic) isn't very convincing. But it's a fascinating exercise in the maternal protective impulse, with Swinton really fleshing out the heroine, and co-directors Scott McGehee and David Siegel (*Suture*) again exceling at conveying eerie atmosphere.

Ghost World ★★★★
Just when it seemed movies were incapable of producing something that wasn't gimmicky, something that was fun yet disarmingly deep, along comes Terry (*Crumb*) Zwigoff's astonishingly good fiction debut. Based on co-writer Daniel Clowes' comic novel, it starts out as if it's going to be just another movie about misfit teens—in this case, the graduating high-schoolers played by Thora Birch (*American Beauty*) and Scarlet Johansson. Bored and annoyed at the prefab world around them, the pair amuse themselves by playing a practical joke on a lonely guy (Steve Buscemi) who's taken out a personal ad. But the guy turns out to be a nonconformist who has a lot in common with the girls, especially Birch's malcontent, and she becomes quite taken with him. The movie then evolves into a much more distinctive story that effectively dovetails many themes: the poor way people communicate with each other; the struggle between individuality and the need for companionship; and the way we construct our own inner realities, selectively taking in and shutting things out to suit our emotional needs.

Happy Accidents ★★★
Writer-director-editor Brad Anderson made this unconventional romantic comedy between *Next Stop Wonderland* and *Session 9*, though it's just reached theaters at the same time as the latter. Marisa Tomei and Vincent D'Onofrio are both very appealing as, respectively, a neurotic New Yorker unlucky with men and the nice guy she falls for—who then tells her

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he's from the year 2470 and has "back-traveled" to be with her. Is he being loopy or honest? Anderson milks this ambiguity smartly and builds his story to a very creative climax.

Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back ★★
Someone finally hit on the bright idea of having Kevin Smith (*Clerks*, *Dogma*) make a wide-release movie, so his arrested-adolescent sensibility could reach theaters that adolescents actually visit. The result is a hit-or-miss road comedy featuring the stoner duo (Smith, Jason Mewes) who've hung around the fringes of every Smith movie. It's the indie *Dude, Where's My Car?* with more laughs, as these two cluelessly make their way from Jersey to Hollywood to stop a movie being made about them. Once it gets to Hollywood it pokes a lot of fun at its distributor, with its classy facade and crass center, but this is pure Miramax: like the lousy *Scream 2*, which thought making fun of lousy sequels exempted it from being one, Smith's movie is all self-deprecating jokes about how dumb it is. Cool appearance by Morris Day and the Time, though.

L.I.E. ★★
You know it's fall when the dreary adolescents-in-suburban-wasteland movies arrive. The title stands for the Long Island Expressway, the highway that spiritually imprisons the characters in Michael Cuesta's debut. Wriggling to break free is 15-year-old Howie (Paul Franklin Dano), whose single dad pays little attention to him. He's talked into robbing houses with a wilder friend (Billy Kay), and comes into contact with a mysterious middle-aged John (Brian Cox) as a result. Cox's solid citizen is actually a sexual predator and Howie, sadly in need of parenting, does an often-involving two-step with him. Howie is disgusted by John's sexual advances yet attracted by his paternal qualities. That John is not just evil is the movie's strength, but its "the suburbs suck" message could use more humor or a more original approach.

O ★★
Like many renditions of Shakespeare's *Othello*, this version is hard to take seriously. The story is transposed to a contemporary prep school, where black basketball star O (Mekhi Phifer) is persuaded by two-faced buddy Hugo (Josh Hartnett) that his girlfriend, Desi (Julia Stiles), is cheating. Why does he believe all the circumstantial evidence that goes against what he sees and feels? The movie simply never clears that hurdle. Director Tim Blake Nelson's first movie, the little-seen *Eye of God*, was a totally compelling heartland tragedy, so you figure if anyone could pull this off, he could.


Julia Stiles and Mekhi Phifer tackle Shakespeare in *O*, an adaptation of the classic play *Othello*.

The Others ★★★
The twist ending will no doubt remind you of a famous late-1990s movie—and much is going to be made of that familiarity, probably too much. Writer-director Alejandro Amenabar's intimate film is a solid Gothic thriller, with Nicole Kidman as a young widow in 1945 Britain trying to protect her two sickly children from things that go bump in their secluded, fogged-in Channel Islands mansion. Like *The Deep End*, the chiller finds drama in the plight of its besieged mother, while Kidman is perfectly enigmatic as the unstable mom. And, despite the familiarity, the ending is very well set up.

Session 9 ★★★
Who knows what evil lurks in the halls of the closed Danvers State Hospital? The five asbestos abatement workers who are cleaning out the former "lunatics asylum" do. Once they begin poking around the Victorian-Gothic complex, weird things start happening to them. Peter Mullan and David Caruso head the cast in Brad Anderson's nifty little chiller, which nods to such influences as Val Lewton's mysterious 1940s thrillers (*The Cat People*, for one), Kubrick's *The Shining* and Frederick Wiseman's *Titicut Follies*. Along with *The Others* and *The Deep End*, it's part of a pleasingly old-school chiller-thriller mini-trend, in which sustained drama is the emphasis instead of cheap thrills.

Summer Catch ★½
Set in the Cape Cod League and filmed in North Carolina, this baseball comedy is as cliched as a postgame interview, as shallow as the foul poles at Fenway and as thrilling as a rain delay. Freddie Prinze Jr.—the Molly Ringwald of our time—stars as a local boy trying to make good, pursuing his dream on the field and his dream girl (Jessica Biel) off the field.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library
In the Pink Film Series
•Sept. 17, 6pm **A Shot in the Dark** *1964.* Among the first of the Blake Edwards–directed Pink Panther Series, this film features Peter Sellers as the unforgettable Inspector Jacques Clouseau and Elke Sommer as a woman accused of killing her lover.
•Sept. 24, 6pm **The Return of the Pink Panther** *1974.* In this episode, Clouseau is on a mission to find the stolen Pink Panther diamond.

Brattle Theatre
Special Engagements
•Through Sept. 13 **Band of Outsiders** *(Bande à Part) 1964.* Jean-Luc Godard directs Anna Karina as a crafty woman who enlists the help of two male friends in stealing her aunt's money.
•Sept. 13 and 14 **Come and See** *1985.* This classic film about a Russian boy during World War II is directed by Elem Klimov. • Also showing, 10pm **An American Werewolf in London** *1981.* John Landis directs this classic about two American students attacked by a werewolf while abroad.
•Sept. 21 and 22 **Adanggaman** *2000.* King Adanggaman and a boy named Ossei are central characters in this film set in West Africa during the late 17th century.

Sundays and Mondays—A Tribute to Jack Lemmon
•Sept. 16 and 17 **Some Like It Hot** *1959.* Two struggling musicians must dress as women in order to escape from the city after witnessing the St. Valentine's Day Massacre. • Also showing, **Irma La Douce** *1963.* Also directed by Wilder, this film features Lemmon as a French police officer who finds himself in a peculiar position after being transferred to the Red Light District.
• Also showing, **It Should Happen to You** *1954.* This George Cukor film stars Lemmon opposite Judy

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Hathaway as a filmmaker who must compete to win his affection.
•Sept. 23 **The Great Race** *1965.* Tony Curtis plays Lemmon's archrival as the two men compete in an automobile race westward from New York to Paris. Directed by Blake Edwards.
•Sept. 24 **Mister Roberts** *1955.* John Ford, Mervyn LeRoy and Joshua Logan directed this comedy-drama about life aboard a cargo ship during World War II.

Tuesdays—I Was a Teenage Teenager

•Sept. 18 **Rock 'n' Roll High School** *1979.* Allan Arkush directed this musical comedy about the students of Vince Lombardi High, whose love for music outweighs their desire for education.
•Sept. 25 **Buffy the Vampire Slayer** *1992.* Kristy Swanson stars as a teenage girl who learns that she is destined to defend her generation from evil. Fran Rubel Kuzui directs. • Also showing, **Carrie** *1976.* Brian de Palma's adaptation of Stephen King's horror novel follows a young outcast who gets revenge on her tormentors.

Thursdays—Cine Liberación: Cuban Revolutionary Cinema

•Sept. 20 **Death of a Bureaucrat** *(La Muerte de un Burócrata) 1966.* Tomás Gutiérrez Alea directed this comedy dealing with issues of death and family in Cuba. • Also showing, **Memories of the Underdevelopment** *(Memorias del Subdesarrollo) 1968.* This drama, also by Alea, is the story of a writer who remains in Cuba when his family flees to Miami.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Feature Films

•Opening Sept. 21 **L.I.E.** *2001.* One of the most talked-about films at this year's Sundance Film Festival, *L.I.E.* is director Michael Cuesta's feature debut, an uncompromising look at coming of age in the 21st century. • Also opening **Mau Mau Sex Sex** *2000.* Ted Bonnitt directs this documentary, starring David F. Friedman and Dan Sonney as themselves.
• Now playing **The Deep End** *2001.* Scott McGehee and David Siegel direct Tilda Swinton as a mother who must face the consequences after finding her gay son's lover dead outside her home.
• Now playing **The Turandot Project** *2000.* This film documents the creation of Giacomo Puccini's opera *Turandot*, beginning with performances in Florence and culminating in a spectacular Beijing show. Zhang Yimou directs with conductor Zubin Mehta.

Screening Room Series

•Sept. 14 and 15, 7, 8:30 and 10pm **Olympic Greasy Watermelon**. William Hartong's multimedia satire is the story of two American "athletes" and their foray into a new Olympic sport involving four players, water and a lubricated watermelon.

Director's Cut

•Sept. 19, 7:30pm **An Evening With Ross McElwee**. This is a special 15th Anniversary showing and celebration of **Sherman's March** (1986), the searching-for-love-in-the modern-South road documentary that was Boston's breakout national hit. McElwee, a Brookline resident, discusses his film which, in 2000, was preserved by the Library of Congress's National Registry along with *Apocalypse Now*.

Hot Summer Midnights

•Sept. 14 and 15, 12am **Cannibal Holocaust** *1979.* Ruggero Deodato directed this film about a documentary team's search for cannibals in the South American jungle.

Seniors Screenings

•Sept. 19, 1pm **The Princess Bride** *1987.* This Rob Reiner film is a classic fairy tale, presented in the form of a bedtime story that comes alive.
•Sept. 21 and 22, 12am **The Hoverground Film Fest**. *Troma* movie star Will Keenan appears. • Also playing **Waiting for Guffman** *1996.* Christopher Guest directs and stars in this comedy about an amateur theater show based on the history of a small town.

Harvard Film Archive

Nanni Moretti: A Life on Film

•Sept. 21, 7pm and Sept. 24, 7pm **The Opening Day of Close-Up** *(Il giorno della prima di Close-Up) 1996.* In this film, Italian filmmaker Moretti oversees preparations for the premiere of another director's first film.
•Sept. 21, 9pm **April** *(Aprile) 1998.* Moretti directs himself as a filmmaker who incorporates two major events—the birth of his first child and the political turmoil in Italy—into his work.
•Sept. 21, 9pm and Sept. 25, 7pm **Dear Diary** *(Caro diario) 1993.* This film, consisting of three vignettes and touching upon subjects both comic and emotional, earned Moretti the Best Director prize at the Cannes Film Festival.
•Sept. 22, 7pm and Sept. 25, 9pm **Sweet Dreams** *(Sogni d'oro) 1981.* Fiction and reality are intertwined in this comedy about a filmmaker living with his mother.



Dan Wakefield and friends cut a rug at a Greenwich Village loft party in 1957.

Preview

The Silent Generation

A vision of '50s New York comes to the MFA

Two years ago, from the sanctuary of the Writers' Room of Boston, Dan Wakefield wrote a memoir, *New York in the Fifties*, combining his personal reflections with compelling interviews in an effort to give voice to what he called "the silent generation." Filmmaker Betsy Blankenbaker has brought to Wakefield's work new life with a film based on his book. The film features intimate interviews with people whose lives and careers had an impact on the '50s scene, including writer Calvin Trillin and actor and then-artist Robert Redford. Their candid discourse on subjects ranging from folk music and literature to alcohol and suicide is interwoven with Wakefield's autobiographical story. Vintage footage of James Baldwin, Jack Kerouac and Norman Mailer add literary gravitas. Screenings of *New York in the Fifties* are Sept. 13, 6pm and Sept. 15, 3:45pm and the screenings are followed by a discussion with Wakefield, Blankenbaker and novelist (and Writers' Room founder) Ivan Gold. *The Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3770). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. $10. Proceeds benefit the Writers' Room, a nonprofit organization that provides workspace for Boston-area writers.*—Kelly Dutton

•Sept. 22, 9pm and Sept. 23, 7pm **The Mass Is Over** *(La messa è finita) 1985.* This film follows Don Giulio, an idealistic priest assigned to his first parish after spending years in isolation on an island.

Topics in Film: Adventures in Surrealism

•Sept. 17, 7pm and Sept. 18, 9:15pm **Zero for Conduct** *(Zéro de conduite) 1933.* Director Jean Vigo's first fiction film is a vision of life in a French boarding school. • Also showing, **Duck Soup** *1933.* Leo McCarey directs this Marx Brothers' film, a comically disguised satire on fascism and war.

Topics in Film: Film Architectures

•Sept. 18, 7pm and Sept. 19, 7pm **Metropolis** *(Das Schicksal einer Menscheit im Jahre 2000) 1926.* Fritz Lang's film is considered the greatest science-fiction film of the silent cinema. Set in the 21st century, the story was inspired by the New York skyline and photographed in Expressionist style.

Museum of Fine Arts

The Tales of Eric Rohmer

•Sept. 14, 6pm **Boyfriends and Girlfriends** *1987.* Two friends learn about love and happiness in this comedy.
•Sept. 20, 8pm and **Chloe in the Afternoon** *1972.* The sixth of Rohmer's Moral Tales, this film is the story of a married Parisian businessman whose life is turned upside down when an old friend's flame re-enters his life.
•Sept. 21, 5:45pm **My Night at Maud's** *1969.* Moral Tales III explores themes of emotional isolation as an engineer is forced to spend a night with a divorcee.

The Films of Frederick Wiseman

•Sept. 15, 10:30am **Juvenile Court** *1973.* This film presents the variety of the cases before the Memphis Juvenile Court, examining issues of community, psychology and morality.
•Sept. 22, 10:30am **Adjustment and Work** *1986.* This film examines the various services and training programs provided to sensory-impaired adults.

Soviet Cinema in the '60s

•Sept. 13, 8pm **Goodbye, Boys** *1964.* Mikhail Kalik directed this adaptation of Boris Balter's novel about teenagers' reactions to the upcoming draft.
•Sept. 14, 8pm **Brief Encounters** *1967.* This film follows a young woman in her quest fo the attentions of a famous geologist. Directed by Kira Muratova.
•Sept. 15, 1:10pm **Hamlet** *1964.* Grigory Kozintsev's interpretation of the play won him a prize at the Venice Film Festival as well as a Golden Globe nomination.
•Sept. 20, 6pm **Trial on the Road** *1971.* Banned for 15 years, Alexei German's World War II film follows a German POW trying to convince his Russian captors that he's one of them.
•Sept. 22, 12:45pm **I Am Twenty** *1964.* Marlen Khutsiev directed this epic journey through post-Stalinist Moscow. • Also showing, 4pm **Asya's Happiness** *1967.* Andrei Konchalovsky's film about an abused farm girl was banned for 20 years for daring to tell the truth about Russian peasantry.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

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Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (617-536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
Cheri
50 Dalton St. (617-536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.
Wang Center
270 Tremont St. (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
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Nights

MONDAYS

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Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Top DJs spin.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
In-the-Biz Pool Tournament hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+; Gay Night with Mizery hosting a drag show, 12pm.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with Martin Finke, 9pm, 21+.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs. Martini bar, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
Go Retroactive with DJ Chris Ewen.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits. 10pm. 19+. No cover.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid, jazz and soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with Megladon (MD) Jazz Band, 6-10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.

Higher Meditations
Aer DJ David Starr spins reggae and drum'n' bass.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Spend the night at one of the city's most decadent hot spots—set to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night with live bands and DJ Steve Anderson spinning the latest hits, 10pm, 21+. •Sept. 12: Diversity. •Sept. 19: One People.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong Join in a night of psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music, live band, second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Wet and Wild Wednesdays
The Kells DJ Drag and DJ Steve spin hip-hop, house, R&B and reggae with ticket giveaways, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Cream
Sugar Shack Resident DJs Massi and Joshua Carl baring a new house night to the alley. $10, 19+; $5, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and WFNX spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by for some after-work lounging with the mellow tunes of Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean. Don't forget to dress up—jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.



With so many hot clubs to choose from, it's easy to get a cool groove on any night of the week.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae and hiphop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas, 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Tundra
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinning NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, no sneakers or hats, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adilson. 10pm, 18+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 tunes , 10pm, $5, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music. A new game show, Wheel of Adventure, gives clubbers the chance to win cash, get spanked or hang out with an Avaland dancer, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance tunes and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Drag; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
The Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

International Lounge
Vertigo DJ A. Rossi and DJ Peter Souhleris spin Latin dance early, progressive house and top hits, 11pm. Cocktails and free hors d'oeuvres before 10pm. 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
The Roxy Guest DJs spin at this third-floor dance party.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Sangria, Sunsets and Salsa
Sophia's Dance on the roof deck to live music from 4:30-9pm. DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor, and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+. •Sept. 19: 3rd Friday Multi-Cultural Connection brings speakers, art and Latin dance together, $10 covers the whole night and dancing with a live band until 2am.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Glitzed-out club-hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

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Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
After-work lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Cherry
SW1 The ultimate erotic experience sponsored by Jingo's Playhouse with DJ Tari and guests, 10pm, $12, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special-guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins international house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.

R&B Lounge
Vertigo DJ Ron spins R&B, hip hop and light house at this elegant R&B night, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins house and hip-hop, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Summer Shamrock Saturday
The Purple Shamrock DJ Joshua Carl spins new and old-school hip-hop with a touch of house, $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

Boom Boom Room
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney mixes '60s and hip hop.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Rio de Janeiro to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins International house, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Raffi spins international house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins great reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.

100% Flava
The Purple Shamrock Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop with guest DJs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:15pm, no cover, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Touch
Aer Guest DJs provide deep, soulful house, 10pm.

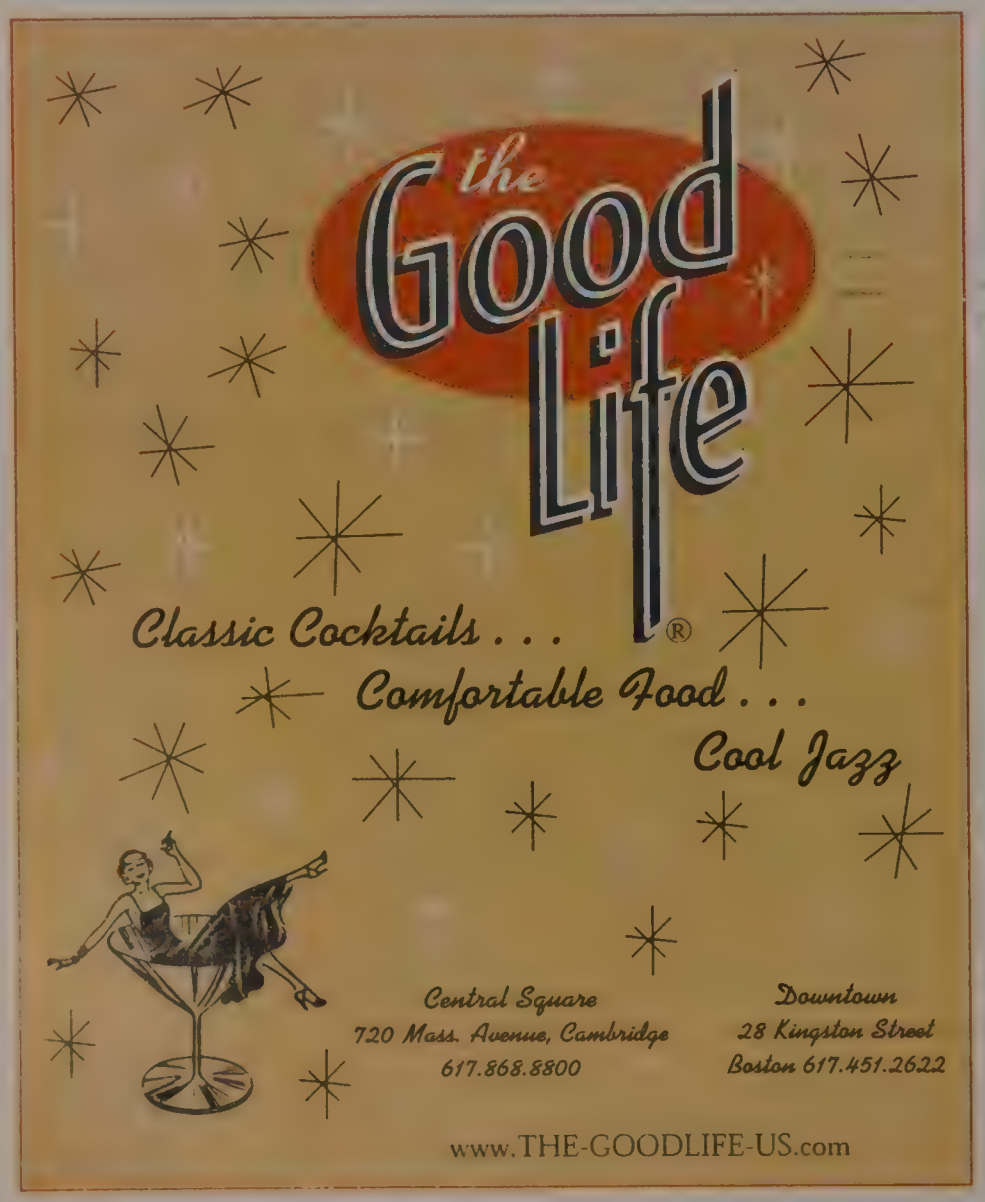
Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.



Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Cafe *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (617-542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (617-292-2333). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (617-864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (617-576-6260).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (6174-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (3617-38-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*

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GOSPEL HOTSHOT

Robert Randolph is on a mission to take the pedal-steel guitar from the church to the stadium. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

"I come to clap my hands," Robert Randolph exhorts a packed crowd on a recent Wednesday night at Bill's Bar, and a sea of limbs join in unison. "I come to stomp my feet," he adds, setting an example with a bouncy dance onstage. Finally, he cries, "I come to scream," and delivers a joyous holler.

But the scream that truly ignites the room comes when Randolph tears back into his pedal-steel guitar, leaning into its 13 strings with a steel slide and picking technique that evokes the faucetlike virtuosity of his idol, Stevie Ray Vaughan.

If the scene at Bill's—ready to be repeated Sept. 28 at the Paradise—has a fervor reminiscent of a gospel church, it should. Randolph learned his chops in the House of God, a Pentecostal ministry in Orange, N.J., where the pedal steel is the instrument of choice instead of an organ.

"When you're in church, it gets the same reaction as playing out at shows," says Randolph, who just turned 24. "It's like a reaction that makes you want to get up and dance and jump around, 'cause it's a sound, a warm sound. It's so different than a regular guitar. It uplifts people."



Pedal-steel guitar virtuoso Robert Randolph began playing in church, but his exploding popularity has him eyeing bigger venues—like the FleetCenter.

It's recently been uplifting people from neo-hippie events like the Gathering of the Vibes and Berkfest to the Newport Folk Festival and clubs like the Paradise, where Randolph appeared last month with the Word, a gospel-jam outfit with organist John Medeski (Medeski Martin & Wood) and the North Mississippi Allstars, with whom he just released an album.

"He's on his own mission," guitarist Luther Dickinson of the Allstars says of Randolph, whom he first heard on a "Sacred Steel" compilation on Arhoolie Records. Randolph was soon drafted both to open for the blues-boogie Allstars at Manhattan's Bowery Ballroom and join the Word session. "He's a great improviser," Dickinson says, "and he's got the soul to back up his technique."

That New York show, one year ago, was Randolph's first club show. Exposed to music mostly through church, he knew hip-hop and Michael Jackson, yet first heard the Allman Brothers and Jimi Hendrix this past year—a logical extension from Vaughan, an introduction made by a church friend in 1998.

"When I first saw [Vaughan on video], it was like 'Wow, the expression that he plays with is soulful and he just goes for it,'" Randolph says. "Actually, getting into the Stevie Ray stuff helped me to develop my own style. I'm playing licks by people from our church, and stuff from Stevie Ray, and bringing it all together with my own ideas."

Bringing rock arrangements to gospel songs like "I Don't Know What You've Come to Do" (the aforementioned call to stomp and scream), much less a cover of Hendrix's "Voodoo Chile," isn't what church elders would prefer, though.

"They only want you playing in church," says Randolph, whose father is a deacon and his mother a minister. "That's the way some church people think. Others are like, 'Go for it, do what you gotta do. Share the music with other people.'"

In any case, the pedal-steel guitar (a complex instrument of pitch-changing pedals and knee levers to which Randolph has added rock devices like a distortion pedal) offered him an intense focus away from the urban streets of Irvington, N.J.

"I sold drugs and stuff like that, some crooked things as well. That's just part of growing up. You do things, living in the neighborhood and seeing all your friends doing it," says Randolph, on the phone from his Newark-area home after a whirlwind eight gigs in five days, and before a flight to Switzerland the next day for a festival. "Your family's in the church and that sheds some light on things, opens up your mind a bit, to look around you."

Now he's suddenly poised as a rare instrumentalist to make a secular turn to the mainstream, just as Sam Cooke, Aretha Franklin and Al Green once did. "More people need to hear it, and enjoy it, and the more people, the better," Randolph says. His Family Band with bassist-singer Danyell Morgan, hard-hitting drummer Marcus Randolph (both his cousins) and organist John McGinty just recorded a live CD in New York for an independent fall release, and he's negotiating with various labels to put out a studio album next spring.

"I'm hoping that one day, we won't only be playing at Bill's Bar, but be playing the FleetCenter," he says. "People say if you go to a bigger place like that, the music changes. But not with this music. It's not going to change."

"It's not like we're getting one type of crowd—we're getting all types of crowds," Randolph says. "Wherever you're at, good music will always uplift somebody." iB

Robert Randolph and the Family Band

Play the Paradise Sept. 28.



The Pills' CD-release show is at Bill's Bar Sept. 14.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

AFI and American Nightmare
Sept. 22, Axis

Lauri Anderson
Sept. 15, Sanders Theatre

B.B. King, Buddy Guy, John Haitt and Tommy Castro
Sept. 12, FleetBoston Pavilion

Ben Folds
Sept. 15, Avalon

The Big Wu
Sept. 22, The Somerville Theater

Black Eyed Peas
Sept. 25, Axis

Built to Spill
Sept. 17, 18 and 19, Paradise Rock Club

David Byrne and Si Se
Sept. 21, Avalon

Charlatans
Sept. 15, Paradise

Ray Davies
Sept. 22, Sanders Theatre

Howie Day
Sept. 20 and 21, Paradise

Deep Banana Blackout
Sept. 21, The Roxy

Melissa Ferrick
Sept. 22, Avalon

Five Iron Frenzy, Relient K, Ace Troubleshooter and John Reuben
Sept. 16, Axis

The Guess Who
Sept. 14, Tweeter Center

Incubus
Sept. 18 and 19, Avalon

Khaled and Hakim
Sept. 22, Orpheum Theatre

Lifehouse, the Calling, Michelle Branch
Sept. 26, Avalon

Lit
Sept. 14, Axis

John Mayer
Sept. 22, Paradise

John Mellencamp
Sept. 13, Tweeter Center

MixFest 2001
Sept. 22, Foxboro Stadium

moe.
Sept. 14 and 15, Orpheum

Ocean Colour Scene
Sept. 21, Axis

Oldies 103.3 Ledgends Concert
Sept. 14, FleetBoston Pavilion

O-Town
Sept. 16, FleetBoston Pavilion

Ozomatli
Sept. 23, Paradise

Rustic Overtones
Sept. 13, Paradise

Sigur Ros
Sept. 21, Berklee Performance Center

Stereophonics
Sept. 20, Avalon

Tool
Sept. 21, Tweeter Center

Weezer
Sept. 25, Tweeter Center

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Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar Hip-hop Live: KT with Ballistik 82, illin P and Cloxworx, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Club Passim Hottest from the Campfire with Brian Joseph, "Angels in The Round" (Jodi Sheeler, Emily Curtis and Gabrielle) and Karaugh Brown.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzalez Band, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls
Harper's Ferry Psychedelic Breakfast.
Hennessy's Me & Julio
House of Blues Ball in the House and Little Horse, 8:30pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Bruce Molsky, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Bruce Goldish, 8:30pm; The Jaded Salingers, 10:15pm; Rose Gerber & Josh Magis, 9:15pm, $5, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Creme Broulee, 21+.
Middle East U: Califone, $7, 18+. D: Phoenicia, Richard Devine, Otto Von Shirach and DJ Aura, 8pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Mercury with U-Meleni, 9pm, no cover.
The Rack Star 93.7 with Michael Knight and Divercity, 6-10pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm-2am, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Fritz @ The Cats, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Early Show featuring Stephane Wremble, 7-9pm; Stan Martin & Amber Caseres, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place DeathRay Davies, Apollo Sunshine (ex Cash), Centromatic and Clumsy, $7.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton and The Lot Six with Moth, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Club Passim Stacey Earle and Mark Stuart, 8pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, Rhythm Method, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
Harper's Ferry The Yayhoos with Virgil Cain and Ray Mason Band, $11, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 21+.
House of Blues Umphrey's McGee, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Billy Lee Riley, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Ad Frank, 9:15 pm; Chris Mascara, 10pm; Meika Pauley, 10:45pm; Chilly Kurtz Combo, 11:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 21+.
Middle East U: The Moldy Peaches and Kevin Tihista's Reds Terror, $7, 18+. D: Board of Education.
Milky Way Lovewhip and Jama Jigi, 9pm, $8.
Paradise Rustic Overtones, 8pm, 18+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 with Gregg, Erin and Kelly; Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Ricky, 21+.
Scullers Keely Smith, 8pm, $35.



moe. plays Sept. 14 and 15 at the Orpheum.

Tír na nÓg Dave Champagne, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ms. Pigeon, Arlo, Cropduster and High Ceilings, $7.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Atlantic 101 Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar The Pills' CD-release with Banjo Spiders and David Aaronoff and the Details, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Club Passim Fishken & Groves CD-release show with Steve Sadler and Geoff Bartley, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles and Soul City, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Dog House, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Entrain, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30pm; DJ Brian 9pm-1:30am.
House of Blues Reincarnation, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Cash Brothers, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Michael Fracasso, 9:30pm; Sam Hooper, 10:30pm; Shellye Valauskas, 11:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Chandler Travis Philharmonic, 21+.
Middle East U: The Weakerthans, Atom and His Package and Scared of Chaka, $8, 18+. D: The Faint, Outhud and the Walkmen, $8, 18+. C: Katrin.
Milky Way Moroccan Night featuring Ganoua and Andaluz, 9pm, $9, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Brogue, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Todd, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Dis'n'Dat, 11pm, $8.
Scullers Keely Smith, 8 and 10:30pm, $40.
Tír na nÓg The Benders, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Big Ray and the Futuras, no cover.
Top of the Hub Bill Lowe and Chuck Langford with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Wesley Willis, the Shazam and Grand Buffet, $8.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch with Jon Jarvis; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar Sense Field with Orange Island and Salter, 5:30pm, $8, all ages.
Club Passim Jeff Cohen and Barbara Kessler, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzalez Band, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Classic Trax.
Harper's Ferry Entrain and Jennifer Nettles Band, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7:30pm; DJ Bill 9pm-1:30pm.
House of Blues Shemekia Copeland, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Conehead Buddha, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Jessica Weiser, 9:30pm; McCarthy's Finger, 10:30pm; Coby Brown Group, 11:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Ray Corvair Trio, 21+.
Middle East U: To Roccoco Rot with Isound and Marumari, $8, 18+. D: Jade Tree Records Showcase with Owls, Milemarker, New End Original and New Brutalism, $10, 18+. C: Walking Vision Trio.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club with salsa lessons, 8:30pm; DJ Antonio Ortiz, 9:30 pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's Brogue, 21+.
Paradise Charlatans UK, The Webb Brothers, 7pm, $17.50, 18+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 8pm; DJ Ricky, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee and Divercity, 11pm, $8.
Scullers Keely Smith, 8 and 10:30pm, $45.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Dave Johnston, no cover.
Top of the Hub Ron Murphy with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place eX-Girl, Ping Pong Bitches and Freezepop, $10.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 16

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch with the Kevin Beck Duo.
Axis Five Iron Frenzy, 6pm, $20.
Bill's Bar Reggae Sunday with DJ K-Don, Countryspeng and Peppa Tree, 10pm, $10.
Club Passim Ellen Schmidt, Cheryl Perreault and Steve Rapson, 7:30pm, $10.



The cover of *The Noise*'s 20th anniversary issue (above: a takeoff of the *Sgt. Pepper* album cover) is a collage of 57 faces of those who had a great impact on the Boston music scene. In keeping with The Sgt. Pepper theme, bands will perform the entire album at an anniversary party.

Preview

Two Decades of *Noise*

Boston's longest-running independent rock 'zine celebrates its 20th anniversary

When the first issue of T Max's *The Noise* came out in September 1981, it was a couple of single-sided stapled sheets commenting on the local music scene. Twenty years of rock, new wave, punk, pop, rockabilly and genre-flummoxing music reviews and interviews ensued. *Noise* spies scrupulously followed band formations, break ups, live shows and dished all sorts of juicy gossip, slagging the scenesters and publicizing band politics. In celebration of 20 years spent in the 'zine biz, the Middle East opens its upstairs and downstairs for a *Noise* anniversary party. Downstairs features Count Zero, Bleu, Thee Majestic Din Society and All The Queen's Men and upstairs has headliners Asa Brebner, Cheerleadr, The Jumblies and Dr. Frog. Guest vocalists include a parade of local icons, like Willie Alexander, David Minehan, Richie Parsons, Gary Cherone, Frank Rowe, Mr. Curt, Pat McGrath, Charlie Chesterman, Dave Herlihy, John Surette, Linda Viens, Peter Moore, Bleu and Rita & Lolita Flange. Shred and Peter Choyce do some of the hosting duties, and Eric Van supplies a live critique of the show. Sept. 22, 8:30pm, $10 (includes up and down). —*Erin Hagedorn*

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9/6	White Horse Tavern - Allston	9/15	Trinity - Boston
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9/13	Clerys - Boston	9/21	Pour House - Boston
9/13	Hong Kong - Boston	9/27	Kell's - Allston
9/14	Jose McIntyre's - Boston	9/27	Hong Kong - Boston
9/14	Coogan's - Boston	9/28	Mary Ann's - Brighton
9/14	Sissy K's - Boston	9/29	Bell in Hand - Boston
9/15	Purple Shamrock - Boston		

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Modern rockers Lit show off their hybrid styles when they play at Axis Sept. 14.

Dick's Last Resort Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, The Rob Gonzalez Band, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon and Soulhat, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's The Martini Brothers, 5-8pm; Karaoke, 9pm-1am.
House of Blues John Sinclair, 7:30pm, $7, 18+; Vibewise, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Kendall Cafe One Riot and One Ranger, $5
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; Poetry Jam, featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and featured poet Kimmee, 9pm.
Middle East U: Tight Brothers from Way Back When, C-Average and The Cherry Valence, $8, 18+. D: Pedro the Lion, TW Walsh, Seldom and Mighty Flashlight, 8pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Power Surge, 9pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:15pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 7pm, 21+.
Toad Kris Delmhorst, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPT. 17

Bill's Bar Monsta Mondays with DJ Kapt Krunch, Living Sacrifice with Haste, Sky Came Falling and Craig, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Rob and Brian unplugged, no cover, 21+.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Five Pound Brown, $6, 18+.
House of Blues Cousteau, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Denison Witmer, 9pm; The Virgo Party, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open-Mike, 7-9pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Manplanet and Federation X, $7, 18+. D: Acid Mother Temple, $10, 18+. C: Tom Bianchi.
Milky Way Mike Tucker Jazz Quartet, 8pm, $5.
M.J. O'Connors Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Pool Tournament with Back Bay Beat's Steve Torres and DJ Mike Janedy, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Jeff Murray, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10pm; Tim Gearan, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Push Kings, the Sunshine Fix featuring Bill Doss and The Four Corners, $8.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 18

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Open-mike, signups 7:30pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Band Anan, 21+.
House of Blues Cousteau, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Summer Pierre, 9pm; Rama Winslow, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Kudu, Seishi, The All Rectangle and Christopher Pierce, 21+.
Middle East U: Cutthroats 9, Lamont and JJ Paradise Players Club, $7, 18+. D: Apples in Stereo and The Clean, 8pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Mary Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
The Rack Megalodon Jazz, 6-10pm.
Scullers Stingy Brimm Trio, 8 and 10pm, $10.
Toad The Black Eggs, no cover.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Onlys, The Shams and Slot Machine, $5.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Rex Fowler, Terence Martin and Montgomery Delaney, 8pm.
Common Ground tk
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Aberdeen and Evergreen, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Soulwork and Wild Child, 9:30pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Danu, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Winterboy, $5.
Lizard Lounge Creme Broulee, 21+.
Middle East U: Ken Stringfellow and John Vanderslice, $18, 18+. D: El Vez, 8pm, $10, 18+. C: Belly Dancing.
Milky Way Mercury with U-Meleni, 9pm, no cover.
Paradise Built to Spill, The Dillusions, 7pm, 18+, $15
The Rack Star 93.7 with Michael Knight and One People, 6-10pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm-2am, 21+.
Scullers Richard Elliot, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Tír na nÓg The Coots, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Early Show featuring Stephane Wremble, 7-9pm; The Cranktones, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lime Green, Jambone Lewis, Photoflash and Blue Letter Days, $4.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 20

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, Spookie Daly Pride and Katie Terrio CD-release, 9pm, $7, 18+.

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Members of indie-rock band Built to Spill tell us they try to keep things simple.

Preview

Downtempo Rockers

The paradoxical Built to Spill releases a clever new album of melodic guitar rock

Built to Spill is not your typical rock band. Singer Doug Martsch tours in September, because that is when his son Ben goes back to school. Martsch doesn't have Internet access at home and barely knows about the many fan Web sites that are dedicated to the band's trademark dreamy, melodic guitar pop. Nor does Built to Spill create MTV music videos just because it's signed to a major label (Warner Brothers). Martsch prefers the simple, low-key lifestyle, and doesn't strive to maintain an image for the band. In fact, it seems as if BTS aims to, in the words of the last record title, *Keep It Like a Secret*.

Has signing with a major label had much impact on the way BTS operates? No, assures Martsch. "I basically decide what I want to do when I make a record. They've asked us to do some shows, and we've done them. I definitely can understand where people don't agree with empowering any corporation, but I don't think we're doing too much for them."

Built to Spill's new record came out in July and, in typical BTS fashion, has an ironic title, *Ancient Melodies of the Future*. How does it compare with previous albums? Martsch says that the musical process is becoming a little more polished, but also taking more time. "It seems like songs on the new record came from recording snippets of ideas, acoustic ideas, melodies and words randomly. Most of the songs on the new record I recorded and then went back to after a few months. On the other records, the song developed in my head a little more...mostly the songs are simple."

"Simple" is a word that comes up resoundingly for the band—and, while understating the magnificence and depth of its songs, still speaks true to the way that BTS operates. See them Sept. 17, 18 and 19 at the Paradise. *967 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-423-NEXT). —Alexandra Chassanoff*

Club Passim Rob Laurens and Jonathan Pointer, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe, Ricky and the Giants, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Waltham, the Krank Squad and Canine, $10, 18+.
House of Blues Princes of Babylon, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Wolfgang Muthspiel and Mick Goodrick, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Blame Canada, Mia Sheard, Tom Wilson and Dan Bryk, $5.
Lizard Lounge Sticky, the Gladstones and the Gentlemen, 21+.
Middle East U: Easy Action, Liquor Tricks, The Takers and Grand Total, $7, 18+. C: Board of Education.
Milky Way Grubstake, The Mitchells and Naked Sams, 9pm, $7.
Paradise Howie Day, 8pm, $12 advance or $14 at the door.
The Rack Mix 98.5 with Gregg, Erin and Kelly; Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Ricky, 21+.
Scullers Richard Elliot, 8 and 10pm, $22.
Tir na nÓg The Dave Foley Band, 10pm, 21+, no cover.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9pm; Aaron Lippert Band and Francine, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Oneida, Neptune, Rube Waddell and Devil Music $7.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

Atlantic 101 Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Avalon David Byrne, 6pm, $22, 21+.
Axis Ocean Colour Scene, 6pm, $12.
Bill's Bar Mappari with Eric Marcos and Normal Noises, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Club Passim Mark Dix CD-release show, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe and Classic Trax, 10pm, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Superhoney, $10, 21+.
House of Blues Freelance Bishops and Jazz Farmers, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Dan Blakeslee, 9:30pm; Jason Gardner & Tom Bianchi, 10:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge The Electric Logs with the Fearless Leaders, 21+.
Milky Way The Sugar Twins, Back to School Go-Go Party, 9pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's The Symbolics.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Todd, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 11pm, $8.
Scullers T.S. Monk Jr., 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Tir na nÓg Ray Mason, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Edith with Baby Ray, no cover.
Top of the Hub Salim Washington and Mark Greel with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch with Jon Jarvis; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Avalon Melissa Ferrick, 7pm, $17.
Axis AFI, American Nightmare, 5:30pm, $10.
Club Passim Meghan Toohey and Hewitt Huntwork, 7 and 10pm, $13.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, Ricky and the Giants, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Virgil Cain
Harper's Ferry The Mudhens, Mary Prankster and Stargazer Lilly, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Prodigals, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Irish Embassy Pub tk
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Anne Marie Menta, 9:30pm; Palabra, 10:30pm; The Quick Ones, 11:30pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Dennis Brennan, 21+.
Middle East U: *The Noise* 20th Anniversary Party with Cheerleadr, Dr. Frog, $10, 18+. D: Bleu, Count Zero, Thee Majestic Din Society and All the Queen's Men, $10 including both the upstairs and downstairs shows, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club with salsa lessons, 8:30pm; DJ Antonio Ortiz, 9:30pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's The Symbolics, 21+.
Paradise John Mayer, 8pm, $15.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi, 8pm; DJ Ricky, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Kolors, 11pm, $8.
Scullers T.S. Monk Jr., 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Tir na nÓg Mayone Thing, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Armadillos, no cover.
Top of the Hub Ron Murphy with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Paula Kelley CD-release show, Seks Bomba, the Decals and Delicious, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 23

Atlantic 101 Jazz Brunch with the Kevin Beck Duo.
Bill's Bar Reggae Sunday with DJ K-Don, Various Artists Showcase, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The Burren Christopher Williams and James O'Brien, 8pm, no cover.
Club Passim Josh Cole and Jason Harrod, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Silver Lining and The Shauntrelles, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon & Friends, $7, 18+.
House of Blues Pistoleros and Michael Tarbox, 9pm $6, 21+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam and salsa dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Kendall Cafe Ksenia Mack and Friends, $5.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; Poetry Jam featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio and featured poet Rachel Hyman, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East D: Joint Chefs, Red Pill, Three Kings and DJ Eamonn, $10, 18+. C: Noah Maltsberger, 1pm; Balla Tounkara, 10pm.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan & Power Surge, 9pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz Brunch.
Paradise Ozomatli, 7pm, $13, 18+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh Band, 9:15pm.
Tir na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Finbar Doherty with Ry Cavanaugh, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Edith Frost, Willard Grant Conspiracy and Tiger Saw, $8.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, SEPT. 24

Bill's Bar Headbangers Ball with DJ Mike Giosca, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Club Passim Balla Tounkara, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Best Bands Showcase, 18+.
House of Blues Not So Blue Comedy Night featuring Rich Ceisler, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Dana Kletter, 9pm; Josh Rouse, 10pm, $8.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open-mike, 7-9pm; the Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East C: Tom Bianchi.
Milky Way Scarrie Monday with live metal acts, 9pm, $5.
M.J. O'Connors Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Pool Tournament with Back Bay Beat's Steve Torres and DJ Mike Janedy.
Tir na nOg The Coots, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8-10pm; Tim Gearan, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place American Analog Set, AM/FM and Superface, $7.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 25

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Axis Black Eyed Peas, Mystic, 7pm, 18+, $15.
Bill's Bar Funk and Groove with DJ Tim Collins and Distant Relatives with Boatyard Resin, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 7:30pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Michigan Blacksnake, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Kerri Powers, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Simon Snaize, 9pm; Rama Winslow, 10pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Organic Tuesdays at the Lizard, a month-long residency of "Livetronica" with Seishi, Schism, Dat Funky Drumma and Kenwood Dennards Meta-tronica 2.0, 21+.
Middle East U: Dead Moon and Mr. Airplane Man, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Mary, Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
Toad The Black Eggs, no cover.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Plastik, Trucker, Krakow and Trace Element, $4.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.



AM/FM share a bill with American Analog Set and Superface at T.T. the Bear's Place on Sept. 24.

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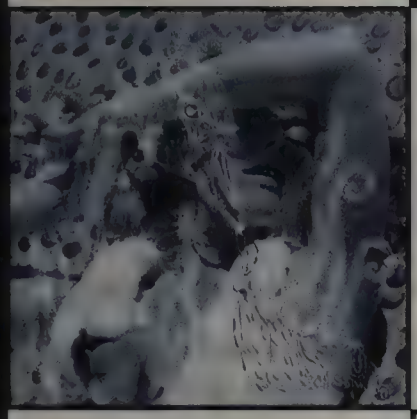


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Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Limbo *49 Temple Place, Boston (617-338-0280). MBTA: Red or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
Maison Robert *45 School St. Boston, (617-227-3370). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
MDC Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston (617-727-1300).*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Colombus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*

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Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Suffolk Downs *111 Waldemar Ave., East Boston (617-567-3900). MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs.*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

advance seating

THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON



Tickets are now on sale for Megadeth.

Tori Amos Oct. 15-16, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Anthrax and Judas Priest Oct. 10, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Björk Oct 12, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Alice Cooper Nov. 1, Orpheum (617-931-2000).
The Black Crowes Oct. 30 and 31, Orpheum (617-931-2000).
Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds Oct. 3, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
The Damned, Swingin' Utters and The Briefs Oct. 19, Axis (NEXT) **Neil Diamond** Oct. 2-3, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Long Beach Dub Allstars Sept. 28, Avalon (*617-423-NEXT*)
Maxwell Oct. 18, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Megadeth Oct. 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Bobby Short and His Orchestra Oct. 4-6, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562-4111).
Stereolab Nov. 6, Avalon (*617-423-NEXT*)
Suzanne Vega Nov. 14, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).



classical music

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 12

Community Sing: Verdi Requiem
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Lorna Cooke de Varon conducts. Please bring your own score.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 13

Community Music Center of Boston
34 Warren Ave., Boston (617-482-7494). Auditions for the Chamber Orchestra, Brass Choir and Woodwind Choir are held today and Sept. 20. Call for an audition.

John Ferguson in Recital
Boston Conservatory, Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (617-264-4501). 8pm. Free. John Ferguson will perform transcriptions of Bach, as well as an eclectic mix of other unusual works.

WCRB Concert Series
MDC Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. Pianist Wendy Chen performs.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 14

Love and Lyricism
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Brahms, Johnson and Schumann will be performed, featuring Elizabeth Anker, contralto.

Music at the Immaculate
Immaculate Conception Church, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). 8pm Suggested donation, $10. Fanfare Consort with Tom Freas, trumpet.

Piano Performance Seminar
New England Conservatory, Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1100). 9:30-11:30am. $15. Today's lecture is titled "Cinematics of Sound I—Madness and Civilization: Psychophysical Ruptures in Mozart's *Piano Sonata in C Minor, K. 457*." Pianist Jon Sakata performs.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 15

Gypsy Melodies
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. D'Anna Fortunato, mezzo-soprano, performs Schubert, Brahms and Dohnányi.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 16

All Verdi Program
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. A string quartet performs arias from *La Traviata*, *Un Ballo in Maschera* and *Rigoletto*.

Classical Indian Music Performance
MIT Tang Center, Wong Auditorium, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge (617-258-7971). 4pm. $10-$100. Indian carnatic vocalists Sesha and Raghava Chary perform.

Curious George Goes to Music School
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1 and 3pm. Free. Celebrate the 60th anniversary of the publication of the first *Curious George* book. The dedication of the 33 Garden St. as the Rey-Waldstein Building follows the 3pm performance.



Christopher Reilly hosts From the Top Sept. 22.

Faculty Recital
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1263). 3pm. Free. Fenwick Smith performs on the flute.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 18

Music in the Moment
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. An evening of dance, jazz and improvisation.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 19

Faculty Recital
New England Conservatory, Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1263). 8pm. Free. Allan Chase performs on the jazz saxophone.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 20

WCRB Concert Series
MDC Hatch Shell, Charles River Esplanade, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 7pm. Violinist Irina Muresanu performs.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 21

Longy Chamber Orchestra
Longy School of Music, Pickman Hall, One Follen St., Cambridge (617-349-0086). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Featuring the winners of Longy's 2001 Concerto Competition with music by Mozart, Barber and Chopin.

Piano Performance Seminar
New England Conservatory, Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1100). 9:30-11:30am. $15. Today's lecture is titled "Luther–Bach–Mozart–Busoni: A Journey." Pianist Veronica Jochum performs.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 22

A Phrase of Notes Resembling Stars: A Salute to American Music
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-427-8200). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 8pm. $14-$28. Chamber music by Aaron Copland, John Knowles Paine, Charles Ives, Elliott Carter and Ellen Taaffe Zwilich will be performed.

WGBH's From the Top Recording
Boston Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 8 The Fenway, (617-536-2412). www.fromthetop.org. *2pm. $7.50 students and seniors, $15 adults.* Soprano Dawn Upshaw is host Christopher Reilly's guest, joining four young performers from around the country.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 23

Classical and Romantic Visions
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (781-224-1117). 3pm. Selections by Handel, Stravinsky, LIszt and Tchaikovsky willbe performed.

Faculty Recital
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1263). 7pm. Free. Kenneth Radnofsky performs on the saxophone.

Classical Indian Music Performance
MIT Tang Center, Wong Auditorium, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge (617-258-7971). 4pm. $14-$17. Hariprasad Chaurasia performs on the bansuri, a North Indian bamboo flute.

Liber unUsualis: Music of the Italian Renaissance
St. Paul's Cathedral, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826x1103). 4pm. $12, $10 students and seniors. The Ensemble in Residence at St. Paul's Cathedral performs.

Sunday Afternoon Concert Series
King's Chapel, School and Tremont streets, Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street. 12:15pm. $25, $20 students and seniors. Daniel Pinkham performs his own music on violin. Proceeds benefit Pinkham Endowment for Music.

WGBH's From the Top Recording
Boston Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 8 The Fenway, (617-536-2412). www.fromthetop.org. *2pm. $7.50 students and seniors, $15 adults.* Upstanding young classical musicians perform.

MONDAY, SEPT. 24

Masterclass: Mark Helia's Open Loose Trio
New Englan d Conservatory, St. Botolph Hall, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617585-1263). 2-4pm. Free. Mark Helias, bass, Tony Malaby, tenor saxophone, and Tom Rainey, drums, perform.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 25

Boston Musical Theater CD Release
Regattabar, Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St., Cambridge (617-876-7777). 8pm. $16. Mara Bonde and Homero Velho perform for the release of the CD *Music of the Americas–South and North.*

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CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Weds.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+.



The youths of Project 10 East undertake projects such as making communities safe.

Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm: Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. The following authors will be reading from their recent works: •Sept. 20: Editor Vickie Nam talks about *Yell-Oh Girls.* •Sept. 21: Achy Obejas discusses *Days of Awe.* •Sept. 23: Jyl Lynn Felman reads from *Never a Dull Moment.* •Sept. 25: Peggy Orenstein talks about her work, *Flux: Sex, Work, Love, Kids and Life in a Half-Changed World.*

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

AIDS Care Project Benefit
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). Sept. 13, 9pm-2am. $5, 21+. Dyke Night Productions' benefit promises to be a good time—set to the sounds of the Maggie Salzberg Band and DJ Mix Mistress.

International Bisexuality Day
Cambridge Friends School (617-927-6032). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Sept. 23, 6-10pm. Join other members of Boston's bisexual community to socialize, dance and celebrate your sexuality.

Out On the Edge Theater
Boston Center for the Arts Theater, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-2787). Sept. 5-29. $22. The Theater Offensive presents the 10th annual Out on the Edge Festival of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Theater. Come see the nation's best queer performers as they premiere their new works, starting with *Dr. Frockrocket's Vivifying (Re-Animatronic) Menagerie and Medicine Show.*

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(617-508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for support and discussion with men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). Every first Tuesday, 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month, 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safter Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month, 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244), 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Community Rainbow
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

FLAG Flag Football
(617-937-5858). Weekends. Join other gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexual friends of all skill levels to play recreational football. Visit www.flagflagfootball.com for information.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (617-822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(617-423-6881). Sundays, 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is a gay swim team.

Long Yang Club
(617-661-9165). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.OuttoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Monday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or by email to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 21, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10 requested donation. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances that honor the world's sacred traditions. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and accompanied by live music.

Psychic Fair
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-876-5980). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 14, 4-9pm; Sept. 16, 11am-7pm. $17-$20 for 20-minute readings. This fun local art gallery introduces the occult art of psychic cognition... for a small fee.

CLASSES

Byron Katie: Methods for Inner Peace
The Swedenborgian Chapel, 50 Quincy St. Cambridge (508-208-5259 or 617-864-4552). www.thework.com. *Sept. 15, 10am-12pm and 2-4pm; Sept. 16, 6-8:30pm. No reservations. Donations accepted. Time* magazine described **Byron Katie** as "a combined mystical guide, wise-cracking therapist and knowing parent." Byron has developed a very simple system for finding the thoughts and beliefs that keep us from living with and knowing true freedom. Come find out her easy secret.

Psychic Development Workshop
Ross Miller, 1075 Washington St., Newton (527-3583). Sept. 15, 10am-4:30pm. Call to register. Join psychic healer **Ross Miller** for an experimental workshop. The program is designed to help you learn to identify your guardian angels/spirit guides and receive their guidance, feel your aura, rediscover your past lives, give psychic readings to others and more.

Stress Management Naturally
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Sept. 19, 7-8:45pm. $15.* **Vera Zachariassen**, master Ki-energy teacher and healer, will teach ways to regain your original health and vitality using the mind-body connection and natural ki-energy to overcome stress.

Transformational Kinesiology: Muscle Testing Basics
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *Sept. 19, 6-9:30 pm. $40.* If your body is uncomfortable and you don't know why, this workshop may help. Learn muscle testing, stress-release techniques, healthful goal setting and energy-clearing using visualizations, eye rotations and more.

Weekend Yoga Workshop With Gabriella Giubilaro
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (617-666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sept. 22, 1-6pm; Sept. 23, 11-5pm. $170 or $95 per day.* **Gabriella Giubilaro** has studied intensively with BKS Iyengar and has been teaching her own school in Florence since 1987. Her infectious good humor and dynamic style has made her popular in workshops throughout the world.

LECTURE

Natural Health Care for Children
Bread & Circus Fresh Pond, 200 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-491-0040). Sept. 24, 6:30-8pm. $5, registration required. This talk will give an overview of naturopathic approaches to common childhood health issues, such as ear infections and allergies.

Teachings of Liberation
Impersonal Enlightenment Fellowship, 4 Foxhollow Drive, Lenox (800-376-3210). www.andrewcohen.org. *Sept. 16, 4:30pm. $15.* Join founder of *What Is Enlightenment?* magazine, **Andrew Cohen**, in a dynamic inquiry into the questions at the heart of humanity's search for wholeness, meaning and transcendence.

ONGOING

Astanga Focus Class
Metropolitan Fitness, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-927-2274). www.bostonfitness.com. *Wed., 6pm.* This 30-minute yoga class with **Marc McDonald** will focus on one or two Astanga postures each week. Great for beginners as well as advanced students who want to perfect their postures.



Byron Katie teaches Methods for Inner Peace.

Contact Improvisation Jam
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-320-9792) MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 8-10pm. $7-$10. Join three movement teachers, **Gene Broadway**, **Amy Dore** and **Patrick Crowley**, in a workshop that is freeing, exciting and an enjoyable way to dance with others.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-497-8041). Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Drop-in Yoga
Peace Power Yoga, 25 Monmouth St., Church of Our Savior, Brookline (617-277-YOGA) http://hometown.aol.com/peacepoweryoga. *MBTA: C Green Line to St. Mary's. Tue., 7:30am and 7:30pm. Thu., 6pm; and Sat., 9:30am. $10 per class.* Drop in on a class for a powerfully peaceful time.

Healthy Practices
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http://dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *First Tai Chi class is free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Check these classes out: •Tai Chi lunch hour: Tue./Fri., 12:30-1:30pm •Kung Fu: Wed., 5-6pm •Taoist Qi Gong: Tue., 7-8pm •Tai Chi and self defense: Tue., 8-9pm.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teacher. All sessions are open to and appropriate for anyone seeking or already on a personal spiritual path.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (617-362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover a stress-reducing exercise that enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-$18. Call ahead.* This peaceful and inviting environment offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Back Bay & South End
83 Appleton St., Boston (617-536-5954). MBTA Green Line to Copley. $15/session. Call ahead. Drop in on any class. •Hatha yoga and meditation: Mon./Wed., 8-9pm, and Tue./Thu., 6:30-7:30pm.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (617-731-0991). www.newdirections forhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17 per session. Join anytime or drop in (call ahead).* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar, plus Pilates, Reiki, Embodiment Bodywork and family relaxation classes.

Yoga/Harvard Square
Portia Brockway in Cambridge (617-864-YOGA). www.yogainharvardsquare.com. *MBTA Red Line to Harvard. $17. Drop-in.* Portia Brockway teaches a flowing and moderate yoga style for everyone interested (and especially for women who are prenatal or postnatal). •Regular group meets: Mon., 6pm; Tues., 5:45pm; Wed., 9:30am; Sat., 9am •Prenatal group meets: Mon., 7:30pm; Tues./Wed., 4:15pm •Postnatal moms with new babies meet: Wed., 11:15am. Beginners welcome.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 617-482-4SOX
Sept. 18, 7:05pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Sept. 19, 7:05pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Sept. 20, 7:05pm vs. Tampa Bay Devil Rays
Sept. 21, 7:05pm vs. Detroit Tigers
Sept. 22, 5:05pm vs. Detroit Tigers
Sept. 23, 1:05pm vs. Detroit Tigers
Sept. 24, 7:05pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 25, 7:05pm vs. Baltimore Orioles

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 617-931-2222
Sept. 21, 7:00pm vs. Florida Panthers (preseason)

Events

3rd Annual Long Island Striped Bass Fishing Derby
Long Island, Boston Harbor. Sept. 15, 9am-6pm; Sept. 16, 6am-6pm; Sept. 30, 6am-4pm. 617-635-4505, x6414. Get while the gettin's good, because the Boston Parks and Recreation Department is issuing only 750 permits per day for this derby. So it's first come, first serve for access to primo striper fishing. Prizes that will be awarded for the three biggest fish include a rod, a half-day charter and various and sundry items of value to fishing-oriented individuals.

U.S. Open Squash at Symphony Hall
Symphony Hall, Fenway. 877-524-5685. Sept. 13-16, various times. Like watching squash? Like Symphony Hall? Well then, we bet you'll *love* watching squash in Symphony Hall. The top 28 squash players in the world will duke it out at the U.S. Open Squash Championships, which will be the first-ever sporting event held in the venerable venue. Local squash maestro Mark Lewis, the head professional at Boston's Union Boat Club, will compete in the qualifying tourney.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players age 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practice takes place Sunday at 11am.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through August. Men's and women's divisions are open.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (617-308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (617-789-4070)

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

POLO

Stage Hill Polo and Riding School
Topsfield Fair Grounds, Topsfield (356-5601). Mon. and Wed., 6-8pm; Sat., 1pm. $300/mo. For people looking to actually play the sport depicted on their Ralph Lauren shirts, Stage Hill provides the equipment, horses and lessons. No prior riding experience is necessary.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/ bostonhhh. Weekly runs year round. Serious drinkers with a running problem.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(617-789-4070, ext. 225). Coed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Coed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (617-523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Community Boating is the largest and oldest nonprofit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for $190 per season, including instruction.



Surfcaster Ron Arra addresses anglers at the Striper Derby.



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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Dralion: Cirque du Soleil
Suffolk Downs, Route 1A and 145, East Boston (800-678-5440). www.cirquedusoleil.com. *Tue.-Wed., 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 5 and 9pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun. 1 and 5pm. Through Sept. 16. $38-$60.* A two-hour circus-art spectacle, fusing ancient Chinese acrobatic tradition with the avant-garde approach of Cirque du Soleil.

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). Thursdays and Fridays, 8pm. Through October. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts life in Revolutionary Boston.

Snoopy
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Sept. 30. $21. The Peanuts gang comes to life.

THINGS TO DO

Arlington Center for the Arts
41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Begin. Sept. 20. $110-$125. Classes are offered for a wide variety of interests, including artistic development, painting, comics, cartooning and illustration.

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (617-679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Saturdays, 12pm. Staff members read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Boston by Little Feet
Samuel Adams Statue at Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-3766). Sat. and Mon., 10am; Sun., 2pm. This tour of the Freedom Trail's architecture caters to young walkers.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tuesdays, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of storytelling fun.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). Fridays, 6-8pm; Saturdays and Sundays, 11am-1pm. Through the end of September. $7, $6 children. Kids can celebrate numbers and problem-solving techniques at "Figure It Out" stations.

Harvard Coop Craft and Story Hour
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). Saturdays, 11am. Free. •Sept. 15: *Meet the Barkers* by Tomi De Paola. Make seed mosaics. •Sept. 22: *Franklin's Neighborhood* by Paulette Bourgeois. Make paper-plate turtles.

Newton Free Library Programs
330 Homer St., Druker Auditorium, Newton (617-552-7145). Preregistration required. •Sept. 13, 4pm. Ages 5 and older: Venezuela World Cultures Program. Children will be introduced to the country and culture of Venezuela through a story, fun craft and a snack. •Sept. 14 and 21, 10:30am: Kids and their parents can come and enjoy films for preschoolers. Sept. 18 and 25, 2:15pm: Storytimes for Kids. Staff read stories for children ages 2 to 4. •Sept. 25, 3:30pm. Ages 7 and older: Science Tuesday. Discover the principles and relationships of construction behind building a two-story GeoDome.

Urban Nutcracker Auditions
Jamaica Plain School of Dance, 179 Armory St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-4381). Sept. 16, 12-4pm. Dance auditions will be held for a new *Urban Nutcracker*. Both boys and girls ages 7 and older can be part of a fun and innovative production with only basic skills required.

Yoga for Youngsters
Gymboree, 3 Crescent St., Waltham (781-736-0081). Through Nov. 1. $120. Children ages 5 to 11 can experience yoga games, stretches and relaxation techniques from Lisa Orkin of Lotus Blossom Yoga.

Kids Day at Verrill Farm
11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). Sept. 23, 1-4pm. $10. Ten chefs and reporters (including the IMPROPER's own Dish columnist Carolyn Faye Fox) and their 10-year-old children will offer samples of their favorite vegetable dish at this day of hay rides, ice cream sundaes and educational and fun activities.



around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (617-338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights). Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (617-242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (617-572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and 12-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (617-566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theatre, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half-hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(617-357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.



Trinity Church in Copley Square Plaza

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Be a friend to a young girl. Info sessions: Sept. 13, 19 and 25, 6-7pm.

Book Drive
Starbucks Coffee locations. Through Oct. 2. Donate a new or gently used children's book to benefit Jumpstart.

Boston Cares
(617-263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Community Servings
(617-445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children. Training sessions: Sept. 12 and 13.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-972-1702). Volunteer to provide practical and emotional support to terminally ill patients. Training program: Sept. 22, 9am-3:30pm.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an isolated elderly individual.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

One With One
(617-254-1691). Sept. 12. Tutor an immigrant in English in preparation for the American workplace.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(617-375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996, ext. 11). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program. Training begins in September.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Volunteer Fair
Boston Marriott, Copley Square, Boston (617-267-4430). Sept. 20, 4-8pm. Representatives from more than 192 non-profits will be on-hand to sign up volunteers.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.

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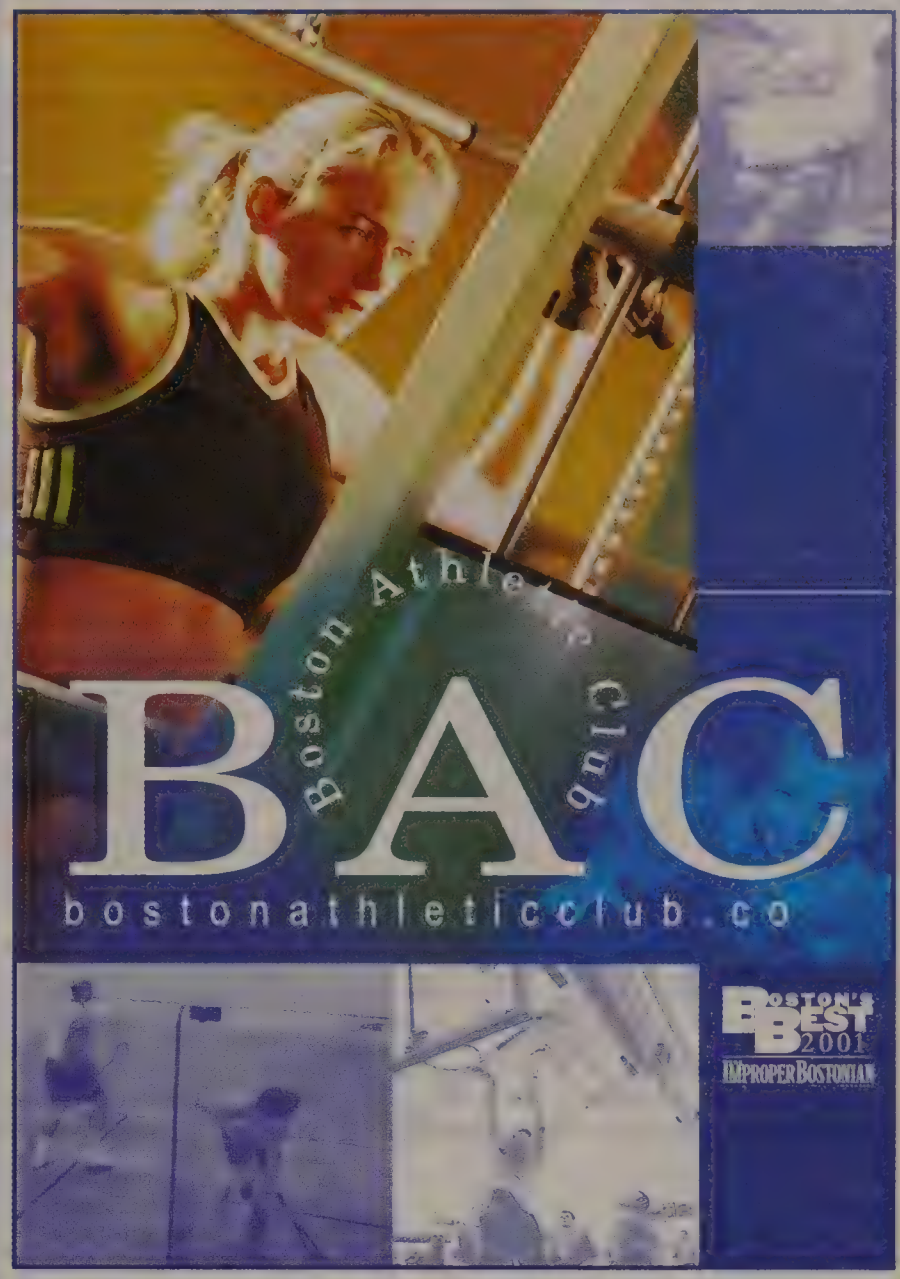
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IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Bill the Lacrosse Guy
We were talking at the Sheraton bar at the Prudential Center, Aug. 7 at around midnight. You: a kind faced soul who plays lacrosse and was meeting your teammates for a drink. Me: long-brown-haired,eyeglasses-bespectacled girl at the bar wearing a lavender sleeveless sweater. I was waiting for a failed introduction to someone else, we talked and then were rudely interrupted by the failed attempt. You left saying I blew you off, but it wasn't like that. I'd like to finish that beer that we started drinking together. You were handsome and sweet and I'm sorry things ended so abruptly. Please e-mail me back so that I can explain.
—sheratongirl@msn.com

Megret:
We started work on the same day and met at orientation. I'm so glad that we did. I know that I've said this a million times, but you made every day of that year so fun. I love your sense of humor and I love that you love mine, too. I couldn't have asked for a better benchmate. You are super-special, and I seriously feel like I am a better person for knowing you. You're going to do great things. I miss you lots! Love,
—Me

An Address to the Men of Boston:
Where are you? We are two young professional women who want to have some fun. We are sexy, fun, probably overqualified for most of you, damn good cooks, and equally comfortable watching the game or being wined and dined. Currently accepting applications for men who are intelligent, good looking, on their way to the top, and funny as hell. References are required!
—bostongirls2001@yahoo.com

Public Nuisance
You know who you are. You ride the Green Line every day and can't wait for other passengers to exit before pushing your way onto the train while other, more courteous riders shake their heads and stare in disgust. You don't care, though, you keep moving. You're also the one who sits on the inside of a double seat and can't wait for the train to come to its usual jolting stop before standing and pushing at the other person blocking your way so you can have the privilege of exiting before everyone else. You must be so important that you deserve the right to be openly rude. Do you realize that when you stand in the stairwell to make sure that you're the first person off at a stop 20 minutes away that you are, in reality, holding up the train by slowing down the hundreds of other riders who also paid their fare? Do you know that your backpack adds another 15 inches to your girth and that every time you lean back or swing to the side you're usually hitting someone in the face? Are you on your way to open-heart surgery or some other life-and-death situation? If you're so important, then why are you riding the train? Or perhaps you're the one with the cell phone and feel the need to share your inane banter with everyone. How urgent can that call be if the subject of your conversation is what stop is coming next? Maybe you sneeze into the open air or forget basic hygiene is usually required more than once a week. Any way you look at it, someday your inconsiderate behavior will come back to you and you won't be prepared. There's a reason they call it public transportation. Your dollar is worth the same as mine.
—rudeawakening8am @hotmail.com

J
"Mommy's 'Lil Monster" certainly stared at your flowered shorts. Your legs were wide open. Crush? Not hardly. The Behan, rodeos, mechanical bulls and life lessons did not prepare me for the centrifugal force on my legs when trapped between your man's thighs. Move together with you? Is there another way? OK.
—Roomie

Aug. 17
You just turned the corner onto Beacon Street and you gave me one look. Ever had someone level with just a quick glance? I never did until that day. I can't even remember what you were wearing but those eyes and that shy, but playful smile you gave me are something I will never forget. Me: Sweat pants, white T-shirt, on rollerblades with a bunch of milk crates, at the entrance of my apartment. Oh, how I so wanted to talk with you but I passed up the chance because for one, I was so startled after seeing you turn the corner that I would've probably tripped and made a fool out of myself trying to walk down the steps of my apartment in rollerblades. And honestly, I just didn't have the courage that day. E-mail me so we can get together for coffee and I can look into those gorgeous eyes once again.
—theeyeshaveit56@hotmail.com

To My Angel
You've been so good to me. I don't know quite how to thank you for simply being you. I know we've been through so much and I've been the cause of most of the problems. I just hope you know how sorry I am for it all—and how grateful I am for you to have forgiven me. You've made me happier than you'll ever know. I will love you forever and hope that we'll never again be apart.
—Bub

Looking To Connect With My Other Half
I'm 25 years old now. I was born on April 2, 1976, to a wonderful woman named Mary, a Chelsea resident. I was born in Lynn City Hospital. I'm not looking for money—just looking for the other half of my family. I hope someone who reads this and knows anything will respond.
—KTS040276@aol.com

T Man
I hope your Boston friends show you this. We met on the Green Line at Longwood on Aug. 21 around 11am and you got off at Park St. You: a pretty brunette from Virginia with a gray top and black skirt and striking green eyes. We had a pleasant chat about your son and your summer-long stay in Boston. You actually touched my heart a bit with what you are dealing with. I would love to talk again before you head home.
—greenline_man@yahoo.com

On the D Line
Aug. 21, about 4:30pm, outbound. We made eye contact a few times, I still can remember your blue eyes and your cute smile. I was wearing a beige shirt. You were sitting on the right side of the train and reading some Tarot(?) cards. I got off at Brookline Village and we made eye contact again while I was waiting for the door to open, but I was too shy to say anything but bye. I'd love to see your smile again. Hope to hear from you!
—mauri2001@yahoo.com

S-
It was two years. Yes—some times sucked. Yet, some were so great. I just want you to know that I think you are such a great guy. I would trust you with my life. I have such emotion and mixed feelings about our friendship, but all in all, I think something is there. Life's too short.
—whatsmeanttobewillbe @hotmail.com

Wining and Dining
I met you at Club Cafe on Aug. 13. You bought me a glass of wine. We had a great conversation that I wish could have lasted longer. Unfortunately, you had to leave abruptly. I am back at home now, beginning a new school year, but I would love to correspond over e-mail. If we had more time that night, I think we would have become good friends.
—talkoverwine@hotmail.com

Rockie Horoscope

SEPTEMBER 12 – 25, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



VIRGO AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Chances are you won't get into as many arguments or feel you're being provoked after hot-tempered Mars leaves philosophical Sagittarius for Capricorn, an earth sign that usually doesn't upset you. Actually, an infusion of Capricorn practicality will serve your interests well, especially when dealing with family, household or real estate matters that have been a source of contention for the better part of the year. Now is also a good time to start gathering the info you think you'll need while your Mercury ruler is retrograde for the better part of October.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
As long as you're being entertained and creative ideas are flying back and forth, hardly anything you come across now will seem too wild or too weird. Your revolutionary spirit is being tweaked by irreverent, inventive Uranus in your house of fun and games at the same time that your Venus ruler in Leo is showing off. What sort of climax will result, what shibboleths will be shattered and which pieces will friends and associates wind up putting together after you have this cataclysmic change of heart mid month? Who knows.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Once your Mars co-ruler gets comfortable in conservative Capricorn, you're bound to be more prudent about financial matters and less willing to spend like a drunken Centaur. This doesn't mean you'll lose sight of the big picture—not while your Pluto co-ruler remains in optimistic Sagittarius—but you're liable to make executive-type decisions, to act less like the guru and more like the autocrat. This period won't last long; about the time Scorpio starts, Mars ascends into a more rarified atmosphere, and so do you.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
It'll take a little while to adjust to the fact that energetic, impulsive Mars is no longer in your sign, fueling the interests that sports-minded, animal-loving Archers have in common. But since nothing more challenging might come up than defending your reputation—from a family member?—relax and enjoy the romantic overtures and aesthetic goodies Venus in luxurious Leo is offering for as long as she's in the mood. Another week and the goddess could turn all virginal and prissy on you.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Do you feel different? Are you hot and horny all the time now that sexy Mars is in your sign? It's been two years, and it'll be another two after he leaves around Halloween until the macho man comes back. Do you need to be reminded to take advantage of every opportunity to score and, as long as you have this big set of psychological balls, to make a few overtures yourself? This infusion of energy can also be applied to an ambition or secret desire you've been harboring. But October is not the time to have your eyes done: Mercury is retrograde.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
The only thing to upset the easygoing groove you're in, to give you more than a moment's pause, is the excitement Venus can generate when the goddess of good times opposes your intuitive Uranus ruler the weekend of the 14th. Let's hope that the friction arouses more than a passing interest in an attractive partnership possibility or a social lion who's stalking your mate. Either/or can be a bore, but some truly original ideas might come out of this encounter. Don't trivialize it.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
Not every Fish is dangling from the hook that the heavy-duty Saturn-Pluto opposition dropped. If you weren't born at the beginning of March, there's a good chance that all you have to deal with now is a partner with a bitch and that'll disappear soon after Libra starts. But if your Pisces sun hovers between 10-18 degrees, then do the best you can when you know you're being manipulated or when your frustration with a parent or landlord overwhelms you. The situation is not going away, not yet.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
If you broke new ground during the past seven months, now is the time to solidify your gains and pour a solid foundation to build on. Because your Mars ruler works best in Capricorn, the sign of the chief executive, you can succeed by blending the Ram's assertiveness with the Goat's patience and prudence. Until you have to put a costume together for Halloween, knowing instinctively when to push and when to play the waiting game can be the most fun you'll have all autumn.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Twinges of jealousy may be particularly strong right now, but they can be appeased by an infusion of common sense or lots of dollars and cents. While Venus favors earthbound Saturn, you might acquire a major appliance, although "serious" jewelry would suit you better. During Venus' annual trip through Leo, the desire to adorn yourself or add some flash-and-dash to your scene at home can be irresistible. If you don't get what you want, rebel against authority when Venus opposes independent Uranus on the 13th. It's only natural to have a change of heart then, too.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
One way or another, you'll succeed in directing almost everybody's attention your way. While your Mercury ruler is in lovable Libra, people tend to react well to your charm and wit, instead of recoiling from the incessant second-guessing: "What do you think I should do?" Although this wave of popularity might not yield the romantic results you prefer, it can raise your standing with someone who wields considerable clout. P.S.—Until solar Virgo ends on the 22nd, household and family issues pop up to test your patience.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
While energetic Mars travels through Capricorn, you'll be encouraged, if not badgered, to do more and do it according to Hoyle. Following rules and regulations, learning the lessons of history before you're condemned to repeat them and dealing with pissed-off people is the course the gig may take until you break for Halloween. After that, you're off the hook. Right now neighbors and spiritual siblings are your biggest fans. Gracefully accept their help if problems arise when Mercury messes with your transportation and communication devices.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Poring over the small print, picking the perfect pen for the job at hand, acquiring the latest equipment to better organize you and your stuff is the type of pleasure you get when your sun ruler passes through detail-driven Virgo. However, this short, relatively painless period ends with the onset of autumn and fashionable, art-loving Libra. So before you focus on updating your wardrobe, getting together with friends you haven't seen in a while and checking out what the fall season has to offer, clean up your act.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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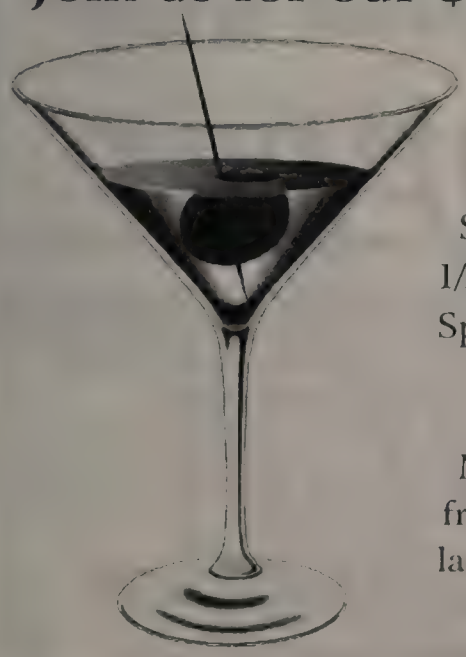
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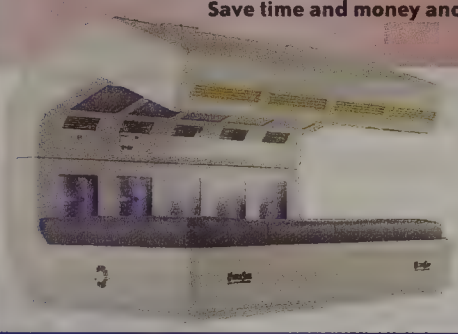
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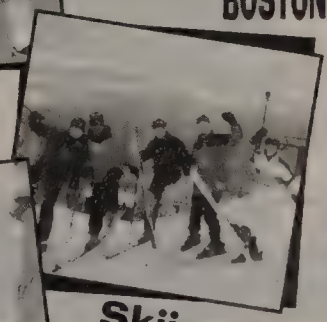
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restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

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Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

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BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

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The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

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The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to

10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich Street, Boston, MA, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday and Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

CLUBS

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN'S client-related promotions and events

On Tuesday, Aug. 25, the **The Sports Club/LA** hosted a grand open house to display it's state-of-the-art fitness facility in Boston. The 100,000-square-foot club consists not only of the typical weight training equipment but a basketball court, spa and indoor lap pool.







1. **Smaiyra Million**, GM of The Sports Club/LA, and **Rob Affuso** of New York's Soul System Orchestra.
2. **Richie Balsbaugh**, broadcaster; his wife, **Maureen**, an interior designer; and film producer **Mitchell Robbins**.
3. **Nanette Pattee Francini**, co-founder of The Sports Club/LA with her daughter **Coco**.

On Wednesday, Aug. 29th, City Councilman Brian Honan entertained guests on the *Provincetown II* for a Boston harbor cruise sponsored by **Roggie's New Age Bar & Grille**.









1. **Derric Small, Brooke Woodson** and **Hayley Shaddon** of Mayor Menino's office, City Councilman **Brian Honan** of Allston-Brighton.
2. **Blaire Newcomb** of Roggie's, **John Rogaris**, owner of Roggie's and The Avenue; **Katerina Klebanov** and **Elizabeth Sandell**, both of Roggie's.
3. **Liz Douglas** of Roggie's and The Avenue, **Amanda Gramse**, rep. for Jagermeister and **Melanie Mathews** of Roggie's and The Avenue.
4. **J. Ignatius Mulligan** of Brighton, **Mark Tobin** of Brighton, state representative **Brian P. Golden** and police officer **Mike Duggin**.

On Aug. 22 the **American Red Cross**, **The Rack** and **Boston Ski and Sports Club** hosted their 2nd Annual Rack 'n' Roll Reggae Splash Party, which benefits the American Red Cross. Guests included members of the Boston Cannons and Skip Kelly of Kiss 108 FM.





1. Members of the American Red Cross, **Mary Halpin, Gabriela Seider, Jen Roberts** and **Jessica Stokes**.
2. **Mike Battista** with The Boston Cannons, **Finula O'Murcha**, a Boston Ski & Sport member, **Ryan Curtis** with the Boston Cannons, **Shannon Lanbauer**, a American Red Cross member, and **Kevin O'Brien**, a Boston Cannon.

PHOTOS: THE SPORTS CLUB/LA, WENDY SEMONIAN; ROGGIE'S, MARC BRIGHTMAN; RED CROSS, CARRIE WALLACE

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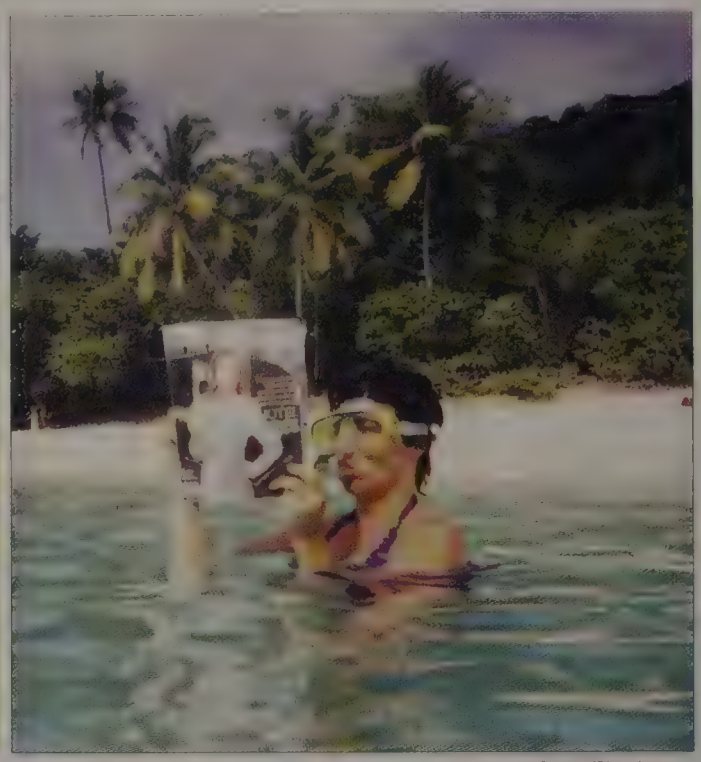
Improper Sightings

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Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame.)



Jack Morris went heli-hiking in zee Alps. The helicopter didn't have machine guns or Hellfire missiles like Airwolf, but it was still pretty cool, he says.



Lisa Eastman won't let her lone Improper out of her sight. The last one was stolen by a sea turtle. Damn those giant sea turtles.



Ronald Contrado, president of Homisco, Inc., with his Improper in Mauritania, Africa.



Suzanne Nowak went to Lynchville, Maine, where they let a smart feller name all the close-by towns, so's they don't have good names like Skaggsville.



The Honorable Buddy Cianci, mayor of Providence, R.I., reads The Improper Bostonian to stay on top of what's happening in his second-favorite city.

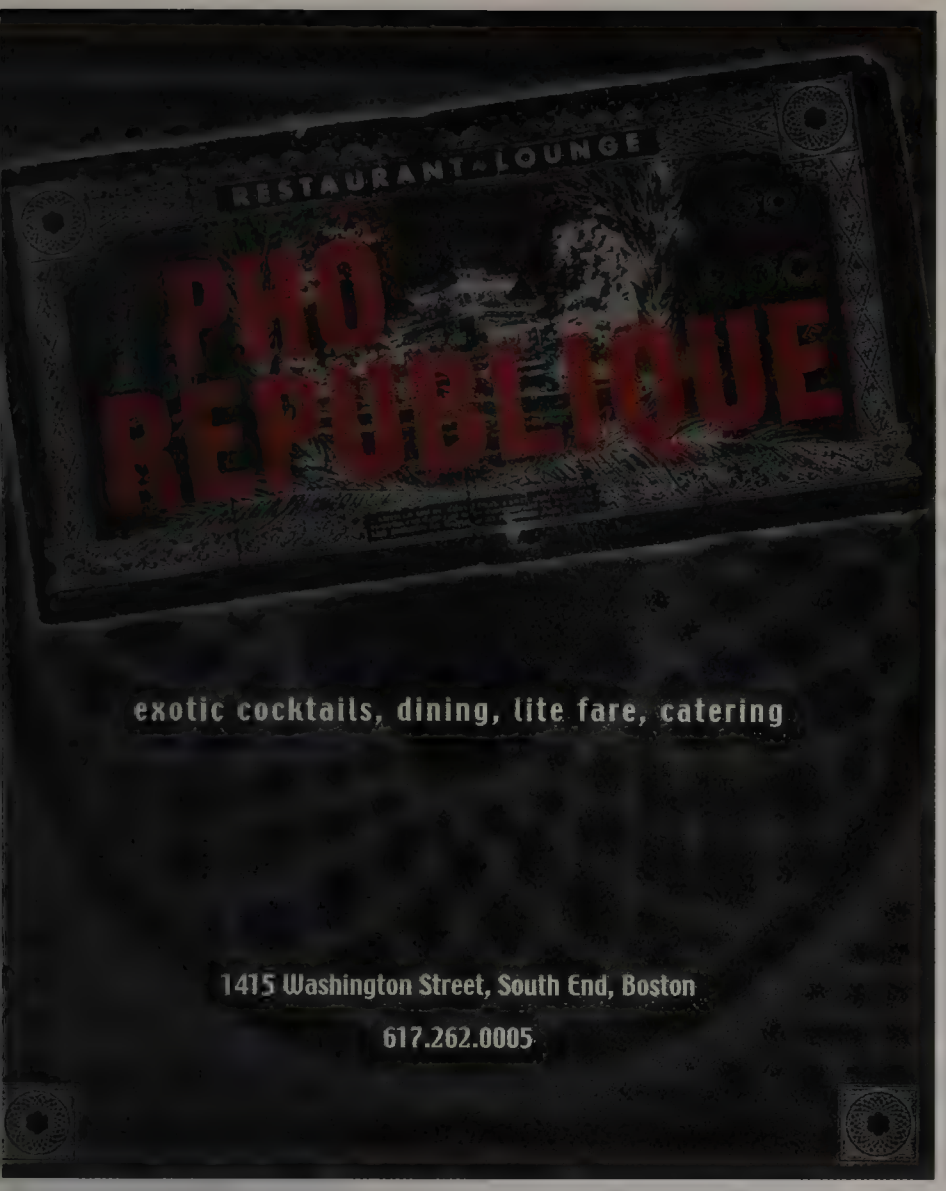


Mike and Sue Hazard visited the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. They found that the locals spoke plenty of English, mostly the phrase "Pay the bribe and you will live." Needless to say (but we'll say it), The Improper Bostonian was better currency than blue jeans.

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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF





At Cirque du Soleil: a greeter at the cast party (left); Bo Harris and Paul Breen.

THE TRIPPIEST SHOW ON EARTH...

If running away to join the circus ever appealed to you, the opening night of **Cirque du Soleil**'s **Dralion** would've sealed the deal.

The Montreal-based circus buried the racetrack at **Suffolk Downs** with a giant blue big top and some seriously hallucinogenic visuals, reducing a crowd of otherwise dignified big shots into open-mouthed 6-year-olds gawking at the antics of a birthday party magician.

Spotted in the audience: TV eminence grise **Frank Avruch** (who, incidentally, began his career playing Bozo the Clown) and his lovely wife, **Bette**; ruby-throated radio personality **Ron della Chiesa** and his lovely wife, **Joyce**; humble innkeeper **Robin Brown** (lately of the Four Seasons); social lioness **Wendy Shattuck**; wine merchant **Marc Sachs**; fitness magnate **Jason Klein** of the Beacon Hill Athletic Clubs; martial arts star (at least in the privacy of his own home) **Peter Jue**; South End party pair **Bo Harris** and **Paul Breen** (collectively known as the Bo-Paul Disaster); WBCN's unreconstructed punk, **Oedipus**; and South Shore emergency room doctor **Rick Herman** (who, oddly enough, can't stand the sight of blood).

At the cast party, guests all hopped up on the adrenaline of watching could mix and mingle with performers all hopped up on the adrenaline of performing. To the strains of a punk-mambo band called **Babaloo**, male guests flirted hopefully with contortionists from the troupe, and the general consensus among the women and gay men was that the juggler was just about the sexiest thing alive.

Among the evening's most amusing exchanges:

"I love your hair."

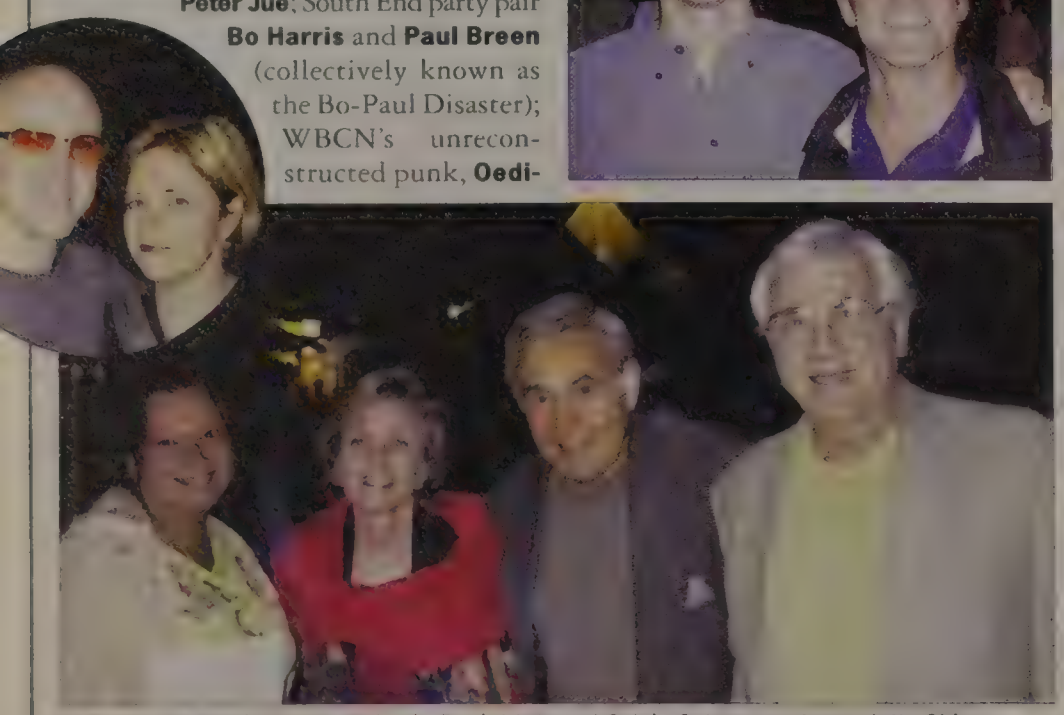
"Thanks. It's just porcupine quills and a lot of gel."

But an even funnier remark took place during a conversation about the Chinese acrobats.

"My daughter's there right now," said one socialite. "She's up the Yangtze River."

"Oh," her friend responded. "With or without a paddle?"





At Cirque du Soleil, from left: Louis-Daniel Joly and Sylvie Galarneau; Joyce della Chiesa, Bette and Frank Avruch, and Ron della Chiesa; Rick Herman and Oedipus.



WHAT WOULD JOHNNY APPLESEED HAVE WORN?

If planting and maintaining trees is as exorbitantly expensive as everything else on the island, it's a good thing the **Nantucket Tree Fund**'s annual fund-raiser is such a success.

Biblical rains notwithstanding, the tented fashion show by couturier **David Josef** on the lawn of **Joan Patel**'s house was an unqualified triumph. (On second thought, let me qualify: Any island where whale pants and hairbands can be worn without a trace of irony is undeniably fashion-deficient.) That said, the thunderstorms that drenched the grass did nothing to dampen spirits. A chic crowd "oohed" and "aahed" and clapped enthusiastically, and the bon mots whizzing around the tent included the following exchange, between Josef and North End real estate mack-daddy **Matteo Gallo**:

"These are my clients—real women with real figures."

"Not to mention real money."

The sartorially flamboyant Gallo—clad in some lavender combination of Dolce & Gabbana and Versace—was only one feather in a brightly plumed crowd that included island grande dame **Martha Walters**; eccentric fashion doyenne **Doris Yaffe**; 7th Ave. exec **Peggy Kaufman**; the delightful and delightfully named **Gloria Grimshaw**; and jewelry connoisseur **Susan Hostetler** (whose husband, it was pointed out, is a famous sculptor and quite probably the only man in North America who was raised Amish but converted to Judaism).

There was no lack of colorful characters to talk with at the dinner afterwards, either. Filling the dining room of the **Jared Coffin House** with witty repartee were such notables as **Mady Eckstein**—the founder of Nantucket Fragrances, a former fashion model, classically trained singer and wife of an Eastern European diplomat during the height of the Cold War—noted novelist **Nancy Thayer** and her son, **Josh**; **Peggy Kaufman**'s husband, **Winky** (who "accidentally missed" the fashion show but made it to dinner); **Grace Grossman** (of the lumber Grossman's, who gives' em hell up at the State House over the proposed ferry from New Bedford to Nantucket); and one woman, wearing one of the aforementioned hairbands, who seemed to think that announcing exactly how long she'd owned her home on the island was a promising conversational opener.



At the Nantucket Tree Fund party, from left: Hollis Colby and Gina Fox; Matteo Gallo.

All in all, it was a highly entertaining evening, and one that inspired the impulse to beautify the world. A plan to eradicate all those obnoxious ACK stickers from the bumpers of SUVs is probably aiming too high, though. **iB**





At the Nantucket Tree Fund party, from top: Martha Walters; scenes from the fashion show.

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The IMPROPER BOSTONIAN extends
its most heartfelt sympathies to everyone affected
by the tragic events of September 11.

Even in this dark and troubling time, we are proud
and honored to witness the compassion, courage and
fortitude that embody the true American spirit.

Contents



28
A pair that beats a full house, Robert Parker and Dennis Lehane. Below: El Tiante and a sculpture by Peruko Ccopacatty.



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Tracy Aiguier**

Location: **Boston Public Library**
Grooming: **Allen Taylor/ Maksou Artisan**
Clothing: Robert Parker, Trenchcoat provided by **Burberry's** on Newbury Street; Dennis Lehane, Leather coat, sweater and wool pants provided by **French Connection** on Newbury Street.
Special thanks to **Marc Ellis**

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FEATURES

16 **Soroff/On Alice Hoffman**
Alice Hoffman, author of 15 novels, discusses people who think they're characters in her books, fighting writer's block and literary escape—for authors as well as readers. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 **Boston Literary Life**
A survey of our town's literary culture. BY ERIN HAGEDORN

20 **Writers Talk**
Fifteen practitioners of fiction talk their talk.
INTERVIEWS BY ERIN HAGEDORN

28 **Partners in Crime**
A fan's note of appreciation of Robert Parker and Dennis Lehane.
BY JIM BEHRLE

31 **Fiction Contest Winner: *Lotion***
Sometimes there is friction that no amount of lotion can cure.
BY ADAM EMERSON PACHTER

34 **Fashion: In Good Taste**
Spicing up Todd English's fall wardrobe. PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHARLIE LANGELLA





COLUMNS

6 **The Word**
The Fireplace; Piattini; Luis Tiant's cigars; bowling; Mass. Tattoo Festival

10 **Proper Bostonians**
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

12 **E-Boston**
E-books have a long road ahead; smart phones and small screens
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 **Ezra**
Reading to impress others.
BY EZRA DYER

40 **Mopsy**
Almost; permanent makeup; the artistic forerunner of the photograph
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

62 **Film**
Hearts of Atlantis is a rehash of old Stephen King ideas.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

68 **Music**
Bill Morrissey and Ted Drozdowski rock 'n' write.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

88 **Last Scene Here**
Our Man in Ratty T-shirt chronicles the burgeoning Nantucket karaoke scene.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

42 **Dining**
Mantra ups the fusion ante.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

46 **Dish**
Comfort food
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

46 **Wine**
It's a good time to take a chance and try something different.
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

47 **Tastings**
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Octoberfest arrives at Henrietta's Table.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 49. **Peruko Ccopacatty** sculpure exhibit • **Herbie Hancock** quintet • **Paul Auster** and **Jacki Lyden** • free admission at the MFA • the Big B.R.A. Show • **Neil Diamond** • Taste of the Fenway • Wholelife Boston Expo

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improper Impersonals	78
Rockie Horoscope	78
Improper Shopper	80
Improperazzi	84
Improper Sightings	86

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

TOP: TRACY AIGUIER; MIDDLE: DARISA CLARKE

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letters



FROM THE EDITORS

There are words that define events, and there are events that define words. The catastrophe that will ever be marked in history as September 11, 2001 vividly shows the limitations of language.

We at the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN join our fellow citizens in sharing the most profound sorrow and bitter loss that has marked that day and all time forward. While it is hard to conceive of recovery from this tragic devastation, we are heartened by the great outpouring of compassion and solidarity that have followed in response to that black September day. It is that spirit that allows us to have hope that the time will come when the pain and the fear will—somehow—be reconciled.

To say that nothing good comes out of such horrors is an arguable proposition. Although we have seen and experienced something horrific, those same events make us reflect on the values upon which we build our lives. Our hope is that each of us that has been touched by this terrible event comes through with a new appreciation of life, freedom, community and the sustenance we gain from our connection to the humanity that surrounds us. To fail to heed those hopeful signs would, in the end, include each of us in the tally of lives wrecked and broken by this nightmare.

WE HAVE GOOD REASON TO HOPE AND BELIEVE THAT AMONG OUR NATIONAL QUALITIES THERE IS THE RESILIENCE THAT GROWS ... IN THE COMPANY OF GOOD WORKS AND BRAVE SOULS.

The grief that has been visited upon our people will not easily and quickly be repaired. And yet we have good reason to hope and believe that among our national qualities there is a resilience that grows exponentially in the company of good works and brave souls. We also have a new lens through which we can view the multiplicity of our blessings. And while we pass through this dark and possibly long tunnel of grief and pain, those blessings are the beacon that will guide us.

GUIDING WORDS

The day may come when fair play, love for one's fellow man, respect for justice and freedom will enable tormented generations to march forth serene and triumphant from the hideous epoch in which we have to dwell. Meanwhile, never flinch, never weary, never despair...
—*Winston Churchill*

America is never wholly herself unless she is engaged in high moral principle.
—*George Bush*

A soldier's pack is not so heavy a burden as a prisoner's chains.
—*Dwight Eisenhower*

Civility is not a sign of weakness and sincerity is always subject to proof.
—*John F. Kennedy*

The voice of reason is small but persistent.
—*Sigmund Freud memorial*

Love is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into friend.
—*Martin Luther King Jr.*

Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil.
—*Exodus 23:2*

In the practice of tolerance, one's enemy is the best teacher.
—*Dalai Lama*

All diplomacy is a continuation of war by other means.
—*Chou En Lai*

In spite of everything, I still believe that people are really good at heart.
—*Anne Frank*

We do not rejoice in victories. We rejoice when a new kind of cotton is grown and when strawberries bloom ...
—*Golda Meir*

Death is an angel with two faces:
To us he turns
A face of terror, blighting all things fair;
The other burns
With glory of the stars, and love is there.
—*Theodore Chickering Williams*

GRATITUDE & REWARDS

Having read so many entries to our first annual fiction contest, we have a newfound respect for writing teachers. Our judges labored deep into the night to render a decision from a large number of compelling submissions. Thanks, everyone. The top 10 entries in the short story contest each receive a gift bag from Fresh, a ticket voucher from the House of Blues, a bar gift certificate from No. 9 Park, a unisex body scrub from Noode and a prize from Shreve's. In addition, the winner of the fiction contest receives a $50 gift certificate from Porter's Bar and Grill, a $50 gift certificate from The Rack, $50 from Maksou, $50 from HMV and a $100 gift certificate from Wish.

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RITA GREELEY

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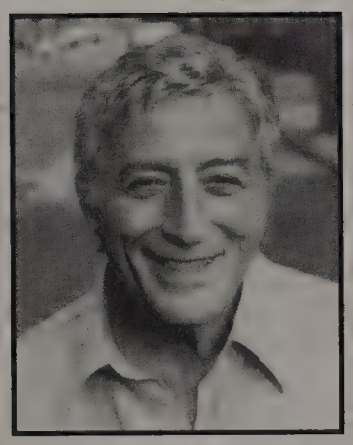
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NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short



The Fireplace's chef/owner Jim Solomon (left) and executive chef Ben Nathan warm themselves by the fire.

COZY UP TO THE FIRE

Last weekend, some friends of ours attempted to have dinner at The Fireplace, a new restaurant located in the former digs of the short-lived Five Seasons in Brookline's Washington Square. Discouraged by the two-hour wait, they abandoned their plans and headed across the street to the Washington Square Tavern for a beer. It's clear from the crowds that neighborhood folks are overjoyed that this charming corner property, with its giant picture windows overlooking the square, now has a new lease on life.

We stopped by on a weekday and were duly impressed by the delicious food, friendly service and cheery atmosphere. It's a cozy space with a working stone fireplace by the bar; a large, open hearth and grill; and warm yellow walls decorated with old-time cooking utensils and Will Moses prints. Billed as a New England grill and barbecue, The Fireplace emphasizes regional foods: "It's rustic native New England cooking," says chef/owner Jim Solomon. We sampled a melt-in-your-mouth goat cheese, caramelized onion and tomato tart with arugula radish salad to start, followed by smokey barbecued short ribs and wood-grilled bluefish. The entrees were cooked to tender perfection, but the sides—mmm, the sides!—of maple sweet potato mash and corn pudding were out of this world. Homey touches like brown paper wrap on every table, simple serving pieces and cutesy salt and pepper shakers rounded out the experience. It's like having dinner at your grandmother's house—only grandma is a gourmet. *1634 Beacon St., Brookline (617-975-1900).*

ITALIAN WINE AND DINE

A new wine cafe on Newbury Street called Piattini has a terrific concept: small dishes, larger than Spanish *tapas* but not as big as appetizers, matched with flights of wine. It's ingenious. And more important—it's delicious. Fashioned after *enotecas*, the small cafes in Italy frequented for their interesting wines and simple plates of regional cuisine, Piattini (or "small dishes") is the first of its kind in Boston.

Our first inclination was to compare the cuisine to that of Dali or Tapeo, but manager Thierry Charles set us straight: "They really can't be compared with tapas," he says. "Piattini are more than just little munchies." Then he brought out a few for us to sample. We tried *verdura alla griglia*, grilled seasonal vegetables with fresh mozzarella and basil; porcini ravioli; and *peperone ripieni*, red roasted peppers stuffed with scallops and pesto sauce. Each were paired with two-ounce samples of wines recommended by Charles. A small card describing grape varietal, region of origin and pertinent tasting notes accompanies each glass. "We spent a lot of time researching our wine list," he says. Some 17 wines are offered by the glass. "We want people to come and hang out, eat different dishes and sip some wine as they talk," says Charles. We did. *226 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-2020).*



Piattini's manager Thierry Charles holds up one of his favorite bottles of wine.

PERSONALITIES

LAND OF PLENTY



Celebrated documentary filmmaker **Errol Morris** (right) hasn't made the big switcheroo from art to commerce, but he is becoming, as one industry insider stated, the "flavor of the month" in the advertising world. Morris, known for his serious and edgy work including *The Thin Blue Line* and *Mr. Death: The Rise and Fall of Fred A. Leuchter*, has crossed over into the land of plenty, doing television commercials for clients that include John Hancock Insurance, Miller Lite, Hewlett-Packard, Volkswagen, ABC and Adidas. On the other hand, there is Morris' *First Person* an eight-episode series on the Independent Film Channel. In collecting interviews with some compelling human oddities, Morris and crew fully expect you to be asking yourself, "What is going on here? Is this scientific fact or fiction?" *First Person* finishes up its second season by presenting Tanya Corrin on Oct. 2 at 8pm. Corrin, you will remember, cohabitated with her boyfriend/digital geek Josh Harris and allowed her (and their) life to be broadcast, 24/7, digitally to a hungry New York art world and beyond. *—Robert Birnbaum*

IMPROPER REPORTS

BOWL-O-RAMA

When the weather starts to turn chilly, we look to indoor sports to keep fit:

•**Boston Bowl Family Fun Center**, 820 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-825-3800): Candlepin: **$2.20** per person per game. Regular: **$2.40** per person per game. Shoes: **$2.05**

•**Big League Bowling**, 1834 Centre St., West Roxbury (617-323-7291): Before 5pm, **$2.75** per person per game. After 5pm, **$3**. Shoes: **$1.50**.

•**Milky Way Lounge & Lanes**, 401 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740): **$2.50** per person per game. Shoes: **$2**.

•**Ryan Family Amusement Center**, 82 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-267-8495): **$15** per hour per lane. Shoes: **$1.25**.

•**Twentieth Century Billiards** 1231 Hyde Park Ave., Hyde Park (617-364-5274): **$2.25** per person per game. Shoes: **$1**.



TOP: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; RIGHT: DARISA CLARKE; BOTTOM LEFT: NUBAR ALEXANIAN

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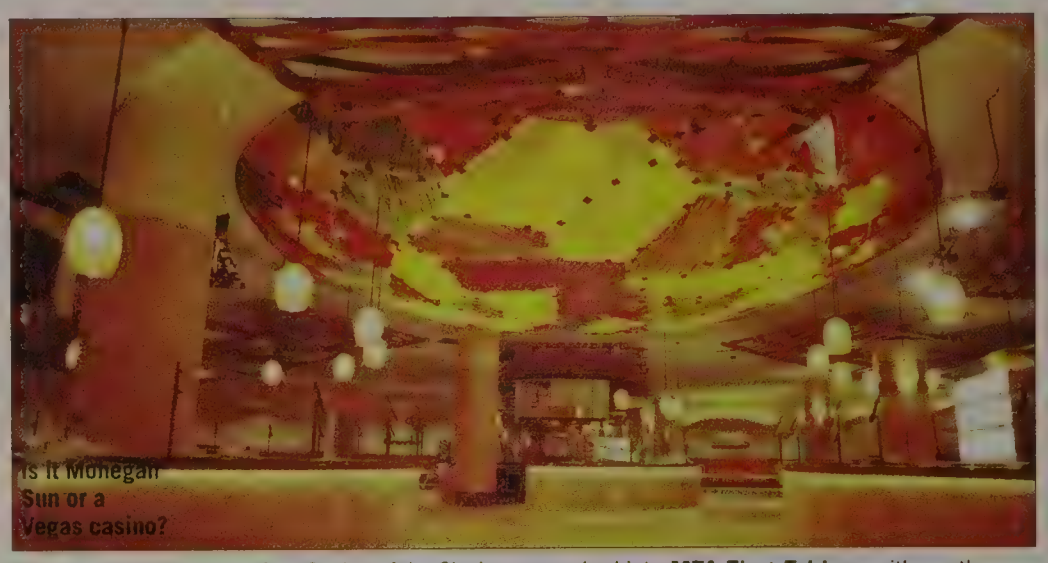
IMPROPER SPEAKING

MOHEGAN SUN RISES, MFA FIRST FRIDAYS AND MORE

Hack Job...We're sad to report that **Gregory's Barbershop**, recipient of our Boston's Best award for full-service barbershop, closed due to financial problems last month. The top-notch Back Bay shop owned by Gregory Zorian offered a wide range of services—from haircuts and facials to pedicures and shaving classes. In Gregory's place, **Men's Grooming Center of Boston** opened its doors, offering the same services for significantly lower prices. Raquel, a receptionist at Men's Grooming, said that lower prices and a larger clientele will likely keep the new salon up and running. Loyal fans of Gregory's will now have to trek to Albany—*New York*, that is—for a haircut.

On the Avenue...Of late, we've noticed the preponderance of vacant storefronts along Newbury Street—a phenomenon that real estate brokers say will not last long. On the other hand, **Giorgio Armani** is undergoing massive renovations, and **Ralph Lauren** is revamping the Kakas Fur building. Recent newcomers include the **MPG** art gallery and clothiers **Longchamps** and **Taste**. And, of course **Virgin** is reoccupying the Tower site in the Transit Building at the end of the street. We'll keep you informed...

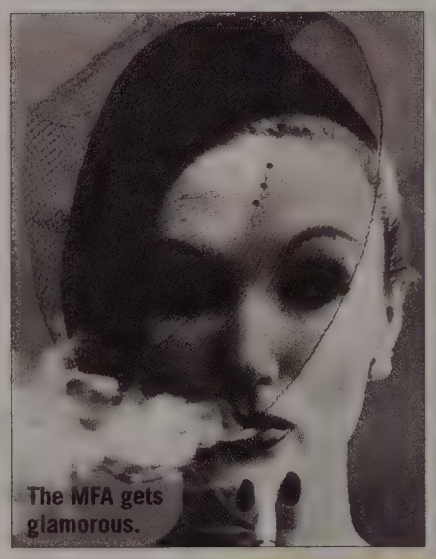
In the Black...Given the nation's current skittish attitude toward air travel, what's a gamblin' man to do when Vegas is a 45-hour drive away? Well, **Mohegan Sun** in Montville, Conn., has recently finished the first phase of a $1 billion round of renovations that are decidedly Vegas-like in scope.



Is it Mohegan Sun or a Vegas casino?

The new 115,000-square-foot Casino of the Sky is topped by the world's largest planetarium dome. Inside the casino is a three-story crystal mountain made of 12,000 plates of onyx and alabaster fused to glass. And local culinary standouts **Todd English** and **Jasper White** are opening new restaurants in the complex. Will this huge investment pay off? Mohegan Sun has its chips on "You Bet."

Glamour Shots...The MFA Fridays singles fest at the Museum of Fine Arts has morphed into **MFA First Fridays** with, as the name suggests, events being held on the first Friday of each month, instead of every Friday. Held in the Koch Gallery of European masterpiece paintings, the Oct. 5 evening will have a special martini bar, signature cocktails and music from the era of the '20s, '30s and '40s in conjunction with *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style*, an exhibition of fashion photography by Horst P. Horst and George Hoyningen-Huene.



The MFA gets glamorous.

Turbulence at Logan... Look for some personnel changes at Massport in light of recent events. We hear that Bill Bratton is one of the names being tossed around for a position.

DJ Marathon... Among the numerous organizations hosting fund-raisers for the victims of the terrorist attack is **The Backstage**. On Oct. 2, 30 local DJs, including organizer Johnny C., Manny Manolo of the Sound Factory, Nailz of Venu, Rick Naples of Metropolis, Todd Reeves of The Rack, Pedro Gonzales of Matrix, will spin popular house/dance music (laced with patriotic American themes) for seven hours.

Ouch!...A new musical written by award-winning playwright and Northeastern professor **Ed Bullins** has been optioned for a Broadway production under the direction of Marion J. Caffrey and producer Donald Farber. The show, called *Hot Feet*, deals with the life of Leonard Harper, a director-choreographer and innovative showman of the Harlem Renaissance–Big Band era of jazz and show business. Look for a 2002-03 season opening.

Early Bird Gets the Worm...CBS News' *The Saturday Early Show* has been exploring our fair town for the past three weeks. Co-anchors Russ Mitchell and Thalia Assuras have featured the J.F.K. Library & Museum, the Head of the Charles and the teen pop-rock band LFO. The last of the segments will feature Jody Adams of Rialto Sept. 29.

—Erin Hagedorn and Julie Short, with Robert Birnbaum, Ezra Dyer and Inna Golovatch

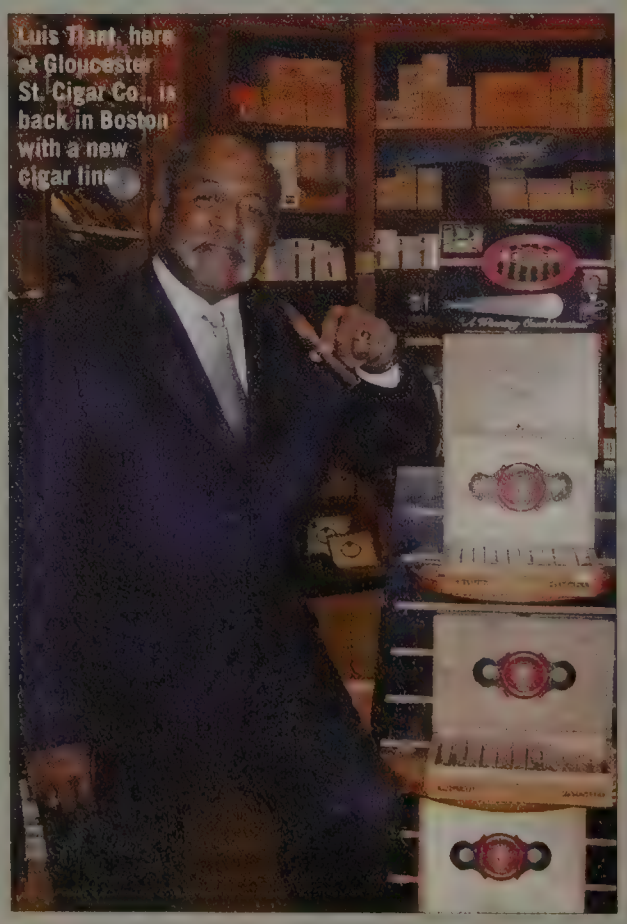
PERSONALITIES

SMOKING MORE THAN BATTERS

Luis Tiant struck out 2,416 batters in his 19-year major league pitching career, but these days he's aiming for strikes of a different sort—of the match. Tiant is backing a new cigar line, El Tiante, that ought to rekindle fond memories among Bostonians who recall his Red Sox glory days in the late '60s and '70s, when his postgame cigar was nearly as iconic as his twisting, 180-degree delivery.

Tiant moved back to Boston to be near his family this September. He also cites the ongoing admiration of Red Sox fans as a reason for his return. "People treat me good here and show me respect. I've found out, after being around, that there's no place like Boston."

Since he is still a recognizable figure in the city, Tiant says he has a personal interest in the quality of El Tiantes. "I've smoked a lot of good cigars, and, for the money, it's a good cigar. I don't want people stopping me on the street and saying, 'Your cigars stink.'"



Luis Tiant, here at Gloucester St. Cigar Co., is back in Boston with a new cigar line.

On the topic of smoking in general, Tiant's attitude is resigned. "I'm not telling people smoking is good for you. You're an adult, you do what you like to do. You like to smoke a cigar, fine. For me, it's relaxing, and that's worth a million dollars." *—Ezra Dyer*

THIS JUST IN

THE NEW HEART OF ART

Last year, the Boston arts community gained a hip new venue for alternative programming and exhibition space. Located in Roxbury's Dudley Square, the Berwick Research Institute has fused these elements since its opening last July, but the nonprofit, artist-run space has been getting lots of attention in the past few months, mostly from fans of hard-core music shows, who are flocking to see bands like Close Call. Berwick is also home to a series of lectures on topics like science vs. religion—Gabriel Boyer's Sept. 28 talk is accompanied by rockers Mass Distribution (guests will receive a 'zine). Also coming up: German electronica artist Marc Behrens makes his Boston debut Sept. 30. *14 Palmer St., Roxbury. —E.H.*

ALL THE BUZZ

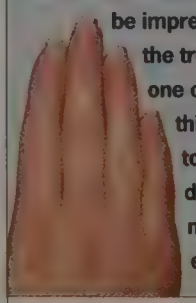
TATTOO YOU

We're told that about 9 percent of Americans are adorned with tattoos. For the rest of us, the first annual **Massachusetts Tattoo Festival** at Worcester's Centrum Centre Oct. 5-7 is an opportunity to get familiar with (and gawk at) those who display this unique form of art. You might recall the recent end to the tattooing prohibition in our Commonwealth, which brought us into the 21st century along with our highly evolved neighbors in New Hampshire. Now that it's official, Mass. tattoo fans want to do it up big. More than 200 international tattoo artists display their talents at this expo. Among the highlights: A Thai monk will tattoo Buddhist prayers using a traditional, two-foot long, sharpened steel rod. Before you get too enthusiastic, however, the organizers warn: "God forbid, don't be dumb enough to touch or hug a working artist. He/she needs a steady hand!" *50 Foster St., Worcester (617-931-2000).*

SAM SAYS

GLISTEN UP

I've noticed lately that rhinestones have made a serious comeback—on shirts, shoes, hats, cell phones. Everything sparkles. My suggestion: Ditch the overabundance of glitter and go for subtlety. Try a simple line of small rhinestones on the tips of your well-manicured nails. Those who notice will be impressed with your ability to sport the trend in a subtle, classic way. Any one of your favorite salons can do this for you. Choose a dark polish to make the rhinestones shine, or do what I did and add them to a natural color for a less blinding effect. *—Samantha House*



Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

BOTTOM LEFT: DARISA CLARKE

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The 15th annual South End Open Studios event was held Sept. 13 at 560 Harrison Ave. In the wake of national tragedy, the participants went on with the event in the spirit of catharsis.

1. **Kathy Kneeland** (l), artist for the Boston Center for the Arts, and **Theresa India Young**, artist in the Piano Factory.
2. **Wayne Strattman** (l), glass artist, and **Eric Starosielski**, light and time artist.
3. **Sherri Bruce** (l), property manager for GTI Properties, and **Miya Choi**, broker at AF Doyle & Company.
4. **Jan Saragoni**, president and CEO of Saragoni & Company; **Mario Nicosia**, president of GTI Properties; and **Julia Bulanova**, vice president of Saragoni & Company.
5. **Sara Ashodian** (l), artist and president of the United South End Artists, and **Kay Ives**, collage artist and board member of the United South End Artists.
6. **Edie Bowers** and **Josie Lawrence**, both South End artists.


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On the Rise's fourth annual Prepare for Winter Dinner was held Sept. 13 at the Royal Sonesta Hotel. More than 350 community activists and local philanthropists gathered to honor Jean M. Entine for her outstanding work on behalf of women and women's organizations. On the Rise is a nonprofit group dedicated to helping women in crisis.

7. **Pete Mellor**, CEO of the Nelson Institute in Waltham, and **Elizabeth Rowlinson**, business strategist at the Nelson Institute.
8. **Alice Wolf**, Cambridge Representative; **Brian Murphy**, attorney; and **Teddy Arbanites**, vice president of Cambridge Port Bank.
9. **Lee Goldberg**, president of Resolution Capital Inc.; **Elizabeth Thompson**, treasurer and director of On the Rise; and **Hali Swaim**, partner at Hale & Dorr.
10. **Flavio Robeiro** and **Zayda Cueva**, cash office clerk and buyer assistant, respectively, at Tags Hardware in Cambridge.
11. **Katya Fels**, founder and executive director of On the Rise; **Margaret Burnham**, partner at Burnham & Hines; and **Robin Young**, co-host of WBUR's *Here & Now*.


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Appalachian Paper Trail

E-paper's got a long way to go; the smart phone small-screen dilemma

Every year or so, the computer industry declares that paper is obsolete and that consumers will replace the printed page with words and images that conveniently dance across a screen. But that's not going to happen any time soon. In the past, the paperless office was the darling of technologists. The idea of the paperless office was first proposed back in the 1970s, and since then there have been numerous attempts to implement it. Every year or so, for example, Microsoft announces that it's perfected some new technology that will offer "screen resolution good enough to make the paperless office a reality," to quote Bill Gates in a recent press release. What's ironic is that Gates's private office is reportedly filled—on all horizontal surfaces, including the floor—with stacks of papers, letters, memos and newspaper clippings.

THE TRUTH IS THAT PAPER IS SIMPLY MORE CONVENIENT THAN ANY COMPUTERIZED DEVICE FOR ANYTHING BOOK-SIZED OR SMALLER. YOU CAN TAKE IT ANYWHERE; IT ALWAYS WORKS.

The truth is that the past few years have seen record sales of PC-connected printing devices (nearly 100 million a year worldwide). Computers produce well over 1 billion pages of output every day in the United States alone. As Carl Frappaolo, executive vice president at the Boston-based Delphi Group put it: "The Print button is still our favorite key."

Last year, the quest for the paperless office began to morph into a new concept—electronic books. A year ago last August, Microsoft, with a handful of book publishers, made a big New York announcement that the era of the "e-book" was now at hand. Microsoft introduced technology that was supposed to make it practical to download books onto a reading device, much like people download MP3 files onto a handheld player. The publishers promised to provide appropriate content.

A year later, e-book display devices have gone nowhere. Consumers don't like the small screen, unreadable characters, small selection of titles and the fact many titles aren't viewable on every reading device. However, the limitations of the e-book display devices aren't the major problem. Even desktop users with high-resolution screens have shown little interest in downloading books. With the exception of Stephen King's *Riding the Bullet*, no novel has ever been downloaded in quantity, and even that experiment proved fruitless when King learned that readers simply wouldn't pay for downloaded content.

There's a parallel here with online magazines. As the technology columnist for the IMPROPER, I've gotten a lot of flack for the fact that we don't have an online edition. Now that it's clear that the online divisions of most publications are losing major money, the IMPROPER's "lack" of a Web site is revealed for what it always was: a sound business decision. In any case, the online viewing of magazine content is declining, according to a report about Internet usage recently published by Boston-based Forrester Research: "After the novelty of reading *People* online has faded, business executives and consumers are returning to reading magazines."

The truth is that paper is simply more convenient than any computerized device for anything book-sized or smaller. You can take it anywhere; it always works; it never runs out of batteries; you can make dogears, write stuff on it, cut stuff out, put your name on it and lend it to a friend. Let's face it: Despite highly touted advances in technology, the "e-book" is one of those product concepts that generates plenty of hype, but which most people really don't want to use.

IS THAT A SMART PHONE IN YOUR POCKET OR...

Speaking of e-book readers, it's getting so that you need Batman's utility belt to carry all the gadgets that you need outside the office. The required armament for today's road warrior can include a cell phone, a pager, a PalmPilot and a portable computer. However, a number of companies are trying to eliminate the clutter by creating a single device that combines the best features of all of the above.

It's called a smart phone, and it's something like a PalmPilot crammed into the size and shape of a cell phone. One device, the Sendo Z100 (scheduled for release around Christmas time), hooks directly up to a PC and has a whopping 256 MB of storage—more than enough to store phone numbers, contact data, to-do lists, calendar data and scads of music files. In fact, the device has enough onboard storage to hold two full-length movies, which can be viewed on the 2-inch color screen.

The Z100 is based upon a Microsoft design that uses Windows CE, the same operating system that's in the popular Compaq iPaq Pocket PC. Fans of the PalmPilot, however, need not feel left out, however, because the Kyocera QCP 6035 smart phone uses Palm OS—the software brains of the PalmPilot. It has only 8MB of memory but supports the thousands of applications written for the PalmPilot and, like the Z100, can browse simplified Web pages.

Industry analysts believe that these new "smart phones" are destined to be the next big thing in mobile communication. Framingham-based International Data Corp. forecasts that sales of smart phones will grow from a meager 480,000 units in 2000 to well over 23 million units by 2004. To put that into perspective, that's roughly a third of the number of personal computers that are sold every year.

I'm not so sure. Industry experts believe that top-line units could run as high as $1,000. In order to justify the hefty price tag, smart phones are going to have to provide a lot of value—above and beyond what's provided with the current collection of devices.

The main problem, however, isn't the cost, but the tiny screen. The trend in computers, be they desktop, notebook or handheld, is toward larger screens with higher resolutions. It's hard enough to read a corporate e-mail—or any other serious document—on a PalmPilot with a 4-inch screen; most folks will probably find it even more frustrating on the 2-inch screen of a smart phone.

That's especially true of watching video. I doubt if many people would find it very satisfying to spend an airline flight watching the on-screen antics of a cockroach-sized Angelina Jolie. iB

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of numerous articles and books about technology and management.



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Bye the Book

Clarissa, *Atlas Shrugged* and other perils of literacy

I used to be a voracious reader. In fourth grade, I read all seven of C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* books in a week. That same year, I read Stephen King's 1,000-plus page *It*. My parents didn't mind that I was reading such potentially disturbing material, because at least if I was reading about psychotic bloodthirsty clowns who live in the sewer, I wasn't trying to dynamite tree stumps by lighting batteries on fire or demanding a minibike (which I eventually got and promptly crashed into the house).

Unfortunately, my bookishness seems to have trailed off markedly in recent years. Maybe being an English major, forced to plow through tomes like *Clarissa* for four years, played a role (I never did finish *Clarissa* yet managed to get an A on the paper I wrote about it, which leads me to believe that my professor only made it to page 752 himself). Maybe the fact that I read all day at work sours me on the prospect when I'm at home. Or maybe the books I've chosen to read lately are the problem.

Let's see.... I read Anthony Bourdain's *Kitchen Confidential*, and now I'm afraid to eat mussels in restaurants. I also shun daily specials and the butter they give you with your bread. Curse you and your insider perspective on the surprising secrets of the restaurant industry, Anthony Bourdain.

I read John Grisham's *The Brethren* and got depressed that I am not making millions of dollars writing formulaic lawyer novels. It seems like it would be so easy, yet I remember vividly how bad I was at writing stories when I had to do it for creative writing courses in college. My only comfort is that my most severely critical professor of fiction writing recently had a sex-change operation, so I'm now telling myself that I'm actually a very stellar story writer. You see, when he was critiquing my stories, he was probably thinking, "Wow, this is a great story, but I'd really love to be a woman," and so his judgment must've been clouded. Hey, just because someone dealing with serious personal issues didn't like my *Space Showdown at the North Pole* doesn't mean it's not destined for a place next to Joyce's *The Dead* in the panoply of short-fiction masterpieces.

After *The Brethren*, I read Stephen King's *On Writing*, where I came across the following passage: "Informal essays are, by and large, silly and insubstantial things; unless you get a job as a columnist at your local newspaper, writing such fluffery is a skill you'll never use in the actual mall-and-filling-station world." I agree. That's absolutely true. And if you want to develop practical, useful writing skills, I recommend you begin by writing fictional stories about your dead pets coming back to life and attacking you.

I'm currently trying to read Ayn Rand's *Atlas Shrugged*. So far, I gather that Atlas is shrugging under the weight of *Atlas Shrugged*, which is roughly 15,000 pages long. While I'm getting a workout carrying it around, I'm also getting sexually frustrated reading it. So far, the characters in *Atlas Shrugged* are teeming with unfulfilled—yea unnamed—desires: "Hank's declaration that he wanted to buy Dagny's corporation and make her his employee and ruthlessly order her around and make her get him coffee gave her a physical feeling that she dared not name, but rather enjoyed." I fear that *Atlas Shrugged* is soon going to drive me to purchase a Harlequin romance novel so I can cut to the chase and read about some burning loins getting ravished.

ATLAS SHRUGGED IS SOON GOING TO DRIVE ME TO PURCHASE A HARLEQUIN ROMANCE NOVEL SO I CAN CUT TO THE CHASE AND READ ABOUT SOME BURNING LOINS GETTING RAVISHED.

Frankly, one of the main reasons I'm even trying to read Ayn Rand is the same reason that I leave *The Economist* lying around in prominent places whenever I happen to buy it: so that I can seem sophisticated and erudite when people ask me what I'm reading, instead of admitting that I mostly just read car magazines and Tony Kornheiser and Joel Stein columns looking for ideas to steal. At the rate I'm going, I should be able to tell people that I'm reading *Atlas Shrugged* for the next several years. After that, I plan to read *War and Peace*, which ought to take me through to retirement, when I can fess up and answer the "What are you reading?" query honestly: "I'm reading the scores at the bottom of the *SportsCenter* screen." And I'll be OK with that. IB

You think that's funny?

Send canonical e-mails to ezra@improper.com.

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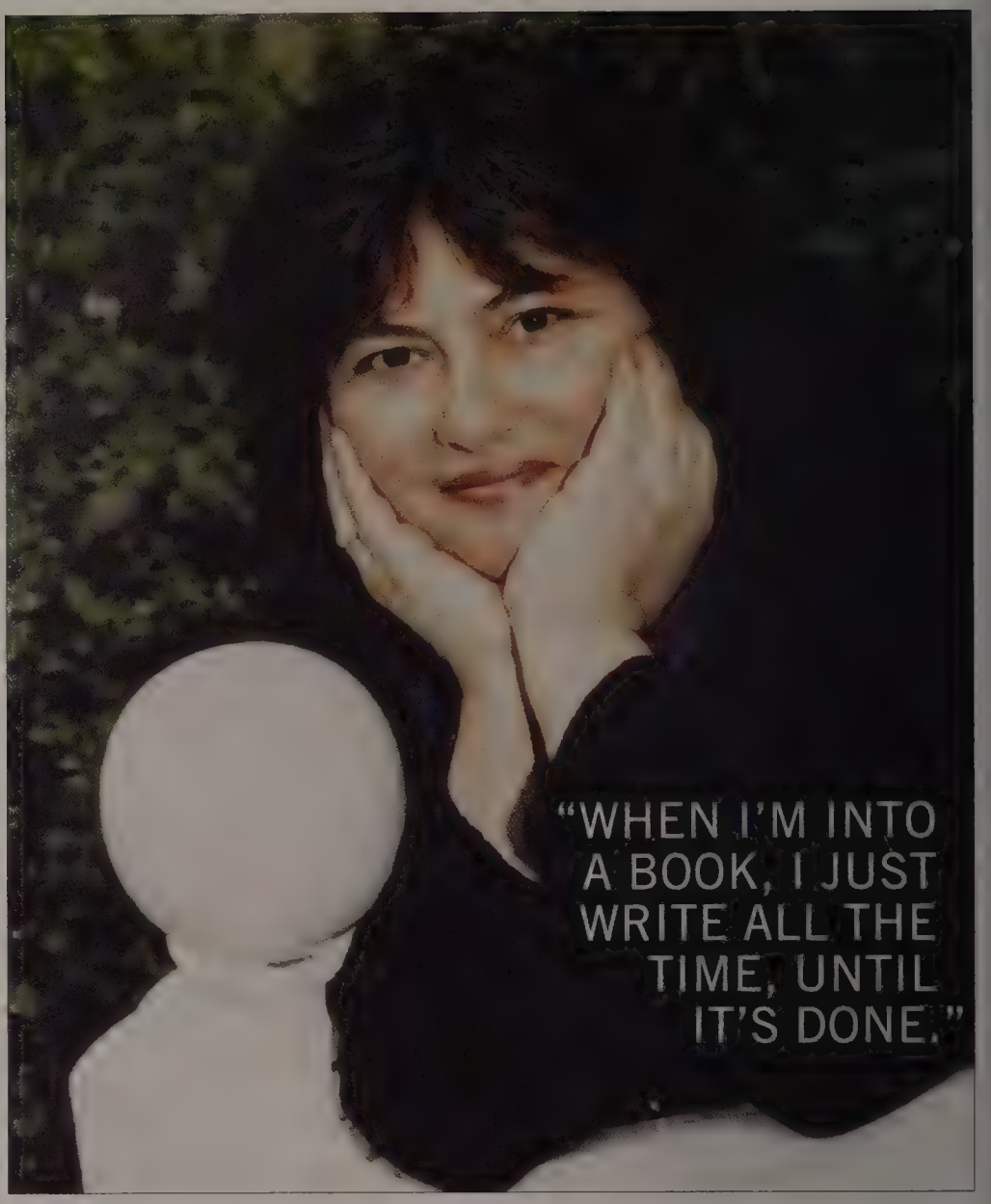
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Soroff/On

Alice Hoffman

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Best-selling novelist Alice Hoffman was born in New York City and raised on Long Island. After graduating from Adelphi University, she received a master's degree at Stanford, where she was the Mirrielees Fellow. For 20 years, she earned her living writing screenplays (one or two per year), few of which were ever produced. She is the author of 15 novels, including *The Drowning Season* (1979), *Fortune's Daughter* (1985), *Practical Magic* (1995) and—her latest—*Blue Diary*, which was published by Putnam in July. She is also the author of three children's books: *Fireflies* (1997), *Horsefly* (2000) and *Aquamarine* (2001), with another due out next spring. She lives outside Boston with her family and her dogs.

Jonathan Soroff: *The setting of your latest book,* Blue Diary, *is called Monroe, Mass.—is it based on a real place?*

Alice Hoffman: No. It's imagined. It's based on my feelings about Massachusetts, but I like to imagine places, so that I can play God without people saying, "That street doesn't run there," or "It doesn't look like that."

JS: *Ever have that problem where friends or family think specific characters are based on them?*

AH: Not too often, because they're not. And I'm not particularly interested in reality. I've had the experience where people who have nothing to do with me or my books think it's them. My mother had a next-door neighbor who said, "Tell me the truth, I think I'm Billy Silk"—a character in *Seventh Heaven*—and I'd never met this guy.

JS: *Most difficult part of being a writer?*

AH: For me, revision. It feels like an endless term paper. I like the rush of the first draft.

JS: *What about working in a vacuum? You're completely isolated, at least until something's finished.*

AH: That has good points and bad points. It's lonely, so you have to find your friends and comrades outside work, but on the other hand, nobody's telling you what to do. Nobody's bugging you.

JS: *Your novels always have some element of the bizarre. Is truth really stranger than fiction?*

AH: [Laughs.] Don't you think so? I do. Completely.

JS: *Any incident from your life where you've said, "If I wrote this, nobody would buy it."*

AH: I think that happens all the time. Things happen in people's lives that are too coincidental, too pat and too ironic, and if you put it in a novel, people would turn up their noses.

JS: *Favorite writer of all time?*

AH: Emily Bronte, and considering that she only wrote one book, I think what's most amazing to me is that it's so different every time you read it, depending on what stage you're at.

JS: *So* Wuthering Heights *is your favorite book of all time?*

AH: If I were on a desert island and I could only have one book, that would be it.

JS: *Is it the one you most wish you'd written?*

AH: No. There are a few of those, but one that really influenced me was *Half Magic* by Edward Eager. He wrote five or six books about suburban magic, and when I was a kid, I loved his books. Kids are still reading them, and they're wonderful.

JS: *Is there a book of yours that you find embarrassing or wish you'd never written?*

AH: [Laughs.] Yeah, but they're in drawers in my office. Nothing that's published.

JS: *What about the book you're most proud of?*

AH: Y'know, to get myself to write, I always think the next one will be my favorite. But they're all like your children. It's hard to choose.

JS: *Do you have a schedule or regimen you use to discipline yourself to write?*

AH: I'm embarrassed to admit that I used to. I'd wake up at 5 or 5:30am and work for a couple of hours before anybody got up. It was very regimented, and I'm just not like that anymore. I don't know why. But when I'm into a book, I just write all the time, until it's done.

JS: *Ever had writer's block, and if so, what's the cure?*

AH: Y'know, I never believed in it until I had it, and the way I cured it was to teach myself how to write all over again, starting with short stories. I think the best thing to do is to write between five and 10 pages a day, no matter what, and then not look at it. Stream of consciousness, keep going, and don't read it.

JS: *What's more important for a novelist—a vivid imagination, a facility with language, the desire to tell a story?*

AH: All of those are important, but I think the most important is to be a reader.

JS: *Excellent answer. So do you prefer the characters you create to real people?*

AH: [Laughs.] Hmmm. I certainly know them in a way that I don't know real people. I know everything about them. So it's a different relationship. But when the last page is written, the relationship is over, so it's intense but brief.

JS: *Ever find yourself trying to control real life the way you control the plot of a novel?*

AH: No. I find myself very overwhelmed by real life. But I do find myself living while I'm writing and writing while I'm living, so things get very confused. You're kind of living on two levels. It's a little like being crazy.

JS: *Any guilty pleasures, like Stephen King, or Barbara Taylor Bradford?*

AH: Well, I'm a big fan of *People* magazine and *Entertainment Weekly*.

JS: *What was it like to see something you'd written (*Practical Magic*) turned into a movie? Did it feel like something that was yours had spun out of your control?*

AH: Y'know, I was a screenwriter for over 20 years, so I knew the process, and I didn't want to be the screenwriter for that. But I had a great relationship with the producer, and it had a wonderful cast. I didn't feel the movie was the book, but I liked it as a story about four women, and friendship, sisterhood, all that.

JS: *What's the toughest part of getting a first novel published?*

AH: I think it's much harder now than when I started, because of the blockbuster mentality, but I think it's almost easier to get a first novel published than a second novel. Publishers want to try somebody new, thinking it'll be the next whatever, so if it doesn't sell well, then it becomes really hard.

JS: *So are we a race of barbarians who don't read enough and watch too much TV?*

AH: No. I'm a big believer that you can watch TV and play video games and also read like crazy. One doesn't preclude the other.

JS: *Do you always know how a story's going to end before you write it?*

AH: I never do. I think I know, but I have no idea, because hopefully, the characters come alive and start making decisions that make sense for them but surprise me.

JS: *Biggest difference between writing adult fiction and writing children's books?*

AH: With children's books, I don't go to the darkest places that I do with adult fiction, so in a way, it's a little vacation. I stay in a more magical place. There's a sweetness to it.

JS: *E-books vs. a printed book?*

AH: Well, I've never actually seen an e-book, but I can't imagine taking one to bed.

JS: *Worst review you ever got?*

AH: Here's something I learned from a friend who's an Oscar-winning actress: She never read a review in her life, and I decided to follow suit because, as she said, "The good ones you don't believe and the bad ones you don't need to hear."

JS: *What one word would you use to describe your writing?*

AH: Just one?!

JS: *OK, you can have three.*

AH: I'd have to say, "It's my voice."

JS: *Last question: Where do your stories come from?*

AH: The same place dreams come from. iB

DEBI MILLIGAN

AFTER 1366,
A BELGIUM
WAS INVADED
BY THE ROMANS,
DUTCH, FRENCH,
ENGLISH, AND
GERMANS.



LEUVEN BELGIUM

OBVIOUSLY,
A COMPLIMENT.

LITERARY BOSTON

Even as media outlets and bookstores shrink their budgets, Boston's literary community continues to be one of the richest in the world.

by erin hagedorn



When one thinks of the quintessential literary community, one immediately recalls The Algonquin Round Table—the group of literati who met daily throughout the 1920s for bouts of drunken word slinging and idea exchanging at New York's Algonquin Hotel. Writers like Dorothy Parker and Harold Ross gathered with nearly every major literary figure of the time. But such grandiose gaggles of literati have never been the norm, and there are certainly more elements that define a literary community than the bravado of its most outspoken writers. Boston has had its fair share of local legends and literary scenesters, too—though never as renowned as Algonquin.

Two eras in Boston's history had an exceptionally visible literary culture. The "golden age" was the mid-to-late 19th century. In the 1840s, Boston publisher James T. Fields, at times owner of both *The North American Review* and *The Atlantic Monthly*, singlehandedly created community life for those with literary tastes, throwing boisterous parties with writers like Henry Wadsworth Longfellow and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, Louisa May Alcott and Robert Lowell regularly gathered at his Old Corner Bookstore. Much of the transcendentalist movement was centered in West Roxbury's utopian Brook Farm. At the same time, Margaret Fuller ran her famous feminist series of talks at The West Street Bookshop. Another heyday came in the 1940s, with camaraderie between writers like Lowell, George Santayana and Eugene O'Neill.

The contemporary literary scene is a tad more subdued. Nowadays, writers don't live together on communal farms as Emerson and Nathaniel Hawthorne did. Poets don't gather at the Ritz bar to talk about death, as Anne Sexton and Sylvia Plath did. But with Saul Bellow in Brookline, John Updike in Rockport and Norman Mailer in Provincetown, we're surrounded by literary masters. Incredibly talented younger generations of writers also call Boston home.

The core of the literary community is found within various writers' circles. The central writers' organization is PEN New England (poets, playwrights, essayists, editors, novelists), which does more to hold the community together than anything else. Its members include nearly every published fiction writer in the area, who meet through PEN events to discuss topics like electronic rights and agents. Among other events, it sponsors annual book parties so that writers can get acquainted. Another resource for writers is the Writers' Room, which has been a refuge for people to write since 1988. A sort of urban artists' colony, the State Street space has work and reading areas and a reference desk—and it's open 24 hours a day.

MIKE MERGEN

Countless other groups of writers, some more tight-knit than others, regularly meet to discuss books, exchange work and talk shop. The local chapter of Mystery Writers of America meets monthly at Kate's Mystery Books in Cambridge amid cocktails and munchies. Groups like this are open to the public, but others are only for the writers themselves and are more like a gathering of friends. There is Pub Night at John Harvard's once a month. Elizabeth Searle, Jessica Treadway and Anne Harleman have what they call Girls Group. One of the biggest gatherings is The Porch Table, a group of published fiction writers who have been meeting for five years for a bag lunch every Wednesday on novelist Elena Castedo's porch. "Some are big fish, some little fish; we are all good friends. Most come occasionally, some often—on average there are 10 of us," she says. Some out-of-town guests have been Ann Beattie, David Leavitt, Alan Cheuse, Joyce Carol Oates, Eva Hoffman and Frederick Busch.

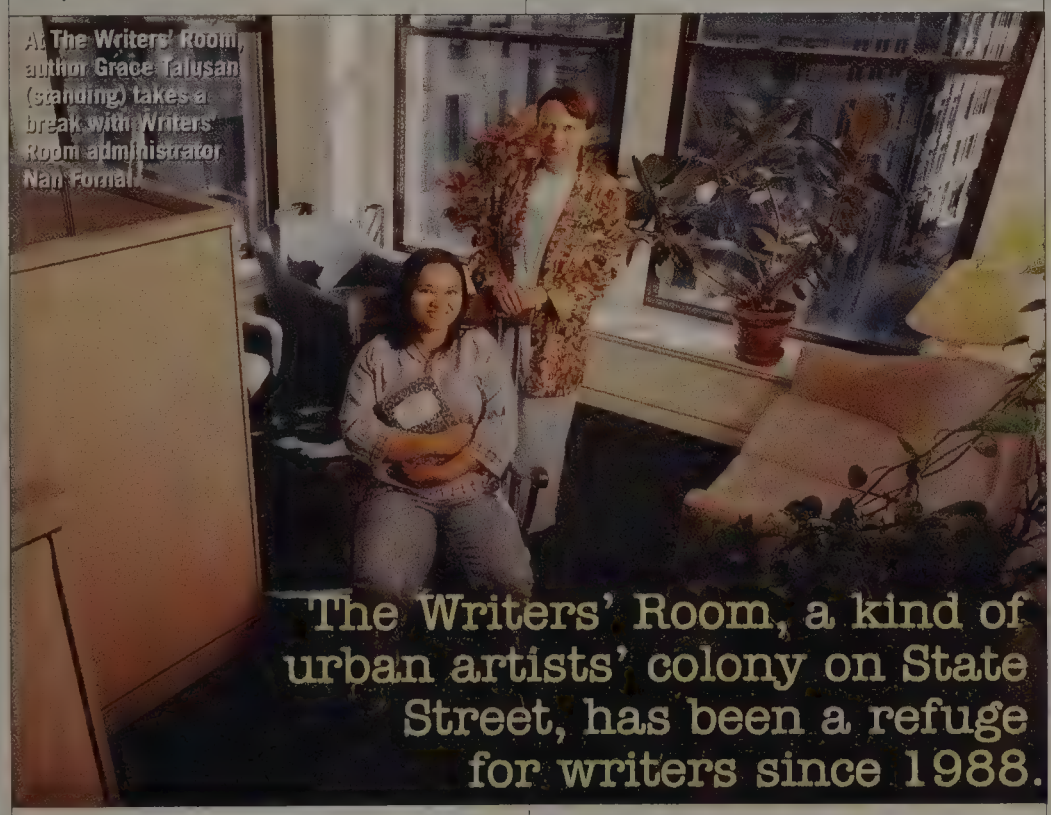
In recent years, several MFA writing programs have drawn major writers to local universities. And there has been a proliferation of writers' workshops. *Ploughshares*, the esteemed literary journal put out by Emerson College, has just launched a new Web site for its 30th anniversary issue. It will be the most extensive site of any literary journal in the country—with free access to more than 2,750 poems and short stories from *Ploughshares*. A brand new literary magazine called *Both* will debut this month. But despite these developments, some members of the literary scene remain nostalgic.

Frank Kramer, owner of the Harvard Book Store in Harvard Square, remembers the literary environment of the early '80s. "In 1980, when we opened the Harvard Book Store Cafe on Newbury Street, we initiated partnerships with the Boston Public Library and then-new PEN New England. PEN members would come to these events to support their colleagues and friends. Many writers enjoyed the cafe and became regular customers. They would often meet there to dine surrounded by books and readers." The cafe continued to be a place for both authors and readers to congregate, but closed in 1994 because of rising rents and competition with nearby Waterstones. There hasn't been a place like it since. Publisher David R. Godine finds the interdisciplinary aspect of today's literary culture still lacking as well. "There is a surprisingly incohesive literary community in Boston. We all know and like each other, but we meet rarely and never formally," he says.

There are certainly many other instances of severe downsizing. For one thing, it is all of a sudden very hard to get book coverage in Boston. The *Boston Phoenix*'s Literary Supplement recently went kaput and chaos has reigned at WBUR's "The Connection." Of course, the *Boston Globe* lamentably folded in its books section—and its latest literary endeavor, a group novella series, has been almost as controversial a move. Avenue Victor Hugo Books' owner Vince McCaffrey sums it up: "They think they are wonderful for publishing an ersatz group novella, but this is not a venue for fiction, it is a stunt." The *Globe* Book Festival, one of the oldest in the country, is still drawing big- name poets, writers and readers—this year's festival (Oct. 13-18), a series of readings, is expected to draw about 4,000 people. It will be an impressive event, but it's still a far cry from when every bookstore owner and publisher flocked to the Hynes Convention Center to choose from five simultaneous events and meet Nobel Prize winners. Yet another sad loss is that the Grub Street Writers, an organization that runs terrific writing workshops, will be on hiatus of undetermined length next year.

Other declines in literary offerings are perhaps due to the downturn in the economy. *The Boston Book Review*'s editor, Kiril Alexandrov, recently had to cut back his staff, move the office and stop producing a print publication. He says that the *Review* will be available online. "We didn't see an economically viable business model for the print version any longer. Our Web presence has been so much more dominant than our print presence, so we decided to go on that direction," he says. "This economic downturn has affected everybody."

How independent bookstores—and vicariously writers, small publishers and readers—are affected by the economic climate and by the megastores is one of the central concerns in literary circles. Brookline Booksmith's co-owner Dana Brigham says, "People always say they're so happy we've survived. We haven't survived—we're surviving. The story is not over, it won't be." Inflation, combined with publishers' affinity for commercially appealing novels and the public's limited literary appetite, makes independent bookselling all the more challenging. Vince McCaffrey of Avenue Victor Hugo Books says, "Independent bookstores used to play a vital role in the community of words. But there are few left, and those that do survive are faced with prohibitive taxes and rents against a backdrop of fewer independent readers. What is so independent about selling the latest Oprah book or another copy of *Catcher in the Rye*? Except for the last great bastion of literature, *The Atlantic Monthly*, there are practically no venues for new literature or old." He laments, "The poetry slam has replaced the poetry reading—performance replacing content. There are at least half a hundred novelists in the Boston area who weren't chosen by Oprah and did not get their last book published. They have nowhere to go. Publishing conglomerates look for the next new young thing they can market to non-readers who want to own a copy of the next hot item before the movie comes out."



At The Writers' Room, author Grace Talusan (standing) takes a break with Writers Room administrator Nan Fornal.

The Writers' Room, a kind of urban artists' colony on State Street, has been a refuge for writers since 1988.

Such sentiments are shared among other bookstore owners. Grolier Poetry Book Shop's resident virtuoso of verse, Louisa Solano, sees a similar demand for entertainment-oriented literature and worries about keeping up with the bigger stores. "I have to worry about publishers who want 30 to 90 days for payment, like they get from the chains. I can't turn poetry over that quickly. My fear of intellectual damage to the reading public is much greater than anything else. We're not moving forward to embrace anything unusual or challenging."

As the independents struggle to survive, Boston remains something of an anomaly: the bookstores that are having the most trouble are actually the chains. Both Waterstones and Lauriat's closed in 1999, Rizzoli last year and Royal this year. The independents have lost two: Cambridge's Bookcellar Cafe closed in March and Harvard Square's scholarly Starr will close within a year. "Boston's independent bookstore have recently stabilized their share of the market. My members report that they are doing well overall," explains New England Booksellers Association's executive director, Rusty Drugan. He explains that it is partly due to the stores' conveniently E-commerce equipped Web sites. It also helps that deep savings are no longer available on Amazon.com or Barnesandnoble.com, as they have all pulled back the extravagant discounts they had during the Internet boom.

With online offerings and a new alliance called BookSense, (the American Booksellers Association's national marketing campaign to raise the profile and visibility of independent stores), independents have become quite savvy in order to survive.

Fierce competition has made marketing strategies essential for authors as well. Most writers don't enjoy book promotion tours but know that these days, it is a necessary part of the job. Mystery writer Jeremiah Heely says, "I chose the pseudonym Terry Devane partly because Terry is gender-neutral—that can really appeal to women. Marketing has learned that two-thirds of all books are purchased at the point of sale by women, so you have to some way appeal to the female sensibility. And "D" last names are usually stocked at eye level in stores."

As writers and booksellers strategize, readers are enjoying an unprecedented number of literary outlets: countless book groups, writing classes and heaps of professional reading series. These days, it is rare that a touring author skips over Boston. Brookline Booksmith's events director Jim Behrle says: "If you told me two years ago it was possible to get 600-plus people to come to a book event, I would have laughed. But I've seen it with my own eyes. I'm a believer."

When Tim Huggins of Newtonville Books added beer to the city's standard offerings of author readings with his new Books & Brews series, the response was fantastic. Now, he has teamed up with Somerville recording studio Q Division to launch Earfull, a new professional reading series combining author readings and live music. It will take place Tuesday evenings beginning Oct. 9 at the Kendall Cafe. Authors like the idea. Novelist Tom Perrotta says, "Earfull is the best thing to happen to literary readings since the folding chair. I've even heard that a couple of writers are threatening to take their rusty old guitars out of their moldy cases."

The lack of cohesion in today's local literary community makes it difficult to pinpoint, although at the core, the culture is alive and quite dynamic. Although the downsizing in the media's book coverage is certainly unfortunate, other key elements are vibrant: a profusion of talented authors are still drawn here, and we have innumerable book groups, thriving bookstores, steady book sales and expanding professional reading series that still make Boston a paragon of literary life. iB

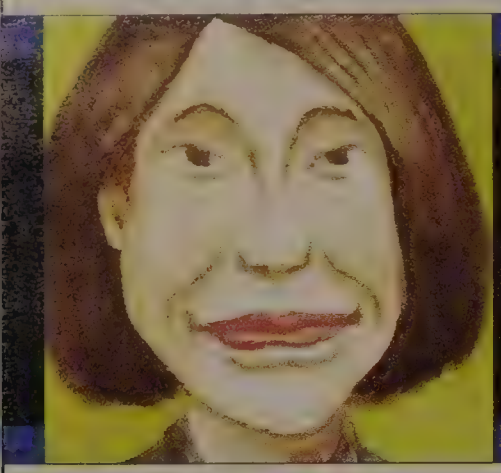
MIKE MERGEN

Writers Talk

15 Local Fiction Writers Reveal Their Inspirations, Impart Words of Wisdom, Quote Lolita *and Tell Us Why They Love Alice Munro*

interviews by erin hagedorn

illustrations by scott oldham



Gish Jen

(*Typical American, In the American Society, Mona in the Promised Land*)

Latest published work? *Who's Irish?* (Random House, 1999).

Home base? Cambridge. I've been here 15 years plus. It's so stimulating here. When I think of moving elsewhere, I just couldn't, I'm so spoiled.

Where do you teach? Tufts and U. Mass.

Current projects? Right now, I'm at work on a fourth novel.

What inspired you to become a writer? It was a process of elimination, really. I finally realized that when I lay on my deathbed I wanted to feel like I had tried. I felt like there was a time I'd look in the mirror and be embarrassed that I wasn't a writer. Now I look in the mirror and just see the external problems.

Favorite contemporary author? Alice Munro.

Major influence? Flannery O'Connor. And I worship Grace Paley.

Favorite book as a kid? Maybe *Stuart Little*.

If you could have written any work of fiction, what would it have been? Proust's *Remembrance of Things Past*.

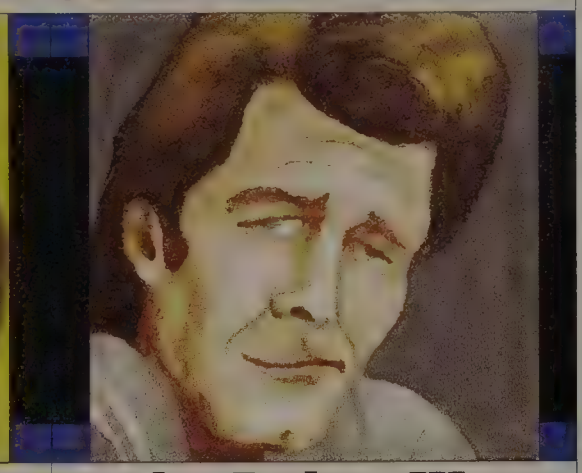
Favorite place to read? I like to read in bed. In the bathtub is a favorite.

What magazines do you read? *The New Yorker, The Atlantic Monthly, The New Republic.*

What percentage of contemporary fiction is good? It's really small.

Advice for aspiring writers? Only write if you really have to. If you feel there's something else to do with yourself, do that because writing is not going to be fun.

How do you see Boston's literary culture? I think it's very vibrant. As far as my involvement goes, I mostly yap with friends in Hollywood Espresso.



Andre Dubus III

(*The Cage Keeper: And Other Stories; Bluesman*)

Latest published work? *House of Sand and Fog* (W.W. Norton & Company, 1999).

Home base? I've been in Newburyport for the past 8 years; but I've also lived in Haverhill and New York City.

Current projects? I'm afraid I'll jinx it if I talk about it—I never talk about what I'm working on to anyone. But I'll say it's a novella that I've been working on for a year or two. I think when you're writing, you're sort of pregnant with the stories and the ideas living inside you. It's important to keep it in the dark, private womb.

What are you currently reading? I just finished Cormac McCarthy's *All the Pretty Horses*. It's great. And there's Laure-Anne Bosselaar's *The Hour Between Dog and Wolf*.

Favorite contemporary author? Jim Harrison is one of my favorites. I'm drawn to poetry and fiction. I write bad poems and personal vignettes that I only show my wife. Also Alice Munro, Larry Brown and Charles Baxter.

Advice for aspiring writers? My sagely advice is to take a half hour before work to write—just 30 minutes. Do it daily whether you feel like it or not. When I teach, people always ask 'When are you a writer—when you get published?' I say you know because when you don't write, you don't feel like yourself anymore. It doesn't matter if the world notices. People noticing is out of your control. Just care deeply about writing. Don't give two shits about a writing career. It's a fairly narcissistic industry and people judge each other by what they're doing. It's so bad for the creative process. One enemy of creativity is self-consciousness—you wind up watching yourself writing instead of being with the characters in the moment.

Favorite kids' book? *The Polar Express* and kids' books that tell the truth.

Least favorite book? You learn more from failures than successes, so I learn a lot even if a book rubs me the wrong way. If it rings as insincere and is showy, I want to throw it across the room. I'm not big on fancy prose or when an author is overly present in the book. I'm drawn to honest, sincere, earthy books. If the author is strutting his or her stuff, it leaves me cold.

What book do you wish you had written? *Ironweed*, by William Kennedy, for its gorgeous prose.

Best fictional characters? Characters that are alive to me as people and stick with me, like Jake Barnes in *The Sun Also Rises*, and Madame Bovary.

Involvement in the literary scene in Boston? I'm a new PEN New England board member but I'm not one who tends to go to literary functions—when you're there a lot, there's a whiff of narcissism, and I don't care about the career part. Gatherings smell of careerism. That's not to say writers aren't fun, though.

Favorite passage? I really love the first line in *Barbary Shore* by Norman Mailer. "Probably I was in the war." I just love the "probably."

Do you enjoy writing? I do. But I like biking 15 miles in the hot sun too, so I guess I like suffering. But it's a joyous labor and I enjoy the hard work. Those days that I don't write are impoverished. Those writers who say it's so hard they hate it secretly really do enjoy it.



Mary Sullivan

(*Stay*)

Home base? Somerville and Cambridge for the past nine years.

Latest published work? *Stay* (Zoland Books, 2000).

Current projects? Right now I'm finishing a novel about a 14-year-old girl who has exceptional hearing and finds an abandoned baby crying in the woods. My job is the PEN New England coordinator, and I'm about to get married and go to Africa for seven months. I was a little terrified thinking that when I go I won't have time to write. But I hope to work on short stories. All about Africa.

What book are you currently reading? I have my own little book group with my fiancé. We started with *Ulysses* and John Berryman's *The Dream Songs*, a collection of poems that are great to read aloud. I read *The Famished Road* by Ben Okri; it's unlike anything I've ever read before—a really surreal book that takes you into a haunting dream world.

Recommended contemporary authors? I'll take home books by PEN authors. I like Susan Quinn, Marcie Hershman, Joyce Carol Oates, Ha Jin. If I had to name just two, I'd say Cormac McCarthy and Jeanette Winterson.

Favorite book growing up? My absolute favorite is Shel Silverstein. Either *The Giving Tree*, or *Giraffe and a Half*. I love his humor and passion for life.

What book do you wish you had written? I've only sent a few letters to authors. One to Tom Spanbauer for *The Man Who Fell in Love with The Moon*. I wrote to John Irving because of *A Prayer for Owen Meany*.

Which fictional characters do you most admire? All of Virginia Woolf's characters. I love Hester in *The Scarlet Letter*.

Favorite passage? The first line in *Anna Karenina*. And every line Emily Dickinson has ever written.

Advice for aspiring writers? I don't feel like I have enough experience to really give advice. But I would recommend working on writing well, and not focus on publishing. Be patient.

Bookstore most likely seen in? In Martha's Vineyard is the Book Den, a huge old barn that smells like the ocean. I love the Harvard Book Store. They even let me do my reading at the Tini Bar instead of at the store.

What percentage of contemporary literary fiction is good? As coordinator of PEN New England's Hemingway Award I screen so many books. I can see that anyone can publish a book and there's a lot of not-so-good works. I'd say about a third is not so good.

Involvement in the literary scene in Boston? There's a vibrant feel in the literary community—there have never been more readings and books being published. I'm in a book group with John Sedwick and Caroline Preston, her husband, Christopher Tilghman, and Ted Delany. We'll give each other 50-100 pages and talk about them about every two weeks. Some of us are meeting to set up a reading series that involves music and books. Generally, there aren't enough young people involved in it all. PEN New England is also working on getting more voices of color heard. We don't want to just stay within this community.

Elizabeth Cox

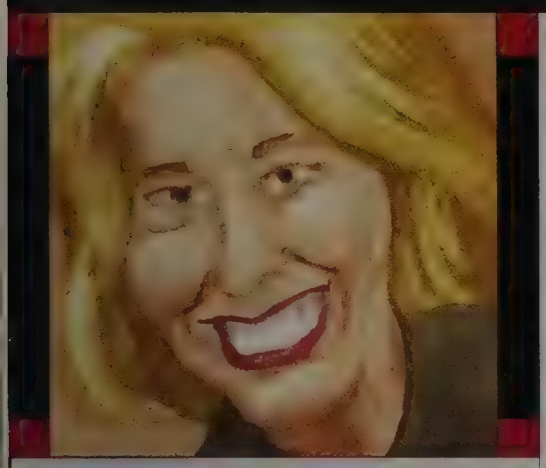
(*Night Talk, Familiar Ground, The Ragged Way People Fall Out of Love*)

Home base? Littleton for the past eight years.

Latest published work? *Bargains in the Real World: Thirteen Stories* (Random House, 2001).

Where have you taught locally? Bennington, Tufts and Boston University.

Current projects? Random House is publishing my next work, a book that wrestles with the violence that kids do to other kids. I have another novel and a nonfiction book brewing, and a manuscript of unpublished poems.



What are you currently reading? *Dear Theo: The Autobiography of Vincent Van Gogh* and *The Journal of Eugene Delacroix*. I want to learn to see how those artists see. As I see the way they relate to people, I like to think I can start to see shapes and colors the way they do. After I read, I take a walk and try to see that specific way, to see red where it isn't visibly seen.

Is that your advice to young writers? Yes—to observe more closely. That would be true always, really. When I teach, I teach students how to see. If they're not looking with great intensity they can't write. But I don't want to create a "specialness" around writers. People who idealize it are the people who can't get there. In class, the first thing I do is try to squelch the idea "I want to be a writer." It focuses on the self and the ego—and that's going to cost.

Recommended contemporary writers? I like the varied aspects of it—of good writing, that is—funny or serious—sometimes a hard-lined story or that thing that moves us in and out of *Mrs. Dalloway*. I admire J.M. Coetzee and Toni Morrison.

Influences? Annie Dillard. And Robert Penn Warren. Whenever I read his work I learn something. A lot of it has to do with how he engages readers with images. I love the music of his language.

What do you read while you're writing? I have an odd process. With my first novel, I took a course in the sonata and the symphony. The second time, I took a course in astronomy and read a lot of physics. For the third book, I read a lot of biology and nature writing and incorporated that into it. Something about studying one thing to learn something else.

How easy is it to get published? These days it's difficult. It's become so much of a big business. So many very good writers are not getting published and are falling by the wayside. But that's probably always been true.

When did you start writing? I was in my 30s with two kids. Both of my brothers had published poetry and I thought, "I can do that." So I began writing poetry, got my MFA and began to write stories.

What work do you wish you had written? Any of Chekhov's stories. And *All the King's Men* by Robert Penn Warren.

Favorite passage? A Mary Oliver poem called *Wild Geese* begins:
"You do not have to be good.
You do not have to walk on your knees
for a hundred miles through the desert, repenting.
You only have to let the soft animal of your body love what it loves."

What is your involvement in the literary circle? I've been gone so much that even though I attend readings or programs with PEN, I haven't been so involved. The literary circle for me is just a community of my friends. When we get together, we don't talk about writing.

If you could have a conversation with any author, who would it be? Flannery O'Connor because of her toughness, her humor and her powerful spiritual connection, which is no-nonsense.



Elinor Lipman

(*Then She Found Me; The Way Men Act: A Novel; Isabel's Bed; The Inn at Lake Devine; The Ladies' Man; Into Love and Out Again*)

Home base? Originally Lowell; I've lived in Northampton for 14 years.

Latest published work? *The Dearly Departed* (Random House, 2001).

Current projects? I'm on page 70 of a new novel that's due next summer. It's set in Boston and has similar themes. I never have an outline, just the premise, or a character, or a character's voice. All three, if I'm lucky. Then it just evolves, and I take it one sentence at a time.

What book are you currently reading? I just came back from England, so I just read a best-seller there—*Bad Blood*, a memoir by Lorna Sage. She was an academic writing about a bleak childhood.

Recommended contemporary authors? I love Carol Shields' *The Stone Diaries*. I read everything she writes. Stephen McCauley, Alice McDermott, Tom Perrotta, Mameve Medwed. No poetry.

Biggest literary influences? A teacher once said to me, "Here, you should read Grace Paley and Fay Weldon because they're funny but do so much more." My father was always pressing Ring W. Lardner on me. Laurie Colwin was one of the first writers I read that gave me license to do what I would loosely call romantic comedy for intelligent readers. To name influences is bit self-aggrandizing. It's more that these are people I admire.

Favorite book growing up? *Daddy-Long-Legs* by Jean Webster. I read it 125 times in my youth. I read and re-read *Charlotte's Web*.

How did you start writing? I had a very vague childhood dream of writing. I gave myself a pen name without actually writing—Malcom Brody. So it must have always been some sort of career goal. But I didn't start writing fiction until age 28.

Least favorite work of fiction? It's a cheap shot, but I immediately want to say *The Bridges of Madison County*. A cultural phenomenon. Really intelligent women were saying. "You have to read this." I read a third of it and skimmed the rest.

What book do you wish you had written? *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. For all the base reasons. It's the pot of gold. I'd be talking to you from a penthouse on Fifth Avenue. In all seriousness, probably *The Great Gatsby* or *The Catcher in the Rye*.

Favorite passage? The opening of *The Razor's Edge* by W. Somerset Maugham, "I have never begun a novel with more misgiving." It intrigues me. I like the absolute honesty of it, the unpretentiousness of it. You immediately believe in this narrator.

Advice for aspiring writers? I started in an adult education workshop at Brandeis. I believe in the workshop method to fix mistakes, to refine writing and to give you that weekly deadline. Definitely take a workshop with a leader, not a peer group. There's always a loudmouth who will leave you deflated. As you send things out, I'd say take great care with cover letters. Don't write self-aggrandizing cover letters. Be humble.

Bookstore most likely seen in? I have to say Brookline Booksmith because of the staff and the gratitude for their support. I actually inaugurated their reading series. I've given five readings there total and it's my favorite place to give a reading. My books are all set in New England so it's a very good fit for me. You go to the next bookstore in Jackson, Miss., and get a pie in the face. You enjoy it when people come and despise it when it's a flop.

Involvement in the literary scene in Boston? I'm involved with PEN New England. I tease them that they should be called PEN 02138.



Don Lee

(Short stories have appeared in *GQ*, *New England Review*, *American Short Fiction*, *Glimmer Train*)

Home base? Just moved to Central Square from Back Bay, where I lived since 1984.

Latest published work? *Yellow: Stories* (W.W. Norton and Company, 2001).

Current projects? I'm working on a novel mostly because they wouldn't let me publish the short stories without promising a novel. It's called *There Once Was a Country*, and it will take place in Tokyo and involve an international love triangle. I'm supposed to deliver by next September, which is kind of a joke. I've also been the editor of *Ploughshares* since 1985.

What are you currently reading? I'm doing a lot of research on Japan. One is a real favorite, *All She Was Worth*, a mystery by Miyuki Miyabe. It's the only one of her books that was translated. There's also *Caught Inside: A Surfer's Year on the California Coast*, by Daniel Duane, an incredible nature writer who took a year off to surf. A nice fall read.

Favorite contemporary authors? Richard A. Ford, Andre Dubus III, Alice Munro.

Why does everyone want to write like Alice Munro? One thing that lots of us admire about her is that she sticks to short stories despite publishers' demands. Unfortunately, the vast readership is really used to novels and unused to stories. Same thing with people like Eudora Welty and John Cheever. They saw that what they were doing wasn't commercial but they stayed with it.

Favorite book growing up? I didn't read a lot of kids' books, I was deprived. But *The Catcher in the Rye* had big impact on me.

Least favorite work of fiction? Nothing is thrown across the room, because I don't finish it if I hate it.

What book do you wish you had written? *The Great Gatsby*. I consider it perfect in every way.

What percentage of contemporary literary fiction is good? It's in a pretty healthy state, I think. There are lots of good things being published—the collected stories of Richard Yates, writers who've been lost in the fray. Lots of young writers. It's really the heyday of literary fiction. It ebbs and flows, and probably the pendulum could swing the other way. But right now we're brimming over with good stuff.

What about the many literary magazines decrying the sad state of fiction? The few media stories out there depress everyone. Someone appears on the *Granta* list or in *The New Yorker* fiction issue and becomes an overnight sensation. That's what depresses those who have been pounding away in obscurity.

Which fictional character do you most admire? My favorite books have flawed, despicable characters. *The Good Soldier: A Tale of Passion* has a great, unreliable narrator. You think he's a coward and a fool.

Favorite passage? The first line of *Lolita*.

Advice for aspiring writers? I really hate to say this, but if someone is at the point where they're trying to decide whether to write short stories or a novel, go with the novel. It's much easier to sell a bad novel than good short stories.

Are you involved in the literary culture? I know the whole idea is to make the writing endeavor less lonely, but I see it as just the way it is. I'm involved with PEN and I've got a ton of writer friends, but there's no core group anymore. In our 20s, we hung out more. Now we're sick of each other. It's just that some have jobs and families. There used to be more carousing among writers. There was the Siesta club in the '80s with the Mary Higgins Clark crowd who met at the Bull & Finch. People drink less now. There's not enough gossip, romancing and naughty behavior.



Susanna Kaysen

(*Asa, As I Knew Him; Far Afield; Girl, Interrupted*)

Home base? I've lived in Cambridge my whole life.

Latest published work? *The Camera My Mother Gave Me* (Knopf, October 2001).

How have things changed for you as a writer? Nobody took any notice until the memoir, *Girl, Interrupted*, the history of several years of my life. Eventually it changed things because it meant I made money.

What book are you currently reading? *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle* by Haruki Murakami.

Recommended contemporary authors? I like this German man W.G Sebald. He writes books that you can't tell whether they're memoirs or novels. I don't really like short stories in general. Except maybe Alice Munro.

Why Alice Munro? She's a writer's writer.

Favorite book growing up? *The Wind in the Willows* as a kid. Then as a young adult I was obsessed with *The Magic Mountain* by Thomas Mann. I read it 12 times. I read Sherlock Holmes 20 times.

Least favorite work of fiction? I despise Virginia Woolf. The most over-rated 20th century writer.

What authors inspired you to become a writer? Norman Mailer inspired me to become a writer. Also *The Magic Mountain* by Thomas Mann and *The Collected Stories of Colette* by Robert Phelps, although I am less thrilled when I read books in translation.

What book do you wish you had written? Many. How sad, to think of all the books I didn't write. Any books instead of the ones I've written.

Favorite passage? I like the beginning of *A Farewell to Arms* because it begins with, "In the late summer of that year, we lived in a house in a village that looked across the river and the plain to the mountains." It's the use of the word "that." It makes it the most incredible opening line in modern literature.

Do you read much contemporary literary fiction? No. I read nonfiction because I didn't go to college so I need to find out about things. I had to read about World War I, infectious diseases, the immune system. I don't ever read biographies or letters. Although I'm a fantastic letter writer.

Advice for aspiring writers? Read more. Develop taste. Hold yourself to the highest standards even though you won't achieve them.

Do you go to readings or belong to a book group? No, I'm isolated. I hate readings because I hate listening to people read. It's interesting to see the author, though. I spend most of my time not writing. I sometimes enjoy it. I have a regiment, but it doesn't really work.

Are you at all involved with the literary community? I imagine I'm left out of it, like a character in a Woody Allen movie, standing there looking at the train go by. I'm a member of PEN, but that's a guild. Writers really hate each other, there's so much competition. People are venal and greedy; it's our nature. Writers are no less like that than any other people.



Margot Livesey

(*Homework: A Novel; The Missing World: A Novel; Criminals; Learning by Heart*)

Home base? I'm originally from Perthshire, Scotland; I recently moved to Waltham from Cambridge.

Latest published work? *Eva Moves the Furniture* (Henry Holt & Company Inc., 2001).

Where have you taught locally? Tufts, Boston University and Brandeis. Currently a writer- in-residence at Emerson.

Why has *Eva* been so long in coming? To put it crudely, I began it in '86 and simply couldn't make it work. I remained very dissatisfied with it. In between other books I came back to it. When I moved to Waltham, I threw out eight different versions of it. I think I needed to write the other books to educate myself. It's a little strange that I suddenly can't work on it any longer. And because of its personal subject matter, I'm quite apprehensive about its reception.

Current projects? I'm trying to write a new novel that I hope more closely reflects my own life, involving both Britain and America.

What are you currently reading? Elizabeth Cleghorn Gaskell's *Wives and Daughters: An Everyday Story*. It's her last novel, so I'm going as slowly as possible.

Favorite contemporary author? I've got hundreds! Alice Munro, William Trevor and Barbara Trapido. I read a lot of British fiction like Graham Swift. I like those kinds of boy British writers.

Which magazines do you subscribe to? *Five Coins* from Georgia State University. *Ploughshares*, *TriQuarterly* out of Evanston Chicago School. I recently succumbed and subscribed to *The New Yorker*. I was always borrowing it from people. I felt like someone who is always bumming cigarettes.

Favorite book growing up? Certain books I read over and over, like *The Little Mermaid, Anne of Green Gables* and *What Katie Did*. The kinds of books in which girls behave badly and still triumph.

What book do you wish you had written? Many. *Madame Bovary* and *Anna Karenina*. *Moby Dick, To the Lighthouse*. William Maxwell's *So Long, See You Tomorrow*.

Biggest inspirations? They remain the great Victorian novels that I read growing up. *Wuthering Heights, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. Also the more elegant novels like *Middlemarch*. Those where character and plot are so passionately intertwined, in which class and money play such crucial parts, as do matters of the heart.

Which fictional characters do you admire most? Certain scenes in *Jane Eyre* remain with me, and Anthony Powell's *A Dance to the Music of Time*, feel like scenes from my own life.

Most memorable passage? As a British school child, I started reading Shakespeare at 7 or 8 and certain passages remain with me very passionately. In particular, the scene when Othello comes in and says:

"Keep up your bright swords for the dew will rust them.
Good signor, you shall more command with years
Than with your weapons."

It makes the hair rise on my head.

Advice for aspiring writers? I just read a wonderful interview by Sue Miller, and she said that you shouldn't be afraid of failure and to be open to writing. I love that. I'd say try to write something you'd want to read. And spend a couple of hours a day reading.

Bookstore most likely to be seen in? I lead a busy life as bookshop-hopper and shop once or twice a week. It's a harmless obsession. I try to distribute between Wordsworth, Harvard Book Store, Brookline Booksmith and Newtonville Books.

What is your involvement with the literary community? I'm a rather dormant part of PEN. I admire the organization greatly, though. I have friends whom I exchange work with.



Elizabeth McCracken

(*The Giant's House: A Romance; Here's Your Hat What's Your Hurry: Stories*)

Home base? Somerville for the past eight years.

Last published work? (*Niagra Falls All Over Again*, Dell Publishing Co., 2001).

Current projects? I'm fiddling around with the next novel.

Do you have a specific procedure for writing? No. I used to be a late-night writer, but not anymore. I don't write every day. But when I do write, I work eight to 12 hours a day.

How do you come up with ideas for your novels? I come up with an idea and just follow it down a blind alley. So far, I write about various childhood obsessions.

Do you prefer writing stories or novels? I haven't written a short story in so long. I've been on the novel track. I hope to go back at some point when I have time, so I take six months to write them and be able to throw out the bad ones, sort of like pancakes.

What book are you currently reading? Nick Hornby's *How to Be Good*.

Who's your favorite contemporary author? I like Rose Tremain very much. Her *Sacred Country* is one of my favorites of all time. And I'll plug my friend Max Phillips. He'll be at the Globe Book Festival in October. I read a lot of nonfiction when researching.

Favorite book growing up? *Eloise* by Hilary Knight and a little girl who lived in New York's Plaza Hotel.

Least favorite work of fiction? *Ethan Frome*. I was made to read it so many times in school.

Who are your inspirations? Grace Paley, Carson McCullers and Elvis Presley.

Which kinds of fictional characters do you like most? The main character in *A Dangerous Woman*, Martha Horgan. She's this really complicated, often completely unlikable character, but she's really sympathetic. I think this is why fiction writers love *Lolita* so much. To be able to take a character who is so unkind and awful and make that character real—and beautiful at the same time. It seems so impossible, so when you see it done, you immediately want to try it yourself.

Favorite passage? Carson McCullers' *The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter*. The opening first couple of pages. And parts of *David Copperfield*.

What is the purpose of a novel? To torment its author. Really, though, I'd probably say


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entertainment. I like to be absorbed as much as possible when I read. So basically to grab the reader by his or her lapels and hold them there until the last page and then drop them to the ground.

Advice for aspiring writers? I'm so often completely uninspiring because I talk about how difficult writing is. But I like to think of my friends as coaches. "Don't stand like that. Nice shot. Don't make the shot unless you're ready." It's hard work but it's not a bad life.

Favorite place to buy books in Boston? New England Mobile Book Fair in Newton is great. The Booksmith, Wordsworth, Harvard Book Store—I'm there entirely too often.

What do you think of the literary scene in Boston? I'm a member of PEN New England. I have friends who are writers—Ann Patchett and Max Phillips, whom I exchange work with.

Sue Miller

(*The Good Mother; Inventing the Abbotts and Other Stories; Family Pictures: A Novel; For Love; The Distinguished Guest; While I Was Gone*)

Home base? Cambridge, previously the South End. I've been in Boston since 1959.

Latest published work? *The World Below* (Knopf, October 2001).

What do you like about living in Boston? I like its physical beauty, and I think it has a slight village quality.

What are you currently reading? *Mary and O'Neil* by Justin Cronin, a collection of short stories that has the potency of a novel. Another



collection I'm reading is Mary Ladd Gavell's posthumous *I Cannot Tell a Lie, Exactly*.

Who's your favorite contemporary author? Either Alice Munro or Ian McEwan.

Favorite book growing up? *Jane Eyre*. I read it and re-read it probably five or six times.

Least favorite book? The Laura Ingalls Wilder books.

What percentage of contemporary literary fiction is bad? I'd say two-thirds.

What book do you wish you had written? I'll say *A High Wind in Jamaica* by Richard Hughes, which was published in 1929.

Bookstore most likely seen in? I like Harvard Book Store in Harvard Square.

What is the literary culture like for contemporary writers? It's an enormously friendly community. I'm the chair of PEN New England, so I'm very conscious of the efforts we undertake to maintain a sense of community among writers. Before that I had a strong sense of the friendly community of writers in Boston. It's small enough that you're bound to run into people you know at readings or any kind of literary gatherings. There are overlapping circles of acquaintances, poets and novelists.

Advice for aspiring writers? The best thing you can do is to read everything you can. Without a sense of what's come before and what's around you, you can't know what you're doing. It isn't just self-expression, there are a lot of formal demands as well. Fiction is changing, and you need to know how. When you re-read early 20th-century books, you think "This just goes on and on." Maybe it's because of cinema that there is a change in the pacing, but things like *The Magic Mountain* would have been edited more if it were published now.

Alan Lightman

(*Einstein's Dreams, The Best American Essays 2000, Good Benito*)

Editors Note: Dr. Lightman corresponded with us from a remote (phone-free, fax-free) island in Maine. Lightman has spent an isolated summer there to observe ospreys for an upcoming book. He was kind enough to handwrite some of his thoughts, hence the brevity of his answers.

Home base? Mass. and Maine

Last published work? *The Diagnosis* (Pantheon Books, 2000).

Current work? A novel tentatively titled *Reunion*.

What are you reading now? *Reading Pictures: A History of Love and Hate* by Alberto Manguel.

Who are some of your favorite contemporary authors? I have many favorites, including Marquez, Ondaatje, Proulx, Delillo and Kundera.

Which magazines do you subscribe to? *The New Yorker.*

What was your favorite book growing up? Science fiction by Isaac Asimov and Robert Heinlein.

What one question would you ask Shakespeare? Does writing come easily to you?

What one book do you wish you had written? Many. One is *Running in the Family* by Michael Ondaatje.

Who are your literary heroes? Kafka, Calvino, Dostoyevsky, Bulgakov, Dino Buzatti, Primo Levi, Hemingway.

Favorite quote of all time? "The mind is its own place: it can make a Hell of Heaven, or a Heaven of Hell" (*Paradise Lost*, John Milton).

Advice for aspiring writers? Read good writers and have confidence in your own voice.

What do you think of the literary scene in Boston? I believe that there is a wider range of

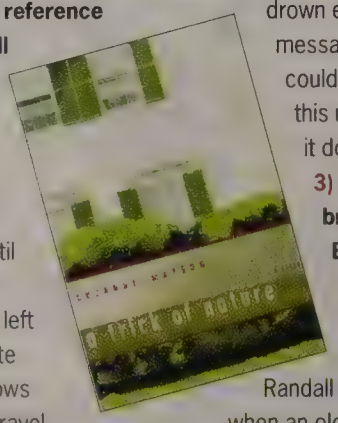


Fall Reading from Boston Bibliophiles

Shelve that dog-eared novel you've been meaning to read all summer in favor of local librarians' fall picks

compiled by leah gourley

1) From Marilyn Grant, senior reference librarian/bibliographer, O'Neill Library, Boston College:



•*A Trick of Nature* **Suzanne Matson**

High school teacher and football coach Gary Goodman leads a typical suburban life until one of the boys on the football team is struck by lightning and left in a coma. Matson, an associate professor of English at BC, shows how quickly a man's life can unravel.

2) From the staff of the Boston Public Library:

•*The Fig Eater* **Jody Shields**

Fascinating early crime scene photography techniques reveal the killer in this turn-of-the-century murder mystery set in Vienna. Fans of the TV show CSI will love this novel, inspired by the true-life accounts of "Dora," one of Freud's early patients.

•*Waiting* **Ha Jin**

Think your relationship is at a dead end? This story is set in post-cultural-revolution China where a woman meets and falls in love with a doctor. The catch is that he's already married, and divorce is a tricky business. The story picks up 18 years later.

•*Tell No One* **Harlan Coben**

Dr. David Beck is convinced that his wife didn't drown eight years ago when he gets disturbing messages on his computer that only she could have written. Set aside a few hours for this novel because you won't be able to put it down.

3) From Ann Collins and staff, assistant branch supervisor, Coolidge Corner Branch of the Brookline Public Library:

•*The Up and Comer* **Howard Roughan**

Up-and-coming hot-shot lawyer Philip Randall gets his come-uppance in this book when an old schoolmate finds blackmailing his pal an amusing pastime.

•*Never Change* **Elizabeth Berg**

This story, set in Boston, follows the emotional journey of a middle-aged visiting nurse who is asked to care for her high school crush when he returns home with a brain tumor.

4) From Josie Wrangham, adult services librarian, Somerville Public Library:

•*Bel Canto* **Ann Patchett**

This novel tells the story of a group of people invited to an embassy in South America and subsequently held hostage by "terrorists." Among the hostages is a world-reknown soprano who becomes the focal point as drama ensues. It's truly surprising at every turn.

•*The Ice Child* **Elizabeth McGregor**

This action-packed tale takes place in contemporary London. A parallel story of the ill-fated Franklin expedition to the Northwest Passage in the 1840s fills this novel with riveting suspense.

•*Death in Holy Orders* **P. D. James**

James takes the reader into a Church of England seminary for young men where murder, incest and subterfuge are rampant. As always, there's excellent writing from the tireless Baroness James.

5) From Mary Bliss Matteson, collection development, Cambridge Public Library:

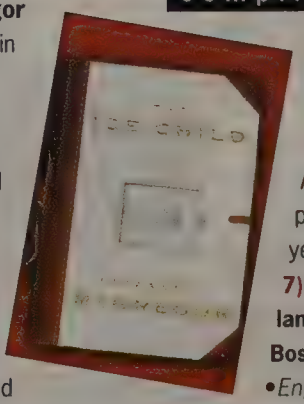
•*Swift as Desire* **Laura Esquivel**

In a tribute to her father, Esquivel, a Mexican author at the forefront of modern Latin literature, has written yet another off-beat and sensual story with a moralistic twist.

6) From Alan Allaire, reference librarian at Newton Free Library:

•*Portrait in Sepia* **Isabel Allende**

This rich and complex novel covers 50 years of wars, love affairs, births, weddings and funerals and





picks up where *Daughter of Fortune* left off.

•*Fury* **Salman Rushdie**

A bitingly satiric, often wildly farcical picture of American society in the first years of the 21st century.

7) From Diane d'Almeida, foreign language librarian, Mugar Library, Boston University:

•*English Passengers* **Matthew Kneale**

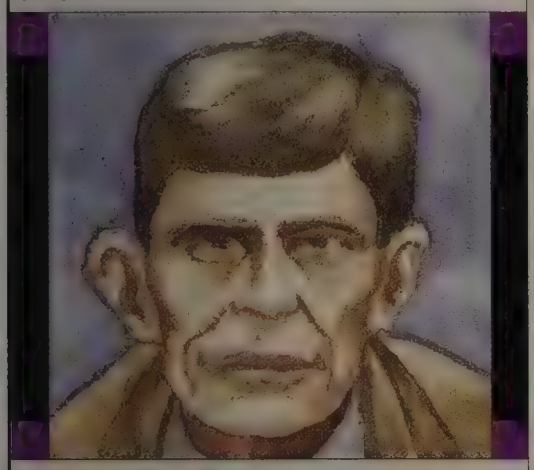
A wonderful historical fiction about a part of the world that we rarely hear about. A very funny story incorporating a fictionalized Christopher Columbus.

8) From Robert L. Evensen, associate university librarian, Brandeis University:

•*Light, Coming Back: A Novel* **Ann Wadsworth**

An insightful first novel by a Boston writer who is also a librarian at Boston Atheneum. This story about balancing both the reality of the approaching death of a spouse with the joy of finding oneself in a new relationship gives us all pause to consider what life is all about.

writers and literary sensibilities in Boston now than in the past. Writers generally do not socialize with each other but, instead, form relationships through reading each other's works. The U.S. has a rich diversity of writers today—I keep up with my favorite people by exchanging books and letters.



Stephen McCauley

(*The Object of My Affection, The Easy Way Out, The Man of the House*)

Home base? I'm from Woburn, but live in Cambridge and Rockport.

Last published work? *True Enough* (Simon & Schuster, 2001).

Where have you taught locally? Brandeis, Wellesley, U. Mass. and Harvard

Current projects? There's another novel that I'm supposed to be finished with in a year. There's also a TV project in the works, an original series with Warner Brothers. It is a lot of fun—I'm not just sitting in a room writing by myself.

What are you currently reading? It sounds so pretentious. But it's the new translation of *Anna Karenina*.

Recommended contemporary authors? I just started Jonathan Ames' *The Extra Man* and his essays called *What's Not to Love?: The Adventures of a Mildly Perverted Young Writer.* It's a totally perverted view of the world, wild and unusual. And funny. I recommend Lorrie Moore and George Saunders for short stories.

Which magazines do you subscribe to? I read the *National Enquirer* every week. *The American Spectator* and *The New Yorker* occasionally.

Favorite book growing up? *Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes was my favorite as a kid. As young teenager, it was *Valley of the Dolls*. It's horrible. I tried to re-read it recently, and it's completely unreadable.

What book do you wish you had written? Virtually every book. I wish I had written *Goodbye to Berlin* by Christopher Isherwood. It's so beautifully written, such good observations about character, set in an important historical period, with deep insight into people's lives.

What fictional character do you most identify with? Other than Holden Caulfield? I'm sort of obsessed with Jane Eyre. Every time I go to a wedding, there's that moment in the service when they ask if there's any reason why they can't be married. I can't hear that without thinking of the scene where Mr. Briggs bursts in and says, "The marriage cannot go on! I declare the existence of an impediment."

What is your involvement in the literary community? I go to the Writers' Room office space on State Street. It's 1,600 square feet with 10 desks and about 40 members. It's open 24 hours a day for people to come and write. There are no distractions and it's nice because there are others there writing so you're not quite as isolated. When I was moving, I was in a horrible bind and wouldn't have been able to finish my book on time without this space. It's sort of like an urban artist colony.

Advice for aspiring writers? Be true to yourself. Don't think about writing, just do it. People imagine they've conceived the perfect story, but by the time they sit down to write it, it's overwhelmed and lost. And don't go into bookstores. It's too daunting.

Favorite passage? I love the last page of *Ulysses* by James Joyce, the end of Molly Bloom's monologue. It always makes me cry. One of these days I'm going to have to read the rest of the book.

What is the purpose of a novel? A truly great novel can help you understand important truths about human experience. But as a writer, I think your first and highest goal should be to entertain the reader.

How do you see the state of contemporary literary fiction? If my books sold better, I'd probably think things are just fine. There seems to be a lot more emphasis on the bottom line in publishing, which means many terrific writers aren't getting widely published because they don't make a profit for the publisher. Even so, my main complaint when I walk into a bookstore is that there are too many books I want to read. Go figure.

How has Boston colored your writing? Boston feels like home to me and I like living here, so I'm comfortable satirizing it a bit. It's hard to do that with a city you don't know as well.

Guilty literary pleasure? I gave up feeling guilty about my lowbrow taste years ago.



Jill McCorkle

(*Final Vinyl Days and Other Stories; Ferris Beach; Crash Diet: Stories; Tending to Virginia: A Novel; Carolina Moon: A Novel; The Cheer Leader; July 7th*)

Home base? Wayland for nine years.

Where do you teach? Brandeis University.

Latest published work? *Creatures of Habit* (Algonquin Books, 2001).

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Do you prefer to write short stories or novels? I've gone back and forth, and I've been in short-story mode for awhile. In between novels I go back to stories. I love the form.

What are you currently reading? I just read Alice Hoffman's *Blue Diary*, which I could not put down. I like Alexandra Marshall. I read a lot of Jayne Anne Phillips, Sue Miller and Charles Baxter. I end up reading nonfiction a lot, especially when I'm in the midst of writing.

Do you have a specific reason for writing each book? I always wrote as a kid, just as personal entertainment—the same way that you might sing in the shower. I always liked to make up stories and make people laugh. I began writing seriously in college. That was the first time it occurred to me that writing was something a grown-up could pursue.

What is the purpose of a novel? I think I approach the novel as a reader. I'm looking for the same thing as a writer and a reader—an understanding, a new way of looking at the world. Very often when I'm writing, I set up a situation and begin writing blindly, not fully sure how the characters connect or what their purpose might be. It's a kind of seeking an emotional truth—one that changes the way you see something. I hope people come away with that—a new way of looking at a person.

Do you end up with what you thought you would? To me, it's a discovery, and very often it isn't something I originally thought of. With my new collection, I had it in hand before I realized there was a thematic connection between humans and animals, and it made me go back and look at them all differently.

How has Boston colored your writing? The light is very different, and I find myself drawn to it. Autumn has always been my favorite season, and I get such a good stretch of it here. And the literary community is wonderful.

Guilty literary pleasure? True crime. I love forensic books. I am a huge Ann Rule fan. I can't wait for her new one because I've read every one of her books.

Favorite book growing up? I absolutely loved Grimms' fairytales, but Disney has taken everything out of them. I made the mistake of getting an audio version for my kids. They were horrified. I also just love Eugene Fields' poems. I loved anything that made me weep.

What book do you wish you had written? *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote. It so appealed to me as a writer. It just made me want to write. Another is *Shot in the Heart*, Mikal Gilmore's book.

What music inspires you to write? Music is a great tool. I like to write in silence but I listen to music prior to writing. I would say with the exception of heavy metal, I listen to everything.

Advice for aspiring writers? I think that first and foremost, do it. The more you write, the more you write. You get into the kind of mind-set for it. The more I write, the more ideas I have.

What do you think of the literary scene in Boston? I've served on the PEN executive board. I go to a lot of readings. I do like readings—I guess I like standing up and hearing yourself talk. I think it's one of the most satisfying aspects.



Kate Wheeler

(*Not Where I Started From*)

Home base? Somerville.

Latest published work? *When Mountains Walked* (Houghton Mifflin Co., 2001).

What book are you currently reading? My bedside table is piled with books I'm reading all at once. *Woodcuts of Women*, short stories by Dagoberto Gilb, is the main one.

Who are some of your favorite contemporary authors? Dagoberto's book is really exciting. Usually I like and admire whatever book I'm reading. Alice Munro, William Trevor. Flannery O'Connor—I wish I could write like her.

How did you begin writing? Somehow I always wrote and told stories. My family moved a lot and so I was always reading. I'd tell the plots of books to my little sisters claiming I'd made them up myself. I'm not sure why I became a writer, except that somehow I had to do it and could not do anything else without writing about it too. I always fantasize about giving it up, though. It's not that easy a life for me. I'd probably quit if I could.

What is the purpose of a novel? To show a change in a person...How and why people change...How to live, or how life works.

How do you see the state of contemporary literary fiction? I think it's thriving. Of course there are pressures and evil temptations, forces out there that will cheapen and deaden one's work. The Wal-Martization of our culture, of our souls. But there is good writing about that too. The little I've taught tells me there's lots of life and talent out there.

How has Boston colored your writing? My upcoming story in *Zoetrope* is set in Somerville, and there's a big Cambridge section in my novel. Boston has been my home base for a long time. Our solid and somewhat intellectual culture is a kind of bedrock to rest on. There's not quite enough weirdness here, though, so I guess I have to travel.

Guilty literary pleasure? Buddhist books.

What book do you wish you had written? *Disgrace* by J.M. Coetzee. It's so stark and beautiful. Then there's *Beloved* by Toni Morrison; it's rich and so deep—her style is so different from mine. I don't think I could ever write like her.

Could you describe the mundane details of writing? I revise obsessively; half my keyboard letters are rubbed off. I've learned that if I start writing first thing in the morning, it goes well but if I don't, I'm swallowed up by distractions. Pretty much everything distracts me. To resolve that, I go to a foreign country and rent a cheap hotel room for a month. Then it's easy and pleasant to write, when the phone isn't ringing and I eat in restaurants all the time.

Which kinds of characters do you like the most? I think more about language than character, about the whole world that is evoked in a piece of writing. It can be all different things, but realistic fiction with a slight tinge of the weird—which is just the weirdness of reality. When I'm happiest reading, I'm thinking "Yes, yes, it's just like that!"

Advice for aspiring writers? Persist, endure, keep going! Try to get published. Go to writing workshops or join a program.

Do you participate in a book group? Yes, for many years my book group has met once a month, and they have been the people I write fiction for. Unlike the rest of the world, they demand to read what I've written. My writing group is really the only scene I'm part of. But even the idea of literary conversation kind of makes me nervous. If I'm talking about writing, I probably should be writing instead. But most of the time, whatever I'm doing, if I'm not writing, I feel I should be writing instead.



Pagan Kennedy

(*The Exes; Spinsters (High Risk); Stripping: And Other Stories; Pagan Kennedy's Living: A Handbook for Maturing Hipsters: Platforms: A Microwaved Cultural Chronicle of the 1970s; Zine*)

Home base? Somerville, near the bike path, where people parade among the high, weedy wildflowers, where compost piles breed beautiful red worms, and the espresso machines sh-sh-sh-shush in the Diesel cafe. I've never lived anyplace that feels so close to utopia, my fantasy of what a city could be.

Latest published work? *The Exes* (Simon & Schuster, 1998).

Current projects? In February, Viking Press will release *Black Livingstone: A True Tale of Adventure*. It's the biography of African-American explorer William H. Sheppard.

What book are you currently reading? *Sleepless Days* by Susan Kushner Resnick, who is in my writing group.

How did you begin writing? I began with a coat—an antique wrap from the Salvation Army, trimmed in fur. I was 19, and given to extended meditations on persons and places that had never existed but should. When I wore the coat—with its fusty odor of old lady—I couldn't help but wonder about its previous owner. I imagined her to be a White Russian, an ex-baroness who had retreated to a manor somewhere in Connecticut; her only companion was her young ward, named Ludmilla, to whom she repeated endless stories about grand parties of the old days. One morning, I took up a pen and found myself writing in Ludmilla's voice. A story poured out. In the beginning, it was like that. Characters spoke through me like spirits. I simply had to listen.

Do you have a favorite passage from a work of fiction—other than *Lolita*? Before your plea to not pick something from that book, I immediately thought of a line from its beginning. What is it about *Lolita* that we're all so in love with? The language of course. And the ballsy grab-the-reader-by-the-lapel gambit of starting with a highly sexualized ode to a young girl. But most of all the force and pressure of the narrator's voice. This man, Humbert, loves, obsesses. We feel the full force of his desire. The job of a writer, first and foremost, is to capture passion and cage it in these little marks we make on the page. When he was not working on novels, Nabokov chased after butterflies. He wandered through meadows full of bee bane and jewel weed, net in hand. And when he spotted a good specimen, he swooped his arm and caught it, the fragile dusty bug beating inside the grid of strings. Nabokov's sentences are like that—a firm net that somehow, magically, holds an impossibly fragile fragment of desire.

Could you describe the mundane details of writing? I don't have much of routine. Every book makes different demands, requires me to perform different weird little tasks. When I wrote *Platforms*, I fried my eyes watching hours of *Charlie's Angels*. Researching *Black Livingstone*, I dug through boxes of correspondence from the 19th century. That's what I adore about being a writer—it's my perpetual graduate school, a never-ending induction into the mysteries of the world.

Where are you most likely to be buying books? Online. Please forgive me.

Do you participate in a book group? I'm in a writers' group that has been meeting every week for the past 13 years. Lauren Slater and I are the only two original members. She brings the chocolate chip cookies. She get's the sofa. It's nice to have at least one thing in your life that you can count on—for all of us, writers' group has become that. **iB**

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Partners in Crime

An avid mystery fan extols the virtues of the men behind Boston's beloved gumshoes, Robert B. Parker and Dennis Lehane

by jim behrle

photograph by tracy aiguier

The Boston area has been bejeweled with great characters over the years, especially its rich tradition of fictional private investigators—Jeremiah Healy's Vietnam vet Cuddy and Linda Barnes' ex-cop cabbie Carlotta Carlyle among them. But Boston's granddaddy gumshoe is Spenser—Robert B. Parker's brilliant, enduring creation.

Spenser stands Prudential-tall against the fictional Boston skyline, even if he did go to Los Angeles for a little stretch. He's been popularized on TV, but it's Parker's beefy prose, however, that has sustained his prototypic PI through 28 novels and over 30 years.

Although Spenser exudes as much Boston as baked beans or Old Ironsides, Robert Parker says he was just writing about what he knew. "There's nothing special about Boston in terms of writing my books," Parker says, "except that I live here. If I lived in Louisville, I'd set the books there." Parker says he can write about Spenser anywhere, "As long as he, like me, is a visitor. Only in Boston is he an insider."

Parker books are a bridge to the pulp novels of yore. "Both Hammett and Chandler were of course influential," Parker says, "Chandler more than Hammett. When I began I wanted to write just like Raymond Chandler and I wanted Spenser to be just like Philip Marlowe." Parker helped complete an unfinished Raymond Chandler novel, and he's written a Marlowe mystery of his own. "But soon, as I evolved, so did my work. There was no master plan, it just happens as time and process continue."

Spenser isn't just a smart-ass tough guy. It's his ex-cop honor, his unerring sense of righteousness, that sets his tone, and the standard, for the American private-eye novel.

Dennis Lehane, author most recently of *Mystic River*, counts himself as a fan of Spenser and his author. According to him, American crime fiction was caught in a loop. "And then here comes Robert B." Lehane says, "with a PI whose main character thinks and talks in modern vernacular, who's affected emotionally and mentally by the cases he deals with, who has—God almighty—a stable relationship with a woman who is his equal, and lets loose with these quips that are both clever and laugh-out-loud funny. This had never been done before."

Lehane feels that because of commercial success, Parker hasn't gotten the literary credit he deserves. "There's American detective fiction pre-Parker and then there's American detective fiction post-Parker. He revolutionized the genre."

Robert Parker was "a huge influence" on Lehane. "To be honest I cringe now when I read the opening chapter of *A Drink Before the War*, because it strikes me as so faux-Parker. I think I struck out on my own as the book progressed and the next book, *Darkness, Take My Hand*, is about as far afield of Parker as one can get, but in that first chapter of *Drink*, I was wearing him on my sleeve."

If Spenser is crime novel's Yaz, Dennis Lehane, the pride of Dorchester, is Nomar Garciaparra, a hot-shot young gun with a strong arm and moves that seem instantly classic.

Angela Gennaro and Patrick Kenzie debuted in Lehane's masterful *A Drink Before the War*. In the five Gennaro/Kenzie novels, Lehane continued to up the ante, claiming a quick place for himself at the highest table of American crime fiction.

How fictionalized and embellished is Lehane's Boston? "Well, I'm Irish—I couldn't give directions without embellishing," Lehane says. "The world I grew up in was a story-telling world; you heard them in the bars, in the playgrounds, on the street corners, everywhere—'So I know this guy, right…' And some magnificent story would follow—always bawdy, always funny, usually with the spectre of tragedy underlying it, and always with a killer punchline."

Lehane also grew up with "a reckless disrespect for the facts." He explains: "If you had to bend the truth a bit to make the payoff work. So be it. It was about the story, first and foremost, not getting hung up on the particulars. And I believe deeply in that—facts change, street names change, buildings are altered—but good stories sink deep and hook in."

What makes Lehane's books stand out from the pack on the bookshelves is his characters. His ear is Memorex-exact. He has a keen gift for capturing the rhythms of how real people really speak.

His heroes frequently surprise his readers, and him. "I hate knowing a character won't change or be affected by the events he or she is exposed to. I mean, why read—or write—about a guy who's exactly the same on page 400 as he was on page 1? Where's the fun in that?"

"If Kenzie and Gennaro progressively went to darker places with each book," Lehane says, "it was organic. I didn't intend it. I just kept asking myself how they'd respond to such-and-such a situation and then I let them respond, positively or negatively."

We can look forward to bright futures for both writers. Missing Delores will be next novel from Dennis Lehane. It's doubtful Lehane will be as prolific as Robert Parker. "I write like a snail jogs," Lehane joked.

And Spenser's still going strong. Robert B. Parker has no intention of killing him off. Parker's novel *Death in Paradise* comes out soon, starring Parker creation Jesse Stone. Spenser will be back in March 2002, in a new novel titled *Widow's Walk*. iB

Jim Behrle is the events director at Brookline Booksmith.

"There's American detective fiction pre-Parker and then there's American detective fiction post-Parker," says Lehane. "He revolutionized the genre."

Words to the Wise

Classes to help you get your stories into shape

Everyone has a story to tell, and inspiration comes in many forms: vivid childhood memories, strange incidents, the sensation that characters exist in a world inside one's head. Putting pen to paper every day is one way to turn thoughts into prose, but how do you know when you've written something cohesive, vivid and compelling?

There are many places in the Boston area to learn the basics—plot, character, setting and so on—and to fine-tune stories already in the works. Classes and workshops are wonderful opportunities to hone craft, study the all-time greats and learn how others confront, and surmount, difficulties in the writing process. Here is a small sampling of places where you can jump-start your writing.

The Boston Center for Adult Education runs a number of workshops and seminars for writers of all genres. To order a catalog, call 617-267-4430, or visit *www.bcae.org*.

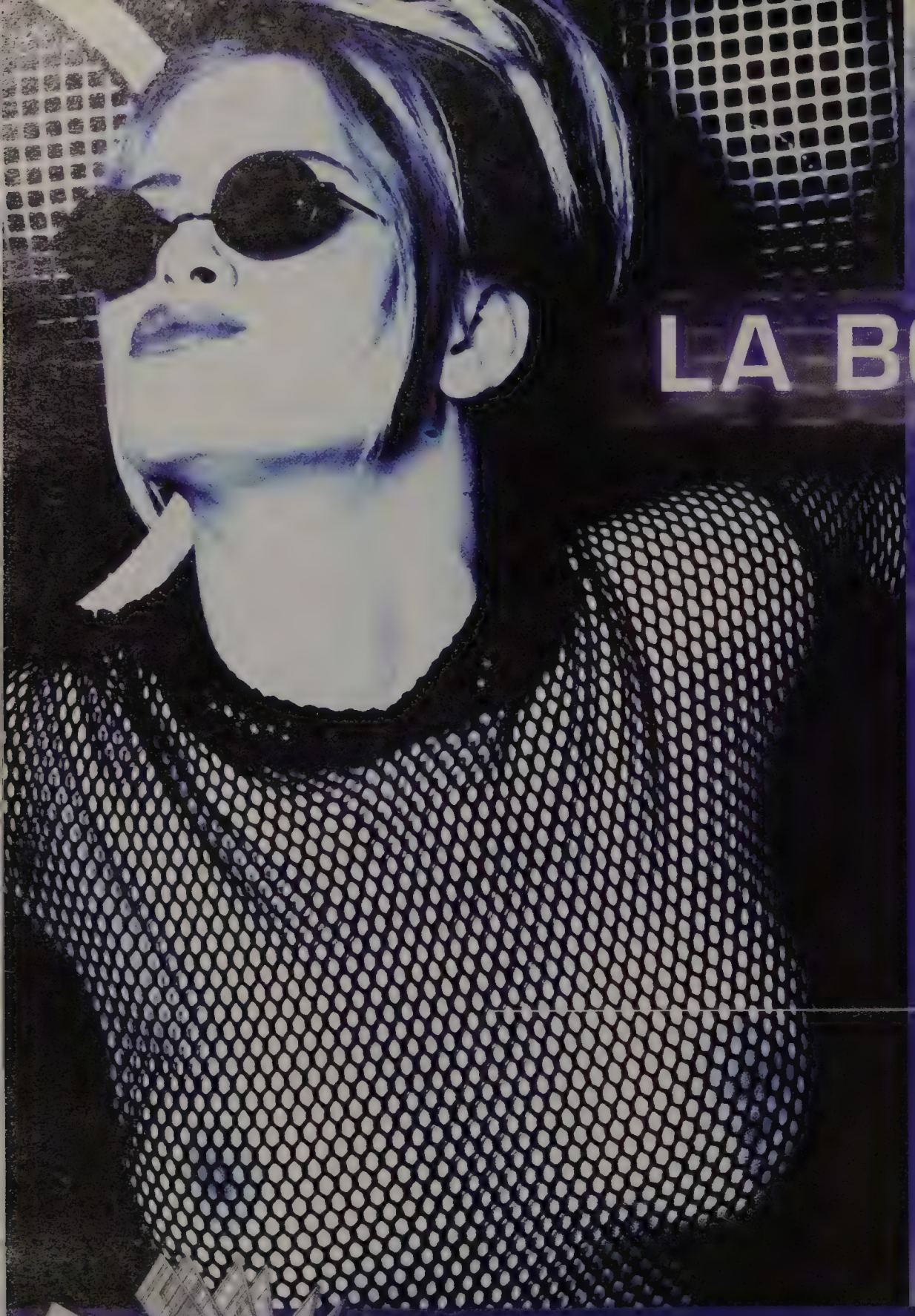
The Cambridge Center for Adult Education offers classes in character development, dusting off unfinished works and how to cultivate a Zen-like attitude toward the process of creation. On Nov. 17, the Center will hold its fourth annual Fall Writers' Conference. To order a catalog, call 617-547-6789, or visit *www.ccae.org*.

Grub Street Writers has beginning, intermediate and advanced writing workshops. There are one-day seminars on getting published and pursuing a degree in creative writing. (Grub Street will be taking a hiatus next year to pursue status as a nonprofit.) Pick up a catalog from one of Grub Street's boxes, call 617-623-8100, or visit *www.grubstreet.com*.

Harvard Extension School offers all levels of creative writing classes for undergraduate and graduate credit. Pick up a catalog outside the Division of Continuing Education at 51 Brattle Street, call 617-495-4024 or visit *www.dce.harvard.edu*.

Emerson College, which offers an MFA in creative writing, has continuing-education fiction classes that can be taken for undergraduate or graduate credit. In addition, the college offers a graduate-level certificate in children's publishing. Pick up a catalog at the Division of Continuing Education at 80 Boylston Street, call 617-824-8615, or visit *www.emerson.edu/ce*.

Also, check out the community bulletin boards in bookstores, cafes and natural-food stores for postings that describe groups, readings, coaches and workshops.—*Susan Abbattista*



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Adam Pachter is a 31-year-old writer who was born in Cambridge and now works in Somerville. He graduated in 1992 from Harvard and received a law degree from the University of Chicago in 1996. After clerking for a federal judge and practicing environmental law for several years, he switched to working full-time as a fiction writer and photographer. Although this is his first published piece of fiction, writing does run in the family. Ralph Waldo Emerson is his great-great-great grandfather. Pachter welcomes comments from readers at *adampachter@yahoo.com*.

Lotion

a short story by **adam emerson pachter**

For a while, saying yes was an alternative to being happy. I did what she asked, and when she smiled, her reflected glow illuminated me. I gave Marie everything she openly wanted, and a few items whose need I merely inferred. A larger house, for example. She asked for that, in the way she constantly rearranged furniture in the kitchen nook that doubled as a dining room. In the way I sometimes caught her examining the grass just outside our back door, as if she would really have preferred to be sitting on a porch.

I gave her that house, sooner than expected. I worked tirelessly on my portfolio, focusing all energies on gaining that tiny information edge that would enable me to buy just ahead of the bulls and sell a moment before the bears. I subscribed to three newspapers and a dozen business journals, read during every meal and kept a notebook close by our tiny bed.

I wasn't particularly happy doing this, but my money swelled, and soon I made a down payment on a vast, rambling house at Christmas Cove, along the Maine coast just south of Wiscasset. It required fixing, but the porch wrapped around three sides; Marie would sleep in the copious closets, and I could dream of new adventures from its widow's walk. Dream, yes. But not yet achieve. Not while Marie sifted a moment too long through her drawer one morning, looking for a comb to smooth her bed-swept locks. And not while she needed more lotion.

Our new house was cold, and on a damp winter's day you could imagine the fog oozing sea germs into the house. At least Marie must have imagined this, for she washed her hands more often than anyone I had ever met, at every meal and then on either end of every meal, just to be sure. She washed her hands before she put new clothes on and after she removed old ones.

And it affected her hands, especially in the winter. The skin began to flake along her knuckles and in the dales between her fingers. Rough white specks and furrowed red cracks appeared. I couldn't stand to see her natural smoothness marred, so I bought her vast expanses of lotion.

She smiled, and I never found full bottles in the closet, so she must have used the lotion. But her hands—they flapped and chapped and continued to burn.

Now, it's later. December. Her hands still chafed, and our relationship had as well. Several years gone, some little time left, but still a dilemma that had shifted from the future into the past tense. Why hadn't the marriage worked? A simple question, which means you can't expect a straight answer. But, if there could be but a single word, that word would be...

"Iceland," I said.

"...Is very cold."

"And very beautiful."

"I hadn't heard that part."

"It's true. They say that the inner mountains, the center area where no one lives, looks like the surface of the moon."

"No one lives on the surface of the moon."

"But it's not a bad place to visit."

She stopped peeling the potatoes for our early winter dinner. We had an odd tradition in our house, one that Marie suggested. We ate our suppers just as the sun was setting, at every distinct time of year. Marie didn't want to eat in the dark, and since I worked at home, I could not use a conventional excuse.

"Marie, I would really like to visit Iceland."

"If you'd like, I could turn down the thermometer."

"We can't get it below freezing."

"I thought you liked it cold."

"No, you like it cold. I would like to visit Iceland. In the summer."

"It sounds barren."

"Well, that's the beauty. There's a Ring Road that encircles the innards of the country, and a single bus that travels it."

"I don't like buses. And where would we eat?"

"There are a few towns, and places to sleep within them. I've looked it up."

"And not mentioned it to me? Why should we travel? We've just been to Rome."

"Marie, that was two years ago."

"Well, the memories are fresh with me." A potato evaded her knife and twirled briskly off the kitchen table. "Let's see. John took my favorite comb and tried to fly off the Spanish Steps. Beth threw a tantrum at the lack of ice cream at the Pantheon. And Chris lost himself in the middle of the Vatican. No wonder it seems like just yesterday."

"But it wasn't. A lot has happened since then."

"You're right. I've finally finished putting tile on the kitchen floor. The bookshelves in the library have been replaced, and I've managed to shore up the banister before John takes another one of his leaps."

She looked at me with particular ire, so I tried kindness for a change.

"Would you like some lotion, Marie? Your hands..."

"Are fine. And have you considered what I would be doing while you stomped around the moon?"

That stumped me.

"You don't want to hike?"

"You know I hate hiking."

I guess I did.

"There are always the Reykjavik mud baths."

"So I sit in mud. And the children?"

"We don't have to take them."

"So where do we leave them?"

"With my relatives."

"Absolutely not."

I sighed. No victory tonight. She was tired, her hands peeling, and she didn't want to go to Iceland. I did.

John called at us from an upstairs room.

"Time to shoo fly don't bother me."

"Not that kind of flying, Johnnie," Marie said. "Don't get near that banister." She left the room. And I left the house.

They saw this storm coming, so Marie had suggested we eat supper at 2pm, just to be sure there'd be enough light. I refused. The markets had not yet closed, so I kept the radio on and didn't listen to her requests. Of course, when it came my turn to make requests, she was in no mood for Iceland.

Fair enough. But I wasn't kidding. We had seen Italy almost entirely through its cities, and I wanted somewhere where you could watch the mountains ascend away from you; where you could hike all day and never reach them—somewhere far and high and strange to the life I was already living.

I took these thoughts with me up the servant's stairway and through a back route round the children's room, up to the newly varnished, chilled and snow-swept widow's walk. Sight brings clarity. I would look out toward the lighthouse at the base of Pemaquid Point, and I would see my next decision skipping on the waves before me. It would dance right there, and all I'd have to do would be to pick it up.

The snowflakes stung like a sandy blanket, driving into my nose and obscuring my eyes. The storm had come early, while we argued. Now I barely saw the railing, and Pemaquid Point was just an imagined hope. I'd have to wander the moors myself tonight, if I sought clarity. The view would not come without considerable effort. So I picked my warmed jacket and my thickest gloves. Then out I went, with a snow that stung my eyes. And I remembered children.

The white storm might well have been a movie screen, and on it I projected—children. I saw my failures written on their

RITA GREELEY

faces. In them I saw the price of delaying my own desires.

Marie wanted kids. And when I first raised a ginger objection, one fertile April evening, my wife could not understand me.

"I love the idea of children," I'd said. "At some point definitely. But wouldn't they restrict our ability to set off at a moment's notice, to embark upon some random, mad adventure?"

She frowned at me over a glass of lemonade.

"But we haven't gone on any mad adventures. Unless painting the bedroom blue counts."

"No, I don't think it does."

"Besides. We don't need any mad adventures. We have each other. Isn't that enough?"

It's not, I thought rather than said. We have too much of each other. We need to shape our own identities, find things that we want outside this one relationship.

I should have spoken then but didn't. Fear closed my mouth and muffled my thoughts. She was still so young and beautiful. Marie would have no problem finding another to love her, and she still had no fixed attachment to me. Nothing that we together had created, nothing that would bind us more solidly than a coat of paint slapped on last Sunday....

Fine, one child. One single child could hardly burden my dreams. One child would hardly amount to more than a momentary detour.

Since I could no longer actually find a path amid the whirling landscape, I walked by memory. My footsteps evaporated almost as soon as I had made them. The path that I could no longer see jogged left and down away from the house, then rose to a slight bluff overlooking the sea. From there the cliffs permitted but a narrow trail down to the rocks and our tiny dock. In summer we would sometimes light a fire upon those rocks, perch a grill on some spot left bare by the ebb tide and then roast plump hot dogs and some cobs of corn. Marie loved both those things, and so I learned to make them well.

I knew I should turn back, abandon my brooding and have supper while some aspect of light remained in the sky. And yet in going back I would abandon Iceland, truly and completely. Dreams can only be deferred so long.

In this storm each step was mischievous—the weight of the snow masked the height of my movements. I couldn't know if I had already reached the bluff, if the sole tree that stood as sentinel had passed unseen just a few steps to my right. The thought did not worry me so much as turning around and returning to my house. It would be comforting, in a way, to fall the 15 feet and sweep myself back out to the sea. The perfect chance to start again.

And then the face of my firstborn, reminding me of all that I would be leaving.

Christopher began, and because he was a boy, and screamed quite loudly for his supper, I liked him from the start. We could have left it there, and still found Iceland—later, but still Iceland—except that Marie told me that she didn't want the loneliness of a single experience.

"If I miss a moment—the first laugh, the first walk—I want another chance." I gave in on that as well. I suppressed myself, and allowed others' needs to claim my time.

But Beth was next, and Marie didn't like her. She thought there was something cold about our second born, even from the crib. And Marie had only the children, so although I took to leaving brochures of Iceland in untidy places where she would have to remove them, she asked me for another one.

I didn't fear her leaving at that point, I don't think, but saying yes had become a habit, and in our nights of occasional passion another child was born.

John, John, the strangest son, weird even from the cradle. He was a new challenge to me, but for Marie the surest proof of failure. The marriage soured, and the children reflected this—in Beth's crabby disposition, and John's unwillingness to do anything normal.

"I can't get anything right, with children or in marriage," Marie said. "I feel like the last rung in the ladder has broken, and there's nothing left to stand upon."

"You've still got me," I said, and didn't even believe it.

That was years ago, and around the time I first began to wander. I walked the land around my house, walked and talked and thought and avoided. I skipped out at the verge of sunset, against her wishes, in spite of warnings that she wouldn't wait and that the food might soon be gone. "I won't go far," I reassured her, and in truth it was more the fact of movement than the distance traveled that comforted me.

"Call me back," I reassured her. "Turn on the lights."

And she did. A soothing game, a slight abdication to my wishes—like offering Rome when she knew I wanted Iceland—but she did it. She walked the house, up floor after floor, and turned on a single light in each of the bedrooms.

When I had wandered long enough, and stolen just the right amount of solitude to get me through the coming days, I would turn around and see that climbing cascade of brightness, a cone of light reaching from the landing to each floor. Each light to me was an invitation, a validation that I still was wanted at home.

And so I turned, into the full nightfall and gazed back through the snowy avalanche and strained to catch my distant widow's walk. John had surely been rescued, supper was surely ready for the table, fights were surely forgiven.

I sought the lights, amid the winter's stormy blindness. But I couldn't find them. Too much snow, and I had walked too far. I began to retrace my steps, certain that the curtain would be parted and I'd see that comforting beacon of home.

I would not return until she wanted me. Nearer, step by step, but not inside until I saw those lights.

And yet everything was light, white, in that storm. The wind pulled snow across me, a darkened rock around which the storm flakes poured. I saw nothing from the present tense, but my marriage flashed before me, and my kids were born and born again.

I never heard the car, nor the sobs of John crying hard for the favorite comb that his mother had taken. In a different storm, on another night, I am sure I would have felt her leaving.

But I saw no lights, and so I waited half the night before deciding to come home. iB

> I should have spoken then but didn't. Fear closed my mouth and muffled my thoughts.

Places to Read

by julie short

We realize that there's almost nothing better to do on a damp fall day than to snuggle up under a down comforter with a mug of hot coffee and a good book. However, there are alternatives to your bedroom—cozy nooks and picturesque places around town to stretch out with the latest best-seller. Throw on your comfiest jeans and a backpack full of books, and get ready to read.

Tuck yourself under a weeping willow on a bench in the **Public Garden** and watch the swan boats float by.

Book of choice: Robert McCloskey's *Make Way for Ducklings*

From a distance, the reflecting pool in front of the **Christian Science Center** appears to be a mirage in a concrete desert, but the overall effect is calming.



Book of choice: Mary Baker Eddy's *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures* (an outline of the philosophies of Christian Science)

In the fall, the **Arnold Arboretum** in Jamaica Plain is aglow with the reds, oranges and bright yellows of some 130 different kinds of maples. Stroll along the paths, and then take the load off on a fallen log.

Book of choice: *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson

On any given night, there's a rock, jazz or classical concert of some sort at the **Hatch Shell**. Pack up a picnic and spread a blanket on the Esplanade.

Book of choice: *High Fidelity* by Nick Hornby

Jump on the outbound **D Green Line** at Fenway during the off-peak times, and you'll travel through beautiful neighborhoods and picturesque parkland. In the late afternoon, the sun streams through the big picture windows, making the train feel like a living room on wheels.

Book of choice: *Trainspotting* by Irvine Welsh.

Rent a canoe at **Charles River Canoe & Kayak** and paddle upstream past the Eliot Bridge. Let yourself float slowly downstream.

Book of choice: *Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

Get lost among the stacks at the **Boston Public Library**. Vaulted ceilings provide new heights for intellectual thought, and the small green lamps at every wooden table emit a soft, comforting glow.

Book of choice: The 1859 first-edition copy of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*

No less than several pints of beer are requisite for anyone parked at the bar at **Bukowski's**, across from the Institute of Contemporary Art. The walls are splashed with quotes from the famously drunken poet's work. As Bukowski himself said, "Some people never die and some people never live." Our vote: Live it up and imbibe heavily.

Book of choice: Anything by Charles Bukowski

Get your hands around a mug of hot coffee and a sweet treat at **Il Panificio** and climb onto a stool at the giant picture window. Look out over Beacon Hill's cobblestone streets, where such men and women of *belles lettres* as Louisa May Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau and William Dean Howells once walked.

Book of choice: *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

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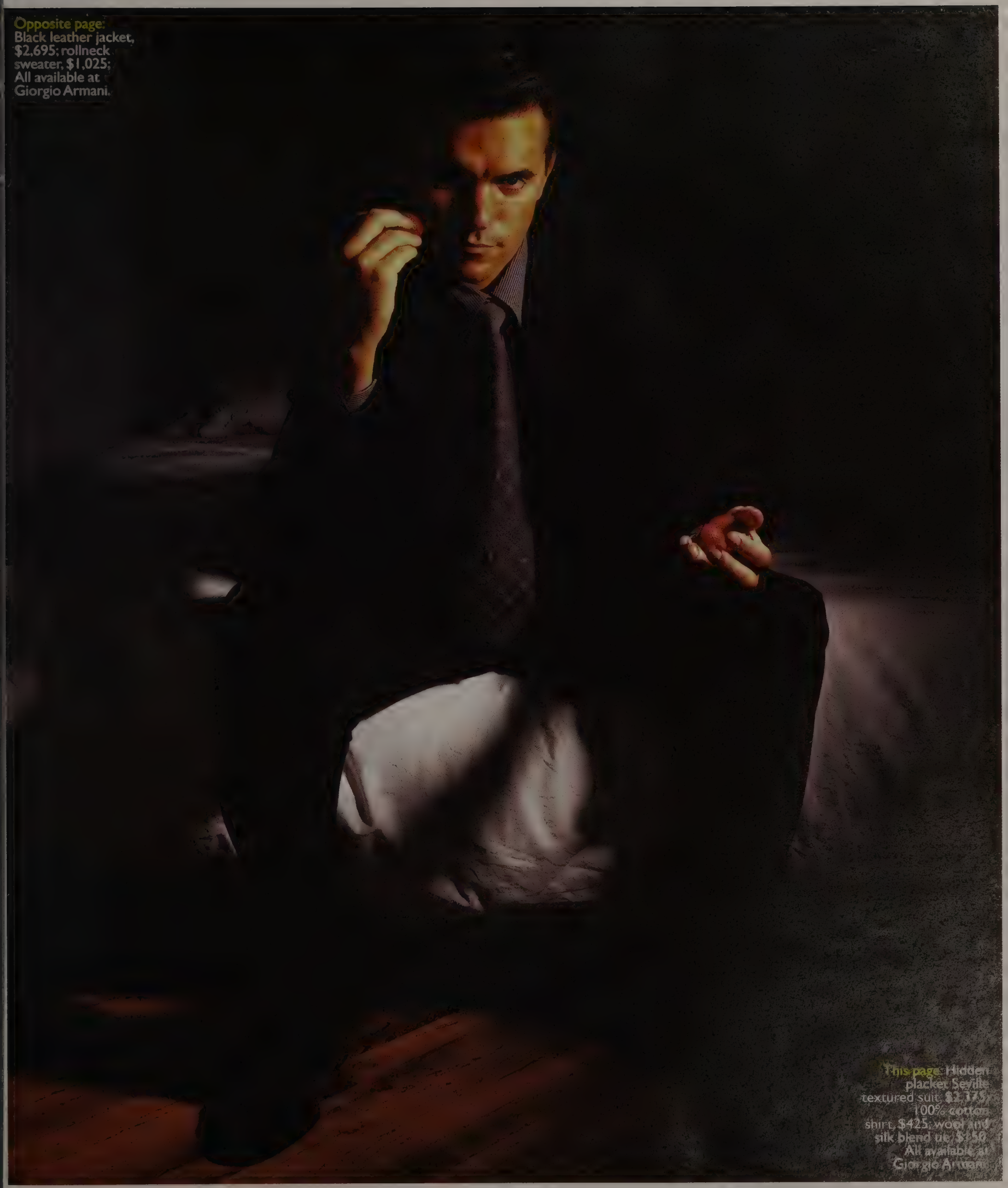




Celebrity chef **Todd English** spices up his wardrobe with the perfect seasonal ingredients

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY CHARLIE LANGELLA

in good taste



Opposite page:
Black leather jacket, $2,695; rollneck sweater, $1,025; All available at Giorgio Armani.

This page: Hidden placket Seville textured suit $2,175; 100% cotton shirt, $425; wool and silk blend tie, $150. All available at Giorgio Armani.

Giorgio Armani
cashmere turtleneck
sweater, $1,075.
All available at
Giorgio Armani.





Gray sweater, $1,075; wool shirt jacket, $750; black-stitched seamed pants, $1,075. All available at Giorgio Armani

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617-267-3200

Hair: Christoph for Vidal Sassoon NYC
Vidal Sassoon
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617-536-5496

Stylist: Gilbert Hickman III for Giorgio Armani
Stylist assistant: Brooke Richard

Special thanks to Julie Fox

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Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



WIDOW'S WALK—ON THIN ICE

Almost by Elizabeth Benedict of New York and Somerville follows a woman cast into widowhood during ambiguous, difficult times.

While Sophy is in bed with a hot guy, she gets a phone call informing her that the husband from whom she's recently been separated has unexpectedly died. So she's forced to go to the island (a nicely drawn sort of Martha's Vineyard or Nantucket) where she and the departed Will once lived, to find out what happened and to settle her very iffy legal and emotional affairs. As a heroine, Sophy is rather astringent and even mildly unsympathetic, but that makes her a good narrator as she wades through some highly equivocal matters. Yes, she left the marriage, but she also has a balanced view of the unhappiness she caused Will. But is she entitled to have a right to part of his estate? And what of the plangent sufferings she finds in Will's computer diary (after her gay buddy Henderson divines the password Rosebud)? Who "owns" Will's feelings in this fragile situation? The tightrope of "almost-ness" is stretched tight in an interesting combination of mystery and psychological inquiry. Benedict turns and twists many a question, leaving room for interesting ambiguity.



Eugene Galleries owner Barbara Fischer among the shop's offerings.

FIND THE PAST AND FRAME IT

Charles Dickens, whose picture is certainly somewhere in this shop, would have loved Eugene Galleries, with its stacks of old engravings. It's at 76 Charles St. in Boston (617-227-3062).

Before the advent of photography, magazine and newspaper stories were illustrated by engravings full of depth and leisurely detail.That's the territory covered by Eugene Galleries, a cozily old-fashioned Charles Street shop packed with copper and steel-plate engravings, many from the 19th century and earlier. Winslow Homer himself did some of these engravings, a steal at $65. Equally entrancing are the bookplate illustrations that once added an evocative note to books. The gallery categorizes, so under "botanicals" you'll find light watercolor etchings of antique-looking flowers, richly colored, or graceful pictures of local colleges, evergreen favorites as graduation presents. Eugene's is also well-stocked with animal pictures: dusky elephants, camels and offbeat exotics like armadillos. Engravings include tableaux of the Civil War, lively with action, and scenes of historic Boston events like the Tea Party. Others offer flowing pictorial vistas of our entirely familiar Beacon Street populated by long-ago ladies in trailing dresses. Maps and boats are other big favorites here, and pictures of famous composers and big shots of history are in the antiquely correct form they deserve. The store will take care of fancy framing and matting too.



MAYBELLINE, WHY CAN'T YOU BE TRUE?

Intradermal pigmentation means permanent tattoos for your skin. Closeups Inc., at 2464 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-492-3056) offers many cosmetic-mimicking enhancements.

For people who rely on wake-up makeup, it's an endless slathering process. But imagine avoiding that—and not having to tolerate intermittent ghostliness during complexion fade-outs—by getting permanent cosmetics actually tattooed onto your skin. Former art teacher Judith Despres, using a delicate device composed of eight needles, and a topical anaesthetic, creates eyebrows of clearer definition; lips "written" in any number of natural pigments, from bright to peachy-pale; lash enhancement; and sexy, defining eyeliner. Or, she'll simply outline your mouth. Truly tiny lips can be made bigger, not like Julia Roberts' puffers, but a plausibly different shape. Though stars like Cher sport these dazzling improvements, the effect can also be made to look unaggressively natural and just plain healthy. For hair-loss sufferers, it's a godsend. Scars can be lessened with this process and, for breast-cancer patients, a "painted" nipple can appear on a newly reconstructed bosom. A full lip, juicy with color, costs $600, and eyeliner, top or bottom, costs $250. "Before" and "after" shots demonstrate both dramatic and subtle changes, all surprisingly realistic.

TOP: KRISTIN WEBSTER; BOTTOM: RITA GREELEY



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in this section:
Review: Mantra
Dish: Cooking and comfort
Wine: It's time to experiment
Tasty Tidbit: Oktoberfest in Cambridge

REVIEW

Extravagance Done Right

Within the opulent surroundings of a former bank, Mantra sets a gold standard for fusion cuisine

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

I don't like fusion food. I don't like fusion food. I don't like fusion food." This has been my mantra until encountering Boston's new, chic, cutting-edge Mantra. Whether that is because Mantra's cuisine is really not "fusion"—the fusing of diverse culinary traditions into oftentimes unstable and unhappy combinations—or because fusion cuisine properly executed involves the imaginative, adroit and judicious selection and harmonizing of flavors and textures that Chef Thomas John (from the Meridien Hotel in Pune, India) accomplishes at Mantra, I will leave to the lexicographers of gastronomic terms.

Occupying the former Old Colony Trust & Vault Company building on Liberty Place near Downtown Crossing, Mantra is provocative in its sleek, postmodern décor. Draperies of various materials and textures, from transparent to translucent fabrics to steel mesh, carve up the space of the room. The curtains separate a small cocktail lounge with low, red upholstered settees from the dining room, which sports an imposing wooden "hookah den," constructed of thousands of pieces of dark wood (by the architect himself, according to our waiter). In a retro touch left over from the building's bank years, the original crenellated and sculptured ceiling, wall panels and pilasters of white and gray marble, have been left intact.

Mantra's extravagance made me apprehensive about its food. Not to worry. The chef puts his best foot forward with extraordinarily good *amuses bouches*. Indeed, on one evening, the waiter brought to my wife and me different treats to entice our palates: to her, a samosa of duck with tamarind sauce, to me, a seared scallop with a dusting of exotic spices and a garnish of cubed melon and tart huckleberries. On another evening, when I dined alone, the *amuse bouche* was a cup of spectacular cold cucumber soup containing a butterflied jumbo shrimp of incomparable texture and vibrant flavor, and a deluxe, tomato-less gazpacho, enhanced, not obscured by deftly wielded herbs.

Hardly had we laid our forks to rest after the *amuses bouches* when the bread lady appeared with a basket of baked triumphs: rosemary naan, gossamer in texture yet rich in butter; whole-grain nut-and-fruit bread studded with pecans and figs; light, delicate foccaccio, almost ethereal in texture yet earthy with olive oil and onions; and fresh French crusted rolls. Small dishes of saffron yogurt, whipped butter and apple-ginger chutney accompanied the breads, and both bread and condiments were replenished with such frequency throughout dinner that one could have made a meal of them.

By the time we got to the menu offerings, it seemed that we had already eaten. So stunning were the choices, however, that our appetites were revived. Smoked trout in gram flour crepes ($12) was a pair of moist samosas garnished with tiny segments of clementine or mandarin oranges, tiny turnips and thinly sliced radishes, all served on a large white plate in an eye-pleasing presentation. Transethnic crab cake ($14) was a substantial cylinder with a crunchy exterior and a light crabmeat interior. The flavor of crab was so fresh and intense it almost blew us away, and the accompanying salad of sweet melon and slightly citric tomato chunks was terrific.

Following the appetizers was an intermezzo of yellow watermelon sorbet, the perfect palate cleanser, although after eating such exalted food our palates did not seem the least bit in need of cleansing. Main courses included clay-

Mantra

52 Temple Place, Boston (617-542-8111)
HOURS Mon.-Sat., 11:30-2:30pm and 5:30-10pm
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING valet
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Chef Thomas John reigns over the kitchen at Mantra.



Mantra hums with sleek, postmodern décor. Below left: almond-encrusted halibut.



oven-roasted monkfish ($29). The beautiful tenderloin from this ugly fish, which the French call *lotte*, has a texture resembling lobster. It was served atop a stack of crunchy green asparagus spears and accompanied by moist quinoa, an Andean starch with a texture like couscous. Mild coconut milk, a pleasant, unanticipated enhancement, flavored the monkfish. Coriander-dusted free-range chicken ($26) brought two hefty cylinders of succulent chicken breast rolled around foie gras stuffing, with a garnish of caramelized onion and slender sweet carrots.

Finally, and far from least among the main courses, was the grilled filet mignon and caramelized sweetbreads with pureed spinach and cèpe sauce ($35). The spinach was a deep, inky color, rich with butter, with a warm, pleasant bitterness that intrigued the tastebuds. The sweetbreads, crisply sautéed, could convert the most squeamish eater into a lover of innards. The brown cèpe sauce brought the dish to perfection. Most impressive was the quality of the beef: thick and butter-tender but with a full, voluptuous beef flavor. At the risk of blasphemy, all we could say was "holy cow."

Mantra's desserts were preceded by a small, rectangular plate of *friandises*—bite-size, sweet dividends. Best were a passionate fruit *pate de fruit* and a crisp, buttery ginger snap tuile. A giant fresh cherry was good but unexceptional, and the milk chocolate brick—something like a peanut butter cup—was so banal and incongruous in this culinary pleasure palace that we surmised that it had wandered in off the street like an uninvited guest.

Of the desserts, the strawberry shortcake was a small but intensely flavorful and calorie-packed cylinder of creamy, slightly sweet mascarpone mousse topped by slices of fresh, ripe berries, garnished with vanilla-bean ice cream, surrounded by apricot coulis and wearing a caramelized sugar crown. Tropical crème brulee was misnamed, since there was nothing bruleed, but it was superb nonetheless: three custards of different shapes, tastes and textures. First, a mango crescent on tiny mango slices; second, two small coconut blocks with slivers of fresh coconut; and finally, a pyramid of passion fruit custard.

The attentiveness and energy of the waitstaff was unassailable. Good service combined with over-the-top style and décor and stellar performance by the kitchen make this a restaurant to be reckoned with. Michael Schlow of Radius and Jamie Mammano of Mistral should well be looking nervously over their shoulders. Mantra has, at long last, arrived. **iB**





Our hearts and deepest sympathy go out to all of the victims,
their families and their loved ones who have been
touched by this country's recent tragedy.
You are true heroes, forever in our prayers
and will never be forgotten.

And to the rescuers and emergency personnel,
we are proud and honored by your courage and determination
as you work tirelessly around the clock to bring
our brothers and sisters home.

God Bless America!



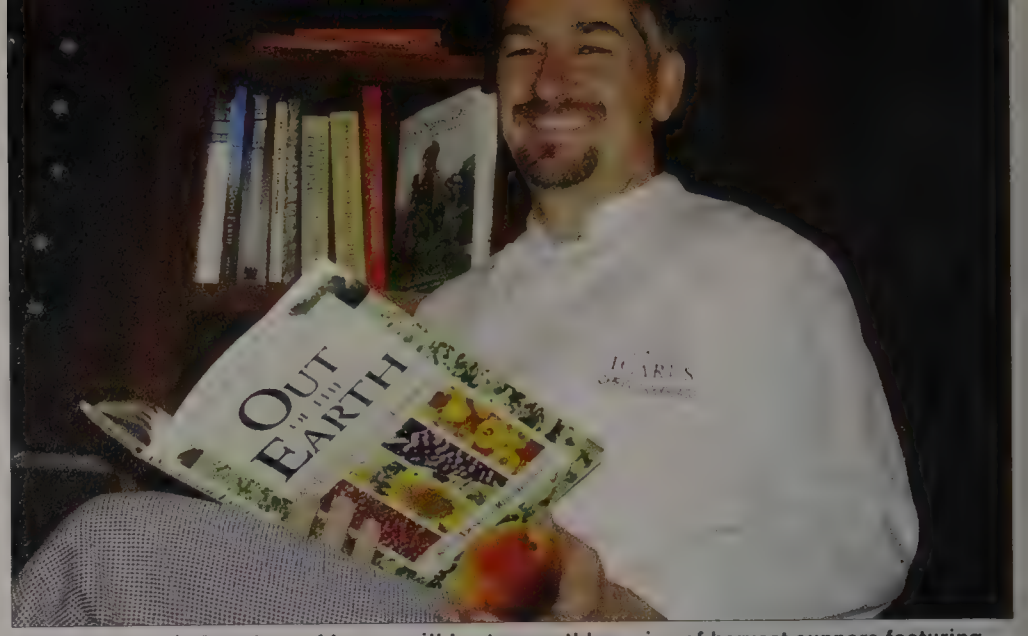
Paul Barclay
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DISH

Comfort Food

Breaking bread is a reassuring daily ritual in times of need

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Chef/owner Chris Douglass of Icarus will host a monthly series of harvest suppers featuring guests from the worlds of wine and farming. The next dinner will be held Oct. 23.

In the aftermath of so much terror and tragedy, writing a column about dining in restaurants seemed frivolous beyond justification. Leafing through cookbooks, with their seductively glistening photography, seemed irrelevant, superficial—an inappropriate activity during our time of profound national sadness.

And yet...preparing a meal, breaking bread together, is a reassuring daily ritual for so many of us. We can find comfort in our connection, through farmers and other purveyors, to the very earth that nourishes fruits and vegetables and grains. We can rely on the work of our hands and hearts to nurture ourselves and those we care about, to sustain ourselves physically, emotionally and spiritually with the familiar fragrances and flavors of the food we put on our table.

The best cookbooks remind us that we cannot live by bread alone: that we depend on each other's efforts and guidance, that meals are best when shared, that cooking for and with each other helps create and strengthen our community. Cookbooks, and cookbook authors, are good company.

And so it makes sense to look forward to a series of restaurant events that focus not on luxurious ingredients but on sustainable agriculture and related issues. **Chris Douglass**, chef/owner of **Icarus**, is hosting a trio of "harvest suppers" that feature guests from the worlds of wine and farming.

Presented as a salon, the evenings will include a four-course meal, thoughtful discussion and browsing access to Icarus' year-old lending library of books on cooking and sustainable agriculture.

Initially introduced as a service for diners, the library is used more often by staffers, who "get inspired by the cookbooks," says Douglass. Diners tend to browse through the books while seated at the bar, he adds, and so far, the books are surprisingly free of food and drink stains. Readers "are pretty careful with them," Douglass observes.

At the first dinner, held Sept. 24, **Joan Gussow** discussed her book *This Organic Life—Confession of a Suburban Homesteader*. The book is now part of the Icarus library. Douglass says it's a great read. There's still time to book a seat at the October and November events. On Oct. 23, winemaker **Brian Tally** of **Tally Vineyards** will discuss his vineyard's commitment to high-quality, long-term sustainability in both vegetable farming and the cultivation of chardonnay and pinot noir grapes. And Nov. 13, **Kerry Downey Romaniello**, author of *Out of the Earth* and executive chef at **Westport River Vineyards**, will discuss the multifaceted relationships between farming, grape cultivation and fine dining.

Art can help sustain us through difficult times. Upcoming at **The Museum of Fine Arts** are two luncheon events planned around the publication of two new cookbooks. **Stan Frankenthaler**, owner/executive chef of **Salamander**, will prepare dishes (including black-tea-soaked chicken) from his first cookbook, *The Occidental Tourist*, at the **Fraser Garden Court Terrace Restaurant** on Oct. 11. The book, which will be available at a discount during the event, is a genuinely good read, with plenty of useful recipes for the home cook. On Nov. 14, **Patricia Wells** will sign copies of her latest book, *The Paris Cookbook*. Wells and executive chef **Benjamin Cervelo** will join forces in the kitchen to create a meal featuring recipes from the book.

Amid destruction and loss, let's consider sustainability—with its values of thoughtful planning, tending carefully to the resources that replenish us and working together toward the collective good—as a philosophy that unites all of us as we look toward the future. iB

Carolyn Faye Fox is a panelist on "Says You!," NPR's nationally syndicated word-game quiz show.

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

It's Time to Experiment

BY SANDY BLOCK MW



The wine business appears to be going through its first collective bout of fear and trembling in quite some time. Nobody likes the word *recession*, and after years of expansive optimism, one may still hear an occasional brave pronouncement emanating from the industry's public relations machinery—but the numbers tell a tale of increased production, cutthroat competition for the consumer's dollar and lackluster sales. It's not panic time yet, but some wine companies are beginning to look and act as though they are running scared. Even the Australian wine segment, an unstoppable juggernaut until very recently, has fallen into a mini-slump, with sales sagging since late spring. What's happening to the wine industry?

The first thing to note is that as the general sense of well-being about our economy vanishes, people have not taken to drinking appreciably less wine. In fact, significant segments of the population have developed what we might call a true wine culture, partaking in a glass of wine daily, or perhaps weekly. But unemployment, or the fear of it, can temper our spending habits, and there is evidence that almost regardless of who they are, consumers have tightened up. This turnaround comes at a time when bounteous, even record-breaking harvests are simultaneously hitting the market. Warehouses and shelves remain fully stocked and, therefore, prices are being adjusted, particularly at the so-called commodity end of the market. People have begun switching to lower-priced wines, and they are less fussy about the brand name or the origin of the grapes. This is true even at the super-premium end of the market, once regarded as immune from economic forces. Sales growth in this profitable area, projected to grow by double digits annually, may be minimal this year.

Although this may sound like a perfect time to buy wine, because prices must naturally fall when there's too much supply and not enough demand, that isn't necessarily the case. It is a good time, however, to experiment, particularly if you're in a store or restaurant whose manager is alert to the market and knows the difference between finding a good value and buying a wine just because it's cheaper than it was a few months ago. Not all do. But this is the time, when there are fewer customers with less to spend, that the best know that they have to work harder.

A word of appreciation, therefore, for those unsung heroes of the wine trade—the men and women in stores or restaurants whose passion impels them to recommend wines to you, beyond the call of duty. People who will spend five minutes describing a $10 bottle that they find particularly delicious. To someone who truly loves wine, the great joy is in sharing it. The reward is in being able to turn someone on to something you find delicious.

This has nothing to do with price. To me a tasty $8 wine with guts and character is more remarkable than most of the monumental, impeccably crafted, technically flawless $50 wines I've tasted. It's been apparent for some time that there are really two wine markets. One is what we might call wines of technical excellence. At whatever their price, these wines are beyond criticism because there is absolutely nothing wrong with them—except perhaps their lack of true flavor interest.

Here's where I'll make my oft-repeated plea for giving the traditional wines of Europe a chance. Yes, there are an abundance of technically clean wines made there. Modern vinification procedures make it possible to get the best fruit flavors out of the grapes, without the egregious flaws we routinely found as recently as 20 years ago. But there are also producers who have a different aesthetic, who use technology but are less afraid of making a mistake than they are of betraying the authentic flavors of their unique vineyards. These are the winemakers whose bottles can constitute a true bargain in this economic downturn. You can find them in stores and restaurants—wherever people who describe the wines have a gleam in their eye when they're talking and seem to hold the bottles up with a peculiar kind of reverence. iB

TOP: USACHEFS.COM; BOTTOM: WINE AVAILABLE AT BACK BAY WINE AND SPIRITS

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

EVENTS

Antioxidants Seminar
Hyatt Regency, Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-421-5500). Sept. 30-Oct. 1. $230 (includes lectures, two lunches, dinner and two breakfasts). Learn how antioxidants in our diet help our bodies fight disease and aging. Enjoy dinners by local celeb chefs as part of this conference sponsored by Oldways Preservation & Exchange Trust.

Chocolate Bar Opening Reception
Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8752). Sept. 26, 7-9pm. $25. This event will feature signature creations from Boston pastry chefs.

Fall Wine Series
Julien at Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8752). Sept. 27, 7pm. $85. A four-course dinner is accompanied by wines from Jordan Vineyards in Sonoma County, Calif.

Fashionable Brunch and Lunch
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2161). $35. Have a prix fixe meal as some of Boston's best courtiers present informal modeling of their latest fashions. •Sept. 30, 12-2pm: Oilily •Oct. 2, 12-1:30pm: Ermengildo Zegna •Oct. 9, 12-1:30pm: Neiman Marcus.

Girls' Night Out
Zephyr on the Charles, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-441-6510). Mondays, 7pm. $50. Chef Lynette Mosher introduces this Monday-night dinner series celebrating female chefs. •Oct. 8: **Loren Falsone** of Empire Restaurant

Harvest Grill
Sidney's Grille, 20 Sidney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). Through Sept. 30. Chef **Todd Young** serves grilled bluefish on lobster-corn succotash and pheasant, chanterelles, tomato and thyme.

Hotter Than Hell Tripleheader
East Coast Grill, 1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-491-6568). Sept. 26, 5:30pm. Chef **Eric Gburski** exorcises his culinary demons at this dinner recommended for diners who sneer at Tabasco sauce and eat jalapenos like olives.

Introduction to Specialty Coffee
42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 6, 10am-12pm. $33. The folks from Equal Exchange offer a beside-the-scenes look at the coffee industry.

Italian Food Festival
210 Hanover St., Boston (617-720-0052). www.italiancookingandliving.com. *Oct. 1. $80 (includes wine).* Chef **Jim Becker** offers a menu featuring the foods of Southern Italy.

Monday Night Football
Jasper White's Summer Shack, 149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. Mondays. Enjoy free snacks, specialty team drinks and a full bar menu as you watch the game on a big-screen TV.

Taste of Fenway
Back Bay Fens, near Park Drive and Jersey Street, Boston (617-267-4637). Sept. 29, 11am-5pm. Pay as you eat. This outdoor festival features a dozen restaurants plus live music and dance.

Taste of the South End
Boston Center for the Arts, 537 Tremont St., Boston (617-277-4746). www.pridelights.org. *Oct. 9, 6pm-9pm. $50, $60 at the door.* Enjoy food and wine from 30 South End restaurants with live European and Latin music and a silent auction.



You don't have to travel all the way to Munich to partake in Oktoberfest.

TASTY TIDBIT

PROST!

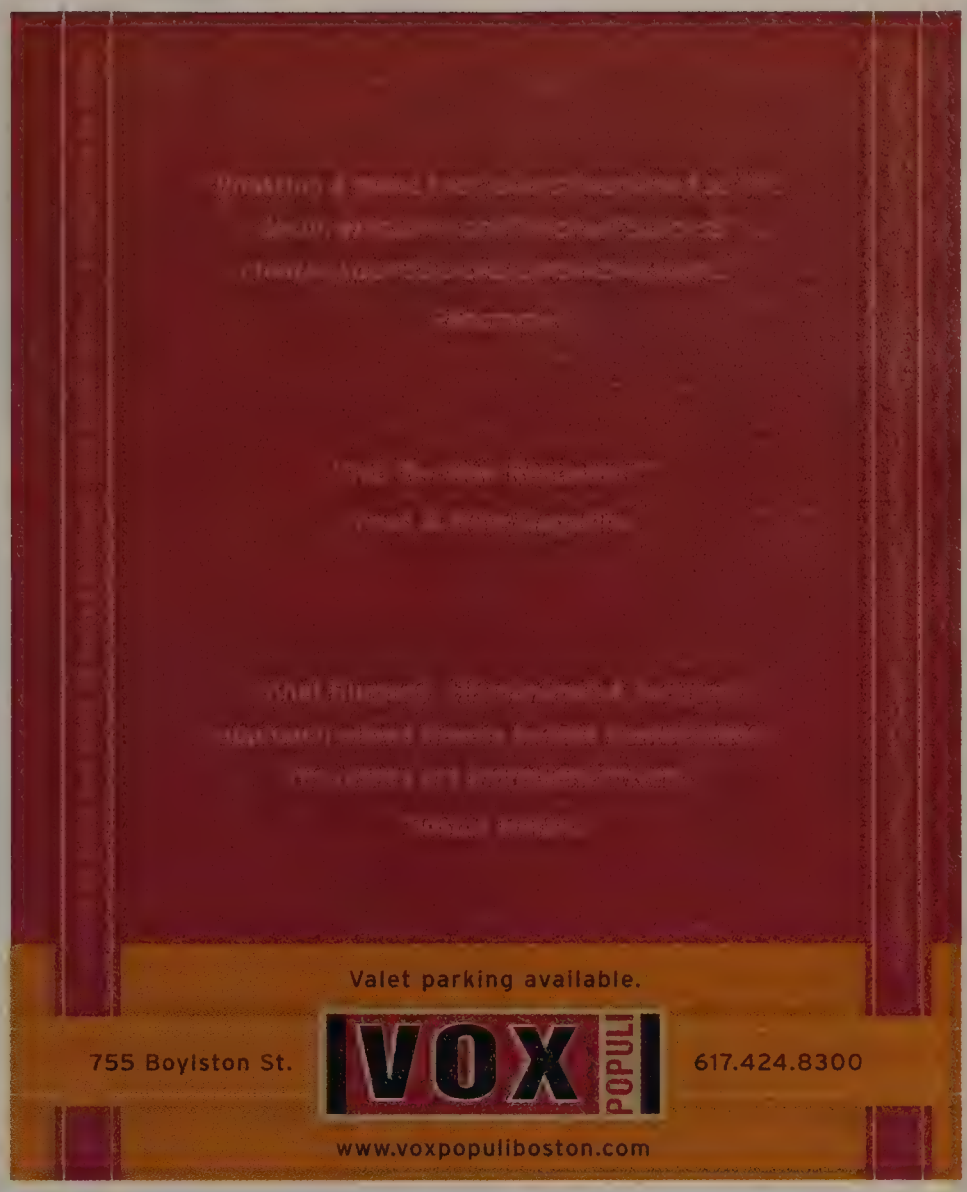
At last year's Oktoberfest, revelers consumed 6,459,100 liters of beer and ate 470,948 sausages. Will the *biergarten* at Henrietta's Table be able to match that? Probably not. But you can get an authentic Bavarian experience on the patio outside the restaurant through the end of October. Throw on a wool sweater and plop yourself down at a picnic table for a meal of baked pretzels with spicy mustard, warm German potato and bacon salad, cold cuts, chilled sausages and cheese, boiled beef with autumn vegetables and potatoes, grilled weisswurst and bratwurst, or veal schnitzel with roasted new potatoes (and *apfelstrudel* for dessert!). Wash it down with a *bierkrug* (mug) of Spaten Lager or Franziskaner and you're nearly halfway to Germany. *Henrietta's Table, The Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street, Cambridge (617-661-5005). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sat., 4-11pm, through the end of October.*

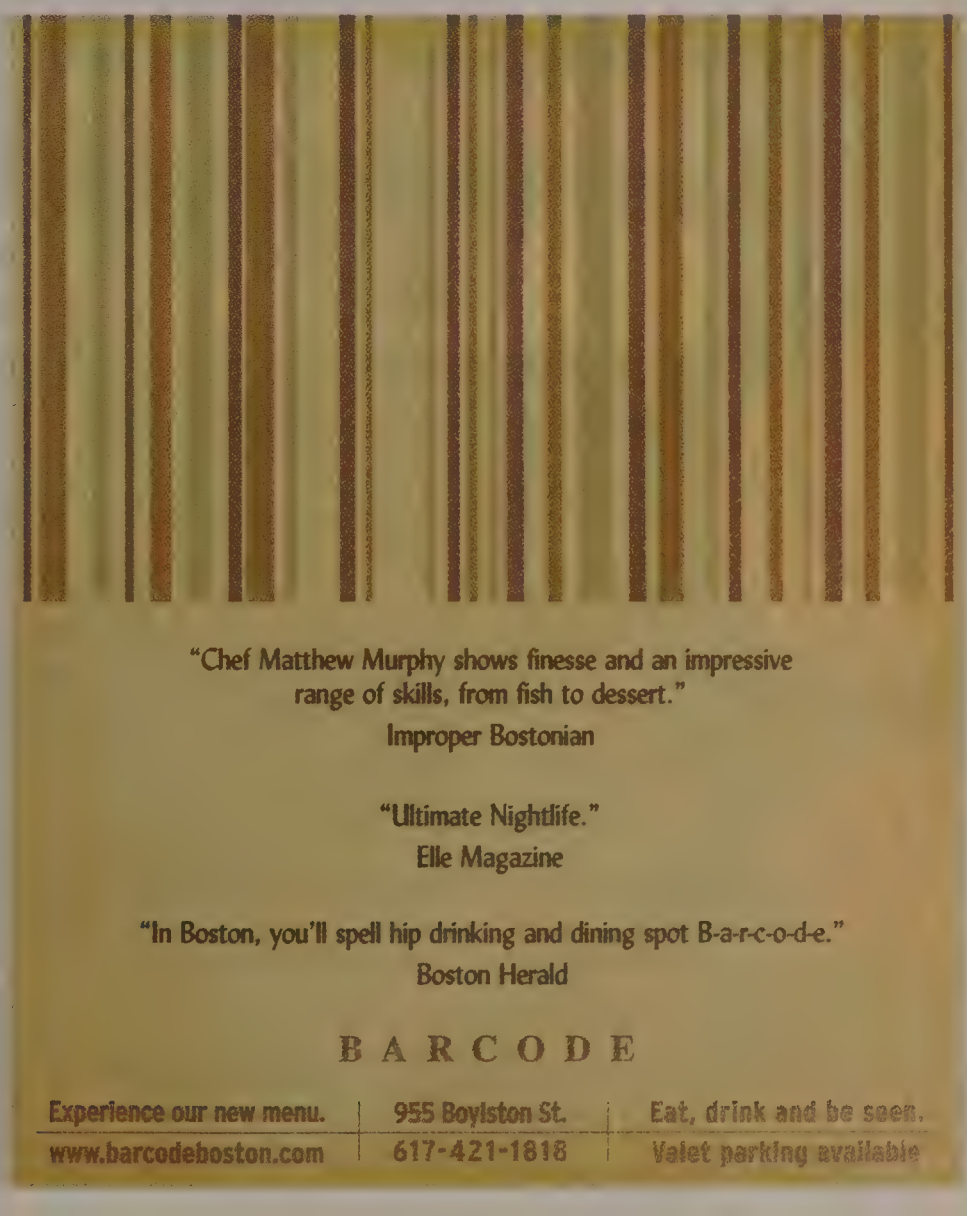
Tour of the North End
42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 6, 10am-2pm. $37. Explore the nooks and crannies of the North End with native Florentine **Anna Tommasi Nathanson**. She'll show you the best places to find biscotti, pastries, spices, cheeses, meats and vegetables, plus interesting restaurants.

Vegetarian Outing
House of Tibet Kitchen, 235 Holland St., Somerville (617-424-8846). Oct. 3, 6:30-8:30pm. Join the Boston Vegetarian Society for an outing to this Tibetan restaurant.

A Wine Tour of Italy
Top of the Hub, Prudential Tower, Boston (617-445-7777). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. Oct. 4, 6-9pm. $50. United Liquors presents this Italian wine tasting featuring vintners from Italy and Italian appetizers to benefit Community Servings.

Wine Under the Pines
Cottage Grove, Eastham, Mass. (617-267-4430). Sept. 28-30. $650 (double occupancy). Sample wines with No. 9 Park sommelier **Cat Silirie** and enjoy gourmet meals at this retreat.





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FUN-RUN at 7pm

There's only ONE place to go for the best time this Halloween. Join The Improper Bostonian Magazine and WBCN for the 7th Annual Halloween Fun Run, Wednesday, October 31 at the West end of Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Following the three mile ghoulish jaunt around the Boston Common join your fellow runners at The Rack for the official post-race party.

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Post Party includes buffet and one drink coupon.

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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 52

PERFORMING ARTS 54

ART 56

BOOKS & POETRY 60

EDUCATION 61

FILM 62

DANCE CLUBS 66

MUSIC 68

CLASSICAL MUSIC 74

GAY & LESBIAN 75

BODY & MIND 76

SPORTS 76

CHILDREN 77

AROUND TOWN 77

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports

improper picks



THU./OCT.4—
TUE./OCT 30

Art: One Man's Hunk o' Junk...

It's an odd contrast to see the diminutive Peruvian artist Peruko Ccopacatty (pronounced *ko-pa-ka-tee*), at a mere 5 feet tall, stand in the shadow of his giant sculptures. But this Block Island resident has an amazing talent for welding together stainless-steel pieces casually discarded in scrap-metal yards to create 30-foot human figures so full of raw emotion and vitality, it's hard to believe they're made of steel. His exhibition of new sculptures is a must-see this month at the Equator Gallery Oct. 4-30. "Ccopocatty uses metal—the material of technology—to sympathize with the dehumanized [society] in which we live today," says Daniel Lahoda, director of the Equator Gallery. *218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). Oct. 4-30.*

SUN./OCT. 7

Music: A Cacophony at Symphony

Two jazz greats, Miles Davis and John Coltrane, would have turned 75 this year. In their honor, **Herbie Hancock** has organized an all-star quintet to perform their masterful music at Symphony Hall in a **Directions In Music** concert. Hancock has been at the forefront of electronic, acoustic jazz and R&B for decades. His piano and keyboard sounds are complex, earthy and entirely unique. Hancock played with Miles Davis from 1963-68. The show features Michael Brecker, who cites Coltrane as the inspiration for his career, esteemed trumpeter Roy Hargrove and bassist John Patitucci and drummer Brian Blade. *Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*

TUE./OCT. 2

Books: Story Time

If all the literary talk in this issue has you inspired to attend more intellectually oriented events, this can be your chance to join in all of the literary activity. The Harvard Book Store presents **Paul Auster**, the prolific (and very entertaining) novelist, essayist, translator and poet best known for his series of experimental detective stories published collectively as *The New York Trilogy*. He joins **Jacki Lyden**, host of NPR's *Weekend All Things Considered* for a reading and discussion of stories from *I Thought My Father Was God: And Other True Tales from NPR's National Story Project*. Auster and Lyden will be joined by local contributors to the project, whose true-life stories have been included in the anthology. *Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-0372). 6pm.*



WED./SEPT. 26

Theater/Music: The Big B.R.A. Show

Last spring, Bostonians were wowed by the talents of Trista Beard, Sarah Lafferty and Amy Harmon, who revived the art of burlesque—song, sketches, comedy, magic, puppets, strip-tease and more. The threesome is back with all-new performances by Burleycue dancers Dee Dee Cups, Charlotte Charles, Honey Holiday, Rosie Cheeks and Miss Mindy, as well as comedy from emcee Penny Pinnette, music by Lee Todd Lacks, drag performances by Mitzi and Patti, and shows by Jake the Puppetmaster and the Big B.R.A. Band. Expect to see a fair amount of skin at this unique variety show that's similar to vaudeville, only a bit more risqué. *Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton, Boston (617-927-1781). 8pm. $5.*

TUE./OCT. 2

Classical Music: Going Out with a Bang ▶

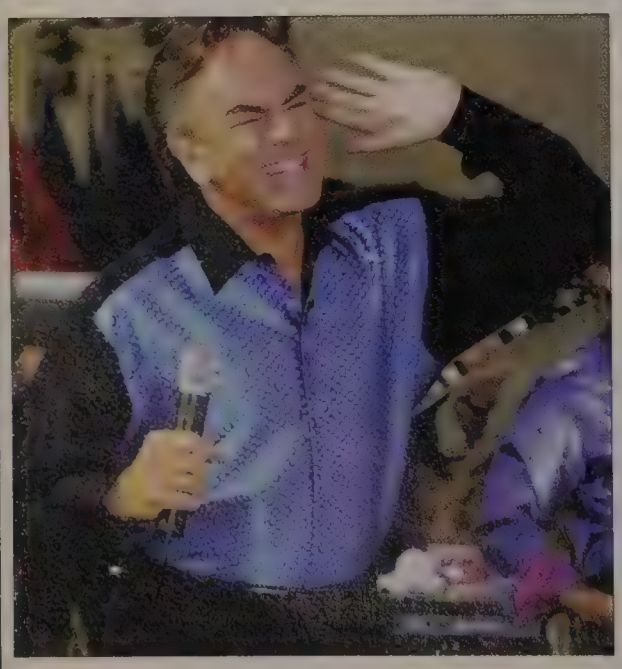


Seiji Ozawa has been the face of the Boston Symphony Orchestra for 28 years. The symphony recently released its 2001-02 schedule and announced that this will be Ozawa's final season as BSO musical director. For opening night, Oct. 2, the BSO is bringing in the big guns. Tony Award–winning actress **Blythe Danner** guest narrates, and the program features two of the world's best-loved singers, soprano **Dawn Upshaw** and mezzo-soprano **Susan Graham**. It's all cooked up to salute Ozawa and his achievements with the BSO. The guests join Ozawa, the Boston Symphony and the women of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, with John Oliver conducting, in performing Mendelssohn's *Incidental Music to a Midsummer Night's Dream*. There will also be appearances by Ozawa's closest colleagues. *Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492).* www.bso.org.



TUE./OCT. 2 & WED./OCT. 3

◀ Music: Coming to America



While we understand that everyone has his or her own way of dealing with the stress and uncertainty caused by the terrorist attacks, we'd like to recommend our own method of healing: Pop in a **Neil Diamond** CD. Just the opening bars of "Sweet Caroline" are enough to get the endorphins flowing. As the 60-year-old solo artist says, "Good times never seemed so good." Ain't that the truth, Neil? He'll bring more than 35 years of hits and a new album back to Boston at the FleetCenter *Oct. 3. FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. $37.50-$67.50.*

MON./OCT. 8

Art: Open House ▲

Looking for an inexpensive way to celebrate Columbus Day? From 10am-4:45pm it's a free-for-all at the **Museum of Fine Arts**. Free admission, that is. The main attraction is the exhibition *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940*, which shows through Dec. 2 (normally included in the $14 admission). Also, it's a great chance to see *Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* (Sept. 26, 2001-Jan. 21), a brand-new exhibition from the Paris-based photographer. The Columbus Day specialty also has several musical performances: classical vocalist Gabrielle Goodman (11am) and Italian jazz musician Chiara Civello (2 pm). All told, that's 14 bucks that can go toward leaf peeping and apple picking. *465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617) 369-3302 or go to* www.mfa.org.

FRI./SEPT. 28

CityScope: Twisted Tournaments

Having previously been completely unfamiliar with the antics of "the world's only live monster wrestling show," we didn't quite know what to make about an event called **Kaiju Big Battel**. As it turns out, everyone we asked responded with enthusiastic "That's the thing where wrestlers dress up like bananas! It's so fun!" Upon further research, we discovered that this show is a cross between American pro-wrestling pop-culture schlock and Japanese B monster movies. The main attraction? Twenty costumed monsters duke it out in a prop-filled wrestling ring, with pre-fight music by Piebald. Add Studio Kaiju's own line of gloriously useless merchandise (trading cards, lunchboxes and videos). It all takes place at the school of the Museum of Fine Arts. *230 The Fenway, Boston. Look on* www.kaiju.com *for monster profiles, battle news and an online mall. 7pm, $6 at the door.*

FRI./SEPT. 28—SUN./SEPT. 30

Body & Mind: Healthy Living

Is your chi feeling out of whack? Rebalance it at the **Wholelife Boston Expo** at the Hynes Convention Center. This three-day, healthy-living expo features such visionaries as author Maya Angelou and spiritual leader Marianne Williamson, Tibetan Buddhist Lama Surya Das, alternative-therapy gurus Larry Dossey and Wayne Jonas, astrologer Susan Miller, poet David Whyte, intuition consultant Lynn Robinson and relationship expert Susan Piver. Purchase vitamins at the Wellness Apothecary, get your tarot cards read at the Mystic Temple, participate in beauty workshops, learn new yoga positions or watch healthy food demonstrations. And if that isn't enough, fashion meets ecology on the catwalk at a runway fashion show featuring the latest trends in organic cottons, recycled materials and hemp fabrics. We're feeling better already. *900 Boylston St., Boston (800-551-3976). $12, $15 at the door (lectures are extra).*

SAT./SEPT. 29 & TUE./OCT. 9

Tastings: Taste This

It's time to plump up—to squirrel away your food in preparation for the cold winter ahead. Use that as an excuse for overindulgence as you partake in two more foodie events: the **Taste of Fenway** in the Back Bay Fens on Sept. 29 and the **Taste of the South End** at the Boston Center for the Arts Oct. 9. Both offer more than just food—there's live music and dance at the Fenway and European and Latin music and a silent auction in the South End—but clearly the focus here is on food. And lots of it. More than a dozen restaurants will offer samples at the Taste of the Fenway. It's pay-as-you-go. At the Taste of the South End, it's a hefty up-front fee ($60 at the door), but then you're free to sample food and wine from some 30 South End restaurants. After you're done, waddle back home to your den and prepare your nest for a long season of hibernation. *See the Tastings section on page 47 for more information.*

DIAMOND: NEWSMAKERS; ABOVE RIGHT: COSTA MANOS

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Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26

A Night of Burlesque and Vaudeville
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., South End (617-867-9191). 8pm. $5. The Ladies of Boston Burlesque return for a night of burlesque.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27

Boston In-Water Boat Show
World Trade Center (978-777-4439). Thur., 10am-7pm; Fri. and Sat. until 9pm; Sun until 5pm. $10. Your name is Ishmael and you're going to get that whale. You'll need a boat. A 52-foot Bertram with twin 800-horsepower diesels and outriggers, eh? Captain Ahab approves.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

Harpoon Octoberfest
306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-427-7666). www.harpoonbrewery.com. *Through Sept. 30.* See story at right for more details.

Cambridge Housing Assistance Fund Benefit Concert
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). Reception at the Harvard Faculty Club, 6pm. Concert at 8pm. Reception, $75; concert tickets from $20. Kevin Mahogany and Wannetta Jackson headline an evening of jazz that will benefit the homeless. Last year CHAF helped 100 households find housing.

Heart to Heart Fund Gala
Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-636-8101). 7pm. $75. This dinner, dance and silent auction will benefit cardiac patients at the The Floating Hospital for Children at New England Medical Center.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Boston Blues Festival
The Hatch Shell, the Esplanade, (617-727-1300, ext. 555) www.bluestrust.com. *Music starts at 12pm, through Sept. 30. Free.* The only free two-day blues festival in New England, this year's event includes Chick Willis, Ronnie Earl, Lydia Warren and other performers who will sing about what done gone and gave them the blues.

A Taste of The Fenway Benefit
Back Bay Fens park, near Park Dr. and Jersey St., Fenway (617-267-4637). 11am-5pm. A fund-raiser for the Fenway Community Development Corp., which supports affordable housing in Boston, A Taste of the Fenway will feature by-the-plate food from area restaurants like the Brown Sugar Cafe, Thornton's Fenway Grille, El Pelon and the Longhorn Steak House. Yum, yum.



Denis Leary scores in the Celebrity Hat Trick Sept. 30 at the Worcester Centrum.

Topsfield Fair
Topsfield Fairgrounds, Rt. 1, Topsfield (978-887-5000). www.topsfieldfair.org. *Through Oct. 8.* The country's oldest fair, Topsfieldians welcome the carnies to town for the 177th time this fall. Like the first year of the fair, there will pigs and cows en force. Unlike the first year, there will be plenty of booths where you can throw darts at balloons for a chance to win a stylish Guns 'N Roses poster.

ACCESO's Esta Fiesta Fabulosa
175 Naples Rd., Brookline (978-777-4210). 5-9pm. $50 suggested donation. Come enjoy Cuban food and cocktails while listening to Latin Jazz. Proceeds benefit ACCESO's Cuban-American exchange program, which last year sent 4,000 books to Cuban libraries.

American Heart Walk 10K
Lederman Field on the Charles River (800-662-1701, ext. #3158) www.americanheart.org/newengland. *9am.* Join WCVB's Liz Brunner, Mayor Menino, Dan Duquette and 8,000 other walkers to benefit the American Heart Association.



Above: You may as well toast to gaining a few pounds, because German food isn't exactly low-calorie. The Mad Bavarian Brass Band leads revellers in an über-conga.

Preview

Bavarian Block Party

Everybody wave your Hans in the air

Harpoon's annual Octoberfest celebration is a symbiotic event. The city's thirsty partymeisters get beverages, bands, and thousands of like-minded individuals with whom to fraternize and eat foods that end in "-wurst." Harpoon sells lots and lots of beer without having to ship it anywhere, and, as when the oxpecker bird eats ticks off the back of the mighty rhinoceros, everybody ends up happy.

Determined brew lovers should try to arrive early, as history proves that the line at the door can get lengthy, especially on Saturday. And, once inside, it may be wise to begin making your way toward the Comfort Castles before you actually have to go. Like the ancient adage says, you don't buy beer, you rent it, and the Honey-Hut queues begin to grow as the event wears on (Harpoon says it's adding 10 percent more bathrooms this year).

Of course, the reason for the lines is that Harpoon knows how to rock a party. If you can't make it to Munich, this is probably your best bet for slurping brew while guys in lederhosen indulge your guilty interest in oompah music and, uh, guys in lederhosen. Health-conscious Octoberfesters will need to smuggle in their own soy dogs, as the food provided by Jacob Wirth's restaurant will be authentic German fare, which means sausages the approximate size and weight of the original Volkswagen Beetle.

There are some elements of the 'fest that are not totally Teutonic. But for the most part this is just like the real Octoberfest, without all the Hasselhoff.

Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-427-7666) www.harpoonbrewery.com. Sept. 28, 5:30-11pm; Sept. 29, 2-11pm; Sept. 30, 2-7pm (doors close at 9:30pm and 5:30pm, respectively). $10.—Ezra Dyer

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

Denis Leary's Celebrity Hat Trick
Worcester Centrum Centre. www.ticketmaster.com, *(617-536-0463). 3pm. $15-$40.* Denis Leary's annual celebrity/Boston Bruins alumni hockey game will benefit the Leary Firefighters Foundation. This year, money will also be allocated to a new fund that benefits the families of the firemen who lost their lives in New York, and former Bruins player Ace Bailey will be honored. Bailey, who was scheduled to play in this year's game, was aboard one of the planes that hit the World Trade Center. The celebrity team will include Leary, Michael J. Fox, Kiefer Sutherland and Jason Priestly and will be coached by Elizabeth Hurley and Conan O'Brien.

Jimmy Fund Walk
Finish at Copley Square (617-632-3562). www.jimmyfund.org. *$100 fund-raising minimum.* Walkers can choose from three different starts: the full 26.2-mile marathon route, which starts in Hopkington at 7am, a 13.1-mile route that begins in Wellesley at 11am, or a 3-mile walk from the Harvard Medical School at 2pm. More than $4.5 million is expected to be raised for cancer research.

Walk As One Walk-a-thon
Moakley Park, South Boston (617-451-5010). www.nccjboston.org. *10am.* This five-mile pledge walk benefits the Greater Boston National Conference for Community and Justice, which sponsors youth and community programs that fight racism.

Mudflat Empty Bowls Benefit Dinner
Edgerly Education Center, Otis St., East Somerville (617-628-0589). www.mudflat.org. *4-7pm. $10, $40 maximum per family.* Potters from the Mudflat Pottery School and local artists have made hundreds of bowls for this event. So eat some food donated by local restaurants, keep the bowl, and know you are helping out food pantries in Somerville.

Huron Ave. Street Fair
Huron Ave., Cambridge (617-354-6699). 12-4pm. Pie-eating contests, palm readers, plenty of food vendors and pony rides will be mark the fourth annual iteration of this Cambridge festival.

MONDAY, OCT. 1

Denise Hajjar Fashion Show
Julien at Le Méridien, 250 Franklin St. (617-956-8752). 6-8pm. $20. The evening will include modeling of Denise Hajjar's fall fashion and hors d'oeuvres from Julien chef de cuisine Brian Corbley. Partial proceeds will benefit the Women's Craft Cooperative at Rosie's Place.

THURSDAY, OCT. 4

A Bash in Honor of Julia Child
Boston University's "Showroom," 808 Comm. Ave. (617-353-9852). www.bu.edu. *7:30pm. $75.* This fall Julia Child is leaving Cambridge and moving back to California. As such, BU is throwing her a going-away party that should be on any serious foodie's calender. There will be delicious offerings from more restaurants than we can possibly list, and proceeds will go to the three culinary programs Child helped initiate at BU.

FRIDAY, OCT. 5

Jay Geils/Magic Dick Merrimack Repertory Theatre Benefit
Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-3926). 9pm. $16-$28. Jay Geils and Magic Dick headline this blues concert benefit for the MRT.

Scarecrow Festival
Publick House Historic Inn & Country Motor Lodge, Rt. 131, Sturbridge (508-347-5073). www.publickhouse.com. *Through Oct. 21. Free.* Think you've got what it takes to out-scare the competition? This annual event has become a venue for scarecrow artists to showcase their talent, so you'd best come with more than a sorry-looking, hay-stuffed generic job. A life-size Michael Jackson statue might be a good start.

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

Bike the Berkshires
Butternut Basin Ski Resort, Great Barrington (800-493-9255), www.msnewengland.org. *8am. $150 fund-raising minimum.* The Mt. Greylock Challenge ought to satisfy your need for seratonin-releasing exercise by taking bikers on a 100-mile route that includes climbing the highest mountain in Massachusetts. Or you could do the 50-mile scenic tour, if you're not Lance Armstrong-esque in your pedaling proficiency. The ride benefits the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Gallop's Island Applefest
Gallop's Island, Boston Harbor (617-223-8666). You don't have to go out to the 'burbs to get your fall fix of apple-related activities like cider pressing, caramel apple dipping, apple ice-cream making. No word on bobbing for apples, but we bet you could talk them into it.

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

Harvard Square Oktoberfest
Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-491-3434) www.harvardsquare.com. *12-6pm. Free.* Bands, rides, and more food vendors than you can shake a wiener schnitzel at are expected to draw 90,000 people to this annual street festival.

Columbus Day Parade
City Hall Plaza (617-567-1811). www.bostonusa.com. *1pm. Free.* Come out and celebrate the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. What? You say he didn't really discover America because indigenous peoples had long since arrived from Asia via the land bridge over the Bering Strait, and Vikings were the first Europeans anyway? Well then, just enjoy your day off tomorrow, we guess.

MONDAY, OCT. 8

Tufts Health Plan 10K
Beacon to Charles St., (888-767-RACE). www.tuftshealthplan.com. *12pm. $15 before Oct. 1, $17 after Oct. 1.* This women-only road race was the largest event of its kind in the U.S. last year, so there will be some worthy competition, girl. Tufts Health Plan will donate $10,000 to the Mass. Breast Cancer Coalition.

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Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

The Big B.R.A. Show
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton, Boston (617-927-1781). Sept. 26, 8pm. $5. Local artists Trista Beard, Sarah Lafferty and Amy Harmon offer an evening of all-new performances by local Burlesque and Vaudeville acts.

Chamber Repertory Theatre
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-9155). Oct. 1 and 4, 10:30 am. $12.50. This local theatre group will perform a different show on each date featuring famous short stories adapted for the stage.

Don Carlos
Lyric Opera, Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Oct. 3 and 5, 7pm; Oct. 7, 3pm; Oct. 9 and 12, 7pm; Oct. 14, 3pm; and Oct. 16, 7pm. $31-$151. Considered one of Verdi's finest operas, this story of forbidden love and deplorable cruelty set in 16th -century Spain during the Inquisition strikes an emotional chord with its powerful melodies and thunderous exchanges.

End of the World Party
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 7pm. Oct. 5-27. $26.50-$29.50. Written by five-time Emmy winner Chuck Ranberg (from television's *Frasier*, *Becker* and *Kate & Allie*), this outrageous and sometimes bittersweet comedy is about a group of gay friends who redefine themselves and their relationships over the course of one tumultuous summer on Fire Island.

Horrifying, Absolutely Real, True Disasters
Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater, One Kendrick Ave., Wellfleet (518-349-6835). Wed.-Sun., 8pm. Through Oct. 7. $18. This story by Gip Hoppe takes a look at the dark, yet humorous, side of "instant celebrity."

The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window
The Nexus Theatre, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Sept. 26-Oct. 14. $25. Playwright Lorraine Hansberry's play, written on her deathbed, is a comic and moving portrayal of Greenwich Village life during the turbulent 1960s.

Zelda, Scott & Ernest
Town Hall, Provincetown (508-487-2400). Sept. 29, 7pm. $50. See preview box at right for more details.

Zorba
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Oct. 2-21. $18-$56. Zorba's a lusty, lovable Greek countryman who lives life to the fullest. His simple wisdom has a profound effect on those around him.

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Communicating Doors
Hovey Players, 9 Spring St., Waltham (781-893-9171). Thu.-Sun., 8pm. Through Oct. 6. $12. The Hovey Players present this comedy by Alan Ayckbourne, directed by Michael Tonner.

Dario Fo Festival
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mistero Buffo: *Sept. 26, 27, 8pm; Sept. 29, 2pm.* Sex? Thanks, Don't Mind If I Do!: *Sept. 28-29. $25 and $35.* In September, the ART celebrates the 50-year partnership of Nobel Prize–winning Italian dramatist/actor Dario Fo and his wife, the legendary actress Franca Rame. The festival includes Fo's *Mistero Buffo* and *Sex? Thanks, Don't Mind If I Do!* performed by Dario Fo and Franca Rame.

Dinner with Friends
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Nov. 4. $28-$42. Tom and Beth, Gabe and Karen have been friends forever. When one couple announces they're splitting, the rug is pulled out from underneath them all.

Forever Plaid
Stoneham Theatre, 359 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Sept. 30. $25-$35. After six years of practice, the four members of Forever Plaid landed their first big gig at the airport Hilton cocktail lounge. Tragically, before they got a chance to perform, the group was hit by a bus and its members were killed. Tonight they return from heaven for the show they never had.

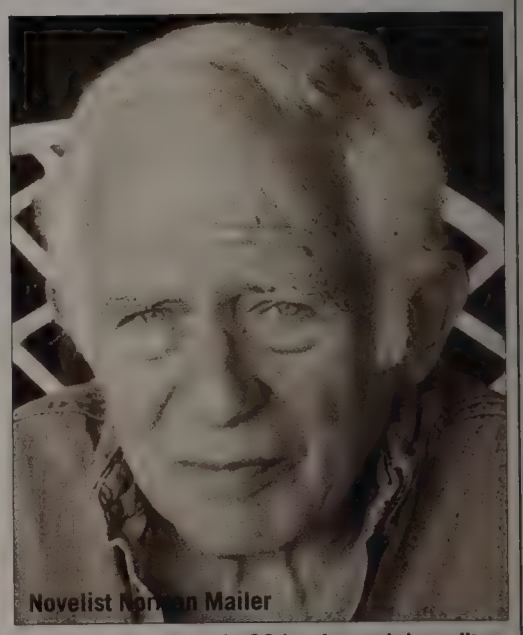


The Lyric Stage Company's *Sunday in the Park with George* brings George Seurat's painting to life.

Preview

Dearest Zelda

Norman Mailer and his wife, Norris Church, share the stage with George Plimpton



Novelist Norman Mailer

Back before e-mail, voice mail, pagers and cell phones, people actually wrote letters: eloquent, descriptive prose that expressed affection, dismay, sympathy, regret and joy. (And yes, in the old days, people actually used punctuation.) Listening to the correspondence between Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald from the early 1900s is like snuggling up on a comfy couch with a good book of poetry. Wrote F. Scott to his wife: "Darling heart, I declare everything glorious. While I feel sure of your love, everything is possible."

The intimate words exchanged between the Fitzgeralds and their good friend Ernest Hemingway between 1919 and 1936 are revealed in a special performance at the Provincetown Repertory Theatre Sept. 29. The dramatic dialogue *Zelda, Scott & Ernest* was written by George Plimpton, best-selling author of nearly 30 books and the editor of *The Paris Review*, and stars the playwright as Ernest Hemingway. Novelist Norman Mailer and his wife, actress and author Norris Church Mailer, play newlyweds F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald. Through their letters, the audience is privy to "the good times, the bad times and the hard times," of their lives, says managing director Dennis Cole. The actors sit at three separate desks as they read from their correspondence. "It's a different and interesting way to show these peoples' unique personalities and what they were all about," says Cole. *Town Hall, Provincetown (508-487-2400). Sept. 29, 7pm. $50. —Julie Short*

James Joyce's *The Dead*
The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Oct. 14. $12-$62. Based on a short story by James Joyce, this Tony Award–winning musical takes place at the Aunts' annual Christmas party.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Laundry and Bourbon and Lone Star
Stanley B Theatre, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-448-2892). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Sept. 30. $25. Travel to Maynard, Texas, where the ladies drink, fold laundry and gossip while the men get drunk at the Lone Star Bar.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Oct. 14. $27-$82. Through the storytelling magic of the songs of ABBA, Donna, a 40-something single mom, recalls distant memories of carefree days and nights while her daughter Sophie dreams of tradition, romance and a big white wedding.

Noises Off!
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Oct. 7. $28-$42. This farce-within-a-farce lets us watch from backstage as the long-suffering director, beleaguered stage manager and dimwitted thespians battle lovers' quarrels, diva fits and technical mishaps. The show must go on.

Out on the Edge: Festival of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Sept. 29. $22. •Sept. 28-29, 7pm: *Holy Shit! Stories from Heaven and Hell* •Sept. 27, 8pm; Sept. 28-29, 9pm: *Higher Highs, Lower Lows.*

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox, Mass. (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* •Spring Lawn Theatre: *A Tanglewood Tale*, through Oct. 21.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Snoopy
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Sept. 30. $21. Charlie Brown, Snoopy and the Peanuts gang come to life.

The Square Root of Minus One
The Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (617-576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Oct. 7. $30. This is Peter Morris's grimly comic satire about mind games and sexual hazing at a 1950s boys' school.

Sunday in the Park with George
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Oct. 20. $20-$36. Writer James Lapine and composer Stephen Sondheim bring George Seurat's great painting to life. The painting depicts people gathered on an island in the Seine, and the musical goes beyond simply describing their lives. It's an exploration of art, love and commitment.

The Waverly Gallery
The New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Wed., 2 and 7pm; Thu., 8pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Oct. 21. $25-$33. Kenneth Lonergan's powerful, poignant and often hilarious play about the final years of a generous, chatty and feisty Jewish woman's battle with Alzheimer's disease.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

An Evening with Moises Kaufman
Wong Auditorium, MIT Tang Center, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge (617-253-2341). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Oct. 4, 8pm. Director Moises Kaufman will discuss his two latest works: *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, and *The Laramie Project*.

The Piano Lesson
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-4200). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Oct. 2-7. $9-$13. In this Pulitzer Prize–winning show by August Wilson, Boy Willie dreams of buying the same land his family had worked as slaves in the South, but he needs to sell the antique family piano to do it.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (617-423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

EXPERIMENTAL THEATER

Radio Pü in Metagumshoe
Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept. 28-29, 8pm. $8. In this neo-noir mythic mystery, a parboiled new-age detective discovers himself and the seedy alien underbelly of modern suburbia.

Dance

Boston Ballet's A Midsummer Night's Dream and Suite Saint-Saëns
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Sept. 26-27, 7pm; Sept. 28, 8pm; Sept. 29, 2 and 8pm; Sept. 30, 2pm. $25-$78. The Boston Ballet inaugurates its 38th season with two ballets, a magical fairy tale and a salute to the American dream.

A Comfortable Quiet
The Dance Complex, 536 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-764-1421). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sept. 28-29, 8pm. $15. Tiffany Frost dips into Miles Davis, gospel, classical and spoken-word poetry in her debut performance, a semi-autobiographical tour through her life, her dreams and the art of modern dance.

Ancestrais (Ancestors)
Kresge Little Theater, 48 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2877). Oct. 5-6, 8pm; Oct. 7, 3pm. African slaves and their African-Brazilian ancestors have preserved the traditions of Candomble, the religion of the city of Salvador de Bahia. Isuara Oliveira, a performer and guest instructor at MIT, performs a celebration of sound and dance, a tribute to the resilience of Candomble and African culture in Brazil.

Burn the Floor
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 2, 8pm; Oct. 3, 7pm; Oct. 4-5, 8pm; Oct. 6, 2 and 8pm; Oct. 7, 1 and 7pm. $35-$65. Back by popular demand, *Burn the Floor* delivers a dramatic fusion of ballroom dancing with Latin, flamenco, lindy, hop, jitterbug, salsa and street dance that results in a unique and innovative ballroom extravaganza.

Tango by Moonlight
Weeks Pedestrian Bridge near Harvard Square at Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-699-OCHO). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 2, 8-11pm. Free. The Tango Society of Boston celebrates the Argentine Tango while encouraging people from all walks of life to immerse themselves in Latin culture and music. Dance the tango on a pedestrian bridge over the Charles River.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Sept. 26, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •Sept. 27, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Sept. 28, 8 and 10:15pm: Brett Butler, "Grace Under Fire," $22.50 •Sept. 29, 8 and 10:15pm: Brett Butler, $29 •Sept. 30, 7pm: Brett Butler, $21 •Oct. 1, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Oct. 2, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robert Printz, $10 •Oct. 3, 8pm: Don Gavin, $10 •Oct. 4, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Oct. 5, 8 and 10:15pm: Kevin Pollak, *The Usual Suspects*, $20 and $16 •Oct. 6, 8 and 10:15pm: Kevin Pollak, *Grumpy Old Men*, $25 •Oct. 7, 9pm: Black Comedy Explosion hosted by Johnathan Gates, $12/$15 •Oct. 8, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Oct. 9, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10.



***A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Boston Ballet.**

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Sept. 27: Tim McIntire with WAKKA, Steve Schnaps, Rich Gustus, Ryan Stitcher and Janet Cormier. •Sept. 28: Greg Rodrigues, Adam Pearlman, Thomas Mitchell, Wil McNeill, Jesse Gertsen and Christine Herman. •Sept. 29: Greg Rodrigues, Rob Reuter, Steve Calechman, Ross Garmil and Jim Fleming. •Sept. 30: Rich Gustus, Teresa Craggan, Eric Riley Moore, Troy Pernell, Brian Gordon, Dave Walsh and Adam Freilich.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$15. •Sept. 27, 8:30pm, and Sept. 28-29, 8:45; Mike McCarthy, Jim McCue and Tony Moschetto •Oct. 4, 8:30pm, and Oct. 5-6, 8:45pm: Al Ducharme, Chris Zito and Quinn Collins.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show. •Thursdays, 8pm ($15); Fridays, 8 and 10pm ($15); Saturdays, 8 and 10pm ($17.50): Bingo with Nanna • Wednesdays, 8pm; Sunday, 7:30pm: Best of Improv Asylum ($10).

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro ($5) • Fridays, 8pm: Boston Creem ($12); 10:30pm: Theatre Sports ($12) •Saturdays, 8 and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston ($12) •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree ($5).

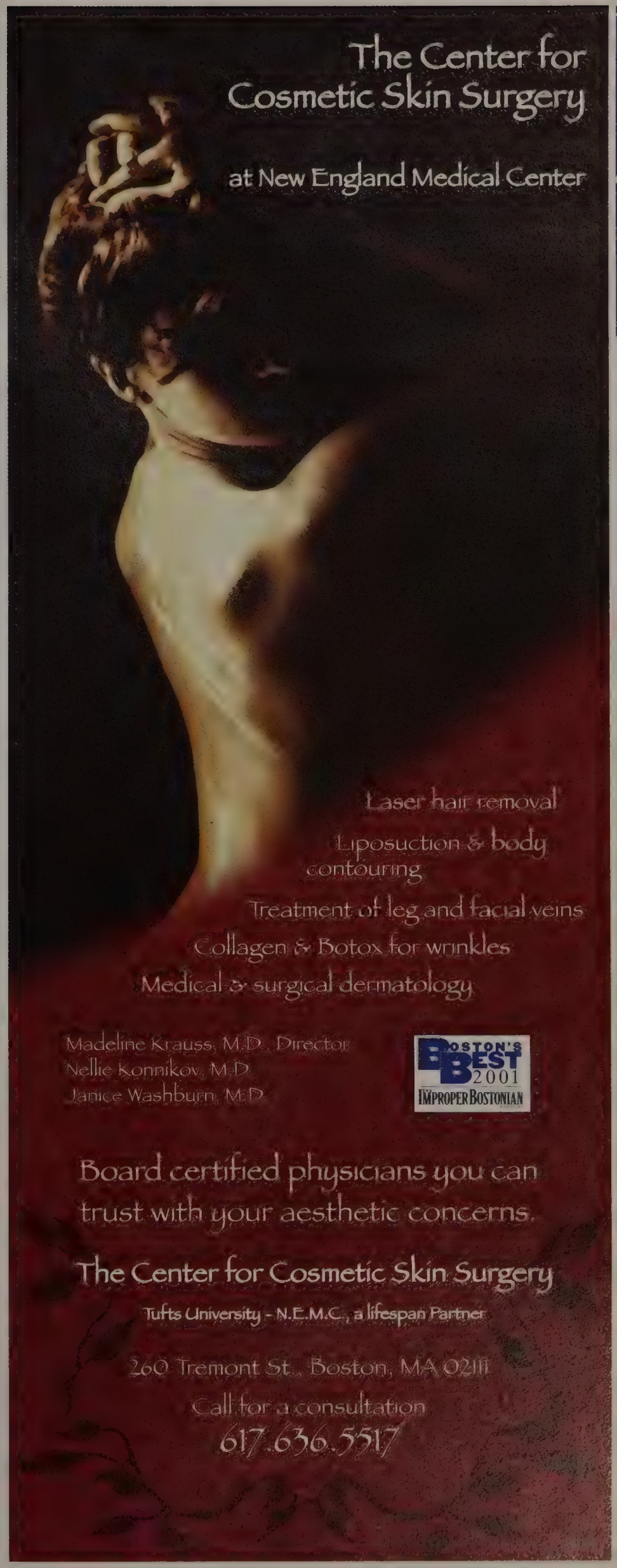
Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

Boston Creem
ImprovBoston, 1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). Fridays, 8pm. Through Sept. 28. $12. ImprovBoston's newest improvised show features a baker's dozen of some of Boston's best female improvisers. A single audience suggestion fuels this women's troupe.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7pm. Ongoing. $49 (includes dinner). Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.



art

Advice to Contributors
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Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*Latino Life in the United States*, a photography show, runs through Nov. 30.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). The museum's permanent collection of European and American art on display. •*Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer, shows through Dec. 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculptural Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustration* runs through Jan. 6, 2002. •*A Garden of Unearthly Delights* features outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work. Through June 9, 2002.

Dreams of Freedom Immigration Museum
One Milk St., Boston (617-695-9990). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Sun., 10am-6pm. $7.50 adults; $3.50 children. •An exhibit of Italian immigrants by B. Amore titled *Lifeline: An Italian Odyssey 1901-2001* shows through Oct. 27.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. •In *Precision and Prestige: The Arts of Engraving* shows through Dec. 2. •*You Look Beautiful Like That: The Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Ma-lick Sidibé* is presented through Dec. 16. •*Marking Places: Spatial Effects of African Art* shows through Dec. 31, 2002. •*Beyond Decorum: The Photography of Iké Udé* shows through Oct. 21.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites: Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* is on display Sept. 29. Through Sept. 2, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* •*The Social Scene*, an exhibition of documentary photography, shows through Sept. 30. • Nikki S. Lee shows *Nikki S. Lee: Projects* through Sept. 30. • Olafur Elisson presents *The Young Land* at Fan Pier though Sept. 30. •The ICA Artists-in-Residence present *Conspire* through Oct. 14. •Free guided walk-through takes place every Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* The museum's permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum s permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering and Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. Demonstrations take place from 2-4pm daily. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an ongoing interactive exhibit. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays a selection of holograms from the museum's collection. Ongoing.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10. Note: Free admission through Sept. 30.* •At the Torf Gallery, *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* shows through Dec. 2. •In the Loring Gallery, *Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Art of the Natural World*, Chinese and Japanese art, shows through Dec. 2. •*Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* show through Jan. 21, 2002. •In the Japanese Galleries, *Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* shows. Through March 10, 2002.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. •Permanent collections include *Lexington Alarmed*, *The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden*, *Made in Massachusetts* and *Initiating America*. •*Flash! The Associated Press Covers the World* shows through Oct. 21.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors.* •The *Current Science and Technology Center* show is ongoing.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults, $10; Seniors and students, $8; Children under 16, free.* •*Painted with Thread: The Art of American Embroidery* shows through Sept. 30. •Photography shows in *Kenru Izu: Sacred Places*. Through Dec. 2.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm. Free. •*SAC 2001*, a show by 20 local visual artists, shows through Oct. 27.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Clockworks*, a show of sculptural clocks, shows through Nov. 10.



The Sentinel, by Boston artist Fern Cunningham, depicts an old African woman who projects strength and perseverance. This is one of 24 majestic sculptures on the path.

Preview

Path of Stone

Forest Hills Cemetery's lush grounds are converted into an outdoor museum

While walking through the grounds that hold poet e e cummings, suffragette Lucy Stone and abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison, visitors to the Forest Hills Cemetery's new Sculpture Path can experience the serenity and tranquility of the historic landscape through art. Sculptures by 25 artists, including seven pieces created especially for the trail, were gathered and located throughout the 275-acre cemetery by the Forest Hills Educational Trust. The old-style burial grounds, dating back to 1848, are connected by the Sculpture Path to the the newer Victorian-style cemetery, landscaped with placid ponds and soothing verdancy. Director Cecily Miller says, "The sculptures have powerful meanings in this environment and give people a way to think about memory, identity, family, community, history and the meaning of life. Some sculptures are clearly about endurance, history and eternity, while some reflect constant change, unpredictability and the transience of the moment." This outdoor museum will be evolving and incorporating new works through Aug. 31, 2002. *Maps available at main gate, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0128).* www.foresthillstrust.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Forest Hills. Open seven days a week, dawn until dusk. Free admission and parking.*—Leah Gourley

Allston Arts District
300 N. Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). Mon., Wed., 12-8pm; Tue., Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Inaugural Exhibition*, featuring 21 artists and three galleries from the Allston area, shows through Oct. 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 303, Boston (617-482-3652). www.allstonskirt.com. *MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue. Wed.-Sat., 11am-5pm.* •The inaugural show of the new gallery is a group show titled *What I Did This Summer....* Through Sept. 29. •Through October, new work by Erik Hanson shows, as well as *Bedroom*, an installation by Pia Schachter.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •*New Paintings*, a show by Wlodzimierz Ksiazek, shows through Oct. 10.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Margaret Gerding's *Journal Reflections* shows through Sept. 29. •*New Paintings*, a show by Ron Ehrlich, shows Oct. 2-30.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*Constructions*, a multimedia exhibit, shows t hrough Sept. 28. •*Open Studios Group Show Exhibit* shows Oct. 9-Oct. 21.

Artists Foundation Galleries
516 East Second St. #49, Boston (617-464-3559). www.artistsfoundation.org. *Sat. 12-5pm and by appointment.* •*Sound Mine*, by Sally Moore, shows in the Main Gallery. *The Telephone Tells Secrets*, by Edythe Wright, is in the Office Gallery. In the Video Room, *Who's the Fairest of Them All?*, a video by the Princess Project, is screened. All installations show through Oct. 20.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton Centre (617-558-2783). www.artesanogallery.com. The gallery offers an ongoing display of glass pieces and jewelry.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Käthe Kollwitz: Engravings, Lithographs and Woodcuts 1891-1938* shows through Nov. 3.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (6 17-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Kate Shepherd's *Like Colors* shows through Oct. 17. Also showing, Print Publisher's Spotlight of Jenkins Sikkema Editions.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Worlds Within: Artists from Gateway Crafts* shows the work of artists with disabilities through Nov. 3.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*New Prints*, a show by Carl Fudge, shows through Sept. 29. •*Making Boys Cry*, a show by David Hilliard, runs Oct. 3-27.

Boston University Art Gallery
BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. *Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West.* •Work by Whitfield Lovell shows in *Embers* through Oct. 28.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Members Group Show 2001* shows through Sept. 29. •Mary Huges shows *Traces* and Barbara Poole shows *It's Always About Me*. Oct. 3-27.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •*Haunted by the Faded Beauty of Cuba*, a photography show by Richard Wood, runs through Oct. 25. •*Raices/Roots*, photographs by Don West, shows through Oct. 23.

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-11:30pm; Sun., 12-11:30pm. •Works by seven faculty members show in *New Fall Faculty 2001*. Through Sept. 29.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Fluid Canvas II* shows through Oct. 9. •Massachusetts Cultural Council's Artists Grant program shows *Sculpture and Installation* through Oct. 7.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Work by Dozier Bell and Noriko Sakanishi show through Oct. 1. •Bernd Haussmann shows work Oct. 3-29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri.,*

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9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm. •New England Women Artists, Prints of Daubigny and work by James A. M. Whistler show through Nov. 3.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*Fall Members Show* runs Sept. 27-Oct. 20

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* • A solo show of the paintings of Paul Inglis shows through Oct. 25.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery shows work of Boston scenes by local artists. Ongoing.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Allston (617-783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Packard's Corner. draw bridge.com/dvbgallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* • Annee Spileos Scott presents *Illuminating Manuscripts*. Oct. 6-31.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •David Piemonte shows photographs in *Solitude and Light*. Through Sept. 30. •*Small Faces*, an exhibition of collages by Margaret Treglia, shows Oct. 2-27.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. • *The Margin*, new photographs by Oscar Palacio depicting the urban environment, shows through Oct. 22.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). www.equator gallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has a collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. Ongoing. •*Magical Dreams: Works in Bronze and Epoxy* present work by Argentine sculptor Silvina Mizrahi. Through Sept. 30. •Oct. 4-30, sculptures by Peruko Ccopacatty and paintings by Carole Lindberg show.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm. •*Living Room Compatible* shows through Sept. 28.

French Library and Cultural Center
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-266-4351). Tue.-Thu., 10am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 10am-5pm. •*Clouds-Sunny Side Up*, with work by Pierre Desjardins, shows through Oct. 2. • An exhibition of lithographs by Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec from the *Elles* series shows Oct. 4-6.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •The *150x150* fund-raiser shows through Sept. 30.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* • Joan Colomer, a Spanish painter, shows *Reflections of Spain*. Through Oct. 14.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Sam Earle presents *Tattoo Paintings*, and *Camera Work* shows through Sept. 29. •Cheryl Warrick shows *Between the Lines* Oct. 5-Nov. 3.

Gallery 79
79 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-5918). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. • The gallery presents *Strawberry Thoughts*, works by Julie Lohnes, and *Color Coded*, works by Michelle Giargiari. Through Sept. 29.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (617-338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* There is an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Paintings by Peter Coe show through Oct. 2. •Cermaics by Mary Roehm show Oct. 5-30.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (617-367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. A collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early 20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. The gallery's collection of 18th- and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hall space1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Open Season*, a group show, shows through Oct. 13.



Bernd Haussmann's *Das Lied von der Erde* shows at the Chase Gallery through Oct. 29.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howard yezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Drawings by Robert Cumming show in *Sketchboards* and photographs by Peter Harris show in *Up*. Through Oct. 2. •*Morgan Bulkeley: New Paintings and Sculptures* shows Oct. 5-30.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www. hurstgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment.* The gallery has an ongoing display of art of the Pacific, Africa, Asia, the Americas and the ancient world.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. A display of vintage posters is ongoing.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •Ralph Wolf shows works in *Something New* and in the Annex, Laurie Flaherty's paintings show in *Through the Skin of Water*. Through Sept. 28.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www. julesplace.com. *Sat., 1-4pm and by appointment.* •*Living Color*, a group show of paintings and mixed-media sculpture shows through Oct. 13.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. By appointment.* • Works by faculty and studio members are featured in an exhibition showing through Oct. 17.

Kathryn Shultz Gallery
25 Lowell St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). Tue.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Fall Salon 2001* presents a range of work by members. Through Oct. 1.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm and by appointment. •*See13@Kingston* showcases 13 artists through Sept. 29. •Jim Eng and Meredith Davis show *New Work*, featuring sculpture, mixed media and collage. Oct. 3-27.

Kniznick Main Exhibition Space
Brandeis University, Women's Studies Research Center, 515 South St., Waltham (781-736-4210). Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm. •*My Notebooks*, a show by Helene Aylon, runs through Sept. 30.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •The gallery celebrates its grand opening with a show featuring ceramic vessels by Anna Silver and layered silk paintings by Tim Harding. Through Oct. 15.

Lillian Immig Gallery
Emmanuel College, 400 The Fenway, Boston (617-277-9340). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Thu., 11am-4pm. •*Pinhole Madness*, a show of pinhole photography, shows through Oct. 4.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Hidden Pleasures* shows through Sept. 28. •*Stranger Than Fiction*, a show by Charles Guiliano, runs Sept. 28-Oct. 10.

Mayor's Art Gallery
Fifth Floor, City Hall, Boston (617-635-3245). www.cityofboston.gov/arts. *MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm.* •Citywide open studios take place every weekend through December. Sept. 29-30, Mission Hill Artist Collaborative has open studios (617-635-3245). Oct. 6-7: A.C.T. Roxbury opens its doors (617-427-7030). •Through Sept. 29, Patrick Mahoney shows his paintings. •Marilyn Lasek exhibits work Oct. 1-26. •In the Scollay Square Gallery, work by the Pearl Street Artists shows through Oct. 20.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-552-8100). Tue.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. •The traveling exhibition *Hope Photographs* shows influential contemporary photography. Sept. 30-Dec. 9.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.media galleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •Work by Giovanni DeCunto, Karen Dimit and Harry Folsom shows through Oct. 10.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* •*Studio Interiors and Still Lifes* shows through Oct. 4.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Maria Levitsky's work is featured in *Recent Photographs*. Through Oct. 3.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). www.mobius .org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*This Is a Test*, an installation by Margaret Tittemore, shows through Sept. 29. •Radio Pü returns with "Metagumshoe," a presentation of experimental audio theater. Sept. 28 and 29, 8pm, $6 students and seniors, $8 adults. •Mobius Group Show runs Oct. 3-27.

MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*New Work*, a collection of landscapes by Gail Bessette, shows through Sept. 30.

Mugar Memorial Library
Boston University, 771 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-353-1309). •*Tempest Tossed: The Life of Sterling Hayden: Author, Adventurer, Actor* shows through May 2002. • A retrospective of Dan Rather's professional memorabilia is also on display.

New Art Center
61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-964-3424). www.newartcenter.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm* • Artists used all mediums to express *The Animal As Muse: Divine to Demonic*. Through Nov. 2.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsen gallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Maine Landscapes*, a solo show of paintings by John Walker, shows through Oct. 13.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. •*Salon IV*, a show paying homage to the French painters of the 19th century, runs through Oct. 20. •*Past Forward*, a new monthly film series, kicks off Sept. 29 at 8pm. Curator and filmmaker Ellie Lee will preside over the screening, along with novelist Judy Budnitz. There will be screenings of Butnitz's *Hershel*, Lee's *Dog Days* and Victor Buhler's *Chaperone*, all adapted from Budnitz's novel *Flying Leap*. Budnitz will also read from her forthcoming book, *Strange and Stranger*.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm. The gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday with Luther Gray. •*Cambridgeport Artists Open Studios Show*, runs through Sept. 30. •Paintings by Bonnie Sloane show through October.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery boston. com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*New Paintings*, works by Howard Silberthau, shows through Oct. 9.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Maria Muller: Reality Transforms* shows concurrently with *Southern African: Works of Art by the People of Southern Africa IV*. The exhibition combines photographs and ceramic utilitarian vessels by the people of Southern Africa. Through Oct. 9.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The teahouse specializes in antique Yixing teapots.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings are on ongoing display.

Roland Smart Gallery
The Armory, 59 Armory St. #105, Roxbury (617-889-6269). Sat.-Sun., 2-6pm and by appointment. •Roland Smart presents *Room*, an interactive mixed-media piece shows through Oct. 11.

Sacramento Street Gallery
20 Sacramento St., Cambridge (617-349-6287). Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Landscapes of Ireland and Cambridge*, a show of works by Roby Fader, shows through Oct. 19.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*. •Paintings by Rachel Wardrop are also on display.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.soci etyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5.* •Rolf Hoeg and Joël Urruty exhibit their works through Oct. 30.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Three Decades of the Box*, work by Robert Rovenolt, runs through Oct. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery .com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* •*New Expressions*, paintings by William St. George, shows through Sept. 30. •*The Power of Paint*, by William St. George, shows oil paintings Oct. 1-31.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., South Boston (617-423-SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm and by appointment. •A multimedia show of works Claudia Bernardi and Gustavo Sota-Rosa run in *The Steps Never Taken*. Through Oct. 21.

Towne Art Gallery
Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-879-2124). Mon.-Fri., 12-5pm. •Maria Coppola's paintings show through Oct. 12.

Trustman Art Gallery
Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston (617-521-2268). Mon.-Fri., 10am-4pm. Work from the Simmons College art collection is on ongoing display.

Upstairs at Johnson Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. •Oil paintings by Tim DeVriese and Matt Glushien display Oct. 3-29.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vose galleries.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •Works by Polly Star show in *Poetry of Hand and Spirit*. Through Nov. 3.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). www.nesop.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 9am-5pm, daily.* •Janet Knott shows photographs in *Snap Snap Click Click: Digital Age Newspaper Photography*. Though Oct. 5.

Pancopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www. panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* •*A Greek Portfolio*, showcasing photographs by Constantine Manos, shows through Nov. 10.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •The Leopold Godowsky Jr. color photography award nominees show through Oct. 26.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.Robert KleinGallery.com *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Call for gallery hours.* • Photographs by Yousuf Karsh show through Oct. 27.

Stebbins Gallery
Zero Church St., Cambridge (617-576-0131). Fri., 6:30-9:30pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-6pm. Photographs by Berta A. Daniels and others show through Sept. 30.



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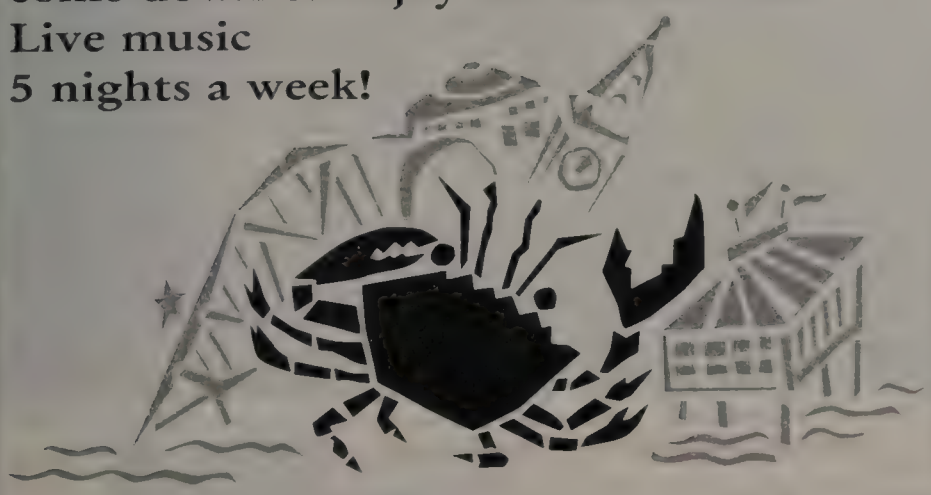
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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26

Barnes and Noble Author Series
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. **Susan Perabo** reads from *The Broken Places*, a story about love and family bonds.

Cambridge Public Library
449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. **Slim Lambright** reads from her first novel, *Justus Girls*, which tracks four black teens coming of age in 1950s Philadelphia.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Steve Almond** and **Bruce Machart** read from their short stories.

WordsWorth Books and Author Series
WordsWorth Reading Room. 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Iain Sinclair** reads from his book *Landor's Tower*, a historical account about the life of 19th-century author Walter Savage Landor.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27

WordsWorth Books Author Series
WordsWorth Reading Room. 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Ben Kaplan** gives some inside tips with his new book, *How to Go to College Almost for Free: The Secrets of Winning Scholarship Money.*

FRIDAY, SEPT 28

Harvard Bookstore Friday Forum Series
1256 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Stanford professor and former president of the American Educational Research Association **Larry Cuban** discusses *Oversold and Underused: Computers in the Classroom.*

Preview

Book Buzz

Tomes to cozy up with this fall



Christopher Hitchens publishes his third book this year.

Each fall, book publishers bring out the heaviest guns in their arsenals. Though not many new titles will threaten the sales hegemony of the David McCullough/*John Adams* juggernaut—and though most of the mainstream reading public will still be engulfed by the *Harry Potter* tsunami—there are a number of books that will create a stir among the literati. The big novel of the season, based on a carefully modulated press campaign by Farrar, Straus & Giroux, seems to be Jonathan Franzen's 565-page tome *The Corrections*. Franzen's third novel is, of course, being touted as the latest entry in the Great American Novel sweepstakes. Other offerings include *Black House*, by Stephen King; Salman Rushdie's most accessible novel in some time, *Fury*; and former Oprah author Bernard Schlink's *Flights of Love*. Eggers-ite short-story writer and documentary filmmaker Arthur Bradford makes waves with a compelling 13-story collection, *Dogwalker*. Rabih Alameddine's impressive debut, *Koolaids*, warrants high anticipation for his sophomore effort, *I, The Divine*. Locally, Sue Miller's *The World Below* and Margot Livesey's *Eva Moves the Furniture* are destined for serious attention from literary fiction devotees. Master writer Saul Bellow offers his not-to-be-missed *Collected Stories*, and writer's writer Alice Munro weighs in with *Hateship, Friendship*. Romanian Herta Müller, who won the prestigious international IMPAC literary award (submissions chosen by librarians and awarded from a distinguished jury), follows her award-winning *The Land of Green Plums* with *The Appointment*. On the non-fiction side of the aisle, the inestimable Sebastian Junger's *Fire* takes us to the steep canyons of Idaho to battle an out-of-control inferno. The singular Joan Didion presents us with a collection of essays, *Political Fictions*, and is joined by another of the Great American Minds, Susan Sontag, who offers her own essay collection, *Where the Stress Falls*. The perennially compelling and ageless oral historian Studs Terkel adds to his chronicles of America with *Will the Circle Be Unbroken*, a study of death and mortality. And certainly no book list would be complete without the inclusion of the indispensible work of the ubiquitous Christopher Hitchens, *Letters to a Young Contrarian*.—*Robert Birnbaum*

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2pm. Brooklyn-raised Puerto Rican poet **Martin Espada** reads from his new book, *A Mayan Astronomer in Hell's Kitchen*, a collection of poems about politics, family, cultural identity and human dignity.

WordsWorth Books and Author Series
Thirsty Scholar Pub. 70 Beacon St., Somerville (617-354-5201). 6pm. **Tim Pat Coogan** reads from his new work, *Whenever Green Is Worn: The Story of the Irish Diaspora*, in which he tracks the fates of Irish immigrants and their descendants.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

New Words Live Fall Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7pm. Author **Becky Thompson** reads from *A Promise and a Way of Life: White Antiracist Activism*, her political work that links the lives of 39 activists.

MONDAY, OCT. 1

Brookline Booksmith Writers & Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Bostonian author **Amir Aczel** reads and signs his book *The Riddle of the Compass*, which tracks the invention of the compass in 12th-century Italy.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
WordsWorth Reading Room. 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. New England author **Jay Atkinson** discusses his new book, *Ice Time*, examining hockey as a way of life in Methuen, Mass.

TUESDAY, OCT. 2

Barnes and Noble Author Series
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-267-8484). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. National Book Award finalist **Elizabeth McCracken** reads from *Niagara Falls All Over Again*, her novel about two men's 30-year friendship.

Harvard Bookstore Fall Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Novelist **Paul Auster** and **Jacki Lyden**, host of NPR's *Weekend All Things Considered*, read and discuss *I Thought My Father Was God: And Other True Tales from NPR's National Story Project.*

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Author **Elena Bowman** reads from her spooky part-romance, part-mystery book, *The House on the Bluff.*

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wall Street Journal rock critic **Jim Fusilli** signs copies of his first mystery, *Closing Time*, a Manhattan-based thriller that centers on a writer's decision to take the law into his own hands after the murder of his wife and child.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Leif Enger** reads from his first novel, *Peace Like a River*, about the ways that family can both love you and land you in trouble.

New Words Live Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. **Emily Prager** reads from *Wuhu Diary*, her work that maps a mother-daughter journey to China.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3

Harvard Bookstore Fall Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Harvard professor **Robert Nozick** discusses *Invariances: The Structure of the Objective World*, his work that examines the relationship between science and philosophy.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Psychologist **Sheila Reindl** discusses topics presented in *Sensing the Self: Women's Recovering from Bulimia*, her new book about the devastating eating disorder.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Barbara Wallruff** read from her latest book, *Word Court: Wherein Verbal Virtue Is Rewarded, Crimes Against the Language Are Punished, and Poetic Justice Is Done.*

THURSDAY, OCT. 4

Brookline Booksmith Writers & Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Dalton Conley** presents *Honky*, his work on growing up in Manhattan's Lower East Side, and **Christine Lincoln** reads from *Sap Rising*, her collection of 12 stories about blacks in the rural South.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Psychotherapist **David Grand** discusses his new book, *Emotional Healing at Warp Speed*, where he explains the therapeutic process of eye-movement speed desensitization.

New Words Live Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Activist-authors **Kim Westheimer** and **Jeff Perrotti** read from *When the Drama Club Isn't Enough*, their work on changing schools for gay and lesbian students.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Brattle Street Theater, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30pm. **Sebastian Junger**, author of *The Perfect Storm*, discusses his latest book about forest fires, war and terrorism, *Fire.*

FRIDAY, OCT. 5

Harvard Bookstore Friday Forum Series
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. London School of Economics professor **Harry Gelber** discusses his book *Nations Out of Empires*, which follows the relationship between colonies in Asia and their subsequent development.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **Haynes Johnson** reads from *Best of Times: America in the Age of Clinton*, a chronicle of America in the '90s.

MONDAY, OCT. 8

Brookline Booksmith Writers & Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Afaa Michael Weaver** discusses *Multitudes: Poems Selected & New*; and **A. Van Jordan** presents his debut collection, *Rise.*

TUESDAY, OCT. 9

Harvard Bookstore Author Series
Askwith Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Psychologists



ROBERT BIRNBAUM

Howard Gardner, **Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi** and **William Damon** to discuss their new book *Good Work: When Excellence and Ethics Meet*, which explains how professionals can focus on work that is both fulfilling and socially responsible.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Alan Emmet** discusses his latest book, *The Mr. and Mrs. Club*, a portrait of 1950s suburban life for one married couple in Massachusetts.

WordsWorth Books and Author Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Alan Gurganus** reads from his newest book, *Practical Heart: Four Novellas*.

ONGOING

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.



Psychologist Sheila Reindl gives a reading on Oct. 3.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every few Thursdays.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
The Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. They recently moved from the Middle East, but their new venue offers the same good vibes.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26

MIMC Executive Leadership Series—Operations
Millennium Bostonian Hotel, Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-227-2822). 11:30am. $75. The Massachusetts Interactive Media Council presents an interactive panel discussion of the differences between COO and CEO positions.

SPNEA Visits Private Collectors Dave Waller and Lynn Riddle
Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques, Harrison Gray Otis House, 141 Cambridge St., Boston (617-423-0768). 7pm. $35. **Dave Waller** and **Lynn Riddle** will discuss their attempts at rescuing beloved roadside architecture, along with their collecting philosophy.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27

Cruelty-Free Shopping
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). 10:30am. $2. Many of the products we buy were produced with unnecessary amounts of suffering to animals. **Lesley Parker-Rollins** discusses alternatives.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

2001 Massachusetts Historic Preservation Conference
Massachusetts Historical Commission, 220 Morrissey Blvd., Boston (617-727-8470). 8:30am. $30. This conference highlights strategies for preserving the Commonwealth's historic and cultural heritage.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Nature Writing: Art or Science?
3 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-495-2727). 7:30pm. Free. Celebrated biologist **E.O. Wilson** and writer **David Abram** discuss nature writing at a special forum moderated by writer **John Elder**.

Children's Right to Non-Violence
Ford Hall Forum, Blackman Auditorium, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-373-5800). 9am-4pm. Free. Executive director of the UN's Children's Fund **Carol Bellamy** and other speakers commemorate the United Nations' Decade for a Culture of Peace. Discussion topics include slavery and the new abolitionist movement; the impact of the AIDS crisis on children in Africa; juveniles on death row; and child soldiers.

TUESDAY, OCT. 2

The Evolution Explosion: How Humans Cause Rapid Evolutionary Change
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). 6pm. $6:50. A lecture by professor of biology **Stephen Palumbi** about the human influence on evolution and the dangers of environmental and genetic manipulation.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3

Organizing U
Massachusetts Medical Society, 860 Winter St., Waltham (617-630-8490). 5pm. $35. A seminar about getting organized at home and at work.

Bankruptcy Reform 101
3 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-495-2727). 7:30pm. Free. A discussion of the new legislation surrounding bankruptcy laws and its effects on the average consumer.

FRIDAY, OCT. 5

Terry Gross of NPR's *Fresh Air*
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $25 and $30. **Terry Gross**, host of National Public Radio's arts and culture program, *Fresh Air*, will discuss highlights of her broadcasting career. Audience members will have the opportunity to ask Gross questions about her views on current cultural figures and trends.

MOAKLEY'S RUN FOR RESEARCH
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American Liver Foundation



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Run or walk with us as we remember a great supporter, leader and friend, Congressman John Joseph Moakley.

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BAYSIDE

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THE DEAD ZONE

The latest Stephen King movie is a child of the cornball.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The defining moment in *Hearts in Atlantis* doesn't happen during one of Anthony Hopkins' frequent big speeches, or during one of the many times when young Anton Yelchin's eyes pop open in gee-whiz wonder or when the action cuts between its grown-up protagonist and the flashbacks of him as a boy in 1960. No, the defining moment is definitely during the scene in an amusement park, when a man with a straw hat, a fancy pitch and a pair of very quick hands fleeces quarters from people who can't pick out the queen of hearts once he's finished shuffling a trio of cards.

This well-intentioned drama might not be as blatantly phony as the man in the straw hat, but it certainly comes close. Even though Stephen King writes as prolifically as any other author, and Hollywood turns his stories into movies and mini-series as quickly as possible, *Hearts in Atlantis* may be the first King movie to be nothing but a reshuffling of previous King ideas. Of course, if the movie had been better made, maybe it would have been able to hide its recycled elements. But that is hardly the case.



Anthony Hopkins and Anton Yelchin are stuck rehashing stale Stephen King themes in *Hearts in Atlantis*.

The previous King-derived films *Stand by Me* and *Apt Pupil* are the main ingredients in the new movie, the most conventional yet from *Shine* and *Snow Falling from Cedars* director Scott Hicks. *Stand by Me* had preteen boys in the era of Eisenhower, and a story frame that set up this action by having one of those characters, now grown-up, recalling that time. The less-widely seen *Apt Pupil*, made in 1998 by *The Usual Suspects* director Bryan Singer, had an unusual friendship between a boy and an older, solitary man. Mix these two together, add a pinch of paranormal activity from *The Green Mile*, another King adaptation, and you have *Hearts in Atlantis*.

The grown-up in the story this time is a middle-aged photographer (David Morse) who learns of the death of a childhood friend. His return home for the funeral, especially the sight of his now run-down Harwich, Conn. neighborhood, launches the movie back to 1960, when 11-year-old Bobby (Yelchin) lives with his single mom (Hope Davis of *Next Stop, Wonderland*) and when a mysterious older gentleman moves into the upstairs unit of their two-family home. That gentleman is Ted (Hopkins), a well-read and worldly, yet enigmatic, fellow.

Despite mom's fears about this mystery man, Bobby is immediately taken with his new neighbor, who gives the boy all sorts of life lessons about what books to read, when to pursue the girl he likes and how to handle the local bully. He also asks Bobby to warn him if he sees any of the suspicious characters he says are after him.

Such recurrent scenes between the wide-eyed kid and the mystery man with stories to tell (and psychic powers, it turns out) might have worked if they were underplayed. But Hicks and screenwriter William Goldman (whose career has gone from *All the President's Men* and *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* to trash like *The General's Daughter* and this) have foolishly gone in the other direction. As the camera slowly moves in on Hopkins and the music swells during nearly every one of these scenes, the movie turns into a series of nauseating Oscar-show clips. And that's about as low as a movie can sink.

So *Hearts of Atlantis* isn't bad only because it's a rehash. It's just a maudlin, muddled, second-tier drama that might have worked had it received a grittier, more matter-of-fact treatment. Whatever heart it might have has been buried deeper than Atlantis by its shameless, cornball style. **iB**

Hearts in Atlantis ★½

Directed by Scott Hicks. Written by William Goldman. Based on the novel by Stephen King. With Anthony Hopkins, Anton Yelchin, Hope Davis, David Morse and Mika Boorem. Rated PG. Warner Bros.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Curse of the Jade Scorpion ★★½
Woody Allen's usual self-flattery is kept in relative check in his latest. It's a brisk 1940-set comedy in which he's an insurance claims investigator and Helen Hunt is the insurance company's new efficiency expert, who's out to rid the office of his old-school methods. Thanks to a nightclub hypnotist (David Ogden Stiers) who uses the pair as onstage volunteers—and then uses his control over them afterward—the pair get involved in post hypnotic thievery, romance and bickering. As has been the case lately, Allen's presence grates after a while, and of course younger female characters are all over him. But the strong ensemble cast, including Charlize Theron and Dan Aykroyd, prevents total "Woody-itis" from setting in.

The Deep End ★★★
In this thriller, a middle-class housewife (Tilda Swinton) flirts with crime when she thinks her teen son (Jonathan Tucker) has murdered a predatory lover. She secretly covers up the crime, then starts fending off blackmailers who have incriminating evidence. This has less social relevance than the movie it remakes, 1949's *The Reckless Moment*—in which the woman fears exposure in her conformity-crazy post-war times—and the sexual tension between the woman and her conflicted blackmailer (Goran Visnjic) isn't very convincing. But it's a fascinating exercise in the maternal protective impulse, with Swinton really fleshing out the heroine, and co-directors Scott McGehee and David Siegel (*Suture*) again excelling at conveying eerie atmosphere.

Ghost World ★★★★
Just when it seemed movies were incapable of producing something that wasn't gimmicky, something that was fun yet disarmingly deep, along comes Terry (*Crumb*) Zwigoff's astonishingly good fiction debut. Based on co-writer Daniel Clowes' comic novel, it starts out as if it's going to be just another movie about misfit teens—in this case, the graduating high-schoolers played by Thora Birch (*American Beauty*) and Scarlet Johansson. Bored and annoyed at the prefab world around them, the pair amuse themselves by playing a practical joke on a lonely guy (Steve Buscemi) who's taken out a personal ad. But the guy turns out to be a nonconformist who has a lot in common with the girls, especially Birch's malcontent, and she becomes quite taken with him. The movie then evolves into a much more distinctive story that effectively dovetails many themes: the poor way people communicate with each other; the struggle between individuality and the need for companionship; and the way we construct our own inner realities, selectively taking in and shutting things out to suit our emotional needs.

Happy Accidents ★★★
Writer-director-editor Brad Anderson made this unconventional romantic comedy between *Next Stop Wonderland* and *Session 9*, though it's just reached theaters at the same time as the latter. Marisa Tomei and Vincent D'Onofrio are both very appealing as, respectively, a neurotic New Yorker unlucky with men and the nice guy she falls for—who then tells her he's from the year 2470 and has "back-traveled" to be with her. Is he being loopy or honest? Anderson milks this ambiguity smartly and builds his story to a very creative climax.

Heavy Metal Parking Lot ★★★★
A little bit of pop culture history was made back in 1986 when John Krulik and John Hein took their camera to the parking lot of Maryland's Capital Centre and interviewed teens partying before a Judas Priest concert. This hilarious time capsule is a true cult classic that is as unforgettable as they come. And as part of its whirlwind 15th anniversary tours it's back for midnight shows at the Coolidge Corner on Sept. 28 and 29, with the filmmakers introducing it.

Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back ★★
Someone finally hit on the bright idea of having Kevin Smith (*Clerks*, *Dogma*) make a wide-release movie, so his arrested-adolescent sensibility could reach theaters that adolescents actually visit. The result is a hit-or-miss road comedy featuring the stoner duo (Smith, Jason Mewes) who've hung around the fringes of every Smith movie. It's the indie *Dude, Where's My Car?* with more laughs, as these two clueless make their way from Jersey to Hollywood to stop a movie being made about them. Once it gets to Hollywood, it pokes a lot of fun at its distributor, with its classy facade and crass center, but this is pure Miramax: Like the lousy *Scream 2*, which thought making fun of lousy sequels exempted it from being one, Smith's movie is all self-deprecating jokes about how dumb it is. Cool appearance by Morris Day and the Time, though.

PHIL BRAY



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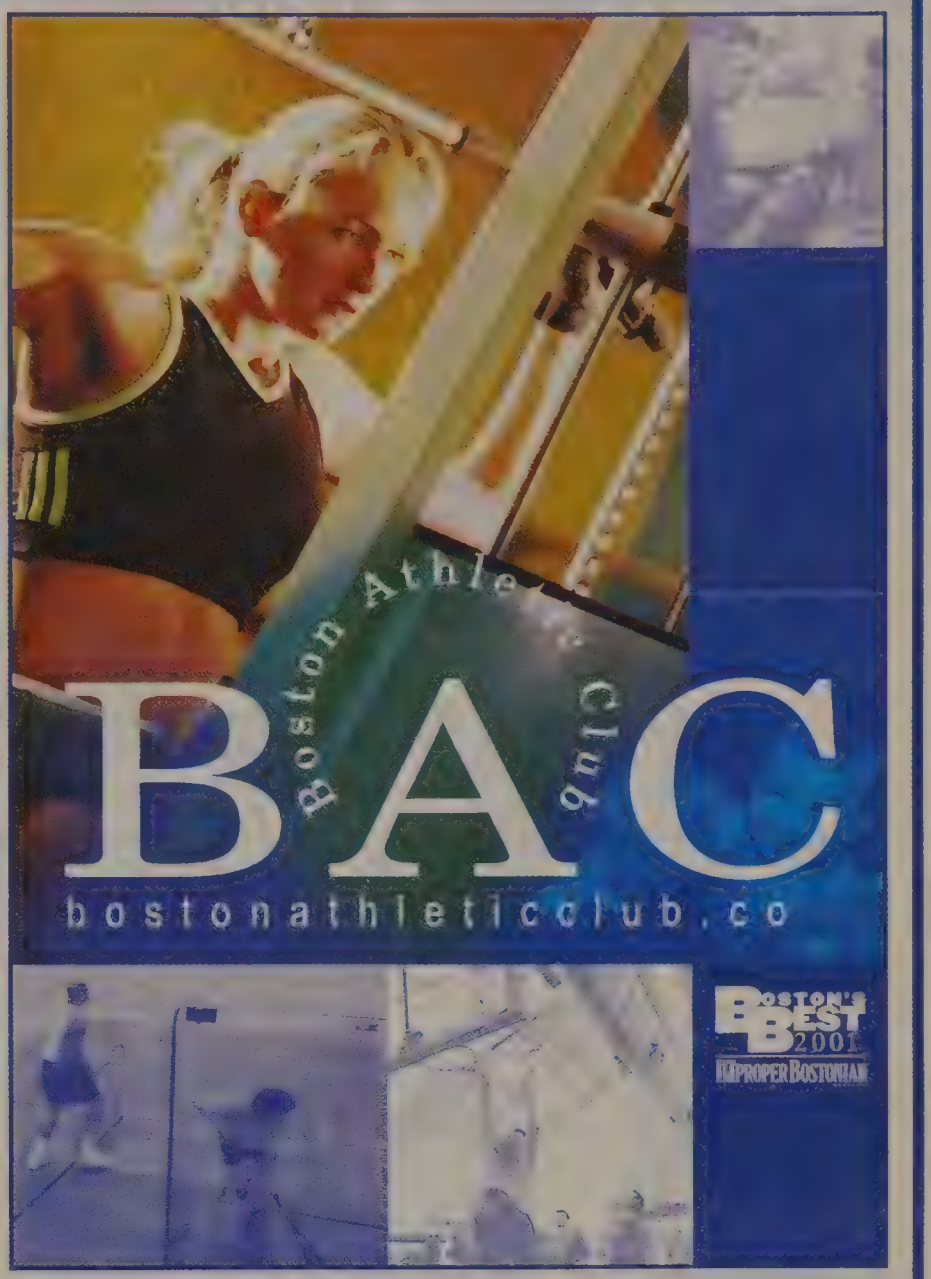
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The ubiquitous Mark Wahlberg mugs in *Rock Star*.

L.I.E. ★★
You know it's fall when the dreary adolescents-in-suburban-wasteland movies arrive. The title stands for the Long Island Expressway, the highway that spiritually imprisons the characters in Michael Cuesta's debut. Wriggling to break free is 15-year-old Howie (Paul Franklin Dano), whose single dad pays little attention to him. He's talked into robbing houses with a wilder friend (Billy Kay), and comes into contact with a mysterious middle-aged man named John (Brian Cox) as a result. Cox's solid citizen is actually a sexual predator, and Howie, sadly in need of parenting, does an often-involving two-step with him. Howie is disgusted by John's sexual advances yet attracted by his paternal qualities. That John is not just evil is the movie's strength, but its "suburbs suck" message could use more humor or a more original approach.

Mau Mau Sex Sex ★★½
At a time when Hollywood uses the might of its corporate propaganda to sell nothing but excess, the vintage sexploitation-film peddling of Z-movie producers David Friedman and Dan Sonney is downright endearing. The two old-time masters of ballyhoo, who bicker like Matthau and Lemmon, spin anecdotes in this clip-filled documentary. They're as amusing as ever, and the film also peeks into their home lives (sometimes interestingly, sometimes not). It's fine stuff, but Friedman and Sonney were already teamed in a very similar documentary of a decade ago, *Sex and Buttered Popcorn* (a.k.a. *For Adults Only*), which even used many of the same old clips.

The Musketeer ★½
Like most sequels, *The Musketeer* is a pointless waste of time. The umpteenth movie based on Alexandre Dumas' *The Three Musketeers* has an uncharismatic D'Artagnan (Justin Chambers) and a goofy love interest (Mena Suvari), and pushes the three musketeers so off to the side that they're barely there. And the marketing is totally misleading, suggesting the enlisting of Hong Kong stunt coordinator Xin-Xin Xiong meant a *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* treatment for the swordfights. But the action scenes are conventional, and the movie never gives you a reason to care. At least Tim Roth is here as another brazen villain, like the one he played in *Planet of the Apes*.

Rock Star ★★
It's hard to think that a movie about 1980s hair-metal could take itself too seriously, but this one does. Mark Wahlberg plays a gung-ho singer in a Pittsburgh band that covers songs by his favorite metal band. He then gets to be in the real band when the puffy English rockers kick out the guy he imitates and see a tape of him in action. But this story of the naive guy getting thrown into the deep end of sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll excess is like the dullest episode of *Behind the Music*. The drama is too weak to make you sympathize with its characters, and it would have been better off with more *This Is Spinal Tap* or *Heavy Metal Parking Lot* humor.

Two Can Play That Game ★★★
A light must have flickered on above writer-director Mark Brown's head. Five years ago he wrote *How to Be a Player*, about a guy using women as pawns, and it was obnoxious. Now he's switched genders and given us a smart, sexy woman trying to control her man when he starts to stray—and the result is the best battle-of-the-sexes comedies in ages. Vivica A. Fox (*Soul Food*, *Booty Call*) nails her role, her tricky Ferris Bueller-style to-the-camera narration works and Morris Chestnut and Anthony Anderson, as the puzzled boyfriend and his scheming best buddy, have many amusing scenes together.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Brattle Theatre

Special Engagements
•Sept. 28 and 29, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **The Girl** *2000*. This story follows the lesbian love affair, between a painter and a nightclub singer. Director Sande Zeig brings to life the words of acclaimed lesbian writer Monique Wittig.
•Oct. 5-7 and 10pm **D.Film Digital Film Festival**. D.Film makes a new wave of technology easily accessible to the public in this traveling and online showcase of films made with digital filmmaking instruments. A mix of shorts, cinematic art films and design clips, the selections of films are never the same twice. A digital filmmaking panel discussion takes place Oct. 6, 4pm.

Sundays and Mondays—A Tribute to Jack Lemmon
•Sept. 30, 1 and 10pm **Days of Wine and Roses** *1962*. Lemmon won much fame (and an Oscar nomination) portraying an alcoholic whose life is falling apart.
•Sept. 30 and Oct. 1, 7:45pm **Save the Tiger** *1973*. Jack Lemmon stars in this character drama about a day and a half in the life of a man with a struggling business who resorts to arson to solve his problems. Lemmon won his second Oscar for this role.
•Oct. 1, 5:30 and 10pm **Glengarry Glen Ross** *1992*. Lemmon plays Shelley "the Machine" Levene, a washed-up real estate salesman who can't turn his bad luck around. Al Pacino, Alec Baldwin, Alan Arkin, Ed Harris, Kevin Spacey and Jonathan Pryce co-star.
•Oct. 7 and 8, 7:30pm (Monday matinee, 3pm) **The Apartment** *1960*. Lemmon, struggling in the competitive executive world, is left with a surprise when he lends his apartment out to his boss in exchange for a promotion. •Also showing, 5:30 and 10pm (Monday matinee at 1pm) **The Out of Towners** *1970*. Lemmon and Sandy Dennis, playing his wife, travel to New York City for business. They're overwhelmed by the Big Apple in this comedy of errors.

Tuesdays—I Was a Teenage Teenager
•Oct. 2, 4 and 8pm **Mondo Teeno** *(Teenage Rebellion) 1967*. This documentary travels the world, illuminating all aspects of youth culture in the 1960s. Burt Topper narrates the story of "teensploitation," directed by Norman Herman. •Also showing, 6 and 10pm **Wild in the Streets** *1968*. Called a teenage fantasy on celluloid, this film shows what would happen if teenagers had their own way in society.
•Oct. 9, 7:30pm **River's Edge** *1986*. Following a group of teens as they discover someone among them has murdered an innocent girl, this film delivers memorable performances by the ensemble cast. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30pm **Gummo** *1997*. Directed by Harmony Korine, a collaborator on *Kids*, this film echoes the same glimpse into the underbelly of teenage life.

Wednesdays—Recent and Future Raves
•Sept. 26, 7:30pm **Mulholland Drive** *2001*. Winner of the 2001 Cannes Film Festival for Best Director, David Lynch began production for this film as a TV pilot. Rejected by its network, Lynch won back the rights and reshaped it into a vision of the seedier side of Hollywood. Star Justin Theroux introduces the film.
•Oct. 3 7pm **From Hell** *2001*. Directors Albert and Allen Hughes revisit the unsolved saga of serial killer Jack the Ripper, starring Johnny Depp and Heather Graham.
•Also showing, 10pm **Tell Me Something** *1999*. Hailing from Korea, this bloody and compelling serial-killer thriller has been compared to *Silence of the Lambs*.

Thursdays—Cine Liberación: Cuban Revolutionary Cinema
•Sept. 27, 4:30 and 10pm **Portrait of Teresa** *1979*. One of the most controversial Cuban films released in America, this study of the disintegration of marriage follows a modern woman battling sexism in society. •Also showing, 7pm **Lucia** *1969*. Structured in three parts, this film centers on three women in different eras of Cuban history and reveals the role of women in those times.
•Oct. 4, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Death of a Bureaucrat** *1966*. Director Alea's first major film is a black comedy that mixes slapstick farce and paranoid nightmares.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Feature Films
•Sept. 28 **The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition** *2000*. Sir Ernest Shackleton's ill-fated journey to Antarctica is an engaging adventure even 80 years after it occurred. Shackleton and a 27-man crew combated frostbite, starvation and hopelessness while stuck in an iceberg in the Weddell Sea for 10 months. George Butler directs.

Off The Couch—Psychoanalysis Goes to the Movies
•**L.I.E.** *2001*. Michael Cuesta's feature debut is an uncompromising look at coming of age in the 21st century. The title stands for the Long Island Expressway, the freeway that leads from New York to the suburbs.

Midnight Movies
•Sept. 28-29 **Heavy Metal Parking Lot** *1986*. Videotaped in a concert-arena parking lot before a Judas Priest show, *Heavy Metal Parking Lot* celebrates its 15th anniversary with this special edition of bonus footage, official sequels and tributes by other filmmakers.
•Oct 5 and 6 **Citizen Toxie: The Toxic Avenger, Part IV** *1999*. Seventeen years after Troma Team introduced the Toxic Avenger, Toxie returns with his sidekick, Lardass, to fight the Diaper Mafia for control of the Tromaville School for the Very Special.

Harvard Film Archive

Special Event at Sanders Theater
•Oct. 6, 8pm **Storm Over Asia** *(Potomok Chingis-Khan) 1928*. Recently restored from its censored and shortened version, this silent film is available for viewing in its entirety for the first time in 50 years. A young Mongolian trapper is cheated by an American fur trader and betrayed by the White Russians. Live music accompaniment by Tuvan throat-singing ensemble Yat-Kha.

Nanni Moretti: A Life on Film
•Sept. 26 and 29, 7pm **Palombella Rossa** *(Red Wood Pigeon) 1989*. The recurring character of Michele, played by Nanni Moretti, is an official of the Italian Communist Party who experiences temporary amnesia as the result of a car accident and comedically reconstructs his memory.
•Sept. 26, 9pm and Sept. 28, 7pm **Sweet Body of Bianca** *(Bianca) 1984*. A lonely young mathematician obsessed with idealized notions about happy family life meddles in his friends' affairs until he meets the woman of his dreams.
•Sept. 28, 9pm and Sept. 30, 7pm **Ecce Bombo** *1978*. Moretti's first feature shot on 35mm film, this film is the first introduction of Michele, Moretti's alter-ego.
•Sept. 29, 9pm **The Thing** *(La Cosa) 1990*. A fast-paced comedy referred to as a companion piece to *Palombella Rossa*, this film illuminates the Italian Communist Party's transitional period of the 1990s.
•Sept. 30, 9pm **I Am Self-Sufficient** *(Io sono un autarchico) 1976*. This parody of totalitarianism is realized in Michele's (played by Moretti) involvement in an experimental theater group.

Adventures in Surrealism
•Oct. 1, 7pm and Oct. 2, 9pm **Peter Ibbetson** *1935*. This adaptation of George du Maurier's novel relates the story of sweethearts who are separated in childhood and who are then drawn together by destiny years later.
•Oct. 8, 7pm and Oct. 9, 9pm **A Jean Painlevé Program**. This 90-minute selection of Painlevé's films includes his 1926 seven-minute adaptation of Ivan Goll's *Mathusalem*, as well as **The Vampire** *(1945)*, a film about bats based on the story of Nosferatu, and the first science-fiction film with a jazz (Duke Ellington) soundtrack. **The Sea Horse** *(1934)* shows striking underwater footage of the hermaphroditic animal. **The Love Life of the Octopus** *(1965)* works with an innovative camera apparatus to capture life under the microscope and sea creatures in their underwater habitats.

Séance Screenings
•Oct. 1 and Oct. 3, 9pm **Il Grido** *(The Cry) 1957*. A man deserted by his fiancée sets out with his young daughter in search of peace of mind and a new life. During his search he remains haunted by the breakup of his relationship.

Film Architectures
•Oct. 2 and 3, 7pm **Sunrise** *1927*. F. W. Murnau directed this depiction of quiet country and bustling city connected by the protagonist's streetcar journey through different landscapes. Live piano accompaniment composed and performed by Yakov Gubanov.
•Oct. 9, 7pm **The Man with the Movie Camera** *(Chelovek skinoapparotom) 1929*. This experimental documentary, directed by Dziga Vertov, creates a symphony depicting a day in the life of an urban metropolis. Live piano accompaniment composed and performed by Yakov Gubanov.

A Dynamic Duo: Jules Dassin and Melina Mercouri
•Oct. 4, 7pm **Night and the City** *1950*. Richard Widmark is Harry Fabian, a small-time hustler scouring the



Jack Lemmon stars as a businessman who tries to rise in his company by letting its executives use his apartment as a love nest.

Preview

Not a Lemmon in the Bunch

The Brattle Theatre pays tribute to a Longtime Hollywood favorite

Although he might be remembered most by his role in *Grumpy Old Men*, Newton-born Jack Lemmon tackled a variety of roles over his prolific career—from comical characters like the neurotic, straight-arrow Felix Unger in *The Odd Couple* to the dramatic underdog of Shelley "The Machine" Levene in *Glengarry Glen Ross*. The Brattle's film series honors Lemmon's body of work (he died earlier this year) and includes his popular performances as Unger and Levene, as well as his bittersweet masterpiece, *The Apartment*, co-starring Shirley MacLaine. Lemmon was in the Navy ROTC at Harvard, where he graduated in 1947 with a degree in "War Service Sciences." The one-time president of the Hasty Pudding Club won his first Oscar as Best Supporting Actor in *Mister Roberts* (1955). He also took home a Best Actor Oscar for *Save the Tiger* (1973), which shows Oct. 1 at 7:45 pm. Here, Lemmon plays Harry Stoner, a struggling clothing manufacturer longing for his lost youth. The American Film Institute honored him in 1988 by presenting him with the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. The Brattle's tribute continues through the end of October with more of Lemmon's unforgettable films. *40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. —Vanessa Franko*

TOP LEFT: CLAUDETTE BARR



Gabrielle Union (left) and Vivica A. Fox deal with straying men in *Two Can Play That Game.*

WW II rubble of London whose ambition leads him into many tawdry affairs. •Also showing, 9pm **Rififi** *(Du Rififi chez les Hommes) 1955.* Jules Dassin directed this film about a gang of criminals who plan and execute a jewel heist in Paris before then turning on each other. •Oct. 7, 7:45pm and Oct. 8, 8:45pm **Phaedra** *1961.* In this version of Eurpides' *Hippolytus,* Melina Mercouri plays the wife of a Greek shipping magnate who fosters an overwhelming crush on her husband's son.

Close Encounters: Donald Richie

•Oct. 5, 8pm **Dead Youth** *1967.* This film meditates on time, memory, grief and death. Live musical accompaniment by Sabana Blanca. Directed by Donald Richie.

Museum of Fine Arts

•Oct. 4, 7:45pm; Oct. 6 and 7, 3:45pm **Code Unknown** *(Code inconnu) 2000.* Juliette Binoche stars in this provocative film that throws three unconnected characters together through a single random event.

The Tales of Eric Rohmer

•Sept. 27, 6pm **Summer** *(Le rayon vert) 1986.* Summer is going poorly for the heroine of this film until she hears someone evoke Jules Verne's famous "green ray" at a train station, and her destiny is established.

New Greek Cinema

All films in Greek with English subtitles.

•Sept. 27, 8pm **Earth and Water** *(Homa ke nero) 1999.* Both tragic and magical, this film depicts an eternal love that survives all obstacles, including death. A reception follows the screening.

•Sept 28, 6pm **The Flower of the Lake** *(O Anthos tis Limnis) 1999.* Set in Macedonia in 1900, this film is the story of three generations of a family affected by war and nationality, paralleling the troubles still afflicting the area today. •Also showing, 8pm **Edge of Night** *(Afti i nichta meni) 1999.* Directed by Nikos Panayotopoulos, this film follows the adventures of a girl running away from a failed relationship.

•Sept. 29, 1pm **Peppermint** *1999.* Two cousins fall in love with each other as children and are reunited at a funeral 30 years later. Costas Kapakas directs.

•Also showing, 3pm **Four Seasons of the Law** *(I Earini sinaxis ton agrofilakon) 1999.* An odd comedy set in 1960, this crazy film won acclaim for using images and music to portray a side of Greece that no longer exists.

Festival Films of Iran

•Oct. 5, 8:15pm and Oct. 7, 12pm **Hemlock** *(Shokaran) 2000.* The most popular film released in Iran last year, the storyline roughly follows the same plot as *Basic Instinct*.

•Oct. 6, 2pm **The Spouse** *(Hamsar) 1994.* A resourceful factory manager challenges the male-dominated Iranian culture in this comedy.

The Films of Frederick Wiseman

•Sept. 29, 10:30am **Multi-Handicapped** *1986.* The day-to-day activities of multi-handicapped and sensory-impaired students of the Hellen Keller School.

New England Film Artists Present

Presented in conjunction with Women in Film New England and the exhibition A Studio of Her Own. *Filmmakers are present at the screenings.*

•Oct. 4, 6pm and Oct. 7, 2pm Judy Budnitz and Ellie Lee host an evening titled *Stories by Judy Budnitz*. Four short films are presented: *Chaperone*, by Victor Buhler (2000); *Dog Days*, by Ellie Lee (2000); *Repetition Compulsion*, by Ellie Lee (1997); *Hershel*, by Judy Budnitz (1995). All

Special Events

Monthly Film Series: Past Forward

•Sept. 29, 8pm **Hershel** *1998*, **Dog Days** *1998*, **Chaperone** *1998.* Ellie Lee and Judy Budnitz will be present at this screening of three short films, all adapted from Budnitz's book *Flying Leap*. A musical performance by local rockers The Fly Seville follows, as well as a reading from Budnitz's forthcoming novel, *Strange and Stranger*. *The Oni Gallery, 684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (617-536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (617-536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony Theater
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

THE comedy CONNECTION
FANEUIL HALL
617•248•9700
WHAT A FALL!

THIS WEEKEND!

Brett Butler

OCT. 5-6

Kevin Pollak

OCT. 12-14

Tommy Davidson

OCT. 19-20

David Cross

OCT. 26-27

Brian Regan

NOVEMBER 1ST

Rita Rudner

NOV. 2-3

Robert Schimmel

NOV. 9-10

Judy Tenuta

EVERY THURSDAY!

Frank Santos

BACKSTAGE
•Open for Lunch & Dinner!
•Dancing 'Til 2AM!
•Music by DJ Jonny C.
Winner of Sound Factory's
"1st Annual Best DJ in Boston" Award!

Ask About Our Dinner/Show Packages!
Validated Parking at 75 State Street Garage

dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Avalon
•Oct. 8: The Waterboys.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar Top DJs spin.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40 tunes, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with Martin Finke, 9pm, 21+.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs. Martini bar, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
DJ Armen and guests provide the tunes, powered by Future Recordings, 10pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid, jazz and soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party .•Oct. 2: Megladon (MD) Jazz Band, 6-10pm, 21+. DJ Richie Fingers spins 10pm-2am. •Oct. 9: Dick 'n' Jane, 6-10pm, followed by DJ Richie Fingers, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Avalon
•Sept. 26, Lifehouse and The Calling.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $5, 18+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Dance to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night hosted by Star 93.7's Michael Knight. •Oct. 3: The Return, 6-10pm, followed by DJ Steve Anderson spinning the latest hits, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Rollercoaster
Aer DJs and live music make for a wild night, 10pm.

Samsara
Hong Kong Join in a night of psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Wet and Wild Wednesdays
The Kells DJ Drag and DJ Steve spin hip-hop, house, R&B and reggae with ticket giveaways, 10pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Club Zen
97.7's DJ Chubby Chub spins R & B, hip-hop, techno, house and old school, 9pm, $10, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and WFNX spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by after work and lounge to tunes by Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean, jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.



Mingling clubbers find the top-40 dance tunes irresistible at hot spot Atlas Dance.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+. •Oct. 4: St. Germain.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
Resident DJs Massi mans the turntables and spins house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $10, 19+; $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas, 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Tundra
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinns NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adilson, 10pm, 18+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music. The game show, Wheel of Adventure, gives clubbers the chance to win cash, get spanked or hang out with an Avaland dancer, 10pm, $15, 19+. •Sept. 28: Long Beach Dub Allstars.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance tunes and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Drag; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
The Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

International Lounge
Vertigo DJ A. Rossi and DJ Peter Souhleris spin Latin dance early, progressive house and top hits, 11pm. Cocktails and free hors d'oeuvres before 10pm, 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
The Roxy Guest DJs spin at this third-floor dance party.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Sangria, Sunsets and Salsa
Sophia's Dance on the roof deck to live music from 4:30-9pm. DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor, and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Glitzed-out club-hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Sugar Shack
High-energy house, trance and hip-hop spun by DJ Massi rev up this club, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
After-work lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.
Trattoria II Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.
An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.
Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.
Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.
Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.
Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.
Cherry
SW1 The ultimate sensory experience sponsored by Jingo's Playhouse with DJ Tari and guests, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.
Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.
Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Envy
DJ Tom Baxter blasts out top-40, house and dance music, 9pm, free before 10pm, $5, 21+.
Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.
Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special-guest DJs, 10pm, 21+. •Sept. 29, John Debo of Axis is guest DJ.
Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.
The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.
Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.
NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco tracks and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.
Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.
R&B Lounge
Vertigo DJ Ron spins R&B, hip-hop and light house at this elegant R&B night, 10:30pm, 21+.
The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.
Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.
Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.
Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins high-energy progressive house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Summer Shamrock Saturday
The Purple Shamrock DJ Joshua Carl spins new and old-school hip-hop with a touch of house, $5, 21+.
Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.
Trattoria II Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.
X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

Boom Boom Room
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney mixes '60s and hip-hop.
Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Brazil to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins international house, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Living Room
Aria DJ Raffi spins international house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins great reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.
100% Flava
The Purple Shamrock Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop with guest DJs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:15pm, no cover, 21+.
Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.
Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Touch
Aer Guest DJs provide deep, soulful house, 10pm.
Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.
Trattoria II Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.
Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.
WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Cafe *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Club Zen *131 Clarendon St., Boston (508-472-1170). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Envy *25 Boylston Place, Boston (617-542-3689). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (617-292-2333). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (617-576-6260).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Trattoria II Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*



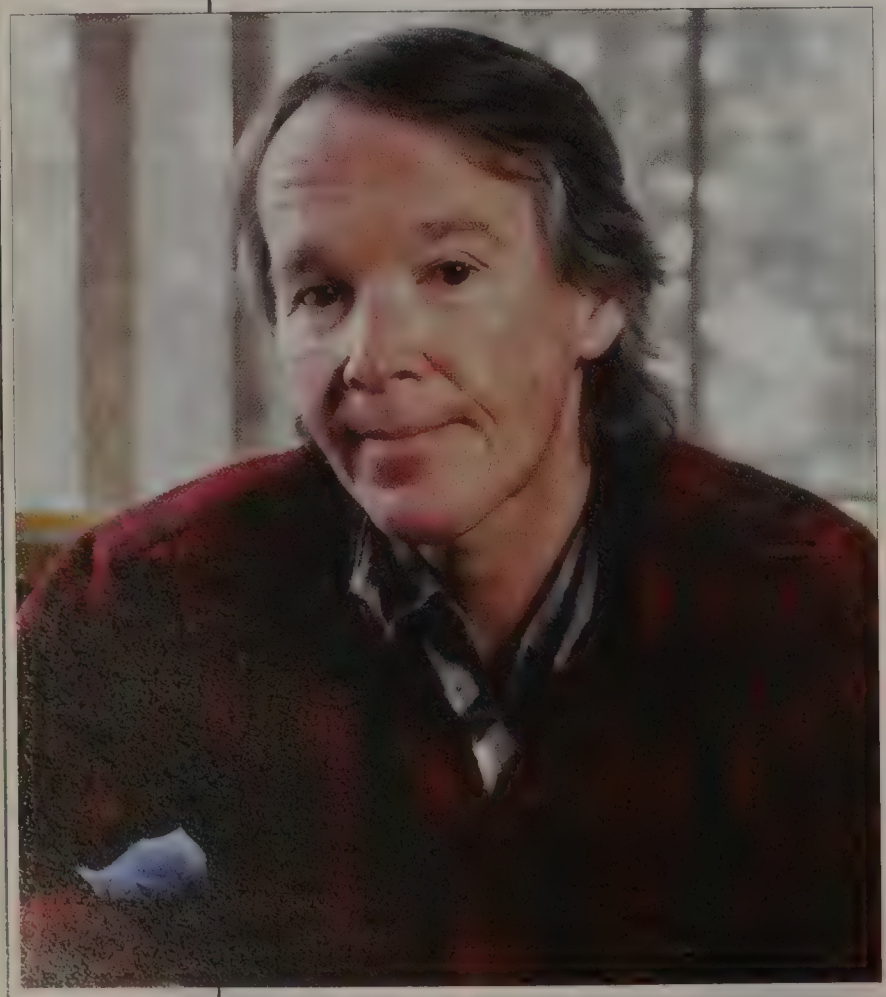
BILL AND TED'S WRITING ADVENTURE

Scribes doubling as musicians mull the difference between straight prose and songs. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

A character sits in a hotel and imparts, "Tonight, I'm just too drunk to pray. She said that she'd always love me, but that she might not always stay." The scene could easily come from a novel, but it's from "23rd Street," the first song on *Something I Saw or Thought I Saw*, the latest CD from Bill Morrissey.

New England native Morrissey is one of the most literary craftsmen in contemporary folk, earning Grammy nominations along the way for 1993's *Friends of Mine* (a collaboration with Greg Brown) and 1999's *Songs of Mississippi John Hurt*. But Morrissey also became a published novelist with 1996's Edson, and just submitted his second novel to his agent.

"It's similar in some ways, different in others," Morrissey says of writing a novel as opposed to a song. "Music plays a big part in my fiction, because when I write a paragraph, I read it out loud. I want to hear it and feel the rhythm, because a sentence should have a certain rhythm."



Bill Morrissey finds two creative outlets as a rocker and a writer.

"Songwriting gives such little time to evoke," he muses from his New Hampshire home. "With fiction, you have room to walk around a bit and explain from different angles. A lot of fiction I like is very straightforward, and that has had an effect on my lyrics too. Say what you mean, and get out."

In general, Morrissey says of the contrast, "It isn't a far stretch, because I've been pretty lyric-focused with songs for years. So I'm always thinking about words and language and how things work. It just feels very natural."

"There are a lot of musicians who are wonderful visual artists, and it might depend on what kind of musician you are," adds Morrissey, 49, who first picked up the guitar at age 14 specifically to write songs. "You can do two things. Some songwriters are more focused on melody and things. I'm concerned with melody and structure, but I'm basically a storyteller."

Guitar playing was also an initial focus for Ted Drozdowski, who wears two hats as a songwriter for Boston rockers the Devil Gods and as an award-winning music journalist who has also penned liner notes for CDs—including Morrissey's latest.

Likewise, Drozdowski found that his past and current writing experiences helped his music. "I'd actually always written poetry on the side, so to make the leap from poetry to lyrics was pretty easy," says the East Boston resident, who cites his experience writing Kurt Cobain tribute "Blue Eyed Son" for previous band Vision Thing in 1994 as a turning point.

"That song was when I turned a page and actually began to believe more in inspiration than perspiration," says Drozdowski, 43, a former editor at *Musician* magazine and the *Boston Phoenix* whose blues writings in particular earned him a 1998 W.C. Handy Award for "Keeping the Blues Alive."

"If I'm doing a feature, I like to have at least a week of gathered materials or thoughts to chew on for a while, and then write it all in one shot, even over two days," he says. "I know a lot of people who sit down and work at songs, but I just need to have an idea come and hit me out of the air. And I've come to accept that way of working when it comes to songwriting, while, obviously, I can turn the journalism on and off."

"After the inspiration part is done, there always has to be a little bit of craft," adds Drozdowski, who recently co-wrote "New Vietnam Blues," sung by Irma Thomas on local bluesman Ronnie Earl's latest CD. "But the older I get, it seems, the less honing each of these songs require."

Editing is key for Morrissey's songwriting as well, but as the folk singer says, "I've been doing this for 30 years, so a lot of it is very intuitive. It's like chefs not having to measure how much spice to put in something."

Of his musical vignettes and his novels, which both reflect blue-collar America in crisp detail, Morrissey says, "The stories are character-driven, and there's a strong sense of place." But while some characters hit close to home (like the mill-town musician in Edson, or men dealing with broken relationships in songs written after Morrissey's own divorce), he says, "I look at all characters as fiction, even if they go through some of the things I've gone through. It gives me firsthand knowledge, but maybe they don't react in the same way I do, because they're different people."

"It's like the difference between running the 440 and a marathon," Morrissey says of his jobs. "When you're writing something that's novel-length, you've got to maintain your rhythm and stay focused for one-and-a-half or two years. I don't write a lot of songs when I'm working on a novel." iB

Bill Morrissey and Ted Drozdowski

Bill Morrissey plays Club Passim Oct. 3. Devil Gods and John Sinclair play the Squawk Coffeehouse, Harvard Epworth Methodist Church, Oct. 11.



Jonatha Brooke gives a solo acoustic show Sept. 28 at the Somerville Theatre. Other performers are Suzanne Vega and Patty Larkin.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

American HiFi with Phantom Planet
Oct. 6, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Nikka Costa
Oct. 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Neil Diamond
Oct. 2-3, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
Directions in Music with Herbie Hancock, Michael Brecker and Roy Hargrove
Oct. 7, Symphony Hall (617-876-7777)
Dropkick Murphys, Sick of It All and Tiger Army
Oct. 6, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
Lifehouse with the Calling and Michelle Branch
Sept. 26, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Long Beach Dub Allstars
Sept. 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Danielo Perez and The Motherland Project with Chico Hamilton and Euphoria
Sept. 29, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000)
Reel Big Fish and Goldfinger
Oct. 3, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Bobby Short and His Orchestra
Oct. 4-6, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562-4111)
Sisters in Spirit, featuring Yolanda Adams, Shirley Caesar, Mary May and Virtue
Oct. 2, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
311
Oct. 4, Tsongas Arena (617-931-2000)
Travis
Oct. 5, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Wilco
Oct. 2, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30pm.
Axis The Stroke and Moldy Peaches, 8pm, $10, 18+.
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and Distant Relatives with Boatyard Resin, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Bert Seager, 5-7:30pm; Doug Johnson, 8-11:30pm.
Club Passim Katy Moffat, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, no cover, 21+.

LEFT: TONEE HARBER

The Place

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AFTER WORK

MONDAY
Monday Night Football
Hosted by Butch Stearns
and Scott Zolak!

TUESDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
Nate Watkins

WEDNESDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
Undercover

THURSDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
Greg Lutrell

FRIDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
John McLaughlin

SATURDAY
College Football
All games on satellite!

EVENTS

SUNDAY
NFL Tailgate Brunch and
Bloody Mary Bar


Guys enjoying all the satellite games and Sunday Tailgate Brunch.

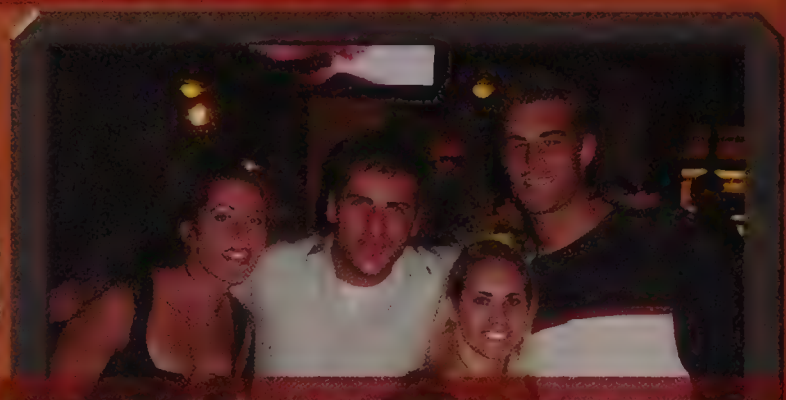

Bartender Amanda and friends

This month, new beginnings are what's most important.


GOD BLESS AMERICA

Our hearts and prayers go out to the families and all of America in the wake of this great tragedy.

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Improper Bostonian


GUEST BARTENDERS

Celebrity bartenders ESPN's Steve Levy and former BC star John Beerbohm with bartenders Christina and Wendy

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NIGHTLY

SUNDAY
NFL Football Party
and dancing

MONDAY
9pm-Close
Monday Night Football

TUESDAY
Bar Industry Night w/
Half Off Pizzas after 10

WEDNESDAY
10pm-Close
Mystique Models

THURSDAY
10pm-Close
Martini Madness

FRIDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP

SATURDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP


Owner SJ with reps from Budweiser on Bar Industry Tuesdays.


Ladies love Martini Madness every Thursday at The Place!

Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls.
Harper's Ferry Project Z and Monte Montgomery, $15, 18+.
Hennessy's Johnny Bahama and Me and Julio.
House of Blues B-Side Players, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Boston Blues Festival Kickoff, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Pure Fiction, Emily Cox and Felicia Brady, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Herman Johnson Quartet, 9pm-1am, no cover.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
Middle East U: Tunnel of Love, The Apes and the Liars, $7, 18+. C: Belly Dancing.
Milky Way Mercury Deep House, Soul, Groove and Liquid Fusion, 9pm, no cover.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk and Traditional Singers Club, 9pm, 21+.
Paradise Sarah Harmer, 8pm, $12, 18+.
The Phoenix Landing DJ Shannon Shalako, Chuck Caseroc, Dave Skye, $5, 19+.
The Rack Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Tomo Fujita's Blue Funk, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers George Russell Jr., 8 and 10 pm, $15.
Sky Bar Fink Fank Funk and Ten Degree Chill, 9:30pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg Mick Lawlor, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Stephanie Wremble, 7-9pm; Ray Mason and Charlie Chesterman, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Centre of Gravity, Nikulydin, Stem and Bully Pulpit, 9pm, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, SEPT. 27

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30pm.
The Attic The Modeles and God Fearing Man, 7pm.
Bill's Bar The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton and Controlled Aggression with Drinkfist and Luxx, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5-7:30pm; Doug Johnson, 8-11:30pm.
Club Passim Zubot & Dawson, James Keeleghan, 8pm, $12/$10.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park and Danny Tucker and The Vibe Tribe, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Warren Wolf Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Spitting Vinnies.
Harper's Ferry Slipknot, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane.
House of Blues Garaj Mahal, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Munk CD-release and See Peoples, 9pm.
Kendall Cafe Andrea Florian, The Hopkins and Franc Graham, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Linwood Syphilloids, The High-Steppin' Nickel Kids and The Blue Bloods, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: The Red Telephone, the Halogens, Fooled by April and Brian Gottesman, $7, 18+. D: Supersuckers, Zeke and Black Halos, $10, 18+. C: Board of Education.
Milky Way Loop Dreams, 9pm, $10.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
Paradise Pete Francis, 9pm, $15, 18+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Eddie, 21+.
Regattabar The Dave Holland Quintet with Robin Eubanks, Chris Potter, Steve Nelson and Billy Kilson, 8pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Giana, 8pm, $7; Temporada Latina, 8:30pm.
Scullers Acoustic Alchemy, 8 and 10pm, $18.
Sky Bar Travelling Matt, Flying Lessons and On the Drop, 9:30pm, no cover.
Somerville Theatre Keller Williams, 8pm, $17.50.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7-9pm; The Grandsons, 10pm, no cover.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio with Joel Smith and Peter Moutis, 8:30pm-12:30am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Wave, Hurricane Lamps and Fivehead, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

Atrium Lounge David Phillip, 5:15-8:45; Bert Seager Piano Jazz Trio, 9pm-12am.
Bill's Bar Flynn CD-release show with Labb, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5-7:30pm; Suzanne Davis Trio, 8:30pm-12am.
Club Passim Kevin So, 8pm, $15.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Garment District Middle East Presents: Trans Am, The Fucking Champs, Pines of Nowhere, $10, all ages.
Good Life Cambridge Izzi Rozen, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Classic Trax.
The Harp Peatmoss and the Fertilizers.
Harper's Ferry Dan Rockett CD-release show.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30pm; DJ Brian, 9-1:30pm.
House of Blues Jeff Pitchell, 10pm, $10, 21+.



The Supersuckers take time out of their eternal tour to sneer at Cain's Ballroom in Tulsa.

Preview

Long Live Rock & Roll

The Supersuckers are on the road again...naturally

In 1999, a greatest-hits album was released on Seattle's notorious indie label Sub Pop called *How The Supersuckers Became the Greatest Rock & Roll Band in the World*. The title invited criticism—but the music on the album defied it. People who had never heard of the Supersuckers shook their heads in confusion, while the group's legions of fans sighed and chuckled, "It's about time."

To say that the Supersuckers are a "rock and roll band" is to over-simplify, but that classification sums up their sound fairly accurately. Their music is deceptively simple rock and roll. It's played fast, loud, energetically, and with wry wit from the gutter and liquor-addled passion from the heart, soul and liver.

Rooted in rock music's triumvirate of undesirable elements—punk, country and heavy metal—the listener can be forgiven for imagining that their songs came out of a garage containing the Ramones, Judas Priest and Willie Nelson. And yet, with the power of singer/bassist Eddie Spaghetti's sneering, nasal yowl, and the high-intensity hi-jinks and wisecracks of the band's live sets, it's impossible to mistake the Supersuckers for anyone else.

The Supersuckers have been burning up stages large and small for more than a decade. They show no signs of fading away—their credo "on tour through the year 3000" gets easier and easier to believe as the years go by and the band rocks faster and louder, and one gets the feeling that the Supersuckers will never, ever die. *See them downstairs at the Middle East Sept. 27. 471 Mass. Ave, Cambridge (617-864-3278). $10. —Timothy Nichols*

Johnny D's James Montgomery, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Lucky 57, The Splendid Nobodies and John Hayden and Ten Worlds, $5, 9:30pm, 21+.
Limbo Langston "Skip" Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Lizard Lounge The Control Group, Favorite Atomic Hero, Motor Betty, Paddington, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: The VUE, Black Eyed Snakes, Shake Dog Shake and Sona Nyl, $7, 18+. D: Uncle Sammy and Ulu, $12, 18+. C: Molly Venobia.
Milky Way Holly Golightly and Kittymonkey, 9pm, $10.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
Paradise Robert Randolph, 9pm, $10, 18+.
PJ Ryan's Dave Foley, 9pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Velvet Jones, $5.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Dave Holland Quintet with Robin Eubanks, Chris Potter, Steve Nelson and Billy Kilson, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 11pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Thaddeus Hogarth, 9pm, $9.
Sanders Theatre Kevin Mahogany and Wanetta Jackson with Frank Wilkins and George W. Russell, 8pm, $20-$25.
Scullers Acoustic Alchemy, 8 and 10:30pm, $20.
Sky Bar Silver Son, Buck 50 and Nemochrome, 9:30pm, no cover.
Toad Mayone Thing, no cover.
Top of the Hub Salim Washington and Mark Greel with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Helicopter Helicopter, AdFrank & The Fast, Easy Women, the Douglas Fir and Calendar Girl, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 29

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30 pm.
The Attic Maries Children with The Patty Medina Band, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Bill's Bar Jaya the Cat CD-release show, 7pm.
Black Horse Tavern Becky Chace Band.
Bristol Lounge Alfredo Cardim, 5-7:30pm; Doug Johnson, 8-11:30 pm.
Club Passim Kevin So, 7pm and 10pm, $15/$13..
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzalez Band, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Return.
The Harp Peatmoss and the Fertilizers.
Hennessy's Irish Session, 4-7:30pm; DJ Bill, 9-1:30pm.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-11pm.
Kirkland Cafe Melvern taylor, Mike Plume Band and Todd Thibaud, 9pm, $8, 21+.
Limbo Jim Bridges Trio, 9pm-1am.
Lizard Lounge Robin Lane & The Chartbusters, Asa Brebner's Idle Hands and The Band That Time Forgot, 9pm, $12.
Middle East U: The Frogs, Suspect Device and Skyrocket, $9, 18+. D: Cracktorch, The Damn Personals, Lost City Angels, Placer and The Humanoids, $8, 18+. C: Jonathan Donaldson and Friends.
Milky Way Mangois Latin Dance Club, 8pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth, 9:30pm, 21+.


Garaj Mahal, an incredible new project by guitar virtuoso Fareed Haque, perform at the House of Blues Sept. 27. Tickets are $10. 10pm, 18+.

JAY BLAKES



British "trad-rock" band Travis return to Boston Oct. 5 to play at the Orpheum Theatre.

Paradise Alex Chilton, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Porters Bar and Grill Empty Head, $5.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Dave Holland Quintet with Robin Eubanks, Chris Potter, Steve Nelson and Billy Kilson, 8 and 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Hot Like Fire, 11pm, $8.
Ryles Jazz Club Gospel Brunch, 10am-2pm, $15; Megawatt Blues Crushers, 9pm, $9.
Sky Bar Car Crash Show, Major Major, The Audiants and Words for Snow, 9:30pm, no cover.
Toad Trailer Park, no cover.
Top of the Hub Ron Murphy with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Auktyon and Bossa Noga, 9:30pm, $25, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

Atrium Lounge Nancy West, 5:30-7:30 pm.
The Attic The Coal Burners
Bill's Bar DJ K-Don, Bob Marley Tribute, 10pm, $10.
Bristol Lounge Alfred Cardim, 5-7:30pm; Doug Johnson, 8-11:30pm.
The Burren Sheffer Stevens and Brenda Weiler, 8-10pm, no cover.
Club Passim EartHeart, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort New Revelations and the Rob Gonzalez Band, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swinging Johnsons.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon and Friends, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's The Martini Brothers, 5-8pm.
House of Blues Back to Old School Night, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa dancing, 9pm.
Limbo Jacques Chenier Trio, 9pm-1am, no cover.
Middle East Balla Tounkara and Noah Maltsberger, 1pm.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Power Surge, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Trio, 10:30am.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz Brunch, 10am-3pm; Amazon Poetry Slam, 7:30pm, $8.
Tir na nÓg Johnny Come Latelies, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm-12am, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Drunk in July, Mancie, The Connection and Jack's Smirking Revenge, 9pm, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, OCT. 1

Bill's Bar Monsta Mondays with DJ Kapt Krunch, Playing Enemy with The Machete, 9pm, 18+.
Club Passim O-Mike Night featuring Sarah Siskind, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort God Fearing Man, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry Paved Country, 18+.
Julien Bar Jeffery Moore, 5-10pm.
Limbo Joel La Rue Smith Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Elephant Men, $7, 18+. C: Tom Bianchi.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with S.J. Torres and DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bo Barringer, Jeremy Meserve and Josh French, $3, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, OCT. 2

Avalon Wilco, 8pm, $20.25, 18+.
Club Passim O-Mike Night, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Susana Seivane, 8:30pm.
Kendall Cafe Tin Hat Trio, $5, 21+.
Limbo Bill Duffy Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Benefit for Boston Mobilization. D: Quasi, Shannon Wright, Magic Magician, $10, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack Megalodon Jazz, 6-10pm; DJ Richie Fingers, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Lello Molinari Project with George Garzone, Jeff Galindo, Frank Carlberg, Mick Goodrick, Bob Gullotti & Chiara Civello, 8:30pm, $12.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Coalescent Blais, David Singer & the Sweet Science and The Also Rans, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 3

Bill's Bar Funck and Groove with DJ Tim Collins, Little Horse with guests, 9pm, $7, 18+
The Burren Lúnasa, 21+.
Club Passim Richard Gates Benefit with Louise Taylor, Jim Henry, Deb Pasternak and Bill Morrissey, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
Harper's Ferry Aberdeen, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Johnny Bahama with Me and Julio.
House of Blues Merl Saunders.
Johnny D's Randy Weeks, Phill Lee and Dwayne Jarvis, 8:30pm.
Limbo Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 8pm, no cover.





Ska-punk rockers Goldfinger come to Avalon to play on Oct. 3. Call 617-423-NEXT for tickets.

Middle East C: Belly Dancing.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk and Traditional Singers Club, 9pm, 21+.
The Rack Star 93.7 with Michael Knight and The Return, 6-10pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Greg Hopkins Jazz Orchestra, 8:30pm, $12.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Raymond, Catch a Fly, Lach and Bowman, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, OCT. 4

The Attic October Sons.
Avalon St. Germain, 7:30pm, $25.25, 18+.
Bill's Bar The Underground w/ DJ Mark Hamilton, Waltham with Huge and Fast Acting Fuses, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's JoseRamos & The Special Blend, 7:30pm, $6.
Club Passim Oen Kennedy, Anne Heaton, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Weeepin Willie, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jesse Ciarmataro Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry K-Floor, Seeking Homer.
House of Blues Moonraker.
Johnny D's Dennis Brennan, Laurie Sargent, Rust Farm and Maybe Baby, 9pm, $12.
Kirkland Cafe Bender, Consider This, Lincoln Conspiracy, James Kinne, 8pm, $5.
Kendall Cafe Jenny Reynolds, $5, 21+.
Limbo Jacques Chenier Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Ass Ponys, Ray Mason, Lucky and the Bastards, $7, 18+. D: Big Jos and MF Doom, $18, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 and the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30, 21+.
Regattabar The Bruce Katz Band, 8:30pm, $12.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Nationale Blue, Ruby Lashes, The Cignal and the Panda Squad, $6, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, OCT. 5

The Attic Dennis Brennan and the John Cate Band, 9pm, $6.
Bill's Bar Missing Joe with the Jaded Salingers and Mary Prankster, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30 pm, $6.
Club Passim Tim Mason, SONiA CD-release, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band and Soul City, 6pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Booty Juice, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Foxtrot Zulu, $8, 21+.
House of Blues David Maxwell.
Johnny D's Andre Williams, 9:45pm.
Kirkland Cafe Club Boho Rock & Roll Revue with Lashes, Downbeat 5, Stars Underground, Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8pm, $5.
Limbo Lance Martin, 9pm, no cover.
Middle East U: K and Lenola, $8, 18+D: Tree CD-release, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
Paradise Ryan Adams, 9pm, $15, 18+.
The Rack Central Basement, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Mark Turner Quartet featuring Kurt Rosenwinkel, 8 and 10pm, $14.
Rhythm & Spice Dis 'n' Dat, 11pm, $8.
Scullers Buddy Short and His Orchestra, 8 and 10:30pm, $40.
Top of the Hub Artie Montanaro with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Robbie Fulks and Fred Eaglesmith, $10, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

Axis Gold Frapp, 7pm, $10, 18+.
Bill's Bar Mappari, 7pm, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, $6.
Club Passim Paul Rishnell and Annie Raines, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band and Ricky & The Giants, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Sugarcoat, 21+.
House of Blues Kenny Neal.
Johnny D's Johnny Johnson, 9:45pm.
Kendall Cafe Beaver Nelson and Betty Dylan, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Alon Yavanai Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Northeast Brewing Co. Paulo Denay, 10:30am.
Paddy Burke's Pub Dave Smyth and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar Mili Bermejo and Claudio Ragazzi: Noches Argentinas, 7 and 9:30 pm, $14.
Rhythm & Spice Jamm Down, 11pm, $8.
Sanders Theatre Yat-Kha, 8pm, $20.
Scullers Buddy Short and his .Orchestra, 8 and 10:30pm, $40.
Top of the Hub Matt Langley with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Xygoatz and The Flux, $6, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

Axis Bis, 8pm, $10, 18+.
Bill's Bar Sister Carol and Jr. Jazz, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Sunday Jazz Brunch with Nat Simpkins' B3 Jazz Trio, 11am-3:00pm, no cover.
The Burren Christie Leigh and Dan Blakeslee, 8-10pm, no cover.
Club Passim Jon Svetkey, 7:30pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers and Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
House of Blues Neil Innes.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba Nama, 9pm.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Beulah and Mates of State, $7, 18+. D: Substance: Scissorkiss, Project Sphere, A.E.C, Platform One, Jason from Incus and BTU, 8pm, $8, 18+. C: Balla Tounkara and Noah Maltsberger, 1pm, no cover.
Northeast Brewing Co. Paulo Denay, 10:30am.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Directions in Music honoring Miles Davis and John Coltrane with Herbie Hancock, Michael Brecker and Roy Hargrove with John Patitucci and Brian Blade, 7:30pm, $25-$35.
Sanders Theatre David Grisman Quintet, 8pm, $28.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.



On Sept. 30 at the Hatch Shell, Sugar Ray & The Bluetones play with other blues greats.

Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, OCT. 8

Avalon Waterboys, 8pm, $25, 18+.
Bill's Bar Monsta Mondays with DJ Kapt Krunch, Sworn Enemy with Sky Came Falling, From Autumn to Ashes and One Shining Moment, 9pm, 18+.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Limbo Ferdinando Argenti, 8pm, no cover.
Middle East U: Explosions in the Sky, $7, 18+. C: Tom Bianchi.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night hosted by S.J. Torres with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
The Roxy Latin Dance Music, 10pm-2am, $10. International and House Music, 10:30-2am, $15. Top 40 and club classics, 9pm-2am, $15.
Top of the Hub Mart Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, OCT. 9

Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Hennessy's The Martini Brosthers' karoke.
Johnny D's Stephanie Corby, 8:30pm.
Limbo Perry Rossi Group, 8pm, no cover.
Middle East U: The Handsome Family and Amor Belhom Duo, $7, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack Dick 'n' Jane, 6-10pm; DJ Richie Fingers, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Dead Cat Bounce, 8:30pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Grift, the Autumn Rhythm, Renata and the Good North, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (617-964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent *21 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100).*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*

BOTTOM: RANDY SANTOS



California ska-punk band Reel Big Fish visits Avalon Oct. 3 .

Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Garment District *200 Broadway, Cambridge (617-876-5230). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
Maison Robert *45 School St. Boston. (617-227-3370). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Colombus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston. (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*



Portland, Oregon-based Indie-pop duo Quasi play downstairs at the Middle East Oct. 2. Also playing are Shannon Wright and Magic Magician. Tickets are $10, and the show is 18+.

BOTTOM: JOHN CLARK



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Soulliers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Somerville Theater *55 Davis Sq., Somerville (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Orange or Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351- COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

advance seating

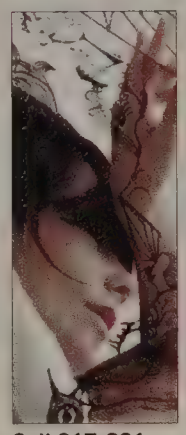
THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON

Tori Amos Oct. 15-16, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
The Donnas Oct 11, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800)
Margaret Cho Oct. 20, Wang Center (617-931-2000)
Chuck Leavell, Gov't Mule and **Oteil Burbridge**, Oct. 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Femi Kuti Nov. 5, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Maxwell Oct. 18, Wang Center (617-931-2000).
Megadeath Oct. 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).

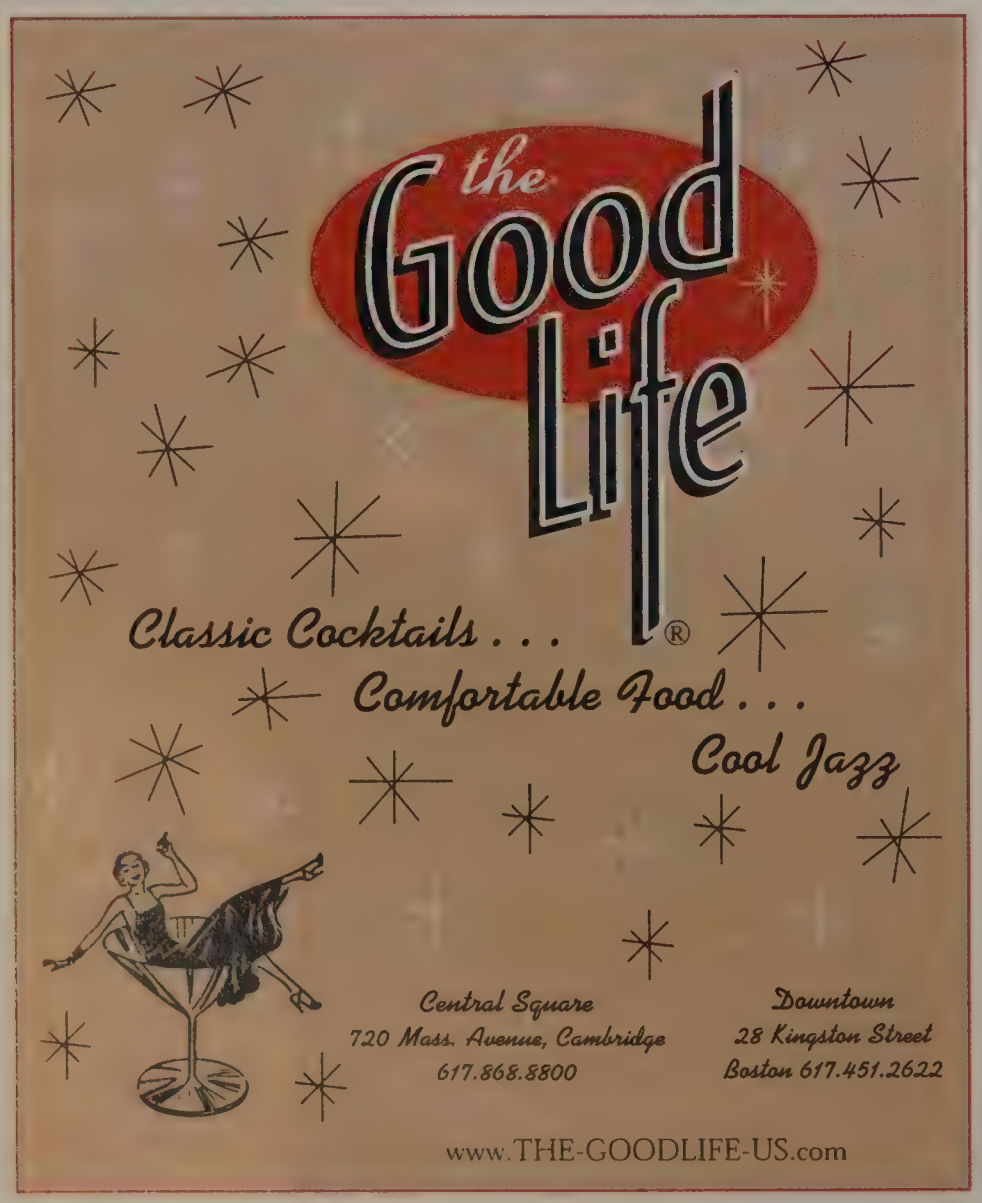


Get Bob Dylan tickets at 617-931-2000 for the Nov. 24 show.

Social Distortion Nov. 9 and 10, Axis (617-423-NEXT); Nov. 11, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
Soulive Nov. 8 and 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
Stereolab Nov. 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Suzanne Vega Nov. 14, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
The Black Crowes Oct. 30 and 31, Orpheum (617-931-2000).
Alice Cooper Nov. 1, Orpheum (617-931-2000).
Long Beach Dub Allstars Sept. 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).



Call 617-931-2000 for concert tickets to Bjork.



classical music

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26

Triple Helix Beethoven Festival
Jewett Auditorium, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). 12:30-2:15pm. Free. A lecture titled "From Tongue-In-Cheek to Chuckle: The Nature of Wit in Piano Trios of Haydn and Beethoven" precedes a performance by Triple Helix.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 28

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 8pm. The BCO's 22nd season kicks off with violinist Marylou Speaker Churchill as the featured soloist. Steven Lipsitt directs and conducts.

Jeanne Baxtresser Flute Forum
New England Conservatory, St. Botolph Hall, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-585-1122). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. 3-6pm. Baxtresser lectures about major orchestral flute solos with a focus on tone, musical style, accuracy of rhythm and interpretation.

Noon Hour Organ Concert Series
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (617-536-0944, ext. 212). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:15pm. Free. Peter Stolfus performs.

Piano Performance Seminar
New England Conservatory, Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1100). 9:30-11:30am. $15. William and Lynn Porter give today's lecture, "The Enlightened Object."

SUNDAY, SEPT. 30

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 3pm. Same program as Sept. 28. A pre-concert lecture by Mary Ann Nichols takes place at 2pm.

Boston Museum Trio Concert
Museum of Fine Art, 4654 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3770). 3pm. The Boston Museum Trio plays a program titled *Bach Series I: Bach and Buxtehude.*

Gloriæ Dei Cantores Concert
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-536-2412). 3pm. $10-$30. Violinist Mark O'Connor performs with Gloriæ Dei Cantores. Elizabeth Patterson directs.

Great Hall Concert
Shirley-Eustis House, 33 Shirley St., Roxbury (617-442-2275). 2pm. $7. The trio Saltarello performs a program titled *A Musical Banquet.* A reception and house tour of the historic Shirley-Eustis house follows the concert.

Organ Concert
Church of the Covenant, Newbury and Berkeley streets, Boston (617-266-7480). 3pm. Organist Kent Trittle performs.

Triple Helix Beethoven Festival
Jewett Auditorioum, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2028). 7:30pm. Free. The Triple Helix piano trio celebrates Beethoven. At 7pm, Princeton Professor Scott Burnham gives a pre-concert lecture titled "First Assertions: Beethoven's Op. 1 Piano Trios."

Weekly Bach Cantata
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). 10am. The orchestra and chorus of Emmanuel Music, conducted by Craig Smith, perform Bach.

World Music Concert: Masters of Indian Music
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-876-4275). 7:30pm. $20-$40. Zakir Hussain, L. Shankar and T. H. Vinayakram perform classical Indian music.

MONDAY, OCT. 1

First Monday at Jordan Hall
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. NEC President Emeritus Laurence Lesser assembles NEC faculty and friends every first Monday of the month for a concert.

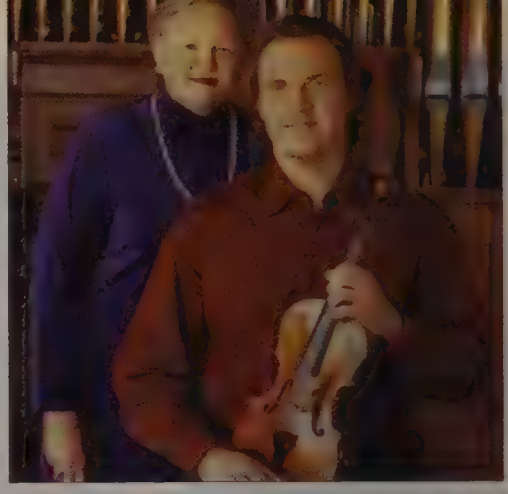
Longy School of Music Concert
Pickman Hall, 30 Follen St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. Free. Pianist Jeoung-Hye Han performs.

TUESDAY, OCT. 2

Boston Symphony Orchestra Opening Night
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617- or 888-266-1200). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 6:30pm. The 2000-2001 season salutes Seiji Ozawa, celebrating his final season as BSO music director. Actress Blythe Danner narrates and soprano Dawn Upshaw and mezzo-soprano Susan Graham are featured guests. Ozawa directs; John Oliver conducts.

Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-5800). 12:15pm. $2 donation. Mark Englehardt performs on the organ.

NEC Faculty Recital
New England Conservatory, St. Botolph Hall, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Scott Sandvik performs.



Violinist Mark O'Connor performs on Sept. 30.

THURSDAY, OCT. 4

MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, Opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). 12pm. Free. Ronald Dynneson performs.

NEC Jazz Masters Residency Program
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Pianist and composer Mulgrew Miller opens the series.

FRIDAY, OCT. 5

Boston Music Viva: Of Time and the Seasons
Tsai Performance Center, Boston University, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-354-6910). 8pm. $10-$25. Boston Music Viva performs. Featured soprano, Lucy Shelton.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617- or 888-266-1200). 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts Peter Serkin on piano in an all-Brahms program.

Music for Viols and Friends
Lindsay Chapel, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (617-776-0692). 8pm. $14. Poema Harmonica performs a program titled *Unconstant Love: The Music of Alfonso Ferrabosco I and II.*

NEC Honors Orchestra
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Richard Hoenich conducts the NEC Honors Orchestra.

Noon Hour Organ Concert Series
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (617-536-0944, ext. 212). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:15pm. Free. Brian Jones performs.

Piano Performance Seminar
New England Conservatory, Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1100). 9:30-11:30am. $15. Today's lecture is titled "Divining Diminutions: Exploring Schenkerian Heraing and Performance," with Gerald Zartisky.

SATURDAY, OCT. 6

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617- or 888-266-1200). 8pm. Same program as Oct. 5.

Music at the Immaculate
Immaculate Conception Church, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-536-8440). 8pm. $10 donation. Esterhazy Quartet performs.

SUNDAY, OCT. 7

Brookline Library Music Association Concert
St. Paul's Church, 15 St. Paul St., Brookline. MBTA: C Green Line to St. Paul. 2:30pm. Free. Pianist Miyuki Otani performs.

Early Music Concert: Unconstant Love
Somerville Museum, Central Street and Westwood Road, Somerville (617-666-9810). 3pm. $8. Poema Harmonico performs.

MIT Heritage of South Asia Concert
Wong Auditorium, MIT Tang Center, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge (617-258-7971). 4pm. $17, adults; $10, students. Veena Sahasrabuddhe, Kedar Naphade and Shantilah Shah perform classical Indian music.

Weekly Bach Cantata
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). 10am. The orchestra and chorus of Emmanuel Music, conducted by Craig Smith, perform Bach.

TUESDAY, OCT. 9

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617- or 888-266-1200). 8pm. Same program as Oct. 5.

RIGHT: MICHAEL LUTCH

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (617-859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Weds.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+. Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. The following authors will be reading from their recent works: •Sept. 30, 3:00 pm: Becky Thompson reads from *A Promise and a Way of Life: White Antiracist Activism* with guests Fran Smith and Maggie Nolan Donovan. •Oct. 2, 7pm: Emily Prager reads from her book *Wuhu Diary.* •Oct. 5, 7pm: Activists Kim Westheimer and Jeff Perrotti read from *When the Drama Club Is Not Enough.*

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Dyke Night at the Midway Cafe
3496 Washington St., Jamacia Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Sept. 29, 10pm-2am. Check out the CD-release party for Sister Funk, a five-piece all-female band that plays funk, R&B and original dance music.



French film *The Girl* screens at the Brattle.

Fenway Community Health Workshops
132 Brookline Ave., Third Floor, Boston (617-927-6350). Take advantage of the many upcoming lectures. •Sept. 29, 9am-5pm: Safer Sex, HIV/AIDS and Outreach. •Sept. 30, 9am-5pm: Working with Groups.

The Girl
The Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837). MBTA Red Line to Harvard. Sept. 28-29, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm. Acclaimed lesbian writer Monique Wittig's fascinating film *The Girl* is about two women and the affair that entwines them. Involving attraction, seduction and violence, this film is a festival favorite.

Miss Gay Boston Pageant 2001
Jacques Cabaret, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 28, 10pm-12am. Reservations suggested. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, gives up her title tonight at Boston's biggest pageant held at Boston's drag headquarters. Registration forms available at Jacques Cabaret and *www.diamonddunhill.com.*

Out on the Edge: Festival of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Theater
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Sept. 29. $22. •Sept. 28-29, 7pm: *Holy Shit! Stories from Heaven and Hell.* •Sept. 27, 8pm; Sept. 28-29, 9pm: *Higher Highs, Lower Lows.*

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(617-508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for support and discussion with men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). Every first Tuesday, 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safter Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month, 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Community Rainbow
Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

FLAG Flag Football
(617-937-5858). Weekends. Join other gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexual friends of all skill levels to play recreational football. Visit *www.flagflagfootball.com* for information.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (617-822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(617-423-6881). Sundays, 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is a gay swim team.

Long Yang Club
(617-661-9165). Boston's club for Gay Asian Men and their friends bring the East and West together.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.OuttoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Monday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or by email to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 5, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10 requested donation. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the world's sacred traditions. Everyone is welcome. All dances are taught and accompanied by live music.

Messages from the Masters: Tapping Into the Power of Love
Omega Institute in Boston, Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (800-944-1001). www.omega-inst.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 29, 9am-5pm. $145.* This workshop with **Brian Weiss** is based on his new book, *Messages from the Masters*. He'll explore the latest in hypnotic regression therapy to find a new level of healing for our bodies, minds, spirits and relationships. Other techniques include healing visualization, as well as intuition and right-brain training.

Spiritual Art and Performance: One World, Many Lights
The Swedenborgian Chapel, 50 Quincy St., Cambridge (508-208-5259 or 617-864-4552). www.soulstirring.org. *Sept. 29, 7-9pm. $5.* Celebrate the positive. Visit this evening's presentation of original mystical art, poetry, story and song by local artists.

Ta Ke Ti Na: The Synergy of Flow & Pulse
Earth Drum Council, Cambridge Masonic Hall, 1950 Mass. Ave. Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.taketina.com *or* www.earthdrum.com. *Sept. 28-31. $325.* Master percussionist / composer **Reinhard Flatischler** and musician/teacher **Cornelia Flatischler** from Austria host this workshop to demonstrate how to engage the creative power of chaos with the interplay of structured and unstructured movement. This revolutionary way of understanding and teaching rhythm can transform the way we think, learn and behave.

Whole Life Expo and Conference: Quality Living in the New Millennium
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (800-551-3976). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. www.wholelife.com. *Sept. 28-30. $15 (general admission), $50 (for featured event or workshop).* Some 50 speakers will gather to provide their insight on natural health, personal development and sustainable living. There will be life-skills workshops taught by such notables as **Maya Angelou** and **Lama Surya Das**. See an earth-friendly fashion show too.

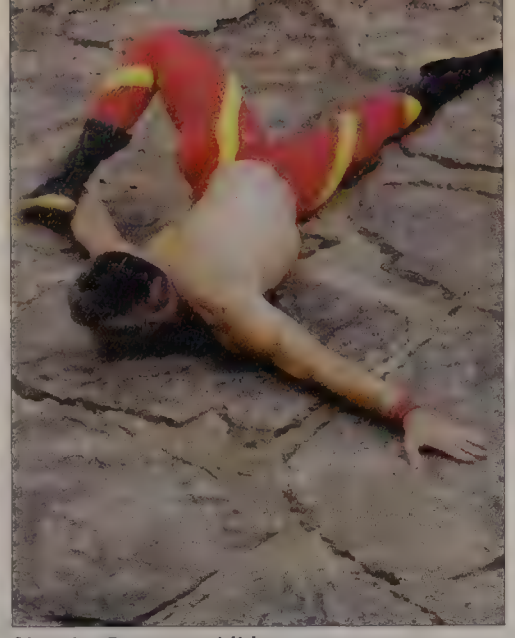
CLASSES

Alignment and the Asymmetric Body
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (617-666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Sept. 29, 1-5pm. $50.* Join yoga teacher **Karin Stephan** and neuromuscular therapist **Randy Payne** and learn how important body alignment is and ways to fix skeletal misalignment.

Body Intuition
John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place, Boston (781-891-8696 or 781-899-0648). Oct. 4, 7-10pm. $125. They say sickness is a signal from your body to let you know something is not right. Learn how to understand and respect these healing messages.

Feng Shui Astrology
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Oct. 3, 7-8:45pm. $15.* **Lidia Scher** is an award-winning interior designer and Feng Shui expert with a personal focus. She uses astrology to determine personality, character and social nature. These astrology basics are used to help assess career choices, schedule events and explore yourself and your relationships. After you've determined truths and goals, learn how to shape your environment to work best for you.

Healthy Skin at Any Age
Brookline Adult and Community Education, Brookline High, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line Brookline Hills. Oct. 10, 6:30-8:30pm. $31. Most of us want clear, smooth, evenly colored skin. However, most of us probably think chemical peels and botox injections are a bit extreme. Learn routines for healthy skin including proper diet and effective moisturizers.



Shandor Remete exhibits a yoga pose.

The K.I.S.S. Theory: Keeping It Safe and Sexy
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, Boston (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Sept. 30, 6:30-8:30pm. $10.* We are dating in a world of HIV and STDs. You may not have all the knowledge to keep yourself safe from infection. Wondering just what kind of condoms to get and how to talk to your partner about using them? In a safe and supportive atmosphere, the instructor will address the topic of safer sex, including how to keep it sensual and fun.

Psychic Skills for a Psychic Life
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Sept. 29, 10am-4pm. $87.* Develop skills to heighten your intuitive senses and learn their relevance to the psychic realm. These skills, taught by friendly expert **Mike Koran**, can help you learn, heal, gain clarity and connect with others.

Reaching Healthy Weight Through Self-Hypnosis
42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 3, 8-10pm. $33.* Our culture doesn't make it very easy to maintain an ideal body size. Weight loss isn't any easier. However, learning self-hypnosis techniques for developing new eating habits can take a lot of mental anguish out of the weight-loss process.

Yoga Workshop with Shandor Remete
Baptiste Power Yoga Institute, 2000 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-BOS-YOGA). www.bostonyoga.com/shandor.html. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Oct. 7-12.* Over the past four decades, Shandor has practiced, studied and researched common principles shared between yoga, martial arts, chi gong and the Ayurvedic and Siddha systems of medicine. He is the founder of Yoga of the Shadow School. Attend Shandor's only East Coast visit.

LECTURE

Sugar Blues
Bread & Circus Fresh Pond, 200 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-491-0040). Oct. 3, 6:30-8pm. Class includes an effective seven-step program for addressing sugar addiction.

ONGOING

Contact Improvisation Jam
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-320-9792) MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue., 8-10pm. $7-$10. Join three movement teachers, **Gene Broadway**, **Amy Dore** and **Patrick Crowley**, in a workshop that is freeing, exciting and an enjoyable way to dance with others.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-497-8041). Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Healthy Practices
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http://dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *First Tai Chi class is free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Check these classes out: •Tai Chi lunch hour: Tue./Fri., 12:30-1:30pm •Kung Fu: Wed., 5-6pm •Taoist Qi Gong: Tue., 7-8pm •Tai Chi and self defense: Tue., 8-9pm.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Drop in for any class. Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Red Sox
•Fenway Park. Tickets: 617-482-4SOX
Sept. 26, 7:05pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Sept. 27, 7:05pm vs. Baltimore Orioles
Log on to *www.redsox.com* to find out the status of games rescheduled to October.

New England Patriots
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 800-543-1776
Sept. 30, 1:00pm vs. Indianapolis Colts

Events

Playboy Scramble
Blackstone National Golf Club, Sutton. Oct. 5. www.playboyscramble.com, *(617-489-6638).* There will be Bunnies amongst the birdies at Playboy's second annual golf tournament. Teams of four will compete to go to Playboy's national championship—and the 19th-hole party at the Playboy mansion. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Athletes and Entertainers for Education charity.

Denis Leary's Celebrity Hat Trick
Worcester Centrum Centre. www.ticketmaster.com, *(617-536-0463). Sept. 30, 3pm. $15-$40.* Denis Leary's annual celebrity/Boston Bruins alumni hockey game will benefit the Leary Firefighters Foundation. This year, money will also be allocated to a new fund that benefits the families of the firemen who lost their lives in New York, and former Bruins player Ace Bailey will be honored. Bailey, who was scheduled to play in this year's game, was aboard one of the planes that hit the World Trade Center. The celebrity team will include Leary, Michael J. Fox, Kiefer Sutherland and Jason Priestly and will be coached by Elizabeth Hurley and Conan O'Brien.

Bike the Berkshires
Butternut Basin Ski Resort, Great Barrington. www.msnewengland.org, *(800-493-9255). Oct. 6, 8am. $150 fund-raising minimum.* The Mt. Greylock Challenge ought to satisfy your need for seratonin-releasing exercise by taking bikers on a 100-mile route that includes climbing the highest mountain in Massachusetts. Or you could do the 50-mile scenic tour, if you're not Lance Armstrong-esque in your pedaling proficiency. The ride benefits the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

BSSC Fall Foliage Extravaganza
Bridges Resort & Tennis Club, Sugarbush, Vt. www.bssc.com, *(617-789-4070). Oct. 5-7. $179 members, $209 non-members.* Leaf-peepers ought to have a field day biking and hiking around the mountains in Vermont this time of year. Tennis menaces will also be right at home aggravating their tendinitis on resort's 12 courts. But when it's all over, you can always soak away the aches in the outdoor hot tub, and/or hit the aprés social. Your dough gets you two nights in condos with kitchens, should you care to impress your friends with your famous spaghetti and Prego recipe.



Tee off with Lisa Dergan at the Playboy Scramble.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players age 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practice takes place Sunday at 11am.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through August. Men's and women's divisions are open for players.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (617-308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings. Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (617-789-4070)

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

POLO

Stage Hill Polo and Riding School
Topsfield Fair Grounds, Topsfield (356-5601). Mon. and Wed., 6-8pm; Sat. 1pm. $300/mo. For people looking to actually play the sport depicted on their Ralph Lauren shirts, Stage Hill provides the equipment, horses and lessons. No prior riding experience is necessary. Lessons offered year-round.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (617-742-0678). www.oldgold rugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/ bostonhhh. Weekly runs year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking, singing bawdy songs and being labeled with a nickname like "Rodent Felcher," then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(617-789-4070, ext. 225). Coed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Coed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (617-523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Community Boating is the largest and oldest nonprofit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for $190 per season, including instruction.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Coolidge Corner Theatre for Kids
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Sept. 29, 10:30am: Enjoy the mind-boggling comedic magic of Jon Stetson. •Oct. 6, 10:30am: The Jim Show. Jim, a juggler and stunt performer, will show off his skills—magical, acrobatic and comedic—for a young audience.

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). Thursdays and Fridays. 8pm. Through October. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts life in Revolutionary Boston.

Puppet Showplace Theater
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). The Puppet Showplace Theater presents traditional and original shows for children ages five and older.•Sept. 29-30, 1 and 3pm: *Rumplestiltskin* •Oct. 3-4 and 6-7, 1 and 3pm: *The Frog Prince, Too* •Oct. 10, 1 and 3pm: *Peter Rabbit.*

Snoopy
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Sept. 30. $21. The Peanuts gang comes to life.

THINGS TO DO

Archaeology Lab
Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marrett Road, Cambridge (781-861-6559). Oct. 6, 2pm. $9 (register by Sept. 29). Children ages 7-12 will clean, identify and interpret artifacts to piece together clues from the past.

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (617-679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Saturdays, 12pm. Staff members read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Boston by Little Feet
Samuel Adams Statue at Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-3766). Sat. and Mon., 10am; Sun., 2pm. This tour of the Freedom Trail's architecture caters to young walkers.

BPL Kids' Cinema
Boston Public Library, Copley Branch, 700 Boyleston St., Boston (617-536-5400). Oct. 5, 10:15am. The library presents an hour of short films for children ages 3-7.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tuesdays, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of storytelling fun.

Harvard Coop Craft and Story Hour
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). Saturdays, 11am. Free. Each week the staff at the Harvard Coop present a different story and craft for youngsters to enjoy.

Origami Express Extraordinaire
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220) Sept. 28. Children ages 5-13 and their parents can learn the ancient Japanese art of paper-folding.

Ralph's World
•Borders Books and Music Framingham, 85 Worcester Road, Framingham (508-875-2321): Oct. 2, 10:30am. •Borders Books and Music, 225 Grossman Dr., Braintree (781-356-5111): Oct. 2, 3:30pm. Ralph Covert performs children's music from his new album, *Ralph's World*, including songs that are great for sing-alongs.

Three Apples Storytelling Festival
Harvard Town Common, Route 111, Harvard (617-499-9529). Sept. 28, 7-10pm; Sept. 29, 10am-10pm; Sept. 30, 10am-4:30pm. $8, $4 children. More than 20 storytellers will perform for kids of all ages.

Tinker Time for Tots
Children's Museum Boston, 300 Congress St., Boston (426-8855). Sept. 27, 10:30am-12pm. Kids can explore games and puzzles and play with Lego's tree blocks.

Yoga for Youngsters
Gymboree, 3 Crescent St., Waltham (781-736-0081). Through Nov. 1. $120. Children ages 5 to 11 can experience yoga games, stretches and relaxation techniques from Lisa Orkin of Lotus Blossom Yoga.

RITA GREELEY

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (617-338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (617-242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (617-572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and 12-11pm (Nov.-April). $6.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (617-566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theatre, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours every half-hour, starting at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(617-357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.



A lazy autumn day at the Boston Public Library.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl.

Book Drive
Starbucks Coffee locations. Through Oct. 2. Donate a new or gently used children's book to benefit Jumpstart.

Boston Cares
(617-263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). Volunteers needed to work in Cambridge public schools as tutors, aides and mentors.

Community Servings
(617-445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Disaster Rescue for Animals
Hilton Dedham Place, 25 Allied Drive, Dedham (781-329-7900). Sept. 29, 8am-6pm. $75. Learn how to rescue and care for animals during disasters.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-972-1702). Volunteer to provide practical and emotional support to terminally ill patients.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an isolated elderly individual.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(617-375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996, ext. 30). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program. Training begins in September.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.



Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Believe it or not
There is a girl in Boston who:
1) Has the most beautiful smile in the world.
2) Can quote Shakespeare, Chaucer or Homer Simpson without missing a beat.
3) Always shares her food with at least one lucky duck in the public garden.
4) Says the Red Sox break her heart every year, but she loves them anyway.
5) Drives around in her little black truck singing at the top of her lungs to every song on the radio.
6) Is easily embarrassed, but will never admit it (how about now?).
7) Can show up at a ball game, have a few beers and cheer at the top of her lungs, then throw on a dress and suddenly she's the classiest, prettiest girl at the party.
8) Can argue with the best of them about anything, including the importance of stem cell research or the 10 worst cartoon characters of all time. (Kazoo from *The Flinstones*, c'mon!)
9) Is the most modest genius I know (not to mention funniest).
10) Has a boyfriend who will never appreciate her like I do, even though I only have the pleasure of quick conversations over Chai Lattes.
—Not your boyfriend

Neighbor
We have fluttered in that space between friends and lovers for so long now that it has become a futile effort to define us. I shift between loving and hating you for all of your idiosyncrasies. You will never fully understand how I love you, and I will never verbally admit to you that I do. I knew my heart was doomed from our first 14-hour date, and I wonder often if I would trade it all to have never fallen for you. No matter how many times I end it, I know I will end up in the coziness of your bed over and over again. Here's to more drama. It ain't over til it's over.
—RS

Joe V.
You: a young Hemingway who is going to London. Me: wishing you a Happy 21st birthday and a great time in London. I know your portfolio will come out well and you'll get into the creative writing major. Good luck this year!
—Meaghan

Bicycle/Car Accident in South Boston
To the attractive caucasian woman driving the ivory/white Saab who hit this Asian guy (me) on West Broadway on Aug. 26th at approximately 1:15pm: I was in disbelief that I was hit by a car. I really don't think you saw me in your side mirror, as you were pulling out of your cramped parking space. Since I've been riding a bicycle in my hometown of Boston for the past 13 years, never have I been hit before. Someone upstairs was definitely looking out for me, as I got up OK, almost without a scratch. You asked me several times if I was OK and I said yes. As I waved you away, you were driving away and still had the heart to stop to see if me and my bicycle were OK. Again I waved you off. I was still in such disbelief, a bit frazzled and also angry. I had so many mixed feelings running through my head that I didn't even ask you for your information or write down your license plate number. I thought "why should I?" because I knew I was OK. But after you left, I found that my personal CD player in my bag was broken. If you read this article, will you respond? Or did I simply relieve you of a potentially harmful situation? I'm OK, but my CD player is not. If you are as beautiful and caring as you were at the scene of the accident, I will just hope to hear from you.
—Rich (fieryleo70@aol.com)

Katie
I scouted you on a Wednesday night (Aug.22?) in Faneuil Hall. Your parents were swing-dancing, and I caught you off guard. I only talked to you for a few minutes, but I found you enchanting. Your red hair and your incredible eyes got my attention. You mentioned that you were going to Bentley, and I wanted to continue our conversation, but I had to leave. Write me if you remember any of this, and any Bentley students out there who meet a redheaded beauty named Katie, please show her this Impersonal. And yes, Katie, I do think that you would look good on film.
—Walter (i_like_red @hotmail.com)

Passim Me By
At Club Passim a couple months ago, you played a whimsical little ditty about superpowers. You told the entire crowd that you were single, but I was too shy to introduce myself. We ended up exchanging a total of five words as I passed by your parked car outside—inexplicably, without stopping to chat. I've been at Passim almost every Tuesday since then, hoping you'd reappear. So far, no luck. Maybe next week?
—somethingdeep@mail.com

"Playwright Rice?"
We met in the evening on Aug. 24 while riding the C Line. You and some friends were going to watch an Irish-Canadian band opening for Dar Williams. You wanted to do the crossword puzzle in a paper someone left behind and asked me if I had a pen. Even though I didn't, you persisted and asked, "Do you know a playwright with the last name 'Rice?'" And that's when the conversation began. Being from Canton, N.Y. explained your musical taste, hockey interest and friendly demeanor. Although, what I found most attractive about you, besides your warm eyes and beautiful smile, was that you bought a Better Than Ezra CD solely for one song. So we didn't meet up at Tia's after our events—we didn't even introduce ourselves when we had the chance—but I did want to tell you the crossword puzzle's answer was "Anne."
—playwrightrice@hotmail.com

Viking
As evidenced by the nasty wad of Bounty paper towels and empty cans of Diet Coke I've been finding outside my window, clearly you're still spying on me. Rent a porno, download some pics, do whatever, but get a life before I have to get a restraining order. Loser.
—skippy@ pimpdaddywelfare.com

Christine,
You probably think I've forgotten about you, but I haven't (happy belated birthday, by the way). I hope you understand why I did what I had to before I left. It was so difficult to watch you turn away from me, and then see you in the constant company of someone else all the time. If I didn't distance myself from you as I did, it would have killed me. Believe me, there were some days when I just wanted to pull you aside and say hello, ask you how you were....or just give you a hug and not let go. I missed your smile, your voice, your warmth, the look in your eyes. Am I this pathetic? Perhaps. That's life. Maybe you're thinking that I just haven't met anyone else special yet. That's not the case. Since last summer I've had several opportunities and have dated some nice girls. That's not the issue. The issue is why I can't forget about you. Is this a spell or a curse? You are the most beautiful girl I have ever met. When I see you, I get butterflies, break a sweat and don't know what to do. Your eyes floor me. There's no one else who makes me react this way. You are the only one. I hope so much that your life is healthy and happy. If you ever need me, I am here. You know where to find me. I really miss you.
—MSM

Rockie Horoscope

SEPTEMBER 26 – OCTOBER 9, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
Mercury almost makes it all the way through your sign before it flips on October 1 and works its way back to 14+ Libra, the degree it was at on September 11 when the hijacked planes crashed into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Mercury turns direct at that degree on October 22nd, but it doesn't leave Libra for Scorpio until November 7, the day before your Venus ruler also enters Scorpio. While romantic Venus makes strong aspects along the way, I bet that Mercury dominates your thoughts and conversation with the "re" activities of retrograde, e.g., revision, repair and retaliation.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Mercury's retrogression through Libra takes place on a cosmic level of consciousness, in your "hidden" 12th house, so you might not suffer the more picayune effects and petty annoyances the rest of us will. If you're lucky, you'll be so entranced by an artist's or a woman's involvement that you won't react to anything except Venus' attraction to both Mars and Pluto, your co-ruling planets. This is hot stuff, made even more so by the waxing Harvest Moon. By the time it's waning, you might be too far over the top to make a wise financial move.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
The extent of your participation in clubs and socio-political organizations could be altered by Mercury turning retrograde in the house of hopes you share with a large group of like-minded people. Something along the lines of the Hunger Project. You may also become more involved with friends of friends and find them camping on your doorstep throughout October. However, don't neglect an opportunity to take charge of a financial matter when Mars energizes your Jupiter ruler early in the month.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Take a deep breath on the 26th as your Saturn ruler prepares to turn retrograde for the next four months. It's usually the days just before and after the turnaround that have the greatest impact, so pay attention, because those will be the personal issues you'll be dealing with until Groundhog Day comes and goes and you've seen the movie another four times. Like your Cancer complement, you can be deeply affected by the emotions stirred up by the Harvest moon illuminating your relationship to Mom and Pop. Commiserate.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
Read for Capricorn because, until Uranus was discovered in 1781 and associated with your sign, Saturn was your ruling planet. Saturn's retrogression in your Gemini house of family roots and real estate or creativity and children (depending on the degrees involved) can put those issues on a back burner and give you a well-deserved respite. On the other hand, Uranus turns direct at the end of October, just before the second full moon of the month, a bona fide blue moon for Halloween!

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
Mercury can be your nemesis even when it doesn't impinge on your Pisces sun or your Neptune ruler. Since the Messenger turns retrograde on October 1 in your Libra house of sex and other people's money, its flip can affect your relationship to any of the above and the folks involved. Unless you were born in February, in which case you are excused from participating in tedious revisions of positions and renegotiations of compromises made in September. That's because Mercury, in the sign of the Scales, seeks peace at any price.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Mercury turning retrograde on October 1 affects present and past marriage and business partnerships and legal matters. Any paperwork requiring an immediate signature should be gone over with the finest of fine-toothed combs. Because Mercury is in lovable Libra, you're liable to be a bit more lax, strive for peace and harmony and give your partner/adversary, even your agent, the benefit of the doubt. This would not happen if Mercury was in Scorpio or another sign that goes for the jugular. Remember, your Mars ruler in Capricorn puts you in charge.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
The three-week retrogression of Mercury occurs in your house of work, health, service and debts, so you're more likely to receive the wrong information, experience delays in deliveries and run into credit problems. These annoyances will probably be handled politely, perhaps with a light touch of humor because when Mercury the great communicator is in gentle Libra, it favors the well-turned phrase and a civilized response. Meanwhile your Venus ruler makes contact with Mars and Pluto, the passionate planets, as the month begins. Enjoy.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
On the 26th, the eve of Yom Kippur, Saturn turns retrograde at 15 Gemini and doesn't turn direct until early February. During this period, Twins born between May 27 and June 6 get to star in Act II of their personal dramas. This is the part where you learn what else is demanded of you, how much more responsible you have to be and just how heavy a burden you can bear, all for the purpose of growing up. Act III, next Spring. Incidentally, your Mercury ruler will be retrograde from Oct. 1-22. Plan accordingly.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
This year's Harvest full moon could be more memorable than usual because Mercury is simultaneously turning retrograde. Not only will the common annoyances of retrograde get to you, but the Moon Child might have to navigate the deep emotional waters you often sink to during the annual Aries-Libra full moon. On a cheerier note: Venus, planet of affection and good taste, is busy gathering goodies, so assume that your coffers will be enriched by her favorable position in your money house.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
Check the tires, brakes and paperwork on your vehicle before Mercury goes retrograde on October 1 in your house of commuting. Since that's also your house of communication, publicity and education, it's safe to assume that an assortment of hassles will occur in that part of your life both at the beginning and the end (Oct. 22) of the retrogression. Get the phones and faxes fixed, the flyers printed and the classes you plan to take locked in. Then you can lay back and enjoy the bounty of the harvest and the beautiful harvest full moon.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Here are a couple of things that may affect Virgins: The first is Saturn turning retrograde on the 26th in your Gemini midheaven for the next four months. That could slow down progress in your career, or conversely, alleviate the pressure you've been laboring under and relieve you of some of the responsibilities you've had to bear. Then your Mercury ruler goes retrograde on October 1 for three weeks of tiny tortures. What distinguishes this period from the others is Mercury's presence in your Libra money house. Be sure to check all receipts, bank statements, and so on.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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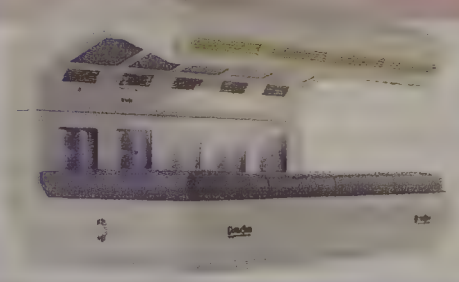
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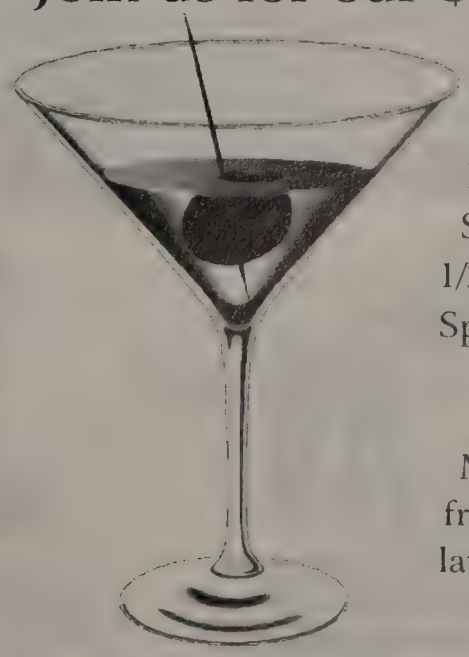
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BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

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BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

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Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

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Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

CLUBS

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science-Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Journey Into Amazing Caves at 2pm. Tickets are $30 for Adults, $28 for Seniors/Children. Brunch only $22. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.

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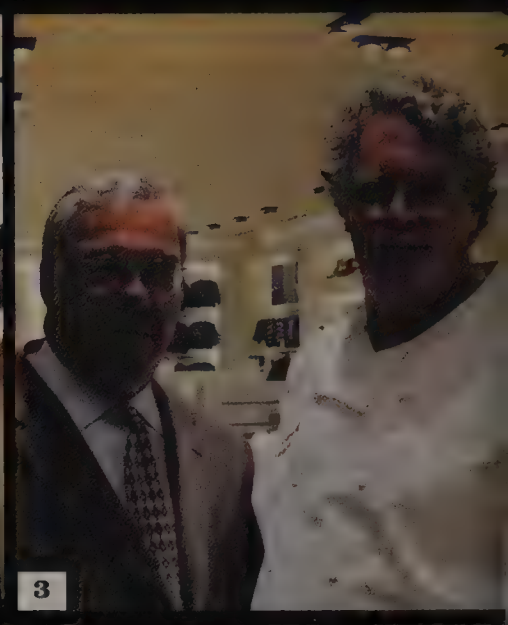
The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events



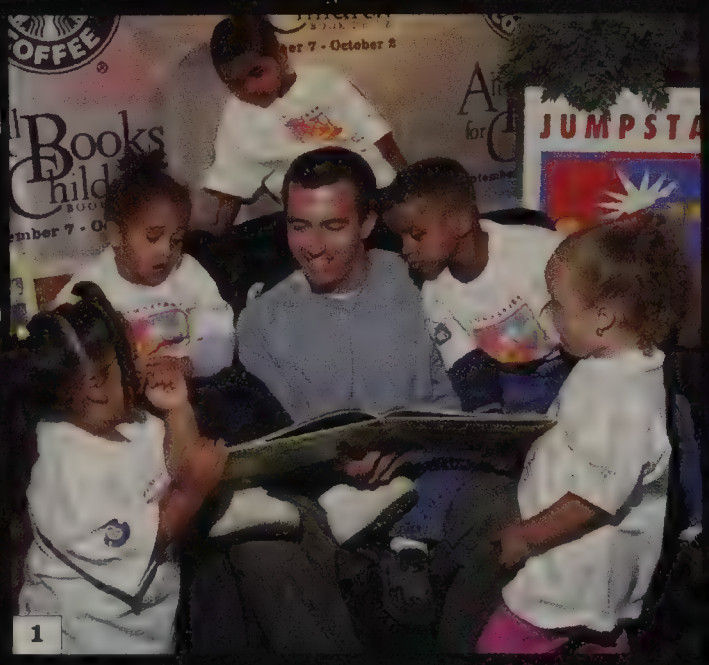
On Thursday, Sept. 6, **H&M** opened its doors in Downtown Crossing for an invite-only VIP reception. The swank cocktail party, which was produced by the **Lyons Group**, featured food by **Summer Shack's** Jasper White and dance beats by **Thievery Corporation**. Those invited received a 20% discount on all purchases made that evening.

1. **Mindy d'Arbeloff** of the Lyons Group with **Kristin Standish** of WBCN.
2. **Emma Lockwood**, H&M Store Manager, **Bosse Larssom**, H&M Area Manager and **Jennifer Morneau**, H&M Department Manager.
3. **Mayor Thomas Menino** and Summer Shack Chef **Jasper White.**





On Thursday, Sept. 6, **Starbucks Coffee** kicked off its 5th Annual ABC Book Drive to benefit Jumpstart (whose mission is to prepare every American child to succeed in school) at the Boylston Street location. The event featured Matt Tavares, author of the children's book *Zachary's Ball*.







1. **Matt Tavares** reads his book *Zachary's Ball* to kids from Boston Jumpstart classes to kick off Starbucks ABC (All Books for Children) Book Drive.
2. **Lindsay Ransick**, Marketing Specialist for Starbucks Coffee, New England, introduces **Matt Tavares**, local author and illustrator of children's book *Zachary's Ball*.
3. "Waldo" (a.k.a. **Steve Patterson**, Manager of Starbucks Coffee at Berkeley & Boylston) with a friend.







On Saturday, Sept. 8, **Wish** held its first-ever Fashion Show at **The Hampshire House** to benefit **Rosie's Place**, a Boston-based women's and children's shelter. Over 125 people brought clothing donations and watched models from **Maggie** strut their stuff in outfits by designers such as **Theory, Rebecca Taylor** and **Milly**. Over $3,000 was raised for the shelter.

1. **Ed Shuman** with his son, **Zachary,** from Rosie's Place and **Jane Monahan** and **Kate Allan** from Wish, load the clothing donations into Ed's van.
2. **Meghan Neville**, of Maggie Inc., struts fashion for Rosie's Place.
3. **Kelly Frey, Kate Allan** and **Jane Monahan**, owners of Wish.

PHOTOS: H&M, KAREN DANA; STARBUCKS, MARLO FOLGERMAN; WISH, KAREN DANA

For drinks, dinner, or music there are places to go.



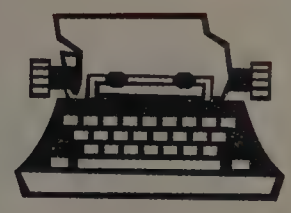
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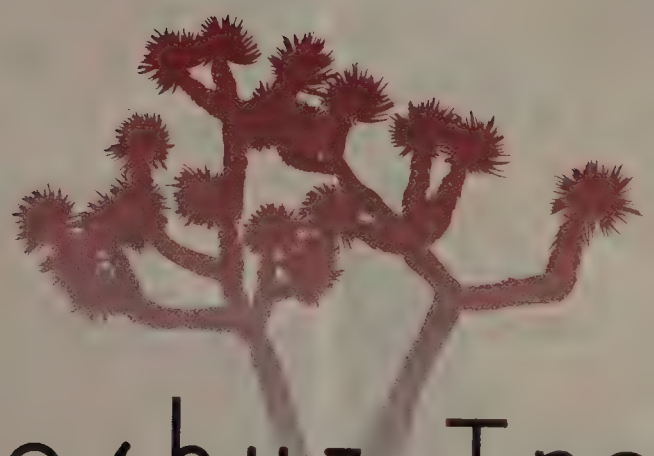
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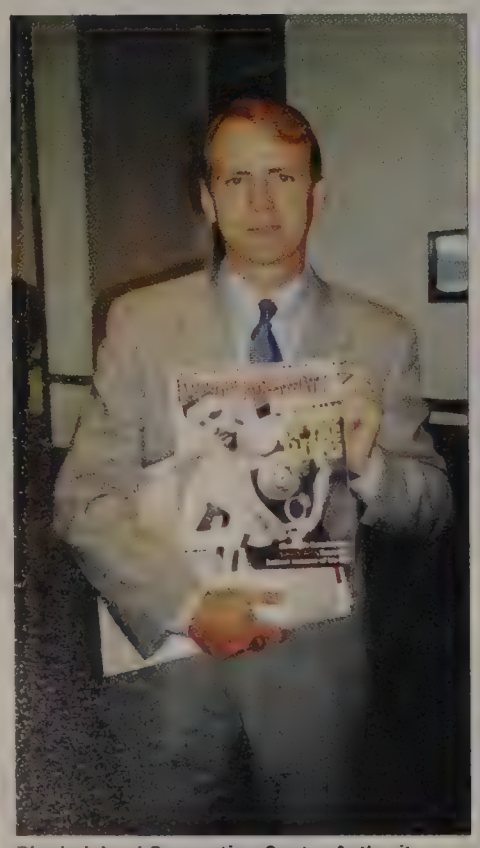
Matt Buscone (holding magazine, beardless) and his fiancée, Sarah, on the Greek Island of Hydra with islander Pandolee and BJ Leck.



Three generations of Van Camps (from left): Rosemary, Kathy, Taylor and Alexandra, were mostly all smiles in Paris.



Julie Finigan was too busy trying not to topple into Victoria Falls in Zambia to notice that our Summer Dining issue conjured a rainbow.



Rhode Island Convention Center Authority Chairman James Bennett brandishes his IMPROPER.



This bunch of clowns from the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus took a break from firing one another out of cannons and reading steamy copies of *Playclown* to check out the IMPROPER.



Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee and his wife, Janet, peruse Boston's Best.

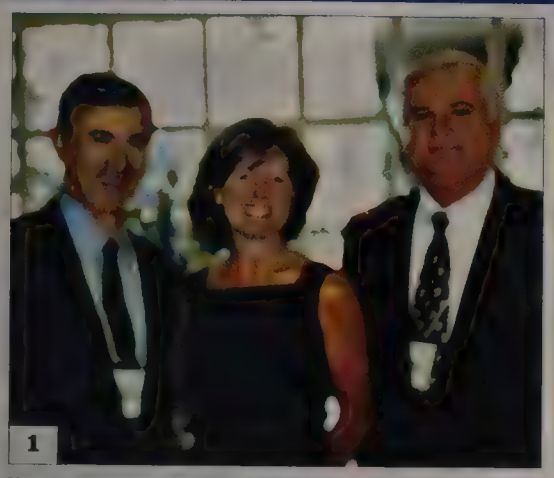
IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
At the Roadkill Cookoff, Sept. 29 in Marlington, W.Va. Extra bonus points awarded for pictures that include either a cooked possum in bread or an inbred cooking a possum.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE and will not be returned.

The Improper Bostonian at the Conference of the New England Governors and the Eastern Canadian Premiers

On August 26-28, the 26th annual Conference of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers was held in Westbrook, Conn. We were there.


1


2


3


4


5

1. Honorable **Argeo Paul Cellucci**, ambassador to Canada; **Allison Kaufman**, director of federal and state relations; and **Peter Ellef**, Connecticut chief of staff for Governor Rowland.
2. President of Hydrofera Co., **Heather Sherman Bond**, Connecticut chief of staff for Governor Rowland, **Sid Holbrooke** and Secretary of Connecticut Republican Party **Judy Gandswindt.**
3. (Front row) Rhode Island Governor **Lincoln Almond**, Connecticut Governor **John Rowland**, Quebec Premier **Bernard Landry**, Maine Governor **Rufus King** and New Hampshire Governor **Jean Shaheen.** (Back row) Nova Scotia Premier **John Hamm**, Newfoundland/Labrador Premier **Roger Grimes**, Vermont Governor **Howard Dean**, Prince Edward Island Premier **Patrick Binns**, Massachusetts Governor **Jane Swift** and New Brunswick Premier **Bernard Lord**.
4. New Hampshire Governor **Jean Shaheen.**
5. **Francois Le Brun,** Boston delegate, Province of Quebec, and Premier **Bernard Landry**, Province of Quebec.

PHOTOS: BOB SEMONIAN

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Last Scene Here

BY JONATHAN SOROFF



I've always dreamed of owning a Winnebago, and once, when I was a college student in North Carolina, I opened a can of pork brains in milk gravy (I didn't actually take a bite). In other words, the trailer-park aesthetic appeals to me on some level, and while I could easily indulge this perversion by making a pilgrimage to Graceland or camping in Appalachia, it would be far more challenging to experience lowest-common-denominator fun on the preppiest little sandbar in the Atlantic.

Nantucket, after all, is where millionaires mow the lawn for billionaires, and where every conversation inevitably devolves into a discussion of money—how rich so-and-so is and how he or she got that way, or how many tens of millions of dollars he or she paid for a house that isn't even on the water. A comment made by my hostess one evening provides a perfect illustration of just how unpromising my plan was. Dressed for a cocktail party, she was complimented on her stunning gold, ruby and diamond brooch, which happened to be vintage Schlumberger.

"I don't bring my good stuff to the beach," she said, dismissively fingering the trinket. "This is my second-tier jewelry."

I clearly had my work cut out for me.



WHAT I DID ON MY SUMMER VACATION...

This year I decided to emulate my fellow Americans by planning a summer vacation that couldn't possibly live up to expectations. Like the portly, wheezing CEO who attempts an assault on Annapurna, or the neurotic sightseer who tries to take in every art treasure in Florence in the space of a weekend, or the adrenaline junkie whose safari is no fun until a leopard pokes somebody's eye out, I would concoct a plan that was doomed to failure and guaranteed to disappoint. Moreover, I would earn bonus points for originality. I would try to have a white-trash good time on Nantucket.

Now, before you go accusing me of horrible snobbery, allow me to point out that I did, however, have two important allies in my close friends and fellow guests for the week. Both starving artists, one wouldn't know the difference between a stock portfolio and a Powerball ticket, while the other is no stranger to food stamps and once lived in a log cabin in Topanga Canyon.

Our first stop: town—that twee little labyrinth of cobblestone streets lined with overpriced stores selling necessities like mother-of-pearl caviar spoons and cashmere underwear. For this particular outing, I sported a T-shirt from Alex's, the gentleman's club (pronounced "strip joint") on the South Shore, which inexplicably failed to draw nasty stares or comments. And no sooner had I started to hum the theme to *The Beverly Hillbillies* than I came upon the Claire Murray shop—purveyors of dizzyingly busy hook rugs in cutesy-pie patterns. Expensive? Perhaps. But they're also a regular prize on *The Price Is Right*, which means that Lurlene who works at the Feed & Grain in East Jesus, Iowa, knows what they are and just might own one.







From left: karaoke night at the Rose & Crown; "Tiny Bubbles" is performed for an appreciative crowd; artist as redneck.

Next, I attended a second birthday party for the daughter of some friends, on the assumption that rich New York sophisticates would serve sandwiches with the crusts cut off, but I failed to take into account the fact that small children tend to have decidedly lowbrow tastes. While one of my artist friends ascertained that he could roughly triple his income by going into the balloon-twisting business, I drank beer and gorged on artificially colored frosting (FD&C Nos. 4 through 6 being particular favorites). Upping the white-trash ante was the fact that the *Sesame Street* birthday cake had suffered a minor mishap en route from Boston on Nantucket Air, such that it could best be described as Disfigure Me Elmo. Foiled again.

The following morning, I was shocked to discover that Nantucket hosts an annual Demolition Derby (where, presumably, they smash up Rolls Royces and Jaguars). Resisting such an obvious temptation, I opted instead to spend the day amid the pristine natural beauty of Eel Point, one of the island's most remote beaches. Imagine my chagrin, then, when I arrived to find so many SUVs that it looked like a redneck family reunion on the Gulf Coast of Mississippi.

Feeling thwarted, I made plans to meet a well-known former debutante and her wealthy beau for drinks, anticipating an evening of fancy cocktails and witty persiflage. It wasn't to be, though. Instead of joining the boisterous trustafarians at the Boarding House or the subdued plutocrats at the Pearl, my socialite friend chose to rendezvous at the Rose & Crown for karaoke night. Before I knew what hit me, I was chugging Bud long-necks and performing, bleary-eyed, in front of a crowd who seemed to think that Don Ho did a better job of singing "Tiny Bubbles" than I did.



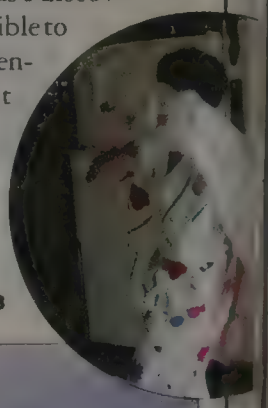




Clockwise from upper left: the birthday party; balloon art; the Disfigure Me Elmo cake. Below: luckily, this was the only piece of white trash put out by our hostess; hanging at Eel Point.

And so it went, throughout the week, insult piling upon injury, as I discovered that it's not only possible to wallow in vulgarity in an enclave of the super-rich, it might just be inevitable.

But in retrospect, I suppose I shouldn't be so shocked. It's like my mother always said: Money doesn't buy taste. iB





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After THE Storm

Welcome back to the Digital Decade. Inside, we take the pulse of the Web and visit some dot-com survivors.

Jonathan Soroff interviews cyber guru BOB DAVIS on growing up in Dorchester, Bill Gates' house and the future



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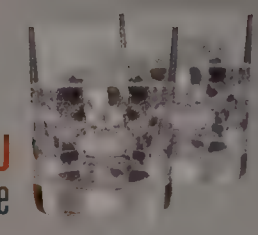
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CONTENTS

boston INTERNET 2001



18
Genuity CEO Paul R. Gudonis aims to rise above the dot-com decline. Below: Peter Cotte takes time off; *The Look* exhibit hits the MFA.

FEATURES

16 Soroff/On Bob Davis
The founder of Lycos reflects on growing up in Dorchester, the dot-com fall to earth, Bill Gates' house and what's going to happen in the Digital Decade. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 Alive and Kickin'
Looking beyond the widely publicized new economy bust, high-tech gurus assure us that the crash was just a bump in the road.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

20 Boston by Keyboard
Despite the cool economy, there's still a lot you can accomplish with just a computer and an Internet connection. BY EZRA DYER

22 Dot-com Survivors
A firsthand account of the roller-coaster ride at an Internet business by someone who was there. And survived.
BY ALEX SHAPIRO

24 The Road Less Traveled
Dropping out in the 21st century means doing what makes your heart sing. BY JULIE SHORT

26 Fashion: Wear Me Out
A selection of lingerie epitomizing sophisticated naughtiness.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MILTON PERRY







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COLUMNS

6 The Word
Veggie planet at Club Passim; Foil on Newbury; Edison Light; graphic designer Chip Kidd, Tilt

10 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

12 E-Boston
Using the Web to travel smarter—or not travel at all
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 Ezra
A road trip breeds strife.
BY EZRA DYER

32 Mopsy
Offbeat biking gear; a Good store; *Three Strikes*
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

54 Film
Don't Say a Word is riddled with unanswered questions.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

60 Music
Basement Jaxx takes techno to the stage.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

80 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

34 Dining
Centro brings regional Italian cuisine to Central Square.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

36 Dish
Fall specials; Draghi still in Limbo; Bomboa's Samson a big cheese; Tea-Tray in the Sky
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

36 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: CANstruction.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 39.
Ellen Gallagher at the ICA • Burning Spear • Fridge • *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style* • Head of the Charles Regatta • Vegetarian Food Festival • **Margaret Cho** •The Damned • The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus • *Boston Globe* Book Festival • 2002 Don't Dessert Us! calendar event • The Boston Instant Fringe Festival

ET CETERA

Letters 4
Improper Shopper 72
Improperazzi 74
Improper Impersonals 76
Rockie Horoscope 76
Improper Sightings 78

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letters

A FABLE AGREED UPON

Some of what is wrong with the Boston literary scene is inscribed throughout Erin Hagedorn's article "Literary Boston": ignorance and sloppy writing. The article's history is a hilarious collection of howlers, reminiscent of a term paper by a backward high-school sophomore, and its use of English is more appropriate for a teen "fanzine."

We are told that the first golden age of Boston literary culture in the 1840s was characterized by "boisterous parties." The idea of Longfellow, Holmes and their fellows whooping it up is silly enough....And when did Emerson live on a communal farm?

So much for history. As to English, Ms. Hagedorn's superlatives are "terrific," "fantastic" and "incredibly." One expects this kind of generalized nonpareil in a rave piece about a pubescent boy band, but an article on writers and their work deserves more nuanced qualifiers.

And while I'm on the subject, you might suggest to your restaurant critic, J. Charles Mokriski, that he refrain from recourse to foreign terms that he hasn't mastered. He twice uses *amuses bouches*, which in French is both ungrammatical and unidiomatic. The correct term is *amuse-guele* (plural, *amuse-gueles*), which can be roughly translated as "gob teaser."

—LAURENCE SENELICK
Medford

Editor's response:
Thank you, Professor Senelick, for your critical reading of THE IMPROPER. *Sources and interpretations are, in history, frequently controversial. Also, many restaurants in the United States call their appetite teasers* amuses bouches. *Since it is a figure of speech, it is not incorrect usage, and restaurateurs and people who write about them are free to adopt their own usage, even if it raises the eyebrows of certain pedants. In any case, we appreciate disputation such as yours. That notwithstanding, we take your suggestions and corrective effort to heart.*

THE STORY CONTINUES

I just wanted to write and thank you for giving this emerging author the opportunity to be published in your recent Literary Boston issue. In the brief time since the issue came out, I have already received lots of positive feedback from readers of your magazine, been invited to give a reading of my short story and sent a copy of the issue to a literary agent who is reviewing a manuscript of mine. Opportunities to be published in a magazine of wide circulation are few and far between, especially when the writer is not yet "established." Your fiction contest opened a lot of doors for me, and I am very grateful for that. Thanks again, and I look forward to seeing more Literary Boston issues in the years to come!

—ADAM PACHTER
Somerville



"ONE EXPECTS THIS KIND OF GENERALIZED NONPAREIL IN A RAVE PIECE ABOUT A PUBESCENT BOY BAND, BUT AN ARTICLE ON WRITERS AND THEIR WORK DESERVES MORE NUANCED QUALIFIERS."

—*LAURENCE SENELICK*
MEDFORD

GET TO THE RAVISHING

Good for Ezra for trying to read *Atlas Shrugged*! It's one of my favorite books, but I got a good laugh out of his pretty accurate synopsis. He'd probably get more out of it if he started with the book Ayn Rand wrote before it: *The Fountainhead*. It's a bit lighter, shorter, and I don't think it takes as long to get to the ravishing.

—HOLLY HAND
Via e-mail

LITERARY LEADS

Thanks to the superb Literary Issue, I now have a lengthy reading list to take to local bookstores and libraries. It ranges from Proust to Norman Mailer to the latest P.D. James, all of which were mentioned by authorities on writing. Thanks for providing me with some variety and some motivation in the book realm.

—ELISABETH NYMAN
Brookline

YOU PIZZA ME OFF

As owner of Sweet Tomatoes, I would like to express my disappointment and anger regarding the article "A Slice of Italy." When speaking to your staff member Julie Short, I was told that this "contest" was really just a basis for free advertising and that judgement would not be an issue. Clearly I was misled by your staff and ill informed regarding your article. My concern is not that I was judged unfavorably, as I have been in business for three years and have received praise from the *Boston Globe*, *Chronicle*, and the *Phantom Gourmet* among others.

—HEDY JARRAS
Owner, Sweet Tomatoes
Newton Centre

Editor's response:
From the start, the goal of "A Slice of Italy" was to determine whether any of the seven gourmet pizzeria featured serve authentic Italian pizza (that is, one with a light and airy crust that is thinner in the middle and thicker around the edges, and that is served with fresh, but minimal, toppings and buffalo mozzarella). From what the three judges determined, the answer is no. However, they did find pizza that tasted very good—even excellent—according to American standards (the judges loved the pesto on Sweet Tomatoes' pizza). The point of the article was to provide an informed service to pizza lovers. We apologize if you felt you were misled and, of course, we appreciate your feedback.

ANGUS ANGUISH

As a native Mainer, I feel strongly compelled to point out that Governor King's surname is not Cassius, Cletus, Brutus or even Rufus (as was erroneously printed on page 87 of the Sept. 26 issue), but Angus.

—KURT KELLEY
Via e-mail

CORRECTION

In our Sept. 12 issue, we mistakenly identified Tim Bacon was a co-owner of the Elbow Room in Brighton {The Word: New in Town}. Bacon's first name is really Doug.

Tell Us What You Think

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NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

PIZZA AT PASSIM



What's a chef to do when she opens up a gourmet pizzeria, only to discover that her brand-new oven doesn't work for the first couple of weeks? If she's as resourceful as Didi Emmons, she makes do. "Several nights we had to put the pizza toppings on flour tortillas and rice cakes," Emmons says.

The toppings we sampled at Veggie Planet—butternut squash with caramelized onions, sage and Vermont goat cheese on one, and refried black beans with monterey jack, salsa and guacamole on the other—would have been as delicious on a piece of cardboard, as far as we were concerned. But when we tried the real deal—toppings loaded onto slightly chewy flatbread, crisp on the edges—we knew we'd discovered a hidden gem.

Located inside the venerable Club Passim in Harvard Square, Veggie Planet is a pizzeria founded by the queen of the vegetarians, chef Emmons, formerly of Pho Republique and the DeLux Cafe and author of *Vegetarian Planet*, and her partner, Adam Penn. As the pizzeria's name suggests, all toppings are vegetarian (and many are vegan). But Emmons doesn't stop at peppers, onions and 'shrooms. She'll top an Italian pizza with Indian saag paneer, creamy spiced spinach and pan-fried tofu with cashew nuts, or Thai red peanut curry. "The kinds of ethnic foods I like happen to taste really great on bread," she says. Patrons can order a pizza for lunch or while listening to live music at the club at night. *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-661-1513).*

A UNIQUE BOUTIQUE



Owner Christina Williams models clothing from Foil on Newbury Street.

Ladies, we know how embarrassing it is to walk into a gathering and see someone else sporting the same Banana Republic pants or Gap sweater. You skulk around, hiding in corners, in hopes of avoiding that deflating "Look—we're twins" moment.

That's why we were doubly impressed by the new boutique on Newbury Street called Foil. Co-owner Christina Williams, a former costume designer for Avalon and Embassy, refuses to buy clothing from designers who sell to other local stores. And she'll only buy three or four of each piece (like a shirt with the Hollywood Hills splashed across the front) to further ensure that you're uniquely stylish. "Unless you have the worst luck," adds Foil co-owner (and Williams' fiancé) Michael Africk, "you won't bump into someone else wearing the same thing."

Africk, a musician who's toured with the likes of Britney Spears and 'NSync, helped Williams set up her dream store, which sells the work of such designers as Anja Flint and Alex Teih. Foil's clothing line reflects a variety of styles—definitely eclectic and a bit more pricey,than Banana Republic and the Gap, with shirts averaging $139. But if you're looking for a denim bustier, handmade from a pair of jeans, or a one-armed, made-to-fit leather shirt, this is definitely the place to shop. *220 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-1250).*

ALL THE BUZZ

KUDOS TO KIDD



Graphic designer **Charles "Chip" Kidd**, during his 14-year tenure at Alfred Knopf, has been credited with revolutionizing American book design and packaging. Kidd, who has won numerous design awards and been featured in a variety of magazines from *Entertainment Weekly*, the *New York Times* and *Vogue* to *Graphis* and *I.D.* magazine, has recently published his first novel, *The Cheese Monkeys: A Novel in Two Semesters* (Scribner). While in keeping with his visually unorthodox approach, "[Kidd] is a traditionalist between the covers," as author Brett Easton Ellis comments. *The Cheese Monkeys* is a throwback: the story of an innocent young man's education.

We queried the celebrated designer on his newest career direction:

IMPROPER BOSTONIAN: Would some of the unorthodox design elements in your book have passed muster at Knopf?

Chip Kidd: I certainly got away with plenty here, or you wouldn't even be asking me these questions now. You'd be asking me something else, face-to-face, like: "How long does it take to get a McMuffin?"

IB: Had you saved up some design tricks that you specifically reserved for your own tome?

Kidd: None of the tricks I wanted for my own "tome" were available at the time (they were all [vacationing] in St. Bart's), so I was forced to use the ones I had at my disposal. At least now I know who my friends are.

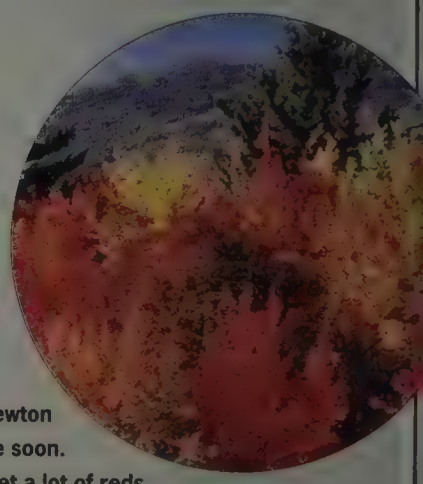
IB: Do you read, in entirety, the books you design?

Kidd: I like to, but often they don't exist yet in their entirety when a jacket is needed, and I'm a painfully slow reader to boot. At the very least, I need to feel I understand what any given book is about—whether the author realizes it or not.

Chip Kidd reads at Wordsworth Books Oct. 17, 7:30pm.—Robert Birnbaum

IMPROPER REPORTS

FALLING FOR FOLIAGE



Interested in joining the throngs of leaf-peepers heading north this season? We asked those-in-the-know where to go.

Vermont...*Best places to go*: "Take Route 100 through the state," according to Laurie Newton, PR manager at Mount Snow in West Dover. Peak color change comes sooner in Vermont because of the elevation, so Newton recommends that leaf peepers get there soon. "We have a lot of sugar maples, so we get a lot of reds and oranges you might not see farther south," says Newton.

Maine...*Best places to go*: Susan Benson of the Maine Office of Tourism recommends Western Maine around Bethel, Mount Blue and the Rangeley Lakes. She also recommends taking Coastal Route 1 along the Maine Coast and working your way back toward Boston. Check out *www.mainefoliage.com* for updates. "Maine is the most heavily forrested state in the country, so there's a lot to see," says Benson.

New Hampshire...*Best places to go*: Terry Rayno of the N.H. Division of Travel and Tourism tells us, "Just about anywhere." Since the leaves turn quickly in the far northern part of the state, she recommends driving up I-93 to Lincoln or the Kancamagus Highway (Route 112), which goes right to White Mountain National Forest. Another scenic stretch is Crawford Notch along routes 302 and 16. "New Hampshire's got the highest mountains in the Northeast and also has a beautiful sea coast," Rayno says.

TOP LEFT: MIKE MERGEN; BOTTOM LEFT: SAMANTHA HOUSE

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IMPROPER SPEAKING

COMEDY NIGHTS, ONE NIGHT STAN AND MORE

Laughing at the Blues...While the House of Blues isn't the first venue that comes to mind for comedy, its new venture, **Not So Blue Comedy Night**, proved to be a laugh riot Sept. 24. Local laughmaster Rich Ceisler hosted the festivities as five sidesplitting comedians took the stage. "We want to represent as many different arts and performance genres as we possibly can," said Phil Hillman, organizer of the event. Look for another night of comedy in October.

Hot off the Presses—Hot Off the Grill...Themed menus are not an unusual idea, but **Fire & Ice**'s new downstairs "news theme" sandwich selection is destined to get some ink. After all, how can we resist writing about a sandwich called "The Improper Bostonian"? The edible IMPROPER consists of turkey, ham, roast beef, Swiss cheese, lettuce, tomato and a vinaigrette dressing. We would tell you about some of the other publication-monikered sandwiches, but we're sure that this one is the tastiest.





Bilzerian Laurels...When **Alan Bilzerian** first came to 12 Newbury Street in 1980, he was already well-known in the fashion-forward community because of Luna, his hip boutique in Worcester. A few years later, AB moved up the first block of Newburo Drive, occupying the old Cooley's building at 34 Newbury. On Oct. 18, as part of **Fashion Week**, Alan will be honored with a Vision Award in recognition of his lifetime achievement in fashion. We caught up with Alan as he was preparing for one of his frequent buying trips in Europe. His response to receiving this award: "I am deeply touched by this thoughtful acknowledgement—but without the support of the people from Boston, my desire to bring fashion ideas forward would have truly been diminished."

Furniture to Food...The space in the Paine Furniture Building most recently known as the **Mohr & McPherson** store has been rumored to be the site of a new restaurant by New York's Mario Batali (Babbo, Lupa Osteria Roman, and Esca) and a local partner. We'll reveal the name of the local partner as soon as they call us back to deny the rumor.

Opening the Vault...When **The Vault** reopens next month under the enlightened management of **Brian O'Neil** and **Rene Michelena**, we're assured that a couple of luminous restaurant professionals previously seen at other fine dineries will be serving your gustatory needs. Take note of our discretion and our prescience...

Stan's the Man...The estimable **Stan Frankenthaler**, once affectionately known as "One Night Stan" for his peripatetic propensities, has collaborated with seasoned food writer **Sally Sampson** on *The Occidental Tourist*. This cookbook is an accessible collection of more than 130 Asian-inspired recipes that reflect the taste and spirit of his award-winning Salamander restaurant. Frankenthaler, who has regularly been nominated for James Beard Best Chef awards, planned this book to showcase not only the intricate cooking that comes out of his eatery's kitchen but also the simpler dishes he prepares at home. Which is just as it should be. *—R.B., E.D., E.H., J.S. and Leah Gourley*



CLUB SCENE

INDOOR FIREWORKS

New club developments for people who can differentiate between Pete Tong and kitchen tongs:

Emily's has just completed a mild revamp of its Winter Street digs. The place is spruced up, but everything's still pretty much where it used to be. Patrons with a Y chromosome will be distraught to hear that they now have to cough up a $5 cover charge after 11pm. Although, judging from the lengthy line on a recent Saturday night, nobody seems too worried about the new tariff.

Avalon has added a new wrinkle to its International Thursday nights: fashion shows. Since monied expatriates and dear duds go together like hairspray and Revere Beach, this style addendum is certain to be a success. Oct. 11 features Benetton, while Oct. 18 showcases the styles of Issey Miyake.

A little farther north, in Saugus, The Palace has opened a new club called Tilt, which boasts ex-Avalon mainstay DJ Manolo as the Saturday night resident. Expect over-the-top props like indoor fireworks, live club video projected on billowing silk and a liquid nitrogen system that can lower the air temperature by 20 degrees in eight seconds.

Last but not least, Sophia's has added a new room just in time for autumn, when chillin' on the roof deck can get very chilly indeed. The Champagne Room, on the basement level, aims to please the "playahs and playettes" looking to reserve tables. And, we assume, to drink some tasty bubbly. *—Ezra Dyer*



The newly renovated Champagne Room was recently host to a Salsa night.

AROUND TOWN

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

You know times are tough when you walk down Boylston Street and see a well-dressed 20-something camped out in front of Burger King doling out resumes. With his job skills neatly written out on a poster behind him, computer programmer Dean Jackson, 23, is bypassing the more typical lengthy job-search routes. Instead, he is letting the jobs come to him. The results? "Great," he says. "More than 15 people stopped to ask about my qualifications. I've been here an hour and a half, and I'm out of resumes. You'd never get a response that fast sending out resumes online." *—E.H. and J.S.*

PERSONALITY

OFF THE RACK

Short waist. Wide hips. Expansive thighs. Why do the features that make our bodies interesting and different emerge like demons when we step into a fitting room? Indeed, for most women, the odds of finding the perfect fit are as slim as having the lanky "model's body." But **Daniela Corte** is aiming to change that. In her small design studio on Newbury Street, Corte wants any woman to be able to slip into her dream pair of pants, skirt or top. "We can fit any person," Corte says of her namesake design studio, which opened earlier this year and just unveiled its fall/winter line. Here you'll find a range of styles, colors and styles that can be worn at parties, office meetings or everyday trips to the grocery store. The process is relatively straightforward: Clients make an appointment, get measured and then try on prototypes. Corte makes suggestions based on body type, skin tone and customer preferences. Sleeves too narrow? The on-site seamstress will add a bit more flair. Prices start at about $145 for a pair of pants. For most of us, that's a small price to pay for something that looks—and feels—like a million bucks. *—Susan Abbattista*



SAM SAYS

SAFETY FOR SKIN

Louis Boston is home to a unique line of skin-care and sun-care products with the mission to educate consumers about the harmful effects of sun damage. Cheryl Clarkson started SkinHealth after her only sibling was diagnosed with malignant melanoma at the age of 39. She's the inspiration behind SkinHealth's product line. The company also offers day creams, eye creams and self-tanners that are specifically formulated for your skin type. Their creams are non-greasy and they soak into skin quickly. Until recently, SkinHealth was only available in dermatologists' offices. A portion of SkinHealth sales will be donated to institutions researching cures for malignant melanoma. *—Samantha House*



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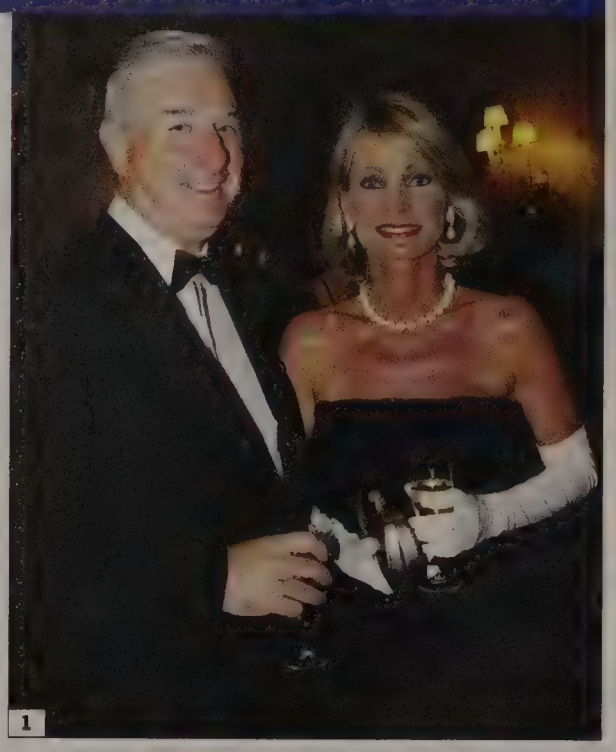
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Proper Bostonians BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The 7th Annual Swing into Fall Gala was held Sept. 21 at the Four Seasons Hotel.

1. **John Collins**, CEO of the Collins Group, and **Hollis Colby**, model/artist.
2. **Susann Proia** (l), general manager of the new Ralph Lauren Store on Newbury Street, and **Cricket Browne**, formerly of Ralph Lauren.
3. **Emily Webster**, director of special events for the Children's Trust Fund, and her husband, **Peter**, vice president of Webster & Company in the Boston Design Center.
4. **Caroline Coco**, associate at Alex Brown, and **Juan Prieto**, COO of Cabot, Cabot & Forbes.
5. **Maud Cabot**, co-chair of the event; **Alex Coogan**, architect in Manchester by the Sea; and **Tiverton McClintock**, product manager at Grantham, Mayo and Van Otterloo.
6. **Sarah Pitts**, associate at Shot Capital Management; **Holly Puff**, design associate at Su Casa Designs, in Chestnut Hill; and **Lydia Cottrell**, client relationship manager at Grantham, Mayo and Otterloo.


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Antoine Walker's 8 Foundation Party was held Sept. 25 at the Gucci boutique at Copley Place. The evening's highlight was a presentation of Gucci's fall and winter collection.

7. **John Narji**, general manager of Gucci; **Stacy Conner** and her husband, **Lester**, assistant coach for the Boston Celtics.
8. **John Campanario** and **Hilary Stafford**, urban programming manager and marketing manager, respectively, at Super Radio Networks.
9. **Erin Mantoosh**, mental health counselor at Newport County Mental Health, and **Todd McNulty**, real estate and commercial finance specialist for Evergreen Mortgage Advisors in Lincoln, R.I.
10. **Jennifer Young**, model, and **Adam Lawrence**, account executive for Vality Technology.
11. **Soosie Lazenby**, president and CEO of Mass. Sports Partnership; **Chris Wallace**, general manager of the Boston Celtics; and **Heather Michalowski**, director of marketing for the Rack.
12. Boston Celtics' **Joe Jackson**, **Milt Palacio** and **Antoine Walker**.


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12

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Making the Best of It

It's a tough time to travel, but the Web can make your journey a little easier

Even under normal conditions, traveling can be a hassle. Under the current circumstances, it can be insanely difficult. Airlines are canceling flights right and left because people are (quite understandably) afraid to fly. In addition, airports are tightening security, which causes additional delays. If you're already hunkered down at home, these problems aren't likely to have an impact on your life, but suppose you really need to travel. Not to worry; you've got the Internet to help speed you on your way.

Internet Strategy #1: Want to avoid air travel altogether? Book a train ticket on *www.amtrak.com*. If you're traveling between Boston and most major cities on the East Coast, the train is a wonderful alternative to an airline flight. The train from Boston's South Station to New York's Penn Station, for example, has roomy seats, some spectacular seaside views and a convenient drop-off in downtown Manhattan. Tip #1: If you take the new Acela high-speed train, the one-way trip from Boston to New York is less than 4 hours. Tip #2: If your destination is Washington, D.C., you can take a sleeper car and travel overnight. It costs about the same as a hotel room, and there's something very cool about eating your breakfast in a dining car.

Internet Strategy #2: Book a Bus Ticket on *www.greyhound.com*. Yeah, I know. Buses stink. But they go just about everywhere, they're relatively roomy, and they're cheap. Sure, buses may take a lot longer than a flight, they're seldom, if ever, cancelled and (barring a major traffic snarl) are usually on time. As a politically incorrect bonus, long-distance buses often travel through the toughest areas of the cities they pass through, allowing you to go slumming without personal risk. Bring binoculars if you have no shame. Tip #1: Greyhound offers a variety of discount programs and passes for everyone from students to companies sending employee groups to corporate training. Tip #2: Traveling by bus (or by train for that matter) is an excellent opportunity to find out whether that wireless modem actually works.

Internet Strategy #3: Drive there yourself using *www.mapquest.com*. This site not only provides you with maps and detailed step-by-step driving instructions but often can even provide an aerial photograph of your destination, right in the context of the streets that surround it. It's theoretically possible (according to Mapquest) to drive from Tremont Street in Boston to Cadillac Square in Detroit in only 12 hours and 17 minutes. If you don't want to use your own car, then try accessing *www.auto-rental-car-discount.com*, a site that brokers rental cars from multiple rental agencies. Tip #1: Don't sign up for the extra insurance because your own car insurance probably covers damage to a rental. Tip #2: Always fill up your gas tank before you turn in a rental car, unless you want to pay $3.50 (or more) per gallon. Tip #3: Check the Mapquest route with a map over before you leave; you might be able to find some shortcuts, especially in urban areas.

Internet Strategy #4: Book a domestic flight on *www.travelocity.com*. If you still prefer flying, booking flights on the Web is faster than doing it over the phone, and the airlines sometimes offer additional online discounts. What's more, you can not only compare the prices of different airlines, but can check, via the Web, whether your carrier is having problems that might delay your flight. Surf over to *www.cnn.com* and, in the search box in the upper left corner, type the airline name and hit "GO." You'll get a listing of the latest news stories about that carrier, so you can then decide whether or not the airline in question is a good bet. (Hint: It's a bad sign if the carrier is about to declare bankruptcy.) Tip #1: Always get the airline to send you a hard-copy ticket so that if your flight is cancelled you can move over to another airline. Tip #2: If your flight gets cancelled, get in line for reticketing, but also get on your cell phone and talk to the telephone reservation agent—it's like skipping to the front of the line. Tip #3: Some airlines have recently cancelled their food service as a cost-saving measure. Even if the carrier is serving "food," stop at your favorite restaurant on the way to the airport and pick up something tasty. Few things are more satisfying than pulling a gigantic submarine sandwich out of your carry-on bag when everyone else is trying to eat the chicken-flavored noodles. Get ready to hear at least one fellow passenger say "Now, why didn't I think of that?"

SURF OVER TO *WWW.CNN.COM* AND, IN THE SEARCH BOX, TYPE THE AIRLINE NAME AND HIT "GO." YOU'LL GET A LISTING OF THE LATEST STORIES ABOUT THAT CARRIER, SO YOU CAN THEN DECIDE WHETHER OR NOT THE AIRLINE IN QUESTION IS A GOOD BET.



Internet Strategy #5: Book an international flight on *www.expedia.com*. Microsoft's omnibus travel site allows you to set preferences about the airlines you'd like to fly. Tip #1: You might consider joining an airline club if you travel more than a few times a year—especially if you can convince your company to consider it a valid travel expense. Even if your flight is on another airline, you can hang around in the lounge, read the free newspapers, eat free peanuts and drink coffee or Perrier without having to deal with the hoi-poloi. Tip #2: If you're worried about delays or cancelations at U.S. airports, book your international flights in and out of Montreal, and take a shuttle flight back and forth. Worst case, you can drive back to Boston in a rental car.

Internet Strategy #6: Just say no. People travel for two reasons: business and pleasure. It's my experience that most offsite business meetings could just as easily be conducted via teleconferencing. While it's true that sometimes you need to "press the flesh," it's quite possible to cut million-dollar deals with people you've never met in person. Teleconferencing, along with e-mail and IM (Immediate Message) provide a viable alternative to the road-warrior school of management. As for pleasure travel: Is it really worth the hassle? You can always think of the current travel situation as a good opportunity for you to stay home and catch up on your Web surfing. **iB**

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of numerous articles and books about technology and management.

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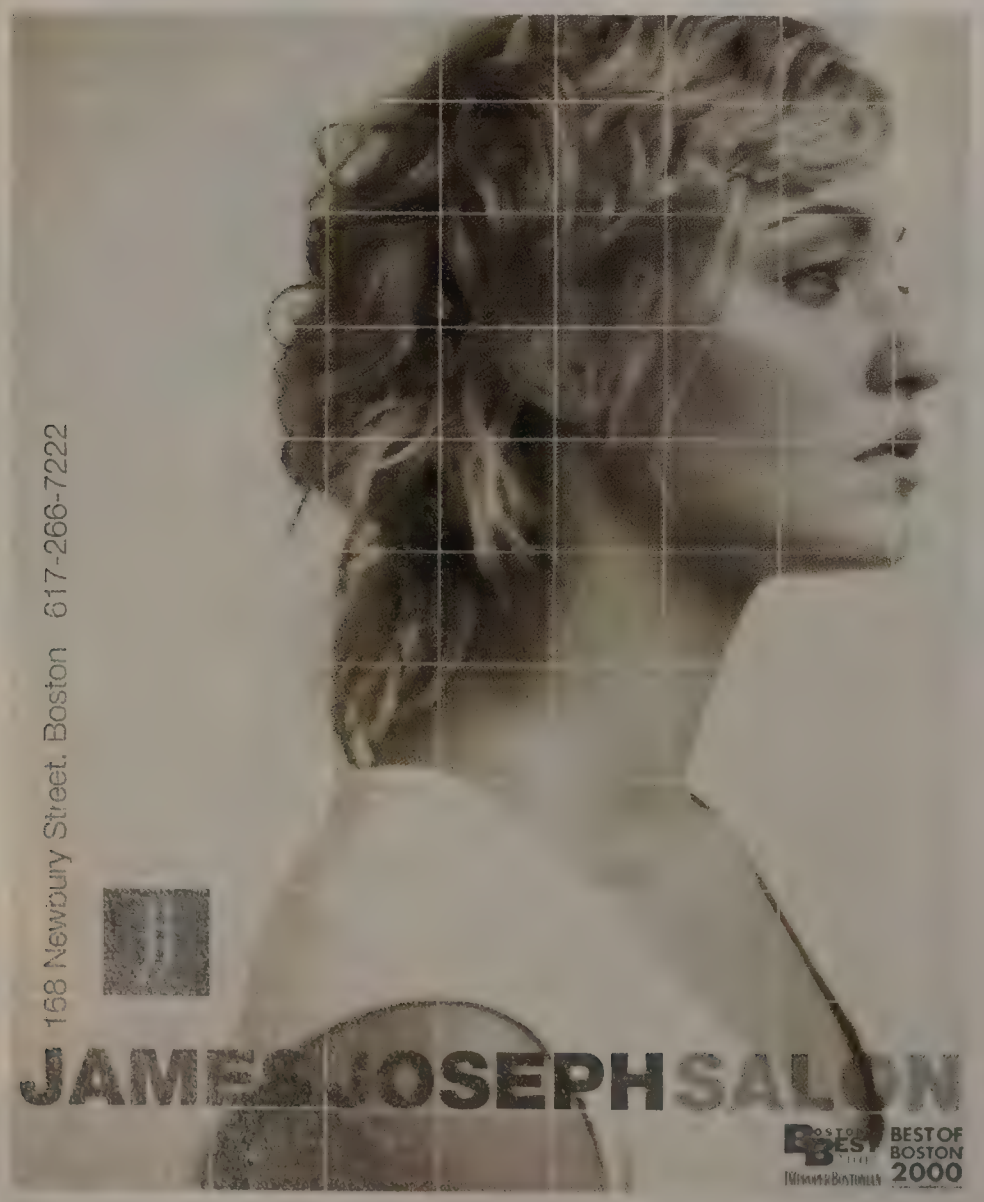


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Ezra BY EZRA DYER

Road Trip

Driving 1,700 miles in four days does not a vacation make

I am an overzealous vacationer. My holidays typically leave me hung over, burnt-out, overtired and generally disagreeable, because simply sitting on a beach—while a fantastic concept—invariably becomes stultifyingly boring after about two hours (three hours for topless beaches).



Having a gay old time at Mondavi.

Hence, last month I found myself piling into a rental car with friends Krishan and Wilson to embark on a road trip. Our game plan, in typical guy fashion, was moronically simple: We gave ourselves four days to drive up the West Coast from San Diego to Seattle. Further details were hard to specify, since it didn't occur to any of us to buy a map or guidebook before we set out.

Thus we began our trip aided only by a 7-11 map so old that California was labeled "Mexico." Luckily this was just a temporary guide, and after only 800 miles we stopped and picked up some proper books so that we wouldn't miss anything important the rest of the way. Bickering, which had been present at a low level all along, now intensified.

Before buying the guidebooks, we'd made our way happily along the coast, blundering into tourist attractions but not seeking them out. I was in favor of continuing this practice, while making exceptions for important items of interest. My comrades agreed, except that they defined "important items of interest" as "everything." My friend Wilson, in particular, was beset by an urge to chronicle our every mile by taking pictures with his endless supply of disposable cameras. And since we were driving north, all of the picturesque turn-offs that he wanted to stop at were on the wrong side of the road. This meant that our tourist stops typically began with Wilson madly cutting across the southbound lane as I and the driver of an oncoming logging truck witnessed each other's silent screams. For the effort, Wilson now has enough pictures of the California coastline that, were he to lay them end-to-end, would be somewhat longer than the California coastline itself.

Here are some other things you can argue about on a road trip: When to stop for gas. Where to stop for gas. How to get where you're going. Where to go in the first place. When to call it a day. How fast to drive. Whether or not to pass that truck. Which hotel will smell bad. Which one will be too expensive. Whether souvenirs must be purchased. Whether stopping at McDonald's is against the spirit of discovery, even if you are ready to eat the spare tire. Why Krishan is pouting, and if it's because nobody's offered to let him drive, that would be because he said he didn't want to, and if he really does he should just say so instead of acting like a woman and expecting us to interpret his mood.

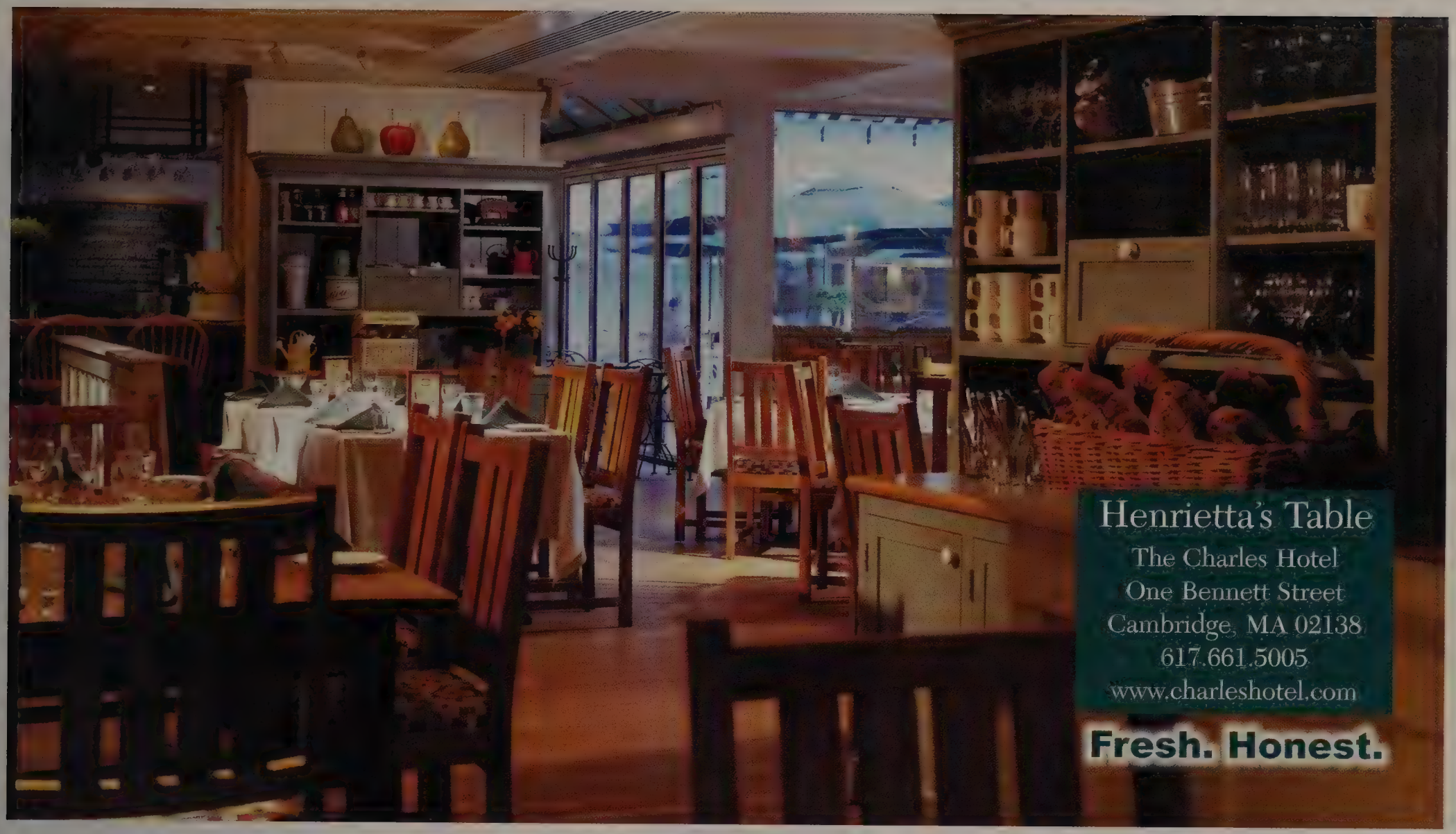
One thing that we all managed to agree on, however, was stopping at a winery in the Napa Valley. We randomly chose the Mondavi vineyard and signed up for a tour. I quickly realized that going on a wine tour with your male friends is second in gayness only to donning leather chaps and singing Village People karaoke at a bar named "The Manhole." As the couples in our group introduced themselves (and they were all couples), the Mondavi woman came to Wilson and me and teasingly asked if we knew each other. Completely confident in our masculinity, we said no.

Perhaps as a backlash from the winery tour, one of our subsequent stops was an appropriately manly pursuit: riding ATVs on the dunes in Oregon. Before we were turned loose, we got a tutorial on the lethality of ATV riding from a mildly brain-damaged fellow at the rental place: "If you jump these machines, you... will... die. If you try to turn on the side of a dune, you... will... die. If you fall off and die, you... will..." And so on. After letting this grave speech set in, we hit the dunes and drove carefully and responsibly for at least 30 seconds, after which a sort of testosterone challenge erupted between Wilson, Krishan and me to see who was the biggest badass. I'd have to give that honor to Wilson, who managed to jump off his machine shortly before it began a barrel-roll down one of the sheer slopes. Apparently, Brain Damage Man had a good point about trying to turn on the side of a dune.

When it was all over and I got back to Boston, it was as I expected: I needed a vacation from my vacation. Anybody know where to find the closest topless beach? iB

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Soroff/On

Bob Davis

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

A native of Dorchester, Lycos founder and former CEO Bob Davis went to BC High and received a BS, *summa cum laude*, from Northeastern. He then received an MBA (with high distinction) from Babson. After a variety of jobs in the high-tech field, he founded Lycos in June of 1995 and served as its chief executive until its merger with Terra.

Under his leadership, the company went from being the fastest IPO in Nasdaq history to one of the esteemed Nasdaq 100 in a span of merely nine months. In addition to serving as a vice chairman and board member of Terra Lycos, he is currently a partner at Highland Capital Partners, a venture-capital firm. The recipient of an honorary degree from Bentley College, he serves on the board of BC High, the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce, the Mass. Interactive Media Council and The Man.com. His book, *Speed of Life*, is currently a bestseller, and his share of its profits will benefit the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. He lives in the western suburbs of Boston with his wife and children.

Jonathan Soroff: *Your business creed seems to be all about speed. Does that carry over into your personal life, like driving, getting impatient…*

Bob Davis: If you look up road rage in a dictionary, you're probably gonna find a picture of me. Yeah, it carries over. I'm a state trooper's dream.

JS: *Do you ever stop to smell the roses?*

BD: Not enough. Maybe a bit more now, but for me, the roses are building these businesses, and I don't feel any shame in that. It's OK to love your work.

JS: *In your book, you maintain that the separation between Internet companies and other companies isn't valid, and that "the business of the Internet is business." Isn't the business of the Internet actually adult entertainment, or a convenient form of shopping?*

BD: Well, I suppose that the Internet for many people has replaced the camcorder as an adult toy, but separate from that, I think it's the most profound commercial, social, democratic vehicle in the history of man. It's changed all the rules. The way people communicate with one another. E-mail has become not just an accepted standard but a required standard. Instant messaging has satisfied our need for urgent dialogue. The dissemination of electronic information has proven to be a trusted source of data. The Internet has toppled regimes around the world, by being used to organize grassroots movements. Probably the ultimate irony, talking about the Internet's influence: We had the WTO protests out in Seattle, that were essentially people angry about globalization, using probably the ultimate tool of globalization, the Internet, as the principle tool to spread the word.

JS: *Most annoying thing about the 'Net?*

BD: Pop-up windows that never end.

JS: *Most abused aspect of the 'Net?*

BD: The anonymity. Everybody's had an instant voice without having to take responsibility for what they say.

JS: *Is that the most dangerous aspect of the Web?*

BD: I'd say that among the threats is the unrestricted prevalence of hate, violence and pornography. In a civilized society, we have norms and rules that restrict access to certain information, and it has nothing to do with a First Amendment issue. We don't allow kids to go into a store and buy *Hustler*. On the Web, we not only allow it, we encourage it.



"WE'RE IN THE EARLY STAGES OF THE DIGITAL AGE. AND THE USE OF THE WEB IS JUST BEGINNING."

JS: *You have a reputation for street smarts. Biggest lesson you ever learned on the street?*

BD: That the other guy eventually gives up, and that perseverance is a meaningful differentiator in any circumstance you find yourself in, whether it's personal or business.

JS: *In under six years, you took Lycos from a $2 million start-up to an almost $6 billion company. What was your cut?*

BD: [Laughs.] Well, how to answer that? A nice life.

JS: *What do you guess will become of that whole generation who thought that just because they had a Harvard MBA they'd be mega-rich upon graduation?*

BD: It didn't require a Harvard MBA. All it required was a Smith Elementary School degree and people thought they'd belong to the ranks of the super-rich. It's a rude wake-up call. In 1998, early 1999, it was not at all unusual to have people coming in, first-time employees, first job they ever had, expecting to own a sizable piece of the company, and saying, "If I can't be a millionaire in six months, I'm going to work somewhere else." But that's not the real world, and it's never been.

JS: *What's your biggest personal indulgence?*

BD: There's plenty, but I'd have to think about one I'd want to publicize.

JS: *So how do you teach your kids the value of a dollar?*

BD: Umm, my kids have, I believe and I hope, little concept as to whether we're rich or we're poor, and my kids don't have any silver spoon anywhere near them. In fact, they have sort of a wooden spoon with splinters that lets them understand that the good things in life only come with hard work.

JS: *What's the future of the Internet?*

BD: I believe, if anything, that the Internet is underhyped, notwithstanding the unqualified excitement over valuation at certain companies. We're in the early stages of the digital age, and the use of the Web is just beginning.

JS: *OK, as accomplished as you are, your name is a little bland. Don't you wish you had a name as snappy as Desh Deshpande, or Nicholas Negroponte?*

BD: Yeah, I was thinking about changing my name to John Smith to make it more exciting.

JS: *Smartest businessman or most impressive mogul you know?*

BD: Probably Steve Case, because not only is he a likable man, he pulled off the coup of the millennium with the acquisition of Time Warner. AOL would be a $4.75 stock short of that merger, and he put a floor under it, frankly, just in the nick of time.

JS: *Do you go to Davos, or any other billionaire retreats, and if so, what really goes on?*

BD: Sure, I go to several a year, and there's power networking and deals. I think the attendees are showing up looking to get something done, and even if they're not quite sure what, there's enough dialogue that out of those events a deal is always born.

JS: *Favorite thing about growing up in Dorchester?*

BD: On Friday nights, essentially the whole neighborhood would go up to the high school and we'd box ourselves silly.

JS: *Tell me an anecdote about Bill Gates.*

BD: His house could probably qualify as the Eighth Wonder of the World. It's tasteful luxury, a gadget lover's dream. It's automation at its best. It has a circular rotunda library with original works by Leonardo da Vinci and letters from Napoleon to Josephine lining the shelves.

JS: *How about the most distasteful thing about the economic boom of the last 10 years?*

BD: That people with money became our heroes.

JS: *Last question: If I put a dot-com after my name, can I have $10 million in venture capital?*

BD: If you can work with Michael J. Fox and get back to the future, it's yours. iB

LAWRENCE MILLER

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LEUVEN BELGIUM

OBVIOUSLY, A COMPLIMENT.

boston INTERNET 2001

ALIVE AND KICKIN'

boston by keyboard

dot-com survivors

home

Internet companies are gearing up for life after the dot-com doldrums

BY GEOFFREY JAMES

When it comes to the Internet, the sad truth is that the future isn't what it used to be. At least 642 Internet companies have folded since January of last year, and it's clear from current economic indicators that there are more to come. Needless to say, Boston has taken its share of hits, and there's probably nobody in the city who doesn't have at least one friend or colleague who's been laid off as the result of the dot-com slowdown. The failure of so many Internet-focused companies no doubt has some people wondering whether the Internet might have been nothing more than a flash in the pan. But Boston's high-tech gurus assure us that nothing could be further from the truth.

"The problem with most dot-coms was that they were products masquerading as companies," says Stephen J. Killeen, president of Terra Lycos, whose Lycos division is based in Waltham. "They were too focused on a single product or service and weren't paying attention to the bottom line," he says. That doesn't mean that Web commerce isn't going to continue to grow. "A lot of Internet consumer activity is shifting away from the smaller sites to larger sites that conglomerate content," explains Killeen, who believes that only large sites with an enormous amount of content are likely to survive in the long run. This is not to say that Killeen doesn't have his own problems in today's business climate. While the Lycos sites are the fourth-most-visited in the world, according to market-research firm Jupiter Media Metrix, Lycos still lags well behind industry leaders Yahoo, America Online and Microsoft. Killeen, however, has definite plans to strategically position his company into a sustainable enterprise. "We're extending our business model to get revenue from sources such as online sales rather than depending upon online advertising," he explains.

The main change in today's surviving Internet businesses is that their executives no longer try to pretend that the normal rules of business don't apply to the Internet. "The industry learned a fundamental lesson that nothing—not even fabulous technology—repeals the law of profitability," says Bob Davis, vice chairman of Terra Lycos and partner at Boston-based venture-capital firm Highland Capital Partners Inc. Davis believes that we're in what he calls the Digital Decade, meaning that the Internet will inevitably alter the way that people obtain and share information. However, he's the first to admit that the Internet has suffered from a disparity between hype and reality.

As touted, the Internet was supposed to radically change the way that companies do business, putting traditional companies out of business. Consumers were expected to immediately abandon brick-and-mortar stores in favor of online shopping. The reality didn't match expectations. "Today's new economy still pales next to the size and scope of the real world," says Carl Howe, principal analyst at Boston-based Forrester Research Inc. According to Howe, the Web still suffers from "unsatisfying sites, content-free content and flat experiences." Despite this, the Internet is "booming," Howe says. In fact, the Internet is responsible for more than 3 million jobs worldwide—which accounts for more than twice as many people employed in the real-estate industry—even after the dot-com decline.

So where are all these jobs? One hot area for Internet companies is business-to-business (B2B) applications such as supply-chain management. An increasing number of real-world firms are using the Web to coordinate the shipment of raw materials, components and finished products. "Supply-chain execution has become more of a focus, and this trend is expected to continue," says Michael Bittner, director of research at Boston-based AMR Research. In fact, the worldwide market for supply-chain services accounted for a generous $23 billion in vendor revenue in 2000 and is experiencing a growth rate that will bring it to nearly $83 billion by 2005, according to Ting Piper, a program manager at market researcher International Data Corp., based in Framingham, Mass.

Another area of the Internet that's still seeing action is the building of the infrastructure that underpins the Web, according to Paul R. Gudonis, chairman and CEO of Woburn-based Genuity Inc., which provides Internet access and services to businesses. "Most of our 6,000 customers are operating at the large enterprise level," he explains. "We had less exposure to the dot-coms than many of our competitors." Not that Genuity has escaped unscathed from the dot-com crash. The company's stock price is currently around $1.50 a share, down from high of $11.25 in June of last year. However, despite its decline in stock value, Genuity recently purchased a European Internet firm, adding 1,000 employees to the company's world-



Tom Koulopoulos, president of Boston-based Delphi Group and best-selling author of online business books.

SAM WRIGHT



Paul R. Gudonis (standing), chairman and CEO of Genuity Inc., at his colorful offices.

"The industry learned a fundamental lesson that nothing—not even fabulous technology—repeals the law of profitability."

—Bob Davis, partner, Highland Capital Partners

wide base of 4,200 employees, 2,400 of which work in the Boston area. "We're helping our customers reduce costs and improve their asset utilization," says Gudonis, "and there's a big demand for the kind of managed services that our company supplies."

E-government is another hotbed of activity, according to David Lewis, the CIO for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Earlier this year, Lewis worked with a team of about 70 local people—including Terra Lycos's Bob Davis and former Governor Paul Cellucci—to develop a report that recommended aggressive initiatives that would make it easier for businesses and citizens using the Web to obtain information and complete transactions with government agencies. "The task force recommended projects that will require expenditures of over $93 million but will yield over $249 million in benefits," says Lewis. "And that doesn t count the significant value of each citizen having the government more easily available and more responsive to their needs."

The gurus agree that the Internet downturn will be a short-lived phenomenon. "When the first settlers in Boston dumped the foothills into the swamplands, they had no idea that the area would someday be a city of skyscrapers," muses Tom Koulopoulos, president of the Boston-based Delphi Group and author of several best-selling books covering online business. "It takes a long time to build a real foundation, and the fact that some Internet business models didn't work out doesn't mean that the Internet isn't having an impact on society and on businesses." Koulopoulos points out that Boston has a unique culture that will make it easier to take advantage of the Internet as it develops in the future: "We're a community, and we network—in a people-to-people sense—much more than in other cities." He also believes that the city's business diversity as a center for biotechnology, publishing, research and financial services insulates Boston from the temporary downturn in the high-tech sector. "Boston is a very resilient business community," he says. "We're not a one-crop town."

Tom Austin, group vice president and research fellow at a Nashua, N.H., office of Gartner Inc., says that the Internet is destined to become an integral part of businesses just like electricity and the telephone, but that the process will largely be transparent to most people. "Businesses don't think of themselves as electricity-enabled or telephone-enabled," he quips. "The Internet will eventually be as intrinsic to our lives as electricity and the telephone." Austin believes that although the current year looks "relatively bleak," the ebb of interest and investment in the Internet is strictly temporary. "Now's the time to position yourselves for the next major cycle of change," he says.

Despite the dot-com crash, the Internet is becoming increasingly pervasive, especially in the workplace. According to a recent study by Pitney Bowes, 84 percent of workers in the United States use the Internet every day or several times a week, and a whopping 97 percent use e-mail every day or several times a week—making e-mail more popular than even the telephone. In short, the dot-com crash may have been a rude awakening, but the foundation is being laid for companies to make large amounts of money sometime in the future. "The Internet represents a massive opportunity space for economic activity, technology development, service delivery, systems integration, information access, person-to-person communication and experience sharing," says Austin.

If the high-tech gurus are correct, Boston has a good chance of getting more than its share of the action. iB



SAM WRIGHT

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alive and kickin'

BOSTON BY KEYBOARD

dot-com survivors

Economic downturn or not, it's still possible to get just about anything you want on the Web.

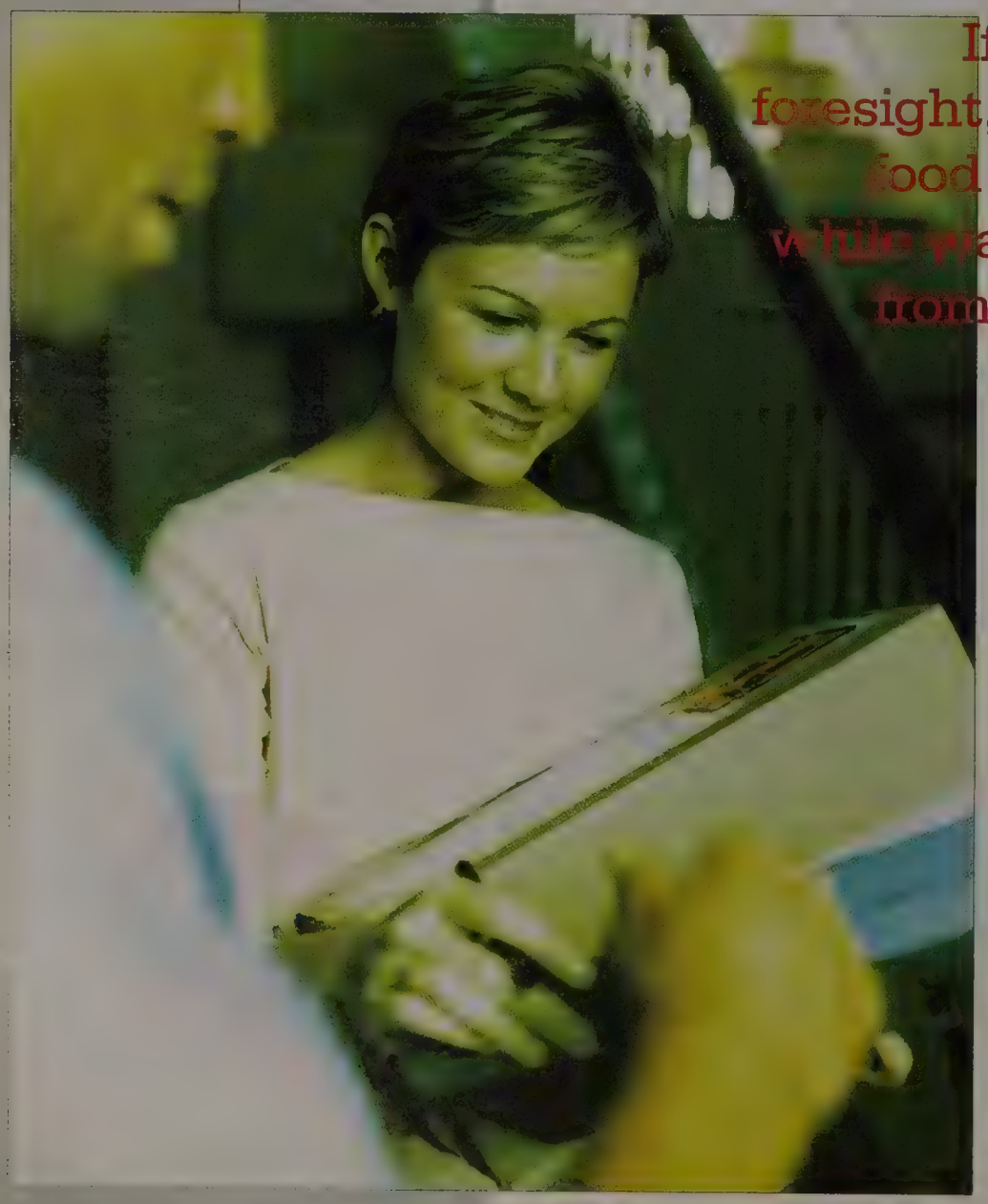
BY EZRA DYER

Hypothetical situation: You've come down with a bad case of the flu, and you're going to be laid up for a while. Your only contact with the outside world is your trusty high-speed Internet connection (your only telephone is your cell, which has been out of commission since you dropped it). It's still possible to get online financial services and just about any kind of merchandise—from Duck Tour tickets (*www.ducktours.com*) to confiscated stolen bikes (*www.stealitback.com*), but given the overall fizzle of e-tailers in the past year, are there still enough online services to get you through a housebound spell in comfort?

First you'll need food, but no longer can you summon a bag of Doritos and a Coke from *Kozmo.com* with a click of the mouse. And online grocers such as *HomeRuns.com* and *Webvan.com* have also bowed out, leaving the Boston market entirely to Stop 'N Shop subsidiary *Peapod.com*.

Getting your groceries through Peapod can be more expensive than actually visiting Stop 'N Shop (the delivery fee ranges from $4.95 for orders over $75 to $9.95 for orders from $50-$74, and prices are not guaranteed to match those in the store), but then again, Peapod is the only game in town. And, if you're determined to get a bargain, you can take advantage of Peapod's online coupons, which can include free delivery on some days. The downside, as with many Internet services, is that a customer must embrace delayed gratification: If you're hungry *right now*, a Peapod order won't do you much good, since deliveries are scheduled for the next day at the earliest.

In that case, *www.diningin.com* will come to the rescue. Diningin.com is the delivery service for scores of area restaurants, covering a wide range of culinary territory for denizens of Greater Boston. From the time you submit your order, Diningin.com typically takes about an hour to deliver your food (although it can take longer, depending on your location). Besides the convenience of browsing menus online, you're certainly not going to get anyone else to bring you an order of Cambodian *loc lac* from the Elephant Walk. If you're really in a rush, go to *www.roggies.com*. Brighton-based Roggie's has its own online ordering system, and your request for swordfish sticks and a jalapeno-and-sausage pizza prints out in its kitchen as soon as you submit it, cutting total delivery time to the half-hour range.



If you've had a little foresight, you can scarf your food from *Diningin.com* while watching a new DVD from *www.Netflix.com*.

If you've had a little foresight, you can scarf your food while watching a new release on DVD from *www.netflix.com*. Netflix has managed to keep its head above water by steadily increasing its customer base, which now numbers 300,000 subscribers nationwide. For $21.95 per month, you can rent unlimited DVDs with no late fees. The main caveat (other than, again, the lack of instant gratification—movies take three to four days to arrive) is that you can only have three movies at one time with the basic plan. So you'll have to pace yourself, Ebert.

You may be feeling under the weather, but you decide a beer might help you restore some vitality. So you log on to *www.net2phone.com* and set up an account that allows you to use your computer as a phone over the Internet (providing your PC has a microphone and speakers). You could call your hot-tempered lover in Italy for five cents a minute, but you've got a more pressing task at hand. You connect with Bauer Wine and Spirits in the Back Bay, which offers free delivery with a $40 purchase. In a half-hour they've delivered you a stockpile of Guinness. Since you don't want to drink alone, you then go to *www.camcentral.com* and pull up a stool with some virtual drinking buddies via the pub cam at the Crown Liquor Saloon in Belfast, Ireland.

This stimulates your interest in international culture, so when you've finished your pint you take a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts on *www.mfa.org*. There you can take a virtual tour of more than 500 pieces of the museum's vast collection, from Picasso to Pollock.

Your intellect sated, it's time to take care of some business. Interest on your parking tickets is accruing, so you go to *www.cityofboston.gov* and pay them (by paying online, you can take care of your tickets instantly without incurring the added fee of pay-by-phone). While you're there, you can also pay the excise tax on your car.

So you go to *www.drugstore.com* and order yourself some Advil, plus a month's supply of Propecia. Of course you don't need the Propecia because you're certainly not going bald or anything, but at $43.92 it's such a good deal that you find it hard to resist. *Drugstore.com* claims that its drugs are generally cheaper than those at your neighborhood pharmacy, and indeed an identical dose of Miracle-Gro for the pate costs $56 at your local CVS (although, in its battle with Drugstore.com, *CVS.com* offers it for $45.29). Overnight shipping is available, but if you can wait, standard five-day shipping is free.

Even after a couple of Guinnesses and Advils, you're still feeling achy. So you log onto *www.Iwantamassage.com* and search the Boston area for masseuses who make house calls. You can then use the supplied e-mail addresses to get in touch with people who will come work out your knots.

Finally, before you go to bed, you get back on the 'Net. You've gotten a lot accomplished online, but you have one more mission: To go on *www.verizon.com* and order a new phone. iB



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Guys line up for our Sunday football brunch.


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boston INTERNET 2001

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boston by keyboard



In the old days, start-ups were furnished with the best of everything, and then some.

DOT-COM SURVIVORS

They're out there—leaner and meaner than ever

BY ALEX SHAPIRO

April 2000—Seven Foodline.com colleagues are bombing down the highway in a 32-foot, 1976 Sportscoach that has also served as Ted Kennedy's campaign vehicle. There is a keg in the bathroom, Cool Boarders 2 on the PlayStation and a decent bake-down session under way in the back. Suddenly, the music stops. I take one look at the tangle of wires connecting the CD player to the dashboard stereo and yell, "Hey, can we get a techie over here?" Thirty seconds later, the chorus fades in: "Bawitdaba-da-bang-da-dang-diggy-diggy-diggy-said-the-boogie-said-up-jump-the-boogie… My name is KIIIIIIID!" It's all so clear. We work hard. We party hard. Foodline.com cannot be stopped! People are lining up to give us more money! Online reservations technology rules!

August 2000—Checks are bouncing. For some reason, no one at Foodline.com has been paid in four weeks. (I am afraid to tell even my family for fear that they would insist I call a lawyer. Then word would get around, and my stock options would be in jeopardy.) A closed-door meeting is called, and the editorial staff is fired via conference call from New York with the company president. This is our last contact with a man we habitually called "our fearless leader."

October 2000—The boogie's over entirely. Foodline.com collapses and shortly thereafter files for bankruptcy protection.

Foodline.com was among the earliest casualties of what has been called the dot-com shakeout, bust, bomb or meltdown. As close to 700 Internet companies folded, disappearing with them were the inflated hopes—and jobs—of dot-com dreamers. Also factor in the vast number of failures and layoffs at local off-line dot-com companies as the rush to go online subsided. These support businesses: consultancies, design firms, network infrastructure vendors, telecom service providers and finally PR and marketing firms were all integral to the industry. If the Leather District was a gold-rush town only six months ago, chock-a-block with hot dot-com doings, it's an Internet ghost town now. Venture capital here, as elsewhere, has all but dried up for new dot-coms. Neither Forrester Research, nor Jupiter, nor any of the big industry research and report firms have a definitive count, but estimates are that more than $2 trillion evaporated from the technology-heavy, new economy Nasdaq as a result of the shakeout.

Everyone has their theory of what happened: Too many people doing the same thing. Good-time buddies with bad business models. Too much foosball. Not enough experience.

Wayne Howe, president of a Internet professional services firm called the Boston Internet Group, had been in high-tech for more than a decade when dot-com frenzy peaked in 1999. He couldn't believe the audacious things he saw. "Start-ups furnishing with the best of everything and buying BMWs with VC[venture capital]," he remembers. "Recruiting people after school who need babysitters more than managers. You were making deals with the devil just to get people in here."

One of the reasons Howe says his company, which offers Internet professional services, is still "doing OK" or "maybe even thriving," is that it never took any venture capital. "When things got bad," he says, referring to the overall dot-com climate, "we didn't have a lot of people looking over our shoulders saying 'pull the plug.'" And, he confides, "We never thought we were going to rule the world."

That (mis)belief that the world was out there to be dominated was, in the opinion of many, what propelled the enormous and rapid growth of the Internet. Probably the most fervent true believers were the little guys with a few stock options and a pep talk ringing in their ears. For every "daring entrepreneur" and "trail-blazing visionary" lauded in *The Industry Standard*, there were scores of dedicated foot soldiers plugging away. From the maniacal rookie programmers putting in 100-hour weeks to the sleepless salespeople, the mantra was "IPO, IPO, IPO."

The buzz was relentless, to the point that even sensible people were propelled into reaching for too much, too fast. "I never, ever went into it with the expectation of



RICK FRIEDMAN

getting rich," says Foodline.com former Chief Technology Officer Tom Infantino. His expectations were much more reasonable: "To build a company and build an environment that would be a fantastic environment to work in. To slowly grow a sustainable company with a reasonable business model that would eventually be a good purchase target. And that we would walk away and do something else after a few years."

What went wrong? "Simply put," says Infantino, "we tried to grow too fast. Our investors wanted a nationwide company that had inroads to restaurants across the United States that would eventually IPO. To get the IPO and every restaurant in the country, you have to grow really fast. We had 65 salespeople across the country and were in discussions with people in Europe. Everybody knew we would need more money at our growth rate. When push came to shove, there was no more money out there for those who weren't profitable already. If we had just focused on the Boston–New York area, we'd still be out there today. By the time July and August came around, we couldn't turn things around. It was too late. We were committed to the business plan we had put together. The only thing that could have prevented[our demise]is if we had taken a more conservative approach and had been fiscally wise with our money. Did we really need to be in Minneapolis? Maybe we did. It mattered to the people who gave us money. Some of the smartest businesspeople were doing the same thing. The head of Anderssen Consulting (now Accenture) left to go to Webvan. That's what people did during that time."

Just as a coach leads his team into the fray regardless of their odds, so did dot-com managers inspire their charges to believe in success beyond reason. "I can't tell you how many times I'd be deliveringa pack of Skittles to some guy at one in the morning, and he'd ask me about how the company planned to make their money," recalls former Kosmo.com courier/manager Luke Bistoury. That's when Bistoury thought of the story that his hiring manager told him about the janitor at Amazon.com who was a millionaire many times over from stock options. Everyone had a version of this song-and-dance routine: Market share, change the world and so on. We were all reps. "You know, we all went into it thinking we were pioneers," Bistoury says now. "We left as has-beens."

Of course, the sky has not fallen on the Internet. Plenty of dot-coms have weathered the storm. They are leaner, meaner. Lack of venture capital means that any new start-ups are either self-funded or they have an investor who just says no to juvenile perks (in-ground pools, albino tigers and other over-the-top requests). Gone are the days of Dot-com Paradise. Out went innocence and indulgence; in came experience and fundamental management principles.

I asked Bill Hughes, a talent hunter for Aquent in Boston and Web recruiter for Rita Sue Siegel Resources in New York, where a job-seeking guy like me could find a foosball table these days. "On eBay," he told me. "Part of the problem was that the culture of those companies was too foosball. While I was recruiting for those people, you just knew that there were a lot of them who would not survive." Don't expect to go to work in sleeveless shirts and jeans anymore, either. "Once the product is developed, the primary purchasers are suits," says Hughes. "Suits buy from other suits."



A dot-com office today.

"We all went into it thinking we were pioneers. We left as has-beens."

Friends and family of mine who have signed on with dot-coms in the aftermath have much more realistic expectations. The burst bubble of Internet speculation is actually a blessing for programmer John Cahill, who managed to catch the "scroogie" from not one but two failed Greater Boston dot-coms. "The Internet companies put my life into fast-forward," says Cahill. "People would want things updated to the Web sites constantly, yesterday if they could get it. You'd do one thing; the next minute it was wrong. I know that I still want to build Web sites, but not be rushed around and hounded constantly. I want to be around people who want to work and enjoy their work, not around people who are only there to get rich, or to say they work at a dot-com, or people who worry about how their stocks are doing every minute of the day."

Derek Paplau and I did some time together back in 1997 as cubicle-dwelling, suit-wearing portfolio administrators at State Street Bank. He is nearing a year of stock-option-free employment as a product manager at Intranets.com, a company that has been designing, developing and maintaining intranet software for five years and providing intranets to businesses and organizations via the Internet since August 1999. Intranets.com made the transition from an ad-based model to a subscription-based product this year—so people are actually paying for their services now—a change in strategy that Paplau said was scary but exciting.

Exciting? "It's totally not State Street Bank," Paplau assures me from his office in Woburn. "It feels like an Internet company," he says, citing the fast pace, tight-knit staff, good morale, relaxed dress code and "incredible" work ethic. "Plus," he says. "I personally like working in the medium, having a product road map and a long-term outlook."

October 2001—Recently my sensible younger sister started a job at Headhunter.net, a Web site that allows people to apply online for jobs. Since a larger company had acquired the 6-year-old company a few days before she was hired—or so the company line goes—Emily just missed out on stock options. Not that she seems to care. (Nor should she, right?) When I asked if they have cool perks, like Sony PlayStations, satellite TV and a refrigerator full of beer, she laughs, "They used to, back in the heyday." Emily loves her new job and says the environment is pretty cool at Headhunter, but she doesn't think it feels like an Internet company. It's not Woodstock. It's an office. It's a job. It's what people do. "Hey," she points out, "they still have free soda."

Me—I'm pretty happy these days, earning my keep as a bartender. And, as my sister tells me, I've probably got one of the most secure jobs out there. "People are always going to need a drink," she assures me. And, like her, I get free soda, too. iB

Information for this article was culled from recent studies published by Webmergers—a research firm based in San Francisco—and Challenger, Gray & Christmas, a Chicago-based outplacement firm. Additional information was provided by Mass eComm.

"I asked where a job-seeking guy like me could find a foosball table these days."

"On eBay.... The culture of those [Web] companies was too foosball."





BROOKE RICHARD



Ahoy! Swashbuckling captain Peter Cotte (right), and his first mate, Kristin Fraser, sailed the high seas for nine months.

The Road Less Traveled

Stepping away from the 9-to-5 routine can be a rejuvenating experience.

by Julie Short

KRISTIN FRASER DECIDED SHE'D HAD ENOUGH. After two years of teaching emotionally and behaviorally disturbed middle-school students in Boston, she'd put up with stressful working conditions for too long without adequate support from the school's administration. When a student physically assaulted her in the classroom, she decided to call it quits. "My safety was in jeopardy, and I needed a change for my own sanity," says Fraser, a 25-year-old former college swimmer who hardly looks like the type to be intimidated by a teenager.

In June, she quit her job, and for three straight months she and her boyfriend, Peter Cotte, spent every weekend turning an old, weathered sailboat into a seaworthy vessel. Relying on instruction manuals and advice from experienced sailors, the pair installed an engine, toilet, water filters and a grounding plate for lightning; set up solar panels to recharge the boat's battery; replaced the lifelines; fixed the wiring; and painted and varnished the exterior. In October, they packed their bags and boarded the 30-foot sailboat for a nine-month journey along the Intracoastal Waterway to the Caribbean islands.

It was a bold move, Fraser admits. "My co-workers couldn't fathom it," she says. "In their minds, you work and save money in your 20s so that you can do something like this in your 40s or 50s. What people don't understand is that we had no outstanding bills, our cars were paid for, and we were renting our apartments. The timing was perfect."

The reaction of Fraser's coworkers—equal parts envy and disbelief—isn't all that surprising. The idea of taking a break from one's career to travel abroad or volunteer for a year is still widely regarded with skepticism—and a dash of jealousy. A few companies, mainly high-tech ventures like Accenture, Cisco Systems Inc. and Gartner Inc., offer paid sabbaticals for their employees—but they are definitely exceptions to the rule. Yet more men and women are opting to shift gears midcareer so they can get out there and experience life firsthand—from the deck of a sailboat or over the handlebars of a bike.

Whether it means requesting unpaid leave (with fingers crossed), or simply quitting their jobs and taking off for unknown lands, anecdotal evidence shows that sabbaticals are becoming an accepted, and cherished, alternative to the grind. "People are starting to realize that they can get away from the 9-to-5 routine—that there's no rule requiring everyone to put on a gray flannel suit for 40 years with the same employer and two weeks of vacation every year," says Ron Lieber, co-author of *Taking Time Off* and a senior writer at *Fast Company* magazine.

Certainly, today's workers feel less allegiance to their companies than previous generations—the average duration of employment is a mere three and a half years, according to a study conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in February 2000. "People over 50 have never expected to step out of their lives. But the younger generations aren't going to live that way. Unlike our parents, we don't want to sit in an office forever. It's not healthy," says Lieber. Many of us remember watching our parents remain loyal to their companies for 30 years only to be rewarded with a pink slip. With that image in our minds, we want to get out there and conquer the world before it conquers us. "You're going to reinvent yourself several times in your life. You might as well start now," says Cornelius Bull, director for the Center for Interim Programs, a Cambridge-based organization that helps individuals plan time off.

In his 21 years as the center's director, Bull has helped numerous men and women take a step back from their careers and pursue their passions—from teaching English in Katmandu to making guitars in Devon, England. Most people's reaction: "Why didn't I do this sooner?" says Bull. The Baby Boomers have time and money, and now they're asking, "What the hell am I doing with my life?"

For Ralph Bryant, a 51-year-old manager of a small medical-device manufacturing group in Lexington, escape meant cycling 4,800 miles across the country—from Seattle to Boston—with his 25-year-old daughter and her boyfriend for three months. "The luxury of having one thing to focus on is wonderful," says Bryant of his experience. "So much of life today is fragmented between demands at work, home and play. On this trip, every day I woke up and knew what I was going to do: pack up my tent and ride my bike," he says.

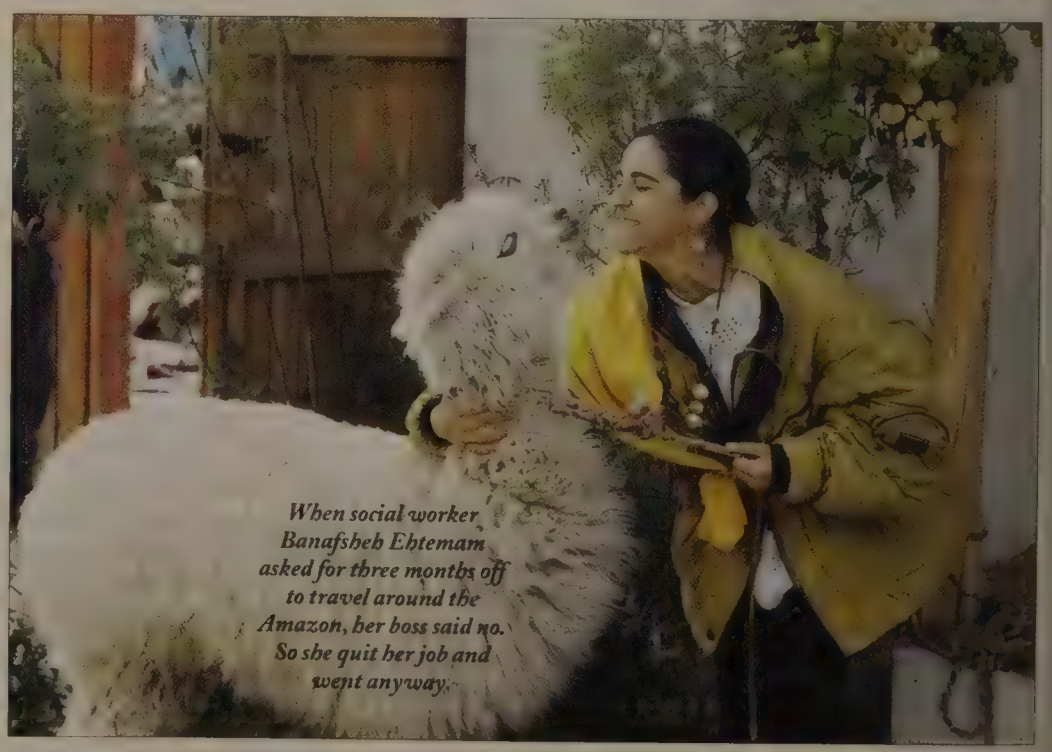
Getting the Go-Ahead

It's the rare company that will allow employees to take three months off for a bicycle trip. The very definition of "sabbatical"—a break or change from the normal routine—is typically an alien concept in the corporate world. According to the Society for Human Resource Management, in Alexandria, Va., the publishing industry is the most accepting of sabbaticals, with the education sector and high-tech firms following close behind. We all but sign our personal lives away when we agree to the standard two weeks of paid vacation per year in corporate America. But both Bull and Lieber agree that when the economy turns around, some of the more forward-thinking companies will incorporate time off into their benefits packages, along with flex time, job sharing and telecommuting. "Highly recruited employees are going to insist upon those things," says Bull.

Bryant submitted his request for unpaid leave nine months in advance. "I had to thoroughly explain how my responsibilities would be covered by my coworkers in my absence," he says. Every month, he'd ask his manager whether his proposal had been accepted. Finally, two weeks before he was scheduled to leave, he got the OK from the higher-ups at his company—albeit with great reluctance, he says. "They were afraid many of my duties would fall through the cracks. I had a little more faith in my subordinates."

When Banafsheh Ehtemam, a 33-year-old social worker who'd been working for the Department of Social Services for two and a half years, asked for three months off to travel and live with a native tribe in the Amazon, her boss said no. So she quit and went anyway. "Jobs are always there. When you return, you can humble yourself to do anything to pay the rent while you look for the job you really want," she says.

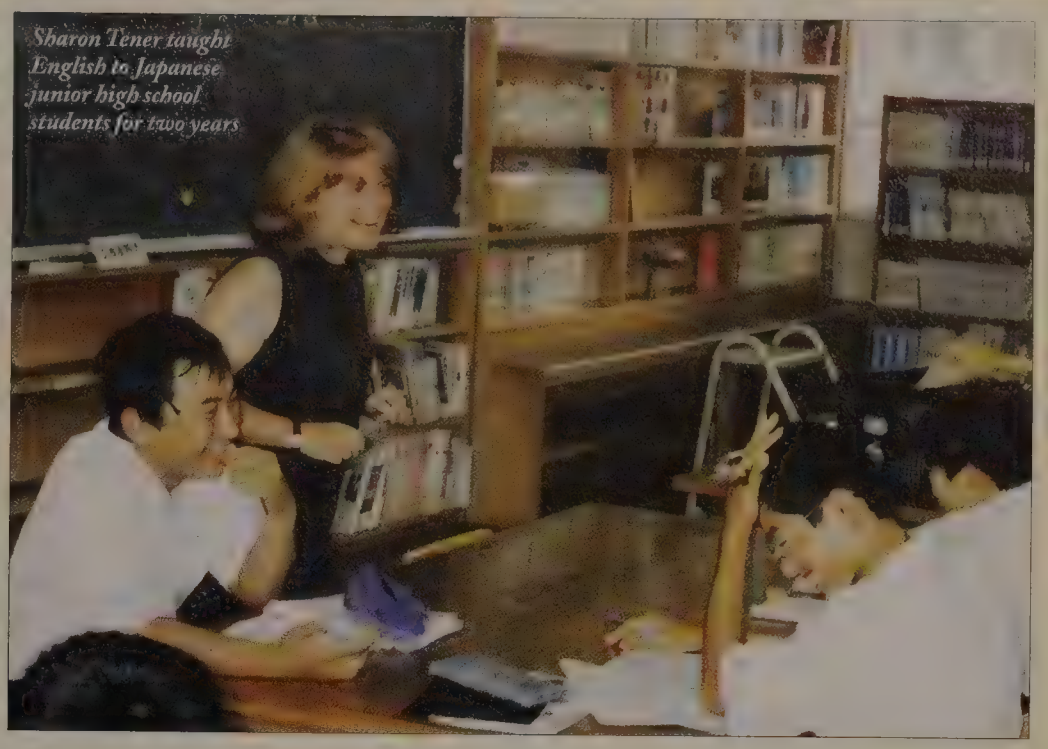
With the recent downsizing of major companies around the country, an interesting new concept has emerged: corporate-



When social worker Banafsheh Ehtemam asked for three months off to travel around the Amazon, her boss said no. So she quit her job and went anyway.



Ralph Bryant cycled from Seattle to Boston with his daughter and her boyfriend.



Sharon Tener taught English to Japanese junior high school students for two years

sponsored sabbaticals. When Cisco Systems announced the layoffs of 6,000 workers in April, the San Jose, Calif., Internet networking company offered some of its employees an opportunity to forgo a severance package. The tradeoff: one-third of their salary, plus full benefits and stock options, in exchange for working at a nonprofit group for one year. The plan allows Cisco to cut costs in the short term while retaining the highly skilled people that the company has already invested time and money on. The hope is that these folks will be rehired once their stint is over (and the economy looks rosier). Brookline resident Gina Wakerly, formerly a public relations specialist for Cisco's software division, accepted the offer and now works as a publicist for City Year, a Boston-based organization that coordinates full-time community service for young adults. She and the 80 other Cisco fellows, as they're called, work just as hard at their new jobs. "It's not a 'rest and vest' option," says Wakerly. "The expectation is that we'll leverage the skills and expertise learned at Cisco to create real value at these organizations."

Setting Goals

A sabbatical—both company-sanctioned and individually initiated—can be as short as three months and as long as two years or more. "It really depends on what you want to get out of it," says Lieber. "It's quite possible to underestimate the amount of time you need to accomplish your goals." Most sabbaticals, he says, fall into one of several categories: a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity (a friend is making a movie in Australia or your brother-in-law is running for office and needs a campaign manager); a catastrophic event that makes you rethink the straight-and-narrow path (serious illness, the death of loved one); a radical career change or a return to graduate school; a great journey; a religious pursuit; community service; or personal reinvention. "Often people start with an idea, and then they figure out the logistics," says Lieber.

Dakota LaCroix, who is 28, says he needed "a rejuvenation of the soul," so he and six others began planning a 4,000-mile hike from Key West, Fla., to Cape Gaspe Peninsula in Canada. Only two people have ever completed the entire Eastern Continental Trail. After moving back to Boston from Los Angeles, where he worked in the film business, LaCroix wanted to challenge himself on a deeper level. His group, called Hike for Hope 2001, will be the largest to hike the whole trail when they finish up next month. Along the way, they've been raising money and awareness for Oxfam, an organization that assists impoverished people around the world. Says LaCroix of his experiences thus far, "We all have a concept of regionally where we live, but we have little idea of what makes us American. We're learning firsthand the history and sociology of this country."

Others decide to work abroad to immerse themselves in a different culture or to see parts of the world they've never explored. Liz Demarest, 35, a former human resources manager at a food manufacturing company, was sent by the Peace Corps to teach business English to college students in Lithuania for three years. Christine McGilvray, 34, worked at Reebok in research, design and development before heading up north to work on a cruise ship in Alaska for seven months. Her days were spent pointing out bears and goats on fjord walls for the passengers. Sharon Tener, 31, was teaching at an elementary school for a year when she applied to the Japanese Exchange & Teaching Programme. She was accepted and sent to Kyushu, the southern island of Japan, to teach English to junior high school students for two years. The pay was extremely generous, but she was the only foreigner living in her tiny village. "It was a bit like living in a fishbowl," she says. "During my previous travels abroad, I never stayed long enough in each city to learn the language and develop relationships with the natives. Here, I couldn't help it."

Now that she's back and teaching second grade in Somerville with a master's degree in education under her belt, Tener says that the little inconveniences don't bother her anymore. "When you've been on 30-hour bus rides and seen really poor people, sitting in traffic for 10 minutes doesn't seem that bad."

Whether it be a simple skill such as learning how to spear a fish and hunt for conch (as Kristin Fraser and Peter Cotte learned to do on their sailing adventure) or something as essential as teamwork (as Dakota LaCroix and his fellow hikers discovered when more than half the group threatened to quit at various points along the trail), people who left the security of the 9-to-5 world have experiences that they'll carry with them for the rest of their lives. "Do what makes your heart sing," says Bull. **iB**

Get Away...

Here are some resources to get you started on planning your time away

Hike the Appalachian Mountain Trail

To complete the entire Appalachian Mountain Trail from Georgia to Maine, the AMC recommends hikers begin the 2,200-mile-long trail in early March and travel 10-20 miles daily, depending on the steepness of the path. *Appalachian Mountain Club, 5 Joy St., Boston (617-523-0636).*

Backpack Around the World

Premade packages for around-the-world flights range from $999 for eight stops to $2,199 for 12 stops. *Air Brokers International (800-883-3273). www.airbrokers.com.*

Volunteer

•**AmeriCorps**: Members train volunteers, tutor and mentor at-risk youths, build houses, clean up rivers and streams, help seniors live independently, provide emergency and long-term assistance to victims of natural disasters and meet other community needs. *(800-942-2677). www.americorps.org.*

•**Jesuit Volunteer Corps**: Serve the homeless, the unemployed, refugees, people with AIDS, the elderly, street youth, abused women and children, the mentally ill and the developmentally disabled. *(215-232-0300). www.JesuitVolunteers.org.*

•**Teach for America**: College graduates commit two years to teach in urban and rural public schools in the United States. *(800-832-1230, ext. 225). www.teachforamerica.org.*

•**Peace Corps**: Volunteers are serving in 75 countries, working to bring clean water to communities, teach children, help start new small businesses and stop the spread of AIDS. *(617-565-5555): www.peacecorps.org.*

•**Voluntary Service Overseas**: VSO offers a huge range of opportunities in developing countries in almost all professional walks of life—from accountants and bricklayers to vets and youth workers. (London: +44-20 8780 7200). *www.vso.org.uk.*

Teach English Abroad

JET Programme: Teach English in Japanese public schools for one to three years. (617-973-9772, ext. 122).

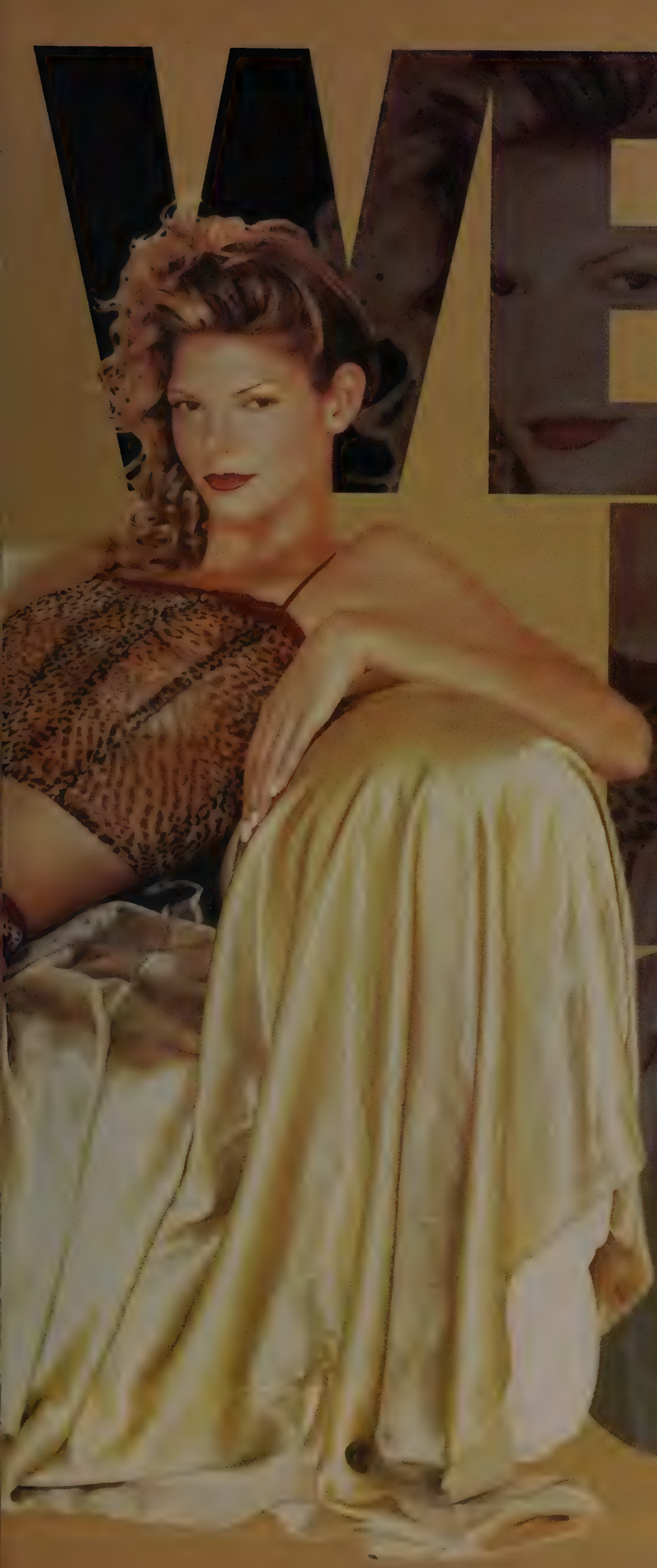
Resources:

•*Work Your Way Around the World*, by Susan Griffith
•*Taking Time Off*, by Colin Hall and Ron Lieber
•The Center for Interim Programs: 617-547-0980. *www.interimprograms.com*

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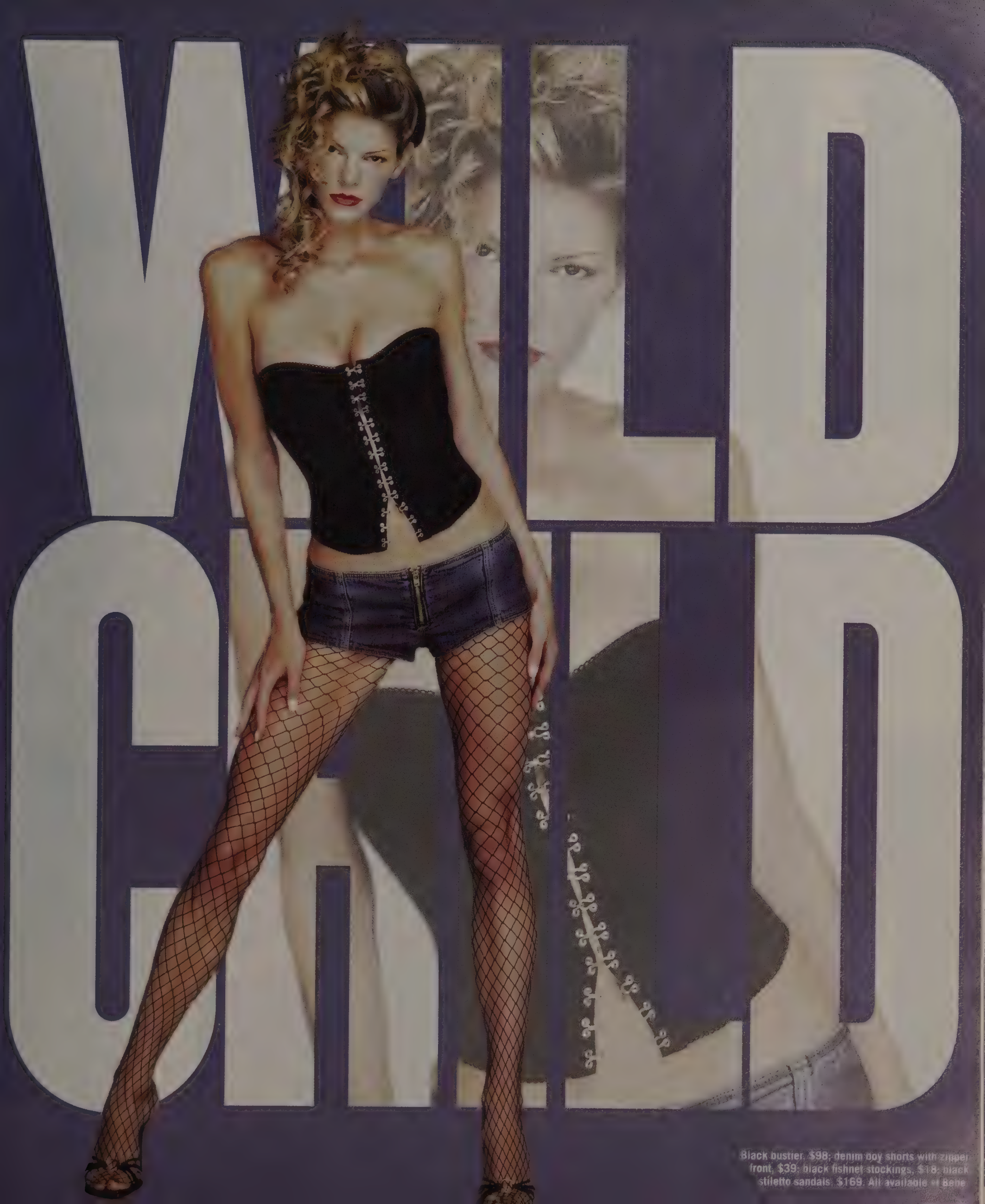
photographed by milton perry



Previous spread: Animal-print camisole with red lace trim, $26; matching bikini-cut underwear, $12; black over-the-knee boots, $190. All available at Bebe.

This page: Barbara bustier, $180; matching thong underwear, $58. All available at The Lingerie Studio.

WILD CHILD



Black bustier, $98; denim boy shorts with zipper front, $39; black fishnet stockings, $18; black stiletto sandals, $169. All available at Bene

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Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



The Rivendell Catalog gets you geared up for the trail.

A BIKE FOR ALL SEASONS

Frankly obsessive and cozily intimate with readers, the Rivendell Bicycle Works makes old-fashioned cycling tools and parts. For a catalog, call 925-933-7304.

The Rivendell Bicycle Works Catalog recalls the look and feel of the Whole Earth Catalog. Printed on plain, floppy newsprint, Whole Earth was quirky, chummy, chatty. Likewise, this gang's publication, dedicated to traditional classical bicycles, parts and accessories, has a politico-aesthetic that supports old-fashioned gear. Very insider-particular, Rivendell products are ones "you can buy once, warm up to and grow old with." They're particularly well-suited to the avowed tool nerd who loves intimately drawn distinctions within the products. "What about the Jubilee front derailleur?" bikers ask. The answer: "It was as weird, smart, light and beautiful and clever as the rear." (And that's Rivendell at a lower-than-usual-technical level.) What's so charming is their level of loving, excruciating detail, coupled with friendly self-deprecating humor ("This is the Eliza Doolittle of side-pull brakes."). They confess that the Muddy Green Wooly Long-sleeved T-necks are on sale "not the right time of year" because "we have to pay that bill." First-person trial-and-error accounts with these tools and doodads beget honestly honed information—not just brazen advertising.



Paul Niski, owner of Good, draws on themes from the good earth.

MOTHER NATURE'S SUBTLE PAINTBRUSH

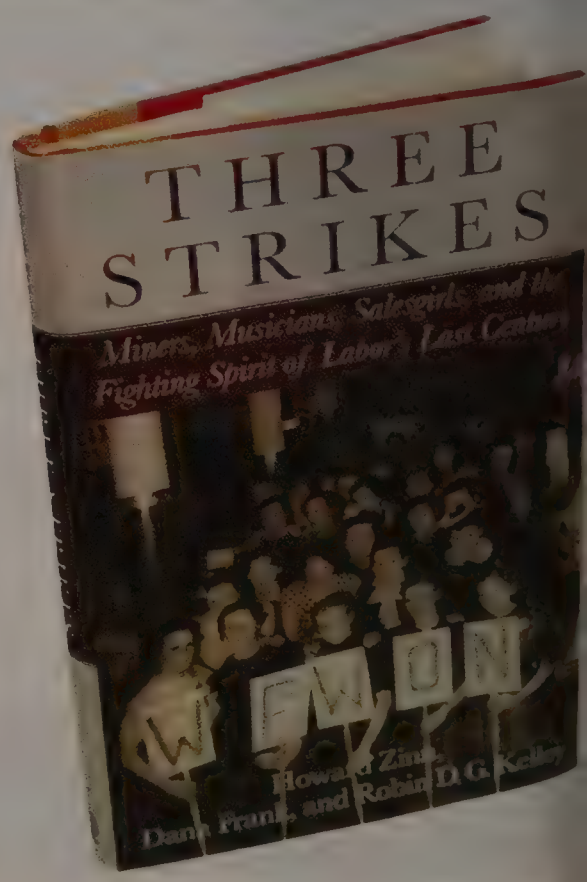
Good, at 88 Charles Street, Boston (617-722-9200) is a new gallery and shop featuring beautiful minimalist items.

Simply and purely named, Good reminds us how soothing it is to contemplate mother nature as the ultimate artist. This gallery and shop has a scratchy white floor that owner Paul Niski describes as "clean earthiness." Stones are the theme, placed with innocent meaningfulness around the store. They also turn up in paintings by Scott Kelley. Their aesthetic segues nicely into the ceramics here, which exist at equally close quarters with nature. There are Eva Zeisel pure white plates with the subtlest wiggle of irregularity, a creamer that appears to have been actually made of cream, and salt and pepper shakers that lean affectionately toward each other. Designed in the '40s, they look contemporary. Russel Wright designs pieces—again echoing stones—of gray ceramic glaze. Nesting square dishes also satisfy in their Zen-like self-containment. Most surprisingly, the contemporary-looking Ericsson phone from 1956 is a sleek, gorgeous one-piece that any cell-phone user would covet, with the rotary dial hidden underneath.

WORKERS VS. WOOLWORTH AND ROCKEFELLER

Howard Zinn, author of *A People's History Of The United States*, joins Dana Frank and Robin Kelley to discuss key labor battles of the 20th century in *Three Strikes*.

The Labor Movement struggles of the early 20th century are full of conflict, zeal, oppression and violence. In these three dramatic tales from the Left, management comes off as brutal (for instance, John D. Rockefeller's response to the Colorado Coal Strike, which led to the infamous Ludlow Massacre, when 20 people were killed by the National Guard) and fecklessly indifferent (enter Barbara Hutton, the high-spending Woolworth heiress who thumbed her nose extravagantly at the women striking her Five and Dime). The third strike described in this book involves musicians in the '30s struggling to "bring back flesh," as they called live musicians, to keep them working in movie theaters as the relentless flow of soundtrack music—a measure of progress that took a bittersweet toll on musicians—began to take over the industry. The Woolworth chapter called "Girl Strikers Occupy Chain Store, Win Big" is full of pajama-party merriment, with strikers sleeping in the store and mocking La Barbara. "While we strike for higher pay, Babs takes her money and runs away," reads a sign. Eventually they won important concessions countrywide. And among the heroes of these stories, none is saltier or more stirring than firebrand labor organizer Mother Jones.



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in this section:

Review: Centro
Dish: Harvest hodgepodge
Tasty Tidbit: Local architecture firms construct sculptures with canned food





Left: Chefs Rene Michelena (sitting) and Brian Maxwell are the masterminds behind Centro's cuisine. Above: Diners appreciate the reasonably priced wine selections. Below: Corn cakes with crème fraîche and red onion salad.



REVIEW

Bravissimo!

Centro, a tiny jewel of a restaurant in Central Square, skillfully explores the diversity of Italian cuisine

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Until its unification in the late 19th century, Italy was a collection of diverse regions and localities, often insulated from each other by mountainous terrain that includes the spine of the Apennines running down the center of the boot and the Alps and Dolomites in the North. The diplomat Klemens Fürst von Metternich, as he presided over the disposition of Italian cities and states to different European powers (most of them to his own Austria-Hungary) after the downfall of Napoleon, said that Italy was a mere "geographic expression." Despite the fact that it is now a unified nation, more or less governed from Rome, the diversity and pride of region's in Italy continues. This diversity is supremely evident in Italy's culinary traditions.

Centro, a tiny jewel of a restaurant on Massachusetts Avenue near Central Square in Cambridge, has adopted this diversity as its organizing theme. Every four or six weeks, the menu at Centro changes to focus on a different Italian region. The night of our visit, the featured cuisine was that of Abruzzi, the mountainous province along the Adriatic Sea east and south of Rome. We had just missed, we were told by our waitress, Tuscany, and were too early for Lazio, the next region.

SO GENEROUS WERE THE PORTIONS AT CENTRO THAT ONE MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO SAY "BASTA!" AFTER THE ANTIPASTI AND PASTA COURSES. THAT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE, SINCE THE KITCHEN GOES ON TO GREATER TRIUMPHS...

Abruzzi is known for its robust, rustic cooking. We were not surprised, therefore, to be overwhelmed by our first bite of the heirloom tomatoes appetizer ($7). These thick slices of juicy yellow tomatoes on thin, crisp toasted bread were served with a smoky slab of scamorza cheese and a slathering of intensely flavored balsamic vinegar and olive oil, garnished with a mound of tender, vibrant leaves of arugula. Meat plays a large role in the cuisine of Abruzzi, and a second appetizer, lamb *rosticini* ($10), was right on the mark. It arrived as two skewers of cubes of succulent grilled lamb, seasoned with rosemary and fresh ground pepper, accompanied by a moist, tangy *agro-dolce* (sweet-sour) salad of fennel, onions and yellow raisins, a delicious, piquant counterpoint to the robustness of the lamb.

Moving to the pastas, which are served in half or full portions for $9 and $17, respectively, we delighted in our selection of the risotto with asparagus and peas. Served in a deep bowl in such a substantial half-portion that we could hardly conceive how much larger the full portion could be, the risotto was moist and creamy, with crunchy slices of asparagus spears and bright green sweet peas contributing sprightly flavors and interesting texture. Almost the equal of the risotto was the *chittara*, long, spaghetti-like pasta that is named for and resembles guitar strings. Also served in a deep bowl, the *chittara* was served with tiny clams, *pancetta* (Italian bacon), thin slices of celery and Italian parsley. The marriage of pork and clams, a combination found in Portuguese cuisine as well, was appropriate to this mountainous seaside province.

So generous were the portions at Centro that one might be tempted to say "Basta!" after the antipasti and pasta courses. That would be unfortunate, since the kitchen goes on to greater triumphs with the secondi, the main meat and fish courses. Striped bass ($20) was *cotto en cartoucchio* (baked in parchment) to preserve the firm, moist texture of the flesh of this marvelous fish. With an accompaniment of fingerling potatoes, asparagus, mushrooms and young carrots, this was both at once light and healthful and fully satisfying. Even more enjoyable was the Cornish game hen ($18), a spectacular, plump, golden-brown bird spread-eagle on a large white plate, garnished with red onions, zucchini, red peppers, eggplant and a large, moist block of flavorful polenta. The succulent flesh and crisp skin, along with the toothsome melange of vegetables, made it difficult to keep from devouring this huge portion, which due to its size had "doggie bag" written all over it.

There was no letup in quality at Centro when we arrived at dessert, a course that many Italian restaurants handle in a perfunctory fashion. Not here. The white peach cobbler ($7) consisted of luscious peaches, buttery pastry and a large scoop of crème-fraîche ice cream. The chocolate *budino* ($6) raised chocolate pudding to a new level, somewhere between creamy and dense. The *budino* was accompanied by a tiny, delicate cannoli of heavenly, slightly sweetened ricotta.

Centro has a small but customer-friendly wine list, with offerings as low as $20. The San Lorenzo Rosso Conero ($21) was a reasonably full-bodied red from the Marché, the Adriatic province just north of Abruzzi. Centro serves its wine in short-stemmed, big-bowled wine glasses that are well-suited for swirling the wine and savoring its boquet. For bread it offers light rye, mildly sourdough. Served warm, with small saucers of extra virgin olive oil, Centro's bread provided an excellent means for mopping up the delicious dressings and sauces.

Located in a storefront accessed through a common entrance with the Good Life tavern, with which it shares common facilities as well as ownership, Centro strikes an upscale note to distinguish it from its down-to-earth neighbor. Centro's 36-seat dining room is decorated with dark green walls and ceiling and large hexagonal chandeliers. Square, wood-framed glass panels alternating with scrolled decorations from what looked like fragments of a classical temple hang on one wall, and a sculptured stone relief scene and handsome mirror are on the other. Pleasant recorded music, most notably opera and traditional Italian songs, complement the atmosphere.

As if the excellent food, incredibly good value and tastefully appointed ambiance of Centro were not enough, our visit to this exquisite eatery was enhanced by one of the most engaging, knowledgeable young waitresses we have encountered in some time. Her pleasant, helpful service made our visit to this splendid little restaurant all the more enjoyable. iB

Centro

720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-2408)

HOURS Mon.-Thu., 5:30-10pm; Fri.-Sat., 5:30-11pm; Sun., 4:30-9pm

RESERVATIONS recommended

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

PARKING on-street

LIQUOR LICENSE full bar



DISH

Harvest Hodgepodge

New leaves, tea leaves, say cheese...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Sous chef Bryan Root and executive chef Michael Scelfo (seated) at the new, 90-seat Tea-Tray in the Sky restaurant in Arlington.

The pastry is prologue: The just-opened **Tea-Tray in the Sky** café in Arlington shares the same name as its 5-year-old predecessor in Cambridge, but the new 90-seat restaurant at 689 Massachusetts Avenue boasts a full kitchen and serves both lunch and dinner. You can still choose from several hundred loose-leaf teas, but the menu of edibles is the brainchild of Chef **Michael Scelfo** (formerly executive chef of **Blond** on Long Island), whose menu of tea-inspired dishes changes every two weeks. Expect to see starters such as Keemun tea-smoked baby quail with grilled crimson pear over sage, butterbean and Stilton cheese salad, and entrees such as Black Mission fig risotto with caramelized onion, English peas, mascarpone and white asparagus with blackberry tea/balsamic reduction. Leave room for pastry chef Lisa Perkins' desserts: Poached plum on a hazelnut crust with thyme-scented anglaise and orange sorbet sounds delicious. In keeping with the whimsical Alice in Wonderland/Mad Hatter theme, may we suggest doggie bags in the guise of tea bags?

You can't turn back the clock, but you can turn over a new leaf. Fall is the time to renew our commitments to local farms and the chefs who love them.

The traditional pumpkin and the humble potato offer us a reason to get down and dirty at **Verrill Farm** in Concord. You can, of course, pick your own pumpkin on any weekend, but the real news is that Verrill's annual fall festival will feature free potato tastings of 11 varieties and a new pumpkin-decorating contest Oct. 27. We've all seen peculiarly formed pumpkins with intriguing protuberances; now you can make the most of nature's nascent jokes by applying your creativity to this time-honored fruit. If your resulting creation is better than the competition's, you could win a fresh Thanksgiving turkey.

Fall is less than fruitful for some. Chef **Charles Draghi** is likely to be in **Limbo**—literally and figuratively—for longer than he'd planned. Just when it seemed that the table was set for Draghi (formerly of **Marcuccio's**) and fiancée **Joan Johnson** to open **Noi** in the former Blackstone's in the South End, the deal fell through. We'll keep you posted. After all, no matter how beautiful it may be, nobody stays in Limbo forever.

Pastry chef **Judy Mattera**, who recently declared her independence from **The Federalist** at XV Beacon, is pondering solo projects that may include an upscale patisserie near her North Shore home. We predict excellent growth potential.

SECOND COURSE

Hold the Velveeta: Local Big Cheese **Felino Samson** of **Bomboa** is one of six chefs recently appointed to The 2001 Chef Advisory Panel of Dairy Management Inc. What does this mean? Samson will, along with fellow board members, "explore chef perceptions of American-made cow's milk cheeses" and "the role cheese plays in driving food trends." Coming up: a three-city media tour...and maybe a dating service for Kraft American Singles?

If you'd like to take a walk on the wild side in a civilized setting, the **Oak Room** at the Fairmont Copley Plaza is offering four special game entrees during October. Nothing to offend the squeamish here: Dishes range from the tame Long Island duck with orange sauce to hearty rack of wild boar with apple cranberry chutney.

Let's get out there and support our favorite restaurants (I recently had a terrific meal at the **Washington Square Tavern** in Brookline, where chef/co-owner **Paul Hathaway** has hired a sous chef from the **Franklin Café**). We need to keep our spirits up by eating well and dining together. IB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

EVENTS

Alsatian Octoberfest Menu
Sandrine's, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300). Through the end of October. $35. Chef **Raymond Ost** offers a four-course Alsatian meal.

Boston Vegetarian Festival
Reggie Lewis Athletic Center, 1350 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-8846). Oct. 13, 10am-6pm. Free. Taste free samples of vegetarian foods and listen to lectures by health experts.

Bread & Circus and Wine
Best Cellars, 745 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2900). Free. •Oct. 13, 2-4pm: A food and wine tasting with Bread & Circus. •Oct. 13, 2-4pm: Oliviers & Company pairs olive oil and wine.

The Diversity of Port
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (800-432-5520). Oct. 16, 7-9pm. $49. The IMPROPER's own Master of Wine **Sandy Block** discusses port.

Don't Dessert Us!
Boston Design Center, One Design Center Place, Boston (617-445-7777). Oct. 11, 6:30-9:30pm. $100. Twelve pastry chefs will serve their desserts in 12 designer showrooms. Proceeds benefit Community Servings.

Fall Favorites
Tosca, 14 North St., Hingham (781-740-0080). Oct. 15. $75. Learn how to prepare autumn dishes under the tutelage of chef **Kevin Long**.

Fashionable Brunch and Lunch
Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2161). $35. Have a prix fixe meal as some of Boston's best courtiers present informal modeling of their latest fashions. •Oct. 14, 12-2pm: Priscilla of Boston •Oct. 16, 12-1:30pm: Bally.

Harvest Supper
Icarus, 3 Appleton St., Boston (617-426-1790). Oct. 23. $135. Presented as a salon, with lively discussion over a shared four-course meal, chef **Chris Douglass** enlightens diners about issues relating to sustainable agriculture. Winemaker **Brian Tally** of Tally Vineyards joins him.

James Beard Dinner
Arrows Restaurant, Berwick Road, Ogunquit, Maine (207-361-1100). Oct. 21, 6pm. $150. Chefs **Clark Frasier** and **Mark Gaier** have invited **Ken Oringer** of Clio, **Michael Schlow** and **Paul Connors** of Radius and **Melissa Kelly** of Primo in Rockland, Maine, to cook an eight-course extravaganza.

Martini-Making Class
Bayou Cafe, 215 First St., Cambridge (617-491-8989). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Oct. 18, 7-8pm. $10. Learn to make the perfect martini.

Mount Auburn Hospital Breast Center Benefit
Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street, Cambridge (617-499-5098). Oct. 18, 6pm. $150. Some of the city's greatest chefs will gather at this event to honor **Julia Child** and benefit the Breast Center.

No. 9 Benefit Dinner
No. 9 Park, 9 Park St., Boston (617-742-9991). Oct. 15, 4pm. $75. Chef/owner **Barbara Lynch** offers a family-style Italian dinner to benefit the Windows of Hope Family Relief Fund.

The Occidental Tourist
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3935). Oct. 11. $35. Chef **Stan Frankenthaler** cooks from his new book, *The Occidental Tourist*.



"How the Grinch Gave Back Christmas" was a winning entry at last year's CANstruction.

TASTY TIDBIT

CANNED ART

Peek into most food pantries, and you're likely to see impressive pyramids of canned foods that rival the architecture of ancient Egyptians. But at the end of October, local architects and engineers plan to do the Pharaohs one better. A most amazing display of sculptures made entirely of canned food will be on view at the Museum of Science beginning Oct. 22. It's all part of CANstruction, a community service project in which local architecture and design firms contribute these unusual works of art. Some of last year's favorites include the Leaning Tower of Pizza, the Citgo sign, the Grinch and a Red Sox hat. The Greater Boston Food Bank benefits from the exhibition: Last year, more than 40,000 pounds of food were donated from the sculptures. The Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-427-5200, ext. 5061). *www.canstruction.com.* MBTA: Green Line to Museum of Science. *Oct. 22, 10:30am: Opening event. Oct. 29, 5:30pm: awards presentation. Nov. 3, 3pm: meet the architects. Oct. 22-Nov. 9.*

Oktoberfest Dinner
Henrietta's Table, One Bennett Street, Cambridge (617-661-5005). Thu.-Sat., 4-11pm, through the end of October. Indulge in a German meal and a mug of Spaten Lager at a picnic table on the patio.

The Single Malt & Scotch Whisky Extravaganza
The Ritz Carlton, 15 Arlington St., Boston (800-990-1991). Oct. 17, 7-9pm. $80. Sample 30 different single-malt and scotch whiskies.

Wine Dinners
Oct. 10: Salamander, One Huntington Ave., Boston (617-451-2150). $85. Oct. 14: Taberna de Haro, 999 Beacon St., Brookline (617-277-8272). Join wine expert **Dellie Rex** on Oct. 10 for a four-course meal featuring seven Rioja wines from Spain, or Oct. 14 for tapas and Rioja.

World's Greatest Kosher Dinner
Four Seasons, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-232-2300). Oct. 21, 5:15pm. $250. Chefs **Frank McClelland** of L'Espalier, **Michael Leviton** of Lumiere, **Edward Gannon** and **Tim Fonseca** of Aujord'hui, **Jamie Mammano** of Mistral and **Anthony Ambrose** of Ambrosia on Huntington contribute to this six-course dinner benefiting Ben-Gurion University.

TOP LEFT: RITA GREELEY



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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 44

PERFORMING ARTS 46

ART 48

BOOKS & POETRY 52

EDUCATION 53

FILM 54

DANCE CLUBS 58

MUSIC 60

CLASSICAL MUSIC 66

GAY & LESBIAN 67

BODY & MIND 68

SPORTS 68

CHILDREN 69

AROUND TOWN 69

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports

improper picks



OPENING
SUN./OCT. 21

Art: The Art of Style

Need some inspiration before you head out on that fall shopping spree? Try getting some ideas from fashion icons like Coco Chanel and Katherine Hepburn, who are captured in all of their elegant splendor in the Museum of Fine Arts' fashion photography exhibition, *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style*. It's a collection of images by Horst P. Horst and his mentor, George Hoyningen-Huene, two of the most influential fashion photographers of the 20th century. The two met in Paris in the '30s while working for *Vogue* magazine, and created dramatic pictures of society's style setters. In addition, there are photos taken by Horst and Hoyningen-Huene's, contemporaries—all comparably distinguished women from the worlds of fashion art and film. The show includes more than 225 images by the two artists, as well as works by 22 other important photographers like Man Ray, Irving Penn, William Klein and Edward Steichen. *Through Jan. 6. 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300).*

OPENING WED./OCT. 17

Art: Abstraction at the ICA

The Institute of Contemporary Art is about to exhibit the work of **Ellen Gallagher**, one of the most acclaimed young painters in North America. She is best known for her subtle paintings that deal with themes of race, identity and abstraction. *Ellen Gallagher: Watery Ecstatic* features 14 of her paintings from the early '90s to the present. This exhibition, the first to bring together Gallagher's work from the past decade, concentrates in particular on her recent production of all-black paintings. It also touches upon her work that she completed soon after her graduation from Boston's School of the Museum of Fine Arts and includes two pieces she made specifically for this ICA exhibition. *Oct. 17-Dec. 31. 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*

THU./OCT. 11

Music: Easy Listening Electronica

So you can't get tickets to this week's biggest shows—Tori Amos tickets are long gone (for all four of her faces), and you didn't get your act together to call up Ticketmaster for Bjork's show. But it's not too late to hear some superb music: **Burning Spear** is at the Roxy Oct. 17; **The Damned** plays with Swingin' Utters and The Briefs Oct. 19 at Axis, and **Gov't Mule** comes to the Orpheum Oct. 13. Our favorite option? We're heading to the cozy confines of the Middle East upstairs to hear instrumental rockers **Fridge**. The trio of young British post-rockers have created a handful of melodic electronica releases—all of which are are as accessible as they are experimental—and their unique sound has made them underground favorites in the U.K. Fridge shares a bill with Charlene and Landing tonight. *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). 9pm. $8, 18+.*





Join 96.9 FM TALK's Jay Severin's Best & Brightest Birthday Bash - October 12th

inside THE RACK

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"In The Biz" pool challenge and Monday Night Football hosted by BackBayBeat.com's SJ Torres. DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool, choose from 7 TV's to watch the game and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 8pm.

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Every Thursday Night, 6pm

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Every Friday Night, 6pm

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Friday, October 12

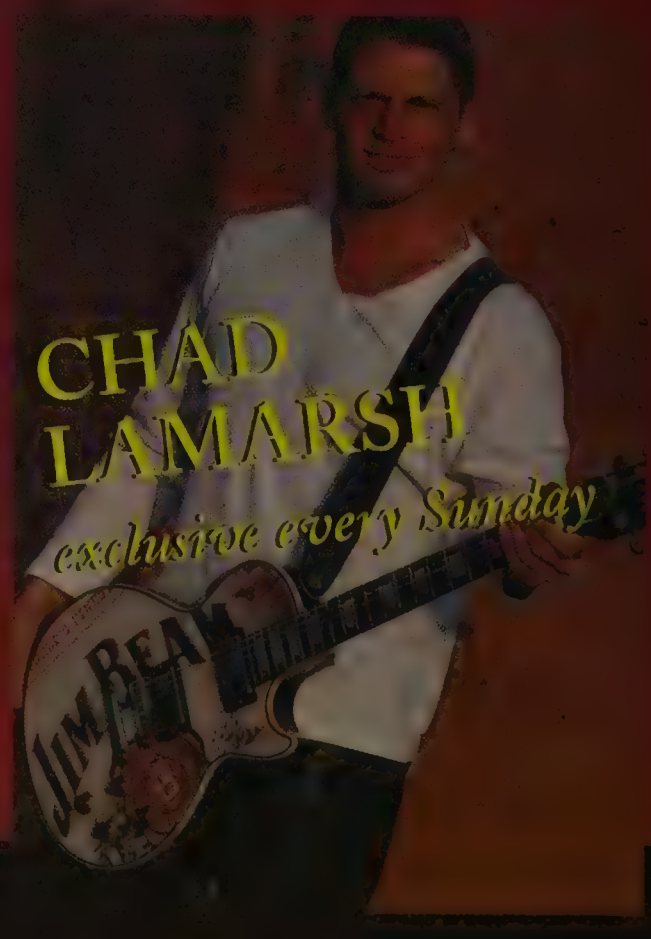
96.9 FM TALK Best & Brightest Birthday Bash featuring Jay Severin from 3-7pm with a live broadcast! R.S.V.P. to listeners@969fmtalk.com

Saturday, October 20, 7pm

Join Jewishcupid.com, the premiere online dating exchange for Jewish singles, for their Boston October Party!

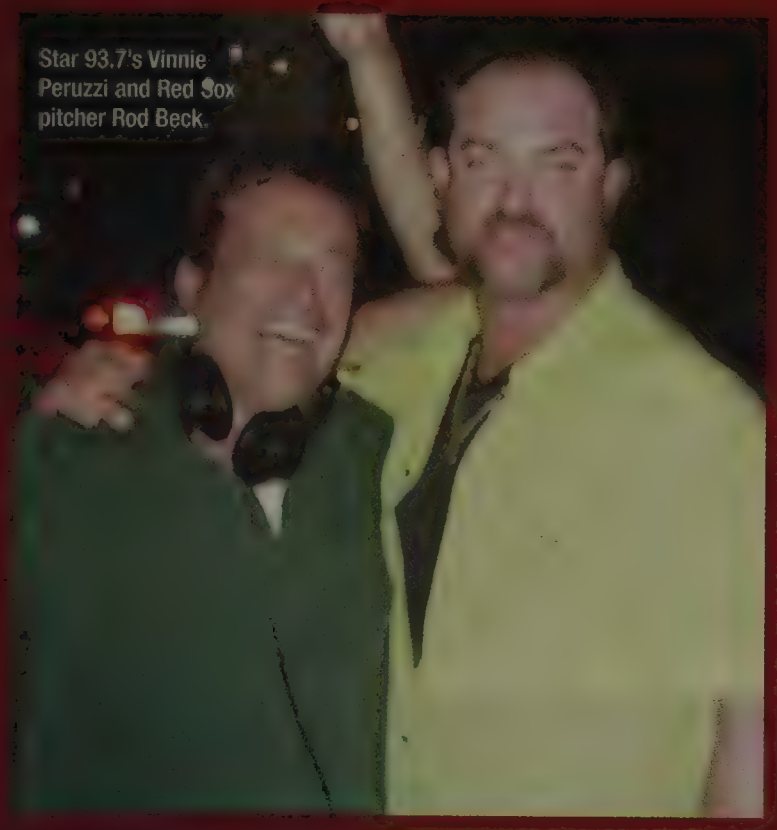


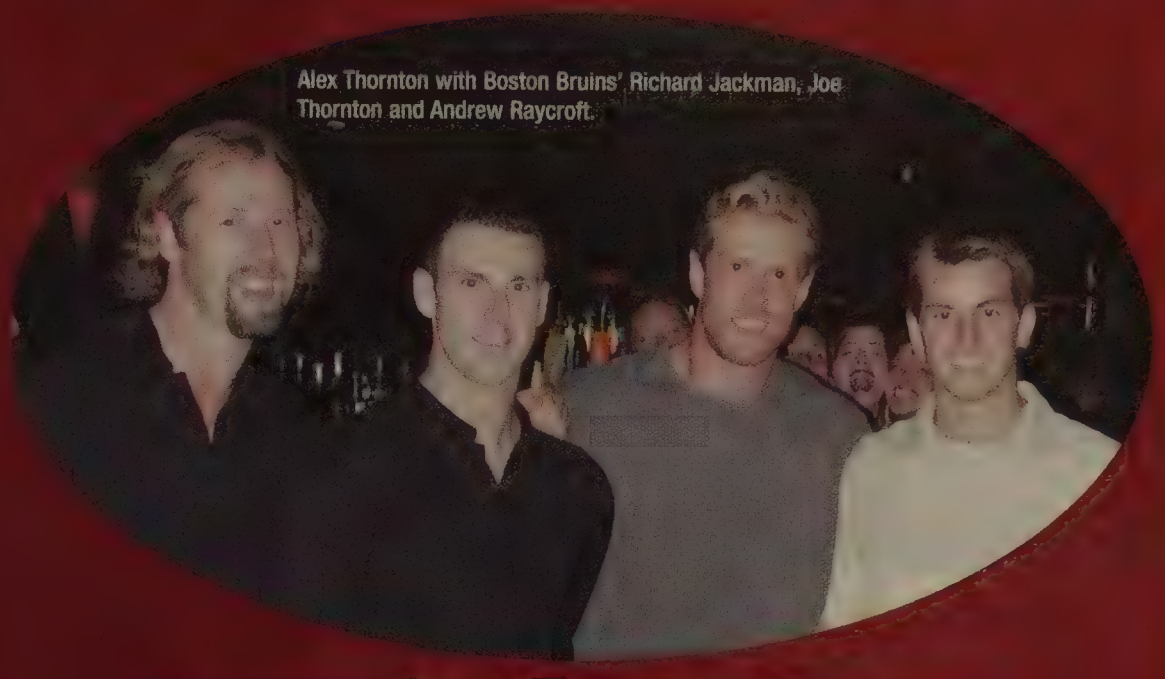
The Deftones' Chino Moreno, Chi Cheng with their tour manager, Steve Kidd.



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Boston's Best 2000 Improper Bostonian
Boston's Best 2001 Improper Bostonian




Star 93.7's Vinnie Peruzzi and Red Sox pitcher Rod Beck.


Alex Thornton with Boston Bruins' Richard Jackman, Joe Thornton and Andrew Raycroft.

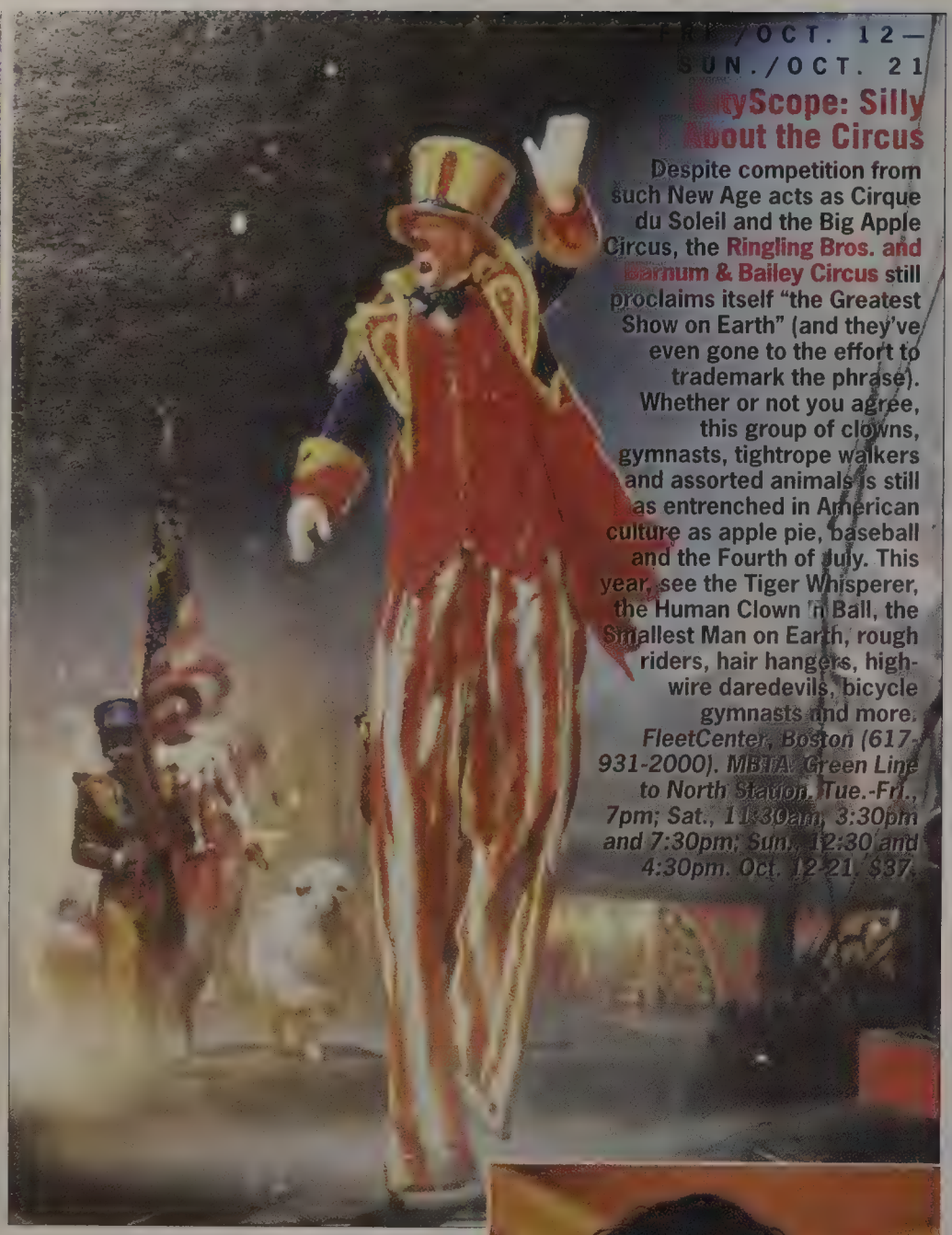

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FRI./OCT. 12—SUN./OCT. 21

CityScope: Silly About the Circus

Despite competition from such New Age acts as Cirque du Soleil and the Big Apple Circus, the **Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus** still proclaims itself "the Greatest Show on Earth" (and they've even gone to the effort to trademark the phrase). Whether or not you agree, this group of clowns, gymnasts, tightrope walkers and assorted animals is still as entrenched in American culture as apple pie, baseball and the Fourth of July. This year, see the Tiger Whisperer, the Human Clown 'n Ball, the Smallest Man on Earth, rough riders, hair hangers, high-wire daredevils, bicycle gymnasts and more. *FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Tue.-Fri., 7pm; Sat., 11:30am, 3:30pm and 7:30pm; Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. Oct. 12-21. $37.*



SAT./OCT. 20

Comedy: Comic Relief ▶

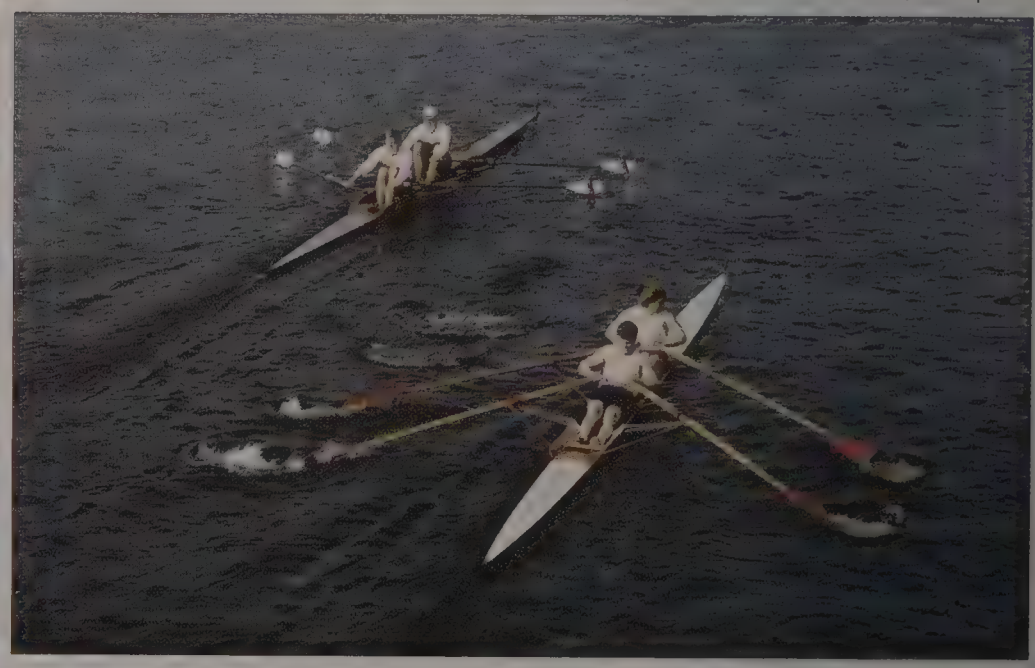
Cheeky Korean-American comedienne **Margaret Cho** started performing stand-up at age 16. Soon after, she won a comedy contest for which first prize was opening for Jerry Seinfeld. She moved to Los Angeles in the early '90s and continued performing to sold-out audiences across the country in comedy clubs, theaters and on college campuses. Now she has a new book and concert film, both called *I'm the One That I Want* (the movie is being released on video and DVD Oct. 9) and is heading on the massive national Notorious C.H.O. Tour, chock full of raw, raunchy feminist jokes. It takes her through 35 cities in North America. She's making her only Boston appearance on this tour at the Wang Center for the Performing Arts Sat., Oct. 20, 8pm. *270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). $27.50-$45.*



SAT./OCT. 13

Books & Poetry: Bibliophiles' Delight ▲

Today's two literary events will have book lovers torn—unless they can dedicate an entire Saturday to author events. First, the **Boston Globe Book Festival** kicks off with the Book and Author luncheon at the Fairmount Copley Plaza Hotel. The luncheon features **Max Phillips**, author of *The Artist's Wife*, **Julia Child**, author of *Julia's Kitchen Wisdom* and **Jayne Anne Phillips**, author of *Black Tickets* and many others. In the evening, **Tom Perrotta**, author of *Election*, which was also made into a film (above), screens the TV pilot he wrote and produced and reads the story on which it is based, "13," from his collection, *Bad Haircut: Stories of the Seventies*. *The Fairmount Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). 12:30pm. $45. Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). 7:30pm.*



SAT./OCT. 20—SUN./OCT. 21

Sports: Row, Row, Row That Boat ▲

My word! Is it **Head of the Charles** time again? Seems like just yesterday that we stood on the riverbank drinking beer in plastic cups and socializing with friends—oh yeah, and cheering on the rowers. The festivities begin Oct. 20 at 12:30pm, but the majority of races take place the following day, starting at 8am. Plan to get there early to scope out a spot for your blanket so you can watch more than 5,400 athletes from around the world compete in the 19 different events along a three-mile stretch of river. *Along the Charles River (near Harvard Square), Cambridge.* www.hroc.org. *Oct. 20, 12:30-4pm; Oct. 21, 8am-4pm.*

FRI./OCT. 19—SUN./OCT. 21

Performing Arts: On the Fringe

For two weeks every summer, the Lower East Side of Manhattan is awash in theater, dance, puppetry, spoken word and multimedia performances by nearly 200 emerging theater companies and artists. It's called the New York International Fringe Festival. This year, Boston's attempting to throw its own version—albeit much smaller. Expect to see low-tech, high-energy performances "with a bite" (in other words, no *Miss Saigon* razzle-dazzle special effects or *Show Boat* schmaltz). **The Boston Instant Fringe Festival** brings together six award-winning playwrights (Christine Evans, Renita Martin, Melinda Lopez, Mary-Ann Greanier, David Valdes Greenwood and Letta Neely) and one of Boston's top performance trios (Mrs. Potatohead) Oct. 19-21. *Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS).* www.bostonfringefest.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. $5.* *See Performing Arts on page 46 for more details.*

SAT./OCT. 13

Tastings: Veggie Fest

Last year, we invited a friend to the **Vegetarian Food Festival**. He declined, insisting that "rabbit food just isn't my thing." When we promised to stop at the nearest Mickey D's afterward if he wasn't satisfied, he reluctantly agreed to come along. We walked up and down the aisles, sampling falafel, hummus, chili, garden burgers, chai tea, burritos, Fresh Samantha juices and sorbet, collecting coupons along the way. When we sneaked a peek at our carnivorous pal, he was happily spooning up a dish of Indian curry and discussing the benefits of soy milk with an exhibitor. This year's festival features cooking demos and lectures on such topics as the protein myth and the difference between health foods and healthy foods. Frances Moore Lappe, author of the 1971 bestseller *Diet for a Small Planet*, headlines. Be sure to go with an empty stomach. *Reggie Lewis Athletic Center, 1350 Tremont St., Boston (617-424-8846). 10am-6pm. Free.*

THU./OCT. 11

Tastings: Don't Dessert Us!

The folks at Community Servings have cooked up a unique event to celebrate the premiere of their **2002 Don't Dessert Us!** calendar. The 12 pin-up pastry chefs featured in the calendar (including Paul Connors of Radius, Lee Napoli of Grill 23 and Harvest, Jennifer Renaud of L'Espalier and Peg Genovese of Hamersley's Bistro) will serve up their desserts, paired with two after-dinner liqueurs, in 12 designer showrooms at the Boston Design Center Oct. 11. Complementing the desserts will be one-of-a-kind chairs created by 12 of New England's hottest interior designers. For example, designer Lucia Pinque-Majeski's jazzy chair was inspired by a sweet potato pie made by Darryl Settles of Bob the Chef's. The chairs themselves look almost good enough to eat. *Boston Design Center, One Design Center Place, Boston (617-445-7777). 6:30-9:30pm. $100.*

TOP RIGHT: BOB AKESTER

bitter ale
pale ale
mild ale
brown ale
scotch ale
barley wine
porter
stout
belgian ale
trappist ale
altbier
kolsch
berliner weiz
weiz
pilsel
munchner
hell
vie
boc
doppelbock
dortmunder
gueze-lam
steam bee

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Has been rescheduled to
Friday Evening, November 2, 2001
6:30pm-12am
Creative Black Tie



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For tickets and information
617-267-2224

The Newbury Street League
Honoring Justine Liff
Commissioner of Boston Parks and Recreation Dept.

A portion of th evening's proceeds will benefit the American Red cross Disaster Relief Fund.

cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 10

Backstage at Independence Wharf
Independence Wharf, 470 Atlantic Ave., (617-426-1885) www.historic-neighborhoods.org. *5:30-7:30pm. Free for Historic Neighborhoods members, $15 non-members.* If you're interested in getting a behind-the-scenes look at the renovation of a historic building, Historic Neighborhoods is offering a tour of Independence Wharf, which is the site of the Boston Tea Party. The tour is followed by a wine and cheese reception, and proceeds benefit HN's youth educational programs.

THURSDAY, OCT. 11

Sept. 11 Benefit at The Big Easy
The Big Easy, One Boylston Place, Boston (617-742-3020). 6-9pm. $20 donation at the door, cash bar. Hollister staffing agency is hosting this fund-raiser for the families affected by the events of Sept. 11. Bands Greenhouse and Sunjunk will provide the tunes.

Benetton Fashion Show
Avalon, Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). 10pm. Avalon's new Thursday night fashion shows continue with Benetton displaying its Fall/Winter collection. Music by Arsit.

NEADS Doggie Anniversary Cake
Boston Common. (978-422-9064). 11:30am. Free. National Education for Assistance Dog Services (NEADS) celebrates its 25th anniversary with a treat. All pooches are invited to come to the Common and chow down on a carrot-and-oatmeal cake baked by Fi-Dough bakery. NEADS dogs, which are trained to help people with disabilities, will be available to hang out with regular useless dogs like yours. The public is also invited to the NEADS dogs' training graduation, Oct. 13 at 1pm at Hynes Convention Center.

MSPCA Animal Hall of Fame Dinner
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, Copley Square, Boston (617-541-5077) www.mspca. org. *6:30pm. $175.* Emcee Natalie Jacobson leads the way as the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) honors five new inductees into its Animal Hall of Fame. New Hall of Famers this year include Robert McClosky, author of the classic *Make Way for Ducklings.*



Chef Barbara Lynch of No. 9 Park is cooking up a relief benefit dinner Oct. 15.



Your mutt can hang out with the NEADS service dogs when they devour their doggone good doggie cake Oct. 11 on the Common.

A Night of Electronic Music to Benefit the Berwick Research Institute Artspace
Milky Way Lounge and Lanes, 405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740) www.milkywaylounge andlanes.com. *8:30pm. $8.* DJ Benny Blanco, Jedi Mind Trick, La Machine, DJ Goodtimes and DJ Badtimes, and DJ Chi team up to infuse the Milky Way with all flavors of electronica.

FRIDAY, OCT. 12

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus
The FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). www.fleetcenter.com. *Through Oct. 21. $11-$37.* On Oct. 12, the FleetCenter will be filled with more strange individuals than the last time Bon Jovi performed there. From Sara the Tiger Whisperer to Michu, the Smallest Man on Earth to sisters Michelle and Alexis Ayala, who hang in the air suspended by their hair, this promises to be a real circus. High-wire acts. Catapulting clowns. Be there.

SATURDAY, OCT. 13

Moakley's Run for Research
Bayside Expo Center, North Entrance, South Boston(617-527-5600) www.liverfoundationne.org. *10am. $20.* This IMPROPER-sponsored five-mile road race along the South Boston waterfront will raise money for liver disease research.

Greater Boston Antiques Festival
Shriner's Auditorium, Wilmington (781-862-4039) www.neantiqueshows.com. *10am-5pm, early admission at 9am for $10. Through Oct. 14.* This will be a wicked big assembly of some wicked old stuff. From Victorian furniture to estate jewelry, if it's old it's here waiting to be sold. Have fun, but make sure you bite down on gold trinkets to verify their authenticity.

SUNDAY, OCT. 14

Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk
The Hatch Shell, the Esplanade. www.cancer.org *(877-338-9255). 8-10am.* There is no minimum pledge amount for this five-mile walk around the Charles River, but you don't have to tell your friends that. Get them to sponsor you and you'll raise money for the American Cancer Society's ongoing breast cancer research.

MONDAY, OCT. 15

Windows of Hope Family Relief Dinner
No. 9 Park, 9 Park St., Boston (617-742-9991). 4pm. Suggested donation $75. This Italian dinner will include roasted chestnuts, homemade pastas, antipasti, wine donated by Clicquot and coffee donated by Illy. There will also be a range of scrumptious Italian desserts like tiramisu. Ron Della Chiesa will be the guest DJ, and all proceeds will go to help the families of food service workers who were victims of the World Trade Center attack.

TUESDAY, OCT. 16

Lou Gorman and Frank Calaguire All-Star Tribute Benefit
The Westin Copley Place Hotel, Copley Square, Boston. (617-527-5600). 6pm. $325. Bob Lobel and Lisa Hughes host this benefit for the American Liver Foundation. If you go, make sure you get there on time, because although dinner doesn't start until 7:30pm, at 6pm there will be "special surprises" in the ballroom. You like special surprises, don't you?

New Faces 2001 Fashion Show Benefit
The Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (617-967-0600) www.bostonfashion.com. 7-10*pm.* It's cocktails and appetizers till 8pm, when eight designers will display their new collections. There will also be a modern dance performance by Arum Valkonen & Co., and proceeds will benefit Fenway Community Health and two fashion scholarships.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17

La Groceria Anniversary Benefit
La Groceria Ristorante Italiano, 853 Main St., Central Square, Cambridge (617-497-4214) www.lagroceria restaurant.com 6:30*pm. $100.* La Groceria, which opened in 1971, celebrates its 30th anniversary with a '70s-themed gala Italian feast. Proceeds from the dinner will go to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

THURSDAY, OCT. 18

Milky Way Breast Cancer Benefit
Milky Way Lounge and Lanes, 405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740) www.milkyway loungeandlanes.com. *7pm. $35.* A fashion show and silent auction will benefit the Faulkner-Saggoff Center and its fight against breast cancer. Carla Ryder and Heidi Sapperstein will also perform.

Soirée-Salon
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400) www.frenchlib.org. 6:30*pm. $80 members, $90 non-members.* Soirée-Salon promises to be "*un cumul de plaisirs hédonistes dans un mélange de genres artistiques.*" What that means to you is that the French Library and Cultural Center is pairing a five-course gourmet dinner from The Seasonal Table with chamber music by the Triptych String Trio. Sounds *formidable*, non?

FRIDAY, OCT. 19

The ABCD Community Awards Dinner
The Sheraton Hotel, 39 Dalton St., (617-357-6000, ext. 242). 6pm. $150. Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD) is New England's largest human services agency. Its 27th annual community awards dinner will be emceed by Channel 4's Lisa Hughes and Joe Shortsleeve, and the keynote speaker will be Congressman John Lewis. Buying a ticket and going to the dinner makes helping fight poverty as easy as ABCD. Sorry, we couldn't resist.

Scarecrow Festival
Publick House Historic Inn & Country Motor Lodge, Rt. 131, Sturbridge (508-347-5073). www.publickhouse.com. *Through Oct. 21. Free.* Think you've got what it takes to outscare the competition? This annual event has become a venue for scarecrow artists to showcase their talent, so you'd best come with more than a sorry-looking, hay-stuffed generic job. A life-size Michael Jackson statue might be a good start.

SATURDAY, OCT. 20

Head of the Charles Regatta
Charles River, Boston (800-493-9255), www.headofthecharles .org. *12:30-4pm. Through Oct. 22.* The Head of the Charles returns once again to draw determined rowers from all over to the mighty Charles River. Even if you aren't crazy about crew, there's a festival atmosphere with lots of sausage vendors. Get a spot on the BU Bridge early.

SUNDAY, OCT. 21

Shingles and Shade Trees Benefit Tour
New England Hebrew Academy, 9 Essex St., Brookline (617-277-1027) www.brooklinechorus. org. *12-5pm. Tickets $15 in advance at Brookline Booksmith, $20 day of tour.* Get to poke around in other people's swanky old houses while helping out the Brookline Chorus. Refreshments will be served.

The Art of Living Home Tour
Newton Center Green, Newton (617-796-8826) 12-5pm. Tickets $20 in advance by phone, $25 day of tour. If you're really fired up about looking at nice abodes, you could head to Newton after you're done in Brookline (see listing above). This tour benefits the ALS Therapy Development Foundation. Alternately, send them a check and just watch *MTV Cribs.*



An example of Shaunt Sarian's 2001 handbag collection

Boston Fashion Week

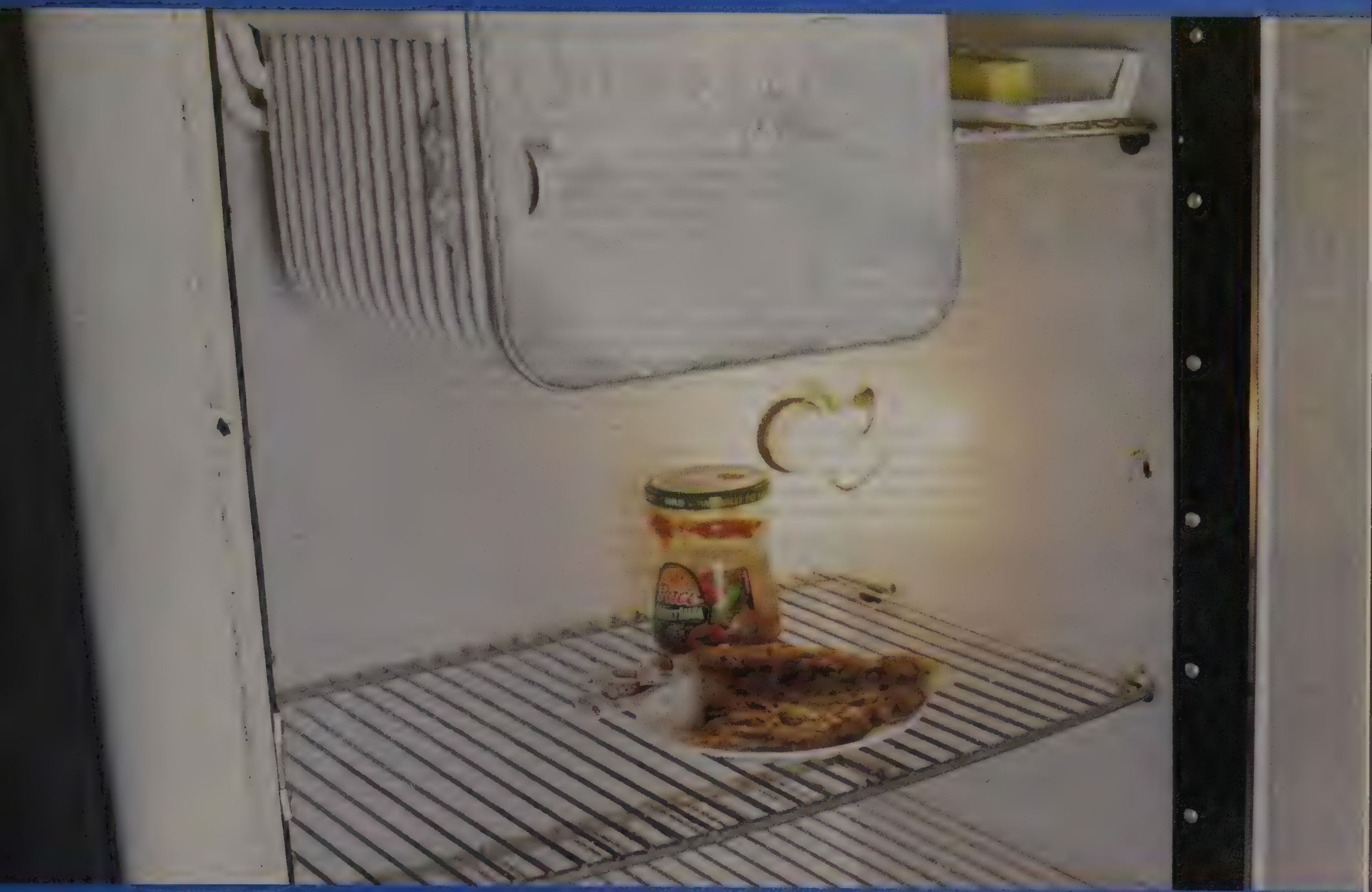
Put on your latest Prada, because Oct. 14-20 is Boston Fashion Week. Oct. 16 will be a big night, with events including a Style Summit at the Boston Center for Adult Education, the New Faces fashion show at the Roxy Oct. 16 (see listing for details) and a Fashion Week party at Sophia's. Other notable Boston events: The Vision Awards, at the Massachusetts College of Art, will honor individuals who exemplify community service, excellence in design and scholarship at 7pm on Oct. 18. The following evening, there will be a Denise Hajjar fashion show in the Boston Public Library's McKim building at 6pm. And from Oct. 10-31, Trio will present a fashion photography exhibit, including a reception Oct. 17 at 7pm.

Meanwhile, in the Boston 'burbs, Fashion Week will pitch in for a good cause. On Oct. 17, the Westin Hotel in Waltham hosts the second annual "Dressing Well" benefit for multiple sclerosis. The cost is $75 per person.

For more information, visit *www.bostonfashion.com.*

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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

Another Part of the Forest
Lyric West Theatre, Massachusetts Bay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley (781-235-0488). Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Oct. 12-28. $10-$32. Set in post-Civil War South of 1880, this play smolders with greed, family intrigue, ruthless ambition and a dark family secret.

Boston Instant Fringe Festival
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). www.bostonfringefest.org. *MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Oct. 19-21. $5.* This new event brings together six award-winning playwrights and one of Boston's top performance trios. •Oct. 19, 7pm: *The All New Old Show* by Mrs. Potatohead; 8:30pm: *Pussy Boy* by Christine Evans •Oct. 20, 7pm: Stunning Shorts by Renita Martin, Melinda Lopez and Mary-Ann Greanier •Oct. 20, 8:30pm: *Wonderland* by David Valdes Greenwood Oct. 21, 2pm: *On the Rooftop* by Letta Neely. Proceeds benefit breast cancer services.

The Diary of Anne Frank
The Riverside Theatre Works, 45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park (617-361-7024). Commuter Rail to Hyde Park. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Oct. 11-27. $18. This play is a dramatization of Anne Frank's diaries, her extraordinary account of the years she endured when hiding with family and friends in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam.

Des
Merrimack College's Rogers Center for the Arts, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover (978-837-5355). Oct. 19-20, 7:30pm. $10. This one-man play centers on Father Des Wilson and his struggles with the hierarchy of the Catholic Church through some of the most violent years in North Ireland.

How Do You Spell Hope?
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-643-6916). Thu.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Oct. 19-27. $12. Melinda Lopez's play weaves together three inspiring stories of courage and compassion: the historical narratives of Frederick Douglass, a teenage star who overcomes dyslexia and the struggles of a contemporary immigrant family.



The QE2 Players present *Ladies of Letters*, a tale of English suburban friendships, at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre.



Actors from the New York-based Tectonics Theater Project interviewed more than 200 residents of Laramie, Wyo., to create *The Laramie Project* at the Tremont Theatre Oct 19-Nov. 11.

Preview

Lessons Learned

An examination of Matthew Shepard's murder

On Oct. 9, 1998, a passerby found Matthew Shepard, a gay student at the University of Wyoming, pistol-whipped, burned and tied to a wooden ranch fence in Laramie, Wyo. The brutality of the crime made the nation stand up in outrage. Anti-bias vigils were held, and President Clinton was called upon to expand federal laws on hate crimes.

Three years have passed, but the incident still lingers on. At the Tremont Theatre, Boston Theatre Works is staging of the New England premiere of *The Laramie Project*, a haunting examination of Shepard's murder Oct. 19-Nov. 11. Hailed by *Time* magazine as one of the Ten Best Plays of 1999, artistic director Jason Southerland "feels lucky to have gotten it."

Author Moises Kaufman created the piece with his New York-based theater company, Tectonics Theater Project. The actors went to Laramie six times over the course of 18 months and interviewed more than 200 residents. "It's not a story about the incident as much as how individuals in the town responded to it and how the media portrayed them in the aftermath," says Southerland. "The focus is on healing and moving on in the face of tragedy"— which is particularly apropos in the face of recent events in this country. The show re-creates the interviews with a fascinating cast of characters, from the Reverend Fred Phelps ("Matthew's in hell, hope it's warm down there") to the lead cop on the investigation ("Fourteen months ago, I wouldn't even have known there were gay people in Laramie. Now I understand the fear they must feel."). Says Southerland, "We want to eliminate the simplistic view that we get of an event and to understand the more complex human reactions to it from all sides." *Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (617-728-4321). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3 and 7pm. Oct. 19-Nov. 11. $25. —Julie Short*

King Lear
Tower Auditorium, Mass. College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-470-5329). Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Oct. 20. $15. Ubiquity Stage presents this classic by William Shakespeare.

Ladies of Letters
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-437-0978). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant Street. Thu., 7pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8pm. Oct. 11-20. $15. Feisty, naughty and funny, this play provides hilarious insight into English suburban friendships.

The Laramie Project
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (617-728-4321). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3 and 7pm. Oct. 19-Nov. 11. $25. See the preview box abo ve for more information.

7Life Before the Crisis...Something Is Lurking & Staying Married
Orpheum Foxborough, One School St., Foxborough (508-543-ARTS). Oct. 12-13, 8pm; Oct. 14, 3pm. $23. This two-part dramatic work by humorist Moira Keefe and her husband combines high-energy humor with honest, intelligent insight into the New Age dilemmas facing the baby-boomer generation.

Ludlow Fair, Home Free and Two Ex-Smokers
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm; Sun., 3pm. Oct. 18-Nov. 10. $18. The Boiler Company presents three one-act plays by Lanford Wilson and Rick Winterson.

Old Times
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Oct. 12-Nov. 3. $20. This drama delves into the lives of three people, illuminating unspoken doubts, intimate tensions and sensual desires that rise between them.

Performance Cult
The Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (781-891-1188). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 21. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short original vignettes.

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Tue.-Fri., 7pm; Sat., 11:30am, 3:30pm and 7:30pm; Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. Oct. 12-21. $37. The Tiger Whisperer, the Human Clown 'n Ball, the Smallest Man on Earth, rough riders, hair hangers, high-wire daredevils, bicycle gymnasts and more...it's the Greatest Show on Earth.

Rope
Stoneham Theatre, 359 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Oct. 19-Nov. 9. $25-$35. On a rainy night in a posh London flat, two gentlemen strangle their friend and place his body in a chest. As unsuspecting dinner guests gather for an intimate evening, the men are sure they've committed the perfect crime. But have they?

Shadow Bang
MIT's Kresge Little Theater, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-4419). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Oct. 12-14, 8pm. $15. This is a collaborative performance featuring shadow puppet art form and a radical reinvention of it with music, visuals and storytelling.

The Three Sisters
Threshold Theatre, 791 Tremont St., Boston (781-893-7404). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Oct. 14. $15. David Mamet's adaptation of Anton Chekhov's story. As Chekhov himself wrote: "What happens onstage should be just as complicated and just as simple as things are in real life. People are sitting at a table having dinner, that's all, but at the same time their happiness is being created, or their lives are being torn apart."

NOW RUNNING

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

Dinner with Friends
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Nov. 4. $28-$42. Tom and Beth, Gabe and Karen have been friends forever. When one couple announces they're splitting, the rug is pulled out from underneath them all.

Don Carlos
Lyric Opera, Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). Oct. 12, 7pm; Oct. 14, 3pm; and Oct. 16, 7pm. $31-$151. Considered one of Verdi's finest operas, this story of forbidden love and deplorable cruelty set in 16th-century Spain during the Inquisition strikes an emotional chord with its powerful melodies and thunderous exchanges.

End of the World Party
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Oct. 27. $26.50-$29.50. Written by five-time Emmy winner Chuck Ranberg (from television's *Frasier*, *Becker* and *Kate & Allie*), this outrageous and sometimes bittersweet comedy is about a group of gay friends who redefine themselves and their relationships over the course of one tumultuous summer on Fire Island.

James Joyce's *The Dead*
The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Oct. 14. $12-$62. Based on a short story by James Joyce, this Tony Award–winning musical takes place at the Aunts' annual Christmas party.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Nov. 3. $27-$82. Through the storytelling magic of the songs of ABBA, Donna, a 40-something single mom, recalls distant memories of carefree days and nights while her daughter Sophie dreams of tradition, romance and a big white wedding.

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox, Mass. (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *$17-$36.* •Spring Lawn Theatre: *A Tanglewood Tale*, through Oct. 21.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window
The Nexus Theatre, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Oct. 14. $25. Playwright Lorraine Hansberry's play, written on her deathbed, is a comic and moving portrayal of Greenwich Village life during the turbulent 1960s.

Sunday in the Park with George
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Oct. 20. $20-$36. Writer James Lapine and composer Stephen Sondheim bring George Seurat's great painting to life.

The Waverly Gallery
The New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Wed., 2 and 7pm; Thu., 8pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Oct. 21. $25-$33. Kenneth Lonergan's powerful, poignant and often hilarious play about the final years of a generous, chatty and feisty Jewish woman's battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Zorba
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Oct. 21. $18-$56. Zorba's a lusty, lovable Greek countryman who lives life to the fullest. His simple wisdom has a profound effect on those around him.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

An Evening with Moises Kaufman
Wong Auditorium, MIT Tang Center, 2 Amherst St., Cambridge (617-253-2341). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.

Oct. 4, 8pm. Director Moises Kaufman will discuss his two latest works: *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* and *The Laramie Project*.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre

246 East Berkeley St., Boston (617-423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

CABARET

A Night at the Moulin Rouge

The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 13, 7:30pm. $15. The Follen Angels perform their international cabaret that captures the heart and spirit of Paris.

Dance

Gypsy Caravan

Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). Oct. 15, 7:30pm. $20-$37. Featuring more than 30 musicians and dancers, *Gypsy Caravan* traces the Roma (Gypsy) migration from its origins in India through Western Europe and celebrates the amazing resilience of Roma culture despite persecution and even genocide.

Noche Flamenca

Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 18, 7pm; Oct. 19, 8pm; Oct. 20, 8pm; Oct. 21, 2pm. $20-$40. Ten dancers, musicians and singers evoke the steamy atmosphere of Spain's cafe cantantes in a celebration of the human spirit expressed through dance, song and music.

Renaissonics

Jewett Hall, First Church Congregational, Mason and Garden streets, Cambridge (617-661-3353). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 12, 7:30pm. $8. Learn the pavan, galliard and other popular dances from the Renaissance from dancer/historian Charles Grath. No partners are needed and all dances will be taught. Refreshments will be served.

We Meet in the Blue

Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Oct. 12-13, 8pm. $12. We Meet in the Blue Productions presents *Bottles-Clotheslines-Angels-Blue*, a performance featuring four Hampshire College alumnae. The production is a collection of movement ranging from politically charged feminist performance to spiritual reflections.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge

Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. • Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Oct. 11, 8:30pm: Frank Santos , the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 • Oct. 12, 8 and 10:15pm: Bobby Collins, VH1's *Stand-up Spotlight*, $20 •Oct 13, 8 and 10:15pm: Bobby Collins, $22 • Oct. 14, 8 and 10pm: Eddie Griffin from the movie *Double Take* and *Deuce Bigalow*, $37 and $29 • Oct. 15, 7 and 9:15pm: Eddie Griffin, $37 and $29 • Oct. 16, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz • Oct. 17, 8pm: Bill Engvall from "The Blue Collar Comedy Tour," $28 • Oct. 18, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 • Oct. 19, 8 and 10:15pm: David Cross, HBO's "Mr. Show," $20 • Oct. 20, 8 and 10:15pm: David Cross from *Scary Movie 2*, $22.50 • Oct. 21, 9pm: Black Comedy Explosion hosted by Johnathan Gates, $12/$15 • Oct. 22, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox •Oct. 23, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.

The Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Oct. 11: Tim McIntire's Greek Council with John Keating, Katie Grady, TJ Griffin and David Bennett •Oct. 12: The Tiston Honda Show with Tony Moschetto, Jan Davidson, Alana Devich, Adam Pearlman, Deb Farrar-Parkman and Evan O'Television •Oct 13: Ben Jopin, Caitlin Feeley, Arthur Januario, Jen Trainor, Jan Davidson and Dot Dwyer • Oct. 14: Sam Walters, Brian & Mal, Myq Kaplan, Rebecca Walker, Katie Grady, Mindi Fay, Dan Newbower, Chengda Li and Shelby Seims •Oct. 18: Tim McIntire, Denise Robichau, Kim & Josh, Jim Celeste and Tom Morello •Oct. 19: The Titson Honda Show with guests Sam Walters, Teresa Craggan, Greg Simoneau, Rich Gustus, Sean Lily and Nate Johnson • Oct. 20: Joe Dinkin, Steve Calechman, Alana Devich, Teresa Craggan and Mike Sweeney •Oct. 21: Sacrificing Virgins! features 10 first-time comedians. Also, pros Walter Dixon, Dave Rattigan, Tammy Two-Tone, Arthur Januario, Steph Wishnick and Brian Giles.



***Duece Bigalow*'s Eddie Griffin takes the stage at the Comedy Connection Oct. 14-15.**

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$15. •Oct. 11, 8:30pm; Oct. 12-13, 8:45: Joe Yannetty, Mark Scalia and Paul Keenan •Oct. 18, 8:30pm: Jim Lauletta, Jim Coliton and Tim McIntyre •Oct. 19-20, 8:45pm: Robbie Printz, Jim Coliton and Tim McIntyre.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm and 10pm. Sat. matinees at 6pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show. • Thursdays, 8pm ($15); Fridays, 8 and 10pm ($15); Saturdays, 8 and 10pm ($17.50): Bingo with Nanna • Wednesdays, 8pm; Sunday, 7:30pm: Best of Improv Asylum ($10).

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater

1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. • Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro ($5) • Fridays, 8pm: Boston Creem ($12); 10:30pm: Theatre Sports ($12) •Saturdays, 8 and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston ($12) •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree ($5).

Magicians & Spirits

Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding

Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7pm. Ongoing. $49 (includes dinner). Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

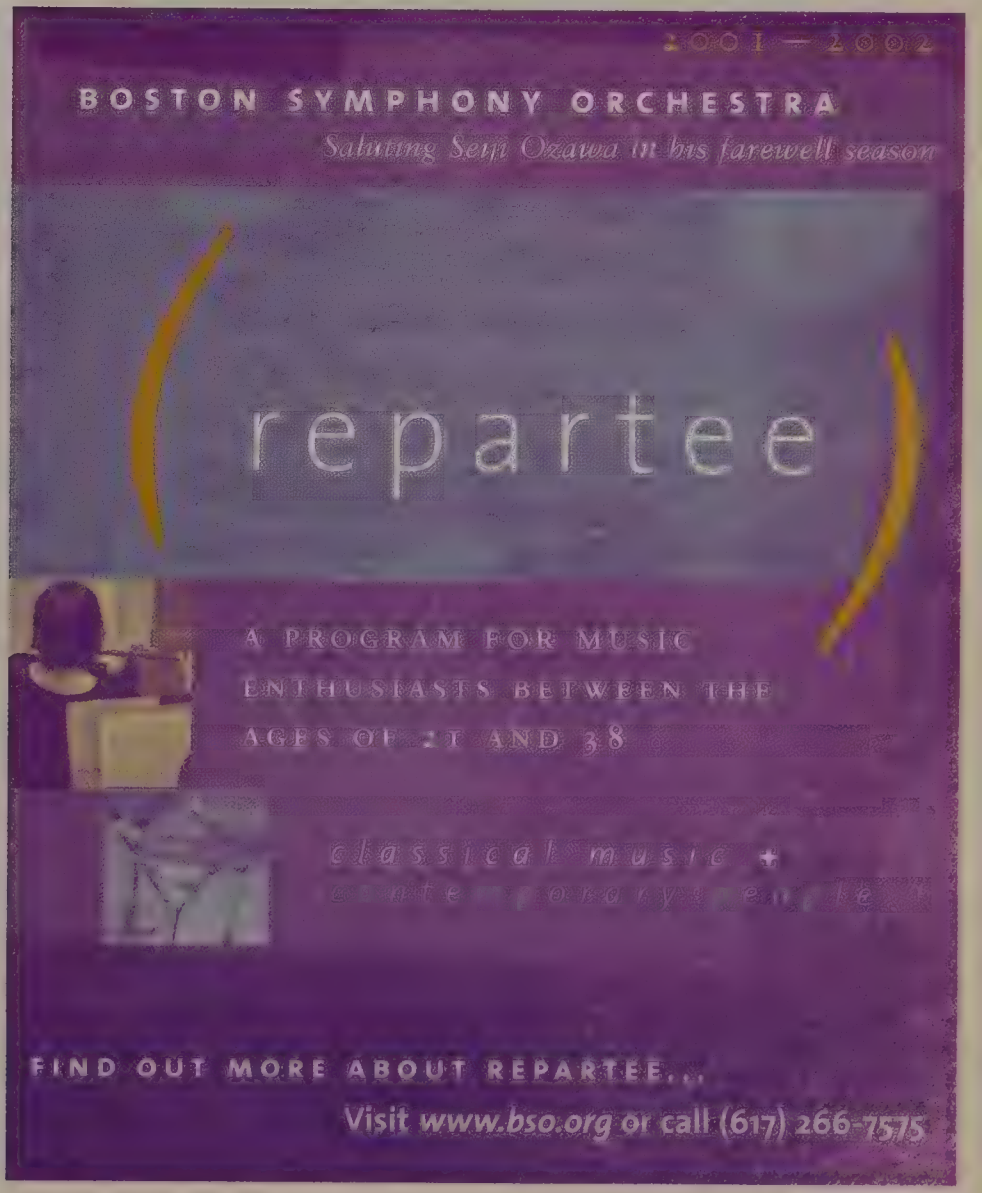
Mort Sahl

The Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahanton St., Newton Centre (617-558-6480). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Oct. 20, 8pm; Oct. 21, 2pm. Mort Sahl brings his own brand of stand-up comedy with a fresh combination of political awareness.

The Notorious C.H.O.

The Wang Center, 270 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 20. $27.50-$45. Magaret Cho is raw and rauchy.





art

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include dates, nearest T stop, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*Latino Life in the United States*, a photography show, runs through Nov. 25.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). Tue., 11am-5pm; Wed.-Thu., 11am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. The museum's permanent collection of European and American art is on display. •*Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer, shows through Dec. 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculptural Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. *Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustration* runs through Jan. 6, 2002. •*A Garden of Unearthly Delights* features outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work through June 9, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. • *Precision and Prestige: The Art of Engraving* runs through Dec. 2. •*You Look Beautiful Like That: The Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Ma-lick Sidibé* is presented through Dec. 16. •*Marking Places: Spatial Effects of African Art* shows through Dec. 31, 2002. •*Beyond Decorum: The Photography of Iké Udé* is on display through Oct. 21.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites: Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* is on display through Sept. 2, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* •The ICA Artists-in-Residence present *Conspire* through Oct. 14. •The first major exhibition by Ellen Gallagher runs from Oct. 17-Dec. 31. •Free guided walk-through takes place every Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* The museum's permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering and Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. Demonstrations take place from 2-4pm daily. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists* is an ongoing interactive exhibit. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays an ongoing selection of holograms from the museum's collection.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •At the Torf Gallery, *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* shows through Dec. 2. •In the Loring Gallery, *Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Art of the Natural World*, Chinese and Japanese art, shows through Dec. 2. •*Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •In the Japanese Galleries, *Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* shows. Through Mar. 10, 2002. •In the Gund Gallery, *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style , Photographs by Horst and Hoyningen-Huene* opens Oct. 21 and shows through Jan. 6, 2002.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. Permanent collections include *Lexington Alarmed*, *The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden*, *Made in Massachusetts* and *Initiating America*. •*Flash! The Associated Press Covers the World* shows through Oct. 21.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors. The Current Science and Technology Center* show is ongoing. •Mugar Omni Theatre shows *A Journey into Amazing Caves*, *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure* and *Bears* through October. Charles Hayden Planetarium features *The Sky Tonight*, *Galileo's Odyssey* and *Skyfire*, through October.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults, $10; seniors and students, $8; children under 16, free.* •Photographer Kenru Izu's *Sacred Places* is on exhibit through Dec. 2.

Rose Art Museum
415 South St., Waltham (781-736-3434). Tue.-Sun., 12-5pm. Thu., 12-9pm. Free. •*A Defining Generation: Then and Now: 1961 and 2001* features pieces by artists from the 1960s, including Andy Warhol and Jim Dine. •*Early Modern Art* showcases paintings by Picasso and others through Dec. 9.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm. Free. •*SAC 2001*, a show by 20 local visual artists, shows through Oct. 27.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Clockworks*, an exhibit of sculptural clocks, shows through Nov. 10.


Rare nautical charts are on display at the Haley & Steele Gallery through Dec. 13.

Preview

Nautical Nostalgia

Limited-edition mariners' charts reissued

For the past 60 years, the delicate copper plates of the Atlantic Neptune series, rare nautical charts of New England coastal areas, have been stowed away in shipping crates at the Massachusetts Historical Society. These 18th century charts are being reissued and displayed by the Haley & Steele Gallery in conjunction with the Massachusetts Historical Society. Intricately detailed, these valuable maps were to have been thrown overboard by ships' captains if they were ever in danger of enemy capture. Joseph F. W. Des Barres first published these charts of the North American coastline in London from 62 original copper plates in 1777. They were to make up a comprehensive atlas for the British naval fleet that was then assisting in the invasion of Britain's 13 colonies. Nearly 170 years later, in 1948, the British Admiralty presented 16 of the plates to the Massachusetts Historical Society as a gift. The plates are so fragile that this reissue, created by master printer Robert Townsend of Georgetown, Mass., will be the last. Renderings of the Massachusetts coast, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket and various coastal areas of New Hampshire and Maine comprise this limited edition of reprints. Several of the prints were painted with watercolors to resemble the original mariner's charts. *The Atlantic Neptune: The New England Charts exhibition runs through Dec. 31. Haley & Steele Gallery, 91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). www.haleysteele.com. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. By appointment.* —Leah Gourley

Allston Arts District
300 N. Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). Mon., Wed., 12-8pm; Tue., Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Inaugural Exhibition*, featuring 21 artists and three galleries from the Allston area, shows through Oct. 15.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 303, Boston (617-482-3652). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Avenue. Wed.-Sat., 11am-5pm. •Through Oct. 27, new work by Erik Hanson shows, as well as *Bedroom*, an installation by Pia Schachter.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •David Kapp shows new paintings Oct. 13 through Nov. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •*New Works*, Ron Ehrlich's modern creations reminiscent of ancient cave drawings, shows through Oct. 30.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*Open Studios Group Show Exhibit* shows Oct. 9-21.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Käthe Kollwitz: Engravings, Lithographs and Woodcuts 1891-1938* is on display through Nov. 3.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton Centre (617-558-2783). www.artesanogallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm.* The gallery has an ongoing display of glass pieces and jewelry.

Artists Foundation Galleries
516 East Second St. #49, Boston (617-464-3559). www.artistsfoundation.org. *Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment.* •*Sound Mine*, by Sally Moore, shows in the Main Gallery. *The Telephone Tells Secrets*, by Edythe Wright, is in the Office Gallery. In the Video Room is *Who's the Fairest of Them All?* Through Oct. 20.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Kate Shepherd's *Like Colors* and Print Publisher's Spotlight of Jenkins Sikkema Edition show through Oct. 17. •*New Light Works*, by Cameron Shaw, opens Oct. 20 and shows through Nov. 28.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Worlds Within: Artists from Gateway Crafts* features the work of artists with disabilities through Nov. 3.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*Making Boys Cry*, a show by David Hilliard, runs through Oct 27.

Boston University Art Gallery
BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. *Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. MBTA: B Green Line to BU West.* •Work by Whitfield Lovell shows in *Embers* through Oct. 28.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Mary Huges shows *Traces* and Barbara Poole shows *It's Always About Me* through Oct. 27.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •*Haunted by the Faded Beauty of Cuba*, a photography show by Richard Wood, runs through Oct. 25. •*Races/Roots*, photographs by Don West, shows through Oct. 23.

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-11:30pm; Sun., 12-11:30pm. •*Some Options in Abstraction*, by a variety of photographers and painters, shows Oct. 15-Nov. 11. •In the Sert Gallery, *Beyond Decorum: The Photography of Iké Udé* displays through Oct. 21.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chapellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •*Spirals*, by Japanese glass artist Shinji Yonehara, runs through Oct. 13. •Jamie Harris shows works in *Maachie*. Also, work by Stopher Christensen is presented. Oct. 13-Nov. 11.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Bernd Haussmann shows his work through Oct. 29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* •*New England Women Artists*, *Prints of Daubigny* and work by James A. M. Whistler show through Nov. 3.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*Fall Members Show* runs through Oct. 20

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •*Out from the Shadows*, paintings by Paul Inglis, shows through Oct. 26.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery presents an ongoing exhibit of local artists depicting Boston scenes.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Allston (617-783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Packard's Corner. drawbridge.com/dvbgallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •Annee Spileos Scott presents *Illuminating Manuscripts* through Oct 31.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •*Small Faces*, an exhibition of collages by Margaret Treglia, shows through Oct. 27.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*Margins*, a series of new photographs by Oscar Palacio depicting the urban environment, shows through Oct. 20.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has an ongoing collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. •Sculptures by Peruko Ccopacatty and paintings by Carole Lindberg show through Oct. 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm.* •FPAC's 22nd annual Open Studios Weekend will take place Oct. 20-21 from 11am to 5pm. The roster has more than 100 artists.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* The gallery's permanent collection features master works by Picasso, Renoir, Chagall and Cassatt. •Joan Colomer, a Spanish painter, shows *Reflections of Spain*. Through Oct. 14.

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and Alexandra Kochis

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Gallery @ Green Street
[illegible] Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Taylor Davis presents her architectural work from Oct. 12 through Nov. 24

Gallery fx/Little White Box
39 Thayer St., Boston (617-695-2808). www.galleryfx.org. *Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm or by appointment.* •Karyn Kirk and Wayne Viens show *On the Doll*, with both artists using children's dolls as a mode of expression.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Cheryl Warrick shows *Between the Lines* through Nov. 3.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (617-338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* The gallery presents an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Gallery of Social/Political Art
565 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6710). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm, Sun., 1:30-5pm. •*Beyond Tolerance: Embracing the Other* shows through Oct. 14.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Ceramics by Mary Roehm display through Oct. 30.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (617-367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. A collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early 20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm. The gallery's collection of 18th- and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display. •Through Dec. 31, *Atlantic Neptune Rising* shows 18th-century mariner's charts.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Open Season*, a group show, runs through Oct. 13. •Ethan Berry's *Installation* opens Oct. 20 and shows through Nov. 24.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Morgan Bulkeley: New Paintings and Sculptures* shows through Oct. 30. *Jaqueline Hayden: Ancient Statuary Series* shows through Oct. 30.

Huntington Gallery
Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7000) MBTA: Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 10-6pm, Sat., 11-5pm. •*Post-hypnotic* features 28 abstract painters and runs through Dec. 28.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment.* The gallery has an ongoing display of art of the Pacific, Africa, Asia, the Americas and the ancient world.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing.

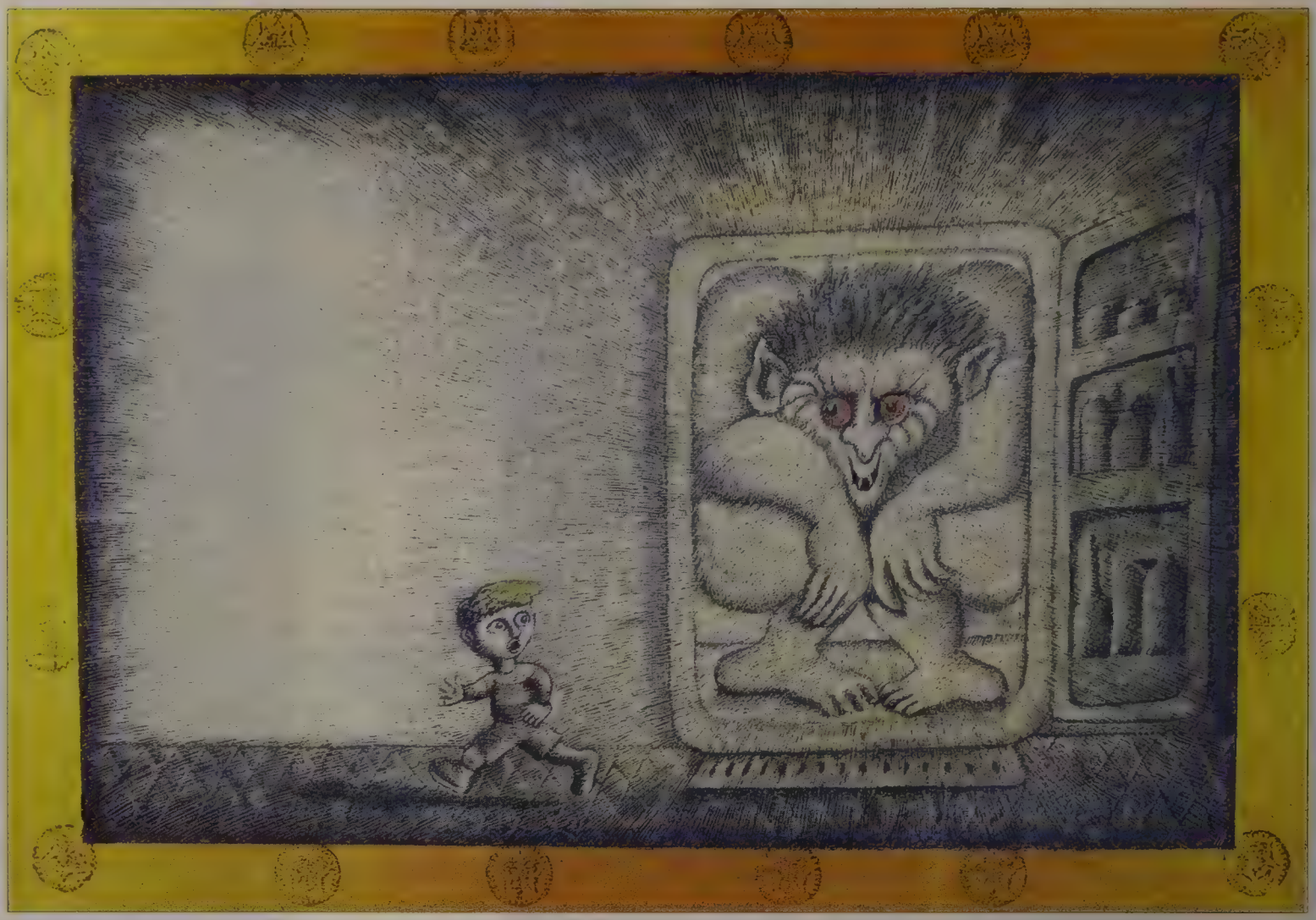
Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •Judi Rotenberg's newest work, *Song of Songs*, shows from Oct. 18-Nov. 17. The Annex features work by Ian Factor.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. *Sat., 1-4pm and by appointment.* •*Living Color*, a group show of paintings and mixed-media sculpture, shows through Oct. 13. •*Yasharel* runs Oct. 20-Nov. 22.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. By appointment.* •Works by faculty and studio members are featured in an exhibition showing through Oct. 17. •*Hudsonriver School Part II*, Mary Gianetto's watercolors and ceramics, is on exhibit Oct. 19-Nov. 1.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm and by appointment. •New work by Jim Eng and Meredith Davis, featuring sculpture, mixed media and collage, shows through Oct. 27.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •The gallery celebrates its grand opening with a show featuring ceramic vessels by Anna Silver and layered silk paintings by Tim Harding. Through Oct. 15. •*Outdoors*: a show featuring outdoor sculptures in steel, glass, stone and ceramics. Oct. 11-Nov. 16.



***The Gargoyle on the Roof*, by Peter Sis, is now being displayed in the DeCordova Museum's new *Terrors and Wonders* exhibition.**

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Homage*, featuring the new work of painters David Penna and Pat Mattina, is on display Oct. 12-31.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Tue.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. •The traveling exhibition *Hope Photographs* shows influential contemporary photography through Dec. 9.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •Work by Giovanni DeCunto, Karen Dimit and Harry Folsom shows through Oct. 10. •*Modern Abstractions* shows Oct. 18-Nov. 10.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* •*Studio Interiors and Still Lifes* shows through Oct. 31.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •John Gibson and William Ciccariello present their work through mid-November.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
Wiesner Building, 20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4400). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm, Fri., 12-8pm, Sat.-Sun., 12-6pm. Free. •*Yes Yoko Ono*, an interactive art/music/film/photography exhibit, is on display from Oct. 18 through Jan. 6, 2002.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). www.mobius.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Mobius Group Show* is on display through Oct. 27.

MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tues.-Sat., 11-5:30pm; Sun.-Mon., 1-5pm. •*Vehicle Sculpture* by Klic and paintings by Merle Poulton are on display through Oct. 28.

Mugar Memorial Library
Boston University, 771 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-1309). Mon. - Fri., 9am-4:45pm. •*Tempest Tossed: The Life of Sterling Hayden: Author, Adventurer, Actor* shows through May 2002. •A retrospective display of Dan Rather's professional memorabilia shows.

New Art Center
61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-964-3424). www.newartcenter.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm* •Artists use all mediums to express *The Animal As Muse: Divine to Demonic*, which is on display through Nov. 2.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Maine Landscapes*, a solo show of paintings by John Walker, shows through Oct. 13. •Robert Rohm's sculptures and Sam Messer's paintings open on Oct. 20 and show through Nov. 10.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. •*Salon IV*, a show paying homage to the French painters of the 19th century, runs through Oct. 20.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm. The gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday with Luther Gray. •Works by Bonnie Sloane show through Oct. 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery boston.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Paintings by Phyllis Berman display Oct. 12-Nov. 24.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*The Beauty of the Seen*, the latest ceramic art from Brother Thomas, shows Oct. 13-Nov. 27.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The teahouse specializes in antique Yixing teapots.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* American and European 19th- and 20th-century paintings are on ongoing display.

Sacramento Street Gallery
20 Sacramento St., Cambridge (617-349-6287). Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Landscapes of Ireland and Cambridge*, a show of works by Roby Fader, shows through Oct. 19.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba.* •Paintings by Rachel Wardrop are also on display.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5.* •Rolf Hoeg and Joël Urruty exhibit their works through Oct. 30.

South End Gallery
685 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Three Decades of the Box*, work by Robert Rovenolt, runs through Oct. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.stgeorgegallery .com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* •*The Power of Paint*, by William St. George, shows through Oct. 31.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., South Boston (617-423-SOTO). Fri., 6-8pm and by appointment. •A multimedia show of works by Claudia Bernardi and Gustavo Sota-Rosa runs through Oct. 21 in *The Steps Never Taken.*

Upstairs at Johnson Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. •*Plein Aire*, oil paintings by Tim DeVriese and Matt Glushien, display through Oct. 29.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •Works by Polly Star show in *Poetry of Hand and Spirit.* Through Nov. 3.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Panopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* •*A Greek Portfolio*, showcasing photographs by Constantine Manos, displays through Nov. 10.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •The Leopold Godowsky Jr. color photography award nominees show through Oct. 26.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.RobertKleinGallery.com *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Call for gallery hours.* •Photographs by Yousuf Karsh show through Oct. 27.

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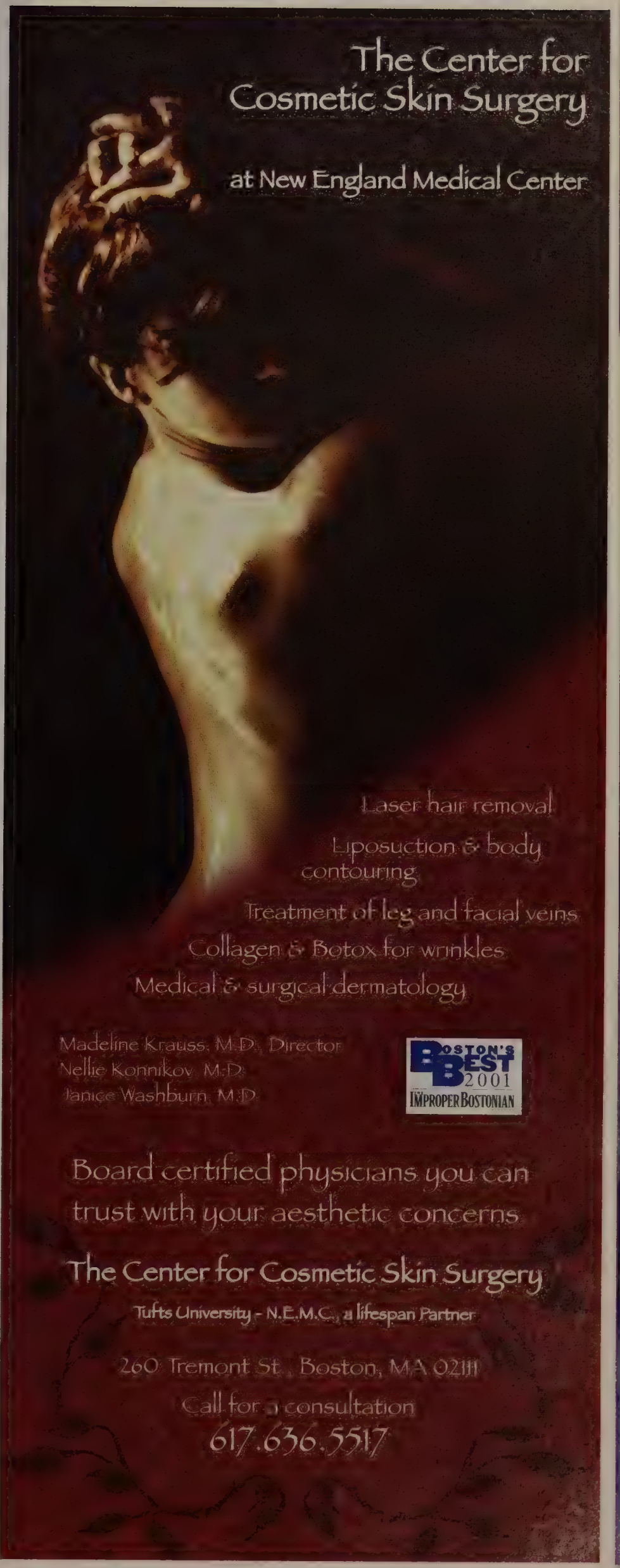
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books & poetry

READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 10

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. Poet Laureate **Billy Collins** reads from his whimsical collection of poetry *Sailing Alone Around the Room.*

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-0372). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Literary and social critic **John Edgar Wideman** discusses his book *Hoop Roots*, a story of the origins of basketball in African-American culture.

Newton Free Library Reading
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7:30pm. **Elizabeth McCracken** reads and signs her newest novel, *Niagara Falls All Over Again*, which chronicles a flawed but passionate friendship of more than 30 years.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Jennifer Egan** reads from her latest novel, *Look at Me*, the story of a model whose face is disfigured after a car accident. After the reading, enjoy a free pint of Park Pale Ale and appetizers at the Newtonville Times Restaurant.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
• Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free. **David Schmamann** reads and discusses his first novel, *Empire Settings*, an account of a forbidden relationship between a privileged white boy and the daughter of a Zulu servant under apartheid in 1970s South Africa. *• WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free.* Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist **David Halberstam** reads from his book *War in a Time of Peace: Bush, Clinton and the Generals.* From the Gulf War until the present, Halberstam examines foreign policy of presidential administrations.

THURSDAY, OCT. 11

Barnes & Noble Author Event
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. Historian **Bruce J. Schulman** discusses *The Seventies: The Great Shift in American Culture, Society and Politics*, covering everything from pop culture to historical events during the "me decade."

Borders Boston Book Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12:30pm. Free. Political analyst **Ken Warren** discusses and signs his book *In Defense of Public Opinion.* Based on interviews with pollsters, the book deconstructs the validity of political polling practices.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. **William Corbett** reads from his book *All Prose*, a collection of his essays. **Edward Barrett** also reads from *Sheepshead Bay*, his first full-length collection of poetry.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Lawyer and admissions officer **Richard Montauk** gives tips from his book *How to Get into the Top Law Schools.*

Harvard Book Store Competitive Advantage Breakfast Speaker Series
Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 7-9am. $90, includes continental breakfast and copy of autographed book. **Michael Hammer** discusses his book *The Agenda: What Every Business Must Do to Dominate the Decade.* He provides a plan for businesses in this new era he calls "the use of customer power."

New Words Live Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7pm. Free. Acclaimed Filipina-Australian performance artist and writer **Merlinda Bobis** reads from her book *The Kissing*, which explores the post-colonial Filipino experience.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
• Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 7pm. Free. **Andrew Delbanco** reads and discusses *Writing New England: An Anthology from the Puritans to the Present. • WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free.* **Jill McCorkle** reads from her latest collection of stories, *Creatures of Habit.* She is introduced by Alice Hoffman.

FRIDAY, OCT. 12

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-6853). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. 7pm. **Ann Wadsworth** reads from her new book, *Light Coming Back*, the story of a woman encountering emotional struggles on her husband's deathbed.

Harvard Book Store Art Series
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). 6pm. Free; tickets required. Argentinian translator, writer, editor and award-winning author **Alberto Manguel** discusses his book *Reading Pictures: A History of Love and Hate.*

Harvard Book Store Friday Forum
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Free. **Hazel Rowley** reads from her latest work, *Richard Wright: The Life and Times.* A book signing follows.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Stephen Alter** reads from *Sacred Waters: A Pilgrimage Up the Ganges River to the Source of Hindu Culture*, an account of Alter's physical and spiritual journey in India.

SATURDAY, OCT. 13

***Boston Globe* Book Festival Book & Author Luncheon**
Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston. (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 12:30pm. $45. This luncheon features **Max Phillips**, author of *The Artist's Wife*, **Julia Child**, author of *Julia's Kitchen Wisdom*, and **Jayne Anne Phillips**, author of *Black Tickets.*

Director's Cut: An Evening with Tom Perrotta
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). 7:30pm. **Tom Perrotta**, author of *Election*, screens the TV pilot he wrote and produced and reads the story on which it is based, "13," from his collection, *Bad Haircut: Stories of the Seventies.*

Intro to Both
Oni Gallery, 684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. 7pm. Oni Gallery hosts *Both* magazine's debut issue with readings by **Alex Phillips**, **Peter Richards** and **Dara Wier**.

Kate's Mystery Books Author Event
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. 3pm. Free. **Toni Kelner** signs copies of the seventh installment of the Laura Fleming detective series *Mad as the Dickens.*

SUNDAY, OCT. 14

***Boston Globe* Book Festival Panel on Publishing**
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2-4pm. Free. **Josh Adams**, deputy editor of *Sail Magazine* discusses preparing a manuscript for the general market. **F. D. Reeve**, author of *Robert Frost in Russia*, discusses poetry today in the United Kingdom. **Diana Der-Hovanessian**, author of *Any Day Now*, moderates and discusses what to do until you're famous. **Ram Devineni** discusses e-publishing and **John Macrae III**, president of Henry Holt and Co., discusses the New York market.

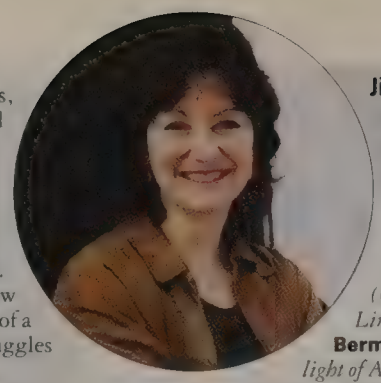
MONDAY, OCT. 15

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. **Gerald Stern**, author of *Last Blue*, reads poetry with **Anne Marie Macari**, author of *Ivory Candle.*

Borders Boston Book Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6:30pm. Free. National Geographic Explorer-In-Residence **Robert D. Ballard** discusses and signs his book *Adventures in Ocean Exploration: From the Discovery of the Titanic to the Search for Noah's Flood*, where he combines his two careers to explain mankind's relationship with the sea.

***Boston Globe* Book Festival Author Appearance**
Boston Globe Store, One School St., Boston (617-367-4000). MBTA: Blue Line to State. 6pm. Free. **Jill McCorkle**, author of *Creatures of Habit*, and **Askold Melnyczuk**, author of *Ambassador of the Dead: A Novel*, discuss and sign their works.

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Harvard Information Center, 1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free; tickets required. Bostonian author **Alexandra Marshall** discusses her novel *The Court of Common Pleas*, a portrait of a marriage in the throes of a midlife crisis.



Jill McCorkle reads from her latest collection of short stories a whopping four times in the next two weeks.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Morris Berman** discusses his book *The Twilight of American Culture*, in which he relays hope for a brighter tomorrow through a modern monastic movement.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
• Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free. Memoirist **Kyoko Mori** reads and discusses her first novel, *Stone Field, True Arrow. • WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free.* **Elizabeth Royte** reads and discusses *The Tapir's Morning Bath*, a book based on her experiences in the Panamanian rainforest.

TUESDAY, OCT. 16

Borders Bookshop Reading Series
Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). 7:30pm. **Joel Epstein** of the Education Development Center discusses his book *A Parent's Guide to Sex, Drugs and Flunking Out*, which offers financial and personal advice for college-age children and their parents.

Borders Boston Book Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6:30pm. Free. True crime writer **Anne Rule** reads, discusses and signs her book *Every Breath You Take: A True Story of Obsession, Revenge and Murder*, examining the murder of Sheila Blathorne Bellush.

***Boston Globe* Book Festival Author Appearance**
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Free. **Lani Guinier**, author of *Who's Qualified? New Democracy Forum*, discusses and signs her book.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. Jill McCorkle gives her third of four local readings tonight and discusses her latest collection of stories, *Creatures of Habit.*

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Julie Fenster** discusses her book *Ether Day: The Strange Tale of America's Greatest Medical Discovery and the Haunted Men Who Made It.*

Newtonville Books' Earfull Series
Kendall Café, 233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge (617-244-6619). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8:30pm. **Wendy Brenner**, author of *Phone Calls from the Dead*, reads from her collection of stories, along with **Tom Paine**, who reads from his book *Scar Vegas.*

WordsWorth Books Author Event
First Parish Church, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). 5:30pm. Free. **Bruce Campbell** reads and signs his Hollywood memoir, *If Chins Could Kill: Confessions of a B Movie Actor.* A screening of *Evil Dead 2*, with an introduction by Campbell, follows at the Brattle Theatre. Tickets required; $10.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17

Barnes & Noble Author Series
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. **Bernard Wasserstein** speaks about his book, *Divided Jerusalem: The Struggle for the Holy City*, the first authoritative history written about the diplomatic relations of Jerusalem.

Boston Center for Adult Education Writing Festival Series
5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-254-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6-8pm. $45. Novelist **Jodi Picoult** gives a lecture titled "Point of View," discussing approaches to narration and how to create voices for characters throughout the writing process.

***Boston Globe* Book Festival Author Appearance**
Boston Globe Store, One School St., Boston (617-367-4000). MBTA: Blue Line to State. 6pm. Free. **Alice Hoffman**, author of *Blue Diary*, and **Ly Y**, author of *Heaven Becomes Hell: A Survivor's Story of Life Under the Khmer Rouge*, discuss and sign their works.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. **Edward Ball** reads from his new book, *The Sweet Hell Inside: A Family History.* Ball, a white Southerner, investigated his family's slave-holding past in *Slaves in the Family* and continues his investigation with the Harlestons, an elite black family of the Jazz Age with whom he also has ties.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-661-1515). 6pm. Free. **Caroline Kennedy** shares her mother's favorite poems in a reading of *The Best-Loved Poems of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis*, followed by a discussion of her mother's life and work.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. Free. In her fourth local appearance, **Jill McCorkle** reads from her latest collection, *Creatures of Habit.* After the reading, enjoy a free pint of Park Pale Ale and appetizers at the Newtonville Times Restaurant.



Tom Perrotta, author of *Election*, comes to the Coolidge Corner Theatre Oct. 13 to screen his TV pilot.

BOTTOM: DEBI MILLIGAN

WordsWorth Books Author Series
•*Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 7pm. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Free.* **John Cumbler** reads and discusses *Reasonable Use: The People, the Environment, and the State, New England 1790-1930.* •*WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free.* **Chip Kidd** reads and discusses his witty novel, *The Cheese Monkeys: A Novel in Two Semesters.*

THURSDAY, OCT. 18

Barnes & Noble Author Series
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. Boston Globe journalist **Larry Tye** discusses *Home Lands: Portraits of the New Jewish Diaspora*, focusing on the renewal of Jewish identity.

Borders Boston Book Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 6pm. Free. **Reeve Lindbergh** discusses and signs her book *No More Words: A Journal of My Mother, Anne Morrow Lindbergh.* Reeve's mother was rendered speechless by a series of strokes and is now in her daughter's care.

***Boston Globe* Book Festival Author Appearance**
Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Free. Renowned historian **Howard Zinn**, author of *A People's History of the United States: 1942-Present*, discusses and signs his book.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. Boston Globe writer **Clea Simon** explores the father-daughter bond in a reading from her new book, *Fatherless Women: How We Change After We Lose Our Dads.*

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge. (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 6pm. Free; tickets required. Boston-based author **Sue Miller** reads from her new novel, *The World Below*, which links the lives of two women from different times and places.

New Words Live Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7pm. Free. **Danya Ruttenberg**, **Dina Hornreich** and **Eve Rosenbaum** each read from their new anthology, *Yentl's Revenge*, which addresses the changes facing the new generation of Jewish women.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-352-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Susanna Kaysen**, author of *Girl, Interrupted*, reads and discusses her new medical memoir, *The Camera My Mother Gave Me.*

FRIDAY, OCT. 19

Brookline Arts Center Artists and Writers Series
86 Monmouth St., Brookline (617-566-5715) MBTA: Green C Line to St. Mary's. free. **Johnathan Sedgewick** reads from his book *Dark House*, and **Deborah Dean** shares her poetry.

Harvard Book Store Friday Forum Series
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0372) MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Boston University English Professor **Emily Dalgarno** discusses her book *Virginia Woolf and the Visible World.* A signing follows.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Free. **Jim Currie** discusses the art of keeping a travel journal in his book *Mindful Traveler: A Guide to Journaling and Transformative Travel.*

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Books Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Poet and journalist **Ruben Martinez** reads and discusses his book, *Crossing Over: A Mexican Family on the Migrant Trail.*

SUNDAY, OCT. 21

New Words Live Reading Series
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7pm. Free. **Sabrina Ward Harrison** reads from her new book, *Brave on the Rocks*, a follow-up closely resembling her previous book, *Spilling Open.*

MONDAY, OCT. 22

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. **Margot Livesey** reads from her latest novel, *Eva Moves the Furniture*, the story of Eva, a young Scottish girl who starts seeing "companions" visible only to her. Also, **Carol Frost** reads from her poetry.

Borders Boston Book Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 12:30pm. Free. **Lesley Pratt Bannatyne** discusses and demonstrates her spooky and creative guide, *A Halloween How-To.*

Harvard Book Shop Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Free; tickets required. **Jonathan Franzen**, author of *Strong Motion*, reads from his latest novel, *The Corrections.*

WordsWorth Books Author Series
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free. **Tom Hayden** reads from his book, *Irish on the Inside: In Search of the Soul of Irish America*, where he addresses conformism and the search for identity.

TUESDAY, OCT. 23

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. If you missed her reading last night, catch **Margot Livesey** reading from her new novel, *Eva Moves the Furniture.*

Harvard Book Store Author Series
Harvard Information Center, Holyoke Center, 1350 Mass. Ave. (617-661-0372). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free: tickets required. **Royal Tyler** presents an updated translation of one of the world's first novels, the Japanese book *The Tale of Genji.*

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (617-499-2000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1pm. Free. Ex-*Survivor* star **Rudy Boesch** holds a question-and-answer session and book signing for *The Book of Rudy: the Wit and Wisdom of Rudy Boesch.*

WordsWorth Books Author Series
•*Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free.* **Peter Jenkins** reads and discusses *Looking for Alaska.* •*WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free.* **Robert Brustein** reads *Siege of the Arts: Collected Writings, 1994-2001.*

ONGOING

Arlington Center for the Arts Writers and Poets Series
Robbins Library, Community Room, 700 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-648-6220). 7:30pm. Free. Readings by local authors and poets take place every Thursday. •Oct. 11: The City Poets.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

New Theatre Works: A Staged Reading Series
Fox Community Room, corner of Mass. Ave. and Cleveland St., Arlington (781-648-6220). 8pm. Fridays and Saturdays. $5, $1 students and seniors. Works by emerging and experienced playwrights will be presented every Friday and Saturday evening through Nov. 17. •Oct. 12 and 13: plays by Jim and Jean Anton, Saul Slapikoff and Nicole Doolin. •Oct. 19 and 20: plays by Michael Sallen, Rebeca Saunders and Carl Danielson.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every few Thursdays.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
The Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. They recently moved from the Middle East, but this new new venue offers the same good vibes.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 10

Holy Rebels
The First and Second Church in Boston, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). 5:30pm. $6. Rev. **Stephen Kendrick** will compare the charisma, personalities and messages of Buddha and Jesus.

The Artist's Role in Effecting Social Change
Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-290-8331). Oct. 10, 17 and 24, 6pm. Free. Lectures by recognized artists and scholars **S.A. Bachman**, **Howard Zinn**, **Mark Singer** and **Shannon Flattery** will address the artist's role in society.

THURSDAY, OCT. 11

Searching for Shadrach Minkins
Old State House Museum, 206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). 6:30pm. Free. A lecture on the first person arrested in New England under the Fugitive Slave Act.

Trapped by Trouble
Ford Hall Forum, Northeastern University, Blackman Auditorium, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-373-5800). 6:30pm. Free. A lecture on violent teens, juvenile justice and rehabilitation.

SATURDAY, OCT. 13

Latinos: Living in Two Worlds
One Story Street, Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 9am. $35. A conference to explore work and life issues faced by Latinos living in the United States. Keynote address by author **Ilan Stavans**.

SUNDAY, OCT. 14

Thought in Vision
The Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). 2pm. Free. A lecture by Pulitzer Prize-winning photographer **Stephan Savoia**.

TUESDAY, OCT. 16

Hyperlink: The Bright Spots
One Main Street, Cambridge (437-0600). 6:30pm. Free. A panel of companies that are defying conventional wisdom and doing well despite difficulties in the technology arena.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17

Archetypes: From the Past to the Future
The Swedenborg Chapel, 50 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-876-4888). 8pm. $20. **Dr. Anthony Stevens**, a British psychiatrist and Jungian analyst, will discuss how Jung's concept of archetypes has relevance today.

Advances in Cosmetic Surgery
The Newbury Center, 69 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0500). 7pm. Free. Cosmetic surgeon **Dr. Ramsey Alsarraf** discusses rhinoplasty, facelifts and implants.

THURSDAY, OCT. 18

The Pope Against the Jews
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. A lecture on the Vatican's role in the rise of modern anti-semitism, based on documents previously locked in the Vatican's secret archives.

The Truth about Work Conditions in Mass.
ACLU, 99 Chauncy St., Boston (617-482-3170). 4pm. Listen to stories of unfair labor practices and learn about legislation against worker exploitation.

The Culture Made Me Do It!
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. A lecture on the shifting balance in the age-old debate of nature vs. nurture.

SUNDAY, OCT. 21

An Evening with Yoko Ono
Carpenter Center for Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-8197). 6pm. Call for reservations. A lecture presented in conjunction with the exhibition *Yes Yoko Ono* at the List Visual Arts Center at MIT.

Out of the Closet and into the World
The Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston Ave., Boston (617-266-6710). 11am. **Rev. David Carl Olson** discusses the difficulties of being gay.



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FILM

HOLDING REALITY FOR RANSOM

Don't Say a Word is empty, danger-filled escapism.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

You know a lot of folks in Hollywood had heavy hearts after last month's terrorist attacks—and not just for the obvious reasons. Their sinking feeling was because the attacks' very real tragedy and intrigue meant that the often simplistic plots of malevolence in Hollywood action thrillers would seem even more trivial and exploitative than ever.

Don't Say a Word is a choice example. This story of a New York psychiatrist (Michael Douglas) tussling with the kidnappers of his doe-eyed, 8-year-old daughter (Sky McCole Bartusiak) would have been forgettable stuff whenever it was released. But now it just seems even more hollow, the sort of escapist fantasy we can do without. It contains a couple of fleeting skyline shots in which the World Trade Center is visible and a scene in which one character is smothered in a cave-in of dirt and wood. Even though such moments do give you pause, they are hardly the problem here. It's more the assembly-line pointlessness of the story's danger, violence and revenge.



Michael Douglas tries to unlock Brittany Murphy's mind in *Don't Say a Word*.

Nathan Conrad, the upscale child psychiatrist Douglas plays, becomes embroiled in the intrigue after a colleague (Oliver Platt) asks him to take on the pro bono case of a mysterious 18-year-old woman (Brittany Murphy) who's been institutionalized for much of the past decade. She's back in an asylum after slashing a man to death—her first violent act—and Nathan soon discovers she had good reason for doing it. The morning after taking the case, his own daughter is kidnapped by a gang of thieves. They want to force him to unlock the young woman's mind and get her to tell a six-digit number she knows. The guy she slashed wanted that number, too.

He was one of the gang who stole a priceless diamond from a bank safe deposit box in the 1991 prologue. So was her father, who absconded with the diamond before the others killed him, a murder she witnessed. The number is a clue to where the diamond is now, and only the hospitalized woman knows it. The kidnappers give the shrink all of one day to disentangle the mentally scarred woman's brain, which leads to many contrivances. One example: Despite the day in question being Thanksgiving, it seems as if everyone involved in the story turns up at work that day. Another contrivance: Nathan starts digging into his new patient's enormous case file, and in a half-hour he somehow figures out that she's been faking all of her various conditions for a decade because she wanted to be locked up.

Don't Say a Word then goes through the usual motions of dozens of action thrillers before it, in which the unarmed "civilians" take down the bigger, meaner thugs. In addition to Douglas' shrink, there's also his wife, played by Famke Janssen, who, for yet more melodramatic effect, is confined to a bed in the family apartment with a badly broken leg. Gee, do you think that knitting-needle-like metal pole she uses to scratch inside her cast will come into play later on?

The movie exploits the threat of violence while pretending to be an emotional movie about family ties—the ones the father feels for his daughter and starts to feel for his "surrogate daughter," the patient, who also comes to depend on him for protection. In that sense, *Don't Say a Word* recalls old Grade-Z movies like *Reefer Madness* that poorly posed as cautionary tales so they could show you depravity. This danger-and-revenge cocktail feels about as phony.

There is still plenty of room for genuinely sincere movies like *Silence of the Lambs* and *Seven*, which convincingly convey the emotional price of violence. But the expiration date on *Don't Say a Word* and its ilk has officially passed. iB

Don't Say a Word ★★

Directed by Gary Fleder. Written by Anthony Peckham and Patrick Smith Kelly. With Michael Douglas, Brittany Murphy, Sean Bean, Oliver Platt, Sky McCole Bartusiak and Famke Janssen. Rated R. Twentieth Century Fox.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

The Deep End ★★★
In this thriller, a middle-class housewife (Tilda Swinton) flirts with crime when she thinks her teen son (Jonathan Tucker) has murdered a predatory lover. She secretly covers up the crime, then starts fending off blackmailers who have incriminating evidence. This has less social relevance than the movie it remakes, 1949's *The Reckless Moment*—in which the woman fears exposure in her conformity-crazy postwar times—and the sexual tension between the woman and her conflicted blackmailer (Goran Visnjic) isn't very convincing. But it's a fascinating exercise in the maternal protective impulse, with Swinton really fleshing out the heroine, and co-directors Scott McGehee and David Siegel (*Suture*) again excelling at conveying eerie atmosphere.

Ghost World ★★★★
Just when it seemed movies were incapable of producing something that wasn't gimmicky, something that was fun yet disarmingly deep, along comes Terry (*Crumb*) Zwigoff's astonishingly good fiction debut. Based on co-writer Daniel Clowes' comic novel, it starts out as if it's going to be just another movie about misfit teens—in this case, the graduating high-schoolers played by Thora Birch (*American Beauty*) and Scarlet Johansson. Bored and annoyed at the prefab world around them, the pair amuse themselves by playing a practical joke on a lonely guy (Steve Buscemi) who's taken out a personal ad. But the guy turns out to be a nonconformist who has a lot in common with the girls, especially Birch's malcontent, and she becomes quite taken with him. The movie then evolves into a much more distinctive story that effectively dovetails many themes: the poor way people communicate with each other; the struggle between individuality and the need for companionship; and the way we construct our own inner realities, selectively taking in and shutting things out to suit our emotional needs.

Hearts in Atlantis ★½
It's surprising, given the number of them, that a Stephen King film adaptation hasn't been totally redundant before now. But this story about a boy (Anton Yelchin) and his friendship with a mysterious older man who moves into the next apartment (Anthony Hopkins), is just *Stand by Me* meets *Apt Pupil*—with a dash of *The Green Mile* supernaturalism thrown in. Director Scott Hicks (*Shine*) makes things worse by shooting most of Hopkins' scenes as if they were bloated clips to be shown on awards shows.

Iron Monkey ★★★
This Robin Hood story from 1993 is one of the more enjoyable Hong Kong martial arts movies directed by Yuen Wo Ping, who choreographed fights for *The Matrix* and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. With Yu Rong Guang as the herbal doctor who, by night, steals from the corrupt to give to the poor, and with Newton-raised Donnie Yen as the traveling monk who teams up with him, there's lots of swift action here, though it's rarely as unconventional as in those two later movies. The climax, fought atop wooden poles, with a fire raging below, is classic, though.

Joyride ★★
Breaker, breaker. We got us a whole convoy of silliness from the movie studios out in Shaky Town. It's this misleadingly titled thriller about a couple of not-so-good old boys who pick the wrong trucker to play a practical joke on with their CB radio. When they get bored using that CB to find out where the Kojaks with Kodaks are out on the big slab, one pretends he's a woman and they set up a phony motel tryst with another CB'er. But the trucker (handle: Rusty Nail) is out for revenge, and he somehow is able to follow the brothers' every move. Mercy sakes alive. Drop the hammer and shake the leaves to another theater in the multiplex, because this one has a really unsatisfying payoff, and then it slaps on an annoying sequel setup. That's a big negatory, good buddy!

L.I.E. ★★
You know it's fall when the dreary adolescents-in-suburban-wasteland movies arrive. The title stands for the Long Island Expressway, the highway that spiritually imprisons the characters in Michael Cuesta's debut. Wriggling to break free is 15-year-old Howie (Paul Franklin Dano), whose single dad pays little attention to him. He's talked into robbing houses with a wilder friend (Billy Kay), and comes into contact with a mysterious middle-aged man named John (Brian Cox) as a result. Cox's solid citizen is actually a sexual predator, and Howie, sadly in need of parenting, does an often-involving two-step with him. Howie is disgusted by John's sexual advances yet attracted by his paternal qualities. That John is not just evil is the movie's strength, but its "suburbs suck" message could use more humor or a more original approach.

Liam ★½
What did we do to deserve a movie that's essentially a dreary remake of the dreary *Angela's Ashes*, only this time

AVA GERLITE



Thora Birch stars as a whining, graduating highschooler in Terry Zwigoff's *Ghost World.*

set in Liverpool instead of Ireland? Poverty, extreme Catholicism, plant closings and the like all get a very familiar treatment in this total disappointment from two people who should know better: director Stephen Frears (*My Beautiful Laundrette*, *High Fidelity*) and writer Jimmy McGovern (the great import TV series *Cracker*).

Mulholland Drive ★★
After David Lynch scored with his surprisingly straightforward *The Straight Story*—which nonetheless featured one of his favorite behaviors, obsession—the *Twin Peaks* and *Blue Velvet* director is back to bad 1990s habits. That means this is a movie that doesn't make much internal sense and doesn't have an engaging style of intrigue, either. Expanded from a TV pilot ABC rejected, his latest includes parallel universes, shady characters, sapphic desire and even Billy Ray Cyrus, but they never amount to much. Newcomers Naomi Watt and Laura Harring play two sets of women in L.A. who may or may not be the same women. But does it really matter? In its original form, this might have been a decent jumping-off point for a series that could play itself out, but as a movie it just throws things up on the screen with little payoff at the end.

My First Mister ★★
Actress Christine Lahti's directorial debut is essentially the bad version of *Ghost World*. It too has a disaffected teen (Leelee Sobieski) and a withdrawn, older man (Albert Brooks) she befriends. But, despite being about the angry teen, it has more of the sensibility of the middle-aged man. The way the new friendship opens the girl up and teaches her how to love such unlikable folks as her shrill mom (Carol Kane), dull stepdad (Michael McKean) and aging-hippie dad (a rare bad John Goodman performance) rings totally false. Plus the unconvincing emotional and cosmetic makeover the Goth Girl gets makes this feel as if it were produced by Sally Jesse Raphael.

Shadow Glories ★★
Shot in Lewiston, Maine, there's a refreshing everyday grit to this drama about a former kickboxer (Marc Sandler) trying to leave his life of violence behind him. His quest turns difficult when a friend (Sarah Rachel Isenberg) asks him to train her to be a full-contact kickboxer. It's the kickboxing action, in and out of the ring, that really KOs the drama, unfortunately.

Together ★★★
As in his previous *Show Me Love*, Swedish writer-director Lukas Moodysson packs a lot of convincing affection for his characters into his latest. This comedy is about a communal household in 1975 Stockholm that gets shaken up by the arrival of one member's housewife sister and her two children. Once thrown together, the vegetarian radicals and the bourgeois family unit put some interesting dents in each other's armor, from the housewife deciding to let her armpit hair grow out to the commune's kids finally getting good toys to play with. Some gags and characters fall flat, but Moodysson has such an engaging way of finding common ground between people that this becomes a genuine feel-good film.

Zoolander ★★½
Like *America's Sweethearts*, this has enough laughs poking fun at obvious pop-culture excesses to get by, but it doesn't live up to its trailer or to the potential of those involved. Ben Stiller directed, co-wrote and stars as title character Derek Zoolander, a celebrity model who makes Fabio seem deep. The story develops this dim bulb into a somewhat self-aware hero, but it's no *Austin Powers* in the narcissistic-hero department. As he does in just about every movie he's in, Owen Wilson nearly steals the show as Zoolander's New Age runway rival, who becomes his equally clueless comrade in a plot to stop a designer (Will Ferrell) from masterminding the assassination of a sweatshop-closing Malaysian politician.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Brattle Theatre

Special Engagements
•Oct. 12, 5:15, 7:30 and 10pm and Oct. 13, 12:45, 3, 5:15, 7:30 and 10pm **Jabberwocky** *1977.* It's not surprising that this zany and farfetched medieval tale of knights, dragons and fortune-hungry peasants is the work of Terry Gilliam and the creators of **Monty Python**.
•Oct. 19, Parts 1 and 2, 7:30pm, Parts 3 and 4, 10pm and Oct. 20, Parts 1 and 2, 2 and 7:30pm, Parts 3 and 4, 4:30 and 10pm **Ann Arbor Film Festival Tour.** Festival Director Vicki Honeyman oversees the 39th tour, which has 22 new works by indie directors.
•Oct. 21, 12pm **Nine** *2001.* Jennifer Campbell's inspiring film is about nine breast cancer survivors who competed in the 2000 Head of the Charles Regatta.

Sundays and Mondays—A Tribute to Jack Lemmon
•Oct. 14, 12 and 6pm **JFK** *1991.* Lemmon plays a small but crucial role in Oliver Stone's film about the district attorney investigating the president's assassination.
•Also showing, 3:30 and 9:45pm **The China Syndrome** *1979.* A uniquely soundtrack-less film by James Bridges, in which Lemmon portrays an employee at a nuclear power plant under the scrutiny of the media.
•Oct. 15, 7:30pm **Bell, Book & Candle** *1958.* Lemmon takes on the role of a beatnik warlock in Richard Quine's magical comedy full of witchcraft and love potions. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:45pm **PHFFFT!** *1954.* Lemmon and Judy Holliday star in this Mark Robson film as a recently divorced couple who can't stop running into each other.
•Oct. 21, 2:45 and 7:30pm and Oct. 22, 7:30pm **The Odd Couple** *1968.* Lemmon is the neatnik roommate opposite Walter Matthau's slob as the two create one of the most beloved comedic duos of all time in Gene Saks' film. •Also showing, 5:00 and 9:45pm **The Fortune Cookie** *1966.* Lemmon and Matthau's first union in Billy Wilder's film about a scheming lawyer who convinces his brother-in-law to sue for a nonexistent injury.

Tuesdays—I Was a Teenage Teenager
•Oct. 16, 7:30pm **Bye Bye Birdie** *1963.* Evil in the guise of rock 'n' roll plagues wholesome Sweet Apple, Ohio, in this musical directed by George Sidney.
•Also showing, 5:30 and 10pm **Hairspray** *1988.* John Waters' spoof on dance-crazed teenagers features Ricki Lake as a chubby teen who simultaneously boogies on TV and fights segregation.
•Oct. 23, 7:30pm **Beach Blanket Bingo** *1965.* Frankie Avalon and Annette Funicello star in William Asher's

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hokey beach classic about the joys of summer. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30pm **Fast Times at Ridgemont High** *1982.* Pay homage to '80s hair, stonewashed jeans and, of course, the mall by reliving this Amy Heckerling film starring the '80s all-stars: Judge Reinhold, Phoebe Cates, Eric Stolz and Sean Penn.

Wednesdays—Recent and Future Raves

•Oct. 10, 7pm **Waking Life** *2001.* Richard Linklater, director of **Dazed and Confused,** brings back his beloved character Wiley Wiggins in this film that uses a new process of animation to paint over live action footage. •Also showing, 4:30 and 10pm **Spring Forward** *2000.* Back by popular demand, Tom Gilroy's directorial debut that is structured in four seasonal segments follows the friendship between a former convict and his co-worker.

•Oct. 17, 5, 7:30 and 10pm **Vertical Ray of the Sun** *2000* Anh Hung Tran's moving film revolves around the lives of three sisters who have recently lost their parents.

Thursdays—Cine Liberación: Cuban Revolutionary Cinema

•Oct. 11, 7:15pm **The Last Supper** *1977.* Alea's film, set in a Cuban sugar plantation in the 1870s, is about a slaveholder who asks 12 of his slaves to re-enact the Last Supper, causing them to rebel by treating them as equals. •Also showing, 5:15 and 9:30pm **The Other Francisco** *1975.* The first of a trilogy about slavery created by well-known Afro-Cuban director Sergio Giral, this film explores the seeds of black rebellion in Cuba.

•Oct. 18, 7pm **Strawberry and Chocolate** *1993.* This Oscar-nominated film by Alea is about the relationship between a conservative Cuban and his eccentric neighbor. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30pm **Up to a Certain Point** *1984.* This sarcastic comedy about a machisto Cuban screenwriter who falls in love with a female dockworker earned director Alea several awards at the Havana Latin American Film Festival.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Video Balagan

•Oct. 11, 8pm **Local Masters III** Works by filmmakers from local colleges and universities: Alfred Guzzetti, Bridget Murnane and others.

Feature Films

•Oct. 12, **Mulholland Drive** *2001.* David Lynch originally intended to air this dark concoction on primetime TV but released it instead as a feature film and won Best Director at the Cannes Film Festival. Fans of *Twin Peaks* will like the weirdness of his story about the intersection of three seemingly disparate lives. •Also showing, **Va Savoir** *2000.* A young actress faces the demons of her past when she returns to Paris and her ex in this film about the theater by French director Jacques Rivette.

Midnight Movies

•Oct. 12 and 13 **Citizen Toxie: The Toxic Avenger, Part IV** *1999.* Seventeen years after Troma Team introduced the Toxic Avenger, Toxie returns with his sidekick, Lardass, to fight the Diaper Mafia for control of the Tromaville School for the Very Special. •Also showing **Bram Stoker's Dracula** *1992.* Francis Ford Coppola's creepy remake of an old classic, starring Gary Oldman, Winona Ryder and Anthony Hopkins.

•Oct. 19 and 20 **The Hunger** *1983.* David Bowie, Susan Sarandon and Catherine Deneuve star in this vampirish flick directed by Tony Scott.

Director's Cut

•Oct. 17, 7:30pm **An Evening with Tom Perrotta** The author of *Election* shows his TV pilot and reads *13,* the story that inspired it.

Harvard Film Archive

The Moving Image: Film and Visual Representation

•Oct. 10, 7pm **Voyage in Italy** (*Viaggio in Italia*) *1953.* The diary-like film directed by Roberto Rossellini stars George Sanders and Ingrid Bergman as a bored British couple struggling to save their marriage.

•Oct. 17, 7pm **L'Avventura** *1960.* A woman disappears, and her best friend and the lover she left behind become sexually involved as they attempt to find her in Michelangelo Antonioni's film.

A Dynamic Duo: Jules Dassin and Melina Mercouri

•Oct. 10, 9pm **Night and the City** *1950.* Richard Widmark is Harry Fabian, a small-time hustler scouring the WW II rubble of London, whose ambition leads him into many tawdry affairs in this film by Jules Dassin.

•Oct. 11, 8pm **Never on Sunday** (*Potetin Kyriaki*) *1959.* Director Jules Dassin plays a Yankee who journeys to Greece in search of ancient truths and finds a hooker named Ilya, played by Melina Mercouri.

•Oct. 12, 9pm **Rififi** (*Du Rififi chez les Hommes*) *1955.* Jules Dassin directed this film about a gang of criminals who plan and execute a jewel heist in Paris before then turning on each other.

•Oct. 19, 9pm **Topkapi** *1964.* This Jules Dassin filmis a spoof on his own *Rififi,* with a plot that revolves around a dagger heist.

Preview

Magical Mystery Tour

Yoko Ono expresses herself in a range of media



Yoko Ono directs one her many short experimental films.

The indefatigable Yoko Ono is forever expanding her repertoire of innovative, artistic endeavors. Over the years, she has immersed herself in the worlds of avant-garde performance art, filmmaking, poetry, political activism and music. Lately, she has been concentrating on interactive installations, site-specific works, Internet projects, concerts and recordings that have been widely disseminated in numerous venues across Europe, America, Japan and Australia. The MIT List Visual Arts Center presents *Yes Yoko Ono,* the first American retrospective of these works. The exhibition, organized by the New York City's Japan Society, explores her life and career, including her contributions to the Fluxus movement (a loose affiliation of minimalist musicians, visual artists and poets in the '60s) and her involvement in Conceptual Art in New York, London and Tokyo. The exhibition has been remarkably popular, attracting more than 150,000 visitors in Minneapolis, its last stop before Boston. It contains about 150 works, with a focus on Ono's early period. *Yes Yoko Ono* includes objects and installations; instruction pieces and scores, experimental films, music and performance art. That's Oct. 18-Jan. 6. Ono gives a lecture on Saturday, Oct. 20, 2:30pm, in the Bartos Theatre. (Call 617-253-4680.) In collaboration with the exhibition, the Museum of Fine Arts presents six of Ono's films from the 1960s through the 1990s. *For the first screening, Saturday, Oct. 20, 7:30pm, she will be present at the MFA. Tickets are $15. (Call 617-369-3770.) —Erin Hagedorn

•Oct. 23, 7pm **The Naked City** *1948.* The documentary-like style of Jules Dassin's account of a New York City murder uses hidden cameras and photography to realistically depict urban crime.

New Films from Sweden

•Oct. 12, 7pm and Oct. 15, 9pm **Before the Storm** (*Före stormen*) *2000.* The feature debut from Iranian-born director Reza Parsa is a thriller about the intersection of the lives of a Middle Eastern cab driver and an adolescent boy.

•Oct. 19, 7pm and Oct. 22, 8:30pm **Show Me Love** *1998.* This film, directed by Lukas Moodysson, explores the sexual coming of age of two teenagers in the small Swedish town of Amal and was the No. 1 film at the box office in Sweden, Norway and Finland upon its release.

Henry Alekan: Master of Light and Shadow

•Oct. 13, 7pm and Oct. 17, 9:30pm **Beauty and the Beast** (*La Belle et la bête*) *1946.* Director Jean Cocteau and cinematographer Alekan reinvent the classic fairy tale with amazing special effects and striking black-and-white photography.

•Oct. 13, 8:45pm and Oct. 14, 8pm **The Perfect Kiss** *1985.* New Order's creative music video directed by Jonathan Demme and filmed by Alekan.

•Also showing, Oct. 13 8:45pm and Oct. 14, 8pm **Wings of Desire** (*Der Himmel über Berlin*) *1987.* Wim Wenders' spiritual documentary presents a pair of angels who eavesdrop on the weary inhabitants of Berlin before the crumbling of the Wall.

Adventures in Surrealism

•Oct. 15, 7pm and Oct. 16, 9:15pm **Eraserhead** *1976.* Henry, the balding protagonist of David Lynch's nightmare about sexuality and commitment, is put to the test when his girlfriend becomes pregnant.

•Oct. 22, 7pm and Oct. 23, 9pm **L'Étoile de mer** *1928,* **The Seashell and the Clergyman** (*La Coquille et le clergyman*) *1926* and **Un chien andalou** (*Andalusian Dog*) *1929.* A trio of surrealist films by Man Ray, Germaine Dulac and Luis Buñuel, respectively. The first was inspired by a poem by Robert Desnos, the second by a text by Antonin Artaud and the third by painter Salvador Dalí. All three have live piano accompaniment by Yakov Gubanov.

Film Architectures

•Oct. 16, 7pm **La Notte** *1961.* Director Michelangelo Antonioni examines the questionable (and separate) nocturnal activities of a novelist and his disenchanted wife.

Hartmut Bitomsky x 2

•Oct. 20, 7pm **Pictures of Germany** (*Deutschlandbilder*) *1983-4.* Directors Hartmut Bitomsky and Heiner Mühlenbrock examine the disturbing psychology behind Nazi documentary short films that preceded feature films in movie theaters between 1933 and 1945.

•Also showing, 7pm **B-52** *2001.* In this documentary that chronicles the birth of the bomber, Hartmut Bitomsky uses the B-52 as a metaphor for American contemporary culture.

Museum of Fine Arts

New England Film Artists Present

Presented in conjunction with Women in Film New England and the exhibition A Studio of Her Own. *Filmmakers are present at the screenings.*

•Oct. 11, 6pm and Oct. 13, 12pm **Small Justice** *2001.* Garland Waller hosts the screening of her documentary, a work that reveals judicial failings in custody struggles as men who sexually abuse their children and beat their wives receive full custody of their kids.

Feature Presentations

•Oct. 11, 7:45pm; Oct. 12, 5:30 pm; Oct. 13, 3:45 pm; Oct. 19, 6pm; Oct. 20, 4pm; Oct. 21, 3:45pm **Code Unknown** (*Code inconnu*) *2000.* Juliette Binoche stars in this provocative film that throws three unconnected characters together with a single random event. Director Michael Haneke won three awards at this year's Cannes Film Festival.

Festival Films of Iran

All films are in Farsi with English subtitles.

•Oct. 12, 7:45pm **Djomeh** *2001.* Directed by Hassan yektapanah. An Afghani man encounters discrimination while working in Iran.

•Oct. 13, 1:30pm **Two Women** (*Do Zan*) *1999.* Director Tahmineh Milani examines the lives of two female friends during their college years at the time of the Revolution and when they're reunited 15 years later.

•Oct. 19, 8:15pm **ABC Africa** Directed by Abbas Kiarostami. A documentary on a handheld DV of Kiarostami's UN-sponsored trip to AIDS-ridden Uganda.

•Oct. 20, 2pm **The Legend of a Sigh** *1991.* A fantastical film from director Tamineh Milani about a female writer who meets the mythical figure Ah, a handsome man who comes to the rescue of anyone who heaves a heartfelt sigh.

•Oct. 21, 2pm **Shrapnels in Peace** (*Tarkesh-Ha-Ye Solh*) *2001.* Ali Shah-Hatami's movie about a young boy who braves a minefield to collect post-war shrapnel to provide a dowry for his sister.

The Films of Frederick Wiseman

•Oct. 13, 10:30am **Hospital** *1969.* This film shows what happens on a daily basis in the emergency ward and outpatient clinic of a large urban hospital.

•Oct. 18, 6:30pm and Oct. 20, 10:30am **Domestic Violence** *2001.* This movie presents how the police respond to calls of domestic violence and the work of The Spring, the principal women and children's shelter in Tampa, Florida.

The Films of Yoko Ono

•Oct. 20, 7:30pm. Yoko Ono presents a program of her short films.

•Oct .21, 12:15pm **Imagine** *1971.* Yoko Ono and John Lennon made this film together as a tribute to their life of music and traveling. •Also showing, **Walking on Thin Ice** *1981.* Produced by Ono after Lennon's death in 1980, this film pays homage to her lover's work.

Fashion Photography on Film

•Oct. 21, 11am **Horst P. Horst: 60 Years and Still in Vogue** *1992.* Gerald Scarfe captures on film the work of the premiere French photographer to have an exhibit at the Louvre.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (617-536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (617-536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Cafe Ole
Caprice DJ Stefano spins European lounge and French house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar DJ Kaptn Krunch spins hot reggae, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+; Ladies get in free before 11pm.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40 tunes, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with Martin Finke, 9pm, 21+.

Ultra Lounge Service Industry Night
Vertigo Dance to DJ Arsit and DJ Santangelo spinning downstairs with DJ A. Rossi and 4 Front Records spinning global house and ambience upstairs. Martini bar, dress slick, 11pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
DJ Armen and guests provide the tunes, powered by Future Recordings, 10pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress up—dress coats are required. 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid, jazz and soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with live jazz bands from 6-10pm, followed by the latest dance tunes spun by top DJs, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D. Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $8, 18+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 Dance to international and Latin beats by DJ Alex and DJ Felix, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night hosted by Star 93.7's Michael Knight. Live reggae bands play 6-10pm, followed by DJ Steve Anderson spinning the latest hits, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Release
Vertigo House and progressive tunes with resident DJs Jason Carr and Dustin Kincaid, 10:30pm, $7, 21+.

Rockout
Emily's A rock trivia game show and live local bands, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Rollercoaster
Aer DJs and live music make for a wild night, 10pm.

Samsara
Hong Kong Join in a night of psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm-1am.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Wet and Wild Wednesdays
The Kells DJ Drag and DJ Steve spin hip-hop, house, R&B and reggae with ticket giveaways, 10pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, $8, 18+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Club Devo
MilkyWay Catch Jedi Mind Trick, DJ Benny Blanco, La Machine, DJ Goodtimes and others. 8:30pm, $8, 21+.

Club Zen
97.7's DJ Chubby Chub spins R&B, hip-hop, techno, house and old school, 9pm, $10, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and WFNX spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Swing by after work and lounge to tunes by Sinatra, Dean Martin and Bobby Darin, 5pm, 21+; DJ G-Squared spins urban groove, 10pm, proper dress, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
Dance to DJs spinning hip-hop, house and techno, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Euro-house; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean, jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.



The world of Boston nightlife comes together under one roof at Avalon.

International Thursdays
Avalon A mixed crowd fills the room as DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Privilege
La Boom DJ Felix spins the tunes for this hot international night. Proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm-2am, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Cafe
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
Resident DJs Massi mans the turntables and spins house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $10, 19+; $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas, 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Tundra
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinns NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Zion
Matrix Progressive house with DJ Adilson, 10pm, 18+.

Zodiac
Vertigo DJ Mike Hoska spins uplifting global house and progressive music, 10:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAYS

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music. Game show Wheel of Adventure gives clubbers the chance to win cash, get spanked or hang out with an Avaland dancer, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance tunes and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Drag; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Dreams
Vertigo D: DJ Soulheris spins vocal, progressive and high-energy house; U: DJ Andrea Rossi spins international music, 10pm, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Global Fridays
The Roxy International house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10:30pm, $15.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

International Lounge
Vertigo DJ A. Rossi and DJ Peter Souhleris spin Latin dance early, progressive house and top hits, 11pm. Cocktails and free hors d'oeuvres before 10pm, 21+.

Jet Set Lounge
The Roxy Guest DJs spin at this third-floor dance party.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Pulse
La Boom Dance to the music of international guest Djs at this upscale night spot, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Sangria, Sunsets and Salsa
Sophia's Dance on the roof deck to live music from 4:30-9pm. DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basement lounge, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor, and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Glitzed-out club-hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Sugar Shack
High-energy house, trance and hip-hop spun by DJ Massi rev up this club, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Bons spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris G spins '80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
After-work lounge tunes, 5pm; DJ Mike Hoska, J-Mello Prophet and the Nasty Squirrel, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Cafe
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.
An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.
Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.
Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.
Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.
Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.
Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.
Cherry
SW1 The ultimate sensory experience sponsored by Jingo's Playhouse with DJ Tari and guests, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.
Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.
Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.
Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.
Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special-guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.
la boom xo
La Boom Resident DJ Edward Grant Stuart and resident drummer Paul Drake provide the soundtrack for this upscale night, 9:30pm, 21+.
Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.
The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.
Must
Venu DJ Nicolas spins house; Le Prive with DJ Yorgos Jr. spinning Greek ethnic, 11pm, $15, 21+.
NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco tracks and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.
Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.
R&B Lounge
Vertigo DJ Ron spins R&B, hip-hop and light house at this elegant R&B night, 10:30pm, 21+.
The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.
Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats, 8pm, $10, 21+.
Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.
Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement lounge, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.
Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins high-energy progressive house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Summer Shamrock Saturday
The Purple Shamrock DJ Joshua Carl spins new and old-school hip-hop with a touch of house, $5, 21+.
Sweetwater Cafe
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Vertigo
DJ Ron spins R&B and DJ Andrea Rossi and Matty Reubin spin Eurohouse, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The West Street
Three floors of cocktails and dancing await as DJ Gabe spins house, funk and dance, 10:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.
X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

Boom Boom Room
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney mixes '60s and hip-hop.
Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Brazil to the dance floor at Venu; proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins international house, 10:30 pm, 21+.
Living Room
Aria DJ Raffi spins international house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins great reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.
100% Flava
The Purple Shamrock Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop with guest DJs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:15pm, no cover, 21+.
Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.
Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Touch
Aer Guest DJs provide deep, soulful house, 10pm.
Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.
Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.
Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.
WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avenue Bar and Grill *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Blue Cat Cafe *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Club Zen *131 Clarendon St., Boston (508-472-1170). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649). MBTA: Green Line to Park St.*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (617-292-2333). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-5311). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
NYC Jukebox *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (617-576-6260).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston or Orange Line to Back Bay.*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place. Boston (617-351-2510). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park.*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Tiger Lily *8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000). MBTA: Blue Line to State Street.*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000, ext. 333). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street or Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*



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JUMPIN' JAXX

The progressive house duo expands its freaky, funky mix on the live stage. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Felix Buxton doesn't go to clubs very often. "If there's something different, I'll definitely try to check it out," says Buxton, one half of the dance-music duo Basement Jaxx, coming to Avalon Oct. 19. "It's amazing how narrow-minded a lot of club culture is—which is strange, because it's really about freedom of expression. That's the part of life where you let go. But it's really style-driven as well." Since forming Basement Jaxx in 1994, Buxton and South London mate Simon Ratcliffe have taken more of a wide-screen view, building on influences of soul, funk and house music. And the group's live presentation has expanded as well.

"It's kinda halfway between mixing and using computers and live instrumentation," Buxton says by phone from San Diego, at the start of a carnival-esque U.S. tour that utilizes extra vocalists, dancers, a percussionist and a visual show.

"It depends very much on how much the crowd's on our side and what they're getting into," he says. "I might



Feiix Buxton (standing) and Simon Ratcliffe comprise techno innovators Basement Jaxx.

DJ some beats, and Simon plays [keyboard and guitar] stuff, and the singer just takes off somewhere different."

In other words, it's more than just a couple of guys behind samplers. "We've never been into that anyway," Buxton says. "We wanted to do something a bit more interesting, because electronic acts as a whole are pretty boring to watch. We just wanted to make it like going to see any show, whether it's theater or a band."

Basement Jaxx first snared American dance fans with its 1999 breakthrough album, *Remedy*, featuring hits like the vocoder-laced "Rendez-Vu" and "Red Alert," which cycled the soulful refrain, "The music keeps on playing on and on." And on its new disc, *Rooty*, the group gets downright giddy with its mix of pop, soul, punk and house, filtered with the lightness of jazz, salsa and disco. The sophisticated, bouncy production style is often reminiscent of the early '90s work of Prince.

"It's just kinda like there's a sexy, freaky, funky thing, which is very much what Prince is about, and that's very much the vibe that we're into as well, particularly when we were recording this album," says Buxton. "I suppose we make music with hope and positive thinking. Some people say that it's like manically depressed in a way. It goes too high and too weird. But that's the way we feel about living in the world we live in. I suppose dance music traditionally has always had kind of a goal of pushing things forward—and unity."

It's uniting an audience beyond old dance-club channels, as musicians like Basement Jaxx and Paul Oakenfold have climbed to larger, concert-style settings—here as in Britain.

"In the U.K., dance music, for a lot of the kids, that's kinda young music," says Buxton, who is 30. "Over in the States, there's a lot more tradition, and everything's more segregated. You're into urban music or rock music or kinda grunge or whatever. It's all very split up. I think we're lucky in the fact that, coming from Europe, everything gets mixed up a bit more. You end up getting into a lot of different things that you [normally] wouldn't do."

However, he continues, "Dance music seems to be growing over here. Up till now, I suppose, it's been the Prodigy and Fatboy Slim 'cause they relate very much to the rock 'n' roll side, so you can understand it in a rock 'n' roll way. I suppose with the stuff we're doing, it draws on a wider influence."

"When we first started, we very much wanted to be seen as an American act, because we saw that the British and European dance music was obvious," Buxton says. "It seemed to be a more soulful, melancholy, more reflective music coming out of the deep house sound of America. So that was where we started off. Then we kinda realized that the reason a lot of the American DJs liked our music was because it sounded very European. So we thought, why are we pretending to be something we're not? And I think that's when our music started to have more of a personality to it, and we began to worry less about what everyone else was doing."

"Like [the dance styles of] two-step or drums 'n' bass, we thought, we'll incorporate this 'cause everything is cool," he says. "But we're not going to do any of the particular styles. We're going to do it Basement Jaxx-style."

"We never intended to become a live band, really," he adds. "It was kinda suggested by our record company and management to do it live, because the music needs something, and with a lot of people, that's the only way they'll understand it." iB

Basement Jaxx

Play Avalon Oct. 19.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music: or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billing

Tori Amos and Rufus Wainwright
Oct. 15, Wang Center (617-931-2000, sold out)
The Beta Band
Oct. 20, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Bjork
Oct. 12, Wang Center (617-931-2000, sold out)
Burning Spear
Oct. 17, The Roxy (617-497-2229)
Butthole Surfers and Kid
Oct. 17, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
D12, Kottonmouth Kings, Bionic Jive and Sunny Ledford
Oct. 18, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
The Damned, Swingin' Utters and The Briefs
Oct. 19, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
The Donnas, The Eyeliners and The Kicks
Oct. 11, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Alejandro and Vicente Fernandez
Oct. 19, Tsongas Arena (617-931-2000)
Gov't Mule, Oteil Burbridge and Chuck Leavell
Oct. 13, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Beres Hammond
Oct. 9, Roxy (617-497-2229)
Lucky Boys Confusion, Bad Ronald, Riddlin Kids and River City High
Oct. 17, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
Maxwell
Oct. 18, Wang Center (617-931-2000)
Megadeth and Endo
Oct. 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Of A Revolution (OAR)
Oct. 10, The Roxy (617-931-2000)
The Sheila Divine
Oct. 20, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Joe Strummer and the Mescaleros and The Explosion
Oct. 12, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
Sum 41, Unwritten Law and Gob
Oct. 16, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 10

Bill's Bar Boston Compilation CD-release party, 412, 18+.
The Black Rose D: Eugene Byrnes.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim James O'Brien, Gooselove and Antara, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
Harper's Ferry Marie's Children, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Screaming Headless Torsos.
Johnny D's Willem Breuker Kollektief and Bob Moses and John Sinclair, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Tom Glynn and friends, 21+.
Limbo Steve Langone, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Star Ghost Dog, 8:30pm, 21+.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
Middle East U and D: "Remember," a benefit to raise money for the victims and families of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. EDO.G., Akrobatik, 71 & Esoteric, Illin'P, Kreators, Reks, Da Bulldogs, Iadonna, Rip Shop, Virtuoso and more, $10, 18+. C: Belly Dancing, no cover.
Milky Way Mercury Deep House with U-Meleni, 9pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Traditional Irish music, 9pm.
The Place Undercover, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar John Payne Saxophone Choir, 8:30pm, $10.
Ryles Jazz Club Maynard Ferguson and the Big Bop Nouveau Band, 8:30pm, $18.
Scullers Richard Bona, 8pm; 10pm, $16.

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1222 Commonwealth Ave. Allston
617-566-9014

The Last Drop
421 Marlborough St. Boston 617-262-5555

The Last Drop
596 Washington St. Brighton 617-787-1111

Polly Esther's
262 Friend St. Boston 617-720-1966

Sugar Shack
1 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2510

Sweetwater Café
3 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2515

Must be 21 or older to enter clubs.

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Bell In Hand Tavern
45 Union St. Boston 617-227-2098

The Big Easy
1 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2560

Bishop's Pub
21 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2583

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Bar information subject to change.

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Sky Bar Amber Spyglass and Scissorkiss, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Stephanie Wremble, 7pm; The Ken Clark Organ Trio, no cover, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Texas Governor, Lifestyle, Si Senor and The William Academy, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, OCT. 11

The Attic Rainshine and Patiokings, no cover, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Irresponsibles, Flexie and Creme Brulee, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose D: Eugene Byrnes, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30 pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Chopping Block James Merenda.
Club Passim Dave Carter and Tracy Grammer, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Giana Viscardi Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Nick Goumas Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Acoustic Salsa Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Harper's Ferry Twin Towers Disaster Relief Fund show.
House of Blues Dr. Awkward.
Jose McIntyre's Me & Julio, 21+.
Kendall Café Steve Sadler and Jamie Walker, Linda Sharar, Jenny Reynolds and Thomas Kay, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Somerville Jazz Festival with Tyler Wood Organ Combo, City Talk, Synergy and Com'on Man, $5.
Limbo Athene Wilson, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Fridge, Charlene and Landing 9pm, $8, 18+. D: Holy Cow, Judith, Twelfth of Never, $8, 18+. C: Board of Education, no cover.
Milky Way Benefit for Berwick Theater with Laurel Dominica, 8pm, $8.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Eddie, 21+.
Regattabar Patrice Williamson Group, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Jacques Chanier Trio, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers David Sanchez, 8pm; 10 pm, $16.
Sky Bar Choo Choo La Rouge and Fightin' Dogs, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Todd Thibaud, no cover, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Benefit for the September 11th Fund with The Red Telephone, Cameron Dezen, Kristen Cifelli and more, $10.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, no cover, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, OCT. 12

The Attic Photoflash, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar C60, Wave and Chubby, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose U: Celtic Clan. D: Eugene Byrnes.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Carrie Newcomer, 8pm, $14.
Common Ground The Allstonians, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Danny Tucker and the Vibe Tribe Reggae Band, 6pm; New Life, no cover, 9:30pm.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Eric Baldwin Ensemble, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 10:30pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Tripping Billies, Clarias, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Johnny A.
Johnny D's Alvin Youngblood Hart, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's The Return and Tom Connors.
Kendall Café Jim, Adam Ezra and Shiner Jones, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Wild Card, Classic Ruins, Mike Diplomat & the Misprints and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Herman Johnson Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Cloud 9/5, Last Step, Drop 360 and Breeding Ground, 10pm.
Lizard Lounge Four Piece Suit and Cocktail Angst, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Mary Timony, Jenny Toomey and Matt Pond PA, $8, 18+. D: Scissorfight and Roadsaw, Suicide Contest, 9pm, $10, 18+. C: Marc Gaffney.
Midway Café Crazy Mary, CD-release, Firefly, Blue Moon Harem, 10pm, $5, 21+.
Milky Way Edith and Paul Ruderman, 9pm, $8.
Paradise Rock Club Addison Groove Project and Cabaret Diosa, 9pm, $12, 18+.
The Place John McLaughlin, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Pig Pen, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Dane Vannatter Band, 7:30 and 10pm, $14.
Rhythm & Spice Danny Tucker, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Sanders Theatre The Waifs and Nerissa and Katryna Nields, 8:30 pm, $21.
Scullers David Sanchez, 8pm; 10:30 pm, $18.
Sky Bar Gun Metal Gray CD-release show, Janke and The Halogens, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Sam Bisbee, 21+.
Top of the Hub Phil Person with the Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mike Watt and The Tom and Jerry Show, Grand National and Sound of Urchin, 9:30pm, $10, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SATURDAY, OCT. 13

The Attic Slipknot, 9pm, $6, 21+.
Bill's Bar Mappari, 7pm, $5.
The Black Rose U: Celtic Clan. D: Eugene Byrnes and Frank Ryan.
Bob the Chef's Lance Martin Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm, $5.
Cambridge Center for Adult Education Will McMillan, Valerie Sneade, Jan Peters, Nina Vansuch and Sarah DeLima, 8pm, $10.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Don White, 8pm, $14.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band 7pm; Classic Trax, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and The Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Acoustic Salsa Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Traveling Matt, $8.
House of Blues Entrain.
Johnny D's Pressure Cooker, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Dick 'n' Jane and Dennis McCarthy, 21+.
Kendall Café Dick Derry CD-release, Fooled by April and Capital City, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Valerie Stephens, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Super Kollider, Mancain, Mekanizm and Watchmaker, 10pm.
Lizard Lounge Bow Thayer and the Euphorians CD-release show, Willie Bernstein and Lemonpeeler, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Rock City Crimewave, Milligram, Lamont and David James Motorcycle, $8, 18+. D: Murder City Devils, Grade and American Steel, $10, 18+. C: Katrin, no cover.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club with Salsa lessons at 8:30pm; DJ Antonio Ortiz, 9:30pm, $7.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Trio jazz brunch, 10:30am-2pm.
Paradise Rock Club Rustic Overtones and Averi, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Central Basement, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Rebecca Parris Quintet, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Sanders Theatre Four Bitchin' Babes Reunion, 8pm, $25.
Sky Bar Sand Machine, 84 West and Dancing Davids, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The John Cate Band and Ramona Silver, 21+.
Top of the Hub Felicia Carter with Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gravel Pit, Vic Firecracker CD-release show, Longwave and Army of Jasons, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, no cover, 9:30pm, 21+.



Vic Firecracker explodes at T.T. the Bear's Place Oct. 13, promoting the group's self mixed EP *Monday Car*. Ben Logan, Desmond O'Reilly and Ben Hedlund are pioneers of punk-laced rock.

Preview

Light the Fuse

Vic Firecracker is bursting with new sounds

At a time when rock music is rife with the latest variation on the Limp Bizkit formula, local favorite Vic Firecracker breathes life into the world of music with its brand of post-punk indie rock. Described by critics as "Neil Young meets Fugazi," according to guitarist/singer Ben Logan, Vic Firecracker "wants to sound like we've been listening to old music but we want to put our own new twist on it." Bassist Desmond O'Reilly and drummer Ben Hedlund join Logan for the band's new EP, *Monday Car*, a five-song collection the group recorded over the span of a month at Logan's own Small Church Studios. The self-mixed EP has a more mellow sound than that of 1998's *Mixed Not Mastered*. "The album isn't as rockin'," admits Logan, "but you look for a balance. I don't want to sound wimpier as I get older," he jokes. Logan does not want the music to become too predictable, either. "I felt like I was obligated to write in odd times, and it just started to get really boring," he says. Another noticeable change on *Monday Car* is the emphasis on the vocals, a departure from *Mixed Not Mastered*, where Logan claims he buried his voice in the mix. "You either have to be a pompous ass or really confident about your vocals to be able to mix yourself," explains Logan. "I don't think I'm a pompous ass. I just think I've become more confident in my vocals for this record," he laughs. Vic Firecracker plans to tour the Northeast throughout the fall to support *Monday Car* and will release its first full-length record in the spring. See the band at its record release party Oct. 13 at T.T. the Bear's Place. *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR).—Vanessa Franko*

SUNDAY, OCT. 14

The Attic The Coalbroilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Black Rose Eugene Byrnes and Frank Ryan, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Sonny Watson, 11am-3pm.
The Burren Nate Borofsky and The Garden Verge, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Café NYC Disaster Relief Fund, "Of Thee We Sing: A Cabaret Celebration," 5 and 7:30pm, $25.
Club Passim John Stewart, 7:30pm, $18.
Dick's Last Resort The Bibletones Gospel Brunch, 10am-3pm; Rob Gonzalez Band, no cover, 7pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Giant People.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba Nama, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café The Color Forms, Kristen Barry and Anna Freitas, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; Poetry Jam with The Jeff Robinson Trio and Tommy Mendez, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Mock Orange, Favez and Time Spent Driving, $7, 18+. D: Zen Guerilla, Mooney Suzuki and Lo-Hi, 8pm, $10, 18+. C: Balla Tounkara; Noah Maltsberger, 1pm, no cover.
Milky Way Summer Hymns and Destroyer, 6:30pm; Mystic Reggae, DJ Junior Rodigan and Power Surge 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Trio jazz brunch, 10:30am-2pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Toad David Champagne & Friends, 7pm; Colleen Sexton, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Idaho, Certainly Sir, Verona Downs and Soltero, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

MONDAY, OCT. 15

Bill's Bar Human Being, Closer Than Kin, A Better Tomorrow and Reflex, $8, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8pm; Ken Batts, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort God Fearing Man, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun, 21+.
Green Street Grill Michael Tarbox Duo.
Harper's Ferry Flying Lessons and Greenhouse, $6.
House of Blues Suavecito.
Karma Gruvis Malt, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Kendall Café Adrianne, Katie Barbato and Rachael Davis, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Mike Herklots, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mike, 7-9pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East C: Tom Bianchi, no cover.
Milky Way Christian McNeill, Maggie Salzberg, Martin Finke and Mick Lawlor, 7pm, $5.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Sanders Theatre The Gypsy Caravan: Esma Red Zepova Fanfare Ciocalia, Maharaja and The Antonio El Pipa Flamenco Ensemble.

SHARON BERARDINO

Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Toad Shwang and Tim Gearan, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY, OCT. 16

The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, Orrin Star & Friends, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open-mike session, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Kelly Joe Phelps.
Johnny D's All About Buford, Soundstage 7 and Sean Altman, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Jess Klein and Bill Janovitz, $5, 21+.
Limbo Kaoruko, 8pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Swan Song in Stag and Roger Miller, $7, 18+. D: Leftover Salmon, Aaron Katz Project $15, 18+.
Milky Way Mary Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Nate Watkins, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with live bands, 6:30-10:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Regattabar Kenny Werner Trio, Johannes Weidenmuller and Ari Hoenig, 8:30pm, $14.
Scullers Russ Freeman & the Rippingtons and Paul Taylor, 8 and 10pm, $28.
Sky Bar Stars Underground and Drop Dose, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The Residency and The Buck Dewey Big Band.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Islington, Midnight Creeps, Tokyo Tramps and Nauset, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17

Bill's Bar The Royal Family and D-Tension, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+
Club Passim Teddy Goldstein and Brian Webb, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, no cover, 7pm.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Aberdeen, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Lo Faber Band.
Johnny D's Spaztet, Differential and Elipsis, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Kevin Condon, 21+.
Limbo Marc Rossi, 8pm, 21+.
The Linwood Buck Dewey Big Band, Foam-n-Mesh, Johnny Lover and Matt Matthews, Aaron Sinclair, Todd and Simon Radio and Kristin Forbes, 8pm, no cover.
Lizard Lounge Star Ghost Dog, 8:30pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Dianogah, The Feud and Adamo, $7, 18+. D: Ivy, David Mead, 8pm, $12, 18+. C: Belly Dancing, no cover.
Milky Way Mercury Deep House with U-Meleni, 9pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Traditional Irish music, 9pm.
The Place Undercover, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Scullers Russ Freeman & the Rippingtons and Paul Taylor, $28.
Sky Bar The Stalagmites, Buzzbomb and the Tampoffs, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Stephanie Wremble, 7pm; The Coachmen, no cover, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Red Letter, Annie Bates, Gel and Midget Jesus, 9pm, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAY, OCT. 18

Bill's Bar Pennywheel, Loveless and Nero, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Toni Lynn Washington Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+
Chopping Block James Meranda.
Club Passim Kevn Kinney, 8pm, $12.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Weepin' Willie, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Jesse Ciarmataro Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Acoustic Salsa Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Harper's Ferry Hazie Maze, Vogonz and Hypnotic, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Mori Stylez.
Johnny D's Rani Arbo and Daisy Mayhem, 9pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Me & Julio and John Tringali, 21+.
Kirkland Café Fuljoy, Amusia, Nicki Glaser Band and Nikulydin, $5.
Limbo John Kordalewski, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood All the Queen's Men, The Collisions and Car Crash Show, 10pm, $6.
Lizard Lounge Kyler, Emm Gryner and Kristin Cifelli, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Random Road Mother CD-release party, Crash N Burn, Fast Actin Fuses and Meat Depressed, $7, 18+ D: Pietasters, $10, 18+. C: Board of Education, no cover.
Mr. Dooley's Celebrate Courage 2: Carla Ryder and Heidi Sapperstein, 7pm, $35.
Paradise Rock Club Super Diamond, 9pm, $15, 18+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar Steve Gorn and Natraj, 8:30pm, $12
Ryles Jazz Club Tony Lada Quartet, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Rita Moreno, 8pm; 10pm, $35.
Sky Bar The Lovely, Punk Monkees and Tizzy, 9pm, $5, 21+.



Pressure Cooker brings their hybrid style of reggae, ska and calypso to Johnny D's Oct. 13.

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Groundbreaking British goth-rock crooners The Damned play Axis Oct. 19. Punk revivalists The Swingin' Utters and The Briefs share the bill.

Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Todd Thibaud, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm
T.T. the Bear's Place ...And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead, Black Helicopter and The Takers, 9:30pm, $10, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, OCT. 19

Avalon Basement Jaxx, 7pm, $20, 18+.
Bill's Bar The Outlets, Rods and Cones and Bowman, $10, 18+.
The Black Rose D: Celtic Clan. U: Sundays Well.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Geoff Muldaur, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, Booty, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Roxbury Blues Aesthetic, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Tarbox Ramblers, 10:30pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Beatlejuice, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Guitar Shorty.
Johnny D's Michelle Wilson, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Syndicate and Tom Connors, 21+.
Kendall Café Maybe Utah, Foundry and Pat Burtis, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Fred's Bowling Bowl, North Street, Lazyboy Rockers and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo John Baboian, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Pony Human, Throttlerod and Quintaine Americana, 10pm, $6.
Lizard Lounge Reverse, The Beetings and Flor Fina, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Rock A Teens, Kelly Hogan, Corn Sisters and Cordero, $10, 18+. D: Almighty Senators, Jinx Motive Aberdeen, Daze Hill, $10, 18+. C: Dan Blakeslee, no cover.
Milky Way The Shelley Winters Project, Buck Dewey Band and Weisstronauts, 9pm, $7.
Paradise Rock Club Ian Hunter and John Eddie, 9pm, $20, 21+.
The Place John McLaughlin, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Marcels, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billly Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Fringe and Mike Mainieri, 8pm; 10:30pm, $12.
Rhythm & Spice Mystic Vibes, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Chick Corea Tribute Band, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Rita Moreno, 8pm; 10:30pm, $40.
Sky Bar Little Horse and Dreadnaught, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Say Zuzu, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Dan Fox with Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Drive By Truckers, Charlie Chesterman & The Legendary Motorbikes, The Splendid Nobodies and The Dirty Truckers, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, OCT. 20

The Black Rose D: Celtic Clan. U: Sundays Well and Frank Ryan, 21+.
Bob the Chef's The Midnight Crew, 7:30pm, $5.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Rockwell Church, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Luv Jones, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and The Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Acoustic Salsa Night with Gian Carlo Buscaglia.
Harper's Ferry Jean Durkin and Conscious Underground and Sugarcoat, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Mighty Sam McClain.
Johnny D's Michigan Blacksnake and Mother's Favorite Child, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Thomas Park and Dennis McCarthy, 21+.
Kendall Café Phil Cody and The Somerville Billies, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Lyres, Downbeat 5, Inner Pink and Miela Pauley, $6.
Limbo Eula Lawrence, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Magestic Costume Ball with The Magic Din Society and Mick Mondo and Streaker, 9:30pm, $10.
Lizard Lounge Lucky 57, Paved Country, Florence Dore, Karen Hudson and Ruth Rappaport, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Reverend Glass Eye and His Wooden Leg CD-release show, The Fabuloua Ponti Sisters, Three Day Threshold and The Serfs, $8, 18+. D: Guided by Voices, The Slumber Party, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club with Salsa lessons at 8:30pm; DJ Antonio Ortiz, 9:30pm, $7.
Northeast Brewing Co. Paulo Denay jazz brunch, 10:30am-2pm.
Purple Shamrock Neopride, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Donal Fox: Blues on Bach, 8pm; 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Kolors, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Scullers Rita Moreno, 8pm; 10:30pm, $40.
Sky Bar Center of the Earth, Calendar Girl, Balsa Gliders CD-release show and The Jumblies, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The Aloha Steamtrain, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Hores with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mistle Thrush, Freezepop, Auto Interiors and Alchemilla, $7, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

SUNDAY, OCT. 21

Avalon Dream Street and 3rd Faze, 4pm, $15.25, all ages.
Bill's Bar Lady Lee, 10pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Celtic Clan and Frank Ryan, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Sonny Watson, 11am-3pm.
The Burren Kevin Briody and Leonardo B, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+
Club Passim Willy Porter, 7 and 10pm, $17.
Common Ground Marc Gaffney, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort New Revelations Gospel Brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover; Rob Gonzales Band, no cover, 7pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Graham Parker and The Figgs.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa dancing with Rumba Nama, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café The Color Forms, Jeffrey Simmons & the Symptoms and Pinecone People, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam, 7pm; Poetry Jam with The Jeff Robinson Trio and Alice Mack, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Milkweed and Loan-Sloan, $7, 18+. D: Kings X and Moke, 8pm, $15, 18+. C: Balla Tounkara; Noah Maltsberger, 1pm, no cover.
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan and Power Surge 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Harry Fix Trio jazz brunch, 10:30am-2pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Toad David Champagne & Friends, 7pm; Bow Thayer and the Euphorians, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, OCT. 22

Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mic, 8pm; Deb Cowan, 10 pm, 21+.
Club Passim Sumaj Chasquis, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Fuljoy, 18+.
House of Blues Jim Suhler and Monkey Beat.
Kendall Cafe Grass Cowboy and Eric Marcos, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Pat Loomis, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mike, 7-9pm;, The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East C: Tom Bianchi, no cover.
Milky Way Mike Tucker Jazz Quartet, 9pm, $5.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Toad Shwang and Tim Gearan, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm
T.T. the Bear's Place The White Octave, Volta Do Mar, Kolya and Garrison CD-release show, $6, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

TUESDAY, OCT. 23

Bill's Bar Love Seed Mama Jump.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, Blue Hills, 10pm, 21+
Club Passim Open Mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet and Friends, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Dr. Didg.
Johnny D's Wood & Cutting, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Twinemen and Dave Wanamaker, $5, 21+.
Limbo Mark Greel Band, 8pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Shiner, Full Powered Halo, $7, 18+, D: Cursive, Desaparecidos and Sorry About Dresden, 8pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mary Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9:30pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Nate Watkins, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Neopride, 21+.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party with live bands, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Toad The Residency and the Buck Dewey Big Band, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Buckshyesh, The Alienist Outit, Troy's Bucket and Moving Buildings, 9pm, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.



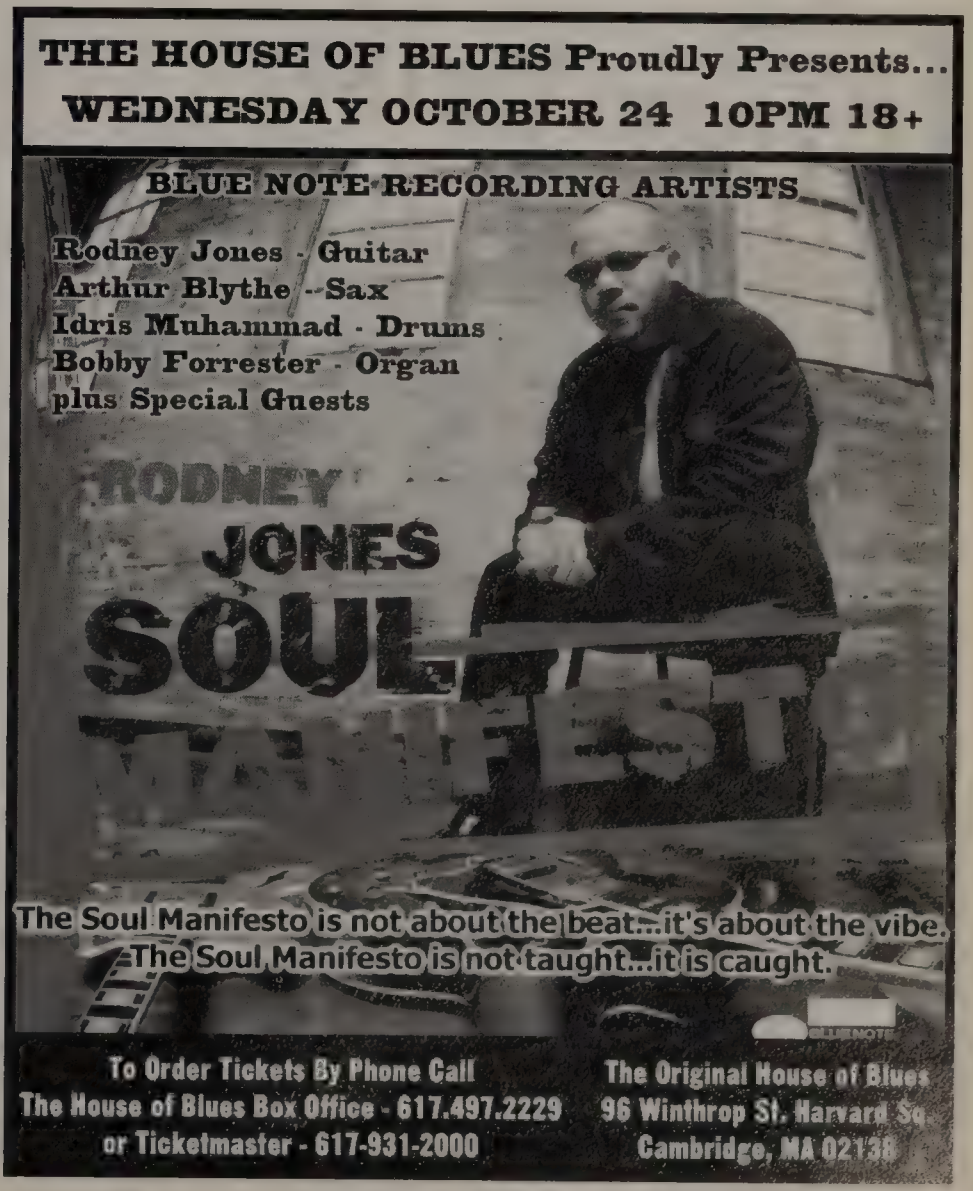
Rock princesses The Donnas play Oct. 11 at the Paradise.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (617-964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center/ICA.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Fanueil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Cape Cod Melody Tent *21 West Main St., Hyannis (508-775-9100).*
Chopping Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-724-4177).*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Café *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafée *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Lilli's *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Limbo *49 Temple Place, Boston (617-338-0280) MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., (978-454-2299).*
Maison Robert *45 School St. Boston, (617-227-3370). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
MDC Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston (617-727-1300).*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Colombus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
South Shore Music Circus *130 Sohier St., Cohasset (781-383-1400).*
Suffolk Downs *111 Waldemar Ave., East Boston (617-567-3900). MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs.*
Summer Shack *149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-520-9500). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.*







The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nOg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Tweeter Center *885 South Main St., Mansfield (508-339-2331).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*

advance seating

THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON

The Black Crowes Oct. 30 and 31, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Alice Cooper Nov. 1, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Bob Dylan Nov. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Family Values Tour: Stone Temple Pilots, Staind, Linkin Park and Static-X Oct. 27, Worcester Centrum (617-931-2000).
Femi Kuti Nov. 5, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Brian McKnight Dec. 2, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Midnight Oil Nov. 3, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Luciano Pavarotti Nov. 25, Fleet Center (617-931-2000).
Pledge of Allegiance Tour: System of a Down, Slipknot, Rammstein and Mudvayne Oct. 30, Worcester Centrum (617-931-2000).
Social Distortion Nov. 9 and 10, Axis (617-423-NEXT); Nov. 11, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Soulive Nov. 8 and 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-931-2000).
Britney Spears Dec. 9, Fleet Center (617-931-2000).
Stereolab Nov. 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Stone Temple Pilots Oct. 27, Worcester Centrum, (617-931-2000).



Stone Temple Pilots headline at the Centrum Oct. 27.

They Might Be Giants Oct. 30, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Suzanne Vega Nov. 14, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
The Verve Pipe Nov. 4, Paradise Rock Club (617-562-8800).
U2 Oct. 31, Providence, R.I. Dunkin' Donuts Center (401-331-2211).
Lucinda Williams Nov. 8, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).



classical music

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 10

New England Conservatory
New England Conservatory, Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Ronald Feldman conducts the New England Conservatory Symphony Orchestra in a performance of Schubert, Dvorak and Hindemith.

Longy School of Music Showcase Series
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. $25. $20 students and seniors. The Peabody Trio and Longy faculty member and clarinetist Jonathan Cohler perform Bartok, Schnittke and Beethoven.

Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. This week's installment of the weekly recital series features Carla Chrisfield, soprano, with William Merrill on piano.

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theatre, Cambridge (617-496-2222). 7:30pm, Oct. 10, 13 and 14. Conductor Benjamin Zander and the Boston Philharmonic present Beethoven, Sibelius and Dvorak.

THURSDAY, OCT. 11

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. Free. The Boulanger's birthday tribute features readings and showcases Anne Kissel on piano and baritone Joe Dan Harper.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. Also Oct. 12, 1:30pm and Oct. 13, 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts scenes from Schumann's *Faust* with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus.

MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). 12pm. Free. Boston Baked Bones brings together John Faieta, Scott Harman, Maureen Horgan, Julie Josephson and Donald Robinson to perform works by Debussy and others.

FRIDAY, OCT. 12

Boston Lyric Opera
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St, Boston (617-482-9393). 7pm. Also Oct. 14, 3pm and Oct. 16, 7pm. $31-$151. The BLO acknowledges the 100th anniversary of the death of Giuseppe Verdi with an all-new production of the five-act French version of his *Don Carlos*. Soprano Indra Thomas makes her BLO debut.

SATURDAY, OCT. 13

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge, (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. Free. The Longy Chamber Orchestra continues its concert series with works by Brahms, Ravel and Beethoven. With violinist Polina Sedukh.

Brandeis University Concerts
415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4210). 8pm. $10, $5 students and seniors. Ancuza Aprodu and Terry Miroglio team up as a French piano-percussion duo.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts scenes from Schumann's *Faust* with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus.

SUNDAY, OCT. 14

Longy School of Music Open House
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 and 33 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 2pm. Free. Get to know Longy School of Music at Longy Without Walls while enjoying performances, talks, demonstrations and other events.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17

Longy School of Music: Modern American Music Series
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. Free. Pianist Synthia Sture performs works by Corigliano as well as works for piano and clarinet with clarinetist Todd Brunel. Also, the Dave Bryant Trio gets groovy with a few jazz works.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series: Evgeny Kissin
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. 8pm. $35-$55. Pianist Kissin returns to the Series for the first time since 1997 to perform pieces by Bach/Busomi, Schumann and Mussorgsky.


Boston Lyric Opera presents *Don Carlos* Oct. 12.

Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 1103). 12:15pm. $2. Counter tenor Calvin Braxton joins Mark Engelhardt on organ and piano.

THURSDAY, OCT. 18

Longy School of Music Concert
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. Free. Pianist Lois Shapiro and guest violinist Sharon Leventhal perform *Charles Ives and the Spirit of Transcendentalist New England*, featuring Charles Ives' *Violin Sonatas*.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. Also Oct. 19, 1:30pm; Oct. 20 and 23, 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts a performance featuring works by Bach, Martin, Bruch and Bartok in this, his farewell season.

FLCC Presents Soiree-Salon
French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). 6:30pm. $80 members, $90 non-members. Enjoy a five-course gourmet dinner prepared by The Seasonal Table. The Triptych String Trio performs during cocktails and dinner.

FRIDAY, OCT. 19

FleetBoston Celebrity Series: Jan Curtis
Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). 8pm. $25-$35. Mezzo-soprano Jan Curtis performs to benefit the Aphasia Community Group of Boston.

Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston
6 Rocky Nook Terrace, Boston (617-427-8200). 8pm. Special guest David Leisner performs Ravel, Kurtag, Argento and Schumann.

SATURDAY, OCT. 20

Graduate Composers at Brandeis
Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St. Waltham (781-736-4210). 8pm. $5. The concert features new works by the Lydian String Quartet.

SUNDAY, OCT. 21

Goethe Institut Concert
Goethe Institut, 170 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-6050). 7:30pm. $10, $5 students and seniors. New England Conservatory faculty member Jon Sakata performs works by Mozart.

Handel & Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-262-1815). 3pm, $20-$54. Grant Llewellyn's debuts as H&H music director in a performance of *Haydn: The Creation.*

MIT Music Series
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4795). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 3pm. $5-$15. Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir perform African-American spirituals.

TUESDAY, OCT. 23

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitsky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts pieces from Bach's *Concerto for Three Violins and Strings*, Martin's *Concerto for Seven Wind Instruments, Timpani, Percussion and String Orchestra* and Bruch's *Kol Nidrei*.

LEFT: CHAPMAN BAEHLER

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (617-859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Weds.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+.



The SpeakEasy Stage Company's play, *End of the World Party*, is at the Boston Center for the Arts.

Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. •Oct. 11, 7pm, **Merlinda Bobis** reads from *The Kissing.* •Oct. 18, 7pm, **Danya Ruttenberg** talks about *Yentyl's Revenge: The Next Wave of Jewish Feminism.* •Oct. 21, 3pm, **Sabrina Ward Harrison** reads from *Brave on the Rocks.*

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Dinner with Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer
Nashua Marriott (603-493-4534). 6pm. $50. Colonel Cammermeyer is the highest ranking military officer to be discharged for sexual orientation. She now has her own radio show at *www.gaybc.com* and speaks out about such issues. A discussion with her follows dinner.

End of the World Party
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). Through Oct. 27. Wed., Thu. and Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 7pm. $29.50. This comedy from the SpeakEasy Stage Company follows a group of seven gay friends over the course of a summer on Fire Island. The friends come to terms with themselves and each other.

Fenway Community Health Workshops
132 Brookline Ave., Third Floor, Boston (617-927-6243). •Oct. 13 and 20, 9am-1pm. Childbirth Class for Lesbians, $125 fee includes snacks for each pregnant woman and her partner or supporter.

Gay Outdoors Mt. Tom Hike
•Oct. 13. www.gayoutdoors.org. Enjoy the fall foliage with a hike along the cliffs of Mt. Tom in south-central Massachusetts in a gay-friendly group.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(617-508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for support and discussion with men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safter Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month. 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Community Rainbow
Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45 pm. An organization whose mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dagger
(617-542-4214). Join The Theater Offensive's newest guerrilla theater group, Dagger, and make some noise. The group gathers on Wednesdays from 6:30-9:30pm to train and create performances representing queer girls' and women's perspectives. Email *Dagger@the theateroffensive.org.*

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

FLAG Flag Football
(617-937-5858). Weekends. Join other gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexual friends of all skill levels to play recreational football. Visit *www.flagflagfootball.com* for information.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (617-822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(617-423-6881). Sundays, 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is a gay swim team.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.OuttoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Monday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

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body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or by email to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 19, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the world's sacred traditions. Everyone is welcome. All dances are taught and accompanied by live music.

Macrobiotic Dinner and Social
Spontaneous Celebrations Cultural Center, 45 Danforth St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-0717). Oct. 23, 6:30-9pm. $25. The Macrobiotic Center of New England presents this evening with friends in the macrobiotic community.

Meet the Practitioners
The Marino Center for Progressive Health, 2500 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6225). www.marinocenter.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Oct. 11, 5:30-7:30pm.* This evening features two panel discussions with doctors and other specialists at the Marino Center for Progressive Health, with a question-and-answer period afterward.

Ned Dougherty Lecture
The Swedenborgian Chapel, 50 Quincy St. Cambridge (617-864-4552). www.soulstirring.org. *Oct. 20, 12-3pm.* **Ned Dougherty**, author of *Fast Lane to Heaven: Celestial Encounters That Changed My Life*, shares the amazing story of his near-death experience.


James Van Praagh sees (and talks with) dead people Oct. 20.

Spirit in Art Exhibit
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple Street, Arlington (781-648-0101). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *Oct. 12, 7-9 pm. Free.* Tonight features an exhibit of paintings by **Carla Mattioli** and her students, based upon the profound color inspirations of **Rudolf Steiner**.

Women's Health Forum
Sheraton Boston Hotel, 39 Dalton St. Boston (877-BWF-5773). www.brighamandwomen.org. *Oct. 13, 8:30am-4:30pm. $55 or $30 if you bring a friend.* Sponsored by Brigham and Women's Hospital, this day-long forum will address all areas of health for women. Workshop topics include fertility, heart disease, exercise, arthritis, nutrition, dermatology and more.

CLASSES

Choose Healthy Behavior—Creating Lasting Change
Westport Healing Energy Center, Vestport (508-636-0004). Oct. 24, 7-8:30pm. $15. Old health habits are hard to break. This class can teach you how to improve your health naturally. Take control of your life now.

Earth, Air, Fire, Water and the Ayurvedic Health System
Brookline Adult and Community Education, 103 Bennett St., Brookline (617-730-2700). Oct 13, 10am-4pm. $26. The ancient Eastern-Indian approach to health is called Ayurveda. It recognizes that each individual is different, and these differing temperaments require different foods and exercise. Come find out what you, specifically, need for good health.

Food and the Human Energy System
John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place, Boston (781-891-8696 or 781-899-0648). Oct. 11, 7-10pm. $125. Each person processes food differently according to his or her metabolism, ancestry or genetics. Absorbing nutrients effectively is crucial to one's health. At this lecture, learn how to customize your meals to be in tune with your ethnic background.

Sanskrit Workshop, Level One
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (617-666-9551). www.yoganow.net. MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Oct. 12-14 (15 hours total). $200. Sanskrit is a sacred language. Speaking it well will vibrate your chakras and create energy flow. Senior instructor **Cynthia Snodgrass** will teach you the language.

Self Hypnosis
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 14, 10am-5pm. $88.* We can try to be calm and relaxed, but we always end up tense again, even while we sleep. Self-hypnosis is not as strange as you might think, and it's very effective at altering your subconscious to create personal change.

Sex Tips for Guys and Gals
Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626). www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Oct. 14, 6:30-8:30pm for the boys, and Oct. 15, 7:30-9:30, for the ladies. $25.* A couple of very popular classes will be taking place at this sexuality boutique—and just in time for the months of hibernation ahead.

Shiatsu Introduction Workshop
Bancroft School of Massage Therapy, 333 Shrewsbury St., Worcester (508-757-7923). Oct. 11. Shiatsu is a form of acupressure that balances the flow of energy in the body. Learn the five elements theory.

Talking to the Other Side with James Van Praagh
Omega Institute in Boston, Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (800-944-1001). www.omega-inst.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 20, 10am-12pm, and 2-5pm. $145.* This famous medium says that love bonds never break, no matter how far away you are from someone. **James Van Praagh** hosts this workshop. Learn firsthand how strong that bond with dead loved ones can be.

Unlocking the Secrets of Low Self-Esteem
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 13, 9:30am-4:30pm.* Self-esteem is crucial to happiness. This workshop with psychologist **Stanley Gross** will explore the causes of low self-esteem and the skills you can use to boost yours.

LECTURE

Dr. Kam Yuen Love Offering
Christ Unity Church, 70 Colchester Ave., Brookline (617-232-4548). Oct. 11, 7pm. Listen to what internationally known martial arts expert and healer **Dr. Kam Yuen** has to say about eliminating pain—physical or emotional—on the spot.

Healthy Information
Bread & Circus Fresh Pond, 200 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-491-0040). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. Oct. 10 or 11, 6:30-8pm. $5. Call to register. This whole- foods market offers more than just food. Find out about acupuncture treatments for women's health issues on Oct. 10, or attend the next workshop on strengthening and caring for your back.

Sound & Spirit
Glastonbury Abbey, 16 Hull St., Hingham (781-749-2155 x243). Oct. 18, 7:15pm. Free. Writer **Ellen Kushner** lectures on spirituality and music around the world.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-497-8041). Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Healthy Practices
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). http://dellepro.dellhost.com/CharlesRiverShiatsu. *First Tai Chi class is free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Check these classes out: •Tai Chi lunch hour: Tue./Fri., 12:30-1:30pm •Kung Fu: Wed., 5-6pm •Taoist Qi Gong: Tue., 7-8pm •Tai Chi and self defense: Tue., 8-9pm.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Shintaido
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass Ave, Cambridge (617-783-3361). MBTA Red line to Central. Mon., 6:30-8pm. $12. Shintaido is a body movement originally rooted in the martial arts that evolved into a system of human potential development, health exercise and artistic expression. **Jennifer Hicks** instructs.

Tai Chi Variety
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.CharlesRiverShiatsu.com. *First class is free.* Do the healing arts intrigue you? Do you need to get some exercise? Then try these classes out: •Chi Flow Yoga: Wed., 9-10am. •Tai Chi and Self Defense: Tue., 8-9pm.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Celtics
•Fleetcenter. Tickets: 800-462-2849
Preseason game, Oct. 10, 7:00pm vs. Charlotte Hornets

New England Patriots
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 800-543-1776
Oct. 14, 1:00pm vs. San Diego Chargers

Events

An Evening with Champions
Harvard's Bright Hockey Center, Cambridge (617-493-8172). Oct. 12, 8pm; Oct. 13, 2pm and 8pm. $25 adults, $10 children, seniors and undergraduates. Peter Carruthers, a 1984 Olympic silver medalist, hosts the 22nd iteration of this annual figure-skating exhibition. Athletes will include other U.S. medalists as well as younger competitors like Jennifer Kirk, the 2000 World Junior Champion. Proceeds benefit The Jimmy Fund.

North End Night at the Fights
St. Leonard's Parish Center, 44-46 Prince St., North End (617-248-0994). Oct 19, 6pm. $25 fights only, $50 cocktails, buffet and fights. The North End Business Alliance invites you to come watch some future Rocky Balboas as New England and Golden Glove champions duke it out in the ring. Adriaaaaaannnnn!

Moakley's Run for Research
Bayside Expo Center, North Entrance, South Boston (617-527-5600) www.liverfoundation-ne.org. *Oct. 13, 10am. $20.* This IMPROPER-sponsored five-mile road race along the South Boston waterfront will raise money for liver disease research.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players age 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practice takes place Sunday at 11am.

BASKETBALL

Summer Adult League
Peters Park, South End. (877-700-6557). Sundays through August. Men's and women's divisions are open for players.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (617-308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hours (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact, guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (617-789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

POLO

Stage Hill Polo and Riding School
Topsfield Fair Grounds, Topsfield (356-5601). Mon. and Wed., 6-8pm; Sat. 1pm. $300/mo. For people looking to actually play the sport depicted on their Ralph Lauren shirts, Stage Hill provides the equipment, horses and lessons. No prior riding experience is necessary. Lessons offered year-round.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/bostonhhh. Weekly runs year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking, singing bawdy songs and being labeled with a nickname like "Rodent Felcher," then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480). Skating lessons for children or adults at 15 area MDC rinks.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(617-789-4070, ext. 225). Coed indoor and outdoor teams. New: Outdoor turf soccer.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed indoor six-on-six leagues. •Coed pickup games Tue. and Fri. at West Newton Armory, 1137 Washington St. $5.

WATER SPORTS

Community Boating
21 David Mugar Way, Boston (617-523-1038). www.community-boating.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Open Mon.-Fri., 1pm-sunset; Sat.-Sun. and holidays, 9am-sunset. Through Oct. 31.* Community Boating is the largest and oldest nonprofit sailing organization in the nation. It offers sailing, windsurfing and kayaking on the Charles River for $190 per season, including instruction.


Lucinda Ruh, 1996 Swiss champ and spinner extraordinaire, performs at *An Evening with Champions.*

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Coolidge Corner Theatre for Kids
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Oct. 13, 10:30am: *Animan*, Larry Hunt's puppetry makes animals come alive • Oct. 20, 10:30am: Abra-Kid-Abra, Mike Bent's comedy and magic especially for kids.

Lyric Stage Children's Theatre
140 Claredon St. Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Oct.27-28, 10:30am, $7: *The Legend Of Sleepy Hollow.* The participatory theater format allows children to be involved in the show, with lines and costumes.

Paul Revere Tonight
Old North Church, 193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). Thursdays and Fridays, 8pm. Through the end of October. $8-$12. Paul Revere recounts life in Revolutionary Boston.

Puppet Showplace Theater
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Broookline Village. Saturdays and Sundays, 1 and 3pm. Wed. and Thu., 10:30am. $8. Reservations recommended. The Puppet Showplace Theater presents traditional and original shows for children ages five and older. •Oct. 10-11: *Peter Rabbit* •Oct. 13-14: *Animan* •Oct. 17-18: *Clowns* •Oct. 20-21: *The Monkey's Heart.*

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Tue.-Fri., 7pm; Sat., 11:30am, 3:30pm and 7:30pm; Sun., 12:30 and 4:30pm. Oct. 12-21, $11-$37. The Tiger Whisperer, the Human Clown 'n Ball, the Smallest Man on Earth, rough riders, hair hangers, high-wire daredevils, bicycle gymnasts and more...it's the Greatest Show on Earth.

THINGS TO DO

Birds & Beasts Day
52 Gore Street, Waltham (781-894-2798). Oct. 14, 1-4pm. $7/$5 children. Celebrate the wildlife that lives at the Gore Place historic landmark. Wing Masters present the "World of Owls" live demonstration. Puppets, wagon rides, a scavenger hunt and live music add to the fun.

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (617-679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Saturdays, 12pm. Staff members read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Boston by Little Feet
Samuel Adams Statue at Faneuil Hall, Congress Street, Boston (617-367-3766). Sat. and Mon., 10am; Sun., 2pm. This tour of the Freedom Trail's architecture caters to young walkers.

BPL Kids' Cinema
Boston Public Library, Copley Branch, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). Oct. 5, 10:15am. The library presents an hour of short films for children ages 3-7.

COOP's Preschool Story Hour
Harvard Coop, 1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Tuesdays, 11am. Children enjoy an hour of storytelling fun.

Harvard Coop Craft and Story Hour
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). Saturdays, 11am. Free. Each week the staff at the Harvard Coop present a different story and craft for youngsters to enjoy.

Kids in the Kitchen
42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789, ext. 1). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 20, 10:30am-1:30pm. $52. Parents and children learn to make cheese puggs, chicken fingers, quesadillas, stuffed new potatoes and frosted brownies.

Newton Free Library Children's Programs
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7159). The library offers a variety of activities for children. • Fridays, Oct. 5-26, 10:30am: Preschool Films • Thursdays, Oct. 4-25, 7pm: Pajama Storytime (ages four and older) •Oct. 16, 3:30pm: World Cultures—Morocco (ages five and older). Enjoy stories, crafts and treats.

Yoga for Youngsters
Gymboree, 3 Crescent St., Waltham (781-736-0081). Through Nov. 1. $120. Children ages 5 to 11 can experience yoga games, stretches and relaxation techniques from Lisa Orkin of Lotus Blossom Yoga.

around town



Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (617-338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily. March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights). Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (617-242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (617-572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open Mon.-Sat., 9am-11pm, Sun., 10am-11pm (May-Oct.) and 12-11pm (Nov.-April). $6. Closed until further notice.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (617-566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theatre, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon.-Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours start at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily. 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm. Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(617-357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Become a friend to a young girl. Information sessions: Oct. 15 and Oct. 25, 6-7pm.

Board Fair
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-624-8153). Oct. 15, 6-8pm. A volunteer opportunity for those interested in sitting on the board of a nonprofit organization.

Boston Cares
(617-263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). Volunteers needed to work in Cambridge public schools as tutors, aides and mentors.

Community Servings
(617-445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children. Volunteer training: Oct. 20.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-972-1702). Volunteer to provide practical and emotional support to terminally ill patients.

Jewish Community Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an isolated elderly individual.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

One With One
(617-254-1691). Tutor/mentor an immigrant to improve English skills. Information meeting: Oct. 11.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(617-375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996, ext. 30). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.

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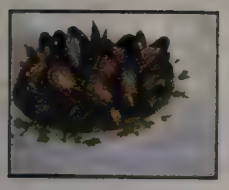
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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Atara Bistro & Wine Bar *1418 Commonwealth Ave., Brighton, 566-5670.* A contemporary relaxed atmosphere featuring an extensive selection of wines by the glass with a moderately priced menu of contemporary American food prepared by chef/owner Larry Kessel. Join us for weekly highlights: Monday-Local Night, Tuesday-Fondue Night, Wednesday-Wine Flight Night, Thursday-Jazz Night. Hours Mon-Wed 5:30 -10pm, Thurs 5:30-10:30pm, Fri & Sat 5:30-11pm. The restaurant is also available for private and semi-private functions. For information, please call 617-566-5670.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon.-Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am -1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel , 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Science Street Cafe *Science Park, Boston, MA, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out the newest nightspot--The Museum of Science. Try our one-of-a-kind martinis, gourmet appetizers and desserts, then tour the Museum or catch an Omni movie. $25 package includes one drink, one appetizer, Mugar Omni Theater ticket, Exhibit Hall admission and parking. 6-10pm at the Museum of Science.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to

10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich Street, Boston, MA, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday and Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

CLUBS

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00-10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

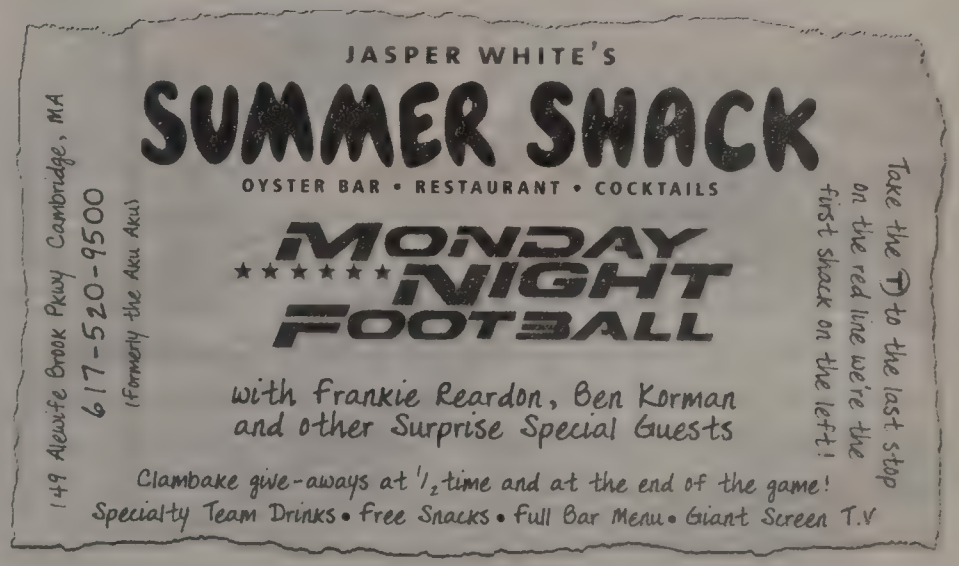
Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.





improperazzi

Advertising

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events


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1. The cast of *Cookin'* with **Rich Vellante**, executive chef of Legal Sea Foods, and **Joe Spaulding**, president and CEO of the Wang Center.
2. **Joe Spaulding** with **Soo Choo-ja**, cast member of *Cookin'* and Rich Vellante.
3. **Kim Won-hae**, cast member of *Cookin'*.

On Thursday, Sept. 6, the cast of the show *Cookin'* "cut it up" at **Legal Sea Foods Park Square** in celebration of their opening week in North America. The evening was filled with Legal's signature food items, specialty wines and kitchen percussion.


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On Friday, Sept. 21, Kevin Troy added to his repertoire of fabulous venues by opening **La Boom** in the infamous **Alley**. Taking over the old **Envy** spot, the club promises to bring more beautiful people who like to party in style.

1. **Lori Valenti** and **Leah Sexeny**.
2. **Greg David** of J.L. and **Matt Hamyak** of King's Way with **Derek Holland** of Smith Barney.
3. **Danielle Woschke** of Logical and **Jill Griffin** of Cafe Bella.
4. **Sven Gibson** of Ford Modeling; **Michael Demmon** of G.D. Cone; **Jason Friedman**, a lawyer, with his wife, **Monica**.

On Monday, Sept. 24, The First Annual **Gentleman Jack Open** was held at the **Waverly Oaks Golf Club** in Plymouth. The invitation-only event was held for Gentleman Jack constituents, consumers, media and trade people.


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1. **Mark Winkley** of Golf Digest; **Bruce Ballerstedt** and **Richard Lewis** of Brown-Forman with **Robert Bozarjian** of Preston Marketing.
2. **Gabe Nicolella** of Dick's Last Resort.
3. **Chris Jolly** of West Street Grill.

PHOTOS: LEGAL SEAFOOD, ELAINE DRISCOLL; LA BOOM, DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; GENTLEMAN JACK OPEN, WENDY SEMONIAN

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE presents the 7TH ANNUAL HALLOWEEN fun RUN

REGISTRATION at 6pm

FUN-RUN at 7pm

There's only ONE place to go for the best time this Halloween. Join The Improper Bostonian Magazine and WBCN for the 7th Annual Halloween Fun Run, Wednesday, October 31 at the West end of Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Following the three mile ghoulish jaunt around the Boston Common join your fellow runners at The Rack for the official post-race party.

DON'T FORGET YOUR COSTUME!

ENTRY FEES

$30 includes T-shirt, goody bag & post-party at The Rack
Post Party includes buffet and one drink coupon.

$35 after on or after October 26th

Must be 21 years of age or older

Discounted parking ($2 discount) available at 75 State Street Garage. Parking tickets will be stamped at registration area only.



THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN · THE RACK · FANEUIL HALL MARKETPLACE BOSTON · GUINNESS DRAUGHT · UPS DS Graphics 1-800-536-8283 · boston.com · WBCN 104.1 FM · Cystic Fibrosis Foundation



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617-267-7744

Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

CCB
I know that our anniversary isn't for another month and a half, but I want you to know that I truly feel blessed, lucky, fortuitous, serendipitous, etc. to have met you and spent the last 11 months with you. You are the most (yes, the most) brilliant, amazing, sexy woman I know and I love you with all my heart. Your love and support have made this summer worth remembering. Let's keep this good thing going, shall we?
—moo...MPS

Red-haired angel on the T
What was that light glowing in the early morning shadows? Was it the stars glistening in the champagne as it flowed along the Esplanade? The glitter on your eyelids or the sparkle in your eyes? You said it led to somewhere else, a hint of trepidation in your voice. Perhaps it offered something other than deep fear. Perhaps, instead, it offered a brilliant new world filled with a multitude of such lights. A world that glows, glistens, glitters, sparkles and warms you all throughout. Perhaps, as you said, it was only a dream. But perhaps, just perhaps, the light you saw...was me?
—englishteacherman @hotmail.com

Stunning Red-Liner
It was Sept. 8, and PJ Harvey was playing at the Orpheum. You were the dark-skinned beauty wearing the light blue pants and pink top I couldn't help noticing on the Red Line. I was the guy wearing the somewhat less interesting black T-shirt and blue jeans, throwing the not-so-inconspicuous glances in your direction. I thought you noticed me noticing you, and threw some not-so-inconspicuous glances of your own. We got off at Park St. and I was trying to figure out what do to about my thudding heart, when a tourist asked me directions to Boylston. If you remember this brief encounter and would like to talk, email me.
—hopeyoureadtheimproper @hotmail.com

South Station at 8:20am Guy:
We pass each other around 8:20 almost every morning on Summer Street. I am heading toward South Station, and you are heading toward your office, which I think may be in the Capital Crossing Bank building. I'm tall with long, dark blonde hair and glasses. We've smiled at each other a few times, and would love to actually stop and say hello.
—Southstation820@yahoo.com

Meaghan from the TV Station
I met you at Cactus Club and you practically saved my life with that tip about lighting candles outside—never again will I be so foolish. I'll also never forget the fun you, your friend, and I had in your Jeep at the end of the night. I should have gotten your number but I didn't, so e-mail me sometime, OK?
—winn_from_methuen @hotmail.com

To Nate
You're the Harvard hockey coach/UPS driver who met three girls in Vox Populi last week. We thought you'd like to know that the muffins we baked were excellent but the threesome we had afterwards was even better. Is your underwear really brown? We never got a chance to find out.
—Emma, Julia and Alison

Gotta Lovett
My friend and I inadvertently followed your green T-shirt from Central Square to the Aug. 17 Lyle Lovett concert, where I could not help but notice your Moxie bottle. You said you'd see us after the show on our way back home, but alas, the Red Line did not allow. I know where you grew up and where you live, but I did not learn your name. And while we joked I was stalking you under an assumed identity, I do like to think that I'm above staking out the Pu Pu Hot Pot. So get in touch and help me classify this attempt as gutsy, vs. embarrassing.
—lyleandmoxie@yahoo.com

Mr. Obligatory
You think you got me positioned where you want me. On the contrary, I only go along with your antics because I want to, not because you designed it that way. Got me? I'm the master of my own fate, and you are a pathetic egomaniac who wouldn't know where to put it even if you could put it somewhere. So the next time you mistake me for being one of your paid escorts, rethink our contractual arrangement because all that other crap you spew is a deal-breaker.
—Bathwater Babe

Brunette Bartender at the Black Rhino
You locked eyes with me from behind the bar the minute I walked in with a friend of mine on Sept. 20. I sat with a few friends in the back corner of the first floor bar that you tended. I was wearing a blue shirt and gray pants. You had beautiful brown hair and a gorgeous smile. I couldn't help but stare. We spoke briefly during the President's speech about your exhausting night and how you couldn't wait to go home. I said "bye and thanks" at the end of the night, hoping that at some point, I'd see you again. I just wish we had the opportunity to talk a little longer. If you remember me and would like to go out for a few drinks, please write. Take care and keep smiling.
—blackrhinoguy@hotmail.com

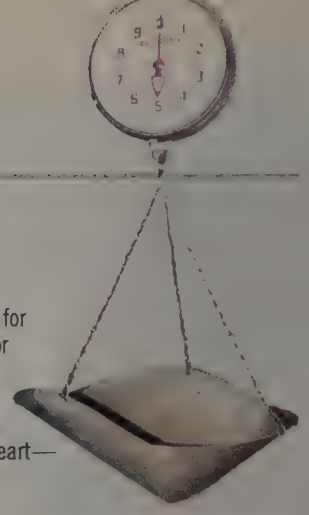
Aug. 30
You sat down at a table opposite me in a food court in downtown Boston. It was shortly after 1pm. I was wearing a green shirt and black trousers. We made eye contact a couple of times and I followed you out as you left through a side exit. I think you wanted me to approach but I simply couldn't pluck up the courage. You stopped at a store window and then walked on to an ATM. I passed by, too shy to say anything. If you see this, please e-mail.
—thursdayaug30@hotmail.com

That Narrows It Right Down
I was walking toward Boylston St. on Sept. 21 through the Common. I looked up and there you were. You: blond, leather shoulder bag, blue shirt(?). Me: tall, blue backpack. I never do this, but don't all great stories begin with a strange start?
—boston_common @hotmail.com.

T-Girl
Sept. 23, about 11:30am, at the St. Paul stop on the C-Line: We exchanged a smile before we got on the train. You: blonde, red pants, black top, red and black sandals and you were reading *Living* magazine. Me: jeans, gray shirt with stripes on the arms, black backpack and blue hat. There were many moments when I could have said something, but I was too shy. I'd like the chance to smile back at you again and start by saying "hi."
—billh@myself.com

Liz
I met you at Emily's on Sept 22. (the night of Emily's Birthday Bash). We talked, we danced, we kissed. I asked you for your number and was very excited you gave it to me. Unfortunately, it wasn't in my cell phone when I went looking for it the next day. You are absolutely beautiful and I would really like to see you again. Please e-mail me!
—bryan4744@yahoo.com

Rockie Horoscope



OCTOBER 10 – OCTOBER 23, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
You're being spurred to action by Jupiter and Mars, the two planets that account for leaping before looking and cock-eyed optimism. If you're playing touch football or rooting for your team, you probably won't inflict much damage, but if you're launching a product or dealing with a tricky family matter, wait until the Libra sun and Mercury meet on the 13th before making a move. That's when your mind is opened to another approach, particularly one that has your best interests at heart—not the boss,' the kids' or the parents'.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
Does the Scorpion strike out or will the Eagle soar above it all? Two sides of Scorpio are put into play when the Libra sun supports your secretive Pluto co-ruler while it simultaneously challenges aggressive Mars, the other ruler. Try to live in harmony with the fact that, on one hand you'd prefer to operate behind the scenes to get what you want done taken care of; while on the other, you wouldn't mind if everyone knows you're the person in charge. FYI: This desire for public acclaim fades fairly soon.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
More reasons to go over the top and to expend energy. Resources will pop up while the sun challenges your Jupiter ruler that is already in opposition to ballsy Mars in your money house. This might be a good time to take a gamble on a financial matter, but your enthusiasm for the venture and optimism about its outcome is likely to be short-lived. Mars is picking up speed, moving on to other playing fields and leaving Jupiter in cautious Cancer to worry about your welfare. Partnership matters should improve as the Libra sun is supporting Saturn in your marriage house.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Gather the other cardinal signs—Aries, Libra and Cancer—together to watch how something one of you does has an impact on the others. The creative Libra sun in your career midheaven brings you success, but it can also result in a not-entirely-unpleasant compromise about work and family. Philosophical Jupiter in your Cancer marriage house extols the joys of togetherness, and is probably eager to pay for the pleasure of protecting you, but Mars in your sign may prefer that while you have the nerve, put the bucks towards a tummy tuck.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
The sociable Libra sun and Mercury, the planet of transportation and commerce, meet in your house of foreign affairs on the 13th. Could you be heading out of the country? Midmonth is also when the sun and Mercury reward your humane Uranus ruler. Any innovative ideas that come to you "out of the blue" are neither "pie-in-the-sky" or serendipitous. There's a grand design to everything associated with Aquarius, and you're among the folks chosen to carry it out.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
A Fish should be glad to learn that you're off the hook. Although lots of momentous planetary aspects abound, you're able to navigate your way past the poles. The opposition between Pluto in your Sagittarius midheaven, urging you to transform your career into something else, pulls against Saturn on your Gemini nadir. That's where the burden of responsibility currently lies, where your obligation to your parents, cultural roots and mortgage payments sits heavily on your shoulders. Swim.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Although you might think you're in control, especially since your action-oriented Mars ruler is sitting prominently at the top of your chart in your Capricorn midheaven, you're being strongly influenced by other planetary forces. Protective Jupiter in your Cancer house of roots and real estate is urging you to put food on the table and a flag in the window, to do more and spend more. At the same time, the Libra sun in your house of allies and adversaries, by squaring Mars, is challenging you to maintain a sense of balance and fair play. Whatever you do, keep it legal.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Itching to get away, see the leaves change colors? Irritating bites from the travel bug, plus Mercury in retrograde until the 22nd, advise against it. Nevertheless, impulsive, adventurous Mars in your house of foreign cultures and higher education can spur you on, dare you to accept a challenge and overcome it. And while your sensual Venus ruler in Virgo focuses on keeping loved ones healthy in body and mind, once Venus moves on to diplomatic Libra on the 15th, you'll seek other solutions and other relationships.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
Entirely too much is going on astrologically, so you may have to pick your way through a bunch of alternatives to find the one you're most comfortable with. You'll get a lot of satisfaction from doing what's expected of you, obeying the rules and acting like a parent to your parent while continuing to parent your child. There's a payoff here for being as patient as you have been, also for dealing sensibly with any opposition you may have encountered. Good job.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
Moon children, like George W. Bush, are being asked to step up to the plate and score one for the home team. Protective Jupiter in your sign is currently opposed by militant Mars in your house of allies and adversaries, and both planets are aggravated by a challenging square from the diplomatic Libra sun. This cosmic tension can affect you on many levels, including your relationship to a partner and/or a landlord with papers to sign. Because Mercury is still retrograde, postpone your date with the dotted line until the 23rd at the earliest.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
The Libra sun has you seeking companionship while making you more willing to accept a compromise. However, the sun's ties to expansive Jupiter and conservative Saturn, retrograde Mercury, eclectic Uranus and macho Mars may present more options than any Lion should have to consider. Rather than richoceting from pillar to post, reacting to each opportunity, try to set a consistent course for yourself. Visualize a destination (or a state of mind) where you want to be and who you want there with you.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
It's hard to follow your gut feeling when so much of the planetary activity going on is mental. Although the Libra sun is headed for a meeting with your Mercury ruler on the 13th—which is when you're likely to get a different perspective on what's been happening, especially with money and other things you value—your retrograde ruling planet is facing the past instead of the future. Mercury flips forward on the 22nd, but it'll take a while longer to implement the ideas you get from its conjunction with the peaceable Libra sun.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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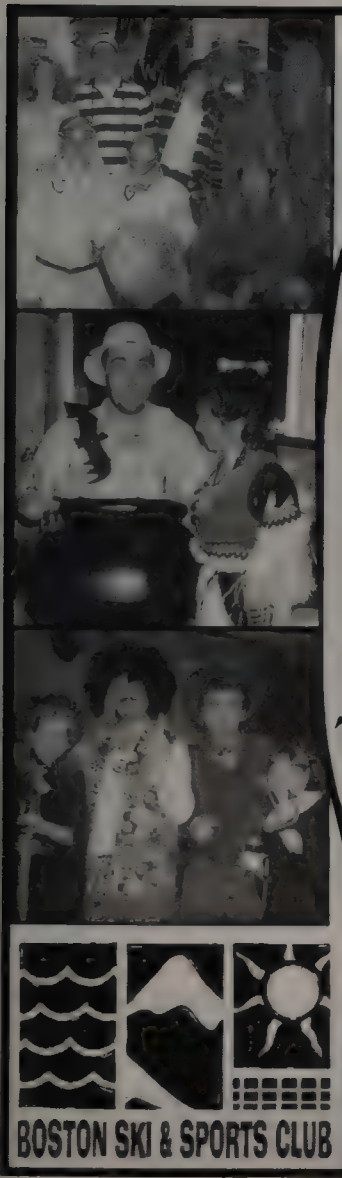
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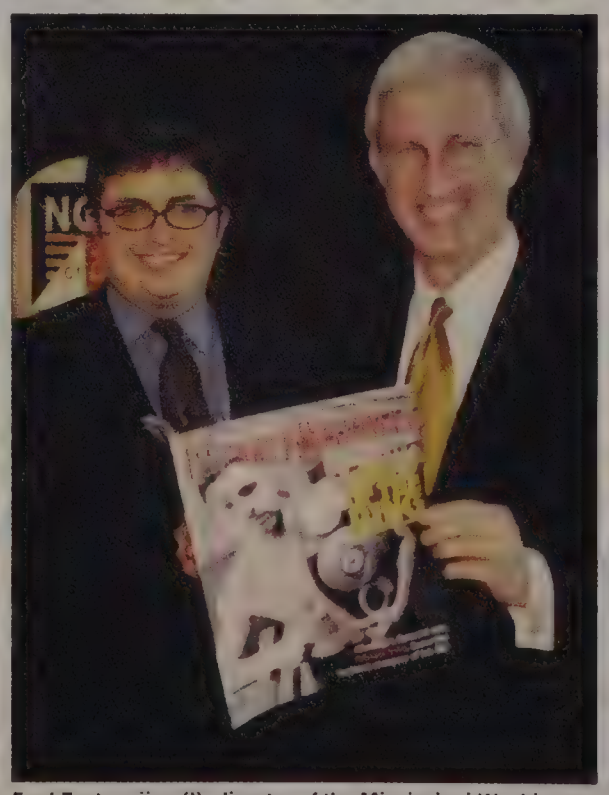
Pete Laird went on safari in wild Kenya, where he confirmed that the giraffe is a freak animal second only to the duck-billed platypus. This one tried to read his precious Improper, with dire consequences. "Giraffe's mighty tasty eatin'," allows Laird.



Nova Scotia Premier John Hamm gets his Halifax straight by reading this year's Boston's Best issue.



From left: Andy Reinhard, Jennifer MacInnes and Amy Callen found that Fijians generally got very excited about the Improper.



Fred Zeytoonjian (l), director of the Mississippi Washington office, reads with Mississippi Governor Ronnie Musgrove.



From left: Adam Layton, Chris Remillard and Larry Layton get fired up for a Penn State–Miami football game with Penn State's Nittany Lion.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:

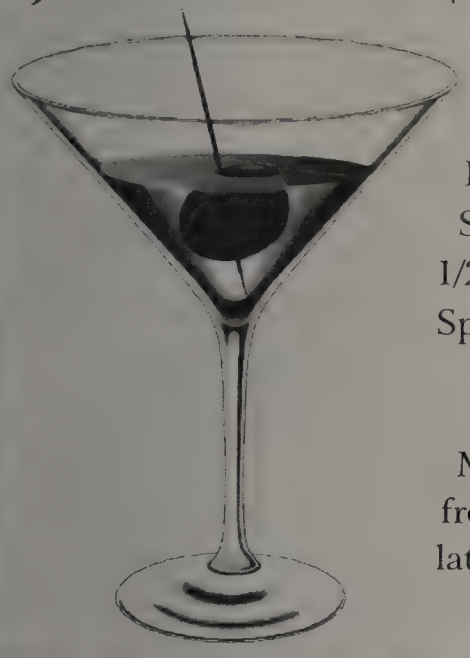
At the Phuket Vegetarian Festival, Oct. 17-25, Phuket Island, Thailand. But even if you're a carnivore, Thailand is beautiful and you still might want to go to Phuket.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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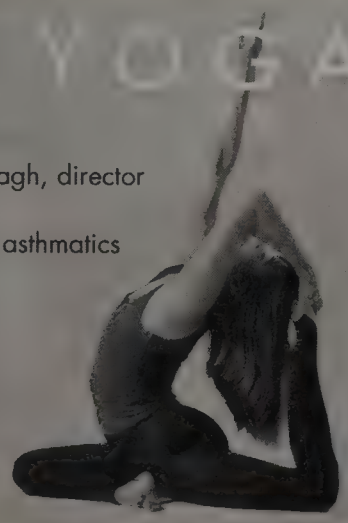
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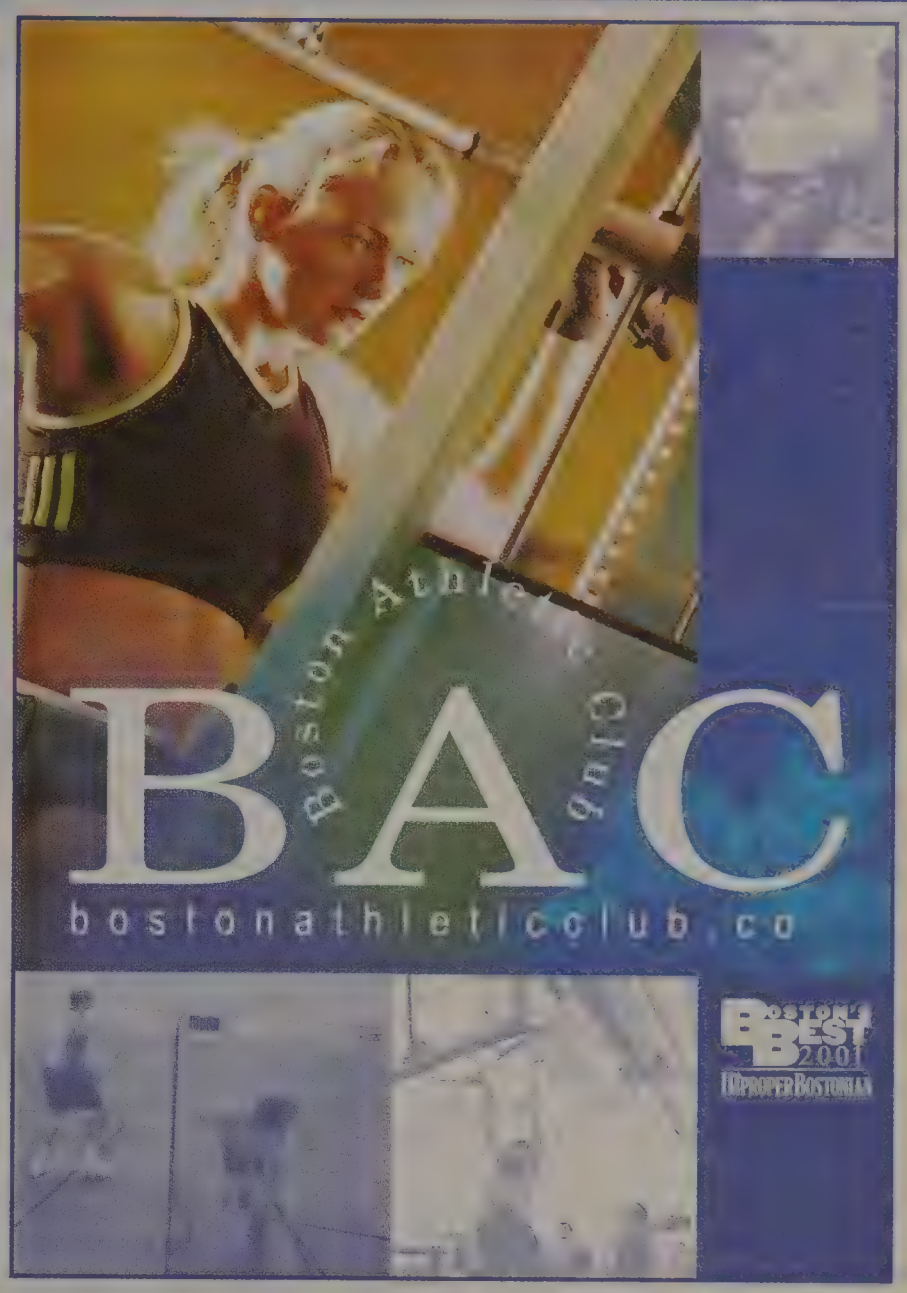


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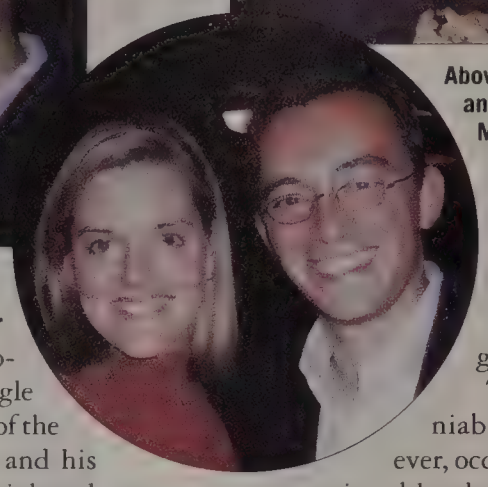
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Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF



Left: Anja Kola, Lori Sullivan and Jack Madigan.





Above: Keir McDonough and Annaliese Marchand. Left: Jen Smartt and Francois de Costerd.

A CASE FOR VICTORIA'S SECRET POLICE...

The splashiest new addition to the Pru, a contemporary American eatery called the **Berkshire Grill**, hosted a grand opening VIP party that drew the city's social butterflies like moths to the proverbial flame.

A fund-raiser for **First Night's Neighborhood Network** (an inner-city arts program), the soiree attracted the attractive likes of improbably tall investor **Jay Gordon**; yoga goddess **Bethany Cantin**; interior designer **Polly Corn**; venture capitalist and special guest star **Nelse Clark**; playboy of the western world **Bob Dooner**; Republican publican **Tom Kershaw**; delivery mogul **Sheldon Blackburn** and his headhunter wife, **Julie**; salty dog **Ian McLaughlin**; the achingly lovely **Jennifer Smartt**, squired by Gallic funboy **Francois de Costerd**; restaurant exec **Larry Varvella**; arctic blonde art dealer **Anja Kola** and her stockbroker other half, **Keifer McDoogle**; doctor of mixology **Peter Cipriani**; financial smoothie **Robert White**; legal eagle **Ken Vacovec** (president of the Mass Bar Association) and his stunning spouse, **Linda**; high-tech marketing maven **Gina Laroche**; WBZ on-air cutie **Robin Hamilton**; expectant father **David Bolio** of John Hancock; stylist to the stars **Jeremy Dellaria** and his absurdly gorgeous girlfriend, **Nancy Lee**, and so on and so forth.

Between imbibing at the open bar and gorging on the lavish buffet, attendees busied themselves with the exhausting task of socializing, so much so that paramedics had to come and revive one man who fainted from all the excitement.

As one guest joked: "It's not a party without a gurney."

The evening's undeniable highlight, however, occurred when a stunning blonde noticed that her push-up bra had slipped down around her waist, and she was faced with the unenviable choice of trying to wrestle it back into place or undo it in front of everyone.

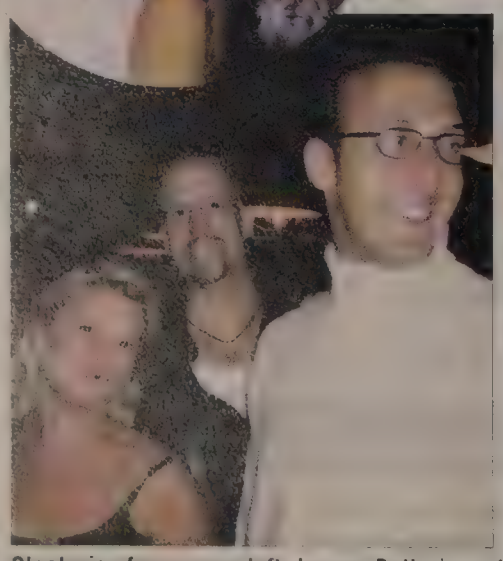
"I just unhooked it, stepped out of it, and left it sitting in the middle of the floor," she confided to a friend. "But when I went back to get it, somebody had already picked it up."

Scanning the crowd, she said "So one of these wenches owes me a $70 bra." iB











Clockwise from upper left: Jeremy Dellaria and Nancy Lee; Dana Dalfonso and Linda Steele; Lina Tonkunas and Ian McLaughlin; Polly Corn and Jamie Palmer; Bethany Cantin, Peter Cipriani and Jay Gordon.

IN MEMORIAM...

When I picture **Sonia Puopolo**, I see a vivacious blonde, looking a fraction of her age in a designer gown and impressive-looking jewels, adding sparkle to any one of the black-tie fund-raisers she habitually attended, accompanied by her adoring husband and one or more of her devoted children.

A former ballerina who lived in Dover, she was a tireless supporter of the arts and numerous charities, giving not only money but time, passion and enthusiasm. One always got the impression that, whatever the cause, it was a matter of intense personal importance to Sonia. The warmth she exuded was palpable, and her lust for life was apparent even to passing acquaintances. As for the countless people who benefited by her largesse of spirit, one of her sons' friends once told me that she had been more of a mother to him than his own mother had been.

On Sept. 11, Sonia boarded one of the planes bound for Los Angeles that was hijacked and used to destroy the World Trade Center.

The perpetrators have left scars on every surface of our collective psyche, and in the case of Sonia Puopolo, created a tear in Boston's social fabric that time may repair, but always will be visible. She was a woman who understood the importance of the arts as a civilizing and educational influence. She was a woman whose lavish instinct for doing good will continue to reverberate indefinitely.

No act of violence or terrorism, however mind-boggling, can destroy that.



Sonia Puopolo with her daughter, Tita.

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Local actors hit it big: from left, Liza Snyder, Mike O'Malley, Anthony Clark and Jean Kelly

Jonathan Soroff talks to Worcester funny girl JEAN KELLY, star of CBS's hit comedy

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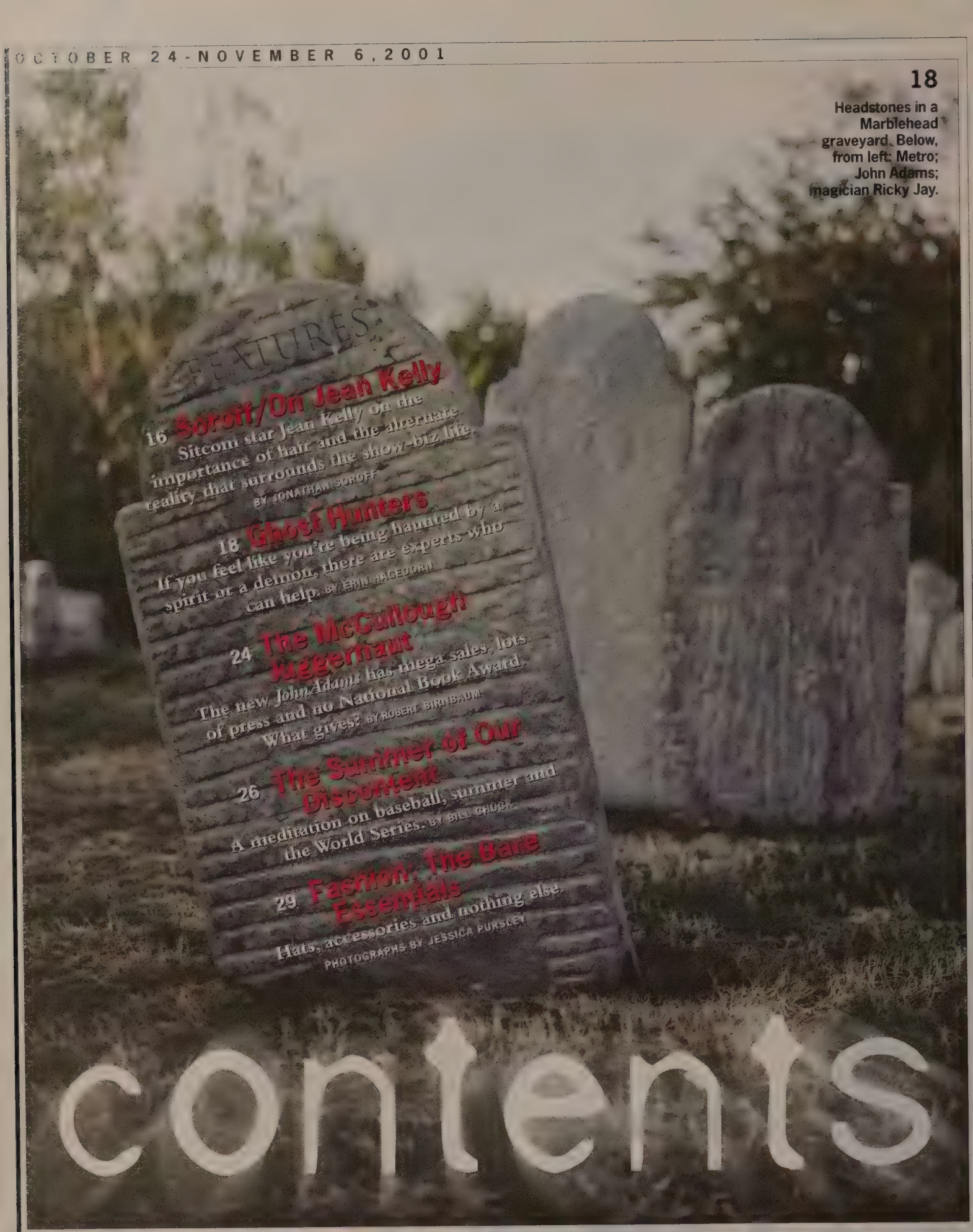
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Headstones in a Marblehead graveyard. Below, from left: Metro; John Adams; magician Ricky Jay.

contents

FEATURES

16 **Soroff/On Jean Kelly**
Sitcom star Jean Kelly on the importance of hair and the alternate reality that surrounds the show-biz life.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 **Ghost Hunters**
If you feel like you're being haunted by a spirit or a demon, there are experts who can help. BY ERIN HAGEDORN

24 **The McCullough Juggernaut**
The new *John Adams* has mega sales, lots of press and no National Book Award. What gives? BY ROBERT BIRNBAUM

26 **The Summer of Our Discontent**
A meditation on baseball, summer and the World Series. BY BILL CROSBY

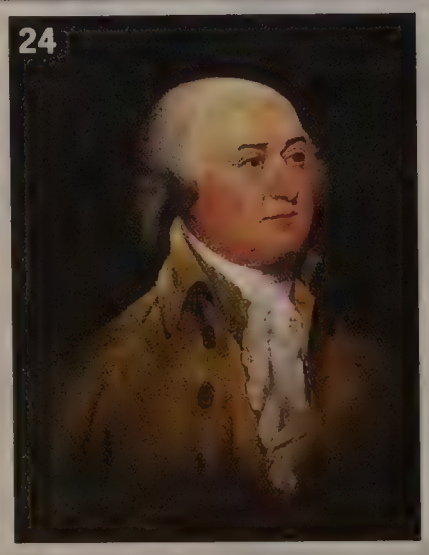
29 **Fashion: The Bare Essentials**
Hats, accessories and nothing else.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JESSICA PURSLEY



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Photograph by
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

COLUMNS

6 **The Word**
Metro; pricing French-maid costumes; Edison Light

10 **Proper Bostonians**
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

12 **E-Boston**
The Internet domain name game.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 **Ezra**
405 horsepower is almost enough.
BY EZRA DYER

34 **Mopsy**
Overnight Float; Mensa's diabolical brain-teasers; it's voodoo to you
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

58 **Film**
Mamet pulls a heist.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

66 **Music**
DJ Logic spins into town.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

84 **Last Scene Here**
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

36 **Dining**
White Star Tavern takes pub food to a higher level.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

38 **Dish**
Hamersley's book series; the upcoming Locke-Ober café
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

38 **Wine**
Cheap Chileans
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

39 **Tastings**
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Truffles
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 41.
Origami for charity • **Rita Rudner** • *Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants* • Farewell to Julia Child • **Stereolab** • Boston Jewish Film Festival

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improperazzi	76
Improper Shopper	80
Improper Impersonals	81
Rockie Horoscope	81
Improper Sightings	82

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TOP: MIKE MERGEN; BOTTOM LEFT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Autumn

10/26/27

FRIDAY 26 OCTOBER

Mike Macaluso

NYC

SATURDAY 27 OCTOBER

Halloween

OFFICIAL TILT HALLOWEEN PARTY

11/02/03

FRIDAY 02 NOVEMBER

dj Scot Project

GERMANY :: BOSTON DEBUT

SATURDAY 03 NOVEMBER

Manolo

RESIDENT DJ

11/09/10

FRIDAY 09 NOVEMBER

Ferry Corsten

BELGIUM :: BOSTON DEBUT
DJ/PRODUCER :: SYSTEM F / MOONMAN / GOURYELLA

SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER

Manolo

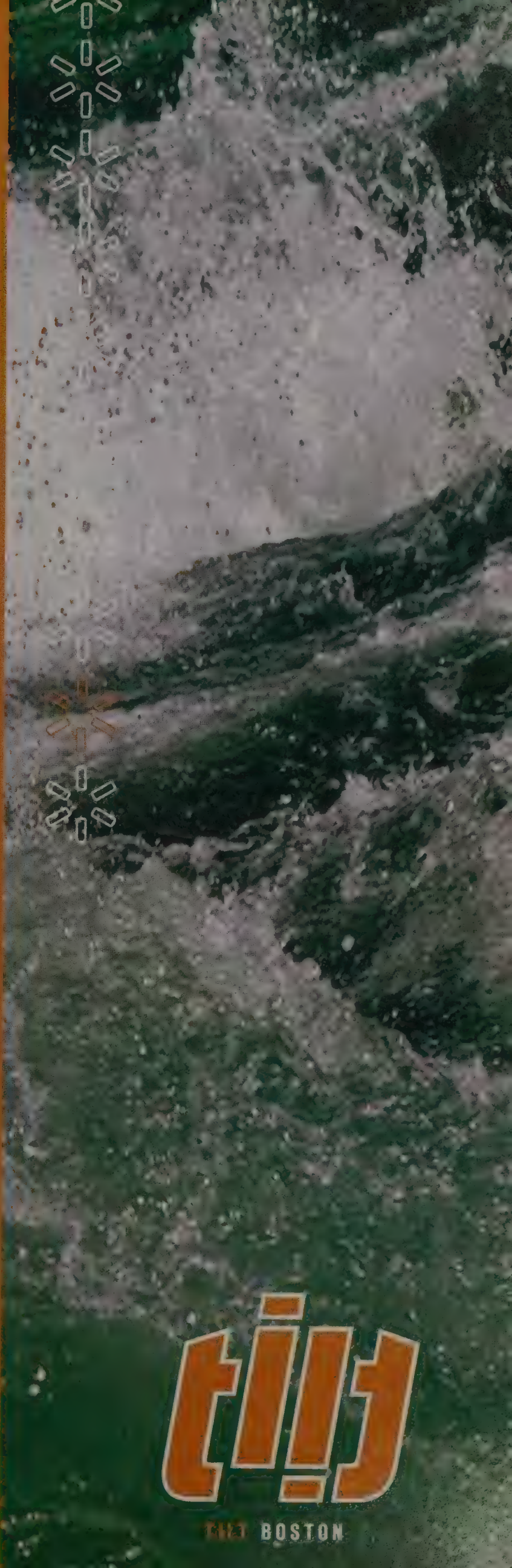
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INFO AND VIP TABLE RESERVATIONS



letters



Specialist Nick Bennett looks on from behind the Hummer as Sgt. John Scott Kabay acquaints a group of Kosovo natives with the IMPROPER and life back home in Boston.

Dear IMPROPER BOSTONIAN,

I am a soldier with the 340th Military Police Co. stationed in Kosovo with other NATO forces. As part of my regular duties, I patrol the southern city of Ferizaj/Urosevac. My favorite part is interacting with the local children. As an Army reservist, my main occupation at home is teaching in Newton, and when I get the chance to work with kids I jump at it.

I have enclosed a picture of myself along with some of the children of Kosovo. I used my copy of the Aug. 1 issue of THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN to show them all the crazy things Americans do in their spare time. They laughed and enjoyed the pictures.

On a personal note, your magazine helps keep me focused on my duties by reminding me that home is never too far away. I read the stories and drool over the restaurant advertising (Army food isn't that bad, but there is no pepper-seared yellowfin tuna). My girlfriend sent me a set of copies and I treasure each one.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it. Stay safe and keep up the good work.

—SGT. JOHN SCOTT KABAY
Ferizaj, Kosovo

WE'RE GUEU-LESS

I hope this note doesn't come across as too pedantic or fatuous, but I do want to correct your response to Mr. Senelick's letter to the editor in your last issue. In short, he was wrong, but your response needs some fine-tuning as well. In French, an animal's mouth is referred to as *une gueule*, whereas a human being's mouth is *un bouche*. Therefore, the correct term is either *un amuse-bouche* (*des amuse-bouches*, plural) or *une amuse-gueule* (*des amuse-gueules*). I had heard appetite teasers in America referred to as *des amuse-gueules*, so when dining one evening in Paris at the Salon D'Hiver of the Hotel Le Bristol with an aristocratic French couple whose title predates the revolution, I used the term *des amuses-gueules*, much to the consternation of all present. I was gently corrected by my friends as well as by the Directeur du Restaurant, Jean-Paul Montellier. So, while perhaps where Mr. Senelick dines the term *des amuses-gueules* is acceptable, it is not, however, in more refined society.

—JANET L. GOFF
Via e-mail

A READER WRITES

I wanted to take a moment and compliment you on your literary issue. It was a welcome change from your usual subject matters. It is true we all love to read about what the latest fashion trend is or who makes the best martini in town,

I DROOL OVER THE RESTAURANT ADVERTISING (ARMY FOOD ISN'T THAT BAD, BUT THERE IS NO PEPPER-SEARED YELLOWFIN TUNA).

—SGT. JOHN SCOTT KABAY
FERIZAJ, KOSOVO

but it is also good to recognize the wealth of literary talent in Boston. Thanks again.

—MARGOT FITZGERALD
Via e-mail

ONE REASON TO GO BALD

Rather than have Ezra load up his bookshelves with impressive novels, why not just pass himself off as a famous author? If he shaved his head and picked up some funky glasses, he could masquerade as Nick Hornby (his are the only novels that anyone needs to read anyway). His writing is certainly as funny as Hornby's. Keep up the good work.

P.S. My copy of *Atlas Shrugged* recently had its four-year (unopened) anniversary on my shelf. Sadly, I read the Sammy "The Bull" Gravano bio first.

—PATRICIA GILDEA
Via e-mail

Tell Us What You Think

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Bill Chuck (pictured at right) is an expatriate New Yorker who lives in Brookline. He is the Communications Czar of B. Czar Productions Inc. and is becoming increasingly well-known as the sardonic wit of the daily online baseball newsletter "Billy-Ball." He penned the "The Summer of Our Discontent," on page 26.



MIKE MERGEN

Photographer Mike Mergen, a frequent IMPROPER contributor, graduated from the Rochester Institute of Technology in 2000 and has been working in the picture-snapping biz ever since. His latest, highly supernatural work appears in the "Ghost Hunters" feature, which starts on page 18.

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NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

RIDING INTO THE METRO

After a heck of a long wait that had us drooling with anticipation, Porter Square's new French bistro, Metro, finally opened Oct. 5. Its secret weapons: chef Amanda Lydon, fresh from her recent stint assisting boyfriend Gabriel Frasca in the kitchen at Aquitaine Bis, and pastry chef Lee Napoli, whom owner Joe Quattrocchi lured away from Grill 23 and Harvest.

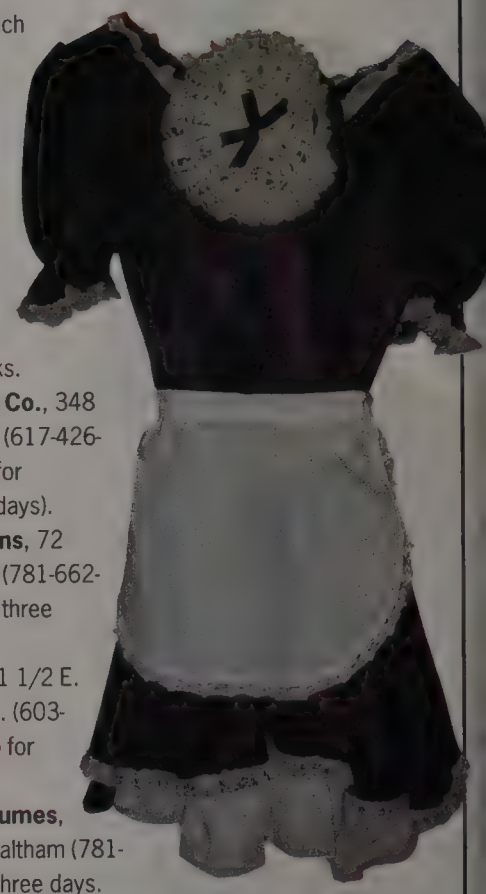
Metro's concept is familiar: a neighborhood bar/restaurant that's unpretentious and friendly, serving up good, hearty homestyle food. The difference is that it's French food we're talking about—something most of us usually associate with micro-sized portions served with an air of pretentiousness. Not here. On the Tuesday evening we were there, Metro sported a lively atmosphere as the waitstaff whirled around hoisting dishes heavily laden with steak *frites*, roasted chicken and *fruits de mer*.

Chef Lydon's menu is small but intriguing. "There are many misconceptions about French food," says manager Ryan Tacy. "The truth is that the French generally eat and drink what grows in their backyard." If that means leg of lamb cooked for seven hours with Moroccan spices and citrus, then Lydon's hit her mark. The halibut with salt cod brandade and garlic mayonnaise was tender, the shoestring *frites* crispy and the warm *gateau au chocolat* positively dreamy. Lydon's specialty appetizer, *saucisse de coquillages* (shrimp sausage with horseradish and tomato butter) was as light as air. Metro also has an exclusively French wine list, which can be ordered by the bottle, glass or *fillette* (the equivalent of two-thirds of a bottle). *1815 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-354-3727).*


It's a lively atmosphere at the new French bistro, Metro.

IMPROPER REPORTS

MAID UP



Price of renting a French maid costume from various local costume shops during the Halloween season:

Boston Costume Co., 69 Kneeland, Boston (617-482-1632): **$45-$65**. You keep the costume for 2.5 weeks.

Broadway Costume Co., 348 Congress St., Boston (617-426-3560): **$40**, or **$45** for overnight rental (two days).

Costumes by Illusions, 72 Stone Place, Melrose (781-662-7888): **$50** for up to three days' rental.

Costume Gallery, 11 1/2 E. Broadway, Derry, N.H. (603-434-0627): **$50-$75** for the weekend.

Eastern Coast Costumes, 329 Moody Street, Waltham (781-647-1175): **$40** for three days.

ALL THE BUZZ

MOONLIGHT SONATA

If crowded clubs are not your scene, it's time to polish your pumps or wingtips and take a little rendezvous to the BSO. To attract a younger audience, the Boston Symphony Orchestra is now offering special subscription packages for music lovers in the 21–38 age range. The program, called Repartee, allows subscribers to gather in private rooms before the concert, where they can mingle and enjoy complimentary drinks and hors d'oeuvres. Repartee offers a great chance not only to see Seiji Ozawa in his farewell season but to meet orchestra members and music scholars. And even though this isn't being billed as a singles event, it does resonate with romance: After you meet someone special over cocktails and chit-chat, you spy each other in the crowd and exchange glances during Schubert's *Symphony No. 4*. Hey, it could happen. *(617-266-7575) —Susan Abbattista*


Some enchanted evening, you will meet a stranger.

AROUND TOWN

'NETTING THE INNER CITY

Eric Bobby is bucking the economic slide. Bobby, the founder of startup CityKi, aims to bring e-commerce to the inner city with an array of Internet kiosks in areas where there are no physical outlets for many stores. What's unique about an Internet kiosk, you ask? Well, the main hook here is that you don't need a credit card—not even a bank account—to go shopping.

The first kiosk is open at the America's Food Basket grocery store in Upham's Corner in Dorchester. There, customers can pay cash to get a pre-paid credit card number, which they can then use to go shopping anywhere online. Of course, certain vendors (including Staples, Tower Records and Barnes & Noble) have signed up for onscreen placement that gives their stores one-click access. Customers can also access e-mail, job boards or anything else on the Web, as the kiosk is free and there's no time limit.

While this is socially commendable, Bobby is an entrepreneur and cites Boston Consulting Group research indicating that, nationwide, the inner-city market is underserved by $21 billion. He wants a piece of that pie, and plans to open 12 more kiosks over the next two years. He's already garnered the cooperation of some large companies, but we'll be watching to see if he can win over the most important group of all—inner-city shoppers themselves. *—Ezra Dyer*



Eric Bobby models his CityKi.

TOP LEFT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; TOP RIGHT: BROOKE RICHARD

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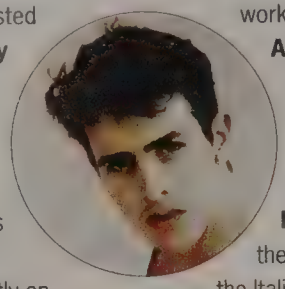
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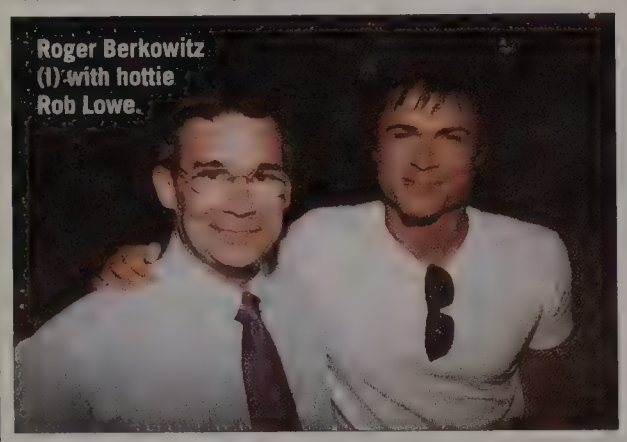
IMPROPER SPEAKING

•**George Regan** of Regan Communications received a four-legged birthday present from Suffolk University president **David Sargent**. Rather than an honorary degree, Sargent gave his pal a golden retriever, which Regan named Georgia. Georgia is kid sister to Regan's other canine, who also answers to the name Regan.



•The **Golden Temple** in Brookline has hosted a hotbed of celebrity spottings lately: **Joey McIntyre** of New Kids on the Block notoriety was sipping mai tais and tearing up the dance floor last Saturday—and judging from his first-name basis policy with the staff, he seems to be a regular. Also sighted recently was Lori (first name only), a BC student currently on MTV's 10th season of ***The Real World***. There must be something special in those scorpion bowls...

•As many of us are already aware, **Legal Sea Foods'** legendary clam chowder has been tapped as the official presidential chowdah (after being ladled out at inaugural dinners of both **Clinton** and **George W.**). What you may not know is that NBC's presidential drama *West Wing*, in imitation of its White House counterparts, recently requested a bowl of the famous chowdah. Legal prez **Roger Berkowitz** personally delivered the chowder to stars **Martin Sheen** and **Rob Lowe** on the L.A. set. Inside sources tell us that the chowder may make a cameo appearance in upcoming episodes. Stay tuned.



Roger Berkowitz (l) with hottie Rob Lowe.

•There were some very disappointed foosball players at **Compaq** last week after the announcement that the IBM-sponsored Northeast Challenge scheduled for late October would be postponed indefinitely due to the downturn in the economy, lack of sales and the hiring slowdown. The event, which pitted local techies against each other in this highly competitive sport, would have doubled as a recruitment session. Now the quandary...what do the techies do with all those resumes listing their objective: "To secure a position with a high-growth company with foosball table?"

•**Leon de Magistris**, whose Leon & Co. hair salon has long thrived in rustic Belmont (giving short shrift to the notion that one *must* be on Newbury Street), recently worked in NYC with up-and-coming Italian couturier **Angelo Vitti** on a benefit fashion show. Vitti, whose clients have exotic names such as Xenia Apollini, Principessa Federica Ludovisi Tortonia and Kennedy, was recently lauded by a neophyte fashion commentator, former President **George Bush**, who gushed at the recent collection, "Given these times, the U.S. can use a fantasy diversion from the Italian fashion designers."

•The November issue of ***Men's Health*** names Boston the "Healthiest City in America 2001." Results were based on factors ranging from doctor-to-person ratio (291:1, fourth-best in the country) to male treadmill use (first place, and don't ask us how they figured that out). Perhaps the most surprising statistic, given our reputation for aggressive driving, is the first-place rank for fewest male car-crash deaths. So, healthy guys, go have a beer: You've earned it.



•While attending a Distinguished Restaurants of North America meeting in Rome Sept. 11, **Paul Athanas** from **Anthony's Pier 4** received a hand-delivered letter, from the mayor of Rome himself, conveying his sympathies. The mayor delivered letters to all Americans staying in area hotels, inviting them to consider Rome their home for as long as required.



•When she announced last year that she was scaling back her on-air duties for personal reasons, **WBZ** news anchor **Liz Walker** sent ripples through the local journalism community. Since then, she's been able to spend more time with her teenage son, start divinity school at Harvard and increase her involvement with various causes, among them ending slavery in Africa. When we caught up with her at a recent party, La Liz admitted, "I'm as busy as ever," although she's now spending her time on things she feels deeply about. So even if she hasn't stopped to smell the roses, at least she's started to do some gardening. *—Leah Gourley, R.B., E.D., E.H. and J.S.*

TIDBITS AND MORSELS



•Late-night burrito cravings can now be satisfied at the newest tacqueria on the block, Redhots, located behind Redneck's Roast Beef in Allston. For a mere $3.99, you can get a flour tortilla stuffed with beans, rice, cheese, lettuce and *pico de gallo*, plus a choice of pork, chicken, steak or veggies. Good news for burrito-lovers who don't want to drop a lot of pesos.

•Speaking of Mexican cuisine, The Rattlesnake's once famous Food of the America's approach is taking a more focused turn with chef Angelo Sinesis. The talented *puertoricano* is introducing a new menu with heavy Mexican influences.

•There will not, however, be any sandwiches named after all 25 newspapers in Mexico City. Ever since Fire & Ice introduced sandwiches named after all the newspapers and magazines in town, we have been dying to find out which magazine, uh, we mean which *sandwich*, is the most popular. It turns out naturally, the IB has run away with the field.



•Bukowski's, named after legendary poet and barfly Charles Bukowski, recently hosted someone who claimed to be Chuck's nephew. Those in-the-know couldn't confirm the lineage except to say that he hoisted a few in true Bukowski style, claiming his uncle "would have been proud."

•The Rack has continued its beneficent ways by hosting numerous events including the kickoff party to the Flag Run Across America. That fund-raiser is about United Airlines and American Airlines pilots running a flag from Boston to L.A. by Nov. 11.

•No doubt you've seen the world change in many ways, not the least of which will be the next really big thing: the square bagel. Or Squagel. Ten flavors and eight kinds of cream cheese, and you'll believe you've stepped into a Brave New World. All this at Cosi on Milk, State and Federal streets.

•Good Life's Brian O'Neil, neither denies nor affirms the rampant rumors that he's purchasing Pignoli. Remember you didn't read it here first.

—Robert Birnbaum

BEER
LIGHT BEER AND BULBS



Just a few months after **Jim Koch** over at **Boston Beer Company** (BBC) began test-marketing a light version of his classic brew, along comes his former founding partner at BBC, **Rhonda Kallman**, with **Edison Light Beer**.

Is the timing coincidental? "Definitely," says Kallman, who spent 15 years at BBC. She claims to be competing for a different type of beer drinker: "The only thing 'micro' about us is our office," she says.

"Our beer is very easy to drink, and it's available in cans or bottles with twist-off tops—these are all things that differentiate Edison Light from a craft beer." The brew has "a smooth with a refreshing, light taste." And with light beer comprising nearly half of the beer sales in the United States, there's probably room for one more option. *—J.S.*

SAM SAYS
PRIMA FIND



Remember the days of old when you danced around in your tutu and ballet slippers? A particularly depressing thought as you sit in your executive chair waiting to attend meetings without a swan in sight. What ever happened to that ballerina? Well, mope no more. Chanel and Gucci have answered your call with the season's hottest new trend: ballet shoes. These have basically the same look as the ones you've seen worn in *Swan Lake* with the exception of a two-inch, stacked heel at the back. They come in every color of sorbet you can imagine and can be found at either the Chanel boutique or the Gucci boutique. These shoes must be worn with high or low hemlines and preferably with yards and yards of tulle to perfect the look.*—Samantha House*

CLUB SCENE
NU DEVELOPMENTS

Put away your bellbottoms and break out your Day-Glo gear, because **Polly Esther's** is now the **Dance Plex**. The main difference is that the bottom floor adopts a bubblegum '80s theme, with appropriate decor—think *Teen Wolf* instead of *Grease*.

On Oct 25 a NU Room opens at **Avalon**. New York's Mobb Design was brought in to transform the former Green Room VIP area into the NU Room. Waitress service will be available, and the debut will be accompanied by a fashion show by Foil.

Elsewhere on Landsdowne, **Bill's Bar** had such success with its first START night in September that it's become a regular feature every Saturday night. START, in affiliation with *www.makeoutclub.com*, takes an anything-goes approach to the tunes, but those with a punkish streak will be happiest.

And, in a role switch, party-planner extraordinaire Ferguson will be looking at the festivities from a different angle on Friday nights, when he jumps behind the bar at **Trio**. *—Ezra Dyer*



FRUITS AND VEGETABLES
PUMPKINS VIE

If you've always wanted to find your way into the *Guinness Book of Records* but you just can't stand to grow your fingernails for 20 years, make the drive to Keene, N.H., Oct. 27 and bring a jack-o-lantern and a candle. Punkin' cutters from all over will be trying to break the record of 23,727 lit pumpkins, set last year in—you guessed it—Keene, N.H.—*E.D.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The National Kidney Foundation hosted a star-studded gala at the JFK Library and Museum on Oct. 5.

1. **Al Gore** (l), former U.S. vice president, and **Bob Crowe**, investor.
2. **Jerry Mande**, former Gore policy director; **Tipper Gore**; and **Suzanne Campion**, administrative director, ob/gyn at Beth Israel Medical Center.
3. **Steve Grossman** (l), candidate for governor, and **John Shattuck**, CEO of the JFK Library & Foundation.
4. **Amy Schlager**, and her father-in-law, **S. Lawrence Schlager**, chairman of the Bullfinch Companies.
5. **Micho Spring**, chair, New England, for **Weber Shandwick Worldwide**, and her husband, **Bill**, vice president of the Federal Reserve Bank.
6. **Kitty Dukakis**.
7. Event co-chairs **Heather Campion**, senior vice president of corporate affairs for Citizens Financial, and her husband, **Chuck**, chairman of the Dewey Square Group.
8. **Noreen McMahon**, public affairs coordinator for Citizens Bank; **Nathan Daschle**, Harvard Law student, and his wife **Jill**, president of JD Consulting in Cambridge.











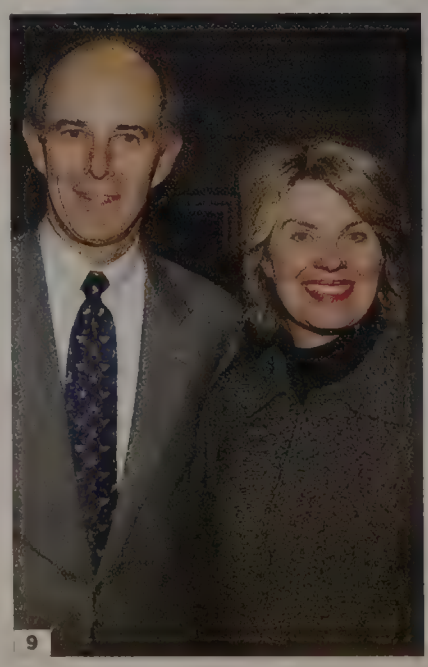






The New England Council Annual Dinner was held Oct. 9 at the Marriott Hotel at Copley Place. The 2001 New Englanders of the Year included U.S. Senator Judd Gregg, the United Way's Marion Heard and NStar's Tom May.

9. **Tom May**, chairman and CEO of NStar, and **Anne Finucane**, executive vice president of FleetBoston Financial.
10. **Paul Mattera** (l), dinner chairman and senior vice president of Liberty Mutual, and **Larry Fish**, CEO of Citizens Bank.
11. **Ashley Clauss**, student at Boston College, and **Aldridge Sower**, engineer at BAE Systems in Nashua, N.H.
12. **Marion Heard**, president and CEO of the United Way, and her husband, **Winlow**, industrial operations analyst for the U.S. General Services Administration.











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Marking Your Web Territory

Even if you never become famous, it's still a good idea to have your own site

A recent news story described the attempts of the cast members of *Survivor* and *Survivor 2* to capitalize on their proverbial 15 minutes of fame. Many of them have set up their own Web sites using their now nationally recognized names. However, the winner of the original *Survivor*, Richard Hatch, was out of luck. His nom-de-Web, *RichardHatch.com*, was already taken.

You probably don't remember the original Richard Hatch, whose Web site proclaims him as "an internationally known actor, teacher and speaker." He had roles in *All My Children* and *The Streets of San Francisco*. He also starred in (gasp!) *Battlestar Galactica*, a late-'70s ripoff of the first *Star Wars* movie. (The show also starred Lorne Greene, a.k.a. Pa Cartwright from *Bonanza*.) If I recall correctly, the show wasn't all that good. My best friend (a big sci-fi buff) used to call it "Battlestar Galaxative."

Anyway, the actor Richard Hatch appears to be something of a survivor himself and has authored three novels based upon the *Battlestar Galactica* characters. (Fans note: "autographed collectors' editions" of Hatch's third *Battlestar Galactica* novel, *Resurrection*, are now available for sale on the Web site.) However, it appears that the *RichardHatch.com* Web site might have caused some confusion because the second paragraph on the home page contains the following warning:

"Note: The Richard Hatch of this site is not related to the winner of CBS-TV's *Survivor* show."

Just in case you were wondering.

All of which leads me to the purpose of this column, which is to suggest that you immediately reserve a Web site that has your name on it. Of course, if your parents suffered from a complete lack of imagination and your name is something like John Smith, you're probably out of luck. But for anybody who has a name that's at least a little unusual, your Web site may still available. (By the way, *JohnSmith.com* is owned by some real-estate guy who sells island property in Florida.)

There are three good reasons for claiming a Web site in your own name:

1. If you ever become famous, you'll own the Web site name and can use it for shameless self-promotion. (I'll bet Richard Hatch wished he'd thought of that before he got all naked on TV...)

2. If somebody with the same name becomes famous, you can either sell him or her the Web site name or (better yet) put up a Web page making fun of your namesake. Why not? You're going to have spend the rest of your life explaining to sales clerks, waitresses and concierges that, no, you're not THE Michael Jackson (or whatever) and then have to cope with the half-concealed and disappointed snootiness that will be aimed your way, as if you were somehow being deceptive because you share a celebrity's name. (As an aside, I once worked in a marketing group that employed a Steve Martin, a Dick Nixon, a Ted Kennedy and a Bill Clinton. I once tried to schedule a meeting with all four of them, but Nixon didn't show up.)

3. If you become semi-famous and then somebody else becomes even more famous (à la the Richard Hatch scenario) you'll have a Web site where you can set everyone straight that you're not related to that uppity parvenu who stole your name.

This is not as unlikely a scenario as you might think. I am the author of seven books, but there's not only another person named Geoffrey James, there's another author named Geoffrey James! He's a fairly famous photographer whose most recent book is *Running Fence*—a thoughtful collection of snapshots of the border between Mexico and the United States. (I bought a copy of *Running Fence* to put on my coffee table as a joke.) And here I have a confession to make: It really, really annoys me that Web searches on Google.com tend to put the other Geoffrey James higher on the list of sites than the real Geoffrey James (meaning me, of course).

However, for once in my life, I showed a little foresight and reserved *GeoffreyJames.com*, *GeoffreyJames.net* and *GeoffreyJames.org*. This means that the annoying photographer guy, if he wants a Web site, is going to have pick something lame like *GeoffreyJames.ws* or *GeoffreyJames.info*—the Internet equivalent of a parking trailer in the boonies. For the past three years, I've been expecting to get an e-mail from that other Geoffrey James, begging me for space on the Web site. He will beg in vain. How dare he be more talented and famous than me?

In any case, reserving a Web site name is not only easy, it's inexpensive. Several sites offer this service, but the cheapest I've found is *GoDaddy.com*, which charges a measly $8.95 a year to hold a Web site. The main competition, *Register.com*, used to charge almost $100 a year, but has offered specials as low as $19.99. I like *GoDaddy.com* because they'll host the Web site (in other words, give you space to insert actual Web pages) for only $8.95 a month. That's really cheap compared with some sites. *GoDaddy.com* also walks you through the reservation process in a fairly painless manner. You can charge it on your credit card.

So what are you waiting for? iB



RESERVING A WEB SITE NAME IS NOT ONLY EASY, IT'S INEXPENSIVE. SEVERAL SITES OFFER THIS SERVICE, BUT THE CHEAPEST I'VE FOUND IS *GODADDY.COM*, WHICH CHARGES A MEASLY $8.95 A YEAR TO HOLD A WEB SITE.

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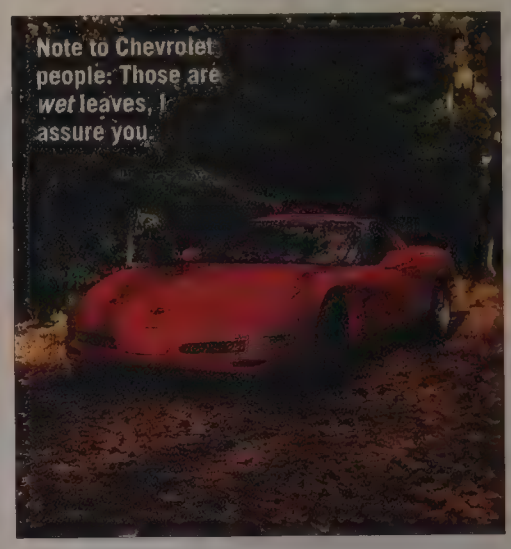
It only seats two, if you don't count Satan standing on your shoulder

After borrowing a 2002 Corvette Z06 from GM for a few days, I have only one conclusion: I want one. For one thing, I'd love to be able to occasionally read the owner's manual to get a respite from *Atlas Shrugged*, which I continue to wrestle with. As sophisticated as this car is, the owner's manual is delightfully simple, and I could probably forget how to read and still enjoy it. I particularly like the section on why you should wear your seat belt, which shows a diagram of a guy in a moving seat hitting a pile of bricks, thus illustrating the idea that the seat will stop but you will keep going. If I'm ever in a speeding seat heading toward a pile of bricks, I certainly hope that I'm wearing a seat belt. As an aside, I guess the page entitled "Don't park over things that burn," didn't really sink in (see picture at right of 'Vette parked over things that burn).

On to the car. The Z06 has 405 horsepower. To put that in perspective, 405 horsepower is five Honda Insights' worth of juice. Since the Insight only gets three times better gas mileage, I figure the 'Vette makes a lot of sense. But if you want to drive an Insight, I fully encourage you. Somebody should be saving gas, what with me driving everywhere at 6000rpm in my Z06.

It's hard to behave yourself in this car. Considering that I once managed to get a speeding ticket in my father's 1987 Dodge Ram, which could barely outdrag a 6-year-old girl on a Razor scooter, it is something of a miracle that my license survived the weekend in a car that goes 50mph in first gear (out of six). Sixty miles per hour arrives in around four seconds. Calling the Z06 "peppy" is like calling Bill Gates "upper middle class." This thing takes off so hard that I was considering getting laser eye surgery to flatten my corneas, but instead I just merged onto the Mass. Pike at full throttle. Now I have 20-15 vision.

The Z06 gets a lot of attention, particularly if you're driving in rural areas, where the populace is not as inured to supercars as the crowd on Newbury Street. A gas station attendant in Lee, Mass., had many Z06 questions: "How much does it cost?" $50,000. "How fast does it go?" 170, so I'm told. And finally, "Light 'em up on your way out of here for me, willya?" I pondered this question for about three seconds. I came to this conclusion: If you are driving a car capable of spinning its tires on the 2-3 shift at 70mph, and you are challenged to do a burnout, and you decline, then you may as well buy a pink



bathrobe and some fuzzy slippers and spend the remainder of your life watching QVC and looking expectantly in the mail for your copy of *Crochet Quarterly*. That said, immediately around the corner from the gas station was a cop with someone pulled over, and thus I had an excuse to avoid fishtailing back to Route 90 while still preserving my sizable machismo with a loud exit.

Speaking of cops, that's another kind of attention you'll draw. Over the course of three days, I got clocked more often than Randy Johnson's fastball. If I owned one of these, I might consider investing in one of those lead blankets you wear at the dentist, lest the constant radar blasts microwave my nether regions. I might also get a black one, so that every time I looked at it I wouldn't get Prince's "Little Red Corvette" stuck in my head. Which, trust me, becomes annoying fast.

Besides that foible, I was also really disappointed with the Z06's lack of interior storage spa—ow! Sorry, I just had to punch myself in the face for missing the point. Yes, the Z06 has a center console that can barely hold a wallet, along with a small, oddly shaped trunk. Depending on what they are, it might not have room for your priorities. You know what else? It only has one cup holder, and it's so shallow it makes Mariah Carey look deep (sorry, you'll need to pull over if you want to safely sip your Metamucil shake). What it does have is one other seat, which, to maximize the full capabilities of the vehicle, should be occupied at all times by a hottie.

The final downside to the Corvette Z06 is that I have to give it back. Oh, well. Maybe I can just keep the owner's manual. **iB**

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Soroff/On

Jean Kelly

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Jean Louisa Kelly co-stars in the hit CBS sit-com *Yes, Dear*, opposite an almost entirely New England-bred cast that includes Anthony Clark, Mike O'Malley and Liza Snyder. Born and raised in Worcester, Kelly made her acting debut at age 11 when she played the lead role in *Annie* by Rhode Island's Theater by the Sea. By age 15, she was appearing on Broadway, in the original cast of *Into the Woods*. Two years later, she had starred in her first feature film, *Uncle Buck*, opposite John Candy. A graduate of Columbia with a degree in English, she is perhaps best remembered for her role in *Mr. Holland's Opus*, in which her performance as Rowena Morgan (and her rendition of "Someone to Watch Over Me") garnered critical raves. On stage, she starred opposite Joey McIntyre in *The Fantasticks* and most recently drew enthusiastic praise for her work in *It Girl*. Her other film credits include *Landfall*, *Origin of the Species* and *Stranger in the Kingdom*, while her TV credits include *Mad About You*, *Law & Order*, *Cold Feet* and *Cyber Stalking*. She lives in Los Angeles with her husband.

Jonathan Soroff: *OK, let's start with an easy one: Greatest song-and-dance man in Hollywood history?*

Jean Kelly: Uh, Gene Kelly.

JS: *Very good. So can you sing and dance?*

JK: Sure. I studied tap and jazz and ballet. I can dance en point.

JS: *Last time you actually went singin' in the rain?*

JK: Probably the last time it rained in Los Angeles, like last February or March.

JS: *Practically your entire cast is from the Boston area or lived here. Do you sit around watching Red Sox games or anything?*

JK: I know, it's odd. We'll all break into a Boston accent sometimes and crack each other up. I think Mike hasn't given up on the Red Sox yet, poor guy.

JS: *Ouch! Makin' friends...*

JK: I lived in New York for nine years...

JS: *So you're a Yankees fan?! Don't bother coming home!*

JK: I know.

JS: *How many times has Anthony Clark made you wet your pants from laughing?*

JK: He's very funny. Everybody on the show is funny, and we get pretty gross. We all try to shock each other.

JS: *So how much did you pay for those Botticelli curls?*

JK: Nothing. I was cursed with them. They appeared when I hit puberty.

JS: *Cursed?! You know what trouble some women go through to get hair like that?*

JK: Well, y'know, everybody wants what they don't have. When it's a really bad-hair day, I'd rather it was straight.

JS: *Tell me a funny story about John Candy.*

JK: Gosh, he was such a nice guy. Actually, on my 17th birthday, he got me a cake that said, "She was just 17; You know what I mean."

JS: *What's more important in Hollywood, looks or talent?*

JK: Let's see. In certain areas, looks, for sure, but then you kinda have to have some talent to back it up. Maybe it's naïve, but I think you might get a start with looks, but you can't sustain a career on them.

JS: *Joey McIntyre from New Kids on the Block is a wiseass punk, isn't he? (By the way, I love the guy.)*

JK: Oh, yeah. You can't keep up with him. Totally hysterical. Whenever I had to do interviews with him, I was the serious one, which was scary.

JS: *So you did Broadway at 15. Isn't everything after that a big letdown?*

JK: [Laughs.] It's funny. You get kind of a skewed sense of the reality of the business. I did Broadway at 15, starred in a big movie at 16, and from then on, you think, "Oh, you audition for stuff and you get it." Then you grow up and realize that's not the way it works.

JS: *Finish this lyric: Tomorrow, tomorrow, you're always* _____

JK: ...a day away [Laughs.]

JS: *Isn't that the most annoying song ever? I think there should be a worldwide ban on it.*

JK: Oh, my God, it's one of the best songs ever! I never got sick of it. Such a great melody. Such a feel-good song.

JS: *It's like a dentist's drill to me.*

JK: Then you have psychological problems and need help.

JS: *Probably. So if you had a daughter, would you encourage show-biz ambitions?*

JK: No. I'd give her lessons in something, but I wouldn't try to put her in films or TV. Childhood is so short, anyway. Why rush it?

JS: *So was your childhood cut short by your career?*

JK: Not really, because my family is very grounded. I also think doing theater is different from Hollywood stuff. Doing television at a young age is tough because nothing in movies or television has any basis in reality.



Jean Kelly (second from right) co-stars in *Yes, Dear.*

"DOING TELEVISION AT A YOUNG AGE IS TOUGH BECAUSE NOTHING IN MOVIES OR TELEVISION HAS ANY BASIS IN REALITY."

JS: *{Laughs.} This, coming from a woman whose livelihood depends on TV and movies?*

JK: It's just my measly opinion, but what I mean is that you can't grow up with the values of working in television, like thinking you're a success only if you get that part, or having people do your hair and your makeup and getting your food. That's not life. That's not the real world.

JS: *So Worcester: armpit of the East Coast, or underrated bustling metropolis?*

JK: [Chuckling.] That depends on where you live. I love Worcester!

JS: *Then finish this sentence: L.A. is to Worcester as* _____ *is to* _____.

JK: As bleach blonde hair is to natural highlights.

JS: *Do you do TV and movies only to support your theater habit?*

JK: I'm doing this now because it's what's available. The money's good in movies and television, and if you can make a living that way, the goal is to be able to pick and choose your projects.

JS: *About your performance in* It Girl, *the* New York Times *said you performed "with fetching pizzazz." Do you think that was meant in a demeaning way?*

JK: I certainly didn't take it that way!

JS: *Well, when was the last time you actually used the word "pizzazz?"*

JK: I like that word. It's snappy! You're kind of a jaded, cynical fellow, aren't you?

JS: *Nah, it's just an act. So* Mr. Holland's Opus *is pretty far up on the schmaltz scale...*

JK: Yeah. I'm sure you really loved it.

JS: *No comment. But how many boxes of Kleenex would you rate it?*

JK: Oh, three, definitely.

JS: *Didn't you like Richard Dreyfus better in* Jaws*?*

JK: Ummm, no. Actually, he's a cool guy. He's on CBS now, so I'm hoping for a little crossover action.

JS: *If you weren't married, would you go out with somebody in the entertainment business?*

JK: I don't think I'd want to date an actor. I think I'm difficult enough to deal with.

JS: *How useful is your Ivy League English degree?*

JK: It's actually been useful, with auditions and reading—being able to analyze scripts. But I always think, "If only I could go back to college and do it over again, I'd absorb and retain it so much better." You're so young in college. You just want to go party.

JS: *Flats or heels?*

JK: Heels.

JS: *Underwire or push-up?*

JK: Underwire.

JS: *You walk into a bar. What do you order?*

JK: Red wine.

JS: *Favorite leading man?*

JK: Russell Crowe.

JS: *Person you most often get compared to?*

JK: Andie MacDowell, but that's just the hair.

JS: *Last question: Exactly how important is your hair?*

JK: Oh my God, it's all-encompassing. iB

CLIFF LIPSON/CBS

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Blake Melville, Brian Bezanson and Jen Bousquet are three of the core team members of South Shore Paranormal Investigations.

ghost hunters

PARANORMAL INVESTIGATOR

Meet your local authorities on spirits, specters, poltergeists, demons and creatures of the night

PLUS: Boston's legendary fright sites

by erin hagedorn

INVESTIGATORS: TRACY POWELL; GHOSTS: MIKE MERGEN (3

Smoke billowing from gravestones. Great-grampa floating over an old armchair in the form of a glowing, blue orb. Horned, drooling creatures shooting out of Ouija boards, poised to possess teenagers. Who really believes in this stuff? Apparently, lots of us do. According to *Harper's* Index, a third of Americans admit to believing in ghosts. Not surprisingly, there are hard-core enthusiasts who dedicate themselves to investigating the paranormal (that is, all occurrences that can't be scientifically explained). Such a hobby (and, in some cases, a livelihood) typically involves documenting ghost activity, disposing of unwanted spirits and making house calls—sometimes even the occasional freelance exorcism job.

That's not to say that you can call up your local chapter of ghostbusters and they'll come screeching up in a ghostmobile and carrying ghost-sucking vacuum packs. That only happens in Hollywood. You'd actually be hard-pressed to find a ghostbuster, per se. That is because, as those in the know explain, ghosts can't be "busted." Nobody has ever captured a ghost—though some claim they have done so on film. Instead, most hunters focus on the much more gratifying task of ghost removal. These serious investigators have spent years in the paranormal trenches and have come across every variety of haunting imaginable. In so doing, they have unearthed some startling findings, which they are eager to share. So, for Halloween's sake, curb your inclination to be skeptical, give in to the power of suggestion (ours) and lend an ear to what the experts have to say.

Castle Island

The oldest continuously used military fortification base in the U.S. has a spooky history. It is said that Edgar Allen Poe, who served on the island in 1827, based his famous horror story "Cask of Amontillado" on a gruesome act of revenge that took place there. As a young private, Poe took part in a renovation project there and found a wall that didn't fit with the rest—with a skeleton still chained to it, a tattered a rag in its mouth.

The Others

First, the basics. Ghost hunters are not in total agreement when it comes to categorizing the various types of spirits. There is, however, a general consensus about most of the ghost basics: Ghosts are formerly human, energy-based entities that somehow remain earth-bound. These ghosts tend to retain the same personality that they had while alive. And so, a spirit who was a prankster in life may well play practical jokes when dead, and likewise, an irritable person tends to make for a cranky ghost.

Most hunters come across only the garden variety of ghosts. The most common haunters are residuals. These come in the form of a recurring sound, smell or image. They're basically energy impressions that have been imprinted in time. Because these aren't human hauntings (and unable to communicate with a ghost hunter), they're really difficult to get rid of. There are also intelligent hauntings, entities that, depending on their level of clearheadedness, can communicate with the living. By far the most amusing kind of ghost is the poltergeist. They are the mischievous ones that play tricks on humans like moving things about and knocking on walls. Poltergeists are quite rare and tend to be particular—they are believed to only haunt emotional young girls and perturbed little boys.

The biggest controversy centers on demons. Some believe in—and have even battled with—these sinister nonhuman creatures. Others consider demons to be in the same category as vampires and ghouls: strictly the stuff of legends. Just why these entities are stuck here instead of floating up into the netherworld remains a mystery. Some researchers are convinced that spirits hang around because either they are not ready to deal with moving on, have unfinished business or just really like their habitat and want to stay put. Other investigators believe that ghosts don't really understand that they're dead and amble about in a state of confusion.



Emerson Majestic Theatre

Ghosts certainly seem to be dramatic creatures—what with all of that wailing and slamming of doors. It's quite fitting that they tend to hang around theaters. Locally, the Emerson Majestic Theatre has always been cited as one of the most haunted theaters in the district. Since it was built in 1903, workers and theater-goers frequently sat next to ghostly visions of a black man in a tuxedo in the upper balcony near the lighting system.

Who Ya Gonna Call?

Say you find yourself in a situation where you're being harassed by a ghost, or specter. Doors are opening by themselves, you're hearing phantom footsteps and your cat seems like it has gone schizophrenic—staring off into space and pouncing on invisible objects. You've tried everything. You've pranced about with sage and holy water (one recommended solution). You've asked the ghost to kindly find another house to haunt. Nothing's working and it's really rattling your nerves. It's time to call in the professionals. There's a good chance that you'll find a local number online and call up a very composed, articulate man. He will probably be a bit skeptical at first—these ghost pros are wary of fraudulent calls. You'll also probably only be able to reach him after 5pm. (Ghost hunters usually hold full-time jobs and hunt on the side.) After ascertaining your sincerity, he will tell you that help is on its way—and most of the time the only fee will be reimbursement for travel expenses.

Parapsychologist Larry Montz has been working full time in the ghost hunting business for 30 years. As director

Ashmont/Mattapan Haunted Trolley Line

If you're riding the T through the Cedar Grove Cemetery and the driver starts madly ringing the trolley bell for no apparent reason, it could be that he is trying to scare away a certain angry ghost. The story goes like this: The cemetery's caretaker was devastated when the train tracks were put through it and died a broken man. Trolley drivers are said to see his spooky face on nights when the fog rolls in.

PHOTO BY MIKE MERGEN, MODEL: KEITH DANIELS/DYNASTY, COSTUME PROVIDED BY THE COSTUME COMPANY

of the California-based International Society for Paranormal Research (ISPR), he is one of the most publicly visible ghost-hunting figures—splitting his time between research and making cameo appearances on shows like *Hollywood Squares* and *National Geographic Explorer*. The ISPR team comprises six members (including a clairvoyant, a technical operator, a former small-arms weapons instructor for the Air Force and a psychic healer). They travel around the world, working on private investigations and running public ghost-hunting expeditions. A straightforward kind of guy, Montz likes to clear up public misconceptions right away. "We don't run around naked in moonlight. We don't wear turbans or tie-dye. We work in a serious environment where a family and kids are scared to death." There is a standard process. Montz does the background research and finds out why the ghost is there. "We just explain to the ghost that it's unwanted, and it usually leaves. But that's usually between our clairvoyant and the entity."

The ISPR team makes frequent trips out to the Boston area, but clients should be prepared to pay. "We get more than 1,000 emails a day and have to decline most offers. Our service costs are quite high [a full-team investigation is $7,500, plus travel expenses] because you're dealing with the most prominent professional group today. We have clients like author Anne Rice and the British government." But, he adds, "If it's a family in dire straits, we won't charge." He's had his share of spooky experiences. "We have worked with very nasty ones over the years. I've been pushed down stairs, thrown into doors. Our investigators get attacked. Even our medium once took a swing at me."

Dealing with demons is out of the question for some of the more junior ghost hunters. "We stress right away that we don't do that. We'll do our best to get the ghost removed, and we refer the client to a local deacon," says Brian Bezanson, founder of South Shore Paranormal Investigations (SSPI). Bezanson recently put the Abington-based ghost-hunting group together after years of research. He investigates and makes house calls when he's not busy with his other full-time interests. "I started SSPI because I love all things paranormal and thought it would be a good way to get involved in the field," Bezanson says. "We are eager to learn and are available to anyone in New England for no cost." In addition to making house calls, he and his collegiate cohorts go on regular hunting expeditions. "We go to cemeteries once or twice a month to research. During the day we set up infrared video cameras and a electromagnetic-field recorder. When a ghost appears, the detector goes off because an energy field is created. The digital thermometer gives a good indication a ghost's there, too—there's usually a 5 to 10 degree decrease. The theory here is that when a spirit shows up, it sucks in energy and heat from what's around it. When it gets darker outside we start recording." Bezanson has a tip for those looking to do a bit of ghost hunting on their own: Bring lots of batteries. "A ghost draws energy from any source," he explains. "It's not unusual for three of our flashlights and our cameras to go out at once."

Bezanson and his crew hunt for the fun of it, and sometimes return home with fantastic stories. "Orbs are the most common thing we see while researching or on a call. We get lots of orbs. They're little balls of light. It seems it's the easiest thing for spirits to manifest, sort of a playful thing. When they land on you, you get goosebumps." The team finds that another common paranormal manifestation is psychic mist. "It looks like fog, but it comes out of specific places. We were at a gravestone once when the mist started pouring right out of the grave." Every once in a while, he'll see a partial or full apparition.

Like the ISPR team, the SSPI group only does the basics as far as ghost disposal goes. They'll research the spirit's history and explain its presence to the haunted. "Hopefully, the two can learn to coexist. It's actually comforting to some people," he says. "They can see that heaven may be right here with us."

The Atlantic Paranormal Society, another free ghost research/disposal service, has been in the area for six years, and the 12 members have gone on a few thousand house calls. Founder Jason Hawes says, "We deal in all phases of the para-

Omni Parker House

For many decades, Charles Dickens was a regular guest at the Parker House and considered this to be his home away from home. Guests can still see the fireplace mantel from Dickens' old room, along with the mirror he used for practicing his performance gestures. Visitors say Dickens' ghost can be seen as a reflection in a mirror in the hotel's mezzanine level.

4 Charlesgate East

Formerly the Charlesgate Hotel and then an Emerson College dorm, this place is home to some of the wackiest ghost stories in town. Emerson students swore that they saw all kinds of oddities: a flapper girl from the 1920s, a glowing blue human form, a pig-like goblin and even phantom horses. The horses could be connected to a fire at the hotel in the 1920s, when the stables below burned down. Ghost-phobic new homeowners should do their homework: The space is now being converted into private condos.

515 Park Drive

The four-story brick building at 515 Park Drive is now a women's dorm. However, it once was the apartment building where a young woman, Patricia Bissette, was murdered on New Year's Eve, 1962, by the Boston Strangler. Women who have since lived there have heard what sounded like a man pounding on the windows from the fire escape and heard the sounds of a woman struggling.

Good Riddance

Do-it-yourself home remedies • by Leah Gourley

You are convinced some supernatural being has become your houseguest, and your hospitality reservoir is running low. Banishing these unwanted spooks can be as easy as applying some tried-and-true nonscientific home remedies.

The first technique you should attempt is confrontation. Even if you don't see the apparition, you can still explain to the spirit that its actions are bothersome. Ghosts respond best to friendly conversation and can usually be convinced to vacate their current stomping ground.

If your ghost is not much of a conversationalist, "smudging" may be your solution. This traditional Native American cleansing ritual involves lighting a bundle of herbs, also known as smudge sticks (usually sage and sweet grass), known for their cleansing and purifying abilities. Carry the lighted bundle around your home, waving it up and down all of the walls—don't forget the inside of closets. Smoke gets air moving in stale corners, stirring up places where ghosts may be hiding and scaring them away.

A horror movie standby is garlic. It is universally recognized for its ability to repel unsavory spirits and specters alike. If you're willing to sacrifice your home décor, hang one clove (not an entire bulb) in each doorway and window, gateways of entry where you need protection. Carrying a garlic clove in your pocket can protect you from ghosts but might end up repelling not only the paranormal. Instead, try hematite (a shiny black stone), a less potent and odorless alternative that won't get rid of ghosts, just project negative energy upon them, grounding you with positive energy in the process.

Another tactic is to try confusing your ghost, who according to variations of both Native American and Irish tradition, are thought to not be able to resist the thrill of counting. Ghosts are also rumored to be bad at it. Hanging a vial of anything minuscule (try sand, rice or beads) by a string in a window will grab the ghost's attention. It will pause to count the contents of the vial, become frustrated at its inability to keep the numbers straight, and after a few nights, abandon your home for one without a bothersome vial. Another legend on the Emerald Isle is that ghosts won't enter a home whose door is painted red.

Another ritual, thought to be a throwback to voodoo, involves taking a handful of dirt from the path that visitors take to enter your home, usually by your front door. Scattering that dirt in a cemetery confuses the ghost, who will haunt the cemetery instead of your home. At all costs, avoid mixing things up and doing the opposite.

If all of the above fail and your phantom refuses to find new digs, drastic measures may be in order. Or, as we would suggest, throw one spooky ghost-confusing, apparition-abandoning, spirit-startling, goblin-goading Halloween party.

PHOTO BY MIKE MERGEN. MODEL: HANNAH HAKALA/DYNASTY. COSTUME PROVIDED

Boston University's Shelton Hall

On Nov. 26, 1953, playwright Eugene O'Neill died in room 401 of what used to be the Sheraton hotel. Rumor has it that he died yelling, "I knew it! I knew it! Born in a goddamn hotel room and dying in a hotel room!" He now is believed to haunt the fourth floor, playfully flicking the lights off and on, and making muffled banging noises.

normal—human and inhuman spirits including the demonic, sexual predators, elementals and creatures of the forest. We get about 200 hits a day online."

Hawes has dealt with many a hellion in his time. "Demonic creatures are a different story altogether," he says. "When a demon comes, it's easy to tell. You get the worst smell, rotted flesh, garbage, feces. But if you think you're going to destroy a demon, you're an idiot. There's no way. By blessing a home, you're pushing it out of the house. But it can go down the street. Distance is no matter. It will try to break down your will. It wants to possess you to gain strength—and they're already strong. They can throw people across the room. We usually have to resort to religious provocation—even exorcism—to subdue them." Demons are apparently tricky little buggers. "They'll hide. You have to bless every single room." Hawes can't reveal the exact method of expulsion, however. "You have to chant a prayer—but that's private. If people get a hold of it, they could use it backwards. And that's very dangerous."

Boston's Pilot House

This building once served as a dormitory for pilots and captains who stayed here overnight during the 1840s. Some can still hear the sounds of several men laughing, talking and clinking glasses, as if they were playing cards and drinking late into the night. A mysterious woman in white also haunts the kitchen on the first floor.

Giving Up the Ghost

Getting a stubborn ghost out of your home can be a very trying process. Luckily, bullheaded ghosts are rare (about one out of 100). What most ghost hunters will do in such a situation is call in for back up—most of the time a medium, who can communicate directly with it. Brian Bezanson explains, "Mediums have a spirit guide who acts as a link to the ghost. Lots of mediums here belong to the First Spiritualist Temple in Brookline—the reverend there has a spirit guide. Every third Sunday, the reverend goes into a trance, and his spirit guide does his sermon for him."

Raffaele J. Ribbo, the 70-year-old founder of Waltham's Education Concerning a Higher Order (ECHO), has been a medium and a "spiritual investigator" for the past 40 years. He receives about a dozen calls a week and then he goes to the people's houses to get the vibe. "A feeling goes through me, an abnormal presence, and I let the ghost enter me as I call for an invocation of the spiritual powers of the higher deities. We form some kind of a hypnotic union where you might experience a double heartbeat, erratic breathing. It's like you're in the passenger seat of your body and the spirit is driving. You're sitting next to yourself. You share spiritual territory. Then I can ask it to leave."

If Buffy Is Busy

If mediums don't do the trick, the unhappily haunted may have to resort to exorcism. This is of paramount importance when it comes to the creepiest of all paranormal possibilities: possession. In order to get a bona fide Catholic exorcism, you will need to go through a lot of red tape. As Father Robert O'Grady of the Archdiocese of Boston explains, "There is a long process of discernment. You have to talk to the Diocesan Bishop. In Boston, that's Cardinal Bernard Law. He would make the determination if anything would be done. It's a very tightly controlled process."

The church route is the most respected method of obtaining an exorcism, but it can take months to get one scheduled. In a pinch, one can always try a freelancer. The Paranormal and Demonology Research Society of New England's John Zaffis has spent 27 years studying the paranormal, specializing in demonology. He has assisted with more than 60 exorcisms. "Demons are ruthless—pure evil. They are fallen angels. They have the ability to totally manipulate humans." When dealing with possession, there are a few stages. First there is infestation. Then there's oppression of the host body. There are key tip-offs: "A change in personality is one. The oppressed shuns people they were close to. There's weight loss. Luckily, most possessions only reach this stage."

Full possessions—when one is completely taken over—are quite rare. But when it happens, it's ugly. The possessed usually don't pull a Linda Blair and spin their heads around. But other elements of *The Exorcist* are realistic. "Usually there are three priests performing a religious rite called the Ritual Romano. We usually burn high church incense, and have lots of holy water. For one exorcism, a little woman only 5 feet tall and weighing 80 pounds was fully possessed. We had her straitjacket tied down to a pew. She ripped right out of the straitjacket and pulled the pew right out of the floor. She managed to fend off four hefty men. The bishop was able to con-

Marblehead Coastline

One of the most gruesome haunted legends belongs to the Marblehead Coastline. It is said that a group of pirates robbed an older woman of her emerald ring. When they first tried to take it off her finger, it wouldn't budge, so they cut off her finger. Locals say that they can still hear the woman screaming at night.

Get Spooked

Fright nights and demonic days: Halloween happenings

Alarming and Terrifying Poetry

The Blacksmith House, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-3036). Get scared at this reading of Halloween-themed poetry. *Oct. 29, 8:15pm.*

All-Night Horror Movie Marathon

A creepy, freaky and just plain gross celebration of the greatest horror flicks comes to the Coolidge Corner Theatre. There's *Monkey Shines, The Exorcist, The Bad Seed, Scream, Evil Dead 2* and *The Howling*, plus gruesome shorts. *Oct. 27, 12am-12pm, $20.*

Eerie Events

Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (800-745-4054). Celebrating the macabre in art, literature, theater and film, this annual festival makes use of an entire city block where actors present ghost stories throughout the evening. *Oct. 26-27, $10 adults, $5 children.*



The Peabody Essex Museum shows chilling art.

Fish, Fun and Fright

New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). Celebrate Halloween with scary sea tales, stories about creatures from the deep and costume contests. Oct. 26.

Haunted Happenings in Salem

BCAE (617-267-4430). The Boston Center for Adult Education hosts a tour of Salem, a hotbed of supernatural interest since the witch trials of 1692. The guided tour is given by Salem resident and historian Bill Sano. Oct. 27, 9am-12pm, $29.

Halloween Hoopla for Kids

The Jackson Homestead, 527 Washington St., Newton (617-552-7238). Tony Toledo, spectacularly spooky storyteller, amuses children and leads a children's costume parade. Oct. 28, 3pm. Free. Also, The Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855) invited visitors to come in costume, march in a parade and see the haunted house. Oct. 28, 11am-4pm.

Halloween Masquerade

Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston (617-927-1730). The Center celebrates its first anniversary with a masquerade ball. Music by Stymie, The Nebulas and Acrylic, plus intermission performances, carnival games, a costume contest and refreshments. *Oct. 31, 8pm, $5 with costume, $8 without costume, 21+.*

Halloween on the Harbor

Boston Harbor Cruises, 1 Long Wharf, Boston (617-227-4321). Oct. 20 and 21; Oct. 27 and 28, 12-5pm. Cruise to Georges Island while listening to the eerie ghost stories and legends of the area. Once there, experience trick-or-treat village and the haunted fort. *$10 adults, $5 children.*

Halloween Fun Run

Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Oct. 31, 6pm. Meet the Improper Bostonian staff at the west end of the marketplace to walk/run the streets of Boston with other costumed professional Bostonians. It all benefits the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Halloween Parade

Boston Common Playground, Oct. 28, 11am. Join costumed kids and parade around Boston Common.

Halloween Regatta

Community Boating Inc. 21 David Mugar Way, Boston (617-523-1038). Oct. 27. Halloween party with a boat race and costume contest.

Lyricist Lounge-Halloween-Sessions

Hip-Hop 101 and I-Spy Presents a night of scary music, featuring: Ice-T and The Return of Dr. Octagon (Kool Keith), Freight Elevator Quartet, and spoken word by Rhodeye McKiethen. At the Middle East (472-480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-EAST). *Oct. 31, $30, 19+.*

Spooky World

Foxboro Stadium, Route 1, Foxboro (978-838-0200). Oct 4-28, Thu.-Sun., 6-11pm. www.spookyworld.com. *$23.50.* Features six haunted houses, three Halloween museums, the Black Hole Abyss and the New Historical Chamber of Horrors, plus all sorts of celebrities.

WZLX's 6th Annual Halloween Bash

Dick's Last Resort, 55 Huntington Ave, Boston (617-267-8080). Oct. 26, 9pm. People will certainly be hamming it up here—even more than usual. With a performance by Beatlejuice.

Zoo Howl

Franklin Park Zoo, 1 Franklin Park Road, Boston (617-541-5466). Oct. 27, 11am-3pm. Costume and howling contests in addition to crafts, games, haunted house and trick-or-treat trail.

tinue, though. It took about four hours. When it was done, the scent of roses came flooding through the church."

Even though possession is a rare extreme, there are many people who feel a presence from beyond. Whether you consider yourself a devout believer or a doubtful skeptic, everyone has experienced that inexplicable moment when chills raise the hair on the back of your neck. Whether the culprit is a poltergeist or merely a cool breeze, you never know when mystery might turn into a most unwholesome reality. As exorcist extraordinaire Raffaele Ribbo says, "People are naturally skeptical until they have some type of an experience themselves." If you do get a glimpse into this most unusual world, at least you know there are ghost busting gangs you can rely on. **iB**

Problems with the dead? The undead? Call for help:

- International Society for Paranormal Research (323-644-8866). *www.ispr.net*
- South Shore Paranormal Investigations (617-763-4977). *www.ghosthuntersonline.com*
- Atlantic Paranormal Society (401-738-1546). *www.the-atlantic-paranormal-society.com*
- Paranormal and Demonology Research Society of New England (203-375-6083). *www.prsne.com*

Fort Warren on Georges Island

The most popular ghost story of all the Boston Harbor Island haunting tales is the legend of the Lady in Black. She was the wife of the young confederate naval officer Samuel Lanier, who was captured and imprisoned in Fort Warren's "corridor of dungeons." She tried to save her husband by sneaking onto the island but was caught by a commander. She fired a gun at him, but it exploded, killing her husband instead. As punishment, she was sentenced to death. For her execution attire, she chose a robe made from the fort's black mess hall drapes. Ever since, her ghost walks around the fort, scaring soldiers and tourists.



The Boston Common

No doubt about it—Massachusetts in the 1660s wasn't a very pleasant place to live. And it wasn't a very good place to die, either. Quakers were tortured and killed, often seen in stocks and pillories, or being whipped. Mary Dyer was one of those hung on the gallows in the Common. Her last words were supposedly an enigmatic but peaceful sentence: "I have been in paradise several days." Now, people claim to see a woman on the Common who smiles kindly but vanishes when approached.

How to Tell If Your Boss Is a Demon or Just a Temperamental Jackass

Telltale signs that you're dealing with pure evil • by Erin Hagedorn



Ectoplasmic Extrusions: A dead giveaway is when the person in question begins to grow a protoplasmic tentacle and gains the ability to extrude slime. But beware: These physical changes can be easily hidden. Look for profuse sweating and insect-like facial expressions including, but not limited to, excessive squinting.

Claws: The demon form usually possesses claws, so look for elongated, curly fingernails. Also, demons are notorious for their poor hygiene. If said fingernails are excessively dirty, you're probably dealing with a demon.

Demon scream: The demon form can issue forth a horridly piercing screech when angered. This is usually above and beyond the person's regular foul temperament. A clear indication of a Demon Scream is profuse spitting.

Enlarged body part: One of the questionable entity's body parts becomes much larger than normal. In particular, look for bloating in the head area. This sort of swelling usually brings on a dry cough.

Eyes of horror: A demonic creature possesses eyes that display a hint of madness for anyone who gazes within them. Anyone who is certain to have made direct eye contact with the creature will come away from the experience with a feeling of queaziness.

Attitude: It is a bad sign if your boss is given to frequent bouts of anger. Other indications are habitual headaches and an addiction to smut.

Blistering: If your boss complains of canker sores, it could be that, in fact, blisters are forming upon his tongue—a sure sign that he is inhabited by not one but several demons.

Sudden onset of ignoramus: A clear indication is if the person is given to ignorant outbursts, arguing solely to provoke others, and in other respects acts idiotically. While arguing, the demon usually becomes so furious that it cannot be bound or restrained.

TOP: PHOTO BY MIKE MERGEN. MODEL: KAYLA ANDERSON/DYNASTY. COSTUME PROVIDED BY THE COSTUME COMPANY. BOTTOM RIGHT: ILLUSTRATION BY SCOTT OLDHAM

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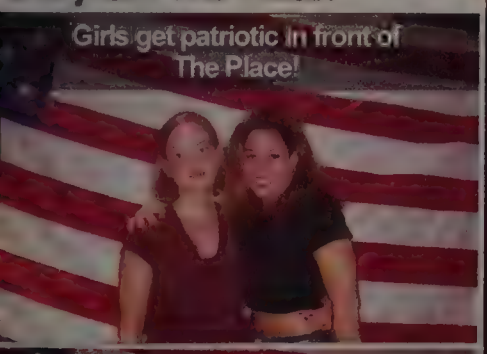
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Greg Lutrell

FRIDAY
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John McLaughlin

EVENTS

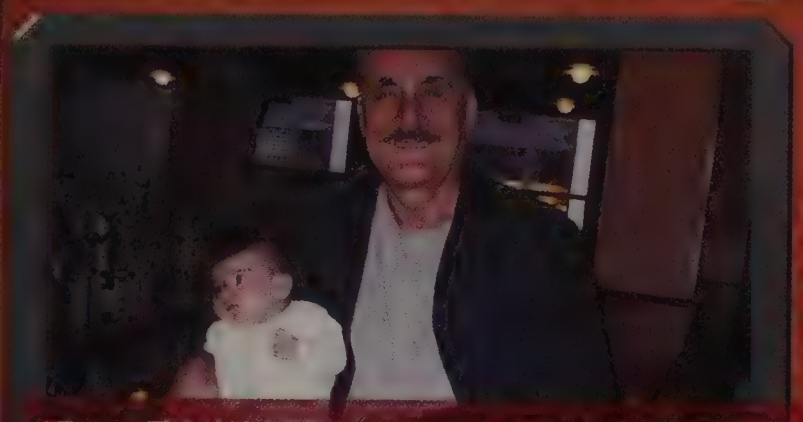
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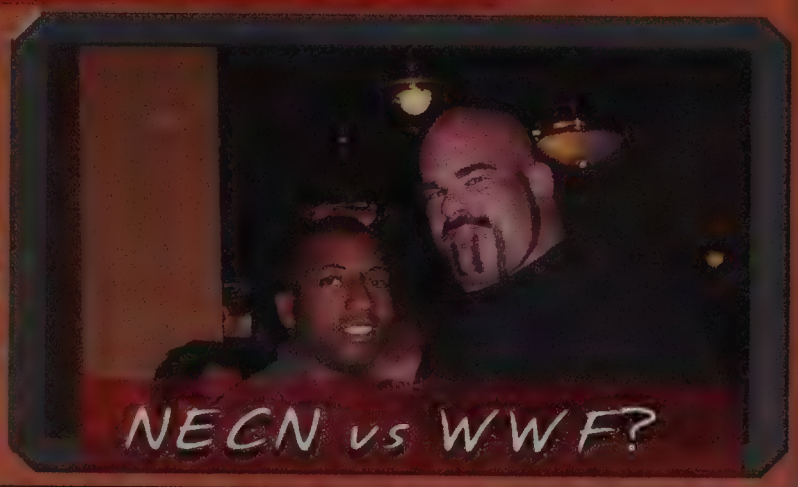

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SATURDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP


The Boston Brawler revs up waitress Caroline!


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The McCullough Juggernaut

The book on John Adams

BY ROBERT BIRNBAUM

ILLUSTRATION BY BILL PHILIPOVICH

It should have come as no surprise that David McCullough, Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *Truman*, would pen yet another best-selling historical biography. After all, this Yale-educated author, among numerous accolades, twice won the National Book Award. His previous books—especially the biography of Harry Truman, for which he won that Pulitzer—have been critically and popularly well-received. What is astounding is that McCullough's *John Adams* biography should have achieved such stupendous sales. Currently there are 1,200,000 copies of *John Adams* in print. And climbing.

Traditionally, fiction reading prevails in the summer. That wasn't the case this year. Aileen Boyle, McCullough's publicist at Simon & Schuster, points out, "This is the first time in as long as anyone can recall where the No.1 nonfiction book outsold the No.1 fiction title in the summer." Boyle adds, "The book is certainly McCullough's most popular to date. While there are over a million copies of *Truman* in print, that's a combined number of paperback and hardcover sales [since 1996]. To have a million copies already in print in less than four months is a remarkable feat for any book."



Could the explanation for the book's mega-sales be attributed to its subject, the previously uncelebrated second president of the United States? John Adams certainly lived a long and accomplished life. Born in 1735, the son of a Braintree farmer was descended from Mayflower voyagers. He studied at Harvard, took up law and was infamous for defending the British soldiers of the Boston Massacre. He is credited with drafting the Massachusetts constitution, served as a delegate to the Continental Congress and was a drafter of the Declaration of Independence. Adams also served as first American ambassador to England (a post subsequently held by both his son, John Quincy, and grandson Charles Francis) and was elected vice president under George Washington, whom he succeeded in 1796. A one-term president and father of a future president, he was followed in office by longstanding political adversary Thomas Jefferson, whose inauguration he refused to attend. And yet they resumed a friendship and correspondence after both men were out of office. In one of the oddest coincidences in American history, both men died within hours of each other on July 4th 1826, the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

What else would explain this unlikely 751-page runaway best seller? Certainly there has been the loud drumbeat of media attention. Boyle acknowledges, "the review clippings are over 12 inches thick." Locally, Mark Feeney of the *Globe* (July 25) resurrected the famous early '80s *Rolling Stone* headline about Jim Morrison: "He's hot, he's sexy, he's dead," substituting "cranky, fat and bald" for "sexy." Current commentary suggests that Adams' impressive resume, his writing talents and the sheer magnitude of his writings—along with his personal qualities, warts and all, have made him more appealing. Factor in his rivalry with Thomas Jefferson (which is what McCullough first intended his book to be about) and his remarkable family, including his admired wife, Abigail, and we have a Founding Father ready for deification.

"If sterling character were the main guide to greatness, all America would commemorate the birthday of Robert E. Lee instead of Martin Luther King."

The book's success is as likely due to the writing. "McCullough is a good researcher and a lively writer," says historian Howard Zinn (whose own *The People's History of The United States* has sold over 800,000 copies)." *Boston Phoenix* columnist Dan Kennedy acknowledges him as a forceful writer, compelling storyteller and gifted stylist, which the opening of *John Adams* attests to: "In the cold, nearly colorless light of a New England winter, two men on horseback traveled the coast road below Boston, heading north....Dressed as they were in heavy cloaks, their hats pulled low against the wind, they were barely distinguishable even from each other. Except that the older, stouter of the two did most of the talking....He was John Adams of Braintree and he loved to talk..."

Brookline Booksmith's Dana Brigham is effusive: "He makes history come alive. His writing is great, and he makes history completely accessible and understandable. There is a keen interest in that period in our history of late. It's almost like a version of the 'cult of celebrity' for the intellectual—early Americans being revealed in more personal detail."

McCullough himself had hoped that his book would strike a chord with people but never imagined response (and sales) of this magnitude. He was drawn to focusing on Adams after reading his voluminous diaries: "I thought, He's human, he's vulnerable. Your heart goes out to him." And that focus made Adams' story one based upon character as the benchmark of historical judgment. Devoting five pages to the Alien and Sedition Acts (under threat of war with France, these laws were an effort to strengthen the federal government and were also intended to quell political opposition from the Republicans led by Jefferson) and 20 pages to a dramatic winter sea voyage does broadcast a commitment to character and fuel critics' complaints that McCullough ignores the power of ideas. Ultimately, that standard simplifies the story and of course makes it more accessible.

This is what critics have zeroed in on. For example, Zinn observes, "[McCullough] is mired in old history, and the deification of the Founding Fathers. He passes lightly over the Alien and Sedition Acts, passed in Adams' administration. He doesn't deal with the essential position of Adams—however smart and charming as he was—as a member of the Continental elite that fashioned a government in their own interest." Will readers notice what Dan Kennedy calls a "staggering reversal"? Adams, who is the conservative, suspicious of democracy and a closet monarchist, is elevated by McCullough over Jefferson, "the deep political thinker, the advocate of democracy and champion of the average man." Making character rather than political philosophy the standard of judgment is at the heart of the critique of *John Adams*. As Professor Sean Wilentz of Princeton opines in a *New Republic* article, "If sterling character were the main guide to greatness, all America would commemorate the birthday of Robert E. Lee instead of Martin Luther King."

Interestingly, being labeled sentimental and elevating personality above politics are the reasons suggested for McCullough's surprising failure to be nominated for the recent National Book Awards. Certainly this book is no glorified cartoon pageant à la *The Patriot*.

David McCullough has crafted a riveting narrative whose phenomenal acceptance resonates with one vision of America's history. These critiques will not diminish the value of this serious book (or slow its sales) that deals with complex issues and personalities. The fact that *John Adams* has moved so many to revisit the critical early years of this republic signals an advance in refining our understanding of our nation as a political work in progress. And that may be the book's greatest accomplishment. **iB**

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THE SUMMER OF OUR DISCONTENT

It's been a helluva season ▮ A meditation by Bill Chuck

ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE, HISTORIAN and astute observer of American culture, once said, "Summer is the time when one sheds one's tensions with one's clothes, and the right kind of day is jeweled balm for the battered spirit. A few of those days and you can become drunk with the belief that all's right with the world." Guess again, Ada.

I don't really care what your calendar says, for me and many other baseball fans summer begins on that cold February day when the pitchers and catchers report to work in Florida and ends when the last out of the World Series is recorded.

Spring is just the first act of summer, literally and figuratively the warm-up. We follow our team, we root for our players and we feel our expectations rise. Then by the time the calendar actually says summer has begun, we are already in full bloom. The heat of the race and the heat of our passion match the heat of the season. But by August we begin to wither in that heat and begin hoping to make it to October, when we are certain to receive what summer has promised.

While the Red Sox fans' season ended on that fateful mid-August day, when the managerially challenged Dan Duquette fired Jimy Williams, for those of us who love baseball, summer continued. We watched Bonds and Ripken and Tony Gwynn. We marveled at Roger, the M's, the A's and great National League races.

And then summer, as we knew it, ceased to exist.

On Sept. 11, terror and tragedy conjoined in New York and Washington. Summer stopped. Baseball stopped. Life seemed to stop. Yet, somehow, the spirit of this country rebounded, for after a week of silent meditation and reflection and a seemingly endless flow of tears, baseball Commissioner Bud Selig heeded the wisdom of FDR, who during WW II stated, "I honestly feel that it would be best for the country to keep baseball going." Hence, on Sept. 17, the game, and the summer, resumed.

Baseballs were pitched, homers were hit, baseballs were caught. Why? Because we needed them. We sought the comfort and the warmth that summer provides. In fact, in an earlier dark time, Herbert Hoover had noted, "Next to religion, baseball has furnished a greater impact on American life than any other institution." We desire to be distracted by America's game. Historian Jacques Barzun, who was born in France but lived in the United States for many years, emphasized this point: "Whoever wants to know the heart and mind of America had better learn baseball, the rules and realities of the game."

Soon after that black Tuesday in September ABC sportscaster Al Michaels said that he becomes upset when people say that tragedy puts sports into perspective. He believes that sports should always be kept in perspective. And so we have needed baseball in this late summer of September and October in the same way we have needed the arts and culture during these times of angst and agony. They all have their place. They all light the way.

Detroit sportswriter Art Hill in his 1980 baseball homage "I Don't Care If I Never Come Back," wrote: "With those who don't give a damn about baseball, I can only sympathize. I do not resent them. I am even willing to concede that many of them are physically clean, good to their mothers and in favor of world peace. But while the game is on, I can't think of anything to say to them."

Does it matter who plays in the World Series this year? Not to me. The esteemed, rotund and loquacious ex-manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers Tommy LaSorda said, "The best possible thing in baseball is winning the World Series. The second best thing is losing the World Series." This year, just having a World Series will be the best possible thing.

So this year we all work a little harder and a little later, as summer is extended a little longer. Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson was known as Mr. October because of his World Series exploits. For the first time, we may have to name someone Mr. November, because this year, due to the delayed ending of the regular season, Game 1 of the Series doesn't begin until Oct. 27, with a possible Game 7 scheduled for Nov. 4.

Will the fans watch the game of summer as trick-or-treaters ring doorbells? As James Earl Jones proclaimed in the film *Field of Dreams*, "The one constant through all the years has been baseball. America has rolled by like an army of steamrollers. It's been erased like a blackboard, rebuilt and erased again. But baseball has marked the time. This field, this game, is a part of our past. It reminds us of all that once was good, and that could be again. Oh people will come. People will most definitely come."

I know and believe that millions will join me, huddled in front of the television watching the glory of the spectacle of that truly great and unique American event so arguably named the World Series (despite a large influx of foreign players, only U.S. teams are involved). And when that last out is recorded, and the last bottle of bubbly uncorked in the victor's locker room and the last bombastic season wrap-up is declaimed, I will turn on my space heater, because then, and only then, will the summer of our discontent officially be over.

Peace. iB



Carlton Fisk waves his homer fair in Game 6 of the 1975 World Series.

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On Tuesday, September 11, many of us came to work as usual preparing for our day ahead. In New York City, so did 78 employees of the Windows of the World Restaurant and countless other workers in the food service industry who are among the missing following the attacks on the World Trade Center.

On October 11, thousands of restaurants worldwide donated all or part of that day's proceeds to inaugurate the *Windows of Hope Family Relief Fund*. This fund will provide immediate aid and continuing assistance for the families of those lost.

On November 13, the Cottonwood will join the continuing effort to support these families by hosting a "Taste of the American Southwest." *Please join us.*



Windows of Hope Family Relief Fund is a 501(c) 3 charitable fund administered by JP Morgan Chase & Co. and David Berdon & Co.

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Produced by Samantha House
Photographed by Jessica Pursley

Previous page: large-brim black hat with netting by Jennifer Circelli, $228. Available at Toppers. Large gold earrings, $58; gold étoile bangle bracelet, $100; gold tone cuff necklace, $130. All available at Erwin Pearl.

This page: large-brim polka-dot hat by Janet Cort, $80. Available at Topppers.

Scarlet hat by Louise Green, $220. Available at Toppers. Dark gray cluster clip earrings, $90; pearl tassel necklace, $120. Both available at Erwin Pearl.



Red hat by Shellie McDowell, $260. Available at Toppers. French enamel hand-painted red flower pin with pearl necklace, $140. All available at Erwin Pearl.



Feather Fantasy hat by Toucan, $84. Available at Toppers. Brown faux pearl necklace, $45; brown rainbow faux pearl necklace, $55. Both available at Erwin Pearl.



Toppers
230 Newbury St.
617-859-1430

Erwin Pearl
4 Newbury St.
617-236-7240

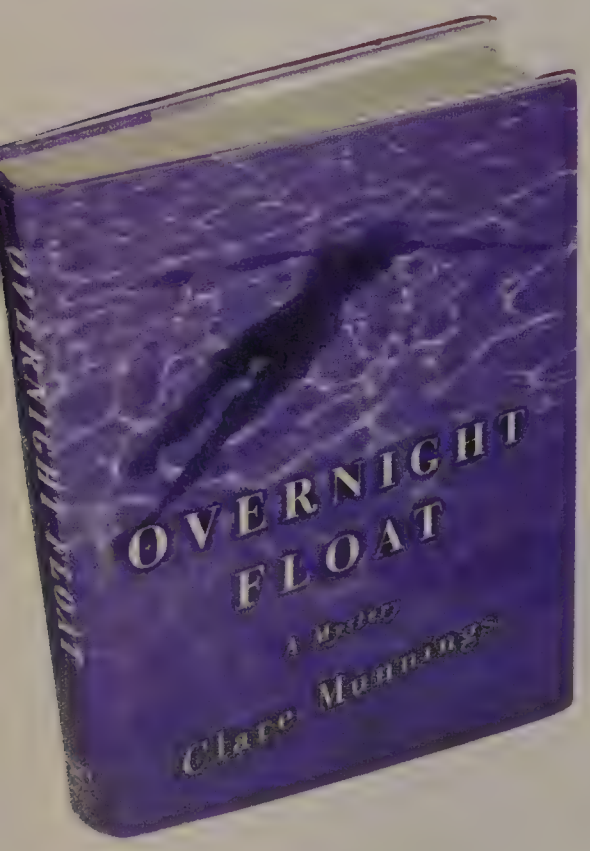
Models:
Margareta for Reinhard, Liv for MMA

Makeup:
Robin Warriner

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



NANCY DREW GOES TO COLLEGE

Overnight Float is the first mystery in a series by heavy-hitter ex-college presidents Jill Ker Conway and Elizabeth T. Kennon,who give themselves the single pseudonym Clare Munnings.

Who knows academia better than these two literary Siamese twins, both former college presidents (at Smith and Mt. Holyoke)? Writing under their melted-together pseudonym, they give us Rosemary Stubbs, a widow who has left the corporate world to enter the gentler and more spiritual (or so she thinks!) world of a college chaplain. Very archly brainy types populate her new world in bucolic Vermont---their talk is very Ph.D., very English mystery. But their bracingly high-toned surface is shattered by multiple murders. The first victim, Blanche (who invited Rosemary to the college), drowns in a swimming pool. But the title of *Overnight Float* has another meaning—it's also a banking term. And indeed, the college is all huffed about budgets and allocations, with some comically idealistic rowing women pulling, on one side, for money. In spite of her chaplain's robes, Rosemary's former career as a money manager comes into play, making her an ideal sleuth of troubled bucks. Courtly learned men, narcissistic puffers of academic power, worthy women academics and a cultivated detective who loves opera make up the cast. Who knew college could be so scary!



If primal scream therapy didn't work for you, maybe vodoo will.

YOUR ENEMY GETS THE (PIN) POINT

Only $12.95, The Little Voodoo Kit can help you deal with—from afar—those who get under your skin. From St. Martin's Press, at bookstores.

Pills don't really address the problem. Medications may relieve stress, but do they also appropriately disquiet the oppressor? No. For that you need "alternative therapy," the kind that uses a little low-tech voodoo doll and some deliciously satisfying sharp needles to make your point—straight into the psyche of the person who did you wrong, riled you or cut you off in traffic. The perhaps apocryphal, though very wise "Dr. J.P. Poupette" offers his "Little Voodoo Kit" subtitled: "Revenge Therapy for the Over-Stressed."Acupressure points, of a sort, are explained: Pinprick the doll's head to relieve tension caused by people who have spoken against you, the stomach if you've been made to look bad in front of others. Part of the magic of voodoo, Poupette claims, is not to actually harm that boss, raging road hound or love rival, but to enlist the doll to symbolically absorb, in some resonant way, the energy, the temper volcano, the sizzling hurt so that you can come away clean and energized. Voodoo must rinse your sense of humor with bracing vinegar , because the accompanying booklet is full of wit, apparently liberated by focusing these strategically stinging needles. Oh, and voodoo can supposedly also bring love and money!

THINKING BIG INSIDE THE BOX

Mensa Mighty Mind Benders Word Puzzles bend the mind around magic squares, anagrams, spatial dilemmas and more. Mercifully, some are easier than others. They're all fun. $12.95 at Discovery Channel Store, 25 Brattle St., Cambridge.

Mensa, the Club of the Officially Smart, is a chummy society of people whose IQs fall in the top 2 percent. Perhaps you're a member. Or maybe not. But here's a little wedge of that world of supercharged neurons, puzzles that are perfect for playing on a plane (should we ever dare to fly again). Each tidy cardboard flashcard involves a word problem, a number quiz or some combination thereof. Being from England, where diabolical anagrams rule, the Mensa organization apparently believes that an ability to coagulate meanings from out-of-sequence shards is an element of being smart. You can feel your brain bulge excitedly as you ache forth toward the necessary secret sequence. Often, interpreting the task is a large part of the thinking work. And sometimes just understanding the correct answer entails added guesswork. But boy, can you feel smartissimo when you succeed in getting one of these brain teasers right!



RITA GREELEY (3)






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in this section:
Review: White Star Tavern
Dish: Parsing and parsley
Wine: Chilean wines
Tasty Tidbit: White truffle dinner

REVIEW

A Star in the Making

White Star Tavern does "pub grub" one better with excellent food and remarkable value

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Almost 20 years ago, I dined at an engaging little French eatery in Copley Square called the Back Bay Bistro. When I moved to Boston 10 years later, the bistro was gone, and I lamented its passing, recalling its decent food, reasonable prices and classy yet unpretentious atmosphere. For some reason, the bistro's successor at the same 565 Boylston Street address, Small Planet, never caught my attention. When Small Planet was replaced over a year ago by White Star Tavern, I was determined not to let this newest Frank Bell restaurant (Bell owned both the Back Bay Bistro and Small Planet) slip by me. After dining there this summer and fall, I was sorry I had stayed away so long. Despite its informality, White Star offers excellent food, a well-chosen and reasonably priced wine list and remarkable value overall.

Although a lively and noisy bar dominates the long, narrow dining room, White Star serves serious food, far from the standard "pub grub" one might expect from its youthful demographics and almost excessively casual ambience. In addition to standard appetizers and main courses, priced in the single digits and high teens, respectively, White Star offers a selection of "smaller plates" and "sandwiches and such" priced from $5 to $13.

White Star Tavern

565 Boyiston St., Boston
(617-536-4477)
HOURS Mon., 5pm-12am;
Tue., 11am-12:45am
RESERVATIONS for parties of six or more
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING on-street
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Among the smaller plates, the Prince Edward Island mussels steamed with chardonnay, tomatoes, garlic and basil ($8) were a winner. Mussels, virtually unknown on American menus 25 years ago, have become a standard offering as cultivated varieties have become readily available. White Star's mussels were sweet and plump, with a hearty broth of white wine enlivened with garlic and minty basil. After dispatching these inviting mollusks, we requested a spoon to finish off the broth.

Another selection from the tavern fare was the two-cheese pizza with tomatoes, basil and roasted portobello mushrooms ($8). Thin-crusted as promised, this cheesy pie would have been more than respectable in an Italian pizzeria, and here it showed the versatility of White Star's kitchen.





A lively bar dominates the long, narrow dining room. Left: Sirloin steak with gorgonzola ravioli is one of White Star Tavern's savory entrées.



Chef Scott Pelletier gives "tossed salad" a new meaning.

Moving to the sandwich selection, we found the hot pressed Cuban sandwich ($8) served on thick slices of grilled toast as delicious as it was different: smoked ham, pickles, Swiss cheese and barbecued pork were the fillers. The grilled White Star burger ($9) was a carnivore's delight. This thick, juicy burger was seared on the outside with good charcoal flavor and served rare as ordered (despite the frightening government-mandated menu warning about undercooked meat). Both the Cuban sandwich and burger were accompanied by a mountain of White Star fries freshly made and provocatively spiced and salted.

White Star's pasta dishes sustained the high standard set by the smaller dishes and sandwiches. The linguini with summer tomatoes, Sicilian olives, scallions, fresh basil and crumbled Feta cheese ($10) was a veritable salad of sprightly seasonal vegetables, with a felicitous lemon-accented, basil-infused sauce that evoked the Mediterranean. The pasta special on another evening—fettuccine tossed with Meadowbrook Farm organic tomatoes, creamy pesto, red bell peppers and baby spinach ($14)—rivaled the linguini, although we thought the peppers overwhelmed the dish.

The versatility of the White Star kitchen was demonstrated by two quite different fish offerings. First, fish and chips ($12), classic bar food, consisted of three generous hunks of firm, white-fleshed fish, flash-fried with a crunchy crust and served with spiced french fries, chopped cole slaw and a toothsome house-made artichoke tartar sauce. More ambitious, and far removed from bar food, was the pan-seared red snapper with artichoke and vegetable hash, served with a delectable corn chowder studded with nuggets of smoky bacon and firm chunks of potatoes ($16). The crispy-skinned fish was firm yet moist. The relatively complex ensemble of accompaniments was put together with such finesse and good taste that it actually complemented rather than eclipsed the main attraction.

Of the two desserts we tried at White Star, one was excellent: a bowl of dark chocolate fondue with strawberries, pineapple and pound cake chunks for dipping ($9). In contrast, the strawberry shortcake ($6) was disappointing, with a flavorless biscuit, less than luscious berries and dense, undistinguished whipped cream.

White Star's wine list is first rate. Not only does it include bottles priced in the low $20s, but the list also has a good selection of half bottles, rare in Boston restaurants. Of the latter, we enjoyed a 1997 Il Grigio Chianti Classico Reserva Da San Filipe ($15), with a fine bouquet and good Sangiovese character.

Service at White Star was variable. The long walk from the kitchen to tables keeps the young waitstaff hopping. Unfortunately, their efforts do not seem well-coordinated, and the services of a captain or maitre'd with an overview of the entire operation would be helpful. On one evening, when we dined early, members of the staff were comporting themselves in a loud and obtrusive fashion. Still, even the staff's occasional disorganization and nonchalance could not dim the luster of White Star's food. Even if this restaurant were tucked away in an inaccessible corner of Somerville, its first-rate food and reasonable prices would attract a strong following. Right smack in Copley Square, it is a sure winner. iB



DISH

(Book) Jackets Required

Jacky Robert moves "Ober"; Lumiere adds two bright lights ... BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

As the traditionally festive fall schedule rolls through town, picking up an event here, a party there, Bostonians are putting more thought into how they want to spend their evenings. Less drawn to frivolity and random self-indulgence, many of us are opting to gather with friends at our favorite restaurants, in settings conducive to conversation rather than celebration.

Which makes this an ideal time, according to Fiona Hamersley, for the return of the Hamersley's Bistro Dinner and Book Club. "It's a tough time for people to decide where they want to be and what they want to do," says Hamersley. "I think people are coming to our restaurant, particularly regular customers, because it's a comfortable place for them. It's a question of community. That's what we have to offer: a place to go where you can be looked after."

It's also a place, on specially planned evenings, to dine and discuss notable books with fellow diners and the book's author. Participants are expected to read the featured book and hold up their end of the conversation.

"You have to be very thoughtful and provoke discussion, but also remember the author is sitting there, so you have to be diplomatic," says Hamersley. You also have to sign up quickly. These dinners often sell out. Seating is strictly limited to "keep everything cozy," says Hamersley, and the "core group" of regulars "are so damn smart and interesting."

If you're so damn smart and interesting, you'll want to know that the next book dinner is in early December and will feature Marcia Folsom, a Wheelock College professor who specializes in works by Jane Austen. Call 617-423-2700 for information or visit *www.hamersleysbistro.com*.



The next meeting of Hamersley's Bistro Dinner and Book Club will focus on works by 19th-century author, Jane Eyre.

SECOND COURSE

Strange breadfellows: *She*'s one of our local legendary chefs, the visionary behind a Boston restaurant whose extravagant design blazed a trail for dozens of high-end eateries and whose outrageously inventive menu made "offal" (trimmings of a butchered animals) a household word...in all the right households. *He*'s reserved and soft-spoken, a member of one of the city's best-known restaurant families, one of only two chefs in town to bear the esteemed title of Maitre Cuisiner de France. In short, if you were playing a chef's version of *The Match Game*, you might not pair these two on the same game board.

But Lydia Shire has indeed lured Jacky Robert away from Maison Robert to help her open the reincarnated Locke-Ober Café in November. And the pair-up actually makes sense once you remember that Robert gave Shire her first restaurant job—as salad chef at Maison Robert—back in the early 1970s—and realize that Robert has long felt frustrated by his uncle Lucien Robert's less-than-receptive attitude toward Jacky's more innovative ideas.

So you can expect to see fewer Asian influences on the menu at at Maison Robert, and probably forget about ordering ostrich as well. Meanwhile, though, new chef Kenneth Bryan Duckworth is more than likely to meet the exacting standards of the Robert family; after all, he's simply walking upstairs from his former position as chef of the excellent Café at Maison Robert.

Meanwhile, Lumiere is adding still more luster to its roster. Pastry chef Rick Katz will take on the sweet side of things at chef/owner Michael Leviton's Newton bistro, and George Leu will serve as sous chef. Katz, formerly pastry chef at Legal Sea Foods back in the Jasper White era, also worked at Biba, Harvest and Spago. Leu's background includes stints at Providence, Salamander and Fava.

Wait, you say—didn't you recently read in this column that Rick Katz was the designated pastry chef for soon-to-open Metro? Yes, you did, but when it comes to turnovers, Pepperidge Farm's got nothing on the local kitchen scene. Metro, which just opened at the site of the former Cottonwood Café in Cambridge's Porter Square, now boasts Lee Napoli, formerly of Grill 23 and Harvest, as its pastry chef. iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

Chile: A Vintner's Paradise BY SANDY BLOCK, MW



Sometimes you just have to get back to basics. After years of fooling around with tempeh, tilapia and kohlrabi, my comfort meal lately has been a simple baked potato, a guilt-free steak and a couple of glasses of cabernet sauvignon. And with the direction that the economy has taken, I've definitely been leaning toward no-frills dining thrills, which has put me on the hunt for wines under $10 again. If we're talking cabernet for every day, this often spells "Chile."

Why Chile? It's a cinch to grow grapes there. The Andes slopes, which back up most of the prime vineyards, provide ideal terrain. The sun almost always shines, and rain is virtually nonexistent during the growing season. How do the grapes ripen without water? From the melted snow that runs off the mountainsides to irrigate the fertile vineyard soils below. It seems like such a paradise to vintners based in more challenging regions to make wine that companies as prestigious as Chateau Lafite-Rothschild, Robert Mondavi and Miguel Torres, to name a few, have invested millions to develop Chilean brands over the past few decades. Compared with more established regions, labor is inexpensive, harvests are easily mechanized and no restrictions exist on tonnage yields, all of which add up to comparatively modest production costs.

When they started reaching the United States in large numbers, about 15 years ago, Chile's premium wines did not immediately establish credibility with consumers, but eventually they made an impact based on the familiarity of the grape varieties (primarily chardonnay, cabernet sauvignon, merlot and sauvignon blanc) and the bargain prices. The Bordeaux connection, responsible for the preponderance of cabernet sauvignon and merlot, stretches back to the mid 19th century, when a vogue for all things French swept Santiago. Most of the industry was focused on producing for the local market, however, until the 1980s, when the aforementioned wave of foreign investment helped increase quality standards to the point that it became feasible to begin exporting. Today Chile ranks No. 4 (behind Italy, France and Australia) among countries whose wines the United States imports.

So why cabernet from Chile, other than the fact that it's easy on the wallet? It's also easy on the palate. In general you don't get fireworks from a Chilean cabernet sauvignon, you get soft, round, ripe berry flavors and moderate amounts of tannin. It's the quintessential red wine to enjoy tonight, although it does tend to have more structure and more of a bite than the merlots Chile produces.

Despite the overall stylistic profile, there are several distinct subthemes. Some of the cabernets taste of red berry fruit but are slightly herbal and minty, perhaps in the same mode as some of the cabernets from Washington. Then there's a type that is so juicy, supple and fresh, that it's indistinguishable from your Platonic ideal of a good, plummy merlot. Finally, some of the cabernets are denser and more blackberry-like in flavor, with accents of tobacco and spice. Each of these types range from tasting thin and dilute, to fuller and more interesting.

How does one know which of the various wines to choose? Unlike Australia, there is not the profusion of brands exported from Chile, so the range of choices is narrower. But even two dozen is a daunting number when you're trying to decide what to buy. In my experience the cabernets available in the United States today are virtually all solid, commercially acceptable wines. Few are exciting, if that's what you're looking for. Geography, which is never a perfect indicator, often serves as a guide to the style you can expect, so it's important to look closely at the label. Cabernets originating in Casablanca, a cool coastal region, tend to the herbal side of the flavor spectrum. The Maipo Valley produces what might be termed classic Chilean cabernet, Bordeaux-like in style, with elegance but also nice intensity of dark berry flavor. The richest fruit flavors, in my tasting experience, come from wineries making cabernet in the Rapel and Colchagua Valleys, while wines from Curico tend to be lighter. iB

TOP: DARISA CLARKE; BOTTOM: RITA GREELEY

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

EVENTS

Alsatian Octoberfest Menu
Sandrine's, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300). Through the end of October. $35. Chef **Raymond Ost** offers a four-course Alsatian meal.

Cafe Louis Benefit Dinner
Cafe Louis, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (617-266-4680). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Oct. 29, 6:30pm. $200. Chef **David Reynoso** of Cafe Louis along with **George Germon** and **Johanne Killeen**, chef-owners of Cafe Louis and Al Forno, team up with chefs **Barbara Lynch**, **Gordon Hamersley** and **Ana Sortun** for a five-course dinner to benefit Windows of Hope Family Relief Fund.

Chocolate Bar "Boo-fet"
Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8751). Oct. 27, 12-3pm. $23. Enjoy an all-you-can-eat chocolate buffet complete with spooky music and costumes.

Eat Guest Chef
Eat, 253 Washington St., Somerville (617-776-2889). Guest chefs cook for the night. •Oct. 29: **Adam Holtzman**, photographer and cook. •Nov. 5: **Tom Borgia** of The Federalist.

Farewell to Julia Child
Boston Harbor, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). Nov. 1, 6:30pm. $300. Chefs **Daniel Bruce**, **Lydia Shire**, **Gordon Hamersley**, **Jody Adams**, **Todd English**, **Barbara Lynch**, **Jamie Mammano**, **Jimmy Burke**, **Tony Ambrose**, **Frank McClelland**, **Stan Frankenthaler** and **Evan Deluty** will prepare a five-course meal in honor of Julia Child. Proceeds benefit the AIWF.

Fashionable Brunch and Lunch
The Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-2161). $35. Courtiers present informal modeling of their latest fashions. •Oct. 30, 12-1:30pm: Ralph Lauren.

Gingerbread House Competition
World Trade Center, 164 Northern Ave., Boston (617-536-3400). Nov. 2-4. Individuals can buy gingerbread houses after the contest. Proceeds benefit the House for Little Wanderers.

Girls' Night Out
Zephyr on the Charles, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-441-6510). Mondays, 7pm. $50. Chef **Lynette Mosher** introduces this Monday-night dinner series celebrating female chefs. •Nov. 5: **Susan Regis** of Biba and **Kathleen Cornelia** of Seagram Chateau & Estates Wines Company.

Sunday Night Wine 2001
Harvest, 44 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-868-2255). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays. Ten selections of wine will be offered for $20.01 each.

Monday Night Football
Jasper White's Summer Shack, 149 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-520-9500). Mondays. Enjoy free snacks, specialty team drinks and a full bar menu.

Oktoberfest Dinner
Henrietta's Table, One Bennett Street, Cambridge (617-661-5005). Thu.-Sat., 4-11pm, through the end of October. Indulge in a German meal and a mug of Spaten Lager at a picnic table on the patio.

Oyster Festival
Magnolias, 1193 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1971). Through Oct. 27. Entrees are all about oysters.

Pie in the Sky
Community Servings (617-445-7777). Through Nov. 22. Purchase a pie to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for a family struggling with AIDS.



Chef Mark Sapienza of Julien prepares a white glove, white truffle dinner Oct. 25.

TASTY TIDBIT

'SHROOMS

The average white mushroom sells for $2.79 a pound at the local Star Market. But that's not the kind of mushroom you'll find at Julien chef Mark Sapienza's four-course dinner Oct. 25. Rather, this dinner celebrates the myth and mystique of the white truffle, referred to in northern Italy as "the white diamond of the Piedmont." At $1,300 a pound, it's the priciest mushroom you'll ever taste.

Apparently, the white truffle earns its hefty price tag due to its organic composition, superior aroma and scarcity. Shaved paper thin over warm dishes, the aroma and flavor of the white truffle intensifies over time. Chef Sapienza will create dishes that highlight the truffle, including trota al tartufo with squash risotto; roasted Guinea hen basted with truffle and herb butter; and porcini mushroom, fennel and endive salad with goat cheese fontina and truffle oil. ***Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8752). Oct. 25, 7pm. $120 per person. —J.S.***

Pumpkin and Potato Festival
Verrill Farm, 11 Wheeler Road, Concord (978-369-4494). Oct. 27, 11am-2pm. Free. Sample 11 different varieties of potatoes.

Talley-Ho at Icarus
Icarus, 3 Appleton St., Boston (617-426-1790). Oct. 29. $55. **Brian Talley** of Talley Vineyards discusses his craft during this four-course dinner.

The Taste of Place
The French Library & Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-266-4351). Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26, 8:30pm. $210. **Cat Silirie**, wine director of No. 9 Park, discusses the special characteristics of each of France's wine regions.

Wine and Cheese Tasting
The Seasonal Table, 61 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-7979). This weekly tasting highlights a different wine- or cheese-producing region. •Nov. 2, 5-9pm: locally made cheeses.

Wine and Dessert
Finale, One Columbus Avenue, Boston (617-423-3184). Oct. 24, 7-8:30pm. $35. **Joshua Wesson**, co-founder of Best Cellars, and **Kim Moore** of Finale host this wine and dessert pairing featuring desserts by pastry chef **Nicole Coady**.

Winetasting Benefit
Crate & Barrel, 48 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). Nov. 3, 8-10:30pm. $22. Taste wine from local merchants and dance to live music to benefit the Cambridge Center for Adult Education.



KRISTIN WEBSTER

The Improper Bostonian Magazine

presents the 7TH ANNUAL

HALLOWEEN fun RUN

There's only ONE place to go for the best time this Halloween. Join The Improper Bostonian Magazine and WBCN for the 7th Annual Halloween Fun Run, Wednesday, October 31 at the West end of Faneuil Hall Marketplace. Following the three mile ghoulish jaunt around the Boston Common join your fellow runners at The Rack for the official post-race party.

REGISTRATION at 6pm

FUN-RUN at 7pm

DON'T FORGET YOUR COSTUME!

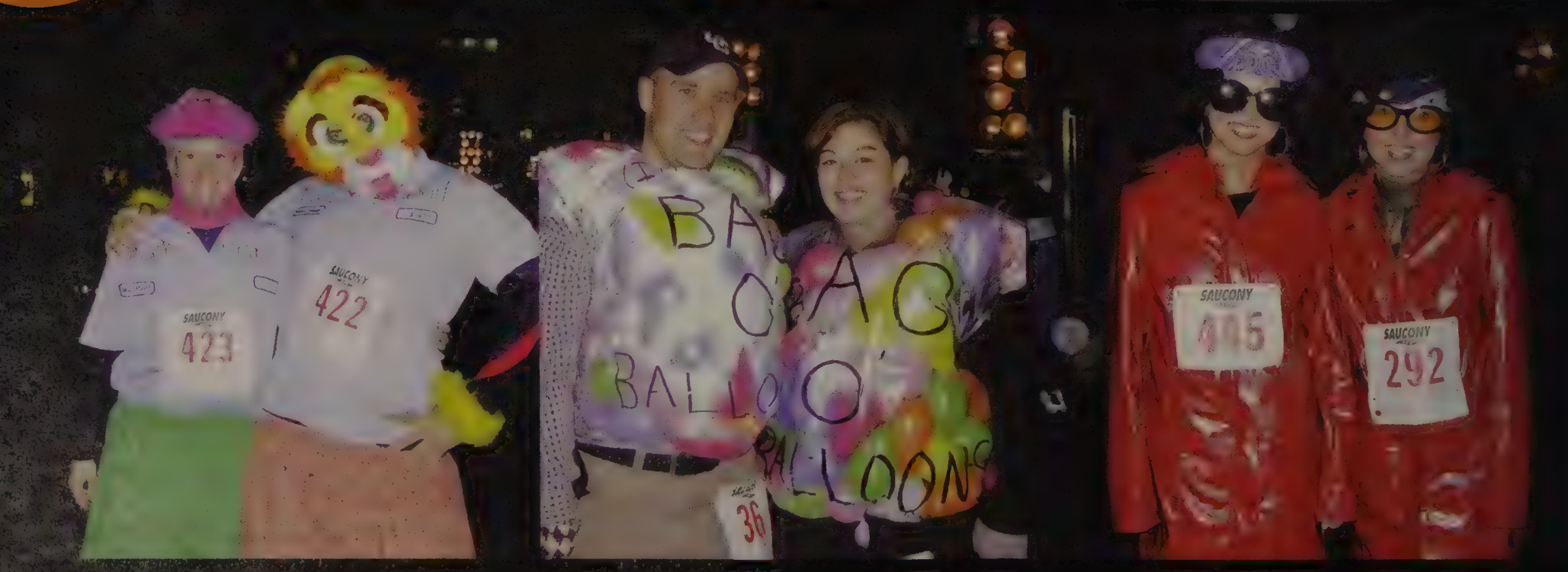
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$30 includes T-shirt, goody bag & post-party at The Rack
Post Party includes buffet and one drink coupon
$35 after on or after October 26th

Must be 21 years of age or older

Discounted parking ($2 discount) available at 75 State Street Garage. Parking tickets will be stamped at registration area only

Call 800-966-0444 to pre-register



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THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 46

PERFORMING ARTS 48

ART 52

BOOKS & POETRY 56

EDUCATION 57

FILM 58

DANCE CLUBS 62

MUSIC 66

CLASSICAL MUSIC 72

GAY & LESBIAN 73

BODY & MIND 74

SPORTS 74

CHILDREN 74

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry, Dance Clubs, Dance, Film, Gay & Lesbian, Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children, Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope and Sports

improper picks



OPENING WED./OCT. 31

Art: Weaver of Grass

This fall, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum exhibits *Photosynthesis*, a series of works by British artists **Heather Ackroyd** and **Dan Harvey**, both of whom use the unlikely medium of grass as their photographic canvas. Ackroyd and Harvey each spent years creating photographs cast in grass through a unique photosynthetic print process that results in shades of green and yellow instead of the typical black-and-white. The exhibition includes actual grass canvases that hang on the gallery walls. The pieces harness the process of photosynthesis, capturing chlorophyll to fix images in the growing grass. Over time, the images begin to dry and take on sepia tones—so if you're really dedicated and go back again and again, you get to see how the images change. On Nov. 1 at 6:30pm, the two artists speak about their work with photosynthesis and genetic research to create sustainable grass photographs. The exhibit is on display through Dec. 30. *280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401).*

SAT./NOV. 3

CityScope: Enter the Fold

We've written about all types of benefits over the years—from walk-a-thons to dance-a-thons. They're all worthy causes and great events, but they're all beginning to blur in our minds. Not this one: It's the third annual **Origami Fold-a-Thon** to benefit the Jimmy Fund Nov. 3. Here's how it works: Participants ask friends and co-workers to pledge a certain dollar amount for each crane that will be folded at the event. "Folders" can arrive at Sasuga Japanese Bookstore at any time and stay as long as it takes to complete the cranes. If you're lacking in artistic ability, don't worry: Sasuga will provide instructors. Over the years, the Fold-a-Thon has earned $6,500 for the Jimmy Fund. *Sasuga Bookstore, 7 Upland Road, Cambridge (617-497-5460). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. 10am-6pm.*

THU./NOV. 1

Comedy: Lethal Wit

Apparently, comedian **Rita Rudner** doesn't normally do small comedy clubs like the Comedy Connection. But since Boston is considered one of the hotbeds of comedy, Rudner's decided to grace us with her presence Nov. 1. The Miami native with big blue eyes, a ladylike demeanor and low-key delivery (not to mention a lethal wit) is regularly sold out in Las Vegas. Of her performances, Rudner says: "I realized you didn't have to be aggressive to be funny." She started her career as a dancer on Broadway, appearing in the original productions of *Follies* and *Mack and Mabel* but decided comedy was more her shtick and began performing at try-out clubs around Manhattan. Two decades later, she's Vegas's Comedian of the Year. *Comedy Connection, 245 Quincy Market Place, Boston (617 248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Nov. 1, 7pm. $30.*





inside THE RACK

Every Monday Night -

"In The Biz" pool challenge and Monday Night Football hosted by BostonCityBeat.com's Michael Kalil! DJ Mike Janedy spins all night. Dance, shoot pool, choose from 8 TV's to watch the game and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 8pm!

Every Tuesday Night, 6pm

After-work Jazz with special musical guest MD. It's a night you won't hear "What did you say?" Coming soon...Boston music night! Mappari every Tuesday night in November!

Every Thursday Night, 6pm

Mark Morris & The Catunes rock the house! At 10:30pm, dance all night with DJ Rick!

Every Friday Night, 6pm

Skip the traffic jam and join us right after work with Central Basement and Kiss 108's Billy Costa! DJ Todd spins the night away!

Every Sunday Night

NFL Sunday Ticket! Watch your favorite team via satellite on one of our 8 screens featuring 10 different games beginning at noon! Enjoy our End Zone Football Buffet! Join The Chad LaMarsh band at 9:30pm!

Wednesday, October 24th

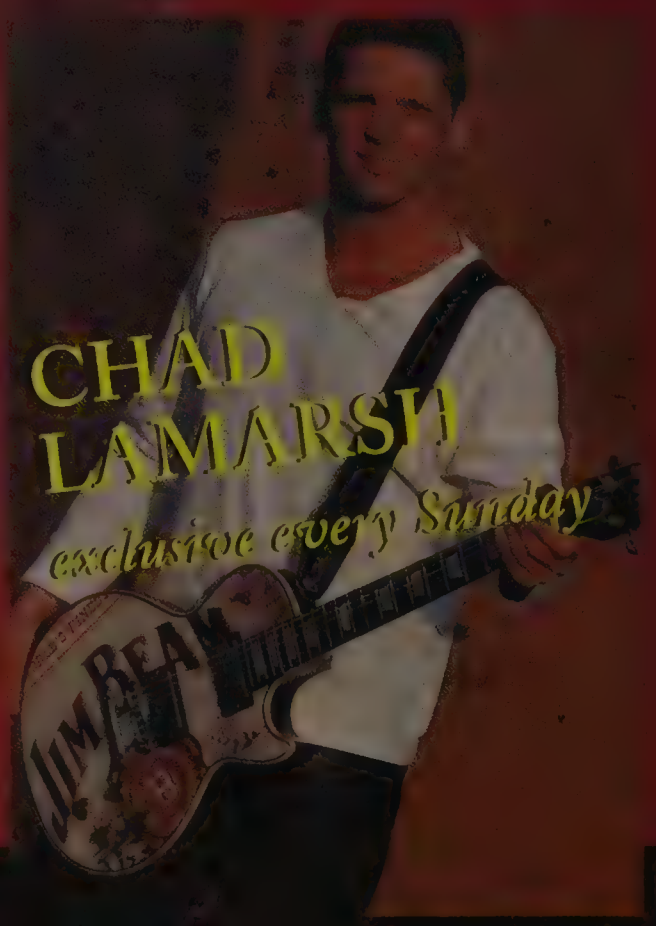
Looking for love? Join us for the People Scavenger Hunt hosted by Boston Event Guide featuring reggae by One People! At 10:30pm, join DJ Steve Anderson for today's hottest beats!

Saturday, October 27th

A very special evening "Remembering Amy"... A night to benefit the family of Amy Sweeney, a flight attendant on American Airlines Flight 11. Join us for a once in a lifetime auction of treasures donated by legends Yaz, Bourque, Neely, and Orr...with trips to Paris, Hawaii, St. Barths and much, much more. Live broadcast with Star 93.7's Vinnie Peruzzi. Call The Rack for details.

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Hit Dog Mo Vaughn making "friends" at The Rack.





Pilots from American and United Airlines display the flag which will be carried from Boston to Los Angeles to raise funds for the victims families of the Sept. 11 tragedy.



Atlantic recording artist Willa Ford gets bad with Billy Costa!



Baseball legend Louis Tiant, former Bruin Bob Sweeney and Mo Vaughn



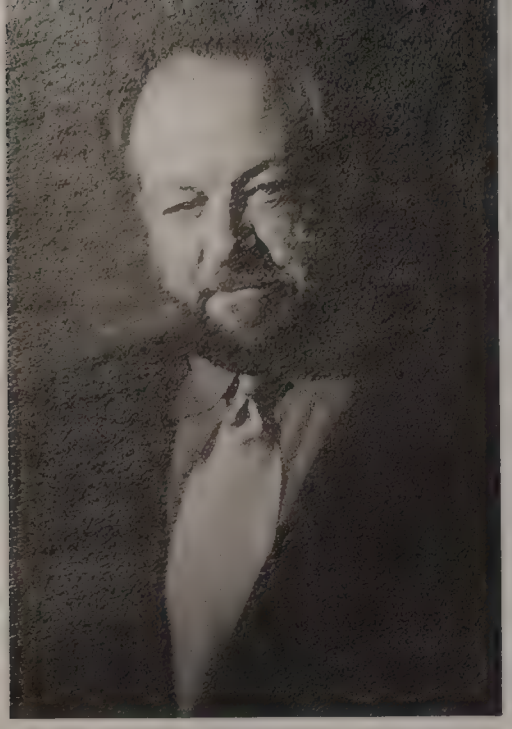
Join us for the Halloween Fun Run After Party on October 31st.



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THE RACK



SAT./OCT. 27—
SAT./NOV. 24

◀Theater: Abracadabra!

If you're a fan of magic and deception (as we are!), don't miss the talent of ***Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants*** this month. This one-man show set records in New York as the fastest-selling show in off-Broadway history. Bostonians are especially lucky because we'll get to see Jay's sleight-of-hand illusions up close and personal at the tiny Market Theater, a 150-seat gem in Harvard Square that lets every audience member feel like he or she has a front-row seat. Jay's a master with a deck of cards (a.k.a. his trusty 52 assistants), plus an expert on the history of magic. "It's magic for adults—both intelligent and thought-provoking," says Tom Cole, director of the theater. Add an Obie Award and the directorship of playwright David Mamet to the show's hefty list of credentials. *The Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (617-576-0808). $55.*



A bevy of local chefs will bid adieu to Julia Child (not pictured) at the Boston Harbor Hotel Nov. 1 and Hyatt Regency Hotel Nov. 7.

THU./NOV. 1; WED./NOV. 7

Farewell to Julia Child ▲

With parties nearly every other week, it's certainly been a long and drawn-out goodbye for much-revered food goddess **Julia Child**. But in mid-November, she's gone for good as she departs for her new permanent home on the West Coast. Before she relocates, there are two more send-offs that we feel obliged to detail. The first is a lavish, $300-a-plate dinner at the Boston Harbor Hotel Nov. 1. Chefs Daniel Bruce, Lydia Shire, Gordon Hamersley, Jody Adams, Todd English, Barbara Lynch, Jamie Mammano, Jimmy Burke, Tony Ambrose, Frank McClelland, Stan Frankenthaler and Evan Deluty will prepare a five-course meal in Child's honor, with proceeds benefiting the American Institute of Food & Wine. The second, taking place Nov. 7 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cambridge, promises to be just as star-studded, with top chefs like Eric Brennan, Jody Adams, Steve Johnson, Rene Michelena, Ana Sortun, Jasper White and Christos Tsardounis preparing some of Child's favorite dishes. Proceeds of this $125 dinner will benefit the culinary program at Cambridge Rindge & Latin. *Boston Harbor: 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). Nov. 1, 6:30pm. $300. The Hyatt Regency: 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-349-4321). Nov. 7, 7pm. $125.*



THU./NOV. 1—SUN./NOV. 11

Film: The Return of an Annual Favorite ▲

Founded by filmmaker Michal Goldman in 1989, The **Boston Jewish Film Festival** has grown from 10 screenings to more than 30 at several theaters in Boston venues and additional sites north and south of the city. This year's festival includes 45 films from 15 different countries, including premieres for North America, United States and Boston. The festival presents narrative, documentary, animated and experimental works. All films and videos highlight the Jewish experience, and visiting artists from around the world will participate in panel discussions. Opening night, which features a film and a reception, is Thursday, Nov. 1, at 7:30pm.That night, the film is *Focus*, based on Arthur Miller's novel of the same name, which tells the story of a husband and wife mistakenly identified as Jews by their Brooklyn neighbors during the waning days of World War II. *Museum of Fine Arts and the Coolidge Corner Theatre. Through Nov. 15. For a complete schedule, go to* www.bjff.org/.



THU./OCT. 25—
SAT./OCT. 27 &
THROUGH FEB. 3

◀Fashionable Ladies

While one was literally a princess (of Monaco) and the other was America's queen in a era called Camelot, both Grace Kelly and Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy were as admired for their style as they were for their stature. This month, both are the subject of exhibitions emphasizing the style and glamour of the 1950s and early '60s. At the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, ***Jacqueline Kennedy: The White House Years*** features 70 original costumes and accessories that she wore at state events. Highlights include her fawn coat and pillbox hat worn for the inaugural ceremonies on the steps of the Capitol on Jan. 20, 1961. The exhibition took New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art by storm last spring. Meanwhile, in Chestnut Hill, Shreve, Crump & Low hosts the ***Mikimoto Princess Grace Exhibition***, which features memorabilia from the life and film career of Grace Kelly, whose signature jewelry was a strand of Mikimoto pearls. *John Fitzgerald Kennedy Library: Columbia Point, Boston (617-695-2JFK). Through Feb. 28. $15. Shreve Crump & Low: The Mall at Chestnut Hill, 330 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-267-9100). Oct. 25-26, 10am-9pm; Oct. 27, 10am-8pm. Free.*

THU./NOV. 1

Books & Poetry: 40 Years and Still Browsing

Brookline Booksmith is about to turn 40, a milestone that makes book lovers all over Boston beam with happiness. Marshall Smith opened Paperback Booksmith in 1960 with 3,300 paperback titles. Today, it has more than 10,000 paperbacks. Now, with lots of gifts, magazines and a successful reading series, it has expanded into a city staple. At 5:30pm, Booksmith shares some cake and refreshments with neighbors. Local authors and other pals of Booksmith are expected to drop by for a brief reading and a toast. Brookline town selectman Gil Hoy plans on making an appearance as well. *The Writers and Readers Room, 279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660).*

MON./OCT. 29

Film: A Hitchcock Classic

As most film buffs already know, the Wang Center has expanded its **Classic Film Series** program to the fall and winter. This week, you can see one of the most brilliantly chilling movies in the history of filmmaking—*Dial M for Murder.* Hitchcock's 1954 thriller about an ex-tennis pro who decides to murder his wife for her money (and because she had an affair the year before). The subsequent police investigation is as suspenseful as they come. The film stars Grace Kelly, Ray Milland and Robert Cummings. Look for Hitchcock about 13 minutes into the film, when he makes his trademark cameo. The best part? It's only six bucks. *270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393).* www.wangcenter.org. *7pm.*

TUE./NOV. 6

Music: Space Rock

Stereolab, the alt-rock '90s band with a '60s melodic pop veneer, probably has spawned more imitations than any other band. That's because **Stereolab**'s quirky, complex rhythms, spacy sound effects and cool drum tracks have put the band at forefront of alternative rock for the past decade. Gradually, it has attracted more mainstream listeners to its sound with hints of bossa nova and lounge pop—all set in an ambient, almost hypnotic rhythms and lulled by understated vocals. Stereolab released the CD and double-LP *Sound-Dust* at the end of August and has been touring across Europe and America before heading off for a full UK tour to give fans a taste ot it. *See Stereolab at Avalon. 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*

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Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24

Maxim Magazine Prohibition Party at Whiskey Park

Whiskey Park, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-542-1482). 8pm-12am. $125. If you weren't going to be able to make the original date for this event, slated for Sept. 19 but then rescheduled, here's your second chance. The Boston financial community and *Maxim* are partnering to raise money for the Unity Fund of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay. The theme is still Prohibition Era, with your losses at blackjack, poker, craps and roulette going to the cause. And even if you're not feeling all that charitable, there are a slew of prizes to be won. This event is co-sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.

Haunted Harbor Nights at the FleetBoston Pavilion

FleetBoston Pavilion, 290 Northern Ave., Boston (groups call 617-482-8616). www.hauntedharbornights.com. *6:30-11:30pm. $15 adults, $5 children 12 and under. Through Oct. 31.* Three haunted houses (including the "Terrorvision 3D Clown Asylum"), thrill rides, games and a nightly costume dance party lead up to the Haunted Harbor Nights Costume Gala Ball on Halloween.

People Scavenger Hunt

The Rack, 24 Clinton St., Boston (617-312-5410). 6:30-9:30pm. $20. Young professionals and anyone looking to mix and mingle will find the "people scavenger hunt" format an interesting way to meet a lot of people in one night. There will also be a live band, dancing, pool and hors d'oeuvres with pizza.

THURSDAY, OCT. 25

Words to Live By Benefit

The Copley Fairmont Hotel, Copley Square (617-521-0125). 7-11pm. $25, $15 students and seniors. Mystery writer Barbara Neely, author of *The Blanche Book Series*, joins local authors for an evening of poetry and prose reading to benefit Casa Myrna Vazquez's fight against domestic violence. Other authors will include Charles Coe, Margaret Lockwood and Alice Domar. A reception with book signing, food and cash bar follows the reading.

Coogan's Oktoberfest Benefit Party

Coogan's, 171 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7400). 5pm-close. $5 minimum donation. Sponsored by Lowenbrau, Coogan's is throwing an Oktoberfest bash to raise money for the Boston Firefighters Benefit and Welfare Fund. Live entertainment, bratwurst, knockwurst, and steins of Lowenbrau will be on hand to get you in the proper 'fest mood.

SATURDAY, OCT. 27

City Year Serve-a-thon

Boston Common Parade Grounds, Boston (617-927-2300). www.cityyear.org/serveathon. *Meet on the Common at 8am. $20 minimum pledge.* Anyone looking to do some good deeds for the community can help on two fronts at the Serve-a-thon. Volunteers will collect pledges that benefit City Year and then go out and work on community service projects around the city. Breakfast is provided by Finagle a Bagel and New England Coffee, and the day is capped by a celebration back at the Common with bands and more food. Remember to bring a baglunch, though.

Sonia's Yard Sale for the UNESCO

Harvard Square, Cambridge. 9am until there's nothing left. Donated items of all kinds will be sold and the proceeds given to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to help prevent the violation of human rights in the name of religion.

Barnes & Noble Book Drive

All Barnes & Noble locations in the Boston area (508-626-2823). All day. Barnes & Noble is requesting "gently used" books for children in kindergarten through fifth grade for its Spread the Word literacy program. So think Judy Blume rather than Danielle Steele, please.

The Americana Project Benefit Reading

Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). www.pindeldyboz.com. *7:30pm. $5.* Billed as "a night of readings about small lives in a big country," there will also be food, music from Red Rooster and beer donated by Harpoon. Proceeds go to the Twin Towers Fund.

Brookline High School 21st Century Fund Benefit

Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-713-5201). www.brookline.mec.edu. *6-10pm. $500.* Former Mass. Governor Michael Dukakis (class of '51) will receive the first Brookline High School Distinguished Alumni/Alumnae Award. The black-tie evening includes cocktails, dinner and live entertainment. Proceeds will benefit educational programs both in Brookline and at other schools throughout the nation.

12th Annual Halloween on the Harbor

George's Island, Boston Harbor (617-727-7676) www.state.ma.us/mdc/harborislands. *Also on Oct. 28.* Take the ferry out to Georges Island and take the tour of the historic fort, which for this occasion will be haunted and very scary.

Singles Harvest Ball and WTC Fund-Raiser

Sheraton Four Points Hotel, 30 Wheeler Rd., Burlington (781-283-5900). 8:30pm-12:30am. $25 in advance, $35 at the door. A portion of the proceeds from this singles soirée will go to families of those lost in the World Trade Center. Creative black-tie encouraged, proper business attire required.

SUNDAY, OCT. 28

Ellie Fund/Hadassah Fashion Show

The Mall at Chestnut Hill, Rt. 9, Chestnut Hill. www.elliefund.org *(617-566-0666). 9:30am-12pm. $25 in advance, $36 day of the event.* A fashion show with breast cancer survivors modeling the latest fashions will be the central event of the day, but there will also be a continental breakfast, a silent auction and shopping discounts for participants. Channel 7's Janet Wu is the guest speaker, and Kathleen "Fannie" Doxer (the cofounder of Frugal Fannie's and a three-year breast cancer survivor) will emcee.

Halloween Happenings

The Jackson Homestead, 527 Washington St., Newton (617-552-7238). www.ci.newton.ma.us/jackson. *3pm. Free.* This children-oriented event features storyteller Tony Toledo, and the museum will be open as well. Costumes encouraged.

MONDAY, OCT. 29

Marcuccio's NYC Benefit Dinner

Marcuccio's Restaurant, 125 Salem St., Boston (617-723-1807). www.marcuccios.com. *7-10pm. $50.* All proceeds from chef Roberto Dias' special five-course dinner (with wine) will go directly to the New York Firefighters 9-11 Disaster Relief Fund.



The 15th Annual Christmas Festival

Is it too early to be thinking about Christmas? The ambitious shoppers at the Christmas Festival don't think so. Besides the 350 exhibitors selling craft-oriented gifts, there will also be a heated gingerbread house competition. At the end, the houses will be sold, with proceeds going to the Home for Little Wanderers. *The Christmas Festival, Nov. 2-4, World Trade Center, Northern. Ave., Boston. 617-385-5000,* www.christmascraftfestival.com.

The Times Karaoke Showdown

The Times, 112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). www.times-pub.com. *10pm.* The winner of this karaoke grand finale gets two tickets to see U2 in Providence Oct. 31, including transportation, dinner and pre-party.

Women's Economic Health Conference

Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-912-8540). www.rvaincboston.com/heinzreg.html. *9am-4pm. Free.* This conference will examine the economic challenges faced by women. A number of luminaries, including Theresa Heinz and author Ann Crittenden, will speak.

TUESDAY, OCT. 30

Positive Impressions Fashion Show Fund-Raiser

The Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2356). 11am. Positive Impressions helps women who are looking for a first job, changing jobs, or otherwise in transition find interview-appropriate apparel. Thus, in lieu of money, a donation of an interview suit, dress or accessory is appreciated. Fashions from Rodier of Paris and Marina Rinaldi will be on display at the fashion show and luncheon, which will be hosted by UPN 38's Kim Carrigan. There will also be a silent auction.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31

Halloween Fun Run

West End of Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (800-966-0444). Registration at 6pm, run begins at 7pm. $30 before Oct. 26, $35 on or after Oct. 26. The 7th annual Fun Run, co-sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, gives Halloweeners a chance to get some exercise with a three-mile run around the Common. The route ends at The Rack, where runners are presented with a goody bag and grub. Proceeds benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Entrants must be 21 years of age or older.

Trio's Black Cat Bewitching Ball

Trio, 174 Lincoln St., Chinatown (617-631-2000). www.swingincats.com. *8pm. $35 in advance, $40 at the door.* The Swingin' Cats and Trio are getting together to throw a wicked party. The evening will include an open bar from 8-10pm, DJs spinning all night, a leather, lace and lingerie fashion show, a Porsche Boxster weekend giveaway from Ira Porsche-Audi, a live performance by a special mystery guest and the obligatory goody bag. Costumes are encouraged, and a portion of the proceeds will go to New York disaster relief programs.

Halloween Harbor Cruise Benefit

Boston Harbor Cruises, Long Wharf, Boston (978-658-1554). www.september11fund.org. *7pm. $20.* DJ Deja rules the waves on this harbor cruise to benefit victims of the Sept. 11 attacks. There will be prizes for imaginative costumes and munchies galore.

THURSDAY, NOV. 1

Women's Bar Association 12th Annual Gala

Westin Copley Hotel, 10 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-973-6666). www.womensbar.org. *5:30-9pm. $150.* This party for women with clout features a silent auction, dinner and NOW President Kim Gandy as keynote speaker.

2001 A.I.R. Awards

Boston Long Wharf Marriott, Boston (508-663-2100). 6pm. $50. Master of Ceremonies Tom Bergeron, the host of *Hollywood Squares*, leads the way at the Achievement in Radio awards for the Boston radio community. Proceeds benefit the March of Dimes.

SATURDAY, NOV. 3

Riviera Night at the Algonquin

The Algonquin Club, 217 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-859-7787), 8pm-12am. $95 in advance, $110 at the door. Blackjack, roulette and craps will be the games of chance waiting for players at the Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay's annual gala fundraiser. There will also be dining and a cash bar. Black tie optional.

High Hopes Diamond Gala

The Seaport Hotel, One Seaport Lane, Boston (888-567-5462) www.joslin.org. *6pm. $500.* This seriously black-tie affair benefits the Joslin Diabetes Center's High Hopes Fund for Kids With Diabetes. Grammy winner Melissa Manchester is the featured entertainer, and guests will have a shot at winning a $30,000 diamond from E.B. Horn Co. Here's how it works: There's a pyramid of 500 crystal flutes filled with champagne. In 499 of them there sits a fat cubic zirconia, while one holds a real 2-carat diamond. The glasses cost $100 each. Drink up and find out if you got the real thing or not.

Origami Fold-a-thon

Sasuga Bookstore, 7 Upland Rd., Cambridge (617-497-5460). All day. Get your friends to pledge some money toward each piece of origami artwork you complete to raise money for The Jimmy Fund.



At the Nov. 3 Diamond Gala at the Seaport Hotel, 499 glasses will contain a cubic zirconia with their bubbly, but one holds a $30,000 diamond. Chances at the real rock go for $100 each.

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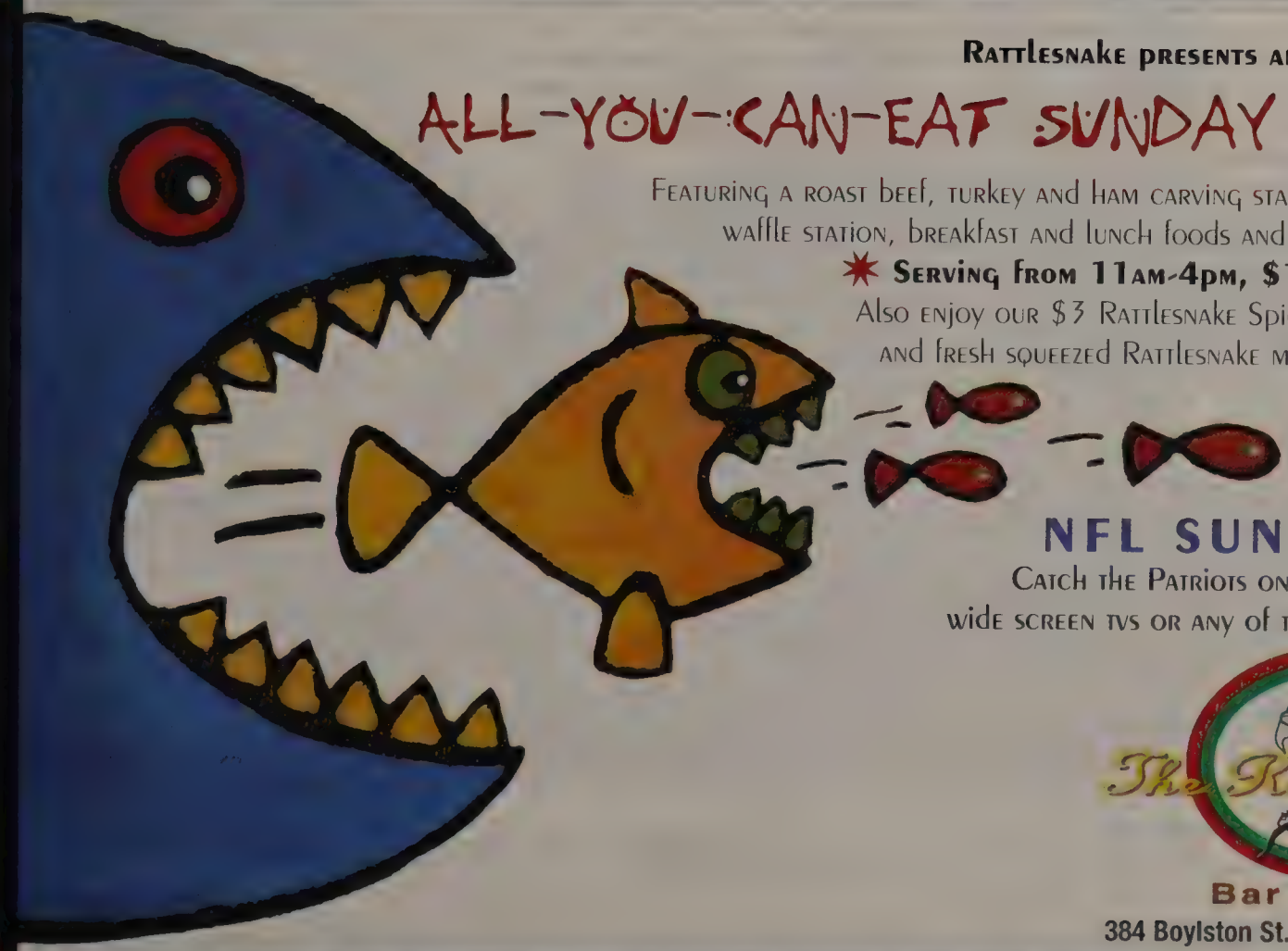
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Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

American Classics: The Band Wagon
Pickman Concert Hall, Longy School of Music, One Follen Street, Cambridge (617-824-8000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 28 and Nov. 4, 7:30pm. $20. This classic revue features a score by Howard Dietz and Arthur Schwartz, with skits by Dietz and George S. Kaufman.

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Nov. 2-Dec. 16. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

Anton In Show Business
Theatre Zone, Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (617-423-7313). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Nov. 2-24. $15. A self-centered TV actress, a jaded New Yorker and an enthusiastic ingenue are brought together for an ill-fated production of Anton Chekov's *The Three Sisters*.

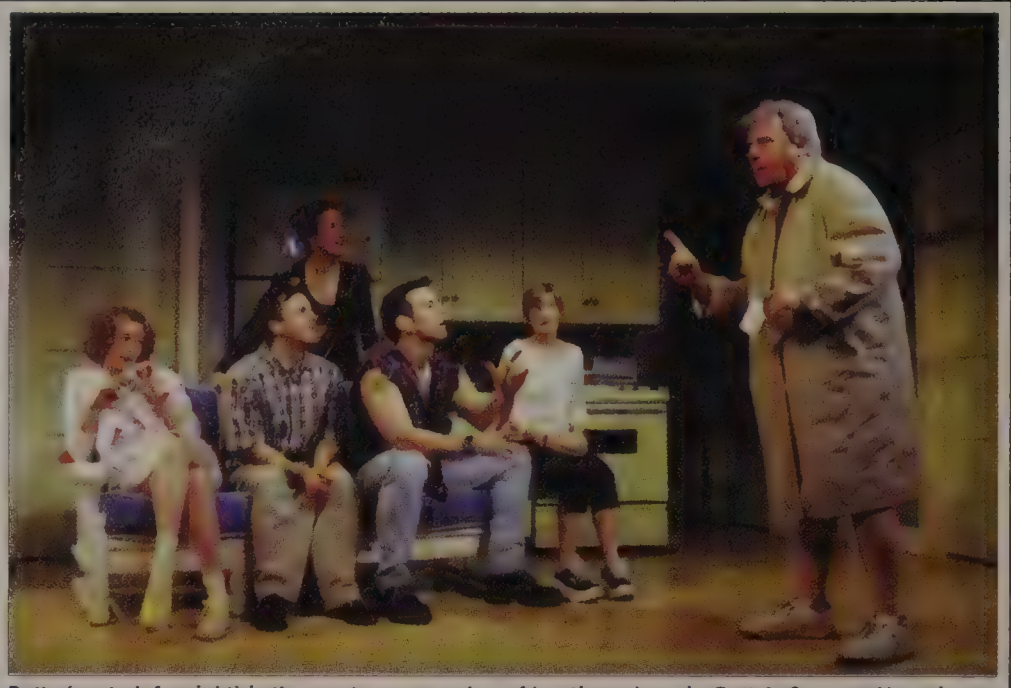
Betty's Summer Vacation
The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Oct. 26-Nov. 25. $12-$58. See preview box at right for more information.

Lobby Hero
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Oct. 26-Nov. 24. $20-$36. In Kenneth Lonergan's new comedy-drama, a security guard's loyalties are strained to the breaking point when he is drawn into a local murder investigation. Amid often comic, seemingly ordinary conversations, the play subtly explores greater issues: racism, sexual discrimination, the fallacies of the criminal justice system, personal loyalty and the morality of truth-telling.

The Lonesome West
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. $24 and $28. This black comedy is about two brothers who, living in their father's house after his recent death, find it impossible to exist without the most massive and violent disputes over the most mundane and innocent of topics. Only the local priest can reconcile the two.

Miss Saigon
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Oct. 30-Nov. 18. $18-$56. An American marine falls in love and conceives a child with a bar girl in Saigon, but they are tragically torn apart by the end of the war and ultimately, by the gulf between their two worlds.

Nine
Vokes Theatre, Route 20, Wayland (781-209-0296). Oct. 25-Nov. 10. Guido Contini is an internationally acclaimed film director coming to grips with a series of crises as he turns 40. Struggling with the fear of artistic failure, he masterminds the plot for his latest film—a musical based on the life of Casanova.



Betty (seated, far right) is the most sane member of her time-share in ***Betty's Summer Vacation.***

Preview

Betty's Big Adventure

Playwright Christopher Durang laughs again

The off-Broadway hit *Betty's Summer Vacation* has been scheduled to appear at the Huntington Theatre for nearly a year. But after the Sept. 11 events, there was some discussion of whether folks here would be in the mood to laugh at the satire's dark humor (rape and dismemberment—even under the most benign of circumstances—generally aren't topics of amusement). Luckily for Bostonians, artistic director Nicholas Martin, who won an Obie for his direction of the play in New York, decided to go ahead with the production.

Perhaps the hesitation is a bit more understandable once you know the premise of Christopher Durang's latest. Betty finds that she's sharing a seaside time-share with an eclectic assortment of housemates, including a serial killer who totes around a mysterious hatbox, a derelict in a trench coat, a sex-starved stud and a batty landlord. She's thrust into a maelstrom of outrageous occurrences culminating in a bizarre courtroom scene. The show callously mocks the world of media sensationalism and pokes fun at our scandal-obsessed culture. But rest assured, "It's one of the funniest plays I've ever read or worked on," says actor Nat DeWolf, who plays the serial killer.

Betty premiered in New York in 1999, and in the beginning, some audience members took offense at its absurdity, standing up and yelling at the actors onstage, says DeWolf, who starred in that production. "But once the critics saw it and told everyone they loved it, the show became a hit," he says.

Since Sept. 11, certain things about the play have resonated differently with the cast, says DeWolf. "At the end, Betty talks to the audience and says, 'I'm scared...no, I'm sad...no, I'm all right now.' That's how it's been living in New York during the past month, overcome by sadness and fear. [Like Betty] I'm fine now," he says, "but I never felt the meaning behind her words more than I do now." ***The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Oct. 26-Nov. 25. $12-$58. —Julie Short***

The Odd Couple
Delvena Theatre Company, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Oct. 31-Nov. 7. $22. Neil Simon's classic follows the relationship between fussy Felix Unger and his good-hearted divorced pal, Oscar Madison.

Old Times
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Nov. 3. $20. Harold Pinter's drama delves into the lives of three people, illuminating unspoken doubts, intimate tensions and sensual desires.

Performance Cult
The Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (781-891-1188). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 4 and 18. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short original vignettes.

Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm
Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Nov. 2-25. $10-$17. Rebecca is sent to live with two maiden aunts in Riverboro, Maine. The aunts try to cope with this "bird of a different feather."

Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants
The Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (617-576-0808). Oct. 27-Nov. 24. $55. The Northeast premiere of this Obie Award–winning one-man show by America's legendary expert in the fields of deception, conjuring and unusual entertainment.

Rope
Stoneham Theatre, 359 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Nov. 4. $25-$35. On a rainy night in a posh London flat, two gentlemen strangle their friend and place his body in a chest. As unsuspecting dinner guests gather for an intimate evening, the men are sure they've committed the perfect crime. But have they?

Slammerkin-A Girl's Revue
Mass Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-501-2618). Nov. 3, 8pm; Nov. 4, 7pm. $12/$15 door. Drag kings, sluts and goddesses explore women's sexual aggression, sisterhood and independence in this cabaret production.

NOW RUNNING

Another Part of the Forest
Lyric West Theatre, Massachusetts Bay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley (781-235-0488). Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Oct. 28. $10-$32. Set in post-Civil War South of 1880, this play smolders with greed, family intrigue, ruthless ambition and a dark family secret.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3pm and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

The Diary of Anne Frank
The Riverside Theatre Works, 45 Fairmount Ave., Hyde Park (617-361-7024). Commuter Rail to Hyde Park. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Oct. 27. $18. This play is a dramatization of Anne Frank's diaries, her extraordinary account of the years she endured when hiding with family and friends in Nazi-occupied Amsterdam.

Dinner with Friends
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Nov. 4. $28-$42. Tom and Beth, Gabe and Karen have been friends forever. When one couple announces they're splitting, the rug is pulled out from underneath them all.

End of the World Party
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Oct. 27. $26.50-$29.50. Written by five-time Emmy winner Chuck Ranberg (from television's *Frasier*, *Becker* and *Kate & Allie*), this outrageous and sometimes bittersweet comedy is about a group of gay friends who redefine themselves and their relationships over the course of one tumultuous summer on Fire Island.

How Do You Spell Hope?
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-643-6916). Thu.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Oct. 27. $12. Melinda Lopez's play weaves together three inspiring stories of courage and compassion: the historical narratives of Frederick Douglass; a teenage star who overcomes dyslexia; and the struggles of a contemporary immigrant family.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

The Laramie Project
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (617-728-4321). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3 and 7pm. Through Nov. 11. $25. Hailed by *Time Magazine* as one of the Ten Best Plays of 1999, this show is a haunting examination of the violent murder of Matthew Shepard, a crime so brutal that it shocked the nation.

Ludlow Fair, Home Free and Two Ex-Smokers
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 10. $18. The Boiler Company presents three one-act plays by Lanford Wilson and Rick Winterson.

Mamma Mia!
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-426-9366). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Nov. 3. $27-$82. Through the storytelling magic of the songs of ABBA, Donna, a 40-something single mom, recalls distant memories of carefree days and nights while her daughter Sophie dreams of tradition, romance and a big white wedding.

Shakespeare & Company
70 Kemble St., Lenox, Mass. (413-637-3353). www.shakespeare.org. *Oct. 26-28. $17-$36.* Jeffrey Hatcher adapts *The Turn of the Screw* from the story by Henry James for this Halloween benefit.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds
Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (617-495-8675). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 1-3, 8pm. $8. This Pulitzer Prize–winning play performed by Harvard University students follows the breakdown of one family and explores alienation, obligation and the complex relationships among women.

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Guys and Dolls
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sala de Puerto Rico, 84 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-6294). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Oct. 25-26, 8pm; Oct. 27, 4 and 8pm; Oct. 28, 4pm. $9. Damon Runyon's gamblers and Salvation Army misses sing and dance, bicker and romance.

Holiday
Emerson Brimmer Studio Theatre, 69 Brimmer St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Oct. 24-27, 8pm; Oct. 27-28, 2pm. $10. High spirits meet high society in this sophisticated romance about the pursuit of individuality among the pampered upper crust, just a year before the great stock market crash.

The Little Prince
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 129 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 3, 8pm; Nov. 4, 10 and 11, 2pm. $12. Based on the book by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, this is the magical story of a fallen pilot who learns his lessons about life after meeting a mysterious little prince.

The Rover
Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (617-495-8675). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Oct. 25-27, 8pm. $5-$10. The Harvard freshman class presents this racy restoration comedy, circa 1677, with all the classic elements—masks, mischief and a whore with a heart of gold.

Summer People
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-3400). Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Nov. 6-18. $15-$19. Sam Weisman, director of *What's the Worst That Could Happen?*, directs this tale from Russia that takes place in the early 20th century. The "summer people" who come to their soothing summer villas face an explosive confrontation with the inescapable forces of change.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (617-423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

Dance

Anna Myers and Dancers
Orpheum Foxborough, One School Street, Foxborough, (508-543-2787). Oct. 26-27, 8pm; Oct. 28, 3pm. $25. This group of multigenerational dancers performs works in classical, modern and post-modern styles.

Cyro Baptista & Beat the Donkey
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston (617-927-1744). Oct. 25, 8pm. $14. This show by master percussionist Cyro Baptista "is a canavalesque blend of parade and theater." It combines dance, music and wild, elaborate costumes.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. • Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Oct. 24, 8pm: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up a Little Comedy Tour, $10 •Oct. 25, 8:30pm: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist, $12 •Oct. 26, 8 and 10:15pm: Brian Regan, American Comedy Awards' 1996 Best Male Stand-up Comic, $21.50 and $16.50 •Oct. 27, 6pm, $20 and $15; 8pm and 10:15pm, $22: Brian Regan •Oct. 28, 9pm: Black Comedy Explosion hosted by Johnathan Gates, $12 and $15 •Oct. 29, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Oct. 30, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10 •Oct. 31, 8pm: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up a Little Comedy Tour, $10 •Nov. 1, 7pm: Rita Rudner, HBO's *Born to be Mild*, $30 •Nov. 2, 8 and 10:15pm: Robert Schimmel, American Comedy Awards' 1999's Best Male Comic, $31 •Nov. 3, 6pm, $20; 8 and 10:15pm, $25: Robert Schimmel; 12am: Sheryl Underwood, $20 and $15 •Nov. 4, 8 and 10pm: Sheryl Underwood, HBO's *Def Comedy Jam*, $20 and $15. •Nov. 5, 8pm: Amateur Showcase hosted by Kevin Knox, $10 •Nov. 6, 8pm: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz, $10.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Oct. 25: Tim McIntire, Chrissy Lavoie, Greg Boggis, James Cennamo, Dave Greenberg and Bob Lazarus •Oct. 26: "Tiston Honda" with Ira Proctor, Dan Sulman, Andy Wasif, Dave Walsh and James Patterson •Oct. 27: Greg Rodrigues, Glen Kunene, Tim Collins, Ira Proctor, Amanda White, Anwar Floyd-Pruitt and Lady B. • Oct. 28: Sam Walters, John Keating, Ross Garmil, Rob Reuter, Bethany Van Delf, Lois McCormack, Ben Murray and Dave Hutchins •Nov. 1: NBC's Boston Talent Showcase featuring Tim McIntire and Rick Jenkins •Nov. 2: NBC's Boston Talent Showcase featuring DJ Hazard •Nov. 3: DJ Hazard, Alana Devich, Eric Riley Moore, Troy Pernell, Jesse Gersten and Laura Kolling •Nov. 4: Sam Walters, Bloody Mayhem, Benari Poulten, Jan Davidson, Steve Schnaps, Brian Gordon and Paul Keenan.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy show.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-482-0930). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. $8-$15. •Oct. 25, 8:30pm; Oct. 26-27, 8:45pm: Chance Langton, Kerri Louise and John Keating •Nov. 1, 8:30pm; Nov. 2-3, 8:45pm: Kevin Knox, Stephanie Peters and Ira Proctor.



Preview

Ballet for the Masses

From Distant Shores is a cutting-edge show


Dancers Adriana Suarez (left) and Alexandra Kochis FARNSWORTH/BLALOCK PHOTOGRAPHY

For those who want to immerse themselves in a bit of culture or fine art but are put off by the stodginess that often goes hand-in-hand with classical art forms, the Boston Ballet's newest production offers a refreshing departure from the typical ballet. *From Distant Shores* is a cutting-edge performance piece featuring three ballets of very different styles that just may prove to be the perfect choice for those with short attention spans.

"Ginastera," "Jardi Tancat," and "Celts" run about 30 to 40 minutes each and feature an eclectic mix of contemporary ballet, Irish step and modern dance. Dutch choreographer Rudi van Dantzig's "Ginastera" is an abstract work set to the Argentinian sounds of Alberto Ginastera's String Quartet No. 2, while Nacho Duato's "Jardi Tancat" exhibits a combination of classical and contemporary technique harmonized with the Catalonian folk songs of his native Spain. However, perhaps the most rousing of the three is Lila York's "Celts," which premiered with the Boston Ballet in 1996. An audience favorite, this piece features a range of upbeat Irish tunes from the contemporary pop of The Chieftains to the traditional, and displays the ensemble's skill and versatility with its speedy footwork and jigs. *The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-695-6950). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Wed.-Thu., 7pm; Tues. and Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Oct. 25-Nov. 4. $25-$78. —Jessica Iredale*

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10pm. Main Stage: $10-$15.* On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show. •Thursdays, 8pm ($15); Fridays, 8 and 10pm ($15); Saturdays, 8 and 10pm ($17.50): Bingo with Nana • Wednesdays, 8pm; Sunday, 7:30pm: Best of Improv Asylum ($10).

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. Boston's longest-running improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along. •Thursdays, 7pm: Micetro ($5); 9pm: Jazz ($9) • Fridays, 8pm: Commedia Dell'High School ($12); 10:30pm: Theatre Sports ($12) •Saturdays, 8 and 10:30pm: ImprovBoston ($12) •Sundays, 7pm: Sergeant Culpepper Improvisational Jamboree ($5).

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

The Big Dish
Theatre 1, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-842-7927). Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Through Oct. 27. $15. Brian & Mal present a film noir spoof with a queer twist.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7pm. Ongoing. $49 (includes dinner). Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night, the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

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Advice to Contributors
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Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*Latino Life in the United States*, a photography show, runs through Nov. 25.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). Tue., 11am-5pm; Wed.-Thu., 11am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. The museum's permanent collection of European and American art is on display. •*Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer, shows through Dec. 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculptural Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. *Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustration* runs through Jan. 6, 2002. •*A Garden of Unearthly Delights* features outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work through June 9, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. • *Precision and Prestige: The Art of Engraving* runs through Dec. 2. • *You Look Beautiful Like That: The Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Ma-lick Sidibé* is presented through Dec. 16.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites: Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* is on display through Sept. 2, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* •The first major exhibition by Ellen Gallagher runs through Dec. 31. •Free guided walk-through takes place every Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401) www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tours Fridays, 2:30pm.* The museum's permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries. •Special exhibit *Presence* features images in canvases of growing grass. Oct. 31-Dec. 30.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering and Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. Demonstrations take place from 2-4pm daily. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an ongoing interactive exhibit. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays an ongoing selection of holograms from the museum's collection.


Gallery ISO shows Don Gurewitz's photographs.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •At the Torf Gallery, *A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* shows through Dec. 2. •In the Loring Gallery, *Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Art of the Natural World*, Chinese and Japanese art, shows through Dec. 2. •*Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •In the Japanese Galleries, *Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* shows through March 10, 2002. •In the Gund Gallery, *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style, Photographs by Horst and Hoyningen-Huene* shows through Jan. 6, 2002.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. Permanent collections include *Lexington Alarmed*, *The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden*, *Made in Massachusetts* and *Initiating America*.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors. The Current Science and Technology Center* show is ongoing. •Mugar Omni Theatre shows *A Journey into Amazing Caves*, *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure* and *Bears* through October. Charles Hayden Planetarium features *The Sky Tonight*, *Galileo's Odyssey* and *Skyfire*, through October.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults, $10; seniors and students, $8; children under 16, free.* •Photographer Kenru Izu's *Sacred Places* shows through Dec. 2.

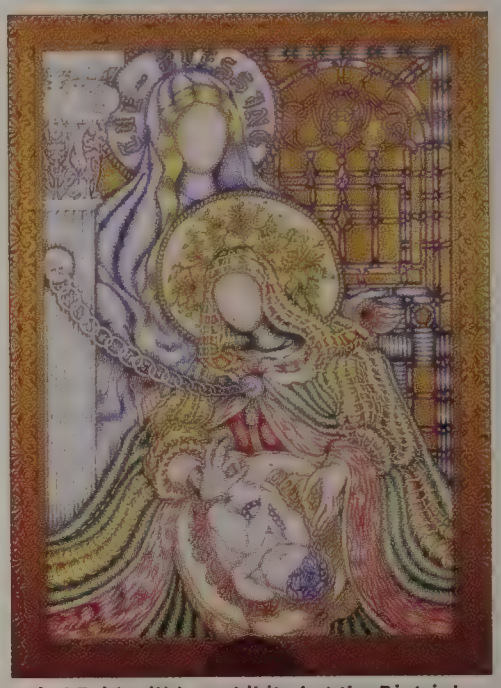
Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm. Free. •*SAC 2001*, an exhibit of 20 local visual artists' work, shows through Oct. 27. It then reopens Nov. 4 and displays through Dec. 15.

Preview

Closing Time

An eclectic Allston gallery to shut its doors

Cynthia von Buhler and her partner, Xavier Dietrich, of the Dietrich von Buhler Gallery, are closing the 2-year-old gallery after this, its final show. One of the most modern art galleries in Allston—and one of the few, for that matter—the "Castle von Buhler" is located in von Buhler's home and personal studio. Annee Spileos Scott's *Illuminating Manuscripts* will be the last exhibition to grace the walls within the distinctive purple Victorian. Upon retiring her role as curator, von Buhler plans to concentrate on her own artistic interests, which include showing her work in New York City, as well as writing and illustrating children's books. "When Xavier and I decided to do the gallery, we thought it'd be an extra, light thing. It did too well, was taken very seriously and became too much," von Buhler says. The gallery did accomplish the goals she had in mind, such as "breathing a bit of life into the local arts scene, providing a venue for non-traditional art and proving that art in Boston can be front-page news." This front-page attention brought art-seekers to her home around the clock, not just during gallery hours, which made the gallery a full-time job. In her last foray (for the moment) as a curator, von Buhler describes this final show as dark and moody, with religious undertones. The *Illuminating Manuscripts* exhibit ends with a closing party on Saturday, Oct. 31, from 7-9pm. *16 Ashford St., Allston (617-783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Packard's Corner. —Leah Gourley*


Blind Faith will be exhibited at the Dietrich von Buhler Gallery's through Oct. 31.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Clockworks*, an exhibit of sculptural clocks, shows through Nov. 10.

Allston Arts District
BPL Allston Branch, 300 N. Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). Mon., Wed., 12-8pm; Tue., Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •Latin American photographs show through the month of November.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 303, Boston (617-482-3652). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11am-5pm. •Through Oct. 27, new work by Erik Hanson shows, as well as *Bedroom*, an installation by Pia Schachter. •*Not A. Lear*, a traveling exhibition, is a group show featuring artists with a surrealist vision. Nov. 2-21.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •David Kapp shows new paintings through Nov. 7.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •*New Works*, Ron Ehrlich's modern creations reminiscent of ancient cave drawings, shows through Oct. 30. •John Stockwell's *New Landscapes* features European-inspired abstracted landscapes. Nov. 1 through Nov. 29.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*Afterimage: Painted & Toned Photography* shows through Nov. 30.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Käthe Kollwitz: Engravings, Lithographs and Woodcuts 1891-1938* is on display through Nov. 3.

Artesano Gallery
757A Beacon St., Newton Centre (617-558-2783). www.artesanogallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm.* The gallery has an ongoing display of glass pieces and jewelry.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •*New Light Works*, by Cameron Shaw, shows through Nov. 28.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Worlds Within: Artists from Gateway Crafts* features the work of artists with disabilities through Nov. 3.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*Making Boys Cry*, a show by David Hilliard, runs through Oct 27. •*Ambreen Butt* opens Oct. 31 and runs through Nov. 24.

Boston Psychoanalytic Society and Institute
15 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-266-0953). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. •Jon Imber presents paintings titled *Self and Object Reconstructed*. Oct. 26 through Jan. 18, 2002.

Boston University Art Gallery
BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. *MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm.* •Work by Whitfield Lovell shows in *Embers* through Oct. 28. •*Esther Bubley: American Photo-Journalist* runs Nov. 2-Dec. 16.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Mary Huges shows *Traces* and Barbara Poole shows *It's Always About Me* through Oct. 27.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •*Haunted by the Faded Beauty of Cuba*, a photography show by Richard Wood, runs through Oct. 25.

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-11:30pm; Sun., 12-11:30pm. •*Some Options in Abstraction*, by a variety of photographers and painters, shows through Nov. 11.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chapellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Jamie Harris shows works in *Maachie*. Also, work by Stopher Christensen is presented through Nov. 11.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Bernd Haussmann shows his work through Oct. 29. •Nathan Wilson's paintings display Nov. 1-27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* •*New England Women Artists, Prints of Daubigny* and work by James A. M. Whistler show through Nov. 3.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •Through Nov. 17, *Fall Members Show: A Juried Members Exhibition* shows.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •*Out from the Shadows*, paintings by Paul Inglis, shows through Oct. 26. •Peggy Badenhausen shows her works in November and December.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery presents an ongoing exhibit of work by artists Jeff Eldrege, Dan McCole, Brian Roach and Norman Crump.

Dietrich von Buhler Gallery
16 Ashford St., Allston (617-783-2421). MBTA: B Green Line to Packard's Corner. drawbridge.com/dvb gallery. *Sat., 2-4pm.* •Annee Spileos Scott presents *Illuminating Manuscripts* through Oct. 31. A closing reception, marking the end of the Dietrich von Buhler Gallery, takes place Oct. 31, 7-9pm.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •*Small Faces*, an exhibition of collages by Margaret Treglia, shows through Oct. 27. •Clinton Deckert's new surrealist paintings show Oct. 30-Dec. 1.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Tokyo-based artist Yayoi Kusama shows her paintings, drawings and sculptures through Dec. 22.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has an ongoing collection of contemporary Latin American ethnic and fine art. •Sculptures by Peruko Ccopacatty and paintings by Carole Lindberg show

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The Lyman-Eyer Gallery shows new work by Boston artists Brett Wallace and Ann Scott Nov. 2-30.

through Oct. 30. •Edwin Sulca, a contemporary Peruvian weaver, shows his textiles Nov. 1-30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Open Studios Group Show* displays through Nov. 9.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galeriedorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* The gallery's permanent collection features master works by Picasso, Renoir, Chagall and Cassatt. • Through November, a *Rembrandt/Dürer: Comparative Exhibition* shows.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Taylor Davis presents her architectural work through Nov. 24.

Gallery fx/Little White Box
39 Thayer St., Boston (617-695-2808). www.galleryfx.org. *Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm or by appointment.* •Karyn Kirk and Wayne Viens show *On the Doll*, with both artists using children's dolls as mediums. Through Oct. 27.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Cheryl Warrick shows *Between the Lines* through Nov. 3.

Gallery 223
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 223, Boston (617-338-4232). www.gallery223.com. *Wed., 1-5:30pm.* The gallery presents an ongoing show of works by Gedy Moody.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Ceramics by Mary Roehm display through Oct. 30. •Charles Cohen shows *New Works*. Nov. 9-Nov. 28.

Gurari Collections
91 Charles St., Boston (617-367-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. A collection of works by contemporary artists and 16th- to early 20th-century etchings, engravings and drawings are on ongoing display.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm and by appointment. The gallery's collection of 18th- and 19th-century prints is an ongoing display. •Through Dec. 31, *Atlantic Neptune Rising* shows 18th-century mariners' charts. • A show of prints depicting ancient Egypt, by David Roberts, exhibits through Nov. 10.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Ethan Berry's *Installation* shows through Nov. 24.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •*Morgan Bulkeley: New Paintings and Sculptures* and *Jaqueline Hayden: Ancient Statuary Series* show through Oct. 30. •Gary Schneider's *Hand Mouth* and John Powell's *Elemental Projections* show Nov. 2-27.

Huntington Gallery
Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 10-5pm, Sat., 11-6pm. •*Post-hypnotic* features 28 abstract painters and runs through Dec. 28.

Hurst Gallery
53 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-491-6888). www.hurstgallery.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Wed.-Sat., 12-6pm; Thu., 12-7pm; and by appointment.* The gallery has an ongoing display of art of the Pacific, Africa, Asia, the Americas and the ancient world.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •Judi Rotenberg's newest work, *Song of Songs*, shows through Nov. 17. The Annex features work by Ian Factor through Nov. 17.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. *Sat., 1-4pm and by appointment.* •*Yasharel* is on display through Nov. 22.

Kaji Aso Studio
40 Saint Stephen St., Boston (617-247-1719). www.kajiasostudio.com. *MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. By appointment.* •*Hudsonriver School Part II*, Mary Gianetto's watercolors and ceramics, is on exhibit through Nov. 1.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •New work by Jim Eng and Meredith Davis, featuring sculpture, mixed media and collage, shows through Oct. 27.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Outdoors*: a show featuring outdoor sculptures in steel, glass, stone and ceramics, shows through Nov. 16.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Homage*, featuring the new work of painters David Penna and Pat Mattina, is on display through Oct. 31. •*Landscapes & Seascapes* shows Nov. 2-30, featuring new work by Boston artists Brett Wallace and Ann Scott.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Tue.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. •The traveling exhibition *Hope Photographs* shows influential contemporary photography through Dec. 9.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •*Modern Abstractions* shows works by Emily Jensen, Deb Gregg, Phil Spinks and Chelynn Tetreault through Nov. 10.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* •*Studio Interiors and Still Lifes* shows through Oct. 31. •*Gotham to Gloucester* shows through November.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •John Gibson and William Ciccariello present their work through mid-November.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
Wiesner Building, 20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4400). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm, Fri., 12-8pm, Sat.-Sun., 12-6pm. Free. •*Yes Yoko Ono*, an interactive art/music/film/photography exhibit, is on display through Jan. 6, 2002.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). www.mobius.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Mobius Group Show* is on display through Oct. 27. •"Reports from Afield: A Chinatown Banquet," an artists' talk given by Mike Blockstein and Jeremy Liu, is presented Oct. 29, 7pm. •*Odes (To a Planet Dying)*, performance collage work by Marjorie Morgan and Not Frida, is exhibited Nov. 3, 1 and 3pm and Nov. 4, 3pm.

MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tue.-Sat., 11-5:30pm; Sun.-Mon., 1-5pm. •*Vehicle*, sculpture by Klic, and paintings by Merle Poulton are on display through Oct. 28. •*Abstracts*, a show with Dan Fox, Mitch Glassman, Carolanne Grove and Jeremy Hamilton, shows Nov. 1-Dec. 2.

New Art Center
61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-964-3424). www.newartcenter.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm* •Artists use all mediums to express *The Animal As Muse: Divine to Demonic*, which is on display through Nov. 2.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Robert Rohm's sculptures and Sam Messer's paintings show through Nov. 10.

OH+T Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Gladys Bel shows her works on cloth and paper through Oct. 27. •Painter Jeffrey Bishop shows his new works Nov. 2-24.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. •Andrew Guthrie's solo exhibition *Collecting* features a series of moving and still images. Oct. 27-Nov. 17.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm. The gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday with Luther Gray. •Works by Bonnie Sloane show through Oct. 31.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery boston.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Paintings by Phyllis Berman display through Nov. 24.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*The Beauty of the Seen*, the latest ceramic art from Brother Thomas, shows through Nov. 27.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The teahouse specializes in antique Yixing teapots.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* 19th- and 20th-century paintings are on ongoing display.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*. •Paintings by Rachel Wardrop are also on display.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5.* •Rolf Hoeg and Joël Urruty exhibit their works through Oct. 30.

South End Gallery
South End Branch of the BPL, 85 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm: Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Three Decades of the Box*, work by Robert Rovenolt, runs through Oct. 30.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* •*The Power of Paint*, a show by William St. George, shows through Nov. 17.

Upstairs at Johnson Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Satl, 8:30am-1pm. •*Plein Aire*, oil paintings by Tim DeVriese and Matt Glushien, display through Oct. 29. •Esther Garcia Eder and Marty Epp show their works through November.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •Works by Polly Star show in *Poetry of Hand and Spirit.* Through Nov. 3.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.

PHOTOGRAPHY

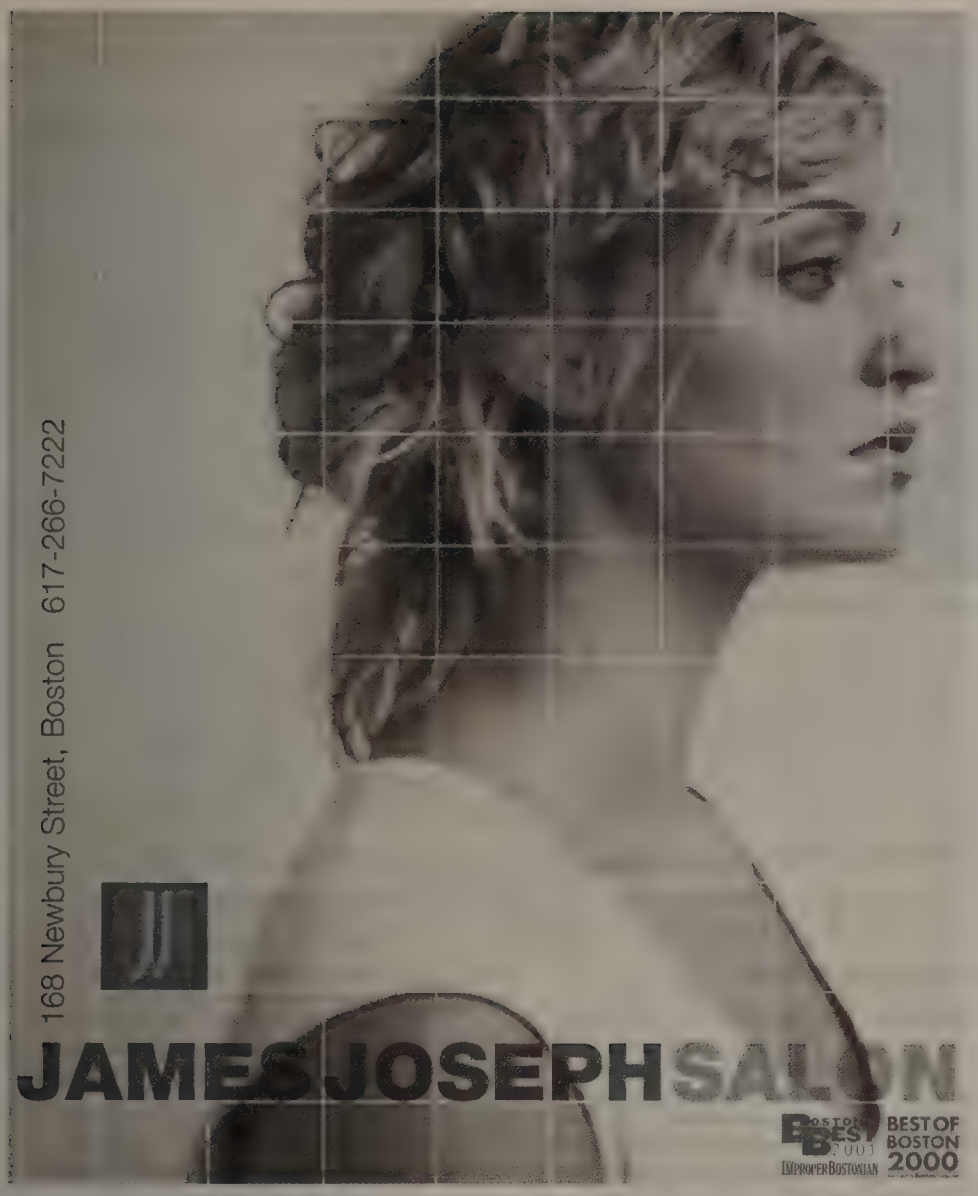
Panopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* •*A Greek Portfolio*, showcasing photographs by Constantine Manos, displays through Nov. 10.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •The Leopold Godowsky Jr. color photography award nominees show through Oct. 26. •*Voyages (per) Formed*, a show of contemporary and historical travel photography, shows Nov. 9-Dec. 20.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Call for gallery hours.* •Photographs by Yousuf Karsh show through Oct. 27. •A show of photography by Horst P. Horst shows concurrent with the MFA's collection. Nov. 1-Dec. 30.



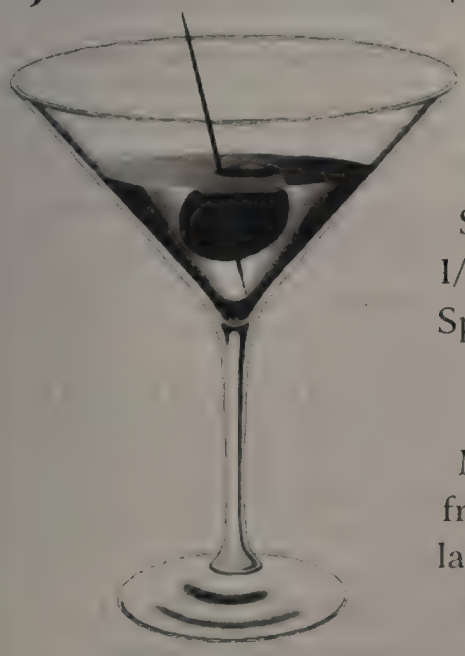
Yousuf Karsh's photography, including *Pablo Picasso, 1954*, is on display at the Robert Klein Gallery through Oct. 27.



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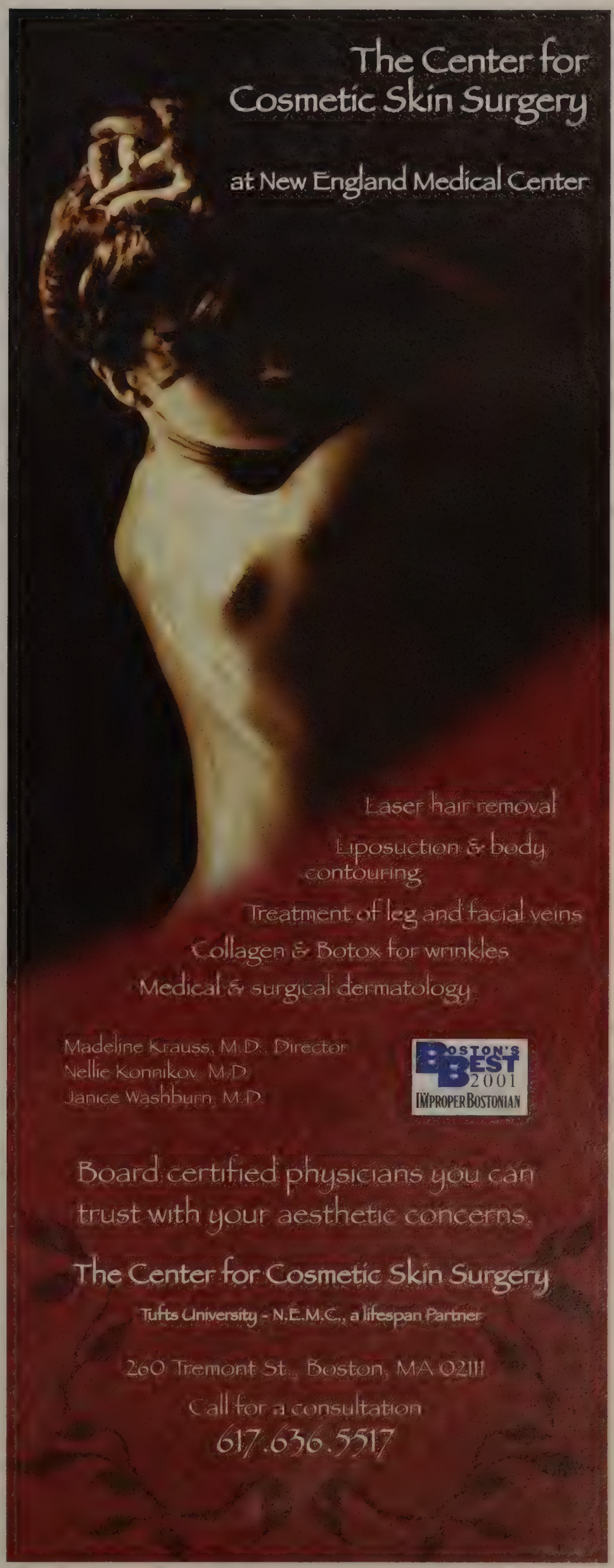
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READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24

Barnes & Noble Author Event
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Comedian **Marc Maron** traces his journey to spirituality with his new book, *Jerusalem Syndrome: My Life as a Reluctant Messiah.*

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30pm. **Helen Zia** discusses *Asian American Dreams*, exploring the transformation of Asian-Americans into a self-identified racial group.

Brookline Booksmith Writers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Gail Mazur** discusses *They Can't Take That Away from Me*, her fourth collection of poems. **Elizabeth McCracken** reads from *Niagara Falls All Over Again*, a story about a lifelong friendship.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free; tickets required. Neurologist **Oliver Sacks** discusses his book, *Uncle Tungsten: Memories of a Chemical Boyhood*, a memoir reflecting on his youth in wartime England.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Charles R. Cross** talks about his biography of Kurt Cobain, *Heavier than Heaven.*

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Nomi Eve** signs her novel, *The Family Orchard*, the saga of a family in Jerusalem.

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
•Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free. **Rinpoche Gahlek**, a self-proclaimed reincarnated lama, discusses *Good Life, Good Death: Tibetan Wisdom on Reincarnation. •WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free.* **Amir Aczel** discusses *The Riddle of the Compass: The Invention That Changed the World.*

THURSDAY, OCT. 25

Barnes & Noble Author Event
170 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-965-7621). 7pm. Free. **Marcie Abramson** discusses and signs her book, *Painless Math Word Problems*, a study guide for middle school children.

BCAE Writing Festival Workshop
Boston Center for Adult Education, The Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 6pm. $45. **Eric Kraft** speaks on "Creating the Other Self, the One Who Does the Writing."

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). 7:30pm. **Larry Tye** presents his book, *Homelands: Portraits of the New Jewish Diaspora*, focusing on the renewal of Jewish identity.

Borders Book Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. Free. Borders hosts *Boston Globe* journalists debuting their first books. **Ralph Ranalli** discusses his book, *Deadly Alliance: The FBI's Secret Partnership with the Mob.* **Brian McGrory** reads from *The Incumbent*, about an assassination attempt, and **John Farrell** reads from *Tip O'Neill and the Democratic Century.*

Boston Public Library Book-toberfest
Mezzanine Conference Room, BPL, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Free. **Nicholas A. Basbanes** discusses his book *Patience and Fortitude: A Roving Chronicle of Book People, Book Places and Book Culture.*

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Jane Gottesman** speaks about *Game Face: What Does a Female Athlete Look Like?*, a look at athletic women over time.

Harvard Book Store Special Event
Call for venue and time (617-661-1515). **Caroline Kennedy** shares her mother's strong belief in the power of literature with a reading of *The Best-Loved Poems of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis.* A discussion of her mother's life and work follows.



Gail Mazur reads some of her poetry Oct. 24.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Lorraine Seymourian** discusses her book *Sexy Food for Singles*, full of tips for appealing appetizers, exotic entrees and delicious desserts.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 7pm. **Nancy Atherton** reads the latest from her Aunt Dimity series, *Aunt Dimity Beats the Devil*, a tale of time-traveling spirits and secret treasure.

Words to Live by Benefit
Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 St. James St., Boston (617-521-0125). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 7-11pm. $25; $15 students and seniors. Mystery writer **Barbara Neely** joins local authors **Charles Coe**, **Margaret Lockwood** and **Alice Domar** in an evening of poetry and prose to benefit Casa Myrna Vasquez, a domestic-violence agency serving battered women. **Delores Handy** of WBUR hosts, and a book signing with refreshments follows.

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). 7pm. Free. **Junot Diaz**, editor of *Beacon Best of 2001: Great Writing by Women and Men of All Colors and Cultures*, discusses this anthology.

FRIDAY, OCT. 26

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
100 Cambridgeside Place, Cambridge (617-679-0887). 7:30pm. **Lesley Pratt Bannatyne**, author of *A Halloween How-To*, shares her book of tips to have the spookiest Halloween ever.

Harvard Book Store Friday Forum
1256 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Free. Philosopher **Martha Nussbaum** discusses her book, *Upheavals of Thought: The Intelligence of Emotions*, which explains how emotions influence goal-making decisions.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 1pm. Free. **Owen West** reads from his new novel, *Sharkman Six*, which is about Somalia and Operation Restore Hope.

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
•Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free. **Malachy McCourt**, brother of Frank McCourt, chronicles his journey to sobriety in his second memoir, *Singing My Him Song. •WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge. 7pm. Free.* **Harold Bloom**, editor of *Stories and Poems for Extremely Intelligent Children of All Ages*, reads and discusses the collection.

SATURDAY, OCT. 27

The Americana Project
Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. $5. **Whitney Pastorek** and **Jeff Boison**, editors of *Pindeldyboz.com*, host a night of music and readings by many authors. Harpoon Brewery donates beer, and proceeds go to the Twin Towers Fund.

Curious George's 60th Anniversary
Curious George Goes to WordsWorth, 1 JFK St., Cambridge (617-498-0062). 12-4pm. Free. Celebrate **H. A. Rey's** beloved character's 60th anniversary. Kids can shake hands with **Curious George** and meet a capuchian monkey from Helping Hands.

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5pm. Free. Ben Kaplan shares tips in *How to Go to College Almost for Free: The Secrets of Winning Scholarship Money.*

MONDAY, OCT. 29

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6849). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. The Blacksmith House presents "A Night of Alarming and Terrifying Poetry."

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free; tickets required. **Douglass Shand-Tucci**, Bostonian architectural historian, speaks about his book *Harvard University: The Campus Guide.*

Newton Free Library Series
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7:30pm. Free. Sports columnist **Charles Pierce** discusses his book *Sports Guy: In Search of Corkball, Warroad Hockey, Hooters Golf, Tiger Woods and the Big, Big Game*, a humorous look at issues in the American sports world.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Larry Cohen** reads from his latest work, *Playful Parenting: A Bold New Way to Nurture Close Connections, Solve Behavioral Problems and Encourage Children's Confidence.* After the reading, enjoy a pint of Park Pale Ale and appetizers at the Newtonville Times Restaurant.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
•Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free. **Sandra Steingraber** discusses her memoir of pregnancy, *Having Faith: An Ecologist's Journey to Motherhood. •WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge. 7pm. Free.* **Larry Dossey** reads and discusses his book *Healing Beyond the Body: Medicine and the Infinite Reach of the Mind.*

TUESDAY, OCT. 30

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). 7pm. If you missed her reading on Oct. 24, **Nomi Eve** again discusses her debut novel, *The Family Orchard.*

Boston Public Library Book-toberfest
Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Free. **Ursula K. LeGuin** discusses her book *The Other Wind*, the next installation in her *Tales from Earthsea* series.

Brookline Booksmith Writers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Adam Pertman** speaks on his book, *Adoption Nation: How the Adoption Revolution Is Changing America.*

Harvard Book Store Education Series
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free; tickets required. Pulitzer Prize finalist **Nancy Milford**, acclaimed biographer of Zelda Fitzgerald, discusses her new biography, *Savage Beauty: The Life of Edna St. Vincent Millay.*

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Coleman Barks** reads from his book *The Soul of Rumi: A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems*, inspired by Islamic mystical poet Rumi.

McIntyre and Moore Booksellers
255 Elm St., Davis Square, Somerville (617-629-4840). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 7pm. **Lesley Bannatyne**, author of *Halloween: An American History* and *A Halloween How-To: Costumes, Parties, Decorations, and Destinations*, hosts the Halloween Help Desk, where she will conjure up advice about Halloween.

Newtonville Books Earfull Series
Kendall Café, 233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0993). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall Square. 8:30pm. Authors and musicians team up to read and perform unplugged music. **Jayne Anne Phillips**, author of *Black Tickets*, and **Elizabeth Searle**, author of *Celebrities in Disgrace*, read. **Chris Brokaw** and **Jules Verdone** perform.

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Clea Simon** reads and discusses *Fatherless Women: How We Change After We Lose Our Dads*, a book based on her own experiences.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Patricia Thomas** speaks about her book, *Big Shot: Passion, Politics, and the Struggle for an AIDS Vaccine*, the story of a 16-year battle to have an AIDS vaccine tested.

THURSDAY, NOV. 1

BCAE Writing Festival Reading and Lecture
Boston Center for Adult Education, The Gamble Mansion, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 7pm. $29 reading and lecture; $49 reading, lecture and reception. **Anita Diamant**, author of *The Red Tent*, reads and lectures about her work as a writer.



DEBI MILLIGAN

Brookline Booksmith 40th Birthday
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 5:30pm. Celebrate beloved bookseller Brookline Booksmith's birthday.

Harvard Coop Poetry Reading
1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Vernon Frazer** reads poems from *Improvisations*.

Kate's Mystery Books
2211 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-491-2660). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square. 6pm. **Joseph Kanon** discusses how he researched his new thriller, *The Good German*, a love story set in tumultuous post-war Germany.

WordsWorth Books Author Series
Call for location and time (617-354-5201). **Juan Enriquez**, author of *As the Future Catches You: How Genomics and Other Forces Are Changing Your Life, Your Work, Your Investments, Your World*, discusses his latest book.

FRIDAY, NOV. 2

Borders Book Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. Free. WBUR's talk show hosts, the Satellite Sisters, discuss and sign their book, *Satellite Sisters' Uncommon Senses*.

Grolier Poetry Reading Series
Corner of Quincy Street and Broadway, Cambridge (617-617-547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $5. **Laure-Anne Bosselaar** reads from her collection, *Small Gods of Grief*. **Jason Shinder** reads from his second collection, *Among Women*.



Don Lee reads from his new collection of short stories on Nov. 5.

Harvard Book Store Friday Forum
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Free. **Peggy Levitt** discusses her book, *The Transnational Villagers*, an account of how people create communities that span borders.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). 7pm. **Dr. Suzen J. Ziegahn** discusses her book, *Seven Steps to Bonding with Your Stepchild*.

SUNDAY, NOV. 4

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Israeli writer **Etgar Keret** reads from his collection of stories, *The Bus Driver Who Wanted to be God*.

Woodberry Poetry Room
Lamont Library Level 5, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-495-2454). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. A celebration of **Miguel Hernandez**, with **Ted Genoways** and **Don Share**.

MONDAY, NOV. 5

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6849). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. **Don Lee**, author of *Yellow: Stories*, reads with **Deborah Spark**.

Brookline Booksmith Writers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Camden Joy** reads and discusses the books *Hubcap Diamondstar Halo*, *Pan* and *Palm Tree #13*.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
The Forum, Kennedy School of Government, 79 JFK St., Cambridge (617-661-1515). 6pm. **Michael Ignatieff** discusses his book, *Human Rights as Politics and Idolatry*, an account of the evolution of human rights.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). 7pm. Free. **Kati Marton** discusses her book, *The Hidden Power: Presidential Marriages that Shaped Our Recent History*.

WordsWorth Books Reading Series
30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). 7pm. Free. **Michael Downing** discusses the scandalous *Shoes Outside the Door*, a celebrity-filled retreat rocked by scandal.

TUESDAY, NOV. 6

Ibbetson St. Press Presents
Somerville Central Library, 79 Highland Ave., Somerville (617-628-2313). 7pm. **Marc Widershien** reads from *The Life of All Worlds*, his poetic memoir of Boston.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **James Pastor Bolnick** discusses his book, *Living at the Edge of the World: How I Survived in the Tunnels of Grand Central Station*.

Newtonville Books Earfull Series
Kendall Café, 233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge (617-661-0993). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8:30pm. **Andre Dubus III**, author of *House of Sand and Fog*, and **Mike Rosovsky** give readings. **Tanya Donnelly** and **Merrie Amsterburg** perform.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24

Epidemics and Bloodletting
Old State House Museum, 206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-1713). 6:30pm. $3. **Dr. Jason A. Campagna** of Mass General Hospital will describe the medical practice used in Colonial-era Boston.

French and Americans: Working Together or Apart?
The First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400). 6:30pm. $30. **Polly Platt**, author of *French or Foe?*, compares French and American behavior in the workplace.

The Artist's Role in Effecting Social Change
Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-290-8331). 6pm. Free. **Shannon Flattery**, founder *Touchable Stories*, a nonprofit organization that performs historical analysis of neighborhoods, will address the artist's role in society.

The Onset of Civilization
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). 7pm. $11. Anthropologist **Brian Fagam** and theologian **Mary Evelyn Tucker** speculate about the future of humankind and the Earth.

Conversation with Imam Talal Eid
The First and Second Church of Boston, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). 7:30pm. Free. **Imam Talal Eid** of the Islamic Center of New England has been at the forefront of interfaith dialogue with the Muslim community since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

THURSDAY, OCT. 25

Cancer and AIDS
Harvard Medical School, Goldenson Building, Room 122, 200 Longwood Ave., Boston (617-432-1000). Oct. 25 (cancer) and Nov. 1 (AIDS), 7pm. Free. These seminars consist of a 45-minute interactive biology lecture followed by a roundtable discussion.

The Case Against Henry Kissinger
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston Street, Copley Square, Boston (617-536-5400). 6:30pm. Free. **Christopher Hitchens**, author of *The Trial of Henry Kissinger*, leads a panel discussion on Kissinger actions during the Vietnam War.

SATURDAY, OCT. 27

A Lecture by Dominique Sennelier
The Copley Society, 158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). 10:30am. Free. **Dominique Sennelier**, president of the company that revolutionized oils in the Impressionist period in France, will speak about his company's unique relationship with the great artists.

Economics: The Modern Mythology
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-495-2727). 2pm. Free. Economist **John Kenneth Galbraith** discusses the changing economic forces in the United States as 60 million baby boomers retire over the next decade.

MONDAY, OCT. 29

Reports from Chinatown
Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). 7pm. Free. Artists **Mike Blockstein** and **Jeremy Liu** talk about *A Chinatown Banquet*, a community project that explores the shaping forces in Chinatown.

SUNDAY, NOV. 4

The Civil Rights Movement Today
Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). 2pm. Free. **John Lewis,** U.S. representative of Georgia, shares his experience from the 1950s and explores the legacy of the Civil Rights Movement.

TUESDAY, NOV. 6

Friendships Across Racial Divides
Pine Manor College, 400 Heath St., Chestnut Hill (617-373-5800). 6:30pm. Free. This panel discussion on racial stereotypes is is presented by Ford Hall Forum.



FILM

THE SEMI-SCORE

Mamet goes multiplex, but the spoils are thin.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

When it comes to movies, there are two David Mamets. There's one who's a writer-for-hire, churning out screenplays for Hollywood releases like *The Untouchables*, *Hoffa* and *Hannibal*. Then there's another who writes and directs distinctive independent movies like *House of Games*, *Homicide* and *The Spanish Prisoner*—intricate, dark, often comedy-laced thrillers with some of the staccato rhythms and terse vulgarities of his plays (the third Mamet, well-known playwright, is another story entirely). Lately, though, the two "movie Mamets" have overlapped more and more in the films he's written and directed. Last year's nimble *State and Main* was a Mamet comedy with, literally and figuratively, more sunshine than he usually lets in. Meanwhile, his new crime thriller, *Heist*, mixes the broad storylines of his multiplex-movie scripts with the intricacies and verbal digs of those movies he's directed.

That's part of the fun and part of the problem with this crime thriller, which recalls the recent film *The Score*. Movies like *House of Games*, *Homicide* and *The Spanish Prisoner* were practically one-of-a-kind stories. But here's *Heist*, and just like the DeNiro-Brando-Norton thriller, it too has a wizened old thief (Gene Hackman) with a cover trade (building boats) looking for one last haul before he retires with the woman he loves (Rebecca Pidgeon). And, once again, that final score turns out to be filled with cat-and-mouse games in which everyone is trying to grab all the spoils.

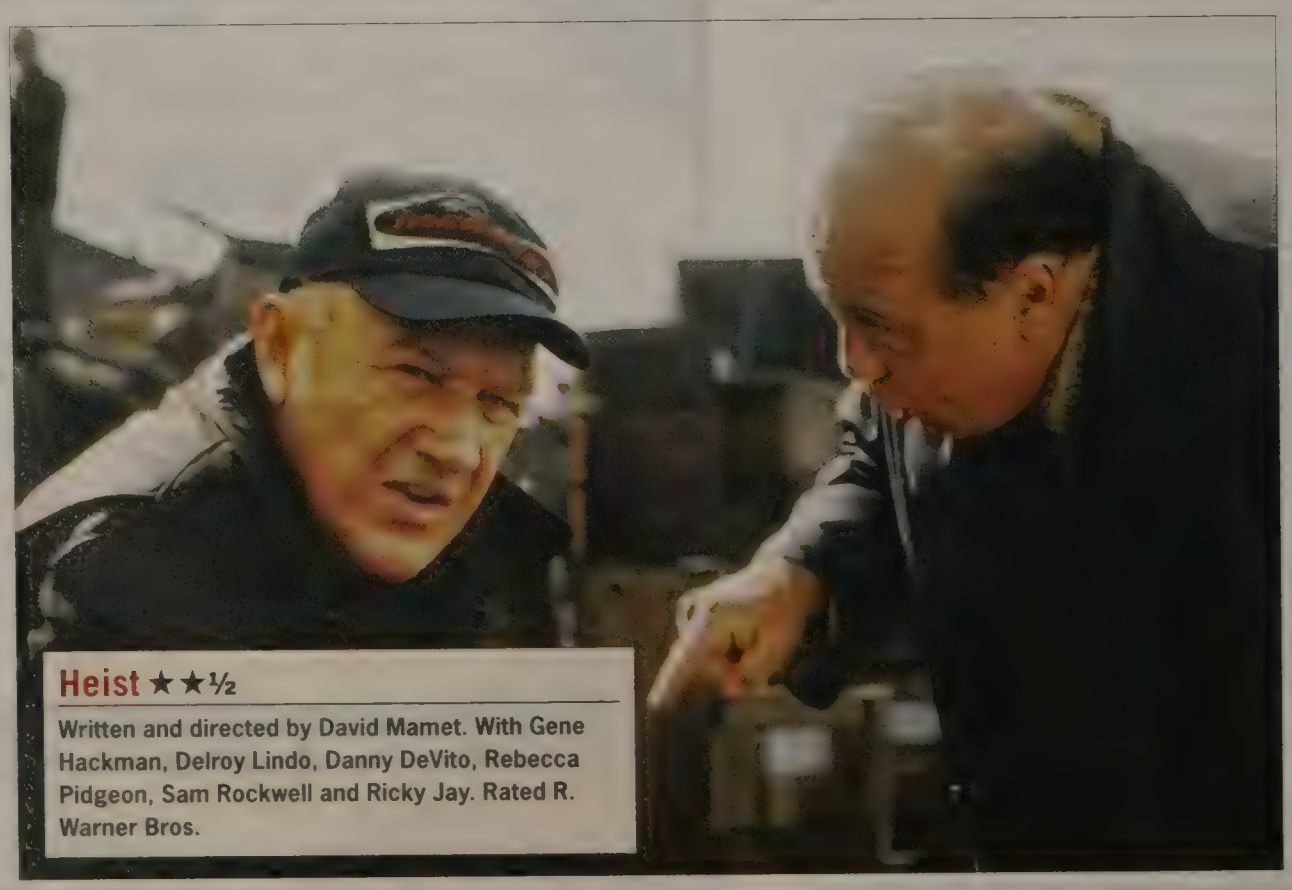
So circumstances make *Heist* a little stale. But there's still the appeal of seeing Mamet bring his act to a bigger stage, and there's always room for a good crime thriller (*The Score* was hardly original, either). *Heist* starts with some of the pop you'd hope for, as Hackman and cohorts Pidgeon, Delroy Lindo and Ricky Jay knock off a Manhattan jewelry store one morning with the precision of a commando unit (another *The Score* similarity: This was shot in Montreal, too, but here it's doubling for New York and Boston).

There is one hitch to the jewel robbery. Hackman gets caught on tape by a security camera, tainting the entire job, as Danny DeVito (who plays the shady garment-company owner who fronts the money for Hackman's heists) makes very clear. Realizing his days as a thief are numbered because his crime was caught on tape, Hackman returns to his Quincy shipbuilding business and decides to pull one last job. DeVito has information about a load of gold on a cargo plane, but he'll only give it up if his inexperienced nephew (Sam Rockwell) gets to join Hackman's crew for the job.

Hackman's crew doesn't trust DeVito and Rockwell, and those two don't trust Hackman's crew. So *Heist* turns into a movie not only about robbery but about the con games going on between the two factions.

And that can be fun to watch. As he often has been, Mamet is fascinated by the way criminals mentally manipulate others, and *Heist* is full of instances in which characters scam others by masquerading as highway workmen, security experts or businessmen. Mamet also peppers the dialogue with great lines. His characters here emerge as an unsanctioned Simile Lovers Club, with memorable lines like "I'm going to be as quiet as an ant pissing on cotton."

But both the scams and the dialogue wane over time, turning *Heist* into a so-so Elmore Leonard wannabe. The dialogue gets so strained that "Kiss my Yankee ass" is a big line during a climactic showdown, while the characters' quests to grab all the gold they've stolen results in so many plot twists that they stop having an impact. Pidgeon's character conveniently loses much of her shrewdness to suit those twists, while the smile of victory the "winner" trots out at the end rings false and gives the movie a smug, sour taste. It's as contrived as a freeze-frame ending in a mediocre comedy. **iB**



Heist ★★½

Written and directed by David Mamet. With Gene Hackman, Delroy Lindo, Danny DeVito, Rebecca Pidgeon, Sam Rockwell and Ricky Jay. Rated R. Warner Bros.

Gene Hackman and Danny DeVito try to out-con one another in *Heist*.

TAKASHI SEIDA

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Diamond Men ★★½
An increasingly busy plot partially deflates the more interesting core of this comedy-drama about an aging traveling salesman (Robert Forster) being forced into retirement and the brash younger guy (Donnie Wahlberg) he's breaking in to take over his job. The job is selling diamonds to central Pennsylvania jewelry stores, and the movie's first half has a refreshing slice-of-life flavor. The interaction between Forster and Wahlberg is very smooth, and the emergence of their characters' friendship is very convincing, as the older man shows the impatient younger one the value of relationships, with both women and customers. The second half, in which hookers and robbers enter the picture, feels contrived by comparison.

Don't Say a Word ★★
It's no better or worse than two dozen movies like it every year, but this kidnapping thriller is the sort of coldly violent, cynically emotional movie that seems even crasser and more foolish after Sept. 11 than it would have before. Michael Douglas plays a child psychologist whose daughter gets kidnapped because his latest patient (Brittany Murphy) knows where a rare jewel is, and a gang of thieves (led by Sean Bean) want to force him to get her to talk. With its glibly set-up dangerous situations and unconvincing heroics, it's the type of Hollywood movie that needs to get real or get lost.

Iron Monkey ★★★
This Robin Hood story from 1993 is one of the more enjoyable Hong Kong martial arts movies directed by Yuen Wo Ping, who choreographed fights for *The Matrix* and *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. With Yu Rong Guang as the herbal doctor who, by night, steals from the corrupt to give to the poor, and with Newton-raised Donnie Yen as the traveling monk who teams up with him, there's lots of swift action here, though it's rarely as unconventional as in those two later movies. The climax, fought atop wooden poles, with a fire raging below, is classic, though.

Life as a House ★
It's appropriate that there is a clumsy title for this clumsy, tiresome angst-and-emotion fest. Kevin Kline plays a fortysomething guy who never reached his dream of being an architect. When he gets fired from his job and learns he has cancer, he decides to build his dream house and to bond with the angry teen son (Hayden Christensen) from his failed marriage. When it's not indulging in middle-aged crisis—love all those "my dad sucked" stories—it's shoveling on maudlin bonding moments or desperately titillating teen sexuality. The result is an annoying cross between two annoying movies, *American Beauty* and Kline's previous *Grand Canyon*.

Mulholland Drive ★★
After David Lynch scored with his surprisingly straightforward *The Straight Story*—which nonetheless featured one of his favorite behaviors, obsession—the *Twin Peaks* and *Blue Velvet* director is back to bad 1990s habits. That means this is a movie that doesn't make much internal sense and doesn't have an engaging style of intrigue, either. Expanded from a TV pilot ABC rejected, his latest includes parallel universes, shady characters, sapphic desire and even Billy Ray Cyrus, but they never amount to much. Newcomers Naomi Watt and Laura Harring play two sets of women in L.A. who may or may not be the same women. But does it really matter? In its original form, this might have been a decent jumping-off point for a series that could play itself out, but as a movie it just throws things up on the screen with little payoff at the end.

My First Mister ★★
Actress Christine Lahti's directorial debut is essentially the bad version of *Ghost World*. It too has a disaffected teen (Leelee Sobieski) and a withdrawn, older man (Albert Brooks) she befriends. But, despite being about the angry teen, it has more of the sensibility of the middle-aged man. The way the new friendship opens the girl up and teaches her how to love such unlikable folks as her shrill mom (Carol Kane), dull stepdad (Michael McKean) and aging-hippie dad (a rare bad performance from John Goodman) rings totally false. Plus the unconvincing emotional and cosmetic makeover the Goth Girl gets makes this feel as if it were produced by Sally Jesse Raphael.

Serendipity ★★½
Recently, an English character on the shrewd TV series *Undeclared* stormed away from a TV showing a Hollywood romantic comedy, knowing the ending would be happy and accompanied by a Louis Armstrong song. Such comfortable predictability is the main problem with this romantic comedy. Still, the very polished New York romance is sincere, features the always-worth-rooting-for John Cusack and has Jeremy Piven and Eugene Levy in supporting roles.



John Cusack and Kate Beckinsale's romance in *Serendipity* is predictable but comes off as sincere.

DAVID LEE

Cusack and Kate Beckinsale play characters who meet when both are attached, and then part because she says they'll meet again if fate wants them to. Seven years later and now engaged to others, each desperately tries to find the other. Will they reconnect? Will Satchmo sing? Is Derek Zoolander dumb?

Together ★★★
As in his previous *Show Me Love*, Swedish writer-director Lukas Moodysson packs a lot of convincing affection for his characters into his latest. This comedy is about a communal household in 1975 Stockholm that gets shaken up by the arrival of one member's housewife sister and her two children. Once thrown together, the vegetarian radicals and the bourgeois family unit put some interesting dents in each other's armor, from the housewife deciding to let her armpit hair grow out to the commune's kids finally getting good toys to play with. Some gags and characters fall flat, but Moodysson has such an engaging way of finding common ground between people that this becomes a genuine feel-good film.

Training Day ★★★
Denzel Washington's uncharacteristically brash performance sparks this corrupt-cop drama, and helps it leapfrog over an awkward plot in which an unseen violent act that happened before the movie's action is crucial to the resolution (as if it were added at the last moment). Better than the clumsy plotting are the scenes between Washington's rules-skirting narcotics detective and the idealistic new partner played by Ethan Hawke. The new guy is rightly stunned by his partner's thuggish tactics. Like Gene Hackman in *The French Connection* or Orson Welles in *Touch of Evil*, Denzel's performance, which gives the character smarts and generosity, injects the necessary moral complexity into our perception of the cop.

Waking Life ★★
Writer-director Richard Linklater had his breakthrough a decade ago with *Slacker*, the daisy chain of seemingly unrelated characters that accumulated into a funny, disarmingly deep glimpse into how people carve out their own realities in this world. His latest comes off like the duller, less amusing version of *Slacker*. Half of it is like that movie, with real-life characters obsessively spilling theories on life, while the other half features actors in presumably more scripted encounters who ruminate on similar themes of identity, individuality and reality. A good part of it is supposed to be happening within the dreams of the remarkably unremarkable protagonist (Wiley Wiggins of Linklater's *Dazed and Confused*), so it's told through an animated style mixing rotoscoping (drawing over filmed action) with fluid, more surreal backgrounds. There's plenty of food for thought and an interesting visual style, but next to the matter-of-fact depth of *Slacker*, there's less insight and more bombast.

Zoolander ★★½
Like *America's Sweethearts*, this has enough laughs poking fun at obvious pop-culture excesses to get by, but it doesn't live up to its trailer or to the potential of those involved. Ben Stiller directed, co-wrote and stars as title character Derek Zoolander, a celebrity model who makes Fabio seem deep. The story develops this dim bulb into a somewhat self-aware hero, but it's no *Austin Powers* in the narcissistic-hero department. As he does in just about every movie he's in, Owen Wilson nearly steals the show as Zoolander's New Age runway rival, who becomes his equally clueless comrade in a plot to stop a designer (Will Ferrell) from masterminding the assassination of a sweatshop-closing Malaysian politician.

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

In the Pink
•Oct. 29, 7:30 and 9:45pm **Revenge of the Pink Panther** *1997.* In this film by Blake Edwards, Inspector Clouseau fakes his own death and goes under cover to solve a mystery.

Brattle Theatre

Cuban Revolutionary Cinema
•Oct. 25, 6pm **Guantanamera!** *1978.* This film by Alea and Juan Carlos Tabio is a graceful road movie about a group of friends and relatives accompanying the body of a famous diva on a journey through Cuba to her final resting place in Havana.

New Anime
•Oct. 26-Nov. 1, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45pm, Saturday and Sunday matinees at 1:45 and 3pm **Vampire Hunter D: Bloodlust** *2000.* Yoshiaki Kowajiri's film follows a vampire hunter known as "D," who is a dampyr: half vampire, half-human. "D" slices and dices his way to a beautiful young woman who may have been kidnapped by a dashing vampire count.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

13th Annual Boston Jewish Film Festival
•Nov. 3, 7pm **Waiting for the Messiah** *2000.* As 20-something Ariel escapes his ordered Jewish existence to explore the larger urban environment of Buenos Aires, a bank clerk loses everything and finds comfort in an unexpected place. Directed by Daniel Burman.
•Also showing, 9:30pm **Time of Favor** *2000.* A winner of six Israeli Academy Awards including Best Picture, this movie by Joseph Cedar is a gripping thriller. Pini, a young settler, takes the teachings of his charismatic rabbi literally and masterminds a plot to blow up the Dome of the Rock mosque on the Temple Mount. His best friend, an army officer, finds out and

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Beauty Therapies



has to decide where his loyalties lie.
•Nov. 4, 11am **Beyond Hitler's Grasp** *2000.* Bulgaria was the only European country in which the Jewish population increased during World War II, in spite of its pro-Nazi government and anti-Jewish laws. This film, directed by Nitzan Aviram, is a tribute to a people who embraced their Jewish countrymen as their own. •Also showing, 1pm **Company Jasmine** *2000.* For five months, documentary filmmaker Yael Katzir followed five of the 50 young women training at the prestigious Women Field Officers School. The film traces how the young women cope in a high-pressure, competitive environment. •Also showing, 3:30pm **B'Nai Mitzvah Program** features three films. **Allerd Fishbein's In Love** *2000.* It's the early 1980s in the Catskills as Allerd prepares for his bar mitzvah. **The Seventh Day** (*El Séptimo Dia*) *1999.* A Buenos Aires family battles a traffic jam, power failure, a security check and other obstacles to celebrate a bar mitzvah. **Wanderings: A Journey to Connect** *2001.* This charming film by Nikila Cole follows a Jewish mother and daughter. •Also showing, 6pm **The Sweetest Sound** *2001.* What is the sweetest sound? Why, the sound of one's own name. In this intimate essay, documentary filmmaker Alan Berliner searches for the treasures and dangers hidden inside the two words that make up his name. •Also showing, 8pm **One of the Hollywood Ten** *2000.* During the McCarthy era, Jewish director Herbert Biberman was one of the Hollywood Ten sent to jail for refusing to testify against his colleagues and name them as communists. The film, directed by Karl Francis, presents a remarkable portrait of that time.
•Nov. 5, 5pm **At the End of the Day** *2000.* The families of four young men, all commanders in the same Israeli Defense Force Golan Heights paratrooper unit, realized that they all suffer a common fate and agree to meet and share their stories. Director Ayelet Bargur documents the attempts by these families to come to terms with the deaths of their loved ones. •Also showing, 7pm **Touchstones** includes three films. *The Key from Spain: The Songs and Stories of Flory Jagoda* is about the thousands of Jews who were expelled from Spain in 1942. Directed by Ankica Petrovic, et al. *The Last Jewish Town* is director Gil Lesnik's story of the town of Guba nestled in the hills of the Caucasus in north Azerbaijan, where 6,000 "Mountain Jews" found refuge at the beginning of the 18th century. *They Came to Pick Me Up* is filmmaker Ilana Navaro's subtle short film about a woman who emigrates from Turkey to Israel. •Also showing, 9:15pm **Gripsholm** *2000.* Award-winning director Xavier Koller relates the story of Kurt Tucholsky, a brilliant Jewish poet and social critic who takes action against Tucholsky for his declaration that "all soldiers are murderers."
•Nov. 6, **Nazareth 2000** *2000.* Palestinian filmmaker Hany Abu-Assad tells a sharp, lively story—part fiction, mostly documentary—about Nazareth, a city sacred to both Christians and Muslims, at the dawn of the new millennium. •Also showing, 7pm and Nov. 8, 1pm **I'm Alive and I Love You** *1998.* A railway worker becomes involved in the French Resistance through his growing attachment to a little boy orphaned by the Nazis. This heartwarming film, directed by Roger Cahane, is based on a true story. The movie is preceded by **Nothing Else...** (*Plus Rien...*) *2000*, a story of escape from Paris. Directed by Fabrice Nordmann. •Also showing, 9:15pm **The Travellers: This Land Is Your Land** *2001.* The members of a Canadian folk group try to change the world with their music after encountering Canadian anti-Semitism in the 1930s. Directed by Robert Cohen. The movie is preceded by **The Internationale** *2000*, a film directed by Peter Miller about the evolution of the song "The Internationale," which became a worldwide rallying cry for the oppressed and a socialist and communist anthem.

Off The Couch Series
•Opening Nov. 5, **Mulholland Drive** *2001.* David Lynch originally intended to air this dark concoction on prime-time TV but released it instead as a feature film and won Best Director at the Cannes Film Festival. Fans of *Twin Peaks* will like the weirdness of his story about the intersection of three seemingly disparate lives.

Midnight Movies
•Oct. 26 and 27 **From Dusk Till Dawn** *1966.* All right, vampire killers, let's kill some vampires! Directed by Robert Rodriguez. Featuring George Clooney, Harvey Keitel, Quentin Tarantino, Juliette Lewis, Salma Hayek and Cheech Marin.

Harvard Film Archive
The Moving Image: Film and Visual Representation
•Oct. 24, 7pm **Craig's Wife** *1936.* Directed by Dorothy Arzner. The film is an adaptation of George Kelly's play about a woman's struggle to control every inch of her home.
•Oct. 31, 7pm **Toute Une Nuit** *1982.* Director Chantal Akerman creates this urban nocturne from the shards of two dozen pulverized melodramas that take place within the same night.

Close Encounters
•Oct. 25, 8pm **The Mother** *1998.* This rarely seen documentary, directed by Fernando Belens, is about the life of Lucia Rocha, mother of the legendary Brazilian director Glauber Rocha. This film runs in conjunction with **Antonio das Mortes** *1969*, directed by Glauber Rocha, the guiding spirit of the Brazilian Cinema Novo movement, which brought to international attention the complex problems of the Third World.

Masters of International Animation
•Oct. 31, 9pm **I Walked with a Zombie** *1943.* Often referred to as the West Indian version of Jane Eyre, this low-budget horror film, directed by Jacques Tourneur, transposes the action to the Caribbean, as Rochester's first wife falls victim to a voodoo spell.

A Dynamic Duo: Jules Dassin and Melina Mercouri
•Oct. 24, 9pm **Topkapi** *1964.* This Jules Dassin film is a spoof on his own *Rififi*, a delightful and suspenseful comedy with a plot that revolves around a dagger heist.

New Films from Sweden
•Oct. 26, 8pm **90 Minutes of the 90s** (*90 Minuter 90-tol*) *2000.* The film, directed by 10 Swedish filmmakers, chronicles the changing face of Sweden and presents a vivid time capsule of the culture.

Henry Alekan: Master of Light and Shadow
•Oct. 27, 7pm and Oct. 29, 9pm **Golem, the Spirit of the Exile** *1992.* Israeli filmmaker Amos Gitai enlisted Alekan's legendary cinematographic talents to recast elements from the biblical text of Ruth on the theme of exile in present-day Paris.
•Oct. 27, 9pm and Oct. 28, 8pm **The Top of the Whale** *1982.* Directed by Raul Ruiz and shot in five languages (one of them imaginary), this satiric film focuses on a European anthropological expedition to remote reaches of Patagonia to study a tribe of Indians.

Adventures in Surrealism
•Oct. 29, 7pm and Oct. 30, 9pm **Ghosts Before Breakfast** (*Vormittagsspuk*) *1928* directed by Hans Richter, **Entr'acte** *1924* directed by Rene Clair, and **L'Age d'or** *1930* directed by Luis Bunuel comprise a trio of surrealist films featuring flying derby hats and self-firing pistols.

Film Architectures
•Oct. 30, 7pm **The Fountainhead** *1949.* Directed by King Vidor. This interpretation of Ayn Rand's epic transforms New York's skyscrapers and interiors into an abstract backdrop for the sexual tensions and ideological conflicts of a young artist.

Museum of Fine Arts
Festival Films of Iran
All films are in Farsi with English subtitles.
•Oct. 26, 8pm **Under the City's Skin** *2000.* Directed by Rakhshan Bani-Etemad. The story of a likable lower-class family that faces such problems as prostitution, drugs and corruption with a "That's life" attitude.
•Oct. 27, 12:15pm **The Unfinished Song** *2001.* Directed by Maziar Miri. A young ethnomusicologist struggles with a hostile government to prevent the extinction of a region's traditional music.
•Nov. 2, 6pm **You Are Free** *(2001).* Director Mohommad Ali Talebi depicts the lives of two young boys, abandoned after their release from a reformatory school. The film focuses on efforts to reform juvenile delinquents in Iran.

The Films of Frederick Wiseman
•Oct. 27, 10:30am **Essene** *1972.* This film is about daily life in a Benedictine monastery and the resolution of conflict between personal needs and the institutional and organizational priorities of the community.
•Nov. 3, 10:30am **Basic Training** *1971.* This movie follows a company of draftees through nine weeks of a basic training cycle used by the army in converting civilians to soldiers.

Best of British TV Ads
•Oct. 25, 6pm; Oct. 26, 6pm; Oct. 27, 2pm; Nov. 3, 2:15pm **Gold Medal Winners from the Past 25 Years**. This collection of the past 25 years of award-winning British television ads reveals the British to be true masters of the art of selling.
•Oct. 25, 8pm; Oct. 27, 4pm; Nov. 1, 5:30pm, Nov. 3, 4:10pm **British Advertising Films of 2000**. A collection of last year's award-winning British television ads.

13th Annual Boston Jewish Film Festival
•Nov. 1, 7:30pm **Focus** *2001.* Based on Arthur Miller's *Focus*, this film, directed by Neal Slavin, tells the story of a husband and wife mistakenly identified as Jews by their Brooklyn neighbors during the waning days of World War II.
•Nov. 4, 5:30pm **Casting** *2001.* This charming documentary by Emmanuel Finkiel, assembled from the interviews of hundreds of non-professional, Yiddish-speaking men and women ranging in age from 60 to 90, offers precious glimpses into a lost world. •Also showing, 7:30pm **Sobibor, Oct. 14, 1943, 4 P.M.** *2001.* The title notes the place, month, day, year and hour of the only successful uprising in a Nazi extermination camp. This latest documentary by Claude Lanzmann, the acclaimed director of *Shoah* (1985), artfully merges the Warsaw and Minsk of today with a 1979 interview of survivor Yehuda Lerner.
•Nov. 6, 8pm **Landscape** *2000.* Slovakian director Martin Sulik tells a series of village tales that reveal the history of his country. Meet Dr. Roth, who saves a child's life by blowing cigar smoke into his lungs; a watchmaker's widow who rewards a young lover with a watch and a thieving vagabond.

Special Engagements
The Underground Film Revolution
•Nov. 5, 9pm **Neovoxer**. Written and directed by Michael Pope, this futuristic film is a contemporary spin on the early silent-film experience. The story revolves around three friends who use their martial arts skills to fight the gods and find the spiritual heart of the universe, but ultimately lose their humanity. Presented by and screened at the Milky Way Lounge.

Cinema Venues
ALLSTON
Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT
Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON
Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (617-536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.
Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.
Cheri
50 Dalton St. (617-536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.
Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.
Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.
Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.
Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.
Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.
Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE
Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.
Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE
Brattle Theater
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.
Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.
Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.
Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.
Somerville Theater
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON
Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.
West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).



***Monkey Shines* will creep you out—if you can stay up late enough to see it.**

Preview

Fright Night

All-night horror movie marathon

It's more gore than ever before. On Oct. 27, the Coolidge Corner Theater throws an all-night horror movie marathon. Starting at midnight and running until noon the next day, you can plop down with a big cup of coffee and subject yourself to some of the most spooky chillers and thrillers ever made.

First up is George A. Romero's *Monkey Shines*. A monkey that performs guide-dog functions for a paralyzed law student mysteriously acquires a telepathic ability to act out the student's subconscious rage. Then, it's William Friedkin's terrifying tale of possession—*The Exorcist*. It's the sensational, shocking horror story about two priests who try to preserve their sanity while trying to perform an exorcism on an innocent young girl possessed by a demon. *The Bad Seed* is up next. The disturbing 1956 film follows little Christine Penmark, who is anythig but your average 8-year-old. Rather, she is a murderous brat with an incredibly bad temper. Then, it's time for the modern splatter-fest, *Scream*, Wes Craven's famous teen-slasher film about a group of doomed high school kids who try to try not to become the victims of a serial killer. *Evil Dead 2* is the highlight for most serious students of horror. Directed by Sam Raimi, it's the overblown horror flick filled with gore, zombies, decapitation and chilling special effects. The night comes to a close with Joe Dante's werewolf-filled *The Howling*. *290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $15 before; $20 at the door.*

—Erin Hagedorn

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

An Tua Nua
Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Buddha Lounge
Caprice Attain transcendence in the exotic world of Buddha Bar sounds, proper dress, no cover, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar DJ Kaptn Krunch spins hot reggae, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40 tunes, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with Martin Finke, 9pm, 21+.

The Movement on Mondays
Vertigo Deep house, house and progressive mix, 10pm, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
DJ Armen and guests provide the tunes, powered by Future Recordings, 10pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress coats are required, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid, jazz and soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with live bands from 6-10pm, followed by dance tunes spun by DJs, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Common Ground
Mod night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, house and international beats, 10pm, free before 11:30pm, dress sassy.

Emily's
Kick back at this loungey evening with special guest DJs, proper dress, 8pm, 21+.

Escape
Vertigo Progressive, deep NY house, trance and vocals provide an escape, 10pm, 21+.



An Tain churns out a regular stream of hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house music.

Essence
SW1 DJs Bruno, Flashback and Mastermillions spin hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress, 10pm, 19+.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $8, 18+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 DJ JC in the Latin Lounge, and DJs Alex and Felix in the back room, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night hosted by Star 93.7, with live bands play 6-10pm, followed by DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.

Rollercoaster
Aer DJs and live music make for a wild night, 10pm.

Samsara
Hong Kong Psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Wet and Wild Wednesdays
The Kells DJ Drag and DJ Steve spin hip-hop, house, R&B and reggae with ticket giveaways, 10pm, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, $8, 18+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Club Devo
Milky Way Catch Jedi Mind Trick, DJ Benny Blanco, La Machine, DJ Goodtimes and others. 8:30pm, $8, 21+.

Club Zen
97.7's DJ Chubby Chub spins R&B, hip-hop, techno, house and old school, 9pm, $10, 21+.

CPR
Matrix & Jukebox Resident DJs Elyte and hot special guest DJs spin the latest tunes, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and WFNX spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Diversified
Vertigo DJs spin deep soulful house in the lounge and UK hard house and deep trance in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Guest DJs spin house, hip-hop and the best dance music proper dress, 10pm, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
Relax at in this late night lounge with tunes provided by special guest DJs, proper dress, 8pm, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Fashion Lounge
Aria Fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins Latin/Eurohouse; DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean, jackets are required. 11pm, $10, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Privilege
La Boom DJ Felix spins tunes for this hot international night, dress smart, 11pm, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm-2am, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae soca and hip-hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Soul Café
Polly Esther's Dance to three floors of hip-hop R&B and old school with DJ Reggie B, DJ Felix and DJ Chubbie Chubb, 8pm, $5, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
Resident DJs Massi mans the turntables and spins house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $10, 19+; $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Live bands perform while guests sip margaritas, 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Tundra
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinns NYC high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

FRIDAYS

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance tunes and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Cat Club
The Roxy Glam international house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Drag; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Emily's
DJ Renel spins top-40 remix and house, proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop, 10pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Sal Zag spins NYC house; DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Pulse
La Boom Dance to the music of international guest DJs at this upscale night spot, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basemen, 5pm; Live Latin bands at 9:30pm on the first floor, and DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Club-hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins, 10pm, $10, 19+.

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Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins high-energy house, trance and hip-hop spun by DJ Massi in a glass tub, 7:30pm, $5, 21+.

Superfly Fridays
Polly Ester's DJ Boss spins disco house and funk; DJ Chris Crispin, 80s dance; DJ Bob Q spins '70s disco, 5pm, $10, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
Dance to house, hip-hop, R&B and top-40 tunes with special guest DJs, proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
The Dream Lounge features international, latin and house tunes. Catch high energy house and vocal in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos and Franklin spin top-40 and house; Latin in the Angel Room, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Clutch
SW1 DJ Tari and George Nessis spin house, proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Emily's
DJ Littles spins top-40 remix and house, proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

la boom xo
La Boom Resident DJ Edward Grant Stuart and resident drummer Paul Drake provide the soundtrack for this upscale night, 9:30pm, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs spin funk and top-40 on three floors, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJs Nico and Javier spin the best of European disco house creating an elegant and trendy mix, proper dress, 11pm, 19+.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco tracks and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop, 10pm, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
Polly Esther's DJs Reggie B, Chris G and Marcus groove to three decades' worth of beats, 8pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Shamrock Saturday
The Purple Shamrock DJ Joshua Carl spins new and old-school hip-hop with a touch of house, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins high-energy progressive house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
Hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B tunes turn up the heat on two floors, 10pm, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

Boom Boom Room
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney mixes '60s and hip-hop.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Caribbean Sundays
Vertigo Imagine yourself in the Caribbean, dancing to these world beats, 10pm, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Brazil to the dance floor at Venu, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins international house, 10:30pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Raffi spins international house, jacket required, 11pm, $10, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins great reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.

100% Flava
The Purple Shamrock Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop with guest DJs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:15pm, no cover, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats while DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Touch
Aer Guest DJs provide deep, soulful house, 10pm.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

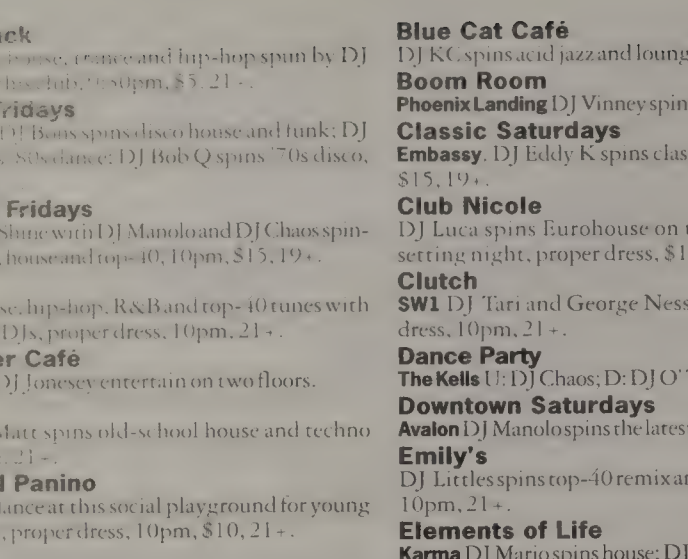
Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309).*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*.
The Avenue Bar *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Blue Cat Café *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746).*
Club Zen *131 Clarendon St., Boston (508-472-1170).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (617-292-2333).*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-5311).*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800).*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge. (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Polly Esther's *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308).*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2510).*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000, ext. 333).*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*



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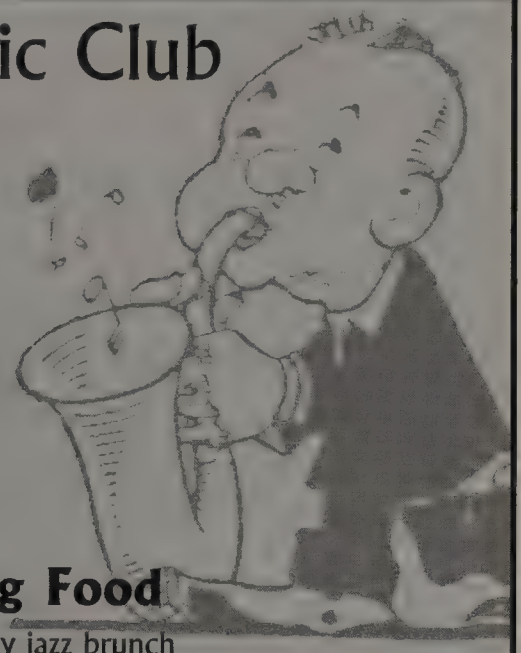
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IN THE MOMENT

DJ Logic takes his turntable to a new level of genre-bending improvisation. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Turntables provided a turnaround for Jason Kibler. After that 1985 Christmas gift, Kibler began rocking Bronx house parties. But an invitation to scratch his records with a rock band led to his rebirth as DJ Logic—and put him on a fast track with peers like Vernon Reid or Medeski Martin & Wood, with whom he toured and recorded the album *Combustication*.

"I was introduced to the whole improvisational setting—jazz musicians at the Knitting Factory," Logic says of that New York club nexus for genre-blurring explorers. "I'd just go and try to find a sound that would blend with what the musicians were playing and find my part around what they were playing and look at them like a third turntable."

The experience began when Logic passed on several basketball scholarships to join that first band, jazz-funk rockers Eye & I, which signed with Epic Records and befriended Living Colour guitarist Reid through the Black Rock Coalition.



DJ Logic fuses genres ranging from jazz to opera on his latest album, *The Anomaly*.

"I met Vernon in 1988," says Logic, who brings his own band, Project Logic, to the Paradise Nov. 3 with Reid as a guest. "With his synth [guitar] stuff, you never know what he may come out with, or what he's thinking. He might jump into a rage and just come out wailing."

One never knows what DJ Logic might come out with, either. He might spin a record for atmosphere, add some colors through a finger-touch effects pad, or do some old-school vinyl scratching.

"It's a combination," he says by phone from a Houston tour stop, "of what I'm feeling at the time and what I'm hearing at the time, and you also want to let the groove play out itself—it's trying to come out with the right concepts and ideas in certain situations."

Logic, 29, hailed from hip-hop soil, digging the sounds of Afrika Bambaata and Grandmaster Flash but quickly expanded his interests. "It all came at the same time. I started learning more about the history of jazz, rock and funk, and all of that. That's how the record collection started growing."

"I bring 70 records on tour, and by the end, it's 150 to 200 records," he says. "I'll be going to record stores, buying new things, something new all the time. Something I don't have or something that's obscure that I've been looking for."

Unlike DJs who focus on exact sections of certain records, however, Logic often flies in the moment—in the vein of fellow improvisers like Reid and keyboardist John Medeski, who both play on Project Logic's second CD, *The Anomaly*.

"You're just exploring, trying to make each show different, trying to have a different sound," says Logic, who is also an occasional guest with the Lizard Lounge-based collective Club d'elf, on whose double-CD *As Above* he appears. "That's all part of those days of doing improvisational gigs. You learn from that... I don't even mark the records. I just drop the needle and listen in my headphone, and try to find that right color or that right sound to match what's going on."

In any case, it's part of the ever-broadening profile of the DJ in contemporary music. "There's a lot of different DJs doing a lot of different styles," he says. "It's going different places and different countries, and people seeing that [from a DJ]. It turns people on. They love seeing that. They haven't seen DJs with jazz musicians or they never knew the whole concept would come together."

The same goes for the contrasting dance-music scene, and the growing popularity of DJs like Paul Oakenfold. "Just him spinning records, that's his art, knowing how to keep the people moving," Logic says. "It's all laid out, having the connection with the audience and using your vibe and energy."

For his part, Logic is trying to mesh genres from across the map. Besides Reid and Medeski, *The Anamoly* includes guests such as jazz trumpeter Graham Haynes on "Miles Away" ("I love Miles Davis a lot," Logic says, "and get a lot of my ideas listening to his records"), Soulive guitarist Eric Krasno, bassist Melvin Gibbs and even opera singer Marie Claire. "She's a person who's into hip-hop, and she has her own thing happening in the city," Logic says. "People may have heard scratched opera, but people never heard opera in that concept."

And now Logic's back in the road groove, shaking up the possibilities with Project Logic, which is anchored by woodwinds, keyboards, bass and drums. "Just to change the vibe up so people won't be like, 'Oh, it's just one thing,'" he says. "It's like taking them on a little trip." iB

DJ Logic
Plays the Paradise Nov. 3

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Aerosmith and The Cult
Nov. 4, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
Alice Cooper, Diecast and Lennon
Nov. 1, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
The Black Crowes and Beachwood Sparks
Oct. 30 and 31, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Cowboy Mouth and Southern Culture on the Skids
Oct. 31, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
DJ Logic and Project Logic
Nov. 3, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Eagle Eye Cherry and Leona Naess
Oct. 26, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Family Values Tour with Stone Temple Pilots, Staind, Linkin Park, Static-X and Deadsy
Oct. 27, Worcester Centrum (617-931-2000)
Femi Kuti
Nov. 5, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Glory Bound
Nov. 4, Sanders Theatre (617-496-2222).
Good Charlotte, The Movie Life and Mest
Oct. 27, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
Hatchet Rising Tour with Insane Clown Posse, Twiztid, Blaze and Dark Lotus
Oct. 26, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
Jam'n 94.5's Monster Jam 2001 with P. Diddy, Missy Elliot, Ja Rule, Nelly, City High and Bubba Sparxx
Oct. 29, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
Miriam Makeba
Nov. 3, Berklee Performance Center (617-876-4275)
Man or Astro-Man?
Oct. 30 and 31, Middle East (617-864-3278)
Maxwell and Res
Oct. 28, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Natalie Merchant
Nov. 6, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Midnight Oil and Will Hoge
Nov. 3, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
The Misfits
Oct. 24 and 25, Middle East (617-864-3278)
New Found Glory, H2O and River City High
Oct. 30, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
Ellis Paul and Susan Werner
Nov. 3, Somerville Theater (617-625-5700)
Pledge of Allegiance Tour with Slipknot, System of a Down, Rammstein, Mudvayne and American Head Charge
Oct. 30, Worcester Centrum (617-931-2000)
P.O.D., Fenix Tx and Blindside
Nov. 1, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Boz Scaggs
Oct. 27, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Stereolab
Nov. 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Rod Stewart
Oct. 26, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
They Might Be Giants and OKGO
Oct. 30, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Type O Negative
Oct. 24, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
Jimmie Vaughan
Oct. 27, House of Blues (617-931-2000)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24

Bill's Bar 7L and Esoteric, Reks, Skitzofreniks, Poison Pen and Science of Life, 9pm, $12, 18+.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Vinx, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.

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Please note that all date(s), act(s) and time(s) are subject to change without notice.

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Grand Canal Soul Poets, 9pm, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 21+.
Green Street Grill Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 10:30, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Zagnutt and Boatyard Resin, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Jonhy Bahama, Mc & Julio, 21+.
House of Blues Soul Manifesto, 10pm, 18+.
Johnny D's Michael Hurley, 8:30pm.
Kendall Café The Kendall Live Presents, 21+.
Limbo Frank Wilkins Trio, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The Residency with Star Ghost Dog and special guests, 21+.
Middle East U: Owen, Cait & Kyle and Drew O'Doherty, $8, 18+. D: The Misfits, Marky Ramone, Robo & Dez of Black Flag and Lost City Angels, 8pm, $20, 18+. C: Belly Dancing.
Midway Café Lovewhip.
Milky Way Mercury Lounge, $3, 9pm.
The Rack Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Mark Kross Five-Piece Trio, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Kurt Elling, 8pm; 10pm, $18.
Toad Stephane Wremble, 7pm; The Cranktones, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Nova Social, Father Grundy, Nancy Mroczec and Project DH, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Lonely Gus and the One Night Stand.

THURSDAY, OCT. 25

The Attic Flutopia and 84 West, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Avalon The Push Stars and Kay Hanley, 7pm, $15.25, all ages.
Bill's Bar 7th Rail Crew, Angry Hill and Our Man Paul, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Nat Simpkins' B3 Jazz Trio, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Litte Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Michael McDermott and Lis Harvey, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Giana Viscardi Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
Green Street Grill Diversity Reggae, 11pm
Harper's Ferry Fishbone and Canine, $15, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm; Nova Kane, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Topaz CD-release show, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's The Freelance Bishops.
Jose McIntyre's Me & Julio, 8pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Twisted Rico, Kier Byrnes, Chilly Kurtz Combo, Jake Brennan, Sarah Borges, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Jama Gigi, Tyler Wood Organ Combo, $5
Limbo Wannetta Jackson and Frank Wilkins Trio, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood The Nebulas, The Also-Rans and The Modifiers, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Club D'elf, 21+.
Middle East U: Vic Thrill, Baby Strange, Major Stars and Kinski, $8, 18+. D: The Misfits, Marky Ramone, Robo and Dez of Black Flag and Sinners and Saints, 8:30pm, $20, 21+. C: Board of Education.
Milky Way Torres, Skyrocket, The Places, $6, 9pm.
The Phoenix Landing Takeya Rando Danjoh and Lenore.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Eddie, 21+.
Regattabar The Issi Rozen Quartet, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Dee Dee Bridgewater, 8pm; 10pm, $20.
Toad The Family Jewels, 7pm; Todd Thibaud, 10pm.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tara Jane O'Neil, Momus and Stereo Total, 9:30pm, $10, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry, 9:30pm.



Man...or Astro Man?, who claim to be a group of aliens raised on another planet and beamed back to the present, play a melodic brand of surf-oriented instrumental rock.

Preview

Other Worldly Rock

It's always interesting with Man...or Astro Man?

Originally a foursome from Auburn, Ala., Man...or Astroman?'s music and personality have been wrapped in a shroud of mystery since its inception. Some of the original members have left, but the frequently goggled members have included CoCo the Electronic Monkey Wizard, Bird Stuff, Trace Reading, The Brannock Device, Blazar the Probe Handler and Dexter X. The group subscribes to a surf rock-oriented less-is-more production aesthetic, producing approachable melodies in their manipulated surf instrumental sounds. The group's fictional background has given them a schtick that is almost as interesting as the music itself. The guys claim to be a group of aliens raised on another planet and weaned on old radio and TV signals, who were then beamed back in time to the present—accidentally, because they were aiming for a more surf music-friendly era.

The music centers around melodic surf instrumentals and includes homemade theremins, samples of dialogue from vintage space-themed B-films, keyboards and various lo-fi noise. Since their futuristic first full-length album, *Is it...Man...or Astro-Man?* in 1993, the band has released a steady stream of zany 45s and 7-inch records (all with incredibly neat packaging) in addition to several full-length releases like 1994's *Destroy All Astromen!*, 1996's Experiment Zero and 1997's Live *Transmissions from Uranus*. The themes of the albums are difficult to pinpoint but usually include at least a few sci-fi-oriented tunes. The latest collection, *Beyond the Black Hole*, came out last summer.

Man...or Astro Man? plays Oct. 30 and 31 upstairs at the Middle East. For both shows, the band shares a bill with Black Eyed Snakes and Cancer Conspiracy. *472-480 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). $13, 18+. —Erin Hagedorn*

FRIDAY, OCT. 26

The Attic Labb, Big Top Vertigo and Pete Palladino, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Axis Spiritualized, 7pm, $15, 18+.
Avalon Puddle of Mudd and Mesh, 7pm, $10.25, all ages.
Bill's Bar Bleu, Noelle and Gabe Dixon Band, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose U: Old Brigade. D: Sundays Well.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Geoff Bartley and The Be Good Tanyas, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs CD-release, 10pm.
Copperfield's U: Rainshine and Dazehill. D: Greenhouse, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort WZLX sixth annual Halloween Bash with Beatlejuice, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Nick Goumas Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Eric Baldwin Ensemble, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Briar Undercover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swinging Johnsons, 21+.
Green Street Grill Columbo Havana, 11pm.
The Harp Catunes, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Spookie Daly Pride CD-release Party, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Freelance Bishops.
Jose McIntyre's Neopride, 21+.
Kendall Café Joel Aberbach, Nikulydin, United, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Club Boho Halloween Masquerade Ball: Gein & the Graverobbers, Girl on Top, Al Janik's Plastic Cheese and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30pm, $5.
Limbo Jacques Chenier Trio, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Countess CD-release party.
Lizard Lounge Wide Iris, 21+.
Matt Murphy's Pub Fourminusone, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Middle East U: The Jazz June, Quick Fix, Gena Rowlands Band and Maestro Echoplex, $7, 18+. D: Death Cab for Cutie, The Fly Seville and The Prom, $8, 18+. C: Jonathan Donaldson & Friends.
Midway Café Sugarbomb, Dick Johnson and White Trash Deluxe.
Milky Way Enuma Elish, Sky Saw and Auto 66, 9pm, $9.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 21+.
Namaste Café Howie Newman and Laura Siersema, 8pm, $10.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Band, 8:30pm.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Roomful of Blues, 8 & 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee & Divercity, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Calypso Hurricane, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Dee Dee Bridgewater, 8:30pm; 10:30pm, $22.
Top of the Hub Salim Washington and Mark Greel with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Kings of Nuthin, Last Stand, Photon Torpedos and The Tampoffs, $8.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Jim Bridges.

SATURDAY, OCT. 27

Bill's Bar Mappari, 7pm, $5, all ages.
The Black Rose U: Old Brigade. D: Sundays Well.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Jim's Big Ego, 7 and 10pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Six Shot Brody, 9pm, 21+.
The Green Briar Lulu's in Crisis, 21+.
The Harp Central Basement, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Entrain and Carbon Leaf, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Superhoney.
Jose McIntyre's Pig Pen, 21+.
Karma My Life with the Thrill Kill Kult and Professional Murder Music, 7pm, $12, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Jon Dacks, Mo Matching Drapes, Honest Bob, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo John Kordalewski, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood The Blackjacks, Band 19, The Trills and Unnatural Axe, 10pm, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Ray Mason Band, The Aloha Steamtrain, 21+.
Middle East U: Harlow, Quitter and Destruct* a*Thon, $9, 18+. D: The New Deal, $15, 18+. C: Splendid Nobodies.
Midway Café The Lyres and The Charms.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club and Salsa Lessons, 8:30pm, $7.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barret, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with the Rusty Scott Trio, 10:30am-2:30pm.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Band, 8:30pm.
Paradise Rock Club Jay Farrar and Anders Parker, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Thomas Park, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Tir na nÓg Frank Morey, 21+.
Toad Charlie Chesterman and the Legendary Motorbikes, 21+.
Top of the Hub Ron Murphy with the Brian McCree Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Creature Comforts, Aaron Perrino, Lois Maffeo and Brendan Canty, 9:30pm, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Carolyn Wilkins and Brazillian Nights.

SUNDAY, OCT. 28

Bill's Bar Shadowz, 9pm, $10, 21+.
The Black Rose Sundays Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 11am-3pm.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Woodwork, 7:30pm, $10.
Common Ground Marc Gaffney.
Dick's Last Resort Silver Lining Gospel Brunch, 10am-3pm; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
Green Briar Donegal Chords and Finbar Doyle.
Green Street Grill Jean Carlo Piscatta, 11pm.
Harper's Ferry Brother Chameleon, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Ceoil Nua, 5-8pm, 21+.
House of Blues Antibalas, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Johnny D's Phil Pemberton Band 4:30pm; Gilberto Rivera & Rumba Nama, Salsa 9pm.
Kendall Café The Color Forms, The Jumblies, Mercy James, $5, 21+.

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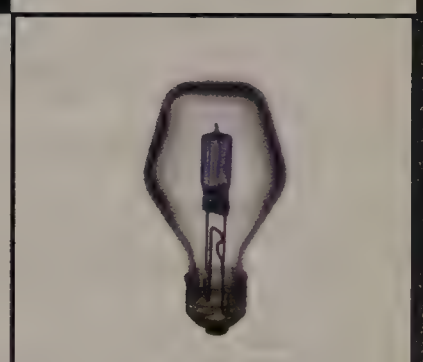
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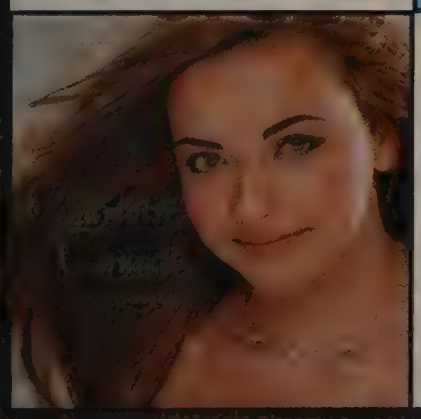
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HMV RECORD STORES
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Tara Jane O'Neil, a 10-year veteran of the indie rock scene, comes all the way from Kentucky to play at T.T. the Bear's Place on Oct. 25.

Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Poetry Slam featuring the Jeff Robinson Trio with Trish Ginese, 7pm; 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Aspera and Peru, $7, 18+. D: Mighty Blue Kings, Zemog and El Gallo Bueno, 8pm, $10, 18+. C: Balla Tounkara; Noah Maltsberger, 1pm.
Midway Café Lil Memphis.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Rusty Scott Trio, 10:30am-2:30pm.
The Phoenix Landing Jamin Murphy.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Toad David Champagne & Friends, 7pm; The Daniel Barrett Band, 9:30pm.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Thalia Zedek, Elf Power and Masters of the Hemisphere, 9:15pm, $12, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, OCT. 29

Bill's Bar 100 Demons, Gun in Mouth, Twytch and Devereaux, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike 8pm; Deb Cowan, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Club Passim School of Music Showcase, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Best Bands Showcase, no cover, 18+.
House of Blues Two Ton Shoe and Averi, 9:30pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Old Time Night
Kendall Café Lis Harvey, No Michael No and Cubbyhole, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Joel La Rue Smith Trio, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Kim and Josh's Theatrical Open Mike, 7pm; The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Sunset Valley and Soltero, $7, 18+. D: Jonathan Richman and the Praying Mantises, 7pm, $15, 18+. C: Tom Bianchi.
Midway Café Joe's Place.
Milky Way Halloween Bash: Gein and the Graverobbers, Lot 6, The Beatings and Sandra Black 8pm, $6.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Toad Shwang featuring Anita Suhanin, 8pm; Tim Gearan, 10pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Grant-Lee Phillips, 9:30pm, $10, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Peter Parcek.

TUESDAY, OCT. 30

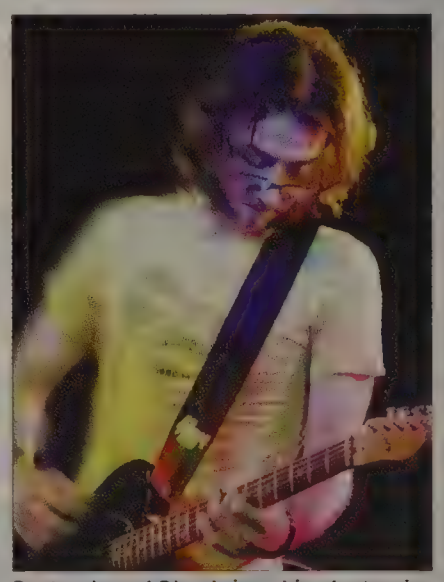
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, 21+; Adam Dewey & Crazy Creek, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike, 7:30pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Tim Geegan, 10:30pm.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Anan, 21+.
House of Blues Shuman and Felix Brown, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Earfull with authors Jayne Ann Phillips, Elizabeth Searle and musicians Chris Brokaw and Jules Verdone, $5, 21+.
Limbo Jilson Schnachnik Trio, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Livetronica with DJ Seishi and Special Guests, 21+
Middle East U: Man Or Astro-Man?, Black Eyed Snakes and Cancer Conspiracy, $13, 18+.
Midway Cafe Midway Groove Trust.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Garrisson Fewell Quartet 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Torben Waldorff, 8:30pm, $10.
Scullers Krinsanthi Pappas and Sharon Di Fronzo, 8pm, $25.
T.T. the Bear's Place Kristen Barry, Mark Robinson, Hot Pursuit and True Love Always, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry Trio.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31

Axis Gateway of the Wolves Party with Mourningside, Deguelo, Devour, Grudgefuck, The Buddha and A Cold Reality, 8pm, $6.66, 18+.
Bill's Bar Who's the Fat Guy? and Soulwork, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Richard Cambridge, The Nanette Perrotte Combo and Sebastian Lockwood, 8pm, $10.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls.
Green Street Grill Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 10pm.
Harper's Ferry Uncle Sammy, 21+.
Hennessy's Johny Bahama and Me & Julio, 21+.
House of Blues Entrain, 9pm, 18+.
Kendall Café The Kendall Live Presents, 21+.
Limbo George W. Russell Jr., 8pm, 21+.
The Linwood Black Helicopter, Gein & the Graverobbers, The Humanoids, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Residency with Star Ghost Dog and guests, 21+.
Middle East U: Man or Astro-Man?, Black Eyed Snakes and Cancer Conspiracy, $13, 18+. D: Lyricist Lounge Halloween Sessions: Ice-T, The Return of Dr. Octagon, Freight Elevator Quartet and Rhodeye Mckiethen, $30, 19+. C: Belly Dancing.
Midway Café Camdler Travis Philharmonic.
Milky Way Mercury Lounge, 9pm, $3.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Boston Horns CD-release party, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Buster Williams Quartet, 8 and 10pm, $16.
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey, 21+.
Toad Stephane Wremble, 7pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Crushworthy, People Moving and The Tint, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Rusty Scott.

THURSDAY, NOV. 1

The Attic Last Perfect Thing, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and The Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Eric Andersen and Denise Franke, 8pm, $15.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Curious Electric, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown John Kordalewski Trio featuring Candida Hemsley, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Spitting Vinnies.
Green Street Grill Diversity Reggae, 11pm.
Harper's Ferry Bob's Day Off. 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Royal Family and the Three Kings, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Little Johnny England, 9pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Me & Julio, 8pm, 21+.
Kirkland Café Tara Greenblatt, Marc Herman and Karugh Brown, 9pm, $5.
Limbo Valerie Stephens, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Lori Carson.
Middle East U: Port Tech, Club D'elf and Blasto, $8, 18+. D: East Coast Movie Tour with Slightly Stoopid, Seth Morrison, Dean Cummings, Shane Szocs, Wendy Fisher, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Hazie Maze, Sociedad Anonima, 9pm, $7.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.



Boston-based Bleu brings his electronic-tinged indie rock to Bill's on Oct. 26.

Regattabar Michelle Wilson and the Evil Gal Orchestra, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Buster Williams Quartet, 8pm; 10pm, $16.
Tír na nÓg Jon Shain, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reverse, Medium, Violent James, Tomo Fujita and Blue Funk, $7.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, NOV. 2

The Attic Apartment Three with Mills Pride, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Andrew Kerr and Matt Nathanson, 8pm, $12.
Common Ground Soul Work, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Columbo Havana, 11pm.
The Harp Peatmoss, 21+.
Hennessy's Me & Julio, 5-7:30pm, 21+.
House of Blues Terry Evans.
Johnny D's Babaloo, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's Pig Pen, 21+.
Kirkland Café Tootsie, Uprise, Hobohemians and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Marc Rossi, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Scene CD-release, Krank Squad and All the Queen's Men.
Lizard Lounge Bill Janovitz.
Middle East U: Granola Funk Express and Shadraq, $10, 18+. D: Les Savy Fav and The Apes, $8, 18+.
Midway Café Philly Roy's Funeral Barkers, Redletter.
Milky Way Day of the Dead 3rd Annual Milky Way Vigil with the Mariachi Band and Brass Roots; proceeds benefit terrorist attack victims' family relief; 8pm, $6.
Mr. Dooley's Sundays Well, 21+.
Namaste Café Pete Nelson, $10.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Band, 8:30pm.
Paradise Rock Club Five for Fighting, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Marcels, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Teresa Ines Quartet, 8pm; 10:30pm, $12,.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Patricia Adams, 9pm, $12.
Scullers Walter Beasley, 8pm; 10:30pm, $22.
Toad Frank Morey, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Aaron Lippert, The Red Telephone, Quick Fix, The Pills, 9pm, $7.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, NOV. 3

The Attic Tom Glynn Duo, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and The Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Christopher Williams CD-release, 7 and 10pm, $15.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10pm, 21+.
Copperfield's U: Stout, D: Hoperoad, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Ricky & The Giants, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Green Street Grill Jean Carlo Piscatta, 11pm.



Femi Kuti, a pioneer of big band Afro-funk, promotes his new album Nov. 5 at Avalon.

The Harp Peatmoss, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Slipknot, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Sessuin, 4-7pm.
House of Blues Los Straight Jackets, 10pm.
Johnny D's The Grandmothers, 9:45pm.
Jose McIntyre's The Return, 21+.
Limbo Alon Yavnai Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: The Lyres, Downbeat 5, Brett Rosenberg Problem and The Nines, $8, 18+. D: Rock n' Roll Odyssey: Joe Clay, The Ragin Teens, The Cracktones, The Racketeers, Cave Cat Sammy, The Rockats, The Speed Devils, The Roebucks, The Fleabobs, The Stumbleweeds, The Dave Foley Band and DJ Boppini Vic, $20, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sundays Well, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Jay Silva, 10am-2pm.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Band, 8:30pm.
Paradise Rock Club DJ Logic and Project Logic, Vernon Reid, Bullfrog and Kid Koala, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Central Basement, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar Patricia Barber, 8 and 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Jah Spirit, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Frankie V, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Walter Beasley, 8pm; 10:30pm, $22.
T.T. the Bear's Place Solex, Dalek, The Secrets and Lifestyle, $8.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, NOV. 4

Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson's Quartet, 10am-2pm.
Club Passim Christopher Williams CD-release, 7:30pm, $15.
Common Ground Marc Gaffney, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Jazz brunch with Little Joe-Cook and & The Thrillers, 10am; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Ceoil Nua, 5-8pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam, Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Victory at Sea, Mercury Program and Fing Fang Foom, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooleys Mike Barret, 8pm, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Jay Silva, 10am-2pm.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, NOV. 5

Club Passim Peter Neunendorffer, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort God Fearing Man, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun, 21+.
Limbo John Kordalewski, 8pm, 21+.
Middle East D: Burning Airlines, New England Original and Naht, $8, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Other Side of the Bear Acoustic Series with Denise Hradecky, The Modlifters and Josh Metcalf, $3.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, NOV. 6

Club Passim Open Mike, 8pm, $5.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Green Street Grill Tim Geegan, 10:30pm.
Hennessy's Anan, 21+.
Johnny D's Cheryl Hoenemeyer, 8:30pm.
Limbo George W. Russell Jr., 8pm, 21+.
Middle East U:Dan Bern, $15, 18+.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Pierre Hurel Trio, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Steve Tyrell, 8pm; 10pm, $15.
608 Mancini and Colbourn Band, 10:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Fashion Colt, The Warren Commission and Track Star, 9:15pm, $6.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (617-964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetBoston Pavilion *290 Northern Ave., Boston (617-228-6000). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union St., Boston (617-742-2121). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Café *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). Red Line to Davis.*
Limbo *49 Temple Place, Boston (617-338-0280). MBTA: Green Line to Park Street.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
Lowell Memorial Auditorium *50 East Merrimack St., Lowell (978-454-2299).*
Maison Robert *45 School St. Boston, (617-227-3370). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Matt Murphy's Pub *14 Harvard St., Brookline (617-232-0188).*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
MDC Hatch Shell *Charles River Esplanade, Boston (617-727-1300).*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Midway Café *3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Colombus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
O'Brien's *3 Harvard Ave, Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston. (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Babcock St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Plough and Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*



P.O.D., or Payable on Death, bring a fusion of punk, alternative metal, hip-hop and Latin music to Avalon Nov. 1.

TOP: PHILLIPE BORDAS, BOTTOM: JILL GREENBERG

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket.*
The Rattlesnake *384 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-8555). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Muse *403A Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Jackson Square.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
608 *(Formerly* Lilli's*) 608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661).*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Suffolk Downs *111 Waldemar Ave., East Boston (617-567-3900). MBTA: Blue Line to Suffolk Downs.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300).*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential Center.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351-COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South Street, Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

advance seating

THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON



Bob Dylan Nov. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Baaba Maal Jan. 11, 2002, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700).
Brian McKnight Dec. 2, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Ozzy Osbourne, Rob Zombie, Mudvayne and Onesidezero Dec. 15, Worcester Centrum (617-931-2000)
Luciano Pavarotti Nov. 25, Fleet Center (617-931-2000).
Martin Sexton Dec. 14 and 15, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700).
Britney Spears Dec. 9, Fleet Center (617-931-2000) (above).

classical music

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 24

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Ronald Feldman conducts the New England Conservatory Orchestra in a performance of works by Schubert, Dvorak and Hindemith.

Longy School of Music Showcases
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. $25, $20 students and seniors. Longy faculty member and clarinetist Jonathan Cohler and The Peabody Trio perform pieces by Bartok, Schnittke and Beethoven.

Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. This week's installment of the weekly recital series features Carla Chrisfield, soprano, with William Merrill on piano.

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theatre, Cambridge (617-496-2222). 7:30pm, Oct. 10, 13 and 14. Conductor Benjamin Zander and the Boston Philharmonic present a concert of Beethoven, Sibelius and Dvorak.

THURSDAY, OCT. 25

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). 8pm. Free. The Boulanger's birthday tribute showcases Anne Kissel on piano and baritone Joe DanHarper.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. Also Oct. 12, 1:30pm and Oct. 13, 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts scenes from Schumann's *Faust* with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus.

MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). 12pm. Free. Boston Baked Bones brings together John Faieta, Scott Harman, Maureen Horgan, Julie Josephson and Donald Robinson to perform works by Debussy and others.

New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 8pm. Free. Sacred Music for Parisian Nobility is a concert that features Simon Carrigan, who makes his debut with a performance of two French works.

FRIDAY, OCT. 26

Boston Lyric Opera
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 7pm. Also Oct. 14, 3pm and Oct. 16, 7pm. $31-$151. The BLO acknowledges the 100th anniversary of the death of Giuseppe Verdi with an all-new production of the five-act French version of his *Don Carlos*. Soprano Indra Thomas makes her BLO debut.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. Free. Students perform scenes and arias of Mozart, Verdi and others.

New England Conservatory Concerts
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-617-585-1142). 9:30-11:30am. $15. Colors and Understanding: Arts-Science-Philosophy is the title of the NEC's piano performance seminar. The session features Jon Latartara.

SATURDAY, OCT. 27

Intersemble at MIT
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-263-2826). 8pm. Experience an eclectic array of contemporary styles. Intersemble embraces the work of musicians such as Schoenberg, Cage, Ravel and Stravinsky.

Longy School of Music
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). 8pm. Free. The Longy Chamber Orchestra continues its concert series with works by Brahms, Ravel and Beethoven.

Brandeis University Concerts
Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4210). 8pm. $10, $5 students and seniors. Rose Consort of Viols, with mezzosporano Deborah Rentz.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts scenes from Schumann's *Faust* with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus.

New England Philharmonic
New England Philharmonic, 6 Hemenway St., Boston (617-731-9799). 8pm. Music Director Rhicard Pittman performs works by Gunther Schuller, Igor Stravinsky and Ludwig van Beethoven.

SUNDAY, OCT. 28

Longy School of Music Open House
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 and 33 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). 2pm. Free. Get to know Longy School of Music at this Longy Without Walls event, where you can enjoy performances, talks, demonstrations and other events.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 31

Longy School of Music: Modern American Music Series
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). 8pm. Free. Pianist Synthia Sture performs works by Corigliano, as well as works for piano and clarinet with clarinetist Todd Brunel.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series: Evgeny Kissin
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. *8pm. $35-$55.* Pianist Kissin returns to the series for the first time since 1997 to perform pieces by Bach and Busomi, Schumann and Mussorgsky.

Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826). 12:15pm. $2. Counter tenor Calvin Braxton joins Mark Engelhardt on organ and piano.

New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (627-585-1122). MBTA: Green Line E Train to Symphony. 8pm. Free. The Honors Orchestra performs the world premiere of Peter Child's *Jubal.*

THURSDAY, NOV. 1

Longy School of Music Concert
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956). 8pm. Free. Pianist Lois Shapiro and guest violinist Sharon Leventhal perform *Charles Ives and the Spirit of Transcendentalist New England.*

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts a performance featuring works by Bach, Martin, Bruch and Bartok in this, his farewell season.

MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). 12pm. Free. The Killing Frost Quartet performs pieces by Mozart, Rossini and Boccherini on period instruments.

FRIDAY, NOV. 2

FleetBoston Celebrity Series: Renée Fleming and Jean-Yves Thibaudet
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-482-2595). 8pm. $35-$60. Two of classical music's stars perform selections from their new recording.

Chameleon Arts Ensemble of Boston
6 Rocky Nook Terrace, Boston (617-427-8200). 8pm. Special guest David Leisner performs works by Ravel, Kurtag, Argento and Schumann.

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Congress St., Boston (617-423-3883). 8pm. $23-$45. The program, titled Mozarts Paris, Gounod's First, features James Sommerville on the French Horn.

Boston University School of Fine Arts
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8724). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 8pm. $5-$10. The Muir Quartet performs selections from Hayden, Laderman, and Beethoven.

New England Conservatory Concerts
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 9:30am. $15. Some Thoughts on Beethoven's Op. 111 feautres NEC pianist Gabriel Chodos.

Cuban Rhapsody: NEC Cuban Music Festival Opening Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. $10-$25. This concert features performances by Estudiantina Invasora from Santiago de Cuba, a college-age chamber orchestra led by conductor Guido Lopez-Gavilan.

SATURDAY, NOV. 3

Graduate Composers at Brandeis
Slosberg Recital Hall, 415 South St., Waltham (781-736-4210). 8pm. $5. The concert features new works by the Lydian String Quartet.



Estudiantina Invasora from Santiago de Cuba, a chamber orchestra led by conductor Guido Lopez-Gavilan, plays Nov. 2.

Boston Early Music Festival Concerts
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-661-1812). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 8pm. $18-$42. Ensemble Doulce Mémoire re-creates the music performed at the requiem mass of King Henry IV.

SUNDAY, NOV. 4

Boston Classical Orchestra
Faneuil Hall, Congress St., Boston (617-423-3883). 3pm. $23-$45. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Government Center. The program, titled *Mozart's Paris, Gounod's First*, features James Sommerville on the French Horn. A preconcert lecture with MaryAnn Nichols starts at 2pm.

Trinity & Parish Choir, Soloists and Orchestra
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (617-536-0944, ext.212). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 3pm. $20. In celebration of the 125th anniversary of the Trinity Church, there is a performance of *Hora Novissima.*

Goethe Institut Concert
Goethe Institut, 170 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-6050). 7:30pm. $10, $5 students and seniors. New England Conservatory faculty member Jon Sakata performs works by Mozart.

Handel & Haydn Society
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-262-1815). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 3pm. $20-$54. Grant Llewellyn debuts as H&H music director in a performance of *Haydn: The Creation.*

MIT Music Series
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4795). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 3pm. $5-$15. Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir perform African-American spirituals.

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10am. This week's Bach Cantina features soloist Kendra Colton.

Concerts at the MFA
Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum of Fine Arts. 3pm. $9-$20. John Gibbons presents a solo fortepiano recital of Mozart's *Sonatas in A Major.*

Cuban Music Festival and Music Celebration
NEC Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 11am. Free. Mark Churchill, coordinator, presents a performance of Prokoviev's *Peter and the Wolf* narrated in Spanish, as well as a series of concerts featuring several Cuban guest musicians and NEC students.

MONDAY, NOV. 5

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Tanglewood, Koussevitsky Music Shed, 297 West St., Lenox (413-637-5165). 8pm. Seiji Ozawa conducts pieces from Bach's *Concerto for Three Violins and Strings*, Martin's *Concerto for Seven Wind Instruments, Timpani, Percussion and String Orchestra* and Bruch's *Kol Nidrei.*

Boston University School of Fine Arts
Tsai Performance Center, 685 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8724). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 8pm. ALEA III features selections from Messianen, Kalomiris, Andriessen, Kalogeras and Ades.

New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 8pm. Free. Works by Laurence Lesser, Antonio Vivaldi, Aldo Abreu, Laura Ahlbeck, Eric Rosenblith and Miguel Perez-Espejo will be performed.

TUESDAY, NOV. 6

New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. Free. The Kuss String Quartet performs.

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (617-859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Weds.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+. Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Dyke Night Halloween Costume Party
Midway Cafe, 3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). www.dykenight.com. *Oct. 30, 10pm-2am. $5. 21+.* This fright night includes costume prizes, games and dancing to music by DJ Mix Mistress.

End of the World Party
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). Through Oct. 27. Wed., Thu. and Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 8:30pm; Sun., 7pm. $29.50. This comedy from the SpeakEasy Stage Company follows a group of seven gay friends over the course of a summer on Fire Island. The friends come to terms with themselves and each other.



Barbara Perdiga, Ann McNally and Liz Nania warm up for an Out to Dance event.

Slammerkin—A Girl's Revue
Mass Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-501-2618). •Nov. 3, 8pm; Nov. 4, 7pm. $12. The group Drag Kings, Sluts and Goddesses returns for a production that explores the sexual aggression, sisterhood and independence of one wonderous woman.

Fever! Dance Productions Party
The Sons of Italy Ballroom, Winchester (781-648-0722). www.djdee.com. *Oct. 27, 8pm.* This Halloween costume ball for women features DJ Dee and the Princess of Porn. Prizes are awarded to those with the most creative, scariest and weirdest costumes.

Fenway Community Health Classes
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). Oct. 27, 9am. $125. This childbirth class for lesbians is informative and fun. Also, Nov. 6, 6:30pm is the free lecture on infertility issues for lesbians, with Peg Beck.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(617-508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for support and discussion with men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). Every first Tuesday, 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, Corner of Centre and Eliot St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0658). www.contra-corner.com/jp. *Saturdays, 7:30-11pm, $5.* This group meets two Saturdays a month for contra dancing.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month, 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safter Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month, 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Community Rainbow
Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45pm. This organization's mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dagger
(617-542-4214). Join The Theater Offensive's newest guerrilla theater group, Dagger, and make some noise. The group gathers on Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30pm, to train and create performances representing queer girls' and women's perspectives. Email *Dagger@the theateroffensive.org.*

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

FLAG Flag Football
(617-937-5858). Weekends. Join other gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexual friends of all skill levels to play recreational football. Visit *www.flagflagfootball.com* for information.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (617-822-2148). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(617-423-6881). Sundays, 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is a gay swim team.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.OuttoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Monday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

DARISA CLARKE

body&mind

aAdvice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or by email to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 2, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the world's sacred traditions. Everyone is welcome. All dances are taught and accompanied by live music.

Emotional Awareness & Spiritual Growth
Omega Institute in Boston, Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (800-944-1001). www.omega-inst.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* Oct. 27, *9am-5pm. $145.* Emotional awareness is the foundation for spiritual growth. Best-selling authors **Gary Zukav** and **Linda Francis** offer a rare opportunity for you to take a look at your emotions and welcome them—even the more difficult ones.

Holistic Expo
Holiday Inn, 399 Grove St., Newton (617-558-9450 or 617-527-0247). MBTA: D Green Line to Riverside. Nov. 4, 9am-5pm. $5. Interact with local holistic and alternative health practitioners, energy healers and intuitive readers. You'll also get to learn more about body work, massage, Reiki, meditation, chiropractics, auras, yoga, vitamins, aromatherapy and great books.

Tremont Psychic Tea Room Halloween Party
Tremont Tea Room, 48 Winter St., Boston (617-338-8100). MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Oct 27, 6-11pm. $40. All evening there will be psychic readings, food, entertainment and fun. But at 10:30pm, the annual seance begins. Come talk to the other side on the night when communication between this world and the other is at its peak.

Sexuality and Spirituality: From the Ancient and Sacred Teachings of Tantra
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101 or 781-643-5982). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *Nov. 4, 9am-5pm. $95.* Have you ever wished to be touched to the core of your being, yet felt afraid to open up and be vulnerable? Instructor **Lidia Rodriguez** blends the ancient teachings of Tantra with clinical and modern sexology and humanistic and transpersonal psychology. This is an opportunity to learn the art of conscious loving and increase your experience of intimacy, pleasure, love and passion through sacred sexuality.

CLASSES

Choose Healthy Behavior—Creating Lasting Change
Westport Healing Energy Center, Westport (508-636-0004). Oct. 24, 7-8:30pm. $15. You may know what it takes to get healthy, but you've never taken it one step further. Well, old habits are hard to break. This class can teach you how to naturally implement new behaviors. Take control of your life now.

Easier, Deeper Sleep
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 4, 10am-1pm. $43.* This course can show you how to fall asleep, stay asleep and wake up refreshed. Helpful techniques will be explored such as positive affirmations, self-hypnosis, exercise, nutrition and alternative medication. Most important, come learn the most basic rules for getting good rest.

Psychic and Intuitive Healing
John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place., Boston (781-891-8696 or 781-899-0648). Nov. 3, 2-5pm. $125. Learn how to activate your innate healing abilities by exploring the concepts of energy and emotions.

Reiki Level One
Center for Balance, 857 Washington St., Newton (617-527-0247). MBTA: Bus lines #553, 554, 556. www.centerforbalance.org. *Oct. 29-30, 6-9pm.* Reiki is an ancient and sacred healing force that is powerful, gentle and nourishing. You can learn to channel it to heal yourself and others.

Shree Lakshmi, Goddess of Abundance
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Nov. 2, 7-8:45pm. $15.* Join **Gita Beth Bryant**, minister and meditation



Linda Francis and Gary Zukav discuss emotional awareness and spiritual growth Oct. 27.

teacher, to learn the beautiful rituals and chants that honor the beloved Hindu deity Lakshmi, the bestower of material and spiritual wealth.

Taoist Tai Chi
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). Nov. 3, 9am-5pm. $120. This class will introduce the principles of Chinese martial arts movements. Come learn the secret beauty of the skills seen in movies like *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon.*

RETREAT

Insight/Mindfulnes Meditation Half-Day Retreat
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *Oct. 28, 2pm-6pm. $50.* This retreat with Buddhist practitioner **Kate Wylie** is an opportunity to put aside the demands of every day in favor of a deeper connection with our inner lives. Mindfulness meditation develops the ability to be present in our experience of each moment, with greater awareness, acceptance and understanding. Learn how to mobilize inner resources for coping and healing. The retreat is open to both beginners and experienced meditators.

LECTURE

Dr. Kam Yuen Love Offering
Christ Unity Church, 70 Colchester Ave., Brookline (617-232-4548). Oct. 11, 7pm. Listen to what internationally known martial arts expert and healer **Dr. Kam Yuen** has to say about eliminating pain—physical or emotional—on the spot.

Healthy Information
Bread & Circus Fresh Pond, 200 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (617-491-0040). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife. Oct. 10 and 11, 6:30-8pm. $5. Call to register. This wholefoods market offers more than just food. Find out about acupuncture treatments for women's health issues Oct. 10, or attend the next workshop on strengthening and caring for your back Oct. 11.

Sound & Spirit
Glastonbury Abbey, 16 Hull St., Hingham (781-749-2155 x 243). Oct. 18, 7:15pm. Free. Writer **Ellen Kushner** lectures on spirituality and music around the world.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Bus #57, 70 and 71. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditations and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are appropriate for anyone seeking, or already on, a personal spiritual path.

Shintaido
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-783-3361). MBTA Red line to Central. Mon., 6:30-8pm. $12. Shintaido is a body movement originally rooted in the martial arts that evolved into a system of human potential development, health exercise and artistic expression. **Jennifer Hicks** instructs.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 800-462-2849
Oct. 26, 7:30pm: vs. Washington Wizards
Oct. 31, 7pm: vs. New Jersey Nets
Nov. 2, 7:30pm: vs. Chicago Bulls

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 617-931-2222
Oct. 25, 7pm: vs. Toronto Maple Leafs
Oct. 27, 7pm: vs. New York Rangers
Oct. 30, 7pm: vs. New Jersey Devils
Nov. 6, 7pm: vs. Edmonton Oilers

Events

Halloween Fun Run
West End of Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (800-966-0444). Oct. 31. Registration at 6pm, run begins at 7pm. $30 before Oct. 26. $35 on or after Oct. 26. The 7th annual Fun Run, co-sponsored by THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, gives Halloweeners a chance to get some exercise with a three-mile run around the Common. The route ends at The Rack, where runners are presented with a goody bag and grub. Proceeds benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Entrants must be 21 years of age or older.

BSSC Masquerade Ball
Cambridge Marriott, Kendall Sq., Cambridge (617-789-4070) www.bssc.com. *Oct. 26, 9pm-1am. $15 members, $20 non-members and at the door.* The Boston Ski and Sports Club invites sporty types to don their scariest costumes and head to the Marriott for a night of dancing and cash bar-ing. There will be prizes for the best costumes, so don't come with some lame whiskers painted on your face and be like, "Oh, I'm a cat."

Turkey Track Run
Borderland State Park, Easton, Mass. (508-285-5425) www.personalbestkarate.com. *Oct. 27, 1pm.* Solicit pledges for this 2.7 mile run to raise money for the Turkey Brigade, which last year delivered more than 500 Thanksgiving baskets to families in need.



It's time to cook up a costume for BSSC's Oct. 26 Masquerade Ball at the Cambridge Marriott.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Nov. 2-Dec. 16. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

Coolidge Corner Theatre for Kids
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. •Oct. 27, 10:30am: Costume party fun •Nov. 3, 10:30am: Snappy Dance Theater with Martha Mason.

The Little Prince
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 129 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 3, 8pm; Nov. 4, 10 and 11, 2pm. $12. Based on the book by Antoine de Saint-Exupery, this is the magical story of a fallen pilot who learns his lessons about life after meeting a mysterious little prince.

Lyric Stage Children's Theatre
140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. •Oct.27-28, 10:30am, $7: *The Legend Of Sleepy Hollow.* The participatory theater format allows children to be involved in the show, with dialogue and costumes.

Puppet Showplace Theater
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Sat. and Sun., 1 and 3pm; Wed. and Thu., 10:30am. $8. Reservations recommended. The Puppet Showplace Theater presents traditional and original shows for children ages five and older. •Oct. 24: *Racoon Tales* •Oct.25: *The Fifth Witch* •Oct. 27-28: *What the Moon Saw* •Oct. 31: *Witch's Brew* •Nov. 3-4: *Little Red Riding Hood.*

Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm
Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Nov. 2-25. $10-$17. Rebecca is sent to live with two maiden aunts in Riverboro, Maine. The aunts try to cope with this "bird of a different feather."

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (617-679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tuesdays, 10:30am. Staff members read from the best of new and classic children's books. •Oct. 27, 11am: storytime with Geoff Barnes; 12pm: Halloween Storytime.

Cafe Fleuri Chocolate Bar "Boo-fet"
Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8751). Oct. 27, 12-3pm. $23, $12.50 children. Enjoy an all-you-can-eat chocolate buffet complete with spooky music and costumes.

Halloween on the Harbor
One Long Wharf, Boston (617-227-4321). www.bostonharborcruises.com. *MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State Street. Oct 28-29. $12, $8 children.* Cruise to Georges Island in Boston Harbor and enjoy Halloween fun and games.

Pru Boo
Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (800-SHOP-PRU). Oct. 27, 12-4pm. $1. Children in costumes can collect candy at more than 50 stores, get their faces painted or carve pumpkins.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.* •Nov. 3, 9-11am, $35: Creative Creatures. Learn about and meet amazing animals; 9am-12pm: Indian Treats. Celebrate Native American cultures through exhibits, artifacts, story telling and games. •Oct.27, 1-5pm, $6.50, $4 children: Halloween Family Festival.

Music Celebration Day
New England Conservatory, 290 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-585-1143). Nov. 4, 11am-5pm. Children can play with Latin and Cuban musical instruments.

Newton Free Library Children's Programs
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7159). The library offers a variety of activities for children. •Fridays, Oct. 5-26, 10:30am: Preschool films • Thursdays, Oct. 4-25, 7pm: Pajama Storytime (ages four and older) •Oct. 30, 3:30pm: Science Tuesday—Rainforest Habitats (ages five and older).

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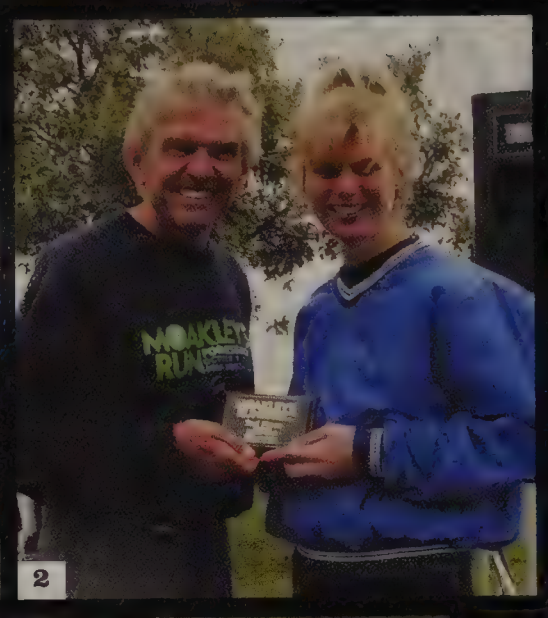
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improperazzi

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events



1



2

On Saturday, Oct. 13, **The Improper Bostonian** sponsored the first annual **Moakley's Run for Research**. The 5-mile road race was held to honor the memory of Congressman **Joe Moakley**. The race raised funds for the American Liver Foundation.

1. And they're off...the race begins.
2. **Robert Banks** with **Janet Moakley**, niece of the late congressman.
3. The self-proclaimed "Team One."
4. **Judi Kaplan-Elkin**, executive director of the Liver Foundation with **Robert Banks**, founder of the Moakley's Run for Research and **Mark McCue**, president of the American Liver Foundation New England.
5. Runners beaming after the race.



3



4



5

James B. Burke, GM for the **West Street Grille**, is presented with a plaque of appreciation by Corinna Campbell, director of corporate & foundation campaigns for the **American Red Cross** for West Street Grille's donation of $20,000, which was raised during its 10th Anniversary party in late September.



Corinna Campbell of the ARC and **James B. Burke,** GM of West Street Grille.



1



2

On Wednesday, Oct. 10, **The Rack** hosted the **American Airlines** and **United Airlines** Flag-Across-America Kick-off Party. Airline employees and military persons are running with an American flag in a cross-country run from Boston to Los Angeles to mirror the planned flight paths of Flight 11 and Flight 17S.

1. Members of the Flag-Across-America team.
2. The Rack owner **Paul Barclay** and WBZ 4's **Sara Underwood.**

PHOTOS: JOE MOAKLEY RUN, SUE FRIGOLETTO; WEST STREET GRILL, CARRIE WALLACE; THE RACK, WENDY SEMONIAN

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled PortabellaPaninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont*

Hotel), 338-7699 A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich Street, Boston, MA, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday and Saturday night. www.jillians-boston.com.

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and Bal la Brothers.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

CLUBS

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00 10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science-Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Journey Into Amazing Caves at 2pm. Tickets are $30 for Adults, $28 for Seniors/Children. Brunch only $22. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.



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Recent correspondence follows.

It was Sept. 13,
two days after the horrific events in New York and Washington. I (glasses, T-shirt, khaki shorts) was sitting outside by the sidewalk at the Au Bon Pain in Harvard Square having my coffee and reading the papers. I was feeling sad and still somewhat in shock over what had happened. That is, until I saw your smile. You (Asian, red top, blue jeans) were walking by and apparently the gentleman who sells the homeless paper had said something funny to you. When I looked up you were looking at me with the most incredible smile I had ever seen. Well I have to tell you that smile turned my whole day around. As I was leaving I saw you at the flower cart, I stopped and pretended to look at the roses, but I was actually trying to see one more smile before I left. As I was walking through Harvard Yard on my way home I could have kicked myself. What I should have done was buy one of those beautiful roses for you to thank you for turning my day around. Well, I can still see that smile, and it still has the same effect every time I think of it. I hope that you read this and respond because I owe you a rose and maybe a cup of coffee and definitely a joke to make you smile again.
—smilemademyday@yahoo.com

Sept. 19 at the Red Sox, Section 37
Thanks for cheering me up on a really bad day! You all were a lot of fun, and I had a great time even though the Sox lost. I want to set the record straight, too: I had a little too much beer and was not my usual self. And to the guy with the amazing eyes...apology accepted.
—section37girl@yahoo.com

Waitress at Algiers
It was a warm Friday night at the beginning of September. I had finished coffee and dessert with my friends and was waiting outside on the steps as a member of our group made a phone call. You came outside for a little break from the warm and humid restaurant air. You were bemoaning the fact that you had two more hours left to work and you weren't making any money off tips that evening. You had dark hair and thick, stylish dark-rimmed glasses. I was amazed at how easily you initiated a conversation with a stranger. I did not get a chance to get your name before my friend returned and I had to leave. Do you remember this encounter? Are you interested in a more extended conversation?
—Bickle_t@yahoo.com

I'm The Knucklehead
To the beautiful woman I met at that quaint bar on Sept. 22. I had such a good time talking with you that night, especially when I noticed the passion in your eyes when you described your paintings or the giggle you let out when I mused that we are a generation of "knuckleheads." I had hoped to share more stories with you but it became awkward when I asked for your number. Please, e-mail me (hope that isn't too pushy) if it would be all right to just sit and enjoy a cup of coffee together sometime.
—whoisjohngalt28@hotmail.com

Erin
You're the girl who just got back from a Russian trip with a cowboy hat on in the Burren with her friend Katie. We exchanged personal experiences in Russia, and you overwhelmed me with personality and beauty. Everything was going great and we had such a nice connection that when you went to the bathroom I was wondering if you were too good to be true. I went outside in disbelief and I came back nervous with butterflies. I was afraid to communicate and pushed you away. You said to me on the way out, "I don't care what people think of me, hence the cowboy hat in the Burren." Well, I'm writing this to let you know that I feel the same way, except I care about what you think of me and would like the opportunity to be straight up with you and apologize in person. If you felt that same connection, I hope to hear from you.
—Shane
(mashanevt@yahoo.com)

Bernie
We met many years ago through the personals. You lived off Beacon St. in Brookline, near Star Market. You drove a BMW and picked me up in Copley Square. We got together a few times and I really had a good time. You're a very nice guy and I should have stayed in touch. Unfortunately, I had a crises in my life and was forced to move suddenly. If you are still around and want to meet for coffee, drop me a line.
—j_s_static@hotmail.com

Don
A year has passed since my involvement with you (by the grace of God, I survived)and I have a few things to say to you and the women of Boston regarding the truth behind your mysterious facade. First of all, Don, you are a pathetic, alcoholic, chain-smoking, lying, manipulative jackass! Unfortunately, I wasted a year of my existence trying to rationalize your behavior. I admit, your command of the English language is astounding, but to use it as a tool to get into women's pants is disgusting! You have lied about everything: where you are from, your job, your family (how pathetic!), your money (or lack thereof), your car (sad, sad, sad) and even your need for glasses! Did you really think you look more intelligent?

Women of Boston, this man is foul! You probably know of whom I speak—a barfly from early afternoon until late night with a boyish face and incredible charm. He speaks endlessly about his writing, perhaps about the many books he's written or the volumes of poetry while he downs more Heineken than you can count. I survived somewhat unscathed. Spare yourselves from the lies and horrible sex: Point, laugh and walk away!
—Don Hata

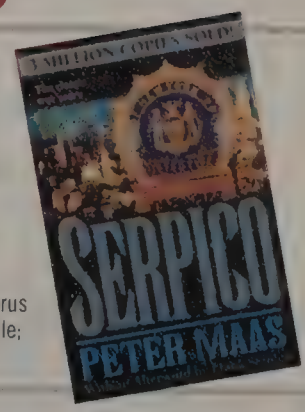
Rice Is Nice
I was sitting in the window of Espresso Royale, Newbury Street on a Sunday morning. You were sitting next to me reading the paper. I was reading Anne Rice and you noticed. I saw you again outside Urban Outfitters. You mentioned coffee. Edwin is it? The sexy mysterious stranger has got me very curious. Whoever said curiosity killed the cat?
—orangekitty76@yahoo.com

B.G.
We met at the Nascar Meet and Greet in Allston and found that we both preferred Ralf over Michael. I was wearing the black shirt with the red 3 and leather pants. You were wearing the light green pants with the racing stripe, and the baby blue number 2 shirt. Our differences aside, let's take a bath together after a long, hot time trial. I'll bring the Gojo and you bring those massive pythons.
—doubleoverheadcam@lebanonvalleyspeedway.com

Bacardi Visor Guy
We met on a Friday night a few weeks ago at the Haymarket T stop. You had been at The Rack and got a Bacardi visor there. You kept offering it to me, and said I'd regret it if I didn't take it. You had beautiful green eyes, short brown hair, live near Malden Center and said you were a software engineer. We talked on the T until I got off at Sullivan Square. We never got each other's names. Me? Medium-length wavy brown hair, hazel eyes. I had on jeans and a black jacket. I've been hoping to run into you since then... Is the visor offer still on the table?
—Haymarket_girl@yahoo.com

Rockie Horoscope

OCTOBER 24 – NOVEMBER 6, 2001
BY ROCKIE GARDINER



SCORPIO OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21
You won't necessarily come into your own or take center stage when the sun gets to Scorpio, but when Mercury and Venus arrive in time to analyze the election results, you might be experiencing your finest hour of the year, so far. Until then, try to balance the demands of socially conscious friends with your own strictly private needs. Mastering this trick becomes even more important at Halloween, when the Scorpio-Taurus full moon tests the give-and-take of a significant relationship. Be flexible; don't get thrown for a loop.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21
Traversing a steady stream of ups and downs, minor as they may be, is still taking a toll on your nerves. Perhaps after your watchdog Jupiter ruler turns retrograde at the beginning of November, you'll be able to relax for a while. Halloween this year could be unusually enlightening, what with a rare blue moon illuminating your house of romance and risk. Fooling around with friends and lovers can have surprising results, especially if you forget to remember how fertile and creative that sensual Taurus moon makes you feel.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20
Maximize whatever extra energy you can still milk from Mars as it transits the last degrees of Capricorn. On the 27th, Mars moves on to Aquarius and you lose the sharp edge honed while the planet was in your sign. Mercury, turning direct in your career midheaven, makes it easier to communicate with your boss or a parent. The addition of affable Venus transforms a pedestrian work situation into a pleasant social one and brings out the diplomat, wordsmith, even the bullshit artist in you.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18
The Goat's loss is your gain. Macho Mars enters your sign on the 27th for six weeks of heightened physical energy and increased mental curiosity. Where will this lead? Try to read the guideposts you see, blurry as they may be, when the sun squares Neptune in your sign the weekend before Halloween. Foggy Neptune sends mixed signals, but you can count on it to bring you to a more exalted state. Then when Mars joins Neptune next month, you'll have the ammunition and determination to proceed. Until then, enjoy the favors loving Venus is sending your way.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19
While the sun sits squarely in your house of sex, death and other people's money, you could pick one of the three, for example, an insurance policy, to focus on. After Mercury turns direct on the 22nd, you might reinvestigate or reinvest in mutual funds. However, since affectionate Venus is making nice to your romantic Neptune ruler, you'll probably spend whatever spare time you have making love. Or, failing the proper partner, making art for Halloween and Day of the Dead celebrations.

ARIES
MARCH 20-APRIL 19
Will he, won't she? Mercurial Mercury, wavering back and forth in your Libra house of partners, just turn(ed) direct after three weeks of retrograde, so nothing that's left hanging is settled yet. Did a significantly younger significant other contact you recently? Is your desk, fridge or medicine chest the epitome of neat and clean? Are you anticipating some sort of career modification before Halloween? You should, because your daring Mars ruler leaves by-the-book Capricorn and enters idiosyncratic, rebellious Aquarius on the 27th.

TAURUS
APRIL 20-MAY 20
Love with an important or an imported stranger, perhaps a strong attraction to a work of art from abroad. While your Venus ruler glides through airy Libra, you'll value what is lovely and lovable, even if it's costly or hard to come by. However, words and ideas come easily as Mercury travels hand-in-hand with Venus for the next few weeks. Writers should take advantage of the grace and charm this literary conjunction provides because the atmosphere will darken when Venus descends into secretive, sexy Scorpio just after Election Day.

GEMINI
MAY 21-JUNE 20
The next few weeks would be a good time to spruce up the house and entertain genial folks, including the family members who are on their best behavior. A relatively rare conjunction of your Mercury ruler and harmonious Venus in your home base makes you a more affectionate and gracious person to be around. How about hosting a Halloween party while you're of a mind to spend some bucks? Once magnanimous Jupiter in your Cancer money house goes retrograde on Nov. 2, the urge to splurge may disappear for the next four months.

CANCER
JUNE 21-JULY 22
That magical phrase, those magical days—now and then when the moon is blue—are just around the corner. The Moon Child's reaction to the second full moon this month on Halloween depends on what life lessons you've learned while benevolent Jupiter has been in your sign. Do you see not only the forest and the trees, but what lies beyond? Another opportunity to have faith in your innate wisdom and expand your self-confidence comes as Jupiter prepares to turn retrograde on Nov. 2 for four months of quiet reinforcement of those lessons.

LEO
JULY 23-AUGUST 22
While Libra is ostensibly light and airy, Scorpio is often submerged in the dark, reaching for hidden answers to life's little mysteries. Right now the Lion is caught between the two energies, searching for a secure spot while enjoying the niceties coming from having Venus and Mercury in the Libra section of your money house. What good taste you have! How well you articulate your sense of values! However, a crisis may arise at Halloween when the Taurus-Scorpio full moon spooks a partner who can't make up his/her mind. You, too.

VIRGO
AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22
Your Mercury ruler pretty much calls the shots for the next two weeks. That means that Mercury will be at the same degree this Election Day as it was on Election Day last year. The same cast of scary characters could be in the news again; however, because Mercury has already turned direct, there shouldn't be as humongous a controversy. Since the Scorpio-Taurus full moon crosses your money axis, watch out that you aren't robbed blind by an expensive trick on Halloween.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22
The next two weeks can be an especially expressive period for Librans who are attached to the written word. Mercury, the great communicator, travels in consort with your Venus ruler through the second half of your sign. Together they re-evaluate all that has happened since Sept. 11. Although this may sound complicated or too much work for a lazy Libra, count on having remarkable clarity and perspective, along with grace and style, as you wend your way through the highs and lows you've experienced in the interim.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405. *www.rockiehoroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.

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Sisters Cara and Brenda Unowsky went to Graceland to check out The King's opulent estate. Behind them is Elvis' pink Cadillac, which weighs nearly as much as he did when he died.



Dave Lubchansky put it all together on the Ume River in Zimbabwe: an elephant, a gin and tonic and THE IMPROPER. We really prefer beer when boating among the elephants, but that's nitpicking.



Quebec Premier Bernard Landry *aime* THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN *parce-que il est chouette.*



Terri North endures what appears to be a terribly stressful day in the Bahamas by reading the Boston's Beloved Bartenders issue. Incidentally, the umbrella behind her is garnishing a huge Bahama Mama.



Michigan Governor John Engler proudly holds a magazine with more soul than Motown.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Warming up a turbodiesel–powered pumpkin thrower at the 16th annual World Punkin' Chunkin' Championship, Nov. 2-4 in cosmopolitan Lewes, Del.

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Last Scene Here

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC...

Like the return of the swallows marking the start of spring in San Juan Capistrano, you know it's officially fall when all the socialites return from points sandy and/or foreign, pull their formalwear out of mothballs, dust off the diamonds, and head to **Symphony Hall** for the **BSO's Opening Night**.

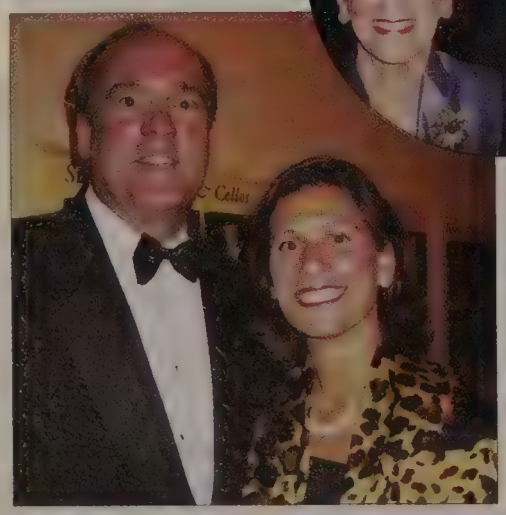


The first big black-tie hoo-ha of the season, there's a reassuring familiarity to the champagne-swilling, hors d'oeuvre-chomping preconcert reception.

Prominent among the throng: big-time BSO benefactor **Julian Cohen**; committee stalwarts **Fred** and **Gilda Slifka**; **Bob** and **Ellen Jaffe**; **Ed** and **Carole Rudman**; and **Steve** and **Roberta Weiner**; board chair **Peter Brooke**; mega-philanthropists **John** and **Diddy Cullinane**; **Howard** and **Michelle Kessler**; and **Joan** and **Ted Benard-Cutler**; snappy, crackling Pops conductor **Keith Lockhart**; banking behemoth **Marsh Carter**; tireless arts supporters **Michael Halperson** and **Miguel** and **Suki de Bragança**; NFL Napoleon **Bob Kraft** and the Empress **Myra**; real estate mogul **Mark Goldweitz**; patrician silver connoisseur **Alec Goriansky**; supermarket moguls **Avram** and **Carol Goldberg**; dashing party pair **Ted** and **Cynthia Berenson**; bright young Beacon Hillions **Karyn** and **Kevin Lamb**; and naturally carbonated PR czarina **Doris Yaffe**, wearing a super-fabulous psychedelic, fur-trimmed cardigan that prompted one friend to ask, "How many Muppets had to die to make that sweater?"









At the BSO Opening Night, from top: Bob and Ellen Jaffe; Keith Lockhart and Doris Yaffe; Carole and Ed Rudman.





Following an emotionally moving concert during which **Seiji Ozawa** acknowledged the tragedy of Sept. 11th by playing "The Star-Spangled Banner" and Bach's "Air on the G-string" (capped by a moment of silence for those who lost their lives), the VIPs repaired to the **Four Seasons** for a post-performance dinner and more schmoozing.

"I always love this party because you get to see who had cosmetic surgery over the summer," observed one guest wryly.

The evening's wittiest bon mot, however, came from a prominent businessman who was complimented on his ruby and diamond shirt studs.

"Thanks," he said. "They have sentimental value. About $30,000 worth."

NOBODY ESCAPES THE BOSTON LYRIC OPERA...

"It's four hours long, you know."

That was the most-uttered comment at the pre-performance dinner for trustees and benefactors at **Aujourd'hui**, before the premiere of **Boston Lyric Opera**'s season-opener, ***Don Carlos***.

Present and accounted for: the company's fairy godmother, **Lee Day Gillespie**; charming board chair **Sherif Nada** and his stunning spouse, **Mary**; true-blue (not to mention blue-blooded) opera supporters **Cassandra** and **Hod Irvine**; the former's gorgeous daughter, **Consuelo Henderson**, squired by the dapper **Ian Mclaughlin**; one-woman Mardi Gras **Joanne Dickinson** and her illustrious other half, **Charles**; new Ritz GM **John Rolfs** and his indescribably gorgeous wife, **Renee**; the unsinkable **Linda Cabot Black**; double-barreled Ph.D.s **George** and **Marie Hall**; the eternally lovely **Kay Lyons** and her dapper spouse, **Peter**; BLO board member **Christopher Yens** (whose wife, **Temple Gill**, couldn't be there because she's associate-producer of the *Hedda Gabler* production that opened on Broadway the following evening); grand dame of the non-profit world, **Anna Faith Jones**; and criminally blue-eyed attorney **Austin O'Toole**.



At the BLO, from top: Lee and Cokie Perry, Christopher Yens; Sandy Pollack and Janice Mancini Del Sesto; Sherif and Mary Nada.

After the proverbial fat lady sang (which did, indeed, take four hours), a musically saturated crowd returned to the Four Seasons for champagne, dessert and a chance to mingle with the performers, most notably soprano **Indra Thomas**, who's being touted as the next great diva of the opera world.

"That was my idea of a perfect evening," said one guest, on his way out the door. "Dinner, dessert and an opera about the Spanish Inquisition. You just can't beat a good auto-da-fé." **iB**





Clockwise from middle left: Kevin and Karyn Lamb; Miguel and Suki de Bragança; Kim Smedvig and Seiji Ozawa; Joan Benard-Cutler and Rosalie Cohen.

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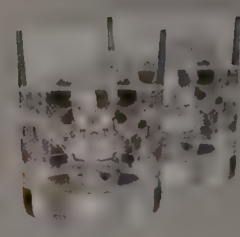
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Why you need to go to Banff

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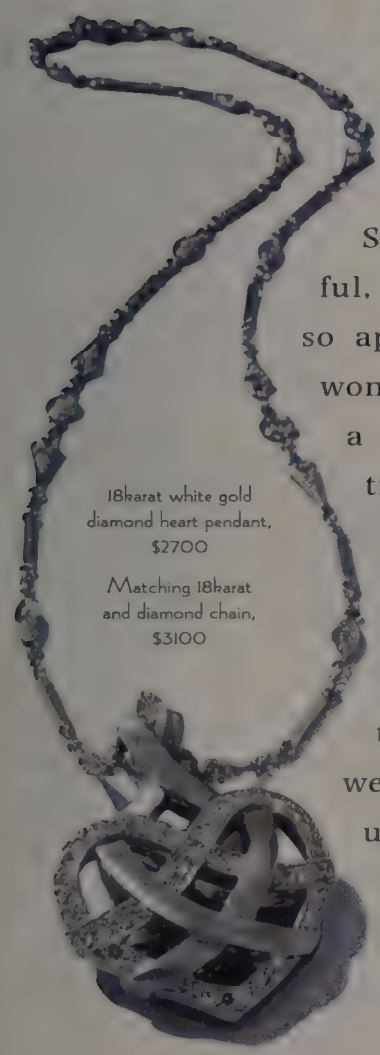
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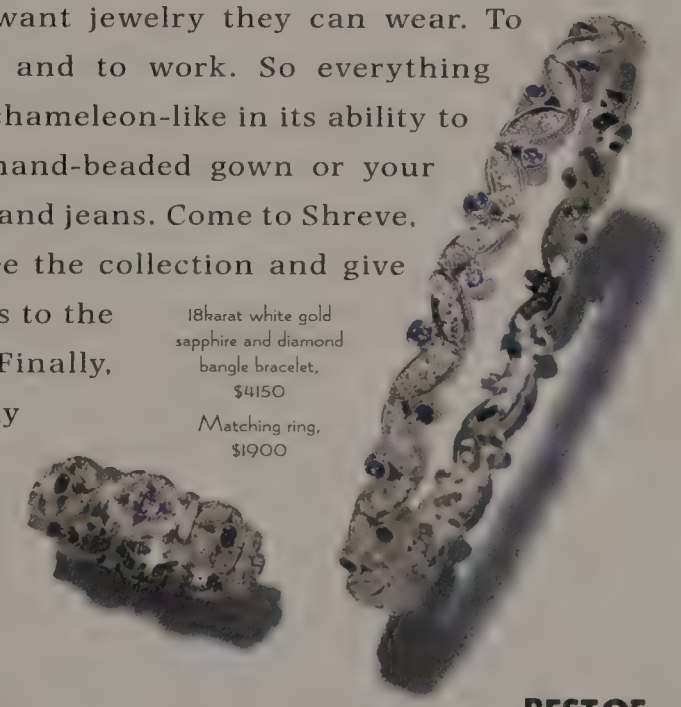
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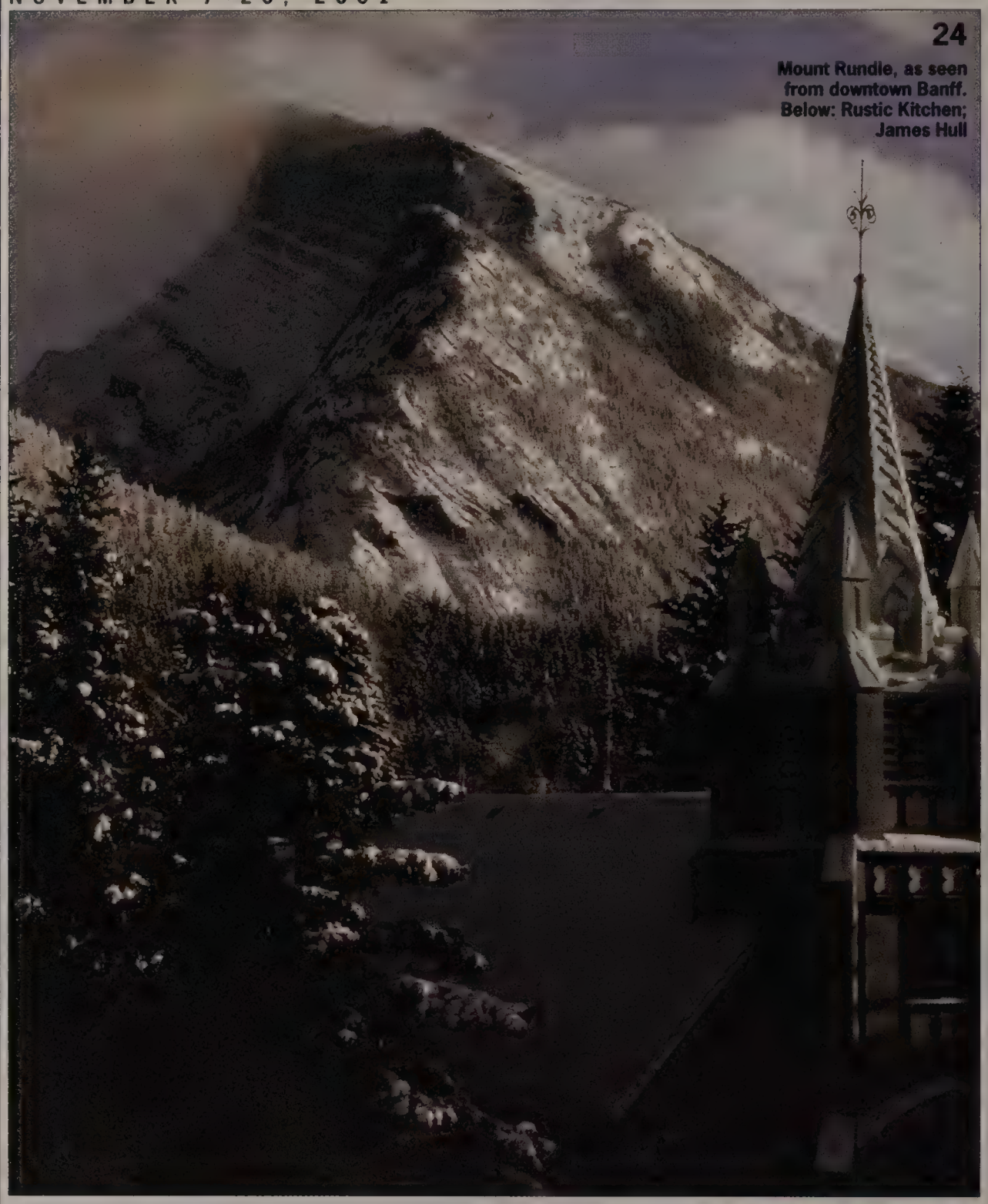
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BEST OF BOSTON 2001
BEST ENGAGEMENT RINGS

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Contents

NOVEMBER 7-20, 2001



24

Mount Rundle, as seen from downtown Banff. Below: Rustic Kitchen; James Hull



On the Cover:
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FEATURES

16 Soroff/On Liz Claman
CNBC anchor Liz Claman served her time on the Boston news circuit covering stories like the Graffiti Goat and more than a few state fairs. These days, she's got a different challenge: being a business reporter in a bear market. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 Get Out of Town
Eight Bostonians, including North Shore rink mistress Nancy Kerrigan, reveal their favorite winter getaways. BY EZRA DYER

24 Out of This World
The majestic ski slopes of Canada at Banff and Lake Louise caused our snowman to wax hyperbolic. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

26 SoWa: Adventures in Urban Development
So what's happening in SoWa? More galleries, more artists, more stores and more restaurants on the way. BY CAROLE WINKLER

30 Fashion: Last Harvest
The time is ripe to snap up the fruits of autumn.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY BILL STREICHER



8



26

COLUMNS

6 The Word
Moxie; Diptyque; Jacob; Patriotic paraphernalia

10 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

12 E-Boston
An insider's guide to picking an online personals service—and then getting the most out of it.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 Ezra
Drinking on the run.
BY EZRA DYER

36 Mopsy
Cornell West busts a rhyme; bridal gown rehab; catching the Bose wave. BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

58 Film
Billy Bob Thornton delivers another memorable performance in the Coen Brothers' *The Man Who Wasn't There.*
BY PAUL SHERMAN

66 Music
Suzanne Vega makes a comeback, this time with a less folksy production team.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

88 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

38 Dining
Draghi-net: Limbo serves up arresting fare.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

40 Dish
The English Empire expands; Mark Allen plans Le Soir; Michelena and O'Neill prepare to reopen The Vault
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

40 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: East Coast BBQ.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 43.
Sympathetic Magic: The Cinema of Souleymane Cissé • Sunday Supper Nov. 11 • International Antiquarian Book Fair • *Stomp* • The Redneck Festival • Boston International Fine Art Show • Firefighting Auction • **Bruce Weber** • *Resurrection*

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improperazzi	80
Improper Shopper	81
Improper Sightings	84
Improper Impersonals	86
Rockie Horoscope	87

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

TOP: COURTESY OF THE BANFF/LAKE LOUISE TOURISM BUREAU; MIDDLE: OLIVIA HANLEY; BOTTOM: ANDREW BRILLIANT

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letters

BREAK-DOWNS NOT ALL BAD

My car is in the shop and I've been forced to take the T to work for the last few days. Needing reading material, I grabbed a copy of your magazine and enjoyed it very much cover-to-cover. It was the first time I'd ever read it. One story about baseball, in particular, was extremely well-written. It was titled "The Summer of Our Discontent" and was written by a guy who obviously lives and breathes the game [Bill Chuck]. His writing style is very engaging and has shades of Hemingway. I hope to read more of him in the future.

—JACK ROSSIN
Boston

THEY ARE NOT *AMUSED*

When you printed an abridged version of my letter in your Oct. 10 issue, did you purposely intend to shaft me by spelling *amuse-gueules* incorrectly, so that I would look as misinformed as your restaurant reviewer? At the risk of seeming pedantic (the usual accusation launched at someone who prefers accuracy to impressionism), I would like you to print a correction absolving me from this error.

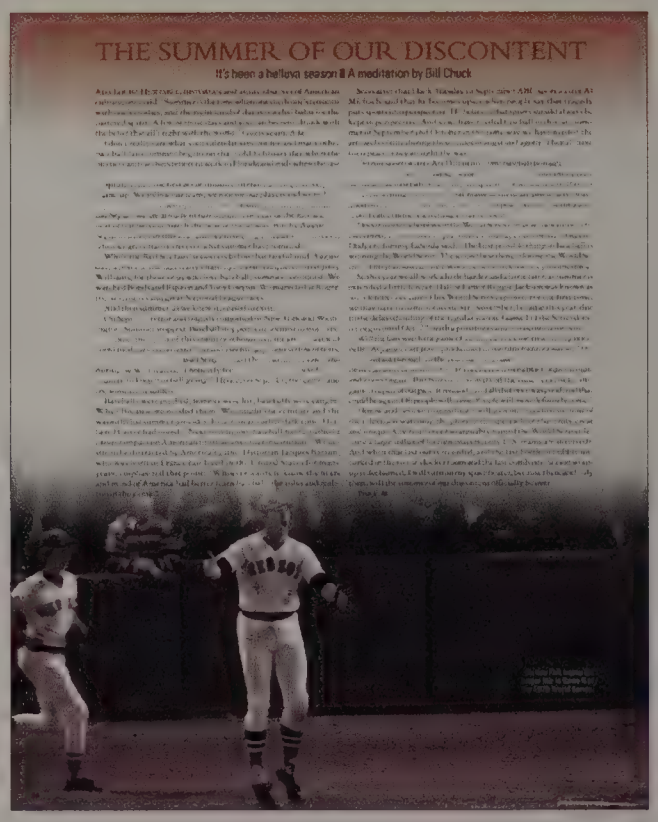
—LAURENCE SENELICK, PH.D
FLETCHER PROFESSOR OF DRAMA AND ORATORY, TUFTS UNIVERSITY
Medford

I had to respond to the letter from a Ms. Goff entitled "We're Gueu-Less". In her dining with French aristocrats and in her attempt to not "come across as too pedantic or fatuous," she actually made a terrible faux-pas. She said a human being's mouth is "un bouche" in French. Anyone who has taken any basic lesson in French knows that "bouche" is a feminine word and is therefore une bouche, not "un bouche." I just had to correct someone who claims to rub elbows with a "more refined" French society.

—HEATHER SILVIA
Via e-mail

ONE STORY ABOUT BASEBALL, IN PARTICULAR, WAS EXTREMELY WELL-WRITTEN. IT WAS TITLED "THE SUMMER OF OUR DISCONTENT" AND WAS WRITTEN BY A GUY WHO OBVIOUSLY LIVES AND BREATHES THE GAME.

—*JACK ROSSIN*
BOSTON


THE SUMMER OF OUR DISCONTENT

It's been a helluva season // A meditation by Bill Chuck

FABULOUS PRIZES

Thank you for naming me runner-up in your short fiction competition. The certificates to The House of Blues and No. 9 Park restaurant were fabulous. Also, the tube of Scrub Me Harder-brand body wash that I received gave me a nice laugh.

—TIMOTHY GAGER
Wellesley

ATLAS SLUGGED

Pour l'amour de Dieu, Ezra! Put the *book down now*! Quick, before it's too late and you reach the 50-page monologue, a passage so tedious you'll want to claw out your spleen with a KFC spork. *Atlas Shrugged*, despite being hyped as "the *real* Greatest Story Ever Told" by every libertarian I've ever met, is a truly godawful book that's four times as long as it needs to be.
A public service message,

—JEFF YAUS
Via e-mail

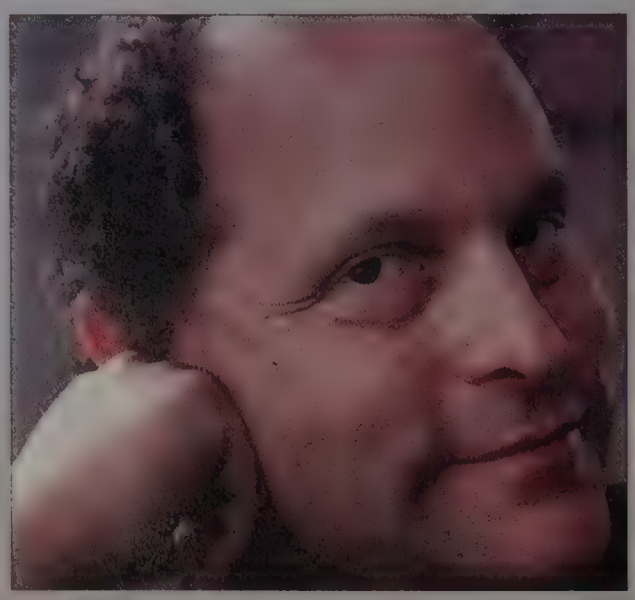
CORRECTIONS

It was fun for a while, but we've grown tired of all you Francophiles correcting us and each other. So we will just end this with a simple "sorry, we all make mistakes."

In a caption in last issue's Dish column, the editors mistakenly wrote "19th century author Jane Eyre" when they meant *"19th century author Jane Austen."* Jane Eyre, *to our regret, is not an author but a book. Jane Austen is an author of books, so you can see where we went wrong.*

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ANDREW BRILLIANT



Photographer Andrew Brilliant's work has not only appeared in scads of publications (including the *Boston Globe* and *Herald*, *Newsweek*, the *Washington Post*, *Glamour*, the *Los Angeles Times* and *Details*), it's also ended up in museums. In New York, he's had an exhibit in the Museum of Modern Art and in Boston his photographs have landed in both the Fogg and Danforth museums. His latest work appears in "SoWa: Adventures in Urban Development" on page 26.

Tell Us What You Think

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November

11/02/03

FRIDAY 02 NOVEMBER

dj Scot Project

GERMANY :: BOSTON DEBUT

SATURDAY 03 NOVEMBER

Manolo

RESIDENT DJ

11/09/10

FRIDAY 09 NOVEMBER

Ricky Corbo

NYC'S WEBSTER HALL PARTY

SATURDAY 10 NOVEMBER

Manolo

RESIDENT DJ

11/16/17

FRIDAY 16 NOVEMBER

George Acosta

MINISTRY OF SOUND, LEVEL

SATURDAY 17 NOVEMBER

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INFO AND VIP TABLE RESERVATIONS



NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

TWO FROM TODD

Todd English is at it again—this time opening not just one restaurant but two at once: Rustic Kitchen in Faneuil Hall (across the way from his Kingfish Hall), which was launched at the end of August, and now Bonfire in the Park Plaza. With this kind of expansion, does English have his hand in too many pots at once? Maybe. At Rustic Kitchen, for example, we hear that the managerial types were sitting around in the airy, spacious new digs waiting for the head honcho's menu approval just two weeks before the scheduled opening. It came in the form of a total menu revamp just three days before D-hour. But the perfectionist's end product—an assortment of panini, salads, flatbreads (read pizza), roasts, casseroles, and risotto—is yummy and comforting—"a cross between Figs and Olives in terms of the quality of ingredients and preparation," says manager John Lambert. If Todd can do this in three days, we can only imagine the wondrous flavors at Bonfire, his new Argentinean steak house. We hear there's a selection of 100 different tequilas to go with grilled sirloin and an assortment of gorditas, empanadas and tacos. *Rustic Kitchen, 200 Quincy Market Building, Boston (617-523-6334). Bonfire, 64 Arlington St., Boston (617-262-3473).*





Todd English debuts his Rustic Kitchen in Faneuil Hall.

CLUB SEEN

ELMO GETS LUCKY

Gravel-voiced hip-hop maestro **Busta Rhymes** recently fired it up and kept it all in check at **The Palace** for Hot 97.7's Hot-loween party. Either that, or someone had a killer Busta Rhymes costume.

Other Halloween news: At **The Roxy** costume contest Oct. 26, an energetic Elmo did some grinding on stage with a space vixen during the costume contest. She apparently found his shaggy red fur and solid grasp of the elementary-school concepts "near" and "far" irresistible. But Elmo got lucky in more ways than that: He also won a trip to Cancun for garnering the best crowd response to his costume.

Here's what we can tell you about the **Nu Room** opening at **Avalon**: It was crowded. So crowded, in fact, that we couldn't get in, even with a snazzy invitation. Bring your platinum Player's card, kids.

On a lower-key note, jazz fans may want to check out the just-opened **Jimmaize Art Club** in Central Square, Cambridge. You'll have to get creative, as they don't serve any booze yet.

And the **Hard Rock Cafe** has had success with its Thursday night transformation into **Club Zen**, so much so that they're soon expanding it to Wednesday night as well. Thursday will remain hip-hop oriented, while Wednesday will focus on R&B. *—Ezra Dyer*



Busta cuts it up with Palace owner Russell Robbat.

ALL THE BUZZ

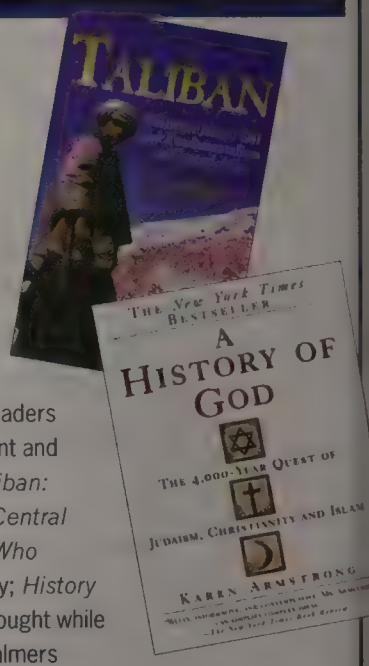
NEWBURY'S NOISEMAKERS

On The Avenue: The Giorgio Armani boutique that has been temporarily housed in Park Square returns to its site in the first block of Newbury Street with a mid-November reopening. Look for a enlarged and refurbished store with Giorgio's signature understated elegance, and expect lots of benefit cocktail parties as the winter social season goes into full swing.

Ralph Lauren/Purple: The Kakas Fur Building, one of oldest commercial spaces on Newbury Street, was to have been occupied by a Club Monaco store. But the vagaries of the fashion biz have brought Ralph Lauren and his haute couture Purple line to this site instead. It will expand an already fabulous building to the tune of a reputed $4 million (the store needed working fireplaces on all four floors). We hear mid-December is when we can expect the doors to open on this new fashion Valhalla.—*Robert Birnbaum*

AROUND TOWN

ASPECTS OF AFTERMATH



Read Up... Sanj Kharbanda, manager of WordsWorth Books in Harvard Square, reports that after the Sept. 11 attacks readers have progressed through an array of relevant topics—from the Taliban and bin Laden to historical views of Islam and the Koran. Most readers are also delving into books on grief management and biological warfare. Some of the big sellers: *Taliban: Militant Islam, Oil and Fundamentalism in Central Asia* by Ahmed Rashid; *Bin Laden: The Man Who Declared War on America* by Yossef Bodansky; *History of God* by Karen Armstrong (six copies were bought while we were speaking with him); *Blow Back* by Chalmers Johnson and *Clash of Civilization* by Samuel Huntington.

Better Safe Than Sorry...A CVS pharmacy on Summer Street has seen an estimated 20 percent increase in Cipro prescriptions since the anthrax scares.

Lose Yourself... Randy Hargrove, company spokesman for Blockbuster Inc., tells us that there's an increase in demand for comedies like *Meet the Parents* and feel-good movies like *Remember the Titans.*

Comfort Food... Zaki Royan, the general manager of Helmand, an Afghan restaurant in Cambridge, says that business was slower between Sept. 11 and 15, but now "business is very good—back to normal."

Phone Home... Lou Morello, retails sales rep at Sprint PCS on Boylston Street, says there was a companywide expectation that sales were going to surge after the Sept. 11 attacks because people relied on cell phones so much during the tragedies. But the opposite has been true: Business has been slow, and sales are down.

Let's Get Together... Terrorism can trigger feelings of amor as well as dread. Wedding bells are in the air, says merchandising manager Michael Lebowitz of Shreve, Crump & Low, who has never seen so many people at the diamond counter ready to tie the knot. He estimates that Shreve's has seen at least a 25 percent increase in wedding band and engagement ring sales in the past month.



Shreve, Crump & Low has seen a boom in engagement ring sales since Sept. 11.

Cover Me... According to Tom Skelly, owner of Skelly Insurance Agency in Downtown Boston, more people have called to sign up for homeowners' insurance since Sept. 11. "Usually more people invest in insurance after there's a major fire in their area. But New York is not in Bostonians' line of sight—yet they're rushing to get coverage," he says.

Empty Nests..."I don't think it's a big mystery—there is a huge vacancy in office space, there are a lot of empty apartments, and rental prices have come down," says Richard Harris of A&S Real Estate on Newbury Street. "Honestly, this is a trend that started in April when all the layoffs began. But Sept. 11 was the final blow."

Stripping Down... Circle Cinema in Cleveland Circle is one of many public spaces that has instituted a new policy discouraging customers from bringing in large packages. The newly posted sign reads, "For the comfort and peace of mind of customers and employees, packages, backpacks and similar items are prohibited." *—E.H., J.S. and Jessica Ireland*

RUSTIC KITCHEN: OLIVIA HANLEY; BONFIRE: DARISA CLARKE

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IMPROPER REPORTS

PATRIOTIC PARAPHERNALIA

These stores help you show your true colors:

•True Value Hardware, 54 Charles St., Boston (617-367-9046): hand-held American flag, $1

•Contempo Casuals, 11 Winter St., Boston (617-695-3590): six styles of patriotic T-shirts, $22 (with proceeds benefiting the Red Cross)

•Brooks Brothers, 199 Boylston St., Boston (617-964-3600): red, white and blue necktie, $52.50

•Jasmine Sola, 239 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-8465): "Love the USA" enameled flag buckle on a leather belt, $98

•Louis Boston, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (627-262-6100): American flag wool sweater, $225

•Shreve, Crump & Low, 330 Boylston St, Boston (617-267-9100): bar pin encrusted with rubies, diamonds and sapphires, set in platinum, $9,000

SAM SAYS

FRESH AND FULLY CLEAN

In the past, Fresh body-and-bath boutique has had a small cosmetics line that seemed to lack continuity. But with its recent redesign, the company has introduced a perfect blend of color and contrast (while keeping in mind that the average woman wants to look natural). The foundations ($42) make your skin as smooth as silk and the concealers ($22), deceivingly thin, have great coverage without a heavy makeup look. The powder eyeshadows ($22) give a wash of pigment reminiscent of a Monet watercolor. The lipsticks ($21) are in sheer, non-intimidating colors. Even the brightest red lets your natural lip color peek through, making every shade right for anyone. My favorite product is the eye luster ($22). It's a water-based liquid eyeshadow that glides on effortlessly and has the look of cream. The best part is that it dries to a shine and never creases or wears away. Pick up your new look at Fresh at 121 Newbury Street. *(617-421-1212).*



—Samantha House

NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

TRES FEMININ

Three new upscale, girlie-themed stores have popped up recently around the city. We found out just what kinds of feminine pleasantries they had to offer:



Discreetly tucked away in the bustling Cambridgeside Galleria is Jacob (no relation to Marc Jacob). This women's clothing shop is wildly popular in Canada, where there are 150 branches, but Americans have yet to discover its charms. They soon will. Jacob is a cross between French Connection, Ann Taylor and J. Crew—with classic, tailored looks. Some are trendy, others more traditional. Wool slacks with a Burberry-like print sell for $90, a sequined dress for $175. The Cambridge incarnation is the first, but expect to see another at an undisclosed location (our chips are on Newbury Street) sometime next spring.


Sales associate Amity Herbert at Moxie.

On Beacon Hill, the new shoe boutique, Moxie, opened in mid-October. Its owner, Karen Fabbri, was in high-tech PR until a year ago, when she decided to open a small shop for hard-to-find brands of shoes like Walter Steiger, L'Autre Chose and Claudia Ciuti. She conferred with her pals at Wish down the street, and, voilà!, Moxie, the cozy store on Charles Street (complete with fireplace, oriental rugs and a red velvet setee) was born. You'll also find tights, jewelry, barrettes and bags. *73 Charles St., Boston (617-557-9991).*

Finally, on Newbury Street, the new fragrance boutique from Paris's Left Bank, Diptyque, just opened—an American debut for this store. You may recognize its label (on room sprays and eau de toilette) from the shelves of local retailers Louis Boston, Good, Neiman Marcus, Maksou and Francesca Alurenzi. But Diptyque's claim to fame is its



scented candles. Quickly discard any sugary-sweet images you may have of vanilla Yankee candles. These are gourmet scents—40 of 'em—that range from floral to musky to woodsy. There's even a menu of scents, some of which smell good enough to eat (cinnamon-orange, almond and basil) and others that you'd want to plant in your cottage garden (lilac, lily of the valley and jasmine). Our favorite was the *feau de bois*, or firewood. Says the Parisian distributor Annie Falkenburger, "Even if you don't have a fireplace, your house can smell like a wood-burning fire." *123 Newbury St., Boston (617-351-2430).*

TIDBITS AND MORSELS


Rock club Lilli's has been transformed into the restaurant 608. Mark Romano brings his skill to the kitchen.

•First, the sad news: **Lilli's** rock club in Somerville is no longer. Now the good news: It's **608**, and the kitchen is being headed up by **Mark Romano**, formerly the chef at Kendall Square's Blue Room. There'll still be music scattered throughout the week and a regular Tuesday night rock series booked by **Lilli Dennison** herself.

•**Terry Ward**, no relation to Heisman Trophy winner Charley Ward, has surfaced recently as general manager of the popular **Abe & Louie**'s on Boylston Street. Terry has added now 8-month-old son Maxwell Persimmon to his already stellar resume. He's not the only breadwinner in the family, though: Spouse **Wendy Stephanelli** is working with the Schlow/Myer gang of two at **Radius** as the restaurant's marketing maven.

•*In Style* magazine's November issue features seven places in seven cities, and Boston's "Bar with a Twist" is that hip Fort Point Channel gem, **Lucky's**: "This is the real deal, an unpretentious hipster hideaway," it says.

•Lots has been made of bartender **Peter Cipriani**'s departure from 29 Newbury after eight years. But lost in the shuffle has been the record-setting tenure of waiter and jack-of-all trades **George Makas**, who claims to have been at the first-block watering hole for more than a dozen years (actually a lucky 13). Makas currently has no plans to vacate his chairmanship until mandatory retirement age.

•**Jasper White**'s Summer Shack, which is a long way away from his legendary and retired restaurant Jasper's, has, as you all know by now, opened at the Mohegan Sun casino. Meanwhile, while she resides on this coast, **Julia Child** continues to dine at the Cambridge location at least three times a week. *—R.B.*

NOVELTIES

DOGGONE COOL

Here's the concept: vanilla ice cream molded into the shape of a hot dog and then placed inside a sponge-cake bun. Now imagine fudge sauce instead of ketchup and whipped cream instead of mustard, plus an assortment of other toppings, and you've got a Cool Dog. It's probably been done before, right? Wrong. "It's extremely difficult to mold ice cream into the shape of a hot dog," says creator (and Concord resident) Peter Franklin, formerly the director of marketing for Quantum. No one had done it before (at least not in high volume), and now that Franklin has designed a mechanism that makes "round" ice cream (complete with a U.S. patent), no one else will for a long time. For the time being, Dick's Last Resort is the only place to get this unusual treat, but soon Franklin and his wife, Tara, will be mass-producing 20,000 a day for ballparks, chain restaurants, amusement parks—you name it. "We've had great success raising capital recently—mainly because ice cream isn't a high-tech product," says Franklin with a smile. *www.cooldoginc.com. 978-369-5696. —J.S.*



Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

TOP RIGHT: DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; MOXIE AND DYPTIQUE: DARISA CLARKE



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Proper Bostonians BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children's 15th Annual "A Family Affair" benefit gala was held Oct. 25 at the Cyclorama. More than 600 MSPCC supporters and friends gathered to honor inspiring families who have made major contributions to the well-being of children.

1. **Jim Hart**, his wife, singer/songwriter **Carly Simon**, and **Jerilyn Asher**, co-chair of the event.
2. **John Havlicek**, former Boston Celtics star and his wife, **Beth**.
3. **Jeff Schwartz**, managing director of Bain Capital and his wife, **Leigh**.
4. **Bill Achtmeyer**, chairman of MSPCC, **Karola Darehshuri**, MSPCC's "Kids Net" regional director, and her husband, **Max**, analyst for Fidelity Investments.
5. **Nader Darehshori**, CEO of Houghton Mifflin Co. and his wife, **Cynthia**.
6. **Peter Lynch**, former Magellan Fund manager at Fidelity Investments and his wife, **Carolyn**.
7. **Chris Havlicek**, vice president of marketing for the NBA; his sister, **Jill Havlicek Buchanan**, president of Belle Bonnets, a hat manufacturing company, and her husband, **Brian Buchanan**, who plays for the Minnesota Twins.


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The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation party was held Oct. 18 at the Anne Fontaine store.

8. **Anne Fontaine** (l), designer, and **Shelley Matthews**, manager, at Anne Fontaine on Boylston Street.
9. **Michaela McMahon Popeo** (l), grants chair for the Boston affiliate of the Komen Foundation, and **Janet Wu**, health reporter for Channel 7.
10. Emmanuel College's **Candice Serafino** (l) and **Donna Tyson**, event manager for the AIDS Action Committee.
11. **Juliette Cox**, account executive at Kortenhaus Communications; **Michele Cotler**, segment producer for the WB56 *Morning Show*; **Lisa Stigliano**, medical aesthetician; and **Jennifer Welsh**, account executive at Kortenhaus Communications.


8


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10


11

rush hour berlin

JAMESON
IRISH WHISKEY
WHAT'S THE RUSH?



Meeting Your Match Online

Our freshly minted bachelor compares Internet personals sites and strategies

Last spring, I wrote about fake online personal ads, the ones that are supposedly written by an attractive female looking for a mate but that actually lead to pay-per-view porn sites. At that time, I had only a casual interest in personal ads. However, having recently rejoined the hallowed ranks of the unattached, I'm now taking a more practical interest in online personals.

The last time I actually tried to use personal ads, they were text-only items at the back of a magazine. Answering these ads involved self-addressed, stamped envelopes that could be forwarded anonymously—for the hefty charge of a buck per letter. Then came telephone personals, where you could actually hear the prospective candidate (for a whopping $3.95 a minute) and leave a message, with your phone number. It was all very hit or miss, and the chances of finding somebody you'd like to date were slim to nil.

Today, however, we've entered the era of the online personal ad, and it's basically put all those other methods out of business. Online personals have not only photographs but detailed descriptions of potential mates—and you can search the database for people who fit your criteria. They're also relatively cheap: A year's membership on *Match.com* is only $99 and provides unlimited use of the system.

Probably the largest service, in terms of actual members, is *Yahoo.com*. Unfortunately, it also seems to be the worst in terms of content and features. The search capabilities are strictly rudimentary and, if you're a guy, you have to wade through numerous fake ads. The free personals on America Online aren't much better. There are fewer fake ads, but the search capability only allows you to search on age, sex and location—which means that you have to weed the gems from the duds strictly by hand.

The pay sites do a much better job of providing an environment where serious flirting can take place. Probably the most famous site is *Match.com*, which creates "matches" based upon multiple parameters (age, location, size, interests and so on), ranked from most likely to least likely. As is the case with most pay sites, *Match.com* hides your identity behind "double-blind" mail forwarding, so that you can flirt anonymously until you feel it's appropriate to swap real e-mail addresses. *Match.com* will also e-mail you a notification if somebody who matches your criteria joins the site.

Although *Match.com* is worlds above Yahoo and AOL, even better is *kiss.com*. All interactions on *kiss.com* take place within the Web site itself, so you don't have to worry about torrid e-mail messages appearing in your office account. *Kiss.com* also has a personal chat environment that allows you to hold an online tete-a-tete with prospects who are also logged onto the system.

Kiss.com has a search engine that puts the one on *Match.com* totally to shame. You can not only set dozens of parameters for your date quest but see how well your own characteristics match the criteria of your prospective dates. You can add people who interest you to your list of "friends," which allows you to track whether they're on the system or not.

ALTHOUGH *MATCH.COM* IS WORLDS ABOVE YAHOO AND AOL, THE BEST PAY SITE IS *KISS.COM*. ALL INTERACTIONS ON *KISS.COM* TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE WEB SITE ITSELF, SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT TORRID E-MAIL MESSAGES IN YOUR OFFICE ACCOUNT.



The *kiss.com* system has another feature, called "encounters," which tracks every interaction between you and the other people on the system. This is particularly useful if you want to discover who checked out your ad. This feature is a mixed blessing, though. If you send an e-mail to a prospective date, you can find out immediately if he or she has looked at it and then subsequently browsed your ad. If there's no return e-mail, then it's not hard to figure out that you didn't make the grade. You can't pretend (as with *Match.com*) that your e-mail might have gotten lost or that your would-be inamorata is on vacation. The rejection is right there on the screen, in simple black and white. Ouch!

However, there are ways to make certain that you don't get rejected too frequently, according to Tony Bennis, an independent film producer who was formerly the marketing director for an online personals company. "Guys tend to enter profiles that piss women off," he explains. "For example, when a 38-year-old guy says that he's looking for women ages 22 to 33, a 33-year-old is going to figure that he wants some young thing and won't be happy with her. And the 22-year-old isn't going to respond anyway." The other big "deal-breaker" in guys' profiles is saying that prospective mates must be beautiful and sexy. "Women want to be made to feel that they are special, not that they have to live up to a set of unrealistic expectations."

Women make mistakes, too. "Women always get responses—often so many that they can't wade through them," explains Bennis, who advises women to be very specific about what they're looking for so that they don't get deluged. "That's not a good thing because she'll get overwhelmed and might miss that special guy who didn't see her ad when it first came up and wrote a really good response."

A common error for both sexes is providing so little personal information that prospective dates have no idea whether they'd like to spend more time with you. "Imagine you're at a party. You see somebody interesting. You go up and say 'Hi, I'm Fred, I'm 36, and I work in a bank' and then you walk away. Do you really think that would work?" Bennis says that effective personal ads not only contain something "personal" but also invite interaction, ask a question or request some sort of information. Rather than "I dig REM," it would be better to write, "If you're reading my profile, I'd be curious to find out what you think of REM."

One last word of warning about online personals. The anonymity of the Internet encourages misrepresentation and ambiguity. I, myself, once learned the hard way that when a woman says she is "Queen-sized," it does not mean that she is as petite as Queen Elizabeth was. iB

Geoffrey James (www.geoffreyjames.com) is the author of numerous articles and books about technology and management.

PHOTODIS

The Place

Where People and HEROES Meet!

AFTER WORK

MONDAY
Monday Night Football
Hosted by Scott Zolak!

TUESDAY
DVD Music Video Show

WEDNESDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
Undercover

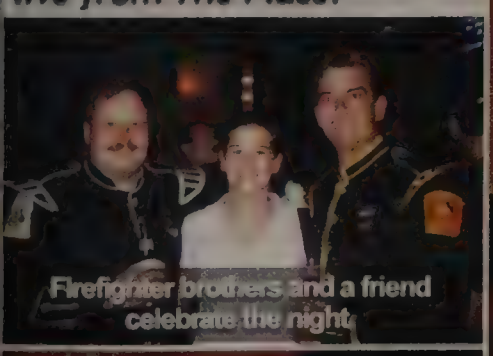
THURSDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
Greg Lutrell

FRIDAY
6-9 pm Live Music
James McKenna

SATURDAY
College Football
All Games on Satellite!

EVENTS

NOV. 11
Sunday Sports Final
Bob Lobel broadcasts
live from The Place!


Firefighter brothers and a friend celebrate the night.


A great crowd gathered to celebrate the Firefighters.

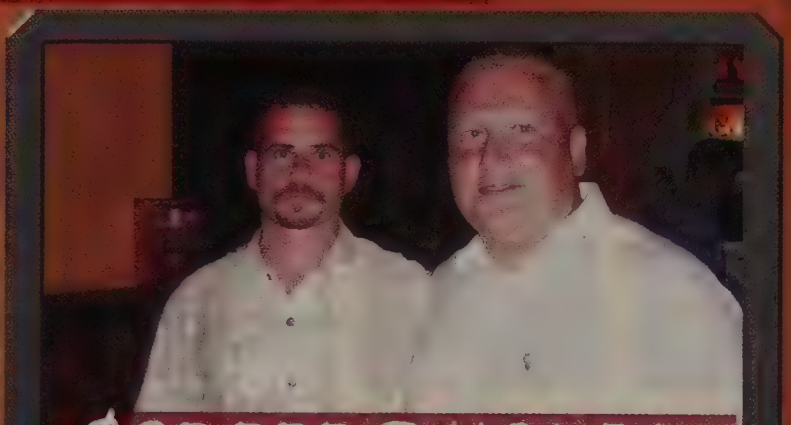
North End FD shows its support for their FDNY Brothers.


AMERICAN HEROES

Members of FDNY Ladder 25 were at The Place to raise money for the families of their fallen brothers.

BOSTON'S BEST 2001
IMPROPER BOSTONIAN

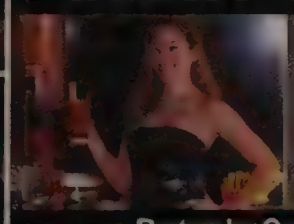
Chris Serra and friend of Boston's North End Fire department coordinated the successful fundraiser.


$20,000 RAISED!



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NIGHTLY

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MONDAY
Monday Night
Party and Dancing

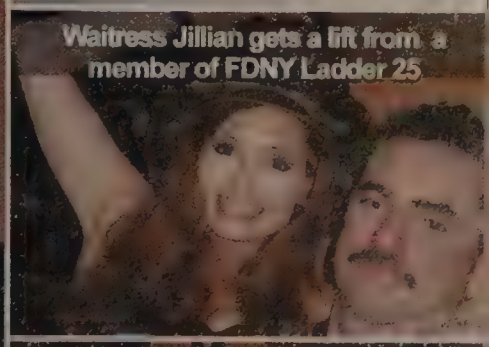
TUESDAY
Bar Industry Night w/
Half Off Pizzas after 10

WEDNESDAY
10pm-Close
Mystique Models

THURSDAY
10pm-Close
Martini Madness

FRIDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP

SATURDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP


Waitress Jillian gets a lift from a member of FDNY Ladder 25


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NOVEMBER 9-10

Judy Tenuta

NOVEMBER 16

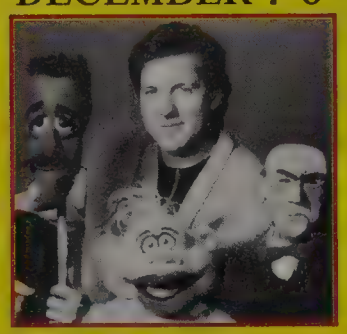
John Valby

NOVEMBER 23-24

Bob Nelson

NOV. 30-DEC. 1

Dom Irrera

DECEMBER 7-9

Jeff Dunham

DECEMBER 28

Dane Cook


December 1-2
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Ezra BY EZRA DYER

Fitness 101

On the run with the Hash House Harriers


Proper training and nutrition are essential for Hashing.

When I told my parents that I was going on a Hash run, they got all excited and tried to chip in $50. Then I had to explain that a Hash run involves following a chalk trail around a course through the city, stopping at some point to drink a hidden stash of beer and then ending up at a bar for more beer. Unlike the questionable "special pineapple" drink that I once ordered at a juice stand in India (which precipitated an earnest, five-hour conversation on the meaning of life), there is definitely no actual hash involved in a Hash run.

For this Hash run, I show up at the local tavern, where members of the Boston Hash House Harriers (H3) congregate pre-run. I lament the absence of roommate Scott, who had previously agreed to participate. But just as I'm getting into a groove muttering denigrating remarks about Scott's lineage under my breath, he shows up. This is good, as there are now two of us with no idea what we're doing.

Before setting off, everyone forms a circle and introduces themselves. We virgin Hashers just give our names, but everyone else has a creative "Hash name." After you run a few times, the group gives you a name, throwing out possibilities until they settle on something you really seem to hate (so I guess a good strategy would be to act as if you love the worst names they come up with).

After allowing the hare (the guy setting the trail) to get far enough ahead, we begin the chase and find the first arrow. Instead of looking for more arrows, Scott and I play it safe and follow some people who seem to know what they're doing. But I start to think that maybe we should take a more proactive approach when one woman begins walking up a Route 93 exit ramp looking for the trail. "Don't run down the Central Artery at night" is one of my personal health credos, but luckily we soon bumble into another group that has cell-phoned ahead and discovered that the ultimate destination is the Hong Kong in Faneuil Hall. We blow off the rest of the trail (including the beer check) and run straight there.

At the Hong Kong, everyone quickly gets on with the business at hand: initiating the virgins. Having once funneled a concoction of Natural Light, Spam and mayonnaise as part of my rugby initiation in college, I feel prepared for whatever they've got in store. As it turns out, the virgin hazing is surprisingly benign. You get on your knees in the middle of a circle of Hashers, answer a few questions involving barnyard animals and chug a beer. Scott and I acquit ourselves well, bested in the chugging competition only by a human gullet named Isaac.

After the initiation, we mingle and continue to dispatch pitchers of Coors Light. At some point, the money everyone pooled (in this case, $5) runs out and people begin buying their own drinks. Scott, although fighting off a nasty cold, ups the ante by ordering that Hong Kong specialty and guaranteed nail-in-the-coffin, the Scorpion Bowl (also known as The Bad Idea Bowl and the You Don't Really Need This Right Now Bowl).

Post-Scorpion Bowl, I talk about running with a woman who reveals that she is both older than my mother and can outrun me, as she does a 10K race in 42 minutes. My math-challenged brain works that out to eight-minute-miles, which I find quite impressive. I find it even more impressive when she tells me that it's actually sub-seven minute miles. She then begins rattling off running statistics designed to underscore the fact that I am pathetic. They basically follow a "Can you run (insert long distance) in (insert short time)?" format. Eventually I get sick of this and shoot back, "Well, can you bench-press 250 pounds?" which shuts her up. I then quickly walk away before the discussion turns to whether *I* can bench-press 250 pounds.

I'm not sure what time Scott and I leave the Hong Kong, but I am sure that we have both fully subscribed to the Hash House Harriers' self-definition as a "drinking club with a running problem." We end up going home after discovering that, despite the awesome powers of persuasion imbued by Scorpion Bowls, the bouncers at Pravda really prefer that you have some pants on.

I'm keen to Hash again, if only to see what they name me. Here's a hint, Hashers: I absolutely *love* when people call me "Better Than." iB

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Liz Claman

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

CNBC financial news anchor Liz Claman was born and raised in Beverly Hills, the daughter of a prominent surgeon and an actress whose roles include the grandmother on *Beverly Hills, 90210*. After receiving a bachelor's degree in French from UC Berkeley, she earned a certificat superieur from the Sorbonne. Her first job in television was as a news intern at KCBS in Los Angeles, where, at age 23, she became the youngest person in the station's history to win a local Emmy for best spot news producer. She also won L.A.'s Golden Mike award for contributing to the station's coverage of the devastating 1987 earthquake. She began her on-camera career as a reporter and then weekend anchor at the ABC affiliate in Columbus, Ohio. From there, she became an anchor at Cleveland's ABC affiliate, where she won another Emmy, before joining WHDH in Boston in 1995. At Channel 7, she served as a news anchor and reporter, and as a correspondent for the short-lived syndicated show "Real Life." She also met the TV producer she eventually married, Jeff Kepnes (now a news manager at MSNBC). She relocated to the New York area in 1998 and joined CNBC, based in Ft. Lee, N.J., where she is currently co-anchor of *Today's Business* (5-7 am) and the first hour of *Market Wrap* (4-5 pm), in addition to hosting the popular interview segment *Breakfast With a CEO*. She and her husband live in New Jersey.

Jonathan Soroff: *So how does it feel to be the financial world's pinup girl?*

Liz Claman: I love it. [Laughs.] The other day, I got an e-mail that said "Liz, the market's been so awful, and my portfolio's so trashed. Could you show a little cleavage? It would really make us all feel a bit better, and we viewers ask for so little."

JS: *So did you?*

LC: Ahh, no. I wear business suits.

JS: *Are redheads smarter than everybody else?*

LC: Absolutely. No question. Smarter. Spicier. Sexier.

JS: *So Danny Bonaduce from the Partridge Family counts?*

LC: He always got Keith to do his dirty work, didn't he?

JS: *Who's the CEO you admire most?*

LC: I've got two. Number one, our outgoing CEO, Jack Welch of General Electric. I don't mean to sound obsequious, but every time I spoke with him I thought anyone who got to work for him was very lucky. And frankly, I think [former Ford CEO] Jacques Nasser is very admirable. He inherited a horrific situation with the tire recall, and I watched him face the world instead of hiding behind the closed doors many CEOs try to hide behind. He's gutsy.

JS: *How about Bill Gates. Is he Satan?*

LC: I don't think Satan started his business in a garage.

JS: *Most despicable example of corporate behavior you've seen?*

LC: Hmm. I guess all the dot-coms. They got so much venture capital and used it so selfishly and foolishly. Fancy parties, foosball tables, trips on the Concorde. If somebody gave me money to grow a company, I'd be nervous buying pens.

JS: *Favorite aspect of your job?*

LC: I don't have to cover any more state fairs.

JS: *Is TV news unnecessarily depressing?*

LC: The news industry has tried it every possible way. They did the happy news, and people were resentful of it. Yet you give them what really happened during the day and they resent that, too. For me, I did 10 years of "Live on Castle Island, where the body of some Mafia guy just washed up." It was awful. I mean, Boston gave me the graffiti goat—a goat someone kidnapped and spray-painted. They sent me on a chopper to cover that one.

JS: *The financial analysts on TV don't really know anything, do they?*

LC: You've got a point there. There are people with great track records, but there's no such thing as a crystal ball. Every investor has to do his own homework, and—face it—the market is Vegas. It's a big gamble. We get people on, saying the exact opposite of the person we had on half an hour before. Find me somebody who can really read the future and I'll have a new best friend.

JS: *You earned your first Emmy at 23?*

LC: Yeah, for covering a pit-bull attack.

JS: *So where do you go from there? You should've retired.*

LC: I know! Johnny Carson called. I thought, "This is it. I've really made it." Until my mother said, "Couldn't it have been for something a little more elegant?"

JS: *Are you a tough interviewer?*

LC: I made the governor of Ohio cry. I was so vicious in my questioning on welfare reform. He burst into tears. But it got him more votes because he was honest. He said, "I feel terrible about it, but we have no choice," and he was right.

JS: *Is Wall Street intrinsically sexy?*

LC: Wall Street is sexy if you think smart is sexy. It's the genesis of what, financially, has built this country.

JS: *When you started at CNBC, you didn't have a business background, but you hit the ground running. What's the best way to educate yourself in business?*

LC: At first, it sounded like the people here were speaking Martian, which had me slightly concerned, as I walked in trying to get the job. I acted like I knew everything, and of course, they knew I didn't, but they could see that I could communicate well verbally. I read the *Journal*, *Barron's*, *thestreet.com*, *CBSMarketwatch*, everything I can get my hands on. Not to blow our own horn, but CNBC is a great education for real investing. Also, I like to look at history and see what happened in the past.

JS: *In sixth grade, you were the first girl in your school to get your audio/visual license. Isn't that a bit geeky?*

LC: I was the queen nerd. I had my A/V license. I was the editor of my yearbook. I was always a little journalism geek. When video cameras first came out, everyone wanted to pretend to be Barbra Streisand. I always wanted to be Barbara Walters.

JS: *Pop quiz: You studied French at the Sorbonne. What does "*mal-baise*" mean?*

LC: Badly kissed. But I think it has certain, less innocent, connotations.

JS: *So ever consider working in France?*

LC: Sure. I got books about French business and studied them. I haven't had a chance to use any of it, but better to be prepared than *mal-baise*.

JS: *Is there one buzzword from the financial world that always trips you up or flusters you?*

LC: Yeah. "Losses."

JS: *So does what you do have any real effect on the market?*

LC: There are people who think so, but I think that's disingenuous. CNBC informs people when something happens, but the big cats on Wall Street know beforehand. That said, we're part of the effort to democratize it.

JS: *Worst experience as a recognizable TV personality?*

LC: I was at a coffee shop and this woman accosts me. She started shaking me, saying, "What's wrong with my JDS Uniface stock?" I was like, "Lady, hands off the vanilla half-caf no-whip latte."

JS: *You put in 15-hour days? How do you look so fresh?*

LC: I'm just fabulous. Actually, I have about a pound of makeup on my face by the end of the day. If the cement workers' union knew I was using a trowel without a membership card, I'd be in big trouble.

JS: *In the economic downturn, how has your job changed?*

LC: People liked us during the bull market. Now they hate us. A woman once stopped me in a supermarket and said, ""You helped me make $100,000 just by informing me." Now, people are like, "I'm ruined!" But it's a cycle. On air, we can't be as flippant or funny. People don't mind watching a car wreck on TV; they just don't want to watch a car wreck they're in.

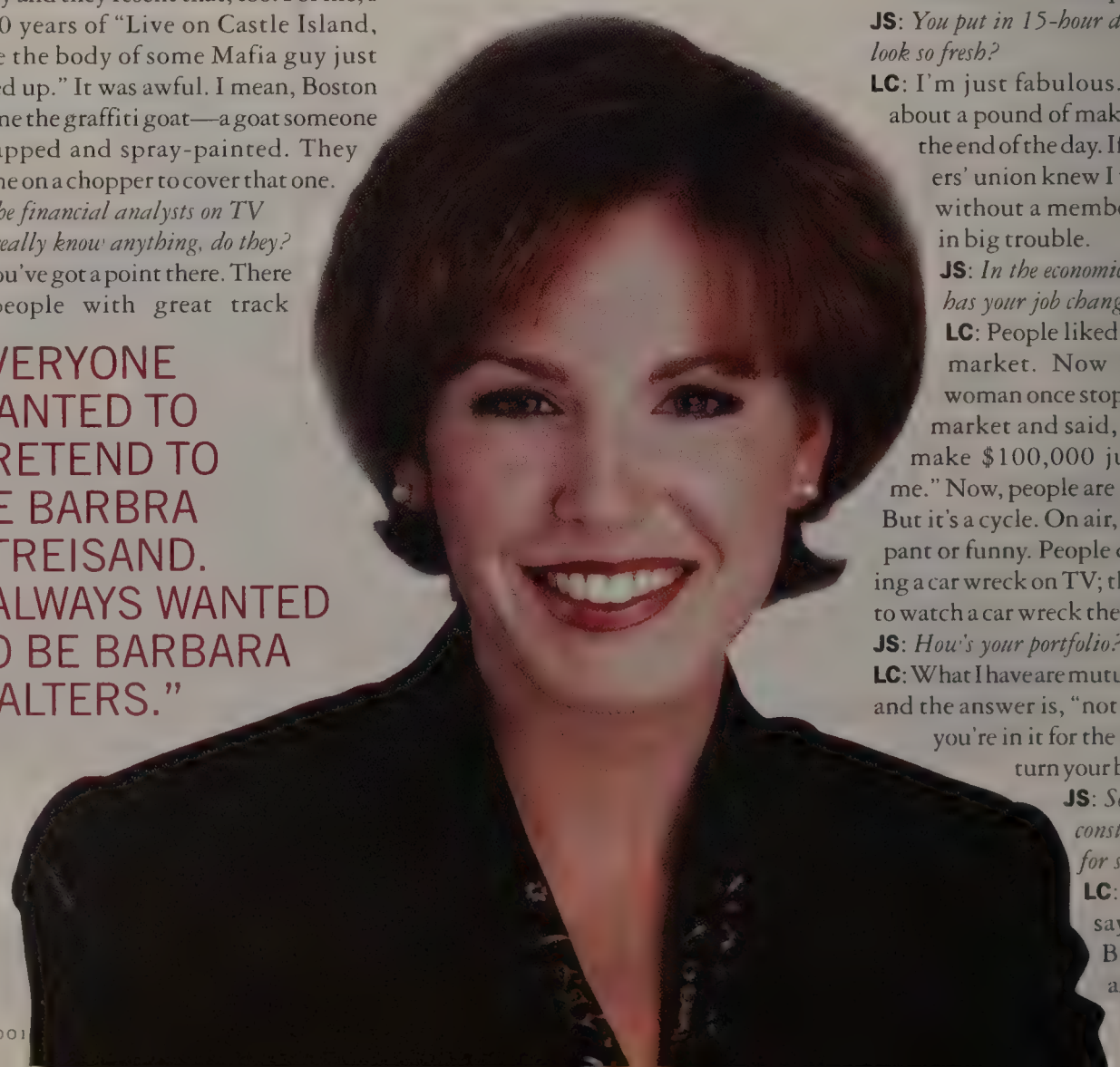
JS: *How's your portfolio?*

LC: What I have are mutual funds and 401k's and the answer is, "not very good." But if you're in it for the long term, you just turn your back on that.

JS: *So do people constantly ask you for stock tips?*

LC: Yeah, and I always say the same thing. Buy low, sell high ... and watch CNBC. iB

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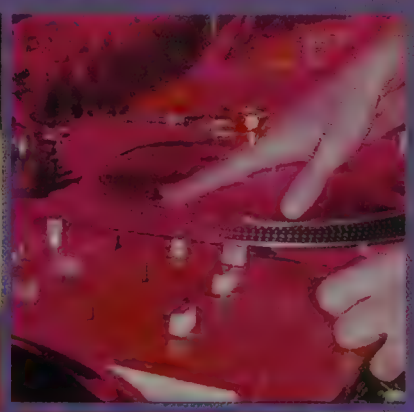
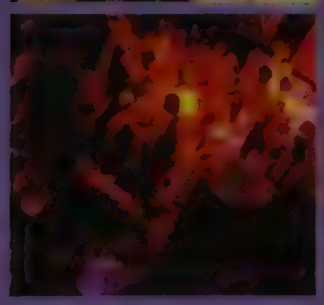
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Get Out of Town

Eight Bostonians describe their favorite places to spend winter weekends

BY EZRA DYER • In the summer, planning a weekend escape from the city is as easy as picking your favorite beach and loading up the car. In the colder months, however, there is no single out-of-town destination quite as obvious as the sandy fringe of the Atlantic. To help you plot a few courses when the mercury plummets, we asked eight locals—including Olympic figure-skating medalist Nancy Kerrigan—to divulge their favorite winter getaways. The range of responses underscores how lucky we are to live where we do. So gas up the car, because in several hours you can arrive in a foreign city, an Olympic Village, uncrowded summer resorts, ski mountains or rugged wilderness.

Nancy Kerrigan, Lynnfield

PITTSBURGH, N.H.

Though Nancy Kerrigan is obviously known for her talent on ice (she's even a skating-destination consultant for Maynard-based *VacationCoach.com*), Pittsburgh, N.H., is not some sort of skating paradise. When Kerrigan heads to Pittsburgh, she trades double axels for double axles—the kind on a snowmobile trailer.

Kerrigan and her family are avid snowmobilers, and Pittsburgh is connected to hundreds of miles of trails where she can turn her Arctic Cat loose. If, unlike Kerrigan, you don't own a snowmobile, never fear: Pittsburgh has several places to rent one (see sidebar).

Kerrigan says that hopping on a snowmobile is the ideal way to see the remote New Hampshire backcountry. "It's so beautiful up there, especially after it snows," she says. "You feel like you're in the middle of nowhere, and you see deer and moose along the trail."



However, Kerrigan does like to have a destination in mind, even if she's just enjoying the scenery. "From Pittsburgh, you can go just about anywhere on a snowmobile. You can ride over the border and get breakfast in Quebec. I also like to ride to The Balsams, which is an amazing resort. They have this huge staircase that you expect to see a bride coming down, but in the winter you've got people walking through with their snowmobile suits and helmets."

When it's time to call it a day, Kerrigan's favorite place to stay is the Timberland Lodge. In particular, she recommends getting a bunch of friends together and booking Timberland's largest cabin, which sleeps 16 people. "You bring a big group up there, and it's a lot of fun. That cabin has a huge round table that seats everyone for dinner. And it's right on a lake. You unload your snowmobile in the parking lot and off you go."

Kerrigan is performing in *Footloose on Ice* in Myrtle Beach, far from thoughts of snow, but from Dec. 14–23 she'll be back in Boston when the show comes to the Schubert Theatre. So if you head up to Pittsburgh some time after that, who knows—you just might catch her on the trails.



Nancy Kerrigan favors snowmobiling in the Pittsburgh, N.H., region, where an Arctic Cat can allow you to escape to "the middle of nowhere." Inset: A groomer smooths a trail.

NANCY KERRIGAN PHOTOGRAPHED FOR THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN BY KATE PHILIPS/STUDIO K ON LOCATION AT THE ICE CASTLE THEATER, MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA. STYLIST: LISA PASQUERELLI; MAKEUP: TERESA GLOVER-KING/SALON SAVVY INC. MYRTLE BEACH; SNOWMOBILE: NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF TRAVEL AND TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

Isabella Perricone, South End



THE BERKSHIRES

"I don't deal well with cold," says Isabella Perricone, an Italian who has transplanted herself here from Rome. It speaks volumes for the beauty of the Berkshires, then, that she visits year-round, for Western Massachusetts is not exactly renowned for its balmy climes.

"It's very cold, but I still like to go there. When I have people visiting from Italy, I take them there because it's so picturesque. But in the winter I have different rituals," says Perricone, who enjoys hiking the region's numerous trails in the summer. This time of year, if possible, she avoids the cold weather, changing her focus to indoor activities.

"The General Store in Stockbridge is a great place. It's got anything you want. I could spend an hour there, just poking around. The Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge is also open all seasons, and Zinc in Lenox is a good spot for drinks. Zinc has a very diverse crowd—there are locals, yoga people from the Kripalu Yoga Center, and people on their way home from Canyon Ranch who just really want a drink."

The Berkshires are home to a myriad of bed-and-breakfast establishments, but Perricone recommends Lenox's Candlelight Inn and Stockbridge's Red Lion Inn, especially if you're looking for something romantic. She also heaps effusive praise on Dakota, a restaurant located in Pittsfield. "If you like beef, they have some of the best steak I've had in America. I only eat red meat about three times a year, and it's always at Dakota."

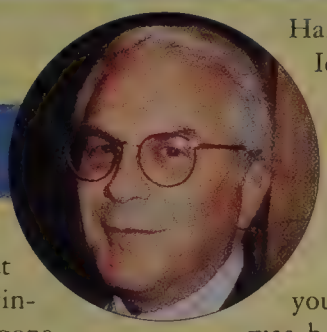




Left: The Four Freedoms gallery at the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Mass. Below: The Candlelight Inn in Lenox.

Perricone likes the Berkshires so much that she's even considering taking up a new sport so that she can better take advantage of the area during the winter. "Cross-country skiing is my next project," she says. "I've heard that it warms you up."

Dick Friedman, Cambridge



MARTHA'S VINEYARD

Dick Friedman has gained fame (and perhaps notoriety) for frequently hosting Bill and Hillary Clinton at his house on the Vineyard at Edgartown. But in the winter, when the Clintons and almost everyone else have gone home, Friedman still regularly visits the island.

"I personally like to go to resorts off-season," Friedman says. "The Vineyard, frankly, is unbearable in August. But early winter's a wonderful time to be out there. It's still beautiful and there's not so many people. It's warmer than Boston by a substantial amount—which means that the Farm Neck Golf Course stays open later in the year, certainly through December—and there's no traffic, no lines. It's small-town America."

Friedman acknowledges that "the Vineyard's not a place to go for active nightlife," but adds that that's not the point, especially in the winter. "Get a good book and find a fireplace," he says.

Despite the Vineyard's seasonal boom, there are still plenty of businesses open all year. Friedman names the Harbor View Hotel, Espresso Love and Ice House restaurants and the Bunch of Grapes bookstore as establishments worth checking out. And if you are in the mood for a bit of nightlife, try the News from America Pub in Edgartown.

Overall, just enjoy the fact that you'll be seeing the Vineyard the way it was before it became an overcrowded tourist hive. "The Vineyard in the winter is very underrated," says Friedman. "As opposed to the summer, when it's overrated."



The harbor at Vineyard Haven.

Diantha Neskey, Beacon Hill



KILLINGTON, VT.

Killington is unique among New England ski towns because after you're done carving up the powder, there's actually life after the sun goes down, beyond the base lodge. This is a big part of the reason Diantha Neskey makes the trip to Killington nearly every weekend throughout the winter. "The skiing is good," she says, "but I think the nightlife is what draws people there."

The mountain's ski-up burrito stand is an indication of the egalitarian vibe that characterizes both the town and its skiers, and Killington's bars tend to foster a casual party atmosphere. "There's definitely no dress code anywhere," Neskey says. "You're dressing up if you wear something other than jeans."

Neskey says that at least five places along the mountain's access road draw big crowds on the weekend: "There's The Pickle Barrel, The Nightspot, The Lookout, The Wobbly Barn and Casey's Caboose. But the Killington base lodge is a great place to start when you're done skiing."

If you decide to partake in a bit of aprés-ski debauchery, you needn't worry about getting around. The Pickle Barrel runs a shuttle bus up and down the access road, and cabs abound. Also, depending on your destination, your lodging might be within walking distance. Neskey recommends using *Killington.com* to find accommodations, which range from the Best Western at the base of the mountain to the Long Trail Inn Bed and Breakfast on Route 4. Neskey skis at Killington frequently enough that she has booked a "ski share" arrangement, in which renters split the cost of a house for the season among a group of people. She says going in on a house typically costs between $825 and $1,500 per person but can save you money in the long run, particularly if you can take a vacation sometime during the winter.

Killington's main downside, says Neskey, is that getting there can be difficult because traffic pours in from both New York and Boston. But if you're put off by traffic, maybe Killington isn't the right mountain for you, anyway.



Aprés skiers begin to light up the Wobbly Barn

MUSEUM: STEVE JACOBS; INN: STEVEN ZIGLER; VINEYARD: RITA GREELEY; WOBBLY BARN: NATHAN BILOW

Melissa Gerbi, Cambridge



LAKE PLACID, N.Y.

Lake Placid hosted the Winter Olympics in 1932 and 1980, and the area has taken maximum advantage of the tourism boost that the distinction created. Besides the quaint Main Street and winter-wonderland Adirondack scenery, how many other towns offer rides on an Olympic bobsled track? (They're $30 and start Dec. 16.)

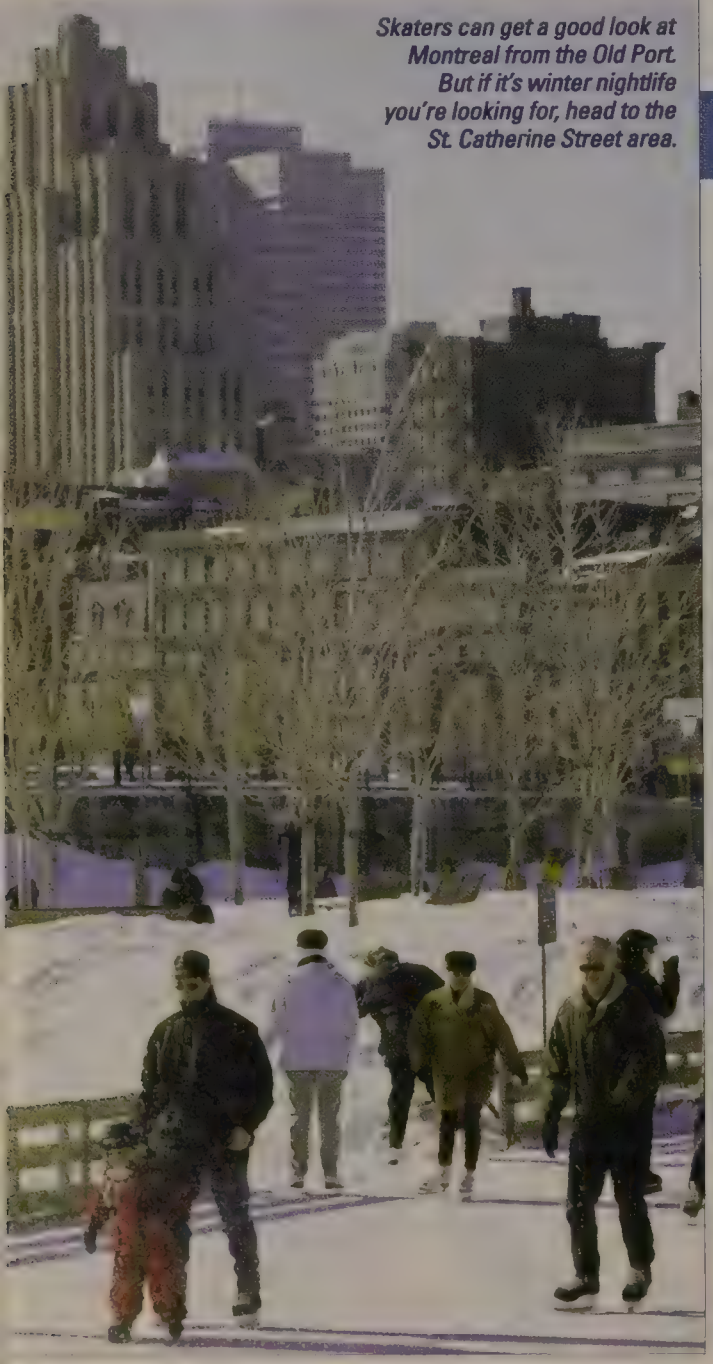
Melissa Gerbi frequents Lake Placid because it offers a cornucopia of winter sports in one location. Gerbi usually gets in a day of skiing at Whiteface when she's in the area, but says that doesn't have to be the focus of a weekend: "Whiteface is fun, especially when there's not 50,000 kids there, but there's a lot of other things to do in Lake Placid." Instead, Gerbi takes a mix-and-match approach, perhaps forgoing the slopes one day to skate on the outdoor Olympic rink—or just relax.

On the R&R front, Gerbi recently spent a weekend at The Lodge at Lake Clear, about 20 minutes from Lake Placid. The Lodge offers individual cabins as well as rooms in the main bed-and-breakfast. Gerbi says that from the armored knight next to the front door to the German-style beer cellar where you have before-dinner drinks (accompanied by live piano music), The Lodge has "a ton of character. And the dinner's fabulous. It takes a few hours. It's a whole production."

Sounds like a good way to unwind after a day of skating. Or skiing. Or bobsledding. ...

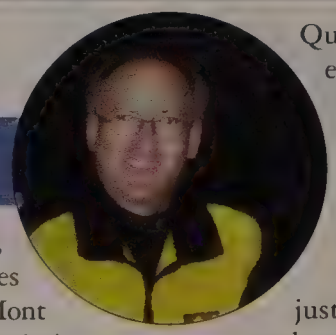


Training on the ski jump at Lake Placid.



Skaters can get a good look at Montreal from the Old Port. But if it's winter nightlife you're looking for, head to the St. Catherine Street area.

Randy Friedman, Newton



MONTREAL, QUEBEC

As travel director of the Boston Ski and Sports Club, Randy Friedman goes to Montreal at least three times every winter. "We go up there to ski. You go skiing at Mont Tremblant during the day, then you come back for the city's nightlife. It's an awesome combination. And it's close enough that you don't need a three-day weekend to go there."

Friedman says it makes sense to stick to the St. Catherine Street/Crescent Street area during the winter, as there's plenty going on there year-round (the Old Port, a popular part of the city in the summer, is somewhat less boisterous in the winter months). When he's looking for a place to eat, Friedman prefers finding a French restaurant in the Latin Quarter, but says that "Montreal has everything from Burger Kings to the finest French dining in the world. Le Caveau, on Rue Victoria, is my favorite, but you can pretty much walk down Crescent Street and just pick a restaurant."

If making a night of it is more than just dinner, Friedman recommends that you begin by asking a concierge which one of Montreal's countless discos best suits your style. If you're a dedicated party person, hotel staff can also point you toward an after-hours club. There are lots of hotels and bed-and-breakfasts on Sherbrook Street so finding a room for the night is a relatively simple matter.

Between the skiing, the food, and the favorable exchange rate, Friedman is a huge proponent of Montreal. "I could live in Montreal. If it wasn't for Boston, I'd move there."



Montreal's combination of winter beauty, great restaurants and nightlife prompt Randy Friedman to contemplate becoming an expatriate.

LAKE PLACID: LAKE PLACID ESSEX COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU; BOTTOM LEFT: © TOURISME MONTREAL, STEPHANI ROULIN; BOTTOM RIGHT: © TOURISME MONTREAL, DANIEL CHOINIERE

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Kara Wilbur, Beacon Hill

MID-COAST MAINE



"Go to Pemaquid Point with a bottle of wine and some blankets," says Kara Wilbur, who contends that winter can be the most compelling time to visit the midcoast region of Maine (specifically, the portion between Wiscassett and Camden).

The Newcastle Inn beckons Maine-bound travelers all year.

If you want to be like a true Mainer, Wilbur recommends stopping by the Great Salt Bay in Newcastle. After a long enough cold snap, a mini-city of ice-fishing shanties springs up on the brackish bay, and with a license and some basic equipment (perhaps one of the locals will even let you borrow his or her power auger) you can try your hand at catching dinner. Alternately, you can enjoy a meal at the Newcastle Inn, which was voted one of 12 "Romantic Hideaways" for 2001 by *The Discerning Traveler*.

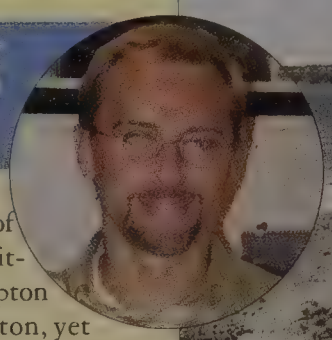
If you're looking for a unique cross-country ski trail, Wilbur says to go to Damariscotta, where a trail runs alongside the Damariscotta River and leads to Native American shell heaps. Farther up the coast, the Beach Hill Preserve in Rockport offers a hike that wends up a hill overlooking the Atlantic. "I almost don't want to mention it, because I don't want a ton of people to go there," says Wilbur of Beach Hill.

Heading indoors, Wilbur Favors the Farnsworth Museum in Rockland, which has an extensive collection by the Wyeths, as well as the Prison Store in Thomaston. The Prison Store's various crafts and furniture are made entirely by the residents of the building that lies directly behind it, the Thomaston State Prison.

Summing up her affinity for the state on the whole, Wilbur says, "You've got lakes, mountains and the ocean, all within a few miles of each other. Maine's just prettier than most places."

Caleb Davis, Jamaica Plain

TIVERTON/LITTLE COMPTON, R.I.



Caleb Davis liked the Little Compton region of Rhode Island so much that, after 18 years of visiting, he recently built a house there. Little Compton is only an hour and 20 minutes south of Boston, yet Davis says that a relief from Boston chilliness was one of the factors that prompted him to construct his own place. "That's one of the reasons I built down there," he says. "It's always a few degrees warmer than Boston."

Of course, there were other reasons, chief among them the dramatic scenery. "All along that part of the coast, you have rolling farmland that comes right down to the beach. It's a great contrast. In the winter, it's a beautiful place to take a walk on the beach."

Davis says that the character of Little Compton changes in the winter, but that's not a bad thing. "In the summer it's a hot destination and there are tons of people. In the winter it's more quiet, secluded and romantic. But pretty much everything's open year-round, which tells me that there's enough demand throughout the winter for these places to do well."

For those not ready for home ownership, Davis suggests staying at the Ferol Bink Farms bed and breakfast or the Stone House on Seconet Point. "Ferol Bink is the biggest working farm in Rhode Island, and the farmhouse is an antique mansion that also serves as a bed and breakfast. The Stone House [which is closed in January and February] is this huge stone structure on the end of Seconet Point that's booked with weddings every weekend in the summer, so the winter would actually be a good time to go there."

Davis also says that the Four Corners in Tiverton is a good spot to find an eclectic collection of shops and restaurants, including the Virginia Lynch Gallery and the Four Corners Grill, where the food is "exceptional and affordable." And the Commons in Little Compton is "quintessential New England. I'm sure it's been used in movies. If it hasn't, it should be."

The Tiverton/Little Compton area is not yet on the Boston tourism radar like the Cape and the Islands, but Davis says that seems to be changing. "It's definitely evolving. People are discovering it."





Caleb Davis says that a walk on the beach in Little Compton, R.I., where farmland meets the ocean, takes on a solitary, romantic character in the winter months.

❄ For More Information ❄

If you're interested in visiting any of these eight destinations, here's the contact information for the places mentioned by our saavy travelers—plus a few more you might find helpful.

Lopstick Snowmobile Rentals, Stuart Young Rd., Route 3, Pittsburg, N.H. (603-538-6659)

Pathfinder Sno-Tours, 78 Round Pond Rd., Pittsburg, N.H. (603-538-7001)

The Balsams Resort, Dixville Notch, N.H. (603-255-3400), *www.thebalsams.com.*

Timberland Lodge, First Connecticut Lake, Pittsburg, N.H. (800-545-6613) *www.timberlandlodge.com*

The Stockbridge General Store, 30 Main St., Stockbridge, Mass. (413-298-3060)

Norman Rockwell Museum, Rt. 183, Stockbridge, Mass. (413-298-4100). *www.nrm.org*

Zinc Restaurant, 56 Church St., Lenox, Mass. (413-637-8800). Lenox Candlelight Inn, 35 Walker St., Lenox, Mass. (413-637-1555), *www.candlelightinn-Lenox.com.*

Dakota Restaurant, 1035 South St., Pittsfield, Mass., (413-499-7900), *www.dakotarestaurant.com.*

Red Lion Inn, 30 Main St., Stockbridge, Mass. (413-298-5545), *www.redlioninn.com.*

Farm Neck Golf Course, Farm Neck Way, Oak Bluffs, Mass. (508-693-2504)

Harbor View Hotel, 131 N. Water St., Edgartown, Mass. (800-225-6005), *www.harbor-view.com.*

Espresso Love Restaurant, 17 Church St., Edgartown, Mass. (508-627-9211), *www.espressolove.com.*

Killington Resort, 4763 Killington Rd., Killington, Vt. (800-621-6867), *www.killington.com.*

The Pickle Barrel, Killington Rd., Killington, Vt. (802-422-3035), *www.picklebarrelniteclub.com.*

Long Trail Inn Bed & Breakfast, Sherburne Path, Rt.4, Killington, Vt. .(802-775-7181), *www.innatlongtrail.com.*

Hohmeyer's Lake Clear Lodge, Lake Clear, N.Y. (800-442-2356)

Whiteface Mountain (800-447-5224), *www.lakeplacid.com.*

Le Caveau 2063 Victoria St., Montreal (514-844-1624)

Mont Tremblant, (866-836-3030), *www.monttremblant.com.*

Newcastle Inn, River Road, Newcastle, Maine (800-832-8669), *www.newcastleinn.com*

Farnsworth Museum, 356 Main St., Rockland, Maine (207-596-6457), *www.farnsworthmuseum.org.*

Maine State Prison Store, Route 1, Thomaston, Maine (207-354-3131)

Ferol Bink Farms, 993 Neck Rd., Tiverton, R.I. (401-624-6384)

Stone House Club, 122 Sakonnet Point Rd., Little Compton, R.I. (401-635-2222), *www.stonehouseclub@juno.org.*

TOP: STEPHEN RUBICAM; R.I.: CHRISTOPHER RONDINA (3)



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Left: Chateau Lake Louise, nestled on the edge of the lake; below: one of the slopes at Lake Louise's immense skiing area.



Banff and Lake Louise lure vacationers with vast landscapes of pristine Canadian wilderness

OUT of this WORLD

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

The urge is irresistable to indulge in hyperbole and fall back on hackneyed superlatives to describe the Alberta Canada resorts of Banff and Lake Louise, so here goes: They're two of the most spectacular ski destinations on the planet. Picture every breathtaking advertisement for crystal-clear spring water you've ever seen, multiply by 10, and you begin to get the idea.

Part of their staggering grandeur may result from the contrast with Calgary, which is home to the nearest major airport and is—to put it tactfully—not exactly an inspiring place. While the Chamber of Commerce would undoubtedly list its endless good points (an Olympic stadium! The world's biggest rodeo!), it's basically a cow town surrounded by monotonous plains. However, a 90-minute drive west takes you to some serious purple mountains' majesty, via a transcontinental highway that's fenced in and features turf bridges every few miles to allow the crossing of elk, bear, moose, bighorn sheep and other creatures you'd rather not go bump with in the night.

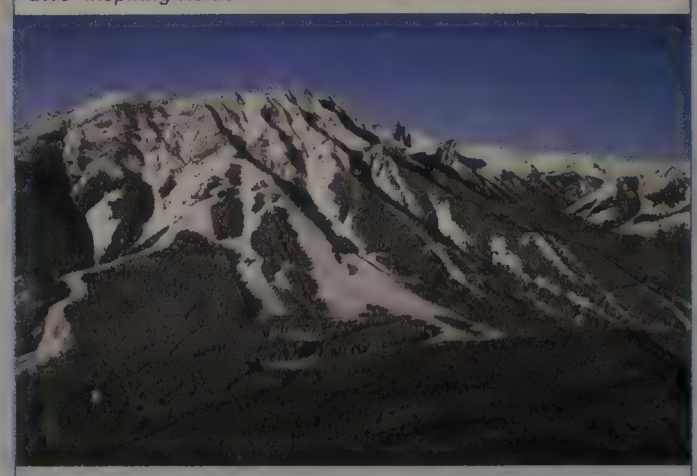
Of course, natural beauty is a major part of the allure. Much more so than in places like Aspen or Gstaad, Banff and Lake Louise give the impression that there's nothing but untouched pristine wilderness for hundreds of miles in every direction. Like the glitziest of ski resorts, however, both have the facilities to cater to the most sybaritic tastes. In the 19th century, a visit to the Canadian Rockies was on the to-do list of the idle rich, so Cornelius van Horne, the general manager of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, erected a pair of grand hotels magnificent enough to please the most persnickety pre-income-tax millionaire.

The Banff Springs Hotel, "Canada's Castle in the Rockies," was modeled after a baronial Scottish palace, complete with great marble halls, suits of armor and fireplaces bigger than many Beacon Hill apartments. Nestled at the confluence of the Bow and Spray rivers and overlooking the magnificent Bow Valley, the hotel has all the amenities of a world-class resort, including (thanks to the hordes of Japanese tourists) a sushi restaurant that gives Aspen's Nobu a run for its money. Capitalizing on the town's mineral hot springs, perhaps the hotel's most attractive feature is Solace, a beyond-luxurious European-style spa that *Conde Nast Traveler* has singled out as one of the world's best. In addition to a full menu of treatments—massages, body wraps, body scrubs, mineral herbal baths, saunas, steam baths, Jacuzzis and a complete array of salon services—it boasts a thalassotherapy area with indoor and outdoor pools and a series of three waterfall-fed baths that range from cold to hot. In other words, you can spend all day on the mountain and return to some world-class pampering after the lifts close.





Top: The luxurious Fairmont Banff Springs. Banff Springs Samurai Restaurant in the hotel serves exceptional sushi. Mt. Norquay has awe -inspiring vistas.



And the skiing is incredible. Ten miles out of town (which has enough upscale shopping, dining and entertainment options to keep the most sedentary visitor whistling a happy tune) is Sunshine Village—three mountains, five quad chairs and some of the best powder in North America, not to mention the awe-inspiring scenery. The breathless praise regularly lavished by ski magazines on this area and neighboring Mt. Norquay are well-deserved. On the worst of days, the conditions here make skiing in New England seem more like vertical ice skating.

Slightly farther west is Lake Louise, Canada's largest ski area, with 4,100 acres of skiable terrain. Within shouting distance of the border of British Columbia, this mammoth winter playground offers trails to challenge every level of skier, from Bunny Sloper to G-force junkie. Like Banff, its location near the Continental Divide creates nirvana-like conditions from early November through late May.

The ski area takes its name from the nearby glacial lake, on the shores of which is the Banff Springs' sister hotel, the legendary Chateau Lake Louise. Built in the 1890s as a summer resort for alpine enthusiasts, a $65 million makeover in the 1980s has made it a four-season resort, equal in comfort to its sibling (although it does lack a spa). Even more luxe, however, is the Post Hotel, an architectural and culinary gem that is part of the Relais & Chateau chain of luxury inns. An award-winning dining room, a mind-boggling wine cellar and guest rooms that would make the most uppity interior decorator weep with envy are only part of its charm.

With the favorable exchange rate between the American and Canadian dollar, even such rarefied accommodations are a relative bargain for New Englanders eager to ski out West, making Banff and Lake Louise two of the most underhyped destinations in winter travel. **iB**

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN *wishes to thank Target Sports Adventures, which organizes skiing and outdoor adventure tours to Banff and Lake Louise, as well as destinations worldwide, including the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City.*

TOP RIGHT AND BOTTOM: BANFF/LAKE LOUISE TOURISM BUREAU

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Art gallery owners James Hull (left) and Bernard Toale are gung-ho about SoWa's future.

Adventures in Urban Development

by Carole Winkler • Photographs by Andrew Brilliant

A new neighborhood has begun to take shape. Amid all the noise and construction, one of Boston's most respected contemporary art galleries is open for business. The Bernard Toale Gallery is on the ground floor of a nondescript structure at 450 Harrison Avenue, which also houses the Clifford Smith Gallery and the Allston Skirt Gallery. Nearby neighbors include the Kingston Gallery, the Genovese/Sullivan Gallery, the Little White Box/Gallery FX, the Bromfield Art Gallery and a few others.

Bernie Toale sits in his gallery office in SoWa, the nickname created for the area in Boston's deep South End, south of Washington Street, bordered by Albany Street. Understanding SoWa requires a look at the urban migration of artists and the real estate development cycle in Boston. "There is a historical chain and it's kind of obvious," says Toale. "Artists look for inexpensive open spaces, so they're always on the outskirts of the neighborhoods; galleries go where artists go. Galleries need low rent, they need big space to show work. For a

INSET: DARISA CLARKE

gallery community to develop you need restaurants. And you need other stuff. Then the next layer of gentrification just comes on. As prices rise, artists must relocate to other, less expensive neighborhoods."

For eight years Toale owned a gallery on Newbury Street, the most obvious example of this sort of urban renewal. "The economics of being in a $50-per-square-foot retail space means that you can't show truly innovative art. There's not a lot of people that can afford that to begin with. Also, Newbury Street isn't a neighborhood. SoWa is definitely a neighborhood. I know that because when I walk down the street, it takes me a half hour because I know everyone. It's a nice thing."

Moving to SoWa means starting a new cycle. Again. Toale and the others are part of the artist community that real estate developers are literally banking on to attract good tenants. The building that houses his gallery is owned by GTI Properties, one of the largest developers in the area. GTI stands for Gone to Italy because the owner, Mario Nicosia, has moved there. He appears to have made a strong, consistent effort to retain artists in his buildings and has supported the local arts. "I feel he's been absolutely straight in everything he's said," says Toale. "I'm the chairman of ARTcetera, an AIDS charity. One year Mario gave us $25,000 for the catalog. That's really a commitment."

Almost $1 billion in development money is being poured into the SoWa area these days, according to Randi Lathrop, assistant director of community planning at the Boston Redevelopment Authority. "The area has been called 'The Little Dig' for all of the holes in the ground," she says. On Washington Street alone, approximately 1,500 residential units will be completed by 2002, primarily consisting of condominium projects such as Wilkes Passage, Rollins Square, Laconia Lofts, Minot and so on. In addition, there are more than 150,000 square feet of commercial space under development. New tenants like marketing firms The Boston Group and One to One have already moved in. Clearly, a new neighborhood is being built.

Elsewhere in the city, real estate development has signaled bad things to come for the artists occupying the area. "As soon as they've cleaned it up enough to cut holes in the sidewalks to plant trees, you know your days are numbered," says James Hull of Gallery @ Green Street, who has a studio in the Fort Point area, where artists and developers have fought bitterly over rising rents and property values. Hull says that at least eight artist-occupied buildings in the Fort Point area have been converted to offices or parking lots since 1991, forcing artists to migrate to areas such as SoWa, Jamaica Plain, Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan or East Boston. Hull says that developers transform old buildings that rent at $5–$12 per square foot to $35–$55 per square foot, a huge increase that most artists can't afford.

Esther Kaplan, director of the Office of Cultural Affairs, is trying to change that. She recently interceded on behalf of artists in lease negotiations with the Boston Wharf Co., one of the major landholders in the Fort Point Channel/South Boston area, obtaining a two-year extension. Kaplan's office tries to educate artists about their rights and options and provides classes to assist them in purchasing their own spaces. "We have to help artists with the business side of their work," says Kaplan. She believes artist-owned studios and housing are the only permanent way to resolve this issue.

Beth Kantrowitz and Randi Hopkins, owners of the Allston Skirt Gallery, moved to the SoWa area in September. They first began looking for gallery space two and a half years ago, just to be able to do three-month shows. They quickly found out that landlords wanted a longer commitment. In February of 1999 they finally found a space—1,000 square feet in a building that contained a skirt factory (hence the gallery name) tucked behind automotive repair shops in Allston. Community response to the first show was very positive, with more than 500 people attending. Although they believed that the gallery's shows kept improving, the attendance at their exhibitions plateaued quickly.



SoWa, the area in the South End south of Washington Street, is fast becoming a destination for artists, art galleries and art lovers. Land laying fallow on Washington Street and south to Albany Street became the focus of commercial activity in the late '90s as developers responded to then-current market pressures and their own sense of the growth potential of near-downtown real estate. Developers recruited some key gallery owners to pioneer the burgeoning area.

"SoWa is definitely a neighborhood. I know that because when I walk down the street, it takes me a half hour because I know everyone. It's a nice thing." —Bernie Toale

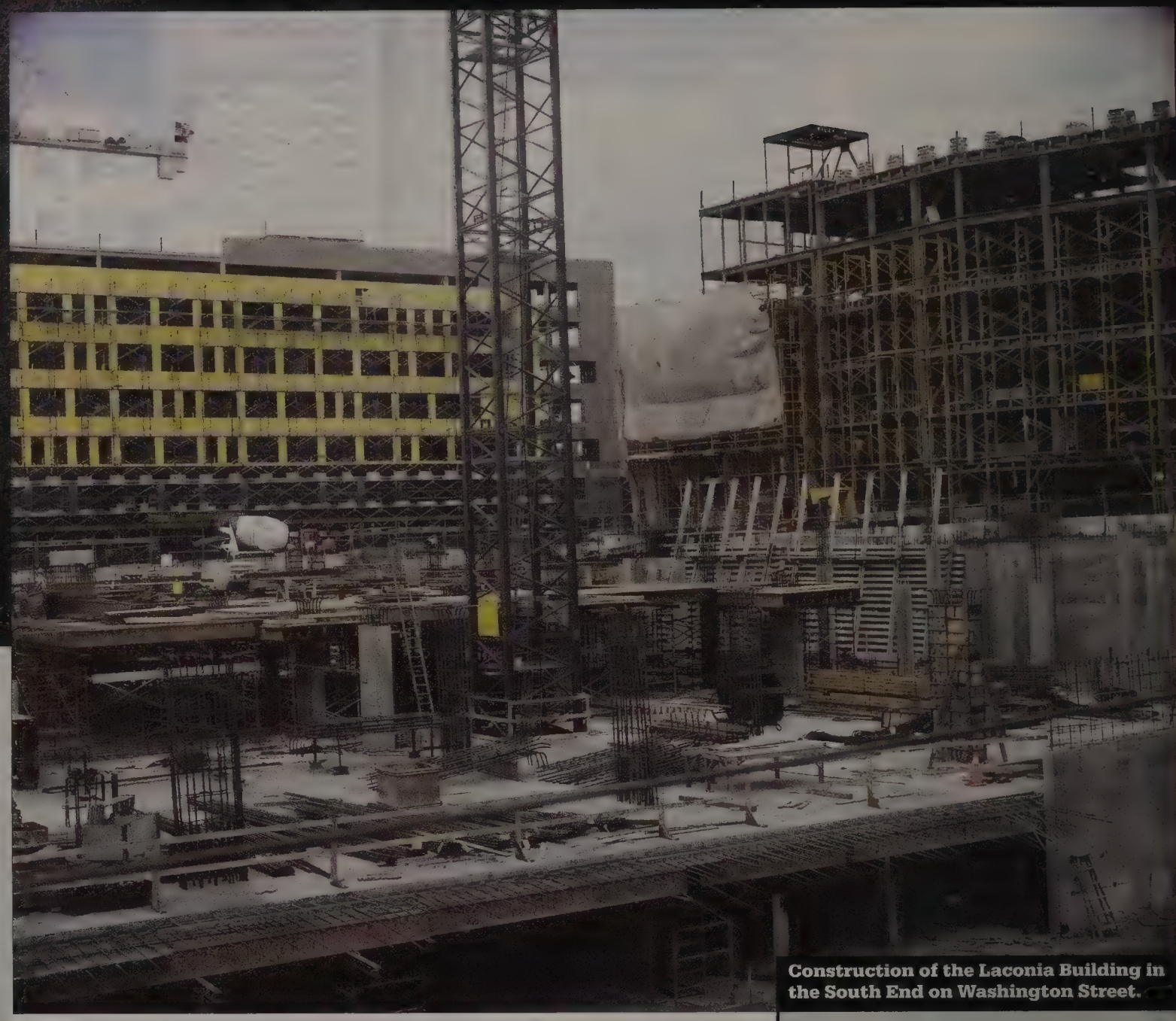
Beth Kantrowitz and Randi Hopkins of Allston Skirt Gallery with patron Alice Roschuni (center).



MAP: BROOKE RICHARD



Randi Lathrop of the Boston Redevelopment Authority notes that a billion dollars in development money is pouring into SoWa.



Construction of the Laconia Building in the South End on Washington Street.

"We weren't building a collector base," says Kantrowitz. The open studios event in Allston, designed to attract thousands of potential art patrons, didn't increase the gallery's foot traffic either. And so it wasn't long before other galleries from SoWa began to recruit and encourage them. Ultimately, they made the jump to this burgeoning part of town.

Their new location, just upstairs from the Bernard Toale Gallery, has brought the expected benefits. Visitors to the other galleries seem naturally to poke their heads in to check out their exhibitions. "It's pretty likely that if you're going to enjoy some of that work [down the hall at the Clifford Gallery or downstairs at Toale Gallery]that you'll be interested in the work shown here as well," says Hopkins.

A cluster of galleries is convenient for curators and museums too. And that museum connection is a much coveted lifeline for galleries because they attract prestigious clients in addition to purchasing for their own collections. Recently, a group Museum of Fine Arts organized collectors attended a cocktail party at the Genovese/Sullivan Gallery and, true to form, people wandered into the other galleries after the reception was over. The galleries' proximity to one another is clearly a case of everyone drinking from the same well.

Kantrowitz says that GTI Properties has bent over backward to make them feel welcome, among other things providing a parking lot staffed with attendants for their openings. But despite the many ways GTI's Nicosia has supported the arts, including being a major sponsor of the South End Open Studios, there is apprehension that this great situation can't possibly last.

Bobby Garnett, of *Bobby's from Boston*, which supplies costumes to the stars, chose the SoWa area (before it was designated SoWa) because he was "kicked out" of his shop in North Station after the General Services Administration building was built. He leased his current space at 450 Harrison Avenue in 1985. "I like these obscure spots because I like to be sort of underground, you know what I mean?" says Garnett. But despite his international fame and success, he is not immune to fear about the future.

> "In this culture, it's very difficult to be an artist. It's not a valued position. It isn't really valued in the way that artists need to exist." —Anna Shapiro

Despite the "hipness" and cachet he is said to add to SoWa, Garnett is concerned, "Because that's what I did in the North Station area. All of a sudden we were there and there were a lot of new people coming to the neighborhood, but they didn't care about artists. They didn't care whether McDonald's went into the space or whatever. You know, it didn't matter. We were very expendable down there."

Garnett is in limbo. GTI is renovating the west side of Thayer Street, across from his shop. As of Oct. 1, according to Garnett, he is continuing to pay below-market rent but he is no longer protected by a lease. "There are no more leases until they've decided what they're going to charge us and who's going to be where. They might move some people from this building into the building across the street and you just don't know what's going to happen." he says.

The people at GTI Properties are quick to reassure. "we regard the arts community as a very important part of what we're doing," says John Kiger, a commercial leasing agent with GTI. "They bring a vibrancy and creativity to the area and we are very proud to be a part of it."

Perhaps SoWa can learn from some of the mistakes made in the Fort Point area, where there isn't a variety of stores, restaurants, residences and galleries that make up a bustling 24/7 neighborhood. Instead, thousands of square feet of newly renovated office space makes it more likely to have a ghost town atmosphere after work hours.

The exodus of artists in Fort Point poses the question of how art affects the quality of life in Boston's or any city's neighborhoods, and whether we as individuals should rethink our views of artists and their contributions to society. "In this culture, it's very difficult to be an artist," says Anna Shapiro, an up-and-coming artist. "It's not a valued position. Culture isn't really valued in America in the way that an artist really needs to exist. A lot of times people think that you're not really working, or that because you're not making money it's not worthwhile. It's very discouraging."

At present SoWa's future looks good. The Boston Redevelopment Authority recently hired Susan Hartnett to manage an "artist certification process" whereby 22 units (both rentals and purchases) will be made available to certified artists. Together with Kaplan's education efforts, the certification program will help artists control their own destinies. Certification, reasonably priced rentals coupled with studio purchasing opportunities and special accommodations from artist-friendly developers like GTI Properties are some of the upbeat factors shaping SoWa's development. Ruth Daniels and Greg Mencoff of Boston Frame, 12-year residents of the area and occupants of 450 Harrison Avenue, are seeing a totally "different flavor" of business with the influx of new galleries and living spaces. This burgeoning commercial activity and the dedication of gallery owners and artists will for the near future keep SoWa's picture rosy. **iB**

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Last Harvest



Rich fabrics and soft textures make for easy pickings this fall

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE • PHOTOGRAPHED BY BILL STREICHER

Page 30: Nars oil-free foundation, $38; eyeshadow in Lola Lola, $17; lipgloss in Babydoll, $20; lip liner in Fanfaronade, $16.50; mascara in Olympia, $16. All by Nars cosmetics, available at Barney's NY.

Page 31: Nataya sage-green rayon blouse, $149. Nataya straight pleated denim skirt, $125. Both available at Foil.

This page: Etoppe burgundy rib-knit snakeskin print, $525; Nataya Serapi pleated denim skirt, $125. Both available at Foil.

Anja Flint wool blouse wit
distressed leather flower
$109; Anja Flint denim jean
with leather fringe belt, $189
Both available at Foil

Foil
220 Newbury St
617-424-1250

Barney's NY
The Mall at
Chestnut Hill
617-969-5354

Model:
Carli for Elite NY

Makeup and Hair:
Sue Hedrick Martin
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Brookline, MA
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Braintree, MA
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Tosca Restaurant
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781-740-0080

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GEORGES DUBŒUF

How The World Speaks French

Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



DESE, DEM, BOSE

The Bose Wave Radio (or the Radio/CD) has exceptionally rich sound in a surprisingly tidy container. This radio of substance costs $349. To order and find local outlets, call 800-207-2673.

If you listen to the radio all the time, if you're in the near-cult of NPR listening, or are hooked on WZLX, WBCN or whatever, why not listen on a great radio? You'll start to see, or rather hear, that the preferred classy plastic of discerning listeners is the Bose Wave Radio. Emanating from a surprisingly modest-looking container, suave, boom-less, box-less, the Bose is shaped like a near-semicircle, as if it were just constrained at the last second from stretching out its arms. Its claim to fame is the pure, hi-fi faithful, steady stereo sound of its Bose Waveguide's technology, which has been likened to a flute amplifying a breath of air to concert-hall proportions. Whatever magic is intricately folded inside the unit has won its creators an "Inventor of The Year Award." This deceptively modest-looking item can also function as the power behind the throne of other equipment: plug it in to enlarge the lungs, and glorify the volume of your TV, DVD or VCR. The Bose can be set to wake up two different people at different times, to a purring-before-squawking alarm, or the radio.



WHERE THE BRIDAL THINGS ARE

The Altered Bride at 129 Newbury Street, Boston (617-859-8289), is a vibrant, fun, cozy place to get your wedding dress and its fixings.

Papal robes and Coronation attire aside, a wedding dress is definitely the most symbolically significant garment one will ever wear. The Altered Bride, where friendly Roseanne makes, remakes, restores and cleverly concocts beautiful synergies of old and new dress pieces, is also an unintimidating place to pursue that white whale of crispy silk-satin. Working from 50 to 75 models of current styles, they favor the elegant, not overly sugared versions. That iconic moment between mother and bride (or her Committee Of Girlfriends) takes place in a room merry with purple tulle and covered with letters, pictures and even poems from ecstatically satisfied brides. One bride brought her mother's dress, ripped and stained, and this shop managed to salvage and repair the victimized lace top, adding a whole new skirt. Other brides replace outmoded features with modern bits. One woman recently browsing through strapless dresses flirted with various simple bead styles, considering organza, peau de soie, linen and satin, then chose a few idiosyncratic à la cartes for a perfectly personalized dress. Accessories are available: Zhivago-white fur, Tibetan lamb or feathers. There's also a range of unusual, almost antique-looking headpieces of tiny ceramic flowers, handmade tiaras, handbags and shoes.

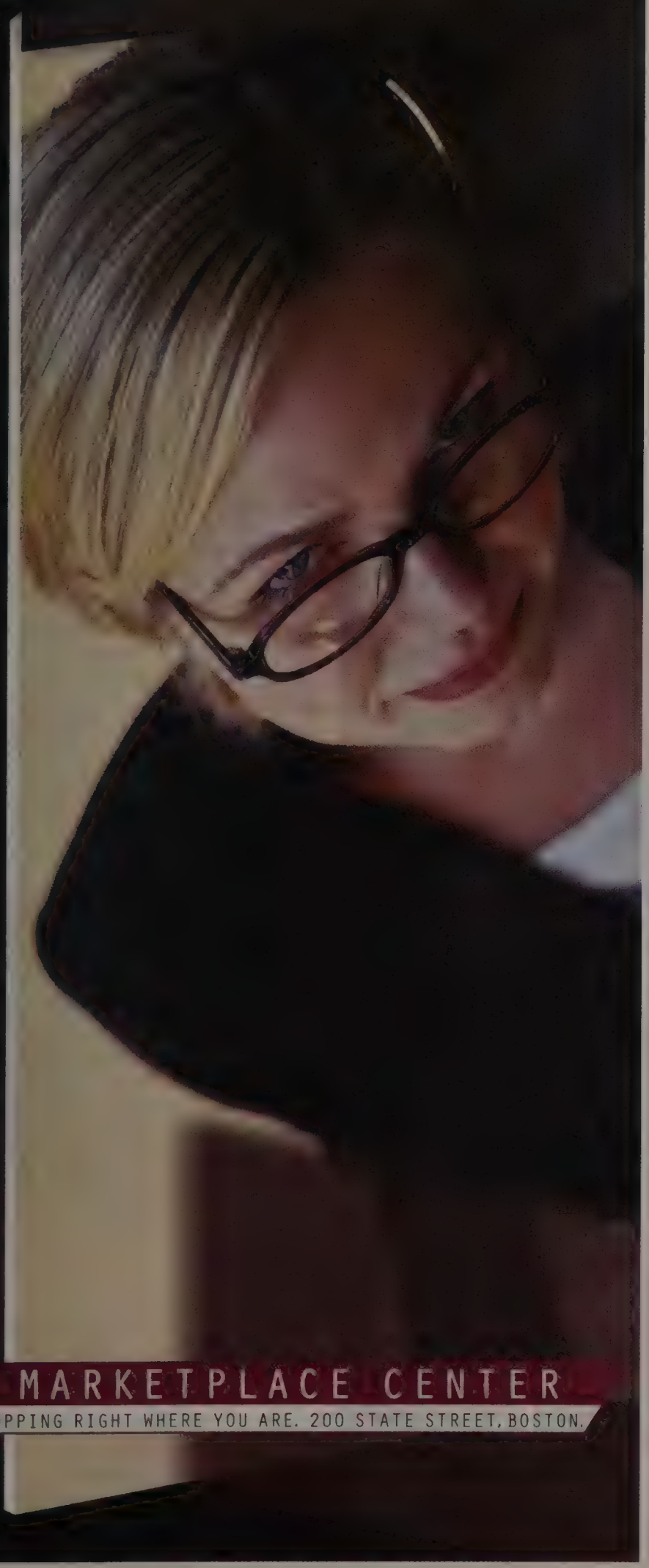
HIPADEMIC HOP

Professor Cornel West of Harvard's Department of Afro-American Studies has released a new hip-hop CD, *Sketches of My Culture*. *www.artemisrecords.com.*



When you talk about crossover artists, usually you don't mean professors getting into jazzy music albums. But that's just what famous, fluidly smooth-talking, riff-happy Cornel West—one of the country's foremost black intellectuals—has done. As it turns out, it's a great way to go to class. West grooves around inside various musical forms; he plays with the energy and improvisationalism of the hip-hop he says he loves and creates a version of rap that sounds softened in honey. One cut is a jivey radio call-in show in which callers defend the "N" word, until "Brother Cornel West" calls in and caressingly urges listeners to find another term (he wonders whether we could call Harriet Tubman ... that name). Praising the three M's (Martin, Medgar, Malcolm), West is elegiac, and the preacherman in him comes out as he urges blacks to stay away from drugs and crime. He's also the smoochiest professor, à la Marvin Gaye, who, thanks to this slide into the alternate language of music, can give a sparklingly colloquial lecture. It's danceable education.

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in this section:
Review: Limbo
Dish: Newton gets even Ritz-ier
Tasty Tidbit: The East Coast Grill hosts a barbecue invitational

REVIEW

Firmly Rooted in Limbo

Chef Charles Draghi is the culinary genius behind Limbo's creative and seductive menu

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Limbo

49 Temple Place, Boston (617-338-0280)
HOURS Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-11pm; Sat.-Sun., 5-11pm; late-night menu available daily 11pm-1am
RESERVATIONS recommended
CREDIT CARDS all major
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes
PARKING valet
LIQUOR LICENSE full bar

Charles Draghi is an artist. When Marcuccio's on Salem Street opened as a showcase for his culinary genius, Boston's North End was catapulted from Little Anthony's backyard into a serious dining venue. In the wake of Marcuccio's came other North End temples of refined Italian cuisine—Bricco, LaPrezza, Sage and Taranta, to name a few. Now Draghi has taken his leave of Salem Street and brought his talent and flair to Limbo in the newly vogue Ladder District.

A lesser chef might get lost in the hubbub of Limbo's animation and vitality. Loud music, thirsty yuppies and assorted beautiful people crowd the three-level space, a long narrow storefront on Temple Street across from another chic newcomer, Mantra. Lots of glass, stainless-steel railings, exposed brick and hardwood floors do little to muffle the noise, but for many of Limbo's patrons, noise is what they come for. Diners are usually escorted to the more or less smoke-free mezzanine, or to the rear of the main floor, where brown suede upholstered banquettes seat about 20. Tables are set with hefty tableware and beautiful, oversize German wineglasses. An energetic, alert waitstaff, smartly attired in black, provides informed, efficient service.



Limbo chef Charles Draghi, formerly of Marcuccio's, offers up one of his favorite ingredients: olive oil.

A subtle but enticing white bean and olive oil puree accompanied first-rate hard crusted loaves of bread from Clear Flour Bakery in Brookline. Limbo's menu is creative and seductive. Portions are smaller than a main course but bigger than an appetizer (in fact, they end up approximating the size of typical European main courses). Prices are pocketbook-friendly, ranging from $6 for soup to $18 for lobster risotto. Our first choice, Maine crab cakes ($12), was extraordinary. These long cylindrical *quenelles* were rolled in *katafi*—shredded philo dough—and then gently fried to a golden brown. The crunchy texture of the *katafi* combined with the moist, sweet crab and an exquisite sauce featuring preserved lemon and aromatic cardamom made this a memorable variation on a common theme.

It is difficult to eat in a Draghi restaurant without moving quickly to the pasta course. His pansotti filled with field greens and fresh ricotta ($12) was served with a lively walnut pesto and garnished with a fresh basil leaf. Pansotti is a variety of ravioli—the word is Italian slang for "pot bellied." It was garnished with thin shavings of Reggiano Parmigiano cheese and accompanied by a side of sautéed greens. A special one evening, linguine with three varieties of mushrooms—porcini, hen-of-the-woods and chicken-of-the-woods mushrooms—had a sauce studded with tiny flowerettes of broccoli ($15).

Draghi has a lot of competition in the Boston area in the fish category, but few could surpass his sautéed wild striped bass with corn and oregano coulis and toasted corn oil ($16). With crisp skin and firm white flesh, the bass was accompanied by a mound of pleasantly bitter arugula stalks and a splendid corn-based reduction. Such intensely flavored vegetable-based sauces are a forte of Draghi, who eschews butter and cream in his creations.



Grilled chicken breast stuffed with herb ricotta, served with a yellow tomato sauce with sautéed chantarelle mushrooms and whole cloves of garlic.

Perhaps my favorite selection from Limbo's menu was the sautéed duck breast and leg confit with a golden apple and sage fruit must ($12). With a slab, a slice and a haunch, the duck ran the gambit from rare, tender breast to a rich, succulent hindquarter. A thin, crisp layer of salted fat highlighted the voluptuous, moist slab of pink breast. A garnish of julienne strips of celery root and parsnips; slender, pale string beans; and an unforgettable apple sauce infused with the perfume of flowers and the warm, savory nuance of sage made a great dish even better.

On the dessert front, Draghi has brought with him his signature chocolate pâté with strawberry rosewater sauce and walnut streusel ($8). This rich, intensely chocolate pyramid was guaranteed to please the most demanding chocoholic. Crème brulee scented with toasted fennel and orange flower water ($7) was well executed: creamy smooth under a delicately singed, caramelized skin. While it had a haunting, almost exotic flavor, fennel was not a taste we detected.

To accompany its exquisite food, Limbo offers a great range of wines at reasonable prices. Willm Pinot Gris from Alsace ($24) is dry and flowery, a good accompaniment to subtly flavored foods, while the more robust Umberto Cesari Sangiovese di Romagna Riserva ($26) is a good match for Limbo's red meat offerings. In between, the Pinot Noir "Le Genevrieres" ($26) is a classic, refined red Burgundy. Charmed by the reasonable prices for both wine and food, we were pleasantly surprised by Limbo's refusal to join the all too common game played by many restaurants that virtually shame their patrons into ordering pricey bottled water.

There is a lot to like about Limbo. While our visits were focused on eating and drinking, this is a multidimensional establishment, with serious live music on the lower level and a DJ and a bustling bar scene upstairs. On one of our visits, I was recognized by an old friend, Jean-Claude Jasa, the maitre d' and author of Limbo's estimable wine list. Jasa worked with Draghi at L'Americain, a restaurant that dominated the culinary scene in Hartford in the 1980s. Their renewed collaboration at Limbo is off to a successful start, and Boston is fortunate to have them. iB



Hardwood floors and exposed brick walls add to the atmosphere at this jazz club/restaurant.



DISH

Opening Nights

...and days and weekends...

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Former Ritz Dining Room chef Mark Allen plans to open Le Soir in Newton early next month.

A few months ago, three trends in local dining seemed inevitable: a slowdown in Boston restaurant openings to match the slowdown of the economy (which, judging from the list below, hasn't materialized); more first-rate chefs opening restaurants in prosperous suburbs to appeal to a moneyed demographic that prefers free and easy parking to expensive garages and valets; and still more **Todd English** eateries, because, well, enough is never enough for some people.

Sure enough, English has just opened two more local restaurants, plus a third at Mohegan Sun. **Bonfire**, inside the Park Plaza Hotel, features the signature English open kitchen, with the added dramatic flair of meat grilling on long swords that spin vertically around over the fire (let's hope the restaurant has good accident insurance). It's certainly a macho image, and the steakhouse is being promoted as a tribute to the likes of Argentinean gauchos, Australian drovers and American cowboys. Yet there's also mention in a press release that "Latin culture uses steaks in a more feminine, softer, theatrical way." Cross-dressing cows, anyone?

Over in Faneuil Hall Marketplace, **Todd English Rustic Kitchen** lays claim to another choice location convenient to tourists and locals. The menu offers hearty "everyday" fare such as panini, roasts, casseroles, polenta and flatbreads, and a wine bar offers 30 wines by the glass.

As for the anticipated slowdown in Boston and environs, forget it. Former **UVA** owner **Chris Campbell** has quietly opened **Troquet** on Boylston Street. **Paul Sussman**, formerly of **Daddy-O's**, is serving up what he calls "pan-Latin cuisine" at his **Macondo Latin Grill & Bar**, in the site of the former **Rauxa**, in Somerville's Union Square. **Metro** is off to a roaring start in Porter Square in Cambridge. And the fuddy-duddy **57 Restaurant** in Boston's Theater District will unveil its **Peter Niemitz**-designed makeover this month as **Fifty Seven**, an American brasserie focusing on steaks and seafood, including delicacies from the popular Miami restaurant, Joe's Stone Crabs.

Just outside Boston, in Brookline's Washington Square, **The Fireplace** is being accorded a warm reception from local diners who love walking to a neighborhood restaurant. Initially open only for dinner six nights a week, The Fireplace has started to serve Saturday and Sunday brunch, and plans to open soon for Sunday dinner.

Farther west, in Newton, former **Ritz Dining Room** chef **Mark Allen** plans to open his own place, **Le Soir**, in the former **Matteo's**. Stay tuned. Also in Newton, chef **Nelson Cognac** (formerly of **Harvest**) has finally opened **Kouzina** in Waban Village. And in Chestnut Hill, the departure of chef **Gabriel Frasca** (who is now chef de cuisine at **Radius**) provided an opening for chef **Brian Hill** to once again showcase his considerable talents. Let's hope it's a more enduring venue than was his previous local gig, at the ill-fated **St. Botolph's Restaurant** in the South End.

The former owner of St Botolph's, genial restaurateur **Brian O'Neill**, has had far better luck with **Centro** in Cambridge's Central Square. Centro co-owner/chef **Rene Michelena** made a splash when the trattoria first opened, then ensured a smooth transition to hold on to diners' attention and loyalty when he appointed **Brian Maxwell** as executive chef. Now, as Michelena and O'Neill prepare to reopen **The Vault** in Boston's Financial District, chefs are shuffled once again: Maxwell will become executive sous chef at The Vault, while Michelena will oversee the kitchen as executive chef. Back at Centro, where Michelena will continue to play an active role, **Dave Robinson** has been promoted from sous chef to executive chef. Robinson, who was previously sous chef at **Marcuccio's**, is hitting the ground running with a new menu featuring Tuscan dishes such as pappardelle with wild boar ragu and cranberry beans. iB

Carolyn Faye Fox is a panelist on "Says You!," NPR's nationally syndicated word-game quiz show.

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

EVENTS

Beaujolais Nouveau Release Party
Brasserie Jo, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). Nov. 14, 9:30pm. $25. Celebrate the release of Georges Duboeuf's 2001 Beaujolais Nouveau with a tasting of food and wine from Burgundy, Bordeaux, Alsace and Languedoc.

Cambridge Salutes Julia
The Hyatt Regency, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-349-4321). Nov. 7, 7pm. $125. Some of Boston's top chefs, including **Ana Sortun**, **Rene Michelena**, **Christos Tsardounis**, **Jasper White**, **Jody Adams**, **Deborah Hughes** and **Raymond Ost** come together to toast Julia Child just days before she bids a fond farewell to Cambridge.

Celebration of Wine
Stonehedge Inn, 160 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsboro (978-649-4400). Nov. 19, 7pm. $105. **Jack Stuart** of Silverado Vineyards discusses his trade at this wine dinner.

Edible Gifts
Ruby Chard Catering, 5197 Washington St., West Roxbury (617-325-6060). Nov. 14, 6:30-9:30pm. $28. Learn to make simple, edible gifts with good shelf life.

Fine Art of Cheese Tasting
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 7, 6-9pm. $53. A staff member from Formaggio Kitchen will offer samplings of cheeses from around the world, accompanied by wine.

Girls' Night Out
Zephyr on the Charles, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-441-6510). Mondays, 7pm. $50. Chef **Lynette Mosher** introduces this Monday-night dinner series celebrating female chefs. •Nov. 19: **Kate Hammond** and **Stacey Fraser** of Grapevine and **Susan Samson** of Sakonnet Vineyards.

Harvest Supper
Icarus, 3 Appleton St., Boston (617-426-1790). $55. These suppers feature guests from the worlds of wine and farming, plus a four-course meal. •Nov. 13: Chef **Kerry Downey Romaniello** of Westport Vineyards highlights the connections among farming, grape cultivation and fine dining.

Holiday Dessert Buffet
Salamander, One Huntington Ave., Boston (617-451-2150). MBA: Green Line to Copley. Nov. 17. $100. Salamander's pastry chef **Tim Mackin** will teach you how to prepare a holiday dessert buffet.

Inn Comfort & Wine
Westport Vineyards, 417 Hixbridge Road (508-636-3423). Nov. 10, 4-6:30pm. $45. **Carolyn McMorrow**, owner of Rosemary Inn in Wareham, shares how she transformed an old New England home into an inn and restaurant. Taste some of her comfort-food recipes paired with Westport wines.

Mature Reds: Spain's Gran Reservas
Wine Experiences Inc., 20-A Dartmouth St., Boston (617-859-7170). Nov. 8, 7-9pm. $35. Try the 1993 and 1994 Gran Reservas from Spain.

Menu From The Federalist
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 12, 6-9pm. $60. Chef de cuisine **Stefano Zimel** gives a sneak peak at The Federalist's fall menu.

Northwest Beer Fest
Redbones, 55 Chester St., Somerville (617-628-2200). Nov. 12-13, 7:30pm. $35. These two beer banquets feature Northwest beers, plus words of wisdom from **Dick Cantwell**, owner of Elysian Brewery in Seattle.

The Paris Cookbook
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). Nov. 14, 11:30am. $35. **Patricia Wells**, author of *The Paris Cookbook*, discusses everything French—from Michelin star restaurants to marketplace vendors—at this luncheon.

Sunday Supper
(800-852-3042). www.marestaurantassoc.org. *Nov. 11, 5pm. $15 or $30.* Restaurants prepare a three-course meal to benefit families of local victims of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Taste of American Southwest
Cottonwood Cafe, 222 Berkeley St., Boston (617-247-2225). Nov. 13, 6:30pm. $100. Proceeds from this three-course dinner will benefit Windows of Hope Family Relief Fund.

Tosca Cooking Classes
Tosca, 14 North St., Hingham (781-740-0080). Nov. 12. $75. Chef **Kevin Long** shows you how to prepare seasonal seafood dishes.

Pie in the Sky
Community Servings (617-445-7777). Through Nov. 22. Purchase a pie to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for a family struggling with AIDS.

Wine and Cheese Tasting
The Seasonal Table, 61 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-7979). •Nov. 9, 5-8pm: wines from Spain. •Nov. 16: wines and cheeses for Thanksgiving.

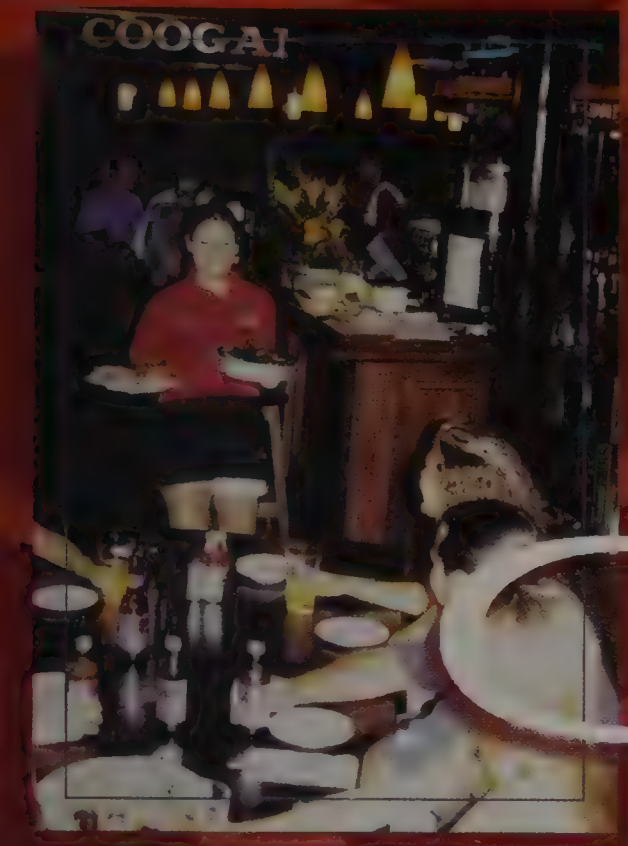
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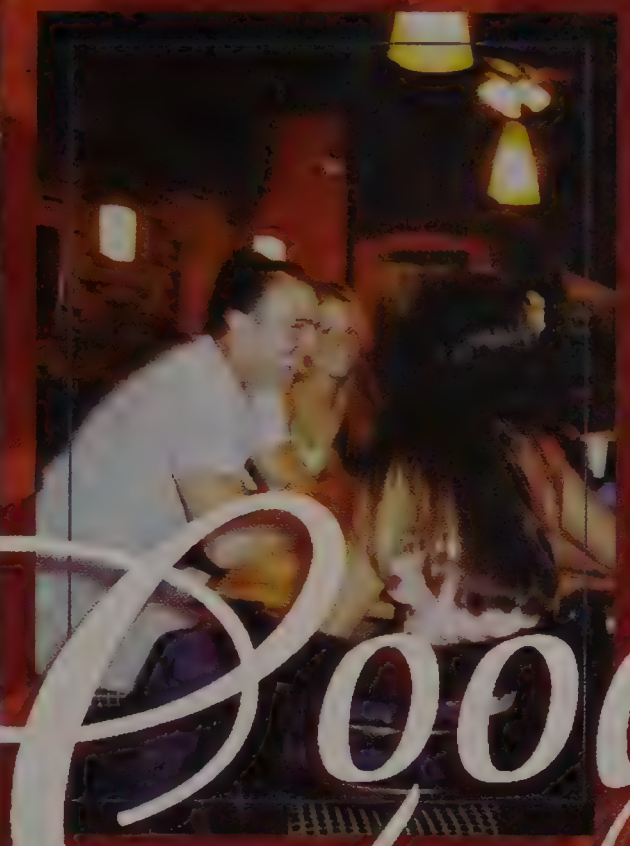
EAST COAST BBQ

The East Coast Grill's third annual BBQ Invitational is just that—an invitation to Boston-area barbecue joints to join chef Chris Schlesinger at his restaurant for a taste-off of ribs, pork shoulder and beef brisket drenched in savory sauce. The list was kept small due to space, so this event isn't a comprehensive look at Boston's barbecue scene. But it *is* a heck of a lot of fun. This year's contestants—all practioners of the "slow & low smoke cooking" technique on wood-burning grills—will be 2000 winner Uncle Pete's Hickory Ribs of East Boston, 1999 winner Blue Ribbon BBQ of Newton and Arlington, and Linwood Grill & BBQ of Boston, plus the host team from the East Coast Grill. Customers get to vote for their favorites as they nibble on ribs, washing each course down with a pint of Harpoon beer. *East Coast Grill, Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-491-6568). Nov. 12, 6pm. $49.95. —J.S.*



Chris Schlesinger displays the barbecue trophy.







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CITYSCOPE 48

PERFORMING ARTS 50

ART 52

BOOKS & POETRY 56

EDUCATION 57

FILM 58

DANCE CLUBS 62

MUSIC 66

CLASSICAL MUSIC 74

GAY & LESBIAN 75

BODY & MIND 76

SPORTS 76

CHILDREN 78

AROUND TOWN 78

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports

improper picks



FRI./NOV. 16—MON./NOV. 19

Film: Sympathetic Magic

The Harvard Film Archive presents Sympathetic Magic: The Cinema of Souleymane Cissé, a series of films and a lecture by Cissé, one of Africa's most cutting-edge directors. Cissé crafted a body of films that combine visual elegance with Marxist ideology and allegorical storytelling, drawing on indigenous folklore and experience to explore conflicts in Mali society. Cissé began his film career as a projectionist after Mali gained its independence in 1960. After studying cinema in the Soviet Union, he returned to Mali. His first fiction film made in 1972, *Cinq Jours d'une vie (Five Days in a Life)*, launched his career and gained critical attention for the burgeoning African film movement. Three years later, Cissé directed the first feature film in his native language of Bambara, *The Girl*, only to have it banned by authorities. His masterpiece is considered to be 1987's *Yeelen* (*Brightness*), which chronicles the conflicts in Mali that emerge between the desire for change and the need to preserve tradition. Hear Cissé talk about his work when he comes in person *Nov. 16, 7pm and 9:15; and Nov. 17, 7 and 9:30pm; Nov. 18, 7pm. 24 Quincy St. Cambridge (617 495 4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. $7.*

FRI./NOV. 9—SUN./NOV. 11

Books: Pack Rat's Delight

Have you ever wanted to see a copy of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by Abraham Lincoln? Perhaps Paul McCartney's handwritten manuscript for *Abbey Road*? The oldest continually-running antiquarian book fair in the United Staets—the International Boston Antiquarian Book Fair—has such delights. This year marks an impressive quarter of a century mark in operation, and it returns to the Hynes Convention Center with more than 155 merchants exhibiting and selling rare editions of books, modern first editions, maps, autographs, manuscripts and more. As the festival has changed over the years it has expanded its spectrum of offerings, like the third annual New England Antiquarian Print Fair and the Boston Book Ephemera Show, which take place simultaneously at the Hynes (included in the price). Be sure to check out the recipe for pickles that was handwritten by George Washington. *Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6540). $15 opening night and weekend, $8 Saturday or Sunday. Nov. 9, 5pm; Nov. 10 and 11, 12pm.*

SUN./NOV. 11

Tastings: Sunday Supper

If you've been saving up for a big night on the town, mark Nov. 11 on your calendar. On that day, nearly 100 restaurants will pass on all the evening's proceeds to the Unity Fund of the United Way of Massachusetts, which benefits families of local victims of the Sept. 11 attacks. This Sunday Supper is a terrific deal—an opportunity to sample some well-known chefs' cuisine without a hefty tariff. The meal includes three courses for either $15 or $30, depending on the restaurant. Check out *www.marestaurantassoc.org* for the list of participating restaurants, which includes **Rialto**, **Hamersley's Bistro**, **Radius**, **Island Hopper**, **Brasserie Jo** and **Metro**. Our mouths are watering just thinking about Oleana chef Ana Sortun's menu for the night: squash and two-potato soup, followed by a crab-and-olive melt over cooked green bean salad, brisket pot roast with noodle pudding and dill-glazed carrots—and mud pie for dessert. It's comfort food for the soul. *(800-852-3042, ext. 110). 5pm. $15 or $30.*





inside THE RACK

Every Monday Night

"In The Biz" pool challenge and Monday Night Football hosted by BostonCityBeat.com's Michael Kalil, featuring DJ Mike Janedy. Dance, shoot pool, choose from 8 TV's to watch the game and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 8pm!

Every Tuesday Night, 5pm

After-work Jazz with special musical guest, MD! It's a night you won't hear "What did you say?". Boston Music Night featuring Mappari every Tuesday night at 10pm in November.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm

Mark Morris & The Catunes rock the house! At 10:30pm, dance all night with DJ Rick!

Every Friday Night, 6pm

Skip the traffic jam and join us right after work with Central Basement and Kiss 108's Billy Costa! DJ Todd Reeves spins the night away!

Every Saturday Night, 8pm

Dance Party and live broadcast by Star 93.7's Vinnie Peruzzi while DJ Rick spins the hottest tunes!

Every Sunday Night

NFL Sunday Ticket! Watch your favorite team via satellite on one of our 8 screens featuring 10 different games beginning at noon! Enjoy our End Zone Football Buffet!
Join The Chad LaMarsh band at 9:30pm!

Monday, November 19th

Boston Sports Awards Post-Party! Come congratulate the winners or buy the losers a drink and hang with the who's who in Boston sports! DJ Mike Janedy spins all night! Party starts at 9pm.

Wednesday, November 28th, 6:30pm

Looking for love? Join us for the People Scavenger Hunt hosted by Boston Event Guide featuring reggae by One People! At 10:30pm, join DJ Steve Anderson for Boston's best beats!

Monday, December 3rd, 7pm

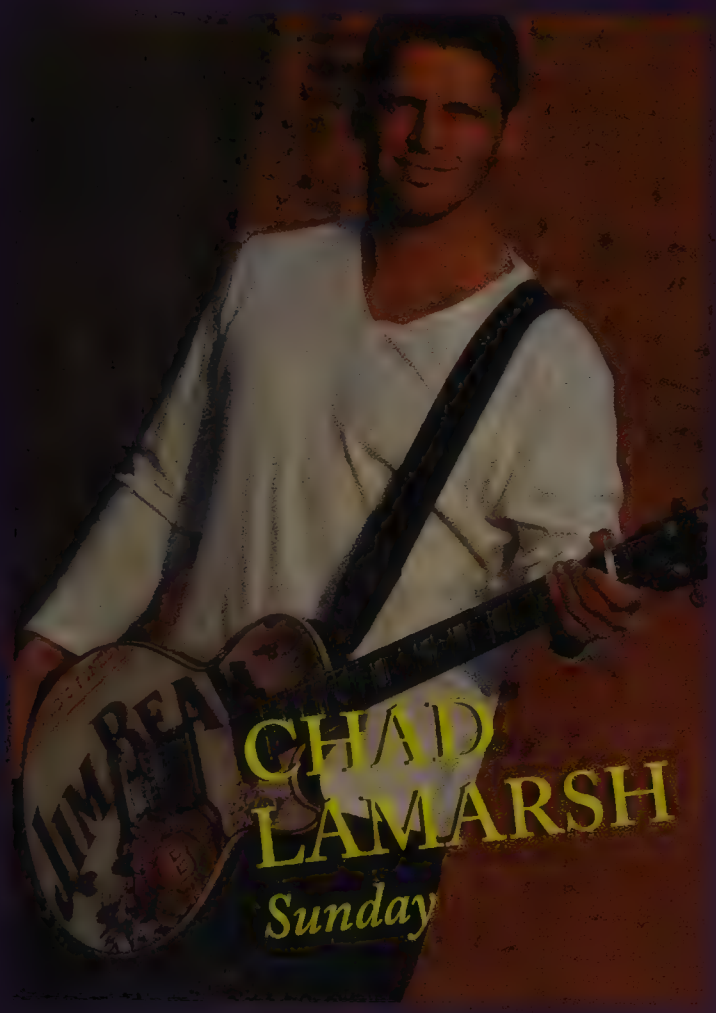
Don't miss Antoine Walker's 8 Ball Foundation party to benefit inner-city youth by providing positive life experiences and opportunities! The "8 Ball Celebrity Pool Tournament" will be a celebrity-studded event with athletes from the Celtics, Patriots, Red Sox and Bruins in attendance!
Dancing all night with DJ Janedy! Call The Rack for ticket info.

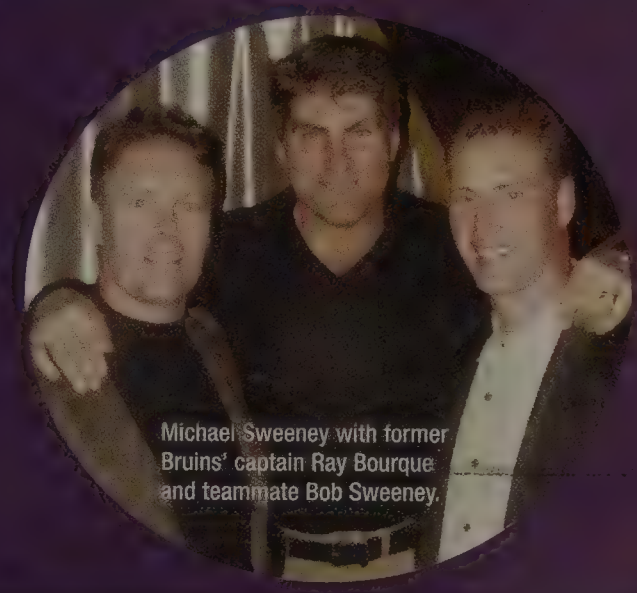


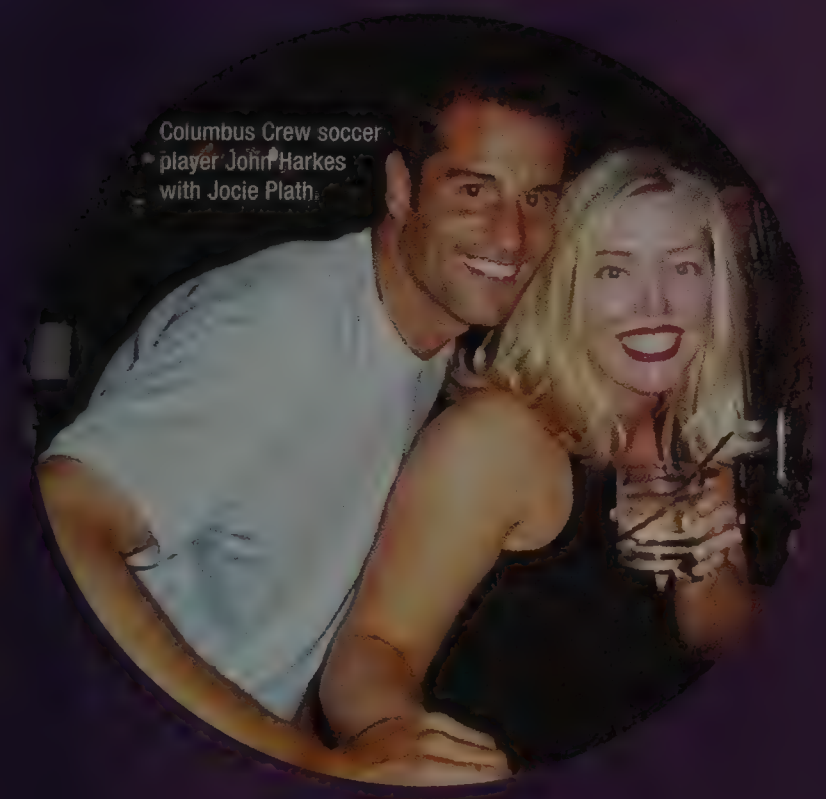


Boston's Best 1997 Improper Bostonian
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Michael Sweeney with former Bruins' captain Ray Bourque and teammate Bob Sweeney.


Columbus Crew soccer player John Harkes with Jocie Plath.



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THE RACK

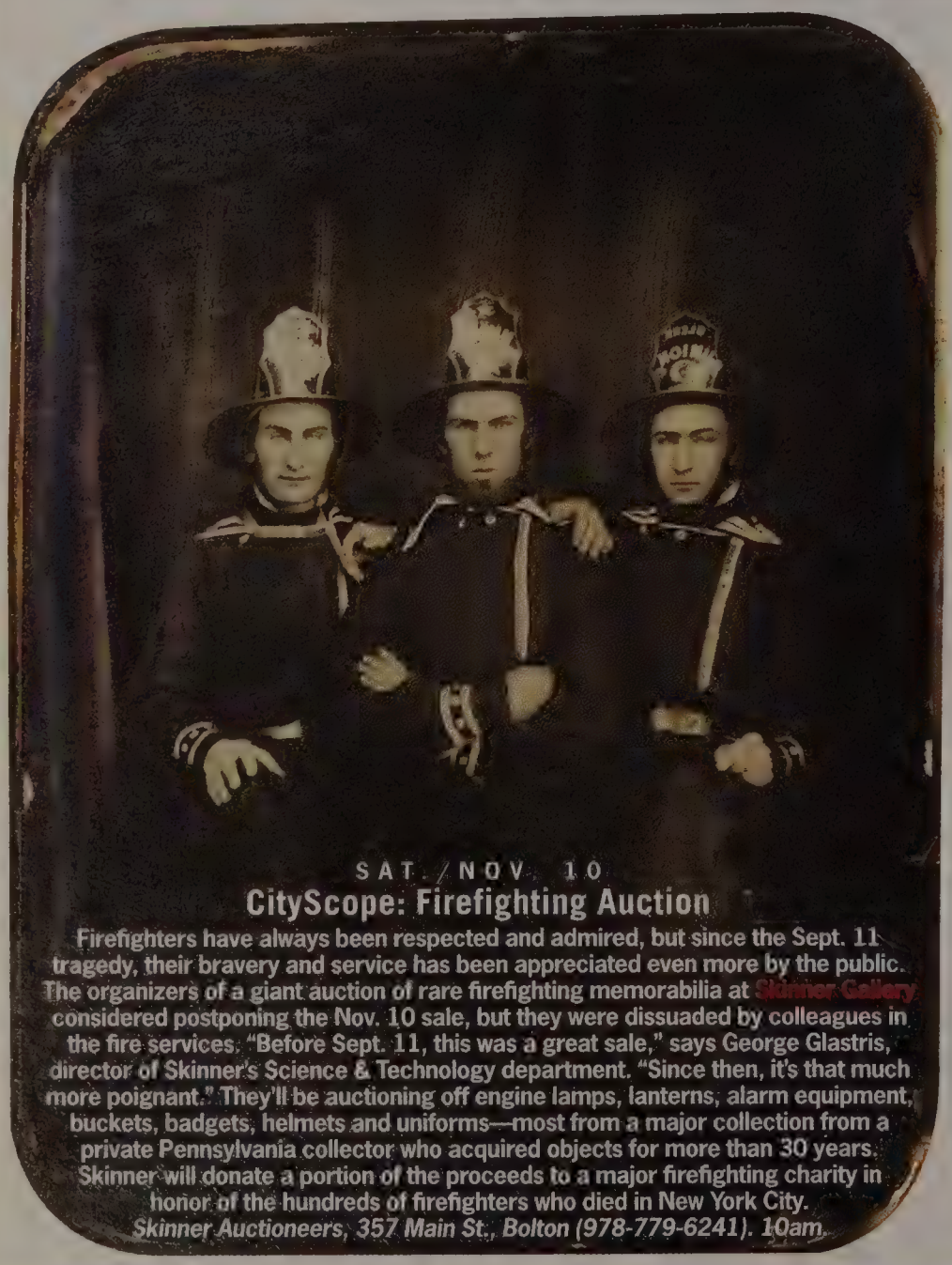
TUE./NOV. 13—SUN./DEC. 16

Performing Arts: Stomp▶

If you're one of the few unlucky people who missed ***Stomp*** the first few times it crashed and banged its way through Boston (or have yet to see it in its continuous run at New York's Orpheum Theater on Broadway), here's another opportunity to catch the international percussion sensation. The young performers "make a rhythm out of anything they can get their hands on that makes a sound," says co-creator/director Luke Cresswell. Stiff-bristle brooms become a sweeping orchestra; Zippo lighters flip open and closed to create a fiery fugue; and wooden poles thump and clack in a rhythmic explosion. By now, *Stomp* has numerous imitators—but the original innovator remains the champ. *Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). MBTA Green Line to Boylston. $25-$52.50.*







SAT./NOV. 10

CityScope: Firefighting Auction

Firefighters have always been respected and admired, but since the Sept. 11 tragedy, their bravery and service has been appreciated even more by the public. The organizers of a giant auction of rare firefighting memorabilia at Skinner Gallery considered postponing the Nov. 10 sale, but they were dissuaded by colleagues in the fire services. "Before Sept. 11, this was a great sale," says George Glastris, director of Skinner's Science & Technology department. "Since then, it's that much more poignant." They'll be auctioning off engine lamps, lanterns, alarm equipment, buckets, badgets, helmets and uniforms—most from a major collection from a private Pennsylvania collector who acquired objects for more than 30 years. Skinner will donate a portion of the proceeds to a major firefighting charity in honor of the hundreds of firefighters who died in New York City.
Skinner Auctioneers, 357 Main St., Bolton (978-779-6241). 10am.

THU./NOV. 15—SUN./NOV. 18

Art: Fine Art ▲

Sure, you can walk down Newbury Street and pop into gallery after gallery looking for that perfect work of art to hang on your living room wall. But here's another possibility that's easier on the knees and feet: the **Boston International Fine Art Show**. Some 40 galleries from across the United States, Europe and Canada (including some hefty representation from Boston) will display 17th- to 20th- century paintings, ancient art, sculpture, photography, fine prints, furniture, glass and ceramic sculptures—all in one room at the Cyclorama Nov. 15-18.This is the fifth annual show, but there's a new twist this year: The special exhibition, *From Her Own Studio*, is a display of works by 15 female faculty members of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts. *The Cyclorama, BCA, 539-551 Tremont St., Boston (617-787-2637). Fri.-Sat., 11am-8pm; Sun., 11am-6pm. $10.*



WED./NOV. 7—FRI./NOV. 9

Music: Redneck Rockers ▲

Copious Miller High Life consumption. Folks packing chaw after eating buckets of barbecue. Derisive comments about "that pretty boy Jeff Gordon." Sounds like the **Redneck Festival** is back in all of its raw, raunchy glory. For the fifth year in a row, the Redneck Fest showcases the best white-trash rock the city has to offer. This year, the festival is here for an unprecedented four days at three clubs, showcasing 21 of the loudest, down-and-dirty bands Boston has to offer. Joey Ramone meets Bill Monroe at Somerville's Abbey Lounge on Nov. 7, as Random Road Mother and Three Day Threshold kick up the dust with the Humanoids and Destruct-A-Thon. Nov. 8, the ruckus moves to the Middle East with Liquor Tricks and Quitter along with the Confidence Men, Placer and Caged Heat, and on Friday as motorpunks Rock City Crimewave lead the charge with Milligram, Shake Dog Shake, Ghetto Thunder, Beef and Kill Everyone Now. Determined rockers can finish it off at the Linwood on Saturday's finale, with Quintaine Americana, Scissorfight, Cracktorch, Give and Cash Monies and the Jetsetter.

FRI./NOV. 9—SUN./NOV. 11

Music: 25 Years of Distortion

Rockabilly-punk pioneer **Social Distortion** has been the defining band at the rock end of the punk rock spectrum for more than two decades now. It started when singer/guitarist Mike Ness, inspired by the L.A. punk scene, crafted a blend of rootsy, hard-hitting punk back in 1978. After a revolving-door of band members, the band's current roster includes bassist John Maurer, drummer Charlie Quintana and former Cadillac Tramps guitarist Jonny Wickersham. Over the years, the band has over come many difficulties—the demise of punk and band members serving time in jail coping with addictions. Regardless, the years haven't quieted the seminal punk-rock band. If you get to see Social D. live, you'll know that it hasn't forgotten its punk roots. And more important, you'll still be treated to Mike Ness' moments of philosophical stage banter. *Paradise Rock Club, 965 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-423-NEXT).*

EARLY NOVEMBER

Performing Arts: Theater with a Twist

Peak into the orchestra pit at the Boston Lyric Opera's production of ***Resurrection*** and you'll be surprised by what you see: Instead of the instruments typically seen at an opera, you'll see just three keyboards. Two are used for regular musical parts, but the third is an electric keyboard that sends instructions to a computer in the back of the hall. Composer Tod Machover, a professor at MIT's Media Lab, enhances the musical and dramatic experience of this opera based on the Tolstoy novel. While we're on the subject of performances with a twist, we should mention that the Boston Playwrights' Theatre's production of ***Walker*** is written by the theater's founder Derek Walcott, who also happens to be a Nobel Laureate. It's the story of Bostonian David Walker, whose revolutionary 1829 Appeal rattled the foundation of white America and ignited the anti-slavery movement. *See the Performing Arts section on page 50 for more information.*

WED./NOV. 14 AND 15

Art: An Evening with Bruce Weber

In conjunction with the MFA's new fashion photography exhibition of works by Horst P. Horst and George Hoyningen-Heune, *The Look*, photographer **Bruce Weber** comes to the museum to share his experiences and expertise Nov. 14. An influential force in fashion and advertising photography for the past 20 years (his signature intense, erotic work has been in most major magazines), Weber has much to say about fashion photography. But Weber is also becoming equally renown for his filmmaking. He has produced six films, including a few acclaimed documentaries. On Nov. 15, the MFA presents his latest film, *Chop Suey*, an autobiographical piece done with the late Robert Mitchum, in which the actor talks about moviemaking, politics, women and his life. *Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3770). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. 7:30pm.*



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—TIME Magazine

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cityscope

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Festivals, Benefits & Events

THURSDAY, NOV. 8

Wine Tasting and Trunk Show
Circle Furniture, 199 Alewife Brook Parkway, Cambridge (781-729-7229) 6-8pm. Circle Furniture will host a wine-tasting and trunk show featuring the whimsical rug collection of award-winning designer Susan Sargent.

FRIDAY, NOV. 9

25th Annual Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair
Hynes Convention Center, Boston (617-266-6540). www.bostonbookfair.com. *5-9pm. $15 for Opening Night.* The oldest continually running antiquarian book fair in the country will feature 155 dealers from the U.S., Europe and Canada. Dealers will exhibit and sell rare books, modern first editions, manuscripts, autographs and more. Highlights include Paul McCartney's hand-written manuscript for *Abbey Road* and a rare signed copy of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Una Noche Celestial
Walker Hall, MIT, 142 Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-250-0000, ext.6003). 8:30pm-12:30am, $25-$150 donations required. Jam'nastics presents a gala to support afternoon and summer-camp programs for area children. The activities include a silent auction, art exhibition and Latin dance lessons.

SATURDAY, NOV. 10

Italians for America Benefit
St. Leonard's Parish Center, Prince St., Boston (617-227-4575) 7pm, $20. The North End Feast Societies and Italia Unita of East Boston are uniting for an evening of music, dance and food to benefit the families of Massachusetts victims of the September 11th tragedies. Entertainment is provided by DJ Michael Lopi and Boston's own Street Magic a cappella.

7th Annual Fall Fandango
Crate & Barrel, 777 Boylston Ave., Boston (617-566-3315) 9pm, $55 advance, $65 at door. The GIFT Foundation hosts the 7th Annual Fall Fandango to benefit Boston Dress for Success. The event features a DJ, jazz ensemble, open bar and hors d'oeuvres.

Steppin' Out 2001
World Trade Center and Seaport Hotel, Boston (617-442-8800 ext. 1207). 8pm. $150. The Dimock Community Health Center hosts *Steppin' Out 2001*, focusing on the history of jazz as this year's theme. It's an evening of music, fashion, dancing, great food, cocktails and more. This year's gala bash also features the *The Michael Blakely International Fashion Show*, showcasing models from 30 different countries, wearing clothes by Boston's best designers.

SUNDAY, NOV. 11

5K Fun Run
Hereford St. and Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-371-1709) 12pm, $25. Rain or shine. The 5K Fun Run, which benefits veterans who are homeless at the New England Shelter for Homeless Veterans, starts at the Commonwealth Mall and finishes at Park Square.

Fund-raiser for New York Police Officers and Emergency Medical Personnel
Olives Restaurant, 10 City Square, Charlestown (617-242-3300). 6-10pm, $125. Todd English's Olives Restaurant, the Charlestown community and the Boston Police District A-1 Community Service Officers present a night of Mediterranean cuisine and entertainment to benefit the 9-11-01 Relief Fund for the New York police and emergency personnel who gave their lives in the line of duty.

The World Famous Lipizzaner Stallions
Worcester Centrum Centre, Worcester (617-228-6000). 2pm, $16.50-$22.50. These horses of nobility will perform acrobatic maneuvers that no other breed of horse can equal, an ultimate expression of art that dates back to the 16th century. Highlighting the show is their Airs Above the Ground act.

TUESDAY, NOV. 13

The Emerald City: Faces of GreenSpace
Dreams of Freedom Museum, 1 Milk St., Boston (617-426-7980). 6-9pm. $45 in advance, $60 at the door. The Boston GreenSpace Alliance holds a celebration for parks and open space, with a brief awards ceremony for people dedicated to the program. Enjoy live jazz music as well as hors d'oeuvres and desserts donated by local restaurants and caterers.

17th Annual Build Boston
World Trade Center, Boston (617-800-544-1898) www.buildboston.com, *9am. prices vary.* With more than 200 workshops and 350 exhibitors, Build Boston is one of the largest annual design and construction industry conferences in the country. This year's theme is housing.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14

Frog Pond Opening
Boston Common, Boston www.cheersboston.com, 6pm, free. Join Mayor Thomas Menino for the opening of Frog Ponds 2001-2002 season. Exhibitions by a surprise guest and the Boston Ice Theater will be the night's highlights. A Grand Party follows at the Hampshire House on Beacon Street.

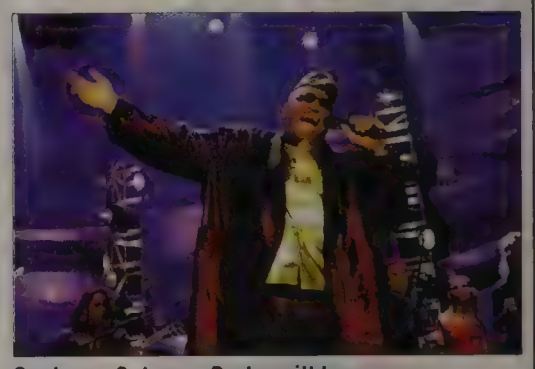


Strap on the skates and welcome winter at the Frog Pond opening, Nov. 14 at 6pm.

Preview

Take Me (Just As I Am)

Ray Mac to join Solomon Burke on stage at the Roxy



Soul man Solomon Burke will have some company onstage at the Roxy Nov. 19.

My pockets ain't filled with money
The old car I drive runs funny
And I don't have much to offer a sweet fine girl like you.
But here's my heart, please take it.
You see I need your love if we're going to make it.
Take me, just as I am.

So go the lyrics to Solomon Burke's song "Take Me (Just As I Am)." They carry special resonance for Newton firefighter Raymond McNamara (better known as "Ray Mac"), who suffered severe burns in an explosion at a chemical plant in 1993. He and his wife, Denise, had been scheduled to go on their honeymoon two weeks after the incident, but Ray spent the next eight months in a coma as doctors at Mass. General Hospital's Sumner Redstone Burn Center performed more than 30 operations to keep him alive.

McNamara feels that Burke's song, which was written and recorded in the '60s, represents his life story both before and after his accident. On Nov. 19, soul singer and Rock and Roll Hall of Famer Solomon Burke will give a concert at the Roxy to honor Ray Mac, with a special twist: Ray Mac will join him onstage to sing. As an added bonus, all net proceeds will go to the Sumner Redstone Burn Center.

Take Me (Just As I Am), A Special Evening in Honor of a Newton Firefighter, Ray McNamara. The Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (617-371-1000). 6pm. Patron $50, donor $100. For tickets, send check or money order to "The Ray Mac-MGH Benefit Concert," 600 Atlantic Ave., Suite 1200, Boston, MA 02210. —Ezra Dyer

Boston Partners in Education Volunteer Event
The Rack, 20 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall (617-725-1051). 5:30pm. Boston Partners in Education recruits and trains mentors and tutors to work with students in Boston public schools. While you consider enrolling you can enjoy a free buffet and billiards (as well as mingling with the Boston Breakers).

10th Anniversary Awards for Excellence
Dorothy Quincy Suite, John Hancock Center, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-236-4222). 6pm, $60. Greater Boston Business Council presents awards of excellence to individuals, small businesses, corporations and community organizations. WHDH news anchor Randy Price serves as master of ceremonies.

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

Boston Snowsports Expo 2001
Bayside Expo Center, Boston (802-457-9176). www.OnTheSnow.com, *MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. 4-10pm, $10.* A Winter Olympic U.S. Team Salute is the theme of this year's Boston Snowsports Expo. Appearances will be made by a number of winter Olympics medalists, including Lloyd Langlois, the world's most successful aerial skier ever.

Build Boston Awards Gala
Plaza Ballroom, Seaport Hotel, World Trade Center, Boston (800-544-1898) www.buildboston.com, 7pm, $85. Honor excellence in design at the professional social event of the season for architects, design professionals and clients.

Night of Illumination
Fogg Art Museum, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-661-3040). 6:30pm, $125. State Street Corporation and Harvard University sponsor the third annual Cambridge Cares About AIDS Night of Illumination. The evening will include cocktails, an hors d'oeuvres buffet, multicultural entertainment and an awards presentation.

FRIDAY, NOV. 16

Festival of Lights
Boston Public Library, Copley Square, Boston (617-247-8980). 8pm, $75. The Young Professionals of the Boston Public Library Foundation are hosting the second annual Festival of Lights Gala to benefit the library's Online Tutoring and Homework Assistance programs. Along with cocktails and dancing, party goers can also tour the National Historic Landmark, built in 1895.

Orchid Sale
Lyman Estate Greenhouses, Waltham (781-891-4882). 10am-4pm. Enjoy the perfumes given off by the orchids and cattelyas in the greenhouses built by Boston merchant Theodore Lyman, and maybe buy some flowers while you're there.

Third Annual Fall Gala
Hampshire House, 84 Beacon St., Boston (617-597-0029). 7-11pm, $50 in advance, $60 at door. Best Buddies, an organization dedicated to helping people with mental retardation, is holding a gala to support their programs. The night includes a cocktail party and silent auction.

SATURDAY, NOV. 17

A Celebration of Anne Sexton
Forsyth Chapel, Forest Hills Educational Trust, 95 Forest Hills Ave., Boston (617-524-0128), www.foresthillstrust.org. *2pm. $5.* Peter Davison, poetry editor for *The Atlantic Monthly*, will give a talk on Anne Sexton's life and work, followed by a remembrance walk to her grave.

SUNDAY, NOV. 18

Third Annual Teddy Bear Tea Party
Omni Parker House, Kennedy Room, 60 School St., Boston (978-356-2602). www.teddybeardrive.org, *12-2pm, $25 adults, $15 children.* The afternoon of tea, teddies and tunes for children of all ages will benefit the Teddy Bear Foundation, a local charity that serves children in need. Each family attending is asked to bring a new teddy bear to contribute to a child in a shelter.

MONDAY, NOV. 19

Solomon Burke Ray Mac Benefit Concert
The Roxy, 279 Tremont St., Boston (617-371-1000). 6pm. Patron $50, donor $100. For tickets, send check or money order to "The Ray Mac-MGH Benefit Concert," 600 Atlantic Ave., Suite 1200, Boston, MA 02210. For more details, see story above.



Poet Anne Sexton's life and work will be celebrated at the Forest Hills Cemetery Nov. 17.

BOTTOM LEFT: C.E. HOUGHTON; BOTTOM RIGHT: CALVIN CAMPBELL, COURTESY OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, PRINT DEPARTMENT

the Harp
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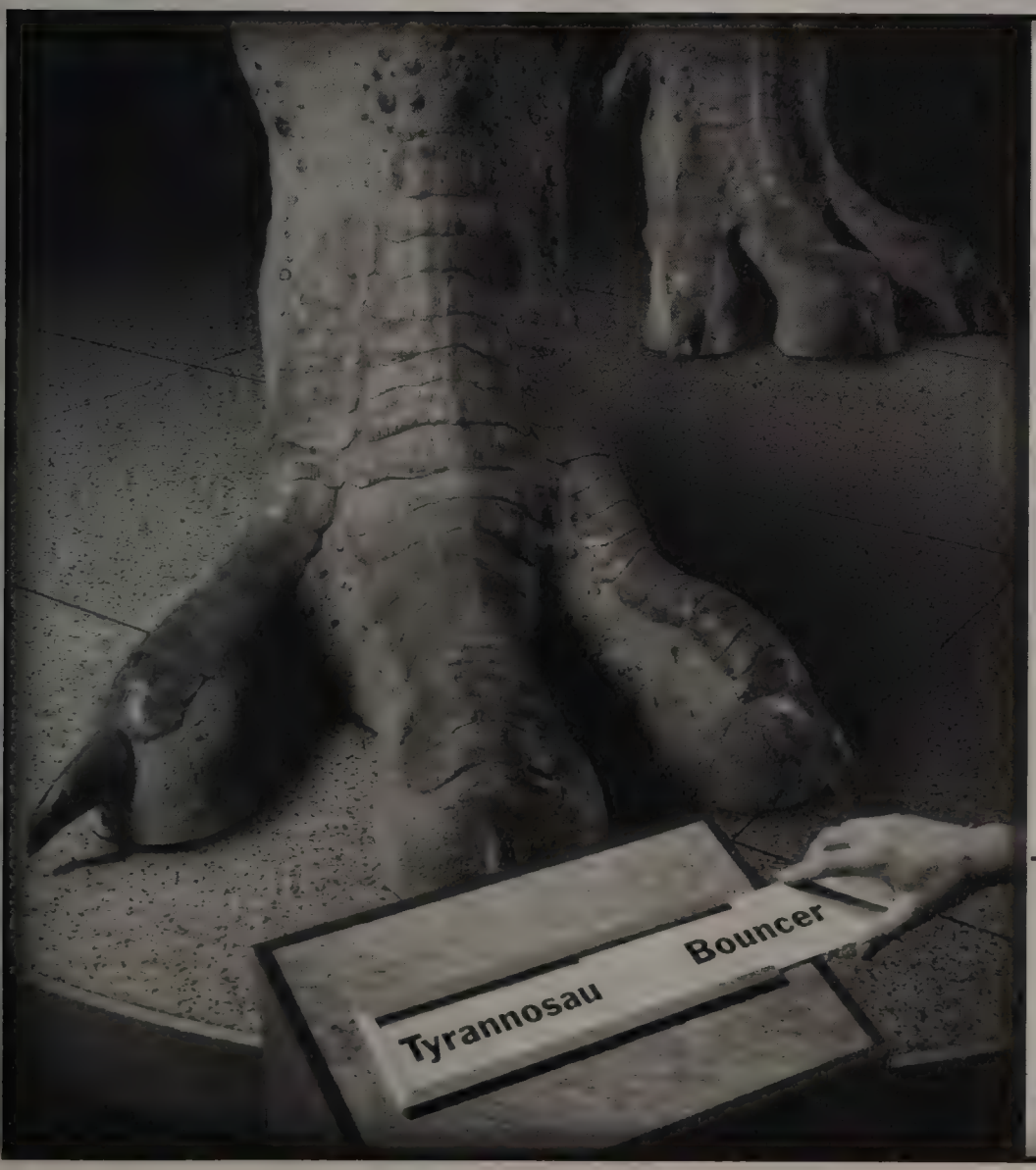
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Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

The Baker's Wife
John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 15-16, 8pm. $25 and $50. Three-time Tony nominee Judy Kuhn heads a cast of 35 singers and actors in this show featuring Stephen Schwartz's lush, romantic score.

Bullring
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu., 8pm; Sat., 3pm; Sun., 7pm. Through Nov. 8. $12. In this romantic comedy, a pair of 50-something gamblers make awkward romantic advances toward two day-trippers at a decrepit horse racing track.

Catalpa
The Nexus Theatre Center, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Nov. 8-18. $25. A captivating tale of an American whaling ship that sets sail from New Bedford to rescue six Irish Fenian prisoners from an Australian prison.

A Christmas Carol
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Nov. 16-Dec. 28. $28-$42. Charles Dickens's tale is complete with singing, dancing and special theatrical effects.

Dearest Dirty Diaries
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton St., Boston (617-971-1781). Nov. 7, 8pm. $5. This cabaret includes video and sound performances.

Guys and Dolls
Orpheum Foxborough, One School Street, Foxborough (508-543-2787). Nov. 9-10, 8pm; Nov. 16-17, 8pm. $20.50. The Actors' Collaborative performs this classic.

Inside Out
Marriott Hotel, 2345 Comm. Ave., Newton (617-964-3424). Nov. 8, 6:30pm. $125. Well-known Newton residents showcase their hidden talents.

Mixed Medea
Puppet Showplace Theater, 32 Station St., Brookline (717-731-6400). Nov. 15, 8pm. $8. Storyteller Laura Packer and folk songwriter Terry Kitchen share myths, stories and folktales.

Performance Cult
The Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (781-891-1188). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 18. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short original vignettes.

Putting It Together
Copley Theater, 225 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7731). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Nov. 10, 8pm; Nov. 11, 7pm. $35. This follow-up to the popular 1970s revue *Side by Side by Sondheim* features more than 30 songs from Sondheim's later works.

Rose
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Wed., 2 and 7pm; Thu., 8pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Nov. 14-Dec. 16. $25-$33. Rose is a Jewish woman who left her Ukrainian village home to find a life of love and art in America. Instead, she's faced with a struggle in a Warsaw ghetto.

Preview

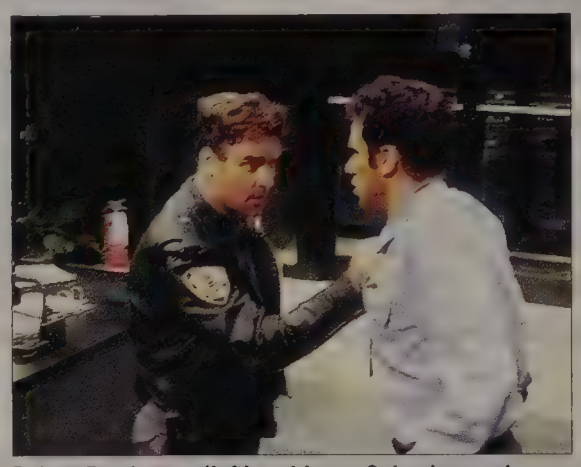
A Lobby Hero

Kenneth Lonergan's latest character study plays at the Lyric Stage

Kenneth Lonergan is the playwright of the moment. It seems his name is on the lips of theater-lovers everywhere. He penned the Oscar-nominated film *You Can Count on Me*, plus *The Waverly Gallery* (most recently staged at the New Repertory Theatre) and *This Is Our Youth*. Lonergan—hailed by the *New York Times* as "the new golden boy of stage and screen"—has certainly earned a loyal following. He has a gift for dialogue and a wonderful sense of the contradictions of human behavior. "You feel that this is really how people talk—not just the words of a playwright who is manipulating his characters or the audience's emotions," says director Scott Edmiston of Lonergan's latest, *The Lobby Hero*, which plays at the Lyric Stage through Nov. 24.

***Lobby Hero* centers on Jeff, a luckless security guard who's drawn unwittingly into a local investigation when his supervisor's brother is arrested for murder. Jeff must decide whether to reveal what he knows of the crime to his two pals who are cops. "It's deceptively simple in plot," says Edmiston, "but the play deals with profound moral issues. It's primarily a character study of these four people and how their lives intersect."**

An unusual blend of genres—a drama, comedy and love story all in one—*Lobby Hero* challenges audiences to think about their own lives and how they'd act in certain situations. Jeff is not a national hero—rather, a small-scale hero who has to decide the right course of action in a haze of moral ambiguity. His loyalties are strained to the breaking point. But, "It's not a heavy, ponderous piece," says Edmiston. "People will be very entertained by it." New York audiences were. The show, which was nominated for the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Off-Broadway Play and the Drama Desk award for Best Play, enjoyed a sold-out, extended run in the Big Apple. *Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 24. $20-$36. —Julie Short*



Robert Pemberton (left) and Jason Schuchman play a police officer and a luckless lobby security guard.

Resurrection
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-6772). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 7, 9, 13, 16 and 20, 7:30pm; Nov. 11 and 18, 3pm. $31-$151. Based on the Tolstoy novel, *Resurrection* captures an unusual love story between Prince Nekhlyudov and Katerina Maslova.

Shylock
Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahanton St., Newton Centre (617-558-6480). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Thu., 2pm; Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Nov. 8-11. Royal Shakespeare Company alumnus Gareth Armstrong stars in this exploration of Shakespeare's tragedy.

Something's Coming
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 8, 8-10pm. $10. Local actors perform ee staged readings of works in development.

Touchable Stories
Fort Point, 27 Melcher St., South Boston (617-423-3651). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 5pm. Through Dec. 1. $12. This multimedia oral history asks: What is the value of creativity in our culture today?

Walker
Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-358-PLAY). Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Nov. 18. $25. The story of Bostonian David Walker, whose revolutionary 1829 *Appeal* rattled the foundations of white America and ignited the anti-slavery movement.

Whose Wife Is It Anyway?
Milton Woman's Club, 90 Reesdale Road, Route 28, Milton (617-698-7469). Nov. 9-10, 16-17, 8pm; Nov. 10, 2pm. $11-$17. Ray Cooney's British farce takes place in Suite 648 of the Westminster Hotel in London on an evening in September.

NOW RUNNING

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 16. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

Anton in Show Business
Theatre Zone, Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (617-423-7313). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through Nov. 24. $15. A self-centered TV actress, a jaded New Yorker and an enthusiastic ingenue are brought together for an ill-fated production of Anton Chekov's *The Three Sisters*.

Betty's Summer Vacation
The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Oct. 26-Nov. 25. $12-$58. Joined by an eclectic assortment of housemates at her seaside timeshare, Betty is thrust into a maelstrom of outrageous occurrences, culminating in a bizarre courtroom scene. Christopher Durang's comedy pokes fun at our scandal-obsessed culture.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3 and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

The Laramie Project
Tremont Theatre, 276 Tremont St., Boston (617-728-4321). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3 and 7pm. Through Nov. 11. $25. Hailed by *Time Magazine* as one of the Ten Best Plays of 1999, this show is a haunting examination of the violent murder of Matthew Shepard, a crime so brutal that it shocked the nation.

Lobby Hero
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 24. $20-$36. See the preview at left for more information.

The Lonesome West
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. $24 and $28. This black comedy is about two brothers who, living in their father's house after his recent death, find it impossible to exist without the most massive and violent disputes over the most mundane and innocent of topics. Only the local priest can reconcile the two.

Ludlow Fair, Home Free and Two Ex-Smokers
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 10. $18. The Boiler Company presents three one-act plays by Lanford Wilson and Rick Winterson.

Miss Saigon
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Nov. 18. $18-$56. An American marine falls in love and conceives a child with a bar girl in Saigon, but they are tragically torn apart by the end of the war and ultimately, by the gulf between their two worlds.

Nine
Vokes Theatre, Route 20, Wayland (508-358-4034). Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm. Through Nov. 10. $15-$17. Guido Contini is an internationally acclaimed film director coming to grips with a series of crises as he turns 40. Struggling with the fear of artistic failure, he masterminds the plot for his latest film—a musical based on the life of Casanova.

The Odd Couple
Delvena Theatre Company, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 7. $22. Neil Simon's classic follows the relationship between fussy Felix Unger and his good-hearted divorced pal, Oscar Madison.

Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm
Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 25. $10-$17. Rebecca is sent to live with two maiden aunts in Riverboro, Maine. The aunts try to cope with this "bird of a different feather."

Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants
The Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (617-576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Nov. 24. $55. The Northeast premiere of this Obie Award–winning one-man show by America's legendary expert in the fields of deception.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

The Dot-Comedy of Errors
Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (617-495-8675). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 8-9, 8pm; Nov. 10, 2:30 and 8pm; Nov. 11, 2:30pm; Nov. 15-16, 8pm; Nov. 17, 2:30 and 8pm. A founder of a dot-com competes for the love of a beautiful programmer.

Juno and the Paycock
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 129 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 9-10, 14-17, 8pm. $12-$18. Sean O'Casey's tragicomic play about a Dublin tenement family during the Irish Civil War is directed by Obie Award-winning director Melia Bensussen.

The Little Prince
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 129 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 10-11, 2pm. $12. Based on Antoine de Saint-Exupery's book, this is the story of a fallen pilot who learns lessons about life after meeting a mysterious little prince.

Summer People
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-3400). Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Nov. 18. $15-$19. Sam Weisman, director of *What's the Worst That Could Happen?*, directs this tale from Russia that takes place in the early 1900s. The "summer people" who come to their soothing villas face a confrontation with the inescapable forces of change.

CABARET

Michael Ricca
56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 17, 8pm. $12. Michael Ricca of *Chess*, *Merrily We Roll Along* and *Beyond Therapy*, shares his love of movies and stories about growing up.

LYRIC STAGE PHOTO



Rusty DeWees is *The Logger*, a one-man show featuring 18 characters' unique perspectives of the backwoods of Vermont, at the Institute of Contemporary Art Nov. 8-Dec. 2.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre

246 East Berkeley St., Boston (617-423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

Dance

Another Femme Fatale Freak Show

Mobius, 354 Congress Ave., Boston (617-542-7416). Nov. 8-10, 8pm. $10. MonkeyHouse, a professional dance theater collective, presents this sexy, satirical, silly and surreal series of dance theater vignettes.

Experimental Dance

Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 14-17, 8pm; Nov. 17-18, 2pm, $5. Emerson College students present new works in contemporary dance.

Stomp

Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 13-Dec. 16. $25-$52.50. This Broadway sensation began as a street performance in Great Britainand now makes its way back to Boston with its creative use of percussions.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge

Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. • Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. • Nov. 7: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up a Little Comedy Tour • Nov. 8: Frank Santos "The R-Rated Hypnotist" • Nov. 9: Judy Tenuta "The Love Goddess" • Nov. 10, 8pm: Frank Santorelli and Paul D'Angelo; 10:30pm: Judy Tenuta, 10:30pm • Nov. 11, 9pm: Black Comedy Explosion • Nov. 12: Amateur Showcase • Nov. 13: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz • Nov. 14: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up a Little Tour. • Nov. 15: Frank Santos, "The R-Rated Hypnotist". • Nov. 16: John Valby a.k.a. "Dr. Dirty" • Nov. 17: Kevin Knox and PJ Thibodeau • Nov. 18: Black Comedy Explosion • Nov. 19: Amateur Showcase • Nov. 20: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz • Nov. 21: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up a Little Comedy Tour.

The Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. • Nov. 8: Andy Wasif, Stephen Frey, Brendan Trainor, John Keating, Steve Calechman and Bob Lazarus • Nov. 9: "Piston Honda" sketch comedy with Brian Olsen, Joe Dinkin, Katie Grady, Troy Pernell, Dave Ratigan, Michelle Pierce and Eric Davis. • Nov. 10: Mike Herman with Joey Carroll, Thomas Mitchell, Christine Herman, Brian Olsen, Dave Ratigan, Adam Pearlman and Ira Proctor • Nov. 11: Sam Walters, John Keating, Scott Carney, Chris Foltz, Brian Giles and Brian Olsen • Nov. 15: The Tim McGuire Show with Joey Carroll, Shane Kinney, Greg Rodrigues, Andy O'Fish and Randy Winn • Nov. 16: "Piston Honda" with Brian and Mal, James Patterson, Bethany Van Delf, Mindi Fay, Andy O'Fish and Tom Morello • Nov. 17: Dan Newbower from Comedy Central, Tony Moschetto, Sam Walters, Teresa Craggan, Brian and Mal and Alex Lin • Nov. 18: Comics Workout with Sam Walters, Stefan Shcherby, Melissa Shaw, Teresa Craggan, Colin Cohen, Mike Dorval, Amanda White and Anwar Floyd-Pruitt.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Theatre District, Boston (617-423-2900). Ticket prices $10-$22. Nov. 8, 8:30pm, and Nov. 9-10, 8:45pm: Rich Ceisler, Joe Carroll and Tony Moschetto.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10pm. Main Stage: $10-$15. On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show featuring all new material. • Wed., 8pm, and Sun., 7:30pm: Best of Improv Asylum.

Magician & Spirits

Green Street Grill, 280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). Shows every Tuesday at 9pm, $10, cabaret shows, $5 with dinner. At 10pm the cabaret show begins with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding

Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center, Fri. and Sat., 7pm, $49 (includes dinner), ongoing. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

The Logger—A Play in 2 Ax

Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (888-917-8789). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Nov. 8-11, 15-18, 29-30 and Dec. 1-2. Thu., 8pm; Fri., 7pm; Sat., 10pm; Sun., 7pm. $20. Rusty DeWees, a.k.a. The Logger, brings his one-man show to Boston, featuring 18 characters who present their unique perspectives of the backwoods native Vermonter.

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-1759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night the Lizard Lounge hosts and open mike for the area's best creative talent.

The Sopranos' Last Supper

Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). Nov. 11 and Dec. 7, 14 and 21. $49. This interactive dinner show based on the HBO television series *The Sopranos* is a spoof on an Italian-American mob family.



art

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Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30. •Objects from China, Korea and Japan are displayed in *Tradition and Synthesis: Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Works from East Asia*. Through June 9, 2002. •*Windshield: Richard Newtra's House for the John Nicholas Brown Family* shows Nov. 10-Jan. 27, 2002.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*Latino Life in the United States*, a photography show, runs through Nov. 25. •*Waiting for Godot* shows photographs exploring the book as a sculptural object. Through Nov. 30. •*Succulents: Desert Cacti* shows photographs in the Boston Room through Nov. 30.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). Tue., 11am-5pm; Wed.-Thu., 11am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer, shows through Dec. 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculptural Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. *Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustrations* runs through Jan. 6, 2002. •*A Garden of Unearthly Delights* features outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work through June 9, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Geometric Abstraction: Latin American Art from the Patricia Phelps de Cisneros Collection* shows through Nov. 4. • *Precision and Prestige: The Art of Engraving* runs through Dec. 2. •*Eat Art: Joseph Beuys, Dieter Roth, Sonja Alhäuser* shows through Dec. 15. • *You Look Beautiful Like That: The Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Ma-lick Sidibé* is presented through Dec. 16.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites: Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* is on display through Sept. 2, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* •The first major exhibition by Ellen Gallagher runs through Dec. 31. •Free guided walk-through takes place every Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30pm.* The museum's permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries. •The exhibit *Presence* features images in canvases of growing grass through Dec. 30.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering and Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. Demonstrations take place from 2-4pm daily. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an ongoing interactive exhibit. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays an ongoing selection of holograms from the museum's collection.



Prints of ancient Egypt by David Roberts show at the Haley & Steele Gallery through Nov. 10.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only. Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* shows through Dec. 2. •*Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Art of the Natural World*, Chinese and Japanese art, shows through Dec. 2. •*Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* shows through March 10, 2002. •*The Look: Images of Glamour and Style , Photographs by Horst and Hoyningen-Huene* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*The Modern Woodcut* displays work through March 24, 2002. •*Fashion Photographs by William Wegman* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*Faces* shows photographs of the human face through April 28, 2002.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Free. Permanent collections include *Lexington Alarmed, The Enchanted Clocks of George McFadden, Made in Massachusetts* and *Initiating America*.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors. The Current Science and Technology Center* show is ongoing. •Mugar Omni Theatre shows *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure, Journey into Amazing Caves* and *Bears* daily. •Charles Hayden Planetarium presents *The Sky Tonight, Skyfire* and a planetarium show daily. Times vary.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults, $10; seniors and students, $8; children under 16, free.* The museum's ongoing exhibitions include *A Work in Process: The New Museum, Shorelines, Three Centuries of Salem Architecture, The Folk Art Sampler* and *The Saltonstall Family Portraits*. •Photographer Kenru Izu's *Sacred Places* shows through Dec. 2. •*The Master Prints of Edward S. Curtis: Portraits of Native America* show Nov. 9-March 17, 2002. •*Indian Market: New Directions in Southwestern Native American Pottery*, shows Nov. 17-March 17, 2002.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm. Free. •*SAC 2001*, an exhibit of 20 visual artists' work, shows through Dec. 15.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •*Clockworks*, an exhibit of sculptural clocks, shows through Nov. 10. •Jerry Berta's *Diner Show* exhibits Nov. 17-Jan. 5, 2002.

Allston Arts District
BPL Allston Branch, 300 N. Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). Mon., Wed., 12-8pm; Tue., Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •Casandra Clark's photographs show in *From Patagonia to Pantanal: Tracking the Pulse of Argentina and Brazil*. Through Dec. 14.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 303, Boston (617-482-3652). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Not A. Lear*, a traveling exhibition, is a group show featuring artists with a surrealist vision. Through Nov. 21.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •David Kapp shows new paintings through Nov. 7. •New paintings by Scott Prior show Nov. 10-Dec. 5.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •John Stockwell's *New Works* features European-inspired abstracted landscapes. Through Nov. 29.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*Afterimage: Painted & Toned Photography* shows through Nov. 30.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Sun Works: Contemporary Alternative Photography* runs Nov. 15-Jan. 18, 2002.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (6 17-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •*New Light Works*, by Cameron Shaw, shows through Nov. 28.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*People*: work by Canadian artists Clint Griffin and Casey McGlynn show through Jan. 5, 2002.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •Ambreen Butt shows *Drawings* through Nov. 24.

Beth Urdang Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-4:30pm; Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Recent Paintings*, a show by Margo Margolis, displays through Nov. 14. •*Exquisite Realism* shows Nov. 17-Dec. 22.

Boston University Art Gallery
BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. *MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm.* •*Esther Bubley: American Photojournalist* runs through Dec. 16.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*After Closing Time*, a show by Jemison Faust, displays abstractions through Dec. 1.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •The upper gallery shows *Memories of India: Photographs by Annu Matthew*, through Dec. 6. •The lower gallery shows *Spirited Resilience: Artists from Mexico*, photographs by Jayce Phillips. Through Nov. 9. • *Reconstructing Kosovo: Photos by Glenn Ruga, Frank Ward and Barbara Ayott*, also show from Nov. 15-Jan. 11, 2002.



Don Gurewitz's *Monk's Assembly* shows at Gallery ISO.

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-11:30pm; Sun., 12-11:30pm. •*Some Options in Abstraction*, an exhibition of photographs and paintings, shows through Nov. 11.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Jamie Harris shows works in *Macchie*. Also, work by Stopher Christensen is presented through Nov. 11. •Contemporary glass sculpture shows in *New Works From Japan*. Nov. 17-Dec. 15.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Nathan Wilson's paintings display through Nov. 27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* •The shows *We Like It So Much, Stow Wengenroth*, and *Warriors and Heroes*, exhibit Nov. 12-Jan. 6, 2002.

Compton Gallery
MIT Museum, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Incandescent Spirit: Page Hazlegrove* features the late artist's blown glass. Through Dec. 14.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •Through Nov. 17, *Fall Members Show: A Juried Members Exhibition* shows. •Nov. 23-Dec. 24, *Small Works* is exhibited.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •Peggy Badenhausen shows her works in November and December.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery presents an ongoing exhibit of work by artists Jeff Eldrege, Dan McCole, Brian Roach and Norman Crump.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Clinton Deckert's new surrealist paintings show through Dec. 1.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Tokyo-based artist Yayoi Kusama shows her paintings, drawings and sculptures through Dec. 22.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). www.equator gallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* •Edwin Sulca, a contemporary Peruvian weaver, shows his textiles through Nov. 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Open Studios Group Show* displays through Nov. 9. •*The Garden and the Map* is an exhibition embracing the split between Western and Eastern philosophy. Nov. 16-Dec. 28.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galeriedorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* • Through November, *Rembrandt/Dürer: Comparative Exhibition* shows.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Taylor Davis presents her sculptural work through Nov. 24.

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Gallery ISO
140 Kemble St., Boston. (617-427-4144) MBTA: Red Line to Andrew Station. Thurs. 5pm-9pm., Sat. 11am-4pm. •Don Gurewitz presents *Rhythms and Rituals/Man-made*, international photography. Through Nov. 30.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Nov. 9-Dec. 22, Peter Brooke shows new paintings.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Charles Cohen shows *New Works*. Through Nov. 28.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm and by appointment. •Through Dec. 31, *Atlantic Neptune Rising* shows 18th-century mariners' charts. •A show of prints depicting ancient Egypt, by David Roberts, exhibits through Nov. 10. • Jonathan Fairbanks' *About New England* runs Nov. 16-Dec. 1.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Ethan Berry's *Installation* shows through Nov. 24.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Gary Schneider's *Hand Mouth* and John Powell's *Elemental Projections* show through Nov. 27.

Huntington Gallery
Massachusetts College of Art, 621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Longwood. Mon.-Fri., 10-5pm, Sat., 11-6pm. •*Post Hypnotic* features 28 abstract painters and runs through Dec. 28.
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •Judi Rotenberg presents her new work, *Song of Songs*, and the Annex features work by Ian Factor through Nov. 17.

Jules Place
1200 Washington St., Boston (617-542-0644). www.julesplace.com. *Sat., 1-4pm and by appointment.* •Self-taught artist Yasharel's *One Man Show* displays landscapes, still lifes and figures through Nov. 22.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Jeanne Griffin shows an exhibit of new work using a combination of collage materials and *Uncovered Vessels*, by Arthur Birkland, displays digital prints. Through Nov. 24.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Outdoors*, a show of sculpture, shows through Nov. 16. •*Evolution of the Figure*, featuring interpretations of the human figure, runs Nov. 17-Dec. 13.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Landscapes & Seascapes* shows through Nov. 30, featuring new work by Boston artists Brett Wallace and Ann Scott.

Mayor's Art Gallery
City Hall, Boston (617-635-3245). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •In the Scollay Square Gallery, the Mission Hill artists show work through Nov. 17.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Tue.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. •The traveling exhibition *Hope Photographs* shows influential contemporary photography through Dec. 9.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •*Modern Abstractions* shows through Nov. 10. •*Works of an Eastern Nature* runs Nov. 15-Dec. 1.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* •In Gallery I, *From Gotham to Gloucester: A Historical Perspective* displays and works on paper show in Gallery II. Through Nov. 30.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •John Gibson and William Ciccariello present their work through November.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.com. *Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm.* •*Spoken with Paint: Paintings and Drawings by Elsbeth Deser* shows through Nov. 26.



This Esther Bubley photograph, *Candle Seller*, was shot in Italy for a 1952 Standard Oil documentary project whose unifying theme was finding "a drop of oil in the life of everyone."

Preview

Faces of Progress

BU revisits Esther Bubley's photography

"It's easy to take a picture. It's difficult to create a photograph. That's the key to understanding Esther Bubley's work," points out John Stomberg, director of the Boston University Art Gallery. The gallery is currently hosting a 25-year retrospective exhibition, *Esther Bubley: American Photojournalist*. "Bubley examined the technologically advanced society that she was living in," Stomberg says. "Her work went back and forth between praising the advances of modernity and witnessing the impacts those advances have had on everyday people." The show features seven projects Bubley (1921-1998) shot for numerous influential magazines and companies, such as *LIFE* (first cover: March 26, 1951) and *Ladies Home Journal*. In the show, original magazine pages featuring these '50s campaigns are displayed next to framed photographs. Bubley, a protégé of Roy Stryker at the Office of War Documentation in Washington, D.C., used her photographs to examine the impact of industry and technology on families, health and society. These themes are central in Bubley's work for Standard Oil, for which, curiously, she also received the most praise. "She had a particular way of capturing how people lived their lives," Stomberg says. "In very brief encounters, she could find imagery which spoke to the core of their values. She was able to evoke something essential in people's lives and bring them out in her photographs. When you walk through the show, it's like spending time with all of them." *Through Dec. 16. Boston University Art Gallery, BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm.—Leah Gourley*

MIT List Visual Arts Center
Wiesner Building, 20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4400). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm, Fri., 12-8pm, Sat.-Sun., 12-6pm. Free. •*Yes Yoko Ono*, an interactive art/music/film/photography exhibit, is on display through Jan. 6, 2002.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). www.mobius.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Collaboration + Installation*, by SWaf (Soong Wei and Friends), shows through Nov. 24. •*Another Femme Fatale Freak Show*, a performance by Karen Krolak and Monkey House, is Nov. 8-10, 8pm. •Nov. 13, 8pm, *Videospace*, a video installation, is screened. •*ArtRages: Survival Revival*, a fund-raiser, is Nov. 17, 8pm-1am. This night of art and music is $20 at the door, $17 in advance, students and seniors. •Jennifer Hicks performs a Trance Dance Workshop, Nov. 19, 8pm.

MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tue.-Sat., 11-5:30pm; Sun.-Mon., 1-5pm. •*Abstracts* shows work by Dan Fox, Mitch Glassman, Carolanne Grove and Jeremy Hamilton through Dec. 2.

New Art Center
61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-964-3424). www.newartcenter.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm* •Nov. 16-Dec. 16, Bruce MacDonald and Irwin Thompson exhibit works. •*Icons + Altars* shows interpretations by 95 regional artists. Nov. 16-Dec. 16.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Robert Rohm's sculptures show in *Lost Core* and Sam Messer's paintings show in *The Story of My Typewriter* and *Portraits of Family and Friends*. Through Nov. 10. •Anne Harris shows *Blue-Eyed People and Other Strangers* and Lee Newton's *New Work* is exhibited. Nov. 17-Dec. 22.

OH+T Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Painter Jeffrey Bishop shows new work through Nov. 24.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. •Andrew Guthrie's solo exhibition *Collecting* displays a series of moving and still images. Through Nov. 17.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm. The gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday with Luther Gray.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergalleryboston.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Paintings by Phyllis Berman showcase large-scale still-life interiors through Nov. 27.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*The Beauty of the Seen*, ceramic art from Brother Thomas, shows through Nov. 27.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus solely on avant-garde and contemporary art from China. The teahouse specializes in antique Yixing teapots.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www. richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* 19th- and 20th-century paintings are on ongoing display.

Sacramento Street Gallery
20 Sacramento St., Cambridge (617-547-1647). Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Cambridge artists exhibit *Small Works*, a show raising money for the Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center. Through Nov. 30.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University George Sherman Union, Second Floor, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •W. Perry Barton shows *Works on Paper* through Dec. 6. •Perry Barton displays *Painter* through Dec. 14.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5.* •*Animal Magnetism*, a group exhibition by artists depicting insects, amphibians, birds and mammals, shows Nov. 10-Jan. 6, 2002.

South End Gallery
South End Branch of the BPL, 85 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Benjamin Lincoln: Biomorphism and Abstract Anatomy* shows Nov. 13-Dec. 26.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*. •*Do Brasil*, the gallery's first collaboration with Brazilian fine art gallerist Marly Faria, features seven artists living and working in Brazil.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* •*The Power of Paint*, a show by William St. George, shows through Nov. 17.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., South Boston (617-423-SOTO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri., 6-8pm and by appointment. •Digital images by local artists display throuth Dec. 2 in *Bitscapes*.

Upstairs at Johnson Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 8:30am-1pm. •Esther Garcia Eder and Marty Epp show their works through November.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •*Garden Masterpieces* by Abbott Fuller Graves is on display through Dec. 15.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Mark Osterman and France Scully Osterman exhibit their ambrotypes in *A Confidence Exposed*. Through Dec. 7.

Panopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* •*A Greek Portfolio*, photographs by Constantine Manos, display through Nov. 10.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*Voyages (per)Formed*, a show of contemporary and historical travel photography, shows Nov. 9-Dec. 20.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Call for gallery hours.* •A show of photography by Horst P. Horst shows in conjunction with the MFA's *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style* show. Through Dec. 30.

SPECIAL EVENT

Boston Open Studios Coalition
Call 617-635-3245 or visit *www.cityofboston.com/arts* for more information on open studios. •Nov. 10-11: Allston Arts District. •Nov. 17-18: Hoffman Artists North End. *160 North Washington St., 8th Floor, 12-6pm. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to North Station.*

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books & poetry

READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. **Christine Mockler Casper** lectures about her book *From Now On with Passion: A Guide to Emotional Intelligence,* which gives advice on finding clarity and personal meaning in life.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. **Alan Dershowitz** introduces his new book, *Letters to a Young Lawyer*, in which he lends advice on the complicated ethics of law.

Harvard Coop Author Series
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. **Dr. Walter Willett** deconstructs the USDA Food Pyramid with his new book *Eat, Drink, and Be Healthy; The Harvard Medical School Guide to Healthy Eating.*

Lesley University Fall Poetry Event
Alumni Hall, 29 Everett St., Cambridge (617-349-8520). 7pm. Harvard Medical School teacher **Dr. Rafael Campo** reads from his work.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Books Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Poet and naturalist **Diane Ackerman** discusses and signs her book *Cultivating Delight: A Natural History of My Garden*, an exploration of our relationship with nature.

THURSDAY, NOV. 8

Borders Books and Music Poetry and Open Mike Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 7pm. The event includes readings by featured poets **Michael R. Brown**, **C.D. Collins**, **Reggie Gibson** and **Diana Saenz**, followed by an open mike session.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Rabb Lecture Hall, BPL, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 6pm. Nobel Prize winner **V.S. Naipaul** discusses his book *Between Father and Son: Family Letters,* a collection of letters tracing his relationship with his father.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **S.A. Abakwue**, author of *Abundant Wealth and Amazing Success,* signs copies of his book, a guide to using mind power to achieve moral, spiritual and intellectual wealth.

Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center Author Event
33 Nahanton St., Newton (617-558-6448). 7:30 pm. $5. **Rabbi Earl Grollman** and **Marcie Hershman** speak about coping with loss and recovery and discuss the book *Grief: Loss, Healing and Hope.*

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7:30pm. Best-selling author **Amir Aczel** speaks about his book *The Riddle of the Compass: The Invention that Changed the World*, which traces the history of the navigational tool.

New Words Books Author Event
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). 7pm. **Marjorie Agosin** and **Emma Sepiveda** read from their book *Amigas: Letters of Friendship and Exile,* which follows their friendship from their first meeting as teenagers in Chile to their current lives as writers and activists in exile in the United States.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free. **Tom Perrotta** discusses and signs his latest book, *Joe College*, the story of a young man fumbling his way through his college experience at Yale in 1982. • *WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge. 7pm. Free.* **Robie Harris** discusses his book *Goodbye Mousie,* about helping children with the grieving process.

FRIDAY, NOV. 9

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. **S. Allen Counter** discusses and signs his book *North Pole Legacy: Black, White, and Eskimo.* Counter chronicles the reunion between the children of the first North Pole explorers with their American relatives.



Christopher Hitchens discusses *Letters to a Young Contrarian* at WordsWorth Books Nov. 15.

25th International Boston Antiquarian Book Fair
Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-6540). $15 opening night and weekend, $8 Saturday or Sunday. Nov. 9, 5pm; Nov. 10 and 11, 12pm. The 25th year's theme is "Works on Paper," featuring more than 155 merchants exhibiting and selling rare editions of books, autographs, manuscripts and more.

BCAE Writing Festival Reading
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 6pm. $49. **Suzanne Matson** leads a writing workshop entitled "What's your Point of View?" Also, **Laurence Leamer** discusses his book *The Kennedy Men.*

Harvard Book Store Friday Forum
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Free. **Lawrence Buell** discusses and signs his book *Writing for an Endangered World: Literature, Culture, and Environment in the U.S. and Beyond.*

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Albert Rothenberg**, author of *Creativity and Madness: New Findings and Old Stereotypes*, reads from his book *Living Color.*

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. Author **Mary Taylor Simeti** reads from and discusses her book *Travel with a Medieval Queen*, which retraces the path of mother and monarch Constance of Hauteville from Germany to Sicily.

SATURDAY, NOV. 10

BCAE Writing Festival Reading
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 9am. Following his discussion on *The Kennedy Men* on Friday night, **Laurence Leamer** leads a workshop on writing biographies.

MONDAY, NOV. 12

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30 pm. **Kim McLarin** discusses, signs and reads from her novel *Meeting of the Waters,* an account of biracial marriage in modern society.

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6849). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. **Susan Wood**, author of *Asunder*, and **Gail Mazur**, author of *They Can't Take That Away from Me*, read from their collections.

Brookline Booksmith Panel Event
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-351-5000) 7pm. Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the premiere sports anthology *The Best American Sports Writing*, an all-star panel reads excerpts from the 2001 edition. The panel includes **Bill Littlefield**, host of WBUR's *Only a Game.*

Harvard Coop Author Event
400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **David Baldacci** reads from his thriller about the FBI Hostage Rescue Team, *Last Man Standing.*

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Sue Hubbell** will discuss her latest work *Shrinking the Cat: Genetic Engineering Before We Knew About Genes*, which examines the history of human genetic tinkering.

TUESDAY, NOV. 13

Barnes & Noble Author Event
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. **Patricia Thomas** discusses her book *Big Shot: Passion, Politics, and the Struggle for an AIDS Vaccine.* Her books is a journey through the underfunded international quest for a vaccine.

BCAE Writing Festival Reading
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 7pm. $14. From the potato famine to the New York St. Patricks Day Parade, **Maureen Dezell** examines the American preoccupation with all things Irish in her book *Irish America: Coming into Clover.*

Breakfast Speakers Series
Regatta Room, Charles Hotel, 1 Bennett St. Cambridge (617-661-1248). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7am. $90. **Paul Lawrence** discusses his book, *Driven: How Human Nature Shapes Our Choices*, a look at the impact of advances in human biology.

Brookline Booksmith Writers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Nick Bantock** discusses his book *The Gryphon: In Which the Extraordinary Correspondence of Griffin and Sabine Is Rediscovered*, the sequel to his *Griffin and Sabine* trilogy.

Grolier Poetry Reading Series
Adams House, 26 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8PM. $3. **Ed Friedman**, author of *Drive Through the Blue Cylinder*, and **Tony Towle**, author of *The History of the Invitation*, read from their latest works.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Sackler Museum, 485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 6pm. Free (tickets required). **Jill Ker Conway** discusses *A Woman's Education,* the third installment of her memoir as the first female president of Smith College.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Miriam Weinstein,** author of *Yiddish: A Nation of Words*, a history of the dying language, leads a discussion.

Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center Author Event
33 Nahanton St., Newton (617-558-6448). 7:30 pm. $5. Israeli historian and journalist **Tom Segev** discusses his book *One Palestine, Complete: Jews and Arabs Under the British Mandate*, about the clash between two nationalist movements.

Newton Free Library Reading Series
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7pm. The series continues with reading by **Susan Donnelly,** author of the poetry collection *Transit,* **Marc Widershien** and **Margot Wizansky**.

Newtonville Books' Earfull Series
Kendall Café, 233 Cardinal Medeiros Ave., Cambridge (617-244-6619). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. 8:30pm. In a melding of words and music, **Charlie Pierce**, author of *Sports Guy,* **Doug Most**, author of *Always in Our Hearts: The Story of Amy Grossberg, Brian Peterson, and the Baby They Didn't Want*, and **Richard Johnson** and **Glenn Stout**, co-authors of *Red Sox Century*, will read from their works accompanied by live music.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Douglas Coupland** discusses and reads from his book, *All Families Are Psychotic: A Novel*, which probes into the anatomy of the dysfunctional Drummond family.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14

Barnes & Noble Author Event
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. Former ABC correspondent **Bob Zelnick** discusses his book, *Winning Florida: How the Bush Team Fought the Battle*, which provides an in-depth look at the tumultuous election.

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 2pm. Book signing by **Isiah Thomas**, author of *The Fundamentals*, exploring the universal principles to succeeding in life.

Harvard Coop Author Event
400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Sonia I. Ketchian** reads from her book *Keats and the Russian Poets.*

Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center Author Event
33 Nahanton St., Newton (617-558-6448). 7:30 pm. $5. **Leonard Fein** discusses his book *Against the Dying of the Light: A Father's Journey through Loss, Healing and Hope*, a book he wrote in which he discovered how to cope with the death of his daughter Nomi.

Newton Free Library Reading Series
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145) 7:30pm. Pulitzer Prize-winning author **Laurel Thatcher Ulrich** speaks about her newest book, *The Age of Homespun: Objects and Stories in the Creation of an American Myth*, which chronicles the production of cloth in early America.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free. **Allen Kurzweil** discusses his new mystery book, *The Grand Complication*, the story of an elderly man who seeks the help of an obsessive research librarian to uncover lost artifacts. • *WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge. 7pm. Free.* **Joanna Fiedler** discusses *Molto Agitato: Behind the Scenes at the Metropolitan Opera*, her collection of anecdotes from her years as the Met's press representative.

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

Barnes & Noble Author Event
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. **Victor Walter** reads from his book, *The Craftsman.*

BCAE Writing Festival Reading and Lecture
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 6pm. $49. **Suzanne Berne**, author of *A Perfect Arrangement*, leads a workshop on how to begin writing fiction, from idea to execution.

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 2pm. **Barbara Leaming** discusses and signs her book *Mrs. Kennedy: The Missing History of the Kennedy Years*, the full story and secrets of the famous marriage.

Brookline Booksmith Writers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. **Jerry Stahl** discusses his book *Plainclothes Naked*, a comic crime novel about drug addicts, blackmail and George W. Bush.

Gallery Diablo Poetry Readings
1514 Tremont St., Mission Hill. MBTA: Orange Line to Roxbury Crossing. 7pm. . Poetry readings will be given by **Charles Coe**, **Vira J. Defilippo**, **Harris B. Gardner**, **Mea Johnson**, **Elizabeth McKim** and **Lainie Senechal**.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Harvard Information Center, 1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). 6pm. **Perri Klass** discusses *Love and Modern Medicine*, a collection of short stories about contemporary domesticity.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Joel Epstein** will speak about his book, *A Parent's Guide to Sex, Drugs and Flunking Out*, which discusses the issues facing students and parents as they embark on the college experience.

Woodberry Poetry Room
Edison and Newman Room, Houghton Library, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-495-2454). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 5:30pm. **D.A. Powell** gives a poetry reading.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Christopher Hitchens** discusses *Letters to a Young Contrarian.* Through a series of letters to an imaginary young radical, his book offers advice to people fighting against mainstream thought and culture.

FRIDAY, NOV. 16

WordsWorth Books Author Event
Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free. **Jack Miles** talks about his book *Christ: A Crisis in the Life of God*, a literary analysis of the New Testament. • *WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge. 7pm. Free.* **Alfred Habegger** discusses his literary biography called *My Wars are Laid Away in Books: The Life of Emily Dickinson.*

SATURDAY, NOV. 17

CCAE Writing Conference
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 1 Story St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). 12pm. $50. Authors **Douglas Bauer**, **Erika Dreifus**, **Marisa D'Vari**, **Alexandra Johnson**, **Myrna Patterson** and **Afaa Michael** lead workshops on various aspects of writing throughout the afternoon. The conference begins with a Keynote Address by **Barbara Neely**, author of the Blanche White mystery novel series.

SUNDAY, NOV. 18

New Words Books Author Event
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). 3pm. Former Army nurse **Susan O'Neill** signs and reads from her debut story collection, *Don't Mean Nothing: Short Stories of Vietnam.* One of the few published female perspectives of Vietnam, the stories portray nurses' experiences in the war.

CLAUDIO VASQUEZ

MONDAY, NOV. 19

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6849). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. **Kyoko Mori**, author of *Stone Field, True Arrow*, and **Heidi Jon Schmidt**, author of the story collection *Darling*, read from their books.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Harvard Information Center, 1350 Massachusetts Ave., (617-661-1515). 6pm. Free: tickets required. Science writer **Amir Aczel** traces the invention and rich history of the compass and the profound impact it had on navigation and exploration.

Harvard Coop Author Event
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). 7pm. Free. **Tony Wagner** discusses his book, *Making the Grade: Reinventing America's Schools*. Wagner poses the question of what is really wrong with America's schools and discusses reforms for a public-school teaching model he describes as "obsolete."

TUESDAY, NOV. 20

Borders Bookshop Authors Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 7pm. **Paula Goldstein,** author of *Birdseye Word Skills Verbs and Adverbs*, hosts a networking session to help women build their own businesses.

Brookline Booksmith Writers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. **Ursela Hegi** discusses her book, *Hotel of the Saints Stories*, a collection of stories about love overcoming adversity.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Alan Dershowitz** discusses his book *Letters to a Young Lawyer*. The book offers advice and reflections about law and the ethics of the profession.

ONGOING

Arlington Center for the Arts Writers and Poets Series
Robbins Library, Community Room, 700 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-648-6220). 7:30pm. Free. Readings by local authors and poets take place every Thursday. •Nov. 8: **Chris Abouzeid**, **Thomas O'Grady** and **Alisa Wolf**.

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.



Douglas Coupland reads at WordsWorth Books Nov. 13.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

New Theatre Works: A Staged Reading Series
Fox Community Room, corner of Mass. Ave. and Cleveland St., Arlington (781-648-6220). 8pm. Fridays and Saturdays. $5, $1 students and seniors. Works by emerging and experienced playwrights will be presented every Friday and Saturday evening through Nov. 17.• Nov. 9 and 10: Plays by **Virginia Thayer**, **John O'Brian**, **Harvey Soloman** and **Peter Gordon**. •Nov. 16 and 17: **Daniel John** and **John Devaney**.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every few Thursdays.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.

education

Advice to Contributors
*Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (*education@improper.com*). Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7

Cities in the 21st Century
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-495-2727). 7:30pm. Free. Author **Carter Wilkie** examines the forces that impact urban centers.

Presidents and Foreign Policy Crises
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 7pm. Free. **David Gergen**, adviser to four presidents, discusses presidential foreign policy in light of the current situation.

THURSDAY, NOV. 8

Murdered by His Wife
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). 12:15pm. Free. Author **Deborah Navas** unearths the 18th-century murder of wealthy farmer Joshua Spooner, whose pregnant wife was hanged for instigating the crime.

Science Lectures
Harvard Medical School, 200 Longwood Ave., Boston (617-432-2420). Nov. 8 and 15, 7pm. Free. A biology seminar is followed by a discussion of gene therapy in the news (Nov. 8) and genetically modified foods (Nov. 15).

Who Was the Boston Strangler?
BEAP, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). 7pm. $5. Historian **Bill Harrington** reveals the history behind Boston's notorious criminal.

SUNDAY, NOV. 11

Race in the Military
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 4pm. Free. **Gail Buckley,** author of *American Patriots: The Story of Blacks in the Military from the Revolution to Desert Storm*, addresses the history of African Americans in the U.S. military.

MONDAY, NOV. 12

Responding to Terrorism
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 5:30pm. Free. Justice **Richard Goldstone**, former chief prosecutor for the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, discusses a system of international justice.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14

Defending an Open Society
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 5:30pm. Free. **Nina Totenberg** of NPR moderates a panel discussion on how the United States can protect security and civil liberty despite terrorism.

Adventures on the Slopes
The First Parish Church of Cambridge, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-730-3900). 7pm. Free. **Charles Leocha,** author of *Ski America and Canada* and *Ski Europe*, will present an illustrated talk on winter resorts.

My Twice-Lived Life
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-495-2727). 7:30pm. Free. **Donald Murray**, *Boston Globe* columnist, discusses the joys of retirement.

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

Creative Economy Initiative
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). 6:30pm. Free. The Ford Hall Forum presents a panel discussion on the role of arts and culture in New England's economic competitiveness.

FRIDAY, NOV. 16

Prayer in Public Life
Haley House, 23 Dartmouth St., Boston (617-236-8132). Nov. 16, 7:30pm. Free. **Byron Rushing** lectures on the importance of prayer in people's lives.

SUNDAY, NOV. 18

Defining Style
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 4pm. Free. **Hamish Bowles**, European editor-at-large of *Vogue*, discusses how Jackie Kennedy revolutionized American taste.

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Film

O BARBER, WHERE ART THOU?

The Man Who Wasn't There sends the Coen brothers to the 1940s. BY PAUL SHERMAN

He doesn't act worried, but he sure looks it. Ed Crane, the lanky barber Billy Bob Thornton plays so well in *The Man Who Wasn't There*, efficiently tends to his customers, rarely straying from his rhythmic cutting or uttering a word to those seated in the chair below. But when his gabby co-worker and brother-in-law (Michael Badalucco) uncorks some



Ed Crane, the barber in *The Man Who Wasn't There*, is one of Billy Bob Thornton's most memorable characters.

cockamamie theory, or when he's on a cigarette break, the worry lines ripple on the barber's face like waves approaching the shore.

The small-town barber's emotional-relief-map face, captured by Roger Deakins' black-and-white cinematography, is perhaps the best thing in the Coen brothers' funny-eerie neo-noir. And Ed has increasingly more to worry about over the course of this story, set in 1949. He comes to believe that his sexy wife (Frances McDormand) is having an affair with her boisterous boss (James Gandolfini); he gets mixed up with a potentially shady entrepreneur (Jon Polito) selling the new wonder of dry cleaning; he becomes a blackmailer; he kills a man in self-defense; and he nearly dies in an automobile crash, among other things.

As the barber pulls himself down the rabbit hole of deceit—sometimes willingly, sometimes not—*The Man Who Wasn't There* pinballs between the absurd and the grim. That's a tone the Coens have tapped before, in *Blood Simple*, *Barton Fink* and *Fargo*, and like those movies *The Man* swims in ironic plot twists. But the dial is turned more toward the grim than usual. That's where the black and white comes in. The monochromatic visuals, as reflected in the barber's ashen face, also give *The Man* the hard-boiled look of 1940s Hollywood thrillers (the Coens have cited *Double Indemnity* and *The Postman Always Rings Twice* novelist James M. Cain as one inspiration for the film).

Also injecting '40s flair are the terse voice-overs Thornton delivers with just the right hint of resignation and resentment over getting the fuzzy end of fate's stick ("Me, I don't talk much ... I just cut the hair"). Thornton is probably thinner here than he's ever been in a movie, but that's not the only reason Ed Crane is one of his more memorable characters. With the exception of Karl Childers, his unforgettable *Sling Blade* hero, this is the deepest Thornton has immersed himself in a character, and it's hard to believe this is even the same actor as in the recent *Bandits* (not that he was the only one phoning it in for that comedy).

If there's anything that keeps *The Man* from reaching the top-shelf status of Coen brothers films like *The Big Lebowski*, *The Hudsucker Proxy* or *Blood Simple*, it's the uneven quality of the supporting characters. McDormand, making her first appearance for the Coens since *Fargo*, has surprisingly little to do, and the flashiest character, a high-priced defense attorney played by Tony Shalhoub, wears out his welcome. Such Coen semi-regulars as Badalucco and Polito add spice, while *The Sopranos*' Gandolfini is just right in a role probably written for Coens regular John Goodman. A subplot involving the barber's teen-age neighbor (Scarlett Johansson) has a weak payoff, though it does take the story to its *Postman Always Rings Twice* resolution.

No, it's the images of *The Man Who Wasn't There* that stick in your head: The light and shadow sharing the contours on Thornton's face. The smooth curves of the bulbous roadsters. McDormand's cat-eye glasses. The black-and-white tiles of the barbershop floor Ed sweeps up after every satisfied customer.

P.S.: Coen fans who own DVD players should also check out the audio commentary on the new *Blood Simple* disc. This parody of the trivia that passes for insight on audio commentaries is hilarious, delivered by a fake film expert explaining how certain film scenes were shot upside down and that any animal seen is either animated or animatronic, and expounding on lengthy subplots that were excised "after a disastrous preview screening." iB

The Man Who Wasn't There ★★★

Directed by Joel Coen. Written by Joel and Ethan Coen. Rated R. USA Films. Starring Billy Bob Thornton. Playing at the Kendall Square Cinema, Copley Cinema and West Newton Cinema.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Bandits ★★
The comedy in this caper movie comes off about as convincingly as the various wigs that stars Bruce Willis and Billy Bob Thornton wear in it. They're a couple of escaped convicts who become famous bank robbers, though director Barry Levinson fails to supply any reason why Willis' impulsive character and Thornton's finicky one would be best buddies. The always-versatile Cate Blanchett enters the mix as a desperate housewife who comes between the partners, but not even she can revive this stillborn comedy. *General Cinema Fenway 13, Loews Boston Common, Circle Cinemas.*

Diamond Men ★★½
An increasingly busy plot partially deflates the more interesting core of this comedy-drama about an aging traveling salesman (Robert Forster) being forced into retirement, and the brash younger guy (Donnie Wahlberg) he's breaking in to take over his job. The job is selling diamonds to central Pennsylvania jewelry stores, and the movie's first half has a refreshing slice-of-life flavor. The interaction between Forster and Wahlberg is very smooth, and the emergence of their characters' friendship is convincing, as the older man shows the impatient younger one the value of relationships, with both women and customers. The second half, in which hookers and robbers enter the picture, feels contrived by comparison. *Copley and Kendall Cinemas.*

From Hell ★★★
It's not *Sleepy Hollow 2*, but Johnny Depp is once again hunting down an enigmatic killer in a very creepy Gothic setting. Here, it's 1888 London, where a group of East End hookers is gruesomely falling victim to an elusive killer, one by one. Depp plays a police inspector with clairvoyant dreams and a taste for opium; Heather Graham is the hooker who turns to him for help. Their increasing attachment is one of the least convincing aspects of the story, but it's just part of a more successful mix, along with several doctors, the Freemasons, the royal family and a scene-stealing performance by Robbie Coltrane (TV's *Cracker*) as Depp's literate partner. *General Cinema Fenway 13, Lowes Boston Common, Fresh Pond Cinema.*

Heist ★★½
In David Mamet's first wide-release movie as a director, a gang of thieves go after a shipment of gold on a cargo plane, and after each other—with varying results. Through the first half, the volleying of barbed Mamet dialogue and pre-robbery preparation is lively, as Gene Hackman and a crew that includes Delroy Lindo and Rebecca Pidgeon methodically work their intrigue. But the dialogue and the plot twists wear in the later action, and occasionally the characters' smarts have to conveniently disappear for some of the twists to work. So its big payoff rings really false. *Starts Nov. 9 at General Cinema Fenway 13 and Copley Cinema.*

K-Pax ★½
Remember when Kevin Spacey used to be one of the most clever, fun-to-watch actors? Well, hang on to those memories. Because between *American Beauty*, *Pay It Forward* and now this warm and fuzzy feel-good movie—it's like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* poisoned by *Forrest Gump*—he's become annoyingly smug and glib. Here, he plays a mental patient who claims to be from the alien planet that supplies the title. Jeff Bridges is a shrink trying to unlock the traumatized human he believe lurks beneath the alien "cover story." In the meantime, Spacey's character gets Bridges to appreciate his family more and gets his fellow patients to feel more at ease in their surroundings. *K-Pax* is supposedly based on Gene Brewer's 1995 novel, but then why does it have the same plot as the 1986 Spanish movie *Man Facing Southeast? General Cinema Fenway 13, Loews Boston Common, Loews Somerville.*

Novocaine ★★★
Film noir gets an amusing twist in this comedy in which Steve Martin plays a dentist whose cozy world spins off its axis when Helena Bonham Carter wiggles her way into his adjustable chair. She seduces him, steals his office's narcotics and even gets him wanted for murder, but he still craves the excitement she brings to his dull life. Call this noir comedy *Dead Men Don't Have Cavities*. As the obsessive-compulsive fiancee suddenly brushed aside, Laura Dern also adds to the comic mix, as does Kevin Bacon, in a cameo as a slick actor doing "research" with the detectives investigating the murder. *Loews Boston Common, Copley Cinema.*

Riding in Cars With Boys ★½
What were they thinking? Beverly Donofrio's autobiography is about overcoming the hardships of being a struggling single mom married to an irresponsible man, and then managing to get through college and become a published writer. But in Penny Marshall's adaptation, starring Drew Barrymore, you get a lot of the early hardships and some scenes set on the eve of the memoir's publication—but nothing in between! So we never feel Bev-

MELINDA SUE GORDON



Drew Barrymore and Cody Adams in *Riding in Cars With Boys*, which is based on Beverly Donofrio's life.

erly gaining control of her life or share in any triumph. Leave it to Hollywood to turn a real-life success story into a totally hollow feel-good movie. *General Cinemas Fenway 13. Loews Boston Common, Circle Cinemas.*

Serendipity ★★½

Recently, an English character on the shrewd TV series *Undeclared* stormed away from a TV showing a Hollywood romantic comedy, knowing the ending would be happy and accompanied by a Louis Armstrong song. Such comfortable predictability is the main problem with this romantic comedy. Still, this polished New York romance is sincere, features the always-worth-rooting-for John Cusack and has Jeremy Piven and Eugene Levy in supporting roles. Cusack and Kate Beckinsale play characters who meet when both are attached, and then part because she says they'll meet again if fate wants them to. Seven years later and now engaged to others, each desperately tries to find the other. Will they reconnect? Will Satchmo sing? Is Derek Zoolander dumb? *General Cinema Fenway 13, Loews Boston Common. Circle Cinema, Loews Somerville.*

Training Day ★★★

Denzel Washington's uncharacteristically brash performance sparks this corrupt-cop drama, and helps it leapfrog over an awkward plot in which an unseen violent act that happened before the movie's action is crucial to the resolution (as if it were added at the last moment). Better than the clumsy plotting are the scenes between Washington's rules-skirting narcotics detective and the idealistic new partner played by Ethan Hawke. The new guy is rightly stunned by his partner's thuggish tactics. Like Gene Hackman in *The French Connection* or Orson Welles in *Touch of Evil*, Denzel's performance, which gives the character smarts and generosity, injects the necessary moral complexity into our perception of the cop. *General Cinema Fenway 13, Loews Boston Common, Circle Cinema, Loews Somerville, Fresh Pond Cinema.*

Waking Life ★★

Writer-director Richard Linklater had his breakthrough a decade ago with *Slacker*, the daisy chain of seemingly unrelated characters that accumulated into a funny, disarmingly deep glimpse into how people carve out their own realities. His latest comes off like the duller, less amusing version of *Slacker*. Half of it is like that movie, with real-life characters obsessively spilling theories on life, while the other half features actors in presumably more scripted encounters who ruminate on similar themes of identity, individuality and reality. A good part of it is supposed to be happening within the dreams of the remarkably unremarkable protagonist (Wiley Wiggins of Linklater's *Dazed and Confused*), so it's told through an animated style mixing rotoscoping (drawing over filmed action) with fluid, more surreal backgrounds. There's plenty of food for thought and an interesting visual style, but next to the matter-of-fact depth of *Slacker*, there's less insight and more bombast. *Copley Cinema. Loews Harvard Square.*

Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

Grace Kelly: The Movie Star Princess

•Nov. 19, 6pm **Mogambo** *1953.* Part of The Movie Star Princess Film Series, John Ford's film stars Grace Kelly as the wife of an anthropologist who tags along on an African safari and falls for Clark Gable, the ruggedly charming safari leader.

Brattle Theatre

Special Engagements

•Nov. 7 and Nov. 8, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45pm **La Cienaga** *(The Swamp) 2001.* Argentinian writer/director Lucrecia Martel's debut feature is a black comedy about two upper-class families with nothing to do that go to ridiculous ends to amuse themselves.

•Nov. 9; 5 and 7:30pm; Nov. 10, 7:30 and 10pm; Nov. 11, 5, 7:30 and 10pm **Things Behind the Sun** *2001.* Allison Anders' film about a punk singer who is forced by a rock journalist with whom she shared her childhood to come to terms with the rape in her past.

•Nov. 16, 7pm; Nov. 17, 5:30 and 7:15pm; Nov. 18, 5:30 and 7:15pm **History Lessons** *2000.* Director Barbara Hammer's documentary on lesbianism through the 20th-century uses newsreels, sex ed films and footage from police busts at lesbian bars to get her point across. •Also showing, Nov. 16, 5:30 and 10pm **Nitrate Kisses** *1992.* In her first feature film, Hammer uses images of four couples making love, archival footage and text from various sources to reconstruct a history for the gay community.

•Nov. 17, 2:30 and 9pm **Aimee & Jaguar** *1999.* Director Max Farerbock bases his film on the surprising real-life relationship between two women in 1943 Germany—a dedicated Nazi housewife and a subversive Jewish lesbian.

•Nov. 18, 3 and 9pm **Orlando** *1992.* Sally Potter's film questions gender roles with her film about a man who wakes up as a woman.

Mondays—Screwball Comedy

•Nov. 12, 5, 7:30, 9:45pm **The Philadelphia Story** *1940.* George Cukor's classic story is about a Connecticut heiress whose impending wedding is complicated by her ex-husband and a charming reporter. Stars screen legends Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant and Jimmy Stewart.

•Nov. 19, 7:30pm **Palm Beach Story** *1942.* Director Preston Sturges tells the story of a wife who goes to Palm Beach to get a divorce, followed by her husband and a cast of odd characters. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30pm **The Lady Eve** *1941.* The film is another Preston Sturges classic that stars Barbara Stanwyck as a beautiful con artist who falls for her victim, played by Henry Fonda.

Tuesdays—A Stranger Pair: Wim Wenders & Jim Jarmusch

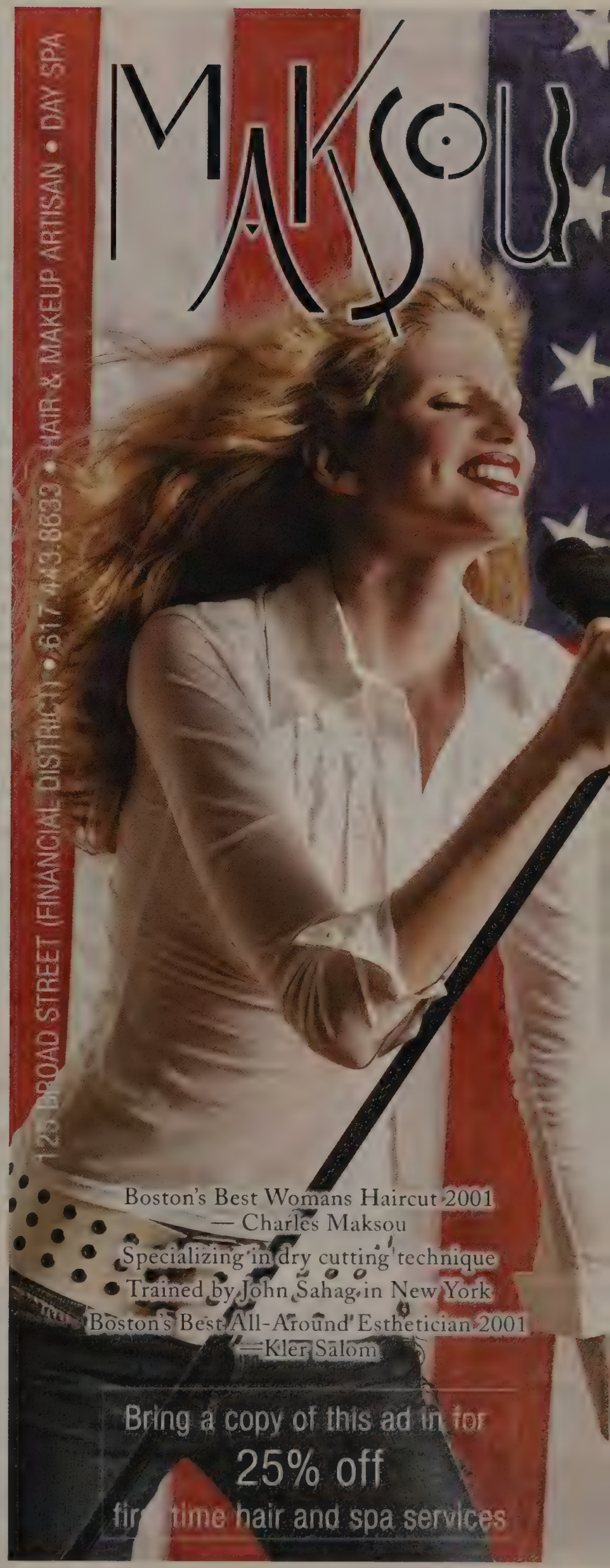
•Nov. 13, 7:30pm **Stranger Than Paradise** *1984.* Director Jim Jarmusch's film is about a New York man whose slacker lifestyle is changed forever by the arrival of his Hungarian cousin. •Also showing, 5 and 9:30pm **Down By Law** *1986.* Jarmusch's film is a road story about an unemployed DJ, a pimp, and an Italian tourist who escape from prison together.

•Nov. 20, 7:30pm **Buena Vista Social Club** *1999.* Director Wim Wenders bases his film on the music of Cuba. •Also showing, 5:15 and 9:45pm **Year of the Horse** *1997.* Director Jim Jarmusch's film follows Neil Young's 1996 tour.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•Nov. 14, 5:30, 7:30, and 9:30 **Vengo** *2001.* Director Tony Gatlif tells the story of two warring Spanish clans through music and dance.

•Nov. 21, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30 **Monty Python & the Holy Grail** *1975.* Terry Gilliam and Terry Jones' classic comedy starring the men of Monty Python is an unusual retelling of King Arthur's search for the holy grail.



ANDREW SCHWARTZ/SMPSP

Thursdays—Swordswomen: Michelle Yeoh & Brigitte Lin

•Nov. 15, 7:30pm **Zu: Warriors From the Magic Mountain** *1983.* Director Tsui Hark follows two warriors through their travels in what is considered the first film of the flying swordsman genre. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:45pm **Holy Weapon** *1993.* Director Wong Jing's Hong Kong film is about a group of girls who band together to fight an evil Japanese master by learning the "Virgin Sword Stance."

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Boston Jewish Film Festival

•Nov. 7, 6pm **Cruising: Shorts** *2000 and 2001.* Made by young Canadian and U.S. directors, this is a series of short films on the topic of relationships. •Also showing, 8:30pm **Lifetime Guarantee: Phranc's Adventures in Plastic** *2001.* Lisa Udelson's heroine Phranc departs from previous stints as an L.A. punk and a folksinger to test the waters as a Tupperware Lady.

•Nov. 8, 1pm **I'm Alive and I Love You** *1998.* Roger Kahane's moving account of a French railway worker who finds a message dropped from a death camp-bound boxcar and forges a connection between a separated mother and son. •Also showing, 3pm **Wadi, Grand Canyon** *2001.* Amos Gitaï's three-part series portrays life in Haifa's ethnically diverse Wadi Rushmia over a span of 40 years. •6pm **The Vow** *1937.* Director Henryk Szaro explores the contrast between tradition and modernity with his story of the love that grows between two betrothed children. •8pm **The Komediant** *1999.* In Arnon Goldfinger's film that won Best Documentary at the 1999 Haifa International Film Festival, the Burnstein family sings, dances and acts during two world wars.

•Nov. 10, 7pm **Kissing Jessica Stein** *2001.* In Charles Herman-Wurmfeld's whimsical story, a single girl departs from the conventional dating scene. •9:30pm **Clean Sweep** *2000.* Oded Davidoff's police thriller meets battle of the sexes is a comedy based on the Israeli best-seller *Tweedle'dee.*

•Nov. 11, 1pm **Trembling Before G-d** *2000.* Sandi Simcha DuBowski's film takes a realistic look at the complexities facing gay and lesbian hasidic and orthodox Jews. •Also showing, 4pm **Promises** *2001.* The combination of directors B.Z. Goldberg, Justine Shapiro and Carlos Bolado results in an provocative look at the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. •Also showing, 7pm **The Sky is Falling (Il Cielo Cade)** *2000.* This film by Andrea and Antonio Frazzi portrays a German-Jewish couple who take in a pair of orphaned nieces in 1944 Tuscany.

Director's Cut

•Nov. 14, 7:30pm **Experimenting Men** features a mix of experimental and avant-garde films by local male artists.

Fenway Cinema Midnight Shows

•Nov. 9 and 10, 12am **Office Space** *1999.* Mike Judge's comedic tale follows disgruntled company workers who hate their jobs and decide to rebel against their boss.

•Nov. 16 and 17, 12am **South Park: Bigger, Better and Uncut** *1999.* Directed by Trey Parker, this movie version of the hit animated TV show follows the four boys who pressure the United States to wage war against Canada.

Harvard Film Archive

Adventures in Surrealism

•Nov. 5, 7pm and Nov. 6, 9pm **Meshes of the Afternoon** *1943.* One of director Maya Deren's Freudian psychodramas, this film is about a woman who dreams about suicide and frightening inanimate objects. •Also showing, **Witch's Cradle** *1944.* Maya Deren's unfinished film, which is shot in Peggy Guggenheim's Art of This Century Gallery, explores the magic of art. •Also showing, **At Land** *1944.* Maya Deren's experimental work stars herself as a woman unable to relate to anyone around her. •Also showing, **The Private Life of a Cat** *1944.* Directed by Alexander Hammid, Maya Deren's second husband, this film features a love story between two cats. •Also showing, **Ritual in Transfigured Time** *1945-46.* Maya Deren's work examines the human psyche and female sexuality via figures from Greek mythology.

•Nov. 12, 7pm and Nov. 13, 9:45pm **Rose Hobart** *1937.* In his tribute to the 1930s B-movie star, Joseph Cornell used excerpts from a scientific documentary to alter one of Hobart's films. •Also showing, **Dreams That Money Can Buy** *1947.* Hans Richter's film was the first American feature-length Surrealist film, and it focuses on a poor poet who sells dreams.

•Nov. 19, 7pm and Nov. 20, 9pm **The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie** *1972.* Luis Buñuel's satire about a group of the European upper crust that are so consumed by their manners that they forget to eat.

The Moving Image

•Nov. 7, 7pm **Voyage in Italy** *(Viaggio in Italia) 1953.* Roberto Rossellini's diary-like film of a British couple struggling to keep their marriage alive.

Preview

Full of Grace

The many images of Grace Kelly



Elegant, cool and sophisticated, actress Grace Kelly's style is captured in her films.

This month our city is packed with exhibitions of such elegance that even the most inspired fashionista might look in the mirror twice before venturing forth. The Museum of Fine Arts is displaying the fashion photography exhibition, *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style: Photographs by Horst and Hoyningen-Huene*. Shreve, Crump & Low at the Chestnut Hill Mall has Grace Kelly's gorgeous collection of wardrobe gems, royal gowns and movie costumes. Every Monday, Kelly's elegant style comes alive in a series of her films at the Boston Public Library. Here's the line-up for the next few weeks:

•Nov. 19 *Mogambo* (1953). Part of The Movie Star Princess Film Series, John Ford's film stars Grace Kelly as the wife of an anthropologist who tags along on an African safari and falls for Clark Gable, the ruggedly charming safari leader.

•Nov. 26 *The Country Girl* (1954). With the tag line "How far should a woman go ... to redeem the man she loves?" the movie earned Kelly an Oscar for her part as a wife of alcoholic singer (Bing Crosby) trying for a comeback. Writer-director George Seaton also won Academy Award for adaptation of Clifford Odets' play.

•Dec. 3 *To Catch a Thief* (1955). Hitchcock's romance/thriller, Kelly teams up with Cary Grant, who plays a reformed cat burglar suspected in a new wave of jewel robberies on the French Riviera.

•Dec. 10 *The Swan* (1956). Directed by Charles Vidor, this Mild Molnar comedy of manners has an attractive cast but not much sparkle. Louis Jourdan is good as Kelly's suitor, but she's promised to the prince played by Alec Guinness.

•Dec. 17 *High Society* (1956). Kelly stars with Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra in this remake of *The Philadelphia Story*. Kelly is about to marry when ex-hubby Crosby arrives with reporter Sinatra in tow.

Rabb Lecture Hall, 666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400, ext. 4319). Free. —Erin Hagedorn

Iranian Cinema

•Nov. 7, 9pm and Nov. 9, 9pm **Paper Airplanes** *(Mooshak-e Kaghazi) 1997.* Farhad Mehranfar's film is about a traveling projectionist who takes his son along as he shows movies to people in isolated villages in Iran.

•Nov. 9, 7pm and Nov. 14, 9:45pm **One More Day** *(Yek Rooz Bishtar) 2000.* Babak Payami's directorial debut focuses on the implicit relationship that develops between two people who see each other at a bus stop every morning.

•Nov. 10, 7pm and Nov. 12, 9pm **Divorce Iranian Style** *1998.* Kim Longinotto and Ziba Mir-Hosseini's film takes place in a Tehran courtroom, where three women attempt to win freedom from their husbands.

•Nov. 10, 9pm **Friendly Persuasion: Iranian Cinema After the Revolution** *2000.* Jamsheed Akrami's documentary explores through commentary, scene analysis and interviews the changes in Iranian cinema as a result of the 1979 revolution.

•Nov. 11, 7pm **My Name Is Rocky** *2001.* Bahman Moshar examines the growing number of runaway girls in Tehran in this shocking documentary. •Also showing, **Gol Chador** *2001.* An unmarried pregnant woman is in search of someone to care for her baby in Amir Ali Abdollah Zadeh's documentary.

An Evenibg of Ken Kobland Films

•Nov. 8, 7pm **Vestibule in Three Episodes** *1978.* One of Kobland's earlier films, it is set in a tenement vestibule and is filled with marks of urban life. •Also showing, **Arise! Walk Dog Eat Donut** *1999.* This explores a similar theme as it focuses on the urban daily routine via subway and commuter-train passengers. •Also showing, **The Shanghaied Text** *1996.* This work juxtaposes such disparate material as erotica and French news footage to make a statement about colonialization.

Film Architectures

•Nov. 13, 7pm and Nov. 14, 7pm **Playtime** *1967.* Directed by Jacques Tati, this film is a French satire on the weirdness of modern architecture.

•Nov. 20, 7pm **Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House** *1948.* Cary Grant stars in this film as an advertising executive who has had it with big-city life.

The Cinema of Souleymane Cissé

•Nov. 16, 7pm and Nov. 17, 9:30pm **Baara** *1976-77.* Cissé's Marxist ideas surface in this film, which follows the journey of a naïve young man who leaves his country home to work in an urban textile factory.

•Nov. 16, 9:15pm and Nov. 19, 9pm **Finye** *(The Wind) 1981.* The film explores the tensions between modernity and tradition as it tracks an affair between the grandson of a tribal chief and an army commander's daughter.

•Nov. 17, 7pm **Yeelen** *(Brightness) 1987.* Set in Cissé's Mali homeland, this coming-of-age story focuses on the spiritual differences between a father and a son.

•Nov. 18, 7pm **Waati** *(Sunday) 1995.* This film begins with an allegorical statement about apartheid and continues with a young girl who revolts against the oppressive rule of the white regime.

Museum of Fine Arts

13th Annual Boston Jewish Film Festival

•Nov. 8, 5:30pm **Local Ties** (shorts) Alla Kovgan's and Alissa Cardone's **Surface** *2000,* inspired by Anne Frank's *Diary of a Young Girl,* tracks the spirit's journey through isolation and connection, oppression and release. **'Til Death Do Us Part** *1998.* Directed by Cindy Kleine, this is the result of separately interviewing her parents about their marriage. In Barbara Hammer's **My Babushka: Searching Ukrainian Identities** *2001,* the director searches for her roots in the Ukraine and consequently explores issues of human rights, anti-Semitism and cultural differences. •Also showing, 8pm, **Esther Kahn** *2001.* Arnaud Desplechin's film explores the relationship between life and art through the experience of a young Jewish girl in London during the late 1800s.

French Films

•Nov. 9, 6pm; Nov. 10, 4pm; Nov. 11, 11:45pm; Nov. 12 and 17, 12:45pm; Nov. 16, 6pm. **A Matter of Taste** *2000.* Bernard Rapp's film, based on the novel by Philippe Balland, follows the relationship between a young waiter and a food-obsessed businessman.

Festival Films of Iran

•Nov. 9, 7:45pm **Through the Sunglasses** *2000.* Mohammad Hossein Latifi's screwball comedy about two women who dream of living the single life.

•Nov. 10, 1:15pm **The Blue-Veiled** *1995.* Director Rakhshan Bani-Etemad's love story of a wealthy plantation owner and one of his field hands.

•Nov. 11, 2pm **The Hidden Half** *2001.* Tahmineh Milani's film is a feminist take on the Iranian attitude toward women. •Also showing, 4pm **Under the Moonlight** *2001.* Seyyed Reza Mir-Karimi's honest look at an Iranian clergyman's quest for spiritual satisfaction.

The Films of Frederick Wiseman

•Nov. 10, 10:30am **Aspen** *1991.* This is part of a series of Wiseman's military-themed documentaries.

•Nov. 17, 10:30am **Manoeuvre** *1979.* This film tracks one of NATO's annual military tests in Western Europe.

Special Engagements

•Nov. 15, 7:30pm; Nov. 16, 7:45pm; Nov. 17, 3:45pm **Chop Suey** *2000.* Bruce Weber's autobiographical film is a crazy blend of flavors, sprinkled with teen-age wrestling stars, cabaret singers and still-life photography.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film •Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (617-536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Cheri
50 Dalton St. (617-536-2870). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

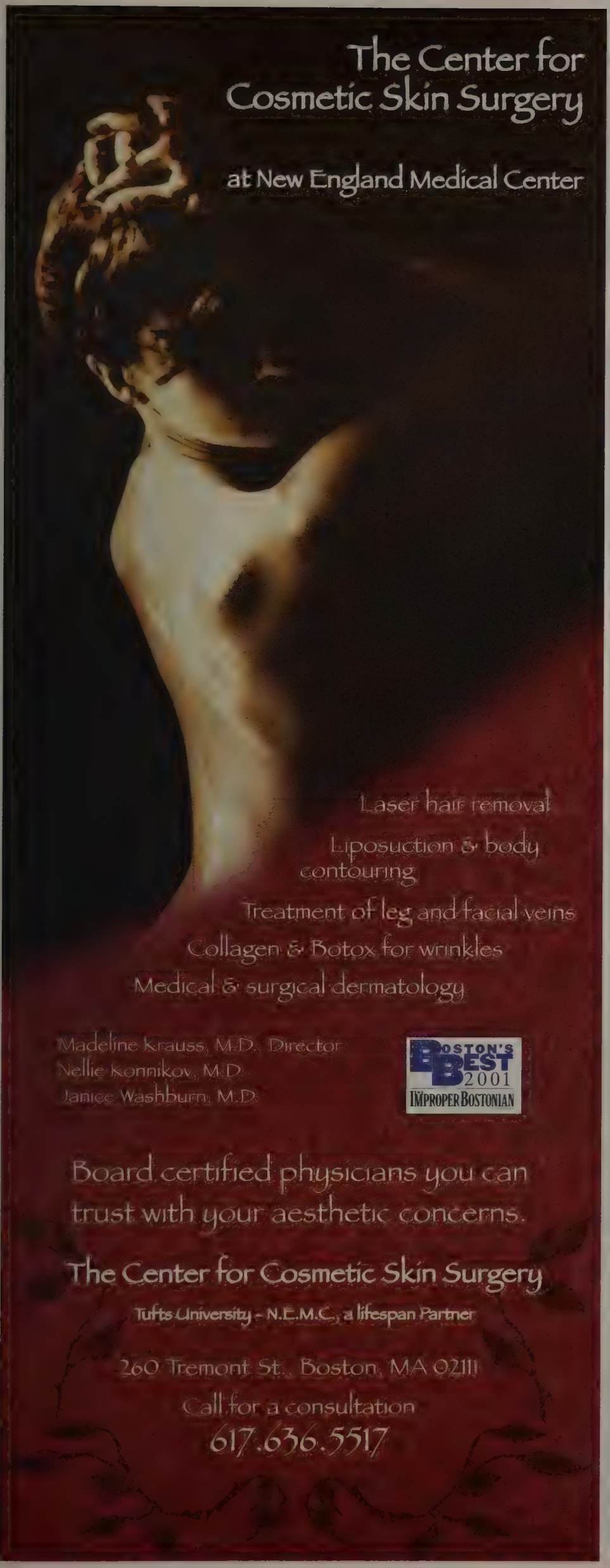
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).



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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

Buddha Lounge
Caprice Attain transcendence in the exotic world of Buddha Bar sounds, proper dress, no cover, 21+.

Ceremony
An Tua Nua Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar DJ Kaptn Krunch spins hot reggae, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40 tunes, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with Martin Finke, 9pm, 21+.

The Movement on Mondays
Vertigo Deep house, house and progressive mix, 10pm, 21+.

What a Way to Go-Go
Common Ground Shake it at Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
DJ Armen and guests provide the tunes, powered by Future Recordings, 10pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Emily's
Stop in for the "After Work Rush Hour" 5-8pm, followed by the live acoustic series, $5, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress coats are required, 11pm, $15, 21+.

One Nation
Aria DJ Chubby Chub spins hip-hop and R&B, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid, jazz and soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with live bands from 6-10pm, followed by dance tunes spun by DJs, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

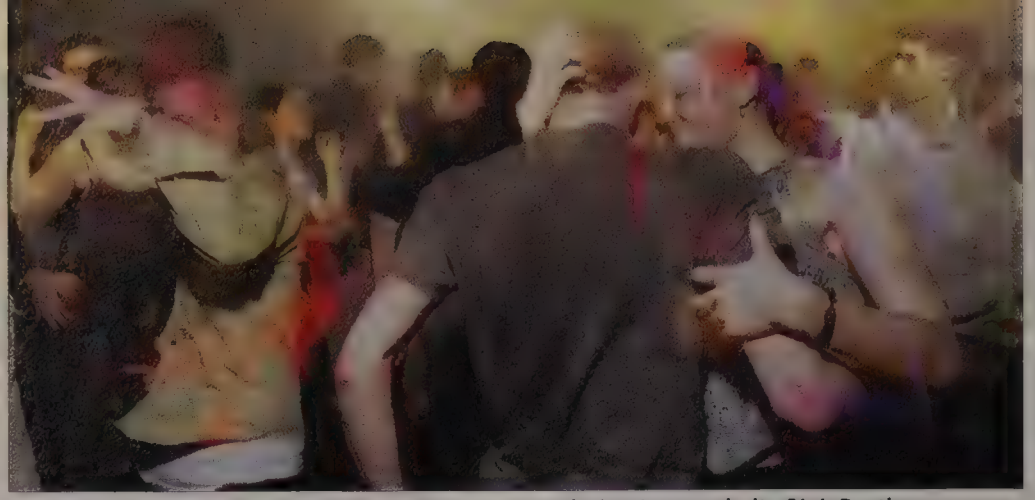
WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, 10pm, dress sassy.



Europa offers some of the best house and trance music for dancers in its Club Destiny.

Emily's
Check out "After Work Rush Hour" from 5-8pm, then "Late Night Lounge" with guest DJs, no cover, 21+.

Escape
Vertigo Progressive, deep NY house, trance and vocals provide an escape, 10pm, 21+.

Essence
SW1 DJs Bruno, Ilabash and Mastermillions spin hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress, 10pm, 19+.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $8, 18+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 DJ JC in the Latin Lounge, and DJs Alex and Felix in the back room, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night hosted by Star 93.7, with live bands play 6-10pm, followed by DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.

Rollercoaster
Aer DJs and live music make for a wild night, 10pm.

Samsara
Hong Kong Psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Wet and Wild Wednesdays
The Kells DJ Drag and DJ Steve spin hip-hop, house and dance with ticket giveaways, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, $8, 18+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Club Devo
Milky Way Catch Jedi Mind Trick, DJ Benny Blanco, La Machine, DJ Goodtimes and others. 8:30pm, $8, 21+.

Club Zen
97.7's DJ Chubby Chub spins R&B, hip-hop, techno, house and old school, 9pm, $10, 21+.

CPR
Matrix & Jukebox Resident DJs Elyte and hot special guest DJs spin the latest tunes, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ KC spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Diversified
Vertigo DJs spin deep soulful house in the lounge and UK hard house and deep trance in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Guest DJs spin house, hip-hop and the best dance music, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house. 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
Catch the "After Work Rush Hour" from 5-8pm, then chill in the "Late Night Lounge," no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Everything '80s
Common Ground DJ Brian's "Love Night" mix features the best of the '80s, 10pm, 21+.

Fashion House
Aria Catch weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins international house and latin pop and DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean rhythms, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Ladies Night
DancePlex Dance to three floors of retro 80s hits, freestyle jams and top 40 tunes with DJ Reggie B, 9pm, $5 (no cover for ladies), 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Privilege
La Boom DJ Felix spins tunes for this hot international night, dress smart, 11pm, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm-2am, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae soca and hip-hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
Resident DJs Massi mans the turntables and spins house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $10, 19+; $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Live bands perform, 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Tundra
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm.

Venu
DJ Nailz spinns high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

FRIDAYS

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance tunes and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Cat Club
The Roxy Glam international house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

DancePlex
MC Ren and DJs Darren and Mark start spinning the best of the '80s and '90s at 8pm, no cover until 9pm, $10, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Emily's
"After Work Rush Hour" at 5-8pm is followed by DJ Renel spinning the latest top-40 and hip-hop at 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop, 10pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, and guest DJs spin vocal house, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Pulse
La Boom Dance to the music of international guest DJs at this upscale night spot, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basemen, 5pm; DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Club-hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins, 10pm, $10, 19+.

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Sugar Shack
High-energy house, trance and hip-hop spun by DJ Massi rev up this club, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
Dance to house, hip-hop, R&B and top-40 tunes with special guest DJs, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
The Dream Lounge features international, latin and house tunes. Catch high energy house and vocal in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos spins hip-hop and DJ Roger spins vocal house, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy. DJ Eddy K spins classic Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Clutch
SW1 DJ Tari and George Nessis spin house, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Emily's
DJ Littles spins top-40 remix and house, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

la boom xo
La Boom Resident DJ Edward Grant Stuart and resident drummer Paul Drake provide the soundtrack for this upscale night, 9:30pm, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs spin funk and top-40 on three floors, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJs Nico and Javier spin the best of European disco house, proper dress, 11pm, 19+.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco tracks and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop, 10pm, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
DancePlex DJs Mark, Darren and Reggie B fill three floors with the best retro mixes, 8pm, no cover before 9pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Shamrock Saturday
The Purple Shamrock DJ Joshua Carl spins new and old-school hip-hop with a touch of house, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Start
Bill's Bar Post-punk and new electronic music by DJs M-16 and Damian are the backdrop to this alternative night, hosted by *Makeoutclub.com*, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins high-energy progressive house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Vertigo
Hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B tunes turn up the heat on two floors, 10pm, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

Boom Boom Room
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney mixes '60s and hip-hop.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Caribbean Sundays
Vertigo Imagine yourself in the Caribbean, dancing to these world beats, 10pm, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Brazil to the dance floor at Venu, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins international house, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Roger M. spins international house and Latin pop, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins great reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.

100% Flava
The Purple Shamrock Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop with guest DJs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:15pm, no cover, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with Dub Station, JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+. •Nov. 11, Dion Knibb. •Nov. 18, Skiffington.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats; DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Touch
Aer Guest DJs provide deep, soulful house, 10pm.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.3 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309).*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue Bar *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Blue Cat Café *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746).*
Club Zen *131 Clarendon St., Boston (508-472-1170).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
DancePlex *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966)*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hibernia *25 Kingston St., Boston (617-292-2333).*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-5311).*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800).*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308).*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2510).*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000, ext. 333).*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*

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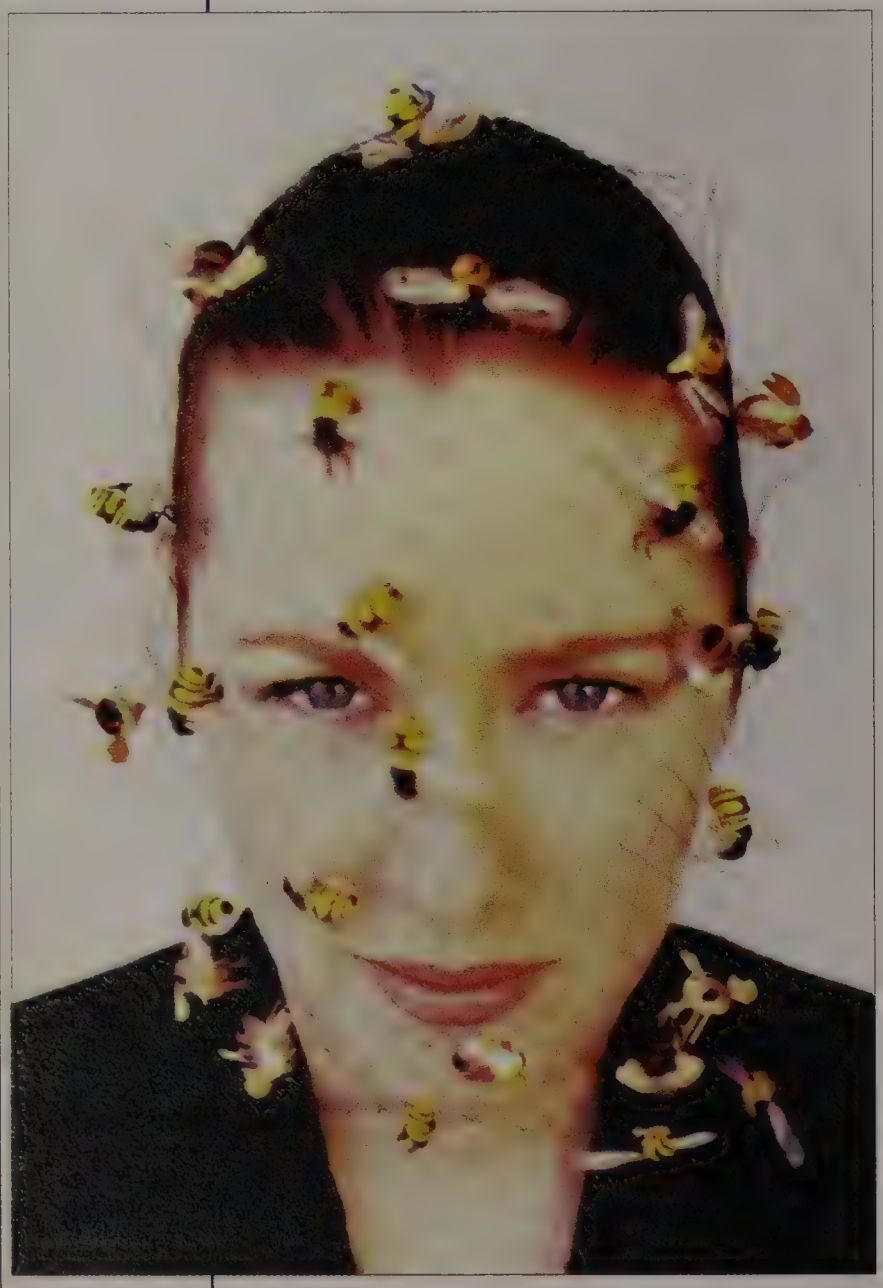
:resident drummer: paul drake

FROM GRAY TO RED

Suzanne Vega enjoys a new lease on life and career with a more direct, poignant return to form. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

When Suzanne Vega broke her arm in a bicycle tumble Labor Day weekend, forcing her to begin a tour with support from another guitarist, it was nothing compared to the emotional logistics behind her new CD, *Songs in Red and Gray*.

"Everything was changing, and had changed," says the New York singer-songwriter best known for her '80s hits "Tom's Diner" and "Luka." "I had fired my manager and fired my assistant, sold my apartment on Canal Street, and split up with my husband, who was also my producer, and everything was up in the air for a while. I wasn't sure I had a record deal."



Suzanne Vega's new album, *Songs in Red and Gray*, blends her folk foundation with "real production."

The bulk of her band—hired by her husband, Mitchell Froom—had even left her, prompting Vega to muse, "It's a time of figuring out what are my strengths, what can I really count on to get a song across?" And that came in the Songwriter's Exchange, a Greenwich Village song-swap where she began her career, and incubated the material on *Songs in Red and Gray*.

"Between albums, I think I'd written two songs in about four years, which was very slow going—at that rate, I wasn't going to make a record for another 15 years," she says with a slight laugh during a phone interview from a tour stop in Chicago, on her way to a Nov. 14 date at the Berklee Performance Center. "I find it very hard to write when things are in turmoil. I really am a person who likes to have a ritual, and have things orderly to write. So having a group on Monday nights that I knew I could write for—and not have to prove anything to—was great. It was very encouraging."

The ultimate result is one of Vega's finest albums, giving her ghostly voice newfound focus, while pointing her songs in a new direction. She agrees that a few of the songs, such as "Widow's Walk" (with the line "It's not the man, but it's the marriage that was drowned") and "Soap and Water" (in which she tells her 6-year-old daughter, "You are my little kite, caught up again in the household storms") are about her marital separation. But there's a sense of loss and reflection that inhabits much of the material.

"Most of the songs on this album are a little more direct than my usual way of writing," says Vega, 42. "For someone to just stand on a stage and blurt out their feelings is not usually interesting. So I tried to write about the things that I was experiencing, but not in the usual way."

Far from depressing though, the CD has a sense of balance in more upbeat arrangements, in songs like "Machine Ballerina" and "Solitaire"—partly due to tasteful drum programming from Nick Pugh (Massive Attack, Tricky) and the keyboard touches of producer Rubert Hine (Duncan Sheik, the Fixx).

"I wanted to have real production. I didn't want it to be a simple, folky record," Vega says. "So I said to [Hine], 'If you hear any grooves that you think we can put in that are natural to the song, don't feel shy about doing that."

The dominant elements nonetheless are Vega's voice and acoustic guitar, a nod to her original folk inspirations.

"The idea that had always appealed to me was me, my guitar, my notebook, getting on a Greyhound bus, and traveling here and there, the female version of Woody Guthrie," she says of one key influence, whom Vega heard with Joan Baez and others on a live record that she bought in a thrift shop at the age of 14.

That's when she started writing songs and honing her guitar skills. "I wasn't a mingler," she says. "I didn't have a big group of friends or anyone I could start a band with, then I had a brief moment where there were these sort of old hippie guys who lived in my apartment building who had a band, and that lasted about a month until my mother objected."

A decade later, through perseverance, she had a record deal. "A lot of people just thought, 'She's just too shy to really make it anywhere,'" Vega says. "I didn't have a big voice, I didn't have any stage patter at one point. I wouldn't talk to the audience, and didn't like them looking at me."

But that's just another change for Vega these days. "I tend to sing what the audience wants to hear," she says. "If they want to hear 'Tom's Diner,' or want to hear 'Gypsy' or 'The Queen and the Soldier,' I'll sing it, because I really like the feeling of connecting with the audience." iB

Suzanne Vega

Plays the Berklee Performance Center Nov. 14.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

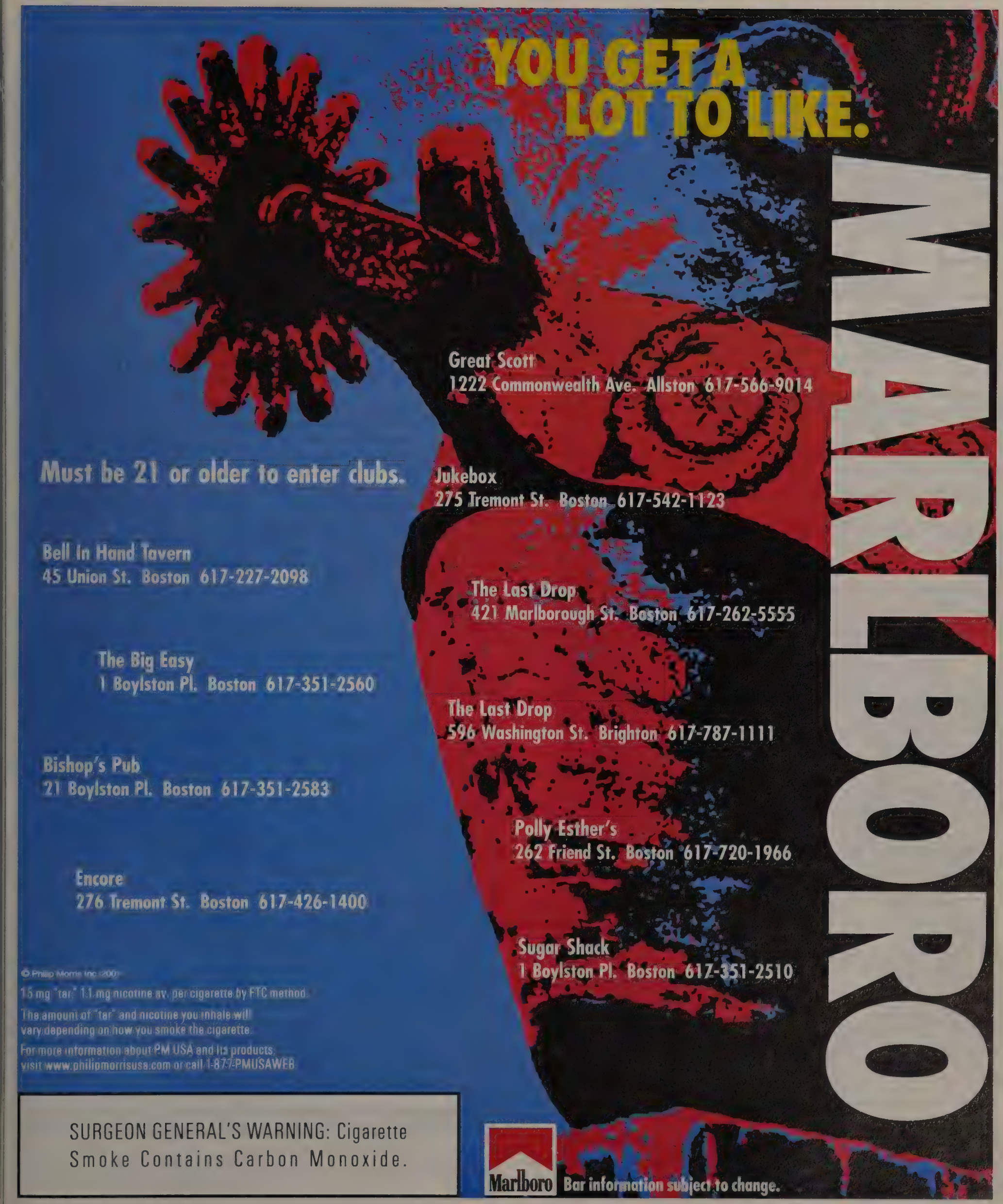
Top Billings

Aardvark Jazz Orchestra
Nov. 18, Remis Auditorium, Museum of Fine Arts (617-369-3770)
AFI and American Nightmare
Nov. 17, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
Alien Ant Farm, Apex Theory and Pressure 4-5
Nov. 8, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
India Arie, Mystic and DJ Jazzy Joyce
Nov. 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Better Than Ezra and Brand New Immortals
Nov. 8, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Cake
Nov. 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Harry Connick Jr.
Nov. 8, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000)
Morris Day & The Time
Nov. 17, Park Plaza Hotel (617-426-2000)
Disptach
Nov. 16 and 17, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Arlo Guthrie
Nov. 11, Sanders Theatre (617-496-2222)
Hot Water Music, Hot Rod Circuit and Rival Schools
Nov. 8, Mass. College of the Arts (617-879-7000)
The Isley Brothers
Nov. 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Stephen Malkmus & The Jicks
Nov. 17, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Oysterhead
Nov. 10, Tsongas Arena (617-931-2000, sold out)
Iggy Pop
Nov. 9, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Psychedelic Furs and Echo & The Bunnymen
Nov. 20, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Queensryche
Nov. 20, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Rockapella
Nov. 16, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700)
Rolling Rock Town Fair Tour with Tantric, Oleander and Beautiful Creatures
Nov. 10, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Saves the Day, Hey Mercedes and Thursday
Nov. 16, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Slayer and Hatebreed
Nov. 14, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Social Distortion
Nov. 9, Axis, Nov. 10 and 11, Paradise Rock Club, (617-423-NEXT)
Soulive and Mike Errico
Nov. 8 and 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
The Suicide Machines, Bigwig, Ensign and PT's Revenge
Nov. 11, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
Suzanne Vega
Nov. 14, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000)
Widespread Panic
Nov. 8, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Bell in Hand Tavern Devin.
Bill's Bar Brizz, Little T and One Track Mike, 9pm, $5, 18+.
The Burren Patty Keenan.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Austin/Boston Conspiracy, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 21+.


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Green Street Grill Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 10:30pm.
Harper's Ferry Blue Floyd, $23, 18+.
Hennessy's Jeff Frazier, 5pm; The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues The Derailers, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Mondo Sweeite, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Adam Franklin, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Limbo Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Paula Kelly Band, Fooled By April, Paul Natale and Longitude, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Manray Bella Morte and The Cruxshadows.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
Middle East U: Dan Bern, 9pm, $15, 18+. D: Pitty Sing, Alchemilla and Rueben, 8pm, $8, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Undercover, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Robbie Lee Quartet, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Los Changos, 8:30pm, $7.
Scullers John Patitucci Quartet, 8pm; 10pm, $18.
Sky Bar The Curtains, Juri and Enuma Elish, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times JuJu Cocktails Blues Groove and Southern Hospitality.
Tír na nÓg Hugh McGowan, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Curtain Society, Mellonova and Rockets Burst from the Streetlamps, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Issi Rozen Trio, 8pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, NOV. 8

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
The Attic Dress Betty and Inner Green , 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Central Basement, 9:30pm.
Bill's Bar Projek DH, Loose Monkey and One Big Mess, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Chopping Block James Merenda's Masked Marvels, 9:30pm, no cover.
Club Passim Mark Erelli and Jonathan Pointer, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Patio Kings, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown The Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Seven Down, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
Green Street Grill Diversity, 11pm.
Hard Rock Cafe Seven Nations.
The Harp Chad Lamarsh, 21+.
Harper's Ferry James Mathus and Knockdown Society and Tokyo Tramps, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Coalboilers, 10pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Mahavishnu Project, 9pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Me and Julio, 8pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Superkart and City Girl Tour, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Nag Champa, Tyrds and Brothers of Intention, 9pm, $5.
Limbo Pat Loomis, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: 5th Annual Redneck Fest, 9pm. D: Preston School of Industry, The Shins and The Standard, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Milky Way Anime Sweetheart, 9pm, $3, 21+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Eddie, 21+.
Regattabar The Pat Martino Trio CD-release show, 8pm, $16.
Ryles Jazz Club Ryles Jazz Orchestra, 8:30pm, $12, all ages.
Scullers Jane Burnett & the Spirits of Havana, 8pm; 10pm, $16.
Sky Bar Royal Family, Nikulydin, Neysa Malone, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Slot Machine, Tidal Wave, Common Thrill and Scuba, 9pm, $6, 18+.



Post-rock-star Bobby Conn and Monica BouBou bring the glitter to T.T.'s Nov. 9.

Preview

Conn Action

Bobby Conn Explores America's Golden Age

"I think one of the best things about being a rock musician is the opportunity to be a different person onstage," opines Bobby Conn. "But there's something a bit contrived about someone effecting this average-guy image, as though he "just happens" to be onstage, "just happens" to be playing his songs for a crowd of a few hundred, or a few thousand people." Mr. Conn speaks with an authority earned by experience. From his early years in his band Condeucent to his more lengthy solo career, Bobby Conn has been making peoples' jaws drop with his dramatic (and very weird) persona onstage as well as off. He's no stranger to breaking the fourth wall and becoming part of the crowd, especially when provoked. The last time he played in town, he dealt with a heckler by walking into the audience and singing a verse directly to the offending gentleman. Bobby then turned aside and simply stood next to him during the instrumental bridge, making the man more and more uncomfortable until he finally just walked out.

Musically, Bobby Conn is about Rock, whether its disco-infused, funked-up or soulfully balladeered. On his new album, "The Golden Age," Conn explores some new thematic territory. Although his last two albums focused on apocalyptic religious imagery (with Conn at the eye of the storm), "The Golden Age" is an homage to the American suburbs. Of course, lambasting mainstream mall-of-Americana is easier than shooting fish in a barrel. So, in addition, what Conn has done with this record is to present that world, warts and all, for the listener's consideration and enjoyment.

The cover depicts a pair of "shiny happy people" frolicking by the seaside, which serves to highlight the dichotomy between the sinister edge of Conn's lyrics and the upbeat dance-rock of his music. In "The Golden Age," Bobby Conn has attempted to re-create the golden age of his youth: America cloaked in its finest combination of indulgence, decadence and a certain willfully naive innocence—and these are exactly the characteristics of his live performance that so electrify his audiences. "I am trying to present a fantasy world," says Bobby. "One made of cardboard and tape and foil. Like the glitter without the substance." *Nov. 9. 10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $8. —Timothy Nichols*

Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, NOV. 9

Atlantic 101 Henry Schniewind, 7:30pm.
The Attic Katie Barbato CD-release show, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Velvet Jones, 9:30pm.
Bill's Bar Rock Bottom and Treatment Bound, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Nerissa & Katryna Nields, 7pm; 10pm, $15, all ages.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10pm, 21+.
Copperfield's Lincoln Conspiracy, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm; The Big '80s, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
El Bembé La Seleccion Perfecta, 9pm; $10, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Pablo Albanedo Octet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Six Shoot Brody, 21+.
Green Street Grill Columbo and Havana, 11pm.
The Harp Speed, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Mudhens and Stargazer Lily, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5pm, 21+.
House of Blues Duke Robillard, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's Jimmy Thackery, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's 2nd Story, 21+.
Kendall Cafe The Scharff Brothers, Mercy James and Den of Thieves, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Morsil, Classic Ruins, Local Jack and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30pm, $5.
Limbo Perry Rossi, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: 5th Annual Redneck Fest: 9pm. D: Fink Fank Funk, Sugarcoat and Mamasita, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Kudu, Caseroc and Illumida, 9pm, $10, 18+..
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
The Place John McLaughlin, 6pm, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Empty Head, 12pm; Chris Tarantino.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Pat Martino Trio CD-release show, 8pm; 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm and Muse Gar Ragland, 9pm.
Rhythm & Spice Jammdown, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Mose Allison, 8pm; 10:30pm, $18.
Sky Bar Let Luke Sing, Bradykynin and Sonya Nyl, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Lila Downs.
The Times Riverside Train.
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bill Lowe, Salim Washington and Brian McCree Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Bobby Conn, Delta Clutch and Captain Village, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front David Gilmore Group and Sonny Watson Quartet, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Skip Smith Trio, 9pm, no cover.

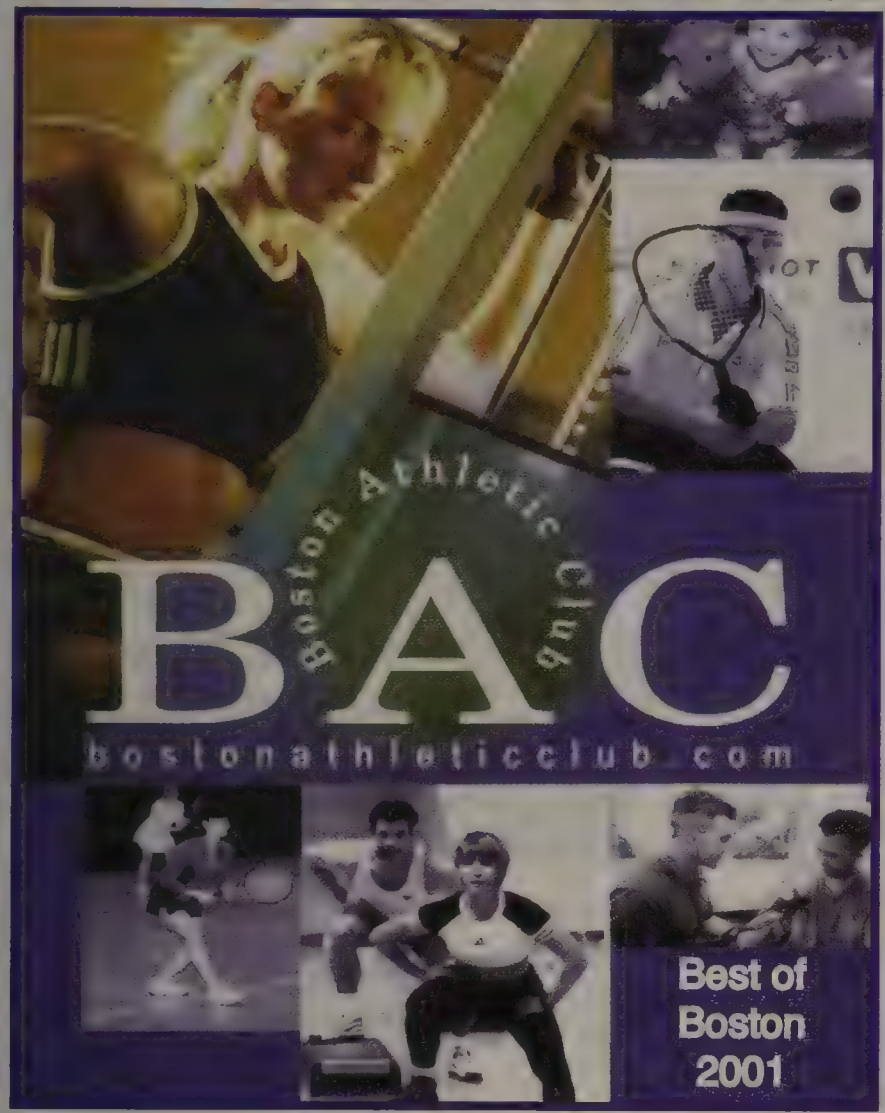
SATURDAY, NOV. 10

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
The Attic Plank 63, Crash Alchemist and There, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Axis Damian 'Junior Gong' Marley, 7pm, $17, 18+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Lulu's in Crisis, 9:30pm.
Bob the Chef's The Jackson-Brown Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Cliff Eberhardt and Liz Queler, 8pm, $14, all ages.
Common Ground Stymie, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm; Classic Trax, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and The Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Pig Pen, 21+.
The Harp Speed, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Moon Boot Lover, Shadraq and Keitel, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Sessuin, 4pm, 21+.
House of Blues Alison Lessance Duo, 1pm, no cover, all ages; The Skatalites, 10pm, $16, 21+.
Johnny D's Wildest Dreams, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Central Basement, 21+.
Kendall Café Chris Elliott, Reckless Duaghter and The MacVitties, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Brother Mosley, 9pm, $5.
Limbo Jim Bridges, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Say Zuzu and Jabe, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East U: Circulatory System and Heather McIntosh, 4pm, $7, 18+; Vinyl and The Freelance Bishops, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: Buck Dewey Big Band CD-release, Seks Bomba and Bradshaw, 9pm, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Paulo Denay Trio, 11am-2pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Porters Bar and Grill Savage Benjamin.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Pat Martino Trio CD-release show, 8pm; 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Dis 'n' Dat, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club John Stein Group, 9pm, $10.
Scullers Mose Allison, 8pm; 10:30pm, $18.
Sky Bar Hyptonic, The Equation and Greenhouse 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times Ditry Valentine.
Tír na nÓg The Johnny Come Latelies, 21+.
Top of the Hub Ron Murphy and Brian McCree Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Ad Frank & The Fast Easy Women, The Decals CD-release show, Frigate and Sugarbomb, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Balaton, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 7pm; David Euro, 10pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, NOV. 11

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm.
The Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Mutley, 9:30pm.
Berklee Performance Center Cesaria Evora.
Bill's Bar Dion Knibb, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with Phill Argyris Quartet, 11am-3pm, no cover.
The Burren Damian Wolfe and Dan Barrett, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Family Folk Chorale, 3pm, $5; The Mammals, 7:30pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort The Bibletones Gospel brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 21+.
Harper's Ferry The Motet, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Ceoil Nua, 5pm, 21+.
House of Blues Gospel Brunch with Reverend Lee Mitchell and Friends, no cover; The Skatalites, 9pm, $16, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Cafe Soltero and Echo, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East U: Oxbow, The Takers and Twocubedsixsquared, 9pm, $7, 18+. D: Rahzel, The Arsonists, DJ Swamp, Swollen Members and DJ Js-1, 8pm, $25, 18+.

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Hot Water Music play with Hot Rod Circuit and Rival Schools Nov. 8 at Mass. College of the Arts.

Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Harry Fix Trio, 11am-2pm, no cover.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Rhythm and Muse Lisa Housman, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg The Johnny Come Latelies, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joe Mulholland Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Benefit for the Firefighter's Fund: Mappari, Aberdeen, Step Light, Driven and Tourist, $7, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, NOV. 12

Bill's Bar Malevolence, Dog Fight and Skin Device, 9pm, $5, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Open Mike, 8pm; Chris Elliot and Hide Kawatsure, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike, 8:30pm, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry Bowman, $6, 18+.
House of Blues The Radiators, 10pm, $25, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Cameron Dezen and Holly Miranda, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ferdinando Argenti, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm, $9, 21+.
Middle East U: Sweep the Leg Johnny, The Ivory Coast and Dead Meadow, 8:30pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Christian McNeill, Mieka Pauley, Calendar Girl and Ari, 8pm, $5, 21+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Tír na nÓg The Coots, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joe Mulholland Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sean Drinkwater, The Crush, Commodore Vic Twenty and Brian Dolzani, $3, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Mappari, 9pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, NOV. 13

Bell in Hand Tavern Greg, 8pm.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; O'Carolan's Apothesis, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike, 7:30pm, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet, $8, 18+.
House of Blues The Radiators, 10pm, $25, 18+.
Johnny D's Daryl Purpose, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Kay Hanley and Michael Tarbox, $5, 21+.
Limbo Stretch, 8pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Damien Jurado and Rose Thomas, 9pm, $7, 18+. D: Spoon, 9pm, $8, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Nate Watkins, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Sergio Brandao Sextet, 8:30pm, $12.
The Roxy Taj Mahal and the Phantom Blues Band.
Ryles Jazz Club Andrea, 8:30pm, $10.
608 The David James Motorcycle, no cover.
Scullers Avishai Cohen and the International Vamp Band, 8pm; 10pm, $14.
Sky Bar The Subject, The Great Plains and American Nitro, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Nerves, Lipfloater and The Fantastics, $7, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry trio, 8pm, no cover.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

Bell in Hand Tavern For Pete's Sake, 8pm.
Bill's Bar Boatyard Resin, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Don Conoscenti and Frank Morey, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort The Big '80s, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 21+.
Green Street Grill Fully Celebrated Orchestra, 10:30pm.
Harper's Ferry Aberdeen, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Jeff Frazier, 5pm; The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Rebirth Brass Band, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Johnny D's Mike Keneally & Beer for Dolphins, 8:30pm, 21+.
Limbo Steve Langone, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Paula Kelly Band, The Knee Highs and The Kitty Kill, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East U: David Grubbs, Geoff Farina and Eamonn Vitt, 9pm, $8, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Undercover, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Katie Viquiera Group, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Spajazzy, 8:30pm, $8.
Scullers Bamboleo, 8pm; 10pm, $20.
Sky Bar They'll Tackle You The Masses, No Luck At All and The Orange Catholics, 9pm, $5, 21+.
The Times JuJu Cocktail Blues Groove and Southern Hospitality.
Tír na nÓg Rust Farm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Zox, Din, Thought Brigade and One Big Mess, 9pm, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chuck Langford Trio, 8pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

The Attic Vic Foley and Coby Carlucci and Tractor Trailer, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Central Basement, 9:30pm.
Bill's Bar The Lot Six and The Chase Scene, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Nat Simpkins' B3 Jazz Trio, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Chopping Block James Merenda's Masked Marvels, 9:30pm, no cover.
Club Passim Pierce Pettis and Wendy Wall, 8pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Garment District Middle East Presents Ted Leo Pharmacists, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Good Life Cambridge Patio Kings, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Ciro Stein, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Seven Down, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
Green Street Grill Diversity, 11pm.
The Harp Chad Lamarsh, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Jacob Fred Jazz Odyssey, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Rebirth Brass Band, 10pm, $15, 18+.
Johnny D's Iguanas, 9pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Me & Julio, 8pm, 21+.
Kendall Café The Irresponsibles, Nero and Matt Newberg, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Hooker Street Organ Combo, Clare Fader & the Vaudevillians, Annie Bates and Insoma, 8pm, $5.
Limbo Candida Rose and John Kordalewski Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Freedy Johnston and Rose POlenzani, 9:30pm, $10, 21+.
Middle East U: Swirlies, Mazarin and Car Crash Show, 9pm, $7, 18+. D: The (International) Noise Conspiracy, Milemarker, The Damn Personals and The Hives, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Gray Maddaz, Al-Jabra and LeShawn, 9pm, $7, 21+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.
Regattabar The Joe Lovano Quintet CD-release show, 8pm; 10pm, $14.
The Roxy Godhead, Gravity Kills and Pigface.
Ryles Jazz Club Bob Sinicrope & the World Leaders, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Scullers Bamboleo, 8pm; 10pm, $20.
Sky Bar Kittymonkey, Baby Strange and The Cautions, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Roman "Fluffy" Quinn, 21+.
Top of the Hub Brian McCree Trio, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Gonzales and Double Dong & Wyld Lixx, 10:15pm, $10, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Mystic Vibes, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, NOV. 16

The Attic Agona Hardison and Kelly Buchanan, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Brian Maes, 9:30pm.
Bill's Bar Labb and Peter Salett, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim The Resophonics CD-release show and Jim & Jennie & the Pinetops, 8pm, $12, all ages..
Common Ground Marc Gaffney, 10pm, 21+.
Copperfield's Random Axis and Tootsie, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
El Bembé Tropical Sound, 9pm; $10, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and The Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 21+.
Green Street Grill Columbo and Havana, 11pm.
The Harp The Zoo, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Clutch Grabwell and Dr. Awkward, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5pm, 21+.
House of Blues Rebirth Brass Band, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Toni Lynn Washington, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Thomas Park, 21+.
Kendall Café Clay Frogs, Tom Glynn Duo, Mannix and Damion Wolfe, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Hessie Swain, Dave Scott Trio, Synergy and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30pm, $5.
Limbo Lance Martin, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Cancer to the Stars, The Fighting Idols and The Devil Gods, 10pm, $7, 21+.
Middle East D: The Dismemberment Plan, Lake Trout and Helms, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Pressure Cooker and Westbound Train, 9pm, $10, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy Courtney and Alan Loughnane, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
The Place John McLaughlin, 6pm, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Jim Devlin Trio.
Purple Shamrock Central Basement, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billly Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Joe Lovano Quintet CD-release show, 8pm; 10:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee & Divercity, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Edu Tancredi and El Bandon 33 CD-release show, 9pm, $10.
Sanders Theatre Sol y Canto.
Scullers Pieces of a Dream, 8pm; 10:30pm, $21.
Sky Bar Michigan Blacksnake and Stymie, 9pm, $7, 21+.
The Times Nova Kane.
Tír na nÓg Ray Mason, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bill Lowe, Salim Washington and Brian McCree Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Annette Farrington, Reflecting Skin CD-release show, Butterfield 8 and All the Queen's Men, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Mystic Vibes, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates George Russell Trio, 9pm, no cover.



Pat Martino is at the Regattabar Nov. 8, 9 and 10.

LEFT: CRISSY PIPER; RIGHT: DAVID PERRY

turn on to music

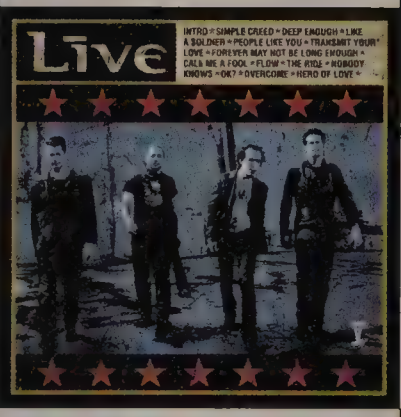
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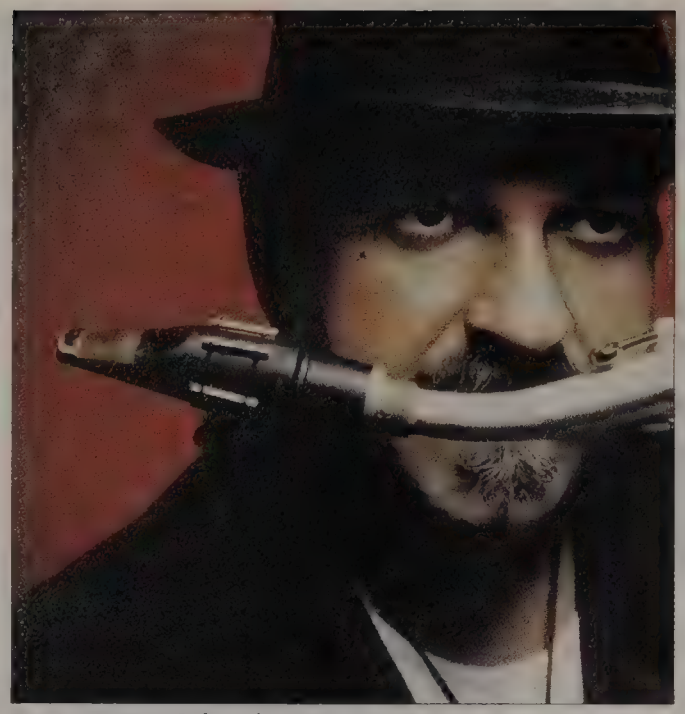
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SATURDAY, NOV. 17

The Attic Todd Thibaud and Tom Glynn Three, 7pm, $7, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Central Basement, 9:30pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Howard Armstrong, 8pm, $17.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10pm, 21+.
Copperfield's Clarias and Bushead, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Boory, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and The Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Six Shot Brody, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Bald Walter, 21+.
The Harp The Zoo, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Two Ton Shoe, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Sessuin, 4pm, 21+.
House of Blues John Cate Americana Showcase, 1pm, no cover, all ages; Superhoney, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's James Montgomery, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Neopride, 21+.
Kendall Café Lorntell, Verona Downs and Karaugh Brown, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Lourdes, 9pm, $8.
Limbo Eula Lawrence, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Hybrasil, 9:30pm, $8, 21+.
Middle East U: The Real Kids, John Surrette and The Deniros and Dave Aaronoff and The Details, 9pm, $8, 18+.
D: The New Pornographers, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Tommy Courtney and Alan Loughnane, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Harry Fix Trio, 11am-2pm, no cover.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm.
Paradise Rock Club Jack Johnson and Mason Jennings, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Planet Aid Dubnicks, Bradshaw, High-Steppin' Nickel Kids and Streetcar, 4pm, all ages, no cover.
Purple Shamrock Pig Pen, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Joe Lovano Quintet CD-release show, 8pm; 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club John Payne Battle of the Student Bands, 11am-7pm, $6.
Sanders Theatre Legends of Women's Music: Cris Williamson, Margie Adam, Barbara Higbie and Theresa Trull, 8pm, $25.
Scullers Pieces of a Dream, 8pm; 10:30pm, $21..
Sky Bar Juniper's Daughter, Violet Tide, Local Radio and South 16, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Somerville Theatre Josh Ritter.
Tír na nÓg The Benders, 21+.
Top of the Hub Ron Murphy and Brian McCree Trio, 9pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rocketscience, Major Major CD-release show and The High Ceilings, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Balaton, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 7-9:30pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, NOV. 18

Bill's Bar Skiffington, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with the Sonny Watson Quartet, 11am-3pm.
The Burren Terry Farmer and Frank Morey, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Chris Trapper and Flynn, 6pm; 9pm, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort New Revelations Gospel Brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 21+.
Hennessy's Ceoil Nua, 5pm, 21+.
House of Blues Sex Mob, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Dylan Callahhan and Tom Worth, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East U: Catie Curtis, 9pm, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Harry Fix Trio, 11am-2pm, no cover.



The Joe Lovano Quintet is at the Regattabar Nov. 15, 16 and 17.

Paradise Rock Club The Pernice Brothers, Josh Rouse and Sadies, 8pm, $12, 18+.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Rhythm and Muse Laura Siersema, 2pm, no cover.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover.
Somerville Theatre All Over Blues: Calvin Jones, Chris Thomas King, Luther "Guitar Jr." Johnson, Steady Rollin' Bob Margolin, Jerry Portnoy Band and Willie Smith.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, NOV. 19

Cantab Lounge Open Mike, 8pm; Jamie Kindleyside, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8pm, $10, all ages..
Dick's Last Resort God Fearing Man, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
House of Blues Hazie Maze, Stone Soup and Irresponsible, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Kendall Cafe Cameron Dezen and Jim Boggia, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Mark Greel Trio, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm, $9, 21+.
Middle East U: Balla Tounkara, 9pm, $6, 18+. D: Tomahawk, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Milky Way The Lawrance Cook Disaster Unit and Jason Talbot, 9pm, $7, 21+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Paradise Rock Club Shelby Lynn, 7pm, $18.50, 18+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Freddie White, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sonic Boom & Spectrum and Lockgroove, 9:30pm, $10, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Darryl Leigh Blood, 9pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, NOV. 20

Bell in Hand Tavern Greg, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar Little T and One Track Mike, 7pm, $5, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm, Aoife O'Donovan and BPT, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Open Mike, 7:30pm, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet, $8, 18+.
House of Blues House of Payne and Waking Vision Trio, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Martin Simpson, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Bowman and Torrez, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Bill Duffy Trio, 8pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Schatzi and Liars Academy, 9pm, $7, 18+. D: Sloan and Ultimate Fakebook, 8pm, $10, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Nate Watkins, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Luciana Souza & Romero Lumbambo, 8:30pm, $14.
608 The Fritters, no cover.
Scullers George Russell Jr. Trio, 8pm; 10pm, $15.
Sky Bar Alan & The Alligators and Brothers of Intention, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske, Mark Shilanski and John Hazilla, 8:30pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place One of Many, Great Day for Up, Echo Us and Waking James, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (617-964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Chopping Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-724-4177). MBTA: E Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*



The Psychedelic Furs share a bill with Echo & The Bunnymen Nov. 20 at Avalon.

Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Cafe *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Cafe *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Limbo *49 Temple Place, Boston (617-338-0280). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston, (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State Street.*
Plough & Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*

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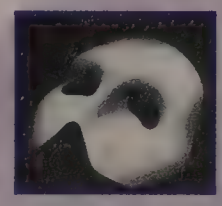












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Dessert Reception with the cast
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December 17, 2001

***Three Mo'Tenors* Members' Event**
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The Wang Theatre
March 2, 2002

Disney's *Aida* Gala
Elegant Dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel, Boston

Post-performance Dessert Reception
The Wang Theatre
April 10, 2002

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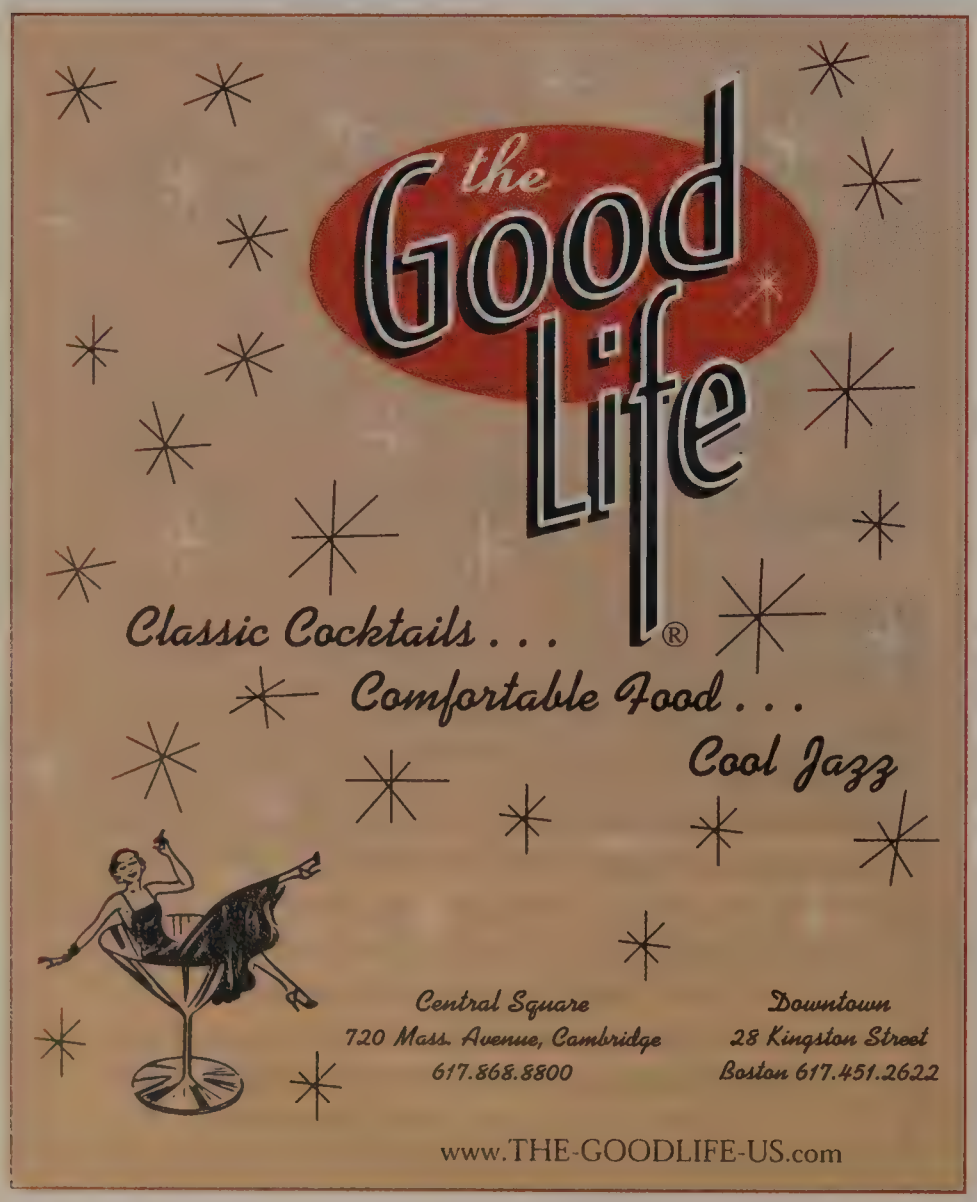
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
608 *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tir na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300) MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351- COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

advance seating

THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON


Catch Cold Dec. 1 at Axis.

Anthrax and **Judas Priest** Feb. 14, 2002, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Joan Baez Feb. 19, 2002, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Judy Collins Nov. 28, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000).
Cold Dec. 1, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Nikka Costa Nov. 27, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Dixie Dregs Nov. 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Bob Dylan Nov. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Linda Eder Dec. 11, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000).
Fuel and Sevendust Nov. 25, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)
The Get Up Kids Dec. 15, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849).
King Crimson and John Paul Jones Dec. 18, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Baaba Maal Jan. 11, 2002, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700).
Brian McKnight Dec. 2, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Nickelback Nov. 29, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Ozzy Osbourne, Rob Zombie, Mudvayne and Onesidezero Dec. 15, Worcester Centrum (508-755-6800).
Luciano Pavarotti Nov. 25, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Martin Sexton Dec. 14 and 15, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700).
Britney Spears Dec. 9 and 11, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Lucinda Williams Dec.4, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).



classical music

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 7

Boston Lyric Opera: Resurrection
Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). 7:30pm. $15-$111. Also Nov. 9, Nov. 13, Nov. 16, Nov. 20, 7:30pm; Nov. 11, Nov. 18, 3pm. Baritone Carelton Chambers and mezzo-soprano Christine Abraham debut in a BLO performance of Tolstoy's unusual love story about a prince and a servant girl.

THURSDAY, NOV. 8

Longy School of Music Showcases
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. $25. Renowned pianist Leon Fleisher performs left-hand music by Perle and pieces by Brahms and Bach.
MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). 12pm. Free. Marina Minkin, harpsichord, performs works by Rietti, Bach and Couperin.
New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 8pm. Free. The NEC Contemporary Improvisation Department presents a concert of compositions and recompositions based on classical jazz and soul.

FRIDAY, NOV. 9

The Cantata Singers and Ensemble
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-267-6502). 8pm. $16-$44. Also Nov. 11, 3pm. A performance of Beethoven's *Missa Solemnis.*
Boston Bel Canto Opera
Harvard Hall, 374 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-424-0900). 8pm. $20. Soprano Joanna Porackova and others sing arias from Bellini's and Rossini's operas.
Two Vaughan Williams Operas
Pforzheimer House Dining Hall, Harvard University, 56 Linnaean St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). 7:30pm. $7. Through Nov. 11. Also Nov. 15-Nov. 17. The Pforzheimer House Music Society presents two one-act operas, *Riders to the Sea* and *Shepherds of the Delectable Mountains.*
All Newton Music School
321 Chestnut St., West Newton (617-527-7710). 8pm. Free. Violinist Liana Zaretsky and members of the Radius Ensemble perform works by Beethoven and Webern.


Composer Tod Machover presents *Resurrection* at the Shubert Theatre.

SATURDAY, NOV. 10

FleetBoston Celebrity Series: Patti LuPone
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. *8pm. $30-$60.* The Broadway star explores love as a source of inspiration.
Coro Allegro: Rejoicing with the Masters
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-536-2412). 8pm. $15-$30. Coro Allegro, Boston's acclaimed chorus for friends and members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities, performs choral works of Handel, Brahms and Bach.

SUNDAY, NOV. 11

FleetBoston Celebrity Series: Anne-Sophie Mutter
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (888-266-1200). www.celebrityseries.org. *3pm. $35-$55.* Violin virtuoso Anne-Sophie Mutter and an acclaimed Norwegian chamber ensemble perform works by Vivaldi and Scandinavian composers.
Masterworks Chorale
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-971-9383). 3pm. $16-$35. The independent chorus celebrates Allen Lannom's 50th anniversary as artistic director with Mozart's music.
Boston College Concert
St. Mary's Chapel, St. Mary's Hall, Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-552-6004). 3pm. Free. The Walden Chamber Players perform the music of Mozart and Brahms.
Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10am. This week's Bach Cantata features soloists Gail Abbey, Amy Schneider, Ryan Turner and Donald Wilkinson.

MONDAY, NOV. 12

New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 8pm. Free. The NEC Contemporary Improvisation Department presents a concert of compositions and recompositions based on classical jazz and soul.

TUESDAY, NOV. 13

Goethe Institut Concert
170 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-6050). 7:30pm. $10. Pianist Marilyn Nonenken performs Arnold Schonberg's complete piano works from 1894 to 1931.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 14

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. Also Nov. 15, 8pm, Nov. 16, 1:30pm, Nov. 17, 1:30pm, and Nov. 20, 8pm. Gennady Rozhdestvensky conducts a performance of Wagner, Schoenberg and Shostakovich.
New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Steven Lipsitt conducts a concert of works by Rossini, Gould and Schumann.

THURSDAY, NOV. 15

Boston Philharmonic
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. $16-$49. Also Nov. 18, 3pm. $18-$58. Soprano Margaret O'Keefe performs works by Brahms, Berg, and Bach.
New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 8pm. Free. The NEC Wind Ensemble performs major works by the late Iannis Xenakis. In Williams Hall, also at 8pm, classical guitarist David Leisner presents an evening of his songs with lyrics by Yeats, Dickinson, Whitman, Bronte, Ely and Silko.
MIT Chapel Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT. 12pm. Free. The Leonora Quartet plays Ravel and Piazzola.

FRIDAY, NOV. 16

FleetBoston Celebrity Series: Sol y Canto
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). 8pm. $25-$35. Boston's pan-Latin group *Sol y Canto* meets the Boston Modern Orchestra Project in a concert featuring Caribbean, Central American and South American music.

SATURDAY, NOV. 17

Boston Philharmonic
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. $18-$58. Soprano Margaret O'Keefe performs works by Brahms, Berg and Bach.

SUNDAY, NOV. 18

Emmanuel Music
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 10am. This week's Bach Cantata features soloists Jayne West, Gloria Raymond, and Donald Wilkinson.

MONDAY, NOV. 19

New England Conservatory
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Bassist Donald Palma leads a conductor-less orchestra in a performance of Ravel, Prokofiev and Shostakovich.
Boston University Symphonic Chorus
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). 8pm. $10-$35. Soprano Dominique Labelle, tenor Marcus Haddock and bass Robert Honeysucker perform Verdi's *Messa da Requiem.*
Cambridge Society for Early Music
Fogg Art Museum, 32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-489-2062). 7:30pm. $20. James Nicholson performs pieces from 17th-century Germany, Spain, Italy, the Netherlands and England.

TUESDAY, NOV. 20

New England Conservatory Concerts
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 8pm. Free. William Drury conducts a concert of varied contemporary pieces.

LEFT: RALF STRATHMANN

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (617-859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Cafe and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Weds.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+. Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert



The Coro Allegro chorus performs Nov.10.

series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Commonbond at the Threshold Theatre
791 Tremont St., Boston (617-923-2237). Nov. 7, 7pm. The acclaimed acoustic duo of singer-songwriters, Mary Beth de Pompa and Ashley Miller, perform their eclectic blend of blues-edged folk rock.

Coro Allegro: Rejoicing with the Masters
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-536-2412). Nov. 10, 8pm. $15-$30. Coro Allegro, Boston's acclaimed chorus for friends and members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities, performs choral works of Handel, Brahms and Bach.

Fall Harvest Ball for Women
Sons of Italy Ballroom, Winchester (781-648-0722). Nov. 17, 8pm-12am. $10. Fever Dance hosts this fall party. DJ Dee Greenberg spins Motown classics, '70s disco, Latin rhythms, swing tunes and millennium dance music. Singles welcome.

Fenway Community Health Classes
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). Nov. 7, 6:30pm. $50 per couple. Learn more about alternative insemination at this class.

Harvest Ball
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-0658). Nov. 10, 2pm. The Harvest Ball is an elegant dance hall from the 1890s. From 2-5pm, guests can attend dance workshops. From 5:45-7:15pm, there is an elegant potluck dinner, and from 7:30-11pm, the evening ball commences.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(617-508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for support and discussion with men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot Streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-0658). www.contra-corner.com/jp. *Saturdays, 7:30-11pm. $5.* This group meets two Saturdays a month for contra dancing.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safter Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month. 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Community Rainbow
Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45pm. This organization's mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.



Fever Dance events like the Nov. 14 Harvest Ball are just for the ladies.

Dagger
(617-542-4214). Join The Theater Offensive's newest guerrilla theater group, Dagger, and make some noise. The group gathers on Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30pm, to train and create performances representing queer girls' and women's perspectives. Email *Dagger@the theateroffensive.org.*

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

FLAG Flag Football
(617-937-5858). Weekends. Join other gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexual friends of all skill levels to play recreational football. Visit *www.flagflagfootball.com* for information.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (617-867-0410). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(617-423-6881). Sundays. 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is a gay swim team.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.OuttoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment. Private lessons available.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Monday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or by email to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 16, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the world's sacred traditions. Everyone is welcome. All dances are taught and are accompanied by live music.

Embracing Your Shadow: Honoring the Person You Really Are
Omega Institute in Boston, Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (800-944-1001). www.omega-inst.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 17, 9am-5pm. $145.* To create a joyous life, you need to own your power, creativity and the brilliance of your dreams. This workshop with the author of *The Dark Side of the Light Chasers*, **Debbie Ford**, will focus on uncovering root issues that drive your personality or inhibit you. The workshop will teach the following: a three-step process to release toxic emotions; making peace with your past; ways to transform your outer world by discovering the "real you"; and how to have true fulfillment in relationships.

Intro to Holistic Healing Modalities
John Hancock Conference Center, 40 Trinity Place, Boston (781-891-8696 or 781-899-0648). Nov. 15, 7-10pm. $125. Have you ever wanted to see a holistic health practitioner but were unsure of which type would be best? This presentation will introduce various practitioners as well as cover nutrition and emotional well-being as fundamentals for good health.

Working Woman's Workshop: Are You Making Time for Your Health?
Royal Sonesta Hotel Boston, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge (800-649-3378). Nov. 7, 7-10am. Free. Healthy Living is a group that presents free seminars designed to help women take control of their health and well-being. This morning event features guest speakers from health groups and Mass. General Hospital who will discuss weight loss, nutrition and exercise.

CLASSES

Body Love for Women
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 17, 10am-1pm. $43.* Engage in the art of loving yourself through yoga, meditation, movement, dance, hands-on healing and talking. This workshop will use a traditional African ritual of renewal and healing.

Improvisational Play: Discovering the Child Within
The First and Second Church in Boston, Unitarian Universalist, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). Nov. 7, 7:30pm. Free. ImprovBoston presents an interactive workshop in improvisational play to help individuals rediscover their confidence.

Intro to Acupuncture
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 12, 6-8pm. $35.* Learning about what acupuncture is can be as mysterious as the art itself. This useful workshop will help you understand the ancient healing system and give tips on finding a practitioner.

Movement & Manifestation
Endless Possibilities, 65 Eastern Ave. (Rte. 133), Essex (978-768-3832, ext. 3). www.bethdance.com. *Nov. 10, 9-11:30am. $35. Call to reserve a spot.* Join Danskinetics teacher **Beth Rigby** for a thrilling new way to nurture and manifest your personal goals. This fun workshop's activities include movement, relaxation, visualization and writing.

Rainy Day Tai Chi
The Healing Tao Center of Boston, 440 Somerville Ave., 2nd floor, Somerville (617-628-6570). Nov. 17, 9:30am-12pm. $80. **Master Wei Lun Huang** is visiting this area to teach chi kung and tai chi all weekend. This Rainy Day Tai Chi course distills the essence of the traditional style into a series of simple, repetitive movements. Easier exercises allow you to focus on the principles of body alignment, relaxation and breathing.



Educator Carol Queen teaches a series of sex education classes at Grand Opening.

Preview

Dr. Love

Ignite your passion

Educator, activist, author and doctor of sexology Carol Queen returns with her partner, Dr. Robert Lawrence, a health care professional with more than 20 years of sex education experience.

Talk Dirty to Me, a class on Nov. 13, will teach you how to use erotic talk to feel more sexy and to discuss safe sex and explore fantasies with your partners. Lover's Luck on Nov. 14 addresses the important issue of finding a partner—for just a night or much longer. Learn how to do it, from falling in love to having sex. You'll explore your sexual assumptions and values, how you present yourself and how to communicate specific sexual desires. Finally, the Anatomy of Pleasure workshop on Nov. 18 reveals you what causes orgasms in men and women. Is it true that 90 percent of sexual response occurs in the brain? Find out. This science class will be anything but boring. *Grand Opening Sexuality Boutique, 318 Harvard St., Brookline (617-731-2626).* www.grandopening.com. *MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Three workshops: Talk Dirty to Me: Nov. 13, 7:30-9:30pm, $25. Lover's Luck: Nov. 14, 7:30-9:30pm, $25. The Anatomy of Pleasure Intensive: Nov. 18, 12:30-6pm, $75. —Laurel Kirtz*

LECTURE

Conversations with Energy
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). Nov. 9, 7:30-9:30pm. $7. **Linda Clave** and **Walter Ness** will discuss how chi energy allows us to intuitively communicate.

Feng Shui at Home and Work
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). Nov. 9, 7-8:45pm. $15. **Carole St. Germain** of the Work/Soul Institute teaches the principles of this ancient Chinese system of space and placement. Learn how the ways in which we build, arrange and decorate space can affect happiness, prosperity and health.

ONGOING

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Bus #57, 70 and 71. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Ki Energy Training
256 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-3706). www.cdsb.org. *MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Four classes daily, Monday-Friday. Two classes on Saturday.* Ki energy uses chanting, movements and meditation for whole health, vitality and peace of mind.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 800-462-2849
Nov. 7, 8pm vs. Washington Wizards
Nov. 9, 7:30pm vs. Seattle Supersonics
Nov. 14, 7pm vs. Indiana Pacers

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 617-931-2222
Nov. 8, 7pm vs. Minnesota Wild
Nov. 10, 7pm vs. Columbus Blue Jackets
Nov. 13, 7pm vs. Montreal Canadiens
Nov. 15, 7pm vs. New Jersey Devils
Nov. 17, 7pm vs. Buffalo Sabres

New England Patriots
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 800-543-1776
Nov. 11, 1pm vs. Buffalo Bills
Nov. 18, 8:30 pm vs. St. Louis Rams

Events

The First Annual 5K Fun Run to Benefit Veterans Who Are Homeless
Commonwealth Mall, corner of Comm. Ave. and Hereford St. (617-371-1709) www.neshv.org. *Nov. 11. Pre-race activities begin at 9:30am, race at 12pm, rain or shine. $25.* This benefit run takes participants down Comm. Ave., Beacon, Tremont and Stuart streets, finishing at Park Square. Walkers are welcome.

K2 Women's Ski Symposium
Boston Ski Market, 475 Washington St., Wellesley (781-235-6669) www.k2women.com. *Nov. 11.* K2 unveils its new woman-specific T:Nine ski series with a talk from some of the skiers who helped develop it.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players age 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practice takes place Sunday at 11am.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

CYCLING

Boston Bike Tours & Rentals
Boston Common (617-308-5902). Mon.-Sat., 1-3pm and 4-6pm; Sun., 11am-3pm. April 14-Oct. 28. $5 per hour (two-hour minimum), $25 per day. Low-impact guided sightseeing tours of Boston and Cambridge.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (617-789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6-10pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

POLO

Stage Hill Polo and Riding School
Topsfield Fairgrounds, Topsfield (356-5601). Mon. and Wed., 6-8pm; Sat. 1pm. $300/mo. For people looking to actually play the sport depicted on their Ralph Lauren shirts, Stage Hill provides the equipment, horses and lessons. No prior riding experience is necessary. Lessons offered year-round.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/bostonhhh. Weekly runs year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480). Skating lessons for children or adults at 15 area MDC rinks.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(617-789-4070, ext. 225). Coed indoor and outdoor teams. New: outdoor turf soccer.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming now for fall leagues (all levels) in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals welcome.



Celtics captain Antoine Walker vies with the Magic's Bo Outlaw to slap the cuffs on a rebound.



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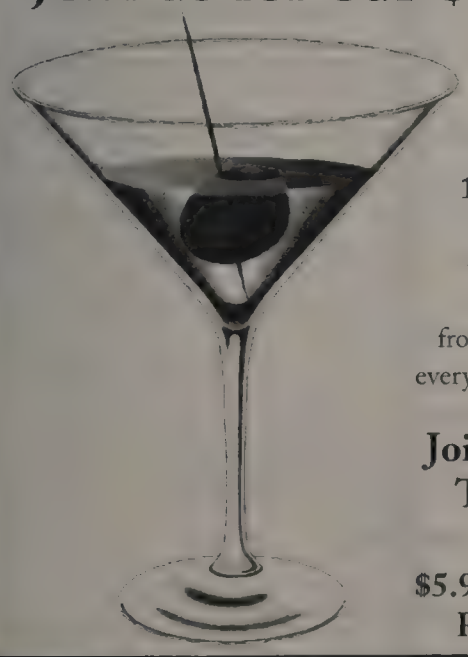
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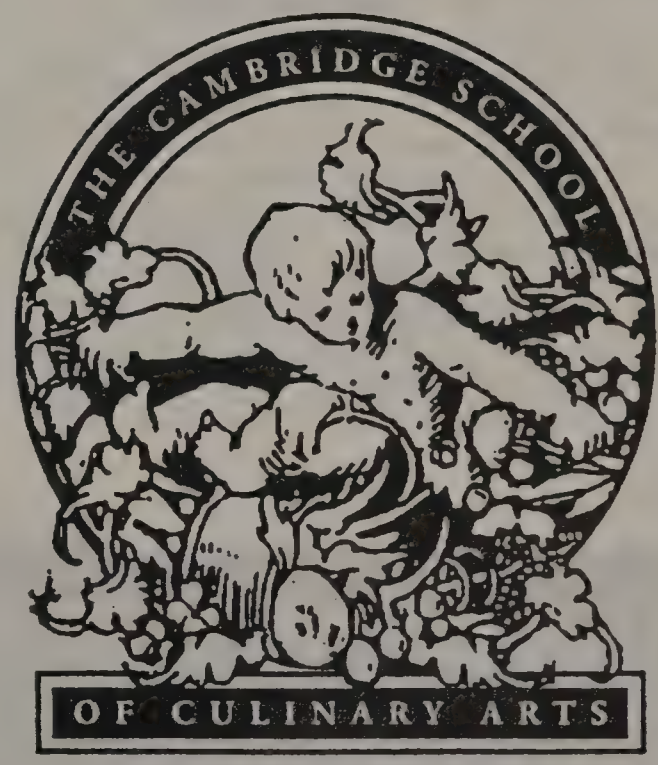
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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 16. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

Coolidge Corner Theater
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $8. •Nov. 10, 10:30am: *Father Goose Tales.* Jim Napolitano uses shadow puppets to tell fairy tales. •Nov. 17; 10:30am: *The Magic of David Oliver* lies in sleight of hand with music and comedy.

Lyric Stage Children's Theatre
140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. $7. The participatory theater format allows children to be involved in the show on stage, with dialogue and costumes. •Nov. 10-11 and 18, 10:30am: *Sleeping Beauty.*

Maggie Magalita
Theatre 1, 731 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-842-7927). Nov. 10, 17, 24, 3pm. $8, $5 children. This is a play in Spanish and English about a Latin-American immigrant family struggling to assimilate.

The Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Sat. and Sun., 1 and 3pm; Wed. and Thurs., 10:30am. $8. Reservations recommended. Traditional and original shows for children ages five and older: •Nov. 7-8: *The Brothers Grim* •Nov. 11: *Father Goose Tales* •Nov. 14-15: *Bingo the Circus Dog* •Nov. 17-18: *Raccoon Tales.*

Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm
Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 25. $10-$17. Rebecca is sent to live with two maiden aunts in Riverboro, Maine. The aunts try to cope with this "bird of a different feather."

THINGS TO DO

Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (617-679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tuesdays, 10:30am. Staff members read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Family Trees
Concord Museum, 200 Lexington Road, Concord (978-369-9763). Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Nov. 17-Jan. 1. $10, $5 children. See fancifully dressed trees with decorations inspired by classic storybooks.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.* •Nov. 10, 9am. $31.50: *Rainforest Riches.* Explore the Rainforest and the animals who live there.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •Nov. 13, 3:30pm: Underground Railway Theater presents *How Do You Spell Hope?* •Nov. 15, 4pm: Book Bash •Nov. 20, 10:30am: Pre-School Sing-a-Long; 3:30pm: World Cultures Program—Diwali •Nov. 17, 2pm: Irish stories and songs with Batt Burns •Nov. 19, 10am-7pm: Annual Pupper Sale.

Special Animal Events
The Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-6500). $7, $6 children. Call to confirm times. •Nov. 10, 11am: Massachusetts Audubon Society presents local creatures. •Nov. 17, 11am, 1pm, 2:30pm: *Rainforest Reptile Shows.* Are snakes really slimy?

The Twig Family and their Animal Friends
Garden in the Woods, 180 Hemenway Road, Framingham (508-877-7630, ext. 3303). 1:30pm. Nov. 18. $8. Preschool children learn about the ways animals and plants can help each other in nature.

Yoga for Youngsters
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (781-254-1046). Nov. 8-Jan. 3. Thu., 4-5pm. $120. Play yoga games, stretch and relax.

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Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (617-338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (617-242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (617-572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Closed until further notice.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (617-566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theatre, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours start at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

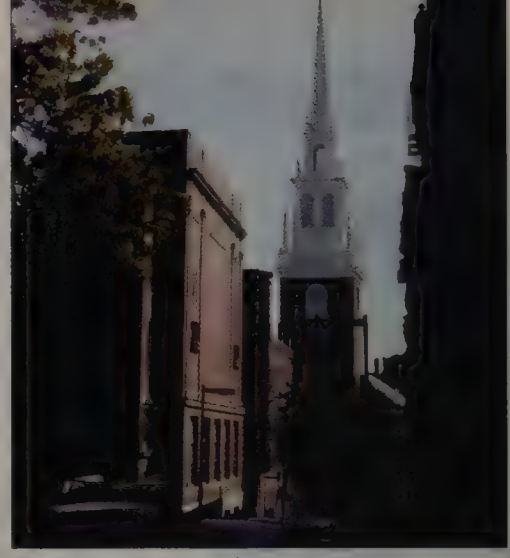
Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(617-357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.



The Old North Church in the North End

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl. Info. sessions: •Nov. 7 and 13, 6-7pm; Nov. 19, 12-1pm.

Boston Cares
(617-263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). Volunteers needed to work in Cambridge public schools as tutors, aides and mentors.

Community Servings
(617-445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Crafts at the Castle
(617-523-6400). Nov. 30-Dec. 2. Volunteers needed for this benefit for Family Service of Greater Boston.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

First Night Boston 2002
(617-542-1399). Volunteers needed for this New Year's Eve celebration Dec. 31.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-972-1702). Volunteer to provide practical and emotional support to terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an isolated elderly individual.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(617-375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996, ext. 30). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

Safe Harbor for Animals
(617-625-7332). Care for homeless cats.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Teddy Bear Drive
(978-356-2602). Volunteers needed to deliver teddy bears to local shelters during the holidays.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.

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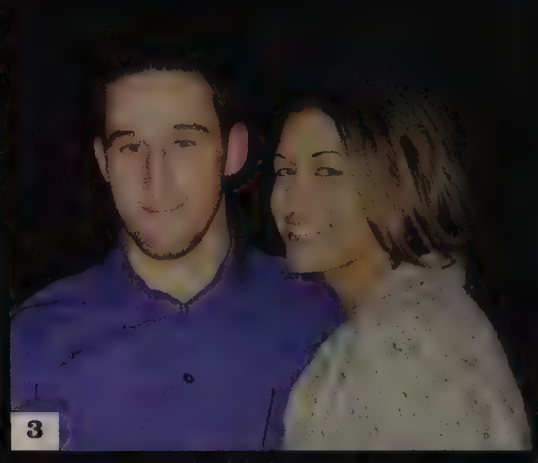
improperazzi

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Thursday, Oct. 25, Coogan's held its Oktoberfest Party, sponsored by Lowenbrau, to benefit The Boston Firefighters Benefit and Welfare Fund, which aids firefighters and their families in times of need.



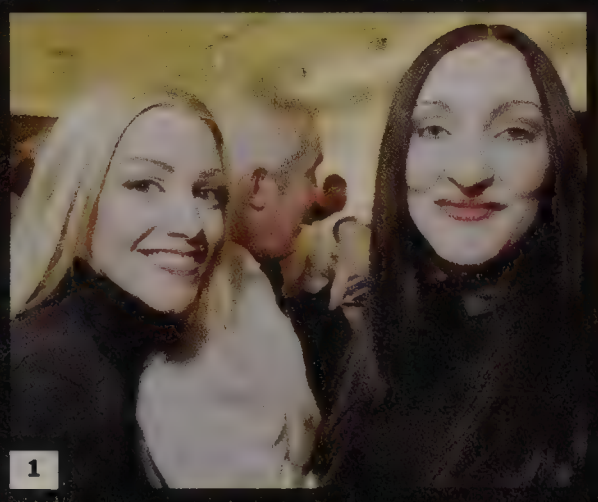






1. Boston firefighters **Mike Downing** and **Paul Bowen**; Coogan's manager, **Nelson Alverez** with Boston firefighters **Eddie Kelly, John Dubeau, Jack Linnell**, and **Bobby Linnell.**
2. **Raquel Jose** and **Matt Watkins** of Regan Communications.
3. **Matt Johnson** of Price Waterhouse Coopers and **Nicole Tarquinio** of Anderson Consulting.
4. **Jeb Kutzen, Mary Ann Canzana, Kristine Barry** and **Brian Roache** of FundQuest.

1. **Christina Williams**, owner of Foil, with **Barbie Gilman**, manager of Foil.
2. **Edlyn Clay** from M.A.C, **Charles Maksou** of Maksou and **Devon** from Ford Models.
3. McCormick & Schmick's bartenders **Chris Guyton** and **Colleen Lenick** serve up yummy Finlandia martinis.
4. **Izzy** from Zoe furniture store, **Samantha House**, Improper Bostonian fashion editor, and **Skip Kelly** from Kiss 108.





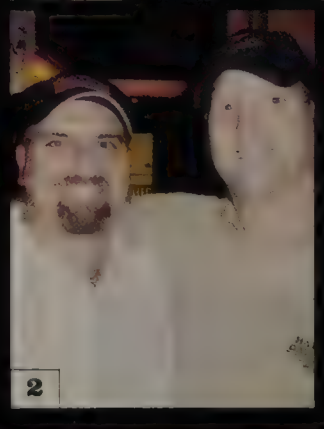
On Thursday, Oct. 18, Samantha House, fashion and beauty editor for The Improper Bostonian Magazine, and Foil, the newest women's clothing boutique on Newbury Street, hosted the 2001 Fall Fashion event at Foil. The event, which was hosted by Kiss 108's Skip Kelly, brought out the who's who of Boston fashion. Guests enjoyed hors d'oeuvres by McCormick & Schmick's and fashion Martinis by Finlandia.





On Thursday, Oct. 25, The North End Fire Department and New York Fire Department (Ladder 25) held a fund-raiser at The Place to assist the families of seven fallen firefighters from FDNY Ladder 25. The seven heroes were victims of the September 11 WTC disaster.





1. **Joe McHugh** of FDNY and **Neil Mullane** of the Boston Fire Department with staff members of The Place.
2. **Mike Janedy**, a DJ, and former Bruin **Lyndon Byers.**

PHOTOS: COOGAN'S, JENNY ANMUTH; FOIL, DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN; THE PLACE, DAVID LARKIN

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland Street, Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, near the Fleet Center and Faneuil Hall, Common-wealth features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Science Street Cafe *Science Park, Boston, MA, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out the newest nightspot--The Museum of Science. Try our one-of-a-kind martinis, gourmet appetizers and desserts, then tour the Museum or catch an Omni movie. $25 package includes one drink, one appetizer, Mugar Omni Theater ticket, Exhibit Hall admission and parking. 6-10pm at the Museum of Science.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club 126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL. Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack 24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051. Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor &outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

BREW PUBS

Commonwealth Fish & Beer Co. *138 Portland St., Boston, 523-8383.* This revamped restaurant-brewery is now the hottest casual seafood spot in Boston. Located in the historic Bullfinch Triangle, a block from the FleetCenter and steps from Faneuil Hall, Commonwealth Fish & Beer features fresh, flavorful, innovative fish & seafood dishes and authentic barbeque. Great food, hand-crafted beers & ales and an inspiring physical space makes this a Boston original. Mon. - Thurs. and Sun. 11:30 am - midnight, Fri. and Sat. 11:30 am - 1 am.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Dance Plex *262 Friend Street, Boston, 617-720-1966 or boston@pollyesthers.com.* This is your ticket to the hottest retro dance club in Boston, The Dance Plex (formerly Polly Esther's) featuring Culture Club, & Club Expo. The Dance Plex is a four level dance party complex spinning all your favorites from retro MTV bubblegum 80's hits, 70's Disco, Freestyle & Express, 80's Jams, Top 40 90's hits and dance mixes of today. Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9pm till 2am.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

BARCODE *955 Boylston St., Boston, 421-1818.* Inspired by the neighboring Institute of Contemporary Art, the image-as-name Barcode challenges the status quo of dining in Boston. Polished woods, rich bamboo accents and oversized palms highlight the space while the design embraces the old world in a sexy and intimate atmosphere. Simple and flavorful, Chef Matthew Murphy's menu features a variety of French-Mediterranean bistro fare. Dine in the intimate, windowed dining room or enjoy a signature cocktail at one of Boston's hottest bar.

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and

Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show!Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: BobbyFemino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich Street, Boston, MA, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday and Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* Back Bay's hottest restaurant and bar, Vox Populi is hip, sleek and intimate. Enjoy Michael Burgess' innovative Contemporary American cuisine in the first floor bar and fireplace lounge, the second floor bar overlooking bustling Boylston Street, or the elegant second floor dining room. Truly unique, Vox Populi is both comfortable and sophisticated.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

CLUBS

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

The Dance Plex *262 Friend Street, Boston, 617-720-1966 or boston@pollyesthers.com.* This is your ticket to the hottest retro dance club in Boston, The Dance Plex (formerly Polly Esther's) featuring Culture Club, & Club Expo. The Dance Plex is a four level dance party complex spinning all your favorites from retro MTV bubblegum 80's hits, 70's Disco, Freestyle & Express, 80's Jams, Top 40 90's hits and dance mixes of today. Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9pm till 2am.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00 10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday-Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

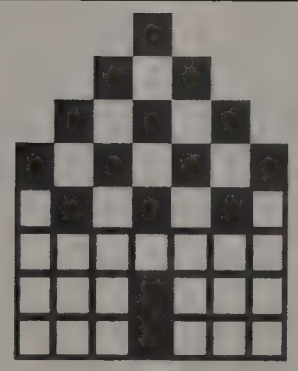
Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Roggie's: New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday-Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

Vox Populi *755 Boylston Street, Boston, 424-8300.* With a sophisticated style all it's own, Vox Populi presents a Sunday brunch that cannot be matched by anyone in the Back Bay. Enjoy the first floor bar, the fireplace lounge, or the intimate streetside cafe. (Outdoor patio dining is seasonally available). Vox Populi offers the perfect atmosphere for a comfortable and relaxing brunch.





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Improper Sightings

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Where do you take us? We want to know! Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. The more creative you are, the faster we'll publish your pic! (Hey, we have no shame!)



Bob Carr and Andi Goldman ran into *The Price Is Right*'s Rod Roddy in Bangkok, Thailand. They noticed Roddy when they overheard him refer to his eggs Benedict as the "Breakfast Showcase Chowdown."



Christopher Ellsworth and Kenn Gray resisted the canal-photo cliché in Venice.



John Fabiani and his nieces, Bryce and Nina, hit the Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, N.M.



South Carolina Governor Jim Hodges displays the epitome of Northern gentility, The Improper.



From left: Laurie Simpson, Janet Zylstra, James Ash and Modeana Lawphier apparently had to wrestle their Improper away from ravenous piranhas at the Iguazu Waterfalls on the Argentina/Brazil border.



Newfoundland/Labrador Premier Roger Grimes warms up with the Boston's Best issue.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Purchasing a sticker portraying Calvin peeing on an automaker's logo at the Pennzoil 400, Nov. 11 at the Homestead-Miami Speedway, Homestead, Flor.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
Please include your name, address, phone number, e-mail and photo location. All photos become the property of The Improper Bostonian Magazine and will not be returned.

Let's break bread together on Sunday, November 11.

Join us for an old-fashioned, Sunday night supper at 5p.m.

For reservations and a complete restaurant list, visit our site at
www.marestaurantassoc.org.

100% of the funds collected will go to the UNITY FUND of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay a newly created fund to aid Massachusetts families who suffer as a result of the events of September 11.

At 6.p.m. there will be a moment of silence at all participating restaurants.

BOSTON
Ambrosia on Huntington, Biba, Bob the Chef's, Brasserie Jo, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, Hamersley's Bistro, Icarus, Island Hopper, James's Gate, Legal Seafoods, Masa, Mistral, Naked Fish, Perdix, Phillips Old Colony, Pho Republique, Ristorante Toscano, Stephanie's on Newbury, Taranta, The Kinsale Irish Pub & Restaurant, Washington Square Tavern, White Star Tavern, Union Oyster House, Vox Populi

ARLINGTON/CAMBRIDGE/SOMERVILLE
Casablanca (Cambridge), Centro (Cambridge), Davio's Ristorante (Cambridge), Flora (Arlington), Full Moon (Cambridge), Gargoyle's on the Square (Somerville), Henrietta's Table (Cambridge), Metro (Cambridge), Oleana (Cambridge), Rialto (Cambridge), Sandrine's (Cambridge), Tea-Tray (Arlington), The Temple Bar (Cambridge)

NORTH OF BOSTON
Brendan Crocker's Wild Horse Café (Beverly), Finz (Salem), Dockside Restaurant (Nahant), Horseshoe Café (North Reading), Ithaki (Ipswich), The Landing (Marblehead), Victoria Station Restaurant (Burlington), Victoria Station Restaurant (Salem)

SOUTH OF BOSTON
Coriander (Sharon), Funway Café (Foxboro), Olio (Canton), Riva (Scituate)

WEST OF BOSTON
Desmond O'Malley's Irish Bar & Restaurant, Iago (Concord), Naked Fish (Newton), 17 Summer Resataurant (Maynard), Tuscan Grill (Waltham)

WEST OF I-485
Sonoma Restaurant (Princeton)

CAPE & THE ISLANDS
Bookstore & Restaurant (Wellfleet)



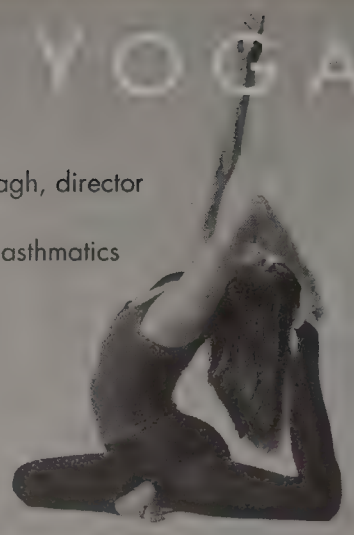
The Sunday Supper

Breaking Bread Together • November 11, 2001 5p.m.

SUNDAY SUPPER ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: American Express, Boston Concessions Group, Beansprout Communications, *Boston* Magazine, Brookline Liquor Mart, Chef's Collaborative, Community Servings, Dole & Bailey, Fenway Cafe, GBCVB, Hamersley's Bistro, *The Improper Bostonian*, Kortenhaus Communications, Les Dames Des Escoffier, MacDonald & Associates, Massachusetts Restaurant Association, Mistral, Jeffrey Osborne (design services), Phoenix Media/Communications Group, Radius, Sandrine's, Rialto/The Sapphire Group, Sam Adams, Shawmut Construction, Corey Smigliani (logo), Spinazzola Foundation, Stephanie's On Newbury, Upstairs at the Pudding, *Where to Eat* Magazine (committee information as of 10/30/01)

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Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Oct. 10
I first spotted you on the Government Center Blue Line platform. It was around 10:30pm. I stood across from you on the train. I thought I saw you turn away with a smile. You: red T-shirt and blue sneakers. Me: gray Black Dog T-shirt, jeans, and Chuck Taylors. We both got off at the airport and you exited right behind me. We took different buses to the terminals. I wish I weren't so shy. Please help.
—ringoross@hotmail.com

Pumpkin
What happened to us? It wasn't supposed to be like this. After all of these years, this isn't where we should be. I guess it's my fault and all I have left to say is that I'm sorry. I miss you. I miss us. You'll always be my angel and I'll always wish that you were here with me. I'll never regret one day we had, not even the bad ones. I'll love you forever.
—Lady

Harvard T Station Boy
It was October 14 around 1pm. You (boy) were getting on the Red Line going outbound at the Harvard T stop. You were wearing a baseball hat, black eyeglasses, and a bright-blue Adidas jacket (with the three white stripes down the arms). I (girl) am Asian, was wearing an orange sweater and black sweatpants. My hair was tied back. You said Hi, I said Hi and walked away, but kept looking back. Apparently, so did you. E-mail me.
—beanhead1277@yahoo.com

B
You dribbled by me. I fell over and in love.
—D

To Man Named Blah/Gtwhite from Hull
If you really do even vaguely physically resemble Morrissey or Hawaii 5-0's Jack Lord, but are not as misanthropic, depressed, asexual and stylishly crime-fighting, send me an e-mail! PS: I am a straight woman who would like to rid you entirely of ennui.
—FuturePopIconsOfAmerica @hotmail.com

Cunning Linguist?
I saw you engrossed in a Chomsky textbook at 1369; you noticed my Godel Escher Bach and we both smiled. Eventually I finished my turtle latte and managed to ask what you were studying. I was too choked up to remember your name, but you joked more about preschool and the Muppets than Universal Grammar. You're funny and smart; I'm nerdy and shy. Please e-mail me—girls like you are rare!
—Cambridgeguy24 @yahoo.com

A Room With a View on the T
Oct. 9 I got on the Red Line at Davis Square and quickly pulled out the glove I was knitting. You tried on the glove and commented that your grandma knits too. You: blue backpack, black computer bag, wool cap, and funky Docs. We shared the ride all the way till I stepped off at Downtown Crossing like a bandit without getting your name or much less inviting you for a cup of tea. There were many moments when I could have said something more, but I was feeling shy and enjoying the beautiful day in silence with you. Every time I got the courage to look your way, we met eye to eye and smiled with adoration. If I had the opportunity again, I would never have stepped off that train. Would you care for a cup of tea?
—Lauren, bandknit@hotmail.com

Hey Bartender
It was your birthday on the 20th and I felt bad that you had to bartend that night. As a fellow bartender, I know working on your birthday is bad enough, but dealing with drunk folks on top of it downright stinks. Jake Ivory's is always a good time and you made me smile from the start when we got in line. You asked us if we had a reservation. I told you we were with the "Smith party." It was a lame attempt to get by the cover charge and you were a good sport. Even with the entire bar serenading you, you looked bored that night (I saw you yawn). I wanted to come over and chat but I didn't want you to think I was one of those drunk meatheads that were stumbling about the place. Want to meet up for coffee sometime? A beer? Maybe lunch to make up for a misspent birthday? Shoot me an e-mail and let's chat. Even if you're attached, at the very least you'll end up with one of the funniest kids in town as a friend.
—J, october_20th@hotmail.com

Hey Baby
Did I tell you how much I was looking forward to seeing you? I can't wait to take walks with you in the arboretum, to have a pint at the Gate, and to play games in bed.... I also can't wait until grad school is over and I'm back in Boston permanently! I love you.
—Your baby

VHPA
I just want to tell you how much I love you. The day you walked though my front door, we became the best of friends. We spend nights drinking and talking. After one year, you realized you wanted something more. I was too dumb to notice, but you made sure it became clear. I thought long hours about what I should do. You have been my best friend. I waited until something more happened. It did. One night we kissed and from that moment we knew it. I loved you from that first kiss. I never though it could be so good. Since then we became a couple. It has been a great time for me. I love you very much. We talked about marriage and I just waited. But it did happen. You asked me to marry you and before you could finish I said yes. I am so happy we get to spend our lives together forever. You are my VHPA. I love you,
—P4

Harvest Ball Beauty
To the very attractive brunette woman at the Harvest Ball. I'm the tall handsome man that noticed you looking at me and flashing a big smile in my direction. Was it just a friendly smile or an invitation to meet, I wondered? I noticed you a bit later with a guy whom I presumed was your date, so I didn't approach. As I was leaving, after most of the crowd had departed, you were standing at the top of the stairs, and again you had a big smile as I turned my head. No action taken on my part, as I headed for the exit. I now can't stop thinking that you were interested in meeting me and I'm regretting not stopping to talk. If you do in fact feel that way, e-mail me.
—gobosh1@hotmail.com

This goes out to
the beautiful woman who works in the same building as me near the State House. We pass each other two or three times a week. You have shoulder-length brown hair, very attractive eyes and lips and are a sharp dresser. We seem to smile at each other, but always in passing and always with people around. When this happens, I seem to turn into some 12-year-old kid going through puberty all over again. I just need a push or a sign that I won't get crushed if I ask you to lunch. I thought I would share that with you and if you'd like, just gimmie a wave and I'll be more than happy to ask you out to lunch.
—BIGCRUSHONU1@excite.com

S.
Sometimes you want a moment to be so special that you're scared to create it in fear of it not turning out as perfectly as you've imagined it. You know I'm one to say exactly what I'm thinking, especially when I'm so sure of my feelings. But I've done a pretty good job holding back these words that so frequently attempt to sneak off my tongue. It's my hope that seeing them first in print will give you an idea of how much I mean it every time I say it: I love you, Sarah.
—Jongerale@hotmail.com

Rockie Horoscope

NOVEMBER 7 – 20, 2001

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



SCORPIO OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

Lady Luck doesn't smile on you very often, so when she does, like while benevolent Jupiter trines the Scorpio sun on the 7th, you definitely should take advantage of whatever opportunity comes up at the time. And if that turns out to be a chance to travel in the lap of luxury (Jupiter is in your ninth house of foreign affairs), then jump on it. It'll be another 12 years before you are in a similar position, when Jupiter returns to empathetic Cancer. Who knows whether the opportunity to extend your influence will mean as much to you then as it does now.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

While you and Scorpio might not be on the same page, you could be reading the same script. When the Scorpio sun trines your Jupiter ruler just after Election Day, a stroke of good fortune can come your way, perhaps even sneak up on you and catch you off guard. For the next four months, while protective Jupiter is retrograde, nothing may turn out to be what you expected. This is why you should trust your intuition when it comes to joint financial matters. Sexual encounters, too.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

Goats are usually eager to be named leader of the pack, but this week, it's your partner who gets the nod. While the Scorpio sun, in your house of group action, favors lucky Jupiter in your Cancer marriage house, good fortune comes to the person you're closest to. Maybe the group's attention will center on something trivial, like a dinner invite, maybe their approval will have significant political consequences? Whatever the scope of the supportive trine aspect turns out to be, make sure your partner can count on your support.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

Avatar or rock star? How will you react to the relatively rare merger of messianic Mars and musical, mystical Neptune in Aquarius that is exact on the 5th, Guy Fawkes Day? Maybe you'll settle for "true believer" or No. 1 fan? However the conjunction affects you, know that the cosmic energy unleashed when these planets team up is, in the original sense of the word, awesome. And awe is what you can inspire if you let the astrophysicist-poet-philosopher in you loose. Or maybe the combination of violent Mars and delusional Neptune will be your undoing? Critical times, eh?

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Read for Aquarius. It's your impressionable Neptune ruler that's being jolted by militant Mars, and while their meeting is taking place behind the scenes, its effect on you will be hard to hide. Another reason for this burst of blatant enthusiasm: a rewarding trine in water signs between the powerful Scorpio sun and expansive Jupiter in Cancer that reflects particularly well on Fish born on or about March 6. You could have a truly enlightening experience or you might merely enjoy a jolly good time—either way, you'll feel lucky that you're you.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Getting too much religious fervor? You can turn into the most devout of devotees this week when your Mars ruler merges with Neptune's limitless capacity to believe. This allegiance is usually bestowed on rock bands and football teams, but if you're an actor, photographer or pharmacologist you may become an idol/icon yourself. During these confusing days, Rams have a knack for pulling the wool over even a cynic's eyes. Pick your fantasy and live it to the hilt.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Suddenly "moving on" takes on another meaning. After your Venus ruler moves into Scorpio, the sign of your cosmic complement, a relationship that was primarily work-related develops a more pronounced "one-on-one" flavor. And, because Scorpio is Scorpio, a more palpable sexual attraction. You'll continue to enjoy the easy ability to speak your heart and mind, but you should not forget that underscoring the Scorpionic mood is a strong streak of secrecy and suspicion. Are you willing to go there?

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

The prospect of seeing a profit is always appealing, so while generous Jupiter in your money house receives support from the Scorpio sun, you could discover that, yes, you're on the right track. Going where, I'm not sure, but the next money-making opportunity may pop up while you're checking out the results of the election. Timing, it's been said, is everything. Once your Mercury ruler enters sexy Scorpio on the 7th, you're apt to be more secretive about your affairs and more eager to become embroiled in one.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

Prosperity, opportunity and smarts are some of the benefits of having magnanimous Jupiter transit your sign. The downside? Overconfidence, laziness and too great a reliance on sheer luck. No matter which direction you're headed, when the sun trines jolly Jupiter on the 7th, you'll appreciate the humor of your situation. You're also liable to stumble into a romance or a creative pastime you could learn to love. Failing that, there's always the prospect of winning the lottery, the office pool or otherwise cashing in on your good fortune.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Home security—both emotional and the kind that involves gates, locks and alarms—becomes more of a concern while the Scorpio sun illuminates the real estate section of your chart. The issue raised may not be that big a deal, e.g., an ordinary plumbing problem, but it can bring up memories of tense times past. Your parents may also claim more than their usual share of your attention. However, what a wary Lion should be looking out for is a sudden move a partner is about to pull on you.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Performers, i.e., the teachers, actors and athletes among you, possess a tremendous amount of charisma right now. Be extra conscious of its drop-dead effect on others, because you won't have much control over the use or abuse of this quasi-magical power until Veteran's Day. That's when your perceptive Mercury ruler gets a handle on Neptune's ability to cloud men's minds and you discover a way to cash in on the confusion, hoopla or glamour. It's also around the time the Harry Potter movie opens.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

Libra is luckier than most signs, and you know it. So while the sun in your Scorpio money house is favored by Jupiter in your career midheaven, don't gloat. Simply take the goodie, such as a promotion, a raise or praise, that is graciously bestowed on you and run. Someone who held out the promise of something you wanted and then didn't deliver could come back on your scene with a similar offer. Reversals of fortune, or "sweet get even" is what happens when Jupiter turns retrograde for its annual four-month retrogression.

Curious about the future? Order a personalized Transit Forecast (30 to 40+ pages) detailing the major themes and issues that will arise over the next 12 months. Send name, date, time and place of birth, plus a check or money order for $42.50 per report to: ROCKIE GARDINER, 6701 Colbath Ave., Valley Glen, CA 91405. *www.rockieheroscope.com*. Read my daily forecast online at www.laweekly.com.





Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF



From left: Vivian Spiro, Bobby Short and Ann Gund at the BPL Associates fund-raiser.

ISN'T IT ROMANTIC?...

As a refreshing departure from the intellectual broccoli they frequently serve up, the **Associates of the Boston Public Library** hosted an evening of jazz with legendary piano man **Bobby Short** at **Scullers**.

Proceeds went to restore original manuscripts in the library's music department, and the evening attracted such sophisticates as Cambridge grande dame **Ann Gund** and her architect husband, **Graham**; patrician party pair **Wat** and **Jane Tyler**; the unforgivably gorgeous **Nina Fialkow**; art supplies mogul **Lionel Spiro** and his stunning spouse, **Vivian**; library honcho **Bernie Margolis**; jazz impresario **Fred Taylor** (who thought up and arranged the whole event); literary dominatrix **Lucinda Jewell** of the *Boston Book Review*; singer/songwriter/socialite **Linda Comstock**; silver fox **Susan Paine**; philanthropist **Katherine Winter**; the hale and hearty **Reid Morrison**; Cartier muckety muck **Chris Shepherd** and the lovely **Lea Daughtridge**; mega-do-gooders **Paul** and **Katie Buttenweiser**; and so on and so forth.

While witty repartee was to be expected, especially during an evening dedicated to the music of the '30s and '40s, not even Cole Porter could have invented the following exchange, overheard in the audience before Short came onstage:

"So how old were you when you divorced your second husband for the second time?"

"Oh, I never did. I was afraid I'd be tempted to get married again, so technically he's still my husband."

IT TAKES EVERY KIND OF PEOPLE...

No, **Robin Brown** is not the messiah, although one could be forgiven for thinking so, based upon the tribute paid to him at a farewell/welcome back extravaganza held at the **Wang Center**.

The black-tie blow-out, drolly titled **Paint the Town Brown**, was a fund-raiser for an Alzheimer's research and education fund named for Robin's father, **Jim**, who suffers from the disease. The occasion was to mark the end of the affable hotelier's 13-year tenure as GM of the Four Seasons and the beginning of a new hotel project he's launching with real estate tycoons **Steve Weiner** and **Julian Cohen**.

The event began with cocktails and canapes in the cavernous marble lobby, which was decorated to a fare-thee-well with elaborate bouquets and candy-colored votive candles, followed by a toast and roast in the rococo auditorium and a sumptuous dinner on the Wang stage, during which Brown received telephone greetings from celebrity friends who couldn't make it—**Michael J. Fox**, **Aerosmith** and **Keith Lockhart** among them.

The mind-boggling guest list included such heavy-hitters as former ambassador to Tanzania **Charles Stith** and physician/fashion plate **Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith**; Bethel A.M.E. pastor **Ray Hammond**; former Boston and New York police chief **Bill Bratton** and his luscious brunette consort, *Court TV* personality **Rikki Klieman**; Houghton Mifflin main man **Nader Darehshori** and his other half, **Cynthia**; hockey legend **Cam Neely** with the drool-inducing **Paulina**; kilt-sporting Wang director **Josiah Spaulding Jr.** and his globe-trotting mother, **Helen**; best-selling scribbler **Robert B. Parker** and his soignee spouse, **Joan**; *Herald* gossipeuses **Laura Raposa** and **Gayle Fee**; go-to guy **Larry Moulter**; Boston's answer to Elsa Maxwell, **Bryan Rafanelli**; TV personalities **Emily Rooney**, **Joyce Kulhawik** and **Kasey Kaufman**; Patriots big cheese **Bob Kraft** and the indomitable **Myra**; spinmeister extraodinaire **George Regan**; philanthropists about town **Susan** and **Bill Poduska**; debonair plutocrat **Paul Verrochi** and his breathtaking bride, **Kelly**; celebrity chefs **Jamie Mammano** and **Michael Schlow**; mustachioed megamillionaire **George Cloutier**; the design duo of **Chris Drake** and **Lee Bierly**; preppy scamp **Trip Elmore**; sleep-deprived proud parents **Wendy** and **Chip Pierce**; comedian/TV star **Lenny Clarke**; comedian/radio host **Steve Sweeney**; Kiss 108 morning mouth **Matt Siegel**; WBZ top dog **Ed Goldman**; rock promoter **Don Law** and nightlife kingpin **Patrick Lyons**—in short, just about every Who's Who entry from here to Whoville.







At the MFA's Black and White Ball, clockwise from upper left: Ricardo James-Branger and Enid Beal; BMaynard Scarborough and Liz Walker; Angela Mah and Stephen Jerome.

Despite numerous side-splitting comments from Brown's friends and colleagues, the evening's funniest remark was unintentional and came when one of the speakers said, "the extent to which Robin has become part of the city is a testament to Boston's diversity."

If a white Anglo-Saxon protestant male indicates diversity, we're in serious trouble, but even so, it's abundantly clear that Brown's all that and a bag of chips.

MEOW...

Truman Capote would've been proud of the **MFA**, which borrowed his idea of throwing a **Black and White Ball** to mark the opening of the new exhibit ***The Look: Images of Glamour and Style***.

Seen swanning around the museum looking like photographic negatives were various and sundry scenesters like fashion designer **Geoffrey Beene**; **Nick von Heune** (the nephew of George Hoyningen-Heune, one of the subjects of the show); anchor glamazon **Liz Walker**; incorrigible cutup **BMaynard Scarborough**; Venezuelan smoothie **Ricardo James-Branger**; noted art collector **Enid Beal**; junior socialites **Sandy** and **Robert Krakoff**; gallery owner **Robert Klein** (whose specialty is photography); Channel 38 factotums **Lee Kimberg** and **Heather Roberts**; top-hatted antiquarian **Stephen Jerome**; curvaceous *Asian Spectrum* anchor **Angela Mah**; and numerous others who were every bit as sparkly.

"The '30s were so glamorous," said one attendee, perusing the exhibit. "I wish I'd been alive then."

"Funny," said her friend. "I assumed you were." iB













At the Robin Brown gala, top row from left: Ambassador Charles Stith; Marcia and Robin Brown; Paulina and Cam Neely; Bill Bratton and Rikki Klieman; Kelly and Paul Verrochi. Bottom, from left: Dan Mullin, Joyce Kulhawik, Kasey Kaufman and Michael Horowitz; Lenny Clarke, Paula Miller and Patrick Lyons.

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contents

NOVEMBER 21-DECEMBER 4, 2001



18

David Crohan and his guide dog, Witness, entertain the crowd at the Bay Tower Room. Below: Lenny Clarke. Micho Spring.



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Michael Indresano**

Grooming: **Rae Bertellotti/Team**
On Lenny Clarke: **Polo Ralph Lauren Sleepwear: plaid robe and plaid drawstring pant provided by Filene's.**
Gifts/Props provided by: **Gucci, EBX, Neiman Marcus, Headgames, William-Sonoma of Copley Place; Shreve Crump and Low, Dapy, and Bang and Olafson.**

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FEATURES

16 Soroff On/Lenny Clarke
Lenny Clarke talks about his buddy Denis Leary and going from being chased by cops to playing one on TV. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

18 Play It Again
Visit the last outposts of genteel entertainment, where live piano players tickle the keyboards in "come what may places". BY DORIE CLARK

20 30 Gifts Under $30
What could be simpler? A list of clever gifts to help in the seasonal quest for giving the right thing. BY KERRIN HURLEY
PHOTOGRAPHS BY DARISA CLARKE AND KRISTIN WEBSTER

22 Boston's Latinos
Surveying our town's invisible community and, by the way, the city's and the nation's fastest-growing minority. BY J.R. RICHARDS

26 Compact Convenience
All-in-one face palettes to simplify your beauty regimen.
BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

31 Fashion: Me and My Shadow
Eclectic garb that's sure to inspire a double-take.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY RICHARD BERTONE



16



22

COLUMNS

6 The Word
Lazy Susan Cafe; Botox parties; Scooby Snacks; Paper Source

10 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

12 E-Boston
Programmers rule the world.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 Ezra
Endearing quirks or bizarre depravities? You make the call.
BY EZRA DYER

36 Mopsy
Hypoallergenic furniture; Sylvia Plath's steamy love life; women who help women
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

58 Film
Shallow Hal tries to go deep.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

66 Music
Dispatch is exploding out of the underground scene—and the music industry is starting to notice.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

88 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

38 Dining
Olive Oyl's offers robust Italian food at rock-bottom prices.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

40 Dish
Saying bon voyage to Julia Child.
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

40 Wine
A brief Q&A addresses, among other things, the age-old question of how to avoid a hangover.
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

41 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: all about olive oil.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 43.
Crafts at the Castle • **Bob Dylan** • *Insurrection Mass with Funeral Marches for Rotten Ideas* • Harpoon Christmas Party • **Osha Gray Davidson** • *Messiah* at Symphony Hall • **Luciano Pavarotti** • **Errol Morris**

ET CETERA

Letters 4
Improperazzi 80
Improper Shopper 81
Improper Sightings 84
Improper Impersonals 86
Rockie Horoscope 87

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COPLEY PLACE

letters

DIVERSITY EXPLAINED

Nice piece on the Robin Brown event ("Last Scene Here," Nov. 7). I am the one who Jonathan Soroff referred to as making the unintentional but funny remark about diversity. Nice catch! What I was trying to say but obviously didn't do well was indicate that Boston has become a more wide-open city in terms of accepting the diversity of points of view provided by people like Robin. Twenty years ago, an outsider such as Robin, or even me, a kid from Connecticut, would not have gotten to the table to work on changing Boston. I guess I need to be a bit more clear next time.

Thanks again for the catch, and I enjoy "Last Scene" immensely. Keep it going.

—LARRY MOULTER

EXPOS-EH?

Bill Chuck: Great article on the importance of baseball to American society. But the Blue Jays might disagree that only U.S. teams participate in the World Series. Don't worry, I'm sure no one from Montreal noticed.

—STEVE SMITH

WHO'S MINDING THE STORE IN 'PENNYSLVANIA'?

Who's minding the store at the IMPROPER? So Nancy Kerrigan likes to go snowmobiling in northern New Hampshire. That's great. But Pittsburgh is in Pennyslvania. The snowmobiling mecca Nancy likes is Pittsburg.

—CARLOS MELVILLE



Marcy and Robin Brown

TWENTY YEARS AGO, AN OUTSIDER SUCH AS ROBIN WOULD NOT HAVE GOTTEN TO THE TABLE TO WORK ON CHANGING BOSTON.

—LARRY MOULTER

THE BOONS AND BUMMERS OF A HIGH-TECH WORLD

I'm a reader of Geoffrey James' columns in the IMPROPER, and I enjoy reading them because they are informative and fun—one doesn't have to be an engineer to understand them. Two columns in particular made me laugh a lot: "A Bad Case of Jetson-Lag," on home networking, and the latest one, on personal ads. The first brought to mind an image of a person strapped into a computer that does everything for them, including walk ("For your safety and comfort, let us do the walking for you" motto), and the latter reminded me of a personal ad I saw once (in the *Globe?*), starting with "Big, hairy male..." I still laugh about this. I grew up in Greece, and the ads there are also fun: "Serious gentleman, with best intentions, financially independent..." In the U.S., everyone is good-looking and athletic; in Greece, they are all serious businessmen from good families!

Please also write an article, unless you've already done so, on the ridiculous complexity of communication modes, and how we are increasingly wrapping ourselves up in more extension cords, systems and devices and making our lives harder (voice mail, caller ID, cell phone systems, PalmPilot, PC, laptop, etc.). Is there such a thing as "electronic device burnout," and have you seen people starting to show signs of it so far? How do real people deal with that and with the "available 24/7" stress? Do you think there will be a revolt one day, and people will start ignoring messages? ("I'm back to carrier pigeons, myself.") With best wishes,

—ARTEMIS HIONIDES

Tell Us What You Think

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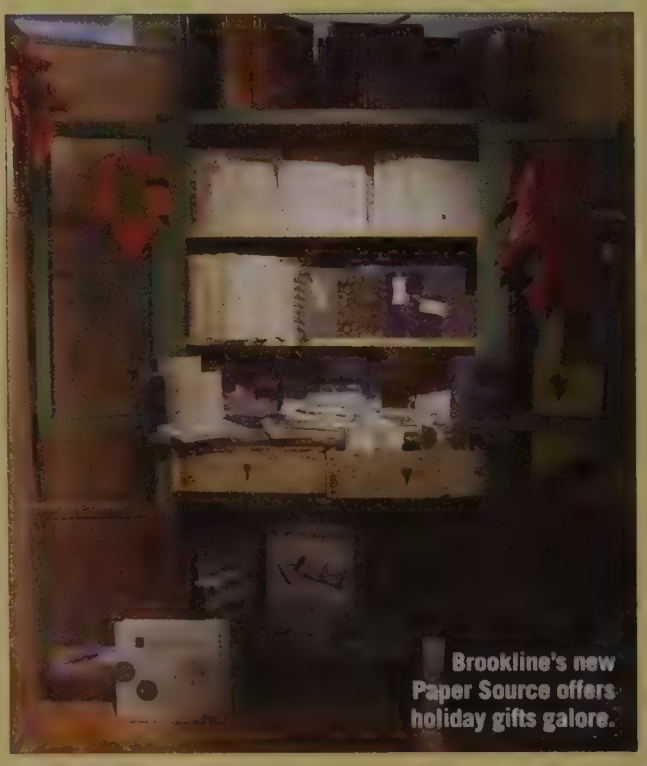


NEW IN TOWN

FINE PASTRY AND PAPER

After a five-month hiatus, the greatly missed Lazy Susan Café reopened at 96 Peterborough St. in the Fenway at the beginning of November. A neighborhood standby, the cozy little boîte is known for its European atmosphere, aromatic coffee and signature coffee cake, but also serves an appetizing selection of soups, salads and sandwiches. One rumor attributes the temporary shutdown to owner Susan Callendar's bustling catering business, Boston Unique Events, which was allegedly overwhelmed with business. As far as the café is concerned, maybe they should've renamed it Crazy Susan's?

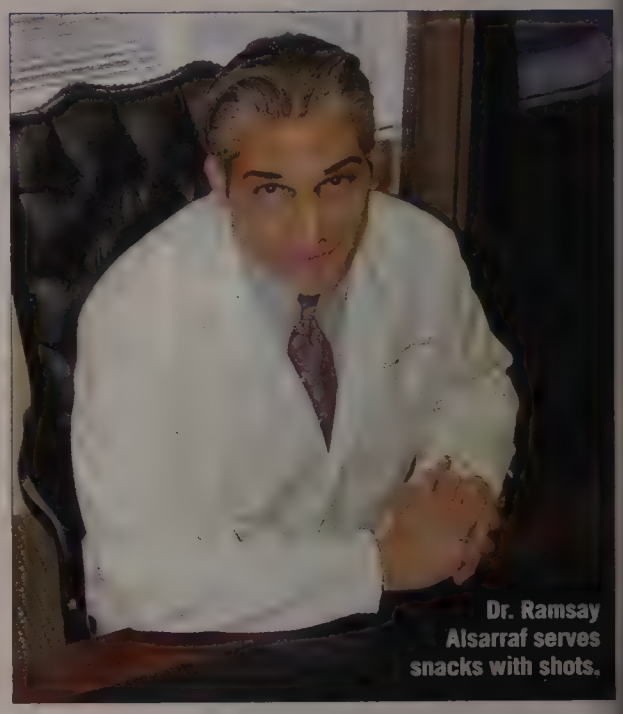
Just in time for the holidays, the Chicago-based chain Paper Source opened its second Boston-area location at 1361 Beacon St. in Brookline's Coolidge Corner. Like its sister store in Porter Square, this purveyor of fine papers for any purpose also carries photo albums, journals, pens, gift wrap, ribbon, greeting cards, stickers, how-to books, gifts and various other knick-knacks. Their exotic hand-made papers from Nepal, China, Japan and India make elegant backgrounds for invitations and even company letterhead, and most of the paper they stock can be fed into your home computer's printer (617-264-2800).—*Jonathan Soroff*



Brookline's new Paper Source offers holiday gifts galore.

ALL THE BUZZ

BOTOX BASH



Dr. Ramsay Alsarraf serves snacks with shots.

Tupperware parties are so passé. The new "party" phenomenon will leave you looking like you turned back the clock—on your face. Botox parties are gatherings where ladies (and men) can snack while smoothing away signs of aging. Boston has joined the ranks of youth-obsessed cities like L.A., London and New York, with the Newbury Center for Cosmetic Facial Plastic Surgery now offering customized Botox party packages.

Dr. Ramsay Alsarraf, director of the center, has been hosting parties since July and has catered to a half-dozen groups—both with custom treatments and gourmet fare from the Seasonal Table. For the uninformed, Botox is a medical toxin used in tiny amounts to freeze the wrinkle-causing muscles of the face. It's injected during a faster-than-you-can-say-"ouch" five-minute procedure. "The results are immediate with no unsightly side effects," Alsarraf claims, "and skin stays wrinkle-free for six months." Treatments range from $400 to $500, but the party rate is discounted to $350 per person, including light fare and beverages. Wrinkle-free and well-fed, it's only steps to a swank salon to continue the pampering, but if you'd rather show off your youthful new look, keep on sashaying down that catwalk called Newbury Street. *The Newbury Center for Cosmetic Facial Plastic Surgery, 69 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0500).—Leah Gourley*

CLUB HUBBUB

NO BULL



Jessica Milliard shakes it up.

At his recent Innovator of the Year fete by *Nightclub and Bar* magazine, Palace owner Russell Robbat confessed that staying ahead in the club game means playing hardball. For instance, when mechanical bulls came out, he threw down $100 bills until the mechanical-bull manufacturer agreed to let him jump the six-month waiting list to get one. Then he broke out some more Benjamins until the guy also agreed not to sell one to anybody else in New England for another six months. So if you want your own motorized spaceship that drives out over the dance floor and lowers a dancer from its belly, like Robbat has unveiled at Tilt, maybe you should wait awhile.

If you want to help victims of the Sept. 11 attacks, one excellent way to get money to people who need it is to go to events that benefit specific families (thus eliminating the Red Cross middleman). Example: On Oct. 27, The Rack managed to raise $150,000, which will go directly to a scholarship fund for the children of Amy Sweeney, a flight attendant on Flight 11.

On Nov. 5 Jessica Milliard won top honors among Bostonians in the Skyy Vodka bartender competition at La Boom. Milliard stirs things up at TGI Friday's in North Attleboro.

Coming soon: Roggie's has already installed a T-1 data line and hopes to offer high-speed Internet access at every table by the end of this year. There will also be a floating Apple G4 for laptop-challenged patrons. Take heed, type-A personalities, because "I've got work to do" will no longer be a valid excuse not to hit the bars. —*Ezra Dyer*



From left: Former Bruins Bob Sweeney and Ray Bourque with Michael Sweeney at The Rack's benefit party.

TOP LEFT AND TOP RIGHT: DARISA CLARKE; BOTTOM LEFT: KRISTIN WEBSTER

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TIDBITS & MORSELS

GOURMAND GOSSIP

•It's nice to know that even in uncertain times, there are still mouthwatering new eateries opening their doors. The bevy of spectacular soirées last week included Bonfire, Metro, Fifty Seven and Blu—giving us a sizable increase in our fine dining options.

•Alabama-born chef James Stanley, formerly of Pignoli and Elephant Walk, has a unveiled a new tapas menu at Flash's. Featured are such creations as fried polenta sticks with pan-seared mango ravioli, rock shrimp in garlic sauce with toast, and little burger patties with a side of barbecue sauce.

•Parish Cafe has added some new sandwiches to its menu, including the S.D.L.T., a smoked duck sandwich created by Geoff Gardner of Sel De La Terre. Also new is the Limbo Schtick (smoked trout on toasted brioche) created by Charles Draghi of Limbo and The Carter (lump crab cake sandwich) by Neal Carter, chef at Flemming's.

•Aspiring comedian Bethany Van Delft has added to her credentials by manning the kitchen for the late shift over at jazzy Les Zygomates. Word is she may be branching out and joining a well-traveled chef in a new venture.

•Union Square's Independent Restaurant & Bar welcomes head chef Mark Usewicz, formerly sous-chef at Aspasia. He brings with him a bistro-style menu with French and Spanish influences. Usewicz will also offer a late-night bar menu.

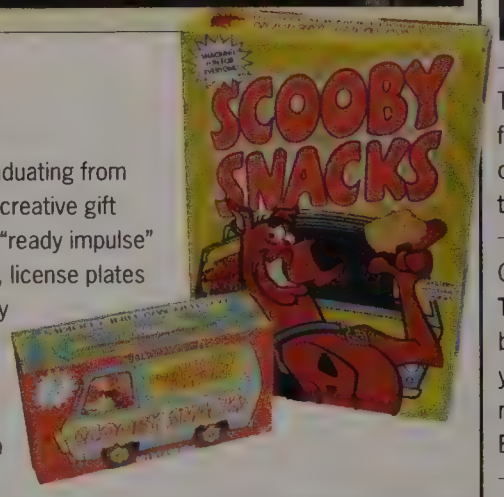
•In honor of its 10th anniversary on Newbury, Capital Grille donated a whopping $2,500 to Project Bread. Celebrating here are managing partner Christopher Scott; Brian Foye, regional director of operations; Erica Rattet, sales manager; Richard Brackett, managing partner for the Grille; David Hirschberg, director of development; and Kim Gallagher, Project Bread's assistant director of development.



THIS JUST IN

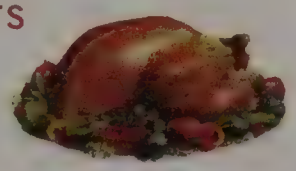
CINEMA-INSPIRED SNACKS

Boston resident **Matt Kavet** knows a thing or two about marketing. After graduating from Skidmore College, he returned to his hometown of Boston and began selling creative gift items. He started Boston America, a product line that makes and distributes "ready impulse" products. His first hit came in '96 with a line of *Beavis & Butthead* aftershave, license plates and the like. He followed it up with a line of Cheesy Poofs from the hit comedy *South Park*. Now, there's 10 people who work out of Watertown, creating things like Powerpuff Girls' Power Sour candies and Spider-Man sour spray. The gang also came out with a line of Scooby Doo products (the movie is coming out in June). Look for them at stores like Newbury Comics, Bed, Bath & Beyond and Spencer Gifts.—*Erin Hagedorn*



IMPROPER REPORTS

A LOAD OF TURKEY



•**Fresh turkey**: 78¢/1 lb. *Star Market, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-262-4688)*

•**Tofurky**: $19.99. *Bread and Circus, 15 Westland Ave., Boston (617-375-1010)*

•**Turkey breast dinner**, with three sides and corn bread: $6.99. *Boston Market, 245 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-4447)*

•**Oberto Turkey Jerky**: $5.99. *7-Eleven, 722 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-277-4665)*

•**Roundtrip flight to Istanbul, Turkey**: $1,155.31. *Delta Airlines (800-241-4141)*

•**Liter of Wild Turkey Bourbon Whiskey**: $24.99. *Blanchard's, 108 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-9500)*

THE DISSED LIST

TAKEN FOR A JOY RIDE

It's just as we'd always suspected. On a recent Sunday, one of our staffers was attending a function at the Fairmont Copley Plaza, pulling up out front and leaving his car with the valet. (The valet company is, of course, an independent service separate from the hotel.) When he emerged two hours later, not only had the driver's seat been pulled up, but all three mirrors had been adjusted and the steering wheel repositioned. Confirming his worst fears, the gas tank, which had been filled immediately prior to his arrival, was down a tick or two on the gauge, indicating that someone had driven it at least as far as Somerville. The only good news: The console full of quarters was apparently untouched.—*Jonathan Soroff*



SAM SAYS

ON THE MEND

One of the hottest young jewelry designers, Louise Damiano of De Merini Designs, has suffered from a broken heart. We all have. But instead of consuming a gallon of Häagen Dazs and crying herself to sleep for a week (like the rest of us), Damiano decided to take a more uplifting approach to her heartache. So she designed the Guarded Heart.

It's a pendant that uses 18-karat gold and scattered diamonds to wrap and embrace the heart. Damiano says that the heart is a symbol of "strength from within" and hopes that it will provide some relief to aching hearts in the world. De Merini jewelry is available at Shreve, Crump & Low. *330 Boylston St., Boston (617-267-9100). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.—Samantha House*

IMPROPER SPEAKING

MARTINIS & MATCHMAKERS

The Museum of Fine Arts has finally figured out what's missing from an afternoon of art appreciation: a stiff drink. Swing by the museum's new bar in the Fraser Restaurant to sample one of the specialties like a Coco Chanel cosmopolitan (cassis and fresh raspberries), Marlene Dietrich martini (goldwasser liquor), black-and-white martini (vanilla vodka, crème de cacao and licorice) or the swingin' sake martini (sake and pickled shallots). After you're really lubed up, head to the *The Look* exhibition.

They may look like any other saplings, but the 11 new trees lining the walkway near the Parkman Bandstand on the Boston Common have a bit more significance. They were planted Nov. 15 to commemorate the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks at a small ceremony that included Peg Ogonowski, wife of Flight 11 **Captain John Ogonowski**. May the trees grow tall and green.



If you were one of the many disappointed people that were shut out of the S.R.O. crowd for the Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theater's "Together at Last" benefit discussion between über-politicos **Noam Chomsky**, **Jimmy Tingle** (left) and **Howard Zinn** last August, you're in luck. The theater is releasing a limited-edition CD recording of the event. (866-282-9428) or *www.what.org*.

Temple Beth Shalom in Cambridge became a mini-Hollywood set, if only for a few days, last month. Brookline director **Lieb Cohen** was spotted directing his own daughter **Sarah** and his leading lady **Rebecca Pidgeon** in a scene from the forthcoming indie film *Advice and Dissent*.



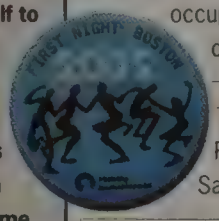
One of the IMPROPER's Most Beloved Bartenders, **Bobby Carroll** of **The Rattlesnake**, fell down on the job recently—literally. He broke his back. Word is that he'll be out of work for at least a year or two. On Dec. 1, his fans will rally together and raise money for his hospital expenses at the Baseball Tavern at 1306 Boylston St. (617-247-8152). Tickets are available for $20.

Boston was fortunate enough to be included in Lycos ***Matchmaker.com***'s 10-city Love Tour, which stopped in at Jake Ivory's on Lansdowne Nov. 7. Aiming to hook up singles with dates for New Year's, Jake and Vito, two of *Matchmaker.com*'s most eligible bachelors, handed out free two-week memberships to the Web site. No word yet if any dates were made.

Celtics co-captain **Paul Pierce** took time out from modeling for his upcoming *Sports Illustrated* spread to read to students at Beethoven Elementary School, along with fellow guard Milt Palacio and head trainer Ed LaCerte, Nov. 15. On the good-guy scale, a three-pointer for the Celts.



During the 1980s, Ian Schrager's **Paramount** and **Morgan Hotels** brought back the concept of a boutique hotel into public discourse. Amenities included designer accoutrements, personal attention and, of course, a small inventory of rooms. In Boston there are a handful that fit that category: the The Eliot Hotel, Newbury Guest House and VX Beacon among them. Mark Hagopian, who has been involved with the latter two, is all set to unveil his 33-room boutique hotel, The **Charlesmark** in December. The hotel, which occupies all but the building's first floor (home to Moto Photo), is directly across from the Boston Public Library.



The unveiling of the **First Night Boston 2002** button at the Park Plaza Hotel on Nov. 15 revealed a stunning design by Boston artist Sarah Hutton. They'll be on sale soon. —*R.B., L.G., E.H. and J.S.*

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

CAPITAL GRILLE: DARISA CLARKE. CHARLESMARK: ROBERT BIRNBAUM





Harpoon
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at the Brewery in Boston, MA

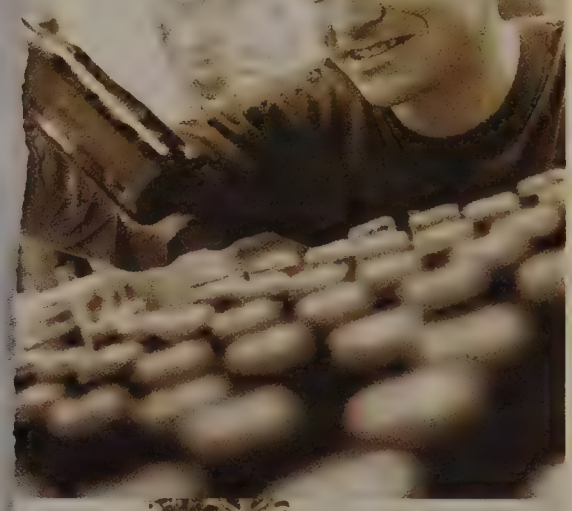
Friday, November 30th, 5:30 - 11:00 pm
Saturday, December 1st, 2:00 - 11:00 pm
Entrance closes by 9:30 pm each night

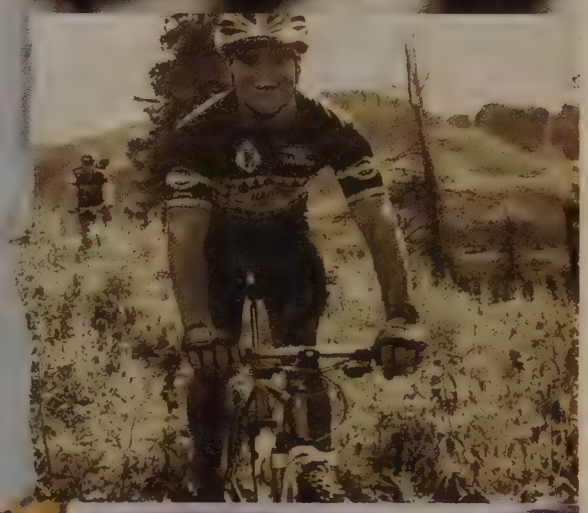
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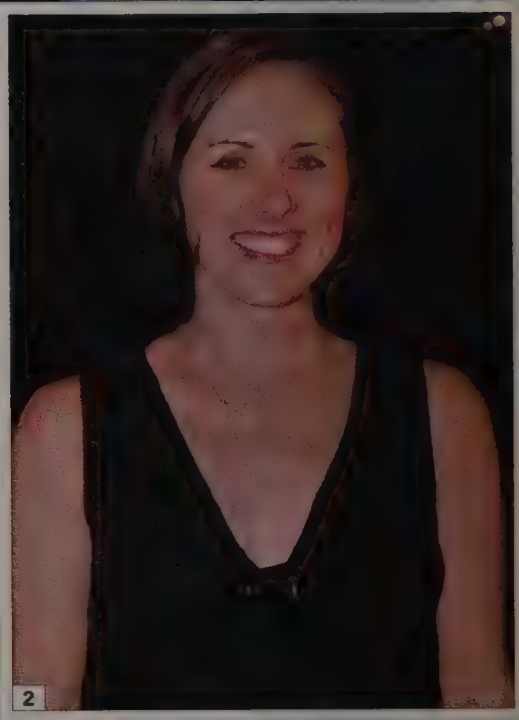
Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY


1

The Farrelly Brothers hosted the official East Coast premiere party for their new comedy, *Shallow Hal*, at the Viking Hotel Nov. 8.

1. Directors **Peter** (l) and **Bobby Farrelly**.
2. *Saturday Night Live*'s **Molly Shannon**.
3. **Tony Robbins**, self-help guru, who plays himself in *Shallow Hal*, and his wife, **Sage**.
4. Actor **Rene Kirby**.
5. **Erin Baumgartner** (l), wife of former Boston Bruin Ken Baumgartner, and **Shannon Hayden**.
6. Actors **Sean Gildea** (l) and **Terry Mullany**.


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6

The Friends of the Armenian Culture presented the highly acclaimed world premiere of Rouben Gregorian Armenian Divine Liturgy, starring conductor Leon Gregorian, at Symphony Hall Nov. 4. More than 2,500 people attended the concert, which honored the 1,700th anniversary of Armenia's accepting Christianity as its state religion.


7

7. **Sandra Cerda**, pathologist at Boston Medical Center, and her sisters, **Elizabeth Cerda**, attorney at LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae, and **Yolanda Cerda**, intern at Suffolk Superior Court.
8. **Bryan Talanian**, president of Talanian Insurance in Weymouth, and his wife, **Carol**.
9. **Peter Koutoujian**, state representative from Waltham, **Rachel Kaprielian**, state representative from Watertown, and **Robert Barsam**, national commander of the Knights of Vartan.
10. **Joseph Keikian**, owner of Boston Bijoux, **Arman Mahserejian**, operations manager for Boston Cab, and **Nigoghos Atinizian**, owner of Vast Capital Management in Cambridge, and **Vahe Kebabjian**, field services manager for AT&T.
11. Rev. **Vasken Kouzouian**, of Holy Trinity Armenian Church in Cambridge, and his wife, **Arpie**. Rev. **Arakel Aljalian**, of St. James Armenian Church in Watertown, and his wife, Natasha.
12. **Leon Gregorian** (l), conductor, and **Robert Avakian**, president of the Friends of the Armenian Culture Society.


8


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11


12



Tyranny of the Programmer

Don't kid yourselves, CEOs: Programmers rule the world

The idea that corporate executives and politicians are controlling our lives is a total myth. After years of thinking about the real source of power, I'm convinced that programmers basically rule the world. Let me give you an example: America Online has just released the seventh version of its proprietary interface to the Internet. AOL Time Warner is hyping this new version to the hilt, clearly hoping that millions of AOL users will upgrade ASAP to get dozens of " new features." Now, AOL Time Warner is the largest media company in the world. It employs more than 80,000 people and has a yearly revenue of around $8 billion. You'd think that a company that large, with that many people, would be able to come up with a computer program that works correctly.

I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT AOL'S PROGRAMMERS HAD A CHOICE BETWEEN DELIVERING A PROGRAM THAT ACTUALLY WORKED AND A PROGRAM THAT WAS INTERNALLY ELEGANT AND SELF-SUFFICIENT.

But you'd be wrong. After I installed the new version on my machine, I discovered that AOL 7.0 wouldn't detect whether I had mail. While it was something of a relief not to have to hear that annoyingly perky "You've got mail," I've got a business to run and I need to know if somebody has sent me a message. I called AOL support to find out how to fix the problem. They suggested that I de-install all the versions of AOL on my system and then reinstall version 7.0. I almost did this without realizing that this would have deleted my "file cabinet," which contained all the e-mail for my personal and professional life—probably the most-important collection of data on my machine. Needless to say, I decided not to take this action and I intend to use version 6.0 for as long as it continues to work adequately. (It's never worked right, either.)

Now, you're probably thinking that the difficulties with the AOL interface are simply the result of human error. You are incorrect. I am certain—absolutely certain—that AOL's programmers had excellent reasons (at least in their own minds) for implementing the program the way they did. Having worked as a programmer for many years, I can assure you that AOL's programmers had a choice between delivering a program that actually worked and a program that was internally elegant and self-consistent. In the grand tradition of programmers the world over, they picked the latter.

Now I'm sure that, given the choice, most of AOL's executives would have preferred their programmers to release a program that actually worked. Dream on. The programmers built the thing the way they wanted, probably because they were sick of worrying about being backward compatible to earlier versions of the interface. The programmers' solution: Get people to delete all the old versions of AOL, even if it destroys five years' worth of correspondence.

Programmers rule the world.

I recently ran into another illustration of this. There is a program called SAW that's used in radio production. The interface to the program allows the user to select the colors for various buttons, gauges and other items drawn on the screen. If you try to set the tracking cursor to a particular color, say "green," it turns the cursor to "red" and vice versa. This is not a bug. If you look carefully on the color-change window, the cursor control has the cryptic notation "XOR" next to it.



Now, as a former programmer, I know that XOR is a computer instruction that essentially means "this is reversed." Thus, if you try to set the cursor to any color, it will set it to the opposite color, like on the color wheel that you did in sixth-grade art class. Apparently the programmer figured that everybody would know what "XOR" means. I can easily imagine that, right as you read this, there are at least a dozen frustrated radio technicians, swearing under their breath while trying, over and over again, to set the cursor to a color that they can see on a red background.

Programmers rule. They do whatever they want and the rest of the world be damned.

By the way, programmers are fully aware of their vast power. To illustrate this, I'm going to recount a true story that I included, in an abbreviated form, in *The Zen of Programming*.

The onetime president of Honeywell Information Systems was touring the offices at a software research and development facility. As he walked the halls, the facility's managers scrambled along behind him, desperately looking for opportunities to do some creative proctosculation. (If you don't know what this word means, the root is the same as for "proctologist.")

The president, who was wearing a bespoke Brooks Brothers suit, walked into the office of one of the operating system programmers. Now, operating system programmers are the high priests of high tech and this guy was no exception. He was surrounded by screens and keyboards—some of which were propped upon open desk drawers, and he had jimmied his swivel chair so that it was riding about a foot from the ground. The programmer's hair hung down across the back of seat, almost touching the floor.

The programmer glanced up and then returned to work. The president gave a little cough and looked uncomfortable for a second. Then, turning to the managers, he said: "I've always been fascinated by the curios and mementos that programmers collect in their offices. They always seem to have some special meaning." Then he looked down at the programmer, pointed to a figurine of a pig perched on top of one of the screens, and said: " For example, what's the significance of that little statue?"

The programmer looked up at him, blinked, and then stared at the statue as if he were seeing it for the first time. "It's a pig," he said. iB

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of *The Tao of Programming* and *The Zen of Programming* as well as numerous other books and articles about technology and high tech culture.

BROOKE RICHARD

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Analyze This

Bananaphobia, air-typing and other lunchtime revelations

Everybody's got eccentricities. My mother's obsession with water, for instance, would probably provide a psychologist with months of fodder. Lately she's taken to driving from the North Shore to Maine to fill water jugs from some beaver-contaminated "secret spring." She does this because buying Poland Spring was getting to be too expensive, what with keeping the dog's water bowl topped off. I argue that a creature who enjoys licking the cat could probably live with city water, but if she wants to give him bottled water (or now, beaver water), that's her business. And while my mom's water obsession is certainly odd, at a recent company lunch I learned that many of my co-workers harbor quirks that make my mom's look almost normal.

SOON PEOPLE BEGAN RATTING EACH OTHER OUT. AIR-TYPIST, IT WAS REVEALED, ALSO WASHES HER OFFICE KEYS EVERY TIME SHE'S IN THE BATHROOM (WHICH MUST BE DIFFICULT WHILE AIR-TYPING "GERMS!").

The revelations began with a conversation about typing. I mentioned that I don't know how to type. (Due to a paperwork error, I was never required to take typing class in high school. Which is unfortunate, because my high school turns out typists with the same rigor that West Point turns out military officers. I had one friend who was forced to take typing even though he was born with only three fingers on each hand. He failed the class.) When I said that I can't type, a co-worker countered that she can't *stop* typing. She types everything she sees or hears. "If I'm walking down the street and I see a stop sign, my fingers are moving in my pockets typing out s-t-o-p," she said. "I type the names of objects. I type what people are saying. Try it." "I am obsessive-compulsive," I offered. I watched as she typed it, her left pinky even flying over to an imaginary shift key to capitalize the "I." Then I quietly thanked whoever messed up my typing paperwork back in high school.

This opened the floodgates. People wanted more. So I admitted that I wipe the steam off the bathroom mirror in the morning with my boxers (not while I'm wearing them, mind you). This prompted a "Uggghhhh!" from everyone, which, incidentally, is the same response it elicited from my roommates the first time I mentioned this habit. Really, I don't see what the problem is. I throw my shorts on the floor, get in the shower and then wipe off the mirror with them before I shave. Why is that gross? You look in the mirror, you don't touch it. Unless you've got some issues of your own, hmm?

Soon people began ratting each other out. Air-Typist, it was revealed, also washes her office keys every time she's in the bathroom, and then uses a paper towel to grab the door handle on the way out (washing the keys must be difficult while simultaneously air-typing "Germs! Germs are on me everywhere!"). I started to feel quite well-adjusted.

Throughout this there was one person sitting there silently, which surprised me. I knew that she at least harbored a strange hatred of bananas, a neurosis that I'd recently discovered when she was driven from my office, shivering in disgust, by a banana sitting on my desk. "What about you?" I asked Banana-Loather.

"I don't like to eat the edges of things," she replied, motioning to the pizza in front of her, which was middle-less but still had the edges quite intact. "Big deal," I said. "Plenty of people don't like crusts." "No, it's not crusts. I can't even eat the edge of a cookie. Just the middle. And I can't say 'Au Bon Pain.' It has to be 'ABP.' And my clock's alarm setting has to end in three or seven. And I can't shower when it's light out because I need all night to dry. I sometimes get lost on my way to work. Last week I was driving home from Syracuse and didn't realize I was going the wrong way until I was on the Tappan Zee Bridge in New York. I have to switch sides of the bed halfway through the night, every night. I only chew on the left side of my mouth, and I have cavities on that side but not the other. And I never washed my feet until college." Whoa, girl.

Aren't personal nuances great? These wonderful idiosyncrasies help us affirm ourselves as individuals, priceless and irreplicable, singular in a world of mass-produced ennui. I feel honored to work with such a unique group of people. However, just to be on the safe side, from now on I'm keeping a bunch of bananas on my desk. IB

You think that's funny?

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RITA GREELEY

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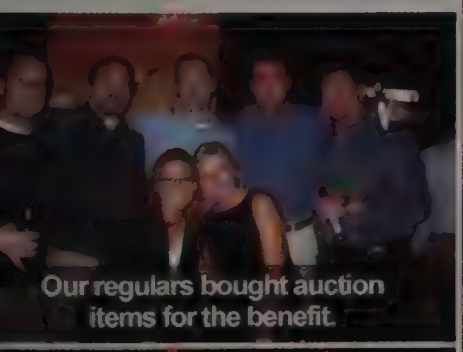
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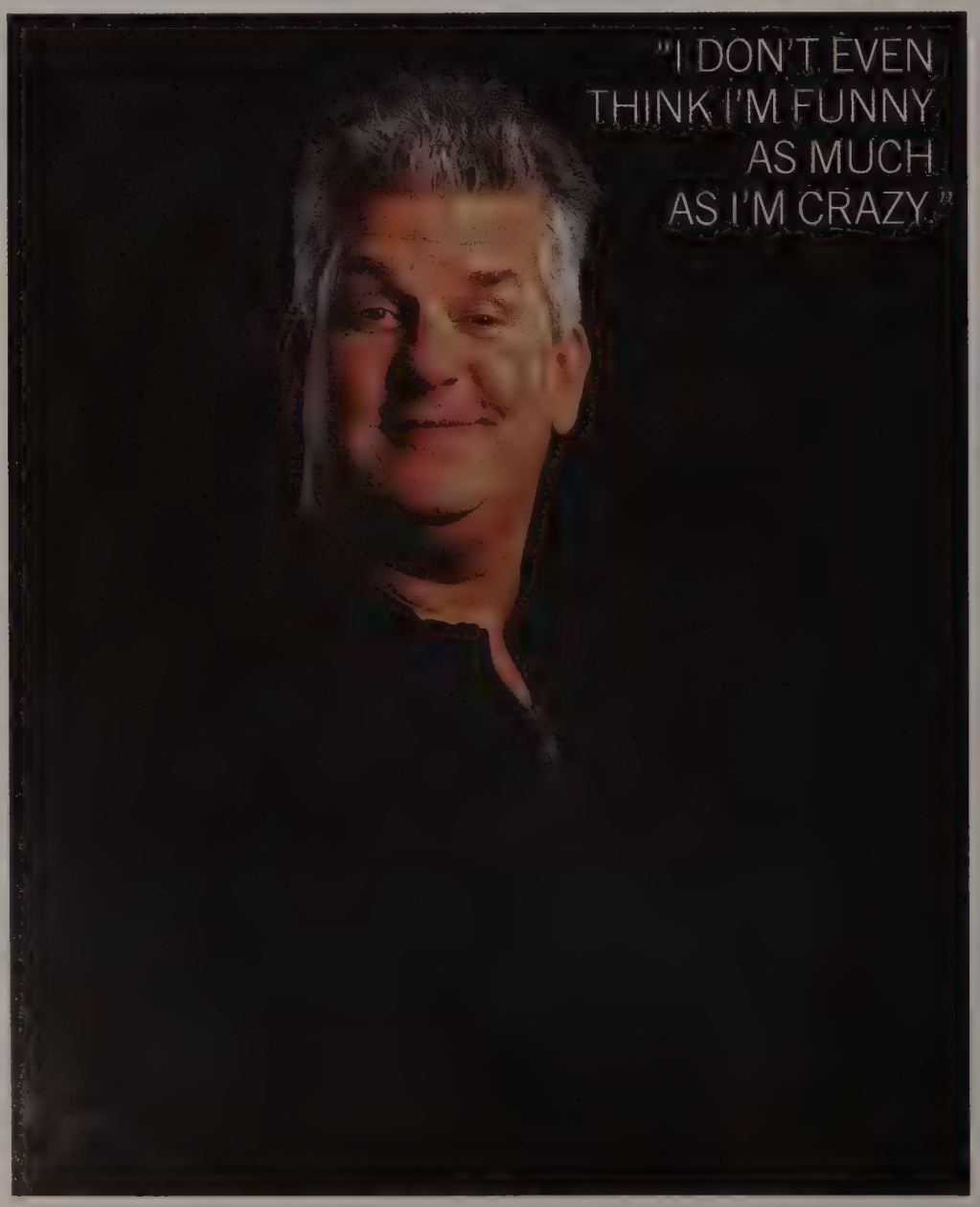
Soroff/On

Lenny Clarke

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Lenny Clarke was born and raised in Cambridge, one of eight children. After graduating from Cambridge High and Latin, he went to UMass Boston. He began doing stand-up comedy at the Ding-Ho restaurant in Cambridge and spent several years hosting open-mike nights there and working the local comedy circuit. His first major break came from Rodney Dangerfield, who cast him on the HBO special *Nothing Goes Right* in 1988 (and with whom he later made the movie *Meet Wally Sparks*). An appearance at the Montreal Comedy Festival brought him to the attention of CBS, who gave him his first series, *Lenny*, which ran for 18 episodes. His feature films include *There's Something About Mary*, *Me, Myself & Irene*, *Baby's in Black* (opposite Dustin Hoffman), *What's the Worst That Could Happen?*, *Two If By Sea* and *Southie*. He can now be seen playing New York cop Frank Harrigan on ABC's *The Job*, opposite his old friend (and the show's creator) Denis Leary. He lives on Martha's Vineyard with his wife, Jennifer, a fishing boat captain.

Jonathan Soroff: *Isn't being a stand-up comic an indication of mental illness?*
Lenny Clarke: I gotta go along with you 100 percent.
JS: *So what's the most insightful thing your shrink ever said to you?*
LC: I've never had one. I've saved that as my ace card, in case I really snap. I can say, "OK, I'll go see a psychiatrist." Instead, I've used booze and drugs and stand-up comedy to alleviate my inner pain.
JS: *But no more booze and drugs?*
LC: Yeah, I've been off that for five years.
JS: *Do you miss it?*
LC: Every single minute. I just can't believe that booze is legal. You can stock up. You can have it delivered! And alcohol changes people. I'm one. I became crazed.
JS: *Craziest thing you ever did drunk?*
LC: Oh, man. I'm not sure whether the statute of limitations is up on some of 'em. I was always into climbing. I'd get all lit up and climb up cranes. Crowds would gather.
JS: *You always end up playing a cop . . . .*
LC: There's nothin' wrong with that. I've been chased by enough of 'em. I think during all my running I picked up what it takes to be a good cop, and, quite frankly, I would've been one if they'd let me. I did quite well on the police exam, which I took because I flunked the Post Office and fire [department] exams. But I didn't speak Spanish, so they wouldn't let me be a cop.
JS: *Do you share the policeman's affinity for Dunkin' Donuts?*
LC: I'll tell ya, I was in a donut-eating contest once with Dennis Franz [of *NYPD Blue*] on *The Tonight Show*. And the son of a bitch set me up. He bit into a cruller and I took a giant bite out of a powdered-sugar donut. I couldn't talk for two commercials. He got me good.
JS: *Denis Leary—gimme the goods on him.*
LC: I'm not just saying this cause he's my boss, but he's a genius. A consummate actor. A generous person. A brave writer.
JS: *C'mon. Tell me something negative.*
LC: Sonofabitch made me audition for the show. I've known him forever, and still he said, "Well, I want you, but the network has other people in mind." I said, "Big deal." He said, "You want me to say 'Screw you' to the network 'cause you're my friend?" I said, "Yes, exactly." He said, "I can't do that." I said, "Well, maybe we're not as close as I thought we were." But I would've taken a life for this role, so I blew everyone away in auditions and got it. Then Denis said to me, "Isn't it better that you earned it, instead of someone giving it to you?" I said, "Not one f'ing bit."
JS: *Best joke you heard recently?*
LC: It's funny. I've been a stand-up comedian 25 years and I can't remember jokes.
JS: *How do you maintain your girlish figure?*
LC: Oh, God. You knew me when I was thin. Remember?
JS: *Sure.*
LC: Then I blew up. I topped out at about 370. And I'm actually at around 280 now, so I've lost about 90 pounds from my top weight. I'm tryin' to do all the right things, cause I'd like to be alive to spend some of this money I'm making on TV.
JS: *You were a janitor once?*
LC: Yeah, at City Hall in Cambridge. I just found out that all the guys I worked with there are dead.
JS: *Why?*
LC: They were all old. I was the young janitor. I ran for mayor of Cambridge then. And I would've won if I was drinkin' just a bit more, but y'know, hindsight is 20/20.
JS: *Is that the worst job you ever had?*
LC: No. Making Fun Balls for Stop 'N Shop. They were like Twinkies, or Snowballs. We'd be drunk on whiskey, middle of the night, makin' those. But actually, the worst was after I was a janitor and ran for mayor of Cambridge. They told me not to do it and that if I lost, they'd punish me. Day after the election, I took off for Vegas with my girlfriend on a four-or five-day bender. When I got back, they had me standing inside the garbage trucks with a hose, cleaning them.
JS: *Nasty. How about worst stand-up gig?*
LC: Opening for Aerosmith at the Orpheum Theatre, New Year's Eve, 16 or 18 years ago. They were throwin' bottles at me, and the lights for Aerosmith were so bright, it was like working the runway at Logan, and somebody threw a Milk Dud. It hit me in the groin and dropped me to my knees. The crowd went wild. Steven Tyler laughed so hard he pulled me through the curtain and gave me extra money. They asked me back for the next night, which I did. They even asked me to go on tour, and I thought, "No way! I'm not goin' to Japan with those guys. They're nuts."
JS: *What is the definition of funny?*
LC: There are so many different types. There's funny that I don't even understand. I don't even think I'm funny as much as I'm crazy.
JS: *Best way to handle hecklers?*
LC: Well, unfortunately, there are gun laws.
JS: *You did* Touched By an Angel . . . .
LC: Yeah. Next year, I'm doing *Touched By an Uncle . . . .*
JS: *Was that as bad as* The Love Boat: The Next Generation*?*
LC: What a rockin' time we had there. Me and my wife were flown from L.A. to Fort Lauderdale on a private jet. We get on the boat. I only had one scene to do on this cruise. We got a first-class cabin with a balcony. Room service. Everything free, free, free. And the woman I had to do the love scene with was Thalia Balsom, George Clooney's ex-wife. I was really fat at the time, rollin' around on the deck with her, crushing her, and I was like, "Wow. It must really suck going from George Clooney to me."
JS: *Anything you'd never joke about?*
LC: I don't see anything funny about the World Trade Center being destroyed. [*Editor's note—two weeks after this interview, Clarke's set at the Comics Come Home benefit at the Orpheum dealt almost exclusively with the war on terrorism*]. After 25 years, I'm not one of those guys who still goes out and tries to be provocative. "Let's see if I can get the audience to hate me."
JS: *Your idea of a perfect evening?*
LC: A residual check in the mail.
JS: *In high school, what were you voted?*
LC: I was class president, four years in a row.
JS: *You're joking.*
LC: No. It's the only reason I got into college.
JS: *If you had a theme song, what would it be?*
LC: "The Best is Yet to Come."
JS: *What would you do if you woke up one morning and you weren't funny anymore?*
LC: Run for office.
JS: *Last question. Person you most like to make laugh?*
LC: My wife. iB



PHOTOGRAPH BY MICHAEL INDRESANO; GROOMING: RAE BERTELLOTI/TEAM ON LENNY CLARKE: TWO PIECE TECHNO FLEECE PROVIDED BY HUGO BOSS

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Play It Again



Their numbers may be dwindling, but Boston's piano bars are still luring guests with a thirst for the intimate and romantic

From classic scenes in *Casablanca* to today's *Ally McBeal*, piano bars have been imprinted on the American psyche as places of boozy seduction. Up until the 1980s, it was relatively easy to find a place that offered a stiff drink, congenial companions and ,best of all,a real live piano player. Though they are dwindling,you can still find classic piano lounge settings, but changing musical tastes and improvements in sound technology have prompted many establishments to view live musicians as an extravagance.

"I've played a bunch of places that no longer have pianos," says Jon Jarvis, a pianist at Atlantic 101, a Waterfront restaurant and bar that specializes in experimental jazz, eschewing the traditional show tunes. "I was at Durgin Park for three years. I walked in one day in a suit and tie, ready for work, and the piano was gone. They said, 'Oh, didn't anyone tell you?'" The Lenox Hotel closed its famous lounge, Diamond Jim's, in 1997. High-end hotels like XV Beacon, the Eliot and the Charles don't have piano bars. Even the new Ritz-Carlton Boston Common lacks one (though the piano bar at the old Ritz on Arlington Street may reopen next fall when hotel renovations are completed).

Piano bars may be a dying breed. But—perhaps for that very reason—they're still classy places to bring dates, where you can enjoy music and soak up the feel of a more genteel era. "Piano music is intimate," says Robert Spileos, maitre'd at the Bay Tower Room. "It's elegant, and there's not a lot of elegance left anymore."

The Bay Tower Room is on the 33rd floor of 60 State St., a swank office building that houses prestigious law firms and investment companies. Bathed in red light that sparkles against the shiny gold railings, the opulence is a courtesan's dream—replete with pianist David Crohan, whose guidedog, Witness, sleeps underneath the piano. The panoramic view of Faneuil Hall, the North End and the Financial District is stunning, and the Custom House Tower is so close it looks unreal. The weeknight crowd is



BY DORIE CLARK • PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

composed mostly of 20- and 30-somethings, frolicking after work. "I don't play much P.Diddy and N'Sync," Crohan jokes, but—in contrast to many piano-bar purists who don't, and won't, go beyond Gershwin—he throws the Beatles and '70s music into his set.

The Julien Lounge, located in the Meridien Hotel in the Financial District, offers a different type of grandeur. A few tables have a view of Post Office Square, but a real draw is the old-money ambience—made literal by the wall-sized paintings of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln with their treasury secretaries (the building used to serve as the Federal Reserve Bank of New England). The décor is roccoco, with gilt floral and shell designs on the ceiling. Though the chairs are comfortable, the atmosphere is formal, and the room is populated with the Armani-suited lawyers and older men with pretty young dates. Pianist Jeffrey Moore has a repertoire of more than 3,000 songs, mostly show tunes and classics from the 1920s and '30s. He performs seven nights a week, from 5 to 11pm—an exhausting schedule, but one that's paid off in with a loyal following. He's met celebrities including Carol Burnett, Angie Dickinson and Chet Curtis (who "has a really nice voice" and likes to sing along). And, though she's in California now, "Julia Child was here all the time," Moore confides.

Two piano bars with more understated elegance are the Bristol Lounge at the Four Seasons and the Atrium Lounge at the Millennium Bostonian Hotel. The Four Seasons, a renowned celebrity hot spot, has also seen its share of stars, including Billy Joel and Dustin Hoffman. Even its pianists are famous: Bob Winter, who performs Monday through Thursday from 8 to 11:30pm, plays with the Boston Pops and is a professor at the Berklee College of Music. Make your requests with caution, though. "I don't honor every request," says Winter. "When I started out, I'd try to please. But when you've been at it so long, you develop a style." In: Cole Porter, Gershwin, old Broadway and Tin Pan Alley. Verboten: current show tunes and especially Andrew Lloyd Webber. The Atrium Lounge, with a view looking on Faneuil Hall, boasts comfortable sofas and chairs, and a menu that includes trendy drinks like caipirinhas. The music is pleasantly unobtrusive and perfect for intimate conversation.

Old-fashioned cabaret still has a home at Club Café, a South End bar and restaurant popular with gay men. "I have to get very Barbra-esque," said chanteuse Carol O'Shaughnessy one Thursday evening as she channeled Streisand for "The Way We Were". Not surprisingly, she says the most popular requests are Broadway tunes and Judy Garland. But for wannabe stars, the best bet is the Encore Lounge, across Tremont Street from the Wang Center in the Theater District. It's the only piano bar in town where anyone can request a song—and then come up and sing it. "A lot of actors come in after hours," says pianist Michelle Currie. Juggling a half-dozen binders full of sheet music, she fields requests from "Leaving on a Jet Plane" to the *Grease* theme song "Summer Lovin,'" while the audience sings along boisterously.

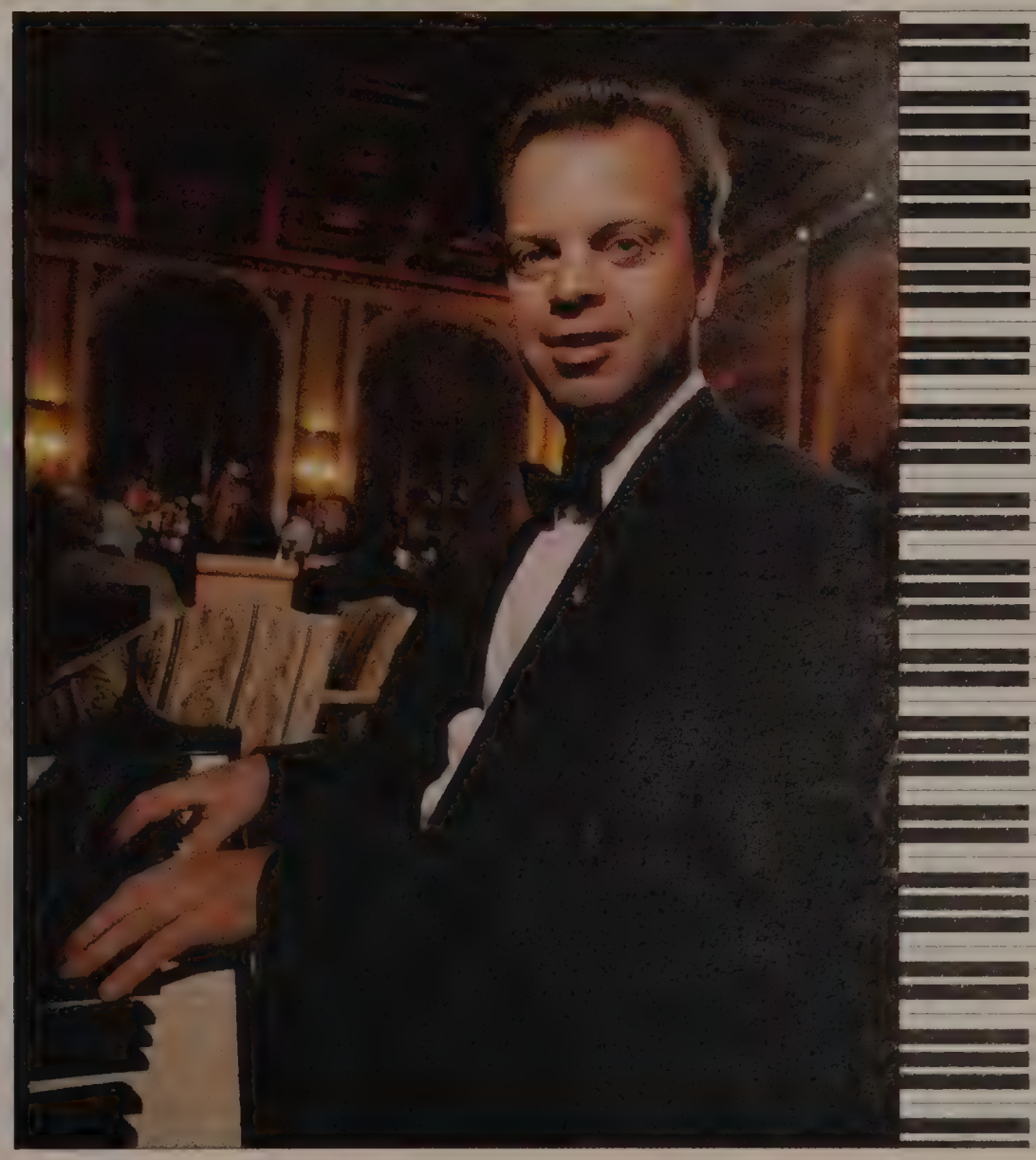
Today, a variety of Boston establishments—from Allston's Wonder Bar to the Top of the Hub—offer free music by jazz bands. But the quiet, romantic entertainment that solo pianists provide is dwindling. Even time-honored venues like the Oak Bar at the Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel have been inconsistent in scheduling their weekday evening pianist, though they have plans to have him play regularly in time for the holiday season. But just because their ranks have diminished doesn't mean piano bars have lost their appeal: Crohan of the Bay Tower Room says 10 or 15 couples have met while he played, including Alan Dershowitz and his wife. "Piano bars are great for that kind of stuff because you can really talk to people," he says. "I'm responsible for many marriages and one-night stands." Smoky, quiet and romantic, piano bars are still luring guests with their legendary mystique. iB



Where to find the piano bars (call ahead for performance schedule):

Atlantic 101, 101 Atlantic Ave., 617-723-5101
Atrium Lounge, Millennium Bostonian Hotel, 20 North St., 617-523-3600
Bay Tower Room, 60 State St., 617-723-1666
Bristol Lounge, Four Seasons Hotel, 200 Boylston St., 617-338-4400
Club Café, 209 Columbus Ave., 617-536-0966
Encore Lounge, 275 Tremont St., 617-426-1400
Julien Lounge, Le Meridien Hotel, 250 Franklin St., 617-956-8752
Oak Bar, Fairmont Copley Plaza Hotel, 138 St. James St., 617-267-5300

Opposite page: A happy couple listens to pianist David Crohan as his guide dog, Witness, waits patiently at the Bay Tower Room; above: You can have colorful libations while Alison Brown plays the piano at Atlantic 101; below: Jeffrey Moore commands the keyboard at Le Meridien Hotel.



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by Kerrin Hurley ○ Photographs by Darisa Clarke and Kristin Webster

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Written by Christina Kunitskaya-Peterson, this dictionary has naughty words and indecent expressions written in Spanish, French, Russian, Italian and German. *LouLou's, 121 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-8593). $9.95.*

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These by-products of a steer's horn are made into little novelties such as salt and pepper shakers, or small dishes and spoons for dipping sauces or spices. *Koo de Kir, 34 Charles St., Boston (617-723-8111). $12-$40.*

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The ultimate software bundle for golfers records and analyzes your golf game. This program details more than 17,000 golf courses across North America and also provides Internet links to hundreds of the best golf Web sites. *Golf America, 100 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-236-5659). $29.95.*

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LATINOS

Boston's invisible community

BY
J.R. RICHARDS

PHOTOGRAPHS
BY MIKE MERGEN

Mention Latin culture in Boston and you might think of Pedro Martinez, burritos at Anna's Taqueria and salsa lessons at Sophia's. Beyond that, most people have a vague notion of a barrio in Jamaica Plain and the occasional Spanish surnamed public figure. In a city that is very conscious of its revolutionary past and well known for its concentrations of European immigrants, the existence of a thriving Latino population is barely acknowledged.

But consider the numbers: According to 2000 census data, the Latino population in Boston has doubled in the last 10 years. There are now over 85,000 Latinos in the city, accounting for 14 percent of the population. This is the third-largest ethnic classification in the city, after Caucasians and Blacks, and, significantly, the fastest-growing one.



José Masso's *Con Salsa* program is the Latino community's bulletin board.

Puerto Ricans, Dominicans and Cubans have traditionally defined the Boston Latino community, but a recent influx of Central and South American immigrants is markedly changing the demographics of the city. There are now 19 specific Latino nationalities on the Boston census (not including Brazilians, who continue for arguable reasons to resist Latino classification) contributing to the cacophonous diversity of the Latino community.

José Masso, assistant director of government relations and community affairs at Northeastern University, came to Boston from Puerto Rico via Ohio's Antioch College in 1973 to teach bilingual education. He explains one reason for the invisibility of the second-largest minority in the city. "Latinos only become visible in stereotypes. Either we are associated with crime, drugs, welfare or illegal immigration—all the ills of society. Or we become visible, on the upside, in sports, or we become the 'flavor' when pop culture discovers us."

José, if not the most visible Latino in Boston, is the most audible. For the past 26 years, he has produced and hosted *¡Con Salsa!* on WBUR. Airing every Saturday night from midnight to 5am, the show features a bilingual format and Latin, Afro-Cuban and world music. Masso is less known for his involvement in politics and education. He served a six-year term under Governor Dukakis as the Hispanic



Filmmaker Natatcha Estebenez, who has spent 15 years documenting the Latino community, has recently produced a feature-length drama called *The Blue Diner.*

liaison and director of community services. Throughout his career the articulate community activist has worked for communication across cultural boundaries. "My show is bilingual, which says to people that you can bridge cultures by speaking two different languages, and you can use music as a hook. Because of the rhythm, because of the style, there's going to be a connection."

Natatcha Estebenez, a producer and filmmaker with WGBH, has spent 15 years documenting the Latino culture in Massachusetts. "We are not monolithic within the Latino community. We do not share the same kinds of traditions ...we do not share the same political problems."To me, a Latino is anyone from Latin America," she claims, but points out the dangers of classification. So it's not 'Latino,' it's actually 'Puerto Rican' and 'Dominican' and 'Mexican' and 'Peruvian' and 'Argentinean.' 'Latino' is just a term that puts us together much better than 'Hispanic.'"

Estebenez, who is of Cuban descent, came to the U.S. from Puerto Rico in the early '80s to study film, and recently wrote and co-produced a feature length drama called *The Blue Diner*, the story of a Puerto Rican family in Boston.Shot entirely in local neighborhoods, the film is careful to avoid the usual stereotypes of drugs, violence and gangs that so often surround Latinos. "The response nationwide [to the screenings] was surprise that there was a Latino community in Boston," she says. "We didn't set out to awaken awareness of invisible people, but this was an interesting consequence."

"We are not monolithic.... We do not share the same kinds of traditions...So it's not 'Latino.' It's actually 'Puerto Rican' and 'Dominican' and 'Mexican' and 'Peruvian' and 'Argentinean.'"

PUERTO RICAN ROOTS

The Latino community in Boston has its roots in the South End. By the '60s, Puerto Rican immigrants had transformed the decaying area between Tremont, Shawmut, West Newton and Concord streets into a vibrant Hispanic neighborhood. In the early '70s, however, the city announced plans to tear down buildings in the area and replace them with more expensive housing. The community resisted, and a grassroots political organization, Inquilinos Boricuas en Accion, Puerto Rican Tenants in Action, was created in response. In the summer of 1972 tensions culminated in protests that escalated into intense rioting. In the aftermath, a remarkable event occurred. The Puerto Rican residents gained control over their community's growth. It was the first time in U.S. history that a group of people demanded and received housing from the government. To this day the area, called Villa Victoria, or Victory Village, is a bastion of Puerto Rican culture and stands as a model of community organization.

THE DOMINICAN PRESENCE

In the late '70s and early '80s, thousands of Dominicans settled in Jamaica Plain and Roslindale. To walk down parts of Centre Street in JP today is to take a trip to the Caribbean. Almost every storefront has a Spanish name, and the Spanish-language newspaper *El Mundo* has offices here.

Among Latino groups, Dominicans have been particularly successful as entrepreneurs. Hector Pina joined his brother in Jamaica Plain in 1986. The amount of money



Micho Spring (center) meets with colleagues in her offices at Weber Shandwick.

TOP LEFT: J.R. RICHARDS





Merengue on Blue Hill Avenue is an authentic Dominican restaurant serving fresh ceviche and Presidenté beer.

that Dominicans, and other Latino groups, send back home is significant. According to Professor Marcelo Suarez-Orozco, an immigration expert at Harvard's Rockefeller Center for Latino Studies, Dominicans in the States sent $8 billion home last year." The money we send to our countries plays a big part in their economies," Hector claims. For seven years he worked on a cleaning crew, four of those years on the night shift. By 1992 he had saved enough to open a convenience store and two years later he launched his restaurant, Merengue, in Mattapan. "When I started Merengue in 1994, I had only two people in the kitchen," he says. "I was at the register, and I had a guy delivering. Now I have 22 people working here." There's no Tex-Mex, but patrons can wash ceviche down with Presidenté beer in a colorful atmosphere.

CUBAN INFLUENCES

A small number of mostly upper-class, educated political refugees from Cuba began settling in Jamaica Plain in the '60s. To people in this country, Cuban culture has always resonated with romance and glamour, due in part to the island's mixture of African, Spanish and French heritage and its tropical mystique. While Cubans account for less than 3 percent of the total Latino population in Boston, Cuban influences are found everywhere—in the music, in the food and in offices, such as in the largest public relations firm in the world.

Micho Spring is the New England Chair of public relations giant Weber Shandwick, whose clients include the Red Sox, Citizens Bank, Ocean Spray and American Airlines. Spring is arguably the most influential Latina in the city. Nothing about her hints of her Cuban heritage, but she has long been a champion of the Latino community, spearheading numerous educational and cultural initiatives.

Her remarkable career began in New York City, where she arrived from Cuba with her family in the early '60s. Spring developed an interest in politics, and came to Boston in 1973 to attend the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. Afterwards, she served 8 years under Mayor Kevin White, first as chief of staff and then as deputy mayor of policy. In 1983 she entered the private sector. From her unique perspective gained in the higher councils of marketing and politics, she believes that awareness of the Latino community is improving. "People appreciate Hispanic culture much more in this town than they did a decade ago," Spring says. "Most businesses and companies I know are certainly aware of the demographic change that's going on. There is no consumer account that shouldn't be thinking about Hispanic marketing now. It's really the future of our economy."

Rick Colon, regional director of public affairs for Verizon Communications, plays an active role in that future. He is the president of the Latino Professional Network, an organization dedicated to providing business and networking opportunities for Latin Americans in Boston. "Part of the mission of the LPN stems from a desire to change the image of Latinos as blue-collar workers to people that have spent years educating themselves to better their families and their communities," he points out, underscoring the fact that most Latino professionals in this country are the sons and daughters of first-generation immigrants.

For many Latino professionals, however, success comes at a price. Assimilation into the American mainstream can erase cultural identity and leads to invisibility. Although solidarity exists among the various Latino communities, especially among the Caribbean groups, the culture is not immune to the divisions of class and race. In recent years those divisions have become more pronounced as the community is absorbing diverse immigrants in unprecedented numbers.

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICAN INFLUX

Starting in 1982, Central and South American refugees fleeing civil wars and natural disasters have been streaming into Boston. There are currently 12,000 ethnic Central Americans in the city, and an additional 7,000 South Americans. Many of them have settled in East Boston and neighboring Chelsea, where Guat-emalan bakeries, Peruvian bistros and Colombian fast-food joints line streets that bear lingering traces of an Italian presence.

Mario Davila is the Director of the Latin American Action program, a branch of the Quaker-based American Friends Service Committee in Cambridge. The soft-spoken El Salvadoran native describes the emerging shape of the community. "El Salvadorans, Guatemalans, Hondurans, Nicaraguans and Costa Ricans are the largest groups, in that order," he explains. "A lot of Salvadorans live in the East Boston area. Many Guatemalans are in the Allston/Brighton area, and in Cambridge around Central Square. In East Boston, the largest group of people are Colombians, but everything's mixed."

These immigrants are the other invisible Latinos. They work part-time jobs on top of full-time jobs, behind closed doors, late into the night. They are unseen, unknown and under-appreciated. And yet they are the glue of our local economy. Micho Spring, citing a recent report issued by Citizens Bank and Mass Inc, asserts that "were it not for the immigrant community, the economic surge of the late '90s would never have been possible."

Jarret Barrios, a state legislator from Cambridge and one of only three elected Latino representatives in the state, points out that American Latinos have a value beyond their contributions to cultural diversity, arts and economy. "Latinos are a reminder both of what America can be at its best, a land of opportunity where people can flee from tyranny, oppression and economic hardship—and also a reminder of America at its worst: when it closes the door on its newcomer communities, when it closes the door on the American dream." iB



"People appreciate Hispanic culture much more in this town than they did a decade ago, Most businesses and companies are certainly aware of the demographic change that is going on."



Rick Colon is a corporate leader and a community booster.

TOP LEFT: J.R. RICHARDS







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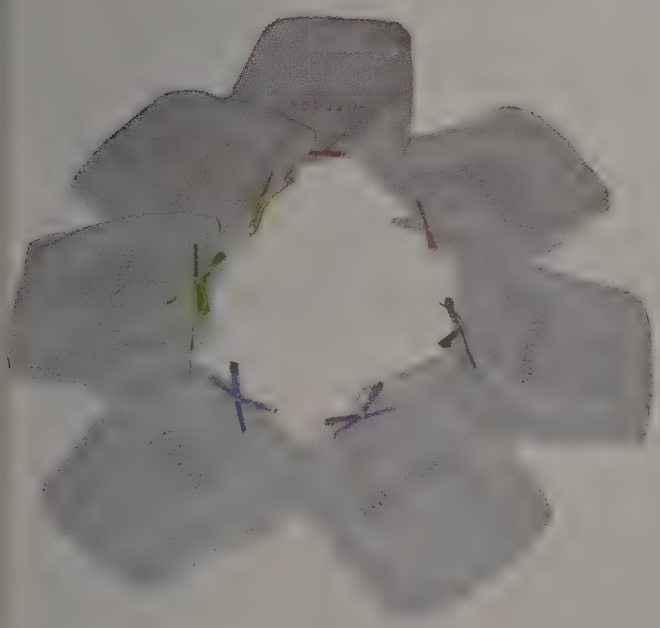
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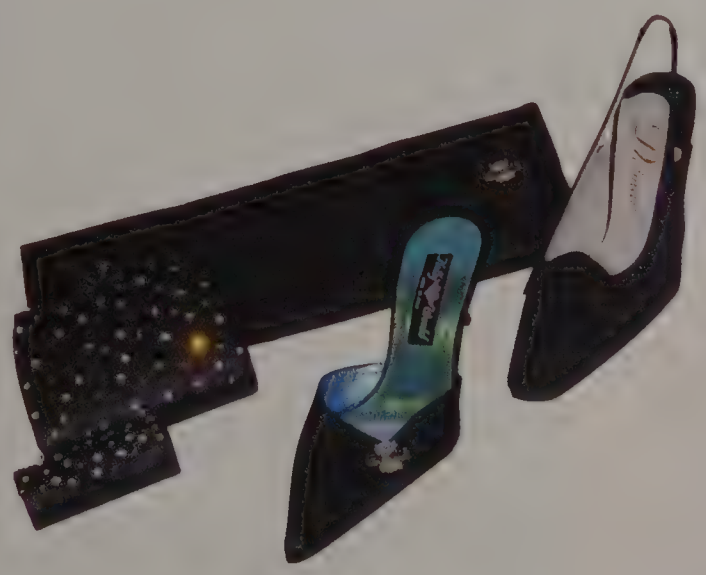
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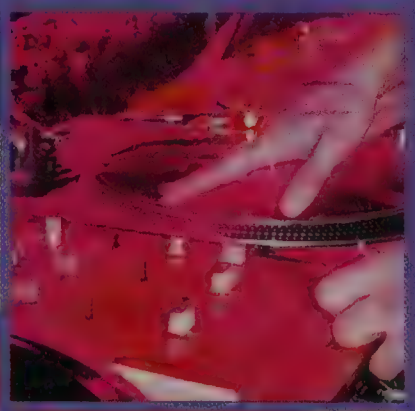
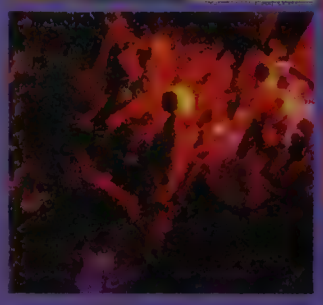
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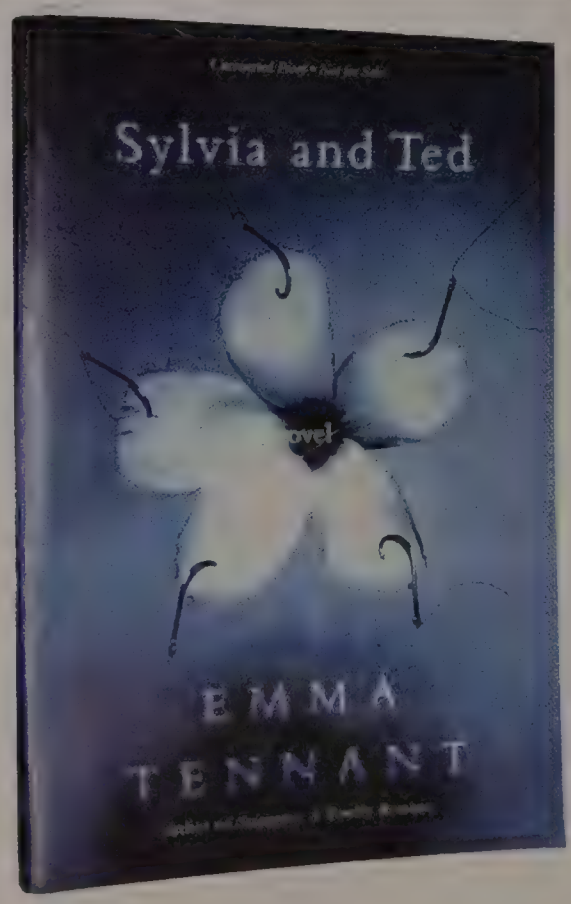
To quote Chaucer, adjusting for gender: "And gladly would she learn, and gladly teach." That's the spirit behind the mentoring program "Woman to Woman" at the Women's Educational and Industrial Union. Sizzling with zesty idealism since the 19th century, the Union, salubriously located in a beautiful building on Boylston St., helps women in need. This program is for mothers, usually single, who need professional skills (computers, first off) need positive direct experiences with their children and also require high-quality child care. Much of the glue, the sturdiness and comfort in Woman to Woman comes from also having a mentor. The trainings are experiential, emphasizing reciprocity and the kind of equality that comes from respect, after which the mentor spends several hours a week with her mentee (called a "participant".) In a sisterly way, the mentor goes on outings with "her" mother and kids. She also gives concrete help in résumé and job-seeking skills, always keeping in mind the particular goals the participant has identified, while combating the barriers she knows will loom. Those old Boston virtues—"quality, integrity, excellence" are embedded in a landscape lovingly constructed to help these duos bond. The workshops and their leaders have dynamism and sparkle.



LORD, I CAN'T SIT DOWN (ON CHEMICALS)

Out of Freddy Farkel, the fabric store, comes Furnature, which offers custom-built pieces for people with chemical allergies. At 86 Coolidge Ave., Watertown (617-926-0111).

Of all the things that might inspire allergies, furniture—non-flowering, just-sittin'-there inanimate objects—seems one of the cruelest. Face it: We've all got to recline. Alas, thanks to the dust mite that loves cushions, (truly revolting when enlarged photographically) and various chemicals in the environment like formaldehyde, which abounds in our TVs and fridges, some people with multiple chemical sensitivities or environmental illnesses need things to be ultra-pristine. Enter Barry and Fred Shapiro, Freddy Farkel fabric salesmen who spent one entire year developing a chair for a woman thus afflicted. Then they enlarged the concept to create a company called Furnature, which sells sofas, chairs, recliners, mattresses and box springs that are chemical-free, with no "out-gassing." Custom-made, and covered with organically grown Peruvian cotton, the pieces don't look "sick-room-ish," nor will their owners, once the swollen face, the pounding headache and the bodily aches produced by "toxic furniture" are eliminated. The Shapiros have contributed to an environmentally smart hotel in Philadelphia, designed, in part, for these sufferers. Fred says rakishly, "The guests will be out of breath from sex there, and not from the environment."

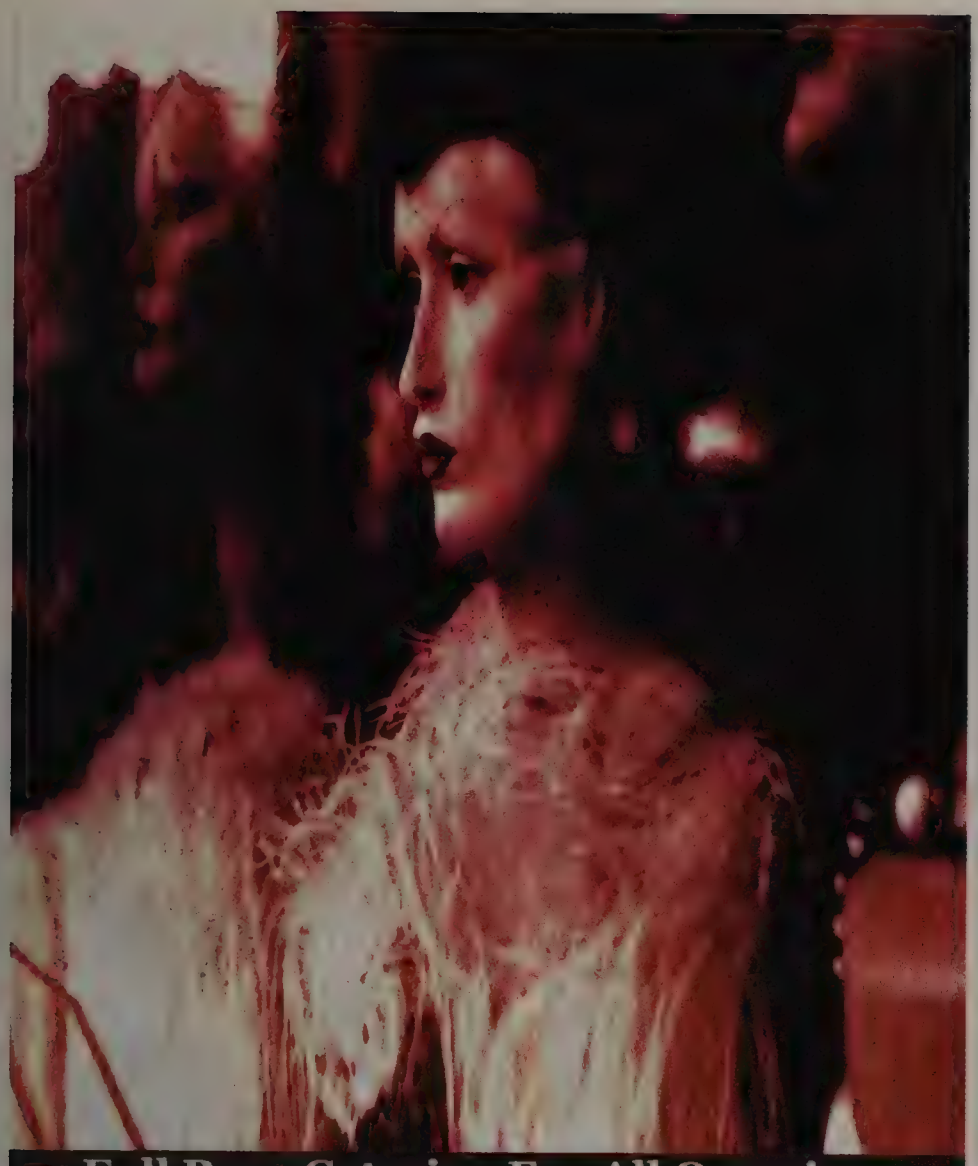


WE POETS IN OUR YOUTH

Emma Tennant, friend of Ted Hughes, has written a novel, *Ted and Sylvia*, about the love-and-death triangle involving Ted, Sylvia Plath and Assia Wevill.

Sylvia Plath's life began in Wellesley and ended by suicide 30 brilliant and tormented years later. In the meantime, she fell in love with poet Ted Hughes, famously biting his face at their first meeting. After marriage and two babies, he left her for the exotic, sexy Assia Wevill, who, in turn, killed herself and their child. Emma Tennant, who also knew Ted very well, has written a novel that plunges into the stories of all three doomed players, writing as if from the internal viewpoint of each. And, though prose, it reads almost like a kind of watery poetry. Events—much biographized and familiar to aficionados—are woven with images from the famous poems of Sylvia and Ted in these vividly imagined streamings of consciousness. We see Ted's masculine, sexy roughness of being, and his uncanny kinship with birds and nature. Sylvia's desperate intensity, her intuition, talent, and madness, and her (alas, occasioned) jealousy of the hot, intrusive Assia are frighteningly portrayed. It's as if the footsteps of the common doom that is inevitably going to afflict them all are heard running up the back staircase of the whole book. That Tennant knew Ted makes it all the more authentic.

LEFT: DARISA CLARKE. TOP: RITA GREELEY



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in this section:

Review: Olive Oyl's Cantina
Dish: Julia Child: Going twice ...
Wine: The benefits of red wine
Tasty Tidbit: An olive-oil extravaganza

REVIEW

Oh, Popeye!



A taste of the North End in Allston, Olive Oyl's Cantina offers big, flavorful portions at rock-bottom prices.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

Marc Kadish has a virtual monopoly on hip eating establishments in the lively corner of Brighton and Harvard avenues in Allston Village. His Sunset Grill & Tap is the place to go for its beer selection, The Big City for pool and pizza and Redneck's Roast Beef for late-night fare. But the entrepreneur has had a bit more trouble making a go of the spot at 151 Brighton Ave., former home of 6 Burner—popular among students and young professionals for its inexpensive brunch, but little else. So in late summer, Kadish shut off the burners, only to relight them a few weeks later to launch Olive Oyl's Cantina. This time around, he's hoping his recipe spells success: robust Italian food at rock-bottom prices in an upbeat, eye-catching space.

The walls of Olive Oyl's display a continuous mural of colorful renderings of fruits and vegetables, illuminated by track spotlights mounted on the copper-colored, hammered-metal ceiling. Large, colorful metal colanders serve as planters, framing the big modern windows that overlook Brighton Avenue. Massive art-deco chandeliers and a funky elevated booth are the focus of the dining room, while standard tables at upholstered banquettes line the periphery. An imposing copper samovar dominates the entrance. Green oilcloth table coverings complete the bistro atmosphere.

The Cantina's menu is unpretentious Italian, with an emphasis on rich, well-balanced tomato sauce (or gravy, as it is called in many Italian-American households). Portions are daunting. This is not a place to search for subtlety or understatement. A large antipasto ($7.95) included roasted halves of sweet red peppers and wedges of eggplant, a tangy mélange of yellow and green squash, marinated red pepper slices and artichoke hearts, and slices of natural and smoked mozzarella. Crowning the antipasto, a huge basil-infused chicken breast—moist and tender—made the antipasto a meal in itself. A more modest appetizer was the bruschetta, thick slices of rustic toast layered with tomato slices, mozzarella, balsamic vinegar, more tomato (this time in small chunks) and a sprinkling of grated cheese. A slightly offbeat appetizer—at least this side of St. Louis—were the crispy fried striped ravioli ($5.95) filled with ricotta and served over a spicy marinara sauce and almost buried under a huge mound of tender, vinaigrette-dressed spinach leaves.

Main courses, which average around $10, included chicken cacciatore ($10.95)—with cuts of dark meat served on the bone in a thick tomato sauce chockfull of red and green peppers, olives, onions and mushrooms. The refrigerator-cold olive and artichoke-heart garnish was in-

Olive Oyl's Cantina

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PARKING on-street
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Owner Marc Kadish dishes up his gourmet spaghetti sauce.



Cap off a hearty Italian dinner with creamy tiramisu.

congruous alongside this robust dish. It should have been served on a separate plate or dispensed with entirely.

Shrimp scampi ($13.95) consisted of five large shrimp with decent texture and a bold amount of garlic. The accompanying baked mussels were dry, and we were surprised to find the ensemble dusted with cheese, since many Italian chefs avoid mixing cheese and seafood. The pasta, however, was perfectly cooked al dente fettuccine. Roman meatballs ($8.95), a mixture of ground pork and beef, were moist and tender, served with more red gravy. Unfortunately, the capellini—angel hair pasta—was overdone. Capellini is difficult to execute al dente, since it cooks in mere seconds.

Finally, the priciest dish on the menu was a steak pizzaiola ($13.95), consisting of a thick, juicy strip sirloin cooked rare as ordered, and topped with red and green peppers, garlic, onions, oregano and plum tomatoes.

The Cantina's meat and fish dishes were offered with a choice of sides, either Parmesan-dusted French fries, one of five different pastas, (tortellini, fettuccine, capellini, ravioli, or rigatoni), or a variety of grilled vegetables, which on one evening consisted of tomatoes, olives, broccoli flowerets, yellow and green squash, eggplant and large, succulent slices of portabello mushrooms.

Desserts at Cantina were simple and straightforward. Three modest scoops of fresh strawberry gelato ($3.95) served as a refreshing palate cleanser. More substantial was a gigantic brick of tiramisu ($5.95)—which means "pick me up" in Italian —liqueur-soaked layers of ladyfingers, strong coffee and soothing, creamy mascarpone cheese.

At the end of the day, Olive Oyl's Cantina is a pretty darn good place to eat: oversize portions, bargain prices and tasty, honest Italian cuisine. The only thing missing from this picture is the alcoholic beverages. While Olive Oyl's robust cuisine would best be savored with a glass of chianti, we'll have to make do with water, soft drinks or coffee until Boston's Licensing Board grants it a license to serve wine and beer. **iB**

SECOND COURSE

PUT A CORK IN IT

Unfortunately, the city of Boston has adopted a regulation that prohibits restaurants from allowing patrons to bring their own wine or beer onto the premises. This policy, which even our Puritan forbears—for whom beer and ale were staple foodstuffs—would have found unduly abstemious, fails to recognize that wine and beer, consumed in moderation, are classic accompaniments to food. They complement its flavors and textures and enhance its enjoyment. Most towns across the Commonwealth allow patrons to bring their own alcoholic beverages to restaurants lacking liquor licenses. In many states, even restaurants with such licenses often allow patrons to bring their own wine, subject to a corkage charge. Not in Massachusetts.

Alcoholic beverages can be, and often are, abused, but such abuse will not be prevented or curtailed by mindless prohibitions. One might say that the very opposite is the case. If young people are taught to regard wine and beer as natural accompaniments to food, to be consumed with the same good sense and moderation that one should govern dining, the impulse toward binge drinking and other abuses might actually be curtailed. —*J.C.M.*



DISH

Never Can Say Goodbye...

Has Julia Child left the building?

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX



Departing chef Julia Child (in red blouse) is surrounded by well-wishers at the Boston Harbor Hotel.

You're watching *Antiques Roadshow* 20 years from now. Beneath the puzzled gaze of the appraiser from Sotheby's is a collection of three items: a beat-up kitchen whisk, a big roasting pan that's seen better days, and, oddest of all, a pair of well-worn size-12 women's shoes.

The Sotheby's specialist glances at the kitchenware, then sighs with relief as she notices the writing inside the sensible shoes. It's Julia Child's autograph, they're Julia Child's shoes, and the estimate is a no-brainer: priceless.

Which is perfect, because the Julia Child devotees who successfully bid for her memorabilia ($2,000 for the roasting pan! More than $700 for the shoes!) at a series of fund-raising farewell events weren't investing in a speculative future, but laying claim to a tangible reminder of the years when Child lived in our neck of the woods and changed our lives for the better.

Now that she's moved to California, many of us are recalling our earliest memories of Julia as public television's *French Chef*. Hey, this lady doesn't sound French, I remember thinking, as I sat in front of our black-and-white television. In fact, she sounded unlike anyone else, with a voice that was simultaneously ungainly and melodic, assertive and absolutely riveting. Her apron seemed askew. Her stated emphasis on proper technique was often at odds with a characteristically careless, arm-slinging motion that cast uncooperative ingredients onto the counter or kitchen floor. I was enthralled by her derring-do, her composure, her steadfast enthusiasm. What *would* she do next?

Julia graciously introduced us to "the chicken sisters," a receiving line of naked poultry—roaster, stewing chicken, *et al*—arrayed upright, as if its participants were ready to kick up their drumsticks in a surrealistic can-can. Julia lovingly arranged a whole roast suckling pig, complete with an apple in its mouth, on a tray, then cheerfully tucked daisies into its eye sockets. Julia recklessly made an infamous reference to a portion of chicken anatomy as "the pope's nose."

Outside the television studio, despite her celebrity, Julia was unpretentious and approachable, even if her very presence was intimidating. Once, years ago, I saw her and her husband strolling in Harvard Square. They walked into Baskin-Robbins. I tugged on my boyfriend's arm. "Let's go see what flavor she's getting!" He insisted that we do no such thing, that Julia Child had a right to privacy when it came to ordering ice cream.

Julia's phone number was listed in the directory. During the tribute dinner at The Boston Harbor Hotel, No. 9 Park chef Barbara Lynch recalled how, at age 15, she gathered up the courage to call Julia at home for a bit of career advice. The phone rang. That unmistakable voice materialized at the other end. And Barbara Lynch, losing her nerve, quickly hung up.

It's a story we all understand. What makes it especially resonant is that we all know by now that Julia would have been kindly receptive to Barbara's call, curious about her goals, and respectful of her teen-age awkwardness. Down-to-earth and plainspoken, she handled every question with grace and dignity. When a local television personality, in the midst of an interview, asked her outright why she didn't have children (cringe!), Julia didn't bristle or get weepy-eyed. Instead, she responded matter-of-factly that "the children just never came," and in those days, that was that.

And yet, as she packs up the kitchen equipment that wasn't auctioned off, Julia Child is leaving us with many local chefs who have been imbued with her inspiration, her knowledge, her joie de vivre. I only wish that she'd been a little more like G.I. Joe. Imagine if girls growing up during the '60s and '70s had had a Barbie alternative in the form of a Julia Child action figure, complete with a wrist that flexed to pour just the right amount of cognac into a dish? iB

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

Defending the Noble Grape

BY SANDY BLOCK MW

Having taught about wine for several years, the recent upsurge of interest has been nothing short of amazing to me. The classes I teach at Boston University's Elizabeth Bishop Resource Center are often oversubscribed and other wine educators report similar full enrollments. Reflecting this heightened sense of curiosity about the noble grape, we receive more than occasional e-mail from folks asking a wide variety of questions. Following are answers to a few of the more common ones that we have recently received, centering on what may be termed the "health effects" of wine.

Why do I sometimes get a headache when I drink red wine? Is it the sulfites?

The warning labels that appear on the back of wine bottles have spread confusion about a lot of things, not the least being the effect of sulphur dioxide, which is an antioxidant and is used by almost all wineries in small amounts to prevent their wines, particularly white wines, from spoiling. In a tiny percentage of the population (estimated at less than one percent) that is afflicted with severe asthma, even traces of sulfur dioxide will make breathing difficult and drinking wine is therefore not recommended. This group, however, should also avoid many common foods, such as dried apricots, because they contain much higher concentrations of sulfur dioxide and are a more potent source of potential trouble.

The "red-wine headache" is therefore not related to sulfur dioxide, given that people often report no difficulty drinking white wines, which are higher in sulfites. Instead, this is most likely an allergy to histamines or tannins, compounds that originate in grape skins and are more prevalent in hearty red wines, like cabernets, Bordeaux, and Rhone Valley reds. If you experience discomfort, you don't necessarily need to avoid all red wines. Try a few sips of a fruity lighter wine, like a Beaujolais, and the chances are you won't experience any reaction at all. Also, mature wines tend to be less reactive than younger wines. As a general rule, if you're prone to develop red-wine headaches, the less deep the wine's color, the less it will tend to cause problems.

What's the major health benefit of drinking wine?

In discussing this issue it's important to stress the concept of "moderate" drinking, because excessive consumption is an absolute health risk. The definition of moderation, however, is controversial. The safe route is to set the upper limits at one drink per day for women and two drinks per day for men, who are typically able to metabolize alcohol much more quickly. It's also important to note that any alcohol is detrimental to people with certain health conditions, including stomach, liver and nerve diseases. As Paracelsus, the father of pharmacology is quoted as saying, "Whether wine is a medicine, nourishment or poison is a matter of dosage."

The key benefits cited by researchers center around improved cardiovascular health. Wine helps lower the LDL, or "bad cholesterol" level, so that there are fewer fatty deposits in the bloodstream, while simultaneously working to elevate HDL ("good cholesterol"), which clears the LDL from the walls of our arteries. Red wines are also particularly rich in antioxidants like resveratrol and quercetin, which inhibit LDL buildup as well as blocking the activity of free radicals in the body. Any form of alcohol is an anti-coagulant, which tends to reduce blood clots. Finally, as a stress reducer, it's believed that wine contributes to a more relaxed lifestyle, a factor that may help prevent heart disease.

I always seem to get a hangover, even when I drink just a few glasses of wine. How can I best avoid it?

Hangovers are caused by excessive consumption, a measure that differs for every individual. They occur because of dehydration, due to the diuretic effects of alcohol. Prevention here is much more effective than any supposed cure. The best advice I know is to drink less alcohol; if you get a reaction to two glasses, just drink one. If you're prone to this reaction despite consuming only a very small amount of wine, it's important to hydrate. Drink a lot of water. I always prepare for a dinner party involving multiple bottles of wine by drinking water first, and by trying to consume as much water as wine thereafter. iB

TOP: BERTA DANIELS

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

EVENTS

Autumn with No. 9 Park
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 28, 6-9pm. $79. No. 9 Park chef de cuisine **David Bazirgan** and wine director **Cat Silirie** prepare a fall menu around a popular autumnal game bird: the pheasant.

Brasserie Jo's Thanksgiving Dinner
Brasserie Jo, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-425-3240). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential. Nov. 22, 12-11pm. $38. Enjoy lobster and butternut squash veloute, followed by duck confit and wild mushroom petite salad, and roasted turkey, lamb or salmon steak.

The Capital Grille Fund-Raiser
The Capital Grille, 205 Boylston St., Boston (617-262-8900). Through the end of November. For every dry-aged steak sold, The Capital Grille will donate $1 to SuitAbility.

Davio's Thanksgiving
Davio's, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge (617-661-4810). Nov. 22, 12-4pm. $49.95. Indulge in an American Thanksgiving with an Italian accent.

Dickens of a Weekend
Omni Parker House Hotel, 60 School St., Boston (800-872-8997). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Nov. 24, 5:30pm. $90 (includes show). The Omni Parker House re-creates the five-course dinner served to Charles Dickens in 1867. After dining, head to the Shubert Theatre to see *A Christmas Carol*.

Haute Cuisine with Ken Oringer
The Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). Dec. 3, 6-9pm. $125. Clio chef **Ken Oringer**, winner of the James Beard Award for Best Chef in the Northeast, shows you how to prepare haute cuisine.

Holiday Desserts
Ruby Chard Catering, 5197 Washington St., West Roxbury (617-325-6060). Dec. 4, 6:30-9:30pm. $35. Learn to make buche de Noel, roasted pumpkin crostada and sweetpotato pecan pie.

Holiday Lighting at Nashoba Valley
Nashoba Valley Winery, 100 Wattaquadoc Hill Road, Bolton (978-779-5521). Dec. 1, 4-7pm. Free. Taste wines at this annual holiday party.

Holiday Wine Tasting
Gamble Mansion, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Nov. 30, 7-10pm. $55. Learn about and taste a selection of wines chosen by a panel of wine experts who will lead seminars on everything from "Alternatives to Merlot" to "A Chardonnay Showdown—Old World vs. New World."

Julien's Thanksgiving Dinner
Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8752). Nov. 22, 12-8pm. $67. This four-course meal includes cider-glazed turkey, mushroom cannelloni, cracked pepper and brown sugar–rubbed tenderloin or roasted salmon.

Occidental Tourist
Salamander Restaurant, One Huntington Ave., Boston (617-451-2150). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Nov. 24, 10am-2pm. $75. Join chef **Stan Frankenthaler** for a cooking class in the Satay Bar.

Pabst Blue Ribbon Chili Challenge
Jake & Earl's Dixie Roadhouse, 220 Moody St., Waltham (781-894-4BBQ). Dec. 3, 7-9pm. $15.95. The chili competition and Pabst Blue Ribbon tasting includes Blue Ribbon Barbecue, Kokopelli Chili Company and West Street Grille.



Hair stylist Mario Russo (left) with Ron Friedman, owner of the Seasonal Table

TASTY TIDBIT

EMBRACE OLIVE OIL

"While growing up, my bedroom window overlooked a grove of olive trees," says hair stylist Mario Russo of his childhood in the small town of Formia, Italy. "Olive oil was a cure-all...I [even] remember my grandmother rubbing it into my hair." Russo is explaining the recent launch of his signature olive oil hair care products inspired by his Italian roots. On Nov. 30, he'll celebrate the new product line by cooking up his Nonna's risotto (a favorite family recipe) at the Seasonal Table. Those of us who weren't lucky enough to have olive-oil massages can comfort ourselves with Russo's risotto at this event featuring Italian wines and cheeses, plus olive oils. ***The Seasonal Table, 61 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-7979). Nov. 30, 6-8pm. Free.***

Pie in the Sky
Community Servings (617-445-7777). Through Nov. 22. Purchase a pie to provide a Thanksgiving dinner for a family struggling with AIDS.

Seasons Thanksgiving Feast
Millennium Bostonian Hotel, Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-523-3600). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Nov. 22, 12-6pm. $55. This three-course dinner includes a sinful dessert buffet.

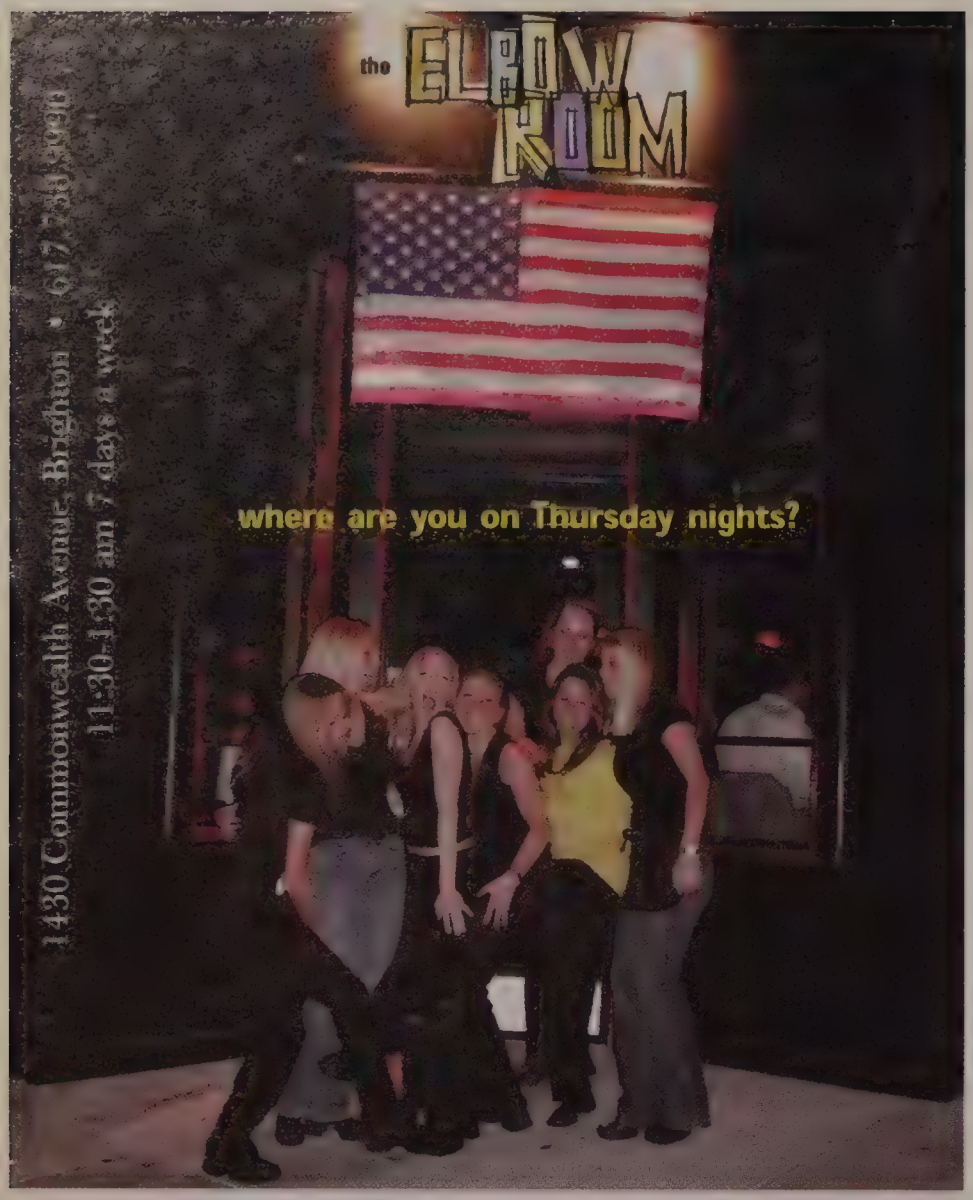
Thanksgiving at Sandrine's
Sandrine's, 8 Holyoke St,. Cambridge (617-497-5300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 22. $40. Chef **Raymond Ost** prepares a four-course Thanksgiving dinner.

Thanksgiving Brunch
Boston Harbor Hotel, 70 Rowes Wharf, Boston (617-439-7000). Nov. 22, 10am-7pm. $60. Chef **Daniel Bruce**'s brunch will feature Vermont turkey, prosciutto-wrapped roast venison loin, pan-seared Cape Cod cakes and apple fritters.

Wine and Cheese Tasting
The Seasonal Table, 61 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-7979). •Nov. 23, 5-8pm: wines to pair with Thanksgiving leftovers.

Wine Tasting with Lorenzo
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue., 6 and 8pm. $25. Sommelier **Lorenzo Savona** hosts this tasting. •Nov. 27: Barolo Bender IV •Dec. 4: Sauvignon Blanc Calvalcade.





"A Sensation."
—TIME Magazine

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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 48

PERFORMING ARTS 50

ART 52

BOOKS & POETRY 56

EDUCATION 56

FILM 58

DANCE CLUBS 62

MUSIC 66

CLASSICAL MUSIC 74

GAY & LESBIAN 75

BODY & MIND 76

SPORTS 76

CHILDREN 78

AROUND TOWN 78

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports

improper picks



THURS./NOV. 29—SUN./NOV. 2

Art: Crafts at the Castle

If you're like us and suffer from a serious case of mallphobia during the month of December, you'll be happy to know about some alternative venues for holiday shopping. Here are three: The annual Christmas Crafts Show at Bayside Expo Center features more than 300 exhibits of handmade art and craft items, including pottery, stained glass, screen prints, woodwork, jewelry and paintings, Nov. 23-Nov. 25. A bit more upscale is the Crafts at the Castle, which has jewelry, ceramics, glass, clothing, furniture, baskets and objects created from mixed media, metal and paper, Nov.29-Dec. 2 at the Park Plaza. It's quite an honor to be chosen (from some 700 hopefuls) to participate in this juried show, considered one of the top five craft shows in the country. Finally, for a "unique" gift for your odd Uncle Ed, there's the 15th annual Wex Rex Collectibles Extravaganza at Suffolk Downs, Dec. 2. Here, vendors peddle everything from Disneyana to holidayana for those who dig action figures and other bizarre schlock.

See CityScope on page 48 and Art on page 52 for more detailed information.

SAT./NOV. 24 & WED./NOV. 28

Music: Folk Flashbacks

This week sees two of the century's most revered folk heros come to town. First, the man who has made an incalculable impression on both rock music and generations of fans, **Bob Dylan** plays a combo of his folk classics and new bluesy tunes at the FleetCenter Nov. 24. Then folk wonderwoman **Judy Collins** sings at Symphony Hall on the 28th. Over the years, Collins has dedicated many an album to covering the works of Dylan, and on her first concert album included stunning versions of some of Dylan's best work. Might we see her perched in the bleachers at Dylan's show? We hope so. *Symphony Hall, Boston. 8pm. $38-$48; FleetCenter, 1 Fleet Center., Boston. 8pm. $28.50-$42.50. For tickets to either concert, call (617-931-2000).*

SUN./NOV. 25

Music: Pavarotti Phenomenon

Celebrity tenor **Luciano Pavarotti** is the member of the Three Tenors whose name is most recognized. The distinguished Placido Domingo rings in at a close second, and then there's poor José Carreras, whose name is somehow always the hardest to recall. For more than 40 years, Pavarotti's resonant voice has conquered opera arias, traditional music and holiday favorites alike and his live performances always include attention-grabbing spectacles. Pavarotti's fans are in for a special treat when the ever-jolly performer makes a rare local stop—at the FleetCenter Nov. 25, when he's sure to combine his incredible vocal talents with holiday-themed attractions. *FleetCenter, 1 Fleet Center, Boston (617-624-1050). $60-$300.*




Kiss 108's Matt Siegel and Billy Costa feel "at home" with The Rack's staff Fernanda, Keri, Danielle and Rachel.

inside THE RACK

Every Monday Night

"In The Biz" pool challenge and Monday Night Football hosted by BostonCityBeat.com's Michael Kalil, featuring DJ Mike Janedy. Dance, shoot pool, choose from 8 TV's to watch the game and enjoy a complimentary buffet. Party starts at 8pm!

Every Tuesday Night, 5pm

After-work Jazz with special musical guest, MD! It's a night you won't hear "What did you say?". Boston Music Night featuring Mappari every Tuesday night at 10pm in November.

Every Thursday Night, 6pm

Mark Morris & The Catunes rock the house! At 10:30pm, dance all night with DJ Rick!

Every Friday Night, 6pm

Skip the traffic jam and join us right after work with Central Basement and Kiss 108's Billy Costa! DJ Todd Reeves spins the night away!

Every Saturday Night, 8pm

Dance Party and live broadcast by Star 93.7's Vinnie Peruzzi while DJ Rick spins the hottest tunes!

Every Sunday Night

NFL Sunday Ticket! Watch your favorite team via satellite on one of our 8 screens featuring 10 different games beginning at noon! Enjoy our End Zone Football Buffet! Join The Chad LaMarsh band at 9:30pm!

Monday, November 19th

Boston Sports Awards Post-Party! Come congratulate the winners or buy the losers a drink and hang with the who's who in Boston sports! DJ Mike Janedy spins all night! Party starts at 9pm.

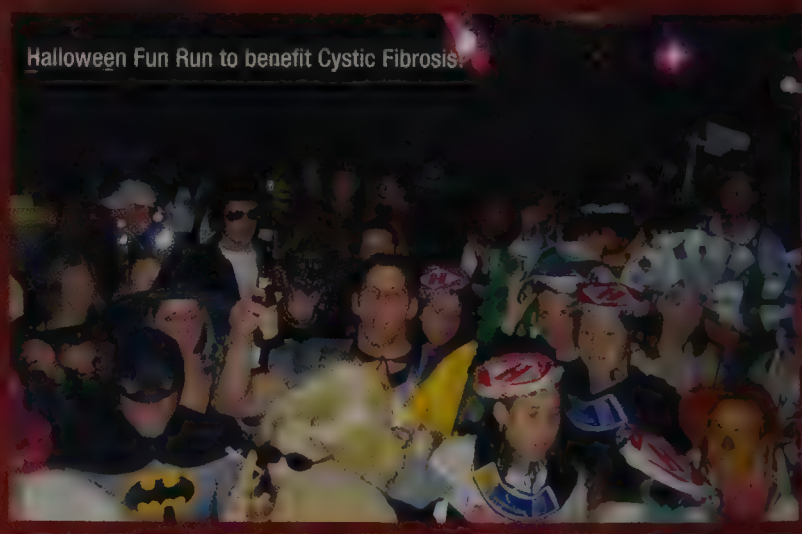
Wednesday, November 28th, 6:30pm

Looking for love? Join us for the People Scavenger Hunt hosted by Boston Event Guide featuring reggae by One People! At 10:30pm, join DJ Steve Anderson for Boston's best beats!

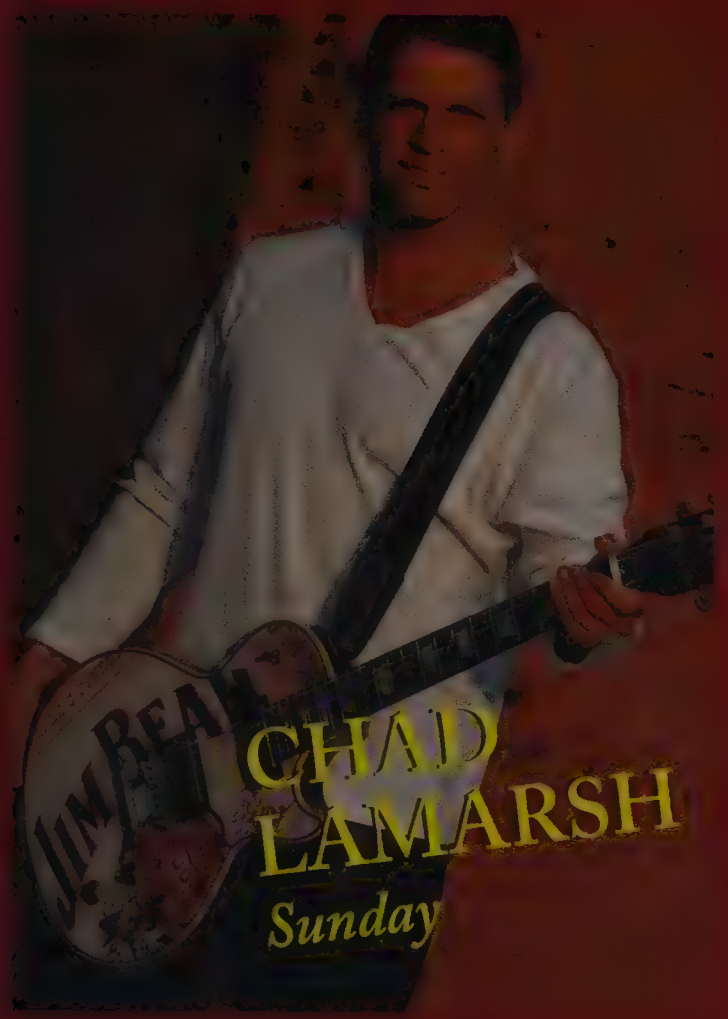
Monday, December 3rd, 7pm

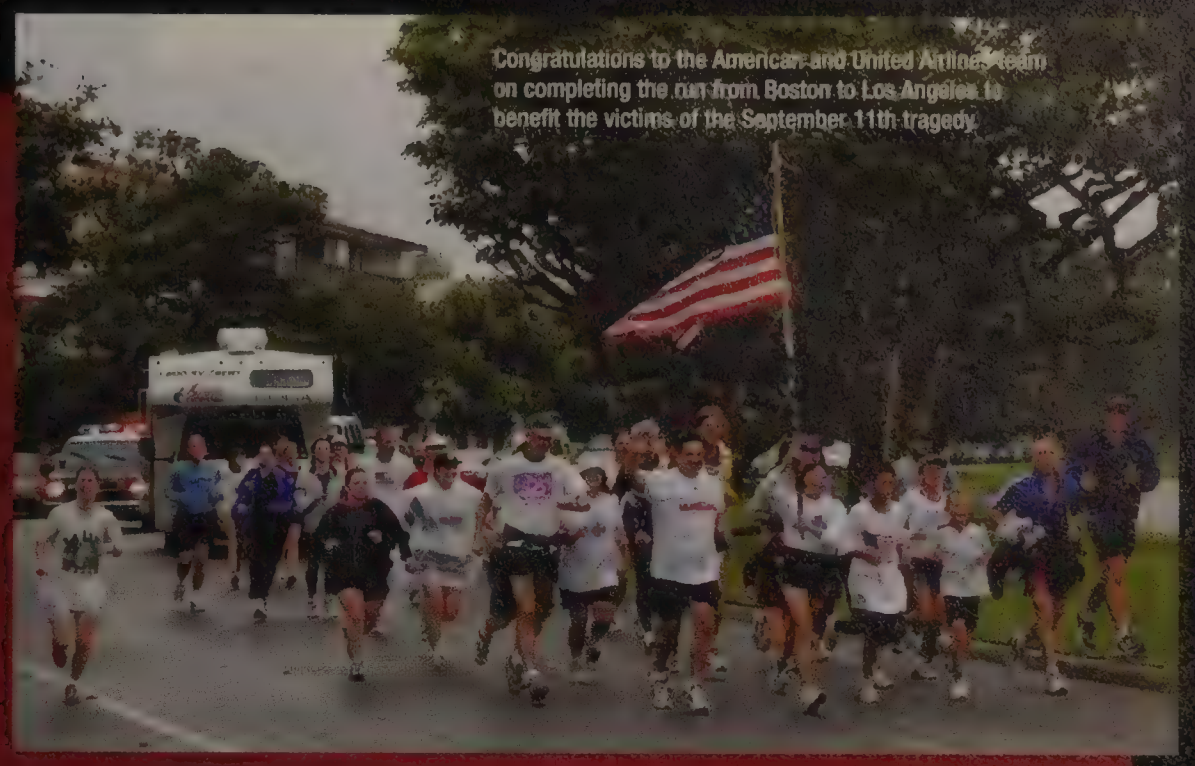
Don't miss Antoine Walker's 8 Ball Foundation party to benefit inner-city youth by providing positive life experiences and opportunities! The "8 Ball Celebrity Pool Tournament" will be a celebrity-studded event with athletes from the Celtics, Patriots, Red Sox and Bruins in attendance! Dancing all night with DJ Janedy! Call The Rack for ticket info.




Halloween Fun Run to benefit Cystic Fibrosis!

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Congratulations to the American and United Airlines team on completing the run from Boston to Los Angeles to benefit the victims of the September 11th tragedy.


Antoine Walker's
8 Ball Foundation Party
December 3rd


Boston Celtics
Roshown McLeod
with Ford model
Nicole Kelly.



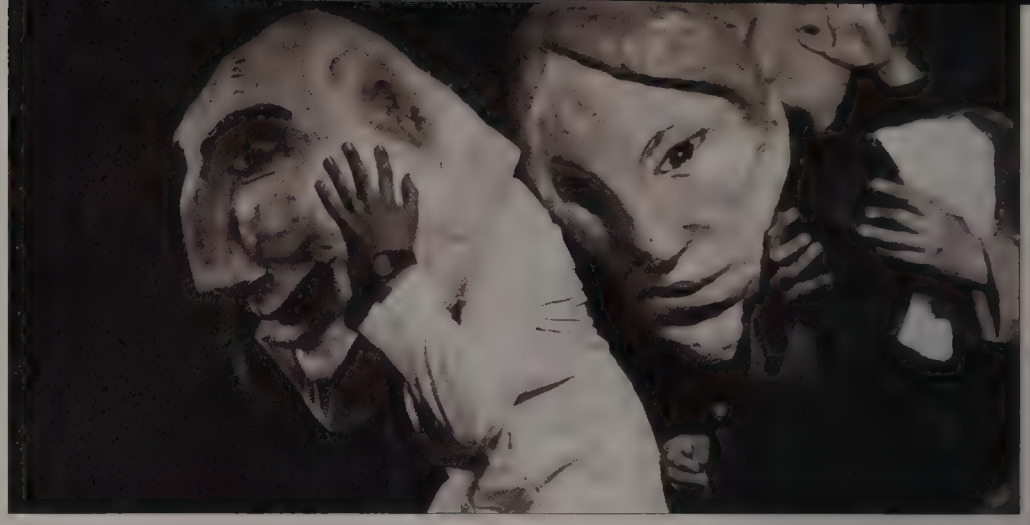
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THE RACK

THU./NOV. 29—SAT./DEC. 3

Theater: Bread and Puppet Theater ▶



We were initially intrigued by the event, **Insurrection Mass With Funeral Marches for Rotten Ideas** at the Old South Meeting House Nov. 30-Dec. 1, simply for the oddity of its name. Then we were further drawn in by its premise: In the presence of several paper-maché gods, a rotten idea is received from the mouth of the Gates of Hell. The rotten idea is chosen (by director Peter Schumann) from some recent political/economic event or concept that deserves burial. With all that's gone on recently, it's anyone's guess as to which rotten notion Schumann will choose to riddle with last rites. He'll also deliver a unique combination lecture-performance entitled "What the World Needs Now: A Manifesto for the Slow World," decrying the problems of capitalism while playing his fiddle Nov. 29. Schumann, a sculptor and choreographer, is best known for his special brand of political puppetry and staging of ambitious public events like rent strikes, war protests and anti-globalization parades. He founded his Bread and Puppet Theater in 1963 in New York City to address social, political and environmental issues. *310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). Nov. 29, 6:30pm, free; Nov. 30, 8pm, and Dec. 1, 5pm, $10.*

FRI./NOV. 30—SAT./DEC. 1

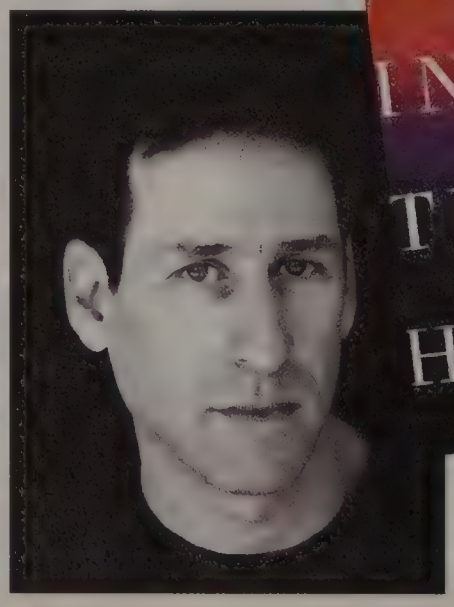
Toasting in the Holidays ▶

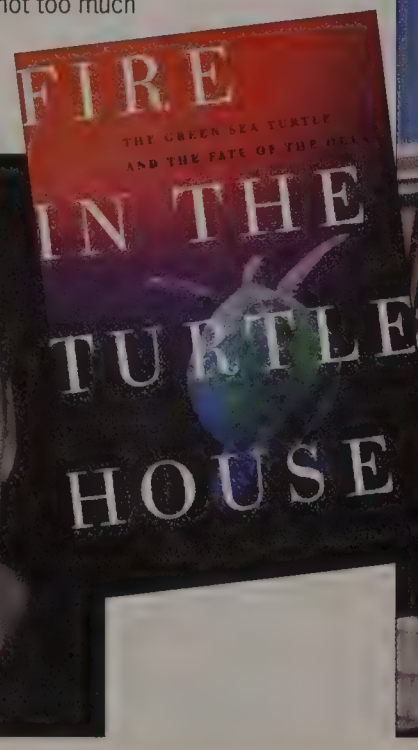


Aaah, the holiday party. The thought sends shivers down our collective spine. It usually takes us copious glasses of spiked punch or numerous eggnog to wade through the tedium of our Great Aunt Esther's annual holiday gathering or tolerate stilted conversations with co-workers at the office party. But here's one party that you can count on to be a ton of fun: the **Harpoon Christmas Party** Nov. 30-Dec. 1. Held at the brewery in a giant heated tent, the annual fiesta features live bands, barbecue from Jake & Earl's Dixie Roadhouse and lots and lots of beer. Be sure to arrive early—the line outside the brewery snakes down the block at all Harpoon gatherings. *Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-427-7666). www.harpoonbrewery.com. Nov. 30, 5:30-11pm; Dec. 1, 2-11pm. $10.*

TUE./DEC. 4

Books: Turtle Talk





Here's a low-key event perfect for the Tuesday night blahs—not too much effort involved, but gain knowledge nonetheless. *Fire in the Turtle House* is **Osha Gray Davidon**'s passionate book about environmental awareness—specifically about the Green Sea Turtle and the fate of the ocean. Davidson, an award-winning journalist, tells the story of the search for the cause of tumors afflicting marine turtles worldwide, and describes the surprisingly broad implications the disease has for the oceans and ultimately, all of humankind. At this talk, you'll aslo come away with a bit of turtle trivia—the author will talk a lot about their personalities and behavioral quirks. Davidson has written several books, one of which was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize in history. *New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5281).*

DEC. 1, 2, 7-9

Classical Music: The Return of the Messiah ▼

If you're like us and an ill-advised bout of '80s nostalgia had you feathering your hair; pretending to be a good 10 years younger and rocking out at the Ratt concert last week, you may also be looking for some music that's a bit more subdued and sedentary. We're thinking that the much more subdued Handel & Haydn Society's concert of Handel's ***Messiah*** at Symphony Hall may be just our speed. H&H gave the American premiere of *Messiah* in 1818 and has performed it every holiday season since 1854. More than a million Boston fans have heard them perform the work so far, and conductor Grant Llewellyn leads his first performance of the *Messiah* this week as the H&H music director . Llewellyn made his debut as music director in October, conducting Haydn's *The Creation*. He is also conductor in residence for the BBC National Orchestra and Chorus of Wales. *Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). $26-$70.*



THU./NOV. 27

CityScope: Bike Night

In theory, we love the idea of hopping on our bikes to cycle past endless lines of stalled traffic to arrive at work every day with a slight flush to our rosy cheeks. In practice, however, our barely used mountain bikes are parked in a dark corner of our basements collecting dust. But we're all about supporting the bicycle as as a safe, healthful, enjoyable, efficient and environmentally sound means of transportation. If you're in agreement, head to the Cambridge Brewing Company to share a few pints with like-minded folks at **Bike Night** on Nov. 27. The Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition is a statewide bicycling advocacy organization that works to serve and protect the interests of the bicycling public. Learn about MassBike's recent accomplishments and future challenges at this event featuring speakers, great food and an auction of merchandise donated by the local bicycling industry ... plus yummy beer. *One Kendall Square, Cambridge (617-542-2453). 6pm. $25.*

SAT./DEC. 1

Film: Master Morris

One of Boston's most famous directors, **Errol Morris**, comes to the Harvard Film Archive this week to show episodes from *First Person*, his highly acclaimed 2001 nonfiction series. Now in its second season on the Independent Film Channel, Morris' *First Person* is a series that presents in-depth portraits of all sorts of people—individuals who fall anywhere on the social spectrum. Working with the Megatron—a refinement of the Interrotron camera apparatus he invented in order to lock eyes with his interview subjects in such films as *Fast, Cheap & Out of Control*—Morris has received heaps of accolades for the project, including landing a spot on *Time* magazine's list of top-10 TV programs last year. This evening's subjects include a close encounter with mob lawyer Murray Richman and a two-part visit with Rick Rosner, a high school recidivist who has serially re-enrolled in his senior year. *24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-4700). 8pm, $10.*

FRI./NOV. 30-SUN./DEC. 2

CityScope: World AIDS Day

Boston institutions have traditionally acknowledged World AIDS day with a mix of arts and educational programs. In conjunction with Fenway Community Health, the MFA hosts a screening of *Undetectable*, a documentary by **Jay Corcoran** that follows six Boston residents through their daily struggles with HIV and AIDS. One of those profiled is WBZ's **David Brudnoy**, and both he and Corcoran give a talk following the 3pm screening. Throughout the museum, students enact performance pieces. The Cyclorama brings back the Medicine Wheel, artist Michael Dowling's creation that has become an important yearly community occasion. A vigil begins at midnight on Friday, Nov. 30 and runs through 5pm Sunday. Cloud Walk is a procession that leaves Lester Rotch Park Nov. 30 at midnight and ends at Cyclorama, where improvised performances take place amid the Latino Health Institute offering show of artworks. *MFA, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000).*

TOP RIGHT: RT SIMON





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cityscope

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Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 21

Brass Key Red Cross Benefit
The Brass Key Guesthouse, 67 Bradford St., Provincetown (800-842-9858) www.brasskey.com. *Through Nov. 26.* The Brass Key is usually closed this time of year, but if you opt to spend part or all of Thanksgiving on the Cape, they'll donate 100 percent of your room charge to the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

Boston's Festival of Trees
The Shops at Prudential Center, 800 Boylston St., Boston (781-278-0222) Free. More than 40 uniquely decorated trees will line the Prudential shops until December 28, to benefit the National Kidney Foundation's "The Honorable John Joseph Moakley Children's Fund." Place a bid on eBay to win selected trees.

THURSDAY, NOV. 22

Boston Volvo Thanksgiving Day 5K
Boston Volvo Village, 75 North Beacon St., Brighton (617-560-1700). Registration at 7am, race at 9am. Free to participants, but a donation to fight multiple sclerosis is encouraged. Not only can participating in this run/walk help fight multiple sclerosis, there will be many prizes available to participants, including a one night bed-and-breakfast stay in the Boston Harbor Hotel.

FRIDAY, NOV. 23

Charles Square Holiday Tree Lighting
Charles Hotel, One Bennet St., Cambridge (617-234-8099) 4pm. Free. Festive food, holiday music and entertainment fill an afternoon at the Charles Hotel, where they're kicking off the holiday season with a tree lighting and an appearance by Santa Claus.

Holiday Tree Lighting at Downtown Crossing
Downtown Crossing, Summer St., Boston (617-482-2139) 5pm Free. Holiday bell chiming, choirs, concerts, and a tree lighting mark the beginning of the Christmas season. While you peruse shop windows highlighting classic holiday stories along Summer Street, keep your eyes peeled for Saint Nick.

Christmas Crafts Show
Bayside Expo Center, Boston (508-359-6545) Nov. 23-24, 10am-6pm, Nov. 25 10am-5pm. $8, children under 12 free with adult admission. The 31st annual Christmas Crafts Show brings more than 300 exhibits of arts and crafts items from across the country to Boston. Adults can browse among pottery, glass, woodworking, and painted art, with toys and ornaments for kids.

Saint Nick Arrives
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-1300) Noon. Free. The Boston Fire Department escorts Santa Claus in style to Faneuil Hall. He'll be dishing out stories in the Upper Rotunda every Saturday and Sunday this season at 1:30 & 3:30pm.

Charles Dickens Reenacts *A Christmas Carol*
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-1300) 12:30 and 2:30pm. A Charles Dickens impersonator reads and reenacts from the holiday favorite on the Citizens Bank Community Stage until December 21.

SATURDAY, NOV. 24

Santa's Parachute Jump
Faxon Field, behind the Center for Technical Education, Quincy. http://ci.quincy.ma.us/htm/xmasfest/santasjump.htm. *12:30pm.* Santa goes skydiving, which ought to reassure the children that he'll be all right even if turbulence were to knock him out of his sleigh.

TUESDAY, NOV. 27

Bike Night 2001
Cambridge Brewing Company, 1 Kendall Sq., Cambridge (617-542-2453) 6-10pm. $25, $20 MassBike members. Support your fellow cyclists at the Massachusett's Bicycling Coalition's Bike Night to benefit the statewide organization dedicated to making Massachusetts a better place to bike. The evening includes dinner, keynote speakers, an auction, and entertainment.

The Other Half Singles Party
Cavaeu Wine Bistro, Marche, Prudential Center, Boston (617-288-7899). 6-10pm. $30. Bring a single friend of the opposite sex to a party for singles 28 and over. The party is themed "Come As You Are," designed to make the event evenly distributed between the sexes and create a comfortable, friendly atmosphere.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 28

Hampshire House Cheers for Children Holiday Party and Auction
Bull & Finch Pub, 84 Beacon St., Boston (617-227-9605) www.cheersboston.com. *5:30-9:30pm. $20.* This is the 22nd year for this particular benefit, which will benefit *Globe* Santa, the Cam Neely Foundation, the Jimmy Fund, Friends of Floating Hospital and Denis Leary's Firefighter's Fund for New York's Bravest. Partiers receive a complimentary gift and hors d'oeuvres, and the cash bar will be staffed by celebrity bartenders.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29

Crafts at the Castle Preview Gala and Auction
The Park Plaza Castle, Arlington St. at Columbus Ave., Boston (617-783-5555) www.artfulgift.com/catc *5:30-9:30pm. Copper patron, $500; silver patron, $750; gold patron, $1,000.* This sneak peek at the annual Crafts at the Castle exhibition (with more than 100 artists' wares on display) benefits Family Service, an organization that helps provide low-income Bostonians with access to prevention, counseling and crisis intervention services. This year, Family Sevice is allocating the funds raised at this event to its Campership Fund, which sends underprivileged children to summer camps. NECN's Margie Reedy and Chet Curtis host. The show runs through Dec. 2 and tickets for the regular hours are $10 adults, $8 seniors.

Women's Educational and Industrial Union Benefit Luncheon
Westin Hotel Copley Place, Boston (617-267-8862) www.weiu.org. *11:30am-1:30pm. $100 and up.* The Women's Education and Industrial Union's 18th annual Amelia Earhart Award luncheon will honor WBZ's Liz Walker. Proceeds will benefit the WEIU's programs, which include the Horizons Housing Program for battered and homeless women and children, and Woman to Woman, a technology and training program for low-income mothers looking to find better jobs.

Kowloon Fund-raiser
Kowloon Restaurant, Route 1 North, Saugus (781-231-0077) 6-11pm. $25. The Kowloon is celebrating its 51st anniversary by raising money for the Joey Fund (which aids cystic fibrosis research) and Jack Williams' Wednesday's Child (which finds permanent homes for special-needs children). There will be a Vegas casino with blackjack, craps and roulette and a performance by Joey Dee and the Starlighters (of "Shout" fame).

Copley Square Tree Lighting
Copley Square, Boston (617-635-4500) 4-5pm. The Friends of Copley Square host their annual tree lighting with the Salvation Army Brass Ensemble, the Jubilee Kids Chorus, and the FAO Schwartz toy soldier.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30

Words of Comfort Poetry Reading
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston: www.dialoguepoetry.org/wtc.htm. *6:30-9:30pm. $15 suggested donation.* More than 40 poets will read at this benefit for the World Trade Center Relief Fund. Checks only, please.

Harpoon Christmas Party
Harpoon Brewery, 306 Northern Ave., Boston (888-427-7666); www.harpoonbrewery.com. *Fri, 5:30-11pm; Sat., 2-11pm. $10.* Harpoon fires up another seasonal party for Christmas, with the usual live bands, food from Jake & Earl's Dixie Roadhouse and lots and lots of beer.

Paint the Town Red
Atlantic 101, 101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101) www.eccplan.com. *6:30-9:30pm. $15 donation at the door.* Wear red to Atlantic 101 and you'll get $2 specialty drinks from 8-10pm and $2 raw bar and free hors d'oeuvres all night. There'll be music, too, and a portion of the proceeds will benefit the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund.

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

A Benefit for Bobby Carroll
Baseball Tavern, 1306 Boylston St., Boston (617-247-8152). 6pm, $20. This fall, Rattlesnake bartender Bobby Carroll took a nasty spill while trying to climb through a window into his apartment, which he'd locked himself out of. He broke his back in two places, and at the moment it looks as if he won't be able to get back to work until sometime next year. So his friends are throwing him a benefit party with a live band, buffet and raffle. All proceeds and donations will go to Bobby Carroll.

Picture Your Pet With Santa
The Colonnade Hotel, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-541-5075); dogs 11am-1pm, cats 1-2pm. $10. Plop your poodle on the lap of Santa to benefit the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Bring dogs and cats on a leash or in a carrier for safety's sake.

Tree Lighting at the Prudential
Boylston Street side of the Prudential Center, Boston (617-267-7366), 6pm, Free. After four weeks of decorating a 50-foot spruce with 4.5 miles of wire and 18,000 lights, the Prudential tree is lit. This marks the 30th year of the tradition of Nova Scotia gifting the city with an evergreen after Bostonians responded to an accident in Halifax in 1917. The province of Nova Scotia will provide entertainment, and the Make-A-Wish Foundation will kick off its fund-raising campaign.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

14th Annual Yuletide Stride
Boston Common (617-450-1564); www.aacevents.com. *12pm. $25.* This five-mile run raises money to provide holiday gift baskets for the clients of the AIDS Action Committee, the oldest and largest AIDS service organization in New England. Awards will be given out to the top male and female finishers in each of the race's five age brackets. Awards will also be given for best holiday-themed costumes.

15th Annual Wex Rex Collectibles Extravaganza
Suffolk Downs Racetrack, Route 1A, East Boston (508-620-6181); www.allcollectors.com. *9:30am-5pm, $6.* If you dig action figures and other bizarre schlock, you'll burn the tread off your Luke Skywalker limited edition commemorative sneakers getting to Suffolk Downs. In addition to 400 vendors pedaling everything from "Disneyana" to "holidayana," there will be several celebrities (such as Lynne Stewart, who played Miss Yvonne on *Pee Wee's Playhouse*) signing autographana. For a fee, of course.

City Lights: Boston's Official Holiday Tree Lighting
Boston Common (617-635-4505) 5-7pm, free. See box for more details.

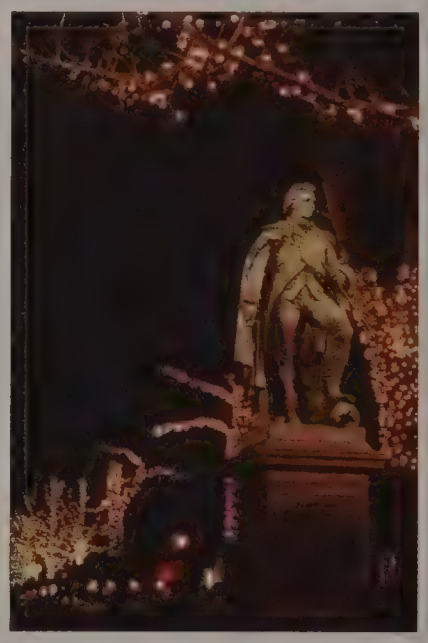


Above: Mickey, Minnie and other Disney characters will help the Mayor hit the lights. Below: The Comm. Ave. Mall is one of the areas that will get its holiday trappings Dec. 2.

Preview

Night Lights

The city's traditional tree-lighting ceremony gets a boost from Mickey and Co.



The flowers in the Public Garden may be hibernating, but something else will bloom soon: lights, and lots of them. It's not Vegas, baby, but Boston's luminescent treatment of the Common, the Public Garden and the Comm. Ave. Mall always brightens up the area at a time of year when the greenery is bereft of its natural decoration. On Dec. 2, Mayor Menino and Santa (this one lives at Macy's) will throw the switch and the lights will come on.

In addition, for the second year the ceremony will include a stage show put on by Disney World. The *100 Years of Magic Celebration* will feature more than 50 Disney characters, from Goofy to Chip and Dale dancing their fur off. There will also be a special performance from the cast of Boston Ballet's *Nutcracker*. Plus a 60-foot tree. Finally, unlike your house, we bet when the Mayor flips the switch, the lights here will actually work.

City Lights: Boston's Official Tree Lighting, Boston Common (617-635-4505), Dec. 2, 5-7pm.



Liz Walker will be honored at the WEIU's Amelia Earhart Award luncheon, Nov. 29 at the Westin Copley Place.

LIGHTING CEREMONY (2): BOSTON PARKS AND RECREATION

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Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater

JUST OPENED

City Preacher
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 30-Dec. 16. $15. Ed Mullin's play serves as a metaphor for a spiritual crisis in the life of young Adam Clayton Powell Jr., who became a legendary historical figure during the post-Harlem Renaissance era.

A Christmas Carol
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Nov. 30-Dec. 23. $18-$56. This musical adaptation of the Dickens classic stars David Coffee.

A Christmas Carol
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-6772). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 24, 2 and 8pm. Charles Dickens' great-great grandson Gerald Charles Dickens plays all 26 characters in this classic.

A Christmas Carol
Stoneham Theatre, 359 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Nov. 30-Dec. 23. $25-$35. Scrooge, Marley, Tiny Tim and friends star in this musical.

The Cripple of Inishman
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St., Arlington Center (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. *Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Nov. 30-Dec. 9. $15.* This black comedy is about life on a remote Irish island.

Dancing at the Revolution
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Nov. 30-Dec. 22. $20. Award-winning playwright Michael Bettencourt creates social activist Emma Goldman's prison world.

The Golden Dreidel
Jewish Theatre of New England, 333 Nahantan St., Newton Centre (617-558-6480). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre. Dec. 1, 8pm; Dec. 2, 2pm. Host of WGBH's Sound and Spirit, Ellen Kushner teams up with the Shirim Klezmer Band to present this Chanukah-inspired fantasy adventure tale.

A Judy Collins Christmas
Symphony Hall, Boston (617-266-1200). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. Nov. 28, 8pm. $38-$48. Judy Collins takes audiences on a nostalgic musical journey to Christmases past.

The Mikado
Boston Academy of Music, Emerson Majestic Theatre, 129 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 23, 7:30pm; Nov. 24, 2 and 7:30pm; Nov. 25, 2pm. $20-$75. Set in the imaginary town of Titipu, this show tells the romantic story of minstrel Nanki-Poo, the Mikado's son, who risks his life to marry the enchanting Yum Yum.

Now What?
Nexus Theater Center, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Nov. 30-Dec. 15. $25. Daena Giardella takes audiences on a gutsy, poignant, humorous and riveting journey through the complexities of life since the events of Sept. 11.

Nutcrackers: The Nunsense Christmas Musical
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Nov. 30-Dec. 29. $20-$36. Those wacky nuns are back—this time filming a television special in a cable access studio.

Quiet Riot
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center, 85 West Newton, Boston (617-927-1730). Nov. 28, 8pm. $5. This night of lo-fi rock (The Shelley Winters Project, The Sugar Twins and Linus) and performance includes appearances by the ladies of Boston Burlesque.

NOW RUNNING

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 16. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

Anton in Show Business
Theatre Zone, Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (617-423-7313). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through Nov. 24. $15. A self-centered TV actress, a jaded New Yorker and an enthusiastic ingenue are brought together for an ill-fated production of Anton Chekov's *The Three Sisters*.

Betty's Summer Vacation
The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Nov. 25. $12-$58. Joined by an eclectic assortment of housemates at her seaside timeshare, Betty is thrust into a maelstrom of outrageous occurrences. Christopher Durang's comedy pokes fun at our scandal-obsessed culture.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3 and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

A Christmas Carol
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Dec. 28. $28-$42. Charles Dickens's tale is complete with singing, dancing and special theatrical effects.



The Boston Academy of Music presents *The Mikado* at the Emerson Majestic Theatre Nov. 23-25.



John Thompson reprises the role of Othello at the America Repertory Theatre Nov. 23-Jan. 17.

Preview

The Moor of Venice

The ART takes on Shakespeare's tale of jealousy and betrayal

With such Shakespearean flops as Ethan Hawke's *Hamlet* and Kelsey Grammer's *Macbeth* hitting the stage, and teen flicks like *O* and *Romeo + Juliet* leaving English teachers permanently dismayed, it has become practically impossible to find a decent production of Shakespeare that doesn't have "Royal" or "the Queen's" in its title. This isn't the case at the American Repertory Theatre, though. With a first-rate cast and a flare for novelty, the ART brings a new production of *Othello*, the notorious story of misdirected jealousy and betrayed friendship, to the stage.

Don't expect the standard boy-meets-girl, boy-gets-jealous, boy-kills-girl story written in iambic pentameter. "The ART presents the classics with a contemporary vision," says Kati Mitchell, public relations executive at the ART. This production of *Othello* boasts a cosmopolitan cast. Yuri Yeremin, one of Russia's leading directors, and Yugoslavia's famed import, Mirjana Jokovic, who plays Desdemona, contribute their European theatrical experience to the staging of *Othello* in America.

The star of the show, John Douglas Thompson, is looking forward to reprising the role he played two years ago at Trinity Repertory Company in Providence. He says, "There is no perfect *Othello*—it's one of these parts that you can continually work on and never even reach satisfaction." The visual style of Yeremin illustrates the story with poignant sets and imagery, complete with real sand, miniature canals and bona fide billowing sails. A live performance of contemporary music inspired by Italian bards will also add a novel twist to the presentation.

The ART's production promises to be profound and refreshing, relating to human experience through a new take on classical bardic tradition. *American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Nov. 23-Jan. 17. $26-$61.—Inna Golovatch*

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Lobby Hero
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 24. $20-$36. Kenneth Lonergan's play centers on Jeff, a luckless security guard who's drawn unwittingly into a murder investigation.

The Lonesome West
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 24. $24 and $28. This black comedy is about two brothers who find it impossible to coexist.

Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm
Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 25. $10-$17. Rebecca is sent to live with two maiden aunts in Riverboro, Maine. The aunts try to cope with this "bird of a different feather."

Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants
The Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (617-576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Nov. 24. $55. The Northeast premiere of this Obie Award–winning one-man show by America's legendary expert in the field of deception.

Rose
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Wed., 2 and 7pm; Thu., 8pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Dec. 16. $25-$33. Rose is a Jewish woman who left her Ukrainian village home to find a new life in America. Instead, she struggles at the Warsaw ghetto.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Touchable Stories
Fort Point, 27 Melcher St., South Boston (617-423-3651). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 5pm. Through Dec. 1. $12. This multimedia oral history asks: What is the value of creativity in our culture today?

CABARET

Boston Sings Boston
Club Cafe, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-5981). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington or Orange Line to Back Bay. Nov. 26-27, 8:30pm. $20. The Centastage performance group presents new cabaret by Boston songwriters.

BOTTOM LEFT: CLIVE GRAINGER ©2001; TOP: RICHARD FELDMAN

Dance

Body Tales
Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). Nov. 29-Dec. 30. 8pm. $10. Alissa Cardone, Alla Kovgan and Dedalus Wainwright present a collaboration of dance, video, sound and constructions.

The Nutcracker at Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre
400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). Thu., Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 6:30pm; Sat. and Sun. matinees, 2pm. Nov. 29-Dec. 30. $25-$29. The so-called "other" *Nutcracker* in town features the same classic holiday story at a smaller venue. The more intimate setting gives the audience a close-up view of the new sets and choreography.

Stomp
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 16. $25-$52. With no plot or dialogue, performers use everyday objects such as brooms, garbage can lids and their own bodies to create music for their dance numbers.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Nov. 21: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up a Little Comedy Tour •Nov. 23-24: Bob Nelson •Nov. 25: Black Comedy Explosion with Jonathan Gates •Nov. 26: Amateur Showcase with Kevin Knox •Nov. 27: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •Nov. 28: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up and Live a Little Comedy Tour •Nov. 29: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Nov. 30-Dec. 1: Dom Irrera, CBS's *The King of Queens* •Dec. 1-2: Maurice Benard.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Nov. 23: Eugene Mirman, Jen Kirkman, Elizabeth Gutterman, Val Kappa, Steve Calechman, Benari Poulten, Sean Lily, Arthur Januario and Sandy Asai •Nov. 24: Eugene Mirman, Jen Kirkman, Val Kappa, Steve Calechman, Benari Poulten, Todd Lee and Caitlin Feeley •Nov. 25: Comics Workout with Ira Proctor, James Cenamo, Greg Rodiguez, Steph Wishnick, Denise Robichau, Alex Fulsky and Clark Elefterderias •Nov. 29: Tim McIntire with Rich Gustus, Rob Reuter, Mike Baker, Thomas Mitchell and Steve Smith •Nov. 30: "Piston Honda" with Dan Mintz, Rich Gustus, Chris Oake, John Curtin and Shelby Siems •Dec. 1: Rich Gustus with Walter Dixon, Dan Sulman, Joe Dinkin, Dave Walsh and Chrissy Lavioe •Dec. 2: Comics workout with Sam Walters, Rich Gustus, Mike Baker, Tammy Two-Tone, Dave Greenburg, Wil McNeill, Dave Walsh and Robert Lamb.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy troupe.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Theatre District, Boston (617-423-2900). Ticket prices $10-$22. •Nov. 23-24, 8:45pm: John David, Johnny Pizzi and Larry Lee Lewis.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10pm. Main Stage: $10-$15. On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show featuring all-new material. •Wed., 8pm, and Sun., 7:30pm: Best of Improv Asylum.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (617-576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. $12. •Dec. 1, 10:30pm, $12. Boston's longest-runing improvisational comedy troupe makes things up as it goes along.



Sweet Clara admires her wooden nutcracker.

Preview

'Tis the Season

If the holidays are about tradition, then the start of the Boston Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* is one of the first signs that it's time to trim the tree and count down the shopping days. This year marks the 37th annual production of the classic Tchaikovsky ballet that tells the story of a young girl Clara, and a toy nutcracker who comes to life on Christmas Eve and whisks her away on a fantasy journey to the Land of the Sweets.

This season brings a small change to a production—still the the most widely attended version of the *Nutcracker* in the world. It features a new dance for Mother Ginger, one of the most popular characters in the ballet. This year's production also features more than 400 children from Boston Ballet's Center for Dance Education performing as mice, soldiers and bonbons. *The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-695-6950). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Nov. 23-Dec. 30. $14-$65.—Meghan Lewit*

Magicians & Spirits
Green Street Grill, 290 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). Shows every Tuesday at 9pm. $10 cabaret show ($5 with dinner). At 10pm, the cabaret show begins upstairs with local and national magicians.

COMEDY SHOWS

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7pm. $49 (includes dinner), ongoing. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

The Logger—A Play in 2 Ax
Institute of Contemporary Art, 955 Boylston St., Boston (888-917-8789). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Thu., 8pm; Fri., 7pm; Sat., 10pm; Sun., 7pm. Nov. 29-30 and Dec. 1-2. $20. Rusty DeWees, a.k.a. The Logger, brings his one-man show to Boston, featuring 18 characters who present their unique perspectives of the backwoods native Vermonter.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-1759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night the Lizard Lounge hosts and open mike for the area's best creative talent.

The Sopranos' Last Supper
Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). Dec. 7, 14 and 21. $49. This interactive dinner show based on the HBO television series *The Sopranos* is a spoof on an Italian-American mob family.

Comedy at the Isle
Emerald Isle Bar & Lounge, 1501 Dorchester Ave., Fields Corner, Dorchester (617-288-3481). Nov. 22. $10. This event features comedians John List, Dan Sulman, Ben Boime, Artie Januario, Toni Moschetto and Jon Fisch.

FARNSWORTH/BLALOCK PHOTOGRAPHY

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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include dates, nearest T stop, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5. $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30. •Objects from China, Korea and Japan display in *Tradition and Synthesis: Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Works from East Asia*. Through June 9, 2002. •*Windshield: Richard Newtra's House for the John Nicholas Brown Family* is an exhibition of the design process of his first East Coast building and shows through Jan. 27, 2002.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*Latino Life in the United States*, a photography show, runs through Nov. 25. •*Waiting for Godot* shows photographs exploring the book as a sculptural object. Through Nov. 30. •*Succulents: Desert Cacti* shows photographs in the Boston Room through Nov. 30.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). Tue., 11am-5pm; Wed.-Thu., 11am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer, shows through Dec. 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculptural Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. *Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustrations* runs through Jan. 6, 2002. •*A Garden of Unearthly Delights* features outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work through June 9, 2002.

Dreams of Freedom Immigration Museum
Chiu Gallery, 1 Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). www.dreamsoffreedom.org. *MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State Street) Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm. $7.50.* •*A Chinatown Banquet*, created by local artists and Chinatown residents, shows through Feb. 17, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Precision and Prestige: The Arts of Engraving* runs through Dec. 2. •*Eat Art: Joseph Beuys, Dieter Roth, Sonja Alhäuser* shows through Dec. 15. •*You Look Beautiful Like That: The Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Mlick Sidibé* displays through Dec. 16.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* displays through Jan. 20, 2002. •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites: Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* is on display through Sept. 2, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* •The first major exhibition by Ellen Gallagher runs through Dec. 31. •Free guided walk-through takes place every Thursday at 6:30pm.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30pm.* The museum's permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries. •The exhibit *Presence* features images in canvases of growing grass through Dec. 30. •*Isabella Gardner's Holiday Table* evokes a circa-1904 Christmas party through Jan. 6, 2002.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering and Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. Demonstrations take place from 2-4pm daily. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers*, is an ongoing interactive exhibit. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays an ongoing selection of holograms from the museum's collection. •*Incandescent Spirit: Page Hazelgrove* displays her artistic glass blowing through Dec. 14.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*A Studio of Her Own: Women Artists in Boston 1870-1940* shows through Dec. 2. •*Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Art of the Natural World*, Chinese and Japanese art, shows through Dec. 2. •*Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* shows through March 10, 2002. •*The Look: Images of Glamour and Style, Photographs by Horst and Hoyningen-Huene* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*The Modern Woodcut* displays work through March 24, 2002. •*Fashion Photographs by William Wegman* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*Faces* shows photographs of the human face through April 28, 2002.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors. The Current Science and Technology Center* show is ongoing. •Mugar Omni Theatre shows *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*, *Journey into Amazing Caves* and *Bears* daily. •Charles Hayden Planetarium presents *The Sky Tonight*, *Skyfire* and a planetarium show daily. Times vary.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults, $10; seniors and students, $8; children under 16, free.* The museum's ongoing exhibitions include *A Work in Process: The New Museum, Shorelines, Three Centuries of Salem Architecture, The Folk Art Sampler* and *The Saltonstall Family Portraits*. •Photographer Kenru Izu's *Sacred Places* shows through Dec. 2. •*The Master Prints of Edward S. Curtis: Portraits of Native America* show through March 17, 2002. •*Indian Market: New Directions in Southwestern Native American Pottery* shows through March 17, 2002.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm. Free. •*SAC 2001*, an exhibit of 20 visual artists' work, shows through Dec. 15.

Preview

Tribal Passage

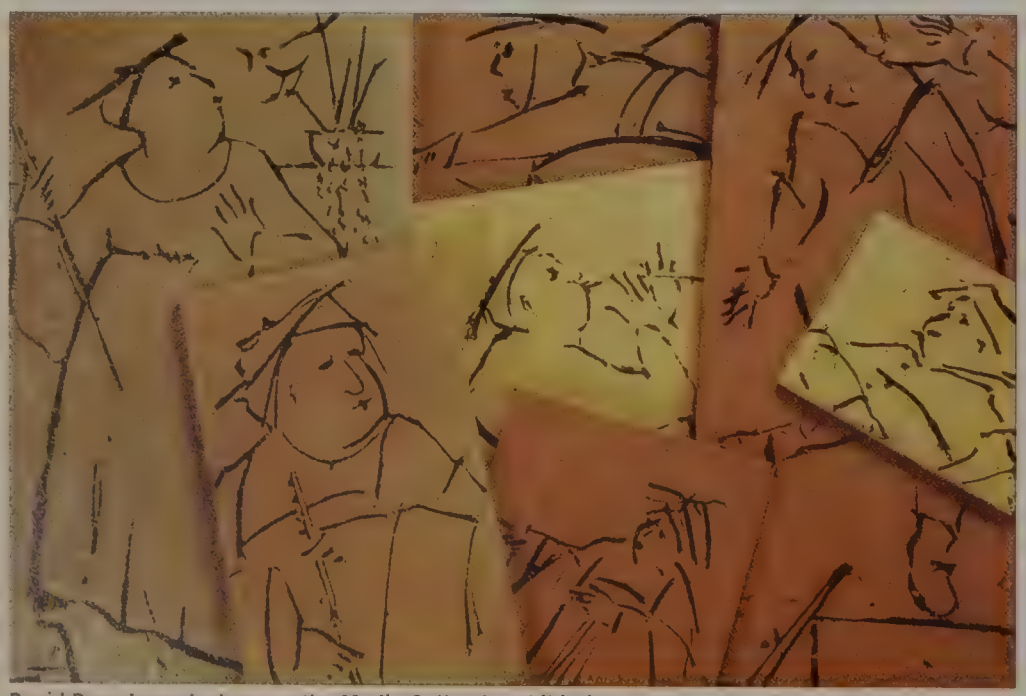
Curtis' portraits of Native Americans come to the Peabody Essex



This portrait, *A Hopi Mother and Child*, was photographed by Edward Curtis in 1900.

At age 33, Edward Sheriff Curtis (1868-1952) committed himself to documenting every major Native American Indian tribe west of the Mississippi River. Thirty years and 40,000 negatives later, he finished *The North American Indian*, a 20-volume work that takes an intimate look at the distinct cultures of 80 different tribes. According to Clark Worswick, the consulting curator of the collection at the Peabody Essex Museum, Curtis' work is a lasting and overwhelming success. "Our vision of the Native American is Curtis' vision," Worswick says. Although many of the photographs that appear in Curtis' book arewell circulated and easily recognizable, the museum is now displaying a less mainstream collection in *The Master Prints of Edward S. Curtis*. All of the works underscore the dignified natural beauty of America's first inhabitants.

Although some critics have questioned the authenticity of Curtis' photographs, claiming his re-creations of rituals were inaccurate and his portrayals of warriors were overly idealistic, experts like Worswick defend Curtis' artistic license: "These photographs were invented like a painter invents his canvas, by one of the greatest American artists. To say they are not factual is missing the whole point of Curtis' work ... it offers an indelible re-creation of the verities of Native American life." *Through Mar. 17, 2002. Peabody Essex Museum, East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults, $10; seniors and students, $8; children under 16, free.*—Bethany Gumper



David Bryce's work shows at the Media Gallery's exhibit titled *Works of an Eastern Nature.*

Galleries

FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •Jerry Berta's *Diner Show* exhibits through Jan. 5, 2002.

Allston Arts District
BPL Allston Branch, 300 N. Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). Mon., Wed., 12-8pm; Tue., Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •Casandra Clark's photographs show in *From Patagonia to Pantanal: Tracking the Pulse of Argentina and Brazil* through Dec. 14.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Suite 303, Boston (617-482-3652). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sat., 11am-5pm. •*Not A. Lear* features watercolors and oil paintings by Amanda Lear through Nov. 21.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •New paintings by Scott Prior show through Dec. 5.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •John Stockwell's *New Works* features European-inspired abstracted landscapes through Nov. 29. •Pamela Sienna's *Wrapped Series* captures objects wrapped in paper and cloth, and Robert Jackson's *New Work* features still lifes that combine unusual objects. Both show Dec. 2-30.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*Afterimage: Painted & Toned Photography* shows through Nov. 30.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Sun Works: Contemporary Alternative Photography* runs through Jan. 18, 2002.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •*New Light Works*, by Cameron Shaw, shows through Nov. 28. •Bronlyn Jones shows new work through Jan. 16, 2002.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*People*, work by Canadian artists Clint Griffin and Casey McGlynn, shows through Jan. 5, 2002.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •Ambreen Butt shows *Drawings* through Nov. 24.

Beth Urdang Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-4:30pm; Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Exquisite Realism* shows through Dec. 22.

Boston University Art Gallery
BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. *MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm.* •*Esther Bubley: American Photojournalist* runs through Dec. 16.

Bromfield Art Gallery
560 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-451-3605). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm. •*After Closing Time*, a show by Jemison Faust, displays abstractions through Dec. 1.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •The upper gallery shows *Memories of India: Photographs by Annu Matthew*, through Dec. 6. • *Reconstructing Kosovo: Photos by Glenn Ruga, Frank Ward and Barbara Ayott*, shows through Jan. 11, 2002.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Jamie Harris shows works in *Macchie*. •Contemporary glass sculpture shows in *New Works From Japan* through Dec. 15.

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Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Nathan Wilson's paintings display through Nov. 27.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* •The shows *We Like It So Much*, *Stow Wengenroth* and *Warriors and Heroes* exhibit through Jan. 6, 2002.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Penn Young shows new paintings through Nov. 24.

Compton Gallery
MIT Museum, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Incandescent Spirit: Page Hazlegrove* features the late artist's blown glass. Through Dec. 14.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*Small Works* features over 500 small paintings. It runs from Nov. 23 to Dec. 24.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •Peggy Badenhausen shows *Notations*, a collection of paintings and prints, through Dec. 22.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery presents an ongoing exhibit of work by artists Jeff Eldrege, Dan McCole, Brian Roach and Norman Crump.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Clinton Deckert's new surrealist paintings show through Dec. 1. •Peter Clemon's new paintings show Dec. 4-Jan. 5, 2002.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Tokyo-based artist Yayoi Kusama shows her paintings, drawings and sculptures through Dec. 22.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* •Edwin Sulca, a contemporary Peruvian weaver, shows *Weaving Life: Textiles and Culture in Peru* through Nov. 30.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm.* •*The Garden and the Map* is an exhibition embracing the split between Western and Eastern philosophy through Dec. 28.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galeriedorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* • Through Dec. 3, *Dürer, Rembrandt, Picasso: 500 Years of Printmaking* is on display.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Taylor Davis presents her sculptural work through Nov. 24.

Gallery ISO
140 Kemble St., Boston. (617-427-4144) MBTA: Red Line to Andrew Station. Thurs. 5pm-9pm., Sat. 11am-4pm. •Don Gurewitz presents *Rhythms and Rituals/Manmade*, international photography, through Nov. 30.

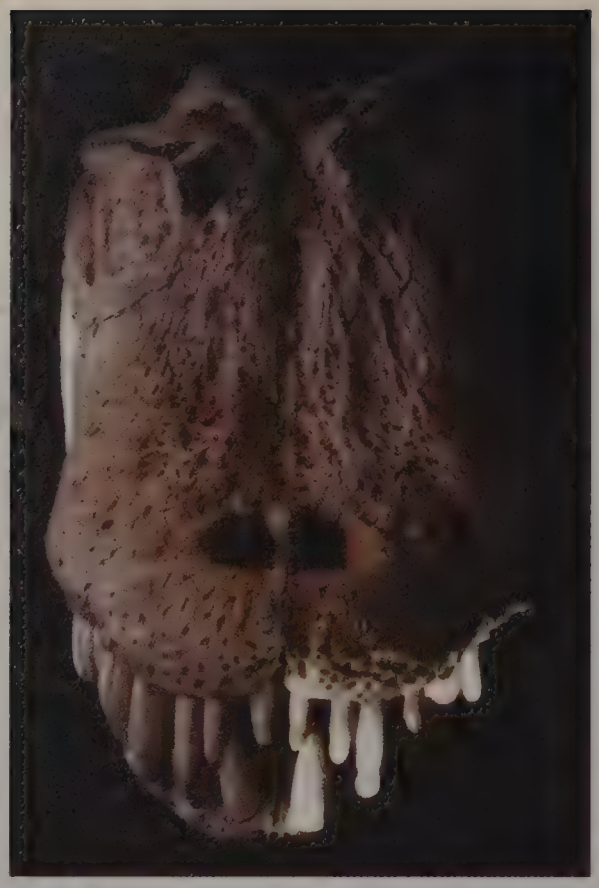
Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Through Dec. 22, Peter Brooke shows new paintings.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Charles Cohen shows *New Works* through Nov. 27.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm and by appointment. •Through Dec. 31, *Atlantic Neptune Rising* shows 18th-century mariners' charts. •Jonathan Fairbanks' *About New England* runs through Dec. 1.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Ethan Berry's *Installation* shows through Nov. 24. •Linda Price Sneddon shows her *Installation* of sculpture and paintings from Dec. 1 to Jan. 5, 2002.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Gary Schneider's *Hand Mouth* and John Powell's *Elemental Projections* show through Nov. 27.



***Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites*, on display at the Harvard Museum of Natural History, includes this crocodile skull.**

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Poster Masters of the Belle Epoque, 1890-1910* shows Art Nouveau masterpieces from Nov. 23 to Jan. 31, 2002.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Jeanne Griffin shows an exhibit of new work using a combination of collage materials. *Uncovered Vessels*, by Arthur Birkland, displays digital prints through Nov. 24.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Evolution of the Figure*, featuring interpretations of the human figure, runs through Dec. 13. On Dec. 3 at 3pm, there is a reception to meet the artists.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Landscapes & Seascapes* shows through Nov. 30, featuring new work by Boston artists Brett Wallace and Ann Scott.

Massachusetts College of Art
621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Post-Hypnotic*, a group show exploring abstraction, shows through Dec. 8. •*Inlands: Photography*, a show by Mimmo Jodice, runs through Jan. 11, 2002.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Tue.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. •The traveling exhibition *Hope Photographs* shows influential contemporary photography through Dec. 9.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •*Works of an Eastern Nature* runs through Dec. 1.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor. Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* •In Gallery I, *From Gotham to Gloucester: A Historical Perspective* displays through Dec. 10, and works on paper show in Gallery II through Nov. 30.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •John Gibson and William Ciccariello present their work through November.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.com. *Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm.* •*Spoken with Paint: Paintings and Drawings by Elsbeth Deser* shows through Nov. 26.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
Wiesner Building, 20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4400). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm. Fri., 12-8pm, Sat.-Sun., 12-6pm. Free. • *Yes Yoko Ono*, an interactive art/music/film/photography exhibit, is on display through Jan. 6, 2002.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). www.mobius.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •*Collaboration + Installation* , by SWaf (Soong Wei and Friends), shows through Nov. 24. •Dec. 1 Hiroko Kikuchi presents *One String of MU: Oneness=Nothingness*, a Taoist demonstration.

MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tue.-Sat., 11-5:30pm; Sun.-Mon., 1-5pm. •*Abstracts* shows work by Dan Fox, Mitch Glassman, Carol Grove and Jeremy Hamilton through Dec. 2.

New Art Center
61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-964-3424). www.newartcenter.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm* •Through Dec. 16, Bruce MacDonald and Irwin Thompson exhibit works. •*Icons + Altars* shows interpretations by 95 regional artists through Dec. 16.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Anne Harris shows *Blue-Eyed People and Other Strangers*, and Lee Newton's *New Work* is exhibited through Dec. 22.

OH+T Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Painter Jeffrey Bishop shows new work through Nov. 24.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. •As part of *Past Forward* series, a film by the L.A. filmmaker Genevieve Anderson shows Dec. 7 at 8pm.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm. The gallery hosts jazz musicians every Wednesday with Luther Gray.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery boston.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Paintings by Phyllis Berman showcase large-scale still-life interiors through Nov. 27. •Works by Daphne Confar display Nov. 30-Jan.8, 2002.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*The Beauty of the Seen*, ceramic art from Brother Thomas, shows through Nov. 27. •*The Texture of Still Life*, by Ali, and *Color and Form in Motion*, by Mark Davis, show through Jan. 8, 2002.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus on avant-garde and contemporary art from China.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* Nineteenth and 20th-century paintings are on ongoing display.

Sacramento Street Gallery
20 Sacramento St., Cambridge (617-547-1647). Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Cambridge artists exhibit *Small Works*, a show raising money for the Maud Morgan Visual Arts Center. Through Nov. 30.

Sherman Gallery
Boston University George Sherman Union, Second Floor, 775 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-358-0295). MBTA: B Green Line to BU Central. Tue.-Fri., 11am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm. •W. Perry Barton shows *Works on Paper* through Dec. 6 and *Painter* through Dec. 14.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5.* •*Animal Magnetism*, a group exhibition by artists depicting insects, amphibians, birds and mammals, shows through Jan. 6, 2002.

South End Gallery
South End Branch of the BPL, 85 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Benjamin Lincoln: Biomorphism and Abstract Anatomy* shows through Dec. 26.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*. •*Do Brasil*, the gallery's first collaboration with Brazilian fine art gallerist Marly Faria, features seven artists living and working in Brazil.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* •A collection of paintings by William St. George and emerging artists displays through Jan. 4, 2002.

Studio Soto
Artist's Building, 300 Summer St., South Boston (617-423-SOTO). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri., 6-8pm and by appointment. •Digital images by local artists display through Dec. 2 in *Bitscapes*.

Upstairs at Johnson Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor. Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 8:30am-1pm. •Esther Garcia Eder and Marty Epp show their works through November. •A multimedia show by the gallery's staff runs Dec. 4-29.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •*Garden Masterpieces* by Abbott Fuller Graves is on display through Dec. 15.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.

PHOTOGRAPHY



Mimmo Jodice's photography, including *Rowes Wharf 2001*, displays at Mass. College of Art.

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Mark Osterman and France Scully Osterman exhibit their ambrotypes in *A Confidence Exposed*. Through Dec. 7.

Panopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* •A group exhibit by gallery artists shows through January 2002.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*Voyages (per)Formed*, a show of contemporary and historical travel photography, shows through Dec. 20.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Call for gallery hours.* •A show of photography by Horst P. Horst shows in conjunction with the MFA's *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style* through Dec. 30.

SPECIAL EVENT

Crafts at the Castle
Boston Park Plaza Castle, corner of Arlington and Columbus streets, Boston (617-523-6400, ext. 5987). Nov. 29, 5:30-9:30pm; Nov. 30, 10am-9pm; Dec. 1, 10am-8pm; Dec. 2, 10am-5pm. Crafts at the Castle, recognized as one of the top craft shows in the country, is now in its 16th year. Sponsored by the Family Service of Greater Boston, this show features 100 nationally known artists showcasing their best work in all mediums.

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books & poetry

READINGS & SIGNINGS

TUESDAY, NOV. 27

Brookline Booksmith Author Event
Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 6pm. $2. **A. Manette Ansay** reads and discusses *Limbo: A Memoir*, the story of how her goal of becoming a concert pianist was thwarted by a mysterious illness.

Globe Corner Bookstore Adventure Travel Series
The First Parish Church of Cambridge, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-730-3900, ext. 21). 6pm. Author and poet **Gretel Ehrlich** reads and discusses *This Cold Heaven: Seven Seasons in Greenland*. A wine and cheese reception follows the lecture at the bookstore.

Grolier Poetry Reading Series
Adams House, 265 Plympton St., Cambridge (617-547-4648). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $3. **Jeffrey Harrison** reads from his third poetry collection, *Feeding the Fire*. Also reading, **Cate Marvin**, author of *World's Tallest Disaster*.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Akhil Sharma** reads and discusses his first novel, *An Obedient Father*, a story of political and moral corruption in India. Afterwards, enjoy appetizers and a free pint of Park Pale Ale at the Newtonville Times restaurant.

New Words Live Reading Series
168 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). 7pm. Free. **Susan Griffin** reads from her latest work, *The Book of the Courtesans: A Catalogue of Their Virtues*. It tells the story of women who, though usually from limited means, parlayed their beauty into a position of luxury and celebrity as mistresses of powerful men during the 18th and 19th centuries.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 28

Barnes & Noble Event
One Worcester Rd., Framingham (508-626-2823). 7:30pm. Journalist **Mariam Weinstein** discusses and signs her book, *Yiddish: A Nation of Words*, which traces the history of this Jewish language.

Boston Jewish Book Fair
Combined Jewish Philanthropies, 126 High St., Boston (617-558-6448). 7:30pm. $5. Brandeis professor **Jyl Lynn Felman** discusses her book, *Never a Dull Moment: Teaching and the Art of Performance*, where she elaborates on her own skills as a performance artist.

Harvard Coop Author Event
400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Nicholas Kilmer** discusses the fifth installation in his Fred Taylor series, *Lazarus Arise*.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Hiedi Jon Schmidt**, author of *Darling?*, and **Kyoko Mori**, author of *Stone Field, True Arrow*, read from their works. Afterward, enjoy appetizers and a free pint of Park Pale Ale at the Newtonville Times restaurant.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29

Barnes & Noble Author Event
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7421). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. **Liah Greenfeld** discusses her book *The Spirit of Capitalism: Nationalism and Economic Growth*, in which she argues that unrelated historical accidents engendered nationalism around the world.

Borders Bookshop Mystery Panel
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. Mystery Writers of America and Sisters in Crime present a mystery panel with **G.H. Ephron** (the team of Hallie Ephron and Dr. Donald Davidoff), **Jane Isenberg**, author of *Midlife Can Be Murder*, and **Toni L. P. Kelner**, author of *Mad as the Dickens*.

Boston Center for Adult Education Writing Fair
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6pm. $45 members, $49 non-members. **Elinor Lipman**, author of *The Dearly Departed*, gives a lecture titled "Can We Talk?".


A. Manette Ansay reads from her memoir, *Limbo*, on Nov. 27 at Brookline

Boston Jewish Book Fair
Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahantan St., Newton (617-558-6448). 7:30pm. $5. **Anita Diamant**, author of *The Red Tent*, discusses her latest novel, *Good Harbor*, a story set in Cape Ann, Mass., which follows two women's friendship through hardships and struggles.

Harvard Coop Author Event
400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Marie Lousie Guste Nix** reads and discusses her new collection, *Visions of Splendor: Poems and Images of the Beyond in Our Midst*.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-654-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Cambridge. 7pm. Free. **Erica Harth**, author of *Last Witnesses: Reflections on the Wartime Internment of Japanese Americans*, heads up a panel discussion with contributors to the book.

Writers and Poets Series
Robbins Library, 700 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-648-6220). 7:30pm. **Elizabeth Searle**, author of *A Four-Sided Bed*, and **Janet Thompson**, a freelance writer and editor, share their works.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30

Grolier Poetry Reading Series
Sackler Auditorium, corner of Quincy and Broadway streets, Cambridge (617-547-4648). 8pm. $5. Poet, memoirist and essayist **Mark Doty** reads from his sixth collection of poetry, *Source*.

Harvard Book Store Friday Forum
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Free. **Alfred Tauber** signs and discusses his book, *Henry David Thoreau and the Moral Agency of Knowing*, in which he examines why Thoreau is considered more relevant today than he was by his contemporaries.

Poetry Event
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. 8pm. $15. Poet **Patricia Smith** collaborates with the Pemberton Band to present an evening showcasing her new poetry.

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

WordsWorth Books Author Series
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-354-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Kathy Gunst** shares culinary advice from her book *Relax, Company's Coming: 150 Recipes for Stress-Free Entertaining*.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

Boston Jewish Book Fair
Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahantan St., Newton (617-558-6448). 2pm. $5. **Bonnie Friedman**, author of *Writing Past Dark: Envy, Fear, Distraction and Other Dilemmas in the Writer's Life*, lectures about overcoming writing difficulties.

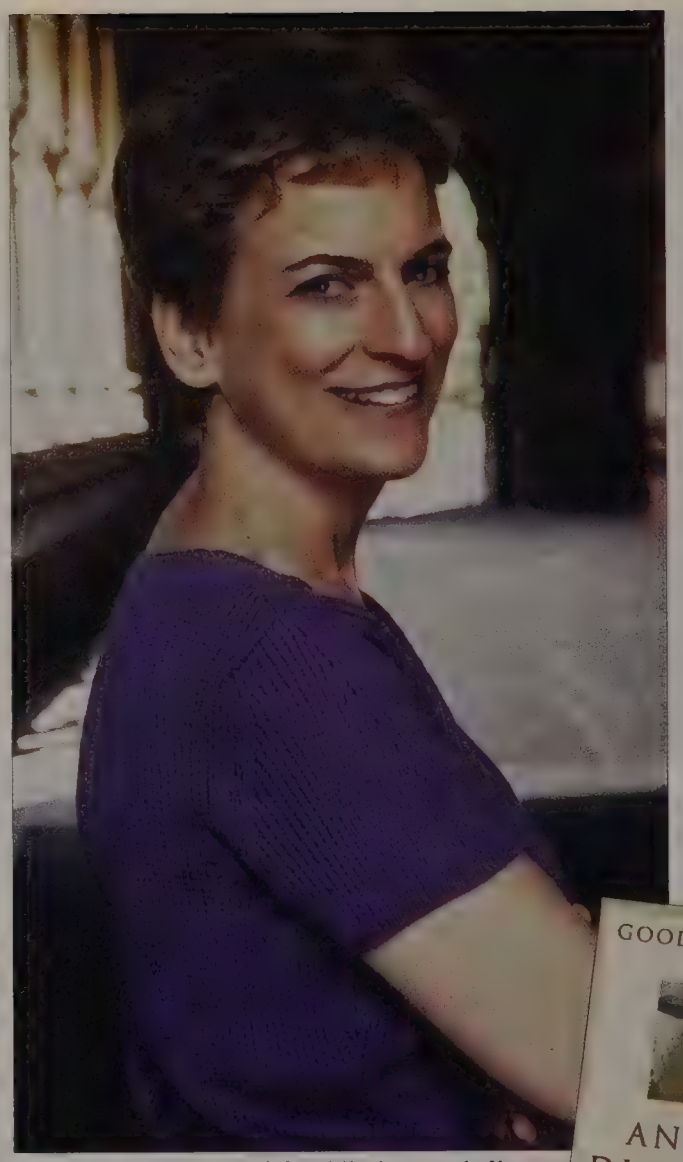
MONDAY, DEC. 3

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6849). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. **Jean Mead** reads from her poetry collection, *House of Poured-Out Waters* and **Elizabeth Benedict** reads from her novel, *Almost*.

TUESDAY, DEC. 4

Borders Bookshop Author Event
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. **Charles Leocha** discusses the 14th edition of *Ski and Snowboard America and Canada*.

Boston Jewish Book Fair
Leventhal-Sidman Jewish Community Center, 333 Nahantan St., Newton (617-558-6448). 7:30pm. $5. **Lora Brody**, author of *Cooking with Memories*, speaks with Clara Silverstein of the *Boston Globe*.



Anita Diamant, author of *Good Harbor*, reads Nov. 29 at the Boston Jewish Book Fair.

Harvard Book Store Author Event
Harvard Information Center, Holyoke Center, 1350 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). 6pm. Free; tickets required. **Jill McCorkle** reads and discusses her latest novel, *Creatures of Habit*.

WordsWorth Books Special Event
New England Aquarium, Central Wharf, Boston (617-354-5201). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium. 6pm. Free. **Osha Gray Davidson**, author of *Fire in the Turtle House: The Green Sea Turtle and the Fate of the Ocean*, leads a discussion and slide show detailing the research that went into his latest book.

ONGOING

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every few Thursdays.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). Include dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 21

The Problematic Relationship
Longfellow Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-495-9068). 12pm. Free. Boston College's **Ellen Winner** lectures on the problematic relationship between arts education and academic achievement.

MONDAY, NOV. 26

The U.S. Response
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 5:30pm. Free. CNN's chief international correspondent **Christiane Amanpour** reports on the war against terrorism.

TUESDAY, NOV. 27

The Deep Plane Face-Lift
Newbury Center, 69 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0500). 7pm. Free. Cosmetic surgeon **Dr. Ramsey Alsaraff** lectures on a new surgical face-lift technique.

Global Climate Change
Harvard Museum of Natural History, 24 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-384-8309). 6pm. Free. Harvard professor **Daniel Schrag** lectures from a geological perspective on future climate changes.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 28

A Consumer's Republic
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (617-495-8212). 4pm. Free. **Lizabeth Cohen** lectures on the politics of mass consumption in post-war America.

Johnson's White House Tapes
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 5:30pm. Free. **Michael Berdschloss** interprets secretly recorded tapes of Lyndon B. Johnson.

Covering Cuba
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-495-2727). 7:30pm. Free. CNN producer **Patricia Vila** discusses her experiences working under the tight scrutiny of President Fidel Castro's regime.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29

The Murder of Dr. Parkman
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). 12:15pm. $5. PBS documentary director **Eric Strange** lectures on the mysterious murder.

The Other Boston Busing Story
Askwith Lecture Hall, Longfellow Hall, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge (617-496-1835). 6pm. Free. Harvard Graduate School of Education presents a discussion of the voluntary desegregation program called METCO.

From Cold Spring Park to Planet Earth
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7pm. Free. The Newton Conservators present a lecture on humans' impact on nature.

What the World Needs Now
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). 6:30pm. Free. Political puppeteer **Peter Schumann** discusses global greed while playing his fiddle.

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

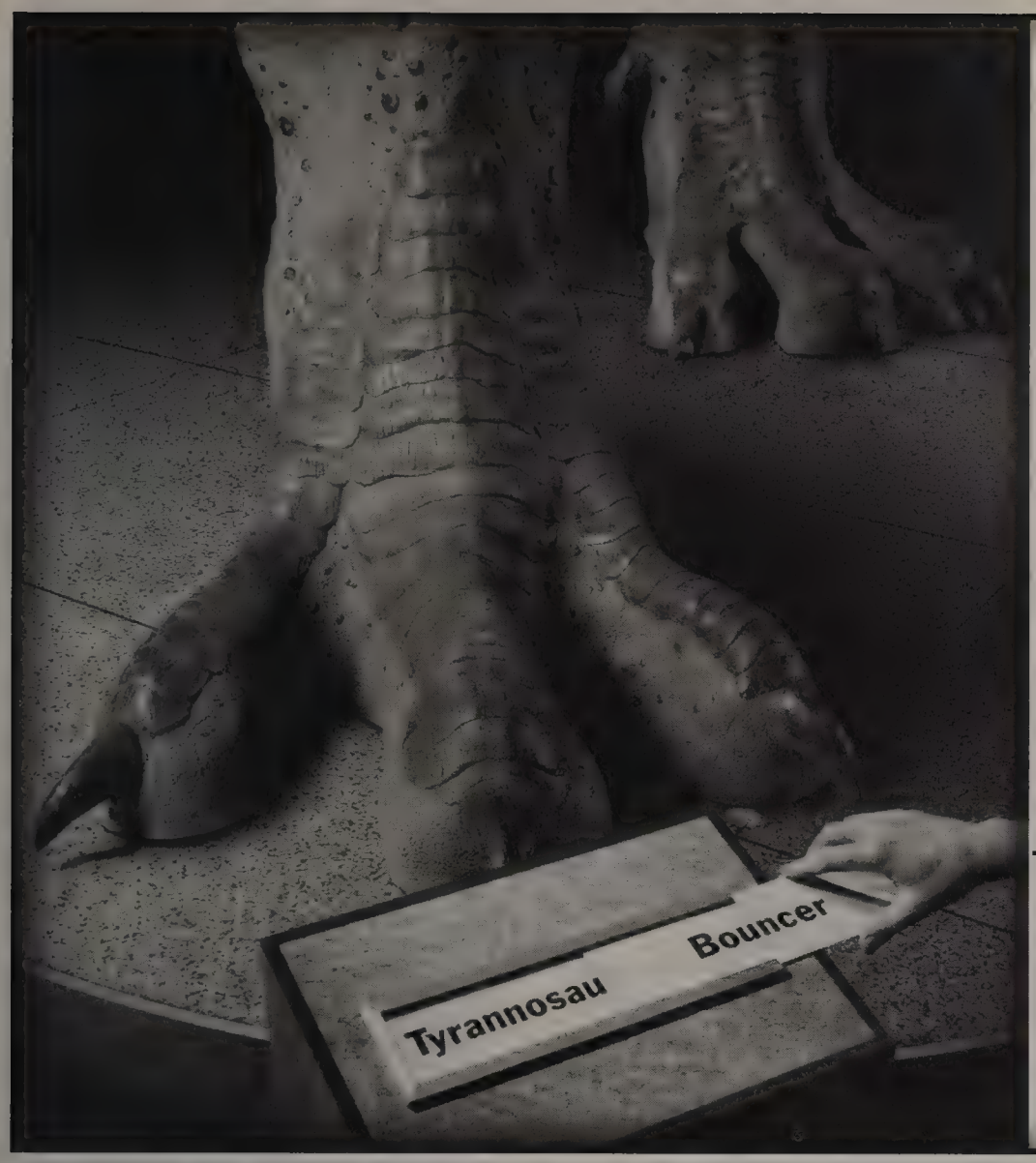
IMPACT Model Mugging
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 9am. $49. Registration required. A workshop for women on personal safety and self-defense.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

Revolution in Massachusetts
Museum of Our National Heritage, 33 Marrett Road, Lexington (781-861-6559). 6:30pm. Free. **Diana Muir,** author of *Reflections in Bullough's Pond*, lectures on land, money and making a living in the 1800s.

MONDAY, DEC. 3

Consumer Negotiations
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (617-495-8212). 4pm. Free. **Sally Clarke** of the Radcliffe Institute Fellowship Program challenges the myth that companies are largely unaffected by consumers.



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WEIGHT WATCHING

Can *Shallow Hal* swim in the deep end? BY PAUL SHERMAN

There's irony in the course directors Peter and Bobby Farrelly's movies have taken. The Rhode Island brothers' *Dumb and Dumber*, *Kingpin* and *There's Something About Mary*—three of the 1990s' flat-out funniest—spawned a whole wave of extreme comedies with gimmicky premises, from *American Pie* to *Freddy Got Fingered*. Yet earlier Farrelly movies weren't gimmicky, high-concept movies at all. Just try explaining *Kingpin* or *Mary* to someone in 25 words or less.

But as so many other movies scrambled to deliver the absurd physical comedy and unorthodoxly sweet romantic comedy of Farrelly movies, the brothers' own movies have turned more gimmicky too. *Me, Myself & Irene* had a fearless Jim Carrey performance and enough laughs to get by, but it also had the sort of high-concept premise its predecessors didn't (both personalities of schizo cop fight for the love of the same woman). Then the brothers' first movie as just producers, *Say It Isn't So*, felt more like a bad imitation than something they had input into and control over. However, *Osmosis Jones*, this summer's live-action/animation hybrid they produced and partially directed, was a funny and clever tangent.

The Farrellys' new *Shallow Hal* revolves around their most high-concept gimmick yet: that its vapid title character (Jack Black) gets hypnotized—by self-help guru Tony Robbins, no less—into being able to see "inner beauty." So women with great personalities look like supermodels to him, and he falls for a 250-pound hospital volunteer that he sees as a svelte Gwyneth Paltrow (others see her as a hefty Paltrow in layers of latex makeup). This premise sounds as if it could have been a one-joke beer commercial ("Dude, good girls are hot!"). But, obviously, for a movie it's got to move beyond one joke, and *Shallow Hal* struggles to be more. The plot finds Hal's shallow pal (Jason Alexander), who wants his old buddy back, reversing the trance, and Hal having to see if he can really be attracted by more than a woman's looks.

It's a tough leap to make, and *Shallow Hal* doesn't do it convincingly, for a number of reasons. The most important one is that there aren't enough laughs to sweep you into hero Hal's world. In a way, this movie seems like the Farrellys' attempt to shed some of their extreme-comedy streak, yet they're not sure what to replace it with. *Kingpin*, *Mary* and *Irene* required great commitment from their stars in not being afraid to look foolish or plunge headlong into physical comedy; now Black, who, in *High Fidelity* and the comedy-rock band Tenacious D, has been as intrepid as any comic actor around, appears hamstrung by the movie. Those of us waiting for him to let loose in a first starring role won't see it here.

Instead, the script by Sean Moynihan and the Farrellys often trips on its own premise. For instance, why doesn't Hal's initially sexy but ultimately opportunistic neighbor (Susan Ward) get uglier in Hal's eyes? What are we to make of a significant character played by Joe Viterelli (*Analyze This*), who's not a handsome man? Does that mean the guy is a bad sort? And, aside from Laura Kightlinger as Hal's coworker, why are there no young women here who aren't abnormally beautiful or ugly?

Although the movie strains to bring both comedy gimmick and beauty-is-only-skin-deep message together, it's really just saying things the Farrellys have said better before, through the gags: We're all freaks. We all do weird things for love, we all have physical shortcomings that we try to hide from others, we're all potentially funny. A subplot involving Alexander's character and the casting of Rene Kirby, a Vermonter with spina bifida who walks on all fours and amusingly plays the most well-adjusted character in the movie, are reminders of that. But it's in laughs, not message, where Hal is shallow. iB

Shallow Hal ★★

Directed by Peter Farrelly and Bobby Farrelly. Written by Sean Moynihan, Bobby Farrelly and Peter Farrelly. With Jack Black, Gwyneth Paltrow, Jason Alexander, Rene Kirby and Tony Robbins. Rated PG-13. Twentieth Century Fox.



Gweneth Paltrow tips the scales and steals Jack Black's heart.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Diamond Men ★★1/2
An increasingly busy plot partially deflates the more interesting core of this comedy-drama about an aging traveling salesman (Robert Forster) being forced into retirement and the brash younger guy (Donnie Wahlberg) he's breaking in to take over his job. The job is selling diamonds to central Pennsylvania jewelry stores, and the movie's first half has a refreshing slice-of-life flavor. The interaction between Forster and Wahlberg is very smooth, and the emergence of their characters' friendship is very convincing, as the older man shows the impatient younger one the value of relationships, with both women and customers. The second half, in which hookers and robbers enter the picture, feels contrived by comparison. (At the Landmark Embassy Cinema in Waltham.)

The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition ★★★
It's best to think of this new documentary about Sir Ernest Shackleton and crew's legendary 1914-16 trek as a sequel. In chronicling how their boat, *The Endurance*, got swallowed up by ice, how the crew survived more than a year of being stranded and how Shackleton and some of his colleagues made a miraculous journey to get help, the new film uses a lot of footage from *South*, the recently restored silent film that was shot during the expedition. That's the first and best film to see on Shackleton and The Endurance (it's on video). If you've already seen that movie, though, this one does a good job at filling in details, through interviews with crew members' children, readings from journals and newly shot footage. (Coolidge Corner Theatre and Kendall Square Cinema.)

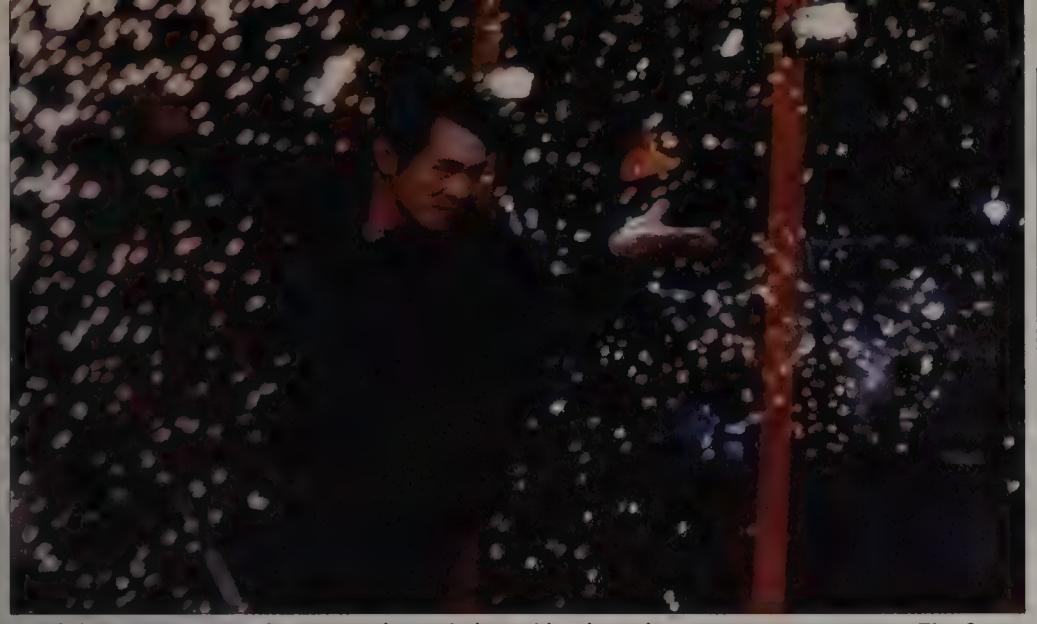
Focus ★★★
Neil Slavin's adaptation of Arthur Miller's 1945 novel, a parable of American prejudice, sometimes stretches credibility (Laura Dern as a woman some people think is Jewish!?). But its central moral dilemma is strong. That's the plight of William H. Macy's Everyman, who starts wearing bookish glasses for his weak eyes and suddenly starts getting mistaken for a Jew. He's told he doesn't make the "right impression" at work and his reluctance to join the anti-Semitic organization his neighbors are all in now becomes a big deal. Macy conveys the guy's disbelief well, and convincingly lets the man's great realization set in—that the casual prejudice he overlooked in himself and others isn't so casual, after all. (Loews, Copley Place, Loews Harvard and West Newton cinemas.)

From Hell ★★★
It's not Sleepy Hollow 2, but Johnny Depp is once again hunting down an enigmatic killer in a very creepy Gothic setting. Here, it's 1888 London, where East End hookers are gruesomely falling victim to an elusive killer, one by one. Depp plays a police inspector with clairvoyant dreams and a taste for opium; Heather Graham is the hooker who turns to him for help. Their increasing attachment is one of the least convincing aspects of the story, but it's just part of a more successful mix, along with several doctors, the Freemasons, the royal family and a scene-stealing performance by Robbie Coltrane (TV's Cracker) as Depp's literate partner. (Wide release.)

Heist ★★1/2
In David Mamet's first wide-release movie as a director, a gang of thieves go after a shipment of gold on a cargo plane, and after one another—with varying results. Through the first half, the volleying of barbed Mamet dialogue and pre-robbery preparation is lively, as Gene Hackman and a crew that includes Delroy Lindo and Rebecca Pidgeon methodically works its intrigue. But the dialogue and the plot twists wear in the later action, and occasionally the characters' smarts have to conveniently disappear for some of the twists to work. So its big payoff rings really false. (At Loews Boston Common, Fenway Theater General Cinema, Loews Fresh Pond and Chestnut Hill Cinema.)

K-Pax ★1/2
Remember when Kevin Spacey used to be one of the most clever, fun-to-watch actors? Well, hang on to those memories. Because between *American Beauty*, *Pay It Forward* and now this warm and fuzzy feel-good movie—it's like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* poisoned by *Forrest Gump*—he's become annoyingly smug and glib. Here he plays a mental patient who claims to be from the alien planet that supplies the title. Jeff Bridges is the shrink trying to unlock the traumatized human he believe lurks beneath the alien "cover story." In the meantime, Spacey's character gets Bridges to appreciate his family more and gets his fellow patients to feel more at ease in their surroundings. This is supposedly based on Gene Brewer's 1995 novel, but then why does it have the same plot as the 1986 Argentine movie *Man Facing Southeast*? (Wide release.)

GLENN WATSON



Jet Li fights alternate universe versions of himself in his action-packed new release, *The One.*

The Man Who Wasn't There ★★★
The Coen brothers return to the grimly absurd neo-noir flavor of their *Blood Simple* and *Fargo*, but for the first time in black and white and in a period story, this one set in 1949. Billy Bob Thornton is just great as the quiet barber whose worried expression is the result of small-town monotony and the realization that his dishy wife (Frances McDormand) is fooling around with her jocular boss (James Gandolfini). So the barber decides to do something about it. An unwise investment, a blackmail scheme, a murder in self-defense, a suicide and a car crash later, the guy's left to wonder if he's any better off. There aren't as many memorable supporting characters as you find in most of the Coens' best films and some of its tangents would have been best omitted, but its mingling of comedy and tragedy is pure Coens. It's full of captivating images, and Thornton's body language speaks volumes. (Kendall Square, Copley and West Newton cinemas.)

Monsters, Inc. ★★
Toy Story's Buzz Lightyear and Cowboy Woody don't have to worry about being overshadowed by Mike and Sully, the latest buddy-heroes in a Pixar/Disney digitally animated comedy. This one is not nearly so cleverly written, and is about a parallel world of monsters who get beamed to children's bedrooms in the human world to scare them—because those collected screams are what fuels their world. The story finds big furry Sully (voiced by John Goodman) and little gruesome Mike (Billy Crystal) having to deal with a toddler who crosses into their world. When it's not recycling *Three Men and a Baby* or the old Chuck Jones cartoon *Feed the Kitty*, not much goes on. Unlike the funnier and less sentimental *A Bug's Life* and the *Toy Story* movies, this one's purely for kids. (Wide release.)

Mulholland Drive ★★
After David Lynch scored with his surprisingly straightforward *The Straight Story*—which nonetheless featured one of his favorite behaviors, obsession—the *Twin Peaks* and *Blue Velvet* director is back to bad 1990s habits. That means a movie that doesn't make much internal sense and doesn't have an engaging style of intrigue, either. Expanded from a TV pilot ABC rejected, his latest includes parallel universes, shady characters, sapphic desire and even Billy Ray Cyrus, but they never amount to much. Newcomers Naomi Watt and Laura Harring play two sets of women in L.A. who may or may not be the same women. But does it really matter? In its original form, this might have been a decent jumping-off point for a series that could play itself out, but as a movie it just throws things up on the screen with little payoff at the end. (Loews, Harvard Square and Coolidge Corner Theatre.)

Novocaine ★★★
Film noir gets an amusing twist in this comedy in which Steve Martin plays a dentist whose cozy world spins off its axis once Helena Bonham Carter wiggles her way into his adjustable chair. She seduces him, steals his office's narcotics and even gets him wanted for murder, but he still craves the excitement she brings to his dull life. Call this noir comedy *Dead Men Don't Have Cavities*. As the obsessive-compulsive fiancee suddenly brushed aside, Laura Dern also adds to the comic mix, as does Kevin Bacon, in a cameo as a slick actor doing "research" with the detectives investigating the murder. (Wide release.)

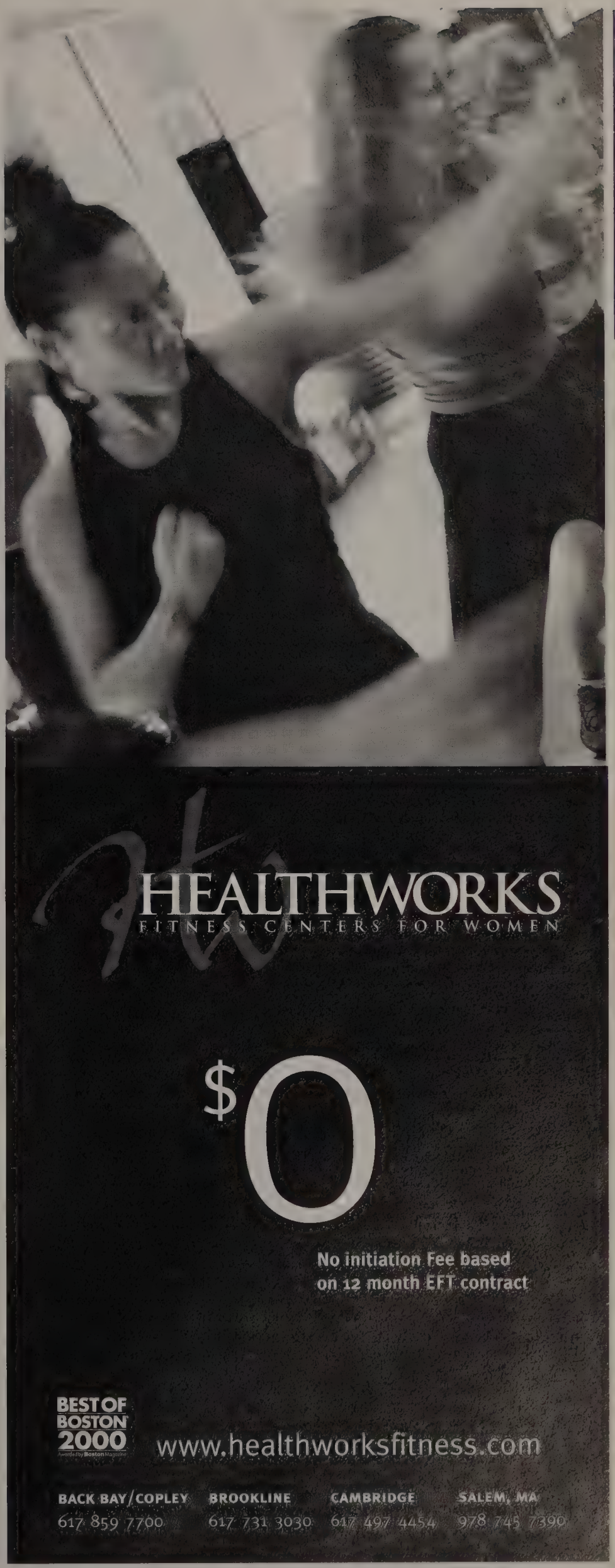
The One ★★
Jet Li's Hong Kong and American movies have shown that his vehicles need a strong premise and a substantial supporting cast to work. Despite its potential, his latest falls short on both counts. The premise that fizzles involves many parallel universes, and a villain (Li) gaining strength by moving among them and killing his alter egos, all with the desire to become the godlike "one" when the others are eliminated. The last one to get rid of is an L.A. cop (also Li), but once the two Lis are in the same place, the movie becomes like those bad mistaken-identity action movies in which stars play long-lost twins. Hopes for the supporting cast also drop when Delroy Lindo and Carla Gugino get little to do. Not as bad as Li's *Kiss of the Dragon*, but this goes nowhere. (Wide release.)

Serendipity ★★1/2
Recently, an English character on the shrewd TV series *Undeclared* stormed away from a TV showing a Hollywood romantic comedy, knowing the ending would be happy and accompanied by a Louis Armstrong song. Such comfy predictability is the main problem with this romantic comedy. Still, the very polished New York romance is sincere, features the always-worth-rooting-for John Cusack and has Jeremy Piven and Eugene Levy in supporting roles. Cusack and Kate Beckinsale play characters who meet when both are attached, and then part because she says they'll meet again if fate wants them to. Seven years later and now engaged to others, each desperately tries to find the other. Will they reconnect? Will Satchmo sing? Is Derek Zoolander dumb? (Wide release.)

Tape ★★★
And you thought your 10-year high school reunion was tense. Tense is the word for this three-character drama set in a motel room, which Stephen Belber adapted from his play. Ethan Hawke's character is the instigator who returns to his hometown, with the secret agenda of forcing a confrontation between his high school best friend (Robert Sean Leonard) and his ex-girlfriend (Uma Thurman). His buddy went out with her after he did, and may or may not have date-raped her. Is Hawke misinformed, and doing all this just to get revenge on more successful Leonard for stealing "his girl"? Are Leonard's protests to these accusations genuine? Is Thurman really outraged or more delighted to be caught in the middle of the two guys' psychological grudge match? The script and cast do a deft balancing act with such questions, while director Richard Linklater (who made this after *Waking Life*) uses the digital-video format to get glaringly intimate with these hero/villains.

Training Day ★★★
Denzel Washington's uncharacteristically brash performance sparks this corrupt-cop drama, and helps it leapfrog over an awkward plot in which an unseen violent act that happened before the movie's action is crucial to the resolution (as if it were added at the last moment). Better than the clumsy plotting are the scenes between Washington's rules-skirting narcotics detective and the idealistic new partner played by Ethan Hawke. The new guy is rightly stunned by his partner's thuggish tactics. Like Gene Hackman in *The French Connection* or Orson Welles in *Touch of Evil*, Denzel's performance, which gives the character smarts and generosity, injects the necessary moral complexity into our perception of the cop. (Wide release.)

Waking Life ★★
Writer-director Richard Linklater had his breakthrough a decade ago with *Slacker*, the daisy chain of seemingly unrelated characters that accumulated into a funny, disarmingly deep glimpse into how people carve out their own realities in this world. His latest comes off like the duller, less-amusing version of *Slacker*. Half of it is like that movie, with real-life characters obsessively spilling theories on life, while the other half features actors in presumably more scripted encounters ruminating on similar themes of identity, individuality and reality. At least a good part of it is supposed to be happening within the dreams of the remarkably unremarkable protagonist (Wiley Wiggins of Linklater's *Dazed and Confused*), so it's told through an animated style mixing rotoscoping (drawing over filmed action) with fluid, more surreal backgrounds. There's plenty of food for thought and an interesting visual style, but next to the matter-of-fact depth of *Slacker*, there's less insight and more bombast. (Loews, Harvard Square.)



Alternatives and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

Grace Kelly: The Movie Star Princess

•Nov. 26, 6pm **The Country Girl** *1954.* With the tag line "How far should a woman go ... to redeem the man she loves?" the movie earned Kelly an Oscar for her part as a wife of alcoholic singer (Bing Crosby) trying to make a comeback. Writer-director George Seaton also won an Academy Award for this adaptation of Clifford Odets' play.

•Dec. 3, 6pm **To Catch a Thief** *1955.* In Alfred Hitchcock's romance/thriller, Kelly teams up with Cary Grant, who plays a reformed cat burglar suspected in a wave of jewel robberies on the French Riviera.

Brattle Theatre

Special Engagements

•Nov. 23-25, 3 and 7:30pm **Casablanca** *1942.* Return to Rick's Cafe in the romantic classic with Ingrid Bergman and Humphrey Bogart set during the Nazi occupation of Morocco. •Also showing, 5:15 and 9:45pm; Sat. and Sun. matinees at 1pm **The Maltese Falcon** *1941.* Bogart is back on the case in search of the falcon in director John Huston's private-eye masterpiece that also stars Mary Astor and Peter Lorre.

•Nov. 30-Dec. 2, 5, 7:30 and 10pm; Sat. and Sun. matinees at 2:30pm **Audition** *2000.* This Japanese film depics the twisted outcome of a man who held phony auditions to find a wife.

Mondays—Screwball Comedy

•Nov. 26, 7:30pm **Trouble in Paradise** *1932.* Ernest Lubitsch directs the sophisticated comedy about a couple of jewel thieves and their unique take on love and sex, summed up by "money=love=champagne." •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30pm **My Man Godfrey** *1936.* Carole Lombard plays a featherbrained socialite who brings home William Powell, the butler who turns the family upside down. Gregory La Cava directs.

•Dec. 3, 5, 7:15 and 9:45pm **Bringing Up Baby** *1938.* Katharine Hepburn catches the attention of paleontologist Cary Grant ... along with her pet leopard, Baby. Howard Hawks directs.

Tuesdays—A Stranger Pair: Jim Jarmusch and Wim Wenders

•Nov. 27, 7:30pm **Mystery Train** *1989.* Jarmusch directs an intertwined journey of a pair of women, a couple of Japanese tourists and a trio of drunken fools wandering around Memphis, Tenn. •Also showing, 5 and 9:30pm **The End of Violence** *1997.* Los Angeles is the palette for Wenders' pseudo-thriller about the kidnapping of a Hollywood producer and the cop on the case .

•Dec. 4, 5, 8pm **Paris, Texas** *1984.* A man emerges from the desert in search of his memories in the film that won Wenders 10 international awards including the *Palm d'Or* at Cannes.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•Nov. 21, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **Monty Python & the Holy Grail** *1975.* Revisit an old favorite in a new 35mm print—this cult classic about King Arthur's search for the Holy Grail has had audiences laughing for 25 years.

•Nov. 28, 7:30pm **Signs and Wonders** *2000.* Stellan Skarsgaard is an American teacher in Greece with his wife and mistress. He becomes obsessed with signs and overlooks the truth right before him. Jonathan Nossiter directs.

•Nov. 28, 5:15 and 9:45pm **The King is Alive** *2000.* When a bus full of passengers becomes stranded in an abandoned town, the misplaced decide to put on *King Lear* to pass the time. Kristian Levring directs.

Thursdays—Swordswomen: Brigitte Lin and Michelle Yeoh

•Nov. 22, 4:30, 7 and 9:30pm **Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon** *2000.* Michelle Yeoh does her own stunts as the honorable Yu Shu Lien on the trail of a stolen sword and its thief in China. Ang Lee directs.

•Nov. 29, 7:45pm **The Bride With White Hair** *1993.* Brigitte Lin plays a woman who falls in love with her rival clan's leader in this expertly choreographed Hong Kong favorite. Ronny Tu directs. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:45pm **Heroic Trio** *1992.* A trio of superheros teams up to vanquish evildoers in a film that melds action, fantasy and science fiction. Johnny To directs.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Feature Films

•Nov. 21-23 **Escape to Life** *2000.* A documentary directed by Andrea Weiss and Wieland Speck details the lives of the siblings Erika and Klaus Mann. The pair were writers, actors, homosexuals and pacifists with strong political and moral convictions.

•Nov. 21 **Amelie** *2001.* The film directed by Jean-Paul Jeunet of *Delicatessen* fame features the story of an eccentric young woman who is inspired to improve the lives of those around her through imaginative means.

•Nov. 23 **The Fighter** *2000.* A documentary directed by Amir Bar-Lev retraces the lives of two Czech survivors of World War II.

•Nov. 30 **Fat Girl** *2000* The new romantic film from director Catherine Breillat offers an intensely honest and complex point of view of two adolescent sisters during their sexual coming of age.

Midnight Movies

•Nov. 23 and 24 **Sid & Nancy** *1986.* Gary Oldman and Chloe Webb play the title roles in this Alex Cox-directed film about punk rock guitarist Sid Vicious.

•Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 **Big Time** *1988.* Directed by Chris Blum, Tom Waits stars in this legendary concert film.

Fenway Theater General Cinema

Midnight Movies

•Nov. 23 and 24, 12am **Better Off Dead** *1985.* John Cusack stars in this offbeat comedy about a young man who tries to commit suicide, repeatedly failing.

•Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 12am **Monty Python and the Holy Grail** *1975.* One of the many hilarious movies in the Monty Python series, this one is about a medieval crusade-gone-wrong.

Harvard Film Archive

Premiere Events

•Dec. 1, 8pm, $10. Director Errol Morris, appearing in person, presents episodes from *First Person*, his highly acclaimed 2001 nonfiction series, as well as a preview of programs to come.

Close Encounters

•Dec. 3, 7pm **The Olive Trees of Justice** *1962.* James Blue's celebrated fiction film is about a man trying to sort through the contrast between his happy childhood in Algiers and the harsh reality of the city during the French-Algerian conflict. Gerald O'Grady introduces and discusses the film.

Rediscovering the Films of Jean Grémillon

•Nov. 23, 7pm; Nov. 24, 9pm **Pattes blanches** *(White Paws) 1949.* Grémillon's noirish melodrama tells the story of a reclusive French aristocrat in a fishing village on the coast of Normandy.

•Nov. 23, 9pm; Nov. 25, 7pm **Gueule d'amour** *(Lady Killer) 1937.* This adaptation of a novel by André Boucler presents the story of a young Casanova who meets his match with a mysterious seductress.

•Nov. 24, 7pm; Nov. 26, 8:45pm **L'Amour d'une femme** *(A Woman's Love) 1953.* Grémillon's last feature film concerns a young female doctor and the prejudices and conflicts she encounters within her community and the engineer with whom she has fallen in love.

•Nov. 29, 7pm; Dec. 2, 9pm **Le Ciel est à vous** *(The Sky Is Yours* or *The Woman Who Dared) 1944.* Based on a true story, this movie presents an account of a woman who breaks the women's world distance-flying record with the help of her husband.

•Nov. 29, 9pm; Nov. 30, 7pm **Lumière d'été** *(The Light of Summer) 1943.* This story focuses on the trials of love in a small Provence town, while making a social commentary on German-occupied France.

•Nov. 30, 9:15 pm; Dec. 2, 7pm **L'Étrange Monsieur Victor** *(The Strange Mr. Victor) 1938.* Grémillon presents a drama about a shopkeeper who is an upstanding citizen by day and a gang leader by night.

Film and Visual Representation

•Nov. 28, 7pm **Contempt** *(Le Mépris) 1963.* Jean-Luc Godard's film is a sharp social commentary on international filmmaking within the story of the breakup of a marriage.

Film Architectures

•Nov. 27, 7pm **Vive l'amour** *(Aiging Wansui) 1994.* Director Tsai Ming-liang's film follows three lonely city dwellers through modern urban life.

•Dec. 4, 7pm **The Belly of an Architect** *1987.* Directed by Peter Greenaway, this film tells the story of a self-destructive American architect in Rome.

Jazz and Abstraction in Beat-Era Film

•Dec. 4, 9:15pm **Hy Hirsh and the Beat Era.** This program features six restored works by Hy Hirsh as well as other works that were directly influenced by Hirsh.

Museum of Fine Arts

Classic Cinema

•Nov. 23, 6:15pm **The Blue Angel** *1930.* Marlene Dietrich plays a seductive cabaret singer who has her way with men. Director Josef von Sternberg's film catapulted Dietrich to Hollywood stardom.

Fashion Photography on Film

•Nov. 25, 11am **A Day in the Life of Man Ray** *1991.* Director Matthew Reinders reveals the American painter and photographer through an extensive interview in 1961, along with quips by Max Ernst and Salvador Dalí.

The Films and Videos of Yoko Ono

•Nov. 24, 12:40pm **Film No. 5** *(Smile) 1968.* This film is based on the idea that one film could feature the smiles of every person in the world as represented by John Lennon. •Showing with **Apotheosis** *1970.* John Lennon had the idea for this film: one continuous shoot from a hot-air balloon as it ascends into the sky.

•Nov. 30, 6pm **Two Virgins** *1968.* This is a dual self-portrait of Lennon and Ono, superimposing their faces over each other. •Showing with **Erection** *1971.* This film documents the construction of the London International Hotel. A series of short films also shows including **Film No. 4**, **Eyeblink** and **Disappearing Music for Face**.

The Films of Frederick Wiseman

•Nov. 24, 10:30am **The Store** *1983.* This film is about the main Neiman Marcus store in Dallas and examines the retail and managerial aspects of the establishment.



John Cusack learns that he might not be better off dead after all.

Preview

Late Night Classics

Midnight treats at the Fenway

As part of the Fenway Theater's extraordinarily popular midnight movie series, two '80s classics are returning to the big screen. First, on Nov. 23 and 24, a baby-faced John Cusack stars in the charming, off-kilter comedy *Better Off Dead.* Cusack plays the sullen Lane Myer, a horribly depressed teenager who obsesses over losing his dream girl, who dumped him for the school's ski champ. While dealing with family crises, avoiding a homicidal paper boy and trying to win back his girlfriend, he must endure his mother's creative cooking, a disgusting neighbor and dancing hamburgers.

On Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, the wacky '70s hit *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* screens, much to the delight of its devoted fans. Be warned: People will definitely be quoting this one out loud. The hilarious movie about a medieval crusade-gone-wrong is chock full of one-liners.

Looking ahead to Dec. 7 and 8: Harrison Ford will appear in big-screen grandeur as the snake-phobic archaeologist-turned-adventurer in *Raiders of the Lost Ark.* Indiana Jones (whose name comes from the name of writer George Lucas's dog) is hired by the United States government to find the Ark of the Covenant before the Nazis get to it—and him. Indy must battle various forces of darkness from Nepal to Cairo. *201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266).—Erin Hagedorn*

Special Engagements

•Nov. 23, 12 and 4:15pm; Nov. 24, 2pm; Nov. 25, 12:15pm, Nov. 29, 8pm **Chop Suey** *2000.* Bruce Weber's autobiographical film, like its namesake, is a crazy blend of flavors, sprinkled with cabaret singers, teen-age wrestling stars and still-life photography.

•Nov. 23, 2:15 and 8pm, Nov. 24 and 25, 4pm; Nov. 29, 6pm **La Bûche** *1999.* Director Danièle Thompson presents the story of the relationship among three sisters and their support system of family, friends and lovers.

•Nov. 30, 7:45pm **Blue Wild Angel: Jimi Hendrix Live at the Isle of Wight** *2001.* Director Murray Lerner restored his original footage to present Jimi Hendrix in the prime of his career.

World AIDS Day

•Dec. 1, 12, 1:30 and 3pm **Undetectable** *2001.* This award-winning film by Jay Corcoran profiles the physical and psychological effects of AIDS medications on six Boston residents.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film • Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (617-536-1540). Green Line to Hynes/ICA.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theater General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theater
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).



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Buddha Lounge
Caprice Attain transcendence in the exotic world of Buddha Bar sounds, proper dress, no cover, 21+.

Ceremony
An Tua Nua Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar DJ Kaptn Krunch spins hot reggae, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40 tunes, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with Martin Finke, 9pm, 21+.

The Movement on Mondays
Vertigo Deep house, house and progressive mix, 10pm, 21+.

What a Way to Go-Go
Common Ground Shake it at Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Aer
DJ Armen and guests provide the tunes, powered by Future Recordings, 10pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Emily's
Stop in for the "After Work Rush Hour" 5-8pm, followed by the live acoustic series, $5, 21+.

Fat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Bruno spinning hip-hop, funk and R&B, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress coats are required, 11pm, $15, 21+.

One Nation
Aria DJ Chubby Chub spins hip-hop and R&B, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 19+.

Oxygen
The Palace DJ Chris Fiore provides the best mix of '70s, '80s and '90s music. Check out the buffet from 8-9pm, proper dress, $3 before 9pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid, jazz and soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with live bands from 6-10pm, followed by dance tunes spun by DJs, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.



DJ Manolo heats up the dance floor with progressive house and trance at The Palace's Tilt.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, 10pm, dress sassy.

Emily's
Check out "After Work Rush Hour" from 5-8pm, then "Late Night Lounge" with guest DJs, no cover, 21+.

Escape
Vertigo Progressive, deep NY house, trance and vocals provide an escape, 10pm, 21+.

Essence
SW1 DJs Bruno, Ilabash and Mastermillions spin hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress, 10pm, 19+.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, $8, 18+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 DJ JC in the Latin Lounge, and DJs Alex and Felix in the back room, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night hosted by Star 93.7, with live bands play 6-10pm, followed by DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.

Rollercoaster
Aer DJs and live music make for a wild night, 10pm.

Samsara
Hong Kong Psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Wet and Wild Wednesdays
The Kells DJ Drag and DJ Steve spin hip-hop, house and dance with ticket giveaways, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tain
DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl spin house and techno, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Bill's Bar
The Underground with DJ Mark Hamilton, $8, 18+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Club Devo
Milky Way Catch Jedi Mind Trick, DJ Benny Blanco, La Machine, DJ Goodtimes and others. 8:30pm, $8, 21+.

Club Zen
97.7's DJ Chubby Chub spins R&B, hip-hop, techno, house and old school, 9pm, $10, 21+.

CPR
Matrix & Jukebox Resident DJs Elyte and hot special guest DJs spin the latest tunes, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ KC spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Diversified
Vertigo DJs spin deep soulful house in the lounge and UK hard house and deep trance in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Guest DJs spin house, hip-hop and the best dance music, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
Catch the "After Work Rush Hour" from 5-8pm, then chill in the "Late Night Lounge," no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Everything '80s
Common Ground DJ Brian's "Love Night" mix features the best of the '80s, 10pm, 21+.

Fashion House
Aria Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins house and latin pop and DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean rhythms, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon DJ Manolo pumps out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Ladies Night
DancePlex Dance to three floors of retro 80s hits, freestyle jams and top 40 tunes with DJ Reggie B, 9pm, $5 (no cover for ladies), 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Privilege at La Boom
La Boom DJ Felix spins tunes for this hot international night, dress smart, 11pm, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm-2am, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae soca and hip-hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Speed
Karma DJ Bruno spins hip-hop and house, 10pm, 19+.

Sugar Shack
Resident DJs Massi mans the turntables and spins house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $10, 19+; $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Live bands perform, 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Tundra
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm.

Venu
DJ Nailz spins high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

FRIDAYS

American Karma
Karma DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress required, 10pm, $8, 19+.

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance tunes and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Cat Club
The Roxy Glam international house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

DancePlex
MC Ren and DJs Darren and Mark start spinning the best of the '80s and '90s at 8pm, no cover until 9pm, $10, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Emily's
"After Work Rush Hour" at 5-8pm is followed by DJ Renel spinning the latest top-40 and hip-hop at 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean Rhythms played by DJ Eddy K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Officers Club
The Palace Three rooms of the best hip-hop, R&B and reggae, $10 before 11pm, $15 after 11pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop and enjoy the best of Boston sports highlights, 10pm, 21+.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

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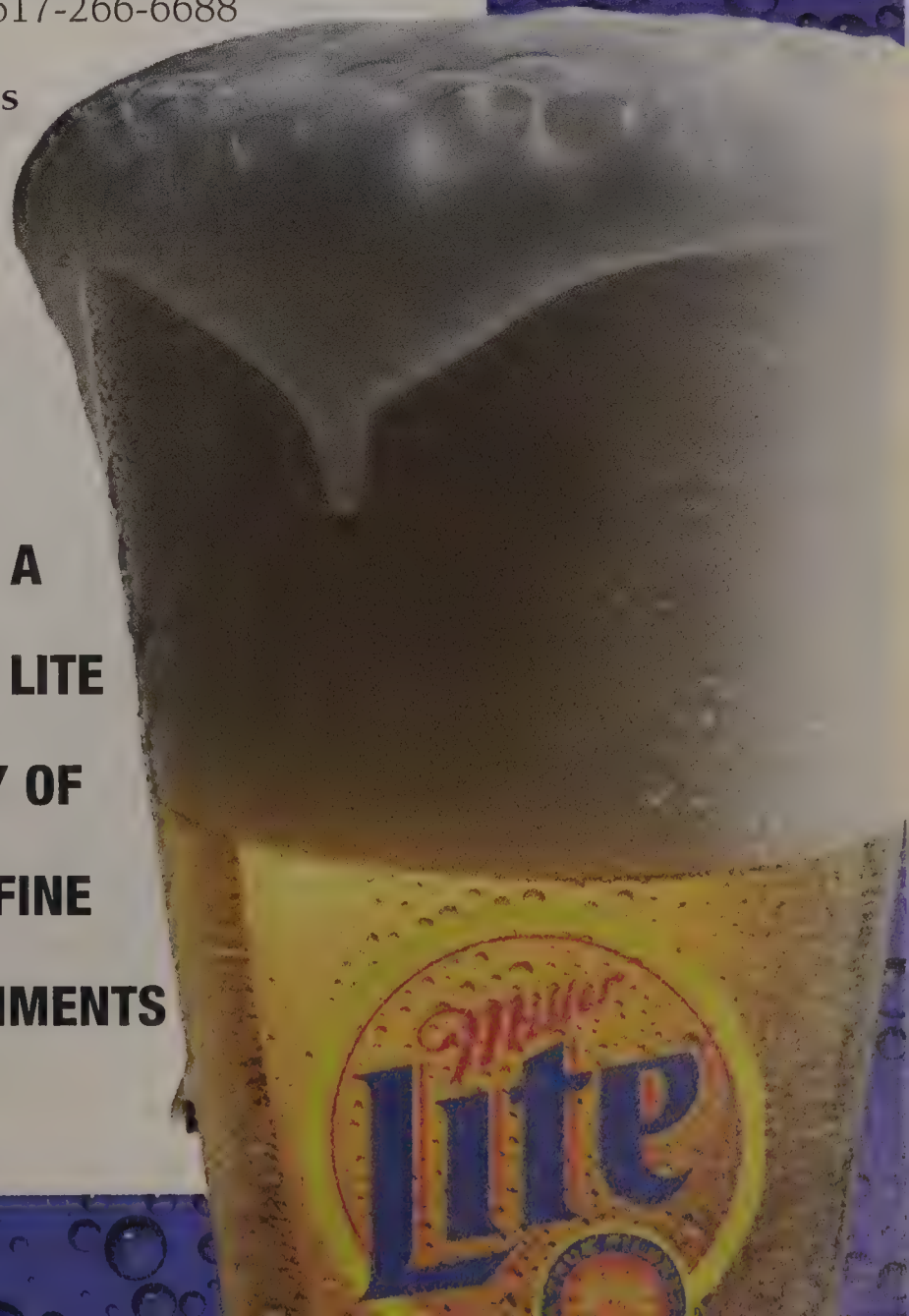
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Embassy steams up on Revolution Fridays with the latest Eurohouse and Latin beats.

Plush
Aria DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, and guest DJs spin vocal house, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Pulse at La Boom
La Boom Dance to the music of international guest DJs at this upscale night spot, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basemen, 5pm; DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma Club-hoppers shake it to the beats of DJ Tim Ryan and DJ Tim Collins, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Sugar Shack
High-energy house, trance and hip-hop spun by DJ Massi rev up this club, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
Dance to house, hip-hop, R&B and top-40 tunes with special guest DJs, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Tilt
The Palace The latest progressive house and trance spun by resident DJ Manolo and guests. Casual dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 19+ men. •Nov. 23: Euphoric Ibiza party with Marco Giovanni and Warp Brothers. •Nov. 30: DJ Wag.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Uptown, Underground & Oxygen
The Palace DJs spin dance music, hip-hop, reggae, and '70s, '80s and '90s, casual dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 19+ men.

Vertigo
The Dream Lounge features international, latin and house tunes. Catch high energy house and vocal in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos spins hip-hop and DJ Roger spins vocal house, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy DJ Eddy K spins Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Copa
The Palace Shake it to the hottest Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop, $10 for 21+, $20 for 18+, ladies 21+ are free before 11pm; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Clutch
SW1 DJ Tari and George Nessis spin house, 10pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon DJ Manolo spins the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Emily's
DJ Littles spins top-40 remix and house, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Elements of Life
Karma DJ Mario spins house; DJ Tim Collins spins hip-hop, funk and soul; proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

La Boom xo
La Boom Resident DJ Edward Grant Stuart and resident drummer Paul Drake provide the soundtrack for this upscale night, 9:30pm, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs spin funk and top-40 on three floors, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJs Nico and Javier spin the best of European disco house, proper dress, 11pm, 19+.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco tracks and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop, 10pm, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
DancePlex DJs Mark, Darren and Reggie B fill three floors with the best retro mixes, 8pm, no cover before 9pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Shamrock Saturday
The Purple Shamrock DJ Joshua Carl spins new and old-school hip-hop with a touch of house, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Start
Bill's Bar Post-punk and new electronic music by DJs M-16 and Damian are the backdrop to this alternative night, hosted by *Makeoutclub.com*, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins high-energy progressive house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Tilt
The Palace The latest of progressive house and trance spun by resident DJ Manolo and special guests. Proper dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Underground
The Palace Under 21s can groove to top-40 dance, progressive dance, hip-hop and reggae, casual dress, 7-11pm first floor, 8pm-12am second floor, $14.

Vertigo
Hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B tunes turn up the heat on two floors, 10pm, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

Boom Boom Room
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney mixes '60s and hip-hop.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Caribbean Sundays
Vertigo Imagine yourself in the Caribbean, dancing to these world beats, 10pm, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Brazil to the dance floor at Venu, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins international house, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Roger M. spins international house and Latin pop, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins great reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.

100% Flava
The Purple Shamrock Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop with guest DJs, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:15pm, no cover, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with Dub Station, JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+. •Nov. 11, Dion Knibb. •Nov. 18, Skiffington.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats; DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Touch
Aer Guest DJs provide deep, soulful house, 10pm.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

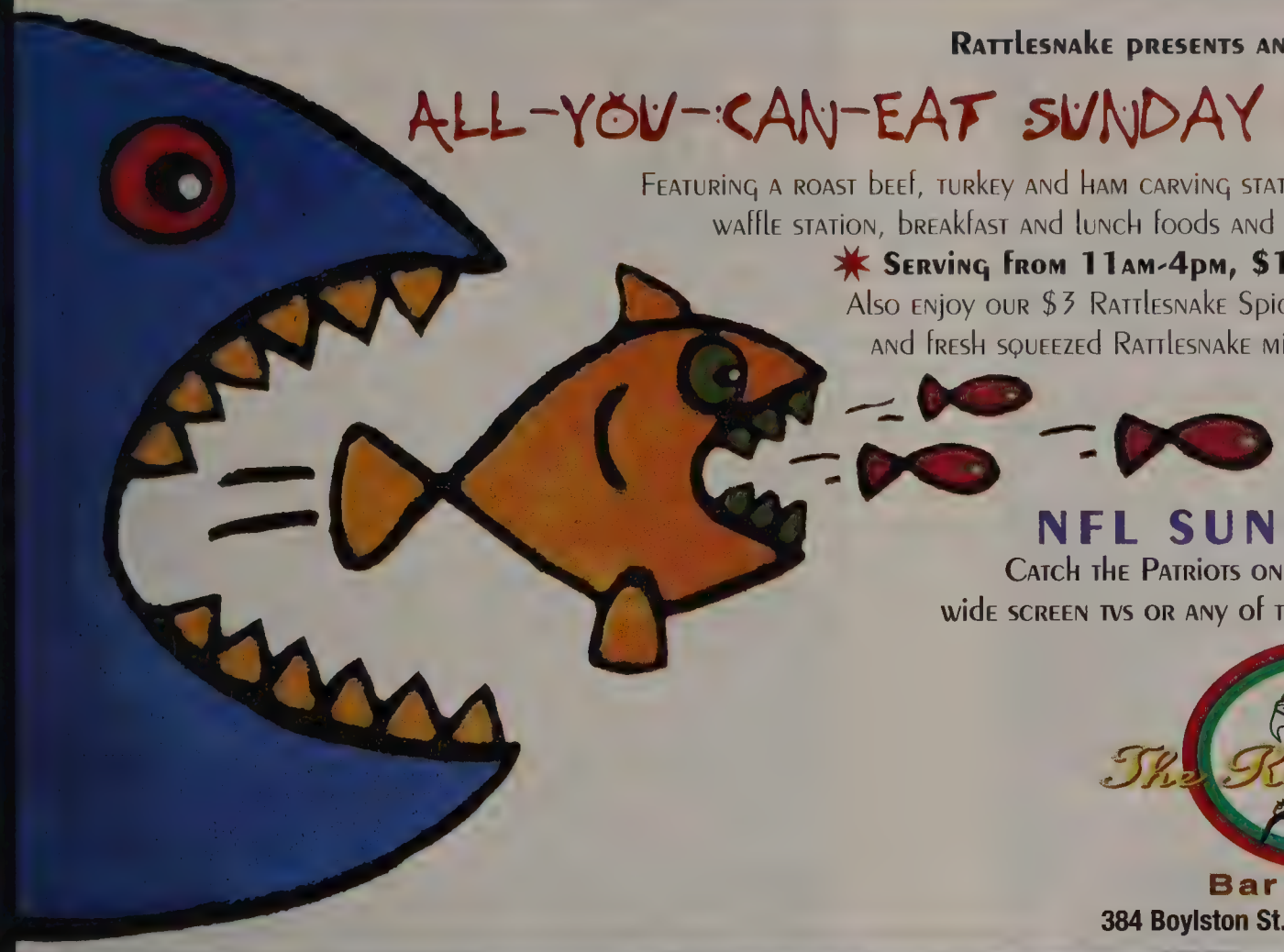
Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer/Hibernia *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309).*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue Bar *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Blue Cat Café *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746).*
Club Zen *131 Clarendon St., Boston (508-472-1170).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
DancePlex *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966)*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-5311).*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(Club Copa, Officers Club, Oxygen, Tilt, Uptown and Underground) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (617-254-9040).*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800).*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308).*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2510).*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000).*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*



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WORD OF MOUTH

From the frat house to an Orpheum double-header, Boston-rooted Dispatch grows up. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

Dispatch has a grooving rock sound that's laced with folk, reggae and hip-hop elements, evoking Sublime or the Red Hot Chili Peppers more than a jam band. But the six-year-old trio has leapfrogged Guster to become the fastest-rising group to transcend its local grassroots since Phish.

In a little more than a year, Dispatch has gone from selling out clubs like the Middle East and Avalon to headlining the FleetBoston Pavilion and the Orpheum Theatre. All for a band that still releases its own CDs, and is still unknown to the public at large.

"We're pretty much under the radar still, but all the kids know about us, everyone in college and high school," says Sherborn-bred guitarist Chad Urmston, 25. "Just in the past six months, the music industry has started listening."

"It's been so unacknowledged by the outside world that everyone feels part of this movement that is Dispatch, so we're family-oriented in that way—and so much of it for us is the interaction and energy between us and the crowd," says Urmston, whose group just released a live double CD, *Gut the Van*, on its Bomber label. Urmston also credits online music-swapping with fueling the band's popularity, adding, "Napster was a huge help for us. The timing of that worked perfectly."



From left to right: Chad Urmston, Pete Heimbold and Brad Corrigan are steadily increasing the scope of Dispatch's reach.

Drummer Brad Corrigan, a Colorado native now living in Cambridge, says, "We know that it's underground and that it's word of mouth. We don't have the money or marketing muscle and organization that's throwing our names and faces up on a billboard or using the radio. We're just relying on people who have gone to shows, telling stories and saying, 'You should really check these guys out.'"

There's even the D-Team, a network of fans who pass the word and help distribute CDs in exchange for T-shirts, backstage passes and other favors. "The more they do for us, the more they're included in the inner circle," says Corrigan, 27 (though the band just improved its label distribution). "Our biggest frustration is knowing there are a lot of people out there who want to buy Dispatch records and can't find them."

What really draws fans are Dispatch's spontaneous concerts. Urmston and bassist Pete Heimbold often switch instruments, Corrigan comes forward to play guitar for acoustic turns, and all three share vocals and songwriting. "[Fans] never know what they're going to get," Corrigan says, "and I know that, because we never know what we're going to give them."

"It's hard to know where we fit on the scale," he says from the band's Porter Square office. "[We'll] break into another song in the middle of a song and do it a cappella for a while, then break into a bluesier jam, and Chad just loves the kind of Rage Against the Machine/hip-hop element where you're blending grooves with hip-hop. We love all forms of music. We'd be bored if we were presenting one style."

As a kid, Urmston started out on brass instruments with his brothers. "It was hard to write songs on the trombone," says Urmston, whose songs today often address social injustices. "My sister was given a guitar and I stole it from her and started playing." In high school, he played Nirvana and Metallica covers in a rock band, and Dylan songs at talent shows. It was the latter format that first fueled Dispatch.

"We're ex-jocks turned musicians," Corrigan says of their start at Middlebury College in Vermont, playing acoustic guitars and percussion at study halls and coffeehouses. "We decided that we'd pick up the other instruments until we met somebody we could jam with, and we actually didn't end up meeting anybody that we could incorporate into a band."

After Urmston went to New York University for two years, the trio reformed and hit the road—and not playing clubs and theaters. "It was playing friends' basements and frat houses down South, just our van, Wimpy, and the three of us driving through the night," Urmston says. "You'd get a gig in North Carolina, then you'd get one in New Hampshire and then the next one after that would be in Virginia. There was no rhyme nor reason. We would go where anyone could help sustain us on the road, where anyone would want us. We just got out of debt about a month ago, so it's been a long time."

Now the band has a manager, a road crew, a new van—and major-label temptations. "Guys move around like college coaches, where they recruit you, you show up and they're gone," Corrigan says. "The longer we wait, the broader our fan base is, and we will meet the right people. Then we'll have a solid deal, 'cause we will have proven ourselves." iB

Dispatch

Plays at Alden Hall in Worcester Dec. 15.

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Beenie Man, Tanto Metro and Devonte
Dec. 1, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)

Bouncing Souls, Flogging Molly, One Man Army and Madcap
Nov. 24, Axis (617-423-NEXT)

Cold, Dope and Flaw
Dec. 1, Axis (617-423-NEXT)

Judy Collins
Nov. 28, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000)

D12, Kottonmouth Kings, Bionic Jive and Sunny Levfurd
Nov. 28, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)

Dixie Dregs
Nov. 30, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)

Bob Dylan
Nov. 24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)

Ibrahim Ferrer
Nov. 28, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)

Melissa Ferrick
Nov. 23, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)

Fuel and Sevendust
Nov. 25, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)

Phil Lesh
Nov. 21, 23 and 24, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)

Living Colour
Nov. 21, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)

Brian McKnight and Tyrese
Dec. 2, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)

Nickelback, Saliva and Default
Nov. 29, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)

Luciano Pavarotti
Nov. 25, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)

Superchunk
Nov. 21, Somerville Theatre (617-625-6700)

Usher
Nov. 30, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)

Lucinda Williams
Dec. 4, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 21

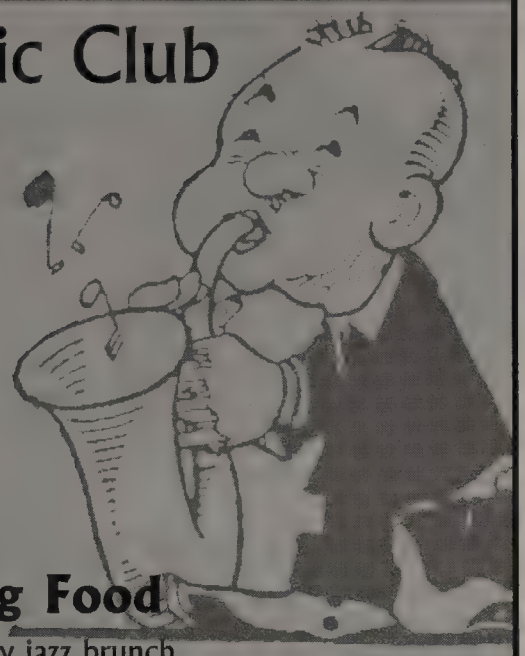
Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Bell in Hand Tavern Brick Park, 9pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Moonraker, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Susan Levine and Steve Barkhimer CD-release show, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.



Shawnn Monteiro sings at Les Zygomates Nov. 23.

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Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Return, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Dilated Peoples
Hennessy's Jeff Frazier, 5-8pm; The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Grooveline, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's The Buckners, Where's Holden, Audry Can't Die and The Roadies, 8:30pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Paula Kelly Band, Ad Frank and Lucky 57, 10pm, $6, 21+.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
Middle East U: My Morning Jacket and Nathan Moore, 9pm, $7, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Undercover, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar David Maxwell's Maximum Blues and Darrell Nulisch, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Ashanti and Umoja 9, 8:30pm, $7.
608 The High Plains Drifter, 9:30pm.
Sky Bar 3 Percent and Mobius Trip, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Dennis Brennan, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske, Mark Shilanski and John Hazilla, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Sgt. Peterson and the Chicago Police, Sticky, Radio Flier and Slater, $6, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Chuck Langford Trio, 8pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, NOV. 22

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Chopping Block James Merenda's Masked Marvels, 9:30pm, no cover.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Grand Canal Seven Down, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 21+.
House of Blues Ron Levy's Wild Kingdom, 10pm, $8, 18+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6pm; DJ Rick, 10:30pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 21+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

FRIDAY, NOV. 23

Atlantic 101 Harry Schniewind, 7:30pm.
Bell in Hand Tavern Mutha's Mistake, 9:30pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar T-House of the Almighty, Elsewhere and Carv, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Lance Martin Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Bob Franke, 8pm, $14, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Pablo Albanedo Octet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Roxbury Blues Aesthetic, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Tom Carroll, 5-8pm; Dog House, 9pm, 21+.
The Harp Catunes, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Young Neil and the Vipers, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm, 21+.
House of Blues Leo Nocentelli, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Syndicate, 21+.
Kendall Café Local Radio, Goh and Burt LaFountain, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Laura Michaels Band and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30pm, $5.
Limbo Herman Johnson Quartet, 9pm.
Middle East U: Lipfloater and God's Little Joke, 9pm, $7, 18+. D: Rustic Overtones, 2 Skinnee Jay's, Spookie Daley Pride, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Goldies and Temo Shanko, 9pm, $6.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
ParadiseRock Club Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, The Vue and Ramona Silver, 9pm, $10, 18+.

Preview

Buena Vista Social Club Redux

Ibrahim Ferrer's Sweet Sounds of Cuba

After appearing on the triple platinum *Buena Vista Social Club* album, and in the Academy Award nominated Wim Wenders documentary of the same name, crooner Ibrahim Ferrer, known as "the Frank Sinatra of Cuba" and long regarded as the best bolero singer in Cuba, has gone on to endear himself to audiences all over the world.



Ibrahim Ferrer plays at the Orpheum Nov. 28.

Ferrer, born at a social dance club in Cuba's second city, Santiago, in 1927, began singing professionally as a teenager. By the 1950s he was an established singer, doing guest appearances with Orquestra de Chepin and Beny More, two legendary names in Cuban music. Ferrer moved to Havana in 1959 and with his group Los Bocucos pioneered the polon rthymn that is reputedly based on the sound of pounding on coffee beans.

One of a large number of vintage musicians who were living on a very small state pension he supplemented his income by shoe shining until he was rediscovered by Ry Cooder in 1996. He has gone on to make a number of albums and tour internationally with various musical configurations that constitute the Buena Vista Social Club. Since October 1999, Ferrer has performed five sold-out concerts in Boston. *The Buena Vista Social Club presents Orquestra Ibrahim Ferrer, Nov. 28, 7:30pm, Orpheum Theatre, One Hamilton Place, Boston (617-876-4275). $30, $35 and $42.—Robert Birnbaum.*

The Place James McKenna, 6pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Neopride, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Ronnie Earl and The Blues Angels, 8pm; 10:30pm, $18.
Rhythm and Muse Ronley Teper and Karen Kosowski, 9pm.
Rhythm & Spice Danny Tucker, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Boston Horns and Freelance Bishops, 9pm, $10.
Sky Bar Primerib, Bully Pulpit and Plastic Pilot, 9pm., $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lazy Cowgirls, Chilly Kurtz Combo and The Charms, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Mentos & The New Horizon, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Shawnn Monteiro, $10.

SATURDAY, NOV. 24

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Bell in Hand Tavern Last Laugh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim John Wesley Harding and David Lewis, 8pm, $15, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Frisky Hill, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Roxbury Blues Aesthetic, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Brick Park, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Return, 21+.
The Harp Central Basement, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Jack Light Move and Lovewhip, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Sessuin, 4-7pm, 21+.
House of Blues Scott Shelter Trio, 1pm, no cover, all ages.
Johnny D's Beatle Juice, 9:30pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Off the Wall, 21+.
Kendall Café Pawn Unction, Palabra, Ronley Teper and Rebecca Hart, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Brian McCree Trio, 9pm.
Lizard Lounge Ben Keddy and the Subject, Adamo and Black Helicopter,, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East U: Jack McCoys CD-release show, The Moldy Peaches, 71 Sunbeam and Stipplicon, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: Elevation 74 CD-release show and Tag Team Trampoline, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club, 8:30pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Celtic Clan, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Rusty Scott Trio, 10:30am-2:30pm.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Plough & Stars Kevin Connolly, 10pm, $3, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill The Movement, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Thomas Park, 21+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Regattabar The Donna Byrne Quartet, 7pm; 9:30pm, $16.
Rhythm & Spice Kolors, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club BJ Magoon, 9pm, $9.
Subconcious Café John Dirac Ensemble.
Sky Bar Roosevelt Roosevelt, Solacious and Ivory Tower, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg The Johnny Come Latelies, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Vigilantes, Paid to Fake It, Sona Nyl and Dead City Rockers, $7, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Balaton, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Shawnn Monteiro, $10.

SUNDAY, NOV. 25

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm.
The Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar Dub Station, 10pm, $10, 21+..
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 11am-3pm.
The Burren Tom Ross and Jeff Murray, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook 's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Presente!, 7:30pm, $10, all ages..
Costello's Tavern Masked Marvels, 9:30pm, no cover.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with Silver Lining, 10am-3pm, no cover, all ages; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern Swinging Johnsons, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Palabra and Mamacita, $7, 18+.
Hennessy's Ceoil Nua, 5-8pm, 21+.
House of Blues Virtuoso, Kabir, Shuman and Bomb Shot, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Mieka Pauley, Stephanie Corby and Carl Cacho, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Middle East U: Atombombpocketknife, Rose of Sharon, Common Cold and Adamo, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Rusty Scott Trio, 10:30am-2:30pm.
Plough & Stars Orville Giddings Band, 10pm, $3, 21+.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg The Johnny Come Latelies, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place 25 Liars and The Bluebloods, $5, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, NOV. 26

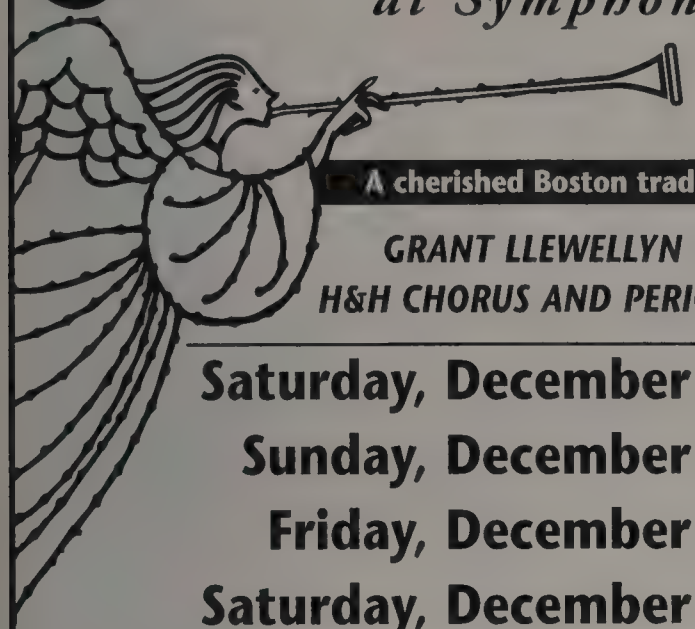
Cantab Lounge Singer-Songwriter Open Mike, 8pm; PJ Shapiro, 10pm, 21+.
Club Passim Big Dig, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry Timber Jerry, $6, 18+.
House of Blues Samadhi and The Fela Project, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Kendall Café Cameron Dezen, Alex Dezen and Kristin Cifelli, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Langsont "Skip" Smith Trio, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm, $9, 21+.



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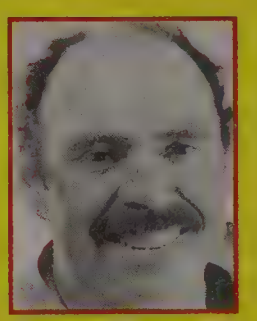
Jeff Dunham

DEC. 28-29



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Middle East U: The Frames and The And/Ors, 9pm, $7, 18+. D: Ratt and There, 8pm, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Radio Pu and Metagumshoe, 9pm, $5.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Tír na nÓg The Coots, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8pm.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates David James Motorcycle, 9pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, NOV. 27

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Bell in Hand Tavern Greg, 8pm, 21+..
Cantab Lounge Bluegrass Pickin' Party, 8pm; Rust Farm, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Harper's Ferry Another Planet, $8, 18+.
House of Blues Earthly Delights and Tagine, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Halali, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Ivory Tower and Michael Leyden, 9pm, 21+.
Limbo Jilson Schachnik, 8pm.
Middle East U: The Album Leaf, 9pm, $8, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Plough & Stars Armadillos, 10pm, 21+.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party, 6:30-10pm; Mappari, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Dominique Eade and Fred Hersch, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Ben Adams Group, 8:30pm, $8.
608 Seks Bomba, no cover.
Scullers Orquesta Aragon, 8pm; 10pm, $22.
Sky Bar Islington, and The Fantastics, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joe Mulholland, Bob Nieske and Bob Tomagni, 8:30pm.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 28

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Bell in Hand Tavern Devin, 9:30pm, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Joe Cook's Blues Jam, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim David Ingle, Libby Franck, Kate Chadbourne and Sebastian Lockwood, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Steplight and Typhoon Ferri, $8, 18+.
Hennessy's Jeff Frazier, 5-8pm; The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm, 21+.



Peter C. Johnson plays Johnny D's Nov. 29.

House of Blues Rane and Stephen Kellogg, 9pm, 410, 18+.
Kendall Café Sarah Slean, 21+.
Limbo Frank Wilkins Trio, 8pm.
Lizard Lounge The Paula Kelly Band, Major Major and Baby Ray, 10pm, $6, 21+.
Middle East U: New Radiant Storm King and Stereobate, 9pm, $7, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Undercover, 6pm, 21+.
Plough & Stars Bad Art, 10pm, 21+.
The Rack People Scavenger Hunt featuring One People; DJ Steve Anderson, 10:30, 21+.
Regattabar The Cercie Miller Quintet, 8:30pm, $12.
Ryles Jazz Club Natraj, 8:30pm, $9.
Scullers Orquesta Aragon, 8pm; 10pm, $22.
608 The High Plains Drifter, 9:30pm.
Sky Bar Fuljoy, J Walkers and Patiokings, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Rust Farm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joe Mulholland, Bob Nieske and Bob Tomagni, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place JJ72 and Apollo Sunshine Residency, $7, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Everything Soul, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Mark Greel, 8pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
The Attic The Tremblers and Timber Jerry, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern Central Basement, 9:30pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar King Jango, Venice Shoreline Chris, New Reggae Revue and Mass Hysteria, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Paulo Danay Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Chopping Block James Merenda's Masked Marvels, 9:30pm, no cover.
Club Passim Jenny Reynolds and Eleni Kelakos, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Waldron Rocks Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Seven Down, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
The Harp Chad Lamarsh, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Foxtrot Zulu, $10, 18+.
Hennessy's Nova Kane, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Aaron Katz Band and Mountain of Venus, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Peter C. Johnson and Paul Rishell & Annie Raines, 9pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Me and Julio, 8pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Peter C. Johnson, Paul Rishell & Annie Raines, and Shelly WintersProject, 9pm,
Kendall Café Rollyn Zoubek, Brooks Williams and Cheffer Stephens, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Tyler Wood Organ Combo, Vibramatics, Com'on Man and Chris Mascara Organ Combo, 8pm, $5.
Limbo Wannetta Jackson and Frank Wilkins Trio, 9pm.
The Linwood Janke, Kittymonkey and Pure Fiction, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Middle East U: Burning Brides, The Walkmen and Keelhaul, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: III Kings, Formula and Joshua Taylor , 9pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Araby, Fighting Idols, Cancer to the Stars, and Fashion Colt, 9pm, $7.
Paradise Rock Club Raul Malo, 9pm, $15, 18+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 6pm, 21+.
Plough & Stars Jennifer Matthews Band, 10pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6pm, 21+.
Regattabar The Aaron Goldberg Trio, 8:30pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Kaufman Gertz Bergonzi CD-release show, 8:30pm, $12.
Scullers Larry Coryell's Count Jam Reunion Band, 8pm; 10pm, $18.
Sky Bar Rabadango, Mike Brown and the Sneakies and Mr. Lincoln, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joe Mulholland, Bob Nieske and Bob Tomagni, 8:30pm.



Indie heroes Superchunk continue to pump out lyrical, musically solid records. Their latest, *Here's to Shutting Up*, offers slightly quieter overtones on their guitar-driven anthems.

Preview

Mellowing Out

Superchunk returns with a softer sound

On Superchunk's eighth studio album in 12 years, *Here's to Shutting Up*, Mac McCaughan sings "I never grew up, I just showed up." In many ways, this line captures the understated attraction of a band that never quite left the college radio scene. And for its devoted following, that's a good thing. Album after album, Superchunk continues to pump out lyrical, musically solid records that are more like great paintings of moments than songs. And they've done it DIY-style, releasing albums on Merge Records, the label run by McCaughan and Chunk bassist Laura Ballance. It's been clear since the early days when McCaughan proclaimed, "I'm working/But I'm not working for you" that the members of Superchunk are interested in writing songs that inspire themselves as much as the indie-rock community that holds them in such high esteem.

The latest effort is equal parts lush pop and resonant lyrics, a sophisticated and polished record that takes off from where its last record, *Come Pick Me Up* left off. While it's true this is Chunk's most mellow album, don't expect a tame performance when Superchunk hits the Somerville Theatre on Nov. 21. Ballance confirms she's still "pogo-playing (her revered physical style that has helped make Chunk's past shows so energetic). Rest assured that Superchunk is still most interested in making memorable, fun, energetic music, albeit with slightly quieter overtones than its guitar-driven anthems of the past decade.—*Alexandra Chassanoff*

T.T. the Bear's Place Anti-Pop Consortium, $10, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Mara, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone Trio, 8pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30

Atlantic 101 Henry Schniewind, 7:30pm.
The Attic Katrin CD-release show, 9pm, $7. 21+.
Bell in Hand Tavern For Pete's Sake, 9:30pm, 21+.
Bill's Bar Tribe of Judah, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Bob the Chef's The Midnight Crew, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Grey Eye Glances, 7pm; 10pm, $18, all ages.
Copperfield's 24-7, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles 7pm; Soul City, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Rocks Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Tom Carroll, 5-8pm; Classic Trax, 9pm, 21+.
The Harp Bob's Day Off, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Tripping Billies and Clarias, $8, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm, 21+.
House of Blues Jazz Mandolin Project, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's Milo Z, 9:45pm, 21+.
Kendall Café The Gladstones, The Splendid Nobodies and The Dave Foley Band, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Ninth Wave and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, 8:30pm, $5.
Limbo Joel La Rue Smith Trio, 9pm.
The Linwood Reverse, Irresponsibles and Melvern Taylor, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Delicious, The Brett Rosenberg Problem and special guests, 9pm.
Middle East D: Wheat, Ben Kweller and Mishima USA, 9pm, $9, 18+.
Milky Way Freelance Bishops, Bootyjuice and Love Jones, 9pm, $8.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Dixie Dregs, 9pm, $20, 18+.
The Place James McKenna, 6pm, 21+.
Plough & Stars Bart Caruso, 10pm, $3, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Velvet Jones, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Marcels, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Rhythm and Muse Liz de Biase and Andrea de-Bohr, 9pm

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Music

Mariah Carey



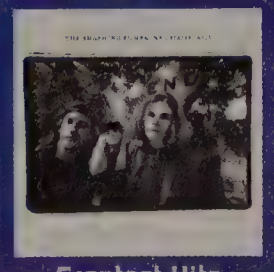
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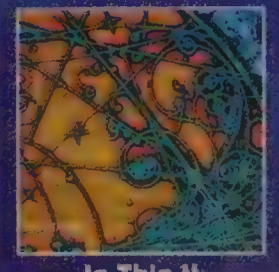
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Various Artists

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- **Avon, CT** at 380 W. Main Street 860-678-9400

HMV

Where music lives.



San Francisco-based glam rockers Vue, fronted by Rex Shelverton, play at the Paradise Nov. 23.

Rhythm & Spice Hot Like Fire, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jeff Stout and Debby Larkin, 9pm, $9.
Scullers John Pizzarelli, 8pm; 10:30pm, $22..
Sky Bar The Alienist Outfit CD-release show, All the Queen's Men and Hip Tanaka, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tir na nÓg Bow Thayer & The Euphorians, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joe Mulholland Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Daniel Johnston and Mary Lou Lord, $10, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Culture Jam, 10pm,$10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9pm, no cover.

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Bell in Hand Tavern Felix Brown, 9:30pm, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, 21+.
Club Passim Bill Staines, 8pm, $12, all ages.
Copperfield's Borderland All-Stars, 10pm, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Entrain and Soulfarm, $12, 21+..
Johnny D's Say Zuzu, 9:45pm.
Kendall Café Hellcountry, $7.
Kirkland Café Amusia, Alchemilla and Fuljoy, $5.
The Linwood Give, C60, Angry Hill and Fast Actin Fuses, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Tribute Show performances: John Cale, The Replacements, and Mike Nesmith, 9pm.
Middle East U: Medea Connection CD-release show, Quintaine Americana and Gaskill, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: DJ Spooky with Coup, Mr. Lin and Moonraker, 9pm, $18, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Rusty Scott Trio, 10am- 2:30pm.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paradise Rock Club Max Creek and Soul Work, 9pm, $12, 18+.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Teresa Ines Group, 9pm, $12..
Sky Bar Slot Machine, Top Heavy CD-release party and Thought Brigade, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske Trio, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Volkov Trio, Leonid Fedorov and Sergey Starostin, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Balaton, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Carolyn Wilkins, 7pm; George Russell, 10pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm.
The Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar Dub Station and Bob Marley and Dennis Brown tribute bands, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson's Jazz Quartet, 10am-2pm.
The Burren Liz Debiase and Kevin So, 8pm, $5.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Sean Kelly, $11, 18+.
House of Blues Hot Tuna.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Pinecone People, Judy Feldmann, Choo Choo La Rouge, and The Operators, 9:00pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Jeff Robinson Trio, 7pm.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Rusty Scott Trio, 10am- 2:30pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch 10am-3pm, no cover.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, DEC. 3

Club Passim 2-Song Open Mike, 8pm, $5, all ages.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Harper's Ferry Earthworm Justice, $6, 21+.
Kendall Café Front Royal, $5
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Zen Bastards, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Lucky Lee Jones & Friends, 9pm.

TUESDAY, DEC. 4

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Harper's Ferry Coalboilers, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Chris Smither, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Rachel Garlin, Kat Parsons and Andy White, 8pm, $5.
Lizard Lounge Andy Stochansky, Meghan Toohey and Chauncey, 9pm.
Middle East U: Aereogramme and Auto Interiors, 9pm, $7, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club John Payne Sax Choir, 8:30pm, $8.
608 Mr. Airplane Man, 10pm, No cover.
Sky Bar Board of Education, Full Metal Revolutionary Jazz Ensemble and Pangaea, 9pm, $5, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Koufax and AM/FM, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (617-964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Chopping Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-724-4177). MBTA: E Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Kendall Café *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Limbo *49 Temple Place, Boston (617-338-0280). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston. (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
P.J. Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State Street.*
Plough & Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*



Brit-rockers Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, better known as B.R.M.C., light up the Paradise Nov. 23.

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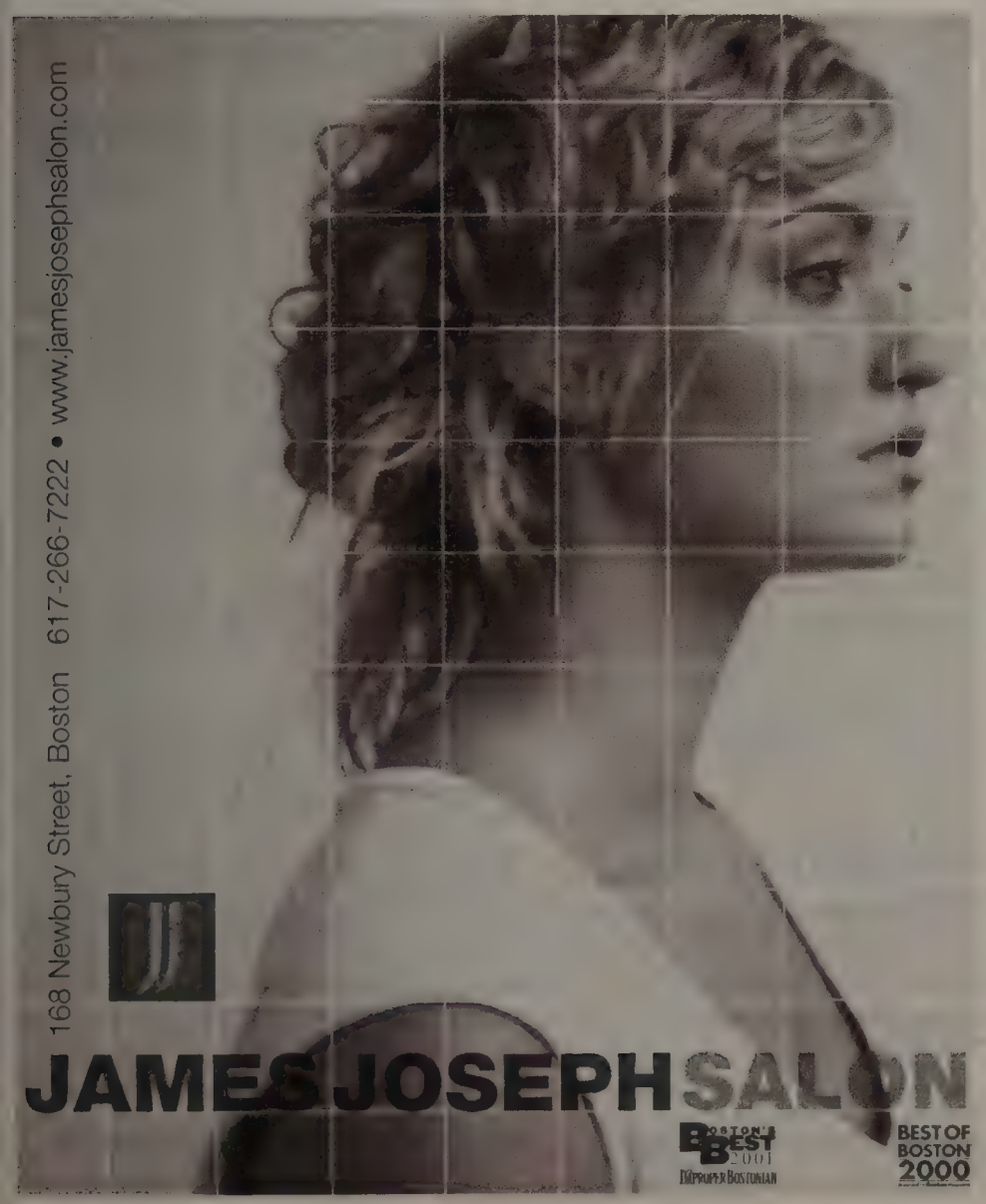
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Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
608 *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300) MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Wally's Café *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351- COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

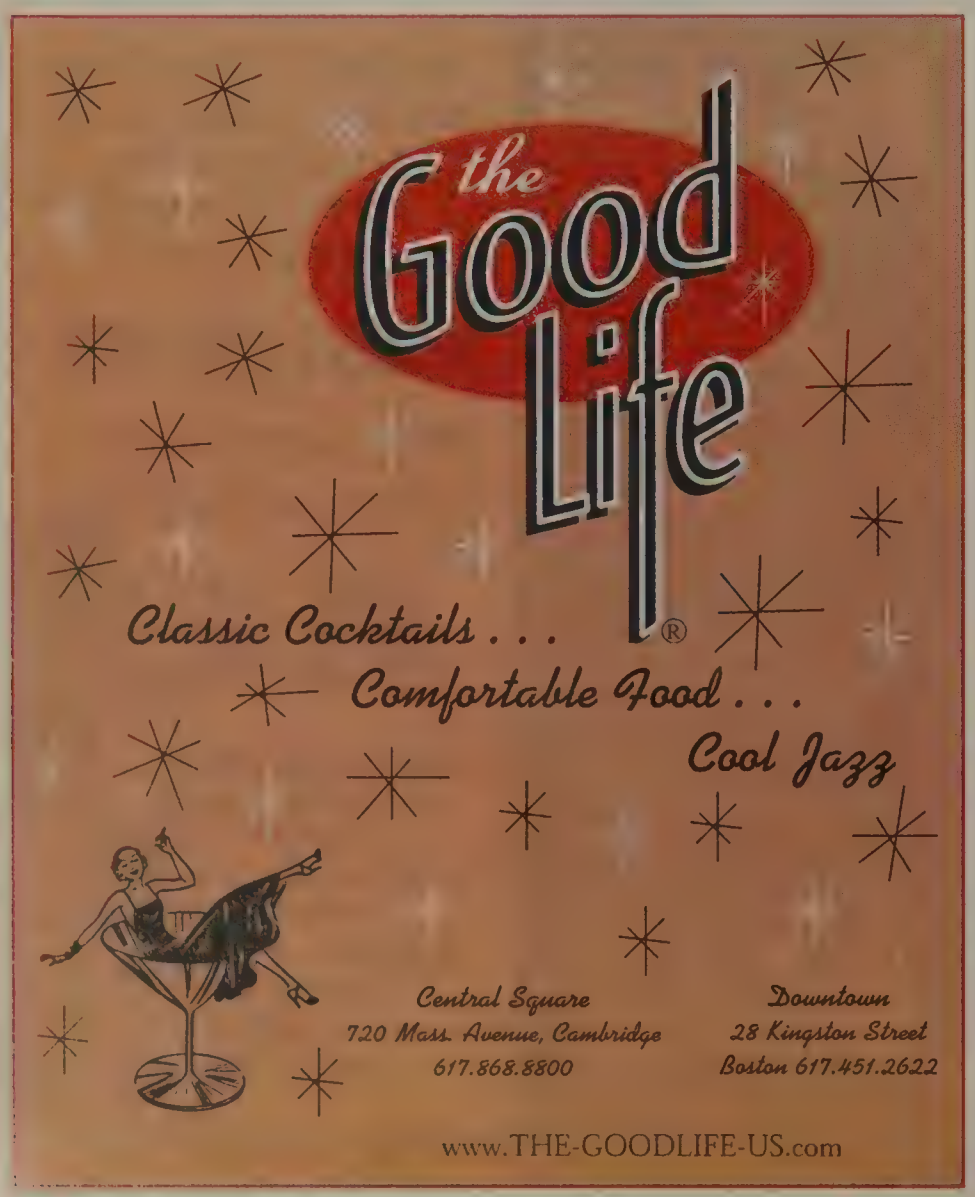
advance seating

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Anthrax and Judas Priest Feb. 14, 2002, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Joan Baez Feb. 19, 2002, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
The Big Wu Dec. 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Linda Eder Dec. 11, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000).
Bela Fleck Jan. 31, 2002, Sanders Theatre (617-496-2222).
The Get Up Kids Dec. 15, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849).
Great Big Sea March 6, 2002, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
King Crimson and John Paul Jones Dec. 18, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Lifehouse Dec. 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Baaba Maal Jan. 11, 2002, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700).
Branford Marsalis Feb. 21-24, 2002, Regattabar (617-661-5000).
Mighty Mighty Bosstones' Annual Hometown Throwdown Dec. 12-16, Axis (617-423-NEXT).
Mission of Burma Jan. 18, 2002, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).


Joan Baez plays Feb. 19.

The Nortec Collective and Scapegoat Wax Dec. 13, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Ozzy Osbourne, Rob Zombie, Mudvayne and Onesidezero Dec. 15, Worcester Centre (508-755-6800).
Rainer Maria Dec. 14, Middle East (617-931-2000).
Martin Sexton Dec. 14 and 15, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700).
Britney Spears Dec. 9 and 11, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).



classical music

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 21

St. Paul's Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 1103). 12:15pm. $2. Andrew Scanlon performs selected organ pieces.

FRIDAY, NOV. 23

Boston Academy of Music
Emerson Majestic Theatre, 219 Tremont St., Boston (617-824-8000). 7:30pm. $75. Also Nov. 24, 2 and 7:30pm: Nov. 25, 2pm. The company presents Gilbert and Sullivan's comic opera *The Mikado*.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 1:30pm. $25-$87 Also Nov. 24 and 27, 8pm. Roberto Abbado conducts a performance of Shoenberg and Beethoven, featuring pianist Gianluca Cascioli.

SATURDAY, NOV. 24

Emmanuel Children's Choir Benefit
Lindsey Chapel, Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). 8pm. $15.50. This concert features soloists from the Emmanuel Children's Choir, conducted by Phoebe Payne.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Young Artists Showcase
2 Palace Rd., Boston (617-566-1401). 1:30pm. $17. The Gardner Museum introduces violinist Joseph Lin and pianist Benjamin Loeb.

SUNDAY, NOV. 25

Emmanuel Music Bach Cantata
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). 10am. Free. This week's soloists are Kendra Colton, Pamela Dellal, Ryan Turner and David Kravitz.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Sunday Concert Series
2 Palace Rd., Boston (617-566-1401). 1:30pm. $17. Pianist Jonathan Biss performs works by Berg, Chopin and Beethoven.

New England Conservatory Concert
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 8pm. Free. Mezzo-soprano Lynn Torgove and pianist Kayo Iwama give a concert of contemporary songs.

Pro Arte: Schuller & Sherman
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-661-7067). 3pm. $9-$39. Conductor Gunther Schuller and pianist Russell Sherman perform.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 28

St. Paul's Music in the Cathedral Series
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 1103). 12:15pm. $2. Todd Beckham directs the Proteus Ensemble.

THURSDAY, NOV. 29

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. $35-$87. Also Nov. 30, Dec. 1 and Dec. 4, 8pm. Robert Spano conducts the Tanglewood Festival Chorus as it presents works by Adams and Sibelius.

Longy School of Music Concert
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. Free. The Longy School of Music presents the Eusebius Trio.

MIT Concert Series
MIT Chapel, opposite 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). 12pm. Free. The MIT Chamber Orchestra performs works by Britten and Bach.

NEC Honors Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). Guest conductor and former NEC president Gunther Schuller leads this performance.

FRIDAY, NOV. 30

Classical Music at MIT: Winds of Change
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). 8pm. $3. The wind ensemble performs the comic opera *Coyote's Dinner*, by Charles Shadle, as well as works by Mendelssohn, Williams and Gould.

FleetBoston Celebrity Series: Isabel Bayrakdarian
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). 8pm. $20-$30. Soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian makes her Celebrity Series debut.

New England Conservatory Concert
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-536-2412). 9:30am. $15. The performance/lecture with


Soprano Isabel Bayrakdarian performs at Jordan Hall as part of the FleetBoston series Nov. 30.

composer and theorist Robert Cogan is "Mozartean *Fantasy*. Haydn *Last Words*: A Matter of Montage."

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

Fleet Boston Celebrity Series: Family Music
225 Clarendon St., Boston (617-482-6661). 11am and 2pm. $18, $22. Robert Kapilow's music and Daniel Pelgzig's stage direction bring to life two classic children's books, *The Polar Express* and *Elijah's Angel*.

Handel & Haydn Society Holiday Concert
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). 3pm. $26-$70. Also Dec. 2, 3pm. Grant Llewellyn conducts Handel's *Messiah*, continuing Boston's holiday tradition since 1818.

Hospitality Program Benefit
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-482-6661). 8pm. $25 for concert, $75 for concert and reception. The Longwood Symphony Orchestra presents a program featuring soloist Judith Gordon. Proceeds benefit The Hospitality Program, which provides housing for medical patients and their families who are from out of town.

MIT Concert Choir
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-263-2826). 8pm. $5. William Cutter directs the MIT choir in Handel's *Messiah*. Proceeds benefit New England victims of the Sept. 11 tragedy.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

The Boston Cecilia Presents: Britten & Britain
All Saints Church, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (617-232-4540). 3pm. $11-$38. Also Dec. 7, 8pm, Church of the Advent, 30 Brimmer St., Boston; Dec. 9, 3pm, First Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge. Benjamin Britten's mystical and moving works are presented by Boston's famous chorus.

Cantata Singers Present Kayo Iwama
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-267-6502). 3pm. $15-$44. Pianist Kayo Iwama joins the Cantata Singers for this performance.

Emmanuel Music Concerts
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). 10am. Free. This week's Bach Cantata features soloists Roberta Anderson, Gloria Raymond, Frank Kelley and Mark McSweeney. •*C. Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University, 41 Temple St., Boston (617-536-3356). 4pm. $18.* This Emmanuel Music Shubert Series concert features mezzo-soprano Pamela Dellal, tenor Frank Kelley and pianists Leslie Amper and Sally Pinkas.

Greater Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra
Boston's Symphony Hall, Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1200). 8pm. $10-15. The orchestra, featuring young New England musicians, performs Lizt, Bartók and Kodály.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Sunday Concert Series
2 Palace Rd., Boston (617-566-1401). 1:30pm. $17. Phyllis Pancella, mezzo-soprano, pianist Timothy Hoekman and violinist Hsin-yun Huang perform.

Longy School of Music Showcase
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 7pm. $25. Violinist Charles Castleman returns to Boston for a performance with Longy pianist Randall Hodgkinson.

MONDAY, DEC. 3

Boston University Choral Ensembles
Boston University Concert Hall, Marshall Room, School for the Arts, 885 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8790). 8pm. Free. The School for the Arts presents a joint concert of BU's Repertory Chorus and Women's Chorus.

Longy School of Music Showcase
Edward M. Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. Free. The Modern American Music Department presents its Repertory Ensemble.

MIT Chamber Music Society Concert
Killian Hall, 160 Memorial Dr., Cambridge (617-263-2826). 5pm. Free. The society performs Bach and Mozart.

LEFT: DANA TYNAN; RIGHT: STEVE ROCHON

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (617-859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Cafe (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables), laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Café and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and midpriced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fri. and Sat. have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Weds.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+. Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Mon. is Gothic night; Tue. is techno; and Thu. is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. come hear DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50-$750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's new and complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun. and Mon. 12-6pm; Tue.-Fri., 12-8pm; Sat. 10am-8pm.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books. •Nov. 28, 7pm: **Susan Griffin** reads from her latest work, *The Book of the Courtesans: A Catalogue of Their Virtues.*

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Fenway Community Health Events
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). •Nov. 23: Color Me Healthy presents BOSS, Brothers Orchestrating Safer Sex. The group discusses how healthy lifestyles can be promoted among gay and bisexual men of color. •Nov. 30, 6-8pm: Essence of a Woman presents "The Princess of Porn."

Thanksgiving Weekend Party
Corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-0658). www.contracorner.com/jp. *Nov. 24, 7:30-11pm. $6.* This event offers a night of fun and dancing, with music by The Lizards.



Susan Griffin reads at New Words Nov. 28.

World AIDS Day Events
•*Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). Dec. 1, 12, 1:30 and 3pm.* In conjunction with the School of the Museum of Fine Arts and Fenway Community Health, the MFA hosts a screening of *Undetectable,* a documentary by Jay Corcoran following six Boston residents who struggle with HIV/AIDS. One of those profiled is David Brudnoy of WBZ. Both he and Corcoran will give a discussion along with Dr. Lisa Hirschhorn of Dimmock Community Health Center, also in the film, following the 3pm screening. Throughout the museum, Museum School students present performance pieces from 11am-3pm. •*Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). Nov. 30-Dec. 2. Free.* Created by artist Michael Dowling, *Medicine Wheel* has become a community occasion for mourning, healing, sharing and celebrating in observance of World AIDS Day. A vigil begins at midnight on Friday, Nov. 30 and runs until 5pm, Dec. 2. A procession called leaves Lester Rotch Park on Albany Street at midnight on Nov. 30 and ends at Cyclorama, where improvised performances take place amidst the Latino Health Institute offering of *Altairs,* a show of alters, and an installation called *Air. Air* considers air as one of the four elements, and features 36 pedestals where viewers can give an offering.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Fridays, 12pm. Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(617-508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for discussion with bisexual men.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston Immigration Group for Lesbians and Gays provides information and support.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot Streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-0658). Saturdays, 7:30-11pm, $5. This group meets two Saturdays a month for contra dancing.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safter Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month. 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of each month.

Community Rainbow
Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45pm. This organization's mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dagger
(617-542-4214). Join The Theater Offensive's newest guerrilla theater group, Dagger, and make some noise. The group gathers on Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30pm, to train and create performances representing queer girls' and women's perspectives. Email *Dagger@the theateroffensive.org.*

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

FLAG Flag Football
(617-937-5858). Weekends. Join other gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexual friends of all skill levels to play recreational football. Visit *www.flagflagfootball.com* for information.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30-12:45. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (617-867-0410). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(617-423-6881). Sundays, 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim-team, LANES, is a gay swim team.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.OuttoDance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment. Private lessons available.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Tuesday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

IRENE YOUNG

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or by email to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Contemporary Shamanism with Wilbert Alix
•The Ayahuasca Ritual: Mobius Art Space, 354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Nov. 26, 7pm. Free. •Trance Dance Workshop: Sargent Dance Studio, Boston University, 3rd Floor, One University Rd., Boston (617-783-4614). www.trancedance.com. *Nov. 28, 6-10pm. $25.* **Wilbert Alix** of the Natale Institute teaches the ancient tools of shamanism for use in healing the self and life around you. Wilbert's educational seminars are conducted around the world.

Qi Gong Grandmaster Sikung Lowe
Boston Learning Society, 1089 Great Plain Ave., Needham (781-453-9800). www.bostonlearningsociety.com. *MBTA: Commuter Rail to Needham Center. Nov. 30, 6:30pm.* **Sikung Lowe** was the only non-U.S. citizen at first White House Panel for Complementary and Alternative Medicine; that's how respected he is. The healing modality of Qi Gong focuses on deep breathing, concentration and slow movements to facilitate the flow of Qi (pronounced "chee") throughout the body. This practice improves physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health. Qi Gong also restores vitality and prolongs life by preventing disease.

Two-Plane Consciousness: Living a Spiritual Life, featuring Ram Dass
Omega Institute in Boston, Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston (800-944-1001). www.omega-inst.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 1, 10:30am-5:30pm. $145.* This workshop explores meditation and devotional yoga as practices for living life with wider consciousness and deeper compassion. Infused with experience and inspired by timeless wisdom, **Ram Dass** will lighten your heart with humor and present ideas to help you see yourself and the world in new ways.

CLASSES

Breathe Naturally
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 1, 1-5pm. $59. **Robert Gerzon** will convince you that changing the way you breathe can change your life. Breath awareness can relieve respiratory problems, aid your physical performance, and be a tool to attain positive mental states.

Jin Shin Jitsu
The Upside Down Store and Yoga Studio, 295 Belmont St., Belmont (617-484-0994). MBTA: Bus line #73. www.preichart.home.mindspring.com. *Dec. 2, 1-6pm. $90.* Using gentle touch and movement, Jin Shin Jitsu practitioner **Phyllis Reichart** can help you release stress and blocked energy flow. Learn how it can be used to heal yourself.

IMPACT Model Mugging
BCAE, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 9am. $49. Registration required. A workshop on personal safety and self-defense.

Lamas Qi Gong Weekend Workshop
Holiday Inn Select, 5 Blossom St., Boston (617-504-7227 or 617-867-0046). MBTA: Red Line to Charles/MGH. Dec. 1-2, 9am-5pm. $185. This workshop will specifically address stress and anxiety reduction, cancer prevention and overall preventive health routines. The class will focus on the needs of Qi Gong beginners.

Psychic Skills for a Psychic Life
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 1, 10am-4pm. $87.* This class with **Mike Koran** teaches a fun and friendly way to work with dreams, ESP, innate healing powers, intuition and connecting with others on a soul level. You'll also discuss myth, religion, science, new age philosophy and more.

Transform Your Anxious Chatterbox
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Nov. 30, 7-8:45pm. $15.* **Robert Gerzon** is a therapist and the author of *Finding Serenity in an Age of Anxiety*. He will introduce techniques to master anxiety and turn it turn natural energy and excitement. Learn to recognize natural, spiritual anxiety as a pathway to inner peace.


Wilbert Alix teaches shamanism Nov. 26.

LECTURE

Manifesting: How to Become a Magnet for Desirable Outcomes
Brookline Adult Education Program, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Hills. Nov. 29, 7-8:30pm. $5. Spiritual psychologist **Anna Huckabee Tull** discusses how to move your life path in a positive direction and take control of professional and personal outcomes.

RETREAT

Neo-Shamanic Approaches to Spiritual Well-Being
EarthDance, 252 Prospect St., Plainfield (512-708-8888). www.trancedance.com. *Nov. 30-Dec. 2. $395 (includes lodging and meals).* Is there a link between our modern problems and the lack of respect regarding spiritual wisdom? And more important, how can we access that wisdom? Shamanism can be found on every continent, and within each of these 40,000-year-old cultures, techniques exist to access the deeper messages within nature, where truth is hidden. This workshop will explore four "neo-shamanic" approaches: Rites of Passage, Trance Dance, Soul Hunting and the Spirit Animal Dance. These rituals can aid personal transformation and help you learn more about ecology, modern science, medicine, psychology and healing cultural conflicts.

ONGOING

Awareness Through Movement for Any Body
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-491-6050). Thu., 6-7:15pm. $14. Drop-in. Join **Deborah Lotus** and discover how to ease bodily tension and stress. The class will focus on sitting in chairs and the use of Feldenkrais techniques. Find out what you do to prevent repetitive strain and other pain.

Continued Explorations in Contact Improvisation
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191 or 617-320-9792). Tue., 5:30-7:30pm. Contact improvisation is sort of like dancing and sort of like making art. It's a chance to move yourself with others in a creative, spontaneous fashion, while learning and utilizing kinesthetic awareness.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Bus #57, 70 and 71. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Shintaido
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-783-3361). MBTA Red Line to Central. Mon., 6:30-8pm. $12. Shintaido is a body movement originally based in martial arts but then evolved into a system of human potential development, health exercise and artistic expression. **Jennifer Hicks** is the instructor.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (617-362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that is stress-reducing and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-$18 per session. Call ahead.* This peaceful and inviting yoga center offers mixed-level Kripalu and power yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 800-462-2849
Nov. 21, 7pm vs. Atlanta Hawks
Nov. 23, 7:30pm vs. Toronto Raptors

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 617-931-2222
Nov. 23, 12pm vs. Vancouver Canucks
Nov. 27, 7pm vs. Tampa Bay Lightning

New England Patriots
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 800-543-1776
Nov. 25, 4:05pm vs. New Orleans Saints

Events

Boston Volvo Thanksgiving Day 5K
Boston Volvo Village, 75 North Beacon St., Brighton (617-560-1700). Nov. 22, registration at 7am, race at 9am. Free to participants, but a donation to fight multiple sclerosis is encouraged. Not only can participating in this run/walk help fight multiple sclerosis, there will be many prizes available to participants, including a one night bed-and-breakfast stay at the Boston Harbor Hotel.

Boston Sports Clubs Red Cross Week
All Boston Sports Clubs locations, www.bostonsportsclubs.com. *Nov. 26-Dec. 2.* For one week, BSC will suggest a $2 donation to the Red Cross for each fitness class, from Spinning to New York City Ballet. Non-members can chip in and check out the club by purchasing a guest pass or downloading a one-day pass from *www.nysc.com*.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players age 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practice takes place Sunday at 11am.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston Demons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (617-789-4070).

HIKING/ WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

POLO

Stage Hill Polo and Riding School
Topsfield Fairgrounds. Topsfield (356-5601). Mon. and Wed., 6-8pm; Sat. 1pm. $300/mo. For people looking to actually play the sport depicted on their Ralph Lauren shirts, Stage Hill provides the equipment, horses and lessons. No prior riding experience is necessary. Lessons offered year-round.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby. Most games are played in New England, although the team is gearing up for several matches in Argentina and Chile next spring.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/bostonhhh. Weekly runs year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.iceskatingclasses.com. Skating lessons for children or adults at 15 area MDC rinks. Use figure or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Soccer
(617-789-4070, ext. 225). Coed indoor and outdoor teams. New: outdoor turf soccer.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming now for fall leagues (all levels) in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals welcome.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-901-9456) bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur freestyle wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round.


Willie McGinest gets up close and personal with a hapless Jet.

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BEST?

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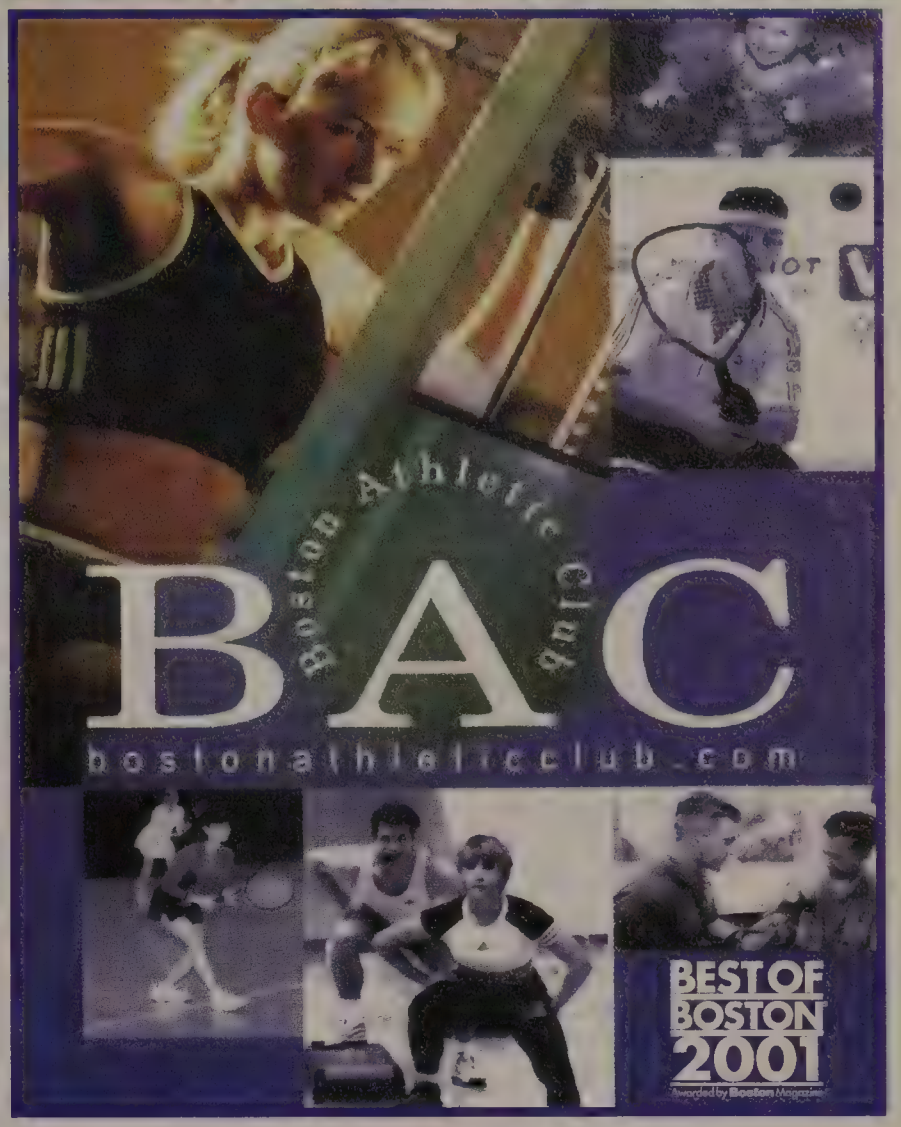
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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 16. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

Coolidge Corner Theater
290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2501). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Dec. 1, 10:30am. $8. Boston Youth Moves, a dance ensemble of teens from the Greater Boston area, performs as part of a pre-professional dance training program.

The Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Sat. and Sun., 1 and 3pm; Wed. and Thu., 10:30am. $8. Reservations recommended. Traditional and original shows for children ages five and older. •Nov. 23-25: Spring Valley Puppets present *Puss 'n' Boots*. •Nov. 28-29: Pumpernickel Puppets present *Sir George and the Dragon*. •Dec. 1-2: *Rose Red and Rose White* by Figures of Speech Theatre.

Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm
Wheelock College, 180 The Riverway, Boston (617-734-4760). Fri., 7:30pm; Sat.-Sun., 3pm. Through Nov. 25. $10-$17. Rebecca is sent to live with two maiden aunts in Riverboro, Maine. The aunts try to cope with this "bird of a different feather."

Omni Theater
Science Park, Boston (617-732-2500). www.mos.org. *$7.50, $5.50 children.* •Through March: *Bears*, a film about these animals' role in the ecosystem. •Through Jan. 1: *Journey Into Amazing Caves* features caves so dangerous and remote that exploring them is almost like wandering onto a new planet. •Through March 1: *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure* describes Sir Ernest Shackleton's legendary expedition to the hopelessly barren, frigid plains of Antarctica.

THINGS TO DO

All About Animals
The Children's Museum, 300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Fri., 6-8pm; Sat. and Sun., 11am-1pm. Through the end of November. •Nov. 24, 11am-1pm: Canine Companions for Independence. Children get the chance to meet dogs that lend a paw to help others.

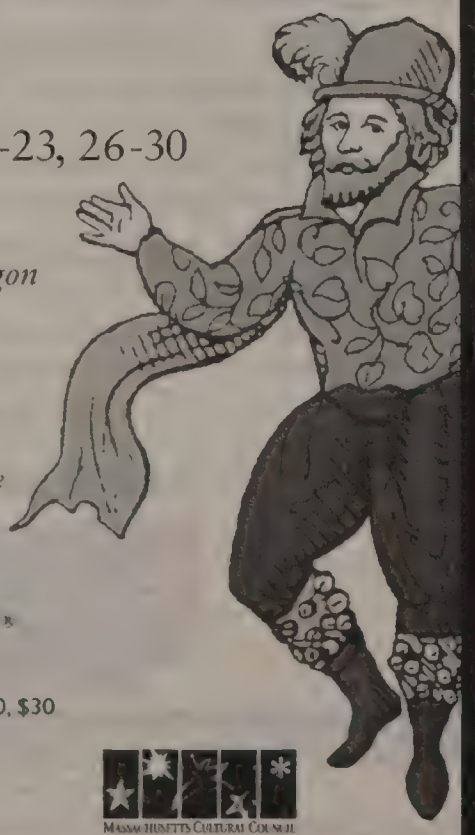
Borders Books & Music: Storytime
100 Cambridgeside Place (The Galleria), Cambridge (617-679-0887). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tuesdays, 10:30am. Staff members read from the best of new and classic children's books.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 1, 9am, $35.* •The Deep Blue Sea: Explore the rich and mysterious life found in the ocean. For children ages 4-5. •Feathered Friends: Explore the lives of birds.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-732-2500). www.mos.org. *Mon.-Thu., Sat. and Sun., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. Through Jan. 1. Closed on Thanksgiving and Christmas. $11, $8 children.* •*Engineer It!*: Visitors are challenged to create, design and test devices to investigate the engineering process. •*K'nextech*: Learn physics, geometry and engineering by playing with K'nex pieces.

F.A.T.: Friday After Thanksgiving
MIT's duPont Center Gymnasium, 120 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-5927). Registration required for participants. Nov. 23, 12pm for participants, 1-4pm for spectators. $5, $2 children. Individuals are invited to bring home-made chain reactions to create one massive machine under the supervision of chain-reactionist and kinetic sculpturist Arthur Ganson.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. •Nov. 27, 3:30pm: Science Magic with Stephen Lechner. Children experiment with magnets, motion and chemistry. •Nov. 30, 10:30am: Preschool films.

Celebrate the Winter Solstice at
The Christmas Revels
18 PERFORMANCES
Sanders Theatre
Harvard University, Cambridge
December 14-16, 20-23, 26-30
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Saint George and the Dragon
Hampton Court Chorus
The Queen's Masque
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Massachusetts Cultural Council

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (617-338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights). Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (617-242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (617-572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Closed until further notice.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (617-566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theatre, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours start at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm. Sun., 12-10pm. $4, $3 seniors and students.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(617-357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.


Bunker Hill Monument in Charlestown

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0211). Information sessions take place Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 6pm; Thursdays, 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl. Information session: Nov. 28, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(617-263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). Volunteers needed to work in Cambridge public schools as tutors, aides and mentors.

Community Servings
(617-445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Ethos
(617-522-6700, ext. 323). Volunteer to work with an elderly individual.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child, be a program assistant or share a special talent.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children. Volunteer training: Dec. 5 and 6.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-972-1702). Volunteer to provide practical and emotional support to terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(617-375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996, ext. 30). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

Safe Harbor for Animals
(617-625-7332). Care for homeless cats.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Teddy Bear Drive
(978-356-2602). Volunteers needed to deliver teddy bears to local shelters during the holidays.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.

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The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, Oct. 31, The Improper Bostonian presented the 7th Annual Halloween Fun Run to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The 3-mile ghoulish jaunt around Boston Common was run by more than 400 creatively costumed runners, raising more than $25,000. Later, participants enjoyed a party at The Back Bay where Cha-Chi Loprete of WBCN emceed the costume contest. Special thanks to Guinness, Faneuil Hall Marketplace and Boston.com.



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1. Top row: **Derik Liberatore** of Tek Systems; **Joe Kasztejna,** a medical salesman; **Paul Caudano,** a lawyer; bottom row: **Don Hubbard** of Microchip Tech and **Chris Helon,** a consultant.
2. **Kate Blumberg** of Authoria with **Mike Lodge** of Fidelity.
3. **Erin Mitchell** of Vertex Pharmaceuticals with **Lauren Gebhardt** of McKinsey & Co., hanging out with the Guinness crew.
4. **Rob Duffy** of Tufts University.
5. **Randy O'Neil** of Intralinks.


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On Saturday, Nov. 3, McCormick & Schmick's opened its newest location in Faneuil Hall.

1. **Michele Hodges, Brenda Irving, Barbara Rayner** and **Courtney Waltjen,** all East Coast Sales Representatives for McCormick & Schmick's.
2. **Glenn Lawler** of Horizon Beverage Co.; **Kori Langos** of Suffolk Law School; **David Glickman** of Horizon Beverage Co. and **John Salesses** of the Robb Report.
3. Owner **Doug Schmick** with his wife **Melanie**; general manager **Chris DeCloux** and owner **Bill McCormick.**

On Monday, Nov. 5, The Playwright in South Boston celebrated its one-year anniversary.


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1. Front row: **Karyn Colette** of Vantage World Travel, **Jordana Freedman,** financial consultant, **Scott Dolton,** Boston College grad student. Back row: **David Hanscom** and **B.W.,** both self-employed.
2. **Jim Kelly** of the Playwright, with owner **Julian Bolger.**
3. Playwright co-owner **Jon Cronin** with friends **Orlagh Hinv** from Boston Beer Garden and **Nigel Bird** from State Street Bank.

PHOTOS: FUN RUN, KAREN DANA; MCCORMICK AND SCHMICK'S, ANNIE RICE; THE PLAYWRIGHT, MARY O'MALLEY

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Internationally renowned Chinese healer teaches ancient practice of QI GONG (inventor of Tai Chi). Workshop Dec. 1 & 2, 9:00-5:00, HOLIDAY INN SELECT, GOVERNMENT CENTER. $155 in advance, $185 at door. info: 617-504-7227

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WANTED

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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's: New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/nightclub/billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and Ba Ha Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning beer bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast - 112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Dance Plex *262 Friend Street, Boston, 617-720-1966 or boston@pollyesthers.com.* This is your ticket to the hottest retro dance club in Boston, The Dance Plex (formerly Polly Esther's) featuring Culture Club, & Club Expo. The Dance Plex is a four level dance party complex spinning all your favorites from retro MTV bubblegum 80's hits, 70's Disco, Freestyle & Express, 80's Jams, Top 40 90's hits and dance mixes of today. Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9pm till 2am.

Tilt *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* A club truly in a class of its own. With its outrageous Light Show and Cat Walk spectacle, dance and groove with the spinning sensation Manolo on Saturday nights and to guest DJs spinning progressive house and trance on Friday. Dress code strictly enforced. Doors open at 10pm.

VIDEO CLUB

Uptown-The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* Progressive dance music on Friday nights: 18+ ladies, 19+ men. Casual dress.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: Bobby Femino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich Street, Boston, MA, 617-*

437-0300. Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday and Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

Oxygen-The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* Enjoy the best of 70's, 80's & 90's music on Tuesday nights and a buffet from 8pm-9pm with DJ Chris Fiore. Doors open at 8pm; 21+, $3 before 9pm and $5 after 9pm. Friday 18+ ladies, 19+ men , casual dress. Saturday 18+ ladies, 21+ men, proper dress required.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

CLUBS

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

The Dance Plex *262 Friend Street, Boston, 617-720-1966 or boston@pollyesthers.com.* This is your ticket to the hottest retro dance club in Boston, The Dance Plex (formerly Polly Esther's) featuring Culture Club, & Club Expo. The Dance Plex is a four level dance party complex spinning all your favorites from retro MTV bubblegum 80's hits, 70's Disco, Freestyle & Express, 80's Jams, Top 40 90's hits and dance mixes of today. Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9pm till 2am.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00 10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

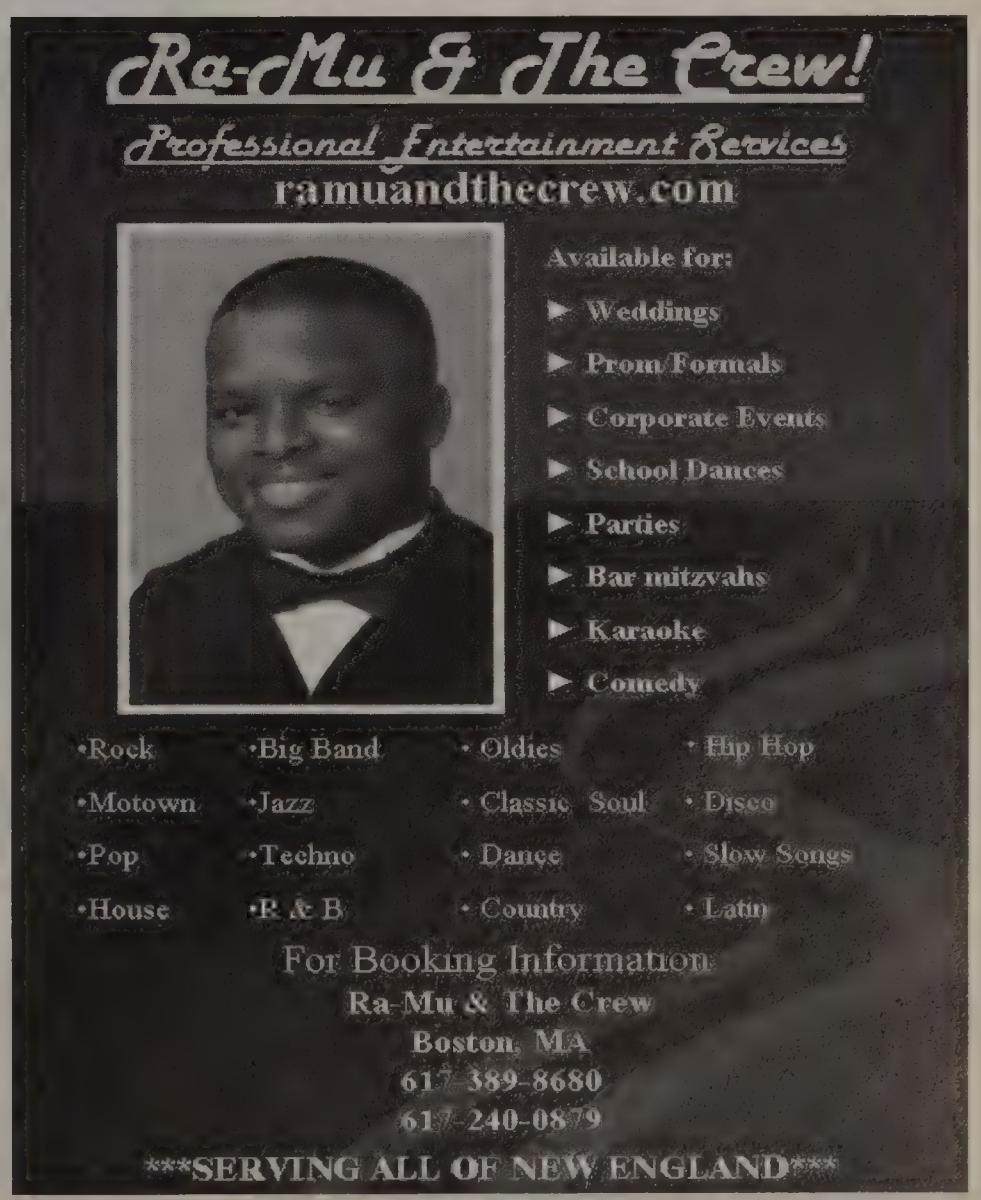
Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science-Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Journey Into Amazing Caves at 2pm. Tickets are $30 for Adults, $28 for Seniors/Children. Brunch only $22. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call (617)723-2500.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

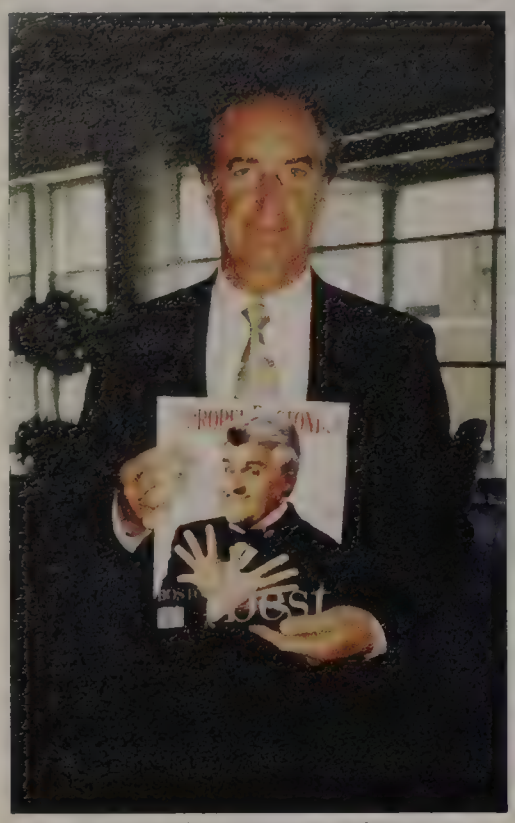




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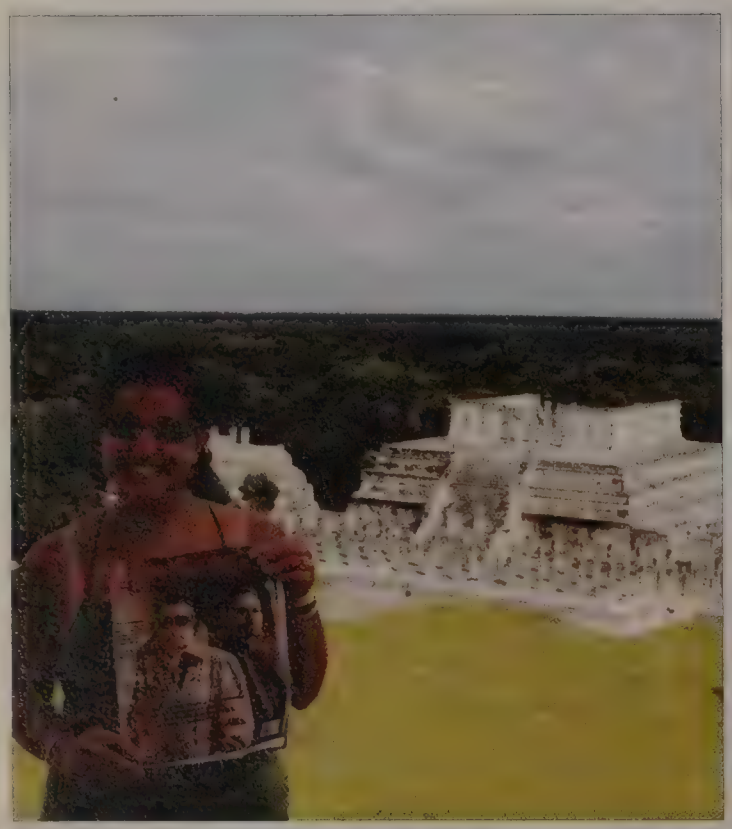
Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne with the Boston's Best issue. Boise, he seems to like it.



Dan Maher, Paul Vihonsky and Matique Arroyo read our Spring Fashion issue to Hank Williams in Montgomery, Ala. Hank was a little upset that we didn't have any fringed shirts in there.



Lily Ogles at the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego, which is not in fact a Red Roof Inn.



At the Chichen Itza ruins in Merida, Mexico, Gia Pear says sacrifices left "just a bunch of heads." Yo, Chichen heads be all up in that ruin, y'all.



Hank wasn't the only musician to get a fashion update. Tammy McLaughlin visited Jim Morrison's grave in Paris.



New Brunswick, Canada Premier Bernard Lord checks out some more southerly properties in our real estate issue.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Chowing down on a plate of traditional tasty moth treats at the Bogang Moth Festival, Nov. 24 in Albury, New South Wales, Australia.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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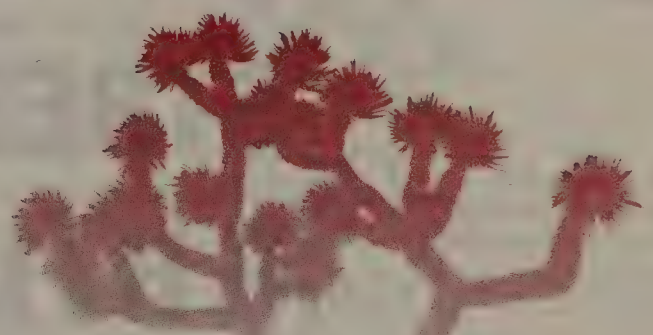
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If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Terri on Flight 66
We sat next to each other on the red-eye from Vegas on Oct. 24. You made me laugh and we were both nervous about flying. I know you are from California and chances of you seeing this are slim, but maybe "Sissy poo" will see it. Thanks for helping me through the flight. I would love to chat again.
—bostonbill42@hotmail.com

Fast Times at the Brattle Theater
It was the 9:30pm show on Oct. 23. You had brown hair, a black sweater, a cool nose and the cutest, happiest laugh I've ever heard. We were all in the third row—I've got longish, sorta curly brown hair and was sitting with two friends. I wanted to talk to you after the show, but couldn't figure out a witty and literate way to start up a Spicoli conversation. Your laugh made the movie twice as fun—would it be possible to hear it again at another comedy?
—brattleguy@yahoo.com

Sept. 29
We both got on the T at Coolidge Corner. It was about 10pm. You found a seat in the crowd and I was standing wearing a red skirt and black jacket. We noticed each other and I sat next to you when the seat next to you was empty. We spoke about our plans for the evening. I was going to meet my cousin at some "posh" bar that I didn't really want to go to, and you were meeting some friends at the same bar I had my birthday party in last year (Do you remember the name of it...in the Quincy Market area?). Sometimes when I walk down my street, I wonder if I will ever bump into you. It would be nice to hear from you.
—coolidgecornergirl@yahoo.com

Newtonville David
All I know is we laughed and smiled and I melted every time you brushed my hair from my eyes. We closed down Union Street on a Thursday in October and then Poof! Somehow, we didn't exchange phone numbers. How did that happen?! You've got beautiful salty gray hair and I had just dyed my hair red that day. I still melt when I think of you. Come find me!
—EmailCarolineNow@aol.com

Brown-eyed Crack Fiend:
My family and I had the unfortunate opportunity to encounter your obvious lack of driving skill as well as your misdirected "road rage" at the red light on the corner of Hemenway and Boylston on Nov. 4. I imagine you and your slightly more intelligent "sista" driving the car in front of you were in a wild rush to pick up your next "fix." Well, in your haste you forgot one of the most important rules of the road...be careful who you f--k with! There's a good chance your sorry welfare ass won't be so lucky next time. In your futile attempt to assault my family all you succeeded in doing was making a total ass of yourself and frightening my 12-year-old, who was in the rear seat watching as you grabbed a "weapon" from the trunk of your car. Perhaps you should remove the illegal tint on your windows so you can actually see the road in front of you.
—Visualizing the pipe burns on your skank lips

Cut It
You were at Sullivan Square T station Thursday morning. I was in line waiting for a token. I saw something out of the corner of my eye, and at the last minute saw you scurry past me and cut in front of me. I would have said something except that you were an old, old woman. Just wanted to let you know that even though you're old you can't cut in line.
—Cuttee

To the Nice Fireman
At the Huntington Ave. fire station near the MFA. I am sorry for our misunderstanding on Nov. 8 as you tried to help direct the truck. You were more than gracious (your buddy was not) and wished me a nice day. I was distraught at having been yelled at for (seemingly) no good reason and didn't return the pleasantries. I admire you guys, and even more so after Sept. 11, a day that has changed us all forever. Please accept my apologies.
—The woman in the black BMW convertible

Ode to a Running Gal
The setting: SuperFitness, Watertown. The time: Three or four times a week after work. You: running on the treadmill or doing stomach crunches on the floor. You're about 5'2", blond hair tied up in a bun or ponytail and wearing a gray T-shirt and dark blue (or black?) workout pants. Me: Either on the treadmill or exercise bike, too chicken and shy to do anything other than look at you. If I seem to stare, sorry about that and just ignore me—I am too lazy to stalk anyways. You seem like a nice gal among the rest of the mob there, and approaching you in a gym is awkward.
—johnlegal64@hotmail.com

Audiacious
Our eyes met and we gave each other a huge smile at the New England International Auto Show on Nov. 6 at about 4pm. You are the perfect, petite, sweet, beautiful girl who was wearing jeans and a tight print shirt. You and a friend were looking at Audis (he was hopefully not your boyfriend). If you hadn't been with someone, I would have been at your side in an instant. I'm the guy who was wearing a black leather jacket, jeans, long brown hair. If you're single and you see this, I hope you'll e-mail me. It will be so worth it!
—bayjsj9@yahoo.com

Love at First Sight
We met through a mutual friend that starry night at Hanna's. I had the crazy brown hair and you had those dimples—who could resist those? We talked about pumpkin beer and you charmed me into continuous nights of longer, deeper conversations over the course of the month... year... lifetime. After all these years I am more in love with you than ever. J—you are disarming and sweet, unconventional and constant; too handsome for anyone's good! You are fascinating and ever-inventing; the lover I didn't believe existed; my partner and my champion. You make me fall in love with you over and over. How do you do that? Jake, you are my favorite dream and I want to keep having it every night for the rest of my life. I love you.Your wife,
—Ellie

Cho Mo!
You rock my world.
I'm your poopy.
Don't worry—no one knows
I did this.
Uh, oops?
—Poops.

P—
From the first time that I walked into your office, I couldn't take my eyes off of you. I have thought about you every day after, and each time that I see you, I feel as though I am looking at you for the first time. I marvel at how hearing your voice makes my entire mood change—you can take the worst day and make it perfect. I have fallen for you harder than I could have ever imagined, and simply wanted you to know how amazing you are. From your mind to your smile, I couldn't hope for anyone that fits better than you.
—Your Pizza Boy

Rockie Horoscope

NOVEMBER 21 – DECEMBER 4, 2001

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

Vibes fostering closer friendships send you happily on your way to Thanksgiving festivities. The going part should be easy because Venus favors your Jupiter ruler in time for the midweek lottery. Enjoy whatever good fortune the rewarding trine brings. It's the return around the 26th, when things seem on the verge of exploding, that can be hard. But on that day Mercury enters your sign, bringing a new, less conspiratorial attitude to communications in general, to your way of expressing yourself in particular. So much for cryptic crosswords.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

For the time being you're out of the line of fire. Most of the planetary activity over the holiday focuses on the struggle between Scorpionic and Aquarian forces that are equally determined to get their own way. Any of them coming to your house? Not that Caps are the most adaptable of signs, but until next month when you feel pressured to choose one direction instead of another, you're relatively free to have a good time with friends and to shop (online) until you drop.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

Being one of the signs in the spotlight during a Thanksgiving holiday as full of subtext as this one can be jarring. So tread softly and use whatever comic shtick you can muster to counterbalance the aggressive vibe you may be emitting. This year pushy Mars merges with your erratic Uranus ruler about the time you'd be boarding a flight home. Need I remind you that besides being accident-prone right now, you're subject to Freudian slips and falling head-over-heels in lust?

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Does the phrase, "behind the scenes" suggest that you should spend the holiday weekend holed up in bed? With so much going on in your Aquarius house of retreat and retirement, you might deem that room the safest, sanest place to be. Or you could navigate the electronic universe and see what iconoclastic, cutting-edge idea comes to you while surfing the Net. New and different is the main motif underscoring the rest of the month; it smacks of revolution.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Thanksgiving finds your Mars ruler cruising through Aquarius, the air sign that favors group identification. Feel free to hang with friends from morning till late night. That way, perhaps you'll bypass the romantic challenges issued when Venus withdraws her affection for the weekend. A "hard" aspect between the planets representing women and men usually spells discord, but then, the prospect of making up can heighten the sexual tension. Flipping out or declaring your independence is a distinct possibility as Mars and Uranus unite on the 26th. I, for one, wouldn't fly that day.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

You'll feel inexplicable and spontaneous joy as your Venus ruler and optimistic Jupiter form a mutually favorable alliance. Now is the time to count your blessings. However, before the month is over, you may have to ward off a surprise attack from the nutty Aquarian in the family or the employer adopting a slash-and-burn policy. Still, because you are stubborn and resourceful, you will hold your own, and even persevere. Once Venus leaves Scorpio on the 2nd, you may want to move on, too.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

Try to capitalize on the rewarding trine between your Mercury ruler and magnanimous Jupiter in your Cancer money house. While the easygoing aspect between the planets of communication and commerce is fairly common, it doesn't land in your financial home base too often. Also be prepared for a brilliant idea when intuitive Uranus sends a message from your higher mind as you begin Thanksgiving. Decisions may have to be made by the end of the month, about the time the full moon in Gemini brings a work– or health–related matter (not necessarily your problem) to a head.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

Moon children, it's been said, march to the beat of a different, dreamier drummer, one whose diffuse rhythms are often hard for others to follow. The issue that was born on the Scorpio new moon could be taking shape on the 22nd, at the first quarter of the lunar cycle. It'll become a monster of sorts when the moon is full in Gemini on the 30th. Until then, feel free to enjoy the creative, loving vibes beamed your way from your Scorpio house of romance, recreation and reproduction. People want to play; some for fun, some for keeps.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

A streak of Aquarian independence derailing one of your constant companions can turn this holiday into a breakthrough experience of major proportions. Who is deserting the ship and where does this leave the Lion? As usual, on the prowl for a feast to counterbalance the fear of a famine lurking somewhere out there in the dark. This mood gradually dissipates as the fiery Sagittarius sun strengthens your innate enthusiasm and cheery disposition. However, moments of negativity can crop up at month's end. This, too, shall pass.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Offbeat and intangible elements take on greater importance when your Mercury ruler contacts impetuous Mars and Uranus in Aquarius. Stepping out of your normal pattern of behavior or breaking with tradition will make this Thanksgiving one for the books, if the book is an anthology of sci-fi stories. Even if "weird and wonderful" doesn't materialize, you're heading into new territory on the 26th. Getting the word out—whatever that might be—and bypassing obstacles or reluctant employers comes next.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

The benefits bestowed when your sociable Venus ruler and lucky Jupiter form a rewarding trine a couple of times a year are rarely considered "special." It's what you've come to expect by living the Libran version of the good life. Therefore you're liable to miss the deeper meaning of the blessing you receive just before Thanksgiving. What you won't miss is the tension unleashed when Venus is jolted by Mars and disruptive Uranus. Harmony and romance can fly out the window, blown away by the winds of war or a family dispute.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

Home might not be the most serene place for a Scorpio right now. Until your single-minded Mars co-ruler extricates itself from the clutches of disruptive Uranus after the 27th, you could be sitting on top of a tricky situation that can erupt at any time. If you're determined to shake up the family, this would be an excellent time. Add the friction generated by secretive, sexy Venus in Scorpio testing or teasing the folks at the dinner table, and the outcome seems obvious: disastrous.

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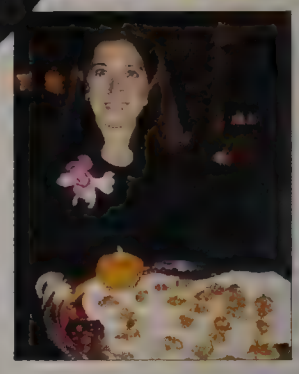
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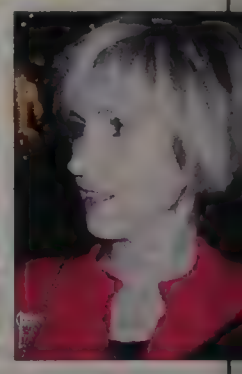
Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF











At the *Maxim* party, clockwise from upper left: stilettos; Seth Woods, Megan Rajala, Jennifer Kaner and Jeff Gates; Candice and Evan Deluty and Nik Carter; Sohrab Zand and a *Maxim* model.

At the Ellis Memorial Antiques Show, clockwise from upper left: Emily and Peter Webster; Mark and Joyce Goldweitz; Vicky Whitney; Debbie Lewis with a tray of hors d'oeuvres.



CAN'T BLAME A GUY FOR TRYIN' ...

It was equal parts Cosmos and cleavage when **The Improper Bostonian** teamed up with ***Maxim*** (the jigglefest in magazine form that bills itself as the best thing to happen to men since women) to host **Prohibition**, a casino night fund-raiser for the **United Way**, at the super-swanky hipster hangout **Whiskey Park**.

Among a sea of business-suited financial drones were such knaves and ne'er-do-wells as WBCN bad boy **Nik Carter** (who said, "without Maxim, I'd never have a girlfriend"); super-groovers **Evan** and **Candice Deluty** of Torch; fellow restaurateurs-about-town **Jeff Gates** and **Seth Woods** of Aquitaine with their g-g-g-gorgeous girlfriends **Jennifer Kaner** and **Megan Rajala**; legal gun for hire **Matthew Kozol**; ubiquitous hipster **Sohrab Zand**; Haitian hellion **Jean-Paul Borsiquot**; financial whiz **Michael Forrester** and his cutie-pie wife, **Courtney**; laconic stockbroker **Craig Bergstrom**; **Gina** the cigar babe; and a guy inexplicably dressed in a canary yellow zoot suit.



The craps table draws wagers at Whiskey Park.

In between playing poker, craps, roulette and blackjack, the guys tried to get arrested and handcuffed by *Maxim* models wearing modified police uniforms (it's our guess that Angie Dickinson was the last cop to sport leather hotpants on duty).

Meanwhile, the pick-up line heard most often throughout the night was (predictably enough) "Feelin' lucky?", although one guy got a bit more creative, offering women neck rubs under the pretext that he was a masseur hired by *Maxim*.

Proving that the opposite sex is neither as naïve or superficial as some men think (and that some men need to stop taking the advice in *Maxim* quite so literally), one stiletto-heeled lovely shivered in disgust when describing her encounter with the phony masseur, saying, "And then he dropped the bomb: 'Really, I'm a stockbroker.' As if I wouldn't rather date a serial killer."

CALLING ALL CULTURE VULTURES...

Just as the local theater scene was starting to seem like endless revivals of cheesy Broadway musicals, two productions opened on opposite sides of the Charles with post-performance parties that were almost as entertaining as the shows themselves.

At the **Huntington Theater**, it was the debut of the perverse and pants-wettingly funny ***Betty's Summer Vacation***, a jet-black comedy dealing with taboo and/or bizarre subject matter .In short, if things were still banned in Boston, this would be a prime candidate.

A reception was held after the show, attracting the likes of the playwright himself, **Christopher Durang**; the theater's artistic director **Nicholas Martin**; and members of the cast, including scene-stealer **Andrea Martin** (an SCTV alum); the perky blonde **Jessica Stone** (who plays Betty); perky redhead **Colleen Quinlan**; homie-on-the-verge-of-stardom **Nat DeWolf**; the chops-lickingly hunky **Terrence Riordan**, and ART grad and disarmingly charming kiwi **Jonno Roberts**.

Meanwhile, over at the **Market Theater** in Harvard Square, the opening night audience threatened to eclipse the production itself at the premiere of ***Ricky Jay and His 52 Assistants***.

One of the world's foremost sleight-of-hand artists and a noted historian of magicians, cardsharps and con men, Jay presented a mind-boggling one-man show. At the party afterward, an impressively high-powered crowd paid their respects, among them: **David Mamet** (the director of the play); presidential hagiographer **Doris Kearns Goodwin**; legal eagle **Alan Dershowitz**; thought-provoking documentarian **Errol Morris**; hard-boiled detective novelist **Robert B. Parker**; and rock couple **Kay Hanley** and **Michael Eisenstein**, to name only a few.

The consensus: both shows (which continue through the end of November) are well worth the price of admission.



At the *Betty's Summer Vacation* party, from top: Nat DeWolf, Colleen Quinlan and Jessica Stone; Jonno Roberts and Terrence Riordan; Nicholas Martin, Andrea Martin and Christopher Durang.

WHERE'S NANCY REAGAN WHEN YOU NEED HER?

Some things are reassuringly familiar about the preview party for the **Ellis Memorial Antiques Show**—the exquisite and staggeringly expensive knicknacks and tchochkes, the Brahmin names on the committee, the high-end decorators leading their clients around like puppies, and the raw bar that keeps disinterested spouses happy while their other halves are off spending a fortune.

Spotted wandering around the **Park Plaza Castle** were all the usual suspects, including Beacon Hill doyenne **Betsy McMeel** (who received a silver pendant for running the charity's coffee shop for 42 years); Ellis stalwart **M.L. Coolidge**; interior design avatars **Chris Drake** and **Lee Bierly**; the statuesque **Laurie Champion**; restaurateur and sportswoman **Debbie Lewis**; Sherborn socialite **Donna Storer**; fun-loving philanthropists **Hod** and **Cassandra Irvine**; the always charming **Anne** and **Marvin Collier**; the comme il faut **Kay Lyons** and her dapper other half, **Peter**; real estate mogul **Mark Goldweitz** and the stunning **Joyce**; bright young things **Peter** and **Emily Webster**; and one man who affectionately said to his wife, "You're still my favorite antique."

A more shocking remark, however, came from a prominent and seemingly quite conservative woman, who looked wistfully at a 19th-century painting of the Chinese waterfront and said, "I've always wanted to try opium." IB

Avez-vous dish?

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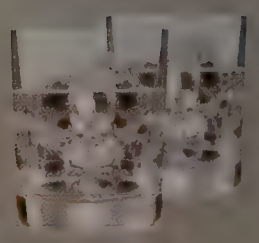
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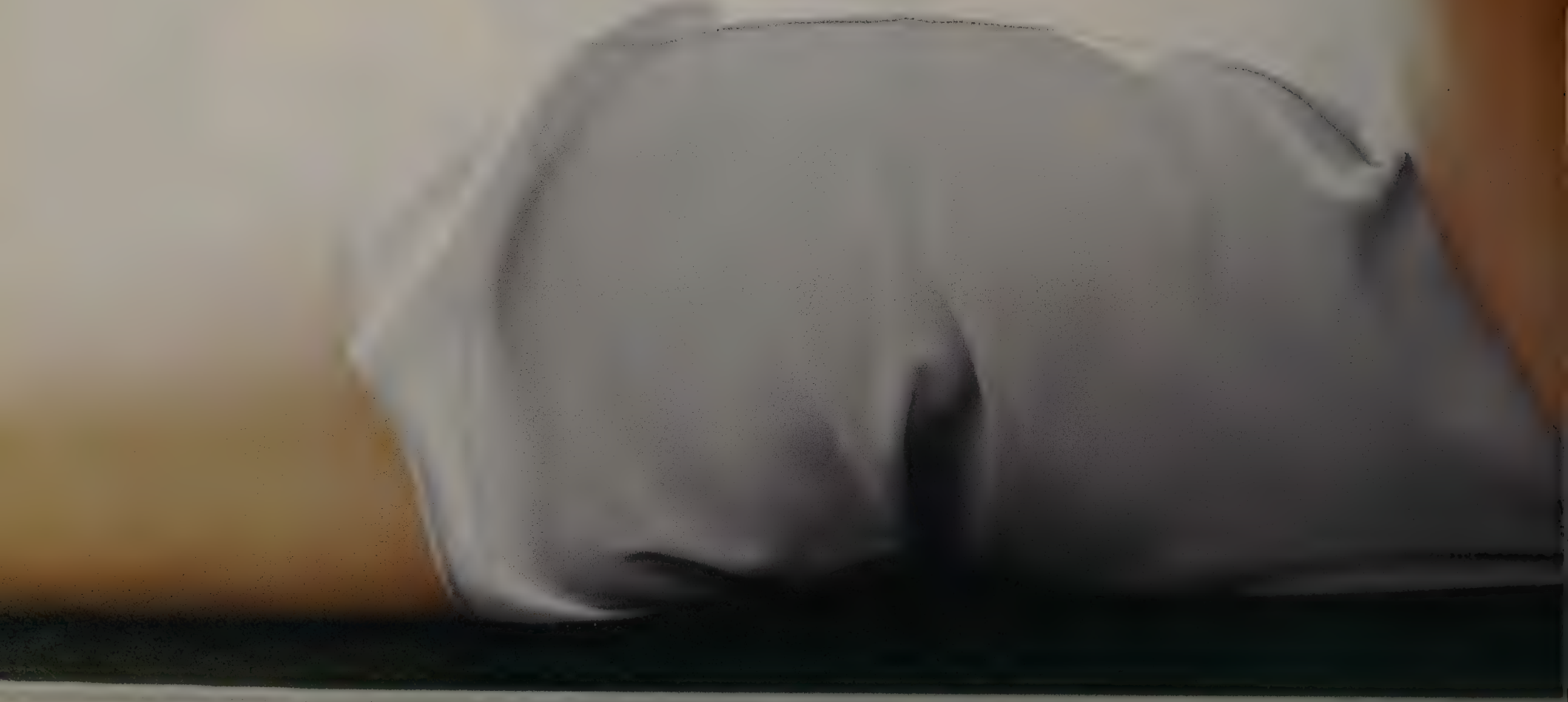
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DECEMBER 5-18, 2001

CONTENTS





21
Photos echoing The Look at the Museum of Fine Arts. Above: Caroline Kennedy; *South Pacific*.



On the Cover:
Photograph for THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN by **Michael Weber**

Hair: **Charles Maksou**
Makeup: **Renée for Maksou Artisan**
Styling: **Mark Ellis**
Red velvet evening jacket by **Adrienne Landau**, $1,185; black chiffon evening dress by **Pamela Dennis**, $805; black velvet gloves, $50; black mink muffler, $595. All available at **Saks Fifth Avenue**. Demerini necklace in 18 karat white gold and diamonds, $10,275; Suna Bros. platinum and diamond paisley hat pin, $3,750; Suna Bros. platinum and diamond large paisley pin, $14,600. All available at **Shreve, Crump & Low.**

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FEATURES

18 Soroff/On Ashley Richardson
Former *Sports Illustrated* cover girl Ashley Richardson talks about the pitfalls of being a supermodel. BY JONATHAN SOROFF

21 Winter Fashion
Classic evening wear that exhibits the timeless and ephemeral nature of grace and elegance.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL WEBER

26 Beauty 101
Three courses in one package: A how-to-guide to pampering your facade, glamming up yourself and plucking yourself (brows, silly!).
BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

32 Boston's Style Gods
From the higher councils of fashion and beauty, behold: the arbiters of what to wear and how to look. BY SUSAN ABBATTISTA AND ROBERT BIRNBAUM; PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

38 From China with Love
More and more, Americans are looking abroad to adopt children.
BY MAXINE EFFENSON CHUCK
PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHEN SHEFFIELD

COLUMNS

8 The Word
Fifty Seven; Blu; the Aquarium goes IMAX; lip balm pricing; airport R&R

12 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

14 E-Boston
Electronics overload and the fear of disconnection.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

16 Ezra
I am the Weakest Link.
BY EZRA DYER

44 Mopsy
A skinny phone; new old stuff; *Niagara Falls All Over Again*
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

64 Film
Not Another Teen Movie's satire hits its mark much better than the other recent spoofs of teen movies.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

72 Music
Matthew Shipp is back.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

92 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the blessed.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

48 Dining
Masa's innovative Southwestern food has made it a solid player on a street packed with culinary bigshots.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

50 Dish
Le Soir now a Newton Highlands destination; Argana to bring Moroccan cuisine to Inman Square
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

50 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: the million momo march
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 53.
Footloose on Ice • Art sales galore • **The Mighty Mighty Bosstones** • Lectures by **Lieutenant Colonel William D. Kendrick** and **General Wesley K. Clark** • *South Pacific* • Bill Rodgers Jingle Bell Run • Illuminations Tour and Holly Jolly Trolley Tour

ET CETERA

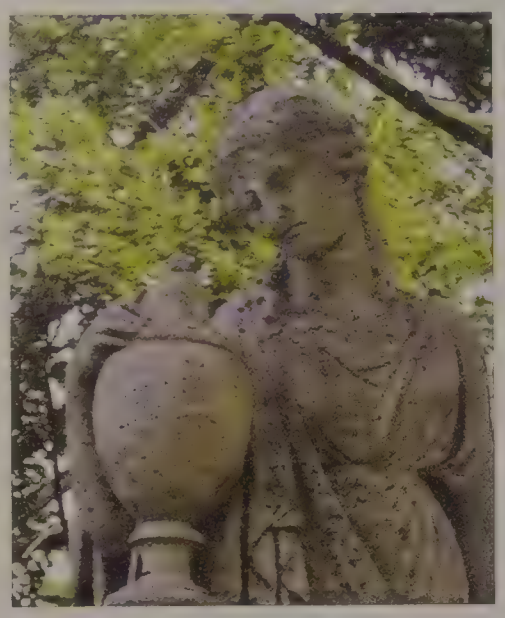
Letters 6
Improperazzi 84
Improper Shopper 85
Improper Sightings 88
Improper Impersonals 90
Rockie Horoscope 91

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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letters



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—CECILY MILLER

DIRECTOR, FOREST HILLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

DECENT EXPOSURE

Although it has been here for more than 150 years, Forest Hills Cemetery is still one of Boston's best-kept secrets—and thank you for helping to change that in your CityScope section. We are always trying to get the word out that this beautiful place is here for people to explore. It offers a romantic landscape (A lake! Swans!), a Victorian sculpture garden and a "library" of life stories of the fascinating people buried here (Anne Sexton, ee cummings and Eugene O'Neill to name a few). It's also the city's latest venue for contemporary art. Because of your coverage, lots of diverse new people have enjoyed our events. Recently a student from BU focused her class video project on our Sculpture Path because of reading about it in the IMPROPER. She'd never heard of Forest Hills and was really excited to discover it. Thanks to you all, and maybe we'll even get her back to volunteer.

—CECILY MILLER
DIRECTOR, FOREST HILLS
EDUCATIONAL TRUST

MAN OF FEW WORDS

Sorry this is late, but what a great piece by Bill Chuck on baseball.

—ADAM VILLONE

WOMAN OF FEW WORDS

I don't think Randy Friedman would want to live in Montreal ("Get Out of Town," Nov. 7) if he knew anything about the sick politics in Quebec.

—BARBARA LOCKWOOD

KISSIN' KEYBOARDS

Good piece in the IMPROPER on online dating (E-Boston, Nov. 7). I gotta agree that Match.com is really good. I haven't checked Kiss.com in a while—I'll have to check that out. I like the column in general, even when I'm not in it.

—TONY BENNIS

...COSMOPOLITAN?

I just read your magazine (an old issue, March 28) for the first time. Fantastic! I read a few articles, and your writers were all succinct, stylish, and definitely had their hearts in it. The IB has "something" that *Cosmopolitan* and *Vogue* do not. I cannot put my finger on it. Perhaps, it is the direction of the magazine and its focus on Boston (restaurants, clubs, artists, etc.). Keep up the good work.

—STEPHEN MICHAEL

BANFF!

I've contemplated taking a trip to Banff/Lake Louise many times but just never got to it. After reading Jonathan Soroff's winter destination feature I was so excited and impressed that I booked a trip and I am off to Canada in January! Thanks for the descriptive and informative article.

—PHYLLIS MERCURIO

KETCHUP IS SCARY

I wanted to thank Ezra for his article in the Nov. 21 IMPROPER. I had a great laugh on the T ride home last night. It made me feel better about my phobia of condiments (yes...even ketchup). Keep up the great work.

—ALISON KLEIN

THE SHORT ANSWER: YES

Okay, I know that Ezra embellishes things to make his column funny, and most of the time I can figure it out, but does the banana-loather really have all of those idiosyncrasies?

—JUSTIN SCHWARTZ

Editor's Note: *To answer your question, banana-loathing is just the tip of the idiosyncratic iceberg in this case. Space constraints limited Ezra to merely touching on the major freakish points.*

Tell Us What You Think

SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO:
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Letters to the editor must be signed; please include your town and phone number. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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MICHAEL WEBER



Longtime photography contributor Michael Weber says that he strives for his work to achieve "a vision of balance, sincerity, modernism and ultimately beauty, in which I hope to communicate a message of possibilities of a better way of living through design." He also credits the work that stylists and makeup artists put into a shoot, adding that "without a great team it wouldn't be worth the effort."

Weber has done work for *The Boston Globe Magazine* and *Echos* magazine as well as the IMPROPER. He has always liked to use transportation centers as backgrounds for his fashion work—airports, subways, bus stops and the like. For this issue's cover and fashion feature, he got to work with a venue of an entirely different ilk: the Museum of Fine Arts. It is a stunning capstone to Weber's IMPROPER work in Boston, as he's just moved to South Beach, Miami. To which we say: Good luck and have fun. And by the way, we might have a shoot coming up in Miami soon...

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the Word

trends
tittle tattle
people
panache

NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

KIND OF BLU

Several strapping young Hale & Dorr attorneys stopped by Blu after work recently, joining a crowd of similarly good looking blokes at the bar. Apparently, this was their first stop of the night—to be followed by dinner at Mantra and jazz at Limbo, both nearby. "It's typical—they call it their social triangle," says Gary Sullivan, manager of Blu. Since it opened Nov. 9 with a 2,000-guest fête, Blu has boasted a crowd three-deep at the bar on weekends, with the hip and happening vying for caramel apple martinis or The Sports Club/LA push ups to wash down St. Ann oysters from the raw bar.



A successful trio: Gary Sullivan, partner in The Sapphire Restaurant Group and blue managers Kristen W. Baylis and George N. Nickolopolous.



You'd never guess that one of Boston's most sought-after bars is tucked discreetly behind Boston's trendiest new mega-health club. Don't be mistaken, however: No one hanging out in the Curve (a section of the bar bordered by a giant wall of windows overlooking the city) is sporting gym shoes and shorts. You're more likely to catch a whiff or two of eau de workout in the adjacent café, which is more casual, with pastries, soups, sandwiches and salads, than in the more formal 70-seat main dining room that serves up seared foie gras, roasted lobster, rack of lamb and seared Delmonico steak.

Blu is the newest venture by Jody Adams and Michela Larson (of Rialto and Red Clay fame), and it shows, especially in its attention to detail regarding the sophisticated American menu and the setting: four stories above bustling Downtown Crossing. The only thing we found lacking was the chairs—more than 70 of them to be exact. "They've been stuck in customs since Sept. 11," says Sullivan. The owners finally gave in and rented tables and chairs until they arrived, thankfully, last week. Now it's nearly perfect. *4 Avery St., Boston (617-375-8550).*

BIG NUMBERS

The Who's Who of Boston showed up Nov. 15 to celebrate the relaunch of Fifty Seven—some 1,000 movers and shakers with names like Lawyer Milloy and Antoine Walker. Who knew that this little chophouse, which opened in 1949 as 57 Carver Street, had so many fans? It must have been the promise of Joe's Florida Stone Crabs—flown in that day from the popular restaurant in Miami Beach. 'Cause if memory serves us correctly, the 57 Restaurant, as it later became known, was lacking in some of its original luster in its final years.



Partners Taki Pantazopoulos, Bill Dadasis and Louis Vinios "shell out" Joe's Florida Stone Crabs with chef de cuisine Renatto de la Rocha (second from right) at Fifty Seven.

Architect Peter Niemitz has opened up the space, adding fresh air and light, plus red leather banquettes, funky lights and dark wood. And if the menu at all resembles the flair opening night extravaganza, we're all in for a treat. Joe's crabs certainly lived up to their reputation (minus the two-hour wait that usually greets patrons in Miami), the jumbo shrimp were succulent, the tenderloin juicy—and the desserts (homemade cookies and a molten chocolate cake with cinnamon ice cream) were out of this world. Heads up to neighboring Bonfire and Fleming's Steakhouse—Fifty Seven is back. *200 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-5700).*

THIS JUST IN

UP TO THE HILT

Nicky Hilton, the famous hotel heiress with more millions in her bank account than suites in the entire Hilton hotel chain, strolls into Louis, Boston on Nov. 15 minus big sister Paris, who had to stay in Los Angeles with their sick mother. The teen glitterati looks a bit hung over (perhaps from her stint the night before at Mario Russo's new hair care product launch at Avalon). Nevertheless, she's color-coordinated in a short, black leather coat, black sweatpants, and black-and-white Puma sneakers. She carries a light cream bag made from a material curiously resembling paper towels. Do not be mistaken—her favorite designers are Versace and Dolce & Gabanna.

We sat down to talk with Nicky about the Boston social scene, which she dubs "cool," although she's visited less frequently since her breakup with her Boston College beau. Here are some of her thoughts:

Avalon night club? "Like a club in Miami."

The late-night scene since Sept. 11? "Now people are more conscious about what they wear—dressing more conservatively."

Celebs she encounters? "Very uptight—but there are also really, really nice ones."

CDs in her stereo? Britney Spears' and Macy Gray's new CDs

The untimely death of singer Aaliyah? "I'm more appreciative of life because there might not be a tomorrow."

Favorite magazine? *Vogue*

Hotel of choice? Surprisingly, the Hilton girl doesn't stay exclusively at her namesake hotel (this week she's at the Ritz). Nevertheless, she prefers the Hilton to other hotels because she's "more at home there." *—Inna Golovatch*



AROUND TOWN

LUCKY DOG

Among other things, the early 1900s were a golden age for postcards, when people habitually sent each other novelty, humorous and just plain kitschy cards with hastily scrawled notes. Local publicist Kathy Alpert has been collecting vintage postcards for 25 years, assembling upward of 1,500. Now she's put her horde to good use by starting the Lucky Dog greeting card collection, which reproduces the postcards, including the original handwritten message. *Women's Educational & Industrial Union, 356 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5651).*

SAM SAYS

PLANE & SIMPLE

With the holiday season upon us, airline travel is more than a little stressful. That is why the discovery of **Polished**, a new spa-on-the-run shop, was met with open arms. Located in terminal C of Logan airport, it provides rapid, upscale spa treatments for travelers. Its maple and metal decor has a very warm, comforting feel and after you have had one of their express manicures ($21), massages ($15-$45) or a pedicure ($35), you will hop on board relaxed and refreshed. The best part is there is ample shopping for all of your fave beauty supplies, like Bloom cosmetics, L'Occitane, and Bumble and Bumble. The store's founder, Harvard grad Kristin Rhyne, has even given us enough space to drag our luggage through the aisles. *866-765-4743.*

IMPROPER REPORTS

LUSCIOUS LIPS

For many Bostonians winter in New England brings not only frosty weather, but also the discomfort of dry, chapped lips. We decided to stroll down Newbury Street to see what it has to offer in the way of preventing and soothing this seasonal affliction.



•**Jurlique Lip Care Balm** at Felicia's Cosmetics, 314 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4433): **$20**

•**Linda Cantello's Licks** at Louis Boston, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (617-262-6100): **$16.50**

•**Biotherm's Soin Des Lévres** at E6 Apothecary, 167 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-8138): **$10**



•**Vermont's Original Bag Balm** at Anthropologie, 799 Boylston St., Boston (617-262-0545): **$8**

•**Wash Away Your Sins Lip Balm** at Jasmine Sola, 344 Newbury St., Boston (617-867-4636): **$5**

•**Chapstick Cherry** at CVS, 240 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4007): **$1.49**

BLU BAR SCENE: MIKE MERGEN; BLU MANAGERS: LEO GOZBEKIAN; FIFTY SEVEN: ALLAN DINES; HILTON: INNA GOLOVATCH; LIP BALMS: RITA GREELEY

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IMPROPER SPEAKING

NEWS FROM NEWBURY



Brookline to Brooklyn...**Jim Behrle** (above), poet and the soon-to-be erstwhile events guy for the award-winning Brookline Booksmith, is leaving for the wilds of Brooklyn. Jim, who came to these parts as a student, has worked at B Dalton and Doubleday, and from 1995 to 1999, he ran the readings program for Waterstone's. He has loved everything about this city but alas, his heart has been taken by another poet, Brooklynite Lisa Jarnot.

Bid on This...Got a sports fan on your holiday shopping list? Why not get him or her a Ray Bourque commemorative puck or an autographed Steve Grogan football? Just put in a bid at the FleetCenter's recently launched **BostonBids.com**, an online auction site that offers sports memorabilia, ticket packages and fantasy experiences. Proceeds will be donated to the Sports Museum of New England and other charities.

No Postage Necessary...For women whose tastes tend toward country chic, cast your catalogues aside. **J.Jill** (not to be confused with J.Crew) opened its doors in the Pru Nov. 29.

Fashionable Fragrance...Best friends Melissa Boudreau and Pamela Della Porta will introduce a new fragrance line called **bella inizio** at The Eye of the Needle Dec. 16. The duo describes their fragrance as a combination of green and white florals and precious woods. *Available at Michaud, 297 Newbury St., and the Eye of the Needle, 85 Newbury St. $24-$35.*

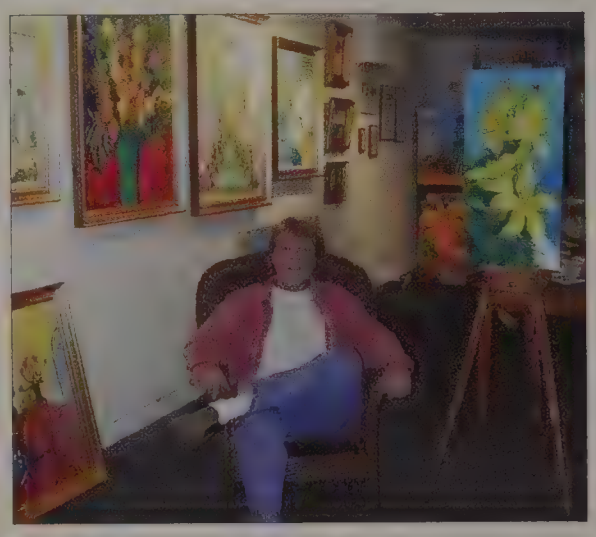
Big Bar...A loungy, hipster hangout/bar is rumored to be opening soon above Central Kitchen in Central Square. It's tentatively dubbed **The Enormous Room**.

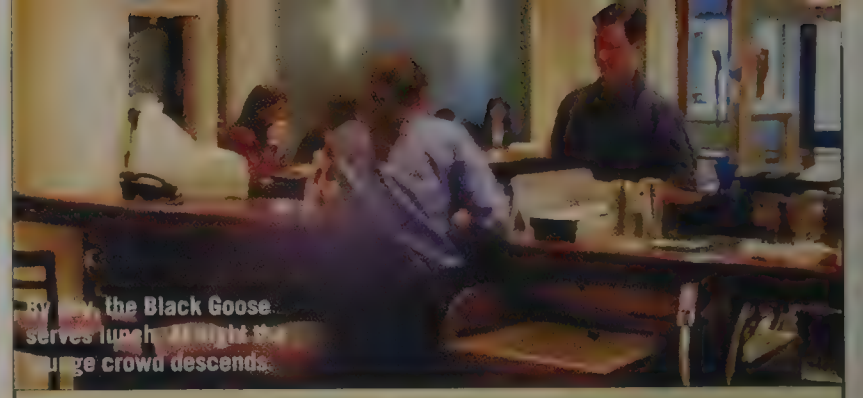
These Shoes Are Walking...**Danielo Shoes**, a fixture on Newbury for five years, has moved to a more retail-oriented block (rather than the previous restaurant-heavy location) to encourage more browsing. The expanded new digs at 224 Newbury Street are so spacious that Danielo has broadened its stock beyond upscale kicks to peddle accessories as well.

Back in the 'Haus...**Steve Pellagrino** (no relation to the water) cut his PR teeth with Lynne Kortenhaus in those halcyon '90s and then went on to great glory as the publicist for The Westin Hotel (and The Palm) for a few years. Well, now he's back at Kortenhaus Communications. We asked him about this latest development in his brilliant career and got a surprising response: "Let's have lunch!"

What day was Sammy Davis Jr. born on?... Show business is a wicked and fickle business, as we all know. Which is why the occasional signs of durability and longevity are both novel and somewhat inspirational. **David Champagne**, a veteran musician, celebrates his birthday annually (duh) with a "cavalcade of local musical luminaries" at the Lizard Lounge on Dec. 8. David, much loved and well respected, assures us it's an evening well spent. In any case, happy birthday, David.

Fresh Paint....Tom McCarthy (below), a landscape and still-life painter, who in the real world is a veteran advertising art director—late of the defunct Ingalls—has gathered paintings, prints, photography, sculpture, metal-smithing and wood working for his new gallery, **New Art on Newbury** (285 Newbury, to be exact). Some exhibited artists include former September Productions head honcho and Nantucket photographer Dan Driscoll and art director and painter Ken Maryanski (of Hotel Meridian fame).





the Black Goose
serves lunch
ge crowd descends.

CLUB SEEN

TALK TO ME GOOSE

Beacon Hillers, State Housers and anyone else in search of a lounge-y place to knock back a martini or three should check out the revamped Black Goose. The Goose, perched next to The Federalist on Beacon Street, has new owners and a new atmosphere. They serve lunch during the day, but post-10pm, the vibe shifts. Yes, there's techno music playing, but not so loud that you can't talk to the person next to you. Imagine Trio on Beacon Hill and you're getting the picture.

If going out on Tuesday nights and dancing to Latin music floats your tamale, head to Mynt at Venu. DJ Franklin has been spinning the spicy beats for the past month with success. Just remember, lads, they like you to wear jackets there, and we're not talking about your sweet North Face bubblegoose.

Over at Axis, DJ Michael Whalen is the new Friday night resident, holding down the fort on his end of Avaland X (ahem... "times") Two. Whalen previously entertained some serious party animals at Pulse in Providence, where he DJ'd a weekly after-hours party. And by after-hours, we mean Sunday morning from 6am to 2pm. So we're thinking there won't be much danger of this guy falling asleep at the wheels. ***—Ezra Dyer***

ALL THE BUZZ

MAX-IN' OUT



If you like to go see big movies—literally—there used to be only one game in town, the Mugar Omni Theater. But the number of IMAX screens in Boston will double on Dec. 6, when the New England Aquarium opens its Simons IMAX Theatre (above). How will these two behemoths stack up? Is it apples and oranges, *Bears* and *Fish*? You'll have to go see for yourself, but here's the tale of the tape:

	Simons Theater	Mugar Omni Theater
Screen Size	84 feet high	76 feet high
Seating capacity	400	335
Three Dimensional?	Yes. You won't be able to complain about characters being two-dimensional in many of the films here (although two-dimensional movies will be in the mix if you don't dig the idea of a 3-D moray eel squirming off the screen at you.)	No. But then again, you won't have to worry about wearing the dorky 3-D glasses, or the fact that, according to the Aquarium's rival press release, "three dimensional movies can sometimes induce feelings of motion among audience members."
Content	According to the Aquarium's Tony LaCasse, "we will always have an aquatic offering, but it won't be strictly that." He says the best bet if you want to see a fishy film is to go during the day.	Currently there are three movies in rotation throughout the day: *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*, *Journey Into Amazing Caves*, and *Bears*.
Ticket Price	$7.50 adults, $5.50 kids age 3-11	$7.50 adults, $5.50 kids age 3-11
Food	There's a concession stand for all your Milk Dud needs.	Eateries located outside the theater, but sorry, no food inside.
Does the fact sheet for theater claim that "the lamp inside the projector is so powerful that it is equal to the light of the sun as seen from earth?"	No	Yes

TIDBITS AND MORSELS

CHEW ON THIS

Living the Good Life at the Vault...**Alex Shapiro, who in his short but vibrant career has been a publicist, a dot-com soldier, a freelance writer and most recently a bartender at the Good Life, has climbed the success ladder and is now a manager at the Vault. Also returning to the warmth and fuzziness of the hospitality business at the Vault is Katherine McBride, formerly of Sonsie, while hubby Michael toils admirably at the revitalized Jacob Wirth's.**

East Meets West Meets Max...**Dandy Dan Mathiue earned his bones in the special events catering arena with his first business, East Meets West, which he sold. He then moved to the rustic wilds of Maine, where he ran another successful business. But he's answered the call of the wilds of 02116, and Mathieu and his new partner, Neal Battowitsch, (formerly of Pinebrook Country Club) is back in full swing with his new catering business, Max. His current point of view is about "a really clean modern approach to entertaining," eschewing the over-the-top opulence of days gone by.**

Sure-bet Chefs...**It is *Food and Wine* Best Chef nomination time, and the foodie nation is atwitter with hope and envy. Some insiders are floating Radius' chef de cuisine (and Amanda Lydon's paramour) Gabriel Fresca as a rising talent. Speaking of the Radius gang, we have it on good authority that the Italian eatery deal that was being cooked up for the former Mohr McPherson spot (across the street from Whiskey Park) is dead. Myers *et al* are still on the hunt for a "perfect" location. "Perfect" as far we know, would mean rent-free.**

Sunny Day...**A month ago, Waltham's main thoroughfare—Moody Street—became the home to Solea, a tapas bar and restaurant that's part of the Dali/Tapeo nexus owned by Fernando Leon and Carlos Reverando. Featuring delectable tapas and *pescados ala sal* (fish baked in rock salt) as well as *cordero ala castillo* (lamb shank braised in port, tomato, garlic and herbs) the bar/café/restaurant (which seats 95) features an array of South American drinks in addition to their famous sangria. And oh yeah, Mikail Kysiak is the chef...**

Got scoop?

Overheard some juicy news? e-mail to theword@improper.com.

BEHRLE, MCCARTHY: RITA GREELEY

December

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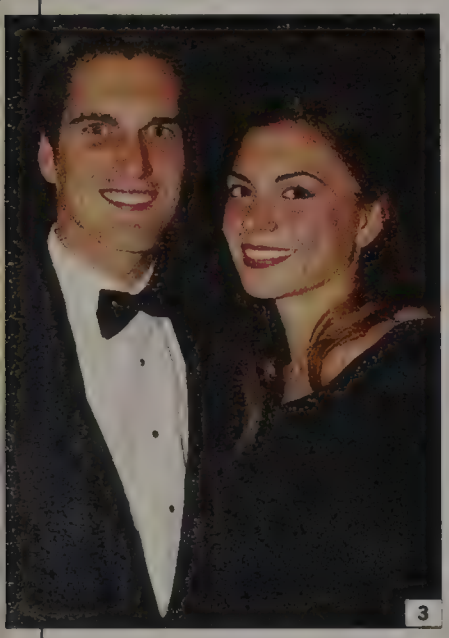
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

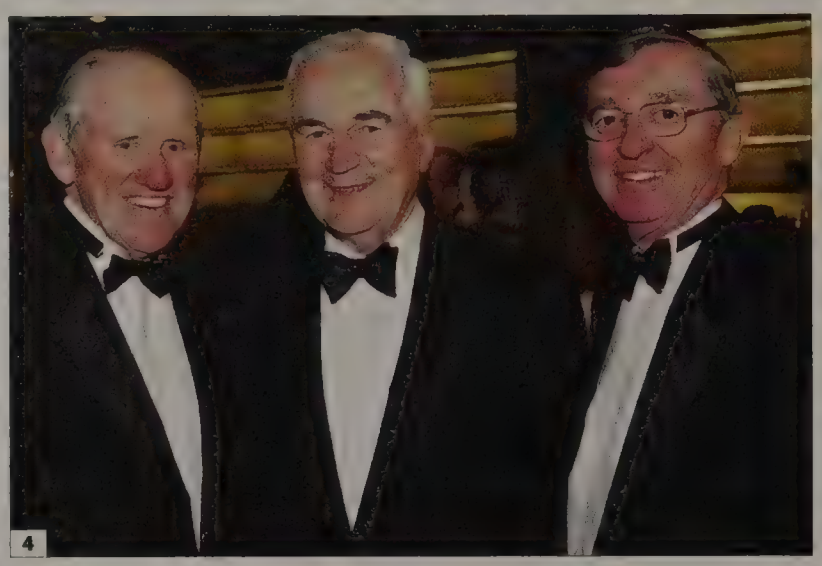
The American Ireland Fund's 20th Anniversary Dinner was held Nov. 14 at the Boston Marriott at Copley Place.

1. **Robert Kraft**, owner of the New England Patriots, and acting Governor **Jane Swift**.
2. **Bob Fitzgerald** and Channel 5 news anchor **Natalie Jacobson**.
3. **Josh Romney**, real estate developer for Intercontinental Real Estate Corp, and his wife, **Jennifer**.
4. From left: **Will McDonough**, sports columnist for the *Boston Globe*; **Joe Corcoran**, chairman of Corcoran Jennison Companies; and **Jack McKinnon**, partner at PricewaterhouseCoopers.
5. **Kingsley Aikins**, president and CEO of The American Ireland Fund; **Sally Phelps** and her husband, **Dick**, chairman of Phelps Industries.
6. **Gary Countryman**, CEO of Liberty Financial; **Bob Mahoney**, vice chairman of Citizens Bank; and **Ted Kelly**, CEO of Liberty Mutual.
7. **Jack Connors**, CEO of Hill Holliday and chairman of Partners Health Care; **Chad Gifford**, president and COO of FleetBoston Financial; and **Patrick Purcell**, president and publisher of the *Boston Herald*.
8. From left: **Robin Pelissier**, owner of Robin's Nest Interior Designs in Hingham; **Lyle Manning**, co-chair of the event; and **Lisa McCarthy**, owner of Crossing Main, in Hingham.


1

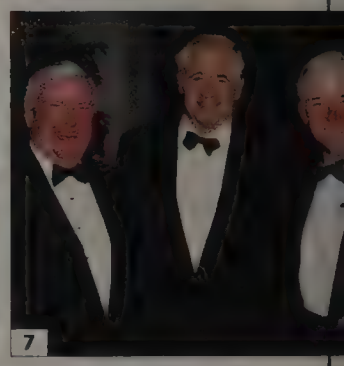

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8

The Kennedy Library Foundation's private Tribute to Jacqueline Kennedy was held Nov. 16 at the JFK Museum.

9. **Caroline Kennedy**, president of the Kennedy Library Foundation, and **Hamish Bowles**, European editor-at-large for *Vogue* magazine and guest curator for the Jacqueline Kennedy Exhibit.
10. **Peter Lynch**, vice chairman of Fidelity Management and Research Co., his wife, **Carolyn** (l) and **Pam Alabaster**, senior vice president of L'Oreal.
11. **Carrie Minot Bell** and **Nicole Seligman**, both trustees for the JFK Museum, and **Shari Redstone**, daughter of Viacom's Sumner Redstone.
12. **Jean Pierre Sanchez**, owner of Jean Pierre & Co. on Newbury Street and his wife, **Judy**.


9


10


11


12

Gucci dress: $2000

Blahnik shoes: $450

Chanel No. 5: $125

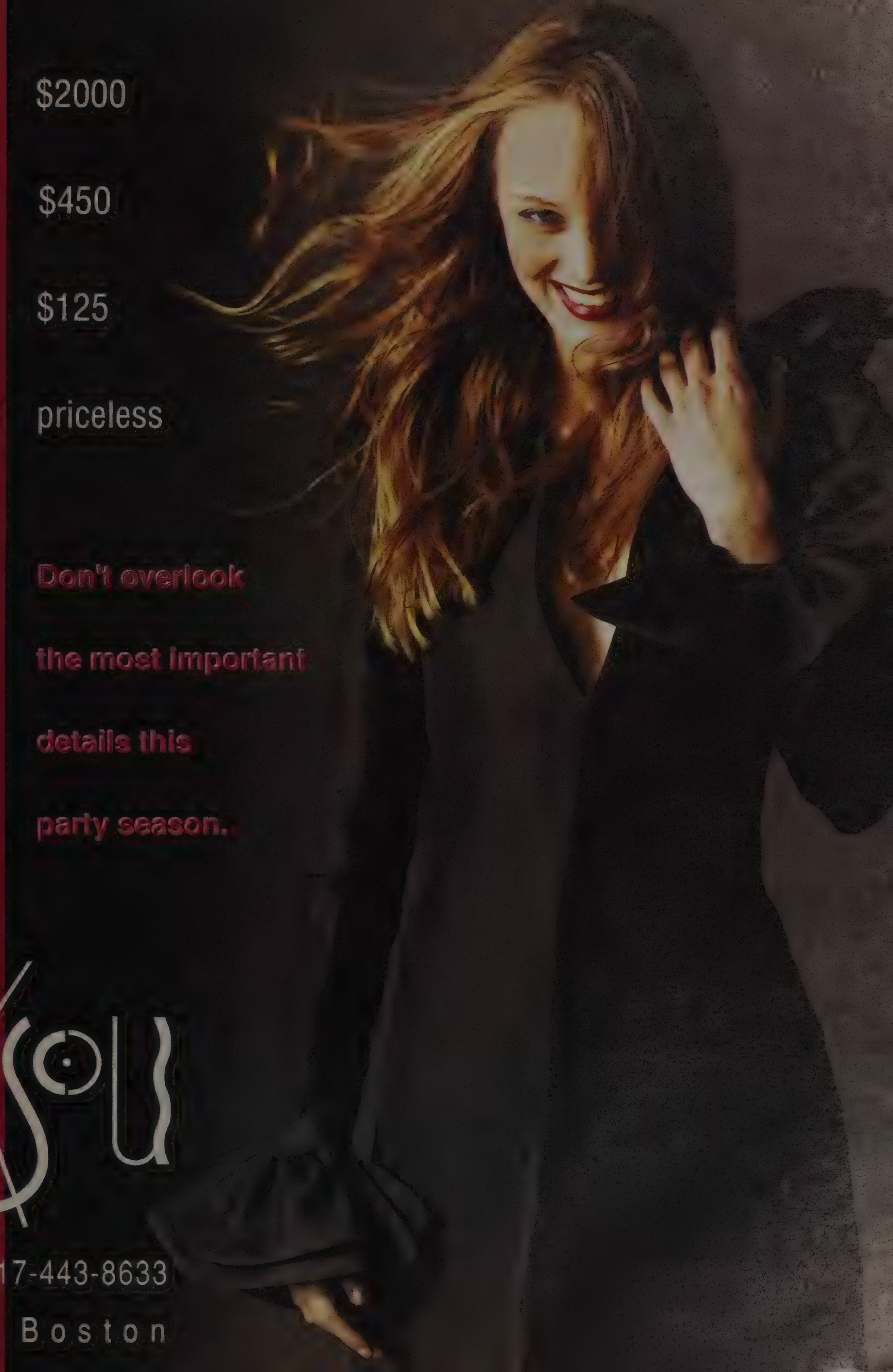
Hair by Maksou: priceless

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the most important

details this

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The Digital Ties That Bind

Your boss has a plan to keep you connected—all the time and everywhere

I knew it would come to this. Panasonic, the same company that makes all those televisions and VCRs, has come up with a 2-pound, fully functional PC that straps onto your leg. It's called the Toughbook 07, and it works with a 1.5-pound portable touch screen that's about the size of thin notebook. The screen is connected wirelessly to the strap-on CPU, so that you can have the full functionality of your big old desktop "at your fingertips," as they say.

A computer that you wear like a ball and chain around your leg: Who says computer designers don't have a sense of irony?

I don't know about you, but I'm already much more connected than I ever really wanted to be. I have a desktop computer, a portable computer, a wireless PalmPilot, a cell phone/pager, two voice-mail systems, call waiting, two e-mail programs and a fax machine. (I'd have snail mail, too, but somebody keeps smashing my mailbox.)

Now that I'm totally plugged in, I feel like my business life follows me like a malevolent shadow. I could, of course, turn off all the doohickeys, but frankly I'm chicken that something important might happen while I'm disconnected.

In short, connectivity is a double-edged sword.

A book published in 1979 titled *The Office of the Future* described a number of advanced technologies that were under development and was wildly enthusiastic about the effect that computers would have on the business world. According to the authors, computers would provide "overwhelming advantages" and have a "very positive impact." The book predicted that workers using computers would make fewer errors and thus produce higher-quality work, which in turn would create a rapid acceleration in critical business processes, flexible work hours and greater job satisfaction.

Yeah, right.

Since then, literally hundreds of articles and books have been written on the impact of computers on the workplace, all predicting the same utopian workplace conditions. For example, a couple of years ago AT&T was running a commercial with a man sending a fax while sunning himself on a deserted beach. In another of the company's ads, a woman "tucks in" her baby using a two-way video phone at an airport.

These commercials were meant to create excitement about all the possibilities of technology, but in fact they were rather depressing. Do people really want to work when they're on vacation? And does anyone really believe that you can raise a healthy baby by remote control?

As for flexible work hours, studies reveal that the most common use of telecommuting is for workers to continue working at home after putting in a full day at the office. Similarly, mobile computing makes it possible for employees to work around the clock. Because it's possible to work all the time, many professionals feel that they *must* work around the clock, just to remain competitive. So much for tucking in the little darlings.

Workers in America now work "on average 164 hours longer a year than they did in 1970, before computers came on the scene," according to Harvard economist Juliet Schor. At the same time, the work is becoming less satisfying. A common complaint in automated offices is that work there lacks person-to-person contact that adds richness to the work experience, according to the *National Productivity Review*.

I FEEL LIKE MY BUSINESS LIFE FOLLOWS ME LIKE A MALEVOLENT SHADOW. I COULD, OF COURSE, TURN OFF ALL THE DOOHICKEYS, BUT FRANKLY I'M CHICKEN THAT SOMETHING IMPORTANT MIGHT HAPPEN WHILE I'M DISCONNECTED.



Now that unemployment is rising, managers are once again putting subtle (and not too subtle) pressures on salaried workers to work extremely long hours. To make matters worse, some corporations are using computers to become increasingly intrusive into their employees' work habits. Electronic performance monitoring of clerical workers is now common in many high-volume businesses. This technology lets management view and analyze the quantity of work that each person on the computer system performs.

It gets worse. Many organizations are beginning to monitor their employees' electronic-mail traffic, while others are planning to implement tracking software for cell phones so that your boss knows where you are every minute of every day. The only regulation of such intrusive practices is a "system of free market and common law mechanisms that fails to protect workers from abusive practices," according to the *Harvard Law Review*.

All in the name of higher productivity.

Ironically, there's little documented correlation between long work hours and productivity. For example, workers in Germany consistently outproduce workers in the United Kingdom, even though the average German worker puts in 90 hours less per year than the average United Kingdom worker.

Common sense tells us that tired, stressed-out people make mistakes and poor decisions. Working longer is not the same as working smarter. Furthermore, sick workers are not productive workers. The rise of the automated office has been accompanied by a sharp increase in work-related health problems including headaches, muscle fatigue, blurred vision, repetitive stress injuries, carpal tunnel syndrome, tendinitis and lower back pain. Sick time, work slowdowns and health problems not only result in lost hours but contribute to today's steady increase in worker's compensation losses, further eroding productivity and job satisfaction.

Sound familiar?

Now, I have no doubt that there are some people who will jump at the chance to strap a PC onto their leg and carry it wherever they go. And I can see some application areas, like field service, where a strap-on PC would be a real advantage. What worries me is that there are a lot of pointy-haired bosses out there who are likely to actually require their employees be thus encumbered—so that the workers can literally be on call every moment of the day or night.

Are we having fun yet? iB

Geoffrey James (www.geoffreyjames.com) is the author of *The Tao of Programming* and *The Zen of Programming*, as well as numerous other books and articles about technology and high-tech culture.

PHOTODISC

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Ezra BY EZRA DYER



Hitting the *Link*

Saying "Goodbye" to aspirations of game-show fame and riches

When *The Weakest Link* open casting call came to town I decided to audition, even though I'd never seen the show. Roommate Dave warned me that "the host is Satan incarnate," but he also said that you don't have to put your answer in the form of a question. So I headed to the Back Bay Hilton brimming with confidence—as it turned out, misplaced confidence:

I show up a half-hour early and there is already a long line. The people at the front of the line look as if they meant to audition for a show called *The Missing Link*. These poor troglodytes arrived four hours early. Their dedication is certainly admirable, so I almost feel bad that I am about to play the role of sinister apothecary, using the mortar and pestle of my ruthless intellect to grind their dreams to dust. A few of them must sense the greatness in their presence, because they leave before they even get their identification numbers. Either that or they are put off by the hour-and-a-half wait. Who knows what fleeting whims govern the mind of a Weak Link? Certainly not I.

After the requisite wait I'm ushered into a large room with about 150 other people. We begin filling out forms while the two guys running the show remind us that this is an audition. "If you don't have a personality, it doesn't matter how well you do on the trivia test," they tell us. Everyone will get 10 seconds to introduce themselves and prove that they have a personality.

It quickly becomes apparent that this is a cheesy crowd. One guy stands up and says, "Hi, I'm Al, I'm 32, and even though I'm from Boston I don't pahk my cah in Haavahd Yahd," and everyone laughs. I'm too worried about my introduction to laugh, even at that kind of no-holds-barred hilarity. When my turn comes around, I blurt, "I want you all to know that I have callipygian buttocks. Thank you." I quickly find that most people in the room are apparently unaware that "callipygian" is an adjective meaning "having shapely buttocks," although one voice in the crowd shouts, "That sounds tasty!" The casting guys, however, are not as impressed with my high level of discourse.

Next comes the 20-question test. (If any of you are planning on auditioning for the show elsewhere, beware that I am about to ruin the fun and suspense of Test 5A for you). The first question is "This electronic device is implanted in the chest to regulate heartbeat." I write "pacemaker" and start to ponder the other difficult questions I'll soon be facing... such as which color leather will look best in the interior of my new Porsche.

The next question is "This 1979 Francis Ford Coppola movie starred Marlon Brando and Martin Sheen." Oh oh. Curse ye pop culture questions! Next I am befuddled by "When you are troubled or burdened, you are said to have this type of bird around your neck." I write "chicken." Then comes, "In 'The 12 Days of Christmas,' what did my true love give to me on the ninth day?" I scrawl "Nine doves a-singing." Are there even any doves involved in this song? There's definitely a partridge.

> THE PEOPLE AT THE FRONT OF THE LINE LOOK AS IF THEY MEANT TO AUDITION FOR A SHOW CALLED *THE MISSING LINK.*

By the time I finish the test it is clear that my performance has been an unmitigated disaster. I query the guy next to me, Owusu, about his answers. "Where was the conflict that escalated tensions in the Vietnam War in 1964?" I ask.

"The Gulf of Tonkin," says Owusu.

"What about the movie with Brando?"

"*Apocalypse Now*."

"Who played Jack Ryan in *The Hunt for Red October*?"

"Alec Baldwin."

Owusu also tells me that the Louisa Alcott book that was made into a movie starring Winona Ryder is *Little Women*. The question after "Mary, Mary, quite contrary" is not "How did you get so fine?" but "How does your garden grow?" And if you're troubled, you have an albatross around your neck.

"The first one was 'pacemaker,' though, right?" I ask. Owusu looks at me a little sadly and nods. By night Owusu is a bouncer at Sophia's, so it's appropriate that right now he's throwing my rowdy ignorance out of Club Knowledge.

After the *Weakest Link* people score the tests, they come back and announce the 15 contestants who will move on to the next stage of casting. I am not among them. Neither is Owusu. Some of the people leaving are quite upset about being weak links, but I'm not too bent out of shape. After all, not making the cut on a game show is no reason to have a chicken around your neck. iB

You think that's funny?

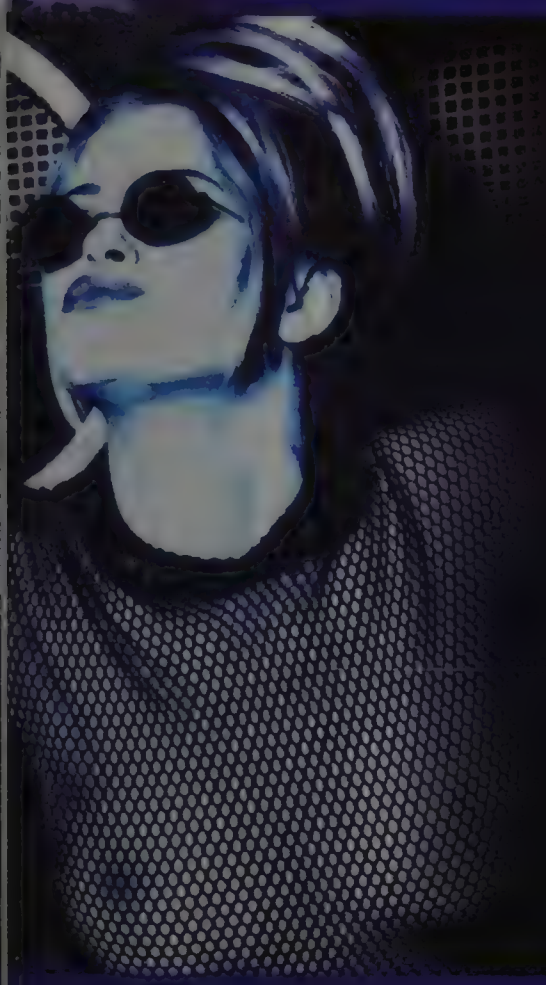
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Ashley Richardson

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Design consultant and retired supermodel Ashley Richardson was born and raised in Sudbury. She graduated from Lincoln Sudbury High School in three years and moved to New York to study ballet at Juilliard under George Balanchine. After half a year, she tore her Achilles tendon and her dreams of a dancing career ended. Having been asked to model during her dancing career, she contacted the agent who had approached her and was sent to Paris the next day. She remained there for two years before moving back to New York. As one of the top models in the world, she graced the pages of fashion magazines like *Vogue*, *Glamour*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Marie Claire* and (most notably) *Elle*, where she appeared on numerous covers including its premiere American edition. She is perhaps best known, however, as a *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit model, having posed for the issue for eight years and landing one of the coveted covers. After 11 years of modeling, she quit at age 27 when she became pregnant with her daughter, Daisy. Splitting her time between Manhattan and Southampton, she got into the design business. She moved back to Boston two years ago and lives in a loft in the South End, working as a garden designer and consultant.

Jonathan Soroff: *Why did you hate being a model?*

Ashley Richardson: You're not treated very nicely. You get paid a lot, but every day you're walking into a situation where you're getting paid more than everyone else and they know that, so instantly they hate you. It has nothing to do with who you are. They really don't care what you think or feel. All that matters is you have pretty blond hair and green eyes.

JS: *What was the most you were paid?*

AR: Depends on the job. To do a shoot for *Vogue* or *Elle* you made maybe $100 a day because you did it for the exposure and to work with the best photographers and stylists. Then the advertisers would want you, which is how you made the money.

JS: *Were you ever one of those $10,000-a-day girls?*

AR: Sometimes.

JS: *What was the best part. Travel?*

AR: Well, I never really got to experience the places I went to. I'd go to these fantastic locations but I wasn't allowed out of the hotel room from 10am until 4pm, because I'd just had my makeup done and it had to look perfect for the afternoon or evening shoot. So I'd be in Africa or the Bahamas, stuck in an air-conditioned hotel room. And God forbid I'd try to rent a car and check the place out. If they found out, they'd be like, "Our insurance doesn't cover that!"

JS: *So what was the best part?*

AR: The money. Not that I've got so much to show for it now.

JS: *How important are looks in life?*

AR: Pretty important.

JS: *So attractive people get preferential treatment?*

AR: You don't need me to tell you that. I mean, it's not fair and it's not nice, but I'll admit that that's true.

JS: *Was it demeaning to have your livelihood based solely on how you looked?*

AR: Definitely. It sucks. It's not good for the soul, or the way you feel about yourself.

JS: *How do models stay so thin?*

AR: I'd say maybe 5 percent of them are naturally that way and are healthy, with good metabolism, lucky genes, or they're freaks or something. The other 95 percent do drugs, have eating disorders, smoke. I was in the business in the '80s, when cocaine was the drug. When I got out, I think it was crystal meth.

JS: *So what's the message we send young girls presenting that as an ideal?*

AR: It's terrible. I don't think it's right.

JS: *What do you tell your daughter?*

AR: She's gorgeous and she's super-thin, and she's 8 years old and it freaks me out that she's concerned about her figure. At 8, they're body-conscious already.

JS: *Is there a solution? Should the industry stop hiring these girls who look so emaciated?*

AR: Yes. And I think they should represent all body types. There are some gorgeous very thin girls and you can tell they're healthy. But there are also goddesses who are bigger. Athletic types. I've been asked to do some plus-size modeling [laughs]. Maybe that's what I am, but I'm just happy and healthy and this is it.



JS: *What about war stories from the swimsuit issue?*

AR: Oh, God, there are so many. We were in Alaska, in the middle of winter, on a glacier. It was minus 35 degrees and another whatever with the windchill, and I'm standing there in a bikini. Just insane.

JS: *What makes you feel pretty?*

AR: I don't know. There are pictures of me when I was a lot younger where I know I look good. The sad thing is that when the picture was being taken, I thought I looked fat, or the editor was complaining that I had pubic hair, or something. Modeling never made me feel attractive.

JS: *What's the one thing most people don't realize about it?*

AR: That every day, you're being rejected. Even if you're working every day, there are jobs you're not getting and someone else is.

JS: *So you're hearing more often that you're unwanted than you're beautiful?*

AR: On the job, most of the time, people are flattering. But I can't tell you the number of times I've heard someone like Elle McPherson complain about being fat. Everyone has flaws they fixate on.

JS: *Biggest bitch in the business?*

AR: I'd have to say Naomi Campbell. She could be nice one minute and horrible the next. You never knew which was coming.

JS: *Biggest lech?*

AR: I can't remember anyone specific. I was a real goody-two-shoes and I think I gave off a vibe of, "No, I don't need to do a line of coke or get high before I pose." I was never asked. Never, never, never.

JS: *Doesn't ballet perpetuate the same unnatural body image as modeling? You can't have any bust.*

AR: Well, Balanchine liked big boobies.

JS: *What's your biggest regret with ballet?*

AR: I probably would've liked to design or choreograph. Realistically, knowing what my full height is, I don't think it would have worked out. Even at 5'10", they were having problems finding guys to partner me.

JS: *So what's your definition of beauty?*

AR: It's internal. I've come in contact with the most physically beautiful women, but spend five minutes with them and you'd think they were the most hideous things you ever met because they're either rude or nasty.

JS: *You're an accomplished landscape designer. You've run retail stores. You've done all kinds of creative things. How annoying is it that people still identify you as a model?*

AR: It's lame. I don't tell people, and most people wouldn't believe it anyway.

JS: *So you don't want to be remembered that way?*

AR: Certainly not. I'm embarrassed about it. It would've been cool if I'd done it for two years, made a ton of money and realized it sucked so I could get on with some more creative things. Anything is more worthwhile than that job.

JS: *So how do you want to be remembered?*

AR: As a loving, sweet, honest, creative person. Those are my qualities.

Bigger is not better, BETTER IS BETTER



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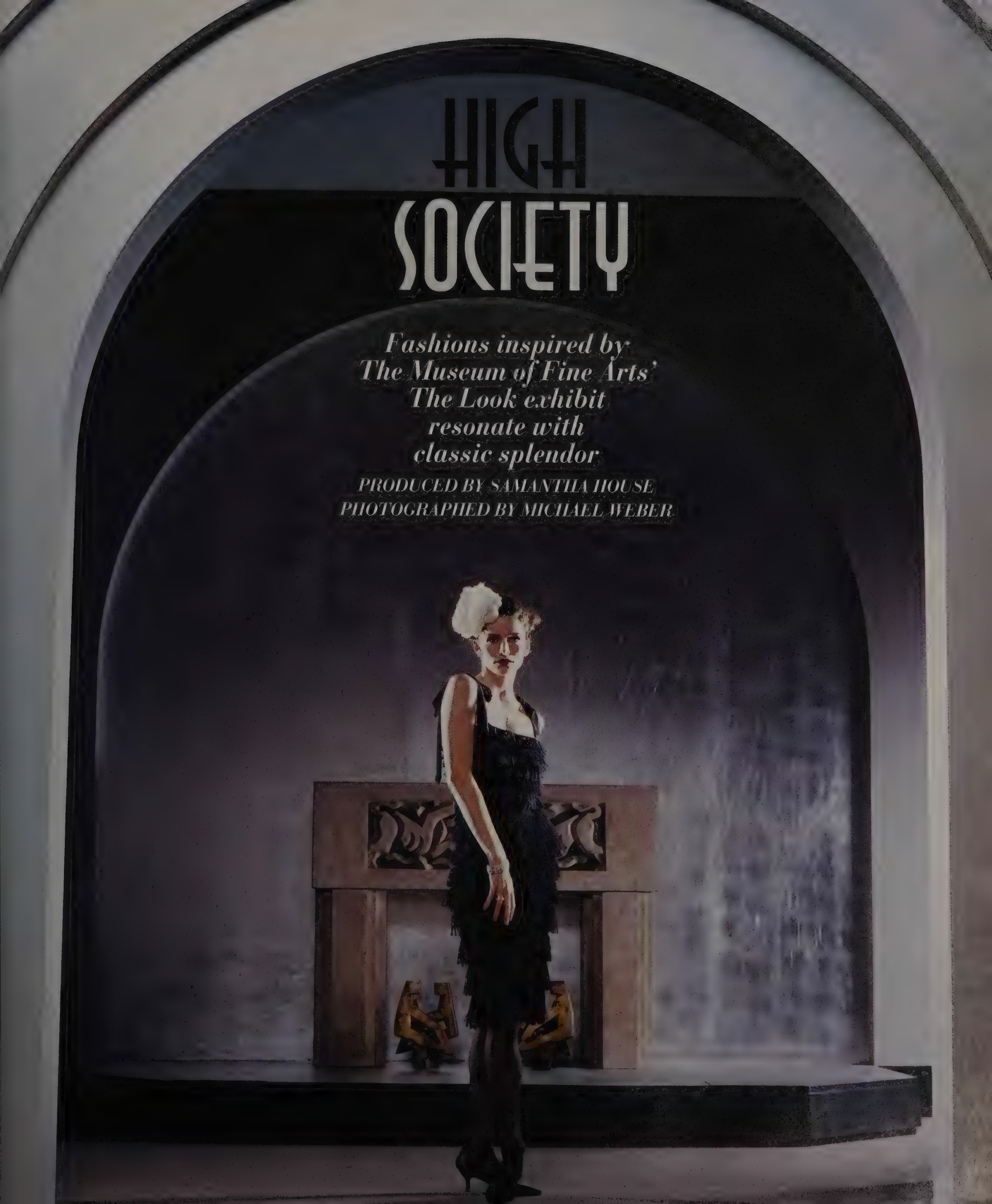
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HIGH SOCIETY

Fashions inspired by The Museum of Fine Arts' The Look exhibit resonate with classic splendor

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE
PHOTOGRAPHED BY MICHAEL WEBER



Previous page: black lace dress by Anna Molinari, $1,575. Available at Serenella. Black lace scarf by Adrienne Landau, $250; white silk gardenia, $50. Both available at Saks Fifth Avenue. Platinum art deco French bracelet with diamonds from estate collection, $60,000; platinum earrings with clusters of marquis-shaped diamonds, $85,000; diamond engagement ring featuring asscher-cut center diamond with side diamonds, $73,500. All available at Shreve, Crump & Low.

This page: silver dress by Translutio, $645. Available at Riccardi. White fur wrap, $1,250. Available at Saks Fifth Avenue's fur salon. Red shoes by Anne Klein, $69. Available at Lord & Taylor. Silver satin gloves, $40. Available at Saks Fifth Avenue. Art deco platinum and diamond dress clips from estate collection, $32,000; bangle of white gold with diamonds and cultured pearls, $6,700; platinum and diamond clusters, $43,800. All available at Shreve, Crump & Low.

Fire screen with greyhounds and fox (mid-1920s) by Raymond M. Hood; table (circa 1928); C. Paul Jennewein, *Greek Dance* (1926).

Gaston Lachaise, *Head of a Woman* (1918); Jacques Lipchitz, mantelpiece and pair of andirons, (circa 1928).



Red velvet dress by Armani Collezioni, $1,495. Available at Saks Fifth Avenue. 18-karat white gold and diamond necklace by Dimerini, $4,675; 18-karat white gold and diamond earrings by De Marini, $1,875. Both available at Shreve, Crump & Low.

William Klein, *Woman with Veil* (1958), gelatin silver print (printed later).

Black-and-white paper-weight chiffon dress with black beaded detail, $1,625. Available at Christian Dior boutique. Black evening shoe with diamante detail by Stuart Weitzman, $198. Available at Croio. Carrera y Carrera Ginko necklace of 18 karats white gold and diamonds, $28,980; Carrera y Carrera Ginko earrings of 18 karats white gold and diamonds, $8,450. Both available at Shreve, Crump & Low.



Haute couture gowns: Ana de Pombo for House of Paquin, evening dress (circa 1939), acetate satin and silk net embroidered with spangles. Cristobal Balenciaga, cocktail dress and matching cape/collar (winter 1949), silk taffeta, moiré. Elizabeth Hawes, dinner dress (1935-37), silk satin-backed crepe.

Black lace top, $495; blue chiffon skirt with beading, $2,625. Both by Armani Collezioni, available at Saks Fifth Avenue. Black peau du soie by Stuart Weitzman, $198. Available at Cuoio. Ring with an emerald-cut sapphire and diamonds, $148,800; platinum earrings with clusters of marquis-shaped diamonds, $8,500; 18-karat open-link white-gold bracelet with diamonds, $12,700; bar pin set in platinum with sapphires and diamonds from estate collection, $7,700. All available at Shreve, Crump & Low.

Haute couture gowns: Irene (Irene Lentz Gibbons), cocktail dress (1948), silk crepe and chiffon. Jeanne Lanvin, evening ensemble (winter 1935-36), silk crepe trimmed with gilded leather. Mariano Fortuny y Madrazo, "Delphos" dress (circa 1937), pleated silk with glass beads, silk and metallic cords. Mariano Fortuny y Madrazo, scarf (circa 1924), stencil-printed silk chiffon with glass beads.



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Christian Dior
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617-262-5568

Shreve, Crump & Low
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617-267-9100

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Renée for
Maksou Artisan

Stylist:
Mark Ellis

FACIAL EXPRESSIONS

Taking the guesswork out of the facial experience will give your face a happy glow

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE ◆ PHOTOGRAPH BY BILL STRUECHER

Most people feel overwhelmed when faced with the notion of a having a facial. There is so much information out there that it is easy to get confused. What is the right facial for me? What is my skin type? What kind of products should I be using? Those are just a few of the questions people have about skin care. The IMPROPER took a look at the basics of facials—to dispel the myths and get the real scoop on what they can do for you.

It is the general consensus that facials are most beneficial when received on a monthly basis. "It takes time to develop great skin—to obtain clean pores and clarity. The only way to do this is with repeated work," says esthetician Lori Vertullo for Michaud. If money is an issue, the minimum you should be in the chair is once per season.

A basic facial consists of deep cleansing, exfoliating and moisturizing. "If you walk out of a facial and your skin feels dry, they probably used the wrong products," says Lisa Kahan of Daryl Christopher. Basic facials start at around $50 for an hour and can reach $200 for special treatments.

Facials are appropriate for any age or sex and have long- and short-term benefits. Obviously, your skin becomes clearer and moisture-rich, but facial treatments can reduce the look of fine lines and help to keep you looking young throughout your life.

To maintain a facial and the look of perfect skin, Vertullo recommends a daily moisturizer. Also, you should keep your skin well-hydrated to prevent breakouts and dullness from occurring.

Our favorite facials and estheticians:

The **Oxygen Facial** by Jen at **Guilliano** ($95). This is the facial of the moment. The theory is that your skin is depleted of much-needed oxygen and this facial infuses the pure stuff into your skin. This left my skin feeling fresh and renewed for weeks (617-262-2220).

The **Vitamin C Facial** by Lisa at **Daryl Christopher** ($110). Vitamin C is great for combatting fine lines and plumping up your skin. My skin looked clearer and there was a visible difference in the wrinkle department (617-424-0250).

The **Glycolic Facial** by Lori at **Michaud** ($95). This facial was my favorite. It was very relaxing and my skin had a very different texture when all was said and done. It was softer than I have seen in months with the onset of winter and would be perfect for a midseason rehydration (617-262-1607).

The **Gentlemen's Facial** by Grace at **Splash** ($88). Reminiscent of the traditional barbershop facial, this included steam cleansing and moisturizing treatments (617-375-8580). iB

D.I.Y.

At home facials to perk up your mug



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Cetaphil cleanser: $4.69, available at CVS, is a gentle cleanser with no dyes or fragrances.



Step two: Exfoliate
Sugar Face Scrub, by Fresh: $55, is a moisturizing, gentle exfoliator that polishes your face to a healthy glow.



Step three: Deep Cleansing Masque
Clear Improvement Charcoal Mask by Origins: $17.50, available at Filene's, sucks the dirt out of your skin in 15 minutes flat! You'll see a difference immediately.



Step four: Moisturize
Facial Nutrition Day Cream ($180) and Facial Nutrition Day Eye Cream ($75) by SkinHealth (the same moisturizer is available without the vitamins for $55), available at 1-877-705-SKIN, has antioxidants and vitamins C, A, E, D, and green tea extracts for combatting the damaging effects of our everyday lives. A burst of moisture absorbs quickly and is non-greasy.—*S.H.*

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GLAMOUR GIRLS

Makeup for the Glamazon in you. These treasures will pluck you from the pack

BY SAMANTHA HOUSE



Benefit, Bathina, Body So Fine, Sweet Satin Shave and Enchanting Beauty Bubble, $26, $24, $22, respectively.

The line of Bathina products from Benefit Cosmetics all have one thing in common: luxury. They will have you feeling like a beauty queen. Body So Fine is a body balm that changes to powder when applied to skin. Sweet Satin Shave is a fluffy mousse that delivers a close shave and includes an exfoliating puff. Enchanting Beauty Bubbles soften skin and sweeten your smell. Get into beauty care the way your grandmother used to do it.



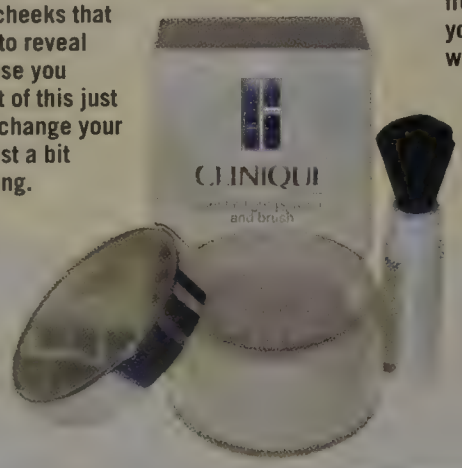
"Every woman is glamorous in her own way" says Benefit Cosmetic co-founder Jean Ford Danielson (shown at left with business partner and sister Jane Ford). Jean is an authority on all things glamorous because she has been in the smoke-and-mirrors business for 25 years. Benefit Cosmetics started in San Francisco with a small boutique and now has a 50-item line that can be found in most upscale department stores. The company has developed a real cult following since 1976. Jean attributes their loyal customers to their philosophy: "functional, friendly makeup being shared in a lively, creative environment."

Benefit recommends glamour in the form of very smoky eyes. They offer colors like lavender, gray and black. Finish the look with soft matte lips.

Glamour can be interpreted in so many different ways—an attitude, a glance, that flawless red lipstick with a perfect black dress. It's a certain je ne sais quoi coupled with a balance of glitz, sass, and charm and only the (seemingly) most confident can pull it off well. Here are some items that will be a sure hit when you want to look fabulous, dahling. **iB**



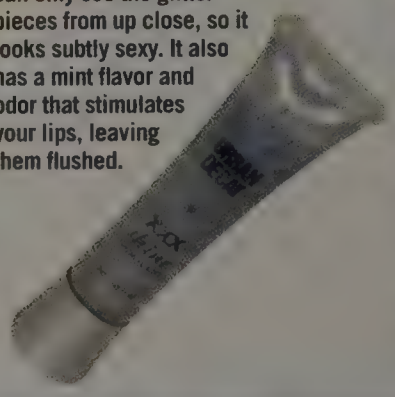
Chanel Noir Lamé gloss eyes and cheeks, Laque nail color, $30 and $16, respectively. Noir Lamé is a translucent lacquer for eyes and cheeks that catches the light in just the right way to reveal your luminous, perfect skin. Just in case you don't think you have perfect skin, a bit of this just below the outer edge of your eye will change your mind. Nails are treated with a color just a bit deeper than the night sky for star gazing.



Clinique gentle light powder and brush, $21. This powder has light-reflecting qualities to give your skin just a hint of shimmer. Think classic movie star, not JLo.



Estee Lauder sparkly friends, $90 each. These rhinestone-studded critters are perfect to divert attention from you while powdering your nose at your many galas, since they are filled with Lucidity translucent powder.



Urban Decay XXX Shine in UZI, $17.50. This glitter gloss looks like it would leave your lips looking like a disco ball—when, in fact, it merely gives you a kisser that shines like your car. You can only see the glitter pieces from up close, so it looks subtly sexy. It also has a mint flavor and odor that stimulates your lips, leaving them flushed.



Ralph Lauren Glamorous, $70. A wonderful floral fragrance that will entrance your leagues of followers. This eau de toilette is distinctive and seems to smell wonderfully different on each and every woman.

MAKEUP, YOUR MIND

This book by Francois Nars is the ultimate instruction manual for makeup junkies

The new book by makeup veteran, Francois Nars, of the Nars cosmetics fame, has really hit on something. He illustrates and simplifies how to create hundreds of looks and express your personal style. There are 65 before-and-after shots and instructions that are easy enough for anyone to follow. Nars shows us how to use neutral colors as well as the much dreaded brighter-than-anything-in-nature colors. Even experienced artists can pick up Nars' tricks of the trade and new tidbits on the latest day and evening looks. You can bet that you will be able to find each and every shade of makeup used in his book at the Nars counter—which is a bonus because you will be able to create the look exactly.

Francois believes that keeping makeup simple is the key to successful beauty and that women should appreciate their features and learn how to enhance them so they can look and feel beautiful. —*S.H.*

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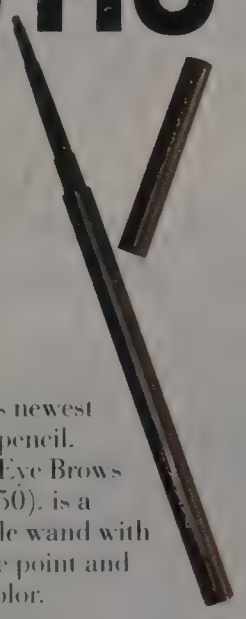
SATURDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP


Bartenders unite! P.A. gives Danielle a lift.


Renee and Erica don't care that it's Monday

HIGH BROW

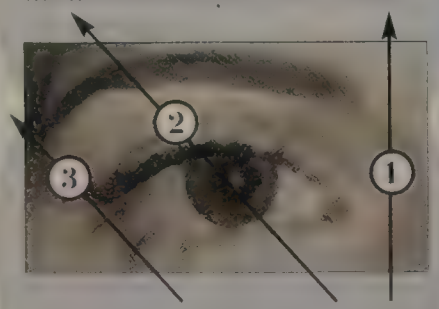
The high and low points of brow grooming



MAC's newest brow pencil. MAC Eye Brows ($12.50), is a miracle wand with its fine point and soft color.

BROW SHAPING 101

1. Hold a pencil against the outer edge of your nose. The innermost part of your brow should line up with the outer edge of your nostril.
2. Now align the pencil along the center of your pupil and up toward the eyebrow. The peak of the arch should follow this line.
3. To end, line the pencil up from the nose to the eye's outer corner.



BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

BROWS BY MAKSOU



THE ARCHER



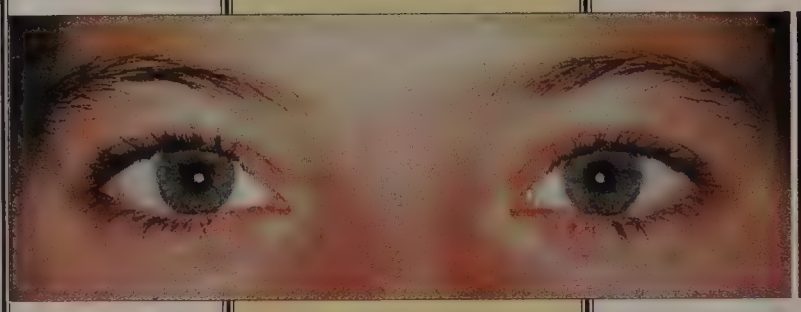
Don't be one of those people who overplucks. If your brows are starting to look more like "Golden Arches," you may need some help reshaping them. Brows should complement your eyes with a slight arch in the middle. This can be fixed over time with some growing and well-placed penciling.



THE SHAPER



If you have full brows to begin with, it often looks better if you just shape them rather than removing an abundance of hair. To control unruly hairs, brush on a clear brow gel.



THE CLEAN-UP



Some people have naturally tame eyebrows. If you feel that you have a good shape already, it is a good idea to get them cleaned up a bit around the edges for a polished look. There is always a bit of "peach fuzz" around your brows and removing it helps your makeup go on more smoothly.



THE COVER-UP



Overplucking can become a problem if you do it long enough. When hair is removed again and again, it stops growing back. You can fix this problem by using a brow pencil or powder to fill in the gaps. Use short strokes to simulate hair strands and then brush with a brow comb to soften the look.



THE GROOMER



Men are often afraid to get their brows groomed. They feel it will make them look too feminine. It takes the right person to shape a man's brows so they look natural. A man doesn't need to remove as many hairs as a woman does. Removing small hairs just above the bridge of the nose usually does the trick.

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BOSTON'S STYLE GODS

Paradigms of style and grace—they put Boston on the map

PRODUCED BY SAMANTHA HOUSE

TEXT BY SUSAN ABBATTISTA & ROBERT BIRNBAUM • PHOTOGRAPHS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

Not long ago, putting the words "Boston" and "fashion" in the same sentence meant teetering on the edge of an oxymoron. That changed radically in the 1990s. Today, one has only to do a brief scan of Newbury Street, Boston's boulevard of style, to see that almost every significant fashion brand, from Armani to Zegna, is well-represented.

Contributing to Boston's style and culture are people whose passion and dedication place them among the pantheon of fashion deities. From the competitive world of retail to the ephemeral beauty demimonde, those that follow are key players or players-in-waiting in Boston's ever-expanding fashion universe...



If Bostonians were to recognize a chapel of couture, the likely candidate would be Louis Boston, located in the historic Museum of Natural Science building at the corner of Berkeley and Newbury streets. And presiding over this internationally lauded style emporium is a sprightly septuagenarian named Murray Pearlstein. Seemingly as fit as when he was a track star at Brookline High School, Pearlstein has been shaping and directing Louis Boston since he graduated Harvard College in 1950.

Louis—the "Boston" was added much later—opened for business in 1927 at the corner of Stuart and Tremont . Pearlstein came to work as a man with a mission. He began studying and learning about the clothing business from his clients, whom he credits with an appreciation of good quality and the real value it provides. He says that his market is one-tenth of 1 percent of the fashion market. Pearlstein's mission has been "to cultivate a certain level of taste that he believes people will find interesting." His singular passion is for creation and making a visual impact. Making money has never been the No. 1 objective of what he refers to as a "workshop." When asked about any thoughts of slowing down, Pearlstein quickly points out: "There is nothing I'd rather do."—*R.B.*

"People in Boston aren't as afraid as they once were to step outside the conservative boundary," says Edlyn Clay, a makeup maven whose artistry can be found on fashion runways in New York and on musical performers such as David Navarro and Nikka Costa. For nearly a decade, Clay—a regional trainer for MAC Cosmetics—has enjoyed an up-close view of the faces of Boston. "Today there is more of a sense of experimentation," she says. "Everyone can take a piece of a trend and make it work for them."

Part makeup artist and part personal coach, Clay encourages women to be flexible. "People come to me when they've been thinking about making a change for a while," Clay says. Her role is to help clients step out of the ordinary. That could mean wearing an entirely new palette or simply choosing a different shade of red lipstick.

The trends this winter season: "Skin is natural—matte," says Clay. "Try smoky eyes with pale lips. Or more natural eyes, with just mascara and liner, and bold lips." The biggest no-no: "Oreo-cookie mouth, or dark liner that is unblended with really light lipstick."—*S.A.*





Even if you've never splurged on a haircut by Mario Russo, you've probably read about him in magazines like *Vogue*, *Allure* and *Elle*. Voted one of the top stylists by a number of publications, Russo has helped to put Boston hair in the national spotlight.

In the 20 years that Russo has been in the salon business, he has observed dramatic changes in people's sense of style. He attributes the shift to growing international influences. "You don't have to live in the hippest part of Paris to get with the latest style. And you don't have to be in New York to be a top stylist," says Russo, whose salon has attracted high-profile clients such as Natalie Portman, Teri Hatcher and James Taylor.

The secret to Russo's success: the ability to change with the times, along with a gift for "tuning in" to the personality of each person who sits in his chair. "Clients are paying for me to pick up on things quickly and to give them something totally right-on for them at this time," he says. He also has a love for contemporary art—displaying an array of new works in his salons and serving on the board at the Institute of Contemporary Art—and this artistic sensibility is confidently expressed in his work with hair.—*S.A.*

Watch one of those sexy lingerie ads on television right now, and you might be tempted to think that being paid millions of dollars to parade around in nothing but purple satin panties is a blessing reserved for only a lucky few. But Maggie Trichon, who has been running one of Boston's top modeling and talent agencies for more than 25 years, knows better. "People look at supermodels and think that every model lives a glamorous life and makes that kind of money," she says. "But that's not reality."

More often than not, the reality includes exhausting hours and painful rejections. "People are judged every day by their skin, their hair, how they look," says Trichon. "That's a lot of pressure to put on somebody." Still, she has managed to run a successful business, and hers has helped launch the careers of many models and actors, including Victoria Rowell and Tea Leone.



Trichon seems to approach her job with equal measures of street smarts and compassion. She pushes employees to be their best but also understands that the pressures can be overwhelming. "My top priority," she says, "is to make sure my people are treated fairly and with respect."

Respect is also extended to women who aren't blessed with perfect curves. "It doesn't matter if you're a size 2 or a size 18," she says. "As long as people feel good about themselves, take care of themselves and try not to look like someone else, then they can be perfectly happy with who they are."—*S.A.*

Luciano Mangenella was born in Salerno, Italy, and studied mechanical engineering until he dropped out to pursue a life in the world of fashion. He came to the United States in 1966 and opened his first store, Poor Roger's, in Cambridge, where he began selling garments like hotpants made out of leftover green leather and suede. His reminiscences includes selling clothes out of a Volkswagen bus to stores like Paraphenalia, Marilyn Riseman's apogee and Don Levy's Crackerjack store. Mangenella opened Jasmine in 1968 in Harvard Square on what was then known as Boylston Street and he was encouraged to move to Brattle Street by an admiring landlord. In 1983 Mangenella moved to New York to concentrate on manufacturing clothing and came back to the Boston area in 1995. It was in the '90s that Mangenella expanded his Jasmine/Sola retail empire to Boston, opening two shops on Newbury Street. He has continued that expansion to Chestnut Hill and is considering expanding beyond his seven stores. He is very proud of his Chestnut Hill store, which is clearly the paradigm of his design and style sense: He loves to work with metal (not chrome) and everything is designed by him and custom made. Mangenella loves the idea of transforming things, which is evident in the care he takes creating his his retail venues. Also, he loves the women's fashion business, despite what he claims is its inherent difficulties because "it never stands still and requires constant creation or reinvention, even if it represents something circular or cyclical." Mangenella continues to manufacture his private label Jasmine and contemplates expansion, perhaps even opening a school for fashion retail. Retirement seems not be in the cards, he claims. "I enjoy lying at the beach at Capri, but after two weeks I go crazy."—*R.B.*



The '80s spawned a number of new professions and the burgeoning of some that were traditional. The growth of magazine photography both commercially and editorially has led to a heightened professionalism being attached to the support services attendant to photographic and film shoots. Makeup artists , photo stylists, location scouts and photographer's assistants began to be looked upon as their specialities. In 1986, Barbe Ennis incorporated Ennis Inc. to represent such communication arts professionals. Ennis was born in Newburg, N.Y., and studied fashion merchandising at Champlain College. She continued at The University of Vermont and later at the New England School of Art and Design, where she studied fashion illustration. She began her career in the fashion world as a makeup artist—which she likens to painting—working with premiere local photographers like Clint Clemens, Rob Van Petten and Bolling Powell. Recognizing an obvious need,she formed a full-service agency that today represents 35 people in both Boston and New York. Her clients include Adidas, Lord & Taylor, Prada, Nike and DaimlerChrysler. Ennis, who is a mature and well-traveled fashion industry veteran, has lost none of the exuberance that has characterized her successful career: "I feel young; I love the way I feel inside." She surrounds herself with young colleagues and joyously asserts, "I get the most enjoyment out of mentoring and building careers."—*R.B.*



The story of the Alan Bilzerian store is as much a good boy-meets-girl story as one of hard work, talent and determination paying off. Alan grew up in Worcester and went to school at Nichols University. After graduating, he went to Europe in 1967 and after three months returned to his hometown. He opened up The Body Shop and began designing jewelry and working with silver, along with selling 100 pairs of Landlubber bell-bottoms a day. Bilzerian remembers the legendary Woodstock festival as a symbolic cultural fault-line, and it was about this time he opened his fabled boutique Moon. His store was put on the map by famous rockers like Aerosmith, James Taylor, Carly Simon and others. Through the '70s Bilzerian had carried the most fashion-forward designers out of both Europe and Japan, including Giorgio Armani, Paul Smith, Yohji Yamamoto and Issey Miyake. Alan met Be when she came to his shop looking for a pair of pink corduroy pants. His future wife and partner had been born in Ho Chi Minh City (Hanoi) and educated Rue De Beaux Arts in Paris and been working with European design giants like Luciano Beneton and architects Etiore Sottsass' Memphis Group. In the late '70s they began looking for a store in Boston and by 1980 they launched their groundbreaking shop at 12(now 34) Newbury Street just prior to the technological groundswell—of which the Walkman is so emblematic—that so much affected the world of fashion. Though she remembers the lack of cut flowers and grocery stores when she first moved to Worcester, she joins her husband in citing their marriage and children and partnership as their crowning achievement. Asked about what distinguishes Boston from other cities, Be thoughtfully points out that "social life is not quite as public as places like New York and Los Angeles."—*R.B.*



"My mother was a seamstress, so I grew up with clothes," says Ines Capelli, who learned about fashion—quality, color and fabric—in her home city of Milan. In her 20s, Capelli left Italy and came to Boston. She opened Serenella and has been running the popular Newbury Street clothing store for 21 years.

Since the early '80s, Capelli has seen fashion in Boston be transformed from casual and understated to more sophisticated, joyful and colorful. "Boston's fashion climate has improved a lot," Capelli says. "People are much more aware and informed, and they appreciate good-quality clothing so much more." The reason, she says, is the city's increased exposure to international influences.

Still, Capelli is aware that in today's economy, people are more reluctant to spend as freely as they once did. But buying less expensive substitutes, Capelli explains, is a mistake. Instead, she says, "build on what you already have by adding high-quality pieces in small steps."

Looking ahead to the spring, Capelli predicts an abundance of "warrior looks," or dark, more masculine lines such as belted pants. To offset the hard edge of those urban designs, she also expects stores to carry an equal number of romantic fashions, frilly and feminine pieces like peasant blouses.

"Times change, styles change, people change and seasons change," says Capelli. "That is why I love this work. You have to be open-minded to all of the changes surrounding you."—*S.A.*





The fashion planet would be a barren terrain without the twin peaks of runway shows and gala benefits. And, of course, someone has to have that special gift to successfully mount such public performances. In Boston one of a small group of such masters is Tommie Watson, director of Fashion, Special Events and Publicity for the venerable and rejuvenated Saks Fifth Avenue. Born and schooled in Delaware and due to early exposure to fashion via *Vogue* magazine, Watson pursued her post graduate education in Baltimore at the Stevens Fashion School of Fashion Marketing. She went on to spend 17 years in San Francisco for SFA, where she was responsible for such firsts as a Christian La Croix's fashion benefit show in 1983 and which convinced her that this work was the "real deal." Under the mentorship of SFA's corporate publicity maestro, Helen O Haigan, Watson flourished and decided to set out on her own, opening the Fashion Office Inc. in Boston in 1990. She returned to SFA in 1995 and has been instrumental in fulfilling Saks' mandate of giving back to its host communities. Responsible for a full schedule of fashion shows and benefits, she most recently produced the latest sold-out Warburg Memorial gala at the Fairmont Copley Hotel. Watson, as is the case of with many veteran fashionistas, loves her work. To her, doing a show or a benefit requires the same kind of mental agility and creativity as making a movie or a play with the additional payoff of doing good. Asked about the conventional wisdom that Boston is not a fashion town she is encouraged by the influx of an international influence and certainly by the success of the fashion-forward designers that Saks carries.—*R.B.*

Local boy Rick Di Cecca, one of the premiere makeup stylists in Boston, seems to have taken at least one chapter out of Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Grey*. Di Cecca, who claims to be 30-something, has not aged a day in the past 20 years. Growing up in Billerica, he attended Blaine Beauty School and went on to work with Elizabeth Arden with such masters as the legendary cosmeticians Pablo Manzoni and Glenn Roberts. Di Cecca claims that his attraction to makeup styling comes from seeing the work as a form of sculpting and painting, and his love for his chosen profession comes from his discovery that he could make a living doing what he loves. He sees his job as bringing out a person's best points, to heal a woman's self-image, make her feel beautiful, soften what she doesn't like usually due to the ravages of gravity.



Di Cecca has won awards locally and he has done makeup for such luminaries as Cindy Crawford, Heidi Klum, Cybil Sheppard and Yoko Ono (who he says is one of the most beautiful women he has ever worked with). He continues a very successful freelance career in addition to being Estee Lauder's Saks Fifth Avenue national makeup authority (a job that has him regularly crisscrossing the country). While Di Cecca is interested in advancing his professional standing and expanding into product, color and application development, especially regarding the new "smart" makeup, when asked about what is important to him, he immediately responds, "My friends."—*R.B.*

Step inside Hornick/Rivlin, and three 20-foot bay windows will bathe you in warm light. It's no surprise, then, that nearly all of the studio's photographs are taken in 100 percent natural light. "We try to make photos as real and as naturally beautiful as possible," says Sandy Rivlin, who co-owns the studio with her husband, Rick Hornick.

The studio has "gone through a lot of phases" in its 21-year history, and over the past decade has made the shift from glossy fashion photos aimed at selling products to ones portraying wholesome beauty and health. "A lot of our photos show people walking, exercising and living a healthy life," Rivlin says. "We do a lot of close-ups of beautiful skin for articles on skin care."



Whereas in the past, Hornick/Rivlin worked with "a lot of skinny teenagers," now the studio mainly photographs healthy, active women in their late 20s and early 30s. "The gaunt look is gone," says Rivlin. "We feel models shouldn't merely be a hanger for clothes. Instead, they must have great skin, beautiful hands, a great smile, and be able to convey their personality."

And because photo shoots are no longer heavily manipulated—no big hair or makeup—the photos come across with a fresh, invigorated quality. You'll find them in magazines such as *Health* and *Prevention*.—*S.A.*

BOTTOM RIGHT: HORNICK & RIVLIN

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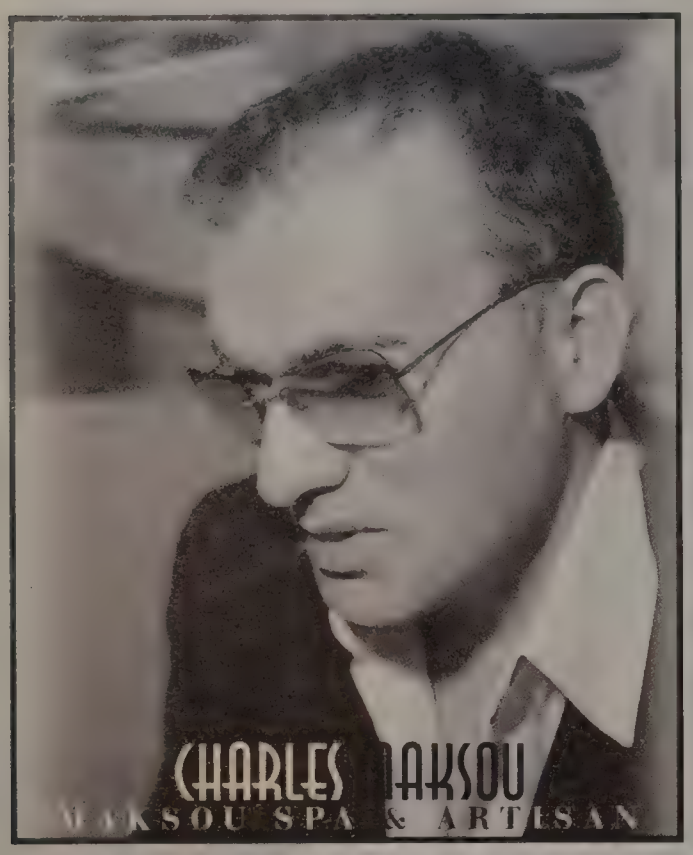
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ASPIRING TO THE GODHEAD: Four Fashionistas to Watch



Lebanon's terrible civil war was reason enough for Charles Maksou to leave Beirut in 1985, and when he came to this country, he began working in his brother's hair salon. He went on to spend eight years at the Dellaria salon on Commonwealth Avenue near Boston University. No stranger to hard work, having started at an early age doing auto repair and construction, Maksou does not view what he does as work as much as a calling. And being raised in a household of women—three sisters—he adores women. He loves to make people happy, to pamper them. You almost believe him when he says he will cut your hair at 3am. Maksou was toying with the idea of leaving Boston a few years ago when he stumbled upon a book by famed dry-cut guru John Sahag. Maksou quickly became a devotee of Sahag's and a proponent of that natural style. He loves fashion because it is always changing and especially loves doing fashion shows. Maksou has been lauded for his styling talents by several local magazines including the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN and takes great pride in the European ambience of his salon. But, most of all he is quite thrilled to have made a home for himself in Boston.—*R.B.*

Every young designer hopes to one day see her clothes move off the sketch pad and into the public spotlight. But the industry is notoriously difficult to break into. Nicole Romano is proving that—with both hard work and a healthy sense of adventure—it can indeed be done.

After graduating from the Rhode Island School of Design in June 2000, Romano immediately opened her own studio near Providence and began creating samples of her custom-made clothing, handmade leather bags and jewelry. Today she handles every aspect of a bustling business that has expanded to Boston and New York. "Doing everything myself can be overbearing sometimes," says 23-year-old Romano. "I'm learning as I'm going."

That entrepreneurial spirit has been paying off. One day last spring, Patricia Field, stylist for the popular HBO comedy *Sex and the City*, saw some of Romano's designs and was so interested in the dresses and jewelry that she bought several pieces for characters to wear on the show. This is the kind of endorsement that newcomers dream about. "To have her really like my stuff is great," says Romano.

According to Romano, whose designs can be found in boutiques such as Leila in Brookline and Foil on Newbury Street, Boston is "really starting to focus on young talent, while also keeping an eye out for a high-



quality standard—nice finish and fabrics."

Not surprisingly, high-quality materials and workmanship are trademarks of Romano's work. "I won't cut corners," she explains. "I like to do things the right way so the final outcome is exactly how I want it to be." She also enjoys being able to "escape" into the playful, artistic realm of design. "Fashion is how I express myself on a body. The body is my canvas. I'm free-spirited in my details, and I don't conform to the trends."—*S.A.*

Sometimes fashion is not so much about the bold statements as it is about the small details. And even though well-groomed nails are an important part of a person's appearance, as manicurist Donna Charloff will tell you, they are often sorely neglected. "There are a lot of fashion-conscious women who wouldn't consider not owning the newest, most expensive handbag, or the funkiest shoes or boots, but their nails are bitten or unkempt," she says.

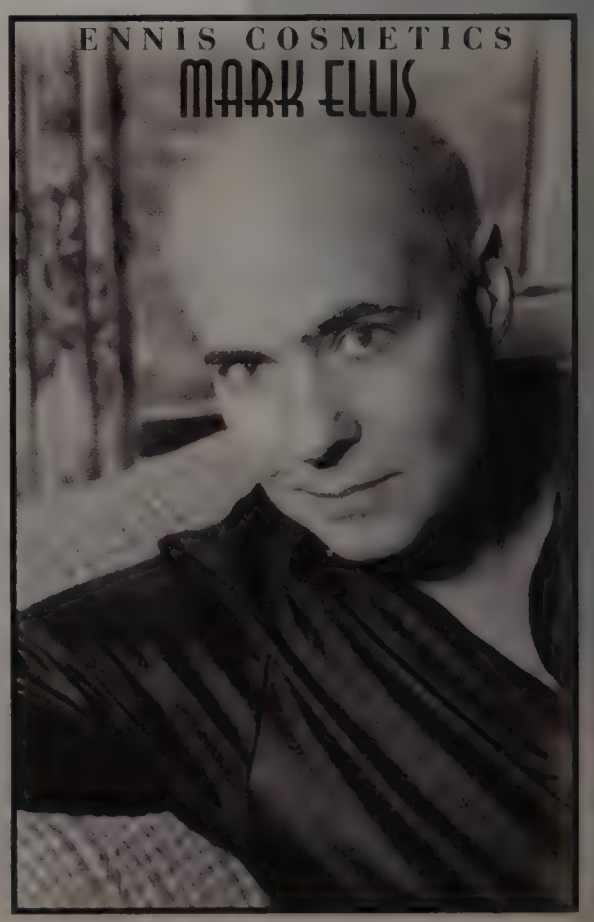
Charloff, one of Boston's most sought-after estheticians, has worked at Beaucage for nine years. Aside from providing clients with precision manicures and pedicures, she is committed to keeping her skill fresh. With support from salon owner Dean Boudreau, Charloff targets the best new products and goes out of her way to learn the latest techniques. Consequently, the salon draws a loyal following, including a handful of celebrities such as pop stars on tour and others whose anonymity the salon is committed to protecting.

Shaping and polishing nails all day would test the patience of just about anyone, but Charloff uses the opportunity to absorb the interesting details of people's lives. "After nine years, I've developed some amazing relationships with people. I try to learn things about other cultures from my foreign clients and about other industries that my clients work in."

From her chair, Charloff has a frontline view of Boston fashion: "I've never really thought of this as being a very fashion-conscious city, but with the huge influx of students and tourists, it has become much more so. Still, I can always tell when someone has been transplanted rather than raised here."—*S.A.*



Not to long ago telling someone you were a photo stylist would have generated puzzled looks and inquiries along the lines of, "Oh, what's that?" In the past 15 years or so photo styling has become recognized as an important profession in the world of communication arts. Stylists are the people who provide the artistic flavor and factual details to photo and video shoots. And after they have rounded up all the necessary visual elements for a project, they help make sure it all looks good and that everything in the frame is just right. Mark Ellis is one of those fastidious people who practice this burgeoning art. He was born on Long Island and, because he knew early on that he loved fashion, he went to school here in Boston at Chamberlain College to study fashion design. After school he started out on Seventh Avenue and worked for such designers as Harve Bernard, Herman Geist Leslie Fay and Susan Bristol. He is very proud of surviving the tough world of Seventh Avenue and finding a natural segue to fashion styling and lifestyle and personal imaging and personal shopping because he has always been interested in the combination of working with people and focusing on visual elements. In addition, there is an immediacy of satisfaction that his work provides. He is aware that there is a growing consciousness of what his work entails, and that has translated to more people taking seriously and understanding the importance of personal presentation—and the self-assurance that is gained and the confident aura that is radiated. Ellis is a great admirer of Jacqueline Kennedy for her consummate fashion sense and her unerring instinct in choosing the appropriate attire for various ceremonial needs.—*R.B.*





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When Kathy and Kent Damon went to China to adopt their daughter, Emily, it was an exhilarating, heart-wrenching, tumultuous journey. After enduring a 14-month process that required intense scrutiny by their adoption agency, the gathering of documentation that pertained to every aspect of their lives from birth to bank accounts, and finally, the trip of their lifetime, they were ready to start the next phase of their lives: as parents. Nothing had prepared Kathy for what came next.

愛 *from* China with Love

More Americans are turning to Asia to create their families: Why now?

BY MAXINE EFFENSON CHUCK • PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEPHEN SHEFFIELD

Once Emily was with her new family, the crying began—the constant squealing. It continued back at the hotel, and in the American consulate while Emily was being footprinted. Kathy was seized with apprehension: Would her daughter ever fully bond with her? And when Emily did form an attachment, it wasn't with Kathy, it was with Kent. According to Kathy, "She only had eyes for him." She can now laugh about those first days as that crying baby is now 4 years old and "fabulous in every way possible. She's smart, strong, funny, entertaining...." And the family is living happily ever after.

As any adoptive parent can attest, the decision to adopt a child is the culmination of many months, maybe years of profound soul-searching. While there are real economic and social considerations that come into play—especially in the case of international adoptions—the bottom line is whether a loving and supportive home can be provided for an adoptive child. This is the Chinese government's fundamental concern for the thousands of orphans they place in international homes every year.

As a result of China's one-child-per-family law, first imposed in 1979 to curb its population explosion, thousands of children are abandoned every year. Chinese families, especially those living in the countryside, face a difficult and often tragic decision when they give birth to a girl. Due to the cultural contingency that sons take care of the parents while girls "belong" to their husbands' families, parents without a son feel they have no means of support in their old age. While Chinese parents love and value their girls, breaking the one-child regulation carries serious consequences. Accordingly, some families feel they have no choice but to abandon their daughters. They take them where they will be quickly found and cared for—to one of the many Chinese orphanages.

Since the early 1990s, when China began allowing international adoptions of Chinese children, the number of Americans adopting them increased exponentially. The number of these adoptions rose from 263 in 1992 to 3,553 in 1997. There were 5,053 adoptions in 2000, and indications are that the number will continue to climb.

> ...the bottom line is whether a loving and supportive home can be provided...This is the Chinese government's fundamental concern for the thousands of orphans they place...

Many parents, like Susan Damon and her husband, Jim Hurst, didn't begin the adoption process thinking they wanted a foreign-born child. After an initial failed attempt at a private domestic adoption, they decided to try international adoption. Having friends who had adopted from Paraguay and China, and after becoming godparents to their friends' Chinese daughter, Damon explains, "In a sense, we had an 'investment' in China." They selected Wide Horizons for Children in Waltham, Mass., as their adoption agency because they wanted an agency that offered a variety of international programs.

Damon and Hurst are just one example of adoptive parents whose search did not begin with the idea of adopting a Chinese baby; it became an attractive option after their agonizing experience with a domestic adoption. While not everyone's story is the same, there are some facts of domestic adoption, which start with the potential of a three- to five-year wait and a daunting $30,000 to $40,000 price tag for a child. Then, there is the underlying Draconian threat that comes with the legal possibility of a biological parent reneging on a contract or later suing for custody. The emotional investment and the potential heartbreak is a risk that many adoptive parents either cannot go through again, or choose to avoid altogether. The Chinese adoption programs provide a viable alternative. Not only is the process more straightforward, with a more reliable outcome, but the cost is less daunting, ranging from approximately $16,000 to $20,000. Linda Lin, the China Program Supervisor at Wide Horizons, explains that over the years, as the China adoption program has grown, it has

Smart, strong, funny and entertaining 4-year-old Emily Damon.

become much more stable. This stability has translated into a demand for Chinese children.

Kathy and Kent Damon were originally open to a number of adoption options; however, the fact that Kent's cousin, Susan, had adopted a Chinese daughter was influential in their decision.

For Susan Saxe, Kathy's sister, a soon-to-be single adoptive parent, her decision to adopt a girl from China was shaped by the fact that her child would "have a shared heritage" with her cousin, Emily. She explains, "My daughter will be 'different' by virtue of being adopted; I want her to feel 'the same' in all other ways—and I think having a Chinese cousin will help that."

Saxe is just one of what has been a growing number of single-parent adoptions. According to Bonnie DeLorme, communications director for the Alliance for Children, however, this may change very soon. In fact, in guidelines issued by the Chinese Center for Adoption Affairs (CCAA), an agency of the Chinese government, released on October 12, 2001, it is stated that the parameters for single parent adoptions will change dramatically as of December 1, 2001. While in the past several years, American adoption agencies were placing 30 percent of their Chinese children with single parents, the CCAA has reduced that percentage to 5 percent. While no reason for this change is stated, within the last year, several adoption agency representatives mentioned that China now requires single women to write letters documenting that they are not—and will never be—gay and that they are actively searching for a husband. While U.S. adoption agencies see their primary goal as finding loving families for adoptive children, they must adhere to this Chinese requirement so as not to jeopardize their programs.

Julie Palmer of Brookline and Deb Jacobs of Somerville are single parents of girls they adopted from China. Julie's daughter, Emilie, now 7 years old, was one of the earlier Chinese adoptions, occurring only 2 to 3 years after China had opened its doors to international adoptions. After waiting a long time for a domestic adoption to materialize, she had some friends who were in the process of adopting a daughter from China. Being of an age that made it likely that this would be her only child, she wanted it to be a daughter. Adopting a child from China made her chances of getting a daughter likely.

Palmer, like Jacobs, had hoped for a girl. One of the reasons she chose to adopt from China was obvious: "So many girls in China need homes."

Although most American adoption agencies require adoptive parents to spend 10 days to two weeks in China, their itineraries and agendas differ in several ways. Some agencies, such as Alliance for Children, Wide Horizons, China Adoption With Love and America China Adoption Associates in Virginia send over anywhere from four to 10 adoptive families at a time, while agencies such as Florence Crittenton League of Lowell send over individual couples. Most of the agencies send a doctor or a nurse with the families. Some agencies arrange for families to be met by a representative once they arrive in China, and then be taken on a tour to familiarize the families with their soon-to-be adoptive child's native culture. Alliance for Children, however, brings families directly to the area of their child's orphanage, where they receive their children either the first or second day in China.

Conventional knowledge of China might include the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, Mao Tze Tung and General Gao's chicken. Adoptive parents' perspective of China changes, however, with their new baby in tow. There is a dual goal for new parents : First, to absorb as much of the Chinese culture as they can so they can gain a better understanding of their child's heritage. Second, and more important, it is the first step they take toward fulfilling the covenant with their new daughter. For these parents, the trip to China was a critical part of the adoption process. They were all moved by their travels in an intensely and deeply personal way. This experience was fraught with so much more than the future trips to Disneyland they will spend "connecting" with their children. By enveloping themselves in their children's past, they prepared to serve as conduits toward their children's future.

No matter what point in time this tour occurs, all roads lead to the American Consulate in Guanzhou in southeastern China, where the child's visa is issued, the adoptive parents are interviewed and the child's medical information is provided. From there, families leave for America. While the trip is a highly charged emotional journey, it is also an opportunity for families to share this unique experience with each other and to form, perhaps, their first family-centered multicultural community.

For Deb Jacobs, her visit to China to pick up her daughter was a momentous step in becoming a family. A key factor for Jacobs in choosing the adoption agency, China Adoptions with Love, was that when they sent families to China, they sent along a pediatrician. She explains, "This turned out to be critical for me; the child initially referred to me turned out, tragically, to be too sick to take home. I don't know what I would have done if I didn't have a doctor with me." While her trip to China had a heart-wrenching element to it, she is grateful to the seven families with whom she was traveling. "You really bond with the people on your trip; they're present at the birth of your life as a family with your daughter."

For Julie Palmer, who used a lawyer who specialized in brokering such adoptions as opposed to a full-service adoption agency, her trip to China was the pinnacle of the entire process. Not having an agency to guide her, Palmer enlisted the services of a doctor in Changsha, where she stayed for about five days so she could learn about the capital city of the province in which Emilie was born. A tour guide, provided by her lawyer, met her in Changsha and accompanied her about 100 miles north to Emilie's orphanage in Yueyang City, located on the shores of the Dongting Lake, the second largest freshwater lake in China. On the banks of the Dongting is Yueyang Tower, whose beauty inspired Song Dynasty poet Fan Zhongyan.

Although the awe-inspiring splendor of this part of China may have generated beautiful poetry, the beauty of the place, for Emilie, is in her mother's story about the first time that she laid her eyes on her baby. Palmer explains, "I was taken to a nice building that looked a little like a motel you'd find in Greece. There was an outdoor walkway on the second floor. I heard a baby crying, looked up, and saw a woman holding a baby. I thought, 'That's probably my baby.' And it was." Though her baby was a distance away, cloaked in a caretaker's arms, with her features barely distinguishable, this was the defining moment—the birth of their relationship.

And what about the after effects of the Sept. 11 attack on international adoptions? Application numbers have increased over last year, reports Wide Horizons. In fact, they view the economy as a bigger consideration for prospective adoptive parents. Others say it is too soon to tell how their programs are being affected. According to Jennifer Chen, an adoptive parent of a Chinese daughter, Lindsay Ming Xue (her Chinese name translation, "Bright Snow"), and a social worker at Florence Crittenton League of Lowell, "For many, there is an even stronger emphasis on family these days." Consequently, for those people who have started the process, nothing will stop them. And for the adopted Chinese children who have arrived home to America in the midst of this worldwide upheaval, their lives are full of potential.

For all of these adopted girls, there will be inevitable obstacles. For all of these parents, there will be a myriad of concerns. As one parent says of her daughter, "It doesn't work to pretend that you're just American. Both parts need to be validated." At some point in time, the children will have questions about who they are and where they came from, and whether these questions are motivated from within or from their classmates' comments, it doesn't really matter. What matters is what these children and their parents do with the questions and how they handle the answers. In the end the love that the adopted child brings to the new family should answer any of these questions. For these families, the journey continues and that is the goal, for as the Chinese proverb states, "Be not afraid of growing slowly, be afraid only of standing still." IB

The awe-inspiring splendor of this part of China may have generated beautiful poetry...the beauty of the place...is in her mother's story about the first time that she laid eyes on her baby.



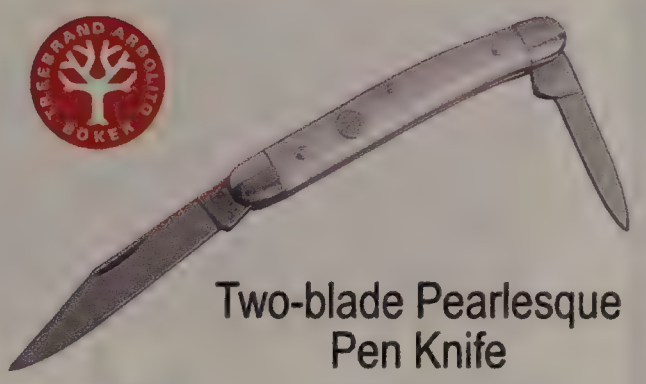
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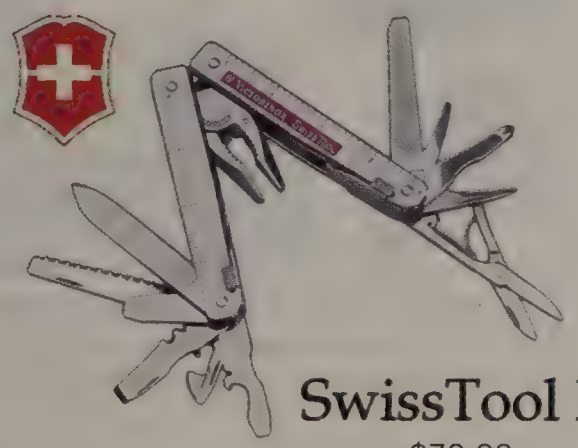
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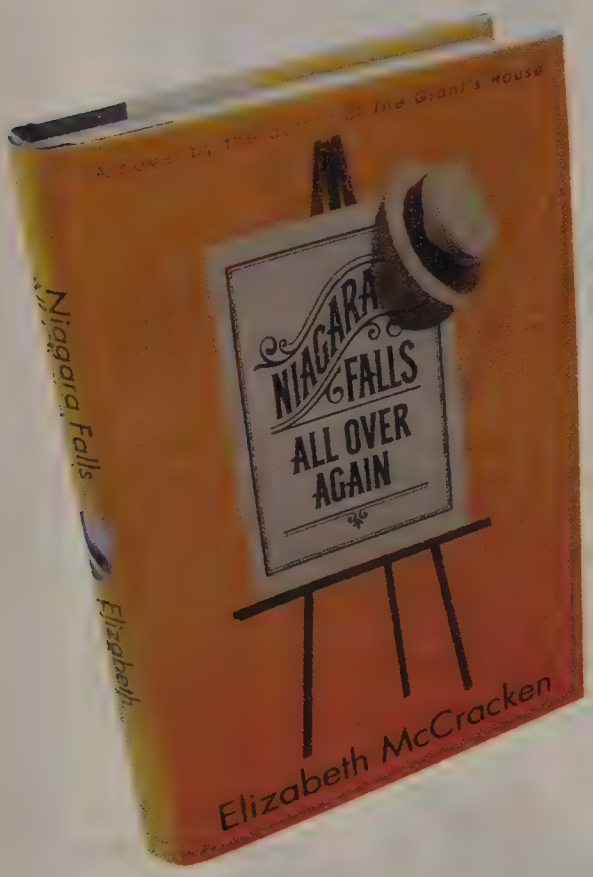


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Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY



TWO FOR THE LONG, WINDING ROAD
The second novel by Elizabeth McCracken, once a Somerville librarian and now an award-winning writer, is *Niagara Falls All Over Again*.

Anyone who has read *The Giant's House* by Elizabeth McCracken knows that she can side with the eccentric and make the improbable lovable. This is what she does in *Niagara Falls All Over Again*, where her vaudeville team comprises Mose Sharp, the thin straight-man and Rocky Carter, the shaggy, chaotic, alcoholic funny one. Their 31-year-old partnership, onstage and off, is just as full of wrinkles, deep appreciation and desperate misunderstandings as any marriage (of which Rocky has had 12, making Mose his longest-term partner). With the schticky, bubble-gum-sticky world of "vaude" and, later on, of boisterous, boostering wartime movies as their milieu, the guys move through a colorful world, but always with an emotional soundtrack of sadness. Mose is shadowed, first by the childhood loss of his mother, then of his sister Hattie who, clowning on a rooftop, falls off and dies. Much later, his baby drowns. Mose sleeps with Penny, Rocky's wife, and burns quietly with this secret for years. Along the way, Mose manages a somewhat normal family life. McCracken's novel is as rich as a movie in scenic detail and color, breaking your heart while also making you laugh.



THAT WAS THEN, AND THIS RESEMBLES IT
Vintage, at 1382-B Beacon Street, Brookline, satisfies clothing, housewares and jewelry longings (617-739-3265).

Peek in the window of Vintage and you'll get a feel for its festive atmosphere. Step inside and you'll find the old, the new and the neo: such things as Nick and Nora Pajamas with oversized-child patterns like teddy bears, *I Love Lucy*, French-toasty breakfast food and even spritely breast cancer–cure ribbons. Their cut-velvet jackets with chunky collars are the kind that a bold movie star might have worn—back when? Well, they're new, so they're now. Slinky dresses, some decorated with fascinating abstractions, come from designers like Lynn Ritchie and Silk Box. Housewares: The '40s and '50s get a fond nod in big, guileless powder-blue kitchen clocks, and in cutely packed tins of Glenn Miller, Big Bands and Mel Torme CDs. Awaiting someone outrageous sits an enormous leopard-skin lampshade fringed with—ta-da!—a feather boa. Tidy leather jewelry boxes have a smaller pop-out box for travel. Fashion and costume jewelry ranges from sparkly, flower-shaped crystal pieces (the flag was still there, glittering as a necklace) and inexpensive tiaras, up to Victorian antique pieces, including engagement rings, at the other end of the cost spectrum. Go to Vintage to scavenge for the antique, the decorative and the original.

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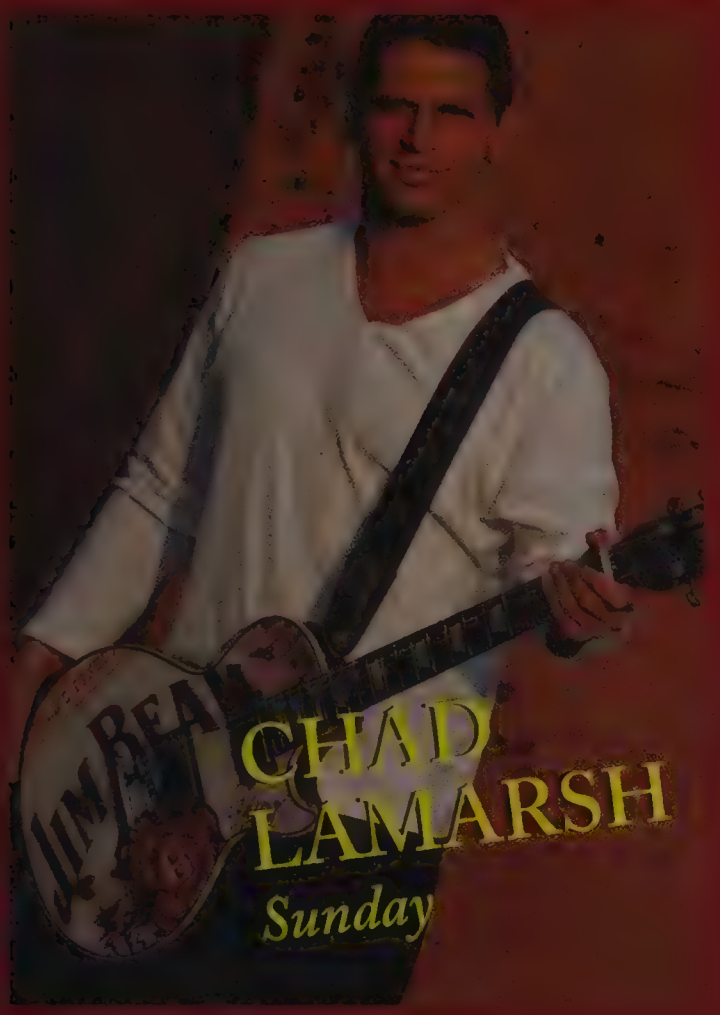
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in this section:
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REVIEW

Southwestern Finery

Masa brings a taste of Santa Fe to the South End with an imaginative menu that doesn't skimp on the spices.

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS

When Masa made its debut a couple of years ago, the grand opening was a mob scene. Located on Tremont Street just across the Turnpike, it anchors the northern boundary of the South End, where you'll find the greatest concentration of fine-dining establishments. The throngs at the opening kept us from sampling what Masa's public relations campaign promoted as gourmet Southwestern cuisine. Reports over the past two years have been so consistent in their enthusiasm for the creations of executive chef Philip Aviles and his sous chef Carlos Muneton—evidenced by Masa's survival in the fiercely competitive environment in this part of town—that we decided to see for ourselves what all the cheering is about.

Masa's space is dark, bordering on the lugubrious. A high partition separates the bar area from the dining room, which is furnished with tables and high-backed booths, including a number of small, intimate booths for couples. Tables are covered with white tablecloths and butcher paper, accompanied by heavy, white cotton napkins. Tiny candle bulb chandeliers and sconces with opaque yellow lampshades provide barely enough illumination to read the menu, let alone to discern whether the exposed brick walls are yellow, beige or gray. A carpeted floor helps keep down the noise, so conversation can flow.

Small diamond-shaped cornbread bites gave us something to nibble on as we considered Masa's imaginative, provocative menu. It quickly became obvious that the food's Southwestern thrust is far from Tex-Mex and stems from the prevalence of corn, chili peppers and cilantro in its preparations. It certainly does not derive from Masa's principal ingredients, which include such distinctively non-Southwestern creatures as oysters, scallops, swordfish and tuna.

The grilled calamari and seasonal oyster ($9) was the most memorable dish we encountered. This short cylinder of avocado, scallions, corn relish, chunks of tomato and chili-lime vinaigrette would have been a delicious and sufficient appetizer in itself, but it was topped by velvety sectors of tender yet resilient grilled squid and crowned with a voluptuous, briny oyster. The combination of tastes and textures—sweet, hot, salty, savory, creamy, silky, velvety and chewy—made this an absolute triumph. Almost as good was the skillet-roasted sea scallops and barbecued duck ($10), which consisted of three tender seared sea scallops of exquisite texture and shards of shredded, smokey barbecued duck, served with a corn cream that brought just the right note of sweetness. A clever and effective finishing touch was the garnish of crispy french-fried strips of onion.

The last appetizer we tried, gulf shrimp diavolo and queso and anejo tamale ($13), was almost excessively "picante"—chile-pepper hot—but the mellowness of the cheese mixed with cornmeal in the tamale provided a soothing counterpoint to the fiery-flavored giant





Chef Philip Aviles displays Masa's impressive tequila selection.

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Southwestern blackened tuna with yellow molé is accompanied by slices of Yukon gold potatoes and wild mushrooms.

shrimp. The green chili sauce drizzled around the outside of the plate was the only thing we encountered at Masa that we felt crossed the line from unusual to unpleasant, but it was extraneous to the dish and easily ignored.

Masa's main courses included a spectacular chili-glazed center-cut pork chop ($19) with roasted corn, stone fruit (which resembles plums in taste and texture) salsa and green apple molé. The chop, almost 1.5 inches thick and rare as ordered, was a succulent, flavorful cut of meat enhanced with the tart and sweet flavors of corn, apples and stone fruit. Red and green pepper strips, slivers of carrots and warm, savory spinach completed the ensemble. One of the pricier main courses, Southwestern blackened ahi tuna with yellow molé ($23) was a thick slab of sushi-quality tuna, seared on the outside but raw within, accompanied by marvelous slices of Yukon gold potatoes and wild mushrooms.

Finally, we enjoyed the chili-rubbed tenderloin steak and grilled vegetable slaw ($22) served with guajillo-laced bourbon sauce. The steak was a substantial cut of tender beef, served rare as ordered, and complemented, not overwhelmed, by a toothsome array of zucchini, onions and red peppers. A spoonful of garlic mashed potatoes, an unannounced surprise, hit the spot.

Impressed by Masa's appetizers and main courses, we were prepared to be let down by the desserts (all $8), since their descriptions on the menu were uninspiring at best. We were pleasantly surprised. The chocolate taco consisted of chocolate mousse with chunks of white chocolate as a garnish, enveloped in sweet, crunchy crepes (not corn tortillas, as we had feared) and surrounded by dollops of mango coulis, each surmounted by a plump blueberry and sliced fresh strawberries and whipped cream. Chocolate flan was an imposing pyramid of custard with a pronounced allspice flavor, which melded well with the chocolate.

Masa's wine list is decent if pricey, with bottle prices for reds starting above $25. The 1996 Castillo de Monjardin ($28), a refined Spanish cabernet sauvignon and merlot blend, was fruity and aromatic, with a solid structure. Masa's service was well-informed and efficient, friendly but not chummy. Our waiter one evening and waitress the other seemed to take a genuine interest in the food they were serving, and were willing to offer educated suggestions and endorsements, all of which were right on the mark.

With an imaginative menu that makes creative use of Southwestern tastes and textures, Masa is a South End standout. iB

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DISH

A Tale of Two Villages

Couscous and cosmetics in Cambridge... Nervousness in Newton

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Once upon a time, there was a neighborly little village whose epicenter of commerce was Woolworth's, whose residents bought groceries at the local market, and whose range of restaurants ran the gamut from an old-fashioned greasy spoon to Brigham's.

The village—Newton Highlands—is still there, of course, but the Woolworth's and the market and the Brigham's are long gone. In their place are numerous hair salons (Newton Hairlands?), trendy shops, the busy **Baker's Best Café**, and the just-opened **Le Soir**, which is chef/owner **Mark Allen**'s much-anticipated suburban outpost of contemporary French cuisine.

Much anticipated, that is, by the folks who relish the thought of another restaurant a la **Blue Ginger** or **Lumiere**. And much-dreaded by some Newton Highlands residents, who fear Le Soir could be the final nail in the coffin of their small-village identity.

What the heck is so scary about an upscale eatery run by the former chef of **The Dining Room at The Ritz**?

For starters, traffic and parking.

"We've become a destination, and everything is supported by people who drive here," says longtime resident and award-winning travel author **Bernice Chesler**, who points out that Le Soir has no designated parking. Already, she says, parking is so tight that merchants are trying to rent driveway space from her neighbors, and the double-parking outside Baker's Best—which recently started serving dinner—is a chronic headache.

"We're a little village, *not* a business district," says Chesler. **Matteo's**, the restaurant formerly located in Le Soir's spot, left a bad taste in many residents' mouths when its dumpsters were noisily—and illegally—emptied before 7am, she adds.

"You have to swing with the times," Chesler acknowledges, but she fervently hopes Le Soir will "respect the neighborhood," perhaps by offering valet parking.

For his part, Mark Allen sounds sincere when he expresses his desire to "work with the neighborhood, and do the right thing." He says he hasn't yet decided whether to offer valet parking, given that there's a metered parking lot across the street from the restaurant. He has, however, already "scheduled purveyors and trash people to come at the right hours." After all, says Allen, "I want local residents to come in for dinner."

In the meantime, if you visit Le Soir, please drive and park considerately. After all, if you like neighborhood restaurants, it makes sense to show respect for the neighborhood they're in.

Village No. 2: **Argana**, slated to open in Cambridge's Inman Square in February, is named for a Moroccan village and its population of argan trees. The wild argan, which grows exclusively in southwestern Morocco, is no ordinary tree. Goats climb its sturdy, gnarled branches to eat the leaves and oleaginous (oily and olive-like) fruits, then excrete the seeds (known as "argan almonds"), which are then collected and processed to extract a rare oil used in cooking, traditional medicine and cosmetics. The three brothers who own Argana—the same trio of Sephardic Jews who have lost their lease on the soon-to-close Marrakesh in Central Square—plan to offer a menu featuring the multicultural influences of Morocco, including dishes prepared with argan oil. Also available will be a variety of argan oil products. If you can't wait, there's a Moroccan women's cooperative that sells argan products—including "arganium" beauty serum and "amlou beldi," a peanut-butter-like breakfast spread that is reputed to have aphrodisiac qualities—via their Web site at *www.targanine.com*. **iB**

Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant?
Send it to dish@improper.com



Argana's general manager, Younis Rouzky, stands with his brother (and chef) Rachid near their new restaurant in Inman Square.

Tastings

BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

EVENTS

California's Great Cabernets and Meritage Reds
Wine Experiences Inc., 20-A Dartmouth St., Boston (617-859-7170). Dec. 6. $75. Taste wines from 10 vineyards.

Cookie Workshop for the Holidays
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 5, 6:30-9:30pm. $54. Learn how to make gingerbread, chocolate chip, shortbread and oatmeal raisin cookies.

French Regional Cheese Tasting
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-266-4351). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 6, 6:30pm. $55. A French cheese expert presents different cheeses from the Haute et Basse-Normandie, Bretagne, Pays de la Loire and Poitou-Charentes regions.

Grapes on the Cusp
The Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). Dec. 12, 6:30-8:30pm. $25. Wine expert **Al Stankus** familiarizes you with the language of wine. Is it Syrah, Shiraz or Sirah? Find out.

Greatest Hits Dinner
Centro, 720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-2405). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 4-9. $15-$23. The dinner menu will feature the year's most popular dishes in celebration of Centro's first year in business.

Great Wine for Under $20
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 6, 7:30-9:30pm. $47. No. 9 Park wine director **Cat Silirie** shows you how to look for wines that are inexpensive and possess great flavor and charm.

Holiday Season Weekend Tea
Salamander, One Huntington Ave., Boston (617-451-2150). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sat. and Sun., 3pm. Through the end of the year. Relax with a cup of jasmine pearls or organic oolong and spiced pumpkin custard with gingersnaps, brown sugar pecan madeleines and lemon-glazed teacakes.

Meat Only Night (Tired of Cooking Fish Night)
East Coast Grill & Bar, 1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-491-6568). Dec. 17. Chef **Eric Gburski** will flex his culinary muscles with what he calls "the four basic food groups: beef, lamb, pork and veal."

1961 Dinner Special
Chart House, 60 Long Wharf, Boston (617-227-1576). Through the end of the year. $19.61. Chart House's 1961 anniversary dinner is priced at $19.61 for chowder or salad, fresh regional fish and a slice of cheesecake.

Prix Fixe Lunch Menu
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). $25. This three-course menu is available Monday through Friday.

Robert Mondavi Winery
Stonehedge Inn, 160 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsboro (978-649-4400). $115. Winemakers from the top international vineyards speak at these wine dinners. •Dec. 17, 7pm: general manager **Clay Gregory** of Robert Mondavi Winery.

Sunny Flavors of the Land Down Under
Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3935). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Dec. 6, 6:30pm. $85. Chef **Benjamin Cevelo** pairs wines from Australia and New Zealand with cuisine from these lush locales.

Wine and Cheese Tasting
South End Formaggio, 268 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-350-6996). Dec. 8, 1-3pm. Free. Wine expert **Richard Kzirian** of Violette Wine Cellars offers a free sampling of his new wine releases: Australian sparkling shiraz, French Burgundies and Australian Old Vine Semillion.

Wine Tasting With Lorenzo
Les Zygomates, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Tue., 6 and 8pm. $25. Sommelier **Lorenzo Savona** hosts this tasting. •Dec. 11: East Coast wines •Dec. 18: Canadian wines.



Day chef Tsering D. Dongshi tells chef/owner Andy Husbands to "have some momo."

TASTY TIDBIT

THIS MAGIC MOMO

Tremont 647 chef/owners Andy and Gretchen Husbands predict that "the 1 millionth momo will be ordered on Dec. 15 at approximately 8pm." Not familiar with the "momo"? It's a steamed dough pillow stuffed with minced, spiced pork (similar to Peking ravioli)—and if you have yet to try one of these delicacies, Dec. 15 may be the day to experiment. The lucky diner who places the order will win free momos for a year.

The next day, Tremont 647 celebrates its fifth anniversary. Fans of this South End boîte already know that birthday celebrations have been conspicuously absent from Tremont 647's social calendar for the past four years. The owners didn't want to jinx themselves (given that so many restaurants fail within the first five years). They finally feel confident enough to do it up big with a giant celebration of food cooked by some of the dozens of chefs who have worked in their kitchen since 1996. Illustrious alumni include Ken Oringer of Clio, Chris Schlesinger of East Coast Grill, Barbara Lynch of No. 9 Park, Michael Leviton of Lumiere, Marc Orfaly of Pigalle, Ana Sortun of Oleana, Nicole Coady of Finale and Paul Sussman of Macondo. Expect to see momos on the menu. *647 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-4600). Dec. 16, 7pm. $50 (to benefit the Windows of Hope Foundation and Share Our Strength). —J.S.*

TOP RIGHT: RITA GREELEY

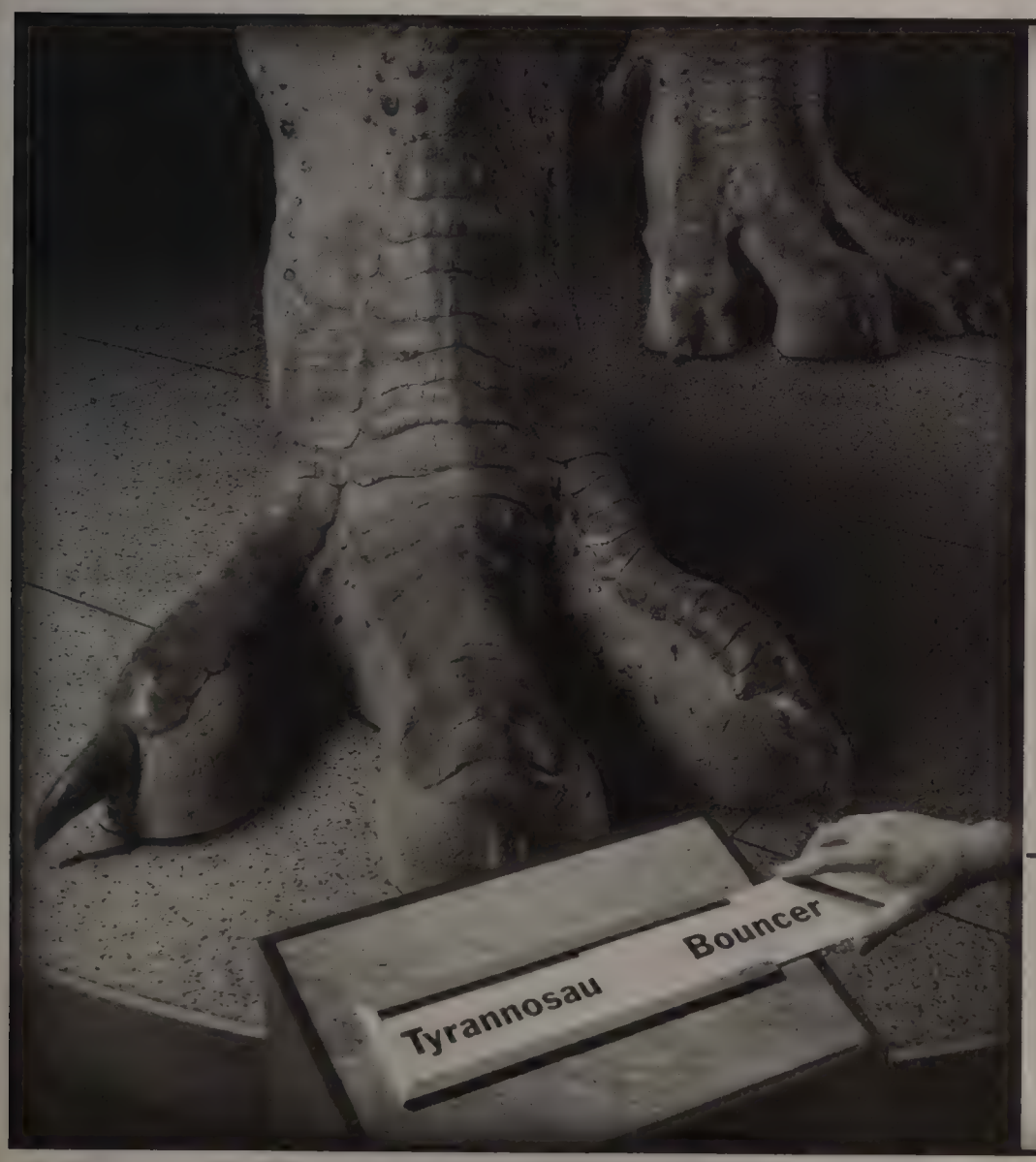
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For more information, call
(617) 723-2500 or visit mos.org.

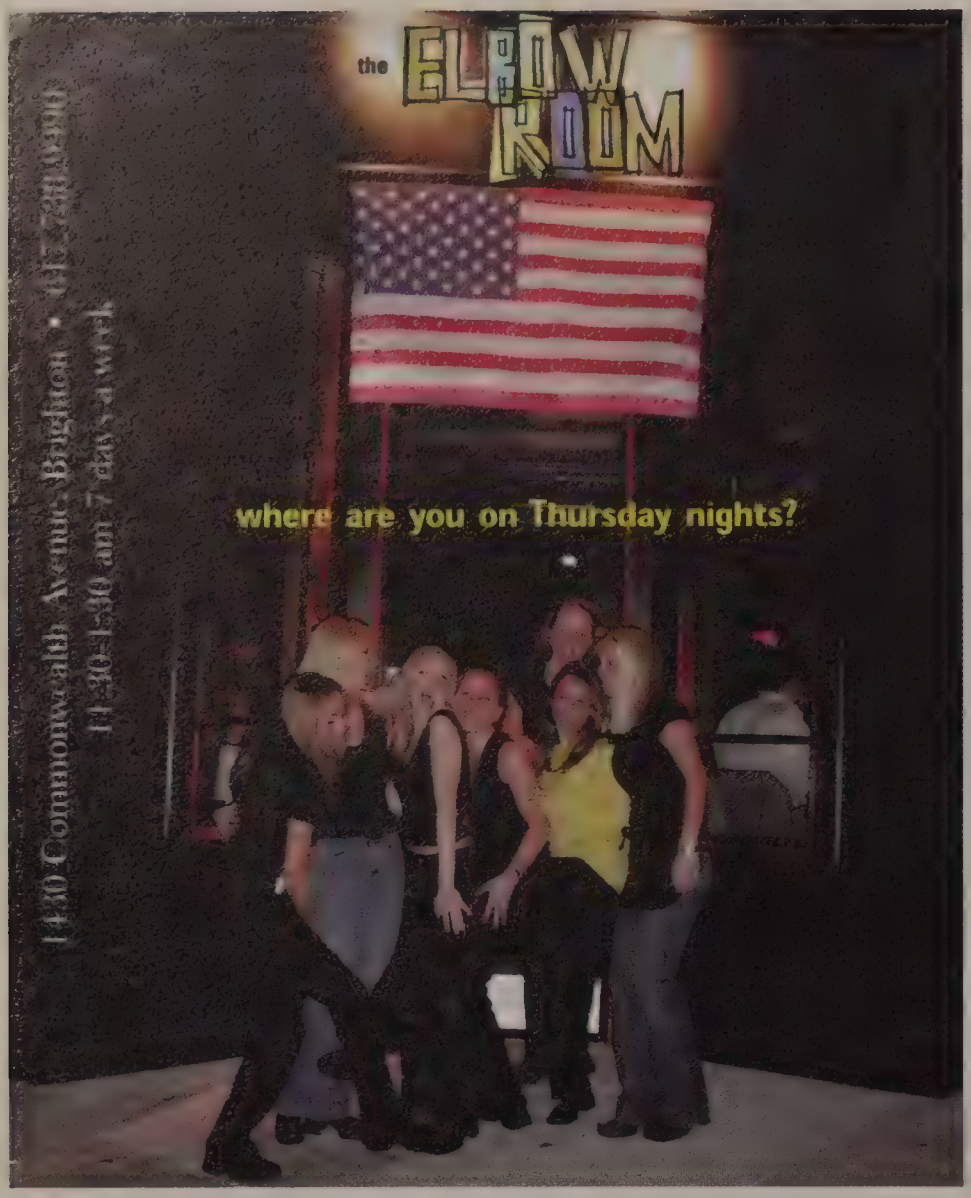
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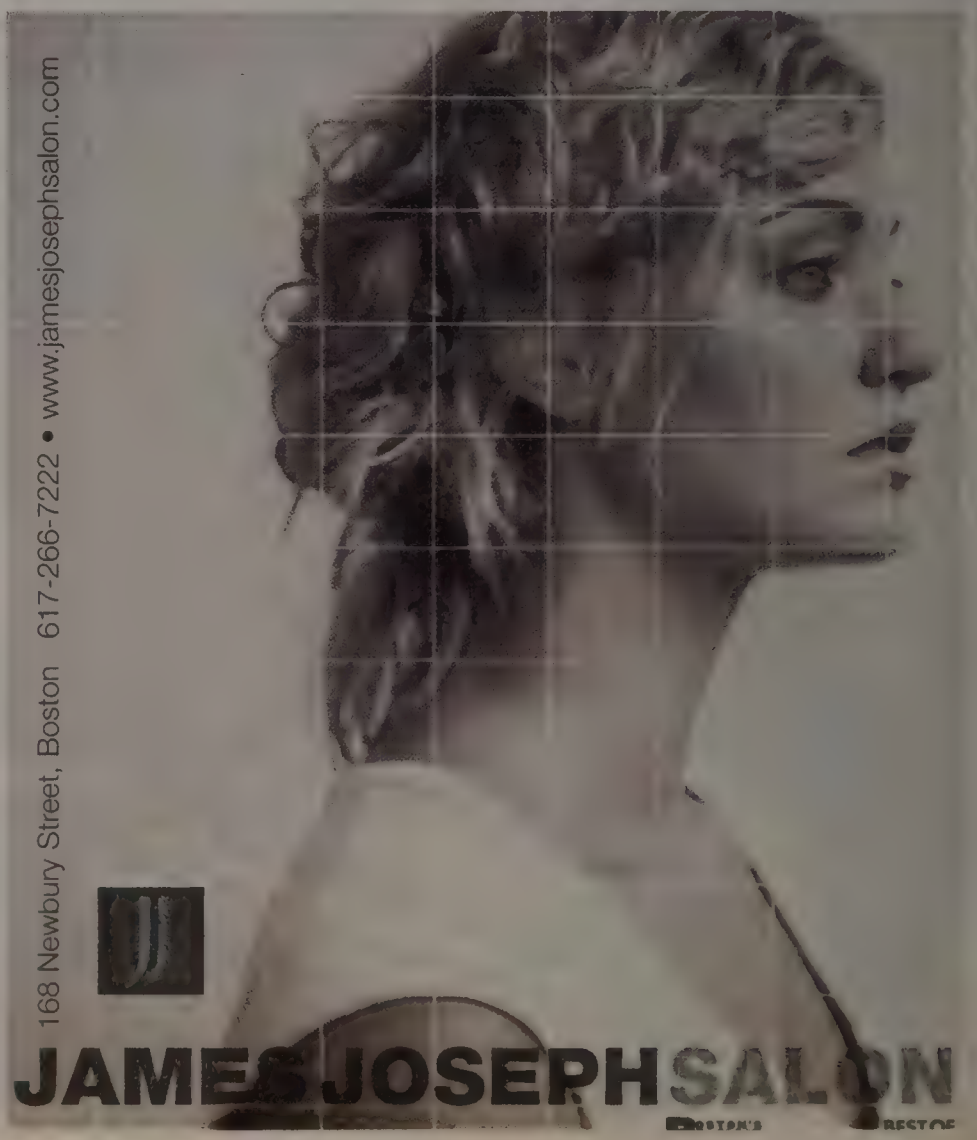
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agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 56
PERFORMING ARTS 58
ART 60
BOOKS & POETRY 62
EDUCATION 62
FILM 64
DANCE CLUBS 68
MUSIC 72
CLASSICAL MUSIC 80
GAY & LESBIAN 81
BODY & MIND 82
SPORTS 82
CHILDREN 83
AROUND TOWN 83

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports

improper picks

THROUGHOUT DECEMBER

Art: Gifts From the Art

We've decided to take the advice of all those experts on the daytime talk shows and give gifts from the heart (read: gifts that take a smaller toll on our anemic wallets) this holiday season. Our quest for low-tech presents finds us cruising the arts-and-crafts show circuit to discover a few heartwarming items for the 'rents and the like. First stop: MassArt's Holiday Sale, which features fine arts and crafts made by students and alums, including ceramics, glass, painting, prints, fiber art and jewelry, Dec. 3-7. The students at Harvard offer their own Fine Arts Show and Sale Dec. 5 with paintings, sculpture, photography and prints. The following weekend is the Museum School at the MFA's annual December Exhibition and Sale with more than 4,000 works of art—from jewelry and paintings to sculpture and photography—by alumni, faculty, students and staff Dec. 6-9. (We're told that this is a great place to find innovative stocking stuffers.) Also that weekend (and every weekend through Dec. 16) is the Brookline Crafts Showcase, which offers a selection of fine crafts by more than 100 artists. The Swedish Yuletide takes over the Boston Center for the Arts with traditional food and drink, plus unique Scandanavian gifts, Dec. 8. And finally, the annual Holly Fair in Cambridge will feature jury-selected handmade crafts from local artists. By which point, we'll definitely need a stiff egg nog to replenish our energy. *See CityScope and Art on pages 56 and 60, respectively, for more information.*





Jewelry by Gianna Bird will be on sale at the Brookline Crafts Showcase.

WED./DEC. 12—SUN./DEC. 16

Music: Hometown Throwdown

Ska-pop prodigal sons **The Mighty Mighty Bosstones** are about to return home. Formed more than 15 years ago, the band was one of the first groups to cross high-energy ska with hardcore punk and heavy metal. The Bosstones built up a devoted following throughout their career—especially here in Boston—having started out with Tim Bridewell, Dicky Barrett (vocals), Nate Albert (guitar), Joe Gittleman (bass), Josh Dalsimer (drums) and Tim "Johnny Vegas" Burton (saxophone) plus dancer Ben Carr. The beloved ska pioneers are playing a grand total of five shows this week, all at Axis. *That's at 13 Lansdowne St., Boston. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Call (617-423-NEXT) for tickets.*

THROUGHOUT DECEMBER

Education: Terrorism Examined

Clearly, the topic *du jour* at lectures around town is the war in Afghanistan and lingering fears resulting from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. **Lieutenant Colonel William D. Kendrick** speaks on the nature of terrorism at the Newton Free Library Dec. 6. Once you've been properly spooked, head over to the BCAE Dec. 11 to overcome your fear of flying. You'll discover how a plane works and see how flying, demystified, isn't so frightening after all. Finally, at the JFK Library, **General Wesley K. Clark**, who oversaw NATO's intervention in Yugoslavia, comments on the current U.S. military and diplomatic efforts to confront terrorist networks on Dec. 12. Now if we could just pull our heads out from under our covers, we'd be halfway there. *See Education on page 62.*



WED./DEC. 5—SUN./DEC. 23

Performing Arts: Some Enchanted Evening

My goodness, it's the month for '80s comebacks. First, we've got *Footloose on Ice* over at the Shubert Theatre, and now the star of one of our other all-time favorites, *Flashdance*'s Michael Nouri (the original man of steel!) will play the leading role in the Rodgers & Hammerstein's classic, ***South Pacific***. Winner of nine Tony Awards, the show is based on James Michener's Pulitzer prize–winning novel, *Tales of the South Pacific*. Set on an island paradise during World War II, parallel love stories underscore the dangers of prejudice and war. The plot is a bit hokey and the love stories thin, but the songs...aah, the songs...how could you not love a musical with "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right Out of My Hair"? *Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Dec. 5-23. $25-$75.*



THROUGH SUN./DEC. 30

Art: Love Is in the Air

Still looking for love in all the wrong places? You're sure to find all forms of romance at *The Sensuous and the Sublime: Representations of Love in the Arts of the Middle East and Southern Asia*, a love-themed exhibition at Harvard's Arthur M. Sackler Museum. The collection presents the many facets of love—sacred and profane—as expressed in artworks primarily from Iran, Turkey, India, Tibet and Nepal, produced from the 13th through 19th centuries. Some depict love in its spiritual and physical form, others show maternal affection or mythological lovers. Time is running out—it shows through Dec. 30. *485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm.*

FRI./DEC. 14—SUN./DEC. 23

Performing Arts: Kick Off Your Sunday Shoes

When we heard that ***Footloose on Ice*** would be making a stop in Boston, we automatically assumed the show would be staged at the FleetCenter. Wrong. Try the Shubert Theatre. How the folks there are going heft 10,000 pounds of ice to form a 40-foot-by-40-foot ice rink is beyond us. Apparently, the crushed ice will be hauled into the theater, loaded into pans and left to freeze for 24 hours, according to Jerry Solomon, producer of the show (and husband of the show's star, two-time Olympic medalist Nancy Kerrigan). Kerrigan stars opposite two-time US National skating champion Scott Davis in this revival of the '80s hit that starred hunky Kevin Bacon. But will Davis do justice to the role of Ren, the reckless, music-loving boy from the big city who moves to a town where dancing is not allowed? We'll just have to throw on our stonewashed jeans and leg warmers, feather our hair and go see for ourselves. *The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 14-23. $14-$62.*



THROUGHOUT DECEMBER

CityScope: Light Bright

We're always looking for a fun way to see what our creative fellow city dwellers have come up with on the Christmas decoration front. This year two trolley tours offer relaxed, carol-filled tours. Old Town Trolley Tours' **Holly Jolly Holiday Trolley Tour** takes you through Boston proper on a fully narrated, two-hour journey. You can savor the sights, sounds and stories of picturesque Beacon Hill, the twinkling lights of Boston Common and get a spectacular view of the 50-foot tree at the Prudential Center. There's plenty of caroling aboard as well. Tickets are available at the The Trolley Stop Store Dec. 6-30. *Adults are $25; children $12. (617-269-3626).* Another option takes place on Sunday, Dec. 15 (snowdate: Dec. 19)—the fifth annual **Illuminations Tour** leaves Somerville City Hall to embark upon a tour of Somerville's best and brightest houses, yards and rooftops. The jolly, cider-filled 45-minute expedition takes you to streets where Somerville residents have transformed their homes and yards with lights and statues. The starting and ending point, City Hall, is stocked up with hot coffee, cookies and hot chocolate. Tickets ($10, adults; $5 kids) are on sale at McIntyre and Moore Booksellers (255 Elm St. in Davis Square).

SUN./DEC. 9

Sports: Bells on Their Toes

If you missed the IMPROPER's annual Halloween Fun Run along the streets of Boston this year, shame on you. But here's a chance to make up for it: the **Bill Rodgers Jingle Bell Run**, a 3-mile jaunt that begins and ends at Avalon Dec. 9. Throw on your best elf costume or Santa suit and get ready to jingle through the city with tiny bells fastened to your tennies. Named in honor of Boston's most famous marathoner, the run benefits several children's charities, including Casa and Toys for Tots, and ends with a riotous fun post-party on Lansdowne that beats the stockings off your Aunt Esther's annual Christmas snoozer. May the best reindeer win. *Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-723-5612).* www.billrodgers.com. *Registration, 3-4pm, race 5pm. $20, $30 day of race.*

WED./DEC. 12

Books & Poetry: Playtime with a Playwright

Usually, going to hear a lecture is perfectly suited for a Wednesday evening's activities—a middle-of-the-week, middle-of-the-road outing option. Today, Pulitzer Prize–winning author and playwright **David Mamet** reads from his newest effort, a book called *Wilson: A Consideration of the Source*. Beginning in the late 1970s, Mamet had a number of stage successes before his first produced screenplay, *The Postman Always Rings Twice* (1981). He then churned out several highly regarded scripts, received the Pulitzer Prize for *Glengarry Glen Ross*, wrote heaps of screenplays like *American Buffalo, Sexual Perversity in Chicago, Wag the Dog* and *The Verdict*, and in his spare time, wrote a book of poems, five collections of essays and two novels. Whew.Today, he'll talk about his book, as well as his most recent film, *State and Main. That's at Newtonville Books, 296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm.*

WED./DEC. 12

Music: Good Vibrations Wed./Dec. 12

Soulful freestyling MC **Kabir** celebrates his much-anticipated debut CD, *Cultural Confusion*, at the House of Blues on Wednesday. Kabir is an independent rapper, singer and producer who has made a name for himself in London and now in Boston. As a rapper, Kabir has performed his electronica and funk-infused hip-hop with giants such as The Pharcyde, The Beatnuts, The Roots, A Tribe Called Quest and Wyclef-Jean of The Fugees. As the lead singer, songwriter and keyboardist in the original funk/soul/jazz act Uncle Trouble, his music has been spreading throughout the U.S. and Europe since 1995. As a producer, Kabir is currently working on tracks for local legends Mr. Lif, Virtuoso and Ed O.G. With his new album, Kabir has joined forces with the members of the jazz jam band Miracle Orchestra, who join him on stage for the show. *9pm.18+, $8. 96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-931-2000).*

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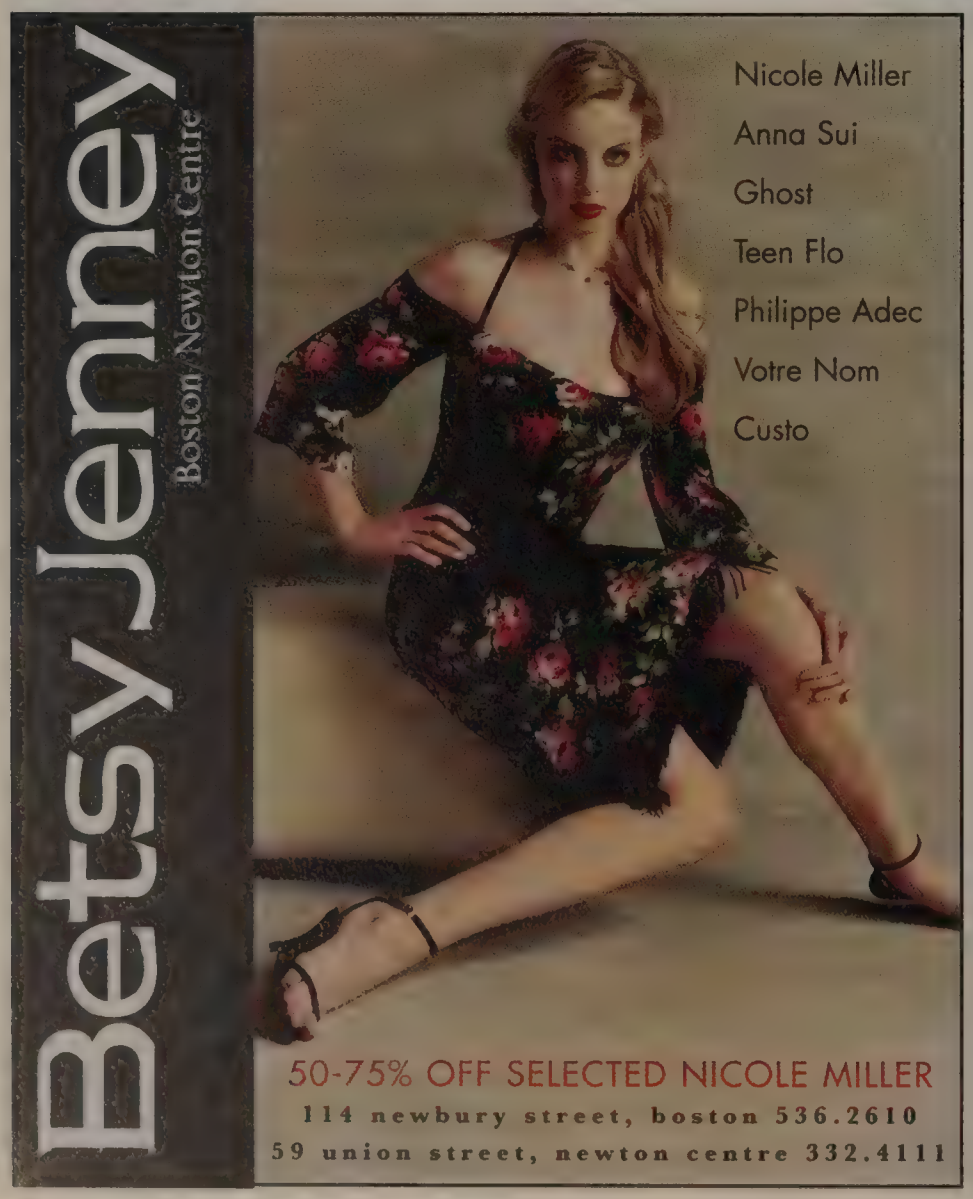
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Festivals, Benefits & Events

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

Harvard Fine Arts Show and Sale
Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251) www.fas.harvard.edu/~vesweb/. *Reception Dec. 6 at 6pm. Through Dec. 14.* Students from the department of fine arts will exhibit painting, sculpture, photography and printmaking completed this fall. The work will be for sale, so if you think you've got an eye for the Next Big Thing, better bring your checkbook.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6

Old Town Holly Jolly Trolley Tour
The Trolley Stop Store, corner of Boylston and South Charles streets, Boston (617-269-3626) www.historictours.com. *9am-4pm daily through Dec. 30.* Get a look at Boston's holiday highlights while learning about the evolution of our traditions. As an added bonus, every Sunday until the end of the year the Old Town Trolley Tour will be free to Massachusetts residents, so bring proof of residency.

Kala Raksha Art Sale Benefit
The Peabody Museum Shop, 11 Divinity Ave., Cambridge (617-495-2249) www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *9am-5pm daily through Dec. 9.* This art show and sale will benefit earthquake relief in the Kala Raksha region of India.

Bay Colony Cluster Dog Show
Bayside Expo Center, Exit 15 off Route 93 South, Boston (617-556-7747). 8am-5pm daily through Dec. 9. $10 adults, $5 children. More than 32,000 people are expected to attend this show, where about 12,000 dogs will vie for the "Best in Show" trophy. There will be a number of competition events, including retrieving, jumping and scent discrimination. Booths will offer dog-related wares to current owners, and people thinking about getting a canine will find this a good place to do their research. Sorry, dawg, the public's pooches are not allowed.

SATURDAY, DEC. 8

16th Annual Swedish Yuletide Fair
The Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston (781-237-4557). 10am-4pm. The Swedish Women's Educational Association invites everyone to come check out Swedish food, drink, music and entertainment at this annual event. A candy maker from the town of Grenna will demonstrate how to make "polkagrisar," a peppermint rock candy. And even if you don't have umlaut in your name or a Volvo in the garage, you might find a unique Christmas present here.

Fête de Noël
The French Library and Cultural Center, 53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-912-0400) www.frenchlib.org. *10am-12:30pm and 1-3pm. $4 members, $6 non-members.* A raffle, snacks, a book sale, Santa and general festive cheer characterize this annual event.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9

Bill Rodgers Jingle Bell Run
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St. (617-723-5612) www.billrodgers.com. *Registration 3-4pm, race 5pm. $20 in advance, $30 day of race.* This 3-mile run and costume contest benefits children's charities such as Casa and Toys for Tots (be sure to bring a new and unwrapped toy with you). Prizes will be awarded for best team and individual holiday-themed costumes, and all paid entrants get a snazzy T-shirt. There will also be a riotous fun post-party at Avalon, so don't forget to bring your ID.

Beacon Hill Holiday Stroll
Cambridge and Charles streets, Beacon Hill (617-720-1424). 2-6pm. Charles Street will be closed to traffic for this event, which means that the Victorian carolers won't have to worry about dodging drivers who are looking for an open meter spot. There will also be horse-and-buggy rides and a tree lighting at the corner of Charles and Mt. Vernon streets at 5pm.


Stockholm native Sofia Hallqvist will pose as St. Lucia, the queen of light, at the Swedish Yuletide Fair Dec. 8 at The Cyclorama.

TUESDAY, DEC. 11

Holiday in the Back Bay
The Red Room, Sonsie, 327 Newbury St., Boston (617-351-2500) 6pm. This reception benefits the Toys for Tots program.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13

Jose Cuervo Windows of Hope Party
The Cactus Club, 939 Boylston St., Boston (617-236-0200) 6-8pm. Proceeds from drinks and donations at this party will benefit the Windows of Hope Relief Fund, which provides aid to the families of World Trade Center victims who worked in the restaurant industry.

FRIDAY, DEC. 14

Santa Claus Anonymous SnowBall
Boston Park Plaza Hotel (617-333-0327) www.sca-boston.org. *9pm-2am. $60 in advance, $70 at the door. VIP reception at 7:30pm; $100 per person, $180 per couple, suggested donation.* The 15th Annual SnowBall is a black-tie affair that aims to raise more than $70,000 for organizations that dedicated to improving the lives of at-risk youths. Live entertainment will be provided by an eclectic range of performers including Entrain, NovaKane, Boston City Lights and DJ Denise LaCarubba. Mohegan Sun will host a play-casino where your money goes to charity.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15

Skinner Toys, Dolls and Collectibles Auction
The Heritage on the Garden, 63 Park Plaza, Boston (617-350-5400) www.skinnerinc.com. *10am.* Maybe the kiddies will be more interested in *new* toys, but there should be loads of interesting stuff here (such as a toy steamboat made in 1875) for the big kids in your life or mind.

Cambridge Center for Adult Education's 48th Annual Holly Fair
42 and 56 Brattle St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-547-6789) www.ccae.org. *Dec. 15, 10am-5:30pm; Dec. 16, 12-5pm. Free.* Jury-selected handmade crafts from local artists will be on sale, along with baked goods and homemade hot food. Proceeds benefit CCAE's Scholarship Fund.


Learn about Boston and holiday traditions on the Holly Jolly Trolley Tour.

SUNDAY, DEC. 16

Boston Tea Party Re-enactment
Old South Meeting House, Washington St. 5:30pm. Come and let those blasted Brits know that the Colonies won't stand for this preposterous tea tax any longer at the site of the original protest in 1773. Participating in the re-enactment costs $1, unless you're in Colonial garb, in which case it's free. Time to break out the knickers and get rowdy 1773-style!

Frederick Law Olmsted National Historic Site 19th Annual Holiday Open House
Frederick Law Olmsted NHS, 99 Warren St., Brookline (617-566-1689, ext. 216) 1-4pm. Displays, complimentary refreshments and live music by a faculty duo from the Brookline Music School will add festive cheer to the FLONHS. Special prizes will be part of the celebration.

TOP: ANNA WHITE

THE

Comedy

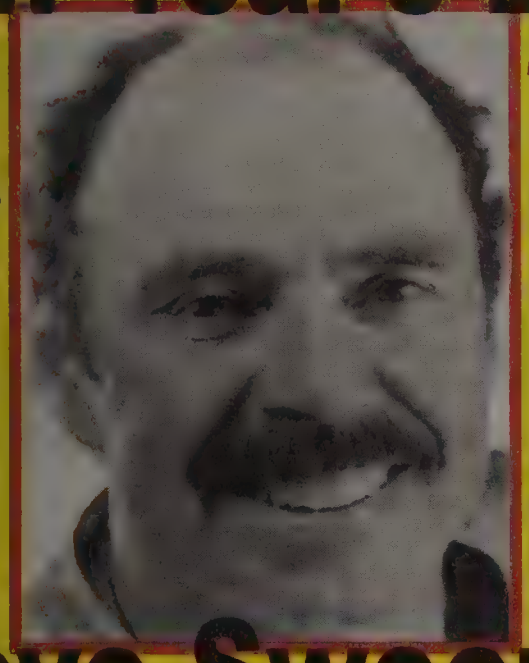
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DECEMBER 7-9 | DEC. 14-15 | DEC. 28-30



Jeff Dunham



Gary Gulman



Dane Cook

Every Thursday!

"The R-Rated Hypnotist"

Frank Santos





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performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

A Child's Christmas in Wales
Lyric West Theatre, Mass. Bay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley (781-235-0488). Fri., 8pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5pm. Dec. 7-23. $27-$32. Set in a tiny Welsh fishing village at the beginning of the 20th century, this is the tale of a young boy's remembrances of past Christmases.

Christmas Revels
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-). Dec. 14-16, 20-23 and 26-30. $12-$30. This year, Revels visits its origins in Tudor England. Travel to the golden age of the Revels—from Henry VIII's court to the coronation of the young Queen Elizabeth and the flowering of the Renaissance—with music, plays and entertainment.

Dreaming With an AIDS Patient
Roxbury Community College, 1234 Columbus Ave., Roxbury (617-541-5381). Dec. 7-8, 8pm.. This one-act play, based on the true-life events of dream therapist Robert Bosnak and his patient, first made an appearance in the '80s.

Enrico IV
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 7-Jan. 13. $26-$61. A horse-riding accident has left a wealthy Italian nobleman scarred with a strange delusion—he believes himself to be Emporer Henry IV of Germany.

Footloose on Ice
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 14-23. $14-$62. Two-time Olympic medalist Nancy Kerrigan stars opposite two-time US National skating champion Scott Davis in this revival of the '80s classic that starred Kevin Bacon.

A Girl's War
The Boston Playwrights' Theatre, 949 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-358-PLAY). Thu., 7pm; Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 16. $20. The moving story of a successful fashion model who boldly crosses the borders—between New York and her Third World family, between Christian Armenians and Muslim Azerbaijanis, and ultimately between love and war.

Holiday Spectacular on Ice on the Rocks
Industrial Theater, Leverett Old Library Theatre, Mill and Plympton streets, Cambridge (617-257-7480). www.industrialtheatre.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 15, 2 and 8pm.* No skates, no Zambonis, just some well-built tales about the sweet and sour nature of the holiday season. A gift basket filled to the brim with tales of delight, disappointment and Star Wars toys.

It's a Wonderful Life
The Fiddlehead Theatre, 109 Central St., Norwood (781-762-4060). Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 16. Based on the film by Frank Capra, this play tells the story of George Bailey and the small town of Bedford Falls.

Musical! The Holiday Musical
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 9, 16 and 23, 7pm; Dec. 10 and 17, 7:30pm; Dec. 11 and 18, 7:30pm. $16. This improv troupe takes audience suggestions of song titles that have never been written, plots and characters from the holiday movies you've grown to love (or hate) and perhaps some cheesy tinsel and improvise a new musical extravangaza each night.

Six Degrees of Separation
The Nexus Theatre Center, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Dec. 6-23. $25. This play by John Guare is the winner of the New York Critics Circle Award for Best Play, the Hull Warriner Award and the Obie. It's a deeply provocative tragicomedy of race, class and manners.

South Pacific
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Dec. 5-23. $25-$75. Screen star Michael Nouri stars in this Rodgers & Hammerstein's classic. Winner of nine Tony Awards, the show is based on the Pulitzer prize–winning novel by James Michener. Set on an island paradise during World War II, parallel love stories are threatened by the dangers of prejudice and war.

This Ain't Your Bubbe's Yiddish Theater
Temple Israel, Longwood Avenue and Plymouth Street, Boston (617-566-3960). MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood. Dec. 14, 8:15pm. Mark and Renee Brachfeld weave together a vibrant and joyful performance brimming with folk tales, music and contemporary stories drawn from Hebrew, Yiddish, Sephardic and American Jewish sources.

The Xmas Files
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Dec. 7-10, 13-16 and 20-22. One night of short holiday-themed comedic plays about fruitcakes—the kind you eat and the kind you break up with.

NOW RUNNING

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 16. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3 and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

City Preacher
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Through Dec. 16. $15. Ed Mullin's play serves as a metaphor for a spiritual crisis in the life of young Adam Clayton Powell Jr., who became a legendary historical figure during the post Harlem Renaissance era.

A Christmas Carol
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 23. $18-$56. This musical adaptation of the Dickens classic stars David Coffee.

A Christmas Carol
Stoneham Theatre, 359 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Dec. 23. $25-$35. Scrooge, Marley, Tiny Tim and friends star in this musical.

A Christmas Carol
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Dec. 28. $28-$42. Charles Dickens's tale is complete with singing, dancing and special theatrical effects.

The Cripple of Inishman
Arlington Friends of the Drama, 22 Academy St., Arlington Center (781-646-5922). www.afdtheatre.org. *Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 9. $15.* This black comedy is about life on a remote Irish island.

Dancing at the Revolution
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 22. $20. Award-winning playwright Michael Bettencourt creates social activist Emma Goldman's prison world.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Now What?
Nexus Theater Center, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Through Dec. 15. $25. Daena Giardella takes audiences on a gutsy, poignant, humorous and riveting journey through the complexities of life since the events of Sept. 11.

Nutcrackers: The Nunsense Christmas Musical
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Dec. 29. $20-$36. Those wacky nuns are back—this time filming a television special in a cable access studio.

Othello
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 17. $26-$61. This production of *Othello* boasts a cosmopolitan cast. Yuri Yeremin, one of Russia's leading directors, and Yugoslavia's famed import, Mirjana Jokovic, who plays Desdemona, contribute their European theatrical experience to the staging of *Othello* in America.

Performance Cult
The Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (781-891-1188). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 16. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short original vignettes.

Rose
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Wed., 2 and 7pm; Thu., 8pm; Sat., 4:30 and 8:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Dec. 16. $25-$33. Rose is a Jewish woman who left her Ukrainian village home to find a new life in America. Instead, she struggles in the Warsaw ghetto.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

The Wake of Jamey Foster
Spingold Theater Center, Brandeis University, Waltham (781-736-3400). Tue.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Dec. 4-9. $11-$15. This comic saga takes place in a small Mississippi town where characters gather to mourn the passing of a ne'er-do-well who was kicked in the head by a cow while consorting with his mistress in a pasture.

Yeoman of the Guard
Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (617-495-8675). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 6-7, 8pm. Falsely accused of sorcery, Col. Fairfax awaits execution in the Tower of London.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (617-423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm;



A cast of six local actors bring life to the short plays of much-loved children's poet, Shel Silverstein, in the Market Theater's performance of *Shel's Shorts* Dec. 7-Jan. 27.

Preview

Shel Shocked

Poet/playwright Shel Silverstein entertains adults at the Market Theater

Remember little Sally Ann McKay, who could not go to school today? She had the measles and the mumps, a gash, a rash and purple bumps? Or the patient little Giving Tree who gave to Boy until he could give no more? Or Sarah Silvia Cynthia, who would not throw the garbage out?

The words of poet Shel Silverstein remain nearly as fresh in our minds as they did during our childhood, when we eagerly paged through our dog-eared copies of *A Light in the Attic* or *Where the Sidewalk Ends*. Not many of us know that Silverstein had another life—as a cartoonist for *Playboy*, a composer/lyricist and a playwright.

When he passed away in 1999, stacks upon stacks of his short plays were discovered in his massive archives. None had been performed until recently, when two companies were given the rights to the plays. The first—The Atlantic Theater in New York—presented 10 of his plays last month to rave reviews. The other—Cambridge's own Market Theater—will feature *Shel's Shorts* Dec. 7-Jan. 27.

"By no means is this the *Giving Tree*," warns director Wesley Savick. "The stories are very much for adults." The dark and funny plays will be perfomed in two separate programs—each consisting of nine or 10 skits—with a single cast of six actors and one set. In the first, *Signs of Trouble*, a woman's curiosity gets the best of her when she ignores a "Do Not Feed the Animal" sign, a suicidal man interrupts his wife's relaxing bath, and an existential waitresss refuses to explain her "No Skronking" sign. "They're all characterized by great twists—just when you think you're on top of the story line, Silverstein pulls the rug out from under you," says Savick. The other, *Shel Shocked*, directed by Larry Coen, features plays with similarly bizarre themes. *Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (617-576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 7-Jan. 27. $35 each (or $60 for both). —Julie Short*

Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands. Enjoy a bawdy romp through the Middle Ages as minstrels, jesters, oafs and wenches entertain.

Dance

Body Tales

Mobius. 354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). Nov. 29-Dec. 30, 8pm. $10. Alissa Cardone, Alla Kovgan and Dedalus Wainwright present a collaboration of dance, video, sound and constructions.

The Nutcracker at Jose Mateo's Ballet Theatre

400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467). Thu., Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 6:30pm; Sat. and Sun. matinees, 2pm. Nov. 29-Dec. 30. $25-$29. The so-called "other" *Nutcracker* in town features the same classic holiday story at a smaller venue. The more intimate setting gives the audience a close-up view of the new sets and choreography.

Stomp

Wilbur Theatre. 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008). MBTA Green Line to Boylston. Through Jan. 6. $25-$52. With no plot or dialogue, performers use everyday objects such as brooms, garbage can lids and their own bodies to create music for their dance numbers.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors

Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge

Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection

245 Quincy Market Place. Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda. Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Dec. 5: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up a Little comedy tour •Dec. 6: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Dec. 7: Jeff Dunham, two-time winner of the Ventriloquist of the Year award. •Dec. 8: Boston headliners and Jeff Dunham •Dec. 9: Jeff Dunham, Black Comedy Explosion with Jonathon Gates •Dec. 10: Amateur Showcase with Kevin Knox •Dec. 11: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz •Dec. 13: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Dec. 14-15: Gary Gulman from *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno* •Dec. 16: Black Comedy Explosion with Jonathon Gates •Dec. 17: Amateur Showcase with Kevin Knox •Dec. 18: Paul Nardizzi and Robbie Printz.



Ventriloquist Jeff Dunham and his furry friends perform at the Comedy Connection Dec. 7-9.

The Comedy Studio

The Hong Kong. 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Dec. 6: The Tim McIntire Show with Tom Caswell, Bill Ford, John Keating and Ben Boime. •Dec. 7: The Piston Honda Show with Pat O'Shea, TJ Griffin, Nate Johnson, Ben Murray and Joe Dinkin. •Dec. 8: The Rick Jenkins Show with Pat O'Shea, Dave Greenberg, TJ Griffin, Steph Wishnick and Janet Cormier. •Dec. 9: Sam Walter's Comic Workout with Jim McCue, James Patterson, Chris Walsh, Laura Kolling, Deb Farrar-Parkman, Dot Dwyer and Hugh Chatfield. •Dec. 13: Tim McIntire, Stefan Scherby, Greg Boggis, Walter Dixon and Jesse Emmitt. •Dec. 15: Brent Sverdloff, Bethany Van Delf, Michelle Pierce, Ben Joplin, Greg Rodrigues, Tony Moschetto and Kelly MacFarland. •Dec. 16: The Tony V Holiday Special. •Dec. 20: Tim McIntire, Mike Dorval, Steve Calechman and Bob Lazarus. •Dec. 21: Alana Devich, Dan Newbower, Eric Riley Moore and Anwar Floyd-Pruitt with Piston Honda.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault

Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy troupe.

Nick's Comedy Stop

100 Warrenton St., Theatre District, Boston (617-423-2900). Ticket prices $10-$22. •Dec. 6, 8:30pm; Dec. 7-8, 8:45pm: Vinny Favorito, Pete Costello and Al March. •Dec. 13, 8:30pm; Dec. 14-15, 8:45pm: Larry Miles, Tom Clark and John Pizzi.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum

216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10pm. Main Stage: $10-$15. On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show featuring all-new material. •Wed., 8pm, and Sun., 7:30pm: Best of Improv Asylum.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater

1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (617-576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Dec. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 8pm, $12: *The ImprovBoston Holiday Spectacular* ushers in the holiday season with an improvisational show of music, video and sketches. •Dec. 6, 13, 20 and 27, 7pm, $5: *Micetro* is a competition in which only the funniest survive. The audience scores all performers in a series of elimination rounds to finally judge who is the improv champion. •Dec. 7, 14, 21, and 28, 10:30pm, $12: *TheatreSports Boston* is a fast-paced competition that pits two teams against each other as the audience judges their improvisational skills. •Dec. 8, 15, 22, and 29, 8pm and 10:30pm, $12: *The ImprovBoston Mainstage* is the cornerstone show of the ImprovBoston that constantly reinvents itself through music, sketches, audience participation and improvisation. •Dec. 9, 16, 23, and 30, 7pm, $5: *Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree* pays homage to the WWI military officer who entertained troops with his original style of comedy.

COMEDY SHOWS

An Evening of Comedy and Hypnosis

Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). Dec. 6, 7:30-9pm. $25. Professional hypnotherapist Steve Marino uses volunteers from the audience to demonstrate the power of hypnosis in his stand-up comedy act.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding

Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center, Fri. and Sat., 7pm, $49 (includes dinner), ongoing. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night

Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-1759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

The Sopranos' Last Supper

Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). Dec. 7, 14 and 21. $49. This interactive dinner show based on the HBO television series *The Sopranos* is a spoof on an Italian-American mob family.

Added shows for the holidays!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2001-2002

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Dec.3 NO SHOW	Dec.4 8pm	Dec.5 1+8pm	Dec.6 8pm	Dec.7 4,7+10pm	Dec.8 4,7+10pm	Dec.9 1,4+7pm
Dec.10 NO SHOW	Dec.11 8pm	Dec.12 8pm	Dec.13 8pm	Dec.14 4,7+10pm	Dec.15 4,7+10pm	Dec.16 1,4+7pm
Dec.17 NO SHOW	Dec.18 5+8pm	Dec.19 5+8pm	Dec.20 5+8pm	Dec.21 4,7+10pm	Dec.22 4,7+10pm	Dec.23 1,4+7pm
Dec.24 2+5pm	**Dec.25** NO SHOW	Dec.26 2,5+8pm	Dec.27 2,5+8pm	Dec.28 4,7+10pm	Dec.29 4,7+10pm	Dec.30 1,4+7pm
Dec.31 4,7+10pm	**Jan.1** 2,5+8pm	Jan.2 2,5+8pm	Jan.3 5+8pm	Jan.4 4,7+10pm	Jan.5 4,7+10pm	Jan.6 1,4+7pm

SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

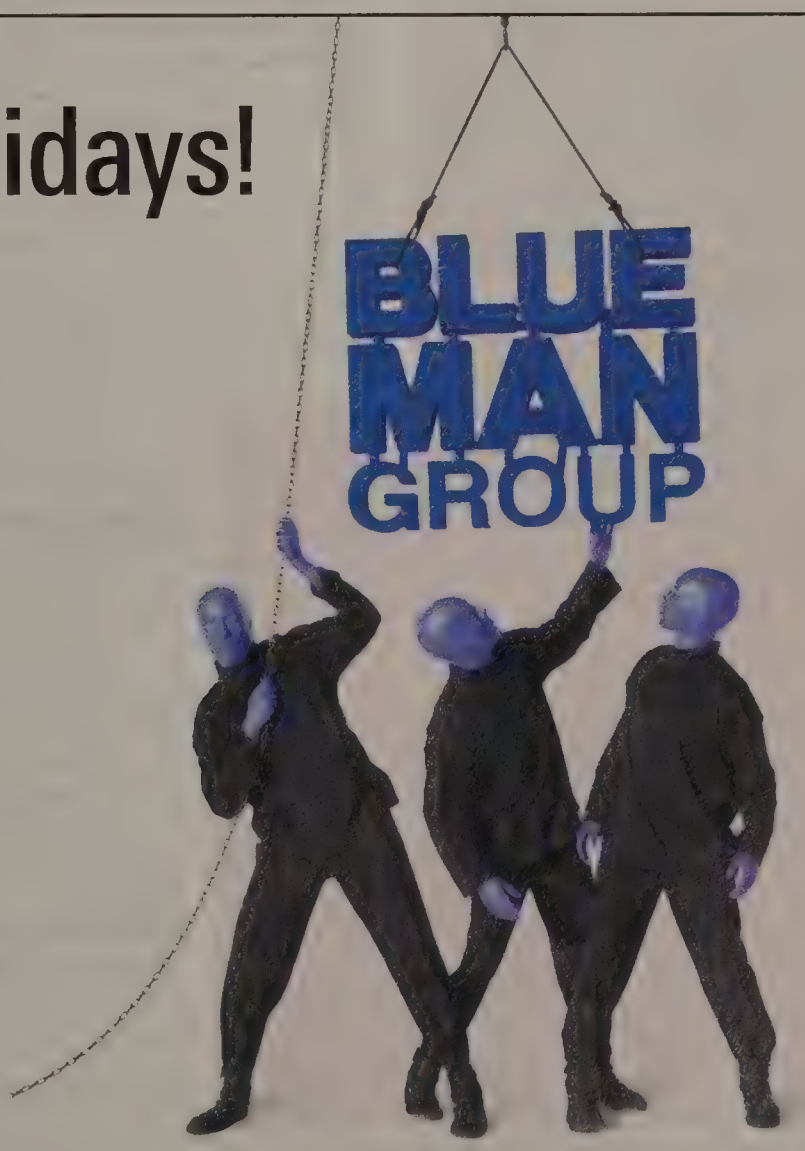
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LOCATION
Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton St
Boston, MA

1.800.BLUEMAN / www.blueman.com



art

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information for gallery and museum listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Museums/Arts. Or e-mail to arts@improper.com. *Include dates, nearest T stop, and telephone numbers. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30. •Objects from China, Korea and Japan display in *Tradition and Synthesis: Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Works from East Asia*. Through June 9, 2002. •*Windshield: Richard Neutra's House for the John Nicholas Brown Family* examines the design process of his first East Coast building. Through Jan. 27, 2002.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*From Patagonia to the Pantanal: Tracking the Pulse of Argentina and Brazil* uses photography and jewelry made with indigenous minerals to explore the fragile ecosystems of each country. Through Dec. 28. •New and old travel photography showcases in *Voyages (per) Formed*. Through Jan. 2, 2002.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College. 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). Tue., 11am-5pm; Wed.-Thu., 11am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer, shows through Dec. 30. •*Japan From Somewhere Else*, photographs collected by Mary Alice Knox, features 19th-century images of Meiji-era Japan. Through Dec. 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculptural Park
51 Sandy Pond Road, Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. *Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustrations* runs through Jan. 6, 2002. •*A Garden of Unearthly Delights* features outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work through June 9, 2002.

Dreams of Freedom Immigration Museum
Chiu Gallery, 1 Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). www.dreamsoffreedom.org. *MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State Street) Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm. $7.50.* •*A Chinatown Banquet* is structured like an eight-course Chinese feast. Created by local artists and Chinatown residents, it shows through Feb. 17, 2002.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Eat Art: Joseph Beuys, Dieter Roth, Sonja Alhäuser* shows through Dec. 15. •*You Look Beautiful Like That: The Portrait Photographs of Seydou Keïta and Malick Sidibé* displays 72 black-and-white photographs. Through Dec. 16. •*Marking Places: Spatial Effects of African Art* features 40 objects, ranging from masks to palace plaques, produced by sub-Saharan cultures. Through Dec. 31, 2002. •*Self and Object Reconstructed*, paintings by Jon Imber, shows through Jan. 18, 2002. •*Extreme Connoisseurship* explore the relationship between artist and observer. Dec. 8-Apr. 14, 2002.


Lee Newton shows new work, including *Upside Down*, at the Nielsen Gallery through Dec. 22.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www. hmnh. harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* examines the history of the gemstone and its ornamental uses by various societies. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites: Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* shows through Sept. 2, 2002.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.ica boston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6. $4 students and seniors.* •The first major exhibition by Ellen Gallagher runs through Dec. 31. •Free guided walk-through takes place every Thursday at 6:30pm.


Sarah Gorman is just one of the artists featured at the SMFA's exhibition and sale Dec. 6-9.

Preview

Holiday Hodgepodge

The School of the Museum of Fine Arts offers a picture-perfect shopping opportunity

The School of the Museum of Fine Arts, one of the oldest and most distinguished art schools in the United States, is one of only four art schools in the country affiliated with a major art museum. At this time of the year, we feel especially lucky to have it in our midst. The SMFA's December Exhibition and Sale, an annual fund-raising effort by the school, offers an original and inspired way to buy holiday gifts. The special event—an extraordinary shopping cornucopia—presents thousands of original works of art, including jewelry, paintings, ceramics, sculpture and photographs by students, alumni and staff. The exhibited art is priced between $50 and $1,000, and revenues are divided between the artist and School of the Museum of Fine Arts, which applies the proceeds to student scholarships. *Dec. 6, 12-8pm, Dec. 7-9, 12-6pm. School of the Museum of Fine Arts, 230 The Fenway, Boston (617-267-6100). www.smfa.edu. MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.*—Leah Gourley

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30pm.* The museum's permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries. •The exhibit *Presence* features images in canvases of growing grass through Dec. 30. •*Isabella Gardner's Holiday Table* evokes a circa-1904 Christmas party. Through Jan. 6, 2002.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering and Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. Demonstrations take place from 2-4pm daily. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* is an ongoing interactive exhibit. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays an ongoing selection of holograms from the museum's collection. •*Incandescent Spirit: Page Hazelgrove* displays the artist's glass-blown works through Dec. 14.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* displays more than 60 Persian textiles spanning 15 centuries. Through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* shows through Jan. 21, 2002. •*Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* exhibits nearly 400 pieces through March 10, 2002. •*The Look: Images of Glamour and Style, Photographs by Horst and Hoyningen-Huene* displays through Jan. 6, 2002. •*The Modern Woodcut* traces the evolution of modern block print through March 24, 2002. •*Fashion Photographs by William Wegman* shows through Jan. 6, 2002. •*Faces* presents photographs of the human face through April 28, 2002.

Museum of Science
Science Park. Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors. The Current Science and Technology Center* show is ongoing. •Mugar Omni Theatre shows *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*, *Journey into Amazing Caves* and *Bears* daily. •Charles Hayden Planetarium presents *The Sky Tonight*, *Skyfire* and a planetarium show daily. Times vary.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults, $10; seniors and students, $8; children under 16, free.* The museum's ongoing exhibitions include *A Work in Process: The New Museum*, *Shorelines*, *Three Centuries of Salem Architecture*, *The Folk Art Sampler* and *The Saltonstall Family Portraits*. •*The Master Prints of Edward S. Curtis: Portraits of Native America* show through March 17, 2002. •*Indian Market: New Directions in Southwestern Native American Pottery* shows through March 17, 2002.

Somerville Museum
One Westwood Rd., Somerville (617-666-9810). Thu., 2-7pm; Fri., 2-5pm; Sat., 12-5pm. Free. •*SAC 2001*, an exhibit of 20 visual artists' work, shows through Dec. 15.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •Jerry Berta's *Diner Show* exhibits through Jan. 5, 2002.

Allston Arts District
BPL Allston Branch, 300 N. Harvard St., Allston (617-787-6313). Mon., Wed., 12-8pm; Tue., Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •Casandra Clark's photographs show in *From Patagonia to Pantanal: Tracking the Pulse of Argentina and Brazil* through Dec. 14.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •*About My Garden*, an exhibit by Anne Neely, shows Dec. 8-Jan. 9, 2002.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Pamela Sienna's *Part and Parcel* captures objects wrapped in paper and cloth, and Robert Jackson's *New Work* features still lifes. Both show through Dec. 30.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*Winter Wonderland: The Frosty World of Snowdomes* runs Dec. 13-Jan. 18, 2002. •*Culture Club: Art Nights for Families*, Dec. 7, 6:30-8:30pm, $15-$25. In conjunction with exhibit, the Culture Club offers a workshop for children and families to make their own snowdomes.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Sun Works: Contemporary Alternative Photography* runs through Jan. 18, 2002.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Bronlyn Jones shows new work through Jan. 16, 2002.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*People*, work by brothers Clint and Scott Griffin and Casey McGlynn, explores the relationship between communities and environments. Through Jan. 5, 2002.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •A curated group show called *The Drawing Show: Selected Works from the Boston Drawing Project*. Through Dec. 29.

Beth Urdang Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-4:30pm; Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Exquisite Realism* shows through Dec. 22.

Boston University Art Gallery
BU School for the Arts, 855 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-4672). www.bu.edu/art. *MBTA: B Green Line to BU West. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat. and Sun., 1-5pm.* •*Esther Bubley: American Photojournalist* runs through Dec. 16.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •*Reconstructing Kosovo: Photos by Glenn Ruga, Frank*



Through Dec. 23, Amy Kaufman's *Primary Pears* shows at MPG.

Ward and Barbara Ayotte shows through Jan. 11, 2002. •*Russian Resurgence* shows in the upper gallery Dec. 12-Jan. 18, 2002.

Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts
24 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-3251). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Square. Mon.-Fri., 9am-11:30pm; Sat., 9am-11:30pm; Sun., 12-11:30pm. •Students from Harvard's department of fine arts exhibit work through Dec. 14.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Jamie Harris shows works in *Macchie*. •The glass sculptures of contemporary Japanese artists show in *Variations on Tradition*. Through Dec. 20.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Norman Laliberté shows his paintings through Dec. 29.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* •The shows *We Like It So Much*, *Stow Wengenroth* and *Warriors and Heroes* exhibit through Jan. 6, 2002.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •A group photography show titled *Inside Out*, featuring landscapes and interiors, shows through Dec. 22.

Compton Gallery
MIT Museum, 77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Incandescent Spirit: Page Hazlegrove* features the late artist's blown glass. Through Dec. 14.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*Small Works* features over 500 small paintings. Through Dec. 24.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •Peggy Badenhausen shows *Notations*, a collection that considers the language of choreography. Through Dec. 22.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery presents an ongoing exhibit of work by artists Jeff Eldrege, Dan McCole, Brian Roach and Norman Crump.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Peter Clemon's new paintings show through Jan. 5, 2002.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Tokyo-based artist Yayoi Kusama shows her paintings, drawings and sculptures through Dec. 22.

Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* • *Weaving Life: Textiles and Culture in Peru* exhibits tapestries and textiles by Edwin Sulca. Through Dec. 14.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm.* •*The Garden and the Map* is a show embracing the split between Western and Eastern philosophy. Through Dec. 28.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •The gallery presents a holiday show featuring works by impressionist painter Denise Burns and figurative artists Nydia Lozano, Joan Marti and Shota. Through Dec. 31.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Debra Giller and Lisa Osborn show their large-scale sculptures. Dec. 7-Jan. 5, 2002.

Gallery ISO
140 Kemble St., Boston. (617-427-4144) MBTA: Red Line to Andrew Station. Thurs. 5pm-9pm., Sat. 11am-4pm. •Through Dec. 31, *Rhythms and Rituals* and *Mandmade* show as companion exhibits by Cambridge photographer Don Guerwitz.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Through Dec. 22, Peter Brooke shows new paintings.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Catherine Carter shows new paintings and Hanako Nakazato shows new ceramics. Through Jan. 2, 2002.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm and by appointment. •Through Dec. 31, *Atlantic Neptune Rising* shows 18th-century mariners' charts. •

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Linda Price Sneddon shows *Line*Point*Limit*, her sculptural forms and paintings, through Jan. 12, 2002.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Through Dec. 22 the gallery features wood sculptures and drawings by Paul Bowen. •Through Dec. 22, the gallery hosts a benefit show for the Boston Pediatric and Family AIDS Project.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Poster Masters of the Belle Epoque, 1890-1910* shows art nouveau masterpieces through Jan. 31, 2002.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •Joyce Washor and Brett Angell's paintings are displayed in *Cadeaux*. Dec. 5-Jan. 6, 2002.

Judy Ann Goldman
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. Gallery artists show works on paper, paintings, sculptures and photographs. Ongoing. •*Realism Today* shows paintings through Dec. 22.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Rose Olson shows her work through Dec. 22.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •*Evolution of the Figure* features interpretations of the human figure. Through Dec. 13.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Exhibition Highlights* shows paintings through Dec. 14. •*Winter Salon* shows Dec. 15-31.

Massachusetts College of Art
621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Post-Hypnotic*, a group show exploring abstraction, shows through Dec. 8. •*Inlands: Photography*, a show by Mimmo Jodice, runs through Jan. 11, 2002.

McMullen Museum of Art
Boston College, Devlin Hall, 140 Comm. Ave., Chestnut Hill (617-552-8100). MBTA: B Green Line to Boston College. Tue.-Fri., 11am-4pm; Sat. and Sun., 12-5pm. •The traveling exhibition *Hope Photographs* shows influential contemporary photography through Dec. 9.

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •*Media Salon: Color Their Holiday* shows throughout December. Concurrently, the gallery runs a toy drive for Casa Myrna Vasquez.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* •In Gallery I, *From Gotham to Gloucester: A Historical Perspective* highlights the beauty of Cape Ann. Through Dec. 10.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •The gallery shows recent abstract paintings by Nancy Berlin and new landscape paintings by Jesse Lambert through Dec. 22.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm. •*The Drawing Show*, featuring conceptual techniques, sculptures, and video, runs Dec. 15-Feb. 10, 2002.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
Wiesner Building, 20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4400). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm. Fri., 12-8pm, Sat.-Sun., 12-6pm. Free. •*Yes Yoko Ono*, an interactive art/music/film/photography exhibit, is on display through Jan. 6, 2002.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). www.mobius.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Susan Berstler and Lee Mandell present *Redemption*, part four of the series *Fish Babel*, a study of the Mystic River. Through Dec. 22.

MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tue.-Sat., 11-5:30pm; Sun.-Mon., 1-5pm. •*International Prints and Drawings* features artists from around the world. Dec. 6-23.

New Art Center
61 Washington Park, Newtonville (617-964-3424). www.newartcenter.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm* •Through Dec. 16, Bruce MacDonald and Irwin Thompson exhibit works. •*Icons + Altars* shows interpretations by 95 regional artists through Dec. 16.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Anne Harris shows *Blue-Eyed People and Other Strangers*, and Lee Newton's *New Work* exhibits through Dec. 22.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm. •As part of *Past Forward* series, a film by Genevieve Anderson, shows Dec. 7 at 8pm.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergallery boston.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Works by Daphne Confar display through Jan. 8, 2002.

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •In *The Texture of Still Life*, Ali (Alison Cann-Clift) displays her work. Through Jan. 8, 2002. •*Color and Form in Motion*, by Mark Davis, uses brass, aluminum, steel and wood. Through Jan. 8, 2002.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus on avant-garde and contemporary art from China.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* Nineteenth-and 20th-century paintings are on ongoing display.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.societyofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5.* •*Animal Magnetism*, a group exhibition by artists depicting insects, amphibians, birds and mammals, shows through Jan. 6, 2002.

South End Gallery
South End Branch of the BPL, 85 Tremont St., Boston (617-536-8241). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon., 10am-6pm; Tue., 12-8pm; Wed.-Thu., 10am-6pm; Fri., 9am-5pm. •*Benjamin Lincoln: Biomorphism and Abstract Anatomy* shows through Dec. 26.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* With Espacio 52 of Havana, the gallery presents an ongoing display of Cuban art in *Cuba, Cuba*. •*Do Brasil*, the gallery's first collaboration with Brazilian fine art gallerist Marly Faria, features seven artists living and working in Brazil.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.stgeorgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* •A collection of paintings by William St. George and emerging artists displays through Jan. 4, 2002.

Upstairs at Johnson Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 8:30am-1pm. •A multi-media show of paintings, drawings and book art by the gallery's staff runs through Dec. 29.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vosegalleries.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* •*Garden Masterpieces* by Abbott Fuller Graves is on display through Dec. 15.

Tremont Street Gallery
276 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4599). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Sat., 9:30am-5pm, and by appointment. •*Vision and Aspiration*, an exhibit sponsored by the Women's Caucus for Art, shows through Dec. 29.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2-7pm. •Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. •Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. •Fridays are the Playground New Music series. •Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.



Ali's paintings, including *Elaine's Garden*, show at the Pucker Gallery through Jan. 8, 2002.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Mark Osterman and France Scully Osterman exhibit their ambrotypes in *A Confidence Exposed*. Through Dec. 7.

Panopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www.panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* •A group exhibit by gallery artists shows through January 2002.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. •*Voyages (per)Formed*, a show of contemporary and historical travel photography, shows through Dec. 20.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-7997). www.RobertKleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Call for gallery hours.* •A show of photography by Horst P. Horst shows through Dec. 30 in conjunction with the MFA's *The Look: Images of Glamour and Style*.

books & poetry

READINGS & SIGNINGS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

WordsWorth Books Author Event
WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-654-5201). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7pm. Free. **Ilan Stavans** reads and discusses his latest book, *On Borrowed Words: A Memoir of Language.* English is Stavans' fourth language and plays a major role in his identity, which he describes in this memoir.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6

Boston Center for Adult Education Reading Series
5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 6:30-8:30pm. $18 members, $19 nonmembers. **Jon Marcus**, author of *Lighthouses of New England*, shares his knowledge about the history and significance of lighthouses from Maine to Long Island.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Elizabeth Graver**, **Carlo Rotella** and **Ben Birnbaum** read from and sign *Best American Short Stories 2001* and *Best American Essays 2001*. After the reading, enjoy appetizers and a free pint of Park Pale Ale at the Newtonville Times Restaurant.

WordsWorth Books Author Event
•*Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge (617-354-5201). 6pm. Free.* The editors of *Healthy Women, Healthy Lives: A Guide to Preventing Disease From the Landmark Nurses' Health Study*, read. The book is based on research from Harvard Medical School and assembled into a straightforward guide of the major preventable diseases that women are susceptible to. • *WordsWorth Reading Room, 30 Brattle St., Cambridge. 7pm.* **Stan Frankenthaler**, author of *Occidental Tourist: More Than 130 Asian-Inspired Recipes*, gives a presentation and a tasting. His recipes combine American taste and creativity with Asian flavors and refinement.

FRIDAY, DEC. 7

Dire Reader Open Mike
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 7pm. This open mike is designed for longer works of fiction and poetry, hosted by **Timothy Gager** and **John Bailey**.

Harvard Book Store Friday Forum
1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1515). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. Free. In the last Friday Forum of this year's series, **Elizabeth Harries** from Smith College discusses her book, *Twice Upon a Time: Women Writers and the History of the Fairy Tale*, covering Angela Carter, Anne Sexton and A. S. Byatt.

SATURDAY, DEC. 8

Globe Corner Bookstore Adventure Travel Series
The First Parish Church of Cambridge, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-730-3900, ext. 21). 6pm. Free. **David Allen Sibley**, author of *The Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior*, presents a slide show and lecture about his second guide to birding. Following the reading, attend a wine and cheese reception at the bookstore, 28 Church St., where Sibley will sign copies of his book.

MONDAY, DEC. 10

Barnes & Noble Event
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7460). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. Photographer **Stephen SetteDucati** reveals what goes on at the country's largest civil engineering project when most of us are sleeping, in a discussion and signing of his book, *The Big Dig at Night*.

Blacksmith House Poetry Series
Cambridge Center for Adult Education, 56 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6849). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8:15pm. $3. **Kyoko Mori**, author of *Stone Field, True Arrow: A Novel*, and **Heidi Jon Schmidt**, author of *Darling?*, read from their work.

TUESDAY, DEC. 11

Barnes & Noble Event
660 Beacon St., Boston (617-236-7460). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 7pm. Free. Right-wing analyst and author **Chip Berlet** discusses his book, *Right Wing Populism in America: Too Close for Comfort*. He discusses the history of interest groups in America, the danger they pose for the future of politics and his hopes for social progress.



Carlo Rotella, a writer featured in *The Best American Essays 2001*, reads at Newtonville Books Dec. 6.

Borders Bookshop
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. Free. **Miriam Weinstein** discusses and signs her book, *Yiddish: A Nation of Words*, a history of the language.

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Andrew Stone**, author of *All Flowers Die*, reads from and signs *Disappearing Into View*, the story of a man attempting to live "invisibly" in Boston. After the reading, enjoy appetizers and a free pint of Park Pale Ale at the Newtonville Times Restaurant.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12

Borders Bookshop Event
Atrium Mall, 300 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill (617-630-1120). 7:30pm. If you missed his Dec. 10 reading, catch **Stephen SetteDucati** reading from his book *The Big Dig at Night*.

Newtonville Books Reading Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. Pulitzer Prize-winning author and playwright **David Mamet** reads from and signs *Wilson: A Consideration of the Source*.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13

Borders Bookshop
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 12:30pm. Free. If you missed him earlier in the week, catch **Stephen SetteDucati** again discussing his book *The Big Dig at Night*. •6:30pm, Tapestry of Voices. **Laure-Anne Bosselaar**, **Kurt Brown**, **Diane DerHovanessian** and **David Rivard** are featured poets, followed by an open mike. **Harris Gardner** hosts.

Brookline Booksmith Writers and Readers Series
279 Harvard St., Brookline (617-566-6660). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 7pm. Free. **Camden Joy** reads from *Hubcap Diamondstar Halo*, the story of a man's journey to get away from memories of his dead girlfriend.

FRIDAY, DEC. 14

Borders Bookshop
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 1pm. Free. **Carol Higgins Clark** discusses and signs two of her books she co-authored with her mother Mary: *Fleeced* and *He Sees You When You're Sleeping*. *Fleeced* is the fifth book of her Regan Reilly mystery series.

ONGOING

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. On Wednesday nights the Cantab always packs in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every few Thursdays.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

Gendering American History
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (617-495-8212). 4pm. Free. **Alice Kessler-Harris** of the Radcliffe Institute Fellowship Program reframes American history from a female point of view.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6

The Critical Connection
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). 7pm. Free. **Michael S. Dukakis**, professor of political science at Northeastern University, lectures on the high-speed rail.

Creative Writing Workshop
Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400, ext. 2339). 6:30pm. Free. Enjoy the experience of writing spontaneously and publish your own "five-minute miracle" on the Boston Public Library Web site.

Terrorism, Security & Civil Rights
Newton Free Library, 330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). 7pm. Free. Lieutenant Colonel **William D. Kendrick**, a National Security Fellow at the Harvard University Kennedy School of Government, speaks on the nature of terrorism in a changed world.

FRIDAY, DEC. 7

Meet Cheryl Katz
Crate & Barrel, 777 Boylston St., Boston (617-262-8700). 4pm. Boston Globe design columnist **Cheryl Katz** offers gift suggestions for the holidays.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9

Searching for a Better World
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 4pm. Free. **Peter Bell**, president of CARE, one of the world's major humanitarian relief and development organizations, lectures on continuing relief efforts in developing countries.

MONDAY, DEC. 10

Rocks of Ages
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-373-5800). 6:30pm. Free. The Ford Hall Forum presents a lecture on science and religion in life.

TUESDAY, DEC. 11

Do You Now Have a Fear of Flying?
BCAE, 5 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). 6pm. $29. Registration required. Flying demystified: find out how a plane works, examine what sounds it makes and why, and learn how pilots find their destinations.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12

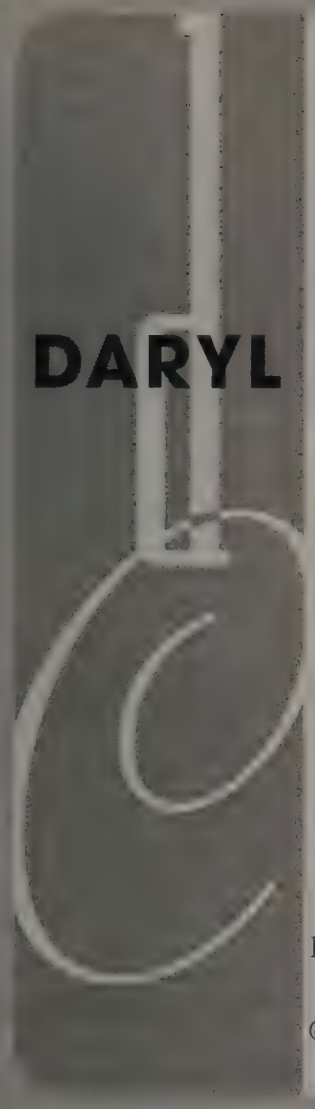
Seeing the World for the First Time
Rabb Lecture Hall, Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston (617-951-1433, ext. 221). 6pm. Free. Boston architect **Julia McMorrough** presents a slide lecture on architecture throughout the world.

Assessing the Military Options
John F. Kennedy Library and Museum, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4571). 4pm. Free. **General Wesley K. Clark**, who oversaw NATO's intervention in Yugoslavia, comments on the current U.S. military and diplomatic efforts to confront terrorist networks.

Singing Bodies in the Italian Renaissance
Cronkhite Graduate Center, 6 Ash St., Cambridge (617-495-8212). 4pm. Free. **Bonnie Gordon** of the Radcliffe Institute Fellowship Program lectures on the depiction of the body in Italian Renaissance art.

The Spirit of Christmas Past
SPNEA, One Bowdoin Square, Cambridge (617-570-9105, ext. 270). 12:15pm. Free. The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiques presents a slide lecture on the transformation of Christmas in New England from outlawed to celebrated.

Culture and Consumerism in the 21st Century
Cambridge Forum, 3 Church St., Harvard Square, Cambridge (617-495-2727). 7:30pm. Free. Economist and social critic **Juliet Schor** discusses her book on the culture of consumerism in America.



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FAST TIMES AT THE MULTIPLEX

Not Another Teen Movie is funnier than the career of Freddie Prinze Jr. BY PAUL SHERMAN

Good parody is great at killing off movie trends. *Blazing Saddles* KO'd the dying western, *Airplane!* crashed the 1970s' disaster movie and now *Not Another Teen Movie* may wipe out the recent wave of high school movies such as *She's All That*, *Bring it On* and *Varsity Blues*.

At least I'm hoping it will.

Not that there haven't been decent movies from that wave—like *10 Things I Hate About You*, *Can't Hardly Wait* and *She's All That*. But the good has long been obscured by the poor imitations and sequels that followed, turning every inspired moment into calculated formula. All these movies were ripe for spoofing, as were *Pretty in Pink* and the other John Hughes teen comedies their makers grew up watching in the '80s.

Teen Movie shrewdly turns the conventions of both decades' high school movies into laughs: there's the popular boy who wants to show he's more than a pretty face; the 'uniquely rebellious' girl who wants to be popular; the horny little brother; the ambitious cheerleader; the nerdy male friend who secretly loves his female pal; the fat party animal; the sexy foreign exchange student; the embarrassingly uncouth dad; and, of course, the token black guy. They're here in all their ridiculous glory.



Chyler Leigh and Chris Evans parody a scene from *Varsity Blues*.

Except for the unemployed dad, they all go to John Hughes High School, where they gather in the Anthony Michael Dining Hall and divide into cliques that exist on wildly different psychological wavelengths. Daring to cross these clique boundaries are hunky backup quarterback Jake (Chris Evans) and artistic and unpopular Janey (Chyler Leigh). He's James Van Der Beek's *Varsity Blues* character put through the plot of *She's All That*, when he bets his competitive teammate (Eric Christian Olsen) he can take any girl at school and turn her into the prom queen.

Teen Movie takes this borrowed plot and ripples it across the whole high school genre. Janey the 'rebel' is, of course, as mild as any doe-eyed Molly Ringwald or Rachael Leigh Cook character. Her kooky best friend (Eric Jungmann) is frantically against her going out with Jake, a la Jon Cryer in *Pretty in Pink*. Her dad (Randy Quaid) is supportive but ill-equipped to help, like Harry Dean Stanton in *Pink* and Kevin Pollak in *She's All That*. And Jake must defuse Janey's skepticism by singing to her over the football stadium P.A. (shame about the song choice) and provocatively covering himself in whipped cream.

Meanwhile, a senior citizen reporter tries to pass herself off as a high-schooler (a very funny dig at *Never Been Kissed*), Ron Lester plays the same huge, self-destructive redneck football teammate he did in *Varsity Blues* (and never better!), the token black guy (Deon Richmond) gets nothing more to do than say 'Damn!' a lot and some chick (Lacey Chabert) keeps making big entrances and flouncing her hair as if she's Jennifer Love Hewitt or something.

To say the big laugh count here is a pleasant surprise is an understatement. The last parody of high-school movies was the painful *Dangerous Minds* spoof *High School High*, and other recent puberty-movie takeoffs like *Wet Hot American Summer* and *Scary Movie* struggled for laughs. The makers of *Teen Movie* have solid comedy credentials, with director Joel Gallen and three of the writers all having made parody shorts for the MTV Movie Awards. But parody shorts and features are totally different, and the amazing thing about *Teen Movie* is how well it interweaves gags targeting about 15 movies. It rarely feels episodic, and aside from some of its gross-out gags (particularly an elaborate one in the girls' toilets), it rarely fires off duds.

The cast members deserve credit for giving their characters lives of their own, especially Evans, whose deadpan-hunk presence recalls Alec Baldwin's *Saturday Night Live* appearances, and Jungmann, who channels 1980s angst better than a Smiths tribute band. iB

Not Another Teen Movie ★★★

Directed by Joel Gallen. Written by Michael G. Bender, Adam Jay Epstein, Andrew Jacobson, Phil Beauman and Buddy Johnson. With Chyler Leigh, Chris Evans, Jaime Pressly, Mia Kirshner, Eric Christian Olsen and Randy Quaid. Rated R. Columbia Pictures.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Better Than Sex ★★
It starts out as if it wants to be a probing look at the sex drives of two young Australians (David Wenham, Suzie Porter) on a one night stand. But, despite more sexual frankness than we get out of Hollywood, it steadily devolves into an annoyingly fluffy *When Bruce Met Sheila*. First-time writer-director John Terplitzky works primarily in commercials and it shows, as the decor and the characters' grooming seem to be the main priorities here. (At Kendall Square.)

Black Knight ★★
Martin Lawrence delivers an often funny performance in a stereotype-laden comedy in which he's a worker at a medieval theme park who falls into the moat and comes out in 14th-century England. The movie pushes his homeboy stereotype way past the point that's necessary, as well as the typical stiffness of the British characters. A variation of Twain's *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, this fish-out-of-water comedy and tale of unlikely heroism also plays like a poor retread of the sci-fi comedy *Galaxy Quest*. (Wide release.)

Chop Suey ★½
Big disappointment. *Let's Get Lost*, Bruce Weber's movie about Chet Baker, was as atmospheric as you could ever hope a documentary would be. This, his first feature since, is as scattered and incoherent as you'd ever feared a non-fiction film could be. Weber is primarily a fashion photographer, which makes sense, since just about all he's concerned about in this rambling drag is looks (primarily those of the nude model Weber discovered, Peter Johnson, who comes off as impressionable and exploited). Two sections in this grab bag (which feels constructed by someone with ADD) stand out, both about dead entertainers: lesbian torch singer Frances Faye and icon of cool Robert Mitchum. (At the Museum of Fine Arts.)

The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition ★★★
It's best to think of this new documentary about Sir Ernest Shackleton and his crew's legendary 1914-16 trek as a sequel. In chronicling how their boat, *The Endurance*, got swallowed up by ice, how the crew survived for more than a year and how Shackleton and some of his colleagues made a miraculous journey to get help, the new film uses a lot of footage from *South*, the recently restored silent film that was shot during the expedition. That's the first and best film to see on Shackleton and The Endurance (it's on video). If you've already seen that movie, though, this one does a good job at filling in details, through interviews with crew members' children, readings from journals and newly shot footage. (Coolidge Corner Theatre and Kendall Square Cinema.)

From Hell ★★★
It's not *Sleepy Hollow 2*, but Johnny Depp is once again hunting down an enigmatic killer in a very creepy Gothic setting. Here, it's 1888 London, where East End hookers are gruesomely falling victim to an elusive killer, one by one. Depp plays a police inspector with clairvoyant dreams and a taste for opium; Heather Graham is the hooker who turns to him for help. Their increasing attachment is one of the least convincing aspects of the story, but it's just part of a more successful mix, along with several doctors, the Freemasons, the royal family and a scene-stealing performance by Robbie Coltrane (TV's Cracker) as Depp's literate partner. (Wide release.)

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone ★★
The first of several movie adaptations of J.K. Rowling's novels is sometimes enchanting and sometimes dull—and despite all the ballyhoo, it is merely a bigger-budgeted, slightly better experience than such 1980s McMovies as *Young Sherlock Holmes* and *The Goonies*. Both of those were unambitious Spielberg productions about young people fighting villains, and this has a similar flavor to it, with composer John Williams hammering us over the head with the sort of unsubtle musical themes he's used in past Spielberg and George Lucas films. With director Cris Columbus' desire to make every scene a big special-effects "moment," there's little chance to get to know or even like young orphan Harry (Daniel Radcliffe), who upon his 11th birthday is told he's a wizard and whisked off to a Dickensian world of magic and a boarding school for wizards. Thank your lucky stars Robbie Coltrane is here to add heart to the proceedings. (Wide release.)

Heist ★★½
In David Mamet's first wide-release movie as a director, a gang of thieves go after a shipment of gold on a cargo plane, and after one another—with varying results. Through the first half, the volleying of barbed Mamet dialogue and pre-robbery preparation is lively, as Gene Hackman and a crew that includes Delroy Lindo and

RICO TORRES



Harry and best buds Ron and Hermoine make some magic in *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone.*

PETER MOUNTAIN

Rebecca Pidgeon methodically works its intrigue. But the dialogue and the plot twists wear in the later action, and occasionally the characters' smarts have to conveniently disappear for some of the twists to work. So its big payoff rings really false. (At Loews Boston Common, Fenway Theater General Cinema, Loews Fresh Pond and Chestnut Hill Cinema.)

K-Pax ★½

Remember when Kevin Spacey used to be one of the most clever, fun-to-watch actors? Well, hang on to those memories. Because between *American Beauty*, *Pay It Forward* and now this warm and fuzzy feel-good movie—it's like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* poisoned by *Forrest Gump*—he's become annoyingly smug and glib. Here he plays a mental patient who claims to be from the alien planet that supplies the title. Jeff Bridges is the shrink trying to unlock the traumatized human he believes lurks beneath the alien "cover story." In the meantime, Spacey's character gets Bridges to appreciate his family more and gets his fellow patients to feel more at ease in their surroundings. This is supposedly based on Gene Brewer's 1995 novel, but then why does it have the same plot as the 1986 Argentine movie *Man Facing Southeast?* (Wide release.)

The Man Who Wasn't There ★★★

The Coen brothers return to the grimly absurd neo-noir flavor of their *Blood Simple* and *Fargo*, but for the first time in black and white and in a period story, this one set in 1949. Billy Bob Thornton is just great as the quiet barber whose worried expression is the result of small-town monotony and the realization that his dishy wife (Frances McDormand) is fooling around with her jocular boss (James Gandolfini). So the barber decides to do something about it. An unwise investment, a blackmail scheme, a murder in self-defense, a suicide and a car crash later, the guy's left to wonder if he's any better off. There aren't as many memorable supporting characters as you find in most of the Coens' best films and some of its tangents would have been best omitted, but its mingling of comedy and tragedy is pure Coens. It's full of captivating images, and Thornton's body language speaks volumes. (Kendall Square, Copley and West Newton cinemas.)

Monsters, Inc. ★★

Toy Story's Buzz Lightyear and Cowboy Woody don't have to worry about being overshadowed by Mike and Sully, the latest buddy-heroes in a Pixar/Disney digitally animated comedy. This one is not nearly so cleverly written, and is about a parallel world of monsters who get beamed to children's bedrooms in the human world to scare them—because those collected screams are what fuels their world. The story finds big furry Sully (voiced by John Goodman) and little gruesome Mike (Billy Crystal) having to deal with a toddler who crosses into their world. When it's not recycling *Three Men and a Baby* or the old Chuck Jones cartoon *Feed the Kitty*, not much goes on. Unlike the funnier and less sentimental *A Bug's Life* and the *Toy Story* movies, this one's purely for kids. (Wide release.)

Novocaine ★★★

Film noir gets an amusing twist in this comedy in which Steve Martin plays a dentist whose cozy world spins off its axis once Helena Bonham Carter wiggles her way into his adjustable chair. She seduces him, steals his office's narcotics and even gets him wanted for murder, but he still craves the excitement she brings to his dull life. Call this noir comedy *Dead Men Don't Have Cavities*. As the obsessive-compulsive fiancée suddenly brushed aside, Laura Dern also adds to the comic mix, as does Kevin Bacon, in a cameo as a slick actor doing "research" with the detectives investigating the murder. (Wide release.)

Shallow Hal ★★

The combination of writer-directors Peter and Bobby Farrelly and actor Jack Black seemed perfect, since all three are fearless comedy creators. But the resulting movie is disappointing, dominated by a problematic premise. Black plays the title character, a crude guy whose only romantic criteria is looks. But then he's hypnotized by informercial king Tony Robbins to see only inner beauty and falls for an overweight hospital volunteer he sees as Gwyneth Paltrow. When his even cruder buddy (a typecast Jason Alexander) lifts the hypnosis, Hal has to try to find the goodness in people on their own. If the movie had more laughs, most of its problems—that it often forgets its own gimmick, that its transition from gimmickry to sentimental message is uneasy—would hardly be evident. But because the laughs often aren't there, they're hard to overlook. (General Cinema Chestnut Hill, Fenway Theatre General Cinema, Loews Fresh Pond, Loews Somerville and Loews Boston Common).

Spy Game ★★

I kept reaching for the mute button during this thriller, because that's what I do during loud car commercials. Director Tony Scott, of the über-slick *Top Gun*, hasn't so much made a thriller as he has a two-hour commercial. More emphasis has been put on the helicopter shots, the whoosh sounds of automated doors and the perfect lighting for scenes of human atrocities than there has on the story. That 1991 tale finds Robert Redford as a midlevel CIA manager trying to maneuver the Langley higher-ups to save a field agent (Brad Pitt) about to be executed for espionage in China. The higher-ups would rather disavow any knowledge of Pitt, so as not to jeopardize an imminent trade agreement, but Redford wants to stop Pitt's human sacrifice. Told mostly in flashback, the movie examines the relationship between espionage and human compassion, but that seems to be the least of Scott's concerns. (Cleveland Circle Cinema, Fenway Theatre General Cinema, Loews Theatres Boston Common and Somerville, Sony Cambridge.)

Tape ★★★

And you thought your 10-year high school reunion was tense. "Tense" is the word for this three-character drama set in a motel room, which Stephen Belber adapted from his play. Ethan Hawke's character is the instigator who returns to his hometown with the secret agenda of forcing a confrontation between his high school best friend (Robert Sean Leonard) and his ex-girlfriend (Uma Thurman). His buddy went out with her after he did, and may or may not have date-raped her. Is Hawke misinformed, and doing all this just to get revenge on more successful Leonard for stealing "his girl"? Are Leonard's protests to these accusations genuine? Is Thurman really outraged or more delighted to be caught in the middle of the two guys' psychological grudge match? The script and cast do a deft balancing act with such questions, while director Richard Linklater (who made this after *Waking Life*) uses the digital-video format to get glaringly intimate with these hero/villains. (Kendall Square Cinema and Loews Copley.)

Waking Life ★★

Writer-director Richard Linklater had his breakthrough a decade ago with *Slacker*, the daisy chain of seemingly unrelated characters that accumulated into a funny, disarmingly deep glimpse into how people carve out their own realities in this world. His latest comes off like the duller, less-amusing version of *Slacker*. Half of it is like that movie, with real-life characters obsessively spilling theories on life, while the other half features actors in presumably more scripted encounters ruminating on similar themes of identity, individuality and reality. At least a good part of it is supposed to be happening within the dreams of the remarkably unremarkable protagonist (Wiley Wiggins of Linklater's *Dazed and Confused*), so it's told through an animated style mixing rotoscoping (drawing over filmed action) with fluid, more surreal backgrounds. There's plenty of food for thought and an interesting visual style, but next to the matter-of-fact depth of *Slacker*, there's less insight and more bombast. (Loews, Harvard Square.)



Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors

Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

Grace Kelly: The Movie Star Princess

•Dec. 10, 6pm **The Swan** *1956.* A princess (Kelly) who is engaged to the charming prince of the kingdom falls hopelessly in love with her tutor in this adaptation of the classic story. Charles Vidor directs.

•Dec. 17, 6pm **High Society** *1956.* Charles Walters' all-star cast graces this remake of "The Philadelphia Story," concerning the marriage of a socialite and the love triangles that ensue when the press and her ex-husband get involved.

Brattle Theatre

Special Engagements

•Dec. 7-9, 5:15, 7:30 and 9:45pm **The French Connection** *1971.* Director William Friedkin gives a realistic account of two New York police officers' obsession with taking out an international narcotics ring. Also showing, 12:45 and 3pm **Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory** *1971.* Mel Stuart's adaptation of the Roald Dahl book has been entertaining audiences for 30 years.

•Dec. 14-16. 5:30 and 7:30pm with Sat. and Sun. matinees at 1:30 and 3:30pm **Everything Put Together** *2000.* Director Marc Forster takes an intimate look at personal grief through a woman who loses her newborn child. Also playing, 9:30pm **The City of Lost Children** *1995.* Directors Marc Caro and Jean-Pierre Jeunet present a tale of a circus strongman and a young street urchin.

Mondays—Screwball Comedy

•Dec. 10, 7:30pm **The Awful Truth** *1937.* Leo McCarey directs a romantic comedy about a man and a woman who are divorcing but can't get enough of each other. Also showing, 5:30 and 9:30pm **His Girl Friday** *1940.* A tabloid editor and his ex-wife put a wedding on hold to follow a story and romance ensues.

•Dec. 17, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **A Night at the Opera** *1935.* Sam Wood directs all three Marx brothers in a legendary comedy about the promotion of a pair of opera singers.

Tuesdays—A Stranger Pair: Jim Jarmusch and Wim Wenders

•Dec. 4, 5 and 8pm **Paris, Texas** *1984.* Wim Wenders' film about a man who emerges from the desert and with the help of his brother attempts to rebuild his life.

•Dec. 11, 5, 7:30 and 10pm **Dead Man** *1996.* Jarmusch directs Johnny Depp and Gary Farmer as a murderer and Native American, respectively, who journey across the old West.

•Dec. 18, 7:30pm **Million Dollar Hotel** *2000.* Wenders directs this neo-noir about a murder mystery in a run-down hotel. Also showing, 5 and 10pm, **Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai** *1999.* Jarmusch directs Forest Whitaker in a film about a hit man who resolves to follow Samurai code after being saved by a Mafioso.

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•Dec. 5, 4 and 8pm **Apocalypse Now Redux** *1979/2001.* Francis Ford Coppola's classic about a military mission to hell features new footage that emphasize its original effect.

•Dec. 12, 7:15pm **The Riddle** *1996.* Screenwriter Dr. Dan Brenner will introduce this film about a Russian boy who sets out to find the truth behind his mother's death. Also playing, 5 and 10pm, **Cure** *1997.* Director Kiyoshi Kurosawa's film investigates a series of murders seemingly connected by one mind.

Thursdays—Swordswomen: Brigitte Lin and Michelle Yeoh

•Dec. 6, 7:30pm **Chungking Express** *1995.* Director Wong Kar-Wai directs Lin, a mysterious woman in sunglasses and a trench coat through this visual masterpiece. Also playing, 5:30 and 9:45pm, **Supercop** *1992.* Jackie Chan and Michelle Yeoh are supercops who team to battle a drug cartel. Stanley Tong directs.

•Dec. 13, 7:15pm **Swordsman II** *1991.* Stanley Tong directs Lin and Jet Li in this action film of love and humor. Also showing, 5:15 and 9:30 pm, **Butterfly and Sword** *1993.* Michelle Yeoh stars in this adventure film about a team of hired killers that works for the government. Tusi Sui Ming directs.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Feature Films

•Nov. 21 **Amelie** *2001.* The latest film directed by Jean-Paul Jeunet of *Delicatessen* fame features the story of an eccentric young woman who is moved to improve the lives of those around her through imaginative means.

•Nov. 23 **Fighter** *2000.* This documentary by Amir Bar-Lev retraces the lives of two Czech World War II survivors.

•Nov. 30 **Fat Girl** *2000* The new romantic film from director Catherine Breillat offers an intensely honest and complex point of view about two adolescent sisters.

Director's Cut

•Dec. 12, 7:30pm **Big Screen Balagan.** This experimental film series jumps to the big screen as the work of many local filmmakers.

Holiday Anime

•Dec. 7 and 8 **Blood, The Last Vampire** *2000.* This film utilizes state-of-the-art digital animation to create a new heroine who slays bloodsucking chiropterans.

•Dec. 14 and 15 **Jin-Roh: The Wolf Brigade** *2000.* Anime creators Mamoru Oshii and Hiroyuki Okiurra retell the classic Little Red Riding Hood story.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema

Midnight Movies

•Dec. 7 and 8 **Raiders of the Lost Ark** *1981.* Starring Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones, this Steven Spielberg-directed film has archaeologist and adventurer Indiana Jones searching for the Ark of the Covenant.

•Dec. 14 and 15 **Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom** *1984.* The second series of the Indiana Jones trilogy, Indiana ends up in India searching for a village's missing magic stone.

Harvard Film Archive

Premieres

•Dec. 13, 7pm **Inferno** *1999.* Portuguese director Joaquim Leitão delivers the tale of an annual reunion of military friends from the Portuguese colonial war. What is usually an event of happiness and camaraderie turns into a dark recollection of the trauma of war.

•Dec. 13, 9:30pm **Scheherazade** *2001.* Swiss director Riccardo Signorell presents a story of psychological family drama that ensues aboard a yacht after a champagne-induced conflict.

•Dec. 14, 7pm **The Slow Business of Going** *2000.* Directed by Athina Rachel Tsangari, this film experiments with a new language of cinematography that includes superimposed images, number, words and animation. The story follows a young girl as she travels the world with a rocking chair strapped to her back.

•Dec. 15, 7pm **Frost** *1997-98.* Fred Kelemen's film follows the story of a woman and her son who flee an abusive relationship only to encounter hardship in the bleak German landscape.

Adventures in Surrealism

•Dec. 10, 7pm and Dec. 11, 9:30pm **Blood of a Poet** *(Le sang d'un poete) 1930.* Director Jean Cocteau composed four distinct episodes to create the portrait of a poet. Also showing **Toby Dammit** *1967.* Federico Fellini directs the final episode in a compendium of macabre Edgar Allen Poe stories titled *Histoires Extraordinaires.*

•Dec. 17 and 18, 7pm **The 5,000 Fingers of Dr. T** *1953.* Roy Rowland's children's fantasy is about a foreign piano teacher.

Film Architectures

•Dec. 5, 7pm **The Belly of an Architect** *1987.* Written and directed by Peter Greenaway, Brian Dennehy stars as an American architect in Italy who becomes obsessed with his belly.

•Dec. 11, 7pm **Wings of Desire** *(Der Himmel über Berlin) 1987.* This Wim Wenders film is about an angel tired of overseeing human activity who falls in love with a mortal and wishes to become human.

Jazz and Abstraction in Beat-Era Film

•Dec. 5, 9:15pm **Jordan Belson and Contemporary Abstraction.** This program features a series of films directed by Belson that reveal the legacy of San Francisco Beat filmmaker Hy Hirsh.

Theater Into Film

•Dec. 16, 7pm **Othello** *1951.* Orson Welles' screen adaptation of Shakespeare's play captures the magnificent settings of Venice, Rome, Paris and London.

Museum of Fine Arts

The Films of Frederick Wiseman

•Dec. 8, 10:30pm **Ballet** *1995.* This profile follows a classical New York ballet company through rehearsals and a world tour.

•Dec. 15, 10:30pm **Sinai Field Mission** *1978.* This film traces the routines of those who manage and operate the U.S. Sinai Field Mission as it buffered the disengagement between Egypt and Israel after the 1973 war.

Special Engagements

•Dec. 7, 6pm, Dec. 8, 3:45pm, Dec. 13, 8pm, Dec. 14, 5:45pm, Dec. 15, 1pm **Chop Suey** *2000.* See capsule for review.

•Dec. 5, 2:15pm, Dec. 7, 8pm, Dec. 13, 6pm, Dec. 14, 8pm, Dec. 15, 3:30pm, **La Bûche** *1999.* Director Danièle Thompson presents the story of the relationship among three sisters and their family, friends and lovers.

•Dec. 5, 7:45pm **Blue Wild Angel: Jimi Hendrix Live at the Isle of Wight** *2001.* Director Murray Lerner restored his original footage to present Jimi Hendrix in the prime of his career.



Swiss director Riccardo Signorell's psychological drama *Scheherazade* shows Dec. 13, 9:30pm.

Preview

Out of Obscurity

The Harvard Film Archive Shows Overlooked Gems

While the focus of critical discovery in international cinema continues to highlight films that are produced in Southeast Asia (especially South Korea), the Middle East (particularly Iran), and Africa, a new generation of innovative directors is emerging on the European continent. This series surveys this facet of the cinematic landscape, offering a number of new, more obscure films that may have been overlooked by critics and audiences.

•Dec. 7, 7pm. *Strumpet* 2001. Danny Boyle's film recalls the punk ethos of the Thatcher Epoch with the story of an eclectic musical trio that sets off for London hoping to produce an offbeat musical. Also showing, 8:45pm (and Dec. 14, 9:30pm) The Crossing *(La Traverseé) 2001.* Sébastien Lifshitz presents a mix of documentary and fiction in which his friend embarks on a journey to find his father in American ghost towns.

•Dec. 8, 7pm. *Cool and Crazy (Heftig og begeistret)* 2001. Director Knut Erik Jensen's "docu-musical" follows the members of the Berlevag Male Choir, a group of working-class middle-aged men , who tour through Russia. Also showing, 9pm *Vacuuming Completely Nude in Paradise* 2001. Danny Boyle delivers a tale of quirky characters in urban England.

•Dec. 9, 8pm *Alaska.de* 2000. Director Esther Gronenborn gives an acute portrayal of German teenagers and their struggle with suburban life in the former East Berlin.

•Dec. 13, 7pm *Inferno* 1999. Directed by Joaquim Leitão, this story hails from Portugal, and follows 10 middle-aged men who fought together in Angola in the 1970s, during the most violent phase of the Portuguese colonial war. Also showing, 9:30pm *Scheherazade* 2001. Young Swiss director Riccardo Signorell's film is his second effort. *24 Quincy St. Cambridge (617-495-4700).* www.harvardfilmarchive.org. *$7, $5 students and seniors.*—E.H.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film•Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (617-536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theatre
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

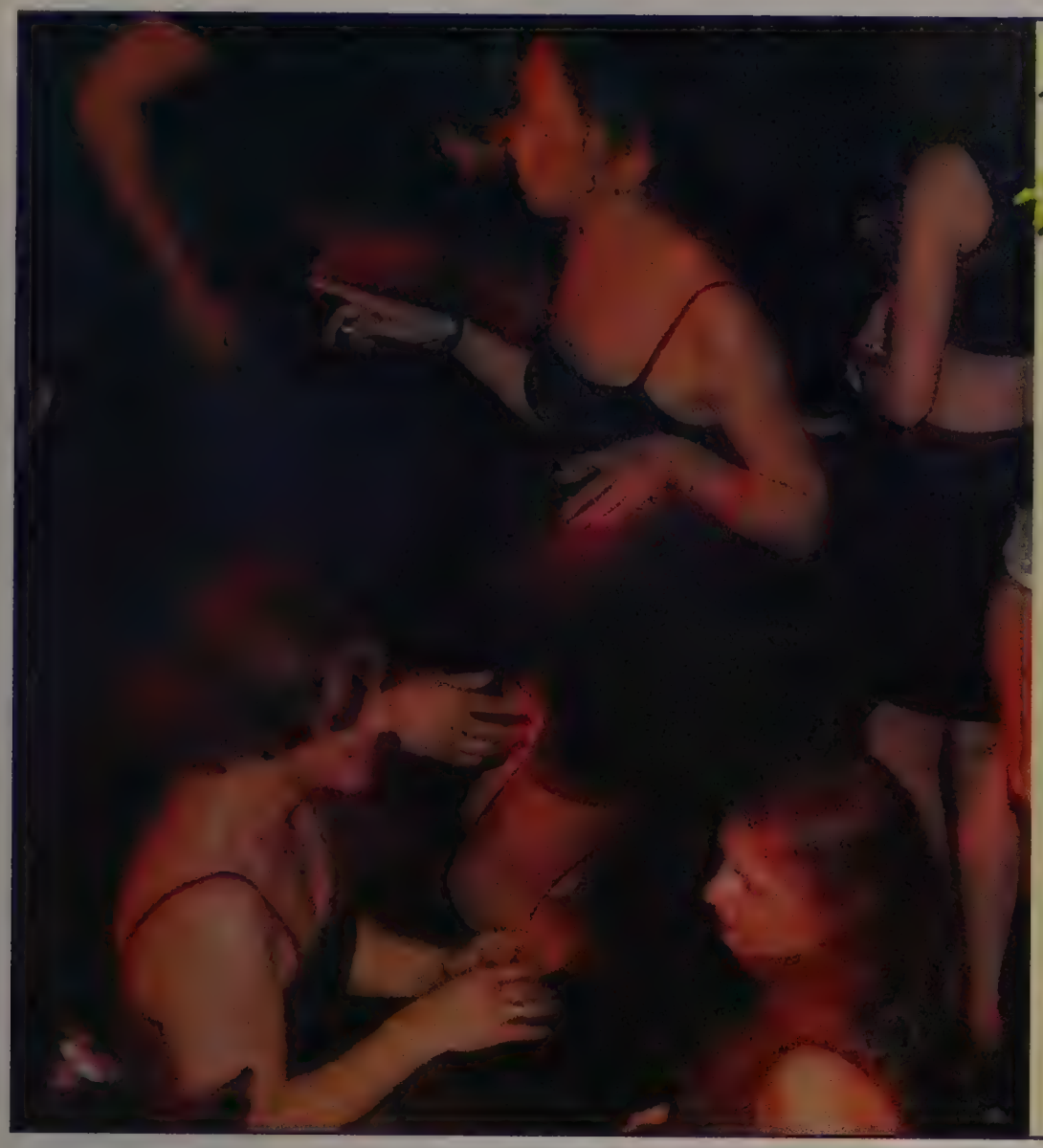
Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060).



the Green Briar
irish pub

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dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

Buddha Lounge
Caprice Attain transcendence in the exotic world of Buddha Bar sounds, proper dress, no cover, 21+.

Ceremony
An Tua Nua Ceremony performs Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch spins hot reggae and live bands take the stage, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40 tunes, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+. •Dec. 10: DJ Krush. 6pm, $15, 18+.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with DJ Martin Finke, 10pm, 21+.

The Movement on Mondays
Vertigo Deep house, house and progressive mix, 10pm, 21+.

What a Way to Go-Go
Common Ground Shake it at Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Acrylic
Aer Punk, new wave and Brit pop with Steve and James and guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Emily's
Stop in for the "After Work Rush Hour" 5-8pm, followed by the live acoustic series, $5, 21+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress coats are required, 11pm, $15, 21+.

One Nation
Aria DJ Chubby Chub spins hip-hop and R&B, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 19+.

Oxygen
The Palace DJ Chris Fiore provides a mix of '70s, '80s and '90s music. Check out the buffet from 8-9pm, proper dress, $3 before 9pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

Phat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Chaos and 7L spin at this college hip-hop night, 9pm, $10, 18+, college ID required.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid, jazz and soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with live bands from 6-10pm, followed by dance tunes spun by DJs, 10pm-2am, 21+.

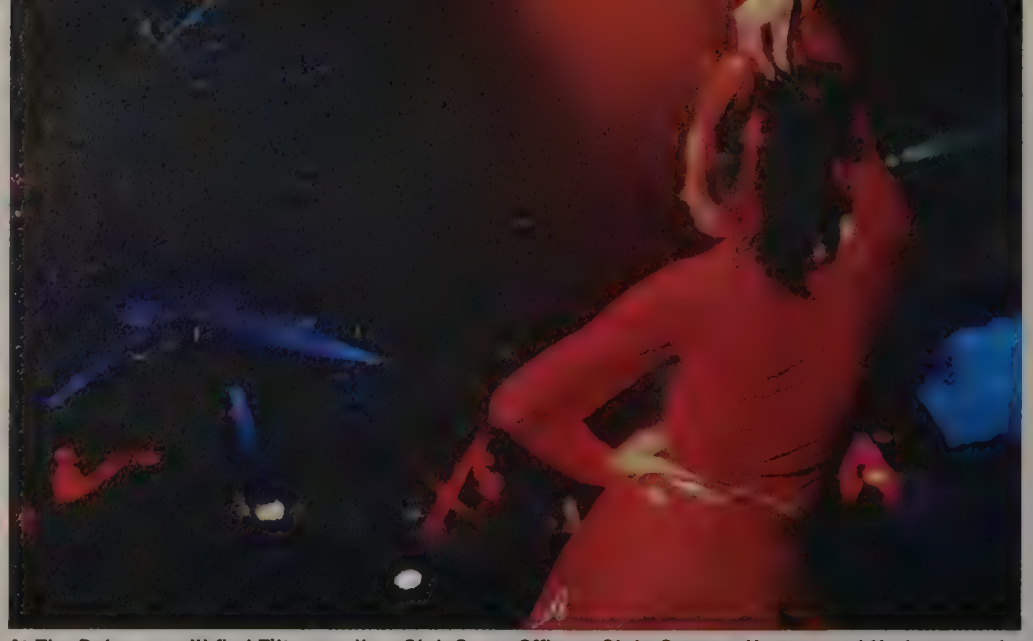
Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm, $5, 21+.

WEDNESDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins reggae and soul, 9pm, $5, 19+.



At The Palace you'll find Tilt as well as Club Copa, Officers Club, Oxygen, Uptown and Underground.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Dynamite
Aer DJs spin explosive tunes, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, 10pm, dress sassy.

Emily's
Check out "After Work Rush Hour" from 5-8pm, then "Late Night Lounge" with guest DJs, no cover, 21+.

Escape
Vertigo Progressive, deep NY house, trance and vocals, 10pm, 21+.

Essence
SW1 DJs Bruno, Ilabash and Mastermillions spin hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress, 10pm, 19+.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, 18+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 DJ JC in the Latin Lounge, and DJs Alex and Felix in the back room, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Lush
Karma In the Mambo Lounge, DJs Allison and Ken play Brit pop and indie rock, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night hosted by Star 93.7, with live bands play 6-10pm, followed by DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong Psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Wet and Wild Wednesdays
The Kells DJ Drag and DJ Steve spin hip-hop, house and dance with ticket giveaways, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot even has billiards, 9pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic, no cover.

Change
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm, 21+.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Club Devo
Milky Way Catch Jedi Mind Trick, DJ Benny Blanco, La Machine, DJ Goodtimes and others. 8:30pm, $8, 21+.

Club Zen
97.7's DJ Chubby Chub spins R&B, hip-hop, techno, house and old school, 9pm, $10, 21+.

CPR
Matrix & Jukebox Resident DJs Elyte and hot special guest DJs spin the latest tunes, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Cream
Sugar Shack DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl blast the best hip-hop and house all night, 10pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ KC spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Diversified
Vertigo DJs spin deep soulful house in the lounge and UK hard house and deep trance in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Guest DJs spin house, hip-hop and the best dance music, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
Catch the "After Work Rush Hour" from 5-8pm, then chill in the "Late Night Lounge," no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Everything '80s
Common Ground DJ Brian's "Love Night" mix features the best of the '80s, 10pm, 21+.

Fashion House
Aria Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins house and latin pop and DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean rhythms, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Groove Factory
Karma DJ Bruno spins '70s, '80s and house, proper dress, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon DJs pump out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Ladies Night
DancePlex Dance to three floors of retro '80s hits, freestyle jams and top 40 tunes with DJ Reggie B, 9pm, $5 (no cover for ladies), 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Privilege at La Boom
La Boom DJ Felix spins tunes for this hot international night, dress smart, 11pm, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm-2am, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae soca and hip-hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm-2am, $10, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Live bands perform, 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Underground
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton spins with the newst live acts, 9pm, 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spins high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 , 10pm, $5, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+. •Dec. 7: Taucher. •Dec. 14: Jonathan Peters.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance tunes and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Cat Club
The Roxy Glam international house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

DancePlex
MC Ren and DJs Darren and Mark start spinning the best of the '80s and '90s at 8pm, no cover until 9pm, $10, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Emily's
"After Work Rush Hour" at 5-8pm is followed by DJ Renel spinning the latest top-40 and hip-hop at 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean rhythms played by DJ Eddy K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Fridays
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton is joined by live rock bands, 9pm, 18+.

The Officers Club
The Palace Three rooms of the best hip-hop, R&B and reggae, $10 before 11pm, $15 after 11pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop and enjoy the best of Boston sports highlights, 10pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, and guest DJs spin vocal house, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

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The Big Easy
1 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2560

The Last Drop
596 Washington St. Brighton 617-787-1111

Bishop's Pub
21 Boylston Pl. Boston 617-351-2583

Polly Esther's
262 Friend St. Boston 617-720-1966

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276 Tremont St. Boston 617-426-1400

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Bar information subject to change.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Pulse at La Boom
La Boom Dance to the music of international guest DJs at this upscale night spot, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basemen, 5pm; DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma DJ Tim Ryan spins progressive house on the main dance floor and DJ Mike spins alterna-hop in the Mambo Lounge, proper dress ,10pm, $10, 19+.

Sugar Shack
High-energy house, trance and hip-hop spun by DJ Massi, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise DJ Chaos spins hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
Dance to house, hip-hop, R&B and top-40 tunes with special guest DJs, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Tilt
The Palace The latest progressive house and trance spun by DJ Manolo and guests. Casual dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 19+ men. •Dec. 7: Cosmic Gate's DJ Bossi. •Dec. 14: George Acosta.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Uptown, Underground & Oxygen
The Palace DJs spin dance music, hip-hop, reggae, and '70s, '80s and '90s, casual dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 19+ men.

Vertigo
The Dream Lounge features international, Latin and house tunes. Catch high-energy house and vocal in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos spins hip-hop and DJ Roger spins vocal house, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

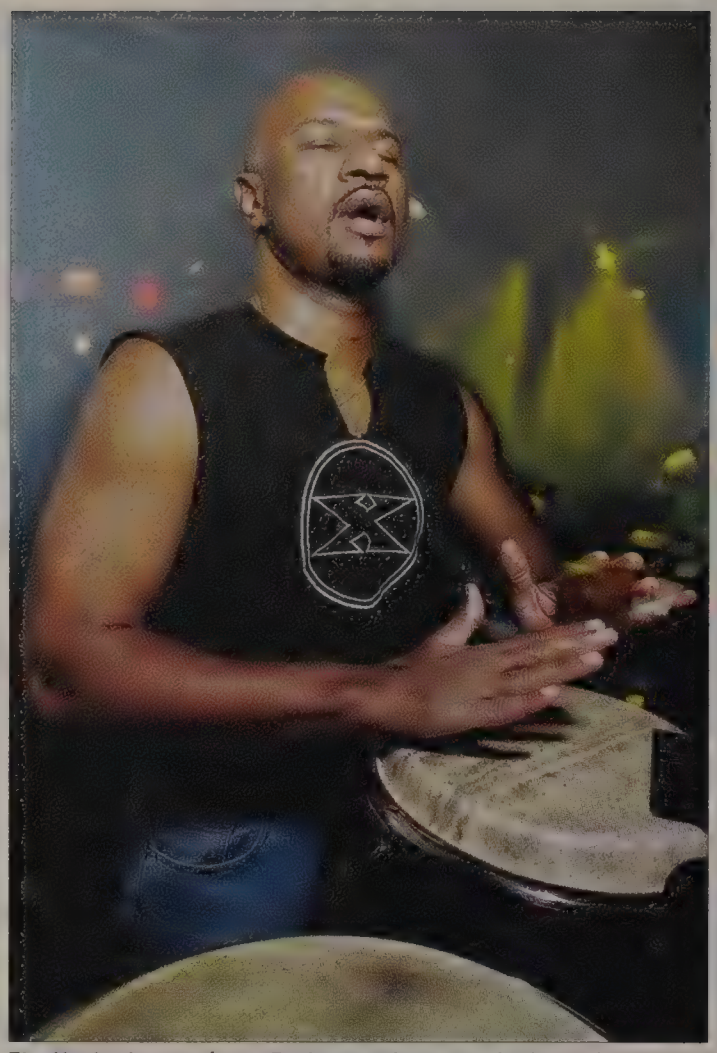
The Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house and hip-hop.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.



The Vault, downstairs at Exchange, drums up the latest beats.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy DJ Eddy K spins Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Copa
The Palace Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop, $10 for 21+, $20 for 18+, ladies 21+ are free before 11pm; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Clutch
SW1 DJ Tari and George Nessis spin house, 10pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O' Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Downtown Saturdays
Avalon Guest DJs spin the latest hits, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Emily's
DJ Littles spins top-40 remix and house, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

Karma
DJ Mario spins house on the main floor, DJ Stiffy spins in the Mambo Lounge, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

La Boom xo
La Boom Resident DJ Edward Grant Stuart and resident drummer Paul Drake provide the soundtrack for this upscale night, 9:30pm, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs spin funk and top-40 on three floors, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.

Must
Venu DJs Nico and Javier spin the best of European disco house, proper dress, 11pm, 19+.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco tracks and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop, 10pm, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
DancePlex DJs Mark, Darren and Reggie B fill three floors with retro mixes, 8pm, no cover before 9pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Start!
Bill's Bar Post-punk and new electronic music by DJs M-16 and Damian are the backdrop to this alternative night, hosted by *Makeoutclub.com*, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins high-energy progressive house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey on two floors.

Tilt
The Palace The latest of progressive house and trance spun by resident DJ Manolo and special guests. Proper dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Underground
The Palace Under 21s can groove to top-40 dance, progressive dance, hip-hop and reggae, casual dress, 7-11pm first floor, 8pm-12am second floor, $14.

Vertigo
Hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B tunes turn up the heat on two floors, 10pm, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+.

SUNDAYS

Boom Boom Room
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney mixes '60s and hip-hop.

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Caribbean Sundays
Vertigo Imagine yourself in the Caribbean, dancing to these world beats, 10pm, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Brazil to the dance floor at Venu, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins international house, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Roger M. spins international house and Latin pop, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:15pm, no cover, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with Dub Station, JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10. 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats; DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Touch
Aer Guest DJs provide deep, soulful house, 10pm.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer/Hibernia *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309).*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue Bar *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Blue Cat Café *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746).*
Club Zen *131 Clarendon St., Boston (508-472-1170).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
DancePlex *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966)*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-5311).*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(Club Copa, Officers Club, Oxygen, Tilt, Uptown and Underground) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (617-254-9040).*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800).*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308).*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2510).*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000).*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*

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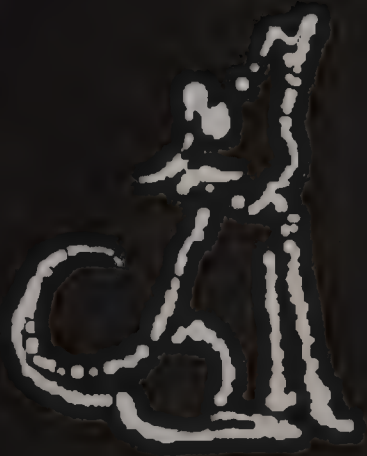
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NEW ORBIT

Back from semi-retirement, pianist Matthew Shipp launches free jazz into space. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

The piano has fascinated Matthew Shipp since he began to play one at age 5. "I just took to it instantly," he says. "There's something great about looking down and seeing these black and white keys, knowing that they form this alphabet."

What Shipp has since done with that alphabet has fascinated listeners and critics throughout the world of avant-garde and free jazz. And after a short-lived break from recording in the late '90s, he has acquired a new accessibility.

"The whole idea of avant-garde jazz is very daunting and unfortunately it instantly puts up barriers," said Shipp, who plays the Institute of Contemporary Art Dec. 15 with his trio of bassist William Parker and drummer Gerald Cleaver. "Then, all of a sudden, there are all these college kids approaching you. You ask, how did you find out about this? We've captured something that's allowing some type of subtle evolution to occur even though it's still an uphill battle."



Jazzman Matthew Shipp is back at the piano promoting his latest release, *New Orbit*.

"The major thing we're trying to do is to find a fresh way to play your instrument. That's what [Thelonious] Monk and Bud Powell did, and it's no different for us. I'm trying to apply my personality to an instrument," says Shipp, 40, on the phone from his New York home. "If I dig deep enough into myself and make a statement that's honest and right, then I think it can have some use for other people."

"I've always been involved with music in a way to transport me mentally and spiritually to another plane," said Shipp, recalling the way he absorbed music on headphones as a youth in Delaware, a memory that inspired his decision to write the words "Cosmic Consciousness" across the inside of the booklet to his recent CD *New Orbit*. "I always viewed music as something you were taking in like a pill. Your brain's taking it in, and therefore, the notes and the musicians are like the masseuses. They're massaging brain cells of yours, 'cause you're taking in this language and these equations."

Shipp had an open mind early on. After a brief flirtation with Liberace as a kid ("His swimming pool was a piano and he had piano rings"), Shipp delved into the classical canon of Chopin, Debussy and Bach, as well as diversions from the Jackson 5 to David Bowie. He also maintains a love for Stevie Wonder, but his calling was jazz. "I had a good classical teacher up until the time I was 18, but I was doing my own thing," says Shipp, who was first inspired by the soulful jazz of Ahmad Jamal. "Luckily I had a few teachers who were really open-minded, and they were kinda fascinated by my own explorations."

Decades later, and more than 15 records into a career that included dates with saxophonist David S. Ware and many others, Shipp announced he was retiring from the studio.

"I felt the need to really kinda rethink some things, and unfortunately I haven't been able to do that, mainly for economic necessities," Shipp says. "I'm still looking to slow down even though it seems like stuff keeps coming out, but I was trying to force myself into a position where I could try to take stock of what I was doing. I feel like, when you do a lot of stuff, people take you for granted."

What also got Shipp back on track was an arrangement with Thirsty Ear to curate that label's new Blue Series. "It was allowing forward-looking players to fool around and come up with some hybrids, but be modern and not be afraid to dip into their roots," says Shipp, who compares the Blue Series to the hybrid territory of the ECM label in the early '70s.

The pianist has already recorded two CDs, *Pastoral Composure* and *New Orbit*, under the Blue Series, weaving his circular improvisations with a structural simplicity that reflects more blues-rooted minimalism. But he takes an even bolder leap on his next disc, *Nu Bop*, due for release in January. Featuring synthesizer and programming by Chris Flam, an engineer for DJ Shadow, Shipp leads a quintet into space-funk experimentation closer in spirit to Herbie Hancock's '80s crossover hit "Rockit" than anyone might expect. It even has a track called "Rocket Shipp."

"I often wondered if you applied free jazz over certain beats what would that be like," he says. "My wife's a fan of DJ Shadow, and she's really into Massive Attack, Portishead, Tricky and Bjork, and just in social settings and things, I hear a lot of things."

"That's not particularly my world, but I thought I had my take on it," Shipp says. "That's not where I'm going to be going in the future." IB

The Matthew Shipp Trio

Plays the Institute of Contemporary Art Dec. 15

Advice to Contributors

Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers

Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

The Big Wu
Dec. 8, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Nikka Costa and Miranda Lee Richards
Dec. 7, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Phil Coulter
Dec. 5, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000)
Linda Eder
Dec. 11, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000)
The Get Up Kids and Alkaline Trio
Dec. 15, Worcester Palladium (508-797-9696)
H2O with Autopilot Off, Rivercity High and The Movie Life
Dec. 9, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
Jaguares
Dec. 15, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
King Crimson and John Paul Jones
Dec. 8, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)
Lifehouse
Dec. 12, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Lori McKenna
Dec. 7 and 8, Somerville Theatre (617-931-2000)
The Merry Mayhem Tour with Ozzy Osbourne, OneSideZero, Rob Zombie and Mudvayne
Dec. 15, Worcester Centrum Centre (617-228-6000)
The Mighty, Mighty Bosstones Hometown Throwdown
Dec. 12-16, Axis (617-423-NEXT)
Jane Olivor
Dec. 15, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000)
PigPile Records Showcase with Random Road Mother, Sticky, the Benders, Suspect Device and Three Day Threshold
Dec. 7 and 8, Paradise (617-423-NEXT)
Richard Cheese & Lounge Against the Machine
Dec. 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)
Martin Sexton
Dec. 14 and 15, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700)
Britney Spears
Dec. 9 and 11, FleetCenter (617-931-2000)
Trans Siberian Orchestra
Dec. 14 and 15, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Hazie Maze with Aura, 9pm, $7, 18+.
The Burren Dave Foley.
Club Passim IndieGrrl with Holly Figueroa, Sam Shaber, Allette Brooks and Rachel Davis, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort The Big '80s, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
Johnny D's Wayfaring Strangers, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Amelia White's Grand New Oprey, $5, 21+.
Limbo Marianne Solivan Quartet, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Burlesque Revival Association, 9pm, 21+.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
Middle East U: Royal City and Splendid Nobodies $7, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk and Traditional Singers Club, 9pm, 21+.
The Place Undercover, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack Baha Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Megalodon, 8:30pm, $7, 21+.
Sky Bar Yael Meyer and Angela Bond, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Andy Stochansky and Stephanie Wremble, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

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Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Apollo Sunshine, $6, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Mark Greel, 8pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar The Underground with Mark Hamilton, Biopop with Crumble, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Toni Lynn Washington Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Club Passim John McCutcheon and Chandler and Feeney, 8pm, $17.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge The Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Felonius Funk, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Virginia Coalition, with South Catherine Street Jug Band, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Another Planet Farewell Show, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Peter Mulvey Band and Rachel Davis, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café David James Motorcycle, Chilly Kurtz, Sarah Borges, The Stalagmites and Meagan McLaughlin, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Jen Johnson, Chris Mascara's Memphis Soul Duet and Dumb It Down, $5.
Limbo Paulo Danay, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Verona Downs, Jr. Corduroy and Mark Robinson, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Cracktorch, Waltham and Quitter CD-release show, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: 6 Ways to Sunday Tour with Local H, Seven Story and Injected, $6, 18+.
Milky Way A Very Special Venezuelan Holiday Celebration, 9:30pm, $10.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Sonia Dada, 7pm, $12, 18+.
Paradox Lounge Marlene Tholl, Sandi Hammond and Ken Selcer, 8pm, $7.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Eddie, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Sabor Latino Band, 21+.
Sky Bar Wave, the Army Life, Cancer to the Stars, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Todd Thibaud and The Family Jewels, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Jabe, Meghan Toohey, Confidence Men and Shake Dog Shake, $7, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Exodus Supreme, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DEC. 7

Atlantic 101 Henry Schniewind, 7:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar Quick Fixx with Francine and Jack Drag, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Carol Noonan and Rachel Bissex, 8pm, $15, all ages.
Common Ground The Allstonians, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles and Soul City, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Fighting Gravity, Seeking Homer and Buzby, $8, 21+.
Johnny D's Mudhens, 9:45pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Mike Plume Band, Lemonpeeler and Michael Fracasso, 8:30pm, $7, 21+.
Kirkland Café Tootsie, Wild Card XYgoatZ and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Herman Johnson Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Shelley Winters Project, Wide Iris, The Collisions and Insomniac, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Flying Luttenbachers and Ex-Models, 9pm, $7, 18+. D: Cave In, The Icarus Line and the Cancer Conspiracy, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Hybrasil, 9pm, $9.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
The Place James McKenna, 6pm, 21+.
Porter's Bar and Grill Adam Ezra and Sierra Nevada.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Jammdown, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Sky Bar Bowman, Amusia, Redletter and Lowstar, $5, 21+.
Toad Paved Country, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Greg Hopkins and Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Mary Prankster, Dave Aaronoff & the Details, Roxie and Ramona Silver, $7, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Exodus Supreme, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Montenia, 9pm, no cover.



Lifehouse, spirited newcomer to the airwaves, will blow out the doors at Avalon Dec. 12.

Preview

Overnight Success

Lifehouse hangs on by more than just a moment

Not too long ago, Lifehouse consisted of a bunch of kids who played gigs at their local church. Then, almost overnight, the band sprawled across the radio dial—from rock to alternative to adult contemporary—with "Hanging by a Moment," the song that lodged itself into our minds for months. They're still young (all of their ages combined still wouldn't equal that of one Rolling Stones legend), but that doesn't mean you can write this group off as a mere teenybopper fad. With sage lyrics, a deep voice rivaling that of Eddie Vedder and Val Kilmer-ish good looks, vocalist-guitarist-songwriter Jason Wade appears far more seasoned than his 21 years.

With the help of bassist Sergio Andadre and drummer Rick Woolstenhume, Lifehouse achieved a mature sound more like Live's than that of the Backstreet Boys with its 2000 debut album, *No Name Face*. "Hanging by a Moment" was named Most Spun Song of the Year, and the band has been nominated for an American Music Award and two My VH-1 awards. The band recently completed the first leg of its first headlining tour with supporting act The Calling, which features Woolstenhume's younger brother Chris on guitar. Lifehouse hits the road again before returning to the studio to follow up their smash debut with a new album that may lift them from one-hit-wonderland. See them at Avalon Dec. 12. 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).—*Vanessa Franko*

SATURDAY, DEC. 8

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar The French Kicks with Natural History, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Antonio Jackson, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Pamela Means, 8pm, $12, all ages.
Common Ground Dr. Awkward and Fink Fank Funk, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzalez Band and Big 80's, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Superhoney and South Catherine Street Jug Band, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Toni Lynn Washington, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Bim Skala Bim, 9:45pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Rob Gonzalez, Blue Horizon and Danielle Miraglia, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Valerie Stephens, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Birthday celebration for David Champagne with Asa Brebner and Lucky Bastard, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Karate, Zu and Certainly Sir, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: Gamelan presents Cafe del Mar, Jaffa and Si*Se, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club with Antonio Ortiz, 8:30pm, $7.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with the Harry Fix Trio, 10am-2:30pm.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
O'Brien's Bonescrew, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, 9:30pm, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Savage Benjamin.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Parruzzi, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Bluesfood, 9pm, $9, 21+.
608 Jaffa, DJ Bruno and Nappy G.
Sky Bar Lake Boone, Flying Lessons, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Trailer Park, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Ted Casher and the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Enon, Love As Laughter, Headset and Longwave, $8, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Balaton, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates George Russell, 7pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm.
The Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar Lady Lee, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Nat Simpkins B3 Jazz Trio, 11am-3pm, no cover.
The Burren Kristin Cifelli and Kaye Kelly, 8pm, no cover.
Club Passim Don White, Mike Duffy, The Crocketts, Raelinda Woad, Scott Alarik, Jimmy Tingle, Harvey Keene & Steve Moore, Carl Hakansson, James O'Brien, Greg Greenway, Jon Svetkey, Robbie O'Connell, Kerri Powers and Chris Chandler and Anne Keeney.
Dick's Last Resort The Bibletones and the Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
House of Blues Upclose and Untapped Michael Rose of Black Uhuru, 10pm, $20, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Brian Webb and Jeff Kauppi, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae with Junior Rodigan and Prestige Sound and Hurricane Sound, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with the Harry Fix Trio, 10am-2:30pm.
Paradise Rock Club Michael Rose.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley.
Toad Lach, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Grand Evolution, The Etherdrops, LiveSexAct and Lincoln Conspiracy, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, DEC. 10

Axis Krush, 6pm, $15, 18+.
Bill's Bar Diecast with Torsion and Laststep, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Club Passim Sumaj Chasquis, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Seissun.
Kendall Café Front Royale, $5, 21+.
Limbo Pete Barr Quartet, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Graves, the Humanoids and PT Grimm, 9pm, $9, 18+. D: Benefit for American Friends Society, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Toad Tim Gearan and Shwang, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, 21+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Peter Parcek, 9pm, no cover.

TUESDAY, DEC. 11

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm, no cover.
Axis The Genitorturers, 7pm, $12, 18+.
Club Passim Open Mike, 7:30pm, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Limbo Mike Herklots Trio, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Twinemen, 9pm, 21+.
Milky Way Mary Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
608 Thalia Zadek, 10pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Inner Green, Gatsby, Lorntell, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Drawn Butter, no cover, 21+.

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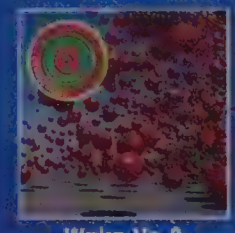
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The Black Sea Salsa Band plays at Ryles Jazz Club Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 8:30pm. Tickets are $10.

Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Plastik, Shecky and Fightin Dogs, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Trio, 8pm, no cover.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm, no cover.
Avalon Jonatha Brooke, Jebloy Nichols and Cousteau, 7:30pm, $15, 18+.
Bill's Bar Ron Levy, Fuzz & Eric and guests, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Club Passim Kimberly Mc'Carver, 8pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
Harper's Ferry Greenhouse and Runna Muck, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Marshall Crenshaw, 8:30pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Winterboy Holiday Party, 21+.
Limbo Davis Eure, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Burlesque Revival Association, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Alabama Thunderpussy and KPG, 9pm, $7, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk & Traditional Singers Club, 9pm, 21+.
The Place Undercover, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack BaHa Brothers and DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Black Sea Salsa Band, 8:30pm, $10, 21+.
Sky Bar 12 Step Process, PDsaintS, Onebigmess, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad The Cadavers and Stephanie Wremble, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place American Hi-Fi, Loveless and Apollo Sunshine, $12, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Evan Margetson, 8pm, no cover.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm, no cover.
Bill's Bar The Underground with Mark Hamilton, Kings of Nuthin' with Sinners & Saints and Shallows Corner, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Darren Barrett Jazz Quartet, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Nate Borofsky & the Garden Verge, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Ciro Stein, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Curious Electric, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Ulu, $10, 18+.
House of Blues Mappari, Averi, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Yanka Rupkina, and Wav, 9pm, 21+.
Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center Jose Gonzalez and Criollo Classico, 8pm, $14.
Kendall Café The Patiokings, Marc Rosenthal and Peter Calo, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Dave Scott Trio and Hessie Swain, $5.
Limbo Jim Bridges, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf and Micro Vard, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Tunnel of Love, Liars and Neptune, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Milky Way Lockgroove, Planetarium and Car Crash Show, 8pm, $6.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, followed by DJ Ricky, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Inner Orchestra, 8:30pm, $7, 21+.
Sky Bar Munk, Sociedad, Anima and December Sundays, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Todd Thibaud and The Family Jewels, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Three Day Threshold, Machine Cut Nova CD-release show, Prime Rib CD-release show and Major Major, $7, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Junior Jazz, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 9pm, no cover.

FRIDAY, DEC. 14

Atlantic 101 Henry Schniewind, 7:30pm, no cover.
The Black Rose Dave Foley.
Bill's Bar Missing Joe with Antigone Rising and the Dubnicks, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Groove 2 This, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Garnet Rodgers and Kathy Moser, 8pm, $15, all ages.
Common Ground Who's the Fat Guy?, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Shauntrelles and Soul City, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge The Ken Clark Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown El Eco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Harp The Zoo, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Spookie Daly Pride, $8, 21+.
House of Blues Ruby Horse, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Love Dogs, 9:45pm, 21+.
Kendall Café GoGirls Music Fest with Patty Keough and Pamela Means, $20, 21+.
Kirkland Café Lashes, Classic Ruins, Kenne Highland Clan and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Willie Sordillo, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Dennis Brennan and his Unbelievable Band, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: The Six Parts Seven, Crème Brulee and Flexie CD-release party, 9pm, $8, 18+. D: Rainer Maria, Ted Leo Pharmacists and Yeah Yeah Yeah's, $10, 18+.
Milky Way Shelley Winters Project, Bertr and Lawrance, Aloha Steam Train, Carter Timmins, Boyajian and guests, 9pm $8.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal, 9:30pm, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Actual Proof and Moonraker, 8pm, $8, 18+.
The Place James McKenna, 6pm, 21+.
The Rack Kiss 108's Billly Costa and Central Basement, 6pm; DJ Transit, 10pm, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Jack Lee & Divercity, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Sky Bar Vic Morrows, The Good North, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Sam Bisbee, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Kenny Marrocco and the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Slobberbone, the Scrimshanders, Grand Champeen and Ware River Club, $10, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Junior Jazz, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Ron "Big Daddy" Murphy, 9pm, no cover.



Experimental rockers Karate headline at the Middle East Dec. 8. Zu and Certainly Sir share the bill.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
The Attic Marie's Children, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Bill's Bar The Return of Dave and Mike Z, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Dave Foley.
Bob the Chef's Antonio Jackson, 7:30pm.
Club Passim David Mallett and Rob Laurens, 8pm, $17, all ages.
Common Ground Booty, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzalez Band and Classic Trax, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Harp The Zoo, 21+.
House of Blues Princes of Babylon, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Slipknot, 9:45pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Permanent Vacation, Adam Ezra and Deborah Smith, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Nicole Nelson, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Ray Corvair Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: The Von Bondies and Mr. Airplane Man, $7, 18+. D: Third annual hip-hop fest with 7L & Esoteric, Sage Francis, Breez Evahflowin', C-Rayz Walz, Apathy, Skitzofreniks, Ripshop, Chan and Crew the Floor Lords, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Mango's Latin Dance Club with Antonio Ortiz, 8:30pm, $8.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Rusty Scott, 10am-2:30pm.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Emptyhead.
The Rack Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Paruzzi, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Kolors, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Sky Bar Boatyard Resin, Typhoon Ferri, Pure Fiction, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad David Johnston, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Mark Turk and the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Red Elvises, Chubby and Pony, $10, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Balaton, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Eula Lawrence, 7pm; Candida Rose, 10pm, no cover.

SUNDAY, DEC. 16

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm, no cover.
The Attic The Coalboilers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Bill's Bar Generationz, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson's Quartet, 11am-3pm, no cover.
The Burren Linda Sharar and Amusia, 8pm, no cover.
Club Passim Lynn Miles and Karaugh Brown, 7:30pm, $15, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort The Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
House of Blues Vibewise, 10pm, $8, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Ari, Daniel Jacobs, Eric Saulnier and Dave Armstrong, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East D: Missing Persons $15, 8pm, 18+.
Milky Way Mystic Reggae with Junior Rodigan and Prestige Sound and Hurricane Sound, 9pm, $10.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Rusty Scott, 10am-2:30pm.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh, 9:30pm, 21+.
Toad Mark Erelli, 10pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, DEC. 17

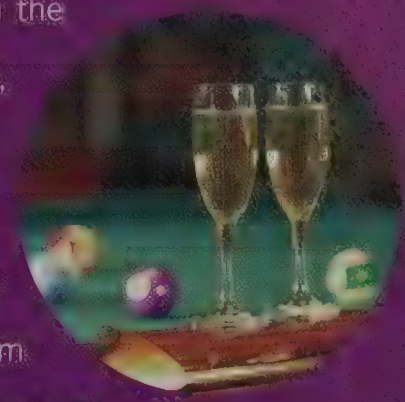
Bill's Bar Big Wig with Closer than Kin, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Club Passim Arabesque, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort God Fearing Man, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

TOP: NATHAN CARLE-MCCORMICK



The night will end with two... 2002

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House of Blues Passionate Gypsies, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Kendall Café Front Royale, $5, 21+.
Limbo John Kordalewski, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Gaza Strippers and Tension Men, $8, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 10pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Toad Tim Gearan and Shwang, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Noise's Acoustic Xmas Party, no cover, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, DEC. 18

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm, no cover.
Club Passim Open Mike, 7:30pm, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
House of Blues Jellyrollers, 9:30pm, $6, 18+.
The Kells Duende, Maria Woodford and Alex Radus, 21+.
Kendall Café Kesnia Mack & Mare Wakefield and Jon Gorey, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Chuck Langford, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Twinemen, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Pilot to Gunner, Raymond and the Also Rans , $7, 18+. D: Angels of Light, Virgil Shaw and Isis, 8pm, $15, 18+.
Milky Way Mary Mary's All-Star Karaoke, 9pm, $3.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack After Work Jazz Party, 6:30-10:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Bruce Bartlett Trio, 8:30pm, $7, 21+.
Sky Bar Chris Hobson, Lyman, Hulce & Bouchie, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Toad Drawn Butter, no cover, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place On the Drop, Sudden Ease, Cola and Trucker, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm, no cover.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*



OneSideZero joins the Merry Mayhem Tour Dec. 15 at the Worcester Centrum Centre.

Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (617-964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell in Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Café *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Limbo *49 Temple Place, Boston (617-338-0280). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: B Green Line to Long Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston. (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
PJ Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State Street.*
Plough & Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard .*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
608 *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300) MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Tremont Theatre *276 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4599). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Wally's Cafe *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351- COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*



Siren Nikka Costa performs Dec. 7 at the Paradise.

advance seating

THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON

Anthrax and Judas Priest Feb. 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Joan Baez Feb. 19, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Bela Fleck and Edgar Meyer Jan. 31, Sanders Theatre (617-496-2222).
Down from the Mountain Tour with Alison Krauss and Union Station and featuring Jerry Douglas, Emmylou Harris, Ralph Stanley, the Whites, Norman and Nancy Blake, Patty Loveless, Chris Thomas King, the Peasall Sisters, Robert Neuwirth, and the Nashville Bluegrass Band, Feb. 2, Wang Theatre (800-447-7400).
Great Big Sea March 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Elton John and Billy Joel Jan. 22-24, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Julio Iglesias and Natalie MacMaster March 24, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000).
Baaba Maal Jan. 11, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700).
Branford Marsalis Feb. 21-24, Regattabar (617-661-5000).
Pat McGee Band and Afroman Dec. 27, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Mission of Burma Jan. 18, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
John Scofield Band Feb. 22 and 23, the Paradise (617-423-NEXT).

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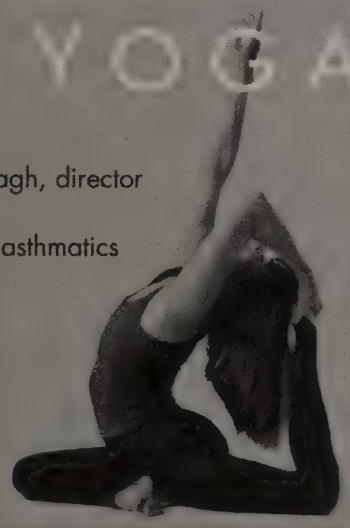
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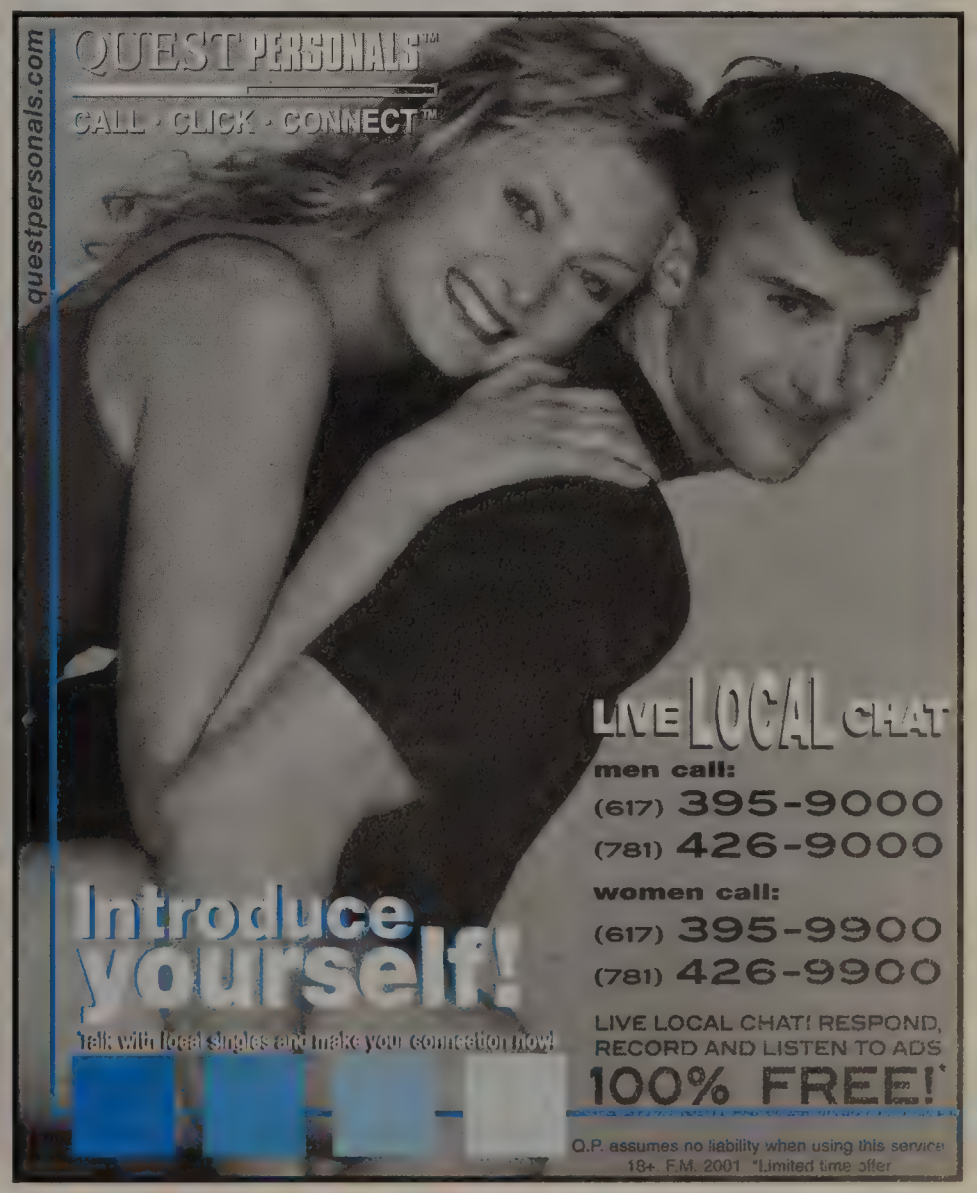
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NEW YEAR'S EVE
BOSTON



First Evening



December 31st, 2001
Nine o'clock

The Grand Ballroom
John B. Hynes Convention Center

Bellevue Cadillac & DJ Wes
Hors d'oeuvres & Champagne toast

Black Tie Suggested, Coat & Tie Required

FOR TICKETS & INFORMATION
(617) 451 2787
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classical music



Mark Harvey directs the Aardvark Jazz Orchestra in a holiday program Dec. 15.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

Early Evening with the Borromeo String Quartet
Williams Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. NEC's quartet-in residence performs, followed by a question-and-answer session.

French Library Concert
53 Marlborough St., Boston (617-266-4351). 12:15pm. Free. Cellist Emmanuel Feldman and bassist Pascale Delache-Feldman perform .

NEC Chorus and Chamber Singers
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Simon Carrington conducts a program of seasonal favorites.

THURSDAY, DEC.6

NEC Wind Ensemble Concert
Brown Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Charles Peltz conducts.

FRIDAY, DEC. 7

Boston Cecilia Presents: Britten & Britain
All Saints Church, 1773 Beacon St., Brookline (617-232-4540). 8pm. $11-$38. Also Dec. 9, 3pm, First Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge. Boston's famous chorus performs Benjamin Britten's mystical and moving works .

Boston Early Music Festival Concert
Church of the Immaculate Conception, Jesuit Urban Center, 775 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-661-1812). 8pm. $18-$42. The Tallis Scholars perform.

Handel & Haydn Society Concert
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3605). 7:30pm. $26-$70. Also Dec. 8 and 9, 3pm. Grant Llewellyn conducts Handel's *Messiah*, continuing Boston's holiday tradition since 1818.

SATURDAY, DEC. 8

Boston Gay Men's Chorus
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1142). 8pm. $10-$40. Also Dec. 9, 3pm and 8pm. The chorus sings new carols and traditional holiday classics.

Boston Symphony Orchestra
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. Conductor Seiji Ozawa and pianist Dubravka Tomsic perform.

Boston University Opera Moves
Boston University Concert Hall, Marshall Room, 885 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-8790). 8pm. Free. Also Dec. 9. The Opera Institute and the Opera Workshops present a repertoire of opera scenes.

MIT Holiday Concert
Kresge Auditorium, 48 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-2826). 8pm. $3. The MIT Logarhythms, MIT's all-male a cappella present their annual Christmas concert.

SUNDAY, DEC. 9

Candlelight and Holly Celebration
Gore Place, 52 Gore St., Waltham (781-894-5745). 5:30pm. $25. Reservations required. Also Dec. 8 and 9. This event takes place in a 1806 mansion, and features candlelight, classical music and light refreshments.

Emmanuel Music Bach Cantata
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). 10am. Free. This week's soloists are Jayne West, Krista River, Frank Kelley and Paul Guttry.

Isabella Stuart Gardner Museum Sunday Concert Series
2 Palace Rd., Boston (617-566-1401). 1:30pm. $17. The Borromeo String Quartet performs.

Longy School of Music Concert
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 7pm. Free. The Longy Chamber Singers, led by Lorna Cooke DeVaron, perform.

New England Philharmonic Family Concert
Tsai Performance Center, Comm. Ave., Boston (617-868-1222). 3pm. $20. This family concert is preceded by a children's workshop at 2pm.

TUESDAY, DEC. 11

Holiday Evening With Linda Eder
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. $35-$45. Broadway star Linda Eder joins a 32-voice choir in a festive holiday performance.

NEC Youth Philharmonic Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. $10. Benjamin Zander conducts.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 12

Boston Pops Holiday Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-1492). 8pm. $20-$95. 8pm. Conductor Keith Lockhart offers a holiday program.

Longy School of Music Concert
Pickman Concert Hall, 27 Garden St., Cambridge (617-876-0956, ext. 500). 8pm. Free. The Longy School of Music continues its Modern American Music Series.

NEC Symphony Orchestra
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. Free. Richard Hoenich conducts.

THURSDAY, DEC. 13

Emmanuel Music Children's Choir
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). 6pm. Free. The choir presents a service of Christmas lessons and carols.

Old South Meeting House Concert
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). 12:15pm. $5. Celtic harpist Ainé Minogue performs Irish music.

NEC Youth Symphony
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 8pm. $10. Aaron Kula conducts.

FRIDAY, DEC. 14

Chorus *pro Musica*
Old South Church, 645 Boylston St., Copley Square, Boston (617-247-7442). 8pm. $25. Venetian choral music is followed by sing-along seasonal favorites.

Christmas Revels
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). Call for times. $18-$38. Through Dec. 30. Celebrate the winter solstice with music and dance from the days of Tudor England.

SATURDAY, DEC. 15

Aardvark Jazz Orchestra
Harvard-Epworth United Methodist Church, 1555 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-452-3205). 8pm. $10. The Orchestra, directed by Mark Harvey, presents its 29th annual holiday concert, titled Meditations on Peace. The concert will raise money for Afghan refugees.

Charlestown Chorale Concert
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). 2pm. Free. The chorale performs an eclectic holiday program.

NEC Preparatory School Winter Festival
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-585-1122). 1pm. Free. The children's chorus performs with the Preparatory String Orchestra and Youth Repertory Orchestra.

SUNDAY, DEC. 16

A Baroque Christmas
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-266-3605). 3pm. $27-$54. Also Dec. 21, 8pm. The Handel & Haydn Society performs works by English composers.

Emmanuel Music Bach Cantata
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). 10am. Free. Roberta Anderson, Krista River, Pamela Dellal, Frank Kelley and Paul Guttry perform.

Museum of Fine Arts Concert
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-369-3300). 3pm. $16-$20. This Bach Series performance features the composer's pieces for violin and harpsichord.

Trinity Church Concert
Trinity Church, Copley Square, Boston (617-536-0944, ext. 212). 4 and 7pm. Free. The Trinity Choir and Orchestra performs a candlelight carol service.

TUESDAY, DEC. 18

Apollo Club Holiday Concert
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). 7:30pm. Free. The second-oldest men's singing club in the country performs holiday classics.

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (617-859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday-night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Café (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables) laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Café and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and mid-priced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fridays and Saturdays have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Wed.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+. Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.


The Boston Gay Men's Chorus brings its holiday cheer and gay apparel to Jordan Hall Dec. 8.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Monday is Gothic night; Tuesday is techno; and Thursday is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50 to $750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun. and Mon. 12-6pm; Tue.-Fri., 12-8pm; Sat. 10am-8pm.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Boston Women's Rainbow Chorus
First and Second Church, 66 Marlborough St., Boston (617-267-6730). Dec. 16, 5:30pm. $6 donation suggested. As part of Unitarian Universalist's Soulful Sundown series, the Rainbow Chorus performs a concert, followed by a social hour.

Fenway Community Health Events
7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6243). •Dec. 5. 6:30-9pm, $50, preregistration required: "Alternative Insemination Orientation" offers an introductory seminar to AI. •Dec. 12, 5pm-7pm: Free Hepatitis A and B vaccines.

Holiday Dance Party
Corner of Centre and Eliot streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-0658). www.contracorner.com/jp. *Dec. 8, 7:30-11pm. $6.* This event offers a night of fun and dancing, with music by Flapjack.

Home for the Holidays: Boston Gay Men's Chorus Holiday Concert
Jordan Hall at New England Conservatory 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-424-8900). www.bgmc.org. *Dec. 8, 8pm; Dec. 9, 3pm and 8pm. $10-$40.* The men's chorus join voices to celebrate the holidays with classic and new songs incorporating the choir's own traditions.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Bawl
(617-508-628-5477). This lesbian softball league offers opportunities to join teams in both the recreational and competitive divisions. Call Liz.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month for support and discussion with men who are bisexual.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). Every first Tuesday. 6:30pm. This Boston immigration group for lesbians and gays provides information and support.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot Streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-0658). www.contracorner.com/jp. *Saturdays, 7:30-11pm, $5.* This group meets two Saturdays a month for contra dancing.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safer Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month, 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of every month.

Community Rainbow
Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45pm. This organization's mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dagger
(617-542-4214). Join The Theater Offensive's newest guerrilla theater group, Dagger, and make some noise. The group gathers on Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30pm, to train and create performances representing queer girls' and women's perspectives. Email *Dagger@thetheateroffensive.org.*

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

FLAG Flag Football
(617-937-5858). Weekends. Join other gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexual friends of all skill levels to play recreational football. Visit *www.flagflagfootball.com* for information.

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30am-12:45pm. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gay Volleyball
Cambridge (617-867-0410). Sundays, 6pm, $7. Teams are made up each week depending on who shows up (mostly men, but women are welcome).

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Mondays.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Lanes
(617-423-6881). Sundays, 9:30am. Liquid Assets New England Swim team, LANES, is a gay swim team.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held regularly in a gay-friendly environment. Private lessons are available.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Tuesday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

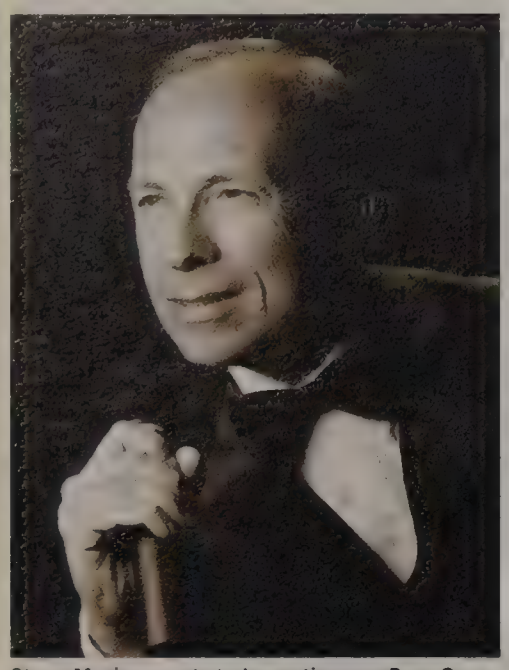
Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.

TONY SCARPETTA

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or by e-mail to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*



Steve Marino wants to hypnotize you Dec. 6.

EVENTS

Comedy and Hypnosis
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). www.bcae.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 6, 7:30-9pm. $25.* Hypnosis is a state of inner absorption and focused attention that can enable a powerful use of your mind. This evening, professional hypnotherapist **Steve Marino** will teach a class about hypnosis with his distinct sense of humor.

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 7, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10 requested donation. Simple, joyous, and meditative circle dances honor the world's sacred traditions. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and accompanied by live music.

Drum and Dance Saturday
Eagle Drum Council, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (978-371-2502). www.earthdrum.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 15, 8-11:30pm. $6.* Bring your stomping feet, clapping hands, drums, spoons and tambourines.

Three Year Anniversary and Holiday Cheer
The Upside Down Store and Yoga Studio, 295 Belmont St., Belmont (617-484-0994). MBTA: Bus lines #73. Dec. 16, 12-6pm. Free. The Upside Down Store and Yoga Studio provides education on holistic health and awareness, while donating five percent of profits to charity. Come for fun free stuff and yoga classes, taking place all day.

WORKSHOPS

Have Your Cake & Eat It Too! A Gentle Approach to Food, Body and Self
Wellspace, 1 New St., Fresh Pond Mall, Cambridge (617-876-2660). www.wellspace.com. *Dec. 15, 2-5pm. $55.* Do you struggle with dieting or emotions related to eating food? This workshop can teach you how to re-create your innate healthy relationship to food, listen to your body's true hunger signals, cope effectively with emotions and create self-care in your daily life.

How to Talk With Your Angels
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Nov. 30, 7-8:45pm. $15. Dec. 12, 7-8:45pm. $20.* It's an angel's job to love and look after you. Why not make the job easier by learning your angel's name and establishing a relationship with him or her? "Angelspeake" facilitator **George Arnos** will teach you how.

Mindfulness: The Path to Peace
The First Parish in Cambridge, 3 Church St., Cambridge (617-876-7772), Dec. 9, 1-4pm, $25. Winter is a great time to get introspective. And this experiential workshop with minister **Thomas Mikelson** and wellness coach **Dr. Nina Marquis** is a chance to learn the practice of mindfulness. It can assist you in listening to your inner wisdom as well as help you relax and manage stress, improve sleep, eat healthfully, enjoy exercise and feel content.

Moving On in Backbends
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (617-666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Dec. 9, 2-5pm. $35.* This class will mix exuberance and alignment in order to make progress with deepening your backbends.

Practical Usage of Tarot Cards
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *Dec. 14, 7:30pm. $7.* **William Groves** will explore the mysteries of the Tarot, its archetypal symbolism and how you can use tarot in everyday life.

RETREAT

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun
Kripalu Center, Lenox, Mass. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org. *Dec. 7-9. $225, includes room and meals. Women only.* The average American woman is tired, overwhelmed and in need of nurturing. All the aromatherapy in the world couldn't do the job of providing relief. According to **Loretta LaRoche,** what really works is fun. This workshop will help you identify what creates joy in your life and what prevents it. Learn ways to laugh more and find pleasure.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detoxification
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). Daily during walk-in hours. If you want to break the cycle of substance abuse, this clinic provides acupuncture as a way to deal with the problem on a physical level. Call for info.

Awareness Through Movement for Any Body
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-491-6050). Thu., 6-7:15pm. $14. Drop-in. Join **Deborah Lotus** and discover how to ease bodily tension and stress. The class will focus on sitting in chairs and the use of Feldenkrais techniques. Find out what you do to prevent repetitive strain and other pain.

Continued Explorations in Contact Improvisation
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191 or 617-320-9792). Tue., 5:30-7:30pm. Contact improvisation is sort of like dancing and sort of like making art. It's a chance to move yourself with others in a creative, spontaneous fashion while learning and utilizing kinesthetic awareness.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Bus #57, 70 and 71. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditation and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das**, **Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. All sessions are open to and appropriate for anyone seeking or on a personal spiritual path.

Shintaido
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-783-3361). MBTA Red Line to Central. Mon., 6:30-8pm. $12. Shintaido is a body movement originally based in martial arts that evolved into a system of human potential development, health exercise and artistic expression. **Jennifer Hicks** is the instructor.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (617-362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that reduces stress and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Tai Chi Self-Defense
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.CharlesRiverShiatsu.com. *Tue., 8-9pm. First class is free.* Tai chi is great for keeping you healthy and safe.

Yoga/Allston
Beacon Light Yoga Center, 215 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-739-0717). www.beaconlightyoga.com. *$14-$18 per session. Call ahead.* This yoga center offers mixed-level Kripalu and power-yoga styles on weekends and evenings. Beginner classes are held Saturday mornings and Wednesday nights.

Yoga/Brookline
New Directions for Yoga, Health, & Psychotherapy, 5 Harvard Ave., Brookline (617-731-0991). www.newdirectionsforhealth.com. *MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village or C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. $10-$17. Join anytime or drop-in. Call ahead.* Yoga classes seven days a week, including Svaroopa, Kripalu and Iyengar, plus Pilates, Reiki, embodiment bodywork and family relaxation classes.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 800-462-2849
Dec. 5, 7pm vs. Denver Nuggets
Dec. 7, 7:30pm vs. Phoenix Suns
Dec. 14, 7:30pm vs. Chicago Bulls

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 617-931-2222
Dec. 6, 7:30pm vs. Pittsburgh Penguins
Dec. 8, 7pm vs. Buffalo Sabres
Dec. 15, 7pm vs. Philadelphia Flyers
Dec. 18, 7pm vs. Atlanta Thrashers

New England Patriots
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 800-543-1776
Dec. 9, 1pm vs. Cleveland Browns

Events

Bill Rodgers Jingle Bell Run
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St. (617-723-5612) www.billrodgers.com. *Dec. 9. Registration 3-4pm, race 5pm. $20 in advance, $30 day of race.* This three-mile run/costume contest benefits children's charities such as Casa and Toys for Tots (be sure to bring an unwrapped toy with you). Prizes will be awarded for best team and individual holiday-themed costumes, and all paid entrants get a snazzy T-shirt. There will also be a riotous fun post-party at Avalon, so don't forget to bring your ID.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players ages 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practice takes place Sunday at 11am.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues held in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals welcome.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.BostonDemons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (617-789-4070).

HIKING/ WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. •Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

POLO

Stage Hill Polo and Riding School
Topsfield Fairgrounds, Topsfield (978-356-5601). Mon. and Wed., 6-8pm; Sat. 1pm. $300/mo. For people looking to actually play the sport depicted on their Ralph Lauren shirts, Stage Hill provides the equipment, horses and lessons. No prior riding experience is necessary. Lessons offered year-round.

RUGBY

Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mysticrugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby. Most games are played in New England, although the team is gearing up for several matches in Argentina and Chile next spring.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/bostonhhh. Weekly runs year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.iceskatingclasses.com. Skating lessons for children or adults at 15 area MDC rinks. Use figure or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070, ext. 225). Coed indoor leagues run year-round in Newton, Revere and Acton. Individuals and teams welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming now for fall leagues (all levels) in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals welcome.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-901-9456) bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur freestyle wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round. Relive your high-school days of running in a rubber suit to bust weight.



Lace up your Air Jordans and join the BSSC for co-ed basketball.

children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 16. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

A Child's Christmas in Wales
Lyric West Theatre, Mass. Bay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley (781-235-0488). Fri., 8pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5pm. Dec. 7-23. $27-$32. Set in a tiny Welsh fishing village at the beginning of the 20th century, this is the tale of a young boy's remembrances of past Christmases.

The Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Sat. and Sun., 1 and 3pm; Wed. and Thu., 10:30am. $8. Reservations recommended. Traditional and original shows for children ages five and older: •Dec. 5-6: Sparky's Puppets present *Tales from Snowy Lands* for children 3 and older. •Dec. 8: Perry Alley Theatre presents *Tom Thumb*. •Dec. 9, 1 and 3pm: Magpie Puppets celebrate *Eeyore's Birthday*. •Dec. 12-13: Paul Vincent Davis presents *The Singing Turtle* for children 4 and older. •Dec. 15, 1 and 3pm: Tanglewood Marionettes feature *Cinderella*. •Dec. 16, 1 and 3pm: *The Little Stonecutter* by Palm of the Hand Stories.

Chamber Repertory Theatre
•Dec. 6, 13, 14, 17, 20, 21: John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-9155). •Dec. 14, 21: Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston. 10:30am. $12.50. Encore! presents five dramatized stories by Poe, Maupassant, Irving Jacobs and Twain. *Tour de Force!* presents five dramatized stories by Poe, Bierce, Connell, Munro and O'Henry.

Boston Children's Theatre
Suffolk University, C. Walsh Theatre, 55 Temple St., Boston (617-424-6634). Dec. 8, 9, 15, 16, 27-30, 2pm; Dec. 14, 9:30am, 12pm. $13-$17. The BCT opens its 51st season with *Honk!*, the award-winning new British musical adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's tale, *The Ugly Duckling*.

Winter Wonderland Train Display
The Grand Concourse at South Station, corner of Atlantic Avenue and Summer Street, Boston. www.trainsandtrees.com. *7:30am-10pm. Free. MBTA: Red Line to South Station.* This annual holiday event features model trains on two tracks, winding around a big display, complete with village scenes, bridges and tunnels.

Zoolights
Stone Zoo, 149 Pond St., Stoneham (781-438-5100). Through Dec. 30, closed on Dec. 25. 5pm. $3. Meet Santa Claus, wander through Snowy Owl Creek, and view the animals dazzlingly illuminated by thousands of sparling lights.

Omni Theater
Science Park, Boston (617-732-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. $7.50, $5.50 children.* •Through March 1: *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure* describes Sir Ernest Shackleton's legendary expedition to the hopelessly barren, frigid plains of Antarctica.

THINGS TO DO

Snowdome Fantasy
Arlington Center for the Arts, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). Dec. 7, 6:30pm. $25 for one adult with child. Children ages 5-13. Children create their own unique snowdomes with jars, sparkles and plastic figurines.

Fete de Noel at Le Meridien
Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900, ext. 7061). 11:30am. $35. Children learn to make buche de Noel, a traditional French yule cake, and create festive holiday cards.

The Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). $7, $6 children. •Dec. 8, 12pm: Gift-Making Extravaganza! Special guest artists from diverse cultures lead arts and craft demonstrations during Cultural Gift-Making Month. •Wed. and Fri., 11am: PlaySpace for children ages three and under includes music and movement.

around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (617-338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (617-242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (617-572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Closed until further notice.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (617-566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theatre, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours start at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sat., 10am-10pm, Sun., 10am-10pm. $6, $4 seniors.

Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Nov.-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(617-357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

Adopt-a-Family
(617-635-8346). "Adopt" a family during the holiday season.

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0211). Information sessions take place Tue. and Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl. Info. sessions: Dec. 12, 6-7pm; Dec. 20, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(617-263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). Volunteers needed to work in Cambridge public schools as tutors, aides and mentors.

Community Servings
(617-445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Ethos
(617-522-6700, ext. 323). Work with the elderly.

EurAuPair Community Counselor
(800-901-2002). Help au pairs from different countries adjust to their new life in America.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children. Volunteer training: Dec. 5 and 6.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-972-1702). Volunteer to provide practical and emotional support to terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.



It's ice skating season again on the Frog Pond.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(617-375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996, ext. 30). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Teddy Bear Drive
(978-356-2602). Volunteers needed to deliver teddy bears to local shelters during the holidays.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.



Food, Fun and Good Company

The Single Gourmet – A great new way to spark up your social life!

Join the Single Gourmet, a members-only social dining club that offers single men and women the opportunity to share fun and lively dinners and good conversation at some of the area's greatest restaurants.

Whether you're looking for a relationship, or just want to meet new friends, we bring together single professionals who have busy careers just like you.

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C.E. HOUGHTON/BOSTON PARKS & RECREATION

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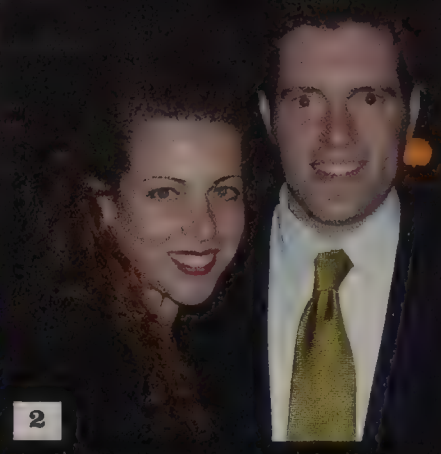
The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Wednesday, Nov. 14, Joe Quattrocchi and Brian Lesser of [illegible] and [illegible] fame opened Metro, a new French bistro in Porter Square.

1. **Joe Quattrocchi** and **Brian Lesser**, owners of Metro.
2. **Amy Gottesman** of Country Road Australia with fiancé **Barry Finegold**, state representative for Andover.
3. **Betsy Caroll** of Cahners Publishing, **Marion Kassler** of The Design Center, and **Amy Holland** of Boston Ballet.



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On Thursday, Nov. 15, the swank 57 Restaurant re-opened its doors with a brand-new look that reinvents the classic chophouse with modern style.



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1. 57 Restaurant general manager **Nina Sirvell** with owner **Bill Dadasis** and assistant general manager **Kelly Connerton**.
2. **Susan Norton, Susan Withrow, Marji Smith** and **Juliette Cux**, all of Kortenhaus Communications.

On Sunday, Nov. 11, Todd English of Olives and Michael Charbonnier of the Boston Police Department hosed an event at Olives in Charlestown to benefit the victims of the Sept. 11 tragedy.

1. **Trooper Dan** with his daughter, **Courtney**.
2. From left, **Allyson Clark, Dick Wells, Mary Walsh, Ed Walsh, Rob Clark, Jim Barry, Pat Morrison** and **Paul Boyle**, all of the Boston Police Department.
3. **Susan Charbonnier** of Patina on Warren with her husband **Michael Charbonnier** of the BPD; Trooper Dan's daughter **Courtney** with **Trooper Dan** and **Todd English**, owner of Olives.



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On Friday, Nov. 9, *Night Club and Bar Magazine*'s "Innovator of the Year" was presented to The Palace owner Russall Robbat at Tilt, inside The Palace.

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1. **Mary Ellen Towle, Laura Robbat** and **Jim Hughes** of Kiss 108 FM.
2. **Kevin Seddon** of Oxford Publishing Inc. with **Russall Robbat** and **Matt Segal** of Kiss 108 FM.
3. **Elaine Driscoll** and **Scott Farmelant** of Regan Communications.



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2

On Thursday, Nov. 8, Repertoire, a high-end furniture store, hosted its fall preview event.

1. **Ian Poole** from Jaboa Corp; **Susan Orpun**, designer at Repertoire; **Ryan Zoeller**, sales representative at Repertoire; **Katherine Sheridan**, hostess at Pravda; and **Doug Gates**, sales manager at Repertoire.
2. **Barbra Rosen**, sales representative at Repertoire, with **Rick Garofalo**, owner of Repertoire.

PHOTOS: METRO, KAREN DANA; 57, CARRIE WALLACE; OLIVES, ANNIE RICE; REPERTOIRE, JULIE KANE; TILT, DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN

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restaurants

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Science Street Cafe *Science Park, Boston, 617-723-2500, www.mos.org.* Looking for something different to do this Friday night? Check out the newest nightspot--The Museum of Science. Try our one-of-a-kind martinis, gourmet appetizers and desserts, then tour the Museum or catch an Omni movie. $25 package includes one drink, one appetizer, Mugar Omni Theater ticket, Exhibit Hall admission and parking. 6-10pm at the Museum of Science.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 &2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Dance Plex *262 Friend Street, Boston, 617-720-1966 or boston@pollyesthers.com.* This is your ticket to the hottest retro dance club in Boston, The Dance Plex (formerly Polly Esther's) featuring Culture Club, & Club Expo. The Dance Plex is a four level dance party complex spinning all your favorites from retro MTV bubblegum 80's hits, 70's Disco, Freestyle & Express, 80's Jams, Top 40 90's hits and dance mixes of today. Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9pm till 2am.

Tilt *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* A club truly in a class of its own. With its outrageous Light Show and Cat Walk spectacle, dance and groove with the spinning sensation Manolo on Saturday nights and to guest DJs spinning progressive house and trance on Friday. Dress code strictly enforced. Doors open at 10pm.

VIDEO CLUB

Uptown-The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* Progressive dance music on Friday nights: 18+ ladies, 19+ men. Casual dress.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: Bobby Femino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich Street, Boston, MA, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas

Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday and Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide variety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

Oxygen-The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* Enjoy the best of 70's, 80's & 90's music on Tuesday nights and a buffet from 8pm-9pm with DJ Chris Fiore. Doors open at 8pm; 21+, $3 before 9pm and $5 after 9pm. Friday 18+ ladies, 19+ men , casual dress. Saturday 18+ ladies, 21+ men, proper dress required.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998,1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and Balla Brothers.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

CLUBS

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

The Dance Plex *262 Friend Street, Boston, 617-720-1966 or boston@pollyesthers.com.* This is your ticket to the hottest retro dance club in Boston, The Dance Plex (formerly Polly Esther's) featuring Culture Club, & Club Expo. The Dance Plex is a four level dance party complex spinning all your favorites from retro MTV bubblegum 80's hits, 70's Disco, Freestyle & Express, 80's Jams, Top 40 90's hits and dance mixes of today. Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9pm till 2am.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00 10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday-Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Rattlesnake Bar & Grill *384 Boylston St., 617-859-8555.* Presenting Boston's best brunch buffet every Sunday from 11am to 4pm for only $13.95. Choose from made to order omelets and waffles, a full roast beef, turkey and ham carving station, fresh salads and a variety of southwestern specials. Enjoy our homemade brunch cocktails featuring brunchtinis and $3.00 Rattlesnake Cajun marys and mimosas. Our brunch facilities can also accommodate large parties; please contact us for bookings. All winter long have access to our NFL Sunday football package for all the games and never a cover. Our full dinner menu is available after 4pm.

Roggie's: New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday-Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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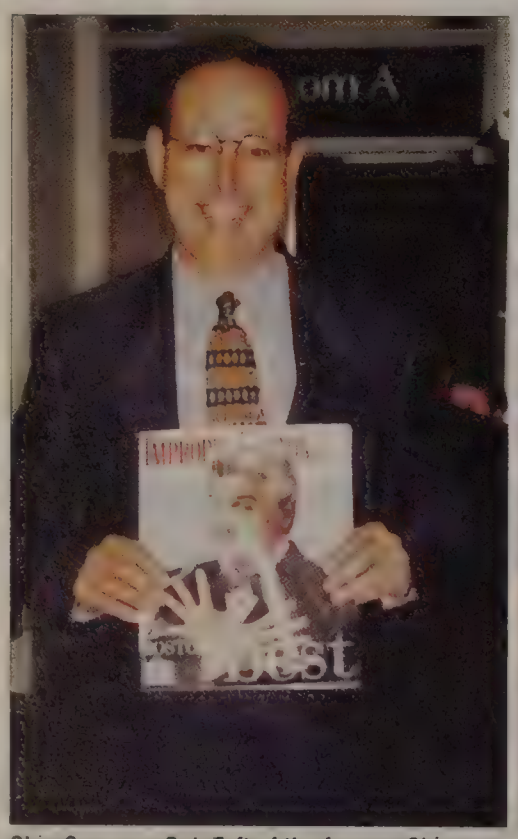
From left: Patrick Magee, Colin Murdock and Dewey Price enjoyed Munich, where new friend Ursla demonstrated decuple-fisting beers.



At the Colosseum in Rome, Deni and Dr. Alan Budd found that some of *Gladiator*'s DVD bonus features are scary.



Joyce Dwyer compares fashion standards with a native of Shediac, New Brunswick, where the monochrome yellow look is hot right now.



Ohio Governor Bob Taft of the famous Ohio Tafts holds the IMPROPER's Boston's Best issue.



Brian McNeely and Scott Rumrill visited the border of Area 51 in Nevada. They didn't see any aliens at Area 51, although they suspected that several may have been working at their hotel.



Edward Owens, senior VP of Homisco Corp., reads up on dining while in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Wielding an extra-long mallet at the World Elephant Polo Championships, which continue through Dec. 8 in Nepal's Royal Chitwan National Park.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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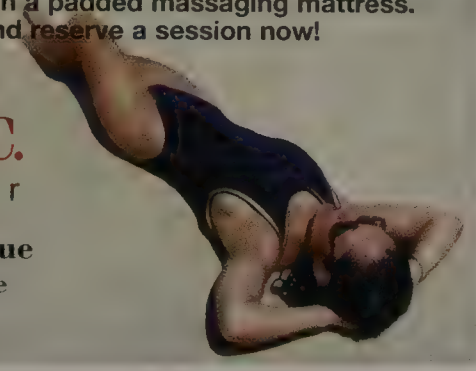
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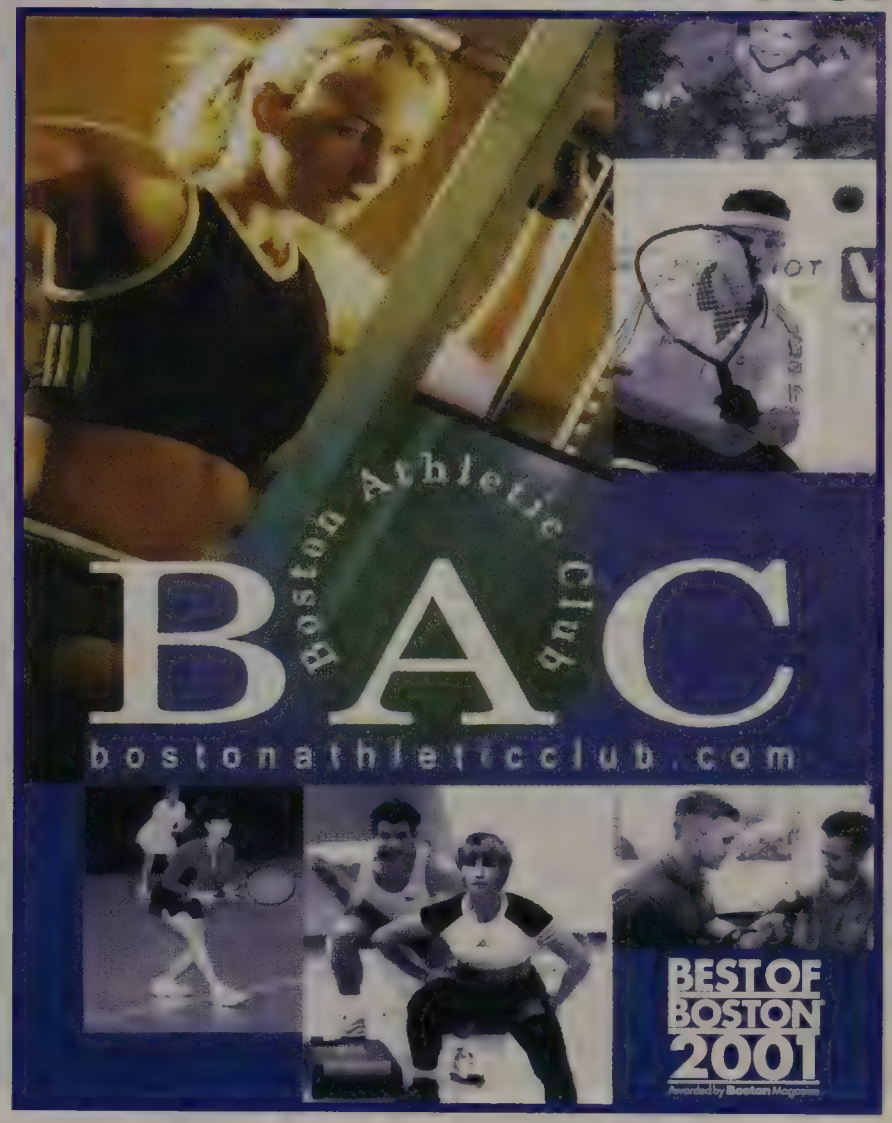
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THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Dan298 on match.com

Only because I happened upon a link to match.com through another site did I see your profile...and only because I'd like to not be living alone in a mobile home with three dozen cats shopping off of QVC and eating Hostess Cupcakes did I look at Match.com...and only because I am too cheap to spring for the $25 subscription in order to send you an e-mail did I think to post in the IMPROPER. Like you, people (including my mother) keep asking how it is that I am still single, and the only reason I can come up with is that I work full time, am getting my MBA part time and spend my weekends either with my friends or trapped in the library trying to decipher my Economics homework. I suppose I should mention that I love Nick Hornby (and that his books take place in the U.K, as I am half English), think *Clerks* might be more funny than *Mall Rats*, played soccer when I had time and can probably hold my own in accounting conversation. Although I am a big fan of *90210* (the Brenda years) I am more often than not watching the *Iron Chef*. I don't run unless I am being chased but I'd never make you go to the ballet. Look at it this way, replying to an ad in the IMPROPER is no weirder than a random e-mail through an online dating service, right? Good luck in your search.
—Inglivbev9er@hotmail.com

Mass Art

I was walking my bike down Huntington Street and I stopped you and asked you where the South building was. You were a bit unsure—you said you were a freshman. You asked what department, and I said the Art Education office. You had no idea where it was. Me: short hair, brown hat, brown eyes, blue bike, blue helmet. You: I don't remember other than you had a nice smile. I can't think of an end that doesn't sound like it's from a cheezy personal. E-mail me.
—eyeamgoddess@yahoo.com

Darjeeling

Tealuxe, Harvard Square, Nov. 16 (around 2:45pm or so): Pardon me for abruptly leaving after our pleasant little exchange we had together that Friday afternoon. You, a rather dapper and strikingly attractive brunette, asked me what I had just ordered. Darjeeling Silver Tips, I said (Darjeeling: your favorite!). I made foolish jokes. You laughed. Then I left. My bad. I'd like to discuss that Tea Box collection of yours sometime—and soon(!) Time for tea for two, perhaps? If the Fates have anything to say about this you'll see this message and maybe, just maybe, reply to me ...
—darjeeling101@hotmail.com

Sushi Bar Guy Should Have Said Hi

I should have said hi. Shouldn't I? We were in Fugakyu in Brookline. It was Friday night, Nov. 16, 8-8:30pm(ish). I was already eating when you walked in, as we made eye contact. You sat five seats to my left. Me: caucasian, short to medium brown hair, green short-sleeve polo shirt, light blue jeans. To my left was a tall blonde woman (not my girlfriend). We were chatting with another tall blond to our left whose date stood her up (an empty seat). To her left was your friend, 30ish, brunette, pretty. And then you: medium-length brown/black hair, stunning, exotic, perhaps of international background. We made eye contact a few times. I should have said hi. Shouldn't I have? Is it too late? Hi!
—sushibarguy@hotmail.com

Warm Smile Guy from the Purple Shirt Chick

OK, I didn't memorize what you were wearing or the color of your eyes but I can't get your warm smile out of my mind. It was a Sunday in October, between 12 and 1pm, and I was walking down Boylston Street toward that new Indian Restaurant across from the Pru. You were seated at a restaurant table outside. You seemed to be people-watching. It was warmer than usual. I was wearing my favorite purple shirt. We made eye contact, and you smiled the warmest, sweetest smile I have ever seen and I smiled back. I believe you have light brown hair and hazel eyes. I can't be certain. Well, if this rings a bell, I'd love to get to know the person behind the smile. Thanks...
—aws34@yahoo.com

Cool-shoed waitress at the Middle East

You: sassy red-haired waitress at the Middle East.
When: sunday brunch, sometime in November.
Us: blueberry pancakes and lentil soup. After 45 minutes we got a burned bacon appetizer. We hope we didn't get you in trouble—we just couldn't wait any longer. We left $10 for the bacon and coffee and went next door. We saw you there later getting a shot and meant to see if you were OK—there was banging and swearing in the kitchen when we left. We figured the cook was an idiot. Hope we didn't screw up your day.
—Sympathetic patrons

To the People of the Back Bay

If you walk by Workbench Furniture the week of Dec. 3, please stop in and wish a happy birthday to Jose, from a Marine that misses him.
—LB

Adam,

We met at a Halloween dance that I went to, and ever since then I have been beaming every time I see you. You came to my house and nursed me when I was sick and most of all you have always been there for me. So on our year and three-month anniversary, I want to proclaim that I love you and I always will, for you are always my banana. Love,
—Cathy

To the guy with the new gray metallic BMW:

I can't wait to climb in and let you take me for a joy ride.
—Love, the girl with the unsafe red convertible

The Day Before Thanksgiving

Dusk, the day before Thanksgiving, at the Torrefazione coffee house on Newbury Street. You, a lovely mid-20's post-doc (I overheard) with tawny blonde hair, casually dressed in worn jeans, sat with two friends, a guy and a girl (engaged?)—she Asian-American; he, hip with short dark hair. I (sitting nearby, dressed in black, leather bracelet on my wrist, dark brown hair, blue eyes, unshaven with glasses and the *New York Times*) smiled at you, and you at me, but we did not (could not) talk. Can we now?
—NewburyStreet@hotmail.com

Regrets at your departure from JDate

To the beautiful brunette high school counselor from Brookline: I regretted your departure from JDate. You were atypical; special; not to mention—it appeared—just the person I don't meet in the real world, and hoped perhaps to meet there. I'd have liked to correspond, maybe to meet. I think you might have found me true to my words. Perhaps you found the service unhelpful, or in some ways unpleasant, or perhaps you found a beau—of course I understand. (I admit that in some ways, your departure speaks even better of you.) But if you still have my address (and if you know who this might be; I don't use your five-letter screen name, or my 10, for your privacy and mine), you are still very welcome to write, whenever that may be, and I still very much hope you do.
—A would-be suitor

Rockie Horoscope

DECEMBER 5 – 18, 2001

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

Because so many planets are in Sagittarius, you're liable to feel equally at home with Mercury-ruled Virgos, Plutonic Scorpios, sunny Leos, the usual lovable Libras and a sensual Taurus, the signs ruled by Venus. Geminis can present problems simply because constructive Saturn in that versatile sign is trying to contain the free-wheeling Sag vibe. Capricorns might oppose you as well. Since your Jupiter ruler is in Cancer, this year Crabs are practically kissin' kin. Who's left? Aquarians, Pisceans and Arians who are currently being supportive. Party time?

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

Usually it's the Cancer-Capricorn full moons that make you feel vulnerable, but because your Saturn ruler is in Gemini, the Gemini-Sag full moon can also put you in one of those moods. It's not that the world is ganging up on you, it'll only feel that way until Venus in Sag stops opposing Saturn, say by the next new moon. Meanwhile, you might get substantial support from a partner who is in a position to be both generous in spirit and philosophically sound of mind.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

Three planets in Aquarius and four in Sagittarius, out of a possible 10, make you the two signs with the most charisma, for now. Before hot-to-trot Mars leaves for Pisces on the 8th, make sure you've come on to all the people you have eyes for. Your popularity with various sets of friends won't fade, but the aura of sexuality currently clinging to you might. Then you'll have to wait until seductive Venus and the sun get to Aquarius on Jan. 19 before you again become as potent an object of desire as you are today.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Whenever mutable signs such as Gemini and Sag become congested with planets passing through, as Sag is now, Pisces also come under pressure to adjust accordingly. But you don't have to feel victimized. Anyway, with so much planetary activity at the top of your chart, expect to see more action regarding your career or a family matter. You're especially perceptive, communicative and imaginative this weekend. Time to rethink your plans for the Christmas holiday, to make it less about family, more about romance?

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

A dilemma concerning what you truly value—honesty, courage, smarts, and so on—might arise during the dualistic Gemini full moon. However, chances are the matter that comes to a head will be about dollars and cents or, because restrictive Saturn is in your money house, the lack thereof. Tradition can play a significant part in deciding how you'll proceed, and so will the input you get from someone you can hit on for a loan or a "contribution" to your cause. It's time to tap a hidden resource or uncover a secret stash.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Doing things even a little differently this holiday season can make your customary routine—shopping, chopping, shipping—more stressful than you imagined. What you consider to be "tried-and-true" techniques for coping won't cut it, simply because so much futuristic Aquarian energy is prodding the Bull to think and wander outside the box. Add a cluster of Sagittarian planets pushing for greater freedom and laissez-faireness and one has to wonder where earthy signs such as yours will find firm footing and a sense of security over the next two weeks.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

The seesaw ride you've been on for lo, these many months, could feel a lot bumpier right now even if your partner or a co-worker is carrying an equal amount of weight. It's more than a matter of perception. Keeping your balance while the Sag sun opposes responsibility-laden Saturn in your sign is no mean trick. However, if you both reveal how you really feel when your Mercury ruler merges with the sun and secretive Pluto, you could engineer a shift in the current arrangement that'll last until June.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

Having fun with friends can supersede all the other stuff you're supposed to be doing. Since a majority of the planets sending signals are coming from party-loving Sag and sociable Aquarius, the Moon Child might be surprised to learn that the Finger of God aspect (the yod) is pointing at you. When you're the focus of attention from signs that are 150 degrees away from your own, you have to make adjustments to relieve the strain. Luckily, having expansive Jupiter in your sign helps you stretch out and encompass more than you could before.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

This might be one of those rare times when revelations come at you fast and furiously. Because your sun ruler in spirited Sag is tied up with Mercury bearing messages and Pluto, baring secrets, you're liable to be exposed to more than you think you need to know. This is not the case. Because a preponderance of the planets are lodged in your Sagittarius house of romance and your Aquarius house of partnership, shouldn't you be aware of all the nuances, all the options, all of them liberating, that this infusion of planetary energy is bombarding you with?

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

The usual post-Thanksgiving/pre-Christmas stress that Virgins are under during Sagittarius is further acerbated this year by your Mercury ruler and the sun's opposition to restrictive Saturn (the boss, government or father figure) in your Gemini midheaven. So many influential forces telling you what you can and cannot do may be immensely informative, but the holiday season is hardly the time to accelerate your education. Where are the laughs, the hugs and the kisses? This would be a good time to take a break and get away for a long weekend.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

The financial ramifications of the season to be jolly should make themselves known before Dec. 7. Accept the fact that while your Venus ruler travels through your second house, decisions about money matter more than they usually do. Find out what you need to know about investment, insurance and tax matters, so you can focus on the energy emanating from your Aquarian house of creativity, romance and recreation. Unlike most of the other signs, Libra is in a position to enjoy an exhilarating experience.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

You have more in common with your neighbors, Libra and Sagittarius, than usual. And when the Sag sun and your Pluto co-ruler conjunct on the 6th, you may feel that the Scorpion and the Centaur have been cut from the same cloth. Or, more likely, are party to the same hush-hush information. Pressure from the folks at home or the landlord doesn't let up until Mars slips into the calm waters of compassionate Pisces on the 8th. From that point on, it's smooth sailing ahead.

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Left: Scenes from the K-12 fashion show at the Copley Plaza Hotel.



SOMEWHERE BETWEEN VOGUE AND SESAME STREET...

Backstage at a fashion show, temper tantrums, hissy fits and hysterical tears are nothing new, but they're less offensive and more understandable coming from small children than from overpaid anorexics. In fact, with small children it's sort of cute.

A K-12 fashion show at the **Copley Plaza** (courtesy of **Saks Fifth Avenue**) was only one of the things that set "**A Pocketful of Birthday Stars**"—a fund-raiser for the **Max Warburg Courage Curriculum**—apart. Another was the guest list, which included such dynamos of do-gooding as silver-haired fox **Pam Humphrey** and her distinguished other half, **John**; **Jonathan** and **Stephanie Warburg** (Max's parents and the charity's founders); publishing titan **Nader Darehshori** and his wife, **Cynthia**; boyish Sotheby's big shot **Bill Cottingham** and the flawless **Sally Fay**; Chestnut Hillion **Michael Horwitz** and his newscaster other half, **Kasey Kaufman**; Hizzonah **Tom Menino** and the lovely **Angela**; jewelry designer **Maud Cabot** and her teacher husband, **Andrew**; and (if their mothers were any indication) numerous future clients of Chanel.

Stealing the show on the catwalk were the mayor's adorable grandchildren **Giulia**, **Olivia** and **Will Fenton**, proving that popularity is an inherited trait. Among the kids, the most popular person there was the guy making balloon animals, proving that there's no accounting for taste.

YES, YOU CAN BUY THAT KIND OF PUBLICITY...

The only person worth mentioning at the **Steppingstone Foundation**'s annual **Masked Ball** was **Michael O'Connor**.



Michael O'Connor

Not that there weren't plenty of other fun and interesting people, all decked out and dancing like there was no tomorrow in the Rooftop Ballroom of the **Parker House**. It's just that Michael O'Connor was the high bidder in the silent auction for the dubious prize of being mentioned in this column. To be sure he receives his money's worth, we should also point out that he's single, lives in New Hampshire, teaches kindergarten and dressed as a nerd on Halloween. (Translation: He's a rugged outdoorsman who loves kids and has a sense of humor about himself.) In short, he's a great guy. And we're not just saying that because he paid for it. Well, actually, yes, we are. But we're sure it's true.

THE PROVERBIAL BARREL OF MONKEYS...

How many comedians does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

None, silly—comedians can't fit inside a lightbulb.

(Pause for groans.)

This lame attempt at humor is in no way indicative of **Comics Come Home**, the annual laugh-riot of stand-up comedy at the **Orpheum Theatre** to benefit the **Cam Neely Foundation**.



Above: Scott Wolf.

Following a pre-performance VIP party at the **Big Easy** (where the floor was still sticky from the previous evening, but at least the bar was open), guests headed to the show, featuring such all-star headliners as **Denis Leary**, **Lenny Clarke**, **Steve Sweeney**, **Patrice O'Neal** and **Colin Quinn**. Afterward, a select crew of VIPs and Somewhat IPs repaired to the **Elephant and Castle** for an after party. Prominent among them: the stunning **Paulina Neely**; hockey god **Ray Bourque**; *Party of Five* heartthrob **Scott Wolf**; current affairs show chatelaine **Emily Rooney**; assorted Bruins, any number of New England Patriots, and lots of good-looking, well-dressed others.

The moral of the story: Don't screw in a lightbulb.

SO LONG, FAREWELL...

Among the seemingly endless tributes and goodbye parties for **Julia Child**, perhaps the most heartfelt was the one thrown by her hometown.

Cambridge Salutes Julia, which raised money for the **Cambridge Rindge and Latin School**'s culinary program, was held at the **Hyatt** and featured the likes of such celebrity chefs as **Jasper White**, **Jody Adams**, **Steve Johnson**, **Raymond Ost**, **Paul O'Connell**, **Rene Michelina** and **Deborah Hughes**. It attracted such gargantuan Cantabridgians as **Marvin Gilmore**; mayor **Anthony Galluccio** and food writer **Annie Copps**, all of whom enjoyed an hour of tasty hors d'ouevres followed by a delectable four-course dinner.



The singing chefs prove there is only one Isaac Hayes at the Cambridge Salutes Julia party.

Good idea: hiring the **Harvard Krokodillos** to perform. Bad idea: allowing every elected official in Cambridge a turn at the microphone. Questionable idea: allowing the chefs to sing. They were superbly bad.

Meanwhile, the award for un-Cambridgelike political incorrectness goes to the woman who responded to the comment "This is a special evening," by saying, "Oh. So I should speak slowly and use simple words?"





At Cambridge Salutes Julia, from top: Steve Johnson; Julia Child and Marvin Gilmore.

WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND...

To the man who stole my **Snoopy Pez dispenser** at the **Children's Trust Fund Gala** at the **Copley Plaza**: Just because it was a fabulous party, with cool decorations and lots of scintillating people, not to mention enough penny candy on all the tables to keep an army of dentists drilling cavities for all eternity, don't think I didn't see what you did. There's such a thing as karmic debt, and you're one Pez dispenser in the doghouse.



Gwen Spann of Charlotte, N.C., and David Webster at the Children's Trust Fund Gala.

REGRETS...

Parties we're sorry we missed: the get-together that hair-care emperor **Mario Russo** threw at **Avalon** for junior-socialite-sex-kitten-heiresses **Paris** and **Nicky Hilton**. But then it's probably just as well. We're not as young as we once were and don't bounce back like we used to. IB

Avez-vous dish?

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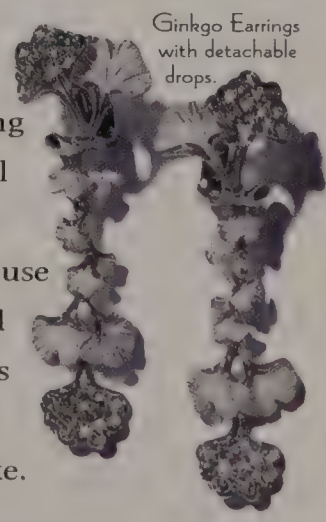
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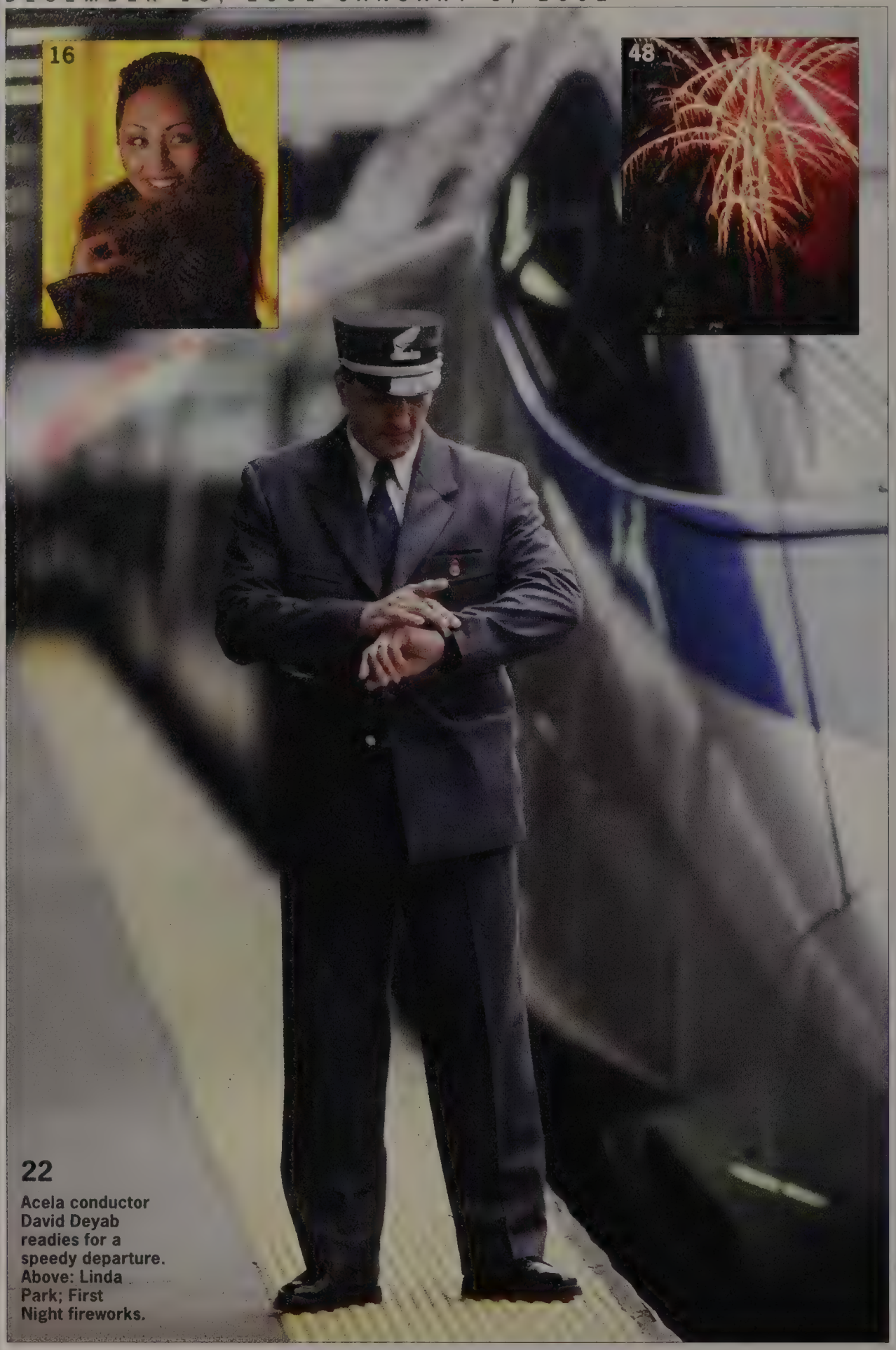
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contents



22
Acela conductor David Deyab readies for a speedy departure. Above: Linda Park; First Night fireworks.



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FEATURES

16 Soroff/On Linda Park
Boston University drama grad Linda Park talks about her fast "trek" to stardom.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

19 The State of Giving
While the bear market has hurt corporate philanthropy, individual giving is up. And it looks like Sept. 11-related charities aren't the only ones to reap the benefits. BY BRIAN BRAIKER

22 Trainspotting
Amtrak's fast train provides travelers with an enticing alternative to flying. BY AIYAZ HUSAIN

25 Party! Party!! Party!!!
Boston's party planners combine creativity with rigorous logistics to set up the soirees people talk about. BY CAROLE WINKLER

28 Fashion: Blue Moves
The perfect garb for winter destinations.
PHOTOGRAPHS BY JESSICA PURSLEY

COLUMNS

6 The Word
Macondo; slippery slopes; Justin Lowe; fresh, hot cookies delivered to your door

10 Proper Bostonians
Our society photographer captures proper partygoers.
BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

12 E-Boston
The Swami consults his crystal ball to see what's in store for 2002.
BY GEOFFREY JAMES

14 Ezra
On trash day, it's anything but slim pickins on Beacon Hill.
BY EZRA DYER

36 Mopsy
I and Eye; old-school toys for tots (and bigger kids); Mobilia
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

66 Film
Ron Howard struggles with his *Beautiful Mind*.
BY PAUL SHERMAN

74 Music
A look back at the year in song.
BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

104 Last Scene Here
Our Man in Black Tie chronicles the young and the restless.
BY JONATHAN SOROFF

EAT.DRINK.

38 Dining
Rustic Kitchen puts some English on homey food.
BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI

40 Dish
Tapas turmoil; getting back to the old-time meaning of "spa."
BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

40 Wine
Pairing wine with cheese
BY SANDY BLOCK, MW

41 Tastings
Can't-miss culinary events. Tasty Tidbit: Scandinavian Smorgasbord.
BY JULIE SHORT

AGENDA

The two-week forecast from the Calendar Girls, Erin and Julie. Complete listings follow page 43.
Disney on Ice • *Black Nativity* • **Joshua Redman** • *It's a Wonderful Life* and *Wings of Desire* • First Night festivities • *The Christmas Revels* • **Jimmy Tingle** • NECW wrestling benefit • *Jerry Berta Diner Show* • *Contact* at the Colonial

ET CETERA

Letters	4
Improperazzi	96
Improper Shopper	100
Improper Sightings	101
Improper Impersonals	102
Rockie Horoscope	103

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE

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letters



ALTHOUGH THE TIMEFRAME FOR AN INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION IS MORE PREDICTABLE THAN IT IS FOR A DOMESTIC ADOPTION, IN OUR EXPERIENCE THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE WHO PURSUE ADOPTING A U.S.-BORN BABY ARE SUCCESSFUL WITHIN LESS THAN TWO YEARS.

—*VICKI PETERSON*
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
WIDE HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN.

ADOPTION OPTIONS

Your article on adoption from China was terrific. However, some of the information and concerns stated regarding domestic adoption are misleading. Although the timeframe for an international adoption is more predictable than it is for a domestic adoption, in our experience the majority of people who pursue adopting a U.S.-born baby are successful within less than two years. Also, there are well over 80,000 domestic adoptions throughout our country each year. It is extraordinarily rare for an adoption to be interrupted by a biological parent once the child has been legally relinquished. Your article gives an inflated impression of this occurrence. Nevertheless, we are pleased to have the needs of Chinese orphans brought to the attention of your readers.

—VICKI PETERSON
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WIDE HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN

Regarding your international adoption article in the Dec. 5 issue: As an alternative to looking abroad for a child, potential parents should consider adopting a Massachusetts foster care child. Compared with Chinese programs, you'll save $15,000, you'll have better access to the child's medical and personal history, and just as important, you'll still end up with a child who will say with a smile, "Thanks, Mom and Dad."

—PETER CORNETTA
N. Grafton

SEEING STARS

I am a film student at Boston University and have been reading your magazine ever since I figured out that I didn't have to pay to open the little newsbox doors. It was only this year that I really began reading your film reviews. Before I just skimmed them, but one week I sat down and really noticed things. In the Nov. 21 issue, I had seen over a third of the movies reviewed. When I compared these movies, I wondered what kind of values system your reviewer works on. *Monsters, Inc.*, *Mullholland Drive* and *Waking Life* scored two stars, on the same level as *Shallow Hal* and *The One*. Okay. Everyone has their opinion. But the problem Mr. Sherman found with *Monsters, Inc.* was that it was "recycled" and "purely for kids." It's a kids' movie. That's the target audience. So, if recycling is bad, the ground-breaking visuals of *Waking Life* also did not wow Mr. Sherman past the lack of a typically structured plot. Points off for unoriginality, points off for originality! I've since ended my attempts to understand this arbitrary universe of stars. Everyone has their opinion, yes. But after the three-star review of the terrible *Not Another Teen Movie* (hackneyed in plot and gags, even for a spoof), I just stopped reading the reviews at all. I feel bad for any readers who use this as their only source of recommendation and have wasted hundreds of dollars on crap like *NATM*.

—CHRISTINE LEE HALBIG
Boston

CORRECTIONS

The hat on the cover of our Winter Fashion issue is by Marie Galvin. For purchasing information, call 617-426-4885.

Also, Mark Ellis' correct agency affiliation is Ennis Inc.

Tell Us What You Think

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Aiyaz Husain (pictured) was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and grew up in both the Bronx and Boston (he wisely won't divulge which baseball team he roots for). He graduated from Yale in 1999 before briefly running off to Sao Paulo, Brazil. In January 2000, he joined Harvard's Cold War Studies Project (Bronx-Boston... Yale-Harvard... Cold War. We see a trend here.) His first piece for the IMPROPER BOSTONIAN, "Trainspotting," begins on page 22.



BRIAN BRAIKER

Brian Braiker is a displaced Los Angelino living in Somerville. He moved to the Beantown area last August from "vastly underrated" Washington, DC, after completing a master's degree in international affairs. His work has appeared in *The Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, *Boston Magazine* and *Salon.com*, among others. This is also his inaugural issue of the IMPROPER, and his article on Massachusetts' improving generosity, "The State of Giving," appears on page 19.

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...and to all a good night.

Happy Holidays

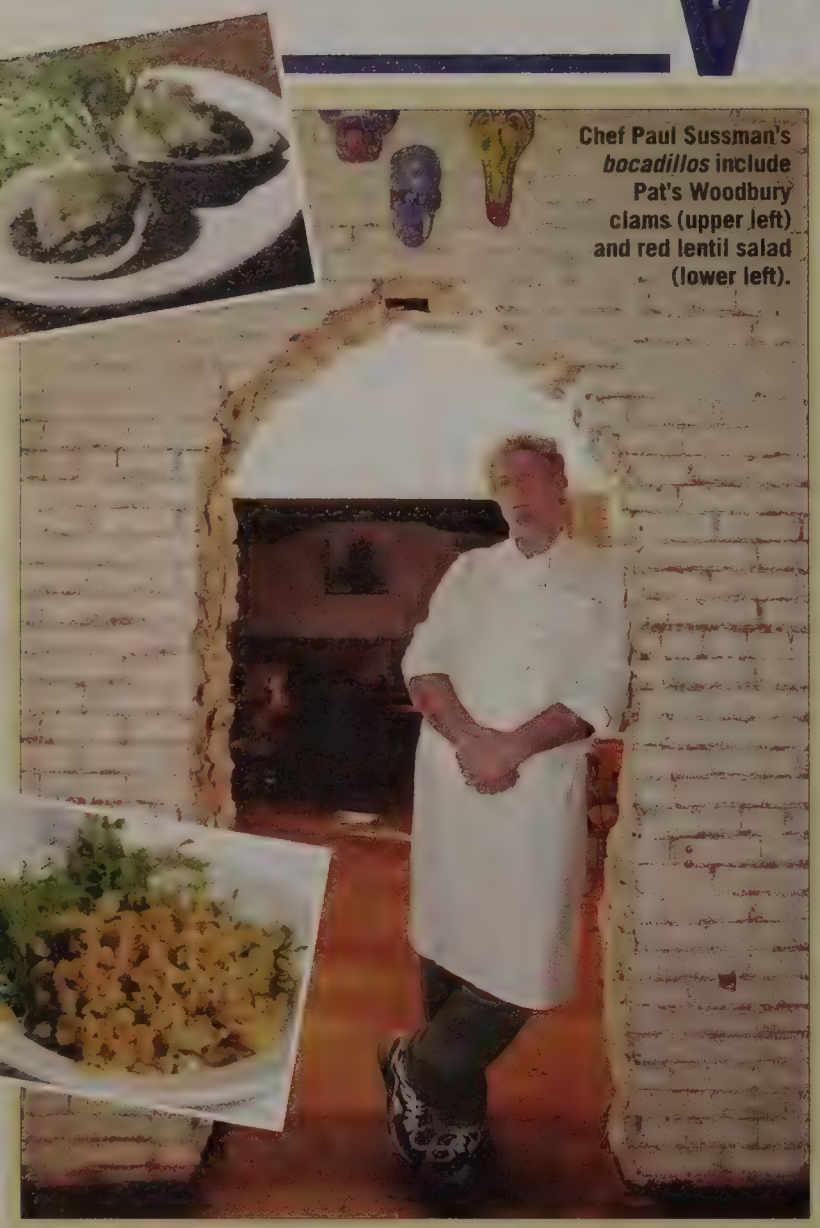


THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN
MAGAZINE

the Word

trends
tittle tattle
people
panache

edited by erin hagedorn & julie short



Chef Paul Sussman's *bocadillos* include Pat's Woodbury clams (upper left) and red lentil salad (lower left).

NEW IN TOWN by erin hagedorn & julie short

LATIN BITES FROM THE GRILL

For a successful chef, Paul Sussman's timing seems to be a bit off—but not in the kitchen. "I do seem to make a habit out of opening restaurants during recessions," admits the owner of the new Latin American restaurant, Macondo, in Union Square, which began serving food in the fall. "It was a tough time to open," Sussman says. Likewise, his former venture, the popular Daddy-O's in Cambridge (now Ana Sortun's Oleana), opened during the inauspicious early '90s.

Macondo is tucked into a cavernous and cozy spot that once housed Rauxa restaurant—not exactly on the beaten path. But once folks discover the delectable wonders of this charming spot, they'll make it regular stomping ground. First, Sussman has created a patiolike setting indoors, complete with a window (and flower box) that looks directly into the kitchen. It's a great setting for showing off the bright and lively flavors of the dishes that were served in his family home (his mother grew up in South America). Second, he's hit upon a trendy concept: Diners can order *bocadillos*, or small mouthfuls, when they first arrive. These change nightly; we tasted Pat's Woodbury clams with black beans and salsa verde and *causa azulada* (purple potatoes with grilled vegetables), and both were outstanding. Sussman is known for his varied selection: "Instead of offering nightly specials, I just change the menu—at least once or twice a week," he says. "I want to offer whatever's fresh—if something is only available two weeks in a year, then that's when I put it on the menu."

If Sussman's succulent grilled skirt steak over *chimichurri* with fries and mushroom ceviche doesn't entice you, then his specialty drinks most certainly will. Try Tio Bobby's Pisco Sour with Peruvian brandy, lemon, honey and bitters, or the Brazilian Caipirinha—Cachaca with crushed limes. They'll knock your *huaraches* off. *70 Union Square, Somerville (617-616-1411).*

CLUB SEEN

INDIAN WINTER

December's record-breaking temperatures obviously had everyone out and about and feeling the serotonin levels rising, but did they also cause the city's outdoor watering holes to revert to full-on summer mode?

They did at the **Cactus Club**, where patrons took advantage of the outdoor area and soaked up some unseasonal people-watching and margarita-gulping on Boylston Street. Owner **Jim Lifton** says that the sidewalk seats have never been out so late in the year: "I can't remember the last time we had the outdoor patio open in December," says Lifton, "but if it's over 65 degrees, we open it."

Apparently, the situation gets a little more complicated when a roof deck is involved. At **Rattlesnake**, the Urban Canyon has been closed since mid-October. Owner/manager **Tony Cass** says that they would have loved to open it up for the balmy streak, but de-winterizing was impractical (among other things, the plumbing is turned off). However, the front windows and doors were kept open, which "seemed kind of strange with the Christmas lights up."

At the **Black Rhino**, the roof deck also remained closed. Owner **Dennis Murphy** says that "unless you're going to get a whole week of warm weather, it's too much work to restock it and open it up." His advice: "Wait till March."



An eager crowd waits to get into Trio's anniversary party.

Now, a segue that's not a scooter made by Dean Kamen: The warm weather also graced **Trio**'s one-year anniversary party. But Trio is not outdoors, you say. That's true, but since the party proved so popular that RSVPs outnumbered capacity 2-to-1, there were plenty of revelers in line outside who were certainly glad that December briefly gave way to June. Inside, the hot drink was the garishly green Incredible Hulk. That's Red Bull, Absolut Mandarin and a splash of blue Curacao for color. Beware: It tastes like orange soda but may make you act like Lou Ferrigno.

NEW IN TOWN

WINDOW DRESSING

No, that was not an incredibly lifelike mannequin you saw in the display window of **Belle de Jour**, the newest lingerie boutique on Newbury Street. That was Dominique, a model as French as the bras, panties and other silky items sold inside. She's been showing off the sexy merchandise in the front display window, just in time to lure holiday shoppers. Lounging on pillows, Dominique has been donning lacy lingerie from exclusive lines like De Pledge, Aubade and Escada.

Belle de Jour boasts such amazing undergarments as the world's tiniest thong (a teeny triangle of fabric, transparent straps, and a gold bauble fastening everything together), made-to-order pajamas, bustiers by Cadolle (the company that actually holds the patent on the bra), and nightgowns so elegant you won't want to sleep in them. It's not all for show, however. Among Belle de Jour's most popular pieces are Cosabella thongs, available in 36 colors and touted as the "thong for beginners" (meaning they are ultra-comfy). As for Dominique: She will be "window dressing" at Belle de Jour through the holiday shopping season. *164 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4554).—Leah Gourley*



IMPROPER REPORTS

SLIPPERY SLOPES



Call us crazy, but we're ready for snow—and lots of it. Massachusetts Recreation Park ranger Mary Hynes gave us her thoughts on Boston's best sledding spots:

- **Walsh Park,** on Washington and Gallivan boulevards in Dorchester: "It has a big, beautiful hill."
- **Millennium Park** in West Roxbury: "It's a great slope for sledding."
- **Savin Hill**, bordered by Alpine Park Way, Savin Hill Avenue and Grampian Way: "It's an old, historical park, but ever since I was a little kid, there have always been people sledding there."
- **Larz Anderson Park**, 15 Newton St., Brookline: "There are a whole bunch of hills to go down, which makes the sledding great."
- **Titus Sparrow,** on the corner of West Newton and Columbus Avenue in the South End: "It's a safe place to sled, with a small bowl and few trees to get in the way."
- **Pine Bank Park,** on the Muddy River at the corner of Perkins and Jamaica Way: "This one's got a big slope that's very popular for sledding."

Here are a few more we thought of:

- **Blue Hills**, 4001 Washington St., Canton (781-828-5070). Rent tubes for two hour intervals (6-10pm for $14).
- **Boston Common**, surrounded by Charles, Beacon and Tremont streets, Boston.

MACONDO: MIKE MERGEN (3); LINGERIE: BROOKE RICHARD; SNOW: BOB GRANT

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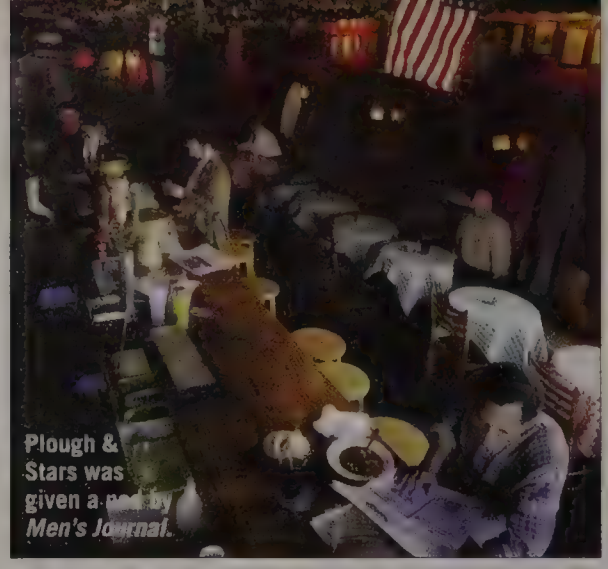
•On Dec. 3 at the Mix 98.5 Holiday Hoedown, local band **NovaKane** was invited onstage at the FleetCenter by Barenaked Ladies to play BNL's "ShoeBox." NovaKane claimed to be a Lionel Ritchie cover band and played "Stuck on You" instead, later ripping into "Shoe Box." Check out these wise guys at *www.novakane.com*.

•What do 7-11, Denny's and the **Boston Public Library** have in common? They are both now open 24 hours a day (sort of). The BPL has joined forces with the Metropolitan Cooperative Library System to provide patrons with a 24-hour reference service. You can visit www.247ref.com or call 617-536-5400, ext. 2270, day or night to contact a real, live librarian.



•**Amy Kernahan** (right), previously of Michaud Cosmetics, has moved shop to **Persona Salon** at 331 Newbury Street. Kernahan was recently given a nod from *Allure* magazine for her brow-shaping skills—the only Bostonian to win such an honor. *617-859-7744.*

•If you just need a new do, why not get your hair done by the stylist who took the shears to **Kim Bassinger**, **Juliana Marguiles** and **Bette Midler**? On Dec. 23, Salon Mario Russo welcomes Randy Farrell-Forstein and Allison Gandalfo from Manhattan's legendary Salon AKS, who are here for one day only. *9 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-6676).*



Plough & Stars was given a nod by *Men's Journal*.

•**Kevin Bacon** made himself at home at the bar at Vox a few Tuesdays ago. Our spies tell us he ordered a drink and the tuna sashimi appetizer.

•What building has 66 skylights, 12,000 square feet of Italian porcelain tile flooring and movable Internet-connected cameras that can read the license plate of any vehicle entering or leaving the property? Answer: The renovated **Boch Honda** dealership in Norwood (and probably also at P. Diddy's crib in the Hamptons). *781-255-6000.*

•The folks over at Cambridge's **Plough & Stars** know they've got a good thing going. The cozy Irish pub was recently named one of the best bars in the country by *Men's Journal*. Will all the attention go to their heads? Not likely. When we called to congratulate them, the staffer dismissed it with, "Oh yeah, I think I heard about that."

SAM SAYS

CALL A SPADE A SPADE

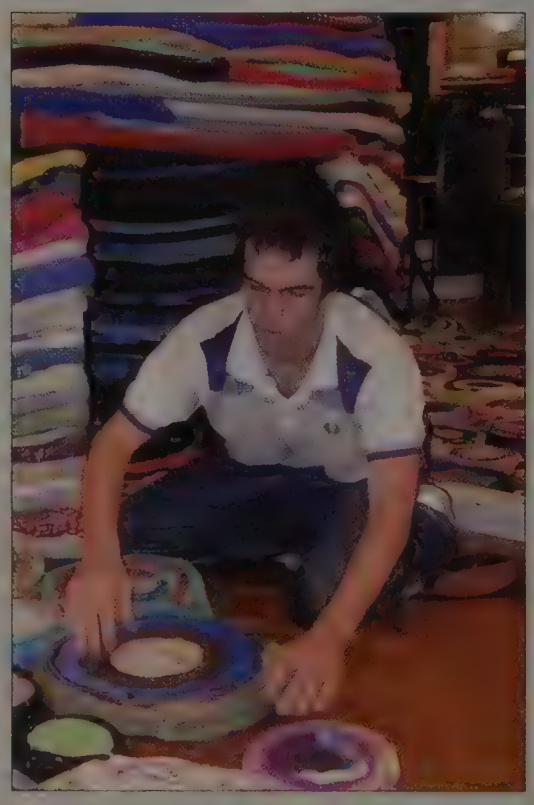
By now everyone has heard of the famed women's handbag designer Kate Spade. Her popularity skyrocketed when scores of celebrities showed up sporting her designs in Hollywood and New York. Well, now there's a new Spade in town. I don't think Kate will be too upset by it, because it's actually her husband, Andy Spade, who has developed a line of luxury bags for men. The line (called Jack Spade) is available at the Kate Spade store on Newbury Street and soon will open its own location. From wallets to overnight and garment bags, Jack Spade offers useful sacs that combine the ruggedness that men seek and style sure to withstand decades of trend turnover. Men: It won't look like you're carrying a purse, and you'll get style points from all of your friends—men and women alike. —*Samantha House*



ALL THE BUZZ

HIGH AND LOWE ART

What does one expect from the younger brother of Hollywood "wonder bros" Rob and Chad Lowe? At the very least, the chiseled face and startling blue eyes that the Brat Pack grad (Rob) and the Emmy winner (Chad) have been dazzling audiences with for the past two decades. Well, the blue eyes are about the same, but that's where the similarities end. Justin Lowe, the 25-year-old younger sibling of these heartthrobs, is neither an actor nor especially polished. In fact, when we met with him at Louis Boston on Dec. 5, it was clear that this aspiring artist is a far cry from the glitz and glamour that typically surround Hollywood families. Clad in jeans and a worn T-shirt, Justin looked like he had just rolled out of bed. He's been hard at work constructing his latest artistic expression titled *Cabinessence*, after his favorite Beach Boys song. The exhibit consists of a dome-like igloo assembled out of remnants of old clothing and is paired with an audio segment featuring bits of '60s psychedelic pop music. "It started in my dorm room at Hampshire College as a sort of adult playground. I used my door as a slide and put my bed in the middle to add some spring," he says. OK, but will his brothers be stopping by? "Um, I'm not sure. Rob is working, and Chad and Hillary[Swank] just moved." Lowe's work is on display through Dec. 31.—*Jessica Iredale*



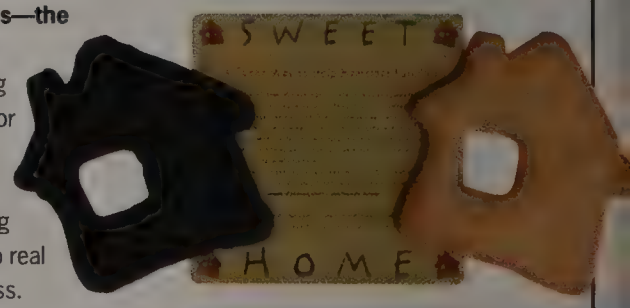
THIS JUST IN

GOD BLESS OUR BRAINS

At the Dec. 6 opening of South Pacific at the Colonial Theatre, the cast (which included *Flashdance* star Michael Nouri) gathered onstage after the performance to sing "God Bless America." As we shamefacedly looked around at the rest of the audience, we noticed many others were nervously mouthing unintelligible words. So, afterward, we decided to do an informal poll on Newbury Street to find out just how many folks actually know the lyrics to this beloved hymn. Here's what we discovered: Out of 15 people surveyed, only four knew all of the words, two sang a different song altogether, two knew most of it, and the rest only knew the first three words, which, conveniently, are "God bless America."—*E.H. and J.S.*

TIDBITS & MORSELS

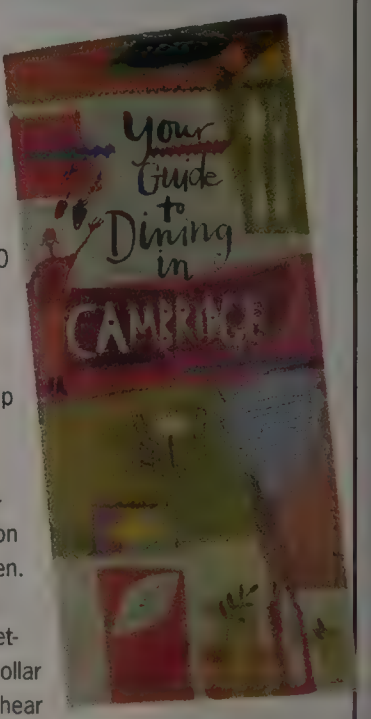
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Tremendous Tacos...Just when you thought Anna's Taqueria was the best deal in town, El Pelon Taqueria introduces a new all-you-can-eat taco night on Tuesdays from 5pm to 12am for $10. According to an insider: "One guy has come in for the past three weeks and eaten 10 tacos in a row." If you think you can beat that, head to 92 Peterborough St., Boston *(617-262-9090)*.

Christmas Cocktails...Bomboa, the swank South End boîte, is pouring holiday cheer by the cupful with two festive libations: the caramel-apple martini (made with Nantucket's own Triple 8 vodka, apple cider, caramel and cinnamon) and the Bomb Nog (brandy, egg nog, nutmeg and cinnamon.) Not to be outdone, Stephanie's on Newbury has unveiled a crisp, refreshing white cranberry juice martini for the holiday season. Mmmm....



Dining on the Left Bank...Before she took off for the western hinterlands, Julia Child took a moment to write a short foreword declaring the Left Bank a "world-class culinary and dining destination" for the *Cambridge Dining Guide*, a new publication put out by the Office of Tourism. It describes the cuisine of close to 200 restaurants and profiles some of the area's top chefs. Better still, it's free. *Call 617-441-2884.*

Holiday Treats...Between holiday shopping and socializing, you just don't have time to whip up your famous holiday cookies. Satisfy your sweet tooth over at the new Fifty Seven restaurant, where a holiday-inspired cranberry-oatmeal cookie has been added to the selection of homemade cookies served hot from the oven.

Cheap Date...Bukowski's latest lunch offering, dubbed "Buck a Burger, Dollar a Dog," is a wallet-friendly alternative to pricey power lunches. A dollar goes a long way at this lunchtime spot, and we hear these classic meal deals are quite tasty.

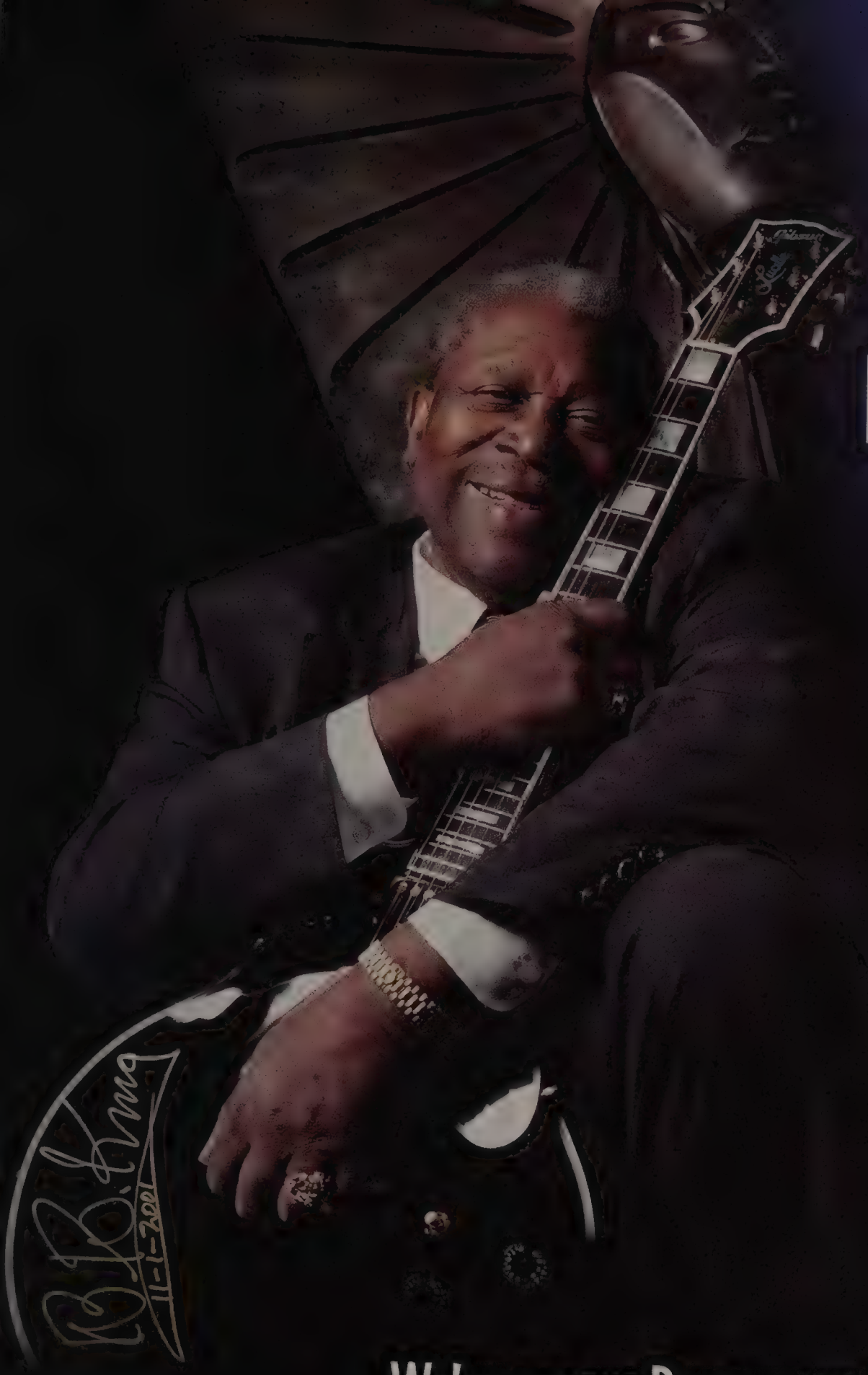
Content with Comfort...Newbury Street upperclassman Sonsie recently updated its reserve wine list to accompany its new winter menu, which is chock full of hearty comfort foods.

Dad's Grows Up...Dad's, the markedly collegiate nightspot on the top end of Boylston Street, is undergoing a transformation. Owner Joe Cimino, also of Ciao Bella, Daisy Buchanan's and 711, is transforming Dad's into Pho Ba, a restaurant featuring Italian-Asian bistro fare.

Got scoop?

Got an inside tip? Overheard some juicy news? Let us know what it is. Send an e-mail to theword@improper.com.

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Proper Bostonians

BY KERRY BRETT HURLEY

The 6th Annual Ho Ho Ho Gala was held Dec. 6 in the Grand Lobby at 125 High Street.

1. **Jennifer Resnick**, project manager for Debenham Design; **Carrie Monterio**, principal for CIM Consulting Group; **Julie Piotrowski**, nurse practitioner at Center Pediatrics; and **Laura Tema**, sales representative for Hyperion Solutions.
2. **Jeff Driscoll**, mechanical engineer for Dynisco Instruments, and **Gail Bancer**, designer for California Closets.
3. **Andrew Maher**, commercial real estate broker for CB Richard Ellis, and his wife, **Amanda**, a nurse at Children's Hospital.
4. **Gene Graceffo**, owner of Insurance Express.Com and **Robyn Johnson**, bartender at Pravda 116.
5. **Veronika Brozek**, project manager for Extraprise Software, and **Rand Levere**, president of Invision Group Interactive.
6. **Natalia Volkova**, real estate broker for Hunneman Real Estate; **Baron Hartly**, private real estate investor; and **Tracey Smith**, vice president of Coldwell Banker in Back Bay.
7. **Mark Weisilk**, IT executive for Raytheon; **Dr. Christine DiEdwardo**, plastic surgeon at the Lahey Clinic; and **Dr. Fred Shapiro**, anesthesiologist at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical.


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The trustees and directors of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum hosted a black-tie celebration Dec. 6.

8. **Leah Taylor Roy**, chairwoman of Gems of Hope, and her husband, **Peter Roy**, former executive for IEC.
9. **Anita Sherwood**, director of the Pucker Gallery; **David Israel**, independent advertising consultant; and **Joyce K. Fletcher**, professor of management at Simmons Graduate School of Management.
10. **Joe McNay** (l) and his son, **Collin**, CEO and VP, respectively, of Essex Investment Management Co.
11. **Wendy Shattuck** (l), Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum trustee, and **Doris Meister**, executive director of wealth management at Merrill Lynch.
12. **Anne Hawley**, director of the Gardner Museum, and **Matthew Hiatt**, principal at Hiatt and Hoke LLP.


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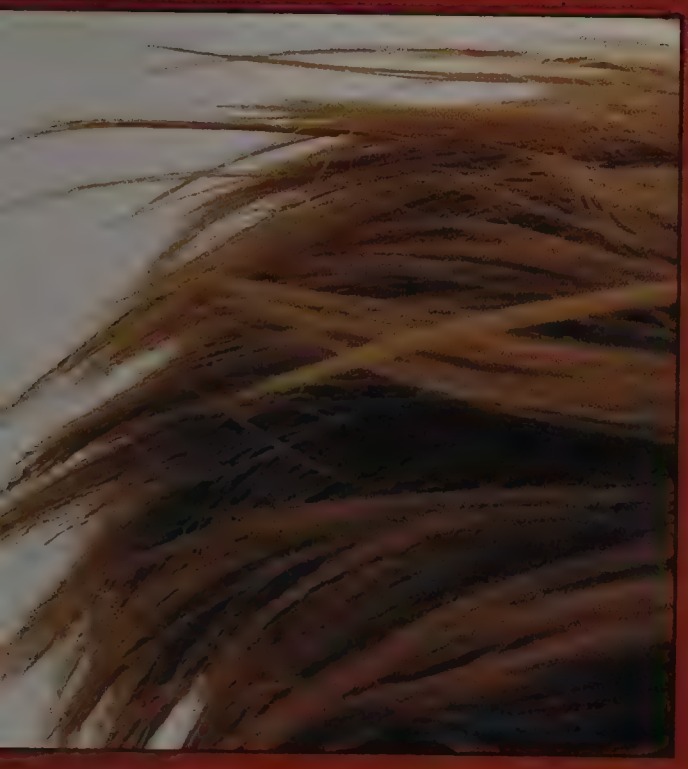

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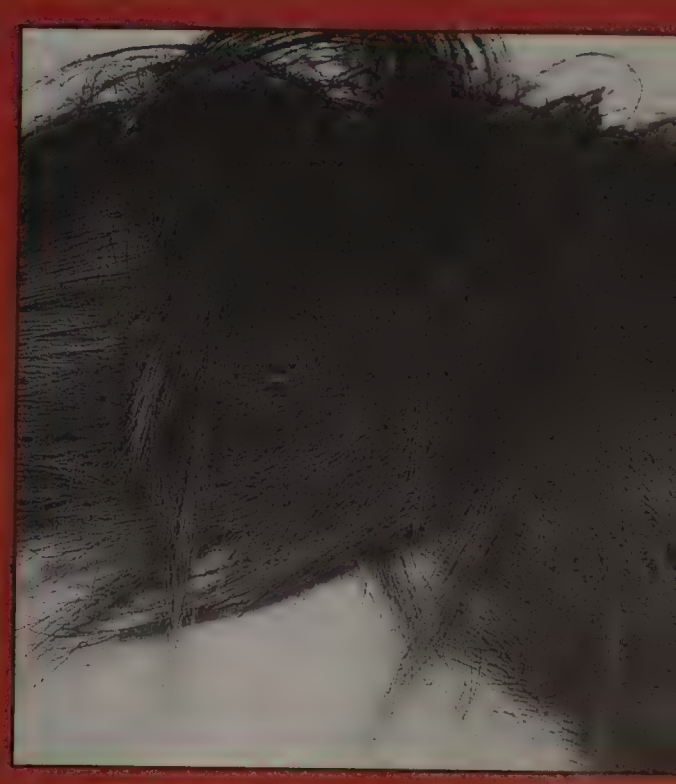
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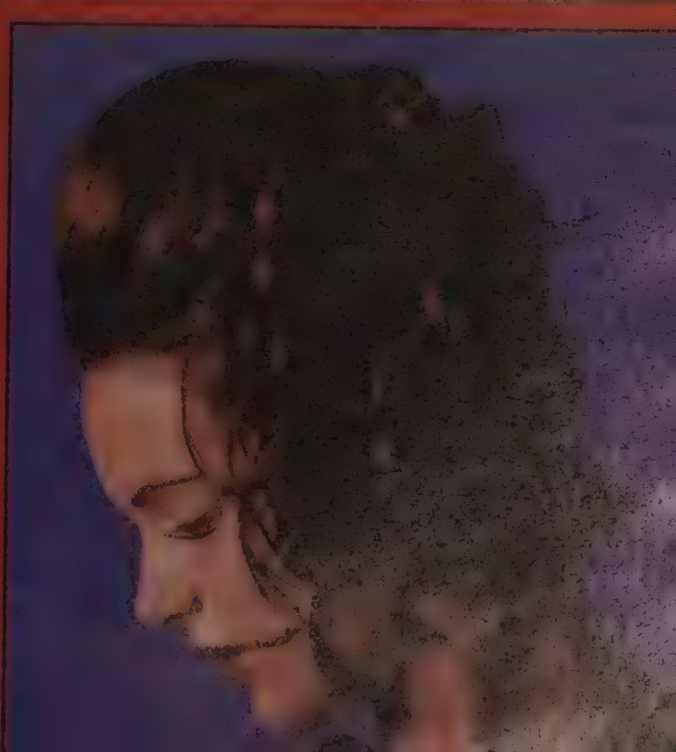












Predictions for 2002

What does the crystal ball conjure up for stocks, PCs, the Internet and Bill Gates?

This column marks the beginning of what I hope will become an annual tradition—my predictions of what will happen (and won't happen) in the world of high tech. As a market analyst and journalist, I'm often asked to forecast trends and figure out how companies will react to those trends. For the IMPROPER, I'm going to stick my neck out quite a bit and let my intuition run a little wild. Here are some events that I think might be take place during 2002:



HIGH-TECH STOCKS

The year 2001 was dismal for high-tech companies. Stocks plummeted in nearly all sectors, led by the late and unlamented dot-coms, which shriveled like a handful of slugs thrown into a hot wok. Despite the current gloom, the high-tech sector will experience a turnaround in 2002, led by networking, systems-integration and business software vendors. There's already evidence of a turnaround, with many technology firms meeting or beating their earnings forecasts. By the end of 2002, the doldrums of 2001 will only be a bad memory.

PERSONAL COMPUTING

If the proposed merger of Hewlett-Packard and Compaq goes through, it will be bad news for the Boston area. Because of the geographical politics of the merger, ex-employees of Digital Equipment Corp.—many of whom are employed locally—will be likely candidates for major layoffs. Take heart, though. The shareholders at Hewlett-Packard will successfully block the merger, having noticed that high-tech megamergers (like Compaq's purchase of Digital) nearly always result in disaster.

The overall PC business, which is currently in a year-to-year decline, will return to modest year-to-year growth by the end of 2002. The reason? People will begin replacing their machines because of mechanical failures of disk drives and other components. In the battle for market share, Dell, Gateway and Sony will be the big winners; the big losers will be Toshiba, IBM, HP and Compaq.

The year 2002 will see the death of the "Internet terminal," because hardware manufacturers will have finally figured out that nobody wants a non-standard PC that can only access the Internet.

The PocketPC will continue to become more popular, eating into the market dominance of the PalmPilot, which is beginning to look like last year's news.



Handheld devices that can send and receive short e-mails will become the must-have items for hip executives and twenty-somethings. Sales of "smart phones," which can handle both voice calls and e-mails, will take off.

The trend toward "unlimited minutes" cell-phone plans will cause telemarketing firms to expand their activities to cell phones. Get ready to overhear people on the street, holding a cell phone, screaming: "No, dammit, for the last time, I don't want to change my service provider!"



MICROSOFT

The software giant, without intervention from the feds, will quickly return to its original business strategy of controlling the marketplace. Microsoft will attempt to expand its presence by purchasing a large systems-integration company.

The Xbox game machine will flop in the face of competition from the Sony PlayStation2 and Nintendo GameCube. The failure will prove to be an expensive one for the company, which is losing money on the sale of every unit.

MSN will continue to grow, especially overseas, and by the end of 2002 will look more like a competitor to AOL and less like an also-ran.

Bill Gates will retire from active participation in Microsoft's management and will instead concentrate on the charitable work of the Gates Foundation. Rumors are that CEO Ballmer is already running the company and that Gates has become more or less a figurehead.

INTERNET CONTENT

Most newspapers and magazines will finally conclude that they can't make any money with online advertising and will begin charging—on a per-view basis—for content. Many online magazines, like *Salon*, will close up shop. THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN—which doesn't have, and has never had, a Web site—will be held up as an example of smart business management.



The increasing amount of high-quality broadband content will continue to drive consumers to high-speed home connections. By the end of the year, the price of these connections will begin to drop due to competition between cable and telephone companies. New DSL subscribers will pay less than $25 a month for basic service.

With tax revenues declining, Congress will finally bite the bullet and allow the taxation of financial transactions across the Web. Congress will also take steps to suppress spam, making it easier for Internet providers to sue customers who abuse e-mailing privileges.

MISCELLANEOUS

The main profit maker on the Internet—online pornography—will continue to grow, but the industry will undergo a consolidation, with fewer sites taking up a larger amount of the viewing traffic. The trend toward customer participation in pornographic shootings—both in virtual reality and in the flesh—will spur at least one television news magazine to feature an exposé (as it were) of the entire business.

There will be at least one major attempt at cyberterrorism, with a terrorist group releasing a set of computer viruses



that cripple U.S.-based government and business Web sites, slowing e-mail traffic to a crawl for several days. The problems thus caused will be temporary, but will result in high-level government debates on computer security and the national interest.

Next year at this time, I'll revisit these predictions and see how many of them proved true. iB

Geoffrey James (*www.geoffreyjames.com*) is the author of *The Tao of Programming* and *The Zen of Programming*, as well as numerous other books and articles about technology and high-tech culture.

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Pick of the Litter

I'm sorry if that Christmas tree was meant for the trash men

Believe it or not, where I'm from, trash-picking carries negative connotations. The most notable local dump-picker was a guy named Hootie who rode around in a World War II-era Jeep and scavenged lumber. What Hootie did with the lumber nobody knew, but local lore held that he was a millionaire and only spent his time at dumps because mentally he was six eggs short of a custard. So it was that I came to associate trash-picking with insane 2-by-4-toting millionaires.

In Maine trash picking is more something you do while reloading your .22 and looking for dump chickens (also known as seagulls), but in Boston it is a practical, acceptable way to acquire everything from furniture to holiday decorations. Until I moved to Beacon Hill I never believed that one man's trash is another man's treasure, but gol' dang if people here don't throw away some purty nice stuff. I half-expect to see a Hummer parked out on the curb some night with a note on it saying "Do not ticket—trash (last year's model)".

These are the things my highfalutin' neighbors have "given" me so far: a coatrack, a bathroom stand, a coffeemaker, two Igloo coolers, a fireplace screen (it was the better of two that were available that night), a set of fireplace tools and a Christmas tree. I had to return the coatrack—OK, I guess you could say I threw it away—only because I didn't have room for it, not because it only had three out of four legs. After all, being three-quarter-legged never slowed down my old dog Stubby (except running downhill, when she was prone to sudden barrel-rolls).

Like the coatrack, most of the items I've found in the trash are not perfect examples of their genre. The bathroom stand, for instance, looks like it came from Poverty Barn, and one of the coolers leaks (the other one might, too—I'm still waiting for an occasion to use it). But some of my trash picks have been inexplicably great. For example, the Christmas tree, which appeared one Monday night in the first week of December last year. Unlike the emaciated crack trees that my friend's dad used to get at the town dump, this one was gargantuan. If it hadn't ended up a Christmas tree, it might have been a mast. Why someone threw it out I don't know. I conjured up a scenario of a husband and wife arriving home simultaneously, each with a huge Christmas tree, and saying "Honey, guess what I bought to...day." Then one of the trees had to go. It was a hard decision, but my future tree was then put out to be carted away to an ignominious fate in West Virginia or wherever it is that they take the trash. Until I gallantly rescued it.

Unless the tree was supposed to be a Christmas present for the trash men. I won't think about that.

I don't go out of my way to scavenge garbage like Freddie Prinze Jr. scavenges roles, but if I see something good I take it. My friend Kara, on the other hand, recently moved to Beacon Hill just to pick the trash. She would probably take umbrage with that assertion, but when I asked her what she'd retrieved since she moved in a few months ago, this was her list: "A couch. An entertainment center. A little carved Buddha guy who sits on top of the entertainment center. Shelves. Two halogen lamps. Patio chairs. Two futons, a.k.a. two beds. A mirror. And a toaster—it's a really good toaster, much better than the one I had." I get the feeling that no matter where Kara lived, she'd have a good mix of trash in her decor. But the fact of living on Beacon Hill means she has nicer trash than she might otherwise.

TRASH PICKING IS A PRACTICAL, ACCEPTABLE WAY TO ACQUIRE EVERYTHING FROM FURNITURE TO HOLIDAY DECORATIONS.

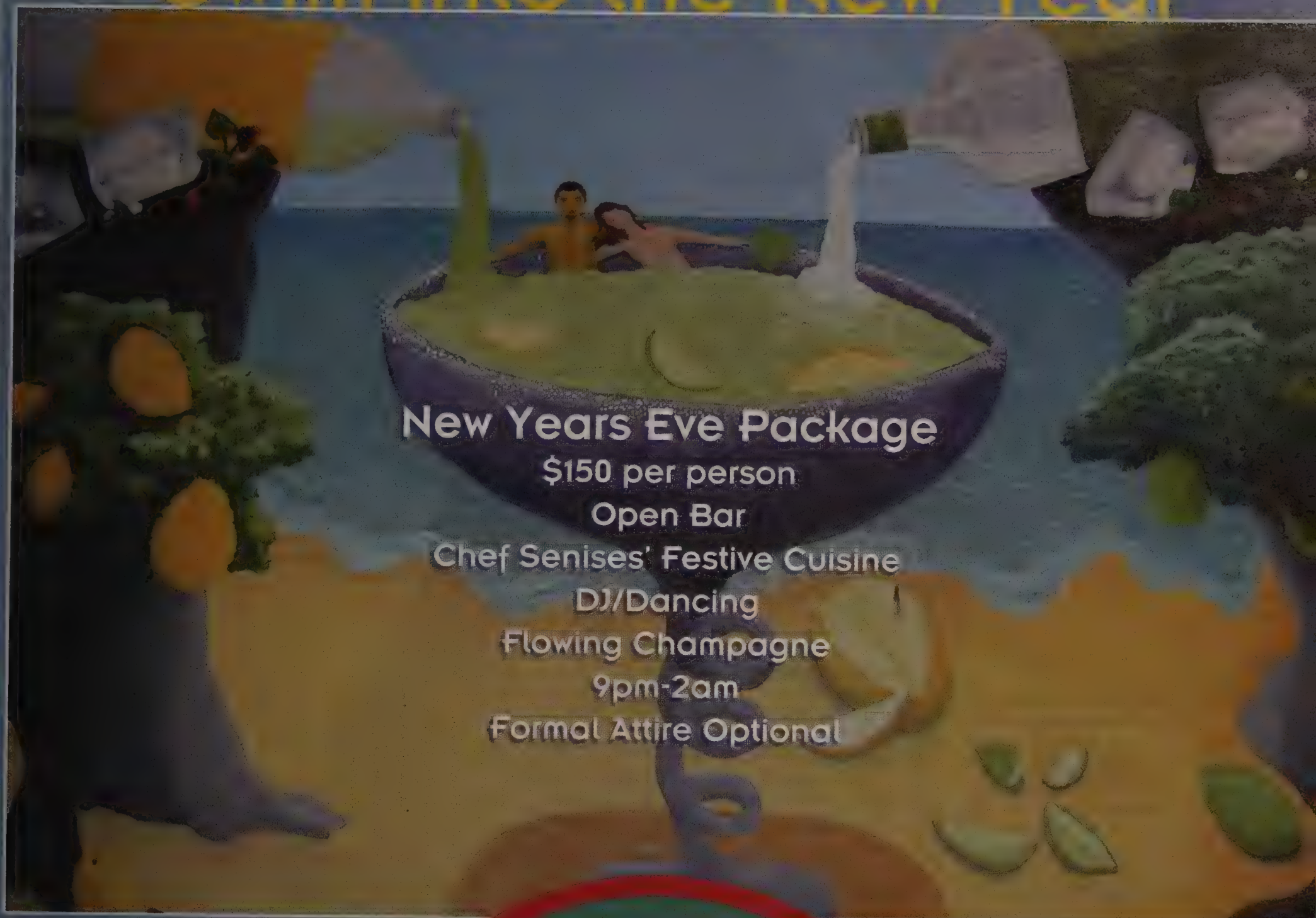
Even though I've benefitted from the situation, I sometimes have to ask myself some hard questions about the wasteful society that provides me with my spoils. Such as, why would you throw away a perfectly good Braun coffeemaker? Hmmm, I don't know, maybe because you just had to have the new Starbucks Barista Nirvana Attaina with the insulated stainless-steel pot and detachable reservoir? The one that keeps the coffee at the absolute javalogically correct temperature for maximum flavor permeation? The one that automatically dials up the Coffeemaker Abuse Hotline and pleads for help if you try to use it with inferior pre-ground Chock Full O'Nuts? Is that maybe why?!

I hate to tell you this, but all you need is that Braun. I also hate myself, because if you want a Braun, one will be on the curb outside my place next Tuesday. In a Starbucks box. iB

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Linda Park

BY JONATHAN SOROFF

Newly minted TV star Linda Park plays Ensign Hoshi Sato, the ship's communications officer in *Enterprise*, the prequel to the original *Star Trek* TV series. Born in Korea, Park was raised in San Jose, Calif., and began acting in high school. Last year, she graduated from B.U. with a bachelor's degree in acting and almost immediately joined the cast of *Enterprise*. Onstage, she has appeared in productions of *Mad Forest*, *Lysistrata*, *Cyrano*, *Richard III* and *The Trojan Women*, while her big-screen credits include a role in the blockbuster *Jurassic Park III*. On TV, she has previously appeared as a guest star on *Popular*. She is a bronze-level international Latin ballroom dancer and a certified actor combatant by the Society of American Fight Directors. She lives in Los Angeles.

"PEOPLE ARE VERY RESPECTFUL AND SAY 'EXCUSE ME, BUT I LOVE THE SHOW,' AND THEN THEY'RE ON THEIR WAY."

Jonathan Soroff: *Were you a* Star Trek *fan growing up?*

Linda Park: No, and I feel slightly embarrassed about that because everyone kind of expects you to be sacred about it. I did watch *Next Generation*, though, because I had a crush on Will Wheaton.

JS: *A humiliating admission. So what's the learning curve like? Do you have to study* Star Trek *lore or technical manuals?*

LP: Not really. People ask me if I've learned any Klingon, and I'm like [singsong voice] "It's acting." But there aren't any books we have to read, or go to the library and check out the "Cult TV" section. Where the learning happens is all the stuff connected to it—conventions, and the fans, and more publicity than a new TV show usually gets—and you catch on pretty quick.

JS: *Have you done any conventions yet?*

LP: No, I've been avoiding them, but I'm going to do my first one, in Los Angeles. It's one of the bigger ones, so I'll be de-virginized, as it were.

JS: *Had any weird fan encounters?*

LP: No, I've only had wonderful encounters. People are very respectful and say, "Excuse me, but I love the show," and then they're on their way. There was this one time, I was outside a movie theater looking at the show times, and the guy in the ticket booth shouted through his microphone, "*Enterprise* rocks!"

JS: *How often do you hear that old joke about circling Uranus to look for Klingons?*

LP: [Laughing] You're the first! What was that again?

JS: *No way! That's from like third grade!*

LP: Circling Uranus to look for Klingons?! That's hilarious! I can't wait to tell that one to [co-star] Scott Bakula.

JS: *If you could be beamed anywhere, where would it be and why?*

LP: I'm such a history geek, and I don't know if it's possible, but I think I'd want to be beamed back into the past. I've got a thing for F. Scott Fitzgerald and Dorothy Parker and the Algonquin Roundtable, so I'd have to say the 1920s.

JS: *Your character on the show is a linguist who speaks all these alien languages. So what does "Nanu, nanu" mean?*

LP: Umm, it's kind of obscene, so I'd rather not say.

JS: *In real life, what foreign languages do you speak?*

LP: Korean and French.

JS: *Is that what got you the part?*

LP: No. Languages would be way at the bottom of my special skills.

JS: *Your character is supposed to be Lieutenant Uhuru's predecessor. Those are some pretty big shoes to fill.*

LP: I know. I get that comment all the time. And then people make jokes like, "Oh, so I guess you and Meriwether have an affair and Uhuru is your great-great-granddaughter." But I'm very honored, because Uhuru kicked ass.

JS: *OK. In their prime, would you rather date Captain Kirk or Picard?*

LP: Oooooh, that's tough. It's apples and oranges, but I'd have to say I'm a Picard girl.

JS: *How about Spock or Data?*

LP: Oof! Y'know, I loved Data's character, but I'd have to say Spock.

JS: *So you have a thing for guys with pointy ears?*

LP: It depends. As long as they're not painful. A little bit of pain's OK.

JS: *If you could be one type of alien, which would you be?*

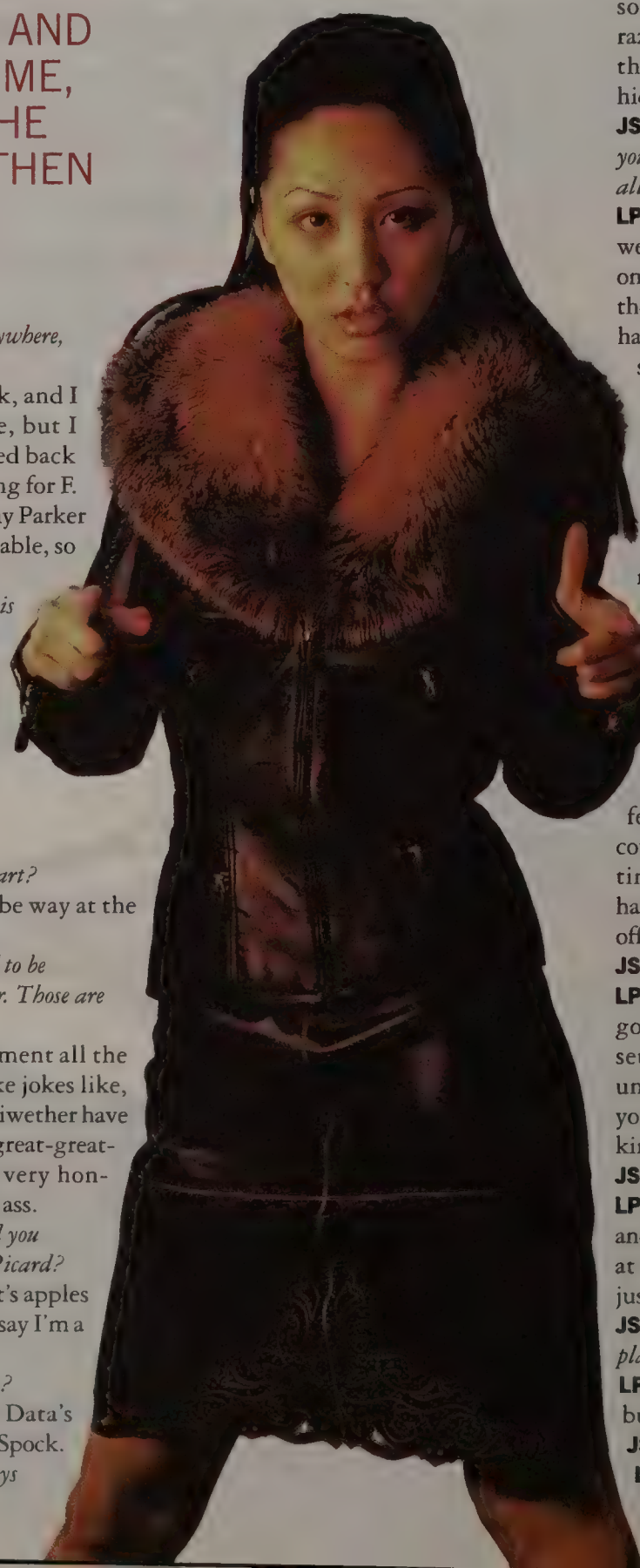
LP: Definitely not a Borg because I constantly hear what a pain it is to wear those costumes. Maybe it would be really fun to be one of the Orion girls—y'know, the alien martian girls in green...

JS: *Your character on the show's a bit of a wuss, like when you saw a dead body you screamed like a girl and cried...*

LP: Basically, yeah, and that scream showed up everywhere, so I got it from all my friends. I'd get home and the messages on my machine would be a scream. That's so not me at all. I'm not squeamish.

JS: *What do you really think of the hard-core Trekkies who dress up and go to conventions?*

LP: Well, they're the engine of the franchise, but I wish they weren't such sticklers about the little things. It's just make-believe. I've read that people have gotten upset with me because they don't understand what buttons I'm pressing. And I kinda wish they didn't take it so literally.



JS: *You're a certified actor combatant by the Society of American Fight Directors. Does that mean you could kick Captain Kirk's ass?*

LP: It means I could pretend to. I could look like I was kicking the Rock's ass. But it's only staged combat, choreographed movement that looks like real fencing, or broadsword work or whatever.

JS: *You're also a competitive ballroom dancer. What's up with those hideous dresses covered in sequins and feathers?*

LP: They're really ugly. It's all about what will catch the eye the most, because you're dancing on a stage with lots of others, so some people have the idea that by dressing really revoltingly, eyes will be drawn. Personally, I'd say you can have all the razzmatazz without it being hideous, but there are many people who like the hideousness.

JS: *You're only one year out of college but you're already on a big TV show. What are all your classmates doing?*

LP: Actually, a lot of people are doing really well. Recurring roles and guest-star spots on TV shows, soap operas, commercials, or they've booked national tours. Everybody has their own path and rate to where they're supposed to go. My six or seven close friends are nothing but supportive and happy for me.

JS: *You were in* Jurassic Park III. *What's the scariest dinosaur?*

LP: The ones that look cute but when you get close all the spikes around their necks stick out and they bare their fangs.

JS: *Any real desire to travel in space?*

LP: Yeah, I'd go. It's not a burning desire, but given the chance....

JS: *So how exactly does a transporter work?*

LP: I don't really know. What I can tell you is that when you're on the set, it can feel really lame. I pull the lever, and of course it's high tension because it's the first time the transporter's been used, so they have to freeze in this look of fear. And I'm off camera, teasing them mercilessly.

JS: *Worst part of the job?*

LP: The waiting. I once showed up at noon, got in makeup and hair while they were setting up, and I didn't shoot my scene until 7:30 at night. So you fall asleep in your trailer, watch TV, fall asleep again. It's kinda like being a hamster in a cage.

JS: *Best part?*

LP: It sounds so cheesy, but we joke around and have so much fun on the set. Everyone at some point is side-stitches funny. We just crack each other up.

JS: *Last question: Any plans to visit the planet with the butthead aliens?*

LP: [Laughing] I would love to go to the butthead planet! It's at the top of my list.

JS: *Well, if you go, send me a postcard.*

LP: I will! And I'll cover the facial parts so it looks like they're mooning you. IB

PHOTOGRAPH: MARK ROBERT HALPERN . COM; STYLIST: ANNE ROSS; HAIR: GLORIA CASNY; MAKE-UP: BRAD LOOK; CLOTHES PROVIDED BY ESCADA; SHOT ON LOCATION

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More than ever before, Massachusetts charities are basking in the generosity of an increasingly diverse—and highly spirited—giving community

The State of Giving

BY BRIAN BRAIKER PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW BRILLIANT

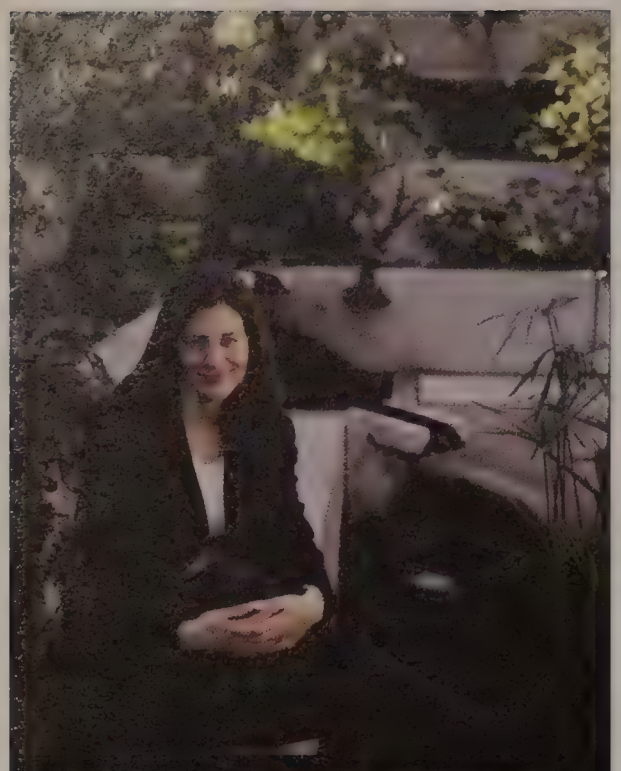
At a fancy fund-raiser in the Fairmont Copley Plaza ballroom, people are enjoying shrimp hors d'oeuvres and the band is somewhere in the middle of a 20-minute smooth-jazz rendition of Marvin Gaye's "What's Goin' On?" The complimentary bar has been open for an hour, and well-coiffed, perfumed people in tailored clothing are finding their tables for dinner. It is a scene that will be oft-repeated in a season when tax deductions and holidays converge to generate millions of dollars in statewide charitable spending. A server mentions she's been working at many of these shindigs lately.

"Do the same people always come to these events?" someone asks.

"Nah," she smiles. "They just dress the same."

She may be joking, but she has a point. Massachusetts has a tradition of philanthropic giving that stretches back to at least 1638, when British colonist John Harvard left his library and half his estate to the college in Cambridge that took his name. Since then, Boston's most giving Brahmins have been very white, very male and, indeed, dressed very much alike. Until recently, that is. They may still wear the same ties, but in the past five years, philanthropists in the Commonwealth have gotten increasingly younger, more diverse and more generous. Contrary to the widespread expectations, they're not giving just to Sept. 11 relief efforts. Rather, they are directing more of their dollars than ever before to the whole panoply of charities in Massachusetts—from environmental concerns, to the arts, to health organizations. And this trend will likely continue, and even intensify, despite the recession.

George McCully, a trustee at Boston's Ellis L. Phillips Foundation and an expert in philanthropy, likes what he sees. In 1997 McCully, who publishes the *Catalogue for Philanthropy*, examined IRS data on itemized charitable deductions and discovered that Bay Staters were tightwads. "Massachusetts typically ranks third in the nation in income," says McCully. But, on the "generosity index"—a calculation of someone's giving as a percentage of



"I really feel like giving my expertise is much more valuable than money. It's about sweat equity."

—Sarah Perry
Community Action Program



"For the first time in a while, people are looking closer to home, wanting to get involved in their community."

—Laura Tomasetti
Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum

Despite fears that the Sept. 11 events away from the arts and human services, more people are giving than ever before

game. The go-go '90s launched a well-documented trend toward "venture philanthropy": whereas old-school Brahmins sent money off to charity at the end of every year, the young lions have taken a more proactive approach to giving. Successful new-economy players get involved in philanthropic projects that tend to be issue-oriented rather than institution-oriented. (One example is HomeStart, a group that provides long-term housing services for the homeless.) And this development extends beyond now-diminished dot-com cash. "Across the board, people have been getting philanthropic at an earlier age because they are making money. It's become somewhat chic to have a foundation," jokes McCully. "People are taking pride in their good works." This group includes Sarah Perry, a 33-year-old consultant who left a high-paying job at McKinsey & Co., a consulting firm, to work for philanthropic causes.

Perry heads Community Action Program, a firm that provides pro bono consulting services to Boston nonprofits. "I really feel like giving my expertise is much more valuable than money," she says. "It's about sweat equity. I probably give 5 to 10 percent of my income, but that's not off an extremely high base. It's important to share your skills and expertise in whatever area you can." Perry says when she graduated from Harvard Business School in 1995, there were virtually no social enterprise programs on campus. For that "you had to go across the river to the Kennedy School of Government. The B-School used to be the ultimate bastion of the corporate for-profit sector. But now there is a club for social enterprise, and people are leaving there and turning down six-figure jobs at McKinsey" to work for nonprofits, she says.

And then there's the aftermath of Sept. 11. Despite fears that the Sept. 11 events would draw philanthropic dollars away from the arts and human services, initial anecdotal evidence suggests more people are giving than ever before—to all causes. Travel is down, but Perry says this is prompting people to explore their city again. "For the first time in a while, people are looking closer to home, wanting to get involved locally in their community," observes Laura Tomasetti, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum's marketing chief.

Even though the Boston Natural Areas Fund has yet to begin its post-Sept. 11 fund-raising campaign, President Valerie Burns has noticed the same phenomenon. The group, which offers marsh tours and birdwatching expeditions in the city, is experiencing a surge of interest in its events. "It really is curious," says Burns, who was

their overall income—it ranked "dead last," he says. Impoverished Mississippi, meanwhile, was the most generous state in the union. The media made much of McCully's findings, and Massachusetts climbed to the 40th most generous state that year. In 1999, it pumped an additional $1.1 billion into philanthropic causes and moved up to No. 34. (The most recent IRS numbers, which are the most accurate gauge of individual generosity, are currently from 1999.) Ron Ancrum at Boston's Associated Grantmakers says that because we are a relatively rich state, "we're actually about 26th in terms of the size of the average contribution."

Also figuring into the equation are the 2,800 foundations in Massachusetts that boast assets of $11 billion and give away more than $585 million a year. Mark Robinson, acting CEO of the Massachusetts chapter of the American Red Cross, says donations to Red Cross chapters in the Northeast are regularly about 35 percent above the national average.

McCully, meanwhile, expects 2000's generosity index to be even better for Massachusetts. And 2001 will be better still due to new state and federal tax incentives for charitable giving, as well as Sept. 11-related donations.

A corollary to this good news is that philanthropy is seeing some new faces in the

"Polaroid was one of our strongest givers. Now Polaroid barely exists anymore."

—Carmen Fields
United Way of Massachusetts Bay

United Way Headquarters



surprised when more than 50 people attended a recent bike ride. This bodes well for the fund, because first-timers are likely to become dues-paying members.

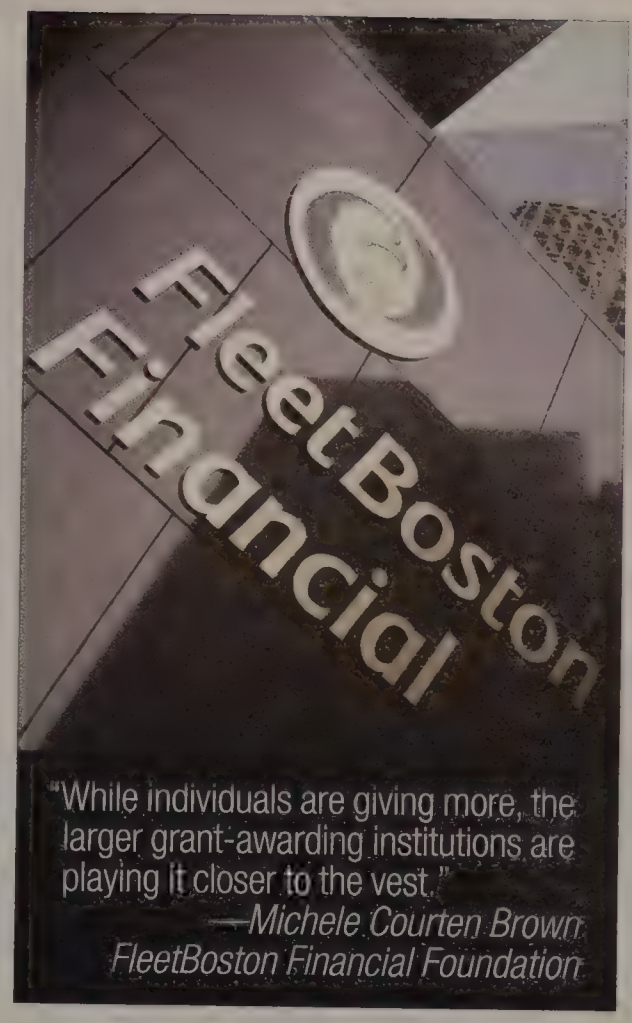
At the Museum of Fine Arts, an admissions-dependent institution, director of external relations Patricia Jacoby, says, "I feel completely confident that we are on track for our fund-raising goals—set long before the recession and Sept. 11. And, happily, we had more than 15,000 visitors over Thanksgiving weekend, which is a lot for us."

Raphael Jaimes-Branger, 34, tapped by the Massachusetts chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) last month as a notable "emerging philanthropist," says it's too early to tell how the attacks will affect his organization, the Fenway Community Health Endowment Fund. Apart from trying to raise $7 million for his nonprofit, he gives "a good 20 to 25 percent" of his income to charity, he says. Since it's a community-based group, "it probably won't suffer as much as something less local," like, say, the Save Venice Foundation.

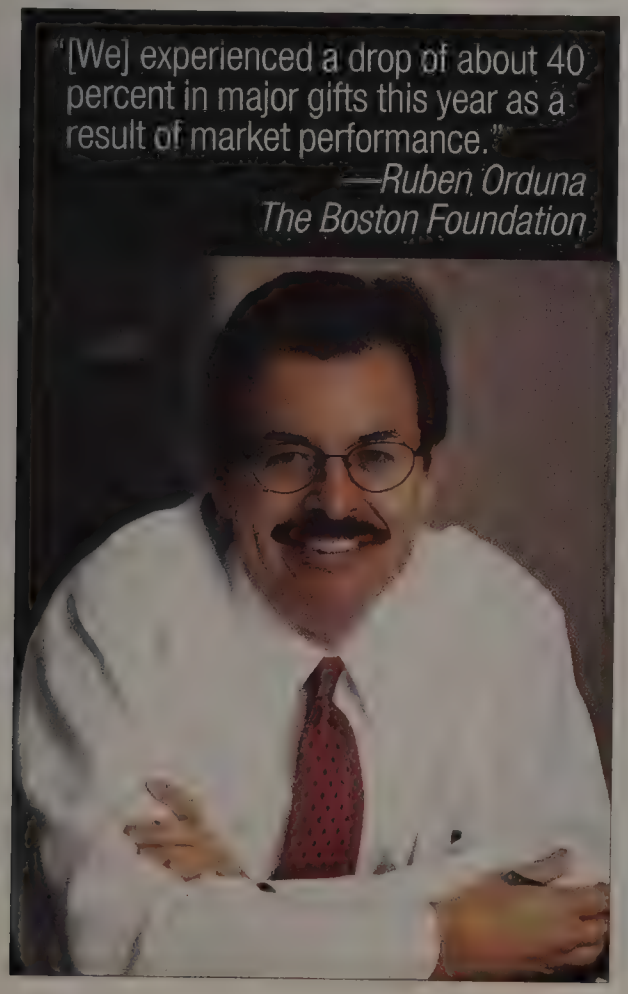
Carmen Fields, spokeswoman for the United Way of Massachusetts Bay, says the organization has revised its goal for 2001 slightly downward because it is expecting donations from fewer companies than over the last fiscal year, which began July 1, 2000. "We are expecting $54 million, which is an increase of $1 million over last year, but short of our goal [of $56 million]. But we're happy about that," Fields says. It's too early to tell how recent events will affect long-term giving, but she cites growing donations by Filene's and UPS, both campaigns that ended before the attacks. On the other hand, the sagging economy has dealt the United Way its blows: "Polaroid was one of our strongest givers," Fields says. "Now Polaroid barely exists anymore."

But Paul Bessire, who is heading a $50 million fund-raising campaign that is going "extremely well" for the Institute of Contemporary Art, remains unfazed. In this day and age, he explains, "places where artists can express themselves, like publicly supported museums, are more important than ever as pillars of democracy."

The influence of wars and national disasters may be negotiable, but the nasty bear market is what's got big-time grant making organizations sweating. Ruben Orduna, The Boston Foundation's development director, says Boston's largest community foundation "experienced a drop of about 40 percent in the dollar amount of major gifts this year, primarily as a result of market performance." (The dollar amount of grants that the Boston Foundation is awarding have been reduced.) And Michele Courten Brown, the FleetBoston Financial Foundation's president, says grant-making (that is, money the foundation is laying out) will "probably take a 10 percent cut or so. So while individuals are giving more than ever, the larger grant awarding institutions are playing it closer to the vest. The larger issue here is the economic downturn."



would draw philanthropic dollars initial anecdotal evidence suggests —to all causes.



Scary stuff, yes. But take heart. According to a Chronicle of Higher Education report, philanthropy during recessions doesn't go down—it just doesn't go up as quickly. Chris Thomas, vice president of major gifts at the American Cancer Society and incoming president of the AFP, explains it this way: "As recessions hit, people realize 'I have to do more because many of these nonprofits, especially small ones, are very dependent on individual dollars.'"

Besides, evidence suggests giving is rarely a one-night stand. Regardless of why a person first contributes to a cause, it appears to have a transformative, even soul-soothing, effect. "Three or four years from now, people who gave for the first time at Sept. 11 will be regular givers," predicts Thomas. This makes sense: If you decide to give once, why would you decide not to give again?

All this may sound excessively optimistic, but at least anecdotally it appears to be holding true. Although initially hurt by the focus on disaster relief efforts, smaller arts and community organizations (with the exception of many unfairly stigmatized Muslim charities) are pulling in more money at this year's events. For example, as part of its $10 million campaign, the West End House Boys and Girls Club in Allston recently oversold a $250-a-plate dinner at the Copley Plaza Hotel. "We are becoming more generous," says McCully. "I don't know of any evidence to the contrary. And I think giving will go up this year."

Indeed, at the Westin-Copley in November, the Women's Education and Industrial Union, a 125-year-old Boston organization that works to expand economic and educational opportunities for women, honored WBZ-TV newswoman Liz Walker at a $100-plus-per-plate annual luncheon. Speaking to the 1,350 power-lunchers about Sept. 11, Walker said: "You can only save this world with spirit. You can take that to the bank." With a $3.5 million campaign under way, the WEIU intends to do just that. The WEIU, after all, is no disaster-relief organization. And like so many of the area's charitable groups, they are riding an unprecedented wave of regional giving that they hope will propel them into the future. iB

TRAINSPOTTING

by AIYAZ HUSAIN | photographs by MATT POYANT

Speedy Acela puts business travel on the right track



These days, Amtrak's year-old Acela Express is turning heads—beckoning legions of frequent flyers who regularly make the trip between Boston and New York. The high-speed trains have always been an appealing alternative to air shuttles. But since the events of Sept. 11 and service disruptions along the Northeast's air corridor, the trains are more popular than ever. While airlines have been scrambling to resume normal schedules, ridership on the Acela has swelled by 30 to 40 percent. Amtrak, meanwhile, has added four daily trains between Washington, D.C., and Boston, with more on the way.

Most area residents know that the highly touted Acela Express has been a long time in coming. But they may not know that Amtrak's stake in the new service is hard to overstate. The next-generation trains, built jointly by France-based Alstom S.A. and Canada's Bombardier Transportation, are Amtrak's first step on the road to profitability. Last November the Acela Express marked its maiden run from Washington to Boston—complete with celebrities, fanfare and fireworks. Just like that, Amtrak ushered in a new era in American rail travel. Or did it?

On paper, air shuttles edge out the Acela Express for business travelers who don't have the three-plus hours to spend en route to New York. Also, special round-trip airfares for $100 to $130 will entice travelers between Boston and New York. But when you factor in the trips to and from the airports, the time saved by flying narrows. In addition, the comfort level of the ride on rails is unmatched by even a turbulence-free 737 flight. But ultimately the deciding vote—plane or train?—will be cast only after frequent flyers have fully processed the events of Sept. 11. In the interim, the air shuttles face a real challenge from the Acela Express—one that will only compound their continuing economic woes.

The sleek, gray trains look impressive, and at first glance seem to be America's bold answer to the French SNCF TGV (Train Grande Vitesse) or the Eurostar service that links London, Paris and Brussels. But in terms of performance, the Acela Express still has some catching up to do. Its billed top speed of 150 miles per hour (realized over 18 miles of track) is below that of foreign trains such as the TGV or the Japanese Shinkansen, or "bullet train," both of which approach 200 mph on their daily runs. Amtrak does intend to shave an hour off the time it takes to make a Boston–New York journey on the Acela Regional train that makes several stops—which now is a little more than four hours.

"Our hope is, we'd like to gradually move toward three hours," says acting Amtrak Chairman and former Massachusetts Governor Michael Dukakis. He explains that the Acela Express service is not only a convenient alternative for Bostonians headed to New York City who want to avoid flying—but also a potential source of relief for the city's traffic jams, which for a decade or more have been compounded by the Big Dig.

"If we're going to deal with airport congestion, we've got to [reduce] these shuttle flights," Dukakis says. The inclusion of stops just outside Boston on Amtrak's routes (such as the Route 128 station) allows suburban residents to use the high-speed train without having to brave brutal city traffic. "If we can get all these cars out of the city, we're going to help Boston deal with its traffic problems," Dukakis says. Even before the events of Sept. 11, according to Dukakis, people were already taking



Cantabridgians Ellen Withrow and George Fen relax in the Acela's plush and comfortable interior.

advantage of the Acela service; ridership was up 12 percent.

It all sounds great and seems like it could be part of an urban-planning strategy that Bostonians sorely need—so I decided to see for myself just what the trip entailed. When I called to make a reservation, I learned that there is no economy class on board: It's first class, business class, or nothing else. And the standard fares no longer offer significant savings over air shuttle flights. The weekday round-trip fare between Boston and New York is$232—more than double what it was for years on trains of the past. But just step inside the new passenger cars (making sure to "mind the gap," as you would on a London Underground train), and the reason for the steeper fares is clearly evident.

The all-new compartments are more plush than ever before—furnished in soft blue pastels and cozy fabrics. Heavy curtains are strung up along the windows for shade—a plus on the morning trip to New York, during which our business-class coach was bathed in warm light by eastern exposure. Amtrak has also included floor-level lighting along the aisles, and overhead LCD monitors that inform passengers of audio programming, station stops and café service, among other amenities. Food service on the new trains seems to have improved a great deal aboard the Acela Express (as well as across the whole Amtrak system). The lackluster offerings and short stocks of the past have given way to expanded menus of snacks, sandwiches, soups and beverages—along with deeper inventories. My preheated cheeseburger tasted fresh and was certainly miles better than normal airline fare. So I took a seat at the café car, where chatty passengers had started to gather, and happily munched away, taking in the view.

The all-new compartments are more plush than ever before—furnished in soft blue pastels and cozy fabrics. Heavy curtains are strung up along the windows for shade—a plus on the morning trip to New York.

I decided to ask Amtrak employees on board about their experiences with the new trains. Vodrey, a café attendant, said: "It gives people the opportunity to sit back in a relaxed environment, to collect their thoughts, meditate and stretch their legs." When I asked about common passenger reactions to the Acela Express, he responded that many people were just now discovering the train as a suitable—and comfortable—alternative to flying. "Basically, their comment has been that they wish that they had known about the train before."

The rest of the way down, various crew members pointed out some of the more picturesque sights along the line, which intermittently overlooks the Long Island Sound as it snakes through sleepy seaside towns. The café car closed about 10 minutes before we arrived, and soon we entered the tunnels leading into midtown Manhattan. The train pulled into Penn Station at 11:45am, right on time—15 minutes before it was scheduled to continue on to Washington without me.

When it came time to head home, it became increasingly clear that my train would be a lot more crowded than it had been that morning. When I heard my boarding announcement, I hustled down to Platform 12 with a mob of passengers to find a vacant seat. This time, our business-class compartment was laid out with facing seats, separated by tabletops that facilitated on-board meals and casual conversation. Across from me sat 45-year-old Gene from Wayne, N.J., who said he took the train whenever he could, though he was not afraid to fly. He said that the comfortable and accessible nature of the Acela Express appealed to him, but other travelers might disagree. "[Ridership] certainly will plateau at some point," he said, adding that he believed many frequent flyers would eventually return to the skies. "The American public doesn't generally think of the train as an alternative to flying."

After our 7pm departure—well after nightfall, the landscape only appeared as splotches of amber aglow beneath tungsten streetlights. Despite the large number of passengers, it was quieter than the morning ride, as people softly pecked away at laptops or drifted off to sleep. About four station stops and three gin-and-tonics later, I arrived at Back Bay Station—a bit tired, but not exhausted the way I usually am after taking a shuttle trip and enduring the hassles of ground transportation.

A year since its inception, Acela Express service is limited to Amtrak's Northeast Corridor (between Boston and Washington, D.C.)—and it may not yet rival the extensive routes of counterpart high-speed trains in Europe or Japan. It is, however, a pleasant change from Amtrak's unpredictable service during the 1980s and '90s. Those days have thankfully given way to a new generation of service, and the Acela Express certainly delivers on nearly all that Amtrak has promised.

The new trains are speedy, efficient and cost-effective—and they are the crown jewels of Amtrak's recent drive to revitalize rail service in New England. That comprehensive campaign began years before the new trains arrived, with the electrification of 156 miles of overhead lines between New Haven, Conn., and Boston and the realignment of track to allow for faster traveling speeds. Moreover, the trains themselves have been engineered to navigate the many curves along the Northeast Corridor at high speeds (unlike in Japan and Europe, where high-speed trains run on specially built straight tracks.)

Embodying the promise of what will hopefully become a baseline for nationwide rail service in the 21st century, the Acela Express trains are a timely and welcome addition to the Amtrak fleet. And, for many Bostonians who need to hurry down to New York for a short weekend jaunt or business trip, they are a comfortable and worry-free alternative to the delays and traffic snarls that will certainly remain a fact of life at Logan, at least for the foreseeable future. iB


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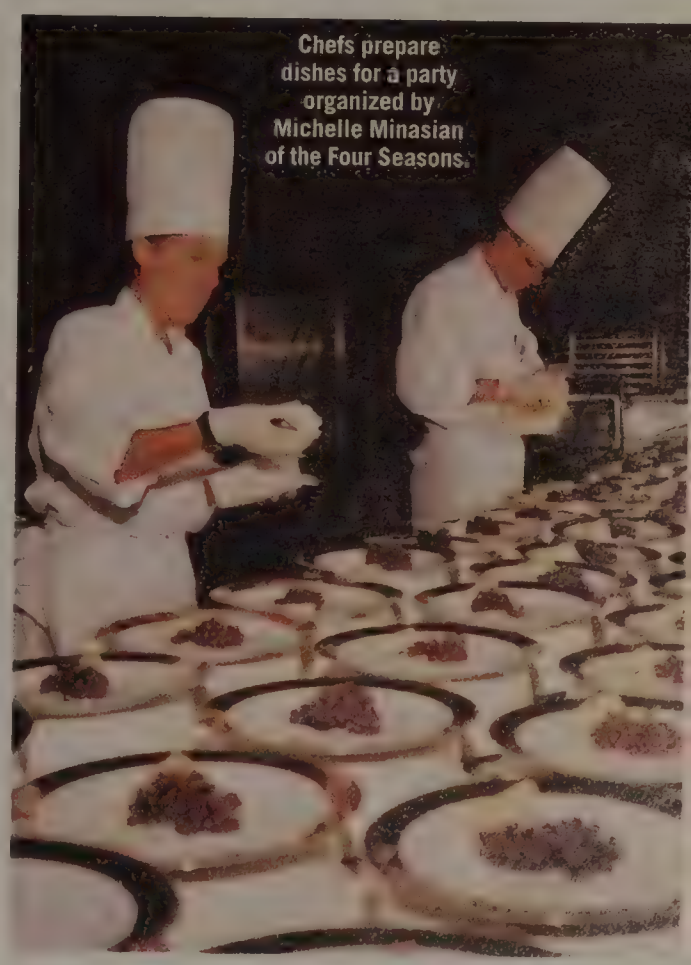
Nobody does it better than Boston's top party planners. Meet the city's event evangelists. BY CAROLE WINKLER

Put aside any thoughts that Boston is too conservative for the kind of over-the-top, sensational shindigs that you see on E! Television. It's true that happy hours are banned, bars close at a relatively early 2am, and the MBTA is just starting its after-hours transportation service. But this doesn't mean Bostonians don't enjoy a good party. And behind some of the best events are several mix-and-mingle masterminds.

Take Donald Stamet, area director of catering and conference services at the Ritz Carlton, which offers a Hollywood glamour party in the "Back Lot" at the Ritz on the Common. The popular event features a scene that looks like Hollywood stars arriving at the Oscars. Guests are interviewed as they come inside, and the TV-style interviews are broadcast on two screens inside. "We already have the backgrounds of all the guests. We ask who they are and what labels they are wearing, and interview them just like they are in Hollywood," says Stamet, who declined to give any set prices.

Sometimes, events pose seemingly impossible challenges for planners. How would you like to be responsible for throwing a two-day event that included just about every Boston city official, as well as top state government officials, but you had to plan it without knowing the date? Soosie Lazenby, acting president of Massachusetts Sports Partnership, faced such a challenge when the NCAA Women's Final Four decided to consider Boston for 2006. The catch: Lazenby had to be ready to host the event any time during a four-week window (the executives wanted to experience Boston as it really is every day, not decked out for an occasion). Lazenby had to tell government officials how important it was that they be available for the event, except she couldn't give them a date. The theme was "returning to the birthplace of basketball." When the NCAA finally came, giving her 24 hours' notice, the mayor hosted a dinner at the Parker House attended by Dave Gavitt, chair of the Basketball Hall of Fame, the governor, and officials from every major public agency, plus representatives from Harvard and Northeastern universities. The whirlwind event also included a Red Sox game hosted by

Mindy D'Arbeloff of the Lyons Group orchestrated the Banned in Boston event (above), which drew scores of celebrities and politicians.


Chefs prepare dishes for a party organized by Michelle Minasian of the Four Seasons.

BOTTOM: MARK KARLSBERG/STUDIO ELEVEN



John Harrington, where the trivia question posted on the electric boards was "Where is the best city for the NCAA Final Four?" Of course, the answer was Boston! (Lazenby credits her board chairman, Stephen Tocco, the Red Sox and local government officials for making the visit a success.)

One party designer is the stuff of Boston legends—Bryan Rafanelli. Whenever you read about a particularly spectacular occasion in Boston, Rafanelli is likely behind it. One year he threw a Halloween party for Barbara Jordan, the owner of Bijoux, who once displayed Princess Diana's dress in her Newbury Street store window. "We found an old, abandoned mansion in the South End that is now very chic but at the time it had no water, no electricity or anything, and we really sort of 'Disney-ized' it," says Rafanelli. The "haunted house" featured giant fireplaces with live portraits of odd characters, plus costumed actors who terrorized the guests and kept them moving through the house. Rafanelli built a giant staircase so Jordan could make a grand entrance, dressed as an Egyptian goddess with four spear-wielding men carrying her down the stairs. The guests loved it. The next night, Rafanelli used the mansion again to throw a fund-raiser for the Boys and Girls Clubs.

So how much would one of Rafanelli's spectacular parties cost, say if you invited 100 to 1,000 of your acquaintances? The tab runs from $300 to $2,000 per person and up, says Rafanelli. Yes, you heard correctly—per person.

People who have used Rafanelli's services rave about him. Malcolm Rogers, director of the Museum of Fine Arts, once tapped Rafanelli to create "Un Bal Masque," a masked ball, to thank the museum's supporters. Invitations were hand-delivered by a man in Louis XIV period costume. Masks could be created at the ball but many guests had their masks specially designed and made all over the world. Simultaneous "pre-ball" dinners attended by masked partygoers were held at Biba, No. 9 Park, and L'Espalier. Rogers himself wore white tie and a "devilish black mask." Would Rogers hire Rafanelli again? "Absolutely," he says. What if he wanted to throw a very special party but Rafanelli wasn't available? Who would he hire? "Oh, I can't comment on that," says Rogers. "I'm very loyal to Bryan."

"We found an old, abandoned mansion in the South End and we really sort of 'Disney-ized' it." —BRYAN RAFANELLI

For one Halloween party, Bryan Rafanelli transformed an abandoned mansion into the ultimate party spot, complete with huge fireplaces and haunting ghosts.

As of interview time, Rafanelli hadn't decided yet whether to throw his own Christmas party this year. Understandably, the expectation level for his own parties is very high and so is the pressure.

Where does Rafanelli think "the place to be" is for this New Year's? "My gut this year says people will be at home with friends," says Rafanelli. That will likely pose a relaxing change for Boston's busy party designer.

Longtime Brahmins have been patronizing Linda Matzkin, CEO of Hopple Popple, for 23 years. It's easy to see why—the ever-discreet Matzkin gave the IMPROPER some juicy party details about a wedding uniting a New York Yankees fan and a Boston Red Sox fan but declined to disclose the hosts or celebrity guests. Matzkin transformed Worcester's Mechanics Hall into a baseball stadium complete with ticket booths and a cake in the shape of the Green Monster. To throw a party for 500 to 1,000 of your closest friends, Hopple Popple's fees start at $10,000.

Mindy D'Arbeloff of the Lyons Group throws 300 parties a year, each more outrageous than the last. When the former owners of Jordan's Furniture, Eliot and Barry Tatelman, wanted to show their appreciation of their employees they contracted with D'Arbeloff and her minions. Most assuredly none of Jordan Furniture's 1,200 employees will ever forget Eliot and Barry dressed in black leather, riding onto the stage on Harley Davidsons, dismounting and handing out cash. Every employee, no matter how new, got a bonus. Some longtime employees went home with as much as $10,000.

Designers turn to D'Arbeloff for big-production fashion shows. This year, H&M, the trendy Swedish clothing retailer, tapped D'Arbeloff to produce the grand opening party at its new Downtown Crossing store. D'Arbeloff threw a black-tie, invitation-only red-carpet extravaganza for 2,000 Boston celebrities and fashion elite. The mayor kicked off the event and then purchased a tie. Cam Neely shopped till he dropped. The Lyons Group put on this event—soup to nuts—providing decorators, photographers, security, a special-events staff and an incredible guest list. "We were the whole package for them," says D'Arbeloff. H&M was ecstatic. The next morning more than 2,000 customers were waiting in line for the store to open. (D'Arbeloff and the Lyons Group's services can run from $1,000 to $10,000 and more.)

Of course, sometimes things can go wrong. Six years ago Compaq held a sales rally and nighttime show at the now-defunct Mama Kin to celebrate a new product launch. As gifts, the salespeople received white button-down Oxford shirts. As D'Arbeloff surveyed the crowd that night, she noticed red drops mysteriously starting to appear on the shirts. At first it looked like blood. Soon people started commenting on the mysterious red stains. The source of the mystery turned out to be cranberry juice that dripped down from the bar upstairs. D'Arbeloff called in some favors and was able to get some longtime friends to open their stores long enough for her to make the necessary nighttime shopping run.

Hotels are also players in this high-stakes competition. This past February, Bertil Hult, the CEO of Sweden's EF Corp., decided to have a little birthday party—and flew 600 of his closest friends to Boston. He turned to Michelle Minasian at the Four Seasons to plan a large part of the four-day extravaganza. Minasian kicked off the celebration with a sit-down dinner at the Four Seasons, followed by an event at the Wang Theatre where David Copperfield entertained guests with his magic tricks. Minasian even designed a fete at the EF offices in Boston. The four-day extravaganza was topped off by a private performance by Stevie Wonder and Elton John at the World Trade Center.

Although some of the city's most active social butterflies have scaled down their holiday parties this year, Boston is still proving to be a big party town. On a recent evening, there were at least five parties to choose from, including Ralph Lauren's opening fete, Giorgio Armani's expansion celebration and The Heritage on the Garden's benefit for the Museum of Fine Arts. iB

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Navy cotton shorts by Chanel, $645. Available at The Chanel Boutique.

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Makeup and hair: Robin Warriner; Model: Valerie for The Reinhard Agency; Fashion assistant: Brooke Richard

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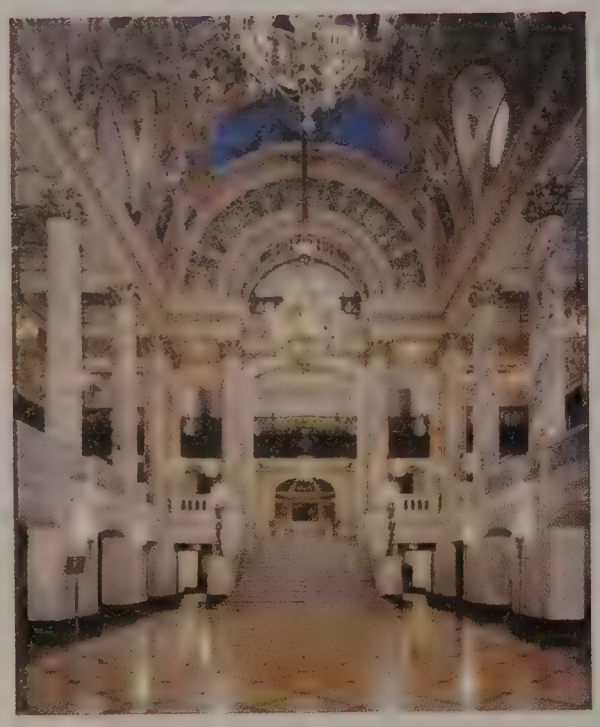
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Mopsy

Serendipitous shopping: Our unfettered correspondent seeks out the salubrious and the cerebral.

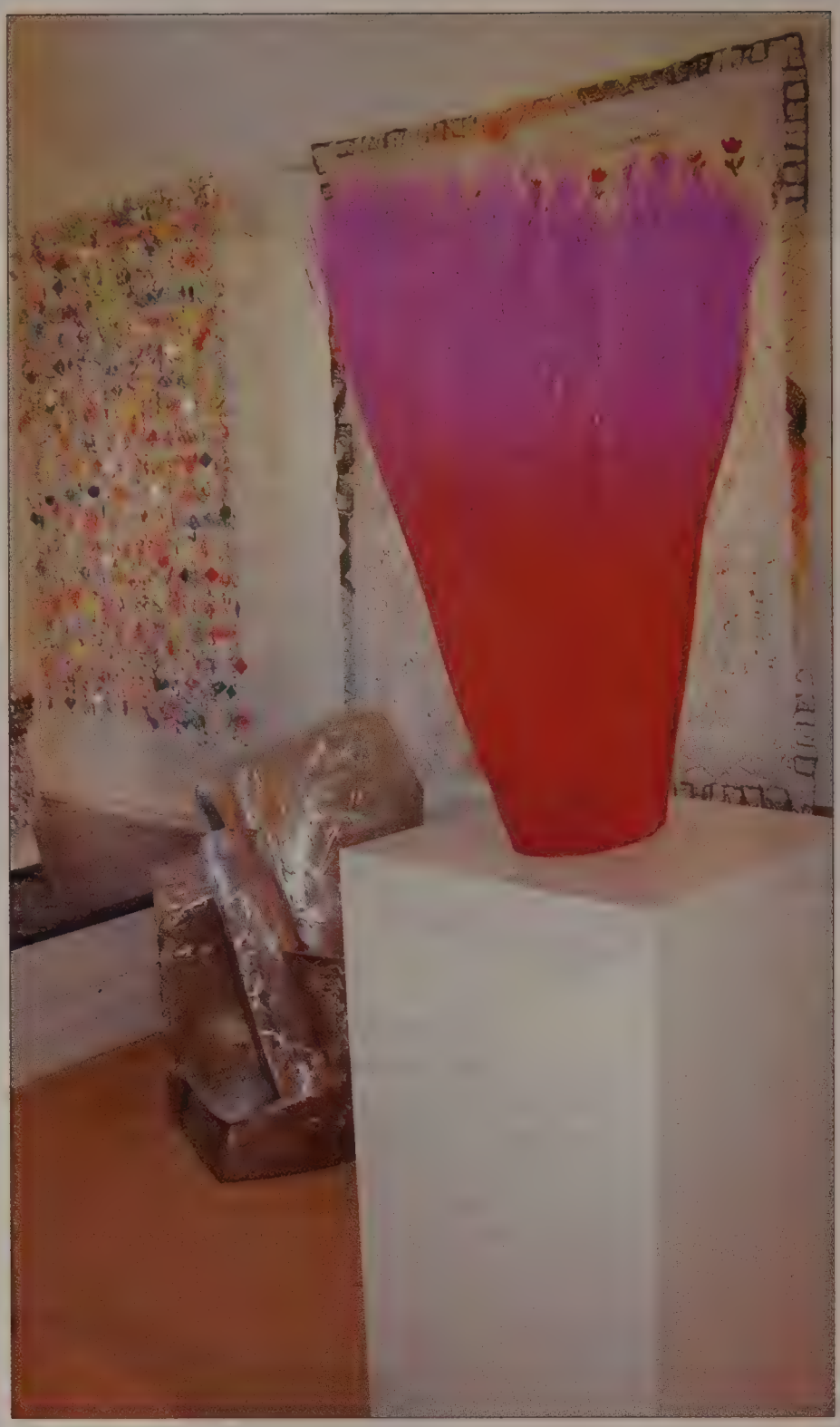
BY MOPSY STRANGE KENNEDY

THE TOY STORE THAT MOTHERS YOU

The Children's Story, at 434 Harvard Street in Brookline (617-232-6182), is the old-fashioned toy-McCoy.

You can feel the loyalty here as neighborhood residents tumble in and schmooze affectionately with the staff. With homey wooden floors and displays, The Children's Story is the opposite of Fluorescent PlasticLand: Any shininess is usually bright paint, not synthetic plastic. Wooden toys are the norm, good and plain, with names like Montgomery School House and little people painted right on the side. Nothing here goes beep. The Children's Story has a fondness for such toys as locally made authentic sets—Plymouth Plantations, Paul Revere, as well as re-creations of old paper dolls, as true-blue as the Dick and Jane of the '40s, or, in the case of Betty and Billy dolls, black. Marvelously unflashy toys, some made by individual entrepreneurs, include small-increment wooden blocks and sturdy, aesthetic, European toys. Hand puppets here are loveable—a wrist-deep furry black cat, a zipper-mouthed alligator. Some are unusual: The tentacled mosquito, patterned like an evil queen, possesses perverse charm. Beautiful doll dresses, authentic construction-worker kits, arty marionettes and a rather exotic dollhouse with a kaleidoscopic theme are other delightful options. Best of all, prices are reasonable enough for a loving, if cash-strapped, Granny.





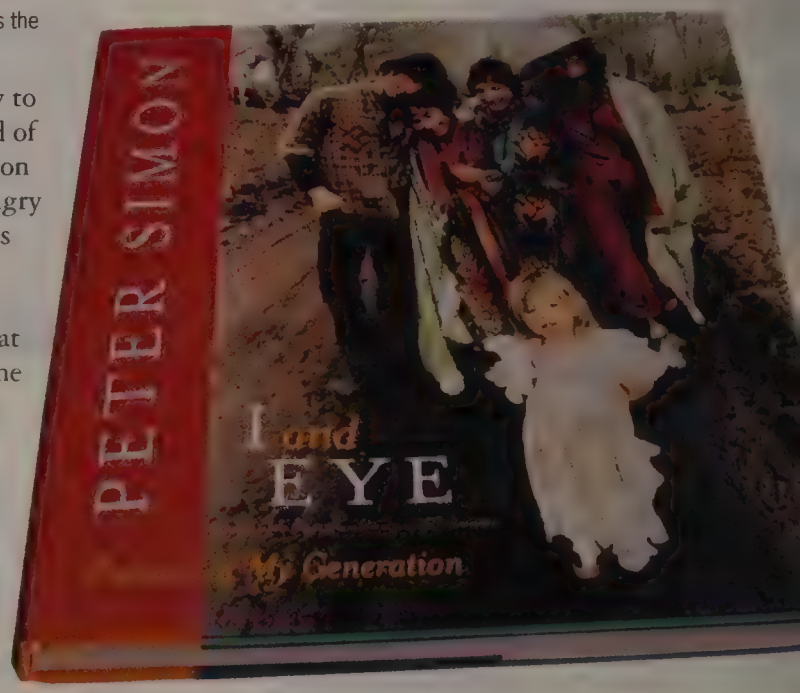
EVERYTHING'S A WILD SURPRISE

Mobilia, at 358 Huron Ave. in Cambridge (617-876-2109), is a gallery showing colorful, playful and often funny works by established artists.

For two decades, Mobilia has been a locus of amazing whimsy on a very high artistic level. In her voice of hushed wonder, Libby, Mobilia's owner, points out ways her artists illuminate unexpected dimensions in otherwise-ordinary things: Nesting, slightly listing baskets by Amy Lipshie are composed of thousands of pieces of bright-colored cereal boxes, cut up very small. The scratchy, super-silver of the gallery's doorway (actually stainless steel), recurs in the store's large cheerful table by Jim Cole. He's also designed surprisingly comfortable metal chairs, including a child-sized one, that have the hunched, cozy look of a Henry Moore sculpture. There's always jewelry here, decoration that's indeed wearable and sometimes fancy enough to be Cleopatra-worthy. Rena Koopman's gold necklaces incorporate shakudo, a metal used in Japanese swords; Jennifer Trask's jewelry lozenges contain pigment resembling loose face powder, only blue or green, or tea leaves . One crazy teapot deconstructs into a series of giant bracelets. Another is made of grapefruit rind stitched together. One work of art dispenses real Oreo cookies. The newest show will display the inventive ceramics of Richard Shaw, Jack Earl and Roy De Forest.

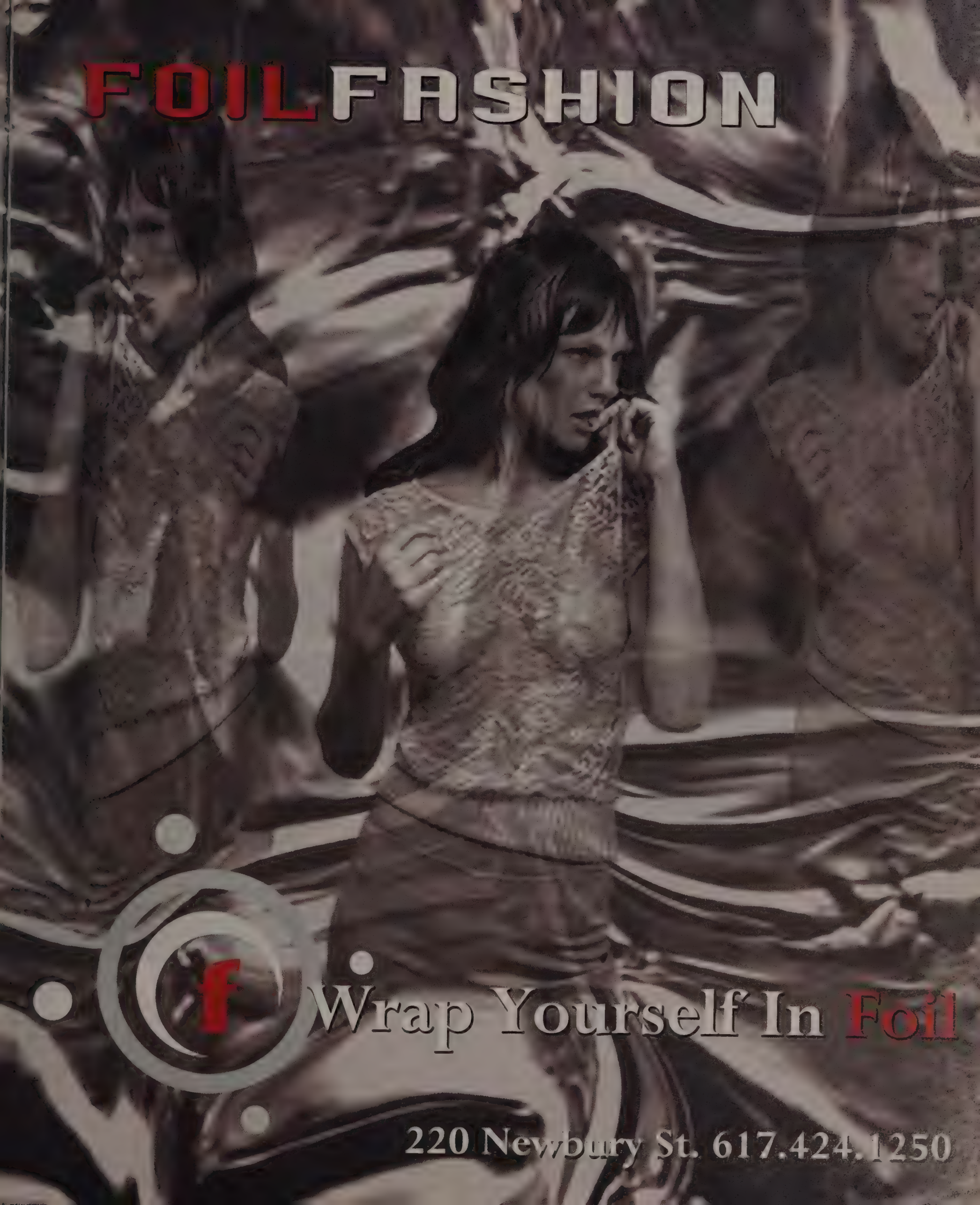
THE WORLD'S HIS TRIPPY OYSTER

I and Eye, Pictures of my Generation, by Peter Simon, chronicles the counterculture life of the 1960s and '70s.



A sociologist who wasn't actually there might try to write about the groovacious, golden, giddy world of hippie times with limited success. But Peter Simon really *was* there, eating up the scene with his hungry camera, and being as much a part of the picture as everything else. Yes, Simon made his name, originally, as being Carly Simon's brother, translucently capturing her dresses and smiles that have since become '70s-album history. But then he made the era his very own in communes, soaking up Ram Dass, an acid-induced "unity of spirit" and the idealistic back-to-the-land-ism, while sometimes suffering bruises from the open-bed policies of hippie free love. Simon's diaries from the time breathe with an innocent hunger to dig the whole scene. Likewise, his pictures of affectionate gaggles of friends and children gardening nude hold the moment in a delicate milkweed of nostalgia. Along the way, music lent itself to anti-war and anti-nuke protests. Simon met and knew and clicked every musical icon, including those who brought early reggae to America. Oh, how young and tender Dylan, Jagger, Jerry and the honeymooning James and Carly look! They were all starlight, golden, and it shows.

RITA GREELEY (3)


FOILFASHION
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220 Newbury St. 617.424.1250

in this section:
Review: Rustic Kitchen
Dish: Flimflam flan
Wine: Pairing wine with cheese
Tasty Tidbit: Scandinavian Smorgasbord

REVIEW

A Seat at the Kitchen Table

Todd English's new venture, Rustic Kitchen, presents an eclectic mix of bold and homey flavors

BY J. CHARLES MOKRISKI • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BERTA A. DANIELS



Ginger soy-glazed beef short ribs with warm spinach salad.



Tuna tartar on red bliss potato skins with avocado whip and ginger crème fraîche.

Rustic Kitchen

200 Quincy Market, Building SE, Boston (617-523-6334)

HOURS Sun.-Wed., 11:30am-10pm; Thu., 11:30am-10:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 11:30am-11pm

RESERVATIONS yes

CREDIT CARDS all major

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE yes

PARKING validation at 75 State St.

LIQUOR LICENSE beer and wine with cordials



Polenta *di mare* with stewed Maine lobster, Prince Edward Island mussels, Woodbury Farms littlenecks, red snapper, tomato *passato* and basil.



Greek-style spinach salad with feta, vinaigrette and spanikopita.

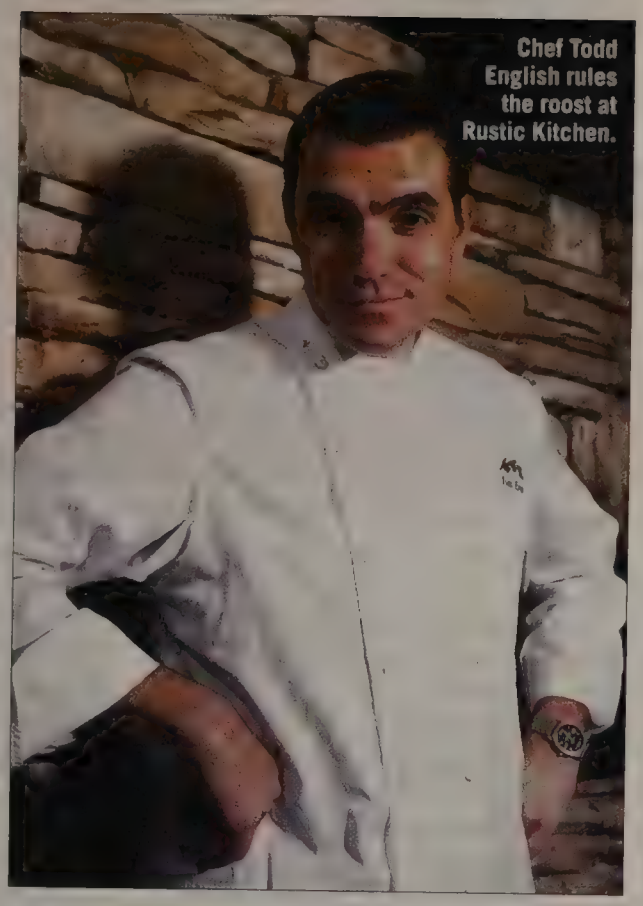
In its transition from junk-food wasteland to gastronomic mecca, Fanueil Hall Marketplace has added another noteworthy dining destination. On the south side of Quincy Market, across the plaza from Todd English's Kingfish Hall, still another English eatery has popped up—his Rustic Kitchen. This unassuming bistro captures some of the robust spontaneity and unpretentiousness of the first Olives, located on Charlestown's Main Street.

Rustic Kitchen's ambiance shouts clatter and clutter, but it is not without charm. The front glass walls are retractable to create al fresco dining when weather permits. A giant fireplace of flat fieldstones doubles as a wood-burning stove, turning out a varied selection of flatbreads (pizzas). The intricate masonry is replicated at two bars that seat drinkers and diners. Black ceiling fans move the air, while large, rose-colored, inverted-pyramid chandeliers provide the lighting.

The Rustic Kitchen's menu offers an eclectic array of choices ranging from Italian specialties to New England comfort-food staples. Appetizers included roasted jumbo asparagus, crunchy yet tender, enlivened with garlic and dressed with shaved Parmesan cheese and Mediterranean herbs ($9.50). A slightly less satisfying appetizer was the giant shrimp cassoulet with sausage and bacon ($12.50), an earthenware casserole filled to the brim with a stew of white beans, sausage and bacon chunks, and topped by two large shrimp. In view of the cost, we found the shrimp count a bit of a disappointment, and the bean casserole was surprisingly unnoteworthy, lacking the anticipated English flair for lively flavors.

In contrast, some of the dishes at the Rustic Kitchen were bold and brassy, with robust, assertive flavors, marred at times by oversalting. The pastas we sampled on two different visits are prime examples. The risotto carbonara ($14) with ham, peas and Parmesan, would have been terrific had the kitchen gone easy on the salt. The peas were bright green and firm but not hard, and the luscious, dark-red, fork-tender smoked shoulder

(instead of the Italian bacon one usually encounters in carbonara) made this a memorable dish. The texture of the risotto was perfect: somewhere between creamy and al dente. It was a shame to have such an otherwise perfect dish flawed by excessive salt. Similarly with the "rags and pesto genovese" ($12). The "rags" were flat pieces of pasta, like unstuffed ravioli, irregularly shaped and dressed in a sauce of garlic, basil, pignoli nuts, rich aromatic olive oil and grana (sharp grated cheese). With heady flavors like these, the extra salt was unnecessary. Less salty, but also less interesting, was the baked rigatoni with tomato and mozzarella ($14), served bubbling hot in an oven-proof dish.


Chef Todd English rules the roost at Rustic Kitchen.

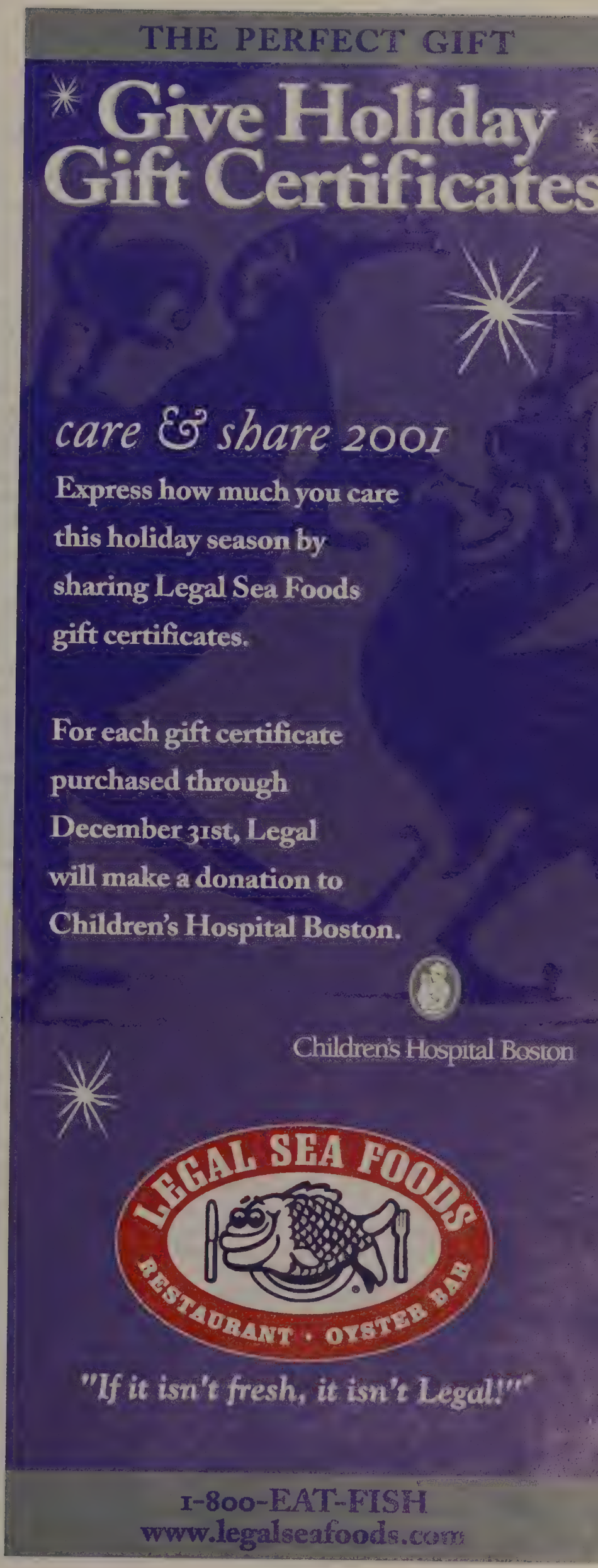
Pizzas, which here go by the name flatbreads, are irregularly shaped rectangles, with thin crust and decent toppings reminiscent of Figs. We opted for the tomato and cheese "Arthur Avenue Style" ($11.50), named for that gastronomically and culturally notable street in the Bronx. A well-balanced tomato sauce, creamy cheese and crisp fried basil leaf made it a tasty pie, but despite the cache of its name, Arthur Avenue still takes a back seat to Pepe's Place in New Haven's Wooster Square.

Among the roasts and casseroles, the Rustic Kitchen's pot roast over polenta and parsnips ($18) was a massive block of heartily flavored beef, characteristically coarse in texture, but much too dry. Here the polenta and parsnip base was a blessing, adding some moisture to the dish. Far better was the salmon fillet baked in parchment with brussels sprouts ($18.50). A magnificent, thick slab of salmon, advertised on the menu as eight ounces—and at least that—was seared on the outside and red within. So succulently delicious was the salmon that one of our company, who usually avoids rare or raw fish, may have become a convert. While vegetables are offered a la carte, it was unnecessary to incur that expense, since the roasts and casseroles came with a choice of vegetable. The roasted broccoli was excellent, and the mashed sweet potatoes were a sweet, spicy, buttery treat—luscious enough to serve as dessert.

In addition to the appetizers, pizzas, pastas, roasts and casseroles, the Rustic Kitchen's menu includes a variety of polentas. This rendering of corn, one of America's principal contributions to the cuisine of the Old World, is a staple starch in Italy but is much less frequently encountered here. At the Rustic Kitchen it is served in either traditional (yellow), wild mushroom or hominy styles. We elected the traditional with Nona's Calabrese chicken, Italian sausage and charred eggplant cacciatore. Served on a wooden platter, the polenta formed the base on which were layered chunks of sausage, eggplant and a chicken hindquarter. The ensemble was robust in its flavors, but we found the pool of unformed polenta an annoying variation on the Todd English theme—one that has been adopted by much of the Boston restaurant community—whereby starches like potatoes, polenta and parsnips are routinely deployed beneath other ingredients, turning almost every dish into a form of casserole.

After the generous portions, dessert seemed almost beside the point. But after a brief respite, we were ready to indulge—yet little on the dessert menu piqued our interest. We did try the triple chocolate cake ($6.95), a fudgy, flourless confection designed to appeal to the school of thought—prevalent in our house—that if it ain't chocolate, it ain't dessert. The Rustic Kitchen's wine list is serviceable, if a tad pricey, with few reds priced in the $20s. The Banrock Station cabernet sauvignon ($24), a grapy Australian and the least expensive red on the menu, went well with the pot roast and polenta cacciatore.

As with other Todd English restaurants, there is an energy, an almost kinetic charge, in the air at the Rustic Kitchen. The staff bustles about at double time, taking orders, bringing food, pouring wine, bussing dishes. The here's-your-hat-what's-your-hurry hubbub was perfect for a business lunch wedged into a busy day, but it detracted from the atmosphere in the evening, when we would have preferred a more leisurely pace. Still, as a versatile day-night spot, with a lively bar scene and well-conceived—and usually well-executed (save the salt)—food, English appears to have another winner in his Rustic Kitchen. iB



DISH

The Telltale Tapas

First family of flan in a furor...Jasper gets his claws on a patent

BY CAROLYN FAYE FOX

Welcome to Food Court TV for a special *Family Feud* edition. Our defendant today is **Fernando Leon**, proprietor of the new **Solea Restaurant & Tapas Bar** in Waltham. He is charged with "blatant thievery," allegedly copying much of Solea's menu from **Tapeo** on Newbury Street and its predecessor and sibling restaurant, **Dali** in Somerville. But here the plot thickens. Pointing the accusing finger at Leon is **Tamara Bourso**, who is married to **Mario Leon**—Fernando's father—and a partner with Fernando in Tapeo.

So what's the problem? Bourso claims that when Tapeo opened five years ago, the partners agreed on a non-compete contract; specifically, that if Fernando were to open another restaurant, he wouldn't use the Tapeo/Dali menu. Now Bourso is writing angry letters and talking to lawyers.

"Who cares? Let the lawyers spend all her money," says Fernando, who refers to his stepmother as "the stepmonster. She's evil."

The real story, he continues, is ongoing marital trouble. "She and my father have not been getting along, and she started this whole ball rolling. When we opened Tapeo, my father told me to 'take this concept and fly with it,'" Fernando says. As for the alleged copying, Fernando points out that the dishes on all the menus are "traditional, standard Spanish recipes. It's not a chef-centric concepts." What's more, Fernando says, the agreement has expired. And, he claims, "of course, I have a copy."

Dish's verdict: Cut the lawyers loose and spend the money on family counseling.

Open any minute now: **Village Sushi & Grill**, brought to you by the same folks who made **JP Seafood Café** such a hit in Jamaica Plain. This latest venture, smack in the middle of Roslindale Square, raises the culinary cachet of Roslindale yet another notch, joining the well-regarded **Gusto** and the recently opened **Delfino**.

SECOND COURSE

Dessert Dispatches...When you think of a spa hiring a pastry chef, do you envision atrocities such as, say, wheatgrass sorbet? Well, long before spas offered massages and sprouts, a "spa" in Boston meant a neighborhood luncheonette, complete with soda fountain and formica-topped counter. Between Harvard and Porter Squares, the **Oxford Spa**, recasting itself as a purveyor of fancy sandwiches, take-out meals and catering, has hired **Kristen Murray** as its full-time pastry chef. Murray, formerly of **Aquavit** and **An American Place** in Manhattan, is serving up such non-luncheonette items as candied kumquat spice cake to go.



Oxford Spa's new pastry chef Kristen Murray (left) and co-owner Elizabeth Hogan offer sweet treats.

Chez Henri's new pastry chef is **Elizabeth Muro**, who spent several years as a line cook at **The Blue Room**.

Many Happy Returns... after **Rick Katz** arrived at and then departed from **Lumiere** faster than you could grease a cookie sheet, pastry chef **Elizabeth Miles** came back to the kitchen in Newton, turning out exquisite sorbets (try the pink grapefruit with citrus salad and Campari syrup), a refined yet deadly rich melting chocolate cake, and unbelievably tender homemade truffles.

What's a fine French restaurant to do when its chef has the utterly non-Gallic name of **Ken Duckworth**? The **Maison Robert** family has hired two new sous chefs—Ludovic Orio and Erwan Laurenceau—who are freshly arrived from France and have brought with them both the requisite accents and resumes sprinkled with Michelin stars.

Postcard from Florida...**E. Michael Reidt**, who left **Bomboa** abruptly under a murky cloud, is now basking in Miami sunshine and critical plaudits in his position as chef at **Wish** at The Hotel in South Beach. A recent *New York Times* article praised the cleverness and whimsy of his appetizers, as well as the "bright, tropical quality" of his cooking.

Coincidence, or useful parallel technology? Designed for speed and efficiency in crustacean cookery, the Lobster Line devised by chef **Jasper White** for his **Summer Shack** in Cambridge has just been granted an official patent by the U.S. Patent Office. During the last year, a patent was also issued (not to Jasper) for anti-stress agents for aquatic animals (No. 6,306,453). Tank-quilizers? iB

Carolyn Faye Fox is a panelist on "Says You!," NPR's nationally syndicated word-game quiz show.

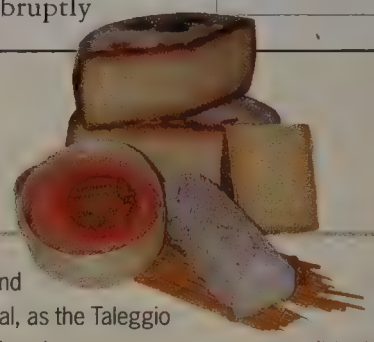
Serving Dish

Seen a food fight? Got a restaurant rant? Send it to *dish@improper.com*

WINE

Say Cheese

BY SANDY BLOCK, MW



Once every few years, I find it helpful to stop dwelling in the realm of pure theory and instead get down with some practical research. This usually takes the form of gathering a group of strangers, passing eight or 10 bottles of wine around (in the interest of science) and trying to discuss with some measure of coherence how each one tastes with whatever food theme I'm currently exploring.

Lately I've been on a cheese kick. It strikes me as the most wine-like food: Both are products of fermentation, both taste different depending on where they originate, and both mature and change over time. But which wine goes with which cheese? To solve this problem once and for all, I recently led a seminar at The Boston Learning Society, where a two dozen dedicated connoisseurs subjected their palates to several wines I had chosen to complement a number of specialty cheeses recommended by Brian Wasik of the renowned Cheese Shop in Wellesley.

The wines I chose were not the best, or the worst, ones of their type. Instead they were easy to categorize, wines so overt in flavor that they could be considered stand-ins for others in the same style. The cheeses, on the other hand, were all subtly understated in flavor. Most were made with raw, unpasteurized milk. Here's what we discovered:

Pierre Robert, a buttery triple crème cheese from the Champagne region of France, was difficult to match successfully with many of the wines. As with other soft, very creamy cheeses I have tasted in similar experiments (Camembert, Brie, L'Explorateur), the cheese muted most of the wines, particularly the reds, robbing them of fruit flavor. The one exception was a very fruity, unctuously textured late-harvest dessert wine from Alsace. This exotically sweet Pinot Gris had enough spice-accented syrupy fruit flavor to harmonize beautifully.

Taleggio, a soft, unpressed, very mild and agreeably flavored cheese from northwestern Italy worked best, surprisingly to me, with a ripe, tropically flavored, oak-influenced California chardonnay. This full-bodied wine's honey and nutlike flavors stirred flavor nuances that were latent in the cheese and the effect was actually reciprocal, as the Taleggio managed to soften and enrich the wine.



The next match was a textbook example of how a natural rind goat cheese, in this case Crottin de Chavignol from France's Loire Valley, works beautifully with an acidic, herb-scented Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand. While most of the other wines fell flat, the Sauvignon's sharp grapefruity edges somehow matched the assertiveness of the cheese, cutting through its dense texture and mellowing its flavor.

An earthy, semi-hard sheep's milk cheese, Pecorino Toscano from Central Italy, went nicely with most of the wines, but I found it actually tasted even better with a beautifully balanced Rioja Reserva from Spain. The wine's balance of light berry fruit, vanilla oak accents and tobacco-like spice was radically altered by most of the other cheeses we tried, but it was a delicious foil for the Pecorino, uncovering layers of flavor.

We tried a wonderfully nutty, semi-hard cheese from Switzerland, Gruyere, with the same wine and found it thinned the Rioja's flavors out, making it taste bitter and harsh. On the other hand, a full-bodied, tannic, very ripe Australian Shiraz had just enough jammy fruit to complement it.

Next we tasted an aged "farmhouse" gouda from Holland with intense, tangy flavors and a rich texture. The cheese obliterated any of the lower-key wines on the table, but was a lovely match for a dry, yet extremely fruity, light-bodied muscat from Portugal, whose heady tropical fruit perfume stood up well to the assertively flavored cheese.

Finally we looked at another classic combo, a blue-veined "farmhouse" stilton and a Tawny Port. Unfortunately, the salty-savory aged cheese clashed with the port, unpleasantly emphasizing its high alcohol content. Surprisingly most tasters liked it with the sharp-edged Sauvignon Blanc.

We staggered away from the table with one generalization: The stronger a cheese's flavor, the more essential it is for a wine to have potently fruity flavors. iB

OXFORD SPA: DARISA CLARKE; CHEESE: KRISTIN WEBSTER

Tastings BY JULIE SHORT

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for tastings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Tastings. Or e-mail information to tastings@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

EVENTS

Chocolate Bar with Santa
Le Meridien, 250 Franklin St., Boston (617-956-8751). Dec. 22, 12-3pm. $23. Pastry chef **Christophe Feyt** prepares more than 25 chocolate desserts.

Chocolate Trolley Tour
Old Town Trolley Tours, corner of Boylston and Charles streets, Boston (617-269-3626). Sat. and Sun., 11:30am and 12:30pm. Jan.-March. $50. The Chocolate Trolley Tour stops at the Top of the Hub for a chocolate surprise, The Hampshire House for roasted maple walnut chocolate soup, and finally to Le Meridien's chocolate bar buffet.

Feast of the Seven Fishes
Davio's, 5 Cambridge Parkway, Cambridge (617-661-4810). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Dec. 24, 5-10pm. $29.95. Chef **Paul King** has created a special menu in honor of the Feast of Seven Fishes, a traditional Italian Christmas Eve meal.

Food and Fizzies
Best Cellars, 745 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2900). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Dec. 27, 5-8pm. Best Cellars and Salamander restaurant team up for a tasting of sparkling wines and gourmet cuisine.

Friday Night Wine Tastings
Wine Bottega, 341 Hanover St., Boston (617-227-6607). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Fridays, 5-8pm. Taste wine after work. •Dec. 21: festive wines •Dec. 28: wines over $20 •Dec. 31: the best of the best for New Year's Eve.

Holiday Season Weekend Tea
Salamander, One Huntington Ave., Boston (617-451-2150). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Sat. and Sun., 3pm. Through the end of the year. Relax with a cup of jasmine pearls or organic oolong and spiced pumpkin custard with gingersnaps, brown sugar pecan madeleines and lemon-glazed teacakes.

Natale Cooking Class and Tasting
Cafe Louis, 234 Berkeley St., Boston (617-266-4680). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 22, 9am. $100. Chefs **Giovanna Tesio** and **Antonio Letto** present a demonstration and tasting of a traditional Italian Christmas meal.

1961 Dinner Special
Chart House, 60 Long Wharf, Boston (617-227-1576). Through the end of the year. $19.61. Chart House's 1961 anniversary dinner is priced at $19.61 for chowder or salad, fresh regional fish and a slice of cheesecake.

Prix Fixe Lunch Menu
Radius, 8 High St., Boston (617-426-1234). $25. This three-course lunch menu is available on weekdays.

Sunday Supper Specials
East Coast Grill, 1271 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-868-9139). Sundays. $15.50. Chef **Eric Gburski** cooks up a different rustic dish each week, prepared wit the chilly, cold, dark nights of winter in mind. •Dec. 23: balsamic graised short ribs with cheesy polenta and garlic rabe •Dec. 30: Yankee pot roast with mashed turnips and garlic spinach •Jan. 7: spit-roasted duck a la orange with almond rice pilaf and a baked stuffed pear.

Private & Personal Chef Certification Program
The Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). Saturdays, Jan. 5-Feb. 2, 9am-2pm. $600. After completing four weeks of instructional seminars on the aspects of starting your own business, managing expenses, planning menus, food preparation and service, you'll receive a certificate from Boston University.

Tasting: Wine for the Holidays
The Seasonal Table, 61 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-236-7979). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Dec. 21, 5-8pm. Free. Each week, the restaurant hosts a wine and cheese tasting highlighting a different wine or cheese-producing region.

Wine Tastings
Brookline Liquor Mart, 1354 Commonwealth Ave., Allston (617-256-9463). 1-5pm. Sample wines every Saturday. •Dec. 22: Port •Dec. 29: Champagne and sparkling wines.

TASTY TIDBIT

FEAST OF KINGS

We imagine the demand is small for such delicacies as liver paté with pickled cucumbers, glassblower's herring and meatballs with lingonberries during most of the year. But on one special night in December, Maison Robert has an impressive turnout for its Scandinavian Smorgasbord.

"We get a lot of people of Scandinavian ancestry who remember eating these dishes during their childhood, or those who've traveled to the region," says Ann Robert, co-owner of Maison Robert with her husband, Lucien. Every year, the restaurant prepares some two dozen dishes with names like *glasmastarsill, rakor, leverpastej* and *delikatesskottbullar* in honor of Robert's Norwegian heritage (she grew up in a heavily Scandinavian community near Madison, Wis.). "No one else in Boston offers Scandinavian cuisine," she notes. This year's buffet takes place Dec. 18.

A week later, the Roberts recognize Lucien's French heritage with their annual Feast of Kings Jan. 5. The highlight of the evening is the Three Kings cake, which has one almond baked inside. The lucky man who finds the nut is crowned king of the fete and gets to choose his queen from among the ladies.



Or if you'd like to host your own Feast of Kings, Sandrine's in Cambridge offers *galettes des rois* (king cakes) to order. It's a rectangular cake made of puffed pastry and filled with cream...plus the requisite hidden favor. *Maison Robert, 45 School St., Boston (617-227-3370). Sandrine's, 8 Holyoke St., Cambridge (617-497-5300). —J.S.*



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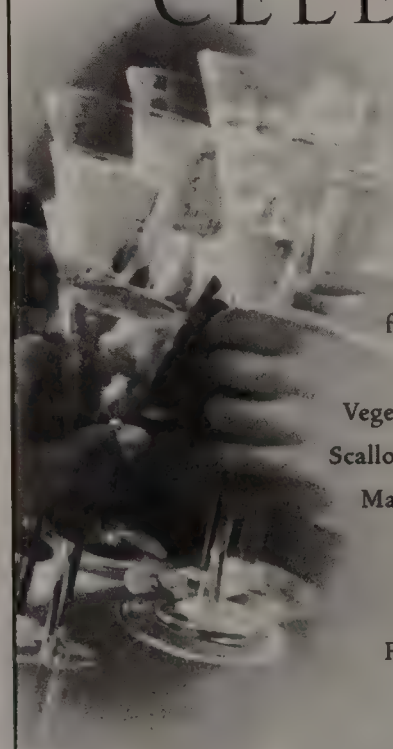
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For reservations, call 617.536.1775
800 Boylston Street, Prudential Center, Boston

Top of the Hub℠

agenda





THE CALENDAR GIRLS' GUIDE TO WHAT'S UP, IN AND AROUND BOSTON

CITYSCOPE 48

PERFORMING ARTS 56

ART 60

BOOKS & POETRY 65

EDUCATION 65

FILM 66

DANCE CLUBS 70

MUSIC 74

CLASSICAL MUSIC 88

GAY & LESBIAN 90

BODY & MIND 92

SPORTS 92

CHILDREN 94

AROUND TOWN 94

EDITED BY:

ERIN HAGEDORN

Art, Books & Poetry,

Dance Clubs, Dance,

Film, Gay & Lesbian,

Museums, Music

JULIE SHORT

Around Town, Children,

Comedy, Education, Theater

ADDITIONAL LISTINGS BY:

Laurel Kirtz Body & Mind

Paul Sherman Film Capsules

Ezra Dyer CityScope

and Sports

improper picks



MON./DEC. 17—SUN./DEC. 30

Theater: Not Just for Kids Anymore

The last time we went to see *Disney on Ice* at the FleetCenter, we expected to be the only people there without a rambunctious child (or two) in tow. We skulked into the stadium and quickly took our seats. To our surprise, there were more than a few childless couples scattered among the crowd. And, honestly, when the lights went down, it didn't even matter. We were awed by the theatrics. We laughed, we cried, and we clapped our hands in delight. This year's show highlights four Disney classics: *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *Cinderella*, *101 Dalmations* and *The Little Mermaid*. Grab your neighbor's kid, or treat your inner child and go on your own. *FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Dec. 27, 1 and 5pm; Dec. 28, 11am, 3pm and 7pm; Dec. 29, 11am, 3pm and 7pm; Dec. 30, 1 and 5pm. $10-$42.*

THROUGH SUN./DEC. 23

Performing Arts: Soulful Harmony

Whether you're celebrating Kwanza, Christmas, Hanukkah or New Year's, this show is sure to get you in the mood. ***Black Nativity*** is back, in all its gospel glory. The musical version of Harlem-Renaissance poet-novelist Langston Hughes' story is a combination of poetry, prose and dramatic literature that tells the traditional story of Christmas from an African-American perspective. Boston's National Center of Afro-American Artists produces the longest-running version of *Black Nativity* in the world (more than 30 years), and this year's performance includes nearly 200 singers, dancers, actors and musicians. *That's at the Tremont Temple Baptist Church, 88 Tremont St., Boston (617-442-8614). $17.50-$37.50.*

FRI./DEC. 21—TUE./DEC. 25

Film: In the Cinematic Spirit

Just when we've had our fill of holiday hoopla, two movies come along that make us want to squeeze in that last bit of goodwill and cheer. The Brattle offers two feel-good flicks that are sure to give us that last festive jolt. Frank Capra's ***It's a Wonderful Life*** delivers us with the unforgettable character of George Bailey, the down-and-out family man who meets an angel and realizes his life is wonderful just as it is. Wim Wenders' ***Wings of Desire*** also has an angel, but this one's tired of overseeing human activity. That is, until he falls in love with a mortal. *It's a Wonderful Life* is Dec. 21-23, 7pm and Dec. 25, 7pm. *Wings of Desire* is Dec. 21-23, 4:30 and 9:30pm; Dec. 25, 4:30 and 9:30pm 40 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-876-6837).

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FRI./DEC. 14—SUN./DEC. 30

▲Dance: Reveling in Christmas

As synonymous with the Christmas season as the *Nutcracker*, ***The Christmas Revels*** marks its 31st season making folk magic in Boston. This year, they celebrate the solstice the way the Revels of Henry VIII did centuries ago as they whisk you away to Tudor England. The dances, plays and acts are all set during the reign of Henry VIII, replete with jousting contests, tumbling and juggling, music and merrymakers. The Revels keep the Golden Age theme going—from Henry VIII's court to the coronation of the young Queen Elizabeth and the flowering of the Renaissance. As usual, the audience is invited to join in by singing carols and dancing with the cast. More than 80 performers make up the ensemble, including the Revels Chorus and the Cambridge Symphony Brass Ensemble. The production is staged by Revels Artistic Director Patrick Swanson, with music direction by George Emlen. *Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, Dec. 14-16; 20-23 and 26-30. $18-$38. (617-496-2222).*

MON./DEC. 31

CityScope: First Night

Oh, there's just so much to do on New Year's Eve. How will you ever decide? Take our advice: We'll be starting the day off at the ice sculptures at Copley Square, the Boston Common, the Frog Pond and at Northeastern's Krentzman Quad. Then, we'll check out the perennially popular First Night favorite, the Festival of International Short Films, curated by the Museum of Fine Arts' Bo Smith. That's hourly from 1-5pm. Then we'll head to either the Institute of Contemporary Art, the MFA, the New England Aquarium or the Museum of Science—or maybe all of the above—for their free open studios. After a short nap, we'll attend the Grand Procession, a Mardi Gras-style parade with bands, floats, music and puppets, along Boylston Street. In the evening, it's a tough decision. Steve Sweeney is at the Comedy Connection for three shows. Both Odyssey Cruise Lines and Massachusetts Bay Lines offer New Year's Eve cruises. Over at the Hynes Convention Center, The Push Stars, Helicopter Helicopter and The Fly Seville are all performing. Or there are a bunch of parties around town that sound like they'll be a heck of a lot of fun. All we know is that we'll end up on the Boston Common ball field at midnight for the fireworks show. *See the CityScope section on page 48 for more information.*

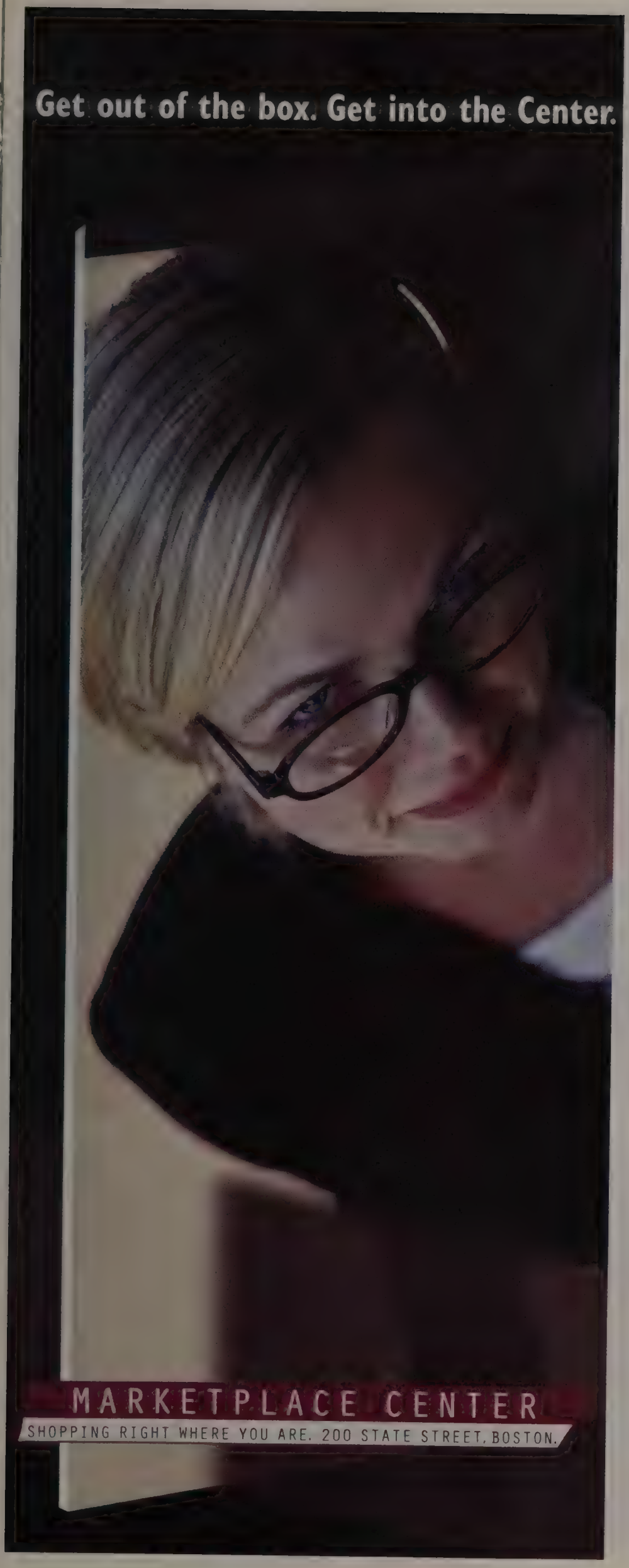
WED./DEC. 26—MON./DEC. 31

Comedy: Tingling Our Funny Bones ▶



It's always uplifting to see a local boy make good, and Cambridge native **Jimmy Tingle** fits the bill. He started performing stand-up comedy in Boston in the early '80s and quickly rose up through the ranks to headline at major comedy clubs. His biggest coup, however, is his regular stint on *60 Minutes II* as the humorist/commentator in Andy Rooney's coveted spot. Now the rest of the world gets to chuckle at his smart, edgy humor. Tingle's back in town to perform his one-man show at the Regent Theater in Arlington Center Dec. 26-31. *Regent Theater, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). $15-$20.*

TOP: ROGER IDE



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WED./DEC. 26—SUN./DEC. 30

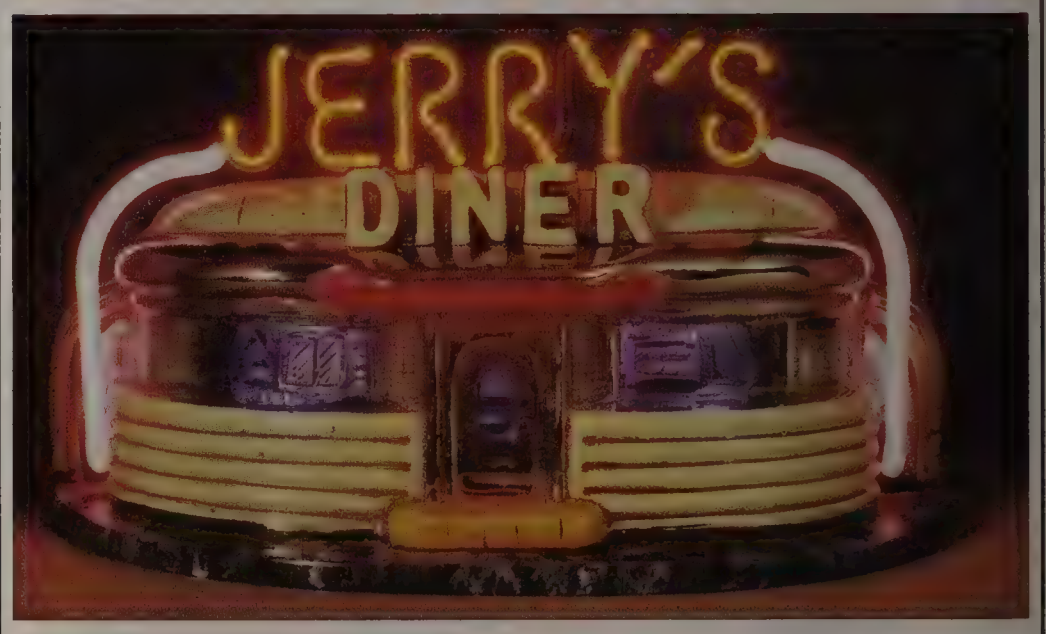
◀ Music: Sax Star

The shining light of the the local jazz front, bop-based tenor man **Joshua Redman** (son of the great tenor saxophonist Dewey Redman), is spending the holidays here in town. After graduating from Harvard, the tenor and soprano saxophonist garnered a Grammy nomination and won top jazz prizes nationwide. Commercial and critical success came after he stole first place at the 1991 Thelonious Monk competition, which landed him a recording contract with Warner Bros. All of this hasn't gone to his head, and you can hear his light and airy style yourself—as well as his signature improvisational interpretations—when he plays five nights, Dec. 26-30, at the Regattabar. *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000).*

THU./DEC. 27—SUN./JAN. 6

Performing Arts: Making Contact

Broadway in Boston has figured out the right formula to appeal to Boston's finnicky theater-goers: Dish up a slice of nostalgia with a schlocky, heartwarming musical like *South Pacific* for the older folks and then follow it up with a modern tale like *Contact* to lure younger, more jaded audiences. It's almost foolproof, considering that *Contact* won every major theater award, including the Tony Award, Drama Desk Award, Outer Critics Circle Award and the Drama League Award for Best Musical. We're definitely sold. *Contact* comprises three stories told entirely through dance about people in the wild pursuit of love. Says choreographer and director Susan Stroman, "All three have to do with contact—the ability to connect." It features a cast of 24 performers who dance to a wide range of music—from Stephane Grappelli's rendition of Rodgers and Hart's "My Heart Stood Still" to pieces by Grieg, Tchaikovsky and Bizet to Robert Palmer, Dean Martin, the Beach Boys and The Squirrel Nut Zippers. *Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Dec. 27-Jan. 6. $25-$75.*



THROUGH WED./JAN. 2

▲ Art: Diner Days

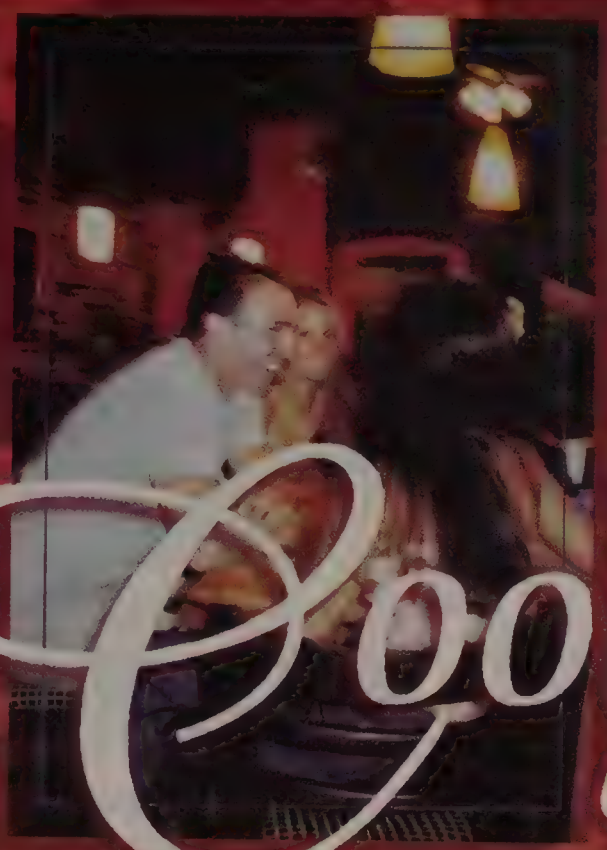
An annual favorite of ours is the *Jerry Berta Diner Show.* It salutes two quintessential American obsessions—roadside dining and comfort food. The diner show at Newbury Street's Alianza Gallery is a collection of New England favorites from Jerry Berta, a sculptor from Michigan who has been crafting small ceramic diners for more than 20 years. From art deco to fully decorated detailed interiors, Berta has been dedicated to the creative preservation of these nostalgic American icons. You can see his show through Jan. 2. *154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385).*

FRI./DEC. 21

CityScope: Holiday Wrestling

We probably don't strike you as the types to rush home on a Monday night to "smell what the Rock is cooking." The truth is, we're not. But our male roommates are—and when you have just one television between you, you end up being suckered into the joys of World Wrestling Federation. So we have to admit that we're kind of excited to check out the Budweiser/WBCN **New England Championship Wrestling Benefit** at Good Time Emporium Dec. 21. The main event pits new NECW heavyweight champion Maverick Wild against the former champion, "Brutal" Bob Evans. A total of seven bouts will be staged—and just because this event benefits WBCN's Fund for the Families, which helps those affected by the Sept. 11 attacks, doesn't mean that there's not going to be some mean action in the ring. So get prepared to shout "That can't be legal!" while helping a good cause. *Good Time Emporium, 30 Assembly Square Drive, Somerville (617-628-5559).* www.necwwrestling.com. *7:30pm. $15.*







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If there's one thing you can get excited about this year, it's the fact that the pressure to have the absolute best time of your entire life is officially off. Two years ago, we had the big '00. Last year, it was the "real millennium." This year we're finally back to the usual New Year's amount of hype, which is to say merely torrential. And while 2001 had plenty of sobering shocks, this is the night to bust out a new calendar with a healthy dose of optimism. It may be 2002, but we heartily recommend that you gather your friends, pop open some bubbly and, in the oddly poignant words of Prince, party like it's 1999.

Some of the events and shows listed below, designated by $FN, are included when you buy a First Night button ($15). To purchase a button or find retail locations, go to *www. firstnight.org*.



The black-tie First Evening party will usher in the new year at the Hynes Convention Center Grand Ballroom.

ART

Open Studios
Visit the following museums free during First Night: Institute of Contemporary Art (12am-5pm), the Museum of Fine Arts (11am-1pm), Museum of Science (4-7pm), Old South Meeting House (10am-4pm), New England Aquarium (9am-12pm), Old State House Museum (1-4pm), Harrison Gray Otis House Museum (11am-4pm, 5-9pm), USS Constitution Museum (1-4pm).

COMEDY

Comedy Connection
Boston stalwart Steve Sweeney headlines three shows to start the year on a funny note. *The Comedy Connection, Faneuil Hall, Boston. 7pm, 9pm, 11:15pm. $49 and $60.*

ImprovBoston
If you've never seen an improv performance, this might be the time to join the audience and send these actors off on unscripted and often hilarious skits. *Dubois Auditorium at the Tufts School of Medicine, 145 Harrison Ave., Boston. Every hour on the hour from 7-10pm. $FN.*

CRUISES

New Year's Eve Cruise Extravaganza
The five-hour festivities will include live entertainment, "butlered" hors d'oeuvres ("Another stuffed mushroom, my good man?") and a four-course dinner including choices like lobster ravioli and tenderloin fillet. You'll also get a prime view of the fireworks and a complimentary bottle of champagne to pop at the appropriate hour. *Odyssey Cruise Lines, Rowes Wharf, Boston (888-741-0282). 8pm-1am. $199.*

Party Cruise or Dinner Cruise
The choice is yours: One cruise includes a prime rib and hand-carved turkey buffet along with the requisite DJ and dancing, cash bar and champagne toast. The other cruise warns (or perhaps you might say boasts) on the Web site that "This is just a big party." We think that sums it up nicely. *Massachusetts Bay Lines, 60 Rowes Wharf, Gate C, Boston (617-542-8000). Boarding 8:30pm; sailing 9:30pm-12:30am. $90 dinner cruise; $45 party cruise.*

FILM

Festival of International Short Films
This perennially popular First Night favorite is a collection of recent short films, curated for First Night by the MFA's Bo Smith. *Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston. 1:15, 2:30, 3:45 and 5pm. $FN.*

Sabana Blanca Improvisational Scoring
Sabana Blanca is an ensemble that, on the fly, makes up scores to classic and modern silent films. For First Night, they will be performing their "Surreal, Slapstick and Silhouette" program. *Boston Public Library, Rabb Hall. 7:30 and 8:45pm. $FN.*

MUSIC

Either Orchestra
This 10-piece jazz big band re-creates hits that recall the jazz greats, from Duke Ellington to Miles Davis. *The Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston. 8:30-9:15pm, 9:45-10:30pm. $FN.*

Hybrasil
Hybrasil, led by Christian McNeil, brings its Beatles, Radiohead and Velvet Underground–influenced pop to the Orpheum. *The Orpheum Theatre, One Hamilton Place, Boston. 7:30-8:15pm, 8:45-9:30pm. $FN.*

The Push Stars
No strangers to the Boston Music Awards, the Push Stars' music can be heard in Farrelly Brothers films, including *There's Something About Mary* and *Shallow Hal*. *Hynes Convention Center, Exhibition Hall A, 900 Boylston St., Boston. 7:30-9:30pm. $FN.*

Happy Feet Dance Orchestra
This 10-piece jazz band with dance instruction brings back "hot dance," a swing variant. *Hynes Convention Center Auditorium, 900 Boylston St., Boston. 7-11pm. $FN.*

Helicopter Helicopter
Come hear tunes from their new CD, *By Starlight*. *Hynes Convention Center, Exhibition Hall B, 900 Boylston St., Boston. 7:30-9:30pm. $FN.*

The Fly Seville
The band that graced our last Boston Rocks cover will be rockin' in the new year. *Hynes Convention Center, Exhibition Hall B, 900 Boylston St., Boston. 10pm-12am. $FN.*

Balla Tounkara
Balla Tounkara mixes African sounds with American music. *Hynes Convention Center, Exhibition Hall C, 900 Boylston St., Boston. 6:30-8:30pm. $FN.*

OUTDOORS

Fireworks
If you don't want to stay up for the late show, there is a prime-time fireworks display immediately after the Grand Procession. The traditional show still rings in the new year at midnight. *Boston Common Ballfield, 7pm; Marriott's Customs House and Boston Harbor, 11:59pm.*

Ice Sculptures
This year's celebration features five monumental ice sculptures. See *Imagination* at the Frog Pond, *Circle of Life* at the Lafayette Mall on the Boston Common, *Peace and Unity* and *The Snow Queen* at Copley Square, and *The Husky* at Northeastern's Krentzman Quad.

PARADE

Grand Procession
This Mardi Gras–style parade features marching bands, floats, music, puppets and cultural displays. If you're feeling spontaneous, you can dance along in the procession with the Spontaneous Samba Band. *Boylston Street at Gloucester Street to Charles Street and on to Beacon Street. 5:30pm. $FN.*

PARTIES

Black Goose Party
Here you will find hors d'oeuvres, a DJ and a champagne toast, but the major news involves the bar: for your $50, it's open from 8pm till midnight. *The Black Goose, 21 Beacon St., Boston (617-720-4500). 8pm. $50.*

Caprice Party
Caprice is open till 4am, which is good because you're going to need some time to digest the four-course dinner that's being served. And of course there'll be champagne and the other accoutrements you'd expect. *Caprice, 275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080). Seatings at 7pm and 9:30pm. $100.*

The "Last Night" 5K Foot Race
This race starts at 11:35pm, so you should be in the vicinity of the finish line at the stroke of midnight. Pre- and post-race parties will be at the VFW George Dilboy Post, where there will be a cash bar and food from Out of the Blue restaurant. New Year's costumes encouraged. *Start at the Winter Hill Federal Savings Bank on Cutter Street in Davis Square, Somerville (617-625-2140). 11:35pm. $18 in advance, $20 day of race, which includes a long-sleeve commemorative T-shirt.*

Pho Republique
With hors d'oeuvres, a buffet and a DJ spinning tunes all night, this could be the place to go if your ideal New Year's includes Nantucket oysters with wasabi aioli and lounge music. *Pho Republique, 1415 Washington St., Boston (617-262-0005). $50.*

Pool Party
Boston Billiards Club delivers the mandatory New Years Eve fare—champagne toast, party favors, buffet, dancing and DJ—but they've also got the tables if you want to shoot some stick. *Boston Billiard Club, 126 Brookline Ave., Boston (617-536-POOL). $125 for a table for four.*

Une Nuit à Paris
Les Zygomates is offering up dinner and dancing for those looking to have a Gaellic old time for New Year's Eve. The prix-fixe menu includes choices like warm duck confit salad and filet mignon with foie gras, and there will also be a crepe station starting at 10pm. Music all night. *Les Zygomates Wine Bar and Bistro, 129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). $75.*



If you don't want to stay up till 2002, at 7pm the early-bird fireworks will light up the Common.

Ryles Jazz Club Extravaganza
Upstairs it's salsa and merengue dancing (including hors d'oeuvres). Downstairs Herman Johnson plays jazz and jazz-funk, and there's a champagne toast at midnight. *Ryles Jazz Club, 212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). $20 per person dancing, $80 per couple for jazz downstairs.*

The Resolution Ball
Put on the black tie for this one. A champagne reception, hors d'oeuvres and a dessert buffet will fuel dancing into the new year. There will also be a silent auction. *Colonnade Hotel Grand Ballroom, 120 Huntington Ave., Boston. $85 by Dec. 30, $110 at the door. 8:30pm-2am.*

First Evening Party
The party may span the years 2001 and 2002, but the decor will be all 1930s at this one. There will be Prohibition-era gaming, martini bars and classic movies showing on big screens. Bellevue Cadillac and DJ Wes Jr. provide the tunes. Black tie suggested, coat and tie required. *Hynes Convention Center Grand Ballroom, 900 Boylston St., Boston (617-451-2787). $100 in advance, $125 at the door. 9pm-2am.*

Back in Black New Year's Eve Gala
Eight bars, hors d'oeuvres, a DJ plus live music by the Strangers and the requisite midnight balloon drop are offered at the 11th annual iteration of this event. *Hyatt Regency Hotel Grand Ballroom, Memorial Drive, Cambridge (617-367-VOICE). 8:30pm-1:30am. First 100 tickets sold $55, next 300 tickets $65, $75 thereafter. Tickets must be ordered in advance.*

Roxy New Year's Eve
This New Year's blowout will feature a balloon drop and champagne toast at midnight, party favors and a continental breakfast. Hosted by Kiss 108's Kid David. *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-ROXY). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 9pm-3am. $75.*

Top of the Hub and Skywalk Parties
At the Top of the Hub, on the 52nd floor of the Prudential, they're serving up an extravagant five-course dinner, along with a champagne reception, hors d'oeuvres and martini bar. Entertainment will be provided by the Maggie Galloway Quintet. Meanwhile, down at the Skywalk on the 50th floor, there will be a lavish buffet and entertainment by the Common Ground Band. *The Top of the Hub and the Skywalk, 800 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1775). Top of the Hub: 8pm, $195. Skywalk: 9pm, $150.*

Black and White New Year's Eve Gala
A dinner buffet, open bar from 8-10pm, and music from the Swingin' Cats jazz ensemble and Central Basement ought to get the Harvard Club hopping. Kiss 108's Matt Siegel will be the guest emcee. *The Harvard Club, 374 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-931-2000). 8pm-2am. $100 in advance, $125 at the door (if available).*

PERFORMANCES

Maximum Velocity
This professional bicycle and in-line skating stunt team demonstrates some sick moves in three performances. *Exhibit Hall D, Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston. 1-1:15pm, 2:30-2:45pm; 4:15-4:30pm. $FN.*

Culture Jam
Dynasty Productions, The Ateebah Dancers, the Soca Boys, the All Stylz Crew, OrigiNation and the O'Shea-Chaplin Academy of Irish Dance put on performances ranging from break dancing to a steel band. *The Cyclorama, 539 Tremont St., Boston. 8-11pm. $FN.*

Immersion Music Salon
A collaboration between video artists and electronic musicians, this is billed as a new kind of performance art for the digital future. *Room 112, Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston. 2-6pm, 7-11pm. $FN.*

Boston Poetry Slam
Poets lay their souls bare for the audience, as they perform original work and receive critiques from the crowd. *Boston Center for the Arts Black Box, 539 Tremont St., Boston. 6-11pm. $FN.*

The Skyriders
The performers in this trampoline stunt show wear skis, snowboards and wake boards. Just imagine what they could do outdoors. *Exhibit Hall D, Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston. 1:25-2pm, 3:15-3:30pm, 4:45-5pm. $FN.*

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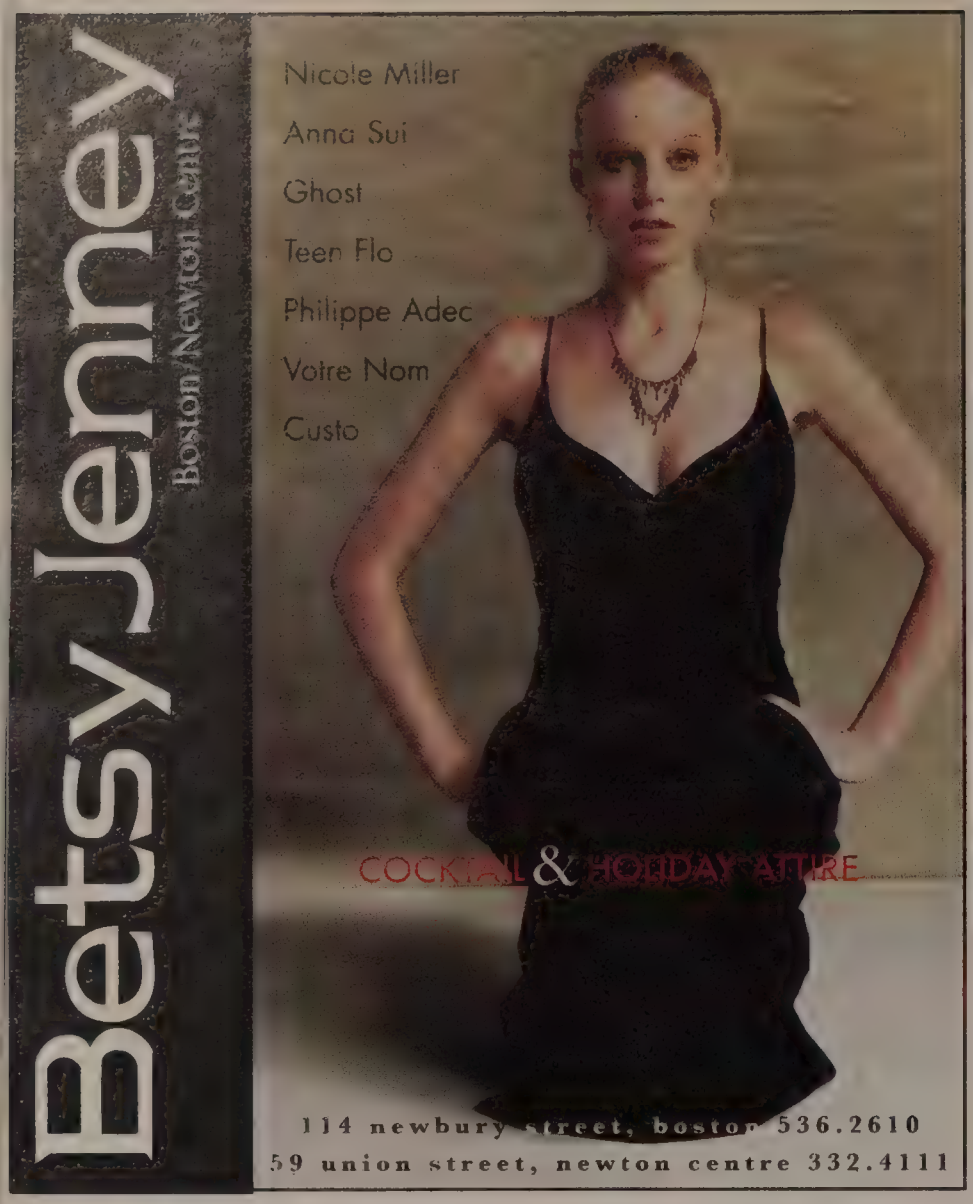
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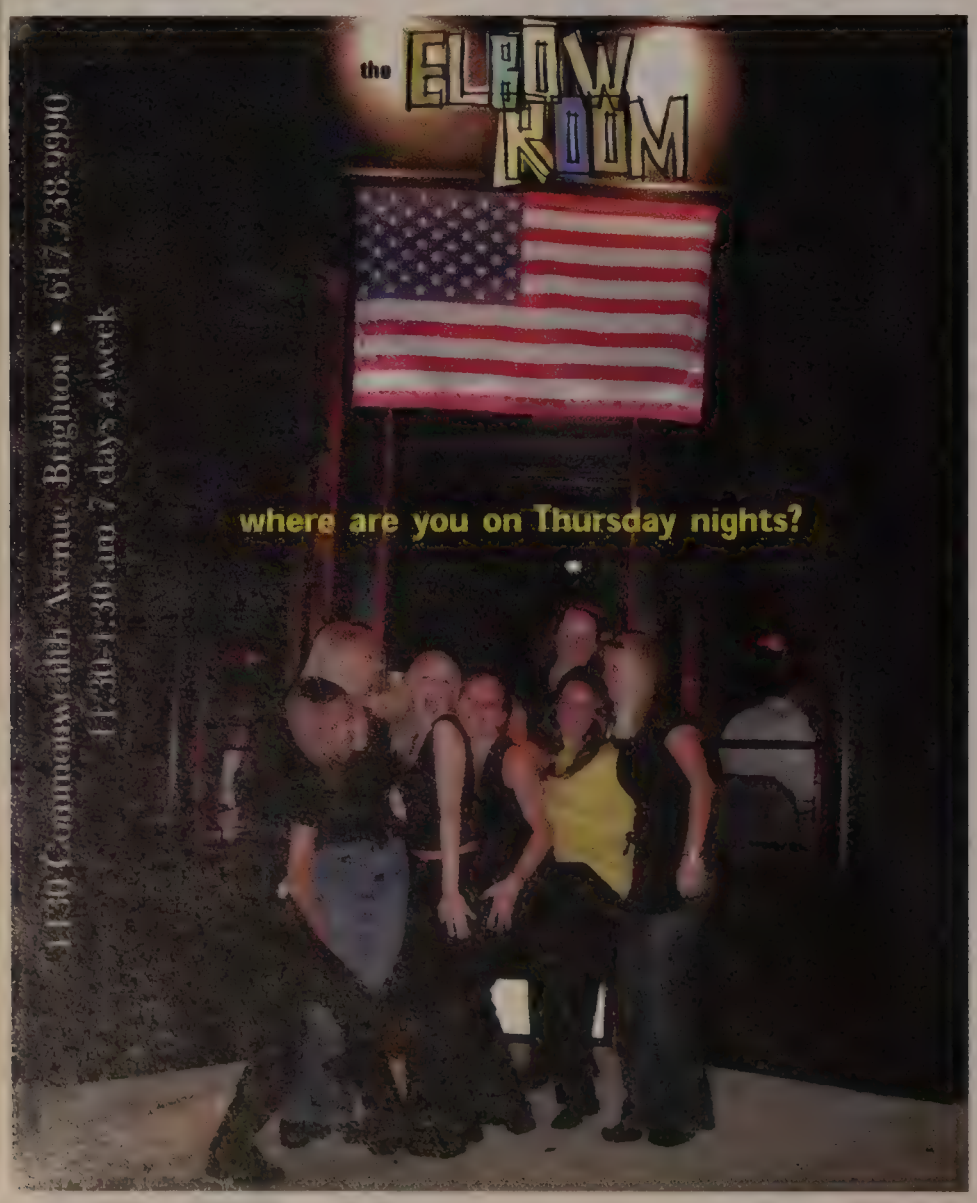
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Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases for festival, event and benefit listings by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: CityScope. Or e-mail information to cityscope@improper.com. Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.

Advice to Readers
The following is a list of festivals, events and benefits taking place in the Boston area by date.

FRIDAY, DEC. 21

Martinis with Mrs. Claus
La Boom, One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800), www.ypro.com. 8pm. $35. For the dough, it's hard to go wrong with this one. Y-Pro (the Young Professionals of New England) and La Boom are offering a premium three-hour open bar and appetizers, lounging and dancing till 2am and an Audi Quattro weekend giveaway—that would be just the thing to get your young professional set up to the ski resort this time of year, now wouldn't it? A portion of the proceeds will benefit Lazarus House, Bread & Roses and the Sept. 11 Fund.

Holiday Meals and Gift Baskets with Community Servings
125 Magazine St., Roxbury (617-445-7777) www.servings.org. Meal packaging on the morning of Dec. 21, meal delivery on the morning of Dec. 22. Community Servings, Boston's meals program for individuals and families affected by HIV and AIDS, is looking for holiday volunteers to help get food and gift baskets out to the people it helps.

MONDAY, DEC. 24

The 4th Annual Schmooze and Booze at the Big Easy
The Big Easy, One Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. 9pm-2am. $25. Join professionals ages 21-40 and do as the moniker says—schmooze and booze—into the wee hours of Christmas morning.

Christmas Eve Service
King's Chapel, 58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. 4:30 and 10:30pm. Enjoy carols and a candlelight service.

Christmas at Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). 10:30pm, and 11am Christmas Day. Participate in a manger service and a tree lighting ceremony.

The J Ball
Sophia's, 1270 Boylston St., Boston and Veronique Ballroom, 20 Chapel St., Brookline (617-312-5410) www.thejconnection.com. $20 in advance, $25 at the door. This Jewish singles event is divided into two parts: The 20s and 30s crowd goes to Sophia's and the 35-plus crowd goes to Veronique. At both places, there will be salsa and merengue dancing.

Matzo Ball
Avalon, 15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). www.matzoball.org. MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. 8pm. $15, $20 at the door. Another event for Jewish singles, offering hors d'oeuvres and dancing.

MONDAY, DEC. 31

New Year's Eve
See page 48 for complete listings.

TUESDAY, JAN. 1

L Street Brownies Dip in the Bay
L Street Gym, 1663 Columbia Road, South Boston (617-635-5104). Around 11:00am. What started out 95 years ago as a casual dip in the Dorchester Bay by seven middle-aged men—clad only in tiny bathing suits—has become something of an international New Year's phenomenon. More than 200 L Street Brownies, including women and children, will (voluntarily) brave freezing cold temperatures and plunge into the icy bay.

FRIDAY, JAN. 4

World of Wheels Motorsports Expo
Bayside Expo Center, Boston (617-367-3555). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Jan. 4, 5-11pm; Jan. 5, 10am-11pm; Jan. 6, 10am-9pm. $13 adults, $4 children 4-12. The World of Wheels show holds the Bayside Expo Center's weekend attendance record of 100,000-plus visitors. The 28th annual installment of this event will display insane custom vehicles, as well as replacement parts, accessories and automotive gadgets. So if you've been looking for a giant "Honda" windshield decal for your Civic EX automatic, this is the place to get one.

SATURDAY, JAN. 5

Sociedad Latina's Annual Three Kings Celebration
Tobin Community Center, 1481 Tremont St., Mission Hill (617-442-4299). Over 100 low-income families have requested that their children receive gifts from the Three Kings, should you feel like making a donation. At the event, volunteers distribute the gifts, while parents can participate in a number of parenting workshops.

SUNDAY, JAN. 6

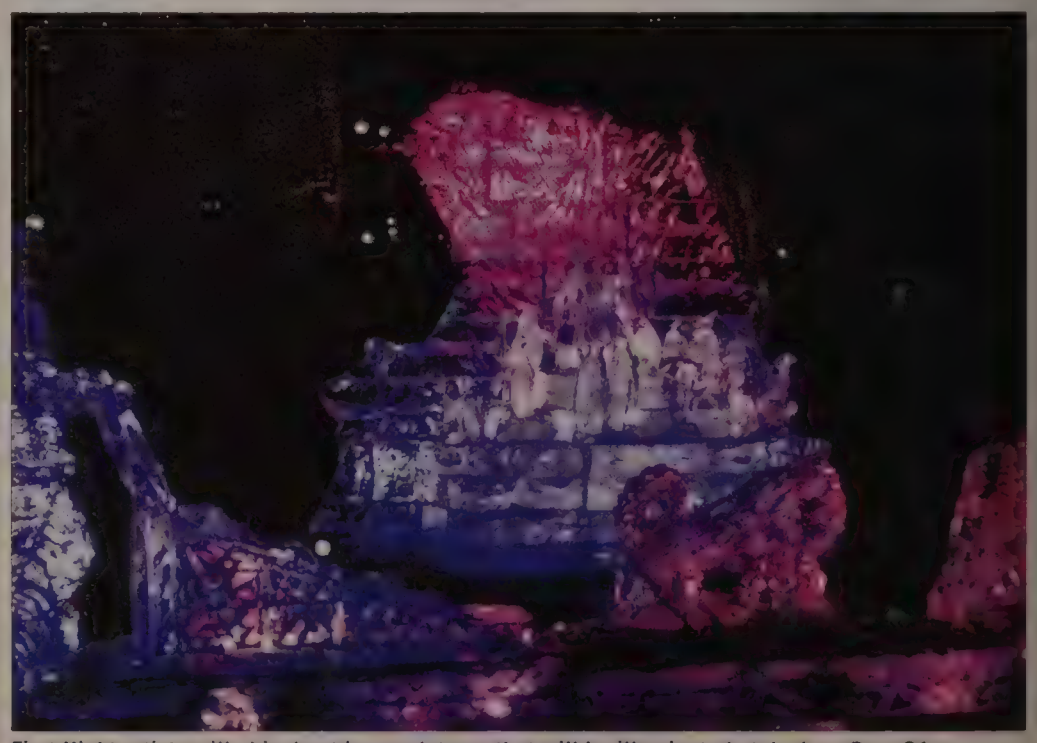
Mary Robinson Human Rights Talk
JFK Library, Columbia Point, Boston (617-929-4500), www.jfklibrary.org. 4-5:30pm. Mary Robinson, United Nations High Commissioner and former President of Ireland, will give a talk on the role of human rights throughout the world. The lecture is part of the library's special forum series, "Responding to Terror."

Ongoing Holiday Happenings

Holiday Tree on the Boston Common
Boston Common, Tremont Street, Boston (617-635-4505). MBTA: Green Line to Park. The Boston Common's tree and display celebrates its 61st year.

Celebrate the Lights on Commonwealth Avenue
Arlington Street & Comm. Ave., Boston (617-635-4505). Celebrate the Lights as Commonwealth Avenue is illuminated for the holiday season.

Holiday Tree Lighting at CopleySquare
Copley Square, Boston (617-536-2101). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 4-5pm. The Copley Square tree stands proud in the shadow of the Trinity Church.



First Night artists will chisel out ice sculptures that will be illuminated at dusk on Dec. 31.





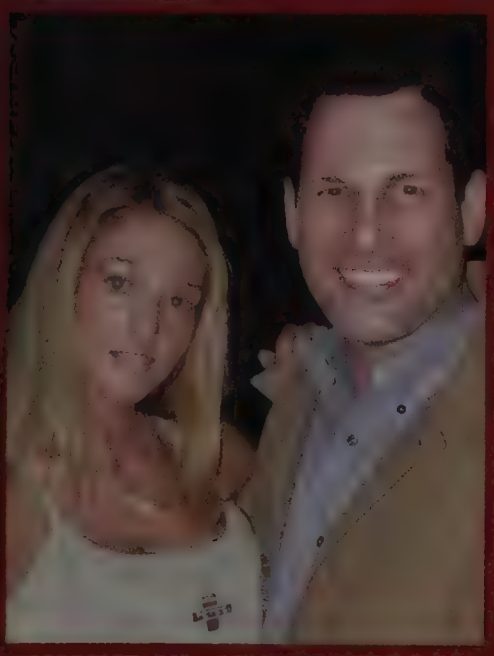




Happy Holidays









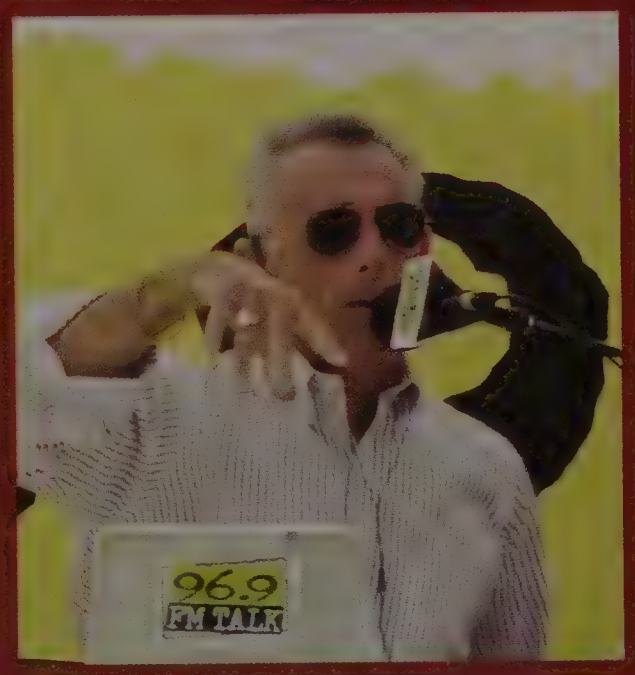












Thank you who've made

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this year so much fun!

RACK





















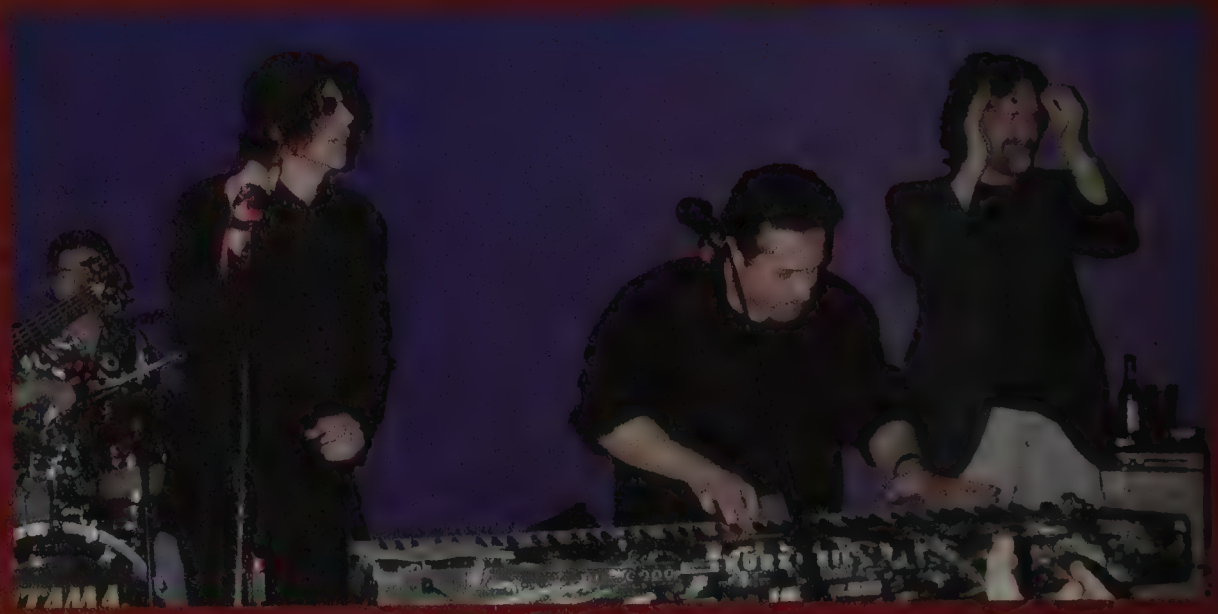
God Bless America

THE RACK

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Fun with the fans: Bruins star Joe Thornton hangs out at last year's Charity Carnival with the "Go Joes," a group of enthusiastic supporters who attend every home game.

Preview

Carnival of Goodwill

Meet your favorite players and help the United Way at the Bruins Wives' Charity Carnival

Back in 1990, Christiane Bourque, Barb Wesley, Rona Lemelin and the rest of the Bruins players' wives founded the Bruins Wives' Charity Carnival to raise money for a Boston charity. Every year since then, the wives and girlfriends have gotten together and voted on a new charity to get the proceeds, with the only conditions being that the money must be spent in the Boston area and must assist children in some way. This year, the United Way of Massachusetts Bay Unity Fund has been chosen to receive the money raised.

The Carnival, which has raised more than $1.6 million to date, hits the FleetCenter Jan. 6. If it looks like you're not going to get drafted by the NHL anytime soon, this might be your best chance to rub elbows with your hockey heroes (or at least get their autographs). And attractions for the kids include stuff like table hockey games and rides on a mini-Zamboni. Bonus: This is one FleetCenter event where you *can* take photos. So when you tell your friends that you beat Joe Thornton at bubble hockey, you'll have proof.

The Boston Bruins Wives' Charity Carnival, the FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2222) www.bostonbruins.com. Jan. 6, 3:30-6:30pm. $14 adults, $7 children age 12 and under, children under 5 free.—Ezra Dyer

Downtown Crossing Holiday Tree Lighting
Downtown Crossing, Boston (800-4-EVENT-2). MBTA: Red or Orange Lines to Downtown Crossing. Through Jan. 31. Free. Holiday bell ringing, choirs, concerts and visits from Santa creates a fun and free outdoor festival as Filene's, Macy's and other Downtown Crossing stores get decked out for Christmas and the holidays. Holiday windows spotlight classic stories along Summer Street.

Enchanted Village
City Hall Plaza, Boston (617-635-3911). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. 10am-7pm, 10am-5pm Christmas Eve, closed Christmas Day. Through Jan. 1. $1. The make-believe, snow-covered New England town is populated entirely by children, teddy bears, animals and Santa Claus. Performers entertain the crowd.

Faneuil Hall Holiday Entertainment
Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-523-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center. Dec. 22 and 29, 1-3pm. Costumed performers roam around and serenade shoppers with holiday songs. We wish ye a merry trip to Abercrombie.

Holiday Skating at the Frog Pond
Frog Pond, Boston Common, Boston (617-635-2121). MBTA: Red Line to Park. Sun.-Thu., 10am-9pm (except Mon., 10am-5pm); Fri.-Sat., 10am-10pm. $3. Skate rentals $5, lockers available for $1. Dec. 25-Jan. 1. After skating, warm your tummy and toes in the Frog Pond Cottage with mugs of hot chocolate.

Holly Jolly Christmas Trolley
The Trolley Stop Store, corner of Boylston and South Charles Street, Boston (617-269-3626). 9am-4pm daily through Dec 30. Snug inside a heated trolley, guests experience the candlelit windows of Beacon Hill, the Back Bay's historic Gibson House, the *USS Constitution* decked out in its holiday finery and the Prudential Center's 50-foot holiday tree. Each tour includes storytelling and caroling and a stop for cookies and hot cocoa at the Frog Pond.

Prudential Center Tree Lighting
Prudential Center, South Garden, Boston (877-276-7884). Boston's largest tree is illuminated each night with great ceremony.

Winter Wonderland Holiday Train Display
South Station, corner of Summer Street and Atlantic Ave., Boston. Large, G-scale model trains choo-choo around a 400-square-foot winter wonderland. This year that includes a mountaintop fantasy village, complete with a cog railway climbing the slope.



performing arts

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Theater. Or e-mail information to performing@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates and times, and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Tickets

Bostix
(617-723-5181). www.boston.com/artsboston. *Booths located at Faneuil Hall (on the south side of Faneuil Hall) and Copley Square (at the corner of Boylston and Dartmouth).* Same-day tickets at half price.

Next Ticketing
(617-423-NEXT). www.boston.com/next.

Ticketmaster
(617-931-2000). www.ticketmaster.com.

Out of Town Tickets
(617-247-1300 or 800-442-1854) This is a good place to get tickets if a show is sold out at the box office.

Theater
JUST OPENED

American Notes
Coyote Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Jan. 3-26. $17-$24. This show, written by three-time Obie Award winner Len Jenkin, takes audiences on a journey through nocturnal America. The action is made up of a series of concurrent events involving an eclectic crew of characters who risk falling through he cracks of a fabled American society.

Another American: Asking and Telling
Trinity Repertory Theater, Downstairs Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Jan. 4-Feb. 10. $28-$42. Playwright and actor Marc Wolf gives voice to those silenced by the military's controversial "don't ask, don't tell" policy. After interviews with hundreds of soldiers, veterans, advocates and critics, Wolf creates 20 characters who show every side of this divisive issue.

A Christmas Carol
New Repertory Theatre, 54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands (617-332-1646). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Highlands. Dec. 19-23. $20. This entertaining adaptation by Rick Lombardo is set in a 1930s radio station during a live broadcast.

Contact
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Dec. 27-Jan. 6. $25-$75. A cast of 24 dancers/actors captivate and seduce the audience by performing to a wide range of music—from Stephane Grappelli's rendition of Rodgers & Hart's "My Heart Stood Still," to pieces by Grieg, Tchaikovsky and Bizet to Robert Palmer, Dean Martin, The Beach Boys and The Squirrel Nut Zippers.

Curve 9: A Sci-Fi Rock Opera
The Nexus Theatre Center, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Jan. 5-26. $25. Rocky Horror meets *Star Trek* with funky tunes composed by local musician Brian Weissman, wild dance numbers and costumes that turn punk inside out. A neo-futuristic Noah fills his ark with genetic samples instead of animals two by two.

Disney on Ice
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Dec. 27, 1 and 5pm; Dec. 28, 11am, 3pm and 7pm; Dec. 29, 11am, 3pm and 7pm; Dec. 30, 1 and 5pm. $10-$42. This ice show highlights four Disney classics: *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Cinderella, 101 Dalmatians* and *The Little Mermaid.*

Heartbreak House
The Huntington Theatre Company, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-266-0800). Tue.-Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Jan. 4-Feb. 3. $12-$58. George Bernard Shaw's witty account of those in search of love and marriage sets the tone for this revolving specter of unlikely romantic encounters.

The Ritalin Readings
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jan. 4-5. $10. Each night features six to eight different short plays and live music by local artists.

Preview

The Peak of His Career

David Patrick Kelly reigns supreme in Luigi Pirandello's *Enrico IV* at the ART



David Patrick Kelly plays a delusional Italian nobleman who believes he's Emporer Henry IV.

Only hard-core fans of *Twin Peaks* will recognize the name David Patrick Kelly. For the rest of us, it may take a moment to recall the actor who played kooky Uncle Jerry Horne on the popular early '90s television show (remember the guy who salivated over French baguettes and brie?).

Now Kelly—a noted screen and stage actor—is in town to perform the lead role in Luigi Pirandello's tragicomedy *Enrico IV* at the American Repertory Theatre through Jan. 13. He plays a wealthy Italian nobleman who, after a horse-riding accident, believes himself to be Emperor Henry IV of Germany. Pirandello's premise is not so different from a bizarre David Lynch plot: For 20 years, the nobleman's friends and servants have pandered to his fantasy, dressing as medieval courtiers and decorating his villa as a royal palace. When the clouds of amnesia start to lift, Henry finds it difficult to escape the realm of his imagination. Kelly recognizes some similarities between the two writers, but says "They're different forms of genius: Lynch is very American, with a more painterly, visual point of view, whereas Pirandello had a classic European approach to his art."

Yet Pirandello alludes to the entire history of German philosophy—everyone from Hegel to Nietzsche—within the simple constructs of his storyline. "The show reminds me of TS Eliot's poems—they're layered, in a most simple way, but discuss complex ideas," Kelly says. "It's really about the effects of time and the illusions we create to deal with the passage of time. Unless we're saints or heroes, most of us regret time lost." *American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 13. $26-$61. —Julie Short*

The Santaland Diaries
Copley Theatre, 225 Clarendon St., Boston (617-747-4468). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Through Dec. 30. $23.50-$37.50. David Sedaris' semiautobiographical short story offers an elf's-eye view of Santaland at Macy's in New York.

Shel's Shorts: Signs of Trouble and Shel Shocked
Market Theater, One Winthrop Square, Cambridge (617-576-0808). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 7-Jan. 27 (Signs of Trouble) *and Dec. 29-Jan. 26* (Shel Shocked). *$35 each (or $60 for both).* See two separate programs of dark and funny, never-before-produced short plays by Shel Silverstein in repertory with one ensemble cast of six actors, one set and two directors.

NOW RUNNING

Annie
Turtle Lane Playhouse, 283 Melrose St., Newton (617-244-0169). MBTA: Green Line to Newton Highlands. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Dec. 26-30. $21, $15 children. Leaping lizards! It's the ultimate rags-to-riches story.

Blue Man Group
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 7pm and 10pm; Sun., 3 and 6pm. $43 and $53. There's no dialogue, but somehow this multimedia production manages to get its point across with tribal rock music, humorous antics, props and three men painted blue.

A Child's Christmas in Wales
Lyric West Theatre, Mass. Bay Community College, 50 Oakland St., Wellesley (781-235-0488). Fri., 8pm; Sat.-Sun., 2 and 5pm. Through Dec. 23. $27-$32. Set in a tiny Welsh fishing village at the beginning of the 20th century, this is the tale of a young boy's remembrances of past Christmases.

A Christmas Carol
North Shore Music Theatre, 62 Dunham Road, Beverly (978-232-7200). Tue., 8pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 23. $18-$56. This musical adaptation of the Dickens classic stars David Coffee.

A Christmas Carol
Stoneham Theatre, 359 Main St., Stoneham (781-279-2200). Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Dec. 23. $25-$35. Scrooge, Marley, Tiny Tim and friends star in this musical.

A Christmas Carol
Trinity Repertory Theater, 201 Washington St., Providence (401-521-1100). Tue., 7pm; Wed., 2 and 8pm; Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Dec. 28. $28-$42. Charles Dickens' tale is complete with singing, dancing and special theatrical effects.

Christmas Revels
Sanders Theatre, Harvard University, Cambridge (617-496-2222). Dec. 20-23 and 26-30. $12-$30. Travel to the golden age of the Revels—from Henry VIII's court to the coronation of the young Queen Elizabeth and the flowering of the Renaissance—with music, plays and entertainment.

Dancing at the Revolution
The Theatre Cooperative, 277 Broadway, Somerville (617-625-1300, ext. 1). MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Through Dec. 22. $20. Award-winning playwright Michael Bettencourt creates social activist Emma Goldman's prison world.

Enrico IV
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 13. $26-$61. See the preview box above.

Footloose on Ice
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Through Dec. 23. $14-$62. Two-time Olympic medalist Nancy Kerrigan stars opposite two-time US National skating champion Scott Davis in this revival of the '80s classic.

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change
Stuart Street Playhouse (formerly The 57 Theatre), 200 Stuart St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5pm and 8:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7pm. Ongoing. $29.50-$49. Everything you've secretly thought about dating, romance, marriage, lovers, husbands, wives and in-laws but were afraid to admit is celebrated in this absolutely hilarious musical review of the modern-day mating game.

Musical! The Holiday Musical
Lyric Stage Company, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 23, 7pm. $16. This improv troupe takes audience suggestions of song titles that have never been written, plots and characters from the holiday movies you've grown to love (or hate) and improvises a musical extravaganza each night.

Nutcrackers: The Nunsense Christmas Musical
Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon St., Boston (617-437-7172). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thu., 7:30pm; Fri., 8pm; Sat., 4 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Dec. 29. $20-$36. Those wacky nuns are back—this time filming a television special in a cable access studio.

Othello
American Repertory Theatre, 64 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-8300). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Through Jan. 17. $26-$61. This production of *Othello* boasts a cosmopolitan cast. Russian director Yuri Yeremin and Yugoslavian import Mirjana Jokovic contribute their European theatrical experience to the staging of *Othello* in America.

Performance Cult
The Actors Workshop, 40 Boylston St., Boston (781-891-1188). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 30, 7:30pm. $7. A host of seasoned Boston-area actors, dancers and storytellers present a series of short original vignettes.

Shear Madness
Charles Playhouse, 74 Warrenton St., Boston (617-426-6912). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 6:30 and 9:30pm; Sun., 3 and 7:30pm. Ongoing. $30-$34. This hilarious whodunit is set in a unisex hair salon. The production holds the record as the longest-running play in the history of Boston theater.

Six Degrees of Separation
The Nexus Theatre Center, 255 Elm St., Somerville (617-623-1209). Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 3 and 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Through Dec. 23. $25. This play by John Guare is the winner of the New York Critics Circle Award for Best Play, the Hull Warriner Award and the Obie. It's a deeply provocative tragicomedy of race, class and manners.

South Pacific
Colonial Theatre, 106 Boylston St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 and 8pm; Sun., 2 and 7:30pm. Through Dec. 23. $25-$75. Screen star Michael Nouri stars in this Rodgers & Hammerstein's classic. Winner of nine Tony Awards, the show is based on the Pulitzer prize–winning novel by James Michener. Set on an island paradise during World War II, parallel love stories recast the dangers of prejudice and war.

The Xmas Files
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-ARTS). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Dec. 20-21, 8pm; Dec. 22, 2 and 8pm. $20.50. One night of short holiday-themed comedic plays about fruitcakes—the kind you eat and the kind you break up with.

The Vagina Monologues
The Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-931-2787). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Jan. 8-20. Eve Ensler is back for the final run of her monologue on the wonders of vaginas.

UNIVERSITY THEATER

Can You Spell Me, Darryl Loomis?
Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Cambridge (617-495-8675). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 4, 8pm; Jan. 5, 2:15 and 8pm. $4. A high school spelling champion stows away on his uncle's submarine.

INTERACTIVE THEATER

Medieval Manor Theatre
246 East Berkeley St., Boston (617-423-4900). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9:30pm; Sun., 6pm. $24-$38. As guest of the king, you can feast on a six-course banquet consumed entirely with your hands.

Dance

Body Tales
Mobius, 354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). Nov. 29-Dec. 30, 8pm. $10. Alissa Cardone, Alla Kovgan and Dedalus Wainwright present a collaboration of dance, video, sound and constructions.

A Dancer's Christmas
Robsham Theater Arts Center, Boston College, Chestnut Hill (617-552-4800). Through Dec. 23, 2 and 8pm. $15-$20. Boston Liturgical Dance Ensemble presents a dance version of traditional Christmas scripture stories.

The Nutcracker
The Wang Theatre, 270 Tremont St., Boston (617-695-6950) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Mon., noon; Wed., 2 and 7:30pm; Thurs., 7:30pm; Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2 and 7:30pm; Sun., 1 and 5:30pm; with additional matinees on Dec. 21 and 27, 2pm. Through Dec. 30. $14-$65. The story of Clara and the magical toy nutcracker that takes her on a journey to the Land of the Sweets.

The Nutcracker at José Mateo's Ballet Theatre
400 Harvard St., Cambridge (617-354-7467) MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu., Fri. and Sat., 7:30pm; Sun.,

M.J. O'Connor's
irish pub



Christmas Eve - Open Late

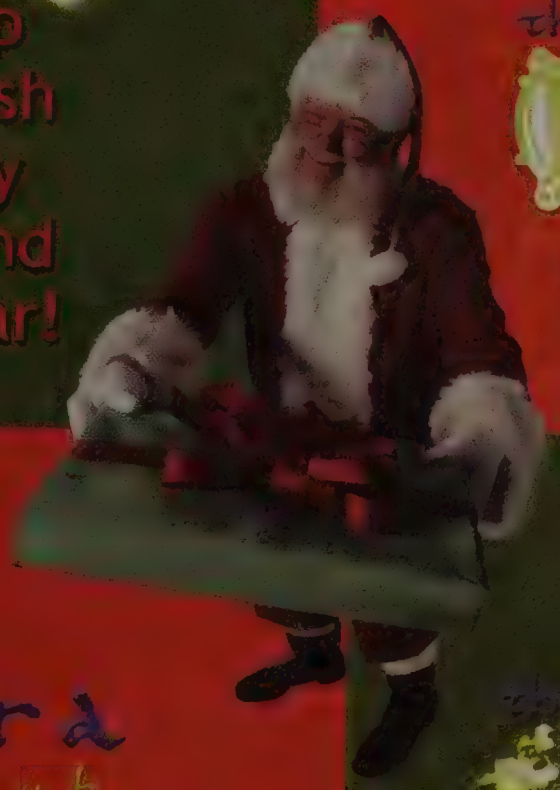
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Dinner 3:00pm-9:00pm
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***The Xmas Files*, an evening of skits mocking the holidays, plays at the Boston Center for the Arts Dec. 20-22.**

6:30pm; Sat. and Sun. matinees, 2pm. Through Dec. 30. $25, $29. More than 200 children from New England join the professional cast, and the more intimate setting gives the audience a close-up view of the new sets and choreography.

Stomp
Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston (617-423-4008) MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 and 9pm; Sun., 2 and 7pm. Through Jan. 6. $25-$52.50. Due to popular demand, the show has been extended into the month of January. As stiff-bristle brooms become a sweeping orchestra and zippo lighters flip open and closed in a fiery fugue, *Stomp* uses everything except conventional percussion instruments.

Twelve Dancers Dancing—A Christmas in Cambridge
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363) MBTA: Red Line to Central Square. Dec. 21, 8pm. $15. Now in its third year, *Twelve Dancers Dancing* showcases the works of 12 choreographers and celebrates the season with a collage of dance styles, music and a holiday stories.

Comedy

Advice to Contributors
Submit listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Comedy. Or e-mail info to comedy@improper.com. *Deadline is four weeks prior to publication.*

STAND-UP CLUBS

Chops Lounge
Howard Johnson's, 1271 Boylston St., Boston (617-771-2668). No cover. •Wednesdays, 8:40pm: The Larry Lee Lewis Show. Open-mike comedy.

Comedy Connection
245 Quincy Market Place, Faneuil Hall, Upper Rotunda, Boston (617-248-9700). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center; Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Wed., 8pm; Thu., 8:30pm; Fri. and Sat., 8pm, 10:15pm; Sun., 7pm. $8-$10 (weekend prices vary). The oldest comedy club in Boston draws big-name national comedians on weekends and showcases up-and-coming local talent during the week. •Dec. 19: Dunkin Donuts Loosen Up and Live a Little Comedy Tour with Don Gavin •Dec. 20: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Dec. 21: Boston Headliners •Dec. 22: Boston Headliners •Dec. 23, 9pm: Black Comedy Explosion with Jonathan Gates •Dec. 26: Dunkin' Donuts Loosen Up and Live a Little Comedy Tour •Dec. 27: Frank Santos, the R-Rated Hypnotist •Dec. 28: Dane Cook from *Simon Sez* and *Mystery Men* •Dec. 29: Dane Cook •Dec. 30, 7pm: Dane Cook; 9pm: Black Comedy Explosion with Jonathan Gates •Dec. 31, 7pm ($39-$49), 9pm ($60) and 11:15pm ($39-$49): Steve Sweeney.

The Comedy Studio
The Hong Kong, 1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-661-6507). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. $5-$7. Sketch comedy troupes and local comedians perform. •Dec. 20: Tim McIntire, Mindi Fay, Mike Dorval, Steve Calechman, Tom & Steve and Bob Lazarus •Alana Devich, Dan Newbower, Ray Zapata, Eric Riley Moore and Anwar Floyd-Pruitt with hosts Piston Honda •Dec. 22: Eric Riley Moore, Ira Proctor, Ben Joplin, Pat Keating and Lori Fielder •Dec. 23: Dave Rattigan, Denise Robichau, Steve Calechman, Mike Dorval, Arthur Januario, Noreen Kirkwood and Sam Walters. •Dec. 27: Tim McIntire, Mike Birbiglia, Jeff Goldberg, Troy Pernell and Lori Fielder. •Dec. 28: Piston Honda with Val Kappa, Katie Grady, Joe Dinkin, Jan Davidson and Guilia Rozzi •Dec. 29: Val Kappa, Ross Garmil, Stuart Paup, Jan Davidson, Scott Carney and Katie Grady •Dec. 30: Adam Gropman, Todd Li, Will McNeill, Andy O'Fish and Cyndi Tarnuskis •Jan. 3: Tim McIntire, Caitlin Feeley, Dan Newbower, Ben Murray, Adam Pearlman, Rich Gustus and Mike Dorval •Jan. 4: Piston Honda with DJ Hazard, Sean Crespo, Melissa Shaw, Jeff Stern and Teresa Craggan •Jan. 5: DJ Hazard, Rick Jenkins, Christopher Hamman, Andrew O'Fish, Walter Dixon, Todd Andrews and Paul Shea. •Jan. 6: Sam Walters, Jim McCue, Andrew O'Fish, James Patterson, John Lincoln and Pat O'Shea.

Dick Doherty's Comedy Vault
Remington's, 124 Boylston St., Boston (781-729-2565). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Thu.-Sun., 9pm. $10. Features local stand-up comedians. Thursdays: Comedie du Jour improv comedy troupe.

Nick's Comedy Stop
100 Warrenton St., Theatre District, Boston (617-423-2900). Ticket prices $10-$22. •Dec. 27, 8:30pm; Dec. 28-29, 8:45: Kerri Louise, Cal Verducci and PJ Thibodeau •Dec. 31: Paul Nardizzi, George DeMartino and Tom Hayes •Jan. 3, 8:30pm: Paul Gilligan, Charlie Kwaks and Wayne Previdi •Jan. 4-5, 8:45pm: Paul Gilligan, Charlie Kwaks and John Turco.

IMPROV COMEDY

Improv Asylum
216 Hanover St., Boston (617-263-6887). www.improvasylum.com. MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket. Thu., 8pm; Fri. and Sat., 8 and 10pm. Main Stage: $10-$15. On the main stage is a critically acclaimed improvisational and sketch comedy show featuring all-new material. •Wed., 8pm, and Sun., 7:30pm: Best of Improv Asylum.

ImprovBoston at Back Alley Theater
1253 Cambridge St., Inman Square, Cambridge (617-576-1253). MBTA: Red Line to Central. •Dec. 21 and 28, 8pm, $12: *The ImprovBoston Holiday Spectacular*, an improvisational show of music, video and sketches. •Dec. 20 and 27, 7pm, $5: *Micetro* is a competition in which only the funniest survive. •Dec. 21, and 28, 10:30pm, $12: *TheatreSports Boston* is a fast-paced competition that pits two teams against each other as the audience judges their improvisational skills. •Dec. 22, and 29, 8 and 10:30pm, $12: ImprovBoston constantly reinvents itself through music, sketches, audience participation and improvisation. •Dec. 23, and 30, 7pm, $5: *Sergeant Culpepper Memorial Improvisational Jamboree* pays homage to the WWI military officer who entertained troops with his original style of comedy.

COMEDY SHOWS

Holiday Ham
ClubCafe, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Dec. 19-22, 7pm. $25-$30. Bring along the Pepto Bismol because Varla Jean Merman (the rumored love child of Ethel Merman and Ernest Borgnine) has a not-to-be-believed "take" on the sacred holiday classics and is nuttier than any fruitcake. The Pridelights Foundation brings Merman, Kristine Zbornik and pianist Ricky Ritzel for four holiday benefit shows.

Late Nite Catechism
The Shubert Theatre, 265 Tremont St., Boston (800-447-7400). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Dec. 26-Jan. 6. $20-$40. The irrepressible Sister teaches an adult catechism class to a roomful of students. Over the course of the play, Sister goes from benevolent instructor to demanding drill sergeant. The show is bound to strike a chord with everyone who survived the ups and downs of going to school with an omnisicient authoritarian at the helm.

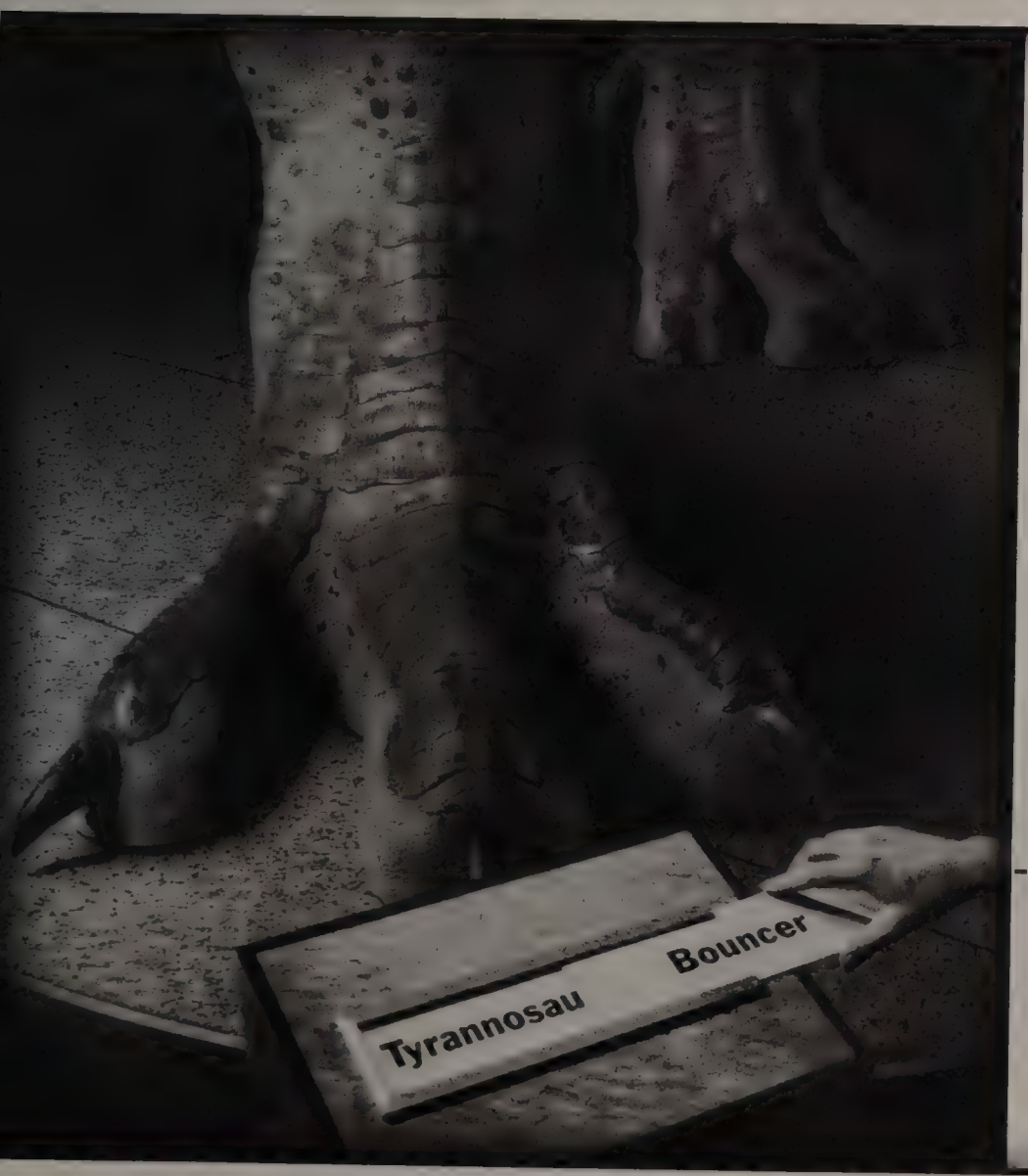
Jimmy Tingle
The Regent Theater, 7 Medford St., Arlington (781-646-4849). Dec. 26-29, 8pm; Dec. 30, 3pm, and Dec. 31, 8pm. $15-$20. This well-known stand-up comedian and social commentator performs his one-man show.

Joey & Maria's Comedy Wedding
Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). MBTA: Orange Line to New England Medical Center. Fri. and Sat., 7pm. $49 (includes dinner). Ongoing. Join the fun at this absolutely zany Italian wedding.

Open Mike Night
Lizard Lounge, 1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-1759). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon., 8-9:30pm. Every Monday night the Lizard Lounge hosts an open mike for the area's best creative talent.

The Sopranos' Last Supper
Tremont Playhouse, 275 Tremont St., Boston (800-944-5639). Dec. 21. $49. This interactive dinner show based on the HBO television series *The Sopranos* is a spoof on an Italian-American mob family.





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Museums

Arthur M. Sackler Museum
485 Broadway, Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $3 students and seniors; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*The Sensuous and the Sublime*, an exhibit of depictions of love, shows through Dec. 30. •Objects from China, Korea and Japan display in *Tradition and Synthesis: Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Works from East Asia*. Through June 9. •*Windshield: Richard Neutra's House for the John Nicholas Brown Family* examines the design process of his first East Coast building. Through Jan. 27.

Boston Public Library
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Thu., 9am-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-5pm. •*From Patagonia to the Pantanal: Tracking the Pulse of Argentina and Brazil* uses photography to explore the fragile ecosystems of each country. Through Dec. 28. •New and old travel photography showcases in *Voyages (per)Formed*. Through Jan. 2.

Davis Museum and Cultural Center
Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley (781-283-2051). Tue., 11am-5pm; Wed.-Thu., 11am-8pm; Fri.-Sat., 11am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. •*Obituary*, an ongoing work by Joseph Bartscherer, comprises 300 front-page obituaries from the *New York Times*. Through Dec. 30. •*Japan from Somewhere Else*, photographs collected by Mary Alice Knox, features 19th-century images of Meiji-era Japan. Through Dec. 30.

DeCordova Museum and Sculptural Park
51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln (781-259-8355). www.decordova.org. *Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Landscapes Seen and Imagined: Senses of Place* is ongoing. •*Terrors and Wonders: Monsters in Contemporary Art* shows through Jan. 6. •*What's Under the Bed? Monsters in Children's Book Illustrations* runs through Jan. 6. •*A Garden of Unearthly Delights* features outdoor sculptor Wendy Ross's work through June 9.

Dreams of Freedom Immigration Museum
Chiu Gallery, 1 Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). www.dreamsoffreedom.org. *MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State Street. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5pm. $7.50.* •*A Chinatown Banquet* is structured like an eight-course Chinese feast. It was created by local artists and Chinatown residents and shows through Feb. 17.

Fogg Art Museum (including Busch-Reisinger Museum)
32 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-495-9400). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. $5, $4 seniors, $3 students; free Wed. evenings and Sat., 10am-12pm. •*Marking Places: Spatial Effects of African Art* features 40 objects produced by sub-Saharan cultures. Through Dec. 31, 2002. •*Self and Object Reconstructed*, paintings by Jon Imber, shows through Jan. 18. •*Extreme Connoisseurship* explores the relationship between artist and observer. Through April 14.

Harvard Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, $5 students and seniors, free Sun., 9am-12pm.* •*Romancing the Stone: The Many Facets of Tourmaline* examines the history of the gemstone and its ornamental uses by various societies. Ongoing. •*Dodos, Trilobites and Meteorites: Treasures of Nature and Science at Harvard* shows through Sept. 2.

Institute of Contemporary Art
955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152). www.icaboston.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Wed.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-9pm. $6, $4 students and seniors.* •*Watery Ecstatic* features paintings and drawings by Ellen Gallagher that explore identity and abstraction. Through Dec. 31. •Free guided walk-through takes place every Thursday at 6:30pm. •*Chic Clicks: Creativity and Commerce in Contemporary Fashion Photography* shows Jan. 23-May 5.

Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
280 The Fenway, Boston (617-566-1401). www.gardnermuseum.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Tue.-Sun., 11am-5pm. $10, $7 seniors, $5 students, under 18 free. Guided tour Fridays, 2:30pm.* The museum's permanent collection features more than 2,500 paintings, sculptures and tapestries. •*Presence* features images in canvases of growing grass through Dec. 30. •*Isabella Gardner's Holiday Table* evokes a circa-1904 Christmas party through Jan. 6.



Norman Laliberté's *A Dawn Bird of Night* is on display with his other paintings at the Chase Gallery.

MIT Museum
265 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-253-4444). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5pm; weekends 12-5pm. $5, $3 students, seniors and $1 children. • The museum's permanent exhibits include *Flashes of Inspiration: The Work of Harold Edgerton* and *Gestural Engineering and Cultural Engineering: The Sculptures of Arthur Ganson*, a mechanical engineer/choreographer. •Interactive exhibit *Robots and Beyond: Exploring Artificial Intelligence at MIT* is ongoing. •*Mind and Hand: The Making of MIT Scientists and Engineers* is an ongoing interactive exhibit. •*Holography: The Light Fantastic* displays an ongoing selection of holograms from the museum's collection.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300). www.mfa.org. *MBTA: E Green Line to Museum. Mon.-Tue., 10am-4:45pm; Wed., 10am-9:45pm; Thu.-Fri., 10am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 10am-9:45pm. West Wing only, Thu. and Fri., 5-9:45pm. $12, students and seniors $10.* •*The Look: Images of Glamour and Style, Photographs by Horst and Hoyningen-Huene* displays through Jan. 6. •*Fashion Photographs by William Wegman* shows through Jan. 6. •*Poetry of the Loom: Persian Textiles in the MFA* displays more than 60 Persian textiles spanning 15 centuries. Through Jan. 21. •*Sophie Ristelhueber: Details of the World* shows through Jan. 21. •*Netsuke: Fantasy and Reality in Japanese Miniature Sculpture* exhibits through March 10. •*The Modern Woodcut* traces the evolution of the modern block print through March 24. •*Faces* presents photographs of the human face through April 28.

Museum of Our National Heritage
33 Marrett Rd., Lexington (781-861-6559). Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •The history of the banjo is examined in *The Banjo: The People and Sounds of America's Folk Instrument*. Through Aug. 25.

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sat.-Thu., 9am-7pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $11 adults, $8 children and seniors.* •Interactive exhibits *Engineer It!* and *K'Nextech* show through Jan. 1. •Mugar Omni Theatre shows *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*, *Journey into Amazing Caves* and *Bears* daily. •Charles Hayden Planetarium presents *Skyfire: Wonders of the Atmosphere*, *Winterlight: Stars and Symbols of the Winter Solstice* and a planetarium show daily.

Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, Salem (978-745-9500). www.pem.org. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 12-5pm. Adults, $10; seniors and students, $8; children under 16, free.* •*The Master Prints of Edward S. Curtis: Portraits of Native America* and *Indian Market: New Directions in Southwestern Native American Pottery* show through March 17.

Galleries
FINE ART

Alianza Gallery
154 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-2385). Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. Sun., 12-5pm. •Jerry Berta's *Diner Show* exhibits through Jan. 5.

Allston Skirt Gallery
450 Harrison Ave. #303, Boston (617-482-3652). Wed.-Sat., 11am-5pm. •*The Devil Is in the Details* shows through Dec. 29. •Jan. 2-24, Kanishka Raja displays paintings and Justin Lieberman shows new work.

Alpha Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4465). www.alphagallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •*About My Garden*, an exhibit by Anne Neely, shows through Jan. 9.

Arden Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-0610). www.ardengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Pamela Sienna's *Wrapped Series* and Robert Jackson's *New Work* show through Dec. 30. •Paul Balmer shows abstract cityscapes in *New Paintings*. Jan. 2-30.

Arlington Center for the Arts
Gibbs Gallery, 41 Foster St., Arlington (781-648-6220). www.acarts.org. *Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm.* •*Winter Wonderland: The Frosty World of Snowdomes* displays winter-inspired artwork through Jan. 18.

Art Institute of Boston
700 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-1223). Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Sun Works: Contemporary Alternative Photography* runs through Jan. 18.

Barbara Krakow Gallery
10 Newbury St., 5th Floor, Boston (617-262-4490). www.barbarakrakowgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10am-5:30pm.* •Bronlyn Jones shows new work through Jan. 16.

Berenberg Gallery
4 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0800). Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*People* shows mixed-media interpretations of the relationship between communities and environments. Through Jan. 5.

Bernard Toale Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-482-2477). www.bernardtoalegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •A curated group show called *The Drawing Show: Selected Works from the Boston Drawing Project* shows through Dec. 29. •Deborah Bright's *Manifest* features new photographs. Jan. 2-26.

Beth Urdang Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Fri., 10:30am-4:30pm; Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. By appointment in January. •*Realism Today* shows the work of nine contemporary painters. Through Dec. 22. •American paintings, sculpture and works on paper display in an ongoing show.

Cambridge Multicultural Arts Center
41 Second St., Cambridge (617-577-1400). MBTA: Green Line to Lechmere. Mon.-Fri., 9:30am-5:30pm. •*Reconstructing Kosovo*, photographs by Glenn Ruga, Frank Ward and Barbara Ayotte, shows through Jan. 11. •*Russian Resurgence*, oil pastels, shows in the upper gallery through Jan. 18.

Chappell Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-2255). www.chappellgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •Glass sculptures by contemporary Japanese artists show in *Variations on Tradition*. Through Dec. 20. •Crossroads, a show of Australian and New Zealand glass sculptures show Jan. 5-Feb. 2.

Chase Gallery
129 Newbury St., Boston (617-859-7222). www.chasegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 1-5pm.* •Norman Laliberté's new paintings show through Dec. 29. •Narda Boughton's *Torsos*, a collection of paintings, shows Jan. 3-28.

Childs Gallery
169 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1108). www.childsgallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Mon. and Sat., 10am-5pm.* •The shows *We Like It So Much*, *Stow Wengenroth* and *Warriors and Heroes* exhibit through Jan. 6.

Clifford Smith Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-695-0255). www.cliffordsmithgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm.* •A group photography show titled *Inside Out*, featuring landscapes and interiors, shows through Dec. 22.

Copley Society
158 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-5049). www.copleysociety.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm.* •*Small Works* features over 500 small paintings through Dec. 24. •*Kathleen Cammarata: An Invitational Exhibition* and *Watercolor Traditions* show Jan. 10-Feb. 2.

Crosstown Arts Inc.
One North Square, Boston (617-720-0100). www.crosstown.com. *Tue.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 9am-1pm or by appointment.* •Peggy Badenhausen shows *Notations*, a collection of paintings and prints, through Dec. 22.

Crump Gallery
622 East Broadway, Boston (617-268-8050). MBTA: Red Line to Broadway. Mon.-Sat., 9am-6pm. The gallery presents an ongoing exhibit of work by artists Jeff Eldrege, Dan McCole, Brian Roach and Norman Crump.

Eclipse Gallery
164 Newbury St., Boston (617-247-6730). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 9am-6pm. •Peter Clemon's new paintings show in *Interior Landscapes* through Jan. 5.

Elias Fine Art
120 Braintree St., Allston (617-783-1888). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Tokyo-based artist Yayoi Kusama shows drawings, paintings and sculpture through Dec. 22. •Sculpture by Alice Swinden Carter shows Jan. 5-Feb. 22.

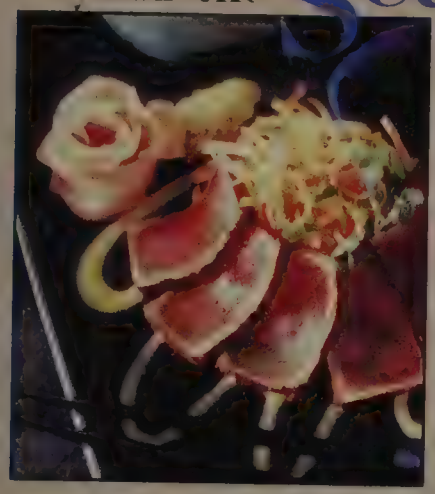
Equator Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4110). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. www.equatorgallery.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun. 12-5pm.* The gallery has an ongoing collection of Latin American art.

Fort Point Arts Community Gallery
300 Summer St., Boston (617-423-4299). www.fortpointarts.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-*



The International Poster Gallery shows art nouveau masterpieces through January.

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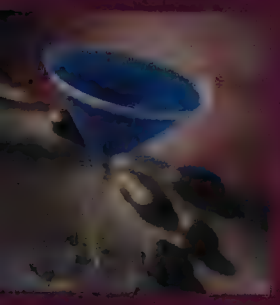


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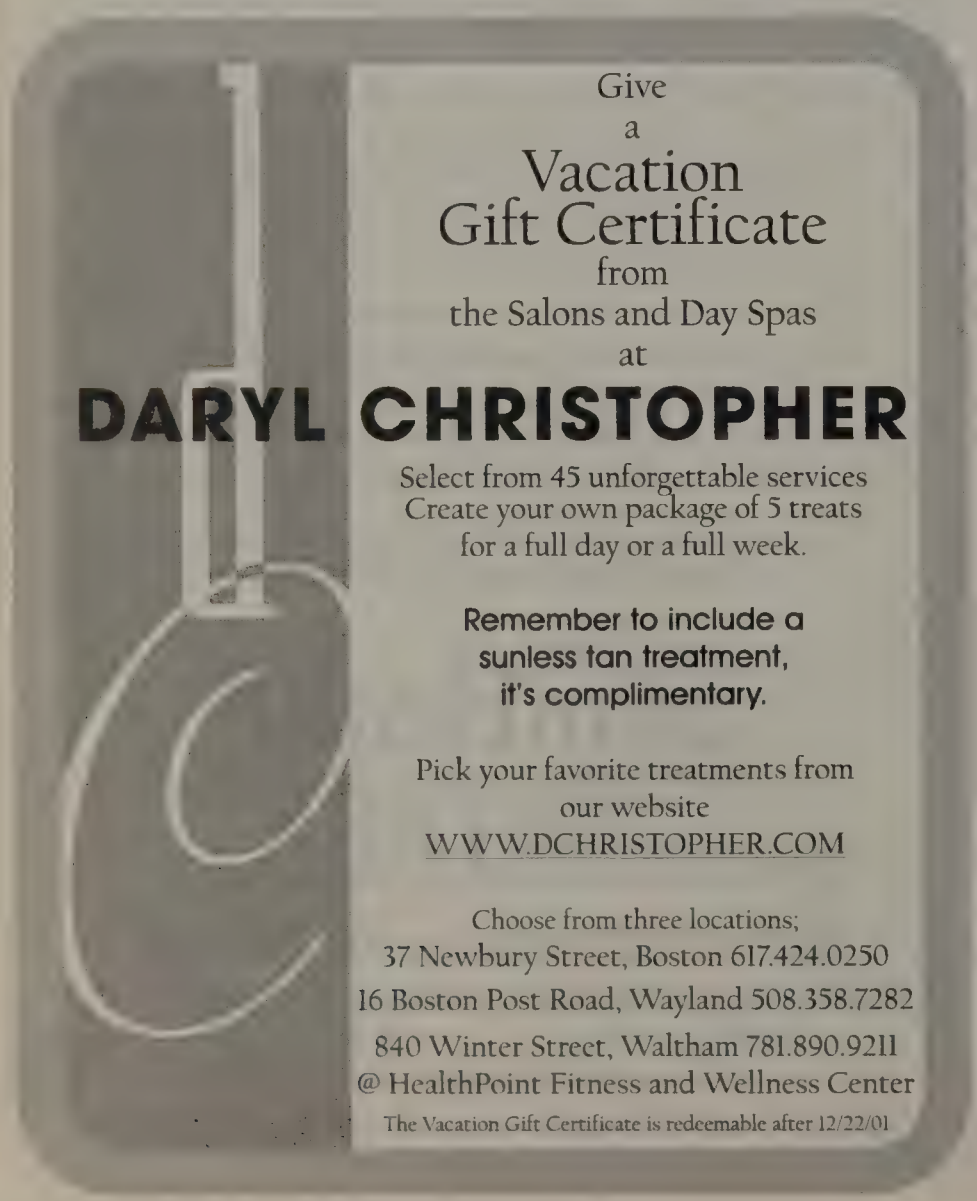
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Fri., 10am-3pm; Sat., 12-5pm. •*The Garden and the Map* embraces the split between Western and Eastern philosophy. Through Dec. 28.

Galerie d'Orsay
33 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-8001). www.galerie-dorsay.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm.* •The gallery presents a holiday show featuring works by impressionist painter Denise Burns and figurative artists Nydia Lozano, Joan Marti and Shota. Through Dec. 31. •Bruno Zupan, Joan Colomer and Robert Caufield display their landscape oil paintings from Jan. 1-30.

Gallery @ Green Street
141 Green St., Jamaica Plain (617-522-0000). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. Tue., 6-9pm; Wed.-Thu., 12-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm. •Debra Giller and Lisa Osborn show their large-scale sculptures through Jan. 5.

Gallery ISO
140 Kemble St., Boston (617-427-4144) MBTA: Red Line to Andrew Station. Thurs. 5pm-9pm., Sat. 11am-4pm. •Through Dec. 31, *Rhythms and Rituals* and *Manmade* are companion exhibits by Cambridge photographer Don Gurewitz.

Gallery NAGA
67 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9060). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.gallerynaga.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Through Dec. 22, Peter Brooke shows new paintings. •Valerie Class shows *Fire and Water* and David Pristi shows *Passage* Jan. 4-26.

Genovese/Sullivan
47 Thayer St., Boston (617-426-9738). Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •Catherine Carter shows new paintings and Hanako Nakazato shows new ceramics through Jan. 2.

Haley & Steele
91 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6339). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-5pm and by appointment. •Through Dec. 31, *Atlantic Neptune Rising* shows 18th-century mariners' charts.

HallSpace
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-989-9985). www.hallspace1.com. *MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. Fri.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Linda Price Sneddon shows *Installation,* her sculptural forms and paintings, through Jan. 5.

Howard Yezerski Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-262-0550). www.howardyezerskigallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Through Dec. 22, the gallery features wood sculptures and drawings by Paul Bowen. •Through Dec. 22, the gallery hosts a benefit show for the Boston Pediatric and Family AIDS Project. •Peter Tollens' and Roy Thurston's works are on display Jan. 4-29.

International Poster Gallery
205 Newbury St., Boston (617-375-0076). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-6pm. •*Poster Masters of the Belle Epoque, 1890-1910* shows art nouveau masterpieces through Jan. 31.

Judi Rotenberg Gallery
130 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1518). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm. •*Cadeaux* exhibits work by painters Joyce Washor and Brett Angell through Jan. 6.

Judy Ann Goldman Fine Arts
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-424-8468). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •*Realism Today* shows contemporary paintings through Dec. 22. •*Postmodern Pastoral: Landscapes,* featuring paintings by Peter Edlund, Susanne Kuhn and Whiting Tennis, shows Jan. 3-30.

Kingston Gallery
37 Thayer St., Boston (617-423-4113). Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm and by appointment. •Rose Olson shows her work through Dec. 22. •Masako Kamiya shows new work Jan. 4-26.

L'Attitude Gallery
218 Newbury St., Boston (617-927-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12-5pm. •Through Jan. 8, *Holiday Collection* features the works of 75 artists.

Lyman-Eyer Gallery
1347 Washington St., West Newton (617-964-3470). www.lymaneyerart.com. *Tue.-Fri., 4-7:30pm; Sat., 11am-7:30pm; Sun., 11am-5pm.* •*Winter Salon* shows through Dec. 31.

Massachusetts College of Art
621 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-879-7333). www.massart.edu. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 11am-5pm.* •*Inlands: Photography,* a show by Italian photographer Mimmo Jodice, runs through Jan. 11.

Mayor's Art Gallery
Fifth Floor, City Hall, Boston (617-635-2370). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. •Photojournalist David Binder shows his work through Dec. 28. •Jan. 7-Feb. 8, Jean Cain displays large-scale paintings in *Boston: What I See, Part II.*

Media Gallery
31 Norfolk St., Boston (617-905-4729). www.mediagalleryonline.com. *Mon.-Fri., by appointment; Sat. and Sun., 11am-3pm.* •*Media Salon: Color Their Holiday* shows through Jan. 5. Concurrently, the gallery runs a toy drive for Casa Myrna Vasquez.

Mercury Gallery
8 Newbury St., 2nd Floor, Boston (617-859-0054). www.mercurygallery.com. *Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm. MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.* •The Gallery artists group show features watercolor paintings through early January.

Miller Block Gallery
14 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-4650). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Tue.-Sat., 10:30am-5:30pm. •The gallery shows recent abstract paintings by Nancy Berlin and landscape paintings by Jesse Lambert through Dec. 22.

Mills Gallery
Boston Center for the Arts, 539 Tremont St., Boston (617-426-5000). www.bcaonline.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Wed.-Sun., 1-4pm; Thu.-Sat., 7-10pm.* •*The Drawing Show* is a group show demonstrating the full range of drawing. Through Feb. 10.

MIT List Visual Arts Center
Wiesner Building, 20 Ames St., Cambridge (617-253-4400). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall. Tue.-Thu., 12-6pm, Fri., 12-8pm, Sat.-Sun., 12-6pm. Free. • *Yes Yoko Ono,* an interactive art/music/film/photography exhibit, is on display through Jan. 6.

Mobius
354 Congress St., Boston (617-542-7416). www.mobius.org. *MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Wed.-Sat., 12-5pm.* •Susan Berstler and Lee Mandell present *Redemption,* part four of the series *Fish Babel,* a study of the Mystic River. Through Dec. 22. •Frank Vasello's work shows in *Persephone: Descent of Flowers* Jan. 9-26.



***Peruvian Butterfly* by Adelaide Tyrol shows at the Richardson-Clarke Gallery through Jan. 19.**

MPG
228 Newbury St., Boston (617-437-1596). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Tue.-Sat., 11-5:30pm; Sun.-Mon., 1-5pm. •*International Prints and Drawings* features artists from around the world. Through Dec. 23. •*New Art 2002* is a national, juried exhibition for emerging artists. Jan. 10-Feb. 3.

Nielsen Gallery
179 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-4835). www.nielsengallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Anne Harris shows female portraits in *Blue-Eyed People and Other Strangers,* and Lee Newton's *New Work* combines words, collage and oil. Both show through Dec. 22. •*Gregory Armenoff: Recent Paintings* and *Porfirio DiDonna: Drawings from 1975* show Jan. 5-Feb. 2.

OH+T Gallery
450 Harrison Ave., Boston (617-423-1677). Tue.-Sat., 11am-5:30pm. •Paintings by Peik Larsen and sculpture by Marilu Swett show through Dec. 22. •*Process on Paper,* a group exhibition of drawings and prints, shows Jan. 4-26.

Oni Gallery
684 Washington St., Boston (617-542-6983). MBTA: Orange Line to Chinatown. Thu., 2-9pm; Fri.-Sat., 2-6pm and by appointment. •*Electroland,* an exhibition of electronic, interactive and kinetic media, shows through Dec. 22. •Jan. 5, 7:30pm: Another installation in the *Past Forward* film series, featuring work by Boston filmmakers.

Out of the Blue Gallery
168 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-354-5287). www.out-of-the-blue.addr.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Mon.-Sun., 12-7pm.* •A holiday show featuring arts and crafts by local artists displays through Dec. 31. •Open-mike poetry readings, hosted by Deb Priestly, take place Saturdays at 8pm.

Pepper Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-236-4497). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www.peppergalleryboston.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm.* •Daphne Confar's paintings of human figures show through Jan. 8.

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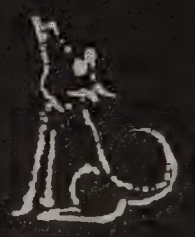
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Preview

So Much to See...

Five compelling new photography exhibits are scattered across town



Abelardo Morell's *Old Travel Scrapbook* is on view at the PRC.

Local photography devotees will enjoy an embarrassment of riches in the next few months. There is, of course, the opulent *The Look* exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts (through Jan. 6). Meanwhile, the Mass. College of Art presents fresh images of Boston in *Inlands: Photographs by Mimmo Jodice* at (through Jan. 11). Recognized as Italy's greatest living photographer, Jodice's photographs of Boston represent his first work on American soil and are vivid examples of how tradition and modernity converge in our regional landscape. At the Photographic Resource Center (through Jan. 2), *Voyages (per) Formed* is a riveting survey of photographic albums collected by Americans traveling overseas in the late 19th century, augmented by photographic interpretations of these books by Abelardo Morell, Carol Flax, Peter Goin and Lorie Novak. Ringing in the new year at the DeCordova is *Two Views of Cuba* by Lou Jones and Peter Kayafas (Jan. 19-March 17), and *Chic Clicks: Creativity and Commerce in Contemporary Fashion Photography* (Jan. 23-May 5) is at the Institute of Contemporary Art. With more than 240 photographs by 40 photographers, it is being billed as "the first exhibition to visualize the debate between aesthetics and commercial pressures in contemporary fashion photography." A cornucopia of visual delights, indeed! *MFA 465 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-9300); Photographic Resource Center, 602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700); DeCordova, 51 Sandy Pond Rd., Lincoln (781-295-8355); ICA, 955 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-5152).—Robert Birnbaum

Pucker Gallery
171 Newbury St., Boston (617-267-9473). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-5:30pm; Sun., 1-5pm. • In *The Texture of Still Life,* Alison Cann-Clift sews together painted pieces of fabric. Also, *Color and Form in Motion,* by Mark Davis, uses brass, aluminum, steel and wood. Both show through Jan. 8.

Qingping Gallery Teahouse
231 Shawmut Ave., Boston (617-482-9988). MBTA: Orange Line to N. E. Medical Center. 12pm-12am, daily. This authentic teahouse is the only local gallery to focus on avant-garde and contemporary art from China.

Richardson-Clarke Gallery
38 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-3321). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. www. richardson-clarke.com. *Tue.-Sat., 10am-5pm.* • Adelaide Tyrol shows paintings in *Natural Histories*. Through Jan. 19.

Society of Arts and Crafts
175 Newbury St., Boston (617-266-1810). www.society ofcrafts.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun. 12-5.* • *Animal Magnetism*, a group exhibition of multimedia creation of animals, shows through Jan. 6.

Space 12 Gallery
12 Union Park St., Boston (617-423-9760). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. www.space12gallery.com. *Wed., 1-5pm, 6-9pm; Thu., Fri. and Sat., 1-5pm.* • Cecilia Vazquez exhibits her abstract paintings of Mexico City through Jan. 12.

St. George Gallery
245 Newbury St., Boston (617-450-0321). www.st georgegallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Tue.-Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., Mon., 12-6pm.* • *Different Places,* a collection of paintings by William St. George and emerging artists, displays through Jan. 4.

University Place Gallery
124 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge (617-876-0246). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Fri., 9am-6pm; Sat., 9am-1pm. • *Beneath the Surface of Time* shows works by Lyn Markey, Robin Masi and Brenda Steinberg. Through Jan. 7.

Upstairs at Johnson Art Gallery
355 Newbury St., 3rd Floor, Boston (617-536-4065). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 8:30am-1pm. • A multimedia show of paintings, drawings and book art by the gallery's staff runs through Dec. 29. • John Storrow, Ken Cherry and Lisa Graf display paintings and mixed media in *Inner Worlds* from Jan. 3-26.

Tremont Street Gallery
276 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4599). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. Tue.-Sat., 9:30am-5pm, and by appointment. • *Vision and Aspiration,* an exhibit sponsored by the Women's Caucus for Art, shows through Dec. 29.

Vose Galleries
238 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-6176). www.vose galleries.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Mon.-Fri., 8am-5:30pm; Sat., 9am-4pm.* • Virginia Precourt shows *A Retrospective* through Jan. 12.

Zeitgeist Gallery
312 Broadway St., Cambridge (617-876-2182). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Thu.-Sun., 2-7pm. • Mondays are Pandora's Box nights with electronic music, video, dance and spoken word. 8pm. • Wednesdays are figure-drawing sessions, 6-8pm. • Fridays feature the Playground New Music series. • Saturday has live music, mostly jazz.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Gallery One
New England School of Photography, 537 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-437-1868). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. • *Workshop Exhibition* displays photography from the NESOP Workshop Program. Through Jan. 4.

Panopticon Inc.
435 Moody St., Waltham (781-647-0100). www. panopt.com. *Mon.-Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., by appointment.* • A group exhibit by gallery artists shows through January.

Photographic Resource Center
602 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-0700). MBTA: B Green Line to Blanford. Tue., Wed., Fri.-Sun., 12-5pm; Thu., 12-8pm. • *Voyages (per) Formed,* a show of contemporary and historical travel photography, shows through Dec. 20. • Photographs by musician John Cohen show Jan. 18-March 1.

Robert Klein Gallery
38 Newbury St.. Boston (617-267-7997). www. RobertKleinGallery.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Call for gallery hours.* • Photography by Horst, Steichen, Hoynigen-Heune and several other fashion photographers show through Jan. 5 in *Images of Elegance.*

books & poetry

READINGS & SIGNINGS

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Books & Poetry or e-mail to books@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19

Borders Bookshop
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 8pm. Free. The **Gay and Lesbian Literature Discussion Group** talks about *The Silk Road* by Jane Summer.

Boston Public Library Readings
700 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. 2:30pm. The Points of View book-discussion series continues with a talk about *Galileo's Daughter* by Dava Sobel.

SATURDAY, DEC. 22

Borders Bookshop
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 6:30pm. Free. The Writers Group presents a workshop for writers of all levels. Please bring samples of your work.

THURSDAY, DEC. 27

Jackson Homestead Storytelling
Jackson Homestead Museum, 527 Washington St., Newton (617-552-7238). 2pm. Free. Professional storyteller **Katie Green** shares multicultural and seasonal stories such as "Zlatah the Goat," "The Onion Journey" and "Schnitzel, Schnatzl and Schnootzl" by Isaac Bashevis Singer.

THURSDAY, JAN. 8

Harvard Coop Author Series
Level Three. 1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Free. **Jacqueline Pope** and **Jennifer Barber** read poetry from *Take Three.*

Newtonville Books and Brews Series
296 Walnut St., Newtonville (617-244-6619). 7:30pm. **Brad Barkley** reads from his book *Money Love.* Afterward, enjoy appetizers and a free pint of Park Pale Ale at the Newtonville Times restaurant.

ONGOING

Cantab Lounge, Wednesdays
738 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8-10pm. $3. Wednesday nights at the Cantab always pack in more than 30 poets in just two hours for open-mike and a slam.

Harvard Coop Poetry Exchange
1400 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-236-7460). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Sundays, 3-5pm. Free. Scout out the local talent at this weekly open-mike poetry night.

Lizard Lounge Poetry Night, Sundays
1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. $4. The Jeff Robinson Trio plays background tunes for the featured poet of the week.

O'Brien's Pub, Mondays
3 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-782-6245). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard St. A mix of rock and spoken word is performed one Monday a month at 9pm—the performers are all predetermined.

Out of the Blue Poetry Night
Out of the Blue Gallery, 168 Brookline Ave., Cambridge (617-354-5287). MBTA: Red Line to Central. 8pm. Every Saturday is poetry night, and a spoken-word event takes place on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Rhythm and Muse Open Mike, Thursdays
403 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-6622). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook. A poet is followed by an open-mike session every few Thursdays.

Stone Soup Poetry Night, Mondays
Middle East, 472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-227-0845). 7:30pm. $4. Since 1971, the Stone Soup Poets have held weekly readings. Keep the good vibes going.

education

Advice to Contributors
Submit press releases by mail, fax (617-859-1446) or e-mail (education@improper.com). *Include dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

CLASSES/LECTURES

THURSDAY, DEC. 27

Curatorial Gallery Talk: Visual Footnotes in the Italian Renaissance
Sharf Information Center, Museum of Fine Arts, Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-6008). 11am. Discuss how Italian artists of the 14th through 16th centuries used symbols, types and relationships within their paintings to convey messages.

FRIDAY, JAN. 4

After the Human Genome: What's Next for Technology?
Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston (617-732-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. 7pm.* **Dr. Barry L. Karger**, professor of analytical chemistry and director at The Barnett Institute at Northeastern University, presents this lecture on technology now that the human genome has been mapped. What is next? What will scientists do with the rich and complex documentation of genes that makes up the human being?

SATURDAY, JAN. 5

Judith Joslow on Healing
Quincy Library, 40 Washington St., Quincy (781-251-2524). 1:30pm. Free. After traversing the country to conduct interviews with healers, **Judith Joslow** shares her wisdom and life experiences.

Private & Personal Chef Certification Program
The Elizabeth Bishop Wine Resource Center, 808 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-353-9852). Saturdays, Jan. 5-Feb. 2, 9am-2pm. $600. After completing four weeks of instructional seminars on the aspects of starting your own business, managing expenses, planning menus, food preparation and service, you'll receive a certificate from Boston University.

TUESDAY, JAN. 8

Voice-Over Techniques
Boston Center for Adult Education, 5 Commonwealth Ave., Boston (617-267-4430). $97. 5:30-8:30pm. **Jordan Rich** and **Ken Carberry** examine the world of the radio voice-over business. They'll teach how to exercise proper breath control, enunciation, accents and pacing. Leave with a studio-produced tape of your own commercial.

How to Start and Run a Successful Housecleaning Business
Brookline Adult and Community Education Program, Brookline High School, 115 Greenough St., Brookline (617-730-2700). $51. 5:30-9:30pm. Learn how to operate your own housecleaning business, including how to choose insurance, set your rates, advertise and how to work efficiently.



Barry Karger lectures at the Museum of Science Jan. 4.

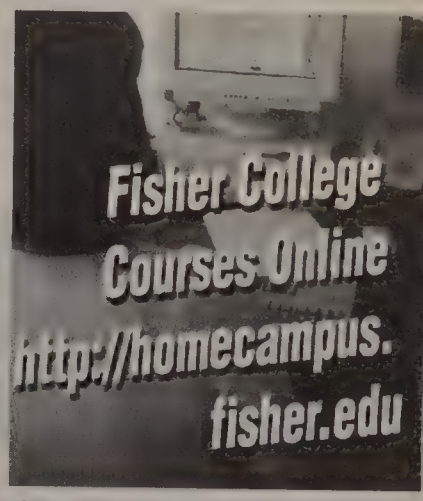
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Monday/Wednesday 5:30 PM — 8:00 PM

AC121	Financial Accounting
EN101	Expository Writing
EN201	Intermediate Writing
HT212	Medical Coding II
MG321	Organizational Behavior
MK201	Principles of Marketing
SS107	Families in Stress

8:05 PM — 10:35 PM

GV105	American Legal System

Tuesday/Thursday 5:30 PM — 8:00 PM

BU101	Introduction to Business
CS123	Computerized Database Mgt.
HT101	Introduction to Health Info.
LA103	Business Law & Legal Environment
MA107	College Algebra
MA005	Introduction to Algebra

Saturday 9:00 AM — 2:00 PM

CS314	Management Information Sys.
ED204	Strategies for Childrens Behavior
FI101	Introduction to Finance

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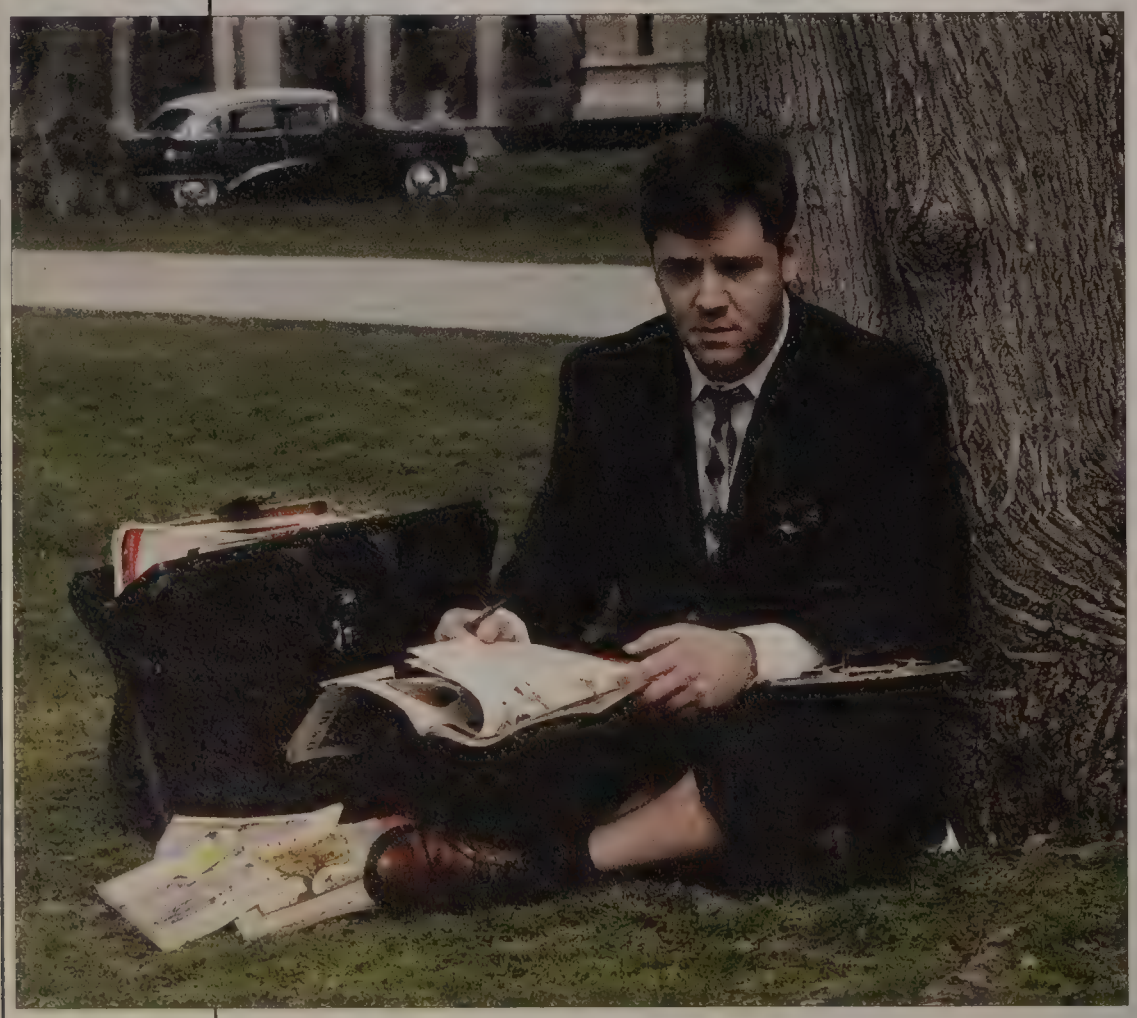
FUZZY MATH

A Beautiful Mind is a terrible thing to waste.

BY PAUL SHERMAN

You can take Opie out of Mayberry, but you can't take Mayberry out of Opie. That's been the clear message of former actor Ron Howard's directorial career which, like his old *Andy Griffith Show* character, has been boyish and a little old-fashioned in its uncluttered eagerness and occasional immaturity. Howard has excelled with movies like *Cocoon*, *Splash* and *Apollo 13*, fairly straightforward stories with clearly defined emotions that he was able to convey convincingly. But he's stumbled with releases like *Willow*, *The Grinch* and *Ransom*. The first two called for a cinematic sweep that he is just not capable of and the last sought to explore moral grays about which Howard seems tentative.

In the sometimes fascinating and sometimes clumsy *A Beautiful Mind*, set between the late 1940s and early 1990s, Howard proves he is a little small and superficial for his subject. His latest is the real-life story of John Nash (Russell Crowe), a mathematician who walks the proverbial fine line between madness and genius. A whiz with numbers but not social skills, high-strung Nash struggles through Princeton in the early action, until coming up with "a theory" that leapfrogs him to the front of his class and a professorship at MIT's Wheeler Defense Laboratories (in scenes not filmed locally).



Real genius: Russell Crowe plays a mad mathematician.

I say "theory" because *A Beautiful Mind* does a poor job of getting specific about Nash's brain power, a shortcoming that almost single-handedly sinks the movie. In the scenes leading up to his breakthrough, we're led to believe this theory has something to do with refuting Adam Smith's "survival of the fittest" economic philosophy. But Howard and writer Akiva Goldsman don't even try to relate how this might translate to something mathematical, and how what Nash did was above and beyond his competitive classmates' powers.

Not giving the audience much grasp of Nash's mathematical prowess is crucial; once his madness enters the story, the major conflict rages within his head. Once at Wheeler, Nash is enlisted by CIA agent William Parcher (Ed Harris) to decode intercepted Soviet messages, and to scour publications for possible coded messages. The intrigue—including a car chase and gunfight through "Cambridge"—turns out to be too much for Nash, who suffers a breakdown. His stay at the mental hospital run by Dr. Rosen (Christopher Plummer) also reveals that his classified spy work may just be all in his head. Nash is diagnosed as a schizophrenic, and any attempts by his wife, Alicia (Jennifer Connelly), to find traces of Harris' elusive CIA agent or confirm her husband really was working on a secret project are fruitless. It is unclear whether the government disavowed knowledge of Nash and erased links between them and him, or if the mathematician is just bonkers.

That issue makes the midsection of *A Beautiful Mind* its strongest stretch. Just the idea of having the rock-solid Harris, (among the earthiest and most direct of actors), as a possible apparition, is inspired. It's so inspired that it totally overwhelms the vagueness of Nash's mathematical talents. In the conflict between genius and madness, madness romps.

A Beautiful Mind also never overcomes its frequent missteps, like Crowe's fluctuating American accent (sometimes southern, sometimes not) or the fact that we get no background at all about Alicia Nash. More damaging is Howard and composer James Horner's overzealous use of music to cue you how to feel at any given moment, the dramatic equivalent of a laugh track. And there's a totally puzzling, nearly comical sequence after Nash gets to MIT, where he teaches a class in his T-shirt, acting arrogant and showing off his biceps. Coming just after his breakthrough at Princeton and his first decoding success, this scene implies Nash has come out of his shell. Then a minute later, and for the rest of the movie, the math whiz is a high-strung wallflower again. Go figure. iB

A Beautiful Mind ★★

Directed by Ron Howard. Written by Akiva Goldsman. With Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly, Ed Harris and Christopher Plummer. Rated PG-13. Universal Pictures.

New Releases

BY PAUL SHERMAN

Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone ★★
The first of several movie adaptations of J.K. Rowling's novels is sometimes enchanting and sometimes dull—and despite all the ballyhoo, it is merely a bigger-budgeted, slightly better experience than such 1980s McMovies as *Young Sherlock Holmes* and *The Goonies*. Both of those were unambitious Spielberg productions about young people fighting villains, and this has a similar flavor to it, with composer John Williams hammering us over the head with the sort of unsubtle musical themes he's used in past Spielberg and George Lucas films. With director Cris Columbus' desire to make every scene a big special-effects "moment," there's little chance to get to know or even like young orphan Harry (Daniel Radcliffe), who upon his 11th birthday is told he's a wizard and whisked off to a Dickensian world of magic and a boarding school for wizards. Thank your lucky stars Robbie Coltrane is here to add heart to the proceedings. (Wide release.)

In the Bedroom ★★★
The combination of grief and a New England setting makes actor Todd (*Walking and Talking*) Field's solid directorial debut a cousin to the movies based on Russell Banks stories. On that level, it falls somewhere between the moving *The Sweet Hereafter* and the flatter *Affliction*. In it, the calm of a middle-aged Maine couple (Tom Wilkinson, Sissy Spacek) vanishes after their college-age son (Nick Stahl) is killed by the violent ex-husband of his girlfriend (Marisa Tomei). The rambling story is unfocused—morphing from domestic drama to picking-up-the-pieces tragedy to revenge thriller. This does lend an unpredictability to it, though, as a director Field shows the skill for advancing his story without words. And with the Red Sox games on the radio and the cans of Moxie, he does a good job of evoking summertime Maine.

Kate & Leopold ★½
Gimmick and clichés are the major ingredients of this less-than-convincing romantic comedy. The convoluted gimmick has Hugh Jackman as an aristocrat in 1876 New York who inadvertently time-travels to contemporary Manhattan, where he meets unlucky-in-love marketing executive Meg Ryan. The grating clichés have Jackman's 19th-century courtliness bristling with the contemporary bustle, as he provides Ryan with an alternative to what she's come to expect from men. Jackman occasionally makes his scenes less goofy than they might be, while Ryan is her usual mannered self, and the script is about as colorless and formulaic as they come. Director-cowriter James Mangold (*Heavy* and *Girl, Interrupted*) should know better. (Wide release.)

K-Pax ★½
Remember when Kevin Spacey used to be one of the most clever, fun-to-watch actors? Well, hang on to those memories. Because between *American Beauty*, *Pay It Forward* and now this warm and fuzzy feel-good movie—it's like *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* poisoned by *Forrest Gump*—he's become annoyingly smug and glib. Here he plays a mental patient who claims to be from the alien planet that supplies the title. Jeff Bridges is the shrink trying to unlock the traumatized human he believes lurks beneath the alien "cover story." In the meantime, Spacey's character gets Bridges to appreciate his family more and gets his fellow patients to feel more at ease in their surroundings. This is supposedly based on Gene Brewer's 1995 novel, but then why does it have the same plot as the 1986 Argentine movie *Man Facing Southeast?* (Wide release.)

Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring ★★
Back in the day, the only people who cared about J.R.R. Tolkien's mystical medieval adventure novels played Dungeons & Dragons and listened to bombastic progressive rock. Such gibberish is the stuff of event movies? Full of so many characters and locations and "worlds" that few get set up well enough to have much impact—and with enough chorale music to last a lifetime—Peter (*Heavenly Creatures*) Jackson's movie adaptation is this decade's *Dune*. Sure, the special effects are convincing and the cast includes Cate Blanchett, Ian McKellen, Hugo Weaving and Ian Holm, but that doesn't make the story of a Skywalkeresque, goodhearted hobbit (Elijah Wood) transporting an all-powerful ring any less of a hollow spectacle. And we're going to have to sit through two more of these three-hour behemoths? (Loews Cinemas and Fenway Theatre General Cinema.)

The Man Who Wasn't There ★★★
The Coen brothers return to the grimly absurd neo-noir flavor of their *Blood Simple* and *Fargo*, but for the first time in black and white and in a period story, this one set in 1949. Billy Bob Thornton is just great as the quiet barber whose worried expression is the result of small-town

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"A 'RING' TO RULE THE SCREEN!
Peter Jackson's fierce, imaginative movie takes high-flying risks and inspires with its power and scale."
David Ansen, NEWSWEEK

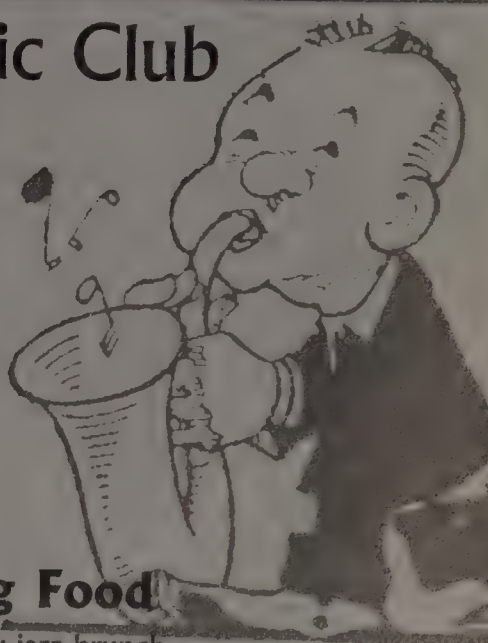


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monotony and the realization that his dishy wife (Frances McDormand) is fooling around with her jocular boss (James Gandolfini). So the barber decides to do something about it. An unwise investment, a blackmail scheme, a murder in self-defense, a suicide and a car crash later, the guy's left to wonder if he's any better off. There aren't as many memorable supporting characters as you find in most of the Coens' best films and some of its tangents would have been best omitted, but its mingling of comedy and tragedy is pure Coens. It's full of captivating images, and Thornton's body language speaks volumes. (Kendall Square, Copley and West Newton cinemas.)

Monsters, Inc. ★★
Toy Story's Buzz Lightyear and Cowboy Woody don't have to worry about being overshadowed by Mike and Sully, the latest buddy-heroes in a Pixar/Disney digitally animated comedy. This one is not nearly so cleverly written, and is about a parallel world of monsters who get beamed to children's bedrooms in the human world to scare them—because those collected screams are what fuels their world. The story finds big furry Sully (voiced by John Goodman) and little gruesome Mike (Billy Crystal) having to deal with a toddler who crosses into their world. When it's not recycling *Three Men and a Baby* or the old Chuck Jones cartoon *Feed the Kitty*, not much goes on. Unlike the funnier and less sentimental *A Bug's Life* and the *Toy Story* movies, this one's purely for kids. (Wide release.)

No Man's Land ★★★
In a sense, writer-director Danis Tanovic's Bosnian war drama/satire is a predictable, transparent parable about the absurdity of war. It's about a Bosnian soldier (Branko Djuric) and a Serbian soldier (Rene Bitorajac) who both get trapped in an abandoned trench now located between each side's front line; once there, they interact fine as individuals, but try to kill each other whenever tribalism gets the best of them. All that's a bit obvious, but the movie adds some interesting points once the UN "peacekeeping" forces get involved to try to rescue the men. This force of French, Germans and English have their own tribal issues, while the superior officers among them are more concerned with saving their professional asses than those of the people they're supposedly protecting.

Not Another Teen Movie ★★★
Just when you thought it was safe to rent a Molly Ringwald or Freddie Prinze, Jr. video again... As the theaters fill up with 135-minute "important" movies begging for Oscar nominations, this parody of 1980s and 1990s high school movies that often starred those two may be the most purely entertaining movie in the multiplex. *She's All That* and *Varsity Blues* are the two movies most skewered in this very clever comedy that targets 15 different teen movies yet somehow unifies its gags into a coherent story. The I-can-make-any-girl-a-prom-queen bet from *She's All That* provides the loose plot, and former MTV Movie Awards parodies director Joel Gallen and his writers take off from there. The jock, the ugly duckling, the token black guy, the fat party animal and the dishy foreign exchange student are among the characters affectionately ridiculed. Some of the cruder jokes bomb, but there are still lots of laughs. (Wide release.)

Novocaine ★★★
Film noir gets an amusing twist in this comedy in which Steve Martin plays a dentist whose cozy world spins off its axis once Helena Bonham Carter wiggles her way into his adjustable chair. She seduces him, steals his office's narcotics and even gets him wanted for murder, but he still craves the excitement she brings to his dull life. Call this noir comedy *Dead Men Don't Have Cavities*. As the obsessive-compulsive fiancée suddenly brushed aside, Laura Dern also adds to the comic mix, as does Kevin Bacon, in a cameo as a slick actor doing "research" with the detectives investigating the murder. (Wide release.)

Ocean's 11 ★★★
Perpetually implausible, occasionally preposterous and totally entertaining. This remake of 1960's Rat Pack caper comedy has just the right devil-may-care attitude, and at this point in his career George Clooney has more old-school movie star luster and charisma than anyone else around. Clooney plays the ex-con who gathers a crew that includes Brad Pitt, Carl Reiner, Bernie Mac, Don Cheadle and Matt Damon to heist a bundle from Andy Garcia's three Las Vegas casinos. As in *Out of Sight*, *Erin Brockovich* and *Traffic*, director Steven Soderbergh navigates the story's twists and turns with economy and smarts, stumbling only by overplaying the subplot involving Clooney's ex-wife (Julia Roberts). (Wide Release.)

Shallow Hal ★★
The combination of writer-directors Peter and Bobby Farrelly and actor Jack Black seemed perfect, since all three are fearless comedy creators. But the resulting movie is disappointing, dominated by a problematic premise. Black plays the title character, a crude guy whose only romantic criteria is looks. But then he's hypnotized by informercial king Tony Robbins to see only inner beauty and falls for an overweight hospital volunteer he sees as Gwyneth Paltrow. When his even cruder buddy (a typecast Jason Alexander) lifts the hypnosis, Hal has to try to find the goodness in people on their own. If the movie had more laughs, most of its problems—that it often forgets its own gimmick, that its transition from gimmickry to sentimental message is uneasy—would hardly be evident. But because the laughs often aren't there, they're hard to overlook. (General Cinemas and Loews Cinemas.)

Spy Game ★★
I kept reaching for the mute button during this thriller, because that's what I do during loud car commercials. Director Tony Scott, of the über-slick *Top Gun*, hasn't so much made a thriller as he has a two-hour commercial. More emphasis has been put on the helicopter shots, the whoosh sounds of automated doors and the perfect lighting for scenes of human atrocities than there has on the story. That 1991 tale finds Robert Redford as a midlevel CIA manager trying to maneuver the Langley higher-ups to save a field agent (Brad Pitt) about to be executed for espionage in China. The higher-ups would rather disavow any knowledge of Pitt, so as not to jeopardize an imminent trade agreement, but Redford wants to stop Pitt's human sacrifice. Told mostly in flashback, the movie examines the relationship between espionage and human compassion, but that seems to be the least of Scott's concerns. (Cleveland Circle Cinema, Fenway Theatre General Cinema, Loews Theatres Boston Common and Somerville, Sony Cambridge.)

Tape ★★★
And you thought your 10-year high school reunion was tense. "Tense" is the word for this three-character drama set in a motel room, which Stephen Belber adapted from his play. Ethan Hawke's character is the instigator who returns to his hometown with the secret agenda of forcing a confrontation between his high school best friend (Robert Sean Leonard) and his ex-girlfriend (Uma Thurman). His buddy went out with her after he did, and may or may not have date-raped her. Is Hawke misinformed, and doing all this just to get revenge on more successful Leonard for stealing "his girl"? Are Leonard's protests to these accusations genuine? Is Thurman really outraged or more delighted to be caught in the middle of the two guys' psychological grudge match? The script and cast do a deft balancing act with such questions, while director Richard Linklater (who made this after *Waking Life*) uses the digital-video format to get glaringly intimate with these hero/villains. (Kendall Square Cinema and Loews Copley.)

Vanilla Sky ★★
When Tom Cruise wants to try to be vulnerable, he turns to his Jerry Maguire writer-director, Cameron Crowe. He's done so again for this remake of the 1998 Spanish movie *Open Your Eyes*, playing another hotshot who gets an attitude adjustment. Once again, the results are only semi-convincing, because Cruise can never totally drop his hotshot act. In this complexly-plotted drama, Cruise plays a rich New York magazine publisher skating through life. He forsakes casual lover Cameron Diaz for Penelope Cruz (playing the same role as in the original), and Diaz extracts revenge by crashing the car she's driving him in, horribly deforming him. He then descends into depression, madness and—perhaps—murder and remorse for his treatment of Diaz. Perhaps, because the story operates in an is-it-a-dream-or-is-it-real mode, as Cruise tries to sort it all out. But next to *Memento*, another movie with a hero sorting out a mystery, this is much heavier in plot and lighter in emotional impact. (Fenway Theatre General Cinema.)



Sissy Spacek and Tom Wilkinson play a middle-aged Maine couple in Todd Field's new domestic drama, *In the Bedroom*.

JOHN CLIFFORD

Repertories and Revivals

Advice to Contributors
Submit film listings by fax (617-859-1446), mail to Calendar: Film or e-mail to film@improper.com. *Deadline is at least four weeks prior to publication.*

Boston Public Library

Americanos Bostonianos

•Dec. 19, 6pm **Strawberry and Chocolate** *1994*. Tomás Gutiérrez Alea's Cuban comedy-drama is about a Communist who is befriended by a gay Castro dissenter after his girlfriend leaves him.

Marlene Dietrich: A Legend in Photographs

•Jan. 7, 6pm **The Blue Angel** *1930*. Director Josef Von Sternberg's film is about a professor who is initially shocked to find that his students frequent a nightclub but then becomes a regular there himself.

Brattle Theatre

Wednesdays—Recent Raves

•Dec. 19, 5:30, 7:30 and 9:30pm **The Turandot Project** *2000*. Allan Miller's documentary brings Puccini's opera to the Forbidden City of Beijing and in the process tackles Chinese bureaucracy and the challenge of overcoming the language barrier.

Thursdays—Swordswomen: Brigitte Lin and Michelle Yeoh

•Dec. 20, 7:45pm **Wing Chun** *1994*. Director Yuen Woo-Ping casts Yeoh as the heroic defender of a small village who faces criminals and admirers alike. •Also showing, 5:30 and 9:45pm **Dragon Inn** *1992*. Raymond Lee's action epic is about two warriors who go to an inn to rest but end up in sword fights.

Special Engagements

•Dec. 21, 7pm; Dec. 22, 7pm; Dec. 23, 7pm; Dec. 25, 7pm **It's a Wonderful Life** *1946*. In Frank Capra's American favorite, George Bailey meets an angel and realizes his life *is* wonderful just as it is.

•Dec. 21, 4:30 and 9:30pm; Dec. 22, 4:30 and 9:30pm; Dec. 23, 4:30 and 9:30pm; Dec. 25, 4:30 and 9:30pm **Wings of Desire** *1988*. Wim Wenders' film follows an angel, tired of overseeing human activity, who falls in love with a mortal and wishes to become human.

Jacques Demy Double Feature

•Jan. 2-9 **Lola** *1961*. Anouk Aimée stars as a cabaret dancer in this film written and directed by Demy. Shows with **Bay of Angels** (*La Baie des anges*) *1963*. Again written and directed by Demy, this film stars Jackie Demaistre as a woman caught in an affair with a gambler.

Area Premiere

•Dec. 26-Jan. 1; 4:30, 7:00 and 9:30pm with Sunday and New Year's Day 2pm shows **Little Otik** *2000*. In Jan Svankmajer's adaptation of a Czech fairy tale, a childless couple delude themselves into thinking a tree stump is their child until it actually comes to life.

Coolidge Corner Theatre

Holiday Anime

•Dec. 21 and 22, midnight **Princess Mononoke** *1999*. Hayao Miyazaki's fable about a warrior and a woodland princess features the voices of Claire Danes, Minnie Driver and Billy Bob Thornton.

•Dec. 28 and 29, midnight **Vampire Hunter D: Bloodlust** *2000*. Director Yoshiaki Kawajiri features D as a half-human, half-vampire hired to rescue a beautiful woman from the bloodsucking Count.

•Jan. 5 and 6, midnight **Akira** *1988*. Katsuhiro Otomo's film that started the modern Japanimation fascination takes place in 2019, three decades after Tokyo was destroyed in WWIII.

Feature Films

•Jan. 4 premiere with ongoing daily shows, **Gosford Park** *2001*. Director Robert Altman's film, inspired by Agatha Christie's *Ten Little Indians*, features an all-star British cast that includes Dame Maggie Smith and Kirsten Scott Thomas.

Midnight Movies—The Strange Films of Coffin Joe

•Jan. 4 and 5, 12am **At Midnight I'll Take Your Soul** (*À Meia-Noite Levarei Sua Alma*) *1963*. José Mojica Marins directs and stars in this film as Coffin Joe, an evil undertaker obsessed with finding a woman to sire his cursed offspring.

Screening Room

•Jan. 4-10, midnight **Coffin Joe: The Strange World of José Mojica Marins** *2001*. Shown in conjunction with the Coffin Joe Midnight Series, this film directed by André Barcinski and Ivan Finotti tracks the life of controversial Brazilian indie horror director Mojica Marins, whose creepy films deal with sadism, torture and blasphemy.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema

Midnight Movies

•Dec. 21 and 22 **Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade** *1989.* Starring Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones, the last film in the Steven Spielberg-directed and George Lucas-written trilogy has archaeologist and adventurer Indiana Jones searching for the Holy Grail.

•No films Dec. 28 and 29 or Jan. 4 and 5.

Harvard Film Archive

Adventures in Surrealism

Séance Screenings

•Dec. 19, 8pm; Dec. 20, 8pm; Dec. 21, 8pm **India Song** *1974.* Marguerite Duras's film, which was shown continuously in Paris for four years, follows the actions (and inaction) of a group of wealthy Europeans.

•No films through Jan. 9.

Museum of Fine Arts

Special Engagements

•Dec. 19, 5:45pm; Dec. 21, 6pm; Dec. 22, 2pm; Dec. 23, 3:45pm; Dec. 26, 7:40pm; Dec. 27, 4:30pm; Dec. 28, 12pm; Dec. 28, 8pm; Dec. 29, 1:30pm; Dec. 30, 3:45pm; Jan. 1, 3pm; Jan. 3, 7:45pm; Jan. 5, 3:45pm **Chop Suey** *2000.* Bruce Weber's autobiographical film is sprinkled with teen wrestling stars, cabaret singers and still-life photography.

•Dec. 19, 8pm; Dec. 20, 7:40pm; Dec. 22, 4pm; Dec. 23, 1:40pm; Dec. 26, 4pm; Dec. 27, 8:15pm; Dec. 28, 4pm; Dec. 29, 3:45pm; Dec. 30, 12pm; Jan. 1, 1pm; Jan. 2, 7:45pm; Jan. 3, 6pm; Jan. 5, 1:45pm **La Bûche** *1999.* Director Danièle Thompson presents the story of the relationship among three sisters and their support system of family, friends and lovers.

•Dec. 21, 8:15pm; Dec. 22, 10:30am; Dec. 23, 12pm; Dec. 26, 1:30pm; Dec. 26, 6pm; Dec. 27, 1pm; Dec. 28, 2:15pm; Jan. 2, 6pm; Jan. 4, 7:30pm **Samia** *2000.* This Phillipe Faucon film examines Algerians living in France through the eyes of a teenage girl.

The Films & Videos of Yoko Ono

•Dec. 20, 6pm **Rape** *1969.* A cameraman hounds a 21-year-old woman until he chases her into an alley in this film about invasion of privacy.

•Dec. 29, 12pm **Bed-In** *1969.* Ono's most political film, in which she and John Lennon spend a week in bed in a Canadian hotel to protest the Vietnam War.

•Also showing, short films **Sisters, O Sisters** *1972.* **Woman** *1981* and **Goodbye Sadness** *1982.*

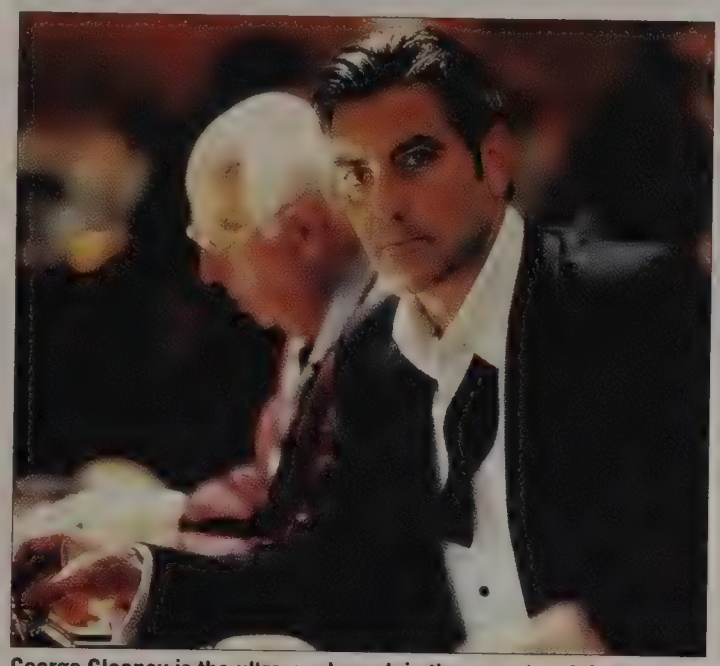
•Jan. 5, 12:15pm **Up Your Legs Forever** *1970.* Ono sets 367 pairs of legs against a white wall to a humorous soundtrack.

Fashion Photography on Film

•Dec. 22, 12:15pm; Dec. 27, 2:45pm; Dec. 27, 6:30pm **Richard Avedon: Darkness and Light** *1995.* Director Helen Whitney examines the 50-year career of the photographer who made fashion history at *Harper's Bazaar, Vogue* and *The New Yorker.*

•Dec. 23, 10:45 am and Jan. 4, 6pm **A Life in the Day of Man Ray** *1991.* Matthew Reinders' film interviews the American painter and photographer of the Dadaist and Surrealist movements in Paris and the United States.

•Dec. 26, 2:45pm; Dec. 30, 10:45am; Jan. 1, 11:45am; Jan. 5, 11am **Horst P. Horst: 60 Years and Still in Vogue** *1992.* Gerald Scarfe's tribute to the first fashion photographer to have an exhibit at Paris's Louvre.



George Clooney is the ultra-cool crook in the re-make of *Ocean's 11.*

BOB MARSHAK

Classic Cinema

•Dec. 28, 6:15pm and Dec. 30, 2pm **Beauty and the Beast** *1946.* Jean Cocteau's version of the fairy tale has a surprise ending when Belle wishes that her handsome prince had remained a beast.

Cinema Venues

ALLSTON

Allston Cinemas
214 Harvard Ave. (617-277-2140). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.

BELMONT

Studio Cinema
376 Trapelo Rd. (617-484-1706).

BOSTON

Boston Film•Video Foundation
1126 Boylston St. (617-536-1540). Green Line to Hynes.

Boston Public Library
666 Boylston St. (617-536-5400). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.

Copley Place (Loews/Sony)
100 Huntington Ave. (617-266-1300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley or Orange Line to Back Bay.

Fenway Theatre General Cinema
201 Brookline Ave. (617-424-6266). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.

Loews Boston Common
175 Tremont St. (617-423-3499). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Ave. (617-267-9300). MBTA: E Green Line to Museum.

Museum Of Science, Omni Theatre
Science Park (617-723-2500). Green Line to Science Park.

Wang Center
270 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-9393). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.

BROOKLINE

Circle Cinemas
399 Chestnut Hill Ave. (617-566-4040). MBTA: C Green Line to Cleveland Circle or D Green Line to Riverside.

Coolidge Corner Theatre
290 Harvard St. (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner.

CAMBRIDGE

Brattle Theatre
40 Brattle St. (617-876-6837). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Fresh Pond
168 Alewife Brook Parkway (617-661-2900). MBTA: Red Line to Alewife.

Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St. (617-495-4700). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

Kendall Square Cinema
One Kendall Square (617-494-9800). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall/MIT.

Loews/Sony
10 Church St. (617-864-4580). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.

SOMERVILLE

Loews/Sony
35 Middlesex Ave. (617-628-7000). MBTA: Orange Line to Sullivan Square.

Somerville Theatre
55 Davis Square (617-625-5700). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.

NEWTON

Chestnut Hill Cinema
27 Boylston St. (617-277-2500). D Green Line to Chestnut Hill.

West Newton Cinema
1296 Washington St. (617-964-6060)



dance clubs

Nights

MONDAYS

Buddha Lounge
Caprice Attain transcendence in the exotic world of Buddha Bar sounds, proper dress, no cover, 21+.

Celebrate
An Tua Nua A night of Gothic and industrial music, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Joe spins top-40, techno, house and dance music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Mixology 101
Milky Way DJ Rebel spins techno, ambient and electronic music, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Modern
DJs spin Brit rock, mod and pop tunes, 10pm, 19+.

Monsta Mondays
Bill's Bar DJ Kapt Krunch spins hot reggae and live bands take the stage, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Phoenix Landing
Reggae with DJ Selecta Voyager, hip-hop and jazz, 10pm, $2, 21+.

Platinum Mondays
Karma DJ Bruno, Thanos and Nelski spin hip-hop, reggae and NYC house, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
In-the-Biz night hosted by *backbaybeat.com*'s S.J. Torres with DJ Mike Janedy, 10pm, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJs spinning top-40 tunes, R&B and dance; D: Live acoustic music with Randy Vera, 9pm, no cover, $21+.

Static
Axis DJ Jay Ine delivers hard-house and UK progressive, 10pm, $7, 19+.

Susurrate
Aer Classic vinyls with DJ Martin Finke, 10pm, 21+.

The Movement on Mondays
Vertigo Deep house, house and progressive mix, 10pm, 21+.

What a Way to Go-Go
Common Ground Shake it at Mod Night with DJ Vin, 10pm, 21+.

TUESDAYS

Acrylic
Aer Punk, new wave and Brit pop with Steve and James and guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ "Easy on the Eyes" Carrie, 9pm, 21+.

Emily's
Stop in for the "After Work Rush Hour" 5-8pm, followed by the live acoustic series, $5, 21+.

Home
An Tua Nua Check out the latest house and trance, 9:30pm, 19+.

Jet Set Tuesdays
The Roxy DJ Eddy K spins old-school house mixed with the latest hits, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

MYNT International Tuesdays
Venu. Eurohouse international music with DJ Alex and DJ Adilson. Dress coats required, 11pm, $15, 21+.

One Nation
Aria DJ Chubby Chub spins hip-hop and R&B, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 19+.

Oxygen
The Palace DJ Chris Fiore provides the best mix of '70s, '80s and '90s music. Check out the buffet from 8-9pm, proper dress, $3 before 9pm, $5 after 9pm, 21+.

Phat Tuesdays
Bill's Bar DJ Chaos and 7L spin at this college hip-hop night, 9pm, $10, 18+, college ID required.

Phoenix Landing
DJ Verb9 spins his own combo of acid, jazz and soul, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Pravda 116
Kick back at this loungy, laid-back evening. Proper dress, 10pm, 21+.

The Rack
After Work Jazz Party with live bands from 6-10pm, followed by dance tunes spun by DJs, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spinning top-40, dance and R&B; D: Stu Sinclair, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Free salsa lessons by Dan Marshall, 9-10pm, followed by dancing until 2am, no cover, 21+.

Tuesday Night Live
The Exchange Live funk quartet with Uncle Trouble Rocks, 8pm. $5, 21+.



On Wednesday through Sunday nights, Backstage DJs spin top-40 dance and club classics.

WEDNESDAYS

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Dynamite
Aer DJs spin explosive tunes, 10pm, 21+.

El Divino
Paradise DJ Mike C spinning Latin, 10pm, dress sassy.

Emily's
Check out "After Work Rush Hour" from 5-8pm, then "Late Night Lounge" with guest DJs, no cover, 21+.

Escape
Vertigo Progressive, deep NY house, trance and vocals provide an escape, 10pm, 21+.

Essence
SW1 DJs Bruno, Ilabash and Mastermillions spin hip-hop, reggae and R&B, proper dress, 10pm, 19+.

Forward Movement
An Tua Nua This mellow night features reggae, jungle and dub, 9:30pm, 19+.

Funk and Groove
Bill's Bar DJ Tim Collins and live bands, 9pm, 18+.

International Wednesdays
Pravda 116 DJ JC in the Latin Lounge, and DJs Alex and Felix in the back room, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 21+.

Lush
Karma In the Mambo Lounge, DJs Allison and Ken play Brit pop and indie rock, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Mercury Lounge
Milky Way Courtney Gray hosts this evening of soul, funk and house, 9pm, 21+.

New Music
The Druid Mellow out with some of the top U.S. and European acoustic acts, 9pm.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Shalako, Caseroc and Skye spin everything from deep house to trance and techno, 10pm, $5, 19+.

The Rack
Reggae night hosted by Star 93.7, with live bands play 6-10pm, followed by DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.

Samsara
Hong Kong Psy-trance and drum-and-space with DJs David West, Kris Defixio and Dino, 9pm.

Service Industry Night
The Exchange U: DJ Luca and DJ Aru spin vocal house and progressive trance; D: DJ Suge White spins hip-hop and soul classics, 9pm, $7, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins dance and R&B; D: John Frattasio, 9pm-1am, no cover, $21+.

Sophia's
Latin band, first floor, 5pm-2am; DJ Eddy K spins international music on the second floor, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Wet and Wild Wednesdays
The Kells DJ Drag and DJ Steve spin hip-hop, house and dance with ticket giveaways, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

THURSDAYS

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice spins top-40, old school, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 19+.

Backstage
Guest DJs spin all sorts of top-40 dance and club classics, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy
This hot New Orleans–themed night spot has it all—even billiards, 9pm.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Billy K spins acid jazz lounge, 9pm, 21+.

Caprice
Mingle and dance to loungy music, dress chic.

Change
Aer DJs Eli, Fernando and Mike spin, 10pm, 21+.

Chrome
Axis Resident DJ John Debo and DJ Ali Ajami spin progressive house, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Club Devo
Milky Way Catch Jedi Mind Trick, DJ Benny Blanco, La Machine, DJ Goodtimes and others. 8:30pm, $8, 21+.

Club Zen
97.7's DJ Chubby Chub spins R&B, hip-hop, techno, house and old school, 9pm, $10, 21+.

CPR
Matrix & Jukebox Resident DJs Elyte and hot special guest DJs spin the latest tunes, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Cream
Sugar Shack DJ Massi and DJ Joshua Carl blast the best hip-hop and house all night, 10pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells DJ Edgar and DJ KC spin dance tunes, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.

Diversified
Vertigo DJs spin deep soulful house in the lounge and UK hard house and deep trance in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Downtown
SW1 Guest DJs spin house, hip-hop and the best dance music, 10pm, no cover, 19+.

Embassy
Latin Lounge with DJ Anthony playing Latin dance and house, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Emily's
Catch the "After Work Rush Hour" from 5-8pm, then chill in the "Late Night Lounge," no cover, 21+.

Europa
Enter Club Destiny for DJ Rip's house and trance.

Everything '80s
Common Ground DJ Brian's "Love Night" mix features the best of the '80s, 10pm, 21+.

Fashion House
Aria Weekly fashion shows; DJ Roger M spins house and latin pop and DJ Yannaki spins Greek and Mediterranean rhythms, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Graduate School Night
Pravda 116 DJ Mario spins high-energy tunes, proper dress. 10pm, no cover, 21+.

The Green Briar
DJ Doc, 10pm, 21+.

Groove Factory
Karma DJ Bruno spins '70s, '80s and house, proper dress, 10pm, $8, 19+.

Heaven and Hell
The Exchange DJ Chaos spins house and hip-hop in heaven; DJ 7L spins hip-hop and R&B in hell, 10pm, $10, 19+.

International Thursdays
Avalon DJs pump out progressive Eurohouse tunes, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ Jason spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Ladies Night
DancePlex Dance to three floors of retro 80s hits, freestyle jams and top 40 tunes with DJ Reggie B, 9pm, $5 (no cover for ladies), 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Latin Quarter
The Roxy Dance to salsa, merengue and Latin grooves, 10:30pm, proper dress required, $10, 21+.

Lounge Night
The Avenue DJ Jason spins house tunes and the latest techno music, 21+.

The Modern
DJ Eddie Lee spins global lounge. Doors at 10pm. No cover before 11pm, $15 after 11pm. 19+.

Phoenix Landing
DJs Crook, Lenore and Rando present drum 'n' bass night, 9pm, $5, 21+.

Privilege at La Boom
La Boom DJ Felix spins tunes for this hot international night, dress smart, 11pm, 21+.

The Rack
Mix 98.5 hosts Mark Morris and the Catunes, 6:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm-2am, 21+.

Rhythm & Spice
DJ Evalast spins reggae soca and hip-hop, 10:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spinning new dance and R&B; D: Justin Beech, 9pm-1am, $21+.

Sophia's
Live Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Eddy K spins Latin on the second floor, 5pm, $10, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Live bands perform, 4pm, $3, 21+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Underground
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton spins with the newst live acts, 9pm, 18+.

Venu
DJ Nailz spins high-energy house; DJ Tasty spins '70s, '80s and '90s classics, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

FRIDAYS

An Tain
Resident DJ Joshua Carl spins hip-hop, progressive, tech and funky house, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJs spin top-40 dance with great music and no attitude, 10:30pm, 21+.

Avaland
Avalon DJ Ali Ajami and global DJs spin progressive dance music, 10pm, $15, 19+. •Dec. 21: Terry Mullan. •Dec. 28: Max Graham. •Jan. 4: Louie Devito.

The Avenue
Buck BC hosts TGIF nights, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40, dance tunes and house music, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins house, hip-hop and top-40 dance at this New Orleans–themed night spot.

Blue Cat Café
DJ Peter Winfrey spins a mix of old-school and acid jazz, 9pm, 21+.

Cat Club
The Roxy Glam international house featuring local, national and European DJs, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Dragg; D: DJ Doc, 9:30pm, 21+.

DancePlex
MC Ren and DJs Darren and Mark start spinning the best of the '80s and '90s at 8pm, no cover until 9pm, $10, 21+.

Deep Sessions
Aer DJs Peter and Gerry spin deep house, 10pm.

Emily's
"After Work Rush Hour" at 5-8pm is followed by DJ Renel spinning the latest top-40 and hip-hop at 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Exchange Fridays
The Exchange DJs Tiziano and DJ Maurizo deliver house, and DJ G-Squared spins hip-hop and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Kinvara Pub
DJ John spins the latest tunes, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs on three floors spin funk and top-40, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Matrix
DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house and dance mixes, 9pm, dress casual but neat, 21+.

The Modern
Mediterranean rhythms played by DJ Eddy K, 10pm, $15, 19+.

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Mondo Bar
The Roxy International and house with resident DJs Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K, 10:30pm, 21+.

Nocturnal Fridays
Bill's Bar DJ Mark Hamilton is joined by live rock bands, 9pm, 18+.

The Officers Club
The Palace Three rooms of the best hip-hop, R&B and reggae, $10 before 11pm, $15 after 11pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop and enjoy the best of Boston sports highlights, 10pm, 21+.

Plush
Aria DJ Thanos spins hip-hop and R&B in the Angel Room, and guest DJs spin vocal house, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance music, proper dress required, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Pulse at La Boom
La Boom Dance to the music of international guest DJs at this upscale night spot, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Rack
Kiss 108's Billy Costa and Central Basement, 6:30pm; DJ Todd, 10:30pm, 21+.

Revolution Fridays
Embassy. DJ JC spins Latin and progressive Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Rhythm & Spice
Dis 'n' Dat plays reggae and soca, 10:30pm, $8, 21+.

Shake It Up
Phoenix Landing DJ Ren Justice spins disco, hip-hop and top-40, 11pm, $3, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Steve Sosong spins dance; D: Stu Sinclair and Randy Vera, 9pm-1am, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Zino spins Latin house in the basemen, 5pm; DJ Mike C plays Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Spin Cycle
Karma DJ Tim Ryan spins progressive house on the main dance floor and DJ Mike spins alterna-hop in the Mambo Lounge, proper dress ,10pm, $10, 19+.

Sugar Shack
High-energy house, trance and hip-hop spun by DJ Massi rev up this club, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Superlover
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney spins disco and top-40 , 10pm, $5, 21+.

Superstar Fridays
The Paradise Shine with DJ Manolo and DJ Chaos spinning hip-hop, house and top-40, 10pm, $15, 19+.

SW1
Dance to house, hip-hop, R&B and top-40 tunes with special guest DJs, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
DJs KC and DJ Jonesey entertain on two floors.

TGIF
An Tain DJ Matt spins old-school house and techno music, 10pm, 21+.

Tilt
The Palace The latest progressive house and trance spun by DJ Manolo and guests. Casual dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 19+ men. •Dec. 21: Marc la Cruz.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Uptown, Underground & Oxygen
The Palace DJs spin dance music, hip-hop, reggae, and '70s, '80s and '90s, casual dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 19+ men.

Vertigo
The Dream Lounge features international, latin and house tunes. Catch high energy house and vocal in the club, 10pm, 21+.

Venu
DJ Arsit spins Eurohouse music; DJ Roger M. spinning Latin flavor, jacket required, $15, 21+.

SATURDAYS

An Tain
DJ Steve spins old-school house, 10pm, 21+.

An Tua Nua
DJ Ren Justice mixes top-40, hip-hop, house and soul, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Aria
DJs Thanos spins hip-hop and DJ Roger spins vocal house, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Atlas Dance
DJ plays top-40 dance, 10:30pm, 21+.

The Avenue
T night fills up the place with house and techno, 21+.

Backstage
DJ Johni C spins top-40 dance and club classics, proper dress, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Big Easy Bar
DJ Matt Phipps spins the best of house and hip-hop.



Aria is a scene to be seen Thursday through Sunday.

Blue Cat Café
DJ KC spins acid jazz and lounge house, 9pm, 21+.

Boom Room
Phoenix Landing DJ Vinney spins disco, 11pm, 21+.

Classic Saturdays
Embassy DJ Eddy K spins Eurohouse, 10pm, $15, 19+.

Club Copa
The Palace Shake it to the hottest Spanish and Latin dance music and hip-hop, $10 for 21+, $20 for 18+, ladies 21+ are free before 11pm; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

Club Nicole
DJ Luca spins Eurohouse on this exclusive trend-setting night, proper dress, $15, 21+.

Clutch
SW1 DJ Tari and George Nessis spin house, 10pm, 21+.

Dance Party
The Kells U: DJ Chaos; D: DJ O'Toole, 9:30pm, 21+.

Emily's
DJ Littles spins top-40 remix and house, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Escape
Tiger Lily DJ AJ Deep and DJ Brian "Soul" Luciani spin deep house and dance classics, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Exchange Saturdays
DJ Raffi plays house and international tracks while DJ G-Squared spins dance tunes downstairs in the vault, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Hannah's
DJ Artie V spins dance, house and top-40 hits, 21+.

Hibernia
DJ Steve Porter spins progressive house and is accompanied by special guest DJs, 10pm, 21+.

Karma
DJ Mario spins house on the main floor, DJ Stiffy spins in the Mambo Lounge, proper dress, 10pm, $15, 19+.

La Boom xo
La Boom Resident DJ Edward Grant Stuart and resident drummer Paul Drake provide the soundtrack for this upscale night, 9:30pm, 21+.

Late Night Lounge
The West Street Grille Guest DJs spin funk and top-40 on three floors, proper dress, 10:30pm, 21+.

Mango's Latin Night
Milky Way Let DJ Antonio Ortiz move you with merengue, salsa and bachata beats, 10pm, $7.

The Modern
Modernize Saturdays with DJ Eddie Lee playing down-tempo and house, 10pm. $15. 19+.

Move!
Avalon FNX presents a night of fresh beats, featuring house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $10, 19+.

Must
Venu DJs Nico and Javier spin the best of European disco house, proper dress, 11pm, 19+.

NYC Jukebox
Matrix. DJ Pedro Gonzalez spins high-energy house while disco tracks and dance favorites from the '70s, '80s and '90s make the back room come alive, 9:30pm, 21+.

The Place
Hang out at this hot spot with VJ Laptop, 10pm, 21+.

Pravda 116
DJ Mario spins high-energy dance, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

The Rack
Dance Party with Star 93.7's Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.

The Roxy
DJ Adilson spins high-energy house and chart-topping dance mixes, proper dress, 9pm, 21+.

Saturday Night Fever
DancePlex DJs Mark, Darren and Reggie B fill three dance floors with the best retro mixes, 8pm,no cover before 9pm, $10, 21+.

Shake
The Paradise DJ Goodfella spins hip-hop, classic funk and soul, 10pm-2am, $15, proper dress, 19+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Tom McKenna spins dance, 8pm; D: Kevin Kirrane, 9pm, no cover before 10pm, $21+.

Sophia's
DJ Mike C spins tunes in the basement, 5pm; Latin bands play on the first floor, 9:30pm; DJ Edwin Matos spins Latin dance on the second floor, $10, 21+.

Start!
Bill's Bar Post-punk and new electronic music by DJs M-16 and Damian are the backdrop to this new and alternative club night, hosted by *Makeoutclub.com*, 9pm, $8, 18+.

Sugar Shack
DJ Massi spins a blend of high-energy progressive house, trance and hip-hop, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.

Sweetwater Café
Music from DJs KC and Jonesey take over two dance floors and jump start the night.

Tilt
The Palace The latest of progressive house and trance spun by resident DJ Manolo and special guests. Proper dress, $10 before 10pm, $15 after 10pm, $20 for 18+; 18+ ladies, 21+ men.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance at this social playground for young professionals, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Underground
The Palace Under 21s can groove to top-40 dance, progressive dance, hip-hop and reggae, casual dress, 7-11pm first floor, 8pm-12am second floor, $14 .

Vertigo
Hip-hop, reggae, house and R&B tunes turn up the heat on two floors, 10pm, 21+.

Who's on First?
Li'l Mike spins hip-hop, reggae, R&B and Latin music, 10:30pm, $12, 18+.

X Night
Axis Hear DJs Mike Gioscia and David James spin alternative rock and '80s hits, 10pm, $10, 19+. •Dec. 21: John Debo. •Dec. 28: Cass.

SUNDAYS

Brazilian Night
The Kells Dance party with cash prizes, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Caribbean Sundays
Vertigo Imagine yourself in the Caribbean, dancing to these world beats, 10pm, 21+.

Carnival
Venu DJ Adilson brings the heat of Brazil to the dance floor at Venu, proper dress, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Curve
Hannah's DJ Earthrok spins house, breaks and techno, 10pm, $5, 21+.

Karma
DJ Statik Selektah spins the best of hip-hop, reggae and R&B, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Late Night in Russia
Vertigo Imagine yourself in a Euro nightclub as DJ Ermak spins international house, 10:30 pm, 21+.

Living Room
Aria DJ Roger M. spins international house and Latin pop, proper dress, 11pm, $15, 21+.

Mystic Reggae
Milky Way DJ Junior Rodigan spins great reggae music, 9pm, $10, 21+.

Pandora's Box
An Tua Nua DJ Vinney spins the best of the '60s , 19+.

The Rack
Chad LaMarsh, 9:15pm, no cover, 21+.

Red Square Lounge
Pravda 116 Party in the front bar, which is transformed into a comfortable lounge, 10pm-2am.

Reggae Sundays
Bill's Bar Sunday night reggae with Dub Station, JEM-i and DJ K-Don, 10pm, $10, 21+.

Sex
The Exchange DJ Timmy spins house and soul beats; DJ Suge White spins funk and R&B, 7pm, no cover, 21+.

Sissy K's
U: DJ Dave Jordan spins top-40; D: Tom Groleau, 9pm, no cover, 21+.

Touch
Aer Guest DJs spin a hot night of deep, soulful house, 10pm.

Trance
Phoenix Landing DJ Blacksmith spins hip trance beats, 10:30pm, $5, 19+.

Trattoria Il Panino
Mingle and dance to DJ Alex and DJ Roger M, proper dress, 10pm, no cover, 21+.

Urban Night
Backstage T Clark spins hip-hop, reggae, 10pm, 21+.

Vibe Lounge
Trio Kick back and experience this trend-setting night, 10pm, 21+.

WHOT Night at Backstage
DJ T. Clark spins hip-hop and R&B at WHOT 97.7 night, proper dress required, $15, 21+.

Club Venues

Aer/Hibernia *25½ Kingston St., Boston (617-292-3309).*
An Tain *35 India St., Boston (617-426-1870).*
An Tua Nua *835 Beacon St., Boston (617-262-2121).*
Aria *246 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7080).*
Atlas *3 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-437-0300).*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424).*
The Avenue Bar *1249 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-782-9508).*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437).*
Backstage *245 Quincy Place, Boston (617-726-1110).*
Big Easy Bar *Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-7000).*
Bill's Bar *5 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678).*
Blue Cat Café *94 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-247-9922).*
Caprice *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-292-0080).*
Club Nicole *40 Dalton St., Boston (617-236-4746).*
Club Zen *131 Clarendon St., Boston (508-472-1170).*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071).*
DancePlex *262 Friend St., Boston (617-720-1966).*
The Druid *1357 Cambridge St., Cambridge (617-497-0965).*
Embassy *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-536-2100).*
Emily's *48 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Europa *51 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939).*
The Exchange *148 State St., Boston (617-726-7601).*
Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
Hong Kong *1236 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-5311).*
Karma *9 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9595).*
The Kells *161 Brighton Ave., Brighton (617-782-9082).*
Kinvara Pub *34 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-9400).*
La Boom *One Boylston Place, Boston (617-357-6800).*
Matrix *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-1123).*
Milky Way *403-405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740).*
The Modern *30-36 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-351-2581).*
The Palace *(Club Copa, Officers Club, Oxygen, Tilt, Uptown and Underground) 1500 Broadway, Saugus (781-321-1660).*
The Paradise *969 Comm. Ave., Boston (617-562-8800).*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-576-6260).*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081).*
Pravda 116 *116 Boylston St., Boston (617-482-7799).*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051).*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308).*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699).*
Sissy K's *6 Commercial St., Boston (617-248-6511).*
Sophia's *1270 Boylston St., Boston (617-351-7001).*
Sugar Shack *1 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2510).*
SW1 *43 Winter St., Boston (617-423-3649).*
Sweetwater Cafe *5 Boylston Place, Boston (617-351-2515).*
Trattoria Il Panino *295 Franklin St., Boston (617-338-1000).*
Trio *174 Lincoln St., Boston (617-357-TRIO).*
Venu *100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-338-8061).*
Vertigo *126 State St., Boston (617-250-0000).*
West Street *15 West St., Boston (617-423-0300).*

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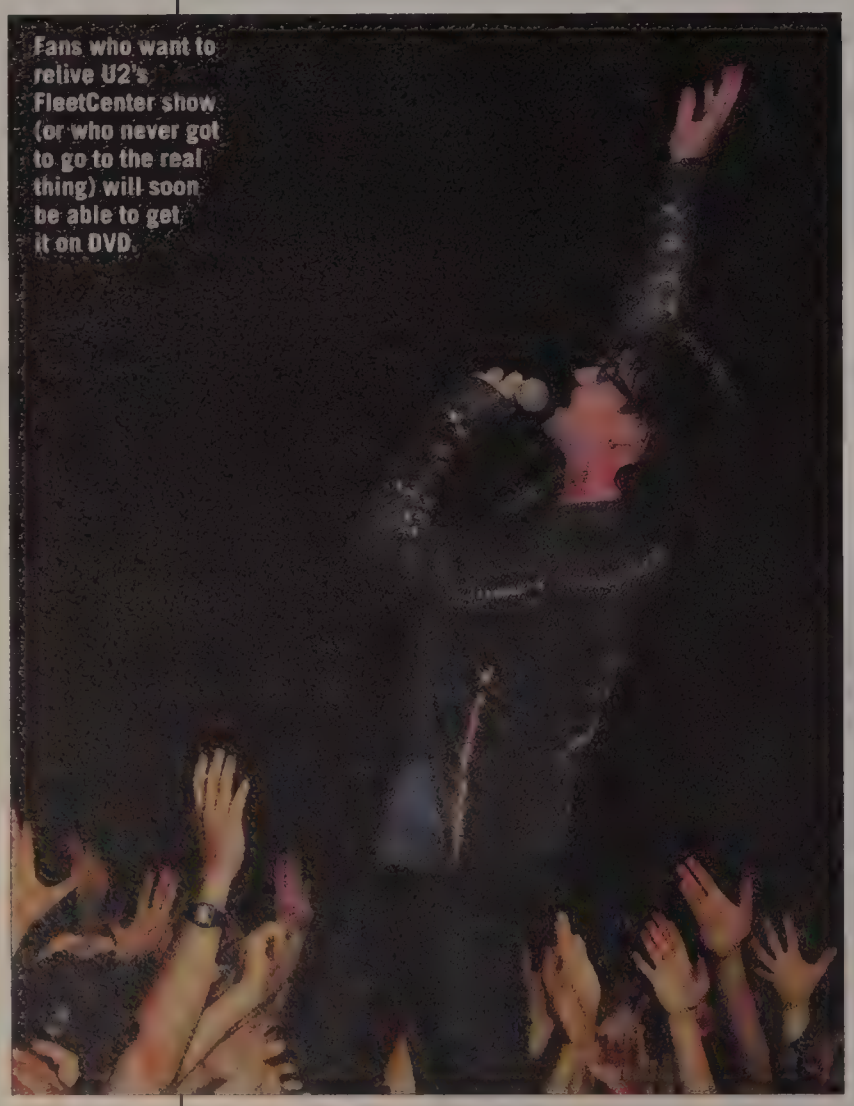
THE YEAR IN MUSIC

From Bjork to U2, an array of world-class performers graced Boston's venues in 2001. BY PAUL ROBICHEAU

For a moment in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 tragedy, the concept of concert-going seemed like a thing of the past. But music, like art in general, stood as proud testament to our freedom of expression, giving a shared joy and sense of purpose to events after the attacks as well as those before.

MESSIAH ROCK

Certainly the year's biggest tour was the return of U2, with an ingenious combination of staging and heart that made new connections with fans both before and after the terror. The June 6 FleetCenter show is on its way to DVD and lived up to past Boston Garden visits. In the same league was Radiohead, whose Aug. 14 show at Suffolk Downs was logistically tough, though the alternative venue gave the group a bigger stage to float its collage of soaring rock and experimental electronics with surprisingly crystalline sound and vision.



Fans who want to relive U2's FleetCenter show (or who never got to go to the real thing) will soon be able to get it on DVD.

ENSEMBLE JAZZ

Unlike rock bands, jazz groups often come off as a mix-and-match situation that offers surprises but misses cohesion. Hence, some of the year's most delightful nights came from honed ensembles, even on the avant-garde edge. During its March residency at Lilli's, Sex Mob proved it could subvert any original or cover tune with its punk-jazz bravado. And Holland's ICP Orchestra wove inside and outside Ellington charts with precisely executed mania at the ICA on Nov. 28. But the Dave Holland Quintet bolstered its case as the best-working band in jazz at the Regattabar on Sept. 27 with its novel, shifting counterpoint of vibes with horns, and the dynamic bottom of bassist Holland and drummer Billy Kilson.

CLASS ART ROCKS

For conceptual daring, Bjork's Oct. 12 concert at the lavish Wang Theatre took the cake. The Icelandic songbird mixed the industrial-lounge electronics of Matmos with an Inuit choir, harp and full orchestra in sublime, original juxtapositions. Another class act returned after 18 years when Roxy Music rocked the FleetBoston Pavilion July 17, with Bryan Ferry's suave croon offset by graceful big-band squawk. And while his songs are far blander, Welsh singer-songwriter David Gray proved a tasteful rising force at the Orpheum on April 28.

PRE-GRUNGE POLEMICS

Two politically charged bands that peaked in the late '80s proved alive and well last month. Aussie rockers Midnight Oil fired up its first show in several years at Avalon Nov. 3 (especially shaven-domed singer Peter Garrett's careening delivery in 1980 nugget "No Time For Games"), whetting the appetite for Oil's return in March. And at the Paradise Nov. 21, Living Colour added typically topical new material and electronica to its construction of funk, metal and jazz, topped by Vernon Reid's blitz-fusion guitar. Scorching last touch: a cover of Soundgarden's "Blow Up the Outside World."

SPEAKING-IN-TONGUES GROOVE

David Byrne's post-Talking Heads projects have been hit-or-miss. But it all came together on his new CD *Look into the Eyeball* and especially his May 11 show at the Paradise, where Byrne reconciled past and present with a compact band plus string section. Ooh, what a night that was. On the jammy side, the Paradise also shook on Aug. 2 with the Word, a band with the North Mississippi All-Stars, organ slapper John Medeski and pedal-steel phenom Robert Randolph, who has since been rocking the gospel with his roof-raising Family Band. And speaking of Medeski, he was just one of the gang fueling the groove of the Lizard Lounge collective Club d'Elf on Feb. 22.

FUTURE KNOCK

Dance culture clearly left its mark on live rock in 2001. The best package tour was the Area:One event at the Tweeter Center on July 18, a hybrid celebration of techno, hip-hop, alt-rock and everything in between with Moby, OutKast, Nelly Furtado, Incubus and a slew of DJs led by Paul Oakenfold. Over at the Lowell Memorial Auditorium on April 13, the Disco Biscuits sharpened their intuitive, electronica-spiced jams. But one performer who made electronics her world from the early '80s, Laurie Anderson, stripped back on both her poetic new CD *Life on a String* and her post-attack concert at Sanders Theatre Sept. 15, which was an intimate reflection on life and liberty that made the path ahead a more compelling destination. iB



Harmonica player, lyricist and singer Sugar Ray Norcia hits the House of Blues Dec. 28.

Advice to Contributors
Submit information labeled "Rock," "Blues," etc. by fax (617-859-1446); by mail to Calendar/Music; or by email to music@improper.com. *Include dates, times, prices, phone numbers and nearest T stops. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication date. Listings not accepted over the phone.*

Advice to Readers
Information for the music section is compiled from different sources. Although we make every effort to provide accurate dates and times, changes do occur. Call ahead to double check dates and times (see complete list of venues at the end of the section).

Top Billings

Addison Groove Project and Strangefolk
Dec. 31, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)

Gato Barbieri
Dec. 30 and 31, Scullers Jazz Club (617-562-4111)

Disptach
Dec. 31, Tsongas Arena (617-931-2000)

Evan Dando & Rebel Crue 2002
Dec. 29, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)

Equinox Music Festival featuring Joyful Noise
Dec. 22, Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center (617-927-1730)

The Figgs
Dec. 31, T.T. the Bear's Place (617-492-BEAR)

The Juliana Theory, Zao and Jameson
Dec. 28, Axis (617-423-NEXT)

Method Man and Redman
Dec. 21, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)

Midtown and the Movie Life
Dec. 28, Worcester Palladium (800-477-6849)

Pat McGee Band and Afroman
Dec. 27, Avalon (617-423-NEXT)

Joshua Redman
Dec. 26-30, Regattabar (617-661-5000)

The Sheila Divine
Dec. 31, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)

Rock, Jazz and Blues

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar Distant Relatives and Gabe Dixon Band, 9pm, $7, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Club Passim Kevin So, 8pm, $10, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill What a Way to Go-Go, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort The Big 80's, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 21+.
Harper's Ferry 84 West, 18+.
Hennessy's Jeff Frazier, 5-8pm; The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm, 21+.

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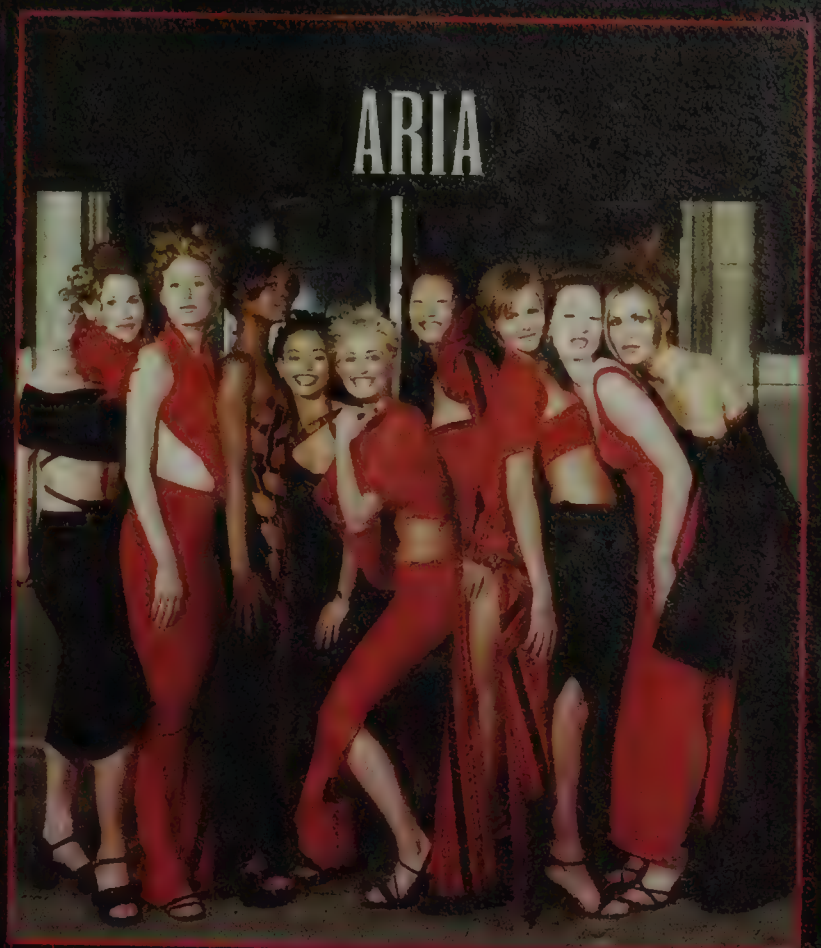
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New Years Eve 2002 Celebration



ARIA

House of Blues Mountain of Venus and Palabra, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Tim Gearan Band and Clare Mulduar, 8:30pm, 21+.
Limbo Judith Murray, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Burlesque Revival Association, 21+.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
Middle East U: Tommy and the Terrors, Suspect Device and Musclecah, 9pm, $7, 18+.
D: Guru, Project Kids and Tha God Mizzeba, 8pm, $20, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk and Traditional Singers Club, 9pm, 21+.
The Place Undercover, 7pm, 21+.
The Rack One People Reggae Band, 6-10pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Giana, 8:30pm, $10.
Sky Bar Moonshot, Audio Camouflage and Pagoda Red, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tir na nOg Tom Glynn, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Stephanie Wremble and the Cranktones, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Apollo Sunshine, $6, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Everything Soul, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Lance Martin, 8pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar Rubikon, 9pm, $7, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Joe Barger, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Little Joe Cook and the Thrillers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Chopping Block James Merenda's Masked Marvels, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Robbie O'Connell's Celtic Christmas, 8pm, $15, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill Love Night with DJ Brian, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rhythm Method, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Curious Electric, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Pimp the Cat, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
The Harp Chad LaMarsh, 21+.
Harper's Ferry A Tribute to the Allman Brothers, 9pm, $10, 18+.
House of Blues An Evening with Drums and Tuba, 10pm, $10, 18+.
Johnny D's Little Horse and No Michael No, 9pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Me and Julio, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Deep C and Travelin' Around, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café 84 West, 13th Ray and 12 Step Process, $5.
Limbo Kubota Power Jazz Unit, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Palace in Thunderland, Dryft and 16 Years of Grace, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Maybe Baby and Merrie Amsterberg, 21+.
Middle East U: Garrison, Main Man, Placer and Tristan Da Cunha, 9pm, $8, 18+.
D: The Lot Six and Give, 9pm, $10, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 7pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Michael Shea Group, 8:30pm, $7.
608 Auto 66, 10pm, no cover.
Sky Bar Dancing Davids, June Groove and Hirsh Project, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tir na nOg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Family Jewels and Todd Thibaud, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Kelly Buchanan CD-release show, The Modeles, Amusia and Brenda White, $6, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Anthem, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm, 21+.



"It's hard to go from being in creative mode and writing songs to being a jukebox every night on tour," says Chad Alan of The Juliana Theory, which will prove its validity with a concert experiment.

Preview

A New Hypothesis

The Juliana Theory Tests Out Its Brand Of Rock

"Maybe the great thing is that we don't fit in. We're the black sheep of rock," says Chad Alan, bassist for The Juliana Theory, a Pittsburgh-based band that formed in 1997 and soon after became the kings of Emo, or the most recent generation's complaint rock, generally with lyrics about relationships. However, fans wanting to hear the catchy, broken-heart songs from the band's early days may be disappointed.

"We're not bastards, we have to grow musically," explains Alan about the band's decision to stop playing its initial early songs in its sets. For those fans, a live album recorded in the band's hometown last year is in the works and packed full of Emo delight. The band's music has matured to a sound reminiscent of late '70s progressive rock, a transformation mirroring the band's move from indie label Tooth and Nail to major label Epic in the past few months.

"People come up to us and ask about how the label is controlling us creatively, but honestly, we couldn't possibly have more creative freedom," says Alan about fans who worry that the band has sold out. He also explained that the band is not trying to reinvent the wheel.

"Are we original? Not really. Are we breaking some kind of new crazy ground? No. But we are trying to make music that matters and music that's real, and I think that's something that's missing out there today," Alan notes. The Juliana Theory is playing a short stint of shows before heading into the studio to work on its next album, due out in summer. *See them with Zao on Dec. 28 at Axis, 13 Lansdowne St., Boston, (617-423-NEXT).—Vanessa Franko*

FRIDAY, DEC. 21

Atlantic 101 Henry Schniewind, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar The Pills, Noelle and Ultra, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Old Brigade and Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Stan Strickland with Ascension, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Shirley Lewis and the Thrillers, 9pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Lorriane & Bennett Hammond, 8pm, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Grant Langford Quintet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Briar Undercover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern God Fearing Man, 21+.
The Harp Blockhead, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Thaddeus Hogarth, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm, 21+.
House of Blues Freelance Bishops and the Fela Project, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Funky White Honkies, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Neopride, 21+.
Kendall Café The Irresponsibles Xmas Party, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Los Diablos, Den of Thieves and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Mark Rossi Group, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Brother Mosely, Jerkwater Ruckus and Mike Diplomat & the Misprints, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Meghan Toohey, 21+.
Middle East U: Vic Firecracker and Lipfloater, 9pm, $7, 18+.
D: Mr. Lif and Aesop Rock, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan & Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
The Place James McKenna, 7pm, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Jim Devlin Trio, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Marcels, 21+.
The Rack Central Basement, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Todd Reeves, 10:30pm, 21+.
Rhythm & Spice Tropical Fire, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Ken Clark Organ Trio, 9pm, $9.
Sky Bar Rainshine, Buck 50, Volition and Boa, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tir na nOg Frank Morey, 10pm, 21+.
Toad Coots, 21+.
Top of the Hub Joel Levin and the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Rockabilly Xmas Party with the Raging Teens, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Anthem, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbard, 9pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, DEC. 22

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
The Black Rose Old Brigade and Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Stan Strickland with Ascension, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Shirley Lewis and the Thrillers, 9pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Mary Lou Lord, 8pm, $12, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill DJ PD, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Booty, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Idiot Box, 21+.
The Green Briar Lulu's in Crisis, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Owen, 21+.
The Harp Chad LaMarsh, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Soul Work, $7, 21+.
Hennessy's Session, 4-7pm, 21+.
House of Blues Tarbox Ramblers, 10pm, $10, 21+.
Johnny D's Popgun 7 and Electric Logs, 9:45pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Central Basement, 21+.
Kendall Café Skunk, Shiner Jones, Local Jack and Rebecca Hart, 8:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Eula Lawrence, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood T House of the Almighty, Plank 63 and Solid State, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Seks Bomba and the Weisstronauts, 21+.
Middle East U: John Doe and Bleu, 9pm, $10, 18+.
D: Reid Genauer and Aaron Katz Project, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Patsy Whelan and Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Northeast Brewing Co. Jazz brunch with Harry Fix, 10am-2:30pm, all ages.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Syndicate, 21+.
The Rack Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar Rebecca Parris with the Kenny Hadley Big Band, 7:30pm; 10pm, $18.
Rhythm & Spice Jammdown, 11pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club George Levas Group, 9pm, $9.
Sky Bar The Audiants and Emetrex, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tir na nOg Easy Marks, 10pm, 21+.
Toad The Armadillos, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Kenny Wenzel and the Chris Taylor Trio, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Modifiers CD-release show, Caged Heat, Fast Actin' Fuses and Piggy D CD-release show, $7, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Western Front Balaton, 11pm, $10, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, DEC. 23

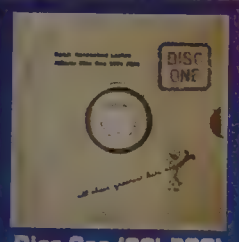
Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm.
Bill's Bar Dub Station, 10pm, 21+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz Brunch with the Nat Simpkins B3 Jazz Trio, 10am-3pm.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Club Passim Aine Minogue, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with Title Light, 10am-3pm, all ages.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Donegal Cords and Finbar Doyle, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 21+.
Hennessy's Ceoil Nua, 5-8pm, 21+.
House of Blues Mystic Vibes, 9pm, $6, 18+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Auntie Bean, Stacy Glen and Rachel McCartney, 8pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Barn, 9pm, $7, 18+.
D: Big Wheel Recreation Christmas Party with Piebald, the Damn Personals and Cancer Conspiracy, 8pm, $10, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.

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Hybrid Theory

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Original Motion Picture Soundtrack

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Miss E ... So Addictive

MTV TRL Christmas



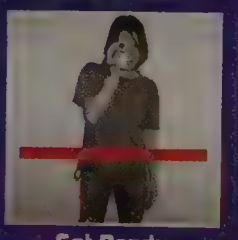
Various Artists

Nate Dogg



Music & Me

New Order



Get Ready

Rod Stewart



The Very Best Of

Trick Daddy



Thugs Are Us

Yolanda Adams

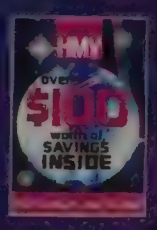


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- **Avon, CT** at 380 W. Main Street 860-678-9400

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Where music lives.

The Rack Chad LaMarsh and DJ Mike Janedy, 9:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Rebecca Parris Quartet, 3 and 7pm, $14.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover.
T.T. the Bear's Place Benefit for the New England Home for Little Wanderers with Gout 32 and friends, $10.
Tír na nÓg Dave Foley Band, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, DEC. 24

The Black Rose Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Session.
Harper's Ferry The Electric Coalboilers, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 8pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, DEC. 25

The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 26

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Club Passim Todd Thibaud, Sean Staples, Jabe Beyer, Mark Erelli and Dennis Brennan, 8pm, $15, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill What a Way to Go-Go (Mod night with DJ Vin), 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Inchicore, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 21+.
Hennessy's Jeff Frazier, 5-8pm; The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm, 21+.
House of Blues Scratch My Back, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Johnny D's Fire in the Boathouse, 21+.
Limbo Frank Wilkins Trio, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Burlesque Revival Association, 21+.
Middle East D: Sir Cecil's Boxing Day Showcase with Tropical Fire, the Allstonians, Dynamite Band, New Youth, Nemesis and Riddle Band, $10, 18+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Paddy Burke's Pub Boston Folk and Traditional Singers Club, 9pm, 21+.
The Place Undercover, 7pm, 21+.
The Rack One People Reggae Band, 6-10pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Regattabar Joshua Redman Quartet, 8:30pm, $28.
Sky Bar Fly, Danny Glick, the Faithfull and Drop Dose, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Apollo Sunshine, $6, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates John Kordalewski Trio, 8pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, DEC. 27

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar Elsewhere and Slot Machine, 9pm, $7, 18+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Joe Barger, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge The Thrillers, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Chopping Block James Merenda's Masked Marvels, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Melissa Ferrick, 7 and 10pm, $20, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill Love Night with DJ Brian, 10pm.
Dick's Last Resort Classic Trax, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Dead Cat Bounce, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown El Eco, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal The Return, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Apartment Three and Clarias, $10, 18+.
House of Blues Prescription Renewal, 10pm, $25, 18+.
Johnny D's Ibrahima Camara, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Me and Julio, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café The Jaded Salingers and Ian Richardson, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Sophmore, BJ Snowden and Awry-Zen, $5.
Limbo Wannetta Jackson, 9pm, 21+.



Addison Groove Project fuses funk, jazz and classical music into its improvisational tunes at the Worcester Palladium Dec. 31.

The Linwood Prime Rib, Roma and Slater, $6, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Club D'Elf, 21+.
Middle East D: Lake Trout, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
Paradise Rock Club Jen Durkin & the Conscious Underground and Mary Prankster, 9pm, $10, 18+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 7pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm, DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Joshua Redman Quartet, 8pm; 10pm, $28.
Sky Bar Livesexact and Dr. Frog, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ronan "Fluffy" Quinn, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Chris Taylor with Joe Hunt and Dave Zinno, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Scamper and Nemochrome, $6, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, DEC. 28

Atlantic 101 Henry Schniewind, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar Superzero, 9pm, $8, 18+.
The Black Rose Los Diablos and Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
The Burren Jabe.
Cantab Lounge Shirley Lewis and the Thrillers, 9pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Melissa Ferrick, 7 and 10pm, $20, all ages.
Common Ground The Joint Chiefs, 10pm, 21+.
Copperfield's Lincoln Conspiracy, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Rick Costa Trio, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Borderland, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Briar Hype, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Classic Trax, 21+.
The Harp Bob's Day Off, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Rustic Overtones, 8pm, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm, 21+.
House of Blues Sugar Ray All-Star Big Band, 10pm, $15, 21+.
Johnny D's Munk, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's 2nd Story, 21+.
Kendall Café Lowstar, 84 West and Teresa Storch, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Wheelers & Dealers, Honky Tonk Heroes, Laurel Michaels Band and Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Lance Martin, 9pm, 21+.
The Linwood Greenhouse and Brothers of Intention, $7, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Jim's Big Ego, 21+.
Middle East U: The Texas Governor, 9pm, $7, 18+.
D: Luna and Radio, 9pm, $15, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's The McTargets, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
The Place James McKenna, 7pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Bunker Hill, 21+.
The Rack Central Basement, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Todd Reeves, 10:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Joshua Redman Quartet, 8 and 10:30pm, $32.



After opening for Ireland's JJ72 in New York, rock gods The Sheila Divine ring in the New Year with hometown fans at the Paradise Dec. 31.

Revel, Rejoice & Ring In the New Year at

The Resolution Ball

December 31, 2001
The Colonnade Hotel • 120 Huntington Avenue • Boston
8:30 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

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Hosted Champagne Reception from 8:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Scrumptious Hors D'oeuvres
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Silent Auction

Black Tie Optional

Tickets:

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(if available)

For more information and to purchase tickets:
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A portion of the proceeds will benefit The Ellie Fund, a non-profit organization whose mission is to fight breast cancer by easing its effects on patients and their families.



F*#K New Year's

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F*#K New Year's Eve Party

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Check your crap at the front door!
(no party hats, horns, balloons, confetti, ball droppings or countdowns etc.)
Must be 21+

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The eclectic guitarless quartet, the Gabe Dixon Band, rock out at Bill's Bar Dec.19.

Scullers Chuck Loeb and Kim Waters, 8pm; 10:30pm, $18.
Sky Bar Mr. Lincoln, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Frank Morey, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Arnie Krakowski with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Orbit, AdFrank & The Fast Easy Women, Auto Interiors and Panda Squad, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kim Trusty, 9pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, DEC. 29

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Bill's Bar The Damn Personals, 9pm, $10, 18+.
The Black Rose Los Diablos and Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Cantab Lounge Shirley Lewis and the Thrillers, 9pm, $8, 21+.
Club Passim Jess Klein, 7 and 10pm, $20, all ages.
Common Ground Gaffney, 10pm, 21+.
Copperfield's Bushead, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Booty, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Idiot Box, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Return, 21+.
The Harp Central Basement, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Rustic Overtones, 8pm, $12, 21+.
Hennessy's Irish Session, 4-7pm, 21+.
House of Blues Prodigals, 10pm, $12, 21+.
Johnny D's Michelle Willson, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Off the Wall, 21+.
Kendall Café Naked Through Utah, Playing for Audrey and Jen Johnson, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Kirkland Café Thought Brigade, $5.
Limbo Peter Moudis, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Irresponsibles, Stone Soup and Rocketscience, 21+.
Middle East U: Shadraq and Heir, 9pm, 18+. D: John Brown's Body, 9pm, $12, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's The McTargets, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub Focal and Tom Carroll, 9:30pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Felix Brown, 21+.
The Rack Vinnie Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.
Regattabar Joshua Redman Quartet, 8 and 10:30pm, $36.
Ryles Jazz Club Four Piece Suit, 9pm, $9.
Scullers Chuck Loeb and Kim Waters, 8 and 10:30pm, $21.
Sky Bar On The Drop, 5lb Brown and The Roadies, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg The Johnny Come Latelies, 10pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Phil Person with the Chris Taylor Trio, 9pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Orbit, Dragstrip Courage, Baby Strange and Daisycutter, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Kaoruko, 7-9:30pm; Valerie Stephens, 10pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, DEC. 30

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm.
Bill's Bar Dub Station and Sonbeam, 10pm, $10, 21+.
The Black Rose Sunday's Well, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Sonny Watson Quartet, 10am-3pm.
The Burren Jason Spooner and Paul Horton, 8pm, no cover.
Cantab Lounge Candy's Blues Jam, 9pm, $3, 21+.
Club Passim Ellis Paul, 7 and 10pm, $20, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel brunch with Title Light, 10am-3pm, all ages; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Inchicore and Finbar Doyle, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 21+.
Hennessy's Ceoil Nua, 5-8pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Inner Green and Timber Jerry, 9:30pm, $5, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East U: Carv and Breeding Ground, 9pm, $7, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh amd DJ Mike Janedy, 9:30pm, 21+.
Regattabar Joshua Redman Quartet, 7 and 9pm, $32.

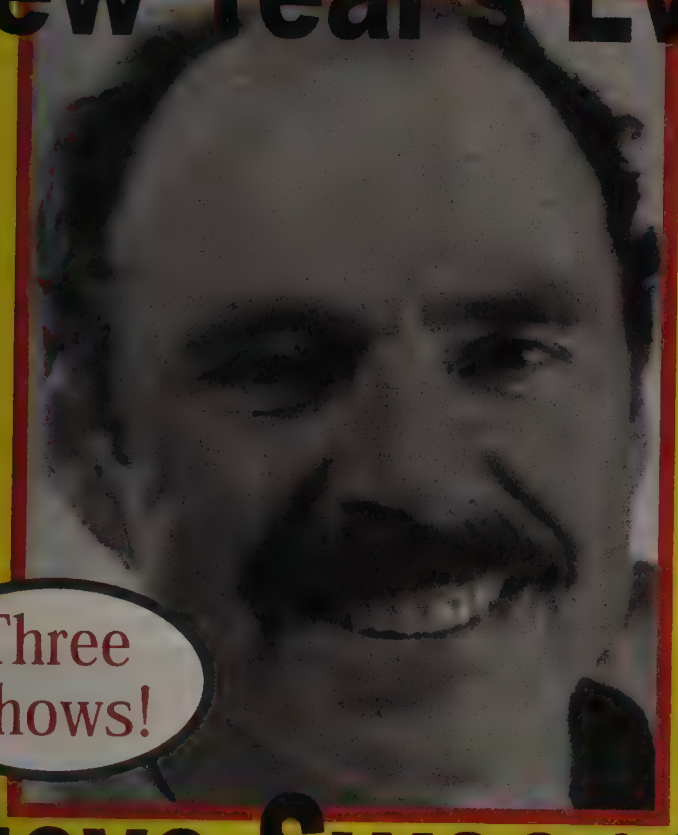
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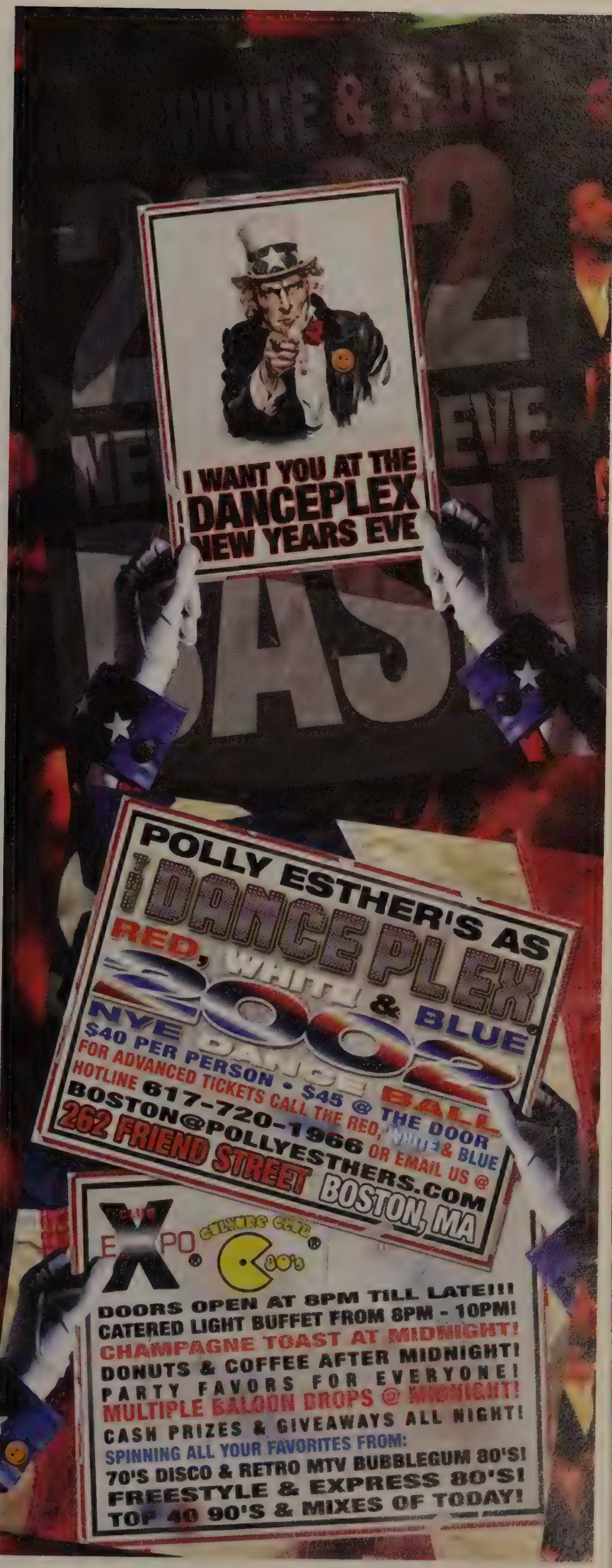
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Rhythm and Spice Caribbean Cruize Band, 10pm, $8, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch, 10am-3pm, no cover.
Tír na nÓg The Johnny Come Latelies, 7pm, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Lucubro, Fixation, Negative Ghostrider and Dropdose, $4, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The JoeMcMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, DEC. 31

The Attic Hazie Maze, $20, 21+.
Bill's Bar Low Dough New Year's Eve, $10.
The Black Rose Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Cantab Lounge New Year's Eve Party, 21+.
Club Passim Ellis Paul, 7 and 10pm, $25, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill New Year's party with DJ Brian and guests.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 8pm, $15, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Waldron Ricks Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Briar Irish Session.
Harper's Ferry Entrain and Mudhens.
House of Blues Barrence Whitfield and Milo Z.
Johnny D's Superhoney, 8:30pm, $30, 21+.
Kendall Café The Gladstones, 21+.
Limbo New Year's Eve Celebration, 21+.
The Linwood Shake Dog Shake and the Humanoids, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Treat Her Right, Cash Monies and the Jetsetter, Jake Brennan and the Confidence Men and Sticky, 21+.
Middle East U: Skitzofreniks and Red Pill, 9pm, $15, 21+. D: Babaloo, 9pm, $25, 21+.
Paddy Burke's Pub New Year's Eve Party, 8pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Janedy, 8pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Herman Johnson, 8pm, $79.95 per couple.
Scullers Gato Barbieri, 8pm, $40; 11pm, $50.
Top of the Hub Maggie Galloway Quintet, 8pm, reservations required, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Gentlemen, Jedediah Parish and the Charms, $20, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry Group, 9pm, $75, 21+.

TUESDAY, JAN. 1

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Dick's Last Resort Jazz brunch, 10am-3pm, all ages.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe and Mystery Mullet Circus, 10pm, 21+.
The Rack Fikus, 6-10pm; DJ Richie Fingers, 10pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch.
Sky Bar Hey Vern, Sunset Is a Battle and No Luck at All, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske, 8:30pm.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm, 21+.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 2

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Christopher Williams, $15, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill What a Way to Go-Go (Mod night with DJ Vin), 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Brian Nash and Justin Tranter, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Emmet Hickey.
The Green Dragon Tavern J.D. Ingalls, 21+.
Hennessy's Jeff Frazier, 5-8pm; The Swinging Johnsons, 9pm, 21+.
Limbo Tony Gallo, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Josh Ritter, 21+.
McGann's Pub Traditional Irish Music, 9:30pm.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Place Undercover, 7pm, 21+.
The Rack One People Reggae Band, 6-10pm; DJ Steve Anderson, 10pm, 21+.
Sky Bar Soulfege, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske, 8:30pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Tickly Settled, Nikulydin, Rabadango and Trace Element, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Leo Blanco, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Sonny Watson, 8pm, 21+.

THURSDAY, JAN. 3

Atlantic 101 Alison Brown, 7:30pm.
Bob the Chef's Joe Barger, 7:30pm.
Chopping Block James Merenda's Masked Marvels, 9:30 pm, no cover, 21+.
Club Passim Mark Erelli and Christine Kane, $10, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill Love Night with DJ Brian, 10pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort Brick Park, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Michele Currie, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge The Freelance Bishops, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Lonnie Gasperinni, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Spitting Vinnies, 21+.
Johnny D's Debbie Davies, 9pm, 21+.
Jose McIntyre's Me and Julio, 9pm, 21+.
Kendall Café Emm Gryner, 21+.



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Kirkland Café Red Letter, Bender-X and Complaints, $5.
Limbo Mark Rossi Trio, 9pm, 21+.
The Place Greg Lutrell, 7pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock Jim Plunkett, 21+.
The Rack Mark Morris & the Catunes, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Ricky, 10:30pm, 21+.
Scullers Norah Jones.
Sky Bar The Jumblies, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske, 8:30pm.
Tír na nÓg Rowan Quinn, 21+.
T.T. the Bear's Place Medium, Pennywheel and Ultravixen, $7, 18+.
Wally's Renato Tombs, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Grant Langford Review, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Steve Langone, 8pm, 21+.

FRIDAY, JAN. 4

Atlantic 101 Henry Schniewind, 7:30pm.
The Attic Uncle Sammy and 84 West, 9pm, $7, 21+.
Bob the Chef's Black Sole Ensemble, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Alastair Mook CD-release, $12, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Soul City, 8pm. no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Kristen Long and Brian Nash, 6:45pm; Jan Peters, 9pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Lonnie Gasperinni, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Mickey Bones and the Jump Crew, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Owen, 21+.
Hennessy's Me and Julio, 5-7:30pm, 21+.
Kirkland Café Mickey Bliss Organ Combo, $5.
Limbo Kim Trusty, 9pm, 21+.
Middle East D: Injustice and Stocklan, 9pm, $8, 18+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
The Place James McKenna, 7pm, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Curious Electric, 21+.
The Rack Central Basement, 6:30-10:30pm; DJ Todd Reeves, 10:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Rico Barr & the Jump N' Jive Review CD-release show, 9pm, $9.
Sky Bar Midget Jesus, Cheaterprint and Tricycle, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Just Like Them and Three Dimestone Haloes, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Johnny Chronic Chronicles, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Silas Hubbard, 9pm, 21+.

SATURDAY, JAN. 5

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm; Kane Minkos, 7:30pm.
Bob the Chef's Herman Johnson Quartet, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Silverleaf Gospel Singers, $12; Meghan Toohey, $8, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Elvis Birthday Tribute, 8pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Stacy Baker, 6:30pm; DesPres, DeGraff and Nash Revue, 9:30pm, no cover.
Good Life Cambridge Jose Ramos, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Good Life Downtown Miss Karin Parker, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Grand Canal Syndicate, 21+.
The Green Dragon Tavern Six Shot Brody, 21+.
Harper's Ferry Slipknot, $7.
Hennessy's Irish Session, 4-7:30pm, 21+.
Johnny D's Buddy & Julie Miller and Hillbilly Voodoo, 9:45pm, 21+.
Limbo Alon Yavnai, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Spurs, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Sunday's Well, 21+.
Oak Bar Steve Silverman Jazz Quartet, 8:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Porters Bar and Grill Time Well Spent, 21+.
The Rack Vinny Peruzzi and DJ Ricky, 8pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Wildest Dreams, 9pm, $9.
Sky Bar Dr. Awkward and the Tint, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Tír na nÓg Ray Mason, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske, 9pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Brenda White, Zoux, Carla Ryder, Amelia White, Juniper's Daughter, Meghan Cary and Hilary Epstein, 18+.
Wally's John Lamkin Quintet, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Rusty Scott Quartet, 9:30pm, no cover, 21+.
Les Zygomates Eula Lawrence, 7-9:30pm; George Russell, 10pm, 21+.

SUNDAY, JAN. 6

Atlantic 101 Jazz brunch with Jon Jarvis, 11:30am-2:30pm.
Bob the Chef's Jazz brunch with Hakim Law, 10am-3pm.
Club Passim Tony Trischka, $15, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Gospel Brunch, 10am-3pm; Rob Gonzalez Band, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Dorothy Miller and Michael Larson, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Dragon Tavern The Swinging Johnsons, 21+.
Johnny D's Blues Jam 4:30-8:30pm; Salsa Dancing with Rumba NaMa, 9pm, 21+.
Limbo Ron Murphy Quartet, 9pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge Jeff Robinson Trio, 9pm, 21+.
Mr. Dooley's Mike Barrett, 8pm, 21+.
Purple Shamrock James McKenna Duo, 21+.
The Rack Chad LaMarsh and DJ Mike Janedy, 9:30pm, 21+.
Ryles Jazz Club Jazz brunch.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm-12am.
T.T. the Bear's Place Reverie Night with DJs spinning goth, ethereal, industrial and darkwave.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

MONDAY, JAN. 7

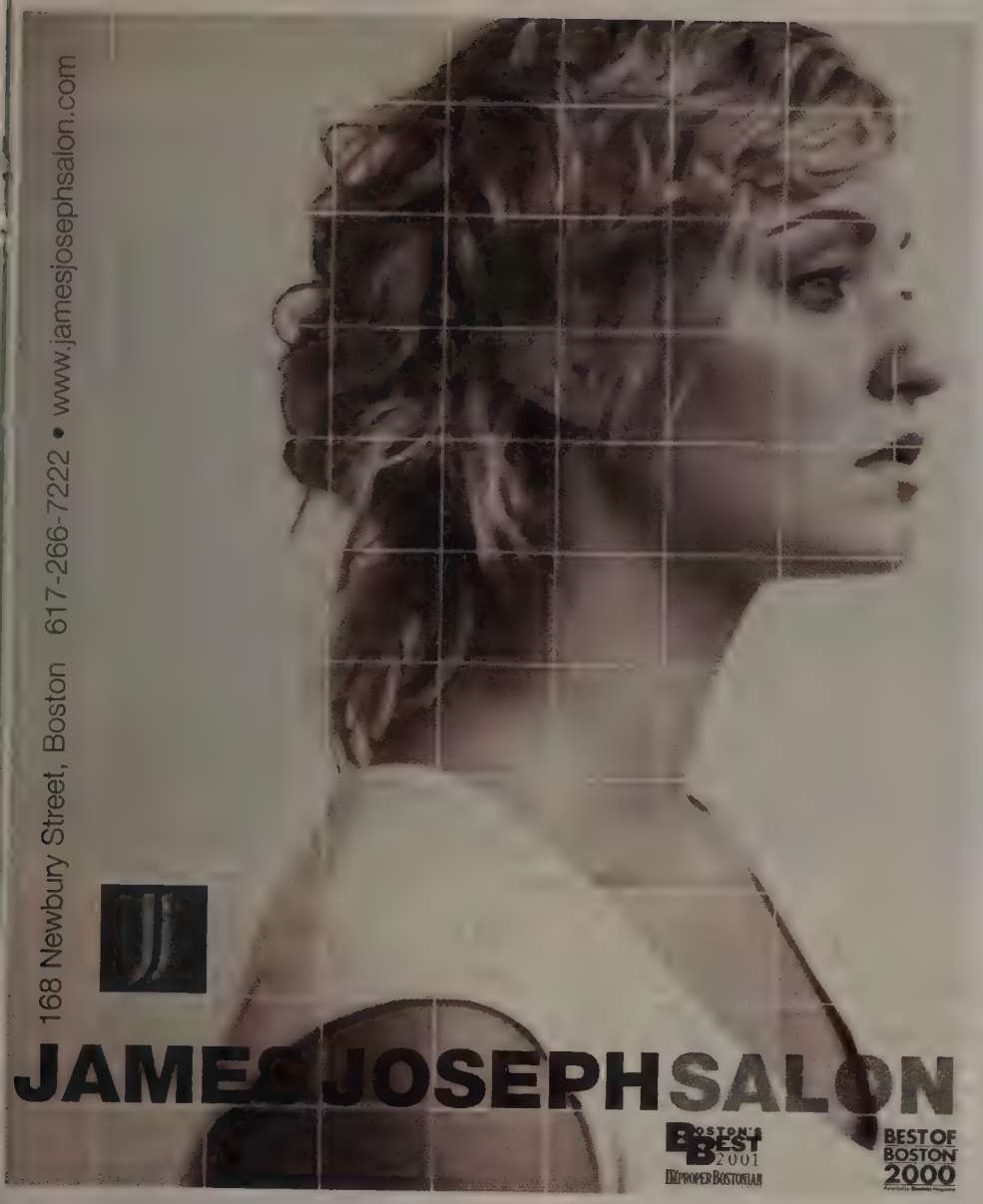
The Black Rose Tony O'Riorden, 21+.
Cantab Lounge Caroline Herring, 21+.
Club Passim Open mike with Tim Mason, $5, all ages.
Common Ground Bar and Grill Simpsons Trivia Night, 7pm, 21+.
Dick's Last Resort God Fearing Man, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Clara Lofaro Jazz Trio, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Irish Session.
Limbo Blue Heaven, 8pm, 21+.
Lizard Lounge The Fringe, 10pm, 21+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
Purple Shamrock Scott Damgaard, 21+.
The Rack In the Biz Night with DJ Mike Janedy, 8pm, 21+.
The Rattlesnake The Brian Walkley Band, 7-11pm, 21+.
Tír na nÓg The Coots, 21+.
Top of the Hub Marty Ballou Trio, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place Natalie Flanagan, 18+.
Wally's Jose Ramos and the Special Blend, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar The Joe McMahon Experience, 9:30pm, 21+.

TUESDAY, JAN. 8

Atlantic 101 Jon Jarvis, 7:30pm.
Club Passim Open Mike, $5, all ages.
Dick's Last Resort Cut the Mullet, 7pm, no cover, 21+.
Encore Lounge Bobby Femino, 9pm, no cover.
The Green Briar Pub Quiz.
Hennessy's Scott Damgaard, 21+.
Limbo Perry Rossi, 8pm, 21+.
M.J. O'Connor's Live Traditional Irish Music, 9pm.
The Rack Fikus, 6-10pm; DJ Richie Fingers, 10pm, 21+.
608 The David James Motorcycle, 10pm, no cover.
Scullers Dan Hicks & Hot Licks.
Sky Bar Kat, 13th Ray and Negative Ghost Rider, 9pm, $5, 21+.
Top of the Hub Bob Nieske, 8pm.
T.T. the Bear's Place The Silent Goodbye, the Good North and the Autumn Rhythm, 18+.
Wally's Wally's Stepchildren, 9pm, 21+.
Wonder Bar Mike McKenna Trio, 9:30pm, 21+.
Les Zygomates Alvin Terry Trio, 8pm, 21+.

Music Venues

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston (617-723-5101). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Atrium Lounge *Faneuil Hall Marketplace, Boston (617-236-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Government Center.*
The Attic *107R Union St., Newton (617-964-6615). MBTA: D Green Line to Newton Centre.*
Axis *13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Avalon *15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Bell In Hand Tavern *45-55 Union St., Boston (617-227-2098). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Berklee Performance Center *136 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-747-2261). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes.*
Bill's Bar *5½ Lansdowne St., Boston (617-421-9678). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Black Horse Tavern *340 Faneuil Hall, Boston (617-227-2038). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston (617-743-2286). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
Bob the Chef's *604 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-6204). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Bristol Lounge *200 Boylston St., Boston (617-338-4400). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
The Burren *247 Elm St., Somerville (617-776-6896). MBTA: Red Line to Davis Square.*
Cantab Lounge *738 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-354-2685). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Chopping Block *724 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-724-4177). MBTA: E Green Line to Brigham Circle.*
Club Passim *47 Palmer St., Cambridge (617-492-7679). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Common Ground *85 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-783-2071). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Coogan's *173 Milk St., Boston (617-451-7415). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Copperfield's *98 Brookline Ave., Boston (247-8605). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore.*
Dick's Last Resort *55 Huntington Ave., Boston (617-267-8080). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
Encore Lounge *275 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
FleetCenter *One FleetCenter, Suite 200, Boston (617-624-1000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Good Life Cambridge *720 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-868-8800). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Good Life Downtown *58 Kingston St., Boston (617-451-2622). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston (617-523-1112). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
The Green Briar *304 Washington St., Brighton (617-789-4100).*
The Green Dragon Tavern *11 Marshall St., Boston (617-367-0055). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Green Street Grill *280 Green St., Cambridge (617-876-1655). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Harp *85 Causeway St., Boston (617-742-1010). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Harper's Ferry *158 Brighton Ave., Allston (617-254-9743). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
House of Blues *96 Winthrop St., Cambridge (617-491-BLUE). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Irish Embassy Pub *234 Friend St., Boston (617-742-6618). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Johnny D's *17 Holland St., Somerville (617-776-2004). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston (617-451-9460). MBTA: Blue Line to Aquarium.*
Julien Bar *250 Franklin St., Boston (617-451-1900). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Kendall Café *233 Cardinal Medeiros Way, Cambridge (617-661-0993). MBTA: Red Line to Kendall.*
Kirkland Café *425 Washington St., Somerville (617-482-4920). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
Limbo *49 Temple Place, Boston (617-338-0280). MBTA: Red or Green Line to Park Street.*
The Linwood *69 Kilmarnock St., Boston (617-267-8644). MBTA: D Green Line to Fenway.*
Lizard Lounge *1667 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-0759). MBTA: Red Line to Porter or Harvard.*
McGann's Pub *197 Portland St., Boston (617-227-4059). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Middle East *472 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-3278). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Milky Way *405 Centre St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-3740). MBTA: Orange Line to Stony Brook.*
M.J. O'Connor's *27 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-482-2255). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington.*
Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston (617-338-5656). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State.*
Northeast Brewing Co. *1314 Comm. Ave., Allston (617-566-6699). MBTA: D Green Line to Longwood Ave.*
Oak Bar *Fairmont Copley Plaza, 138 Saint James Ave., Boston (617-267-5300). MBTA: Green Line to Copley.*
Orpheum Theatre *Hamilton Place, Boston (617-482-0650). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street.*
Paddy Burke's Pub *132 Portland St., Boston (617-367-8370). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Paradise Rock Club *967 Comm. Ave., Boston. (617-562-8800). MBTA: B Green Line to Pleasant St.*
The Phoenix Landing *512 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (576-6260). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*


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P.J. Ryan's *239-241 Holland St., Somerville (617-625-8200). MBTA: Red Line to Davis.*
The Place *2 Broad St., Boston (617-523-2081). MBTA: Orange or Blue Line to State Street.*
Plough & Stars *912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-441-3455). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Porters Bar and Grill *173 Portland St., Boston (617-742-7678). MBTA: Green Line to North Station.*
Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston (617-227-2060). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center.*
The Rack *24 Clinton St., Boston (617-725-1051). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket.*
Regattabar *Charles Hotel, Cambridge (617-661-5000). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard.*
Rhythm & Spice *315 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4308). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
The Roxy *279 Tremont St., Boston (617-338-7699). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston.*
Ryles Jazz Club *212 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-9330). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard or Central.*
Sanders Theatre *45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard .*
Scullers Jazz Club *400 Soldiers Field Rd., Cambridge (617-562-4111). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sidney's Grille *20 Sydney St., Cambridge (617-494-0011). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Sky Bar *518 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-623-5223). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
608 *608 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-591-1661). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
The Times *112 Broad St., Boston (617-357-8463). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing.*
Tír na nÓg *366 Somerville Ave., Somerville (617-628-4300) MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Toad *1912 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-497-4950). MBTA: Red Line to Porter.*
Top of the Hub *Prudential Tower, Boston (617-536-1775). MBTA: E Green Line to Prudential.*
T.T. the Bear's Place *10 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-492-BEAR). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Tsongas Arena *300 Arsenal Dr., Lowell (978-848-6900).*
Wally's Café *427 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-424-1408). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave.*
Western Front *353 Western Ave., Cambridge (617-492-7772). MBTA: Red Line to Central.*
Wonder Bar *186 Harvard Ave., Allston (617-351- COOL). MBTA: B Green Line to Harvard Ave.*
Worcester Centrum *50 Foster St., Worcester (508-755-6800).*
Worcester Palladium *231 Main St., Worcester (508-797-9696).*
Les Zygomates *129 South St., Boston (617-542-5108). MBTA: Red Line to South Station.*

advance seating

THESE SHOWS ARE SURE TO SELL OUT, SO CALL FOR YOUR TICKETS SOON

Anthrax and Judas Priest Feb. 14, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Joan Baez Feb. 19, Berklee Performance Center (617-931-2000).
Aaron Carter Feb. 5, Tsongas Arena (617-931-2000).
Charlatans UK Jan. 28, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
The Circle Jerks Jan. 9, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Creed Feb. 7, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young March 2 and 3, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Dave Davies April 25, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT).
Down from the Mountain Tour with Alison Krauss and Union Station and featuring Jerry Douglas, Emmylou Harris, Ralph Stanley, the Whites, Norman and Nancy Blake, Patty Loveless, Chris Thomas King, the Peasall Sisters, Robert Neuwirth and the Nashville Bluegrass Band, Feb. 2, Wang Theatre (800-447-7400).
Bela Fleck and Edgar Meyer Jan. 31, Sanders Theatre (617-496-2222).
Great Big Sea March 6, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Julio Iglesias March 24, Symphony Hall (617-931-2000).

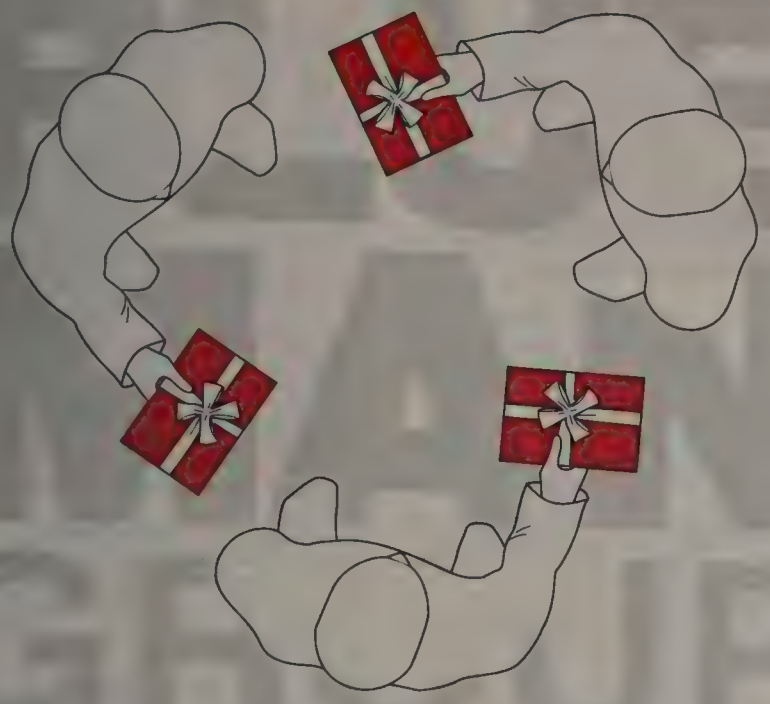


Elton John sings in January.

Elton John and Billy Joel Jan. 22, 24, 29 and 31, FleetCenter (617-931-2000).
Alicia Keys Jan. 26, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
Baaba Maal Jan. 11, Somerville Theatre (617-625-5700).
Branford Marsalis Feb. 21-24, Regattabar (617-661-5000).
Mission of Burma Jan. 18, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Willie Nelson Jan. 25, Orpheum Theatre (617-931-2000).
John Scofield Band Feb. 22 and 23, Paradise Rock Club (617-423-NEXT)
Rufus Wainwright Feb. 10, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).
Bruce Willis & The Accelerators and Ivan Neville Jan. 25, Avalon (617-423-NEXT).

TOP: KATHY CHAPMAN

Added shows for the holidays!



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2001- 2002

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Dec.17 NO SHOW	**Dec.18** 5+8pm	**Dec.19** 5+8pm	**Dec.20** 5+8pm	**Dec.21** 4,7+10pm	**Dec.22** 4,7+10pm	**Dec.23** 1,4+7pm
Dec.24 2+5pm	**Dec.25** NO SHOW	**Dec.26** 2,5+8pm	**Dec.27** 2,5+8pm	**Dec.28** 4,7+10pm	**Dec.29** 4,7+10pm	**Dec.30** 1,4+7pm
Dec.31 4,7+10pm	**Jan.1** 2,5+8pm	**Jan.2** 2,5+8pm	**Jan.3** 5+8pm	**Jan.4** 4,7+10pm	**Jan.5** 4,7+10pm	**Jan.6** 1,4+7pm

CONTACT INFORMATION
ticketmaster 617.931.2787
Info + Group Sales 617.426.6912

LOCATION
Charles Playhouse
74 Warrenton Street

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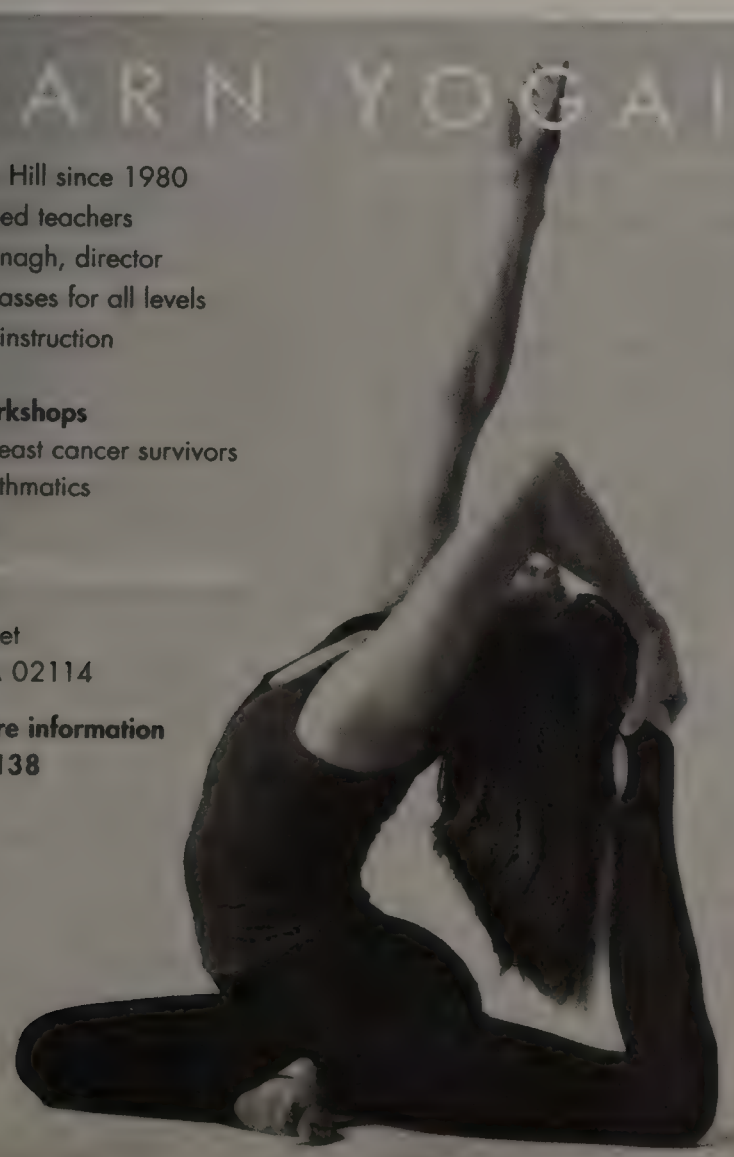
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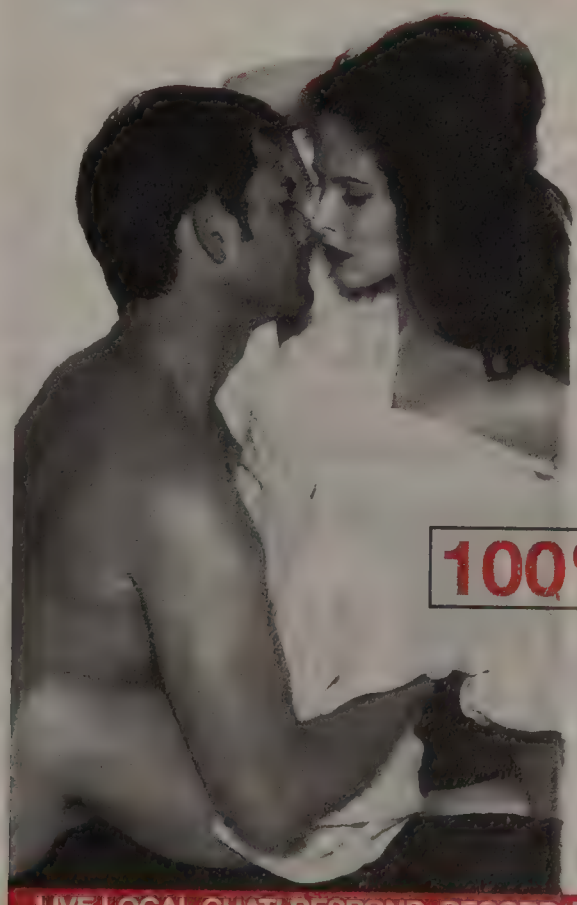
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Jan. 16 Single Prof. 25-35 SkipJacks
Lots more events! See web site for details

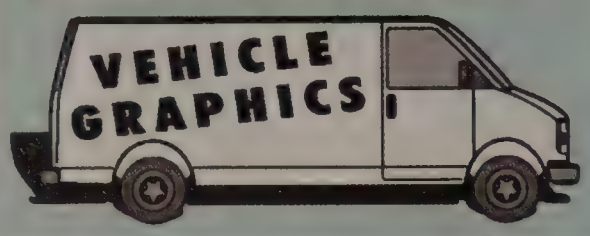
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classical music

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19

NEC Evening of Opera Scenes
Brown Hall, 241 Saint Botolph St., Boston (617-585-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. or E Green Line to Prudential. 8pm. Free. The NEC School of Continuing Education presents scenes from operas by Bizet, Mozart and many others.

St. Paul's Music in the Cathedral
Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-482-4826, ext. 1103). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 12:15pm. $2. Come sing and continue the annual holiday tradition.

THURSDAY, DEC. 20

Boston Pops Holiday Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 8pm. $20-$95. Also on Dec. 21, 1pm; Dec. 22, 11am; Dec. 26-30, 3pm. Join the Boston Pops in historic Symphony Hall for a festive holiday performance.

The Christmas Revels
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 7:30pm. $12-$38. Also on Dec. 21, 8pm; Dec. 22, 3 and 8pm; Dec. 23, 1 and 5pm; Dec. 26, 7:30pm; Dec. 27, 7:30pm; Dec. 28, 3 and 8pm; Dec. 29, 3 and 8pm; Dec. 30, 1pm. Revels Inc. celebrates the winter solstice with period music from Tudor England, carols and dancing.

Noel! Noel! A French Christmas
First Unitarian Society in Newton, 1326 Washington St., West Newton (617-262-2092). 8pm. $20-$38. Also Dec. 21, 8pm, First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge; Dec. 22, 8pm, Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury St., Boston. The Boston Camerata returns to Boston for the first time in 10 years, featuring French songs from the Renaissance, Middle Ages and Baroque periods.

FRIDAY, DEC. 21

A Baroque Christmas
Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston (617-266-3605). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony or Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 8pm. $27-$54. The Handel & Haydn Society performs works by English composers.

Borders Bookshop Concert
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 7pm. Free. Kasia performs elegant and reverent Christmas melodies.

SATURDAY, DEC. 22

Borders Bookshop Concert
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. 2pm. Free. The Victorian Carollers sing Yuletide songs with a yesteryear look.

Boston Conservatory Concert
Seully Hall, 8 The Fenway, Boston (781-376-9078). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes Convention Center. 7:30 pm. $15, $12 students. The Forte String Quartet performs works by Beethoven, Petrova, Skoryk and Piazzolla.

MONDAY, DEC. 24

Emmanuel Music Christmas Eve Service
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10pm. Free. The service features soloists Jayne West, Pamela Dellal, Ryan Turner and Paul Guttry.

TUESDAY, DEC. 25

Shirim's Klezmer Orchestra's Holiday Concert
Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Brookline (617-734-2500). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. 1pm. $15, $10 children and seniors. The Shirim Klezmer Orchestra's ninth annual holiday show includes traditional Jewish music and the unique Klezmer *Nutcracker.*

MONDAY, DEC. 31

Boston Baroque New Year's Eve Concert
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 8pm. $24-$58. The annual New Year's Eve concert features work by Handel.

Boston Pops Holiday Series
Symphony Hall, 301 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-638-9280). MBTA: E Green Line to Symphony. 10:15pm. $20-$95. This New Year's Eve, join Keith Lockhart for a holiday concert. Doors open at 8:30pm for festivities throughout Symphony Hall.



Larry Bell is part of the NEC faculty concert Jan. 6.

King's Chapel First Night Organ Recital
Corner of Tremont and School Streets, Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park Street. 9pm. Free with First Night button. Organist Heinrich Christensen presents an all-Bach repertoire.

TUESDAY, JAN. 1

Boston Baroque First Day Concert
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-496-2222). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. 3pm. $24-$58. The celebration of Handel's music continues through New Year's Day.

THURSDAY, JAN. 3

Spiritual Roots of Jazz
Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Orange Line to Downtown Crossing or Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 12:15pm. $5. Also Jan. 6, 3pm. Vocalist Semenya McCord sings spirituals, blues, traditional and contemporary jazz.

FRIDAY, JAN. 4

Serenades in the Garden
Faneuil Hall, 1 Faneuil Hall Sq., Boston (617-423-3883). MBTA: Green or Blue Line to Government Center. 8pm. $23-$45. Also Jan. 6, 3pm. The Boston Classical Orchestra performs works by Bach plus Brahms' *Serenade No. 2.*

SATURDAY, JAN. 5

First Night at First Lutheran
First Lutheran Church, 299 Berkeley St., Boston (617-536-8851). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. The Society for Historically Informed Performance presents a series of four mini-concerts.

SUNDAY, JAN. 6

Emmanuel Music Schubert Series
C. Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University, 41 Temple St., Boston (617-536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 4pm. $18. Sopranos Kendra Colton and William Matczynski and baritone Mark McSweeney accompanied by pianist Judith Gordon perform songs to Goethe's lyrics.

Emmanuel Music Bach Cantata
Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St., Boston (617-536-3356). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 10am. Free. This week's cantata features conductor Craig Smith and the orchestra and chorus of Emmanuel Music.

Liber unUsualis: Feast of Innocents and Fools
St. Paul's Cathedral, 138 Tremont St., Boston (617-428-4826). MBTA: Green or Red Line to Park St. 4pm. $12. The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts presents a concert of music of the 12 days of Christmas.

Pro Arte Concert
Sanders Theatre, 45 Quincy St., Cambridge (617-661-7067). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard Sq. 3pm. $9-$39. Violinist Kim Kashkashian leads a concert of Rossini, Theofanidis and Strauss conducted by Isaiah Jackson.

NEC Faculty Concert
St. Botolph Hall, 241 St. Botolph St., Boston (617-585-1100). MBTA: Orange Line to Mass. Ave. 3pm. Free. NEC faculty performs the music of Larry Bell, chair of the NEC Preparatory School.

MARGARET MCCARTHY

gay&lesbian

If you want to be listed
Submit information including telephone numbers and nearest T stop by fax (617-859-1446), mail or e-mail (gaylesbian@improper.com).

CLUBS, BARS & HANGOUTS

Avalon (Sundays)
15 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2424). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. For 20 years these folks have cranked out some of the best Sunday-night parties for the boys of Boston. It's worth a visit—if not for the three separate dance floors then for the male dancers. 9pm, $15, 21+.

Axis (Mondays)
13 Lansdowne St., Boston (617-262-2437) MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. The glamorous Mizery hosts a drag show and DJ Jay Ine spins progressive house. •The last Monday of every month is the Amateur Drag Show. 10pm, $7, 19+.

Buzz (Fridays, Saturdays)
67 Stuart St., Boston (617-482-3939). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. • Fridays, Circuit Girl, formerly of Lava Bar, presents "Anything Goes." DJ Thom Delahunt spins house at this evening for the ladies. More info: *www.circuitgirl.com.* 10pm, $10, 21+. •On Saturday nights this place boasts two dance floors, two DJs, a pool room and a lounge. Two levels of dancing and schmoozing will keep the men busy until 2am. 10pm, $5, 21+.

City Girl Café (Daily)
204 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-864-2809). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Tue.-Fri: 11am-9pm; Sat: 10am-9pm; Sun: 10am-7pm. A small (five tables) laid-back cafe in Inman Square, lesbian owned and operated. This cozy spot is home to a mixed gay/hetero crowd that lounges about, munching on sandwiches. Brunch is served on Saturday and Sunday, 10am-2pm.

Club Café and Moonshine Video Bar
209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-536-0966). www.clubcafe.com. *MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. Mon.-Fri., 11:30am-2am; Sat., 2pm-2am; Sun., 11am-2am.* This South End spot draws a dressy bunch that comes for dining and unobtrusive music in the front room or video entertainment in the back (Moonshine). •On Wednesdays, catch this week's episode of *Queer As Folk* at 8:30pm. •On Thursdays and Fridays, a nonstop video show takes place with VJ Tom Yazbek, featuring all the best new and classic music videos. •On Saturdays, it's Boys' Night Out with VJ Cliff Cunningham.

Eagle (Daily)
520 Tremont St., Boston (617-542-4494). Mon.-Fri., 3pm-2am; Sat., 1pm-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. This is your friendly neighborhood bar with a quiet setting. It's best known for scrumptious Sunday brunches (12-4pm). This simple joint has all the trappings of a true bar: smoky and dark. The place starts hopping as it gets closer to 2am.

Fritz (Daily)
26 Chandler St., Boston (617-482-4428). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Stroll in for a quiet drink or a rowdy night on the town. The folks here are friendly—and really into sports. Not only does Fritz have Direct TV set up with screens scattered about, it's also home base to a great softball league. 12pm, no cover, 21+.

Geoffrey's Café-Bar
578 Tremont St., Boston (617-266-1122). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Thu., 9am-11pm; Fri.-Sat., 9am-11pm; Sun., 9am-11pm. Breakfast is served daily until 3pm. This is a full-service restaurant, with 52 varieties on the wine list and mid-priced bistro fare.

Jacques Cabaret
79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. If you're looking to relax with a friendly crowd and you like to mingle with disco-dancing drag queens, then you've found the place. Fridays and Saturdays have live music. •Tue.-Sat., Cabaret drag show 10:30pm, Sun. 10pm. $4, weekends $6, 21+. •Tue., Thu. and Sat., Avalon bartender "Miss Chris" performs. •Sun., "Drag-on Showgirl Showcase" produced by Diamond Dunhill. 10pm-12am.

Luxor (Daily)
69 Church St., Park Square, Boston (617-423-6969). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. A predominantly gay crowd frequents this bar to check out clips from the latest music scenes as well as classic old movies—compiled by the bar's own VJ. Downstairs is Jox. No cover, 21+.

Machine (Wednesdays-Sundays)
1256 Boylston St., Boston (617-536-1950). MBTA: Green Line to Kenmore. Fri.-Sat., 10pm-2am. This is one of Boston's best gay bars, where you might find your friends dancing every weekend. Curve Wed.: DJ Joe Bermudez spins house. 10pm-2am, $7, 19+; $9, 21+. Thu.: Catch live music at the ongoing Machine concert series. 10pm-2am, 21+. Fri.: NYC DJ/Producer Darrin Friedman spins deep house. 10pm-2am, $7, 21+. Sat.: Real Saturdays with DJ Vanessa Cummings. 10pm-2am, $4, 21+. Sun.: DJ Vanessa Cummings spins house at the Flavour Tea Dance party. 6-10pm, $4, 21+.


Jacques Cabaret's Drag-On Showgirls will present a program titled "Holiday Ho!" Dec. 23 and 30.

Man Ray (Thursdays)
21 Brookline St., Cambridge (617-864-0400). MBTA: Red Line to Central. Wed.-Fri., 9pm; Sat., 10pm. A bustling hot spot caters to a young, alternative clientele. Two dance floors fill up on Thursdays for Campus, a predominantly male night where DJ Brad Gwynn and DJ Chris Ewen take over. 10pm, $8 for 19+, $5 for 21+.

119 Merrimac (Daily)
119 Merrimac St., Boston (617-367-0713). MBTA: Green Line to Haymarket. Mon.-Sat., 10:30am-2am; Sun., 12pm-2am. This male cruise bar is the place to stop for drinks before or after FleetCenter events. Shoot a game of pool or play video games. Merrimac features DJs playing hits from the '70s, '80s and '90s. 21+.

Midway Cafe (Thursdays)
3496 Washington St., Jamaica Plain (617-524-9038). MBTA: Orange Line to Green Street. On Thursday nights, the Midway offers Kristen Porter's Dyke Night, a lesbian night with rotating DJs, a pool table and dancing till 2am. $5, 10pm, 21+.

Paradise (Daily)
180 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-494-0700). MBTA: Red Line to Central. On Monday, a bartender not only mixes drinks but strips too. Male strippers are featured Wed.-Sat. Monday is Gothic night; Tuesday is techno; and Thursday is college night. On Fridays DJ Sam Sampson spins, and on Sat. DJ Brad Gwynn. 5pm, no cover, 21+.

Ramrod (Daily)
1254 Boylston St., Boston (617-266-2986). Green Line to Kenmore. 12pm-2am. The largest leather bar in the East enforces a tight dress code (leather is obligatory for the back room). Sun.: buffet and mandance. Mon.: pool tournament and pizza. Tue.: Spice 4 Life . Wed.: Twitch. Thu.: Primal Dance . Fri.: Leather Cruise with DJ Danae Jacovidis. Sat.: DJ Dennis Sargent.

Rise
306 Stuart St., Boston (617-423-7473). MBTA: Green Line to Arlington. 1:30am. Rise is a drug- and alcohol-free after-hours club for a mostly gay crowd. Rise creates a safe and accepting atmosphere, free of homophobia, where you can dance till dawn. Admission is $10 for members and $15 for guests. To become a member, you must be sponsored by another member of at least three months. Yearly dues range from $50 to $750.

Tiger Lily Downstairs
8 Westland Ave., Boston (617-267-8881). MBTA: Green Line to Symphony. Saturday nights, join other gay women downstairs at the Tiger Lily, behind Symphony Hall, for dancing and drinking. $5, 10pm-2am, 21+.

Vapor (Daily)
100 Warrenton St., Boston (617-695-9500). MBTA: Green Line to Boylston. •Sun.: Dance music of DJ Danae Jacovidis. •Mon.: Grand Baby and Grand Piano night. •Tue.: Chic. The dance floor burns with the city's hottest disco fever. Drag diva Diamond Dunhill, Miss Gay Boston 2000, hosts. *www.diamonddunhill.com.* 10pm-2am. $3. 21+. •Wed.: Latino night with DJ Adielson Caesar. •Thu.: DJs Billy and Fran, High Energy Dance. •Fri.: Taboo Erotique with DJ Sammy. •Sat.: High Energy Dance with DJ Jay Ine.

BOOKS

Borders Bookshop
10-24 School St., Boston (617-557-4995). MBTA Orange Line to Downtown Crossing. Dec. 19, 8pm. Free. The **Gay and Lesbian Literature Discussion Group** talks about *The Silk Road* by Jane Summer.

Calamus Bookstore
92B South St., Boston (617-338-1931). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Mon.-Sat., 9am-7pm; Sun., 12-6pm. Boston's complete bookstore for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered individuals.

New Words Bookstore
186 Hampshire St., Cambridge (617-876-5310). www.newwordsbooks.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Sun. and Mon. 12-6pm; Tue.-Fri., 12-8pm; Sat. 10am-8pm.* New England's oldest women's bookshop offers a comprehensive selection of books.

We Think the World of You Bookstore
540 Tremont St., Boston (617-574-5000). MBTA: Orange Line to Back Bay. Mon.-Fri., 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 12pm-6pm. This is one of Boston's liveliest literary gay and lesbian bookstores.

SHOWS & EVENTS

Holiday Ham
Club Cafe, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-277-4746). www.pridelights.org. *Dec. 19-22, 7pm. $30.* The Pridelights Foundation brings Varla Jean Merman, Kristine Zbornik and pianist Ricky Ritze in for four holiday benefit shows.

Holiday Ho!
Jacques Cabaret, 79 Broadway, Boston (617-426-8902). www.diamonddunhill.com. *Dec. 23 and 30, 10pm; call for table reservations.* Diamond Dunhill and the Drag-On Showgirls perform a holiday program.

New Year's Eve Celebration
Sons of Italy Ballroom, Winchester (781-648-0722). www.djdee.com. *Dec. 31, 8pm. $15.* Fever! Dance Productions presents a holiday dance for women only with dancing, a cash bar and light snacks. Singles and couples are welcome.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detox
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6252). Detoxification services are offered on a daily walk-in basis during center hours.

Am Tikva
(617-883-0893). www.amtikva.org. A community of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered Jews.

Boston Bay Blades
www.bayblades.org/boston. Everyone is welcome to this social, competitive and recreational group of rowers and scullers.

Bi-Curious Men's Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6032). 7pm. This group meets every second Tuesday of the month for discussion with bisexual men.

BIGFLAG
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-499-9433). First Tuesdays, 6:30pm. This immigration group for lesbians and gays provides information and support.

Boston Gay and Lesbian Contra Dancers
First Church of Jamaica Plain, corner of Centre and Eliot Streets, Jamaica Plain (617-522-0658). www.contracorner.com/jp. *Saturdays, 7:30-11pm, $5.* This group meets two Saturdays a month for contra dancing.

Boston Glass
Community Center, 93 Mass. Ave., Boston (617-266-3349). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Daily, 8-10pm. This program provides support groups and social activities for those ages 13-25.

Boston Prime Timers
Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston (617-338-5305). Third Saturday of each month. 3:30pm. A social group for gay men and their friends.

Brothers Orchestrating Safer Sex
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6235). First Friday of each month. 6-8pm. A discussion group for gay and bisexual men of color about their heritage, lifestyle, culture and health.

Chiltern Mountain Club
(888-831-3100). www.chiltern.org/chiltern. A 1,400-member gay club with outdoor activities.

Color Me Healthy/Sano y Salvo
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6244). 6pm. This discussion group for men of color meets the first Thursday of every month.

Community Rainbow
Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston. Thursdays, 7:45pm. This organization's mission is to advocate for the community.

Cosmetically-Correct
Laurel, 142 Berkeley St., Boston. A social group for lipstick lesbians that meets on the first Friday of each month, 6:30-10pm. Lipstick optional.

Dagger
(617-542-4214). The Theater Offensive's guerrilla theater group, Dagger, gathers on Wednesdays, 6:30-9:30pm, to train and create performances representing queer girls' and women's perspectives. Email *Dagger@the theateroffensive.org.*

Dykes Who Hike
(617-522-6185). This hiking group is for lesbians in the Boston area who want to conquer the wilderness.

East Coast Wrestling Club
With more than 160 members, this is an extraordinarily popular New England spot for gay male wrestlers. Call Marc at 401-467-6737, or e-mail *ecwc@juno.com.*

FLAG Flag Football
(617-937-5858). Weekends. Gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexual friends of all skill levels play recreational football. Visit *www.flagflagfootball.com.*

Frontrunners Boston
Metropolitan Health Club, 209 Columbus Ave., Boston (617-824-4266). Saturdays. Get in shape and have some fun with this running club for the LGBT community.

Gay and Lesbian Seniors
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6272). Fridays, 11:30am-12:45pm. A group for seniors (62+) to address the needs of their community.

Gay Men Over 40
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Fridays, 12pm. An ongoing group for gay men age 40 and older working on life-stage issues.

Gay Men with Compulsive Sexual Behavior
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). After an initial evaluation appointment, gay men can join this ongoing therapy group that uses a cognitive-behavioral approach.

Gaymes Group
(617-662-7872). Gaymes is a social group for gay men and lesbians who want to get together and enjoy board gaymes, card gaymes and parlor gaymes.

Gender Free Contra Dancing
First Church of Jamaica Plain (617-448-2429). Come one, come all to evenings of contra and square dancing.

Gender Questioning Group
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6202). Biological males meet on Monday evenings with psychologist Randi Kaufman.

HIV Counseling and Testing
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-267-0159). Anonymous HIV antibody testing and pre- and post-test counseling.

Naked Yoga for Men
(redhead_02139@yahoo.com.) $15. Twice-weekly nude yoga classes for men, held in a nonsexual, gay-friendly environment.

Out to Dance
(617-363-0029). www.outtodance.com. Swing, Latin and ballroom dance classes and workshops are held in a gay-friendly environment. Private lessons available.

PFLAG
First Parish Church, 630 Mass Ave., Arlington (781-891-5966). Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays meets every second Tuesday, 7:15pm.

Project 10 East
1145 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-864-GLBT). GLBT youth and their straight allies meet to organize projects such as making schools and communities safe.

Psychotherapy Group for Lesbians
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland Street, Boston (617-927-6202). Tuesdays. An ongoing group for lesbians working on self-esteem and intimacy issues.

Sassie
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6134). The Sisters Acquiring Safer Sex Information and Education organization offers groups for lesbians and bisexuals.

Sexual Health
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6238). A short-term support and education group for gay and bisexual men.

Triangle Divers
Club Cafe (617-422-1775). A gay and lesbian scuba-diving club that meets every third Wednesday.



AFTER WORK

MONDAY
Monday Night Football
Hosted by Scott Zolak!

TUESDAY
DVD Music Video Show

WEDNESDAY
7-10 pm Live Music
Diana Karthas

THURSDAY
7-10 pm Live Music
Greg Lutrell

FRIDAY
7-10 pm Live Music
James McKenna

SATURDAY
College Football
All Games on Satellite

SUNDAY
Sunday tailgate brunch
and Make Your Own
Bloody Mary Bar.
All NFL games on Satellite





The P

Where People Meet





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lace

for the Holidays!





hristmas and Happy New Year. Without you, we'd say BAH HUMBUG!





NIGHTLY

SUNDAY
NFL Football Party
and dancing

MONDAY
Monday Night
Party and Dancing

TUESDAY
Bar Industry Night w/
Half Off Pizzas after 10

WEDNESDAY
10pm-Close
Erin O'Malley & Mix 98.5

THURSDAY
10pm-Close
Martini Madness

FRIDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP

SATURDAY
10pm-Close
VJ LAPTOP





n earth! Tickets start at just $40 in advance!

S PARTY IN BOSTON

and reserve our function room for the holidays.

617-523-2081 Happy Holidays to everyone!

body&mind

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated information by mail, fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Body/ Mind, or by e-mail to bodymind@improper.com. *Include a brief but thorough description of the event, time, date, location and directions, cost and contact information. Listings cannot be accepted by phone and must be received at least four weeks in advance.*

EVENTS

Dances of Universal Peace
Cambridge Friends Meeting, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Dec. 21, 7:30-9:30pm. $6-$10 requested donation. Simple, joyous and meditative circle dances honor the world's sacred traditions. Everyone welcome. All dances are taught and accompanied by live music.

WORKSHOPS

Choosing the Right Look for Your Hair
CCAE, 42 Brattle St., Cambridge (617-547-6789). www.ccae.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Jan. 8, 5:45-7:45pm. $42.* End the frustration. Get an individualized consultation with a few experts. They will examine your facial features, hair type and image style to arrive at the perfect hairstyle for you.

Intro to Sufism
13 Laurel St., #3, Somerville (617-776-5767). MBTA: Red Line to Porter. Jan. 5, 11am-12pm. Explore your inner experience. Listen to the teachings of Sufism which encourage introspection, while practicing relaxing meditation and breathing exercises.

Jin Shin Jyutsu Energy Healing
Harvest Co-op Market, 581 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-661-1580). www.preichart.home.mindspring.com. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 18, 6-8pm. Free.* Using gentle touch and movement, Jin Shin Jitsu practitioner **Phyllis Reichart** can help you release stress and blocked energy flow. Learn how it can be used to heal yourself.

Movement Alchemy: Two-Day Butoh and Shintaido Intensive
Dance Complex, 536 Mass. Ave., Cambridge (617-547-9363 or 617-783-4614). http://cambridge.zami.com/dancecomplex. *MBTA: Red Line to Central. Dec. 29-30 (6 hours total). $50.* There's a saying in Shintaido: "The body is the message of the universe." Shintaido's goal is to unify with humanity, spirit and nature. The various exercises from Butoh and Shintaido can teach you how to develop stillness, act creatively in conflicts with others, and create movements out of images.

The Truth about Fad Diets
Brookline Adult and Community Education, Driscoll School, 64 Westborne Terrace, Brookline (617-730-2700). MBTA: C Green Line to Washington Square. Jan. 7 and 14, 6-7:30pm. $36. The no-carb diet is one of the least healthy things you could with your body. Find out why and what the deal is with today's quick weight loss trends—before you pick your New Year's health regime.

Weight Loss thru Hypnosis
Open Doors, 395A Washington St., Braintree (781-843-8224). MBTA: Red Line to Braintree. Dec. 28, 7-9pm. $30. Self-hypnosis is a safe, simple and a powerful tool for creating the will to eat well. This class can help you set realistic and healthy goals.

NEW YEAR'S EVENTS

Dancing Into Stillness: Kripalu New Year's Eve
Kripalu Center, Lenox, Mass. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org or www.bethdance.com. *Dec. 28-Jan. 1. $260, includes room and meals.* Celebrate the holiday with a restorative retreat instead of a party hangover. This weekend will feature relaxing yoga, fun-filled dance and meditation for all ages, shapes and sizes. Hosted by teacher **Beth Rigby**, who specializes in DansKinetics, combines dance and yoga.

Enter the New Year Meditatively
Theosophical Society in Boston, 21 Maple St., Arlington (781-648-0101). http://welcome.to/tsboston. *Dec. 30, 1-5pm. $45.* It's a time to reflect deeply on the year that has passed and on the one that's about to begin. The guided meditation and silence can awaken your inspiration for the coming year.

Everyone's Astrological Forecast for 2002
Unicorn Books, 1210 Mass. Ave., Arlington (781-646-3680). www.unicornbooks.org. *Jan. 4, 7-8:45pm. $15.* We all have personal sun sign horoscopes, but there's also a general horoscope that describes what's affecting humanity as a whole. Find out what energies are currently present and what is evolving. The lecture will focus on having a positive and proactive approach to these hard times.



Beth Rigby teaches yoga at Kripalu's peaceful New Year's Eve celebration Dec. 28-Jan. 1.

Ring in the New Year
BKS Iyengar Center, 240A Elm St., Suite 23, Somerville (617-666-9551). www.yoganow.net. *MBTA: Red Line to Davis. Jan. 1, 9-11am. $25.* Start the new year off on the right foot with this special yoga class taught by **Karin Stephan**.

RETREAT

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun
Kripalu Center, Lenox, Mass. (800-741-7353). www.kripalu.org. *Dec. 7-9. $225, includes room and meals. Women only.* The average American woman is tired, overwhelmed and in need of nurturing. All the aromatherapy in the world won't bring relief. According to **Loretta LaRoche,** what really works is fun. This workshop will help you identify what creates joy in your life and what prevents it. Learn ways to laugh more and find pleasure.

ONGOING

Acupuncture Detoxification
Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston (617-927-6200). Daily during walk-in hours. If you want to break the cycle of substance abuse, this clinic provides acupuncture as a way to deal with the problem on a physical level.

Awareness Through Movement for Any Body
YWCA, 7 Temple St., Cambridge (617-491-6050). Thu., 6-7:15pm. $14. Drop-in. Join **Deborah Lotus** and discover how to ease bodily tension and stress. The class will focus on sitting in chairs and the use of Feldenkrais techniques. Find out what you do to prevent repetitive strain and other pain.

Continued Explorations in Contact Improvisation
Green Street Studios, 185 Green St., Cambridge (617-864-3191 or 617-320-9792). Tue., 5:30-7:30pm. Contact improvisation is sort of like dancing and sort of like making art. It's a chance to move yourself with others in a creative, spontaneous fashion while learning and utilizing kinesthetic awareness.

Dance Friday
Phillips Congregational Church, 111 Mt. Auburn St., Watertown (617-876-3050). MBTA: Bus #57, 70 and 71. Fridays, 8:30pm-12am. $7. Dance barefoot, any way you like, to all kinds of music in a smoke- and alcohol-free environment.

Meditation Practice
Cambridge Dzogchen Center, 5 Longfellow Pike, Cambridge (781-665-6325). www.cambridgedzogchen.org. *Mon., 7:30pm. Free.* Teachings, meditation and discussion periods are led by **Lama Surya Das, Lama John Makransky** or guest teachers. Sessions are open to anyone who is (or wants to be) on a personal spiritual path.

Shintaido
The Dance Complex, 536 Mass Ave., Cambridge (617-783-3361). MBTA Red Line to Central. Mon., 6:30-8pm. $12. Shintaido is a body movement originally based in martial arts that evolved into a system of human potential development, health exercise and artistic expression. **Jennifer Hicks** is the instructor.

Tai Chi/Charlestown
Academy of Integrated Martial Arts, 14 Green St., Charlestown (617-362-8357). MBTA: Orange Line to Bunker Hill Community College. Mon. and Wed. evenings. Call for prices. Try out a free class and discover an exercise that reduces stress and enhances well-being. It's Yang-style, which is suitable for all levels.

Tai Chi Self-Defense
Charles River School of Shiatsu, 180 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington (781-643-1545). www.CharlesRiverShiatsu.com. *Tue., 8-9pm. First class is free.* Tai chi is great for staying healthy and centered.

sports

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated listings by fax (617-859-1446) or mail to Calendar: Sports. Or e-mail information to sports@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, dates and times, and a brief description of the league or event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

Home Games

Boston Celtics
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 800-462-2849
Dec. 19, 7pm vs. Cleveland Cavaliers
Dec. 21, 7:30pm vs. Utah Jazz
Dec. 23, 6pm vs. Memphis Grizzlies
Jan. 2, 7pm vs. Orlando Magic
Jan. 4, 7:30pm vs. Miami Heat

Boston Bruins
•FleetCenter. Tickets: 617-931-2222
Dec. 20, 7pm vs. Montreal Canadiens
Dec. 26, 7pm vs. Ottawa Senators
Jan. 3, 7pm vs. Toronto Maple Leafs
Dec. 5, 3pm vs. Washington Capitals

New England Patriots
•Foxboro Stadium. Tickets: 800-543-1776
Dec. 22, 1:30pm vs. Miami Dolphins

Events

Budweiser/WBCN New England Championship Wrestling Benefit Event
Good Time Emporium, 30 Assembly Square Drive, Somerville. (617-628-5559) www.necwwrestling.com. *Dec. 21, 7:30pm. $15 adults, $8 students and children under 12.* Just because this event benefits WBCN's Fund for the Families, which helps families affected by the Sept. 11 attacks, doesn't mean that there's not going to be some genuine bad blood in the ring. There are seven bouts on the card, with the main event pitting new NECW champion Maverick Wild against the man he dethroned, "Brutal" Bob Evans. So get prepared to shout "That can't be legal!" while helping a good cause.

To Play

BASEBALL

MetroWest Over-30 League
(508-533-6300). This wood-bat league is looking for teams and players. Sunday games.

Henry's Baseball Club
Waltham (781-891-0621). This fall baseball league is looking for players ages 17-30, coaches and volunteers. Practice takes place Sunday at 11am.

BASKETBALL

BSSC Basketball
(617-789-4070, ext. 238). Coed year-round basketball. All levels. Leagues held in Watertown, Brookline and Dedham. Teams and individuals welcome.

BOXING

Boston Sport Boxing Club
125 Walnut St., Watertown. (617-972-1711). www.bostonboxing.com. *Mon.-Sat., 2-10pm. Red Line to Harvard Square, then #71 Bus.* Amateur Olympic-style boxing lessons for all ages and levels.

FOOTBALL

Australian Rules Football
Boston Australian Rules Football Club. Thu. evenings and Sat. mornings, Cambridge (781-440-9266). www.Boston-Demons.org. C'mon down and play, mate—no experience necessary.

Indoor Flag Football
BSSC in Brighton (617-789-4070).

HIKING/WALKING

The Appalachian Mountain Club
Gorham, N.H. (603-466-2727). Hikes and huts in the White Mountains. • Monthly AMC Young Members meetings at AMC headquarters, 4 Joy St., Beacon Hill (617-523-0655). Second Thursday of every month, 6pm, $3. Potluck. BYOB.

POLO

Stage Hill Polo and Riding School
Topsfield Fairgrounds, Topsfield (978-356-5601). Mon. and Wed., 6-8pm; Sat. 1pm. $300/mo. For people looking to actually play the sport depicted on their Ralph Lauren shirts, Stage Hill provides the equipment, horses and lessons. No prior riding experience is necessary. Lessons offered year-round.

RUGBY

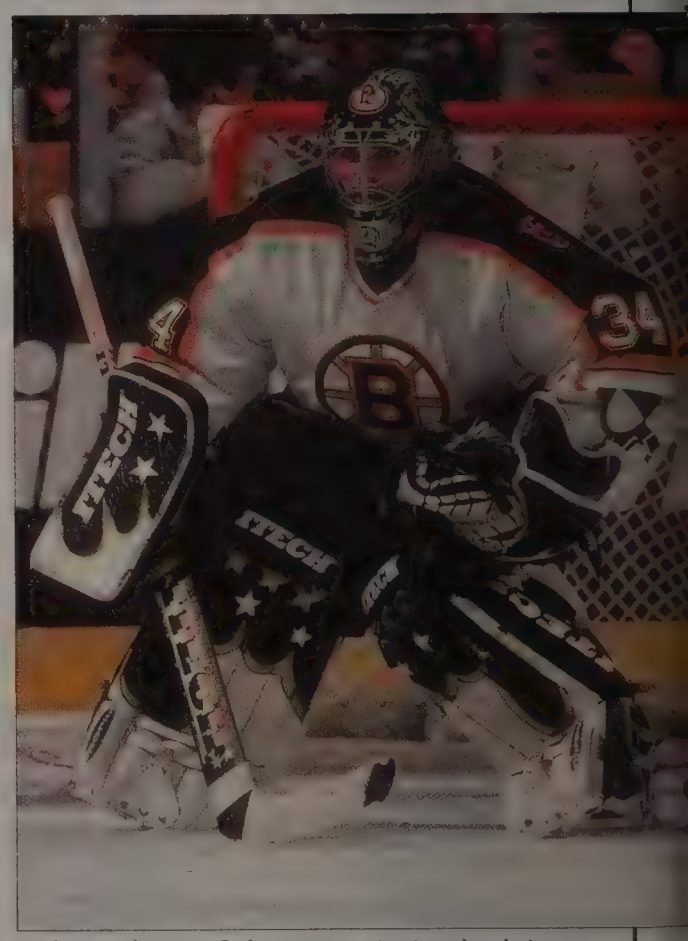
Men's Rugby
Old Gold Rugby Club (617-742-0678). www.oldgoldrugby.com. *Tue. and Thu., 6:30-8:30pm. Games on Saturdays.* New and experienced players are welcome.

Mystic River Rugby Club
P.O. Box 477, Malden (781-322-0898). www.mystic-rugby.com. This Division I men's rugby club welcomes both new and experienced players who want to play a high level of competitive rugby. Most games are played in New England, although the team is gearing up for several matches in Argentina and Chile next spring.

Boston Women's Rugby Football Club
(781-340-2192). www.bwrfc.org. Club seeks new players for games in Brookline and Cambridge.

RUNNING

Boston Hash House Harriers
Various locations (617-499-4835). www.angelfire.com/ma/bostonhhh. Weekly runs year-round. If you enjoy running, drinking and singing bawdy songs, then consider joining these self-proclaimed "serious drinkers with a running problem."



Bruins goalie Byron Dafoe prepares to stop slapshots.

SKATING

Bay State Skating School
(781-890-8480) www.iceskatingclasses.com. Skating lessons for children or adults at 15 area MDC rinks. Use figure or hockey skates.

SOCCER

BSSC Indoor Soccer
(617-789-4070, ext. 225). Coed indoor leagues run year-round in Newton, Revere and Acton. Individuals and teams welcome.

VOLLEYBALL

BSSC Volleyball League
Boston Ski & Sports Club, (617-789-4070, ext. 222). Sun.-Thu. Coed teams forming now for fall leagues (all levels) in Cambridge, Watertown, Brookline and Newton. Teams and individuals welcome.

WRESTLING

Boston Union Wrestling Club
(617-901-9456) bostonwrestling@yahoo.com. Amateur freestyle wrestling group open to all skill levels. Weekly practices held year-round. Relive your high-school days of running in a rubber suit to bust weight.

HURRICANE

O'Reilly's

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children

Advice to Contributors
Submit updated press releases by mail or fax (617-859-1446) to Calendar: Children, or e-mail information to children@improper.com. *Include address, phone number, subway stop, ticket price, dates, times and a brief description of the event. Deadline is four weeks prior to publication. Listings cannot be accepted over the telephone.*

TO SEE

Disney on Ice
FleetCenter, Boston (617-931-2000). MBTA: Green Line to North Station. Dec. 27, 1 and 5pm; Dec. 28, 11am, 3pm and 7pm; Dec. 29, 11am, 3pm and 7pm; Dec. 30, 1 and 5pm. $10-$42. This ice show highlights four Disney classics: *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, *Cinderella*, *101 Dalmatians* and *The Little Mermaid*.

The Puppet Showplace Theatre
32 Station St., Brookline (617-731-6400). MBTA: D Green Line to Brookline Village. Sat. and Sun., 1 and 3pm; Wed. and Thu., 10:30am. $8. Reservations recommended. Traditional and original shows for children ages 5 and older: •Dec. 19-20: *The Gingerbread and Other Tales* for ages 4 and up. •Dec. 22-23, 1 and 3pm: *A Holiday Fantasy* for ages 5 and older. •Dec. 24, 26, and 27, 1 and 3pm: *Rumplestiltskin* for ages 4 and older. •Dec. 28-30, 1 and 3pm: *Winter Tales* for ages 5 and up. •Jan. 5-6, 1pm and 3pm: *Androcles and the Lion* and *The Golden Touch of Midas* for ages 4 and older.

Children's Theatre Performance Series
Theatre 1, 731 Harrison Ave, Boston (617-842-7927). Dec. 22, 3pm. $8, $5 children. Theatre 1 presents *Yours Truly Jack Frost* and *The Mouse Who Was Stirring*, two light-hearted one-act holiday plays.

Chamber Repertory Theatre
•Dec. 20, 21: John Hancock Hall, 180 Berkeley St., Boston (617-542-9155). •Dec. 21: Berklee Performance Center, 136 Mass. Ave., Boston. 10:30am. $12.50. Encore! presents five dramatized stories by Poe, Maupassant, Irving Jacobs and Twain. *Tour de Force!* presents five dramatized stories by Poe, Bierce, Connell, Munro and O'Henry.

Boston Children's Theatre
Suffolk University, C. Walsh Theatre, 55 Temple St., Boston (617-424-6634). Dec. 27-30, 2pm. $13-$17. The Boston Children's Theatre opens its 51st season with *Honk!*, the new award-winning British musical adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's tale, *The Ugly Duckling*.

Winter Wonderland Train Display
The Grand Concourse at South Station, corner of Atlantic Avenue and Summer Street, Boston. www.trainsandtrees.com. *Through Jan. 2, 7:30am-10pm. Free. MBTA: Red Line to South Station.* This annual holiday event features model trains on two tracks, winding around a big display, complete with village scenes, bridges and tunnels.

Zoolights
Stone Zoo, 149 Pond St., Stoneham (781-438-5100). Through Dec. 30 (closed on Dec. 25). 5pm. $3. Meet Santa Claus, wander through Snowy Owl Creek, and view the animals dazzlingly illuminated by thousands of sparkling lights.

Omni Theater
Science Park, Boston (617-732-2500). MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. $7.50, $5.50 children. •Through March 1: *Shackleton's Antarctic Adventure*.

THINGS TO DO

The Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Boston (617-426-8855). $7, $6 children. •Jan. 4-6: Three Kings Day Celebration. •Wed. and Fri., 11am: music and movement.

Holiday Events at the Harvard Coop
1400 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge (617-499-2000). Listen to holiday stories and make crafts. •Dec. 22, 11am: Listen to Dr. Seuss' *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and then make a paper reindeer. •Dec. 29, 11am: *P. Bear's New Year's Party* and a New Year's celebration with cake and goodies.

Newton Free Library
330 Homer St., Newton (617-552-7145). Dec. 27, 3pm. Ages 4-8. Sing in different languages with songs from around the world with Kate Sullivan.

Tales for a Winter Night
The Jackson Homestead Museum, 527 Washington St., Newton (617-552-7238). Dec. 27-28, 2pm. Professional storyteller Katie Green will share tales about the winter season and world cultures.



around town

Sights to See

Boston Tea Party Ship and Museum
Congress St. Bridge, Boston (617-338-1773). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Open daily, March-May and Sept.-Nov., 9am-5pm; closed Dec.-March. $8.

Boston University Observatory
725 Comm. Ave., Fifth Floor, Boston (617-353-2630). MBTA: B Green Line to BY East. Wednesdays (on clear nights), Oct.-March, 7:30-8:30pm; April-Sept., 8:30-9:30pm. Free.

Bunker Hill Monument
Monument Square, Charlestown (617-242-5641). Open daily 9am-5pm. Free.

Children's Museum
300 Congress St., Museum Wharf, Boston (617-426-8855). MBTA: Red Line to South Station. Sept.-June, Tue.-Sat., 10 am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm; June-Aug., daily, 10am-5pm, Fri. until 9pm. $5, $3.

Dreams of Freedom
One Milk St., Boston (617-338-6022). MBTA: Green Line to Park. Mon.-Sun., 9:30am-6pm. $7.50.

John Hancock Observatory
200 Clarendon St., Boston (617-572-6429). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Closed until further notice.

John F. Kennedy National Historic Site
83 Beals St., Brookline (617-566-7937). MBTA: C Green Line to Coolidge Corner. Wed.-Sun., 10am-4:30pm. $2.

John F. Kennedy Library & Museum
Columbia Point, Dorchester (617-929-4523). MBTA: Red Line to JFK/UMass. Daily, 9am-5pm. $8.

King's Chapel
58 Tremont St., Boston (617-227-2155). MBTA: Blue or Orange Line to State. Tue.-Sat., 10am-2pm. Admission free.

Museum of Afro-American History
46 Joy St., Boston (617-739-1200) www.afroammuseum.org. *MBTA: Red Line to Park Street. Weekdays, 10am-4pm. $5 adults, $3 students, seniors.*

Museum of Natural History
26 Oxford St., Cambridge (617-495-3045). www.hmnh.harvard.edu. *MBTA: Red Line to Harvard. Mon.-Sat., 9am-5pm; Sun., 9am-5pm. $6.50, students and seniors $5, children $4; free to all Sun., 9am-12pm.*

Museum of Science
Science Park, Boston (617-723-2500). www.mos.org. *MBTA: Green Line to Science Park. Sun.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 9am-9pm. $10, $7 seniors and children. Omni Theatre, Hayden Planetarium or laser shows all $7.50.*

Museum of Transportation
15 Newton St., Brookline (617-522-6547). MBTA: D Green Line to Reservoir. Tue.-Sun., 10am-5pm. $5, $3.

New England Aquarium
Central Wharf, Boston (617-973-5200). MBTA: Blue Line to Maverick. Sept. 3-June 30: Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-6pm. July 1-Sept. 2: Mon., Tue. and Fri., 9am-6pm; Wed.-Thu., 9am-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 9am-7pm. $13.

Old Faneuil Hall
Boston (617-635-3105). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Open daily, 9am-5pm. Guided tours start at 9am. Free.

Old North Church
193 Salem St., Boston (617-523-6676). MBTA: Orange Line to Haymarket. Open daily, 9 am-5pm. Free.

Old South Meeting House
310 Washington St., Boston (617-482-6439). MBTA: Blue Line to State. Weekdays, 10am-4pm; weekends, 10am-5pm. $3.

Old State House Museum
206 Washington St., Boston (617-720-3290). MBTA: Red Line to Downtown Crossing. Open daily, 9am-5pm. $3.

Prudential Center Skywalk
800 Boylston St., Boston (617-859-0648). MBTA: Green Line to Hynes/ICA. Mon.-Sun., 10am-10pm, Sun., 10am-10pm. $6, $4 seniors.

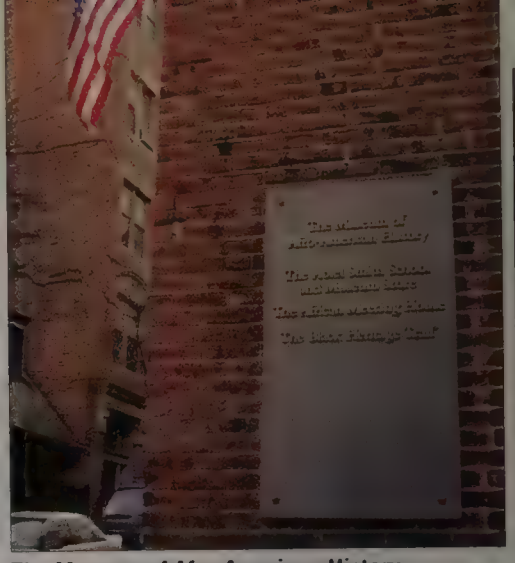
Trinity Church
206 Clarendon St., Boston (617-536-0944). MBTA: Green Line to Copley. Open daily 8am-6pm. $3.

USS Constitution & Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston (617-426-1812). MBTA: Green or Orange Line to Haymarket, bus 93 to Navy Yard. Now-April 30: Open daily, 10am-5pm. Free.

Volunteer

ABCD Inc.
(617-357-6000). Seeks tutors in reading, math, science, writing and social studies.

Adopt-a-Family
(617-635-8346). "Adopt" a family during the holiday season.



The Museum of Afro-American History

AIDS Action Committee
(617-450-1235). Be a buddy for someone with HIV/AIDS.

American Cancer Society
(617-556-7400). Drive cancer patients to their local treatment appointments.

Big Brothers
(617-956-0211). Information sessions take place Tue. and Wed., 6pm; Thu., 12:15pm; and every other Saturday, 11am.

Big Sister Association
(617-236-8060). www.bigsister.org. Befriend a girl. Info. sessions: Dec. 20, 6-7pm.

Boston Cares
(617-263-CARE). More than 70 volunteer opportunities are available in Greater Boston.

Boston Jaycees
(617-367-5710). A volunteer organization of people between the ages of 21 and 40.

Boston Living Center
(617-236-1012). HIV/AIDS service organization needs volunteers for kitchen, office work, special events.

Cambridge School Volunteers
(617-349-6794). Volunteers needed to work in Cambridge public schools as tutors, aides and mentors.

Community Servings
(617-445-7777). Help prepare and deliver meals for individuals and families dealing with AIDS.

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
(617-632-3307). Seeks volunteers one day a week for four hours to help adults living with cancer.

Ethos
(617-522-6700, ext. 323). Work with the elderly.

EurAuPair Community Counselor
(800-901-2002). Help au pairs from different countries adjust to their new life in America.

Home for Little Wanderers
(617-585-7521). www.thehome.org. Mentor a child.

Horizons Initiative
(617-287-1900). Play with homeless children. Volunteer training: Jan. 12.

Hospice Home Volunteers
(617-972-1702). Volunteer to provide practical and emotional support to terminally ill patients.

Jewish Volunteer Program
(617-558-6585). Share your time with an elderly individual, mentor children or teach an adult to read.

Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts
(617-367-1313). Teach an adult to read.

Mass. Substance Abuse Info Helpline
(617-536-0501, ext. 201). Talk over the phone with persons affected by alcoholism and substance abuse.

MATCH-UP Interfaith Volunteers
(617-536-3557). Volunteers are needed to assist elders.

Pine Street Inn
(617-521-7626). Seeking volunteers to serve meals and act as receptionist for homeless guests.

Red Cross Young Professionals
(617-375-0700, ext. 280). Help coordinate fun social events to benefit the American Red Cross.

Respond Inc.
(617-625-5996, ext. 30). Battered women's agency seeks volunteers for shelter and 24-intake and referral line.

Rosie's Place
(617-442-9322). Volunteers needed for the dining room, clothing room, groceries program and office work.

SafeLink
(617-521-0114). Volunteers needed for this new 24-hour domestic violence program.

Samaritans of Boston
(617-536-2460). Provide friendship to lonely people over the phone.

Teddy Bear Drive
(978-356-2602). Volunteers needed to deliver teddy bears to local shelters during the holidays.

Volunteers for Citizenship
(800-234-0110). Seeks individuals to help legal immigrants and refugees become naturalized citizens.

KRISTIN WEBSTER

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2002



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DECEMBER 31, 2001

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Programming is subject to change.

The Improper Bostonian Magazine is a proud sponsor of First Night Boston 2002

improperazzi

The Improper Bostonian's client-related promotions and events

On Saturday, Nov. 17, The Improper Bostonian sponsored the Improper Holiday Angel Toy Drive kick-off party to benefit the Starlight Children's Foundation, a charity helping seriously ill children.



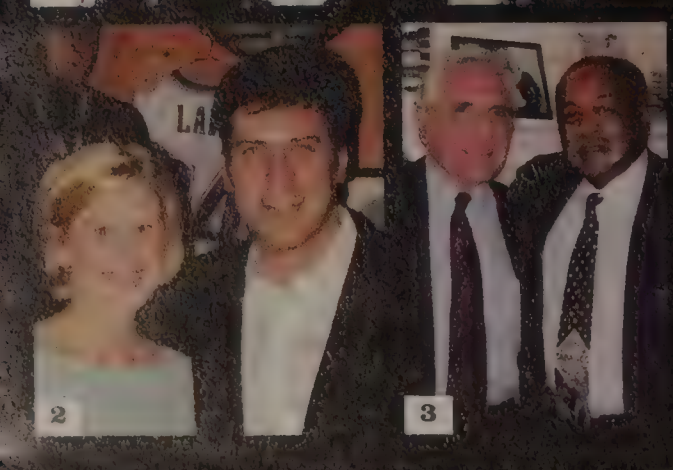




1. Members of the Boston Arts Academy Choir.
2. **Vicki Kelley**, executive director of the Starlight Children's Foundation of New England, and **Lindsay Ransick**, a marketing specialist for Starbucks.
3. Santa Claus and **Mary Wilson**, formerly of the Supremes, with some children from the Starlight Foundation.

On Monday, Nov. 19, The Improper Bostonian sponsored the 4th Annual Boston Sports Awards, held at The Great Hall in Faneuil Hall. Celebrities and guests enjoyed a private pre-party at The Plaza and post-party at The Rack.





1. *Footloose on Ice* star and BSA presenter **Nancy Kerrigan** with her son, **Matthew**, and husband, **Jerry Solomon**.
2. BSA hosts **Kristen Mastroianni**, weekend sports anchor for WCVB-TV Channel 5 and **Steve Levy**, ESPN Sports Center anchor.
3. **Leon Semonian**, Senior Vice President of Solomon Smith Barney with former Red Sox great **Louis Tiant**.



On Monday, Dec. 3, Allied Domecq Spirits & Wine North America, along with Boston's food-service professionals, hosted an evening of comaraderie and charity at The Skywalk on the 50th Floor of The Prudential Center to benefit the Windows of Hope Family Relief Fund.

1. **Jane Hill**, a graphic artist, with **Mark Spence** of the Armani Cafe.
2. **Anatalia Chao** of Preston Marketing with **Sam Gerston** of Horizon Beverage Company and **Kelly Mitchell** of Preston Marketing.
3. **Mike Epstein** of Horizon Beverage Company with **Ed Melia** and **Dan Demeo**, both of Allied Domecq.



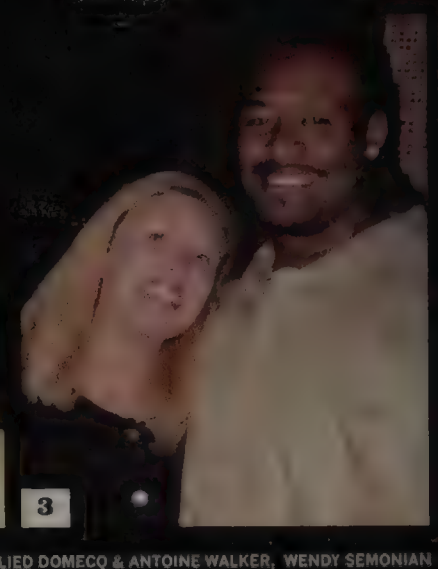


On Monday, Dec. 3, The Rack hosted Antoine Walker's 8-Ball Foundation party to benefit inner-city youth by providing positive life experiences and opportunities. The pool tournament featured celebrities and athletes from the Celtics, Patriots, Red Sox and Bruins.



1. Boston Celtics **Paul Pierce** with **Heather Michalowksi**, marketing director for The Rack and former Celtic, **M.L. Carr**.
2. **Tony Battie** and **Antoine Walker** of the Boston Celtics.
1. **Roni Boyles** of Regan Communications with **Willie McGinest** of the New England Patriots.





PHOTOS: STARBUCKS, KAREN DANA; BOSTON SPORTS AWARDS, ALLIED DOMECQ & ANTOINE WALKER, WENDY SEMONIAN

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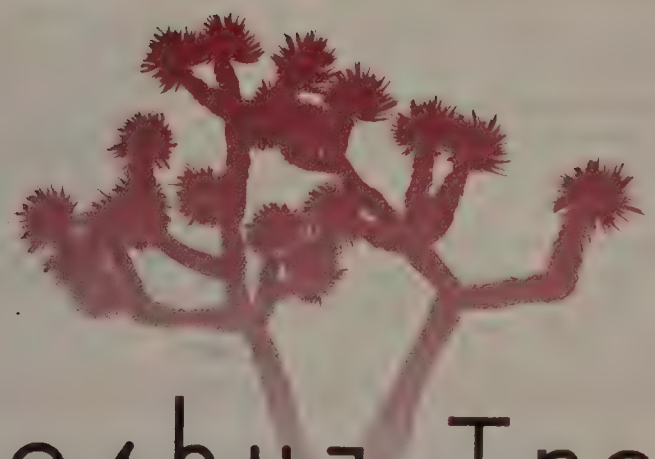
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Restaurants, Bars, Clubs & Brunch

restaurants

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. With a full liquor bar, The Avenue serves as a hip and eclectic nightspot to hang with your friends. Join us Tuesdays for Hip Hop night and Thursdays for WFNX DJ night. Also, bring a date and try our menu with over 200 items including cajun catfish, filet mignon, chicken marsala, mussels marinara, assorted pizzas and much, much more.

Backstage *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* Faneuil Hall's hottest restaurant and nightclub offers the very best in Americana food. Located adjacent to the Commedy Connection you can dance the night away every Wednesday through Sunday with Top 40 and dance classics by DJ's Jonny and Freddi C. For more information call 726-1110.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Clerys on Columbus *331 Columbus Ave., Boston, 262-9874.* South End bistro offering Contemporary American cuisine in a comfortable European-style setting. Menu features grilled gourmet pizzas, handmade pasta and unique entrees.

The Elephant and Castle *161 Devonshire St., Financial District, Boston, 350-9977.* English style Pub offering over 100 types of beer, great food and the financial district's most comfortable bar. Specialties include beer battered fish and chips and shepherd's pie. We also offer a great selection of single malt scotches and a variety of cigars. We have two levels of operation with our lower level providing private rooms for both business meetings and after work parties.

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's always fresh, honest and simple at Henrietta's Table. Executive Chef Peter Davis, who has been awarded "Best Chef in the Northeast" by the James Beard Foundation, creates a lively menu that features the freshest market produce daily. Food at Henrietta's is fresh, pure and wholesome. Full bar, casual dress. Outdoor dining in season. Reservations highly recommended except breakfast. Mon-Thurs, 6:30am-10pm; Fri-Sat 6:30am-11pm. Call 617-661-5005 for reservations and information.

Iguana Cantina *313 Moody St., Waltham, 781-891-3039; 1656 Worcester Rd., Rt. 9, Framingham, 508-875-1188; and 66 Chestnut St., Needham, 781-444-9976.* The Iguana Cantina serves a variety of Caribbean, Tex-Mex and Southwestern fare. The atmosphere is fun and the food is tasty. Visit our website at www.theiguanacantina.com.

Legal Sea Foods *Park Square at the MotorMart - 617-426-4444, Copley Place 617-266-7775, Long Wharf (outdoor dining) – 617-742-5300, Prudential Center 617-266-6800.* Indulge in Boston's freshest raw bar, our inaugural clam chowder, a succulent lobster or any of your favorite dishes in a relaxed yet sophisticated atmosphere. Legal also offers an award-winning wine list at the best value in town. Stop by for a taste of Boston's Best - our chefs have a table waiting for you.

McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant *Located at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 34 Columbus Ave, Boston (617) 482-3999.* Recognized nationwide for its fresh seafood and lively atmosphere, McCormick & Schmick's offers over 40 varieties of fresh seafood, and a unique menu that changes daily. The bar is also a popular destination where all cocktails are made fresh and hand-shaken. $1.95 Bar menu served Monday through Friday 3:30-6:30 p.m. and late night every night from 10 p.m - midnight.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roggie's : New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* With a remodeled dining area and a fresh new menu, this new-age grill will not disappoint you. Roggie's offers a variety of over 200 items including filet mignon, rainbow trout, salmon fajitas, hot veggie rolls, oysters on the half shell and one of the thickest and tastiest chowders this side of Faneuil Hall.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Don't just come for Boston's Best Beer Selection featuring 112 taps and 380 microbrews. Come also to enjoy Boston's award winning steam beer burgers and famous curly fries, original buffalo wings and giant nachos. Still hungry? Try our juicy BBQ steak tips, grilled fish, homemade pastas, tender Yankee ribs or our sizzling fajitas. Full menu until 1 am.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of Improper's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. Whether you choose to dine in our streetside greenhouse, at the bar, in the dining room enjoying live entertainment, or snack at your pool table, expect nothing less than a first class meal from The Rack. We serve lunch and dinner from 11:30 am - 1 am. From fresh, homemade pastas and blackened center-cut tuna steaks to grilled pizzas, tasty burgers and Faneuil Hall's most original sandwiches.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

bars/clubs

BILLIARDS

Boston Billiard Club *126 Brookline Ave., 536-POOL.* Ranked #1 in the country by Billiards Digest. Free lessons on Mon., 7:30pm - 9pm. Boston Billiards Club House leagues on Mon. and Tues. "In The Biz" night on Sun. and Mon. for patrons in the hospitality industry. Ladies' night on Wed. Featuring a menu of light fare such as grilled chicken sandwiches and appetizers, along with beer, wine, cocktails and a variety of non-alcoholic beverages.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/ nightclub/ billiards club offers 22 gorgeous Brunswick Gold Crown tables. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

BEER SPECIALTY BARS

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* Something's always brewing at Best of Boston's award winning ber bar. Here you'll find the largest selection on the East Coast-112 taps and 380 microbrews and exoic imports. Join our beer club and enjoy every style of beer under the sun. Take advantage of the yards, cask conditioned beer, flight samples, vintage and new beers, seasonals, meads, ciders, etc. Full menu until 1am. Experience our beer festival 365 days a year.

DANCE BARS

Jose McIntyre's *160 Milk St., Boston 451-9460.* Boston's only Irish/Mexican cantina is a great escape in the financial district! Two floors, three bars, open-air dining, pool tables upstairs and live bands downstairs!

The Purple Shamrock *1 Union St., Boston, 227-2060.* Known for its great food, live entertainment and relaxing atmosphere! Menu includes American and Irish specialties. Live cover bands nightly.

The Dance Plex *262 Friend Street, Boston, 617-720-1966 or boston@pollyesthers.com.* This is your ticket to the hottest retro dance club in Boston, The Dance Plex (formerly Polly Esther's) featuring Culture Club, & Club Expo. The Dance Plex is a four level dance party complex spinning all your favorites from retro MTV bubblegum 80's hits, 70's Disco, Freestyle & Express, 80's Jams, Top 40 90's hits and dance mixes of today. Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9pm till 2am.

Tilt *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* A club truly in a class of its own. With its outrageous Light Show and Cat Walk spectacle, dance and groove with the spinning sensation Manolo on Saturday nights and to guest DJs spinning progressive house and trance on Friday. Dress code strictly enforced. Doors open at 10pm.

VIDEO CLUB

Uptown-The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* Progressive dance music on Friday nights: 18+ ladies, 19+ men. Casual dress.

IRISH BARS

The Black Rose *160 State St., Boston, 742-2286.* Boston's legendary Irish Pub celebrates its 25th year! Considered one of the best Irish pubs in America, the menu features American and Irish specialties. Live Irish music nightly.

Mr. Dooley's Boston Tavern *77 Broad St., Boston, 338-5656.* Hailed by the Globe as "the gem of the Financial District," Mr. Dooley's is a favorite meeting place for young professionals. The authentic Irish pub with over 13 imported beers on tap has been voted "Boston's Best Burgers" and "Best Cheap Eats." Open daily until 2am, featuring live bands every Fri. through Sun. night. "A great place for a pint and a chat."

The Grand Canal *57 Canal St., Boston, 523-1112.* Hailed as the "crown jewel in the Irish pub empire of John Somers," this premiere Irish Bar features over fifty micro brews, an extensive wine list, a full international menu, and Boston's best appetizer menu. The Grand Canal hosts "Boston's Best Bands," and features Boston's only 12 foot video screen playing Bruins, Celtics, Patriots and Red Sox games. Enjoy a true "Irish Pub Experience."

Hennessy's of Boston *25 Union Street, Boston, 742-2121.* Boston's most authentic Irish pub next to Faneuil Hall serves a great menu with daily specials and Irish traditions. A huge bar with an extensive beer and wine list, Hennessy's has Boston's best appetizer menu. Enjoy live entertainment five nights a week with pop bands direct from Ireland. Hennessy's of Boston, "Purveyor's of Fine Food and Spirits," are part of the Somers' Pubs Fleet.

The Green Dragon *11 Marshall St., Boston, 367-0055.* Hailed "Headquarters of the Revolution," this favorite after work meeting place is famous for it's "giant cocktail drink special menu." A comfortable place serving lunch and dinner and highly acclaimed Irish breakfast every Sat. & Sun. from 11am to 3pm. The tavern boasts over 15 beers on tap, 20 different bottled "brewskies" and imported Irish brews. Live music and entertainment every Thursday through Sunday night.

The Times Bar and Restaurant *Located at 112 Broad Street under the fading shadows of I-93.* Serving great food and fine wine. Silver medal winner in Boston Chowderfest 2001. Entertainment five nights a week. Karaoke Competition each Thursday. Blues jam each Tuesday. Live bands/DJ's. Dart tournaments and big screen. Serving food to 10p each night. Bar closes at 2am. Close to Boston Harbor, Wyndham, Meridien and Marriott Hotels. All major credit cards accepted. Phone (617)357-TIME, fax (617) 350-3163.

JAZZ BARS

Regattabar *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* The Regattabar is the only place to hear top-flight live jazz Wed-Sat nights. It's the "Diva" of Boston's Jazz Clubs at the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. Shows at 8pm Wed-Thurs, 8:30 & 10:30pm Fri-Sat. Full bar and bar menu, casual dress. Parking available at the Charles Hotel garage. Call 617-876-7777 for tickets and information, 800-881-1818 for hotel reservations and information.

GENERAL

Blue Cat Cafe *94 Massachusetts Avenue, corner of Newbury Street, Boston, MA, 617-247-9922.* A hip restaurant with a jazz-infused atmosphere, the Blue Cat Cafe's signature it it's cool jazz tunes and American classics menu. Select from items such as the Grilled Portabella Paninni or Pan-Seared Tuna with Wasabi Aioli. The Blue Cat Cafe also makes it's mark with unique martini selections such as the now-famous Blue Cat Cosmopolitan and City Search's Best of Boston Espresso Martini. Open daily 5pm-1am. AE, DC, MC, V.

Boston Beer Garden *732 East Broadway at the corner of L Street, South Boston, 617-269-0990. Hours of operation 11:30am-1am.* Voted best neighborhood bar in Boston. Come watch your favorite sporting events on our crystal clear 10ft big screen while you enjoy one of our 26 draft beers. We also feature an extensive menu and fine wines. You can't find a better place to relax and unwind in Boston.

The Black Rhino *21 Broad St., Boston, 263-0101.* The Black Rhino Bar, Restaurant and Club is located in the heart of the financial district one block from Faneuil Hall. With four floors, a roof deck and a patio, it is an ideal venue for corporate and social event planning. Live music and top DJ's Wed. through Sat. night. For more information call 617-263-0101 or e-mail info@ the black rhino .com.

Cactus Club *939 Boylston St., 236-0200.* Have the notorious Cactus margarita, voted the best 8 out of the past eleven years (we don't know what happened in '97 or '98 either!) Our southwestern specialties include Sizzlin' Fajitas, Chimichangas, or Quesadillas and the daring wash it all down with a Cactus Bowl. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Visit our suburban Iguana Cantina restaurants in Framingham, Waltham and Needham. Amex, Visa and Diners Club. www.cactusclub.com.

Encore Lounge *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699* A new twist on Boston's Cabaret Tradition! Live Music 7 nites a week 9:30pm-1am (til 2am on Saturdays). Always open mike! Party where the Stars go after the Show! Monday: Michael Larson & Dorothy Miller (Cabaret), Tuesday: Bobby Femino (Piano Bar), Wednesday & Thursday: Michelle Curry (Piano Bar) Friday: John O'Neil & Jan Peters (Cabaret), Satruday: DesPres & DeGraff (Contemporary Cabaret) Sunday: Michael Kreutz (Piano Bar).

Jillian's Boston *145 Ipswich Street, Boston, MA, 617-437-0300.* Jillian's is a 70,000 square foot entertainment megaplex featuring more than 200 high tech games, six full bars, 50 pool tables, racing simulators, Black Jack for Fun and much more. Atlas Bar and Grill on Jillian's first floor offers full service dining featuring innovative American cuisine, a giant screen video wall and dancing every Friday and Saturday night. www.jilliansboston.com.

Joshua Tree Bar & Grille *256 Elm St., West Somerville, MA 02144, 617-623-9910. Mon-Sat 11:30am-1am, Sun. 10:30am-1am.* A short walk from the Davis Square "T", Joshua Tree offers 26 drafts, 12 bottled beers, a full bar, a new wine list, homemade soups, salads, a wide va-

riety of hearty sandwiches, a dinner selection featuring fresh seafood, steaks, ribs, sauteed dishes and Sunday brunch. Accoustic music or DJ Wed-Sun 10pm-12:30am.

Oxygen-The Palace *1500 Broadway, Saugus, 781-321-1660.* Enjoy the best of 70's, 80's & 90's music on Tuesday nights and a buffet from 8pm-9pm with DJ Chris Fiore. Doors open at 8pm; 21+, $3 before 9pm and $5 after 9pm. Friday 18+ ladies, 19+ men , casual dress. Saturday 18+ ladies, 21+ men, proper dress required.

The Playwright Bar & Cafe *658 East Broadway, South Boston, 02127, 617-269-2537.* Great food, drinks and music. Come and see what we're all about. We are open Mon-Sun, until 1am. We serve our full menu 11:30am-10pm and a late night menu Wed-Sat until 12:30am. Brunch is served Sat & Sun 9:30am-3:30pm. All major credit cards accepted.

Roxy *279 Tremont St. Boston (in the Tremont Hotel), 338-7699.* We've got it ALL right here! The hottest dance venue in the City! Thursdays: THE LATIN QUARTER, salsa, merengue and contemporary latin dance. Doors at 10:30, proper dress & I/D. Fridays: MONDO BAR, international and house spun by DJ Felix of Boston Beat and Eddy K. Doors at 10pm, proper dress & ID. Saturday: ROXY SATURDAY NITES, high energy house, dance mixes, spun by DJ Adlison. Door at 9pm, 21+, No jeans, sneakers, hats or athletic wear.

The Rack *24 Clinton St., Faneuil Hall Marketplace Boston, 725-1051.* Winner of The Improper Bostonian's 1997, 1998, 1999 & 2000 Boston's Best awards. 1998 Boston Magazine's Best of Boston award. This restaurant/nightclub/ billiards club offers much more than a game of pool. Come enjoy a delicious meal, a martini and a fine cigar. Casual indoor & outdoor dining until 1 am. Live bands 7 nights a week, dancing til 2 am. House bands include Chad LaMarsh, Mark Morris & The Catunes, Central Basement and BaHa Brothers.

COMEDY

The Comedy Connection *245 Quincy Market Place, Boston, 248-9700.* The Comedy Connection located in the heart of historical Faneuil Hall features the biggest names in comedy with apearances by Jon Stewart, Chris Rock, Wendy Liebman and Jay Mohr. Located on the second floor of the Quincy Market Building, the Connection offers the best in local and national stand-up seven nights a week. For more information call 617-248-9700.

CLUBS

Pravda 116 *116 Boylston Street, Boston, MA, 617-482-7799.* Located in Boston's trendy Theater District, Pravda 116 is a chic restaurant, bar and club. The menu focuses on contemporary American cuisine with specialties like roasted pork medallions. DJs in the bar and dance club keep the energy level high. Restaurant open Tuesday-Saturday, 5:30-10pm, bar, 5pm-2am and dance club Wednesday-Saturday 10pm-2am. AE, CB, DC, MC, V.

The Dance Plex *262 Friend Street, Boston, 617-720-1966 or boston@pollyesthers.com.* This is your ticket to the hottest retro dance club in Boston, The Dance Plex (formerly Polly Esther's) featuring Culture Club, & Club Expo. The Dance Plex is a four level dance party complex spinning all your favorites from retro MTV bubblegum 80's hits, 70's Disco, Freestyle & Express, 80's Jams, Top 40 90's hits and dance mixes of today. Open Thursday, Friday & Saturday from 9pm till 2am.

brunch

Atlantic 101 *101 Atlantic Ave., Boston 723-5101.* A waterfront live jazz brunch is the perfect Saturday or Sunday start at Atlantic 101 from 11:30am - 2:30pm featuring a crative a la carte menu and soothing live jazz. Sample favoritess as Eggs Benedict, Huevos Rancheros, or try out our crowd pleasing Poached Eggs with Maine Crab Cakes, Smoked Bacon and Creole Mustard Hollandaise. Burgers, crepes and Lobster round out the menu as well. Call 723-5101 for reservations. Atlantic 101 also features live piano and vocals at night, Tuesday through Saturday. Lunch daily from 11:30am-2:30pm. Dinner daily from 5:00 10:30pm.

Avenue Bar & Grill *1249 Commonwealth Ave., Allston, 782-9508.* Sister to Roggie's New Age Bar & Grill. Besides lunch and dinner, The Avenue serves brunch Monday - Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas

Henrietta's Table *Located in the Charles Hotel, One Bennett St., Cambridge, MA 02138.* It's "Boston's Best" brunch Saturdays and Sundays at Henrietta's. Saturday's a la carte brunch features mouthwatering entrees. Sunday's buffet brunch is flat-out lavish with everything from Salad of Smoked Duck to Oysters to Waffles to Omelettes. The menu changes every week so it always features what's freshest and best on the market. Outdoor dining in season. Saturday brunch: Appetizers from $5-$9; entrees $14 or all 3 courses for $21. Sundays: $42 adults; $25 ages 12 and under. Reservations strongly recommended. 617-661-5005.

Museum of Science-Skyline Room *Museum of Science, Science Park, Boston, MA, 02114.* Enjoy Sunday brunch beginning at noon in the beautiful Skyline Room overlooking the Charles River, then experience the amazing Mugar Omni Theater: Journey Into Amazing Caves at 2pm. Tickets are $30 for Adults, $28 for Seniors/Children. Brunch only $22. On-site parking is included. Reservations recommended, call 617-723-2500.

Rattlesnake Bar & Grill *384 Boylston St., 617-859-8555.* Presenting Boston's best brunch buffet every Sunday from 11am to 4pm for only $13.95. Choose from made to order omelets and waffles, a full roast beef, turkey and ham carving station, fresh salads and a variety of southwestern specials. Enjoy our homemade brunch cocktails featuring brunchtinis and $3.00 Rattlesnake Cajun marys and mimosas. Our brunch facilities can also accommodate large parties; please contact us for bookings. All winter long have access to our NFL Sunday football package for all the games and never a cover. Our full dinner menu is available after 4pm.

Roggie's: New Age Bar & Grille *356 Chestnut Hill Ave., Brighton, 566-1880.* Besides lunch and dinner, Roggie's serves brunch Monday -Sunday 11am-3pm. Choose from a variety of items such as eggs benedict, made-to-order omeletes, pancakes and mexican fajitas.

Sunset Grill & Tap *130 Brighton Ave., Allston, 254-1331.* "Beer's not just for breakfast anymore." At the Sunset Super Sunday Brewers Brunch, try our thick-cut French toast, potato skins and eggs, eggs benny, crispy quesadillas or our All You Can Eat Brunch Taco Bar, including a free Sunday paper and your first beery mary or mimosa. Full menu also available. 112 taps, 380 microbrews.

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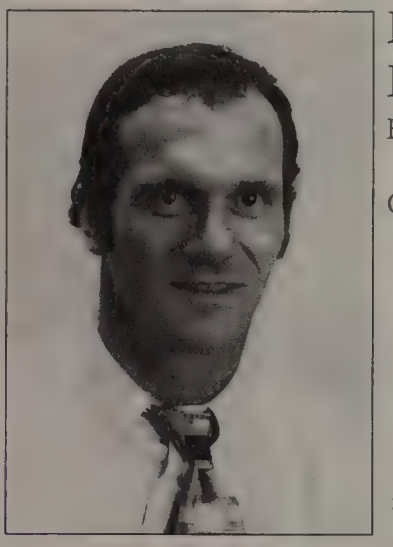
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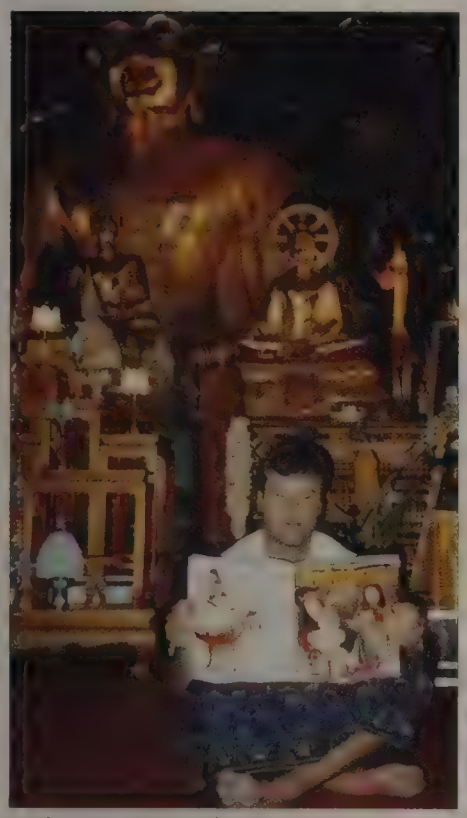
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Improper Sightings

Unlike the rest of your friends, we want to see the photos from your next trip.

Where do you take us? Send us a picture of you or a friend, or better yet, someone famous reading The Improper Bostonian and tell us where you were. Since we want your feedback on the rest of the magazine, too, submissions that include a letter expressing your opinion will really get our attention.



Christopher Jordan is at one with the Improper (and the cast of *Yes, Dear*) at this Buddhist temple in Laos.



From left: Former USC football player Hank Campbell, Lena Burns, Lori Hurley, Kerry Klos, Lisa Schenk and Carla Ascione all enjoyed drinking from Hank's cup (see, he's pictured on the cups they're holding...what did you think we meant?) at the USC/Clemson game in S. Carolina.



Veronica Zorrilla and Matt Tuccillo used raw steak as bait while fishing for piranhas in Brazil. Then they ate steak-stuffed piranhas.



From left: Cliff and Paula Sadler and Gail and Lew Gothard visited Wineglass Bay in Australia, where they quietly observed the native wild Mel Gibson foraging for grubs.



Wyoming Governor Jim Geringer doesn't ask "Wy?" when he lassos up some reading.

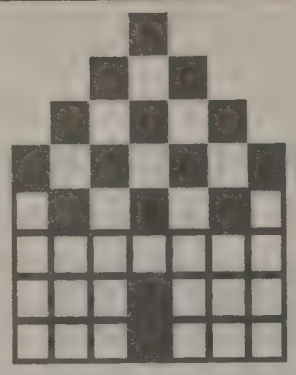


Meghan Murray (left) and Kate McGinnes found these Celtic ruins. Ireland wants to know if coach Jim O'Brien does freelance work.

IMPROPER BOUNTY

BONUS POINTS TO ANYONE WHO CAN CAPTURE AN IMPROPER READER:
Roaming the streets with packs of reveling women (whose husbands are home cleaning the house) at Gynaecocracy, Jan. 8 in Monoklissia, Greece.

Send color or b&w prints (min. 3x5) to: Improper Sightings, The Improper Bostonian Magazine, 142 Berkeley St., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116.
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Improper Impersonals

If everyone kept their feelings bottled up like warm beer, we'd soon have antisocial behavior exploding all over the place and ruining the upholstery. So send us your letters of love and spleen, and we'll print them for the world to see (Impersonals may be edited for taste, space and clarity). Heck, it's better than making a fool of yourself in person. And IT'S FREE! Pick up a pen or keyboard (hint: we like the fact that we don't have to type up e-mailed messages) and write to:

IMPROPER IMPERSONALS
THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN MAGAZINE
142 Berkeley St., 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02116
FAX: 859-1446 E-MAIL: impersonals@improper.com
Recent correspondence follows.

Tall Swede Named Dan from West Street Grille
I only know your first name. Dan—the really tall Swedish guy who lives in Brighton that I met at the West Street Grille one Saturday night about a month ago. You walked a female friend home and then returned. We chatted. I am the short girl with the long blond hair (and the Norwegian name) who told you that you were cute and that I liked that small patch of gray/white hair you have on the left side of your head. I had a lot to drink, but I am clear on these details. We talked and seemed to be having fun—then sometime around 12:30pm I went to the ladies' and when I returned my friends were there, coats in hand, and I couldn't find you. Days later I joked about writing one of these IMPROPER notes to find you, and a guy friend said that was "stalker behavior"... so I laughed and never wrote the note. After glancing through the IMPROPER today, I got to that section and thought of you. If there is such a thing as kismet you'll see this and write.
—elleskier@hotmail.com

Library Girl
You caught me looking in your direction more than a few times, as we both spent countless hours in the library. You always answered in silence with a beautiful smile. I introduced myself early one morning, and learned that you have so many wonderful thoughts and feelings that you want to share when the silence is lifted. You gave me the sweetest kiss at the conclusion of a wonderful evening, and as we turned and walked in separate directions, I looked back. Much has happened since then and I am so glad that I turned around. Love,
—Chopper

Shy on the Red Line
Dec. 1, noon: We both got on the T at Ashmont and left at Park Street. We were sitting across from each other but a woman blocked our view. You: jeans and tie, reading *Architectural Digest*. Me: white shirt and khaki skirt. We both smiled as we walked away, but I was too shy to say something. Would you like to meet for coffee? I won't be shy; will you?
—tooshyonredline@yahoo.com

Blink and You're Gone
The fact I only got a taste of you *stinks*. The concert would not have been the same had it not been for you. I have thought of you every day in hopes of some weird possibility of a connection. I only have the initial photograph of the four of us. It is a constant reminder that the night did not end the way I had hoped. The chances are slim, but I am going to hope that you read this and decide to e-mail me.
—mmmarisaaa@hotmail.com

Planet Fitness Boston
My props to the staff member who plays a heavy rotation of great music from Richard Ashcroft, Monaco and Radiohead and to the really cute blond short-haired girl on Tuesday nights (seen on occasion downstairs but more frequently upstairs). Both are great sources of motivation for working out.
—Cheers!

Star Dust
This is my attempt to catch a piece of falling star dust from the sky. We watched each other last year in the library, staring sometimes, smiling most, but all the time I was captivated by who I thought you would be. You: tall, dark hair, blue eyes, possessing a young Paul Newman quality about you. Me: blonde, brown eyes, tall (in an Amazonian kind of way). And then you made my day when you finally spoke to me and introduced yourself. Did I blush? Because I know I was flustered and giddy and acted like a schoolgirl. Since that day we have spoken more and more, although the progression of our relationship seems to have taken a while. I still smile and you smile even bigger. Maybe we can rendezvous for a late dinner one night after a long day of studying in the library. Although, rumor has it you only dine on the finest pizza and cheeseburgers. Will you make an exception for me and be the brightest star in my sky?
—catchingstardust@hotmail.com

Baby
You've become the one person in my life that accepts me for who I am and is always there for me no matter what happens. I look forward to the future that lies ahead of us....I love you.
—Tanya

Blue Cat Girl
I just left the Blue Cat Cafe and am kicking myself for not saying something, anything, to you. It's Dec. 1 and you were wearing a maroon, sleeveless sweater. You were so attractive, I couldn't stop staring. We exchanged glances many times and even a smile once or twice. We nearly ran into each other at the end of the night as you were leaving. I would've said "hi," but you were with a large group of girls, which I found quite intimidating. If you remember me (navy blue shirt, with a friend wearing a suit), please write, I'd love to meet up for a drink or two.
—Blue Cat Guy

Crate & Barrel
Harvard Square, the afternoon of Dec. 2. You: dark brown hair, black sweater, jacket tied around your waist, shopping with mom(?), great smile(!). I was the guy (dark features, five o'clock shadow, glasses, jeans, leather jacket) looking for a Secret Santa gift. You almost dropped a cutting board and laughed as you looked over at me. We crossed paths again near the T, but I wasn't quick enough to ask you out for coffee. Want to get coffee?
—CrateBarrelGuy@yahoo.com

Tom
You have shown grace under pressure and are completely unpretentious, always putting your team before yourself and always doing it with class. It seems that many a sportswriter in this town would bet against you because they secretly love the idea of failure, but you have proven them wrong not only because of your performance but because of the way in which you have dealt with the entire situation. You go out and play with your heart and it is obvious. Many professional athletes today do little without a big signing bonus and then tend to get hurt and sit on the sidelines for the rest of the year collecting money they didn't earn and don't deserve. You, on the other hand, have been given an opportunity that you have dreamt about and made it real without the safety net that so many of these hapless losers fall back on. You have struggled with adversity throughout your entire career and deserve everything that is coming to you. Thank you for making the Patriots a likable team again, one that can revel in its victories and not in its controversies.
—blondeinthebleachers@hotmail.com

Mr. Taunton
You helped me pick up the pieces at Park Street after I fell down the stairs Nov. 20. Lots of people were helpful, but you got the MBTA inspector to get me to my Amtrak train on time. You were very cute and patient, and I want to thank you. Also thanks to all the others who carried my stuff and gave me a seat on the Red Line to South Station (as it turns out, I broke my foot in that fall but made the train and the wedding I was headed for).
—isabelarcher@hotmail.com

Rockie Horoscope

DEC. 19, 2001 – JAN. 8, 2002

BY ROCKIE GARDINER



CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22-JANUARY 20

'Tis the season. Because Christmas, which celebrates the birth of the sun/son, is pure Capricorn, you'll feel right at home, even if you're not at home. Whether you're laying up in your psychic retreat, hiding out at a friend's or making time so you can read and write in peace—Mercury is in your sign—you can't avoid the pressure to do, to be the leader you intrinsically are. When daring Mars challenges your cautious Saturn ruler at the winter solstice, only the most self-disciplined Goat will ignore the clarion call to action.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21-FEBRUARY 18

This holiday season good things come in small, medium and extra-large packages. Keep in mind that your Uranus ruler is open to all things new and novel, and when lovable Venus jumps into the selection process on the 19th, satisfaction is guaranteed. Keeping a warm, romantic glow going won't be difficult; a blazing fire in the loins is something else. As winter and earth-bound Capricorn sets in, life becomes more practical than it's been lately. Therefore, if you don't expect fireworks and aerial acts to wow you, you should be quite content.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 19-MARCH 19

Fish don't always wander about aimlessly; they do manage to feed themselves and migrate as the season demands. However, with energetic Mars in your sign (but only until Jan. 18), you may also be motivated by a growing sense of purpose that complements an increase in daring and self-confidence. So when Mars and benevolent Jupiter form a favorable alliance on Christmas Eve, you'll probably make a huge leap of faith. Prosperity beckons and luck, you feel, is with you.

ARIES

MARCH 20-APRIL 19

Rams tend to take the onset of winter more seriously than other signs, mainly because the Capricorn sun asks such pointed questions as, "What do you plan to do with the rest of your life?" Until you have to face that piece of music on the 22nd, when your Mars ruler is challenged by its square to Saturn, treasure the tunes, traditions, faces and places you know and love. Friends of friends or a group you would like to identify with (if you weren't considered a one-man band) are especially influential; think of them as your lucky charms.

TAURUS

APRIL 20-MAY 20

Passion, intrigue, friendship, other people's money—enough outside interests to keep you fascinated and frequently amused until the New Year. Then the chickens hatched from the eggs you've scattered during the past year come home to roost. This, in Martha parlance, is a good thing. Bulls feel more secure when other earth signs, such as Capricorn, radiate supportive vibes. Christmas can be especially comforting because your affectionate Venus ruler crosses the line separating spirited Sag hi-jinks from cozy Cap conservatism.

GEMINI

MAY 21-JUNE 20

The bells jingling during this holiday season could serve as a reminder that somehow something is lacking. No, you're not being paranoid; thanks to restrictive Saturn transiting your sign, you're simply more prudent and realistic than you were last year. If you're being provoked into making a change that is long overdue, so be it. Courageous Mars won't be in your career midheaven again, pushing for action, for another two years, by which time Saturn will be gone from Gemini. Carpe diem.

CANCER

JUNE 21-JULY 22

To nurturing, family-centric Crabs, it may seem perfectly natural and in keeping with the holiday season. However, in astro-actuality, the reason you're so involved with youngsters right now is because Mercury, ruler of the wee ones, is in Capricorn, the sign of your soul mates and significant others. The focus (and dependence) on partners and co-workers becomes stronger the further into Capricorn we get; it's especially evident during the Cancer full-moon eclipse over New Year's weekend.

LEO

JULY 23-AUGUST 22

Are you quietly networking your way through holiday gatherings or obviously sniffing around for a new employment opportunity? Even if the Lion is officially on vacation, where and what you'll be working on in 2002 may well be the main topic on your mind. When you're filled with this much creative juice and spirit, your need to have a satisfying outlet becomes apparent to everyone concerned. Remember: If you can't actually move forward until the planetary action heats up in Aquarius, you're making a first impression now.

VIRGO

AUGUST 23-SEPTEMBER 22

Enough horsing around, spending with abandon and waxing philosophic. Like down-to-earth earth Taureans, Virgins tend to breathe a sigh of relief once Sagittarius is over and Capricorn kicks in. It's not that you object to all those effusive people or the rich holiday fare, but there comes a time—e.g., on the 22nd when your Mercury ruler faces off against expansive Jupiter—when you realize that you've reached your limit and that you're exhausted. Prodding by a partner with visions of perfection, usually your MO, only aggravates the situation.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 23-OCTOBER 22

Librans might have something that resembles a life outside of the house, family, lovers and kids—perhaps the possibility of a trip is lurking in the future—but until winter is officially over, most of your time will be spent redefining "domestic bliss." Although you may have to adjust to different circumstances, it won't be that much of a stretch. In fact, once Aquarius begins you should have a lot of fun creating and communicating with the latest techno-toys. Tried-and-true can be so over-and-done-with.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 23-NOVEMBER 21

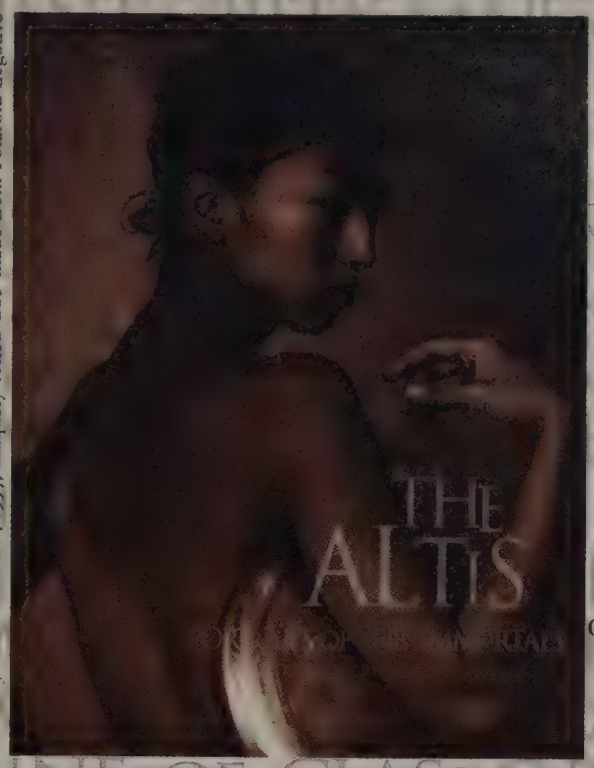
Only a spoil sport would pity the poor Scorpio who is about to make even more money over the next few weeks! Better line your ducks up as soon as possible, because a fabulous opportunity could come knocking about the time Santa comes down the chimney. After the initial overture, you won't have to wait much longer than New Year's Day to see how far you can realistically expand your bottom line. Does luck have something to do with it? Of course, that and your amazing intuition.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21

Keeping track of where you, not the whole herd, is heading may be more difficult than you think. That's because Mercury in tradition-bound Capricorn is being challenged by your Jupiter ruler to extend rhyme and reason beyond their customary borders, but not too far out. One more year of learning what (or who) is limiting your ability to relate to a significant other, and the lesson Saturn in your Gemini marriage house has been teaching will be done.

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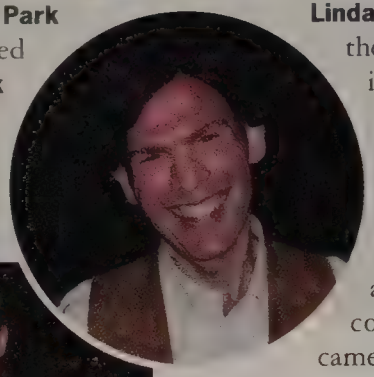
Last Scene Here BY JONATHAN SOROFF

THAT '70s SHOW, EPISODE I...

The most egregiously cheesy decade of the 20th century was resurrected by the **Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay** with a blow-out of epic proportions entitled **2001: A Dance Odyssey**.



Following cocktails at the **Park Plaza Hotel**, guests moved across the street to the **Park Plaza Castle** for a dinner prepared by über chefs **Michael Schlow** of Radius; **Lydia Shire** and **Susan Regis** of Biba/Locke-Ober; **Stan Frankenthaler** of Salamander; and **Nicole Coady** of Finale. Impressive as the culinary lineup was, the entertainment for the evening was Studio 54-caliber, featuring demigods of the disco age **Kool & the Gang**, **the Gap Band** and **Morris Day and the Time**.





Most of the attendees, meanwhile, followed the dress code of "Disco attire optional, polyester preferred," sporting afro wigs, feathered hair, platform shoes, blue eyeshadow, shirts with collars the size of pterodactyls' wings, and hideous bell-bottoms in unnatural fibers. In a word, it was scarifying.

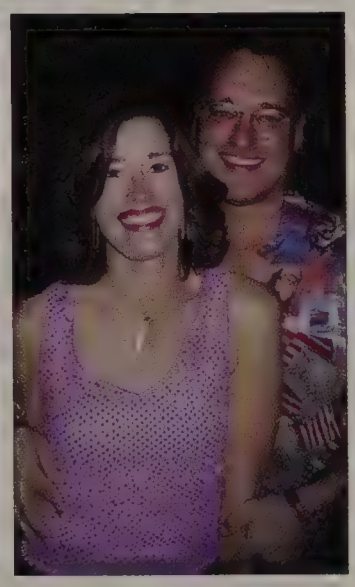
Seen perpetrating these and other atrocities: the improbably named **Danny Taco** and his Solid Gold dancer, **Holly Manthei**; John Denver doppelganger **Joel Cutler** (who looks completely different with hair) and his glittery wife, **Randy**; prom king and queen **Mike** and **Betsy Danziger**; Huggy Bear lookalike **Gilbert Hickman**; Abba impersonator **Courtney Forrester** with the utterly unrecognizable **Michael**; Mod Squad rejects **David** and **Anna Kozol**; David Cassidy wannabe **Jim Pallota**; the disturbingly John Davidson-ish **Marty Mannion**; broadcasting's answer to Mac Davis, **Bob Lobel**; the inexplicably straitlaced **Peter Monaco**; and **Biff** and **Linda Levy**, who lived through the '70s once and seemed uninterested in doing it again (not that you can blame them).

Even before dessert was served, the dance floor was a madhouse, and the booty-shaking continued until the cows came home (which, as it turns out, is way past our bedtime).

Memo to next year's planning committee: the Lambada is about due for a revival.

At the Big Brothers of Massachusetts Bay party, counterclockwise from top: Gilbert Hickman; Joel Cutler; David Fialkow and Brian Conway; David and Anna Kozol; Kelly and Paul Verrochi; Holly Manthei and Danny Taco.

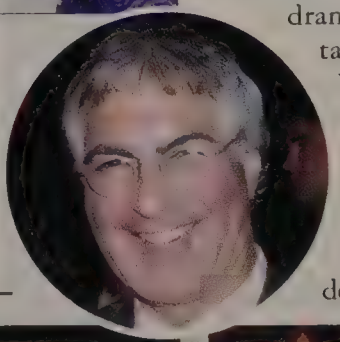






THAT '70s SHOW, EPISODE II...

Meanwhile, over in the lobby of the **Wang Center**, its young benefactors group, the **Metropolitans**, hosted the '70s-themed **Beantown for the Big Apple—a Saturday Night at Studio 54**, to raise money for **Young at Arts** and the **Families of Freedom Scholarship Fund**.



Although the disco was courtesy of a DJ rather than live nostalgia acts, everyone put on their boogie shoes and proved that, contrary to good sense, the Village People represent an enduring cultural legacy.

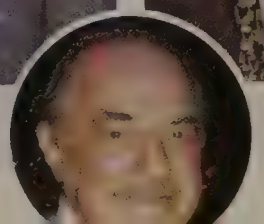
Marked absent were Bianca, Halston, Andy and Liza, but everyone else was present and accounted for, including groovy banking chick **Allison Bibbins Ward**; the artist currently known as **Dave-O**; the eternally youthful **Doris Yaffe**; super buff orthopedic surgeon **Tom Hackett** and the luscious **Laura Adams**; man in blue **Brian Latson**; cigar peddler **Brandon Salomon**; WBZ cutie-pie **Lisa Hughes**; man-about-town **Dominic Puopolo**; and so on and so forth.

Overheard at the bar: a woman who said, "Gimme a drink." When asked to be more specific, she responded, "I don't care. Just make it strong and straight...like my men."





At the Colonial Theater, top: Tim Montgomery. Above: Temple Gill and Christopher Yens.



At the Colonial Theater, above: Ted Chapin, Joe Spaulding and John Platt. Left: Sam Adler.

AND MANY HAPPY RETURNS...

Very few 100-year-olds look as good as the **Colonial Theater**, which celebrated its centennial with a cocktail reception on its historic stage and a performance by the New York cast of ***Forbidden Broadway***.

Among the attendees: theater impesario **John Platt** and Rogers and Hammerstein Organization chief **Ted Chapin** (who observed that "Richard Rogers wouldn't open a can of beans without taking it to Boston first"); his colleague, **Bert Fink**; Charles Dickens descendant **Gerald Charles Dickens**; superior court judge **Maria Lopez**; drama stalwart **Sam Adler**; entertainmentatrix **Joyce Kulhawik**; Wang Center CEO **Josiah Spaulding Jr.**; *Playbill* publisher **Tim Montgomery**; and one guest who said, "I always dreamed of appearing on this stage. I just never thought I'd do it drunk."

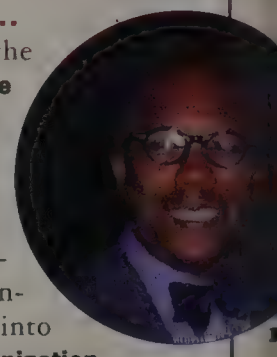




At the Beantown for the Big Apple party, from left: Alec Stern and Lisa Hughes; Brian Latson; Dr. Tom Hackett and Laura Adams.

POWER: IT'S NOT JUST FOR WHITE GUYS ANYMORE...

Lord knows how the **Westin Copley Place** withstood it, what with almost every prominent African-American minister on the eastern seaboard and an eye-popping cadre of influential bigshots crammed into its ballroom at the **Organization for a New Equality's Medal of Hope Dinner** to honor **Ambassador Charles Stith**.



Seen schmoozing in the heady atmosphere of the VIP reception: the honoree's equally accomplished wife, Harvard School of Public Health dean **Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith**; O.N.E. CEO **Rev. Joseph Washington**; Federal Reserve head **Cathy Minehan**; WBZ anchor **Liz Walker**; *Boston Globe* publisher **Richard Gilman**; entrepreneur and scratch golfer **Earl Tate**; education czar **John Silber**; Houghton-Mifflin head **Nader Darehshori**; and United Way honcha **Marian Heard**, to name a mere smattering.

Following dinner, the presentation of the award and assorted speeches, guests went home, safe in the knowledge that Boston's power grid is in good working order and (in terms of opportunities for minorities) black-outs will not be tolerated. **iB**





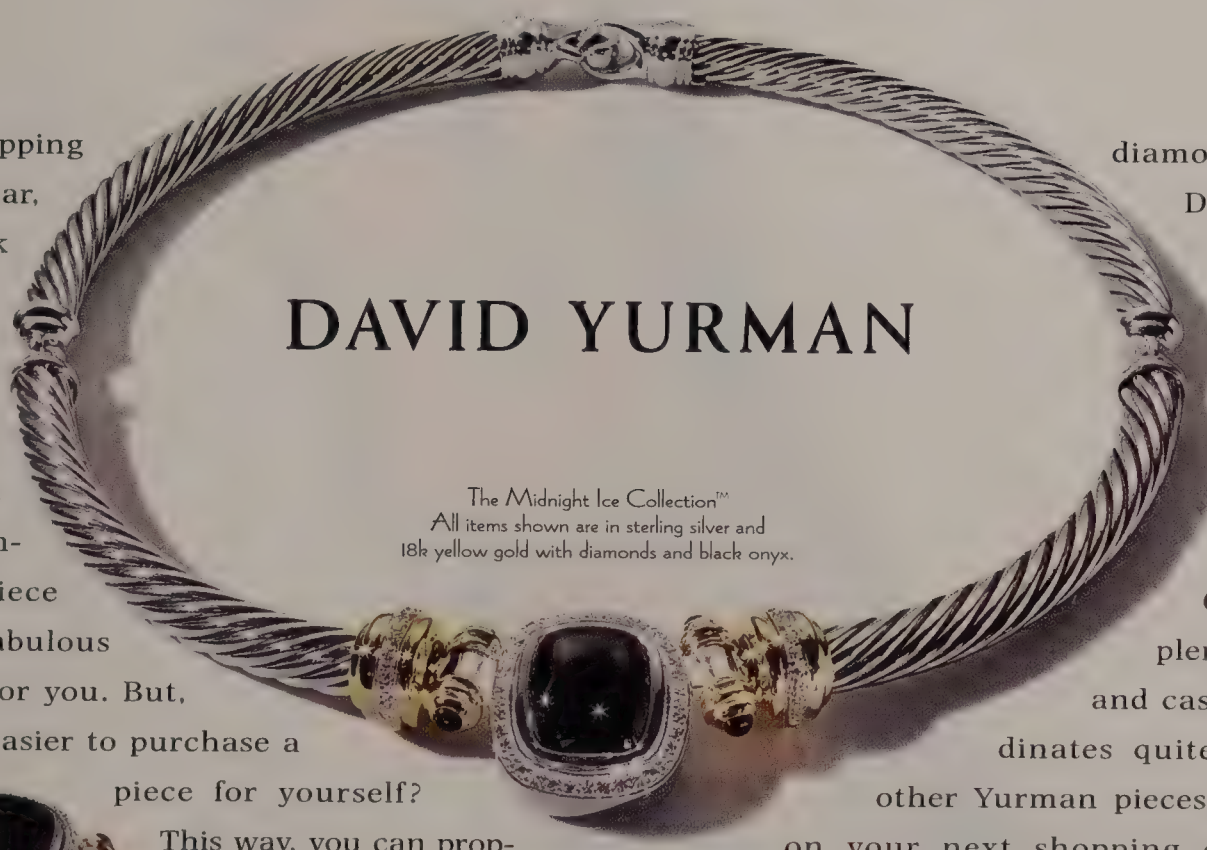
At the Medal of Hope Dinner, from top: Charles Stith; Earl Tate; Deborah Prothrow-Stith, Cathy Minehan and Liz Walker.

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To: You. From: You.
And, don't even think about saying "Oh, you shouldn't have."

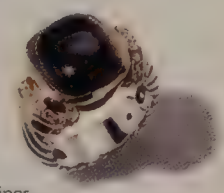


The Midnight Ice Collection™
All items shown are in sterling silver and
18k yellow gold with diamonds and black onyx.

In the flurry of gift shopping that occurs this time of year, it is possible to overlook someone very important to you. Namely, you. Oh, sure, you could hope and wait and hint and hope some more that someone possesses the insight to purchase a piece from David Yurman's fabulous Midnight Ice Collection for you. But, wouldn't it be so much easier to purchase a piece for yourself? This way, you can properly immerse yourself in the vexing conundrum of a stunning black onyx, sterling silver and pavé diamond necklace or a splendiferous icy silver, pavé diamond and onyx bracelet? Do you round out your purchase with the torch earrings? Do you toss in the striking onyx ring? Questions only you can answer. As with all Yurman jewelry, the Midnight Ice Collection perfectly complements both your formal and casual attire. And, it coordinates quite pleasingly with your other Yurman pieces as well. Take a detour on your next shopping expedition to discover the most extensive collection of Yurman in the area. At Shreve, Crump & Low, each of our staff is a resident expert in all things Yurman. (Most have purchased a piece or two themselves.) They will be happy to help you choose the design that will make the perfect gift for, well, you. Can you think of a more deserving recipient?



Midnight Ice
Cable Bracelets





Torch Earrings
and Ring

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